



PONDEROSA



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

Website: PBCHW.COM

July 2023

PBCH CALENDAR

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

July 11, 5pm PBCH Board Meeting

July 11, 6 pm PBCH Member Meeting Ice Cream Social @ RSP

July 14-16 Vicki Gish Memorial Ride sponsored by NE BCH

July 25- PBCH Board Meeting

July 28-30, Ferry County Chapter Annual Steak Ride

August 1 –PBCH Member Meeting Lake Party (Board Meeting prior to Member Meeting)



A senior horse's new life after retirement. His job description while in the pasture is to stir up bugs for his cowbird friends, and eat and roll in the grass.

President's Report

July 2023

Our July meeting will be held on the 11th of July at 6 pm at Riverside Equestrian Area, near the Arena. The executive board will meet at 5 pm. Our guest speaker will be Guy Gifford, Assistant Division Manager of Washington State Department of Natural Resources, he will be discussing wildfire prevention and preparedness plus other aspects of the DNR. We will also be having an ice cream social.

Now more important business at hand, I will be retiring as President of the chapter, Diana Birge will be retiring as Treasurer and Carol Klar will be retiring as Vice-President and Volunteer Hours Coordinator at the end of our terms which is the officer elections at our October Meeting. Ken Carmichael will continue as Director and Patti Carmichael will continue as Secretary if elected, Doug Bailey has one year left to serve as Alternate Director. President, Vice-President and Treasurer are elected positions and the Volunteer Hours Coordinator is a volunteer position. We will need people to fill these positions if we are to maintain this chapter.

It has been discouraging this last year in putting meetings together with good educational topics and only having a few people show up. We have a great core group that works hard to put things together but it's only a few. We need other people to step up and help out.

Larry Grinstead has done a great job putting together work parties this year, and we have a few more we would like to get done before the end of the year. He will be contacting via email the projects that need to get done.

Tom Birge



Director's Report

By Ken Carmichael

I went to the BCHW Board of Directors meeting on June 17 in Ellensburg. This is an opportunity for representatives of the chapters and state committees to give reports and plan for the future. It is a full day. Some work is accomplished away from the formal meeting during breaks and lunch as we have the opportunity to share ideas informally.

The following is a brief summary of some of the highlights of the meeting:

- OPPORTUNITIES AT THE BCHW LEVEL – There are several opportunities to participate at the state level. It is a great experience with challenges and opportunities to work with dedicated people. Here are some of the positions:
 - ✓ Store manager
 - ✓ Publicity
 - ✓ Historian
 - ✓ Leave No Trace
- Pasayten Wilderness Trail – This is the major project for BCHW and all the chapters. All types of support are needed over several years. Information is available on the website. Darrell Wallace is providing training on how to pack in support of this project.
- TREASURER – BCHW was the victim of fraud the beginning of May. We are all asked to be very careful with checks and to cash them immediately. Money was recovered and BCHW is working with an investigator. Several of us also receive calls, texts and emails requesting cash from our personal accounts. This is never valid, and we must delete messages immediately and notify the Treasurer. The board reviewed BCHW financial records. If you ever have questions or concerns about the BCHW accounting, please contact me or the chapter Treasurer so that we may get the correct information for you.
- BCHW CALENDARS – Believe it or not the 2024 calendars are now available. I picked some up at the meeting and Tom will have them available at the chapter store. Get yours while they are available. Tom and Diana (and their horses) are prominently shown as Mr. and Mrs. December.
- RENDEZVOUS 2024 – Planning is started for rendezvous in March 2024. Ideas and help are welcome.
- BCHA NATIONAL BOARD MEETING – This 50th anniversary meeting was held in Montana in April. Texas has now joined BCH. BCH has a new program called Light on the Land. This will emphasize equestrians and we will hear more about it soon. BCHA is raising national dues by \$5 for singles and families. Dues have not been raised in years. BCHW needs to determine if it will adsorb this additional cost.
- NON-STOCK CAMPERS USING HORSE CAMPS – This continues to be a problem across the country. We are all asked to document occurrences when we encounter them. The form to do this is on the BCHW website under the Resource tab, Public Lands tab.
- AMERICAN HORSE COUNCIL ECONOMIC SURVEY – The purpose of the census is to demonstrate the value of the equine industry in the national and state economics by analyzing the direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts of horse ownership. The survey is simple to take and helps BCH support the equestrian community. Please take a few minutes and participate. www.horsecouncil.org/economic-impact-study.
- BCHW AWARDS – The committee is calling for nominations for awards to be presented in 2024. The different awards are listed on the BCHW website.
- GOVERNANCE AND BYLAWS – It is time to think about chapter elections. Succession of officers and committee chairs is important. Suggested job descriptions are located on the BCHW website. It is important to support new leaders as they take office.
- GRANTS – BCHW applies for and receives several grants that support chapter and state projects. Current outstanding grants total approximately \$380,000. BCHW has submitted applications for an

