

The Trailhead News

Vol. 50 Issue 2

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

March/April 2025



www.bchw.org



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January 18.....	Mar/April
April 1	May/June
June 1	July/Aug
August 1	Sept/Oct
October 1	Nov/Dec

Advertising Information Call: 360.754.4543

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

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

The 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	Name	Chapter	Name	Chapter
Lifetime Members					
Mitch Baird	IND	Patrick Dolan	MSH	Bob & Rani Merz	MAC
Scott Bauer	CHC	Sherrie Elliott	NEC	Daren Moorman	PSR
Amanda Biles	TAH	Bruce & Kathy Foreman	NEC	Kris Moran	GHC
Penelope Booker	IND	Peg Greiwe & Dale Kelley	PCC	Jeanette & John O'Keefe	MVC
Karen Briskey	PCC	Mary Kane	TAH	Sheila Richards	NEC
Caleb Canby	MVC	Lorraine Karmen	CHC	Carol & James Russo	TDC
Tawney Carrier	PSR	Bill Kehner	IND	Joan & Ben Wildman	PNC
Janis Collett	PCC	Cindy & Dean Kobetich	BRC	Sonja Wingard & James Matthies	WCC
Steven & Carol Crapson	CCR	Mike & Chris McGlenn	WCC	Kathy Young	TAH
Missy Day	TAH	Mary McIntyre-Lee	IND		
David Jackson	PSR	Al & Marci Norrbom	WEN		
Kris Lenke	BHR	Mary & Dennis Owens	GHC		
Lori Lennox	GHC	Kathleen Parshall	TAH		
Kim Merrick	NSC	Drew & Rachel Scott	CCR		
Heather Moorman	PSR	Lynda Stafford	SCR		
Jason Ridlon	IND	Michael Torok	MVC		
Kathy Russo	IND	Larry & Felicia Wachtel	IND		
Samantha Sandford	MSH	Darrell & Kristy Wallace	NEC		
Dave Seibel	MOC	Brenda & Greg Wiebe	MAC		
Bob Shonka	IND	Bonnie Witrak	TAH		
Teri Starke	IND	Bob & Lyris Wooldridge	MAC		
Cathy Upper	MVC	JoAnn Yost	GHC		
Barbara Woo	CHC				
Pat Wyers	MAC				
2025 Benefactor Level					
Dale & Tina Merton	LCC				
2025 Patron Level					
Christina Cline	MVC				
Greg Johnston & Catherine Johnson	GHC				
Bob Showalter	RRR				
Heather Spencer	PNC				
Nancy Wiest	PCC				
2025 Sustaining Level					
Sheila & Bud Blakely	NEC				
Ron & Marty Celestres	TAH				
Danny & Jeanie Chappel	RRR				
Leslie Coey & Curt Fuller	IND				
Kathy & Bob Cole	MSH				



A Gift To Honor or In Remembrance

Donate in memory of a friend, family, or loved one. To make a donation in their name to 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.

Your volunteer mileage is also deductible. Make copies of your volunteer hours logs with mileage for your taxes. ↪



Vice President's Corner



Members Are The Backbone of BCH

By Ken Carmichael, BCHW Vice President

Members are the backbone of BCH. Those who have renewed their membership for 2025 – THANK YOU. Members who have recently joined for 2025 – WELCOME AND THANK YOU.

What do I mean by backbone? Members are valuable in many ways.

- Financial support
- Reflect the strength of the equestrian community
- Contribute to the volunteers to perform education, advocacy, trail work and all the support functions
- Leadership

You may have special skills that you want to contribute to keeping trails open. Or you may have a willingness to learn new skills. Whatever the case, BCH needs members with various interests, skills, abilities and talents. There is a place for everyone.

BCH is a service organization, and this means working toward our mission of keeping trails open. You can ask your chapter President about opportunities in the chapter. At the BCHW level, there are about 23 officers and committees. To identify those, see the inside of the Trailhead news or ask BCHW President Dana Chambers how you can help.

BCH wants you, needs you and appreciates what you can bring to the table. Please do not wait to be asked. Step up and actively participate in an organization that is working for you. 🐾

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 ensure 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.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the BCHW website has two sitemaps? One for the general area and one for the Members Only. There is also a Table of Contents for the Director’s Page. This makes it easy to find useful information. Check it out.



Let's Talk About BCHW's Accounting Peculiarities

By Teri Starke, BCHW Treasurer

2024 saw a resurgence in all forms of financial scams; BCHW was no exception! In a month's time, I get several emails from Dana, Jason Ridlon and Kathy Young asking if I am around and if I could pay an invoice, wire money to an account and my all-time favorite buy gift cards and send any of them the numbers. This last year, some of you received emails purported to be from me asking you to use your personal funds to buy gift cards and send me the numbers. Under no circumstances will I or any BCHW officer email you to ask you to buy gift cards or spend your personal funds on anything for BCHW. I ask that you NEVER forward suspicious emails to me or whoever is asking you to send money. DELETE those emails immediately; do not open attachments. They can have malware attached, and you could infect anyone whose computer you send those emails to. Be safe and delete all suspicious emails, then call the person on the phone and ask if they are asking you to do that.

Let's talk about BCHW accounting and what I call BCHW accounting peculiarities. Nonprofit organizations are all different, and BCHW is no exception! With the ever-increasing amount of

grants, contracts and agreements that BCHW (state) administers each year, I must make sure I have enough cash on hand to process all the reimbursements and credit card purchases requested, then wait for the various grants, contracts or agreements to reimburse BCHW. This is becoming more and more challenging and impacting BCHW's treasury as the amount of funds that BCHW retains each year has not significantly increased year over year for the last several years. These funding streams close out in the fall each year. Because of various trail work and match lags, I process many reimbursements that require a significant amount of liquidity, which can impact liquidity balances during the months of August through October each year. It is truly watching our dollars to ensure that the grants, contracts, and agreements do not impact BCHW and the chapter's other financial commitments.

