

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

TRAIL TALES

October 2018

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P. O. Box 28607
Bellingham, WA 98228
2018

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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.

The sunny warm summer days are behind us now. You know how I know that, the burn bans have been lifted. That is a sure way to tell that the rains are back and will be with us until next summer. It was a really good summer with lots of sun and warm weather to make the memories that will last.

Talking about memories I hope that everyone will be able to make it to the Salmon Ride on October, 6th (see more about it in the newsletter). If you didn't make it last year this is your chance to come enjoy the event. If you were able to come last year you know how good the food was and how nice the riding is this time of year. Ya'll come.

Next month is election time for the chapter. If you haven't made up your mind to run for an office now is the time. There will be several positions to choose from so don't hesitate on making that decision. If you like the way the chapter has been run you can keep it going. If you don't like the way it has been run you can put your own twist to make it better.

See you on the trail.
Rodney

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

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

Vet notes Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M Seasonal Alerts for fall

The following notes are repeats- but important enough that reminders are warranted.
Laminitis.

We are entering a danger time for founder or laminitis. There are several factors that make fall almost as dangerous as spring for this devastating disease. Grass founder is caused by a carbohydrate over-load from consuming too much rich grass. Here are some factors.

1. The rains have started and our grasses which have been dormant for several weeks are starting to grow. That pasture that was grazed down to ½ inch may have been providing 2 lbs. of grass per day a few weeks ago. Today it may be the same height but providing 30 lbs. per day. You can't determine this because your horse is constantly mowing it. Watch your lawn, not your pasture, to determine grass growth. When you have to start mowing you know your pasture is growing also.

2. Cold nights-warm days- this concentrates sugars in grasses, making them more dangerous.

3. Many normal horses will physiologically turn into Cushings horses during the fall months. This seems to be a normal variation in horses. Many normal horses will test positive for Cushings disease Sept thru Nov even though they do not have the disease. This increases the possibility of laminitis in all horses in the fall months.

What to do? Weigh your horse using a weight tape. If they start to gain, and/or if they are on rich grass, and/or they are equine metabolic condition or Cushings horses, or past history of laminitis pull them off the rich grass.

Winter coats

Horses are about half-way through the fall shedding season. This shedding is triggered by the shortening days, not the temperature. The growth of the winter coat will continue for several weeks. But this winter coat causes a problem in the fall. September is usually ok because the winter coat is still light. However in October the temperatures can still get pretty high and the new winter coat is beginning to get long and thick. It is not unusual to hit the 70's and even occasionally the 80's in October. In August it might be 80 degrees but he still has a short summer coat. In October it might be 80 degrees but he has grown most of his winter coat. Asking him to climb a long steep trail when it is hot in October is like a human hiking with a down parka on in 80 degree weather.

Take it easy on those fall rides on hot days. Select cool rides on hot days.

**2018
TRAIL BOSSES**

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Cindy Piccolo
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Dawn Weaver
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**WORK PARTY
COORDINATOR**

Roger Nelson
360-599-2461

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: 8:30am. to 7 pm; Sat: 8:30am.to 6:00 pm. and Sun 9 am. to 5 pm.

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 Backcountry Horsemen of WA.
General Monthly Minutes
September 2018**

The meeting was called order at 7 pm at Misty River Ranch followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The members moved to the arena for a demonstration on harnessing given by Gary Anderson on Geri Surratt's horse Koko.

Meeting resumed in the covered pavilion. It has been requested that for future meetings we park on the gravel instead of the grass.

Approval of minutes: The August minutes were approved.

Director/legislative: At the next quarterly State meeting they will be voting on insurance issues and Trailhead news issues.

Volunteer hours: Verna McLeod reported 249.5 hours for August. The deadline for 2018 was Sept 1. Continue to send in hours, they will be recorded for next year.

Bill McKenna reported that BCHA is working on software that members can use to turn in hours monthly.

DNR volunteer hours: We have met the required goal but continue to send them in.

Work party/ trail coordinator: We have the Salmon Ride coming up on Oct 6th at Vedder Mt/ Bryce Creek. We need a few more work parties. The 1st will be this Sunday 9/16. No horses are needed.

Rocky and Joe have been asked by the Rainbow Coalition to lead a ride for 25 at Heady Rd. The horses are being supplied by a Skagit County outfit.

Trailheads: John Hollingsworth told a member that some trails at Eddy's Mt in the Saxon area have been wiped out by logging.

There is no update on the Saxon trails- work is being done to restore fish habitat.

Vedder Mt: people are not picking up manure. Also people are shooting at the signs. We should pick up others manure when we see it. Try to educate people.

Packing coordinator: Rocky reported that the packing is completed for this year. The PNT pack-in to Harts Pass was cancelled. A thank-you was given to all of the packers .

