

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

TRAIL TALES

July 2023

Notes from the President

Whatcom Chapter
P. O. Box 28607
Bellingham, WA 98228
2023

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(2021-2023)

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(2023)

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Fran Van Diest
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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.

Hello, Race fans, First thing this month is the Skagit Chapter's Prize Ride, Sat. July 8 at the reopening of Les Hilde. Let's all go down and help them reopen this trail system. Some of our members are riding in Parades around the county over the next month or so. If you don't want to ride at least go out and wave at them as they go by. The next trail cleanup will be the 15th, the Saturday after our next general meeting so let's all go out and whack some brush.

See you out there!

Roger E.

Rocky figured out a way to advertise our Chapter!
Check it out—take your tote with you when traveling!

Fran



Volunteer Hours:

Report your hours to the volunteer coordinator:
Verna Walker at:
verna@soundengineering.com



VET NOTES Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M. EMERGENCY WOUND CARE

This month's vet notes is courtesy of the American Association of Equine Practitioners site for horse owners

The sight of blood may unnerve you, but maintaining your presence of mind can save your horse's life. The initial steps you take to treat a wound can prevent further damage and speed healing. How you proceed will depend on your individual circumstances, and you must exercise good judgment. The following should be viewed as guidelines:

- Catch and calm the horse to prevent further injury. Move the horse to stall or other familiar surroundings if this is possible without causing distress or further injury to the horse. Providing hay or grain can also be a good distraction.
- Get help before attempting to treat or evaluate a wound. It can be difficult and very dangerous to try to inspect or clean the wound without someone to hold the horse. You cannot help your horse if you are seriously injured yourself.
- Evaluate the location, depth, and severity of the wound. Call your veterinarian for a recommendation anytime you feel your horse is in need of emergency care. Here are some examples of situations where your veterinarian should be called:
 1. There appears to be excessive bleeding.
 2. The entire skin thickness has been penetrated.
 3. The wound occurs near or over a joint.
 4. Any structures underlying the skin are visible.
 5. A puncture has occurred.
 6. A severe wound has occurred in the lower leg at or below knee or hock level.
 7. The wound is severely contaminated.
- Consult with your veterinarian regarding a recommendation before you attempt to clean the wound or remove debris or penetrating objects, as you may precipitate uncontrollable bleeding or do further damage to the wound. Large objects should be stabilized to avoid damaging movement if possible. Don't put anything on the wound except a compress or cold water.
- Stop the bleeding by covering the wound with a sterile, absorbent pad (not cotton), applying firm, steady, even pressure to the wound.
- Do not medicate or tranquilize the horse unless specifically directed by your veterinarian. If the horse has suffered severe blood loss or shock, the administration of certain drugs can be life-threatening.
- If the eye is injured, do not attempt to treat. Await your veterinarian.
- If a horse steps on a nail or other sharp object and it remains embedded in the hoof, first clean the hoof. Consult with your veterinarian regarding a recommendation before you remove the nail. If your veterinarian advises, carefully remove the nail to prevent the horse from stepping on it and driving it deeper into the hoof cavity. As you remove it, be sure to mark the exact point and depth of entry with tape and/or a marker so the veterinarian can assess the extent of damage. Apply antiseptic to the wound, and wrap to prevent additional contamination.

All horses being treated for lacerations or puncture wounds need to be current on their tetanus vaccine.

OTHER EMERGENCIES

There are far too many types of emergencies from heat stroke to hyperkalemic periodic paralysis, bone fractures to snake bites, foaling difficulties to colic -- to adequately cover them all in this brochure. However, regardless of the situation, it's important to remember these points:

1. Keep the horse as calm as possible. Your own calm behavior will help achieve this.
2. Move the animal to a safe area where it is unlikely to be injured should it go down.
3. Get someone to help you, and delegate responsibilities, such as calling the veterinarian, retrieving the first aid kit, holding the horse, etc.
4. Notify your veterinarian immediately. Be prepared to provide specific information about the horse's condition, as mentioned above, and other data that will help your practitioner assess the immediacy of the danger and instruct you in how to proceed.
5. Listen closely and follow your equine practitioner's instructions.
6. Do not administer drugs, especially tranquilizers or sedatives, unless specifically instructed to do so by the veterinarian.