If you have any questions, please call me at 253-709-5052; I do not want any misinterpretations or information floating about. In the next THN, let's discuss the importance of accurately recording Volunteer Hours and In-Kind donations. 🐾

BCHW Sponsorships Program

We are now offering annual sponsorships!

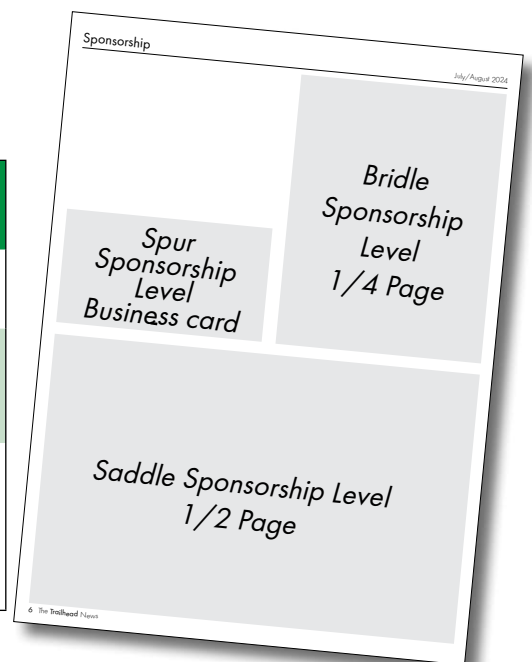
Sponsorship Levels will be for a calendar year and include the benefits listed below.

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**

- **The Trailhead News publication goes to 2100+ members**
- **Rendezvous Three-day event gathers 400+ members and 100+ public attendance**

Sponsorship Level	Benefits
Spur \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business card-size listing in all 6 editions of our Trailhead News • Your banner displayed at our statewide events
Bridle \$1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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)
Saddle \$5000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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



Contact president@bchw.org for more information

BCHW Rendezvous Auction FOUR Ways to Win!



Winning at a Rendezvous auction is lots more fun than buying on Amazon. You get the excitement of bidding, you get something unique, and you contribute to BCHW. That’s a win-win-win.

There are Four different Auction Events:



Bucket: Choose from 50 buckets, each with an item or a collection of items. Select the bucket you want and drop your ticket in the bucket. At the end of the day on Saturday, a ticket is drawn from each bucket; if it’s your ticket, you are the winner. It’s part auction and part raffle. Tickets come in your registration packet; you can buy more tickets from an Auction Volunteer. You can drop as many tickets as you want in the bucket. Why not? It increases your odds.



Silent: Browse tables of items and use the bid sheets to place your bid. There is no raffle here; the highest bid wins. You don’t have to hurry. Wander around and then come back and up your bid. The bidding closes at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. We will post winners during dinner.



Live: Thirty special items are auctioned off LIVE during dinner. This event is the old-fashioned way to bid by raising your number and competing against your fellow BCHers. Chainsaws, cow hides, paintings, handmade beds, wheelbarrows, bridles with bling... anything might be here. You might form a group and buy the Head Table at next year’s auction. (That’s the table with steak, lobster, wine and servers.)



Pick of the Live Raffle: We sell only 150 “Pick of the Live” tickets for \$10 each. Just before the auction, we draw one ticket, and the lucky winner chooses anything from the live auction table—ANYTHING for only \$10! 🐾

Rendezvous 2025

By Teri Starke

I hope everyone enjoys Ronde 2025; we tried to have something for everyone all weekend! I would be interested in hearing what you think, your suggestions for 2026 and

2027, and what you would like to see or be involved with a particular class, demo, or event. Email me at: treasurer@bchw.org or give me a call at 253-709-5052

Back Country Horsemen of Washington Annual Rendezvous

Used Tack Sale

Used Tack ~ Vendor Booths ~ Free Classes & Demonstrations



Mark Your Calendars for Kittitas County's Largest Used Tack Sale!

March 14th-16th, 2025
Friday & Saturday 9am-4pm
& Sunday 9am-11 am for sales and tack pick-up.

Kittitas Valley Event Center at the Ellensburg Fairgrounds
512 N Poplar, Ellensburg, WA

In addition to the sale, browse vendor booths offering special show prices



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! While you're there, come learn more about the Back Country Horsemen of Washington and attend free demos and classes. **ALL TACK MUST BE CLEAN AND TAGGED WITH CONSIGNOR NUMBER AND PRICE. PHONE NUMBERS MAY BE PUT ON SADDLES IF OFFERS WILL BE CONSIDERED. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT TACK THAT IS NOT PROPERLY TAGGED!** This is a consignment sale, so we will take care of selling it for you and keep 17-22% of the sale price as part of our fundraising effort. Please see consignment contract at BCHW.org

Tack sale info, contact Linda Riley
Text or call me 360-421-0992 (preferred)
rosie1400@yahoo.com
More info about all
Rendezvous activities at
BCHW.org



**Back Country Horsemen of Washington's
Annual Rendezvous, Mar. 14 – 16, 2025**

At the Kittitas Valley Event Center, Ellensburg!

PACKING COMPETITION

**Come and try your hands at
Packing!**

Classes for every level!

*** Beginner***

Intermediate

Advanced

Prizes Awarded for all levels!