additional \$436,064. This, and the matching volunteer work supports many projects for equestrian trails and trailheads. It is an important part of BCH work.

- MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT – This is an important part of keeping BCH a viable organization. Please see the attached article in this newsletter.
- MEMBERSHIP – BCHW has 1,330 current memberships totaling 2,057 individual members.
- SAW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM – The committee has had a busy spring certifying close to 100 sawyers. They are starting to plan for advanced crosscut saw training. Signing up for all training can be done online at the BCHW website.
- STORE – Many items are available to identify you as a BCH member. Tom has some available at the chapter store and we can pick up special orders when I am at board meetings. This is a great way to promote BCH.
- WINERY RIDE – The next ride is October 28. Patti and I have a good time volunteering at the ride and encourage others to do so or take the opportunity to ride. PBCH should contribute a prize for the auction. I can take it to the September board meeting.
- VOLUNTEER HOURS – This is a highly successful program to document the many hours BCH members volunteer to keep trails open. PBCH does a great job submitting our hours to the state. If you have any questions about what qualifies please contact Carol Klar as she is very knowledgeable.
- ELECTIONS – Tom Conner was re-elected to the BCHW Executive Committee and Joe Remenar was elected. Tom was also elected to the position of BCHA Director.
- STANDING RULES – A new standing rule was approved for investment of funds. A standing rule was adopted concerning the management of the Liability Release and a minor change was made to the LR. I am drafting new policies on records retention.
- BCHA Chapter Support Grants – Four BCHW chapters qualified for these grants.
- BCHW WEBSITE USE – I presented a program to encourage members and chapters to learn more about the website and make use of its information. More information will be presented to PBCH.

Photos of Pasayten Wilderness from BCHW.org.



2023 PONDEROSA BCH Planning Calendar (as of 7/1/23)

All dates subject to change; watch emails and Facebook.

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

June June 30 – July 5 th . Haney Meadows Work and Ride; Ken Wilcox horse camp.	July July 11 Board Meeting 5pm July 11 PBCH Member Meeting Ice Cream Social @ RSP, 6pm July 14-16 Vicki Gish Memorial Ride sponsored by NE BCH [See more info at end of Newsletter] July 28-30, Ferry County Chapter Annual Steak Ride
August August 1 –PBCH Member Meeting Lake Party (Board Meeting prior to Member Meeting)	September September 5- PBCH Member Meeting (Board meeting prior to Member Meeting) Sept. 23 — National Public Lands Day (Discover Pass Free Day)
October October 3- PBCH Member Meeting, elections, and member appreciation (Board Meeting prior to Member Meeting) Oct. 10 -- World Mental Health Day (Discover Pass Free Day) October 28- BCHW Wine Ride@ Zillah	November November 7- PBCH Member Meeting Annual Soup Social potluck; Speaker: Feed Store and Horse Feed? (Board Meeting Prior to Member Meeting) Nov. 11 — Veterans Day (Discover Pass Free Day) Nov. 25 — Autumn Day (Discover Pass Free Day)
December December 5 – PBCH Member Meeting Christmas Party	Other events can be found here: https://www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php

PBCH Fun in the Sun Party at the Lake

By Ken Carmichael

The August PBCH membership meeting will be a lake party on Lake Spokane, similar to what we did last year.

