



# PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of Washington  
We Get it Done

October 2021



## CALENDAR

*All event dates subject to change or cancellation: Watch facebook and emails.*

**September 30, – Volunteer hours final report due**

**October 5, - PBCH Membership meeting – Elections**

**October 9-10, - Escure Ranch Campout**

**October 30, – BCHW Wine Ride at Zillah**

**November 2, - Membership meeting**

# Notes from the PBCH President; By Tom Birge

## Ponderosa BCH Vision

**To ensure that PBCH continues as a premier resource focused on keeping trails and facilities open for equestrians.**

The above statement means we need everyone's help. We all have certain interests, skills, talents, abilities and time to help out. We as officers need to know what your interests and suggestions are to meet our vision.

We have 54 volunteer positions available in the chapter (see the following list) and many of our members already serve in multiple positions. It would be great to have some of our other members step up and get involved.

Come to our meetings and give some input on what you would like to see our chapter involved in. We are looking for suggestions from each of our 54 members what they would like to see done.

I would like to thank all those that helped with our projects. Last year we did a lot of work at Riverside State Park Equestrian area. We painted and repaired the arena fence, added new obstacles and repaired existing ones for the obstacle course, and added new corrals in the camping area. All these came from suggestions of members. We also worked with BLM and put in new corrals and fire pits at Escure ranch and removed miles of barb wire from the Hawk Creek and Twin Lakes BLM lands.

We need every member's input so please put it on your calendar to attend our Pot Luck and meeting on October 5. We will also be having election of officers.

Social time 5:30, Pot Luck at 6:00 and meeting will start after the food.

Location Hayford Community Church (back building)

5306 South Hayford

We would sure like to meet everybody!

Tom Birge, President

## **PONDEROSA BCH POSITIONS** 9-15-2021

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

#### ELECTED POSTIONS

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

TOM BIRGE

CAROL KLAR

SECRETARY  
TREASURER  
STATE DIRECTOR  
ALTERNATE DIRECTOR

PATTY WRIGHT  
DIANA BIRGE  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
LARRY GRINSTEAD

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

EDUCATION  
LANDS  
TRAIL BOSS/WORK PARTIES  
VOLUNTEER HOURS  
LEGISLATIVE  
ANALYSIS OF INCOME  
DONATIONS  
GRANT ADMINISTRATION  
EQUIPMENT INVENTORY  
GROUP OUTLOOK ADMIN  
HISTORIAN

CAROL KLAR  
CRAIG VOLOSING  
DOUG BAILEY  
CAROL KLAR  
DOUG BAILEY  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
LINDA WHITE  
DOUG BAILEY  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
TOM BIRGE  
OPEN

MEETINGS

GREETER/NAME TAGS  
LIBRARY  
PROGRAMS  
REFRESHMENTS  
ROOM MANAGEMENT  
STORES

PATTI CARMICHAEL  
THERESA BAILEY  
  
TOM/DIANA BIRGE  
TOM BIRGE

OTHER

MEMBERSHIP  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR/PUBLISHER  
ADS  
PUBLICITY  
COORDINATION W/ OTHER CHAPTERS  
PRINTED MATERIAL  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
FACEBOOK  
WEB CONTACT  
WEB MASTER  
SAFETY  
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES  
TRAIL BOSS/ORGANIZE RIDES

DIANA BIRGE  
MICHELLE EAMES/CINDY MILLER  
???  
OPEN  
OPEN  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
CINDY MILLER  
CINDY MILLER/CAROL KLAR  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
CHUCK RICE  
DOUG FREDERICK  
CAROL KLAR  
OPEN TO ALL

ADDITIONAL POSITIONS SHORT TERM

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION  
FINANCIAL REVIEW  
FUNDRAISER  
TRAIL RIDE LEADERS  
WORK PARTY LEADERS  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE

PATTI CARMICHAEL  
OPEN  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
OPEN  
OPEN  
MELISSA HALPIN, LINDA GRINSTEAD

*ANYONE IS WELCOME TO HELP IN ANY OF THESE AREAS: REFRESHMENTS, SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS; AND I'M SURE THAT ANY OF THE COMMITTEE LEADERS WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.*



Window decals available for purchase for \$4.00; contact Tom.