Rendezvous Schedule – Friday, March 14th

continued on page 9

BLDG NUMBER ON KVEC MAP	BLDG 11	BETWEEN BLDG 11 & 12	BLDG 12	OUTSIDE ON EASTSIDE OF BLDG 12	BLDG 13	BLDG 14	BLDG 15	BLDG 16
NAMES OF BLDGS	TEANAWAY	CONCESSIONS	UMTANUM	UMTANUM OVERHANG	MANASTASH	HERITAGE	NANEUM	TANEUM
8:00-8:30am	TRAILMEISTER CINCH CLINIC DAY 1	CONCESSIONS in the Kitchen between the Teanaway and Umtaneum 8am-3pm	VENDORS, BUCKET & SILENT AUCTIONS, All Auction Donations & Set-up	DUTCH OVEN COOKING	BCHW STORE AND VENDORS 9am-4pm	NEXT GENERATION PACKERS - Jay Adams	SAWYER INSTRUCTOR/EVALUATORS MEETING - Tony Karniss	FIRST AID/CPR CLASS RUNS 9am-2pm
8:30-9:00am								
9:00-9:30am								
9:30-10:00am								
10:00-10:30am								
10:30-11:00am								
11:00-11:30am								
11:30-12:00pm								
12:00-12:30pm	LIVE AUCTION ITEMS						FUTURE OF RONDY	
12:30-1:00pm								
1:00-1:30pm						YOUTH BCHW/4H COLLABORATION - Carole Shuh		
1:30-2:00pm	CHAPTER DISPLAYS							
2:00-2:30pm							TREASURERS MEETING - Teri Starke	
2:30-3:00pm								
3:00-3:30pm						ESSENTIALS IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - Amber Palmer		
3:30-4:00pm								
4:00-4:30pm								
4:30-5:00pm	POTLUCK DINNER							
5:00-5:30pm								
5:30-6:00pm								
6:00-6:30pm								
6:30-7:00pm	BCHW BOARD MEETING 6:30-9pm							
7:00-7:30pm								
7:30-8:00pm								
8:00-8:30pm								
8:30-9:00pm								
9:00-9:30pm								
9:30-10:00pm								

schedule is subject to change

Rendezvous Schedule - Friday, March 14th

continued from page 8

BLDG NUMBER ON KVEC MAP	GAZEBO IS BLDG 3	ON EASTSIDE OF BLDG 5	BLDG 5	BLDG 6	WESTERN VILLAGE AREA 24	WESTERN VILLAGE AREA 24			
NAMES OF BLDGS	GRASSY AREA BY GAZEBO	SIDE OF BLOOM PAVILION	BLOOM PAVILION	DRAFT HORSE BARN	VIP ROOM	SHOP 2	Outside Western Village		
8:00-8:30am									
8:30-9:00am									
9:00-9:30am									
9:30-10:00am									
10:00-10:30am	CROSSCUT SAW COMPETITION Wenas Chapter 10am-4pm. To the East of the Saw competition Marty Bjornstad will be talking about driving tips and maintenance for your bumper pull horse trailer, Friday and Saturday 9-10am. From 10-12 and 1-3 he will talk about knots and camping in your bumper pull trailer.		RIDER CONFIDENCE 101 - Kendra Bandock	BCHW TACK SALE 9am-4pm	HAY TESTING - Nick Winfrey		STIHL SMALL GAS ENGINE DEMO AND MAINTENANCE		
10:30-11:00am									
11:00-11:30am									
11:30-12:00pm		SADDLE CLEANING - Sheila Shockey					SOCIAL MEDIA BASICS - Mandy Biles		
12:00-12:30pm							FOOD PLANNING FOR WORK PARTY - Kim Merrick & Teri Letcher	PACK SUPPORT TRAINING - Darrell Wallace	
12:30-1:00pm		SADDLE BUILDING DEMO - Dave Morrison					YOUTH EVEN IDEAS: YOUTH TRAILS CLINIC - Kim Merrick		
1:00-1:30pm							IMPROVING YOUR MEETING - Kim Merrick		
1:30-2:00pm									
2:00-2:30pm									
2:30-3:00pm					CUSTOM MOULDING SADDLE PADS - North Fit Equine				
3:00-3:30pm									
3:30-4:00pm									
4:00-4:30pm					BYLAWS VS STANDING RULES - Ken Carmichael				
4:30-5:00pm									
5:00-5:30pm									
5:30-6:00pm									
6:00-6:30pm					RECEPTION FOR JANET JONES				
6:30-7:00pm									
7:00-7:30pm									
7:30-8:00pm									
8:00-8:30pm									
8:30-9:00pm									
9:00-9:30pm									
9:30-10:00pm									

