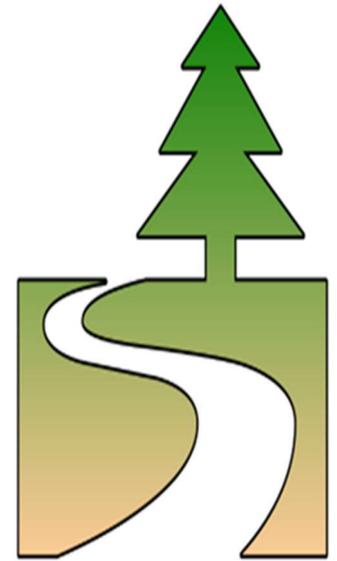




PONDEROSA



Back Country Horsemen of Washington
"Educate, Advocate, and Move Dirt!"

Website: PBCHW.COM

March 2023



PBCH CALENDAR

All events subject to change; Watch facebook and emails.

March 7—PBCH Member Meeting – Volunteer hourawards & Rider Defense Video Course (&Tacos!)

March 11- 4-H Tack Sale

March 17, Ponderosa Member Only Ride at Saltese Uplands. Contact Patty Wright.

March 17-19—BCHW Rendezvous at Ellensburg

March 28- PBCH Board Meeting

Look inside to learn about early-season riding at Lakeview Ranch and other areas.

President's Report March 2023

The March 7 meeting will have a “Taco Tuesday” taco bar. Watch your emails to see what you can bring. Social and dinner at 5 30; meeting at 6.

I have provided the following picture so that we can remember what Spring looks like...

Tom



Rendezvous

By Ken Carmichael

Just a reminder that the BCHW Rendezvous is in Ellensburg March 17-19. There are many events including clinicians, huge tack sale, vendors, speakers, banquet, auctions and just lots of contests and things to do. Entry is free. All BCH members received a flier in your email. Also, the latest Trailhead News has a full schedule.

Ponderosa has reserved 2 tables at the banquet, so we have plenty of places to sit. But you must make your own reservations on www.bchw.org for the dinner. You can also make camping reservations there.

Thank you to **Larry and Linda Grinstead** for making one of their beautiful stained-glass pictures for the auction. I am sure it will be very popular.

This is a major fundraiser for BCHW where we generate funds to keep trails open for everyone.

Come and enjoy a fun weekend or spend the day on Saturday; there is plenty to see and do.

[Editors note: Since the newsletter theme is, in part, "tack on the trail", I am re-emphasizing Ken's note that there is a large used tack sale at Rendezvous. And, there are cool auction items AND fun western-themed shopping opportunities through several vendors. See more info here: https://www.bchw.org/rendezvous_2023.php]

And don't forget, there's the 4-H Tack Sale on March 11 (Ponderosa BCH will have an educational booth.)



**43rd Annual Spokane County
4-H TACK SWAP
2023**

**Over \$300,000 in
New/Used Tack Merchandise**

SPOKANE INTERSTATE FAIRGROUNDS
Saturday, March 11 • 8am-2pm
AG Complex A&B

Heated Saddle & Vendor Area - Plus more vendor space available!



**Open to
the Public**

CONSIGNMENTS
Friday, March 10 • Noon-8pm
No items consigned after 8pm
NEW ONLINE CONSIGNMENT PROGRAM
Fee: \$5 consigner fee & 15% of items sold
For information: Visit website
<https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/4h/>
Or follow Spokane County 4-H on Facebook

★ ★ **SHOP EARLY** ★ ★
Purchase ticket for \$25 and Shop from
7am-8am
ONLY 150 TICKETS TO BE SOLD!!
One ticket per person for age 8 & over, NO exceptions!
Call 509-998-8350
to purchase your ticket



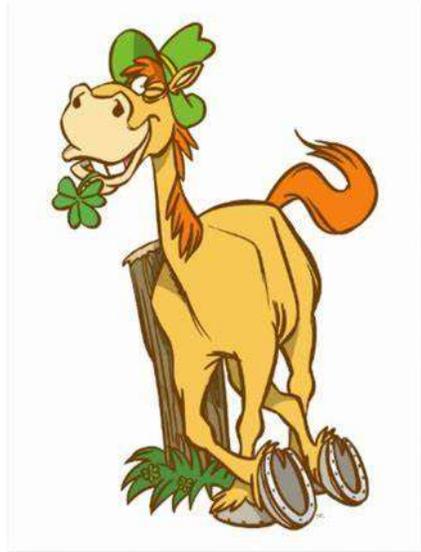
4-H
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Cooperating Agencies: Washington State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Spokane County. Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension Office.

March Member Ride

Greetings from the Ponderosa Member Ride Coordinator, Patty Wright!

We are going to kick off our organized rides this year with a Leprechaun Launch! (Not that we'll be launching leprechauns, that would be mean!)



Weather and trail status permitting, we will meet Ponderosa Members and their guests at Saltese Uplands at 10 am, Friday, March 17th. This is a 552-acre conservation area located between Spokane Valley and Liberty Lake on the south side of the freeway. There are 7 miles of trails that have some great views. It's nothing too strenuous for early in the year – rolling hills but no steep climbs. There will likely be a water crossing or two where the trails cross low areas in the draws.

To get there from I-90:

- **Take exit 293 for Barker Rd.**
- **Turn south onto N. Barker and drive ½ mile**
- **At Sprague Ave., turn left, drive 1 mile**
- **At S. Henry Rd., turn right and drive .9 miles**
- **Parking will be on your left**

Kick up your heels, dress in green if you feel Irish, or even if you don't, and join the crew for this lovely warm-up-for-the-season ride!

