

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

TRAIL TALES

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

July 2017

Notes from the President

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rodneyv@copper.net

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j.remenar@gmail.com

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**Newsletter Editor &
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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.

Welcome to the summer. I hope that everyone is getting out and enjoying all of what our area has to offer. The days are longer now so you can do some new exploring of our area that you have never ridden. There were several of us that have been working up on Stewart Mt making a new trail to bypass the bridge that is out on the 15 mile loop trail. The bypass has been ruffed in but still needs lots of work to be considered safe. In the future there will be work parties on this trail so please help out if you can so we can have the loop back in service.

I want to thank all members that showed up for the meeting and work party at the Heady Road Trail Head. We were able to mow the grass, do lots of weed eating, spread mulch around the trees and spread gravel in the parking lot. With the work done we sat down to a great potluck even with ice cream. The following Saturday my daughter and I went to ride up there and to our surprise the parking lot was full to the point that the people were using the overflow parking. It is great to see people use it to its fullest.

The back country will be opening soon and with that we will be doing some pack support for the trail work crews. The first one on the list is Andrews Creek in the Pasayten Wilderness the Fourth of July weekend. Then we will be going into the Suiattle for a pack out trip. In August we will be heading up Hannegan Pass for 3 different pack trips. All of these trips are open for members to come along and give a hand and just enjoy the scenery.

See ya on the trail.
Rodney

Check out our Website:

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

VET NOTES Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M. The Concerned Horse

I had completed a wellness exam on a good patient. He was well-mannered and nice to work with. However as I prepared his vaccination syringe I noticed something. He was resting one rear leg. I had observed this stance often in patients but it always puzzled me.

Standing “hip-shot” is well recognized by horsepeople. A resting, or very relaxed horse often rests one rear leg, flexing it under the body. This causes the hip on that side to drop lower than the opposite hip, hence the term “standing hip-shot”. They will often switch legs after a while. Often they will snooze, head dropped, eyes droopy.

But in this case the horse had been standing squarely on all four legs during the exam, but when I was preparing the vaccine he flexed the rear leg closest to me, resting the toe on the ground, and dropping the hip. It didn’t make sense. Why was he relaxing when he knew he was about to be injected?

A little research revealed the answer. My patient was indeed showing signs of concern. He had almost exactly the same stance as a relaxed, sleepy horse, but not quite. Here are some differences:

Relaxed horse : will stand with one rear leg flexed with the hoof resting on toe. His head may be down, eyes droopy. The entire body is relaxed, he is not watching, he is entirely calm. He may be dozing.

Concerned horse : may also stand with one rear leg flexed with hoof resting on toe. However the leg may instead be held out to side with the hoof flat. The head is up, eyes are alert, and his body is tense. He is watching everything; he is “on alert”

The concerned horse is not misbehaving. Although the leg next to me is always the one cocked I have never had a horse kick at me when standing this way. They may move away however. This concern does not just occur with medical procedures. I see this at trailheads when a strange truck pulls in. I’ve seen it at lunch breaks when they hear something on the trail. Anything strange or different can trigger it.

A frightened horse will often drop manure, The horse described above usually does not.

**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



**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

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!

**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
June 14, 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 2nd by Susan Sebastian to approve the May 2017 minutes as published. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Lynn Johnson gave the treasurer's report and updated us on membership. We have 146 paid up members.

Director/Legislative: Bill reported that calendars are coming in. He ordered 50 for this year. He is also now certified to certify others in using chain saws. There is a work party at Andrews Creek July 1 in Eastern WA. The next Board meeting is June 17.

Newsletter: Please have items to Fran by the 20th.

Work Parties/Trail Coordinator/Bosses: Roger reported on the National Trails Day work party at Blanchard Mt. 19 animals packed in eight 8"x8"x8' timbers to Lily Lake and Max's Shortcut. He suggested we work on Stewart Mt. from Ogallala on down. Walden and Becky were there on Saturday. They drove their horses up to the "y", unloaded, cleared the trail to the old bridge and flagged the trail to a place for a new bridge to cross the creek. The middle creek crossing is boggy. There needs to be a work party to remove the decking off of the old bridge to re-use on the new.

DNR/Recreation Plan: Walden reported that there won't be a meeting until July so nothing new. Mike went to the State meeting and made a presentation, which was well-received. The Elbow Lake bridge replacement is looking promising for happening in 2018.

Trailheads:

- **South Fork Park:** South Fork Park is paved for the hikers but the parking area for horses and the toilets in the equestrian area are not done yet. The horse area is at the back and is graveled. The Park opened on National Trails Day. We can ride the two mile grass trail around the park.
- **Stewart Mt.:** Sharon reported there will be spraying around the tree farm and adjacent clear cut sometime between June 15th and 30th. No entry will be permitted within 12 hours of spraying. Sign board – Rodney will spearhead getting another sign to post that BCH maintains the trailhead.

NW Region: There is a DNR work party at Les Hilde this coming Saturday. Lunch is sponsored. Safety meeting is at 9:00 a.m. They want to put in gravel by the toilets for an ADA parking area and the Heritage trail to the Butterfly trail reopened. No horses needed.

