



PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of Washington
We Get it Done !

JANUARY 2019



CALENDAR

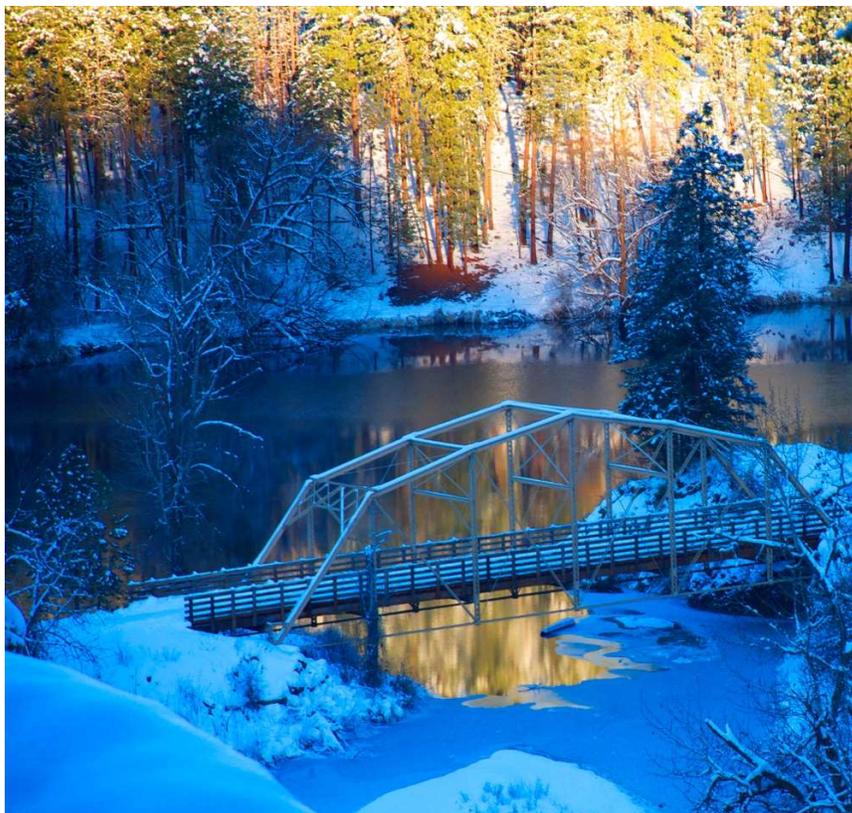
January 8, 2019
Chapter Meeting
6:30 pm
Hayford Community Church

January 26, 2019
Leadership Training
Ellensburg, WA

February 5, 2019
Chapter Meeting

March 15-17, 2019
Rendezvous
Ellensburg, WA

April 13, 2019
PBCH Vet and Vitals Clinic.



Riverside State Park



BCHW Leadership Training

By Ken Carmichael

Do you want to learn more about Back Country Horsemen? Do you want to meet some nice people from across the state? The BCHW Leadership Training has been going on since dirt was new and it is a great place to be if you are a BCHW member.

This event is held in Ellensburg Washington on Saturday, January 26th at the fairgrounds. What do we do? Members from chapters across the state get together to learn from each other and become more acquainted with BCHW.

There are many volunteer opportunities in PBCH and the fact of the matter is that these occur in many other chapters as well. Some like Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator have to be done in coordination with each other and BCHW. Others are more independent but are very similar. Thus the opportunity to learn from each other and BCHW

Several of us from PBCH will be attending. This includes:

Ken and Patti Carmichael

Tom and Diana Birge

Doug Bailey

Michelle Eames

Dean Giles

We will be carpooling. If you want to join us please give me a call at 466-2225. We want all chapter members to participate in this great opportunity.

DATES to REMEMBER

January 26, 2019- BCHW Leadership Training

The annual BCHW Leadership Training will be Saturday, January 26, 2019 in Ellensburg. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. Officers and others are welcome. We will carpool to cut down on the driving. .

February 1, 2019, BCHW Calendar photos due.

Email your photos to BCHWcalendarphotos@gmail.com by February 1st 2019 to be included in the 2020 calendar. Ashley will continue to accept pictures for the next year's calendars as well.

