

The Trailhead News

Vol. 48 Issue 4

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

July/August 2023



www.bchw.org



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 Photo submitted by Joanne Webb.

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The Trailhead News is the official publication of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW). The Trailhead News is published bimonthly by Back Country Horsemen of Washington, PO Box 1132, Ellensburg, WA 98926-1132. Annual membership dues include a subscription to The Trailhead News.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Trailhead News, PO Box 1132, Ellensburg, WA 98926-1132. © 2010 Back Country Horsemen of Washington.

EDITORIAL: Printed Newsletter, maximum word count for articles is 700 plus two (2) photos as space is limited. Digital Newsletter does not have maximum word count plus more than two (2) photos can run with article. Photos must be accompanied by the location, name(s) of person(s) in photo and the name of the photographer. The Trailhead News is published bimonthly and delivered electronically with the exception of Mar/Apr and Sept/Oct issues, which are printed and mailed to members.

Please submit to: thn@bchw.org or mail to:
 PO Box 7184 • Olympia, WA 98507 • 360.754.4543

Article, Photo & Ad Deadline Dates	Publish Date of Newsletter
December 1	Jan/Feb
January 18.....	Mar/April
April 1	May/June
June 1	July/Aug
August 1	Sept/Oct
October 1	Nov/Dec

Advertising Information Call: 360.754.4543

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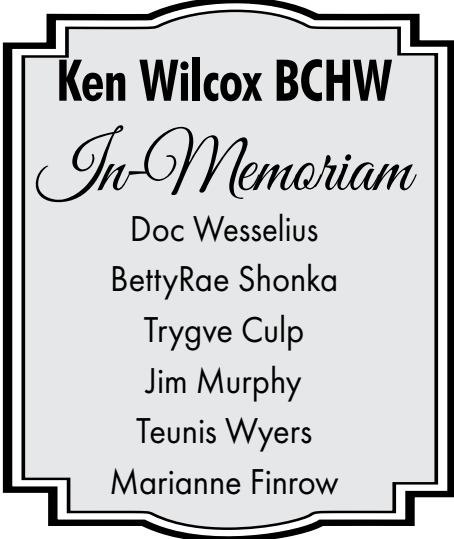
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Please be informed that membership dues, paid at the state as well as the chapter level, are tax deductible for the calendar year and subsequent years. Deduct your dues as a charitable contribution under authority of IRC Section 170 (assuming the person paying the membership dues itemizes their deductions when computing their federal net taxable income) or as a business deduction under authority of IRC Section 162 (assuming the person paying the membership dues has a "trade or business" and the payment of the membership dues is directly related to this "trade or business"). When making a donation, ask for a receipt.

Your volunteer mileage is also deductible. Make copies of your volunteer hours logs with mileage for your taxes. ➡



President's Corner



Busy Season

By Dana Chambers, BCHW President

Wow, this shows just how busy I am. The deadline to have articles in for this edition was June 1st. I got an email from our Media company that we needed articles. So, out went the email requesting submissions. They now have them, but then I get a message that I still need to do my duty by supplying the Optional Membership List, My President's Corner article and the Directors' Directory. Well, I finished two of those and am now writing my article.

Work parties are ramping up out on our trails, including our Pasayten Wilderness Project. We had our kick-off event on June 10th at the Robinson Creek Trailhead out of Mazama. The weather was windy, wet and sunny, but we did not care. We had approximately 55 people in attendance, including USFS staff, WTA and PNTA. And the Methow Valley Trails Collaborative. I would personally like to thank those members who made the trek over to our Whatcom Co Chapter member Bill McKenna for an amazing brisket dinner.

He got up at midnight to start the cooker, then up every couple of hours to stoke the fire. I would also like to thank the members of our Methow Valley Chapter for bringing up their trailer and helping with food and cleaning up.

I would also like to take a minute and apologize for not getting out the June edition of the Turnpike Newsletter, my bad! Between BCHW duties, life and spending time with my horse, a few things got put on the back burner.

I want to talk briefly about our chapters and their officers. Getting involved at the chapter level can be fun and rewarding. In some of our chapters, some volunteers have been doing the same job for a long time and are ready to step down. Unfortunately, chapter members are not stepping up. I get it; there are some out there that just want to ride and have fun. However, keeping trails open for stock equates to keeping them open for all users. This is

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BCHW Mission Statement

BCHW is affiliated with Back Country Horsemen of America (hereinafter "BCHA") and therefore adopts the BCHA mission statement as follows: The mission of this organization shall be:

- To perpetuate the common-sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.

