

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

TRAIL TALES

November 2022

Notes from the President

Whatcom Chapter
P. O. Box 28607
Bellingham, WA 98228
2022

President:

Cindy Piccolo
360-961-4839

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Roger Edmonds
360-296-3512

Director:

Bill McKenna
360-599-2526
(2020-2022)

Alternate Director:

Joe Remenar
j.remenar@gmail.com
(2021-2023)

Secretary:

Sharon Hoofnagle
360-734-4258

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Timothy Van Beek
bchwtim@gmail.com

Membership:

Fran Van Diest
360-734-2567

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360-734-2567

BCHW mission statement: 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.

On October 8th we had our Fall Harvest Celebration, we had a total of 17 riders, 14 trailers, a total of 37 friends and family enjoying scrumptious comfort food and desserts. We had 17 door prizes, BCHW hats, 1 pouch donated by a member, 4 pumpkins donated by Joe and Donna Remenar, 1 package of soaps, Mosquito Lake Road Farm stand, Heather Hartle, 7 BCH stickers from Bill and Michelle McKenna. The weather was beautiful and I understand those who rode had a great time. Melinda Smull, Judy Kinna, Andy McLeod and myself flagged the trail on Thursday before the event. I would like to thank everyone who made a donation, or signed up to be a member and thank you for renewing your membership at the event. I especially would like to thank Donna, Joe, Michelle, Tim and Bill for helping set up the event before everyone arrived. Thank you Joe for bringing our new chapter trailer to the event. Many members were pleased to see our new upgrade.

At our general meeting on October 12th BCHW president, Dana Chambers was our guest. She was present to answer any questions that our members may have had. The one that stood out was signing up to renew or become a member through the website. We need to use the 2023 form, not the 2022 which is outdated. She is very engaged with our state and the future of our trails.

This year we will be able to have our annual joint Christmas party with Skagit County on December 9th at the Alger Community Center. What a wonderful time to get together, get to know one another and also eat some good food.

Remember the November general meeting will be to elect new officers or existing officers to run the chapter for the next year. If you want your voice to be heard or you want to make a difference run for an office. Please step forward to help keep this chapter moving forward and to continue our mission statement.

Friendly Reminder for and your stock to wear orange, it is hunting season.
~Be safe.
~Cindy

November general meeting--elections! Please come!

Oct 2022

VET NOTES Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M. Blanketing Horses

The decision to blanket or not can be complicated. Especially in an area like ours where the weather can rapidly change within minutes. The natural coat is excellent in dealing with this - fluffing up or lying flat needed. Age, weight, shelter availability, coat thickness all are considerations.

The average trail horse is usually fine left unblanketed, provided shelter from wind and rain, and free choice hay is available. But horses have different coats and conditions. A chubby horse with a thick hair coat can stay warm. A horse that is clipped or naturally has a thinner coat, and/or is slender may need a blanket.

However here are some issues. Often a horse will get sweaty on a ride, even if the temperature is chilly. The two times I blanket routinely is when we arrive back at the trailhead and my horse is tied to the trailer and while trailering home. Standing at the trailer while they are wet can chill them. If your trailer is enclosed too much your horse will get sweaty, if not enough they may get chilled. Opening your top vents to the rear will help the hot moist air to escape.

Avoid cotton blankets- if they get wet they will wick heat away from the body. Also avoid blankets that only go to the back or top of the withers. Buy a "high-neck" blanket that goes several inches up the neck. This prevents those serious sores just behind the withers.

Granted, a horse tied in a trailer is unlikely to lower their head (which causes those sores) but if you are buying a blanket might as well get one that you can turn your horse out in if needed. Those sores are often thought to be from the saddle, it is far more likely they are from a turn-out blanket. They take a long time to heal and the area can remain tender for months. It sometimes isn't noticed until a rider mounts and pressure is put on the surrounding area. That can make for an interesting ride.

