



## TRAIL TALK Northeast Chapter December 2009

[www.nebchw.com](http://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 Leon Sproule

**REMINDER: General/Christmas Meeting is Dec.19th at Williams Valley Grange**  
**6:00pm Potluck 7:00pm Meeting**  
**Turkey and Ham will be provided; bring a side dish, dessert and your smile.**



It has been cold and windy and the horses have been staying close to the barn. I started giving them a little grain as a booster for the cold. Although I have been over feeding them anyway. On Wednesday, the Gonzaga students

had a progress meeting with the Design Advisory Board and they did very well. They had to overcome some difficulties when the computer didn't work. They are making good progress in analyzing the survey. They had 53 responses and got some good information. Of the 53 only two said that would not stay in a campground with fees. The average is around 10 dollars a night. They students also learned what is desired in the way of facilities and that will influence the design. They are beginning to lay out the roads and designing the water system as well.

We are having our December pot luck at 6:00 pm and our meeting at 7:00 pm. There will be a ham and a turkey so bring something to go with that. If you would like to help decorate call Christine at 466-1106. This will all take place on the 19th. So plan on having a good time.

There must be more that I should be telling you, but I hope you already heard about the changes with Life Flight and the additional cost. I think that it still represents a good value that is essential if you spend a lot of time out in the woods. Judy Clark has done an excellent job of keeping this program going on top of her other treasurer duties. Hopefully, this will eventually make less work for her. She will also be hosting a budget meeting at her house after the first of the year. We can use input from all of the members when it comes to the budget.

Now is also the time plan our years activities. The program for cost share agreements is subject to change so we may have to do something different than we have in the past, although that is still an unknown. We have talked about doing an overnight camping ride and that is something that I would like to try. We are going to need your input to find out what you would like to try.

As we close out the year I would like to thank the board members for their service. For those of you who are completing your term, Thank you. For those of you who are continuing on for next year, Thank you, Thank you. For those of you who are joining us this year, welcome aboard and thanks for taking on the challenge.

Ride if you get the chance.

Leon

**DID YOU KNOW?** The herding technique was brought over to the New World in the early 15th century by the Spanish and used by Americans who had to control large herds of cattle over a wide open space. The traditional cowboy look didn't come about until after the Mexican-American War in the 1850s.

**DID YOU KNOW?** In the NETHERLANDS Sinterklaas delivers his gifts on horseback and children leave their shoes out filled with hay and sugar cubes as a treat for Santa's hardworking friend.



### HORSESHOEING

**JIM HUDKINS**  
**954-7446**



NEXT APPOINTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**

Leon Sproule 509-238-6318  
lstcs@worldnet.att.net

**Vice President**

Stu Nieman 509-466-8851  
niemanspk@aol.com

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gracyn2@highstream.net

**Secretary/Web Page**

Barb Taylor 509-276-5097  
bj@flathorse.com

**Treasurer**

Judy Clark 509-238-2206  
Clark\_1944@msn.com

**Board Members at Large**

Dana Ogle 509-466-1497  
Virginia Carter 509-238-6318  
[lstcs@worldnet.att.net](mailto:lstcs@worldnet.att.net)

**Trail Boss**

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[alkifarm@gmail.com](mailto:alkifarm@gmail.com)

**Volunteer Hours**

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robertgish@gmail.com

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**Legislative Chair**

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[jeannekoester@gmail.com](mailto:jeannekoester@gmail.com)

Bob Gish 509-276-6226  
robertgish@gmail.com

**Phone Tree Chair**

Judy Clark 509-238-2206  
Clark\_1944@msn.com

**Ways & Means**

Bob Gish 509-276-6226  
robertgish@gmail.com

**Junior BCH Chair**

Vacant

**Activities & Publicity Chair**

Vicki Gish 276-6226  
Michelle LeVar 951-9225

Deer Park, WA 99006

**Newsletter Submission Information**

Trail Talk is published monthly. Deadline for submission of articles is the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 [trailtalknews@yahoo.com](mailto:trailtalknews@yahoo.com) or call Rachael at 935-8084. 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.*

**ADVERTISEMENTS**

For Sale: 11 yr old Warmblood. 15-16 hands high. Has been on work parties and rides with groups. UTD on shots. Good with farrier. Highlines well. moves out on the trail. Is not heard bound. Fast learner. Not a horse for a beginner as she is quick on her feet and can be headstrong. I just don't have time to ride her and too many horses forces sale. Would be a good dressage prospect \$2000.00 obo Ask for Annette or Rachael 509-935-8084

**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.**

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.