Your Leadership Quote of the Month



Listen with curiosity. Speak with honesty. Act with integrity. The greatest problem with communication is we don't listen to understand. We listen to reply. When we listen with curiosity, we don't listen with the intent to reply. We listen for what's behind the words.

~ Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart



Escure Ranch Campout

By Ken Carmichael



We never get tired of riding on the Bureau of Land Management land, commonly referred to as the Escure ranch. This 13,000 acres property is south of Sprague and provides great riding.

When Patti and I went in May, other BCHW members were there from the west side of the state. It is nice to see people from the entire state enjoying this property.

When riding here, you can expect wide open-range riding. There are some two-track trails, single tracks and lots of cow trails. As many times as we have been there, we keep finding new areas to ride. Some of our best rides start in the morning, and we figure out where we will go as we travel. There are many draws and gullies to explore. On the last trip, we concentrated on finding the best water crossings for Rock Creek. There are two bridges for those who want to avoid getting in the water. Plan to get off your horse a few times as there are cattle, and we go through gates.

The best time to be at the Escure are spring and fall, as it gets hot and the snakes come out in the summer. In the fall, we observe the hunting season regulations and stay away from those high-powered rifles.

BCH has put in 10 corrals, highlines, manure bunkers, picnic tables and fire rings. BLM provides stock water, a toilet and a wide-open place to camp. The big drawback to the area is the last 2.2 miles of driveway down into the trailhead. It takes us 25 minutes to travel because of the potholes.

I am in constant contact with BLM because we are good partners on several work parties. Since our last trip, I have documented our desire to improve the driveway. We have also worked with them on weed control in the trailhead through mowing and spraying. This work has improved as BLM increases its staff.

This is a camp I just hate to leave every time I am there. 🌲



President's Corner

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our Mission Statement, and many amazing folks are doing just that. Now I would like to ask that some new and younger blood step up and run for a chapter office so that those that have been serving for years can step down and do other things within this organization. Governing documents being what they are, a chapter must have a

President, Director, Treasurer and Secretary to be a chapter. If those doing the jobs leave and there is no one to take their place, it jeopardizes the chapter. Chapter elections are this fall, so I encourage you to consider running for a position and give others a break. There are job descriptions on the Members Only page of the website. Take a look and see what might be a good fit for you!

Have a great summer, and I hope to meet you on the trail! 🐾

Travels With Charlie



By Joanne Webb

I had the opportunity to participate in the 2023 Ride to Rendezvous across the beautiful Methow Valley this May. The ride is a fundraiser for lobbying to preserve traditional backcountry horse trails and backcountry trail maintenance for WOGA, the Washington Outfitters and Guides Association.

Starting with an excellent Monday arrival dinner for all the riders, organizers and teamsters, the ride itself began Tuesday morning, May 9th, with a hot breakfast and wagons rolling out of camp at 8:45. That was 15 minutes ahead of schedule, causing a slight panic at the port-a-potties but the teams were hitched and restless. It pays to be quick and nimble on a ride with so many horses, somehow, we all scurried, and no one was left behind. The ride traditionally ends on Friday at noon with all horses & wagon teams riding through the town of Winthrop to cheer school kids & visitors; by this time, all the horses had settled into a routine and excess nervous energy had almost disappeared.

My horse Charlie and I were riding with the wagons, but a large group on horseback took a more strenuous path where the wagons couldn't go. I had never been on a ride with more than six or seven riders, never with wagon teams alongside, and I had never camped with a horse before this ride. My friend who had done the Ride to Rendezvous last year thought we should do the ride together this year, but as luck would have it, she was home nursing a broken arm. I didn't know anyone that was going, but I needn't have worried. Many friendly, helpful people were on the ride, and their combined experience of riding, driving, and camping with horses was incredible.

I now know that the first 20 minutes of a big ride is as suspenseful as the post-parade at Churchill Downs and just as volatile. I had been primarily worried about my horses and my conditioning for all-day rides, and I did not pause to consider what my horse would make of so many horses moving out of camp all at once - purely a rookie mistake. Another rookie mistake was not cutting off Charlie's grain four days before the ride started.

