



Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc. Newsletter
Summer



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View from the CHAIRMAN'S SADDLE

Thank you for extending such a compliment to me by inviting me to serve as Chairman for BCHI. I appreciate the confidence you have shown in me. I hope my modest contribution will help BCHI flourish.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the BCHI members for everything they do to keep trails open; thank you for the terrific job you have been doing. I appreciate your hard work and devotion. The contributions of each "team" member are crucial for our success. Dreaming big becomes an addiction when there is a team of highly motivated members who are there to achieve it. It's an honor to be working with you!

One of the biggest challenges, I feel, that faces our wonderful organization is membership retention and recruitment. How do we retain current members? In our (Palouse) chapter I have seen a lot of new members sign up for one year, then not return. How do we get the interest of potential new members? I feel, as a team, we can work to overcome this obstacle. **So, I am asking for ideas, thoughts, and plans for success.**

I will leave you with one of my favorite quotes:

"Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it." Andy Rooney

Chris Reed
BCHI Chairman



BCHI State Director's Meeting

Saturday, September 25th

New Meadows Community Center—8:00 am

-on the corner of Hwy 95 and Peterson Avenue on the main street-

Two motels in New Meadows: Meadows Valley Motel 208-347-2175
Heartland Inn 208-347-2174.



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To work to ensure that public land remains open to recreational stock-use.
To assist the government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.
To educate, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of these resources by horsemen and the general public.
To foster and encourage the formation of new Back Country Horsemen state organizations.

Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc.

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For more information about Back Country Horsemen of Idaho state chapters, visit us on the web at:

www.bchi.org

Broomtales is the membership newsletter of the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc., a non-profit service organization, and is published three times a year—Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Front Cover— Karen Kimball watches while Ray Heilman clears a trail at English Point, a non-motorized Forest Service park 10-miles from Hayden, ID. **Back Cover—** Jamie and Stan Smith, followed by Myrna McCain with pack animal, on Chilco Mt. Trail in the Panhandle Nat'l Forest.

A Sincere “Thank You” to Marybeth Conger for Her Service to BCHI



Marybeth
and Bill
Conger

“You ain’t seen nothin’ yet...until you’ve seen me volunteering” could have been said by Marybeth. She (and husband, Bill) have been volunteering with the Back Country Horsemen for over 30-years, first in Washington state, then in Idaho. For the past 17 of those, she has served as the BCHI Education Chair. That’s a very long time to serve in a volunteer position, and she has done a stellar job. However, it is the end of an era for BCHI as Marybeth steps down from her Education Chair position.

Marybeth has been involved in education at the chapter, state, and national levels, first serving as chapter Education Chair, then with BCHI, and finally she served for 4-years on the BCHA Education Committee while she served as a BCHI State Director. As part of this committee, she was on the Course Development Committee Chair which produced the President, Vice– President, Secretary, Treasurer, State Director and National Director job description Power Point training i.e. webinars. In addition, during her time as the BCHI chair, she developed the BCHI Education Manual, earning her BCHA’s Double Diamond Award.

“I have so enjoyed my 30-plus years of volunteering for the Back Country Horsemen organization (BCHW and BCHI), mostly in the area of LNT and Education.” Marybeth

And, if her educational duties and achievements were not enough, she also served two years as the BCHI Vice-Chair, and has served in every chapter-elected position, except Treasurer...almost a grand slam! *Marybeth, thank you for your service, your quick wit, and the humor you brought to your presentations and articles. Best wishes to you (and Bill) on your travels.*



Marybeth

Please Welcome Incoming Education Chair Lisa Deas



Lisa

I asked Lisa to write a story of introduction about how she got involved with BCH, as a way of introducing her to you. What follows is her fun narrative—*can you feel the energy?:*

“My name is Lisa Deas (pronounced DAZE – of Scottish descent). I am truly blessed to have found my new home in Star. I love Idaho and all the beauty it holds!

I am an Air Force brat (my dad retired as Lt. Col. - fighter pilot) and was raised all over the world. Nope, not on a ranch or a farm. In fact, I bought my first equid in my 50s. My family settled in Carmel Valley, CA, where I resided for over 50 years and raised my three sons there. I retired as a Defense Contractor for the Navy. I have a Computer Science degree, and it has come in handy through the years and paid the bills! I now have two grandkids in California (my grandson won State Championship in Chute Dogging and just got back from Iowa Jr. High Nationals, and my granddaughter competed in High School State Finals in Bishop). I have one granddaughter in Brazil, one granddaughter in Las Vegas and three little grands in W. Australia. I still love to travel, and I ride wherever I travel!!

So, how did I become involved in Back Country Horsemen? I met a mule man who became an incredibly good friend. He took me to a Backcountry Horsemen of California State Board Member meeting, and it was at this meeting that my passion evolved. I recall, during a very heated session as the “old packers” were in great disagreement of how to use the Leave No Trace (LNT) educators (called Wilderness Riders). The bone of contention was that they felt the LNT trainers should know how to pack. This argument almost resulted in fisty-cuffs outside! I loved the energy of this group and the heated dialog! They came to an agreement that the LNT trainers had to have packing knowledge. Win/Win. That is what I am all about. No Ego, just GO! At this meeting, I introduced myself to all the State Board Officers. I was approached by the VP of Education and asked to sit on the Education Board Steering Committee. I said YES!

