



TRAIL TALES

June 2011

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.

JUNE 2011

What a great year this is turning out to be... In spite of the weather we have had great turn outs to all of our events. Last year we had about seventy five people come out to the Confidence Ride, this year about one hundred thirty came. I know success is not determined just by numbers but it sure does make it more exciting. Of course what really made it work was the people that stepped up to put it on. They were great. The annual work party on Stewart Mountain was nearly rained out early in the morning but then the weather opened up. We still got a couple hours of good work in. Big thank you to Cindy for her fantastic soup. Even though on her own she decided we didn't need to have beef hotdogs this year, it was still a great lunch. In fact, hardly anyone noticed the lack of hotdogs this year. So I don't think we even need to bring it up...

Spring is here. It's time to get out to the trails. I'm doing some repairs on my gear right now and I'm reminded how far behind I am. So much of my gear is either broken or just plain wore out. You can wait to fix that leather strap on the trail with small rope or you can fix it ahead of time. Which reminds me of a time up in the Pasayten. A couple of us were riding across Sheep Mountain when we went down a little bank and across a small creek. Going up the other side of the bank the mule was straining a bit to get through the mud and up the small hill when all of a sudden the leather broke that holds the cinch ring to the saddle. Luckily when the saddle came off at a fair rate of speed, due to the small statue of the animal, I didn't have far to fall. Thankfully, the mud was deep enough to break my fall and protect me from the rocks. I spent the next week riding with that saddle bandaged up with parachute shroud. Every time that mule started straining to get up a hill I instantly started thinking "Oh please not the mud again".

Last weekend a few of us braved the weather and rode the seventeen mile loop up on Stewart Mountain. We logged out a couple logs and opened up the trail to use.

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President's Notes

We would like to schedule another work party to finish the brush cutting and lopping. The top section has new logging so the old road is a bit hard to stay on.

Auction: Went off like a well oiled clock. Many thanks to all the folks who made it happen. More to come.

Personal note section... Riding up on Stewart once again reminded me of how fragile our riding areas are. As a club we do not come out in favor for or against the logging of the lands we use. Basically we are an unauthorized but tolerated user group. I don't know how old this trail is but I have been using it for over twenty years. My boys were raised riding up on that mountain. We've camped and shot deer there. And I have many good memories of my father riding with me around that hill. I don't know if we will ever be able to get the county to pay five million dollars to protect our riding like they might do for the bikers on Galbraith, but I do know that we must continue to work hard for our right to ride and work hard to keep our trails open. In that regard, if you like to ride the trails, we need your help to maintain them. If it is your habit to not help out, why not step out side your comfort zone and give it a try. Come for the fun, stay for the work. As a side benefit, you can learn a whole new language if you ride with Roger as he speaks to his horse Jackie. I've learned quite a few new ones. Some of the words I wasn't sure what they meant. I think it's because they were in Norwegian.
 Rocky

**2011
TRAIL BOSSES**

Cindy Piccolo
 360-966-4082

Roger Nelson
 360-599-2461

Tara Wigg
 360-966-7050

Also can adopt a ride
 for 2011

**WORK PARTY
 COORDINATOR**

Roger Nelson
 360-599-2461

Big Thank You!

The Auction committee would like to thank everybody that helped make this auction a success! Helping with soliciting donations, sorting and tagging items, getting tables, setting up before the auction, helping during the Silent and Live auction, making sure people got their silent auction items after it closed, doing all the necessary paperwork and of course clean up!

Thanks to: Alice Ann Yancey, Pam and Ken Ritter, Michelle McKenna, Mick and Toni Blakely, Gary Anderson, Roy Van Diest, Rick Olson, Lisa Oostema, Tara Wigg, Carol Ketchum, Jackie Braveman, Susan Sebastian, Melinda Hardin, Roger Nelson, Mike and Chris McGlenn, Valla Leide, Rocky Leavitt, Mike Bjornstad for helping out.

We really appreciate everybody's help and support.

From the Auction Committee: Bill McKenna, Sam Miller, Debbie Lagerwey, Nancy Giordano, Sharon Hoofnagle, Angie Schutte, Shirley Todhunter, Mitzie Carr and Fran Van Diest. We apologize if we forgot anyone.

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.

Annual Auction

Our annual auction was held on May 20, 2011 at the Everson Auction Barn. We want to thank everybody that helped make this a successful event! Special thank you to Pete and Terry DeBruin for the use of the facility and donating their time and expertise as auctioneers. Also thank you to the Café ladies! Thank you to the auction committee that spent hours soliciting donations from businesses and to everybody that helped solicit donations, helped with paperwork and during the auction. We appreciate all the support the community has given to the Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen of WA. **Thank You Everybody for your generosity!**

Below is a list of the businesses and individuals that donated items and services to our auction. Please support the businesses that have generously given to our auction.