I was told we had 13 wagons and 150 participants, but being single-file with the wagons, I only had the chance to count some of them. The youngest rider was seven and was skipping school

for this experience, the oldest I knew of was 81, but he may not have been the oldest one there. A team of giant black Percherons stood 19 hands tall, pulling what looked like a mini pioneer wagon. Although it was regular sized, there were real mule skinnners, teamsters young and old, cowboys, ranch kids, an older gentleman who had suffered a stroke and could barely walk but was riding and camping, and purple-haired young ladies from Portland all enjoying the ride together. Nobody talked politics - we all talked about what it would have been like to travel this way across a continent; without a water truck showing up at lunch, or rubber tires, etc., and of course, we talked a lot about horses and mules.

I wouldn't necessarily recommend showing up for this ride with a horse you'd just bought and have had only 30 days of riding after a 25-year hiatus from horses, but that's what I did. Fortunately, when I quit riding two decades ago, I had been jumping picnic tables, and things called coffins and going very fast on purpose. However, that seemed like another lifetime ago when the wagon train crested a steep hill 45 minutes in. We saw a herd of 25 loose mules running straight toward us. The mules, it turned out, were in the next pasture over, but because of the terrain, the riders didn't realize this, and the horses, fence, or no fence wouldn't have mattered - it was pandemonium.

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Travels With Charlie

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Against all odds, I stayed on after my horse, and about five or six other riding horses completely lost their minds and tried to dump their riders and run, but it wasn't pretty. The only expletives I heard the entire ride was then, and I think half of them may have been mine. Seven riders were involuntarily dismounted by their horses that first day, which turned out to be something of a ride record. It's usually one or two for the whole four-day ride, I don't know for sure, but I'm blaming that mule herd. I have never seen three or four mules running together, much less two dozen - perhaps they were racing mules?

I remain completely impressed by the wagon teams for keeping it together during the chaos. Not one team lost control. As I was told later by a veteran Rendezvous rider, regardless of all the planning and yearly improvements, there are always elements of unpredictability when this many horses and wagons (and mule herds) get together.

After I got Charlie stopped long enough to dismount voluntarily, I accepted an offer to ride in a wagon and ponied Charlie on behind. This worked wonders for Charlie regaining his composure and normal easygoing outlook, and in a couple of hours, he settled into the noise and movement of the wagons. I didn't know these people when I hopped in their buckboard, but we spent the rest of the ride traveling together (long after I remounted my horse), swapping horse stories and where to find vintage backhoe parts,



etc. I had always wondered what it was like traveling overland up and down steep and sometimes rocky wagon tracts in a buckboard - the pickup truck of its day - and now I know. This is just another historical reality check and reminder that comfort wasn't a feature of pioneer life.

The Ride to Rendezvous itself wasn't exactly hardship camping or sleeping rough. We had tents and air mattresses or cots, and the food was cooked for us. Local teens, including a Swedish exchange student, volunteered to help set up, serve, and do dishes so they could join the ride for free. The youngsters were not so perky at the 5 am morning coffee tent, but they were all polite, hard-working, and enjoying the ride with the rest of us. Every night musicians sang around the campfire. It wasn't corny as I had feared. The singers and musicians were really good.

On the last day, one of the organizers asked me what my favorite memory of the Ride to Rendezvous was, and at the time, I didn't have a good answer. After some reflection, I must confess that there aren't many things as beautiful as seeing 100 or more horses high-lined in a mountain meadow on a spring evening. 🌿



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This Spring at Kalama Horse Camp



Leonard Wright sawing out the Falls Trail



WTA crew installing check step on Toutle Trail



WTA crew installing check step on Toutle Trail

By Jim Anderson, Mount St. Helens Chapter

The first work party of the season was on May 13th. Why so late? Too darn much snow. Nine Mount Saint Helens members gathered to repair broken corral rails, get the water troughs installed and get the water running to them, and start preparing to install a new metal corral that the concessionaire bought.

The second work party was on May 23rd. Three Mount Saint Helens members removed the old wood corral from site number three and installed the new metal corral.

The third work party was on May 29th. Three Mount Saint Helens members concreted in the legs of the new metal corral.

The work parties are in preparation for the two-day regional work party on June 3rd and 4th. Members of the Mount Saint Helens, Lewis County, and Grays Harbor chapters and Washington Trails Association gathered to do what the snow would allow us to do. The Fossil, Toutle, and Ski trails were logged out for the first one-and-a-half miles before the snow was too deep. Being the lowest in elevation, we could completely log out the Falls trail. The Washington Trails Association installed check steps on the big switchback on the Toutle trail and a curb log along the approach to the switchback to help stop erosion. The Camp trail was logged out and cleaned up from a hazardous tree removal project the concessionaire did.