I joined the Lake-Mendo Unit (Northern California), but lived in Monterey County as there were no units there. I was honored to receive the Education of the Year award for being the first unit in the state to link our newsletters online and go “green”. I also introduced Facebook to the State with great success.

Soon after that, I was elected as the VP of Education which I served as for six years. I brought on another Co-VP as the workload was tremendous. During that time, I was responsible for the Wilderness Rider Program, the Annual Rendezvous, Leave No Trace, updating our publications, and so much more. I started a new unit in Monterey called the Steinbeck Country Unit with a nod to our own local John Steinbeck. I met with the Forest Service Rangers that pack out of the Los Padres Forest and became a Volunteer Wilderness Ranger for three years. I became a Master Leave No Trace Educator in 2009 and am happy to talk to any group about LNT. When I stepped down as VP of Education, the state was paying a webmaster; so, I took on this task and saved the state thousands of dollars a year. After being webmaster for four years, the state needed a Newsletter Editor, so I performed that duty for a couple of years.

I moved to Idaho for love in November 2019! I joined the Squaw Butte Chapter, but did not get involved until this year, trying to avoid the virus. I own a 35-year-old molly mule who drives, pack and saddles. She is now happily retired. I just acquired a 9-year-old QH who I cannot wait to ride, once the weather cools down. I am a people-person. I have a ton of energy, and I intend to put it to good use with Back Country Horsemen of Idaho! I do not claim to be a savvy horsewoman, but I do have many hours in the wilderness and very much look forward to discovering the trails and history of Idaho.



Partner Gordon
Sonné with Lisa.

Spring Pack Clinics

April Clinic: Camping with Stock

—Squaw Butte BCH from their website

Squaw Butte's free pack clinic, Camping with Stock, took place on Saturday, April 24th, at 10am at the Emmett Public Arena near the Gem County Fairgrounds. It was organized to give stock users a better understanding of what it means to horse camp, pack supplies, travel safely, etc., and camp on *public land*.

Twelve members and 26 guests spent, at times, a windy and rainy day under the 4-H shelter at the fairgrounds, where the clinic was re-located. Over the past two months, the chapter had prepared informational flyers and a number of hands-on stations so that participants could pickup information and practice the skills necessary to safely camp with stock, both at a trail head and in the back country.

Member Lisa Griffith led this effort and all who participated put in a lot of hours getting ready before the first guest arrived. A majority of the pictures were taken before most of the guests arrived because afterwards members were just too busy! Squaw Butte picked up a number of new members who enjoyed the clinic and wanted to learn more

and help with our mission...and, we also promised them some amazing food after a great day.



Upper right: The pack Clinic is in full swing as guests travel to various stations to learn packing knots, about britchens, etc., while staying dry under cover at the fairgrounds.

Below Right: Participants watch while pack boxes are tied down.

Left: SBBCH member Bill Conger answers questions for TVBCH members Bill Bell and Steve Sanderson.



May Clinic: The focus was on packing and map reading

—Priest River Valley BCH, Information from Christina Taylor

Priest River Valley held a free spring pack clinic at the Jana Servis Ostler Stables in Priest River. The chapter covered, primarily, information about packing and reading maps. They had a good turn out of about 20 people, plus many members to handle the various presentations, which included reading maps and using a compass; show and tell about packing equipment; demonstration of how to pack timbers on stock; and more.



Packing equipment and gear.

Although the weather was good for the first half of the day, it rained in the afternoon. Fortunately, the stables had a tent set up, "It sure came in handy," Christina said.

All-in-all, a successful pack clinic. Two of the most important things offered by the clinic: Information about what kind of maps and packing equipment you need and how to use them.



Packing timbers on Jolene.



Dale Schrempf talks about the use of maps & compasses.



Packing demonstration.

It Takes Two: Selkirk Valley & Priest River Partner to Clear Trails

—Selkirk BCH & Priest River BCH, Information from Chip Lawrence

Farragut State Park is a 4,000-acre forested park with campsites and large group camps on the southern end of Lake Pend Oreille. The park was once the US Naval Training base for the Pacific theater during WWII. For horsemen, the park is one of the best “legging up” areas in a north Idaho springtime. The corrals, arena, and trail training areas are used by 4H and horsemen from all over. The miles of trails go through often dense older growth woods. These areas are maintained by state rangers in light winter storm years and by Back Country Horsemen when blowdowns get severe.

Selkirk Valley and Priest River BCH work with Jim Mallet, the longtime Farragut trails ranger, to determine when and where the need is greatest. We then send in spotters on horseback to mark maps to guide the cutting crew. The cutting crews go in with large chainsaws on pack animals. In most cases, we just leave the cut trees off-trail, and the park later collects them and sells them to campers for firewood.

Selkirk BCH put together a work project to clear Farragut State Park trails because a severe wind storm caused many blow downs. The park needed the help of others to open the narrower trails (miles of them). Four miles were cleared (?) and trees from 12” to 28” in diameter were cut out. Thanks to the teams from PRBCH (two members), SVBCH (five members)—plus a member of both chapters—we cleared many of the most impaired trails at Farragut State Park. We were glad to have our big bar chainsaws on the mules.

Picture: Renee & Scott Sullens, PRVBCH, and Chip Lawrence of SVBCH (foreground).



