

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter  
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

# TRAIL TALES

**Whatcom Chapter**  
P. O. Box 28607  
Bellingham, WA 98228  
2017

August 2017

## Notes from the President

### President:

Rodney Vandersypen  
360-961-3259  
rodneyv@copper.net

### Vice President:

Joe Remenar  
360-818-4481  
j.remenar@gmail.com

### Director:

Bill McKenna  
360-599-2526

### Alternate Director:

Rocky Leavitt  
360-599-2675

### Secretary:

Lynn Johnson  
360-384-5107

### Treasurer:

Jackie Yereance  
360-318-5509

### Membership:

Helen Almojera  
360-592-8080

### Newsletter Editor & Publicity

Fran Van Diest  
fvandiest@msn.com  
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.

Summer is now in full swing and I hope that everyone is getting all of those summer chores done. I just put up my last load of hay this weekend and I hope you have all of yours put up as well. It has been busy over the last month.

Several of our members went to the Andrews Creek state wide work party over the 4th of July weekend. The weather was nice and over a 3 day period we rode about 50 miles, 8 miles at a time because that was how far the drop location was. Everything went well and we were able to pack in 74 bridge planks for bridge replacements.

The following weekend was the Northwest Region Ride. If you were unable to attend you missed a very fun ride that was well laid out. The prizes were great as usual and the lunch was delicious. Thanks to all the members that helped out to make it a success.

On July 15 Rocky, Roger and my daughter Erin and I went up the Suiattle trail to haul out a work crew from the Pacific Crest Trail. We were able to ride through some awesome old growth trees that made us seem really small because of their massive size. The ride was about 10 hours so everyone was glad when we made it back to the trail head.

I would like to thank Roger, Lance, Dawn, Jackie, Bret and Bruce for showing up for the work party on Saturday. What a great job everyone did. We were able to clear the trail on the upper clear cut on the south side of the creek. When we were finished working on the trail we rode up to the new trail location to bypass the bridge and flagged it. I would not recommend using the trail until we can fix some soft locations that make it unsafe. We need to have a work party soon to be able to address this issue.

Get out and ride, the weather doesn't get any better than it has been this summer.

See you on the trail.  
Rodney

**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting  
July 12, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made by Bill McKenna and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Becky Haines to approve the June 2017 minutes as published. Motion carried.

**Director/Legislative:** Bill reported that BCHA is holding their quarterly meeting in Spokane this year. He also has some calendars, but because of a communication breakdown he only has five. He also said the State only received a partial shipment so no chapter received their full orders anyway. BCHW is celebrating 40 years this year and is getting a package of history of each chapter. On the political front, BCHA wants people to call their congressmen re: the major budget cuts to trails.

**Volunteer Hours:** Rodney read off the list of volunteers for June. 159 hours were turned in but there are probably another 50 that need to be reported.

**Newsletter:** Please have items to Fran by the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Work Parties/Trail Coordinator/Bosses:** Blanchard: BCH didn't get the work finished but DNR hired a helicopter to finish hauling in. Andrews Creek: Jason (the Director for the independents and head of the "Hot Shot Crew") arranged the work party over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July long weekend. They cleared the log jam from trees that had blown over from the fire. The FS got a variance to use chain saws. Saturday, July 15 is the pack out from Suiattle. Rodney reported that our chapter work party is being moved to July 22 at Stewart. It will be discussed what to do once there. 8:30 a.m. start. Bring horses.

**Trailheads:**

- South Fork Park: This is still closed until late August.
- Stewart Mt.: Sharon reported the trailhead is looking ragged. The grass cap needs mowing. The chapter maintains the fence line. She also reported that if there is an emergency the fire dept. and hunters can get up on the roads, but not the Sheriff or Search and Rescue. This needs to be changed/they need a key or combination to the gate. She also reported that bears are out in force.
- Vedder: Roger spent 8 hours and cleared the up-hill portion, almost to the new clear cut. Walden said brushing still needs to be done. Melinda Smull mentioned it is a popular riding area and suggested posting notices on windshields about upcoming work parties to see if we could get more people to help.

**NW Region:** Rodney reported it was a great ride with 110-120 riders. Rocky said the stations had 3+ people each, which we need to keep in mind for our fund raiser.

**Old Business:**

- Old Settlers Parade. Rodney reminded everyone of the parade coming up. There was quite a bit of interest from the members attending. Lynn said to park at the high school at the back by the tennis courts and school buses. You need to be ready to ride at 11:00 a.m. when the parade starts. If anyone knows of some people who would like to be pooper scoopers they get paid from donations taken up at the parade.
- Confidence Builder Continuance. The committee is still researching ideas. Geri mentioned other ways to develop revenue. Some ideas were a rummage sale at Nancy Giordano's; relay race; cooking/food trailer at Old Settlers; having an event at Misty River; photos on ponies; beer ride.
- Steward Mt. sign board: Rodney wants someone to come up with the language for it and he will make the sign.

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(Continue from Page 3)

**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen  
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- Insurance Coverage for Private Bridge: Bill said that if the woman wanted BCH to help her build a bridge on her private land, for our insurance to cover us it would have to be open to the public 24 hours a day.
- Firewood: Walden reported there is none available right now but there could be down the road.

