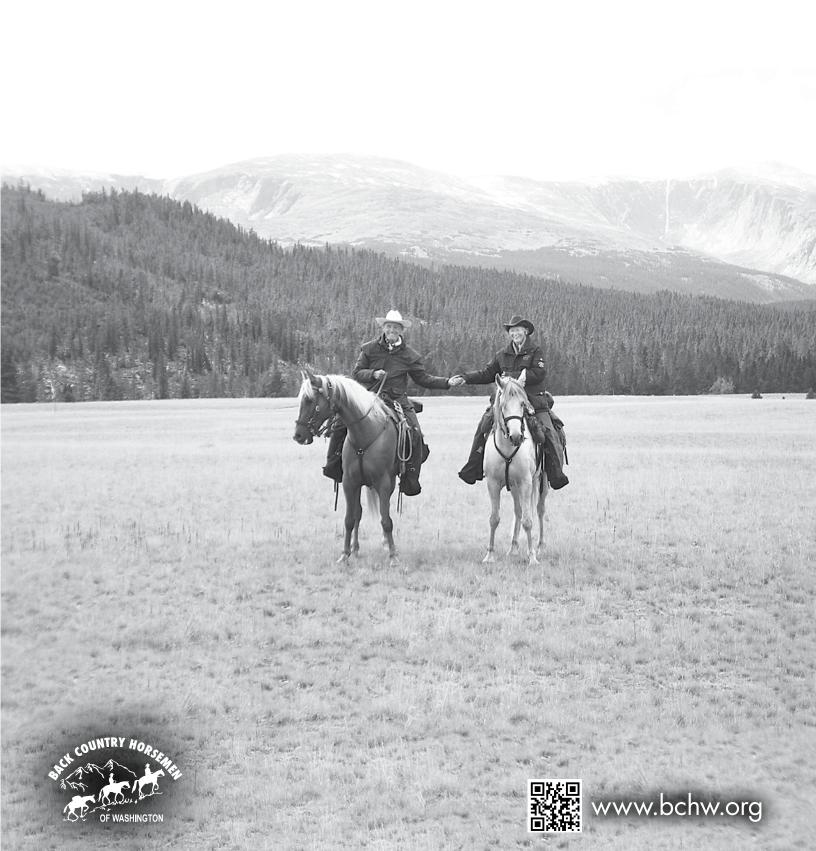
The Trained Vol. 44 Issue 1 Trained Vol. 44 Issue 1 Construction of Washington Vol. 44 Issue 1 Anuary/February 26

January/February 2019



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Adriane Goodwin bchw@wamedia.com	candidate. The forgoing applies to the official position of BCHW it does not restrict or discourage individual members from representing themselves in support of a candidate. Advertising Information Call: 360.754.4543

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Name

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Caleb	MET
Trygve Culp	OKA
David Jackson	PSR
Daren & Heather Mooreman	PSR
Jim Murphy	OLY
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Teri Starke	IND
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Teunis Wyers	MTA
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Rick Zeleznik	TAH
2017 4 144 15 14 17 14	
2017 Annual Meeting Head Table	
Danny Garner	YAK
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JoAnn Lacy & Dale BamfordNIS

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Barbara Woo & Sott BauerCHC

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Jannine Allen & Danny Garner......YAK

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Robert & Sheila BlakelyIND

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Darlene & Mike Brady.....TAH

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Danny & Jeanie ChappelRRR

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Stephen & Michelle Cooper.....TAH

Missy DayTAH

Patrick DolanMSH

2018 Patron Level

2018 Sustaining Level

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Margo Forstrom & Earl McNally	PIE
Dawn Graham	MTO
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Karl Kaiyala & Kathy Rafferty	MET
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A Gift To Honor or In Remembrance

Donate in memory of a friend, family, or loved one. To make a donation in their name to BCHW, please contact Teri Starke, BCHW Treasurer, at: 253.709.5052 or tstrk21@msn.com.

Tax Deduction

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

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

mileage for your taxes.





Happy New Year to All

By Kathy Young, BCHW President

hope this month finds you looking forward to a fresh new year that will be full of adventure and the camaraderie that BCHW fosters.

First and foremost, I want to recognize and thank all of the BCHW members who were recently elected or appointed to positions in the chapters. This volunteer organization counts on each and every one of you for your donation of time and resources and for your dedication to the operation and administration of BCHW.

I expect that many of you have LEADERSHIP TRAIN-ING on January 26th on your calendars. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for members to attend. Leadership Training is a critical component for maintaining this organization and moving it forward. As we rely almost entirely on volunteers to function, it is very important for BCHW officers and members to make this training a priority. So, what about rain, ice, sleet, and snow? Those weather hazards can be a real concern so I urge you to consider and to plan for travel options now. Our instructors are looking forward to sharing information with you that will help you to be more effective in your position and will kick start our year.

February: Legislative Day, on February 25th, is our opportunity to get our policy messages to Washington's legislators and to their support staff. Even if you don't regularly wear a cowboy hat, this is the time to break that Stetson out. The visual of the hats and boots in the halls of the Legislative building is impressive.

March: Rendezvous and the Annual BCHW General Membership meeting will be held March 15 – 17th. More information about the Rendezvous events will be found in this issue of the THN.

Friday, March 15 is scheduled as Public Lands Day at Rendezvous. This is our opportunity to meet with land managers and the agencies that we work with. Rendezvous planners have taken care to try to avoid conflicting events and clinics during the Public Lands schedule so that most members will be able to attend. [This event is scheduled for Friday because that is when land managers are more able to schedule their time to travel and attend.] Contact Pete Erben, public_lands@bchw.org - BCHW Public Lands Chairman, if you want to suggest an invitation to a land manager who would have valuable input and would need to be scheduled to attend.

I'm going to look back at the calendar for a moment, and give you a little glimpse of how I have spent my BCHW time recently. Fall 2018 was interesting and full, there is always so much future planning going on in the fall. In September I had the opportunity to attend a VIP ride at Capitol State Forest south of Olympia. Our VIP for the day was none other than DNR's Commissioner Hilary Franz. October 4th, I was able to get out to a work party at Walupt Lake and Nannie Ridge that was jointly attended by BCHW members and organized by PCTA. October 9th, BCHW joined BCHO to visit with Tracy Tophooven, Director for Recreation, and her staff at FS Pacific Northwest

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BCHW Mission Statement

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

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



Grants January/February 2019

Huge Progress Made on the USFS Bogachiel Re-Route Trail



Seven Washington Trail Association people and Larry Baysinger

By Sherry Baysinger, Mt Olympus Chapter Secretary

fter a nearly three-year wait for approval by the USFS, a 3/4 mile re-route of a riverside section of the Bogachiel River Trail is officially underway. Following the completion of necessary National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Dean Millet, USFS NW Regional Ranger, had his people flag the re-route.

This reroute will replace a section of trail that is continuously undermined by the river and has become a "highway" of windfalls as a result of dead and dying old-growth trees.

Larry Baysinger had requested funding from Back Country Horsemen of Washington for a Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant in 2016. This grant included work on the Bogachiel River re-route.

Rebecca Wanagel, Washington Trail Association (WTA) crew leader, expressed interest in putting a crew together to work on the re-route and we made plans to partner with WTA.



Sherry Baysinger moving pieces

We have a great working relationship with WTA. Earlier this spring, Mt. Olympus Chapter member Dave Seibel, Larry, and I packed tools, gear, fuel, and water on our horses and mules for Rebecca's WTA crew. They camped on the Littleton-Mt. Muller ridge and worked four days on the trail corridor, doing brushing and tread work. Then, in September, accompanied by a handful of Mt. Olympus Chapter members, we packed four mules with WTA tools and gear to work on the North Fork Quinault. We've come to really appreciate the work of these dedicated people and they appreciate having stock carry their gear.

In preparation for working on the Bogachiel River Trail reroute, Larry and I rode in with a pack horse loaded with weed whackers, loppers, and chainsaw to get a start on the trail. I spent some time following the flagging to ensure the trail would be pack stock accessible. There were lots of large and small windfalls hidden underneath a forest of chest-high ferns, vine maple groves, huge old-growth spruce, fir, and a few big-leaf maple trees. We got a good feel for how much time it was going to take to get a completed trail worked in. We were going to need lots of bodies out there!

