

The Highline

A tri-annual newsletter of the Back County Horsemen of Oregon

Summer 2013 Edition

A Little History On BCHO

By Dan Applebaker

As all of you have read in the 40th Anniversary Special Edition of the BCHA Newsletter our national organization has celebrated keeping America's trails open for over 40 years at the National Meeting on April 23rd in Rapid City, South Dakota this year.

In line with celebrating 40 years of history of BCHA perhaps a review of the short history of BCHO would be

interesting. In 1985, strong BCH organizations formed to Oregon's north and south when the California High Sierra Stock Users Association changed to the BCH of California and the Washington State Horsemen changed to the BCH of Washington. These two states joined with Montana and Idaho at that time to be the four charter member states of BCHA.

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Founding Members of BCHO (Left to Right): Dan Applebaker, Mike Letsch, Mike Garrett, Fred Jette, Jerry Bentz (BCHO President, not a founding member), Rose and Dave Peterson

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Eleven years later and seventeen years ago on May 4th, 1996, in an effort to give Oregon horsemen the opportunity to be a part of this great national organization working to preserve the historical rights of recreational saddle and pack stock users on public lands, the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon was formed. This first historic meeting of far sighted horsemen was held at the old Hood River Hotel in Hood River. Nineteen Oregon equestrians attended that meeting along with Randy Darling, then BCHA Chairman, and Al Pitts from the BCH of Washington. BCH already had a presence in Oregon with four BCH Affiliate organizations; the High Desert Trail Riders BCH in Klamath Falls, the Blue Mountain BCH in LaGrande, the Oregon Coast Horsemen's Association BCH in Florence, and the Tiller BCH in Tiller. The Columbia Gorge BCH was forming in Hood River and was on board by the second meeting of BCHO. These five groups made up the founding organizations of BCHO. Current BCHO President Jerry Bentz recognized the remaining founding individuals at the Horse Packing and Wilderness Skills Clinic dinner on May 4th, 2013 in Klamath Falls.

The second meeting was held on November 3rd, 1996 in Bend. There were 17 in attendance at that meeting representing of all five BCH affiliates plus the recently formed Coos BCH in Coos Bay. We were six organizations strong at that time. At that meeting all the state forms required to establish our group was completed, liability insurance was discussed, and after several changes the first bylaws written by Dan Applebaker were ratified. The High Desert Trail Riders donated \$1,000 to BCHO to fund the starting up of the state organization. The BCHO dues were set at \$18.00/single and \$26.00/family. The 1997 Budget was set at:

Mailing & Postage	\$50
Telephone	\$100
Liability Insurance	\$2600
Meeting Expense	\$200
Banking Expense	\$100
	\$3500

This is a far cry from what BCHO budgets look like today.

The First Annual Winter Membership Convention of BCHO was held on March 8th, 1997 at JJ North's Grand Buffet in Bend. By this time the Tiller BCH and the Oregon Coast Horsemen's Association BCH had dropped out of the BCH organization. We were back to four affiliates. At this time we were functioning as BCHO but we had not as yet been accepted as a state organization by BCHA. All the necessary papers had been sent in along with the 1996 dues but we had to wait until the 1997 BCHA National Board Meeting for our application as a state organization to be ratified.

At the March 1997 Annual Membership Meeting it was announced that the following members had been elected as officers, BCHA Director's and Committee Chairs.

President	Howard Bailey
Vice President	Fred Jette

BCHA Director (one year)	Dan Applebaker
Alternate	Eric Cedarstram
BCHA Director (two years)	Mike Letsch
Director at Large	Chuck Borg
Alternate	Del Clark
Treasurer	Becky Clark
Secretary	Dan Applebaker
Expansion Committee Chair	Fred Jette
Education/Legislative Chair	Betty Applebaker
Membership Committee Chair	Dan Applebaker

Our application for membership in BCHA was accepted at the April 25th, 1997 BCHA National Board Meeting in Plains, Washington and was attended by our first National Directors Mike Letsch and Dan Applebaker representing Oregon. BCHO was off and running.

At the March 1998 Annual Winter Membership Convention three new Chapters were ratified. We welcomed the East Cascade Chapter in Bend, the North Umpqua Chapter in Roseburg and the Illinois Valley Chapter (now renamed the Sourdough Chapter) in Cave Junction at that meeting. Later that same year the Elkhorn Chapter was ratified at the September Board of Directors meeting in Hood River. BCHO continued its expansion by the West Cascades Chapter joining in September of 1999 and Emerald Empire Chapter and the Pendleton Chapter in 2000. The Steens Chapter formed up in 2003 and the New Meadows Chapter joined in 2006. The last Chapter to be ratified was the Territorial Riders Chapter in 2011.

Although some Chapters have fallen by the wayside as BCHO progressed through its seventeen year life to date we are still a very active organization with a dedicated membership. We still have eight active Chapters represented by the two remaining founding Chapters; Cascade Gorge and the High Desert Trail Riders, along with East Cascades, Sourdough, West Cascade, Emerald Empire, Steens, and the Territorial Riders.

I'm proud to say that BCHO has been a very active member of BCHA with our members serving as BCHA officers, sponsoring two national meetings, three training sessions with BCHA representatives teaching, and have maintained excellent communication between the state and national. We have provided a unified BCH presence in Oregon with the agencies, the legislature, and other equestrian organizations. It is always exciting to hear the Chapter Reports at the Annual Winter Membership Conventions. We can all be proud of our volunteer efforts accomplished to keep the trails open and maintained, to work cooperatively with the land management agencies, and to meet the education mission of the BCH organization.

I have been very proud that we started BCHO. Our relationship with BCHA has been great and very rewarding for us and all equestrians in Oregon. We are also proud to be a part of a dynamic, progressive and far-sighted organization that is the nation's largest equestrian organization devoted to keeping trails open for our historic and current recreational use. That is BCHA, and we are them.

A Note from BCHO's President

It's that time of the year when we are all waiting for the snow to melt so we can get into the high country. As I am writing this it is raining and snowing again after a couple of really nice weeks. Hopefully soon we can start on all of our work parties and campouts.

