

Trail Crafters News

Olympic Peninsula, Washington



PENINSULA CHAPTER BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

PO Box 1931 Port Angeles, WA 98362 visit us on FB peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com

Happy Trails:

Finally, our Newsletter is up and running again. I have a whole new admiration for our former editor, Cate's, skill on the computer! My version still has some bugs to work out, so give me some time to get it right. I have tried to include lots of photos from the activities that have occurred since our last communication. We have an awesome group of people who volunteer their time to keep our back country open for all users. The many users (bicyclists, hikers, riders) who work together on these projects is a testament to cooperative achievement and we thank all of you.

If you haven't been to an activity lately, try coming out and volunteering for one of our work parties. They are lots of fun and there are opportunities for everyone to do something. Be sure to turn in your volunteer hours to Judy Sage in a timely manner as our accounting year ends early.

The annual barbecue held at Fox Bell Wedding and Event Center was well attended. It was a very warm day and so comfortable to be visiting and eating in the beautifully remodeled barn. The grounds are awesome, with flowers everywhere and lots of refurbished antique farm equipment and horse drawn vehicles.

President's Message – Dan Dosey

Greetings to All,

It has been several months since our last newsletter and I've missed it! I want to thank Donna Hollatz for agreeing to take on this task. It is a great way to keep the membership knowledgeable about all of our activities.

Our Peninsula Chapter is doing well. Members have been involved with The Irrigation Festival Parade, trail projects and great event rides. The Don Tucker Breakfast Rhody Ride on Saturday, May 19, was well attended, with perfect weather and good food. The rhododendrons were in full bloom. The Dan Kelly Ride on Saturday, June 16, also had great weather and an adventuresome group of riders. Thank you, Linda Morin and Kris Phillips, for event coordinating and food preparations. Be sure to check out the photos on the following pages.

We have some great opportunities coming up for trail work and education with youth groups. Tom Mix's Trail Report will keep you informed of upcoming activities and chances to volunteer.

This year our Peninsula Chapter Annual Picnic & Barbecue was held at Fox Bell Wedding Center on Barr Road on Saturday, July 14. It was a lot of fun for everyone who was able to attend. Please check the calendar to be sure you don't miss our next event.

Thank you Everyone for all you do to promote BCHW and make the Peninsula Chapter successful.

Dan



Peninsula Chapter Tool Trailer In Irrigation Festival Parade

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

- Irrigation Festival Pg 2
- Picnic-Barbecue Pg 5
- Alaskan Sawmill Pg 7
- Legislative News Pg 12

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Irrigation Festival Parade May 12, 2018

We had a great turnout of members for the Irrigation Festival Parade this year on Saturday, May 12th. We were joined by Olympic Peninsula Bicycling Alliance members to showcase the excellent cooperation of all trail users. Enjoy these photos from the parade.



Beth Blay with Cat's "pack mule".



Riders: Cat Sample and Linda Morin



Our trusty clean-up crew, Don Gonder and Kandy Mulrony.



On May 7th posts were installed in hand-dug holes along the Bluff Trail after a mule-pack.

Dan Kelly 'Grab 'n' Go' Ride June 16, 2018



Weed Warriors Attack Tansy at Miller Peninsula
June 19, 2018



A team of 7 plus 2 horses covered most of the trails at Miller to spray Tansy. We are very pleased to announce that there was far less weed than in prior years, so our efforts are making a difference!

Salt Creek, Spaghetti Ride

April 28, 2018

We ended up with a wet Northwest spring day, but it couldn't dampen the spirits of those who turned out to help with this event. Leif and his horses braved the showers and had a nice ride!

Delman Sage and Tom Mix also set up and took down wall tents at Dan Kelly Road that day to support the OAT Run.



Dan Tucker Breakfast Rhody Ride

May 19, 2018



Great turnout of riders and support people. The food was fantastic, and we have to thank Don Tucker for sharing his lovely property with us. Equestrians are welcome there any time.



Perfect weather for the ride and the rhododendrons were in full bloom. All the trails are in great shape!

Annual Barbecue – Fox Bell Wedding & Event Center

July 14, 2018



IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU TURN IN YOUR VHs BY THE 5TH OF EACH MONTH. Don't hesitate to send Judy an email, no1sage@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 year.

