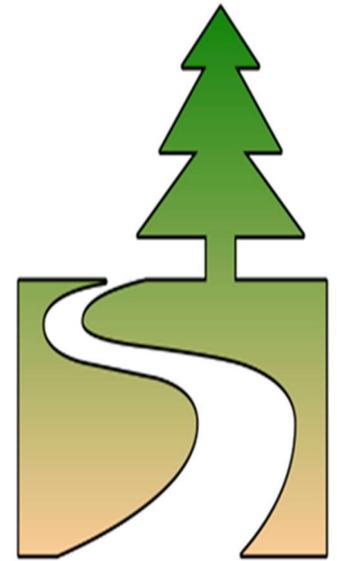




# PONDEROSA



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

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

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November 2022



FLASHBACK: Camping Seminar 2017

## PBCH CALENDAR

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

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

***November 1- PBCH General  
Meeting; soup social, guest  
speaker on Palisades***

***November 29- PBCH Board  
Meeting***

***December 6 - PBCH General  
Meeting; Christmas Party***

***January 3- PBCH General  
Meeting; Planning Meeting***

## **President's Report October 2022**

The 2023 membership renewal opportunity began October 1. The easiest way to sign up is through [bchw.org](http://bchw.org), but there is also a form at the end of this newsletter, and there will be forms at our meetings.

New officers take over in November. Officers stayed the same, except new Secretary is Patti Carmichael, and new Alternate Director is Doug Bailey. All officers are listed at the end of this newsletter. I would like to thank Patty Wright (secretary) and Larry Grinstead (alternate director) for serving in those positions.

Let's give a warm welcome to the following new members: Leah and Jill Swannick; Al and Nancy Rust (also Mt St Helens Chapter); and Barbara Thomas (also Grays Harbor Chapter).

Our November meeting will be a soup social. Bring a real spoon and bowl if you prefer something better than paper and plastic. Bring your favorite soup, dessert, or culinary creation. Craig Volosing will be our meeting speaker giving status update on Palisades Park and potential future bridge connecting to Riverside State Park.

Our December meeting will be Christmas Party and gift exchange. \$25.00 gift limit. Main course will be provided. Bring sides and desserts. Come one, come all!

Our January Meeting will be a planning meeting. What should we do, where should we do it, and when should we do it? Bring your ideas! We are exploring a way to join the meeting remotely in case you want to attend but aren't up to the winter drive.

I have Poker Ride T-shirts and BCHW hats available that would make a great Christmas gift. Let me know sizes!

Thanks!  
Tom

**Nov. 1st - The Ponderosa Annual Soup Social**  
Come join us for a wonderful soup buffet and park updates!  
Location: 5306 S. Hayford Rd., rear building  
Social Time Begins at 5:30 - Meeting at 6PM



**Guests are welcome - Come join us for a fun evening!**

**Our November meeting will include a status update about Palisades Park by Craig Volosing (shown below).**



# Membership Renewal

## By Ken Carmichael

It is now time to renew our BCH memberships for 2023.

There are three ways to do this:

- Go to the BCHW website [www.bchw.org](http://www.bchw.org), click on Members/Join/Renew then scroll down to Renewal season starts October 1 Join or renew for 2023 online, OR
- Print the attached application and send to address indicated, OR
- Come to a chapter meeting and complete the renewal form

We each have our own personal reasons for belonging to BCH. Whatever the reason it is important to remember that BCH is the organization that is keeping trails open for equestrians and others. We do this in several ways where you can participate and contribute to a better environment.

- Educate
- Advocate
- Move dirt (trail and trailhead maintenance and construction)
- Support staff that works behind the scenes to make this possible

In addition, those that participate have fun doing it.

To accomplish our mission of keeping trails open requires a wide variety of skills, talents, interest and abilities. Some opportunities require a long-term commitment while others are short term. There is something to fit everyone's timetable.

Bottom line is that if we want to keep trails open then it takes your support. Please consider how you will participate in 2023 and volunteer.

[See the membership application at the end of the newsletter.]

