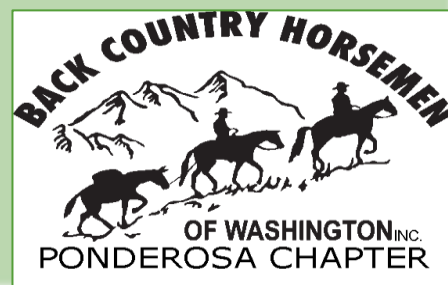


PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of Washington



"Keeping Washington Trails Open"

September 2017

CALENDAR

Membership Meeting

September 5, 2017

INB Bank, Airway Heights

6:30 pm

2016 BCH Accomplishments

Video

Scavenger Hunt

Rehearsal

And Potluck

September 26, 2017

6:00 pm

Riverside Equestrian Area

September 30, 2017

Scavenger Hunt

Riverside State Park

Membership Meeting

October 3, 2017

6:30 pm

INB Bank, Airway Heights



SUMMER OVER? NAH...

STILL GOOD RIDING WEATHER AHEAD

....BUT

BE SAFE !

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

By Patti Sander

At the September meeting, we will be nominating members to run for office for 2018. We are looking to fill all four of our positions, President, Secretary, Treasurer and Director.

As you know, our chapter has grown tremendously this past year, and we are now one of the largest chapters in the state. Not bad for only coming on 2 years old! However, growth means responsibility. In order to meet these responsibilities, it is going to take a commitment from each one of us in 2018. There is so much opportunity to make a difference in our community and beyond and it's going to take all of us.

"What do YOU have to offer?" "What is going to be YOUR legacy? "

The Chapter needs responsible, committed leaders in 2018. Consider stepping up and offering your talents and skills; help Ponderosa meet the challenges of 2018!

Horses ~

Somewhere behind the rider you've become, the hours of practice you've put in, the trainers that have pushed you, the money you've spent, the miles you've hauled, the sweat, the tears, the bruises, the blisters, the ripped jeans, the lame horse, the crazy horse, and everything in between...

Is the kid who fell in love with the sport, the horse, the life and never looked back.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

By Ken Carmichael

One means by which we measure the success of BCH is participation at events. One of these major events is the monthly membership meeting.

Of course we want the meetings to be meaningful to our members. We all set priorities for our time and resources. What we need to do is get PBCH higher on our members' priority list. Thus the question: **What would you like to see happen at monthly membership meetings that would encourage you to attend?**

Bring your ideas to a meeting or let one of us know. We will see what can be done.

SCAVENGER HUNT

By Ken Carmichael

Our scavenger hunt is quickly approaching. The date is **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH**. This is our one and only fundraiser and a great opportunity to put our good name before the public.

Please plan to be on site at 7:30 am at the equestrian area of Riverside State Park. This will give us enough time to sign in (remember to know your travel time and miles for volunteer hours) and set up our assigned areas prior to participants arriving. Please remember to check in and out with Carol Klar at the PBCH booth to record volunteer hours.

Everyone can park in the area between the arena and outhouse.

Also remember that we will have a dress rehearsal **Tuesday September 26 at 6:00 PM** at the park. This gives everyone a chance to learn how the event will go ahead of the participants being here. This is important for a smoothly run event. This will be a **potluck** and have some fun as well.

If you have any questions please contact me (466-2225). We want everyone comfortable with what is happening and the important role you will play in making this event successful.

Thank you in advance for making PBCH a priority on September 26 and 30.

ARE YOU AND YOUR ANIMALS PREPARED FOR DISASTER?

If a natural or human-triggered disaster strikes, what will you do with your pets?

When faced with an emergency situation, pet owners need to intervene on behalf of their animals to ensure their safety. How four-legged family members fare will depend on their preparedness, says Janell Matthies, emergency services manager for the United Animal Nations, a Sacramento, California based organization that brings animals out of crisis through a variety of programs, including emergency sheltering and disaster relief services.

Related: Before disaster strikes: Have a plan for your dogs

“Animals can be affected by natural disasters in a number of ways,” Matthies says. “When they are left behind, they can starve, fall ill, become injured or drown, depending on the type of disaster. Even when animals are evacuated by their families, they can become extremely stressed. Animals can sense the increased tension that people put out. But when animals are evacuated appropriately, stress is decreased and the animals are usually able to adjust.”



Hurricanes, floods, fires, earthquakes, tornadoes, blizzards, even volcanic eruptions — not to mention human-triggered crises, like house fires, gas leaks, and terrorist threats — happen with little warning. If forced to evacuate or hunker down at home, unprepared owners may find themselves panicking.

With a little disaster preparedness and plan rehearsal, however, they can make sure their families — including their various animals — survive the crisis together. Here’s how to prepare for a disaster, create a plan, and practice it to perfection.

