



# PONDEROSA



Back Country Horsemen of Washington  
"Educate, Advocate, and Move Dirt!"

Website: [PBCHW.COM](http://PBCHW.COM)

---

September 2022

## Antoine Peak Member Ride



## PBCH CALENDAR

***All events subject to change;  
Watch facebook and emails.***

***August 30- PBCH Board Meeting***

***September 6- PBCH General Meeting***

***Sept. 24- Work Party at Fish Trap***

***September 27- PBCH Board Meeting***

***October 4 - General Meeting***

***October 15-16- ETS event at Spokane Sporthorse Farm***

***October 25-PBCH Board Meeting***

***October 29 - Zillah Wine Ride***

## **President's Report September 2022**

**By Tom Birge**

Our October meeting will include an election of officers. Please attend so you can help decide on the elected positions. I would like to thank Ken Carmichael, Mary Johnston, and Steph Hanlon for serving on the nominating committee. If you would like to help out and become more involved in an elected position, please contact one of the persons on the committee. I have included a page of the elected positions and volunteer positions in this newsletter. As you can see there are a lot of positions with some people holding multiple positions, It would be great to see other members become more involved.

Our September 6 meeting will feature a Washington State Patrol officer discussing trailer regulations and safety. Come and bring your questions.

We are looking at some trail work at Riverside State Park so pay attention to your emails for the scheduling of these projects.

The October 4 meeting will feature Spokane County Parks. They manage the Conservation Areas that so many of us ride in. This will be a good time to show our interest in supporting the county, and to ask any questions.

Michelle Eames and Cindy Miller do a great job with our newsletter and we would like take give it a name. If you have a suggestion please email me at [tjbirge@msn.com](mailto:tjbirge@msn.com). We will make a decision from the entries and award the winner with an item from the store.

Michelle Eames has also reorganized our library and the books will be available at the indoor meetings.

I have a limited amount of 2023 BCHW calendars available at \$10.00 each. I will have those at the next meeting also.

Thanks!

Tom

**PONDEROSA BCH**  
**LIST OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**  
**9-15-2021**

**ELECTED POSTIONS**

PRESIDENT	TOM BIRGE
VICE PRESIDENT	CAROL KLAR
SECRETARY	PATTY WRIGHT
TREASURER	DIANA BIRGE
STATE DIRECTOR	KEN CARMICHAEL
ALTERNATE DIRECTOR	LARRY GRINSTEAD

**VOLUNTEER POSITIONS**

EDUCATION	CAROL KLAR
LANDS	CRAIG VOLOSING
TRAIL BOSS/WORK PARTIES	DOUG BAILEY
TRAIL BOSS/RIDE COORDINATER	PATTY WRIGHT
VOLUNTEER HOURS	CAROL KLAR
LEGISLATIVE	LARRY GRINSTEAD
ANALYSIS OF INCOME	KEN CARMICHAEL
DONATIONS	LINDA WHITE
GRANT ADMINISTRATION	DOUG BAILEY
EQUIPMENT INVENTORY	KEN CARMICHAEL
GROUP OUTLOOK ADMIN	TOM BIRGE
HISTORIAN	OPEN

**MEETINGS PLUS**

GREETER/NAME TAGS	DOUG BAILEY
LIBRARY	MICHELLE EAMES
PROGRAMS	
REFRESHMENTS	PATTY CARMICHAEL
ROOM MANAGEMENT	TOM/DIANA BIRGE
STORES	TOM BIRGE
MEMBERSHIP	DIANA BIRGE
NEWSLETTER EDITOR/PUBLISHER	MICHELLE EAMES/CINDY MILLER
PUBLICITY	OPEN
COORD. W/ OTHER CHAPTERS	OPEN
PRINTED MATERIAL	KEN CARMICHAEL
PHOTOGRAPHY	GARY & CINDY MILLER

FACEBOOK  
WEB CONTACT  
WEB MASTER  
SAFETY  
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

