



PONDEROSA



Back Country Horsemen of Washington
We Get it Done !

March 2019

CALENDAR

March 5, 2019
Chapter Meeting
Guest Speaker on Noxious
Weeds

March 15-17, 2019
Rendezvous
Ellensburg, WA

April 2, 2019, PBCH Membership
Meeting

April 7, 2019, Proposed PBCH
Telford Trail Ride

April 13, 2019
PBCH Vet and Vitals Clinic.



Announcement:

If you haven't already submitted your Volunteer Hours, please send them to Carol Klar before the end of February. cklar32@gmail.com.

Photo by Cindy Miller. Snow, snow, and more snow. The story of February.

March is just around the corner and past that last snow drift!

March Membership Meeting

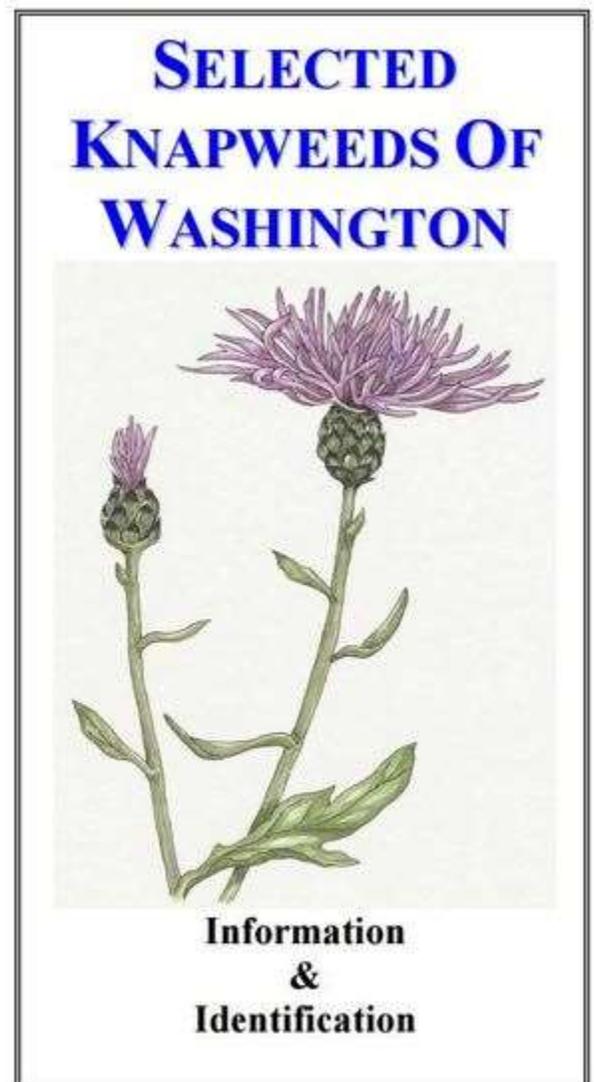
By Ken Carmichael

Tuesday, March 5 at 6:30 is our next PBCH membership meeting. This month we will have a very interesting program about noxious and toxic weeds presented by Ruth Gifford of the Spokane County Noxious Weed Control Board.

We all have two areas where we should be concerned. First is in our pastures. We need to properly manage them to eliminate noxious and toxic weeds. The second is on the trail. Not only do we not want to spread weeds, we also do not want to bring them home or have our horses exposed to them. Therefore, it is important that we can identify critical weeds.

At a previous seminar, I found two great documents put out by the Weed Control Board, "Noxious Weeds that Harm Washington State" and "Protect Your Horses and Livestock from Toxic Plants." We will have these books available to those that attend the meeting.

Come join us on March 5th for an interesting meeting. Gather around the cookie table for fun, conversation and fellowship.



Membership Survey

By Ken Carmichael

Everyone should have received a membership survey by email. We know there are a lot of great ideas out there and we want to encourage everyone to provide input on what we do in 2019.

Remember, this is your chapter and you will get out of it just what you put into it. We want 2019 to be a great year and reflect what the chapter members want to do. Make your voice heard.