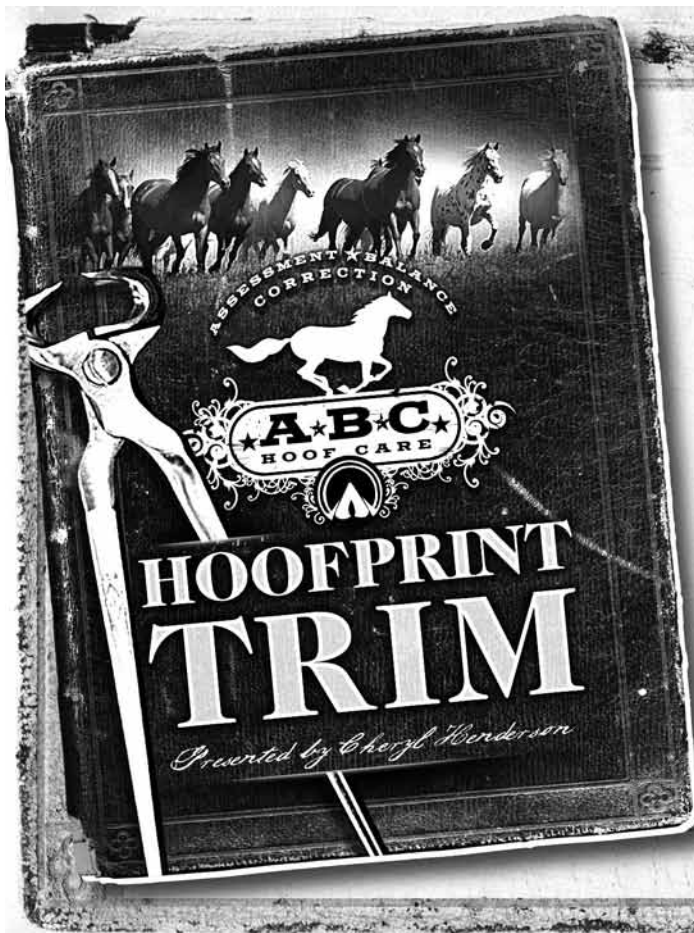
I want to once again thank Mike Letsch for being our president for the last four years. Mike did a great job of getting us started down the trail of reenergizing BCHO. I hope to continue what Mike started. The board and I have plans to start several new chapters this fall. There are also plans to do several things that should help our financial position in the future. BCHO has also been working to increase our presence with the public agencies. We are being asked for our position on the proposal for the Crater Lake Wilderness which we will be discussing at the fall board meeting. BCHO has also been asked to become part of a coalition of quiet recreation users that is forming to combat the mountain bikers on their continuing push to allow bicycles on all forest service trails including the Pacific Crest Trail. I will try to keep everyone informed as formulation of the coalition progresses. There are a lot of things happening on the public lands front and we need to remain vigilant so that we don't lose our right to have saddle and pack stock on certain public lands.

This year's Winter Convention was a great success. There were seventy people for dinner. It was nice to finally honor the founders of BCHO. We also honored some of our chapter volunteers. Next year's Winter Convention will be held at Eagle Crest in the Sisters area. The room rates will be about the same as last year. If anyone has an idea for a guest speaker or a topic you would like to hear about please drop me an e-mail and let me know. The date for next year is March 7-8, 2014 which is a change from the date we announced in March. Please put the date down and plan to attend.

Last I hope to see you all at the State Ride. This year the State ride will be held in the Ochocos July 26th-28th. It's a lot of fun to get together with friends and enjoy some fellowship. Saturday's dinner will be a potluck. Territorial Riders will be hosting the potluck. Meat will be provided and there will be a small charge to cover the cost. Sunday breakfast will be provided by West Cascades. I hope to see everyone there.

I hope everyone has a great summer.

Jerry Bentz



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Latest Scoop on BCHO State Ride

By: Joy Senger

**July 26, 27 & 28, 2013
Allen Creek Horse Camp
in the Ochocos**

The 2013 BCHO state ride and campout is fast approaching. Here are the latest details as of June.

The ride is scheduled for July 26, 27, 28 at Allen Creek Horse Camp in the Ochocos approximately 18 miles east of Walton Lake. From Prineville, travel east on Highway 26 approximately 16 miles, turn right on Highway 23 toward the Ochoco Ranger Station, drive about 8 miles and just past the ranger station turn left on FS road 22 and continue for 19 miles to the horse camp. It is good road all the way. Pavement ends just past Walton Lake.

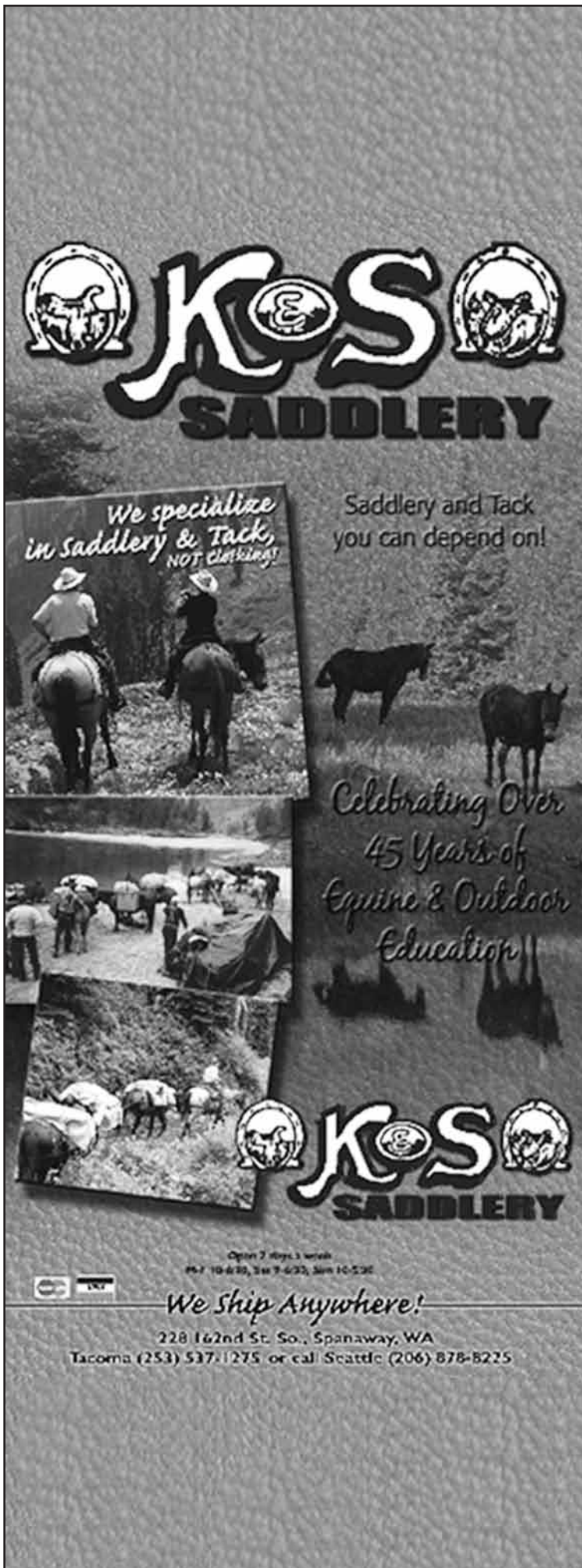
There are no fees and no reservations required. Camp is on the NE corner of Big Summit Prairie. Restrooms are on site so we will not have to rent port-a-potties this year. Stock water is available. Sites have picnic tables and fire rings, but the corrals are not all usable. Please come prepared to high-line (lots of trees) or use portable corrals and/or small electric fence enclosures. Some of the corrals are usable with some ingenious use of ropes, use your judgement and your horse's experience.

