



Horse Tales

The Newsletter of the Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen

FEBRUARY 2011

2011 OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICES

President: Cathy Upper
(996.3230)

Secretary: Kay McCready
(997.2657)

Treasurer: Gisele Massengill
(996.2359) with Mary Pat
Bauman, membership (996.3552)

Director: Gary Sterner (682.0412)

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Alternate Director: Bill Ford
(997.0133)

Education (LNT): Gisele Massengill
(996.2359)

Historian: Jan Ford (997.0133)

Newsletter: Susan Lagsdin
(884.1941) sjlagsdin@yahoo.com

Publicity: Nancy Palagruiti
(997.4802)

Sunshine: Janet Shannon
(997. 0235)

Trail Bosses: Bill Ford, Joe Hebert
(997. 3056) and Ken Shannon
(997. 0235)

Volunteer Hours Coordinator:
Donna Stoothoff (997.7004)

Ways and Means: Pete Stoothoff
(997. 7004)

www.mvbch.com

Mission Statement – The purpose of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington is to perpetuate the legal and moral claim by the American people to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy New Year all. We had a good turn out for our soup dinner meeting. Plans for the year are coming together. Bill Ford is busy training with Washington Trails Association and gathering ideas for trails to work on.

If you would like to share your own favorite ride with others, please consider hosting a ride. Betty Wagoner is trying to get the calendar together so you can contact her. We are also getting all our permits in for the spring ride, which will be the last weekend in April/ May 1. We need lots of energy from all to pull this off. Also is there energy for fund-raiser for Trusting Spirit?

Plenty of ideas afloat. Please join us for our next meeting which will feature French dip sandwiches from our Christmas steaks.

Cheers

Cathy Upper

It's never too late for a New Year's "riding resolution," especially when the year doesn't start for most of us 'til the snow's off McClure and the winter coat is off the ponies.

*So here's the **QUERY** for **MARCH***

What are some 2011 resolutions you've set for yourself as a rider, or for your horse? (They're not good goal-setters) Gotta do it, wanna do it, etc.

Please send your responses to the newsletter editor by February 23

MVBCH 2011 EVENT CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

February 3 General Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00
(5:30 Happy Hour, 6:00 Potluck with Chef Ric's French dip sandwich entrée) Bring appetizers, sides, desserts.

MARCH

March 3 General Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00
March 18 to 20 BCHW Rendezvous in Ellensburg

APRIL

April 7 General Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00
April 14 (Thursday) West Range Ride
April 21 (Thursday) Work Party Clean Up Spring Ride
April 25 (Monday) Flagging Ride
April 29 to May 1 Spring Ride at Beaver Creek

MAY

May 5 General Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00
May 14 Boulder Creek Ride OR Saddle Fitting (TBA):
May 21 Buck Mt. Ride
May 24 Golden Doe Ride

JUNE

June 2 General Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00
June 4 Trails Day Work Party
June 9 (Thursday) Judd Ranch Ride
June 18 (Saturday) Burch Mt. Work Party:
June 25 TR Horse Camp Work Party/Clean Up
June 28 to 30 Loup Loup Camp and Ride

JULY

July 4 Twisp River Horse Camp Potluck & Meeting
July 19 to 21 Loup Loup Camp and Ride

AUGUST

August 4 General Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00
August 20 Turkey Trot Ride and Potluck
August 30 to Sept. 1 Loup Loup Camp and Ride

SEPTEMBER

September 1 General Meeting Twisp Senior Ctr 7:00
September 10 Lloyd Ranch Ride
September 17 Burch Mt. Ride
September 22 Hamburger Ride

OCTOBER 6 General Meeting 7:00

NOVEMBER 3 General Meeting 7:00

DECEMBER Christmas Party (TBA)

Things change, rides are added, and speakers are booked -- so look for two month updates with specific information in each issue of your newsletter. Please contact the editor with corrections, and send news of riding-related events in the region before the 25th of the month.

MVBCH MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6 MEETING

Cathy Upper, president, called meeting to order. Minutes from November meeting were approved.

