



TRAIL TALK

Northeast Chapter February 2007

www.nebchw.com

Mission Statement – The purpose of Backcountry Horsemen of Washington is to perpetuate the legal and moral claim by the American people to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

by Jim Hudkins

These past few weeks the budget for this year has been completed.

Our chapter was well represented at Leadership Training held in Cle Elum and Legislative Day at the States Capital in Olympia. If it were not for BCH, I probably would never have attended a hearing of the Ag Committee. It was very impressive and educational. The high light was when Bob Gish presented to the Ag committee BCHW's stance on Noxious Weed Free Hay. We met with a number of Rep. and Senators at lunch and completed it with a speech by the Governor in the Rotunda of the Capital. Cowboy Hats were all over the Washington Capital and Jeanne even ran down the Governor to give her one of our calendars. I was able to meet many excited and dedicated Backcountry Horsemen, Women and Juniors at both events. Put these events on your next year's calendars.

The Columbia Plateau Regional Council will be hosting the BCHW booths at Ride the West Horse and Ranch Expo this year. Many events will be planned and this will give us a chance to put faces to many names that we have heard and present BCH to many other horse people. NEBCH will again set up and help with the Extreme Trail Course at RTW. I need old lead ropes or just rope to build a rope curtain for this event. Any suggestions are welcome.

Feb. 17th is our next membership meeting and will be preceded by the packing clinic and chili feed.

March 17th membership meeting will have Lonnie Moore from the Border Patrol presenting.

April 21st meeting will have Ann Kirk, a Josh Lyons student, presenting why we need to know more than whoa and go for just trail riding.

There are many exciting things happening with BCH and our chapter, so plan to attend and watch the calendar.

General Membership Meeting

February 17, 2007

Pack Clinic at Noon

Potluck and Meeting to follow

Defensive Horsemanship Training

Training provided for anyone who will be volunteering in Region 1-Idaho Panhandle on Saturday February 24th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Dale Schrempp will conduct the training at his place located at 410 Shale Rd, Priest River - 208-443-6839. This training satisfies an Idaho Safety Policy and re-certification is required every three years.

You will need to dress for wet and/or cold. Bring a lunch unless otherwise informed. If enough folks show interest in attending then a lunch may be provided.

Dale Schrempp is trying to get a head count of folks who plan to attend by the week ahead of 2/24. He has offered to come to Deer Park if there are enough people in that area who are interested. Bob Gish has the list of who needs to be certified.

Volunteer Hours

Even though last year it was either raining, cold, hot, or burning down the forest we logged 1653 volunteer hours in 2006. Here's hoping to do even better this year.

Cyndi Johnson

TIME TO RENEW YOUR DUES – THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER UNLESS YOU SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL.

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ADVERTISEMENTS

Yearling AQHA colt – tall, black and pretty to look at. Started on halter work, had his feet trimmed, wormed and shots. Very curious and responds when you work with him. \$700 - payments OK. 509-796-4950

Pony/donkey cart, professionally built \$350. 2 sets harness, 1 nylon, 1 leather, \$100 for both. (208) 448-0913

For Sale: Home Grown Whole Oats-\$0.08 a pound or \$8.00 for a hundred sack. Inquire at 276-6226 or 994-1075. Bob Gish

If you have anything to advertise send it to cathy015@centurytel.net or call 796-4950 by the 1st of each month. Advertisements are free. After three months I will take out the advertisement unless you notify me differently.

Reminder: Aslin Finch Feed Stores gives BCH members 10% off on any purchase of items not on sale. Lets support them since they support us.

Advertisers Needed

Looking for advertisers for the newsletter and web page. If you would like to have your business listed please contact a Board member. The cost is \$30 per year for a business card size advertisement in the newsletter and on the web page.

