

The Trailhead News

Vol. 49 Issue 5

Back Country Horsemen of Washington

September/October 2024



www.bchw.org



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Cover Photo: North Cascade National Park. Photo By Kambria & Waylon Schwalen

Disclaimer

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April 1	May/June
June 1	July/Aug
August 1	Sept/Oct
October 1	Nov/Dec

Advertising Information Call: 360.754.4543

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

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

The Optional Membership Program is available to all members for renewal or new membership. Members in this program pay only the optional membership fee, which includes the Family or Single Membership. The optional membership information on this page is provided by the BCHW Membership Committee. **If you have any corrections or questions, please e-mail membership@bchw.org.**

Name	Chapter	Name	Chapter	Name	Chapter
Lifetime Members		Christina Cline	MVC	Laurie Kallsen-George	PNC
Mitch Baird	IND	Leslie Coey & Curt Fuller	IND	Burton & Caity Karapostoles	MVC
Scott Bauer	CHC	Gary & Kathy Collins	MSH	Tony & Cathy Karniss	LCC
Amanda Biles	TAH	Greg Cox	GHC	Leah & Franz Keylard	TAH
Penelope Booker	IND	Patrick Dolan	MSH	Bob & Nancy Lee	EVC
Karen Briskey	PCC	Sherrie Elliott	NEC	Kris Lenke & Dave Peterson	BHR
Caleb Canby	MVC	Bruce & Kathy Foreman	NEC	Ed & Teri Letcher	WEN
Janis Collett	PCC	Robert Gish & Gloria Dennison	NEC	Michele McGehee	GHC
Missy Day	TAH	KEVIN & Lisa Graese	NEC	Kathy McGehee-Hansen	NSC
David Jackson	PSR	Karl Kaiyala & Kathy Rafferty	MVC	Bob & Rani Merz	MAC
Lori Lennox	GHC	Mary Kane	TAH	Kris Moran	GHC
Kim Merrick	NSC	Lorraine Karmen	CHC	Jeanette & John O'Keefe	MVC
Heather Moorman	PSR	Bill Kehner	IND	Kathleen Parshall	TAH
Jason Ridlon	IND	Edris Kenan	TAH	Leonard & Kathy Rolph	MAC
Kathy Russo	IND	Mike & Chris McGlenn	WCC	Laurel Saville	WCC
Dave Seibel	MOC	Mary McIntyre-Lee	IND	Brian & Cindi Vance	NEC
Bob Shonka	IND	Paul Mellick	RRR	Larry Wachtel	IND
Teri Starke	IND	James Miller	IND	Bob & Lyris Wooldridge	MAC
Cathy Upper	MVC	Mary & Dennis Owens	GHC		
Barbara Woo	CHC	Frank & Sandra Servine	NIS		
Pat Wyers	MAC	Heather Spencer	MOC		
2024 Annual Meeting Head Table		Lynda Stafford	SCR		
Jan Whitlow	MOC	Michael Torok	MVC		
2023 Annual Meeting Head Table		Darrell & Kristy Wallace	NEC		
Kinney/Churchill	TDC	Louise & Peter Walton	NEC		
2024 Patron Level		Nancy Wiest	PCC		
Kathy & Bob Cole	MSH	Bonnie Witrak	TAH		
William Hamlin & Anne Razzolini	RRR	JoAnn Yost	GHC		
Greg Johnston & Catherine Johnson	GHC	2024 Contributing Level			
Cindy & Dean Kobetich	BHR	Earl & Dorothy Aalseth	CHC		
Mary Krauss & Joe Berner	CHC	Jim & Terri Anderson	MSH		
Dale & Tina Merten	GHC	Meg Brinton & Nick Lowe	MSH		
Bob Showalter	RRR	Tyler Castle	MSH		
Brenda Wiebe	MAC	Jan & Jim Craghead	CCR		
Todd & Janet Wiebke	IND	Ken & Pam Evans	MAC		
2024 Sustaining Level		Carol Finney	MSH		
Gene Brent	TAH	Peg Greiwe & Dale Kelley	PCC		
Sherry & Alex Brown	LCC	Kris & Don Hand	PSR		
Ron & Marty Celestres	TAH	Judith & Bob Hoyle	BHR		
Danny & Jeanie Chappel	RRR	Kathy & Bob Jones	TDC		