Rick explained that the need for a water tank is if we decide to place an alternate camp near the Loup ski area. Cathy shared a letter she wrote to Mike Liu regarding the November meeting and discussion of the horse camp proposal.

Director's Report by Bill Ford

1. DNR, Fish and Wildlife, and WA. Parks may be joined together under one management to save state funds. This proposal will soon go to the state legislature. All are looking to charge a \$40 access fee + \$6 administrative fee for anyone over 18. The BCHW Board of Directors is against this fee. It is unlikely anything will happen in time to affect our chapter's Spring Ride, so we will apply for our Ride permit. We've already applied for the insurance.
2. The Rendezvous in Ellensburg is July 18 to 20. On the agenda are classes, topics, chainsaw certification, and the Director's meeting. BCHA is appealing for donations for our lobbyist in Washington D.C., contracted for \$3,000.
3. Jan Ford wrote an article for the BCWS Trail Head News on the Bridge Creek construction project.
4. We paid \$172 for the saw donated to the state auction.
5. Bill passed the Director's job to Gary Sterner, who is already becoming familiar with his new responsibilities.

Budget Report by Pete Stoothoff

Review of the proposed 2011 budget.

1. First page highlights: the transfer of the Loup Loup campground fund to C.D.s. The remainder is based on 2010 expenses. The Poker Ride is not listed due to controversy around the legality of it. Proposal to continue with "Prize Ride" was made and tabled by Rick Bauman until Gary Sterner can do some research on this.
2. Second page highlights: Assessed proposed income and expenses are "mostly like last year," which leaves us a surplus. Donna S. wanted the amount for Christmas gifts not to be reduced. Barb S. requested replacing the Cambro beverage containers for Spring Ride. It has been included.
3. Motion to accept the budget proposal was made by Rick Bauman and Ken Shannon. It was unanimously approved.

New Business

Spring Ride is April 30th. Our next meeting will focus on planning. Fee for ride and lunch has been maintained as last year: \$15 for pre-registration and \$20 for on-site registration.

Submissions were requested for Calendar of Events for 2011. Rides were submitted. Rick B. reminded us to get releases signed by non-members joining rides. Mary Pat B. discussed establishing a 1x a month Loup Loup ride. Work Parties established include June 24th, National Trails Day, Spring Ride prep. and flagging, and the June 25 work party at the Horse Camp prior to the July 4 gathering. Proposed presentations for meetings include saddle fitting and equine nutrition.

Nancy Palagruti suggested we look into advertising for new members. We'll get a quote from the Methow Valley News. Nancy asked if anyone would take on responsibility for a phone tree for those members without email access.

Betty Wagoner is willing to spearhead the Trusting Spirit fundraiser. Laura Lee Northcott is declining to play this year. Hank Cramer and T.R. Stewart will be asked for their price to perform. Some members expressed the work involved in this fundraiser is maybe too much now. Nancy suggested an alternative, such as a raffle ride might be an option. No decision was made.

Trail Boss Report by Bill and Jan Ford.

Pacific NW Trails Association sent us a Certificate of Appreciation.

We got a grant from the state for a Stihl Brush Wacker worth \$1,183. Bill discussed the many trails outside of Wilderness areas that we can use this on. BCHW is sending two members to Crew Leaders College in North Bend in April. Bill and Jan wrote a letter to and visited with Mike Liu and Jennifer Lee to recap our 2010 accomplishments, which includes our 664.5 hours of work on trails.

Meeting was adjourned by President Cathy Upper.
Minutes compiled by Kay McCready.

THE FEBRUARY AGENDA: spring ride work parties, updating calendar. Trusting Spirit fund raiser, Loup Loup horse camp, trail projects for next year. (R. Bauman presiding)

From the Director:

Because Back Country Horsemen of America seems so distant for many of us, I will repeat the basics of a letter from our national organization sent to all of us directors last November which describes the 2010 BCHA travels and their meetings with local, state and national agency leaders, politicians and partnership leaders.

