



PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of
Washington
"Educate, Advocate, and Move Dirt!"
Website: PBCHW.COM

April 2022



Old Folsom Farm near Fishtrap Lake, located on BLM land. The area is an interesting place to ride and explore.

CALENDAR

All event dates subject to change or cancellation: Watch facebook and emails.

April 5- PBCH General Meeting @ RSP 6pm

April 14-16- Ladies' Campout

April 23: Slavin Ranch PBCH Member Ride

April 26- PBCH Board Meeting

April 29 PM – Set up for Front Country Seminar

April 30 - May 1 – Front Country Camping Seminar

President's Report

By Tom Birge

I would like to start out by saying welcome to our newest member Jodi Kranches, Jodi was a member of Inland Empire Chapter and looks forward to helping out whenever she can.

A big THANK YOU to all who helped out at our booth at the 4-H tack sale and thank you to all that attended BCHW Rendezvous to represent our chapter.

Our next meeting will be at the Riverside State Park equestrian area featuring Lydia Friel-Templeton. It would be great to have a big turnout to welcome Lydia to the area and also meet up with other members to get to know each other. The meeting will be at 6pm, but we have a social time beginning at 5:30.

Our March meeting was well attended as we discussed hay farming and production, ate cookies, and were given some knot tying tips and training by Barb Maleng, one of our members.

Michelle is always great at letting you know of upcoming events in the newsletter and we email out what's going on to the group email pbchw@groups.outlook.com; anything posted on this address will go to all members of the chapter.

We also have a members-only Facebook page, please contact Carol Klar to be added.

Come to our general meetings and talk to us, let us know what you would like to see in our meetings, how you think you could help out, and most of all to introduce yourself.

Thanks, Tom

Members-Only Facebook Page



Currently, only 38 of 62 current members are on the list for access to the Ponderosa Members - News and Discussion FB page. If you aren't currently set up to access this, please click the link shown below and submit a "JOIN" request to get all the latest news!

*Thanks much!
Carol Klar
VP - Ponderosa BCH*

[Link to Members Only Page](#)

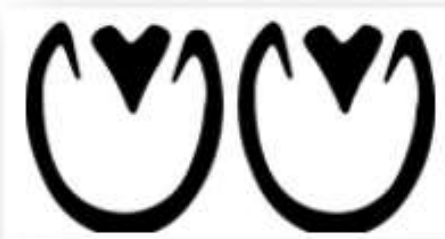
April 5th - Meeting Speaker

Lydia Friel Templeton

— Topic —

Hoof Boots & Barefoot Trimming

Location: Riverside State Park Equestrian Area - 6PM



If you'd like your horse fitted for boots, please message me a few days ahead of the meeting date. ckfar32@gmail.com

This is an excellent opportunity to see if your horse is a candidate for going barefoot, with or without boots.

Director's Report

By Ken Carmichael

In March we had the BCHW Rendezvous including the BCHW board meeting and general membership meeting. It was fun, entertaining, educational and we got to talk to lots of friends from across the state.

PBCH hosted the Trailhead Room where we showed BCHW Accomplishment videos and old Roy Rogers shows. It was fun showing what BCHW has accomplished and presenting ideas for the future. Patti decorated the room and had coffee, water and cookies available for the visitors. We also put up the PBCH booth display along with several other chapters.

The auctions were very productive and showed great support for BCHW. For 2023 it would be great if PBCH could provide a homemade object for the auction. These items are what really create interest and high bids. Anyone with a good idea please speak up.

I will not go through all the educational events that took place. There were many opportunities at the vendor booths to spend money. The used tack sale was huge and is outgrowing the room.

At the BCHW Membership Meeting awards were presented to some hard-working people at the chapter and state level. These will be highlighted in the next Trailhead News. Robert Eversole gave a very good motivational speech.

We had a shortened BCHW Board meeting to accommodate the time available. Some of the subjects covered included:

- Education – Kim is looking for suggestions about classes we could offer in January 2023 Leadership Training. What would you like to learn more about?
- Winery Ride – This will happen at Zillah WA on Saturday, October 29. Plan to ride or volunteer.
- Treasurer – Centralized accounting is progressing as more chapters come on board. PBCH is up to speed as Diana Birge works through the process.
- Grants – Grants are available through BCHW. At this time PBCH does not have a project that qualifies for a grant.
- Saw Certification program – This continues to be productive in keeping certified sawyers available for work parties. PBCH currently has several certified sawyers.
- Leave No Trace – The next LNT class is in Randle, WA, on April 2 and 3. Patti and I went to this several years ago. It is well worth the time.
- Publicity – We are encouraged to use the BCHW website, Trailhead News, and state Facebook page. Be sure that all links and information are accurate.
- Public Lands – WA Department of Fish and Wildlife is developing a 10-year plan. BCHW now has a Volunteer Agreement for all forests on an ongoing basis so no need to renew each year. BCHA is still interested in gathering information about non-stock camping in campgrounds designated as horse camps. If you encounter please let us know the details. Washington State Trails Coalition now has a BCHW representative.
- Legislative – Still a concern that the Department of Health could take over regulations on horses. Currently regulations are in the Department of Agriculture where it should stay.
- Ellensburg Chapter – A new chapter is being formed in Ellensburg. It should be approved April 2.
- Financial Committee – The BCHW Treasurer is forming a Financial Committee to assist in money investment decisions. If you have expertise in this area it could be an opportunity to volunteer.
- Safety – The Safety Committee has safety guidelines on the website. One point is riding helmets can now double as hard hats as long as the vents are not on the top of the helmet.