**PONDEROSA BCH Planning Calendar (as of 10/26/2022)**

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

**October**

*October 29 - Zillah Wine Ride*

**November**

*November 1- PBCH General Meeting; soup social, guest speaker Craig Volosing re:Rimrock to Riverside*

*November Tentative Work Party @ Gypsy Meadows with NE BCH- Watch for details!*

*November 29- PBCH Board Meeting*

**December**

*December 6 – PBCH General Meeting; Christmas Party, Potluck*

**January 2023**

*January 3- PBCH General Meeting; Annual Business Planning Meeting (exploring Facebook Live or other option for remote attendance)*

**2023 Events:**

**2023 Leadership Training – January,  
details to come**

**2023 Rendezvous - 3/17-19**

**2023 PBCH Poker Ride 5/21**

**2023 Wine Ride - 10/28**

**Other events can be found here:**

[https://www.bchw.org/upcoming\\_events.php](https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php)

# Spokane County Parks Report

**By Melissa Halpin**

At our October 2022 General Meeting we had two guest speakers:

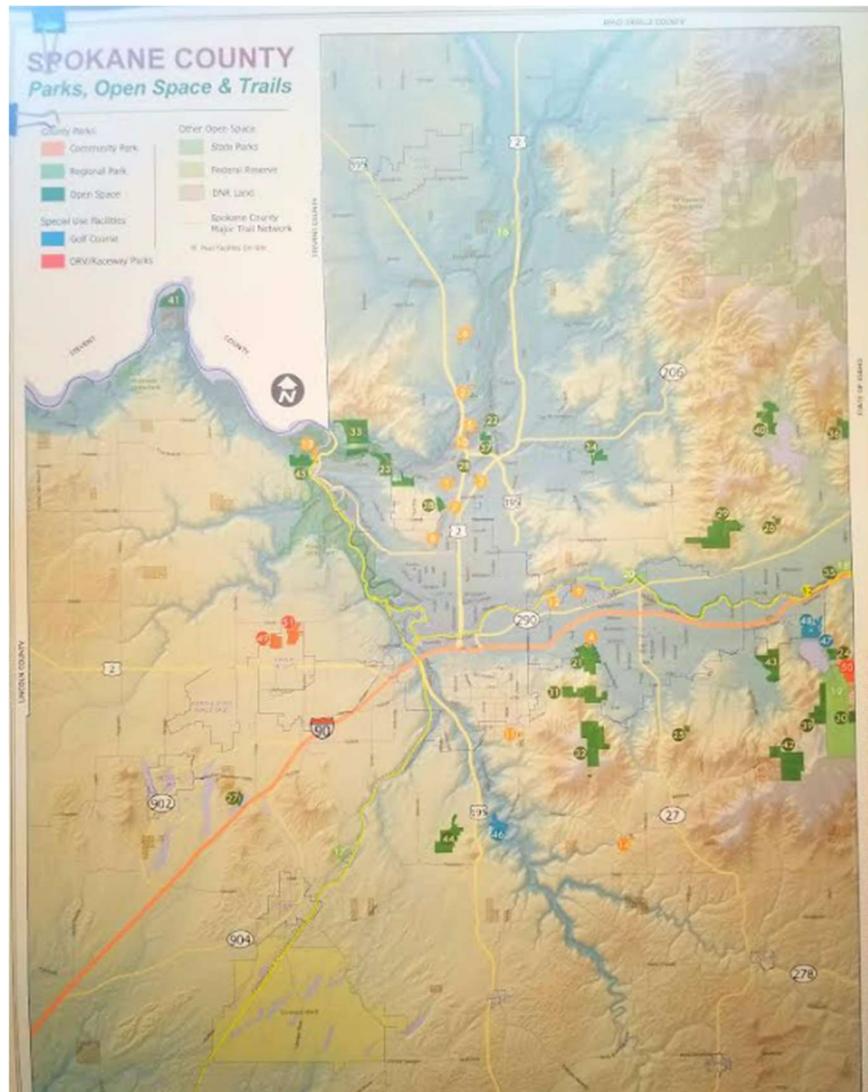
1. Paul Knowles, Spokane County Parks Special Projects Manager; and
2. Julie Neff, Spokane County Parks Professional Landscape Architect

Paul and Julie sat before a group of PBCH members and gave us a tremendous amount of information. We had a question-and-answer session that was really fun and interesting.

One bit of news is the Parks department wants to hire two fulltime employees to work outdoors/hands-on within the Parks. This would require grant money. Paul asked for a letter of recommendation from our PBCH group to aid him with the grant application.

Also, we have a new addition to our PBCH Library which is a 24"x36" Map of all the Parks in the County. If you like maps, you can check this map out of our library. It is a very interesting map. Come to the November meeting and check out the new map.

Following is the letter we sent to Paul at County Parks to offer our support for the grant to hire the employees.





PO Box 1184  
Airway Heights, WA 99001  
[www.PBCHW.com](http://www.PBCHW.com)

*"Keeping Washington Trails Open"*

October 18, 2022

Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf Department  
C/O Paul Knowles  
404 N. Havana Street  
Spokane, WA 99202

RE: Spokane County NOVA E&E Program – 2023-2025

Dear Mr. Knowles,

I am writing to express support on behalf of my organization for Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf Department's **Spokane County NOVA Education & Enforcement (E&E) Program** grant application to the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office, which, if funded, includes much-needed resources to bring on staff to increase educational efforts that will reinforce park and conservation area rules, increase trail etiquette compliance, and ensure a safe and positive trail experience for our members.

