



# PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of Washington  
We Get it Done !

October 2018



## CALENDAR

October 27

BCHW Winery Ride  
Zillah, WA

November 6

Soup Social @6:00 PM  
Chapter Meeting @6:30 PM  
Hayford Community Church

December 4

Chapter Meeting  
Hayford Community Church

January 8, 2019

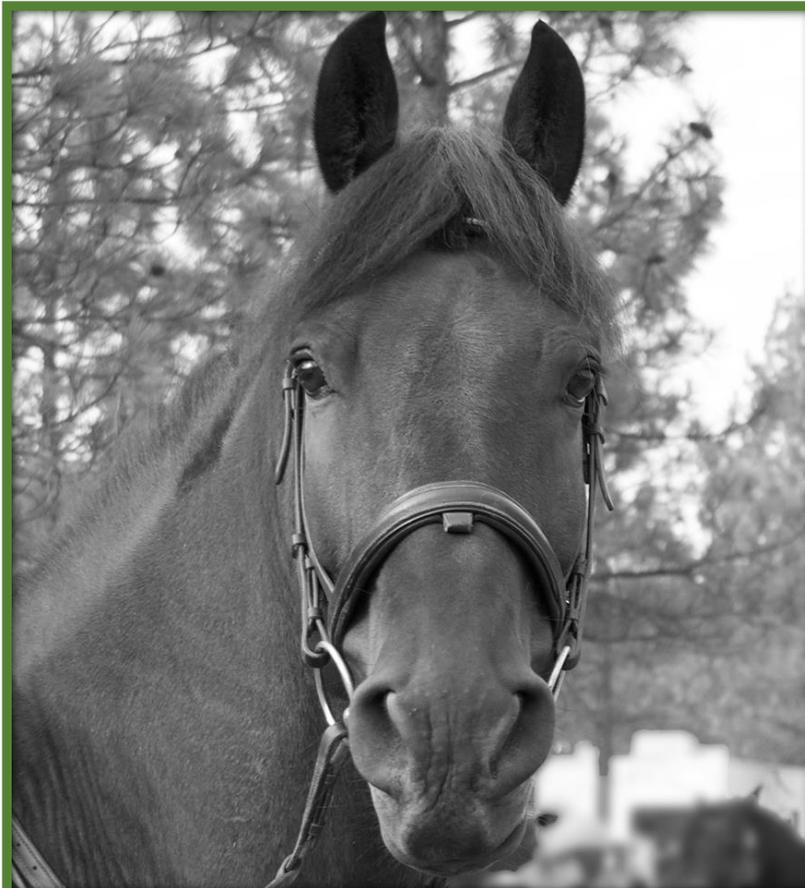
Chapter Meeting  
Hayford Community Church

January 26, 2019

Leadership Training  
Ellensburg, WA

March 15-17, 2019

Rendezvous  
Ellensburg, WA



*Photo at Scavenger Hunt by Cindy Miller 1*

# Work Party Update

By Ken Carmichael

We continue to be active with our “moving dirt” part of the BCH mission.

Our two main projects of late have been the removal of barbwire in Riverside State Park and building new corrals at the BLM Lakeview Property north of Odessa.

Here is where we stand:

**RIVERSIDE STATE PARK WIRE PROJECT:** We went in on Sunday, September 16 hoping to finish the project. There were fewer of us than anticipated so the work was slow. We also had a lot of down wire to pick up. Carol Klar and I tackled the down wire, thank goodness for good bolt cutters. Doug Bailey brought his tractor and Don Dyer brought the wire roller and 4X4 ORV. Cindy Miller, Michelle Eames and Dee Dee Denison worked with Don and Doug to pick up the standing fence. This became a real challenge on the steep, overgrown hillside. Then the tractor went over a small tree stump that punctured a large tire. That pretty much ended the day. Doug and Teresa were able to get the tire replaced and the tractor out later in the week. This means that we need to go back in this fall or spring to finish the job.



**LAKEVIEW RANCH CORRAL:** This project went very well on Saturday September 8. Doug Bailey was on site by Thursday and Don and Sheila Dyer and I arrived Friday. We were able to get a good start on the project of tearing down the old corral and identifying where the problems were. Patti Sander arrived late Friday. On Saturday Dee Dee Denison and Tom and Diana Birge arrived. Also we had the help of Chris Shafer from BLM. We hit the ground running Saturday morning and with

*Photo at Riverside by Cindy Miller*

the help of all the great tools that Don and Doug brought we made great headway. The BLM bobcat was great for pulling fence posts. We worked so hard and fast that we finished the work on Saturday.

On Friday, October 5, Doug Bailey and Craig Volosing will pick up all the construction materials for the new corral and we will store them in Doug's barn for the winter. Come Spring we will start rebuilding the corrals.

