

The Trailhead News

Vol. 47 Issue 1

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

January/February 2022

*Thank You For Your
14 years of Service
Dick Yarboro!*



www.bchw.org

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Cover Photo: Dick Yarboro near Republic, Washington
Photo by Marty Hilton

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

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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

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Chapter Directors: This list is taken from the
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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	Name	Chapter	Name	Chapter
Lifetime Members					
Mitch Baird	IND	Ron & Marty Celestres	TAH	Butch & Jaima Havens	IND
Scott Bauer	CHC	Danny & Jeanie Chappel	RRR	Judith & Bob Hoyle	BHR
Amanda Biles	TAH	Joe & Cindy Chenier	LCC	Brian & Tammy Jansen	MSH
Penelope Booker	IND	Leslie Coey & Curt Fuller	IND	Hillary Jones & Jim Johnston	GHC
Caleb Canby	MVC	Gary & Kathy Collins	MSH	Cris Kantor	TAH
Janis Collett	PCC	Patrick Dolan	MSH	Lorraine Karmen	CHC
Missy Day	TAH	Michelle Eames & Doug Frederick	PON	Tony Karniss	LCC
Marianne Finrow	LCC	Robert & Celeste Eversole	NEC	Scottie Kilby	MVC
David Jackson	PSR	Bruce Foreman	NEC	Lisa & Duane Knapp	OBC
Lori Lennox	GHC	Robert Gish & Myrna McMain	NEC	Sally & Don Laib	PCC
Kim Merrick	NSC	KEVIN & Lisa Graese	NEC	Kris Lenke & Dave Peterson	BHR
Heather Moorman	PSR	Dawn Graham	MOC	Ed & Teri Letcher	WEN
Kathy Russo	IND	Kathy & Bob Jones	TDC	Teren & Norman MacLeod	BHR
Dave Seibel	MOC	Karl Kaiyala & Kathy Rafferty	MVC	Marlaine McCauley & Matt Watson	WEN
Bob Shonka	IND	Mary Kane	TAH	Paul Mellick	RRR
Teri Starke	IND	Burton & Caity Karapostoles	MVC	Kris Moran	GHC
Cathy Upper	MVC	Bill Kehner	IND	Rick & Brenda Nowlin	PCC
Carol Wilcox	WVC	Mike & Chris McGlenn	WCC	Jeanette & John O'Keefe	MVC
Pat Wyers	MAC	Mary McIntyre-Lee	IND	Kathleen Parshall	TAH
2019 Annual Meeting Head Table					
Dave & Gail Sunde	FER	James Miller	IND	Robert Powers	OPC
2022 Annual Meeting Head Table					
Dr. Jack Gillette	PIE	Al & Marcy Norrbom	WEN	Jan Rannow	PCC
2022 Benefactor Level					
Terry & Suzanne Smith	IND	Mary & Dennis Owens	GHC	Patricia Richmond	SCR
William Hamlin & Anne Razzolini	RRR	Kendra Pardy	OPC	Jason & Heather Ridlon	IND
2022 Patron Level					
Donald Campbell & Christina Fritzing	PCC	Elizabeth & Daniel Poore Jennings	NSC	June & Gary Robinson	RRR
Christina Cline	MVC	Gail & David Rase	BHR	Leonard & Kathy Rolph	MAC
Sherrie Elliott	NEC	JoAnn Reider	TAH	Lynda Stafford	SCR
Carrie Heltemes & Carolyn Kruckenberg	LCC	Tanara Reynolds	PCC	Danny & Karen Stineback	MSH
Greg Johnston & Catherine Johnson	GHC	Nancy Rust	MSH	Dave & Gail Sunde	OVC
Bob Showalter	RRR	Laurel Saville	WCC	Rick & Phoebe Trocano	MVC
Todd & Janet Wiebke	TAH	Boyd & Mikki Sharp	PNC	Brian & Cindi Vance	NEC
Barbara Woo	CHC	Barb Talbot	PCC	Craig Volosin & Karen Stevenson	PON
2022 Sustaining Level					
Jannine Allen & Danny Garner	IND	Michael Torok	MVC	Dick Woodfin	MAC
David & Carrol Bainter	GHC	Darrell & Kristy Wallace	NEC		
Connie & Eugene Baugher	MAC	Louise & Peter Walton	NEC		
Cliff & Judy Benson	TDC	Bob & Lyris Wooldridge	MAC		
Sandi Berg	CCR	JoAnn Yost	GHC		
Robert & Sheila Blakely	NEC	2022 Contributing Level			
Sandra Boe	PCC	Earl & Dorothy Aalseth	CHC		
Heather Brown	WCC	Jim & Terri Anderson	MSH		
Sherry Brown	LCC	Gene Brent	TAH		
Mike Celestres	TAH	Bonnie Cooley	RRR		
		Darrell Cowan	WVC		
		Greg Cox	GHC		
		Jan & Jim Craghead	CCR		
		Ken & Pam Evans	MAC		
		Carol Finney	MSH		
		Peg Greiwe & Dale Kelley	PCC		
		Rich & Louise Guthrie	CHC		
		Kris & Don Hand	PSR		

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. ↩

Ken Wilcox BCHW

In Memoriam

BettyRae Shonka

Trygve Culp

Jim Murphy

Teunis Wyers

Marianne Finrow

**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.

Prez Says



It's Time to Hand the Reins Over...

By Dana Chambers, BCHW President

On December 4th, 2021, your State Board of Directors put their faith in me to lead the organization into 2022. Our Past President, Jason Ridlon, had a challenging 2-year term dealing with a pandemic and state shutdowns. In-person events and meetings were canceled and instead, we had to navigate the world of virtual gatherings. Once we could hold in-person meetings, things were still a challenge with all the rules. As I start my 2-year term on January 1st, I will also be dealing with restrictions and rules, but hopefully things will get back to normal.

During Jason's presidency, we accomplished a lot to move our organization forward even though it felt like an uphill battle, but we did not give up. Change is hard, we know that; but we truly feel the changes were a positive step forward for BCHW. Some of the workloads were taken away from the chapters so that they could concentrate more on the mission statement and getting out on the trails.

Now a little about me!

My name is Dana Chambers, I joined BCHW in August of 2015 and became a member of the Tahoma chapter not too long after that.

With my background in customer service and administrative work, I jumped right in as Membership Chair for that chapter because I love to organize.

Then, in January of 2017, Kathy Young and Nicole Sedgwick asked me to take on the task of cleaning up the state database after it went live on the BCHW YourMembership platform. I also took on the BCHW sawyer program database maintenance and helped with the new state website. I implemented and ran a new platform for online membership forms, event registration, and numerous other online options for BCHW. I am a paid contractor for BCHW as their Member Data Coordinator and a volunteer on the BCHW Fundraising Ad Hoc Committee.

There is a quote, "If you want something done, ask a busy person." Well, I am that person!

Now I will venture into a new role as your BCHW president because I believe I have a lot to give to this organization. My goal is to move BCHW forward into 2022 as an even better organization through training and skill-building programs. I have been working closely with our BCHW Treasurer, Teri Starke, to implement the recently approved state Centralized Accounting program. I will work with a group of members passionate about implementing a State-Wide Packing Program geared towards the younger generation. Some other things I want to work on over the next two years are increasing our member-

Now I will venture into a new role as your BCHW president because I believe I have a lot to give to this organization.