## **2021 PBCH NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**by Melissa Halpin**

Are you interested in being an officer of the PBCH? Well, I'm not good at that administrative stuff but I certainly can ask around to find out if YOU are, and then if you are we get you nominated. There are 6 positions in our club. So that's what the Nominating Committee does. This committee was composed of Linda Grinstead and myself.

Linda and I didn't know each other and this small task was a way to get to know another member of the PBCH. I certainly enjoyed chatting and laughing on the phone with Linda, as we got our act together. We had fun getting the message of officer openings out to you.

Now give becoming an officer some thought. You will enjoy interacting and learning about fellow members. And we are interesting people with the same goals and love of horses.

You may be good with figures and math (Treasurer) or you may like writing what happens at our meetings (Secretary) or you may just want to boss people around (\_\_\_ \_ ..). Just kidding, lol, 😊

See you at the next meeting.

Melissa Halpin

P.S. Now I get to take my horse to Linda's property and go for a nice ride together. Think about volunteering and making new friends. 😊

## **Membership Renewal**

**By Ken Carmichael**

It is time to start thinking about your BCH membership renewal. All renewals and new memberships after October 1 apply to 2022.

The easiest way to renew is go to [www.BCHW.org](http://www.BCHW.org) and renew online. If this is not possible contact our Treasurer, Diane Birge, and she can provide a hard copy application.

BCH is here to keep trails and trailheads open for all equestrians. We represent equestrians at meetings at all levels of government and our public lands. We provide educational opportunities and do the hard physical work on the trails. BCH needs your support, whether you are an inactive member or one that contributes your volunteer time.

Please renew your BCH membership.



**Newsletter Theme: Favorite Ride in 2021, and Pumpkin Recipes**  
**Michelle Eames, Newsletter Editor**

Please enjoy the contributions! Thanks everyone for the help and contributions to the newsletter!!! We will continue the *favorite ride* topic in the next newsletter.

## **2021 PBCH Calendar**

*All dates subject to change due to COVID or other reasons.*

September 30, – Volunteer hours final report due

October 5, - PBCH Membership meeting – Elections

October 9-10- Escure Ranch Campout and rides; contact Ken for more information on duration and timing.

October 30, – BCHW Wine Ride at Zillah (see poster at the end of the newsletter)

**November 2, - Membership meeting**

December 4, 2021 - 4th QTR BCHW BOD meeting - Kittitas Valley Event Center - Ellensburg

December 7, - PBCH Membership meeting

Other events can be found here: [https://www.bchw.org/upcoming\\_events.php](https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php)

2022 Planned Events.

March 18-20, 2022. BCHW Rendezvous.

May 2022, third week. Joe Watt Canyon Poker Ride.

# **BCHW Director Report**

## **By Ken Carmichael**

The BCH of Washington held two board meetings on September 17 and 18.. These meetings are important to the operation and success of BCH. It is an opportunity to share information across the state. Because of Covid pandemic all precautions were taken to safeguard the participants. **Doug Bailey** went with me. His input and company are always appreciated.

The first meeting was a Special Meeting to only discuss the “Revitalization” proposal for BCHW. A presentation was made, and the Directors had a good discussion. The proposal included dividing the state into six regions. Each region would have a director at the state level. The proposal also covered how the state would be divided and the duties of a director. We did not come to any conclusions but agreed to move forward with new ideas. We agree that there needs to be some reorganization of BCHW and the question is how. I will remain deeply involved in this process and keep you informed. We also want an opportunity for chapter members to provide further input.

The regular meeting was held on September 18.

