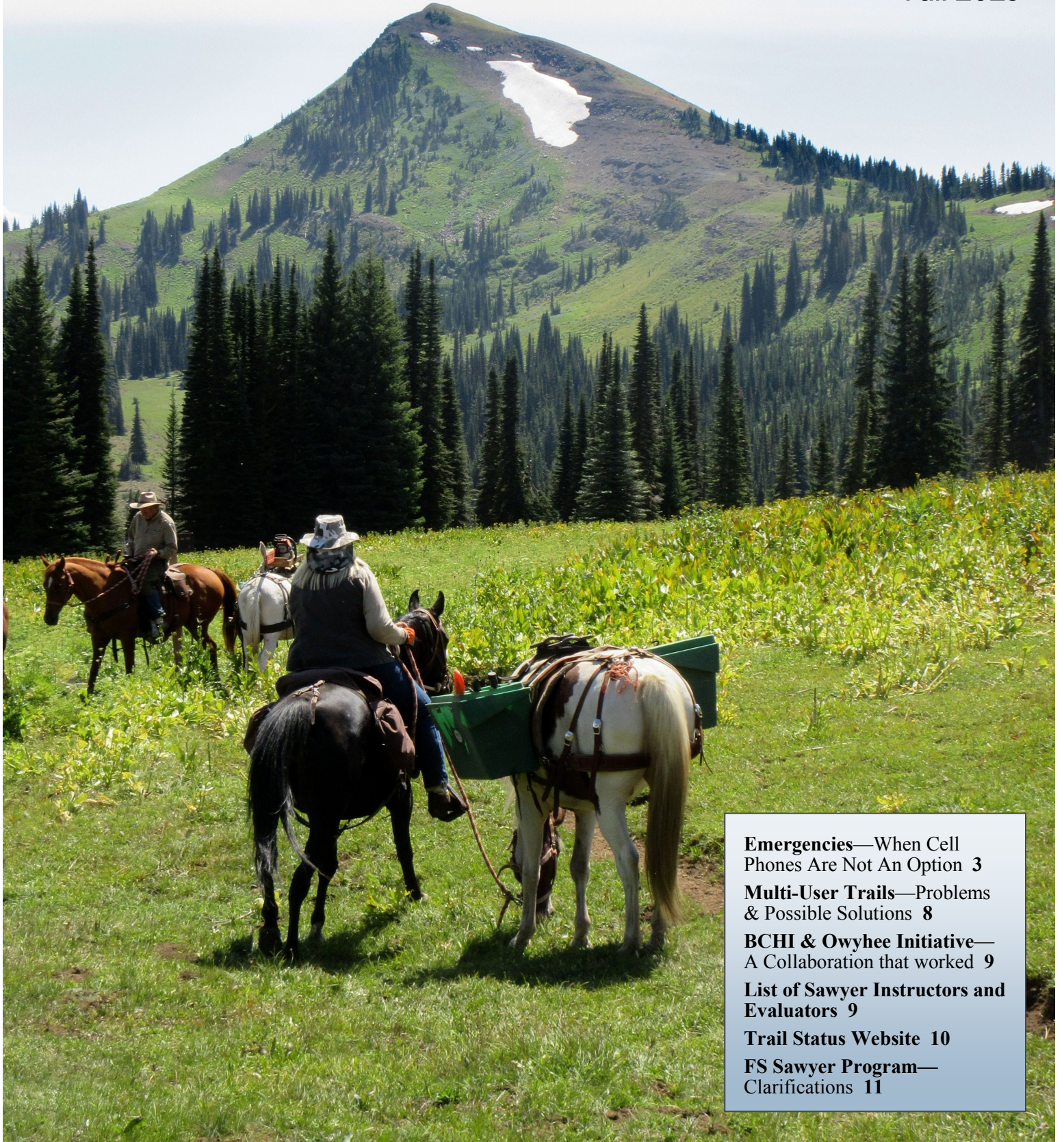




BROOMTALES

Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc. Newsletter

Fall 2019



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Rod Parks—CHAIRMAN

208-791-3246
rod.d.parks@gmail.com

Chris Reed—VICE CHAIRMAN

208-596-1222
gunslinger44@turbonet.com

Debbie Samovar—SECRETARY

208-245-3041
secretarybchi@gmail.com

Kay Ryan—TREASURER

208-398-8993
ryan3863@speedyquick.net

Bill Conger—PAST CHAIRMAN

208-369-0768
congerwd@gmail.com

Marybeth Conger—NAT'L DIRECTOR

208-369-0769
mbconger1@gmail.com

Aline Brinkmann—NAT'L DIRECTOR

208-745-8547
horsnrdn@q.com

Amy Lyman—Alt NAT'L DIRECTOR

801-400-2408
amycooklyman@gmail.com

Vacant—PUBLIC LANDS NORTH

Phil Ryan—PUBLIC LANDS SOUTH

208-398-8993
ryan3863@speedyquick.net

Chris Reed—WAYS & MEANS

208-596-1222
gunslinger44@turbonet.com

Marybeth Conger—EDUCATION

208-369-0769
mbconger1@gmail.com

Karen Kimball—EDU CO-CHAIR

208-772-2434
jkkimball01@gmail.com

Alice Millington—BROOMTALES

208-475-4107
millington0606@gmail.com

Debbie Samovar—CALENDAR & MAILING LIST COORDINATOR

208-245-3041
secretarybchi@gmail.com

Steve Didier—RECRUITMENT

208-451-0146
steve.didier@gmail.com

Jill Nebeker—WEBSITE

208-922-4370
tvbchnewsletter@hotmail.com

Bill Conger—INSURANCE

208-369-0768
congerwd@gmail.com

Bill Holt—FOUNDATION CHAIR

208-398-9825
bill1holt@hotmail.com

View from the CHAIRMAN'S SADDLE



Every member, at some time in their life, has had an exceptional horse or mule. Some of us are fortunate to still have that animal with us while others are only in your memories. I was fortunate to have such an animal for sixteen years. Now am challenged with two young ones that can barely be considered green broke. I hope one of them will fill the void in the future. We often take our stock for granted when they are exceptional and only realize what a friend we had when they are gone.