A few weeks later Rebecca, Larry, and Mt. Olympus Chapter Grant Committee Chair Jeff Doane met at the re-route trail and walked the flag line together. A little more time would be needed to ensure the best way around a swamp and a creek, as that portion had not been flagged. Rebecca made plans to bring in a large WTA crew and we would pack in tools. WTA planned to work the Saturday and Sunday after Thanksgiving and Larry and I packed in tools and worked Friday and Saturday.

It was a cold, rainy day on Friday when we packed into the trail. We stashed our tools and worked falling dead trees, so we had a safe place to tie up our horses. Rebecca and Martin, both

continued on page 4

Grants January/February 2019

Huge Progress Made on the USFS Bogachiel Re-Route Trail

continued from page 3

saw WTA crew leaders, worked as volunteers that day, running saws from the other end. Larry ran the weed whackers and I removed the branches and small windfalls and put up more flagging so that the crews would know for sure where to go through the ferns and vine maple brambles on our end.

On Friday evening we got exciting news from the new USFS Recreations Specialist, Gabe Hobson, that he planned to meet with the WTA crew Saturday morning, walk the re-route with Rebecca, and eventually meet us on the far end. We were all equally elated that we had a new USFS contact who took the time out of

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHERRY BAYSINGER



Bogachiel River Trail.

his very busy day to meet the volunteers and walk the trail with them. Gabe and Rebecca walked the reroute and, along with the help of her savvy crew members, a middle route was located, and we didn't have to cross the creek at all. Gabe arrived at our end just as we were unloading tools from our pack stock.

Larry was the only certified sawyer that day. WTA does not allow their crew members to run chainsaws on their work projects. Many of the windfalls were three to four feet in diameter, requiring 10-15 cuts on each log to open up the corridor. On each end, WTA had people running weed whackers, raking, and digging out ferns and roots and working with hoes to get down to mineral soil. It was just amazing to see how fast progress was made. Laying out a new trail is hard work!

Many of the WTA people are urbanites, so they have often not seen pack animals in action. So, when we stopped for lunch, crew members asked lots of questions about our horses and the horses enjoyed the apple treats they shared.

Sometime around 2:30 the WTA crew who started from the other end met up with us. It was a welcome surprise as we didn't really expect to connect on the first day. We stashed some of our tools and packed out the rest and rode the river trail out because there were still too many windfalls remaining on the re-route. When we got to the trailhead, the WTA people were enjoying their tailgate buffet of coffee, juices, and lots of healthy snacks; like chocolate! We didn't mind joining them!

Rebecca told us then that two of her WTA certified sawyer were signing themselves out of the WTA crew project so that they could run chainsaws as volunteers. Those two sawyers and the crew succeeded in opening the remainder of the reroute on Sunday.

While there is still plenty of tread and finish work left to do, we hope to ride our stock through the new reroute the next time we work there.

It's a rare thing to have the opportunity to build a trail that our great-great...grandkids will likely hike or ride after we leave this scene.

Prez Says

continued from page 2

Region 6. We were introduced to Michelle Mitchell, the new Assistant Director for Recreation, and look forward to working closely with Michelle to attempt to streamline some paperwork requirements to make our planning and communication more efficient. Also in October, I was invited to speak at the Pierce County Forevergreen Trails Conference and attended the National Trails Conference (NTC) in Vancouver Washington as a volunteer on the behalf of BCHA. Jim Anderson of Mt St Helens chapter, Tom Connor from Lewis County Chapter, and Ranae Stevens from Tahoma chapter were also volunteers at the NTC. Later that same week, I attended the Washington State Trails Conference [WSTC] in Wenatchee along with Public Lands Chair-

man Pete Erben, Legislative Chairman Jeff Chapman, and BCHW VP Jason Ridlon. Jason and Jeff were both invited speakers for WSTC sessions. November brought a meeting with Mt. Rainier National Parks new superintendent, Chip Jensen, to get an update on the status of the park stewardship planning effort. And of course, like many of you, I have filled my spare time writing letters of support for various grant applications and projects. I realize that there are many of you out there who are as busy as (and busier) than I am, and I am exceedingly grateful for your dedication. I'm looking forward to 2019 and a year full of good work and some serious campfire time.

Trails for The Future

RENDEZVOUS

March 15 - 17, 2019

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



COME JOIN THE FUN!!!!

- BCHW GENERAL MEETING
- USED TACK SALE
- VENDOR BOOTHS
- PACKING COMPETITION
- AUCTIONS
- PUBLIC LANDS DAY
- DUTCH OVEN COOKING
- CROSSCUT COMPETITION
- Friday Lunch Potluck

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN'S STATEWIDE CELEBRATION

FREE CLASSES & DEMONSTRATIONS

- Andy Breland
- The Trailmeister
- CPR/1st Aid Training
- Insurance Underwriters
- Back Country Riding for the Faint of Heart
- Communication in the Back Country
- PCT/BCHW Joint Projects and more!!!

Saturday Night:

Dinner

&

Auction

Register at BCHW.org

Come see BCHW's displays:

Hard Hat Decorating Competition

Chapter Displays

Photo Display

Table Decorating Competi-

For more information go to BCHW.org Or contact Nicole Sedgwick bchwexec@bchw.org Friday & Saturday:
9 to 5

Sunday: 9 to Noon



KITTITAS VALLEY EVENT CENTER

512 N Poplar, Ellensburg, WA



Rendezvous – March 15-17, 2019

By Nicole Sedgwick BCHW Executive Director

t is time for another BCHW General Meeting. It is because of the general meeting that Rendezvous began. Members decided that, if they were going to travel a long way for the meeting, let's put some learning and fun in with it, too. Now Rendezvous represents so much! Keep reading to see what it has grown into!

- The BCHW General Meeting that BCHW has once a year for all 32 chapters to come together and celebrate everything we have accomplished this past year.
- Used Tack Sale where people clean out their tack rooms and others find the missing items they need.
- Rendezvous has a nice selection of Vendors to shop for things for yourself and others.
- There are plenty of Competitions to participate in! There will be the Dutch Oven, Packing, and Crosscut Saw Competitions.
- We hope you will join us for a Potluck Lunch on Friday where the Dutch Oven competition food will be shared with all. Bring something to share, too.
- amazon.com.
 You shop. Amazon gives.

Be sure to shop at Amazon Smile with Back Country Horsemen of Washington as your charity of choice!

- There will be a nice assortment of Clinics. We have Andy Breedland and the Trailmeister coming back. Many of our own people have come up with some great ideas that vary from communications and batteries to how to plan for trips and cooking at camps for large groups. We also have Tom Berryman coming to work with us in the Bloom about how to handle horse emergencies on the road and trails. And so much more!
- Stroll through the Manastash and Heritage rooms to see the Chapter Displays, Photo Display, and the booths of BCHW and other organizations. And pick up your new BCHW gear at the BCHW store.
- There will be a Packing Demo, across from the Used Tack sale, in the grass. Be sure to stop by and say hello. You just might learn a thing or two. You can even ask them about knots, too.
- Public Lands Day will be from 9 to noon on Friday. Come join us as we meet our public land managers to talk about the changes taking place.
- Saturday Night Dinner is a great time to come together and socialize with members of different chapters. It is also fun to see all the wonderful table decorations the chapters work so hard to make for the Table Decorating Competition.
- There are three auctions to participate in. There is the Bucket Auction where you drop your tickets into the jar for the item you would like to win, the Silent Auction where you can write down your bid on items you fall in love with, and there is the Live Auction that we have after dinner on Saturday.

When you decide to come, be sure to register. The form is on the Rendezvous page that you will find under Upcoming Events on the BCHW.org site. There is camping and dinner for a cost. Everything else is free (unless you begin to buy things). Be sure to come and enjoy all the learning and fun Rendezvous has to offer!!!

Rendezvous Auction Opportunities!

By Missy Day

he BCHW Rendezvous this March includes a fund-raising auction and some unique opportunities for you and your chapter. You can...

...Donate Stuff!

We can use the western shirt you bought but put away for later, the art your friends admire but won't fit in your new house, and the historic poster the kids don't appreciate. If it's hand-crafted, depicts a mule (or horse), has an engine, fosters nostalgia or brings a laugh, we love it! You can surprise us at Rendezvous with your donation or you can let us know ahead of time.