- **Public Lands** – Because of the information provided in this report I am asking Michelle to attach that report to the newsletter.
- **Winery Ride** - Everyone is reminded of the Winery Ride October 30 in Zillah Washington. We are attaching a flier to this newsletter. We encourage you to participate in a fun ride or come to volunteer. Patti and I are responsible for the Membership/Information booth. In addition, Patti is a host at a winery, and I transport wine from the wineries back to camp. It is a fun weekend.
- **Rendezvous** – Planning for Rendezvous 2022 has begun. It will be in Ellensburg on March 18-20, 2022. PBCH chapter will provide a booth showing Accomplishment Videos prepared over the last several years. It should be fun, and we will be looking for help.
- **Trailhead News Editor** - Dick Yarboro is retiring after several years as Trailhead News Editor. If you are interested in this position please contact me.
- **Publicity** – We were reminded that BCHW wants notification of our chapter events to help with the publicity.
- **Special Projects Coordinator** - Jason Ridlon is retiring as Special Projects Coordinator. This position coordinates the BCHW support for packing and other support for work parties by other organizations. Jason will still do lots of packing, but we need someone with organization skills to do some paperwork. If you are interested in this position please contact me for more information.
- **Centralized Accounting** - The Centralized Accounting System pilot project is complete and BCHW is now ready to bring more chapters on board. Diana will be working with the BCHW Treasurer to do this.
- **Accounting Volunteers** - The new Centralized Accounting System requires additional volunteers at the state level. If you are interested in helping with any of the following please contact me::
  - ✓ Credit card management
  - ✓ Data entry in Quick Books
  - ✓ Monitoring contracts
  - ✓ Monitoring the Square card
- **Non equestrian camping in equestrian areas** - BCHW is still working on the issue of non equestrians taking camping and trailhead spots designated for equestrians while equestrians cannot camp in the other locations. There are not any regulations that can be sited to stop this practice.
- **Electric bikes** - Electric bikes are also still on the agenda. The committee is presenting a report to the legislature.

- **Leadership training** - Leadership Training will be by Zoom in January. This is very worthwhile for all members.
- **BCHW Calendars** – All the calendars for 2022 have been sold. It seems early but start thinking about your favorite pictures for 2023. Tom may have 1 or 2 left in the chapter store.
- **Saddle Raffle** – The raffle for the saddle continues. The ticket will be drawn at the 2022 rendezvous.
- **BCHW Officer Nominations** – BCHW officers will be elected at the December board meeting. Nominations are still open for BCHW positions:
  - ✓ President
  - ✓ Vice President
  - ✓ BCHA Director
  - ✓ BCHA Alternate Director

## **Public lands Report**

### **By Ken Carmichael**

*The following is the Public Lands Report provided to the BCHW Directors at the board meeting. Because of the amount of information I did not want to summarize, but instead provide the entire report to the PBCH membership.*

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#### BCHW BOD Public Lands Report for 9/18/21

##### Board meeting.

September 25, 2021 is Public Lands Day USFS Horse Camp update: The Forest Service has created a draft document “Recommended Best Practices for Managing Equestrian Use Sites at Developed Campgrounds”. This draft was shared with field staff for review, as well as being reviewed by the members of the BCHA PLC committee. BCHA concludes that the language of the draft is not strong and will not provide specific resolution that will keep stock camps available for stock use. BCHA has responded, asking for more specifically direct language coming from the Washington D.C. office to the forests. BCHA would ultimately like to have a CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) put into place to address stock priority in designated stock camps. This issue is also a matter of concern for the American Horse Council.

##### E-Bikes updates:

Federally there was a petition sent to the administration of the Bureau of Land Management asking them to reassess their E-bike Rule [Secretarial Order 3398 - Departmental Review of BLM’s Electric Bicycles (E-Bikes) on Public Lands Final Rule]. The BLM decision allows e-bikes to be used where traditional bicycles are allowed and when there is a written decision by the BLM property manager. The rule is in a period of review. The petition was signed by 25 organizations asking to “cease e-bike use on non-motorized trail”. In a follow-up to the petition BCHA joined the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Backcountry Hunters & Anglers in a conversation with the BLM Deputy Director of Policy and Programs to encourage the agency to: 1. Immediately pause the authorization of e-bike use on non-motorized trails, and 2. Initiate a national rulemaking process (with public comment) to reverse the amendments to BLM’s “off-road vehicle”