BCHI also has some exceptional members that I hope we are not taking for granted. They are our Volunteer Certified "C" Sawyer Instructors and Evaluators. These members are Jerry Lane, Joe Robinson, and Todd Brown from Region 1(Northern Idaho) and Rob Adams, Charles

Chick, Mark Ottman, and Joe Williams from Region 4 (Southern Idaho). When you see them, thank them for their dedication. Without them, we would have hardly any members that are legal to operate chainsaws and/or crosscut saws on any federal lands. They, as well as all of the rest of you that took personal time out of your busy schedules to attend the classroom and field training to become volunteer certified "B" sawyers, need to pat yourselves on the back. And, we would not be where we are at this time without our partners from the Forest Service, Todd Wilson, Region 1, and Brian Burbridge, Region 4, who have taken their time, and other employees, to train the "C" Sawyers.

The time to complete volunteer projects with the agencies is getting short. I hope everyone will sit back and think about all they have accomplished this year, whether on a field project or an education event, or all the hours kept abreast of issues with the agencies that may affect your enjoyment of our treasured public lands.

Each chapter is responsible for compiling their Volunteer Hours and an Annual Chapter Report to be emailed to BCHI Vice-Chairman Chris Reed. This is a dreaded task for some, but so important for the general public, government agencies, and our members throughout the state to realize what we do.

In the photo, above, Rod Parks rides his Peruvian Paso, Little Girl, his favorite Horse to date. She was "Little Girl" as other names they gave her never stuck, explained Rod.

Rob Parks
BCHI Chairman



ATTENTION: All chapters must have photos for the 2020 calendar to Debbie Samovar by November 30, 2019! She will take ONLY WINTER photos at the 2020 March convention.



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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 & 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

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—March, June, and October.

Front Cover—Jean Luze Revaul, HBCH (foreground), riding Zorro and leading Augustus, follows Al Becker who rides his trusty mare Tiger and leads mule Lulu on the Council Mountain Trail. **Back Cover**—Long-time Heartland member Paul Klient patiently keeps a hold of his daughter and granddaughter's horses on the Council Mountain Trail. Photos by Alice Millington, TVBCH.

Education Report

911— When Cell Phones Are Not An Option...



When Training and Having the Right Tools Produce a Good Outcome

On Wednesday, August 7, 2019, a member of Squaw Butte BCH was thrown from a horse while on a pack trip with other BCHI members in the Frog Lake area of the Boulder White Cloud Wilderness. Many of the members on this trip had attended one or more Wilderness First Aid training opportunities, and their training kicked in. It was quickly determined that the injured member had suffered a major trauma with possible injury to her head, neck, back, and pelvic regions. It was obvious that advance medical treatment was called for and that air evacuation was her best option.

One of the members of the trip was carrying a Garmin inReach Mini and activated its SOS function. Soon she was texting the GEOS International Emergency Response Coordination Center (IERCC), giving them details of the accident. The IERCC, in turn, contacted the Idaho State Communication Center who took over the coordination of the case.

Here was the chain of events at the time of the accident:

*Accident → inReach[SOS] → GEOS Response Center → Idaho State Comm's → Life Flight dispatch
→ Advanced medical Help Arrives*

Some Thoughtful Words

Fri, Aug 9, 2019, two days after the incident, the injured Squaw Butte BCH member wrote:

"I can't express how thankful I am for...all of the ladies! I never felt worried or afraid. All of their first aid training kicked in and they did everything right. If they hadn't, I would have been a lot worse off than I am. Thank you all for saving me from something that could have changed my life forever."

Lessons Learned:

- Accidents will happen and you need the knowledge and tools to evaluate the situation and, if necessary, contact outside assistance no matter where you are.
- Get advanced first aid training that will allow you to evaluate the injured party and provide appropriate care until they can be evacuated to the trail head, or in this case, directly to a care facility.
- Carry multiple ways to communicate—Cell phones, inReach, Spot devices, Forest Service channeled radios.
- Know how your communication devices work and what you need to tell a communication center.
- Stay cool and think each step through, but don't over-think; you need to act.
- Travel with people who have similar training and discuss what should be done if an injury or such an event occurs.



Pictures on this page taken by Squaw Butte member Laurie Bryan.

I would like to acknowledge all of the Squaw Butte BCHI members involved on this pack trip for how they handled things. Way to go Ladies! Also, thanks to Rob Adams, SBBCH Projects' Coordinator, and Ron Fergie, SBBCH President, for researching information and/or preparing an article on our website (pertaining to this incident, InReach, Life Flight, etc.). Sharing this educational article with all BCHI members and BCHA may help to keep someone else safe out there. Incidents like this can happen anytime in both the front and back country. It is how we prepare beforehand, both mentally and physically, that can and will make a difference.

Stay safe and hope to see you on the Trail!

Marybeth Conger
Education Director

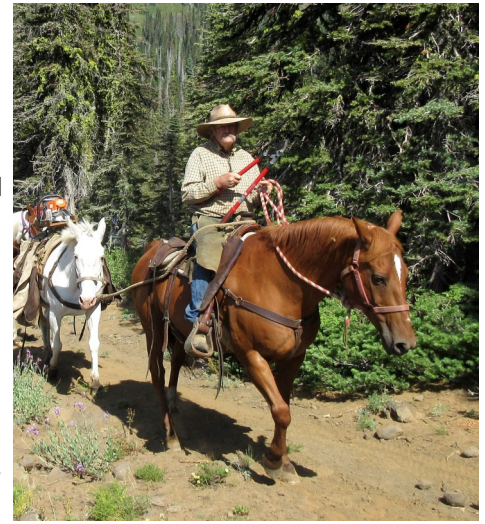
Heartland Maintains Trails Over Council Mtn.