2016

Total VH 7899.5
Total Value \$261,197.36

2017 year end

Total to date VH 5165
Total to date Value
\$165,492

2018

Total VH 3814.5 (June 11, 1028)
Total to date Value
\$127,066.00

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

Your 2018 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 - Delman Sage,	no1sage@gmail.com
Secretary - Don Gonder,	DEGBCHWPC2016@outlook.com
Treasurer - Cindy Yager,	cy98362@yahoo.com
Director – Randy Smalling,	
Alt. State Director - Don Gonder,	DEGBCHWPC2016@outlook.com
Trail Project Coord. - Tom Mix,	backcountrypacker.mix@gmail.com
Membership Chair - Kandy Mulrony,	kandylynnm@hotmail.com
Publicity Chair - Debbie Dosey,	dande111@centurylink.net
Events & Education Chair - Linda Morin,	ehoytr3@yahoo.com
Volunteer Hours Chair - Judy Sage,	no1sage@gmail.com
Legislative Chair - Juelie Dalzell,	gobi@olympus.net
Email for the Chapter:	PeninsulaBCHWChapter@Gmail.Com

Alaskan Saw Mill Work: Crew Leader Mike Bonomo

Grey Wolf Crew Members: David Delmendo, David Graves, Paul Hornberger, Gregory Kamer, and Greg Sanders.

Mike Bonomo (crew leader) and his Grey Wolf crewmembers are shown here learning the details of setting up and using the Alaskan saw mill to make timbers for bridges in the forests. The crew cut Douglas Fir rounds from blow downs that fell in the Dungeness Forks Campground this past winter. Without their work the campground would have been unusable. Now the timbers, cut from the logs, will be useable on bridges and puncheon all over the Olympic Peninsula, saving the Forest Service from having to buy timbers. There will be many work parties in the coming months to complete the milling of the 34 rounds. It is a slow process requiring detailed setting to get good, square timbers.



Trail Projects Coordinator Report by Tom Mix

Trail Projects Director's Report through June 7, 2018

Miller Peninsula: Downed trees were removed on the Beach Trail by Jim and Donna Hollatz.

Lower Big Quilcene: The trail is closed to stock above Bark Shanty due to a wash out that will require a long reroute of about 1,000 feet or more, with switch backs on both ends. No time set to start, FS estimates about 2 months before internal approvals are in hand. The Gray Wolves cleared about 2 miles of trail. To date, it has taken 5 Gray Wolf work parties to construct a bypass at a recent slide. They had to remove 3 trees and move 2 boulders the size of small cars, and then construct approaches. One more work party should complete that project.

Quilcene Bone Yard milling of planks: The Gray Wolves are using the Alaskan Mill to mill planks for puncheon. The bolts came from the Dungeness Forks campground microburst. (See pictures page 7 of this newsletter.)

Siebert Creek NOLT: We brushed about 2 miles of trail corridor and pulled Scott's broom.

Sanicans: New signs were installed in the sanicans at Robin Hill and the Dan Kelly Trailhead that give credit to BCHW for providing these facilities.

Darrell reports that the RCO has released funds for our grant, effective April 4, 2018.

Our initial SWAG for the follow-on RCO grant request was emailed to Nicole on June 1st. This grant spans the 2019-2020 season.

Our 2 mini grants for Title II funding for foot log replacements and for back country privy installations are now fully funded and work parties will be scheduled as sites become available for implementation. One of the privy installations will be an Eagle Scout project. News Flash: We were informed on June 5 that no privies will be approved and that the Gold Creek foot long will be approved soon. Also, only may be 1 or 2 more foot logs out of the 7 identified will be approved over the duration of these grants.

Upcoming Trail Parties:

Bridges: We have been asked to lead a bridge construction effort at Glacier Creek near Ross Dam recreation area next season. That will be a 3 stringer, 65-foot-span stock bridge. USFS has offered to provide the standing timber and decking. I have asked our local crew to prep the abutments this season. Update: now the USFS engineering department wants the stringers to be fiberglass, not local timber. There are no plans for a fiberglass stringer bridge and no one has offered any funding sources. I think we just witnessed another bridge project get scuttled. This new requirement presents access implications.

Noxious weeds: We will schedule treatment parties and assessment trips when and where needed during the season. Initial plans are Miller Peninsula for Tansy and Canary reed grass and Heather Creek meadows for Canadian thistle. (Note: Miller was done for Tansy 6-19-18.) Please notify the Trail Work Projects Coordinator should you observe noxious weeds on our trails.

