

The Trailhead News

Vol. 45 Issue 1

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

January/February 2020



www.bchw.org

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Inside this Issue www.bchw.org

2020 Rendezvous.	1
Optional Members	2
Prez Sez	3-4
General Membership Meeting	4
BCHW – Volunteer Hours Report	4-5
Grants	
Baysinger Trail Maintenance RTP Grant 16-2714 – 2018-2019	
Summary Of Completed Projects	6-7
BCHW Awards Report	8-9
Grant Writing 101	10
2020 Rendezvous Auction.. . . .	11
Trail Work	
Pend Oreille County Park Project – Northeast Chapter	12
Report on the Official Opening of	
North Summit Horse Camp Phase I	13-14
Green River Work Party	15-16
2019 – A Challenging Year Working on Trails and	
Horse Camp Construction in the Methow Ranger District	17-18
Joining Forces	19
Meeting Minutes	20-21
Calendar of Events	Outside Back Cover

Cover Photos: Tom Conner, Doc Wesselius and Deb Wesselius at the Green River Work Party. Photo by Jim Thode.

Disclaimer

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Editorial: Maximum word count for articles is 700 plus two (2) photos as space is limited. Photos must be accompanied by the location, name(s) of person(s) in photo and the name of the photographer.

Please submit to: bchw@wamedia.com or mail to: PO Box 7184 • Olympia, WA 98507 • 360.754.4543

Article, Photo & Ad Deadline Dates	Publish Date of Newsletter
December 1	Jan/Feb
January 18.....	Mar/April
April 1	May/June
June 1	July/Aug
August 1	Sept/Oct
October 1	Nov/Dec

Advertising Information Call: 360.754.4543

Rendezvous

March 20 –22, 2020

OPEN
TO
THE
PUBLIC



Come join the fun!!!!

- ♦ VENDOR BOOTHS
- ♦ PACKING DEMO
- ♦ AUCTIONS
- ♦ PUBLIC LANDS DAY
- ♦ DUTCH OVEN COOKING CONTEST
- ♦ DUTCH OVEN COOKING DEMOS
- ♦ CROSSCUT SAW CONTEST
- ♦ FRIDAY DINNER POTLUCK
- ♦ COWBOY CHURCH
- ♦ BCHW GENERAL MEETING and AWARDS
- ♦ CHAPTER DISPLAY CONTEST
- ♦ PHOTO CONTEST

Back Country Horsemen's Statewide Celebration

Free Classes & Demonstrations

- ROBERT "TRAILMEISTER" EVERSOLE
- ANDY BRELAND OF TRAILHEAD SUPPLY
- CPR/1ST AID TRAINING FOR HUMANS AND HORSES
- CHAPTERS SHARE HOW WORKING TOGETHER WE GET MORE DONE
- LADIES CROSSCUT SAW CLASS
- WILDERNESS 1ST AID OVERVIEW
- WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU HIT THE SOS BUTTON AND MORE!!!

Kittitas County's Largest

USED TACK

SALE!!!

All Consignors Welcome

Saturday Night:
Catered Dinner
&

Live Auction

Register at BCHW.org



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

Ellensburg Fairgrounds

512 N POPLAR, ELLENSBURG, WA

Back Country Horsemen of Washington expresses its gratitude to those who contribute to BCHW as "Contributing," "Sustaining," and "Patron," members.

The Optional Membership Program is available to all members for renewal or new membership. Members in this program pay only the optional membership fee, which includes the Family or Single Membership. The optional membership information on this page is provided by the BCHW Membership Committee. **If you have any corrections or questions, please e-mail membership@bchw.org.**

Name	Chapter
Lifetime Members	
Mitch Baird	IND
Amanda Biles	TAH
Caleb Canby	MET
Missy Day	TAH
David Jackson	PSR
Lori Lennox	GRH
Kim Merrick	NIS
Heather Moorman	PSR
Jim Murphy	OLY
Dave Seibel	MTO
Bob Shonka	IND
Teri Starke	IND
Carol Wilcox	WEN
Teunis Wyers	MTA
Pat Wyers	MTA

2019 Annual Meeting Head Table	
Dave & Gail Sunde	FER

2018 Annual Meeting Head Table	
Rick Zeleznik	TAH

2020 Benefactor Level	
Sherry Dahlquist	TDA
Tamara King & Eric Leung	TDS
Terry & Suzanne Smith	IND
Dave & Gail Sunde	FER
Tamara King & Eric Leung	TDS

2020 Patron Level	
Lisa & Tom Cohen	IND
George Michel	LEW
Barbara Woo & Scott Bauer	CHC
Greg Johnston	IND

2020 Sustaining Level	
Connie & Geen Baugher	MTA
Robert & Sheila Blakely	IND
Penelope & Garry Booker	IND
Mark Borden	SKA
Donald & Christina Campbell	PIE
Mike Celestres	TAH
Ron & Marty Celestres	TAH
Danny & Jeanie Chappel	RRR
Leslie Coey	IND
Stephen & Michelle Cooper	TAH
Patrick Dolan	MSH
Robert & Celeste Eversole	NOR
Bruce & Kathy Foreman	NOR
Margo Forstrom & Earl McNally	PIE
Dawn Graham	MTO
Carrie Heltemes & Carolyn Kruckenberg	LEW
Karl Kaiyala & Kathy Rafferty	MET

Name	Chapter
Mary Kane	TAH
Joanne Lacy & Dale Bamford	PIE
Sally Laib	PIE
Rob & Barbara Lathrop	IND
Lori & Fred Lennox	GRH
Teren & Norman MacLeod	BUC
Gerry Magnuson	BUC
Mary McIntyre-Lee	IND
Al & Marcy Norrbom	TAH
James & Carol Oakes	IND
Mary & Dennis Owens	GRH
JoAnn Reider	TAH
Boyd & Mikki Sharp	IND
Bob Showalter	RRR
Coco Spurway	NOR
Darrell & Kristy Wallace	NOR
Louise & Peter Walton	NOR
Judy Warnick	CCR
Brenda & Greg Wiebe	MTA
JoAnn Yost	GRH

2020 Contributing Level	
Earl & Dorothy Aalseth	CHC
Jim & Terri Anderson	MSH
David & Carrol Bainter	WIL
Andy & Debbie Bales	TAH
Bonnie Bentz	PIE
Sandra Boe	PIE
Bart & Velma Bradshaw	MET
Gene Brent	TAH
Joanna & Gil Clifton	NOR
Gary & Kathy Collins	MSH
Jan & Jim Craghead	CCR
Thomas & Sandra Eddy	IND
Ken & Pam Evans	MTA
Carol Finney	MSH
Jeanne Franz	BUC
Robert Gish	NOR
Judith & Bob Hoyle	BUC
Sharon Jensen	TAH
Tony Karniss	LEW
Edris Kenan	TAH
Tracy Ketchum	TAH
Shirley Landgren	MTA
Bob & Nancy Lee	TAH
Ed & Teri Letcher	TAH
Holly & Jerome Malysh	WHA
Jack & Colleen McDaniel	IND
Paul Mellick	RRR
Steve & Sandra Miller	YAK
Kris Moran	GRH
Russell & Cynthia Morse	IND
Jeanette & John O'Keefe	MET

Name	Chapter
Sarah Pearl & Batty Sack	MTO
Ken & Lora Perrine	IND
Danielle & Carlos Ramos	IND
JoAnn Reider	TAH
Leonard & Kathy Rolph	MTA
Kathy Russo	IND
Nancy Rust	MSH
Julia Seymour	WHA
Danny & Karen Stineback	MSH
Tim Surratt	WHA
Gerald & Margaret Throop	MTA
Chris Tornow & Matt Shirley	IND
Rick & Phoebe Trocano	MET
Wendy Walsh	OLY

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

Please be informed that 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.