—Heartland BCH by Al Becker

The second weekend of August found a good group of the Heartland chapter meeting at the Deseret Trailhead on the Council Ranger District of the Payette National Forest to complete maintenance on trails in the area that they have adopted for over twenty years. There were ten people and thirteen head of stock (horses and mules). As my father used to tell me, “Many hands make light work,” and I can now add, “Many hooves establish good trail tread”. There was some blowdown we cleared out and many pair of nippers did good brush clearing to Forest Service Trail Standards.

It may be timely to give a brief history of Heartland’s role in trails in this area. We have always had membership on both sides of Council Mountain and back in the 90’s, some members were reviewing old FS maps showing a trail system over the top. Several members began to review the area for trail status and talking to Council RD staff. Trail #210 was virtually non-existent due to cattle trails, gully washes, and steep terrain. Heartland coordinated with soil and hydrology Council RD staff, acquired a grant from Idaho Parks & Rec and undertook a significant trail reestablishment and watershed restoration project on that side of the mountain. Deseret Trail #210 was re-established and maintained and the Deseret Cut Off Trail established.

During our trail maintenance project this year, it was rewarding to see that the trail switch backs we established are all being used and the gully plugs, seedings, etc., continue to stabilize the watershed. Some of our members who were instrumental in this project have gone on to greener pastures, but we are confident they still enjoy riding the good trail over Council Mountain!



Top, right: Al Becker, on Tiger with loppers in-hand, leads Lulu, who is packing a chainsaw. **Above left:** The younger members of the group, Aspen and Dominic, had loppers ready-in-hand; they were energetic and all smiles throughout the ride. **Middle:** A picture of “painted” puzzle pieces, the horses (and their riders) wait for a group photo. In the foreground, Kevin Reval also packed a chainsaw. **Right:** Members follow Barbara Chandler down the single-track trail on one of the more level stretches of the ride. **Photos taken by** Alice Millington, TVBCH.

One More Great Riding Adventure

—Squaw Butte BCH, by Marybeth Conger

There is nothing better than having one of your favorite trail friends *get that itch!*—Cherokee and Scout (below, left) are showing us how to get the job done...Just got home from an amazing backcountry trip. Four great days near the Warm Springs (Bull Trout) trailhead with Bill Conger along with Lynn and Peggy Garner. Our four-legged animals got along, the weather was absolutely great, we saw some breathtaking backcountry views, and the food/meals got an average 4.5 star rating. We had fun even when we cleared trails on two of the riding days—the Kirkham Ridge (#144), Warm Springs (#147) and Gates Creek (#106) trails. Just need to log our volunteer hours since they give the BCH organization leverage in terms of the financial impact they have.



Bill and Marybeth Conger

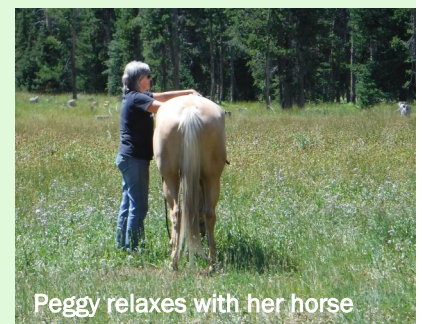
This trip is why I joined the Back Country Horsemen organization some 30 years ago: Great riding adventures with friends as we put our mighty muscles to work clearing trails. One difference I did notice between then and now, how I only have so many “get on and offs” before I start groaning!



Scout and Cherokee



Peggy and Lynn Garner



Peggy relaxes with her horse

Maintaining the Pistol Creek Trail and Its Bridges

—Treasure Valley BCH by Alice Millington

In July, working with the Middle Fork Ranger District (Salmon-Challis Nat'l Forest), TVBCH members cleared the Pistol Creek Trail from Snowshoe Summit to the 44 Cabin. The Pistol Creek Trail begins near the wilderness boundary and its junction with the Pistol Creek Springs Road near the Snowshoe Trailhead. The trail is used by outfitters, hikers, riders, and hunters. According to one of the project leaders, Doug Jones, "We ended up only having five individuals helping for four days and seven for one day. Some (of the downfall) was as large as 2 1/2' in diameter. The first three days we were only able to clear about a mile per day due to the size and number of deadfall in the trail." Brushing was also done. The TVBCH crew met the head Pistol Creek outfitter coming down the trail, who said that he was very appreciative of the work—At the time, the outfitter was bringing in horses and owners of the Pistol Creek Ranch.



On another part of the project, member Joe Williams took his pack string to the bottom of the trail (18.5 miles down) to join three members who had flown from Cascade, ID, to the Indian Creek Airstrip, which is near the Indian Creek Forest Guard Station located within the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. It is where the crew of four would complete extensive repair work on the Indian Creek Bridge and a little work on the Pistol Creek Bridge.

The Wow Factor: Relatively new member, Justin Stucker, re-established a portion of the trail that had been washed out leaving a significant hole, precarious for the stock—While the crew was taking a lunch break, Justin stacked *several* heavy rocks to build a wall, shoring up and creating a new trail edge; then, he re-packed the trail with dirt to repair tread work on about 6 feet of the trail, an impressive solo feat. And, what put a smile on everyone's faces, Justin and his son's camp was impressive. They had erected two rooms for the crew at the Snowshoe Summit campsite, a one-seater toilet and a shower, both with privacy walls, with hot water in the shower, and lighting. After a long day of clearing trail, what could be better.



Top Right—Justin Stucker stands on the portion of the Pistol Creek Trail where he shored up a dangerous washout and repaired the tread. **Above left**—As Justin Stucker (blue hat) looks on, son Hunter (L) and Doug Jones pause their sawing efforts to allow Bill Murphy (white cowboy hat) to tap in a wedge. Picture by Jim Smolinski. **Middle**—Patty Pennington takes a picture of Ron Doupe and Cini Baumhoff with the new abutments they helped construct on the Indian Creek Bridge. **Right**—Bill Murphy (L) and Hunter Stucker at the historical 44 Cabin.