Miller Peninsula: We will install 3 or 4 picnic tables and mow the east trail loop to 5-year standards. We have permission to flag a new full loop trail on the bluff to the east of the Beach Trail and north of Fireweed Road. Work parties will continue to be held to install post and trail intersection signage begun January 2018, brushing to regain corridor and construct short realignment segments of trail. We plan to participate in an Eagle Scout project on the Miller System. They will build tread on the Alder Hollow or other designated trail. We have asked the tribe if we can build trail from the end of Cat Lake Road all through their land to the south. DNR gave us the okay on Feb. 2nd to build trail on their Pierce Road lands hooking up to the JSKT land at Cat Lake Road end. JSKT issued a blanket approval to construct trail to join trails on DNR lands. WSP issued us the herbicide used to treat Tansy.

Trail Projects Coordinator Report by Tom Mix con't. from pg 7

Sequim Bay State Park: PTC crews will place signs along the ODT within the Park to notify stock users to stay on the ODT as they traverse the Park. Once these signs are placed, Park management has agreed to remove the "No Stock" signs on the ODT at both ends of the Park property. This is on hold until the Park Ranger gets internal paperwork in order.

Little River: We will assist in the first bridge sill replacement. This will be a DNR effort. Del has offered to show their crew how to mill replacement beams for supporting the bridge. Be advised that contractors will be building a haul road across the trail just past the first bench. There will be a timber sale following the road installation. It is anticipated that the timber sale activity will not impact trail users. We will assess the trail for stock worthiness due to a slide just up trail from the 3rd foot log. WTA led a work party to clear downed trees but left a rather large item for us to remove between logs 4 and 5.

Striped Peak Trail: DNR will be constructing a new trail along the length of the property to complete a loop trail opportunity and another new trail to gain access to the top. The trails were prepped for the Salt Creek Ride on April 20th.

Lower Dungeness: Avoid having stock on this trail until further notice. There is a new slide area a short distance past the puncheon saw site that has to be repaired. Mike Bonomo and his crew have completed puncheon rebuilds. Upper Dungeness: Noxious weed treatment between Camp Handy and meadows above Grindstone meadows.

Slab Camp: Bridge just before the River Bridge will be scheduled for replacement. Work site is about 3 miles in. We anticipate the construction of stock approaches to the river bridge itself. That iron bridge is kind of high and needs approaches installed. Currently, stock must ford the Gray Wolf.

Upper Grey Wolf: Bridge out just before the ONP line. Also, 5 miles in from TH there is a failed switchback that will need a crib wall built and retreading of the switchback into a climbing turn. From 3 Forks to the pass there are more than 20 downed trees.

Wolf Creek: As the snows melt, we will head in from the top and accomplish log out. The ONP failed to prep for the dam removals and now the main road is gone. The Elwha has once again exerted influence on the ONP road and has isolated the ranger station, maintenance yard and Mule Barn. Our current plan is to approach Wolf Creek from the top down.

Happy Lake Ridge: We may host a log out trip as the snow recedes and time permits. This may be in cooperation with the WTA. We may need special consideration for ONP management to access the trail due to the washout of the main road.

ONP, Kalaloch tsunami evacuation route trail corridor: Heather may ask us to lead a corridor clearing work party event to open up a tsunami escape route. We await Heather's schedule.

USFS Quilcene: We have been asked to conduct instruction and certification for chain and crosscut sawyers and to conduct instruction in rigging for selected USFS and volunteers. They have also requested us to pack in equipment for their sawyers to address 47+ hazard trees at Lena Lake on May 15.

WTA: We have been asked to provide pack stock support to WTA crews for North Fork Skokomish to O'Neil, Appleton Pass, Aurora Ridge, and possible Happy Lake Ridge. They will ask Mt. Olympus chapter for pack support to the Mt. Muller top part of the loop trail. They will ask Grays Harbor for packing assist to Skyline (Low Divide) and O'Neil Pass (Enchanted Valley).

Trail Projects Coordinator Report by Tom Mix *con't. from pg 8*

Sawyer Certifications:

Contact Tom or Del should you need to get certified or recertified for chain or cross cut saw work.

USFS Saw Program: We have updated the sawyer field evaluation forms to be more user friendly. We have been asked to help EMBA and the Snowmobile groups assemble their sawyer program application packet and to certify their initial cadre of sawyers.

Clallam County Trails Advisory Committee Per Kat: Nothing reported.

Equestrian access to the PNNST/ODT: Rich James requested a stock user map of areas on ODT from Port Townsend west where stock can and cannot safely or administratively travel.

