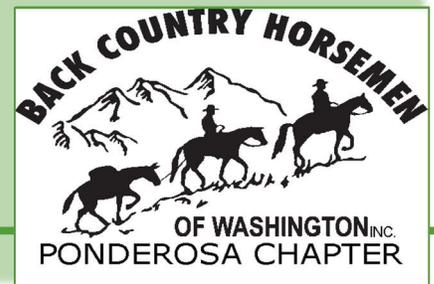


PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of Washington



“Keeping Washington Trails Open”

June 2017

CALENDAR

June 6, 2007

**Membership Meeting @
Carmichael's Home**

[See Announcements for
details]

June 10-11

**Front Country Trailhead
Camping Seminar
Seminar is Full!**

July 8

**Chapter Ride Potluck
(replaces our Membership
Meeting)**

**Fishtrap – Folsom Farm
Trailhead**

**Boots in the stirrups at 10 am
Guest: Chris Shafer, BLM**

September 30

**Fall Fun Ride & Scavenger
Hunt**

**Riverside Equestrian Center
Volunteers Needed!**



**Riding Season Has
Arrived!**

Announcements: Note Meeting Location Change!!!!

June 6, 2007

Membership Meeting @ Carmichael's Home

10804 W Seven Mile Rd

6:30 pm

Program: “What to Know Before you Call the Vet”

Speaker: McKinley & Peters

Dessert and beverages served

June Membership Meeting

By Ken Carmichael

The June meeting will NOT be at our normal location.

Instead, in anticipation of good summer weather we will have the meeting at my house. The program will be Dr. Freya Stein from the McKinlay & Peters Veterinary Hospital. She will talk on "What we should know before calling the vet". We will have my horses there to poke and prod as necessary. Patti will have dessert for us.

As always the meeting will start at 6:30.

My address is 10804 W Seven Mile Rd. We are on the north side of the road ½ mile west of the Pine Bluff intersection, or 2 ½ miles west of the Spokane River Bridge. There is plenty of parking in front or back.

If you have one you may bring a lawn chair, although I have lots.

Ponderosa is on a real roll of having good meeting programs. Be sure to join us for a fun and educational meeting.



Howdy riders,

Allow me to introduce myself, I'm Cindi Vance. My husband Brian and I transferred membership from Pierce Co. BCHW to the Ponderosa Chapter after relocating to the Medical Lake area this past Fall. We've been involved with BCHW since the early '80's.

At a recent meeting Ken Carmichael strongly suggested the need for someone to pass along legislative updates and action items pertaining to our group so I volunteered.

My job is to facilitate communications from Jeff Chapman (BCHW state legislative chair) and others to keep you informed about what's happening in Olympia and elsewhere regarding stock use in the backcountry, state parks, DNR, Trails and other issues that directly affect us.

While trying to keep emails at a minimum, I will endeavor to let you know which items require ACTION by stating ACTION required or no action required in the subject line.

For those items that require contacting your legislative representatives, here is a list of our area's representatives and how to contact them.

7th District State Legislators*

Shelly Short
(360)786-7612
Shelly.Short@leg.wa.gov
www.shellyshort.src.wastateleg.org

Joel Kretz
(360)786-7988
Joel.Kretz@leg.wa.gov
www.representativejoelkretz.com

Jacquelin Maycumber
(360)786-7908
Jacquelin.Maycumber@leg.wa.gov
www.representativejacquelinmaycumber.com

[*Editors note: some of us are in the 6th District, but if you aren't sure go to the following website and enter your address. <http://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/>]

Congress

Cathy McMorris Rodgers
(509)353-2374
www.mcmorris.house.gov

Senators

Maria Cantwell
(509)353-2507
www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact

Patty Murray
(509)624-9515
www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contactme

Please help me make it easier for you to stay informed and involved in this important aspect of our club. Let me know if you have any suggestions or questions. I look forward to meeting more of you soon.

Legislative message from BCHW Legislative Chair, Jeff Chapman:

The new Outdoor Recreation Caucus in Congress is growing. The Outdoor Industry Association (OIA) is taking the NGO advocacy lead on working with Congress.
<http://oia.outdoorindustry.org/webmail/51282/501193737/dcd93bade7d1b724b6f1ecd44bd06858>

Note that to date, Washington State members who have already joined the Caucus are

- Senator Maria Cantwell
- Senator Patty Murray
- Congressman Dan Newhouse
- Congresswoman Suzan DelBene
-

This is very good for us since these four have been supportive of horseback riding. Drop them a line and thank them for being on the Caucus. You might mention to them some of the issues important to you.