**2022
TRAIL BOSSES**

Rocky Leavitt
360-599-2675

Joe Remenar
360-778-9848

Roger Nelson
360-927-6964

**WORK PARTY
COORDINATOR**

Roger Nelson
360-927-6964

**PACKING
COORDINATOR**

Rocky Leavitt
360-599-2675

A Special Thank You to:
Laurel Farm & Western Supply
 America's Horse Country
 Weylin & Amy Eldred
 325 W Laurel Rd., Bellingham 360/398-1216
 * 360/398-8050 fax
 Hours: Mon- Fri: 8:30am. to 7 pm; Sat:
 8:30am.to 6:00 pm. and Sun 9 am. to 5 pm.

Check out our Website:
<http://www.whatcom-bch.com/>

Advertising Rates

Full Page---\$45.00 per month, limited to space available

1/2 Page.....\$90.00 for 6 months or \$150.00 for a Year

1/4 Page.....\$60.00 for 6 months or \$100.00 for a Year

Business Card....\$30.00 for 6 months or \$50.00 for a Year

Classifieds.....\$3.00 per month



Growsource

Products: topsoil blend, garden blend, fertilizing, testing, compost, magic mulch, bark, rock, crushed rock.

**Hannegan road next to Builder's Alliance
 Open 8-5pm Monday-Friday, 8-4pm Sat.
 360-318-8554. Deliveries Monday--Saturday.**

EDITOR'S POLICIES

Trail Tales is published monthly. Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month. Non-copyrighted submissions are welcomed (subject to space limitations). Opinions and views expressed in letters or personal articles are not necessarily the opinions of BCH. Send submissions to: Editor, Fran Van Diest, 723 Van Wyck Rd, Bellingham, WA. 98226. Email to: fvandiest@msn.com.

WBCH general meeting minutes Oct 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Cindy Piccolo at 7:00 pm at the Laurel Grange. It was preceded by a 30 min social time.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Two visitors were welcomed: our state BCH president Dana Chambers from Bonney Lake and Skagit BCH president Janine Frizzell from Concrete.

Sunshine: Let Michelle M. know if anyone needs a card. Jerry P received a get-well card.

Reports:

Treasurer: Tim Van Beek- Tim gave account balances. These are available to members on request.

Director/Legislative: Bill McKenna-

Wine Ride: Bill & Michelle and Cindy P are volunteering.

Grants: The state has renewed membership with the NW Wilderness Alliance to assist with getting grants.

LNT (Leave No Trace) program is being re-written.

State BCH has 2140 members in 30 chapters. The chapters submitted between 0 to 8000 hrs. We came in 4th with 3073 hrs.

E bikes are a big issue. Washington State government is still trying to decide where they will be allowed. Land managers are in disagreement. There will be another zoom meeting on e- bikes Oct 22.

Trails Academy: a proposed trails academy is being planned. BCH of Washington state would run it in conjunction with the Forest Service. The Forest Service will fund it.

By-Laws- our chapter committee (Sam, Melinda S, and Lynn J., Bill M) have gone over the draft and sent it to the board. The new by-laws will give the meetings more opportunity for programs since more business will be handled by the board. However, the membership will have final say. It may be implemented in 2022.

PNTA (Pacific Northwest Trail Assoc.): The trail is an east to west trail ending at the Pacific Ocean. It goes past Squires Lake. It is proposed to be routed past the south end of Lake Samish but it would be on private land which may be an issue. Kathy Young is our state public land chair and is working on the issue. The committee has not been active for a few years. The danger of the cliff near Squires Lake was mentioned by Sharon

Volunteer hrs.: Verna M: we had 112.5 hrs. last month.

Work Coordinator: Roger Nelson: no work parties set

Fall ride: the trails were in great shape. We had 37 people attending, 17 riders. We got one new member and 3 renewals. Thanks, given to Cindy's niece who made and decorated 100 cupcakes. Melinda S, Cindy and Andy flagged the trail. Cindy and Carol K picked up the flags.

State: Dana Chambers volunteered to answer any questions members had about the state.

Cindy- commented that people were having trouble getting their on-line membership application in. Dana: people need to use the new 2022 site. If they saved the old link it won't work. Email is not required to be filled in. Only the red asterisk lines need to be completed. Members can email Dana if they are having a problem.

