

Fall 2021

Trail Crafters News

Olympic Peninsula, Washington



Scout Merit Badge
Weekend
Sept. 25 & 26, 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: End of Year Gathering: Nov. 21, 1:30-4:30 at Fox Bell Event Center
(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

As the holidays approach and the riding season slows down, it will be important for members of Peninsula Chapter to stay informed about changes to BCHW at the State level. The tabled motion put forth by the "BCHW Reimagined" Committee at the September Director's Meeting will be re-examined at the December meeting. The Board appreciates the thoughtful feedback we received from 16 chapter members on this proposal. Peninsula Chapter has sent a response and very detailed organizational plan to the BCHW Reimagined Committee addressing the concerns of our members and some ideas to consider going forward. Our Board is committed to keeping our members informed as to communications we receive from the State Directors and the Reimagined Committee. Please feel free to reach out to any of the Board members if you are confused about the state level changes. We will do our best to give you information and appreciate hearing your concerns or ideas.

Election ballots for new Peninsula Chapter officers will be emailed to you soon. Emailed ballots are anonymous and we cannot tell who cast them. Hard copy ballots will be mailed only to those who receive the Newsletter by US postal carrier. We have a number of new officer candidates on the ballot this year. Please remember to vote.

We will have an "End-of-Year Gathering" at Fox-Bell Wedding and Event Center on Sunday, November 21, from 1:30-4:30. Please put it on your calendar! Additional information will be forthcoming as the date nears. I hope to see many of you there. It will be so nice, once again, to gather with friends.

Happy trails,
Dan

Trail Happenings – Summer 2021

Miller Peninsula: July 20, 2021 This was “Tansy Spray Day” at Miller Peninsula! Our trail crews have been attacking the tansy on a yearly basis, and it has really paid off. There are only a few plants to treat each year, but we must remain vigilant to keep it away. The seed lasts for years, and when the ground is disturbed, the plants grow. New trail areas (such as that on DNR and JST) and areas with lots of sunlight provide favorable growing conditions. Ingesting tansy causes liver damage to livestock. Cinnabar moth larvae eat the plants and help to control it. We saw them hard at work this year, but they can’t do it all.



Deer Park: August 11, 2021 WTA (Rebecca’s Crew) had a big trail project on the Deer Ridge Trail. Pack stock was needed to get the heavy tools in for the crew. Park Rangers escorted Tom Mix and Leif Hoglund (with their horse trailers, horses, and mules) up the narrow, steep, twisty Deer Park Road so they could pack the tools in for the crew. It was a beautiful ride, but a difficult drive to the trail head. (Trailers are not recommended on the Deer Park Road and there is little turn-around space at the top!) The Trail Crew was very thankful to have the tools delivered!



Photos by Rebecca Wanagel

Trail Happenings – Summer 2021 - continued

Siebert Creek: August 31 & September 1, 2021 A large BCHW trail crew met at the Siebert Creek NOLT property to thin alder trees and help a Scout Troop build a new loop trail out to the Creek Overlook. It was the Scouts' first trail building experience, and they did an admirable job with just a little guidance from BCHW. While that was being done, sawyers from our BCHW crew thinned many small alder and maple trees to allow sunlight to reach the forest floor and promote diversity of habitat.



Photos
by
Denise
Hupfer



Miller Peninsula: Two Cedars & Belly Deep: September 20, 2021 Leif Hoglund took his tractor and brush hog mower to the trails at Miller Peninsula to do some clearing. He mowed the salal and other brush along the sides of Two Cedars and Belly Deep along with the help of Jim and Donna Hollatz, who removed larger brush before the mower went through. Rick King and Tom Mix worked on trimming branches along Cable Trail where they hang down into overhead clearance space. Next time you ride those trails, I'm sure you will appreciate the added trail width, especially when the brush is wet this winter!