regulations enacted in Dec. 2020 that exempt e-bikes from the definition of “off-road vehicle” and that direct the BLM to manage e-bikes as they would normal bicycles. In New Mexico there has been a BLM Environmental Assessment put out with the premise that e-bikes are non-motorized. (EA’s are typically not announced.) Nationally, BCHA would like to see BLM come into alignment with the Forest Service for the management of e-bikes. Page 2 of 3 In Washington State, Mitzi Schindele and Kathy Young are representing BCHW in the advisory group that is considering the use of e-bikes on Dept. of Natural Resources and WA Fish and Wildlife properties. The finally meeting of the group is on Sept 16. A report from the group will be compiled to send to DNR and WDFW. The agencies will review the report as advisory and will also be conducting public meetings to help inform their decisions regarding the future use of e-bikes on trails and closed/gated roads. BCHW continues to assert that e-bikes should be categorized as motorized, and that education and trail etiquette should be a primary focus. We are continuing to consider use and impact, while recognizing that e-bikes are a legitimate and growing recreational interest. SOPA ( Schedule of Proposed Actions) - FS National page is updated quarterly. National Parks and Bureau of Land Management also have webpages for planning.

The Public Lands committee relies on the chapters to surface any issues that affect out right to ride. It will be very beneficial if all chapters can help by reviewing these sites and by raising any issues that may affect our access to trails. Here are links to federal agency planning pages where chapters and BCH state public lands officers can monitor projects and NEPA documents for public lands in your state or area:

1. US Forest Service Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA): [http://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa\\_home.php](http://data.ecosystem-management.org/nepaweb/nepa_home.php)
2. National Park Service Park Planning Page: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/publicHome.cfm>
3. BLM e-planning website: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/home>

It is recommended that these pages be checked at least every month, in addition to keeping lines of communication open with local land managers who can let you know in advance of forthcoming projects that might be of interest to BCH. Additionally, our state agencies DNR WDFW and our state and County Parks have various methods of communication. They should also be monitored at the chapter level. Page 3 of 3 “Trails are Common Ground” is a program that recently rolled out. It was developed in response to new and increased use on public lands due to the Covid pandemic. There is a link on the BCHW webpage to this site, which advocates education and respect to connect all users to trails. BCHA was centrally involved in helping to shape and launch this program. <https://trailsarecommonground.org>

#### Recreational Trails Program update:

Senators Amy Klobuchar(MN) and Jim Risch (ID) are still going to bat for the Recreational Trails Program, but it is likely that funding will not be increased for another 5 years. Federal Highway numbers were released and show an inequity in use of dollars that come directly from recreational off-highway users. Funding that is provided from recreational use is not being given back to recreation at the mandated level. It is likely that the funding will remain flat at \$84 million, as opposed to the \$147 million requested. The Recreational Trails Program, which is the primary federal source of funding for trail maintenance, remains at status quo levels of \$84 million per year despite a new government study that shows the revenue to support the program at over \$280 million per year. BCHW members can help with this “last gasp” effort by contacting their congressional delegates to ask them to keep RTP alive in the infrastructure bill. Speak to senators and representatives about RTP, continue to advocate for trails and stress the importance of increased funding for the program.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Kathy Young BCHW Public Lands Chair

# **BCHW Winery Ride: It's Still On!**

## **By Ken Carmichael**

The 2021 BCHW Winery Ride and Halloween Costume Contest is on for this year!

This is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this event so mark your calendars for Saturday October 30<sup>th</sup> and let's put these pandemic blues behind us.

You can now register and pay on-line so go to the Event page at [bchw.org](http://bchw.org) to get all the information you need.

Here is the direct link to the online Registration Form: [2021 20th Annual Winery Ride Online Registration](#)

Here is a link to the printable paper Registration Form: [Printable Registration Form](#)

Please print a copy of the attached Liability Release for each rider on your registration form. Sign and send in with the paper registration.