More Representatives can join the caucus. It would be great to get Congressman Kilmer, Congresswoman Herrera Beutler, or others join the Caucus. You can write to them using the OIA advocacy site or by reaching out to them at their congressional websites.
<https://outdoorindustry.org/ruckus-raucous-caucus-outdoor-recreation-finds-voice-congress/>



Scavenger Hunt Update

By Ken Carmichael

We are continuing to plan for and work on the Scavenger Hunt scheduled for **Saturday, September 30**. Linda White is doing a fantastic job gathering items for winners, door prizes and raffles.

We have started to receive pre-registrations. This tells us the word is getting out there and people are planning to come.

A big part of the success of this fundraiser is participation by chapter members. We pride ourselves in providing a smooth, well run event and that takes lots of volunteers. People come back, and tell their friends, when they have a good time and that starts with being treated well.

We will need help in many areas including: parking, registration, determining scavenger hunt winners, chili feed, crazy hat contest and the raffle. It is a busy day. I will ask that the Scavenger Hunt flier be attached to this newsletter for more details about the event.

Please set aside **Saturday, September 30** as a day you can help. It is fun. Also remember to tell your friends, stables and riding groups about the event. Everyone is invited.

Please see Linda White's note about gathering prizes.

From Linda White, Scavenger Hunt Donations Chair:

As we prepare for the scavenger hunt we're looking for donated items for door prizes. If you have a favorite restaurant or coffee shop please feel free to ask them for a donation. If you think you know someone that would be willing to make a donation and don't want to ask yourself then let either myself or Ken and we will do it. Together we will make this a great success.

Escure Ranch Ride

By Ken Carmichael

For those of you who missed the ride and campout at Escure Ranch (BLM) on May 5-7 you missed a good time, even though we had to dodge some rain showers.

Of course our goal was to ride but we also wanted to work on the PBCH projects scheduled for that area. We rode Saturday and Sunday but needed to be very careful due to the soft ground. I believe it will still be some time before it is safe to ride cross country.

We did start the process of verifying and locating fences and gates. This will be a big job and would be greatly improved by having a GPS unit that can download to maps. If you, or someone you know, has this we can use the help.

On Friday the rancher (Mark Powers) and crew were there gathering 360 head of cows with their calves. On Saturday we watched them process the calves. It was a very efficient operation as they worked as a team. The cattle will be taken off the BLM land in June. 50 head will remain on the state land.

This is a great place to camp with the amenities (restroom, horse water and high lines) that we need.

We plan to make more trips into the area as time and weather permits.



