View from the CHAIRMAN’S SADDLE

As I come to the end of my term, I would like to thank you all for letting me be a part of this team. I have greatly enjoyed learning what it means to be a part of the Back Country of Idaho family. It has been a great honor; one I will cherish my whole life. Six years ago, I would not have dreamed of finding that an organization with the level of people who encompass the BCHI existed. By watching all these great volunteers who create this great family it motivates me to do and be more. I am encouraged to help others become a part of this family. I again would like to thank you all for helping me learn about BCHI. I would also like to implore you all to try and find one new member each and encourage them to be a part of our family.

I know we have a great team of volunteers. I would like to ask if there is anyone who would like to be our education chair to please contact me or the next chairman. We are looking for someone to take this challenge on.

“Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.”

Chris Reed
BCHI Chairman

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Salmon River BCHI to host the 2023 BOD Meeting & Convention

Friday, March 17 –
Saturday, March 18
LOCATION:
Elks Lodge, Salmon, ID

Chapter Display Theme:
Tales from the Trails

For more information please email:
Celeste — cebbingham@netscape.net
Karen — Kmf52@icloud.com

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BCHI Chairman

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MISSION STATEMENT
To perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in America’s back country & wilderness.
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.
P.O. Box 513
Salmon, Idaho 83467

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

Looking for some focus for your chapter? Adopt-A-Trail in your nearby forest! (Here’s a little bit of Teton’s story.)

As a new chapter in Teton Valley Idaho, we were looking to get on the map and prove to our local forest service ranger district that we existed and meant business. As our vision/mission statement reads: “We are committed to doing our part as trail stewards while keeping the western riding tradition alive and we will work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use”.

We started by identifying several enthusiastic members of our local chapter who showed interest in becoming skilled sawyers. We then contacted our local Teton Basin Ranger District office to learn about any upcoming certification opportunities. Sure enough, the USFS wilderness manager, Jeremy Kunzman, knew just where to send us! He informed us we can be trained to run both the chainsaw and cross-cut saw, so we jumped at the free opportunity. Within the month, six chapter volunteers traveled the hour and a half to Idaho Falls for classroom training and later participated in additional hours of field training from Jeremy to get checked off and officially certified. That part was fun and easy. Ahead of us now … the challenge to put our skills where our mouth is and get cutting.

The Jedediah Smith Wilderness is located in our backyard just over the state line in Wyoming. Designated wilderness by Congress in 1984, the Jed is within Caribou-Targhee National Forest bordering Grand Teton National Park and consists of 123,451 acres. Our valley has access to the Caribou-Targhee National Forest on our side of the Tetons via 9 trailheads in the Teton Basin Ranger District. Since it hits the wilderness boundary pretty quickly, no matter what trail you access in the Teton Range, we realized we wouldn’t be humping chainsaws up a trail very far before they were illegal to use. In wilderness is the glory of the “quieter” saw and the boasting rights of non-gas, human-generated muscle power! Wow, what did we get ourselves into?! Ranger Jeremy explained to us the great need for persistent effort, using just man-powered saws, to keep the trails clear because of all of the past and current wind storms damage that impedes the trails. This seemed a little daunting trying and do our part as dedicated Back Country Horsemen keeping so many miles of trail clear and open. So we heeded Jeremy’s advice and zeroed in on a 19-mile trail loop that we felt comfortable calling our own and adopting: the Moose Creek – Mesquite – Phillips Pass – South Teton Crest – Moose Creek Loop. This meant we promised to do our best to keep that chosen trail open for all hikers and horseback riders during the spring/summer/fall season. And we did just that! To help us make sure we didn’t just ride the trails but would also make time to get out of our saddles to cut trees across the trail, we planned 2 pack trips this summer in cooperation with the USFS. Honing our skills on how to pack was a bonus!

With the help of a National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance grant we recently received, we will be able to continue to improve our adopted trail next year when we again team up with the Forest Service to repair an eroded section of the trail that connects to the Grand Teton National Park. Two more 3-day pack trips are planned for 2023! Won’t you grab a shovel and come out and join us?

Wilderness is an integral part of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and we feel proud to have done our part. We look forward to continuing our efforts on our adopted trail in the years to come and might even create a sign at the trailhead to recognize Teton Valley Backcountry Horsemen volunteers so that Valley residents might continue to support our nonprofit’s efforts. Thanks for reading and good luck with YOUR future Adopt-A-Trail programs:)

Will Nelson, Erin Casey and Melissa Pangraze
Revisiting an important message for the coming year...

