

Trail Times

www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org



Official Publication of the Gold Country Trails Council

A non-profit incorporated association formed in 1981 to develop, maintain and protect non-motorized recreational trails in the Sierra Foothills area for public use and enjoyment.

Greetings GCTC Members!

The last couple of months have been very busy getting trails and Skillman Horse Camp ready for this riding season. A huge thank you to all of the members who showed up and volunteered their labor. Because of your hard work our community can enjoy the trails.

The 2017 poker ride is history now. Thanks to Jeff Foltz and his crew this was the most successful fundraiser to date. All of the monies raised will be directed for Skillman improvements and trail work.

July is busy. Starting with trail work on July 1, then the Parade on 4, tack swap on 8, general meeting (ice cream) on 11. Remember ice cream social is a great opportunity to meet new members and share trail stories. All of this followed by rescheduled Little Lasier camp/work weekend July 28.

As many of you have noted the Hoot trail is open and active. We are working closely with USFS, BONC and other trail users to ensure that the trail is safe and enjoyable for all. Cathy Scott is our Hoot trail liaison designated to work with USFS. Please share with her comments, good experiences and/or concerns about the trail.

Lastly, I would like to ask all of you to practice friendly courtesy when out on the trail or at our meetings. There have been some reports about angry encounters between bikers and riders. This doesn't help promote productive collaboration with other groups. Also, at our meetings there have been complaints about members in the audience carrying on conversations to the hearing detriment of others. Please note this is not polite behavior during meetings.

Your President
Laura Duncan



Minutes of the Tuesday, June 13, GCTC Board Meeting can be accessed on the GCTC Website www.GoldCountryTrailsCouncil.org

**Tuesday, July 11, 2017
at 7:00 P.M.**

**Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells
Grass Valley, CA**



Ice Cream Social

Come enjoy our annual Ice Cream Social. A good time to socialize with old friends and and make some new friends!

LITTLE LASIER MEADOW CAMP/ WORK/RIDE

Rescheduled to July 28-30, 2017

The great winter of 2016-17 has delayed yet another GCTC event! So here is your chance to attend this work/play weekend if you were not available on the previous date. The Tahoe National Forest has reserved the camp for GCTC members. There are no camping fees for GCTC members on Friday and Saturday. Pot Luck dinner on Saturday night. The actual workday is Saturday, July 29, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Work will be in the camp and on the surrounding trails. Please contact Mary Johnson, mjshasta@aol.com or 477-8501 to sign up for this event or for more information.

Laura Berman

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**Gold Country Trails Council
2017 Events Calendar**

JULY

- July 1 Workday - Upper Pioneer Trail
Leader: Irv Mazur
- July 4 GrassValley Parade
- July 8 Royal Gorge Day Ride
Trail Boss: TBA
- July 11 General Mtg./Ice Cream Soc. - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- July 14-16 Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride
Leader: Teri Personeni
- July 16 Workday - Loney Meadow
- July 22 Workday - Upper Pioneer Trail
Leader: Vicki Testa
- July 28-30 Little Lasier Meadow Camp/Work/Ride
Leader: Mary Jonson

AUGUST

- August 5 Western States Endurance Ride
(Tevis) (non GCTC event)
- August 8 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- August 9-13 Nevada County Fair (non-GCTC event)
- August 23 Workday - Upper Pioneer Trail
Leader: Vicki Testa

SEPTEMBER

- September 10 Nevada City Constitution Parade
- September 12 General Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- September 16 Workday: TBA
Leader Harry and Karen Wyeth
- September 17 Constitution Day Parade - Nevada City
- September 21-24 Draft Horse Classic Fair
(non GCTC event)

OCTOBER

- October 10 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley
- October 14 United Trails Day, Leader: Irv Mazur
- October 21 Lone Grave Ride/BBQ
Leader: TBA
- October 28 Lone Grave Ride/BBQ (rain date)
Leader: TBA

NOVEMBER

- November 14 General Mtg./Thanksgiving Feast - 5:30 p.m.
NCHI clubhouse, Grass Valley

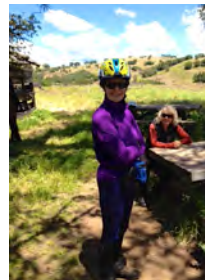
DECEMBER

- December 12 Board Meeting - 7 p.m.

Cronan Ranch Ride

Irv Mazur lead a ride at Cronan Ranch on May 17. Perfect weather, green grass, gorgeous views, wonderful horses!

Folks on the ride:
Irv Mazur
Gigi Lawton
Lori Moniz
Kathy Sherman
Bart Barber
Mary Dowling



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GCTC Board member Helen Crawford McDermott managed our GCTC booth at the BYLT's Celebration of Trails event on the same day as our poker ride. In fact, our poker ride is an official trail event of the Celebration of Trails.

