



PONDEROSA



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

Website: PBCHW.COM

February 2023



RIVERSIDE STATE PARK



PBCH CALENDAR

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

January 31- PBCH Board Meeting

February 4- Additional BCHW Leadership topics via Zoom.

February 7—PBCH General Meeting. State Parks Area Manager guest speaker.

February 28- PBCH Board Meeting

March 7—PBCH Member Meeting – Volunteer hour awards & Rider Defense Video Course

President's Report February 2023

Welcome to a new year! We had a planning meeting the first Tuesday of January and I would like to thank all of those who attended. There was a lot of good discussion on what to do this year and in the future years.

We have a total of 48 members in our chapter now and I have created a group email for the members, it is pbchw@groups.outlook.com If you have any communication that you would like to convey to the other members you can use this email.

We are considering a CPR/First Aid class for our members, and we would like to have someone step up and take charge of handling this. If this is something that you can do, please contact Ken or myself.

Our February meeting will feature our State Parks Regional Manager along with the Interpretive Specialist, this should be good, please plan to attend.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the 4H tack sale booth and the annual Poker Ride. Please let Ken know if you are available for these events. We are also exploring a class for boy scouts and girl scouts for their equestrian merit badge. We would need people to help with that too so let us know if you're interested.

Doug Bailey is stepping down as Trail Boss but will still be available for consultation on Work Parties. We are looking for a volunteer to take this position, but you must have sawyer certification, or be willing to get it.

Make sure you keep track of the upcoming events via email or the Facebook page.

Most of our officers have carried out the duties for many years and our looking at stepping done from their positions; we need individuals to step up and get involved and volunteer for these positions. If you are interested, please reach out to the current officers to get background on the duties.

Thanks,

Tom

4-H Tack Sale

By Ken Carmichael

In 2023 the great 4-H Tack Sale will be on Saturday, March 11, at the fairgrounds. This is a wonderful opportunity to purchase more horse equipment.

Again, this year Ponderosa BCH will participate with a chapter booth. This provides PBCH with the opportunity to promote BCH and specifically the poker ride on May 21. We will also sell Riverside State Park Maps.

Early shoppers enter the sale at 7:00 AM and the event lasts until 2:00 PM. We are looking for volunteers to run the booth. We will break the shifts down to:

- ✓ 7-10 am
- ✓ 10-noon
- ✓ Noon to 2:00 plus helping to break down the booth

I also will need one person to help set up the booth Friday, March 10, in the afternoon. We can set a schedule for doing this.


Materials will be at the booth. We need people who are comfortable approaching the public about these activities. I will be there to get you started.

You will have time before and/or after your shift to shop at the tack sale.

If you are interested in helping, please contact me so that we can set a schedule.

- ✓ 509-466-2225
- ✓ Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com

The tack sale is a great opportunity for us to promote BCH and the poker ride. I have done this before, and it is fun!




**43rd Annual Spokane County
4-H TACK SWAP
2023**

**Over \$300,000 in
New/Used Tack Merchandise**

SPOKANE INTERSTATE FAIRGROUNDS
Saturday, March 11 • 8am-2pm
AG Complex A&B

Heated Saddle & Vendor Area - Plus more vendor space available!




**Open to
the Public**

CONSIGNMENTS
Friday, March 10 • Noon-8pm
No items consigned after 8pm
*****NEW ONLINE CONSIGNMENT PROGRAM*****
Fee: \$5 consigner fee & 15% of items sold
For information: Visit website
<https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/4h/>
Or follow Spokane County 4-H on Facebook

★ ★ **SHOP EARLY** ★ ★
**Purchase ticket for \$25 and Shop from
7am-8am**

ONLY 150 TICKETS TO BE SOLD!!
One ticket per person for age 8 & over, NO exceptions!
Call 509-998-8350
to purchase your ticket



4-H
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Cooperating Agencies: Washington State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Spokane County. Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension Office.

SPOKANE COUNTY PARKS REPORT

February 2023

by Melissa Halpin

melissa.tooter@gmail.com

509-368-0605

Check out Slavin Conservation Parking Lot renovation, it is **finished**. I drove out to look at it and it is very nice. They installed two triangle Trail Etiquette signs. Take a peek at the plan of the trailhead in this newsletter. They made room for 5 horse trailer spots. Note they planned for 5 hitching posts. Hitching posts are not needed as we have our trailers to tie our horses to. When I was physically visiting the new trailhead, thankfully there were NO hitching posts installed per the plan. The hitching post space is large and will be better utilized with overflow horse trailers. There is room for 3 more horse trailer spots in the hitching post area.

Soon we will start riding in the County Parks. They have asked you for 3 things:

1. As you ride, report criminal type problems you see with the "Park Watch Report Form", here is the form location:

<https://www.spokanecounty.org/FormCenter/Parks-Recreation-Golf-28/Park-Watch-Report-Form-83>
or call them or email Melissa Halpin.