“Every member needs to read the BCHI Mission Statement in this newsletter and pick one of the statements for your chapter to highlight ... Make a plan to do at least three activities ... that represent what BCHI is all about.”

This was a message from past BCHI Chairman Rob Parks. It’s a simple and thought-provoking directive, and a possible jumping-off-point for your chapter’s projects and activities for 2023.

Update from BROOMTALES

We want to apologize for the late publication of the Winter 2022 issue of Broomtales. We are in the process of trying to find someone to take over putting this newsletter together.

Broomtales was first introduced in 1986 and Alice Millington has been the editor for the last 4 years, but due to circumstances beyond her control, she has had to step away.

We want to also apologize for any repeat articles, missed advertisements, and incorrect information in this current issue. If there is anything that you notice we have missed or need to correct, please let us know.

Thank you for your patience during this transition. We hope to be back on schedule with the next issue.

For Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Certification, Contact an Instructor, below:

- All BCHI members operating Chainsaw and/or Crosscut Saw for federal agencies are required to be Certified Sawyers.
- All members of BCHI who are interested in being trained as Certified Sawyers for federal agencies, contact an instructor in your region.
- All certified sawyer cards are good for three years from the date of issue, so there will be continuing education.
- Also, all BCHI members who are interested in sawyer certification must have their current First Aid/CPR Training prior to hands-on training.

**Region 4 Chainsaw**
Rob Adams Squaw Butte Moosely.Adams@gmail.com 208-781-0548
Charles Chick Squaw Butte cchick.cc@gmail.com 208-870-6289
Mark Ottman Cache Peak bchidahocp@gmail.com 208-731-5885

**Region 4 Crosscut**
Mark Ottman Cache Peak bchidahocp@gmail.com 208-731-5885

**Region 1 Chainsaw**
Joe Robinson North Central rockinranchjk@gmail.com 208-926-4562
Todd Brown North Central idahopoleguy@gmail.com 208-451-3161

**Region 1 Crosscut**
Joe Robinson North Central rockinranchjk@gmail.com 208-926-4562
Todd Brown North Central idahopoleguy@gmail.com 208-451-3161

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**24th Annual Salmon Select Mule Sale**
Lemhi Co. Fairgrounds, Salmon, ID
Selling 60 Quality Mules
Friday, April 14, 2023
Preview: 8:00 AM—5:00 PM
Mule Race at 3:00 PM
Mule Sale - 5:00 PM

**50th Annual Salmon Select Horse Sale**
Lemhi Co. Fairgrounds, Salmon, ID
Selling 110 Quality Heads
Saturday, April 15, 2023
Preview: Friday 8:00 AM—5:00 PM
& Saturday 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

**Idaho’s Premier Horse/Mule Sales**
For info/catalog 208-756-2125 - Fax 208-756-6809
www.salmonselectsale.com Sale Manager: Fred Snook, 44 Cemetery Ln, Salmon, ID 83467

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50th Annual
Salmon Select Horse Sale
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Saturday, April 15, 2023
Preview: Friday 8:00 AM—5:00 PM
& Saturday 9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Selling stock: a matter of ethics, integrity, and too often, a matter of moral culpability  (that's a legal term.)

There's a difference between selling stock whose risks are known to the buyer and selling stock whose risks the seller knows, but conceals from the buyer.

"Awww, she's just a little cinchy...may crow-hop a bit...Yes, he's sound; would make a great trail horse..." How many have heard those or similar words when they are looking to buy riding stock, ridden the animal in a controlled environment, then discovered they had a horse that was totally unsuitable—wouldn't let them mount, was a run-a-way, reared, bucked, or proved lame? They've got good reason to return the animal. And, the seller should take it back. Of course, after the buyer has made that call, it depends on the seller's integrity, moral compass...It boils down to the sellers' basic character as to whether he/she will take an animal back. Most likely, if the seller knows he dumped an unsuitable animal, well, you likely know what his answer will be.

If the seller, indeed, hadn't disclosed serious problems—withheld important information—to sell a dangerous or an unsuitable equine to an unwitting buyer, he or she very well could be morally culpable and legally responsible in the case the buyer sustains an injury as a result the seller could be held responsible for the cost of the animal and it's care, hospital fees, and lawyer fees.