Me and My Shadow

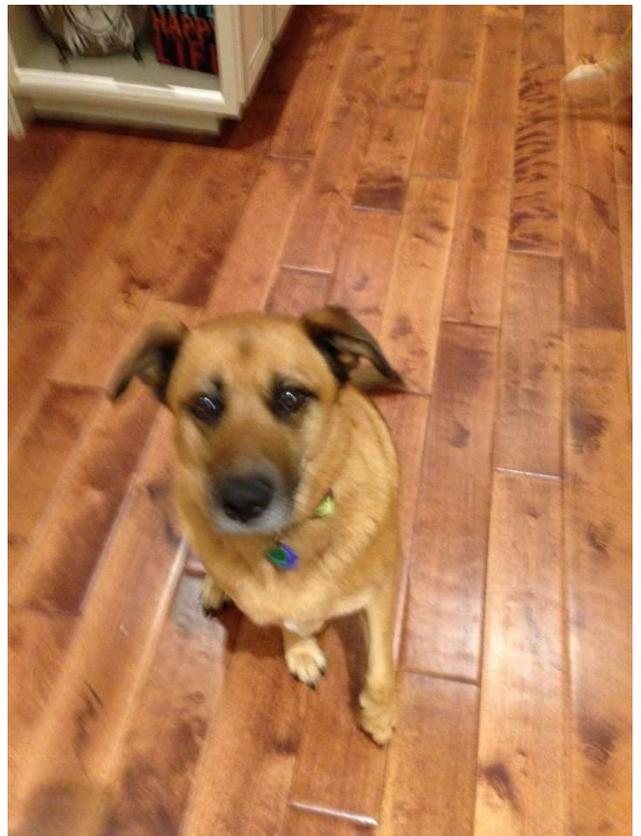
By Joyce Johnson

Bet you think my horse is silly, huh? But you haven't heard about my dog, Missy, 7-year-old Labrador Retriever/Shepherd cross. Missy was adopted a year and a half ago from SCRAPS by my son-in-law. He had been talking about getting a dog for some time. Missy has a passion to retrieve just about everything she can get her mouth on: balls, sticks, pinecones, small rocks, etc. At about the first of this year, my son-in-law hinted quite often that Missy would be a good companion for me rather than a puppy I was going to adopt. She is very demanding for attention, and my son-in-law and daughter, both full-time accountants, don't have enough time to play with her after getting off work. So the solution for them would be to hand her over to me rather than bring her back to SCRAPS. Well, being the dog lover I am, what could I do? So, in March, I reluctantly agreed to take her.

Oh my, what did I get myself into? I call her my shadow, because wherever I go, Missy wants to be my guide dog to make sure I get from room to room in my house safely, especially in and out of the bathroom. Her bed is on the floor next to my bed; her alternate bed is on my living room couch (covered by a blanket, of course). If I visit my bathroom during the night, when I come out, she's usually laying by the bathroom door making sure I exit okay. Then she watches to make sure I get back in bed okay before she returns to one of her beds.

We go out to the park across the street twice a day and on a long walk in the middle of the day. She wants to make sure I get my exercise so I am able to deal with her needs: chucking the ball about 40 times for her to retrieve, either in the park or in my small back yard. She only lets me pick up the ball to throw for her to chase when she puts it down on the ground and backs away a few steps. I can't pick it up before she decides it's time because she'll clamp on it right away. She's the ball boss, as well as the pinecone and stick boss and the boss of any other stuff she finds on the ground for me to throw.

Boy, bedtime is so appealing to me after expending so much energy to keep Missy healthy and happy! It's been hard to sneak away from her to visit my horse. Some day, I intend to have them meet each other. She doesn't know what a horse is and thinks it's just a giant dog that might hurt her.



C.A.M.P.

As some of you know the state parks is conducting another planning process for Riverside State Park. It is called CAMP, Classification and Management Plan. This was done about 20 years ago.

This time the emphasis will be on Lake Spokane. This is because the RSP footprint on the lake has greatly increased with the addition of more campgrounds. However, when planning takes place in one part of the park it has a tendency to affect other areas.

I represented equestrians in a stakeholders meeting recently where parks brought together representatives of all the groups with an interest in the park. It was an impressive meeting where we all had a chance to express what we feel needs to be done in the park.

The next step will be two identical **public meetings on May 24 and 25** to receive further input. I will be out of the state on those dates and will not be able to attend. I realize that this is not a high stakes meeting for equestrians but I also believe that if we want to be part of the solution and have our interests addressed then we better be at the table.

Therefore, please plan on taking some time and attending one of the two meetings. Sign in as BCH so parks knows we are interested.

The information below is from the State Park website, and includes a link. There is a comment option at that link.

Ken Carmichael

From: <http://parks.state.wa.us/916/Riverside-State-Park-planning-project>

Riverside State Park Classification and Management Plan



The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is beginning a public process regarding the planning of the *Riverside State Park—Lake Spokane* area. We are committed to preparing comprehensive land use plans for each of our parks and in some cases, updating existing plans when necessary. Riverside State Park is one such example that requires additional planning. The *Riverside State Park—Lake Spokane* area is comprised of a patchwork of public and private lands located adjacent to Lake Spokane, a reservoir created by Long Lake Dam. State Parks manages some of these properties in partnership with the Department of Natural Resources, Spokane County, and Avista Corporation. The plan will help determine future use and development of these properties.

We term our planning effort CAMP, which stands for Classification and Management Plan. When completed, a CAMP describes the intended uses that may occur in the park, the park long-term boundary, and specific management steps that will guide operation of the park. The Parks and Recreation Commission adopts the final CAMP after considerable deliberation and public comment.

