

WHATCOM CHAPTER



Newsletter of the Whatcom Chapter  
Backcountry Horsemen of Washington

# TRAIL TALES

**Whatcom Chapter**  
**P. O. Box 28607**  
**Bellingham, WA 98228**  
**2017**

May 2017

## Notes from the President

**President:**  
Rodney Vandersypen  
360-961-3259  
rodneyv@copper.net

BCHW mission statement: To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use. To assist the various governmental and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage. To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters in the state organization.

**Vice President:**  
Joe Remenar  
360-818-4481  
j.remenar@gmail.com

The longer days are here and I hope that everyone has been able to make it out on the trails. I was unable to make it to the Easter Ride but I heard that it went well. I would like to thank all of the members that worked hard to make it a success.

**Director:**  
Bill McKenna  
360-599-2526

Our next major event will be the Confidence Builder Ride on May 20. This has been a well-accepted event for the equestrian community and helps to get people to try things prior to heading to the trails. As everyone knows this takes lots of workers to put this on so we need everyone that can to help out. There is a work party Saturday May 13 to set the stage for the event. Then on Friday May 19 there will be set up and any that can make it to help would be appreciated.

**Alternate Director:**  
Rocky Leavitt  
360-599-2675

There are lots of other things that are happening this summer that you can get involved in to get you out and enjoy our great area. So don't put it off it may be too late if you do.

**Secretary:**  
Lynn Johnson  
360-384-5107

Happy Trails

**Treasurer:**  
Jackie Yereance  
318-5509

Rodney

**Membership:**  
Helen Almojera  
360-592-8080



**Newsletter Editor & Publicity**  
Fran Van Diest  
fvandiest@msn.com  
360-734-2567

Easter Egg Ride, April 15, 2017, at Bryce Creek Camp, riders just starting their ride, weather fine at that point. It rained at times, but everyone still had a good time.  
Fran

**VET NOTES Sharon Hoofnagle D.V.M Laminitis ( again)**

Laminitis is at the top of the list as one of the most frustrating and common health issues for Pacific NW horses. Our fast growing lush grasses and abrupt seasonal changes are a “perfect storm” for laminitis.

This is a repeat of a spring laminitis alert, but this condition is so painful and potentially devastating, if it saves even one horse it is worth it.

Here are some seasonal reminders

This is an extreme danger time for laminitis. Cold nights and warm days concentrates sugars in the grasses. The grass is growing rapidly. Consequently horses turned out on lush pastures can consume a large amount of high sugar grasses, possibly resulting in laminitis. Here are some facts.

Avoid laminitis. Don’t wait to see if it occurs. Early bouts of laminitis may not be painful. There will be no way to detect it. Changes in the foot may be permanent.

Some conditions that may affect your horse will greatly increase the probability of laminitis occurring. Have your veterinarian evaluate your horse for metabolic conditions, such as Cushings or equine metabolic syndrome. Avoid obesity. Regularly weight tape your horse. Regional adiposity (cresty necks and fat pads) indicate equine metabolic syndrome.

Avoid grains or excess hand treats, even carrots. They are high in sugars.

Measure your pasture growth by watching your lawn. It is impossible to determine pasture growth while stock are grazing it. In December they may be getting 2 lbs. a days off of it. In April it may be the same height but they may be consuming 30 lbs. a day.

A guideline for cold nights is 40 degrees F. Nighttime temps lower than this will concentrate sugars. Early morning grazing is safest; grasses accumulate sugar during the day through photosynthesis. When transitioning from hay to pasture start with 20 min per day for several days. Then gradually increase the time.

Some horses cannot be on pasture full time Methods for limiting grass intake are limiting grazing time, limiting area by cross fencing, or grazing muzzles.

