

# BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

New Mexico MONTHLY HOOFPRIINT Pecos Chapter Inc.  
PO Box 2706 Edgewood, NM 87015 www.bchnm.org

March 2011

## President's Corral

Cheryl Nigg, home phone: 384-2558  
e-mail at: [threepaws2@earthlink.net](mailto:threepaws2@earthlink.net)

Our March general membership meeting was held at the Kingsbury residence, in Edgewood. We had a large turnout and lots of great food. We were also provided with valuable information on equine emergency evacuation and what to expect if we are asked to provide mounted patrols for the Forest Service due to fire closures. Also, member Lisa Kazmar explained the contents of our BCH first aid kits and the basic use of items while riding in the back country. A big thank you to our presenters and all who were able to attend.

Our next general membership meeting will be on Wednesday, April 6th. We will again be at the Kingsbury residence. Our scheduled guest speaker will be Bev Noel, who is a horse owner and lives in the community of Torreon, in the Manazo Mountains. She had the unfortunate situation of having to evacuate all of her animals three times during the 2008 wildfires. Bev will be sharing her experiences and lessons learned. Hope to see everyone there.

If you have not already done so, please get your wildfire emergency evacuation plans in place. Not only for your family but also your animals. Prearrange safe locations for temporary shelter and have "grap & go" kits ready. Our Pecos Board of Directors is working to get a calling tree in place along with members who can help with moving your animals. We will have more information available at our April meeting.

We have completed our planned training rides for this season with most of our members, and some new members, participating. Weather permitting; we will have our first work project on Sunday, April 3rd. We are scheduled to begin work on the Albuquerque and 4th of July trails, in the Manzanos. Ride out time is 9:00 a.m. Since we did not have a sign up sheet for this project at the March meeting, if you want to participate, you need to contact me by Friday evening. Time to get to work! I'll look forward to hearing from members who are ready to get out on the trails.

Remember that if you have not paid your 2011 dues, this will be the last newsletter you will receive. Don't be left out on our up coming work projects, clinics, educational events and pack trips scheduled for this season. Your continued support and participation is appreciated.

Happy trails!

## Coming Events for 2011

**April 6, Wednesday: General Membership Meeting:** 6:30pm Potluck, meeting at 7pm, Kingsbury Home, map attached, contact Kingsbury's 281-1342 or Cheryl 384-2558.

**April 9, Saturday: Trail Building Clinic with Sandia Ranger District:** Location TBA, RSVP Richard @559-3426 or Cheryl at 384-2558

**April 10, Sunday: First Aid Clinic:** Location TBA; reservations required, contact Lisa @ 917-3631

**April 16, Saturday, Work Project, Manzano Mountains,** Location TBA, contact Cheryl @384-2558, sign up at April 6 meeting.

**April 30, Saturday, Work Project, Manzano Mountains,** Location TBA, contact Cheryl @384-2558, sign up at April 6 meeting.

**May 4th, Wednesday, General Membership meeting**, 7:00 p.m. Wilbur's, in Tijeras contact Patty, 321-1697  
**May 7th, Saturday, First Aid for Beginners**, RSVP w/Lisa 917-3631  
**May 7th, Saturday, 9:00-5:00, Crosscut Saw Certification**, RSVP w/Richard 559-3426  
**May 14th, Saturday, Work Project, Manzano Mountains, location TBA**; contact Cheryl 384-2558. Sign up sheet at May 4th meeting.  
**May 27-30, Memorial Weekend, Work Projects, Panchuela, Pecos Wilderness**, contact Cheryl 384-2558. Sign up sheet at May 4th meeting.  
**June 1st, Wednesday, General Membership meeting**, Potluck at 6:30, meeting 7:00 p.m. Location TBA  
**June 11th & 12th, Saturday & Sunday: Hammers & Hooves Horse Fair**, Edgewood More information at the June 1st meeting.  
**June 17 & 18, Pack in supplies for Volunteers for the Outdoors, Pecos Wilderness**. Packers and safety riders needed. Contact Richard 559-3426, or Cheryl 384-2558  
**June 25 & 26, Pack out supplies for Volunteers for the Outdoors, Pecos Wilderness**.

## Across the Pastures

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**Independent Reports Assess BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program...**

Two independent reports released this month assess the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) handling of its Wild Horse and Burro (WHB) Program. The [Independent Designated Observer Pilot Program Final Report](#) conducted by four academic equine specialists and/or veterinarians under the umbrella of the American Horse Protection Association (AHPA), focused on the welfare and treatment of the horses during roundups. These researchers attended three gathers during the summer of 2010, and found that BLM employees were "gentle and knowledgeable" in their treatment of the horses, and moved the horses forward into the corrals skillfully and humanely. The report offers several suggestions for improving the gather process, including limiting the number of public observers at the site to minimize noise, which discourages horses from moving willingly into the trap site.