When selling stock, make all reasonable efforts to provide potential buyers with all pertinent information. Honest communication is built on truth and integrity.
Four Bridges Down...
by Alice Millington, Treasure Valley BCHI
In the summer our chapter was asked by Matt Nance, of the Idaho City Ranger District, if we could help construct a bridge near the Whoop Em Up Equestrian Campground above Idaho City. Yes, we said. Well, one bridge turned into four bridges, but we were grateful to help. Boise BCHI members also joined us. We dug out and set footings, poured footings, hauled planks to the sites, moved heavy stringers over the various creeks, nailed down planks, hauled rocks, and generally enjoyed ourselves as we put our backs into it. Both chapters spent money to help the Idaho City Ranger District get these bridges built just prior to grant deadlines (yes, there’s a story in there). A few FS personnel were there to supervise and help, but without the help of these two chapters (labor and monetary) these bridges would not have been built. The Forest Service gave us “in kind” payment in saws. All parties were happy and four new bridges are awaiting hoof, ski and foot traffic.

Concrete was purchased by the chapters and poured to make footings. Each bridge took at least two days to complete. On the last three bridges concrete was poured and materials hauled to the sites. The Forest Service would finish the work the next day.
The A, B, C’s of “Bucker” Certification Explained
...of those who earn sawyer certification, most are buckers (and proud of it!)

A Sawyer  An apprentice sawyer may saw only in the least complex situations, or, for training purposes, saw at the next higher level, in either case only under the immediate supervision of a B or C Sawyer qualified to supervise the work.

B Sawyer—Bucking Only  An intermediate Sawyer who may independently buck and limb any size material in moderately complex situations within the restrictions noted on the sawyer’s National Sawyer Certification Card, and who may saw at the next higher level, but only under the immediate supervision of a sawyer qualified to supervise the work.

C Sawyer—Bucking Only  An advanced sawyer who may independently buck and limb any size material in highly complex situations, based on the Regional Saw Program Manager’s or Saw Program Coordinator’s written recommendation, which must be supported by demonstrated advanced saw knowledge and skills and, in most cases can, as a B Sawyer (FSM 2358.1, ex. 02); may conduct classroom and field training within their skill level for A and B Sawyers; and who may conduct field proficiency evaluations within their skill level for A Sawyers and B Sawyers—Bucking Only.

How To Find Sawyer Certification Training
To find out when sawyer safety workshops are being held, contact one of the following Sawyer Trainers (in your region) or a Ranger District.

Region 1 — Todd Brown  email idahopoleguy@gmail.com or call 208-451-3161
Region 4 — Rob Adams  email Moosely.Adams@gmail.com or call 208-781-0548

Volunteerism
...it’s at the heart of what Back Country Horsemen do.

By Alice Millington, Editor and TVBCH member
Pictured: Al Becker, Heartland BCH, on his mule, Babe, at Snowslide Lake, northeast of McCall, ID.
John’s Creek Project June 2022
Submitted by Rod Parks

Twin Rivers BCH volunteers headed out at the break of dawn to get a decent start clearing trails for the Nez Perce - Clearwater N.F. John’s Creek Trailhead is located on the South Fork of the Clearwater River on the road to Elk City, a very scenic drive. We arrived shortly after 9:00 am with a crew of eight, a great turnout considering the forecast was for rain both days. We split into two crews, one following the ridge and the other following John’s CR drainage, with plans to meet in the middle if everything went well. A family had to leave early, as a young horse got excited and kept leaving the trail on the steep hillside. They did not want to have a wreck, so returned to the trailhead. The rest of us continued working until we met back at the trailhead at 5:00pm. There were more trees down than last year so we never finished. We loaded our stock and headed on to Leggett Creek Campground for the night. It is 14.5 miles past John’s Creek Trailhead as overnight camping is not allowed at the trailhead. We had a great Potluck Sunday night with fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans, vegetables, fresh fruit and chocolate chip cookies for dessert. Monday morning, after breakfast, we tore down camp and moved back to the trailhead to finish the work. We lost one more worker as he was not feeling good. The last four of us headed up the ridge trail, started sling shotting with stock and chainsaws up the trail clearing trail, and finished shortly after 2:00 pm. We had a nice ride back to the trailhead, dinner in Grangeville and a couple hour ride home, feeling good about our accomplishments. We had much better weather than the members that stayed home, as it only rained hard on us for about 30 minutes for the entire time with some drizzle off and on. The loop ride is listed as nine miles, but a member’s GPS recorded almost twelve miles. This loop trail is accessible in mid-April most years. There is mountain scenery, great views of the creek way below the trail, some big timber on the ridge and a great meadow near the middle of the loop if you wanted to camp overnight.
Have you heard about