Tax Deduction

Please be informed that membership dues, paid at the state as well as the chapter level, are tax deductible for the calendar year and subsequent years. Deduct your dues as a charitable contribution under authority of IRC Section 170 (assuming the person paying the membership dues itemizes their deductions when computing their federal net taxable income) or as a business deduction under authority of IRC Section 162 (assuming the person paying the membership dues has a "trade or business" and the payment of the membership dues is directly related to this "trade or business"). When making a donation, ask for a receipt.

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

Ken Wilcox BCHW

In Memoriam

BettyRae Shonka

Carol Wilcox

Doc Wesselius

Jim Murphy

Laarin Lee Barber

Marianne Finrow

Teunis Wyers

Trygve Culp

A Gift To Honor or In Remembrance

Donate in memory of a friend, family, or loved one. To make a donation in their name to BCHW, please contact Teri Starke, BCHW

Treasurer, at: 253.709.5052 or tstrk21@msn.com.

Vice President's Corner



Get To Know Ken Carmichael

By Ken Carmichael, BCHW Vice President

BCHW Vice President, BCHW Membership Development Chair & Governance and Bylaws Chair

I had several false starts getting into horses starting in eighth grade, none lasting more than six months. In 1984, we moved onto land next to Riverside State Park, and I got Sasha in 1985. I have always had at least one horse ever since.

Monte Robertson and I joined BCH in 1988. I do not remember why; it just seemed like a good idea at the time. Boy, did that change my life. I started my "career" as the chapter librarian and progressed up through the ranks to chapter President and Director, learning every step of the way. I have always enjoyed working at the chapter level, where we are close to the ground. It is a well-known fact that I am not the one to run the chainsaw (I make a good helper) but am the one to do the paper pushing and organization to get the job started, and I attend a whole bunch of meetings representing equestrians. I believe that if we want to have trails for horses

we had better be at the table when the input and decisions are made. I spend most of my time representing equestrians (and BCH) at state parks, the Bureau of Land Management and county meetings. It is my contention that there are 54 volunteer opportunities in a chapter, so there is something that fits everyone's interest, talent, skills, ambition, time and abilities. Sometimes you just need to ask.

I am active at the BCHW level, which has been very rewarding. It is great working with dedicated people, and the paperwork fits my interests and skills. I also spent a few years as an Alternate National Director. Holding all these positions has given me a real appreciation of what it takes in the back-ground to make BCH a great organization.

My "elevator speech," when I meet people and want to tell them QUICKLY what BCH is, I say, "BCH preserves and enhances the rights of responsible horsemen to use horses and mules on public land. We do this through EDUCATION, ADVOCACY and MOVING DIRT (trail work), plus some administration, and we have fun doing it."

What has BCH brought to me? Education, friendships, feeling that I am contributing to a good cause, understanding how the system works to keep trails open, and participation are some fun events.

As for riding, I have taken my stab at packing, camping at trailheads and day riding. Living next door to Riverside State Park provides easy access for quick rides into about 9,000 acres. There are many places to camp overnight, the Escure Ranch (BLM) being our favorite. Sometimes, I can get lost in a closet, so it may be dangerous to follow me. However, I have become very adept at my favorite locations and enjoy leading those rides.

Every time I put a saddle on a horse and swing into it, I know I have made the right decision. Being part of BCH has been rewarding, educational, fun and exciting. It is a great family to belong to. Feel free to contact me by emailing vice_pres@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.

2024 BCHW Awards Program

Never too early to start the list

By Susan Sundahl, BCHW Awards Committee Chair

Start the process of gathering information for the nomination packet now. Nominations are due by February 1, 2025, and will be awarded at Rendezvous in March. There are so many deserving BCHW members that should receive one of these awards. If your chapter does not have a nominating committee for Awards, please put it on the agenda for your next meeting. I am more than happy to assist you with your nominations. In addition, BCHW appreciates donations from individuals and Chapters for these awards. For more information and to see past award winners, please visit the Awards page at bchw.org/programs/awards.

