



# PONDEROSA



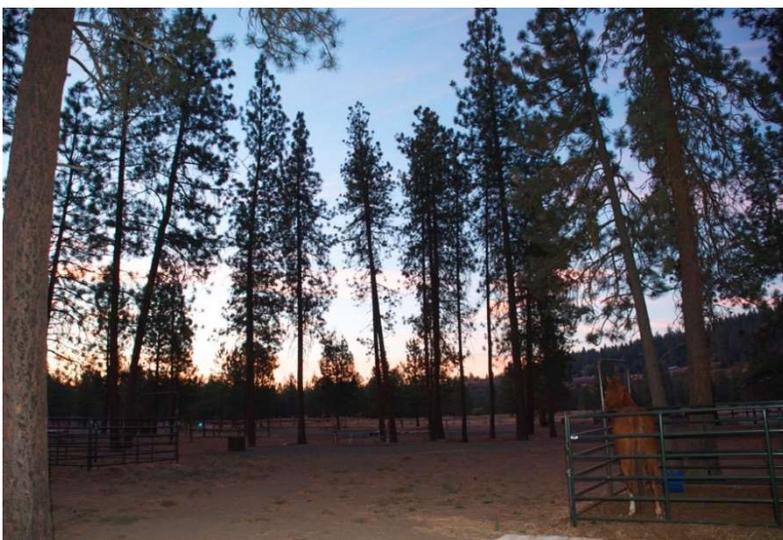
Back Country Horsemen of Washington  
"Educate, Advocate, and Move Dirt!"

Website: PBCHW.COM

May 2023



***THE ARROWLEAF BALSAM ROOTS  
WILL BE BLOOMING SOON!***



## **PBCH CALENDAR**

***All events subject to change;  
Watch facebook and emails.***

**April 30- CMO Ride RSP Equ.  
Area**

**May 6- PBCH Member Meeting,  
Potluck, Presentation at  
Riverside State Park Equestrian  
Campground, plus member  
campout and other activities on  
May 7**

**~~May 5-7 Methow Valley Annual  
Spring Ride~~ **Cancelled****

**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 6-PBCH Member Meeting**

# President's Report May 2023

I would like to thank all who participated in the two work parties we did in April at Riverside State Park (RSP). We were able to do repairs to the arena fence and gates, repairs on the obstacle course, install hi-lines in the campground and number the corrals. We also spread gravel and improved the parking area at the Garfield Road Trail Head. Big thanks to Larry Grinstead for organizing these work parties.

Our May general meeting will be at the RSP horse campground, Carl Klar has put a lot of work into this. It will all start on May 6 at 11:30 am with a ride followed by a Potluck and BBQ at 5:00 pm at the campground shelter. We will be furnishing hamburgers and hot dogs so please let us know if you plan to attend so we have enough. We are asking others to bring sides and desserts.

The meeting will begin at 6 pm on May 6, and we will have a presentation by the Spokane County Livestock Emergency Evacuation Team and Linda White will be sharing what to do if you get stuck in the woods overnight.

There will be a campfire and social time after the presentations,

Sunday morning there will be a presentation by Carol Klar on using the GAIA GPS app on your phone (at 9 30) and then a time of trimming on the trail to TJ Meenach bridge (gather at 10 am at campground).

You don't have to attend all of the things planned, but please consider participating in some. We look forward to seeing you.

Tom

P.S. We still have highline kits available for purchase for \$40.00.



Greetings Ponderosa Members,

By: *Carol Klar*

Our May meeting will soon be here. **Please note the change in time/date and location.** This will be held **Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>** at **Riverside State Park Equestrian camp** at **5PM**, and will be a **POTLUCK dinner** with 2 interesting presentations. Ponderosa will provide the main course. Please bring your favorite side dish to share!



A flyer is on the next page, and describes the activities for this weekend event. Paid Ponderosa Members and guests of paid members are welcome. As of right now, 9 of the equestrian campsites are booked. There are some remaining, so if you'd like to camp, please visit the Washington State Parks website and reserve yours. Also, for anyone who'd like to participate in basic Tracking App education, please be sure to **download GAIA GPS** from the Apple App Store or the Google Play store. If you need assistance, just call or email me.