There will be lots of beautiful cross country riding and many old forest service roads to several points of interest. Lots of opportunity to practice your GPS skills and mobile APs. There will be some guided rides also if that is your preference.

Again this year we will have a potluck on Saturday night, with BBQ brisket provided by the Territorial Riders BCH. They are asking for a \$5-\$7 donation to defray cost of the meat. Please bring your favorite potluck dish to share. New this year, we will have breakfast cooked by the West Cascade BCH on Sunday morning. Also certified weed-free hay is required and will be available on site for about \$12.00/bale, depending on the cost from the supplier when it is baled.

Any other questions, please contact Joy Senger at 541-980-1745 or Becky Wolf at 503-829-2694.

Hope to see you all for another wonderful time and great riding.



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Cowboys and Cowgirls go Sand Surfing!

By: DeeDee Holst

Saddles creaked and horses snorted as 20 riders and seven on foot from the BCHO Emerald Empire folks sand surfed onto Baker Beach in Florence, Oregon. Golden rays reflected off the ocean that bucked and rolled while Palomino waves guided us to many treasures deposited on the beach this last winter.

A great many fun stories were told from the 2013 Pre-SOLV beach cleanup. One lil' fellar lost his horse and was walking by foot, so you can imagine his delight as he reported he found a magic bottle with Japanese writing! He thought for sure it would put hair back on your head if you needed it! Now if that didn't do the trick, we found a silver bullet canister that once contained a phosphorus mixture that might add hair to your head or take your head off!!!



Heck we had so much fun we could have gone for a swim at the beach for we had enough rope to make everyone a string bikini! Not only that but enough rope to darn near lasso our way back to Japan! If we fell short of Japan we had a back up plan to piece together all the Styrofoam found for a raft....wait does Styrofoam float?

The fastest horses of the west were graced by two bald eagles nodding their approval of our efforts. Then there was a jackpot series of water bottles, pop bottles, juice bottles, baby bottles and someone said they found a whiskey bottle, but I don't remember seeing that one or who had it??... "hiccup". Well, you all might be thinking this article was just a bunch of tall tales but I reckon if you were camping the night prior standing around the camp fire you might of heard a few!

After we filled up our SOLV bags for the ODFW pickups, all 27 of us plus 9 canine friends had a great potluck at the beach house. I'll be darned if those tall tales didn't start flying around again! Something about an old story about a surf rider G? Sand tossers? Why there was even a couple of cowboys debating over wedding dress material! I'm not kidding you all missed out!

The wonderful day ended with everyone saddling up on their trusty steeds to sand surf into the sunset as the whispering pussy willows waved us a good bye.

*We do hope you all will join us
next year for a bucking good time!*



Starting Off on the Right Foot With Your Equine Education

By Betty Applebaker

"From the Ground Up: Getting Started" was our program theme this year at the High Desert Trail Riders Back Country Horsemen's annual Horse Packing and Wilderness Skills Clinic. We wanted to provide some basic education for beginners, not only children but adults just getting started with horses, as well as those taking the next step and getting started with packing. We felt the program was a great success.

Many children don't get the opportunity to be around horses and mules anymore because so much of their focus is in our world of fast paced electronics. The kids had a great time at the clinic which was very gratifying. There was a little pony to pet, groom and saddle. There was a pack dog too. Some learned to tie a few knots while others got to do some leather stamping. The big hit was decorating the stick horses and mules that our talented woodworking member constructed, with cotton mop manes! The kids then decorated them and had a parade around the Event Center at noon. It was so cute, everyone clapped for them as they went by!! For the ones a little older there was Wilbur mule who took them for a ride after a little instruction and they were presented with a Muley Driver's License. We hope to expand these kid's activities next year.

Our Veterinarian cadre shared information about lots of things, including conformation, body assessments and what to expect from a pre-purchase examination. Vaccinations and parasite control were addressed. Choosing your equipment and proper tack adjustment helped folks know what was needed there. New this year was a Trail Riding 101 seminar helping new folks get started on the right foot with this activity. Leave No Trace and packing skills for taking a Wilderness pack trip taught people how to safely go about this endeavor. The pack barrels are always popular with hands on instruction for those learning to tie their gear on their pack animals.

A food preparation seminar helped with some ideas for planning meals for a pack trip or at a trail head, and included a new packing cookbook for sale. It has recipes and instructions on how to plan, purchase, and repackage ingredients for meals and dehydrating instructions for



extended pack trips. Check out our website at www.hdtbch.org if you are interested in purchasing one for \$15. Land navigation and learning how to find your way around safely was available for any outdoors person. For those not necessarily horse oriented, a digital photography class taught how to get better pictures. We always have many advanced seminars in animal care, packing and animal training too.

For those wanting to shop or buy some equipment, our vendors have just about anything you could want or need. There are items from horse tack, packing equipment, western art, hats, clothing, jewelry and wine.

Our Mountain Trail Challenge has been popular and this was the second year for that Friday event. New this year, also on Friday, was a Wine and Cheese tasting including wine glasses etched with our pack string logo. It was popular and will be expanded next year. Our big event is Saturday night with the BBQ dinner, auctions, raffles and mule auction where five mules sold this year.