Helen's lovely Morgan mare, Copper Belle, attended as the GCTC ambassador!

Helen said, "She visited all the booths and said hello to countless people. And she handled the noise of the food truck and its generator right across from our booth."

As you can see by the attached photo from Laura Peterson of BYLT, Copper enjoyed the day, gave rides to the kids, and was a big hit!

There is nothing better for welcoming acceptance of horses on the trails that exposing other trail users to our delightful animals in such a educational setting.

THANK YOU, HELEN AND COPPER!!

<http://www.goldcountrytrailsCouncil.org>

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Little Lasier Meadow: Mary Johnson
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Trail Workday Coordinator: Susan Donnelly
United Trails Work Day: Irv Mazur

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26th Annual Poker Ride Fundraiser

The 26th Annual Poker Ride Fundraiser held June 3rd at Skillman was a huge success thanks to all the business sponsors, volunteers and supporting cast. The weather was perfect the trail was in great shape and most importantly everyone had a great time. Thanks to all the GCTC members who helped support this years Fundraiser. Special thanks to those who marked the trail, Sue and her crew; Willie and his crew, Don, Mike and Jack who parked the trailers, our fabulous cooks Debbie, Mary, Gail, Mary Ann, Jan, Leslie and all the sous chefs. The setup crew Jim and Mary; registration crew, Lori, Gigi, Valerie, Sharon; the talented card readers Gordon, Montana and Lynn; dedicated card station members Charles, Stephanie, Barbara, Cathy, Debbie, Gail; Joan for stuffing cards in envelopes; Jaede for PayPal and Internet and social media support, Teri our drag rider, prize organizers Laura, Cathy and Rose; Barbara for getting the ice. The talented musicians, Fran and Bart; Cal our photographer and a very special thanks to the clean up crew Tom, Irv, Gail, Mary, Jim, Rose, Laura, Mary Ann, thanks to Linda for selling hats and t-shirts. And a thank you to all those members who brought a food dish and poker prize, and special thanks to our prize coordinator Rose and thanks to Cal and his ham operators providing communication for our safety and Debbie our talented nurse, and thanks to Bernard for his photos. Without all the volunteer help the poker ride could not have been the success it was.

We had 94 riders register this year, including fabulous prizes a successful silent auction, great food and entertainment. PayPal was well received again this year with the majority of the registrations coming through PayPal. The camp sites were handled online and sold out in 48 hours. We received cash donations from three of our generous sponsors, Laura Berman, Grass Valley Real Estate, Lana Coreless, and Deborah Guelinas, ReMax. All of our business sponsors are listed on our web site. This year we had excellent silent auction items thanks to generous donations from sponsors and members, we made \$691. The poker ride grossed \$5,564 and netted \$4,990 for future GCTC projects. Again a "Big" thanks to everyone who helped support this year's annual Poker Ride fundraiser, including our dedicated Board and Forest Service.

Looking forward to putting the money to good use on the various GCTC trail projects.

Jeff Foltz, Poker Ride Manager



SKILLMAN HORSE CAMP WORKDAY

Well, the Skillman campground was a total "mic drop" in my opinion. Twenty-six volunteers showed with a great spirit and ready to work. The camp was really in need of help. The lunch was superb, thank you Debbie. Laura raffled off gifts from Culture Shock, Mary Johnson won this one and Patrick Hardy won one from The Hay Barn on Highway 49.

Willie, Jeff and Tom worked the shredder which was the hardest of all. They were tossing logs up to 12 inches in the thing. WOW

All the while Bernie was aiming his camera every where trying to keep up with the pace.

I just wanted to say, on behalf of the trail team, a big THANK YOU TO ALL:

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Lea Zivic | Jeff Foltz | Tom Fletcher |
| Laura Duncan | Mary Johnson | Robert Crockett |
| Irv Mazur | Karen Schwartz | Pam Swartz |
| Teri Personeni | Vicki Testa | Sue Brusin |
| Cathy Scott | Jan Geller | Willie Brusin |
| Mark Scott | Barb Hobbs | Debbie Molloy |
| Amy Umpleby | Deanna Carlini | Bernie Molloy |
| Suzanne Vacarro | Patrick Hardy | |
| Barry Vacarro | Leslie Gray | |

Submitted by Susan Donnelly

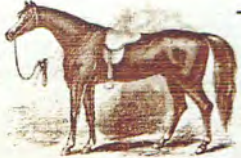


The Gold Country Trail Council would like to recognize the following individuals for their generous donations.

Kathy, Colin & Ryan Doty

GCTC members are not always able to participate in workdays or other activities but want to contribute to the support of the important work that the Gold Country Trail Council does throughout the year. We appreciate their donations and support.

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******LONE GRAVE WORK DAY TEAM******

Irv Mazur, Workday Crew Lead
 Sue And Willie Brusin, Trail Work Leads
 Bernie Molloy, Photographer
 Debbie Molloy, Chef
 Susan Donnelly, Trails Work Day Coordinator

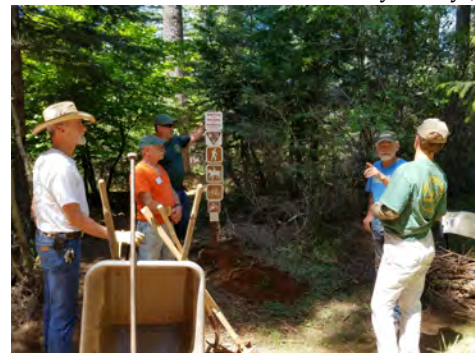
And more Very hard workers:

Suzanne Vaccaro	Jeff Foltz	Margaret Hanson
Rose Massara	Mary Johnson	Ray Bryars
Gigi Lawton	Sue Winthers	Jim & Gail Plakos
Sharon Silver	Susan Donnelly	Ginny Holt
Cathy Chase	Ginny Dix	Cathy Scott
Lori Moniz	Barbara Hobbs	Chas Green
Suzy McMinn	Jan Geller	Ginny Paschke
Jan Montana	Jack Proust	

Hoot Trail

The non motorized multi-use Hoot trail recently received signs put up by a GCTC work crew (Barry, Irv, Tom, Willie, Melissa, Sue and Suzanne). Hoot is the name given to the trail often referred to as the Cable trail when it was under construction. A Spotted Owl habitat was one of the last reasons for delay on this trails existence. The Hoot trail is a popular bicycle trail so remember to be careful and courteous when riding or hiking this trail.

Submitted by Mary Johnson

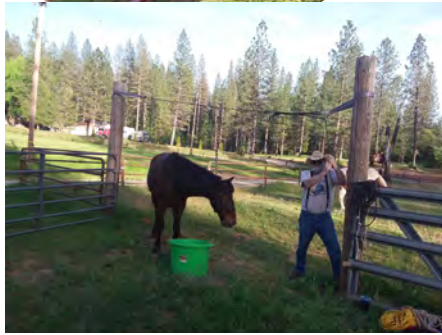




"Horse Camping 101" Presentation by Mary Johnson and Mary Lundin

Mary Johnson and Mary Lundin presented an hour-long demonstration entitled "Horse Camping 101" prior to the general meeting on May 9th at the Nevada County Horseman's grounds. The theme was "Keep it simple and enjoy yourself with your horse."

Descriptions of different types of shelter, such as tents, living quarter horse trailers, campers, etc., transporting feed, first aid, and how to highline and other ways to contain your horse were displayed and discussed. Numerous handouts for future reference were available. Lisa Calder demonstrated the proper way to hobble. Many questions were asked and answered. Jim Driver won a raffle prize of hydration hay donated by Worth and Mary Lundin.



Submitted by Mary Lundin



GCTC members, Suzanne Vaccaro, Charles Green, Amy Umpleby and I were helping my cousin Jim of Nevada County Free Range Beef. We gathered the cattle, but his "horse" a John Deere Gator named the Green Machine, got stuck. Suzanne and her trusty steed, Suntana tied onto the machine and with Charles helping, pulled it out of the muck!! Fun day for us and big help for Jim.

Submitted by Teri Personeni

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Howdy and Welcome to our newest members!!



- Brook Binley, Caelan & Christoph Diermann
- Kathy, Colin & Ryan Doty
- Maureen Henderson
- Kathleen MacLeod
- Shireen Malik
- Marty Mosman
- Annette Phillips
- Cindy Sassman
- Jan & Bill Willis



LEAVE ONLY HOOF PRINTS



GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL, INC.
Board of Directors Minutes
Tuesday, June 6, 2017 7 PM
Nevada County Horsemen's Clubhouse
10600 Bubbling Wells Road
Grass Valley, CA.

Officers

President Laura Duncan
Vice President Melissa Ribley
Secretary Mary Lundin
Treasurer Teri Personeni
Past President Karen Schwartz, absent

Board Members:

Fran Cole, absent
Helen Crawford
Charles Green

FS Liaison Willie Brusin and member Sue Brusin, Hoot Trail Liaison Cathy Scott, member Worth Lundin attending.