In Clayton

## Equestrian Definitions:

**Auction:** A popular, social gathering where you can change a horse from a financial liability into a liquid asset.

**Azoturia (Monday Morning Disease):** a condition brought on by showing horses all weekend. Symptoms include the feeling of dread at having to get out of bed on Mondays and go to work.

**Barn Sour:** An affliction common to horse people in northern climates during the winter months. Trudging through deep snow, pushing wheelbarrows through snow and beating out frozen water buckets tend to bring on this condition rapidly.

**Colic:** The gastrointestinal result of eating at the food stands at horse shows.

**Colt:** What your mare always gives you when you want a filly.

**Endurance ride:** The end result when your horse spooks and runs away with you in the woods.

**Feed:** Expensive substance utilized in the manufacture of large quantities of manure

**Fences:** Decorative perimeter structures built to give a horse something to chew on, scratch against and jump over

**Founder:** 1.) The discovery of your loose mare-some miles from your farm, usually in a flower bed or cornfield. Used like-"Hey, honey, I found'er." 2.) A condition that happens to most people after Thanksgiving dinner

**Horse Trailer:** Expensive movable urinal for horses. (and occasionally riders)

**Pony:** The true size of the stallion that you bred your mare to via transported semen-that was advertised as 15 hands tall.

**Proud Flesh:** The external reproductive organs flaunted by a stallion when a horse of any gender is present. Often displayed in halter classes.

**Versatility:** an owners ability to shovel manure, fix fences and chase down a loose horse in one afternoon.

**Whip Marks:** The tell-tale raised welts on the face of a rider-caused by the trail rider directly in front of you letting a low hanging ranch go. (Also caused by a wet or dry horse tail across the face while cleaning hooves)

**Withers:** The reason you'll seldom see a man riding bareback.

## Recipes:



### Pretzel-Topped Sweet Potatoes

- 2 cups chopped pretzel rods (about 13)
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup butter, melted, divided
- 1 can (2-1/2 pounds) sweet potatoes, drained
- 1 can (5 ounces) evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

#### Directions

In a large bowl, combine the pretzels, pecans, cranberries, brown sugar and 1/2 cup butter; set aside. In a large bowl, beat the sweet potatoes until smooth. Add the milk, sugar, vanilla and remaining butter; beat until well blended.

Spoon into a greased shallow 2-qt. baking dish; sprinkle with pretzel mixture. Bake, uncovered, at 350° for 25-30 minutes or until the edges are bubbly. Yield: 10-12 servings.



### Marbleized Mint Bark

1/3cup chocolate chips  
1pound WhiteChocolate pieces 3/4cup candy canes crushed

Line a baking sheet with foil; set aside. In a small saucepan heat mint or regular chocolate chips over low heat, stirring constantly, til melted and smooth. Remove pan from heat. In a 2-quart saucepan heat the white chocolate over low heat, stirring constantly, till melted and smooth. Remove pan from heat. Stir in crushed candy canes. Pour the melted white chocolate mixture onto the prepared baking sheet. Spread white chocolate mixture to about 3/8 inch thickness; drizzle with the melted chocolate chips. Gently zigzag a narrow metal spatula through the chocolate peppermint layers to create a swirled effect. stand several hours or till firm (OR chill about 30 minutes or till firm). Use foil to lift firm candy from the baking sheet; carefully break candy into pieces.

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## General Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2009