Our Clinic is a fun time for all and the educational aspect is outstanding. It is a great opportunity to learn so many things and attendance to the seminars is free. How can it get any better than that? Please join us again next year.



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Fish Lake Remount Depot May Become Pack Stock LNT Education Center

By Jean Clancey, EEBCHO

The Fish Lake Remount Depot, located on the headwaters of Oregon's McKenzie River, was for 21 years the station where Betty Applebaker packed the mule string for the USFS. Betty supplied fire lookouts at Sand and Coffin Mountains, packed supplies for wilderness workers and fire crews, and made many friends and pack trip memories among USFS staff. 2005 was the last year Fish Lake was used as a remount station for Forest Service packers, but the well of good will among USFS retirees that Betty created may soon be tapped for a new use for the depot.

Fish Lake is a treasure. So much of Oregon's cultural heritage is represented here. Stone corrals and a rock wall lane show how stock were managed. Hand built wood cabins that housed fire crews as far back as 1909 are still maintained. A blacksmith shop and tack room show how things were done a century ago. A stone pioneer grave marks the resting place of a young mother who died in childbirth as her party was stranded by an early winter. The Santiam Wagon Road, completed in 1866, passed right through the Fish Lake Station as it connected Cache Creek on the east side of the Cascades to Sweet Home.

A recent "Friends of Fish Lake" futuring workshop focused on an appropriate and sustainable continued use for this remarkable site. Betty Applebaker, Phil Hufstader, Della Webb and Jean Clancey attended the meeting to represent the interest of stock users as plans unfold. Many of those present were retired USFS managers who had known

Betty at Fish Lake and enjoyed "pack in" experiences with her. They were well-disposed toward mule and horse use as a component of the education center being envisioned.

We pointed out the commitment of BCHO to Leave No Trace education and the importance of passing on the skills and knowledge of stock packing to the next generation. This knowledge is still being called on to supply wilderness trail crews and we cannot afford to lose it.

Phil Hufstader has followed up by meeting with a group from California who has had success in turning old USFS sites into "Centers of Excellence" facilities, with education being one of the primary functions. He has obtained the California business plan and will provide it to Friends of Fish Lake.

With a similar "concept" plan in place for Fish Lake, it would then be possible for using Fish Lake station as a center for Educational Opportunities. Leave No Trace education for stock users could be one of the uses recognized. This center could become a training hub for LNT education in Oregon and throughout the nation. Such a use would definitely be in line with the cultural heritage of the area and would provide an income stream to help preserve this historical site into the future.

We recommend you stop by Fish Lake and the old remount depot to see for yourself. It is open to the public, just a short walk from the interpretive site parking lot on Highway 126. Have a look around and feel history come alive. And help us envision how BCHO can help keep a stock presence in this place. This is a remarkable opportunity for us.



Summer Plans

By: Emily Elias, Emerald Empire, Eugene

So often when we write articles for the Highline we are telling about what we have done. Well I thought I would do a series of notes to the state about what I am hoping will happen, then what did happen, then even perhaps follow up with how that is going to shape the future.

Emerald Empire Chapter has taken me up on my request to sponsor 3 of my students to attend the LNT training in June at Sisters Cow camp. I personally am very grateful and I know the families of my students are still trying to wrap their heads around the full impact of the gesture. I went to the chapter to ask if they would sponsor one student to go to the course, but as I was thinking about it, which of the six students could I single out? OK maybe I should take two so they could have a buddy, now which ones do I leave behind? I came to the conclusion that I have gang of three girls all 13 years old who are best friends, go to school together, ride together, are

the more advanced students and well you are getting the picture. I thought it was a long shot, but they can't say yes if you don't ask.

Not only did our chapter embrace the idea, they also are sponsoring their memberships! This is taking our goal "To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness" at its face value. The families have all upped that single membership to Family memberships. Of course we made a bit of an agreement. 1) The girls and families were to participate in some trail maintenance projects. 2) The girls will do two LNT presentations in the fall, one to our chapter and the other to their class at school.

For the last two years these girls have been riding with me. Our years' worth of riding has culminated each July with a camp. Since I was lucky enough to have the girls repeat the camp, we built our trail riding and packing skills over the last several years. The first year at camp we were able to get to the point of just taking a local trail ride together. The following year we spent 3 days preparing ourselves and our horses to go for a one night camp, in our local woods. That camp experience was such a success that the following year we went camping for 2 nights.

Our preparations included learning to highline, hobble, put on packs on our riding horses and on the pack horse, practice LNT principles, set up our own tents...etc. The only thing we left out was packing a lot of food. We took our snacks and breakfast, but we were in a location that I set it up that our parents came and fed us lunch and dinner. Talk about taking the easy way out. The LNT trip will be a nice next step for the girls to take the skills they have learned to the mountains.

In July these same girls, plus maybe one more, will be coming with our Chapter to the Diamond Peak Wilderness on our PCT trail maintenance trip. We are pretty confident that the snow will be gone at Lil's Lake and so are planning to pack in and camp there. Our section of the PCT runs from Willamette Pass, 8 miles south to the Yoran Mt. trail. We have had years when we couldn't get to the top section until late August, however, the snow pack was very light this year and with our warm spring we are confident we will be able to complete our trail work the 3rd weekend in July. We often camp at Pengra Pass with our trailers if we can't pack in.

So watch for reports on our summer activities in the fall. And thank you so much members of Emerald Empire Chapter for making the summer events real for these up and coming BCHO Members!



Emily with Chaco the pack horse and riding Hailey, the mustang Rescue. This is Hailey's first pack trip and who by the way still is up for adoption.



Satyshta & Toby all packed up and ready for the trail



2012 Campers ready to hit the trail!

Sourdough Chapter News

2013 has started out with a bang for the Sourdough Chapter.

The chapter has had two workdays at the trail head where their Outdoor Education Event is held in September. A local man has donated his field for the event. The chapter is continuing the clearing project they started last year. The first work day of the year was to burn the brush that had been piled during the clearing of the field. The last one was to remove the rest of the brush and smooth the field. A poker ride is held in conjunction with a trail riding etiquette informational, leave no trace display, and a Back Country Horsemen booth.