Old business: Helen Almojera passed out posters for our upcoming Salmon Ride on 10/6. Participants will be given a bracelet when they pay. Parking communication has been a problem but will be corrected. We had 55 participants with 42 riders in 2017. We are planning for 70 this year. Camping will be available. We may raffle off smoked salmon and sell the chocolate horse heads.

Next year we will try to coordinate with other groups to avoid events being held on the same day.

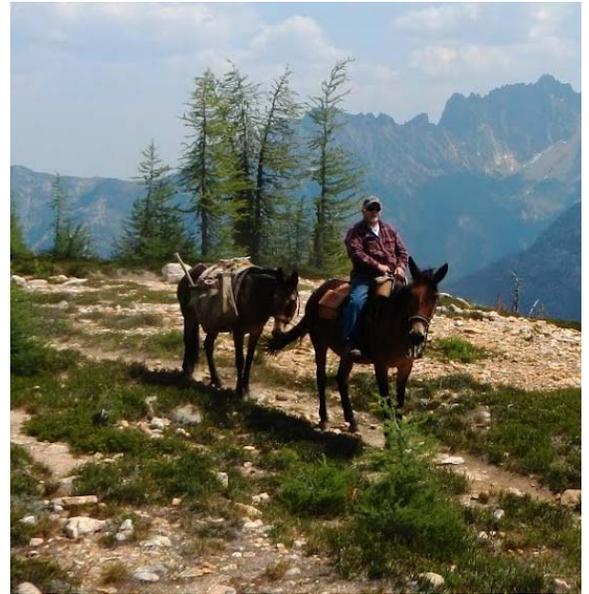
Good of order: Bill McKenna will be cooking for the DNR Blanchard Mt event on Sunday. They are expecting 200 people to celebrate the Blanchard Forest.

Bill McKenna has calendars.

Joe Remenar suggested we buy orange safety vests with the BCH logo at \$25/ vest. The expense would be covered by under equipment. Members can purchase them. Joe will buy 12 vests. Bill McKenna said that some chapters give out vests or hats as volunteer awards.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45.

Respectfully submitted
Sharon Hoofnagle



Cutthroat Pass Ride July 28, 2018
 Chapter's ride lead by Mike McGlenn and Rocky Leavitt. They had a good time, beautiful country.

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/month, limited to space available
 1/2 Page.....\$90.00 for 6 months or \$150.00/Year
 1/4 Page.....\$60.00 for 6 months or \$100.00/Year
 Business Card....\$30.00 for 6 months or \$50.00/ Year
 Classifieds.....\$3.00 per month
 Free Classifieds for members!



CALENDAR



Oct 1st—Monday

Board Meeting at Roundtable Pizza. Dinner at 6:00pm; meeting at 7:00pm.

Oct 6th—Saturday

Salmon Fest Ride fundraiser at Bryce Creek Camp.

Need to register first and get a band before starting to ride, so please be patient before parking. First riders out at 9:30 am, last rider at 11:00am. Ride and Salmon lunch donation of \$15.00, Children 12 and under \$10.00, Ride and hot dog lunch donation of \$10.00, Ride only donation of \$10.00. Lunch at 12:30—2:00pm. No dogs on ride. Contact Helen for more information, see flyer in newsletter. This is an club ride, no alcohol. Also need volunteers to help out with this ride, if you can help, please contact Helen at almojera@frontier.com or call her at 360-592-8080.

Oct 10th—Wednesday

General Meeting at Laurel Community Grange, 6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden, **Meeting starts at 7:00pm.** Need volunteers for treats and beverages. Let me know if you can bring something.

Oct 27th—Saturday

Winery Ride and Halloween Costume/Prize Ride—Zillah, WA. **More info at www.bchw.org**

2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

LEGISLATIVE:

Bill McKenna
360-599-2526

LEAVE NO TRACE:

Bill McKenna
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VOLUNTEER HOURS:

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Shirley Todhunter
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Mike McGlenn
360-739-2619

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Debbie Lagerwey
360-354-2804
Need Pictures!