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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.



December 4, 2021

BCHW Volunteer Hours Report

By Deb Wesselius, BCHW Volunteer Hours Chair

The BCHW volunteer hours Summary Report covers the reporting period from October 1, 2020 thru September 30, 2021. These are the yearend totals, and they represent a job well done by chapter members, officers, and your Volunteer Hours (VH) Coordinator. The Excel document represents the totals by chapter and by the agency.

2021 BCHW VOLUNTEER HOURS = 52,556
(2020 – 56496.5)
2021 TOTAL VALUE = \$1,962,069.23
(2020 – \$1,969,927.41)

By working within COVID restrictions and around the wildfires, we still managed to accumulate a respectable amount of volunteer hours for the 2021 reporting year. This

is the time to give a big thanks and hats off to all the BCHW volunteers.

Big thanks also go out to the BCHW VH Regional folks: Louise Caywood-PCC, JoAnn Yost-GHC, and Barbara Vache'-CHC worked extremely hard reviewing and assuring accuracy in their chapters' final VH. The BCHW VH Program couldn't complete our accomplishment without their help.

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

NOTE: If you or someone you want to recommend would be interested in joining the BCHW Regional Volunteer Hours team, let me know. 🏠

It's Time to Hand the Reins Over

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ship, doing a better job of supporting our chapters, increased training on how to maintain our trails, our Sawyers Program, LNT, leadership, etc.

I have spoken to most, if not all, our current Committee Chairs and asked them to stay in their current roles. They have all done an amazing job, so why would I mess with that? I will work closely with these chairs on all the extremely important issues we face. Issues like public lands, legislative, grants, membership and membership development, education, safety, LNT, awards, Sawyer Program, governance and bylaws, special projects, ways and means, publicity, events, and lastly (and sometimes overlooked) our volunteer hours. This is one area in which I would like to step things up. Some may feel that this is a trivial area, but I don't think it is. Being able to show our land managers and legislators the amount of time we, as an organization, put into clearing and maintaining the trail systems for EVERYONE will help keep the trails open for us to use.

I am happy to report that our State Treasurer, Teri Starke, has agreed to stay in her current position. One significant change was with our state accounting, which moves all the chapter funds into a more centralized accounting system that still allows the chapters to manage their funds, just with a different twist. Teri will stay until this new system is working smoothly, and we fill a couple of key volunteer positions. Once things are running smoothly, she will step back and oversee the daily running of the accounting.

We will have a new Secretary (yet to be appointed) as Tina Short is stepping down. The new person will be responsible for taking all the meeting minutes, emailing as needed, and a few other secretarial duties listed on a job description. I did decide to split the job up so that everything did not fall to one person. I have appointed an Executive Assistant to be my right hand. This person will help with writing emails, helping me with Zoom meetings, Parliamentary procedures, Roberts Rules, etc. I am happy to say that my husband has agreed to fill this position. This is great news because, with his managerial abilities and even temper, he will do a great job of managing me...LOL! Another appointment I need to make is for the position of Independent Director. I hope to get someone into that position soon.

As President, I also will have an Executive Advisory Committee. This group of individuals will be my sounding board for ideas and other issues that may, and most likely will, arise.

My husband Bill and I, our dog Remi, and our horses, Gunner and Cochise, look forward to an amazing 2022!

I also look forward to meeting a lot of you at our upcoming Rendezvous, events, work parties, and chapter meetings over the next two years. Have a great year, and get out there!!! 🏠

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

Volunteer Hours Report

State Summary

2021 ~ 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	323	172.5	25.5	149	185.5	855.5	4354	9	32,131.55
Capitol Riders Chapter	178.5	0	44.5	314.5	110.5	648	2820	47	26,013.92
Cascade Horse Club	220.5	115.5	11	502	240.5	1089.5	4363	30	40,105.52
Crab Creek Riders	76	2.5	19	47.5	378.5	523.5	1074	14	17,450.37
Ferry County Chapter	9.5	9.5	20.5	32	14.5	86	374	9	3,864.01
Grays Harbor Chapter	1213	943.5	153.5	1439	940	4689	18961.5	178	184,049.31
Independent	19	179	45	2493	258	2994	6723	2	94,926.09
Inland Empire Chapter	6	0	0	46	29	81	705	2	3,216.74
Island County Chapter	152	118	54.5	226	118	668.5	2538	0	23,300.85
Lewis County Chapter	648.5	694.5	320.5	1593.5	416	3673	10479	85	133,716.94
Methow Valley Chapter	692	304.5	83	141.5	327.5	1548.5	6893	80	63,432.41
Mt Adams Chapter	4	14	2	24.5	11	55.5	406	0	2,189.75
Mt Olympus Chapter	468.5	927.5	18	324	226.5	1964.5	2991	180	90,293.26
Mt St Helens Chapter	498.5	172	12.5	410	311	1404	7036	15	51,060.60
Nisqually Chapter	139	0	30	482	148.5	799.5	2376	25	27,693.73
Northeast Chapter	308	231.5	338.5	215.5	323	1416.5	8889	104	63,019.42
Oakland Bay Chapter	19	5	0	131	18.5	173.5	775	6	6,398.04
Okanogan Valley Chapter	2	0	0	10	2	14	80	0	479.56
Olympic Chapter	361.5	45.5	841	834.5	335.5	2418	8060	144	92,119.01
Peninsula Chapter	4898	1024.5	333	2202.5	1151	9609	28600	153	332,760.48
Pierce County Chapter	595	432	322	1467	610	3426	13019	64	123,361.68
Ponderosa Chapter	541.5	38.5	139.5	1358.5	324	2402	10207	9	80,209.48
Purple Sage Riders	448.5	75.5	41.5	383	119	1067.5	3197	7	35,440.84
Rattlesnake Ridge Riders	163.5	16	5.5	830.5	96	1111.5	4100	21	38,150.53
Scatter Creek Riders	406	47.5	20	565.5	324	1363	8379	83	56,256.85
Skagit Chapter	401	215.5	15.5	899	465	1996	11653	93	80,994.03
Tahoma Chapter	439	937	56.5	1617	482.5	3532	15326	53	134,800.27
Traildusters Chapter	198.5	68	16	156	113	551.5	1890	23	20,900.17
Wenas Chapter	11	0	0	52	14.5	77.5	324	0	2,535.85
Wenatchee Valley Chapter	48.5	0	0	19.5	32	100	973	5	4,327.00
Whatcom County Chapter	428.5	575	63.5	525	293.5	1885.5	8244	153	85,561.42
Yakima Valley Chapter	36	0	28.5	217	51	332.5	1620	2	11,309.55
Totals	13954	7365	3061	19708	8469.5	52556	197430	1596	1,962,069.23
State Agency Report									
	Basic	Skilled	Edu	Admin	TT	Total Hours	POV	Stock	Total \$\$ Value
U.S.F.S. (A)	5492	3688	453.5	224	2668	12525	65080	784	553,585.53
State DNR (B)	1696	890	37.5	151	990	3764.5	23739	190	162,878.13
State Parks (C)	712	277	0	117	309	1415	6141	63	56,799.30
National Parks (D)	127	146	0	0	64	337	1513	20	15,214.40
Education & LNT (E)			1769		327	2096	10340	19	72,059.84
Dept. Fish & Wildlife (F)	62	55	0	14	359	490	1039	15	17,308.45
Administrative (G)				18783	1832	20615	46111	35	637,934.13
BLM (M)	434	8	0	19	182	643	5689	3	24,454.38
NOLT (O)	299	96	0	0	57	452	1526	0	15,796.00
Private Timber (T)	2400	1506	0	264	1279	5449	26211	338	237,016.08
County (W)	2732	698	800.5	136	403	4769.5	10041	129	169,022.99
Totals	13954	7364	3061	19708	8469.5	52556	197430	1596	1,962,069.23

2022 BCHW Awards Program

Get Your Nominations in NOW, Before It's Too Late!