A work day to maintain and expand the West Forks Trail

The Soil and Water Conservation Group put on a "Love Your Horse Seminar" and Leave No Trace Director Carol Crawford was included in the programing. She gave a presentation to the participants. Carol along with Terri Sullivan and Susie Wood also presented Trail Preparedness, Leave No Trace, and Trail Etiquette to the 4-H Club. They used the wonderful color books put out by the Back Country Horsemen as a guideline for the program.

The chapter wishes to congratulate Carol Crawford for being chosen the chapter's Volunteer of the Year. She is a very valuable asset and member to the Sourdough Chapter along with being a certified trail master. Her expertise is greatly appreciated on our trail projects.



Sourdough Members pose after a hard day clearing brush and leveling a field donated to use as the trailhead for their September Public Activity. Members Carol Crawford and Jim Wood brought the tractors and made the work a whole lot easier and quicker.

System was held. Members cleared and clipped brush that had come down in the winter storms and repaired trails that had eroded. Members also worked on a new trail being added to the system.

The Kerbyville Museum and History Center opened in March and the chapter helped ready the museum for public viewing. The chapter has adopted the barn and maintains the displays in it. Members of the chapter also participated in the Heritage Day Program for the local 4th Grade classes at Evergreen Elementary School in Cave Junction, OR. This year there were approximately 75 students. Members assisted in the barn, and historic house. The students were shown a blacksmith demonstration and were taught to churn butter and do laundry in a wash tub with a scrub board. Surprisingly the boys were most excited to do laundry this way.



Members stand in front of the old barn at the Kerbyville Museum and History Center after a work party to clean the displays to prepare for the opening of the Museum. The Chapter has maintained the barn and displays for many years as a community service project.

The chapter will be starting work on Sam Brown Horse Camp very soon and looks forward to a productive summer.



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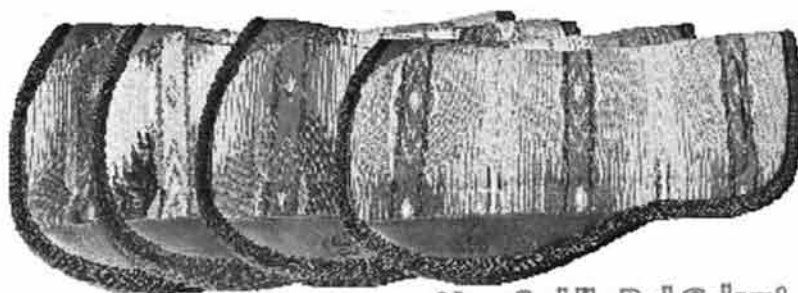
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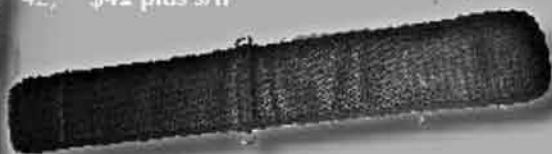
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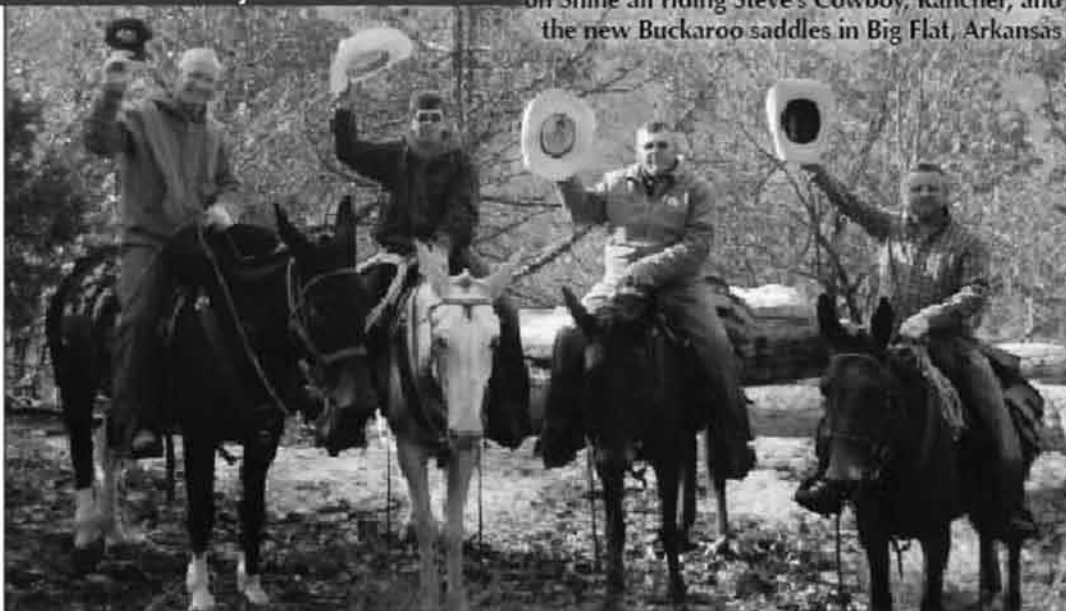
Mule and donkey folks...

You have seen my ads and read my articles, and I have said to you, "Ask the mules and donkeys and the riders about the QUALITY of my saddles."

A lot of you want to know if my tack can do any tough job? Well, here is Jimmy and some of his friends. They will tell you they have different size mules and they are all different size riders. The only thing they have in common is they ride with my saddles and tack. Yes, my saddles can even take a mule rolling off a mountain! I have copied the email that Jimmy Stewart sent:

"On October 6, 2012, my cousin Mickey Williams and I were riding on Tall Peak Trail, in Shady Lakes, Ark. I was on my six year old molly, Pearl, and he was on his john mule Henry. I was riding my Cowboy saddle and on this day we were climbing the mountain. Pearl began to lose her footing in some loose rocks and mud as it had started raining. As I could feel her falling, I heard Jimmy Williams say in my head, "Get off on the high side." I never really thought about that phrase much, as it had been said to me so many times by Jimmy, Mickey and Ken Wilson. It would appear that their guidance took hold though. Pearl went one way and I went the other. Once I was able to roll over after hitting the ground, I watched her bounce and roll off several rocks and trees before I lost sight of her. I was sure we would find her dead, but she ended up bruised, battered, cut and bleeding from a large cut

Jimmy Stewart on Pearl, Jake Williams on Big Mama, Jimmy Williams on Spur and Ken Wilson on Shine all riding Steve's Cowboy, Rancher, and the new Buckaroo saddles in Big Flat, Arkansas



on her head, directly between the ears. Even more amazing was that her saddle was still intact. I believed it would be destroyed when I found it. The best estimate on the fall was between 200 and 250 feet down. This is truly a testament to the quality product you make."