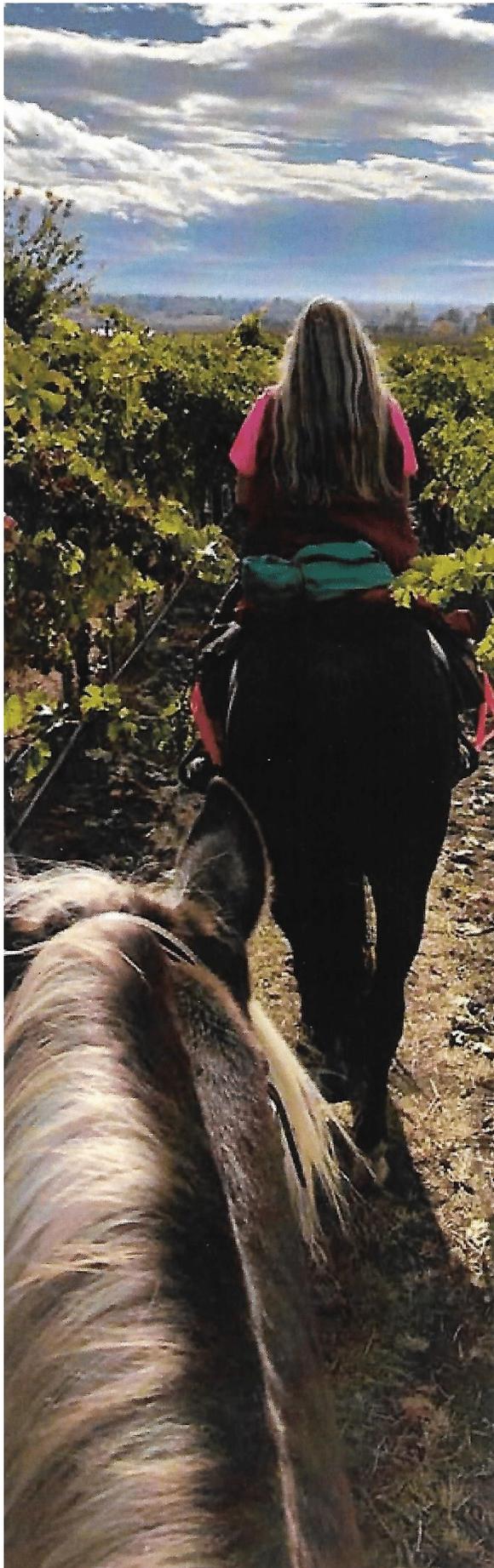
THANK YOU!!!!

If you have any questions, email: [bchwwineryride@gmail.com](mailto:bchwwineryride@gmail.com)

We are so excited to see our old friends and to meet new ones! Let's drink to that.

Your BCHW Winery Ride Team

*Remember, this event supports BCHW and your participation advances our mission to keep trails open for all of us. No matter where you are, there are trails that you enjoy due to the work that this organization does.*



# SADDLE UP YOUR PONY & COME CELEBRATE THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WINERY RIDE!

It's been a long year and we can't think of a better way to say "Goodbye!" to our pandemic blues and "Hello!" to 10 wineries along the trail. Come ride your horse to various Yakima Valley wineries, sampling wines as you go. Transport available for purchases back to camp.

**When - Saturday, October 30, 2021**

**Where - In the Rattlesnake Hills wine growing area of the Yakima Valley**

Earlybird registration is \$25 or \$35 if postmarked after October 1

- Halloween costume contest & raffle prizes
- Wine tasting
- Catered dinners Friday & Saturday night
- Camping available (dry camping - no hookups or amenities)

Go to [BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) or email [BCHWwineryride@gmail.com](mailto:BCHWwineryride@gmail.com) for complete details, including registration, costs, schedule, and directions.



A fundraiser for Back Country Horsemen of Washington, a non-profit, statewide organization working to ensure public lands remain open for stock use.

## FAVORITE RIDES 2021

By Michelle Eames

*We will continue this topic in the next newsletter, because we want to hear from more of you!!*

My favorite ride this year was at the Teanaway Community Forest, North of Cle Elum. A couple of us camped at the Teanaway campground. There are designated horse campsites, but no water and no corrals. There are highline poles.

This is a Washington Department of Natural Resources campground. Here are directions, more detail on the forest can be found here:

<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Teanaway>

### **Teanaway Camping Area -**

Located along the west fork of the Teanaway River, the camp offers 55 campsites with fire rings and two ADA-accessible toilets.

Directions: Start at I-90 exit 85 (Cle Elum). Go east on SR-970 for 6.9 miles. Turn left on Teanaway Road. Go 7.3 miles. Turn left on West Fork Teanaway Road for .6 miles and turn left into Teanaway Campground. No fee. Access is provided on a first-come, first-served basis (no reservations). Get directions using the following address: 1160 West Fork  
Teanaway  
Road, Cle  
Elum, WA  
98922.

