



Horse Tales

The Newsletter of the Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen

JUNE 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 Palagruti
(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

+ See us on Facebook

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.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

There's lots going on right now (besides my daughter's wedding!) Because of the EHV-1 most people are limiting their riding to groups they know best and checking where their horses have been recently. The Winthrop Rodeo is happening this weekend but our sanctioned rides have been cancelled for the duration.

Due to the past weather, maintaining the trails will take some special work this year. And is there someone who could volunteer to find out and report on trail conditions for Back Country riders? Gary should have definitive information on the new Trail Pass fee at the next meeting.

Cathy Upper

USE YOUR LEADERS! Got a late-breaking news alert? Change of plan? Something you think all members need to hear NOW? Contact Cathy for MVBCH business and Gary for BCH business to send speedy bulletins to all our email-able members. **IF YOU'RE READING THIS IN BLACK & WHITE PRINT** please inquire about a brand new 2011 emergency phone tree -- you might become the organizer! (*If you can*, please switch to an e-mailed newsletter to save chapter costs)

A "PAT-ON-THE-BACK" PARTY

If you were part of any MVBCH work crew on the Spring Ride, join your friends for a "thank you" dinner for volunteers on **Friday June 17 at 4:00**. The gathering is at Ann Port's home, 9 miles up Twisp River Road on the left (look for signs.) We'll grill the best of the rest of the lunch steaks. Bring a side item to share and your own beverage, eatware, and lawnchair.

COMING UP SOON !

JUNE



2 (Thursday) General Business Meeting MVBCH GUEST SPEAKER 7:00 Senior Center, Twisp

~~3-5 *(Fri to Sunday) Centered Riding Clinic BCEC (Deb Prentiss 996.3727 rescheduled to 9/17-18~~

4 (Saturday) Trails Day Work Party (see page 4)

~~9 (Thursday) Judd Ranch Ride *cancelled*~~

12 Director's meeting

17 (Friday) Spring Ride Volunteer Appreciation Party 4:00

18 (Saturday) Tack Swap BCEC (Deb Prentiss 996.3727) see ad this issue

~~18 Burch Mountain work party *cancelled*~~

~~18 Tri-Rivers BCH Trail Challenge, Pateros *postponed*~~

25 (Saturday) Twisp River Horse Camp Clean-up (see page 4)