**2017 TRAIL BOSSES**

Roger Nelson  
360-599-2461

Rocky Leavitt  
360-599-2675

Joe Remenar  
360-818-4481

Cindy Piccolo  
360-966-4082

**WORK PARTY COORDINATOR**

Roger Nelson  
360-599-2461

**CLASSIFIEDS**

*\*\* Place your classified ad here. Classifieds are free to Whatcom BCH members, or just \$3.00 for anyone else. Send your ad and money to the newsletter editor by the 2nd Wednesday of the month.*

**Advertising Rates**

**Full Page---\$45.00 per month, limited to space available**

**1/2 Page.....\$90.00 for 6 months or \$150.00 for a Year**

**1/4 Page.....\$60.00 for 6 months or \$100.00 for a Year**

**Business Card....\$30.00 for 6 months or \$50.00 for a Year**

**Classifieds.....\$3.00 per month**

**Free Classifieds for members!**

**EDITOR’S POLICIES**

Trail Tales is published monthly. Deadline for submission of articles is the 15th of each month. Non-copyrighted submissions are welcomed (subject to space limitations). Opinions and views expressed in letters or personal articles are not necessarily the opinions of BCH.

Send submissions to: Editor, Fran Van Deist, 723 Van Wick Rd, Bellingham, WA. 98226. E-mail to: [fvandiest@msn.com](mailto:fvandiest@msn.com).

**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen  
Minutes of Monthly Meeting  
April 12, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the March 2017 minutes. Motion carried.

**Guest Speaker:** Sharron Sherfick (Lions Camp Horizon). Sharron gave an overview of Camp Horizon with campers coming from six counties and B.C. She wanted to see if our chapter was interested in bringing horses to Camp Horizon to introduce them to the campers. This would be for the Adventure Camp sessions only (07/30-08/02, 08/06-08/09, and 08/13-08/16). Carol Ketchum will head up a committee for people interested in participating. Call her if interested (360-201-5474). Chic Long will help out.

**Chain Saw Certification:** Rodney Vandersypen, Walden Haines, Bill McKenna, Joe Remenar and Roger Nelson are now certified for sawing, both chain saws and cross-cut saws. Our chapter received \$575 from Whatcom Mt. Bike Coalition. They participated in the chain saw certification, but because the class was given to BCH, the participants had to be members. Rather than joining the chapter they donated the same amount of money to us.

**Director's Report:** Bill McKenna reported that BCHW was first in the nation to have an in-house sawyer certification course. He has a few calendars left. Rendezvous was successful. Executive Director Darrell Wallace resigned and the new Executive Director is Nicole Sedgewick. The state-wide work party north of Priest Lake will be held in August. **Bears** - Bill mentioned anything north of I-90 is eligible to get bears.

**Volunteer Hours:** Verna has an easier template members can use to turn hours into her. She will have Fran email it out. She also reported the March volunteer hours were 273.5.

**DNR Volunteer Hours:** Rodney and Mike turned in hours.

**Work Parties/Trail Coordinator/Bosses:** Roger reported that nine people helped on the work party for the Easter egg ride to be held on Sat. Rocky will lead the first group leaving at 9:00; Roger will lead the second group leaving at 10:00; lunch is at noon. Trail bosses Cindy and Joe will have other, smaller groups rides, also.

**DNR Rec Plan:** Walden reported the group has been meeting for over a year and they will be meeting into 2018 to assimilate all the information gathered on what the public wants. Then the SEPA plan will kick in and the public will see it.

**Trailheads:**

**South Fork Park:** Rodney reported the County is waiting on the weather to pave the road to the parking lots for the hikers and horses, but there won't be any trails for a while. The agreement to Nessel Farm has been signed and finalized. The work party here is on June 4.

Lake Whatcom work party scheduled for June 3 has been moved to June 4.

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**Whatcom Chapter of Backcountry Horsemen  
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April 12, 2017**

**Stewart Mt:** The trail has been logged out to the old bridge but the bridge is closed and is not repairable. Walden has scouted a possible area upstream to bypass the old bridge. There have been bike conflicts coming down the hill fast. Some stop, some don't. New signage is needed that the trailhead and port-o-potty are donated by BCH Whatcom.

There is a work party on the July 4 weekend above Winthrop, riding out of Andrews Creek Trailhead. Plan B work party will be at Haney Meadow.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Videos:** Cindy has the VHS tapes and wondered what to do with them. Chic said he could save them to DVD, but no action was taken on this. Cindy also mentioned she rode Lake Padden and had people stop her and say it was nice to see her there. Cross-country joggers are now practicing there until 3:00 during the week so members might want to plan their rides.

**New Business:**

**Brush Cutters:** The Chapter got two new brush cutters and a chain saw. The two old brush cutters, with blades, will be sold to any member wanting to bid on them; one runs/one doesn't and will be sold for one price. They will be brought to the May meeting.

