

BCHW Rendezvous 2022 – Robert Eversole

Many of us are eager to reconnect face-to-face after years of quarantining, isolating, mask-wearing, disinfecting, social distancing, and Zoom calls. If we have learned anything through the pandemic, it's the importance of family and friends. While we can't predict the future, all signs point to a return to a somewhat "normal life" on the horizon. I, for one, am looking forward to Rendezvous 2022!

If you haven't yet made up your mind, here are 5 Reasons to Attend the 2022 BCHW Rendezvous:

You can't Beat the Location: Ellensburg is centrally located and is easy to get to regardless of which side of the state you're coming from. Wet side – dry side, north or south you'll find that Ellensburg is an easy drive. The Kittitas County Event Center will be filled with fellow BCHW members. As well as soon-to-be BCHW members!

The Wow-Factor: Back Country Horsemen Rendezvous have always offered entertaining and educational clinics, fine food, and excellent camaraderie. This year will continue those traditions with multiple TrailMeister clinics. Below you'll find what we've been preparing for you.

Adventures in Horse Camping Clinic: Despite the name, Back Country Horsemen aren't all backcountry mavens. Some of us enjoy trailhead camping and the luxuries that are more easily attained when trucks and horse trailers do the hauling. In this clinic, we'll discuss What to Know BEFORE You Go. Good horse camping is easy; excellent Horse Camping requires a little more preparation. We'll discuss how to get the most out of your adventures this summer. Including what to look for in a campground, ways to contain your animals, and even learning why Love Letters are an essential part of every camping trip!

Packing 101 Clinic: Thinking of heading a bit further afield? Are you beguiled by the stories that you've heard about exploring the high country on horseback? Many trail riders love the idea of packing their camping gear onto a horse for an epic trip into the backcountry. Then they're dazed with the mysteries of the diamond hitch, overcome with tales of remarkable wrecks, and been told that packing is a dark art that takes a lifetime to master. I don't believe it. Basic packing skills are easy to learn. Years of mastery of the art, though a worthy goal, isn't necessary for a safe, enjoyable trip up the trail to your backcountry camp. In this clinic, we'll discuss:

Types of pack saddles and tack - Methods of hauling cargo – Techniques to prepare your animal for packing. After the clinic, we'll retire to the TrailMeister booth to practice tying on pack loads with big blue the pack mule.

Ad Hoc Clinics: Throughout the weekend you'll find flexible learning opportunities at the TrailMeister booth for everyone that stops by. From how to use that map and compass in your saddles bags to putting together a cinch. We'll have lots going on and are looking forward to sharing with you. I'll also have copies of Amazon's best-selling book "The ABCs of Trail Riding and Horse Camping" available for sale. I'd be honored to sign your copies!

Well, my friends, those are my 5 top reasons to attend our 2022 Rendezvous. I'm sure that there are many more that I don't have room to include here. I look forward to seeing all of you!

If you cannot attend the 2022 BCHW Rendezvous, you'll be missed but you'll still be able to find my musings on trail riding and horse camping at www.TrailMeister.com.

