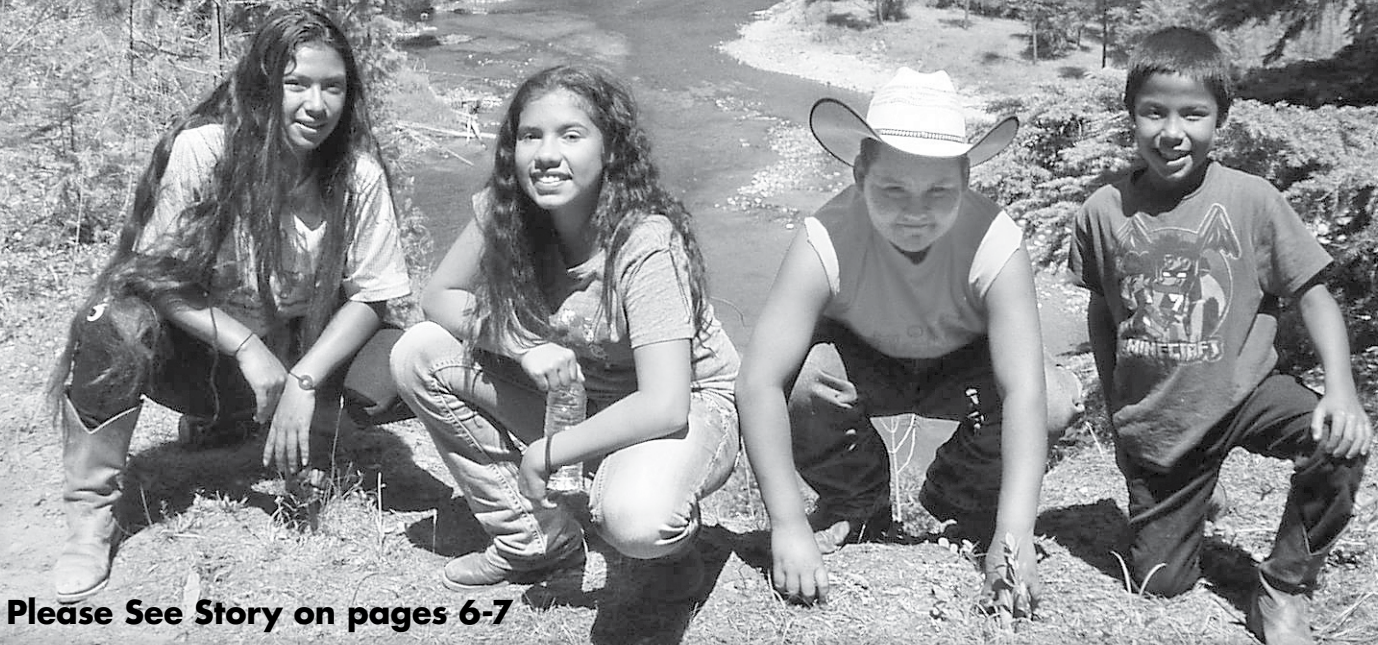


The Trailhead News

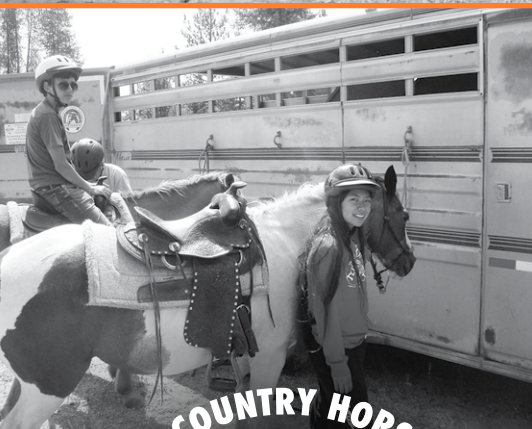
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Back Country Horsemen of Washington

September/October 2017



Please See Story on pages 6-7



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OFFICERS:

President Kathy Young president@bchw.org.....	206.551.7824
Vice President Dave Sunde vice_pres@bchw.org.....	509.486.1547
Secretary Janelle Wilson secretary@bchw.org.....	360.748.4880
Treasurer Teri Starke treasurer@bchw.org.....	253.709.5052
Safety Officer Doc Wesselius wesselius@wildblue.net.....	360.736.6106
Special Assistant for Advocacy Jeff Chapman bbbranch@olympus.net.....	360.385.6364
BCHA Directors	
Darrell Wallace bcha_dir1@bchw.org.....	360.918.3016
Jason Ridlon bcha_dir2@bchw.org.....	509.699.9927
Alternate Ken Carmichael kcarmichael2225@gmail.com	509.466.2225

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Legislative Chair Jeff Chapman bbbranch@olympus.net.....	360.385.6364
Public Lands Chair Bernie Stratton public_land@bchw.org.....	360.262.3606
Membership Chair Heather Moorman membership@bchw.org.....	509.585.4001
Awards Chair Lynn Wilhelm-Howell redboots4u2@gmail.com.....	206.498.4622
Education Chair Kim Merrick eloise55@gmail.com.....	253.261.6188
Membership Dev. Chair Ken Carmichael kcarmichael2225@gmail.com...	509.466.2225
LNT Chair Jane Byram LNT@bchw.org.....	509.997.7407
Saw Program Coordinator: Tom Mix backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com	360.582.0460
Tony Karniss tkarniss@gmail.com.....	360.748.8640
Volunteer Hours Chair: Deb Wesselius volunteerhours@bchw.org.....	360.736.6106
Governance By-Laws Chair Ken Carmichael gov_and_bylaws@bchw.org.....	509.466.2225
Governance By-Laws Vice Chair Teunis Wyers teunisjw@gmail.com.....	541.490.2221
BCHW Historian Chair Chris Enrico historian@bchw.org.....	360.459.4759
Special Projects Coordinator Jason Ridlon jridlon@fairpoint.net.....	509.699.9927
Ways & Means Teri Starke ways_means@bchw.org.....	253.709.5052

STAFF:

Executive Director Nicole Sedgwick exec@bchw.org.....	360.640.1495
Lobbyist Joyce Willms joyce@wamedia.com.....	360.754.4543
THN Editor Dick Yarboro easyrider@scattercreek.com.....	360.264.2263
THN Publisher/Publicity Joyce Willms joyce@wamedia.com.....	360.754.4543
THN Managing Editor/Publisher, Creative Dir. Adriane Goodwin bchw@wamedia.com.....	360.754.4543
Volunteer Copy Editor/Proof Reader Sondra Johnson sgjohn1234@aol.com.....	253.843.2679
Webmaster/Photographer Jim Thode webboss@bchw.org.....	360.978.5336

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Cover Photo: Participants of the multi-day horsemanship and trail class for the Kalispell Tribe's Goose Creek Camp. Photo by Stuart Niemen.

Disclaimer

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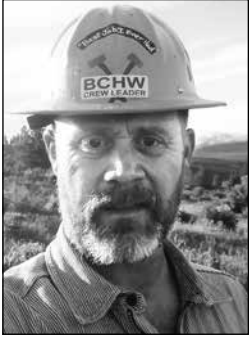
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Please submit to: bchw@wamedia.com or mail to: **PO Box 7184 • Olympia, WA 98507 • 360.754.4543**

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January 18.....	Mar/April
April 1.....	May/June
June 1	July/Aug
August 1	Sept/Oct
October 1	Nov/Dec

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"You're Kidding, Right?"



By Jason Ridlon and Darrell Wallace

That was my first thought when Darrell called me and said the Statewide Work Party was going to have to be cancelled. The second was for our members that were committed and believed in our Mission Statement enough to drive clear across the state to perform trail work. I was driving through Spokane on my way to Gypsy Meadows, and we had both been working for weeks, lining up supplies and tools, and plans – Operations, Communications, Evacuation, Emergency, Alternate... it seemed like we had wrote more plans than we would have people! But the Hughes Creek Fire had screwed up our first plan to work east into Idaho, and now the Noisy Creek Fire was pushing toward Sullivan Creek Road – our only real route into Gypsy Meadows, the only place we could all fit ourselves in the whole eastern Colville National Forest. Those fires really screwed up all our plans. Newport District Ranger Gayne Sears said she was really sorry, but she had to close that road for safety reasons.