February 1, 2019 – Pictures and script due for 2018 BCHW Accomplishment video

February 2, 2019

McKinley Peters Veterinary: 16th Annual Equine Education Day; 9 a.m. -1 p.m. Current topics in Equine Health will be presented. Free Admission, No Registration Required, Door Prizes! At The CenterPlace Event Center in Spokane Valley,

February 25, 2019 BCHW Legislative Day in Olympia. Contact Ken if interested.

March 1, 2019 – Renew membership deadline

March 15-17, 2019

BCHW Rendezvous, Ellensburg, WA. Ponderosa is hosting the Dutch Oven cooking contest; Ken and Patty are putting up the BCHW Membership Development Booth. Enjoy shopping, educational displays, hands-on learning, horse trailer backing contest...and more!

April 13 - PBCH Vet and Vitals Clinic. More information below.

May 2-5, 2019 – LNT Train the Trainer class at Teanaway

May 18, 2019 – BCHW Poker Ride near Cle Elum

July 1-4, 2019 – Statewide Work Party in the Umatilla National Forest, Blue Mountains

July 31 – August 7, 2019 – Large work party at Mt. St. Helens National Monument

October 26, 2019 – BCHW Wine Ride at Zillah, WA

There are many opportunities to participate in BCHW events in addition to those that Ponderosa BCH sponsors.



*April 13th, PBCH will sponsor a Yet and Vitals clinic with AAEP veterinarian, Dr. Charlie McCraigie.
This is a terrific opportunity to learn the proper way assess equine vitals.*

Complete information will soon be coming to your email inbox, and Ponderosa Members will have first crack at registration!



Only 16 places will be offered.

Be on the lookout!

BCHW Rendezvous

By Ken Carmichael

On March 15-17, 2019 BCHW members and friends gather at a rendezvous in Ellensburg Washington. There are all kinds of activities, conversation and just plain good times. Here is a very brief rundown of what is happening:

- BCHW general membership meeting
- Used tack sale, - this is huge, bring your stuff to sell and then buy something
- Vendor booths – buy stuff or see what is available
- Packing competition – try your skills
- Auctions – bucket, silent and live
- Public Lands Day – when we meet with public land representatives to talk about equestrians
- Dutch oven cooking contest – this is sponsored by the **Ponderosa Chapter** and managed by our own Dutch oven master **Doug Bailey**
- Crosscut saw competition – try your skills

There are all types of seminars going on throughout the weekend including:

- The Trailmeister – always an interesting topic
- CPR/First Aid Training – good for everyone
- Insurance underwriter – understand the insurance that BCHW carries
- Back country riding for the faint of heart – this should be interesting
- Communications in the back country – what electronics work
- Pacific Crest Trail and BCHW joint projects – we are working together to keep trails open

In addition:

- Hard hat decorating competition
- Chapter displays
- Photo contest
- Table decorating competition
- On site camping available

Things to know:

- There is NO registration fee. Just come and enjoy
- Banquet Saturday night – this does require purchase of a meal ticket. I suggest doing this in advance as they sell out
- PBCH tables at the banquet – the chapter reserves 2 tables at the banquet. Please let me know you are coming and we will save you a seat.
- For more information, reserve a campsite or purchase a banquet ticket please go to the BCHW website www.bchw.org.
- Patti and I are staying at the Red Lion on Friday and Saturday night.
- Questions – call me and we can talk 466-2225

Winter Activities

By Ken Carmichael

Now that snow is on the ground and it is colder, some of us turn our attention to things other than riding down the trail. I am speaking about those of us that are fair weather riders and without an indoor arena.

This does not mean that we totally divorce ourselves from the horses. After all many of us are still out there at least twice a day to feed them and check the water. Some even have to clean stalls.

Winter can be a special time to get other projects done. This includes checking and cleaning our tack. Two things we do not want to happen during the primary riding season are to have our tack out of commission for cleaning or repair or, to have a serious accident due to our tack.

So my answer for this is, get after it now. This winter, after the Super Bowl, I bring all the tack inside for a good cleaning. This is a major project as it takes several days to take apart each saddle, wash, oil and reassemble.