Poker Ride

By Ken Carmichael

POKER RIDE

THE DATE – SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023.

To do list:

- Mark your calendar
- Sign up now to volunteer
- Tell your friends and spread the work through all your contacts

This is the Ponderosa BCH only fundraiser all year. It is how we gather funds to keep trails open.

We have some advertising out and are receiving preregistrations. Linda White is gathering some beautiful donations for the raffle.

I wore my BCH hat and coat into the bank this week. The teller and her mother are coming to the poker ride. This is just another example of promoting BCH and getting the word out.

CONTACT ME TO VOLUNTEER – 509-466-2225 OR KCARMICHAEL2225@GMAIL.COM.

*[Attached at the end of this newsletter we are providing: **Facts Sheet** about the ride, **Preregistration Form** and a **Flier**. Please use these to promote the event wherever you can.]*

2023 Poker Ride

By Linda White

This year raffle donations are rolling in! We have a good variety of things including some handmade items. Ashley Karsch is making a girth; Patty Wright is hand tying a brow band, Linda and Larry Grinstead are making a stained-glass item and I have made a wall hanging. In addition, we have donations from restaurants, Northern Quest, Cabelas's, Spokane Symphony, and much more.



If you have a hobby or talent and would like to make something and donate it to the raffle, that would be wonderful. All donations are tax deductible. Please feel free to contact me if you any questions. Linda White

2023 PONDEROSA BCH Planning Calendar (as of 1-23-23)

All dates subject to change; watch emails and Facebook.

Work Parties and Member Rides will be planned and scheduled as the year proceeds.

March

March 7—PBCH Member Meeting – Volunteer hour awards with a potluck and cake, & Rider Defense Video Course

March 11- 4-H Tack Sale

March 17, Ponderosa Member Only Ride at Saltese Uplands. Contact Patty Wright.

March 17-19—BCHW Rendezvous at Ellensburg

March 18. McKinlay Peters Equine **Vet** Annual Equine Education Day. Center Place Regional Event Center.

March 28- PBCH Board Meeting

April

April 4- PBCH Member Meeting; topic spending the night on the trail and survival safety by Linda White.

April 25-PBCH Board Meeting

May

May 2- PBCH Member Meeting

May 5-7- Methow Valley Annual Spring Ride

May 13 - Horse First Aid class and trail ride at Swannack's Farm

May 21- PBCH Poker Ride @ Riverside Equ Area

May 30- PBCH Board Meeting

June

June 6 – PBCH Member Meeting Maps & Apps – finding your way on the trail

June 10- Path to Partnership Communication and Confidence Clinic @ Riverside Equestrian Arena. Spokane Cops Mounted Patrol. Spokanecops.org.

June 27- PBCH Board Meeting

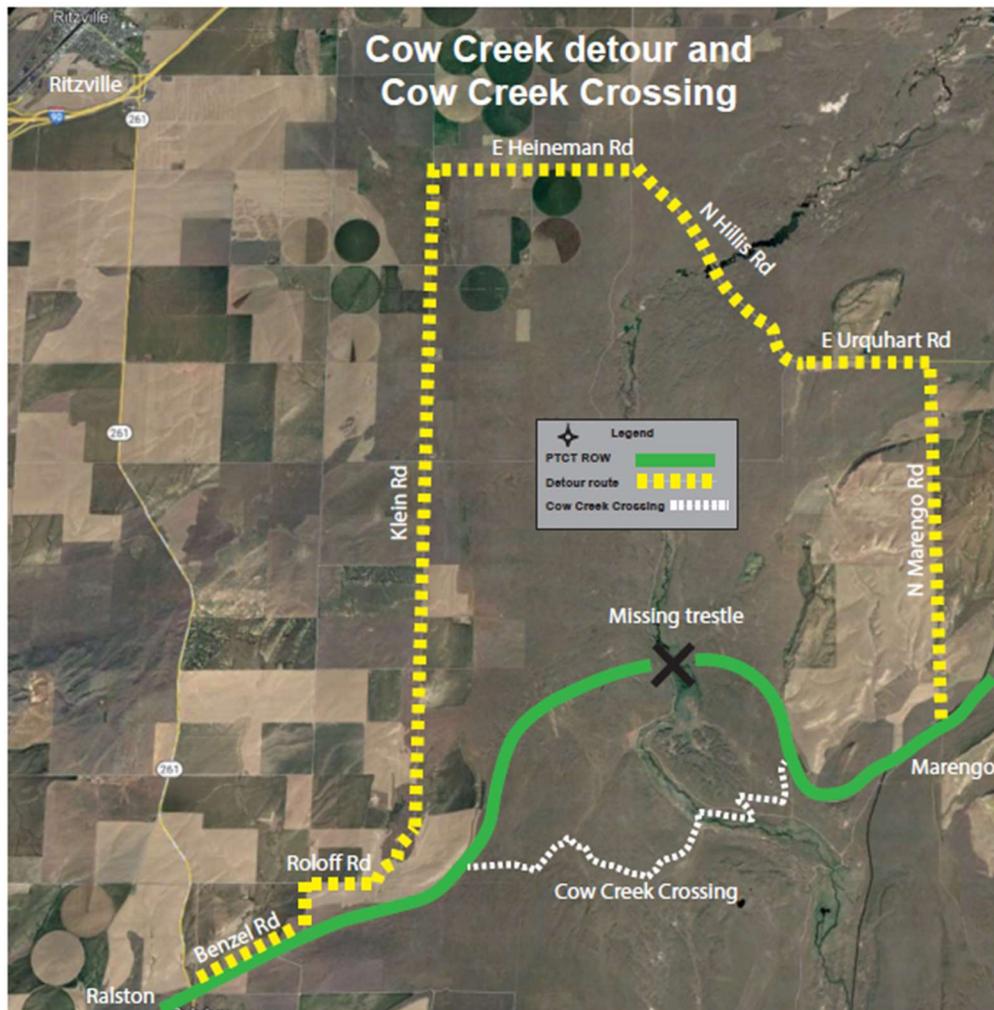
<p>July</p> <p>July 10 (rescheduled from July 4) PBCH Member Meeting Ice Cream Social @ RSP, horse play day</p> <p>July 15-17 Vicki Gish Memorial Ride sponsored by NE BCH</p> <p>July 25- PBCH Board Meeting</p>	<p>August</p> <p>August 1 –PBCH Member Meeting Lake Party</p> <p>August 29- PBCH Board Meeting</p>
<p>September</p> <p>September 8- PBCH Member Meeting</p> <p>September 26- PBCH Board Meeting</p>	<p>October</p> <p>October 3- PBCH Member Meeting, elections</p> <p>October 28- BCHW Wine Ride@ Zillah</p> <p>October 31- PBCH Board Meeting?</p>
<p>November</p> <p>November 7- PBCH Member Meeting Annual Soup Social potluck</p> <p>November 28- PBCH Board Meeting</p>	<p>December</p> <p>December 5 – PBCH Member Meeting Christmas Party</p>
<p>Other events can be found here: https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php</p>	