The Office of the Inspector General (IG) for the Department of Interior completed a second report, the objective of which was to determine if gathers were necessary and performed humanely. This report found no mistreatment of the horses and burros, and concluded that BLM must continue to gather and remove horses because "BLM lands cannot sustain the growing population of wild horses and burros." It also noted that "...the growing population of these animals must be addressed to achieve and maintain a thriving natural ecological balance of the authorized uses of the land." The IG also cited growing budget concerns, as the total cost of the program has increased from \$36.7 million in 2004 to \$66.1 million in 2010. Finally, the IG report recommends

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**Forest Conditions as of March 28, 2011**  
 Cibola National Forest: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/>  
 • Sandia Ranger District: Moderate  
 • Mt Taylor District: Moderate  
 • Mountainair District: Moderate  
 • Magdalena District: Low  
 Santa Fe National Forest: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/>  
 • Moderate  
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Amber demonstrates hobble training at BC101  
*Thanks for the Picture Cheryl!*

**Congratulations...**

- Raffle winners of the donated pack gear:
- Sean & Lisa Kazmar, Pack rain cover
  - Michele Darrah, of the Middle Rio Grande Chapter, the weekender saddle bags
  - Linda Sofia & Vicky Anderson, the saddle panniers and top pack

Thank you to all for supporting the Pecos BCH Chapter with your purchase of raffle tickets!

aggressive research into population control methods, new solutions to reduce the number of horses in short- and long-term holding facilities, and implementation of best science following the ongoing National Academy of Sciences review of the WHB program.

Sources: *Inspection of Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse and Burro Program, American Horse Protection Association, E&E News, LLC (Landletter, Greenwire).*

*Reprinted with permission from The Wildlife Society, Jeannie Greven*



Riders on the simulation ride at BC101 – 2011.  
*Thanks for the picture Cheryll!*

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**Dues are coming Due again...**

To be a member in good standing, dues are due by April 1. You can still pay at the April meeting or mail before the April deadline.

\$25.00 for Single Member

\$30.00 for Families

Checks should be made out to "BCH Pecos" and can be brought to the meeting or mailed to the Chapter: POB 2706, Edgewood, NM 87015.

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Jeannie G with Oliver (Mary Ann's donkey). Jeannie walked Oliver around the simulation trail ride and general area during BC 101 on March 19.  
*Thanks for the picture Cheryll!*



Cedro training ride on March 5<sup>th</sup>  
*Thanks for the picture Cheryll!*



Cerrillos training ride on March 27<sup>th</sup>  
*Thanks for the picture Cheryll!*

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**Wanted...**

Know anyone who wants to do some work on the trail? Invite them to join our club! Hard workers are always welcome! Welcome to our newest members!

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Megan from Town & Country Feed is specializing in stall and paddock cleaning!

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**Have something to share/sell...**

Have it published in the Monthly Hoofprint: pictures( please provide captions!), articles of interest to BCH members, trivia, funnies, camping recipes etc or if you have items to sell that would be of interest to BCH members, send a photo and details to Anita at [smithbk1@msn.com](mailto:smithbk1@msn.com) by the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month and we'll get them in the Hoofprint!

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Hats off and a big "Thank you" to our friends at Town and Country Feed and Horse Rentals for their support over the years!

| <b>BCH Pecos Chapter Officers for 2011</b> |                          |                       |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>President:</b>                          | <b>Cheryl Nigg</b>       | <b>(384-2558)</b>     |
| <b>Vice President:</b>                     | <b>Richard Kingsbury</b> | <b>(281-1342)</b>     |
| <b>Secretary:</b>                          | <b>Linda Sofia</b>       | <b>(610-4512)</b>     |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>                          | <b>Kit Weidner</b>       | <b>(505-603-7360)</b> |
| <b>Board of Directors</b>                  |                          |                       |
| <b>Sandy Edmiston</b>                      | <b>(286-6233)</b>        |                       |
| <b>Lisa Kazmar</b>                         | <b>(917-3631)</b>        |                       |
| <b>Patty Wilber</b>                        | <b>(321-1697)</b>        |                       |
| <b>Jim Gore</b>                            | <b>(281-5035)</b>        |                       |
| <b>Peter Harris</b>                        | <b>(832-6306)</b>        |                       |
| <b>Jeannie Greven</b>                      | <b>(281-8925)</b>        |                       |
| <b>State Delegates</b>                     |                          |                       |
| <b>Mary Anne Ende</b>                      | <b>(281-3722)</b>        |                       |
| <b>Amber Kingsbury</b>                     | <b>(281-1342)</b>        |                       |

**Map to Kingsbury Home**  
**Wednesday April 6, 281-1342**  
**Potluck: 6:30, General Membership meeting 7:00pm**  
**Look for the BCH Signs**  
**Don't Forget your Chair!**

