

Mt. St. Helens BCH

BCHW

September 2023

My body the day after falling off my horse



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The mission of this organization shall be:

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

NEXT MEETING:
October 9TH 6PM—9PM
ROUND TABLE PIZZA—
SALMON CREEK

Volunteer hours:
Don't forget to email Judy Smith with your volunteer hours.
Trailridenbuddy@yahoo.com

***Note ***

The new dates due will allow Judy the time she has to get them in by the 1st of the month

VOLUNTEER HOURS

REPORTING PERIOD DUE TO JUDY NO LATER THAN...

1st Quarter (Oct 1—Feb 29) Feb 25th

2nd Quarter (Mar 1-May 31) May 25

3rd Quarter (Apr 1-Aug 31) Aug 25

4th Quarter (Sep 1-30) Sep 25

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Hello all

I attended the BCHW Board of Directors meeting on the 16th. There was a big agenda and it took from 9am to 3pm to cover it all. That said having the Executive Committee handling the day to day business has made the rest of the directors job easier. Here goes the run down of topics.

BCHW Leadership training will be in January. Date to be announced. It will be a Zoom meeting to avoid driving over passes in winter weather. Anyone can attend Leadership training. It will give you some insight as to the duties of different offices and committees. I'll be posting the meeting info when I have it.

BCHW has been approached to help out with booth fees for fairs and community events that promote BCHW and it's chapters. Exc. Committee decided BCHW could pay half of the fees up to \$250.

Teri Stark is asking for more help with Rendezvous. She needs people/chapters to sign on. If anyone wants to help or put together a group to help I can find out where she needs it.

BCHA is working on the issue of e-bikes on non-motorized trails. They are working with partners and land agencies.

It's time to start looking at chapter members who we think are deserving of awards. Let Brian Jansen or me know if you have someone who you think is deserving.

The keeping of records of the chapters and states activities is getting more and more important. If the IRS does an audit of the books they will be dealing with the state level officers but what the chapters do will be a part of that since we are all part of BCHW. Ken Carmichael sits on the board for Riverside Park at Spokane. He reported that they were audited and it took the IRS 2 1/2 days to cover everything. That was for a budget of \$42,000. BCHW'S budget is over \$700,000. This includes grants. So it's very important that we all

From our Director

keep good records of our expenditures and activities.

Speaking of grants. Last year BCHW had \$124,000 in RTP grants. Next year we are on track to receive \$270,000 in RTP grants.

Jeff Chapman has been appointed the committee position of Legislative Chair

Dana wants to start a data base that tracks work parties and the land agencies who are involved. We are to send her the information from our work.

BCHW voted to approve BCHA'S request to increase dues. If a majority of states approves it, it will take effect for 2024 dues. BCHW will have to decide by June 2024 if we will also increase our dues.

The Exc. Committee has been assigned the duty of writing an NSF check policy. At the tack sale this year there was an NSF check that we have not been able to collect on yet. It has been turned over to a collection agencies.

Remember we are having a work party on Oct. 7th to brush out the Fossil Trail. Let me know if you can attend. If you want to ride your horse that's okay. You may be asked to start from the Blue Lake Trailhead to come up from the bottom of the slope. We will be using brush cutters, loppers, hand saws and possible chain saws. Bring your lunch, drinks and favorite brushing tools. I'll have some extra loppers. Ken, don't forget Twiggy!!

Thanks to all for all you do.

Jim

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BCHW

September 2023



From our President

Fall is here (almost), which means it's time for me to get some of the projects done that need done. Seems like every year, I feel the pressure to finally get after the tasks I've been putting off all summer because it's too hot, don't have time, don't need it until winter, or just plain procrastinating. I guess it's a good thing, because now some of them will actually get completed.

It's also a great time to do some trail riding and camping, which Tammy and I did earlier this month. Rebecca Hardy from the Washington Trail Riders organized a ride/camp at Gibson Prairie horse camp near Mt Hood, and we joined them for the weekend. It's a small camp (3 sites for trailers, each with a 4 horse log corral) but there's a fourth tent site, and room to park additional trailers and highline or fence a corral. And the all important outhouse. The road in is long, but paved a good distance and in pretty good shape except for the last mile in. We've been on a lot worse, and took it slow with no problems.