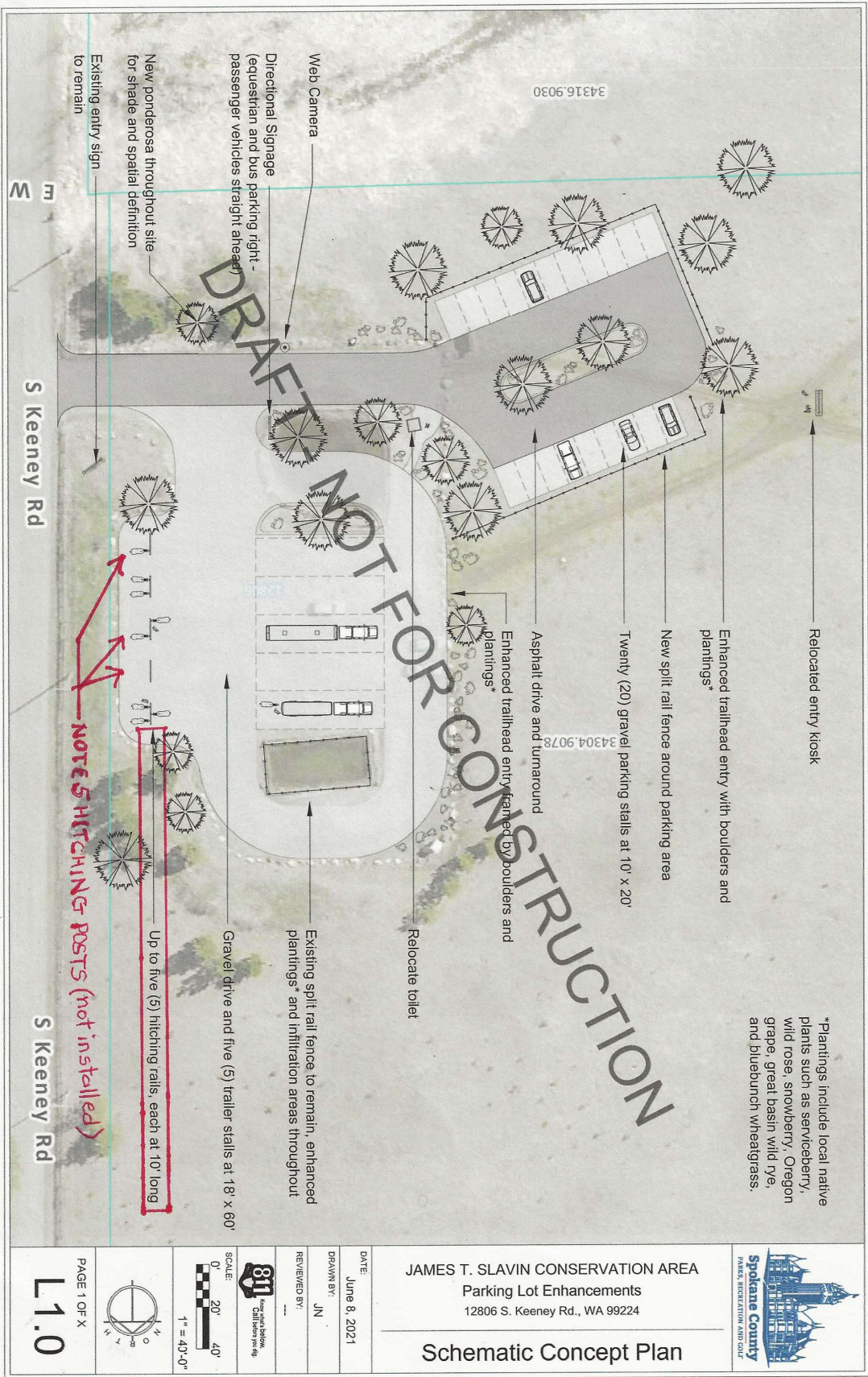
2. As you ride, watch for trail obstructions or problems, make a note and detail the location of the obstruction and email Melissa.
3. As you ride in County Parks, look to see what work or improvement could be done. Right now County Parks has no specific projects needing our assistance, but they want **YOUR suggestions**. Bring your suggestions to a meeting or email Melissa.

4.

Paul Knowles; Parks Planning, Development & Real Estate Manager, introduced me to a new contact. His name is Curt Chambers; Parks Operations Manager. I would love to have Curt come to one of our meetings.

County Parks? Let me know what you think.... 😊





*Plantings include local native plants such as serviceberry, wild rose, snowberry, Oregon grape, great basin wild rye, and bluebunch whealgrass.



JAMES T. SLAVIN CONSERVATION AREA
 Parking Lot Enhancements
 12806 S. Keeney Rd., WA 99224

Schematic Concept Plan

DATE: June 8, 2021

DRAWN BY: JN

REVIEWED BY:



SCALE: 0 20' 40'
 1" = 40'-0"



PAGE 1 OF X
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More From Melissa:



HORSE MANURE IN PARKS AND TRAILS by Melissa Halpin

This picture is at the brand new Slavin Conservation Area Trail Head. There was a lot of horse manure through out the new trail head when I was there a few days ago. The hikers and bikers do not like horses on our shared trails because of riders doing just what you see. We need to stop, get off our horses and kick manure off the side of trails and anywhere we ride.

Does someone in our group want to start an anti-horse manure education campaign?

I remember Ken saying we could make up small tags with the triangle etiquette plaque depicted and give the tags out to bike shops to tie onto their bikes and bike products for sale. We could also make a tags for horse shops to put a NO MANURE tag on items they sell.

Can someone or more of us get together a plan for an anti-manure campaign?

Poker Ride

By Ken Carmichael

IT IS TIME. We have worked hard to this point to prepare for the poker ride. Now it is time to have everyone step forward to help on the day of the ride. **SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023, AT THE EQUESTRIAN AREA OF RIVERSIDE STATE PARK.**

Here is a brief description of what will take place and how you can participate. Places we still need help are marked with #####:

Camp Host – ##### A member who is camping Saturday night to greet people not familiar with the area

Set up – ##### Everyone will be on site at 7:00 AM Sunday for final set up of canopies and final layout of materials

Volunteer Hours and hand out of equipment – ##### All volunteers sign in and receive necessary equipment

Parking – ##### Parking committee is the first contact with participants to get them parked, feel welcome and answer initial questions

Registration – ##### Processes preregisters and new registrations

Music – We play music through the PA system

Photography – Pictures are taken of all aspects of the event

Raffle – ##### Layout of raffle items, sell tickets, encourage people to participate, draw winners and hand out prizes

Stores – We sell poker ride T-shirts, Riverside State Park maps, highline kits, BCH items and is another location to purchase raffle tickets

Game Stations – ##### We have five places where participants play the poker game. Two are in the registration area and three are out on the trail

Emergency Vehicle – ##### Vehicle designated to help recover an injury or illness

Emergency Vehicle to the Road – ##### Vehicle designated to guide an ambulance to our registration area

Vehicle to transport games – ##### Vehicle used to take game stations out on the trail and bring them back

Horse holders – ##### Everyone that is not busy with other duties to help participants with their horses as they go through registration area

Clean up – ##### Everyone helps pick everything up at the end of the event

As you can see there are many opportunities to volunteer. We make assignments early, provide written instructions and necessary materials. We want everyone comfortable, knowledgeable and having fun.