Always a Great Place to Ride: Bear Basin in McCall

—Heartland BCH, information from Jean Luze Revaul

In spring, a great place to ride is Bear Basin near the city of McCall: there are many multi-user trails, lots of parking, and a varied landscape. In the latter part of June, four HBCH members, including Jean, parked in what is a snowmobile park in winter, then headed in for a nice ride. The trails were busy with hikers and cyclists as well. And, they encountered something a little different: a plane circled above them many times,

dropping smoke jumpers, who were out for practice jumps that day. Thankfully, by the time they were headed back to their trucks, the smoke jumpers, who had been landing in their path, had completed their practice.

Like many popular areas to ride, the usage by bicyclists has increased. And that means that the BCHI members often choose certain directions to ride in the case they meet up with cyclists—downhill vs. uphill. Of note, the cyclists have installed bridges for bikes in the basin, not by permission of land managers, and not constructed for stock use.

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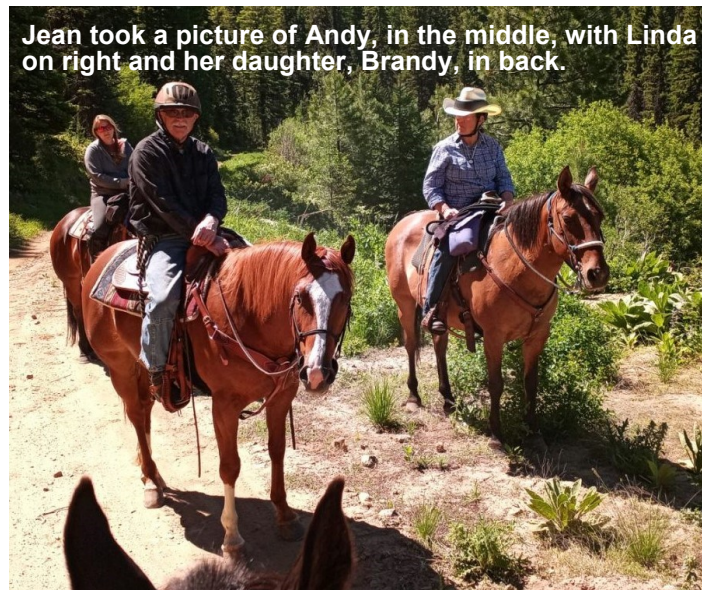
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Jean took a picture of Andy, in the middle, with Linda on right and her daughter, Brandy, in back.



Fundraisers — Varied & Fun!

They tried their hand at a Poker Ride, and it was a Full House!

—Cache Peak BCH, written by Joanna Stevenson & Karen Ambrose

After several weeks of watching the weather in the Magic Valley area, May 1 dawned without a breath of the dreaded wind, and not a rain cloud in sight. Soon, Cache Peak members began the trek down Niagara Springs Grade to set up registration and silent auction tables for our first Boots-n-Draw fundraiser. By 8:30 am, sign-in time, the area at Niagara Springs Wildlife Management Area was filling with trailers, horses, and riders.

The trail that riders would follow had been prepared the day before with markers to show the way and 5 cowboy boots with different colored cards in each boot. Riders left at their leisure and began the 5 ½ mile ride. When they returned, they traded their 5 colored cards for their “poker hand.” Riders moseyed in and their poker hands were scored. Excitement began to roll through the area. Then it was time to check out the silent auction, place bids, sit in the shade, and watch to see if they got outbid.

Brown Bag lunches had been made the day before with only the sandwiches still to be added. Tired riders began to get a hungry look on their faces and were eager to receive the BB lunches and find a shady spot to enjoy them.

During lunch, we played a game called “Heads or Tails.” At check-in, riders had the option to buy into this fun game. Before the game, participants bought beaded necklaces that were considered “lives”. Players could buy as many “lives” as they wanted. When it was time to play, everyone who bought in, stood up and formed a circle. The game leader asked, “heads or tails?” Players put their hands on their heads or on their “tails” to show their choice. A shiny quarter was flipped and the game leader called out the resulting “heads or tails”. Everyone who guessed incorrectly had to take off a

necklace or “life”. When a player ran out of necklaces, they were out of the game. There were lots of laughs and giggles as players dwindled down to the last 1 standing! The winner got half the money raised from the game! It was fun to play and fun to watch.

After lunch, our 3 poker winners were then announced, and they collected their winnings. Silent auction bids were collected and those who won, paid their bids and collected their goodies. Slowly people started to load their horses and head home. Many locals joined us for the day, as well as some from the Boise area, Mountain Home, Pocatello area, and even 1 from Utah! We had an amazing turnout and so much fun! The entire day was a huge success filled with laughter, great weather, and all things horses! We look forward to next year! Happy Trails from Cache Peak Back Country Horsemen!

What helped make the Boot-n-Draw a success: A great spring day; the event was well-advertised on Facebook and on Craigslist, and well organized; Niagara Springs Wildlife Management Area was beautiful, had trails the right length, and no horse shoes were needed.



Riders on the trail.



Silent Auction tables.



President Mark Ottman, CPBCH, picks his hand.