I was about sick having to call our Chief Cook Kim Merrick - she had already purchased nearly \$2000 worth of groceries, mostly perishable. And it was Saturday, some people were already on the way, and a bunch were at the Ferry County Chapter Steak Ride – with no way to call them about the cancellation!

When I got to Darrell's house, we got the message out on FaceBook right away, and Darrell sent emails for me to everyone on our list – the people who had signed up on bchw.

org. And I started calling people. Some, like Rob DeBoer, Dave Sunde, and Jim Anderson, volunteered to call others, and soon we had checked off most of the 70+ names. Darrell agreed to drive up to the Steak Ride Sunday morning, so those folks wouldn't have to drive another hundred miles for nothing. He caught a large group who would have left for Gypsy Meadows in about an hour!

We figured that was about all we could do right then, so I went back to planning for 2018. We have a real solid invitation to Black Pine Horse Camp in the Wenatchee Ranger District with our old friend Jeff Leisy, and we are gonna apply everything we learned over the past five years to that work party. Hope to see you there! 🐾

Darrell and Jason,

Like you, I am disappointed in having to close the Sullivan Creek Road due to the Noisy Creek Fire, knowing that you would have to cancel the BCHW Statewide Work Party at Gypsy Meadows.

I was impressed with your planning efforts – the alternate plans, the flexibility you showed in case of several fire scenarios, and your concern for the safety of your members and partners. Your approach was always professional, and I looked forward to seeing so many volunteers descend on the Newport – Sullivan Lake Ranger District.

I look forward to continued cooperation on trail maintenance in the future, and maybe we can work toward another Statewide Work Party here another year.

Signed,
Gayne Sears



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.**

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Mitch Baird	IND
Amanda Biles	NIS
Trygve Culp	OKA
Dave Jackson	PSR
Heather Moorman	PSR
Jim Murphy	OLY
Bob Shonka	IND
Teri Starke	IND
Carol D Wilcox	WEN
Teunis Wyers	MTA
Pat Wyers	MTA

2018 Annual Meeting Head Table

Rick Zeleznik TAH

2017 Annual Meeting Head Table

Danny Garner YAK

2017 Benefactor Level

Tamara King & Eric Leung TRA

Caleb Canby MET

2017 Patron Level

Greg Johnston & Cathy Johnson NIS

Joanne Lacy & Dale Bamford PIE

George Michel IND

Barbara Woo & Scott Bauer CAS

Patricia Yust WHA

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Gene & Connie Baugher MTA

Sandi Berg CCR

Robert & Sheila Blakely PIE

Garry & Penelope Booker IND

Ron & Marty Celestres TAH

Danny & Jeanie Chappel RRR

Leslie Coey IND

Missy Day TAH

Patrick Dolan MTS

Jack Duffy & Eileen Kiera WHA

Kevin Ellison MET

Robert & Celeste Eversole NOR

Bruce Foreman NOR

Dawn Graham PEN

Peg Greiwe & Dale Kelley PIE

Mary Kane TAH

Karapostolos Family IND

Dorothy & Larry Kehres PIE

Sally & Don Laib PIE

Fred & Lori Lennox GRA

Ed & Teri Letcher TAH

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Mary McIntyre Lee	IND
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Kim Merrick	TAH
Thomas & Kristine Moran	GRA
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John Myers	RRR
Al & Marcy Norrbom	TAH
James & Carol Oakes	IND
Mary & Dennis Owens	GRA
Joann Reider	TAH
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Coco Spurway	NOR
Gene & Mary Sutliff	TRA
Darrell Wallace & Kristy Stender	NOR
Judy & Roy Warnick	CCR
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Joann Yost	GRA

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Cathy & Bennet Upper	MET
Heidi Weston	MET
Dick Woodfin	MTA

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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.

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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!



Change

By Kathy Young, BCHW President

We all encounter it, but how we deal with it colors our entire experience. My recent Wyoming trip is a good example of change and of shifting gears. I signed on for this adventure about a year ago. My good friend Susie Drougas dreamed up the trip. Susie is a master at envisioning adventures and then making them happen. So she phones, and suddenly I'm all in for a couple of weeks in Wyoming with my horse. Week #1 would be at Turpin Meadows, north of Jackson Wyoming, with a plan to ride out from camp daily. There was a bonus of a couple of sightseeing side trips around Jackson, including a raft trip on the Snake River. {Yep, the headwaters of the Snake are in Wyoming, I never knew.} Our second week would be a six-day pack trip starting from the New Fork Lakes trailhead into the Bridger Wilderness out of Pinedale Wyoming. Eight folks signed on, and we head down the road in July. It's all planned.

So how do you react when plans change? We navigated to our first camp at Turpin Meadows after two days of good travel. The campground is set up beautifully for stock, and it is mixed use with non-stock users. The camp hosts were terrific, and the trails spoke out of the main trailhead. BUT, we can't access 2/3rds of them. The day we arrived the trails were shut down, due to a manhunt, so there goes some of our plans. 900+ miles of travel; now what?

Well, this was a very cool group of folks; we slowed down a bit, regrouped, made our side trips and did some sightseeing. The rides we were able to make included a couple of repeats, but with the camaraderie and the beautiful landscape, it didn't matter in the end that we didn't get all of the rides that we had anticipated. We rolled with it, and the change didn't stifle us.

Fast forward. Plans had to change for our 5th Statewide work Party this year. Again, over a year of planning went into this event,

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Bridger Wilderness Backcountry Camp 07-2017.

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.





Executive Director



Note from the Executive Director

By Nicole Sedgwick, Executive Director

There are many uses and users of a website. As a chapter, we tend to focus on updating our websites to suit our needs as a chapter. We also need to remember that is where some companies go to validate that we are an up and running 501(c)(3) organization and that is also where potential new members go to “check us out” before they ever decide to come to one of our meetings or events. I was given the assignment to see what each chapter did for National Trails Day. I decided to look at websites and Facebook pages to find the information. What I found, was that our websites are not being kept up. Now, as always, there are the exceptions. However, I found websites with the next meeting on February.... And it is July. On another website, I found a list of the board from 2015. And it just keeps going. So, I would like to suggest some different ways you can have a website or Facebook page and still look great to an outsider looking in because remember; the site is for more than just our chapter.

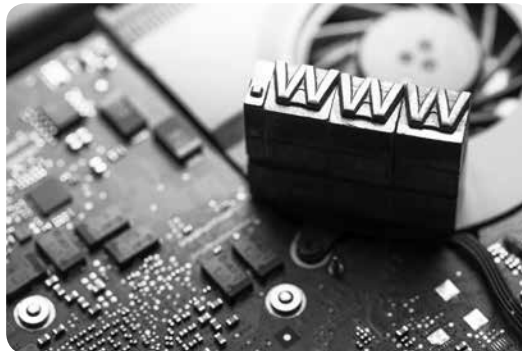
If your chapter does not have someone that loves to update the website regularly, you can build what is called a static content website that only needs to be updated about once a year. This site should include a few things. A mission statement is a great start along with stating that we are a 501(c)(3) organization. You can say that the general meeting is held at the local grange every 1st Wednesday of the month from 7 to 9. Contact information (both email and snail mail) is beneficial. A list of the board only needs to be updated once a year. The bylaws are nice to have handy, too. The calendar can be a list of the generals like Rendezvous is the third weekend in March. Newsletters can quickly be posted once a month. And a links page can be updated yearly. If you scatter pictures of the chapter throughout the information, you only need to update those once a year as well.

Active websites are exactly what the name implies; they are active. The site begins with a static content website and the same information but can be more exact if you have someone in your chapter that loves to update websites. Instead of the calendar being a list with the approximate time of year, your chapter can have an active calendar that has the exact dates and times listed

on it. Your meetings can even go on the active calendar with the exact date of the meeting. Photos can be updated after each event and even be cataloged by event into folders. This website needs to be updated weekly or monthly. But you do need to keep up on the maintenance of it at all times so that all of a sudden, I do not see that the next meeting is on February 3rd, and it is July.

Facebook is another way to have an active website. The various categories you will find on the Facebook page are home, about, events, photos, community, reviews, posts, and even a donation button. However, be aware that ANYONE can post on this site. You might find yourself having to remind the members of your chapter that this site is also being used to bring future members to our chapter, so everyone needs to be sure to keep things “clean.” You can have fun, but be sure it is not hurtful to anyone else.