...Sell a Ride

The "Come Ride Our Part of the State" launched three years ago at Rendezvous to encourage more interaction between chapters and to showcase some of our favorite places to ride. It also happens to raise some money for BCHW.

How does it work? Your chapter designs and hosts a week-

end ride for up to four people. Your event includes a camping location, a hosted ride, and one or two meals. Buyers bring their own horses and camping gear. You decide the dates, provide a description of the terrain, and describe any special information. Then you make a poster to "sell" the ride at the Rendezvous Auction. Minimum bids will be \$100 and \$50 will return to the chapter to help defray expenses. People who have bought these rides LOVE them!

...Decorate a hard hat, win a \$100

Bring your decorated hard hat to the Rendezvous auction area and enter it in the famous "Jason Ridlon" Hard Hat contest. The winner is selected by vote and votes are sold for \$1. That's right, you can buy your way to stardom! The winner will be announced at dinner and may have an opportunity to model their creation. Individuals, chapters, and groups are welcome to participate.

Questions? Comments? Ideas? Contact Missy Day at mssd134@gmail.com.

BCHW Rendezvous 2019 Dutch Oven Cooking Contest Hosted by Ponderosa chapter Friday March 15, 2019

Would you like to show off your Dutch Oven cooking skill? This is your opportunity to show how well you can cook outdoors.

- There will be two categories: main dish and deserts; one entry per category.
- The event will be held on Friday March 15, from 8am till noon with final judging at 12:00 to 12:30.
- The contest is open to non-professional cooks
- Judges will be in the area during the event. Once judging is completed you may take your dishes to the potluck.
- Contestants will provide his/her own food and cooking gear. This includes briquettes, fire starter and cooking table.
- A complete set of rules will be sent to each contestant.
- Cutoff date for preregistration is March 9th.

DUTCH OVEN COOKING CONTEST

NAME	CHAPTER OR INDEPENDENT
ADDRESS	
PHONE	EMAIL

Please send or email to Doug Bailey, datmona@yahoo.com or mail to: 26005 w. Lehn Rd. Medical Lake, Washington 99022, or call 509-299-7300.





Legislative News

By Jeff Chapman, BCHW Legislative Chair

t is that time of the year that we gear up into the next exciting legislative session in Olympia. This is the big year when a two-year budget is decided upon. If you recall, two years ago there was a standoff in Olympia over rural water rights that led to a one-year delay in adopting a capital budget. Since the capital budget contains all of the recreation grant programs, the delay led to a postponement of project awards, and this is leading to an overlap of grant efforts (more than usual) with wrapping up some grants and, at the same time, starting others. The bottom line, though, is that work is getting done. Lots of it. However, this won't continue if the state doesn't pass the 2019 capital and operating budgets, and that will be the focus of our legislative work between January and April.

In the usual front positions, we will be working to make sure the NOVA (over 10 million) and RTP (5 million) revenue items are in the capital budget for recreational grant use and not diverted to some other purpose. These remain the key grant revenues for trail maintenance in Washington State (RTP grants include BCHW, WTA, PTCA, PNTA, M2SG, and others). A note that on the federal side there is hope to get the gas tax source for RTP increased by 2x or 3x fold through federal legislation for future years.

For the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, there are a number of large scale grant projects in this, from completion of the Spruce Railroad Trail section of the Olympic Discovery Trail in Clallam County to a couple of engineered sections of the Palouse to Cascades Trail in Whitman County. We hope to connect these with a 3,000 foot trail bridge over the Columbia River, a project spearheaded by the same Historic Preservation

group that worked successfully on some of our federal issues to save the Enchanted Valley Chalet, the Green Mountain Lookout, and the Olympic Park shelters. WWRP also has a couple of trail projects to develop horse trail near Tiger Mountain in the Raging River area as well as improve Margaret McKinney horse camping in Capitol Forest.

On the operating side, we are working on advocating to secure 8.5 million for DNR for sustainable recreation. This will be used to improve and expand trails at Green Mountain and other horse facilities throughout the state. We also will support State Parks funding requests and assist with solving the chronic difficulties of WDFW in establishing a balanced budget while keeping sportsmen's fees reasonable.

All this and we have yet to review what policy bills are introduced that deal with recreation. January is a busy month for bill introductions, and we will look through any that affect recreation. We will be participating in the weekly state legislative caucus meetings to discuss Discover Pass policies and other bill provisions/studies that can influence our access to public lands. We will be holding our annual legislative day in Olympia in the Washington Room in the basement of the Pritchard Building at 9 am on Monday, February 25th. Note that this a new room for us (access through the main cafeteria entrance and then go down the stairs by the Code Reviser's office or use the main elevator located in the same vicinity). As always you will need to group together with other members from your legislative district and schedule office meetings with your 3 legislators. We will have handouts, a briefing, and speakers to help with this effort starting at 9 sharp. Hope to see you there!!!



BCHW Legislative Day 2019

All Members Are Welcome!

Monday, February 25, at 9:00 am in the Washington Room

(In the basement of the Pritchard Building)

Call Your Legislators to make appointments Now!

11 am to late afternoon would be best.

Legislator contact information: 1.800.562.6000, or http://apps.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder, or call the toll free legislative hotline to contact your legislator.

Questions? Contact Legislative Chair Jeff Chapman bbbranch@olympus.net • 360.385.6364

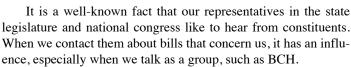
Legislative Activity

By Ken Carmichael, Governance and Bylaws Chairman

oday (Tuesday) I forwarded to all PBCH chapter members an email I received from BCHA. Some of you may have

also received the original email. I just want to explain a little about this type of email.

A major function and benefit of BCH is our influence on legislative activity at the state and national level. It is one of the ways that we keep trails open. We are fortunate to have two extremely good leaders for this endeavor. Jeff Chapman watches everything at the state level and Randy Rasmussen is our national contact. These people are extremely talented and dedicated.



Jeff and Randy can keep track of the bills and make contacts, but it is us in the chapters who must back them up with the calls and emails. So when you receive a request to contact a legislator or congressman please take a few minutes and follow through. Once you get the hang of it you will find that it is a very simple

process. The message can be very simple.

What else can be done? We need to keep track of who our representatives are, what committees they are on, and how best to contact them. A person in the chapter can accept this responsibility. Another job is to visit with the representatives and invite them, or their staff, to events. This could be someone else in the chapter.

BCHW has a Legislative Day in Olympia each year. In 2019 it will be February 25th. I went last year, and it was fun talking to these people. Jeff does a great

job putting this event together. You may want to consider joining us in 2019.

Bottom line is that these legislators and congressmen are important to the success of the BCH mission. We must know them, they must know us, and we must express our opinions in a way that we are heard, understood, and accepted as valuable input. Please join us in that effort.

ers, and spectators, and also recognizing the fact that Back Country Horsemen of Washington, including

chapters, officers, directors, or members cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience of riders or horses taking part in Trail Rides or other BCHW functions, I do hereby release the above named

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as

Dated

Dated

Dated

from any claim or right for damages, which might occur to me, my minor children or horses.

"charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.