**Other Business:**

- There were still two tote bags made by Fran for a \$25 donation (they were purchased by Melinda Smull and Sheri Hathaway). She had made more of the small bags to hold Chapter membership forms and they were passed out.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Johnson

**2017  
TRAIL BOSSES**

Roger Nelson  
360-599-2461

Rocky Leavitt  
360-599-2675

Joe Remenar  
360-818-4481

Cindy Piccolo  
360-966-4082

**WORK PARTY  
COORDINATOR**

Roger Nelson  
360-599-2461



**Stewart Mtn. trails** work party on Saturday, July 22, 2017. Left picture: Jackie and Dawn working on trails. Right picture: Brent, Bruce, Rodney and Dawn on horses. Not pictured: Lance and Roger. They spent all day brush cutting, lopping and cleaning trails. Good Job! Next time you see them, be sure to thank them for their hard work. Fran



**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!**

**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.*



# CALENDAR



**July 31st—Monday**

**Board meeting at Roundtable Pizza on Sunset Dr.  
Dinner at 6:00, meeting at 7:00pm. First room**

**Aug 9th Wednesday**

**General meeting and potluck at Misty River Ranch.  
5690 North Fork Road, Deming. Go east on Mt.  
Baker Hwy, turn Right on Mosquito Lake Rd, turn Left  
on North Fork Rd turn right at 5690 N. Fork Rd.  
Potluck at 6:00 p.m. so bring your favorite dish to  
share. Be sure to bring your plate, utensils and  
beverage. Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Aug 2nd—6th-Wed-Sun**

**State work party—Salmo-Priest Wilderness**

**Aug 12th—Saturday**

**Packing in for WTA at Hannegan trail, come join us.**

**Aug 19th—Saturday**

**Packing for WTA at Hannegan trail—come join us.**

**Aug 26th—Saturday**

**Packing for WTA at Hannegan trail---come join us.**

**2017 COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS:**

**LEGISLATIVE:**

Bill McKenna  
360-599-2526

**LEAVE NO TRACE:**

Bill McKenna  
360-599-2526

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:**

Verna McLeod  
360-595-2744

**PROGRAMS:**

Sharon Hoofnagle  
360-7344258

**SUNSHINE**

Shirley Todhunter  
360-966-5206

**TRAIL HEAD  
COMMITTEE**

Mike McGlenn  
360-739-2619

**SCRAPBOOK**

Debbie Lagerwey  
354-2804  
Need Pictures!

**Check out our Website:**

<http://www.whatcom-bch.com/>

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.



**HAY FOR SALE:**

Square bales stacked in barn \$4.75 per bale. 200 available.

Colette 360-305-5888 or email me at [gemitwinsltd@gmail.com](mailto:gemitwinsltd@gmail.com)



**Sunshine Committee**

**If you know someone that needs a little ray of sunshine, please contact Shirley Todhunter at 360-966-5206 or send her an email at [hermater09@gmail.com](mailto:hermater09@gmail.com)**

**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. Email to: [fvandiest@msn.com](mailto:fvandiest@msn.com).



Dues are from January 1st thru December 31st.

**NO-THAT-APPLI-CATION MEMBERSHIP**

**Come Join Us!**

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

**Chapter members**, turn application and payment in to Carol Ketchum, PO Box 28607, Bellingham, WA 98228. Make check out to: Whatcom BCH.

**Independent members** (folks who are **not** joining a chapter), 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 name(s):			
Address:			
City:		ST:	Zip:
Phone number:		E-mail:	
Legislative district (if known):		County:	

Check to opt out of mailed (hardcopy) newsletter: BCHW (Trailhead News) Chapter

<b>STATE MEMBERSHIP</b>			<b>CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP</b>									
<b>Basic Membership</b>			All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid <b>once</b> each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.									
	Single	\$41.00										
	Family	\$54.00	Chapter Name (or Independent):  WHATCOM COUNTY  If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW dues have been paid for 2017:									
<b>Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)</b>												
	Contributing	\$75.00										
	Sustaining	\$125.00										
	Patron	\$250.00										
	Benefactor	\$500.00	<table style="width:100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Chapter Dues</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$10.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Additional Chapter Donation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Chapter Subtotal</i></td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>Grand Total (State+Chapter)</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>\$</b></td> </tr> </table>		Chapter Dues	<b>\$10.00</b>	Additional Chapter Donation	\$	<i>Chapter Subtotal</i>	\$	<b>Grand Total (State+Chapter)</b>	<b>\$</b>
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<b>Grand Total (State+Chapter)</b>	<b>\$</b>											
	Lifetime (Single)	\$1200.00										
State dues paid online (attach receipt copy)												
Additional State Donation		\$										
<i>State Subtotal</i>		\$										

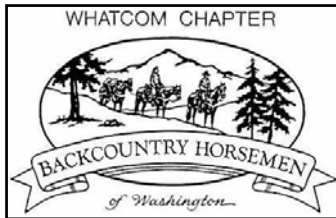
**LIABILITY RELEASE & NOTICES**

All ADULT members MUST sign! Adult's signature covers minor children.

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever 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 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:	

Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.



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: Aug 9, 2017**  
**Misty River Ranch**  
**5690 N. Fork Road, Deming, WA**  
**Potluck at 6:00 for potluck,**  
**Bring a dish to share!**  
**Meeting at 7:00**

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