- Standing rule 2021-2 – This standing rule pertaining to contracts, assets and reports was updated. I will share with Diana.

There are about 17 BCHW committees that help with the operation of BCHW. If you are interested in any of these please contact me. They are good opportunities to help BCH.

There will be a BCHW Board Meeting via ZOOM on April 2 to discuss the proposed Executive Committee. More information to follow.

As I have always said, it is a pleasure representing PBCH on the BCHW Board. I meet interesting people from across the state and influence what is happening. This is just a brief summary of what happens. These meetings are open to everyone if you would line to attend.

Editor's Note: *As a continuation of our series on officers' duties, Patty Wright describes what she does as PBCH secretary. If anyone is interested in learning more about this position, or filling in at a meeting she can't attend, let Patty know!*

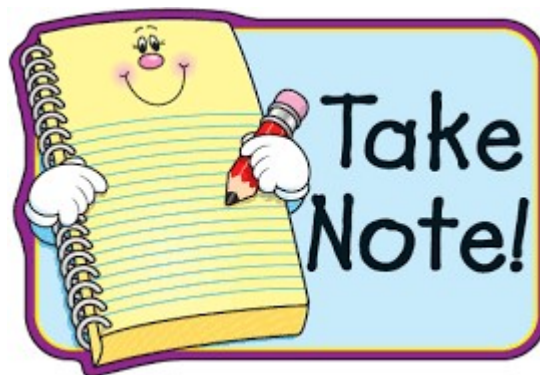
Position of Secretary, PBCH

Hi, I'm Patty Wright, the secretary for this chapter for the past couple of years. My duties are pretty straightforward - I attend and take notes at the once-monthly board meeting. Since I bring my computer with me and transcribe directly to it, I'm usually finished with the notes the evening of the meeting. I shoot them off to the president for review, make corrections as needed, and then the finished version goes out to membership.

During the meeting I take part in discussions concerning the chapter and participate in voting on issues as needed. My time commitment is a couple of hours a month. There are optional events that officers of the chapter can participate in for further support in the position they hold, most notably the leadership meeting held early each year.

Being secretary has helped me get to know the board and be more in touch with what is going on both locally and state-wide.

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PONDEROSA BCH 2022 Planning Calendar

All dates subject to change due to COVID or other reasons.

April

April 5- PBCH General Meeting TBD Hoof Protection/boots: Lydia Friel. Social gathering @ 5:30; Meeting 6 pm.
April 8 weekend; Saddle Fitting with Bison Saddlery (more information later in the newsletter)
April 14-16- Ladies' campout at Lakeview (weather permitting)
April 23: Slavin Ranch PBCH member ride, led by Patty Wright
April 26- PBCH Board Meeting
April 29 PM – Set up equipment for Front Country Trailhead Camping seminar
April 30 - May 1 – Front Country Trailhead Camping – Hands-on seminar in Riverside State Park @ 7-mile air field (more information later in the newsletter)

May

May 4- Ground Work Fun Day for members (more information later in the newsletter)
May 10 – PBCH General Meeting; dress rehearsal for poker ride at Riverside State Park Equestrian Area; potential potluck prior to the meeting
May 14 – Set up equipment for poker ride
May 15 – Poker Ride (Sunday) (more information later in the newsletter)
May 18- Ground Work Fun Day for Members (more information later in the newsletter)
May 24-PBCH Board Meeting
May 27-30 – PBCH Escure Ranch campout and ride (Memorial Day weekend)
May 28-30, ETS event at Riverside Equestrian Area (more information later in the newsletter)

June

June 4-5 – SCOPE despooring clinic
June 7- PBCH General Meeting;
June 18? TBD PBCH Trautman Member Ride - Carol K.

July

July 12 PBCH Meeting, outdoor?
July 9: Mica Peak Member Ride, led by Melissa Halpin and Patty Wright
July 9-10, ETS event at Riverside Equestrian Area (more information later in the newsletter)
July 26- PBCH Board Meeting
July 29-31- Ferry county chapter steak ride.

August

August 2- PBCH Meeting TBD?
August 13: Antoine Peak, led by Andrea and Rod Staton
August 30- PBCH Board Meeting

September

September 6- PBCH General Meeting (may move date)
Sept. 24: Mt. Spokane, led by Ken and Patti Carmichael
September 27- PBCH Board Meeting

October

October Member Ride, time and location TBD
October 1-2 - Camping at Escure (tentative)
October 4 - General Meeting; potluck
October 15-16 ETS event at Spokane Sporthorse Farm (more information later in the newsletter)
October 25-PBCH Board Meeting
October 28-29 - Zillah Wine Ride

November

November 1- PBCH General Meeting; soup social
November 29- PBCH Board Meeting

December

December 6 – PBCH General Meeting; Christmas Party

Other events can be found here: https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php

Patty Wright

Ride Coordinator

Here's the list of proposed organized PBCH member rides so far. **Dates are not written in stone**, and weather/smoke conditions may change things up.