Please volunteer early so we can further our planning. This is the big fundraising opportunity for Ponderosa and we want it to be a great success with your help. Contact me at 509-466-2225 or

kcarmichael2225@gmail.com.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST – INVITE YOUR FRIENDS, RELATIVES, RIDING PARTNERS AND OTHERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE POKER RIDE. POST INFORMATION ABOUT THE RIDE ON SOCIAL MEDIA. HELP US GET PEOPLE TO THE EVENT. INFORMATION IS ON OUR WEBSITE

WWW.PBCHW.COM AND FACEBOOK.

Attached at the end of this newsletter we are providing: **Facts Sheet** about the ride, **Preregistration Form** and a **Flier**. Please use these to promote the event wherever you can.

2023 PONDEROSA BCH Planning Calendar (as of 1-23-23)

All dates subject to change; watch emails and Facebook.

Work Parties and Member Rides will be planned and scheduled as the year proceeds.

January January 28- BCHW Leadership Meeting via Zoom. January 31- PBCH Board Meeting	February February 4- Additional BCHW Leadership topics via Zoom. February 7—PBCH Member Meeting. State Parks Area-Manager will be speaking. February 28- PBCH Board Meeting
March March 7—PBCH Member Meeting – Volunteer hour awards with a potluck and cake, & Rider Defense Video Course March 11- 4-H Tack Sale March 17-19—BCHW Rendezvous at Ellensburg March 28- PBCH Board Meeting	April April 4- PBCH Member Meeting; topic spending the night on the trail and survival safety by Linda White. April 25-PBCH Board Meeting
May May 2- PBCH Member Meeting May 14 - Horse First Aid class and trail ride at Swannack's Farm [also Mother's Day] May 21- PBCH Poker Ride @ Riverside Equ Area May 30- PBCH Board Meeting	June June 6 – PBCH Member Meeting Maps & Apps – finding your way on the trail June 27- PBCH Board Meeting
July July 10 (rescheduled from July 4) PBCH Member Meeting Ice Cream Social @ RSP, horse play day July 25- PBCH Board Meeting	August August 1 –PBCH Member Meeting Lake Party August 29- PBCH Board Meeting
September September 8- PBCH Member Meeting September 26- PBCH Board Meeting	October October 3- PBCH Member Meeting, elections October 28- BCHW Wine Ride@ Zillah October 31- PBCH Board Meeting?

November	December
November 7- PBCH Member Meeting Annual Soup Social potluck November 28- PBCH Board Meeting	December 5 – PBCH Member Meeting Christmas Party
Other events can be found here: https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php	

Life Flight Memberships

By Michelle Eames

Remember that Back Country Horsemen Members can receive a discounted rate for Life Flight Insurance. If you have a back country or remote accident, helicopter flights out cost **a lot**. BCH members can receive a reduced annual membership price. While I did confirm with Life Flight that they still offer this discount, they did not tell me what the reduced rate is. You can request the discounted rate and sign up over the phone at (800) 982-9299.

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



Member Update: Don Dyer

By Ken Carmichael

This is just a note to let everyone know that Don Dyer slipped on the ice while getting out of his truck and fell. This resulted in a broken leg.

I visited him in the Sullivan Park Center, a rehabilitation center, and he is doing okay. They added some metal to his leg, and he is able to get out of bed occasionally. Not sure when he will be able to go home.

Be careful out there on the ice!

Good Books

A Book Recommendation by Steph Hanlon:

Bud and Me, a true story about two boys that rode across America on horseback alone in 63 days coast to coast. It was the early 1900's. They rode with Teddy Roosevelt in the Rough Riders, also.

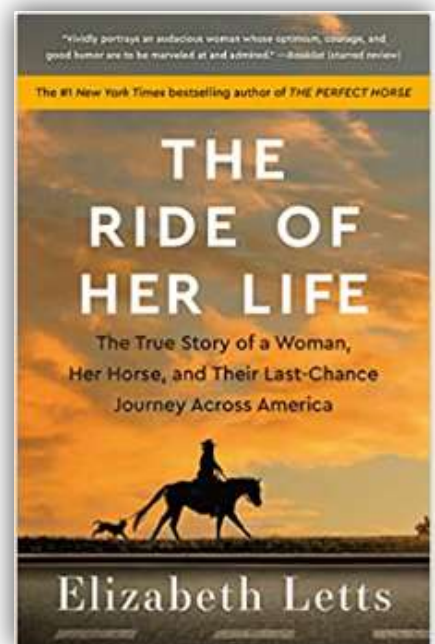
The author is Alta Abernathy.