The impressive highlights are as follows: President Obama's Great Outdoors Conference, Washington DC, where BCHA was the only stock group invited; American Hiking Society's Hike the Hill event in Washington DC, a joint lobbying effort with the Wilderness Society; US Forest Service Roundtable in Washington DC; Western Wilderness Conference, Berkeley CA; press releases in national magazines, one per month; American Horse Council Issues Forum in Washington DC, panel discussion with The Wilderness Society and American Hiking Society: "Working Together with the Conservation Community"; South Eastern Trails Conference, in Atlanta, presentation on "Fundamentals of Responsible Trails Advocacy."

BCHA is openly recognized as the national leader in Leave No Trace stock use. I guess we need to ask ourselves what would it be like to not have an advocate for our "right to ride" at these national meetings. BCHA dues alone cannot fund this important work, so members are asked to help out with tax deductible donations.

Gary Sterner

Here is contact information for BCHA:

Back Country Horsemen of America
PO Box 1367, Graham WA 98338-1367
www.backcountryhorse.com

THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS! THE 2010 CHRISTMAS PARTY AWARDS

(from Nancy Palagruti) The **HITS program** is alive and well -- there were 11 submissions for "Hours in the Saddle" this year, nearly double from last year . . . Yippee! A total of 1329.75 hours was reported, with three (Betty Wagoner, Ann Port and Deborah Whittemore) receiving awards for the hours they accumulated. Thanks to all who diligently kept track of their time in the saddle and especially those who read the directions and filled out their forms correctly! Let's see if we can add even more HITS riders this year. There will be forms at the next meeting as well as on line at www.mvbch.com

(from Donna Stoothoff) Here are the awards for the **Volunteer Hours** "Patch Program": 50 hour awards patches went to Katie Buhrman, Dennis Buhrman, Annette Koontz and Willie Kemper. 100 hours awards went to Dick Heathman and Pete Stoothoff, 200 hour awards to Carol Hebert, Barb Sterner, Gary Sterner and Cathy Upper . . .and the big one went to Bill Ford for 500 hours of volunteer work.

The **Trail Awards** went to Bill Ford, Keith Zielke, Jan Ford, and Pete Stoothoff. **Administrative Awards** went to Nancy Palagruti, Giselle Massengill, Susan Lagsdin and Jan Ford. Bill Ford also was awarded as outgoing **Director** and Rick Bauman for outgoing **President**.

THE 2011 BCHW RENDEZVOUS

*Leadership Training, Auction, Dinner/Dance
and General Membership Meeting*

Kittitas Valley Event Center (fairgrounds) in Ellensburg.

March 18 to March 20, 2011

Reservations are recommended. See "Early Bird" discounts.

Dinner & Dance

Prime Rib and Chicken combo dinners. Standing Room Only (SRO) is the band for this year's evening entertainment, and they rocked last year!

"Early Bird" Prime Rib and Chicken Combo Dinners # _____ x \$30 = _____

(Early Bird Reservations includes five Bucket Raffle Tickets)

NOTE: Without prior reservation Prime Rib and Chicken Combo # _____ x \$40 = _____

There are 30 round tables that circle the dance floor; each table seats 8 people. # of tables _____ x \$10 _____

Camping

(available at the KVEC Campground at the following rates)

"Early Bird" RV Camping, Electric Only # of days _____ x \$15 _____

"Early Bird" Dry/Tent Camping # of days _____ x \$11 _____

NOTE: Without prior reservation camping with electricity only # of days _____ x \$22 _____

NOTE: Without prior reservation dry/tent camping # of days _____ x \$17 _____

Total Cost \$ _____

Name: _____

Email _____

Form must be received with payment in full no later than March 10, 2011, for "Early Bird" pricing. Make checks payable to BCHW – Mark "2011 Annual Meeting/Reservation"

Return this form to: Jackie Angermeir • PO Box 1717, Westport, WA 98595 • 360-268-0212 or 360-267-1765

Please clip out and mail! 

New for 2011- Okanogan Valley Chapter Used Tack Consignment Sale

This year Okanogan Valley BCH Chapter will offer a consignment booth at the Rendezvous for your new or clean, gently used equine-related items. You determine the price, and we will do the rest. A 15% commission will be charged to the seller for any items sold. You will need to provide your own saddle stand. Used halters are poor sellers; historically only quality show halters sell well.