Be prepared

When it comes to preparedness, emergency management professionals have a saying: “If you fail to prepare, you’re preparing to fail,” says Ines de Pablo, a Washington D.C.-trained emergency management specialist based in Herndon, Va. Here’s how experts recommend you prepare:

ID, please: Preparing for an unforeseen emergency or natural disaster begins with making sure you ID your animals — microchip, tags, paint, tattoo, whatever is applicable. If possible, keep the ID with the animal at all times says Heather Case, DVM, director of the scientific activities division for the American Veterinary Medical Association. It should list current, updated information and, ideally, a cell phone number where you can be reached in case you and your pet separate during an evacuation.

Emergency kit ready: For household pets, Matthies says your emergency to-go kit should contain things like a collapsible food and water bowl; extra harness, collar and leash; pick-up bags; temporary identification tags; pet first aid kit; airtight containers filled with at least 72 hours’ worth of food, water and medications; a properly sized kennel; and any other comfort items your dog will need.

List your emergency contacts, records: A list of emergency contacts — like your animal hospital’s phone number — as well as complete veterinary records and proof of ownership are critical, too, de Pablo says. “Pack all of your animal’s veterinary records, including proof of vaccinations,” she says.



“And also include pictures of the animal, and photos of family members as well as anyone else who you feel should be okayed to go to the co-location shelter and see the animal.”

Accommodations in advance: In addition to gathering your emergency kit and veterinary records, you should also identify where you and your animals will stay in case of evacuation, Dr.

Case says. Because the Red Cross cannot accept house pets in their evacuation facilities, you may need to find separate accommodations for your pet, like a boarding kennel, a pet friendly hotel or a



dog-loving friend or family member's place. In the case of horses, or other large animals, arrange for transportation and shelter with a neighbor, stable, etc. Sometimes the local race track or fair grounds will open their doors in the case of a disaster. You should develop a framework in their plan first," Dr. Cases advises. "And then you think about making sure the animals are identified, making sure you have all the vaccination records, and how you're going to feed and water those animals in the temporary location."

Once you've prepared your animal and your emergency kit, it's time to formulate a plan of action.

Planning and practice are everything

Experts agree — if not wholeheartedly emphasize — the importance of having a disaster preparedness plan of action, and the first part of it involves eyeing the real potential threats or dangers in your area. Different situations demand different responses, de Pablo says, so owners should plan for three different evacuation or emergency response scenarios:

Emergency evacuation with little or no notice: In a situation like a house fire or earthquake, you'll need to grab only the most essential items — including your animals — and head to safety.

Emergency or voluntary evacuation where you'd have to leave your animals behind: Though far from ideal, de Pablo says, the situation may arise. If this happens, animals will rely on their survival instincts, but you can make it easier for them — and for first responders — if you leave an evacuation card tacked or nailed to your home, along with food and water for your animals, Dr. Case says. Never leave animals confined in a barn, tied up, or caged.

A shelter-at-home situation: In a tornado or hurricane when you hunker down with your dog in your home, make sure you choose a safe room and stock it with essentials, de Pablo says, like food, water, a flashlight and other emergency essentials. For larger animals, turn them loose.



Once you've identified and prepared for these different emergency and evacuation scenarios, make sure to practice how you'll execute your plan so you can remain cool and calm when disaster strikes, de Pablo says.

"The emergency management field has another saying: 'An unrehearsed plan is a bad plan,'" she says. "Whether it's a fire drill, an evacuation plan or a shelter-in-place plan, you should rehearse it because rehearsing makes it realistic.

Run through every step in your plan, de Pablo says. Time how long it takes your family to gather their



emergency packs and meet at the car. Drive to evacuation centers, noting resources along the way. Know what you'll do with your dog if you have to leave him behind. By practicing, you'll be able to fill any holes in your plan and mitigate unforeseen problems, she says.

Though you can't prevent natural disasters or emergencies from happening, you can be prepared for them. Identify threats, formulate a plan and practice what you'll do if disaster strikes.

What is your plan to ensure your animals' safety when disaster hits?

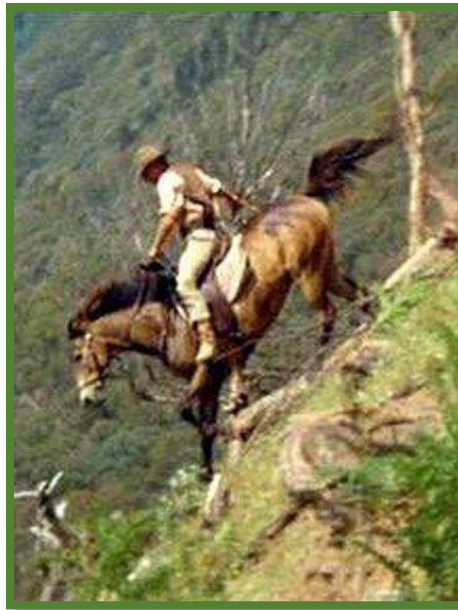
Article reprinted from Cesar's Way Website. Originally directed towards dogs and cats. Slightly edited to include larger animals where applicable.

