



Horse Tales

The Newsletter of the Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen

NOVEMBER 2011

2011 OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICES

President: Cathy Upper
(996.3230)

Secretary: Kay McCready
(997.3969)

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

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

We had a great turnout for the desert potluck and the fall rides. Love that color. You would think we had just gone through winter with all the "ohs" and "ahs" I keep hearing. A few of us rode the 8 Mile Pass and Billy Goat Pass loop in the Pasayten and were in heaven.

Back to business: this next meeting we need to deal with the budget, elections, calendars, work projects and the Christmas party. Plus are you for continuing our awards? And, do we need an auction next year if we have no place to spend the money (what Loup Loup horse camp?) Speaking of horse camps, see the article in BCHW by Chris Enrico, who is trying to organize a website of Washington State horse camps. Go to www.capitolriders.org/gps.htm I'm headed there next. See you at the soup dinner -- and bring a friend.

Cathy Upper

The November 3 pre-meeting potluck is open to all MVBCH members, prospective members, and friends -- please bring a cooked vegetable to add to the big pot of beef soup that Nancy Palagruti will have simmering, or a simple side dish of appetizer, bread, or dessert if you prefer. Let's ward off the cold weather and socialize a bit before the (very) busy business meeting.

COMING UP SOON!

NOVEMBER

3 (Thursday) General Business Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00

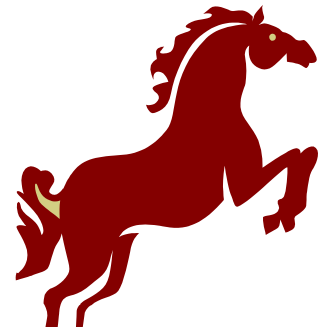
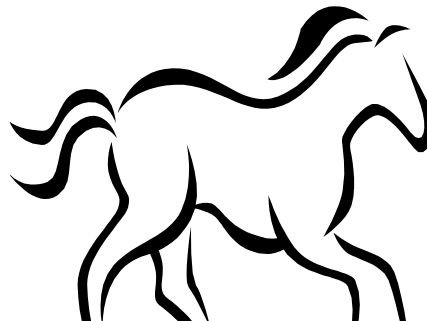
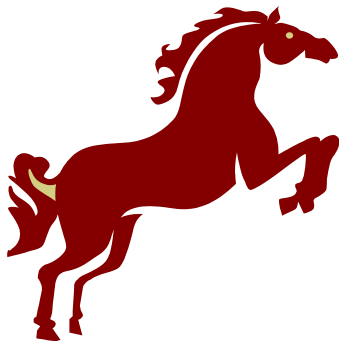
12 (Saturday) Saddle Cleaning Party

Melton Utley 509.662.3701

DECEMBER

1 (Thursday) General Business Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00

10 (Saturday) Annual Christmas Party at Twisp Senior Center (see details in December issue)



“ . . . a gabbing good time guaranteed!

The often-annual fall Saddle Cleaning event is back again! Sweaty, dusty rides have taken their toll on your tack - now it's time to spruce it up and put it away until spring. Melton Utley offers her warm, spacious barn starting at 10AM on Saturday November 12. (See the Avalon sign 9.13 miles up the Twisp River Road on the left) Bring your saddle(s) or other tack and any soaps, polish and cloths you'll need. Take it apart, clean it and then try and figure out how to put it back together! There are plenty of chairs, but a saddle stand, if you have one, helps a lot.

And, bring a pot luck lunch item to share with your fellow scrubbers.

MVBCH MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM by Cathy Upper, President . Introductions around 29 members and guests present. No corrections to the published minutes of the last meeting

Director's Report by Gary Sterner: The September meeting was in Ellensburg.

1. Dave Swanburg, from Okanogan Chapter, discussed problems with the way the Raffle Calendars are being sold. 900 of the calendars are already committed. The Gambling Commission wants us to, when a seller sells a calendar, 1. open the calendar and fill out the form immediately. 2. collect all sales forms and Fed Ex, UPS or take in by hand. No general mailing. All need to be in by Jan. 31, 2012.
2. Work is currently being done revising the Discover Pass. State Parks are going to "fee support" only.