The Back Country Horsemen associations throughout Washington/Idaho utilize and appreciate the Spokane County Equestrian Parks. There are 64 members alone in the Ponderosa chapter. We are a non-profit, 5013C group. We will support the new County employees (if approved) with their efforts to improve, expand, monitor County Parks. We are a hands-on organization that will enthusiastically move dirt, build fences and corrals, remove barbed wire and other trail obstacles. We can also provide some machinery to accomplish these activities. We can monitor nefarious activities on our horse rides with photographs and report negative activity to the County Parks. We also love education and educating the public. We can assist with County Park programs to deliver important trail information to the public. Of course, upon approval, we can donate actual monetary amounts to help cover costs for County Park's improvements such as making of trail signs, installing signs and other County overhead costs. We will provide donated labor for County Parks goals. We are willing, ready and able to become Spokane County Parks partner.

With our support and this critical funding through the Non-highway Off-road Vehicle Account (NOVA), we can help ensure that these areas continue to provide positive recreational experiences, physical and mental health benefits, and other intangible benefits as demand for these areas continues to grow.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can be of further assistance to help make this funding and renewal of Spokane County's E&E Program become a reality. Melissa Halpin, Phone 509-368-0605.

Sincerely,

Melissa Halpin  
Spokane County Parks Liaison  
Ponderosa Back Country Horsemen Chapter

**Photos of our October meeting with Paul Knowles and Julie Neff.**



## ***Riverside Park Equestrian Area Improvements***

On October 8, six Ponderosa members met and Riverside State Park Equestrian area to “ride in” a new trail parallel to the river. October also saw improvements to the corrals in the equestrian camping area, with more improvements to come.



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

### ***The theme for the November newsletter is “Thanks”, “Thank you”, and “Thanksgiving”!***

When I think of giving thanks in the horse world, the BCH world, and the riding world there are a few things that come to mind:

- Thanks to the folks that “clean up after others” and pick up manure at trailheads, even when it didn’t come from their horse.
- Thanks to BCHW, and Ponderosa BCH for introducing me to a bunch of fun and cool people!
- Thanks to my family for putting up with my horse addiction.
- Thanks to my current riding horse Vali, for getting me out on the trails.
- Thanks for my friends that ride with me, in small groups, because big groups still put my horse on edge.
- Thanks for mountains and forests.
- Thanks for all of my horse and horsemanship teachers and mentors over the years.



**Here are some more “Thankfuls” from some PBCH members:**

*Patti Carmichael- Thankful for nice fall. Thankful for good old faithful horse (good enough for 3-year old grand-daughter ride).*

*Tom Birge- Thankful that all 3 of our granddaughters got to visit us and the horses in October (see below).*



*Diana Birge- Thankful for good horse neighbors.*

*Patty Wright- Thankful for wonderful places and wonderful views and seeing nature when riding around this area.*

*Doug Bailey- Thankful that all our critters doing great. And they had a successful hatch of cute and entertaining banty chicks.*

*Editor's note: This article was in our October newsletter; but I'm repeating it for November, too, because it's important. And it fits the theme of "Thanks".*

## **Thank You for Public Lands**

### **By Ken Carmichael**

We are fortunate to have many pieces of public land to ride on in the Spokane area. These are managed by a wide variety of managers including city, county, state and national.

These land managers frequently manage several diverse parcels and some are quite large with limited staffs. It is not always possible for them to be out on the land as much as we are.

That is why it is important that we be their eyes and ears. We can tell them what we encounter and in some cases help them rectify a situation. As volunteers we must be careful not to be confrontational.

We cannot expect the land managers to always be jolly on the spot to correct situations as they do cover large areas. However, repetitive reports can have an influence on management.

There are a variety of circumstances that may justify contacting the land manager. Sometimes it is not a problem but just what we see. For instance, when I am at the Escure Ranch I report to BLM on the number of people there, like fishermen, hunters, hikers, bicyclists, equestrians and also wildlife seen. I also report on the condition of the facilities.

It is important that we maintain good working relationships with our land managers so that we continue to be welcome on the land. We can do this by being on their committees, greeting them on the trail and inviting them to our events, including meetings. We can also perform work parties that maintain and improve trails and trailheads.