Obstacles Test Their Skill

—Panhandle BCH

On June 19th, riders came out to participate in the PBCH fundraiser event, an obstacle course set up in the beautiful Dalton Gardens Arena. The weather was perfect, the obstacles were varied and members manned each obstacle for safety. Riders had a good time. Check out pictures from the event on the PBCH Facebook site: the riders, the obstacles, the members, and the (really) beautiful horses. Here are just a few pictures...



Tarps & water, bicycles, a flag, ...walking over poles, walking over a bridge, walking through hanging vines & “noodles” were a few of the obstacles.

Ride for St. Jude's—a tradition since 2010

—Boise BCH, article by Ann Potcher



Curtis Elton, on right, checks out things at the beginning of the event.

The Boise chapter held its annual St. Jude's fundraiser on June 5th, beginning at 9 am with a deluxe pancake breakfast. The ride started at 11 am. The Boise BCH chapter has been sponsoring this "Saddle Up for St. Jude" ride since 2010. To date, the chapter has raised over \$26,000 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital, where families never receive a bill for their children's cancer treatment—St. Jude's conducts advanced cancer research and provides support for local children's hospitals. All proceeds from the event are donated to St. Jude's.

How it all started? Back in 2010, member Curtis Elton got a call from someone asking him if he had a horse and would he "be interested in hosting a Saddle Up event." Curtis

said he had a horse, but he had no idea what a *Saddle Up* event was, but he was willing to listen. The next thing you know, the chapter voted to support it, and the rest is history.

Except for one year, the ride has been held at the Idaho City Cowboy Campground. This year, owner Sabrina Amadon continued the traditions set by the late Bill Sterling, and previous owner of the now renovated Cowboy Campground at Legacy Park, by hosting a cowboy breakfast, featuring a fiddle player for entertainment. Sabrina donated all proceeds from the breakfast, and the fiddle player donated his tips.

Over the years, many local merchants have supported the event with merchandise donations. A big thank you goes out to the merchants, including: D & B Supply, High Country Plastics, RC Bean, Legacy Feed & Fuel, Porta Grazer, Tractor Supply, Pepsi, Idaho Dog Park, Lake Shore Boarding, One Mane Ranch, Bear Valley Rafting, Cascade Raft & Kayaking, and the Pancake House and the Holiday Inn, both of McCall.

Curtis and Naomi Elton have been the driving force behind the ride. In addition, a few past and current chapter members who have contributed their time in organizing the event include: Lois and Bill Murphy, Sue Clarke, Linda Erickson, Bonnie and Jim Fox, Paula and Dennis McDermott, Jill and Paul George, Ann and Gary Hale, Scott and Jennifer Nichols, and Mary Ann Robertson. We have also had support from TVBCH, as Alice Millington has taken pictures in the past. Thanks to all.



The fiddle player.



The "Pink Ladies" head out.

Plenty of Trail Clearing in the Salmon-Challis National Forest

—Salmon River BCH, story by Celeste Bingham

The snow is finally gone and the Salmon River Back County Horsemen can access trails. We began trail clearing projects with Wagonhammer on June 5th (National Trail's Day), which we have cleared over 25-years, now. That day, we cleared 8-miles of trail on Wagonhammer with 7 members, finishing on June 11th with 5 members clearing 16 logs on Carl Gulch—a 2.5 mile uphill drainage, it begins at Hughes Cr. Field Station and ends near the intersection of Forest Service roads 77,77c,77d. Carl Gulch is open for horseback riding only (this is all a Forest Service website lists for users!)

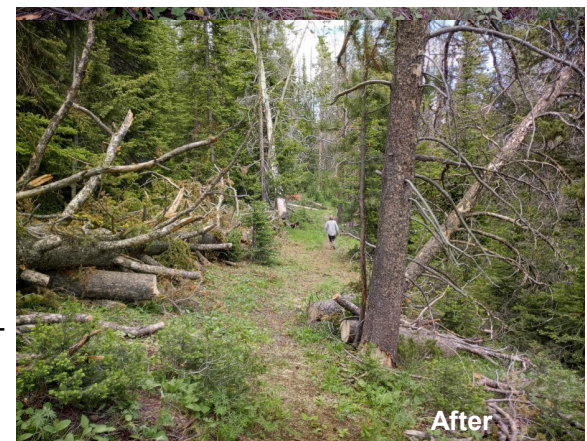
The Forest Service, with the assistance of SIMBA—Southern Idaho Mountain Biking Association—this year, cleared the majority of the trails in Wagonhammer (an area they unsuccessfully tried to make a bicycle-only area a few years back) due to the excessive amount of large trees down - which we are very grateful for. They cleared it wide enough for stock use.

On June 20th, 4 members cleared 43 logs up the historic Thunder Mountain Trail, an uphill climb of over 3.5 miles. When exhaustion took over, we left what lay ahead for another day, as volunteers and stock were ready to head home. Several more trail clearings are in our future.



Thunder Mountain Trail

Before



After

Another project for the future: Lack of signage has been a problem on our trail systems for many years, and we are grateful to finally address this problem. SRBCH is working with the Forest Service and RAC funding to get signage up on trails in the area.



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It's Been a Busy Year So Far, and We're Just Getting Started!

—Panhandle BCH, information from Karen Kimball and Julie Volpe

"It's only the middle of June and we've burned a lot of gas in the chainsaws." Karen Kimball

April 11 started our spring off with the first clearing at English Pt. It is a Forest Service Park 10 miles from Hayden, Idaho, with numerous trails for non-motorized use. It is extremely busy with hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. This area was hit hard with wind storms and had trees across every trail. Seven people spent over 5-hours clearing most trails in the park.