“STOP the Bleed”

“Uncontrolled bleeding is the number one cause of preventable death from trauma.” The only thing more tragic than a death from bleeding IS A DEATH THAT COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED. Obtain the tools and knowledge to make a difference in how you respond to the next emergency. Whether at home, work, or on the trail, what you “know and do” can make a difference in someone’s life.

“I am a member of the Treasure Valley and Boise BCH chapters and one of the instructors for the Stop the Bleed Course. I would be happy to provide this course to assist chapters in obtaining this skill set, within a reasonable distance from Boise. This free class is ~1.5 hours, and participants will receive certification upon completion.”

Cheryl R. Bice, BSN, CCRN, CFRN, NREMT
Trauma Coordinator
Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center
cheryl.bice@saintalphonsus.org
Cell (208) 407-2912 Work (208) 367-6139

Update: E-Bike Use on Non-Motorized Trails

First, a little background: On August 29, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) were directed to include e-bikes in their governing regulations by the US Secretary of the Interior (Order 3376). The order states that “E-bikes shall be allowed where other types of bicycles are allowed; and E-bikes shall not be allowed where other types of bicycles are prohibited.”

In response to this, the aforementioned agencies included guidance rules in their governing regulations, which they could implement without seeking advice from experts, stakeholders, and the public because the “order” was made without notice or input, to the chagrin of stakeholders and the public. So, in April 2020, they proposed new regulations, and public comment was sought by all four agencies, regarding these proposed regulations; the individual comment periods for the agencies all ended in early June.

Part of the proposals: The BLM, FWS, and BOR’s rules create an opt-in system where agency officials must decide on an area-by-area basis whether to allow e-bikes; whereas, the NPS created an opt-out system, which permits e-bikes access unless an NPS official restricts the use of e-bikes in an area.

Google Back Country Horsemen of America to read BCHA’s formal, and very lengthy, thorough and well-written public comments to the BLM, NPS, and FWS to their proposed rules for the use of e-bikes. In a nutshell: BCHA opposes any effort, including the Proposed Rule, that would attempt to superimpose motorized forms of travel and recreation on non-motorized trails used by hikers, equestrians and others. The Back Country Horsemen of America, joined by 60 regional and national trail and recreation organizations, “Expressed, in no uncertain terms, their unified opposition to any change in agency policy that would authorize e-Bikes, which clearly are motorized vehicles, on non-motorized trails.”
The Trail Boss

Twin Rivers BCH Trail Boss Duties

I. ALWAYS BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PROJECT

II. BEFORE THE PROJECT

1. Contact the chapter liaison for the agency as far in advance as possible prior to the project and make sure cost share agreement (Forest Service) is signed and available by project date.
2. Find out who will be in charge of the project for the agency and exchange contact information with him/her and review the project.
3. Ascertain project needs; materials, equipment, stock, etc.
4. Discuss trailhead or camp location facilities; feed bunks, feed, hitchrails, stock water, potable water, toilets, etc.
5. Discuss time and location to meet on project date and starting time.
6. Enlist other members interested in the project to assist you. These people can help cover specific responsibilities of the project – this can range from trail work to camp helpers. Coordinate the project with these people.
7. Pre-ride and/or visit the project site with agency personnel if needed. Reimbursement from chapter for travel expenses may be approved.
8. Submit article to newsletter editor two weeks prior to general membership meeting preceding the project with brief description of project, directions, dates, start time, etc.
9. Prepare what is needed for the project and make arrangements to get them to the project. Phones or radios, awning, equine first aid kit, people first aid kit, BBQ/cookstove, firewood, propane, chapter toilet, chapter power tools/fuel/oil, camera, Volunteer Hours Report, and meat for potluck (chapter pays for the meat).

III. PROJECT DAY

1. Place directional signs to camp location.
2. Sign up all workers on BCH of America Volunteer Hours Report for the project, number of stock, and round trip travel time in hours and round trip vehicle mileage.
3. Have Safety Meeting and discuss work plan with all present.
4. Announce time for potluck.
5. Pick up directional signs on your return trip home.