By Susan Sundahl, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

Start the process of gathering information for the nomination packet now. Nominations are due by February 8, 2022, and will be awarded at Rendezvous in March. There are so many deserving BCHW members that should receive one of these awards. During this past year, with all the pandemic restrictions, volunteers have safely stepped up and kept working on our trails and volunteering in so many different ways. Please stop and take the time to submit a nomination. I am more than happy to assist you with your nominations. In addition, BCHW appreciates donations from individuals and chapters for these awards

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, fundraisers, 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 important in keeping the chapter, organization, or event operating smoothly.

Backbone = 2, max 3 awarded

CINCH AWARD The BCHW Board of Directors nominates this award and the President nominates five directors to make the selection. 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 members, 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

SPONSORSHIPS Last year, eight different BCHW chapters and one business-sponsored BCHW awards. Thanks to Ponderosa, Pierce County, Capitol Riders, Scatter Creek, Methow Valley, Tahoma, Buckhorn Chapters and Harbor Saw for your sponsorships. These sponsorships, partnered with the BCHW award budget, resulted in thirteen volunteers being recognized in eight categories. Please encourage you, your chapter, or businesses to support the BCHW Award Program for one or more of the award categories. Also, remember that with our 501(c3) there is a tax advantage for award donations. 🐾

Susan Sundahl, Awards Committee:

Contact Info: pappihorse@wavecable.com, ph. 253-380-0343

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, the nomination committee will review your presentation. They may 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.
- Identify 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 Volunteer 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, etc.)

The presentation you submit will be given to the recipient.

Mail nomination forms with your presentation via the US Post Office to: BCHW Awards Committee Chair

Susan Sundahl
 15188 Stevens Rd. S.E. Olalla, WA 98359
 Questions: pappihorse@wavecable.com or 253-380-0343

Must be received no later than Feb 8, 2022.



Please clip out and mail



Dick Yarboro is Retiring From The Trailhead News Editor Position!



PHOTO BY MARTY HILTON

By Marty Hilton, BCHW Northeast Chapter

For many years, Dick Yarboro has enjoyed horse ownership, riding, and the company of like-minded trail riders. One of the things he has always loved was working the trails with friends and members of BCHW and the ability to explore new areas. After 35 years, in the Department of Printing in Olympia, it was only natural that he went to work on the Trailhead News to spread the word about what BCHW does.

When I met Dick in 2016, (we met at the BCHW Wine Ride!) he had been Editor for nine years, and I saw each issue was a fun project for him to arrange and proof, making sure to pick a cover photo that catches your eye or speaks of BCHW's mission. The THN has been a

big part of his life, and I've seen the results of his work as each issue comes out.

As we look forward to more time together and less responsibilities, I know he will miss his co-workers at WA Media and his many cohorts that help us each month on the Magazine. He knows that as it moves into the digital age, the THN appearance and format may change from time to time, but it will still be there to spread the great news of what is happening, what we should be learning, and the great places to ride. Dick is passing the baton on to our new leadership with great memories of all the good times working on the Trailhead News and wonderful friendships. Happy Trails, Dick! 🐾

*Thank You
For Your
Dedication!*

After working with Dick for 14 years, he has finally decided to retire. Washington Media Services thanks you for all your work on the The Trailhead News and your support over the years! We used to have long meetings while getting content organized and fine-tuned the flow of the newsletter. Now it is a pretty well-oiled machine and comes together without the long meetings. We will miss you and your words of wisdom. I hope to see articles including you in rides in the future. 🐾

~The Washington Media Service's Team

A Helping Hoof

Always Appreciated Out On The Trails



PHOTO BY JIM THODE

2023 BCHW Calendar Submissions

By Terri Hannevig-Crawford, Calendar Editor

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope the holidays were wonderful and you've all been out and about this last year on the trails taking more great photos for the 2023 BCHW Calendar.

What kind of photos you ask? Let's showcase photos of us doing what we do best - maintaining and building trails and sharing in the amazing beauty of the backcountry with our stock and friends. Flowers are nice, but our mission doesn't have a whole lot to do with flowers – trails folks! Working on and riding on those trails is what we want to see. Work parties and pack trains, chapter outings, and events – the meat and potatoes of who we are and what we do – that's what you need to send in. Rendezvous and Winery Ride pics are always welcome - any event you or your chapter take part in throughout the year. Send those pictures!

What don't we want to share? Pictures of us doing work in an unsafe manner - lack of proper PPE or working in hazardous environments. Be sure to reflect the care we take in protecting ourselves, our stock, and the trails we use.

If you send in a photo of you and your buddy wading out in some gorgeous mountain lake somewhere, chances are it won't be used – is that a lake you are supposed to have your horse wandering around in? "Me & Joe on the PCT" as a description

doesn't identify where exactly you are and if that's a lake it's good to be swimming in with your horse.

If it is not a trail in Washington, we are most likely not going to use it – this is BCH of Washington. The Bob is nice and all but there are more than enough amazing places we ride in our home state.

Please include (preferably as the photo name, if possible) who, when, and where you are. Captions are always appreciated when you include them with your submissions. It makes my job easier!

Photo quality is important. Some of those cell phone pics come through nice enough but many more are small and don't resize well. If you see something that just makes you stop and say 'OOOOH', take a few seconds to adjust the settings on your phone so we can all say 'OOOOH' right along with you. Show us your favorite and happy places, the things that make you renew your membership every year (hint-hint), and all of the backcountry you love and enjoy. Let us all see the trails you cherish.

If you have a question about something – reach out, please! I'm happy to try and answer any questions you have. Email pictures and questions to: bchwpix@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing all the great places you've been and wonderful things you accomplished!

Thanks & hope to see you on the trails. 🐾

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:
BCHW The Trailhead News
Washington Media Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 7184, Olympia, WA 98507

Any advertising questions please contact:
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.



A Few Notes from Public Lands

By Kathy Young, BCHW Public Lands Chair

January 2022, a new year is upon us. Whew! I expect many of our members are hoping for more of our old normalcy to drift back into place. I know that I am. Last year was a particular challenge, with wildfires, office closures in our public agencies, and learning how to navigate safety protocols for COVID 19. All in all, I have been gratified to see how BCHW met those challenges and navigated through 2021. President Jason Ridlon and our state and chapter leadership never gave up on the mission. BCHW pushed forward and accomplished a great deal of work under some understandably adverse conditions. Thank you all. I look forward to the new year and our next field season with optimism. Let's get stuff done.

As I consider the challenges we will face in 2022, I hope our members are getting prepared. I hope you consider how you support BCHW and how you each invest your time in the organization. We can accomplish more with many hands helping. Our first PLC event for the new year will be at Leadership Training. Public Lands will be hosting an in-person session in Ellensburg on January 22. All BCHW members are invited, and encouraged, to attend. It is vitally important that we are all on board with the mission of BCHW and that each member can speak to the concerns that equestrians have regarding trail access and equestrian use of our public lands. The Public Lands session of Leadership will share information about how BCHW operates and communicates with our governmental and private agencies to identify volunteer opportunities where we can assist with maintaining and managing trails, trailheads, and horse-camping areas.