We have Steve Edwards saddles - the only saddle with a lifetime guarantee and will fit every mule and donkey. Lots of folks call their saddle a "mule saddle" but my question is how many mules was this saddle on and worked before you decided it was a "mule saddle." I do not ride a saddle designed by a company. These saddles are what we use every day on the ranch. Since 1981, we started with a pack saddle then advanced to a saddle to go to work in.



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The History of Territorial Riders Backcountry Horsemen of Oregon

By Wendy Solis

History..... the past events that connect us to where we are now. It molds and shapes our vision of the future, where we came from and where we are headed.

TRBCHO has a unique story to tell of its beginnings and now at its present. This is a story a long time in the making, not only because I was supposed to write it a year ago, but also the longevity of this club is going strong. For over 75 years The Territorial Riders have endured, and if you are lucky enough as I was you can still find a few people who still have some interesting tales to tell.

The Territorial Riders were formed in a city that boasts its own tales of perseverance, Oregon City, the last stop for the weary travelers of the Oregon Trail. (Oregon was a Territory in 1848 and a State in 1859.) Less than 100 years after Oregon became a territory, the Territorial Riders became an association in 1940. To this day, in his grave, Red Peck maintains this is the oldest riding club association in Clackamas County and John Rinkes claims the oldest established riding club west of the Mississippi!

When progress was replacing the need for four legged horsepower, horses were being used for a recreational outlet instead of a necessity; people would get together and have field days at Kelly Field, which is now the Oregon Interpreter Center of the End of the Oregon Trail. Those rodeo grounds, where man and beast competed together and against each other in competitions of speed and agility and sometimes just pure luck, attracted more and more people to participate in the games and fellowship.



Poker Trail Ride

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July 7, 2013

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Riders out 9am to 11 am

Poker Hands Pay to 4th Place
Top Hand wins \$100.00

*Shoes recommended, ride is 3-4 hours

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Lunch Menu

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on federal & state lands.***



As the competitive spirit took hold, people started forming into groups. At first they just met at each other's houses but when the couches could hold no more, Johnny Knoop, one of the original founders of the Territorial Riders, donated some acres of land on Pease Road in Oregon City to the club. On this land there was an old chicken coop. That building became the foundation of the first clubhouse to hold the Territorial Riders. They built their own little racetrack and a place to practice their gaming skills. As time went by five of the acres were sold. This sale was just the beginning of changes that became necessary to preserve our club, but with the money they got from the sale they fixed up the chicken coop into a pretty nice club house and built on a much needed bar on the back.

Throughout the years our club has been represented in many parades around Oregon. Oregon City had a yearly Parade called the Territorial Days Parade, which we rode in for many years until it was discontinued. For the Territorial Days Parade Centennial of Oregon City (1848 – 1948), the Territorial Riders Association had the privilege to have Leo Carillo (Poncho, the side kick of the Sisco Kid) ride with our club. John Rinkes remembers how it freaked him out when Leo would have his horse rear for the crowd. John was around thirteen years old. Also in honor of the 100 year centennial, the club did an extensive ride from the clubhouse on Pease Road in Oregon City to Mount Hood, down the Skyline Trail (now PCT) to Detroit

Lake and back to town. There are many stories that could be told with this ride but it would probably take me another year to clean it up enough for a family paper.

Some of the early excitement along with the field days and trail rides was a Pony Express race from Salem, Oregon to the Rodeo grounds at Kelly Field. Our club won the race in 1948, 1949, shared it with the Molalla Buckaroo riders in 1950 and won it again in 1951. Another racing adventure was held at the Clackamas County fair grounds with trophies to be won.

Back in the days when money wasn't such an issue, these play days, races and dances with their own whiskey jug and washboard band were for entertainment and fun. Later the need to pay yearly taxes brought about a more creative way to earn money. In the early seventies we put on an All Girl Rodeo held at the Clackamas County Fairgrounds. I had my own little mishap when I was talked into riding a green horse for the opening flag ceremony. The more the cowboys hooped and hollered, and waved their hats to get my horse to run, the more she ran the wrong way. Embarrassing. By the next year we had dropped sponsoring this rodeo. Gosh, hope I didn't have anything to do with that! But those girls can rope and ride let me tell you. Dick Schroll had to show those girls a thing or two with his jack named Jack. He challenged them to a race. The girls thought he was pretty funny on a small jack donkey with his feet hanging low, but when that jack was back at the starting line before they made their turn around the horse and rider at the other end of the field, they no longer had anything bad to say about Jack or Dick. Another fundraiser was a yearly dance at the VFW hall in Oregon City that drew quite a crowd. At that time it was a pretty good band and a chance to buy a drink or two. Pretty soon that became more work and money to put on than we got for our efforts, so that ended that. We put on a yearly weekend trail ride that included a full-blown dinner. I mean a great dinner that was lovingly prepared. It consisted of all kinds of meats that were barbequed, roasted, grilled, salads, and desserts. There was a standing joke about who's club had the best cooks by the size of their pants. Is that a compliment? Then came a yearly pack trip where we took people into the wilderness overnight and fed them. We carried their sleeping bags and food on mules, rode to a special spot and camped overnight. All food for human and horse provided. When we sold the clubhouse in 1984, that ended the need to struggle for money and we settled into just having more fun and volunteering.

The years have been filled with service to clubs and community. Our volunteers and stock have packed in 100 pound blocks and timbers to build stalls, trails and water facilities, working hand in hand building the Eagle Creek trails with the Sierra Hiking Club. We have been and are affiliated with the Oregon Equestrian Trails (OET), Oregon Horseman Association (OHA), Clackamas County Ridding Club Association (CCRCA) and Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA). We spend time volunteering to cleanup trails and roads, donating money to horse groups and trail needs and organizations that do the same; we put on classes to educate the public. We also try to educate ourselves by going on field trips or having guest speakers.

The Territorial Riders were more than just a club for horse enthusiasts. It was a place that the whole family was welcomed and formed bonds with other good people. They shared their love of the outdoors, sportsmanship in friendly competition and service to families and communities. It was almost a tragedy when there came a time that this club almost ended. In the mid seventies, the struggle of paying bills and families becoming more involved in other activities brought about many families leaving the club.