For Membership Questions and Mailing List
Address Corrections/Updates...
Please email membership@bchw.org directly!



What's Next?

By Jason Ridlon, BCHW President

On December 7th the BCHW board of directors came together in Ellensburg to navigate our organizational issues and work on policies to move our organization forward into the future.

You might have once heard it is a good idea to be conservative on an election year and be mindful of investments. Well as many of you know in the BCHW world this was an election year, a year BCHW would vote in a new president and select other positions.

Should you be concerned in what our board invested in? I come into the position of BCHW President after working closely with the past four administrations.

I want to talk briefly about the last four years as it is likely to have the largest influence on the direction of the next two as I serve as your President. I have shared in a few firsts and I want to share three of them.

Kathy Young (our past President) and I shared in a VIP ride into the Eagle Caps Wilderness with Oregon BCHO and regional Forest Service Staff, Kathy's first backcountry stock pack trip.

I shared Lilly (my mule) with Kathy and attended a Mark Reiss log out in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, Kathy's 1st ride on a mule.

I attended the 2019 BCHA National Board Meetings in North Carolina with Kathy, It was my first trip to the East Coast. We have shared in a number of back country trips and shared in more phone calls than I could count.

And now as we move into my presidency, a time when the organization always anticipates change, I will be making some adjustments and influence change.

Pete Erban has served as BCHW public lands chair and has provided a wealth of knowledge and been someone Kathy and I counted on for advice. In this transition phase, I have appointed Kathy Young to the position of BCHW Public Lands Chair. Pete will remain active as the regional committee member for the Peninsula. Kathy will continue to organize Public Lands by identifying 4 to 6 regional public lands committee members with a public lands committee to work with public lands regional members and a state chair.

I could not have been happier when Jeff Chapman agreed to remain on as the BCHW legislative chair. Jeff has been a past public lands chair and will work closely with Kathy as she fills her new position allowing close communication and collaboration to flourish within the 2 areas.

continued on page 4

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.



BCHW-Volunteer Hours Report

By Deb Wesselius, BCHW Volunteer Hours Chair

The BCHW volunteer hour's Summary Report totals which cover from October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019, has been completed and included in the attached detailed report. These are the year-end totals, and they represent a job well done by chapter members, officers and your Volunteer Hours Coordinator. The Excel document represents the totals by chapter and by agency.

2019 BCHW VOLUNTEER HOURS = 85,696
(73,614.5 - 2018)
TOTAL VALUE = \$3,143,825.83
(\$2,692,662.59 - 2018)

If you have any questions regarding the volunteer hours report please contact me.

We had 33 out of 33 chapters recording their volunteer hours, making this a 100% reporting year. A big thanks and congratulations to everyone on a job well done. Volunteers are the best.

Big thanks go out to the BCHW VH Regional folks: Peggy Swanberg-OVC, Louise Caywood-PCC, JoAnn Yost-GHC & Barbara Vache'-CHC worked extremely hard reviewing and assuring accuracy in their chapters' final VH. Big thanks to you all. Peggy Swanberg will be resigning as a Regional VHC so if you or someone you want to recommend would be interested in joining the BCHW Regional Volunteer Hours team let me know. 🐾

see chart on page 5

Prez Sez

continued from page 3

BCHW will get a new state secretary. Tina Short will fill this position. Janelle Wilson steps down after many years of devoted and steadfast service to our organization. Tom Janes will be replacing Sandra Ilhy as BCHW independent director.

As the new incoming BCHW president, I had the opportunity to appoint a new Executive Advisory Committee to help me navigate my role as president. I am truly excited and humbled by the support I received when I asked this group of people to come together.

Sherri Wright: Lewis County Chapter
Mary Jo Krutak: Tahoma Chapter/awards chair
Janelle Wilson: Skagit Chapter/ past state secretary
Ken Carmichael: Ponderosa Chapter/ Governance Bylaws Chair/BCHW director
Lori Lennox: Grays Harbor Chapter/ BCHW Store/BCHW director
Glenn Hallberg: Willapa Hills Chapter/ director
Doug Stewart: Northeast Chapter/director
Rob DeBoer: Skagit Chapter/BCHW Vice President
Kathy Young: Tahoma Chapter/ Past BCHW President

The above is a short list of the many committees that will help navigate this organization. I share the above Executive Advisory Committee membership with you because I am counting on this committee to help shape BCHW. And as an individual with a full time 40-hour-plus job, I will be relying on these committee members to be my ears and eyes out among our membership. I will be in close contact with them so my goal is for them and for you to talk, bring your concerns and ideas, and build relationships. They want to hear from you! This will allow a conduit of information to

flow to where it needs to and influence change.

Now as your incoming president, I ask something from each of you as BCHW members. Please invest in this great organization. Get involved! Find opportunities to participate in our future to serve the BCHW Mission Statement! 🐾

BCHW General Membership Meeting

By Ken Carmichael
Chair, BCHW Governance & Bylaws Committee

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington will conduct a General Membership Meeting on Sunday, March 22, 2020, at Rendezvous in Ellensburg, Washington. The nature of business will be that which comes before the membership, general announcements, and awards. Members are encouraged to attend. For more information about specific topics, members may contact Executive Director Nicole Sedgwick at bchwexec@bchw.org. 🐾

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Volunteer Hours Report State Summary



2019 ~ Final prepared by: Deb Wesselius, BCHW VH Chair

Washington State Chapter	Trail Work			Admin		Total Volunteer Hours	Personal	Total	Total Dollar Value
	Basic	Skilled	L.N.T.	Public	Travel		Vehicle	Stock	
	Trail	Trail	Educ.	Service	Time		Miles	Days	
Buckhorn Range Chapter	199	41	106	350.5	193	889.5	4170	15	29,293.86
Capitol Riders Chapter	60	14	38	448	115	675	3405	11	21,913.98
Cascade Horse Club	196.5	82	3	524.5	193.5	999.5	4732	2	32,537.43
Crab Creek Riders	60		14.5	77.5	104	256	3789	10	11,109.63
Ferry County Chapter	429	136.5	27	442	287	1321.5	3486	221	63,053.75
Grays Harbor Chapter	868	563.5	76	1153.50	1531	4192	26478	145	162,919.36
Independent	573.5	425	4	2424	277	3703.5	8445	51	119,870.01
Inland Empire Chapter	43	17	56	39.5	130	285.5	2087	2	9,945.61
Island County Chapter	317	143	40	365	224.5	1089.5	5598		37,252.60
Lewis County Chapter	1376.5	940.5	222	2450.5	939.5	5929	19468	167	213,779.66
Methow Valley Chapter	1189.5	558.5	50	917.5	969.5	3685	16775	97	135,860.65
Mt Adams Chapter		294		142	66	502		64	27,859.44
Mt Olympus Chapter	496.5	705.5	323.5	693.5	538.5	2757.5	12681	106	113,631.81
Mt St Helens Chapter	1675	385	358	1361	1169	4948	33901	67	176,118.04
Nisqually Chapter	170		57	455	167.5	849.5	4651	28	28,821.24
Northeast Chapter	672.5	495	719.5	1729.5	636	4252.5	16637	49	143,483.38
Oakland Bay Chapter	278	114		610.5	157	1159.5	4344	30	39,983.87
Okanogan Valley Chapter	188	35	20	555	272.5	1070.5	5982	4	34,340.67
Olympic Chapter	2005	49	49	5229	475	7807	15253	166	231,071.29
Peninsula Chapter	2852.5	975.5	292	1241	1019	6380	28980	223	240,919.94
Pierce County Chapter	1524.5	1920	2249	3159	2095	10947.5	56421	374	426,169.28
Ponderosa Chapter	357	18	141.5	1322	354.5	2193	10481	22	68,457.20
Purple Sage Riders	64	22	21	654.5	123	884.5	4833	26	30,334.73
Rattlesnake Ridge Riders	630	221	261.5	689.5	355	2157	10396	100	81,263.68
Scatter Creek Riders	214	37.5		376	229.5	857	5780	5	28,893.39
Skagit Chapter	425.5	76		350.5	352	1204	5141	16	39,348.99
Tahoma Chapter	2026	817.5	279	1904.5	1134.5	6161.5	37747	241	240,820.07
Traildusters Chapter	472	143	150.5	745	536	2046.5	13019	73	75,939.06
Wenas Chapter	169.5	287.5	137	553.5	358	1505.5	10869	58	62,911.79
Wenatchee Valley Chapter	42	4	38	155	77.5	316.5	1895	1	10,067.13
Whatcom County Chapter	367	637	128	873	609	2614	17468	294	131,304.71
Willapa Hills Chapter	108.5	31		284.5	74	498	3506	4	17,311.51
Yakima Valley Chapter	64.5	153	269.5	701.5	370	1558.5	8296	52	57,238.07
Totals	20114	10342	6131	32977.5	16133	85696	406714	2724	3,143,825.83