To help us with successful food and activities planning, please fill out the following form so we know how many will be at each part of this event. Snap picture of the completed form with your phone and email it to me at: [cklar32@gmail.com](mailto:cklar32@gmail.com)

For those trail warriors who have kindly offered to help with pruning on Sunday AM, please bring your pruners, gloves and hardhat. This is just going to be small brush removal – no chainsaw work at this time.

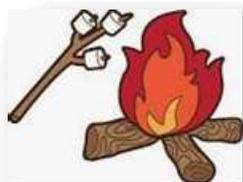


**We are grateful for everyone who is willing to help. It should be a short/easy project, and trimming will make this lovely river-area trail so much more pleasant to ride!!!**



Dear Ponderosa Friends,

For our May meeting, we are going to shake it up a bit. Instead of Tuesday May 2nd, we will move the meeting to **Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at Riverside State Park Equestrian Area**. There will be a **potluck at 5PM**; Ponderosa will provide the main dish, and members can bring sides. Meeting presentation will start at **6PM** around the campfire, and Linda White will be our guest speaker, enlightening us about an unplanned night in the wilderness... Not that anyone ever gets lost... We will also have a short presentation from SLEET, the Spokane Livestock Emergency Evacuation Team.



Beyond our regular meeting activities, we'd like to make the experience a bit more special. We encourage members to come on Saturday morning and ride the new trail to be used at the Poker Ride. This will be a guided ride with Patty Wright, starting around **11:30AM**.

Since the weather forecast looks awesome, this is an ideal time to have a campout. For those who enjoy camping, please reserve a spot at the Riverside SP Equestrian Camp. We can check into our campsites upon our ride return. *If forecast changes, and weather outlook becomes inhospitable, event will be rescheduled.*

We'd also like to do a bit of trail trimming, really easy, small stuff, heading south from the equestrian park. Meet initially at the horse camp. This will happen on Sunday morning at **10 AM**, and can be done on foot or on horseback. This will be a fairly short time commitment, as work parties go. All that is needed is pruners (and technically, your blue hard hat or riding helmet).

Trail pruning will offer a terrific opportunity to try out a trail tracking app. If you'd like to learn about this, please download **GAIA GPS** to your smart phone from the App Store (Apple iPhone users) or from the Google Play Store (Android users). GAIA GPS is FREE and is easy to use. We will go over the basic features while we are heading down the trail. It is pretty easy stuff, and it will help you a bunch on future outings in unknown places! GAIA training will happen at **9 30 AM**.

**Please RSVP**, so we know how much food to have on hand. Circle Yes or No and send RSVP to: **cklar32@gmail.com**

Yes, I will attend the trail ride May 6<sup>th</sup> (#  riding) (or No to trail ride)

Yes, I will attend the potluck dinner (#  eating) (or No to potluck)

Yes, I will attend the meeting by the campfire (or No to meeting)

Yes, I will camp overnight, and will make a campsite reservation for myself & my horse (or No to camping)

Yes, I'd like to participate in the tracking app session on Sunday morning (or No to tracking app)

Yes, I will help prune the trail on Sunday morning (or No, I won't be pruning)

Member name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

## Poker Ride

### By Ken Carmichael

It is game day on **Sunday, May 21, 2023**. For volunteers it starts at **7:00 am** and goes until we are finished.

This may sound like a broken record, but we still need volunteers. Positions include:

- Parking
- Registration
- Game stations
- Camp host (if you are camping)

The volunteer process is different this year. We are not having a dress rehearsal the Tuesday before the event, and I am not sending out instructions to all volunteers for all positions. Instead, volunteers will receive instructions for specific responsibilities ahead of time and we will have a gathering of volunteers just before we open the doors for the participants.

Everyone will have assigned positions prior to the event. Therefore, I need to know who is going to volunteer.

