



The Highline

Fall 2011 Edition ★ A tri-annual newsletter of the Back Country Horsemen of Oregon

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Healing Hooves and Hearts

Sourdough Chapter member Terri Sullivan volunteers her Sunday mornings by helping the Healing Hooves and Hearts organization, which provides equine therapy to physically and mentally handicapped persons. Terri supervises the participants as they groom and saddle their mounts. She then walks with them as they ride.



Terri Sullivan helping to lead a horse with rider.

PURPOSES of BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN of OREGON

To **PERPETUATE** the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness areas.

To **WORK** to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.

To **ASSIST** the various government, state, and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.

To **EDUCATE**, encourage and solicit active participation in the use of the back country resource by stock users and the general public commensurate with our heritage.

TO **FOSTER** and encourage the formation of new state organizations and BCHA.

Highline Newsletter Change

Why the change?

In March of 2011 at the spring meeting, the Board accepted Barb Kirchner's resignation as editor of the Highline. They then decided to see how we could streamline the Highline and make it more like several other dynamic newsletters.

A newsletter committee was formed and Phil Hufstader was put in charge. He was asked to come back to the Board meeting in May in Klamath Falls with a plan for updating the Highline. Phil brought a proposal for the newsletter and it was presented at the meeting. A bid for the Highline was presented that changed the Highline format to modernize it. The proposal was adapted to hire a recent journalism graduate from the University of Oregon and reduce it to three additions for a bid of \$3100, the same price as spent previously on the four additions.

The BCHO board unanimously voted to reduce the Highline from four additions to three, thus allowing the funds of the reduced numbers to be put towards a 21st century Highline format. At that meeting Betty Jean Keele was asked to supervise the Highline project, make budget decisions and keep the Highline project on track.

We printed the first new Highline in July of this year with its new format, which was appreciated by all.

By Phil Hufstader

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Member Memos

New Chapter of the BCHO

Territorial Riders Back Country Horsemen is a new chapter starting in the Oregon city area. We are a trail riding club that has decided that we do not want to go the way of so many other clubs – dissolve. So we are joining the state and national organization in an attempt to “reach new horizons.”

Please join us in putting together an organization with service goals of working with the Forest Service on public lands, coordinating annual trail rides, and backcountry packing and camping. Additionally we plan on assisting with the clearing of a portion of the PCT and doing all of these things while having as much fun and potlucks as possible.

Yes, we are still in the planning stages, but by January 2012 we will have a strong organization with individuals that are willing to work as a team for all of us now and for the future.

We will meet the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at Beaver Creek Telephone on Henrici Road in Oregon City. Questions please call Gary Sischo at (503) 673-3878 or Joanne Hanson at (503) 663-5632. Stay tuned – Facebook page

Sam Brown Horse Camp

The Sourdough Chapter manufactured and installed new chain gates at the Sam Brown Horse Camp. The gates were installed on the two new corrals built earlier in the year. It was decided to use chain instead of the wood gates after several gates were burned as firewood again last winter. There are several more that will be installed in October during the next work party. The work party planned for September was cancelled due to extreme fire danger.

The horse camp was closed for most of the summer due to a logging operation. The camp area had a lot of debris and the logging company needed to finish and clean the site. More information will be available after the October work party.

Several of the trails are finally opening after damage caused by the August 2010 fire. The USFS crew has opened the Briggs Creek Trail and is currently working on the Dutchy Creek Trail.

Right: Susie Wood and Terri Sullivan screw down plywood on the porch of the Knauke House.



Big Meadows Corral

Jim Kitzhaber, Ron Marshall, Del Orchard and Mike Haas (not pictured above) spent four days at Big Meadows horse camp building four horse corrals for the new camp host site. The host site is now finished.

Kerbyville Museum and History Center Repairs

The Sourdough Chapter volunteered their labor to make the porch safe for visitor access on the historic Knauke House at the Kerbyville Museum and History Center in Kerby Oregon. The museum received a grant for extensive repairs to the upper sleeping porch and front porch of the house. The work wasn't scheduled to start for several months and the entry porch was unsafe. Chapter members installed plywood and a safety rail so the house could remain open for visitors. The museum is the chapter's community services project and it maintains a barn display and helps out with many other projects as needs arise.