CINDY MILLER/CAROL KLAR  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
CHUCK RICE  
DOUG FREDERICK  
CAROL KLAR

**ADDITIONAL POSITIONS SHORT TERM**

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION  
FINANCIAL REVIEW  
FUNDRAISER  
COUNTY PARKS

PATTI CARMICHAEL  
OPEN  
KEN CARMICHAEL  
MELISSA HALPIN

ANYONE IS WELCOME TO HELP IN ANY OF THESE AREAS, OR BY PROVIDING REFRESHMENTS, OR FINDING SPEAKERS FOR MEETINGS. I'M SURE THAT ANY OF THE COMMITTEE LEADERS WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.

## **Nominating Committee**

### **By Ken Carmichael**

President Tom Birge appointed Mary Johnston, Stephanie Hanlon and me to the chapter nominating committee.

It is our responsibility to contact chapter members and find individuals interested in running for 5 chapter offices. They are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Alternate State Director

My term as State Director has another year.

We are trying to reach each member to determine what your interests are in supporting the chapter. It may not be one of these positions. If Mary or Stephanie left a message for you, please return the call.

No one likes to take a pig in the poke so it is important that people understand what we are volunteering for. That is why we have very specific job descriptions for each position. If you have any interest in a position, ask to see a job description and we can talk about it. We want to match people with your interests,

I have been involved with BCH since 1988 and have held a variety of positions. I would not have done this if I did not think it was worthwhile and I enjoyed it. BCH provides a valuable service to equestrians, but it takes people to make it happen. Please consider what you can do to support our work. Give me a call at 509-466-2225.



Antoine Peak Member Ride. Thanks to the Statons for hosting!!

**SPOKANE COUNTY PARKS REPORT**  
**September 2022**  
**By Melissa Halpin**

**RE: SLAVIN CONSERVATION AREA**

Spokane County will begin construction of trailhead parking area expansion this Fall. The plan is to create a new asphalt lot for passenger vehicles, so we can designate the existing lot for horse trailers and overflow parking when necessary.

**Between September 2 and November 11, 2022**, there may be several days when it will be necessary to close the parking lot to the public. For the entire duration, **it will likely be difficult, or sometimes impossible, to park or maneuver a horse trailer at Slavin Conservation Area**. Please help with advising other Back Country Horsemen members you know of the situation.

Two links are provided below for continuing information.

<https://www.spokanecounty.org/5055/Slavin-Conservation-Area-Trailhead-Enhancement>

<https://www.spokanecounty.org/4214/Trailhead-Web-Cams-List>

Please come to the October PBCH meeting to listen and talk with Paul Knowles from Spokane County Parks.

There will be  
Costco cake !!!



Image from County Website.

## **State Director News**

**By Ken Carmichael**

Summer is a time for riding and camping, but we are planning for the future. Here are a few things on the plate:

- Winery Ride at Zillah WA on October 29 – We are still looking for volunteers or those that want to take the ride. This is lots of fun and you can sign up on the BCHW website.
- Rendezvous the third weekend in March 2023 – How will the chapter participate? It is time to start thinking about attending.
- PBCH poker ride 2023 – What will be the date and how do we want to change the games? Patti and I rode some trails last weekend that look promising for changing the route.

My next BCHW board meeting is September 17. If anyone has any thoughts let me know.