This is the only Ponderosa fundraiser. It is important that we provide everyone a safe, fun and comfortable experience. This takes volunteers on site. Remember, family and friends can be volunteers.

If you have not volunteered now is the time to do it. Please call or email me. 509-466-2225 or [kcarmichael2225@gmail.com](mailto:kcarmichael2225@gmail.com). If you have any questions please ask them.



## 2023 PONDEROSA BCH Planning Calendar (as of 4/23/23)

*All dates subject to change; watch emails and Facebook.*

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

### **May**

May 6- PBCH ride, Member Meeting; potluck, topic overnight survival on the trail, and member campout at Riverside State Park Equestr. Campground. [Note Date change from usual first Tuesday; see other associated activities in Newsletter Articles]

May 7- PBCH GAIA training and tree trimming at RSP

~~May 5-7 Methow Valley Annual Spring Ride~~  
**Cancelled**

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 Topic TBD

June 10- Path to Partnership Communication and Confidence Clinic @ Riverside Equestrian Arena. Spokane Cops Mounted Patrol. [Spokanecops.org](http://Spokanecops.org).

June 10 — National Get Outdoors Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

June 11 — Free Fishing Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

June 19 — Juneteenth (Discover Pass Free Day)

June 27- PBCH Board Meeting

June 30 – July 5<sup>th</sup>. Haney Meadows Work and Ride; Ken Wilcox horse camp.

### **July**

July 11 (rescheduled from July 4) PBCH Member Meeting Ice Cream Social @ RSP, horse play day

July 14-16 Vicki Gish Memorial Ride sponsored by NE BCH

July 25- PBCH Board Meeting

### **August**

August 1 –PBCH Member Meeting Lake Party

August 29- PBCH Board Meeting

### **September**

September 8- PBCH Member Meeting

Sept. 23 — National Public Lands Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

September 26- PBCH Board Meeting

### **October**

October 3- PBCH Member Meeting, elections

Oct. 10 -- World Mental Health Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

October 28- BCHW Wine Ride@ Zillah

October 31- PBCH Board Meeting?

**November**

November 7- PBCH Member Meeting Annual Soup Social potluck

Nov. 11 — Veterans Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

Nov. 25 — Autumn Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

November 28- PBCH Board Meeting

**December**

December 5 – PBCH Member Meeting Christmas Party

Other events can be found here: [https://www.bchw.org/upcoming\\_events.php](https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php)

Linda White sent in this flower picture to contribute to the newsletter theme of Birds, Bees, Flowers, Trees.

I believe that these are called Blue Bells, possibly trumpet bluebells. See more here:

<http://www.bentler.us/eastern-washington/plants/trumpet-bluebells.aspx>



## **State Parks Commissioners Meeting**

### **By Ken Carmichael**

Washington State Parks are managed by a seven-person commission appointed by the governor. They meet approximately seven times a year around the state. Laurie Connelly is the Commissioner from the Spokane area.

In April they met in Spokane. This gives us a chance to meet with them, show them key areas of the parks and give them our point of view. This year I was with them on three different occasions.

On their first day, Tuesday, they toured different areas of Riverside State Park. I met with them while at the Carlson Trailhead looking at the Troutman Property. I was able to point out the parking problems at that trailhead.

That evening the Riverside State Park Foundation, which I am a member of, co-hosted a wine and snacks gathering of Commissioners, park staff from Olympia and key people in the area. I was able to talk to each Commissioner individually. Three commissioners are new since their last visit here so this was a good opportunity.

At the Commission Public Meeting I was able to address them in a formal setting plus have an opportunity to talk to them, and staff, individually again.

These opportunities add up to making contacts with decision makers. They are the people that can make a difference in the recreational use of our parks.