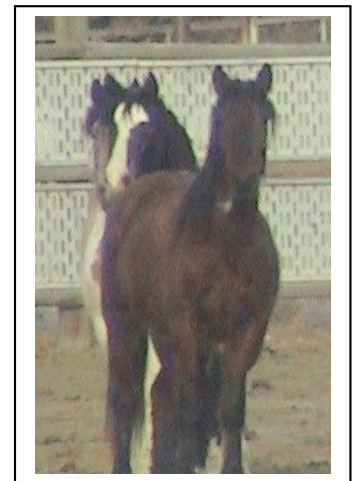
Newsletter Submission Information

Trail Talk is published monthly. Deadline for submission of articles is the 1st of each month. Non-copyrighted submissions are welcome, subject to space limitations. Opinions and views expressed in letters or personal articles are not necessarily the opinions of BCH or NEBCHW. The newsletter editor reserves the right to edit for content, space and language.

If you have a newsletter article or advertisement send it to cathy015@centurytel.net or call Cathy at 796-4950. No cost for an article or advertisement.

If you would like to advertise your business for one year in the newsletter or on the web page contact anyone on the Board for information.

If you're not getting your BCHW or BCHA Newsletters please contact Bob Gish at 276-6226.



Mustangs from the Burns BLM Corrals that will soon be residing with Cathy Johnson - what a fantastic trip and place everyone should visit!

Ann Kirk – April 21 - General Meeting

Greetings to all you horse lovers! By the time you read this, one whole month and more of the year 2007 will be gone. It is amazing how fast time goes by and how little we have to show for it some times. But the joy is in the journey and the journey for this year has just begun. My name is Ann Kirk. Some of you may know me but most may not. I am a friend of Jim's and he invited me to write an article for the newsletter. So let me share with you what is on my heart about horses.

I am often asked how to solve this problem or that problem concerning riding or handling a horse. But often the "problem" is only a symptom pointing to a violation of the teacher/student relationship during training. There are two aspects of the horse that must be taken into consideration every time you enter its space. One is the prey animal instinct and the other is the herd animal dynamic. Either one is a recipe for disaster if they are ignored. We often get in too big a hurry to go enjoy the trails (or the rails) and try to push the "student" to accept things on our timing. This usually leads to behaviors that are natural to the horse but can be quite scary to us. They don't plan on being "bad" or "disrespectful". These concepts do not even exist in horse language. They are just reacting to the pressure like a horse. This sometimes takes the form of rearing or biting or kicking. Or maybe less obvious forms such as barn sourness or hard to catch or shying on the trail. Whatever their attempt to communicate, it is important not to ignore their "voice". It pays to take time to evaluate the source of their resistance.

It bears repeating that terms such as "right" or "wrong", "good" or "bad," "disrespectful"...do not exist for a horse. They are governed by instincts programmed into their being by the Creator. They don't think in terms of "good" or "bad", but in terms of what works and what doesn't. If I begin working with my horse with the thought that he is being disrespectful, I can get a mindset that I have to show him who's boss. This often leads to being too aggressive which in turn puts the horse on the defensive, thinking it's trying to save its life. The first priority of any horse is to be safe. If he feels threatened or attacked, he is wired to try to escape first and fight to the finish second. I have gotten into way too many fights with horses when I have forgotten this and even if I win, I lose. I always have to go back and reestablish trust before I can proceed with teaching the horse what I want him to learn.

Does this mean that I have to be super gentle all the time and seek to never raise the emotional level of my horse? No. Quite the opposite. Raising the emotional level is essential to having a calm, trusting horse. Pressure is not bad if you understand what you are looking for and how to get it. Being persistent is a must because most horse's first reaction to pressure of any kind is to resist. This is in their DNA because if they wait to see if it's dangerous or not and they are wrong, they are dead. That's how they think. So the pressure must be persistent enough to get them to look for the right answer but passive enough that it does not produce a panic which will shut down their ability to think it through. Then, as I begin to get more and more right answers, I can build them together to make a great performance horse that becomes like a dance partner. Only when he trusts me, can I lead him where I want him to go.

Continued on page 8

Wild Women Ride – July 14, 2007 – 10:00 a.m.

Participants must be BCH members. Have attended a pack clinic or have practical experience, or buddy up with an experienced packer. Limit will be 10-15 riders. Horses/Mules must be in shape. Shoes are recommended.

This will be a 10 to 12 mile pack to Hansen Springs. There are lots of trees for a highline and plenty of water. I will have to revisit the grazing closer to the ride since there have been range cows in the area.