We had another crew that cleared Marie Creek Trail 241, 40 minutes from Coeur d'Alene, heading up the Wolf Lodge area. This is an 11-mile loop. It took a crew of two, and sometimes three people, four trips to clear the complete trail, and sometimes they were turned back by snow drifts.

On May 15th, eleven people arrived at Heyburn State Park to clear trails, a popular place to ride in the Coeur d'Alene area. They have a horse camping area. We regularly clear it every year. Also Selkirk BCH clears down there. A lot of our trails were impacted by the wind storms we had this last winter. There are nice views of the lake and the Trails of the Coeur d'Alene bike path and trestle that crosses the lake. We broke into two groups to do separate loops. The group I was with started down the trail from camp, only going 50 feet before having to cut two large trees out of the trail. Northern Idaho has had some traffic wind storms, the first one starting in November 2020. We cleared two different loops as far as we could go getting back at trail head around 5:00 pm.

On June 12th, six people drove 20 miles north of Coeur d'Alene to Bunco Road in the Panhandle National Forest. We then traveled on (dirt) Forest Service Road 13 miles to Chilco Mtn. Trail #14. It is an 8-mile trail that passes North Chilco Peak and then South Chilco Peak before ending up at Hayden Creek Road. We had two people with chainsaws. The rest were people holding horses, clearing branches and leading a pack horse with equipment. They cut 64 trees from the trail! We were in the saddle for seven-and-a-half hours and reached the trailers around 5:30 pm.



In Heyburn State Park



At English Point State Park

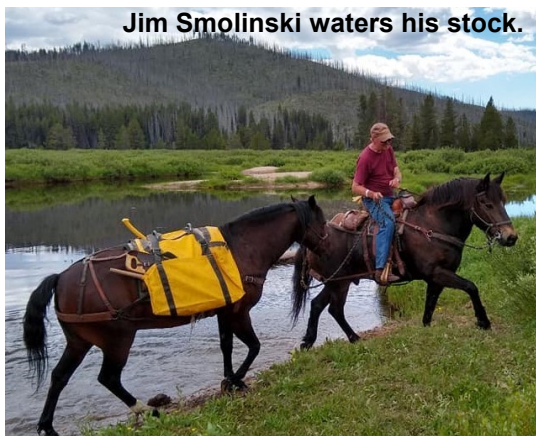
Clearing the Porter Creek Trail to Bernard Lake in the Frank Church

—Treasure Valley BCH, by Alice Millington

Although our chapter clears trail in Bear Valley nearly every year, it had been several years since we (or the Forest Service) cleared the eastern part of the Porter Creek Trail up to the point where the Bernard Lake Trail begins—we generally clear up to the lake, a nice side trip into this scenic alpine lake. Much of the Porter Creek drainage was burned in the 2005 Porter Creek Fire and has only been cleared a few times since then, so there was much downfall, as a scouting party in 2020 confirmed.

Members Doug Jones and Jim Smolinski, the project leaders, organized two trips into Bear Valley to clear the trail this year—June 23-27 and July 21-25—the second trip, in case we did not finish the job the first go-round, which was the case. On Thursday, the 24th, and for the next two days, our crew —10-11 persons per day—rode into the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness to clear the trail. We used two, long, two-man cross-cut saws; a long one-man saw; and a few smaller hand-saws. Based upon one of the members GPS it was determined we cleared approximately 7.1 miles of trail., most of it in the last mile.

We began clearing trail from the North Fork Elk Creek Trailhead (off FS Rd 579) to the point where it meets the Porter Creek Trail (a junction three-miles in from the trailhead). We continued up the Porter Creek Trail, and began clearing severe downfall where the trail skirts Crane Meadows, just shy of six miles into our trip. Our clearing continued for another mile or so, but during our three days of clearing, there was so much downfall that, even leaving some logs that the animals could step over, we did not clear enough to get us to the short spur trail that heads into Bernard Lake. So, we will head back to Bear Valley to continue clearing towards the end of July, at which time, we'll also cut out the stepovers and get into the lake...maybe take our fishing rods, too.



Jim Smolinski waters his stock.



Cheryl Bice on the Corduroy Bridge.



Ron Doupe and Doug Jones.

Clearing the Peace Creek Trail on National Trails' Day

—Squaw Butte BCH, information from the SBBCH website

Our National Trails' Day weekend started with the arrival of Rob Adams and Terry MacDonald at the Peace Creek Trailhead at 10:00 on Friday morning, June 4, 2021. We wanted to ensure that we had the horse camp for the weekend at this popular location, which we did, but also wanted to clear the popular lower Peace Creek Trail which runs in a north-east direction along Silver Creek.

Over the next few hours, Rob and Terry cleared 15 downed trees from a bit over 2-miles of this trail to its junction with the Devil's Slide Trail. This area is known for morel mushrooms, but none were seen. The rest of the BCHI crew arrived later that day. After a potluck Friday night, Tom and Terry talked to a mountain biker who tried to ride the upper Peace Creek trail. He said it was not much fun as he was constantly having to lift or drag his bike around a number of downed trees and gave up after 30. He mentioned one had almost been cut before someone gave up.