The trails were really nice and in very good shape, and pretty moderate terrain with a couple of great view points of Mt Hood and the valley to the northeast of the mountain. There is good signage on the single track trails, and you can make some nice loops using the forest roads to connect to trails. Not a lot of distance, but enough for a 2-3 day weekend trip. I'd recommend it for anyone wanting a different ride that's within a couple hours drive.

September is also when we need to start thinking about next year for BCH. In October we will begin to take nominations for officers for the election at the November meeting. I'd like to thank Jim Anderson, Ken Evans, Jan Schmalenberger, and Gudrun Mahrt for serving as Director, VP, Secretary, and Treasurer. Also a big thanks to the volunteer committee leaders. They willingly stepped up last year to help and I appreciate it. We need you to consider volunteering for one of these elected positions or for one of the committee leads. If you are willing, drop me an email or give me a call to discuss helping out. I'd love to hear from you.

Finally, don't forget about the upcoming Wine Ride on October 28 in Zillah, WA. Our own Barb Thomas and Nancy Rust are the leaders for this great statewide event, and they would appreciate you volunteering to help, or even just sign up to attend.

Happy Trails, and Be Safe.

2022 Appointed Chairs

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PUBLIC LANDS CHAIR

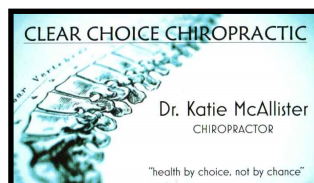
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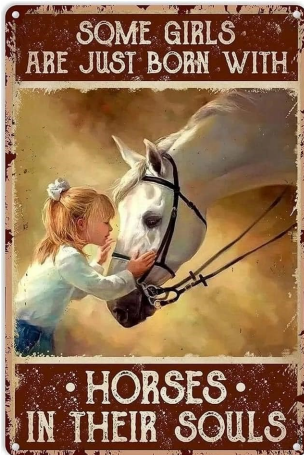
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BCHW

September 2023



Volunteer Hours

Ugh. 9 hours of compiling volunteer hours for all the work parties and misc activities of The Mount St Helens Chapter of Back Country [Back Country Horsemen of Washington](#). Compiling and cross checking to make sure I have every hour accounted for. One big word search. The I get to enter it all into the computer. Still have about 3 hours of entering detail tomorrow.

It's all very important as the hours from all 31 Washington Chapters is compiled and sent to BCHA (National)

where it's used for lobbying for money, grants, etc for Trails. (it's also used in Washington State as well, for the same purpose). It's a pain to do but very worthwhile. We do need more volunteers to work on trails. Our volunteers have been at it for many years and most are in their late 60's and now early 70's. We need younger members or there won't be trails to ride at Kalama Horse Camp and elsewhere.

Work parties are actually fun. Most you get to ride your horse and you get to know the other volunteers. It's also great training for your horse. They get used to branches falling on their heads when you are lopping, getting used to chainsaw noise and all the activity around them, and learn patience while being tied up. And then you get to look back on your work and see that nice clean trail where there had been a mess. Can't work on trails? There are always other things to do. Enjoy a challenge? I'd gladly let you try a hand at doing these volunteer hours. Someone with good computers skills and good eyes could do it a lot faster than I can. 😊

Meetings are the 2 nd Mondays of the month with the next one this coming Monday, September 11th. Time is 7 pm at Round Table Pizza in Salmon Creek across from the Safeway gas pumps. A lot of us meet between 6 and 7 for social hour. Come and see what we are up too.

