



TRAIL TALES

January 2009

Notes from the president

Whatcom Chapter
P. O. Box 28607
Bellingham, WA 98228
2009

PRESIDENT:

Susan Sebastian
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360-734-2567

BCHW mission statement: To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use. To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage. To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.

Hello Whatcom BCH'ers,

2009 is almost here, I hope you all have many wonderful times over the Holidays. The snow sure has been an unexpected surprise and burden. I trust your horse/s are fairing well. Deno is snug in his blanket and run it shed, but keeping the water thawed has been a chore for Lisa (My horse is with hers and she does a spectacular job caring for them).

The Chapter Holiday Party was a blast; with a ton of good food, conversation and fun. Pam, Lisa, Debbie and Toni: Thank you so much for putting together a great party. I had a great time and it was good to see everyone.

Hopefully you all can make it to our January 14th meeting. We will be presenting the volunteer hour awards, talking about the auction and selling raffle tickets for the beautiful quilt that was donated to us. Tickets will cost \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and we will only be selling 500. Winning ticket will be drawn the night of the Auction (Fed. 27th, 2009).



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President's note

The DNR is in the process of finalizing and adopting the new rules pertaining to Public Access and Recreation on lands managed by the DNR. They are schedule to be presented the Board of Natural Resources at the next meeting which is schedule for January 6th, 2009, 9 to 3 in Olympia.

Remember the weed free hay is now required on Forest Service land. If you would like more information please visit the BCH of Washington website (www.bchw.org).

I close today; happy to be having a white Christmas, but with thoughts of warmer times in the Mountains riding my trusted mount.

Happy New Year!
You're President,
Susan



Membership dues are due!

**2009
TRAIL BOSSES**

Cindy Piccolo
360-966-4082

**WORK PARTY
COORDINATOR**

Mike Bjornstad
360-398-2646
and

Rick Olson
360-398-1309

Check out our Website:
www.Whatcom-bch.com

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Sunshine Committee

If you know someone that needs a little ray of sunshine, please contact Toni Blakely at 360-332-7120

Rick Olson: Get well wishes sent to Rick as he recovers from back surgery.

EDITOR'S POLICIES

Trail Tales is published monthly. Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month. Non-copyrighted submissions are welcomed (subject to space limitations). Opinions and views expressed in letters or personal articles are not necessarily the opinions of BCH.

Send submissions to: Editor, Fran Van Diest, 723 Van Wyck Rd, Bellingham, Wa 98226. E-mail to: wbnnewseditors@msn.com or fvandiest@msn.com.

BCHW- your "TRAIL TO THE FUTURE"

Combined General Membership Meeting, Leadership Training 1 and 2,
Auction, Dinner and Dance
at Kittitas Valley Event Center (fairgrounds) in Ellensburg
Friday, MARCH 19 TO SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2009

REGISTRATION FORM

This will be BCHW's first **combined LEADERSHIP, ANNUAL General Membership MEETING , and Celebration.**

The 3 day event begins Friday with the BCHW Board of Directors meeting, preceded by a Potluck dinner in Teanaway Hall.

Leadership Training Part 1 and 2 will be held Saturday morning and Sunday morning. The General Membership Meeting will convene after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday followed by the annual auction ,dinner and dance.

Plan to attend now and participate in the weekend activities. Visit with old friends, make new friends and enjoy the fun and camaraderie, support BCHW, get up- to- date information at the General Membership Meeting.

Reservations for accommodations, and reservations for the Dinner & Dance are recommended. For your convenience, we are offering a discount for "Early Bird" reservations.

Dinner & Dance

The dance band is called STANDING ROOM ONLY (SRO) last year they rocked.

"Early Bird" Prime Rib and Chicken Combo Dinners-# _____ x \$25 _____

Early Bird Reservations includes five Bucket Raffle Tickets

Prime Rib and Chicken Combo- "No Reserve" # _____ x \$28 _____

There are twelve(12) round tables that will circle the dance floor that can be reserved for a group of 8 people- # of tables _____ x \$5 _____ on a first come, first paid basis.

CAMPING

Camping is available at the KVEC Campground at the following rates:

"Early Bird" RV Camping, Full Service # of days _____ x \$ 15 _____

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

RV Camping -Full Service-"No Reserve" # of days _____ x \$ 20 _____

RV Camping- Dry / Tent- " No Reserve" # of days _____ x \$ 15 _____

TOTAL COST \$ _____

Return this form and remittance not later than Feb. 21, 2009 for "Early Bird" Reservations to:

Gail Downs

68- Miyoko Pt. Rd.