We had a couple of great rides in steep forested mountain valleys. While I appreciate our nearby desert rides, and others love their faraway beach rides, give me mountains any day of the week! If any of you have more mountain rides that you love, please share!

[Mountain photo by Carol Klar.]



**My favorite ride in 2021** (by Carol Klar) ... this is a tough choice, but the winner is Bennington Lake in Walla Walla. I was joined by my BCH buddies, Karen Rice & Michelle Eames. This is an easy ride with good footing throughout, GREAT scenery of golden wheat fields and the Blue Mountains. Our ride was 8+ miles, however, you can do a short treed loop at 2+ right around the lake, if you prefer. We camped at W Bar M ranch (see on Facebook), which is a private farm. Facility was GORGEOUS and offered nice corrals, a professional trail course, arena, and grassy meadow for camping. Fee for camping is \$15/night/corral and people stay free. Potable water and clean porta-potty is provided. You will need to haul out to the trails from here. Bennington Lake TH is about 20 minutes. If anyone would like trail maps or specific details about the trail or camping facility, please email me: [cklar32@gmail.com](mailto:cklar32@gmail.com). [Your trip there is 170 miles](#), (from our meeting location), all on PAVED roads! Also, after your ride, you can enjoy wine tasting in the MANY wineries and tasting rooms around Walla Walla.



## **Favorite Place to Ride in 2021 (and every other year!)**

### **By Ken Carmichael**

I think my favorite place to ride hands down is the Escure Ranch on BLM ground. The official name is the Rock Creek Recreation Area.

It is about 13,000 acres of open land. There are lots of draws and several lakes. There is a combination of single-track trails and dirt roads. Also, you will see some wildlife. Patti and I figure that there are about 10 different rides out of the trailhead of varying length and difficulty. Some require crossing water.

We typically go in the spring and fall because of the heat. We also schedule our trips around the hunting season. No sense in getting shot.



A nice feature of this location is the trailhead. There is a toilet facility, tables, fire rings, 10 corrals, highline for about 7 horses, manure bunker and horse water. There is no shade or human water so you must bring your own. Camping is on level ground. This is federal land so weed free hay is required.

Warning that the last 2.2 miles takes about 20 minutes because of the potholes. Going slow is worth the effort.



### DIRECTIONS TO ESCURE RANCH:

Go west on Interstate 90 to Sprague (1 hour from my house). At Sprague go south on Highway 23 for 12.4 miles. (At about 8 miles you go under a railroad overpass and past the Lamont turn.) (DO NOT TURN). At 12.4 miles past Sprague turn **right** on Davis Rd. toward Revere. The turn is in a sweeping left turn of the highway at the end of a long straight stretch. You need to be going slow as the slope of the curve is working against you. This is where you leave the pavement and start gravel.

Go 7.1 miles to Jordan Knott Rd. and turn left. This turn is just a short distance past the Revere grain elevator on your right. Go 2.2 miles on Jordan Knott Rd to a sign for Rock Creek Management Area on the right. Turn in here for the ranch. This is a one lane 2.2-mile driveway down into the ranch, very slow. My records show that the ranch is 66.3 miles from my house, and it was a nearly 2-hour drive.

Our ride this year is October 9 and 10. You are welcome to join us, please contact me for more information on duration and timing.



# FAVORITE RIDES 2021

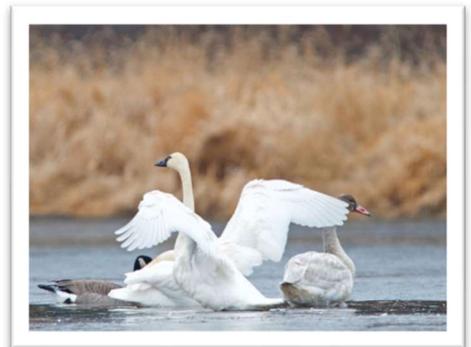
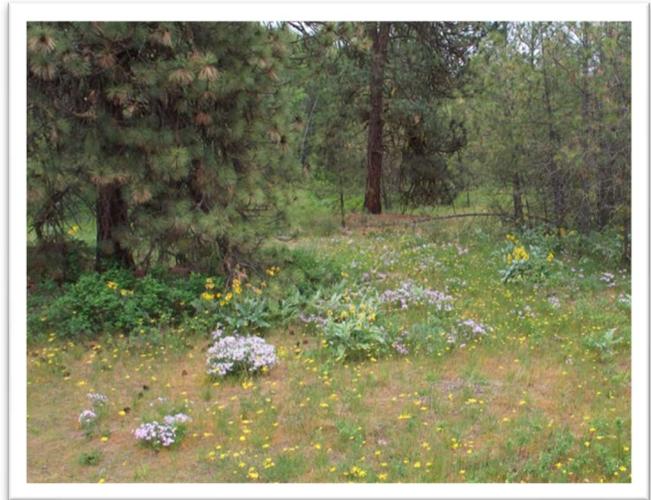
By Cindy Miller