This process gives the additional benefit of providing us a good time to really take a hard look at the tack and see what needs repair. There are many benefits. First is safety. Damaged or weekend tack can result in a nasty accident with unfavorable results. Second, tack can end up at the repair shop when we want to be riding. Third, tack will last much longer when properly cared for.

What about those saddlebags? This assumes that we all carry saddlebags with first aid and survival equipment. This is important wherever we ride or for how far. Winter is a good time to spread these supplies out on the table and evaluate them. Are you carrying everything you need, are there things you do not need, do you know how to use them and are the items in good repair and not out of date? It behooves us all to carry at least a small quantity of supplies. For example, if everyone carries one vet wrap and gauze when there is a major injury we combine our resources. I have seen that happen.

At the same time, we can review what is in the vet box in the trailer and barn.

During the winter is a good time for another project. There are many great places around Spokane to ride and camp. Now is a good time to get out the maps and calendars with your riding partners and make plans. If additional information is needed about a location, it is a good time to talk to friends and land managers.

When planning 2019 you should remember attending the Scavenger Hunt in Riverside State Park Saturday, September 28. The statewide rendezvous is in Ellensburg March 15-17. Back Country Horsemen is a place where all of these issues are discussed and we share experiences and knowledge.

Stay warm and be prepared for a great year of riding in 2019.

Water For Horses

From McKinley Peters December 2018 Newsletter

Winter is upon us. Please make sure that your equine friends have access to plenty of fresh water. It is just as important now as it is during the warmer part of the year. Horse's cannot eat enough snow to adequately hydrate themselves, so make sure those water troughs and buckets are full and free from ice. If you use heaters in your buckets and troughs, check them daily for frayed cords or possible malfunctions that would cause an electrical shock.



Joyce Johnson – Thank you

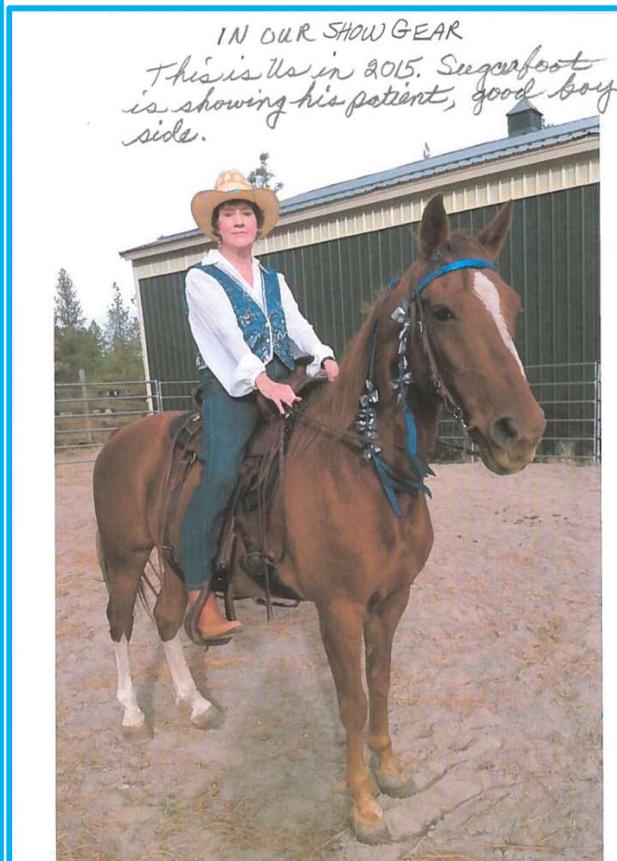
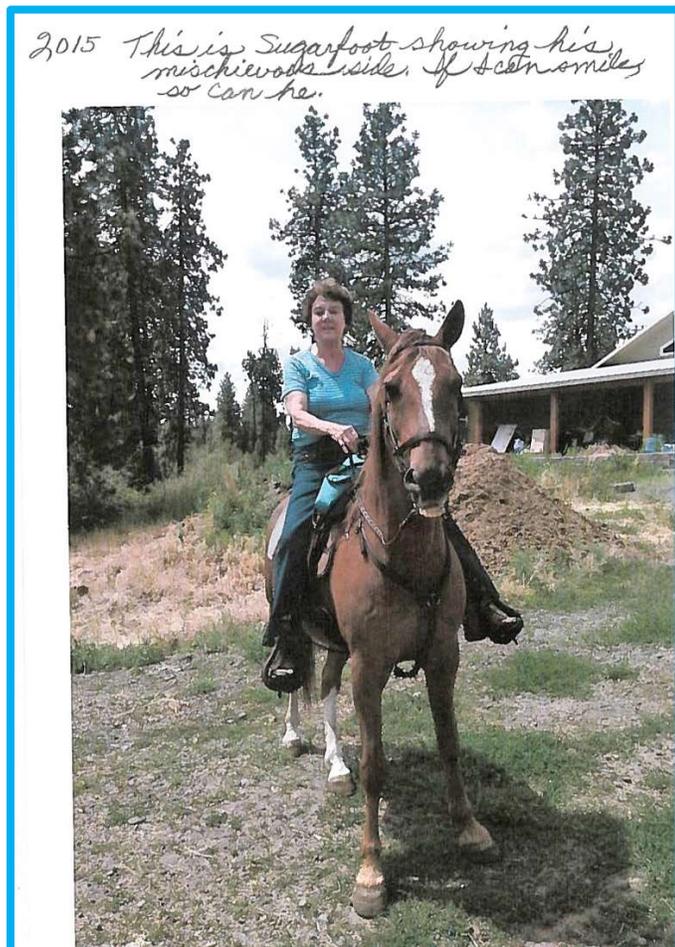
By Ken Carmichael