- April 23: Slavin Ranch, led by me (Patty Wright)
- May: nothing yet - busy with other chapter events
- June 18: Trautman, led by Carol Klar
- July 9: Mica Peak, led by Melissa Halpin and me
- August 13: Antoine Peak, led by Andrea and Rod Staton
- Sept. 24: Mt. Spokane, led by Ken and Patti Carmichael
- Oct: TBD

Ponderosa Members - Ladies Campout

By Carol Klar



An updated list of participants and other details are currently posted on the [Ponderosa Members Only FB page](#). Since this newsletter is available publically, I felt it best have the details in a “members only” location. If you have signed up for this trip, please have a look at the recent updates posted there.

This is a “full house”, so if you need to cancel, please let me know at your earliest convenience, so we can give the spot to someone else. If you have a * by your name, I still need your confirmation. Thank you! Details will be e-mailed to each participant the week ahead of the outing. In the meantime, if you have questions, please email me: Carol Klar – cklar32@gmail.com

Trailhead Camping Seminar

By Ken Carmichael

One big Ponderosa event this year is the Trailhead Camping Seminar on **April 30 to May 1**. This seminar is specifically designed to help people who want to start camping with their horses.

Just think about the expanded number of places you can visit with your horses if you are able to camp with them. It is a relatively simple process but there is a learning curve.

This seminar is a hands-on experience where we camp with our horses for one night in Riverside State Park. People will be there to help. Besides the actual camping experience, we will talk about relevant topics such as:

- Trailheads in the Spokane Area
- Land management requirements
- Leave No Trace
- Useful knots
- Useful camping gear
- Alternative methods of camping
- Horse confinement while camping
- Crossing state lines (Coggins tests and branding)
- Questions and answers on anything

Doug Bailey will provide the main course of Saturday night's dinner with Dutch Oven cooking. We will have a bonfire with s'mores accompanied by stories and good conversation. Sunday morning will include a wrap up and trail ride.

We are limiting this to a small group so there can be some good one on one conversation.

We are attaching a flier to this newsletter. Please share it with your friends who may be interested and put it on your social media.

Our goal is more saddle time for everyone.

See Trailhead Camping Seminar Flyer at the end of the Newsletter.

Ground-work Fun Event

Dates: May 4 and/or May 18

Time: 6-8PM

Location: Riverside State Park Equestrian Area

There is still room, especially in the second event. Contact Carol Klar for more information!

Ponderosa member Linda White has volunteered to lead two Ground Work sessions for PBCH members. Linda has attended four Buck Brannaman clinics; two Clinton Anderson clinics; Carson James clinic, Ann Kirk clinic; worked with Gerry Cox and trains with Julie Stephens of Leading Edge. Linda is an ETS (Equine Trail Sports) competitor with her lovely Mustang, Angus. She also organizes several ETS events each year.

This activity is best suited to people who are somewhat inexperienced (or rusty) at doing groundwork or who are working with a new or green equine or those needing a refresher. However, everyone is welcome.

The exercises are designed to improve communication between horse and rider (handler) and tune up ground manners. Topics that will be covered are: basics of leading, backing, yielding hind and fore quarters, and sending. The class will proceed as warranted by participants. Members who would like to observe are welcome (no donation required).

←-- (Tear here and submit form below with your payment) --→

Ground Work Fun Event at Riverside State Park

Time: 6-8PM

Donation: \$15

Each session is limited to 6 participants, and participants must be current-paid Ponderosa Members.

Payment is needed to reserve your spot.

Registrations are due 10 days in advance of the activity. Thank you!

- Register by 4/24 for the 5/4 session
- Register by 5/8 for the 5/18 session

Registrations will be accepted in the order received. If more than 12 members register, a waitlist will be kept. Registration will open at our March 1st meeting. Cash, check and credit cards will be accepted. These funds will go towards Poker Ride gift certificates!

Date Choice – circle one: May 4th May 18th (these are both Wednesday evenings)

Your Name: _____

Best way to contact you:

- Email: _____
- Text: _____
- Phone: _____

Payment Method: _____

Payment Received Date: _____

Poker Ride

By Ken Carmichael

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I may sound like a broken record (for those of you old enough to know what a record is) but I need to keep reminding people that **SUNDAY, MAY 15 IS FAST APPROACHING.**

We continue to advertise the **poker ride**. We met with many people at the 4-H Tack Sale, sending emails, updating the website, sharing on Facebook and distributing fliers. Of course, it really helps if you put it out on your social media accounts, post fliers, and tell your friends. A flier is attached that you can copy and use as a guide.



Linda White is gathering some great raffle items. Here is just a taste of who has donated.

- Wendle Ford detailing
- Total Wine & More
- Huber Trailer Sales
- Seattle Mariners
- Quilt pieced by Linda White and quilted by Marci Watson of Courier Quilting.
- Hat band by Stephanie Hanlon
- REI
- Kalispel Tribe and Northern Quest Resort & Casino
- Vino! Wine Tasting
- Vadervert Hampton Inn
- Outfitter Supply
- GSI Outdoors
- Riding Warehouse
- Noble Panels
- Indiana Harness
- Mr. Carwash
- Spokane Indians
- Books by:
 - Robert Eversole
 - Vern Hopkins
 - Morgan Shank

In addition, the following have given generous cash or service donations:

- Horse Previews Magazine & The Exchange
- Stimson Contracting
- Huber Trailer Sales
- Indiana Harness
- McKinlay & Peters Equine Hospital

New this year. Northern Quest Resort has donated 150 decks of cards and Country Store has donated 125 wormers that we will hand out to the first ones to play the last card in their hand back at registration.

