



# Horse Tales

The Newsletter of the Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen

OCTOBER 2010

## 2010 MVBCH OFFICERS

**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)  
**NEW email:** nanpal@centurylink.net

**Sunshine:** Janet Shannon (997.0235)

**Trail Bosses:** Bill Ford, Joe Hebert (997.3056), and Ken Shannon (997.0235)

**Ways and Means:** Pete Stoothoff (997.7004)

**Volunteer Hours:** Donna Stoothoff (997.7004), Katy Buhrman (997.4800), and Karen Theimer (996.4235)

[WWW.MVBCH.COM](http://WWW.MVBCH.COM)

## MVBCH ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER

**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 LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hopefully, there will be many of you attending the 100<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of our two past presidents and their lovely brides, Gary and Barb Sterner and Janet and Ken Shannon on October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. The main course and dessert will be provided so please bring a side dish, salad or hors d'oeuvre of your choice to share. If you have not RSVP'd please do so in order to order the correct quantity of meat. Let me know at 996-3552.

The ballots with an addressed return envelope are in the mail to those who do not receive their newsletter by email. The rest will receive their ballots shortly via email. Please take a moment to complete your ballot and either email or return your ballot so that it will be received no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>.

You will notice that on your ballot the position of vice-president is still vacant. I have contacted seven members and asked them serve as vice-president with the understanding that they would be in training to take over as president at the end of Cathy Upper's term. As of this moment there have been no volunteers. Be a "goose."

The finance committee will be putting together the 2011 budget shortly. Please think about your income and expenses for the coming year and let Pete Stoothoff know as soon as possible.

I will miss the October meeting, as I will be in Montana. I will have two challenges while there: finding the birds and then shooting them.

*Rick Bauman*

**WANTED: ONE GOOD WOMAN OR ONE GOOD MAN TO HELP LEAD MVBCH AS VICE PRESIDENT IN 2011 AND TO ASSUME THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT IN 2012. BENEFITS: LASTING GLORY, UNTOLD RICHES, INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE. AND A CLOSE-IN PARKING SPOT AT MEETINGS.**

# COMING UP SOON

7 P.M. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7: GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

AT 6:00 JOIN US FOR THE WEDDING CELEBRATION POTLUCK  
RSVP RICK BAUMAN

**OCTOBER 2 (Saturday) Lloyd Ranch Ride ..... Carolyn Bronson  
AKA ~~The Gunn Ranch Ride~~, The Jack's Trail Ride.**

**OCTOBER 7 (Thursday) General Meeting 7:00pm, Senior Center, Twisp  
6:00 WEDDING ANNIVERSARY POTLUCK**

**NOVEMBER 4 (Thursday) General Business Meeting Twisp Senior Center 7:00  
H.I.T.S., Volunteer Hours, and budget requests due**

**DECEMBER 11 (Saturday) Christmas Party Twisp Senior Center**

## “Meat-ier” Meetings: Here’s How You Voted!

Last month, members voted by paper and by email for the educational topics we’d like to include in our 2011 meetings. Third place was **PACKING**. Sharing second place were **SADDLE FITTING** and **EQUINE NUTRITION**, and in first place (most interesting to most people) was **EMERGENCY TRAIL CARE FOR RIDER AND EQUINE**. Commentors suggested a 6:00PM start on alternate meeting dates (but not April), a march USFS update with Dan Rogers, “Share the Ride” with packing/camping stories, Methow pasture grasses (nutrition), a map reading/GPS session, and emphasis on treating head injuries on the trail.

### YOUR ULTIMATE METHOW VALLEY HORSE PROPERTY

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

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

### GOT PICS?

Remember those great rides of summer? Someone in your party probably had a camera, and somebody probably snapped a few good photos. Or maybe you’ve got a nice “around the barn” horse picture.

Please email any and all related photos (*with as much information as you can remember*) to the newsletter editor for an end-of the year photo collage celebrating our riding time. Anything is OK: private trips, BCH rides, candid, scenics, portraits, posed.

# METHOW VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

## MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2 MVBCH GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by President Rick Bauman.

Rick read the **Treasurer's report** for August amended treasurer's reports for May and June. A check was reissued to MVRU for a lost check. 2011 budget process has begun. Estimates for next year's costs and revenue need to be as accurate as possible. Once the budget is presented and voted on, any changes over \$100. needs to be voted on by our full club membership.