JULY

4 (Monday) Twisp River Horse Camp Potluck & Meeting

19 to 21 (Tuesday to Thursday) Loup Loup Camp and Ride

AUGUST

4 (Thursday) General Business Meeting MVBCH 7:00 Senior Center, Twisp

20 (Saturday) Turkey Trot Ride and Potluck

24 to 26 (Wednesday to Friday) Loup Loup Camp and Ride

27 (Saturday) Loup Loup Raffle Ride for Trusting Spirit Horse Rescue

UP DOWN ALL AROUND TRAIL CHALLENGE

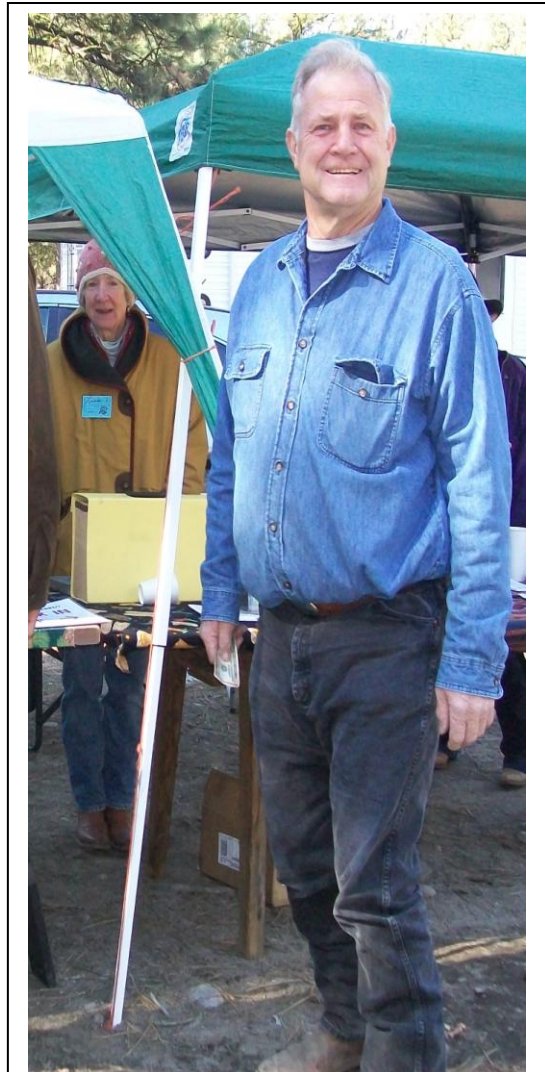
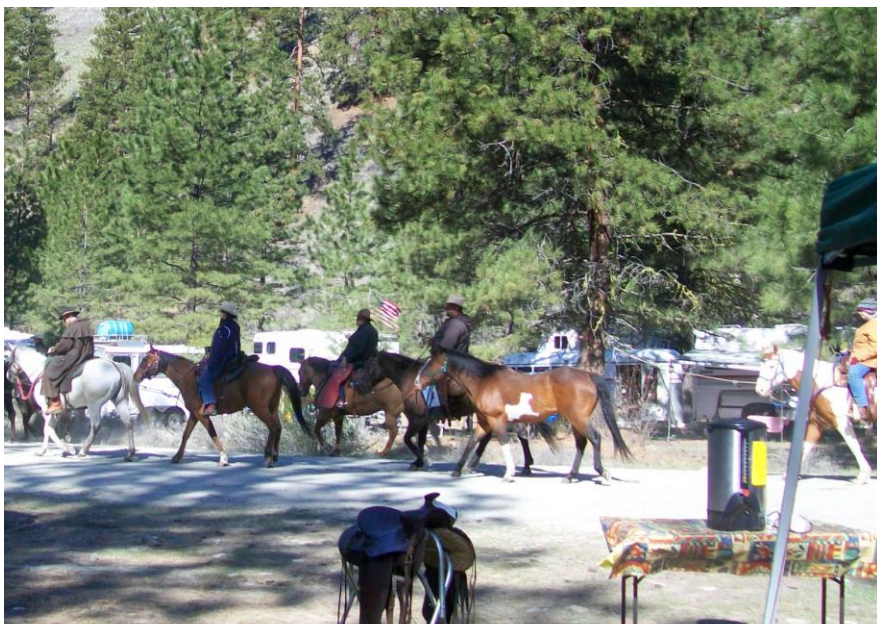
Postponed until fall -- but keep it in mind!

Think your horse is fearless and fleet footed? Just for fun, grab a friend and trailer pool to Pateros on ~~Saturday June 18~~ starting at 9:00AM for the Tri- Rivers Trail Challenge. The 2009 course included tire dragging, penned llamas, a water crossing, gate open/close, and several tricky up and down hill maneuvers. Whether you go for best time and prizes or your "personal best," it's a fun way to test your riding and your horse's training. \$25 entry, preregistration is advised. Call April Haley 670.0928 or Carol Behrens 923.2604 for registration and course details or email tririversbchw@gmail.com.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 5 MVBCH MEETING

PLEASE LOOK FOR PRINTED COPIES
OF THE MAY MINUTES
BEFORE THE JUNE MEETING

ON THE JUNE AGENDA: Guest speaker, thank-you party, trail work changes, chapter and state reports.



SPRING RIDE AGAIN

(Top) Riders heading out to the trail in Saturday morning chill (Right) Twisp vet Dan DeWeert on the alert for horse and human needs. (Left) Richard Erickson swapping stories with a friend, always one of SR weekend's many pleasures.

LET'S GET 'ER DONE! JUNE WORK PARTIES

All able bodied men, women and children are invited!

6/4 TRAILS DAY 2011 AT THE TWISP RIVER TRAIL

Twisp River Trail is our adopted trail and volunteer hours are worth double toward your USFS pass! We will start at the Buttermilk Sno Park at 8.30 am. Expect downed trees and trails damaged by heavy rain and rapid snow melt. The same washouts have dumped trees and rocks on the road and made some trails impassable for now. Bring stout footwear, gloves, water and tools (such as loppers or pruners) as well as any friends who are trail users and are willing to help. Hot dogs will be provided by the Chapter for a lunch around 12.30 so bring a potluck to share, your own beverages and a chair. Work may continue afterward. Questions to Bill or Jan Ford at 997-0133

Making it easier: Steve Campbell, Bill Ford, Joe Hebert, Ken Shannon, Keith Zielke and Cathy Upper (shown below left) did preliminary work around the War Creek campground on May 16 for their chain saw certification. (Below right) Taken recently, the road south of the Twisp River just over the bridge upstream of the War Creek camp ground. There are trees across the road back from Mystery Camp at present so you can't approach War Creek trailhead road from either side.

6/25 HORSE C AMP CLEAN-UP

Meet at 9am at the Twisp River Horse Camp. (Call for directions if you don't know the way 509-997-0133). Bring shovels, rakes, and loppers for general clean-up and readying for the summer riding season. Tools will be provided for putting up the highlines if we are able to get that far. We will also work on the manure bunkers.



THE JUNE QUERY

Has EHV-1 changed your riding life this spring? What adjustments, if any, have you made? Send your responses by June 29 to sjlagsdin@yahoo.com or call 509.884.1941

??

GOOD GRASS: GUEST SPEAKER TIP HUDSON

Tip Hudson, Washington State University Extension Range & Livestock Management Educator, is the guest speaker at our June MVBCH meeting, and will bring valuable information on local pasture management as well as updates on the EHV-1 outbreak. Facilitator Louise Stevens suggests that members **email her ahead of time with specific questions** for Tip (louisestevens1@methownet.com) He can then prepare resources that specifically address our concerns. Let's pack the Senior Center with members and members-to-be for this informative session.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES MAY 2011 by Gary Sterner

1. We know that the Washington State Legislature just passed the measure that created the "Discover Pass" that citizens can use to gain access to state parks and other lands managed by the state including boat launches, heritage sites, wildlife areas, trailheads and sites managed by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Natural Resources. Jeff Chapman, BCHW Public Lands guy, explains that BCHW was successful in their efforts to include a provision allowing volunteer work hours to earn a complementary pass. BCH was not able to work it out so that hours earned before the July 1, 2011 starting date could be counted toward the 24 hours needed, so our hours start when the program starts. Generally, we shouldn't need a pass for work parties, such as the ones planned with the WDFW, if we make arrangements with the land manager ahead of time. Jeff thinks that there will be a short "warning" phase but then tickets because the state needs the money.

2. Most of us have heard of the deadly Equine Herpes virus (EHV-1) which started in Utah and spread to other mountain states and Washington. For detailed up-to-date information go to **rockymountainrider.com** and click on the "Full coverage" words. There are press releases from different states including Washington and specifically WSU Vet School in Pullman. If you don't have computer access, let me know and I will get the information to you.

SOME BASIC EHV-1 FACTS (from WSU 4-H Youth Development)

Equine Herpes Virus does not affect cattle, sheep, goats, pigs or birds. EHV-1 can cause respiratory disease, abortion and neurologic disease, while EHV-4 typically causes respiratory disease. Neurologic disease, which is generally caused by specific strains of EHV-1, is called equine herpes virus myeloencephalopathy (EHM).

What are the common clinical signs of EHV?

Fever is one of the most common clinical signs and often precedes the development of other signs. Respiratory signs include coughing and nasal discharge. Abortions caused by EHV generally occur after 5 months of gestation.

Neurologic signs associated with EHM are highly variable, but often the hind end is most severely affected.

Horses with EHM may appear weak and uncoordinated. Urine dribbling and loss of tail tone may also be seen.

Severely affected horses may become unable to rise. It is important to remember that none of these signs are specific to EHV, and diagnostic testing is required to confirm EHV infection. Also, many horses exposed to EHV never develop clinical signs.

How long is the virus shed once a horse is infected?

Shedding by the respiratory route typically lasts for 7-10 days, although occasionally it may persist longer.

How is EHV spread?

EHV is transmitted primarily by aerosol and through direct and indirect contact. Aerosol transmission occurs when infectious droplets are inhaled. The source of infectious droplets is most often respiratory secretions. In the case of abortions, virus may be present in the placenta, fetal membranes and fluid, and aborted fetuses.

Direct horse-to-horse contact is a common route of transmission of the virus, but indirect transmission is also important. This occurs when infectious materials (nasal secretions, fluids from abortions, etc.) are carried between infected and non-infected horses by people or fomites (inanimate objects such as buckets, etc.).

What should I do if my horse has been exposed to EHV?

If you suspect your horse has been exposed to EHV, contact your veterinarian. In general exposed horses should be isolated and have their temperatures monitored twice daily for 10 days. If an exposed horse develops a fever, diagnostic testing should be performed. While there are several testing methods available, the most frequently recommended test is a PCR to detect the viral genetic material done on a nasal swab.

How do I get more information about EHV?

The American Association of Equine Practitioners and the USDA have information on their websites related to EHV and biosecurity: <http://blogs.usask.ca/EHRF/EHV%20fact%20sheet-1.MAR.20.pdf>

The Seven Stages of Aging on Horseback

(contributed by Betty Ruff via Julie Johnson)

Stage 1: Fall off pony. Bounce. Laugh. Climb back on. Repeat.

Stage 2: Fall off horse. Run after horse, cussing. Climb back on by shimmying up horse's neck. Ride until sundown.