Volunteer Report by Donna Stoothoff. She passed out Spring Ride Volunteer hours sheet for any additions.

Membership Committee Report by Mary Pat Bauman: for an updated membership list e-mail Mary Pat or Janet Logan. There are 20 new members and 15 non-renewals for a total of 77 members. The challenge is to get participation from new members. Overall, the state is losing members. Janet L. suggested we keep last year's members on our e-mail list to encourage interest in our activities. All agreed.

Treasurer's Report by Giselle Massengill. A report with expenditures and revenue was passed around for reading. She was applauded for her ongoing work as Treasurer.

Trail Boss Report by Bill Ford: Robinson Creek Trail is open for the High Hunt. Posts and rails were hauled in and placed for the South Creek Bridge project. 200 hours were donated and Bill put in the plaque to acknowledge everyone's efforts. The Forest Service Review Team was impressed by the bridge and how their dollars were spent.

Old Business:

Rick Bauman reported on the Bear Creek Project. Fish and Wildlife personnel have been too busy for placement of the water tanks and fire rings. Also, Cascade Concrete can't hold the cement blocks for manure bunkers at Beaver Creek over through the winter but has us first on the list for the blocks in the spring. There is concern the bunkers won't be ready for the Spring Ride. The Budget Committee will review these expenses for the new fiscal year.

Cathy Upper said there has been no response to her letter regarding the Loup Loup Camp at the State Park.

New Business:

Pearrygin Lake Trail work party this weekend is seeking volunteers. It is currently bike and hike only, because the committee thought a horse camp was needed to allow horses. They are still interested in including horse access .

Betty Wagoner said Forest Service trails are hazardous with so much brush (On South Pass Trail, two horses have gone off this summer). A discussion concluded that MVBCH must do it on our own as there is no USFS money for trail clearing. It was proposed that any hazardous trails be reported to Janet Logan to be included in her updates.

Betty Wagoner requested help putting the Horse Camp equipment of wheel barrows and rakes away. Bill F. suggested using the Men's bathrooms for storage and keeping the Women's bathrooms available for winter use.

Betty also reminded all that you will need either a Discover Pass or Fishing license parking pass for the Big Valley Ride on Sunday. She has obtained permission from rancher, Tina Heath, to picnic on their riverside camp site.

Dave Swanberg is selling tickets for the Okanogan Chapter's Super Raffle. He announced the Rendezvous needs two chair positions filled. Call him if you want to help.

Our section of the Twisp Road Clean up is planned for Oct. 25th. Call Nancy Palagruti for details.

Budget Committee: Pete Stoothoff requested that everyone needing 2012 funds turn requests into him or Rick Bauman as they will be working on next year's Budget.

Reminder that Janet Logan will be gone for the winter and will not be sending Trail Ride notices out.

Meeting adjourned by Cathy U at 7:55 PM

THE DECEMBER AGENDA: the 2012 budget, officer elections, calendars, work projects and the Christmas Party.

From the Director *By Gary Sterner*

My guess is that organizations that remember their mission and avoid distracting problems like unnecessary turf wars or the question of who gets credit, are more successful. Its also important to remember that the biggest problem that wildlife and back country horsemen face is rapid population growth and development (private property signs).

At the December 2011 BCHW Board of Directors meeting in Ellensburg, my first, a representative from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) spoke about a plan to buy for the public and for wildlife habitat 10,000 acres located on the east side, central Cascades, west and north of Yakima.

There were several groups (public and private) involved in the effort and BCHW was being ask to support the plan. We did. The land, owned by Plum Creek who patiently worked toward public ownership, was in a “checker board” configuration with every other unit owned by a public agency, so that putting it all together, necessary for habitat of course, would give the public approximately 20,000 acres of continuous land. The RMEF, the Nature Conservancy and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife partnered to get the land, known as the Rock Creek Block, into public ownership.

Application was made to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP) which is funded by the Legislature and supported by the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Council, a broad based bipartisan organization. Throughout the 2011 legislative year strong efforts were directed toward Olympia and though the competition was stiff, the plan succeeded.

I am impressed and hope you are too.

