

Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

TRAIL TALES

December 2017

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

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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
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Notes from the President

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.

Hope you all had a very good Thanksgiving Holiday. It looks like we made it to the last month of the year! You know what that means... Christmas Party Time!

I hope everyone can attend the Christmas Party on December 15, 2017 in conjunction with the Skagit County Chapter. See details within newsletter.

New offices were elected at our last meeting. I would like to thank our new officers for stepping up to the challenge of a New Year. We need members to consider leadership roles for next year's elections and bring new ideas to our chapter.

Yearly New Years Day Ride at Heady Road – conditions may be less than ideal so dress accordingly. Look forward to a very fun ride and lots of camaraderie around the campfire at lunchtime.

Annual Auction – coming up soon. This is the primary fundraiser for your chapter. We will need lots of help to plan, organize and accomplish a successful event.

See you at the Christmas Party,

Rodney

**Check out our new and improved
Website:**

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

VET NOTES Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M. Licking and Chewing Behavior

Stormy was having a bad day. The young horse was being ridden by his person in a lesson, but things just weren't clicking. The trainer was trying to end the lesson, but wanted to do so on a good note. She wanted the youngster to leave with a positive, good, feeling. Suddenly the colt dropped his head a little, licked, and made chewing movements with his mouth. "Ahh- finally"- the trainer laughed. "Make a big fuss over him and let's quit. He has submitted and is relaxed now"

So what's going on with the licking and chewing? It's a sign that the horse is relaxing, submitting, and is considered to be a good sign. But is it really good? Yes and no. Sue McDonnell, PhD is a specialist in animal behavior. Her article, "The Science Behind Licking and Chewing in Horses", published in The Horse magazine explains.

When any animal is upset, frightened, etc, the sympathetic nervous system kicks in. This is the fright-flight response. When this occurs salivation stops and the mouth and lips instantly dry.

The licking and chewing occur when the parasympathetic nervous system returns when the danger is over. Salivation re-occurs and the horse licks, chews, and often swallows.

So it's good that relaxation has occurred when the horse returned to the parasympathetic state but bad that the horse was experiencing stress that triggered the sympathetic response. Recognizing this has changed animal training methods. It is possible to train using positive reinforcement only.

Learning should be a fun positive experience. Can we avoid stress completely? Probably not- but we should try to keep it to a minimum

Ref: The Horse Oct 5 2016

The Science Behind 'Licking and Chewing' in Horses

By [Sue McDonnell, PhD, Certified AAB](#)

**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

Membership for 2018

It's that time of the year to renew your membership for 2018. Please don't delay!

The membership person needs time to process all the memberships and to submit to BCHW.

Membership form enclosed please complete and return to Whatcom BCH, c/o of Helen Almojera at PO Box 28607, Bellingham, WA 98228

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.

**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
November 8, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Bill McKenna and seconded by Andy McLeod to approve the October 2017 minutes as published. Motion carried.

Guests: Kathy Roby, Leigh McGuire, Janine Frizzell, Linda Riley and Eileen Turk.

Sunshine: Cards were sent to Gary Grinde and Virgil Stremmer, and a card was sent last month to Chic Long.

Treasurer's Report: Jackie gave the treasurer's report. She also brought more chocolates to sell.

Director/Legislative: Bill McKenna attended the wine ride and reported there were over 650 participants. He also has calendars for sale at \$15/each. Saturday there is a new member and recruitment meeting happening in Spokane. The State organization is trying to reemphasize LNT. LNT lost their grant at the State level. Not many people want to take the time to attend a training weekend. Bill said there is nothing legislative-wise at this time. Joe Remenar reported there are membership development workshops at Conway on Saturday (11/11) and in Spanaway on Sunday (11/12).

DNR/Recreation Plan: There is a DNR meeting Dec. 13, 7:00 p.m. at the Bellingham Vo-Tech. This is the last meeting before DNR narrows it down to two final proposals. Their plan will be written from the outcome of this meeting.

Work Party/Trail Coordinator/Bosses: Roger Nelson said there are currently no work parties scheduled. There are plans to work on Stewart Mt. after the snows leave (March?) to fix the boggy area at the bypass. Dawn Weaver wanted to know if Roger wanted to do a work party on Sat. to take out some small stuff. It was decided to meet at 9:00 a.m.

Trails: **Heady Road:** Roger reported a tree in the berm came down and blocked half the parking lot. He cleared it and took the wood to Bryce Creek Horse Camp. **Saxon:** Rocky reported Saxon is open to the top.