<https://www.bchw.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/public.bchw>



**PONDEROSA BCH 2022 Planning Calendar (as of 8/31/2022)**

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

[Consider printing this page to keep dates handy]

<b>August</b> August 30- PBCH Board Meeting	<b>November</b> November 1- PBCH General Meeting; soup social, guest speaker November 29- PBCH Board Meeting
<b>September</b> September 6- PBCH General Meeting, State Patrol speaker Sept. 24- Fish Trap Work Party, sign up in advance September 27- PBCH Board Meeting	<b>December</b> December 6 – PBCH General Meeting; Christmas Party
<b>October</b> October 4 - General Meeting; potluck; Elections, Spokane County Parks speaker October 15-16- ETS event at Spokane Sport horse Farm October 25-PBCH Board Meeting October 29 - Zillah Wine Ride October Member Ride, time and location TBD	<b>Other events can be found here:</b> <a href="https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php">https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php</a>  <b>2023 Events</b>  Rendezvous March 17th - 19 <sup>th</sup>

**The September Meeting Notice below was copied from the Ponderosa Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Washington Facebook Page. If you are on Facebook, and don't already follow the page, you may wish to join.**



**Here's a sneak peak for the Sept 6th PON BCH Meeting. We will have a guest speaker from the WA State Hwy Patrol! Topics discussed will be hauling laws, required documents, hazards to avoid, and a Q and A session as always. This should be interesting and informative!**

**Meeting time is 6PM at Hayford Community church, rear building. 5306 S Hayford Road. Feel free to email me [cklar32@gmail.com](mailto:cklar32@gmail.com) or post any questions.**

**Please join us!**



# **Fish Trap Lake Work Party**

**By Ken Carmichael**

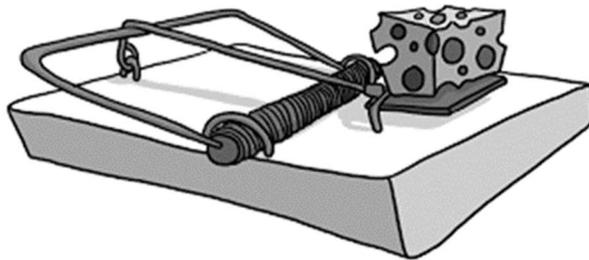
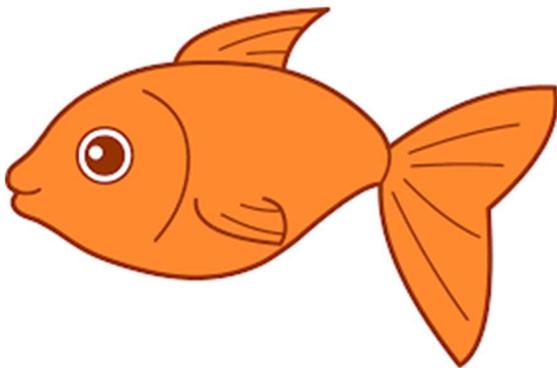
Washington Trails Association (WTA) and BLM are hosting a work party on Saturday, September 24 at Fish Trap Lake. This is an excellent time to be involved in a work party where no skills are required.

We will be working on a water crossing at the south end of the property. All tools are provided by WTA. The event is from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM. Horses are not used. Fish Trap is at exit 254 on I90 and less than an hour from my house so easy to get to. This is also an excellent area to ride.

Please go to the following link to register and obtain additional details about the work party.

<https://www.wta.org/volunteer/schedule/workparty/a2m2K00000AWSB3/>

No tools are required; I recommend bringing hard hat and work gloves. This is a good opportunity to work with other recreational groups. Please join us.



Get it? From [clipart-library.com](http://clipart-library.com)

## ETS Event October 15-16

By Linda White

Volunteers and helpers are needed for this fun ETS at Spokane Sport Horse Farm. Helpers are needed Friday to assist with check in, stall assignments and general assistance. We have need for a few people to help with reset at some of the obstacles in case they are knocked over. On Saturday we need a couple of folks to help set up the dinner.

It is a beautiful time at Sport Horse and an opportunity to see this first-class facility. Lunch will be provided on Saturday and Sunday as well as dinner on Saturday. For more information, please contact me, Linda White, 509-413-7392 or [linda43562@hotmail.com](mailto:linda43562@hotmail.com)



Register at

<https://www.equinetrailsports.com/event/13176/>



# EQUINETRAIL SPORTS

Ustengo Stakes

Finals for Triple Crown Tournament

SAT, Oct 15 - SUN, Oct 16

Spokane Sport Horse Farm

10710 S Sherman Rd, Spokane, WA 99224

Trail Challenge Each Day

Stalls & Camping Available

Choose  
**YOUR**  
Challenge!