Saturday morning, the crew was joined by Boise National Forest North Trail crew team leader Caitlyn Rice. Caitlyn is new to this area, but has nine seasons of trail work behind her and looks forward to getting started with her crew later in June clearing our trail systems.

We didn't have to ride far before Rob, Tracy, and Caitlyn were working on one set of down trees, while Terry, Bart and Tom worked on another. We had divided up into two saw crews with Shari using her ever-ready nippers removing brush where needed as well as taking most of the pictures. Caitlyn coached Tracy, who is working for her sawyer certification of approaches and tricks she has learned working on different trail crews. Rob, a chainsaw sawyer instructor, observed while the women sawed.

By noon, we were two-miles up the trail, hot, tired and in need of a break. We were also at a reasonable place to stop, tie up the stock, and have a snack. There was also a large dead tree blocking the trail that looked like it would take some time to remove. We underestimated the latter—that sucker was big, punky and instead of the section falling out like we had hoped, rather it dropped down and wedged tight. We spend a hot and dirty hour fighting with this tree before successfully completing the job. We spent the next couple of hours clearing another mile of trail before it was time to turn around and head back to camp. We were tired and hot and the stock were ready for a cool drink.



Tracy and Lisa enjoyed some fishing.

On Sunday, Rob packed up and headed for home, while the rest of the crew rode the lower trail and up Devil's Slide Trail until it was also blocked with a number of downed trees. This was a very successful weekend with five miles of trail open to public use and 45 major trees removed and lots of brush cleared from the trails. And, everyone had a great time. We not only cleared trees, we relaxed and talked in the evenings, and Tracy and Shari had time to fish, pictured at left. Great time was had by all.



Rob Adams watches while the "downfall from Hell" is sawed.



Tracy Zamzow works on her hands-on sawyer training



The chapter's new saw packs...best ones ever.

Clearing the Feather Creek Loop Trail, a Beautiful Ride

—Palouse BCH, information from Obsidian Van Zant

"Feather Creek Trail...the beginning of a secluded hike through nature. Where it lacks in scenic views, it makes up for with a feeling of calm and enjoyable isolation deep in the woods," a description of the trail from a Forest Service website.

On May 16th, Palouse Back Country Horsemen members rode down the Feather Creek Loop Trail to clear it from downfall. It is a beautiful trail to ride, 13.5-miles long, in the Clearwater-Nez Perce National Forest. There were 7 members who rode the trail that day: Chris Reed, Bub Latta, Dan Budvarson, Jerry Blaine Reese, Dave Coleman, Rueben Germain, Lisa Hanke Swanson and me (Obsidian Van Zant). We cleared roughly 150 downed trees. A big job.

We used 5 mules and several horses to haul chain saws, laupers and weedwhackers. The trail is beautiful as it is surrounded by forest and streams. There is a spot at the top of the trail where we stopped and enjoyed lunch. It is one of my favorite trails to ride. Pictured below is . Middle picture is Dave Coleman's trailer.



Dave Coleman



Stock waiting at Dave Coleman's trailer.



Dan Budvarson

The Purchase and Sale of Livestock - Buyer Beware or Seller be Fair?*

—Panhandle BCH, Article by April Linscott, Attorney



Because there are so many Select Horse & Mule Sale Auctions going on this summer, I asked April Linscott, attorney and BCHI member, if she would write an article about what happens in the event a buyer takes possession of their new animal, only to discover it is not what they bargained for. This is what April writes:

You've just sold or purchased a horse/mule/cow etc., and it didn't go as hoped. Now what? There are two sides to every story. What rights belong to the seller and what rights belong to the buyer? Livestock is generally considered to be goods. The sale of goods is covered under the law by each state's Commercial Code. Idaho has adopted the Uniform Commercial Code.

If you are selling or buying a horse for personal use, there are generally two warranties that can come into play. One warranty is the express warranty. This is a warranty that is expressly created by either the spoken or written word. An express warranty is essentially a promise made by the seller to the buyer. For example, if a seller says, "this horse does not have Lyme disease." The seller has made an express warranty that the horse does not have Lyme disease. If the horse has Lyme disease the

warranty has been breached and the buyer is entitled to recover damages from the seller. Be careful however, statements of opinions cannot create a warranty. For example, if the seller says, "this is a good horse." There is no warranty. Whether the horse is "good" is simply a matter of opinion.

Another type of warranty is the implied warranty. An implied warranty is created when the seller is made aware that the buyer is purchasing the horse for a particular purpose and the buyer is relying on the seller to furnish a horse suitable for that purpose. For example, if the buyer tells the seller that she is purchasing a horse specifically for purpose of being broodmare and the seller sells the buyer a horse, the seller may have given the buyer an implied warranty. If such a warranty is given, and the horse is unable to reproduce the warranty is breached. Buyers should be careful though, implied warranties can be disclaimed by sellers if they are in writing and conspicuous for example, if the contract states, or the terms of the sale are such that "there are no warranties", "sold as is", or "with all faults", then there will be no warranty.

