

The Trailhead News

Vol. 49 Issue 2

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

March/April 2024



Explore More in '24

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
OF WASHINGTON

Rendezvous



www.bchw.org



BCHW Chapter Locations & Directors

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Director: Bob Hoyle	106 Ash Loop • Chimacum, WA 98368	360-531-2337	bobhoyle@usa.net
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Director: Barb Aberle	10214 Gate Rd SW • Olympia, WA 98512	360-481-5848	capitolriders22@gmail.com
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MT. OLYMPUS:			
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PURPLE SAGE RIDERS:			
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RATTLESNAKE RIDGE RIDERS:			
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WENATCHEE VALLEY:			
Director: Mike Walcker	4330 Eels Rd • Cashmere, WA 98815	509-670-6038	empirebuilder747@gmail.com
WHATCOM COUNTY:			
Director: Joe Remenar	P.O. Box 28607 • Bellingham, WA 98228	360-778-9848	j.remenar@gmail.com

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



President's Corner



By Dana Chambers, BCHW President

What a busy month gearing up for our Revised Member and Leadership Training. We kicked off the trainings with a big event on January 6, “BCHW Vision for 2024 and Beyond.” If you missed it, I suggest you go to our website and watch it. It was a great event!

Our trainings were all done via Zoom starting on January 9! We held one training course at a time so that everyone had a chance to attend the class they wanted too. The schedule for these classes and recordings are on our website and can be found on the Members-only page of our website under the Leadership tab. Feel free to go check the trainings out and watch the ones that you want.

On February 12, we descended onto our State Capital grounds for our Legislative Day. There will be more info and photos on our website. This edition of the Trailhead News has information on this year’s Rendezvous event on March 15-17 in Ellensburg.

You will see there is a schedule of events in the center; however, a disclaimer that the schedule is subject to last minute changes. There will be final copies of the schedules posted on the walls throughout the venue, so be sure to verify the events you want to attend are still when you thought they were. Please go to the website and check out the details, find the flyers and make your reservations for camping and buy your dinner tickets for Saturday night. This year we will be having Prime Rib, so don’t miss out!!

We are starting to gear up for the 2024 Work Party season!! We have added a new page to the website called “Get Involved.” There will be work party information along with sign-up forms. There will be Packer trainings geared for recreational packing as well as more technical packing. Sawyer trainings and certifications are ramping up too. Signup and get certified! I hope to meet you all at Rendezvous, but in the meantime, check out all of the great information and resources we are adding on our website: bchw.org. 🐾

BCHW Mission Statement

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

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

**Proud Sponsor of
2024 Rendezvous**



Explore More in 24

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 make a contribution to BCHW. That's a win-win-win.

Auction Events:

Bucket: Choose from 50 different 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 the bucket and if it is your ticket, you are the winner. It is part auction and part raffle. Tickets come in your registration packet if you register before March 1st, plus 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. No raffle here, just 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 pm and winners are posted during dinner.

Live: Thirty special items are auctioned off LIVE during dinner. This 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 years' auction. (That's the table with steak and lobster and wine and waiters.)

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 off the live auction table. ANYTHING for only \$10!

Donations: WE NEED YOU!

Oh boy, do we need you! Everything we auction is what you provide. So, encourage your chapter, your members and any businesses you know that may wish to donate. We are happy to take gently used items. Volunteers are available to collect starting Thursday noon, March 14 through Saturday morning, March 16. Drop them off or have a friend drop them off. Donor forms are on the BCHW website, or you can fill one out on site.



Chapters: Budget some money and select an item for our auction. It doesn't have to be horse related. Variety is appreciated. Plus, your chapter can plan an overnight ride for our "Come Ride Our Part of the State" program. It doesn't cost the chapter much and it can earn some money for BCHW. The buyers learn a new trail system and you get to know some riders from a different area. It's a Win Win! See the article about "Come Ride Our Part of the State" for more details.