BCHA suggested that each member try to bring in one new member each year. Our state would have 2140 new members.

Trail College: the forest service facility is In SW Washington. Verna asked if there could be a scholarship fund. Dana: not set up for that. It will be for adults to learn trail work, packing, sawyer training, and how to inspect bridges. The forest service will fund everything, they have a bunkhouse. Darrell Wallace has a team working on training modules. We would take our own pack stock.

Rendezvous: will be in March. Teri is searching for vendors. Tom Reed may put on a clinic. Tack sale will be in the armory, the backroom can be used for photos. A four hr. CPR-first aid course will be offered.

(continue on Page 4)

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General Meeting minutes, October 12, 2022

Wine Ride: Dana said there are 184 campsites filled with over 500 riders, 677 attended last year. 115 volunteers have signed up for the wine ride. Other volunteer opportunities are on the state web site.

Signage: Dana- she has new trail signs with the state website QR code. Fran can laminate them.

South Fork Park: Melinda S: The new Whatcom County Parks director will be holding an open forum on the park at the Van Zandt Community Center on November 9th from 6-8. Bring questions.

Whatcom Parks: Mike is impressed with the new director. The director has given us a green light for Silver Lake Park changes and the Maple Falls to Silver Lake trail.

Bill: we have the ok to remodel the Silver Lake barns. Parks wants WBCH to get the permits. We had a licensed engineer do the planning. Regarding the trail Mike McFarland said the legal description of right-of-way is in the parks files. We will also be working on Red Mt trails.

Vedder: Roger N.- trails are in good shape. Some motorcycles have been showing up. It is on some websites and trail apps. Cindy: John B. has volunteered to put up signs at the trailhead and berms. It is open to the public but no motorized vehicles including e bikes.

Old business

Christmas Party: Verna- she has reserved the Alger community Hall for Dec 17th but can change it to the 10th. It is a joint event with Skagit. Informal vote indicated we prefer Fri. Linda Riley from Skagit will host a work party at her home on Dec 3 to make centerpieces.

Elections: all offices are open. Cindy nominated Tim V for treasurer, Sam seconded. Verna will continue with volunteer hrs., Michelle with Sunshine. Fran will need help with the newsletter and other work.

New Business

Work Party: Janine- Skagit is holding a work party this Saturday. They will be working at 4 Firs. The DNR will have an excavator. Meet at the trailhead at 8:30, safety meeting at 9, carpool to the work site. We will be using totes, also brushing. Work followed by a potluck. Let Janine know if attending so she has a head count.

Grant support letter for the DNR: Sharon will write.

The Wilderness First Aid course: Tim said a few spots still open. Sharon- this is a tremendous deal, normally these courses cost around \$300/ person, they are superb.

Roger N moved to close the meeting; Michelle seconded. Meeting closed at 8:14, submitted by Sharon Hoofnagle secretary.



Thank you card
from Carl's
Mower and Saw
in Ferndale.

Save the Date

**Christmas Party with Skagit Chapter
December 9, 2022
Alger Community Center**

(More info later)



CALENDAR



Nov 3, 2022----board meeting at Roundtable pizza on Sunset Dr. dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm but will also have meeting by zoom for the ones unable to attend.

Nov 5-6, 2022---Berthusen work party with WTA. See below. No horses needed.

Nov 9, 2022----general meeting at Laurel Community Grange, 6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden. Social at 6:30pm and meeting at 7:00pm--8:30pm.

(From BCHW.org) Whatcom Co. Chapter Collaborative Work Party
Berthusen Park, 8837 Berthusen Rd, Lynden, WA 98264
Date: November 5 and 6, 8:30am - 3:30pm each day

Here's the link to register: https://www.bchw.org/whatcom_co_chapter_collaborative_work_party.php *and for more information.*

Overview

Join fellow volunteers as we help the City of Lynden improve the trails in this popular local park. We'll be partnering with Washington Trails Association on a few projects needing attention.

Project Description

Trails in the Park need a variety of maintenance including digging paths for water to flow off of the trail and pruning back brush with saws and loppers. We may also tackle projects to elevate the tread through low and muddy areas.