This effort will focus primarily on state-managed land surrounding Lake Spokane with the purpose of augmenting, but not replacing, the existing Riverside CAMP. You are invited to participate in our process with other participants to help inform the development of this plan. The scope, schedule, and phases of the Riverside planning project is attached on this web page to provide you with more information.

The first meeting will be held in two separate locations to ensure as many residents from the north and south sides of Lake Spokane have an opportunity to participate. The first meeting will ask the public to consider the most important issues regarding management of the park in your opinion.

May 24th 6:00 to 8:30 pm
Lakeside Middle School
6169 Hwy 291
Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026

May 25th 6:00 to 8:30 pm
Shadle Park High School
4327 N Ash St
Spokane, WA 99205

(This is not a Spokane Public Schools sanctioned or sponsored event.)

The following educational article was provided by Terri Hughes, a new PBCH member. (This can also be found on her blog: <http://naturalhorsemanshipandyou.com/3659/five-steps-of-preparation-for-your-backcountry-riding-vacation.>)

Five Steps of Preparation for Your Backcountry Riding Vacation



Friends, all I can say is that I have seen some wonderful country from the back of a horse!

It's a little different with a horse, they are doing the work for you, while you have the advantage of this perch to look around on. While hiking, you are likely looking down and don't have the elevated view!

I spent twenty years riding and camping with my horse. These are processes that have worked for me. My most recent trip was in 2012, after which my daughter, about nine years old at the time, wanted my company for vacations (!), and many areas, routes and destinations, were burning with rampant forest fires. So I set it aside for a while. I've kept track of favorite riding areas, and new ideas put out by folks gaining experience! Hopefully, this will springboard you into researching your own ideas and what might work for you!

Where to Go?

This should be determined by the level of condition and trail experience of your horse, and of your riding buddies going with you. In the old days, it was the folks who would commit to keeping their rig tuned and ready in good repair, and a consistent conditioning and exposure program for their horses. Having dabbled in endurance riding for five years, I'd condition as if for a twenty five mile ride, and then I could be quite confident that I could go on my trip and not worry about my horse.



Lake basins are great places to visit. Great views and moderate terrain that everyone can enjoy. Diamond Peak Wilderness in south central Oregon is a good one. Traveling through Crater Lake National Park, is wonderful. Mt Adams is a repeat favorite, both from Mt. Adams Horse Camp and Keenes Horse Camp. Author Kim McCarrel writes trail books that encompass many areas of Oregon and Washington. She covers many areas I have ridden and her information is reliable. Her website is <http://nwhorsetrails.com/>

Facebook site Holly's Horse Tales and Trails is also good information on areas of Central Oregon that I have camped and ridden. Her blog brings

back many happy memories!

The Open Trail Project is a great site with a Facebook site as well, for an archive of national horse trails, and handy record keeping tools. Check it out here: <http://www.opentrail.us>

We Are Trail Riders is another .com and Facebook resource for the rider with national riding sites. Check it out here: <https://www.wearetrailriders.com/>

These resources will help with map selection and other land management resources. I always used Green Trail Maps and checked with the Forest Service on trail conditions and closures. Map stores are also great resources, Bend Mapping and Blueprint in Bend, Oregon, is a great resource for trails outside the Diamond Peak Wilderness area, which are every bit as nice to ride as those within the wilderness boundaries!



We all started out with camping in our horse trailers! Over the years, we all managed to upgrade to some form of camper (I had a pop-up for seven years), and while it afforded lots of comfort, what it really did was organize us! It's really nice to not have to set up camp when we arrived! And it was really nice to have a sense of organization so we could concentrate on riding! Not to mention sleeping with a warm face if you want to use the heater!

I found that year after year, August was a good time to travel the backcountry. Late snow melt was generally gone, and bugs are scarce! No issues with wasps or bees, and the no-see-ems are most active in July in those high mountain meadows. You have a little less daylight, and depending on elevation, you can encounter occasional overnight temperatures near freezing. Still, I have found it to be the most enjoyable time to ride!