Stage 3: Fall off horse. Use sleeve of shirt to staunch bleeding. Have friend help you get back on horse. Take two Advil and apply ice packs when you get home. Ride next day.

Stage 4: Fall off horse. Refuse advice to call ambulance; drive self to urgent care clinic. Entertain nursing staff with tales of previous dare devil stunts on horseback. Back to riding before cast comes off.

Stage 5: Fall off horse. Temporarily forget name of horse and name of husband. Flirt shamelessly with paramedics when they arrive. Spend week in hospital while titanium pins are screwed in place. Start riding again before doctor gives official okay.

Stage 6: Fall off horse. Fail to see any humor when hunky paramedic says, "You again?" Gain firsthand knowledge of advances in medical technology to stint in ICU. Convince self that permanent limp isn't that noticeable. Promise husband you'll give up riding. One week later purchase older, slower, shorter horse.

Stage 7: Slip off horse. Relieved when artificial joints and implanted medical devices seem unaffected. Tell husband that scrapes and bruises are due to gardening accident. Pretend you don't see husband roll his eyes and as he walks away. Give apple to horse.

(Trust me. Despite a lack of bounce-ability, aging on horseback isn't so bad, as long as you know what lies ahead. And as long as you keep your sense of humor.)

THANKS TO AUCTION HELPERS

That's between 20 and 30 MVBCH members! Without this great team effort the donations would not have been collected (nor given in many cases), nor processed, nor displayed. As it was, all that did happen, and the winning bidders -- you members in some cases -- paid us their money and collected their purchases. Thanks again to the team of people who closed out the Silent Auction sorting bids and bidders and acting as cashiers. The Live Auction was lively -- and fun! Rick extracted bids to great effect for the variable and valuable items from our very generous donors.

Thanks to all involved.
(from Jan Ford)



-TIPS-IDEAS-TIPS-IDEAS-TIPS-

- ◆ If you ride with lace-up ropers or shoes, consider **loosing the laces** just enough so you can wiggle out in case of the kind of wreck where your boot prefers to stay in the stirrup
- ◆ Easy to carry, and (someday) you may need it: a 10-20 foot length of **parachute cord**, nylon clothesline, or even baling twine for emergencies: hefting, tamping, tying, repairing. Tripled and braided, it makes a usable rein.
- ◆ **Practice ponying!** Will your horse willingly lead another in close quarters? Will you horse follow a stranger out of danger? Trade around with a riding friend and make sure you are pony-ready.
- ◆ Don't be stranded by an old **trailer habit**. Will your slant-loading, turn-around horse quietly walk into and back out of someone else's narrower straight load trailer?

GOT A RIDING-RELATED SERVICE OR PRODUCT?

Your business ad reaches 200+ riding readers

issues → (1) (6) (12)

Quarter page	\$15	\$75	\$125
Half page	\$25	\$125	\$225
Full page	\$40	\$200	\$360

Live the Dream!



Methow Valley Horse Property for sale!

5.28 acres
3 bed - 2 bath
Barn - Shop
Outdoor Arena
Riverfront Setting

www.methowhorseproperty.com



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.methow.net.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.methow.net.com/horseproperty/>



SPRING RIDE STILL

(Top) Clever marketing makes the sale -- the Eqwine selection of local vin gets some auction action. (Center) Auction Master Jan Ford waves perhaps the last of the dude string ponies, "Buy It Now" favorites. (Below) Donna and Willy Kemper helping to make Sunday breakfast happen.

(pgs 2 and 8 Betty Wagoner photos)



June 18th from 10 - 1:30

Held rain or shine in our covered arena!

Buyers: Shop for all your horse needs & find some great deals!

*Sellers: **Space available for \$10 (bring your own setup)*

Reach lots of buyers in one location!



*****If you would like to reserve a spot please call or email us as soon as possible to secure your space!***

Location: 93 Lower Bear Creek Rd. • Winthrop, WA

509.996.3727 • info@bearcreekequestrian.com

A BIG MVBCH WELCOME TO SOME OF OUR NEWEST 2011 MEMBERS !

Thanks to Dan and Terry DeWeert, Sally Houghton, Chris Hungleman, Delene and Bob Monetta, and Marian Webster for joining MVBCH. We hope to see you at our monthly meetings and on the trails this summer -- working and riding

(OOOPS! NON-RENEWED MVBCH MEMBERS AREN'T READING THIS.)

THANKS FOR SENDING IN YOUR 2011 MEMBERSHIP FORM!

Newsletter Editor
Susan Lagsdin
521 Avon Court NW
East Wenatchee WA 9880

MVBCH BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY JUNE 2
7:00 TWISP SENIOR CENTER