How to Dress for Outdoor Activity in Winter

Joseph Calbreath, a Willamette Back Country Ski Patrol trainer and climatologist, spoke to the Emerald Empire Chapter BCHO at the January 2009, meeting.

Mr. Calbreath provided vital information on winter dress that we think is useful to the entire organization and bears reprinting this year as winter approaches. Awareness of these principles can save lives, both human and animal, under extreme winter circumstances. Below is a summary of his presentation.

What produces heat?

External heat sources include the sun and fire. Internal sources are food (metabolic), exercise, and shivering.

What causes heat loss?

Radiation, conduction, convection, and evaporation.

With radiation, think of your warm body transferring heat to the colder environment. Conduction results from touching cold materials or substances. Convection results when cold air or wind is transported over you. Evaporation, the changing of liquid to vapor, results from water or perspiration taking heat away from your body as it becomes vapor. This latter process is what makes cold, wet clothing so dangerous, resulting in hypothermia.

Q. What do you wear while sleeping?

A. Dress for sleeping, do not sleep unclothed. Take an extra set of polypro top and bottom underwear for sleeping, and a second layer of polypro or wool if extreme. Keep these clothes dry and unused during the day.

Q. What about leather?

A. Leather chaps are a good outer layer, but wear an insulating layer beneath.

Q. What about cotton in summer?

A. Not a problem usually, but can cause hypothermia even in hot weather if exposed to cold water, like in a river.

Q. What about insulated boots?

A. Wear an insulation layer in boots to swap out day and night.

Q. Do you sleep directly on the ground?

A. Create a vapor barrier under your sleeping bag or tent. Cold ground will draw off heat. Thermarest is a good way to go, but create a vapor barrier under it either on snow or on the ground. Also protect it from getting punctured. A “bivi sack” is good alternative to a tent because it adds a ten percent temperature increase to the sleeping bag temperature range. Also a closed cell, lightweight pad to sleep on in case an air mattress fails is highly recommended. Finally carry a lightweight “space blanket” as vapor barrier. They are versatile and useful.

Rules of thumb:

1. Protect yourself from wind, exposure to cold air, and contact with cold things. This includes your saddle!
2. Water is a very good conductor of heat away from your body. Twenty-seven percent of heat loss occurs from evaporation, mainly caused by contact with wet clothes and perspiration. This is true for your horse too, who is losing body heat as he sweats. Avoid cotton, which retains water.
3. Stay hydrated to stay warm. Just breathing in cold air causes water loss through respiration. Also, dehydration causes muscle cramping.

How do we dress to stay warm and protect against dangerous exposure?

Think layering. Trapped air is the best insulator we have. Air trapped between layers of clothing will warm with body heat and insulate against cold. Layered clothing traps air even more effectively than down (which is useless when wet).

Here is the theory behind effective layering:

1. Remember this formula: 3 layers on the top, 2 on the bottom or 4 layers on top, 3 on the bottom in extreme cold.

2. The first layer, closest to your body, is the wicking layer. Polypropylene or silk are the best material for wicking, cotton is the worst. The wicking layer removes moisture from your body. Use polypro underwear top and bottom. Cotton underwear retains moisture and if wet from water or perspiration can kill! A second, heavier layer of polypro can be worn in extreme cold.
3. The next layer should be fleece, medium or heavy, top and bottom. This is for insulation.
4. The outer layer is the barrier against water and wind. It should be waterproof to keep moisture from coming in and breathable to let sweat out. PVC or rubber can keep water out, but it keeps moisture trapped inside also causing heat loss. The outer jacket should also have pit zippers and adjustable cuffs to allow moisture out and a hood to cover neck and head.
5. Cover head, hands and feet. Polypro and wool (Smartwool) socks will wick away moisture caused by sweat and can be layered inside your boot.

Packer Store Quick Tip

Winter is coming and so is the need for clothes to keep you warm and dry. This dri-mesh, long-sleeve work shirt printed on both front and back is the ticket to staying safe in the back country when the weather gets nasty. We know that the weather can turn at the drop of a pin, so pack prepared and wear clothes that will keep you warm even if you get wet. Also, remember to wear bright clothing even for your day rides as hunters are in the woods.