Republic, Wa. 99166

Marked for: 2009Annual Meeting Reservation

E-Mail: kozykabin@rcabletv.com

Phone: 509-770-3218

CALENDAR



- Jan 1 Thursday** **New Year Day Ride at Heady trails.** Be ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Rick Olson is in charge of this ride but because of his back surgery he won't be able to ride, but he plans to cook for the group! Come and see what's for lunch--chili or soup--either way it will be a hot meal but the fire--what a great way to start the New Year, with a ride a having someone else cook for you! Bring your own beverages. Call Rick and let him know if you plan to be there so he has an idea how many people will be there.
- Jan 5 Monday** **Board meeting** at Bob's Burger & Brew, New Market St. Bellingham (Barkley) dinner at 6:00, meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Jan 14 Wednesday** **General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange,** 6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden.
- Feb 2 Monday** **Board Meeting** at Bob's Burger & Brew
- Feb 27 Friday** **Whatcom BCH Annual Auction** at the Everson Auction Barn, Everson Goshen Road, Everson.

*******Membership Dues are due. Please send in your completed membership form with payment to Lynn Johnson. *******

Adopt a Ride

This year we would like to try something different for the rides. The rides for 2009 are listed on this newsletter, these are only a few that we have scheduled, there is room for more rides, so if you have a ride in mind and it's not on the list, give Cindy a call.

Please review the list and see if there is some ride you would be willing to be in charge of to give Cindy a break.

How about the Easter egg ride at Heady or the food drive ride at Heady. I know there are several members that know all the trails at Heady, how about leading that ride?

We need more members to become involved in helping with the rides. If you can help, please contact Cindy at 360-966-4082 and let her know or call her if you have some questions.

Fran

2009 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

LEGISLATIVE:

Mike McGlenn
360/966-9117

LEAVE NO TRACE:

Mick Blakely
360-332-7120

VOLUNTEER HOURS:

Fran Van Diest
360-734-2567

PROGRAMS:

Sharon Hoofnagle
360/734-4258

HOSPITALITY:

Alice Yancey
360/733-5063

BEVERAGES:

PUBLICITY:

SUNSHINE

Toni Blakely
360-332-7120

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Sam Miller
360-398-7992

TRAIL HEAD COMMITTEE

Mike McGlenn
360-966-9117

SAFETY





FOR SALE: Weed Free Hay. It is certified from the Radke Ranch in Tonasket. Each bale is marked and I also have written certifications papers. \$12 a bale.
 Rosemary Gustafson
 Son Shine Ranch
 360 380 1638

CLASSIFIEDS

** Place your classified ad here. Classifieds are free to Whatcom BCH members, or just \$3.00 for anyone else. Send your ad and money to the newsletter editor by the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

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AUCTION

Remember our annual auction will be on Friday, February 27, 2009, at the Everson Auction Barn located at 7291 Everson Goshen Rd. Everson.

The auction committee looks forward to working with membership again this year for a wonderful auction to help support the mission of BCH! Please call any of us listed below if you have questions or want to be part of the BCH auction team!

Kathy Adams, Annette Booth, Melinda Hardin, Sharon Hoofnagle, Lisa Oostema, Cindy Piccolo, Angie Schutte, Susan Sebastian, and Susan Templeton

Do you have an item that you no longer use or want, how about donating it to the auction! We accept new items, good used items, hand made items and baked goods, not just horse items. Proceeds benefit multi-use trail development and maintenance in efforts to keep public lands open.

Also remember on auction day, we can only accept **cash or checks only.**

Fran

Advertising Rates

1/2 Page.....\$90.00 for 6 months or \$150.00 for a Year

1/4 Page.....\$60.00 for 6 months or \$100.00 for a Year

Business Card....\$30.00 for 6 months or \$50.00 for a Year

Classifieds.....\$3.00 per month

Free Classifieds for members!

DNR Recreation Program Update 12-19-08

Hi, Folks -

The following three items might be of interest to you:

1. Governor's Budget - Yesterday, Gov. Gregoire announced her budget for the 2002-2011 budget cycle. As we mentioned in the most recent addition of the *DNR Recreation News*, the governor's budget is another step in the process of developing the state's biennial budget. The next step will be when the Legislature begins its budget deliberations after the March revenue forecast is released. Overall, DNR's recreation budget fared well. The funding for managing and maintaining recreation sites and trails was not reduced in the governor's proposed budget, probably because our primary source of funding comes from a dedicated fund derived from the sale of gas, and that we receive very little general fund monies. The governor's office is actually projecting a slight increase in the revenue generated from the sale of gas, which could translate into an additional \$100,000 that we can invest back into the department's Recreation Program. The governor's does reduce our capital budget by 20% (\$816,000), which I hope we can make up for in grants. For details about the Governor's priorities and her proposed budget for 2009-2011, go to <http://www.governor.wa.gov/priorities/budget/default.asp> To view the actual budget documents, go to: <http://ofm.wa.gov/budget09/>

2. Federal Stimulus Bill - The incoming administration will be proposing a federal stimulus package, which may include funding to hire maintenance and construction crews. To better position the state to receive some of this funding, we are working with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and State Parks to identify where it makes sense to have joint maintenance crews across the state. We have also initiated discussions with the US Forest Service (USFS) to see if they are also interested in sharing maintenance crews where it makes sense. So far, the agencies are all interested in exploring this possibility. The three state agencies have been working collaboratively for the last 5 years to more efficiently manage the limited funding we receive for the Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) Program. DNR has taken the lead administration role. Crew supervisors work with the field managers from DNR, WDFW and State Parks to schedule crew time based on allotted time for each agency and priority. Thanks to the efforts of Kirk Thomas (DNR's WCC Program Director), this approach has been successful to date. The program has not only gained administration efficiencies but provided individual crew members with a variety of experiences. If we can involve the USFS, we can not only be more efficient but have a greater capacity to manage the trails and facilities in a wide geographical area.

3. Goals for 2009 - I will be meeting with my staff in mid-January to discuss what we intend to accomplish in 2009. I thought it would be valuable to add your thoughts to the discussion as well. For example, last year the recreation program goals included:

- Establishing a periodic recreation newsletter
- Developing a 10-year capital plan
- Developing a master volunteer project list
- Increasing grant funding and volunteer participation

One of our goals for 2009 is to improve our recreation Web pages on DNR's Web site and make them a useful tool for you.

So please e-mail me your thoughts!

Also, I just wanted to let you know that you can now download current and past issues of the *DNR Recreation News* at http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/Topics/OtherRecreationInformation/Pages/amp_rec_newsletter.aspx

Hope you have a great holiday season!

Mark Mauren
Assistant Division Manager
Recreation, Public Access and WCC

WHATCOM CHAPTER BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
SCHEDULE FOR 2009

Jan 1	Thursday	New Year's Day ride at Heady, contact Rick Olson for info
Jan 5	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew-6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
Jan 14	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
Feb 2	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
Feb 11	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
Feb 27	Friday	Whatcom BCH annual Auction, Everson Auction barn
March 2	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
March 11	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
Mar 21	Saturday	TBA Spring Equinox ride (Saxon or Stewart Mtn.)
March 30	Monday	Board meeting for April at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
April 4	Saturday	Easter Egg Ride at Heady Trails
April 8	Wednesday	General meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
April 25	Saturday	Confidence Builder Ride at Stremmler's place
May 4	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
May 13	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
May 16	Saturday	TBA Food Drive at Heady
June 1	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
June 10	Wednesday	General meeting at Herman Miller 4H Park, potluck at 6:00, meeting-7:00
June 29	Monday	Board meeting for July at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
July 8	Wednesday	General meeting at Herman Miller 4H Park, potluck at 6:00. meeting at 7:00
Aug3	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
Aug 12	Wednesday	General meeting at Herman Miller 4H Park, potluck at 6:00, meeting at 7:00
Aug 31	Monday	Board meeting for Sept at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
Sept 9	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
Sept 12	Saturday	Birdsview Hamburger Ride at Les Hilde trails
Oct 5	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
Oct 14	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.
Nov 2	Monday	Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew--6:00 dinner, 7:00 meeting
Nov 11	Wednesday	General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange--7:00 p.m.

This is a tentative schedule, subject to changes. There may be some more rides or work party added at a later date. They will be listed in the newsletter. Contact trail coordinator Cindy Piccolo 360-966-4082 for more information.

Schedule dates and places are subject to change. Any changes made will be printed in the newsletter as well as discussed at our meetings. Be ready to ride at 10:00 A.M. unless otherwise posted.

General Meetings--Second Wednesday of each month at Laurel Community Grange, 6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden, WA, except for the months of June thru August which the meetings will be held at the 4H Herman Miller Park located at 1385 E. Hemmi Rd. Everson, WA--potluck meetings.