Here are the facts:

- Date and Time – Tuesday, August 1 starting at 4:00 PM
- Food – Potluck, bring whatever you want, eat at 6:00 PM, chapter will have plates and silverware
- Recreation – Swimming, kayaking, floating, skiing, boating, lawn games
- Facilities – There is a place where you can change clothes
- Chairs – Lots there, but could use some if you have one that is easy to carry
- Location – 17820 North West Shore Road – this is on the Spokane County side of Lake Spokane
- Hosts – Greg and Kay Weeks (Ken's sister)
- Directions
 - ✓ West on Highway 291 past Seven Mile Rd and through Nine Mile Falls (Post office, gas and feed store on right)
 - ✓ Left on Charles Rd (left turn lane immediately after NMF, and cross the river)
 - ✓ Past park headquarters on left and then Sontag Park and school on right and go about 4 miles
 - ✓ Right on West Shore Rd – You know you are coming to the turn because there are guard rails on both sides of the road and sign for fire station that is on the corner
 - ✓ Follow West Shore Rd – go down the hill and the road will take a nature turn putting you parallel to the lake
 - ✓ You are there – green house on right just past a vacant lot with a chain link fence. Address on mailbox
 - ✓ Upon arrival – Come around either side of the house to the party on the lake

Mark your calendar now for coming to enjoy a fun, summer evening at the lake.

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National Park Service Studying Impacts Of eBikes

(<https://www.nationalparkstraveler.org/2023/06/national-park-service-studying-impacts-ebikes>)

[This is just an excerpt from the online article. See more information at the link.]

Nearly four years after then-Interior Secretary David Bernhardt issued an order to allow eBikes to use the same trails in the National Park System that are open to muscle-powered mechanical bikes, the National Park Service is taking a nationwide look at the impacts of those bikes as required under the National Environmental Policy Act.

... [A judge's ruling led to Tuesday's announcement by the Park Service that it was preparing a programmatic environmental assessment to evaluate the potential national-level impacts of electric bicycle use in national parks. The comment period is open from June 21 to July 21.]

How to provide feedback:

- Online: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/e-bikes>
- Mail or hand deliver to: Electric Bicycle Programmatic EA, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, MS-2472 Washington, DC 20240.



Membership Development

By Ken Carmichael

Membership Development is everyone's responsibility. There are many resources available on the BCHW website www.BCHW.ORG. I can provide the Username and Password to any member interested.

Membership Development includes:

- Developing leadership in the chapters and BCHW
- Elevating public awareness of BCHW and its mission
- Increasing BCHW membership through new members
- Retention of BCH membership through second meeting visit and annual renewal
- Augment attendance at chapter events

Four areas of interest in membership development included on the BCHW website include:

- Membership Development Manual – this addresses the five areas of membership development.
- Event Management Handbook – this provides a templet for documenting how an event is planned and conducted. It helps with continuity and transferring information on to the next leader.
- Chapter bylaws guidelines – this helps chapters draft guidelines that meet legal and BCHW requirements.
- Chapter volunteer opportunities – This provides sample job descriptions. Members being asked to take new positions will have a clear understanding of the responsibilities and commitments.

All of this information can be found on the BCHW website.

- WWW.BCHW.ORG
- Members Only
- Members Info
- Scroll down to Number 7

These are just four examples of information available on the website. Everyone with a responsibility in the chapter should be aware of this resource.

PBCH members can use the website to further their understanding of BCH and contribute to the success of BCH through the many volunteer opportunities.