Joyce is a long-time member of Back Country Horsemen. After being in the Inland Empire Chapter and chapters in Idaho and Montana she joined Ponderosa chapter in 2016.

It did not take long for Joyce to become involved. For the last two years Joyce has held the important job of chapter Treasurer. Joyce understood the operation of the chapter so that she could accurately reflect our activities on the accounting records. She has done a fantastic job of learning and following the BCHW accounting procedures. Joyce was always complemented by BCHW for having accurate records and always providing information on time.

Joyce is entering another phase of her life. She has given up her Fox Trotter named Sugarfoot but is still able to visit a horse that she has enjoyed for 14 years. Now her attention is turned to a puppy that keeps her on her toes.

Joyce is continuing her membership in Ponderosa and we will see her at some meetings.



Case of Colic Caused by Inadequate Water Intake

By Cindy Miller

https://www.horseillustrated.com/horse-experts-horse-vet-advice-2016-walking-a-colicking-horse?utm_medium=paid+social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=remarketing-ll&utm_content=23843161542850531&fbclid=IwAR3W4Rhb7k3ae39FQGMHnjJ2uzkrPNVTqVKePqMZUTD6-Spm6s55UQ_vW4

Two weeks ago, my horse came down with colic. I happened to be there at the barn when he went down in the pasture. I got him up and walked him to the arena, where he quickly lay down and didn't move. The vet was on his way, and I held his head and rubbed his neck. He closed his eyes half-way and was totally relaxed (I sang to him too, I know he liked it, lol!) I remember reading the article above, and I chose not to get him up and walk him, as I have done in the past. He was not thrashing; he seemed to want to rest, and I let him. I know this will be a debatable topic, but it was my gut feeling to let him be, don't stress him out in this particular case.



When the vet got there, he got him up, vitals were taken, gut sounds were monitored, tubed him, and waited. He began to pass gas vigorously and in an hour, he was passing manure, very dry impacted-type of manure. This turned out to be colic that is brought on by this horse not drinking water in the winter. He has done it three times, and I should have been ready for it.

Here are the precautions I should have been doing (because I know the nature of Cooper): (1) Check water levels in his trough; (2) Begin using warm water mixed with his mash, lots of water when there are drastic changes in temps outside; (3) soaking his hay; (4) chia feeds can help to prevent impact colic, as they absorb water and act like a gel; and a little salt could have been given with his supplement to encourage drinking. Cooper is healthy, energetic, pooping, drinking water and fully recovered. This was a happy ending. I hope we all become vigilant and pay attention, especially as our horses experience these crazy weather patterns.

