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Cover Photo: Rider: Brenda Fromhold riding Ally in a yellow field with Mt. Rainier. Taken at JBLM area 13 in Roy, WA.

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PIERCE COUNTY:
Director: Louise Caywood 17310 Longmire Rd SE • Yelm, WA 98597 253-732-8105 saddledupw@aol.com PONDEROSA:
Director: Ken Carmichael 10804 W Seven Mile Rd • Spokane, WA 99224 509-710-1162 kcarmichael2225@gmail.com PURPLE SAGE RIDERS:
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TAHOMA:
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Director: Cathy Nelson 12503 67th Ave NE • Arlington, WA 98223-6219 425-231-2148 trippleenfarm@gmail.com WENAS VALLEY:
Director: Huston Osborn 191 Alfalfa Rd • Selah, WA 98942 509-839-2724 ohuston 1967@gmail.com
WENATCHEE VALLEY: Director: Mike Walcker 4330 Eels Rd • Cashmere, WA 98815 509-670-6038 empirebuilder747@gmail.com
WHATCOM COUNTY: Director: Joe Remenar P.O. Box 28607 • Bellingham, WA 98228 360-778-9848 j.remenar@gmail.com

Chapter Directors: This list is taken from the BCHW Directory located online at bchw.org.

Optional Members

Chaptor

Back Country Horsemen of Washington expresses its gratitude to those who contribute to BCHW as "Lifetime," "Contributing," "Sustaining," and "Patron" members.

he Optional Membership Program is available to all members for renewal or new membership. Members in this program pay only the optional membership fee, which includes the Family or Single Membership. The optional membership information on this page is provided by the BCHW Membership Committee. **If you have any corrections or questions, please e-mail membership@bchw.org.**

Name	Chapter
Lifetime Members	
Mitch Baird	IND
Scott Bauer	CHC
Amanda Biles	TAH
Penelope Booker	IND
Karen Briskey	PCC
Caleb Canby	MVC
Janis Collett	PCC
Missy Day	TAH
David Jackson	PSR
Lori Lennox	GHC
Kim Merrick	NSC
Heather Moorman	PSR
Jason Ridlon	IND
Kathy Russo	IND
Dave Seibel	МОС
Bob Shonka	IND
Teri Starke	IND
Cathy Upper	MVC
Barbara Woo	CHC
Pat Wyers	MAC
2024 Annual Meeting Head Table	
Jan Whitlow	МОС
2023 Annual Meeting Head Table	
Kinney/Churchill	TDC
2024 Patron Level	
Kathy & Bob Cole	
William Hamlin & Anne Razzolini	
Greg Johnston & Catherine Johnson	
Cindy & Dean Kobetich	
Mary Krauss & Joe Berner	
Dale & Tina Merten	
Bob Showalter	RRR
Brenda Wiebe	
Todd & Janet Wiebke	IND
2024 Sustaining Level	
Gene Brent	
Sherry & Alex Brown	
Ron & Marty Celestres	
Danny & Jeanie Chappel	RRR

Name	Chapter
Christina Cline	
Leslie Coey & Curt Fuller	
Gary & Kathy Collins	
Greg Cox	
Patrick Dolan	
Sherrie Elliott	
Bruce & Kathy Foreman	
Robert Gish & Gloria Dennison	
KEVIN & Lisa Graese	
Karl Kaiyala & Kathy Rafferty	MVC
Mary Kane	TAH
Lorraine Karmen	CHC
Bill Kehner	IND
Edris Kenan	ТАН
Mike & Chris McGlenn	WCC
Mary McIntyre-Lee	
Paul Mellick	
James Miller	IND
Mary & Dennis Owens	GHC
Frank & Sandra Servine	NIS
Heather Spencer	
Lynda Stafford	SCR
, Michael Torok	
Darrell & Kristy Wallace	
Louise & Peter Walton	
Nancy Wiest	
Bonnie Witrak	
JoAnn Yost	
2024 Contributing Level	
Earl & Dorothy Aalseth	CHC
Jim & Terri Anderson	
Meg Brinton & Nick Lowe	
Tyler Castle	
Jan & Jim Craghead	
Ken & Pam Evans	
Carol Finney	
Peg Greiwe & Dale Kelley	
Kris & Don Hand	
Judith & Bob Hoyle	
Kathy & Bob Jones	
	100