The Territorial Riders were more than just a club for horse enthusiasts. It was a place that the whole family was welcomed and formed bonds with other good people.



The Territorial Riders on the property at Pease Road, Oregon City, Oregon. You can see the homemade racetrack and Mount Hood in the background.



Our old logo

We had a big dinner at the Dunes and said goodbye to over half of the club. If it weren't for Red and Vida Peck, the Territorial Riders would have been no more. A few short years struggling with bills, and a hard decision to sell the clubhouse followed. We started rebuilding again on couches in other peoples houses and other clubhouses. Perseverance and changing with the times for over 25 years has brought us to where we are now. As of January 1, 2012, the Territorial Riders Association has become the Territorial Riders Back Country Horseman of Oregon. With the same spirit of history and new people we are molding and shaping our vision for our public lands and our love of the outdoors.

BCHO National Directors' Report

By: Casey Hufstader and Phil Hufstader, BCHO National Directors

BCHA National Meeting Notes 2013

The BCHA National Board meeting was held in Rapid City, South Dakota, April 21 thru April 27, 2013.

19 of the 27 States were represented by the presence of 54 Delegates and BCHA staff members. The following report represents the week long business session and the summary of the pertinent information gathered from the speakers, committee meetings, and open forum.

- USFS: Director of Wilderness & Wild and Scenic Rivers, Leanne Martin, spoke on the National review committee assigned to establish a nationwide Crosscut and Chainsaw Certification process. At this time the draft is finished and will be out for review this summer. (USFS is looking at the Region-6 certification process as the model.)

- USFS Director of Wilderness & Wild and Scenic Rivers, Leanne Martin, spoke on the 2329 policy manual on Wilderness. The old policy is so far out dated and in many cases no longer applies, so the Feds are reviewing and making updates.

(The new Wilderness policy hand book will be out for review this summer and BCHO needs to review every aspect of the policy and take advantage of the public input period.)

- A new buzz word came out of all the federal personnel speeches. Right Sizing Vs. Down Sizing. USFS nationwide have taken a new approach to eliminating positions in several Regions, they are no longer downsizing, now they are taking the approach of Right Sizing. What does this mean to BCHO? USFS has the option now to down size the amount of trail miles they plan on maintaining and make it proportional to the personnel available on each district, thus aligning the work load with the personnel left. This means if a district had several positions open and hasn't filled them yet, they probably won't be filled. The spin off of this is several trail miles can and will not be maintained.

- As of this report BLM has set aside \$ 40 million dollars for trails across the US.

- USFS has set aside \$320 million for all trails, this includes employee salaries. USFS will be asked for a 20% reduction to all budgets and the BLM will go down by 10% from the last bi-annual budget period. This not good for BCHO, it means with fewer dollars reaching the forest, there will be more of a push to close or not maintain the trails we have.

BCHA Elections:

Chair: Jim McGarvey (GA)
V-chair: Nick Martinez (NM)
Treas: Don Saner (Wy)

Newly elected to Executive Committee:

Chuck Miller (MT)

Next NB meetings:

2014 = Tennessee

2015 = California

2016 = Nevada

- A reminder was given to all National delegates to take back to their states and chapters: *We are not a riding club organization and we were never intended to be*, we are a service club organization and we need to review our mission statements and our purpose statements when we are looking at local and state issues.

- Voted and passed: The new rate to be charged for volunteer time is \$22.14 per hour for all volunteer work, that's up from last year's \$ 21.36 per hour charge.

- Last year BCHA Volunteers cleared 17,148.3 miles of trail, volunteered 373,381 total hours of work for a grand total of \$12,515,563.06. This means a value of \$888.45 per member across the entire BCHA membership.

- BCHA dues increase: The vote to increase the National dues by \$ 5.00 was approved. 18 states voted yes and 1 state voted no. The \$ 5.00 increase will not take effect until 2014. The states will collect the \$ 5.00 and send the monies to the National in 2015. Note: How the additional funds required by BCHO to send to BCHA will be discussed at the stated board meeting in Klamath Falls in May 2013.

- Speaker Paul Spitler, Wilderness Society:

Since 1980 USFS trail budget has only increased by 1.3 %, so as a result of this the trails aren't getting maintained. So as of last week the USFS was ordered to reduce the recreation budget by an additional 20%. This means only 1 out of 5 trails will receive any cursory maintenance, and the USFS has 157,000 miles of trails on the National register. (It's projected that an additional 10% reduction could come as early as July 2013 to all USFS programs.) Paul stated that the USFS culture is changing and now they view trails as a liability and want to close as many as possible. He stated that if we plan on keeping trails open in the wilderness, we need to think outside the box and get more people involved.

- **Breaking News:** 95 % of all trails in California are already open to mountain bike use. Now the mountain bikers have petitioned the USFS for total access to all of the PCT. The USFS has denied that request and is preparing for a law suit.

- BCHO members will be asked to send letters of support to the USFS when/if a law suit is filed. An e-mail alert will go out if anything changes to warrant a support response. Just think about coming around a blind corner in Oregon's wilderness and come head on with a mountain bike going at high speed. It's a no win situation, someone will get hurt.

- USFS WDC Employee update: Joe Mead has been promoted to the National Director of Recreation position.

- Leanne Martin will stay at the Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Directors position but will also take on the Partnership position until it can be filled.

- All USFS Volunteer agreements will expire Dec. of 2013 and all old forms will be tossed out for a new and improved version coming to Federal offices near you after the first of the year. USFS wants to remind you that if you don't have a signed copy of the volunteer agreement in your hands at the time of the project, and you haven't notified the district you are working and you get hurt, you will not be covered by workman's comp.

- USFS has stated that the new rate for volunteer hours will now be \$ 22.14 until further notice, so if you are talking to people make sure you use the new dollar value when figuring your chapters hours.

- **Major Law suits:** A well known Natural Horsemanship trainer was recently sued and lost in court for an accident involving a rider using only a halter and lead rope as a controlling device while riding their horse. The rider lost control and had a run away, and the rider was severely injured. The court found in favor of the rider because the standard of the industry is not for the animal to only be ridden in a halter. The judge stated if you look under the definition of a halter and lead rope, it is defined as a device to lead and restrain an animal. The court found fault in the trainer's method and stated that a halter and lead rope are not training devices and found him negligent for passing on such training methods to his students.