Favorite Rides Contest:

Send in an article on your favorite place to ride along with pictures for the December, January, and February issues of the chapter newsletter. Every time you submit an article, your name goes in for a drawing to win a prize which will be given out at the February membership meeting. It doesn't have to be long, just tell us what you like about the location. You may enter multiple times.

Patti Carmichael Entry 1: Escure Ranch (Aka: Rock Creek Recreation Area)

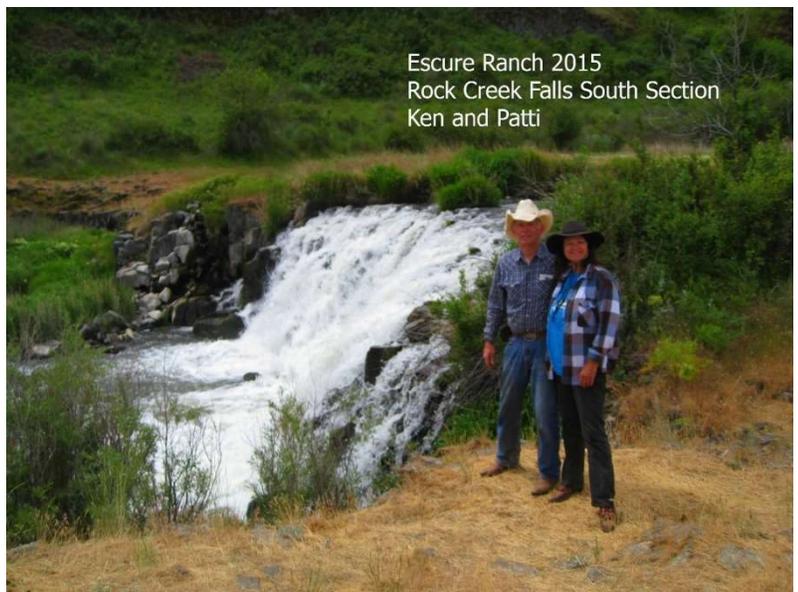
My first visit to Escure Ranch (aka: Rock Creek Recreation Area) was in 2015. My boyfriend at the time [now husband], Ken Carmichael invited me to accompany him. I had never camped with horses before, so this was going to be quite the adventure!

We arrived on a sunny Friday afternoon in Mid-May. Anticipation was at a peak as the pickup and horse trailer slowly made way down a narrow, bumpy dirt road. The ranch buildings were not in sight yet. As I gazed out the window, all that I could see was green, green and green speckled with blue, pink, purple and yellow wild flowers. Ken had described it all to me, his adventures there, and how it was his favorite place to ride. Ken had shared his pictures with me earlier and I was excited to experience it. I've always loved to discover new places to ride. Having grown up in the Spokane area I thought I had ridden it all, but I was in for a wonderful surprise. This was going to be fun!

Finally, we turned the last corner and as we descended the hill...there it was.... a sprawling meadow surrounded by rolling hills and granite rock formations. The ranch buildings were in the distance, across the wooden bridge that spanned Rock Creek. The camping area was to our right and we turned in to park. We were the first of our group to arrive for the weekend ride.