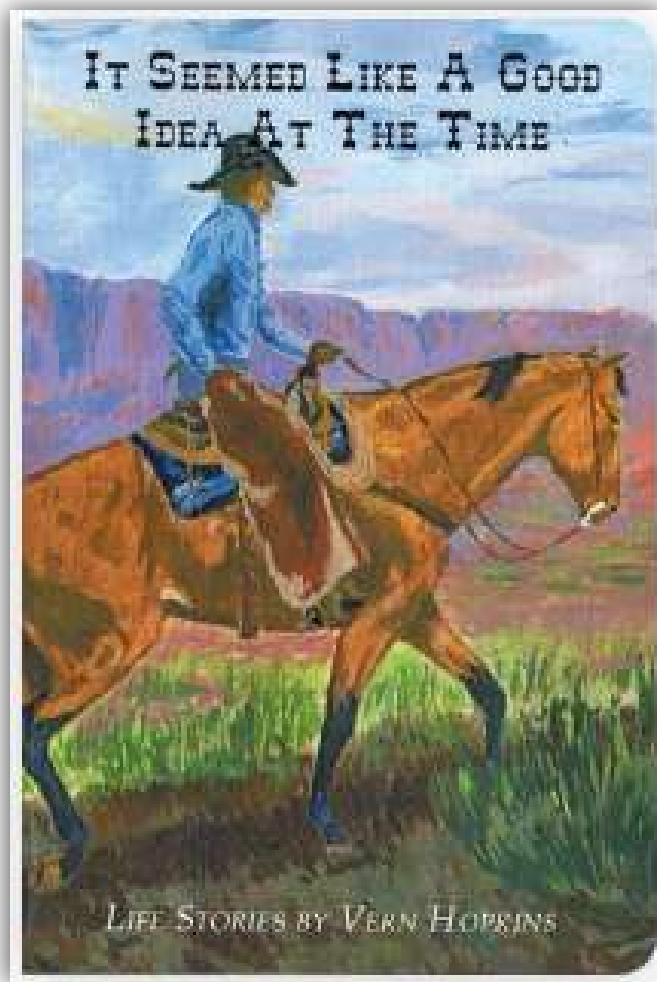
Book Reviews – by Carol Klar

I've recently read two books that were centered around the lives and experiences of distinctive horse folks from earlier generations. The first is the story of a lady from Maine whose goal it was to ride across the US to California. The second is an anthology of authentic "cowboy-life" stories from our own cowboy, Vern Hopkins, born right here in Spokane. Below are a few observations.

The Ride of Her Life is a wonderful, heart-warming story of "Jackass Annie," a lady to whom life has not been kind. She has toiled endlessly, only to lose her farm. Believing she only had a few years to live and alone in life with no family remaining, she sets out on an adventure with grit and determination and very little money. She, her horse and dog ride the roads through cities and towns. What unfolds is astonishing, especially when viewed with eyes from a modern time. The historical notes throughout the book are a fascinating reminder of those lessons we have likely forgotten. When putting this into perspective, it is plainly evident that the concerns of each generation have striking similarities, although perhaps on a different magnitude. The trip and the encounters are exciting and colorful. It was truly amazing to watch this cross-country adventure unfold. It's an entertaining read at < 300 pages.



It Seemed Like a Good Idea At The time This is a fun read, full of real-life short stories. Vern, our local folk hero and active Ponderosa BCH member, shares his life experiences with horses and ranching, beginning in the late 1930s. The lifestyle Vern conveys is rugged and challenging, yet kinder and simpler, a time when folks still helped one another. The hard work was apparent, but Vern didn't take himself too seriously. Vern's smile still conveys this, and his humor comes through in his stories. In these earlier days, kids would run about, often out of view for hours at a time, and parents worried less about the outside world. It was refreshing to enjoy that feeling through his book. If you'd like a departure from the pressures of modern society, curl up in your favorite chair with this book and escape to a simpler time. Read one story or read them all; it's an entertaining trip around the northwest with a friend! Experience history in your own time. I know that sounds incongruous, but once you read it; I think you'll see what I mean. Many of us have a leg in each world. Vern is a regular newsletter contributor and has published other wonderful books.



Speaking of Vern Hopkins, here is another short story by Vern. Part 2 will be printed in the March newsletter.

The Coyote Monologues: Part 1.

The Old Coyote

By Vern Hopkins

He was walking carefully, putting down one foot at a time, trying not to break through the thin crust on the snow. The scrawny old coyote had watered up at the tank in the back corral and was on the search for his breakfast. I leaned against the barn door and watched him. He knew I was there. He set back on his haunches and looked over at me with an expression that said, “Okay, I just took a drink of your water and now I’m leaving. So what are you going to do about it?”

I let him know by my own expression that I wasn’t going to do anything. Even though coyotes and ranchers are sworn enemies, I felt sorry for him. A foot and a half of snow had the fields and fence lines buried for a couple of weeks and no doubt he hadn’t had a decent meal for quite a while. Last night had been bitter cold, down around minus ten. Although he was wearing his full winter coat, it looked rough and I could see he was suffering some.

He went on, breaking through the snow now and then, checking under the pine trees hoping to find a foolish field mouse or two. Skirting the open pasture, sniffing and listening at every rock pile and bush, his luck was still holding—still all bad.

I have a neighbor that lives back in about a half-mile behind my place. I watched the coyote until he went out of sight in that direction. I hoped he could find better pickings there than he did here.

The day was actually quite pretty with the white, white snow covering everything. The dark green, almost black of the pine trees and the gray of the sky making it look like a monochrome world, highlighted by the solitary of the aloneness of the old coyote, trying to survive a life and death winter. The whole scene sobered me a little. It kind of signified every man’s struggle to survive whatever life dishes out. He often has to set aside dreams and goals and concentrate on what’s necessary to keep body and soul attached. Sometimes we all have to just tighten up our belts, keep the faith and stick to the basics until a brighter sun shines.