TRAIL SAFETY

By Don Dyer

Recently there was a post on Facebook with a picture of Tom Burlinson making his famous ride down the mountain in the “Man from Snowy River” there were numerous comments made about the post, but it got me to thinking about those of us that only trail ride. If we should encounter a trail like that how do we handle it, what should we do, how do we stay safe?

First, I think I will ease everyone’s mind and let you know that the star of the movie was not an accomplished rider, after being accepted for the part he had to take riding lessons that would make him appear like he had been riding all his life. After lessons, he did all his own filming of the movie including the infamous ride down the mountain. There were numerous cameras on the mountain to get all the shots they wanted. It is my understanding that the last day of shooting in case there was an accident. Now, the big question; should you ride your horse down a mountain that steep, even at a walk?



The short answer to the question is NO, it is unsafe and it is hard on the horse. I made the comment on Facebook about an old saying of the Tibetans, who live in very steep country and are very experienced horse people. They say” a man who cannot lead his horse down a mountain is not an, a horse who cannot carry a man up the mountain it not a horse”. Going down a mountain is much harder on a horse than going up the mountain, and much more dangerous.

Many professional guide services and trail ride places will require you get off and walk if the trail becomes to steep. I will not say that it does not ever happen, because it does. If you are a professional rider, working cattle or horses, you must go where they go, when they go, and you you do what they do, but you are risking your horse and yourself. But as a recreational rider keep safety in mind. You are not there to prove anything to anyone, you are there to have fun.

BE SAFE AND COME HOME SO YOU CAN RIDE AGAIN

Greetings BCH Friends!

Thanks so much to everyone who submitted hours, and a special thanks for using the online spreadsheet. This makes my job much easier and more accurate, since I am able to copy and paste the data you have already input.

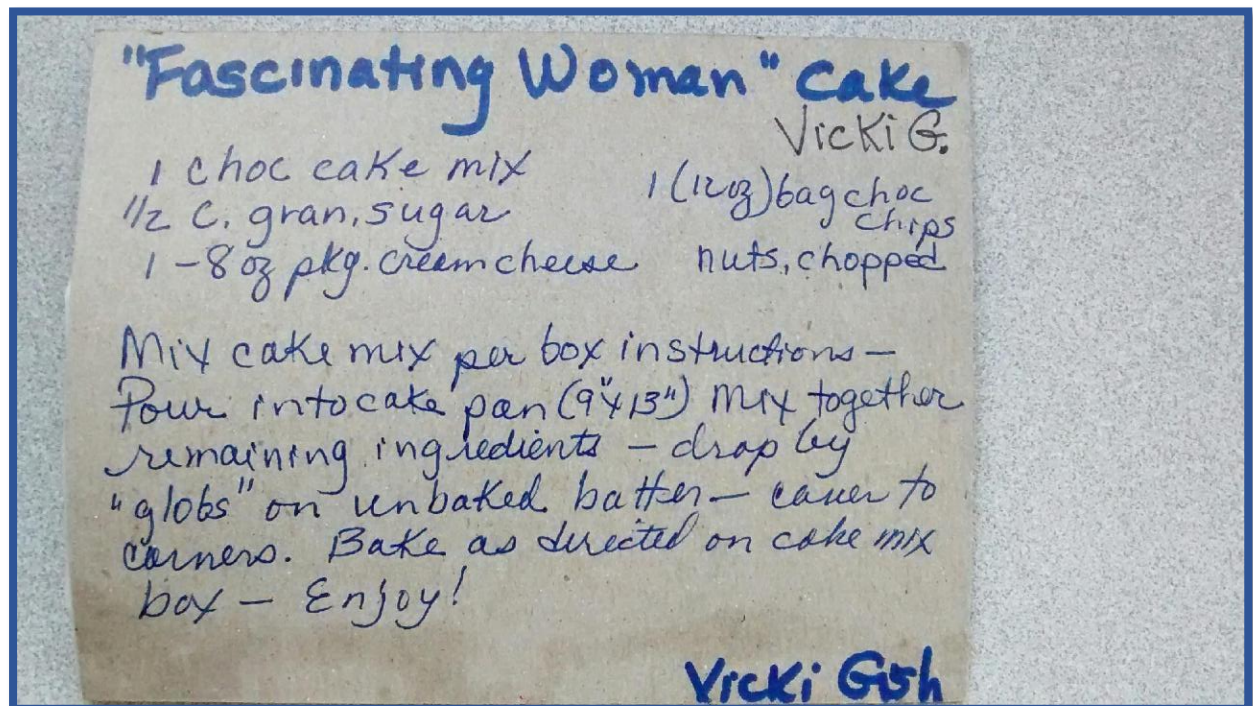
If you haven't yet submitted hours, please send them to me as soon as you can. I have created a preliminary report for Q3, but can add to it this week until 9/1, if needed.

Details for using the online VH spreadsheet are included below.