Trail Happenings – Summer 2021 - continued

Miller Peninsula, Fireweed Road: Sept. 29 – Oct. 8, 2021 Peninsula Chapter used grant funds to hire a WCC Crew to clear trails in Miller Peninsula State Park during this week. Sawyers and swampers from the Chapter worked several days ahead of the Crew's arrival to take out Ocean Spray and small dead trees along Fireweed Road. BCHW members then worked with the crew during the week of Oct. 4-8. WCC Crews are hard working, but lack experience with trail building, so far more can be accomplished by working with them to provide guidance and training. The Crew was able to open and swamp all 3 miles of Fireweed Road. Then on October 9th, Leif Hogland used his tractor and brush hog mower to trim the encroaching salal from both sides of the road. Thanks go to Tom Mix, Rick and Suzanne King, Kim Merrick, Jeff Ralston, and Donna Hollatz for their efforts on this project. I'm sure you will see a "clear" difference next time you ride this route!

BEFORE: Photos by Donna Hollatz



AFTER: Photos by Rick King



Joyce Daze Parade – August 7, 2021

Two Chapters of Back Country Horsemen of Washington (Peninsula & Mt. Olympus) were represented in the Joyce Daze Parade on August 7th. This was the first parade we have been able to participate in since the pandemic began, and everyone was excited to be there. Lots of people lined the streets, booths and blackberry pies were abundant, and the mood was festive.

The day started out warm and cloudy and unfortunately ended up wet! It was the first rain we had had in weeks. The forests appreciated it, but the human spirits were somewhat dampened!

It took lots of preparation to get our group of 10 people and 7 stock animals ready. We lined up early at the high school with 6 rigs, 7 animals, a horse cart, and our tool trailer. Our parade unit consisted of 4 saddle horses, a horse pulling a cart, and a miniature horse and donkey as pack animals.

Linda Morin (Events Chair) organized the parade unit and rode her horse. Other riders were Kat Sample and Mt. Olympus Chapter members Ray and Rochelle Sutherland. Peninsula's tool trailer, with displays of all of our landowner partner decals, was pulled by Don Gonder. Kandy Mulrony and Jim Morin (Linda's brother-in-law) led the miniature pack animals: Murphy the donkey and Harley the horse. "Pooper Scooper" detail was accomplished by Jeff Chapman, wielding the scoop and Juelie Dalzell, whose horse pulled the cart with a bucket! Denise Hupfer documented our efforts with her camera! We were awarded second place in the "Miscellaneous" category. We certainly are a miscellaneous group!



Four mounted riders.



Our "mascot" pack animal!



Clean-up Crew!

Photos by
Denise Hupfer

President's Picnic – July 24, 2021

The President's Picnic at the home of Dan and Debbie Dosey was well attended and everyone enjoyed the delicious salmon, hot dogs, salads, and desserts. It was a wonderful chance to visit with friends after months of social distancing and the weather was beautiful.

Dan explained some of the changes that are being proposed at the State level of BCHW and also the "Strategic Planning" process the Board has been investigating to keep our Chapter viable into the future. Many good ideas have been presented to us, and we are working to maintain the independent nature of our Chapter. We have excellent rapport with the land managers of public lands on the Olympic Peninsula and want to continue to work with them in the way we are accustomed. We have been awarded grant money that will carry our projects through the next two years and have projects to keep our trail crews and packers busy. We hope to recruit new people and add their knowledge and skills to those of current chapter members.



Layton Hill Horse Camp – Potluck, Sept. 11, 2021

Our annual Camp Out and Chapter Potluck was well attended with abundant good food for everyone. The weather was a bit threatening, so the beautiful covered shelter that was constructed this past year was a welcome setting for dinner.

The General Meeting was an opportunity for President Dan Dosey to explain the changes that are being proposed at the State level of BCHW. Many members expressed concern for Chapter autonomy and representation if these new policies are adopted. Members were asked to stay informed of the developments that will be proposed at the Directors' Meeting on Sept. 18th.

Theresa Percy asked each person to tell their most important reason for membership in Peninsula Chapter. The two most common reasons were:

1. We value keeping trails open for future generations; we value the education provided; and we think it is important to educate youth for the future.
2. Relationships with great people: love for our group; camaraderie; someone to share nature with; someone to ride with; someone to work with; common goals outside of politics.

Members were reminded that Elections for Officers will be held in November. They were encouraged to consider volunteering for an office or nominating someone who was willing to serve in one of these positions. Nominations close October 15th.