schedule is subject to change

Rendezvous Schedule - Saturday, March 15th

continued from page 11

BLDG NUMBER ON KVEC MAP	BLDG 11	BETWEEN BLDG 11 AND 12	BLDG 12	OUTSIDE ON EASTSIDE OF BLDG 12	BLDG 13	BLDG 14	BLDG 15	BLDG 16	GAZEBO IS BLDG 3
NAMES OF BLDGS	TEANAWAY	CONCESSIONS	UMPTANUM	UMTANUM OVERHANG	MANASHTASH	HERITAGE	NANEUM	TANEUM	GRASSY AREA BY GAZEBO
8:00-8:30am	TRAILMEISTER CINCH CLINIC DAY 2	CONCESSIONS in the Kitchen between the Teanaway and Umtaneum & Tent Outside the Teanaway 8am-3pm	VENDORS, BUCKET & SILENT AUCTIONS, ALL AUCTION DONATIONS & SET UP BUCKET AUCTION CLOSES AT 4pm SILENT AT 5pm	DUTCH OVEN COOKING	BCHW STORE & VENDORS 9am-4pm	"AED - HOW TO USE" TAWNEY CARRIER	GRANT TRAINING - Jen Bond	FIRST AID/CPR CLASS 9am-2pm	CROSSCUT SAW COMPETITION Wenas Chapter 10am-4pm. To the East of the Saw competition - Marty Bjornstad will be talking about driving tips and maintenance for your bumper pull horse trailer, Friday and Saturday 9-10am. From 10am-12pm & 1-3pm he will talk about knots and camping in your bumper pull trailer.
8:30-9:00am									
9:00-9:30am									
9:30-10:00am									
10:00-10:30am									
10:30-11:00am									
11:00-11:30am									
11:30-12:00pm									
12:00-12:30pm	BUCKET AUCTION CLOSES AT 4pm SILENT AUCTION CLOSES AT 5pm						SOLAR, BATTERIES, REFRIGERATORS - Chuck Regimbal		
12:30-1:00pm									
1:00-1:30pm									
1:30-2:00pm									
2:00-2:30pm	DESSERT DASH Dessert Drop-off								
2:30-3:00pm	CHAPTER TABLE ASSIGNMENT & DECORATING								
3:00-3:30pm									
3:30-4:00pm						EQUINE FIRST AID & WOUND HEALING + ODDS & ENDS - Jack Gillete			
4:00-4:30pm	HAPPY HOUR								
4:30-5:00pm									
5:00-5:30pm									
5:30-6:00pm	CATERED DINNER								
6:00-6:30pm									
6:30-7:00pm									
7:00-7:30pm	LIVE AUCTION								
7:30-8:00pm									
8:00-8:30pm									
8:30-9:00pm									
9:00-9:30pm									
9:30-10:00pm									

schedule is subject to change

Rendezvous Schedule - Saturday, March 15th

continued from page 10

BLDG NUMBER ON KYEC MAP	ON EASTSIDE OF BLDG 5	BLDG 5	BLDG 6	BLDG 24	WESTERN VILLAGE BLDG 24	WESTERN VILLAGE BLDG 24	WESTERN VILLAGE BLDG 24			
NAMES OF BLDGS	SIDE OF BLOOM ANNEX	BLOOM PAVILION	DRAFT HORSE BARN	VIP ROOM	SHOP 2	SHOP 3	SHOP 6	Outside Western Village		
8:00-8:30am										
8:30-9:00am										
9:00-9:30am	EQUINE MASSAGE - Brandy Crawford		BCHW USED TACK SALE 9am-4am		CREW LEADER COLLEGE 9am-4pm	PRESIDENTS FORUM: 2 chapter presidents discuss questions	NEXT GENERATION PACKERS - Jay Adams			
9:30-10:00am										
10:00-10:30am	TRAILER MAINTENANCE & FUNCTION - Dave-Ellensburg			JANET JONES BOOK DISCUSSION			TRICKS & TIPS FORUM FOR CAMPING, RIDING, & DEALING W/HORSES - Traci Koch		STIHL GAS ENGINES MAINTENANCE	
10:30-11:00am	Tire, Brake and Bearing									
11:00-11:30am		PACKING COMPETITION 12-3:30pm - Harold Wiese								
11:30-12:00pm	CUSTOM MOULDING SADDLE PADS -North Fit Equine					SOCIAL MEDIA BASICS - Mandy Biles		PLUSSING UP' YOUR CHAPTER MEETING - Theresa Percy		
12:00-12:30pm										
12:30-1:00pm										
1:00-1:30pm	SADDLE BUILDING DEMO - Dave Morrison							CREATION OF "HELL HATS" - Beth Ferris	PUBLIC LANDS - Kathy Young	
1:30-2:00pm										
2:00-2:30pm					JANET JONES BOOK DISCUSSION					
2:30-3:00pm										
3:00-3:30pm										
3:30-4:00pm										
4:00-4:30pm										
4:30-5:00pm										
5:00-5:30pm										
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7:00-7:30pm										
7:30-8:00pm										
8:00-8:30pm										
8:30-9:00pm										
9:00-9:30pm										
9:30-10:00pm										

schedule is subject to change

Rendezvous Schedule – Sunday, March 16th

continued from page 11

BLDG NUMBER ON KVEC MAP	BLDG 11	BETWEEN BLDG 11 AND 12	BLDG 14	BLDG 1
NAMES OF BLDGS	TEANAWAY	CONCESSIONS	HERITAGE	ARMORY
9:00am		CONCESSIONS in the Kitchen between the Tearaway and Umtaneum 9am-12pm	COWBOY CHURCH	USED TACK SALE
9:30am				
10:00am	AWARDS & GENERAL MEETING			
10:30am				
11:00am				
11:30am				
12:00pm				

schedule is subject to change

2025 Rendezvous Vendors

Alpacas at Dream Catchers Farm

Socks, gloves, hats, headbands, scarves

Dave Morrison Saddle Fitting

PROPER SADDLE FITTING AND BUILDING, DAVE MORRISON - Morrison Custom Fit Saddles, is based on providing saddles that are lightweight and built on trees that are custom fit to the backs of horses and mules that are experiencing saddle fit problems. My demos will use the Dennis Lane Back Profiling System to measure the animal to get a tree built that conforms to its back, no matter its size or conformation. I will outline some common behavioral and performance problems associated with poor fitting saddles.

Gear Up Hats

Hats and accessories

NW Cosmetics, LLC

We market products for beauty and health. Our products are a line of creams for beauty and cosmetics and LED light devices that can be used for beauty as well as for pain relief, both for people and animals.