Schedule

- 8:30 AM: Be ready to sign in and meet the crew, rain or shine
- 8:35 AM: Gather for a safety briefing, then hike to the project site
- Morning: Work at your own pace, and take breaks throughout the day
- 12:00 PM: Lunch on Trail
- Afternoon: Consider trying a new task before wrapping up the day's work
- 3:30 PM: Sign out after enjoying refreshments at the trailhead

For safety reasons, arriving late or leaving early is not allowed.

Planning Information

Get ready for a great day outside!

- No experience is necessary – just bring a great attitude for working with a team! BCH provides the training & tools you need
 - Expect to be physically active at your own pace for up to 6 hours on uneven terrain
- Recommended for ages 10 and older;

What to Wear

- Boots
- Long pants
- Work gloves
- Long-sleeved shirt recommended

Eye protection recommended (glasses, sunglasses or safety glasses)

A hard hat will be provided by BCH. For safety reasons, short and sneakers are not allowed

What to bring

- Lunch and plenty of water
- Rain jacket and pants
- Extra warm clothing in case of wet or cold weather
- A pack to carry your personal gear

A sense of fun and adventure for learning new skills and meeting great people!

2022 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

LEGISLATIVE:

Bill McKenna
360-599-2526

LEAVE NO TRACE:

Bill McKenna
360-599-2526

VOLUNTEER HOURS:

Verna McLeod
360-595-2744

PROGRAMS:

Sharon Hoofnagle
360-7344258

SUNSHINE

Michelle McKenna
360-599-2526

TRAIL HEAD COMMITTEE

Mike McGlenn
360-739-2619

SCRAPBOOK

Debbie Lagerwey
360-354-2804
Need Pictures!





PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRAIL
ASSOCIATION

9/14/2022

To whom it may concern,

The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) is once again incredibly grateful for all of the support we got from the Back Country Horsemen of Washington in the Pasayten Wilderness and across the state.

Several of our PNTA backcountry Performance Crews were packed in and out of their projects by Rocky Leavitt and his friends. The miles to get to the PNT (Boundary Trail) in the Pasayten are long and arduous, requiring lengthy days, skilled horsemanship and real dedication to trail maintenance and public lands. We would not have been able to cut the hundreds of trees or maintain the dozen of miles of tread without their on the ground support and expertise. Their craft and knowledge is unique and deserves recognition, appreciation and further investment to preserve access to public land and the preservation of Wilderness character and culture.

These accomplishments were made possible by the hard work of Tim Van Beek who coordinated between the packers, our trail crews and land managers. There are innumerable details, moving parts and dynamic logistics and his dedication and communication were invaluable.

I want to recognize everyone who played a role in another challenging but successful season maintaining the PNT. We very much look forward to working with them for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Sterling Collins-Hi

Western Washington Regional Coordinator
Pacific Northwest Trail Association

America's Wildest Trail is Yours to Explore and Yours to Protect

209 Ferry St. Ste A, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284 (360) 854-9415 pnt.org



Fall Harvest event pictures.





United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest-MVRD

24 W. Chewuch Rd
Winthrop, WA, 98862

9/17/2022

To whom it may concern,

The Methow Valley Ranger District trails program would like to express our gratitude to the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington-Whatcom Chapter. A big thank you to your volunteers for providing pack support into the Pasayten Wilderness to our trail partner the Pacific Northwest Trail Association this summer. Your assistance helped us immensely by freeing up our Forest Service pack string to offer more support to other partner groups and our FS trail crew. This certainly resulted in more trail maintenance performed across the district. Also, thanks to Tim Van Beek for your excellent coordination and cheerful attitude.

The Backcountry Horsemen’s hard work and dedication to better National Forest System trails is a gift to present and future generations. We look forward to our continued success as partners.

Thank you and happy trails!

Landon Decker

Trails Manager

Methow Valley Ranger District

2023 Membership

**You can renew your membership now!
Go to www.bchw.org, click on renewal to do online or complete the attached membership form.**

Please do not wait until the last minute!
Fran



More Fall Harvest pictures. The new Whatcom BCH trailer.