Heart Horses

My Heart Horse; Truth

By Louise Walton

How many times have you felt that just being in the presence of your horse gives you a sense of well-being and peace. Research has shown that some people actually experience a lowering of blood pressure and heart rate by interacting with their horses. Perhaps that is where the term “heart horse” comes from. Some folks have even described a feeling of decreased stress levels, decreased feelings of anger, hostility, tension and anxiety, and greater feelings of empowerment, confidence, and self-esteem. I am pretty sure that I benefit in all those ways. My mare Truth,” The Gospel Truth”, is very forward and likes to move out which can be tough in a group. We are always working on something and she has taught me so much. She is super smart and will do just about anything for a treat. I plan on looking forward to exploring many trails for at least 12 more years together. Then she will be 27 and I will be 90. We can slow down together. I can't imagine being without her.



Sand Dollar

By Carol Klar



In my childhood years, every horse crazy little girl read the story Misty of Chincoteague. This lit a fire in me that I was able to fully ignite in 1992, when I went to the Pony Penning Roundup in Virginia, and the foal above came home with me. This picture was just a few weeks after we returned to Ohio. Sand Dollar was an incredibly easy baby to work with and very easy to start under saddle. She became my go-to horse for everything! We spent 21 years together, doing 3-day eventing, competitive trail, horse camping and trail riding. Totally “amateur trained,” she excelled at all. I’ve had horses for nearly 6 decades, and she was by far the best minded of them all. Sadly, like so many island ponies that evolved eating marsh grass, she was prone to laminitis, and we battled that for the last 8 years of her life. Eventually, the laminitis won. February 2023 marks the 10th anniversary of her passing. I still think about her often. Below was our last event together, October 2004 in Eagle, Idaho. Yes, she was my Heart Horse.

By: *Carol Klar*



My Heart Horse

By Cindy Miller

In 2008 I developed heart problems primarily due to a stress-related job. Two stents inserted into my heart was a wake-up call to make some drastic lifestyle changes. I had always been a horse lover and an owner of horses prior to entering into the world of a 9-to-5 job for 25 years. Then came the kids which squished out any spare time for the hobby I loved.

The wake-up call needed to be answered, and this would include the purchase of Cooper the quarter horse. Within 6 months of owning Coop, I had lost a bunch of weight, my blood pressure was normal, and after two years, the cardiologist told me to not come back; I was no longer a heart-attack risk. He was also a horse guy, and when he asked me how I did it, he agreed that I had made a good choice. I've owned Coop for 12 years, and he's my beautiful 24-year old big dark gentleman. This is a short story because I don't need to explain further why Cooper is My Heart Horse.



My Heart Horse- “Charlie”

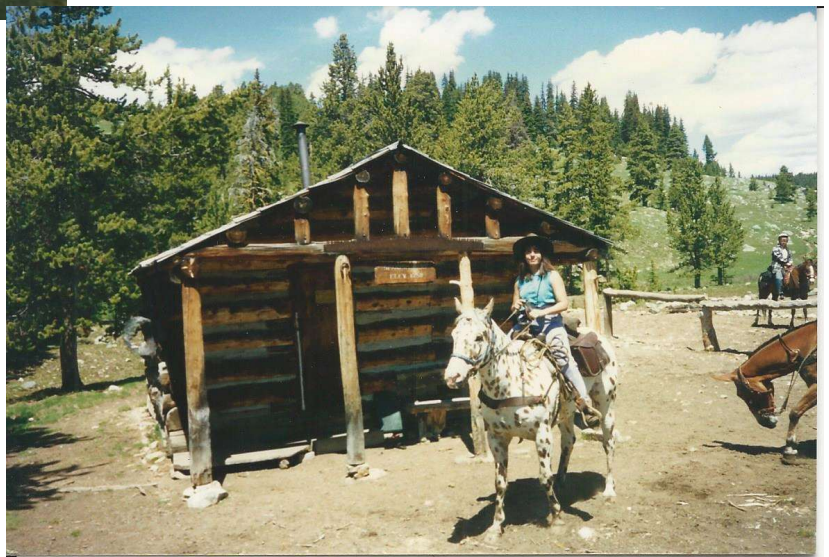
By Diana Birge

I’ve almost always had a horse since I was 13. There was Frenesy, a black quarter horse gelding that I rode in the orange groves and canyons in southern CA, (and on State Rt. 57 in Fullerton, before it was completed!) chasing cows and riding in playdays at El Rodeo Riding Club in Carbon Canyon (still there, though much fancier now). Then, after leaving home and moving to the San Juan Islands in Washington, I got Blanca, a white, crazy half-Arab mare that I rode all over Lopez Island from the time I was 22 until I moved to the mainland to go back to college when I was 25. No horses then for a while while I finished college and had my daughter. When Erin was 7, we got her a pony for Christmas, Star. It didn’t take me too long to realize it would be a lot more fun and easier for me to have a horse to ride around with her, rather than trying to keep up on foot! After much looking, along came a beautiful 3 year old, leopard spotted, green broke appaloosa called Charlie. For \$500! I bought him with a credit card check and scrounged free pastures to keep him (and Star) in. Best money I didn’t have that I ever spent! He had a fancy registered name, Medicine Eagle, and great bloodlines, but he was always Charlie to me and everyone who knew him.



I never had had a “trained” horse. But it didn’t really matter; I was young and bounced well. At 35, I didn’t really feel fragile, but I had a young daughter to consider. I studied books on horse training and rode every day. Charlie had a pretty easy-going personality so we did pretty well together. I didn’t have a horse trailer, and didn’t have friends who had horses, but Bellingham, where we lived, had a pretty good network of trails, so we got plenty of saddle time. We’d ride in all weather and into the night. After my husband and I divorced in 1991, I was able to socialize more, and ended up with the Whatcom chapter of BCHW. Then

things got really fun! The first time someone helped me trailer Charlie to a trail was rather traumatic, but Charlie, though stubborn, was smart, and after that first “drag him on the trailer because it’s getting dark” episode, he was fine. I bought myself an old Ford F150 truck and an old horse trailer. We took lots of beautiful trail rides all over northwestern Washington. Horse camping at the cowboy camp in Sedro Woolly. Camping at the Twisp horse camp and other locations on the east side of the Cascades. We went on the Beaver Creek spring ride a couple times. Sometimes it was just me and Charlie and Tip, my dog.