Scout Merit Badge Weekend – Sept. 25 & 26, 2021

by Linda Morin

Wow – what a weekend.

On September 25 and 26, 2021, sixteen Scouts and four leaders from Sequim Scout Troop 1498 gathered at Layton Hill Horse Camp (LHHC) in Sequim to begin earning their Horsemanship Merit badges. Twenty-four members of Peninsula Chapter Back Country Horsemen of Washington (18 “instructors” and six support staff) presented twenty-one equines of thirteen different breeds from donkey to mule, mini to draft, gaited to ungated. These eager, attentive scouts, in two days, were introduced to the basic skills of horse handling: how to approach, halter, lead, and groom. They also learned safety-knot tying, and about English and Western tack. All of them started riding.

Breeds, colors, gaits, and an extensive tack display of all “tools equine”, ranging from an 1880’s side saddle to manure forks and wheelbarrows, were presented. The future manure movers of America were trained.

The Scouts did a great job of LNT (Leave No Trace)—they left the horse camp clean, as if they had never been there.

More sessions will be held this Fall, both classroom and hands-on, to ensure these Scouts each complete all of their merit badge requirements.

This was a major project for Peninsula Chapter BCHW, in harmony with the education component of our mission statement. Peninsula Chapter is looking ahead to 2022 to continue its mission to educate people of all ages in our community about the importance of equines to the health of our forests and trails, and about trail building and maintenance in collaboration with the local land managers they support. Anyone with a love of the Olympic Peninsula and all it offers can join. Owning stock is not a requirement. We need all skill sets.



Photos

by

Denise
Hupfer

Motivation to Volunteer by Kim Merrick

Kim is a new member to our Chapter. She has recently moved to the Olympic Peninsula from Yelm, where she was part of Nisqually Chapter. She has served on positions in her local chapter and as a state level volunteer. Here are some ideas to ponder about how members might get more involved with the engaging opportunities that our Chapter provides. Volunteering is fun!

Your Chapter Needs You!

My experience in volunteering is varied. I joined BCHW in 1998. I had no experience organizing anything. It didn't even occur to me to volunteer for an officer position. It didn't even occur to me that I would be capable of doing anything but coming to the meeting. But someone saw something in me (or maybe they just needed a body), and asked me to fill a position. It didn't hurt me, so I kept doing it. I have been a newsletter editor, a Volunteer Hours coordinator, an auction chair, a director, a prize ride co-chair, an education coordinator, a contest organizer, and a camp cook. Of course I made mistakes, but I figured out how to fix the problem. Volunteering has given me confidence that I never got in my job or in my personal relationships. And perhaps most importantly, I learned that it's not personal. It's about the mission - keeping trails open.

Lately I have not been feeling very motivated. We couldn't have in-person meetings. I have not had much contact with my BCHW friends. I got involved in retiring and moving to a new area. But attending meetings turns out to be a really big deal, at least for me. If I can't be with 'my people', I don't think about the mission. I have no outlet for my crazy ideas. I get involved in other things, or worse, do nothing much at all.

What changed that? Moving to a new area and being able to go to a meeting. These new people are very nice, and they are motivated, maybe because they have been sitting in their houses alone like I have. I've attended a couple of meetings, and I find I'm ready to go again. I've just agreed to accept an officer position for next year, one I've never done before.

If you haven't been to your BCHW meeting recently, please make an effort to do so. We really need everyone right now, to get back to where we were before the shut down. And if you can do a little bit more, please consider that, too. I will say I've ALWAYS found help and support in every position I've ever tried. Let's work together to get back on track. It starts with the meeting!

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!

Trailhead Courtesy Reminder:

State Park personnel have complimented equestrians on the improved Parking Lot clean up, 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 jdhollatz@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 (jdhollatz@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!

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	jdhollatz@gmail.com
Email for the Chapter:	peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com

Membership 2021

At this time, we have 96 members, including all family members. There is one brand new members and 60 memberships (which are sometimes more than one person).

Renewals can begin any time after October 1 for the next year. Renewals for 2022 have begun. Eight memberships have renewed so far! Welcome back for 2022!

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.

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	pacificogirl@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 BCHW 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

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.