Sawyer certification will be ramping up. It is another vitally important program within BCHW that integrates directly with public lands. Our saw program leads, Tom Mix and Tony Karniss, have worked for many years to build our sawyer certification program into what is: a nationally recognized program. Once again, I encourage all members to contact the sawyer program leaders to sign up and get involved, to obtain, or renew your certification. We need more members out on trails helping with the trail maintenance that we do and sharing in the camaraderie that naturally develops when we can work together in a group.

For a bit of helpful housekeeping: As many of you have shared with me, there seems to be a big shift of personnel in our public agencies. We are used to some of that, of course, but recent moves, retirements, and transfers seem quite remarkable. Keeping up with the changing names, faces, and positions will be another challenge to meet this year. Please con-

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Our newsletter (Trailhead News) will be electronic to all members in 2022, with the exception of the May-June and Sept-Oct issues, which will be printed and mailed out to all memberships. This is due to the unforeseen reduction in revenue in 2020 and 2021.

Please go to bchw.org, Trailhead News, to view your publications.

This decision was not made lightly, and we are sorry for any inconvenience it may cause.

As always, please continue to send all articles and/or event announcements to: bchw@wamedia.com.

2022 Leadership Training

Did you Step Up this year? Are You an Old Pro?

By Kim Merrick, BCHW Peninsula Chapter

Well, BCHW needs you both! A mix of new and experienced leaders is the best future for BCHW. Regular members are also encouraged to participate!

Please plan to attend Leadership Training this year. New officers and chairs can get insight from experienced ones. This year we will have two sessions for Leadership Training. The first session will be in-person training on Saturday, January 22, at the Armory in Ellensburg. Classes to be held in-person include:

- Vision for BCHW
- Youth Packing & Trail Program
- Membership Retention
- Governance & Bylaws
- Grants 101
- Presidents & Vice-Presidents
- Public Lands/Legislative
- Directors & Alternates

On Saturday, January 29, you can attend virtual training in your own home.

Classes held over zoom include:

- Ways & Means
- Treasurers Training
- Volunteer Hours
- Governance & Bylaws
- Membership Chairs
- Secretaries Q&A
- Advanced Grant Training
- Set Up and Using Square
- How to Run a Meeting

Please go to the BCHW website (bchw.org) to register. 🐾

A Few Notes from Public Lands

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sider sharing news of any changes to our agency contacts with other chapters and to the Public Lands Committee, particularly changes at department levels.

Non-stock campers using horse camping facilities is one of the continuing challenges faced by equestrians nationally. Back Country Horsemen of America is making that issue a top priority for 2022. Working directly with the US Forest Service at the national level, BCHW continues to push for a resolution to this difficult situation. In Washington State, BCHW chapters are working with their individual agency contacts, Forest Service, Dept. of Natural Resources, and other agencies to set solutions in place. There have been several different ideas that have surfaced and are being implemented on local levels: signage, reservation of sites, fees, and camping hours when spots remain empty after a certain time of day. It is important that we continue to communicate about this to work toward a permanent and lasting resolution.

American Trails has made its series of webinars available at no charge to BCHW. The most recent webinar “Wheel and Legs” addressed conflict encounters that can occur between different user groups. I highly recommend a listen; the webinar was recorded, and members can “order” it to be downloaded to your computer. <https://www.americantrails.org/store#!/Wheels-and-Legs-Reducing-Nonmotorized-Trails-Conflicts-RECORDING/p/400280939/category=33272462> There are also other webinars available that may be of interest, and they are

also free to BCHW members. One of the highlighted programs in the “Wheel and Legs” webcast was developed in Marin County, CA, and is called “Slow and Say Hello”. It reminded me that BCHW has adopted the “3S Share Trails Safely” program. The Peninsula Chapter BCHW provided each of the chapters with a thumb drive on which the 3S program was recorded. If your chapter has not watched it recently, it could be a good winter chapter meeting view/review. Here we go 2022. Let’s get some trail work done! 🌿



BCHW Strong

By Ken Carmichael, BCHW Membership Development

What makes BCH strong? Its members and the fact that we have a mission that is supported by people who believe in it and are willing to work. It starts with a simple premise that we want to keep trails open and have access to public land. This is easy to understand and get behind. We encourage anyone who supports our mission to join BCH.

Strength is in numbers and that requires organization, which is where BCH comes in. To support BCH requires people of all skills, talents, interests, and abilities. Some operate chainsaws and have pack mules, while others do the paperwork and make sure the organization runs smoothly.

Any organization, whether it is for profit by selling widgets or a nonprofit, has three major elements:

- **Creation of a product or service** – in the case of BCH, it is keeping trails open through education, advocacy, and moving dirt.
- **Funding** – BCH has memberships, grants, sponsors, and fundraising events.
- **Administration** – this includes the many people behind the scenes including the president, secretary, volunteer hours coordinator, newsletter, website, director, etc.



You can look at an organization like a three-legged stool. Each of the above elements is a leg of the stool. Each is important because if one leg is neglected and does not keep up then the stool becomes unstable or falls over. Also, for this foot stool to grow into a bar stool all the elements must be supported and grow at the same time.

Back to skill, talents, interests, and abilities. There is a place for everyone in BCH. Some require a specific skill, such as operating a chainsaw or managing a website. However, many opportunities in BCH just require a willingness to take on a job and enjoy being part of the solution. We can all help keep trails open.

Look around your chapter to see what needs to be done. There are about 54 jobs, just volunteer to do, or help do, one. Many opportunities come in small packages. Another place to look is the inside front cover of the Trailhead News. There are about 25 committees and officers listed there. May-

be someone needs some help.

Fun and satisfaction come from participation. Please do not wait to be asked, look for where you fit in, and volunteer. 🐾

BCHW Membership Announcement

BCHW Memberships Expired on December 31, 2021. Please go to BCHW.org and click on the “Members/Join/Renew” tab. You can take care of things online or print off a paper application for specific chapters. If you have any questions, issues, or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact Dana Chambers, your State Membership Chair at membership@bchw.org or call 206-498-6952. She is there 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

BCHA Webinar 101

By Ken Carmichael, BCHW Ponderosa Chapter

The Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) held its first webinar for all BCH members. It was not a training program but information on how BCHA works, where to find information and how BCHA supports the members, those people with boots on the ground. The Webinar was recorded and will be posted on the BCHA.org website.

I feel it was well worth my time. I served as BCHW Alternate BCHA Director for four years and attended four national board meetings. I learned some things, increased my appreciation of what BCHA does, and found a great deal of incentive to look deeper into the BCHA website.

BCHA believes, as do I, that the strength of BCH is in the chapters, the roots of the organization. This is a bottom-up type of organization where BCHA is here to support the work at the chapter level. And this it does. Another point is that BCH represents equestrians on the national stage. This is important as many decisions affecting equestrian access to trails are made there.

I cannot adequately summarize what I learned other than saying I encourage everyone to learn more about the benefits of affiliation with a national organization. BCH was formed in Montana in 1973 by four men who believed that the best way to get things done was to work with the land managers rather than just saying no. This is the basis of BCH now. The system works and now there are about 200 chapters in 31 states coast to coast.