Thinking of packing in? I always bring what I need to stay overnight if need be. But I wouldn't qualify that as packing in, lol! There are a couple of near-30 mile loops that I would like to break into two 15-milers and stay out the night. Tons of material out there, my favorite being the guys from Montana at Trailhead Supply. Catch up on their blog! They regularly attend the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) Rondy in Ellensburg, Washington. They have given a great mini-seminar on getting started in packing for women, always to a "sell-out" crowd! Here is their website link: <https://www.trailheadsupply.com/>

Here is a link to the rondy:

<http://naturalhorsemanshipandyou.com/2983/backcountry-horsemen-of-washington-rondy-ellensburg>

I like the idea of the over the saddle panniers to keep it easy!



What to Bring?

Food for a week! The camper refrigerators, even the small ones, can hold a lot! It's fun to trade off meal duty with your buddies! Fry pan burritos were easy after a ride, and quick! And me, I can eat hot dogs the entire time! Check around and you'll find what suits you! I've also done cheese fondue when it was my turn to cook!

A water resistant blanket for your horse and a lighter sheet. When your horse has been working all day, they will appreciate a cover in the higher elevations, and whether it is your enclosure or a horse camp, not a lot of room to move around to keep warm.



Clothes to layer. I used my cross country ski clothes! I layer with tights and pants of choice for chafing, Sporthill sells a wind resistant ski pant that is tapered towards the ankle, which I found handy. A stretchy vest, my Outback jacket, and the Outback rain slicker that folds into a backpack, that is easy to tie on the back of the saddle. Headgear of choice, which included helmet, or straw hat, or wool hat, or the Outback waxed hat for rainy days, all got their use! Half chaps work well for bushwacking and for keeping the heat in your lower extremities. I've used cowboy boots, rubber boots, riding tennis shoes, paddock boots with thinsulate, all had their place! And remember, you are camping, so pack light, wear everything multiple times, its OK to get and be dirty! I used conditioner for my hair so the dirt and sweat wouldn't stick! Maybe the suntanned face was part sun, part dirt!

How about water?

We mostly camped in designated horse camps, or primitive camped when there was an appropriate area, as in the Ochocos out of Prineville, Oregon. It used to be that a trailer water tank only held about 25 gallons. There are more options now, check out <http://thedistancedepot.com>.



I'll take advantage of streams and nearby lakes to make my water last, and carry a camper hose that spirals into a convenient carry tray to take with me. Those can be purchased most anywhere, I bought mine at the local Bi-mart discount store.



My horn bags are designed to carry a water bottle in each side. I use a refillable stainless steel one, and the other is my Seychelle water filtration bottle.

Most campsites will have pens, either wood or metal, many in Washington State have highlines. I carry my swivel attachment that will allow my horse to pull back and not panic. I also carry my own highline kit. You can purchase a highline attachment for your trailer, lightweight corral sections, or use an electric corral set-up. Mainly it's what you prefer and what you think is best and easiest for your horse.

Feed and Supplies

Equipment is quite sophisticated these days, but even with a simple rig set up, you can manage to have fun! I take weed free grass hay and alfalfa, I find my horse appreciated a little extra after an all day trail ride! I organized daily feed rations in baggies, and took loose salt to add. Dynamite Specialty Products has an excellent loose salt, as even the vets rarely carry it anymore, our past go-to source.

<https://dynamitespecialty.myvoffice.com/ShoppingCart/index.cfm?FuseAction=CategoryShop&CategoryID=91&ParentCategoryID=4>