And there is more to come! We want to thank all of our great sponsors.

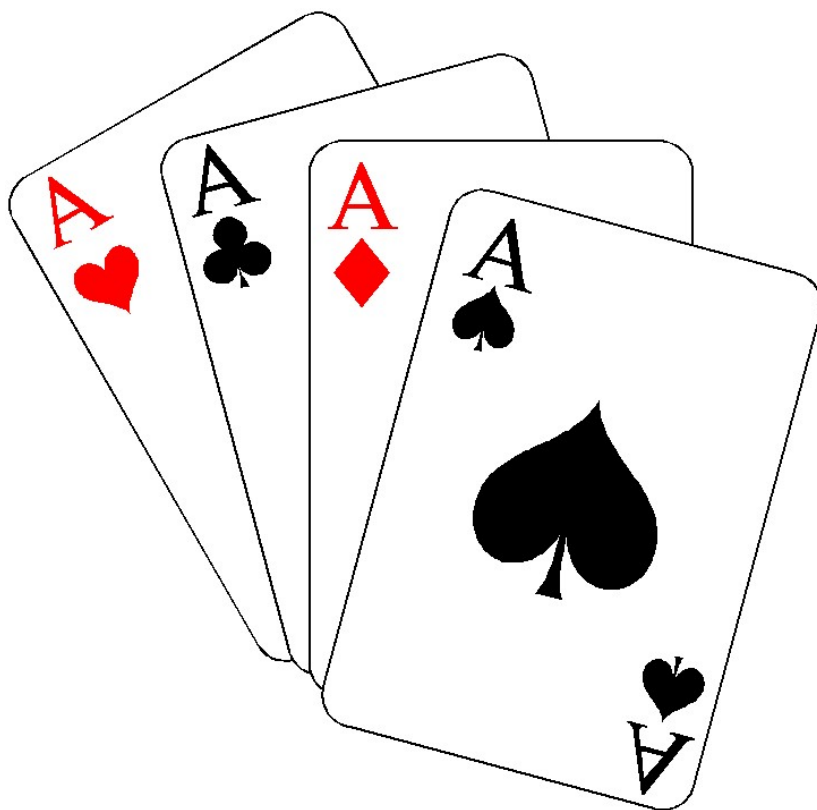
Now we need volunteers for May 15. Primarily it is to manage the game stations out on the trail. It will be fun and you get to see all the horses go by. To be fully staffed it takes 40 people. This is what makes our poker ride great, the number of people to make it run smoothly and take care of our guests. If you have not already told me you are coming please contact me now so that we can organize our staff. Volunteers do not have to be PBCH members. Some of our families come out to help as well. You can call me at 509-466-2225.

Last thing:

The May Membership Meeting has been moved from May 3 to May 10 and will be at the Riverside State Park Equestrian Area next to the arena. This will be our “dress rehearsal” for the poker ride. As I have said, it is important that we take good care of our guests and the more people know the better we can do this. The meeting will start at 6:00 PM so please mark your social calendar and plan to come.

See the Poker Ride flyer at the end of the newsletter.

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Note from the Editor

By Michelle Eames

Our theme for the April issue is “ride planning, and the different public lands and what they focus on.”

We received several articles on this topic, as follows in the next few pages. There are more fun articles after this section, too!

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Planning for Rides

By Ken Carmichael

My mother used to say do not surprise me because planning is part of the fun, and she liked to plan. The same goes for a trail ride or camp trip. There is lots of fun in the planning.

There are the decisions of where to go, when, how long, who with and what are you going to take with you. I am a person of lists and I have lots of them. I have a file that has lists for every adventure whether it is to a BCH Board meeting, horse camping, boat camping, packing, snowshoeing, family and food options. It all starts with a good list.

I break my pack lists down as to where I will find the stuff in the house, barn, etc. So, it is broken down by bedroom, kitchen, basement, garage, barn, etc. I try to keep most of the stuff centralized on a special shelf in the garage but that does not always work. Fortunately, lots of stuff is kept permanently in the horse trailer tack room.

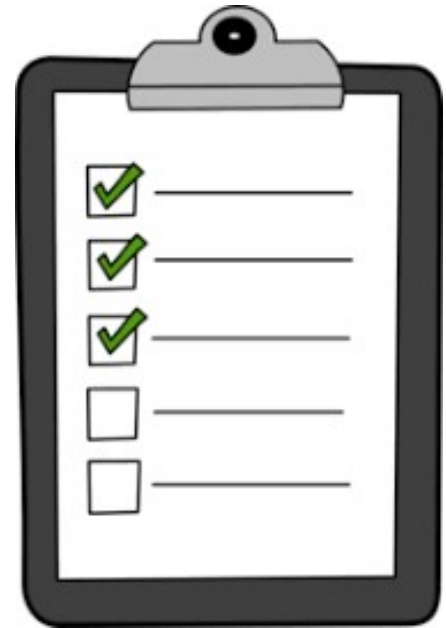
Patti and I go through a process in the winter trying to schedule the summer because her vacation time is very precious. We make a list of places we want to go either alone, with horses, or with boat, then set some priorities trying to stick to it. This can be interrupted with family, weather and “obligations”.

Another essential tool for planning is a calendar. Some prefer the electronic type but I still carry that tried-and-true pocket calendar.

