



TRAIL TALES

October 2009

Notes from the President

Whatcom Chapter
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2009

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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.

Howdy Everyone,

I hope you have gotten out there and taken advantage of one of our club rides. With the Hamburger ride and the ones that Rocky has led into the high country; there have been opportunities for all levels of experience.

The next scheduled club ride is October 24th 10:00 am at the Bryce Creek Church camp off Heady Road in Sumas. This will be our first ever Halloween themed ride. A two hour (approx.) ride will be marked and at noon there will be a hot lunch available at the horse shelter for a small donation. Then at 1:30 we will have a parade of costumes, where you and your horse will be judge for the best/most creative costumes and prizes will be awarded. There may even be some surprises out on the trail. I hope you all can make it, sounds like a lot of fun to me. Contact Lisa Oostema or myself if you have any questions or would like to help out.

Okay, now it's time to get serious. We need people to step up and volunteer for Officer Positions and for committee members. The only way our club can be successful is if our members step up and volunteer to help run it. For the last few years the same small group of members has been willing to put in the time and effort required to keep us running, they have done an excellent job and I appreciate all of their hard work, but they deserve a break. Now is the time for you newer or behind the scenes members to come forward, we really need you and your old officers will be there to help you succeed. So please think about what you can do to help us get through another successful year. Please volunteer!

Thank you Lori Hunt for offering to take over the Sunshine Committee! I know that you will do an exceptional job. Toni has done an outstanding job over the last few years and I know that she will appreciate the break. Thank you Toni!

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President's Notes

Here is another question we need to be asking our selves: Do we want to have a 2010 Auction? If you answer yes to this question; please consider being on the Auction Committee. We already have an Auctioneer willing to donate their time and we also have some items to auction. All we need is a few good people to pull it all together. It's a great way to get to know some of your fellow members better. I know from experience that this project can be a lot of fun and very rewarding.

In closing I would like to remind you to attend one of the DNR "Sustainable Recreation Work Group" meetings. The closest one is October 7th from 6:30 pm to 8 pm at the Burlington Public Library. Here is an excerpt from DNR's web-page - The recommendations will also be available on the Sustainable Recreation Work Group's web page by September 28. The public can submit comments via an online survey at that time. To view the recommendations and fill out the survey, go to www.dnr.wa.gov and follow the link to the Sustainable Recreation Work Group. The deadline for providing comments is 5 p.m., **October 12**.

Be safe and Ride.

Thank you!

Susan



2009 TRAIL BOSSES

Adopt a ride for 2009

WORK PARTY COORDINATOR

Melinda Hardin
has agreed to be work
party coordinator
temporarily
360-312-1113

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

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.

Advertising Rates

Full Page----\$45.00 per month, limited to space available

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!

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: wbchnewseditors@msn.com or fvandiest@msn.com.

BCH Minutes
General Meeting Minutes - Herm
an Miller 4 H Park Sept 9 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Susan Sebastian at 7:01 After the Pledge of Allegiance the agenda was adopted. The August minutes were approved with two corrections; the McCallister area is limited to 8 sets of eyes, not six. Country Supply banks our earned funds until the amount reaches \$50.

Hospitality: Alice Yancey –Dave Lunstroth and Rick Vander May were welcomed. Rick just purchased a molly mule.. Last month we had 36 member and 3 visitors. We have 16 members tonight.

Announcements: The Whatcom Humane society is having benefit event Sept 19th. Susan Sebastian has info on the winery ride.

Debbie and Leroy Lagerwey brought the lights for the meeting, Gary Anderson and Mick Blakely put them up. Treasurer: Lynn Johnson- bank balances were given. We received a check for \$64.07 from Country Supply. We have 133 members. Decals and Trail book are available. The plaque we received from the Ferndale Parade was shown. Window decals are available to put in your truck window at work parties. Reimbursement forms are available for trail workers. The Laurel Grange's sale is still uncertain. It is available for Oct., Nov. and Dec, however it is not ideal for the Christmas party.