I have received Q3 hours from: Ken, Carol, Joyce, Linda, Michelle, Cindy and Gary. If you sent hours, and your name isn't listed, please let me know. This is my first time thru this, and I may have missed something.

**Thanks,
Carol**

THANK YOU MICHELE, FOR SHARING VICKI GISH'S CAKE RECIPE!



Vicki Gish Memorial Ride at Kalispell Meadows

By Michelle Eames



I didn't know Vicki Gish, but Carol Klar and I joined the first annual Vicki Gish memorial ride and campout on August 12 and 13 at Kalispell Meadows, East of Chewelah, Washington. Judging by her friends, I can tell Vicki was a kind and wonderful person. I learned that she was an artist,

she quilted, she spent a lot of time with her husband and their mules in the back country, and she had a well-mannered elderly dog named Kate. I met Kate when she boldly walked into our camp and said hello to me, and she then made sure I met Bob, Vicki's husband. The family also includes Ayla the mule.

Vicki's friends explained that she did a lot of work to get the Kalispell Meadows to be a welcoming area for horse campers. The camping area is primitive, but there is a lot of room for portable corrals and highlines. There is a stream along one side for horse water, but human's need to bring their own. I had heard that it is an easy area to get lost in, but everyone was helpful and gave us clear directions to some easy trails to get started on. There was a potluck Saturday evening (see Vicki's chocolate cake recipe), and group rides Saturday and Sunday. The event was a positive gathering in a great place with wonderful people. The organizers, Marian Carson and Paula and Gary Nelson, are committing to doing it again next year. Even for those who don't know Vicki, we are honoring her efforts by riding in an area she loved.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

By Ken Carmichael

We will be holding chapter elections in October. The elected positions are: President, Secretary, Treasurer and State Director.

But this is only the beginning of the many people that are needed to support our chapter and accomplish the BCH mission. There are about 45 different opportunities to participate. As you can imagine there is a wide variety of skills needed and many opportunities to participate.

When the chapter was formed we agreed that in order to be successful and fulfill our mission we need everyone to contribute. Therefore, we are asking that every member select a way in which you will participate.

We want to encourage every member to review the volunteer opportunities attached to this newsletter and select where you would like to participate. If you have questions please ask them. We want you happy and successful in the volunteer opportunity that you select.

FYI

Flying insects are especially bad this year. Help support your horse's line of defense by remembering to apply fly sprays/ointments regularly and use fly/ear masks when appropriate.

THINGS HORSES CAN TEACH US ABOUT SAFETY

By Joyce Johnson

In about 1978, I bought my first horse, 5-year-old Quarter Horse, Cinder. I had taken riding lessons before I got her. A friend and I were riding in an open field parallel to Trent Avenue in the Spokane Valley. We had been riding for awhile with no problems; all of a sudden, Cinder spooked and jumped sideways (I swear there was nothing in that field that could have spooked her and believe she did it on purpose); I went off the right side of her short 14-hand-high body and broke my right arm. Luckily, a Chevy Van was traveling nearby and stopped to help. The couple in it took me to Valley Hospital while my friend led my horse back to where I was boarding him on Flora Road. After 8 weeks in a cast and 8 weeks of therapy, I was afraid to get on another horse again for a long time. I sold Cinder to a mother with two teen-aged twin girls but told them what had happened to me. Now that experience and the following one made me believe in Guardian Angels watching over me.



In 1990, I bought a house on 10 acres northeast of Suncrest and purchased my 2-year-old QH gelding, Stardust in 1991. My property was at the bottom of a big hill next to bare land. In about 1992, I saddled Stardust and decided not to wear my uncomfortable helmet. Then, suddenly, something made me change my mind and I put it on. I recruited my dog, got on 16-hand Stardust, and the three of us started up the hill on the road. Since I was single and lived alone, no one knew I was out riding. We travelled up the hill a short distance and then rode down through an open field towards the trails in the trees. While still in the field, I looked back to see where my dog was. The next thing I remember was me laying on my back on the ground. I got up to make sure I wasn't hurt. Then I took off my helmet; what a shock – there was a big split in the back of it! My horse was at least a quarter of a mile up on the road eating grass beside the road. I knew then I had been knocked out, but didn't know for how long. I walked up to the road, retrieved my horse, and led him to my home just down the hill. I had no ill effects from that accident, but what would have happened if I'd not had my helmet on?

I learned a lot from these two bad experiences: always be aware of your surroundings, never ride alone, and always wear a helmet. If you have to ride alone, let someone know you're out riding, where, and how long you'll be gone. You might be an excellent rider, but horses are still prey animals and aren't going to worry about you when being threatened.

Maybe you don't believe in Guardian Angels, but I do. And some of you guys: it isn't "sissy" to ride with a helmet. Ask Robert Eversole. It's sensible to be safe. I doubt if I'd be around today if I didn't believe in wearing helmets.

CORRECT HORSE FEED STORAGE

Most horse owners spend countless hours choosing the right feed for their horses but don't give the storage of that feed the same consideration. Often it is stored in an open bag in the corner of a feed room.