State Agency Report	Trail Work		Public Work			Total Volunteer Hours	Travel Miles		Total Dollar Value
	Basic	Skilled	L.N.T.	Admin	Travel		Personal	Total	
	Trail	Trail	Educ.	Service	Time	Vehicle	Days		
U.S.F.S. (A)	10512	7075	175	583	5594	23939	137015	1458	1,093,915.50
State DNR (B)	4307	1173	5	172	1410	7067	31134	501	294,076.72
State Parks (C)	1479	305.5		147	517	2448.5	12499	88	91,973.04
National Parks (D)	141.5	172		10	96	419.5	2705	28	21,123.68
Education & LNT (E)			5950		1961	7911	51525	95	259,625.48
Dept. Fish & Wildlife (F)	342.5	86.5		91	218	738	4208	48	30,122.75
Administrative (G)				31624	4979	36603	133042	163	1,073,504.10
BLM (M)	206	18		11	66	301	2413	4	10,879.04
Private Timber (T)	2058	701	0.5	183	795	3737.5	19510	292	163,507.70
County (W)	1068	810.5		157	497	2532.5	12663	47	105,097.81
Totals	20114	10342	6131	32978	16133	85697	406714	2724	3,143,825.82

Baysinger Trail Maintenance RTP Grant 16-2714 – 2018-2019

Summary Of Completed Projects

Our Partnerships

United States Forest Service (USFS) - Washington Trail Association (WTA) - NW Young Corps

Olympic National Park Mule Packers – Mt Olympus Chapter BCHWA - Grays Harbor Chapter BCHWA

By Sherry Baysinger, BCHW Mt Olympus Chapter

Larry Baysinger was a BCHWA Independent member when he applied for this grant. After Mt. Olympus Chapter was created, some of our new members became saw and first aid certified and were able to help with trail work and pack support.

United States Forest Service (USFS) Bogachiel River Trail Re-route

- Logged-out windfalls and brushed 2 mile of new trail re-routing it away from the Bogachiel River as laid out by the USFS
- Provided pack support and power tools for WTA trail crew to assist with reroute trail
- Provided wall tent, shelter, and meals for WTA trail crew and Mt. Olympus Chapter member assisting with reroute trail
- Improved access to the stock portion of the Bogachiel River trail access with WTA assistance. Purchased ground cloth and eight yards of gravel for drainage of wet/muddy trail
- Built elevated puncheon utilizing technical rigging power equipment and pack stock for placement of stringers and decking

- Placed footlog over stream crossing
- Repaired kiosk at the trailhead

****We are waiting for approval by USFS to use accessible gravel on the reroute portion of the trail**

Littleton Mt. Muller Trail System

- Cleared windfalls and brushed out Littleton/Mt. Muller trail in preparation for WTA trail work on the ridge
- Pack in and out tools, water, personal gear and provide power tools for WTA crew to do tread and brushing Memorial Day weekend (2018 & 2019)

Littleton Horse Camp

- Used tractor/backhoe to remove concrete and faulty iron ranger and install a new iron ranger for USFS to collect campground fees
- Purchased lumber for eleven new picnic tables – Built and installed with concrete four new picnic tables
- Installed two fire rings
- Purchased and installed two corral gates (replacing those damaged by windfalls)

continued on page 7



WTA on the Bogachiel River Trail Larry Baysinger is on the tractor. He hauled the gravel downtrail as far as he could go with the tractor so that WTA could spread it using wheelbarrows.



After photo of our work with WTA on the Bogachiel River Trail.

Baysinger Trail Maintenance RTP Grant 16-2714 – 2018-2019

continued from page 6

- Used backhoe for water management on upper road to Littleton Horse Camp
- Purchased two dump truck loads (20 yards) of gravel to have spread on upper road to Littleton Horse Camp
- Annual set up and take down of water system and clean-up of horse camp

Olympic National Park (ONP)

Queets River Trail Sam's Access Loop

- Cleared windfalls and brush on Sam's Loop Trail at the campground on Queets River
- Partnered with NW Youth Corps and with Mt. Olympus and Grays Harbor BCHWA members utilizing technical rigging, tractor, chain saw to clear the trail and build foot logs for stream crossings
- Provided a noon Dutch oven meal for the crew including the 10 NW Youth Corps workers, Grays Harbor, and Mt. Olympus Chapter members


Bridge Stabilizing

- Remove windfall across trail at Anderson Meadow
- Cable and anchor bridge that was in danger of washing away during high water

Bogachiel River Trail

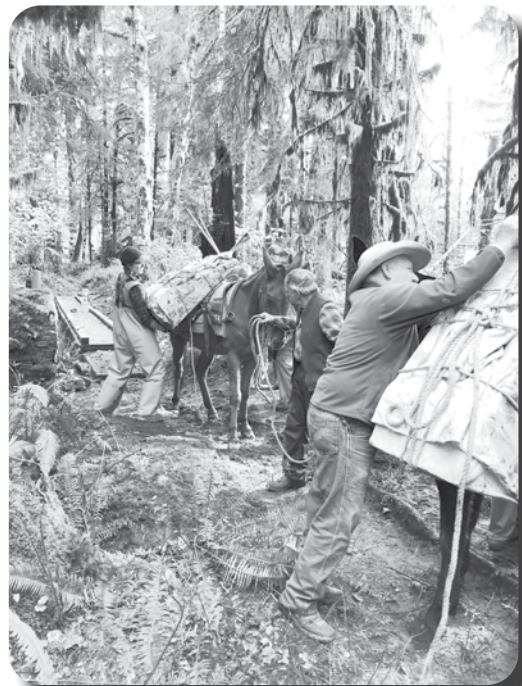
- Provided pack stock and hands-on support to Washington Trail Association to repair a hazardous creek crossing on ONP land
- Provided pack stock and packing assistance to ONP packer to take out tools and miscellaneous supplies for their seasonal trail crew

Hoh River Trail

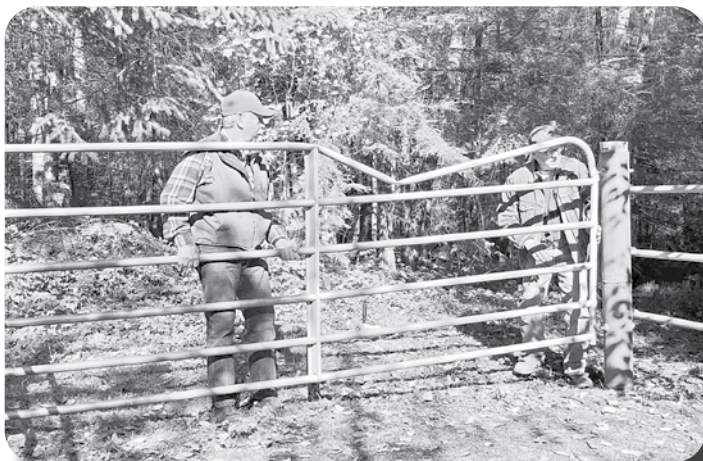
- Assisted ONP packer taking out tools and miscellaneous supplies for their seasonal trail crew. 