You notice I haven't mentioned the Cinnamon trail. That's because the forest service closed the first two miles of it where the fire went through last fall. The area we could work on the Cinnamon trail was still too deep with snow.

A big thank you to the cooks who fed us dinner Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning. It is nice when you are working not to come back to camp and cook too. 🍴



WTA crew finished curb rail on Toutle Trail



Leonard Wright logging out the Falls Trail

Lewis County Chapter Annual Burnt Ridge Fun Ride



By Sherry Brown, Lewis County Chapter

The Lewis County Chapter of BCHW held their annual Burnt Ridge Fun Ride on Saturday, May 20th. The event was a huge success, with 156 registered riders, 10 of which were junior riders who rode for free. Between the registrations, raffle ticket sales and concessions, the chapter made \$2,875. The wonderful Miss Lori Lenox was also there with the BCHW store and did \$1,734 in merchandise sales. The weather was perfect for the ride, being not too hot or cold. There was an option for an 11-mile-long loop or an 8-mile shorter loop with several water holes along the way. The Lewis County chapter had the trail in amazing shape after putting 830 volunteer hours into clearing the trail, repairing and replacing bridges, hauling in gravel, building the trail through new clear-cuts, and putting out more signs. The views from the trail have been opened up through the clear-cuts and allowed glimpses of Mt Rainier and Mt St Helens. We'd also like to thank our numerous sponsors and gracious land owners Merrill & Ring. If you want to join in on this ride next year, put May 18th, 2024, on your calendar. 🐾

2023 Prize Donors

- Business Name or Individual*
- Artistry In Metal
- Carolyn Stella
- Cashel
- Centerville Western Store
- Chris Preheim
- Coastal Farm & Ranch
- Degoede Bulb Farm & Garden
- Don & Marsha O'Neal
- Geier Glove Co.
- Hamilton Horsepower farm & Arena
- Harbor Saw & Supply Inc.
- Joe Chenier
- Kaia's Garden & Pet
- Lynda Holloway
- Madsen's Shop & Supply Inc.
- Premium Quality Hay & Feed
- Retro Phoenix Mercantile
- Roxanne Lockwood
- Service Saw & Workwears Inc.
- Sherri Wright
- Tack Room Too
- The Farm Store
- Todd Graham Horseshoeing
- Tractor Supply
- What Knot Rope Halters
- Wilco



TRAIL CREW NOTES 5/19 – 5/20/23

Location: Lower and Upper S. Fork Skokomish, Olympic National Forest (ONF)



Meet Belle. She is super cute. She is working on learning to be calmer around people and activity.



Paul getting ready to work on clearing the stock Ford at Rule Creek (upper skok).

This was the annual regional work party for sprucing up the LeBar Horse Campground and the surrounding trails. WTA had done a significant amount of excellent work on the Lower Skok, but there were still some stock blocking logs to clear and bridge railings to fix. There was also clearing necessary on the upper part of the Lower Skok and the first mile of the Upper S. Fork Skok. And brushing ... there is always brushing to do!

Like last year, the last logs we needed to remove on the lower part of the Lower Skok were all the way to the Church Creek fjord (or nearly there). That's a long way from the highest access point, the 100 road. Thus, we were exceedingly glad that Harold had brought the saw packing decks, even though I had told him we wouldn't need stock support. How wrong I was. We have carried saws and equipment for that stretch before and do not desire to

do it again. Archie took the tools, Magic had Pat and Harold rode Sugar. Belle was along for training and desensitizing. She can be a bit skittish still, but boy oh boy, is she pretty.

There was a lot of work done in the campground too, but I can only speak to the trails, except for one thing. Last year's storm brought down a big mess on that very short connector trail between the gazebo and the road. Martin and I had time to kill before the 8:00 Sunday breakfast, so we got out there to get rid of that mess. Sandy came out to help, and we discovered she's a great saw assistant!

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BCHW Membership Announcement

BCHW memberships expired on December 31, 2022. Please go to BCHW.org and click on the Membership tab to join or renew. If you have any questions, issues or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me, Dana Chambers, at membership.bchw@gmail.com or call 206-498-6952. I'm here for you!