## ***From the Editor:***

***The Newsletter Theme is “Lists”. If I don’t write things down, I don’t remember them. In recent newsletters, we have provided lists of the 10 essentials, and lists of first aid items to carry in your trailer. Ken Carmichael also loves lists. See below!***

## **Lists, My Favorite Topic By Ken Carmichael**

Making lists is my favorite thing to do. I have a list for everything. If it is not on the list, it just does not get done. Sometimes by accident I will do something not on the list. In that case I need to put it on the list and scratch it off.

What types of lists are there? I have many types:

TO DO LISTS: Of course, these are the most important.

- Current list – It is white on 4 ¼ X 5 ½ inch paper and items should be done this week.
- Urgent - Sometimes it is necessary to make a list of those things that need to be done tomorrow or the wheels will fall off the wagon.
- Long term – This is on a yellow piece of paper and are things I should do but not right away, just when I have time but do not want them to fall through the cracks.
- Magnetic board – This is my newest list. It is a 2X3 foot magnetic board on the wall next to my desk. It is color coded with columns for BCHW, PBCH, RSPF, FMSP, LSA and House. These are big projects and some recurring ones, like newsletter articles. This saves me from continually having to make up a lot of yellow lists.

PACK LISTS: These are critical for making sure I have everything for a trip. If it is not on the list, it does not go. Some of the lists are sorted by where things are found, i.e., trailer, barn, garage, basement, etc. There are all kinds of lists depending on the type of trip. Never throw away a list as you may take that type of trip again.

These can vary from:

- Packing in
- Trailhead camping with the horses – my favorite
- Camping without the horses
- Canoe camping
- Snowshoeing
- Meetings
- Several different vacations and family visits
- Menus
- Weights of items to go on a pack horse

DATABASES: I keep lists of contacts and memberships. These are extremely handy for sending out notices of events. Some include:

- Memberships of organizations I am in
  - ✓ The PBCH membership list is also in my car and pickup. This is just in case I am stuck on the road and need help, such as getting horses home.
- Memberships of other organizations
- Lists of people who have attended events

FIRST AID AND SURVIVAL: Where do you have these items and what is in them. I have lists for these supplies that are in:

- Horse trailer
- Saddle bags
- Boat
- Vehicles

EMERGENCIES: I have a bunch of lists pertaining to emergencies. Some of them include:

- Emergency contacts – inside kitchen cabinet door
- Emergency evacuation – inside kitchen cabinet door. I have looked at this recently as I listen to fire engines go by my house. It lists what I want to take in order of priority. No time for thinking about it then.
- Urgent Care Centers in area – in vehicles
- Vehicle ID
- Emergency first aid- several and in several places

LAST BUT NOT LEAST:

- Potential vacations trips Patti and I want to take this year
- Trailheads and Trails information – a lot of this is a box with files for each location

I look at my desk and there are other lists and reminders that pertain to specific responsibilities. Something that is not a list but a reminder is my calendar. It is critical. There are more lists that I should have, such as an inventory of what is in the house. I have let that get out of date.

I could not function without my lists.

## Horse Care List

(Copied Directly from the Spruce Pets website; written by Katherine Blocksdorf;

<https://www.thesprucepets.com/horse-and-pony-care-by-the-day-1886011>]

### Daily Care

A visual check at very minimum once a day, and more often is essential. You'll want to check for any sign of injury, illness and check fences and other structures in your horse's home for damage that could cause problems. Access to plenty of food and water is not to be neglected.