BCHW AWARDS CATEGORIES

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT This award is for the BCHW member or couple who has shown a lifetime of dedication to BCHW by actively pursuing and promoting the organization and the BCHW Mission Statement in various ways. This award is for recognition, not a contest.

Lifetime = 1, max 2 awarded

LOPPER AWARD This award is for a BCHW member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment and dedication to their chapter or BCHW by participating and promoting what the BCHW Mission Statement stands for. This is an “all-around” award, with the nominee being active in several aspects of the many things that make up BCHW.

Lopper = 3, max 4 awarded

CAMP COOK This award is for the BCHW member who willingly keeps the campfires burning and the kettles hot and full of delicious food to share with others. Whether at meetings, work parties or social functions, they are in the kitchen ensuring all are well fed.

Camp Cook = 1 awarded

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.

Trail Warrior = 3, max 4 awarded

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.

Desk Jockey = 2, max 3 awarded

JUNIOR BCHW Our future! Who stands out in your chapter?

This person would participate in chapter events such as work parties, fundraisers, LNT/education, training or BCHW promotion such as parades.

Junior BCH = 1, max 2 awarded

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 member is very important in keeping the chapter, organization or event operating smoothly.

Backbone = 2, max 3 awarded

CINCH AWARD The BCHW Board of Directors nominates this award, and the President nominates five directors to make the selection. It was created to recognize those hard-working BCHW members who have consistently and competently carried out jobs at the state level year after year. Recipients shall be Volunteer Committee Chairmen, Volunteer Committee member or an UN-ELECTED state officer - they keep the wheels of this great organization running smoothly. They may or may not be very visible - they may be quietly working in the background, reliably doing their jobs. They may or may not be active, hold an office in a chapter or even be a chapter member, but they are invaluable at the state level.

Cinch Award = 1, max 2 awarded

PRESIDENT'S DIAMOND AWARD The BCHW President awards a person or persons “In recognition of outstanding dedication, passion and commitment to the BCHW mission.” The President's Diamond Award is decided autonomously by the BCHW Awards Program.

President's Diamond Award = 1, max 2 awarded

SPONSORSHIPS Last year, eight different BCHW chapters and one business-sponsored BCHW awards. Thanks to Ponderosa, Pierce County, Capitol Riders, Scatter Creek, Methow Valley, Tahoma, Buckhorn Chapters and Harbor Saw for your sponsorships. These sponsorships, partnered with the BCHW award budget, resulted in thirteen volunteers being recognized in eight categories. Please encourage you, your chapter or businesses to support the BCHW Award Program for one or more of the award categories. Also, remember that with our 501(c3), there is a tax advantage for award donations. 🐾



2024 BCHW Award Nomination Form

(one form per nominee)

Lifetime Achievement	_____	Desk Jockey	_____
Lopper Award	_____	Junior BCHW	_____
Camp Cook	_____	Backbone Award	_____
Trail Warrior	_____		

Nominees' Name _____

Chapter(s) _____

Submitted by _____

Chapter(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Information to include in your nomination presentation:

- In 75 words or less, give an opening statement telling why this person is deserving of special, statewide recognition for this specific award.
- Then separately, on as many pages as you need, create a presentation detailing WHY this person should receive this award.
- Chapters this person has belonged to and for how long.
- Positions or job titles this person has held.
- An estimate of their volunteer hours (Chapter Vol Hour Chairs can help with this).
- Awards this person has won.
- Trails or camps this person has worked on.
- A little family history.
- Include anything which will make your nominee stand out! (Letters of recommendation from land managers, news clippings, photos, etc.).

The presentation you submit will be given to the recipient.

Mail nomination forms with your presentation via the US Post Office to: BCHW Awards Committee Chair

Susan Sundahl
15188 Stevens Rd. S.E. Olalla, WA 98359
Questions: pappihorse@wavecable.com or 253-380-0343

Must be received before February 1, 2025

BCHW Winery Ride 2024

By Barb Thomas

As you may have heard, the 2024 Winery Ride is shaping to be a unique and exciting event. Despite the challenges we've faced with permitting requirements and venue changes, we've managed to secure a location with the support of the wineries and their commissioner. While it may be a smaller venue, it promises to be just as memorable.

