



# PONDEROSA



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

Preserving Trails and Providing Solutions

July 2018



## CALENDAR

Membership Meeting  
July 3

Carmichael's House 6:30  
Facebook and Volunteer Hours Demo  
Ice Cream Social

Chapter Ride  
Mt. Spokane  
July 28  
10 am



Happy  
4<sup>th</sup> of  
JULY !!!

**CHAPTER RIDE  
SLAVEN RANCH  
JUNE 17, 2018**

**Patti, Ken, Michelle, Joyce, Carol**

**Cindy took the picture!**

**Great Ride, Great Fun!**

**Beautiful Scenery**

**Weather Perfect!**



## JULY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

July's meeting is scheduled for July 3. *It will be held at Carmichael's and will begin at 6:30.* There will be an ice cream social. Please bring a carton of your favorite ice cream and your favorite topping to share.

Carol Klar has graciously agreed to present a tutorial on Facebook and also will be sharing tips on how to complete the Volunteer Hours form.

Hope you all can make it; it will be a great time of learning, fellowship and fun!

## CELEBRATE SUMMER BBQ

Several of us joined up on June 19 for a great time of fellowship and food at Lake Spokane. The evening was hosted by Ken and Patti. The water was a little cold yet for swimming, but several of us went for a boat ride. There were hamburgers and hot dogs,

side dishes and lots of yummy desserts! Thank you for all who participated. Everyone agreed that it was a wonderful evening and we'll definitely plan on doing this again next year!



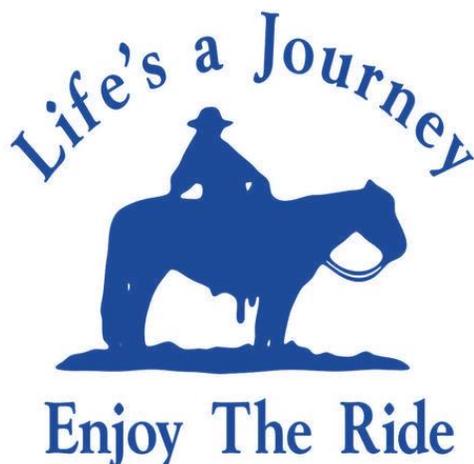
## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!!!

By Ken Carmichael

How do we get new members joining Ponderosa chapter? First a friend brings them to the meeting, thank you Carol and Michelle. We gain their interest at the meetings, then they come to a fun work party and we work them hard. After that, they hand us a membership application!

I am talking about Tom and Diana Birge. They live on Newkirk Rd near Carol and Michelle and ride in Riverside State Park. They are retired and enjoy time with their horses. I'm sure we'll be seeing them many time at our meetings and other events. In fact, they were the first ones to arrive at the lake party and asked about what needs to be done at the scavenger hunt. They have had an opportunity to see the many things that PBCH is involved in.

Be sure to join me in welcoming Tom and Diana to BCH.



# Work Party at Riverside State Park

By Ken Carmichael

What happens when we get a large work party crew together (14 people), everyone works hard and things go as planned? What gets done is two days of work in one day so we can take Sunday off.

On Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 14 of us met at the Trautman Property in Riverside State Park to remove barbwire. This all started with a suggestion by **Don Dyer** at the May meeting that this would be a good volunteer project for the chapter. I contacted the state parks about the project and they gave me a map of the fences involved. **Patti Sander** and I rode the area to find the fence. Then **Danny Murphy** (Riverside State Park Volunteer Coordinator), **Doug Bailey**, **Don Dyer** and I previewed the project on June 12 to organize the work. We broke the project into three days.



Don Dyer provided support from his ORV and picking up the wire we rolled up. This went so well that we were done before lunch. It was then decide to go on to the Sunday work.

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> we all met at the park headquarters. It had rained the night before so to avoid wet tall grass we reversed the work parties and started with what was going to be Sunday work. After signing in for volunteer hours and having a safety briefing we broke into two work groups to tackle the down fence along a portion of Carlson Rd from two directions.