Name	Chapter
Laurie Kallsen-George	PNC
Burton & Caity Karapostoles	MVC
Tony & Cathy Karniss	LCC
Leah & Franz Keylard	TAH
Bob & Nancy Lee	EVC
Kris Lenke & Dave Peterson	BHR
Ed & Teri Letcher	WEN
Michele McGehee	GHC
Kathy McGehee-Hansen	NSC
Bob & Rani Merz	MAC
Kris Moran	GHC
Jeanette & John O'Keefe	MVC
Kathleen Parshall	TAH
Leonard & Kathy Rolph	MAC
Laurel Saville	WCC
Brian & Cindi Vance	NEC
Larry Wachtel	IND
Bob & Lyris Wooldridge	MAC



BCHW, please contact Teri Starke, BCHW Treasurer, at: 253.709.5052 or tstrk21@msn.com.

Tax Deduction

Please be informed that membership dues, paid at the state as well as the chapter level, are tax deductible for the calendar year and subsequent years. Deduct your dues as a charitable contribution under authority of IRC Section 170 (assuming the person paying the membership dues itemizes their deductions when computing their federal net taxable income) or as a business deduction under authority of IRC Section 162 (assuming the person paying the membership dues has a "trade or business" and the payment of the membership dues is directly related to this "trade or business"). When making a donation, ask for a receipt.

lated to this "trade or business"). When making a donation, ask for a receipt. Your volunteer mileage is also deductible. Make copies of your volunteer hours logs with mileage for your taxes.

President's Corner



Happy Summer Everyone!

By Dana Chambers, BCHW President

am so happy to see more nice days than bad ones! Our work parties around the state are in full swing, as are many chapters' fun rides, poker rides and fundraisers. On Saturday, June 17, we held our 2nd quarter Board of Directors meeting in Ellensburg. During the meeting, we discussed new programs that have been developed. First is our new BCHW Chapter Grant Program, in which chapters with smaller bank accounts can apply for funding for trail projects. These funds can only be used for supplies and small tools.

The funds for these grants came from the net profit made at the 2024 Rendezvous event. Applications are available online or on the bchw.org website. Once applications are submitted, our Grants committee will review them, score them and send them on to myself and Teri Starke. If approved, the chapters will be notified. More information and the guidelines will be on the website on the Chapter Resources page.

Another new program is our Sponsorship Program where

BCHW Mission Statement

BCHW is affiliated with Back Country Horsemen of America (hereinafter "BCHA") and therefore adopts the BCHA mission statement as follows: The mission of this organization shall be:

- 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.

businesses can pick one of three levels. Starting at \$500, then \$1000 and finally \$5000. More info on these will be published here in the Trailhead News.

BCHW MEMBERSHIP DUES UPDATE. Our BCHW dues will increase for the 2025 membership year. A single Membership will be \$45 (from \$41) and a Family Membership will be \$60 (from \$54)

The last big thing that happened was we held our Elections. The slate of officer positions was President, Vice President, National Director position #1, alternative National Director and three Executive Committee positions.

The Election results are:

- President: Dana Chambers (Re-elected)
- Vice President: Ken Carmichael
- Secretary Patti Carmichael
- National Director Pos. #1: Kathy Young (Re-elected)
- Alternate National Director: Mickey Centeno (Re-elected)

Three Executive Committee members:

- Heather Moorman (Re-elected)
- Bob Hoyle
- Rob Centeno

Congratulations to the returning and new officers!! 📥



Volunteering



Volunteering

By Ken Carmichael, BCHW Vice President

e spend a lot of time and energy discussing and planning who will be BCHW's next leaders. This is how we will sustain Back Country Horsemen of Washington.

What role do the "experienced" volunteers play? I refrain from calling us "old." As time progresses, we are ready to move on to other projects and positions of leadership or move out. However, we must continue to play an important role in managing BCHW.

What Part Can Experienced Volunteers Play In BCHW? We can:

- Set the example New members need to see members having fun, being productive and being appreciated as we provide leadership.
- **Mentor** Many members will participate if they feel comfort-

able and confident in performing the task. Mentors can encourage members and ensure the new members are not left blowing in the wind. This includes following up with the new members, providing the necessary information and encouraging them.

- **Succession plan** We can look for an individual who has the potential to take our position.
- Ask people to participate I recently read a good article about volunteering. I will quote only one sentence.

"The most commonly cited reason why people volunteer, period, is because people ask them to volunteer." People will stand in the shadows until asked.

Back Country Horsemen is a great service organization. We keep trails open through education, advocacy and trail work. But for these functions to be effective, it means having a wealth of people providing additional support with all kinds of skills, talents, interests, abilities and time commitments.

If you are an experienced volunteer, find someone to help. If you are new, discover how to contribute and jump in. BCH needs active volunteers to keep trails open.

BCHW Membe	rship Announcement	
CHW memberships expire on Dec	cember 31, 2024. Please go to BCHW.org and click on the Membership tab	
	uestions, issues or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me, Dana Chambers call 206-498-6952. I'm here for you!	, at
	PRICING FOR OUR MEMBERSHIPS	
Single	In Addition To Chapter Dues \$41.00	10
Family	\$54.00 \$75.00	
Sustaining		
Patron Benefactor	\$250.00 \$500.00	
Lifetime (Single)	\$1,200.00 \$2,000.00	
Liteline (ramity of 2)		





Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act

By Kathy Young, BCHW Public Lands Chairman

he Wilderness Act of 1964 was signed into law on September 3, 1964, and established the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) to protect federal wilderness areas and preserve their natural conditions for the benefit of the American people:

The first policy statement of the document provides both background and the basic tenet of the act.

"In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness." [Section2(a)]

The act mandated that certain areas be left undeveloped so that nature could take its course. The system initially included 54 wilderness areas in 13 states that were already protected by the Forest Service. Today, the system has grown to 806 areas in 44 states and Puerto Rico. Washington state is about 45.6 million acres and has 31 federally protected Wilderness Areas, which cover almost 4.5 million acres.

Washington Wilderness areas are beloved by BCHW members. They are the places where hooves and feet can find the real back country. BCHW has been vigilant over the years, working to maintain access for stock into Wilderness. There are many conversations that we can have about the condition of Wilderness today, the amount of Wilderness, including Wilderness Study areas, and how it is managed. Those conversations are ongoing and important. For today however, I think it is important for our members to recognize the importance of the 60 years of Wilderness that we have been given and to continue to help to maintain and preserve our wild places.

Link to the document https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/ fseprd645666.pdf

Content Deadline for the September/October 2024 Print Newsletter is August 1, 2024

Cover Photos can be sent anytime, 8x10 Vertical orientation is best (300 dpi).

You can send articles, photos and calendar of events early!

Please email your articles (700 word maximum) and 3 or 4 photos with caption and photo byline to thn@bchw.org as soon as possible.

ATTENTION!

BCHW Sponsorships Program

We are now offering annual sponsorships!

Sponsorship Levels will be for a calendar year and include the benefits listed below.

All levels of sponsors will be listed on the Sponsors page of our website.

- Back Country Horsemen of Washington Facebook page has 8.6K Followers
- Trailhead News publication goes to 2100+ members
- Rendezvous Three-day event gathers 400+ members and 100+ public attendance

onsorship Level	Benefits		July/A
Spur \$500	 Business card size listing in all 6 editions of our Trailhead News Your banner displayed at our statewide events 		Bridle Sponsorship
Bridle \$1000	 Quarter-page listing in our 6 editions of the Trailhead News Your banner displayed at our statewide events. Booth at our statewide events (if desired) 	Spur Sponsorship Level Business card	Level 1/4 Page
Saddle \$5000	 Half-page listing in all 6 editions of the Trailhead News Your banner displayed at our statewide events. Booth at our statewide events (if desired) Posts on BCHW Facebook page 	Saddle Sponso 1/2 Pag	rship Level ge
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Peninsula Chapter's June Packing Clinic



From left to right: Nicole, Chrissy, Rusty, Jay, Megan, Trisha, Rachael and Karen



Chrissy, Rusty, Karen, Megan, Jay and Rachel

By Juelie Dalzell, LNT Coordinator

Using the first days of summer, Jay Adams of the Pierce County Chapter presented a two-day packing clinic to ten participants at Sage Horse Camp in Sequim. Jay provided a spiral notebook that accompanied his PowerPoint presentation. He brought two pack animals to demonstrate the multiple steps of loading stock. Jay was extremely well organized and well prepared. His point of view, while lowkey, emphasized his enthusiasm for the art of packing. He stressed that you don't have to do a heroic ten-day trip to have an adventure, but a weekend with the family is fun and doable. With a bit of practice, Jay insisted that horse packing is for everyone.

While you did not need to bring stock or equipment to this clinic, most participants brought their horses. They were able to try on pack saddles on their horses and said that was a huge plus for them. Everyone got a chance to get their hands on the pack saddles and learn some knots. Jay said that everyone could tie the knots he taught the first day by the next morning. He said it was a great bunch of people to work with.

After class, with time before dinner, participants went for a trail ride. We learned at that point that it was the first time horse camping for two people. Another group member disclosed she hadn't had experience with mules and became enamored with Zoe, Jay's beautiful molly mule, who she said loved petting.

Dinner was provided after the first day's session. Everyone raved about the food, which is no surprise because Kim Merrick's cast iron cooking skills are acclaimed across the state. However, another sous chef, Pat Cosner, made sourdough Dutch oven bread and fruit cobbler that also got rave reviews.

The last day of the clinic surprised us with rain, but it did not last long. People loaded pack boxes and learned to use a lash cinch and rope. They were all impressed to see the boxes come away from the sides of the animal and rise as the lash rope was tightened. Again, everyone got a chance to apply the skills they learned on the pack stock.

We believe that the goals set by the Peninsula Chapter were met by putting on this clinic. Younger people were in-

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Best Business Practices Ad Hoc Committee

By Ken Camichael, BCHW Vice President

t the March 2024 Back Country Horsemen of Washing (BCHW) Board Meeting we passed the following motion: I move that the BCHW Board of Directors' recommend President Dana Chambers appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the business operations of BCHW to include:

- Board of Directors
- Executive Committee
- Officers
- Standing Committees
- Communications
- · Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies
- Centralized Accounting

The BCHW Best Business Practices Ad Hoc Committee will report back to President Dana Chambers with recommendations no later than the first quarter Board of Directors meeting in 2025.

Footnotes:

- According to BCHW Bylaws Article IV, Section 2, "The President shall appoint such committees as may be necessary and appropriate to the conduct of business of BCHW, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee..."
- A significant change in management took place in June 2022 with the creation of the Executive Committee.
- Best Business Practices recommend the periodic review of an organization's management, especially after a major change in operations to ensure effective and efficient management practices.
- The Ad Hoc Committee will clarify responsibilities and boundaries.
- The Ad Hoc Committee will gather input from key stakeholders and summarize results.

Key to this motion is that the committee will review the BCHW operations by gathering input from key stakeholders. This is a review of BCHW operations, not the chapters. An important element of BCHW is how we effectively communicate within the organization and with others. Are all the members receiving the "Word" and how can we improve this?

The committee will not take actions but will make recommendations based on its findings back to the President, Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

President Chambers has appointed the following committee:

Ken Carmichael – Chairman Kathy Young Judy Sarles Louise Caywood Bill Chambers

We are sending out surveys to Directors, Chapter Presidents and Treasurers, and BCHW Committee Chairs for input. Member input is also desired.

If BCH is to grow and prosper, we must be willing to periodically take a critical look at ourselves.

Thank you to everyone that is providing input. It is greatly appreciated.

Please contact your Director or President if you have input or questions. Or contact me directly at kcarmiclhael2225@gmail. com.

Peninsula Chapter's June Packing Clinic continued from page 7

troduced to horse packing. Some camped with their horses for the first time, making it easier for them to camp again. Most participants were introduced to Backcountry Horsemen for the first time. There was a short Leave No Trace component reminding riders to clean up trailheads. They rode trails that were put in exclusively by Peninsula Chapter members, reminding everyone that trails don't just appear on their own. All had fun, and new friends were made.

For anyone interested in putting on their own packing clinic, Jay can be reached at BRUSH4sl@Yahoo.com 253-370-8325 or through the Pierce County Chapter.

Nicole Witham organized the event for the Peninsula Chapter and can be reached at witham.nicole@gmail.com.



From right to left: Jay, Nicole, Rachel and Chrissy

Mount Saint Helens Chapter Trail Updates





By Jim Anderson, Mount Saint Helens Chapter Director

t has been a busy spring for the Mount St. Helens chapter. We started our annual maintenance of the Kalama Horse Camp (H.C.) on April 13, repairing broken rails and gates on the corrals, cleaning up trees and limbs from winter snows, digging out full fire pits and even having time to fix the tread on a wash crossing just outside of camp. We had a good turnout of fifteen members who enjoyed a nice lunch.

An extra wet May kept us from getting out on the trails, so we used that time for sawyer training during the classroom portion. Some members needed to get out of the wet weather, so we went to the Escure Ranch in eastern Washington and enjoyed a few dry but windy days of riding. We did get in a day of preparation to install metal corrals at the DNR Rock Cr. H.C. We had to weld leg extensions on the panels to anchor them more securely. We partnered on this project with our friends from Washington Trail Riders Association out of Clark County. The actual project will be finished later this spring or summer.

On June 1, we held our first trail work party at Kalama. Eight members started with the hands-on practical portion of the sawyer training and then headed out on the trails, logging out the Falls trail and portions of the Toutle, Blue Horse, and Ski trails.

We scheduled a two-day work party for June 22 and 23 in January. We invited WTA to join us for this as we have in the past. The planning has been going on all spring, with recon trips with WTA and the Forest Service recreation tech. The lower part of the Cinnamon was in dire need of reconstruction due to water erosion. We will rent an excavator with a small grant from BCHA, and Tom Conner of the Lewis County chapter volunteered to run it for us. (This is being written before the work party). The other part of this work party is to get the Fossil and Cinnamon trail completely logged out. Based on the registrations, we should have around twenty-five volunteers coming together for this.

Since the Cinnamon has been mentioned, here is an update on the burnt section. Due to work that the forest service has done, that section is now open to the public, but it still has not been completely logged out, so I do not think you will ride your horse through it. On July 15, Tony Karniss is holding an advanced sawyer class there, and the attendants will cut down trees across the trail. Once the trees are logged out, the tread must be reestablished. With the soil denuded of cover, the past winters, rains and snowmelt have raised havoc. At this time, we do not know how that will happen.

In mid-August, the Northwest Youth Corp will work on the Cinnamon trail for two weeks, doing tread work and brushing. The forest service will pay them to be here, and the Mount St. Helens chapter will mark out the areas of work and lend any support they need, such as cutting trees for water bars and pack support if needed. We will have a cost-share agreement, so volunteers will get reimbursed for expenses.

Grays Harbor Chapter Fund Ride

PHOTO BY MICHELE MCGEHEE

PHOTO BY MICHELE MCGEHEE





By Michele McGehee, THN Editor

rays Harbor Chapter held its annual Fund Ride at Schafer Grade in Matlock, WA, on Saturday, June 22. Friday night, the chapter held a potluck for campers and members alike. It was a great time to connect, share stories, eat good food and promote the area.

Over the last few months, the members have spent many hours preparing and maintaining the trail, removing logs, cutting down tall winter overgrowth, and ensuring all the trails are well-marked so no one gets lost. Attendance at the Fund Ride exceeded expectations, with 71 adult riders and 15 children under the age of 12 who could ride for free. Our next generation is at play!

All the trails were marked, and maps were provided for the riders just in case they needed to find their way back. All contingency plans were in place, with a truck and trailer on standby in case someone needed a lift back to camp. An EMT was on call, and emergency numbers for the riders were available.

We had great raffle prizes this year, and participants bought additional tickets to get a chance at their favorite prizes. Prizes included gift certificates from local businesses, vet services, horse supplies, homemade crafts and camping gear. The grand prize was two nights at Ocean Acres Horse Hotel

continued on page 11

PHOTO BY MICHELE MCGEHEE



Grays Harbor Chapter Fund Ride continued from page 10



and B&B in Grayland, WA, with direct access to the beach, \$50 for dinner at the local pub and wine tasting at Westport Winery! Shelly Smeltzer was the grand prize winner, and she was thrilled! We can't wait to see pictures of her adventure. Maybe even a Trailhead News article, you never know!

This year, we did something different for food. Instead of cooking, we hired Dales Mobile Kitchen, a local cook and crew who provided breakfast and lunch items for purchase. The biscuits and gravy were the best I ever tasted, and the hamburgers were also good. They also had pulled pork sand-



wiches, breakfast burritos, chicken wraps and more. There is nothing like a good meal and a good ride on the trails. Thank you, Dale and crew!

The Fund Ride helps support the chapter in keeping trails open for all riders, including Schafer Grade in Matlock, managed by Green Diamond, and West Fork Humptulips trail system, located on National Forest land out of Humptulips, WA.

Thank you to all the volunteers for putting on a great event and to all the riders who came out to ride our trails! You are appreciated! \geq



FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar

Be sure to: • Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event. Note: The BCHW Trailhead News represents as many events as possible; however, it makes no guarantees an event will be published. The calendar of events is subject to change. Please check with ride contact for most updated information. Please send calendar corrections to: thn@bchw.org.

Prize Ride Benefitting the BCHW Skagit Chapter

Saturday, July 13, 2024 Les Hilde Trailhead 6998 Medford Road Sedro-Woolley, WA Skagit Chapter for a Prize Ride on Saturday, July 13th, 2024! The ride will be held at the Les Hilde Trailhead in the Harry Osborne State Forest. erin.hurley2295@gmail.com

Northeast Chapter

8th Annual Vicki Gish Memorial Ride

Friday-Sunday, July 19-21, 2024 Calispel Basin, Colville Nat'l Forest

Olympic Chapter

Western Dream Ride 2024

Friday, July 19, 2024 Flying Horseshoe Ranch Cle Elum, WA Three-day prize ride in Cle Elum

Mount St Helens Chapter Annunal Fun Ride

Saturday, July 20, 2024 Kalama Horse Camp Annual Fun Ride fundraising campout and ride.

Pierce Co Chapter BCHW Annual Prize Ride

Saturday, July 20, 2024 Sahara Creek CG Elbe State Forest Prize Ride

Okanogan Valley Chapter

Funday Fundraiser/Swap Meet/LNT Monday, July 22, 2024 Tonasket Rodeo Grounds Vendors Wanted! Please contact us if you would like to sell your new or gently used items at our fundraiser on 6-22-24, for \$20.00 a space Cher:bowercheryl1@gmail.com • 509-826-5281 or Kassie:paisleypetal70@gmail.com 509-486-2451

Third Annual Olympic Spirit Prize Ride

Saturday, September 7, 2024 Sage Horse Camp Sequim, WA bchwpeninsulaprizeride@gmail.com

3rd QTR BCHW Board of

Directors' Meeting

Saturday, September 21, 2024 Kittitas Valley Event Center 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA BCHW President Dana Chambers president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

23rd Annual Winery Ride

Saturday, October 26, 2024 Zillah, WA BCHWwineryride@gmail.com

Example

Your Chapter Ride or Event Must Be Open To All BCHW Members To Have A FREE Listing

Lines in the listing have a maximum character count of 32, including spaces. Please keep this in mind.

Please submit the following information with your event listing to thn@bchw.org.

Chapter Name
Name of Ride
Date
First Rider Out
Location
Register
Lunch
Name of Pass Required (if needed)
Weed-Seed-Free Feed Required
Camping (if available)
Cost to Member
Cost to Non-member
Contact Name
Phone
Email
Website



August 4: Anniversary - Great American Outdoors Act September 28: National Public Lands Day November 11: Veterans Day

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