Order your Dri-Mesh, Long-Sleeve Work Shirt today through October 31st for the sale price of \$28 and free shipping.



Regularly \$32. Remember 5% of the proceeds of all items in the Packer Store go to support BCHO. Please visit the website and see what other logo items you just can't live without!

Contact Emily Elias at 541-338-8690 for more questions.

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Eighty Miles in Six Days

Let me start my story a few years back.

I was recently the proud new owner of an eight year old, basically un-started Mustang. As we were getting going I was wondering what the two of us were going to accomplish in life. At the time I was at the mercy of those around me who had horse transportation, so my choices were limited to theirs. Endurance riding seemed to be the direction we were heading and my transportation buddy and I did make it to a few. But really we both wanted to do more distance riding with a purpose – to get out and see the mountains, the Sierra Mountains to be more precise.

Well one set back after another and our dream trips never seemed to materialize. As most people know life brings us changes and thus we both made plans to move away from California; she to Colorado and me to Oregon.

In Eugene, I found my dream house with a barn and was able to have a horse at home. Plus, guess what, the house came with a three horse slant Morgan Built trailer! Now I was able to pursue my own dreams, which still included getting to the backcountry even though the mountains had changed names.

Within two months of moving to Eugene, I met Sally Myers who then introduced me to the Emerald Empire Chapter of BCHO. At my first meeting, it just so happened that Becky Hope and Jean Clancey were putting on a morning demo about getting

prepared to pack, LNT, and other general information about the backcountry. Unfortunately, on the way home from that meeting, Frenchie, the mustang, managed to tear his face open in the trailer. My summer riding was ground to a halt.

Skip forward now to 2011. After several years of working with the EEBCHO folks, I felt like I could actually take a trip to the backcountry safely! It wasn't the riding that had previously held me back, but the fears of being under prepared. I needed a firm understanding of what to expect and how to handle the dangers (and the joys) going backcountry first.

In the summer of 2010, I had met Susan Bates from Arkansas at Quinn Meadows Campground. While she was taking a day off from riding the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), we had a nice chat around the campfire and she asked me if I would like to ride with. But at the time, it wasn't possible so we exchanged contact information and left it at that.

Well that winter she called. We settled on the first week of August to ride the last 100 miles of the PCT in Oregon from Triangle Lake (just north of the Ollalies) to Cascade Locks together. Now it was on the calendar. I had to get prepared. It was up and down whether we would take a pack horse or not, even right up to a few days prior to our departure.

Not because I couldn't manage it, but because Susan had previously had a very bad experience with another woman who managed her horses poorly and did not pack well. In the end Chaco, my



First day out on the Pacific Crest Trail.



Crossing a creek at the base of Bald Mountain.

Percheron/Morgan cross, proved to be the best example of a pack horse that I could imagine and greatly improved Susan's view of packing! I felt very proud, I must say, that of the six days out, I only had to adjust the pack once! I'm sure there will be days ahead when I don't get it right, but now I can say that I can pack a horse, tie on the pack and feel confident in doing it.

Over the six days of riding, the trail showed us fantastic views of Mt. Hood as well as the Washington Cascades. We had to skip the Timberline Trail, the 20 miles past the base of Mt. Hood, due to three miles of the trail still under snow, but the rest of the trail was open. Along the way we had to cut out a few trees and the limbs of larger trees that we weren't able to remove plus maneuver around one giant rock that managed to land in the trail.

Before this trip, I had never traversed across such steep terrain, so at moments I was thoroughly terrified. But I put my trust in my horse Shaea and here we are – alive to tell the tale. Susan kept saying that of all the miles (1800 plus) of the PCT she has ridden, Oregon had the best trails...well, until we dropped into Cascade Locks.

"I'm sure there will be days ahead when I don't get it right, but now I can say that I can pack a horse, tie on the pack and feel confident in doing it."

On this section it wasn't the traverses that went on for forever, but that the trail was so narrow and desperately needed tread work that made it difficult. Luckily there was only one tree on the trail, which the girls exclaimed that

Chaco could not fit around. Yet I replied back that he had to and would, which he did with utmost caution and skill, throwing his hindquarters uphill at just the right moment to barely even rub the tree.