All the brush cutters are in the trailer in Kendall. Sharon Hoofnagle would like some left closer in to Bellingham. No one was interested in storing them.

**Ferndale Parade:** Dennis Mauler reported the Old Settlers Parade is July 29 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The theme is "Harvest Time of Years Gone By." He would like to see more members participate, hopefully more pack animals. Right now there are more non-members who participate than there are members.

**Youth Trail:** There are a couple of people interested in working between Black Tail / South Pass. Just need to schedule.

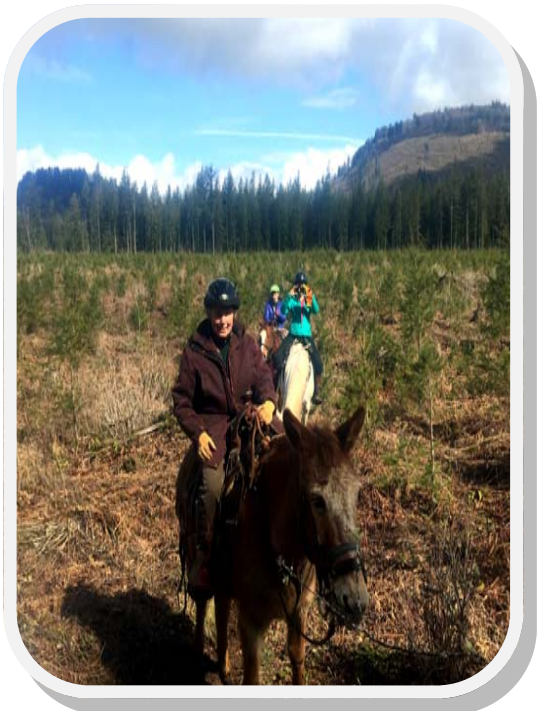
Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Johnson



Easter Egg Ride  
April 15, 2017  
at Bryce Creek Camp. We had approx. 50 that came to the ride and the majority rode. Great food and a good time.  
Fran



# CALENDAR



**May 1st—Monday**

**Board meeting at Roundtable Pizza, dinner at 6:00pm; meeting at 7:00pm.**

**May 10th—Wednesday**

**General meeting at Laurel Community Grange, 6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden. Meeting starts at 7:00pm. (No one signed up to bring treats for the May meeting).**

**May 13th—Saturday**

**Work party at Stremler's place. Be ready to work at 10:00a.m. Bring gloves, rake and anything else to do the work party. Lunch will be served.**

**May 19th—Friday**

**Setup work party at Stremler's. More info at the meeting.**

**May 20th—Saturday**

**Confidence Builder Ride at Stremler's. The event starts at 10:00 a.m. All helpers need to be there early, probably at 8:00 a.m. Donation fee of \$10.00 for everyone for the event which will include lunch. Children under 6 free.**



Check out our Website:

<http://www.whatcom-bch.com/>

**2017 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

**LEGISLATIVE:**

Bill McKenna  
360-599-2526

**LEAVE NO TRACE:**

Bill McKenna  
360-599-2526

**VOLUNTEER HOURS:**

Verna McLeod  
360-595-2744

**PROGRAMS:**

Sharon Hoofnagle  
360-734-4258

**HOSPITALITY:**

Vacant

**SUNSHINE**

Shirley Todhunter  
360-966-5206

**TRAIL HEAD COMMITTEE**

Mike McGlenn  
360-739-2619

**SCRAPBOOK**

Debbie Lagerwey  
354-2804  
Need Pictures!



## **Sunshine Committee**

If you know someone that needs a little ray of sunshine, please contact Shirley Todhunter, 360-966-5206 or send her an email at [hermater09@gmail.com](mailto:hermater09@gmail.com)

A Special Thank You to:

### **Laurel Farm & Western Supply**

America's Horse Country

Weylin & Amy Eldred

325 W Laurel Rd., Bellingham

360/398-1216 \* 360/398-8050 fax

Hours: Mon – Fri: 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat: 8:30 a.m. to

6:00 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**FOR SALE:**

15 year old gelding, 15.1 hands. Trail ridden, could be a good pack horse. \$1,000.00 but negotiable. 360-332-7120





# CONFIDENCE BUILDER RIDE

Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen of WA. invites you to their 16th Annual Confidence Builder Ride!