SUMMARY

Many accidents can be prevented by taking the time to evaluate your horse's environment and removing potential hazards. Also, assess your management routines to make them safer. Mentally rehearse your emergency action plan. Preparation will help you stay calm in the event of a real emergency. Keep your veterinarian's phone number and your first aid kit handy. In an emergency, time is critical. Don't be concerned with overreacting or annoying your veterinarian. By acting quickly and promptly, you can minimize the consequences of an injury or illness. Your horse's health and well-being depend on it.

WBCH General Meeting minutes June 14 2023 Vedder Mt Trailhead

The meeting was preceded by a work party and potluck

The meeting was called to order by Bill M. Cindy P (VP) took over in 30 min, Roger was out of town.

The agenda was approved. The minutes of May's general meeting were approved as written in the newsletter, Melinda moved, Joe seconded.

Reports

Treasurers report: Tim V reported expenses of \$350 for the rack on truck. The auction netted \$7373.73. Bank balances are available for members.

Ways & Means: Tim V- no action, Tim has met with Geri for orientation.

Public Lands: Tim will meet with Ted Neff (new head of Mt Baker Ranger District of Mt Baker- Snoqualmie Natl Forest) and Hans Klausner (USFS) in mid-July to discuss Hannegan, Dead Horse Trail, and Baker Lk, particularly parking at the south (dam) end of Baker Lk. Damfino Lakes access was also discussed.

DNR: National Trails Day- Sharon – the project went well- we replaced planks on the bridge which turned out to be a challenge. We had just the know-how to solve some tricky problems and just the right tools. The DNR opened up a temp. trail to give us close access, so no stock was needed. Members from Whatcom and Skagit that attended: Bill McKenna, Andy McLeod, Sharon Hoofnagle. Rocky Leavitt, Rich Ruhl, Alesa Boswel and Tim Riley. It was noted that once the planks start to rot out it is time to replace the bridge. We made it back in time for the meal.

Whatcom County Parks: Tim V, & Roger E met with Bennet Knox (new head of WCP), Christ Thomsen, and Ted from WCP. They have approved our proposed changes to Barn A, however we will have to apply for all permits and pay for changes. Roger E will take the issue to the membership. Camping around the perimeter of the large meadow won't work because of drainage issues. However, camping around the smaller meadow behind barn A (northern barn) with access road, camping sites, and highlines was approved. There still would be room for overflow trailer parking. The trail systems connecting Silver Lk and Maple Falls area are in the works. WCP will work with the DNR and all the user groups on this project. WBCH's remodeling the barn will start the project.

South Fork Park: WCP wants to connect the S Fork to Nessel Farm by purchasing the Karuso Farm. It may be a public-private venture. It is south of the Nessel Farm. It would give access to the Thousand Puddles area. No action needed at this time.

Pasayten Project Tim V Joe R, Bill M, Rocky and Linda L attended. Rocky taught a packing clinic for new packers. Media (Methow News) were there. PNT, WTA, and BCHW participated. About 60 people attended. Bill cooked brisket for the group. Crews did trail work, however there was a bad windstorm one night. Joe hauled the club trailer, hauled well and looked great. (Check the Pasayten Project out on the BCHW web site)

Whatcom Trails Assoc event: Sharon- there were a lot of folks at a fun venue. After introductory comments Arlen Bogaards - Northwest Regional Manager of WTA described their current projects. He was very complimentary about WBCH and the value of our hauling gear for WTA and working on projects with them.

(continue on Page 4)

(Continue from Page 3)

WBCH General Meeting minutes June 14 2023 Vedder Mt Trailhead

Auction: Melinda S. The auction went very well financially and management-wise. However, the auction committee unanimously decided not to hold it again. We have funds so we would like the group to do smaller fund-raisers. The auction is a tremendous amount of work, the committee is burned out after running it for several years. One key member in particular will be hard to replace due to her knowledge and her personal equipment that is used. Also, expenses are rising (800 going up to 1200 for the Museum) and food truck didn't make enough so will not return. If the club wants to have the auction, they will need a new committee. It was fun, but we are tired.