Another factor is making sure the makings of any trip are in good working order. This starts with cleaning, oiling and thoroughly checking all riding equipment during the winter. Then in the spring the truck and trailer are gone through.

As for favorite places, there are too many to get to in the time we have available in a summer. The favorite ones with horses include the Escure Ranch which always tops the list. Ancient Lakes is on the list this year and maybe the ocean beach. We like to camp at the Little Pend Oreille. Quick day trips include Rustlers Gulch, Fish Trap Lake and Mt. Spokane. We want to plan a one-way trip on the Columbia Plateau Trail. Riverside State Park is good when we just want to go out the back door.

The last thing you want to do is in the Fall to look back and say that you did not get it done because you did not plan for the fun.



Highline Kits Available

By Ken Carmichael

Ponderosa BCH has put together a highline kit which is being offered for sale. Before offering it to the general public we want chapter members to have an opportunity to buy them. We have only made 12.

This is what is included and a picture is below:

- **50 feet of half inch Poly Dacron rope** – This is the best rope you can use and is long enough to reach between those distant tress or put up to four horses on it. Don Dyer did a great job weaving the ends of the rope with a loop on one end.
- **Two 8-foot Tree Saver Straps** – This is quality webbing used to tie loads down on flatbed semi-trucks.
- **Two Welded Rings** – A one-and-a-half-inch ring on one end and a two inch ring on the other. They were professionally sewed into the Tree Saver Straps courtesy of Indiana Harness.
- **Two Knot Eliminators** – This is quarter inch Polly propylene rope tied with the Figure eight bend knot. They are light weight and after the highline is up they can be adjusted along the highline for proper spacing.

We can also provide instruction on highline installation using the Bowline and Truckers knots.

The price is \$40 for the package and can be picked up at my house or at a PBCH meeting for as long as they last.



RIDE PLANNING – 2022 By Louise Walton

Rustlers Gulch is one of my favorite places to ride. It is within 30 minutes of my home and is easy to get to. If a picture is worth a thousand words, let me entice you to include this area in your riding for this summer. The main attraction for me is the West Branch of the Little Spokane River which runs through the Gulch. The high water spring crossing is accessed from the Holly Road Trailhead. The pool with lots of horses in it is in the river's bend not far from the Beaver Creek Trailhead. It is a great place for training horses for water and swimming.



RUSTLERS GULCH WILDLIFE AREA (RUSTLERS) is managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Some of the adjoining land is Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land and some is Pend Oreille County Land. We ride on the trails in all these areas. There are 2,772 acres of WDFW owned and managed land through which the West Branch of the Little Spokane River flows. The area is about 18 miles south of Newport and 30 miles north of Spokane. Currently, none of the trails have names either on the map or on the trails. The WDFW has a free colored map showing the access points and some of the trails in the Rustlers Gulch area. A Discover Pass is required to park. “No unauthorized motor vehicles are allowed on any of this property.” “No overnight parking, camping, open fires or fireworks are permitted.” Please be careful to stay in the Rustlers Gulch Wildlife Area, which is marked, in some areas, with green “WDFW Property Boundary” signs.

There are three trailheads for access to Rustlers: one at the south end, Holly Road Access Point and another at the west side, Beaver Creek Access Point. The one off Last Chance Road accesses the east side of Rustlers and is a very primitive unimproved area to park.

Holly Road parking can be accessed from Hwy 2 going north from Spokane toward Newport and turning left at Eloika Lake Road. Drive about 3.3 miles to N. Division Road and turn right. Where the pavement ends the name becomes Horseshoe Lake Road. Follow this dirt road until you come to a 90 degree turn to the left. You will see signs for the Holly Road Trailhead and a very nice, graveled parking area which will accommodate two rows of about six trailers each. There is also parking for cars here. This parking lot improvement project was spearheaded by the Northeast Back Country Horsemen. The wildlife area and trail to the bottom of the Gulch start next to the car parking. Pass the locked gate on the right and continue following the access "road" down into the Gulch. At the bottom you will see an old homestead and the big Pruffer barn

The west side of Rustlers can be accessed by continuing to travel on Horseshoe Lake Road past the Holy Road Trailhead. Drive straight passed the intersection with Sherman Road. About 2.7 miles from the intersection with Sherman, and after a steep almost single lane dirt road, you will arrive at the Beaver Creek Access Point. Pull into the parking lot on the right which is nicely graveled thanks to the volunteer efforts of the Northeast Back Country Horsemen. Two trails leave from the parking area. The one to the left, if you cross the stream and follow the trail will take you to Horseshoe Lake. If you stay on the main trail, you will come to the swimming pool in the West Branch of the Little Spokane River. The trail on the right side splits into a trail straight ahead on chunky rocks and if you go sharp right you will go through the cottonwoods and along the steep bank on your right side. Both will eventually take you to the old barn at the bottom of the hill coming down from the Holy Road Trailhead. You can make a nice loop out of these trails.

I would be happy to show you a trail or two. Get a few friends together and let's ride.

News-worthy Legislation Summarized by BCHW:

SB 5504 passed and has been signed by the Governor. It takes effect June 9, 2022.

This bill extends the Discover Pass free days from State Parks to include all state recreation sites and lands. It was sponsored by Senator Judy Warnick.