Members: Look around! Bet you have something nice but that you don't use. Maybe you make things. Buyers love home made things. Wood, metal, textiles, funny, nostalgic, or retro. We love it all. Variety is fabulous. You can always buy something you think might sell well.

Businesses: Ask them! They will donate. Get a business card or brochure and we will happily promote their business when we sell their donation.

The auctions are all about fun and raising money. They are part of the hoop-la of Rendezvous. Be part of it! Questions or comments: Missy Day, 425.614.7248 or mssd134@gmail.com 🐾

Donations Needed For BCHW Rendezvous 2024!

Support BCHW!

Auction Committee volunteers are seeking donations for our fabulous auction event during Rendezvous. Our auction is a fundraiser for BCHW and an opportunity for you to make some donations. We love new things, but we can accept very gently used ones. All donations are tax-deductible.

We will be on site in the Umtanum Hall starting Thursday afternoon March 14. Bring your items anytime from Thursday afternoon until Saturday morning before 10:00 am. The earlier we receive donations, the better we can present them.

How to get donations?

- **Ask!** Businesses, friends or even riding buddies are all great sources. Bring donor information with the item, and we will happily give them credit. We will promote your business donor shamelessly!
- **Make something!** We have sold handmade quilts, towels, potholders, masks, bird feeders, birdhouses, candle holders out of horseshoes, saddle stands, blankets and jewelry. People love handmade things! A little story to go with it helps too.
- **Invent something!** One year we made a doll covered with lottery tickets. Fun to make, fun to buy and a moneymaker for BCHW. We love ideas like this!
- **Push your Chapter!** Each chapter usually buys an item to donate. Someone in the membership usually knows how to get a killer deal.
- **Plan a ride!** As a chapter, schedule a weekend campout and sell it at the auction. People love to ride in a new area, especially with friendly, local guides. This is part of our "Come Ride Our Part of the State" promotion. Look for a separate article about it or ask your Director.
- **Search the attic!** Maybe something was tenderly saved up there, out of harm's way, and is now priceless!

- **Buy something!** That's right, just go out and buy something and give it to us. A piece of tack, a pair of socks or maybe a silver saddle! We are happy to give you credit.

Questions, comments, offers to help: Missy Day, 425.614.7248 or mssd134@gmail.com 🐾

Come Ride Our Part of the State!

Chapters:

- Plan a ride over a weekend at a favorite camp site
- The ride should host up to four guests
- Be sure to designate a date and a place
- Create a poster advertising your ride to sell at Rendezvous
- Rides will be offered at Rendezvous as part of the silent auction
- Minimum bid: \$100
- Buy it now: \$500
- \$50 returned to the chapter to cover costs

Questions: Call Missy Day at (425) 614-7248 or email at mssd134@gmail.com



Content Deadline for the May/June 2024 Online Newsletter is April 1, 2024

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

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

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

ATTENTION!

Rendezvous Schedule – Friday, March 15th

Time	TEANAWAY	CONCESSIONS	UMTANUM	MANASHTASH	HERITAGE	
9:00AM	Public Lands Kathy Young	CONCESSIONS in the Kitchen between the Teanaway and Umtaneum 8am- 3pm	VENDORS, BUCKET & SILENT AUCTIONS, ALL AUCTION DONATIONS & SET UP	BCHW STORE AND VENDORS 9am - 4pm		
9:30AM						
10:00AM					Get involved in trail ops	
10:30						
11:00					SADDLE FITTING - Dave Morrison	
11:30						
12:00	LIVE AUCTION ITEMS					
12:30-1:00PM						
1:00-1:30PM						
1:30-2:00PM	CHAPTER DISPLAYS					
2:00-2:30PM						
2:30-3:00PM						
3:00-3:30PM						
3:30-4:00PM				Pack Support Classroom training		
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 5:30- 9PM					
7:00-7:30PM						
7:30-8:00PM						