4th of July Recreation Area Work Party

—Panhandle BCH by Karen Kimball

The 4th of July Recreation Area is at the top of 4th of July Pass off I-90 east of Coeur d'Alene. There are several trails in this area which are used for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter months and equestrians, hikers, and mountain bikers in the summer months. We were to work on Jeannette's Jaunt which is used for snowshoeing in the winter. It happened to be the hottest day of the year, but fortunately we were on one of the lower trails and in the shade most of the day.

Five senior citizens and one youth rode out with two pack horses carrying chain saws and tools. There are two bridges on this trail for foot traffic, not made for horses. The trails around the bridges, which cross small creeks, hadn't been brushed out or worked on in years. This was our destination; we would clear logs, brush, and widen the trails around these bridges. We also needed to finish cutting out the logs across this loop trail. There was more work on the trail than we expected so we were off and on the horses almost more than our old bones could take. Most of you know what I mean.

It's always a good feeling to complete a project for others to use. The cold drinks were sure refreshing back at the trailers.



Top right—The group puts their backs into the job of clearing the trail and re-establishing the tread around a bridge on a multi-use trail in the 4th of July trail system. **Bottom right**—The trail around this bridge re-established, PBCH members pose for a picture and enjoy a job well done.

Effective Collaboration Trail Work in the Caribou-Targhee NF

—Portneuf River BCH by Stephen Hurley

Several years ago, Chris Colt, a local forest ranger working out of the Westside Ranger District of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, proposed a project: He asked the Portneuf River Back Country Horsemen if they would dig a new switchback at a steep section of trail on the top of a nearby mountain.

We asked ourselves a number of questions: What would it take to actually build a new trail? Did we have enough members that could do this sort of labor? What kind of tools would it take and where would we get them?

Early this summer, after the snow had melted, a little expedition worked its way from the trailhead, at 6,000 ft. elevation, 3.75 miles up the mountain, to a steep slope below a saddle at 8,000 ft. The view was beautiful. The hillside was not rocky, but was covered with low sagebrush. There would be meetings with other rangers and more trips up the mountain before the work was well-defined.

We didn't have enough chapter members to do this project. I had been a scoutmaster, so I went looking for a scout wanting to do an eagle project. I found the perfect scout to do the switchback project. The scout's name is Nate Payne. By coincidence, Nate had won the Portneuf River Trail Horse Challenge earlier in the year. Nate is a real go-getter; he organized about 15 youth and adults to go up on a Saturday morning and finish the switchback. Chapter members helped pack in tools and did a little digging, also.

This is an example of getting trail work accomplished by recruiting volunteers interested in outdoor recreation. Several other scouts are now doing eagle projects on nearby trails. Chapter members act as coaches to direct and supervise volunteer activities. This is all done in close coordination with land managers. In the future, scouts may not always be available, so we are seeking out other sources of volunteers such as the outdoor program at Idaho State University and the Pocatello Running Club.



As part of his Boy Scout Eagle project, Nate Payne lead a troop of volunteers to the site where they dug with picks, Pulaski's, hoes, and shovels to establish a new track through the sagebrush. PRBCH members Jeff and Leslie Perkins, Bob Deeter, Milt Emory, and Steve Hurley packed tools in for this project and helped with the digging.



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“Kudos to PRVBCH for clearing over 65 miles of trail for the Forest Service in July and August this year.”

Clearing Trail in a Beautiful Panhandle National Forest

—Priest River Valley BCH, information and photos provided by Jana Ostler

Jana Ostler and her children—Kora, Jordan, and Jude; Dale Schrempp; Paul McBride; and Bret Johnson spent a couple of days working in one of the beautiful national forests in the Panhandle of Northern Idaho. Jana, her kids, and Dale rode up the 308 trail (located approximately 18 miles north of Nordman, ID) to clear trail, while Paul and Bret cleared Trail 317, a trail off the 308.

A description of the 308 trail on a Forest Service website reads: “This is a very scenic trail and receives heavy use. It is an easy hike (or ride) and offers excellent views of old growth cedar and lush river bottom vegetation. The length of this trail follows along the Upper Priest River and ends at the junction of Continental Creek Trail, #28 which continues on to the Upper Priest River Falls also known as the American Falls. (Jana says that you have to tie up your stock and hike another half-mile or so up to the falls.) The trail has been reworked with new puncheon bridges and crossings, and is in grizzly bear and mountain caribou habitat.”

Dale Schrempp and Jana’s “crew” cleared about seven trees blocking the trail, one of which is seen in the picture below, left—Doug sawed and they rolled the log sections off the trail and cleaned up debris. They rode six miles down the trail on the first day, all eight miles the second.

Brett Johnson and Paul McBride took the 317 Trail, that branched off the 308, on foot and spent the same two days clearing trees out of it.

On another recent project, the Forest Service had asked PRVBCH to pack out several 4x4s that had been left on the 308 trail and pack them to the 302 trail so that the Forest Service could build kick rails on a bridge. In the middle picture, Bob Savage (L) and Seth Ostler ready the 4x4s for packing. Below right, Stock are loaded and ready for the trip to the 302 trail.



Dale Schrempp on the end of a chainsaw.



A Squaw Butte member from Michigan joins them for a Pack-in

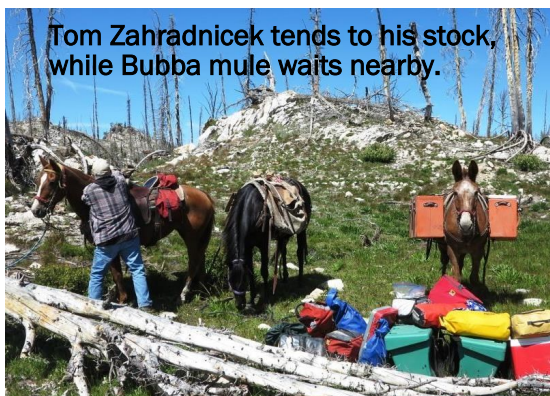
—Squaw Butte BCH, photos and story by Rob Adams

It’s a long way from Mattawan, MI, to Stanley, ID, but member Bill Selkirk has made that trek a number of times to work on projects with the Squaw Butte chapter. Life-long friend of Rob Adams, Bill joined BCHI in 2004, and has participated in both pack support and trail clearing projects. The latest is a pack-in support project for the Wilderness Volunteers in the Sawtooths.

