

Fall 2022

Trail Crafters News

Olympic Peninsula, Washington



Saddle Fitting
Demonstration
Sept. 24, 2022

PENINSULA CHAPTER BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF WASHINGTON

PO Box 451, Carlsborg, WA 98324 visit us on FB peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com

Peninsula Chapter's New Website: www.pbchw.org (New photos, maps, past Newsletters, Calendar, and other information are being added frequently.)

Upcoming Events: End of Year Party: Nov. 20, 1:00 – 4:00 at Gardiner Comm. Cntr.

(There is a new Calendar on the website. Click the date of any event to see more.)

Newsletter Editor: Donna Hollatz jdholatz@gmail.com

President's Message

Fall is here and so is membership renewal time. It is a time to reflect and to remind ourselves of WHY we joined Back Country Horsemen and the Peninsula Chapter. Our mission is, in the words of Ken Carmichael (state membership development chair) to "Educate, Recreate, Advocate and Move Dirt". Some of us have been members for many years and others just recent recruits. While access to local trails is always important, it is of critical importance, now, in light of the fallouts of the Coronavirus. The pandemic has made recreational trails even more vital for the health and well-being of people of all ages. Experiencing the outdoors, especially locally on public lands, has become a safe way for many as they deal with managing their lives during these uncertain times.

As part of a national and state organization, the Peninsula Chapter reaps many benefits including and not limited to: 501C3 status, liability insurance, legislative lobbying, access to trail information and conditions, educational resources and services, financial and grant support, geographically diverse fellowship and much more.

So what's in it for us?? Here are a wide range of benefits available to you when you are a member:

- Make a lasting difference – save and keep trails open for all
- Give back, pay it forward – be part of a national and state movement
- Be part of a supportive group with a wealth of life and stock experience
- Be part of building new trails
- Learn the culinary secrets of delicious trail and camping food
- Get help from a group of horsemen with hundreds of years of experience
- Have access to resources for trails and riding
- Cultivate new friendships
- Enjoy lively and engaging programs – authors & clinicians
- Participate in annual BCHW Rendezvous

Back Country Horsemen of Washington (BCHW), is a 501 (c)(3) organization with 31 chapters across the state dedicated to: keeping trails open for all users; educating horse users in Leave-No-Trace practices; and providing volunteer service to resource agencies.

Special Interest Articles

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President's Message continued – membership benefits

- Discounts at local stores
- Mentoring opportunities
- Connect with other organizations and individuals who are trail advocates and users
- Trail safety and Leave No Trace education
- Stock Disaster preparedness and emergency network resources
- Chapter-sponsored rides and campouts
- Chapter Social Activities

As your president, I thank you for your past support and urge you all to renew so that we can continue the critical work of keeping trails open for all. I look forward to personally welcoming you all as a 2023 member!

Happy Trails,
Theresa, President

Dosey Picnic – July 24, 2022

Dan and Debbie Dosey hosted a wonderful membership picnic at their home every summer while he was president. They wanted to continue this tradition, that is so enjoyed by all, so we gathered there on this beautiful sunny day for a salmon barbecue with all the pot-luck favorites. It was a wonderful opportunity to visit with old friends and socialize with newer members. Croquet was played on a corner of the lawn and a musician provided background entertainment. Everyone had fun and went home with full bellies.



Beautiful tables by Linda Morin!



Salmon barbeques by Marty Morin.



Members enjoying delicious food and the wonderful company of like-minded friends.

Peninsula Chapter “Olympic Spirit” Prize Ride – Sept. 10, 2022 by Kim Merrick

On September 10th, Peninsula Chapter had a prize ride at Layton Hill Horse Camp. It was the first one in many years. We had many participants from other parts of the state take advantage of the great camping facility and a Dutch Oven dinner on Saturday night. Forty-eight riders pre-registered on the BCHW website, and 8 riders just showed up to ride. The ride was about 8 miles long, with a snack stop along the way. Riders were promised a great view of Discovery Bay and Mount Baker, but smokey skies in the area prevented it. There was a Dutch oven dinner for 36 campers, with a wine & beer happy hour beforehand.