From the Palouse to Cascades Trail Coalition Letter (February 5, 2023)

Forwarded by Ken Carmichael

Cow Creek Crossing Closing a major gap in the PTCT

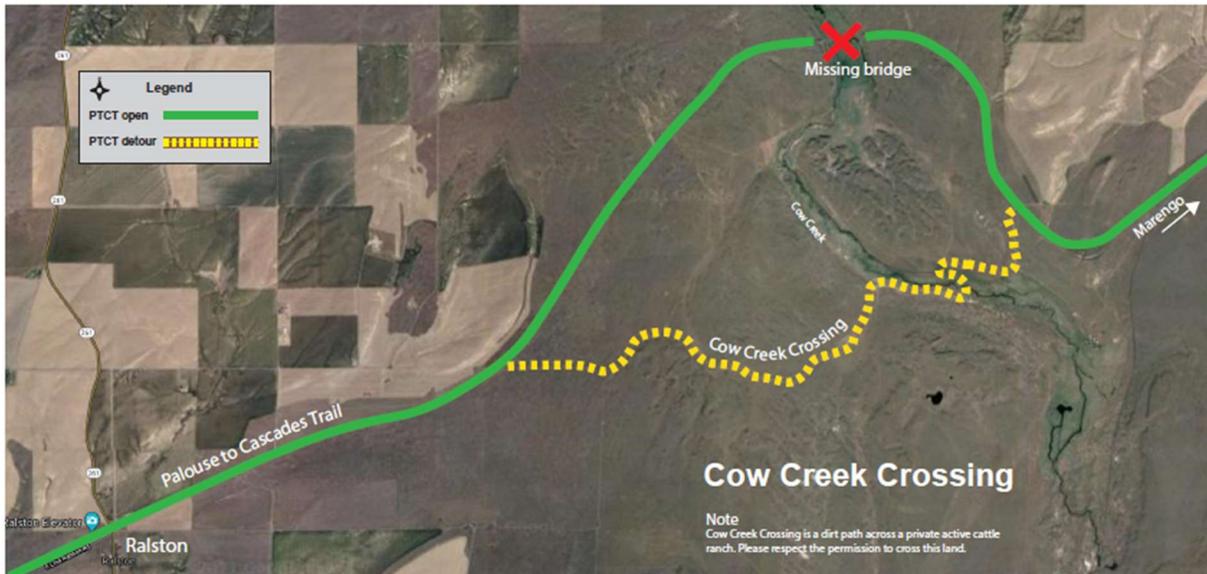
The Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail is being developed on the former Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad right of way. When this railroad filed for bankruptcy the State of Washington purchased the right of way in 1981. However, one of the major trestles over Cow Creek had already been removed. The trestle spanned 1,100 feet over the broad Cow Creek canyon and there was no easy detour around it. Travelers on the PTCT had to detour on county roads to the north adding 19 miles to their journey.



Fortunately, TDH Properties, an adjacent property owner, came forward and built a trail bypass across their property. This bypass, the Cow Creek Crossing, traverses five miles across the canyon through an active cattle ranch. TDH Properties, owned by brothers Michael and David Harder, open Cow Creek Crossing to the public March 1st through October 31st of each year.

As part of this project the John Wayne Pioneer Wagons and Riders and the Palouse to Cascades Trail Coalition partnered to install gates and kiosks. The specially designed gates allow trail visitors to enter and exit but keep the cattle contained. The kiosks contain information about the use of the Cow Creek Crossing as well as history of the area.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has an easement through this private property which allows the public to access it. Please respect that this is private property with specific requests: stay on the trail, no camping, no fires, closed during November through February, and please do not disturb the cattle or the wildlife!



We are very grateful to TDH Properties for the generous contribution to the success of the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail. We will continue to work with other adjacent property owners to ensure the PTCT is viewed as an asset to the communities through which it passes.