In the event a warranty is breached, the buyer may be entitled to certain damages under the law. The buyer can be entitled expenses reasonable incurred in inspection, receipt, transportation and care and custody of the horse. A buyer might also be entitled to injury to person or property result from the breach. However, a buyer may not be entitled to damages if she has not rejected the horse within a reasonable time. Further, the seller can limit damages by making the buyer aware of the limitation in advance of the sale. For example, a seller can limit the time a buyer has to reject the horse, or the seller can limit damages to specific amount. Also, if the buyer has taken possession of the horse, then she has to hold it with reasonable care until the seller has time to retrieve the animal.

In the end buyers should beware and sellers should be fair. Clear communication of expectations up front can help prevent buyer's or seller's remorse.

***Nothing in this article is intended to constitute legal advice. If you believe you have a claim, please contact an attorney to discuss the specifics of your case.**

It is not the Answer that Enlightens, but the Question Eugene Ionesco

—Food for thought if you are buying riding stock, by Alice Millington, TVBCH

After driving a few hundred miles in search of a trail horse, and finding out that that "good trail horse" is not so good, I've learned that it's better to ask more questions, *direct* questions.

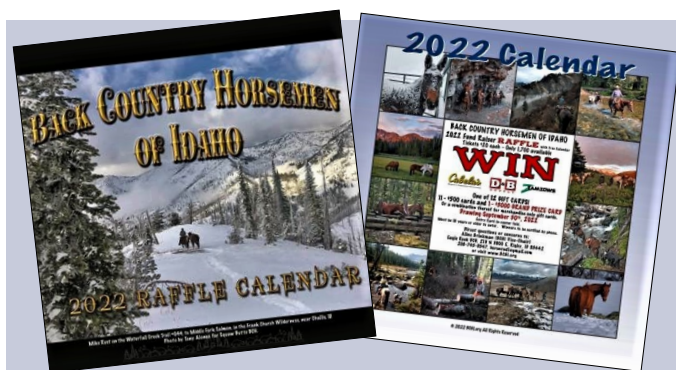
In general, sellers don't have to volunteer information about the horse or mule they are selling; and, you can bet they won't volunteer any information that is a deal breaker. They do, however, have to answer direct questions, and they must truthfully answer the buyer's questions or they may be guilty of fraud. So, ask direct questions.

Instead of asking, "Does the horse have any bad vices?" or "Is he a good trail horse?" (because, of course, they all are), get to the point and ask direct questions: "Does he buck when ridden?" "Is he a runaway; does he bolt?" "Does he like dogs?" "Is he afraid of mules?" "Does he rear?" "Is the horse colicky?", etc...

And, when you ask a direct question, pay attention to the seller's response. Does he hesitate when answering a question, trying to form a safe answer? Does the seller *really* answer the question? If you feel that the truth has not been forthcoming, ask another question about what you want to know. Afterall, it's about your safety, your time, your money...and your heartbreak or happiness.



A good trail horse or mule is what we all want.



The 2021 BCHI Calendar is here!
And, it's the best ever: Beautiful and interesting pictures for every month.

—
Make your plans for selling them now.
Unless you make arrangements earlier, your chapter can pick them up at the September 25th BOD meeting.

For Your Information...

A thought provoking idea: Life Saving AEDs on the Trail

—A message from Cheryl Bice, Critical Care Flight Nurse, BSN, CCRN, CFRN, NREMT



The American Safety and Health Institute, along with the American Heart Association, reports a harsh reality in that our chance of survival diminishes 10% every minute that CPR and the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is delayed. If all a responder does is CPR, the patient's chance of survival is very small. When an AED and high-quality CPR is performed, our chance of survival doubles or even triples. This is why it is imperative that we place the **Right Tools** in the **Right Hands** at the **Right Time**.

Having access to an AED, in addition to the already expected First Aid CPR/AED training of all Sawyer card holders, allows their skill-set to be used at a time when a higher level of care is not an option and time is critical. If we can provide a simple piece of equipment that will help ensure their safety and give them the best chance of a meaningful survival, if a sudden cardiac arrest were to happen on the mountain, must be our ultimate goal. Unfortunately, if a cardiac arrest were to happen in the backcountry, we as EMS cannot be on scene in a timely manner and offer much, if any assistance. That small window of opportunity for a successful recovery is lost and so is

the life. I know that there is no greater heart break than to see the devastation of a cardiac arrest without the tools the bystanders or first responders needed at that very moment to make a difference, and that is what an AED will provide: the best chance of survival with a meaningful recovery.



Above: Cheryl instructs a First Aid/CPR/AED class for members of the Treasure Valley BCH in May. **Right:** Thanks to the efforts of TVBCH President Bill Murphy, this AED machine was recently donated to TVBCH by the Boise Fire Dept. Cheryl purchased a hard case to protect in on the trail and a new set of paddles.

Backcountry Navigation is Essential

—Selkirk Valley BCH, Excerpts from an article by Chip Lawrence

We learned to backcountry navigate with the use of topographical maps, printed trail maps, USFS/USGS area maps, and in most cases, the experience of other riders. These sites such as: Trail Meister, TrailLink, AllTrails, Equitreking, and Idaho State Parks, to name but a few, attempt to make trails and trail knowledge available. They remain great resources for planning, but they lack the critical dimension of real-time navigation and location. Now becoming the centerpieces for backcountry trips are several smartphone-based applications, some of the most popular of which are: **All-Trails**, **Back Country Navigator (PRO or XE)**, **GAIA GPS**, **onX Backcountry** and **Outdoor Active**.