Panattoni Leather & Equine Laundry

Saddles, tack, chinks, all leather goods, custom shop

Purity Soapworks

Organic goat milk soap & skin care products

Steep Ridge Trails

Equine first aid and teaches classes-Backcountry First Aid, discussing, planning, wounds, snake bites and hands on bandaging scenarios

Tucker Books

Children’s book about a cat when there are dogs in the home

Two Blazes Artwork

Western Novels and Prints of Authors Artwork, accepts commissions of artwork

USFS

Federal Land Management Agency

VIPs Magnetic Jewelry

We make and sell magnetic necklaces, bracelets anklets, kids’ jewelry and earrings

Crooked Horn Trading Post

Handcrafted leather items made in Washington State from USA raised Buffalo hide, Elk hide, Cowhide and Deer hide.



2025 Rendezvous Vendors

continued from page 12

Don's Leather Shop

Horse riding & packing equipment, chaps, saddles, knife sheaths, rifle scabbards, saddle bags

Washington Trails

WTA mobilizes hikers and everyone who loves the outdoors to explore, protect and champion trails and public lands

BCS Leather Goods

Handcrafted High quality leather goods. Wallets, belts, bags, chinks, chaps, holsters, sheathes, dog collars and leashes, halters, headstalls, pommel and saddle bags and much more.

James Custom Art

Horseshoe, harness, single tree, rebar and wine barrel custom art

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Provide information on recreational opportunities in the Kittitas/Yakima County areas on DNR land

Buckhorn Chapter BCHW

We will be selling the first time ever "Show Your Volunteer Pride", BCHW Fence/Property signs, info on BCHW.org 🐾

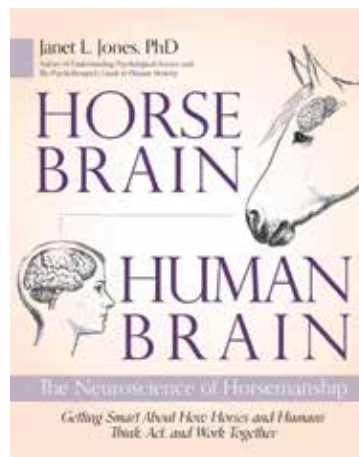
Janet Jones is Coming to Rendezvous!

Author of ‘Horse Brain, Human Brain’, Janet applies brain research to the training of horses and riders.

Several BCHW chapters are hosting Janet for two informative talks, including a Q & A session after. We will also have Janet’s book available for purchase, at a discount to members. And, of course Janet will sign copies of her book (you can even bring your copy from home!).

Janet is an engaging and fun speaker. You will learn something about horsey behavior, and be entertained. There will be an informal reception for Janet on Friday at 5:30 in the Western Village.

- **10:00am “You’ve Seen That a Million Times!”** – Equine brains cause horses to shy from tiny changes that human brains do not notice. An automatic process called categorical perception allows us to group different items together and treat them all the same. Horse brains don’t have that process, so each item is considered new and different. By exploring differences in categorical perception, riders can anticipate and reduce shying.
- **2:00pm Buddy-Sour: Managing Over-Attachment Between Horses** – Some horses whinny frantically and gallop the fence-line back and forth when their best buddies leave for even a few minutes. Why does this separation anxiety occur, and how can owners reduce the problems it creates? This talk explores the complex social hierarchy among horses, why it exists, and how modern stabling impedes it. We turn then to applied techniques for preventing and correcting herd-bound behavior. 🐾



Winner of Japan’s
2021 Equine
Culture Award

Finalist for
American Horse
Publications’ 2023
Equine Industry
Vision Award.

BCHW Membership Announcement

BCHW memberships expire on December 31, 2024 and the renewal season starts on October 1st. Please go to BCHW.org and click on the Membership tab to join or renew. If you have any questions, issues or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me, Dana Chambers, at membership.bchw@gmail.com or call 206-498-6952. I’m here for you!

PRICING FOR OUR SINGLE AND FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ARE INCREASING.

In Addition To Chapter Dues

Single	\$45.00
Family	\$60.00
Contributing	\$75.00
Sustaining	\$125.00
Patron	\$250.00
Benefactor	\$500.00
Lifetime (Single)	\$1,200.00
Lifetime (Family of 2)	\$2,000.00

Rendezvous Clinics/Class/Demo Descriptions

Essentials in Emergency Preparedness –

Amber Palmer

This 1.5-2-hour course covers disasters, alert types, mapping out your property, essentials of your “Go Bag,” nose to tail assessments of your livestock, identifying shock, what to have on hand for shelter in place, and more! The course comes with a workbook for your planning and personal preparedness notes. Cost is \$10 per person, pre-registration/payment is highly encouraged as limited workbooks will be provided for walk ins. Please reach out to Amber Palmer at steepridgetrails@gmail.com to reserve your spot and manual by March 1st.

Friday – 2:00pm-5:00pm & Saturday – 10am-12:00pm, in the Heritage, bldg. 14

Dutch Oven Cooking

Come join our dutch oven gathering or “DOG” --DOG stands for “Dutch Oven Gathering” and is open to anyone and everyone interested in dutch oven cooking. Whether you are experienced, new to dutch ovens or just want to check it out, please plan to stop by. If you plan to cook, you will be expected to bring your own oven/ovens, utensils and recipe/recipes. However, a limited number of ovens and utensils will be available to loan. This is a 2-day event beginning at 12 noon both Friday and Saturday. Friday will focus on basic techniques and cooking for the evening’s potluck dinner while Saturday will focus on desserts for the banquet and dessert auction.