CORRECTLY STORING YOUR HORSE'S FEED CAN HELP PREVENT THE FOLLOWING:

- Growth of mold on the feed
- Insect infestation
- Nutritional degradation
- Attracting rats/mice and other pests to your barn
- Transmission of diseases to your horse

One of the most apparent reasons to keep your horse's feed stored properly is to prevent the growth of mold. Mold and other organisms that grow on feed can make your horse sick. Mold can cause skin allergies and inflammation, as well as respiratory problems. Mycotoxins are harmful compounds produced by molds, these toxins can cause a wide range of clinical signs in horses, including respiratory, gastrointestinal, neurologic, and reproductive problems, even death.

Preventing insect infestations is also important, as they decrease the nutritive value of feeds and not many horses will eat feed that has insects on it. Though mold and insect are good reasons to evaluate your horse feed storage methods, one of the best reasons is the prevention of diseases that can be transmitted to your horse by rodents or other animals. A number of diseases such as Equine Protozoal Myoencephalitis (EPM) can be spread through the urine and/or fecal matter of animals (opossums in the case of EPM). Rodents can also shed salmonella in urine and feces.

There are other environmental conditions that affect the shelf life of feed including the humidity and temperature of the storage area and exposure to air. High temperatures can speed natural degradation of feed, especially when there is also high humidity. Degradation includes growth of mold and bacteria as well as oxidation that results in loss of vitamins and causes rancidity of fats. The most

important factor affecting feeds is humidity. At a relative humidity in excess of 70%, degradation of nutrients will occur even at temperatures as low as 40° F.

Feed bags stored on pallets are less susceptible to moisture damage than those stacked on the ground or on concrete. Open bags can be stored in containers or emptied into bins to protect the feed. Unopened bags kept under proper conditions can be stored for up to 90 days from the date of manufacture. Feeds will not lose nutrient concentration past this point but may start to dry out, pellets may start to break apart. LMF feeds includes mold inhibitors in its feeds to stop the growth of mold and its associated mycotoxins.

STORAGE CONTAINERS

Storage containers such as garbage cans with tight-fitting lids can help keep grain safe from elements and rodents. Plastic containers are preferable to metal ones because they are less likely to produce condensation. If warm air comes in contact with cold metal, moisture will form, this moisture could produce mold.

It is also very important to make sure new feed is not dumped on top of older feed. Empty any leftover feed in the bottom of the storage container. Make sure there is no clumps or build up in the bottom of the storage bin (especially in bins with square corners) as these will be more likely to mold and contaminate the rest of the feed.

Written by Dr. Stephen Duren, Ph.D. and Dr. Tania Cubitt, Ph.D. of Performance Horse Nutrition works closely with LMF Feeds to bring its customer nutritionally advanced horse feeds. PHN consults with horse owners worldwide regarding equine nutrition.

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE LUCKY

By Michelle Eames

The summer of 2017. This was to be my summer, where I got into the back country with horses. I had an elderly fjord horse, and after four years of work, he was becoming a heck of a riding horse. I had just bought a young green fjord horse that could be a pack horse, in February. He was mentally young, but after a summer of being ponied by the old brave guy, Oly, I was confident he would also be ready for the mountains.

And then Oly went lame. While we figured out the lameness, I started seriously riding the green guy. This young teenager (mental teenager, not in his teens) is a lot different than Oly. Oly is a medium draft type fjord. Thick in body, he would prefer to plod along and grab grass rather than expend a lot of energy. Oly is super brave. So far, the only thing he really doesn't like is sprinklers. Since there aren't many sprinklers in the wilderness, I was pretty sure we were ready for jaunts this year.

The new guy is a different story. First off, when I bought him, his name was all wrong. He didn't have a Norwegian registered name. His name is Comanche. Really? That totally sounds like an Appaloosa son and husband name. I let my son and husband settle on Vali, a



Norse god, a son of Odin. But in reality, his name should be Goof-ball. He is a total trouble maker. And, he is not placid and brave. He is a more sporty build, energetic and some times brave. He is always aware of everything, and truly gets nervous in new situations. He needs miles and exposure. He is always sure he is right, and doesn't immediately listen to his human.

In August, my favorite riding buddy Carol invited me to join a horse-camping group at Calispell Meadows, east of Chewelah. I was all over it, yes, I would go. Then I remembered that Oly was lame. Hmmm... well, it should be fine with Vali. AKA Goof-ball. AKA Unpredictable. But so far, all five trail rides I had been on with Vali had been fine. I was sure it would be fine.

And it started out great. We headed down the trail from the horse camp, just Carol and I. Every time Vali tossed his head, and said let's go, I sat down on him and said, let's walk. And he walked. It was great for the first hour. The trails were lovely, the young horse was silly but obedient. Then, on a different, narrower trail, with Vali behind and Carol's horse ahead, he felt different. We opted to turn around and move to an open area, where I could do lots of walking and turning and get Vali's brain engaged again.