**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

**Stremler's—9480 Van Buren Road, Lynden**

**Starts at 10:00 a.m. Last rider out at 11:30 a.m.**

**There is a \$10.00 donation per person for the event which includes lunch, children under 6 free.**

You are invited to bring your horse to the ride, there will be bridges, water crossing, logs, tarps, puncheon bridge, barrels and other obstacles. It is intended for horses with some experience. Please do not bring totally green horses. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult and wear a helmet. Lots of help and support available. Come join us for some fun!

Directions: From Bellingham take Guide Meridian, going north continue until you come to WA546—E. Badger Rd, turn right and continue for approx. 10 miles until you come to Van Buren Road (it's the first road after you cross the tracks), turn left on Van Buren Rd, Lynden.



**For more info, contact Rocky Leavitt at 360-599-2675 or Fran at 360-734-2567**

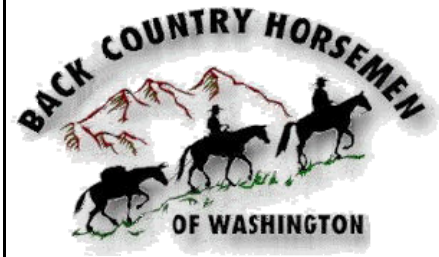
# NON-MEMBER APPLICATION

## 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 Helen Almojera, PO Box 28607, Bellingham, WA 98228. Make check out to: Whatcom BCH.

**Independent members** (folks who are **not** joining a chapter), 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

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:	

Check to opt out of mailed (hardcopy) newsletter: BCHW (Trailhead News) Chapter

STATE MEMBERSHIP			CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP	
<b>Basic Membership</b>			All chapter members must also be a member of BCHW. However, BCHW dues only need to be paid <b>once</b> each year. Joining additional (secondary) chapters only requires paying chapter dues.	
	Single	\$41.00		
	Family	\$54.00		
<b>Optional Membership (includes family or single from above)</b>			Chapter Name (or Independent):	
	Contributing	\$75.00	<b>WHATCOM COUNTY</b>	
	Sustaining	\$125.00		
	Patron	\$250.00		
	Benefactor	\$500.00		
	Lifetime (Single)	\$1200.00	If joining a secondary Chapter, provide the Chapter name where BCHW dues have been paid for 2017:	
State dues paid online (attach receipt copy)			Chapter Dues	\$10.00
Additional State Donation			Additional Chapter Donation	\$
State Subtotal			Chapter Subtotal	\$
			<b>Grand Total (State+Chapter)</b>	\$

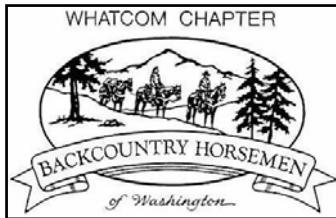
## LIABILITY RELEASE & NOTICES

All ADULT members MUST sign! Adult's signature covers minor children.

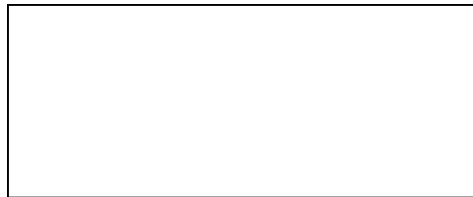
Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders, and spectators, and also recognizing the fact that Backcountry Horsemen of Washington, Inc., including Chapters, officers, directors, or members, cannot always know 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:	

Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (BCHW) is a public charity as defined in Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c) (3). Accordingly, membership dues paid to BCHW may be treated as deductions characterized as "charitable contributions" when computing federal and state income tax obligations.



**Fran Van Deist**  
WBCH Newsletter Editor  
723 Van Wick Rd  
Bellingham , WA 98226  
(360) 734-2567



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*Next*  
Whatcom Chapter Backcountry Horsemen  
*Meeting:*  
**General Meeting: May 10, 2017**  
**Laurel Community Grange,**  
**6172 Guide Meridian, Lynden, WA**  
**Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Treats: ??**

Check out the BCHW  
Website at:  
<http://www.bchw.org>