- Provide your horse with fresh clean water. Clean, readily available water is essential for good horse care.
- Provide your horse with adequate fodder and concentrates. If feeding hay, your horse will eat approximately two to three percent of its body weight every day.
- Provide adequate shelter and blanketing according to the weather. The design of your shelter, whether run-in shed or stable is very important for proper care. Horses need a place to get out of the wind and wet.
- Do a visual check for scrapes, cuts, bruises and puncture wounds on your horse's legs, head, and body. Treat any injuries promptly. You should have a horse first aid kit on hand.
- Do a visual check for signs of illness such as runny eyes or noses, or sounds of coughing or wheezing.
- Clean your horse's hooves and check for bruising or cracks, or loose shoes.
- Muck out the stall if your horse is stabled. Ammonia from urine and manure is harmful to horses' lungs<sup>1</sup> and hooves and can cause problems like thrush.<sup>2</sup>

### Weekly Care

There are a few things you should check weekly. Having adequate supplies on hand is important, as is looking after the small chores before they become big ones that no one wants to tackle.

- Check the amount of concentrate, fodder, and bedding on hand. Try to have at least two weeks supply on hand, so if there is an emergency you don't run short.
- If you care for your horse on a small acreage, clean manure from paddocks. This cuts down on flies, keeps the grounds clean for the same

reason you'd clean a stall, and makes a nice environment for you and your horse.

- Check fences for broken rails, loose wire, protruding nails, loose gates, and more that could cause injury.
- Scrub out water trough and feed buckets. Built-up concentrates on the inside of feed buckets can spoil, and troughs can get soiled with chaff, dirt, and algae.

## Monthly Care

If you board your horse at a stable, make sure your board bill is paid on time.

## Every 6 to 8 Weeks

Have your farrier in to trim hooves or reset horseshoes. Leaving hooves to grow too long is hard on your horse's legs, and unhealthy for their hooves.

## Every 2 to 3 Months

There's a lot of variance in deworming schedules. Some people feed a daily dose of medication, some have a six-week or nine-week schedule. After the first hard frost, or once the fly season is over, you may also want to deworm for botfly larvae.

Administer deworming medication. It's important to have a deworming schedule to keep your horse healthy.

## Once a Year Care

The types and frequency of vaccinations you'll give your horse will depend on the diseases prevalent in your area. Your veterinarian is the best resource to help you decide on a schedule.

- Have teeth checked and floated by an equine dentist or veterinarian. Some horses may need checking and floating every six months.
- Have immunizations administered by a veterinarian.
- [Get a health certificate and coggins if traveling out of state]



# Horse Trailer List 5-14-22

compiled by Michelle Eames

Short Haul	Needed?	Packed?
Whip (keep extra in trailer)		
helmet		
Girth/cinch (keep extra in trailer)		
saddle		
Blanket/pad		
Bridle (for trail or arena or both)		
Cooler/blankets		
Water for human		
Everything tool		
First aid kit- human and horse		
bucket		
jack		
brushes		
Hoof pick		
Trailer boots if used for horse		
Protective boots for riding (splint boots, etc)		
Jacket/coat		
Cell phone/ID		
Spurs		
Riding gloves		
Riding boots		
Halter/lead		
Long lead or lunge line		
snacks		
sunscreen		
Saddle bags/ survival gear		
Manure fork		
Tub or bucket or wheelbarrow for horse manure		
Bug spray human		
Fly spray horse		
Coggins / brand inspection for identification/ travel permit GVL if out of state		

<b>Add for Long Haul or Camping</b>	<b>Needed?</b>	<b>Packed?</b>
Big water jug for horse/extra water		
hay		
Hay net		
Blanket/stable blanket		
Clips or twine for bucket in corral		
Grain/vitamins		
Fly mask		
hoof boot(s)		
Fence panels or electric fence or highline		

There have been some interesting and worrisome Facebook posts from Washington Department of Agriculture lately. One about a new invasive beetle that kills Ash trees is copied below. Washington has both native and non-native ash trees.



