

Trail Times



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.



GCTC President's Message

Hello Everyone,

We're off to a wonderful start with some great opportunities for summer fun.

Our Day Ride in May at Cronan Ranch was well attended and enjoyed by all who joined Trail Bosses Carol Scurria and Merv Kril. (See the article by Trail Ride Coordinator Jamie Canon elsewhere in this issue.)

The Work Day at Skillman in May was also fun, with volunteers enjoying working together and being served a delicious lunch, all ably coordinated by Melissa and Robert Ribley.

Our Poker Ride in June was also a great success, with beautiful, well-marked trails, great food, wonderful prizes, and excellent turnout. (See the article by Poker Ride Coordinator Linda Lanzoni elsewhere in this issue.)

And our Little Lazier Meadow Camp/Work/Ride weekend was lots of fun, as we worked, rode, and "pot lucked" together. (See the article by Coordinator Mary Johnson elsewhere in this issue.)

All of these events were made possible by generous contributions from our members of time and energy. We salute all of your contributions, from the largest to the smallest, because they make our mission and accomplishments possible.

Now get out your calendar and make sure you don't miss the fun coming up in July and August. In July our famous Ice Cream Social will be held on Tuesday, July 8th, and Tom Grundy with Search and Rescue will be discussing the use of GPS when traveling on trails or in the wilderness. Next, if you enjoy riding in scenic and historic surroundings don't miss the Royal Gorge Day Ride scheduled for July 19th, to be led by Trail Boss Mary Johnson. We also have a Work Day scheduled at Bowman/Langs Crossing on July 26th. Our Work Days are a great way to get better acquainted with other members.

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.

GOLDEN EMPIRE GRANGE HALL
off LA BARR MEADOWS ROAD

Speaker: Tom Grundy with Search and Rescue, will be speaking on the of GPS while riding or hiking in the wilderness. See NCSSAR article on Page 6



Upcoming Loney Meadow Campout/Workday

Be there or be square!!

Starting Saturday August 23 and continuing through Thursday August 28 we will camp at the "meadow/circle" camping area between Black's Cabin and Loney Meadow.

Our workday will begin at 9 a.m. on Sunday, August 24 with a meeting in the camping area. From there we will disperse to the areas determined to need clearing. In recent years we have saddled up and ridden up the trail, clearing and clipping as we go. There isn't much brush clipping to do until we get to the upper meadow, and then it is soft brush. It has been reported to me that there are quite a few trees down in different areas. We will address that when we get there.



LONEY MEADOW Page 7

POKER RIDE 2014

What a really fun Poker Ride we had this year! Everything went on schedule and we had perfect weather, enough food, enough parking spaces for all the rigs, just the right amount of prizes, another beautifully marked trail on a great route, no bees (to speak of) and a whole crowd of happy riders, non-riders and volunteers.

Everyone keeps congratulating me for this spectacular event but it was all of YOU who stepped to the plate and got all the jobs done... Sue Brusin, Pat Huntsinger, Barbara Hobbs, Karen Schwartz, Ann Rubenstein (and friend Beverly Jensen) Jaede Miloslavich, Diana Culver, Willie Brusin, Mary Johnson, Sharon Silver, Merrill Kagan-Weston, Don Soto, Mike Curry, Jack Prust, Lori Moniz-Waddell, CJ La Civita, Rose Massara, Jeff Foltz, Mary Lundin, Joan Fowle, Cal McKittrick, Susie Roush, Jan Geller, Gigi Lawton, Helen Harvey, Maggie Bacot, Karen Wyeth, Harry Wyeth, Larry Schwartz, Lynn Mangel and Ann Driver.

We also had a great group of prize donors:

Harmony Ridge Market, SPD Markets, Sierra Foothill Horsemen Assoc., Placer Farm Supply, Ridge Feed and Supply, Auburn Printers, Mountain Equestrian, Weiss Bros. Nursery, Tacky But Nice, Grass Valley Hay and Feed Supply, A to Z Supply, Grass Valley Florist, Culture Shock Yogurt, Sullivan Chiropractic, Day Break Café, RTA Enterprises, Pearson's Feed, Caleb's Creamery and Coffee, Ezra Marrow, B&C True Value, Bikram Yoga, For the Love of Pets, Hansen Bros. Enterprises, High Trail Custom Design, Robinson Ranch/Hoek Livestock and Vermicrop Organics.

Margaret Bacot, Laurie and Gary Conterno, Patty Douglass, Jim and Ann Driver, Patty Hageman, Helen Harvey, Pat Huntsinger, Mary Johnson, Worth and Mary Lundin, Linda Lanzoni, Lynn and Gordon Mangel, Karen Schwartz, Vicki Testa, Brad and Merrill Weston.

Congratulations to ALL the VOLUNTEERS, ALL the members who participated in the ride and ALL of you who donated prizes and food. Thank you for making this event happen smoothly and stress free.

The Stats are still unofficial but definitely close enough:

48 pre-registered riders.
36 riders registered at the ride.
Total - 84 Riders

All campsites full Friday night, most full Saturday night as well.

Only 5 empty parking spaces Saturday morning.

Collected \$3600.00 not including the T-shirt sales.

Profit - \$3000.00+



You can check out all the great photos that Cal took at:

<http://imagesbycal.smugmug.com/Events/GCTC/GCTC-Events/GCTC-Poker-Ride-2014/>

The first year I ran the Poker Ride, it was shockingly successful... last year it was half as profitable but still a wonderful day... this year I think was definitely the most fun with no mishaps and more compliments than ever before. So thank you all for making me look good and letting me end my third year on a really good note. Next year, Merrill will be running the show and I'm sure, with all of you behind her, it will be the best Poker Ride ever!

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!

Submitted by, Linda Lanzoni



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In August our Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride is scheduled for August 24th and 25th, and some of us hope to stay on longer. (See the article by Loney Meadow Coordinator Teri Personeni elsewhere in this issue.)

And we are in the early planning stages for a new event in September, a Trail Horse Sensory Clinic, which will be jointly sponsored by GCTC and the Nevada County Horsemen. This will be open only to members of these two groups. Like everything else we do, this event will depend on your willingness to volunteer, so please email me at karen-schwartz@prodigy.net if you would like to be involved in making it a success.

Karen Schwartz, President

Annual Skillman Campground Workday

On Wednesday, May 14 the GCTC held our annual Skillman Campground Workday. Fifteen members turned out for a beautiful day in the Tahoe National Forest. We accomplished a lot of work including cleaning up the large manure piles surrounding the corrals, and trimming back brush on the trails in the Skillman area. A good time was had by all, and Helen McDermott served a delicious post-work party lunch. Below is a list of members who attended:

Cherri Crain	Willie Brusin
Teri Personeni	Laura Duncan
Irv Mazur	Barbara Hobbs
Gail Anderson	Helen McDermott
Debbie McKitrick	Sharon Silver
Sue Brusin	Jeff Foltz
Bill Gore	Melissa Ribley
Vicki Testa	



Submitted by, Melissa Ribley

Cronan Ranch Ride

Our Cronan Ranch ride was a great success! It was a beautiful day, May 4th and all was still gloriously green. The weather was stunning. We had a wonderful group of members riding, including, Terri Personeni, Lynn Mangel, Bill Dryden, Suzanne Vacarro, Jamie Canon, Carol Scurria, Merv Kril, Kandi Kost-Herbert, Merrill Kagan-Weston, and Warren and Debbie Thorsen. We met at the Main Parking area and rode out from the trailers promptly at 10:00. Carol Scurria and Merv Kril were our Trail Bosses for the day. They did a fabulous job of taking us on a scenic route, which included lunch at the American River, and riding past and old movie set. What movie you ask? It is Michael Landon Jr.'s "Love Comes Softly" (2003), a story about "A young woman's dream to forge a new life for herself on the great American plains. Her travels become a test of her pioneering spirit, her inner strength, and her undying faith and courage." It is available on Netflix. It is fun to watch the movie and know you were riding exactly where the covered wagons descended down the gently sloping, dirt road and recognize the buildings. Join us on our next day ride and share the fun!

Submitted by Jamie Canon

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Fun and Variety at Little Lasier Meadow Horse Camp

GCTC members filled and shared the 11 campsites at Little Lasier Meadow for a great weekend of camping riding and working. California Land Management had reserved June 27 - 29 in advance for GCTC for the work weekend. Thanks to Jace Reed, campground manager and camp host, Stan, for taking care of Little Lasier Meadow and working with GCTC to maintain LLM as a horse camp. They are cooperative and supportive of our



adoption of Little Lasier Meadow and enjoy working with GCTC.