Then we headed back to camp on a dirt road. I thought a trot would settle him, and suggested that to Carol in front. All I remember was Vali's head curling down. Then I was on the ground. I am still not sure what he did, but man, that young horse is very athletic. Energetic. And can buck. You know how sometimes, you can feel you are going to fall off, you feel it coming, and it is like slow-motion while you pick the spot of dirt you will land in? This was not one of those times. I was on, and I was off. That fast. There was no in-between. And for those of you that don't know me; I am a pretty decent rider. I don't come off easy. And for those of you who don't know my young goofball horse (insert any other phrase you prefer)... Man, can he buck.

But the lucky part? I was wearing a helmet. I hit hard, but there were no rocks to make things worse. I was bruised, but not broken. My pride was hurt, but nothing permanent. I lost my water bottle, but it was old and needed replacing. All in all, not a bad result for a bad fall.

This past week, while healing, I've spent time working Vali on the ground. He's been good, and I am hoping that bucking event was just a fluke on the journey to becoming a good horse. In the meantime, the old guy Oly has been to the vet, and an injection of steroid and joint fluid into the front hoof joints is helping. So I have my old horse back, at least for the short-term. Now, if only I can figure out how to do a mind-meld from the old guy, to the young guy. Next year, Vali is going to be a good horse and we will get to the back country. I'm sure of it. Come on, Summer 2018!

TRAIL RIDE RUSTLER'S GULCH 8-20-17

By Cindy Miller

Last week I took Tanner out for a jaunt at Rustler's Gulch. I was concerned the beauty would be diminished by the current logging and road construction I had been reading about. It is disheartening to see the flora torn up and pushed aside for the roads, and the logging has begun. On the bright side, the logging roads are soft and two-tracked, allowing for horses to travel side by side. The main trails toward the back of



Rustler's are fully intact as they were and meander

through dense forest and along the marsh areas (now dried up). I lost my bearings when unable to find the old trails, but the logging roads circled around and back along the popular water crossings horsemen all know. Nothing had changed. The area was still gorgeous and there seemed to be an attempt to maintain the integrity of the environment. I hope the road building has stopped, and further disruption is minimal.



HOW CAN I HELP ?



When Hurricane Harvey hit the Gulf Coast over the weekend, it wasn't just people who were affected. With flooding through parts of Texas and Louisiana expected to continue and tens of thousands of people displaced, it's easy to forget the many household pets also caught up in the disaster.

Shelters from other areas, like Florida, have been taking in animals to reduce the load in shelters hit by the flooding — and remember, in many cases, these are not abandoned or lost dogs and cats. Rather, many emergency shelters for humans do not allow pets, so it becomes necessary to place them temporarily in animal shelters.

There are many ways to help out, but remember this one important word of advice: In disasters like this, the best gift you can give is cash. It may seem like a nice gesture to donate tangible things instead, like clothing or food, but quite often areas hit by disaster do not have the means to store or distribute such goods, so they wind up being wasted.

If you'd like to help with relief for Hurricane Harvey, here are a couple of places that can accept your donations:

The Mayor of Houston, Sylvester Turner, established the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund, run by the Greater Houston Community Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) charity.

The American Red Cross has a dedicated donation method for the hurricane, and you can give \$10 by texting HARVEY to 90999. You can also visit their website or call (800) RED CROSS (733-2767).

The Houston Pet Set, a 501(c)(3) umbrella organization, has also set up a Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Fund that's accepting monetary contributions online.

Daisy Cares is looking for volunteers, as well as accepting donations of dog food and supplies, and monetary donations through their website.

The Lafayette, Louisiana Daily Advertiser offers this list of shelters and rescue orgs ready to provide emergency housing to displaced pets:

Austin Pets Alive

Animal Rescue of New Orleans

San Antonio Humane Society

SPCA of Texas

There are also several sites that have gathered information on various charities and relief campaigns:

Charity Navigator has a page dedicated to Hurricane Harvey relief.

GoFundMe has collected all of their various Harvey related campaigns in one place.

AirBnB has created a portal where people who need emergency accommodations can find people who can provide them, with all normal fees waived.

Among natural disasters, hurricane induced floods arguably have some of the most devastating long-term effects, and it could be months or several years before things return to normal in the flooded areas, so the need for assistance will be ongoing. Sadly, the aftermath won't go away just because the story fades from the news, but every bit we do to help now will make things easier later.



Helpful Hints When Hauling Horses

Horses, by nature, are fragile and accident prone. What can intensify that? Putting them in a gigantic box on wheels and bumping them down a long road; hence the importance of planning. We'd like to offer some suggestions and provide guidance when preparing for a trip with your horse(s).

Keep in mind; some of these plans need to be set into motion weeks before you hit the road!