The first prize winner of a \$300 VISA gift card was Greg Ross, of Pierce County Chapter. Over 40 prizes included gas cards, winery concert tickets, a Stihl 4 inch chain saw trimmer, a watercolor painting by Catherine Mix, and a Chuck Wagon Dinner for 4. All prizes were donated by local businesses. We also received two sponsorships, from Seven Cedars and First Federal Bank.

We asked the local United States Pony Club, Ranahan, to provide our lunches as a fund raiser. They earned enough money for 4 months of lessons for all their members. Together we are now planning a “Regional Pony Club Trails Clinic” for 2023, as well as another prize ride.

Incoming Funds: \$500 Seven Cedars – Teresa Crossley
 \$250 First Federal Bank – Linda Morin
 \$2,240 Preregistrations
 \$740 Cash on Ride Day

Expenses: \$500 Pony Club Lunch
 \$230 Dinner
 \$35 Office Supplies (tickets, labels, paper for signs, etc.)

A big **THANK YOU** to all the helpers: Theresa Percy, Judy Sarles, Teresa & Buff Crossly, Stephanie Burns, Joan Wildman, Suzanne & Rick King, Del Sage & Anna Neal, Laurel Cripe, Judy Dupree, Juelie Dalzell, Helen Shewman, Larry Sammons, Jeff Chapman, and Linda Morin. Pat Cosner was ill, but baked a lot of muffins for the snack stop.



Photos
 by
 Helen
 Shewman

Joyce Daze Parade -- August 6, 2022 by Linda Morin

What a beautiful sunny day for the parade! So thankful it wasn't torrential rain as last year!

Our float was led by Dan and Debbie Dosey in their snazzy red pickup pulling our BCHW Peninsula Chapter tool trailer adorned with all the logos of the trail organizations we partner with. Greeted by a smaller, but no less enthusiastic crowd, Judy Dupree and Reba, Judy Sarles and Magic, and Linda Morin and Cody pranced down the street waving to all. Joan Wildman, riding "Ryobi" Margaret Salstrom's electric lawn mower, was our super pooper scooper.

After the parade, we were treated to a scrumptious spaghetti feed back at Margaret's Epona Ranch on Dunmire Road.

Remember: BCHW members are invited to camp anytime in Margaret's front manicured yard, complete with vault toilet, covered picnic tables, and soon to be corrals!



Photos by Debbie Dosey, Kim Merrick, and Jennifer Reandeu

General Meeting In-Person Presentations – Summer 2022

We have been having monthly General Meetings this year in an effort to give members an opportunity to socialize and become better acquainted with one another and offer information on educational topics of interest to equestrians. The meetings were held by ZOOM format early in the year, but we began in-person meetings in June.

July 20 – A General Meeting was held at Macleay Hall with a special “Welcome” program for members who were new in 2022. The many Covid restrictions of the past two years had made it difficult to get to know new members. Julie Kustura gave a talk on the history of Peninsula Chapter, all members introduced themselves, and refreshments were served.



August 17 – The General Meeting was held at Gardiner Community Club. Theresa Mix, Kim Merrick, and Stephanie Burns presented information on three different Trail Apps that people can use with their smart phones for mapping their trail rides. More information about this is available on our website: pbchw.org



September 24 – Our General Meeting was held at the home of Judy Sarles. A saddle fitting demonstration was done by Christine Murray of Port Orchard. She demonstrated the fitting of western saddles, using Judy’s horses and tack, and talked about the history of saddle fit. In the days of horse transportation, a saddle was designed to fit the average horse. If the saddle didn’t fit, you got a different horse! Horses were raised to fit the saddles. Now we have more variety of breeds and disciplines that need special accommodations. She also explained about how English saddles are made, reflocked, and can be fitted to the needs of the individual horse.



