



Horse Tales

The Newsletter of the Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen

May 2011

2011 OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICES

- President:** Rick Bauman (996.3552)
Vice-President: Cathy Upper (996.3230)
Secretary: Kay MacCready (996.3969)
Treasurer: Gisele Massengill (996.2359)
Director: Bill Ford (997.0133)

APPOINTED POSITIONS

- Alternate Director:** Richard Erickson (997.4802)
Education (LNT): Gisele Massengill
Historian: Jan Ford (997.0133)
Newsletter: Susan Lagsdin (884.1941)
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: Donna Stoothoff (997.7004), Katy Buhrman (997.4800), and Karen Theimer (996.4235)

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.

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wow, what a great gang of members working on the spring ride!! Things seemed to roll along in spite of the cold and not a balsamroot in sight. Thank you all for your hard work. Come to the meeting Thursday and we will plan how to play (work) through the rest of the year

CATHY UPPER

SHUTTERBUGS?

I'll bet you have some good Spring Ride pictures you'd like to share. Please contact Nancy Palagruti or Jan Ford to add your extras to our website and archives. And, remember that it's fun to see trail ride pictures all season long -- send JPG files to the newsletter editor.

WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE . . .

Membership Chair Mary Pat Bauman sends this alert: 2010 members who have not renewed will be deleted from our mailing list for the June Newsletter. Don't miss out on all the activities scheduled for the 2011 riding season! Also, anyone who is not current for 2011 will need to sign releases for all group MVBCH rides. We value your membership and hope to see you at all our events. (*see the membership form this issue*)

COMING UP SOON!!

MAY 5 General Business Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00

6--8 49'er Weekend Winthrop

8 (Sunday) Horse-On Saddle Fitting with Sara Odell (Louise Stevens 996.8086)

14 *(Saturday) MVBCH Saddle Fitting Workshop (see story this issue)

21 *(Saturday) Buck Mountain Ride (see below)

24 *(Tuesday) Golden Doe Ride (see below)

28 (Saturday) "Western Sale" Twisp Senior Center

31

JUNE 2 General Business Meeting'

3 -- 5 Irland Centered Riding Clinic Bear Creek Equestrian Center (Deb Prentiss 996.3727)

4 (Saturday) Trails Day work party

9 (Thursday) Judd Ranch Ride

12 Director's meeting

18 (Saturday) Burch Mountain work party

25 (Saturday) Twisp River Horse Camp Clean-up

SMOKE ALARM:

Meg Trebon from the Forest Service says there will be burning south of Little Buck (the ski hill) and Highway 20, using the sno-park as staging and helicopter base. This will happen sometime in May and maybe as late as June because of weather. Anyone planning on riding in the area or accessing the sno-park at the north summit should call first (996-4000) to check. Trebon's direct line is 996-4032.

GENTLE MAY RIDES IN THE METHOW

BUCK MOUNTAIN: North of Winthrop, go up Cub Creek Road (off the East Chewuch Road) 2 miles and bear right on the #100 road. Go through two cattle guards and park near the Forest Service Cow Country sign just past the 2nd cattle guard. Turn around room at the road junction. Ride out at 10:00, and bring a lunch for a 4 hour ride on old trails and roads, with great views and flowers. Call Cathy Upper for details 996.3230

GOLDEN DOE: Meet at the Golden Doe Wildlife Cabin halfway on the Westside Twisp-Carlton Road (6 miles south or north) Trailer pool or plan to park on the road -- parking on the hill is limited. Ride out is at 10:00, plan about 3 - 4 hours. Bring a lunch. This is a pleasant close-in conditioning ride with dramatic Methow Valley vistas. Call Betty Wagoner for details 997.1312

MVBCH BUSINESS MEETING APRIL 7, 2011

29 members and 1 guest in attendance

Meeting called to order by President Cathy Upper; Suekii Cornwall stepped in as Secretary

Director's Report by Gary Sterner:

1. Introduced "Share a Trail With a Bike" poster from Idaho. We discussed locating these, but must ask permission from the Forest Service.
2. Have gotten the Poker Ride gambling license. Rick Bauman put gambling book together. (rules and regulations)
3. The BCHW dues breakdown of income and expenses is available in the April issue of Horse Tales.
4. Our club could use someone interested in the legislative process to join the BCHW committee to help us keep track of events that affect our local chapter.

Treasurers Report given by Gisele Massengill

Membership Committee report From Nancy Palagruti:

We have 13 new members. Letters and packets are sent out as people enroll.

Trail Crew report from Bill Ford:

Beaver Creek campground; Firewood and Highlines, Tom McCoy+ Ken Shannon
Ken Shannon has the notes for Bear Creek construction/improvements/manure bunkers

MVBCH Newsletter by Susan Lagsdin:

She would like photos of the Spring Ride. Gary Sterner and Jan Ford volunteered also; Nick Koontz usually takes photos and should be contacted.