We opened registration to the public on August 1st and have officially sold out the 158 camp sites that we have this year. We are a little behind schedule in getting volunteers, sponsorship, and prizes. All this being said, we have a core group that comes together and makes things happen. If you have never gone to the winery ride, volunteering is not just a

way to see what it is all about, it's a chance to be part of the fun. Thank you to those chapters that have supported us in the past. We hope to continue that support through monetary and prize donations. Wine Ride committee members will be present at the September Director's meeting, so prizes can be collected then.

To join us for this exciting event, visit bchw.org and navigate to the Winery Ride Event page. We look forward to seeing you there!

I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." - Edward Everett Hale 🐾



BCHW Sponsorships Program

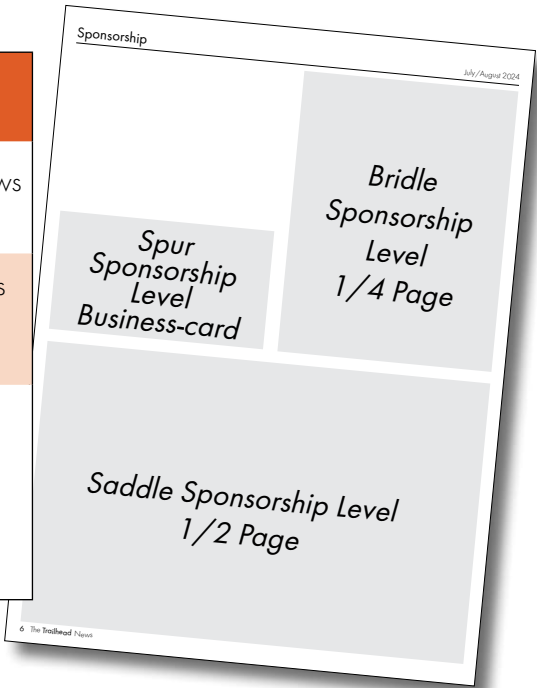
We are now offering annual sponsorships!

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

All levels of sponsors will be listed on the Sponsors page of our website.

- Back Country Horsemen of Washington Facebook page has 8.6K Followers
- Trailhead News publication goes to 2100+ members
- Rendezvous Three-day event gathers 400+ members and 100+ public attendance

Sponsorship Level	Benefits
Spur \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business card size listing in all 6 editions of our Trailhead News• Your banner displayed at our statewide events
Bridle \$1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarter-page listing in our 6 editions of the Trailhead News• Your banner displayed at our statewide events.• Booth at our statewide events (if desired)
Saddle \$5000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Half-page listing in all 6 editions of the Trailhead News• Your banner displayed at our statewide events.• Booth at our statewide events (if desired)• Posts on BCHW Facebook page



Okanogan Valley Chapter's First Annual Swap Meet



LNT trailer manned by Lana and Chris Christopherson



Mike Buchert providing packing instructions.



Tonasket/Oroville Disaster Relief Team

By Kassie Pruitt, Okanogan Valley Chapter – Public Lands Chair

Since COVID, our small Chapter has had difficulty raising money. We decided to think "Out of the Box!" and held a Swap Meet.

Our local Chapter held its first Annual Swap Meet at the Tonasket Rodeo Grounds on June 22, 2024. We started spreading the word on Facebook, radio, word of mouth, and by attending farmer's markets and yard sales.

Over 25 vendors from numerous areas were in attendance, spread out over the rodeo grounds. Our local Tonasket Comancheros provided concessions, from donuts and coffee to hamburgers and hotdogs.

The Tonasket/Oroville Relief trailer provided tours through their trailer and shared about their activities. Quilts of Valor was represented, selling raffle tickets for two gorgeous handmade quilts.

