



# PONDEROSA

Back Country Horsemen of  
Washington

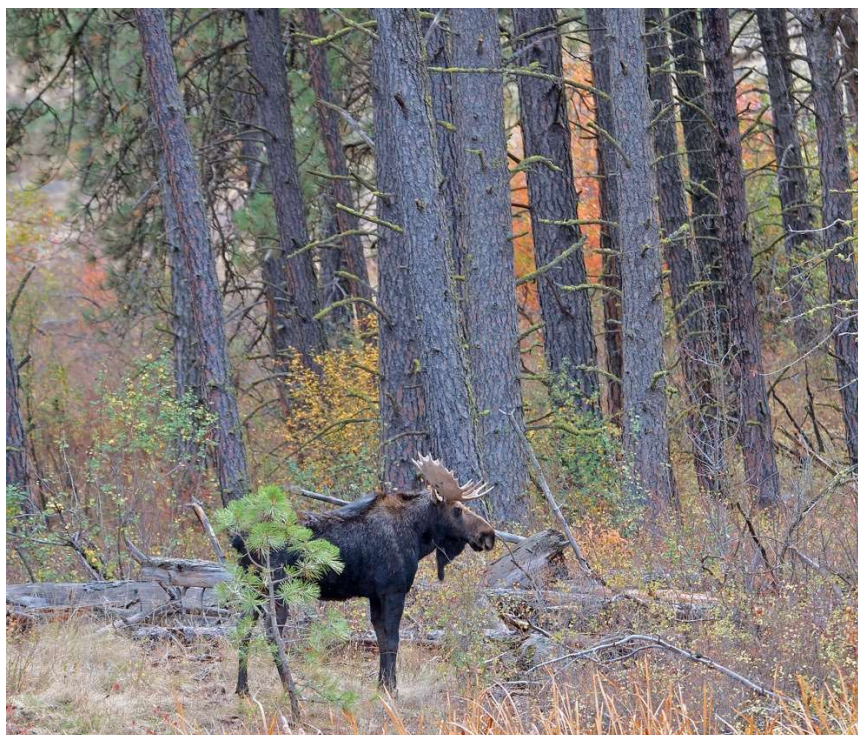
“Educate, Advocate, and Move Dirt!”

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



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October 2023



Tis the season for unexpectedly finding bull moose on the move looking for love. Be alert on the trails.

## **PBCH CALENDAR**

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

**October 3- PBCH Board Meeting**

**October 3- PBCH Member Meeting and Soup Social**

**October 28- BCHW Wine Ride@ Zillah**

## **President's Report**

### **October 2023**

It has been great serving as the president the last 4 years, but I felt it was time for others to have the privilege to serve in the position of president. It will help a member become more involved in the Ponderosa Chapter of BCHW.

Our next general meeting will be October 3, 2023 at Hayford Community Church at 6:00 pm, 5306 South Hayford Rd, back building.

We will be having our soup social. Members are encouraged to bring a soup or anything else that goes along with it. We will furnish paper bowls and plastic spoons. If you would like something else, you can bring your own bowl and utensils.

Following the soup social will be elections for officers for the coming year. As members it is important for you to be involved.

We will have our monthly board meeting beforehand at 5:00. We encourage those that are interested in any of the administrative or volunteer positions to attend, but all are welcome.

I would like to thank the crew that helped out with the two work parties we had at Riverside State Park the first week of September - Larry and Linda Grinstead, Ken Carmichael, Linda White, Michelle Eames and myself. We were able to remove barbwire and fence posts that could be hazardous on trails, repair the cowboy curtain at the obstacle course and refill the sandbox. We also set up three mounting blocks located at the equestrian area restroom, Marchand trailhead, and Pine Bluff trailhead.

Thanks again for all that volunteered in various work parties and fund raisers over the last four years.

Tom Birge

P.S. We still have calendars available for \$12 each!

## Riverside State Park Expansion Opportunity: Long-Term Boundary & Land Classification Update

Washington State Parks, in partnership with the Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Inland Northwest Land Conservancy, is beginning a public planning process to expand the long-term boundary for Riverside State Park to incorporate Glen Tana.