All three options have many pros and cons to them. Your chapter needs to decide which one best fits your needs and be sure to keep it updated. Also, if you put part of the website under construction, do it quickly, or just take it off the site until you can set it up the way you want, there is nothing more frustrating than running into a construction sign whether on the road or the internet. 🚧



BCHW still needs a chapter to run the 2018 Joe Watt Ride!

The money made from the ride is given to the chapter for trail work. This is a great way to raise money to get those favorite trails of yours cleared. Jason Ridlon said he would be more than happy to mentor you if you choose to run the ride next year. Please contact Kathy Young if you are interested in running the ride.

president@bchw.org • 206.551.7824



The End of One Trail, the Return to Another One

By Darrell Wallace, Past BCHW Executive Director

When I told Bob Gish I would be willing to serve as BCHW Vice-president during his first term, I had no idea where it might lead. When I served as BCHW President in 2010-11, I decided that I favored returning to the practice of having an Executive Director for BCHW, but had no idea who would do that. So I was a little surprised when Bob told me in 2012 that I had been selected. Yes, I had applied for the job, but frankly thought we should hire someone with more skills than I had. I had strong ideas about what the ED should do, just not how to do it.

So I guessed that if I did a pretty good job, I would work myself out of a job in four or five years. I was hoping that we would grow as an organization to the point where we would need an ED who could work more on fund raising, publicity, and growth activities, not just routine administration. And yes, we have arrived. And, we have now hired Nicole Sedgwick as our ED. She is doing a great job, and I am confident that she will bring us to a whole new level.

I feel pretty good about leaving – why, you might ask? Well, first, I wasn't asked to leave – in fact, some back country horsemen whom I respect asked if I would stay for more money! That was never the point, so it was easy to say no. Second, I felt like it was time for BCHW to move beyond where I was taking us. Third, I wanted to spend more time on the trails, not just talking about them. My friend Jason Ridlon has big plans, and is willing to include "Old Darrell" on his trail work parties (ask him about that nickname sometime!).

So what were the high points of my tenure as ED? First, hearing that we were funded for each of our RTP grants was HUGE! And working to resolve issues on the grants was gratifying when

we succeeded in getting most of what we wanted; for example: getting a \$30 hourly rate for packers to use for grant match, and raising stock days to \$100 from \$45. And getting Skagit Chapter their two motorized gravel totes – well, okay, it was mostly my fault that we almost didn't get them, but we got them! I was honored to receive the BCHW Backbone Award, and I proudly use the chair I was given. I gotta admit, being quoted by other organizations was pretty nice to see. Maybe the best part was the support and encouragement I received from BCHW leadership and members every year.

The low points? Hard to remember any, although I did apologize for offending a few people, and I always wished I could have accomplished more for this great organization.

Bottom line is that almost all of the compliments I received were earned by our membership – I simply agreed and accepted them on behalf of BCHW.

So what's next? I'm not ready for the rocking chair, and I plan to remain a BCHW volunteer – until I'm called to the great Rendezvous in the sky. I will continue to manage the RTP grants for a while, and to work on trails and trails advocacy. Some of you have heard that they scraped the bottom of the barrel and elected me BCHA Vice-chair, so I'll try to do a decent job there. If I can somehow help some newer states get organized as well as Washington, I will feel good about that. But you will not see me forgetting about BCHW in favor of our national organization.

Most importantly, I've made a lot of horseman friends over the years, and I never forget my friends. I look forward to more work on trails, and discussions over campfires and bar tables with each of you. Happy Trails! 🐾

Change

continued from page 3

only to see it called off at the last minute due to fire closures. This one did hurt. Time, money, scheduled vacation time for our members, in addition to the disappointment of not being able to get in there and get the planned work done. I want to express my sincere thanks to Jason Ridlon and all the supporting BCHW members that helped to put SWWP5 together and to those members who had committed their time to drive to the far northeast corner of Washington to work on trails. I hope that you all know how much I appreciate you and your dedication to our mission. I also want to send my thanks to the Sullivan Lake Ranger District and the Colville NF staff for the support

and planning that they had committed to the event. We could not have asked for better partners. We look forward to the opportunity to work with them in the future. This was a bummer, to say the least, but this change in plans won't deter BCHW continuing forward with the Annual SWWP. In fact, I know that planning for 2018's SWWP is already in the works.

Everything changes, but it is our reaction to those changes that shape our experience and enjoyment. What we do as Back Country Horsemen is a choice that can include both personal challenge and risk. It means commitment and hard work, but it is also what affords many of us our greatest pleasure and truest sense of accomplishment. I wouldn't have it any other way. 🐾

Northeast Chapter Assists Kalispell Tribe

PHOTO BY STUART NIEMEN



By Traci Stewart, Northeast BCHW Chapter

NEBCHW members have provided horses to the Kalispell Tribe's Goose Creek Camp for the last few years during which time intermediate school children attending camp were taken on a supervised trail ride. NEBCHW members were concerned that these children had little or no prior horse experience when they were put up on a horse to go for the trail ride. As a result, NEBCHW requested that the children who would be participating in the trail ride attend a multi-day horsemanship and trail class designed to provide them with the basic horsemanship skills and trail etiquette for safety.

Three sessions were held: June 29, July 6, and July 11, 2017. The kids arrived by 9:30 a.m. and left by 3:30 p.m. each day. During the first session, they were taught how to approach, halter, tie, groom and lead a horse including stopping, backing and turning. They were also taught basic trail etiquette and LNT principles. During the 2nd session, the kids were asked to demonstrate what they had learned in the first session, fitted to saddles and then worked while mounted with an individual NEBCHW member to learn to move the horse forward, stop, turn each direction and to back up. They were also taught

what to do if a run-away occurred and how to make an emergency stop. During the final session, the kids demonstrated what they learned in the first two sessions in an enclosed arena without individual members walking with them. They passed a basic trail challenge which included stepping over obstacles and following a mock trail with appropriate spacing, and then participated in a short trail ride out in an open area.

A total of 15 people "graduated" from the three day session including 9 children, 4 mentors (high school age helpers) and 2 adults.

The horses, equipment and facilities utilized were provided by NEBCHW members. During the three sessions, there were a minimum of 8, and as many as 14 NEBCHW members volunteering their time and/or horses to make the sessions as safe, organized and successful as possible. While mounted, it was one member per child. All children wore helmets and boots, which were also provided by NEBCHW members.

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PHOTO BY STUART NIEMEN



PHOTO BY STUART NIEMEN



Horsemanship Training – Goose Creek Trail Ride Graduates

Kids	Mentors	Adults
Dennis Campbell	Jalyna Castillo	Cory Swennumson
Teresa Campbell	Bryce Nomee	Wendy Ostlie*
Roleand Campbell	Will Pierre	lone Yellow John*
Selena Wynne	Joey Tinney	
Mody Wynne		
Taressa Pierre		
Samantha Nomee		
Jackson Tinney		
Jason Cullooyah Jr.		

**Wendy Ostlie participated in the training & "graduated", but didn't ride at the camp.*

**lone Yellow John was not able to participate in the training with the horses, but was able to ride at the camp (she grew up with horses).*

PHOTO BY STUART NIEMEN



Northeast Chapter Assists Kalispell Tribe

continued from page 6

The Camp trail rides were scheduled for July 18, 19, and 20th. Many of the NEBCHW members that attended the three day class took horses to the camp and rode with the class graduates. All these activities were planned and executed as part of the Horsemanship Development Committee endeavor to interest more people in utilizing horses for recreational trail riding in a responsible manner. 🐾

Thank You!

The Northeast Chapter extends a big thank you to Doug and Traci Stewart of the Northeast Chapter for providing the facilities, much of the equipment and horses for the qualifying classes. Traci's excellent instruction contributed immensely to the ultimate success of the Kalispell Camp Trail rides. It was great education also for the chapter members who attended!

BCHW Awards Report

By Lynn Wilhelm-Howell, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

What glorious weather we have had to be out enjoying our beautiful state. We are busy volunteering, supporting prize rides, on work parties, exploring new trails, connecting with our riding buddies and making new friends. I see and hear about so many of you deserving of awards. Let's take the time to put together a nomination for someone you feel represents BCHW in one of these categories listed below. Pictures of your nominee in BCHW activities are very helpful. Recommendations from BCHW members, land managers or agency partners, and news clippings will also help the judging team learn about your nominee. Talk amongst your chapter members to assist you in compiling the award packet for your chapter's nominee. The fun part is keeping it all hush, hush!