We will offer a courtesy bulletin board for the posting of pictures and ads for trailers and horses. All unsold items must be picked up at the end of the sale.

Need more information? Contact Peggy Swanberg at 509-486-1107 or e-mail davenpeg@gdmail.net

MVBCH 2011 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved that can cause injuries to horses, riders, and spectators; and also recognizing the fact that Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Inc., including chapters, officers, directors, or members cannot always know the condition of the trails or the experience of the 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. Under Washington state law, an equine sponsor or equine professional is not liable for any injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities, pursuant to RCW 4.24.530 (Equine Activity Liability Act)

Print Name: _____ Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

YOUR SIGNED WAIVER MUST ACCOMPANY MEMBERSHIP DUES. ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD INCLUDED IN THE MEMBERSHIP MUST SIGN. Parents sign for minor children.

Dues are deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. Dues may be considered as ordinary and necessary business deductions. Membership information will be shared with the BCHW and the BCH of America. **Membership Information** (Please print clearly)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Legislative Dist. _____

(Check one) Would you like your Newsletter mailed? ____ Or e-mailed? ____ Membership is for the 2010 Calendar Year: January 1 to December 31

New ____ **Renewal** ____ **Family/Couple Membership (State \$49 + Chapter \$5) = \$54** ____

Single Membership (State \$36 + Chapter \$5) = \$41 ____ **Add a Chapter Donation? \$** ____

MVBCH Chapter only \$5 ____ (Your Other BCH Chapter? _____)

[Optional BCHW Membership Contributing \$70 ____ Sustaining \$105 ____ Patron \$255 ____ Benefactor \$505 ____]

Mail to P.O. Box 902 Twisp WA 98856

HAVE YOU SENT YOUR 2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ??

Please take a moment and fill out your membership renewal form -- found close by in this newsletter. Check that both members (if it's a family membership) sign their names. Also check how you wish to receive "Horse Tales." Sending it out by email saves our chapter a lot money.

We all know someone in our horse life who has not joined this great group of folks and is just waiting to be asked. Make a copy of the form before you fill it out and hand it to that person with a copy of the latest newsletter. New members are the lifeblood of an organization, so let's all try to bring one new member into our happy chapter.

We welcome our eight newest members for 2011:

Bob & Randee Blackstone who live in the Methow part-time. Randee rides a beautiful black Rocky Mountain gelding.

Mike & Doreen McHugh who most of us know. They live up Benson Creek and own several horses.

Don & Pat Owens who live up Finley Canyon are known by many of us.

Betty Ruff lives down in Brewster and has joined us on several group rides last year. Betty often rides with Julie Hensley.

Marian Webster who visits her home up Cub Creek often and is the sister of our illustrious president, Cathy Upper.

The membership committee will soon be sending "welcome" packets to our new members which will include our newsletter, membership roster, web site and Facebook addresses, calendar, etc. (If you wish to remove your name, address, or phone # from the roster please contact Mary Pat Bauman 996-3552 or mpbauman@centurytel.net.)

Winthrop Horse Property \$360,000



Lower Bear Creek Road
Irrigated & fenced pasture
3 bedroom / 2 bath
broker: Lee Miller
509-996-3148

photos & map see below:

<http://www.methownet.com/bearcreekhome/>

YOUR ULTIMATE
METHOW VALLEY

HORSE PROPERTY

*Custom Home on 10.6 irrigated acres.
3 miles North of Winthrop \$395,000
See photos and details at*

<http://www.methownet.com/horseproperty/>

Susan Lagsdin
521 Avon Court NW
East Wenatchee WA 98801

MVBCH BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 3

7:00 TWISP SENIOR CENTER (join us for a 5:30 Happy Hour&6:00 Potluck)

**GOT A RIDING-RELATED
SERVICE OR PRODUCT?**

**Your business ad can go here -- or
on any inside page. Contact the
editor for our \$ame-as-2008 ad
rates**

Member classifieds are free!