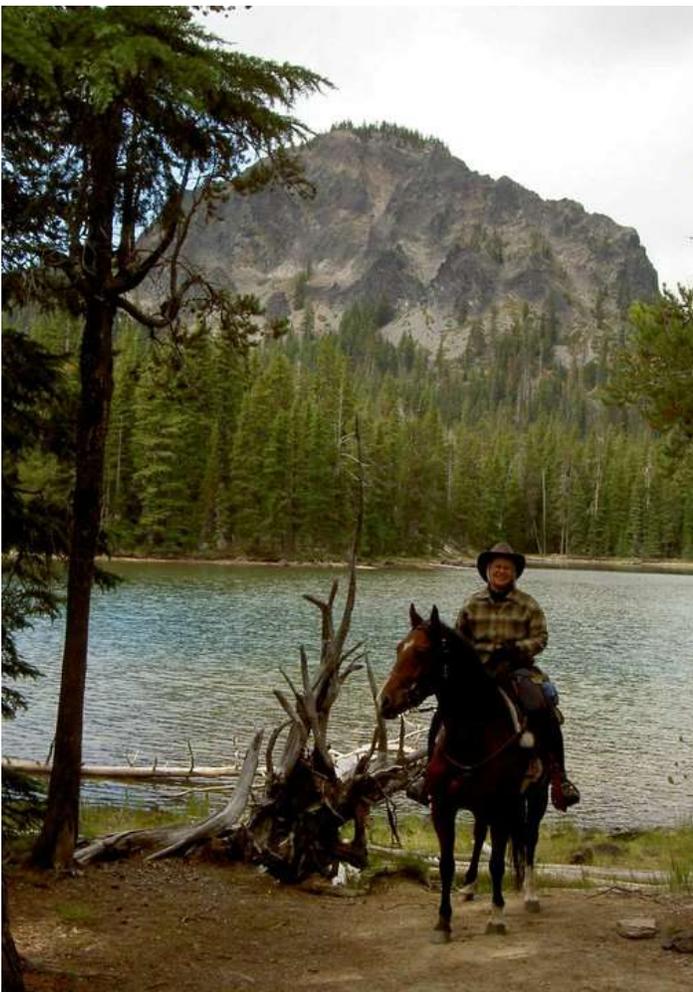
We would buddy up in twos, one hauling the horses, and one hauling the hay and supplies! It worked great, and gave us the advantage of the extra rig in case we experienced any troubles!

Enjoying Mother Nature

We want to set up our trip in our favor. Do our homework, plan our route, and also be flexible if conditions change. Respect Mother Nature, and your limitations as humans, small pebbles on the beach. Be thoughtful of choosing your horse buddy, and your riding buddies. There should be a sense of responsibility and support towards each other when traveling the backcountry.

I do travel with a cell phone and battery pack. Will your battery pack last a week? Likely not. Will your cell phone work everywhere? Likely not. However, that is the part I like the best about horse camping, going far enough away to make you feel you are “away”, and not having to worry about anything except the needs of yourself and your horse.

Horses have a great sense of direction, they have never failed me. They always prove the “no, it’s thatta way” person wrong. Take some orange surveyors tape to mark intersections. Everyone should pack a



gun. Three shots is the universal signal for help. I figure if I had to wait it out while someone rode for help, I could stave off a few critters, or put my horse down if necessary. Stay on the trail. Avoid game trails that may look inviting. Keep well hydrated and graze on saddlebag snacks. Becoming dehydrated and having low blood sugar contributes to poor decision making. Turn around if you encounter unexpected obstacles that will deplete your horse's energy or put them at risk. Use common sense. Even though these methods and tools may be considered "old", I would still be comfortable today traveling as such.

As a basic overview, I hope this inspires you to research for your own camping adventure with your horse! There are lots of dude ranch offerings, but nothing to compare with your own fine animal taking you down the trail with cooperation and enthusiasm!

Happy Trails!

Terri

WANTED PUBLICITY PERSON!

PBCH Needs You!

Work with retailers, advertisers, potential sponsors, media, and PBCH committee members to assist with marketing, advertising and assisting in promoting the BCH Mission and Ponderosa Chapter.

Please contact Dean Giles or Ken Carmichael if you'd like to participate in this important service to your Chapter



I invite you all to send me your stories, tips, jokes, articles, photos, words of wisdom or whatever. I especially would like to encourage our officers and committee chairs to share their thoughts, visions and projects. The goal here is to make the newsletter fun, entertaining and informative.

Patti Sander, Editor

P.S. Please send me photos of you and your equine buddy so I can highlight you in our newsletter!

THANK YOU

"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team" Phil Jackson

2017 PONDEROSA CHAPTER OFFICERS

Dean Giles, President
Joyce Johnson, Treasurer
Ken Carmichael, State Director
Patti Sander, Secretary
Cindy Vance, Legislative Chair
Craig Volosing, Lands Chair
Don Groshon, Membership Chair
Doug Bailey, Trail Boss
Jose Bruce, Volunteer Hours Coord.
Patti Sander, Education Chairman
Cindy Miller, Webmaster/Facebook
Patti Sander, Newsletter Editor
Michelle Eames, Newsletter Publisher
Gary Miller, Photographer
Doug Stewart, Multi-Chapter Coordinator