Spring Ride committee reports:

Nancy P. Sign up numbers are running behind norm. Jan F. the Auction is going well. Betty Wagoner has music signed up. Dan Deweert will be the vet in attendance. Wayne Wilson will provide a Walkie Talkie. Manure truck, fire truck, coffee station water tank and volunteer sign up

Monday, April 25th will be "flag the trail" ride day.

Calendar Update:

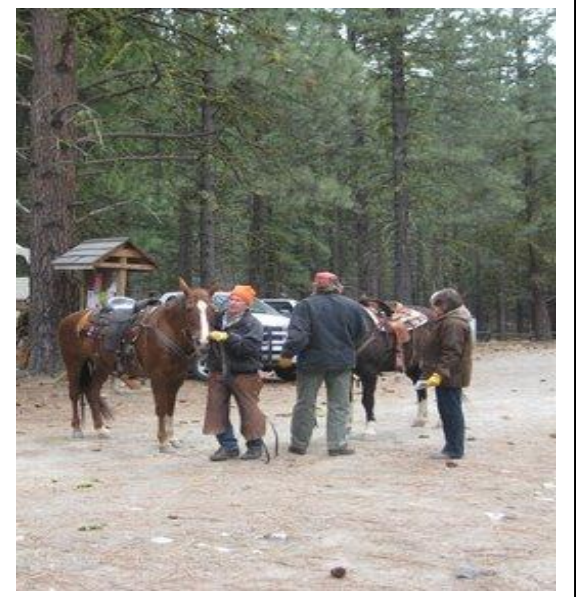
Ride local changed from west range to at Cathy Upper's Cub Creek place on 4-14-11 at 10 AM
May 6 "49er's" BCH table at the Winthrop Park with our information

New Business: Loup Loup Board Meeting will be attended by Mary Pat Bauman at which she talk about sharing "MVBCH Dreamspot" with a poster of the location at Loup Loup.

Meeting adjourned by President Cathy Upper

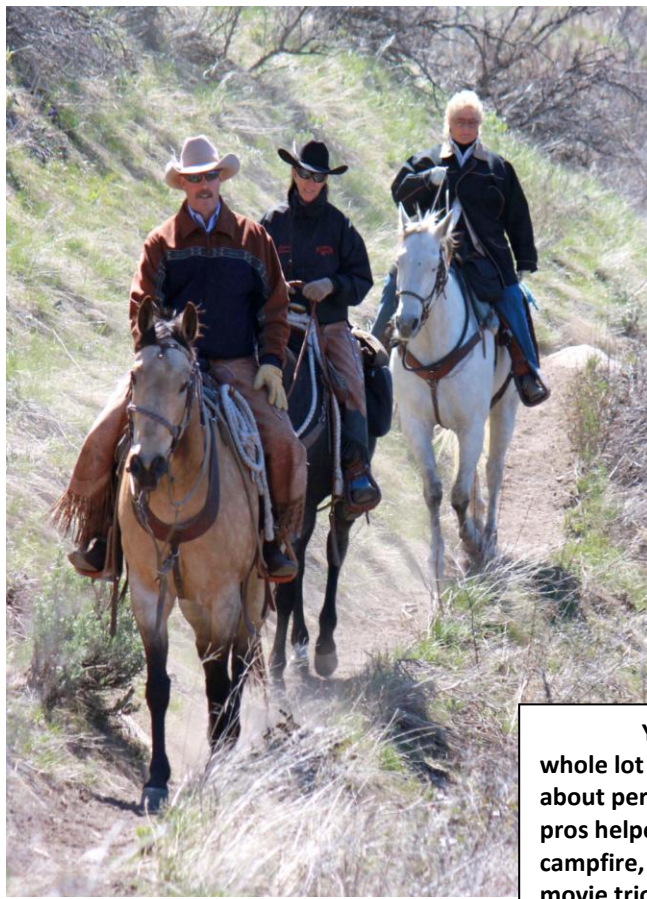
Agenda for May: debrief from Spring Ride, set date for the workers appreciation dinner, schedule work parties for Bear Creek campground, update on Loup Loup camp outs. and gearing up for all our fun rides.

SPRING RIDE 2011



This Spring Ride will be remembered for extreme chill and wind followed by long good periods of sun, dramatic close-up snowcapped peaks that compensated for the absence of balsam blossoms, and the typical cheerful serenity that characterizes Beaver Creek campground every time. BCH folks gather to ride. A few spontaneous rodeo episodes with frisky ponies on new trails, and a nicely-coordinated Aero-Methow rescue notwithstanding, "a good time was had by all." (Photos above of Rick Bauman auctioneering, Janet Shannon tutoring Pat Owen and a few riders getting ready are by Mary Pat Bauman. Nick Koontz sent this view of riders cresting the hill)





Young relatives, old timers, new visitors, perennial trail riders, and a whole lot of MVBCH helpers on hand -- the Spring Ride mix is always just about perfect. Every ride-by was a moveable tack store on display, helpful pros helped out newbies, and when we all gathered together for meals and campfire, peace and serenity prevailed. (Nick Koontz snapped the western-movie trio, Mary Pat sent the campfire setup and jacket photo, and Gary Sterner caught Ed Babik and Joe Hebert enjoying themselves as lunch crew.