After an 18-mile day, we got down into Herman Creek Horse Camp at a reasonable hour and the horses laid down to sleep once finishing a nice pile of hay. It had been a hard downhill stretch into camp that day and they were feeling it – and so was I. Yet tired, it was a feeling of great satisfaction to have finally completed a dream that had been in the works for a number of years.

Thank you Backcountry Horse Folks: Becky, Jean, Betty Jean, Phil, Casey, Matt and others from Emerald Empire who helped me learn so much to be able to fulfill my dream, and especially Sally for getting me hooked up. Also a big thanks to all those who help to keep the PCT open and fun along the route. You know who you are! (Even though that last section needs some work for horses.) Naturally Susan too for her expertise in studying the trail and for passing on her experience in long distance travel with a horse. If you would like to read more about her travels on the PCT go to www.woodswitch.com and follow the links on the left of the page.



Beautiful vistas of Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams from Indian Point.

If you are still waiting for your day to come – to be able to go on that trip you have been imagining – keep your chin up. It will happen. Just get prepared because you really need to be to go backcountry!

By Emily Elias

Bob Marshall Wilderness Trip

Planning, planning, and more planning, and still things happen.

Last year I was invited on a ten day pack trip into the Bob Marshall Wilderness area by Dan and Betty Applebaker for August of this year. They knew that the Bob Marshall had been on my bucket list since the 1970s, so they asked me to join them. I sat in on the march planning meeting, where we discussed and organized the trip including meals, cost, schedule, number of stock needed and locations of our camps. Besides myself and the Applebakers, Diane Eek and Jim Icenbice from the High Desert Trail Riders BCHO chapter joined along with Don and Joanie Howard from West Cascades BCHO and Jerry Kempf from the Whitefish, Montana Chapter of BCH. It was wonderful to have Don Howard as our pack trip veterinarian. How good is that!?

The leaders of the planning were Dan and Betty, backed up by Diane who had gone on two previous trips with them to Montana. Betty and Diane are the superstars of preparing large amounts of tasty dehydrated food for long pack trips. Dan kept us all informed with a flurry of e-mails.

The trip was delayed for almost 2 weeks from July 23 to August 6 because of snow on the passes. Betty and Dan were in contact with the Lewis and Clark National Forest Service as well as Jerry who flew over our proposed route and sent back pictures of the snowmelt progress.

Finally, we were off! We met up with Don and Joanie along the way and picked up Jerry in Whitefish, where we stayed with him and his wife, Madelyn. They treated us to a great steak dinner the first night. We ended up staying one extra night at Jerry's due to Jim's horse Abby injuring herself and we needed some supplies, which we picked up in Whitefish. The injury while looking bad was a surface wound on the foot and only required wrapping and antibiotics along the way. This was our first, but not last occasion to be grateful for Don Howard's presence.

The trip into the Bob Marshall was a dream journey for all of us. We traveled with eight riders and ten head of pack stock. Normally I would have been a little concerned about the numbers, but we had a high level of experience among our riders. Our first night was near the trailhead at the dispersed camping area at Green Gulch, where we celebrated Dan Applebaker's birthday with cookies and gifts. Included in the celebration was the singing of Happy Birthday (ala Marilyn Monroe) by Joanie, Diane and myself. What a hoot that was! The next day we left about noon, the 10th of August. We were headed to Route Creek Pass and beyond to our first camp at Nine Mile Park. All of our camp selections were at areas where would be or should be feed enough for 18 head of stock. Two mules carried weed free feed for any location where the feed was inadequate. This actually only occurred a couple of times.



Heading up towards Headquarter Pass



Looking across Lake Levale at North Wall

Nine Mile Park had lots of feed within a short walk of camp. Our second day's ride took us through miles of old burns, which gave us all respect for what fire in the wilderness can do and the process of recovery. The new growth of forest was astounding. Our second camp was at Round Park. Rich in feed and located between Fool Creek and Open Fork forming the North Fork of the Sun, the site provided us with Cutthroat trout for dinner thanks to Dan, Howard and Jerry. Two nights at Round Park with plenty of feed for the horses and mules, then we headed off to our next camp just beyond Lake Levale and under the North Wall. We stayed two nights there with fishing at Lake Levale, where we netted enough Grayling for



Camp below the North Wall near Lake Levale

dinner the second night there. The next day we traversed the North Wall Trail down to a meadow near the Red Shale Creek Trail and believe me the cameras were snapping at the wall from every angle. That night at the bottom of the Red Shale trail, we camped with somewhat sparse feed and a minimal camp area.

