

Gila Chapter

Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 11/14/2018 6:00 PM | Meeting location WNMU Watts Hall

Meeting called by Doug Dexter

Type of meeting Monthly business meeting

Note taker Cindi deCapiteau

Attendees

Joan Bacon, Pat Buls, Cathy Brett, Cindi deCapiteau, Dixie Dexter, Doug Dexter, Gerry Engel, Melissa Green, Jean Hill, Dave Imler, Russ Imler, Jane Larson, Joel Larson, Mickey Lemon, Rawlings Lemon, Maureen McLeod, Ted Miles, Charlen Perez, Cheryl Roth, Becky Shumway, Donna Tillmann, Nathan Williams, Laurie Wlosinski, Melinda Wood, Randolph Wood

AGENDA TOPICS

Call to order | Presenter Doug Dexter

Doug brought the meeting to order by emitting an airy whistle. He then ordered Dave Imler to pass out 2019 membership applications and to collect greenbacks for the evening's 50/50 raffle.

Recognize guests and new members | Presenter Doug Dexter

Two stylish strangers, Melinda and Randy Wood, joined us this evening. We impressed them so much with our wit and intelligence that, before the evening was over, they paid good money to join the chapter. Welcome to the club! We'll try not to embarrass you too much. *At right: Gerry Engel aboard Cassie Carver's mini donkey.*



Additions or changes to agenda | Presenter Doug Dexter

Doug mentioned that Pat Buls would give a chat before the meeting's end.

Additions or changes to minutes | Presenter Doug Dexter

Nobody complained about anything in the minutes from the October meeting. They were accepted by voice vote as submitted.

Financial & membership report | Presenter Dave Imler

As always, given the splended financial husbandry by our treasurers, the Gila chapter is doing fine. Modest income in October and slightly less modest withdrawals left us with a bank balance of a little over \$9K. Membership stands at 79 souls, all of whom we are certain will turn out for the next trail project.

Publicity | Presenter Ted Miles

Ted Miles noted that no developments have occurred in the publicity department. He also commented that he's willing to step down as head honcho for this chapter division, presumably because the job isn't terribly exciting. If anybody wants to take over beating the bushes about the Gila chapter's doings, Ted says he will step down. He will, however, maintain the care and feeding of the website (<http://gilabchnm.com/>).

Public Service/Communications | Presenter Gerry Engel

Gerry mused that nothing is going on in the public service and communications arenas either. Cindi deCapiteau piped up with the news that she's about to resume brushing on the Tadpole Ridge trail, which elicited a comment from Doug that she should talk to our new members, Randy and Melinda Wood. Turns out that Cindi has been brushing the trail from the Redstone side (a.k.a. Signal Peak Trailhead, a.k.a. Bear Canyon Road, a.k.a. that rugged parking lot south of Meadow Creek) and Melinda and Randy are working from the Sheep Corral Canyon end. *Aw c'mon. Everybody knows where this is—do you really need a map? Well all right then. See map on page 6.*

GCSAR activity | Presenter Laurie Wlosinski/Russ Imler

Our ever-vigilant Laurie Wlosinski noted that Grant County Search and Rescue (GCSAR) made up for an uneventful summer with several rescue missions over the past weekend. The heroic groundpounders were first called out to take charge of an intoxicated woman (a mission they declined).

Next came three forlorn adventurers whose all-terrain vehicle broke down by the San Francisco River. The poker-faced Dave Imler received an 8:00 p.m. call that a 72-year-old male was overdue from a foray off Georgetown Road. The individual (not Dave), a diabetic, had no food. Although the mission didn't require search from horses, the Las Cruces technical search team hauled in to help. The search went on all night. Then at 5:30 a.m., two guys named Dave (bold Dave Imler and the valiant Dave Price (who is not a GBCH member, but is a valiant SAR member)) found their lost diabetic in Shingle Canyon, sound asleep.

Later, Russ Imler and the plucky Andrea Imler received a call, while they were driving back from Phoenix, to find some hunters lost at Snow Lake. Since everybody from GCSAR was otherwise occupied, the Snow Lake mission was covered by units from elsewhere.

Finally, the GCSAR people were called up for some extra excitement at the Gila Cliff dwellings.

In a completely unsurprising set of circumstances, everybody who was lost out there and required help was ill-equipped.

Speaking of equipment, Laurie commented that technophobe Rawlings Lemon bowed to the gods of technology and furnished himself with a Garmin inReach. If you don't have one, give yourself one for Christmas. If you have one but you aren't sure how to use it, talk to Cindi. If you don't want to talk to anybody, go online and read about inReach at <http://explore.garmin.com/en-US/inreach/>

BCHNM updates | Presenter Mickey Lemon, Rawlings Lemon

The Back Country Horsemen of New Mexico (BCHNM) are about to induct a new chapter, consisting of 20 members. Spawned from the Northwest BCH chapter, this one will be the Jemez Chapter. Mickey has received a copy of the Jemez's proposed bylaws. She will be attending the BCHNM January meeting, at which the new chapter will be approved.

Annual elections | Presenter Doug Dexter

Ted Miles has expressed a fervent wish to be relieved of his publicity duties—except for the GBCH website, which he is eager to keep maintaining. Nobody volunteered to take over, however, so it looks like Ted, along with everybody else currently holding positions of leadership, will continue. Bottom line, the existing slate of chapter officers will persist.

President – Doug Dexter Vice President – Becky Shumway Treasurer – Nancy Imler Secretary – Cindi deCapiteau	Public Relations – Gerry Engel Publicity – Ted Miles Education – Cheryl Roth Search and Rescue liaison – Laurie Wlosinski
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Christmas party update, silent auction | Presenter Doug Dexter, Laurie Wlosinski

The chapter's Christmas party will take off on Sunday, December 9. Meet and greet begins at noon. A buffet will be presented at 1:30 p.m. Location: The Buckhorn Saloon, Piños Altos. The Saloon is providing hall rental and the buffet (brisket, sides of veggies, dessert) for \$900 smackers, which the chapter is paying (no potluck this year!). Nancy Imler needs a count of attendees by November 25 and Dave Imler meandered through the group attending tonight's meeting to extort a commitment of members and guests who plan to show up. The number is important so that the Buckhorn staff will know how much food to prepare. Remember, GBCH members eat for free. Guests cost \$15. If you haven't communicated your plans already, you can do so on the chapter's Facebook page (under "Events") or by calling Nancy directly at 936-216-1409.

Laurie W. is gathering donations for the silent auction traditionally held at the party. She has a nice mix of clothing, books, and tack. Get your donations (anything will be accepted—doesn't have to be horse related) to Laurie by the weekend after thanksgiving (November 25). As always, contact Laurie to plan for transfer of your stuff from your house to hers. Call her at 575-519-9462.

Agenda topic 501(c)3 status update | Presenter Dave Imler

The Gila chapter is in the process of applying to the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c)3 tax-exempt status. The effort will help us receive trail work funding from organizations that require such status. In addition, once the status is granted, contributions made to the chapter will be tax deductible (but payment of membership dues won't be).

One of the requirements for tax-exempt status is that the applying organization must have bylaws in place that meet national and state requirements for 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations. Another stipulation is that such organizations face restrictions on political activities. Dave cautioned that if one of us wants to engage in the dirty work of politics, go for it, but statements and activities must be on one's personal impetus. The political activity cannot be attributed to the Gila chapter. It's acceptable to say, for example, that "I'm a member of an organization that would like to see the entire U.S. treasury devoted to clearing trails on public lands," but for the love of an unendangered tax-exempt status, don't name the organization directly. Nat Williams enjoined that the Gila chapter can't support candidates for public office either, so political campaigning also has to be a personal thing. Moreover, the country is full of 501 organizations that promote candidates on behalf of the organization, but it's risky. Lobbying too, for that matter, is a restricted activity.

Somebody commented that the state BCH office has asked chapter members to write letters and make phone calls on the matter of prohibiting bicycles out of wilderness areas. Dave commented that tax-exempt organizations cannot engage in lobbying as a substantial part of organizational activity. The chapter can get away with a little bit of lobbying, but don't do a lot of it. Chapter members, of course, can lobby their horse-loving hearts into oblivion, but only as private individuals. The best protection of tax-exempt status is to make personal statements and keep the name of the organization out of it.

But what about lobbying the Air Force to keep its F15s out of the airspace over the Gila region? Gerry noted that this particular matter involves the practices of a government entity and does not involve legislation, so by protesting the noisy proposal, the organization isn't lobbying in the lobbying sense of the word; and anyway, the Air Force has asked for comments.

Dave began to wrap up his comments by noting that the revised chapter bylaws (see the next agenda topic) will bear the actual names (no aliases permitted) of people who will sign the document. That would be the chapter officers—President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary (be it on your heads, you official stooges)—as required by the New Mexico attorney general.

One last thing that needs to happen is the chapter's policies and procedures must be documented. At a recent seminar for emerging non-profiters (that would be us, folks) the attending chapter officers were clued into an 80-

page guide for New Mexico nonprofits. The guide has ample samples of policies and procedures (P&Ps). Cindi deCapiteau will be applying her disproportionate skills of compulsive attention to detail to study the P&Ps the chapter needs in addition to the one noted by Dave: a description of who is authorized to spend money—and how much money can be spent—without approval by chapter members.

Action items

Person responsible

Identify and write up policies and procedures

Cindi deCapiteau

Revised Bylaws | Presenter Dave Imler

Dave has revised the chapter's current bylaws to meet national and state requirements adherent to 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit status. He has handled filing of documents with the appropriate state and federal agencies, along with incorporation paperwork (which he has received back from the state).

Still to be done is filing with the New Mexico attorney general and getting a tax number. Dave paid the \$275 filing fee from his own funds. Nat Eagle Eye Williams wondered if all the filing and other government mumbo jumbo related to 501(c)3 status will have an effect on the chapter's bank account. Dave said "not that I know of."

Dave noted that the revised bylaws have been updated to make the chapter compliant with BCHNM and federal requirements (no engagement in political activity) and to remove content about stuff that we aren't doing. One of the things we aren't doing is disbanding the chapter, but Dave responded to a related comment that the bylaws cover that policy.

Nat Williams made a motion to accept the bylaws as revised. Laurie Wlosinski seconded the motion. A vote was taken by a unanimous show of hands. The Imler-revised bylaws are now official. See page 7.

Horsemanship Demo | Presenter Pat Buls

Pat Buls, our favorite Olympics-level equestrian trainer (who recently moved up into cool Piños Altos from her former location in the bottom of the hot skillet that is Radium Springs, NM) has offered to present some trail training. Pat is holding an open house soon so interested persons can see her classical horsemanship methods in action (details below). Pat has experience provided by military equestrian types—reining war horses, in fact—that involves lateral work. Lateral work, as you can imagine, is crucial for the precision control needed by equines that traverse narrow and spooky trails like we have around here. She has trained horses all her life, both in the U.S. and in South America.

Pat charges \$40/hour for horsemanship lessons conducted at her place and \$45/hour if she travels to your place. She also takes horses in training, but she's got a full stable at the moment, so if your equine needs some work, you'll need to wait until an opening comes up.

Pat is also planning to conduct a youth clinic in the coming summer, an endeavor that the Gila Chapter will happily support, what with us all getting grey, wrinkled, and creaky out on trail projects. The youth clinic will be structured like the BCHNM Rendezvous, with a pack-in and camp-out. The idea will be teaching the kids about camping and packing. Pat will donate her services to the chapter in this case.

Pat's demonstration will occur on Saturday, December 8. There is no charge for the demo, but donations will be gratefully accepted (nobody goes into horse training to get rich). Leave your mount at home if you attend the demo. Pat will schedule clinics that require horses later on.

See Pat's flyer on page 12.