Sometimes Erin came with me and rode Charlie, while I rode a friend's mule or horse. We rode up to Spanish Camp in the Pasayten Wilderness, and to Stehekin from Highway 20 (at this point, Tip had passed away and my red heeler pup, Tucker, made the trip with us). So much more to tell, but I think this is getting long enough. Suffice it to say, my very best memories are of times spent with Charlie.

Charlie was with me through the end of a troubled marriage and learning to live independently and gave me so many adventures and memories. Then I met the love of my life, Tom (who happened to live clear across the state, in Spokane) who I married in 1999. Charlie and Tucker and I loaded up in the old horse trailer and old Ford truck and came over the mountain to stay. That was a whole other set of adventures and memories! I had Charlie from 1988, when I was 35, to 2013, when I was 60 and he was 29. That spring he developed a neurological problem where he could no longer control his hindquarters, and we had to have him put to sleep.

He was my best friend.



Photos in order: 1. Lake Chelan. 2. Charlie and Tucker 1999. 3. Spanish Camp. 4. Charlie at river. 5. Tom on Sierra. Diana on Charlie. 6. Last ride in the snow.

Horses and Me

By Ken Carmichael

I have owned 13 horses through the years starting with a black and white pinto in 8th grade. They have come at important times in my life and served me well. I have had at least one horse at all times since 1985.

It seems the good ones have come in pairs. Scratch and Rocky together and now Ranger and Silver, all Tennessee Walkers.

One great factor is that my two grandchildren have horses in their blood, although none of their parents did. It seemed to have jumped a generation.



When Jake was born his cousin Madison was 10 years old and riding with me using Ranger. Jake was brought to Spokane when he was 4 days old. The next day Madison was sitting on Ranger as everyone stood around. I handed Jake up to her to hold. We need to imprint these kids at an early age.

Right off while Madison and I were riding she asked me which horse Jake would ride. I told her that we did not have to worry about that for a while. Then she asked which horse I would pony with Jake. I said not to worry about that yet. But it may come to me getting a new horse, her getting Silver and Jake getting Ranger. She said “NO” that Ranger was her horse.

In later years, when Madison and/or Jake come to visit of course it involves riding. When they come at the same time, I take one for a ride, then the other. On their last visit together, I came in with Madison after a ride and was involved in changing my saddle for Jake’s on Silver. I needed to then put my saddle on Ranger to take Jake for a ride. It seems Madison liked Ranger and Jake liked riding Silver. I noticed that Madison was still sitting on Ranger, not wanting to get off. I put Jake up on Silver and handed Madison the lead rope and told her to take Jake for a ride. Needless to say, all the parents and miscellaneous relatives standing there had their mouths open. I said don’t worry Madison is good and they are on good horses. And there I stood without a horse! And I could not have been happier as I watched my two grandchildren ride off.

Happy Trails!



My Heart Horse

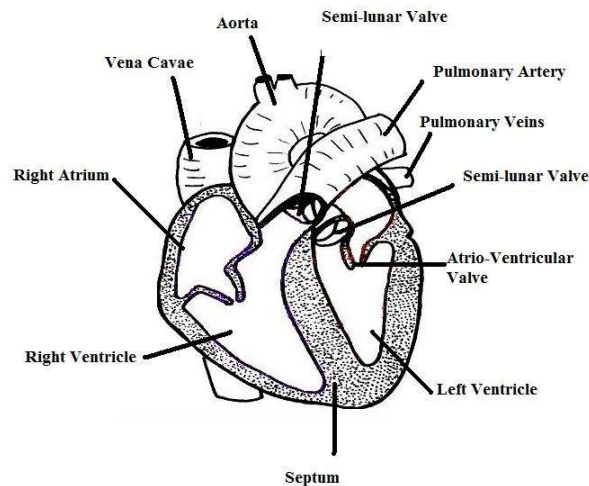
By Linda White

One Fancy CD aka Sonny is my lovely 12-year-old quarter horse. In 2016 as I was preparing to do the John Wayne trail ride, I had the vet out for a routine check and to get his Coggins. She listened to his heart for a long time and then had a concerned look on her face. I said what's wrong and she replied that his heart rate was irregular. I wasn't sure what this really meant but knew it had to be checked out. And my ride was probably off.

My vet recommended an ultrasound and contacted WSU and arranged an appointment. What an interesting experience going there! The hospital has a great setup for horses. The ultrasound showed an enlarged heart, and I was told he had atrial fibrillation. After much discussion we decided to stay and see if they could convert his heart into a normal rhythm with drugs.

What is really wonderful about WSU are all the vet students. Sonny was hooked up to a heart rate monitor, had a tube down his nose and was given quinidine every two hours for a day. The students monitored him the whole time and I was able to be with him some of the time. Unfortunately, it did not work. We check his heart periodically, but it doesn't change.

Now Sonny is a companion horse to Angus. He can be ridden but only flat work for about 30 minutes at a walk. One Fancy CD is my heart horse.