Director: Rick Olsen- Rick will be attending a meeting in Ellensburg on Saturday. Positions for state offices are open. Nominations for lopper award are being taken. October has been named National Wilderness Month by President Obama. Groundbreaking for the Washington State Horse Park in Cle Elum will be Sept 26th. They are accepting donations

Finance: - no requests

Legislative: no report

Trailhead: Mike Bjornstad and the trailhead committee will go over the alternative plans for the Acme Trailhead. Susan Sebastian, Verna Walker, and Mike Bjornstad went to the latest Acme meeting; the South fork alliance has a lot of concerns about the new Park; i.e. tubers filling the parking areas and crossing agricultural land The hiker-horse areas may be combined with a gate between them. This will not be a camping area. Verna Walker asked when we would be asked for funds for the trailhead. There are two current factors holding up the project- the Lake Whatcom Reconveyance and the DNR Acme reconveyance.

LNT: Mick Blakely- Mick gave hints on managing the front country .Leave the trail and trailhead pristine
Herman Miller: Mick Blakely- Caps have been put on 20 metal fence posts. More trees have come down across trails. More gravel needs to be hauled in

Volunteer hrs/ newsletter: n o report.

Sunshine: Toni Blakely no report

Trail Boss: Verna Walker- the Hamburger Ride is well- marked, 1st rider out at 10 am, last at 10:30. The ride will take about 6 hours.

Old business

Elections: Nominations are open, elections will be in Nov. Lori hunt has volunteered to head the sunshine committee. Fran Van Diest has been doing 3 jobs- newsletter, volunteer hrs, and publicity; she needs a break
Christmas Party- several locations were discussed

50-50 Verna Walker won \$13.

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General Meeting Minutes

New Business

Rick Olsen needs to order calendars. It was moved and seconded that we purchase 30. Some are given away to speakers and elected officials Motion passes.

Halloween Ride- will be Oct 24th at Brice Creek camp at the Heady Rd. Lunch will be provided for a \$3. donation. There will be a 2 hr ride with a parade of costumes at lunch- lunch will be around 1 pm.

Auction: volunteers are needed, work starts in Oct. It was moved and seconded that we not have an auction in 2010. Motion failed. Several people mentioned that the auction can be scaled back. The subject was tabled.

DNR Sustainable Recreation Work Group public meeting is Oct 7, 6- 8:30 at the Burlington Public Library, rotary meeting room, 820 E. Washington Ave, Burlington.

Cindy Piccolo announced that Kim, the DNR employee who patrols the trailheads has had her hours cut.

Rocky Leavitt would still like to have an endurance-type ride. He has ridden with the Kamphouse's, Hannegan is not open. He would like to go in Canyon Ridge. It is 20 miles, the last few miles are up and down.

Rick Olsen went in to Goat Rocks with the Crabtree's.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by Sharon Hoofnagle – secretary



LOOKING FOR A COTTAGE OR HOUSE TO SHARE:

Wanted by early October
Single equestrian/gardener to house
share. Career and no horse but
happy to work and ride with you.

Have saddles and tools will travel.
Easy to shoe, float, no vices!
Close to Bellingham:
Susan: 360.220.2997
susan@loannetter.com

FOR SALE:

16 yr. old, 15.3h Thoroughbred molly mule.
Usually ridden but still needs an experienced
rider.

She has been packed lightly in the parades.
UTD on everything and is currently shod.
A very social girl and she loves to have her
ears played with.

\$2,500.00 obo

Hate to part with her but I'm just not using
her.