On Saturday, August 17, Tom Zahradnick, David Benson, Bill Selkirk and Rob Adams joined a Wilderness Volunteer (WV) seven-member crew and Bryce Parker (Sawtooth Lead Wilderness Ranger) at the Stanley Lake overflow area. The WV crew was going to back-pack in their personal stuff, while we were packing in tools, the kitchen, and food. The BCH members had seven pack stock and it looked like they were going to have light loads. The next day, however, due to an injury to one of his mules,



Bill Selkirk



Tom Zahradnick tends to his stock, while Bubba mule waits nearby.

David Benson headed back to Caldwell, not into the mountains. With five pack stock left, we divided the gear and built our loads, and by 9:30 am were heading up the 9.8 mile trail to McGown Lake.

The trail up Stanley Creek Canyon is a very easy ride for about 2/3 of its length with a number of creek crossings and water opportunities for the stock. The last section to the saddle, that crosses into the Payette River drainage, is a number of switch backs up a steep and rocky wall. At the sign for McGown Lake, the trail turns into a goat path which climbs over a ridge and down into a basin that contains a number of ponds and small lakes—at the largest and most scenic, we left the equipment we had packed in. At 5 pm we arrived back at the trailers, tired, sore, and very satisfied with the day’s work. Bill will have some great memories of his day in the Sawtooth Mountains visiting an area he had not ridden before.

Unexpected Trail Encounters...What Do You Do?

—Panhandle BCH by Shari Bolander

I wanted to share a concern regarding trail riding today I don't know how to address for safety issues. My friend and I were out for a nice day ride on Antoine Peak in northern Idaho near Spokane Valley, Washington. It is a multi-use trail shared by hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians. At the trailhead, there is signage showing the yield patterns of trail users, that hikers and bicyclists should yield to horses. Antoine is a trail that goes up the mountain, is winding, overgrown and brushy in spots, with many blind corners. The first encounter was at a blind corner—barreling around the corner at full tilt was a bicyclist coming downhill towards us. As soon as he saw us, he slammed on the brakes and skidded to a stop not far from us and moved over to let us pass. (Luckily my horse spooked in place.) How can dangerous situations like this be avoided? Many times there is only a single path to the trail and limited space to move. I have bells on my horse, but many times other users have earphones on and can't hear anything.



The second encounter was much more disturbing: We did see a bicyclist coming toward us and was not stopping. I put my hand out to stop him and let us pass. I had to ask several times before he stopped, and he was foot stomping mad because he said, "You are telling me what to do, and I cannot stand anyone telling me what to do. You have no business on the trail if you cannot control your horses. Your horses are out of control." Our horses were just standing there waiting for him to stop. He continued to lambast us and was getting angrier by the minute. I told him I just wanted everyone to be safe. We felt threatened by this individual. After continuing to rant on, he eventually moved over so we could pass, but we were not sure what he would do as angry as he was. This left both of us unsettled, and quite frankly ruined our ride. I did report the situation to the ranger. How do you handle a situation like this safely? He obviously did not like sharing the trail with equestrians. Would more yield pattern signage be helpful, posted along the trails? Too bad we cannot have some trails dedicated to equestrian use only. That would be much safer. *(Continuing this train of thought, please read the article below.)*

Solutions For Managing Multi-Use Trails And Conflict

—What follows are excerpts from an article* written by Taylor Goodrich, Communication and Media Specialist for American Trails, a national, nonprofit organization working on behalf of *all trail interests*. The individual named in the article was on the referenced panel of experts.

Let's face it. Motorized, equestrian, biking, and hiking users do not always get along. When conflicts inevitably arise, what do we do, and how can we avoid it in the first place?

American Trails hosted a panel of experts to discuss multi-use trails and conflict at the 2019 International Trails Symposium and Training Institute. Managing conflict between different trail user groups can be a challenge on any multi-use trail, but with the right expertise and approach it is possible for these conflicts to be minimized, or even eliminated.

(An) important aspect to gaining cooperation among user groups is finding ways to have different user groups work together. If your trail organizes volunteer days, make sure users from all trail groups are invited; pair up people from different user groups and give them a chance to get to know each other while working on the trail they both love. Holding events specifically geared towards cooperation between user groups is another great solution... Scott Linnenburger of Kay-Linn Enterprises and Trail Builder Association says that encouraging positive interactions between user groups, rather than having user groups stay in their own silo, is imperative to lowering and managing user conflict.

Key Takeaways from the 2019 International Trails Symposium and Training Institute

- Single use trails are not the best solution to multi-use conflict issues.
- Strong united trail voices are vital for a robust trails industry—Alienating any user group is bad for trails.
- Events...and volunteer days are great ways to foster conversation and cooperation between trail user groups.
- Trails signs and education can go a long way in eliminating conflict.
- Good sight lines on trails help minimize conflict.
- Strong coalitions are important when it comes to resolving multi-use trail conflict.

*Read the article in its entirety at www.americantrails.org/resources/multi-use-trails-and-conflict



Chew on this—food for thought by Alice Millington, TVBCH

- ◆ **Fear** is often a reason other trail users will become upset if they cannot get far enough away as stock passes them or if riders ask the hiker/cyclist to pass. While many enjoy seeing stock on the trail, some fear being close to them.
- ◆ **Good line-of-sight is all important.** The thought of a cyclist meeting us on a blind corner may be what stock riders fear most. It might be good to call a group of users together to clear trails where the problem exists. Educate them.
- ◆ **Kick your stock's road apples off the trail!** (Yes, I'm going there.) On narrow, popular, multi-use, single-track trails, get off and kick your horse or mule's fresh pile to the side. Don't rationalize why you shouldn't have to do it. And, don't kid yourself, *poop is poop* to all other users—and it's a BIG pile of *poop*.
- ◆ In the top article, Shari and her friend met an irrational person on the second trail encounter—Nothing can be done; other issues going on there.