Be aware of their rules by going on their websites. Equestrians need to be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

Some good general numbers for contacting land managers include:

- Spokane City – 509-625-6200 or [parks@spokanecity.org](mailto:parks@spokanecity.org)
- Spokane County – 509-477-4730 or Paul Knowles at [pknowles@spokanecounty.org](mailto:pknowles@spokanecounty.org)
- State Parks (Spokane area) – 509-465-5064
- Bureau of Land Management – 509-536-1200
- Colville National Forest – 509-468-7000

## **Thanks**

**By Ken Carmichael**

Since this is a BCH newsletter, I cannot refrain from thanking BCH for what it has brought into my life.

I joined the Inland Empire Chapter in January 1987. I started to make a list of all the benefits I have received by being a member of BCH but that becomes too personal. Let it just be said that I have had the opportunity to meet and work with some fantastic individuals and organizations to accomplish a great mission of keeping trails open. This would not have been possible without the support of BCH.

I have had the opportunity to work at the chapter, state and national level all of which serve a purpose of keeping trails open. It is wonderful to see what can be done when people work together for a common goal.

BCH has also provided the opportunity for me to work with people outside the organization such as State Parks, Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and other recreational groups with a common goal.

I have gained from attending and participating in many educational opportunities including among others Leave No Trace, first aid, land management, safety, horse management and the list goes on.

BCH has provided a way for me to contribute to the community, gain from the experience, enjoy my horses, meet great friends, and have fun.

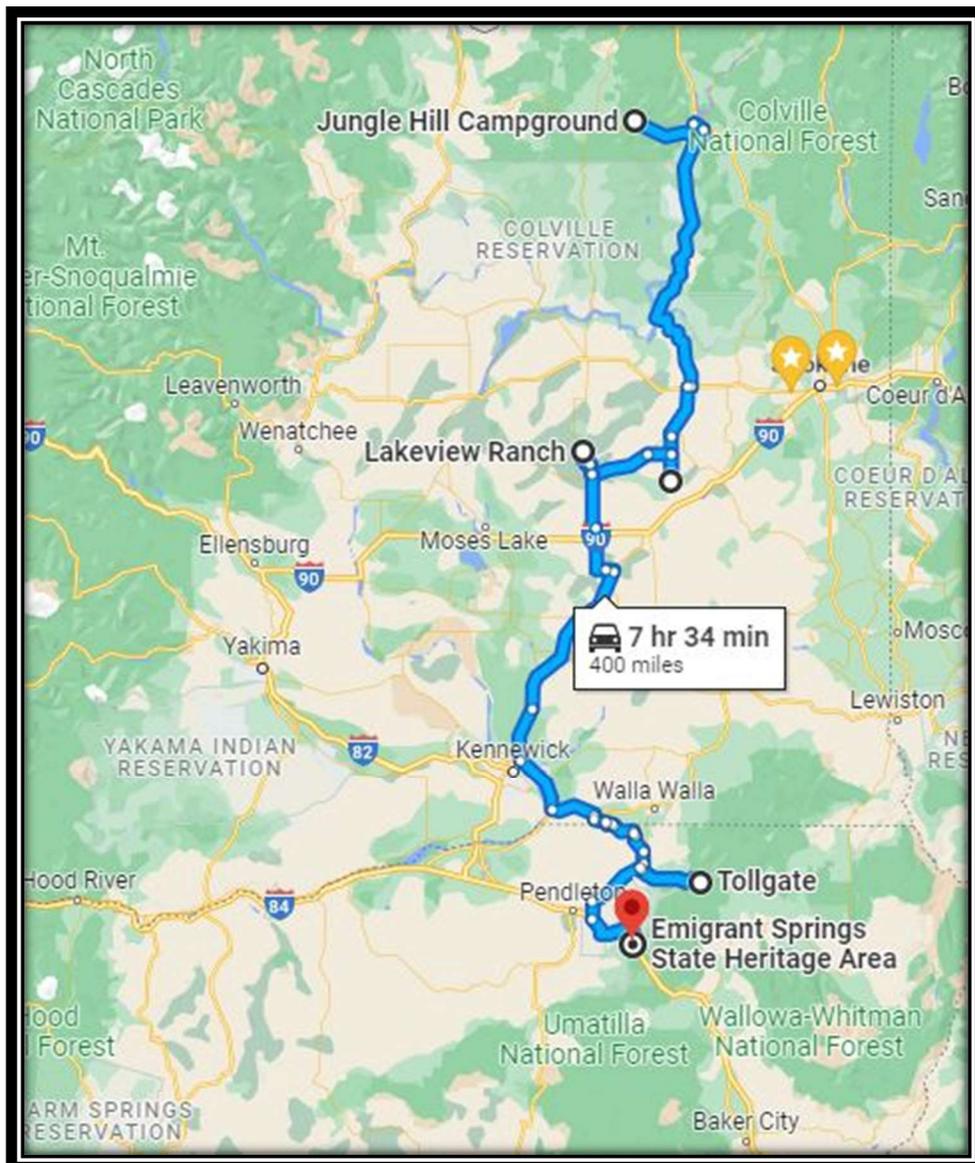
Thanks BCH!