Old Business:

- **Old Settlers Parade.** Lynn mentioned it would be nice to see more chapter members join in as right now there are more non-members than members who ride in it. Nancy Giordano will drive her cart and put the sign on it.
- **Confidence Builder.** We need to decide if we want to continue it. We will discuss it at the Board meeting and bring back to the membership. Misty River Ranch is willing to hold something there. A committee was formed to look at different option and report back: Susan Sebastian, Helen Almojera, Becky Haines, Rocky Leavitt, Geri Surratt and Joe Remenar.
- The next Board meeting is July 10 – just two days before the General meeting.
- July 15 is WTA Suiattle work party. BCH is packing out at the end Will probably need 11-13 animals. This is a 24 mile round trip and it will be done in one day. Meals and mileage are provided.

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**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen
Minutes of Monthly Meeting
June 14, 2017**

New Business:

- Fran has made small bags to hold Chapter membership forms we can carry on us on rides to hand out to interested people. 10 people would like to have one. She has also made cloth tote bags. If interested members can purchase for a \$25 donation to the chapter.
- Walden mentioned a member has donated approximately 10 cords of firewood – in logs – to be cut to length, mostly alder and maple. This could be sold to members. He will report back at the Board meeting.
- The people across the road from Herman Miller 4-H Park want a bridge built and wondered if BCH would be interested. They would pay. Bill will check on the liability for the chapter.

Motion was made by Bill McKenna and 2nd by Joe Remenar to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Johnson

Vedder Mt. Trailhead work party, June 14, 2017.

Roger Nelson would like to thank everybody that showed up to the work party at Vedder Mtn. Trailhead. We had a good turn out, thank you to Rodney Vandersypen, Joe Remenar, Roger Edmonds, Kathy Adams, Geri Surratt, Laurie Swartwood, Gary Grinde, Shirley Todhunter, Lori Dean, Tara Wigg, Roger Nelson, Roy and Fran, Gary Anderson, Colette Cloutier, Walden and Becky Haines. My apologies if I forgot someone.

The Trailhead looks really nice.
Fran



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.*

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.



CALENDAR



July 4th—Tuesday

Work party at Andrews Creek, the packers will be at that work party.

July 10th—Monday

Board meeting at Roundtable Pizza, first room.
Dinner at 6:00pm meeting at 7:00pm.

July 8th—Saturday

NW Regional Ride at Les Hilde. See flyer.

July 12th—Wednesday

Potluck and general meeting 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.

July 15th—Saturday

WTA packing out trip at Suiattle.

July 29th—Saturday

Ferndale Old Settler's Parade—this year's theme is "Harvest time of year's gone by". Parade starts at 11:00am be there early to saddle. Park behind the school. For more information contact Dennis Mauler at 360-927-3844.

July 31st—Monday

Board meeting for August general meeting.
Roundtable pizza, dinner at 6, meeting at 7pm.

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

HOSPITALITY:

Vacant

SUNSHINE

Shirley Todhunter
360-966-5206

TRAIL HEAD COMMITTEE

Mike McGlenn
360-739-2619

SCRAPBOOK

Debbie Lagerwey
354-2804
Need Pictures!



HAY CUTTING NEEDED

I am looking for someone who does custom haying. I need my 5 acres cut and square baled. I can pick the bales up. I am 2 miles East of Everson.
Do you know of anyone ?
Colette 360-305-5888 or email me at geminitwinsltd@gmail.com

17th Annual NW Regional Prize Ride

@ Harry Osbourne Trailhead

Address & Directions

6998 Medford - Hamilton, WA 98255
 From I5 take Hwy 20 East. In approximately 10 miles, turn Left onto Cabin Creek Road. Turn Right onto Cemetery Road. Turn Left onto Medford and follow to trailhead.

Wide selection of Prizes including Cash!!

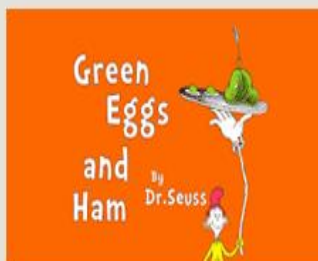
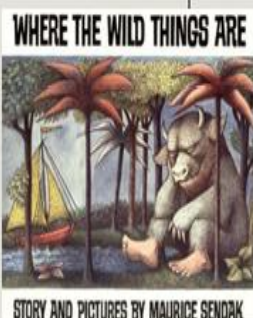
Saturday July 8th, 2017

\$5 per Prize Hand

Ride out:

9:30 - 11:30 am

Lunch Available



Bookin' Down the Trail

BCHW NW Regional Contacts:

- Cascade Horse Club - Barbara (425) 334-6010
- Island County - Robert (360) 969-3174
- Traildusters - Laura (425) 870-9364
- Whatcom - Susan (360) 391-2965
- Skagit - Janine (360) 853-8481

**Proceeds Benefit
 Trailhead Improvements**



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.

Dues are from January 1st thru December 31st.

NORTHWESTERN BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN 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 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

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 2017:									
Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)												
	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;">\$10.00</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;">Grand Total (State+Chapter)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> </tr> </table>		Chapter Dues	\$10.00	Additional Chapter Donation	\$	<i>Chapter Subtotal</i>	\$	Grand Total (State+Chapter)	\$
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Additional Chapter Donation	\$											
<i>Chapter Subtotal</i>	\$											
Grand Total (State+Chapter)	\$											
	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: July 12, 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>