# **WASHINGTON STATE PARKS**

*Louise Walton has been providing trail reports for the Northeast BCH and is kindly sharing recent reports with Ponderosa BCH.*

## **Rustler's Gulch Report**

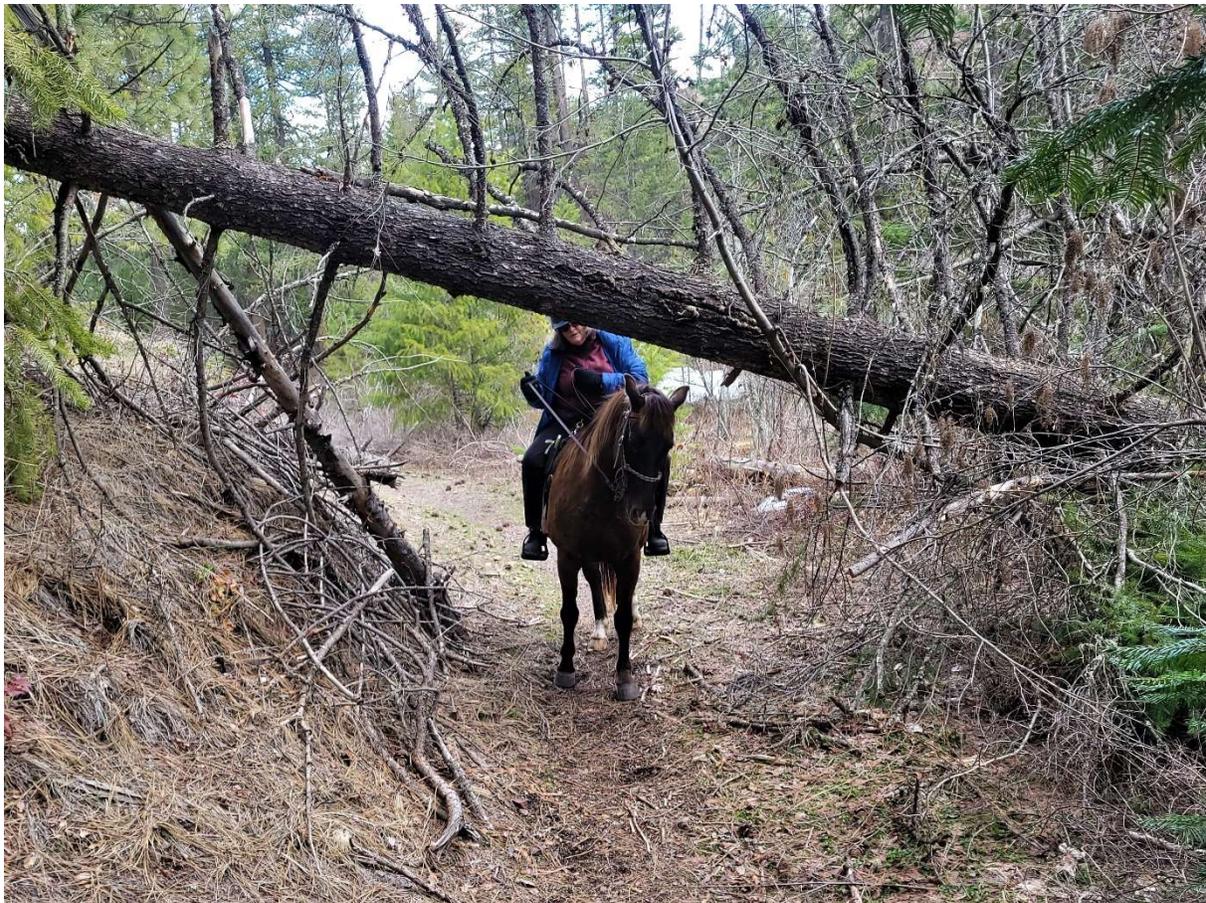
**By Louise Walton**

NEBCHW Trail Condition Report for **April 5, 2023**, for Rustlers Gulch, Holly Road via the Lower Trail & Return to Holly Rd. Lately the weather has been sunny in the morning and overcast in the afternoon which is the time we get on the trails. Not surprising, as far as snow melt, that hasn't changed much from my April 3 recon report. Generally, the snow patches are diminished and fewer. We took the left at the gate by the Preifert barn as before. The only place that presented some difficulties for our horses was the heavily wooded section. The snow is deepest there. We can now see that some downed branches are underneath. There was no ice but just a little scrambling in the various snow depths.