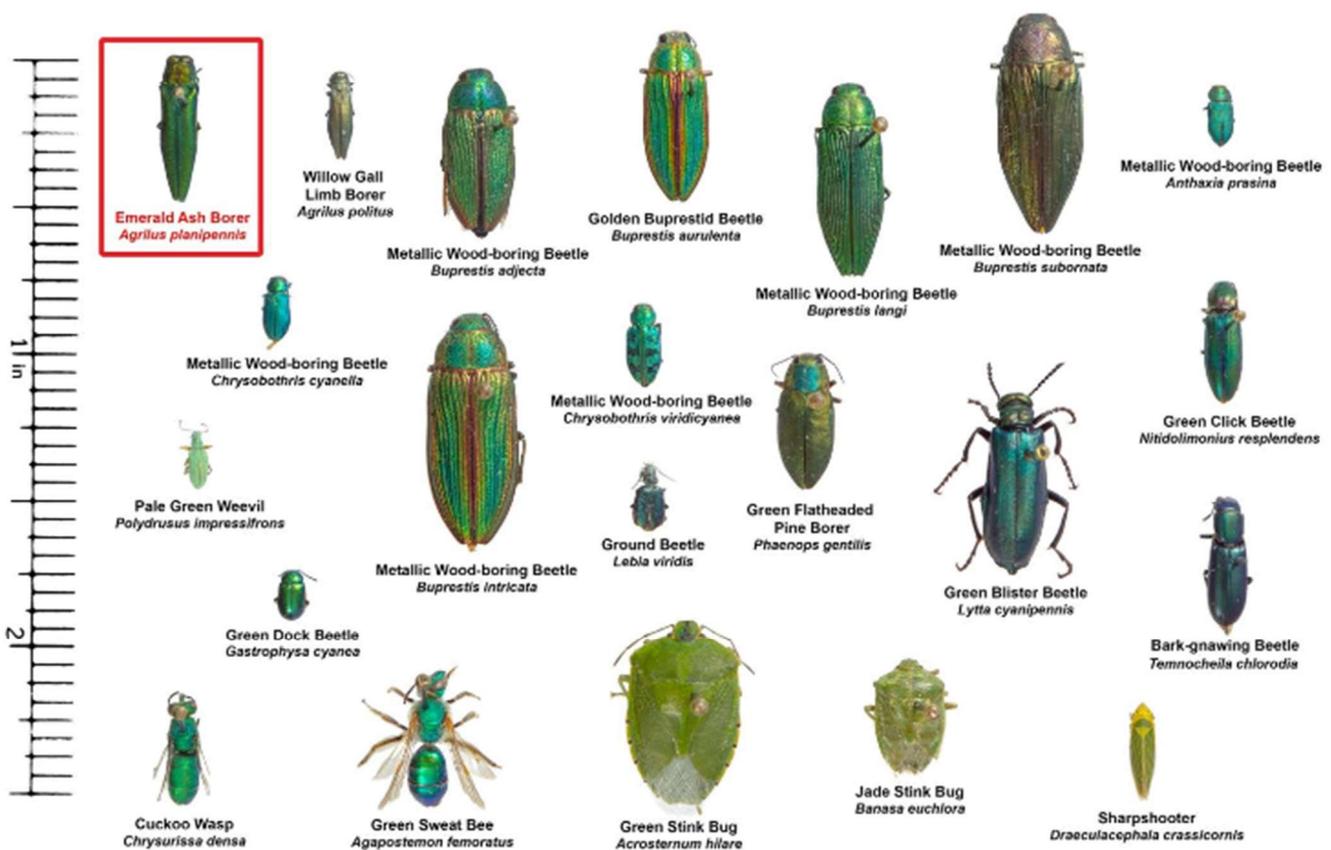
Washington State Department of Agriculture

July 16 · 🌍



As you are out camping, hiking, or otherwise enjoying nature, keep an eye out for [#EmeraldAshBorer](#). It was recently found in Oregon. While not a threat to humans, it has killed virtually every ash tree in eastern states that have the pest. If you see it in our state, report it to the [Washington Invasive Species Council](#).