October 19, 2022 -- Our next General Meeting will be by ZOOM, at 7pm. A link will be sent to members before the meeting. Dr. Fahy from Sound Equine Veterinary will present a program about **Equine Ocular Emergencies**. We hope you can join us!

Trail/Water Practice –September 2, 2022

A recent, impromptu trail ride by some chapter members, turned into a wonderful opportunity for the horses and riders to practice “water crossings.” It is always good when you can try something new, or practice a necessary skill, at a time when there is no pressure to complete the task in a hurry. Right now, the Dungeness River is quite low, so it is less intimidating for horses and riders. The southern end of the Dungeness River Trails has an area where the banks are low, so they are inviting for the horses to want to enter the water. There were some very “seasoned” horses along for the ride, so those who needed confidence had another, unfrazzled, horse to follow. None of the riders experienced any difficulty while getting their horses to make this river crossing. If your horse needs practice, you might want to give this trail a try before the rains come!

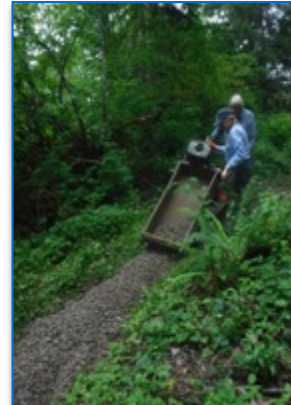
(Park at the Happy Valley Trailhead. Cross River Road and ride south, under the power lines, and then along the river to where the trail is at water level. You will find safe places to do the crossing.)



Photos by Judy Dupree

Trail Work – July – September 2022

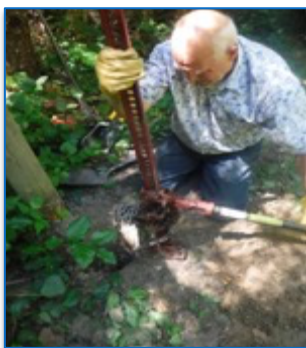
Dungeness Trails: July 15 was a continuation of the work begun in June at Dungeness Trails. Another 10 yards of gravel was transported to the trail sections near Sporseen Road with curb logs added to build turnpike in the soggy areas. Some corridor clearing of overhanging branches was also completed. It was a very long day for the ten volunteers, but when the trails look so nice it is a great feeling of accomplishment.



Miller Peninsula State Park:

Pulling and bagging of Tansy on WSP and Tribal property trails at Miller Peninsula: There were only a few plants growing, so Jim and Donna pulled them and bagged the seedheads (Less than one kitchen size garbage bag.) This is a big improvement over past years, so spraying was not done.

Hitching Rail at Miller: One of our hitching rails near the Fireweed/Manzanita picnic table had a post broken/rotted off at one end, so that was a project for July 20 that would have been easy if a piece had not broken off in the hole! Jim was prepared to jack the offending piece out and then replace the post and repair the top rail. The hitch rails have been in place for about 6 years and this is the first failure.



Saga of the County Thursday Trail Crew for ODT & OAT (reported by Tom Mix): Gravel was hauled by totes and bridge and culvert work was done at MP 14 where logging had destroyed the trail. Work was done to regain tread at MP 15.

We (BCH-PC) led all the OAT/ODT Thursday crew outings and accomplished much needed OAT tread work. The County has yet to hire a crew coordinator. **If it wasn't for Peninsula Chapter, the Thursday crew would have vanished as we know it.** We are getting significant assistance from the County Planning group.

Note from Rebecca on this: Tom's words above (which were echoed by Bill & Donna) are absolutely correct and it's critical that this be recognized. The County has tried to hire a person to lead the Thursday Trail Crew, but several people have turned it down after being offered the job. If Tom Mix and

Trail Work (continued)

Jim Hollatz hadn't stepped up to lead this crew, it would have dissolved by now. It was recognized that if this crew did not maintain the momentum it has had for so many years, it would be hard or impossible to restart it at a later date. It would lose its steam. Yet without a paid person in that position, the only way to keep it going is with extensive volunteer commitment. Peninsula BCH has stepped up to fill this absolutely critical role. We do hope the position is filled soon as it is not sustainable that volunteers can do this normally paid-job for ever.