		(E)
	•	, 10#t

	2019 BCHW	All adult members r	adult members need to sign the form. Chapter Members: contact your Chapter for an application.					
	Membership Application	Independent Members	s mail to: BCHW ATTN: Member	rship, P.O. Box 1132, Ellensbu	rg, WA 98926-1132			
4	I would l	ike to help preserve	the Horsemen's rights to use	horses on public lands.				
Ł	New Member Renewal/Past M				lative District			
	Children Names (please print)							
	Address		City	State2	Zip			
חמוו	Phone ()C							
na ı	Occupation							
ğ	Do you want to be a volunteer? 🗖 Y	es I No What w	ould you like to volunteer fo	r?				
ğ Q	By signing this application I	agree to receive noti	ces from BCHW by electroni	c transmission at the above	ve email address.			
riease ciip	State membership for 2019 calent Family Membership \$ 54 Single Membership \$ 41 Additional State Donation \$	Liability All ADUL	do not mail me The Trailhead Release & Notices T members MUST sign! Adult's s	ignature covers minor children.	Recognizing the fact that			
		there is a p	otential for an accident wherever ho	rse use is involved, which can ca	ause injuries to horses, rid-			

Optional Memberships

Contributing Member

Sustaining Member

Benefactor Member

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Patron Member

(Includes Family or Single Membership)

Lifetime (Single) Member \$1,200

\$ 75

\$ 125

\$ 250

\$ 500

Signed

Signed

Signed

BCHW-Volunteer Hours Report

By Deb Wesselius, BCHW Volunteer Hours Chair

he BCHW volunteer hour's summary report totals from October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018 has been completed and the totals are shown below. The year-end totals represent a job well done by chapter members, officers and Volunteer Hours Coordinates.

the totals by chapter and by agency. 2018 BCHW VOLUNTEER HOURS = 73.614.5

nator. The Excel document represents

 $TOTAL\ VALUE = $2,692,662.59$

A big thanks to the BCHW VH Regional folks: Peggy Swanberg-IND, Louise Caywood-PCC, JoAnn Yost-GHC,

Out of 33 chapters, 32 reported volunteer hours this year. So, congratulations to everyone on a job well done! You volunteers are the best.

Barbara Taylor-NEC & Barbara Vache'-CHC who mentor the chapter VHC, work hard keeping the volunteer hour reports reviewed for accuracy. Without their assistance, getting the yearly volunteer hour summary reports completed would be much more challenging.

(see chart on page 11)

Content Deadline for the March/April Newsletter is January 18, 2019.

ATTENTION!

Exception:

Legislative articles and photos deadline is January 31, 2019.

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

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

We would like to mail out The Trailhead News early because of 2019 Rendezvous.

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

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Membership Meeting

By Ken Carmichael, Governance and Bylaws Chairman

he BCHW Bylaws, Article VII MEETINGS; VOT-ING, Section 1, Membership Meetings provides for the calling of a membership meeting in part by saying: "Meetings of the general membership shall be held upon such dates and at such locations as the Board shall determine. Notice of a general membership meeting, and the nature of the business to be conducted, shall be published in the Trailhead News at least 30 days prior to the meeting. ..."

This is the official notice to the membership that a Membership Meeting will be held at the BCHW rendezvous in Ellensburg on Sunday, March 17th at approximately 10:00 am. Announcements will be made and business as brought before the group will be addressed. The current location is the Teanaway Building.

Questions about the meeting, or input may be brought to the attention the member's State Director.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Volunteer Hours Report State Summary



State Summary

2018 ~ Final prepared by: Deb Wesselius, BCHW VH Chair

	Trail	Work		Admin		Total	Personal	Total	Total
Washington State Chapter	Basic Trail	Skilled Trail	L.N.T. Educ.	Public Service	Travel Time	Volunteer Hours	Vehicle Miles	Stock Days	Dollar Value
Buckhorn Range Chapter									
Capitol Riders Chapter	283.5 106	47 0	18 65	459 333	195 108	1002.5 612	3911 3436	28 10	32,691.75
Cascade Horse Club									19,374.48
	191.5	45.5	357.5	608	261.5	1464	5641.5	0	42,884.69
Crab Creek Riders	56.5	0	47	59.5	68	231	2227	6	8,419.04
Ferry County Chapter	398.5	105	74	379.5	393.5	1350.5	7318	273	70,778.69
Grays Harbor Chapter	753.5	424	141	1031.5	894	3244	24575	67	122,992.05
Independent	557	589	109	1364	370.5	2989.5	8359	120	111,604.40
Inland Empire Chapter	69	0	95	89	97	350	3398	5	12,369.60
Island County Chapter	225.5	123	116	228	214	906.5	5923	0	31,736.47
Lewis County Chapter	861	877	420	2157	1028.5	5343.5	26608	209	204,690.49
Methow Valley Chapter	1148	388.5	111	970.5	505	3123	15050	61	109,279.81
Mt Adams Chapter	10	108	78	141	108.5	445.5	2560	30	19,704.88
Mt Olympus Chapter	501	534.5	867.5	1101	593	3597	16049	131	133,357.18
Mt St Helens Chapter	1187.5	462.5	276	1685.5	1079	4690.5	28483	78	164,685.67
Nisqually Chapter	252	0	130	898	250.5	1530.5	5518	19	44,930.15
Northeast Chapter	509.5	229.5	446.5	254	370.5	1810	9320	108	71,299.05
Oakland Bay Chapter	0	0	0	0	0	О	0	О	0.00
Okanogan Valley Chapter	89.5	93.5	79	408	146.5	816.5	4982.5	О	27,726.75
Olympic Chapter	1425	42	63	974	344	2848	11609	125	95,118.69
Peninsula Chapter	1714	586	506	2163	1042	6009	29943	163	210,869.72
Pierce County Chapter	1701.5	1582.5	927.5	2431	2014.5	8657	44189	239	327,586.46
Ponderosa Chapter	352	33.5	239	1254.5	381	2260	10485	13	68,075.54
Purple Sage Riders	30	0	25	696.5	131	882.5	6392	5	28,361.33
Rattlesnake Ridge Riders	435.5	130	371	393	321.5	1651	10070.5	71	61,370.47
Scatter Creek Riders	270	28.5	7	345	200.5	851	5181	0	26,796.98
Skagit Chapter	757	116.5	32	391.5	286.5	1583.5	9408	32	54,765.33
Tahoma Chapter	1544	819	331	2434.5	1106	6234.5	28404	257	231,437.50
Traildusters Chapter	398	291.5	56	1188.5	531	2465	14920	57	89,570.22
Wenas Chapter	122	88	176	258	236.5	880.5	5880	31	33,092.83
Wenatchee Valley Chapter	71.5	0	10	163.5	63.5	308.5	2118	1	9,728.97
Whatcom County Chapter	655	560	101	1103	767	3186	22850	292	146,543.44
Willapa Hills Chapter	78.5	20	38	360	152	648.5	4250	О	20,655.17
Yakima Valley Chapter	296.5	72	147.5	750	377	1643	9702	82	60,164.89
Totals	17049.5	8396.5	6460	27072	14636.5	73614.5	388760.7	2513	2,692,662.59

	Trail \	Work	Public Work	(Total	Travel Miles		Total
State Agency Report	Basic	Skilled	L.N.T.	Admin	Travel	Volunteer	Personal	Total	Dollar
	Trail	Trail	Educ.	Service	Time	Hours	Vehicle	Days	Value
U.S.F.S. (A)	8684	5654	108	463.5	4700	19609	117336.2	1390	905,988.34
State DNR (B)	3818.5	890.5	0	293	1230	6231.5	36699	383	254,010.84
State Parks (C)	972	186.5	0	129	426	1713.5	8829.5	35	59,847.16
National Parks (D)	218	338	0	11.5	151	718	3733	49	36,418.55
Education & LNT (E)	0	0	6349	0	2038	8387	59063.5	135	276,685.36
Dept. Fish & Wildlife (F)	298.5	72.5	0	29	225	625	4563	110	32,963.58
Administrative (G)	0	0	0	25729	4175	29903.5	125253	185	875,807.77
BLM (M)	178.5	26	0	21.5	121	346.5	3380	6	13,154.15
Private Timber (T)	1793.5	602	3	119.5	1085	3603	18305.5	143	138,894.92
County (W)	1086.5	627	0	276	488	2477.5	11598	77	98,891.95
Totals	17049.5	8396.5	6460	27072	14636.5	73614.5	388760.7	2513	2,692,662.59

BCHW Awards

January/February 2019

BCHW Awards Report

By Lynn Wilhelm-Howell, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

never tire of hearing or reading about volunteers who make such a big difference in our organization. It warms my heart. When you take the time to document fellow volunteers via photos, hours, or days on a project together, to compile in a folder for nomination by February 8th, 2019, it isn't as hard as you'd think. You, or a couple people, could put together a nomination in the two months until February. Let me know if you have questions or candidates. The hardest part has been doing the volunteer work.



An issue that came up is chapters announcing the person they nominated as a recipient prematurely in newsletters and chapter meetings. I hadn't even gotten all the nominations yet. So, please remember, if there are many nominations for one category submitted, and there are a set number of awards for each category (listed in the description), not all nominations will be awarded. You might have to resubmit for the next year? My understanding is to wait until the awards committee contacts the person who turned in the nomination that their nominee will be a recipient, then make a plan to get the person to Rendezvous. The reason I am pointing this out is not to have any hurt feelings for people who have done such great things for BCHW. Your help with this would be awesome!