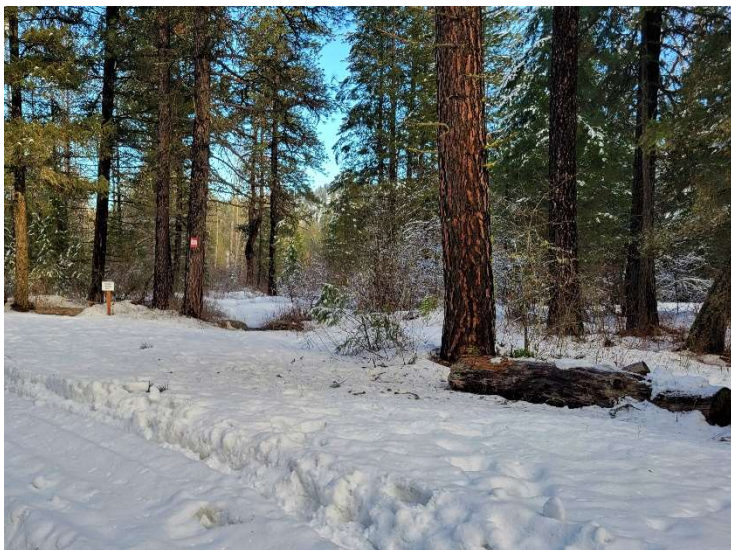
Clipart-library.com

[Editor's note: Louise Walton has been providing trail reports for the Northeast BCH, and is kindly sharing a recent report on the following page. This is a great idea to share info on footing and parking at our favorite areas, either on Facebook or in the newsletter. Hint Hint!]

Trail Report: Rustlers Gulch

By Louise Walton

NEBCHW trail condition report as of January 21, 2023. A short hike, with my constant companion Columbo, at Rustlers Gulch Beaver Creek trailhead revealed that the weight of this year's snowfall has dramatically impacted the amount of trail clearing we can expect for the riding season ahead. WHOA, NELLY! The Beaver Creek trailhead has been cleared part way into the parking area but not all the way around the circle which means you could back your rig in to ride. The trails have been walked on and snowshoed, no horse prints yet. The trail was unevenly packed, and walking was difficult (bring poles). Walking on top of the crust made for an easier hike. Some short sections of trail were bare dirt. It was a good hike to the overlook above the swimming hole just north of the first creek crossing. As expected, the river is high. I also checked out the Holly Road trailhead which is mostly inaccessible due to the plow berms at both entrances. Constant companion and I will hike that area soon.



Show Some Love to Your Horse by Baking Some Horse Treats!

Recipes from Linda White

Mustang Molasses Cookies

1 C Molasses
3 $\frac{3}{4}$ C Flour
1 C Sugar
1 C Shortening
2 teas Baking soda
1 teas Cinnamon
1 teas Ground Mustard

Directions:

- Heat oven to 425 Degrees.
- Mix shortening and sugar until smooth, stir in molasses. Combine flour and dry ingredients then blend in above mixture.
- Roll out to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch and use cookie cutter to cut out cookies. Alternative would be to make small balls and press with fork.
- Bake 5-7 minutes on a greased cookie sheet.

Old Fashion Horse Treat

1 large Carrot
1 large Apple
1 cup Molasses
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups old fashioned Oats
2 Tablespoons Oil

Directions:

- Shred the carrot and the apple into a large bowl.
- Add in the oil, oats, and molasses. Stir to combine well so that all the oats are covered in the molasses.
- Pour the mixture into a greased 9×13 baking dish. Pat the treats down with a spoon or with your fingers so they are flattened into the pan.
- Bake at 400 degrees for about 40 minutes or until they begin to get crispy.
- Remove the treats from the oven and let them cool for a while. The treats will harden slightly as they cool. Once they are hardened you can score into pieces.

Apple Horse Treats

3 cups uncooked old-fashioned oatmeal
1 cup applesauce
¼ cup molasses
½ cup flour

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Mix together the dry ingredients in a medium bowl.
- Next, add the molasses and applesauce and stir until well-incorporated.
- Once mixed, form the thick batter into teaspoon-sized balls and place them close together (but not touching) on a sprayed/greased cookie tray.
- Bake the treats for 15 to 20 minutes and then remove from oven.
- Leave the treats on the tray for 5 minutes to allow time for the treats to cool and harden.
- Once completely cool, store the treats in an airtight container.

Pumpkin Horse Cookies

4 cups whole oats
1 can pumpkin
2 cups water
2 tsp baking powder
1 ¾ cup whole wheat flour
2 tsp cinnamon
½ tsp nutmeg
1 tbsp honey or molasses (optional)

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Mix the pumpkin and water together well.
- Add the flour, oats, and spices.
- Add the optional honey or molasses.
- Drop spoonfuls of the mixture onto a greased cookie sheet
- Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes or until done.

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.

Michelle Eames, Newsletter Editor

Michelle's heart-horse Kodo. Please don't tell Vali. [Cindy Miller wrote, "And you can read about Kodo in Michelle's published book, coming out soon."]



BCH Officers 2023

PRESIDENT

TOM BIRGE

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PATTI CARMICHAEL

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DIANA BIRGE

STATE DIRECTOR

KEN CARMICHAEL

ALT. STATE DIR.

DOUG BAILEY

The 2023 Executive Board for PBCH includes the officers, plus Michelle Eames, Newsletter; and Melissa Halpin, Spokane County Lands Coordinator.



P O K E R

R I D E

REGISTER ON LINE AT WWW.PBCHW.COM

FUNDRAISER

what

RAFFLES ! CASH PRIZES!

Poker Ride: Stop at each station to try for a card you need in your hand!

FAMILY EVENT! Kids 17 & under FREE!

where

Riverside State Park Equestrian Area
3402 N Equestrian Lane
Spokane WA

Discover Pass or Camping Permit is Required

when

Sunday, May 21, 2023

Raffle

1 PM

Riders Out

9 am to 11:00 am

Ride length is approximately 2-1/2 Hours

POKER GAME ENDS AT 2 PM

cost

Pre-Register by MAY 9

\$25 per rider age 18+

Equestrian camping – 20 sites

Reservations at:

www.parks.state.wa.us/223/reservations

Register at Event:

\$30 per rider age 18+

OR phone 888-226-7688

and select

Riverside State Park Equestrian Area

Box Lunches Available for

\$ 7.00 each

PURCHASE EXTRA POKER HANDS

\$5 each-additional chances to win!