**Public Workshops** The first public workshop for Stage One of the planning process will be held in-person:

Date: September 26, 2023

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: North Spokane Public Library, 44 E. Hawthorne Rd., Spokane, WA 99218

Virtual workshop:

Date: September 28, 2023

Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

To join the live event [Click here](#)

### Contact:

Genevieve Dial, Parks Planner

Email: [planning@parks.wa.gov](mailto:planning@parks.wa.gov)

### Park Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete our survey: <https://www.research.net/r/GlenTana>

### We Want to Hear from You!

The public can provide written comments and questions [Provide comments](#)



**2023 PONDEROSA BCH Planning Calendar (as of 8/24/23)**

*All dates subject to change; watch emails and Facebook.*

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

**September**

Get out and ride in our gorgeous Fall weather!

**October**

October 3- board meeting, then PBCH Member Meeting, elections, and member appreciation

Oct. 10 -- World Mental Health Day (Discover Pass Free Day)

October 28- BCHW Wine Ride@ Zillah

**November**

November 7- PBCH Member Meeting  
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.bchwh.org/upcoming\\_events.php](https://www.bchwh.org/upcoming_events.php)

# **BCHW Board Meeting**

## **By Ken Carmichael**

On Saturday, September 17, 2023, Doug Bailey and I attended the BCHW Board Meeting in Ellensburg. The following is a brief summary of what took place. **Chapter and members action items are in bold:**

- Chapter officers – I had an opportunity to talk to several Directors about election of chapter officers. We agreed that it is a challenge to find people willing to serve. This is an issue that must receive further attention statewide.
- Treasurer – Teri reviewed several items and encouraged anyone with questions to contact her.
- BCHW 2025 Calendars – **Pictures for 2025 calendar are due by February 1, 2024. Email to [BCHWpix@gmail.com](mailto:BCHWpix@gmail.com).**
- Nonsufficient funds check – BCHW is writing a policy on how to process NSF checks received. This has not been an issue but something that has occurred, and we want to be ahead of the problem.
- Leadership Training – **Leadership training for 2024 will be a Zoom meeting in January.** The final date has not been set. We encourage everyone to attend.
- BCHW Brochure – Supplies are running low, and a decision will be made on possible redesign. This is a very effective tool we use to gather interest in BCH.
- Financial support for fair booths – **BCHW will provide some financial support to chapters that have booths at fairs.**
- Store – Lori Lennox is retiring from managing the BCHW store after many years. **We are looking for a replacement. NOTE: other positions available at the BCHW level include Leave No Trace Program Chair, BCHW Media and Marketing Chair, and additional help for the Treasurer. Participation at the state level is very rewarding and if this interests you, please talk to me.**
- Rendezvous – **This will be in Ellensburg in March. Teri is asking chapters to help with programs and speakers. Anyone with ideas please step forward. The chapter could sponsor such a program.** The tack sale is even larger in 2024 requiring the entire armory building.
- Back Country Horsemen of America – E-bikes continue to be an issue. We are seeing more of them in the Spokane area too. BCHA continues to work on a Youth Program.
- Awards – **BCHW is accepting nominations for awards to members to be presented at rendezvous.** The guidelines and list of past recipients are on the BCHW website. Help is available for writing nominations.
- Governance and Bylaws – As chairman I described how Riverside State Park Foundation had an IRS audit and how BCHW could be affected by such an action.
- Grants – A brief summary of the several grants received by BCHW are progressing. In 2023 we managed approximately \$124,000 in grants. In 2024 this will be approximately \$257,000. Darrell Wallace gave a detailed description of the work BCHW and others are doing on the Boundary trail, and the feeder trails, along the Canadian border. He also had maps we could look at. **This is a big deal and everyone is encouraged to participate at many levels.** Several work parties are planned. Some of my figures may be off but basically there is 1200 miles of trails. We are partnering with other organization to increase our efficiency. There is also training for people who want to provide pack support.
- Safety – We have had an excellent safety record this year. Discussion took place about the value of Life Flight, which provides air ambulances. Patti and I have this coverage. It was mentioned that Air Northwest also covers an overlapping area. **If hurt you should know your grid location. Use a GPS.**
- Trailhead News – This is produced six times a year. Two of those are hard copy and everyone gets a hard copy whether requested or not.
- Winery Ride – **VOLUNTEER to help. It is fun and a great help to BCHW.**
- Records Retention Policy and Schedules – The board reviewed the BCHW Records Retention Policy and the Records Retention and Destruction Schedules, one for the State and one for the chapters approved by the Executive Committee. These address which records need to be kept and for how long. They do not address how the records will be retained. **This is up to the chapters.**