BCHW AWARDS CATEGORIES

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT This award is for the BCHW member or couple who has shown a lifetime of dedication to BCHW by actively pursuing and promoting the organization and the BCHW Mission Statement in a variety of ways. This award is for recognition, not a contest.

Lifetime = 1, max 2 awarded

LOPPER AWARD This award is for a BCHW member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and dedication to their chapter or to BCHW by participation and promotion of what the BCHW Mission Statement stands for. This is kind of an "all around" award, with the nominee being active in several different aspects of the many things that make up BCHW. Lopper = 3, max 4 awarded

CAMP COOK This award is for the BCHW member who willingly keeps the campfires burning and the kettles hot and full of delicious food to share with others. Whether it is at meetings, work parties or social functions, they are in the kitchen making sure all are well fed.

Camp Cook = 1 awarded

TRAIL WARRIOR This person may not make all the chapter functions or even own a computer but they are out rain or shine, day in and day out, working on the trails.

Trail Warrior = 3, max 4 awarded

DESK JOCKEY This person is one of the behind the scenes people, always at a computer or running from meeting to meeting. They keep the wheels of our organization turning.

Desk Jockey = 2, max 3 awarded

JUNIOR BCHW Our future! Who stands out in your chapter? This person would participate in chapter events such as work parties, fund raisers, LNT/education, training or BCHW promotion such as parades.

Junior BCH = 1, max 2 awarded

BACKBONE This award is to recognize that special member who is always there when needed, ready and willing to do some special job that no one else can or will do, sometimes at the last minute. This is a member who is very important in keeping the chapter, organization or an event operating smoothly.

Backbone = 2, max 3 awarded

CINCH AWARD This award was created to recognize those hard working BCHW members who have consistently and competently carried out jobs at the state level, year after year. Recipients shall be Volunteer Committee Chairmen, Volunteer Committee member, or an UNELECTED state officer - they keep the wheels of this great organization running smoothly. They may or may not be very visible - they may be quietly working in the background, reliably doing their jobs. They may or may not be active or hold an office in a chapter or even be a chapter member, but they are invaluable at the state level.

Cinch Award = 1, max 2 awarded

PRESIDENT'S DIAMOND AWARD The President's Diamond Award is decided autonomously from the BCHW Awards Program - the BCHW President awards a person or persons "In recognition of outstanding dedication, passion and commitment to the BCHW mission".

President's Diamond Award = 1, max 2 awarded

SPONSORSHIPS Your sponsorships are extremely important for the success of your BCHW Award Program. Last year seven different BCHW chapters and two businesses sponsored BCHW awards. These sponsorships, partnered with the BCHW award budget, resulted in eleven volunteers being recognized in five categories. Thank you ever so much for chapters continued support, of the BCHW Award Program, by sponsoring one of the award categories. Also remember that with our 501(c3) businesses, chapters have a tax advantage for award donations.

Lynn Wilhelm-Howell redboots4u2@gmail.com

It's That Time of Year to Nominate Deserving Members of BCHW Who Volunteer, with a Prestigious Award!

By Lynn Wilhelm-Howell, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

know you have been chomping at the bit to get your hands on this Awards Nomination Form! Let's recognize our dedicated volunteers who donate their precious time to our organization. Award categories, descriptions, and the nomination form are at www.bchw.org. Award categories are given out only once to a volunteer BCHW Member.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Award Nomination Form

(one form per nominee)

	_	 Desk Jockey Junior BCHW Backbone Award		
	Trail Warrior	 		
Nominees Name		 	 	
Chapter(s)		 		
Submitted by		 		
Dhana		Email		

Please keep in mind, all the award judges must see your presentation to do their evaluation. The judges probably will not know the nominee personally. Awards will be presented during Rendezvous at the BCHW General Meeting on March 17th, 2019.

Information to include in your nomination presentation:

In 75 words or less, please give an opening statement telling why this person is deserving of <u>special</u>, <u>statewide</u> recognition for this specific award. Then separately, on as many pages as you need, create a presentation detailing WHY this person should receive this award.

- Chapters this person has belonged to and for how long
- Positions or job titles this person has held
- An estimate of his or her volunteer hours (Chapter Vol Hour Chairs can help with this)
- Awards this person has won
- Trails or camps this person has worked on
- A little family history
- Include anything which will make your nominee stand out! (Letters of recommendation from land managers, news clippings, photos, etcetera.)

The presentation you submit will be given to the recipient at the awards ceremony.

Mail nomination forms with your presentation via the US Post Office to: Lynn Wilhelm-Howell • 20059 SE 127th St, Issaquah, WA 98027 Questions: redboots4u2@gmail.com or 206-498-4622

Must be received before Feb 8th, 2019.

Self Defense for Trail Riders



By Marilyn Pineda, Skagit County Chapter

Skagit Chapter is kindred to a large percentage of Back Country Horsemen who have it in their blood to do trail work. A lot of trail work. And recordkeeping to meet the requirements of grants so they can buy tools and equipment to do MORE trail work! And attend sawyer clinics to be certified for chainsaws and crosscuts so they can do more trail work! It is rewarding to be involved in such tangible endeavors and results. Having said that, Skagit Chapter recently stepped out of its comfortable trail work box and into another element of the BCH Mission Statement – the rewards found in providing Education!

This big step came as a result of an increase of shady people frequenting the local Les Hilde Trailhead for illicit activities. People come from the 3 counties surrounding Skagit County, and in fact even further, to ride the extensive trail systems that journey into the hills and forest lands adjacent to Les Hilde on a regular basis. Female trail riders coming here have had encounters that have left them feeling uncomfortable, and some people have become somewhat disenchanted with the trailhead and are not able to enjoy the recreational lands that the trailhead is intended to serve. I'm guessing there are other trailheads experiencing similar problems.



Skagit Chapter gives the bulk of their volunteer hours in the woods on the trails that surround Les Hilde, so members took it to heart when the Chapter's Facebook page started seeing people express reservations on using the trailhead due to concerns of safety. The Chapter began to realize that finding a way to present education for personal safety had become a modern-day necessity to encourage the enjoyment of recreational lands. We wanted more than just a 4-hour clinic of confidence building - we wanted an opportunity to "dig in" and learn what long-term actions could be taken and how to develop protective skills with strength. A bit of investigation was done, and a group of clinicians was found who could teach self-defense geared specifically for trail riders. The name of the group is Tactical Horseman, located in Pennsylvania. The combined experience and expertise of these clinicians also cover First Aid and Trauma Care for Humans AND Horses. Talk about a bonus for safety on the trail! Their background comes as long-time experienced horsemen with careers in the military, law enforcement, veterinary, search and rescue, as well as many other interesting and pertinent credentials!

Once Skagit Chapter found these clinicians, the struggle of deciding whether to actually proceed with the investment of bringing them all the way out to Washington pretty much consumed the next business meeting. After all, the money spent would not be going towards tangible things that you could see – like equipment and tools for trail work! The decision was ultimately made to step up to the plate and bring The Tactical Horseman out for a 2-day clinic, so we would have time to maximize the opportunities that they had to offer.

Skagit Chapter hosted the clinic on the weekend of November 17 & 18. The Self Defense for Trail Riders was held at Anderson's Snowy Mountain Stables in Mount Vernon, WA on Saturday; and the First Aid/Trauma Care for Humans AND Horses was held at the Employee Recreational Building of Marathon Refinery in Anacortes, WA, on Sunday. Invitations were sent out to BSA, 4-H, and other youth groups in the area to maximize the opportunity in

Quilcene Ranger Corp Takes Youth Outdoors



By Eric Wollborg, Peninsula Chapter

very summer, the Quilcene Ranger Corp program gives middle school-age students the opportunity to spend the summer working outdoors. Four days a week, the youth service crew managed by the Pacific Northwest Trail Association meets at the Hood Canal Ranger Station before shuttling off to tend trails on the Olympic National Forest.

With young people spending more time indoors in the Digital Age, youth service programs like the QRC provide a valuable life experience. Over the course of the season, the students learn how to care for our natural resources and a whole lot more - they learn to work together and experience first-hand how trails have the power to connect more than places, they bring people and communities together as well.

