



## June 2019

### President

Peggy Bergman-Smith 661-331-4995

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Doug Slavin 661-805-7707

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Joan Howard 661-301-2754

### Secretary

Susan Mustaffa 661-538-0995

### Treasurer

Kathy Underwood 805-895-4067

Editor: Peggy Bergman-Smith

### In this Issue

- President's Message
- Treasurer's Report
- 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Ride Report
- Meeting Minutes
- Mule/Horse Show Flyer
- Rules of the Road on the Trail
- 2019 Membership Form

### Next Meeting

**Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Ellice Rubin DVM, DC will be our speaker. Coffee & dessert will be served**



## President's Message

All that spring rain has left us with a super-sized Surprise Lake and some trail damage. Five of us rode Hart Loop yesterday and there was only one place where it was boggy, but all our horses went through it with no problem. The rain has also triggered a second spring for the wildflowers. The poppies, buttercups, Farewell to Spring, lupines and several others I don't know the names of, are all over.

The Horsemen had to cancel the St. Jude's Fundraiser Ride set for June 8<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that the flat trails we needed for the ride, were just not rideable, especially for a large group. Maybe next year for this great cause.

The Horsemen's board is looking for our member's input as to what activities our riders want to participate in. We will be sending out a short email survey. We want to have different types of events, but need the support of our equestrians to put them on successfully. Watch your email for our survey and be sure to respond to it.

Our next meeting is Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> and our speaker will be Ellice Rubin DVM, DC.

Hope to see a lot of you there.

*~Peggy Bergman-Smith*

BVSHA Treasurer's Report  
Year to Date May 31, 2019

**2019 Beginning Balance** **\$4,044.95**

**General Income/Expenses - 2019**

Membership Income \$2,125.00  
Ad Income \$825.00  
Misc. Income \$65.00

Directories (\$400.00)  
Bear Tracks Ad (\$207.00)

Equestrian Center mailbox with logo (\$110.79)  
Newsletter (\$300.00)  
Office Expenses/Directory Mailing/Postage (\$60.80)  
PO Box (\$135.00)  
Website (\$129.90)

**Total General Income/Expenses - 2019** **\$1,422.55**

**Checking Account Balance May 31, 2019** **\$5,467.50**

Bank Balance in Checking \$5,866.26  
Outstanding Checks (\$397.76)  
Balance in Checking Account **\$5,467.50**

Total Savings Account \$17,552.68  
Total Checking Account \$5,467.50  
Total Funds **\$23,020.18**



Hello Horse Folks,

This is Joan Howard, and I am Acting 2<sup>nd</sup> VP for the BVSHA as Kathy Burns, the elected 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, has a lame horse and is unable to ride at this time.

Now it appears our weather is getting friendlier I am scheduling rides for the year and will start off with a **History Ride**. It will be a fairly flat ride to various sites of historical importance around the valley and narrated by Mike Kemp. Mike, as many of you know has a repertoire of fun and interesting facts about the history of our valley and has offered to share with us.

The ride is scheduled for Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Be in the saddle and ready to ride out at 10 AM from the Equestrian Center. The ride will be approximately 2 hours long and will end at the firehouse road. At that time, you may ride back to the Equestrian Center or ride to the Mulligan Room for lunch.

I am also scheduling two Friends Rides; the first is Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM from the EC and the second is Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM from the EC.

So, knock the mud off those ponies and join us.

What you need to know for June:

Friends Ride – Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup> 10 AM, Equestrian Center

Friends Ride – Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> 10 AM, Equestrian Center

BVSHA History Ride – Saturday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 AM Equestrian Center

Important to remember, Friends Rides are not club sponsored and anyone can join us so long as they have a current 2019 waiver on file with the EC. These rides are just for fun and everyone is welcome to join in.

Mark your calendars and get ready to have some good times out on the trail.