Ray Sutherland getting ready to cross a bridge, which he and Larry Baysinger built for the Olympic National Park.



Larry Baysinger assisting ONP packer taking out the trail crew tools from their seasonal work project on the Hoh River Trail.



Larry Baysinger and Mike McCracken replacing damaged gates at the Littleton Horse Camp

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You shop. Amazon gives.

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

BCHW Awards Report

By Mary Jo Krutak, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

“Did you join the Procrastinators Club?”

Have you taken the time to nominate a well-deserved BCHW Colleague you feel represents one of the categories listed below? Do you know if your chapter is submitting a nomination? (reminder a nomination may be from either a chapter or a member.) If not, there is still time to grab a few pictures, ask a couple of other members to assist you in compiling the award packet, and get it in the mail to me by February 10, 2020. We all have worked closely with someone who gives so much and makes such a big difference. What a wonderful feeling to see a colleague being recognized at Rendezvous for their efforts and you having had a hand in making it happen. It is also a lot of fun planning to ensure the recipient is at Rendezvous once you receive confirmation that your nominee will be awarded. Please let me know if you have any questions. It is easy to reach me at Awards@bchw.org

Nomination forms and a current list of all known award program recipients are posted at www.bchw.org under BCHW Awards. Award categories are only given out once to a volunteer. Please look up the nominee to make sure they have not received an award in the category you are thinking of. Nominees must be a BCHW member.

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 The BCHW Board of Directors nominates and makes the selection for this award. It 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 BCHW President awards a person or persons “In recognition of outstanding dedication, passion and commitment to the BCHW mission”. The President's Diamond Award is decided autonomously from the BCHW Awards Program.

President's Diamond Award = 1, max 2 awarded 🐾

Mary Jo Krutak Contact Info:
mjkirutak@outlook.com 425-301-2907

DON'T PUT IT OFF!

Nominate & give back to a deserving BCHW member with an award.

By Mary Jo Krutak, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

Act now. Nominate a member who is making a difference by contributing to the BCHW mission statement. Start the process of gathering information for the nomination packet now. February isn't far away and can sneak up quickly. Doing

a little at a time makes it come together easily.

Award categories, descriptions, list of past recipients 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)

Lifetime Achievement _____	Desk Jockey _____
Lopper Award _____	Junior BCHW _____
Camp Cook _____	Backbone Award _____
Trail Warrior _____	

Nominees Name _____

Chapter(s) _____

Submitted by _____

Chapter(s) _____

Phone _____ 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.

Information to include in your nomination presentation:

- In 75 words or less, give an opening statement telling why this person is deserving of special, statewide 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 received (Outside of BCHW can be included)
- 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:

Mary Jo Krutak • 7904 224th St. SE, Woodinville, WA 98072

Questions: Mjkrutak@outlook.com or 425-301-2907

Must be received before Feb. 8, 2020. Awards will be presented at the BCHW General Meeting in March.



Grant Writing 101

By Mark Vorce, BCHW Mt Adams Chapter, Legislative Chair

It all started back in '12 when a good friend of mine said I should join the local BCHW since it is a fun group that enjoys riding on trails, and they needed some younger blood in the group. When I went to my first meeting, he was not kidding. Everyone at the meeting was old enough to be one of my grandparents. I quickly learned that, though they looked old and feeble, they were tough as nails and had what us younger guys would call "old people strength."

Our legislative chair had left a short time after I arrived, so I decided to take the reins. I started talking to our local USFS district ranger and hoped to get some roads and trails better maintained for our chapter. Like most of the USFS, our district's budget has been axed to the bare bones. While at a Rendezvous, I mentioned to a fella there that I was tired of hearing the same story of no money or "that would require NEPA and will take 5 years to complete." (I am not of fan of NEPA.) I really wanted to do something about this instead of just complaining about it.

Then I was introduced to Darrell Wallace, the keeper of all the grant money. I told Darrell from the get-go that this was my first rodeo at writing grants, and that he would have to hold my hand through the whole thing. He was very patient, and we had many conversations about our project. At first, I was trying to

get funds for parking expansion since it was difficult to turn trailers around at the East Crater Trailhead. Later that summer, a wildfire started near the Trailhead. Miraculously, the USFS then had all this money appearing from thin air to expand the parking area to stage the firetrucks and all their equipment. Who knew that a wildfire would be so beneficial? Later, our local USFS trail boss asked our chapter for help with funding some bridge projects, (oops I mean puncheon) as one of them had plywood to cover the hole, and to purchase some trail signage. I told him I knew a guy with some dough that could help. There were quite a few emails and phone calls between me and Darrell on what needed to be completed.

After a few missteps, I finally got this down, and our chapter received an RTP grant for our project. When the snow is gone, the planks will be replaced and the old ones and the broken, faded signs will be replaced near Mt. Adams horse camp. It has been a great learning experience writing grants and I cannot thank Darrell enough for his support. If you ever see Darrell, let him know he is doing a good job. If I only could get him to come out of retirement to work for the forest service. 🐾

Content Deadline for the March/February 2020 Newsletter is January 18th

Exception: Legislative articles and photos deadline is January 31, 2020.

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 2020 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.

ATTENTION!

2020 Rendezvous Auction

By Missy Day, BCHW Tahoma Chapter

The BCHW Rendezvous this March includes a fund-raising auction, and it runs entirely on your creativity and your donations. Here are some event eternal truths, plus what's different for 2020.

Eternal truth 1: We need you to donate Items

Both chapters and individuals can donate. Chapters usually donate items purchased just for the auction. Individuals can donate, too. Like most horse people, you probably have a few great items that are new (or like new) put away "for later." Maybe its the western shirt you bought, the painting your in-laws gave you, or the antique copper cowboy clock. If it's hand crafted, depicts a mule (or horse), has an engine, fosters nostalgia, or brings a smile we want it! You can surprise us at Rendezvous with your donation or you can let us know ahead of time.

Eternal Truth 2: Come Ride Our Part of the State

The "Come Ride Our Part of the State" was launched four years ago at Rendezvous to encourage more interaction between chapters and to showcase some of our favorite places to ride. We want more horses using our trails and showing your favorite riding area to people from outside your area, which is a great way spread the word.

How does it work? Your chapter designs and hosts a weekend 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!

New: Fun or Funny Auction Item Contest

Think outside the box and come up with a new kind of live auction item. Build, buy, or assemble an item to amuse a room of Backcountry Horsemen. Item will be in the live auction. \$100 prize to the chapter or individual who donates the item.

Rules

Must be generally portable and in reasonably good taste (as determined by the auction committee). Winner selected by popular vote.

Retired: Hard Hat Contest

After three amazing years we are retiring the Hard Hat Contest. Last year's entry was so fabulous we can't imagine anything better! Thanks to all who participated. 📖

If you have questions about anything, please email me.
Missy Day, Tahoma chapter
mssd134@gmail.com



BCHW Legislative Day 2020

All Members Are Welcome!

Monday, February 17, at 9:00 am in the
Washington Room
(In the basement of the Pritchard Building)

Call Your Legislators to make appointments Now!
11am 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

Pend Oreille County Park Project – Northeast Chapter

PHOTOS COURTESY OF STU NIEMAN



NEBCHW members Randy Raymond and Jim Hudkins

By Stu Nieman, Trail Boss, NEBCHW

The Northeast Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington has, for many years, been working and riding an area north of Deer Park, WA, just off of Highway 2. This beautiful area had great potential as a riding and camping area but needed many improvements to the parking and camping areas. Pend Oreille County Park is located at the south end of Pend Oreille County, WA. It has been used for many years, as is, by horse folks and has steadily grown in popularity, partially due to its close proximity to the Spokane area. It has a trail system of approximately 7 miles, winding up, down, around, and through hillsides, cedar groves, and viewpoints.