BCHI and the Owyhee Initiative, Partnerships that Work *Important read!*

—by Phil Ryan, Public Lands South

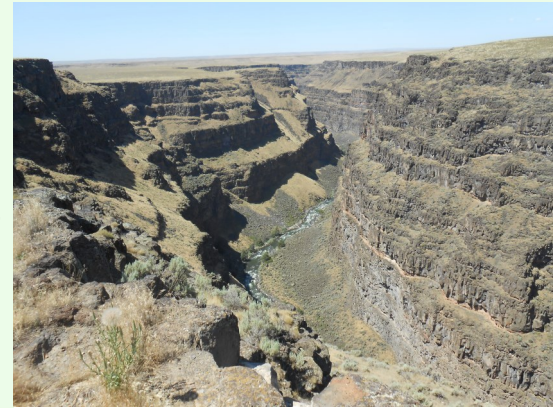
The Owyhee Wilderness in Southwestern Idaho is ten-years old this year, and the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho (BCHI) can be proud of its role as a member of the Owyhee Initiative (OI). The BCHP - OI is a prime example of partnerships. The initiative started in 2001 when Owyhee County Commissioners tackled the decades old land management issues in their county. According to the OI Board of Directors' manual, the goal is "to develop and implement a landscape-scale program in Owyhee County, Idaho, that preserves the natural processes that create and maintain a functioning, un-fragmented landscape supporting and sustaining a flourishing community of human, plant, and animal life, that provides for economic stability by preserving livestock grazing as an economically viable use, and that provides for protection of cultural resources." The Board, of which BCHP is a member includes "...coordination with Owyhee County and appropriate management agencies, recommending priorities and seeking funding for projects and programs identified to fulfill the purposes of the Initiative."

The OI pulled together a broad representation of interested groups and worked tirelessly toward passage of the Owyhee Public Lands Management Act. In 2009, the initiative was passed into law with the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act when it was signed by President Barack Obama. This Act (Public Law 111-11, 111th Congress) designated over 500,000 acres of wilderness, released 199,000 acres of former wilderness study areas and designated 316 miles of wild and scenic rivers that included the Bruneau, the Jarbidge, and the Owyhee Rivers in southwestern Idaho.

The Owyhee Wilderness is divided geographically into six areas with interesting terrain. The high juniper country of Southwestern Idaho is rugged and remote. Ancient lava flows dominate the terrain and the rivers have cut deep canyons where the sides are sometimes 1,000 feet high. Plants, animals, and the ancient Native American Shoshone-Paiute tribes called this home for thousands of years. Pictographs can be found along the rivers. The Bruneau, Jarbidge and Owyhee Rivers can be navigated by river runners in early spring. Fall offers excellent hunting opportunities for those lucky enough to draw hunting tags for antelope, deer, elk and big horned sheep. Visitors to the Bruneau Canyon Overlook can also see the diversity of the landscape, many birds, wildflowers and native grasses.

BCHP's partnership role in the OI is to have a voice in decision making from the horsemen's point of view and to provide pack and saddle stock for appropriate projects. One such project was the removal of allotment fences inside the wilderness since no motorized use was allowed. Members of the Squaw Butte Chapter of BCHP removed over 800 pounds of old barbed wire fence in the North Fork Wilderness area on Nickel Creek.

The Bureau of Land Management is working to develop more access into the wilderness where adventurers can explore the canyon lands. BCHP will continue to assist the Owyhee Initiative and BLM in any way they can. Everyone in Idaho can thank Senator Mike Crapo for his support in getting the Owyhee Wilderness for the people of Idaho and the country.



A sign is erected near this view of Bruneau Canyon titled "Bruneau Overlook, Owyhee Initiative", and explains the history of the Public Lands Management Act. Photo by Kay Ryan.

Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Instructors/Evaluators in Regions 1 & 4

- All BCHP members operating Chainsaw and/or Crosscut Saw for federal agencies are required to be a Certified Sawyer.
- The Forest Service is encouraging BCHP members to use BCHP Volunteer "C" Sawyer Instructors/Evaluators to become qualified as certified sawyers to work on all federal lands.
- All members of BCHP who are interested in being trained as Certified Sawyers for federal agencies, contact one of the persons listed below. (Note: Some Forest Service Employees are currently providing this training for members of some chapters.)
- All certified sawyer cards are only good for three years from the date of issue, so there will be continuing education.
- Also, all BCHP members who are interested in sawyer certification must have their current First Aid/CPR Training or they cannot be a certified sawyer. Please have this training *before* contacting one of the BCHP Volunteer "C" Sawyer Instructor/Evaluators.

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
Joe Williams	Boise	pic5771388@aol.com	208-573-5899

Region 1 Chainsaw

Joe Robinson	North Central	rockinranchjk@gmail.com	208-926-4562
Todd Brown	North Central	idahopoleguy@gmail.com	208-451-3161
Jerry Lane	Twin Rivers	lane4089@msn.com	509-552-3567

Region 1 Crosscut

Joe Robinson	North Central	rockinranchjk@gmail.com	208-926-4562
Todd Brown	North Central	idahopoleguy@gmail.com	208-451-3161
Jerry Lane	Twin Rivers	lane4089@msn.com	509-552-3567





BCHI FOUNDATION NEWS

The Eagle Rock and Squaw Butte chapters each donated \$500 to the Foundation. Eagle Rock donated from its 2019 convention proceeds, and Squaw Butte donated as part of its challenge to other chapters to give to the Foundation. At left, Squaw Butte Chapter President Ron Fergie presents a check for \$500.00 to BCHI Foundation President Bill Holt.

Thanks to all who designated the BCHI Foundation as their charity, the Foundation has received a donation of **\$264.89 from AmazonSmile.**

On Friday, March 20, 2020, Foundation directors will meet at the convention in Nampa, Idaho, to decide on policy and make decisions regarding the distribution of funds to chapters. **Each chapter should have a director there**—one of the responsibilities of a Foundation director, or alternate, is to express his or her chapter's needs in terms of funding reimbursements.