Committees: **Fundraising:** Helen reported the Heady/Salmon ride was great and we made good money.

Unfinished Business: **Christmas Party:** Janine Frizzell with the Skagit Chapter attended the meeting. Verna has reserved the Alger Community Hall for Friday, December 15. Each chapter is bringing a turkey and ham; the rest will be pot luck. We will be taking donations for the Food Bank and clothing/blankets.

Elections: Nominations were made. Motion was made by Bill McKenna that nominations be closed and the Secretary cast a single-wide ballot for the slate of officers as presented. Motion was seconded and carried. The new officers are:

President, Rodney Vandersypen

Vice-Pres., Joe Remenar

Secretary, Geri Surratt

Treasurer, Jackie Yereance

Alt. Director, Joe Remenar

Work Party Coordinator, Roger Nelson

Trail Bosses, Dawn Weaver, Cindy Piccolo, Rocky Leavitt, Joe Remenar

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**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
November 8, 2017**

New Business: Auction: Rodney mentioned we need to start planning for this. A sign-up sheet for volunteers was sent around.

Sharon Hoofnagle attended the WA Trails Conference in Mukilteo. She found out the mountain bikers have low numbers but a stronger presence on the trails, while hiker numbers are very high but have a lesser presence.

Motion made by Joe Remenar to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded and carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Lynn Johnson

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.



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

Gary Grinde: Get well card sent to Gary

Virgil Stremmler: Get well card sent to Virgil.

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



No General Meeting in December!

Dec 15th—Friday

Christmas Party with Skagit Chapter at Alger Community Hall, 18735 Parkview Lane, Alger.
Social hour at 6:00pm dinner at 7:00pm. If anyone wants to help decorate the place, be there at 5:00pm. Please mark your potluck plate/utensils. Both chapters will provide turkey and ham, the rest is potluck, so please bring a dish to share. No alcohol in and around the premises.

Jan 1, 2018

New Year's Day ride at Heady trails. The gate will be open. The club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers the rest will be potluck. A donation will be collected to help with gazebo/food cost.

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!



FOR SALE:

Well broke in Western Saddle.
Needs a little TLC; hasn't been used in years. \$200.
Ronald Mazza, 360.671.4408, ramazza@juno.com




Volunteer Hours:

Remember to report your hours each month, any meetings that are open to the public, if you go riding and stop and do some work, report hours.


You can send an email to Verna at verna@soundengineering.com with information.




Whatcom and Skagit BCH Christmas Party
Friday, December 15, 2017
Social Hour at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
Alger Community Hall, 18735 Parkview Ln.




This year Whatcom and Skagit Chapters will celebrate Christmas parties together. Both clubs will provide Ham and Turkey. The rest will be potluck.



Please bring a side dish share. Bring your favorite dish, anything that goes with ham and turkey! Be sure to mark your dish and serving utensils.



The club will provide plates, utensils, napkins and cups. We will have punch and coffee. We will be eating at 7:00 p.m.



If you would like to participate in the gift exchange please bring a new wrapped gift, \$15.00 or less. If you are bringing children, be sure to bring a gift for them and put their names on the gift.



We will be collecting unwrapped toys, non-perishable food, warm socks or gently used blankets for Hugs in a Bag. So be sure to bring something for the less fortunate. Skagit will also be collecting for their charity.



Come celebrate Christmas with us!
(No alcohol, smoking allowed in the premises)



Directions: From Bellingham, take I-5 South, take exit 240 (Alger), turn left on Samish Road continue for about one mile, turn right on Old WA-99 continue for about one block, turn right on Parkview Lane.



Dues are from January 1st thru December 31st.

NOVEMBER 2013 APPLICATION

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 Helen Almojera,
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

STATE MEMBERSHIP			CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP	
Basic Membership			All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid once 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 2018:	
Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)				
	Contributing	\$75.00		
	Sustaining	\$125.00		
	Patron	\$250.00		
	Benefactor	\$500.00		
	Lifetime (Single)	\$1200.00	Chapter Dues \$10.00	
State dues paid online (attach receipt copy)			Additional Chapter Donation \$	
Additional State Donation		\$	Chapter Subtotal \$	
State Subtotal		\$	Grand Total (State+Chapter) \$	

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: Jan 10, 2018
Laurel Community Grange
Guide Meridian, Lynden
Meeting at 7:00
Treats/beverages:

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