PRICING FOR OUR MEMBERSHIPS In Addition To Chapter Dues

Single	\$41.00
Family	\$54.00
Contributing	\$75.00
Sustaining	\$125.00
Patron	\$250.00
Benefactor	\$500.00
Lifetime (Single)	\$1,200.00
Lifetime (Family of 2)	\$2,000.00

Location: Lower and Upper S. Fork Skokomish, Olympic National Forest (ONF)

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So many thanks to the cooks led by Kim for dinner and Bob’s yummy eggs for breakfast! Those meals are for sure something to look forward to. It’s amazing to come back after a long, hard day of trail work to such an incredible meal.

Many thanks to Bob Hoyle for the mind-blowing amount of work he put in to make this weekend happen. Including bringing his bike so he could scout the full trail on Friday – that’s how we found out there were still some stock blocking trees up there.

Honestly, how many people do you know who can pull this off? With very short notice, Jim looked at pictures of the railings that were broken in last year’s storms, figured out the material and tools he needed, obtained the materials, loaded the tools and supplies and the tote maneuvered that fully loaded tote over rocks and roots and up and down hills and across small streams. Oh ... and then fixed the railings. Rick was his amazing assistant in all this – even putting together temporary “bridges” so the tote could go across streams, and the two of them together were able to right the loaded tote after it tipped. More than once, so I hear. The two of them did a fabulous job on the railings.

Sorry, no pictures of Rick. He obviously was the one behind the camera but I know this incredible work is his doing too.

For those of you who don’t know, last season in December of 2021, a massive snow and wind storm hit the Shelton area. It blew down an awe-inspiring number of trees that were in severe stress from the June ’21 heat dome. We had many saw crews working there to free the Skok trail from the grasp of many hundreds of downed trees. These bridge railings were part of the casualty but we could barely get through all the trees and most certainly didn’t have time to fix the railings too. That’s why they got done this year.



This was one side of a stock blocking tree we had to clear.



The other end. Bound between two trees and suspended.

Brushing is a constant, never-ending need on this trail but rarely gets tended. Donna and Suzanne worked as a brushing crew and got the first? Mile of the 140 road free from encroaching alders and maples. Really important for the longevity of the trail.

I really enjoyed finally being out on the trail with Pat too! Magic is really her baby, but I’ve always only seen Harold on magic. Magic is such a strong leader. Calm, strong, smart and experienced. I found out Magic is 24 and they’ve had him since he was only six months old.

Due to the height of the trees (too low for stock but too high to cut), we had to clear out a bunch of stuff and cut from up on the hillside to release it. Sorry, I don’t have an after picture, but it is cleared to stock standards now.

Bernt and Paul were their own team, working on the upper part of the lower Skok and the lower part of the upper Skok. That is really fun to say. The upper Skok is the one that heads up into the ONP and to sundown pass, sundown lake and six ridge trail (which connects to the north fork Skok). Gorgeous country up there. They cleared the first mile of the upper Skok, to where the big “natural” footlog is. Rule creek is right before that and has had its stock ford blocked for a long time. ↪

Crew Members:

- Rebecca Wanagel
- Bob Hoyle
- Martin Knowles
- Paul Kamps
- Bernt Ericson
- Jim Hollatz
- Donna Hollatz
- Rick King
- Suzanne King

Packers:

- Harold and Pat Wiese
(Magic, Archie, Sugar, Belle)
- Hours: 116



Before image of the area we cleared out.

TRAIL CREW NOTES 5/6/23

Location: Lower Big Quil, Olympic National Forest



The Tullers, with Biscuit, Maize and Woody, heading back to the rig. We are all thrilled to have made this new partnership!



Making progress.



Matthew Tuller, holding Maize. Rachael Tuller, holding Woody. Biscuit hiding shyly in the background.

Work accomplished:

1. David and Joanne worked from the lower trailhead, re-checking and re-clearing the entire trail to the two downed trees that were the main project – making sure the packers could get through with no problem. David and Joanne have worked this trail and checked the road several times this spring. We could not have gotten stock to the project without their incredible extra effort!
2. Mike, Bill, LaVonne and Bernt worked from the upper trailhead doing brushing, tread, and drainage as necessary.
3. Rebecca, Martin, Eric, Randy and Dan went to the two project trees from the upper trailhead (two miles down).

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Our project. Picture taken earlier this spring. The shallow angle across the trail + size of trees = many rounds need to be cut. The top tree's weight is resting on the bottom tree. Bottom tree was resting on the ground at its break-off point, but the top tree was suspended – not touching the ground due to the fact that it also broke but was on top of the other tree. We opted to cut off the entire end of the top tree first, to eliminate this messy variable.