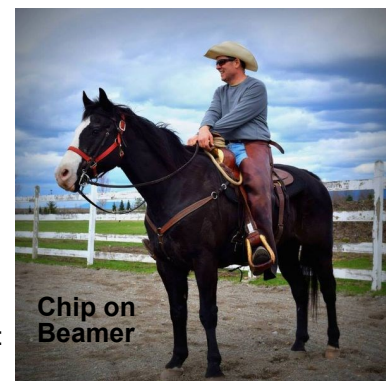
These navigation apps are available on Android and IOS devices. They differ in several respects: complexity of features, ease of use, app purchase versus annual subscription and suitability for equestrians. Where they are most similar is their ability to show your location, to download offline maps, to use multiple map sources, and to help you with waypoints and satellite views (satview) of where you are riding or intend to ride.

Now, we can easily prepare for our trip and download to our phones the offline map sets for our riding areas. While on the trail, the phone function can be shut off to save power and simply use our navigator. This opens a whole new experience for the equestrian. Instead of coming to a trail fork and having to guess or back track multiple times, a glance at the navigator can solve the problem. When forced to deviate from the trail due to washouts, blowdowns or rockslides, the navigator can assist us in getting back on course. When we need to meet with other parties, we can share specific locations to meet up. If there is an accident, rescue, a stock water location, or trail obstruction, we can mark it and share it to others (like our trail crews).

The navigators mentioned can also help you to re-map trails that have changed (called tracking mode) or map newer trails that are not mapped. While I do not want to recommend one app over another, because it depends on your preferences, OnX Backcountry has the simplest interface and newest satview data and is a very reasonable app to start with. Back Country Navigator PRO is more complex but offers many map choices.

Map choices on most of the apps are satview, USFS regional Maps, USGS Quadrangle maps, 3D views, and trails. Significant differences include how they show topological data and how they format the display. Some apps simply show the trail with the trail line itself colored to show the steepness as opposed to a more complex topo map that is more useful if you must break trail. The availability of multiple map sets in the app is important, particularly if you are trying to get to locations on old USFS maps. I have come to locations where one map shows a trail and others, including satview, show a cliff. Those of you who have attempted the Idaho Centennial Trail, or the Pacific Northwest Trail know what I mean.

My recommendation is that you download a couple of these apps and play with them at home. They have free evaluation periods. On your next trip use two apps concurrently and evaluate them. All the Apps have tutorials and YouTube videos that demonstrate their use. Note: While navigators make backcountry trips safer and more enjoyable, it is still prudent to carry a waterproof map and compass and a spare external phone battery or solar charger.



ADVERTISE IN BROOMTALES Alice Millington (208) 475-4107 millington0606@gmail.com

Alice may bend the rules a bit, but generally the following applies:

FREE Member Classified Ads - Equine/Back Country-related only - No Business/Service Ads

FREE Chapter Event Announcements

Business Card-Size Advertisements—Member \$25 Non-member \$50 - Larger ads can be accommodated

BCHI and the Broomtales editor are not responsible for the content of any ad or the condition or temperament of any merchandise.





When the not-so-perfect ride was, in fact, perfect!

—The tale of a first ride by Aline Brinkmann of the Eagle Rock BCH



My niece, Rachel (my brother's daughter), was keeping her horses at my house while she was going to school at BYU. Rachel joined the Eagle Rock Back Country Horsemen, so we rode together many times. On one of these rides we were on Upper and Lower Palisade Creek Trails. It is so beautiful that I was thinking that my brother (her father), Brian, would love it up here; he loves to go hiking and loves to see beautiful places. While we rode, an idea formed, and because it's hard to hear when you're riding, I yelled to Rachel that I had "got something new on my bucket list", to bring Brian to the Palisades Creek Trail for a ride. He had ridden when he was younger, so why not here? Rachel, of course, thought it was a great idea.

There's a reason a ride with Brian would mean so much: I had never ridden with him. I left home, which at that time was in West Chicago, Illinois, and moved back to Idaho. Brian didn't really get involved with horses until after I left Chicago. And to me, you see, my brother is my hero! So, I wanted this ride to be spectacular!



Anyway, Brian was coming to move Rachel and her husband to Denver, Colorado, the first part of March, 2021, so that would be the time for the ride. I called my brother and told him that we were going on a ride when he came—since I'm the oldest, I can kind of boss him around. Ha! He thought it was a great idea. But, as the time approached, the weather was not cooperating. (That's what you get when you live in Idaho, right?) The closer it got to the time he was arriving, the more worried I got that I wasn't going to be able to take him to this beautiful place—I even took a 1 1/2 hour drive up the valley, and my fears were true: bad weather.

So, I asked around and nobody had any ideas for a good riding place, except for Deer Park. Deer Park is a ride that to me is pretty boring; however, it's a good place to get your horses into condition. Even though we had to settle for the ride at Deer Park, it turned out to be fantastic! I was lucky, also, because my daughter Holly went with us; she kind of likes this riding thing too. It ended up being a perfect day, this first ride with my brother, last ride with my niece Rachel, for awhile (remember, she's heading to Colorado), and riding with my daughter.

But, I haven't given up the thought of riding to Upper and Lower Palisades Creek with my brother; it is still on my bucket list!