The Thursday Trail Crew has been in existence for most of two decades (I don't admit to knowing the exact length, but do know for a fact that it was a unit sometime before 2005).

This crew checks so many boxes.

1. Good exercise leading to good health for many people who are in their older years in our community.
2. The group has a sense of history, purpose, comradery that has developed over the years.
3. They welcome in new folks who then learn the art and skills involved in high-quality trail maintenance.
4. Maintainance of a world-class trail that provides year-round enjoyment and exercise for community members and their families.
5. This is a well-maintained trail that is meant for and suitable for hikers, runners, bikers, and equestrian use. Very few trails manage to achieve that to the degree this one does.



Photos by Jeff Ralston showing bridge & culvert work and effort to regain tread along the OAT.

Olympic National Park: We lent an ONP packer key equipment to haul 50 bags of sakrete to a job.

Olympic National Forest:

Survey hazard trees near Camp Handy and noxious weed presence in the meadows up above Camp Handy on the Upper Dungeness. County Noxious weed office notified of the situation and that we recommend conducting treatments next season.

Finished clearing logs on the Lower S. Fork Skok on the 2ish mile section above Church Creek ford (last June we left off by cutting to the ford, but not above). WTA had started cutting the logs with crosscut saws on this section, but didn't finish, so we took care of the rest with chainsaws. We cut approximately 40 logs here.

Cleared logs on the first mile of the Upper S. Fork Skok, which has a trailhead across the parking lot from the Lower S. Fork. We cleared approximately 30 logs here. We also spent valuable time cutting logs back that someone else had cut, but way too narrow (not at all to stock standards). We widened those cuts to stock standards.

Trail Work (continued)

Martin Knowles and Rebecca Wanagel offered their time, expertise, and the logs on the Skok as a training and practice opportunity for newly certified people. One person took them up on the opportunity, Mike Forsythe, from the Mountaineers. He sawed with them for 3 days, gaining valuable experience and practice in reading binds and handling the saw in a way that meets Forest Service standards. That knowledge will carry forward to other trails, keeping more trails open for all users.

Rebecca attended a zoom meeting to learn about the new “Recreational Shed Manager” system that the Forest Service has put into place. This system has five people who are now in charge of recreation in 5 different sections of the ONF. In addition, these people serve as points of contact for the various volunteer groups. Rebecca is in communication with all of them to discuss project priorities in each area that they oversee (this is information needed for the next grant application as well as for planning next season). It will take some time for the new folks to get up to speed about the trails that some of us now so well but she feels this will be an effective system for getting work done on trails.

NOLT: Reported by Bill Mueller.

There has been no work on NOLT property in the past month as Courtney was in Michigan.

Outdoor Recreation Caucus

ORC = Outdoor Recreation Caucus – September 8, 2022

The Outdoor Recreation Caucus meets once a week during the legislative session as well as one or two field trips during the summer. The September 2022 meeting was held at Fort Warden, with participants getting a chance to tour the proposed route of the Pacific Northwest Trail as it passes near Anderson Lake State Park and from Port Townsend west to Discovery Bay. With the help of Bob Hoyle and Donna Hollatz, Buckhorn and Peninsula Chapters set up a joint display along the ODT at Discovery Bay where the ORC participants did a field trip to learn about the habitat reclamation program and salmon recovery that is an ongoing project at Discovery Bay. State BCHW president, Dana Chambers, and Public Lands Chair, Kathy Young, were among the visitors. Our display showcased some of the many projects that both chapters have done to “Keep Trails Open for All.” We were fortunate to have a lovely sunny day and very interested and engaged members of the ORC who viewed our posters and asked many questions.