After this section Sister Sue on Bella and I on my trusty bay, Truth, took the lower trail between the two rocks rather than going up the hill. We were surprised to find less snow and larger stretches of bare ground. The marsh was off to our left. No geese this time but the spring peeper frogs were croaking like crazy. They sing in choruses of three believe it or not. We stayed straight at the first intersection rather than taking a wide left going down the hill. The next intersection had a right which went down to the first river crossing near the swimming hole. Instead, we went straight around a tree that fell last year leaving lots of dead branches close to the trail edge. There were a couple of small trees crossing the trail at chest level but we muscled through them.



We continued along the trail and came across the tree which has stretched high over the trail for several years now. It is easy to just duck a little to get under it. Having 15 HH or less horses helps. Ok. How long before it breaks and falls. I vote for taking it down before someone gets hurt. Next was a narrow alley between a jam-packed row of small alder trees on the right and pines on the bank on the left. These alders will not be hard to remove but unfortunately, they will grow back quickly. At the old blown down tree on the right, take the trail to the left and continue left at the next intersection to be on your way back to Holly Road Trailhead. My Garman malfunctioned so I estimate we went about 6.6 miles total since our pace included some gating by Bella and trotting by Jade. We now have three big trees that will require removal by our sawyers. I am hoping that we can start working on these big trees by the end of the third week or the last week in April.



## Newsletter Theme: Birds, Bees, Flowers, Trees

*The theme is about things we see on the trail, especially animals and plants. I found some pictures in internet-land, with some links where you can learn more about the flora and fauna in the Pacific Northwest.*

### Bees:

Pollinators include bees, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, desert bats, hummingbirds, and butterflies. Pollinators are critical for earth's ecosystems because they make it easier for plants to reproduce.

(<https://www.spokanecounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/10381/EnviroKidsSpring2016?bidId=>)

Learn more about our native bumble bees here: <https://www.pnwbumblebeeatlas.org/species-illustrations.html>



Golden Northern bumble bee or *Bombus fervidus* From *Eastern Washington Bees*, found here: <http://www.bentler.us/eastern-washington/animals/insects/bees/default.aspx>

## Flowers:

Western serviceberry flower and leaf pollinated by a green metallic sweat bee (Photo and caption from:

<http://www.bentler.us/eastern-washington/plants/shrubs/serviceberry-bush.aspx>). Notice the leaf of the serviceberry, the back part of the oval has a smooth edge. The front part has saw teeth.



## Birds:

I love birds but I'm not a very good birder, and also not a very good photographer. I use an app on my phone to help identify birds, called Merlin

(<https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/>). It can do sound recordings and tell me what birds are calling. Here is a not-so-great picture of a magpie in a Ponderosa Pine. How do I know it's a Magpie? Because they are very distinctive and large and easy to see. How do I know it's a Ponderosa pine? See tree information below.



Trees: I found this cool and helpful description of some of our more common conifer trees. See more trees at the link: <https://www.wta.org/news/magazine/magazine/1237.pdf>

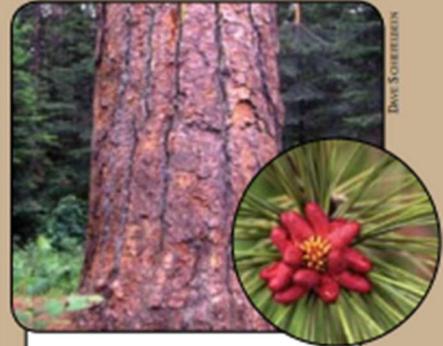
# Trees on the Trails

Think of this 4-page insert as your "cheat sheet" for the trees most often found along Washington's trails. Within, you'll find both conifers and flowering deciduous trees found everywhere from lowland forests to subalpine summits. Some of these trees are common west of the crest of the Cascades, while others are found only east of the crest. A few (such as Douglas-fir) are found on both sides of the divide.