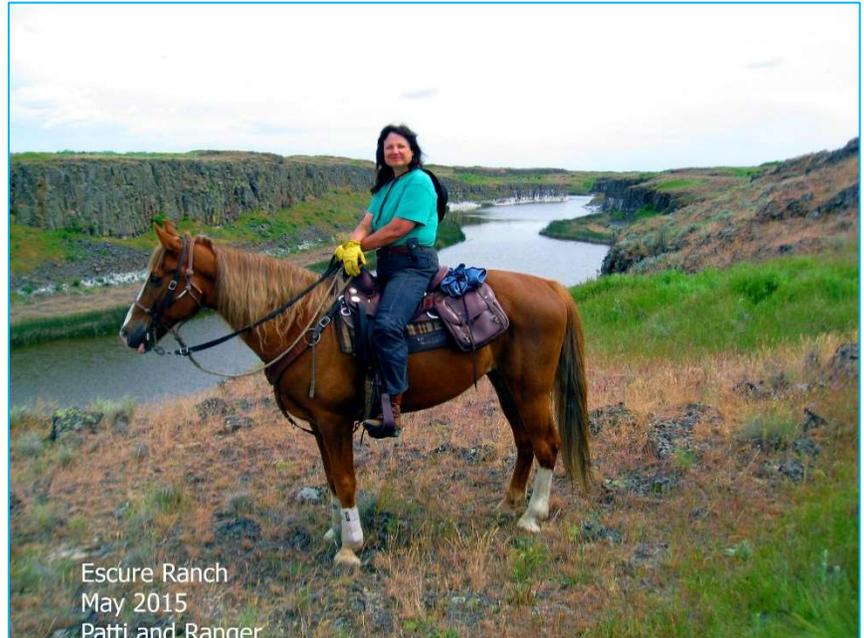
We unloaded the horses and got them settled and then set up our sleeping quarters...a cozy one room 3-horse trailer that we would call home for the next three days. Since we had arrived early in the day, there was time for a ride and so we saddled up the horses, Silver and Ranger and headed across the creek. We rode through the barnyard area and through the first of many gates and out into the sprawling pastureland.

The main trail was wide and well marked-with many narrower "cow" trails crisscrossing it. Big, fat, glossy cattle were scattered here and there throughout the land. Many of them were curious and approached us to see what we were all about. Ranger wasn't sure what to make of them, but by the end of the weekend he had decided they weren't going to eat him. The trail led us to Wall Lake. We stopped for a few minutes to take in the view and then headed cross-country on "cow" trails, heading back to the east towards camp. We encountered mule deer and a coyote or two along the way.



We made it back to camp to find a few more people and horses had arrived. The next morning we were invited by another of our chapter members to join them for a Dutch oven breakfast of eggs, hash browns, cheese and sausage. It was yummy! As we were finishing up, a pickup and trailer drove in; another Chapter member arriving to join us for the day.

We all saddled up and were out on the trail by 10 am. The sun was out and we had a little breeze. We rode through some of the same areas Ken and I had ridden the day before, but headed further north, past Wall and Turtle Lakes. The area in this section of the Escure consists of grassy draws and large granite rock formations and cliffs. We followed mostly the cattle trails to the north border fence. Then we cut back south and down the bluff to where Rock Creek cuts through a large, grassy meadow. The sun was hot and our breeze had all but quit blowing so we were all ready for a break. We stopped for lunch down by Rock Creek, among the lush green grass that was so high it tickled the horses' bellies. The creek looked very inviting and I was tempted to discard my boots and soak my feet.



The group finished lunch and we mounted up, heading back south along Rock Creek to the campground. We proceeded through grassy areas, draws, and circled around the large rock formations. We spooked up a couple of Mule deer as they were crossing the creek. A few more gates and well...we were back at camp. It always seems to take less time to get home when you're riding. I'm not sure if it's because you hate to see it end or because the horse goes faster heading home...?

Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny. That day the group headed south to explore the higher bluffs and waterfalls. We headed through more lush pastureland, up and around a couple of those glorious rock formations and found ourselves on a high bluff overlooking Rock Creek as it cut through the middle of the valley. What a view! This is by far my favorite end of the Escure. It is so beautiful and just being there made me imagine myself riding through an old cowboy movie alongside Roy Rogers!

We made our way down the grassy bluff towards the creek. The mission was to find a place to cross over while at the same time staying as dry as possible. Well.... I was the last to cross. Ranger wasn't quite sure about it all. Ranger cautiously stepped off into the creek, tippy toeing and snorting. In the middle of the creek it happened.... yep.... Ranger tripped on the slippery rocks and stumbled. I stayed aboard but was wet almost to my waist. Neither of us was injured. Good thing it was a hot day...it actually felt pretty good!