Discover Pass Free Days By Ken Carmichael

As you probably know a Discover Pass is required at Washington State Parks, Washington Fish and Wildlife and Department of Natural Resources lands. State Parks has designated several days each year as “Pass Free Days” where a pass is not required. Now WDFW and DNR have agreed to honor these “Pass Free Days.” The place I think of most is Rustlers Gulch which is great riding.

Days I have marked on my calendar include:

- Friday, April 22
- Saturday and Sunday June 11 and 2
- Sunday, June 19
- Saturday, September 24
- Monday, October 10
- Friday, November 11
- Friday, November 25



Major Public Lands in Eastern Washington

By Michelle Eames

Who manages our public lands, and why are the rules so different from place to place?

The management and rules are often different on various pieces of public land because the agency missions are different. It depends on who manages the land, and the reasons those public lands were established.

I have attached a brief matrix of the major public lands and land managers in Eastern Washington. The land managers in Eastern Washington include, but are not be limited to: city, county, state, and federal levels of government.

PBCH members will receive a more detailed version of this matrix, with specific riding areas listed and links to maps, etc. Watch for emails and/or member-only facebook postings of this useful matrix.

<u>County Lands:</u>			
Name of Public Land (example)	Land Manager/ Agency in charge:	Mission of this land:	Website for more information/ comments
County Parks (Bear Lake)	Spokane County Parks, Recreation, & Golf	Recreation	https://www.spokanecounty.org/1130/Parks-Recreation
County Conservation Areas (Antoine Peak)	Spokane County Parks, Recreation, & Golf	Spokane County's Conservation Futures Program offers numerous conservation areas open to the public for passive, non-motorized, trail-based recreation.	https://www.spokanecounty.org/4266/Conservation-Areas

<u>State Lands:</u>			
Name of Public Land (example)	Land Manager/ Agency in charge:	Mission of this land:	Website for more information/ comments
Wildlife Areas (Rustler's Gulch)	Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife	dedicated to preserving, protecting, and perpetuating the state's fish, wildlife, and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.	https://wdfw.wa.gov/places-to-go/wildlife-areas Discover Pass
DNR lands	Washington Department of Natural Resources	Manage, sustain, and protect the health and productivity of Washington's lands and waters to meet the needs of present and future generations.	Discover pass https://www.dnr.wa.gov/ Interactive recreation areas map is here: https://www.dnr.wa.gov/sites/default/files/rec-map/index.html DNR has forest trust lands, recreation lands, conservation areas, and more.
State Park (Riverside State Park)	Washington State Parks	The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission cares for Washington's most treasured lands, waters, and historic places.	https://www.parks.wa.gov/

<u>Federal Lands</u>			
Name of Public Land (example)	Land Manager/ Agency in charge:	Mission of this land:	Website for more information/ comments
National Forest (Colville National Forest)	U. S. Forest Service	To sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.	https://www.fs.usda.gov/colville Weed free hay or hay pellets are required.
BLM (Fish Trap)	Bureau of Land Management	mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.	https://www.blm.gov/office/spokane-district-office Weed free hay or hay pellets are required.
National Wildlife Refuges (Little Pend Oreille NWR)	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	To administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management and, where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitats for the benefit of Americans.	annual pass or day use pass in some refuges. https://www.fws.gov/refuges/ Weed free hay or hay pellets are recommended.
National Parks (North Cascades National Park)	National Park Service	In order to preserve for the benefit, use, and inspiration of present and future generations certain majestic mountain scenery, snowfields, glaciers, alpine meadows, and other unique natural features in the North Cascade Mountains of the State of Washington.	https://www.nps.gov/noca/planyourvisit North Cascades does allow horses on designated trails; limits groups and stock combined to 12 total. Back country permits are required for overnight stays. Permits can be done on the website in advance. Weed free hay or hay pellets are required.
National Recreation Areas (Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area)	National Park Service	[mission not found]	Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area does allow horseback riding. Weed free hay or pellets are required if you feed. Camping does cost at the NRA but there is no entrance fee. For questions call 509-754-7800.

SPRINGTIME ON THE RANCH

By Vern Hopkins

The changing of the seasons is always looked forward to. Each new season brings its own set of activities and events and also spells the winding down of the routines that have become old. Probably ranch life has many seasonal work-related changes as anything.

Springtime on the ranch is always eagerly awaited and dreaded at the same time. The work load magnifies and it doesn't take long before you are burning the candle at both ends to keep up.

When *Madam Spring* arrives with her split personality and her unforgiving nature, the challenges begin. New life is springing up everywhere; green grass, flowers, new calves and colts and the birds coming back from winter vacation. Each day brings a new face on the weather picture. A beautiful, sunshiny day might be followed by a day or two of cold winds, frosty mornings and wet snowstorms. The relatively leisurely rhythm of winter chores gives way to the bustling busyness of trying to stay abreast of spring's many and varied demands. Round-the-clock tending of birthing new animals interspersed with getting fields ready for planting and making winter-damage repairs give the ranchers a full plate.

It's not that they don't love the tasks at hand, because they really do, it's just that the work load accelerates into a hectic pace until it peaks out. Eventually the new births are over with, the crops are in the ground, the fences are ready for the year and the load eases up a little. *Ms Spring* smiles sweetly and say's, "Let's take a little break, you know summer will soon be here."

Is it possible to love spring but dread her coming at the same time? I guess it is but we're always ready and eager for her to show up.