New Business:

Picnic Tables: Mike McGlenn emailed the board, project reported by Bill M and Rocky: Mikes email in part: The two picnic tables made of wood have for the most part fallen to ruin. Bode's Precast recommends their Park table II for our place. These tables are heavy, 1850 Lbs., and pretty indestructible. The price per table is \$595.00, delivery with their boom truck would be \$175.00. The truck can boom this much weight out into our area up to 60'. I expect if we bought two the delivery charge would likely be the same, but didn't ask that. One table and the boom truck would be \$770.00 plus tax.

The board is in favor of the purchase but there is confusion about the funding. General discussion followed. We decided to table the purchase until funding can be clarified.

Work Parties: Rocky- We have scheduled a work party this Saturday the 17th at Saxon. Meet at 10 am. Rocky will have pack stock to haul tools. The work will be about 1-mile past Edfro Creek. We need at least two brush cutters and digging out tools. Another project is planned for later to haul gravel for Whatcom Land Trust but they need to dig a ditch first, Madeline with the land trust will organize it.

The committee has set up additional work party dates:

It was decided to schedule 3 work parties now. Weather and circumstances will determine the sites- there is a lot of work to do. TBD- to be determined.

July 15 Saxon Aug 12 TBD Sept 16 TBD

Y Rd: Sharon- The 15-mile loop is still closed on the S side at around the Ogalala sign, need brushing. The North side is open. The trail through the clearcut is flagged but is very brushy. It is not rideable now

Salmon Feed: Bill- Herman has salmon for the Fall Fundraiser. The invoice is about \$300. It is in the budget. Last year the ride was not a fundraiser, it was a volunteer appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17

Submitted by Sharon Hoofnagle secretary

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.

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

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360-815-0362

April—Sept'23

2023 TRAIL BOSSES

Rocky Leavitt
360-599-2675

Roger Nelson
360-927-6964

Andy McLeod
360-595-2744

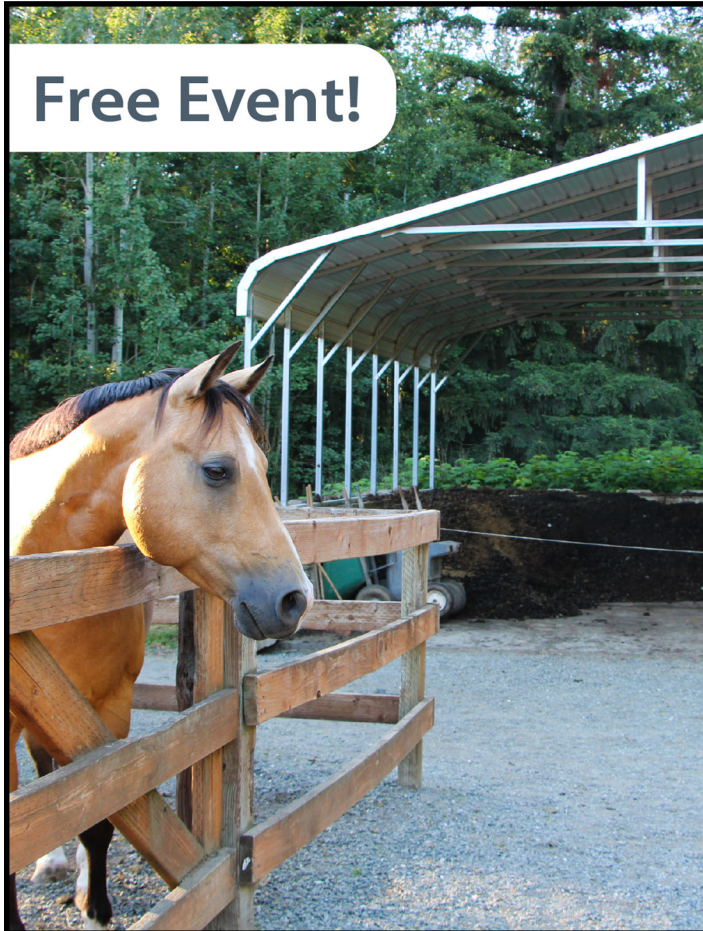
WORK PARTY COORDINATOR
Roger Nelson
360-927-6964

PACKING COORDINATOR
Rocky Leavitt
360-599-2675

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.

Sunshine Committee

If you know someone that needs a little ray of sunshine, please contact Michelle McKenna at 360-599-2526 or send her an email at: wintercreek10@gmail.com.



Free Event!