Fred Wert

PTCTCoalition@gmail.com

[Editor's note: Louise Walton has been providing trail reports for the Northeast BCH, and is kindly sharing a recent report on the following page. Following that article is an early-season riding article by Carol Klar.]

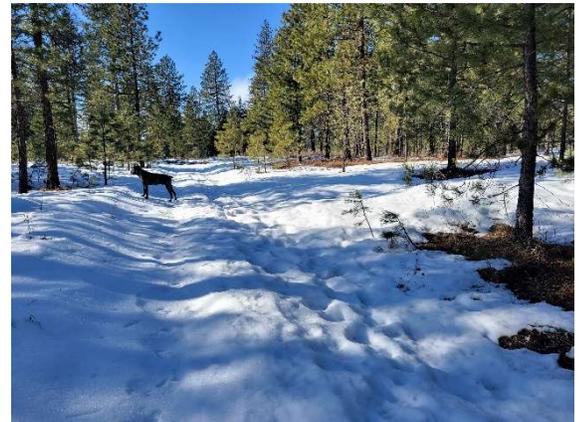
Trail Report for Missile Site

By Louise Walton

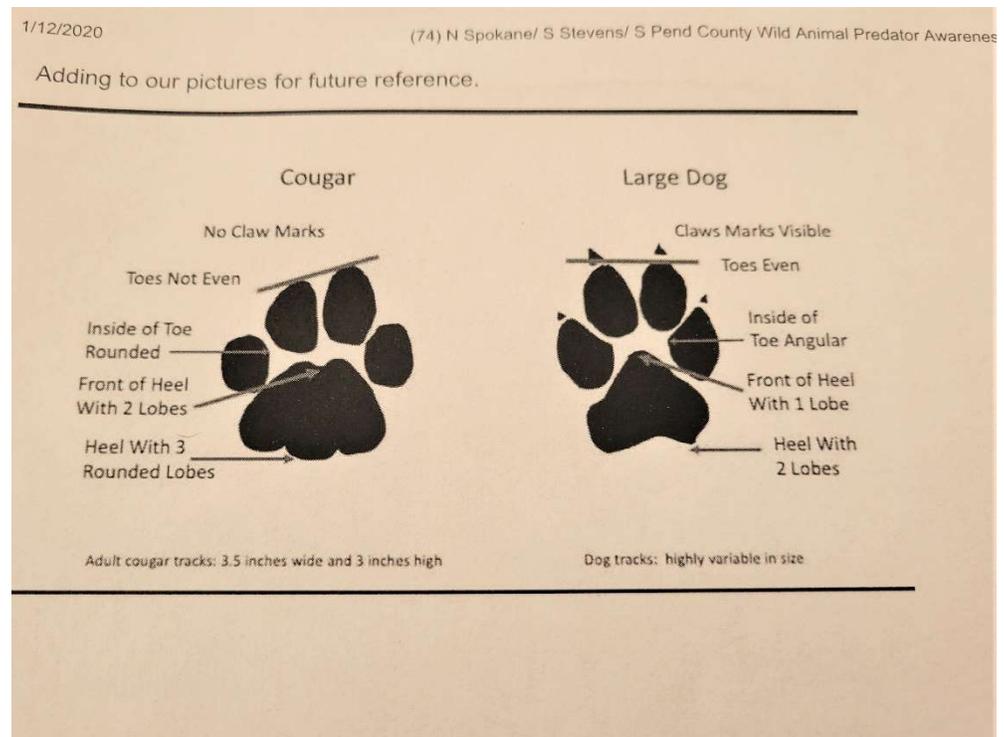
NEBCHW trail condition report for February 15, 2023 for Missile Site. The entrance is just East of Deer Park and the Deer Park Veterinary Clinic. Constant companion, Columbo, and I were treated to a spectacular sunny day. Lots of cars in the parking lot and lots of dogs and dog owners out sniffing and hiking. Despite being warmer the snow was still hard packed enough to walk on without falling through a crust.



Two gals and their dogs were coming back and warned us of a cougar sighting that day. A little cute black Scottish Terrier and Columbo socialized a bit till the Scotty jumped up and barked at Columbo. Columbo just sat back in amazement and the Scotty was dragged from certain death by his owner. So cute! Columbo and I took off on the trail to the right past the houses. There were lots of footprints. Mostly hiking boots, some snowshoe tracks, and deep moose and deer prints. No horse hoof prints. The snow was about the same depth as at Holly Road with some bare spots at the bases of the trees. Once the weather warms the snow to a mushy consistency it will be fine for horses if you don't mind slogging through 8 to 12 inches of snow. But then it can be good to take a little energy off the top for a smoother ride.



Back to the cougar which was ever present on my mind while walking. Just so you know what you are up against, cougar males weigh on average 140 pounds. Columbo weighs about 130. There are about 2000 left in Washington. They are most active at dawn and dusk. You will be happy to know that pepper spray is a good deterrent. Should you encounter one, do not be the mouse because you will not win that cat and mouse game. Stand facing the big cat but do not look it directly in the eyes. Look at their feet and try to appear as big as possible. Arms out, your jacket opened and over your head and make some noise. No "here kitty, kitty"! Yell, whistle, clap, scream and generally make a big display. Good news. We are getting close to riding. Is your trailer ready?





Lakeview Ranch – Abundant blue skies, red barn, horse corrals and parking lot

...And our thoughts turn to spring!