Questions contact me at 661-821-1577 or 661-301-2754

~Joan

## May Meeting Minutes

Bear Valley Springs Horsemen's Association  
General Meeting  
May 20, 2019  
Equestrian Center Lounge



- A. Call to Order 6:30 PM Flag Salute
- B. Welcome prior member and visiting guest, Pat Spandle
- C. Approvals: Agenda and Financial Report – approved. Minutes, approved.
- D. Reports: Monday's meeting was a potluck with margaritas, compliments from the Horsemen's. Remember, our meetings are now being held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. This is so our members can attend BVS Association meetings. Our May 5<sup>th</sup> Progressive Dinner Ride went well, with 3 stops, appetizers by Joan and Bob Howard, entrée by Karin and Joel Meyer and desserts by Kathy Burns. Everything was delicious!
- E. New Business - It was brought to the club's attention; a proposal was presented to make the Old Orchard Trail as a multi-use trail. Again, we need to be vigilant in protecting our horse trails, as there are residents out there who want to take our trails and allow mountain bikers on them. Our Second V.P. Kathy Burns stepped down from her position and Joan Howard agreed to take her place until the 2020 elections. Welcome back Joan. Some of the rides and ride dates may change in the future, so we'll keep you posted. It's been difficult, to say the least, after all the rain we've had, to get out and ride. Please be considerate of the trails and don't ride them until they have dried out somewhat. The deep hoof prints your horse leaves, make the trails even worse. At the last Recreational Committee Meeting it was brought to Chery's attention of the lack of a fine for horseback riders on the nature path. It was apparent, there are some people riding their horses on this path. If approved, the fine will be \$1000.00 if caught. This is the dirt trail near the baseball field and out into the meadow. Also, please riders do not traverse across private property. Just because an area has been weed whacked or mowed does not constitute a new trail. Make yourselves aware of where our horse trails are located. There are maps available at the Equestrian Center. Our 2019 Member's Directory was mailed out to those who didn't pick them up personally. Let us know if you haven't received one. Debbie Swarens updated us on the upcoming Mule & Horse Show. The organizers are in need of volunteers and sponsorships for the show which will take place in August. Judy Walsh made a motion to donate \$200.00 for the show.
- F. Continuing Business – We are still planning on having the PLAY DAY in September as we had a great turnout last year. We are going to make some changes so the event flows better and we are planning some new obstacles/events, which will even out the playing field. Our board is always racking our brains to come up with new ideas for our club and welcome your opinion for future rides and events. For our Monday June 17<sup>th</sup> dessert meeting, we will be having local resident and Veterinarian, Dr. Ellice Rubin as our speaker. She will address Current Equine Health Updates. If anyone has any topic you wish discussed, please let us know and we will forward to Dr. Rubin.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Mustafa, Secretary

BVSPC AMA MULE AND HORSE SHOW  
785 Tucker Rd., STE G PMB 167  
Tehachapi, CA 93561



# **BVS PONY CLUB**

## **AMA Mule & Horse Show 2019**

### **August 2nd, 3rd, and 4th**

Bear Valley Springs Equestrian Center  
26800 Bear Valley Rd., Tehachapi, CA 93561  
Entry Booth will be open on Thursday at 4pm,  
Friday thru Sunday at 7am by the Main Arena announcer's booth

**Show Managers:** Debbie Swarens/Debbie Humphreys  
**Show Secretary:** Angela Canizo-Mulvehill  
**AMA Rep:** Maggie Moore/Jacci Gaines  
**Judges:** Frai Lelli and Christy Wood

**PRE ENTRIES CLOSE 24th of JULY 2019**

**AFTER CLOSING DATE AND THROUGHOUT THE SHOW, POST ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED WITH A PENALTY OF \$5.00 PER CLASS. ENTRY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS RELEASE IS SIGNED AND ENTRIES ARE PAID IN FULL OR HELD WITH AN OPEN CHECK.**

**Send ENTRIES only to:**

Debbie Humphreys  
785 Tucker Rd. STE G PMB 167  
Tehachapi, CA 93561

**Make checks payable to "Bear Valley Springs Pony Club"**

Premiums are available to download at [www.americammuleassociation.org](http://www.americammuleassociation.org)  
Bear Valley Springs Pony Club website: <https://bearvalleysprings.ponyclub.org>

The contact person for volunteering is: Danya Gambill  
[digambill@hotmail.com](mailto:digambill@hotmail.com) 661-747-0114

# Rules of the Road on the Trail

Make trail rides positive for everyone—horseback and not—by following the commandments of trail etiquette.

KEN MCNABB, WITH ALEXIS BENNETT

Public lands and trails provide an opportunity to explore the most beautiful scenery in the country. Like horseback riders, outdoor enthusiasts from hikers to cyclists take pleasure in getting away from the city to enjoy the backcountry. Maintained public trails and even some wilderness areas that are open to horsemen are also frequented by hikers, cyclists, and motorcyclists; it's important to know and practice the rules of the trail to ensure that all users have a positive, stress-free experience.