FARM SPEAKER SERIES

Compost & Conservation Field Day

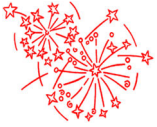
Thursday, July 13, 2023
6:00-7:30 PM
RSVP for farm location

Join us at Alluvial Farms, in Everson to learn how they built and operate a 5-bay aerated compost system on their hog farm! The event will feature demos, a walking tour, and information about project funding. Learn with experts and peers to create the right sized compost system of your dreams. Refreshments will be provided.



RSVP:
Anna Beebe
abeebe@whatcomcd.org
(360) 526-2387
www.whatcomcd.org/farm-speaker-series





CALENDAR



July 3, 2023---**board meeting** at Roundtable Pizza on Sunset Dr. Bellingham, dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm--8:30pm and also by zoom

July 8, 2023—**Everson Parade**. Contact Colette: gemitwinsltd@gmail.com, if you plan to be in the parade. Starts at Nooksack middle school and goes west to Riverside park. Much shorter route than old settlers parade. Parade ride out at 11 am. Participants should be there by 9 am. They are acquiring the field across the street for trailer parking.

July 12, 2023-----**general meeting**, we will be having a potluck/meeting at Misty River Ranch, potluck at 6pm and meeting at 7pm.

July 31, 2023—**board meeting** at Roundtable Pizza on Sunset Dr. Bellingham, dinner at 6pm, meeting at 7pm—8:30pm

August 18th thru the 20th— camp out at Bryce Creek and invitation for a ladies campout. **Contact Cindy at** cindypiccolo@gmail.com, or call her at 360-961-4839 if you plan to camp out.

Oct 28, 2023—**22nd Annual Winery Ride** in Zillah, WA. We have made some changes to the registration forms this year. Only one participant per form unless it is a spouse or child. All additional riders will have to fill out and pay on their own form. For more information and registration options:[BCHW 2023 Winery Ride Info - Back Country Horsemen of Washington](#)

2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Legislative:
Bill McKenna
360-599-2526

Leave No Trace
Bill McKenna
360-599-2526

Programs
Sharon Hoofnagle
360-7344258

Public lands committee
Tim Van Beek
360-472-5449

Membership committee
Cindy Piccolo
360-961-4839

Sunshine
Michelle McKenna
360-599-2526

Volunteer Hours
Verna McLeod
360-595-2744

Ways and Means committee
Tim Van Beek
360-472-5449

Volunteer hours for May 2023

Basic—34hrs., skilled—162 hrs., Admin—248.5 hrs., travel—55, total: 499.5 hrs.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Andy McLeod | Ann Graves-nm |
| Anonymous | Bill McKenna |
| Bob Rathjen | Carol Ketchum |
| Cindy Piccolo | Donna Remenar |
| Fran Van Diest | Geri Surratt |
| Joe Remenar | Judy Kinna |
| Judy Tate | Laurie Swartwood |
| Letitia Wheeler-nm | Linda Cair |
| Lisa Oostema | Lynn Johnson |
| Marie Tiemersma | Melinda Smull |
| Michelle McKenna | Mike McGlenn |
| Monica Uruchurtu | Nancy Giordano |
| Robbie Harris | Rocky Leavitt |
| Roger Edmonds | Sam Miller |
| Sharon Hoofnagle | Shirley Todhunter |
| Susan Sebastian | Terry DeBruin-nm |
| Tim Van Beek | Tricia Morones |
| Verna McLeod | Viki Schimke-nm |

BOARDING

One stall w/attached mud free gravel paddock available in private barn in NW Ferndale. Board (\$400.00/mo.) includes first cutting local hay, shavings, feeding and cleaning twice a day. You supply grain/supplements. Grass turnout available from mid May through October. Trails on property accessible May through November. Minutes from Sunset Farm Park. Preference given to someone who is willing to do chores occasionally so we can take a long weekend off!



Robbie Harris 360.319.1138



**Pasayten Wilderness Project
Kickoff, Weekend of June
9th—June 11th, 2023**

Here's a few photos from the Pasayten Wilderness Project Kickoff this past weekend. Bill, Rocky, Tim, and myself were in attendance. Bill cooked over 40 pounds of brisket for the Saturday kickoff.