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

Cinch Award = 1, max 2 awarded

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

President's Diamond Award = 1, max 2 awarded

SPONSORSHIPS Are extremely important for the success of your BCHW Award Program. Last year eleven different BCHW chapters and two businesses sponsored BCHW awards. These sponsorships, partnered with the BCHW award budget, resulted in thirteen different volunteers to be recognized. BCHW chapters, please continue to support the BCHW Award Program by sponsoring one of the award categories. Also remember that with our 501(c3) businesses, chapters have a tax advantage for award donations. 🐾

Lynn Wilhelm-Howell redboots4u2@gmail.com

16th Annual Winery Ride and Halloween Costume / Prize Ride



**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 28th**



**Come ride your horse to various
Yakima Valley wineries in Zillah,
sampling wines as you go!**

**\$25 donation per person for the
prize ride, if postmarked by
10/17. \$35 after that.**

**COSTUME CONTEST!
INSTANT PRIZES!!**

First rider out at 9:30am, last rider out at 11:30am.

**Please, NO DOGS on the trail. Dogs left in camp must be
secured. Please clean up after your dog.**

Following the ride, join us for a catered dinner and entertainment.

**Camping is available Friday and Saturday for only \$10 per night (no hookups, may not
be level, but includes stock water & primitive restroom).**

Important Dates:

- **Early bird dinner, postmarked by 10/17 (price
increases after)**
- **Early bird prize ride, postmarked by 10/17
(price increases after)**

**Watch for registration info on our web site, www.bchw.org,
or contact us at bchwwineryride@gmail.com**

**The ride starts at Severino Cellars Vineyard at 2100 Roza
Drive in Zillah. See our website for detailed directions.**



***Back Country Horsemen of Washington strongly encourages you to drink responsibly. Plan
to camp out Saturday evening with us—just \$10, and a small price for your safety! We want
you back safely next year!!!***

Chainsaws Allowed in Pasayten Wilderness to Speed Work

By Ann McCreary, Methow Valley News

Crews worked to clear a massive debris slide off Andrews Creek Trail last week after the Methow Valley Ranger District received permission to use chainsaws and explosives to remove hundreds of trees blocking the trail.

The district requested authorization from the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest to use chainsaws and explosives to clear the slide about 8 miles up Andrews Creek Trail within the Pasayten Wilderness.

The federal Wilderness Act prohibits motorized or mechanized equipment in designated wilderness areas without special authorization.

The slide came down last winter and piled the trees head-high across a 300-yard stretch of Andrews Creek Trail, one of the main trails providing access for hikers and horseback riders heading into the Pasayten Wilderness, a popular backcountry destination.

The slide was cleared in time to allow a volunteer work party of about 30 members of the Back Country Horsemen of Washington and the Pacific Northwest Trail Association to travel up Andrews Creek Trail to carry out trail maintenance projects planned for July 2-5.

The volunteers, including members of the local chapter of the Back Country Horsemen, planned to clear trees and repair puncheon (boardwalk) bridges on Andrews Creek Trail. They also planned to work on opening up other nearby trails in the Pasayten Wilderness during the work trip.

The group included volunteers from around the state who are proficient at packing into the backcountry and using crosscut saws, said Jason Ridlon, special project coordinator for the Back Country Horsemen.

"We have a combined 200 years of experience" in trail maintenance, he said.

Local support

The group got support from local outfitter and guide Steve Darwood, who volunteered a couple of his packers, and ten mules to carry in planks for bridges and gear for the work party. Darwood operates Cascade Wilderness Outfitters and North Cascades Outfitters and leads trips into the Pasayten Wilderness.

Work on clearing the trees from the debris slide was done by U.S. Forest Service crews trained in using chainsaws and explosives, said Holly Krake, a spokesperson for the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

The work began after authorization was granted on June 28. The special authorization limited the use of chainsaws or explosives to the debris slide.

In determining whether to authorize use of chainsaws and explosives, the forest supervisor evaluated issues including safety to trail crews and the public, and impacts to the wilderness and wilderness character, Krake said.

Because the trees were tangled together, removing them with crosscut saws would have been more dangerous for crews, Forest Service officials said.

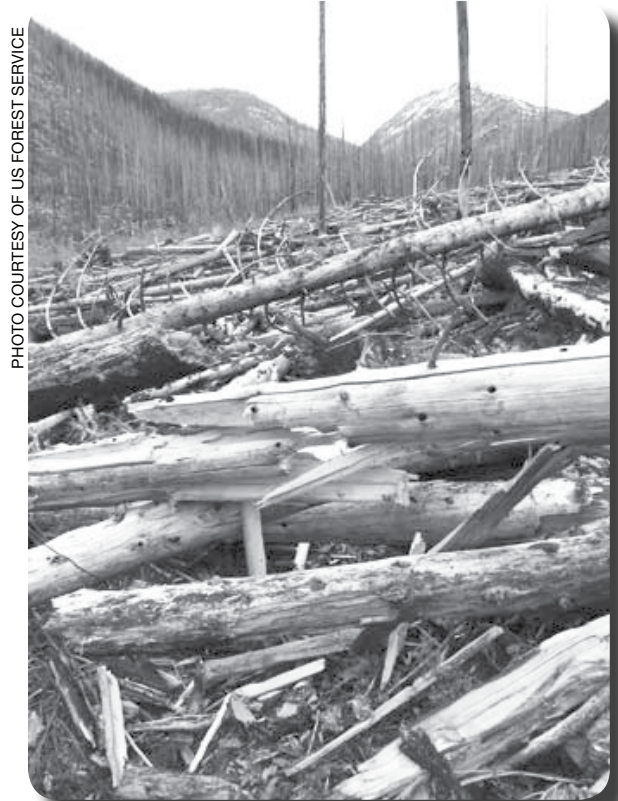


PHOTO COURTESY OF US FOREST SERVICE

Chainsaws and explosives are being used to clear this logjam on the Andrews Creek Trail.

In addition to work on the well-traveled Andrews Creek Trail, volunteers also planned to work on trails that have been inaccessible for years due to fallen trees and debris, Ridlon said. The trails include Peepsight Lake, Ram Creek, and Crystal Lake trails.

"I've been told you can't even tell where Ram Creek turns off Andrews Creek, there are so many trees," Ridlon said.

The area where the debris slide occurred, and much of the surrounding country, was burned in the 2003 Farewell Fire, which blackened about 80,000 acres in the Pasayten Wilderness. Dead trees in the burned areas have fallen and blocked trails.

Many blocked trails

The damage from the fire, and the lack of funding for regular clearing and maintenance of trails on Forest Service land, has put many trails in the wilderness out of commission, Ridlon said. Some of the trails have not been cleared since the 2003 fire, he said.

Providing more opportunities to use chain saws could

continued on page 11

The Importance of Trail Miles

By Chris Enrico, Trail Database Administrator

Trail miles! Why should you, the BCHW volunteer, report your trail miles? For the same reason you report volunteer hours! It helps BCHW when we apply for grants. It helps when we talk to our legislators. Some call it “tooting your own horn.” Land managers eat it up, as well. They like to know how many miles of their trails they don’t need to worry about.

When you apply for a loan, the lender wants to know about you and, of course, how you will spend the money. The same applies when applying for a grant. Our Executive Director, who writes our grant requests, uses any information they can to describe the good things BCHW does. For the most part, they have had to use hours since no one knows how many trails, or how many trail miles, have been cleared.

Other organizations know how many trails were worked on (and perhaps how many trail miles) since they are organized differently. Trail teams tell the organization what trails they will work on and work parties get scheduled so volunteers can sign up. BCHW is a much looser organization. You, as a chapter, want to work on a trail? Fine. Let the land manager know you’ll be heading out and you go do it. Then it’s all forgotten except you turn in the hours you spent out there.

When BCHW first began asking you to submit your hours, miles were a part of the reporting. Seems it was too complex for folks, so it was dropped. However, Traci Koch had written a grant and was able to come up with 1,600 miles of trail BCHW had worked on in 2006 or 2007. That grant ranked 3rd! Trail miles matter! BCH can do more trail miles, and pack more tools, than other user groups in a day!