Rendezvous Schedule – Friday, March 15th

Continued

Time	NANEUM	TANEUM	GRASSY AREA BY GAZEBO	SIDE of BLOOM PAVILION	AMORY	
9:00AM		First Aid/CPR Class runs 9-2			BCHW TACK SALE 9am-4pm	
9:30AM						
10:00AM	Next Generation Packers Jay Adams			CROSSCUT SAW COMPETITION - Saw Program & Wenas Chapter 10am to 4pm		10:00-12:00 One on One Pack Support Techniques Larry Baysinger
10:30						
11:00						
11:30						
12:00						
12:30-1:00PM						
1:00-1:30PM						Pack Support Technical Training 1:00-3:00 Larry Baysinger
1:30-2:00PM						
2:00-2:30PM						
2:30-3:00PM						
3:00-3:30PM						
3:30-4:00PM						
4:00-4:30PM						
4:30-5:00PM						
5:00-5:30PM						
5:30-6:00PM						
6:00-6:30PM						
6:30-7:00PM						
7:00-7:30PM						
7:30-8:00PM						

Rendezvous Schedule – Saturday, March 16th

Time	TEANAWAY	CONCESSIONS	UMPTANUM	MANASHTASH	HERITAGE
9:00-9:30AM					
9:30-10:00AM		CONCESSIONS in the Kitchen between the Teanaway and Umtaneum & Tent Outside the Teanaway 8am - 3pm	VENDORS BUCKET & SILENT AUCTIONS ALL AUCTION DONATIONS & SET UP	BCHW STORE AND VENDORS 9am-4pm	SOLAR, BATTERIES & REFRIGERATO RS - Chuck Regimbal
10:00-10:30AM	Event Management Class				Directors, Presidents and Vice Presidents Round Table
10:30-11:00AM					
11:00-11:30AM	CHAPTER DISPLAYS				Pasayten Wilderness Project Orientation & Recruiting 12:30-2:00
11:30-12:00PM					
12:00-12:30PM	LIVE AUCTION ITEMS				SADDLE BUILDING DEMO - Dave Morrison
12:30-1:00PM					
1:00-1:30PM					
1:30-2:00PM					
2:00-2:30PM	BCHW Committee Chairs Open Forum				
2:30-3:00PM					
3:00-3:30PM	Chapter Table assignment and decorating				
3:30-4:00PM					
4:00-5:30PM	HAPPY HOUR				Guest Speaker 5:00-5:30
5:30-7:00PM	CATERED DINNER				
7:00-10:00PM	LIVE AUCTION				

Rendezvous Schedule – Saturday, March 16th

Continued

Time	NANEUM	TANEUM	Side of Bloom	GRASSY AREA BY GAZEBO	BLOOM PAVILION	Entire AMORY	
9:00-9:30AM		First Aid/CPR Class 9-2				BCHW USED TACK SALE 9am-4pm	
9:30-10:00AM	Sawyer Instructor/ Evaluators meeting Tony Karniss			Next Generation Packers Jay Adams 9:30-11:30			
10:00-10:30AM							
10:30-11:00AM	Saw Certification classroom only 10:30-3:00				One on One Pack Support Techniques Larry Baysinger 10:00-12:00		
11:00-11:30AM							
11:30-12:00PM							
12:00-12:30PM					CROSSCUT SAW COMPETITION Wenas Chapter 10am-4pm		
12:30-1:00PM							
1:00-1:30PM							
1:30-2:00PM							
2:00-2:30PM					Packing Competition Harold Wiese 12:30-3:30		
2:30-3:00PM							
3:00-3:30PM							
3:30-4:00PM							

Rendezvous Schedule – Sunday, March 17th

Time	TEANAWAY	CONCESSIONS	HERITAGE	ARMORY
9:00				
9:30			COWBOY CHURCH	
10:00	AWARDS & GENERAL MEETING	CONCESSIONS in the Kitchen between the Teanaway and Umtaneum 9am - 12:00pm		USED TACK SALE
10:30				
11:00				
11:30				
12:00 NOON				

2024 Rendezvous Vendors

A Touch of the West

Western furniture, cowhides, table settings, pillows and art-work

Alpacas at Dream Catchers Farm

Socks, gloves, hats, headbands and scarves

Beth's Baubles

Handmade unique western jewelry

BSC Leathergoods

We are a husband and wife team who love good leather goods. We work in small batches, typically crafting 4-10 pieces at a time. Wallets, sheathes and holsters, belts, totes and bags, or any other leather product. We do customer orders and repairs as well.