Fortunately, the 462 saw just loves trees like this. Lots of torque. It went through these 30" logs like a hot knife through butter.

River's Edge Mulching Project Peninsula Chapter of BCHW

Clallam Conservation District Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, April 17 – 19, 2023



Jim Hollatz mounted on his 1952 Massey Ferguson



PHOTOS BY DENISE HUPFER

By Donna Hollatz, Peninsula Chapter

Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington prides itself on working cooperatively with the many agencies involved in the preservation and enjoyment of the natural areas of our state, so a recent project in the Dungeness River floodplain was another opportunity to contribute our volunteer effort to the conservation community.

Fifty years ago, the US Army Corps of Engineers built a huge dike along the Dungeness River to control flooding. At

the time, the importance of side channels and riparian areas was not known to be so critical to spawning salmonids. Science has since shown that restoring a more natural river mouth benefits the fish.

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TRAIL CREW NOTES 5/6/23

Location: Lower Big Quil, ONF

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- 4. Rachael and Matthew Tuller, packers, went in from the lower trail-head (the road too rough for the horse trailer once the road splits off from the Mt. Townsend turnoff), packing in our saw gear.
- 5. We cleared the two large logs using a chainsaw. I forgot to count the number of rounds, but due to the angle at which they crossed the trail, I suspect we likely cut about 30 rounds between the two trees. The trees were about 30" in diameter. This project would have been a long, difficult process with crosscut saws, so saving these for chainsaws was a great idea.

This trip was a great opportunity to meet and work with packers I am just now getting to know. We enjoyed meeting Rachael, Matthew, and their animals, Maize, Woody and Biscuit. Maize (mule) is so big and powerful that I was awed by her presence. Woody just oozed experience, calmness and leadership (I found it fascinating he has a search and rescue background). And Biscuit was so pretty and well-behaved! In addition, the Tullers own Lost Peacock Creamery, a goater. They brought us some of their delectable goat cheese! 🐐

Crew Members:

Rebecca Wanagel
 Martin Knowles
 David Graves
 Joanne Graves
 Bill Mueller
 LaVonne Mueller
 Eric Nagle
 Bernt Ericson
 Randy Kraxberger
 Dan Stranahan

Packers:

Matthew Tuller
 Rachael Tuller
 Hours: 74



Finishing touches – angling the logs to the lay of the trail.

River's Edge Mulching Project Peninsula Chapter of BCHW

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Alan Barnard aboard his modern Kubota.



PHOTOS BY DENISE HUPFER

In the interest of this type of restoration, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe purchased 56 acres of land at the end of Towne Road and along the east side of the Dungeness River. In a cooperative project with Clallam County, the old dike was removed and a new levee was built, set back from the river's edge, creating a new floodplain connected to the Dungeness River.

The Tribe then cooperated with the Clallam Conservation District to add native plants to the grassy fields of the new floodplain. In March of 2022, groups of volunteers and Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crews planted 7,500 native trees and shrubs on 13.3 acres. A second phase of planting was done in January of 2023. The Tribe mowed the fields and then provided an auger to dig the holes as the crew did the planting, which made the project go much more quickly. Thirty acres were planted with 15,150 trees and shrubs!

In April, the Conservation District asked Peninsula Chapter BCHW to assist with applying a five-gallon bucket of mulch around each little planting to help hold moisture and encourage the survival of as many young plants as possible. They requested tractors to help load the mulch and pickup trucks to deliver it from huge piles at the acreage's north and south edges to the many little trees (200 yards of mulch). Fifteen workers from Pacific Forest and six WCC workers followed the trucks, shoveled the mulch into buckets and hustled it to each planting.

Alan Barnard of Pacific Trails Coalition and Jim Holatz of Peninsula Chapter BCHW brought their tractors with

front-end loaders. These were essential to moving the quantity of mulch into the five donated trucks and a trailer. A great system was developed for loading and unloading the mulch as the vehicles circled through the field. Because the rows of trees are planted 11 feet apart, trucks could drive between the rows and the bucket crews could mulch trees on both sides. Our volunteers drove their trucks and a few others mulched trees by hand from wheelbarrows where the plantings were too close together for the trucks. Over the three days, April 17-19, 2023, mulch was placed around 22,650 plantings! Without our tractors, trucks, and volunteers, this would not have been possible (14 volunteers contributed about 150 hours). The Conservation District leaders were very happy to have the help!