In 2014, I was asked by then Executive Director Darrell Wallace if I could create an on-line database where trail miles maintained could be stored. I told him yes and promptly began researching how to do it (as I had never done this before. I am not a computer programmer. I am now a retired civil engineer).

After a few hundred hours of work, I had a working database (after having started and having to start over due to a software/hardware upgrade by my web hosting provider).

You are more than welcome to check out the Trail Miles Database. There is read-only guest access. The user name and password is Guest_2014 and BcHw*19#72 and both are case

sensitive. You cannot add data, nor edit. You have access to trail lists and maps as well as the reporting, which includes downloading the data. I recommend writing the password in a text file on your computer and then copying and pasting it into the password field. The password gives a lot of users trouble, since you can’t see the characters you enter.

If you are holding trail maintenance work parties, I’d like to suggest relaxing for a few minutes in front of your computer when you get home or that evening. It won’t take long.

Once you are in the database, it will

only take two and a half minutes or so to enter the information from one work party. I have a form you can print and write all the info down so all you have to do is transcribe. You also have the option of putting multiple work parties into an Excel spreadsheet, which you email to me to upload. The chapter “Work Trail Boss” should have the user name and password for their chapter. If not, it can be supplied on request.

The BCHW Executive Director reports actual trail miles to the RCO (or tries to). BCHA reported 2014 trail miles, but we know the numbers are nowhere close to what was actually accomplished. See <http://sbbch.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2014-BCHA-Volunteer-Hours-Report-Summary.pdf>. Montana reports miles (they started BCHA). Why can’t BCHW also report miles?

Let us as an organization begin to “toot our own horn” a little louder! 📣

*To Report Trail Miles Go To:
BCHW.org
half way down the left side
navigation click the button
“Volunteer Hr and Mileage
Reporting”
Then click the link “Click here
for Trail Miles Reporting”*

Chainsaws Allowed in Pasayten Wilderness to Speed Work

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preserve the existing trail system, he said. “I don’t want a blanket policy to use chainsaws,” Ridlon said. “I’m pretty efficient with a crosscut saw. But when you are staring at 15 miles of trees ... we no longer have the budget or work force” to keep trails open, Ridlon said.

“We can’t let our national trail system deteriorate,” he said. “The only way you’re going to preserve a wilderness area is to keep trails accessible to pack stock.”

Ridlon said he received a grant for the Andrews Creek Trail project from the Trails Stewardship Act, passed by Congress

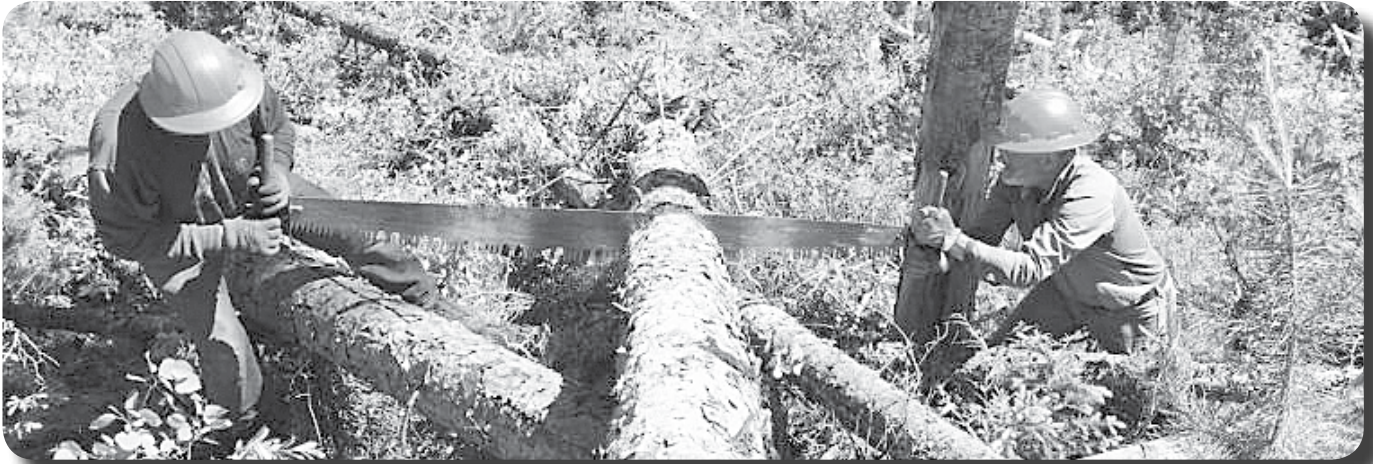
in 2016 to increase the role of volunteers and partners in trail maintenance on Forest Service land. He said the grant would help volunteers with costs of hauling stock trailers to the site.

The Methow Ranger District, like other Forest Service ranger districts around the country, has come to rely on volunteer groups to help clear and maintain trails as a result of budget cuts and diversion of funds for wildfire suppression. The district has a trail crew of 10 people to work on more than 1,000 miles of trails this season. 📣

*Reprinted with permission of
Methow Valley News*

BCHW Volunteer Hours Report

PHOTO BY ROB DEBOER



Over the July 4th week long "Hot Shot Crew" volunteers log out Peepsight Trail #525, Pasayten Wilderness. Left to right: Al Norrbom, Tahoma & Mark Reese, Tahoma.

By Deb Wesselius, Volunteer Hours Chair

With the first half of the year rapidly passing, volunteer hours should be racking up by this time. So make sure you are turning in those important volunteer hours records to your chapter Volunteer Hours Coordinators. Please don't ignore requests for your volunteer hours. Paperwork is mundane enough as it is so by getting your volunteer hour sheets completed and turned in it will be extremely therapeutic! As reported at the last Board of Directors meeting, most chapters participated successfully by submitting accurate reports also most acknowledged the set deadline. However, a few chapters are still out of compliance by not submitting any volunteer hours in the 2017 recordable year. Those chapters should contact their Regional Volunteer Hours Coordinator for assistance.

BCHW's main objective is to make sure you get your volunteer hours recorded and counted. If you are not sure if something is recordable, go ahead and record the hours and give a description of what was done so your chapter Volunteer Hours Coordinator can review and make the determination and record the information correctly.

The next schedule for the chapter Volunteer Hour Coordinators to submit volunteer hours to the BCHW-Regional Volunteer Hour Coordinators will be September 1st. November 1st will be the date to submit all final outstanding unrecorded volunteer hours. This will give the Regional Volunteer Hours Coordinators and the State Volunteer Hours Coordinator time to get all the reports accurate for the final summary reports that are due on December 1st. The membership at large should acknowledge this schedule by turning in their volunteer hours well in advance of these dates. Often the review of the information will require some corrections; therefore, prompt or even early submitting of the report helps everybody.

Thank you for your continued effort and support of this valuable program. 🐾

PHOTO BY CAROLYN STELLA, LEWIS CO. CHAPTER



Jim Thode, Lewis County Chapter, logging out in Goat Rocks Wilderness.



Pasayten "Hot Shot Crew," Whatcom Chapter Packers preparing to haul planks 7 miles in on the Andrews Creek Trail #504. Left to right: Rocky Leavitt, Roger Nelson, Andy McLeod, Rodney Vandersypen, and Joe Remenar

I Ride for the Brand



By Ken Carmichael, Ponderosa Chapter Director

Several years ago, while watching a western movie, I heard a cowboy talking about where his loyalty lies. You may remember the movie. The statement was “I RIDE FOR THE BRAND.” That stuck with me.

I have a book called “Focus on Sustainability,” by Dennis G. McMillan. It has four very basic ways to ensure that a nonprofit is sustainable. The first one is FOCUS. It states that organizations that have a clear focus can answer two key questions: Who are we? And where are we going? It states we must laser focus on the founding principles, have discipline on strategic planning and also adapt to the future. I like to say it in another way, “Go home with who brought you to the dance.”

Who are we? When I joined BCH in 1987, I knew, or shortly learned, that BCH is not a social club. It is a service organization. We have a mission, the short of which is to preserve and enhance the rights of responsible horsemen to use horses and mules on public land. I know that we like to ride and be sociable but that is not why BCH was formed. We were formed as a service organization (that brought us to the dance) and that is with whom we should go home.