Horse Sayings- Wise and Otherwise



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From Michelle Eames

- Pretty is as pretty does.
- You can't ride the papers.
- It's a long way from the heart. (Response to minor bleeding injuries.)
- If you aren't sure he's lame, ride him until you are sure.

From Steph Hanlon

A trainer once told me this: People don't have horse problems, horses have people problems. This holds true because we are responsible for everything they learn or don't.

From Linda White

- He who moves his feet first, loses.
- Give them the good deal first.
- Why couldn't the pony sing? He was a little horse!
- Where did the newlywed horses stay? In the bridle-suite!

From Ken Carmichael

As a new person is getting on your horse to try out riding just say, "Just remember, he always bucks to the right." It makes them pause for a second.

The four rules of Horseback riding:

- Keep the steel side down
- You are responsible for all limbs and brush between the top of his ears and the top of your hat
- Keep a leg on each side AND
- If everything goes south, do not scream, you will just scare the horse.

Horses are herd animals and like a good union they all know who is at the top of the pecking order. My three horses understand that and each abides by his place in the herd. What they need to understand is that I am number one in that herd and we will all get along just fine.

Getting the right size and temperament of a horse is important. I feel that I must be able to stand in front of that horse, look him in the eye and tell him I can outdo him on his best day. If I cannot do this then he will always have me over a barrel and is dangerous.

Is the horse the right size? I put my arm straight out level from my shoulder. If it rests comfortably on the withers of the horse he is the right size. I had a horse that was too big and I had to sell him when the mounting stump rotted out. Then I got one that was too small and had to sell him because I threw my back out lifting him over the logs in the trail.

From Cindy Miller

- If you are going to teach a horse something and have a good relationship, you don't make him learn it – you let him learn it.
Ray Hunt

Other Notices and Information:

- From Michelle Eames: A friend of a friend has recently relocated to Kootenai County. He has an animal science degree from the U of Wyoming, and has experience starting horses, and all kinds of cattle and ranch work experience. **If you know someone who has a potential job**, reach out to me through Facebook or email and I'll pass on his contact info.
- Steph wants to let folks know that she had a lot of gear stolen out of her living quarters horse trailer out on her property west of Spokane. Just warning folks that thieves are around, and in this instance, they focused particularly on horse and camping gear. Be careful and be aware.

From the Editor:

I invite you all to continue to send me your horse- or wildlife-related 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 and Vali at Muley Canyon.
Photo by Carol Klar.

BCH Officers 2023

PRESIDENT

TOM BIRGE

VICE PRESIDENT

CAROL KLAR

SECRETARY

PATTI CARMICHAEL

TREASURER

DIANA BIRGE

STATE DIRECTOR

KEN CARMICHAEL

ALT. STATE DIR.

DOUG BAILEY

The 2023 Executive Board for PBCH includes the officers, plus Michelle Eames, Newsletter; Melissa Halpin, Spokane County Lands Coordinator; and Larry Grinstead, Trail Boss for Work Parties.

7th Annual
VICKI GISH MEMORIAL RIDE
SPONSORED BY NORTHEAST CHAPTER OF BCHW



July 14, 15 & 16, 2023

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Please: Join us for 1, 2 or 3 days of camaraderie, riding and fun. Bring your Vicki stories to share with everyone around the camp-fire.

Place: Calispel Basin/ Meadow (Sand Canyon), Colville National Forest, Chewelah, WA. (Weed seed free forage required) Chewelah, WA. Signs will be posted after the pavement ends on Sand Canyon Road. Contact Marian Carson at mca9590561@msn.com or call 509-999-1547 for printed directions or information. Trails are easy to medium difficulty with good footing. Trails will be well marked so you can go on your own or with someone who knows them.

For safety: No stallions or dogs on trails. Dogs must be on leash in camp.

Potluck: On Saturday night. Bring your favorite pot luck to share or, if you prefer, dutch-oven cooking is fine.

Free: Overnight camping available. Stock water and porta-potties available.

Come see what the **Back Country Horsemen** are all about!

