

GBCH meeting 3/17/26

In attendance: Carole Clark, Cheryl Roth, Renee deRyk, Mark Rieck, Diana Dewey (Cheryl's daughter), Jennifer Pellenin, Deborah Whittemore, Lynae Addy, Laurie Wlosinski, Cindi deCapiteau, Rebecca Harrington, Michelle McGorky, Donna Tillmann, Gerry Endgel, Rawlings Lemon, Dave and Nancy Imler.

Meeting started 6:07PM

-Carole Clark approved the minutes from the February meeting

-Treasurer report: Lynae and Dave presented the treasurer's report

-income- \$145

-expense: \$3,300

-Checking account balance: \$40,454

-membership-57 members.

-State Report: Nothing new to report, next state meeting is in April.

-SARS report: The SAR (Search and Rescue) report was "quiet," but activity on the CDT is "starting to heat up."

-An unofficial proposal is being considered by various organizations to change the standard hiking direction of the CDT. The proposed change would have hikers start in Colorado as soon as snowmelts and head south.

This would mean they pass through the local area at the end of the monsoon season when there is more water available.

Currently, hikers start in Mexico and often face dehydration issues in the local area due to lack of water. The Border Patrol and Doc Campbell's store are common points where dehydrated hikers are assisted.

From a SAR perspective, this change is viewed positively because hikers arriving from the north would be more experienced by the time they reach this difficult section.

-Trash pickup: The trash pickup will take place on Friday, April 17th, at 10:00AM. - This date was chosen to clean the area before the Give Grandly event on the 18th.

Logistics for the April 17th Trash Pickup:

Meeting Point: Wind Canyon fire station on the truck bypass road.

Time: 10:00 AM.

Procedure: Participants will meet at the fire station, consolidate into fewer vehicles, drive a couple of miles to the designated section, park in two locations, and clean up in a loop back to their vehicles. The cleanup activity itself is expected to take about an hour.

-Give Grandly: It was confirmed that “Give Grandly Day” is on April 18th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. A signup sheet was generated and passed around. Set up is at 9:30AM participants are split between morning and afternoon shifts. Morning volunteers so far are: Cheryl Roth, Rawlings Lemon, Lynae Addy, Dave Imler. Afternoon volunteers so far are: Becki Harrington, and Cindi deCapiteau.

- Gerry will get the canopy to Cheryl, who has weights for the canopy as well as brochures. Cindi will bring the table.

-Trail Days: GBCH will have a booth at Goff Park for Trail Days on Saturday, April 25th. The event runs from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Booth setup is from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM, but 8:30 setup should work fine. Attendees are requested to keep booths up until at least 3:00 PM.

- Cheryl has a box with stickers, handouts, cards, and a banner for the booth. Melissa has photo stands for displaying pictures.

-volunteer shifts were again split into AM and PM, AM from 8:30-11:30, PM from 11:30-3:00pm. Volunteers who signed up for the AM shift are: Cheryl, Renee, Lynae, Gerry and Dave. Volunteers who signed up the PM shift are: Rawlings, Cindi, Becki, and Donna.

-Trail Projects: Members interested in participating in a trail project are instructed to contact Melissa for more information or to confirm their attendance.

-License Plates: Members who ordered license plates can pay for them at the meeting or upon delivery. The plates will be picked up at the state meeting in April and distributed afterward.

-Pack Clinic: The recent packing clinic was considered a major success, with twice as many attendees as had signed up. A suggestion was made that the clinic “can’t be done too many times,” indicating a desire for it to be a recurring event, particularly for practicing knots.

-Russell Lewis donated a pack saddle he was not using for the chapter’s use; Cheryl now has it at her house. The saddle is considered suitable for practice or light use only, not for a full pack trip without modifications. The saddle tree and attachment points are solid, but the strapping is of lower quality.

-Passing of Richard Waller: Cheryl relayed the news of Richard's passing, which occurred a week prior on Tuesday. Richard experienced a serious medical event at his home, was taken to a local hospital, and then life-flighted to Albuquerque, where he ultimately could not be saved. Richards' son has given Richard's friend, David Riggoli, the authority to disperse the five equines (horses and mules). David, who is a new member and still in the process of moving from California, does not use email. He communicated the list of animals via text to Cheryl, who then created and distributed an email to the group. The animals do not have set prices; interested parties must call David to discuss. Cheryl has a printed copy of the animal list, which contains all the information she received from David.

- It was suggested to share the information with the 4-H club and local horse trainers who give lessons to children, specifically mentioning Carmen Ateya (on Swan Road) and Anne (from Caliber Equine). The group was encouraged to spread the word to anyone they know who might be interested in pack animals.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.