4-H Tack Sale

By **Ken Carmichael**

On Saturday, March 12th the Ponderosa chapter had a booth at the 4-H Tack Sale. It is one of the ways that we promote BCH and the work we do to keep trails open for equestrians. Also, this gives us the opportunity to tell people about the upcoming Poker Ride and Trailhead Camping Seminar.



It was a fun day as we got the chance to talk to lots of people that like horses. It was especially fun to hand out the Activity Book for small children. Their eyes light up when they receive something. We handed out lots of fliers to people that showed interest in what we are doing.



Of course, we all took our turns to walk around the buildings and purchase those much-needed items at a good price.

Thank you to the following people who gave of their time to help BCH:

Ashley Karsh
Mary Johnston
Stephanie Hanlon
Doug Bailey
Don Dyer
Dee Dee Denison

And a special thanks to **Melissa Halpin** who came on Friday to set up the booth and was there all day on Saturday.



**Equine Trail Sports
and
Upcoming Events
By Linda White**



This year I am hosting an Equine Trail Sport Tournament, The Ustengo Triple Crown. This consists of three separate events: The Spokane Memorial Derby, May 28-30, Riverside Equestrian Area; The Spokane River Stakes, July 9-10, Riverside Equestrian Area; and the Ustengo Stakes, Oct 15-16, 2022, Spokane Sport Horse Farm.

Equine Trail Sports (ETS) is a national membership based organization. Members are eligible for Regional and National tournaments and awards for equine and rider. There are lifetime recognition and awards for equine and rider. Mileage is tracked from each event for your use.

ETS has several types of events:

- **TRAIL CHALLENGE (TC)** relaxing trail ride with judged obstacles placed in camp and on trail (5-10 miles). Ride at a leisurely pace with friends and family. Enjoy the sights as you improve your horsemanship skills. An unlimited number of obstacles, but at least 6.
- **OBSTACLE TRAIL (OT)**
Any combination of pasture, arena, and trail (2-4 miles) with at least 8 obstacles.
- **OBSTACLE COURSE (OC)**
Any combination of pasture, arena, and trail (0-1 mile) with at least 8 obstacles.
- **IN HAND (IH)**
In Hand courses are held in an arena or pasture setting with at least 8 obstacles where the handler works with the equine through obstacles.

Each participant and equine are scored at each obstacle. There are three different levels which are weighted based on difficulty. You can select the level that is right for you at each obstacle. This gives everyone an opportunity to participate at their own comfort level. For more information on ETS please visit <https://www.equinetrailsports.com>.

The Spokane Memorial Derby is two days of a trail challenge and an obstacle course. It will be at Riverside Equestrian area. You can participate in one or all days.

I am in need of individuals who like to participate as a judge or volunteer at these events. In order to become a judge you need some basic horsemanship knowledge and be over the age of 18. There is a 3 hours free, online training to become a judge. These are offered at various times and days to meet everyone schedule. Judges also are tracked and given awards for the number of rider/equines they judge. Judging can also be a great way to learn what is expected in order to achieve higher scores.

These challenges are great, fun opportunity for those who have always wanted to try their horse with obstacles and judging is a way to participate and give back. Please contact me at 509-413-7392 or linda43562@hotmail.com if you would like to volunteer, judge or have questions.

See the Flyer for more information on Linda's ETS event at the end of this newsletter.

More About Manure Management:

And now for something a little different.. Diana Birge shared a facebook post from Jumbo Minds, Inc., about turning manure into fuel bricks. The post said:

“Horse manure is a great source of fuel! Backwoods Home has instructions on how to make horse manure bricks to burn as #fuel and claims it has a higher heating value than seasoned hardwood.”

Let us know how it works if anyone tries it!



More information here:

<https://www.backwoodshome.com/your-manure-pile/?fbclid=IwAR0ay92OP8YRwbElBbqqzCHetIjHakhL-tobn2X2J1Aj52CDlrdN2GfceH4>

Ponderosa Members...

- Do you have a new saddle or a new horse? Would you like to have your saddle fit assessed, so you can be sure your horse is comfortable?
- Do you need repairs?
- Do you need English saddle re-flocking?
- Here is an excellent opportunity for quality service, close to home! Please message me with any questions. Carol Klar - Cklar32@gmail.com

*Saddle Fitting Clinic with Steve Stefely of Bison Saddlery
40+ years of experience Independent Craftsman*



*Saddle Fitting Consultation is \$45/client, and you can bring
1-3 horses and more than 1 saddle/horse, within reason.*

Consultation fee may be waived when combined with other work

Contact Carol Klar to Schedule your time with Steve.

Appointments available over April 8th weekend

email: Cklar32@gmail.com text or call: 435-513-1301



*We have hosted Steve here at our farm in Spokane for several years.
He does awesome work at reasonable prices. Equally skilled with
English and Western tack, Fitting, Flocking (english), Repair and
custom work available for horses and mules!*

Please confirm your appointment by April 3rd. Thank you!

From the Editor:

I invite you all to continue to send me your 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

PBCH Officers

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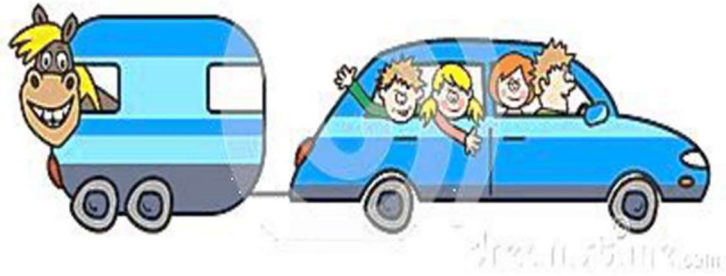
The Executive Board for PBCH includes the officers, plus Doug Bailey, Trail Boss; Michelle Eames, Newsletter; and Melissa Halpin, Spokane County Lands Coordinator.