Total Volunteer hours reported in September 2022-112.5 hrs.

(basic--22.5 hrs., skilled--36 hrs., LNT/educ--2.5 hrs., Admin--31.5 hrs. and travel 20 hrs.)

- Bill McKenna
- Cindy Piccolo
- Colette Cloutier
- Fran Van Diest
- Letitia Wheeler
- Melinda Smull
- Mike McGlenn
- Rocky Leavitt
- Roger Edmonds
- Roger Nelson
- Ryan Heacock
- Sharon Hoofnagle
- Tim Van Beek
- Verna McLeod

Volunteer Hours:
Report your hours to Verna at
verna@soundengineering.com.

2023 BCHW Calendars

Bill McKenna has the calendars for sale. They are \$15.00 each. Contact Bill at 360-599-2526 or send him an email at wintercreek10@gmail.com if you wish to purchase one or more before they are all gone! Or get one at the general meeting!
Fran

Sunshine Committee

If you know someone that needs a little ray of sunshine, please contact Michelle McKenna at 360-599-2526 or send her an email at: wintercreek10@gmail.com.

Marie Tiemersma: Having knee surgery on Oct 27th--thinking of you and hope for a speedy recovery.

Jerry Pearson: thinking of you card sent to Jerry, as he recently had hip replacement surgery and in the process discovered a cracked femur so recovery will take longer.



Photo Credit: Gabriella Mednick

**Enjoying the dry season?
Become mud-free all year!**

Small Farm Rebate Program:

Receive \$200 back on your purchase of gutters, footing material, or fencing to reduce mud. Contact Whatcom CD today to find out how: www.whatcomcd.org/financial-assistance.



Pictures from Fall Harvest event, October 8, 2022 at Bryce Creek horse camp. Lots of good food and friends! It was a really nice day for a get together and ride!





More pictures of the Fall Harvest event at Bryce Creek horse camp.



2023 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Come Join Us!

Go to BCHW.org and join or renew online. If online is not an option, please fill out this paper application and sign, (all members 18 and over must sign) enclose your cash or check made out to BCHW and mail to:

BCHW Membership Chair
11404 210th Ave Ct E
Bonney Lake, WA 98391



Whatcom Co.

Member Info

Check One: New Member Renewal Secondary Chapter Application Only

Adult's name(s): _____

Children's name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____

National and State Newsletters are viewable online at BCHA.org/BCHW.org or Please mail a hard copy of Newsletters
 (Check Boxes) BCHW (Trailhead News) Chapter Newsletter (If available to mail)

STATE MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Basic Memberships

- Single \$41.00
- Family \$54.00

Levels below include Single and Family

- Contributing \$75.00
- Sustaining \$125.00
- Patron \$250.00
- Benefactor \$500.00
- Lifetime (Single) \$1200.00
- Lifetime (Family of 2) \$2000.00

All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid **once** each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.

Chapter Name:

Whatcom Co.

If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW State dues were paid:

Chapter Dues \$10

Please consider making a State donation: \$ _____

State Subtotal \$ _____

Please consider making a Chapter donation: \$ _____

Chapter Subtotal \$ _____

Grand Total (State+Chapter) \$ _____

NOTICES

By signing this membership application, you will agree to the terms of our Liability Release. You can read it on our website at bchw.org, under the Join tab. You also agree to receive notices from BCHW/BCHA by electronic transmission at the above email address.

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.

Signature: _____

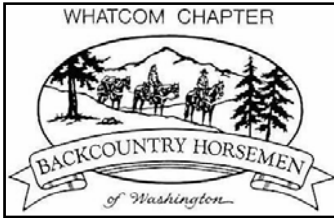
Date _____

Signature: _____

Date _____

Signature: _____

Date _____



Fran Van Diest
WBCH Newsletter Editor
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Check out the BCHW
Website at:
<http://www.bchw.org>



Next
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen

Meeting:
General Meeting: November 9, 2022
Laurel Community Grange
6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden
Social at 6:30pm
Meeting 7pm---8:30pm