PTC: Chuck has offered to help with PTC strategy and other items to ensure stock have no travel restrictions as the ODT traverses administratively diversified jurisdictions. The ball is on our court, so to speak, and Linda Morin has taken the lead for getting our needs known. Jan Whitlow is our rep on the PTC board. Jeff B has offered to start discussions with stock users so that their needs are addressed from trail/trailhead design requirements clear through maintenance {I am referring to the process of incorporating equestrian requirements into the trail and trailhead specs, project design review/approval, siting of a project (does it facilitate/integrate with other trail systems), project implementation (construction), review of the completed project against the design, follow-up on maintenance of the tread and corridor, and review of the maintenance to insure that it is meeting requirements}. We are waiting for Jeff to schedule a meeting. Should Jeff not schedule a meeting soon, we will schedule it. Process discussions with Chuck have devolved. Rich James has provided design sketches for the ODT Lyre River parking area showing parking for a few stock rigs. The new parking area will be just east of the 4-wheeler parking lot. Stock rigs would drive in and past the 4-wheeler parking, make a U turn and park headed east just past the day use parking lot. With the Elwha closed, I expect the new parking area for stock rigs to be overrun with day use 4-wheelers. Still no sharing of upcoming plans and designs for the ODT where we can get a look at proposed trail configurations to insure stock accommodations are actually contained in the design paper. Rich says the County's Trail Advisory Committee gets a look at upcoming designs before they go to bid. The current BCHW reps are: County's Trail Advisory Committee. They include Kat Sample, Larry Baysinger, and Jennifer Reandeanu.



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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

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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) <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-4080038>

Aine Creedon

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

Don Gonder, Secretary BCHWPC

Legislative News – Jeff Chapman

Dungeness Roads Project Environmental Assessment—IMPORTANT ISSUE

Jeff Chapman wishes to call this report to the attention of the BCHW membership as it impacts areas that many of our members are accustomed to enjoying. These include the Tubal Cain mine area and decommissioning of the roadway to the Silver Lake trailhead; decommissioning of the Gold Creek Trailhead and converting it to trail travel; and limiting vehicle access to the Tyler Peak area, closing roadway to require more hiking to reach the trailhead. There is a very short (30 day) comment period for interested parties to respond to this plan and voice any concerns they may have. Please take a look at the USDA Forest Service Plan: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49643> Click on “Comment/Object on Project” under the “Get Connected” heading on the right. Comments must be submitted by August 2, 2018. We need to have members weigh in on this project if we wish to maintain our stock access to this beautiful area.

Another important message from Jeff Chapman:

Restore our Parks Act – Senate Bill S3172

As reported by ABC News, hundreds of National Parks have roads, bridges, and historic buildings in need of repair. Budget shortfalls have led the Park Service to defer much of that work, creating a \$11.6 billion maintenance backlog, according to the Interior Department. This Senate bill nicknamed “Restore Our Parks Act” would direct a portion of money from energy production on federal lands to the park service specifically for addressing the backlog of maintenance projects.

This bill, S3172, has bipartisan support from Senator Portman(R) and Senator Warner(D). Jeff suggests that BCH members email Senator Cantwell and Senator Murray and ask them to cosponsor this bill. Tell them that a dedicated funding source for backlog maintenance for our National Parks is very important, and Back Country Horsemen are enthusiastic about seeing this truly bipartisan bill moved forward. You might mention that we would appreciate it if it could be spent on Forest Service backlog maintenance as well or if a similar mechanism could be created for USFS lands.

<https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/lowbandwidth/contactme>

<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/email>

Note this line in the youth Corps Network’s follow-up support letter to the S3172 hearing: “As this bill moves forward, we encourage a discussion around expansion of funding to other land management agencies that face large backlogs as well such as the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Fish and Wildlife Service.”

BCHW - Who's Who at the State Level

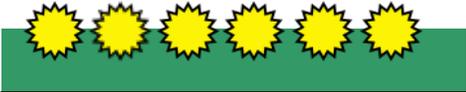
President	Young	Kathy	president@bchw.org
Vice President	Sunde	Dave	vice_pres@bchw.org
Secretary	Wilson	Janelle	secretary@bchw.org
Treasurer	Starke	Teri	treasurer@bchw.org
Safety Officer	Wesselius	Doc	wesselius@wildblue.net
Special Assistant for Advocacy	Chapman	Jeff	bbbranch@olympus.net
Legislative Chair	Chapman	Jeff	bbbranch@olympus.net
Public Lands Chair	Erben	Pete	Public_lands@bchw.org
Membership Chair	Sedgwick	Nicole	membership@bchw.org
Awards Chair	Wilhelm-Howell	Lynn	redboots4u2@gmail.com
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	wesselius@wildblue.net
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	Sedgwick	Nicole	bchwexec@bchw.org
Publicity Chair and THN Editor	Yarboro	Dick	easyrider@scattercreek.com
Webmaster	Thode	Jim	webboss@bchw.org
Photographer	Thode	Jim	webboss@bchw.org
BCHA Director	Wallace	Darrell	bcha_dir1@bchw.org
BCHA Director	Ridlon	Jason	bcha_dir2@bchw.org
BCHA Alternate Director	Carmichael	Ken	kcarmichael2225@gmail.com
Historian Chair	Enrico	Chris	cenrico@comcast.net