CASH PRIZES for High, 2nd Best & Lo-ball

Kids cannot win at poker

RAFFLE TICKETS

On site near the raffle items

18+ years old only

special notes

Riverside State Park Trail Maps and Poker Ride T-Shirts available for purchase!

Credit/Debit available on site; Cash/Check preferred

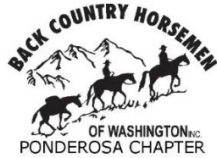
SPONSORED BY PONDEROSA BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

The trail is well defined over relatively level but rocky ground and varies in difficulty. Some experience is required.

Safety rules

- One rider per horse
- Ride at a safe distance
- No stallions please
- No dogs please
- No running horses
- No littering please
- No alcohol on trails
- Be courteous
- Minors must be with an adult
- All riders must sign a liability release

Click to our website at www.pbchw.com for a detailed fact sheet
OR CONTACT
Ken Carmichael
509-466-2225
Kcarmichael2225@gmail.com



P O K E R

R
I
D
E

FUNDRAISER MAY 21, 2023 *Register On-Line at www.pbchw.com*

Current COVID-19
Restrictions will be in force

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

A Liability Release form **MUST BE SIGNED AT CHECK-IN** for registration to be complete!

RIDERS

Photo Copies OK

Please Print Clearly
Rider #1:

Same Contact Information/Both Riders

Name _____

Address _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone Number _____

17 & Under

Rider #2:

Name _____

Address _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Telephone Number _____

17 and under ride FREE but cannot win poker

Rider 1 # of Extra Hands _____ Lunch ___ Yes ___ No

Rider 2 # of Extra Hands _____ Lunch ___ Yes ___ No

*The trail is well defined over relatively level
but rocky ground and varies in difficulty.
Some experience is required.*

POKER GAME ENDS AT 2 PM

PAYMENT

MUST be MAILED BY May 9 To:

10804 W Seven Mile Rd
Spokane WA 99224

Total number of RIDERS 18+ :

_____ X \$25 / pp = \$ _____

Extra Poker Hands _____ X \$5 / Ea = \$ _____

Total number of RIDERS 17 & Under:

_____ X \$0 / pp = \$ -0-

Lunches _____ X \$ 7.00 / PP = \$ _____

Tax deductible donation to BCH \$ _____

TOTAL PAID \$ _____

Pre-Registration is NON-REFUNDABLE

Make check payable to

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Cash Check # _____

RAFFLE

Tickets available on site – cash preferred

CASH PRIZES

For High, 2nd Best and Loball hands, winners will be contacted after the
event (18+ only)

T-SHIRTS

Poker Ride T-Shirts for Sale

MAPS

YOU CAN REGISTER ON-LINE AT

WWW.PBCHW.COM

POKER RIDE
Sponsored by
PONDEROSA BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
FACTS SHEET – 2023

CURRENT CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IN FORCE FOR YOUR SAFETY

Many of you have attended the Ponderosa Scavenger Hunt or Poker Ride so some of this may be repetitive. However, we want everyone to understand the event so you can maximize the great time you will have on **Sunday, May 21.**

KIDS (17 AND UNDER) RIDE FREE. THIS IS A FAMILY EVENT AND WE ENCOURAGE KIDS ON HORSEBACK.
HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO WIN PRIZES

- The event will be at the Riverside State Park Equestrian Area, same as for the scavenger hunt.
- Camping is available in the developed campground and overflow area. Make your camping reservations through the State Parks reservation system www.parks.state.wa.us/223/reservations or call 888-226-7688.
- Either a Discover Pass (Day or Annual) or camping permit is required. For a list of Discover Pass vendors go to <https://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/133/where-t-buy>. To purchase on-line go to <https://store.discoverpass.wa.gov/>. You may purchase a Day Pass at registration.
- We start the day at registration near the announcers stand where both pre-registered and those registering at the event sign in. You receive your playing card here.
- Also, at registration you may purchase additional poker hands. It is like playing multiple bingo cards for additional chances of winning at poker.
- After registering join us in the gathering area to purchase raffle tickets for some great items and play the first card of your poker hand. You can also purchase a poker ride T-shirt and Riverside State Park map. Then you are on the trail any time you want between 9:00 and 11:00 am. **Poker games close at 2:00 PM so please be back to the gathering area by then.**
- We ask that you do NOT run your horses. We know this is fun, but we have many people on the trail and we need to be respectful of the reaction horses have when they see other horses running. This is not a timed event. **Thank you.**
- You will be riding with your friends in a designated area following a trail well marked with engineer tape at your own speed (but remember no running).
- In playing the poker ride game you are trying to get the best, or worst poker hand. You do this by stopping at “game stations” along the trail to play a “game of skill.” This determines the next card in your hand. The “game of skill” is tossing a bean bag at a board lined with a deck of cards. Where your bean bag lands determines your playing card. You may remain mounted or dismount.
- There are three “game stations” along the trail.
- Return to the gathering area to play the last card of your hand by 2:00 PM, purchase that last minute T-shirt and park map and check the winner’s board to see what raffle items you may have won.
- Relax and enjoy a box lunch if you desire.
- **Raffle tickets are drawn at 11:00. Raffle tickets must be purchased before 11:00 AM.**

Please see the flier and registration form to learn more about the poker ride. **This year you can preregister online at www.pbchw.com or by mail by May 9, or you may register at the ride.**

We hope that everyone joins us for a great day in the saddle. Thank you for supporting Back Country Horsemen and our efforts to keep trails open to equestrians.