An additional copy of the survey is attached to the newsletter. You can bring it to the meeting or send it to me at kcarmichael2225@gmail.com.

FOLSOM FARM NEAR FISHTRAP [Photo by Cindy Miller]



DATES to REMEMBER

March 1, 2019 – Renew membership deadline

March 5, 2019, PBCH Chapter Meeting

March 10, 2019, Rattlesnake Ridge Riders BCH Chili Feed Ride Fundraiser

at Horn Rapids Park, N. of Benton City, WA. Contact: Paul at 509-928-3600,
rrrbchw.info@yahoo.com

March 16, 2019, 4-H Tack Sale, Spokane County Fairgrounds

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 2, 2019, PBCH Membership Meeting

April 7, 2019, Proposed PBCH Telford Trail Ride

April 13, 2019, PBCH Vet and Vitals Clinic.

April 14, 2019, Riverside State Park Barbed Wire Pick-up

April 17-21, 2019, Ride and Camp at Escure

April 24, 2019, Lakeview Corral Prep Work On Site

April 30, 2019, Volunteer Hours Due MAY:

April 1st – 5th Lakeview corral construction

April 7th - Membership meeting

April 9th – 12th – Lakeview corral construction

April 18th – 19th – Lakeview corral construction

April 18th – BCHW Joe Watt Poker Ride at Cle Elum

There are a few spots open for the Vet and Vitals Clinic... For more information and registration forms, please contact Carol Klar: cklar32@gmail.com

Vet and Vitals Clinic

Presented by Ponderosa Back Country Horsemen

April 13, 2019

Location: 7616 N. Garfield Rd, Spokane, WA 99224

Would you like to know more about evaluating your horse's wellbeing? PBCH is offering a unique opportunity for clinic participants to spend one-on-one time with an AAEP equine veterinarian, learning to assess **your** own horse's vitals. Having an accurate baseline for your horse's vitals is essential to knowing when he/she is unwell. At the end of your clinic session, you will be able to do the following:

- Correctly assess:
 - Pulse (also covering the proper use of stethoscope)
 - Respiration
 - Temperature
 - Capillary refill time to evaluate circulation
 - Skin turgor to assess hydration
 - Normal gut motility sounds

- Get a written record for your horse's assessment, to take home for a health baseline.



Tie rings in arena are provided. Vet will work with each handler individually. You are welcome to observe the others in your group as well. Also available will be Coggins Tests/Health Certificates and vaccines, for anyone needing them. Download form for complete details and registration.



Think Spring!



Need Vaccines or Coggins Test and Health Certificate?

Ponderosa BCH will have Dr. Charlene "Charlie" McCraigie, DVM, available for these services on April 13, 2019, starting at 1:30.

Location: 7616 N. Garfield Rd, Spokane, WA 99224

Dr. McCraigie will provide the Vetera Gold vaccine which includes: Eastern, Western, Tetanus, West Nile, Rhino and Flu. Cost: \$70

Coggins Test and Health Certificate fee: \$50

Date: April 13, 2019, starting at 1:30pm.

If you'd like to register, please email cklar32@gmail.com with the following, so the vet can have the necessary supplies.

***Your Name** _____*
***Number of Coggins Tests Needed** _____*
***Number of Vaccines Needed** _____*

Spokane County Trails

By Ken Carmichael

On Monday, January 28th Paul Knowles, of the Spokane County Parks Department, held a meeting of key stakeholders about closing trails in the county parks due to trail conditions. Last year they did some closings that caused some hard feelings and confusion.

I was invited to this meeting, along with Michelle and Jon Irwin of the Inland Empire chapter as representatives of equestrians. We were concerned that the equestrians were being unfairly restricted when the ground is muddy and subject to excessive damage.

Paul listened closely to what we had to say. We all agreed that restrictions were necessary when trail damage can occur and that we all need to cooperate during these times. As a result of this meeting the signs that are going up at the trailheads invite all trail users to use common sense about inflicting damage to the trails. Instead of singling out only the equestrians, now it reminds bikers and hikers of their responsibility as well. See the trailhead sign attached to the newsletter.