Trail Boss Willy Kemper, left, showed the heirloom deerskin to good advantage (yes, that was a "strut") but shared the spotlight with live auction bidders.



G. Martin Hodgin, 83, a longtime resident of Hamilton near Sedro Wooley, passed away Sunday April 17, 2011. Martin married Marie Lanktree in Langley, Washington and for over 60 years they made a home together and raised their children, horses, and cattle on their farm. Martin is survived by Marie at the home in Hamilton, three sons and daughters-in-law, five granddaughters, and eight great-grandchildren.

Martin and Marie were members of our MVBCH chapter and for years came over the mountain to help with the Spring Ride. Until recently they handled the poker station at the lunch spot, and had a great time visiting everyone. They looked forward to Spring Ride every year.

A FITTING OCCASION!

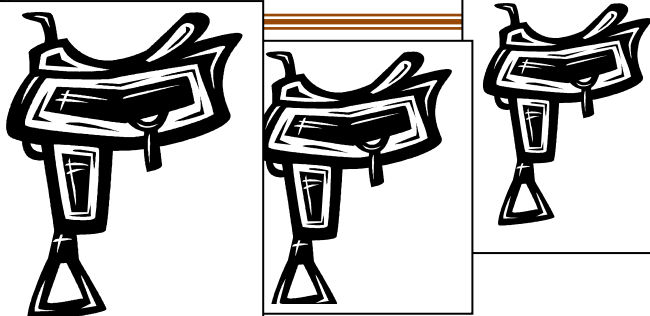
One of the top items on MVBCH's "wish we could" list last winter was a saddle fitting clinic -- here it is!

Saddle expert Cherie Geerdes, of The Bony Pony in Mount Vernon, has agreed to come **Saturday May 14** and do a workshop just for our chapter and our guests.

This is a great opportunity to ask all your questions and get hands-on learning with samples of saddle trees and saddles, how they differ and what to look for; also all about horses' backs and how they differ, and what you can do to make sure your horse has needed support. Expect valuable advice and hand-outs to help you retain the information. Safety and comfort for you and your horse -- priceless!

The saddle fitting workshop starts at 10AM and will go to (at least) 3PM. Don't bring your horse, but bring a lawn chair and lunch (plus refreshments to share for a social hour afterwards). The cost is \$20 to cover expenses, with door prizes and discount coupons to sweeten the day. You may register and pay in advance. Melton Utley has generously donated her place as our classroom: MP 913 Twisp River Road (an easy turn down to the left, with plenty of parking)

MVBCH members and friends -- please welcome Cherie to our area. Call Nancy Palagruti for more information. 997-4802 or nanpal@centurylink.net



Please review carefully. Ken Shannon will make a motion at the May meeting to approve the following expenditures, which are not budgeted items:

Creation of a Horse Camp at BearCreek Campground

Water Tank (Fish & Wildlife specifications) 4 X 8	\$ 730
Pipe for water tank	\$ 175
Water tank fittings	\$ 50
3 highlines and 3 hitching rails (metal donated by Ray Campbell)	\$ 60
24 sacks of premix concrete	\$ 100
welding materials	\$ 50
metal connectors	\$ 75
miscellaneous	\$ 130
sales tax 8%	\$ 122
WOGA contribution	<u><\$ 500></u>
TOTAL	\$ 992

Improvements to Beaver Creek Campground (Dept.of Fish & Wildlife)

2 12' X 12' X 4' manure bunkers	\$ 860
sales tax	<u>\$ 69</u>
TOTAL	\$929

TOTAL REQUEST \$ 1142

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/>

Director's Notes, April 2011

By Gary Sterner

According to Teri Starke BCHW Treasurer, BCHA dues are \$10 for singles and \$13 for families.

The unpopular but arguable necessary Discover Pass Bill will apparently be law which means that we will need, beginning on July 1st this year, a \$30 annual pass or a \$10/day charge for the towing vehicle (or car) to park in State Parks, DNR or WDFW lands. One question we need answered quickly is how to get recognition for 24 volunteer credits on state land earned prior to July 1, 2011.

**LIVE HERE
AND RIDE**

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/>

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

\$\$\$\$\$\$ Got a horse-related business, product, or property? See your ad here! Low rates, eager readers. And members get free classified ads! Contact the newsletter editor. \$\$\$\$\$\$

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 2011 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 _____]

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Mail to P.O. Box 902 Twisp WA 98856

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Susan Lagsdin
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NEXT MEETING IS 7:00 MAY 5 AT THE TWISP SENIOR CENTER