Last week, I had the good fortune to catch a beautiful day in between snowstorms and ride a lovely mule over the scenic trails at Lakeview Ranch BLM. After 3 ½ months in “dry dock”, I was giddy to be out with friends in one of my favorite places, taking in the vast desert beauty. Given the long winter we have had, I’m sure everyone is eager to once again enjoy good trails and blue skies!

We are fortunate here in Spokane, to be in close proximity to several BLM areas southwest of town. These typically have milder winters and more sunshine than Spokane, making them good candidates for shoulder-season riding. Two of the areas that have had recent trail riding activity on mostly-dry trails are: Lakeview Ranch (Odessa) and Crab Creek BLM (Tokio). If you’d like details on the nearby BLM areas, feel free to drop me a line: cklar32@gmail.com

As always, to preserve the trail surfaces, please avoid areas where your horses’ hooves sink more than 1”. Let’s hope the early onset of the ferocious winter of 2022 also leads to a beautiful-early spring 2023!

Happy Trails!

Carol Klar



Speaking of places to ride, see the flyer on the next page about the Vicki Gish Memorial Ride put on by our friends at NE BCH...

7th Annual
VICKI GISH MEMORIAL RIDE
SPONSORED BY NORTHEAST CHAPTER OF BCHW



July 14, 15 & 16, 2023

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Please: Join us for 1, 2 or 3 days of camaraderie, riding and fun. Bring your Vicki stories to share with everyone around the camp-fire.

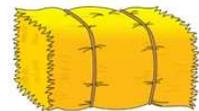
Place: Calispel Basin/ Meadow (Sand Canyon), Colville National Forest, Chewelah, WA. (Weed seed free forage required) Chewelah, WA. Signs will be posted after the pavement ends on Sand Canyon Road. Contact Marian Carson at mca9590561@msn.com or call 509-999-1547 for printed directions or information. Trails are easy to medium difficulty with good footing. Trails will be well marked so you can go on your own or with someone who knows them.

For safety: No stallions or dogs on trails. Dogs must be on leash in camp.

Potluck: On Saturday night. Bring your favorite pot luck to share or, if you prefer, dutch-oven cooking is fine.

Free: Overnight camping available. Stock water and porta-potties available.

Come see what the **Back Country Horsemen** are all about!



Equine Herpesvirus-1

Linda White provided information on Equine Herpes Virus (EHV), as that disease is being seen in more areas, and when it is found events have been shut down.

She forwarded a very informative paper that describes the disease. Rather than providing the whole 11-page paper, I am copying the bullet points about biosecurity. These points would apply to many infectious diseases, not just EHV. The whole paper can be found here:

https://ceh.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk4536/files/inline-files/currenthealth_whitepaperEHM.pdf.

Another part of the information Linda provided is a link that provides recent horse disease outbreaks by State. This could be useful as folks are planning trips. <https://www.equinediseasecc.org/alerts>

Biosecurity Measures for Different Situations

The following recommendations from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Plant and Animal Health Inspection Service are based on the belief that you are the best protection your horses have. These guidelines are intended to reduce the chances of an infectious disease being carried onto your farm by people, animals, equipment or vehicles, either accidentally or on purpose.

Showing Your Horse

- Use your own trailer whenever possible. Don't ship your horses with horses from unknown farms.
- Ship only in a trailer or van that has been cleaned and disinfected. If you can "smell horse" in the empty trailer, it has not been cleaned and disinfected properly.
- Don't let your horse touch unknown horses, especially nose to nose.
- Wash your hands, especially after helping other people with their horses.
- Don't let strangers pet your horse, especially those with horses at home.
- Before leaving the show grounds, clean and disinfect tack, boots, equipment and grooming supplies. Brush off dirt or manure; then disinfect (spray or wipes are easy to take with you).
- When you get home, shower, blow your nose and put on clean clothes and shoes before going near other horses.

Visiting Other Farms, Horse Shows or Auctions

- Have a pair of shoes or boots that you save for visiting and don't wear around your own horse or wear plastic shoe covers.

- If you are going to be working with horses on another farm, wear coveralls or plan to change clothes before returning home to your horses.
- If there are farms you visit all the time and you can't change clothes and shoes, be sure their vaccination program and biosecurity practices are as good as your own.

For Visitors to Your Farm or Horse

- It is best to have only one public access to your farm. Mark this as the main entrance.
- Park away from the horses. Doing that will help keep disease-carrying organisms from being tracked from car floors or tires to your horses.
- Ask all visitors to wear clean clothes and shoes. Give visitors plastic shoe covers or brush dirt off their shoes and spray them with disinfectant.
- If you have many visitors such as at a farm tour or open house, make a footbath for them to walk through (see below).

Bringing Horses Back from a Show

- If one or more horses travel to horse shows, all horses on the premises should be vaccinated. Horses that show can bring home infectious agents. Discuss with your veterinarian what vaccinations the horses need and how often.
- If possible, keep horses that were off the farm isolated for at least 2 weeks. At the very least, make sure there is no nose-to-nose contact between horses in the stable.

Bringing in New Horses

This is the most likely way for infectious diseases to come in, especially if horses are coming from other states or from foreign countries.

- Keep every new horse isolated for 30 days. Don't use pitchforks, grooming tools, or feed and water buckets on any horse but the new one. Mark these with red tape or use red brushes, etc., only for the isolation area.
- Work with the isolated horse last each day. Alternatively, wear boots and coveralls when working with the isolated horse and remove them before working or going near other horses. You can keep these in a plastic-covered tub near the horse. Exercise the isolated horses, alone, at a separate time from others in the stable.
- Always wash your hands and blow your nose after working with the new horse. You could carry germs to your other horses in your nose.