This is just a simple example of how BCH represents equestrians and how by working with the land managers we can make a difference. Also, it shows the influence that two chapters working together can have on the outcome of a project.

Now, we must be mindful of the condition of the trails when we start a ride. This will no doubt be a wet spring and we are anxious to get on the trails. However, please check your back trail and if you are doing damage pick another location or time to do your riding. If we do not use good common sense and cooperate, there is no alternative for all the land managers but to restrict access.

[See the sign on the next page.]

12" x 18"

Trails Closed When Muddy

**During periods of rain and spring thaw,
use of these trails leaves deep tire
ruts, hoof and foot prints resulting in
severe or permanent trail damage.**

**Spokane County relies heavily on
community volunteers to build and
maintain these trails for YOU to enjoy.**

**PLEASE, help us thank our volunteers
by choosing to recreate when the
conditions are right.**

**If you are leaving a visible tire rut,
hoof or foot print more than 1" deep,
the trails are too muddy to use.**



Announcing a New Spring Photo Contest!!!!

The next PBCH Facebook cover photo (the big photo at the top of the Facebook page) needs a spring-like photo. If you will check it out now, it is featuring snow, snow, snow! The next photo featured for the Facebook cover will not be my photo; **it will be YOUR photo**. Send me a photo taken this year, after the snow melts, and we can celebrate with color other than white (I know this may seem like wishful thinking). I'll put it up in April after the winner is announced in the April newsletter. Entries will be printed in the newsletter. Oh yes, did I say this is a contest? A PRIZE will be given to the chosen budding photographer. It should be outdoorsy, preferably taken near or on a horse. A few Ponderosa members in the photo would also be a plus (ya think?). I will be upset if I don't receive any photos! Send to cinmil2@msn.com.

Cindy Miller, Facebook Lady

LAST YEAR THE FIRST BUTTERCUP I SPOTTED TAKEN MARCH 12.



Dreaming of Trail Rides!

Pictured is Diana Birge on Maizie, and Tom Birge on Mercy. Both horses are 9-year old Tennessee Walkers. Tom and Diana will be working with them in 2019 to get back with regular riding, since they were out of commission for a while with Tom's transplant.



Scavenger Hunt

By Ken Carmichael

Remember the PBCH Scavenger Hunt is Saturday, September 28, 2019. Our dress rehearsal, and potluck dinner, at the site will be Tuesday, September 24th.

The planning is progressing on schedule. The Riverside State Park has received our permit application. The event is posted on our website with a pre-registration form. It is already listed in the BCHW Trailhead News. We have started to receive inquiries about the evening and camping. Linda White is doing a fantastic job of gathering prizes. Some of our regular sponsors have already donated and there are new ones on board. Our donors so far include:

-  Noble Panels and Gates
-  Wendle Ford
-  Kalispell Tribe Northern Quest Casino
-  Dix Farm, Inc.
-  Wahl Clipper Corporation
-  Stimson Contracting Inc
-  MacKenzie River Pizza
-  EasyCare



We will be promoting all the prizes this year so people should come prepared to win. If you have a source for a sponsor please contact Linda White so we can be sure to include them and not contact them twice. Linda is lind43562@hotmail.com. The larger donors, received by April 30 are being included on the event flier and of course we acknowledge all of our supporters in several ways at the event.



Fun and Games During the Winter

By Cindy Miller

This long winter has caused me to find ways to entertain myself. I'm spending a lot of time at the barn playing games with the rolling frozen balls of manure. I give myself 'points' when I capture a manure ball in the rake before it rolls away. I feel very fortunate when I discover a fresh green pile, still steaming, and not yet frozen to the ground. These piles flop in the wheelbarrow like pancakes and are bonus points.

I am also observing my horses' behaviors and have realized Tanner is a very hypersensitive guy especially to noises. Scary noises are prevalent now such as the 'resident' moose traipsing and crashing around the barn and booming noises of the heavy hunks of snow and ice beginning to fall off the roof in his 'safe' place. He is a jumpy, restless horse (more than others I have owned). I had no idea my next plan of action in trying to cure a hypersensitive horse would be so entertaining.

Let me tell you my story (as I am so bored this winter).