Active Earth Designs	Dale Adams
Alice Ann Yancey	Dave & Phyllis Bargelt
Angie Schutte	Dave Richey
Barbies Berries	Dick Bedlington Farms
Barrett Transmission	Elenbaas Company
BB Stables	Everybody's Store
Bill & Michelle McKenna	Fairhaven Runners
Blue Mountain Grill	Fairhaven Veterinary Hospital
Bob Wallin Insurance Inc	Gary Anderson
Bodes Precast	Gary Fiones
Bogaard Hay	George & Ann Leonard
Bony Pony	Glen Rankin
Borthwick Jewelry & Coins Inc.	Good Burger
Brim Tractor Co Inc	Growsource, Inc
Cascadia Stoneware	Hilltop Restaurant
Chris Paul	Hohl Feed & Seed Co.
Chick & Judy Long	Hoofbeats Tack
Circle A Trailer	J & L Hay Express
Clothes Rack	Jack Kintner
Complete Remodel Co.	Jackie Braveman
Country Store - Bellingham	Jackie Yereance
Country Store - Ferndale	Jody Bergsma Galleries
Country Store - Everson	Kelly Ridge Feed
D & L Sorenson Construction	Kulshan Veterinary Lynden

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(Continue from Page 3) List of businesses and individuals that donated to our auction

Kelsey & Riley Lagerwey	Rairdon's Dodge Chrysler
Laurel Farm Supply	Rusty Wagon
Leroy & Debbie Lagerwey	Sam Miller
Les Schwab Tire Center-Meridian St.	Samson Estate Winery
Les Schwab Tire Center-Iron Gate St.	Security Solutions
Les Schwab Tire Center-James St.	Sheri Hathaway
Les Schwab Tire Center-Lynden	Shirley Todhunter
Lloyd & Lynn Johnson	Sharon Hoofnagle
Marie Tiemersma	Skagit Chapter - BCH
Marilyn Tefft	Starkenburg
Meridian Equipment	Stoney Ridge Farm
Mick & Toni Blakely	Stremler Gravel
Mike & Chris McGlenn	Susan Sebastian
Mitzie Carr	Thompson's Greenhouse
Mount Baker Theatre	Trader Joe's
Mountain Veterinary Hospital	Unlimited Services
Mountainside Gardens	Vacation Land Trailer
Mt. Baker Veterinary	Van Wingerden Garden Center
Nancy Giordano	Vanderyacht Propane
Northwest Propane	Verna McLeod
Nouveau Designs by Kimberly Jacobsen	Village Veterinary Hospital
Pacific Building Center	Wes Spur
Pam & Ken Ritter	West Coast Mill Supplies Inc.
Pepper Sisters	Windy McNabb
Pet Palace	Williams Veterinary Service

THANK YOU EVERYBODY!

CALENDAR



June 2 Thursday
(PLEASE NOTE DATE)

Board meeting at Bob's Burger & Brew.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m. (optional) meeting at 7:00

June 4 Saturday

National Trail Day at Blanchard. Working with DNR and other groups. Check in, registration and coffee at 9:00 a.m. Be ready to work at 10:00 a.m. Need volunteers for gravel haul and lunch prep. Please leave your horses at home unless you have been contacted by Roger for pack stock.

It would be nice to have around four horse people on the ground at the gravel load up area and four horse people on the ground at the dumping area. They will be loading the gravel at the second parking lot and the dumping areas are not more than a mile from there. Should be an easy hike to the dumping area's because they are all before the trail starts really climbing.

June 8 Wednesday

PLEASE NOTE: General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange.

The meeting for June will be at Laurel instead of Herman Miller. Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Sheri has volunteered to bring goodies.

June 11 Saturday

Northwest Regional Work Party at Les Hilde. Be ready to work at 10:00 a.m. We need volunteers for lunch, trash pickup (we want to clean up the trash on the road to four firs before they de-commission it) and some trail maintenance. Contact Susan Sebastian 360-391-2965 if you can help out.

June 17—19 Friday-Sunday

Campout at Bryce Camp at Heady trails. Notify Roger if you plan to campout. There is a \$20.00 fee to the Church camp for each rig for the weekend.

2011 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

LEGISLATIVE:

Mike McGlenn
360/966-9117

LEAVE NO TRACE:

Mick Blakely
360-332-7120

VOLUNTEER HOURS:

Verna Walker
360-595-2744

PROGRAMS:

Sharon Hoofnagle
360/734-4258

HOSPITALITY:

Alice Yancey
360/733-5063

SUNSHINE

Lori Hunt
384-0704

TRAIL HEAD COMMITTEE

Mike McGlenn
360-966-9117





LOOKING FOR HORSE PASTURE FOR 2 HORSES:

Moving to Bellingham, this summer. Open to boarding, leasing pasture or possibly buying pasture. Please call or email Suzanne 970-327-0157 ssitlington@gmail.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.

Check out our Website:
<http://www.Whatcom-bch.com/>

FOR SALE:

I am selling my **Billy Cook barrel saddle** 15" seat Paid 1245.00 Need \$800.00 (appraised at Laurel) Used proxy. 10 times. Sheri 595-2467



Minutes

No minutes for May 2011 general meeting received so not in the newsletter.

Sunshine Committee

If you know someone that needs a little ray of sunshine, please contact Lori Hunt 360-384-0704



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.