Several members arrived earlier in the week for additional time to enjoy the many riding trails. Cool weather and a light rain on Wednesday night didn't dampen the spirits of those who arrived early and warmer weather greeted the Friday arrivals. Because there was logging being done in the area, rigs had to share road 70 with logging trucks, but most encounters



were cordial even though it was a tight squeeze! The water truck kept the road by the camp moist to minimize dust.

The willing and enthusiastic work crew accomplished many tasks on Saturday morning. There were repairs to the corrals, picnic table leveling, barrier post replacement, cleaning of fire rings, and some branch trimming in camp. A large group of hearty workers cleared a new trail adjacent to the connector trail and a second group created a trail just beyond camp site 1 that leads to a creek crossing below the meadow to access a great riding loop of road 70-60 and 70-50. The Pacific Crest Trail also benefited from some trimming of

our "favorite" bush, whitethorn, by energetic trimmer Penny Martin and friend Greg Markle (who also makes great chocolate fondue!) Chain saw operators Jeff Foltz and Willie Brusin made quick work of a several logs and brush for the new trails, as Gail Plakos and Mary Johnson led the determined trail builders: Sue Brusin, Suzanne Vaccaro, Lori Moniz, Karen and Harry Wyeth, Gail Anderson, Bev Milke-Hillar, and Jaede Miloslavich.



Barry Vaccaro and Warren Thorsen accomplished expert corral repair. Camp clean up was diligently handled by Debbie Thorsen, Karen Schwartz, Sharon Silver and Gigi Lawton. We also enjoyed the company of Ann Rubenstein, Bev Jensen and Mary and Worth Lundin.

Saturday night potluck was a delicious array of outstanding food including BBQ chicken (thanks Barry), salads, vegetables, pastas and too many choices of deserts from decadent chocolate cake to fresh peach cobbler...and did I mention chocolate fondue with fresh fruit!? As we sat and enjoyed the



company after the meal, Willie outlined the history of Little Lasier Meadow horse camp and Jaede told us about Marin County's meeting with trail users determined to make trails safe for everyone.

Best wishes for recovery go out to Debbie Thorsen's horse who suffered a rope burn, Gail Anderson who's hand got kicked by a horse, and to Worth Lundin who is recovering from bronchitis. May the mishaps be minor and far overshadowed by the beautiful location, the friendly and helpful people and the chance to ride the trails on your favorite horse? See you next year at Little Lasier Meadow!!

Submitted by, Mary Johnson

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Howdy and Welcome to our newest members!!



- Bridget Brandstad
- Eve Crowe
- Mary & Michael Dowling
- Laney Humphrey
- Gayle Leland
- Mary Margaretich
- Roxanne and Chad Young
- and Taylor and Jeremiah

Committee Chairs

Camp Cook & Coordinator:
Merrill Kagan-Weston
Email Notifications: Jaede Miloslavich
530 346-9933 jaede@sbbmail.com
Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin
Historian: Sharon Silver
Hospitality: Laura Duncan, Maryann Colley and
Krista Ericson
Little Lasier Meadow: Worth & Mary Lundin
and Mary Johnson
Membership: Mary Johnson 530-477-8501
mjshasta@aol.com
Newsletter Editor: Lynn Mangel 530-432-6979
quailhollowpv@me.com
Phone Tree: Lynne Sullivan
Poker Ride Fundraiser: Linda Lanzoni
530-273-6346 linda@mtnequestrian.com
Program Director: Melissa Ribley
Publicity: Open
Skillman: Robert & Melissa Ribley
Tool Storage and Maintenance: Willie Brusin
Trail Rides: Jamie Canon
Web Master: Ron Brown
United Trails Work Day: Irv Mazur

**Gold Country Trails
Council Officers**

President: Karen Schwartz 470-8790
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harmony@heartworks.bz
Board Member: Vicki Testa 273-1735
vickite@att.net
Board Member: Don Soto 275-0536
jamessoto38@gmail.com
Board Member: Open



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GTC Members Left to Right:
 Jeff Foltz, Merrill Kagen-Weston, Laura Duncan, Jaede Miloslavich

Picture was taken on the Red Rock Ride in southern Utah, May 29, on the trail to the Butch Cassidy hideout on Thunder Mountain.

Submitted by, **Jaede Miloslavich**



DON'T MISS OUR ROYAL GORGE DAY RIDE

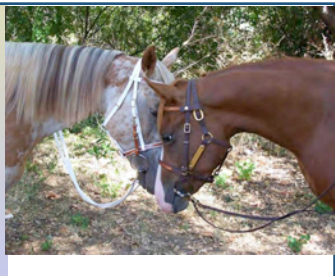
Royal Gorge will be the location for our next day ride, which is scheduled for Sunday, July 19th. This is a very scenic place to ride, and there is also a great deal of pioneer history and pre-pioneer history in the area, including part of the Emigrant Trail. Merrill Kagen-Weston will be our Trail Boss. If you'd like to join us, contact our Trail Ride Coordinator Jamie Canon at tra.Jamiej@sbcglobal.com, and she will supply you with all the necessary information.

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Nevada County Sheriff's Search & Rescue (NCSSAR)

GTC members have a wonderful opportunity. Nevada County Sheriff's Search and Rescue (NCSSAR) is reactivating its Mounted Unit and looking for riders. This is a commitment that requires a fair amount of time, especially during the initial qualification process. All volunteers must first become "mission-ready" as ground-pounders (on foot). After completing the fitness hike and a series of classes, riders will then go about readying their mounts for the challenges of Search and Rescue. Regular training sessions and annual certification will be required for all active members of the Mounted Unit—including horses and riders. If you would like more information about the NCSSAR Mounted Unit, please contact Renée Boice at 901-481-5128. If you would like more information about NCSSAR in general, please visit the website at <http://www.ncssar-nc.org>.

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If you know of a GTC member that needs a little sunshine in their life, contact GTC's Sunshine Person Cheri Crain at 916-996-8854 or cwcrain01@gmail.com with the information and she will be happy to send a cheery note or card to light up their day.



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LONEY MEADOW

We plan a potluck dinner for 7 p.m. Saturday night. Bring your own table service, beverage and a dish to share. We can potluck Sunday night as well for those who wish. Or every night if that suits you. LOL



This is a dry camp, so be sure to bring plenty of drinking water for yourself and your horse. You may highline or put up your own portable corral. There are no pens, but there are lots of trees. If you highline, be sure to use tree savers. We don't want to damage the trees. There are creeks nearby to water your horse, but too far to carry water back to camp.

Be sure to bring loppers, pruning clippers, pruning saws, gloves, insect repellent, hat, long pants, boots, and a jacket for the cool evenings. A bandana is nice to have if riding in a group on a dusty trail. I suggest you bring a light to medium sheet/blanket for your horse. The nights are cool, we might get rain and the mosquitoes and other insects are voracious.

Directions to Loney Meadow:

Hwy 20 East from Nevada City about 30 miles. Turn LEFT onto Bowman Lake Road. Follow that road to mile marker 10. There is a sign indicating Loney Meadow Trailhead. Turn RIGHT on the dirt road. Take the LEFT fork, go around the back of Black's Cabin, go about 50 yards and turn left and continue up the hill. When you enter the timber watch for the road to the LEFT that leads to the area where we will be camping. I hope to have the club banner at the entrance to our camping spot.

I will be going up midday on Saturday 8/23. Depending on the delivery time for the potty, Karen may be there on Friday.

Please let me know if you are coming so I know how much fixings to bring for S'mores. Vbg [IF!! We can get Willie to bring his little camp stove]. This is not a designated campground, so there will be no campfires permitted. Our fire danger is high now; by the end of August it will be dangerous. We also need to be aware that a single spark from a horseshoe on a rock can [and has] start a forest fire. Be cautious!

Any questions can be directed to Teri Personeni, 273.9144 or teri@terobmorgans.com.

Submitted by, Teri Personeni

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Our 3 day Riding Camps are **June** 16 thru 18, July 22 thru 24 and **August** 12 thru 14 from 9 to 12. They are packed with unique experiences for our kids. Meet, greet and learn about horses, animals and gardens. Feed the goats and giggle, look for eggs in our chicken coop. Ride those majestic horses. Pick hoofs and learn horse care from the saddle up. Note the work and see if you still want to own one or 12 or 13. I DO.

Birthday Parties include riding, mini horse shows, picking something from our organic garden as well as set up with all the party necessities...just bring a cake and relax and have fun with your children. It will be the happiest birthday party you have ever given. Come and check us out. Little cowpokes in the garden get to pick veggies and learn that veggies do not come from the supermarket. Then they brush the mini horses. An hour and a half of educational fun.

Our riding lessons have a therapeutic effect on our children and adults. They help make people happy. There is a horse for every person beginner to advance. We specialize in beginners who always know more than they think they know. Drottning our little Icelandic was sent from heaven just for beginners (and those like me, more MATURE individuals) and Lovee is our "special needs" girl, just ask anyone who need the special care that she gives to her riders.



We are a family friendly ranch with a playground for mothers to take their toddler to play while the rider is on his or her horse. Of course the goats, potbelly pig, chickens, dogs, bunny and cat are just added attractions. We have a covered area for rainy days, a 200 by 100 ft. arena and stalls and pasture for boarding.

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Submitted by, Sally Porter

**GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
2014 CALENDAR**

Date	Event	Date	Event
	JULY		SEPTEMBER
July 8	General Mtg./Ice Cream Soc. - 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV	September 9	General Meeting - 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV
July 19	Royal Gorge Day Ride Trail Boss: Mary Johnson	September 13	Work Day - Bowman/Langs Crossing Coordinator: TBA
July 26	Work Day - Bowman/Langs Crossing Trail Boss: TBA	Sept. 18-21	Draft Horse Classic Fair (non GCTC event)
	AUGUST		OCTOBER
August 6-10	Nevada County Fair (non-GCTC event)	October 4	Work Day TBA Coordinator: TBA
August 9	Tevis (Western States Endurance Ride (non-GCTC event)	October 12	United Trails Day/Work Day Coordinator: Irv Mazur
August 12	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse, GV	October 14	Board Meeting - 7 p.m. Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse, GV
August 23-31	Loney Meadow Camp/Work/Ride Coordinator: Teri Personeni	October 18	Lone Grave Ride/BBQ Coordinator: TBA
August TBA	Robinson Flat Camp/Ride Coordinator: TBA	October 25	Lone Grave Ride/BBQ (rain date)
			NOVEMBER
		November 11	General Meeting/Thanksgiving Feast 7 p.m. Golden Empire Grange Hall, GV
			DECEMBER
		December 9	Board Meeting - 3 p.m. Nevada County Horsemen Clubhouse, GV

GCTC MEMBERS ARE INVITED

The Nevada County Horsemen invite riders to join them for the "Cow Play" every Tuesday evening from 6:00 till 9:00 pm. It is open to the public for a \$20 fee.

This fun evening introduces the horse to "ranch work". It is slow paced and we will have instructors available.

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**GOLD COUNTRY TRAILS COUNCIL
BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, June 10, 2014, 7 PM
NCHA Clubhouse, 10600 Bubbling Wells Rd.
Grass Valley, CA**

Attending:

President: Karen Schwartz
Vice President: Melissa Ribley
Secretary: Karen Wyeth
Board Members: Jeff Foltz & Vicki Testa
Forest Service Liaison: Willie Brusin
Membership Chair: Mary Johnson
Past President: Helen Harvey

Absent:

Treasurer: Kathy Southgate

Call to Order at 7:03. Jeff requested that the meetings start at 6 pm. Karen S. will consider this for the August meeting. We usually meet earlier when the days are shorter.

Approval of minutes of the previous meeting: Minutes of the May 2014 General Meeting were approved.

Approval of the Treasurer's report: Kathy provided a summary of her report. The current balance is \$26,136, with net proceeds from the Poker Ride of approximately \$3,000. Live Wire reimbursed GCTC \$360 for the Lone Grave porta-potty. The cost for grading of roads was \$560 to Dave Higbee. The trail brush machine was \$470. Kathy requested that the bookkeeping be changed to "expense costs when incurred." The board approved it and the Treasurer's report.

The Action Coalition of Equestrians has an organizational membership of \$100. The board decided to join this organization.

Forest Service Report:

Phoenix, the Skillman camp host needs to find a camping trailer to use. California Land Management has a problem with his home-made trailer. He's been very good at maintaining the camp and helping with the Poker Ride, so Willie suggested that GCTC circulate a notice asking if any member has a trailer to donate for a tax deduction. The board approved.

There is no word from the Tahoe National Forest about a replacement for Carlos.

Willie presented the proposed map of the Lone Grave area, which will become the basis for the permanent signs. The title says "Multiuse Trails." Willie and Jet Lowe will try to change this to "Non-motorized Trails." Apparently the Forest Service hasn't officially designated these trails "Non-motorized." It has simply been an informal designation.

"Please bag manure daily" signs have been put up at Skillman. The bags should be put next to the dumpster. Farmers use it for composting or fertilizer.