For those who would like to extend the ride, we can ride to the top of Dominion Mountain on Sunday and pack-out on Monday. This will be 13-mile ride up to the top and the 360-degree view is gorgeous. Then ride back to camp. There is a place for campfires and gathering. No toilet facilities.

Contact Nancy Harshman if you have questions our would like to get signed up at 509-684-2786

Pack Clinic – Saturday February 17 – starting at noon!

By Bob Gish

Whether you are an in-experienced packer, horseback rider or would like more knowledge about packing you should come to this clinic.

If you are an experienced packer you can share some of your knowledge or brush up on mantying, hitches and knots. If you just want to ride, you still should know how to tie a bowline in the dark, what a prussic loop is, and possibly some day a basket hitch could come in handy for you to pack something out. If you would like to learn about packing, this will be a good introduction.

We will be practicing mantying camping equipment, knots, basket & barrel hitches among some of the things. You will be able to inspect a couple of different styles of bear proof boxes and some light weight pannier boxes with top packs. We will show you how we carry the trail tools in work boxes. You will see some of the light weight camping gear that we use.

Please bring a salad or dessert to go along with a bowl of chili that we will be having after the pack clinic and before the meeting.

Director's Notes:

Hello-I would like to introduce myself to the members of the NE Chapter of BCHW. I have had the pleasure of meeting some folks and I look forward to the months ahead as we play and work together in support of our mission.

I have been a member of BCHW for about 12 years but there wasn't a Chapter in my area until Buckhorn Range Chapter (BRC) was formed in Jefferson County- which includes Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park. I served as Director for two years with BRC and during that time was able to secure three grants to support chapter projects. The grant money allowed us to build a positive collaborative relationship with other trail-user groups and served to increase equestrian visibility and credibility within our community and with the various land managers. We even received an award from Washington State Parks.

I was raised in Bristol Bay area of Alaska where my Dad worked as a biologist for Fish and Game. His territory was everything north of Anchorage. I accompanied my father on many of his backcountry expeditions. My family fished commercially and we had five lodges in the Wood River-Tikchik that Dad ran during summer months- mostly for Japanese fishermen who wanted to catch the big one. This is how my love of the out-of- doors laid permanent claim upon my heart.

Until horses took over my life I was a hiker but I have happily made the switch. I have packed in numerous times for up to four days using a single horse super pack. My personal goal is to ride in every horse accessible area of Washington; I started on Oregon too for good measure.

I don't do much else other than ride the trails, maybe practice trail skills in an arena in the wintertime, but I can only lay claim to knowing how to trail ride-which is my passion, along with working on the trails.

Now I am doing the best I can to learn the places to ride in this part of Washington and to familiarize myself with trail projects- meeting the land managers who are in charge of the places where we want to protect and ensure equestrian access, exploring potential grant opportunities.

While I would rather sit a saddle than I would sit in a meeting I know that collaboration is key to our success. I hope to be an asset to the NE Chapter both as a member and as Director.

Thank you, Jeanne Koester
Director-NECBCHW

Legislative Issues:

SJM 8007 Requesting federal legislation to preserve the use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on public lands.

SB 5215 Modifying provisions with regard to recreational activities on certain lands. Summary of Bill: The owner or lawful occupier of private land enjoys limited liability protection even though the recreational users must pay a daily, seasonal, or annual charge for access to the privately owned lands when all the revenues are devoted to land management costs.

SB 5216- intends to provide greater state financial assistance to maintain Washington's working forest land base through creation of a funding board to make grants and loans on a competitive basis that support protection of working forest land.

HB 1192 Authorizing the governor to appoint the director of parks and recreation instead of by governor appointed commission.

HB 1193 Authorizing the governor to appoint the director of the department of fish and wildlife instead of by governor appointed commission.

HB 1692 Concerning NOVA program account grant funding; to get money must have an ORV plan.

HB 1813 Changing the name of the interagency committee for outdoor recreation to the recreation and conservation funding board.

HB 1743 Requiring the appointment of county noxious weed control boards.

HB 1652 Establishing the wildfire prevention and protection work group.

HB 1775-Regarding crimes against livestock belonging to another person.