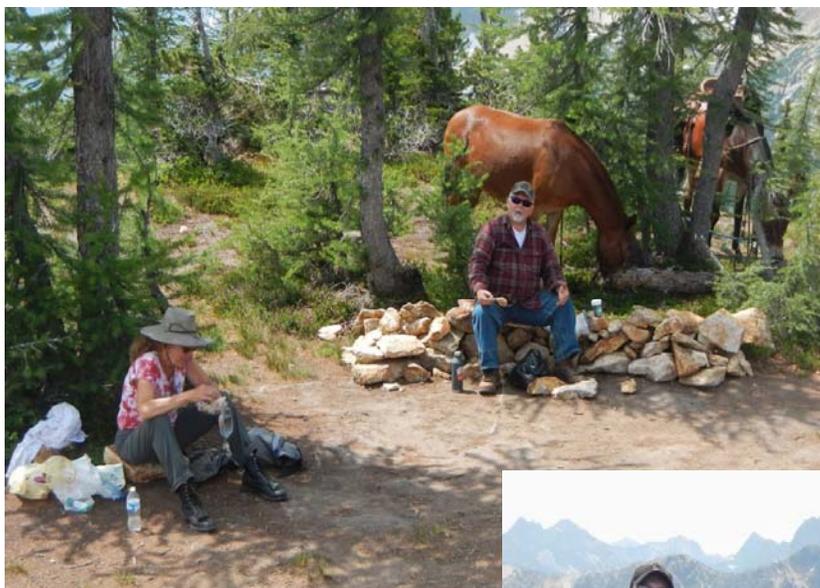
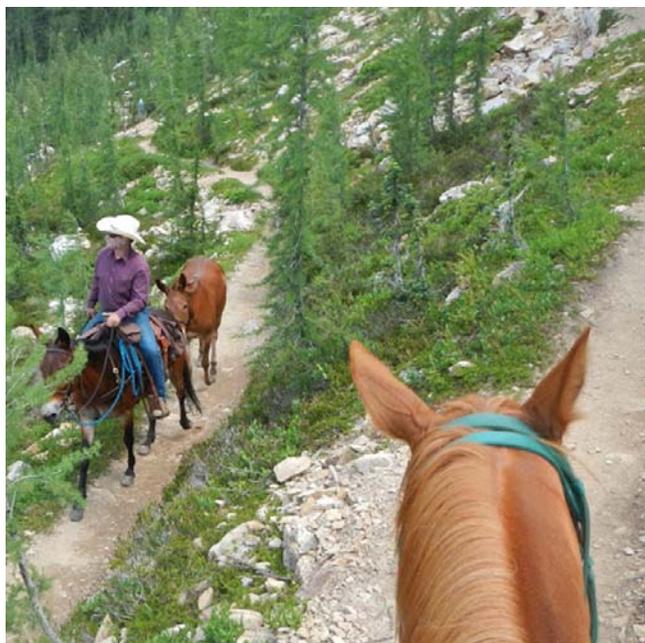
Elections and Membership for 2019:

HELP, WE NEED OFFICERS AND WE NEED YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Time to think about **elections** for 2019. We need officers, if you are interested in running for an office, please notify the board or let me know. Elections will be held in November, no experience needed. If you are concern that you don't know the duties, don't worry, we will help you!

Memberships: It's time to turn in your membership for 2019. Remember you can mail the membership form attached to this newsletter, just complete and send with your check attention to Helen Almojera, PO Box 28607, Bellingham, WA 98228 or you can rejoin online.

Fran



Cutthroat Pass Ride July 28, 2018
More pictures of the ride at Cutthroat Pass.
Fran



SALMON FEST RIDE

Oct 6, 2018

Bryce Creek Camp

Join Whatcom Backcountry Horsemen on Saturday, October 6th at Heady trails for a fun 2 1/2 hour Autumn ride and a delicious lunch of grilled King Salmon! Lunch at 12:30—2:00pm. Ride and Salmon lunch donation of \$15.00

Children 12 and under \$10.00

Ride and hot dog lunch donation of \$10.00

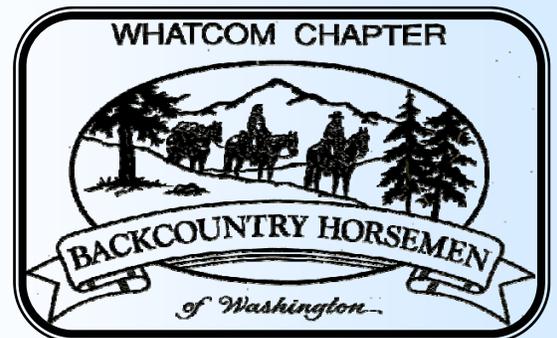
Ride only donation of \$10.00

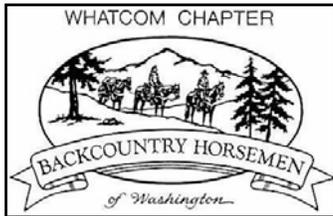
First riders out at 9:30 am, last rider at 11:00am. Trails will be marked.

Cash or checks only!

No dog on ride, must be on leash in area!
Contact : Helen at 360-592-8080 for more info.

Directions: From Mt. Baker Hwy (542) East continue on 542, by Kendall, on roundabout take 2nd exit straight to Kendall Road (547). Turn right on South Pass Road, turn left on Heady road. Turn right at yellow gate and follow signs to Bryce Creek Horse Camp. Park at gazebo or field below.





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WBCH Newsletter Editor
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(360) 734-2567



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Next
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen
Meeting:
General Meeting: October 10, 2018
Laurel Community Grange
6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden, WA
Meeting at 7:00pm.

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