You buy them earplugs! YES, there are many styles and shapes available. The first pair I purchased were warm and fuzzy balls, bright colored balls. I gently and carefully jammed them in his ears. I wondered if there would be a possibility they could become trapped in the ear canal way down there (those are long canals), and I'd have to call a vet to pull them out. I did some research on the Internet and could not find one complaint of earplugs becoming stuck and having to be surgically removed. So, next time out I jammed those babies way down there into the canal. I'm sure the tickling of those fuzzy balls caused Tanner to react rather violently and shake all over. He proceeded to shake those fuzzy cuties out, and off through the air they would fly. After numerous times I decided this was enough torture and gave them up, as he would manage to shake them free every single time. They are now toys for the cats.

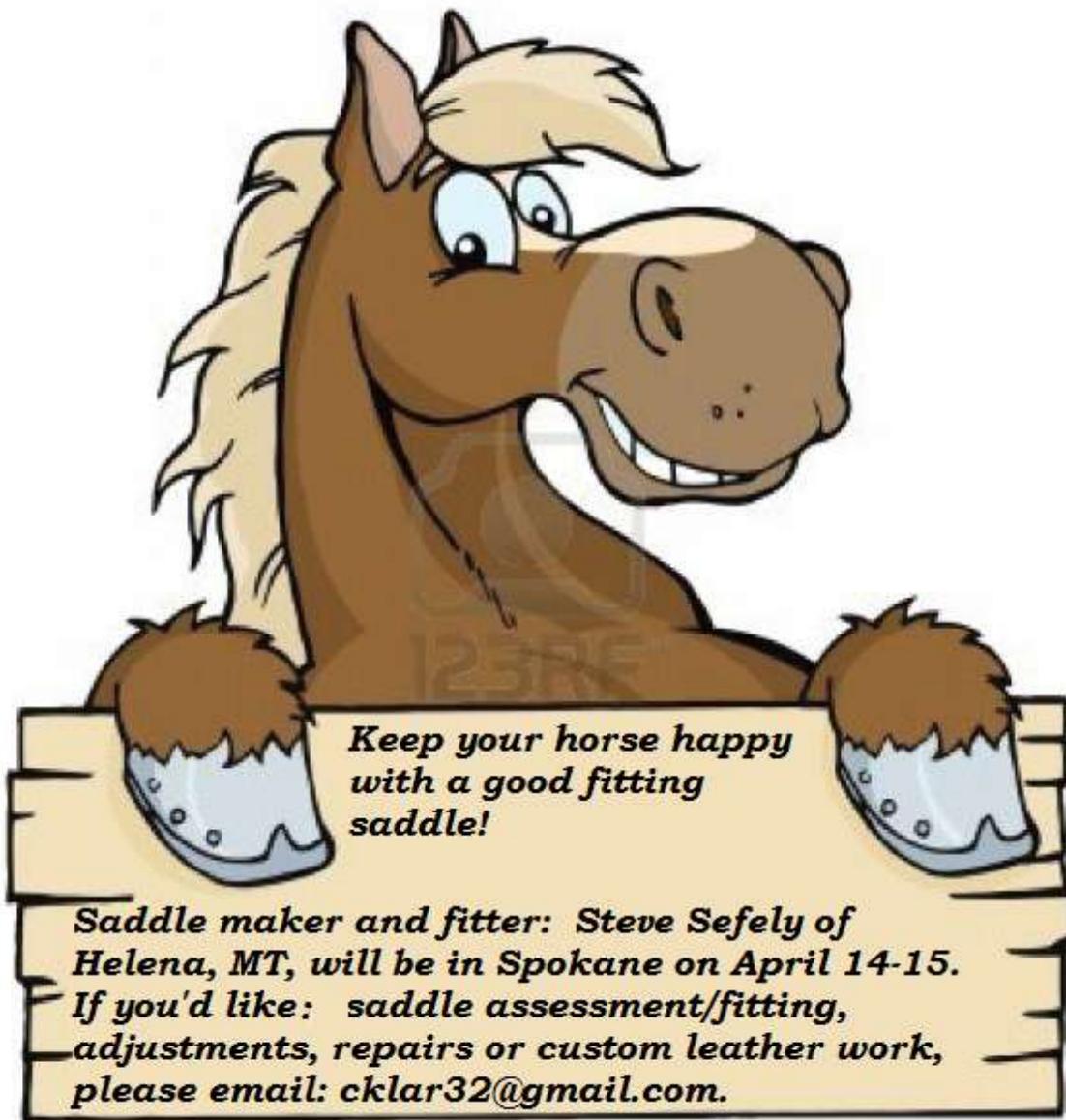
The newest pair I have purchased is made of tapered foam. They looked like there would be less of a chance to forever becoming lost in Tanner's ears, plus they had a string where they were attached to each other. With the string, he does remind me of a horse wearing hearing aids. The directions did not mention the string could be used to pull them out if they traveled too far down, only to be used as a handy method of storage dangling from a hook. I think I will suggest to the manufacturer that the string could also be used to yank them out if they became stuck too far down into the canal (I practiced in my state of worry). Tanner was a gracious and kind horse allowing me to jam those into his ears over and over (and pulling them out with the string), learning the proper angle of insertion and creating a good seal. It took a while for the earplugs to not fly through the air like a bola with his quick repetitious shakes of the head. Tanner wide-eyed watched them fly out and land 15 feet away. I'm sure he was having as much fun as I was, and as horses do, he learned to accept them.