Building Bridges

During the 2018 season, the QRC took a break from clearing trails and joined volunteer groups led by the Back Country Horsemen to help out with a project seven years in the making. In all, over two dozen volunteers, three mules, four trail associations and two dogs would chip in.

Nearly a decade before, a footbridge had washed out along the Lower Gold Creek Trail. Although the bridge was on the Olympic National Forest, trails there are maintained solely by volunteers and the bridge was left unrepaired for years. Hikers were left to ford Gold Creek, a daunting challenge when its waters run high in the rainy season.

Before long, Tom Mix, Project Leader of the Back Country Horsemen's Peninsula Chapter, set out to tackle the problem. Mix has volunteered with BCHA for 17 years, and also volunteers with the Trail Blazers, a group which stocks mountain lakes with fish.

For the Gold Creek Project, Mix worked to secure grant funding to help cover the replacement costs for the footbridge and for two others on the Forest. He would also work with the US Forest Service, which provided project oversight to ensure compliance with NEPA and other environmental and federal regulations.

"BCHW-Peninsula chapter was the overall project leader and each participating crew member got to do the assignment they liked best. The foot log was moved into place by a collaboration

continued on page 16

Self Defense for Trail Riders

continued from page 14

the First Aid and Trauma Care. The amount of information on that weekend was incredible and everyone in attendance rolled up their sleeves and participated at every level that was offered to them.

Organizing and hosting this clinic was a big step outside of Skagit's normal activities of trail work! We received many thanks and comments of appreciation over the course of the weekend, and we were able to conclude it to be a successful outreach to the community. We learned that we had the ability to reach further into the Mission Statement of Back Country Horsemen by reaching further into the community with meaningful and useful education. We even used it to reach out to Boy Scouts and other youth groups in our area. Perhaps, most importantly, we see this kind of education as a way to begin a pro-active approach in addressing the detrimental activities that often affect the safe enjoyment of our recreational areas – now, and for generations to come.



The **Trailhead** News

Quilcene Ranger Corp Takes Youth Outdoors

continued from page 15

of crew members representing BCHW, WTA, Gray Wolf, PNTA Quilcene Ranger Corp, and Klahhane hiking club." -Tom Mix, Project Leader, BCHW-Peninsula Chapter.

For the QRC students, the project offered a rare opportunity to work alongside other local volunteers, and a change of pace. The large scale of the project let smaller teams of QRC students learn new skills and get one-on-one instruction from several experienced Crew Leaders. And with the bridge to be sited in a new location, nearly 50 feet of new tread would need to be built and the worksite would need to be prepped. Crew Leader Tanner Boggs and his Rangers welcomed the challenge and change of pace - the young crew is usually tasked with light maintenance, rather than trail construction.[1]

The project would use a massive cedar log found near the worksite by Rod Farlee, founder of the Gray Wolves Trail Association. Cedar has a natural ability to resist rot, making it ideal for backcountry structures like bridges and shelters. This tree had lived in the forest for over 200 years before falling to the forest floor a decade ago.

To create the bridge, a level walking surface and handrail were needed. Mike Bonomo, Crew Leader with the Gray Wolves, oversaw construction and created a makeshift assembly line of adult volunteers and youth crew members.

"Over the course of four days the log was moved to a staging area where the tread was hewed and the railing support posts were fitted. Next the log was moved to the sill location and rigging was set to fly the log across the stream and to be placed on the sills." -Tom Mix, Project Leader, BCHW-Peninsula Chapter.



For the QRC students, the Gold Creek Project represented a major achievement that would surely live on in their memories as a highlight of the summer. Their individual contributions to the group project— a smooth handrail, a section of tread, or a cut log—will tell the story of the cooperative effort for years to come.

Building The Sill

Greg Sanders, in his eleventh year with WTA, worked with a team of Rangers to build a sill for the bridge on the opposite bank.

To build the foundation, the crew members transported large rocks and learned how to use rock bars to move them into place. It was exacting work—the cedar log sill would need to be installed at precisely the correct height and carefully levered into place with log peaveys.

NEW RATES!

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

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

Ad Deadline Dates and Payment Due	Publish Date of Newsletter	Ad Size	Ad Dimensions
(or first business day after this date)		Back Cover 3/4 page	8" H x 8" W
December 1		Inside Front Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W
January 18	•	Inside Back Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W
April 1	•	Full Page	10" H x 7 1/2" W
June 1	, ,	3/4 Page	6 1/4" H x 7 1/2" W
August 1	•	Half Page (Horizontal)	4 3/4" H x 7 1/2" W
October 1	Nov/Dec	Half Page (Vertical)	10" H x 3 5/8" W
must meet professional publishing et	andorda Ada must be bish	Third Page	3 1/2" H x 7 1/2" W

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

ads subject to approval by BCHW.

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

Make payment payable to:
Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Quarter Page

Business Card

Send check along with ad to: BCHW The Trailhead News

BCHW The Trailhead News Washington Media Services, Inc. P.O. Box 7184, Olympia, WA 98507 Any advertising questions please contact:

Ad Cost 1x Insertion \$331.00 \$496.00 \$496.00 \$496.00 \$331.00 \$248.00 \$248.00 \$166.00

\$124.00

\$62.00

Adriane Goodwin

360.754.4543 • Fax 360.943.7086 bchw@wamedia.com • visit: www.bchw.org

Conditions: Washington Media Services, Inc. and the Back Country Horsemen of Washington The Trailhead News magazine assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors or omissions. The advertiser assumes liability for the content of the advertisement and any claims that may arise there from against the publisher.

4 3/4" H x 3 5/8" W

2" H x 3 5/8" W

Trail Maintenance I Saw on The Pacific Crest Trail - Part One

By Gary Pegg

n 2017 I attempted a through ride of the Pacific Crest Trail. I could not have picked a worse year, snow packs 164% above normal in the Sierras, in the Cascades 2017 was the coldest winter on record since 1994 which translated into late snow melt. In addition, late spring storms flooded Southern California washing out miles of trail as well as some of the camps we had intended to use.

I ended up riding through a lot of snow. Getting on the trail before the snow had melted meant the, for the most part, I was ahead of work parties that were planning on doing much-needed trail maintenance. I encountered my first trail maintenance crew near mile 230 on Mission Creek. This was a crew of a dozen or so college-age volunteers working under the direction of two Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) Crew Leaders. They were on their fourth day of working on this particular section of trail cutting back brush, clearing logs and rocks from the trail.

A couple of the volunteers were particularly interested in my mare, Mercedes, sharing an apple and carrots from their lunch with her while remarking that she was the first horse they had seen, a refrain we would hear many more times. While we were talking one of the Crew Leaders joined us, and we fell into a discussion on the state of the trail. He was somewhat surprised that we had made it through some of the particularly rough washouts and downed tree spots. He noticed the 24 and 12-inch folding saws and 26-inch ax I carry, which given time, can get me past anything So Cal presented.



Brush along Mission Creek.

When he asked about the job they were doing I tried to impart how appreciative I was of his crews' efforts, but since he had asked could they trim the brush and branches up a bit higher? In California equestrians are a rarity on the PCT, most of the volunteer trail maintainers are hikers, and they forget the trail needs to be cleared higher than seven feet tall. Though I am of average height and my horses are not particularly tall, I constantly had to duck under chest high branches and evade face slappers. My brand new Shady Brady having been plucked from my head countless times was already showing considerable wear, and I was hoping it would last the rest of the trip.

The second crew was near mile 675, just south of Kennedy Meadows. I never did see them, but their handy work was most impressive. A local BCH of California mule skinners took it upon themselves to clear a five-mile section with well over a hundred trees down. They had been at it for three weekends when I got there they just had a half mile or so to go. Unfortunately for me, I got there on Thursday, and they weren't coming until Saturday. It took me 4 hours to go that half mile cutting, chopping, crawling and scrambling to the point they had left off the weekend before.

My next encounter was near Sierra Buttes and Packer Lake just past the 1200 mile marker. Three members of the PCTAs legendary Trail Gorillas were heading out from the trailhead, with a chainsaw over their shoulder, to spend a day cutting the numerous logs I had just ridden over. Seems like I was a few days early to have the benefits of the trail crew once again.