On the 15th of August we were off again headed for a camp along the North Fork of Sun River near the mouth of Moose Creek, where we once again hit a fishing bonanza. Our plan was to overnight three nights at Moose Creek, but smoke from a distant fire kept us moving until we found out exactly where the fire was. We ended our last night in the Bob Marshall further up the North Fork of Sun River. This was the one camp that had little feed, so we fed with the rest of our pellets and the next day we headed up Headquarters Creek to Headquarters Pass.

What a spectacular high mountain pass over the Rocky Mountain Front! Just a little cliff hanging. On the other side, we left the Bob and headed to our camp on Green Gulch. After an overnight there, we headed back to Ritzville, where we overnighted the horses again at the Harris Ranch. Then finally it was off to home.

This trip netted one injured horse, one mule with a strain, one stepped on foot and a really jammed thumb – a small casualty list for a 70 mile trip through wilderness in my book. All injuries were inconvenient, but not serious, and the upside to it all was the friendships that were either new or renewed, and the shared memories. How sweet it was.

By Carole Hopkins



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Rene Ogan

A Cookin' and a Haulin'

How do you get a trail rider to leave the horse at home? Give the girl the keys to a U-Haul converted into a kitchen truck!

High Desert Trail Riders, Klamath Falls Chapter, handed over the truck and keys this past July to me when I volunteered to be camp cook for the annual Blue Lake Fish Packing project. I hollered with enthusiasm "I'll drive it." Never mind, that I had also volunteered to cook.

The cooking was definitely going to be an adventure for the work crew on this trip. I don't cook, unless you count by George Foreman and microwave. I was just hoping they would be hungry and grateful for a meal. And if the crew was to be telling this story, they would say I did a good job, but I know they appreciate anyone's cooking really, just so long as none of them have to cook.

So I anxiously waited for the arrival of the kitchen truck before the ride. However, I wasn't worried about cleaning it. A little dirt never hurt anyone. I always heard a child had to eat a pound of dirt before it walked. I

wonder how much dirt a grown cowboy needs to digest? Anyway, finally the anticipated truck arrives.

I had to conceal my fear. It was towing a port-a-potty behind. Gathering up my bravado, acting all excited as if I just got a new rope, I clamored inside to see this converted U-Haul. Yet my eight year old grandson, Mason, was more interested in the toilet. It had a wash tank mounted on the rear side and didn't flush.

The High Desert Trail Riders did a terrific job on setting up this truck to be a portable kitchen. It is equipped with a side-by-side refrigerator, sinks, propane stove and oven with cabinets stocked, a fresh water tank and extra gray water tank. Plus the system runs off battery or generator. I can't really go into all the uh's and ah's of the modernization of the truck though – cause I wasn't listening.

And then it was time for the trip. Grab your maps and locate the Gearhart Wilderness, over there by Bly Oregon. The drive started with paved roads then switched to decent forestry dirt roads. I had almost even forgotten completely about the port-a-potty. Luckily, it was still attached when I arrived at the destination.

The work party set up in the cow pasture at Spear Ranch, in Lee Thomas Meadows. The weekend went well and the crew packed fish on mules from the trailhead up to the lake, but someone else can tell you about the trail clearing from Lee Thomas Meadows to Blue Lake Trailhead. Remember, I was in camp cooking.

Mason and his cousin Kendra came along for the experience of outdoor camping, hiking and enjoyment. When all was packed up, and we were heading for home, I realized I had driven down a fairly rutted and steep entry. Not one to balk at a challenge, I aimed the truck, missed the ruts and bounced right on out of there. Mason, Kendra and I laughed and joked on the way home – back down those dirt roads and onto pavement. But as I rounded a curve, I suddenly couldn't see the toilet being dragged behind the kitchen truck. Oh, my panic now. The rest of the work party is behind me and I'm going to hear about it for a very long time, I thought.