**Minutes:** The only correction to the minutes from August meeting was by Kathy Upper. The Birch Mt. ride is to be held Friday Sept. 10th at 10 AM.

### **Trail Rides:**

Betty Wagoner would like to see added to the fall rides one led by Kathy U. on Billy Goat Loop.

Hamburger Ride will be Sept. 23rd at the Ford's home. 9 AM coffee and donuts, 10 AM ride out, 12:30-1 hamburgers provided by club pot luck.

### **Old Business:**

Reintroduced plan from a year ago of adding special topic speakers for meetings to increase interest and attendance of meetings. A list was of topics was circulated for voting and additions. Suggestions were requested on frequency of speakers and whether a chair for this would be helpful.

A nominee for Vice- president is still needed. Rick suggested co-vice presidents to share responsibility and meetings to enable participation by those that travel during the winter months. A sample ballot was circulated with those currently running for office. Ballots will be emailed or mailed and counted by Susan Lagsdin and Gisele Massengill. It was decided that secret ballots are too complicated and expensive for a non competitive election.

### **Trail Crew Report:**

Sept. 20th celebration of the building of South Creek Bridge. RSVP's due Sept. 15th. All volunteers will be honored by speakers: Darryl Wallace president of BCHWA, Mike Liu from the Forest Service, and Rick Bauman, president for MVBCH. The Methow Valley News has been invited. It is pot luck (including your drinks) with steaks provided by the club.

30 Mile trail was reported to be opened up by the forest service. 405 trees were cut out.

Manure bunkers were installed at the Twisp Horse Camp. There were some over-costs for hauling due to some vehicle problems but still within budgeted amount. Bunkers are filling fast and it was recommended we allow in next year's budget additions to at least one of these. Rick B. purchased additional rake, shovel and wheel barrels to provide one for each manure bunker. Also needed for next year are more high-lines, preferably with steel posts, as people are still tying to trees. Some signs may be needed as some people are not cleaning up manure and left over feed.

Kathy Upper made the suggestion that requests to the forest service for trail improvements are better reported with photos of the site or problem.

Riders reported that Little Bridge Creek Trail is very difficult to maneuver through the dense trail of Canadian Thistle.

### **New Business:**

Oct. 7th celebration of 100 years of marriage featuring the Stern and Shannon couples.

RSVP with Rick Bauman. Meat and cake provided. The rest provided by pot luck.

Rick B. spoke with Jennifer Z. from the forest service. He reported our costs for the manure bunkers. She didn't seem to know we were told by Mike Liu that the environmental studies would be completed by Oct. 2010 and that we will be paying costs and providing man hours. She will check with Mike. She said to tell the club "We're moving ahead." Tri-Rivers club has offered to help.

Bill Ford reports the BCH calendars are completed. He took orders and will bring them to Oct. meeting. More can be purchased in Dec. They are \$10.

Donna Stoothoff needs all volunteer hours turned in no later that the Oct. meeting.

Larry Summers wanted to know of any updates on by-laws due to 5013c status. Bill said no changes.

Meeting adjourned by Rick B.

October agenda: 2011 Budget, Volunteer Hours, Director's Report, South Creek Dedication. Other business? Contact Vice President Cathy Upper before the meeting.



## A PROUD MOMENT FOR BRIDGE BUILDERS

MVBCH volunteer bridge builders and their invited guests (Dan Rogers and Michael Liu of the USFS and Darrell Wallace, BCHW President) proudly pose proudly at the September 20 dedication of the new South Creek Bridge. A history of the project and special congratulations for good collaboration were followed by presentation of two plaques to honor the chapter's work. A festive lunch followed the ceremonies, featuring a well-placed rain tarp, perfectly grilled steaks, and the usual top-quality potluck dishes. Jan Ford says, "It was a worthy celebration for a beautiful and useful bridge. Go and see it and ride it if you missed out on this occasion."

## HELP!!

Please help your hard-working and dedicated fellow chapter members do their jobs by getting paperwork in as soon as possible -- that includes: 2010 Volunteer Hours (by the October meeting) and 2010 H.I.T.S (Hours in the Saddle) and 2011 budget requests (by the November meeting).

You can find forms at our website [www.mvbch.com](http://www.mvbch.com)

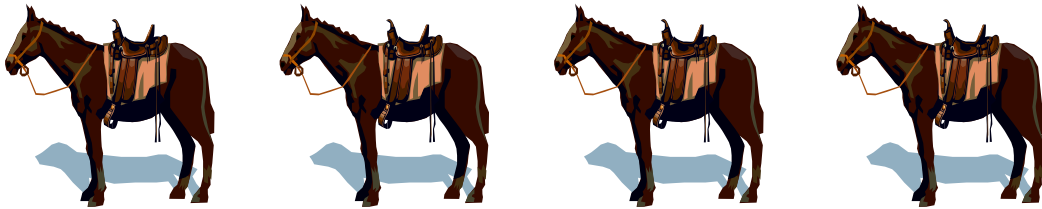
**CHAPTER MEMBERS** . . . You've seen the face, you've heard the name – to help you get better acquainted, this is the place to learn about some MVBCH members each month. Everyone can expect a friendly interview sometime this year!

## LINDA DAVIS

For a woman with not much horse experience growing up (“My friends took me on as a project and worked with me on English riding”) Linda Davis made a good riding decision even before she moved here in 1995: she learned the trails and packed in to the mountains with Cam Pierce. Her husband is not a rider (it seems an 18 mile day trip once every few years hasn't convinced him that riding is in his future) but Linda's been to Stehekin over Purple Pass a few times and enjoys long day rides with her friends. Her main mount for the last seven years has been Rocky, formerly Al Hegegens's Quarter Horse who, she says, is “willing, good on trails, and has a sense of humor, which is necessary for our rides.”

The Davises work a garden and orchard, soon to become non-orchard, between Carlton and Twisp, and enjoy hiking with their pack goats. Her grown children and grands are spread distantly, and with sisters or husband she's traveled to Europe, England, and as far as the Cook Islands. The couple leaves our fair valley every winter to live in Arizona and fulfill an interest in archeology.

Linda joined MVBCH because she appreciates how hard the chapter works “to keep horses in the forests” and realizes that for people who want to keep riding in the hills, developing a good relationship with the land manager is a top priority.



### TIPS&IDEAS&TIPS&IDEAS&TIPS&IDEAS&TIPS&IDEAS&TIPS&IDEAS&TIPS&IDEAS&IDEAS&TIP

#### RESPONSES TO THE SEPTEMBER QUERY: What hazardous trail riding behaviors have you witnessed (or what especially wise ones?)

**Nancy P** Hazardous trail practice: letting your horse eat practically at his will. . . I have seen horse on cliff edges paying more attention to the next available snack rather than where their feet are. and yes, turning to snatch something on the bank above thereby moving their hindquarters off the trail!!! Scary and stupid.

**Susan L** . . . Letting your horse run up a steep hill without first telling or consulting others behind you, which can cause anxiety in the ranks and some dangerous uphill behaviors, or more commotion than necessary! Wise one: passing on trail potential hazards (i.e. “I see bikers ahead” “watch for loose edges” “wire on the left”)

**Patti Z.** . . . Not having the back cinch secured to the front girth. The first steep uphill climb can cause the rear strap to fall back on the horse, sometimes all the way to the flank, and the horse usually bucks when he gets on level ground or heads downhill. Probably better to mention that to an unknowing beginner than let them find out the “hard way” later.

## SEPTEMBER RIDES



(Above) scenes from the Burch Mountain ride, where nine people enjoyed the day and put up signs and rock cairns for the work crews to come. (Top right) Comin' home hungry on the Hamburger Ride are Bill Ford and Ted Whittemore, and (bottom) Betty Wagoner and Julie Johnson, four of 26 riders, which included a few guests and potential members.



### 2011 MVBCH OFFICERS The officers nominated for election are:

President: Cathy Upper

Vice-President & President-elect: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Kay MacCready

Treasurer: Gisele Massengill with  
membership coordinator Mary Pat Bauman

In mid-October, MVBCH members will receive a ballot by email or mail, depending on how they receive their Horse Tales newsletter. Each member has a vote (ie: family memberships have 2 votes). Write-in votes are permitted. Please make sure your ballot is received by November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

# MVBCH 2010 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 2009 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, payable to MVBCH \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: MVBCH P.O. Box 902 Twisp WA 98856**

Newsletter Editor  
Susan Lagsdin  
1521 Avon Court NW  
East Wenatchee WA 9880

**THE NEXT MEETING IS 7:00 OCTOBER 7 AT THE TWISP SENIOR CENTER  
6:00 -- 100<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary partial potluck**



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