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.

Don's Leather Shop

Selling riding equipment and western wear and leather work

Gear Up Hats

Hats and accessories

Mtns to Sound Greenway Trust

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance the landscape of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, ensuring a long-term balance between People and nature.

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.

Palouse Ranches

Specialize in building and delivering hand-crafter, ready-built livestock shelters, loafing sheds and modular barns.

Panattoni Leather & equine laundry

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

Purity Soapworks

Organic goat milk soap and skin care products.

Rodeo City Equine Rescue

Horse Rescue, placing into lifetime homes who have quality of life. Rehab and Rehome.

Roy's Custom Leatherwork and Repair

Handmade leather goods, wallets, holsters, knife sheathes, bags and goat milk soap.

Rustic Shoe Creations

Handmade leather products, home décor, wall art and handbags.

SJ Unique Designs

One of a kind jewelry, sterling, turquoise, real stone, unique.

Stained Glass Art

Create and make stained glass art.

Steep Ridge Trails

Equine first aid and teaches classes.

Tucker Books

Childrens 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.

Washington Trails Association

WA Hiking Association.

Some Of Our Rendezvous Class Summaries

Friday 9:30 Heritage room:

Get Involved With Trail Ops

BCHW’s Trail Operations team has been busy creating opportunities for folks to deepen their engagement with Trail Maintenance. Find out about the different ways you can help get the trails we all love open and accessible to stock. You can also learn about the different ways the team has been building out the infrastructure to accommodate growth.

Friday 10:00–11:00 Teanaway Room:

Event Management, The Art of Putting on an Event – Ken Carmichael

BCH depends on a variety of events to accomplish our mission. Successful events depend on good prior planning and communications. At this meeting we will discuss Event Planning to make our events successful with the least amount of strain and confusion.

Friday 10:00 – 12:00 Bloom Annex:

One-on-One Pack Support Techniques – Larry Baysinger

Packers who want to ask specific questions or seek Larry’s advice on packing techniques can consult him prior to the Pack Support Field class later in the day.

Friday 1:00 – 3:00 Bloom Annex:

Pack Support Field – Larry Baysinger

Larry will demonstrate several techniques useful in providing Pack Support for trail work.

Friday 3:30 – 4:30 Heritage Room:

Pack Support Classroom – Darrell Wallace

Will cover expectations of packers, partners, and coordinators. Required for packers working on Pasayten Project.

Saturday 9:30 – 11:00 Heritage Room:

Solar, Batteries & Refrigerators – Chuck Regimbal

Losing battery power while dry camping might just end your camping vacation. Enjoy the outdoors while dry camping (no power hookups) and be worry free regarding battery capacity. The presentation includes a discussion of buying the right batteries, how to test for hidden loads, and how your refrigerator works while using propane and 12-volt control power.

Saturday 11:00–12:30 Heritage Room:

Directors, Presidents and Vice Presidents Round Table – President Dana Chambers

An opportunity to meet other chapter officers and discuss whatever you want. It will be a round table.

Saturday 12:30 – 2:00 Heritage Room:

Pasayten Wilderness Project Orientation/Recruiting – Tim Van Beek

Find out what is happening with the Pasayten Wilderness Project. Great work occurred in 2023, and planning for 2024 is well underway. Explore options to help get the trails opened and accessible. There are opportunities for everyone of all skills to help make good things happen.

Saturday 2:00 – 3:00 Teanaway Room:

BCHW Committee Orientation Open Forum

We invite you to visit with BCHW Committees in an informal atmosphere. Take this opportunity to learn more about how they serve the membership, ask questions, get help, provide your input, and just sit and socialize.