Announcements

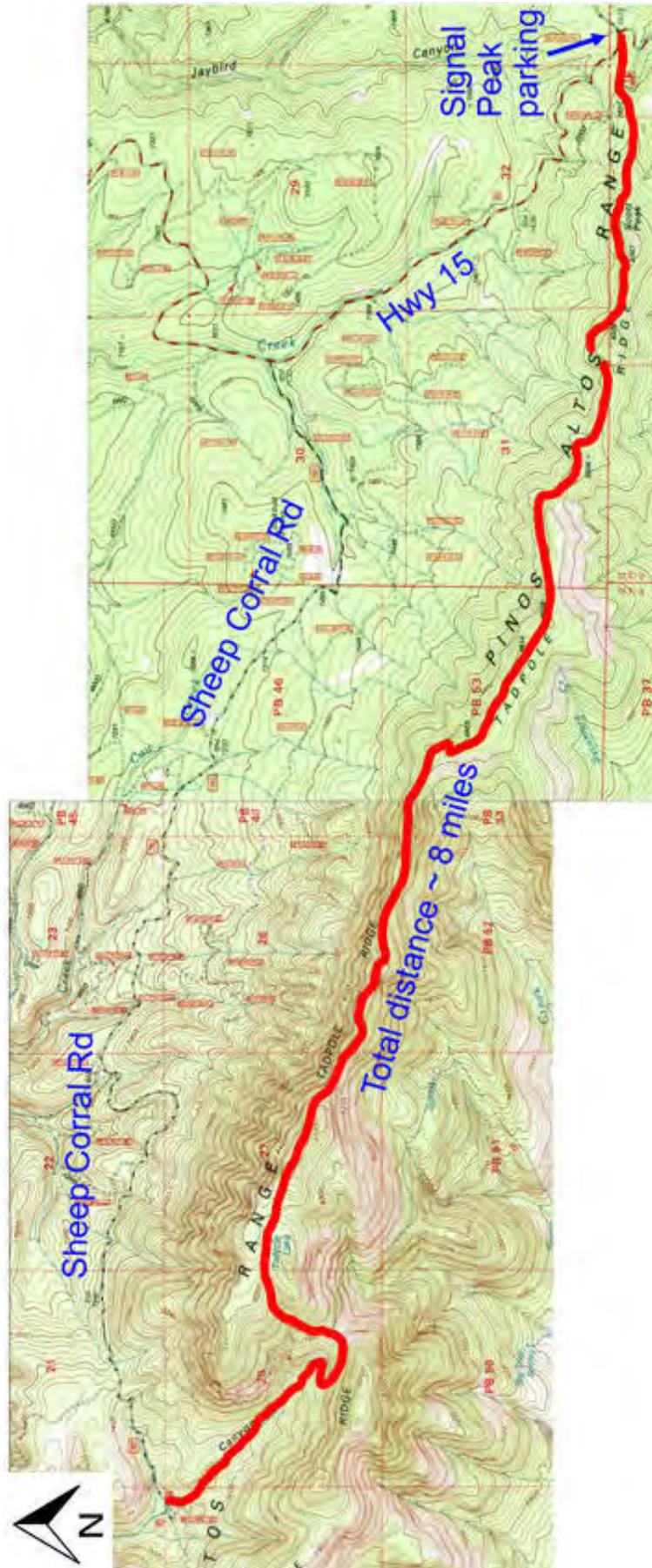
Cheryl Roth announced that she and Randy Roth have started a drone business. The endeavor's purpose is to take aerial video photography by which customers can get a bird's eye view of their property—or of anything else they want to see from the nosebleed seats. Except in the wilderness areas, where drones aren't allowed to fly. Interested? Call Cheryl at 575-263-1845.

Laurie W. reminds us that during the first weekend in December a youth hunt takes place on Ft. Bayard. Notices are usually posted at the affected trailheads, but watch out for youthful Elmer Fudds if you ride over there.

Christmas Party, Sunday December 9, Buckhorn Saloon. Social time, 12:00. Buffet lunch 1:30. Silent auction.

Next meeting: January 9, 2019, Watts Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Tadpole Ridge Trail (source 1999 USGS Twin Sisters and Reading Mtn. maps)



GILA CHAPTER
BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEW MEXICO, INC.
BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME

Section 1 This organization shall be called GILA CHAPTER of the BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEW MEXICO, herein after GILA CHAPTER called Chapter and BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF NEW MEXICO called BCHNM.

Section 2 This Chapter is a Regional Chapter of BCHNM.

Section 3 The Chapter is organized exclusively for charitable purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1 The Chapter shall perpetuate the common sense and responsible use and enjoyment of horses, mules and other livestock in America’s back country and wilderness.

Section 2 The Chapter shall work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational livestock use.

Section 3 The Chapter shall assist various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of public lands.

Section 4.....The Chapter shall work to educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.

Section 5.....The Chapter shall foster and encourage the formation of new Back Country Horsemen organizations.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Membership in the Chapter is open to all interested persons.

Section 2Application for membership shall be made to the Chapter Treasurer by presentation of application for membership to the Chapter providing name, mailing address, telephone or cell phone number, e-mail address and signed liability release for BCHNM membership records.

Section 3Members in good standing of the Chapter shall also be members of BCHNM and Back Country Horsemen of America.

Section 4 Dues and fees shall be assessed as deemed necessary by the membership.

Section 5.....Membership classifications shall be Individual and Family. Members under the age of eighteen (18) must be part of a family membership and must have a parent or legal guardian present at all Chapter functions.

Section 6.....Individual membership shall refer to one (1) person eighteen (18) years of age or older.