Since I am striving to keep my life uncomplicated with low maintenance in this day and age, I choose James T. Slavin Conservation Area this year and every year and every season as my favorite ride. Not too far from my home, I can cut through on paved country roads (Cooper appreciates the short and smooth ride) and arrive there in less than 20 minutes. Once arriving, I can enjoy the wildlife, marshlands, ponds filled with migrating birds, and beautiful scenery. The ride length does not encompass an all day venture, allowing me time to head on home at a decent hour. It is, for me, a favorite ride to enjoy the great beauty of nature without too much strenuous 'work.' Fairly flat terrain for my now much loved older horse Cooper is a most important added bonus.

On a sentimental note: Slavin is dear to my heart. I felt a strong desire and calling while hiking on foot at Slavin 14 years ago, to go out and buy a horse (after 30 years of disconnection with the horse world while pursuing a career and raising children.) Within a 2-week period, I had purchased Cooper and a horse trailer and was once again on the back of a horse. Of course, my first ride took place on the trails of Slavin.

## Location From I-90

- Take U.S. 195 South at the Colfax/Pullman exit, No. 279
- Drive south on 195 for approximately 8.4 miles
- Turn right (west) on Washington Road, drive to the 'T' intersection with Keeney Road
- Turn right (north) on Keeney Road; parking is immediately on the left
- The James T. Slavin Conservation Area borders Keeney Road for 1/2 mile



## **Pumpkin and Winter Squash Recipes!!!!**

*Between Carol Klar, Michelle Eames, and Michelle's Mom, we are providing a full menu of recipes. Perhaps one might want to add a green salad to go with this squash-heavy menu...*

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Pumpkin is one of my favorite fall foods, and I wish there was room to share all of my recipes!

Here is one that I hope everyone will enjoy!

~ Carol Klar

### ***The Cocktail: Pumpkin Pie Martini***



#### **Ingredients --- Yields 1 servings**

- 1 graham cracker, crushed
- 1 tablespoon honey
- ⅓ cup milk
- 2 tablespoons pumpkin puree
- ¾ (1.5 fluid ounce) jigger vanilla flavored vodka
- ½ (1.5 fluid ounce) jigger creme de cacao
- 1 pinch pumpkin pie spice
- 1 cup crushed ice

#### **Directions**

##### **Step 1**

Place graham cracker crumbs in a shallow dish. Coat rim of martini glass with honey, and dip into graham cracker crumbs to coat.

##### **Step 2**

Combine milk and pumpkin puree in a cocktail shaker, and shake to combine. Pour in vodka and creme de cacao, and add ice. Shake well, and then strain into prepared martini glass. Garnish with a sprinkle of pumpkin pie spice.

## THE SIDE DISH: TWICE-BAKED BUTTERNUT SQUASH WITH RICOTTA AND SAGE

<https://www.coffeeandquinoa.com/2014/11/twice-baked-butternut-squash-with-ricotta-and-sage/>



Yields: 2 filled squash halves (*Editors note: I baked this in a casserole dish, rather than in the squash halves*)