OVC supported the Leave No Trace (LNT) program by being manned by Lana and Chris Christopherson for the day. They also passed out BCHW fliers, meeting and membership information with free suckers! A how-to-pack demonstration was provided by Mike Buchert, who sold raffle tickets for a beautifully custom-made saddle stand and displayed numerous photographs of work done on trails over the years.

OVC received numerous items, including tack, clothing, and miscellaneous donations. The items not sold were donated to our local Senior Center for their upcoming Rummage Sale.

Follow-up discussions with guests and vendors were very positive. Vendors wanted us to continue, at minimum, with an Annual Swap Meet 🐾



Lots of items were donated to OVC for our Swap Meet.

Part 1 – RCO Grant: Restoring and Maintaining Olympic Peninsula Trails: 22-1822



By Sherry Baysinger, Publicity Chair – Mt Olympus Chapter

For several years, Mt Olympus Chapter members have worked hard to maintain the Bogachiel Trail on the Olympic Peninsula south of Forks, Washington. This trail is a vital part of the Pacific NW Trail which starts on USFS for two miles and then becomes part of the Olympic National Park (ONP) Bogachiel Rain Forest and the Solduc Ranger District's trail system. Because ONP uses horses and mules to maintain part of its trail systems, this two-mile section of USFS is vital.

In recent years, Mt Olympus Chapter members partnered with WTA to assist the USFS in relocating the first mile of the Bogachiel Trail after the river continued to wash out large sections of the trail every winter. High water on Kahkwa Creek crossing, which is on USFS land, has washed out the horse ford yearly. Trail crew leader Larry Baysinger and several Mt Olympus Chapter members have rebuilt the trail and fords several years.

After several meetings with District Recreational Management Specialist Liz Cusanelli and USFS Hydrologist Technician Andrew Stonebreaker, the decision was made to allow us to utilize gabion baskets filled with rock to stabilize the trail on Kahkwa Creek. Peninsula Chapter members Rebecca Wanagel and Martin Knowles agreed to use their grant funds to purchase the baskets, which were stored in our barn until needed. Rebecca had the Gray Wolf Volunteer group assist with the work. She also asked Harold Weise of the Olympic Chapter to use his mules to pack some miscellaneous gear for the project. I agreed to cook a Dutch oven dinner for the crew on Saturday night, and my good friend Gig Kerr, also a Mt Olympus Chapter member, volunteered to assist.

Martin Knowles had helped load mules and done a lot of trail work, so he began a crash course on trail riding with one of our gentle trail horses. The three of us had a lot of windfall removals, clearing, brushing and foot log work in preparation for this project. We would need heavy rigging and cable, so we started packing loads as soon as possible. The project date was set for June 8-9. Most of the workers came prepared to spend the weekend.

This project ended up being a collaboration of several volunteer groups and the agencies supporting it. Members of three different Back Country Horsemen Chapters and an independent volunteer trail group, Gray Wolf, are mostly retired and over 60 years old. 🌲



Part 2 – CO Grant: Restoring and Maintaining Olympic Peninsula Trails: 22-1822



By Sherry Baysinger, Publicity Chair – Mt Olympus Chapter

Larry, Martin and I did trail maintenance and packed loads for the Kahkwa Creek gabion basket project for six days. On the first day, a large alder windfall was hanging over the road, and our horse trailer couldn't fit safely under it, so that had to be removed. I might mention the Bogachiel road to the trailhead is a 4-wheel drive steep road for those pulling horse trailers, so we were glad the tree wasn't on the long, steep climb.

Some untrained trail warriors had placed old bridge planks on the trail making it stock inaccessible. We have some good mules, but they can't walk the plank. Larry and Martin strapped a chain around each plank with a rope tied to that and then to our trusty Mustang Scout's saddle horn, and Scout pulled the planks with me leading him.