Where are we going? That is a good question. What brought us to the dance is Education, Advocacy and Moving Dirt (trail work). Are we still headed in that direction? When we make decisions about BCH at all levels, we should always keep in mind that what we do should support these efforts.

The strength of BCH is in its size (stronger together) and the diverse talent we represent. Our mission is a big one and everyone is needed. In the Ponderosa Chapter, I count 40 volunteer opportunities and there are probably more. That is just what is on the list. Fortunately, we all do

not have the same talent, skills, and interests. Some are good at operating a chainsaw and others create newsletters, take pictures and keep the finances straight. The point is that there is a place for everyone in BCH, and we need and appreciate EVERYONE.

There is no need to try to fit a round peg in a square hole. Your talent, or what you want to learn, is needed. So what if you cannot run a chainsaw or balance the books. Find something else. Just look at the list and pick a volunteer opportunity that floats your boat. I firmly believe that those that are involved and have skin in the game have the most fun. It is not as fun sitting on the sidelines as it is being in the game.

Bottom line is that we have all joined a SERVICE ORGANIZATION and that organization needs your help. Back to my original statement. DO YOU RIDE FOR THE BRAND? 🐾



Bureau of Land Management work party at Fish Trap Lake

Trailhead Camping Seminar



PHOTO COURTESY OF US FOREST SERVICE

Ponderosa chapter held a successful seminar about trailhead camping.

By Ken Carmichael, Ponderosa Chapter Director

In June, the Ponderosa chapter of BCHW held a very successful, hands on seminar about trailhead camping. Our goal was to help participants become more comfortable camping with their horses.

Everyone had the opportunity to highline their horses. We viewed several ways that people have chosen to camp, from sleeping in the back of a trailer to trailers with living quarters and motor homes. An information book was provided, and discussions took place, on subjects such as: safety, Leave No Trace, trail etiquette, knots, land manager requirements (such as permits and weed free hay), good locations to camp in the area, what we should take with us, selecting a camping partner, crossing state lines with horses, how to feed and care for our horses overnight and, of course, the benefits of belonging to Back Country Horsemen.

We also previewed some of the equipment needed to use pack animals, our next step in enjoying camping with horses.

Riverside State Park gave us special permission to camp outside the established campground so that we could highline our horses and experience an undeveloped camp. Yet we were not that far from home. This gave everyone an easy opportunity to experience camping without a big investment.

That night we had a bonfire (leaving no trace that the fire was ever there) with s'mores and stories.

Thank you to the PBCH members that helped put on the seminar. This included Patti Sander, Don Groshon, Don Dyer and Doug and Teresa Bailey.

It is our desire that more equestrians take the opportunity to camp with their horses and expand the areas that they ride. 🐾



People gathered at Doug Bailey's camp.



Gathered at the Leave-No-Trace campfire.

Haney Meadow Work Party 1-4, 2017



(from left to right) Mary Kane, Kim Marcus, Krista, Terry Letcher, Ed Letcher, Linda Brown, Cathy Nelson, Susan Heiser, Vicki Lawson, Dean Odegarrd.

Marykay Els, Trailduster

Haney Meadow, just the name brings back wonderful memories, green meadows, vistas all around, tall trees & great trails. I had not been back since the big fire, it was too sad to think about. But when BCHW announced a work party over the 4th of July and many Traildusters would be there, I was happy to sign on.

The dreaded slide area is still there but the road from the cutoff to Ken Wilcox horse camp was re-graded with fresh gravel making that part of the trip much less painful.

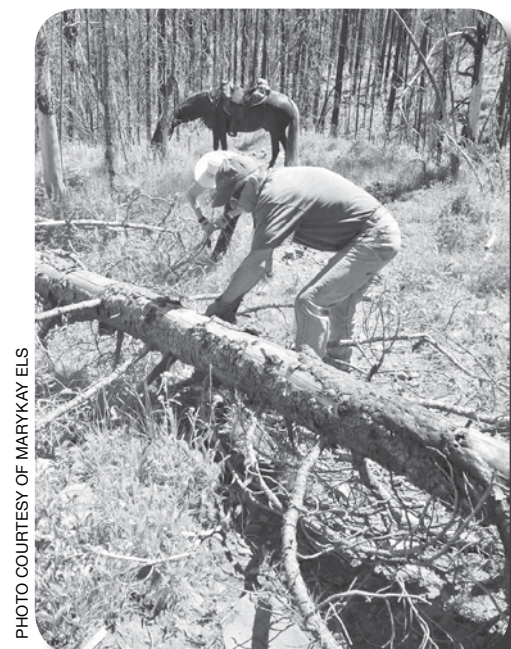
Saturday morning found 6 members from Tahoma, 10 Traildusters and one guest ready to get busy clearing the trails and areas in the camp. Part of the camp had burned, but most is just as welcoming as before.

Ed Letcher from the Tahoma Chapter was our leader. At a comprehensive safety meeting, we found that 2 people had Spots to locate us in case of emergencies. Extra hard hats, gloves & tools got us going. We split up in teams with a sawyer in each team and a pack horse for the equipment. During the next 3 days we cleared approximately 28 logs on 30 miles of trails. Tahoma Chapter totaled 140 volunteer hours, total stock use was 23 days! Traildusters had 161.5 volunteer hours.

continued on page 16



After potluck at the new gathering spot. Left to right Marykay Els, Audrey Gunderson, Marianne Honeycutt, Ed Letcher, Doug Barber, Linda Brown, Terry Letcher.



Doug Barber & Audrey Gunderson tackle a downed tree.

Haney Meadow Work Part 1-4, 2017

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Some days some members stayed in camp to clear camping spots of debris and fallen logs. And the main campfire circle (which overlooks the meadow and the now destroyed cabin) was cleared and cleaned, with new hitching rails and benches around the fire. Firewood neatly stacked and ready for cool evenings.

Ranger Simon has said the stock water pump is now repaired and will function to the end of the season.

Potlucks every night with lots of food and drinks, stories and laughter around the campfire reminded me of how much fun trail work parties can be.

This work to make the camp cleaner and the trails open is to encourage more horse-riders to come and use the camp, ride those beautiful trails, look at all the trees growing everywhere. If we don't use the camp, we'll find ORV people there next year. Sharing BBQ flats was one thing, but not the tranquil nature of Haney Meadow.

Here is Ed Letcher's summation of the project:

"We logged out what I would consider a small number of blocking or partially blocking logs (approximately 28). We did cover about 30 miles of trail during the log out portion of our small but successful work party. We also rebuilt the hitching rail and repaired the seating benches in and around the main campfire circle. Most of the downed trees

and brush were also removed and cleared at the campfire circle, the idea was to reduce the fire danger to the entire area and create a cleaner environment. There was improvements to some of the other campsites as well, Still lots of work left to do. As of July 10th, John Simon of the USFS thanked the volunteers from BCHW for all the effort so far this year and encouraged others to be involved with the extensive amount of cleanup left to do. John Simon USFS also was able to repair the stock water in the camp area, it is planned to keep the stock water pump functioning for the rest of the season. Tahoma Chapter totaled 140 volunteer hours and 33 hours of travel to and from. Total stock use was 23 days." 🐾



2017 BCHW Membership Application

All adult members need to sign the form. Chapter Members: contact your Chapter for an application.
Independent Members mail to: BCHW ATTN: Membership, P.O. Box 1132, Ellensburg, WA 98926-1132

I would like to help preserve the Horsemen's rights to use horses on public lands.

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal/Past Member #: _____ County _____ Legislative District _____

Adult Names (please print) _____

Children Names (please print) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____ Email _____

Occupation _____

Do you want to be a volunteer? ☐ Yes ☐ No What would you like to volunteer for? _____

☐ Please do not mail me The Trailhead News, I will read it online at the BCHW website.

State membership for 2017 calendar year

Family Membership \$ 54 _____

Single Membership \$ 41 _____

Additional State Donation \$ _____

Optional Memberships

(Includes Family or Single Membership)

Contributing Member \$ 75 _____

Sustaining Member \$ 125 _____

Patron Member \$ 250 _____

Benefactor Member \$ 500 _____

Lifetime (Single) Member \$ 1,200 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Liability Release & Notices

All ADULT members MUST sign! Adult's signature covers minor children. Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders, and spectators, and also recognizing the fact that Back Country Horsemen of Washington, including chapters, officers, directors, or members cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience of riders or horses taking part in Trail Rides or other BCHW functions, I do hereby release the above named from any claim or right for damages, which might occur to me, my minor children or horses.