E-Bikes! Yikes!



Department of the Interior Secretary David Bernhardt signed an order stating that electric bikes (e-bikes) will not be treated as motor vehicles or off-road vehicles by the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Services, Bureau of Land Management, or the Bureau of Reclamation. He signed the Interior Department order without input from trail groups. This Department of the Interior order allows e-bike riders to travel anywhere conventional bicycles are allowed on federally-managed public lands.

To understand what BCHA and its partners are doing to prevent e-Bikes from being universal-ly authorized on non-motorized trails within our national parks, national forests and BLM public lands, go on the BCHA website <https://www.bcha.org/> and click on Alerts and read “National Trail and Conservation Groups blast New DOI E-Bike Order.”

Idaho State Parks Launches State-Wide Trail Status Website

—Boise BCH by Scott Nichols

Historically our trail information came from a local outfitter, an acquaintance that went before us, or by calling the USFS. After that basic information was gleaned, we struck out from the trailhead and hoped for the best. Riding into the wilderness on a horse or mule will always be one of the last great adventures. BCH founders and the wilderness packers that have gone before us understood the risks and problems that could be encountered; they planned accordingly and they re-tell stories about the trials and tribulations of blowdowns and floodwaters that held them up, turned them back, or created potentially deadly challenges.

Today, our wilderness trails are visited by BCH members and back county travelers that have limited time (age is not on our side), budget, or experience. Many trail users pick a new place or select a new trip each year. They plan “a riding trip” to a specific place or ride to the top of a distant mountain pass and move on to a new trail next year. The biggest concern for trail riders and pack trips today: Is it open? Has it been cleared? Can we really get there?

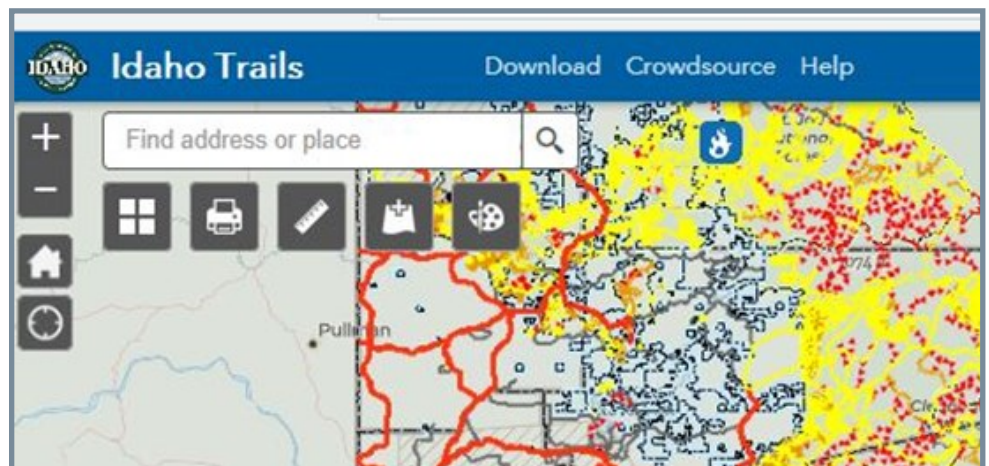
Several years ago, BCHI members met with the Idaho State Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) to discuss how on-line trail data and “crowdsourcing” can help users network and report on trail conditions and maintenance needs. The IDPR responded by launching a new component of the “FIND MY TRAIL” website located at <https://trails.idaho.gov/>.

Crowdsourcing is the ability, because of social media, internet and computers, to utilize the collective knowledge of a 'crowd' or group of people for a common goal such as problem solving. Crowdsourcing was first implemented when the pictures of missing children were printed on milk cartons and evolved to Amber Alerts that provide an instant notification by cell phone in the hope that the community can respond to the emergency.

So, how can crowdsourcing help BCH maintain trails and trail access? The answer lies in the fact that BCH riders are on the ground almost every day and our members (you) are either riding for pleasure or evaluating a trail improvement project.

Every week we are collecting information on trail conditions. The IDPR website provides us the ability to review trail conditions before we ride and to report on trail conditions when we get back from the hills.

When you visit the <https://trails.idaho.gov/> website, click on the “crowdsourcing” link in the top left corner of the screen to see *Idaho Trails Conditions*. From here you can either explore the map or click on the pictures on the right to see exactly where the photo was taken. Most important, chose to participate! In the upper right-hand corner of the page click on **+participate** so you can sign in, upload your pictures and describe the work you have done or the work that needs done. Remember any information about trail conditions is better than none. If the trail you rode was in great condition, let people know. Happy Trails and Good Riding!



For Your Information...



Forest Service Saw Program – Clarifications

—Submitted by Joni Packard, USFS, R1 Regional Volunteer, Youth and Service Program Manager

Getting people home safe at the end of each work day is of the utmost importance to the Forest Service. With blow-downs, leaners, and fire, insect and disease killed trees across the landscape, working safely with saws and assessing how to reduce risk is one of our highest priorities. Under Forest Service Manual (FSM) 2358, minimum standards for saw training, field proficiency evaluation, and certification have been established for the safe use of saws by Forest Service employees, training consultants, volunteers, and cooperators/partners on National Forest System lands.

One of the requirements is that any saw operator must be currently certified in first aid and CPR. This applies whether someone is using a chainsaw or cross cut saw at the A, B or C levels. Folks must also be currently certified in first aid and CPR when operating saws during saw training and evaluation. While one doesn't have to be current to sit in on the classroom/lecture portion of saw training, to operate any saw during the training, including field demonstrations and field proficiency evaluations, one must be current in their first aid and CPR certifications.

The only exception, where first aid/CPR is not required, is for crosscut saw trainees under the direct supervision of a currently certified B or C level crosscut sawyer. Additionally, the "trainee" category only applies to cross cut saw operations.