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 butternut squash, about 2.5 lbs each
- 2 Tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 8 large sage leaves, finely chopped
- 1/2 cup whole milk ricotta cheese
- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt (I used Fage 0%)
- 1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 425. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Slice the stems off the butternut squash and cut each squash in half lengthwise. Scoop out and discard the seeds and stringy goop. (I find that my ice cream scoop is perfect for this.)
3. Place the squash halves cut side down on the lined baking sheet. Roast until the cut side of the squash is tender when pierced with a fork, 35-45 minutes. Remove from oven and turn the cut sides up. Set aside until cool enough to handle. Keep the oven on.
4. In the meantime, melt the butter in a non-stick pan or skillet over low heat. Add the onion and salt and saute until browned at the edges, about 15 minutes. Stir in the chopped sage and saute another 30 seconds. Remove from the heat and set aside.
5. Once the squash has cooled a bit, scoop the insides out into a large bowl. **IMPORTANT:** You will only need to refill two squash halves. On these two, leave about 1/2 inch border so that the squash halves hold their shape. You can completely scoop out the other two halves and discard the skins.
6. With a fork or potato masher, mash the roasted squash. Add the cooked onions and sage, ricotta, Greek yogurt, parmesan, and pepper. Stir to thoroughly combine. Scoop the mixture into the two remaining squash halves and return to the oven until the tops begin to brown, about 20 minutes.
7. Serve immediately. Enjoy!

## The Main Course: Baked Stuffed Winter Squash

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/80831/baked-stuffed-winter-squash/>

### Ingredients

- 3 acorn squash, halved and seeded
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 stalk celery, chopped
- 1 pound sweet Italian sausage
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ cup dry bread crumbs
- ½ cup raisins
- ½ cup chopped pecans

### Directions

- **Step 1**  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- **Step 2**  
Place squash halves cut side down in baking pans. Fill pans with about 1/2 inch water. Bake squash 40 minutes in the preheated oven, or until tender.
- **Step 3**  
While squash bakes, heat the oil in a skillet over medium heat. Place onions and celery in the skillet, and cook until tender. Stir in the sausage and thyme. Cook and stir until evenly brown.
- **Step 4**  
Remove squash from the oven, and carefully scrape the pulp from the rinds. Set rinds aside. Place the pulp in a bowl, and mash with a potato masher. Mix in the cooked sausage mixture, egg, bread crumbs, raisins, and pecans. Scoop into the reserved rinds. Set stuffed squash in the baking dishes.
- **Step 5**  
Bake 25 minutes in the 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) oven, until heated through.



# Michelle Eames' Mom, Margaret, provided this recipe for dessert: Pumpkin Snickerdoodles <https://www.cookingclassy.com/pumpkin-snickerdoodles/>

Servings: 36 cookies

## Ingredients

- 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 1/2 tsp cornstarch
- 1 tsp cream of tartar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp (heaping) salt
- 1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon\*
- 1/2 tsp ground ginger
- 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg\*
- 1/4 tsp ground allspice
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 cup unsalted butter , softened
- 1 large egg yolk
- 3/4 cup canned pumpkin puree
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract



## For rolling

- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

## Instructions

1. In a mixing bowl whisk together flour, cornstarch, cream of tartar, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and allspice for 20 seconds, set aside.
2. In the bowl of an electric stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together butter, granulated sugar and brown sugar (not until pale and fluffy, just to combined).
3. Occasionally scrape down sides and bottom of bowl throughout entire mixing process if not using a paddle attachment that constantly scrapes bowl while mixing). Mix in egg yolk, then mix in pumpkin and vanilla extract. With mixer set on low speed, slowly add in dry ingredients then mix until combined.
4. Divide dough in half and place each half in a bowl, cover with plastic wrap and chill 45 minutes to 1 hour (dough should be slightly sticky so the cinnamon sugar will stick when rolling but they should be manageable to roll in the palms of your hands).
5. Preheat oven to 350 degrees during last 10 minutes of refrigeration.
6. In a small bowl, whisk together 1/4 cup granulated sugar with 1 1/2 tsp cinnamon.
7. Scoop dough out 2 even tablespoons at a time (run the measuring spoon against side and edge of bowl so it will slightly deflate the dough while also giving an equal tbsp, twice per ball) and shape into a ball, roll dough ball in cinnamon sugar mixture to evenly coat then transfer to Silpat or parchment paper lined baking sheets spacing cookies 2-inches apart.
8. Bake in preheated oven 12 - 14 minutes (they should look just slightly under-baked as they'll cook slightly once removed from oven). Cool on baking sheet about 5 minutes then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.



*From the Editor:*

*I invite you all to continue 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, Newsletter Editor*

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

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