As a result of this law suit BCHA has passed on a warning to double check that on any BCH sponsored events that halter and lead ropes are not used as the controlling device for riders. All LNT trainings under the Washington BCH umbrella insurance policy will not allow any riders to participate if the horse is not properly tacked in accordance to the standards of the industry.

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Cody's Corner

By: Phil Hufstader

Hi, my name is Cody and I just turned 9, and if you have been following my adventures, you know I have a lot of fun for my age. The good news is I like school and the bad news is my lawyer (Grandpa) has had to get me out of trouble with the school administration again. You see, the school board decided that our school needed to have a high fence with barbed wire on top around the entire perimeter. The principal said this was to keep the kids safe from outside trouble, but my lawyer said it was really to get most of the kids used to prison when they grew up. Well you guessed it, I marched in to my teacher and warned her that I planned a breakout with my lawyer at two that afternoon. It seems that didn't go over very well, because when the escape rig pulled into the parking lot the principal was there waiting. Grandpa, being fleet of foot, was able to persuade the administration that every kid needed to be paroled once in a while. You see, Grandpa had just got back from a BCHA National Board meeting in South Dakota where he had just won a very prestigious award – "The Wackiest Packer of the Year Award." This award is only given to one great packer each year and my Grandpa had just won it. It seems someone had heard of me and my Grandpa flying a goose around the house several years ago and Grandpa had finally received his just reward for being recognized for his excellent roping skills. What, you don't remember the story, well it all started when I was seven:

I had just ended the summer by riding 738 miles packing trail crew equipment into several wilderness areas with my Dad and Grandpa. We broke several new mules that year by just riding and packing them the whole summer. I finally was able to move up to a full size mule named Clyde to ride and his side kick a pet goose, ya, I said pet goose. Well here is how the story really began: Six years prior to this a lone goose was circling the property every morning, this goose is gray and white, and for some reason it kept landing in the mule paddock. Grandpa said it had to be blind, because it landed and waddled up to one of our most cantankerous John mules and started following him around. This went on for several weeks until one fateful day.

Grandpa woke in the middle of the night to a loud commotion in the mule barn, and upon investigation, all he found was feathers and a blood trail. The next day, Grandpa investigated the scene of the massacre by following the feather trail up to a blood trail. It was fairly clear that a big raccoon had caught the goose out in the open at night and proceeded to start a meal. Grandpa then started to the mule's barn and heard a weird sound, there he found a badly beat up goose under a hay manger. Grandpa and I went back out and started to follow the blood trail out across the

pasture until we came across a big boar raccoon dragging its back legs across the back pasture. It was obvious that the raccoon had chased the goose into Clyde's stall and then met the owner. He had received several blows to his back, basically the raccoon was almost cut in half by Clyde's hoofs. Why is this an important story, well the goose has never left Clyde's side in the last six years. This goose walks next to Clyde when he is on the move, flies along just off the side and a little back behind him when Clyde is running. When I am out riding Clyde around the ranch, the goose is either walking with us or flying along next to us. The goose is very possessive towards Clyde, always on guard, chasing away other mules, raising the alert at night of any strangers, they just became an inseparable pair. Now is when the story gets great:

But then the real adventure began, Grandpa had just picked me up from school and said we need to get home ASAP; it seems Dad was in the process of trimming several of the mule colts' feet and needed our help.

We arrived at the ranch and Dad was just starting to tie the mules up to a tree next to the house in the shade. He had Clyde tied to one side of the tree and a real rank mule colt on the other side of the same tree. Dad saw us drive in and park by the barn, he yelled over to make sure that when we approached that we didn't make any fast movement or any weird sounds. It seems the colt was standing wild eyed and was just looking for an excuse to blow up. Grandpa went to the barn and brought another young mule that would be trimmed next and tied it up to the hitching rail just out of reach of the older one, then he started to get all the leg ropes ready for the colt while Dad started in on the back feet of the older mule. Grandpa and I were standing there, with Grandpa holding a soft lariat in his hands when Clyde's pet goose came flying around the house looking for Clyde. It was honking and was about fifteen foot in the air when all of a sudden, just as it went by Grandpa snaked out a loop from the rope in his hand and caught that old buzzard right over one wing and the back part of its body with the rope. Now things started getting interesting. The goose was squawking and flying in a circle above our heads, Dad was knocked to the ground by the mule he was working on, and the colts reared back and broke his halter. What a mess. Grandpa is flying this goose like a kite yelling for Dad to help him so the goose doesn't get hurt. Dad got up from the ground and ran over to Grandpa with a set of trimmers in his right hand and helped Grandpa reel the goose in. They finally got it trapped on the ground, and the old mule was standing all four legs spread eagle around the hitching rail, and the colts where plumb gone. Dad took the rope off the goose and walked up to Grandpa and was about two inches from his face when Grandpa said "Maybe I shouldn't have done that." Dad blew up and yelled "Do you think?" Well, right there you could have cut the air with a chain saw until Grandpa said he thought it was a hell of a catch. Dad walked off muttering under his breath that the old coot would be the death of him yet, and if he had pulled a stunt like that growing up, his butt would have been

red. Dad caught the colts and tried to bring them back, but they didn't want a thing to do with it. Grandpa, with a goose under his arm, motioned me over and we headed for the barn. Grandpa informed me that my Dad was going through a change of life and he would see the humor in it in the morning as long as we laid low for awhile. On the way to the barn Grandpa filled me in on how he was really trying to break the colt to wild birds that might fly up under the colts feet when it was out in the woods, so Dad ought to be thanking him for helping train his colt instead of getting upset. Dad did admit later that the old coot, as he called him, had made one hell of a catch, but now he was going to have to watch him like a hawk. I figured that meant he was going to watch him to see if he could learn how to rope like that. So you see after several years the story finally got around, because Grandpa kept saying he wanted to keep it quiet, because not many packers can rope like him, he told me. Well Dad had finally spilled the beans on the old coot and that his how Grandpa won the "Wackiest Packer" of the Year award. Dad calls it he the looney old coot award. It doesn't matter what its called, Grandpa has it up on his mantel and every now and again he kinda smirks when he reads it. Well, until next time, I hope everyone keeps the sunny side up and your spurs set solid.

Cody

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