IV. AFTER PROJECT

1. Check that equipment is clean and ready to go for next project and return to storage shed promptly.
2. Do the paperwork. Fill out BCH of America volunteer hours report and follow up with chapter liaison on Cost Share Agreement and payment, if it applies.
3. Provide Newsletter Editor, website person, and agency contact with project report, include photos if available.
4. Give a wrap-up report at next general meeting.

Panhandle BCH End-of-Year Party

Submitted by Karen Kimball

On January 21st Panhandle BCH had our annual end-of-year party. The chapter furnished the buffet-style dinner of ham, lasagna, scalloped potatoes, salads and rolls. Members brought desserts.

Horsemanship of the year was presented to Tom Knoll. He was presented with an engraved pocket knife which said, “PBCH Horseman of the year, Tom Knoll, 2022”. Loni Lueck was our Horsewoman of the year but was not able to attend the party. She was given the award at our February 18th meeting.

All of the 2022 Officers and Directors received a Certificate of Appreciation and the 2023 Officers and Directors were recognized.

Everyone enjoyed talking about the past outings and talked about upcoming events.
Cuff keepers & wild rag slides—men’s & ladies’—in a variety of Western & Wildlife Concho Styles.

Keeps jean cuffs off the ground with interchangeable conchos

Solid metal construction
Powder-coated for protection
A variety of colors to choose from

“Swing on over and check”

Robert’s Rules of Order

Here’s a question for General Robert:
In determining the result of a vote, what is considered a majority?

General Robert’s answer: The word “majority” in this context means, simply, more than half. The use of any other definition, such as 50 percent plus one, is apt to cause problems. So, if you have 17 members vote; 9 members voting Yay will pass the motion.

How about a two-thirds vote, General Robert, can we round to the nearest number in computing the result of a vote?
For example, since two-thirds of 101 is 67.33, will 67 affirmative votes out of 101 votes cast meet the requirement of a two-thirds vote, will 67 be enough?

General Robert’s answer: No. The requirement of a two-thirds vote means at least two-thirds. As a consequence, nothing less will do. A simple method of determining whether a motion has attained a two-thirds vote is to observe whether the affirmative votes are at least double all the other votes.
When President Bill Murphy called one of our monthly spring meetings to order, two desserts baked in Dutch ovens nearby. With a little help prior to the meeting, Bill had prepared the Dutch ovens, heated the coals, and set the baking in motion out on a patio. After the meeting, chapter members gathered outside where Bill lifted the lids off delicious cherry and peach cobblers. So hot, so delicious; we’ve all had them, right? It seems a natural fit, Dutch ovens and Back Country Horsemen, and while many of us own one, do many of us actually use them? So, while you go digging out your Dutch ovens—temperature charts, tongs, lid lifters, and briquette chimneys—here’s a simple recipe for possibly the best buttermilk biscuits ever, especially with good sausage gravy:

**Buttermilk Biscuit Recipe—for a 12” Dutch Oven**

- 12 Tbsp cold butter, cubed
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 2 Tbsp baking powder
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 cups buttermilk

**Instructions:** Mix dry ingredients, then cut the butter into mixture with pastry cutter. Make a well in the center of the now crumbly mixture; add buttermilk. Stir until dough is mixed—it should be slightly tacky, but not overly sticky. Flour hands and lightly fold the tender dough six times to bring it into a lump in center of bowl (don’t over-work it or it will become tough), then pinch off same-sized amounts of dough, shaping each by hand into 1” thick biscuits, placing each into a generously greased Dutch oven (shortening or oil will do) so that they just “kiss” each other.

You want a hot, 450-degree Dutch oven, so place hot briquets,15 on the bottom (5 between each leg) and 22+ on top—not the accepted ratio of 1/3 on bottom and 2/3s on top, but this will do. Bake the biscuits approx. 30 mins—turning the Dutch oven and the lid a quarter turn, but in opposite directions, about every 10 minutes to bake evenly. Check biscuits in 30 mins. When golden brown, they are done.

**In conventional oven:** After mixing and folding dough over 6 times to form a square, pat down to 1” thick layer, then cut with 2.5 biscuit cutter—do not twist as you lift cutter off. Place on sheet into 450-degree oven for 12-15 minutes. Golden!

Do you have a great Dutch oven recipe? Share it with us, with pictures of course, at bchibroomtales@gmail.com.