FOR A VOLUNTEER POSITION THAT PUTS YOU RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF MVBCH ACTION, CONSIDER EDITING THE “HORSE TALES “NEWSLETTER NEXT YEAR. STARTING FEBRUARY, OUR CHAPTER NEEDS A PERSON WITH SOME WRITING SKILL AND A VERY BASIC HANDINESS WITH COMPUTER GRAPHICS, TUTORING AND COACHING INCLUDED! CONTACT EDITOR OR ANY OFFICER.

Pictured right is the lunch break of an October Billy Goat mountain ride. Enjoying the sunny meadow were Suekii Cornwall, Cathy Upper, Sandy Welfelt, Lauralee Northcott and Mary Pat Bauman. It was a great 16-mile ride, even though they encountered snow and ice.



Got photos? Let's end the year by including some of your favorite 2011 ride photos with our newsletter readers. Send to sjlagsdin@yahoo.com with “who when where” info.

A RIDER'S TREASURE TROVE! go www.thehorse.com and a simple sign-up will yield you dozens of FREE articles -- the recent articles and many more are all about your horse's winter health.

- [Cold Weather Colic in Horses](#) Cold winds and changing winter weather might not seem like contributing factors for equine colic; however, these conditions can foster changes in routine and eating habits that could affect your horse's well-being. "A common wintertime equine health concern is colic," notes Glennon Mays, DVM, clinical associate professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. "Colic..."
- [Combat Cold Weather Stress in Horses](#) People combat cold weather by putting on additional clothing, but horses fight the elements by using more energy to maintain body temperature. While most people can address their own needs, horses are dependent upon their owners to provide proper nutrition and protection from the weather, said Dave Freeman, PhD, PAS, Dipl. ACAN, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension equine specialist...
- [The Hardy Horse](#) Our horses handle cold much better than we do, and my ranch horses in Idaho have managed nicely outdoors, even at 40 below zero. They have several unique ways to stay comfortable in severe weather and do well if allowed to adapt to colder temperatures gradually ...
- [Winter Farm Care Checklist](#) As the vibrant colors of autumn fade into winter pale, we find ourselves readying our barns, equipment, and horses for challenging weather. In this article experts share with us their time-tested steps for cold weather readiness around the barn....
- [Winter Care for Older Horses](#) Owners need to consider how they will meet their older horses' (or their younger, hard-keeping horses') nutrient requirements during the winter. Providing adequate energy is the prime concern, and how you will provide those extra calories depends on available feed and each horse's individual needs....
- [Older Horses: Respecting Our Elders](#) If your horse is already a senior, there's no reason to turn him out to pasture. Here's a seasonal look at some factors to consider for the care of your equine elder....
- [Winter Ailments and Injuries](#) With the last of the leaves fallen, the holidays behind us, and the daylight hours shorter than ever, winter is upon us again. All too often owners are tardy in implementing winter precautions for horses and farm, or they might have overlooked those precautions entirely. This can result in headaches for the owner and hardship for the horses. The onset of cold weather often brings .

EDITOR'S (CAUTIONARY) NOTE: A Back Country Horsemen chapter (not MVBCH) in the region is having trouble filling officer's positions - no one will place their name on the ballot, including incumbents. What happens to a volunteer organization when nobody's around to lead it? Does it disband and hope for renewal? Does it force guilty nonparticipants to do an "OK maybe" job?

Volunteer organizers know that a clear YES or a clear NO is best response. (A YES, of course, is preferred.) Remember the V-formation geese? Take your turn and fly up on to the front. Who knows? You might enjoy the view!

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 ____]

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If you are an MVBCH chapter member and have any horse / barn/farm /riding related items to sell, your classified ad is free 'n easy right here.

Or, let our membership know if you're seeking a specific item. Somebody's used and useful possession may be your treasure.

Winthrop Horse Property \$360,000

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Irrigated & fenced pasture
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509-996-3148

photos & map see below:
<http://www.methownet.com/bearcreekhome/>

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Susan Lagsdin
521 Avon Court NW
East Wenatchee WA 98801

MVBCH BUSINESS MEETING

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 3

7:00 TWISP SENIOR CENTER (join us for Steak Soup & Potluck at 6:00)