Signed _____ Dated _____

Signed _____ Dated _____

Signed _____ Dated _____

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.



Please clip out and mail



Preston Call's Eagle Project with Pierce County Chapter

By Tom Faubion, Pierce County Chapter

On June 17, 2017, the Pierce County Chapter of BCHW worked with Preston Call to help him achieve his Eagle Scout award. The project was held in Pack Forest, a part of the University of Washington.

Historically, Pack Forest has been the experimental forest for the College of Forestry at the University of Washington, located just south of Eatonville. It contains hundreds of acres of forest with miles of trails for use by hikers, stock, and bicycle riders.

Hugo Peak Trail is one of the most popular trails and runs from the lowest elevation to the highest in a distance of almost 3 miles. Several places along the trail are poorly constructed and, with the shortage of people power available, there is little likelihood of improvement.

Preston talked to Jeff Kelly of Pack Forest and was pleasantly surprised to learn that there are a number of possible areas for re-construction. He then planned the project in conjunction with Pack Forest employee Aaron Robinson. With Aaron's supervision, the plan came together with a site visit in May and the actual project on June 17, 2017.

Preston determined that there would be no possibility of camping at Pack Forest because of a confer-

ence that would be scheduled for that day, so he contacted Nancy Barker of the Department of Natural Resources to secure permission to camp at the New Memorial Camp



PHOTO COURTESY OF US FOREST SERVICE

The construction of new, safer trail took teamwork. Preston Call, Nancy Barker of Department of Natural Resources, Pierce County BCHW, and Dr. Jack Gillette joined forces for this projects.



PHOTO COURTESY OF US FOREST SERVICE

Scouts work with Pierce County Chapter of BCHW to construct a safer trail.

in the Elbe Hills Horse Trail System. On Friday night, the 16th of June, the Scouts gathered at New Memorial and ate dinner prepared by Dr. Jack Gillette of Pierce County Chapter.

On Saturday morning, 51 scouts and Pierce County BCHW members worked jointly to construct a new safer trail to compliment the trail system. It was a total length of 1000 feet and replaced a section that went down and around an area of steep slope. The new trail was constructed into the steep slope with the result that the difficult part was eliminated and the new trail was perfect.

This was a project that exemplified the goals for the BCHW. It involved construction of trails and utilized youth to do it. All of those involved were very satisfied with the work upon completion of the day. **2**

Come Ride Our Part of the State

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BARBARA VACHE



NW Region committee with our guests.



Winner Laurie Westvang, Traildusters Chapter BCHW.



Pre Registration Marnee Wines, Diana McFadain with Kerry Graves Cascade Horse Club BCHW.

By Barbara Vache, North West Region BCHW

At the State BCHW meeting the NW Region donated to the Come Ride Our Part of the State auction. The Region offered 4 poker hands, lunch, dinner, and breakfast at the Harry Osborn Trailhead out of Hamilton WA at the annual NW Region Prize Ride held the second weekend of July. As in the past, the five NW Region BCHW chapters, Whatcom, Skagit, Traildusters, Island, and Cascade Horse Club, agree on a theme and choose how to represent their choice. The theme for 2017 was "Booking on the Trails".

This year as riders enjoyed the trails of the Les Hilde Trail system they encountered characters from Where the Wild Things Are, Alice In Wonderland, Dr. Seuss, Winnie the Pooh, and Mama Lama.

What a surprise for our guests from Ellensburg auction winners. Marnee Wines and Diana McFadain, both non BCHW members, came expecting a weekend of relaxing and riding in a new area. They didn't understand in addition to a new area they would be making many new friends.

Arriving Wednesday evening after a delayed start in Ellensburg they pretty much had the area to themselves. They used the time to explore the new riding area and to their surprise found their E WA horses were not accustomed to the W WA trails sound by cedar, fir, hemlock, alder and underbrush of and ferns, berries, and brush. By Friday the core of the NW Region committee arrived and after introduction all around all enjoyed an evening of visiting and swapping stories. Saturday, Marnee and Diana headed out with the other riders to cover a sampling of the many trails in the area. After the ride, they were treated to pulled pork sandwiches. A well-deserved rest was followed by hors d'oeuvres, wine tasting and a little "up river" Apple Pie. A full steak dinner and campfire rounded out the evening.

Breakfast was served before Diana and Marnee headed home hopefully to share our part of the state with riders in Kittitas County. During all the conversations, we hope we may have added two members to the BCHW roster.

An interesting note. Sunday morning our non BCHW guests asked to borrow a wheelbarrow. They had noticed that the campers had been making regular trips to a bin to empty manure. After asking what was going on and getting the spiel they ponied up and made the decision to join the LNT movement.

"Had a great time and ride! Lots of wonderful people. Great trails, very well maintained." Marnee Wines Ellensburg, WA

PHOTO COURTESY OF BARBARA VACHE



Marnee and Diana

The BCHW 2nd Quarter Board of Directors' Meeting

By Janelle Wilson

The Back Country Horsemen of Washington, 2nd Quarter 2017 Board of Directors Meeting was held at the Kittitas Valley Event Center – Armory Building in Ellensburg, WA on June 17, 2017.

The meeting was called to order by President, Kathy Young, at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call attendance was taken. Absent were Island and Mount Adams Directors. Excused were Independents and Inland Empire Directors. A quorum was present.

The agenda was adopted as posted. The Board approved the Board of Directors Minutes from the 1st Quarter of 2017 as published.

Officer and Committee Reports followed. Kathy Young, President, introduced the newly hired Executive Director Nicole Sedgwick. She announced that Darrell Wallace had resigned effective June 30th. The Board voted to approve the new Executive Director Contract and the hiring of Nicole Sedgwick.

Membership Development, Membership reports were posted in accordance with the policy of the Board on the Directors documents page prior to the meeting for review by Directors.

Ways and Means Chair, Teri Starke, reminded Directors that quality calendar pictures are needed for 2019. 2018 calendars were available for purchase. She also requested Northwest Horse Source articles.

Treasurer/Budget report was posted and explained by Treasurer Teri Starke.

Statewide Work Party update was given.

Governance and By Laws committed new proposed policies were outlined by Ken Carmichael. Directors provided feedback to the committee.

Legislative Chair Jeff Chapman gave an update on Joyce Willms performance as BCHW lobbyist and explained legislative funding issues both on the State and the Federal level.

Public Lands report was posted and explained by Bernie Stratton. Public Lands Day will be at Rendezvous in 2018.

Executive Director and Grants reports were posted by Darrell Wallace and Nicole Sedgwick. The Directors thanked Darrell for all his work as BCHW Executive Director. Kathy Young presented Darrell with a gift and a card was circulated. Darrell is now the Vice Chairman of BCHA.

Trail miles reporting was addressed by Chris Enrico whose report was posted. It is very important to record trail maintenance and repair miles.

BCHW Store's Lori Lennox had posted her report and briefly went over some highlights.

Volunteer Hours report was posted by Deb Wesselius. Over 30,000 hours had been recorded so far (October 1 to June 1).

Awards Chair Lynn Wilhelm-Howell report was posted. She asked the Directors for help on the Lifetime Achievement Award "gift" since the bronze statue is no longer being made. A new packer award being considered, too. Donations from chapters are needed for the Awards budget. The Chapter Display award at Rendezvous will be given out each year by the Chapter who won the year before, not by the Awards Chair.

Safety Committee report was posted by Doc Wesselius. Kathy Young noted that JHA's have been updated to match the format for the USDA Forest Service. She requested that they be used for work parties.

Jane Byram had posted the Leave No Trace report. Louise Caywood distributed DVD's from BCHA on the 7 principles of LNT in 10 minute increments to be shown at meetings.

It was announced that the Trailhead News needs more articles submitted earlier. Deadlines are listed in the THN.

Website, Jim Thode's report was posted.

Education Chair Kim Merrick distributed an overview to Directors. The committee is working on making Leadership Training better. Don Gonder, Peninsula, volunteered to help. Committee will eventually help sawyers, LNT, etc. as a point of contact.