BCHA has three governing documents:

- Constitution, adopted in 1987
- Governing Policies adopted in 2011 delegating some authority to an Executive Committee
- Strategic Business Plan for 2019-2023



The BCHA board has two directors and an alternate from each state and meets annually. Washington can be proud of our participation. I cannot think of all the leaders that came from this state, but I know they include past chairmen Darrell Wallace, Mike McGlenn, and others. Many of our members have also served on and chaired the committees. Dana Chambers is the Members Data Coordinator.

A quick rundown of the BCHA committees include:

- Fundraising
- Media and Marketing
- Youth
- Public Lands
- Volunteer Hours
- Chapter Support Grants
- Partnerships (Darrell Wallace current chair)
- Education
- Membership
- Expansion

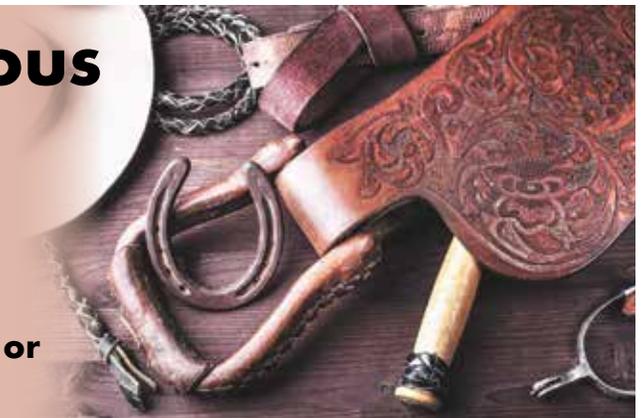
Next time you think about the value of your BCH membership remember the added value that this group brings to the table.

BCH at all levels (chapter, state, and national) support your access to trails, and we need to support them. I challenge everyone to be an active member of BCH wherever your interests, talents, skills, abilities, and time fit. 🐾

2022 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 March 17th.

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



'Sinkholes' Were Discovered on the Silver Shadow Trail Out of Rock Creek Horse Camp

(RCHC). DNR/Yacolt Burn State Forest



By Ken Evans, Mt Saint Helen's Chapter BCHW.

Identified to be the work of the 'world's most primitive rodent,' the 25 million-year-old Mountain Beaver (MB), considered a 'living fossil' due to their bone structure that predates all other North American (NA) rodents by 10 million years or so.

Found exclusively in NA in the PNW (primarily on western slopes of the Cascade Range), the MB's habitat consists of disturbed, loose soils on wet 'seeps' with ample herbaceous vegetation. MB's favored diet: bracken and sword fern (both toxic to other mammals), Salas, cat's ear (a dandelion cousin), leaves of the Red Alder and salmon-berry, fir tree seedlings, and their small branches. The last menu item is 'unsettling' to commercial tree operations, to say the least.

Their ancient and rudimentary kidneys (which are unable to concentrate urine) require them to consume over 30% of their body weight in water per day, exclusively through vegetation. All of the above are a match for the hillsides of the Yacolt Burn area.

More of the MB physiology and basic ecology:

Habits of the MB have not received much field study, perhaps because it has 'no commercial value.' Restricted to moist environments, the rodent can roam up to 3 square acres, constructing extensive burrows often occupying a quarter acre. If 'residency' is taken up near/on established trails, trail maintenance requirements may resemble 'wack-a-mole' mediation levels...(pun intentional). A single MB (solitary as they are) burrow has 'up to' 10 exits, usually well hidden in thicker vegetation, but can be found on trail tread. (MB have poor eyesight, so they likely would not 'recognize' trail tread anyway).

MBs are 'slow moving' (their tracks close together), primarily nocturnal, possess an acute sense of smell and touch, and are extremely sensitive to low-frequency sound waves (10

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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!

Add Back Country Horsemen of Washington to your awards account. See the Donate page at BCHW.org for more information.

community rewards

Where shopping & giving unite

'Sinkholes' Were Discovered on the Silver Shadow Trail Out of Rock Creek Horse Camp

continued from page 14

Hz or less). The vibration from a single human in their vicinity would likely inform them of a 'visitor' (the 'noise' levels of 1000 lb equines unstudied as of yet). Burrow depths have been found 10 feet below ground. Industrious excavators, MB in captivity have been observed to be active 24/7, taking 1-2 hr 'power naps' between digs, while fashioning larger chambers within the burrow for nesting and food caches. MB also maintain a dedicated 'toilet' chamber...I did mention they were 'slow moving' above ground.

The most prominent features of MBs are their large ears... relative to body size. Survival rates are estimated to be 50-60 percent, with average longevity in the five to six-year range. MB cannot conserve body heat like 'other rodents do'...perhaps due to their 'inception' on a planet many eons ago? Subsequently, MB prefer the 'temperate' winters of lower elevation deciduous and 'mixed' forests. They do not hibernate (but spend an inordinate amount of time in the coldest months 'keeping house'). MB are Preyed upon by Bobcat, Coyote,

large raptors, fishers, and cougar.

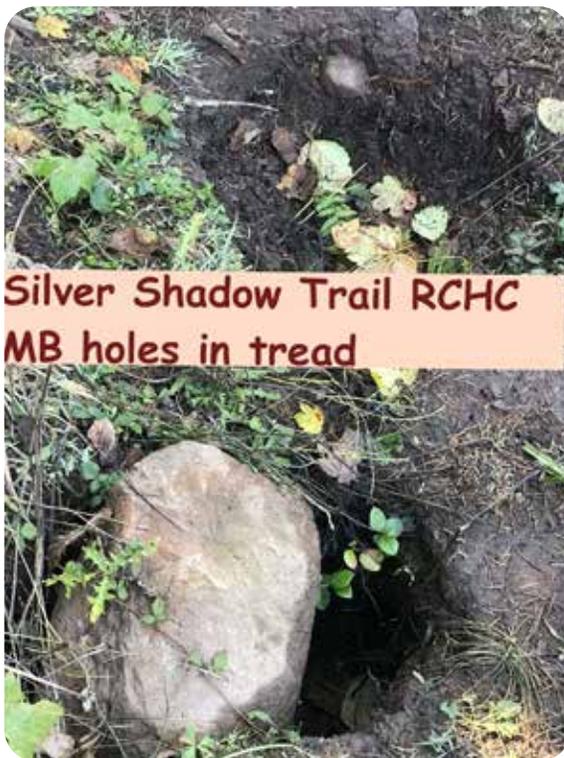
Asocial and rarely observed, an individual MB range can overlap with the 'others' of their species. Fiercely territorial, and if surprised above or below ground...they will lunge, spit, hiss, and bite with abandon...they have prominent incisors and long toes/claws...weasels are said to know what this 'dance for a meal' entails.

The take-away: When riding on wet, brushy hillsides, be alert for fresh MB 'hoof-swallowing holes' on the trail... potentially tripping your equine and/or the inattentive rider. Volunteers (aka 'trail angels') are known to perform 'damage control' on established trails in the Yacolt Burn, many of which are subject to the MB's subterranean 'diggings.'