- The potluck meeting was held at the Williams Valley Grange. Thirteen people attended. Leon Sproule was unable to attend. Vice President Stuart Nieman called the meeting to order at 7:15PM.
- **Secretary:** meeting minutes were read and approved
- **Treasurer's Report-**Judy Clark: We are solvent. Life Flight will be \$35 per family for 2010. Must have 25 members in a group to get this price. Currently covered fols are cover thru Jan. 31st. Bob mentioned that we suspend Section 5 Article 4 where a quorum shall be required for the remainder of the meeting so that we can make some decisions with te members present. Seconded Dave Gruver. Motion carried.
- **Directors Report-**Bob Gish: BoD Dec.5. Making plans for the big shindig Annual Auction, Leadership training, Annual Meeting in March 19-21 2010. Need volunteers for the auction. Ellensburg at the Kittitas Fair Grounds will be the location this year. Dec.5th will include Treasurers training.
- **Public Lands-**Bob Gish: Public Land Day is Dec. 4th. BCHW has two grants 75K,10K. Fed. Gov has not granted either RTP or NOVA. Funding a month at a time and not passing on the gas tax portion to the states. Bob will be putting out an action alert urging us to write to the legislatures to get this moving. Trails are in serious jepordy.Mt. Spokane is basically putting a horse camp on the Leanard Ridge and not the nordic parking lot. Vault toilet, hitching rails etc. are being discussed. Comments can be submitted up untill Nov. 30th. Columbia Gorge-trying to get a trail head open to stock use. Friends of the Gorge don't lkike horses. Down by Mt. Adams some municipalities are writing laws establishing a "guardianship" of our animals. Bob will get Rachael to put in the newsletter.Bob went to PO City Park Board and met with Julie Anderson Fish and Wildlife regarding the newly acquired property to discuss plans for trailheads-Fertile Valley road will be one and the other will be on the west side. The new piece of land that was acquired from DNR just to the west of Fertile Valley road with possibly connecting it to the current PO park, but this meanr that about 2 miles along the county road. Alternates need to be considered. BCH members could possibly get a combination to the gate so that we would continue to ride after the normal closure dates. We need to draft a letter to the board askign for this privilege. Stu asked Barb Taylor to write this letter. Barb agreed if Bob would help. Dave Gruver suggested that we provide the lock. Oliver Johnson is the person who lives in the house on site, and is open to extended horse use of the park. Bob mentioned that we write a letter to the board, buy a lock and they install it. Dave seconded. Motion carried.
- **Trail Boss-**Mike Bryarly: not in attendance
- **Activities-**Vicki Gish: None tonight

Nominating Committee-2010 Elections: Stu asked for any nominations from the floor. Vickie nominated Annette Hepler for Board Member at large. All nomitations are closed. Ballots were dropped into the box and subsequenly counted. Results:

President-Leon Sproule  
Vice President-Jim Hudkins  
Secretary-Barb Taylor  
Treasurer-Judy Clark  
Trail Boss-Vicki Gish  
Board Members at Large- Annette Hepler and Virginia Sproule  
Education and LNT-Stu Nieman  
State Director-Bob Gish  
Alternate State Director-Cyndi Johnson

- **Christmas Party/Potluck-**no gifts, no auction. Chapter will provide Turkey and Ham. Bob motioned, Gary seconded for chapter to pay for the Turkey and Ham. Christine to coordinate
  - **Cabin Fever** with Auction in Jan or Feb
  - **Laptop/Software for newsletter-** tabled again
- Next meeting is Dec. 19th at 6PM Potluck and meeting to follow. Dec. 1st is the next Board Meeting. Adjoined 8:40pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Barb Taylor on November 2, 2009

### REMINDER:

Please start sending in your volunteer hours to Cyndi Johnson as soon as you can.

I am always looking for quotes or tid bits to add to the newsletter. Please send me anything you want to share. Remember this is your newsletter and any contributions are appreciated!  
-Rachael Hepler Newsletter editor

Calendars are available to order from Cyndi Johnson. Please let her know ASAP how many you would like. They will be \$10.00 each again this year.

## RECREATION ACTION ALERT:

The funding for the Recreation Trails Program (RTP) that is a source of grants for many volunteer groups that perform public lands work and education was most recently authorized from 2005 through 2009, and it was expected to be renewed as a component within a new federal surface transportation bill for a period of up to six years. However, this has not happened due to differences of opinion in Congress as to just what and how much should be contained in the new transportation reauthorization bill. While this should be a critical bill to pass, Congress has been absorbed with health care, stimulus, and most recently, a jobs bill. While the jobs bill currently under discussion has some elements typically in the transportation bill, RTP funding has not been discussed. As a result, we are into the 2010 budget year with no RTP renewal authorization, and therefore many grant services from around the nation are in jeopardy of shutting down. Some states, such as Nevada, are temporarily starting to suspend their RTP program.

For 2009, the RTP was funded at 85 million dollars. Since February, recreation groups around the nation have rallied behind the Coalition for Recreation Trails for seeking a new six year renewal of RTP at \$90 million for 2010, \$100 million for 2011, \$110 million for 2012, \$120 million for 2013, \$130 million for 2014, and \$140 million for 2015. In July, twenty-six legislators sent a letter to Representative Oberstar, Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure asking for this reauthorization.

However, as of this moment, with the last continuation on the 2009 appropriation about to expire on December 18th, we still do not have a 2010 allocation. The bill that brought us the funding for the last five years (SAFETEA-LU) has effectively expired. Extensions are currently being considered for up to 18 months. WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME FOR FUNDING THIS IMPORTANT GRANT PROGRAM.