- Approved forms – Forms required to be used were identified. **The 2024 membership forms are now available on the website.**
- Election of BCHA Alternate Director – Election was held to fill the remaining term held by Tom Connor as he moved up to a BCHA Director position.
- Nominating Committee – A nominating committee has been selected to fill the following BCHW positions in June 2024. **For more information, please contact me:**
  - ✓ President
  - ✓ Vice President
  - ✓ National Director Position #1
  - ✓ Alternate National Director
  - ✓ Executive Committee Position (3 positions)
- Website usage contest – I created and managed a contest between chapters using the website to gather useful information. Three chapters won a free table at the 2024 BCHW rendezvous. The winners were Crab Creek, Pierce County and Ellensburg. Congratulations.
- Chapter elections – **BCHW is offering help if chapters are having difficulty electing chapter officers.**

Outside of the meeting proper I had the opportunity to do other business:

- Winery Ride raffle donation – Patti put together a bucket of horse care items for the raffle which I gave to the ride chairperson. This was the PBCH donation.
- IRS 990 form - The BCHW Treasurer provides the IRS 990 report for Director review. I was able to provide some input.
- Director and Committee chair signatures – “Good business practices” for nonprofit organizations suggest having directors and committee chairs sign certain documents. As chair of the Governances and Bylaws Committee I had this done with Doug Bailey’s help.
- BLM Resource Advisory Council – BLM is reactivating this council, and I will be applying to represent equestrians.
- Donation forms from PBCH poker ride – I submitted these forms to the BCHW Treasurer.
- BCHW Director responsibilities – As a committee chair, I was able to provide input to another chapter on how they could organize this position.
- Conversation – During breaks and lunch there are opportunities to talk with other chapter leaders about ideas for the chapters.

As you can see this is a very active meeting and well worth attending. **It is open to other chapter members, and you are always welcome to attend.**

## Work Party Progress

Thanks to Larry Grinstead for organizing the recent work parties, and thanks for the folks who participated! Following are some excerpts from Larry's summary emails:

### September 7:

A group of six Ponderosa BCH members and three state parks employees met at Riverside Equestrian Park near the arena and removed several areas of barbwire fencing. That job has been completed. We also installed one mounting block near the parking lot fence about four posts away from the restroom.



Thank you very much to State Parks Employee Rex Schulz and his team of two additional state employees along with Ponderosa members Tom Birge, Ken Carmichael, Linda White, Michelle Eames and Linda Grinstead for all the hard work. The combination completed the project long before I expected we would be done.

It was a very productive morning.





## September 9:

We were able to complete the planned obstacle course maintenance and hang a new cowboy curtain at Riverside. We also installed the two remaining mounting blocks at Marchand and Pine Bluff trailheads.

Thanks to Patty Wright for sewing and delivering the tarp for the cowboy curtain, Tom Birge, Ken Carmichael and Linda Grinstead for completing the maintenance and installation.

Short day, all done with everything in a couple hours.

There are no immediate plans for the next work party, but there are a few issues still on the table including Fish Trap signage, Riverside hitching posts (a couple approval steps have been completed by state parks but we are still waiting for final approval), Escure manure bunker, Liberty Lake trail clearing, Mt Spokane hitching posts (the approval process must still be initiated along with selection of the exact location).

I have been on a couple of NE work parties this year and enjoyed the trail clearing events at Rustlers Gulch and Calispell Meadow. If interested in additional opportunities, you may want to reach out to Louise Walton who coordinates the NE BCH work parties.



If anyone has new recommendations and/or a priority preference for existing work party plans please let me know.

Thank you,  
Larry



## **Recent Rides**

### **By Ken Carmichael**

Patti and I tend to spend more time at the lake during the hot weather. In addition, Patti “insisting on continuing to work” (note the sarcasm there) cuts into our riding.