I pull over to check the damage. Kendra jumps out and runs back to the rear of the kitchen truck. She's hollering something that sounds like "grandma, this ain't good." But as she came back to the passenger door with a big grin, she says "teasing."

By Lona Phipps



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Tending the Pacific Crest Trail



Multiple trips to Pacific Crest Trail and Diamond Peak this year for the Emerald Empire chapter of Back Country Horsemen of Oregon.

The weather made for an interesting year on the Emerald Empire's adopted section of the PCT. The heavy, late snow this spring required that we do our annual maintenance in short trips to the snow line. Usually, we spend one weekend on the trail to complete our entire section, but this year we were only able to log and repair about two to three miles each time as that seemed to be the rate of the snow melt each week.

The Emerald Empire Chapter is responsible for logging a seven mile section of the PCT from Willamette pass to the Mountain Yearn Trail intersection. We started in mid-July cross cutting logs out of the trail. It took three trips to finish logging out this section by mid-August. We also pack supported three crew trips into this same section.

With these crew trips organized by Dana Hendricks and Isaac Daniels of the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), we completed 17 miles of trail tread work. Two of the trips were led by Haley Miller. Additionally a new turn pike bridge was finished along with improvements to the season creek approaches.

Over the last few years the PCTA has had money available from grants and Forest Service ear marks to use on the PCT. They use this money to pay crew leaders to take volunteers and youth groups on the trail for extended trips ranging from five days to two weeks. With our pack support, these crews were able to work on the much needed tread and water drainage, which helps to keep the trail from becoming deeply rutted and washing down the hillsides.

As a chapter we put in 336 hours just on the adopted section, 195 stock hours, and 2208 miles. We would like to thank the following people for their valuable time and work: Barb Kirchner, Emily Elias, Jean Clancy, Chris Pattingale, Rich Heil, Erin Murphy, Jim Suiter, AltheGrace Tyler, Katrina Tyler, Dee Dee Holst, Katie Gidley, Billy Elias, Matt Hope, Becky Hope. Phil King completed 123 hours with the help of Judy Giannone and pack supported six additional PCTA trips with 140 stock hours. Phil Hufstader,

Casey Hufstader, Ed and Christine Barth have been working on other pack support jobs on the PCT and adopted another section of the PCT.

Finally I also want to give a big job well done to my trip partners: Barb Kirchner, Emily Elias and Dee Dee Holst. In September we packed over 710 pounds of gear including two, five gallon Gerry cans and a full iron Dutch oven. We learn a lot from this trip. Traveling 34 miles in two days, we spent the night so to arrive at another trail head 16 miles away to pack another PCT trip. We came out in good condition considering a horse kicked one person and on the way out a horse got colic. Luckily we were able to provide the right first aid to both the person and the horse. We used snow for ice – yes there was still snow up there, and let the lady who was kicked rest and elevate her leg as much as possible and had the appropriate medicines available. For the horse we took her load off as soon as the problem was noted and rested the animal as much as the trip allowed. By the time we returned to the trailhead the next day, the horse was eating and drinking and eventually was able to pack a light load for an easy trip.

While I would rather problems not happen, I was proud at how all the women stepped up, worked hard and made it an enjoyable trip. We worked as team to finish the needed work and even managed to have some fun along the way.

By Becky Hope

Top: Becky, Matt, Barb Kirchner, Chris Pattingale and Emily Elias working.

Middle: Dee Dee Holst cutting a tree out of the trail.

Bottom: Rich Heil, Jean Clancey, Bar Kichner, and Emily Elias moving a tree.

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Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2011 - 0900 hrs.

Veneta, OR

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 2011 BOARD MEETING -

Delayed to later in meeting.

ADOPT THE AGENDA -

No objections or additions.

APPROVAL OF NEW CHAPTER -

Gary Sischo and Joanne Hanson were present to represent the newest BCHO chapter, the Territorial Riders BCHO located in Oregon City. They have fourteen foundation members, eight newly signed members, some transfers from the West Cascades Chapter and other chapter duplicate memberships for a total of thirty-one individuals. Their constitution and bylaws are complete and were created by following the outline of the state organization.

Motion to accept new chapter made by Carole Hopkins. Motion seconded by CJ Croce. Unanimous vote of approval. Phil Hufstader will review their constitution and bylaws and e-mail them to Joy Senger for the master file and to Dan Applebaker for the historical file.