In the Buck Lake Wilderness 80 miles further north I passed a seven-member crew from a local civic group, that were working on brushing out a twenty-mile chunk of the trail, late in the afternoon. This was in an area of low elevation wetland brush. Temperatures were in the high 90s and the day was humid too.

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Rock in trail, Russian Wilderness

Blanchard Mountain DNR Public Lands



Mike McGlenn

n 2006, the DNR formed a committee of the major user groups with an interest in preserving about 1,600 acres of the Blanchard Mountain DNR public lands that fund Public Schools and other things. This committee worked for months to come up with a plan. The plan required that other lands be bought or transferred to offset the loss of logging revenue on Blanchard. The plan was approved and a second committee convened to oversee the administration of the Original Agreement. A lawsuit brought against DNR, the recession, and lack of needed state funds conspired to

slow down the process. In 2018, 12 years after we on the committee started this process, the state, the legislature, and all the parties finally got the process done. The current committee decided that a celebration was in order and a date was set months in advance. Of course, after months of no rain, it rained, it blew, it was 50 degrees. Over 100 folks came to celebrate this great achievement on behalf of recreation and conservation. They were fed by Back Country Horsemen of Whatcom's Bill McKenna and crew. Guest speakers spoke and all went well.

Trail Maintenance I Saw on The Pacific Crest Trail - Part One

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The spring had left the steps of these senior citizens earlier in the day however there was a look of satisfaction on each of their faces and a note of pride in their voices as they pointed out their handiwork to me.

At mile 1465 I met the same crew that I had seen down south on Mission Creek. This time they were working at clearing a series of rock slides across a half-mile section of a rock face. They were working north to south; I was riding south to north. My mare, BG, had just picked our way, loose rocks clattering, across a couple of hundred feet of slide on a most precipitous hillside, the kind of hillside that makes you hold your breath until you realize that may be contributing to your dizziness. As we made landfall on solid trail we doubled back around a point and there the crew was, picks chipping, shovels digging, bars prying rocks loose and off the trail crossing a sheer rock face — no place for visiting just a quick thanks and how do you do as they pressed themselves against the granite wall so BG and I could pass.

Five miles after I had passed that PCTA trail crew I noticed that after nearly 1500 miles suddenly there were fresh cut logs and no face slappers. Even more interesting there were hoof prints in the trail, fresh hoof prints, the first Id seen on the trip. After a morning of battling miles of snow in 100 heat, it was a little bit of heaven riding along on the fresh cleared trail. Shortly I caught up with three riders with three pack mules loaded with

trail clearing equipment, rock bars, shovels, and chainsaws. They were from a Northern California BCH group that had ridden in eight miles, clearing trail as they went and now were returning to their rigs. They weren't on any official work party; rather they used this trip and others like it to condition their mules for fall hunting, going to where they knew the trail needed work and getting it done. After riding all those miles alone, it was an agreeable change to be able to visit a bit as we rode along. These fellows were very knowledgeable of the trail the rest of the way to the Oregon border and were able to give me current trail conditions and advice on possible detours.

I met another PCTA crew at mile 1600 in the Russian Wilderness. This crew was a mix of retirees and college-age people that had volunteered for a week-long wilderness trail clearing adventure. I happened upon them as they took their lunch break, sitting on a group of boulders with a panoramic view of the wilderness and the Trinity Alps in the distance. All were in good spirits and wished me well, though they warned me of a rock still in the trail that they had been unable to move. They said they weren't sure a horse could pass, but until they came back later with more bars, there wasn't much they could do.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE TRAIL-HEAD NEWS!

Do I Really Need Horse Insurance?

By Patti Sander, Ponderosa Chapter Member

f you own a horse, you do have exposure and need to address your insurance needs seriously. If you think about it, you have a lot of money wrapped up in your horse; training, tack, equipment, rigs and stable facilities. You may be thinking, "one more hand in my pocket." However, this huge investment is exactly the reason you need insurance.

As horse folks, we all like to think positive and make every effort to ensure that nothing goes wrong. But let's face it; we're dealing with large, living, breathing animals with a mind of their own. At some point, you are going to experience an injury to a visitor on your property, an unexpected kick or fall, the equine escape artist that likes to explore the neighborhood, or your horse getting sick or injured.

You might think that insurance for a horse and associated activities are something that only horse breeders, eventers, show people, and the like that are wealthy and own expensive horses are the only ones who need to be insured. You are right, of course. "Full Time" horse people have large investments and should be insured. But, what about the recreational horseperson? What is your investment worth to you?

Insurance by its general definition is a gambling proposition. You are gambling that something is going to happen, and the insurance company will have to pay you in the event of a loss. The insurance company is gambling that, initially, nothing bad will happen and will be the ones who are right. But what if something does happen? And how do you know what kind of insurance you might need and that you'll be protected in the event of a loss?

The recreational horseperson is just as much at risk as the "full time" horseperson. Could you afford to replace your horse if he/she was seriously injured or got sick? Could you afford to pay out of pocket for a horse-related loss to a third party that is not covered under your farm or homeowner's insurance?

As a responsible horse owner, you may want to consider ways to manage this personal risk. The insurance industry offers the following risk management tools:

Personal Equine Liability Insurance

Owning a horse comes with the risk of a liability lawsuit. Many homeowner's policies (and some Farm Owners policies) do not cover your equine exposure and others provide limited coverage.

An Equine Personal Liability policy provides coverage for accidental bodily injury/property damage to a third party arising out of the use and/or ownership of a horse(s) declared both on and off the premises.

Some boarding facilities require that their clients provide personal liability coverage for their horse while it is stabled at their facility. This is the type of policy that would provide that coverage.

This policy is NOT meant to cover your commercial equine activities such as boarding, training, or horse club activities. If you have equine exposures such as these, there are other types of insurance that will provide coverage.

Other types of insurance that are available are as follows:

Horse Mortality

As you know, horses can be very costly and valuable. This insurance policy protects the owner/lessor against the loss of a horse as a result of a covered accident, injury, illness or disease, while also providing coverage for theft of the horse. The premium is determined by a percentage of the horse's value, as well as its intended use, breed, sex and age. Most policies are written on an agreed value basis.

Major Medical

Major Medical (horse health insurance) reimburses the veterinarian's fees for surgery, major illness, and disease. It will also pay the reasonable and customary charges necessitated by accident, injury or illness for your horse. These policies can be customized to include full medical or surgical only.

Optional coverages that this policy can include is loss of use and trip transit.

Whether you are a "recreational" horse person, or a "full time," professional horse person, you need to explore your potential exposures. Confirm with your current insurance agent whether your current homeowners or farm insurance provides coverage for your horse-related activities. Even though Washington State does have some equine laws in effect that provide some protection for horse owners, these laws don't necessarily stop a lawsuit from happening. Most insurance policies provide a "duty to defend" clause that will assist you with legal fees and court costs. Ask your agent what your options are and be sure that you are comfortable with your current situation, and that you understand the potential consequences.

Calendar Photos Deadline February 1st, 2019

Email your photos to BCHWcalendarphotos@gmail.com by **February 1st 2019** to be included in the 2020 calendar. Ashley will continue to accept pictures for the next year's calendars as well. See the September/October 2018 issue of The Trailhead News for more information.

Email is the preferred method of sending photos; you can mail disks to P.O. Box 1132, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Disks will not be returned and please do not send printed photos. Make sure these packages are postmarked by January 25th, 2019.



BCHW 4th Quarter 2018 Board of Directors' Meeting - December 1, 2018

Kittitas Valley Event Center – Armory Building, Ellensburg, WA

By Janelle Wilson, BCHW Secretary

eeting was called to order by President, Kathy Young. Roll Call attendance was taken and a quorum was present. The agenda was adopted as amended and the 3rd Quarter Board of Directors' Meeting minutes were adopted as written.

As is the usual practice, most of the officers and committees had their reports posted for Directors to read prior to the meeting by webmaster, Jim Thode. Committee reports were the first item on the agenda. A few things to note were:

Treasurer/Budget, Teri Starke, responded to questions and advised that a new donation form exitsts. Please do not use the old ones.

Ways & Means, Calendars, Teri Starke reminded Directors that Calendar pictures are due February 1st. Amazon Smile came out with Charity List – anything Amazon sells can be put on the BCHW Wish List.

Awards, Kathy Young for Lynn Wilhelm-Howell, reminded the Board of Directors to select a Cinch Award recipient - nominations due to Kathy Young by February 1st.

BCHA, Darrell Wallace, explained the Legacy Fund.

BCHW Store, Lori Lennox, noted that merchandise selling went well at the Winery Ride. Remember ORDER FORMS can NOT be available on-line.

Education, Kim Merrick, distributed the Leadership Training Schedule.

LNT, Jane Byram, noted that a Train-the-Trainer Class will be set the first week of May in the Teanaway.

Legislative, Jeff Chapman, updated Directors on Legislative and Public Lands issues and concerns.

Public Lands, Pete Erben, explained Grizzly Bear recovery plan decisions and administration; and Forest Revision plans; and the BCHW Capitol Sate Forest VIP Ride in September. A PowerPoint presentation was shown to Directors.

Membership, Dana Chambers, gave an update and explained correspondence to folks who have not renewed their memberships and welcome letters to new members, etc.

Membership Development, Ken Carmichael, reminded chapters to send representatives to Leadership Training session on Membership Development.

Publicity/THN/Social Media/NWHS, Louise Caywood for Dick Yarboro, reminded Directors to send events to her and Jim Thode for Facebook and BCHW website.

Rendezvous, Nicole Sedgwick, gave an update on Rendezvous, distributed posters to put up locally, and explained "invites" for local land managers. "Large Animal Happenings" was explained.

Safety, Doc Wesselius, encouraged Directors to make nominations to Doc or Tom Mix for WTA Leadership College, which will be held in May.

Special Projects, Jason Ridlon, announced that the Statewide Work Party is on the Umatilla Forest (Blue Mountains, SE WA) July 1-4, 2019; and Mt St Helens Monument July 31st - August 7th.

Volunteer Hours, Deb Wesselius, reported that there were 73,683 volunteer hours recorded in the BCHW "year". Two new regional coordinators are needed. BCHA is working on an app for reporting volunteer hours.

Website, Jim Thode, took a straw poll as to whether Directors want to post their newsletters on a site open to the public. Winery Ride, Kathy Young for Dave Jackson, reported a great turn out. \$16,180.00 net. Share checks were distributed to volunteering chapters. Teri asked that all checks get cashed before the end of the year.

Unfinished business was next on the agenda.

Nominations: Kathy Young requested nominations for BCHA Director three times and there were no further nominations. Jason Ridlon was nominated at the 3rd Quarter Board of Directors' Meeting in September.

Directors' Meeting

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LNT Trailer Insurance: Directors voted to insure the LNT trailer to include the content coverage of \$25,000 for a year with a \$700 premium. There was discussion about ownership of chapter trailers. For chapter trailers to be insured - titles need to be in BCHW's name (and can include chapter name), but the address can be the Chapter's or where the trailer is "housed". Chapter will be responsible for paying premium.

New business was the last action item on the agenda.

Trail Ride Liability Release Form Directors voted to postpone the Trail Ride Liability Release form decision to the March meeting. Safety Committee will get information out to Directors by the end of January; so that a decision can be made in March.

Chainsaws in the Wilderness Directors voted to adopt the amended Resolution Concerning the Use of MRA's in Wilderness for BCHW to sign on jointly with Oregon BCH. [MRA = Minimum Requirements for Administration]

BCHA National Board Amendment Directors voted to accept the resolution asking BCHA to change their constitution to have 1 voting BCHA Director per state instead of two.

Legacy Fund The Legacy Fund is meant to build an investment that the interest can be used for BCHA. Darrell Wallace, BCHA position #1, presented \$100 to the Legacy Fund in Jim Murphy's name. Teri Starke, Treasurer, will take and track donations for giving to the Legacy Fund by April 1st.

Gateway Bridge Directors voted to make a donation through Mountains to Sound Greenway of \$2,000 for planking material to refurbish the Gateway Bridge in the Middle Fork Snoqualmie trail system.

Savings Account for YM Directors voted to have BCHW open a savings account that Dana Chambers, Membership, will have access to in order to deposit membership checks. They also voted to remove from the checking account a resignee.

2019 BCHW Budget Directors accepted the proposed budget after changes, which included adding \$500 to the budget in Education to help pay for the WA State Horse Expo booth.

Nominations and Elections Jason Ridlon was elected for the BCHA #2 position for 2019-2020.

Then, it was time for Good of the Order.

BCHW colors are historically Goldenrod and Black. Teri Starke asked if Directors wanted to re-visit BCHW colors.

Joe Watt Canyon Prize Ride proceeds will go to the Methow Valley chapter in 2019.

Winery Ride and Rendezvous Chairs are being sought by Nicole Sedgwick, Executive Director.

North Summit Horse Camp: Mary Pat Bauman, Methow Valley thanked all the contributors by name and gave an update on the project.

BCHAlaska: Paula Keohane outlined the work she has done in Alaska trying to get trails re-opened.

Trail Etiquette Handouts: Laura McDaniel distributed a flyer the Yakima Chapter uses.

Spirit of the West: Mary Kane announced the event will be held February 15-17, 2019 at Kittitas Valley Event Center. Go to Ellensburgcowboygathering.com

Mule Parking Only cones were presented to Jason Ridlon by Mary Kane.

Trail Miles: Darrell Wallace explained that there is a database where information can be entered. Numbers of wilderness and non-wilderness miles that were maintained need to be provided to BCHA.

New Officers: Kathy Young reminded Directors to make sure that their chapters update the BCHW Directory on the website with any change in chapter officers for 2019.

WA State Fair Parade: BCHW will participate.

Chapter Accomplishment Photos: Louise Caywood reminded that photos are due by February 1st.

Great Gravel Haul will be March 23rd.

There were Wreaths for Sale by Dave Seibel

Mt Spokane Nordic Area and Horse Camp: update was given by Ken Carmichael.

Directors congratulated Patty Sander and Ken Carmichael who were married the previous Saturday.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Next meeting is Friday March 15, 2019 7-9 p.m. at Rendezvous.

Everyone is welcome to attend.





The Trailhead News BCHW P.O. Box 1132 Ellensburg, WA 98926-1132

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FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar

Be sure to: • Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event.

• Check to see if dogs are welcome.

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

Leadership Meeting - A Year to Clear

Saturday, January 26th, 2019
Doors open 8:30 am • Training starts 9:25 am
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
Catered Lunch Avail. \$10.00 per person
Contact Jeff Chapman, Chair
bbbranch@olympus.net • 360-385-6364

BCHW Legislative Day 2019

Monday, February 25th, 2019
9:00 am
Washington Room – basement of the
Pritchard Building, Olympia WA
Contact Jeff Chapman, Chair
bbbranch@olympus.net • 360-385-6364

Rattlesnake Ridge Riders Chili Feed Ride/Fundraiser

Sunday, March 10th, 2019
First Ride Out: 10:00 am
Second Ride out: 10:30 am
Horn Rapids Park
115803 SR225
Benton City, WA
Register: On-Site begins 7:00 am
Lunch: 11:00 am – 2:30 pm
Camping: Limited Space
Cost: \$15./per or \$50./family of 4
Contact Paul Mellick

rrrbchw.info@yahoo.com

2019 Rendezvous

Friday-Sunday, March 15-17, 2019 Kittitas Valley Event Center 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick 360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

1st Qtr BCHW Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, March 16, 2019 Kittitas Valley Event Center 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick 360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

2019 BCHA National Board Meeting

Sunday, April 7, 2019 Ashevill, North Carolina Erica Fearn 860-586-7540 • efearn@bcha.org

BCHW Joe Watt Ride

May 18, 2019 - **SAVE THE DATE** Ellensburg, WA

2019 State Wide Work Party

Monday, July 1-July 4th Umatilla National Forest Contact Jason Ridlon 509-699-9927 • jhridlon@fairpoint.net

Example

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

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

your event listing to behw@wamedia.com.
Chapter Name
Name of Ride
Date
First Rider Out
Location
Register
Lunch
Name of Pass Required (if needed)
Weed-Seed-Free Feed Required
Camping (if available)
Cost to Member
Cost to Non-member
Contact Name
Phone
Fmail

Website