He has a quiet world in the arena now and does seem to be more at peace. He puts his head down low when he sees them coming. I really think he likes the feel, or maybe he has resigned himself to his persistent owner. I see it as a bonding time; he may not see it that way. He may love them since he can't hear me shriek those voice commands too, when he doesn't take my leg cues. I sure hope I remember to take them out when we are done exercising. That could be another problem.

https://www.valleyvet.com/ct_detail.html?pgguid=ce5cfaab-0e4b-4004-8049-c18c0afa1244&itemguid=88090fd1-7cd4-445b-ba68-5791655eb594 (foam plugs can be found here)

Carol Klar is bringing in a saddle fitter. If you need more information about what a saddle fitter can do for you or your horse, and how it works, please contact Carol.



Jokes of the Month, from the internet because we need some smiles in February! [From: <http://laffgaff.com/funny-horse-jokes-puns/>]

A horse walks into a bar one day.

The bartender says, "Hey."

The horse says, "You read my mind!"

What do racehorses eat?

Fast food.

A guy goes to the movies one night.

He's enjoying the film when he notices a horse sitting next to him.

Somewhat surprised to say the least, he asks, "Are you a horse?"

The horse replies, "Yes."

The guy says, "What are you doing at the movies?"

The horse says, "Well, I liked the book."

Did you hear about the depressed horse?

He told a tale of whoa.

A white horse walks into a pub one day and asks the bartender for a whisky.

The bartender says: "Hey, we've got a whisky named after you."

The horse replies, "What, George?"

Black Beauty... Now there's a dark horse.

When do vampires like horse racing?

When it's neck and neck.

Why couldn't the pony sing?

Because he was a little horse.

Membership

By Ken Carmichael

Thank you to all members that have renewed your membership for 2019. Your experience, energy and input is greatly appreciated.

We have several new members for 2019 that we want to welcome into the chapter. We are a small group so it is easy to get to know each other. We encourage everyone to attend the meetings and other events and just get involved.

Our new 2019 members are:

Jim Cooper – Walla Walla – we hope to see Jim at some events

Victoria Grambo – Spokane

Arleta Holmes – Post Falls

Seelie and Jack Lundberg – Cheney

Karen and Chuck Rice – Spokane

Vicki and Jerome Ruhland – Davenport

If you know others that would be interested in joining BCH please invite them to a meeting.

Welcome New Members!!!





2019 Officers and Other Chapter Staff:

Lyle “Doug” Bailey, President and Trail Boss

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 and Newsletter Graphics Design

Gary Miller, Photographer

Patti Sander, Education Chairman

Tom Birge, BCH Store Manager and Shopper Extraordinaire

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!

[Photo of Vali on a sunny day... so we can remember what sun looks like.]