After the water adventure, we stopped next to the Rock Creek waterfall. After lunch and picture taking, we headed down the trail towards camp. The trail moved away from the creek for a spell while we "rounded the bend" then it caught up to the creek again. We had a bit of company on the way home. A couple of hikers, a bicycle or two. A rattlesnake...he was crossing the trail so we stopped and gave him plenty of room. We also scared up a flock of pelicans....yeah...pelicans...this far inland! I've never seen them this far inland! I stopped to enjoy the view while they circled above us and then landed again near the water.

The last gate and the home stretch. Back at camp we unsaddled, packed up and headed home. A marvelous three-day weekend spent with good friends, horses, and beautiful open country. Who could ask for more? So, if you haven't been to the Escure and you like riding in truly open "cowboy" country, I would encourage you to come and check it out. I loved it so much I went back and rode it again in June that year. Ken and I make a point to ride it every spring and every fall. Escure changes its colors with the seasons; spring being bright green and flowery, while in the fall it's gold, yellow, orange and red. It is just beautiful!

Escure Ranch 2015
Rock Creek North Section



Ken Carmichael Entry 2:

Mt. Spokane State Park, a Favorite Place to Ride

By Ken Carmichael

For a favorite place to ride, there are many choices. Yes, I enjoy the open country of the BLM land but sometimes you want to ride in the mountains. For a ride that is close in I pick Mt. Spokane State Park. Here are some of the reasons:

- It is only 37 miles and less than an hour from home.
- Paved road all the way, although there is a climb to the trailhead we use.
- It is great riding in the summer when it is hot around here. It is about 10 degrees cooler in the summer.
- Also great riding in the fall during hunting season as there is no hunting in the park.
- The parking is easy in the snowmobile parking lot. Restrooms here, but no water. Or if you do not want to go that far up the mountain you can park at the paved lot at the switchback. No water or restrooms here.
- There is a great variety of riding experiences, depending on what you want that day.
 - The cross country ski trails are the easiest. They are wide enough to travel 2-3 abreast, easy terrain and are well marked. However, if you get off them you can go a long way into Idaho.
 - Kit Carson Loop Road. This is a dirt road that a pickup can travel, if there are no logs down. There are gates to prevent unauthorized vehicle use. It is fairly level but a long way around the mountain. Best place to get on it is at the switchback.
 - Vertical trails. A ride to Day Mountain is fun. Here you are going up hill, nice view for lunch. We come back by the Kit Carson Loop Road and Trail 100. It is a full day.
 - There are many other trails on the mountain that you can explore.



Some additional facts:

- A Discover Pass is required.
- A map is a good idea. The Friends of Mt Spokane has produced a good one.
- Lots of bicycles are on the mountain. Unlike Riverside State Park, these are usually headed downhill at a fast pace. Trails are being identified for their use so you need to know where you are and keep a sharp eye out when on the vertical trails.
- Spring riding is limited until the snow is gone and the ground firms up a bit.
- There are some large events on the mountain so be aware of these. They may involve bikes, horses or runners.
- Crossing into Inland Paper Company land requires a permit from them.

For more information about Mt. Spokane State Park go to the Friends of Mt. Spokane State Park (FMSSP) website <http://www.mountspokane.org/>. It has some great maps and you can plan your own trip. BCH has been on this committee since it was started in 1995. We represent the equestrian community.

Michelle Eames Entry 1: Rustlers Gulch

There are so many great places to ride within a few hours of Spokane, but I think my favorite is Rustlers Gulch. I visited it several times in 2016 and 2017, it has everything: lake views, wide 2-track trails, narrow single-track trails, lake views, panoramic views, cool rocks, and a water crossing of the Little Spokane River. I didn't make it there in 2018 due to schedule and horse challenges, and I know the State did some logging in the area, but I look forward to learning new trails. I also understand that BCH chapters improved the trail head: Can't wait to explore in 2019!

More info here, I believe we used the Holly road access:

https://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/sherman_creek/Rustlers%20Gulch/



Previous Favorite Ride Contest Entries:

Ken Carmichael Entry 1:	Riverside State Park, a Favorite Place to Ride
Carol Klar Entry 1:	The Methow Valley Back Country Horsemen Ride in April
Carol Klar Entry 2:	Ancient Lakes near Quincy, Washington
Cindy Miller Entry 1:	Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge

BCH Membership Reminder

By Ken Carmichael

It is the beginning of a new year and time to renew our Back Country Horsemen memberships. In the December newsletter, I commented on all the good reasons to belong to BCH. I will not repeat them here. I just want to encourage you to renew your membership soon. By the end of February, we will be removing members from the membership list.