**BOTTOM LINE:** In the spring we will have lots more work to do on these projects. Plus we will be pounding in a trail with the horses at the Telford Property (BLM). We also want to finish trail signs at the Escure Ranch. We are also looking at more corrals at Escure, a kiosk, manure bunker and improved campsites at Lakeview.



*Photo by Cindy Miller*

We have lots of fun at these “parties” and we are accomplishing some great work. Come join us and have some fun.

## Elections Held

By Patti Sander

At our October membership meeting, elections for 2019 officers were held.

Big Thank you to Diana Birge who was our 1 person nominating committee. Great job!

Our 2019 Officers are as follows:

Doug Bailey, President

Patti Sander, Secretary

Diana Birge, Treasurer

Ken Carmichael, Director (2<sup>nd</sup> year of 2 year term)

Big thank you to Michelle Eames and Cindy Miller who have volunteered to take responsibility for the newsletter for the upcoming year. This leaves Patti free to concentrate on the secretarial and education chair duties. Your willing hands and hearts are greatly appreciated!

# DATES TO REMEMBER



## October 27 BCHW Wine Ride

**By Ken Carmichael**

The 17th annual BCHW Wine Ride will be in Zillah Washington on Saturday, October 27th. This is a major fundraiser for BCHW and an interesting event to be at.

The riders travel between about 15 wineries along designated trails. They have the option of purchasing wine at the wineries. This is transported back to registration (camping) by BCH. There is overnight camping and day parking. There is also a dinner and costume contest.

Dee Dee, Patti and I are going to the event as volunteers.

If you want more information about the event as either a rider or volunteer go to the BCHW website [www.bchw.org](http://www.bchw.org).

## November Soup Social – Before the Membership Meeting November 6

“Soup Social” 6:00 to 6:30 to warm up a cool November evening. Two members have already volunteered to bring their favorite homemade soups, and we’d love to have a few more folks bring soup to share. Also, salads, breads and desserts are also welcome!

*Carol is coordinating, so let her know if you’d like to fire up your crockpot.*

Contact Carol at: [Cklar32@gmail.com](mailto:Cklar32@gmail.com)

## January BCHW Leadership Training

**By Ken Carmichael**

This is our first announcement concerning the annual BCHW Leadership Training. This will be Saturday, January 26, 2019 in Ellensburg. **I encourage all the chapter officers to plan to attend.**

This is an important BCHW event because it provides excellent information for the chapter leadership and it provides an opportunity to interact with and learn from other chapters.

There are 5 concurrent sessions all day so it takes many of us to cover all the sessions. It is always good to have more than one person in a session.

Even if you are not responsible for an office now this is an excellent opportunity to get to know some people and learn more about BCH. We will carpool to cut down on the driving.

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending.

# Your Membership

By Ken Carmichael

Beginning in 2018 BCHW started using a computerized program called "Your Membership" to take membership applications. That was a pilot year as we learned about the system and identified the benefits and problems.

For 2019 the Your Membership program is in full swing. On October 1 each members should have received an email from Dana Chambers, State Membership Chair, introducing the Your Membership program and encouraging you to renew your membership with this program.

As many of you know I am not the brightest bulb in the room when it comes to using computer programs. Therefore, on October 2 I gave it a try figuring if I could do it anyone could. Well, I was successful even without calling for Patti's help.

What now? I want to encourage every member to go into this program now and renew your membership for 2019. Look back through your emails for Dana's email on October 1 to get very good instructions on how to do it. If you cannot find the email then contact Dana at [membership@bchw.org](mailto:membership@bchw.org) and she will provide it to you.

If all else fails contact me and I will give you a paper form to fill out. We want your membership.

Let's get ahead of the membership renewal for 2019 and do it now.

## Fergus



# Scavenger Hunt

By Ken Carmichael

The third annual PBCH scavenger hunt is in the books as another successful event. This is all made possible by a fantastic crew of 30 volunteers. Eleven of these volunteers are not members but come out to help including the SCOPE group provided volunteers to monitor the trail.

We had 124 contestants. They won prizes for the scavenger hunt, raffle and door prizes. In addition they listened to Hank FM music, ate chili and had a great ride.

I think you had to be there to really appreciate what everyone did by moving between various responsibilities during the day to keep it running smoothly. In addition people were there Friday to set up equipment and on Sunday to take down the items on the trail.

I have talked to State Parks and set the 2019 date for September 28. We have taken lots of notes and have more ideas for how we can improve the ride even more and make it run smoothly. Your ideas are always welcome.

Thank you to all the people who helped on Saturday and contributed so much to getting ready for the event.



*Photo at Scavenger Hunt by Gary Miller*

# *Ride and Campout at Escure Ranch*

**By Ken Carmichael**

Ask Patti and me where our favorite place to ride is located and it is hands down the BLM property at the Escure Ranch, officially known as the Rock Creek Recreation Area. We try to go there twice a year, spring and fall. Summer is too hot and the snakes are out and about. In the Fall, we plan our trips around the hunters.