Section 7.....Family membership shall refer to one (1) or two (2) adults in the same household and all the minor children residing under the supervision of the above referred to adults or guardians.

Section 8Members in good standing are those members whose current dues are paid.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Meetings shall be held on a monthly basis to conduct any business of the Chapter, hereinafter called Business Meetings.

Section 2 Each member age eighteen (18) or older, is entitled to one (1) vote.

Section 3 Special meetings of the membership may be scheduled by the President as needed. Notice shall be made in writing or by e-mail to the membership ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Section 4 Any reports that are to be given at a meeting, by Officer, committee, or individual, shall be brought to the attention of the President prior to the start of the meeting.

Section 5 Meetings of the Board of Directors may be held from time to time, hereinafter called Board Meetings, and will be held at a time and location decided by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Action taken at Board Meetings shall be advisory in nature.

Section 6Attendance at a Business Meeting by a minimum of ten (10) eligible voting members including one (1) Officer of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1 The Chapter shall elect annually the following officers of the Board of Directors: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, and TREASURER.

Section 2 The PRESIDENT shall preside at all Business Meetings, shall appoint such committees that may be necessary and appropriate, and shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees.

Section 3 The VICE-PRESIDENT shall assist the President as needed and is to preside at meetings when the President is absent.

Section 4 The SECRETARY shall record and keep the minutes of Business, Board and Special Meetings.

Section 5 The TREASURER shall keep records of income, expenses, disbursements, and any other financial records required for the operation of Chapter business. The Treasurer shall collect dues and maintain the list of members in good standing.

Section 6Election of Officers shall be held at the November Business Meeting.

Section 7.....Elected Officers terms shall begin January 1 of each year following the November elections and terminate December 31 of the same year.

Section 8So long as the total membership of the Chapter meets the minimum requirements of BCHNM, two (2) members of the Chapter shall be elected, at the November meeting, to serve as State Directors of BCHNM in accordance with the bylaws of BCHNM. The State Directors shall attend the quarterly BCHNM meetings and report back to the Chapter. The State Directors term of office shall be two (2) years beginning January 1 of the year following the November elections and terminating December 31 of the next year.

Section 9..... Vacancies of an office shall be filled by election at a Business Meeting.

Section 10..... Officers may be removed by a majority vote of members at a Business Meeting. Notification of action to remove an officer must be made at the Business Meeting preceding the meeting that the action is to take place. Notice shall be made in writing to the officer in question ten (10) days prior to the meeting where action may take place.

ARTICLE VI – HOUSEKEEPING

Section 1 Fiscal year shall be from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

Section 2 Robert's Rules of Order is adopted as a guideline for conducting all meetings. The President may serve as Parliamentarian, or may at his discretion appoint a Parliamentarian. The Decision of the Parliamentarian shall be final in all questions of procedure.

Section 3 Wherever the masculine gender is used herein the feminine shall be deemed included. Wherever the singular form is used herein the plural shall be deemed included to aid in the interpretation to the sense intended.

Section 4 When the President is absent from a Business Meeting the next highest officer in attendance as listed in ARTICLE V will preside.

Section 5.....No part of the net earnings of the Chapter shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the Chapter shall be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in section 501(c)(3).

Section 6.....No substantial part of the activities of the Chapter shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Chapter shall not participate in, or intervene in any campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Section 7.....Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Chapter shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE VII – BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

Section 1 These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or added to by motion of the membership at any Business Meeting, provided that all proposed changes will be made available in written form, e-mail notification

shall be considered written form, to all members of the Chapter 30 days prior to the meeting during which the Amendments are to be voted upon and that an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members present is achieved.

ARTICLE VIII – DISSOLUTION

Section 1.....In the event of dissolution of the Chapter, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, to BCHNM provided BCHNM is exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. If BCHNM is not exempt, assets shall be distributed to Back Country Horsemen of America for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

BYLAWS APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP ON 03/12/01

BYLAWS UPDATED & APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP ON 11/14/2018

Doug Dexter-President

Mary Shumway-Vice President

Cindi deCapiteau-Secretary

Nancy Imler-Treasurer

Dec. 8 Horse Clinic with **Pat Buls**

**Classical Horsemanship applied to
~Trail Riding~**

**Gain precision control through
lateral work and
body language**

**Location: #4607 Highway 15
Time: 11AM**

**Call or text for more info:
575 449-9862**

Donations accepted

TheGentleTamer.com