Tack on the Trail

By Ken Carmichael

Tack for on the trail is something where we will get many opinions as just about everyone does it differently. It is an area that can affect the safety of the rider.

Saddle - I ride a western saddle, they are Crates and I like them. The key is finding one that fits the horse. As a result, I always have the horse with me when I buy a new one.

Rear cinches – since I do not intend to rope any calves or steers, I do not use a rear cinch. It is just something that is going to get caught in the brush and cause an accident. One thing I notice is the number of very loose rear cinches. This is either the result of not tightening them up when saddling the horses or the fact that a horse will suck it up some during a ride. I just do not see a need for one on the trail.

Halters – I ride with a rope halter under the bridle. This is a safety factor. It is rope with a light weight 9-foot rope attached without any buckles, so it is minimal weight on the head of the horse. I take one wrap around the saddle horn so that it does not slip and is quick to use when needed. I have had several occasions when I needed to dismount quickly to help someone else and still control my horse. Also, we never tie our horses with bridle reins.

Saddlebags – I always carry saddlebags. They are not leather so are light weight. I leave them permanently attached to the saddle, so I always have the first aid and survival equipment. Among other things this includes a hoof pick, flashlight and wire cutters. First aid and survival equipment are subjects for another time.

Pommel bags – I use these when on a longer ride where there is a lunch, maps and extra water.

Looped reins – I use looped reins but do not recommend them for everyone. I just find them convenient. Extra care must be taken not to get them tangled with the horse. Also, I have a small 12–14-inch piece of leather on the reins so when I stop I can wrap the piece of leather around the saddle horn to keep the reins up off the ground or around the horse's ears. It has a slit in it as a break away in case there is undue pressure.

Foul weather gear – Depending on where I am I carry either a jacket or long raincoat, or both. They are easy to get to on the back of the saddle. I wear an all-weather hat and also have chaps, both chinks and full length depending on the location.

Directions – Again depending on where I am I carry a compass, personal locator beacon, maps and cell telephone.

It seems like a lot of “stuff” but I am out for a good time and do not want to spoil it by not being prepared.

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

By Ken Carmichael

I recently participated in the BCHW Leadership Training by Zoom. Some very good information and conversation took place and I was glad that I took the time to participate.

One of the presentations was on Safety. Chuck Regimbal the BCHW Safety Chair provided information that is on the BCHW website www.bchw.org. I went through the website and found the form I am attaching to this newsletter. It is called the Emergency Contact Form.

This form is intended to be completed by the rider then carried on the person. In the event of an accident or illness, it provides vital information about the rider. Of course, people attending the ride must be able to find the form so it would be advisable to tell someone you are carrying it and where.

Two other forms are also beneficial in the case of an emergency.

- **Liability Release.** At the bottom of this form there is space to provide an Emergency Contact Name and Telephone Number. In addition, there is the option to check if you have any medicines, allergies, medical conditions or physical limitations that may require assistance.
- **Personal Emergency Plan.** This form is one that I designed. I complete it when I am going out overnight and email it to my sister, brother and granddaughter. It tells them where I am and other vital information. This would help them if my Personal Locator Beacon were to be activated or if there were an emergency at home.

Another thing that Patti and I do when cleaning the saddles in the winter is go through our saddlebags to check the safety and first aid equipment that we carry and the supplies we have in the trailer.

So as the new riding season begins, please think about your safety.

[See the form below]



EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM –

Name: _____ Date: _____

Emergency Contact PLEASE CALL:

Primary Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Home: _____

Mobile: _____

Work: _____

Secondary Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Home: _____

Mobile: _____

Work: _____

List of MEDICATIONS:

Conditions/Allergies (list medical issues such as asthma, heart, epilepsy, etc) _____

POTENTIALLY **YES**
LIFE-THREATENING **No**

Other Information:

Monday Trail #		
Tuesday Trail #		
Wednesday Trail #		
Thursday Trail #		

Other Notes:

PBCH Member Benefits

By Michelle Eames

Benefit #1

You might remember in last month's newsletter, I reminded folks that as a BCHW member, you can receive a discount on Life Flight helicopter insurance. Since then a PBCH member unfortunately had a reason to use that benefit. After a freak horse-riding accident, she was life-flighted from her home barn. Luckily, the person's main insurance and Life Flight insurance together covered most or all of what would have been a VERY expensive helicopter ride. Horse and rider are doing fine.



Please sign up for Life Flight if you haven't, or check your insurance coverage. You don't have to be in the back country to make use of this money-saving and potentially life-saving offer. It never occurred to me that it might be needed at one's own home barn.

You can request the discounted rate and sign up over the phone at (800) 982-9299.

<https://www.lifeflight.org/>

Benefit #2

Another less dramatic Ponderosa member benefit (for members only!) is a discount on tack and other items through Riding Warehouse. Members receive a 15% off discount on purchases, with some exceptions. I've used this, it saves a lot of money! For the secret code, contact Carol Klar or Linda White.

<https://www.ridingwarehouse.com/>

Benefit #3

A third member benefit is this cool newsletter, delivered directly to an email inbox near you! I am taking full advantage of the newsletter this month to add two classified ads. One for a saddle I'm selling, and one for a book I wrote. I would be happy to add any classified ads for other members in future newsletters.