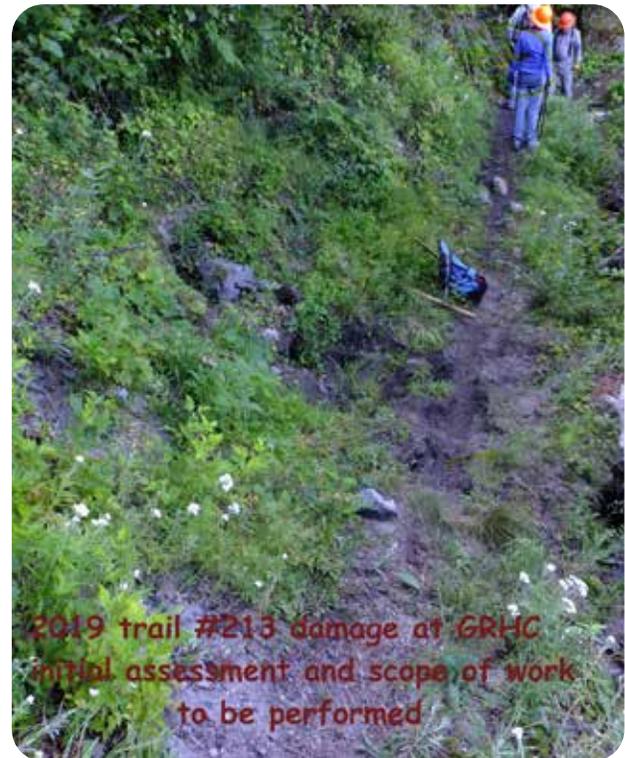
See attached examples of MB trail hazards

Note: 'brushy' is not a sanctioned word...but it fits.

Article submitted by a mounted observer of trail conditions.



Silver Shadow Trail RCHC
MB holes in tread



2019 trail #213 damage at GRHC
initial assessment and scope of work
to be performed

Calendar Photos Deadline February 1st, 2022

Email your photos to calendareditor@bchw.com by **February 1st 2022** to be included in the 2023 calendar. Terri will continue to accept pictures for the next year's calendars as well.

Email is the preferred method of sending photos; you can mail disks to 510 Dalles Mountain Road, Centerville, WA 98613
Disks will not be returned and please do not send printed photos. 🐾

BCHW -Board of Directors Meeting

4th QUARTER, December 04, 2021

Ellensburg, WA KVEC – Armory Building

Meeting called to order by President Jason Ridlon at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call: A roll call attendance was taken by BCHW Secretary. Absent –Inland Empire, Nisqually, Rattlesnake Ridge Riders, and Wenatchee Valley. Quorum established. Island representative joined the meeting after roll call at 9:36 a.m.

Meeting agenda was adopted.

Board of Directors Minutes from September 17, 2021, were approved as published. September 18, 2021, were amended to correctly identify the LeBar Horsecamp (Olympic Peninsula) in the Good of the Order updates. Louise Caywood (Pierce Co) moved to approve the amendment and Tom Conner seconded. Motion carried.

Officers and Committee Reports - reports were posted

Jason Ridlon asked Nominations Committee Chair Ken Carmichael to assist with the officer election process.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of BCHW State President. Ken announced that Dana Chambers had contacted the committee and her resume was posted prior to the meeting for review. No other nominees were voiced. The nominations for State President were closed.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of BCHW State Vice President. Ken announced that Bob Iddins and Ken Evans had contacted the committee and their resumes was posted prior to the meeting for review. No other nominees were voiced. Ken Evans requested to be dropped as a nominee. The nominations for State Vice President were closed.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of BCHA Director Position 1. Ken announced that Kathy Young had contacted the committee and expressed interest. No other nominees were voiced. The nominations for BCHA Director Position 1 were closed.

The floor was opened for nominations for the position of BCHA Alternate Director. Ken announced that Tom Conner had contacted the committee and expressed interest. No other nominees were voiced. The nominations for BCHA Alternate Director were closed.

A motion was made by Lori Lennox (Grays Harbor) that the slate of officers be elected by unanimous consent. Motion carried.

EAC 2020 Action Report – Jason Ridlon

Nothing to report.

BCHA – Darrell Wallace

Updated board on BCHA committee formed to review BCHA Legacy Fund. Interested members can contact Kathy Young if they are interested in serving on the committee to represent WA and guiding future efforts. There was a donation previously in honor of Jim Murphy.

BCHW Store – Lori Lennox

Winery Ride merchandise sales broke records for any single event, with close to \$12,000 worth of shirts, hats, jackets, vests and drinkware sold! She will have the whole Store at Rendezvous and the Winery Ride. Please remember we cannot sell items online per Department of Revenue regulations.

If you have a large event and would like to have the Store come contact Lori (BCHW Store Manager) store@bchw.org.

Grants – Jen Bond/Darrell Wallace

Jen Bond indicated a small correction to the report posted. A revised report will be reposted after the BOD meeting.

Currently in process of closing out three grants. Exact amounts are not available, but it looks like we will spend 100% of 18-2254 and 18-2255, while leaving about \$25,000 unspent on 18-2380.

Chapter Allocation agreements have been signed for the 3 new grants.

20-1959 Reopening Threatened National Forest Trails

20-2004 Rehabilitating Olympic Peninsula Trails

20-2005 Maintaining Endangered Trails

Darrell once again expressed that Jen Bond (our BCHW Independent Contractor) is doing a great job administering our RTP and NWSA grants. The Grant Committee (Deb Wesselius, Mark Vorce, Rob Deboer, and Darrell Wallace (one vacancy) enjoys working with her.

Jason encouraged Directors to remind their members to reach out to Jen if they need new funding sources.

Rendezvous 2022 – Teri Starke

This year's organizers are Jen Bond & Teri Starke. There is a web page for Rony on the bchw.org website. Registration forms and other details are located there.

Volunteers are needed (individuals or as a Chapter). Some of the items already planned: Used Tack Sale, Special Guest Speaker, Awards, Saturday night dinner and auction, chapter displays, sawyer meeting, Guest Clinician (Robert "TrailMeister" Eversole), Next Generation Packers (Rick Mathias BCH of Montana), Equine First Aid, Hoof Fundamentals, Cowboy Church, the Crosscut Saw Competition, and much more.

If you want to participate, reach out now. Don't wait.

2021 Treasurer/Budget – Teri Starke

Report posted. Send chapter membership forms to Dana Chambers. Don't send them to the main Ellensburg mailing address. There is one Chapter that still has not started the onboarding process. All the others have started and 4 chapters are 100% complete.

Starting January 1st, 2022 reimbursements will NOT be processed that have personal purchases comingled with BCHW purchases. Please inform all your chapter members.

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Inform your members and chapters to be specific where they want their deposits and donations accounted toward. If the donation is to a specific chapter/event or landscape, it needs to be specified.

Please send reimbursement requests in with the legal name not nicknames. The requests need to match the W9 on file.

There are still open positions to help out with the Accounting processes. Please check out the Secure website > Leadership > Treasurer Section

Ways and Means – Teri Starke

Get your orders in for 2023 calendars by December. The 2023 calendar order will be based on how many calendars are pre-ordered.

2023 calendar pictures must be to Terri by February 1, 2022.

Remember photos mailed to her on disk or thumb drive will not be returned. Terri's address is: 510 Dalles Mountain Road, Centerville, WA 98613

Chapter directors are encouraged to take Saddle Raffle tickets back to the chapters to sell and bring the cash and tickets to the next event, leadership or March to Rendezvous. We sold 186 tickets at the Wine Ride.