REPORTS -

TREASURER-

Checking is \$4,510.77

Savings is \$3,445.47 (includes dues owed to BCHA)

Packer's Store is \$1,194.22

Laurie provided a report dated September 23, 2011 to file.

VICE CHAIR, Jerry Bentz-

Reminded us that the end of September is the deadline to submit volunteer hours to the Forest Service.

MEMBERSHIP, Susie Wood -

We have 210 recorded and paid memberships. There are 114 family and 96 single memberships. The count is down from the number reported in May as some dues have not been paid. A reminder that failure to pay dues results in not receiving the state newsletter. No Coos memberships to date. Susie has a laptop now with up to date software!

EDUCATION, Becky Wolf -

The LNT tent was at the Wild Trails Expo in Powell Butte and the Train the Trainer event in the Eagle Caps taught by Jerry Bentz. There were four attendees: Burt Morris, Vicky Loveless, Cindy Shaw and Toby Countrymen. The tent is available for use and is not scheduled for anything until March 2012 for the Albany Expo. Contact Jerry Bentz if you would like to use the tent for an event. Becky is still hoping for a larger cargo trailer for storage and transporting.

EXPANSION, Jim Kitzhaber -

We did not have a booth at Roseburg due to the cost involved. The January meeting of the new Territorial Riders chapter will be a "Come Meet Us" meeting.

LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC LANDS - Unassigned

Susie Wood, Dick Butler, Margaret Miller and the entire Sourdough chapter, brought up the subject of the BLM charging fees for the use of those lands in their area. Their chapter has in the past hosted a poker ride to raise funds to use for volunteer work. The ride would begin on county land at Lake Selmac cross a portion of BLM land and return to Lake Selmac. In 2009 they received a letter from the local BLM office informing them that in accordance with BLM policy they are required to obtain a permit and pay the required fees. As an organized ride, each rider pays \$5 to participate or a \$200 flat fee as a group, whichever is greater. This is despite the fact that the Sourdough chapter has been maintaining the trails in question. Upon receipt of the letter, Dick and Susie had a meeting with the BLM management. They have corresponded with Congressman Peter DeFazio with no further results. They did not hold the ride this year. This policy has also affected Cycle Oregon's the Moon Tree Run.

Input from Phil Hufstader was to clarify that "policy" as it pertains to BLM and FS land is considered law. We have to differentiate between an event and a benefit and a charge or fee verse a donation. The wording of the flyer is the key.

Therefore, the Sourdough chapter will go ahead with their plans for their 2012 ride by changing it to a benefit ride and see if that corrects the problem. Phil will check with other states to see if this is just a local issue or if it is happening elsewhere. He suggests we attempt to handle it at the local (state) level before taking it to BCHA. If the issue is not resolved by the March BCHO meeting, the board will have time to draft a resolution to take to the national meeting in April.

Also on the subject of BLM, Jerry asks that when recording volunteer hours we make sure to keep USFS and BLM work separate.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR, Phil Hufstader

Reminder: Oregon is hosting the national meeting in April of 2012. Phil, Brenda Cordonnier, and Del Orchard make up the committee. Contracts are in place and signed for rooms and food at the Valley River Inn. Room rates will be reduced for the attendees. All day Tuesday will be devoted to public lands meetings. Wednesday through Saturday are general membership meetings. Wednesday evening there will be Oregon event featuring Oregon foods. Brenda will have 3-5 elk tents set up with Dutch oven cooking for the guests to sample a variety of items. There will be a western singer and a packing equipment vendor with a mule string and different pack set ups. The Travel Lane County website has the info. On the Sunday prior to the start, Matt and Becky Hope

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will be taking early arrivals on a beach ride and serving a BBQ. Saturday concludes the meeting. Saturday evening is the dinner and auction. Jerry Bentz and Casey Hufstader are in charge of the auction. They are asking each chapter to donate an item for the auction. BCHO sponsors and advertisers can also make auction donations. On the Monday following the conclusion any attendees who decide to stay longer will be taken on a trip to Crater Lake and on to Klamath Falls to attend the Packing Clinic the following weekend.