This last weekend was our 3 day fall trip. Escure is located 67 miles and about 1 hour and 45 minutes from home and makes for a great long weekend. We left early Friday and by noon were in the saddle for a half day ride. We chose to go west to the windmill and past Wall Lake. This is an easy ride. It was a cool day so we donned our long johns and tied our heavy coats to the saddle. It gets dark early now so not much of a night life. We sleep in the back of the horse trailer so lots of blankets are in order. It rained Friday night but no big deal as we were inside and never got wet.

On Saturday we planned a longer exploratory ride to the north boundary of the ranch. It was beautiful finding our way through the various draws that run north and south. As you drive into the ranch there are a series of bluffs to the right. We wanted to see the ranch from the top of those bluffs. From below, the bluffs look very narrow on top so we had planned to ride along the edge. When we got to the top, however, we were pleasantly surprised to find wide, prairie meadows on top! The plateaus provided fantastic views of the landscape all around the ranch. I hated to come down.

While we were out riding on Saturday, Carol Klar and Michelle Eames arrived and were riding south to the water falls. This is a pretty destination and popular hike. That night we sat around our propane fireplace and had s'mores provided by Carol. It was wonderful to have such great fellowship.

Sunday morning we woke up to frost. We lit the propane fireplace and the four of us sat and visited over hot cups of coffee while we waited for the horses to finish their breakfast. Late morning found the four of us saddled up and ready to ride. We headed south on the west side of the creek. This is pretty flat ground with a wide open view. As we circled back we were looking down on the creek. Great view.

Sadly after that ride it was time to pack up and come home. We always hate leaving but go away planning our next trip.



*Photo by Carol Klar*

Some additional information about the Escure Ranch. It is about 13,000 acres and was once a sheep and cattle ranch. The buildings are still there. One of the challenges and fun of riding there is finding the gates through the fences. This is wide open country with great views. We cross the creek on a large bridge but there are other water crossings depending on the water flow. This last spring there were many water holes where we had to be very careful to avoid the soft ground. As a person that gets lost in a closet I am quite proud of the fact that I know my way around the ranch. It lays out very nicely north and south and east and west. We have identified five rides in the area where we would not be repeating ourselves, we are now planning a five day camping trip in the Spring.

The equestrian trailhead has two corrals (PBCH plans to build more), highlines for about 7 horses, horse water, concrete restroom and level camp area with good places for temporary corrals (no trees). The road leading down to the campground is a bit bumpy, so expect to take 15-20 minutes to go the last 2 miles down into the ranch

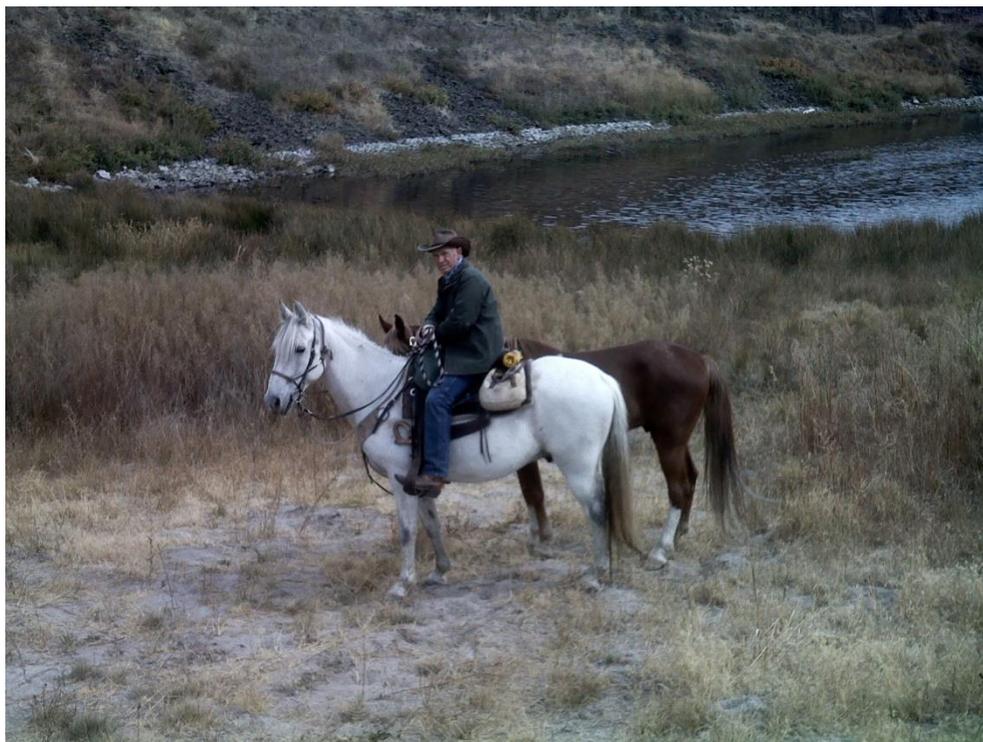
Recent PBCH work parties at the Escure included installing more trail signs and springs on gates, a manure bunker and kiosk. We also donated a wheel barrel and rake. I am proud to



*Photo by Carol Klar*

say that visitors are using the manure bunker and the wheel barrel and rake are still there.