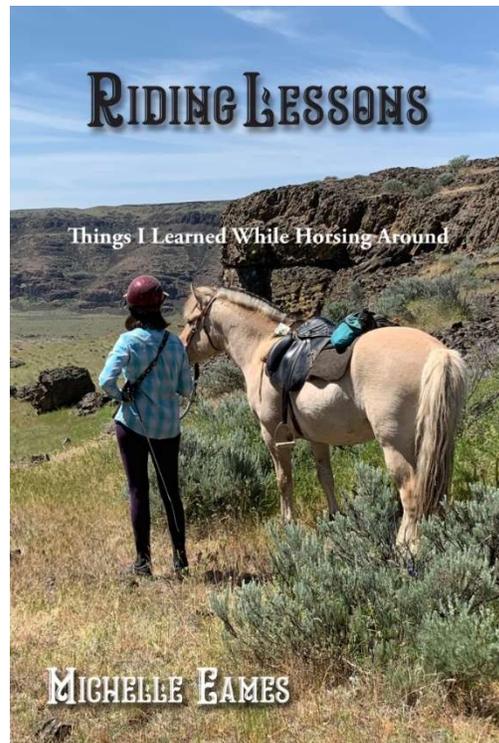
Classified Ads

Book Available:

Your friendly newsletter Editor wrote a book! If you would like a copy of it, you can find it at Aunties, Spokane Tack Trunk, Amazon, and a couple other local retailers. Or even directly from me! See more info on my website at: MichelleEames.com.

Riding Lessons, Things I Learned While Horsing Around, is a mostly humorous memoir that tells the story of Michelle Eames's journey with horses, and the numerous lessons the horses taught her. Most of the lessons were learned through mistakes and mishaps, such as getting bucked off, or getting lost during a trail ride.

Michelle rode as a girl and bought a horse again as an adult. She describes her horsemanship adventures and tribulations with humor, humility, and sometimes even poetry. While poking fun at herself, Michelle shares some hard-earned life lessons gained by living with and riding horses. Animal lovers of all kinds will enjoy the ride and getting to know the quirks of the horses Michelle has had the joy of living with.



Gorgeous Synergist Endurance saddle. 15-inch.

Two-years old, nicely broken in. Synergist saddles are made to fit the rider and the horse. This was made for a tall slim woman rider. Horse was medium-wide with a short back, however the saddle is built on a wide tree. These saddles are made to fit the horse's back, so there is high-tech foam between the bars and the fleece.

Synergist can refit these saddles to your own horse, and they said it can fit a medium to a wide horse.



It's a great trail saddle! I loved it until my horse's back changed. Contact Michelle at seames4321@gmail.com \$1400 OBO.

The Coyote Monologues: Part 2.

Coyote Again

By Vern Hopkins

I saw the old coyote again this morning. Coyotes are hard to tell apart, but I knew it was the same one. They are like buffalo, magpies, and girls, they all look alike until you get to know them better. I knew him because he was the only one that I ever saw at my water tank. He looked some different, much better in fact. His fur coat looked cleaner and fluffier, and he seemed stronger and more alert.

We have been enjoying a break in the winter weather the last few days. A Chinook wind coupled with forty-degree temperatures have rotted the snow down to the ground in places. Bare patches are showing in the fields and around the pine trees. Snow is all but gone from the rock piles, and I'm guessing that mouse-hunting has been more lucrative lately.

We saw each other at about the same time. This time, though, he was a little more wary and headed for the trees at the back of my pasture at a long trot. Breaking through the snow was still a problem and he soon gave that up. He stopped, sat down, and took a long look at me. Realizing that I wasn't a real threat, he ignored me and went back to scouting under the pine trees for a meal.

I'll have to admit, I was somewhat relieved. I'll call a truce as long as he sticks to the field mice and doesn't eat the blue-collar, working-class barn cats. The coyote has survived the downturn in his personal economy and is in the recovery mode. His future is looking up. I guess this kind of supports my theory that, "When the going gets rough, you have to tighten up your belt, ignore the pain, tend to the basics and you'll make it through." You'll probably be a little leaner and a little tougher but better equipped to handle the next downturn when it comes. My sage comment is, whatever the circumstances, "Life Goes On."

From the Editor:

I invite you all to continue to send me your horse- or wildlife-related stories, tips, jokes, articles, photos, words of wisdom, or whatever. I especially would like to encourage our officers and committee chairs to share their thoughts, visions and projects. The goal here is to make the newsletter fun, entertaining and informative.

Please send me photos of you and your equine buddy so I can highlight you in our newsletter. Introduce yourself to other members with background on you or your horse.



Michelle Eames, Newsletter Editor

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VICE PRESIDENT

CAROL KLAR

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PATTI CARMICHAEL

TREASURER

DIANA BIRGE

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ALT. STATE DIR.

DOUG BAILEY

The 2023 Executive Board for PBCH includes the officers, plus Michelle Eames, Newsletter; and Melissa Halpin, Spokane County Lands Coordinator.



P O K E R

R I D E

REGISTER ON LINE AT WWW.PBCHW.COM

FUNDRAISER

what

RAFFLES ! CASH PRIZES!

Poker Ride: Stop at each station to try for a card you need in your hand!

FAMILY EVENT! Kids 17 & under FREE!

where

Riverside State Park Equestrian Area
3402 N Equestrian Lane
Spokane WA
Discover Pass or Camping Permit is Required

when

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Raffle

1 PM

Riders Out

9 am to 11:00 am

Ride length is approximately 2-1/2 Hours

POKER GAME ENDS AT 2 PM

cost

Pre-Register by MAY 9

\$25 per rider age 18+

Equestrian camping – 20 sites

Reservations at:

www.parks.state.wa.us/223/reservations

OR phone 888-226-7688

and select

Riverside State Park Equestrian Area

Register at Event:

\$30 per rider age 18+

Box Lunches Available for

\$ 7.00 each

special notes

PURCHASE EXTRA POKER HANDS

\$5 each-additional chances to win!