Joe

**2023
TRAIL BOSSES**

Rocky Leavitt
360-599-2675

Roger Nelson
360-927-6964

Andy McLeod
360-595-2744

**WORK PARTY
COORDINATOR**

Roger Nelson
360-927-6964

**PACKING
COORDINATOR**

Rocky Leavitt
360-599-2675



More pictures on page 8, Pasayten work party)



(A couple more pictures of Pasayten work party, June 9—11, 2023



Blanchard DNR National Trails Day work party, June 3, 2023 pictures. Fixing bridge.





June 17, 2023 Saxon work party

A work party was held up the Thousand Puddles trail at Saxon on June 17th. In attendance were Verna and Andy McLeod, Bill McKenna, Bob Rathjen, and Rocky. A section of the trail had cut away the bank a couple of years ago on a sharp corner. A small creek washed out the trail and carved out a small canyon two to four feet deep.

We discussed several different options including building a small bridge across the divide. A decision was made to put in a temporary culvert about 6 feet in length. The culvert was donated by Vince Stremler and was put into place with a lot of digging and shoveling. A bunch of tools were used and were packed in by three mules and one horse.

Adding to the work was Verna going up the trail a ways by herself brush cutting out the trail.

Later, Bob and Rocky logged out the trail and made it up to Roy's picnic table and....had a picnic lunch. The trail is in good shape and can be used by most anyone.

We may be working with Whatcom Land Trust July 15th packing in gravel with the gas wheelbarrow totes. The work site is in about two hundred yards from the yellow gate. No animals will be needed. Stay tuned for more info on this. We are still needing WLT to do a bit more work on the work site before we can bring the gravel in.

This trail, especially along the river, needs brushing out badly. Let us know if you can help out. I will get you the right equipment.

Rocky Leavitt



(More pictures on page 10)

(More pictures of the Saxon work party, June 17, 2023)



Check out the work done! It looks great!
Below, Bob having lunch at the picnic table—still standing!
Thousand Puddle trail was one of favorite places to ride,
close to the river, peaceful.
If you get a chance ride at Saxon.
Fran

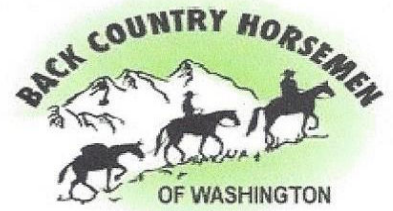


2023 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Come Join Us!

Go to BCHW.org and join or renew online. If online is not an option, please fill out this paper application and sign, (all members 18 and over must sign) enclose your cash or check made out to BCHW and mail to:

BCHW Membership Chair
 11404 210th Ave Ct E
 Bonney Lake, WA 98391



Whatcom Co.

Member Info

Check One: New Member Renewal Secondary Chapter Application Only

Adult's name(s): _____

Children's name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____

National and State Newsletters are viewable online at BCHA.org/BCHW.org or Please mail a hard copy of Newsletters
 (Check Boxes) BCHW (Trailhead News) Chapter Newsletter (If available to mail)

STATE MEMBERSHIP

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Basic Memberships

- Single \$41.00
- Family \$54.00

Levels below include Single and Family

- Contributing \$75.00
- Sustaining \$125.00
- Patron \$250.00
- Benefactor \$500.00
- Lifetime (Single) \$1200.00
- Lifetime (Family of 2) \$2000.00

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.

Chapter Name: **Whatcom Co.**

If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW State dues were paid:

Chapter Dues \$10

Please consider making a State donation:
 State Subtotal \$

Please consider making a Chapter donation:
 Chapter Subtotal \$

Grand Total (State+Chapter) \$

NOTICES

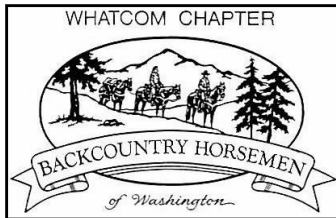
By signing this membership application, you will agree to the terms of our Liability Release. You can read it on our website at bchw.org, under the Join tab. You also agree to receive notices from BCHW/BCHA by electronic transmission at the above email address.

Back Country 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.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

Signature: _____ Date _____



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



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



Next
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen

Meeting:
General Meeting:
July 12, 2023

Misty River Ranch.
5690 N. Fork Rd. Deming, WA
Potluck at 6pm, meeting at 7pm--8:30pm