VET NOTES Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M Equine Herpes Virus

Just a quick update and refresher: Horses attending a cutting horse championship in Ogden, Utah April 30-May 8th were possibly exposed to a severe neurological form of equine herpes virus. The cases have been monitored through-out the United States.

What makes this event so serious is due to many factors. The severity of the disease and the high mortality rate are the major concerns. Since it is neurological the horses may be ataxic, staggering, and dangerous to approach. Risk to the humans from injury and the horse from falling is high. (Humans cannot get the disease) Death rate is high in affected horses.

Unlike some previous outbreaks such as the Findlay occurrence several years ago where the horses were all at one stable and quarantine was easy, the Ogden horses were at a large event, around 1000 horses, and then returned home, dispersing through-out the western states. Although cases originating from direct contact at the show are being monitored, a few secondary cases are starting to occur. These are horses that were not at the Ogden show but were exposed to horses returning from Ogden and then became ill.

Trail horses are not likely to be exposed. However if you are attending an event consult with your veterinarian. Many trail riders attend clinics. The most popular horse for trail is the Quarter horse, and this breed predominated at the cutting event.

Keep in mind secondary exposure. Veterinarians are practicing biosecurity measures as we visit farms. Farriers are also. However other farm visitors should be limited.

Concern will continue until new cases are no longer occurring. We know this makes it difficult for owners, and especially event organizers. This is not a matter of an individual owner's decision to take a risk with his or her horses. The disease is highly contagious. The owner's decisions will also affect neighbors and trail partners horses. Although direct contact with nasal secretions is the most common method of transmission, aerosol, contaminated clothing, hands, buckets, etc, can also transmit the virus.

From: Jeff Chapman BCHW Public Lands Chairman

The legislative session in Olympia is over as the Senate and House went home late last night. Gratefully, the House closed up shop and did not vote on SSB 5669, the bill that would have pushed DNR and WDFW to reduce their regional facilities (and consequently services). There is some language in the operating budget encouraging the natural resources to consolidate what services they feel they can do effectively.

Needless to say, we are all in the recreation community a little stunned that the Capital Budget, decimated for many purposes, came through for the recreation community. For BCHW, we did get all of our targeted items. NOVA has been saved for the rightful grant program. WWRP was funded at \$42 million (which includes the Rattlesnake Mtn. purchase and the Wenas Bald Mtn. purchase). Even DNR did get their 1.5 million for recreation maintenance. Plus 1.9 million for John Wayne trail tunnel repair. Please understand, this is notably unusual considering the circumstances.

While there are a great many legislators, both Democrats and Republicans, to be grateful to, I can't personally help but believe the strong support for recreation comes from the ranking minority heads of the Capital Budget. They both have been strong allies of BCHW and were in a position to make a huge difference since fiscal conservatism was not a partisan boundary issue this year. In general, many "Democrats" voted with "Republicans" on enough fiscal items that all four chairs of the capital budget committees carried significant weight. They each deserve our thanks. That said, we will be sending special thank you to Senator Linda Parlette (Wenatchee/Chelan) and Representative Judy Warnick (Moses Lake/Ellensburg).

You never know for sure on what makes a difference. For some inexplicable reason things lined up this year so that BCHW was pivotal in making a huge difference in buoying up recreation support for the entire recreation community and for the three natural resource agencies.

Well done. Thank you all.

Jeff

Trail Challenge & Prize Ride

Peace Love & Horsepower

\$5 per Hand &/or \$5 per Trail Skill Challenge

**Harry Osborne
Trailhead**

Saturday July 9th, 2011

9:30 – 11:30am Ride Out

Lunch Available

**Proceeds to Benefit
Trailhead Improvements**

BCHW Northwest Regional Contacts for Information:

Skagit – Janine (360) 853-8481 * Whatcom – Susan (360) 391-2965 * Island County – Randy (360) 929-3408
 Cascade Horse Club – Piper (425) 210-9711 * Traildusters – Jenny (425) 327-1375

*** Great Prizes ***



6998 Medford, Hamilton WA 98255

From I5 take Hwy 20 East. In appx 10 miles turn Left onto Cabin Creek Rd, turn Right onto Cemetery Rd, Left onto Medford and follow to trailhead.

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Come Join Us! Jan 1—Dec 31, 2011

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, Shirley Todhunter, 5999 Fazon Rd. Bellingham, WA 98226**

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--(State)-Membership number(s): _____

Adult's name (s): _____

Children's names(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____

FOR CHAPTER USE ONLY

Date Pd. _____

Check # _____

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 \$ _____

Chapter Membership

WHATCOM CHAPTER



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=\$ _____

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 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 above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, or horses.

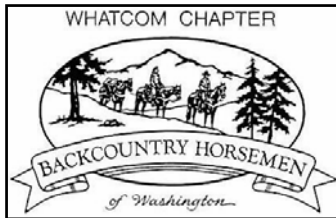
Signature: _____ Date: _____

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.

- 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 _____



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



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Next
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen
Meeting:
General Meeting: June 8, 2011
(Note change in location)Laurel Community Grange,
6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden, WA
Meeting at 7:00
Treats: Sherri Hathway

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