(1) Paperwork. A health certificate and coggins testing are required for any interstate travel. If you are traveling to Idaho, Washington, Oregon, or Montana you can get a health certificate/coggins combo that is usable for six months. All other states only accept a thirty day health certificate. Coggins tests are good for six months, or one year, depending on the state you are traveling to. If you are traveling to Montana please visit their website link (animalhealthimports.mt.gov) for additional paperwork and payment that they require. Remember that rules and regulations change periodically and it is always a good idea to contact your veterinarian and double check legal requirements.

Be honest with your veterinarian about any recent health issues and do not travel with a sick horse. Doing so would be risking life threatening respiratory issues (shipping fever).

Brand inspections, regardless of whether the horse is branded or not, are required when a horse is being moved out-of-state (that includes any travel across Washington and Idaho state lines) or offered for sale at any public livestock market. Three different brand inspection options are available. A temporary brand inspection is only good for thirty days. It is appropriate with a change of ownership or a one way

trip out of the state (no return). An annual brand inspection is good for one full year and allows movement in and out of the state. A lifetime brand inspection is good for life, unless the horse changes ownership. In order to get any brand inspection completed, either registration papers or the original bill of sale needs to be presented to the brand inspector, who will then submit it to the state.

(2) Physically fit for travel. Be current on vaccines, deworming and farrier care. Consider diseases and/or parasites your horse may be exposed to when you arrive to your destination. Vaccinate 3 weeks prior to ensure protection. Make sure your horse's hooves are in good condition for a comfortable haul. Riding in a horse trailer requires constant balancing and is actually as much exercise as walking for the same duration of time.

(3) Trailer safety. Make sure your trailer is of adequate size for your horse and is in good working condition. Checking the tires, flooring, ventilation, brakes and lights. Know that in the summer the inside of the trailer can be up to 20 degrees warmer than ambient temperature. Good ventilation is extremely important, year round. Not only for temperature control but also for easy breathing. Make sure when your horse is in the trailer that it is tied so that it can get its head down to wither height. That way the horse can cough and adequately clear its airways. Please do not allow the horse to stick his/her head out of the windows while in motion. Doing so can lead to severe injuries. (*Please note: The horses in the photo above are not in motion, they are at a rest stop, relaxing and getting fresh air.)

Consider putting a fly mask on your horse for eye protection if you have a stock trailer.

You may want to take a ride in a horse trailer yourself - not on the roadways of course, but try riding around in a big open parking lot so you can gain an appreciation for the balance it takes to stay on your feet. This exercise will teach you to be a respectful driver and not take any corners on too quickly. Remembering to break and accelerate slowly will also help provide a smooth ride for your horse.

(4) First aid kit. Try to keep this organized so that in an emergency, things are easily accessible. It's a good idea to tape your veterinarian's phone number to the inside lid of the first aid kit. An adequate first aid kit should contain a thermometer, a stethoscope, bute (prescription product), banamine (prescription product), oral sedation (prescription product), bandage material (including telfa pads, cotton, brown gauze, and vetrap), duct tape, betadine or chlorhexidine scrub, dry gauze, a pair of scissors, water, towels, and a flashlight.

(5) Feed, water and bedding. Dust free bedding and wetting down the hay help maintain a well ventilated environment in the trailer. Don't fill the hay manger or hay bag completely full, again for ventilation purposes. Offer water at each stop. Giving oral electrolytes can help stimulate thirst. Some horses do not like to drink unfamiliar water so consider adding flavoring (Kool-Aid or Gatorade) before your trip or bringing water from home. Other ideas on keeping your horse hydrated during travel include water soaked hay pellets or beet pulp mashes. Keeping a horse well hydrated can significantly decrease your risk of colic.

As some states only allow certified weed free hay, be sure to look up state regulations on feed

(6) Minimize stress. A very large percentage of horses that travel regularly will have gastrointestinal ulcers. Ulcers are caused by stress. Big boxes on wheels are stressful. Gold standard, especially if your horse is a "high anxiety" horse, would be to use Gastro Gard (by weight, orally, once a day) a few days before travel, during travel and for a day or 2 after travel.

In conclusion, it's important to familiarize yourself with any medications you have so that you know when and how to give them.

Know the normal vitals for your horse(s). If you don't know normal then it is hard to recognize abnormal. The quicker you become aware of a problem and address it, the more favorable the results.

Safe and happy travels!

Misty Parker, DVM

PONDEROSA CHAPTER

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

More detailed information is available about each opportunity.

The following provides a brief description of the responsibilities of the chapter officers, chairmen and key persons responsible for development and growth of the chapter. It is understood that many positions will require more than one individual. In addition, the successful completion of many jobs require the coordination with, and the help of, other committees. The areas requiring coordination between committees have not been identified in the individual Volunteer Opportunities.

Volunteer responsibilities, commitment and skills vary greatly. Some positions are annual commitments while others are for specific projects. Some require meeting attendance while others do not. Some require a specific skill (i.e. computer) while others just require a general interest in participating. Some positions, while listed separately, are most effectively handled as a group. Some positions can be tailored to the interest, time and skill of the volunteer. **For all positions there is an expectation of commitment and dedication once the position is accepted.**

ELECTED POSITIONS:

President – Chair meetings, appoint committee chairs, mentor chapter leaders, be chief executive administrative officer and legal head of the chapter and exercise supervision over the chapter.