Discussion on Joe Watt Canyon Ride. Traci Koch expressed interest in the event. She indicated she would need help if she took on the planning of the event.

Education Committee – Jason Ridlon

Report posted.

Saturday, January 22 will be in-person at the Armory in Ellensburg

Saturday, January 29 will be a Zoom training

The schedule will be posted on the bchw.org website. An online registration form will be available. Trainings will start at 9 a.m.

Special Projects Coordinator Report – Jason Ridlon

Jason reported he resigned the role of "BCHW Special Project Coordinator" at the end of 2021 during the Sept BOD meeting. He encouraged BCHW to seek out a person with the time to participate in collaboration meetings with other partnering organizations and someone that can work aggressively with BCHW to educate and get our folks involved. This person should be committed to attending BCHW BOD meeting and look at ways to grow our packing program. The new officers for 2022/2023 will determine if this position is needed in the future.

He will continue on with trail work but focus on smaller "Hot-Shot" projects. He indicated the regional work parties that happened during 2021 were very effective and will likely be planned by various chapters than to have a large state wide event.

Membership Development – Ken Carmichael

Report posted. There is a great deal of information about Membership Development in the manual on the BCH Secure website.

Governance and Bylaws – Ken Carmichael

Report posted. At this time of year we elect new officers at the chapter and state level. It is a good time for everyone to familiarize themselves with our governing documents. The primary documents are the bylaws and standing rules.

Please take the time to read the chapter, and BCHW, documents. The BCHW documents are on the BCHW website. Also encourage your chapter officers to review the appropriate documents. Ken provided explanation regarding completing specific forms (conflict of interest and whistle blower policy).

Conflict of Interest -- Annually signed by: BCHW State Officers, BCHW Director, BCHW Committee Chairs

Whistle Blower – Once in career (BCHW State Officers, BCHW Director)

Legislative – Mitzi Schindele

Report posted. The volunteer hour posted has been posted to the BCHW Legislative webpage. The webpage will be used to provide details to the session activities.

The short 60-day session of the WA State Legislature will begin on Monday, January 10, 2022.

The pre-filing of bills starts on December 6th.

Due to the uncertainty of public access to the Capitol and the Representative Offices, we will plan for a second year of a virtual BCHW Legislative Day targeting the date of Monday, February 21, 2022.

If you have questions, please contact Mitzi. legislative@bchw.org

Public Lands – Kathy Young

Report posted. Discussion on how to improve communications besides using Facebook. Does every Chapter have a Public Lands representative?

Rendezvous 2022 – The PLC is open to suggestions for Forest Service, DNR, WDFW, BLM participation.

Leadership – Public Lands information discussion and training will be conducted at Leadership Training, January 2022, at Ellensburg. All interested members are invited to attend. All members are encouraged to attend; public lands access is the mission of Back Country Horsemen of Washington.

Statewide Forest Service Volunteer Agreement –

BCHW has requested a meeting or call to review the statewide BCHW Volunteer Service Agreement that was put into place in 2021. This meeting will be scheduled for mid-January, with representation from the forests and BCHW.

E-bikes Access Advisory group has wrapped up its meetings, and EMBA will be creating the final report that will be turned over to WDFW and DNR. Both DNR and WDFW are also having internal conversations to address this issue.

Current BCHW Public Lands Committee (PLC) Members are listed below. Contact them if you have questions or concerns.

- Kathy Young - Chair * Southwest -Jim Anderson and Gary Collins
- Peninsula -Pete Erben and Mitzi Schindele (Mitzi is the BCHW point of contact for Olympic National Forest.)
- Southeast- Danny Chappell
- Central -Ken Bailey and Mike Walcker, Bill Ford
- Northwest -Bob Iddins (Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom counties)
- Northeast- Vacant * Puget Sound West- Vacant

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Volunteer Hours – Deb Wesselius

Report posted. The BCHW volunteer hour's Summary Report covers the reporting period from October 1, 2020, thru September 30, 2021. These are the yearend totals and they represent a job well done by chapter members, officers and your Volunteer Hours Coordinator.

2021 BCHW VOLUNTEER HOURS = 52,556

(2020 - 56,496.5)

2021 TOTAL VALUE = \$1,962,069.23

(2020 - \$1,969,927.41)

Contact Dana Chambers if you would like to start using the phone app for submitting your volunteer hours.

There will be a 2022 Virtual Volunteer Hours Leadership Training (Zoom meeting) in lieu of in person Leadership Training.

Awards – Lori Lennox for Susan Sundahl

Lori reminded Directors that they nominate members for the Cinch Award.

Get your nominations in now for the 2022 Awards that will be awarded at our next BCHW Rendezvous in March of 2022.

Visit the bchw.org website > programs to view information about the nomination process.

Safety – Chuck Regimbal

Nothing to report.

Sawyer – Tony Karniss

No sawyer injuries were reported in 2021. Plans are underway for the MT Hood location for IE Evaluator training in April and May. 1 week crosscut and 1 week chainsaw. Plans for Bumping Lake training are in process. A westside location is trying to be identified. PPE changes were made regarding 8" leather work boots and riding helmets. Chaps (any saw chaps sold by a saw shop similar to Harbor Saw) are legal. No inserts are allowed. Tony indicated there will be more focus on training regarding planning your cut. People they are testing are struggling with the cut plan. He is working on an intro/beginner class. Contact Tony for more details on any of the training.

Membership – Dana Chambers

Report posted. October starts the 2022 membership renewals. Paper applications are posted on the website. You can renew or apply online. There is now the option to have a family lifetime membership option.

As of Nov. 14, 2021, we have 1,407 Current Memberships/2,202 Members. We've had 33 NEW members join since Sept. 1, 2021.

1,004 joined or renewed online and 404 via paper forms.

LNT- Jane Byram

8 people met in Ellensburg Friday Dec 3rd to discuss LNT planning. The scheduled LNT Basic Class in Randle WA for April 2 and 3. She encouraged Chapters to send members to training. They are hosting a booth at the Clark County Expo in March and need volunteers. Contact Louise Caywood or Jane Byram.

Publicity/Media Committee- Lori Lennox

Report posted. There was much discussion regarding how to get the word out about BCHW events besides using Facebook.

Asked Directors to encourage their Chapters send links to their FB pages and if they have news or events to communicate them to publicity@bchw.org. If members are interested in joining the committee, contact us.

Website – Scott Lee/Tina Short

There was much discussion regarding spam and how these pesky folks are sending email, texts, and calling people. Stay aware of messages that don't seem right. Don't answer emails that people are asking you things like "buy gift cards". New passwords will be sent out for 2022 for the BCHW Secure area website.

Winery Ride – Barbara Thomas

Barbara thanked the various chapters who donated prizes and money to assist in the success of this event. She also expressed many thanks to the 118 volunteers from 19 chapters. She reported that this year's 20th Anniversary event brought in more money and did even better than in 2019.

Among the many highlights of that day was the report from a number of volunteers who said participants came up to base camp just to say thank you for putting on this event. As we stood there watching the line of folks departing for home, most rolled down their windows to shout out a thanks and that they would be returning next year.

THN (Trailhead News) – Jason Ridlon

Dick Yarborro will be retiring at the end of 2021 as the BCHW THN Editor.

His position will be open and available to a volunteer. Contact Jason Ridlon if you know someone interested in the upcoming open position. The editor position assists with layout of magazine, proof reader of articles, review submitted content, etc.