FRIDAY – 12:00pm

- Welcome and introduction to basic cooking equipment and techniques
- Show & tell various setups of participants
- Descriptions of dishes to be prepared
- Throughout the afternoon various recipes will be presented and shared
- The last presentation will focus on cleaning techniques

SATURDAY – 12:00pm

- Welcome & introduction to desert cooking in dutch ovens
- Description of dishes to be prepared
- Throughout the afternoon various dishes and recipes will be discussed and shared
- As the banquet begins dishes will be transported to the banquet room for display and used for the Dessert Auction

For more information call Bill McKenna 360-220-5909

This is outside of the Umtaneum, BLDG 12 on the east side under the overhang

Proper Saddle Fitting and Building – Dave Morrison

Morrison Custom Fit Saddles is based on providing saddles that are lightweight and built on trees that are custom fit to the backs of horses and mules that are experiencing saddle fit problems. My demos will use the Dennis Lane Back Profiling System to measure the animal to get a tree built that conforms to its back, no matter it’s size or conformation. I will outline some common behavioral and performance problems associated with poor fitting saddles

Friday & Saturday – 1:00pm-2:00pm in Bloom Annex

Trailmeister – Cinch Clinic – Robert Eversole

In my clinics, I teach horse and mule enthusiasts how to craft woven mohair cinches. Attendees will leave with a safe, functional custom cinch as well as the tools and knowledge to make more in the future. All materials and tools for the clinic are provided, and participants will keep these to continue their cinch-making journey. Pre-Registration required.

This introductory clinic covers a wide range of topics, including:

- Cinch Materials: Natural vs. Synthetic
- Determining Cinch Size
- How Conformation Affects Cinch Width and Length
- Essential Knots to know
- Calculating Cordage Length
- Building the Cinch: Step-by-Step
- Design and Detailing Work
- After-Build Care for Your Cinch
- Resources for Materials and Future Projects

Students can choose to make either a straight riding cinch or a double ring packers cinch.

Participants will receive a custom loom, cinch-making tools, and all the materials they need to build their cinches during the clinic, and they will keep these tools for future use.

Friday & Saturday – 8am-12:00pm in the Teanaway, bldg. 11

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Rendezvous Clinics/Class/Demo Descriptions

continued from page 15

Horse Brain Human Brain – Janet Jones, Author

Janet Jones, the best-selling author of Horse Brain Human Brain, will present two sessions on Saturday, March 15. She applies brain research to the training of horses and riders. Janet earned her PhD in cognitive science from UCLA and is a professional horse trainer. Her *book*, Horse Brain Human Brain, has received great praise and has been touted as the book the horse world has been waiting for...it is a game changer. It is not just about training horses; it is about understanding the. Please join us in March to gain insight into how your brain and your horse's brain can work together. Horse Brain Human Brain will be available for purchase at the event.

For more information about Janet Jones: janet-jones.com

Saturday – 9:00am-3:00pm in the Western Village, bldg. 24 VIP Room

Saddle Cleaning/Conditioning & Checking for Safety Issues – Sheila Shockey

This class will teach you how to properly clean and condition your saddle and all its parts. Best methods of cleaning, as well as tried and true cleaners, and best conditioners used by well-known saddle makers.

While doing a thorough job of cleaning you will also be looking for safety issues and wear spots. This class is demonstration only, please do not bring your saddle to class. There will be a handout given with the class. No Fee for this class

Friday 11:30am-1:00pm in the Bloom Annex

Equine Massage

Brandy Crawford has always been star struck by horses. At a young age she began riding horses for pleasure and later competed in the performance arena. Throughout her life she has been an avid horse rider; even when stationed overseas. After retiring from a career in the military she chose to give back to the horses and became an equine massage therapist. There she finds her passion in life and her "happy place," Massaging horses is a unique gift that can be performed by a compassionate individual.

As a graduate of the Langley Equine Studies, Soap Lake, WA, Brandy is nationally certified in equine (large animal) massage through NBCAAM (National Board of Certification for Animal Acupressure and Massage). She is licensed by the Washington State Department of Health and insured through Hands on Trade Association.

Brandy offers a holistic massage experience for your equine. The benefits of massage may include increased flexibility, muscle recovery, injury prevention, reduction in stiffness, and overall comfort. Ask about her additional services offered such as Equi-Tape Kinesiology taping

Please have the horse clean, dry and groomed prior to appointment.
Saturday – 9:00am-10:00am in the Bloom Annex

Macramé Coiled Basket Class – Sheila Shockey

In this class you will build your own coiled macrame basket using rope and macrame cording. Super easy and a fun basket to build, your imagination is the limit. I will have other basket ideas on display to see firsthand examples of different styles you can create with this fast and easy technique. All supplies will be provided to you, just bring yourself and a friend to class. There is a \$20.00 fee for supplies per person. To register send email to: sheila1992@gmail.com

Saturday – 11:00am-3:00pm in the Western Village, bldg. 24, in shop 6

Use of Automated External Defibrillator (not a certification class)

Includes brief CPR refresher (talk through hands-only CPR) and how to integrate the new AEDs that we are seeing at trailheads, in grocery stores, etc. Includes an AED demo and allows participants to practice proper technique including timing. Thanks to Kittitas Emergency Medical Services System who has allowed use of their mannequins and AEDs for the classes. Come learn how to be a life saver!!

Saturday – 8:30am-10am in the Heritage Room, bldg. 14

Surviving an Emergency in the Wilderness

Hear from Search and Rescue Team members on real-world tips on surviving an emergency in the wilderness. Come learn things like how to manage an emergency, gear considerations, first aid kit components. Learn what happens when you finally make the decision to call for help and what a rescue looks like from a professional rescuer and what to be prepared for.