Please clip out and mail



Permanent or Temporary Address Change Form

Name: _____

Current Address: _____

New Address: _____

Temporary Address for Snow Birds: _____

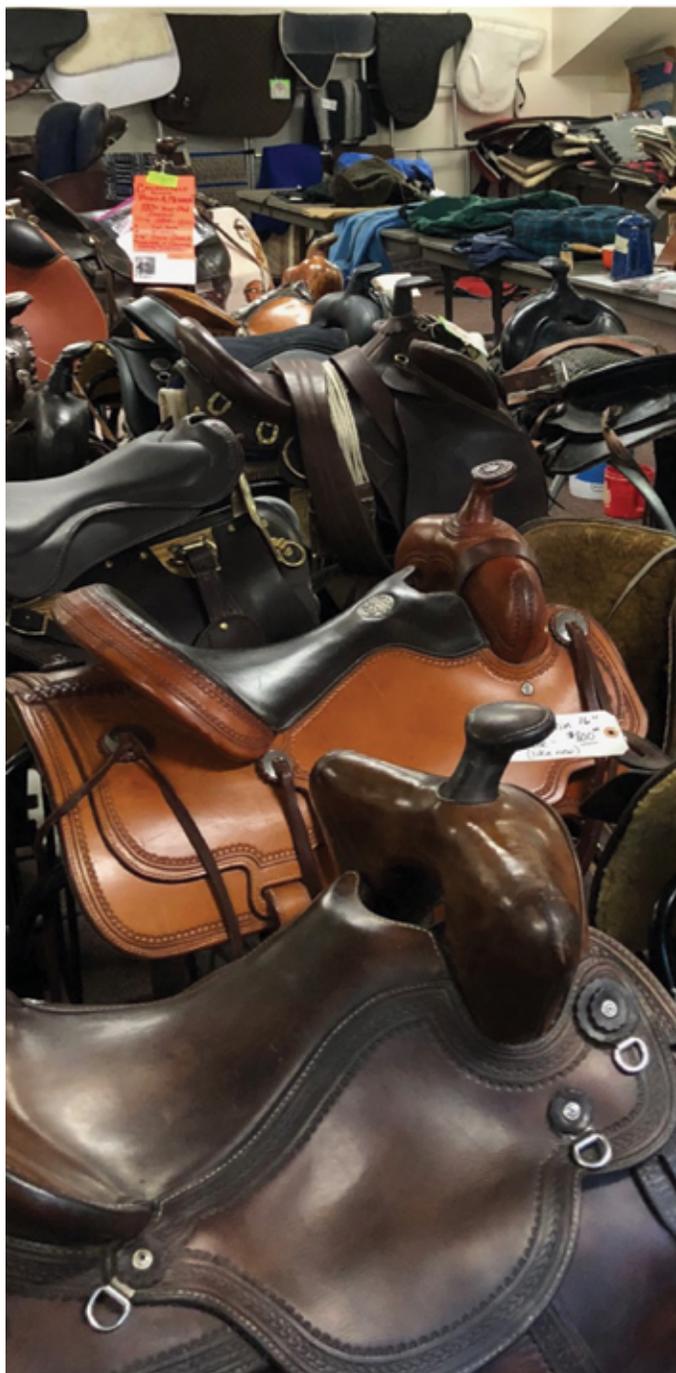
Start date: _____ Return Date: _____

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

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 15th-17th, 2024
Friday & Saturday 9 am-4 pm
And Sunday 9-11 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:

- metal art
- alpaca products
- jewelry, clothing & hats
- arts & crafts
- leather work
- Cavallo's horse boots

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

For More info all about
Rendezvous activities BCHW.org



Back Country Horsemen of Washington Annual Rendezvous

Packing Competition!

Used Tack ~ Vendor Booths ~ Free Classes & Demonstrations



All levels come try your hand at Packing!

Classes for every level!

Beginner
Intermediate
Advance



In the Bloom Pavilion
12:30 pm to 3:30 pm, Saturday

Prizes are:
Packing Scale
Pack Saddle
Pannier
Top Pack Set



Trail Projects Director Peninsula Chapter



By Rebecca Wanagel, Peninsula Chapter Backcountry Horsemen

Location: Lower Dungeness, Olympic National Forest (a multi-use trail including stock)

Objective – repair a puncheon that had failed due to 3 sills losing their supporting dirt. This dirt had sloughed away due to water rushing off the hillside above the puncheon, oozing under the structure and undermining it.

1. Jack up and put in supports for the three sills.
2. Address drainage to control the water that caused the problem in the first place.
3. Build a rock wall to buttress one end of the puncheon.

Despite concerns that recent rains would cause snow to go across the exposed 3:00 Ridge, there was none. Despite my warnings about the horrible road condition, riddled with deep potholes and extremely slow-going, it was recently graded. Despite the forecast, the weather was perfect.

A puncheon, about 50-feet long and one mile from the upper trailhead, was installed approximately 7 or 8 years ago. It spans an area that is pure swampy muck. The puncheon is still in fine condition, the wood solid, with no rot in sight. What happened was the perpetually wet hillside above had seeped and run so badly that it slumped away the dirt that was supporting three of the five sills.

This large crew descended upon this site like a busy army of ants bent on a mission. While still back up at the parking lot, we had formed teams: drainage, rock wall and puncheon repair crews. It bears mentioning that in this one crew, we had folks who are active with the Gray Wolf Crew, Mountaineers, WTA, PNTA, EMBA and BCHW, all working together on one project under the leadership of Rebecca Wanagel. Teamwork is how we get it done.

Three of the sills were on dirt on their uphill side but floating in the air on the downhill (river) side. Martin Knowles, Jim Johannes and Rebecca Wanagel had gone in a few weeks prior to do a survey of it and come up with a plan for a repair. Mike Bonomo had analyzed it even before that. So, a lot of thought went into this project.

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Add Back Country Horsemen of Washington to your awards account. See the Donate page at BCHW.org for more information.



Trail Projects Director Peninsula Chapter

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Shoveling in the muck, sawing old planks, clearing out the uphill ditch, using jacks to push up the puncheon and hold it in place – there were a lot of different jobs happening all at once. Rocks had to be collected. Off-site drainage work needed to be done.

Meanwhile, a team of us dealt with the drainage on the hillside above the puncheon. So that makes three focuses on drainage: the ditch alongside the puncheon, the drain from the root ball above the puncheon to and underneath the structure, and our job, which was to catch the mother lode of the problem and get it to drip into the hillside to the side of the site (away from the puncheon). We initially had to explore around for a while, trying to find the source of the problem (besides the obvious fact that we live in the Pacific Northwest). Then we had to dig a long ditch, under large roots, through the muck, channeling the water to where it would get absorbed by the hillside and wouldn't damage the puncheon or the trail. At sev-

eral points, we each had our feet buried in mud so deep it took strength to extract ourselves.

After the puncheon repair, the rock wall could be built on the downstream end to bolster up the northernmost sill. Meanwhile, we were also scraping the puncheon clean. If we get the organic material off, it increases the wood's lifespan and reduces the slick footing problems.

- ✓ Drainage on the hillside, check!
- ✓ Drainage next to the puncheon, check!
- ✓ Puncheon shored up and resupported, check!
- ✓ Rock support wall built, check!
- ✓ Puncheon scraped and cleaned, check!