Contact Lynn

(360) 384-5107 or (360) 201-8954

lljohnson06@comcast.net

CALENDAR



- Oct 5** Monday **Board meeting** at Bob's Burger & Brew--
6:00 dinner, 7:00
- Oct 14** Wednesday **General Meeting** at Laurel Community
Grange, 6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden,
WA.. Meeting starts at **7:00 p.m.** Received
information that we can continue to have our
general meetings at Laurel Community
Grange for the months Of October and
November.
October is birthday month so Ann Leonard
has signed up for birthday cake.
- Oct. 24** Saturday **Halloween Ride** at the Bryce Creek camp at
Heady Road trails. Lunch will be provided
for a \$3.00 donation. There will be a 2 hour
ride with a parade of costumes at lunch time.
Lunch will be served around 1:00 p.m.
Contact Susan Sebastian at 360-391-2965 or
Lisa Oostema at 360-592-2225 for more
information.
- Nov 2** Monday Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew.

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

SUNSHINE

Toni Blakely
360-332-7120

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Sam Miller
360-398-7992

TRAIL HEAD COMMITTEE

Mike McGlenn
360-966-9117

SAFETY

Christmas Party

Planning for the Christmas Party, location
unknown at this time. If you would like to
help out, please contact Lisa Oostema at
360-592-2225 for more information.



A Special Thank You to:

Laurel Farm & Western Supply

America's Horse Country

Weylin & Amy Eldred

325 W Laurel Rd., Bellingham

360/398-1216 * 360/398-8050 fax

Hours: Mon – Fri: 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat: 8:30 a.m. to 6:00
p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

----- Original Message -----

From: Jeff Chapman

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2009 10:32 AM

Subject: [BCHW] SWRG Public Meetings (DNR)

I would like to encourage equestrians to attend one of the DNR Sustainable Recreation Work Group (SRWG) public meetings that are being held around the state. The SRWG has been working on developing recommendations for funding recreation and improving access on DNR lands for over a year. Current chairs of the SRWG are state legislators Judy Warnick and Brian Blake. Members of the group include representation from many motorized and non-motorized non-profit organizations as well as from public agencies and private industries. I am the equestrian rep. There has had to be some give and take in these discussions, so some of the funding options may be more appealing to you than others. The horrible economic situation that faced the state at the end of last year definitely had an impact on our deliberations and planned timeline. The SRWG effort was nearly cancelled or postponed as DNR scrambled to meet their own statutory needs with a rapidly diminishing staff. We underwent some downsizing both with paid support and facilitation. I will say though that it has been strikingly rewarding to sit around a table with so many diverse folks who are all dedicated to their represented interests but still driven by a desire to work together on state public land management recreation issues. The common purpose ran throughout the meetings and appears to be continuing in many other planning and leadership efforts going on around the state.

With the new state revenue forecast predicting yet another near billion dollar deficit for 2010, the State Legislature will be looking for more ways to trim the budget. It would have been much worse in 2009 were it not for anticipated stimulus dollars (ARRA) that were committed in the budget. At this point it is difficult to see where the funding will come to offset the additional projected deficit. It may not seem like the best time to seek increased funding for recreation, but it is the time we have. It does give us the opportunity as recreational users to again push how important it is that our public land camping and trail opportunities are not forgotten and are an important part of the quality of life for us in Washington State. Funding options in the SRWG recommendations do include reinstatement and even increasing NOVA.

So please help us help the public land agencies.

**The meetings open to the public are 6:30 pm - 8 pm:
September 29 - Issaquah City Hall**

September 30 - CWU Student Union Room 137B, Ellensburg

October 1 - Deer Park Library

October 5 - DNR Pacific Cascades Office, Castle Rock

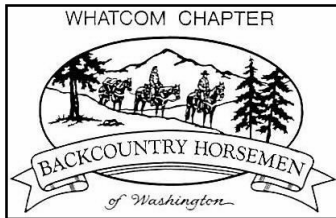
October 6 - Port Angeles Library

October 7 - Burlington Public Library

For more information, see

http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/News/Pages/nr09_160.aspx

Thank you, Jeff Chapman, Public Lands Chair, BCHW



Fran Van Diest
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Next
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen

Meeting:

General Meeting:

October 14, 2009

**Laurel Community Grange,
6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden, WA**

Meeting at 7:00

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