We have had some good rides. We went to Crab Creek and rode the high country then came back along the creek which was pretty dry. Rather than riding into Riverside State Park from the house we have trailered to other locations in the park. This includes going to Carlson Trailhead and riding through the Trautman property and across Charles Road. Lots of good flat riding there. We also trailered to Marchan Trailhead and rode down the corridor of the ORV area and into Deep Creek and the state land then up a hill to private property. Several trips to the RSP Equestrian Area and the several trails there. Also enjoyed the new curtain PBCH put up in the obstacle course. Patti made good use of the mounting blocks PBCH put in at Marchand and Equestrian area. We have not used the one at Pine Bluff. We went to Slavin Ranch Sunday but there was an event happening so turned around and went back to the Equestrian Area. We also had good rides at Mt. Spokane State Park and BLM ground at Fish Trap Lake. Several times I took a horse down to a special place on the Spokane River, let him graze. I would take off my boots, put my feet in the water and lay on the grass under shade of a large tree. Good way to ride. I contacted BLM about the Escure Ranch and was advised not to go there because of a weed problem.

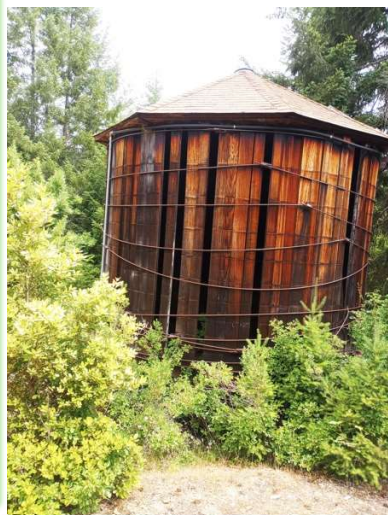
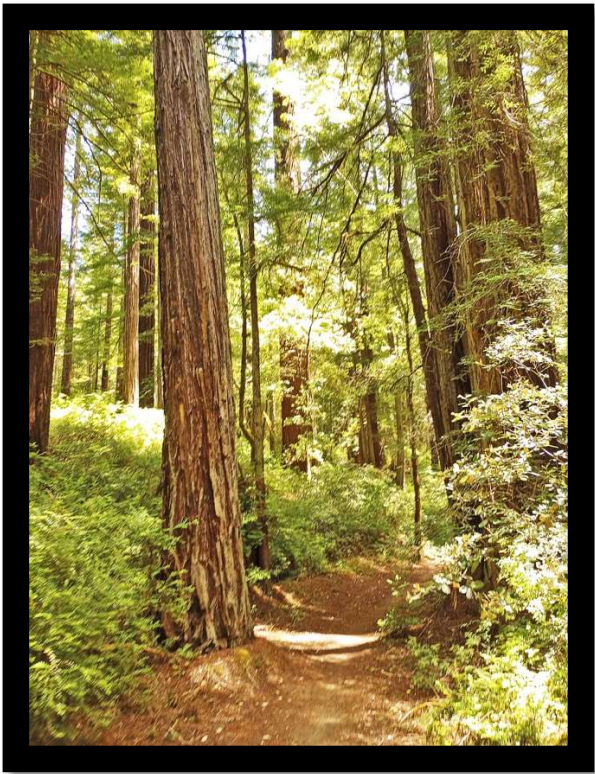
All these rides are nice easy ones that are fun for a short ride.

## Ride in the Redwoods

By Marian Carson

In June 2023 my sister Lynn Herrington and I went to Pt. Reyes in California and then came back through the Humbolt Redwoods in Northern California. We stayed at Cuneo Creek Horse Camp where there are two group sections, one of them being smaller than the other and every site has corrals for four horses. We went with two other friends, Denise Gerkin and JoLean Chapin and, needless to say, we had an amazing time and plan on going back next year to see things we didn't get to see this year. I'm sending along a few pics of our adventures and trail rides.





*How is this for a fun picture! It is my friend Ethan.*

*Linda White  
Ustengo*



## **Book Review by Linda White**

Evidence-Based Horsemanship by Dr. Stephen Peters and Martin Black.