PENINSULA CHAPTER OF BCHW CALENDAR 2018



TRAIL WORK PARTIES - 2nd Tuesday and 3rd Saturday of each month. Watch emails for scheduling or call Tom Mix @ 360-582-0460

Jan			
8	Board Meeting	Cindy Yager's Residence	5:00 PM
20	Leadership Training	Ellensburg	8:45 AM
Feb			
12	Board Meeting		5:00 PM
17	BCHW Membership Development Seminar	Clallam County Courthouse (CCC) 223 E 4th St, Port Angeles, WA	10:00 AM
19	BCHW Legislative Day	Olympia	
Mar			
12	Board Meeting		5:00 PM
16-18	BCHW RENDEZVOUS & Director's Meeting	Kittitas Valley Center 901 E. 7th Ellensburg, WA	9 AM daily
24	General Meeting Pot Luck	Sequim Prairie Grange 290 MacLeay Rd, Sequim, WA	5 PM - 8PM
24	BCHW 13th Annual Gravel Pack-in	Capitol State Forest	8:00 AM
Apr			
9	Board Meeting	Cindy Yager's Residence	5:00 PM
21	Jr Ranger Day	3002 Mt Angeles Rd Port Angeles, WA (up Race St)	8:30 AM
28	Salt Creek Spaghetti Ride	Salt Creek County Park Joyce WA	9:00 AM
23-25	BCHA Nat'l. Board Mtg. - BCHW Hosting	Spokane	
28	OAT Run	Dan Kelly Rd, off Hwy 112, Port Angeles Help only set up/take down wall tents	8:00 AM

MAY			
14	Board	Clallam County Courthouse (CCC) 223 E 4th St, Port Angeles, WA	5:00/6:30 PM
19	BCHW Joe Watt Canyon Ride	Ellensburg	
19	Peninsula & Buckhorn Chapter Miller Peninsula Rhody Breakfast & Ride and General Mtg	Stage @ Don Tucker's Land off of Pierce Road	Brkfst 9 AM
TBD	Rendezvous Auction Ride	Miller Penninsula State Park	TBD
JUNE			
2	National Trail Day	Black Pine Horse Camp - Wenatchee Ranger District	
11	Board Meeting	Clallam County Courthouse (CCC) 223 E 4th St, Port Angeles, WA	5:00 PM
16	Dan Kelly Ride	Dan Kelly Rd, off Hwy 112, Port Angeles	10:00 AM
16	Director's Meeting	Ellensburg	9:00 AM
JULY			
14	Chapter Picnic Pot Luck & General Meeting	Fox Bell Weddings, 137 N. Barr Rd	12 AM - 4 PM
TBD	2019 Election Ballot Development	TBD	TBD
21-25	BVHW State Wide Work Party	Wenatchee Ranger District	
Aug			
13	Board Meeting	Cindy Yager's Residence	5:00 PM
11	Joyce Ride and Campout	Margaret Salstrom's Ranch 278 Dunmire Rd, Joyce, WA	10:00 AM
Sept			
1	General Meeting/Pot Luck/Camp Out; Nominations for 2018	Layton Hill Horse Camp 2514 Chicken Coop Rd Sequim, WA	10:00 AM
10	Board Meeting	Cindy Yager's Residence	5:00 PM
15	Director's Meeting	Ellensburg	9:00 AM
TBD	Littleton Horse Camp Ride		
28 & 29	River Festival 3S Training	River Center	TBD

Oct			
1	Ballots Sent Out		
8	Board Meeting	Cindy Yager's Residence	5:00 PM
27	BCHW 7th Annual Winery Ride	Zillah	
31	Ballots Postmarked		
Nov			
4	Ballots Talled		
5	Board Meeting	TBD	5:00 PM
11	Gen. Mtg Brd Hosted Dinner, Awards/ ElectionResults	Sequim Prairie Grange 290 MacLeay Rd, Sequim, WA	5:00 PM

1	 Director's Meeting	Ellensburg	9:00 AM
TBD	 Christmas Party	TBA	TBA