Doug Bailey brought up his tractor, Don Dyer brought out the power wire roller and we moved to a new location. This was a longer fence but was mostly up on posts so with the wire roller we really made good time and we got all the metal posts pulled as well. The crew was spaced along the fence to cut off spacers and remove clips from the metal posts. Some wire had to be dug out of the weeds and from under logs. Everyone got a good chance to use bolt cutters, wire cutters and fencing tools. Doug and Don kept the wire roller going. When done a few of us went to a short piece of fence near the gate and got that pulled as well.



Next up for barbwire: There is another day of work which will probably be done in the fall. Come join us. Don Dyer asked at the end if everyone had fun. Everyone raised their hand.

**Here is a list of the people that did such a great job.  
THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!**

**Danny Murphy – Volunteer Coordinator for Riverside State Park**

**Eric Erickson – Made the initial contact to acquire the land and GPS mapped the fences then helped us**

**Doug Bailey – Trail Boss and brought the tractor**

**Don Dyer – Brought the power wire roller (great) and ORV**

**Ken Carmichael**

**Patti Sander**

**Linda White – Stayed until the bitter end helping to pull the last of the wire by the gate**

**Tom Birge – New member joining at the work party, welcome**

**Diana Birge – New member joining at the work party, welcome**

**Michelle Eames**

**Chris Frederick – Michelle's 17 year old son – great young worker**

**Carol Klar**

**Gary Miller**

**Cindy Miller**

# Director's Report

By Ken Carmichael

The quarterly BCHW board meeting was held in Ellensburg in June 16, 2018. I attended as the Ponderosa State Director. I am also the chairman of the Governance and Bylaws Committee and the chairman of the Membership Development Committee.

As with all of these meeting the agenda is packed full of business for a full day. The following is a brief highlight of items that may affect you.

**BCHW Calendars** – the 2019 calendars are now available for purchase and I will have them at the next membership meeting. Pictures for the 2020 calendars are due by **February 1, 2019**. This is necessary for the staff to select pictures and arrange the calendar. This is a beautiful product that everyone should have. Remember that all people in a work party picture must have proper protection equipment on or the picture cannot be used.

**BCHW Accomplishments Video** – This video is produced each year to highlight the great work that the BCHW chapters do. Ponderosa chapter participates each year. Our input, including pictures is due **February 1, 2019**.

**BCH Store** – BCHW has a great store for selling BCH related clothing and other items. Information about what is available is on the BCHW website. However, due to tax laws we cannot put a purchase request on the website or in the Trailhead News. Items are sold at the BCHW board meeting and the BCHW events, such as rendezvous, poker ride and wine ride. If you want something I will be glad to pick it up for you at a board meeting. Besides being a fundraiser for BCHW, anyone walking (or driving) around with the BCHW logo on them is advertising our organization for free. What we really need is someone in the chapter to take the responsibility to manage a small store for member convenience. We currently have the truck/trailer stickers but I would like to see it expanded to maybe caps and scarfs. See me if you are interested.



**Volunteer Hours** – **Carol Klar** has done a fantastic job of collecting chapter volunteer hours. Unfortunately Ponderosa and other chapter reporting got delayed at the regional review level and not included in the state quarterly report. This will be corrected at the next quarter and we will see how we stack up with the other chapters. Please continue to report your hours to Carol.

**Leave No Trace (LNT) Training.** – There will be a full basic LNT class September 14-16 at the Pilchuck Tree Farm near Arlington. This is a great class that Patti and I attended several years ago. If you want more information please contact me.

**Joe Watt Canyon Poker Ride** – this was a success on May 19. Each year chapters make proposals to help run the event then receive a portion of the revenue. In 2018 the Trail Dusters did this. Proposals for the 2019 ride are due by the **September 15 board meeting**.

**Wine Ride** – This will be held **October 27** in Zillah Washington. Members are encouraged to ride or volunteer. There are over 400 riders. Volunteers are needed the weekend before to lay out camping areas then on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the event. I have gone several years as a volunteer and it is a lot of fun. Consider joining us.

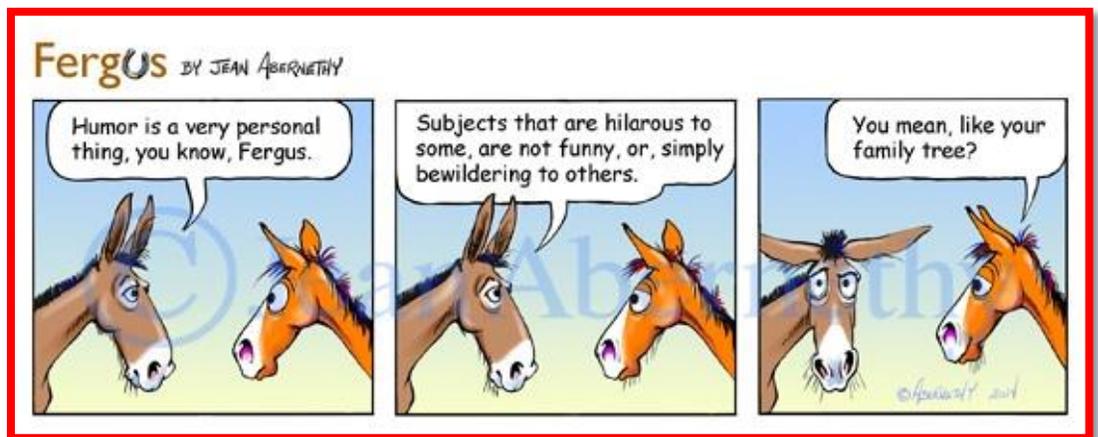
**Meeting with Jon Snyder** – BCHW Legislative Chair Jeff Chapman had a meeting with Jon Snyder, the Governor's representative for outdoor recreation. Jon is from Spokane and I also have been in contact with him. This is what was on Jeff's agenda to talk about:

- Continued grant funding (NOVA, RTP, WWRP)
- Expanding recreational opportunities for equestrians
- Being included as a stakeholder in discussions on shared uses of trails
- Being included in the recreation caucus meetings
- A desire that the agencies, particularly DNR, remember that there are legacy needs by traditional users and that recreation is not just about mountain bike development areas. There are some that are beginning to grumble that our support and volunteer efforts over the years are being lost in their focus on expanding opportunities for a singular user group

**Senate Bill 2877 The Human-Powered Travel in Wilderness Areas Act** – This bill was introduced by Senator Lee and is squarely aimed at allowing bicycles for recreational purposes in the Wilderness and not increasing trail maintenance by also allowing chainsaws and wheelbarrows. It provides for

mechanized traffic using one way trails, speed limits, alternate day use and other management decisions much more typical of suburban trails than wilderness. So far this bill does not have any co-

sponsors and we are hoping that it does not go anywhere.



**Coast to Coast Trail** – Governor Inslee is proposing a coast to coast trail. This would include the Palouse To Cascade Trail (P2C) formally known as the John Wayne Trail. This would help gather support for this trail.

**Palouse to Cascade Trail (P2C)** – There needs to be some decking done on a trestle near Pine City, south of Rosalia. BCHW is considering applying for a grant and making this a BCHW project. If this comes about our chapter will be involved in helping do the work. Again this helps support this important trail across our state.

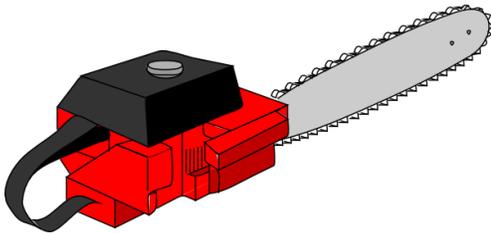
**Federal Funding of Trails** – The administration proposed a very poor budget for maintaining trails which would have severely hurt access to the national forests. Fortunately the congress is supporting the trails. This is in large part due to a very effective letter writing effort that recreation supporter sent to congress. This included BCH. Thank you to those that sent in your comments.

**National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)** – NEPA is an act that requires the review of projects on public lands before they may be done. It is a law that has got out of hand on how it is implemented. There is a Proposed Rule coming out in an effort to streamline the process. There will be a 60 day comment period. We will want to be sure to provide input.

**State Wide Work Party (SWWP)** – This year this major BCHW trail maintenance effort will be July 21-25 at the Black Pine Horse Camp near Leavenworth in the Wenatchee River Ranger District. You must preregister to attend by July 1 because food is provided. Go on the BCHW website under upcoming events for information and registration.

**VIP Rides** – It is important that we keep in touch with our local land managers and government representatives. One good way to do this is to have VIP rides (or other events). These can be fun and meaningful. Ponderosa chapter must make an effort to provide these events.

**Your Membership (YM)** – This is the new computerized method of processing BCH memberships. A long discussion was held on how this pilot program is working. Several problems were identified that need to be resolved including the work that the membership chairs are facing and the difficulty for members to use the program. A committee has been formed to work with the software developer to address the issues. We want the best program available to help members join and renew memberships.



**Trailhead News (THN)** – This bimonthly BCHW newsletter is a major form of communication for the state and chapters. We have been reviewing the publication contract, the frequency of publication, format and costs. A major consideration at this point is do we want to publish bimonthly or quarterly. We would like your input.

First Aid Courses – All members certified to operate a chainsaw or crosscut saw must be certified in first aid AND we like all members trained in first aid. Because of the expense of getting this training BCHW has agreed to supplement the cost of individual training when conducted at the rendezvous or Leadership Training.

Washington Trails Association (WTA) – The WTA provides a great two day Crew Leadership College each May. This is how they train their trail maintenance crew leaders. They open up two spaces in the class for BCHW members. Members wishing to participate can apply.

Saw Filing Class – In March there is a crosscut saw filing class in Montana. BCHW pays for the tuition and the participant agrees to be available to file saws for BCHW for three years.

Several other housekeeping matters were covered such as finances, education planning, website, grants, awards and insurance. Again, it is a very full day and fun to be at. If anyone want to attend with me September 15 please let me know. It is an honor to represent Ponderosa at these meetings.



## EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS

By Carol Klar

My “post 60” riding goal: to see as much of the PNW as possible, safely.

OK, you want to go for a trail ride in a new area, but don't want to risk going off a cliff somewhere, or getting hopelessly lost. You can buy a good tracking app for your smart phone and learn to use it, but not all of us come up with the right answers that way. And somehow, it is more comforting to be on a marked trail with others around, JUST IN CASE... Well, a great choice for such things is to attend one of the BCH rides taking place near your target destination. BCH Clubs all over host rides. Some are casual day rides, all the way up to catered weekend rides. These are delightful,

and offer a great opportunity to see the country and meet friendly, like-minded people. I recently attended the Methow Valley BCH spring ride near Twisp, and even with a little rain, it was one of the most delightful group rides I have ever done. As BCH members, we need to think not only of our local area, but think of BCH throughout WA and the country. Even the rides that are very well attended with a few hundred people, don't feel crowded. And your nominal entry fee for such rides, goes to support worthwhile BCH projects!

Want to “Think outside the Box” ? Another option to see some amazing trails is to attend an endurance race. You are probably saying, “I don't go that fast”. Well, speed isn't required. Many of the endurance races have added a “Trail Ride” category for pleasure riders interested in doing 10 to 15 miles, at a leisurely pace. These rides are held on MARKED trails in beautiful areas. They have camping spots, and even as a “Trail Rider”, you are able to have a Vet Check, just like the racers. There is a nominal cost for these rides (around \$30), but it is well worth it, and a vet and horse water are ALWAYS provided. One of my favorites on this year's calendar is the 9/22 Prater Mountain ride near Priest River, and one week later will be a ride at Loup Loup, where the new BCH North Summit horse camp is being constructed. Another will be held Nov 3rd at Escure Ranch. This is a favorite spot of Ponderosa members, and will soon become known to the world of endurance riders as well.

There are lots of opportunities out there. I hope everyone will get out and ride this summer!

# Escure Work Parties

By Ken Carmichael

We were busy improving the equestrian experience at the BLM Rock Creek Recreation Area (Escure Ranch).

**On May 24 Doug Bailey** and I met **Chris Shaffer** of the BLM at Fish Trap Lake to cut and load timbers. We then went to the Escure Ranch and installed a manure bunker. We have noticed that people have not been cleaning up after their visit, leaving manure in the corrals and around highlines and camp areas. By providing the bunker people will have an approved place to dispose of manure. To help further this behavior Ponderosa donated a wheel barrel and manure rake.

Also on this date we had time to place a kiosk in the equestrian area. This is one that a work party last fall replaced with a larger one in the general camping area. Having this kiosk in the equestrian area will enable us to address equestrian information, such as cleaning up manure, trail etiquette and safety.

**On May 29 Doug Bailey, Don Dyer and I** used Don's four seater ORV to put in trail marker signs along the trails and start installing springs on some gates. This was a continuation of another work party where several Ponderosa members met at Fish Trap to prepare the trail signs. We were very effective using the ORV but we have more work to do. In addition we identified two locations where we

want to put "You are here" signs. This required approval by BLM which they have provided. We will do this on a future work party.

PBCH continues to work with BLM to improve the equestrian experience at the Escure Ranch. This is a great place to ride and camp. In fact we are planning a campout there October 5-7, 2018. You should plan on joining us.



## BEARS, WOLVES & COUGARS...OH MY!

At the June membership meeting, we had a wonderful presentation from Annemarie Prince from the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife. She shared lots of facts and tips on what we should do when we come across a bear and/or other larger predators while out riding. One of the things that she pointed out was that most injuries from these types of encounters are a result of having dogs along for the ride. For personal safety of you, your horse and your dog, you may want to reconsider whether your furry best friend should accompany you.

We also all had an opportunity to practice with bear spray. It's a good idea to carry a can if you are in bear country. If you do have to use it, be sure to point it away from you and low to the ground.

## GYPSY MEADOWS UPDATE

Darrell Wallace of North-East Chapter recently asked BCH members to email the Forest Service regarding proposed site improvements at Gypsy Meadows in the Colville National Forest.

Darrell reports that they listened! A decision has been reached to implement Alternative 1 as was recommended. Improvements will begin next year. The full 11 page report is attached to this newsletter if you wish to explore the details.

Also, for those that may ride that area, it has been reported that there is a washout in the road past Pass Creek Pass and it is supposed to be repaired soon.



## Scavenger Hunt

By Ken Carmichael

This is another reminder of the PBCH scavenger Hunt coming **Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>**. Again this year we will be at the Riverside State Park Equestrian Area.

This event is very important to the chapter. It is our only fundraiser and thus funds many of the chapter activities. It also is a form of publicity where people learn about PBCH.

We provide a unique event and we receive many positive comments about how fun the last two times have been. Each year we make improvements. However, it is a large event requiring many hands on deck to ensure that people are treated as they should be and have a good time.

This means that all chapter members should plan on volunteering. There are a variety of volunteer positions so everyone will be useful and have a good time. There are many last minute details to attend to and finding volunteers should not be one of them. Mark your calendar, make a commitment and call or email now to volunteer so that we know that we can count on you Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. 509-466-2225 or [kcarmichael2225@gmail.com](mailto:kcarmichael2225@gmail.com).

# Lakeview Work Project

**By Ken Carmichael**

For months now we have been talking about a new large work project at the BLM Lakeview Recreation Area north of Odesa. This has all hinged on receiving a Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant through BCHW.

The good news is that after all the delays in getting a Washington State Capital Budget passed, and other approvals, the grant has been approved. This \$3,800 grant will help pay for the construction material to replace the corals at Lakeview.

So where do we stand now? The first step is to remove the interior corral fencing, making efforts to save those boards that will be useful. Our plan is to do this sometime this fall and begin construction in the early spring. This will be a project where all Ponderosa members will be able to participate. There will be lots of “basic skills” type of work. In addition we will be able to camp at the site and enjoy the companionship of chapter members.

Another part of the RTP grant is to establish a trail at the 14,000 acre Telford Recreation Area, 13 miles west of Davenport. Trails in the Telford Recreation Area from the established trailheads have deteriorated due to a fire and lack of maintenance... We will establish the trail by using horses to pound in a trail over a route that has been determined. We will add trail markers. The timing on this is uncertain based on other chapter projects and the weather.

Both of these areas provide excellent trail riding. These projects support the BCH mission of keeping trails open for equestrians. We look forward to working with BLM to improve the facilities.



**At Lakeview Ranch; photo by Cindy Miller**

# A Rose by any other Name...Is a Ribbon

By Michelle Eames

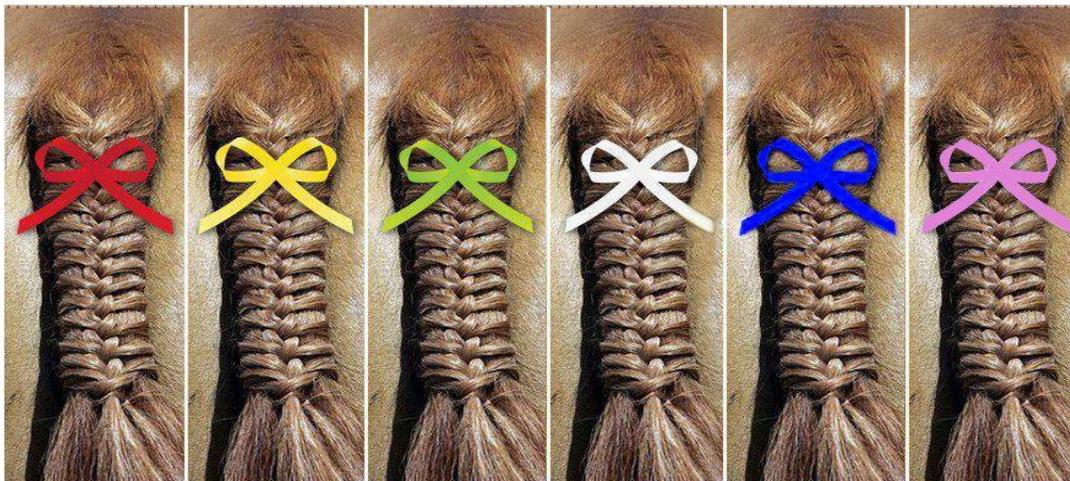
As the proud owner of a green horse, I began putting a green ribbon in my horse's tail. Green meaning, well, "green" in the horse world. Or: "my horse is unpredictable, don't crowd me!". I found that the green ribbon was not respected, and after my horse kicked another, we changed to red. Red means: "I kick! Back Off!" In surfing around the internet, I found that there is some debate about the meaning of ribbons, it may depend on where you are from. Nevertheless, the ones I know for sure around here are red for kickers (or biters if on the forelock), and green for green horse. Personally, I'm sticking with red, until my horse becomes more predictable. Although, when I can't find my red ribbon, don't be surprised to see a red rose!



## Tail Ribbons Have A Meaning!

Watch for these unspoken signals when on the trail, at the show or around the barn:

<b>Caution:</b> <b>I Kick</b> <b>Or Strike!</b>	<b>Stay Back</b> <b>I'm A</b> <b>Stallion!</b>	<b>I'm Green Or</b> <b>Young &amp; In-</b> <b>Experienced</b>	<b>I Am</b> <b>For</b> <b>Sale!</b>	<b>Stallion Or</b> <b>Aggressive</b> <b>Gelding</b>	<b>Moody</b> <b>Mare</b> <b>Kicks!</b>
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# July 4th Safety for Pets

Fireworks, picnics and other Fourth of July traditions can be great fun for people; but all of the festivities can be frightening and even dangerous for animals. Noisy fireworks and other celebrations can startle animals and cause them to run away; holiday foods can be unhealthy; summer heat and travel can be dangerous; and potentially dangerous debris can end up lying on the ground where pets can eat or play with it.



Whether or not you're planning your own Independence Day celebration, it's important to take precautions to keep your pets safe both during and after the July 4th festivities.