A. Call to Order and Welcome

President Laura Duncan called meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

B. Changes or additions to agenda

Item G5 moved to July agenda. Also Helen Crawford donated the \$30 fee paid for club participation in the Celebration of Trails event where she represented GCTC. A new member, Kathy Doty, joined at the event and assisted Helen with booth set up. Also of interest at the Celebration of Trails event was that Sierra Trailblazers asked if they could help on GCTC trail workdays.

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion made by Teri and seconded by Helen that May minutes be approved as submitted. Motion carried.

D. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Teri stated the current bank balance to be \$35,042.89. A written report was not submitted. Motion was made by Mary Lundin and seconded by Charles that report be approved as stated. Motion carried.

E. Forest Service Report-Willie Brusin

1. The new map for the Lone Grave area has not been completed yet by the North Pacific Regional office. The Cable (Hoot) trail signs provided by TNF have been installed by the Brusins'. Two-way direction signs were purchased by Cathy Scott but have not yet been installed.
2. TNF will pull the stumps on the relocated portion of the Dascombe to Harmony trails that were recently completed at a GCTC workday.
3. The Dascombe Trail rough reroute under the power lines has been completed by Orion Kroeger of BONC. A workday needs to be scheduled to finish the tread work. GCTC and BONC each paid \$1000 toward the cost of the machine used for the Hoot trail construction and Dascombe trail reroute construction.
4. The tractor work on the Hwy. Michael Vierra did 20 Skillman/Overlook/and GCET driveway and parking areas, as David Higbee was not available. This included spreading gravel provided by both GCTC and the Forest Service as stated in previous reports by Willie.
5. The Gold Country Equestrian Trailhead kiosk has been finished by Don Soto and installed by Willie, Irv and Tom.
6. The Skillman Campground workday has been completed.

7. TNF crews and Woods Riders Motorcycle Club have removed fallen trees on the multi-use trails behind Skillman. TNF crews will remove downed trees above Skillman using motorcycles. Rod Garcia, Paul Hart's assistant, and his crew removed trees and relocated the Pioneer Trail at the washout. GCTC will need to schedule a workday to put in the trail pad.

8. Melissa will report on the Skillman Campground sign.

F. Old Business

1. Review financial audit- Cathy Scott

Cathy Scott and Mary Lundin met with Treasurer Teri Personeni on April 27th to review the club's financial transactions since the last audit. The report should be completed by the next board meeting.

2. Hoot (Cable) Trail

The FS has asked GCTC to appoint a Trail Liaison to monitor trail use and condition of this newly completed trail, to be used by FS personnel to schedule their work. Cathy Scott has accepted this position, and along with three other people, walked the trail on 5/27/17 to create an initial survey. This completed survey was submitted to the TNF on 5/30/17. A printout of the survey, along with a log of user comments and FS contact, is attached to the printed minutes of this Board meeting. The Forest Service asked that GCTC and BONC collaborate on solutions to improve user confidence that the trail is safe for hikers, bicyclists, and horses to share.

Orion Kroeger of BONC was invited to attend the board meeting to share his thoughts on the finished trail and it's use. Orion said that he built the trail to Forest Service specifications. He said that he is open to brush clearing to increase line of sight and adding signage. Willie and Orion will get together to set a date.

3. Poker Ride Update-Jeff Foltz

Preliminary accounting shows \$5564 grossed and \$4990.62 net. Poker chair Jeff Foltz will present a full report at the July meeting.

4. Tack Swap

Linda Lanzoni is coordinating tack swap for July 8th at Nevada County Horsemen's. Members can bring horses to try on saddles or tack at the event.

5. Little Lasier Meadow Camp/Work/Ride-Mary Johnson

An update will be sent by email from Mary Johnson via Jaede.

6. Skillman Horse Camp Sign-Melissa Ribley

Cecelia of the FS informed Melissa that the new sign would not say "Horse Camp" as they don't want to discourage use by non-horse campers. Teri made a motion to rescind the previous offer of paying for the sign. Helen seconded and motion passed.

G. New Business

1. Member courtesy during meetings

A complaint about talking during the business meeting makes it hard for people to hear. Teri suggested that a Sargent-At-Arms be appointed who would ask individuals to refrain from talking when someone else has the floor. Board members will serve in this position.

2. Recognition of trail workers at year end

Discussion was held and agreed that it would be nice to recognize by name the members who have worked on the trails during that year, along with our trail workday coordinator.

3. Sound in the meeting hall

There have been complaints about sound in the meeting room. Speakers need to use the microphone.

4. Speaker equipment

The speaker equipment is heavy and hard to transport. Board will monitor future use and may consider making change to lighter equipment.

5. Consideration of creating more trail liaison positions

Move to July agenda

6. Schedule Pioneer Trail workday

Work on the Upper Pioneer Trail is scheduled for July 22nd.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 P.M.
Submitted by Mary Lundin, Secretary