Report Trail Hazards

Please Report Trail Hazards on Website: www.pbchw.org

If you encounter downed trees or other trail hazards while riding, please report them so our trail crews can address and correct the problem.

- Go to the website.
- Click on “contact”
- Give a description of the problem and where it is located. Be specific: date, which trail, approximately where along trail, size of tree or explain problem. Leave contact information if possible.

The website is monitored daily and this information will allow us to get the information to the necessary workers in a timely manner.

Thank You!

Trailhead Courtesy Reminder:

State Park personnel have complimented equestrians on the improved Parking Lot clean up, but everyone should be reminded to practice the **Leave No Trace** principles that we teach. Be sure to clean up any “deposits” you and your horses leave around your horse trailers or on the trails. If you cannot get your horse to move off the trail to “poop,” dismount and kick the stuff off the trail (especially the ADA section at Miller). Walkers and bicycle riders will appreciate your courtesy! This includes shavings and hay in the parking area! Park rangers use a “blower” to clean the parking lot, and some of that stuff just won’t move when damp! We want to be sure that equestrians set a good example for other trail users.

New Request to All Members:

We are working toward having accurate information regarding **Trailhead Parking** on our Website.

Please: If you go to a trailhead, take a photo of your truck and trailer that shows the parking lot.

Send those photos to me and also report any unsatisfactory road conditions or problems with stock rig maneuvering space. This will be very helpful to people planning trips. (If we get multiple photos of the same lot, we’ll be able to choose the best one.) Send photos and information to Donna Hollatz jdhollatz@gmail.com 360-457-6694.

Photography Assistance Requested

One of the best ways to document all of our wonderful activities is through photos! We do not have an official photographer and it is difficult for one person to be at all of our events, so it would be extremely helpful if those of you in attendance would take some photos and send them to Newsletter editor, Donna Hollatz (jdhollatz@gmail.com). This documentation can then be used for posters, newsletters, state calendar, and other promotions. If you have a photo that you feel is worthy of submission to “Chapter Accomplishments” or “Calendar” at the state level, please send it to me “full size” as that is the format that is needed for submissions.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SENT PHOTOS IN THE PAST!

Your 2022 Peninsula Chapter Officers & Chairs

Take the time to note that this list of Chapter members continues to step up and be your Board Directors and Chairs. They do an outstanding job. We are a very successful BCHW Chapter because of the work they do for you. You can support them in many ways: attend your General Meetings, do volunteer event and trail work, attend our ride events, join every year, bring in new members, and send them a thank you now and then. As with all organizations, burn out is a given. Consider shadowing the person who holds one of these positions so that you can step up to take their place in the near future. Your Chapter's future depends on you!

President – Theresa Percy	teopercy@gmail.com
Vice President – Kim Merrick	eloise55@gmail.com
Secretary – Denise Hupfer	dhupfer1@outlook.com
Treasurer – Denise Hupfer	
State Director – Theresa Percy	teopercy@gmail.com
Alternate State Director – Vacant	
Trail Project Coord. – Rebecca Wanagel	rwanagel@gmail.com
Membership Chair - Vacant	
Events & Education Chair - Linda Morin	ehoytr3@yahoo.com
Volunteer Hours Chair – Suzanne James-King	rkingandsking@gmail.com
Publicity Chair – Donna Hollatz	jdholatz@gmail.com
Email for the Chapter:	peninsulabchwchapter@gmail.com

Membership 2022

Currently, we have 115 members, including all family members. There are 80 memberships, 52 singles, 28 families.

Six people have already joined for 2023, one of whom is a brand new member.

Renewals can begin any time after October 1 for the next year.

Membership is for one year, beginning on January 1st. We welcome new members at any time and always enjoy meeting new people. We have a lot of fun while working to keep trails open to everyone. You don't need a horse to belong and contribute or work with us. If you have friends who are interested in joining, please have them follow these directions:

Go to www.pbchw.org. Click or tap the JOIN tab. Click or tap on the Back Country Horsemen logo. Complete the form. Online payment is at the bottom of the form. It is very simple. If anyone has any questions about it, they may call Denise 425-221-1752.