Willie gave Melissa the survey for Skillman campground. Melissa will locate bumpers, new tables, and firepits. It has been difficult to coordinate with Heather (Joe Chavez's replacement) at the Forest Service.

The Pioneer Trail relocation is scheduled to begin this Friday with two conservation crews. Scheduling is difficult, since their priority is fighting fires if needed. Another day or two should be necessary, but not definite at this time. There was discussion of the importance of avoiding the Wild West Endurance Ride scheduled for June 20-22.

Sue and Willie will check the trails for the workday at Loney Meadows in July. The Loney Meadows campout and work will be in August.

There is no new information on the United Trails Day.

The multi-use trail at the top of the Hallelujah Trail that we worked on last fall is clear and useable.

AERC report - Melissa said that riders are encouraged to post photos on Google Earth.

Brush machine has been purchased and is in Jeff's garage. Jeff has been clearing trail in upper Pioneer.

Old Business:

Grange key - Karen S. said that we need more keys to the Grange for the refreshment committee and the President. She will make copies. Mary has the only key at this time.

Membership - There are nine new members since January with two sign-ups at the Poker Ride. There are no new Board member prospects.

Website - Helen is working on changing the website. It may take a couple of months. Brad Kagan-Weston is looking at using Pay Pal. Gigi should be able to make changes to keep the site updated. We pay Full Spectrum for our web site.

2014 Calendar update - Loney Meadows campout and work day will be held August 23-28. We could use a porta-potty. It will cost at least \$85, but could be more due to remoteness of the site. Providing water may not be necessary, since the creek usually doesn't dry up. People need to bring their own drinking water.

Poker Ride - The turnout was good. There were 85 riders. Bees were still reported. It would be good to try to locate ground bees by GPS.

Nevada County Horsemen's Association - Karen S. will go to their meeting on Friday. A joint activity could be one of the following: search and rescue, cows, or trail trials.

Archive review - scheduled for June 24. Karen S., Karen W., and Sue Brusin will attend.

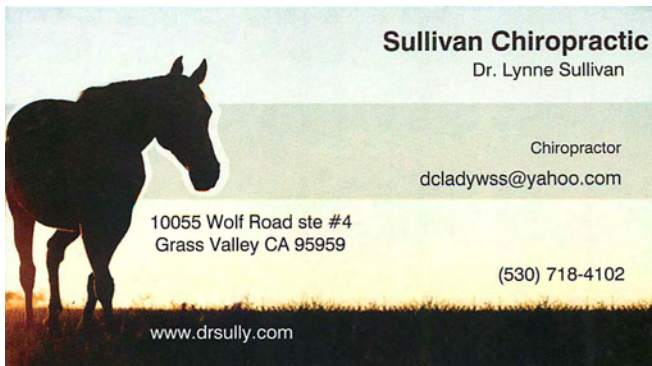
Publicity - Karen S. will ask Diana Culver to write some articles for the Union. She seemed to do a good job for the Poker Ride.

Trail Ride Chair - Melissa will coordinate work days, so that the Trail Boss has less to do, just sign people in, assign work, and distribute tools. Willie and Vicki will lead the Bowman work day on the Pioneer Trail. The Board approved Karen W.'s request to make additions to the first aid kit. She will deliver the kit to Mary before the Little Lazier Meadows campout.

Other old business - Willie reported that Walker's Stationery has printed our cards and they are more reasonable. Karen S. has found thank you cards to use for the Poker Ride donators. Mary gave Karen S. a big GCTC logo.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27

Respectfully submitted by Karen Wyeth, Secretary



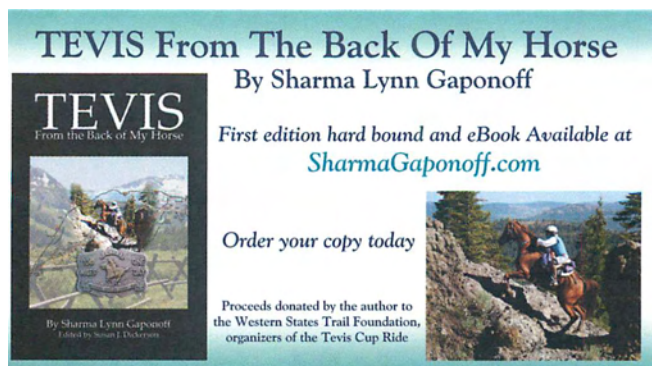
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