The long-range outlook for this new area is that the levee setback will allow the Dungeness to meander and create side channels through its floodplain, preferred habitats for Pacific salmon. The side channels create pools and riffles. The trees and shrubs in the floodplain will create in-stream islands and trap large woody debris as they mature. This will slow stream flows and capture sediment, creating excellent salmon habitat for spawning and protection of juvenile salmon. Restoring the floodplain function will also improve water quality for shellfish beds in Dungeness Bay.

Members who would like to see this project firsthand: Drive to the end of Towne Road. There is room to park along the road and walk in along the levee. Many people use the area to walk their dogs and ride bicycles. The bird watching is outstanding and the area is very peaceful. 🌿

National Trails Day

By Barbara Woo, BCHW Cascade Chapter

Thank you to Linda B and Beth F for including Cascade Horse Club members in their annual National Trails Day Work Party!

Six Trail Dusters and two Cascade Members trekked out to the north end of the Victoria Tract of the Pilchuck Tree Farm to re-route the Cross Over trail logged over last year. Finding the old trail was challenging enough, but Linda B, Tracey G and Eric H

hiked the area numerous times, re-routed as needed numerous times, and flagged it so the clearing crew could re-establish the trail.

Armed with a Chainsaw, three Weed eaters, a hedger, a Pulaski and loppers, the lower portion of the trail was cleared! There's still more work to be done, but one day at a time!

Thank you to Karen B for a great lunch! 🍴

Cascade Horse Club



Where is the trail?



There it is! Heading back bushed!

Donate Money to BCHW by Buying an Ad in The Trailhead News

BCHW The Trailhead News Ad Insertion Rates (Design Extra Cost) Email Ads to: thn@bchw.org

Ad Deadline Dates and Payment Due <small>(or first business day after this date)</small>	Publish Date of Newsletter	Ad Size	Ad Dimensions	Ad Cost 1x Insertion
December 1	Jan/Feb	Back Cover 3/4 page	8" H x 8" W	\$331.00
January 18	Mar/April	Inside Front Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
April 1	May/June	Inside Back Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
June 1	July/Aug	Full Page	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
August 1	Sept/Oct	3/4 Page	6 1/4" H x 7 1/2" W	\$331.00
October 1	Nov/Dec	Half Page (Horizontal)	4 3/4" H x 7 1/2" W	\$248.00
		Half Page (Vertical)	10" H x 3 5/8" W	\$248.00
		Third Page	3 1/2" H x 7 1/2" W	\$166.00
		Quarter Page	4 3/4" H x 3 5/8" W	\$124.00
		Business Card	2" H x 3 5/8" W	\$62.00

Ads must meet professional publishing standards. Ads must be high resolution (300 dpi) PDFs or JPGs. Modifications are billable for design at \$80.00 per hour, \$40.00 minimum charge, billed to the advertiser. All ads subject to approval by BCHW.

\$225.00 per issue & per spot color ad
\$600.00 per issue for full color ads

Make payment payable to:
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Chapter Challenge

By Ken Carmichael, Governance & Bylaws Committee Chair

The BCHW website at www.bchw.org provides a wealth of knowledge for the chapters. The website can be used by many chapter committees to answer questions and provide general assistance to the chapters and the members.

For this to happen, we must be familiar with what is on the website and be comfortable with using it. This is where the Chapter Challenge comes in.

BCHW committee chairs have written a series of questions that can be answered by referring to the BCHW website. We challenge the chapters to work as a team to use the website to answer the questions. Here is how it will work:

- Chapter Directors are receiving an email with the questions.
- The questions should be divided between chapter members to find answers.
- Answers are returned to me by September 6, 2023, at kcarmichael2225@gmail.com.

- I determine which chapter has answered the most questions correctly.
- At the September 16 board meeting, we will announce the winning chapter. If there is a tie, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.
- **THE WINNING CHAPTER WILL RECEIVE A FREE TABLE AT THE 2024 RENDEZVOUS BANQUET AND MOVE CLOSER TO THE FRONT OF THE LINE TO EAT DINNER.**

This contest is to encourage BCH members to become familiar with the website and make it work for the chapters. Becoming familiar with the website and using it effectively will strengthen the chapters. Members, please ask your Director how you can participate. 🐾

Planning for 2024 Rendezvous

By Teri Starke, BCHW Treasurer

Hey, calling all BCHW members. What would you like to see at BCHW's 2024 Rendezvous? Do you know a vendor who would be a good fit at BCHW's Rendezvous? Do you have time to volunteer to help out? These are just some of the many questions I have.