For chainsaw operations, folks must be certified at a minimum of an A level to operate a chainsaw (note that an A level still requires a higher level sawyer at the B or C level providing supervision/oversight); there is no "trainee" category for chainsaws.

Based on Child Labor Laws, the minimum age for crosscut saw use is 16; to operate a chainsaw, the minimum age is 18. The Forest Service doesn't "certify" first aid/CPR cards. We rely on national organizations such as the American Red Cross or American Heart Association to set those training standards and "re-certification" time periods. Check to see when you need to renew your first aid and CPR certifications, as some are good for two years while others are good for three, depending on the certifying organization.

We appreciate you and want you coming home safe each day! Thanks again for all your good work out on the trail!

You don't break these animals, you come to an understanding with them. -Phil West



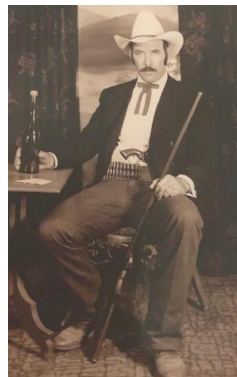
We Remember ...



Andrew Fredrick (Fred) Genzmer, lifelong Rupert resident, passed away at his home on July 5, 2019.

Fred was born in Rupert on July 26, 1939. He and wife Lorraine, who passed away in 2018, were involved in starting the Cache Peak chapter of the Back Country Horseman of Idaho and were founding members of the Helping Hands Freedom trails organization.

<https://magicvalley.com/news/local/obituaries/obituary-andrew-fredrick-genzmer/>



Virginia Gay Hood

Sept. 1942 – May 15, 2019.

Gay was active in the Cache Peak Chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Idaho. Gay and husband Adolph were drawn to Jerome, Idaho, where they bought a small ranch because of their mutual love of outdoor sports, and for the past 25 years, she truly lived the Idaho, outdoor life. Adolph preceded her in death in 2016, after 45 years of marriage.

<https://magicvalley.com/news/local/obituaries/obituary-virginia-gayhood/>

The 2020 Calendar Criteria

- Pictures must be of BCHI members, and taken by a BCHI member or for BCHI
- Pictures can be taken in any state; however, the cover photo will be selected from pictures taken of Idaho.
- Pictures must have at least one horse and/or mule to be chosen for one of the 13 large calendar pictures.

Congratulations

2019 Calendar Raffle Winners

\$3,000 Grand Prize Winner:
Gerald Aebischer - Caldwell, ID

\$500 Winners:

- Brock Heath – Spirit Lake, ID
- Daniel Flanagan – Thornton, CO
- Mike Layng – Blackfoot, ID
- Michelle Medsker – Bellevue, ID
- Jennifer Holloway – New Plymouth, ID
- J. Weibler – Lewiston, ID
- Charlie Frazier – Lewiston, ID
- Keith Whitemarsh – Kremmling, CO
- Norma Kossler – Salmon, ID
- Linda Melton – New Plymouth, ID
- Twin River BCH – Lewiston, ID



ADVERTISE IN BROOMTALES [Alice Millington \(208\) 475-4107 millington0606@gmail.com](mailto:millington0606@gmail.com)

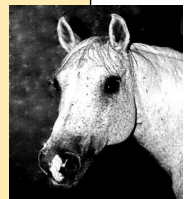
Alice may bend the rules a bit, but generally the following applies:

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





BROOMTALES

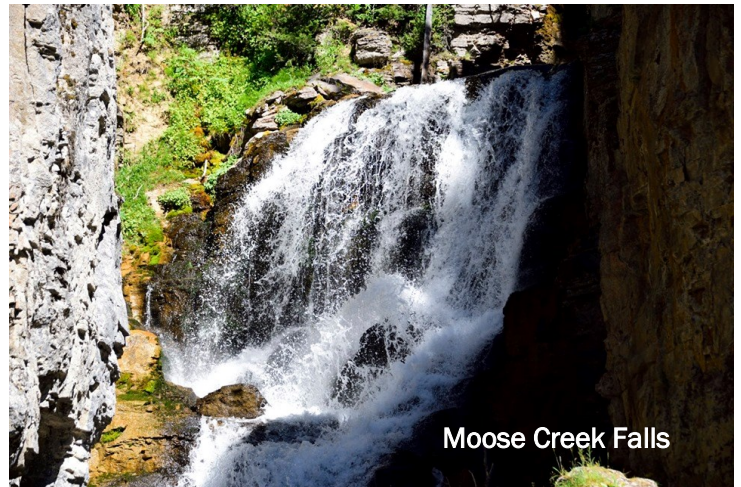
Back Country Horsemen, Inc.
Debbie Samovar, Secretary
9176 E Soaring Hawk Lane
Saint Maries, ID 83861



Riding opportunities that benefit you and your chapter

—Eagle Rock BCH, by Tim Palmer

Inviting others to ride with you builds relationships and bonds the members of your chapter together. On our chapter rides, we usually go the same places as they are favorites of the group. The Moose Creek ride was one of several “personal rides” listed on the Eagle Rock BCH Facebook site this year, as opposed to a chapter ride. These rides usually have fewer people and are more comfortable for people that don’t like big groups. So, if a member wants to invite others to ride with them, they will post their ride as a *personal ride* so that the chapter is not responsible; we make that clear. Personal rides give people a chance to go other places they have never been. It also gives members lots of choices for places to ride and riding partners.



Moose Creek Falls



Skyler Barnes is atop the horse on the left, and that’s Brenda Harker, standing. Katie Barnes and Val Lang sit behind the horses.

So, if you want to explore a new spot, post a personal ride and invite others—sometimes it is nice not to know what is coming around the bend and you might find a like-minded riding partner. Include a picture with the post when possible to get people interested and list as much as possible about the ride. On the ride, make people feel comfortable and lead by example and give them a reason to want to ride with you again.

Our Facebook site has 467 members and we have 50 paid memberships, so this is another way to get people to become chapter members. By inviting others to ride with me, I have met so many wonderful people and have always been glad I invited others.