Vice President – Perform the duties of the President in his/her absence and provide additional leadership to the chapter (**Not provided for in bylaws now**)

State Director – Is a member of the BCHW Board of Directors. Provides a communications link between the chapter and BCHW, BCHA and other chapters

Alternate State Director – Perform the duties of the State Director in his/her absence and provide additional leadership in the communications with BCHW, BCHA and other chapters (**Not provided for in bylaws now**)

Secretary – Maintain timely, clear and accurate minutes of meetings, maintains a book of minutes for the chapter, maintains the official chapter records with the exception of financial records

Treasurer – Maintain timely, clear and accurate financial records of the chapter, pay documented chapter financial obligations and receive and deposit chapter income, provide financial reports to the Board and BCHW as required

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

MISSION POSITIONS:

Education Chair – Develop & manage education programs (LNT & other BCH related topics)

Lands Chair – Develop & maintain contact with land managers, both public & large private holdings, within the chapter's area of interest to communicate the equestrian interests. Follow and engage in land issues being addressed by BCHW & BCHA. Keep chapter members informed and help them respond to land issues when necessary.

Legislative Chair – Develop & maintain contact with government officials to communicate the equestrian interests. Follow and engage in issues being addressed by BCHW and BCHA. Keep chapter members informed and help them respond to legislative issues when necessary.

Trail Boss/Work Parties Chair – Organize work parties that enhance equestrian opportunities using Work Party Leaders

Volunteer Hours Chair– Collect & compile statistics on volunteer hours performed, and trail miles maintained, by members, communicate results to BCHW Volunteer Coordinator & maintain a history of work parties

GROWTH POSITIONS:

FUNDRAISING:

Analysis – Identify, analyze and prepare proposals for fundraisers

Donations – Contact donors, gather donations and maintain a historical record of donations

Grant Administration – Obtain and manage financial grants for chapter activities & equipment identified by committee chairs

Equipment Inventory Control – Provide a physical record & control of chapter's assets

Groupspaces Administration – Add and delete names and train chapter members in the use of Groupspaces
Historian – Maintain an historical record of the chapter

MEETINGS:

Greeter/Name Tags – Greet people at meetings & produce, maintain and distribute name tags for chapter meetings

Invited guests and dignitaries – Coordinate selection and inviting of individuals who can influence access to trails as guests to chapter meetings and events

Library – Provide educational and recreational materials to members

Programs – Provide educational programs at the monthly membership meetings

Refreshments – Provide refreshments to members & guests at monthly membership meetings

Room Management – Provide a comfortable & effective location to have chapter meetings

Stores – Provide clothing & other articles with BCH identification for purchase by members

Membership Chair – Coordinate membership renewal, solicit new members & develop new members

Member Database – Maintain the membership database and provide copy to membership

NEWSLETTER:

Editor – Edit newsletter, supervise production & distribution of newsletter, & provide information to the Web Master for publication

Publisher – Produce chapter newsletter from material provided by Editor

Ads – Sell and manage ads in the chapter newsletter and on the website

PUBLICITY:

Publicity Chair – Develop & manage information program directed at individuals & organizations outside the chapter

Coordinate with other chapters – Identify and manage areas of common interest with other chapters

Corporate Contact for Chapter Support – Contact corporations & individuals to obtain support for the chapter through a variety of activities

Distribution – Deliver chapter materials (fliers) to local stores & other distribution points

Newsprint – Coordinate PBCH articles and ads in publications

Photography – Take and record photographs at chapter events and provide to other committees

Printed material (fliers etc.) – Design and print material for areas of membership, fundraising, etc.

Recreation Groups – Develop & maintain contact with other recreational groups that may have common interests or goals with BCH

Social media (Facebook) – Develop and maintain a chapter presence on Facebook

Web Content – Manage the input and removal of material on the chapter website

Web Master – Provide technical support for the chapter website

Safety – Document and manage material and train members on all aspects of providing for a safe environment at all chapter activities. Coordinate with the BCHW Safety Officer.

Trail Boss/Rides – Organize recreational trail rides using Trail Ride Leaders

Social – Provide social opportunities within the chapter in conjunction with other chapter activities

ADDITIONAL SHORT TERM POSITIONS:

Awards and Recognition – Develop & manage membership awards and recognition program

Bylaws and Standing Rules Review – Review chapter Bylaws & Standing Rules for changes & make recommendations to the membership

Financial Review – Perform an annual inspection of the chapter's financial records and report to the membership

Nominating – Acquire nominees to fill the elected chapter positions, publish names & conduct elections

Scavenger Hunt– Manage the annual Scavenger Hunt

Trail Ride Leader – Lead a ride in area of interest

Work Party Leader – Lead a work party in area of interest