This great graphic from the [Oregon Department of Agriculture](#) shows EAB compared to similar-looking insects that can be found in western states.



There have also been some Facebook posts on the Washington Department of Agriculture and other horse-related Facebook groups about the toxic (to horses) plant Hoary Alyssum being found in hay in Washington.

Rather than sharing some of the very detailed posts, I will share some links and a picture of the plant.

Below are two pictures from the noxious weed control board. There are several other pictures at that link. <https://www.nwcb.wa.gov/weeds/hoary-alyssum>



Hoary Alyssum is found in several NE Washington Counties, and also in other counties in the State. The following link includes a county distribution map for the plant in Washington State. <https://cms.agr.wa.gov/getmedia/1012505d-06bf-4c1f-a400-f3d959652a7b/HoaryAlyssum.pdf>

Watch your hay, try to get hay with no weeds, and watch what your horses are grazing on when trail riding.

**Editor's note:**

**The following came from the Rocky Mountain Back Country Horsemen Facebook Page. I thought it was nice and concise. They referenced this original article:**

<https://www.threeriversparks.org/blog/share-trail-horse-trail-etiquette?fbclid=IwAR27KIG5T5sx1I11LP2L6Vc2dK-9bpdKXJCbdE4VSfacObGJGQbrw1EU-vE>



Trail etiquette matters: Did you know the 7th principle of 'Leave No Trace' is Be Considerate of Others. Probably the most underappreciated value. Is it really that important? Yes!!! It is the thing we all have in common. Equestrians, hikers and bikers, say hello to each other.

According to the 3 rivers parks equine etiquette article - "My biggest piece of advice for anyone who encounters a horse and rider on the trail would be to say something, even if it's a simple 'hello'.

That simple greeting can help a horse gain perspective of its surroundings and ease its flight risk. A horse's vision is much different from ours. Horses have the largest eyes of any land mammal, and because of this, everything they see is magnified. They also lack the ability to distinguish fine details while focusing on an object in their field of vision.

A simple greeting also eases a horse's instinct to run. "Horses are prey animals, which means the way they survive is to run or fight. So, when you really think about that, you understand why they are spooked easily and apt to run when afraid."

This applies to equestrians as well. In all honesty, non-equestrians may not always start out on our side 😊 Use the opportunity with other trail users to be friendly! "Hi! How's your hike going, it's a beautiful day to be out. Thank you for stepping to the side!" Even a smile goes a long way to show you care that they are out there too as we all share these wonderful trails together.

## Wayside wildflowers

### By Patty Wright

On a mid-July ride in southern British Columbia, we were treated to some lovely visual and edible surprises!

First off, if you ever get a chance to ride there, BC is amazing. Only 2.5 hours north (through the Cascade border crossing) is the resort town of Christina Lake. We rented horses from Rick at Owl Mountain Ranch, whose property line is the 49th parallel! Our ride started out through forested land and through patches of ripening Saskatoon berries. My dad used to talk about picking these, and I didn't realize that it is the same plant as service berries, so common in our area. It was fun snagging a few to munch on as we made our way to the Kettle River cascade.

This is how the internet describes them:

“The berries have a sweet, earthy flavor with a rich almond/marzipan undertone due to the flavor of the seeds. They are rich in iron and vitamin C with antioxidant properties comparable to blueberries.”

After dismounting to view the falls, we rode up along the rim rock, where it was much drier and open. This is where we were lucky enough to see the Sagebrush Mariposa lily, a spectacular flower that was new to me. There are several types of Mariposas. They have edible bulbs and seemly grow straight out of the rock! For more information, check out this link: <https://nhmu.utah.edu/sagebrush-mariposa-lily>  
Happy trails!