So, how do you renew your membership in BCH? There are two ways:

DOOR ONE – the preferred way:

Go on line at www.bchw.org and scroll down to the Member Login and click on it. Type in your Username and Password. In the middle of the screen click on *****Renew Your Membership Now*****. Look over your personal information and make any changes you need to. You can also change your Username and Password if you wish. From there answer some questions and use your credit card to make the dues payment.

Now you ask – what is my Username and Password? IF you still have the email from BCH of October 1 they are in that email. If that is not the case then call me (or email), I have them for you.

Next question – is it easy? Well I did it without Patti's help. Doug Bailey also did it. That should tell you that it is simple. Now if you simply do not want to do it that way then take DOOR TWO

DOOR TWO – the old fashion paper way:

Print the membership application attached to this newsletter and send it to the chapter Treasurer at the address at the top of the form, with your check.

DOOR ONE is preferred because there is less chance of errors in retyping your information, and less work by those that need to process the many applications to BCHW.

Bottom line is that Back Country Horsemen keeps trails open and if you want to be a part of that then membership in the Ponderosa Chapter is important.



2019 Officers and Other Chapter Staff:

Lyle "Doug" Bailey, President
Diana Birge, Treasurer
Patti Carmichael, Secretary
Craig Volosing, Lands Chair
Ken Carmichael, State Director
Carol Klar, Volunteer Hours Coordinator
Michelle Eames, Newsletter Editor
Cindy Miller, Webmaster/Facebook
Gary Miller, Photographer
Patti Sander, Education Chairman
Tom Birge, BCH Store Manager
Doug Bailey, Trail Boss

Everyone can contribute to make the PBCH a successful group to support our mission. We can use help with legislative communications, membership, publicity, etc. Think of what you can do, and together "We will get it done!"



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.

Michelle Eames, Editor

P.S. Please send me photos of you and your equine buddy so I can highlight you in our newsletter! Introduce yourself to the new members with background on you or your horse!

APPLICATION

Come Join Us!

Go to BCHW.org to join online its easier and faster! If online is not an option then print, fill out and sign the liability release (all members **18 and over**), and enclose your cash or check:

- **Chapter members:** You can renew online. If paying by check, make it out **to your chapter**, fill out an application and turn in to the Chapter Membership Chair.
- **Mail application and check to Ponderosa BCH PO Box 1184 Airway Heights, WA 99001**

Member Info

New Member Renewal – Membership number(s): _____
 Adult's name(s): _____
 Children's name(s): _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____
 Legislative district (if known): _____ County: _____
Check if you DON'T want a MAILED newsletter: BCHW (Trailhead News) Chapter Newsletter

STATE MEMBERSHIP

Basic Memberships

- Single \$41.00
 Family \$54.00

Levels below include Single or Family

- Contributing \$75.00
 Sustaining \$125.00
 Patron \$250.00
 Benefactor \$500.00

- Lifetime (Single) \$1200.00
 State dues paid online (attach receipt copy)

Additional State Donation \$ _____
 State Subtotal \$ _____

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid **once** each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.

Chapter Name (or Independent):

PONDEROSA Dues \$10 single, \$20 family

If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW dues have been paid for 2019:

Chapter Dues \$ _____
 Additional Chapter Donation \$ _____
 Chapter Subtotal \$ _____
Grand Total (State+Chapter) \$ _____

LIABILITY RELEASE & NOTICES

All ADULT members MUST sign! Adult's signature covers minor children.

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders, and spectators, and also recognizing the fact that Back Country Horsemen of Washington, including Chapters, officers, directors, or members, cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience levels of riders or horses taking part in trail rides or other BCHW events, I do hereby release and hold harmless the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, or horses.

By signing this application I agree to receive notices from BCH by electronic transmission at the above email address.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.