If you live in Washington, Oregon, or California, please fax or email either:

Senator Patty Murray (WA), Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (Appropriations Committee) - Fax (202) 224-0238 HYPERLINK "<http://murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm>" <http://murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm>

Representative Peter DeFazio (OR), Chairman, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit (Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure) – Fax (202) 225-0032 HYPERLINK "<http://www.house.gov/formdefazio/contact.html>" <http://www.house.gov/formdefazio/contact.html>

Senator Barbara Boxer (CA), Chairman, Environment and Public Works Committee  
Fax (202) 224-0454 HYPERLINK "<http://boxer.senate.gov/en/contact/policycomments.cfm>" <http://boxer.senate.gov/en/contact/policycomments.cfm>

With a message similar to this:

The Recreation Trails Program (RTP) (Title 23 U.S.C. Sec 206) exemplifies the goals expressed by the current Administration in providing jobs, volunteerism, and healthy public lands stewardship throughout America. Every dollar invested yields greater return through existing grant-match authorization systems already in place in most states. For the last five years RTP has been receiving appropriations through SAFETEA-LU, last in 2009 for \$85 million dollars. Even though RTP is probably the best example of service and partnership on America's public lands, it is distressing that while there are now new bills and measures under consideration which will require large startup expenses, this tried, true, and streamlined investment is in jeopardy of failing. States are beginning to suspend or delay their grant mechanisms that provide project funding used by public land agencies and by non-profit volunteer groups since they need substantial guarantee of a year's revenue in order to meet the RTP distribution formula requirements spread among a range of worthy grant candidates. The Recreation Trails Program has traditionally been supported by a share of the tax on fuel of non-highway vehicles for reinvestment in our public lands infrastructure. Please support funding the RTP program at \$90 million dollars for 2010, \$100 million for 2011, and incrementally thereafter, implemented as soon as possible through extensions of SAFETEA-LU or through reauthorization in a multiyear transportation bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this very important issue.

(your name)

BCHW Public Lands Committee, December 2009

**Commentary:  
Animal Guardianship and Horses  
By: Equine Disease Quarterly  
October 05 2009, Article #15021**

Imagine that overnight a new state law goes into effect declaring that from now on you do not own your animals but rather you are their "guardian." Does this sound farfetched? Some local communities have already made this change. The first legal step on this road has been the addition of "owner-guardian" language to local ordinances, then changing the wording to "guardian" only. One state now has "owner-guardian" as a part of its law, and various federal agencies are using the word "guardian" in conjunction with "owner" whenever the latter appears in their regulations.

Animal guardianship advocates suggest that referring to the human-animal relationship as one of guardianship rather than ownership will lead to better animal care. There is little basis for this assertion; an abusive animal owner would likely be an abusive animal "guardian."

While local ordinances to date have generally applied only to dogs, cats, and other companion animals, a next step would be to expand such laws to include all domestic animals. With the groundwork in place, guardianship advocates could then move to the state level.

"Ownership" and "guardianship" are two distinct legal terms. The first is an expression and protection of the property owner's legal rights, while the second imposes numerous legal duties and obligations on the guardian. Today as an animal owner, you can decide the animals' care and future as long as you are not abusive, cruel, or neglectful: what to feed or where to house them; which animals to breed them with; what veterinary care to provide; whether to sell them, put them down, or include them in your Will. If the law changes and you no longer own your horses but instead become their "guardian," you will always have to act in the horses' best interest. As you can well imagine, there will be many times when your horses' best interests are not yours: euthanizing a horse to avoid a substantial veterinary bill could be prohibited, as could using horses in endeavors like racing and showing. A guardian would be unable to sell horses, as they are no longer property. If you no longer own your horses, property insurance policies might not cover the loss of your horses or injury to them. Expenses, write-offs, and other deductions under federal and state tax laws, which are predicated upon horses being property and assets belonging to their owners, might no longer be available.

A successor-guardian could be appointed to sue you on behalf of your horses for not having taken care of them properly, for their injuries, and even for their deaths. The list of legal repercussions that could befall horse owners should the law be changed from ownership to "guardianship" is extensive, and it behooves the horse industry to remain vigilant about pending legislation.--Gregory M. Dennis, JD, 913/498-1700, [HYPERLINK "mailto:gdennis@ktplaw.com"](mailto:gdennis@ktplaw.com)  
[gdennis@ktplaw.com](mailto:gdennis@ktplaw.com), Kent T. Perry & Co. L.C., Overland Park, Kansas

This is an excerpt from Equine Disease Quarterly, funded by underwriters at Lloyd's, London, brokers, and their Kentucky agents.