Because of increased use, NEBCHW went to the Park Board and proposed the enlargement of the parking area. The Park Board approached the County commissioners, who designed an engineering plan. A contract was drawn up and signed by both parties and our Chapter was awarded a grant from the County. With all the paperwork completed, we were able to start the project. Members of NEBCHW set out to flag the boundaries and take measurements for a detailed plan (size of the present and future parking area). The size was tripled and is now over 16,000 square feet.

On June 17, 2019, four chapter sawyers began cutting trees. This was the beginning of a major task and commitment by the Northeast Chapter. We pulled trees and brush to the landing area to be chipped. We rented a chipper and went to work feeding that chipper. We did this task on 3 different occasions.

On August 2, 2019, a contractor brought in an excavator to dig out stumps. That was a huge relief for us. With the help of tractors, bobcats, jeeps, and trucks, we had the area ready for the dozer. Tom Warner from Solid Structures unloaded the dozer on August 4th and began leveling the area. Big stumps and large rocks started emerging from the ground. The stumps were relocated, and the rocks stacked in an area to be used later for a boundary. Tom worked this job in between his other commitments and had the trailhead leveled off by August 12th.

Our next project at the park was to build a trail from the parking area to the Fertile Valley Trail. That trail leads to Rustler's Gulch and is about 2 miles in length. That was just a small task and was done rather quickly. Signs were made and installed, along with 5 hitching posts around the parking area. A load of crushed rock was donated for the base of a future port-a-potty (to be installed May, 2020), with a little extra gravel for the entrance area. The County Roads Department has designated a loop where they plan to spread additional gravel to complete the job. Overnight horse camping is \$10 per night, with day parking free.

Many thanks to the 28+ NEBCHW volunteers who put in many hours to get the project to this point, and a special Thank You to Past President Jim Hudkins for making this project a reality. To date, NEBCHW members have volunteered over 650 hours at Pend Oreille County Park. Let's take care of this nice riding area following our Leave-No-Trace guidelines.... bring your horses and RIDE! 🐾



Report on the Official Opening of North Summit Horse Camp Phase I

PHOTO BY JAN FORD



The cake at the Official Opening of North Summit Horse Camp.

PHOTO BY JAN FORD



Some of the Audience at the Official Opening of North Summit Horse Camp.

By Jan and Bill Ford, BCHW Methow Valley Chapter

Two days before the opening, there was patchy snow lying on the campground. We cleared snow off the picnic tables, hoping that they would dry out before the day of the opening. They did and, despite a dismal forecast, we had cool, clear weather on the 5th.

About 50 people turned out and attended the Opening in the middle of the day and/or the Thank You Dinner in the evening. Some brought horses and explored the network of local trails, led by Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen (MVBCH) President Cathy Upper, in the morning before the opening, and by Ashley Ahearn between the potluck/hamburger lunch and the Thank You Dinner.

Some people from the west side may have been put off by the threat of poor road conditions, but about half of the Sponsors (donations of \$2,500 and more) were able to attend, as well as representatives of some of the 15 BCHW donor chapters.

The Forest Service Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD) was represented by District Ranger Chris Furr and Recreation Manager Rosemary Seifried. Both have been supportive of NSHC since coming to the Methow just before the Crescent Mountain Fire last year. Michael Liu, retired District Ranger, was also present

and was recognized for his early support of NSHC.

Jason Ridlon, BCHW Vice President (and Special Projects Coordinator), attended along with Jane Byram (Leave No Trace Chair) and Lori Lennox (Stores). Thanks to all three of them for their support.

Bill Ford started proceedings at about 12:20pm. He described the history of the development of North Summit Horse Camp to the completion of Phase I - almost exactly two years after work was started on site here. Before that, there had been eight years since the idea of a horse camp on this side of the valley was first proposed by Mary Pat Bauman. These years were spent searching for a suitable site, getting a NEPA, and applying for

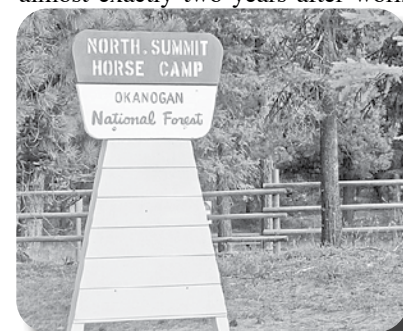


PHOTO BY JAN FORD

Entrance of North Summit Horse Camp.

continued on page 14

2020 BCHW Rendezvous Used Tack Sale

Bring your clean tack to the BCHW Rendezvous and we will sell it for you. 15% of all sales go to BCHW. Tack, clothing, and camping equipment welcome. We will start receiving on the 19th.

Questions call Jim Anderson at 360 835-5719 or e-mail muleman1951@gmail.com



Report of the Official Opening of North Summit Horse Camp Phase 1

continued from page 13

grants and developing contracts. MVBCH member Larry Zimmerlund spent a great deal of time on designs and engineering (Thank you, Larry).

Bill enumerated the costs (\$76,661 – of which \$47,644 was contributed by MVBCH) and the Volunteer Hours (over 1,791 hours) put into Phase I in the last two years working on site. He thanked those who had contributed both financially and in volunteer hours.

Bill introduced Chris Furr, who thanked those who had worked on NSHC. He presented Bill and Pete Stoothoff, the prime movers in the development of the site, with certificates of appreciation from the Forest Service.

Cathy Upper spoke next and reiterated the amount of work that MVBCH has put into NSHC.

The final speaker, Jason Ridlon, also acknowledged the organization and the hard work involved.

At the end of the formal proceedings, a hamburger and potluck lunch were served, and a special cake was cut.

In the late afternoon, a smaller number foregathered for the Thank You Dinner.

We were very pleased to have three members of the Cascade Horse Club Chapter present in the evening; this Chapter contributed at the Sponsor level. Also present was Mary McIntyre Lee. She had come with her horse on Friday evening and taken the opportunity to ride the trails. She said how much she liked the campground; this is pleasing because she is a double Sponsor.

A drawing was made among the 15 BCHW donor chapters for a wheelbarrow decorated by Ginger Reddington; it was won by Trail Dusters. A second drawing among the Sponsors was won by MVBCH member Carole Goudge.

Thanks to all who helped make the day a success: Sid Stusinski provided his sound system, Cathy and Bill organized the program and setup, Rick and Shelley Jones cooked the hamburgers, George Schoenfeld took over the BBQ in the evening and cooked the steaks, Carol and Joe Hebert brought extra tables and helped

set up the food. MVBCH members (and some non-MVBCH members) brought delicious potluck dishes and helped with setting up and dismantling. I haven't named everyone, but you are all very much appreciated. 🐾

PHOTO BY JAN FORD



Bill Ford introducing Jason Ridlon, BCHW VP President.



PHOTO BY JAN FORD

NSHC Chris Furr, Methow Valley District Ranger, Bill Ford and Pete Stoothoff after presentation of certificates of appreciation from the Forest Service.



Permanent and Temporary Address Change Form

Name: _____

Current Address: _____

New Address: _____

Temporary Address for Snow Birds: _____

Start date: _____ Return Date: _____

Mail to: Dana Chambers, State Membership Chair, 11404 210th Ave Ct E, Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Email to: membership.bchw@gmail.com

Green River Work Party

PHOTO BY JIM THODE



Tony Karniss on Green River Trail #213.

PHOTO BY JIM THODE



Trans-Cascadia Crew on Goat Mt Trail #217.

By Doc Wesseliuss

A 1901 Washington Geological Survey addressed only the mining district in Lewis County. The Green River District, north of Mount St. Helens, was reached either by stage road from Castle Rock or by way of the Green River using a wagon road and trail from Chehalis. From Cowlitz Valley, the Strawberry Mountain Trail in the rugged topography was developed before 1895 to reach mining claims in the riverine valley. Not to be confused with the coal mining Green River District in King County, trails in the heavily timbered valley north of Spirit Lake were used to bring supplies to the miners digging for precious metal mineral deposits. Access to the old mining trails was suddenly changed in 1980 with the eruption of Mount St. Helens.

After the establishment of the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, the

Green River Horse Camp was built by the Lewis County Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) under the auspices of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Three of the old mining trails (Green River, Goat Mountain, and Strawberry Mountain) were connected to camp. The trail system provided recreational opportunities for horse riders, hikers, and mountain bikers. Unfortunately, access to the horse camp via a 23-mile road from Randle was intermittently interrupted by washouts in the pumice topsoil laid down by millennia of volcanic eruptions. A three-year road closure negated trail maintenance and curtailed recreational opportunities in the Green River area. Forest trails in Western Washington are quickly converted back to their natural state if annual

continued on page 16

BCHW Membership Announcement

BCHW Memberships expire on Dec. 31, 2019. Please go to BCHW.org and join or renew today so you don't miss out on the Trailhead News. If you have any questions, issues or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me, Dana Chambers at membership.bchw@gmail.com or call 206-498-6952, I'm here for you!!

PRICING FOR OUR MEMBERSHIPS

In Addition To Chapter Dues

Single	\$41.00
Family.....	\$54.00
Contributing	\$75.00
Sustaining	\$125.00
Patron	\$250.00
Benefactor	\$500.00
Lifetime (Single)	\$1200.00

Green River Work Party

continued from page 15

maintenance is not conducted. Consequential to the prolonged road closure, the trails originating from the horse camp were in desperate need of attention.

Tony Karniss, BCHW-LCC Trail Work Leader, worked for a year to organize a four-day work party headquartered from the horse camp. Volunteers from eight BCHW chapters in collaboration with Trans-Cascadia North West Trail Alliance, Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance, Washington Trail Association, and Boy and Girl Scouts of America Troop 324 and 373 from Winlock opened 50 trail miles that were in jeopardy of abandonment for recreation.

Recreational Trails Grant (16-2675) from the federal Recreation and Conservation Office was obtained to finance the multifaceted work party. A requirement for the grant necessitates a volunteer labor match, based on hourly work values, accumulated throughout the project. Daily records for each volunteer's hourly work values were kept for tabulating and summarizing when the work party was completed.

A venture of this magnitude requires extensive planning and preparation. Every small detail must be addressed to make the undertaking a success. The purchase and procurement of food for the large assembly of volunteers was a huge undertaking. Weed-seed free hay had to be also procured and delivered to the horse camp. Arrangements for sanitation facilities were imperative. Even the delivery of water for both volunteers and horses had to be arranged.

A month before the commencement of the work party, many particulars had to be addressed before the volunteers arrived. Each trail project was identified and surveyed before solutions for corrections were determined. Assembly of necessary tools, equipment, and trail repair materials was resolved and then arrangements for their deportment to the horse camp were organized. Personnel for pack stock and vehicle transport were then assigned for deployments to the trail projects. Once all the arrangements were finalized, crew leaders and work crews were consigned. After the work party commenced the daily work schedule had to be appropriately rearranged and crews reallocated.

The fifty miles of trail maintenance adhered to USFS standards. Clearing, drainage, and tread improvement constituted a majority of the trail projects. However, reroutes were required to

rebuild parts of the trails around washed-out sections; a Kubota DU 17 excavator was used to reconstruct six miles. Several punchon structures were also assembled to traverse drainage crossings. Upkeep and improvements for the horse camp included a metal roof to replace the vault toilet's cedar shingles.

A cadre of BCHW cooks fulfilled the three meals a day dietary requirement for the volunteers. Rising early in the morning, they had breakfast ready for the crews before the safety meeting and then sent them out to their workstations with lunch. During the day, mounted refreshment transporters delivered liquids and snacks to the remote worksites. In the evening, everyone looked forward to arriving back in camp and partaking in a hearty meal.

The grand finale of the work party was a pig roast the final night; donated and roasted by the mountain bikers. The main course was accompanied by salad, corn-on-the-cob, and watermelon plus Dutch oven apple turnover for dessert, prepared by the BCHW cooks. The camaraderie of accomplishment was apparent as the volunteers from the various trail advocacy groups gathered around the campfire to celebrate.


The Green River Work Party is an example of how to conduct trail maintenance with the involvement and cooperation of several trail advocacy organizations. A project of this magnitude demonstrates the necessity for a large workforce to keep neglected trail systems open for future generations. 

PHOTO BY JIM THODE



PHOTO BY TOM BOUCHARD



2019 – A Challenging Year Working on Trails and Horse Camp Construction in the Methow Ranger District

PHOTO BY BILL FORD

PHOTO BY BILL FORD



Clearing piles of branches.



By Jan and Bill Ford, BCHW Methow Valley Chapter

At the beginning of 2019, Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen (MVBCH) members faced the daunting prospect of doing as much as possible to get trails in the Methow Valley open while completing Phase I of the North Summit Horse Campground (NSHC).

The first task was made much more difficult than usual by the 2018 fires. The Crescent Mountain Fires had damaged 13 of the 14 main trails in the Twisp River drainage, some very severely. MVBCH members put in 854 Volunteer Hours working on 15 trails in the Methow Valley Ranger District (MVRD). They worked on these trails either on their own or in conjunction with the Forest Service, WTA, Americorp, and YouthCorp. On Louis Lake trail, crews from all of these were involved in getting the trail opened up to the lake.

Five trails with trailheads in the upper Twisp River drainage were cleared for their entire length (North Lake, Twisp Pass, South Creek, Louis Lake, and Twisp River Trail) - but many other trails could not be opened this season. Even trails that have been cleared need extensive tread work, and trees continue to fall in the burnt areas. There are at least three bridges in the MVRD in need of extensive repairs or complete rebuilds.

From the beginning of June right through to mid-November we were also working on North Summit Horse Camp. Phase I, with six campsites, was completed in September and the official opening was on October 5th. At that stage, we had recorded 642 volunteer hours working on NSHC.

Since October 5th, we have been getting as much work done for Phase II as we can before the snow flies – in the hope of getting off to a flying start in the spring.

Up to November 23rd, we have spent 133 Volunteer Hours clearing the six Phase II campsites. A total of 773 hours was dedicated to Phase I and Phase II work at NSHC in 2019.

Volunteer hours accrued after completion of Phase I will go

towards the 1,000 VH required for the RCO grant (Project # 15-2497D NSHC Phase II Development) awarded to the MVRD to finance Phase II of NSHC.

The campground is now closed for the winter. The gates were locked, and seven wheelbarrows donated by MVBCH members were piled together and covered by a tarpaulin. At the November 7th MVBCH meeting, donors were in a draw for one of the Ginger Reddington barrows. George Schoenfeld and Michelle Schmitke were the winners.

continued on page 18



2019 – A Challenging Year Working on Trails and Horse Camp Construction in the Methow Ranger District

continued from page 17



Plans for 2020

Planning is underway for a coordinated approach to trail recovery in the district during 2020. MVBCH is ready to do all possible to help with this. Jason Ridlon, Special Projects Coordinator for BCHW (and Vice President), is organizing a statewide work party in July 2020 for a concerted effort to open and maintain trails in the Twisp River drainage to prevent their loss.

MVBCH expects to be opening many trails to the wilderness boundary as early in the season as we can, like we usually do. This speeds access to the wilderness for other trail crews using crosscut saws. We will also be working on our adopted trail, the 15-mile Twisp River Trail, to open it as soon as we can. Much of our other work will be alongside trail crews from other agencies.

We hope to have NSHC near completion in 2021. We have to provide \$7,500 of the funding (non-refundable) and 1,000 volunteer hours (including 250 skilled) to meet the terms of the Forest Service grant.

Financial donations to help support Phase II are still needed. We do not want to deplete our trail funds, but we have to pay expenses as we go and then reclaim from the RCO grant. Any delays in recouping our expenditure may lead to delays in construction. Big ticket items are likely to be a particular problem in this regard; our chapter does not have large cash reserves now. We hope, as BCHW members use NSCH, more will be willing to help, financially and otherwise, with its completion. 🐾

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 <small>(or first business day after this date)</small>	Publish Date of Newsletter	Ad Size	Ad Dimensions	Ad Cost 1x Insertion
December 1	Jan/Feb	Back Cover 3/4 page	8" H x 8" W	\$331.00
January 18	Mar/April	Inside Front Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
April 1	May/June	Inside Back Cover	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
June 1	July/Aug	Full Page	10" H x 7 1/2" W	\$496.00
August 1	Sept/Oct	3/4 Page	6 1/4" H x 7 1/2" W	\$331.00
October 1	Nov/Dec	Half Page (Horizontal)	4 3/4" H x 7 1/2" W	\$248.00
		Half Page (Vertical)	10" H x 3 5/8" W	\$248.00
		Third Page	3 1/2" H x 7 1/2" W	\$166.00
		Quarter Page	4 3/4" H x 3 5/8" W	\$124.00
		Business Card	2" H x 3 5/8" W	\$62.00

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

Send check along with ad to:
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Joining Forces



By Marilyn Pineda, BCHW Skagit Chapter

Skagit Chapter had its last monthly work party at the Les Hilde Trailhead for 2019 in November, but there was nothing “per usual” about the flood of volunteers who showed up on that day! There were 30 volunteers, 15 of which were civilians, and an additional 15 members of the Grey Knights of Patrol Squadron 46 that came out from NAS Whidbey Island. This is pretty impressive when you consider that the Grey Knights all had more than two hours of travel round trip to come to join us! Folks from the Grey Knights had been to our work parties in the past but had been gone quite a while deployed on missions and training. To say Skagit Chapter felt honored by the renewed opportunity to spend time in the woods with these young men and women would be an understatement.

It was exciting to have so many capable and motivated people spending the day with us, even though it did come with a few challenges. The objectives included a BIG pile of gravel, a mini excavator for loading, and 5 mechanical gravel totes that would be used to address much-needed work on several soggy areas of a heavily used trail. The first step was to hold a safety/training meeting to get all volunteers briefed on the specifics of what needed to be accomplished, as well as what the cautions would be in operating so many machines in the confined areas on the trail. After the safety meeting, and under the direction of Hyden McKown, our DNR coordinator, Skagit distributed all available hands into equal groups around each tote. Each group would need someone to operate the tote plus a few people to help with dumping and spreading the gravel with hand tools. The crews headed out to the project trail and were given on-site training for actually operating the machines. Tote training went on throughout the day because most everyone wanted a turn at running a machine! The need for some volunteers to provide extra footwork developed to communicate between the crews and the loading station at the gravel to let the “dispatcher” know how many loads were needed at the various repair locations. This need for communication created a conversation on how handy it would be to have some radios to use between the crews. The subject of radios had come up in some previous work parties, so perhaps the Chapter could invest in some reasonable devices for that purpose. In addition to learning to run

the totes, it was interesting to see where other areas of education came into play throughout the day that many of us in BCH take for granted – like how to drain water out of the trail and clear mud away before applying gravel.

The day was an adventure, more for some than others, due to a few “uh oh” moments in the beginning as people were learning how NOT to spill or tip a tote when dumping on steep portions of the trail! Then later, as some volunteers started to feel braver behind the handlebars, there were lessons on how to NOT pull the track off of a moving tote by turning too sharp while crawling forward at a fairly rapid pace over rough terrain. Regardless of the memorable setbacks that took place, it was a successful and injury-free day that everyone could feel good about.

As the work wound down in the early afternoon, people made their way back to the shelter for some hot lunch. Several robust soups had been pre-made and brought in by Skagit Chapter members. The lunch crew heated the soups and put them out with salad, bread rolls and a special red, white and blue THANK YOU cake for volunteers and veterans. People ate, told stories from their day’s experiences and the Grey Knights thanked us for allowing them to be part of what Skagit Chapter was doing!

The growing network of enthusiastic volunteers is an encouraging trend and has already given Skagit some positive momentum as they make their way into 2020. 🐾





BCHW 4th Quarter 2019 Board of Directors' Meeting, Business Meeting – December 7, 2019

Ellensburg, WA at the KVEC – Armory Building

By Janelle Wilson, BCHW Secretary

BCHW President Kathy Young called the meeting to at 9:00 a.m.

She took roll call attendance. Directors introduced new Directors and Alternates for who were present at the meeting. Scatter Creek Riders was not present and excused; Inland Empire was absent. A quorum was present. Kathy reminded Directors to update Directory and teach new Directors how to use the Director's Download page on-line.

Next the Agenda was adopted as amended.

Meeting Minutes from the 3rd Quarter Board of Directors' Meeting were accepted as posted.

Officer and Committee Reports followed.

Executive Committee - Kathy Young asked for nominations for Board Officers: President; Vice President; BCHA Director Position 1; and BCHA Alternate Director. Then, the Board of Directors voted by ballot.

Jason Ridlon (Vice President) was elected President. Rob DeBoer (Skagit) was elected Vice President.

Bill McKenna (Whatcom) was elected for BCHA Director Position 1. Doug Stewart (Northeast) was elected BCHA Alternate Director. At President-Elect Jason Ridlon's request, the Board of Directors appointed Teri Starke as Treasurer, Tina Short as Secretary, and Tom Janes as Independent Director. New officers will take office on January 1, 2020.

Executive Committee Actions since the last quarterly board meeting caused Directors to have a committee appointed to develop a new membership liability release form. However, they approve the actions.

Treasurer/Budget - Teri Starke reported that training went well, and there will be another offered in the Fall. The full training video is posted on the BCHW website. Financial are due January 20th from Chapters. Budget questions were addressed. Tahoma, Peninsula and Lewis County will be audited this year. Materials for calendar year 2019 are due by March 1st. She also noted that bad addresses from TrailHead News (THN) cost BCHW 61 cents each and reminded everyone to notify BCHW of change of address (even temporary ones). Chapter books can be closed following last event of the year in December.

Ways & Means, Calendars - Teri Starke noted that Terri Crawford needs pictures identified with who and where for the calendar by February 1st. Calendars sold out in December and made \$4,000.

Winery Ride - Barb Thomas reported and showed statistics. This event made about \$20,000 with all aspects included. She reminded chapters to build support funds into their 2020 budgets. In the Spring "hitching post" construction will be addressed. Kathy Young thanked Heather Moorman, Dave Jackson and all the volunteers for so many years and especially Barb (who had never attended a Winery Ride but willingly chaired this year).

Grants - Darrell Wallace and Nicole Sedgwick - report was posted, which is the usual practice for prior to the BCHW Board Meeting each quarter.

BCHA - Darrell Wallace, Jason Ridlon - report was posted.

Special Projects - Jason Ridlon noted that the Statewide Work Party will be Twisp River drainage again.

Independent Members - Sandra Ihly reported that there are 150 independent members registered.

Membership Development - Ken Carmichael's report was posted. Ken reminded Directors to have officers and members come to Leadership Training and select a strong Membership Chair.

Governance & Bylaws - Ken Carmichael reminded Directors and State Officers to turn in their whistleblower and conflict-of-interest forms.

Legislative - Jeff Chapman reported that E-bikes will be an ongoing discussion as each agency seems to have different rules. Also, a Discover Pass price raise is being discussed by State Parks.

Public Lands - Pete Erben shared the E-bike lawsuits have caused Forest Service to take information off website. Forest Restoration Projects involve looking at a watershed area, thinning timber for health, decommissioning roads, removing culverts, etc. BCHW needs to respond and take an active collaborative role. Region 6 has proposed a sustainable trails strategy and Pete has received a copy, which he outlined. Pete will post a report with the trail's statistics. Dan Chappel announced that Umatilla is very pleased with the work completed by BCHW for the Statewide Work Party.

Executive Director - Nicole Sedgwick's report was posted. There were no questions.

Rendezvous - Nicole Sedgwick's report was posted showing how chapters are participating. Posters were distributed to Directors for 2020. The Rendezvous flyer electronic in PDF is available on the BCHW website for chapters to use, too.

continued on page 21

Directors' Meeting and Business Meeting

continued from page 20

BCHW Store - Lori Lennox's report was posted. Directors were reminded to read the report. Remember there is no order form in compliance with the rules. Teri reminded Directors that if they get a list of store items from Lori; it should never be published on a Facebook page, newsletter, or website.

Volunteer Hours - Deb Wesselius reported on the large number of volunteer hours for the Winery Ride (3,100). Volunteer Hours reports have all been posted for the year. Total hours Oct 1, 2018 to Sept 30, 2019, were 85,696 hours (a dollar value of over \$3 million).

Awards - Mary Jo Krutak's report was posted. Kathy Young reminded Directors need to determine a Cinch Award (or 2). Former award winners can be found and searched on BCHW.org.

Safety - Chuck Regimbal's report was posted. Chuck reminded Directors to encourage safety in their chapters.

Membership - Dana Chambers' report was posted. She announced that there are 1555 paid memberships so far. 594 members renewed (400 on-line). 48 new members signed up since October. There will be a change of address form in the THN (for temporary addresses, too).

Sawyer Program - Tony Karniss reported that a Ladies Saw Class will be offered from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Saturday at Rendezvous - this is not a certification class, but an intro to cross-cuts. PPE for electric chainsaws is same as gas powered for now. May 8-10 at Bumping Lake will be saw certification class. Nicole Sedgwick is working on a list of certified sawyers.

LNT - Jane Byram began with a note of safety regarding dogs at horse rides. The LNT group met just prior to the Board Meeting, so the report was to be posted the following week. Jane strongly encouraged chapters to send new members to Basic Skills Class May 2&3 - location TBD. She also announced that LNT pop-up display kits are available for chapters to put up at events.

Publicity/THN - Dick Yarboro had no report. It was noted that the Trailhead News contract ends December 2020.

Website/Social Media - Rob DeBoer thanked Lori Lennox for Facebook and NWHorse Source coordination and contribution. Louise Caywood reminded Directors to send flyers to Lori, Louise, and Jim for distribution.

Education - Kim Merrick reminded Directors that Leadership Training will be held on January 25th. She asked Directors to give her a "headcount" of expected attendance. Old and new officers were encouraged to attend (for transition). She noted that all members should be encouraged to attend.

There was no Unfinished Business:

Directors sang "Happy Birthday" to Mary Kane. New Business followed.

Professional Accounting Firm update was given by Treasurer

Teri Starke. Directors voted to have Teri hand off the 1099 process, re-seller permit, public disclosure commission, charities and corporate filing, and writing and making checks to the accounting firm for \$800 for the year.

2020 Budget was presented to the Board and Teri Starke responded to questions. BCHW needs more revenue streams and sponsorships. Directors approved the budget as presented.

Education proposal was posted (along with a motion) prior to the meeting. Directors voted to have BCHW officially work toward adding online support for all chapter officers and volunteer positions with the goal of providing full online support for those that cannot make it to the annual leadership training event. And that each trainer at the Leadership Training, beginning in 2020, provide as much detail as possible about their Leadership Training to the webmaster for posting online.

Saddle Donation was introduced to the Board of Directors. The Board voted to raffle the saddle (valued at \$3,000). Teri Starke will manage the raffle and Nicole Sedgwick will print the tickets. The raffle will be drawn at the Winery Ride in 2020.

Chapter Accomplishment Video content is due to Louise Caywood by February 1st.

Good of the Order and Announcements followed. Mt Olympus had Christmas Wreaths for sale.

North Summit Horse Camp - Bill Ford announced the soft opening of North Summit Horse Camp was in September and October 5th was the official opening. It has been 10 years in the making. Bill thanked all the donors and contributors for support. 1,791 hours and \$87,000 were spent to this point (5 pull-throughs and 1 back-in) which is not quite ? way. Phase two will take the next 2 years.

Joe Watt Canyon Ride was cancelled for 2020 because there were no proposals submitted.

The Directors voted to auction off the wheelbarrow given to Jason Ridlon at the National Board Meeting.

State Parks - Kathy Young reminded Directors to check the State Parks MOU agreement and make sure it is being followed.

Lost and Found - Winery Ride lost and found "tool bag" was displayed.

Kennedy Creek - Traci Koch (Oakland Bay) offered to have state-wide ride combined with Oakland Bay's annual tradition.

Executive Director Contract - Kathy Young explained that there are proposed changes (which were circulated during this meeting for advice and input from Directors) to the Executive Director Contract, which will be decided in March at the 1st quarter 2020 meeting of the Board of Directors (to be held in conjunction with Rendezvous for 2020).

President Kathy Young passed the gavel to Jason Ridlon, President-Elect. Officially Jason will become President on January 1st.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:25 p.m. Janelle Wilson, Secretary. 🐾



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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.

Annual Leadership Training

Saturday, January 25, 2020
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA

BCHW Legislative Day

Monday, February 17, 2020
Olympia, WA

Rattlesnake Ridge Riders

Chili Feed Ride/Fundraiser

Sunday, March 8, 2020
First Ride Out: 10:00 am SHARP
Horn Rapids Park
115803 SR 225, Benton City
Starts at 7:00 am
Lunch: Provided
Camping: Very Limited
Cost: \$15.00 per person • \$50.00 family of 4
Paul Mellick: 509-528-3600
rrrbchw.info@yahoo.com

2020 Rendezvous

Friday-Sunday, March 20-22, 2020
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 21, 2020
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

Whatcom BCH 23rd annual Fundraiser Auction

Saturday, April 4, 2020
New Location: Deming Logging Show Place,
3295 Cedarville Rd. Bellingham, WA 98226
Silent Auction: 5:30pm—7:00pm
Live Auction: 7:00pm
Contact Melinda Smull at 360-595-2137 for
more information.
Join us for a fun evening!

Methow Valley Spring Ride and Fundraiser

Friday - Sunday, April 24-26, 2020
First rider out: 10:00 am
Beaver Creek Campground, Methow Valley
Discover Pass or WDFW fishing pass required
Overnight camping on site, no charge
Registration: \$20/Adult, \$10/Child under 12
After Apr 17: \$30/Adult, \$15/Child
Reg. includes Fri. Dutch Oven Pot Luck +
Sat. Trail Ride + Silent Auction +
BBQ Dinner with
Campfire Entertainment.
BBQ and Saturday evening entertainment:
\$15 for non-registrants
Sunday "Buckaroo Breakfast": \$8
Contact: Bev Phillippi, 509-668-1024,
bev2ap@gmail.com
Registration form available at
www.MVBCH.com on the "2020
Spring Ride" page

2nd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' meeting

Saturday, June 20, 2020
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

State Wide Work Party

Friday-Thursday, July 3-8, 2020

3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' meeting

Saturday, September 19, 2020
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org

19th Annual Winery Ride

Saturday, October 31, 2020 – Zillah
for more information email:
bchwwinerywineryride@gmail.com

4th QTR BCHW Board of Directors' meeting

Saturday, December 5, 2020
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495 • bchwexec@bchw.org