If a paper form is desired, go to our website, www.pbchw.org, click or tap on the JOIN tab, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click or tap on the image of the paper form. It will populate and can be printed from there. Follow the instructions on the form for mailing and payment.

GO PNC! Be Proud of Your Volunteer Trail Work!!!

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU TURN IN YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS BY THE 5TH OF EACH MONTH. Don't hesitate to send Suzanne an email, rkingandsking@gmail.com, as soon as you do volunteer work of any kind related to trails, events, education, or anything tied to our Mission Statement.

Here are our latest numbers and comparison from last few years:

2017 year end

Total VH 5165
Total Value \$165,492

2018 year end

Total VH 6,150.5
Total Value \$205,265.50

2019 year end

Total VH 6,380
Total Value \$240,919.75

2020 year end

Total VH 9,688.5
Total Value \$326,224.00

Oct. 1, 2020 thru September 30, 2021

Total Basic Hours	4,898	\$139,788.92
Total Skilled Hours	1,024.5	\$43,585.85
LNT & Educ.	333	9,503.82
Admin. & Plc Mtgs.	2,202.5	\$62,859.35
Travel Time	1.178	\$33,620.12
Total Hours	9,636	\$289,631.06
Vehicle Mileage	28,600	\$28,600.00
Total Miles	28,600	\$28,600.00
Total Stock Days	153	\$15,300.00

Grand Total \$333,531.06.

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

October 1, 2021 thru September 30, 2022

Total Basic Hours	3710.5 hours	\$111,129.48
Total Skilled Hours	1735.5 hours	77,976.02
LNT and Education	943 hours	28,242.85
Admin & Public Mtgs.	1428.5 hours	42,783.58
Travel Time	1536 hours	46,003.20
Total Hours	9353.5	\$306,135.12
Vehicle Mileage	27,262 Miles	34,077.50
Stock Days	146	14,600.00

Grand Total \$354,812.62

As You Can See—This has been Another Great Year!

We should be very proud of our accomplishments!

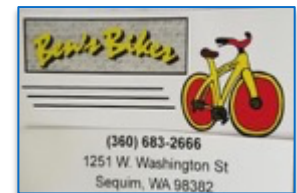
Classified Ads

All BCHW members can post a free equine or farm related ad. 20 words or less. Must include contact info. Due by the 25th of the month by email: PeninsulaBCHWChapter@Gmail.Com

Thank You to the businesses who support our efforts!



These businesses support BCHW. Please take your business to them.



Opportunity to Make Donations to the Chapter!

The following is from an article found in USA Today. I tried it and found it works as advertised. October 31, 2013; [USA TODAY](#). This holiday season, Amazon is in quite the charitable mood when it comes to giving away money to nonprofits. Amazon has released a new project, [Amazon Smile](#), which gives shoppers the opportunity to donate through the site to the charity of their choice. By shopping at [smile.amazon.com](#) instead of plain old [amazon.com](#), 0.5 percent of the value of their purchases will be donated. What's even more amazing is that there seems to be no limit to the amount Amazon will give to charity, although as of now auto-renewed subscription purchases and digital products aren't included in the AmazonSmile project. Ian McAllister, general manager of AmazonSmile, says the company did it simply "because it thought customers would love it." Donations will be made on behalf of a foundation established by Amazon, so those using AmazonSmile will not be able to claim donations as charitable deductions. Philanthropic charities looking to register their organizations can visit [org.amazon.com](#), sign up, and begin spreading the AmazonSmile link to start the giving to your nonprofit. And, in a moment of shameless self-promotion, if you'd like to support the *Nonprofit Quarterly* (listed under the IRS and GuideStar as the Nonprofit Information Network Association) through AmazonSmile, [please click here](#) <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-4080038>

Aine Creedon

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