**LIFE FLIGHT CHANGES:**We are going into our third year as a group membership with Life Flight. There have been some significant changes in the process and cost. Last year our cost was \$6.00 per individual. This year your cost will be per family.

<b>Number of Group Members</b>	<b>Yearly Life Flight Family Membership Rate</b>
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25 or more members in a group	\$35 per family*
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3-24 members in a group	\$45 per family*
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\* Family is defined as yourself, your spouse or (domestic partner) and dependents living with you (under the age of 23) whom you claim on your income tax return.

In order to determine the rate, I will need to have everyone interested in purchasing this service to contact me. [clark\\_1944@msn.com](mailto:clark_1944@msn.com) leave a message, 509.238.2206 or Judy Clark 19402 N Yale Rd Colbert WA 99005

I will then let everyone know what the cost will be and will have the forms available with instructions.

For anyone not familiar with Life Flight.....

Life Flight aircraft are mini critical-care units, providing advanced medical care and rapid transport for people in life-threatening situations. The crews are some of the most highly trained medical professionals and flight personnel in the country.

The Life Flight Membership Program exists to support the Life Flight Program at Saint Alphonsus. By joining the program, you are supporting not only Life Flight, but also the local emergency responders in our community. As a membership benefit, there is no out-of-pocket expense to any member of the program for a medically necessary flight supplied by Life Flight or any of our reciprocal partners. Our reciprocal partners are;

Reciprocal partners include: Air St. Luke's, Meridian, ID, Wyoming Life Flight, Casper, WY, AirLink, Bend, OR, Care Flight, Reno, NV, Enloe Flight Care, Chico, CA, CalStar, Auburn, CA, AirLift Northwest, Seattle, WA, and Northwest MedStar, Spokane, WA.

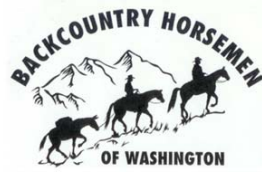
2010

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Come Join Us!**

To join BCHW, complete this application, sign the liability release (all members 18 and over), and enclose payment:

- **Chapter members**, turn application and payment in to your Chapter Treasurer. If paying by check, make it out to your chapter
- **Independent members**, make check out to "BCHW", and mail application and payment to: BCHW, ATTN: MEMBERSHIP, 110 W. 6th Ave., PMB 393, Ellensburg, WA 98926.



**Member Info**

E-mail my newsletter

New Member       Renewal – Membership number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Adult's name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Children's name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Legislative district (if known): \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of horses in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE MEMBERSHIP**

**Basic Membership**

- Single \$36.00
- Family \$49.00

**Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)**

- Contributing \$65.00
- Sustaining \$100.00
- Patron \$250.00
- Benefactor \$500.00

Additional State Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal A \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP**

Chapter Name (or Independent): \_\_\_\_\_

Northeast \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Dues (determined by chapter) \$ 10.00

Additional Chapter Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal B \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total (A+B) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**LIABILITY RELEASE & NOTICES**

All ADULT members MUST sign!

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders, and spectators, and also recognizing the fact that Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Inc., including Chapters, officers, directors, or members, cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience levels of riders or horses taking part in trail rides or other BCHW events, I do hereby release and hold harmless the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, or horses.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The information on this membership application will be shared with BCH of America and, if so designated by the applicant, the appropriate local chapter of BCHW. Otherwise, the information will not be divulged to any other person or organization without the express permission of the applicant.

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) has applied to the Internal Revenue Service for "public charity" status as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHWS may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.

Revised 12/11/08

See payment and mailing information above.



**NORTHEAST CHAPTER BCHW  
2009 Calendar Of Events**



Dec.19 General Meeting/Christmas party at Williams Valley Grange 6pm potluck 7 pm meeting Leon 509-238-6318  
Jan. 9th Board and Budget meeting @ Judy Clark's house. 10:00amBoard meeting, potluck at noon, followed by budget meeting. Leon Sproule 509-238-6318  
Jan.16th General Meeting at Williams Valley Grange. 6pm potluck 7pm meeting

All dates, times and events are subject to change. Be sure to telephone the contact person prior to the scheduled event. Visit the website [www.nebchw.com](http://www.nebchw.com)

NEBCHW  
P.O. Box 3094  
Deer Park, WA 99006