It was announced that the Joe Watt Canyon Ride was a success. There were 272 riders, netting \$4,200.00 in 2017. If a Chapter or group of Chapters want to benefit from and run the ride, Vice President, Dave Sunde, must receive a proposal. The event

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BCHW Historian

Chris Enrico is the New BCHW Historian and is asking each chapter to send in old articles and photos about the history of the chapter. Anyone who has historical information about BCHW, please email historian@bchw.org.

A Brief History of BCHW

The history of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) began with one man: Ken Wilcox. Ken didn't dream a dream. He didn't see a vision. Ken just heard of a need, and went out to meet it. He stepped out, trusting others would join to make the difference. He was right. We have, and we still are!

In 1968, a hiker acquaintance, Louise Marshal, called Ken, then a member of the Washington State Horsemen (WSH), to inform him of a Forest Service meeting regarding trails and back-

country recreation. Ken went and realized that no one was representing horsemen! WSH appointed Ken to represent horsemen. For better representation, he took some Traildusters Saddle Club members to the meeting at the Seattle Center. By 1972, Ken was elected Trails Director of WSH. He recruited trail riders for the Trail Division. He submitted articles to the WSH monthly paper, Canter. Soon it became apparent that trail riding horsemen needed an organization dedicated solely to preserving the rights of people to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands. So, in 1976 a new organization of trail riders was formed. Also in 1976, a new horsemen's organization called Backcountry Horsemen of America had formed in Montana and Idaho. Since objectives were the same, the new organization was called Backcountry Horsemen of Washington. 🐎

Directors' Meeting

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will be in May – the weekend before Mother's Day. Only one organization event per month is allowed by WDFW; BCHW has May. Selection for host and beneficiary will be made by the December meeting.

Unfinished Business followed the committee reports. Membership Development committee thanked everyone for participating in the idea board at the meeting. Scott Lee from Cascade Horse Club gave a PowerPoint presentation on marketing. Discussion followed. Ken Carmichael explained what the development committee is going to do with the feedback.

New Business followed.

Chris Enrico agreed to be the BCHW historian. He asked that each Chapter send him a history article about their chapter. Anyone who has historical information about BCHW should also forward that to Chris.

Teri Starke, Treasurer, went over the 2016 990. Directors voted to accept the proposed 990 with the corrections outlined during discussion. Department of Revenue rules regarding sales tax and logo wear was outlined for the Board. Gambling Commission rules were explained and distributed.

The Board was not interested in having Nicole Sedgwick, new Executive Director, pursue a CPR/first aid licensed instructor for BCHW.

Nicole Sedgwick asked Chapters to provide ideas for big projects that need money by September. This topic will be in unfinished business next quarter.

Good of the Order followed.

Life Flight insurance was explained by Ken Carmichael. Refurbished Crosscut Saws are available thanks to Tom Faubion. Painters/artist are needed to decorate the unsalvageable ones for auction. Darrell Wallace announced that Northeast Chapter got 15 family memberships from involving youth. Free Conference Calling for folks with cell phones was explained by Nicole Sedgwick.

Announcements completed the day.

Cathy Nelson, Traildusters, explained Haney Meadows work party prior to 4th of July weekend. Ken Carmichael, Ponderosa, explained his chapter's front country camping program which was well received. Louise Caywood, Pierce County, announced the Washington State Fair Rodeo Parade. Patti Wible, Olympic, announced her chapter's Western Dream Ride funds are used for trail work and horse camps. She encouraged attendance. Chris Enrico, Oakland Bay, announced that Capital Riders has a new website host and he will build a forum for horseback riders. Dave Sunde, Okanogan Valley, requested that folks stop at Ferry County steak rider on the way to the State Wide Work Party.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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.

Tahoma Chapter Annual Prize Ride

Sat., Sept. 9
Riders out 8 am - Noon
Danville Georgetown
King County Parks trails
Cost: \$20/rider inc. lunch & 5 raffle tickets; prizes awarded 3 pm
Silent Auct, 50/50 cash raffle, cash/prizes
No permit required
Missy Day 425-614-7248
mssd134@gmail.com details
www.tahomabchw.org

3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors Meeting

Sat., Sept. 16
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E. 7th Avenue, Ellensburg
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495
bchwexec@bchw.org

Island County Chapter Russell Maugans Memorial Equine Ride (Treasure Hunt, Raffle, Silent Auction, & Chili Cook-off)

Sat., Sept. 16; Ride Out 9 - 10:30 am
4534 Putney Woods Lane, Langley,
Whidbey Island
Lunch: \$5
Cost: \$10/ride+5 raffle/\$20/ride+20 raffle
Chili Cook Off: \$10 Entry Fee
Cash prizes
Camping Call Diane 360-221-0115
diannebolton@comcast.net
islandcountybchw.webs.com

Cascade Horse Club Annual Prize Ride

Sat., Sept. 16
Regis. 8:30 am; Riders out 9 - 11 am
Pilchuck Tree Farm, Arlington,
via Lake Armstrong Gate
Lunch: \$5
\$10/first hand; \$5 ea addy'l hand
Raffle Drawing prizes totalling \$500
Barbara Vache 425-791-4003
dunerydr2@aol.com
Kathryn Lewandowsky 425-737-4594
skyranch12805@yahoo.com

Willapa Hills Chapter Fall Fun Ride

Sat., Sept. 23
First riders out 9:00 am
SR 6 - Exit 77 off I-5 toward
Raymond; look for signs at Oxbow
Road @ milepost 10
Lunch, ride, and prize ticket: \$15
Lunch only: \$6
Tammy 360-942-8299
Jewel 942-3672
No dogs or stallions please

Ponderosa Chapter Fall Fun Ride & Scavenger Hunt

Sat., Sept. 30
9 am - 1 pm
Riverside State Park, Spokane
Pre-reg. \$20/rider • Reg. on site \$25/rider
Chili lunch: \$5
No Discover Pass required
Camping available
Ken Carmichael 509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
www.pbchw.com

For Upcoming Events Go To: BCHW.ORG

Content Deadline for the November/ December Newsletter is October 1st

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!



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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar Continued

Traildusters Halloween Fun Ride

Sat., Oct. 21 8:00 am
Pilchuck Tree Farm, Lake Armstrong
entrance
Register on day of ride
Lunch/beverages available for purchase
no pass required
Cost: \$2 donation to Pilchuck Tree Farm
Audrey 425-308-4636
www.traildusters.org

16th Annual Winery Ride and Halloween Costume / Prize Ride

All proceeds go to BCHW
Sat., Oct. 28
Contact: bchwwineryride@gmail.com
for registration or visit BCHW.org
Rider out 9:30 - 11:30 am
Severino Cellars Vineyard
2100 Roza Drive, Zillah
NEW CAMP LOCATION!
1890 Highland Dr., Zillah (*about 1.5
miles west of old location on Highland Dr*)
\$25 cost/person (if sent by 10/17)
\$35 cost/person after 10/17
Please no dogs on trail
Dogs secured at campsite
Camping avail. Fri & Sat: \$10/night;
no hookups
See page 9 for more information

4th QTR BCHW Board of Directors Meeting

Sat., Dec. 2
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E. 7th Avenue, Ellensburg
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495
bchwexec@bchw.org

2018 Rendezvous

Friday, March 16- Sunday March 18, 2018
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 17, 2018
Kittitas Valley Event Center
901 E 7th Ave
Ellensburg, WA
Exec Director Nicole Sedgwick
360-640-1495
bchwexec@bchw.org

Example

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

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

Please submit the following information with
your event listing to bchw@wamedia.com.

Chapter Name _____
Name of Ride _____
Date _____
First Rider Out _____
Location _____
Register _____
Lunch _____
Name of Pass Required (if needed) _____
Weed-Seed-Free Feed Required _____
Camping (if available) _____
Cost to Member _____
Cost to Non-member _____
Contact Name _____
Phone _____
Email _____
Website _____

Volunteers!

It's time again to sign up to help at the 2017 Winery Ride.
Contact Deb Wesselius: wesselius@wildblue.net or 360-736-6106

Mark your calendars for the following Forest
Service fee-free days in 2017:

- National Public Lands Day, September 30, 2017
- Veterans Day Weekend, November 11-12, 2017