Service or Saskatoon berry photo from:  
<http://nativeplantspnw.com/saskatoon-serviceberry-amelanchier-alnifolia/>

# MULE SURFING

By Vern Hopkins

Our ragtag group of family hunters decided to go into the Pasayten Wilderness for the early deer hunt. There were my two sons Dave and Marv, my grandson Justin, my brother-in-law Jimmie and his son Mike, me and three other tag-a-longs.

We bivouacked at the Hart's Pass trailhead the first night in a blizzard. It was cold and miserable. In the morning we had breakfast at o-dark-thirty and packed up the mules. We left the trucks and trailers there and rode up and over Slate Peak Pass and down into the headwaters of the West Fork of the Pasayten River.

By late afternoon we made it to the old abandoned Pasayten Airfield and called it enough. The weather had cleared up, it had warmed up, the sky was blue and most of the snow had disappeared. We had a pleasant evening with a dandy supper and boot-top high grass for the horses and mules. A good campfire and some tall tales finished the day. (Life always tastes better over a campfire.)

Next morning with camp chores done, breakfast over, tents down and everything packed, we were ready to roll again. With one mule packed and tied onto the hitching rack and the second one tied on behind, Dave brought another mule over to be packed. (Did I mention that the grass was wet and slippery?) He got almost to the rail when the mule gave a snort, spun around and took off full speed down the airstrip. Dave still had ahold of the lead rope with both hands. I don't know how he managed to stay right side up but he looked like a Norwegian water skier flying down the meadow.

All the gang was cheering him on, Go Man Go!! Dave finally hit some moguls and up-ended, but he still had the lead rope. That jerked the mule end for end and he came to a stop.

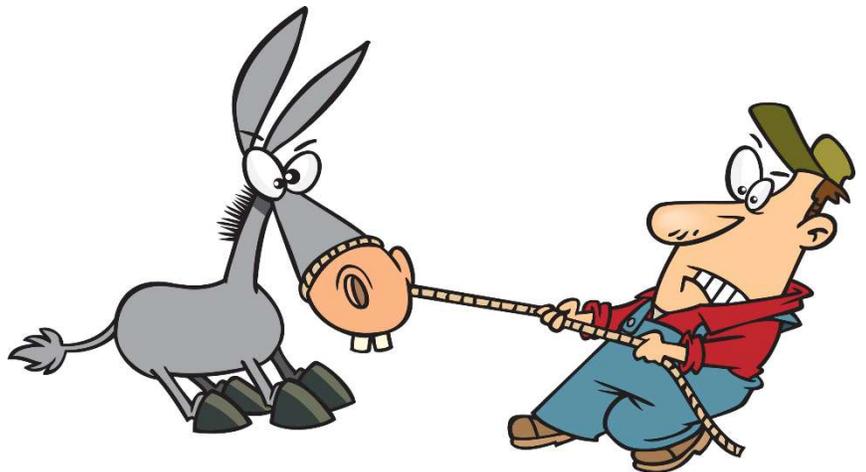
Dave was the champion for the day and we were all figuring out if "Mule Surfing" could end up being a new Olympic event.

Marv had a tee shirt made for him:

1993

World Champion

Mule Surfing.



*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.*

*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.*

*Photo by Carol Klar @ Bear Lake*



*Michelle Eames, Newsletter Editor*

### ***PBCH Officers***

**PRESIDENT**

**TOM BIRGE**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**CAROL KLAR**

**SECRETARY**

**PATTY WRIGHT**

**TREASURER**

**DIANA BIRGE**

**STATE DIRECTOR**

**KEN CARMICHAEL**

**ALT. STATE DIRECTOR**

**LARRY GRINSTEAD**

*The Executive Board for PBCH includes the officers, plus Doug Bailey, Trail Boss; Michelle Eames, Newsletter; and Melissa Halpin, Spokane County Lands Coordinator.*