Saturday – 12pm-1:30pm in the Heritage Room, bldg. 14

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Rendezvous Clinics/Class/Demo Descriptions

continued from page 16

Creating a Hellhat – Beth Ferris

A lot more riders are wearing helmets these days. Some have chosen to fix them up to look a little more Western. This became known as “Hellhats.” We’ll start with your favorite helmet, add a brim and decorate.

The original Hellhats started with a palm or straw type cowboy hat. The crown was cut off and attached to the helmet. Currently, there are several manufacturers with premade brims that are easy to attach to the helmet.

People who are serious about building their own custom Hellhat need to contact me before rendezvous. I will send you more information about purchasing the hat or brim to build your Hellhat. I will also send you some ideas that will help you with some creative ideas.

I will have scissors and other cutting tools available along with several glue guns. I will have some decorative trim available. I encourage people to go to your local craft store to pick up items you like.

Everyone is welcome to observe what we are doing. If you plan to build your own custom Hellhat, please contact me, Beth Ferris, at 425-327-4881 or highcountryrider@hotmail.com.

Saturday – 1:00pm-3:00pm, in the Western Village, bldg. 24, shop 1

Trailer Maintenance & Function

- What should be there: sway control, brake away, battery, weight distribution bars, lights, brake control box.
- What to check and how often: bearings, brakes, battery, lights, tire pressure, check hitch for rust, check ball mount for proper size, check trailer floors for rot.
- Basic mechanics on truck, fuel levels etc., before you head out, adjusting brake control.
- How brakes work (different kinds)
- Changing a tire (?-for the ladies), the easiest way. Block/ramp to roll up on. Be sure to have tire changing tools (know where to find them). What if lugs don’t come lose what to do. AAA or US Rider assistance hazard triangle or flares (when to use them).
- Defensive driving tips include control of a trailer hauling live weight.

Driving distance, Control of skidding (using the brake control lever)
Dave from Ellensburg Tire Brake and Bearings.

Saturday – 10:00am-11:30am, in the Bloom Annex, next to bldg. 5

Trail Warriors Young Trail Rider Project

The sad truth is... BCH is aging out.

How do you change that?

How do you start a youth program?

How do you reach out to the young riders in your area?

Trail Warriors is a successful two-year-old collaboration between BCHW and 4-H.

Come and find out more at this informative workshop.
Carole Schuh.

Friday – 12:30pm-2:00pm in Heritage, bldg. 14

Saturday – 10:30am-12:00pm in the Naneum, bldg. 15

Tricks & Tips Forum For Camping, Riding, & Dealing With Horses

Ideas to help save time, money, and energy to make camping, riding, and dealing with horses easier. Products to use, where to buy items, and homemade remedies to make our trips easier. Space-saving tips and tricks for setting up your horse trailer.

I am sending out an invite to the chapters and ask for people to share their ideas. I will have a form for them to fill out asking what the tip is: it is a product, how they use it, and where to get the product along with an estimated cost. If it is a trick to making something easier, how they use it where they got it or how to make it. If it is a trailer hack, how they make it work, and where to get the info on it. I also plan to ask if they are willing to stand up and speak about it and answer questions.

I will put this information together in a handout for those members that attend to take home. Traci Koch

Saturday – 10:00am-12:00pm in Shop 3 in the Western Village 🐾

2025 Rendezvous

Table Decorating Contest



2024 Winner Purple Sage Riders

One Award given for the table that best depicts our theme:

2025 Rendezvous Theme:

"Pack to the Future"

Table decorating begins at 3:00pm on Saturday and must be finished no later than 4pm on Saturday.

**Table decorating contest judged by:
Guest Judges**

Backcountry Trail Work in the Olympic National Park



From left: Bernt Ericson, Rebecca Wanagel, Martin Knowles, Ted Spoon, Paul Kamps (missing: David Graves)



Up by O'Neil Pass the views get astounding. It's hard to focus on your work!

By Rebecca Wanagel

8/23-8/30/2024. Upper Duckabush and Home Sweet Home trails, Olympic National Park (North Fork Skokomish, Home Sweet Home and Duckabush River are stock-rated trails)

Gray Wolf Trail Crew members:

Rebecca Wanagel	Martin Knowles	Paul Kamps
Bernt Ericson	Ted Spoon	David Graves

BCHW Packers:

Rachael Taylor-Tuller and Matthew Tuller

- Woody (lead, certified Search and Rescue Horse)
- Blue (co-leader horse)
- Biskit (Haflinger)
- Noomi (28-year-old miniature horse who makes everyone smile)
- Harold Wiese
- Sugar (lead horse)
- Archie (mule)
- Possi (Haflinger)
- Maizey (Haflinger Mule)
- Katy (horse)
- Belle (mule)

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Content Deadline for the May/June 2025 Digital Newsletter is April 1, 2025

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.



Backcountry Trail Work in the Olympic National Park

continued from page 19



Packers Rachael and Matthew and company emerging through the rainy mist



Packer Harold and friends, waiting to be unloaded

Objectives met:

Maintained* 9.7 miles of trail:

1. Home Sweet Home Trail from Home Sweet Home Camp to Upper Duckabush Camp.
2. Duckabush River Trail from Upper Duckabush Camp east to Lacrosse Pass trail junction.
3. Upper Duckabush Camp to Marmot Lake and beyond to both O'Neil Pass and Hart Lake junction.
4. Bottom half-mile of Lacrosse Pass Trail.

**Cleared logs (to stock standards on trails rated as such), hand brushed, retreaded and tended drainage in critical locations. Logs cleared numbered nearly 100.*

This trip would have been impossible without stock support, as our work started at Home Sweet Home, nearly 15 miles from the trailhead up and over First Divide. We are immensely grateful to BCHW members Rachael, Matthew, and Harold for making this extremely difficult trip so that we could maintain these deep backcountry trails.

After a typical summer's dry spell, we got dumped on with an unexpected cold, hard rain. The packers were loading when we left the trailhead, and they had to drop off their camp and horse feed below First Divide. Then they encountered ground hornets, which dispersed their herd, and the trail from 9-Stream to First Divide and then down to Home Sweet Home is difficult, to put it mildly. Steep and rocky and now, also wet. The packers and their animals were working extremely hard, and the crew members,

who had arrived hours before, were waiting, freezing and wet, bouncing around, trying to stay just this side of hypothermia.

Home Sweet Home is an iconic and lusciously beautiful camp, perhaps even more so in the misty fog. You can see the entire basin from First Divide. The camp is the site of an old shelter, long since gone, nestled at the back of a gigantic meadow overshadowed by Mt. Steel and Mt. Hopper and filled with sub-alpine snow-squished curvy firs worthy of a Dr. Suess starring role.

We were working in the heart of some of the most jaw-dropping scenery the Olympics have to offer, deep into the backcountry, chainsawing and getting tread back to snuff. The O'Neil Pass basin is the headwaters of the mighty Duckabush River. Trickle of water in a huge open meadow suffice as the "river." Like all rivers in the Olympics, though, in a short distance, this becomes a raging, deep and cascading body of water, unsafe to ford for much of the year. It's a reminder of how spectacular the Olympic National Park is and how lucky we are to be able to work on these trails. Getting our equipment to this remote location would be impossible without BCHW packers.

On the last day, we all exited from Upper Duckabush Camp and hiked 17 miles out. After many hours, the packers arrived, and we learned that there had been an incident. Thankfully, all heartbeats were fine. Possi had slipped off the trail on some switchbacks out of camp, which sent him sliding on his belly and then tumbling. He tumbled down several switchbacks with the manties still attached to him. One flew open, which the Tullers had to re-collect and re-pack once they had gotten Possi back on the trail and ensured he was okay (He was! Phew!). Rachael and Matthew, as always, dealt with the situation expertly. They were all smiles when they showed up at the trailhead. 🌿

2025 New Year's Day Ride Held by Nisqually and Pierce Chapter at Nisqually State Park



Happy New Year to all!

We had sunshine, beautiful horses, delicious food and great company. There was a great turnout. It was wonderful to see new faces and longtime members of BCHW enjoying the event.

This ride has become an annual joint chapter ride and has been looked forward to by both chapters for the past several years.

This year, we had over 50 trailers and 70+ participants. This event is growing and being enjoyed by more riders each year.

Again, thanks to everyone for joining us. 🐾



Please clip out and mail



Permanent or Temporary Address Change Form

Name: _____

Current Address: _____

New Address: _____

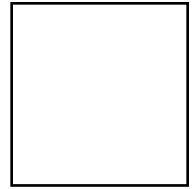
Temporary Address for Snow Birds: _____

Start date: _____ Return Date: _____

Mail to: Dana Chambers, State Membership Chair, 11404 210th Ave Ct E, Bonney Lake, WA 98391
Email to: membership.bchw@gmail.com



The Trailhead News BCHW
 P.O. Box 1132
 Ellensburg, WA 98926-1132



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

FREE Listing on BCHW Chapter Events Calendar

Be sure to: • Contact the ride host to check for updates on the event.

• Check to see if dogs are welcome.

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.

1st QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting
 Friday, March 14, 2025
 5:30 pm Teanaway Room
 Kittitas Valley Event Center
 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
 BCHW President Dana Chambers
president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

BCHW Legislative Day
 Monday, March 24, 2025
 More details soon
president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

Lewis County Chapter Fun Ride
 Saturday, May 10, 2025
 874 Burnt Ridge Rd, Near Onalaska, WA
 Sign In: 9:00-11:00am, Last Rider Out:
 11:30am, Prizes & Fun, Cost: Riders 16
 yrs & older \$20, riders under age 16 FREE
 Pre-register online:
www.bchw.org/upcoming_events.php
 Tony: (360) 520-5697 • tkarniss@gmail.com

2nd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting
 Saturday, June 21, 2025
 9:00am, Armory
 Kittitas Valley Event Center
 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
 BCHW President Dana Chambers
president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

2025 Rendezvous
 Friday-Sunday, March 14-16, 2025
 Kittitas Valley Event Center, Ellensburg, WA
treasurer@bchw.org

Equine Packing Clinic & So Much More!
BCHW Mount St. Helens Chapter
 Saturday, March 29, 2025
 Clark County Saddle Club
 Demo. incl: Packing, High
 Lining, Hobble Training, & More!
watrailriders@gmail.com

Grays Harbor Fund Ride 2025
 Saturday, June 21, 2025
 Schafer Grade near Matlock, WA
 No permits needed.
 Limited camping avail.
 2 Loops option w/ raffle & grand prize.
 Lunch will be avail. for purchase.
 Lots of parking.
 Contact Beth Branshaw:
bbranshaw@hotmail.com

3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting
 Saturday, September 20, 2025
 9:00am, Armory
 Kittitas Valley Event Center
 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
 BCHW President Dana Chambers
president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

Free Entrance Days in the

National Parks



- March 9 — Billy Frank Junior's Birthday
- March 19 — State Parks' Birthday
- April 22 — Earth Day
- June 7 — Free Fishing Weekend
- June 8 — Free Fishing Weekend
- June 19 — Juneteenth
- Aug. 9 — Smokey Bear's Birthday
- Sept. 27 — National Public Lands Day
- Oct. 10 — World Mental Health Day
- Nov. 11 — Veterans Day