Unfinished Business:

BCHW Re-imagined Proposal– Committee

The appointed BCHW Re-imagined Committee members as below worked over the last couple of months soliciting feedback on the motion made in September.

Doug Stewart (Northeast)

Louise Caywood (Pierce Co)

Kathy Iddins (Trail Dusters)

Bob Iddins (Trail Dusters)

Traci Koch (Oakland Bay)

Jim Anderson (Mt St Helens)

Mickey Centeno (Olympic)

Kathy Young

Rob DeBoer (Skagit)

Darrell Wallace

Darrell Wallace spoke about the BCHA model for the State Chapters and their directors. He spoke about the executive committee (membership) and their duties. There are about 30 States similar to our BCHW 30 Chapters. BCHA elects directors and

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alternates. He discussed their governing policies. There was discussion on how often the BCHA directors meet to review what actions have been made by the executive committee.

There was a motion made by Doug Stewart (Northeast) seconded by Louise Caywood (Pierce Co) to substitute a new motion (as follows) for the September 18th 3rd QRT Meeting formal motion that was made by Larry Baysinger (Mt Olympus) and seconded by Doug Stewart (Northeast) that was tabled to be heard at the December 2021, BOD meeting.

- a. Establish an Executive Committee (EC) for BCHW consisting of nine (9) members. The EC members will serve two-year terms and are elected by the Chapter Directors on a bi-annual basis. The Directors will serve on staggered terms such that some continuity between Executive Committee's is maintained. A nomination committee will be appointed by the President, consisting of three Directors not running for a seat on the EC, to establish the slate of nominations for each election.
- b. Direct the incoming BCHW President in January 2022, to appoint an implementation committee to develop amendments to the current BCHW By-Laws and Standing Rules to implement an Executive Committee with this structure. The implementation committee will provide recommendations and revised by-laws for adoption at the June 2022, Board meeting.
Discussion followed. Motion carried. 2 opposed votes (Kim Merrick Peninsula, Dave Sunde Okanogan).

New Business:

Inland Empire (IEBCH) Dissolving – Ken Carmichael

Ken Carmichael indicated that he had worked with the Chapter with the dissolving process. He indicated that at the July 27, 2021, IEBCH membership meeting the Inland Empire Chapter had a unanimous vote to disband the chapter effective December 31, 2021. Prior to dissolving the chapter Inland Empire is taking appropriate action to dispose of physical and financial assets through donations to other BCH chapters in Washington and Idaho.

Lori Lennox (Grays Harbor) moved that the BCHW Board accept the Inland Empire Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington request to dissolve the chapter. Louise Caywood (Pierce Co) seconded. Discussion. Motion carried.

2022 Budget Approval – Teri Starke

Teri asked if there was any questions to the proposed 2022 budget. There was discussion and a few clarifications/corrections made. Heather Moorman (Purple Sage Riders) moved to accept the 2022 Budget. Dave Sunde (Okanogan) seconded. Motion carried.

Teri discussed that BCHW needed to open another checking/saving account to keep our current balances under \$250,000. Lori Lennox (Grays Harbor) moved to open one checking and savings account with Potlach Credit Union for the BCHW Centralization process. Signers on the account will be Teri Starke and Dana Chambers. Bob Hoyle (Buckhorn Range) seconded. Motion carried.

Youth Packing Program – Mitzi Schindele

Mitzi talked about starting a packing program targeting youth but open to all ages. The goal is to create a program that other Chapters can use. Create a lesson plan similar to BCH of Montana but making it our own. Included in the lessons would be Horsemanship, Trail & Packing skills, LNT, Give Back to Your Community (Service), and making it non-competitive. The committee appointed (Mickey Centeno (chair), Jay Adams, and Mitzi Schindele) has the support of the incoming President Dana Chambers.

Good of the Order/Announcements:

Reseller Permit – Teri Starke

Teri indicated we get a new one every 2 years. This is used for fund raisers.

Outgoing Officers/Incoming Officers – Louise Caywood

Thanked all the outgoing Officers and the new incoming Officers for their service to BCHW. The directors clapped in support.

Rondy and Accounting Volunteers Need – Teri Starke

Contact Teri if you would like to volunteer.

Resource Area on Secure Website – Lori Lennox

Asked if there could be an area created where Chapters could share (business card templates, welcome letters, etc.)

Passing of the Gavel – Jason Ridlon

Jason passed the BCHW gavel to the incoming BCHW State President Dana Chambers. Kathy Young (Past BCHW State President) presented a "President" jacket to Dana. Jason thanked his officers and the committee chairs for assisting him during his 2 year tenure. Dana appointed Teri Starke as the State Treasurer. She is looking to fill the BCHW State Secretary and Independent Director. Her Executive Assistant will be Bill Chambers.

If you are interested in applying for BCHW State Secretary or Independent Director, contact Dana Chambers.

Other Updates:

Jim Anderson -- Announced the Kalama Regional Work Party June 22-27th 2022. Watch for more info on the BCHW Events page.

Teri Starke has donation forms available. 🐾

Meeting Adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tina Short, BCHW Secretary.

Free Entrance Days in the National Parks



Jan. 17 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
March 9 — Billy Frank Junior's Birthday
March 19 — State Parks' 108th Birthday
April 22 — Earth Day
June 11 — National Get Outdoors Day
June 12 — Free Fishing Day
June 19 — Juneteenth
Sept. 25 — National Public Lands Day
Oct. 10 — World Mental Health Day
Nov. 11 — Veterans Day
Nov. 25 — Native American Heritage Day

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.

2022 Rendezvous

Friday-Sunday, March 18-20, 2022
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
Go to BCHW.org

Ponderosa Chapter Poker Trailhead Camping Seminar

April 30 – May 1, 2022
Pre-registration required by April 18
Registration available on line
\$99 per trailer inc. camping fee Saturday night
Dogs on leash or contained
Riverside State Park, Spokane
For details contact
Ken Carmichael 509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
www.pbchw.com

Ponderosa Chapter Poker Ride

Sunday, May 15, 2022
First rider out 9:00
Raffle
Pre-registration by May 3, \$25
Registration available on line
Registration at ride \$30
Riverside State Park, Spokane
Camping available
Ken Carmichael 509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
www.pbchw.com

2nd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting

Saturday, June 18, 2022
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
president@bchw.org • 509.699.9927

2022 Ferry County Steak Ride

Friday-Sunday, July 29-31, 2022
Colville National Forest In Ferry County
Ride Starts from the Jungle Hill Trailhead off the Albian Hill Road
Potluck dinner July 29
No Children Under Age of 10 on trail ride
\$25.00 Per Person – Children Ages 11-12 \$15
Silent auction open Friday-Saturday,
Live auction starts at 6:30pm Saturday July 30.
Doris Bacon 509-775-3544 • repvet86@gmail.com

3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting

Saturday, September 17, 2022
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
president@bchw.org • 509.699.9927

21st Anniversary Winery Ride

Saturday, October 29, 2022
Go to BCHW.org or
[email BCHWwineryride@gmail.com](mailto:emailBCHWwineryride@gmail.com)

4th QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting

Saturday, December 3, 2022
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
president@bchw.org • 509.699.9927

Content Deadline for the March/April 2022 Online Newsletter is January 18, 2022

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

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

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!