Larry and I volunteered to pack some gear for an ONP trail leaders who were hiking in with heavy gear to replace a bridge with failing stringers. None of us knew that the planks on the bridge were also bad. Larry had just got across the bridge when I saw Fivey go down. Larry yelled for me to get the other mules off the bridge. I jumped off my horse, untied the last two mules, and backed them off the bridge. Fivey's hind leg was completely through the bridge plank, and while Larry was trying to help him, Fivey fell off the bridge, landing directly on his head. Larry was frantically cutting ropes to get the packs off as Fivey's entire head was in the water. Fivey wasn't moving, so I thought for sure he broke his

neck, but as soon as Larry got the packs off, he jumped up and bounded up the steep creek bank. The young people who were following us were doing whatever they could to contain

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Part 2 – CO Grant: Restoring and Maintaining Olympic Peninsula Trails: 22-1822

continued from page 9

the horses and mules and helped us repair the bridge blanks with planks Larry found unused under the bridge. I gave Fivey a bute tablet (horse Ibuprofen) in an apple, and when Larry led him behind Scout heading back to the trailhead, he didn't even balk at the next bridge. He totally recovered with no serious injuries! He is still my favorite mule!

The Hurley Creek foot log had slipped a bit sideways, so we took a jack with us that day, and Larry and I jacked the foot log over and secured it. Martin hiked back to the steep part of the trail and removed the windfall that our stock had to step over. We did a lot of brushing overhead because of how we needed to pack the gabion baskets on our mules. We tried several ways of packing the gabion baskets and came to the conclusion that they would need to be put on the mules horizontally. It was such a relief when we made it two miles to the Kahkwa staging area with those precarious loads. I've never been so happy to unload mules!

Larry and Harold came in on Friday and rigged all the cables for running buckets of rock from one section of the creek to where they would dump the rocks into the baskets. On Saturday, Rebecca and her crew formed teams to work on each segment of the project. The Gray Wolf people worked non-stop for two days, placing and filling the gabion baskets.

Around noon, Larry and I rode back to the trailhead to set up our Dutch Ovens to cook supper for 15 hardworking people. We had hors d'oeuvres and cold drinks ready for the arriving crew. Supper was Dutch oven-baked creamy chicken breasts, baked potatoes with all the fixings, salad and cheesy French bread hot out of our gas oven. Mt Olympus Chapter member Gig Kerr brought a great tropical fruitcake with cream cheese frosting, which was delicious!

Words are inadequate to describe this project, so enjoy the photos. 🌿



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

Riding The North Cascades



By Kambria & Waylon Schwalen, Skagit County Chapter BCHW

We started the season packing into “one of the most scenic, but at least frequently visited” parts of North Cascade National Park. Only 13 miles from the trailhead, this branch off the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) doesn’t see many visitors. Due to the low snowpack, we could ford Maple Creek earlier in the season than usual (during late June, it usually won’t be accessible until mid-July or later). We cleared about five or six trees that were down on the North Fork Bridge Creek trail to make it horse accessible,

but even after that, the trail saw so little use that it was faint and almost nonexistent at the meadows below Mount Goode. I gave my Mustang his head, and he found the way through the knee-deep brush. We cut a thousand branches of Alder out of the way that were hitting our faces and torsos. Due to the little use the trail sees, even later in the season, such as in September, there can be a bunch of big trees across the trail, so bring a saw. Maple Creek can be an adventure of its own, so make sure to bring a solid-minded horse! This is a bit of a scary section (the blue arrow on photo to the right indicates a section that was only 8” wide), but it’s very short-lived. We decided to walk this narrow, cliffy section of the PCT. 🌿



Rock Creek Work Party



By Barb Thomas

No one believed that all three two-stall metal corrals could be installed at Rock Creek Horse Camp in one work party. When you have the relationship BCHW and WTRA have with DNR, things just come together!

This work party on July 30th, 2024, is an example of how working together can move mountains (or, for this project... move rocks) and get the job done.

Members from Mt. St. Helen’s chapter of Back Country Horsemen (BCHW), Washington Trail Riders Assoc. (WTRA), Whipple Creek Restoration Committee, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Washington Conser-

vation Corps all worked together, and the three corrals were installed by 2:30 PM.

DNR removed the old corrals in the group site by the shelter before the work party. Volunteers were working on measurements by 8:30 AM, and it was full steam ahead auguring holes, putting corrals together, clamping them in place, cementing the footings and then welding the clamps.