Horses are large and intimidating to many non-riders and, because of their weight, can cause trail damage. Be sensitive to this reality, acting as a steward of the trail, and you'll gain respect from your fellow users. Being courteous increases the likelihood that public resources will remain open and available to you and other riders in the future. Learn to be a good trail co-user by following these simple commandments of trail etiquette.

**Thou shalt obey signs.** Signs at the trailhead of marked public parks indicate the types of users allowed. These restrictions exist for a reason: for safety, because of terrain suitability, or a trail traffic-related issue. If you see that horses aren't permitted on a particular route and ignore the signs, you do other riders a disservice. If you leave manure or tear up the trail, the area can become completely off-limits to riders.

**Thou shalt pass with care.** If you're moving faster than a group ahead of you—whether on a horse, a bike, or afoot—slow to the group's pace. Avoid crowding and tailgating, which makes the other riders feel anxious and not enjoy their ride. When they pull off to the side, pass politely and thank them. If the person or group ahead doesn't think to step out of the way to let you by, that's OK. Bide your time until the trail widens and you can get around them.



When you encounter a hiker or biker on the trail, be sensitive to the fact that horses intimidate many non-riders. Allow plenty of room as you pass or as you let them pass; be friendly and polite.

**Thou shalt obey the slow lane.** Be aware of riders, cyclists, or hikers approaching from behind. As soon as you see a safe place to pull off to the side, do so to let them pass. Approaching motorized vehicles can spook your horse. If they come up behind you, pull off as soon as possible to let your horse face and

watch the vehicle or bike go by. Hopefully the riders are courteous enough not to approach so quickly that it puts you in a bad position. If this does happen, speed up and get out of the way for your own safety.

**Thou shalt yield.** Whether you're on foot or horseback, the rules of the trail give preference to the person descending. Coming down the terrain is often more difficult to navigate because of rocks, loose dirt, and the decline. Help others feel safe and comfortable by pulling off to the side when you see someone making their way down the trail.

**Thou shalt clean up after thyself.** You don't want to see where a biker's changed their tire or a backpacker's had their lunch, and others don't want to come across evidence of your horse. If you rest to have lunch or stay overnight, clean up after yourself. Spread manure and pick up dropped hay so hikers, cyclists, and motorists don't have to trek through it. Load your saddlebags with cans, wrappers, and other trash you accumulate or find. Even orange and banana peels, though biodegradable, take a long time to break down, so pick these up, too.

**Thou shalt mind nature.** Care for trails by staying on marked pathways. Deviation from groomed routes can erode the landscape, making it more difficult to manage and potentially damaging to nearby fauna.

When you stop for lunch or stay overnight, use highlines and tree savers to protect the area. A tree saver is anything that protects bark and keeps your highline from cinching down against the tree. Rubber tubing, pool noodles, extra cinches, and store-bought protectors are all suitable. Hobbles also keep horses from wandering and potentially damaging trees, brush, flowers, and other nature.

**Thou shalt flex horsepower.** Maintaining the resources of the trail is up to public services, such as the BLM or park services. Preserving the trail is in our hands. The more we do to help, the longer we'll have the privilege to take advantage of natural public resources. Carry a saw on every trail ride, so you can contribute your horse's skill and horsepower to clean up. When you come across downed timber, cut it back with enough room for everyone to get by. Discard it away from the path so it's not dangerous or an eye sore.



**Thou shalt prepare your horse.** Approaching motorized vehicles and cyclists, with their bright colors and high speeds, often spook horses. Prepare your horse for these factors just as you would other conditions, such as wildlife and boggy ground. Ride a four-wheeler, Kubota, or dirt

bike around during non-feeding times to get your horse used to the noise and speed. Have your kids ride bikes around your horse. Do all you can to prepare your mount for the trail.

**Thou shalt respect other users.** Horses are large animals. It's important to be sensitive that many people aren't as comfortable with horses as you are. Give people plenty of room and pass with care so they feel safe and that their space is respected.

If you've experienced angry responses from hikers or cyclists in the past, it's likely that they lashed out because they felt anxious or scared. Be an ambassador for other trail riders by being friendly and empathetic to people's needs. This translates to a positive experience for you and other hikers, cyclists, and motorists.

**Thou shalt be involved.** Use of public land is a privilege, not a right. To keep this opportunity available, stay informed about policies that impact trail availability, land conservation, and environmental maintenance funding. Protect the resources by joining trail conservation groups.



