

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For More Information and Photos**

**Contact: Christy Landwehr at 720-857-9550 or [clandwehr@CHA-ahse.org](mailto:clandwehr@CHA-ahse.org)**

## **Certified Horsemanship Association is Proud to be Recognized as an Advocacy Partner of Back Country Horsemen of America**

(May 2013) Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) was officially recognized as an Advocacy Partner of the Back Country Horsemen of America at their annual convention held in South Dakota in April. With this partnership the organizations will be sharing horsemanship educational opportunities including safety on equine trails to their memberships.

“Both of our organizations have similar interests regarding education and safety and welcome the opportunity to increase our working relationships in the near future,” says Alan Hill, Executive Committee Member of BCHA and Public Liaison Committee Chair.

“We are very excited to be Advocacy Partners with Back Country Horsemen of America,” says CHA Chief Executive Officer Christy Landwehr. “Both of our associations strongly believe in equine education and now we can share even more with our memberships for the safety of both our participants and our horses and mules.”

“In addition to their commitment to equine safety, BCHA has a strong track record in keeping public lands open to saddle and pack use,” says CHA President Ward Stutz. “CHA looks forward to working with them on those issues as well.”

The purpose of the BCHA is to represent all equestrians on issues related to use of and access to public/government administered lands including:

- Assisting equestrians with and encouraging their effective involvement in governmental land management and project level planning;
- Defending and negotiating relief from unjustified and inappropriate restrictions and prohibitions of equestrian use and access on public lands;
- Educating equestrians in appropriate use behavior and etiquette on public lands; and

- Assisting in the stewardship of public lands by providing volunteer assistance to various governmental agencies in maintenance and management of said resources.

The purpose of CHA is to promote excellence in safety and education for the benefit of the horse industry. CHA certifies instructors and pack and trail guides, accredits equestrian facilities, publishes educational manuals, produces educational horsemanship DVDs and hosts regional and international conferences. For more information on the Certified Horsemanship Association, please visit [www.CHA-ahse.org](http://www.CHA-ahse.org) or call 859-259-3399. To find a certified horseback riding instructor, pack and trail guide or accredited equine facility near you visit [www.CHAINstructors.com](http://www.CHAINstructors.com).

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