A few tips to help you identify trees: Study the needles or leaves. What do the cones look like? Is the bark smooth, rough or papery? We've tried to picture both the overall tree and a detail such as cones or needles to help you identify the tree.

Other clues to consider: Where is the tree? Does the tree prefer higher elevations? Does it thrive east of the crest? Does it crave shade or open sunlight?

And last, some trees are tricky to tell apart. Some firs can't be distinguished unless you examine the cones (which stay high in the tree and rarely fall!). So have fun, and don't be too disappointed if you can't get a positive I.D. on that mystery tree.



## Ponderosa pine

*Pinus ponderosa*

Distinctive, reddish-barked pine common in open parklands east of the crest. Needles come in sets of three.



## Lodgepole pine

*Pinus contorta*

Found west of crest (where it's known as shore pine) and in eastern Cascades in abundance. Needles come in sets of two.



## Western white pine

*Pinus monticola*

Once common, populations were decimated by a disease introduced in 1910. Large cones, needles in sets of five.



## Whitebark pine

*Pinus albicaulis*

A subalpine pine found east of the Cascade crest. Clark's nutcrackers eat and disperse seeds. Needles in sets of five.



## Douglas-fir

*Pseudotsuga menziesii*

Abundant tree in both western rain forests and in drier forests east of the crest. Old-growth trees can reach 300 feet tall.



## Western hemlock

*Tsuga heterophylla*

Second only in abundance to Douglas-fir in westside forests below 3,500 feet, this tree is very shade tolerant.



## Mountain hemlock

*Tsuga mertensiana*

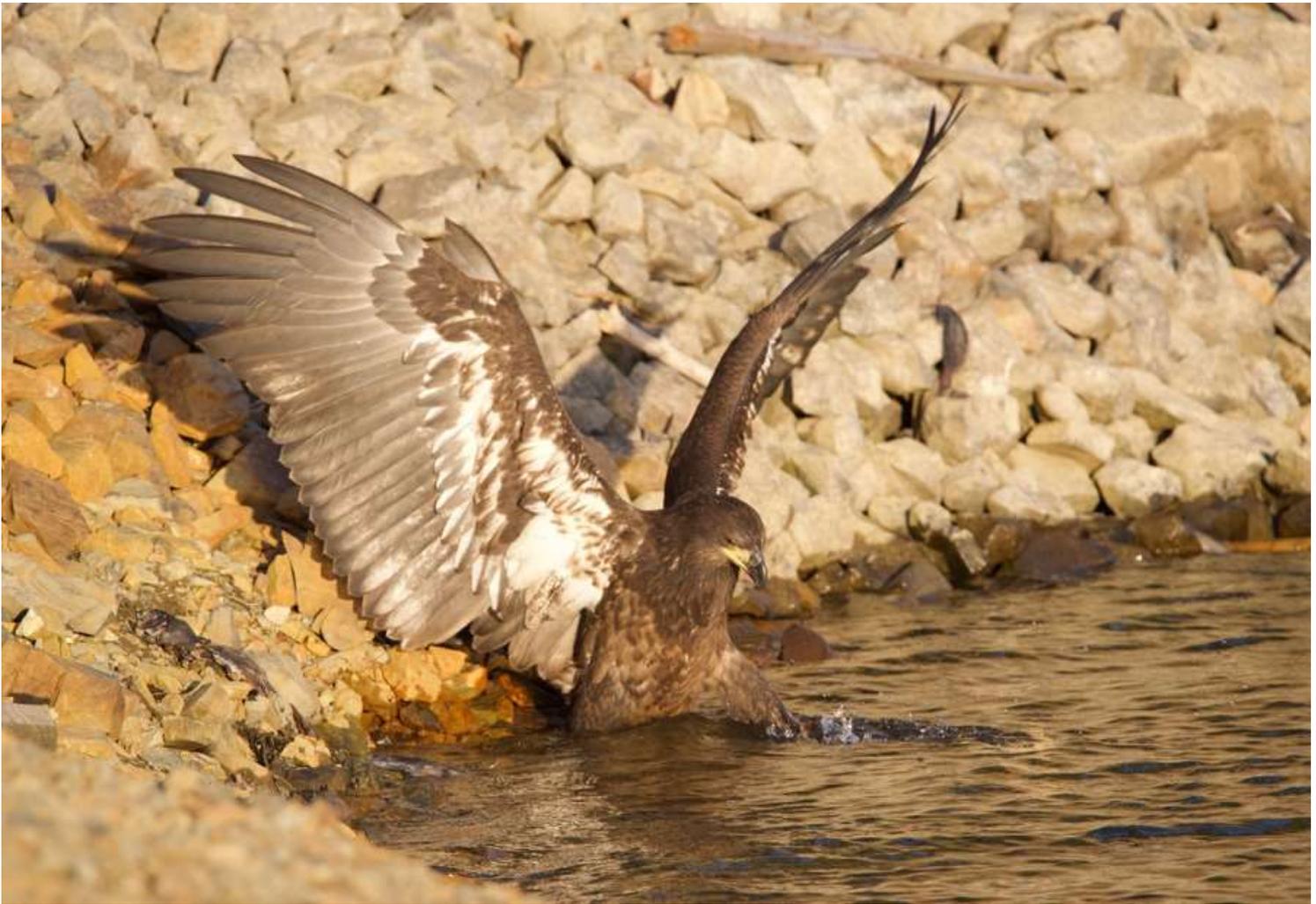
Distinguished from western hemlock by its larger cones and presence at higher elevations (generally above 4,500 feet).