Judy Smith



2022 Appointed Chairs

VOLUNTEER HOURS CHAIR

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Leave No Trace Training (LNT.org): A Guide to Minimum Impact Camping and Stock Use Techniques



Found "5 Ways to Refresh Your Leave No Trace Skills" <https://lnt.org/5-ways-to-refresh-your-leave-no-trace-skills/>

- 1. How to Put Out a Campfire**
Did you know that 85% of wildfires are caused by humans? \$3.1 billion was spent in 2018 for fire suppression. This is why it is so important to make sure your fire is totally out. The best way to put out a fire is to make campfire soup. First, let the fire burn completely out. Then, drown it with water. Stir it up. Finally check it for heat by placing your hand over top of it.
- 2. How to Share the Trail**
Our trails are for everyone, and there are some ways to minimize our impacts while sharing these spaces. Please stay on the trail to avoid damaging vegetation or creating erosion. Sometimes it is necessary to step off trail during some encounters. Hike in single file to prevent widening the trail and allowing space for others. Yielding occurs when going in opposite directions. Use the yield triangle where bicycles yield to all, hikers yield to horses, horses are least predict-

able and don't have to yield to either. We know to be safe it can be more polite to yield sometimes. Downhill hikers yield to uphill hikers. If going faster than people in front of you, ask politely if OK to pass. When past them, it is considered polite to say THANK YOU. If you have a dog, it is more considerate to put on leash to pass others. By being kind and considerate we can all enjoy and share the trails.


- 3. How to Go to the Bathroom Outside**
Human waste can be hugely impactful to natural spaces and those who visit after us. With some restrooms still closed, now is the time to learn about going to the restroom outside. Since pee is mostly sterile, we don't have to dig a cat hole, but we still need to keep it from water sources. Pee 200 ft (70 steps) away from water sources, trails, camps or other high traffic routes. Studies have found pharmaceuticals in alpine lakes from people peeing too close to the water. It is OK to pee where the high rate flow of water is Over 500 CFS (cubic feet per second). Its better to pee on rocks other than vegetation since animals are attracted to the salt in the urine and can dig up vegetation. Toilet paper can be packed out as it can take a year to decompose. Solid waste also had guidelines: avoid pollution of water sources, avoid someone finding it, minimize spreading disease and maximize rate of decomposition. Use the bathroom if available. Dig cathole if possible. Pack out solid waste if nowhere else to safely dispose of it.

4. How to Plan Your Trip
Planning is a crucial part of any trip. Things change so being prepared is very important. Check the internet for


blogs and park information. Be prepared for the unexpected like closed toilets or lack of trash receptacles.

- 5. Car Camping 101**
There are many tips to set up camp if car camping. Put tent on a durable surface. The spicket is not the kitchen sink. Use bucket to wash dishes, strain particles into trash and toss grey water 200 ft from camp. Don't burn trash that has harmful chemicals. Keep food protected in bearproof containers. Pick up trash and pack it out. Enjoy your adventures and hope to see you out there.

- 1. Plan Ahead and Prepare.**
- 2. Travel & Camp on Durable Surfaces.**
- 3. Dispose of Waste Properly.**
- 4. Leave What You Find.**
- 5. Minimize Campfire Impacts.**
- 6. Respect Wildlife.**
- 7. Be Considerate of Others**


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Mt. St. Helens BCH

BCHW

September 2023

2023

January

February

March

April

May

June

July

15th Fun Ride

August

September

October

9—Chapter Meeting

November

13th Chapter Meeting

December

NO CHAPTER MEETING

NOTE

Weed Free Hay is required on National Forest Lands.

***Always looking for people with a purpose/ideal/desire to take the lead and sponsor a



Red shirts - POLYESTER - with newest logo (Front only!)



Neon Orange - COTTON - with regular logo (front & back) Ladies

group outing.....best if drive time approx 5 hours or less.

Submitted by Ken Evans

pkevans@tds.net

I would be happy to meet people at feed stores in:

- ◆ BG,
- ◆ Freddy's Cascade Park,
- ◆ Salmon Creek, Hazel Dell...etc.

Anyone interested, have questions...can get ahold of me directly, via either :

Email: skwarne@yahoo.com

Cell #: (360) 281-6004

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