BCHW's 2024 Rendezvous planning is underway. Our focus is back on packing-showing and learning how to pack. We are excited to bring back a packing competition to the Bloom, and Harold Weiss has signed on to chair the packing competition. He needs help from several packers. Please email him at pewiese@msn.com to give him the help he needs to manage this event.

We are also looking for some of our packing members who want to teach others how to pack. Please get a hold of me to get you on the schedule.

Chapters, please consider sponsoring demos/clinicians. We need to fill every room on the fairgrounds.

The 2023 used tack sale was very successful, and 2024 will also stay in the Armory and use the three small rooms. The commission rate for members will stay at 15 percent. Non-members will have a commission rate of 25 percent.

A new event will be the "desert dash" at dinner Saturday eve-

ning. Every person or chapter who purchases a table at 2024 Rendezvous will be required to bring a dessert for eight people. Each table will have an envelope that the eight people at that table can put in a donation to BCHW. The table whose envelope contains the largest donation picks the first dessert and on down to the last table.

The Chapter Displays should include favorite places to ride in and the landscape and trails they work on. We had some comments that members wanted to see these areas.

We are looking for a packing gear supply company to be a vendor at Rendezvous. It would be wonderful if they could talk about pack trips and their adventures.

We are looking for a committee to go out to retail establishments and solicit donations for the 2024 auction.

We need more vendors to display their wares. If you know of anyone, the 2024 vendor application is on the BCHW website.

I am looking for ideas and more help at Rendezvous. Please get in touch with me if you would like to be a part of BCHW's largest annual event!

Teri Starke, treasurer@bchw.org, 253-709-5052 🐾

Content Deadline for the September/October 2023 PRINTED Newsletter is August 1, 2023

Cover Photos can be sent anytime, 8x10 Vertical orientation is best (300 dpi).

You can send articles, photos and calendar of events early!

Please email your articles (700 word maximum) and 3 or 4 photos with caption and photo byline to thn@bchw.org as soon as possible.

ATTENTION!

FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar

Be sure to:

- Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event.
- Check to see if dogs are welcome.

Note: The BCHW Trailhead News represents as many events as possible; however, it makes no guarantees an event will be published. The calendar of events is subject to change. Please check with ride contact for most updated information. Please send calendar corrections to: thn@bchw.org.

Vicki Gish Memorial Ride – Northeast BCHW Chapter

Friday-Sunday, July 14-16, 2023
Calispel Basin/Meadow (Sand Canyon), Colville National Forest, Chewelah, WA
Weed seed free forage required
No Stallions or dogs on trails. Dogs must be on leash in camp
Saturday: Potluck to share or dutchoven cooking.
Overnight camping available
Stock water and porta-potties available
Marian Carson, mca9590561@msn.com or 509-999-1547

Big Pack in Work Party

Saturday-Friday, July 15-21, 2023
Barb Talbot 253-312-3626

Lewis County Chapter William O. Douglas Wilderness – Carlton Creek/Soda Springs Cowlitz Horse Camp and Surrounding Trails

Monday-Sunday, July 17-23, 2023
Registration is required.
Tony Karniss: 360-520-5697
tkarniss@gmail.com

Gifford Pinchot National Forest - Nannie Ridge Re-Route

Wednesday-Sunday, August 9-13, 2023
Registration is required.
Tom Conner 360-269-3804
Tkranch@Toledotel.com
Tony Karniss 360-520-5697
Tkarniss@gmail.com

3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' meeting

Saturday, September 16, 2023
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
BCHW President Dana Chambers
president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

22nd Annual Winery Ride

Saturday, October 28, 2023
Zillah, WA
BCHWwineryride@gmail.com

Free Entrance Days in the National Parks



September 23 – National Public Lands Day

October 10 – World Mental Health Day

November 11 – Veterans Day

November 24 – Autumn Day

Example

Your Chapter Ride or Event Must Be Open To All BCHW Members To Have A FREE Listing

Lines in the listing have a maximum character count of 32, including spaces. Please keep this in mind.

Please submit the following information with your event listing to thn@bchw.org.

Chapter Name _____

Name of Ride _____

Date _____

First Rider Out _____

Location _____

Register _____

Lunch _____

Name of Pass Required (if needed) _____

Weed-Seed-Free Feed Required _____

Camping (if available) _____

Cost to Member _____

Cost to Non-member _____

Contact Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Website _____