

# Hells Canyon Mule Days Grand Marshal Julie Kooch



Julie Kooch

The Hells Canyon Mule Days board of directors is pleased to announce that Wallowa County native Julie Kooch is the Grand Marshal for the 39th annual Hells Canyon Mule Days.

Julie has deep Wallowa County roots going back to her grandparents, Henry and Katherine (McCrae) Davis, and Max M. and Bertha (Womack) Mink and, Julie's parents, Melvin and Maxine (Mink) Davis, were born and raised in the County.

Julie and her brother, Ron, were born in Enterprise and raised on the family ranch in the Joseph Creek Canyon. Julie spent her growing up years in the canyon attending the one-room Lewis School and then the folks rented a ranch in the Joseph area during her high school years and Julie graduated from Joseph High School in 1962. She attended the University of Idaho and later received her Master's Degree from Eastern Oregon State College. Before retiring from teaching in 2010, Julie had been a teacher in the Enterprise school for over 30 years, and followed in the footsteps of her mother and grandmother, who both taught in one-room schools in Wallowa County.

Julie has always had a love and passion

for the Canyon Country and what she calls "cowboying." Over the years she has ridden these rugged canyons, rims and breaks to help check, move and gather cattle for local ranches.

She has recorded her memories of her years in the Canyon through her books. The first one, *My Life on Joseph Creek* followed by *Riding the Canyons*, tells of life growing up in this remote region. They make for a great read and record the history of area.

Julie has been part of Hells Canyon Mule Days for years. Going back to the early days of the event. She participated in many of the driving events and weight pull contest. She and her teams have escorted many Mule Days grand marshals through the Chief Joseph Days and Mule Days parades. In the past few years Julie is the official greeter at the main entrance gate and sells admission buttons to locals and visitors alike. She knows most all the locals by name and makes visitors feel very welcome.

We are very grateful for Julie and her involvement and energy she gives to Hells Canyon Mule Days.

**THANK YOU JULIE KOOCH**

## Hells Canyon Mule Days Officers and Board of Directors:

Sondra Lozier - President • Clay Freels - Vice President  
Erin McLaughlin - Secretary • Diane Knox - Treasurer

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Peggy Brennan, Chris Lozier, Christina Lozier,  
Nancy Morgan and Harold Stitzel

## HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS COMMITTEE MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS & OTHER IMPORTANT PEOPLE!

Arena Director: ..... Clay Freels  
Assistant Director: ..... Harold Stitzel  
Arena Crew: ..... Allen & Cheri Miller,  
Pam Stitzel, Mike McWilliams, Dick Walker,  
George Burnett, Peggy Brennan and crew  
Show Announcer: ..... Tony Yost  
Official Show Judge: ..... Angie Turner  
Trail Class Judge: ..... Peggy Brennan  
Show Secretary: ..... Diane Knox & crew  
Chute Boss: ..... Clay Freels  
Awards presentation: ..... Pam Stitzel & Cheri Miller  
Sound: ..... J's Place - Jay Connolly

Grand Marshal: ..... Julie Kooch  
County 4-H Court: 2019-2020

Codi Cunningham, Katie Hoffman, & Carrin Yaw

Parade Chairman: ..... Nancy Beach  
Parade Cochairman: ..... Katie Howard  
National Anthem: ..... Bailey Vernam  
Exhibitors/Vendors: ..... Sondra Lozier  
Marketing & Publicity: ..... Sondra Lozier  
Sponsors: ..... Sondra Lozier  
Cowboy Gathering: ..... Andy Bales & Lonnie Shurtleff  
Pit B-B-Q Dinner: ..... Belinda Kuintz & crew  
Pit B-B-Q: ..... Harry & Ginger Daggett & crew  
Dutch Oven Cook-Off: Chris Lozier, Christina Lee Lozier & crew  
PT Mule Sale: ..... Midge Kliewer & crew  
Food Booth: ..... Hurricane Creek Grange  
Water Contractor: ..... Contract Water Wagons  
Cattle Contractor: ..... Mark Ramsden  
Show Logo Design: ..... Bonnie Shields  
Graphic Designer: ..... Chuck Garrett  
Signs & Banners: ..... Hayes Printing & Graphics  
President's Patient Husband: ..... Kent Lozier  
President's Computer Specialist: ..... Chris Lozier