**Being Thankful...** I am an adventurer at heart, loving all of those moments in new and beautiful places. For the past 5 seasons, my Saddlebred mare, Onyx, safely carried me over so many trails in amazing and often wild places. I am thankful for her willingness to go anywhere I requested. We covered about 2000 miles together. And although I have now moved on to a more subdued mount, Onyx will always hold a special place in my heart, since I know that without her, my explorations would not have been possible. I will always be grateful to Onyx and to my BCH travel buddies, especially Michelle Eames and Vali. Their sensibilities and skill helped to make the journeys enjoyable and safe. I can only hope that as I embark on a new adventure with a new (and green) mount, that I will again be saying "Thank you", next year at this time. ~~~ Happy Thanksgiving to All! *Carol Klar ~~~*

Our 2022 Horse Camping Travel Map – For pictures of these adventures, click the link below.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1N88RGW4YhnHrmx4djmX9kNa2yq\\_4gOaB](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1N88RGW4YhnHrmx4djmX9kNa2yq_4gOaB)







## THANK YOU

**By Cindy Miller**

I am thankful for my Hamley **rough-out** saddle that has saved me many times from hitting the ground when riding Tanner. Also, I have to give thanks to Tanner who, although he is a very reactive horse, pulls it together, and gives me time to balance back and stick to the saddle. He is an athletic guy, quick and agile. I am thankful after 12 years of riding his gyro jumpy motions, shooting to the side of a trail when he thinks the moose is nearby, and spinning around, I have never hit the ground. He seems to know better than to let it happen (but I doubt it). To the best of his ability, he tries to be a sure-footed boy on those undesirable slippery, rocky trails I subject him to sometimes. He has been my personal work-out coach and has pushed me to the limits; he has kept me in shape both mentally and physically. ☺ I am thankful for all! ☺



*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*

*Michelle Eames, Newsletter Editor*

### **PBCH Officers 2022 and 2023**

**PRESIDENT**

**TOM BIRGE**

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**CAROL KLAR**

**SECRETARY**

**PATTY WRIGHT (2023 Patti Carmichael)**

**TREASURER**

**DIANA BIRGE**

**STATE DIRECTOR**

**KEN CARMICHAEL**

**ALT. STATE DIR.**

**LARRY GRINSTEAD (2023 Doug Bailey)**

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

**NON  
MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATION**

## Come Join Us!

Go to [BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) and join or renew online. If online is not an option, please fill out this paper application and sign, (all members 18 and over must sign) enclose your cash or check made out to BCHW and mail to:

**BCHW Membership Chair**  
 11404 210<sup>th</sup> Ave Ct E  
 Bonney Lake, WA 98391



**Ponderosa**

### Member Info

**Check One:**  New Member       Renewal       Secondary Chapter Application Only

Adult's name(s):

Children's name(s):

Mailing Address:

City:

ST:

Zip:

Phone number:

E-mail:

Legislative district (if known):

County:

National and State Newsletters are viewable online at [BCHA.org](http://BCHA.org)/[BCHW.org](http://BCHW.org) or Please mail a hard copy of Newsletters

(Check Boxes)

BCHW (Trailhead News)

Chapter Newsletter (If available to mail)

### STATE MEMBERSHIP

### CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

#### Basic Memberships

- Single \$41.00
- Family \$54.00

Levels below include Single and Family

- Contributing \$75.00
- Sustaining \$125.00
- Patron \$250.00
- Benefactor \$500.00
- Lifetime (Single) \$1200.00
- Lifetime (Family of 2) \$2000.00

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:

**Ponderosa**

If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW State dues were paid:

**Chapter Dues**

Single \$10/Family \$20

*Please consider making a Chapter donation:*

*Please consider making a State donation:*

State Subtotal \$

Chapter Subtotal \$

**Grand Total (State+Chapter)** \$

#### NOTICES

By signing this membership application, you will agree to the terms of our Liability Release. You can read it on our website at [bchw.org](http://bchw.org), under the Join tab. You also agree to receive notices from BCHW/BCHA by electronic transmission at the above email address.

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.

Signature:

Date

Signature:

Date

Signature:

Date

Revised  
9/7/2022