## Theme: Birds, Bees, Flowers, Trees

Cindy Miller



This juniper tree was 'my tree' while hiking on a trail in Arizona. She kept calling to me with her energy, where I ended up taking lots of photos of every angle she presented to me. She had a story to tell of her survival, plus much more.



I see many bald eagles on my trail rides. This young juvenile was hopping down a rock embankment to reach the cool water for a toe dip.



Well-known bear grass on a ride at Mt. Spokane. I photographed the bloom in late July, and almost missed it. Bloom time is influenced by moisture and temperature. Bears do not eat the blooms, but do use the plants later in the year for bedding.



Although the above photos were not on the trail, I see the honey bees and white crowned sparrows outside and everywhere. During the extremely hot summer, the bees would line the bird bath for a cool drink. They would stay for hours, sometimes more than 50 lined up, landing on the edge of the bath enjoying the coolness.

The white crowned sparrows were migratory, and only appeared at the bath during late spring. However, due to the unusual weather patterns, they were appearing frequently for a cool bath. They were hot!



Bitterroot was spotted at the south end of Fishtrap Lake. It is one of my favorite plants; the color is stunning. Native American tribes in this region used the roots for food or trade.

## Non-Motorized Vehicles on the Trails?

Ponderosa BCH Member Steph Hanlon is teaching her mini donkey to drive. This shows her first time hitching. Nice job Steph! It could be interesting to bump into this rig and donkey out on a road or trail; I've had horses that think horse-carts are alien monster creatures...



*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*



Eventually the nice weather will arrive again! Michelle on Oly. Photo by Carol Klar.

### **BCH Officers 2023**

**PRESIDENT**

**TOM BIRGE**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**CAROL KLAR**

**SECRETARY**

**PATTI CARMICHAEL**

**TREASURER**

**DIANA BIRGE**

**STATE DIRECTOR**

**KEN CARMICHAEL**

**ALT. STATE DIR.**

**DOUG BAILEY**

*The 2023 Executive Board for PBCH includes the officers, plus Michelle Eames, Newsletter; Melissa Halpin, Spokane County Lands Coordinator; and Larry Grinstead, Trail Boss for Work Parties.*



# P O K E R

# R I D E

REGISTER ON LINE AT [WWW.PBCHW.COM](http://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](http://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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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*

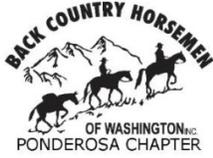
SPONSORED BY PONDEROSA BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

*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](http://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](http://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!

Photo Copies OK

**RIDERS**

**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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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](http://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.

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](mailto: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!