WHATCOM COUNTY BCH TRAILRIDE RULES AND GUIDELINES

Revised January 12, 2004

RULES:

Any trail boss reserves the right to ask anyone to leave a club ride.

A responsible adult must accompany any rider who is under the age of 16. This applies to both members and guests.

All riders 18 years of age or younger will be required to wear a helmet when mounted. This applies to both member and guests.

No alcohol or smoking on the trail. Smoking is allowed on rest breaks with proper disposal of smoking material.

No dogs on organized trail rides.

Stay in line and pass only with the permission of the rider in front of you.

No tailgating...keep at least one horse length in between horses.

Riding double (2 riders/1 horse): Provided one of the riders is an adult, riding double is allowed with the following suggestions:

- The child would be riding with a responsible adult (parent).
- The child between the ages of 3 to 5 years old.
- The child wears a helmet.

GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS:

Please *wait* until everyone in your group is mounted before riding off.

Ride at the *same pace* as the lead rider.

Please keep your horse at a walk going up and down hills.

When encountering an obstacle on the trail, please wait for each horse in the group to clear the obstacle before proceeding. Move forward as necessary to make room for others to clear the obstacle.

Please *clean up the trailhead* after your horse. Place manure and hay back in your trailer if no disposal area is provided.

If you decide to leave the riding group to return to the trailhead please let a trail boss know.

Please place a red tie in the tail of a horse that kicks. Warn the rider behind you.

Please let a trail boss or ride leader know about any medical conditions that might need our attention on the trail.

Please limit your rides to trails that you and your horse can handle.

Should you have any questions concerning the rules or guidelines, please check with Cindy Piccolo--360-966-4082

M E M B E R S H I P A P P L I C A T I O N

Come Join Us!

To join BCHW, complete this application, sign the liability release (all members over 18) and enclose payment:

Chapter members, turn application and payment in to **Whatcom BCH Chapter Treasurer, Lynn Johnson, 4548 Lopez Drive, Ferndale, WA 98248**

Independent members make check out to "BCHW" and mail application and payment to BCHW, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP, 110 W. 6th Ave; PMB 393, Ellensburg, WA 98926



Member Info

New Member

Renewal--Membership number(s): _____

Adult's name (s): _____

Children's names(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____

State Membership

Basic Membership:

Single \$36.00
Family \$49.00

Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)

Contributing	\$65.00
Sustaining	\$100.00
Patron	\$250.00
Benefactor	\$500.00
Additional State Donation	\$ _____
Subtotal	\$ _____

Chapter Membership

Chapter Name: (or Independent): _____

Whatcom

Chapter Dues

(determined by Chapter) **\$10.00**

Additional Chapter Donation: +\$ _____

Subtotal (**from left column**): +\$ _____

Grand total from left column & right column = \$ _____

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Liability Release

ALL ADULT MEMBERS MUST SIGN!

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident where ever horse use is involved, which 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 trails or the experience levels of riders or horses taking part in trail rides or other BCHW events, I do hereby release and hold harmless the a above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, or horses.

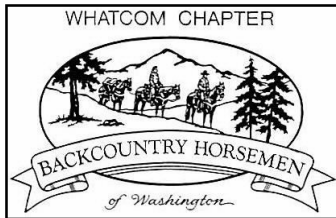
Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

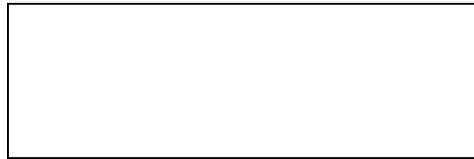
Signature: _____ Date: _____

The information on this membership application will be shared with BCH of America, and if so designated by the applicant the appropriate local chapter of BCHW. Otherwise, the information will not be divulged to any other person or organization without the express permission of the applicant

- Do you want your name, address and phone number listed on the Whatcom membership list? _____
- If you wish to only have part of the information listed, please indicate what you want listed _____
- Areas of Interest**-Circle any that apply: Trail Maintenance/work parties; food preparation; Legislation; Rides; Packing; Hospitality; LNT; fund raisers



Fran Van Diest
WBCH Newsletter Editor
723 Van Wyck Rd
Bellingham , WA 98226
(360) 734-2567



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Next
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen
Meeting:
General Meeting: January 14, 2009
Laurel Community Grange
6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden
Meeting at 7:00

Check out the BCHW
Website at:
<http://www.bchwh.org>