It was a good day. Can’t wait for members of BCHW and WTRA to try out these new corrals at our annual picnic on August 25th. 🍀

BCHW Membership Announcement

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

PRICING FOR OUR SINGLE AND FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ARE INCREASING.

In Addition To Chapter Dues

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

"Leave No Trace by Practicing the BCHA "Light on the Land Principles"

Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the area and what to expect: learn the weather, travel conditions, popularity, local regulations and customs before heading for the backcountry.
- Select appropriate equipment for the worst conditions the country and time of year might offer.
- Repackage food into lightweight non-breakable containers and bags to decrease the amount of refuse brought into wild-lands.

Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces

- Utilize durable ground when hiking, landing watercraft, stopping for rest breaks, and camping. The best surfaces to utilize are sand, rock, snow, dry grass, and pine needles.
- In popular areas, concentrate use in established campsites. Keep tents, kitchen areas, and traffic in "hardened" areas that are already bare from previous use.
- In remote areas, spread use. Spread out while hiking, avoid creating paths while in camp and utilize only durable ground for camping and walking.
- Avoid places where impact is just beginning. Leave barely used sites alone to regenerate.

Pack It In, Pack It Out

- Reduce litter at the source by repackaging food into reusable containers.
- Carry out all trash & garbage so it will not be left half-burned or dug up by animals.
- Follow the rules of trailheads and horse camps. If they say pack out your manure, then pack it out!

Properly Dispose of What You Can't Pack Out

- Bury Human waste 6-8" deep in individual cat holes. The best option is to carry out toilet paper in plastic bags as buried toilet paper is often dug up by animals.
- Strain or separate food particles from cooking water, scatter the gray water 200 ft. from water sources and camps. In bear country, consolidate water in sump holes.
- Minimize soap use to keep the backcountry free of chemicals. If washing with soap, rinse 200 ft. from water sources.
- Scatter fish or hunting remains discretely, well away from trails or camps.
- In Bear Country, hang all food and toiletries and camp at least 100 ft. from cooking and food storage areas.

Leave What You Find

- Minimize Site Alterations by choosing sites that are sheltered and do not require trenching. Carry enough gear to be comfortable in bad weather.
- Avoid Damaging Live Trees and Plants. It is unnecessary to chop or nail trees, harvest plants, or harm living things.
- Leave Natural and Cultural Artifacts, such as bones, pottery, or petrified wood, intact for others to view and enjoy.

Minimize Use and Impact of Fires

- Know current Regulations and Weather Conditions. During dry periods, it may be dangerous, or even prohibited to build fires.
- If you can't use a stove, collect and burn only dead and already-downed wood.
- Use small wood (wrist size or smaller). It burns hot and easily burns to ash. Break wood to smaller lengths as needed: extra wood can be returned to the forest before leaving camp.
- In High-use Areas, use existing, legal fire pits.
- In Remote Areas, use no-trace methods such as fire pans or mound fires.

Respect Wildlife

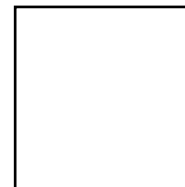
- Keep a safe distance from wildlife.
- Do not follow or approach wildlife.
- Do not disturb wildlife by shouting or throwing something at them.
- Be Bear Aware!
- Be considerate of animal's needs and temperaments at critical times and places.

Be Courteous Of Others

- Practicing good camp and trail etiquette helps ensure that everyone enjoys their visit to the backcountry.
- Be aware of your noise levels. Sounds travel easily in the backcountry.
- Know the rules and have all dogs under control at all times, on the trail and in camp.
- Respect private property
- Know what to do when meeting hikers and be able to explain how to pass safely for both parties.
- Make an effort to promote understanding between different user groups. 🐾



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.

Third Annual Olympic Spirit Prize Ride

Saturday, September 7, 2024

Sage Horse Camp

Sequim, WA

bchwpeninsulaprizeride@gmail.com

Tahoma Chapter Prize Ride

Saturday, September 7, 2024

Maple Valley, WA

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

Content Deadline for the November/December 2024 Digital Newsletter is October 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!