Fun was had by all in a gorgeous place with amazing weather, check! (muddy tools, boots and clothes cleaned off afterward with washing machines and hoses, check!) Another job was amazingly well done. 🌿

BCHW Membership Announcement

BCHW memberships expire on December 31, 2023. 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 MEMBERSHIPS In Addition To Chapter Dues

Single	\$41.00
Family.....	\$54.00
Contributing	\$75.00
Sustaining	\$125.00
Patron	\$250.00
Benefactor	\$500.00
Lifetime (Single)	\$1,200.00
Lifetime (Family of 2)	\$2,000.00

Reclaiming A Horse Camp

PHOTO BY SUE BEALL



By Sue Davis, Capitol Riders Chapter

Fall Creek Campground in Capitol State Forest, near Olympia, is the more remote of the two campgrounds with equine facilities. The forest is 110,00 acres of managed land with over 150 miles of multi-use trails. The trail system out of Fall Creek is well-maintained and provides multiple days of riding. The campground has eight campsites, a vault toilet, a hand-pump well, and at least one wooden corral on a concrete slab at every site. Historically, it was used heavily by equestrians and was adopted by local BCHW chapters. In the past decade, however, there has been a dramatic increase in use by the mountain bike community and other users. At the same time, use by the horse community has decreased. The wooden corrals are in disrepair and are no longer safe or secure for livestock. The day-use area has a large parking area and a new pavilion built by the mountain bike community.

Concerned that stock users may lose this beautiful area for riding and camping, in 2022, the Capitol Riders Chapter approached the land manager, Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), with a proposal to install a 2-horse metal panel corral in one of the campsites as a pilot project. Capitol Riders purchased the corral panels, and the installation was a

partnership with DNR. The project was a success. The new corrals were safe and secure, and DNR was pleased with the results.

Encouraged to continue the effort but limited on funds needed to purchase another set of corral panels, Capitol Riders applied for and received a \$1000 BCHA grant in 2023. Each 2-stall corral costs approximately \$3,000 for the panels and transportation. Nisqually Chapter heard about the project and partnered with us to provide additional funds and volunteer support. So, in July of last year, a second 2-stall corral installation was completed.

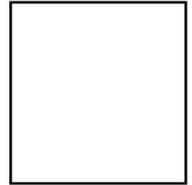
The chapter plans to continue replacing corrals at Fall Creek in 2024 with a 2-stall corral in one campsite and a single corral in another. Donations to Capitol Riders to support the Fall Creek Corral Replacement Project would be welcome and much appreciated. Trails and camping out of Fall Creek are open from May 1 through November 31. If you want more information about the area or a trail guide for a day, email us at capitolriders22@gmail.com. We would be happy to show off the area and have more stock in the camp and on the trails! 🐾

PHOTO BY SUE BEALL





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.

Methow Valley Chapter

Annual Spring Fling Ride

Friday-Sunday, April 26-28, 2024
 hosted by Methow Valley Chapter
 Contact: bev2ap@gmail.com

LeBar Horse Camp/Lower S. Fork Skok trail Regional Work Party, Olympic National Forest

Friday-Sunday, May 17-19th
 hosted by Buckhorn Range Chapter.

Family/Youth Trails Clinic

Saturday-Sunday, June 1-2, 2024
 Sage Horse Camp
 Sequim, WA
 Contact: Kim Merrick:
 eloise55@gmail.com

2nd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting

Saturday, June 15, 2024
 Kittitas Valley Event Center
 901 E 7th Ave, Ellensburg, WA
 BCHW President Dana Chambers
 president@bchw.org • 206-498-6952

Packing Clinic

Saturday-Sunday, June 22-23, 2024
 Spring/Summer
 Sage Horse Camp
 Sequim, WA
 Contact: Theresa Percy:
 teopercy@gmail.com

2024 Grays Harbor Fund Ride

Saturday, June 22, 2024
 Schafer Grade near Matlock, WA
 No permits needed. Limited camping avail.
 2 Loops option w/ raffle and grand price.
 Lunch will be avail. Lots of parking.
 Contact Beth Branshaw:
 bbranshaw@hotmail.com

Third Annual Olympic Spirit Prize Ride

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

3rd QTR BCHW Board of Directors' Meeting

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

23rd Annual Winery Ride

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

Example

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

**Lines in the listing have a
 maximum character count of 32, includ-
 ing spaces. Please keep this in mind.**

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

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