CASH PRIZES for High, 2nd Best & Lo-ball

Kids cannot win at poker

RAFFLE TICKETS

On site near the raffle items

18+ years old only

Riverside State Park Trail Maps and Poker Ride T-Shirts available for purchase!

Credit/Debit available on site; Cash/Check preferred

SPONSORED BY PONDEROSA BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

The trail is well defined over relatively level but rocky ground and varies in difficulty. Some experience is required.

Safety rules

- One rider per horse
- Ride at a safe distance
- No stallions please
- No dogs please
- No running horses
- No littering please
- No alcohol on trails
- Be courteous
- Minors must be with an adult
- All riders must sign a liability release

Click to our website at www.pbchw.com for a detailed fact sheet
OR CONTACT
Ken Carmichael
509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com



P O K E R

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FUNDRAISER MAY 21, 2023 *Register On-Line at www.pbchw.com*

Current COVID-19
Restrictions will be in force

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

A Liability Release form **MUST BE SIGNED AT CHECK-IN** for registration to be complete!

RIDERS

Photo Copies OK

Please Print Clearly
Rider #1:

Same Contact Information/Both Riders

Name _____

Address _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone Number _____

17 & Under

Rider #2:

Name _____

Address _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone Number _____

17 and under ride FREE but cannot win poker

Rider 1 # of Extra Hands _____ Lunch ___ Yes ___ No

Rider 2 # of Extra Hands _____ Lunch ___ Yes ___ No

*The trail is well defined over relatively level
but rocky ground and varies in difficulty.
Some experience is required.*

POKER GAME ENDS AT 2 PM

PAYMENT

MUST be MAILED BY May 9 To:

10804 W Seven Mile Rd
Spokane WA 99224

Total number of RIDERS 18+ :

_____ X \$25 / pp = \$ _____

Extra Poker Hands _____ X \$5 / Ea = \$ _____

Total number of RIDERS 17 & Under:

_____ X \$0 / pp = \$ -0-

Lunches _____ X \$ 7.00 /PP = \$ _____

Tax deductible donation to BCH \$ _____

TOTAL PAID \$ _____

Pre-Registration is NON-REFUNDABLE

Make check payable to

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Cash Check # _____

RAFFLE
Tickets available on site – cash preferred
CASH PRIZES
For High, 2nd Best and Loball hands, winners will be contacted after the
event (18+ only)
T-SHIRTS
Poker Ride T-Shirts for Sale
MAPS

YOU CAN REGISTER ON-LINE AT
WWW.PBCHW.COM

POKER RIDE
Sponsored by
PONDEROSA BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
FACTS SHEET – 2023

CURRENT CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IN FORCE FOR YOUR SAFETY

Many of you have attended the Ponderosa Scavenger Hunt or Poker Ride so some of this may be repetitive. However, we want everyone to understand the event so you can maximize the great time you will have on **Sunday, May 21.**

KIDS (17 AND UNDER) RIDE FREE. THIS IS A FAMILY EVENT AND WE ENCOURAGE KIDS ON HORSEBACK.
HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO WIN PRIZES

- The event will be at the Riverside State Park Equestrian Area, same as for the scavenger hunt.
- Camping is available in the developed campground and overflow area. Make your camping reservations through the State Parks reservation system www.parks.state.wa.us/223/reservations or call 888-226-7688.
- Either a Discover Pass (Day or Annual) or camping permit is required. For a list of Discover Pass vendors go to <https://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/133/where-t-buy>. To purchase on-line go to <https://store.discoverpass.wa.gov/>. You may purchase a Day Pass at registration.
- We start the day at registration near the announcers stand where both pre-registered and those registering at the event sign in. You receive your playing card here.
- Also, at registration you may purchase additional poker hands. It is like playing multiple bingo cards for additional chances of winning at poker.
- After registering join us in the gathering area to purchase raffle tickets for some great items and play the first card of your poker hand. You can also purchase a poker ride T-shirt and Riverside State Park map. Then you are on the trail any time you want between 9:00 and 11:00 am. **Poker games close at 2:00 PM so please be back to the gathering area by then.**
- We ask that you do NOT run your horses. We know this is fun, but we have many people on the trail and we need to be respectful of the reaction horses have when they see other horses running. This is not a timed event. **Thank you.**
- You will be riding with your friends in a designated area following a trail well marked with engineer tape at your own speed (but remember no running).
- In playing the poker ride game you are trying to get the best, or worst poker hand. You do this by stopping at “game stations” along the trail to play a “game of skill.” This determines the next card in your hand. The “game of skill” is tossing a bean bag at a board lined with a deck of cards. Where your bean bag lands determines your playing card. You may remain mounted or dismount.
- There are three “game stations” along the trail.
- Return to the gathering area to play the last card of your hand by 2:00 PM, purchase that last minute T-shirt and park map and check the winner’s board to see what raffle items you may have won.
- Relax and enjoy a box lunch if you desire.
- **Raffle tickets are drawn at 11:00. Raffle tickets must be purchased before 11:00 AM.**

Please see the flier and registration form to learn more about the poker ride. **This year you can preregister online at www.pbchw.com or by mail by May 9, or you may register at the ride.**

We hope that everyone joins us for a great day in the saddle. Thank you for supporting Back Country Horsemen and our efforts to keep trails open to equestrians.