HJM 4003-Requires that Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act-FLREA, be abolished, and that no recreational fees be imposed on federal lands within the state of Washington

HB 1310- authorizes points of inspection for vehicles transporting animals on public roads to determine if animals have valid health certificates, permits, or other required documents. Allows vehicles transporting animals to be inspected at other points on public roads

HR 249 - Restore Protection to Wild Horses

Disclaimer: reading this here doesn't mean BCHW has or will adopt a stance. However, these are issues that may have potential ramifications for trail-using equestrians, and as such, bear watching. Although these aren't necessarily within the scope of the BCHW Mission this writer felt these issues were note-worthy. For the full version please visit <http://leg.wa.gov> Be Informed.

Submitted by Jeanne Koester



Northeast Chapter BCHW 2007 Calendar Of Events



Date	Event	Details	Contact
2/17	Pack Clinic and Chili Feed	Williams Valley Grange Noon	Bob Gish 276-6226
2/17	Membership Meeting	7 p.m., Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
3/17	Leprechaun Ride	10 a.m. wear Green	Dana Ogle 466-1497
3/6	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m., Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
3/10	1 ST Quarter BCHW Board of Directors Meeting		Bob Gish 276-6226
3/17	Boarder Patrol to speak at General Meeting		Jim Hudkins 276-8876
3/17	Membership Meeting	7 p.m., Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
3/31	Trail Course & Ride – Shakeout	Bear Lake County Park	Debbie Nelson 238-6528
4/1	Pend Oreille Park Work Party	11 a.m.	Vicki Gish 276-6226
4/3	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m., Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
4/7	Green Horse Ride	9:00 a.m., ride is 2.5 hours	Karen Reiner 276-1849
4/15	Escure Ranch 10 a.m. Potluck with Purple Sage Riders		Bob Gish 276-6226
4/21	Ann Kirk to speak at General Meeting about Training		Jim Hudkins 276-8876
4/21	Membership Meeting	7 p.m., Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
4/22	Fish Trap Ride	Ride at 10:00 a.m.	Vicki Gish 276-6226
4/27-29	Methow Valley Spring Trail Ride	see www.mybch.com or call	Nancy 509-997-4802
5/1	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m., Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
5/5-6	Dutch Oven Potluck	Lloyd Hughes Snowmobile Park Not a BCHW sponsored event	Vick Gish 276-6226
5/17	Membership Meeting	7 p.m., Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
5/18-20	Ride the West	Spokane Fairgrounds	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
5/26-28	Kalispel Camp	Work Party	Bob Gish 276-6226
6/1 or 3	2 ND Quarter BCHW Board of Directors Meeting		Bob Gish 276-6226
6/2	BCHW General Membership Meeting @ Monroe, WA Fair Grounds		Bob Gish 276-6226
6/5	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
6/6-10	Overnight Ride – Asotin, WA	Fun early ride	Christine 509-466-1106
6/21	Membership Meeting	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
7/?	NEBCHW Fundraiser Workparty in planning stages		Bob Gish 276-6226
7/3	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
7/14	Wild Women Pack Trip	Colville Area	Nancy Harshman 684-2786
7/19	Membership Meeting	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
8/?	NEBCHW Fundraiser Workparty in planning stages		Bob Gish 276-6226
8/7	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
8/16	Membership Meeting	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
9/1-3	Labor Day Workparty	Gypsy Meadows	Bob Gish 276-6226
9/4	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
9/15	Membership Meeting	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
9/23	3 RD Quarter BCHW Board of Directors Meeting		Bob Gish 276-6226
10/02	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
10/20	Membership Meeting	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
11/06	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
11/17	Membership Meeting	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
11/30	BCHW/USFS and State Land Managers Meeting @ Cle Elum		Bob Gish 276-6226
12/1	4 TH Quarter BCHW Board of Directors Meeting		Bob Gish 276-6226
12/4	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. Pizza Factory	Jim Hudkins 276-8876
12/15	2007 Christmas Party	7 p.m. Willms Valley Grange	Jim Hudkins 276-8876

All dates, times and events are subject to change.

Be sure to telephone the contact person prior to the scheduled event.