## Preparing in advance:

- Make sure your pets – cats and dogs alike – have **identification tags** with up-to-date information. If you have horses, you might consider marking a safety (breakaway) halter with your contact information and leaving it on your horse during this stressful time.
- If your pets aren't already **microchipped**, talk with your veterinarian about microchipping. This simple procedure can greatly improve your chances of getting your pets back if they become lost.
- If your pets are microchipped, **make sure your contact information in the microchip registry is up-to-date**.
- Take a **current photo** of all of your cats, dogs and horses – just in case.
- If your pet has historically been anxious on this holiday, or if you have reason to expect potentially harmful reactions, consider **behavioral therapy** to desensitize your pet and reduce the risk of problems. Some pets may need medication. Consult your veterinarian or a **veterinary behaviorist**.
- Make sure the environment is safe and secure. If your neighbors set off fireworks at an unexpected time, is your **yard** secure enough to keep your pet contained? Are **pasture fences** secure enough to keep horses or other livestock confined? Evaluate your options, and choose the safest area for your animals; and make improvements if needed to make the area more secure.

## Safety during July 4th celebrations:

- **Leave your pets at home** when you go to parties, fireworks displays, parades and other gatherings. Loud fireworks, unfamiliar places and crowds can all be very frightening to pets, and there's great risk of pets becoming spooked and running away.
- Consider putting your pets in a **safe, escape-proof room or crate** during parties and fireworks.
- Keep horses and livestock in **safely fenced areas** and as far from the excitement and noise as possible.
- **If you're hosting guests**, ask them to help keep an eye on your pets to make sure they don't escape. Placing notes on exit doors and gates can help both you and your guests remain vigilant.
- Keep your **pets inside** if you or your neighbors are setting off fireworks.
- Keep **sparklers, glow sticks, fireworks, charcoal** and **kabob skewers** away from curious pets.
- Don't let pets get near your **barbecue grill** while it is in use or still hot.
- Avoid the urge to feed your pets **table scraps** or other foods intended for people. Be especially careful to keep them away from these **common foods that are actually toxic**.
- Remember that too much **sun and heat** (and humidity!) can be dangerous to pets. Keep them inside when it's extremely hot/humid; make sure they have access to shady spots and plenty of water when outdoors; don't leave them outside for extended periods in hot weather; and know the **signs that a pet may be overheating**.
- **Never leave your pet in your car** when it's warm outside. Vehicle interiors heat up much faster than the air around them, and even a short time in a locked car can be dangerous to pets.
- If you're **travelling out of town** for the holiday, consider leaving your pets at home with a pet sitter or boarding them in a kennel. If you need to bring them with you, be sure you know **how to keep them safe**.
- Follow safe **food handling** and hygiene practices to protect your family and guests.



## After the celebrations:

- **Check your yard** for fireworks debris before allowing pets outside to play or relax. Even if you didn't set off fireworks yourself, debris can make its way into your yard, where curious animals may pick it up to play with or eat.
- **Check your pastures** and remove debris to protect horses and livestock.
- If you hosted guests, check both your yard and home for **food scraps or other debris** that might be dangerous to pets, such as food skewers.

## FFA and LNT

By Ken Carmichael

On May 30<sup>th</sup> I met with 4 classes of FFA and 1 class of Natural Resources and Environmental Science totaling 75 students and the Reardan High School. I provided a 101 class on Back Country Horsemen then we talked about Leave No Trace. The goal was to introduce LNT to the students and impress upon them the importance of their participation. We want them involved by learning the 7 Principles, practicing these Principles and encourage others to do so. We must act smarter and more creatively.

This was a good opportunity to meet with students that either own horses or are actively involved in outdoor activities.

### **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

### *From The Editor*

*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*

*Thank you to all who are contributing to the newsletter on a regular basis. You are appreciated! I love your stories! Always remember, this is your newsletter, so don't be afraid show off your personality!*

## 2018 Ponderosa Chapter Officers

Dean Giles, President	Patti Sander, Education Chairman
Joyce Johnson, Treasurer	Cindy Miller, Webmaster/Facebook
Ken Carmichael, State Director	Patti Sander, Newsletter Editor
Shannon Barnhart, Secretary	Michelle Eames, Newsletter Publisher
Legislative Chair (Vacant)	Gary Miller, Photographer
Craig Volosing, Lands Chair	Doug Stewart, Multi-Chapter Coordinator
Doug Bailey, Trail Boss	
Carol Klar, Volunteer Hours Coord	