[Keep on reading folks, there is more detailed info on several events below!!!!]

Front Country

TRAILHEAD CAMPING Seminar

Brought to you by the Ponderosa
Chapter of Back Country Horsemen



April 30 – May 1, 2022

Riverside State Park

WHAT

Learn and experience the joys of overnight camping with your best friend (your horse). Have the help of experienced campers to guide you in knowing what to take with you, how to set up camp and care for your horse. Start simple and determine your needs and wants.

HANDS ON!

This is a hands-on seminar where you bring your horse to a nearby camp and spend the night.

COST

- Registration \$99 per vehicle
- Saturday Night Camping Fee Included
- A Discover Pass is NOT required when camping

REGISTRATION

- Pre-registration is required by April 18
- Register on line at www.pbchwc.com, **OR** you can complete a paper registration form and mail in with a check. See www.pbchwc.com for further instruction.
- Refunds for cancellation provided up to April 18
- The size of the group is limited on a first come first served basis
- You will receive a confirmation of registration, directions, agenda and information about what you should bring.

PLEASE

- No alcohol
- Keep all pets on a leash at all times

SATURDAY

While experiencing the overnight camp, also enjoy learning about:

- Trailheads in the Spokane Area
- Land management requirements
- Leave No Trace (LNT)
- Useful knots
- Useful camping gear
- Alternative methods of camping
- Horse confinement while camping
- Back Country Horsemen
- Dutch Oven Dinner & Potluck
- Bonfire with s'mores and stories

SUNDAY

- More information sharing and Q&A Session
- Please join the Ponderosa BCH members for a trail ride in Riverside State Park



Further Information or Questions?

Contact Ken Carmichael
509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
www.pbchwc.com



FUNDRAISER

P O K E R

R I D E

REGISTER ON LINE AT WWW.PBCHW.COM

RAFFLES ! CASH PRIZES!

what

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

where

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

when

Sunday, May 15, 2022

Raffle

11 am and 1 PM

Riders Out

9 am to 11:00 am

Ride length is approximately 2-1/2 Hours

FAMILY EVENT! Kids 17 & under FREE!

cost

Pre-Register by MAY 3

\$25 per rider 18+

Register at Event:

\$30 per rider 18+

Box Lunches Available for

\$ 7.00 each

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

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

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!

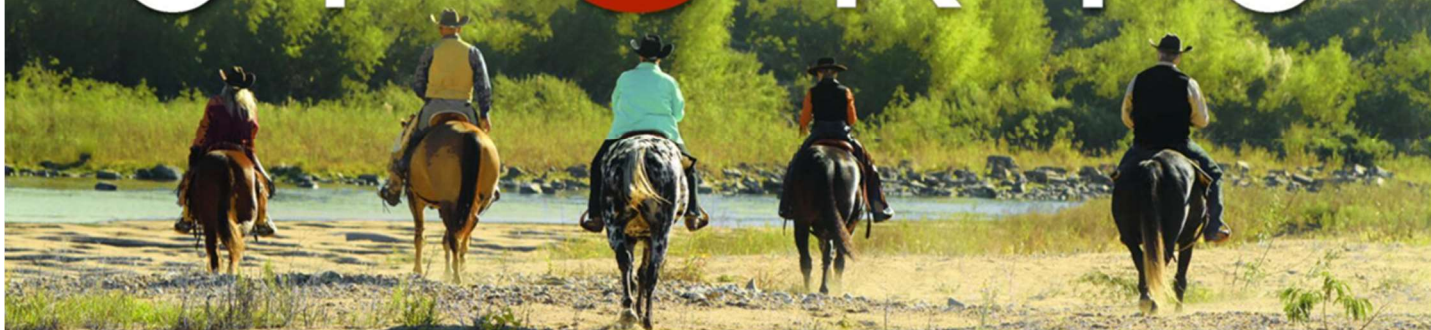
Credit/Debit available on site; Cash/Check preferred

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.

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

EQUINETRAIL SPORTS



Ustengo Presents
Spokane Memorial Derby Trail Challenge
Part of the Ustengo Triple Crown Series



May 28-30, 2022

Riverside State Park Equestrian Area
Spokane, WA

For more information contact Linda White
Linda43562@hotmail.com, 509-413-7392

What Makes ETS Different?

- Choose Your Challenge Level that best suits you and your horse at each obstacle!
- Enjoy new trails and make new friends at our family friendly events!
- Event registration is half price for all students!
- Membership is free to all students (7-22 years old)!
- No cost to register your equines!
- Obstacles are not timed!
- Events are open to all breeds of horses, donkeys and mules.
- Exciting tournaments for added fun!

Ride for Fun, Ride to Learn.

Trail Challenge. Obstacle Course. Recreation Ride.

WWW.EQUINETRAILSPORTS.COM



And now you are officially at

The End of the Newsletter!!

Ride On!

See ya soon!

Happy trails to you, until we meet again!



First Buttercup photo by Diana Birge