Web sites offering grant opportunities:

www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/cig/ - Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) now available for 2007. Dave Brown who administers the CIG recommends every applicant review the grant proposals and application from 2006 before submitting for 2007.

www.conservationfund.org - Once you enter this site then click on the category of award programs

www.partnershipresourcecenter.org - once the home page opens you will see a heading titled NFF grant programs (National Forest Foundation); while you are at the partnership resource center check out the link titled Friends of the Forest Also check out the **challenge cost share agreement**

www.usa.gov/Business/Nonprofit.shtml; www.AmericanTrails.org www.grants.gov

www.iac.wa.gov/iac/grants - access site for the NOVA and NRTP grants

www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm

www.rei.com/aboutrei/grants02.html. - Needs an employee referral to submit a nomination for a grant While you are on the net, if you ever wondered what the definition of a wilderness is check out www.wilderness.net

<http://murray.senate.gov/grants> - Senator Murray's Grants Gateway-links to other grant sites under specific categories, includes helpful steps for applying and submitting successful grants

A few things I know about grants:

If you enjoy research then use your search engine and enter a few key words that describe the type of grant you want-for example, I entered the phrase environmental grants.

Grant seeking really requires a specific project in mind first.

Begin by getting letters of support, mou's, letters of recommendation on file. Identify and develop partnerships. Grant seeking is more successful if you have partners; for example, a mountain bike association, a trail organization for hikers such as Washington Trails Association. Multi-user trail systems are more likely to be granted than special interest and the broader your collaborator group is-the better-for many reasons including funding match, volunteer hours generated and seed-money from other trail-users.

Not all these grants will fit every Chapter-look for a fit that you can realistically meet the deliverables identified in the grant. Be sure you USE the grant money when you get it. Not using it ties it up and may rule you out of the next round.

Check out what is happening locally. Does your county offer grant money for trail-related projects? Some counties do.

Start small with a grant that has an application process you think you can manage. Some grants are definitely easier to apply for than others.

If you get a grant that requires a follow-up report a year later make sure someone tracks that delayed deliverable religiously or you will never get the grant again and may have trouble getting grants in the future.

Professional grant writers consider getting one grant out of three to be successful. Don't worry about your success rate-this isn't pass or fail-and this gets easier over time, and you can keep trying. What matters most is that you are doing something!

Submitted by: Jeanne Koester

Ann Kirk – continued from page 3

So never disregard the prey animal instinct in your horse. All your dealings with him must take it into consideration. When you get into a "problem" area, give him the benefit of the doubt and believe that fear is making him act out in inappropriate ways. If you are wrong and the behavior comes from the pecking order dynamic (which we will talk about in another article), you will find that the same lessons still apply. Either way, the same approach will most likely solve the dilemma. Though most of you may not want to be horse trainers as such, if you own a horse, you are training him. Try to take the time to evaluate how you can present the desired response to him in a way that he can understand; a way that is none threatening and clear.

Consider your horse as a kindergarten or 1st grade student and you are the teacher. You want to be consistently advancing but in small enough steps that the "child" can learn the lesson. Remember, the lesson is always clearer to the teacher than it is to the student and the teacher cannot tell the student when the student has learned the lesson. A good teacher never "beats" or scolds the student for not understanding a lesson or for being afraid for the teacher knows that it is his responsibility to explain the lesson in a clear enough manner that the student can get the right answer. I cannot expect my "student" to spell words or read until he knows the individual letters so I must teach the separate pieces before I can put them together for control.

So, with all that said, take time to enjoy your horse. Winter time is a great time to just play with your horse on the ground with or without a halter. Challenge yourself to get better acquainted with your friend and make a connection that is not linked to the demands of riding. Work on anything that needs improving on his ground manners and it will carry over to more respect and trust when you get back in the saddle in the spring. Hope this is helpful to someone and I will look forward to hearing from anyone who might have questions I can answer for you. Happy Trails.....

Ann Kirk - kirkcrossng@netscape.com 509-292-2475

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General Meeting
February 17, 2007 – Pack Clinic Starting at Noon
Potluck to follow (bring something that goes with chili)
Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES!