

Spring 2021

Trail Crafters News

Olympic Peninsula, Washington



**BCHW President
and wife Heather Visit**
April 12, 2021

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501

(c)(3) organization with 31 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.

Special Interest Articles

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PENINSULA CHAPTER BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

PO Box 451, Carlsborg, WA 98324 visit us on FB peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com

Peninsula Chapter's New Website: www.pbchw.org (New photos, maps, past Newsletters, Calendar, and other information are being added frequently.)

Upcoming Events: Rhody Ride, May 22nd

(There is a new Calendar on the website. Click the date of any event to see more.)

Newsletter Editor: Donna Hollatz jdhollatz@gmail.com

President's Message – Dan Dosey

Happy Spring!

The beautiful weather in April should have everyone getting their stock ready for trail rides. Work has been done to clear major obstacles at Miller, but the wind often leaves new surprises, so carrying a trail saw is always a good idea. If you encounter any obstacles that need work, please go to our website under "contact" and leave a message detailing the problem and location so it can be cleared soon. "Open Trails are Happy Trails!"

We had our first General Meeting at Layton Hill on April 12th with 24 people in attendance. This was the first time we were able to gather in person for over a year, and it felt very good to have the human contact! We were honored to have BCHW President, Jason Ridlon, and State Awards Chairperson, Susan Sundahl attending to present special state awards to 3 chapter members: Don Gonder, Desk Jockey; Jim Hollatz, Trail Warrior; and Donna Hollatz, Backbone. We thank these dedicated volunteers for their hard work on behalf of Peninsula Chapter. Our volunteers are what make it possible for our group to accomplish the BCHW missions.

Our next General Meeting will be May 22nd at Don Tucker's property, off Pearce Road, at 9am, before our Group "Rhody Ride" on Miller Peninsula State Park property. Members are welcome to camp out at the property on Friday and Saturday nights (May 21 & 22). There will be a Chapter Breakfast beginning at 8am on Saturday, followed by the meeting at 9am. The trails will be flagged for both a short (2 hr) and longer (3.5 hr) ride, so riders can go out in groups, with guides, or alone.

We are also planning a President's Chapter Picnic this summer on July 24th at the Dosey's home, so get that on your calendar! We will all enjoy the chance to socialize.

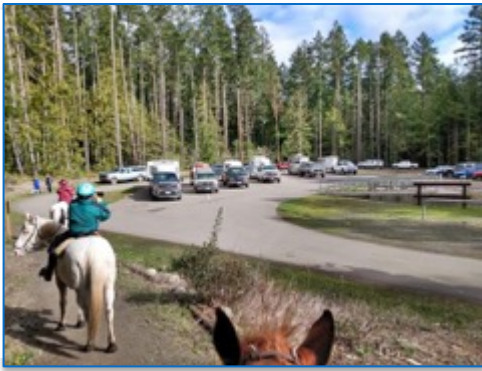
There are still some clerical jobs in need of volunteers. If you have a small number of extra hours you would be willing to devote to BCHW, please give me a call and we can talk it over. (360-461-9774 - Dan)

I hope you can find a sunny day soon to join friends on a trail with your horse.

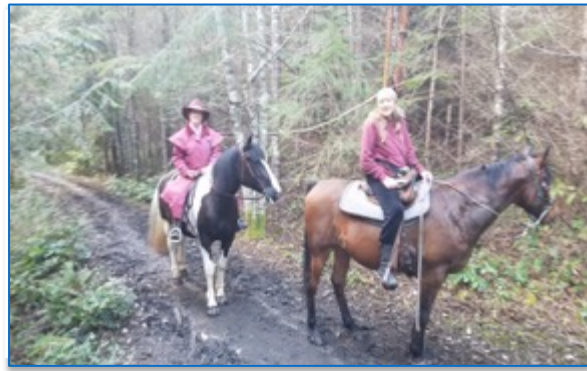
Happy trails,
Dan

March Madness Group Trail Ride – March 6, 2021

On Saturday, March 6th, 2020, the first Group Trail Ride of the 2021 year was held at Miller Peninsula (originally Feb. 13 was the chosen date, but a big wind and rain storm forced rescheduling)! This was a “casual” meeting, without food or fanfare, as there had been no organized rides for over a year. About 8 horses and riders turned out to enjoy the trails, and although there were some wet, muddy, spots to navigate, everyone came back with smiles. The parking lot was busy with other users, so a number of friendly greetings were exchanged, and there were only happy encounters on the trails.



Very busy parking lot on
March 6, 2021



Riders dressed for comfort
in any weather!



Riders ready to go!

BCHW Awards 2020

Presented by Susan Sundahl & Jason Ridlon on April 12, 2021



Don Gonder: “Desk Jockey: This person is one of the behind the scenes people, always at a computer or running from meeting to meeting. They keep the wheels of our organization turning.”

When Don joined the Chapter in 2010, he jumped in with both feet, developing our website and computer information system to disperse Chapter messages and maintain membership records.

He has also worked on many of our physical projects, especially Miller Peninsula. He has held the offices of Secretary and Director and consistently supported the BCH mission in many ways. Don is very deserving of the “Desk Jockey” award!



Jim Hollatz: “Trail Warrior: This person may not make all the chapter functions or even own a computer, but they are out rain or shine, day in and day out, working on the trails.”

It is fortunate for Peninsula Chapter that Jim likes to keep busy! Since joining in 2016, he has used his sawyer skills and physical strength for all aspects of trail building and maintenance. He

also helps out with pack stock support for trail crews and is ready to help with any other needed tasks. He donated 442 hours and 15 stock days in 2020, clearing downed trees, destroying noxious weeds, replacing signs, building turnpikes, hauling gravel, performing general trail maintenance and customizing our new Event trailer.



Donna Hollatz: “Backbone: This award is to recognize that special member who is always there when needed, ready and willing to do some special job that no one else can or will do, sometimes at the last minute. This is a member who is very important in keeping the chapter, organization or event operating smoothly.”

Donna has been Newsletter editor for the past couple of years, keeping members informed of our activities. She maintains chapter photos, and is Publicity Chair, submitting stories to the state and national level to raise awareness of our chapter’s accomplishments. She also works on trail maintenance crews, noxious weed control, trail signage, and helps out with chapter social functions and educational training.

Our chapter has many wonderful volunteers for whom we are thankful! Only a few are singled out for special recognition each year, but **All are Greatly Appreciated!**

Dungeness Trails – March 15 – 18, 2021

Back Country Horsemen was given permission to build new trails on Department of Natural Resources(DNR) land adjacent to the existing Dungeness Trails that were built by the Olympic Bicycle Alliance west of River Road (in the area that will become a reservoir). The new trails are east of River Road and south of Happy Valley Road. Flag lines were laid out, then during the week of March 15–18, mini excavators were used to build trails. Del Sage brought his excavator and worked the area east of Sporseen Road on the first day. Powell Jones used a rented excavator for 4 days on the land west of Sporseen Road to River Road, south of Happy Valley Road.

On Tuesday, March 16, a large crew of volunteers showed up to improve the tread so it will be safe for hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians. The work crews came from BCHW and bicycle groups from as far away as Port Townsend. Having a large group to wield the hand tools (rakes, McClouds, pulaskis, axes) made the effort go quickly. The loop trail east of Sporseen Road was nearly completed that first day. The next two days brought smaller groups, but with lots of energy and sweat, many roots, rocks, and debris was cleared from the new pathways. There is still some refinement to be done, but the trails are rideable. Parking at the new Trailhead on Happy Valley Road gives access to the new trails as well as those west of River Road.

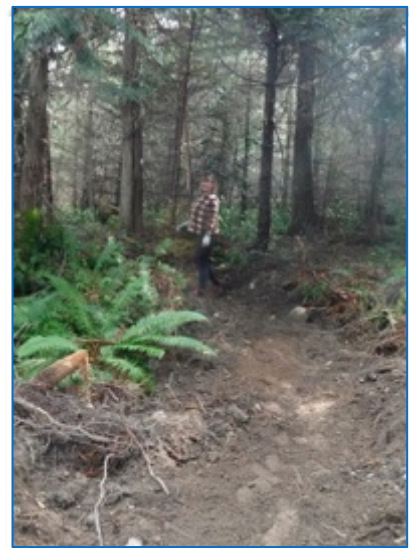
Gravel was hauled to create smooth transition areas from pavement to trail along Sporseen Road and a “mounting log” was installed at the Happy Valley trail entrance. These new trails will make up for the “loss” that occurs when the reservoir is filled with water. It was a wonderful corroborative effort by the equestrian-bicycle-hiker user groups.

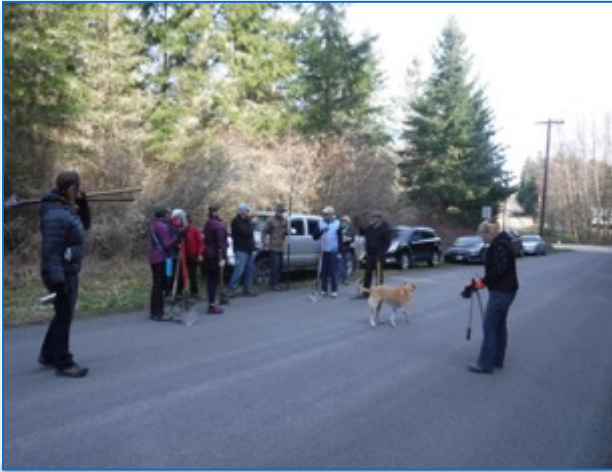


Rough trail.



Trail workers using hand tools.





Large crew assembled for work party.



Axe & Clipboard, both required tools of the trade.



Mounting Block Installed for Riders.



Trail Totes for Hauling Gravel



Clallam County has made these amazing machines available for our use on trail projects. We have agreed to store, repair, and maintain them. They will be very useful for moving gravel to improve trail tread and also sometimes for hauling rigging equipment or heavy tools where the distance is too short to justify taking stock animals. We used similar totes to transport gravel 0.6 miles up the trail to repair a very muddy stock ford at Whiskey Creek. Last year we took gravel about .5 miles down trails at Siebert Creek. These will be very useful!

New Event Trailer for Peninsula Chapter

The Event Trailer has had a couple of “up-grades”. The sunny weather of April created enough heat that Jim was able to apply 3 coats of sealant to the top to be sure it is adequately weatherized. New “Peninsula Chapter” signs were also affixed on each side. Look for it at the Rhody Ride!



We have additional signs (size 20"W x 17"H) available for \$25 in case anyone would like to have one to put on their personal horse trailer. Contact Linda Morin: 360-775-5060

Donated Paving Bricks from Jamestown S'Klallam Dungeness River Center



The Dungeness River Center is undergoing a major remodel and expansion. In the process, an area of paving bricks had to be removed. Powell Jones carefully saved unbroken bricks and put them on pallets. They have been donated to BCHW to use wherever we can for trail stabilization or at trailheads, picnic areas, or parking area. We appreciate getting materials that can help us fulfill our mission of keeping trails open for all users.

Report Trail Hazards

Please Report Trail Hazards on Website: www.pbchw.org

If you encounter downed trees or other trail hazards while riding, please report them so our trail crews can address and correct the problem.

- Go to the website.
- Click on “contact”
- Give a description of the problem and where it is located. Be specific: date, which trail, approximately where along trail, size of tree or explain problem. Leave contact information if possible.

The website is monitored daily and this information will allow us to get the information to the necessary workers in a timely manner.

Thank You!

Sign Installation & Trail Maintenance – Miller Peninsula

February 23, 2021 **New Trail Signs** were installed along the Jamestown North Trail loop, including the southern part of Belly Deep and Beeline. Leif Hoglund, Rick and Suzanne King, and Jim and Donna Hollatz used bicycles to haul posts up the narrow trails from the end of Cat Lake Road. The posts holes were hand dug, but the ground was soft! This is just one more step to help visitors navigate the Miller Peninsula trail system. (Sorry, forgot to take pictures!)

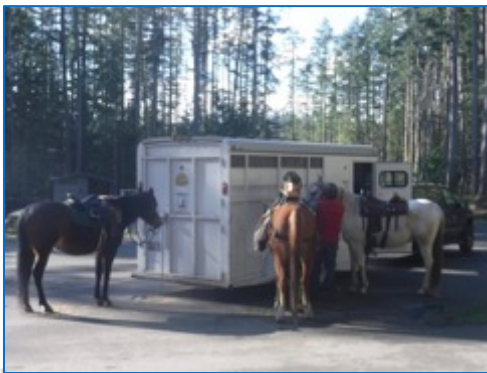
Downed Trees at Miller: This was a busy winter for clearing downed trees at Miller. Every time the wind blows, it seems that more come down.

January 20, 2021 Dan Dosey, Rick King, and Jim Hollatz drove in Fireweed Road, then walked down the Beach Trail to cut out and clear away multiple fallen trees and the branches that came with them.

February 7, 2021 Jim and Donna Hollatz took 3 horses (one packing the chainsaw) and rode Cable, Manzanita, and Fireweed to cut out and move a number of downed trees.

March 10, 2021 Rick & Suzanne King and Jim & Donna Hollatz walked in from Fireweed Road with a chain saw to cut out a big tree blocking E. Diamond Point Trail, then cleared a dangerous tree above Fireweed and messy spots on Yarrow Trail.

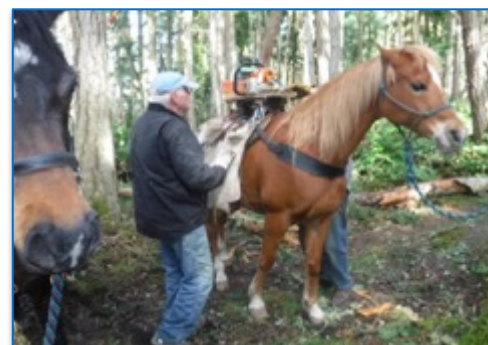
March 26, 2021 Tom Mix had his first ride following his January injuries. He rode with Jim & Donna (extra horse with chainsaw) to cut out trees on the Bluff Trail from the Beach Trail to Manzanita. It was another full day of climbing off and on, sawing, and swamping!



Ready to pack chainsaw.

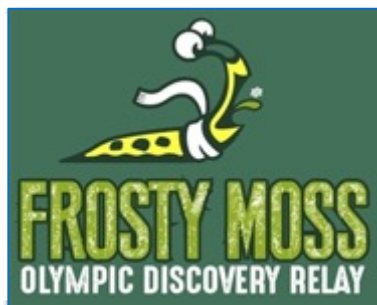


Big one that was blocking Fireweed!



Tom Mix is back to work!

Frosty Moss Relay – Rescheduled – May 15, 2021



The **Frosty Moss Olympic Discovery Relay** has been re-scheduled to be held on May 15, 2021. In past years, Peninsula Chapter has provided snacks for the participants, and a wall tent was set up as a warming station at the Dan Kelly Trailhead, but this year we are not sure what will be possible due to Covid-19 restrictions and 6 foot distance requirements. We look forward to assisting this community based fund-raising event and will help out in whatever way we can.

Trailhead Courtesy Reminder:

As winter approaches, there may be fewer people using the trails, but everyone should be reminded to practice the **Leave No Trace** principles that we teach. Be sure to clean up any “deposits” you and your horses leave around your horse trailers or on the trails. If you cannot get your horse to move off the trail to “poop,” dismount and kick the stuff off the trail (especially the ADA section at Miller). Walkers and bicycle riders will appreciate your courtesy! This includes shavings and hay in the parking area! Park rangers use a “blower” to clean the parking lot, and some of that stuff just won’t move when damp! We want to be sure that equestrians set a good example for other trail users.

New Request to All Members:

We are working toward having accurate information regarding **Trailhead Parking** on our Website. **Please:** If you go to a trailhead, take a photo of your truck and trailer that shows the parking lot. Send those photos to me and also report any unsatisfactory road conditions or problems with stock rig maneuvering space. This will be very helpful to people planning trips. (If we get multiple photos of the same lot, we’ll be able to choose the best one.) Send photos and information to Donna Hollatz jdholatz@gmail.com 360-457-6694

Photography Assistance Requested

One of the best ways to document all of our wonderful activities is through photos! We do not have an official photographer and it is difficult for one person to be at all of our events, so it would be extremely helpful if those of you in attendance would take some photos and send them to Newsletter editor, Donna Hollatz (jdholatz@gmail.com). This documentation can then be used for posters, newsletters, state calendar, and other promotions. If you have a photo that you feel is worthy of submission to “Chapter Accomplishments” or “Calendar” at the state level, please send it to me “full size” as that is the format that is needed for submissions.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SENT PHOTOS IN THE PAST!

GO PNC! Be Proud of Your Volunteer Trail Work!!!

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU TURN IN YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS BY THE 5TH OF EACH MONTH. Don't hesitate to send Suzanne an email, rkingandsking@gmail.com, as soon as you do volunteer work of any kind related to trails, events, education, or anything tied to our Mission Statement.

Here are our latest numbers and comparison from last few years:

2016

Total VH 7899.5
Total Value \$261,197.36

2017-year end

Total VH 5165
Total Value \$165,492

2018 year end

Total VH 6,150.5
Total Value \$205,265.50

2019 year end

Total VH 6,380
Total Value \$240,919.75

2020 year end

Total VH 9,688.5
Total Value \$326,224.00

Oct. 1, 2020 thru March 31, 2021

Total Basic Hours	2,297	\$62,478.40
Total Skilled Hours	428	\$17,462.40
LNT & Educ.	82	2,230.40
Admin. & Plc Mtgs.	848	\$23,065.60
Travel Time	591	\$16,075.20
Total Hours	4,246	\$120,312.00
Vehicle Mileage	14,680	\$13,946.00
Total Miles	14,680	\$13,946.00
Total Stock Days	54	\$5,400.00
Grand Total		\$140,658.00

VOLUNTEERING IT'S WHO WE ARE MAKE YOUR HOURS COUNT – REPORT THEM

Impressive!

Suzanne reported during our General Meeting on April 12, 2021 that BCHW State Statistics show that many chapters have fewer Volunteer Hours than normal for the current fiscal year, Oct. 1, 2020 to March. 31, 2021 because of the Covid-19 virus restrictions. The impressive thing is that Peninsula Chapter had more than 3 times the Volunteer Hours of any other Chapter in the state. Our dedicated volunteers have been able to follow the safety protocols and still get lots of work done!

Your 2021 Peninsula Chapter Officers & Chairs

Take the time to note that this list of Chapter members continues to step up and be your Board Directors and Chairs. They do an outstanding job. We are a very successful BCHW Chapter because of the work they do for you. You can support them in many ways: attend your General Meetings, do volunteer event and trail work, attend our ride events, join every year, bring in new members, and send them a thank you now and then. As with all organizations, burn out is a given. Consider shadowing the person who holds one of these positions so that you can step up to take their place in the near future. Your Chapter's future depends on you!

President - Dan Dosey	dande111@centurylink.net
Vice President – Leif Hoglund	leif.hoglund@gmail.com
Secretary – Rob Hupfer	robhupfer.bchw@gmail.com
Treasurer – Denise Hupfer	dhupfer1@outlook.com
State Director – Dan Dosey	dande111@centurylink.net
Alternate State Director - Delman Sage	no1sage@gmail.com
Trail Project Coord. - Tom Mix	backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com
Membership Chair - Vacant	
Events & Education Chair - Linda Morin	ehoytr3@yahoo.com
Volunteer Hours Chair – Suzanne James-King	rkingandsking@gmail.com
Publicity Chair – Donna Hollatz	jdholatz@gmail.com
Email for the Chapter:	peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com

Trail Projects Coordinator Report by Tom Mix – April 20, 2021

NOLT: Siebert Creek: Will do trail maintenance and hazard tree removal as needed on one mile of trail. An additional loop trail will be constructed from the overlook to the main line. Alder thickets will be thinned this winter.

Elk Creek: Failed footlog will be removed rather than replaced. We will take care of this project.

Lyre River: A cedar log memorial bench has been placed along the trail near the river.

DNR: Furnish sanican for heavily used trailheads: Dan Kelly

Future: Install trail and property boundary signage at Miller Peninsula trails.

Striped Peak: Begin construction on new loop trail to summit and view area that connects with new trails that WTA is building in Salt Creek area.

Start discussions with Tribe and DNR about building additional trails on DNR land south of the casino that would link to Layton Hill.

Conduct chainsaw certification sessions for DNR's WCC crews.

ONP: Sawyers: National Park Service (NPS) and US Forest Service (USFS) have signed an agreement recognizing each other's sawyer certifications.

Plan for 2021: Maintain front county trails: Mt. Angeles, Heather Park, Heart of the Forest, Switch-back, and Headquarters Trails.

Start removal of old spiral wrap water pipe on Little River Trail.

Work toward parking area development at Dosewallips Trailhead.

Provide pack stock support for WTA trail maintenance crews.

USFS: NPS and USFS have signed an agreement recognizing each other's sawyer certifications.

Anticipated for 2021:

Lower Big Quilcene: Mike Bonomo and his Gray Wolf crew have completed the re-route along a huge slide. This is continuing from 2020. The trail is now open for use.

Implement a road sign replacement plan with Hood Canal Ranger District (HCRD) Road Manager, as requested.

Maintenance of trails and bridges as allowed by HCRD. We are still meeting resistance to the replacement of failing bridges and access roads are being decommissioned by HCRD. It is an issue we will continue to press and hope to meet with new Forest Supervisor Olympia office in effort to resolve.

Tom Mix has met with County Commissioner Bill Peach in an effort to facilitate discussions regarding failing bridges and trails within Hood Canal Ranger District.

Work toward getting a parking area at the Dosewallips Road trailhead with stock-rig turnaround.

Maintenance of existing trails and bridges as allowed by HCRD.

COUNTY: Planned for 2021

Furnish sanican at heavily used trailheads: Robin Hill

Continue work at Whiskey Creek crossing. Horse ford is being rebuilt with turnpike and gravel fill. A plan has been devised to build cribbing under the failing foot log to stabilize it until a replacement can be built. BCHW would like to build a stock bridge at the site if it can be permitted.

WSP: Work planned for next reporting period 2021:

Trim corridor and remove downed trees.

Replace damaged (by nature, not vandals) trail intersection signs and install new signs and posts. Follow up with maps for all trail users at WSP kiosks.

Participate in community input to planned development of Miller Peninsula State Park into a full service park. Focus of our input will be to ensure equestrian access and use of all existing and future trails is incorporated/documented in the plan.

BCHW Calendars for 2021

We have sold out of calendars, but there are still some available from the State if anyone is interested. They are \$10.00 each plus cost of mailing. This year features a great picture of Tom and Leif with their horses at the top of Buckhorn Pass for the month of June!

If you wish to order a calendar, you may contact Sally Laib at 253-307-4253 or email slaib@centurylink.net. She will be happy to arrange to mail one to you.

Who's Who at the State Level

President	Ridlon	Jason	president@bchw.org
Vice President	Deboer	Rob	vice_pres@bchw.org
Secretary	Short	Tina	secretary@bchw.org
Treasurer	Starke	Teri	treasurer@bchw.org
Safety Chair	Regimbal	Chuck	safetychair@bchw.org
Legislative Chair	Schindele	Mitzi	pacifcogirl@gmail.com
Public Lands Chair	Young	Kathy	public_lands@bchw.org
Membership Chair	Chambers	Dana	membership@bchw.org
Awards Chair	Sundahl	Susan	Awards@bchw.org
Education Chair	Merrick	Kim	eloise55@gmail.com
LNT Chair	Byram	Jane	Int@bchw.org
Saw Program Coordinator	Mix	Tom	backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com
Saw Program Coordinator	Karniss	Tony	tkarniss@gmail.com
Volunteer Hours Chair	Wesselius	Deb	volunteerhours@bchw.org
Membership Development Chair	Carmichael	Ken	kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
Governance and By-Laws Chair	Carmichael	Ken	gov_and_bylaws@bchw.org
Special Projects Coordinator	Ridlon	Jason	jhridlon@fairpoint.net
Ways and Means Chair	Starke	Teri	ways_means@bchw.org
Rendezvous Chair			
Publicity Chair and THN Editor	Yarboro	Dick	easyrider@scattercreek.com
Webmaster	Lee	Scott	webboss@bchw.org
Photographer	Thode	Jim	jim@jimthode.net
BCHA Director	McKenna	Bill	bcha_dir1@bchw.org
BCHA Director	Ridlon	Jason	bcha_dir2@bchw.org
BCHA Alternate Director	Stewart	Doug	dougstewart55@gmail.com
Historian Chair	vacant		
Grant Administrator	Wallace	Darrell	bcha_dir1@bchw.org
Grant/Event Administrator	Bond	Jennifer	bchwgranthelp@gmail.com
Stores	Lenox	Lori	llenox82@gmail.com
Volunteer Copy Editor/Proof Rdr	Johnston	Sandra	sgjohn1234@aol.com



Classified Ads

All BCHA members can post a free equine or farm related ad. 20 words or less. Must include contact info. Due by the 25th of the month by email: PeninsulaBCHWChapter@Gmail.Com

Membership 2021

At this time we have 85 members, including all family members. There are 7 brand new members and 49 membership renewals (which are sometimes more than one person).

Membership is for one year, beginning on January 1st. We welcome new members at any time and always enjoy meeting new people. We have a lot of fun while working to keep trails open to everyone. You don't need a horse to belong and contribute or work with us. If you have friends who are interested in joining, please have them follow these directions:

Go to www.pbchw.org. Click or tap the JOIN tab. Click or tap on the Back Country Horsemen logo. Complete the form. Online payment is at the bottom of the form. It is very simple. If anyone has any questions about it, they may call Denise 425-221-1752.

If a paper form is desired, go to our website, www.pbchw.org, click or tap on the JOIN tab, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click or tap on the image of the paper form. It will populate and can be printed from there. Follow the instructions on the form for mailing and payment.

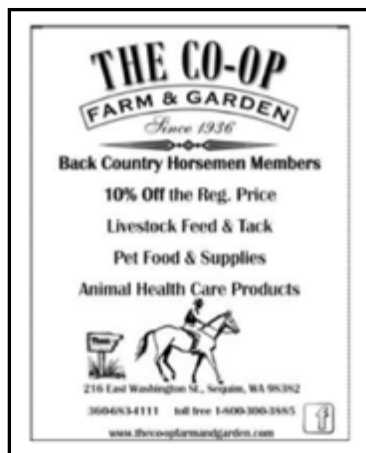
TRAIL COMPANION WANTED!

Tom Mix, our Trail Coordinator, is looking for a New Stock Animal

Tom's old riding/pack animal "Rowdy" has earned "retirement". Tom is in search of a reliable, steady, willing, sound, horse or mule that he could use as a pack animal or to take along for an extra rider. He currently has his own reliable Appaloosa, "Dakota", that he rides, and 2 pack mules, but he needs a "spare" that can take just about any rider and will also pack into the back country. Job applicant should be accustomed to crossing water and bridges, traversing steep switchback trails, following on a lead-line, and quietly tying, high-lining, and hobbling to spend several days in the back country. Please contact Tom @ 360-582-0460 or email: backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com if you have or know of a suitable animal.



Thank You to the businesses who support our efforts!



These businesses support
BCHW. Please take
your business to them.



Opportunity to Make Donations to the Chapter!

The following is from an article found in USA Today. I tried it and found it works as advertised.

October 31, 2013; [USA TODAY](#). This holiday season, Amazon is in quite the charitable mood when it comes to giving away money to nonprofits. Amazon has released a new project, [Amazon Smile](#), which gives shoppers the opportunity to donate through the site to the charity of their choice. By shopping at [smile.amazon.com](#) instead of plain old [amazon.com](#), 0.5 percent of the value of their purchases will be donated. What's even more amazing is that there seems to be no limit to the amount Amazon will give to charity, although as of now auto-renewed subscription purchases and digital products aren't included in the AmazonSmile project.

Ian McAllister, general manager of AmazonSmile, says the company did it simply "because it thought customers would love it." Donations will be made on behalf of a foundation established by Amazon, so those using AmazonSmile will not be able to claim donations as charitable deductions.

Philanthropic charities looking to register their organizations can visit [org.amazon.com](#), sign up, and begin spreading the AmazonSmile link to start the giving to your nonprofit. And, in a moment of shameless self-promotion, if you'd like to support the *Nonprofit Quarterly* (listed under the IRS and GuideStar as the Nonprofit Information Network Association) through AmazonSmile, [please click here](#) <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-4080038>

Aine Creedon

Every little bit helps so if you do buy from Amazon try this out.