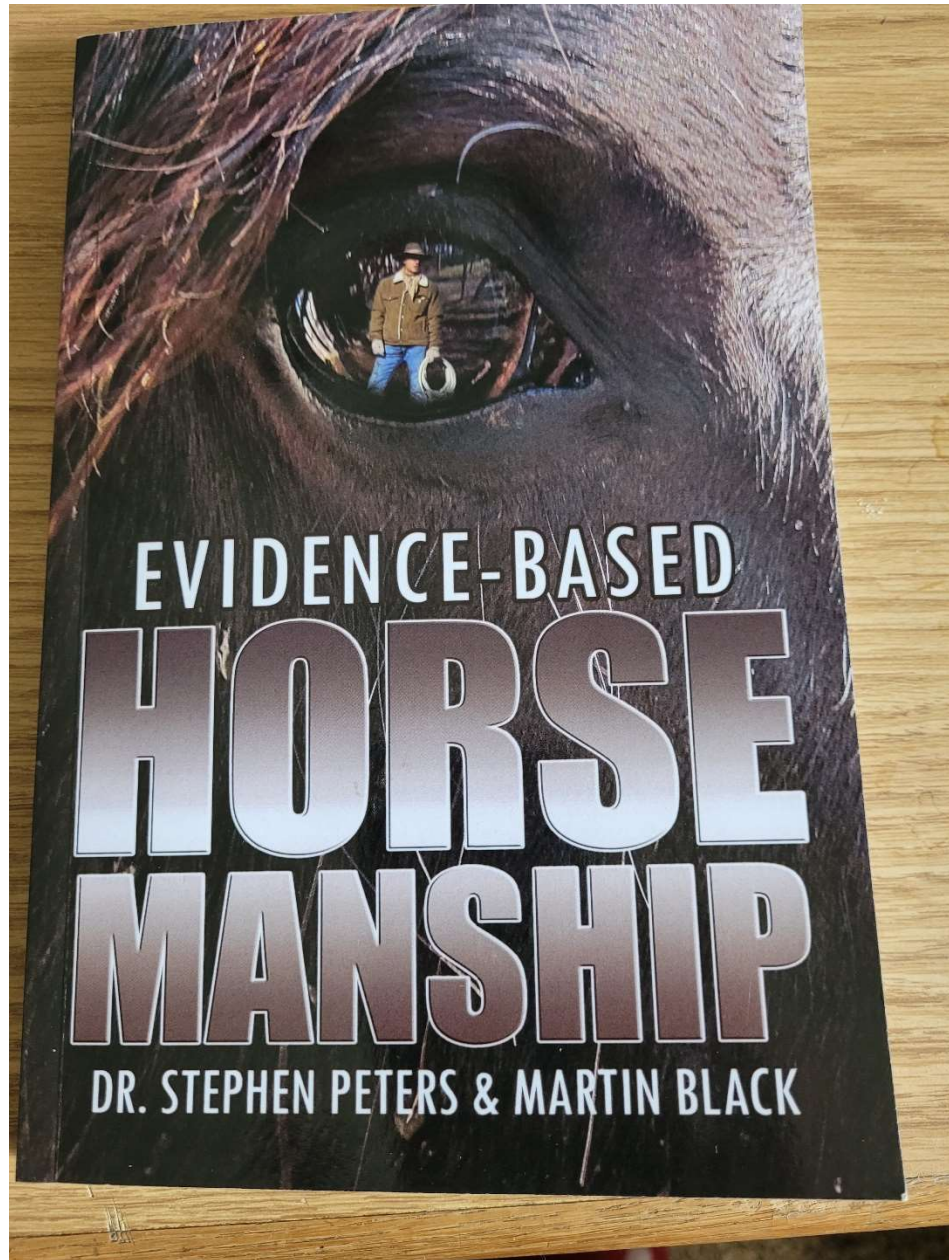
Published 2012

I believe this is a must read book for all equestrians. It explains how the horse's brain functions. It will help riders improve their horsemanship, training methods and horse management.

This book contains scientific information and uses empirical evidence to explain how the horse's brain works and how they learn. There is a glossary to help readers understand the scientific terminology. It discusses brain chemicals and functioning and applies it to horse behavior using real examples to illustrate the information. The book discusses horses' senses, fear response, behaviors, learning and memory, and our views as they apply to our horses.

Dr. Peters is a scientist and neuropsychologist who has studied the brain. He became interested in how his horse's brain functioned and decided to write a book. He met Martin Black, a well-known horseman, who worked with and was influenced by Tom Dorrance. Evidence-Based Horsemanship combines Dr. Peters experience in brain functioning and neurochemistry and Martin Black's extensive horsemanship to create a understanding of the horse's brain and learning process.

The book is available from Eclectic Horseman, <https://eclectic-horseman.com/mercantile/>, for \$17.00. A great gift for a horse lover in your life!



*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*

**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.*