Bottom line is that this was just one of the many great trips to a wonderful place to ride. We encourage everyone to join us or to find your own way there.



*Photo by Patti Sander*

# Doctor Charlie McCraigie Presentation

By Carol Klar

Oct. 2nd - We had a terrific meeting tonight with special guest, equine vet, Dr. Charlie McCraigie. Dr Charlie provided many interesting insights to identifying distress in your horse, taking vitals, snake bites, winterizing, and a superb recipe for bran mash. Another item of interest was using an exam glove for checking sand content in your horse's manure. She also demonstrated a clever use for an engine thermometer, as in, from the auto parts store. This was applied to the hoof, to determine areas of heat, thus possible abscess. Michelle Eames brought Oly the Fjord, to be our model for taking vitals. Thanks to all who made this such a fun and informative evening! Much info was shared, and much was learned. Everyone seemed to enjoy Dr. Charile's down-to-earth, practical approach.

Recipe for Dr. Charlie's bran mash

- 2# wheat bran (best price is at Country Store)
- 3# Haystacks pellets (also available at Country Store)
- 3# Equine Senior (substitute a low carb feed if feeding an IR horse)

Mix with a sufficient amount of warm water to suit your horse. Some like a little, some like a lot. You may need to experiment a bit. The recipe above is sufficient to feed 3 horses. She likes to give this 3x/week, and says it has eliminated colic in her own herd.

Reduce the wheat bran for horses 5 years and under or substitute rice bran.

She also mentioned using ground flax seed, and the best price in bulk is at Winco. I need to get details on if this is integrated into the mash, or fed separately. There seems to be a gap in my notes.

She did a quick review of a new Purina product called Hydration Hay. This sounds like an excellent way to get more moisture into your horse.

A discussion about supplements and electrolytes lead to her recommendation of Renew Gold. This sounds like a complete supplement of vitamins, minerals and electrolytes.

Numerous ways to identify colic pain were discussed, some we knew; some such as transient heart murmur, were novel.

Snakebites, another topic of great interest, had some interesting discussion. We learned about a vaccine that is now available. Please see <http://www.redrockbiologics.com> for details.

Dr. McCraigie's phone# is: 509-936-2373

## Vitals for your horse

I picked up a card from McKinlay & Peters Equine Hospital on a recent visit. These are the norms they publish. It is a good idea to do a baseline check of these vitals, while your horse is healthy and calm, so you have something to compare to, when he/she is unwell.

Temperature: 99.5 – 101.5 Adult, 100.5 – 102.5 Foal

Heart Rate: 24-40 Beats/Min Adult, 50-120 Foal

Respiration: 12-20 Breaths/Min Adult, 60-70 Foal

Gums: pink, moist, uniform color.

Gut Sounds: Listen with your ear against the flank for 1-2 low rumbles/minute.

I'd like to add to this, that a Capillary Refill Time should be < 2 seconds. To test this, lift your horse's upper lip, with 1 finger, press on the gum (which will cause it to blanch), and watch closely to see how quickly the color returns. If CRT is > than 2 seconds, that is an indication that something is amiss with hydration/blood flow.

You might want to print this out and leave it in your barn and/or trailer ☺

**Carol Klar**

## Joke of the Month

**(As Shared by Vali the Fjord; With Thanks to Ken Carmichael)**

Two Tennessee walkers, a Morgan, and a Fjord horse walk into a barn.

The barn-tender says: "I used to have a 17-2 hand warm-blood. He was so tall I always had to mount him from a big stump in the yard. Then the stump rotted, and I had to sell him."

"Then I bought a short Fjord horse. He was easy to get on, but I had to sell him. My back gave out and I couldn't lift him over the logs on the trail anymore."



## **A Big Thank-you to our 2018 Officers:**

Dean Giles, President

Joyce Johnson, Treasurer

Shannon Barnhart, Secretary

## **And a Big Welcome and Congratulations to our 2019 Officers:**

President - Lyle "Doug" Bailey

Treasurer – Diana Birge

Secretary – Patti Sander

Everyone can contribute to make the PBCH a successful group to support our mission. Think of what you can do, and together "We will get it done!"



*Photo at Scavenger Hunt by Gary Miller*