Each chapter is asked to create a poster to be displayed. It should show attendees what we do and what our respective areas are like. The poster needs a chapter contact for further visitor information. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.

BCHA has not yet hired an executive director.

Two positions are open for the LNT Master Training Instruction at 9-Mile in May of 2012. Phil is offering them to any Oregon member before going public nationally. Contact Phil if interested.

NEWSLETTER, Betty Jean Keele

BJ reports that she has received good comments and feedback about the new newsletter format. There still needs to be coordination with the website. Laurie Hufstader is keeping the mailing list. Any agency changes need to be updated as they occur. The first issue came in under budget but bulk mailing is a large portion of the total costs. BJ feels that the editor, Kelsey Ivey, deserves more than she is being paid considering all that she is doing. She would like to cut out the June bulk mailing because the expo shows are done by then. It was discussed and agreed that bulk delivery would be made by our members.

Phil made a motion to give BJ the authority to revise the mailing list, keep the cost down and pay Kelsey \$200. Jerry Bentz questioned the approved budget verse purpose of cost cutting and that BJ already has the authority to work within that budget. Phil restated his motion to say that BJ has the authority to work within the \$3,100 and make the determination how the bulk would be handled within that budget. Susie Wood seconded the motion. Unanimous vote of approval.

Deadline for the January edition is January 9, 2012 and May 4th, 2012 for the June edition.

Carole Hopkins spoke for Bryan Hodges regarding concern for newsletter

advertisers who have paid for one year's advertising in four issues but now there are only three. He suggests the advertisers' contracts be extended one issue to compensate for the change. Phil stated that this issue was addressed at the May meeting in Klamath Falls and he was given the direction to do that.

PACKER STORE, no report

WEBSITE, Del Orchard

The website is up to date. Carole asked that the secretary position be corrected. Contact Del if you have an idea for a change or addition. He is open to suggestions.

OLD BUSINESS –

Trail Certification –

Phil has sent e-mails to all of the USFS Forest Supervisors in Oregon to ask for a meeting. He has presented them with the documentation of trail classifications, which reflect loss of pack and saddle stock trails. He has met with most of the forest supervisors to date. In general, it is data entry error and not an intentional act. If they have in fact dropped a trail he has asked for an explanation in writing as to why. So far, he has found that in each case there was a common sense reason for it. Each chapter will be contacted in reference to any trail closure for input.

Saw Certification –

BCHO now has a letter of agreement signed by J. Lenise Lago, Deputy Regional Forester and Phil Hufstader, which will allow for BCHO to have members trained by the FS as chainsaw and crosscut certifiers. It will streamline and accelerate certification. It will extend FS liability coverage through the BCHO trainers. The process is still in the works but it is hoped that we can offer the safety class portion at the 2012 general membership meeting with the practical training offered later.

Annual meeting –

The 2012 annual meeting will be the first weekend in March. The location is to be announced through e-mailed to the chapters/members in the next month. This year's Saturday meeting will not be a rehash of Friday's business meeting. The items that require membership input will be covered such as the budget, dues, and chapter reports, along with speakers, trainings and more. There will also be a dinner and auction in the evening. There was discussion about location of future meetings and having chapters host the March and September meetings. Since we voted to return the 2012 meeting to the central Oregon area we are committed to that. We can entertain changes in future meetings at that time.

BCHA –

Volunteer hour form is now on the BCHO website. Jerry asked again to break up hours by agency.

State Ride –

This year's ride was only attended by about 18–20 people because of the concern that trails were not yet accessible.

No chapter has stepped forward to host the 2012 state ride. Becky Wolf questioned the need to have a host chapter and suggested that the board be the host. Joy Senger recommended the Corral Flats area northeast of Prineville as a good area for a group camp and riding. The suggestion was accepted and the 2012 state ride will be held there. Becky Wolf and Joy Senger are the coordinators.

LNT Training – nothing additional

National Board meeting –

Again, volunteers are needed for the 2012 meeting. Phil's position will be open for nominations and election at the March 2012 meeting to start in 2013.

The Policy & Procedures manual is done and Phil has the copies. He will bring them to the March meeting to hand out. Thanks to Marlene Orchard for going through it to make sure it was right.

Susie says to start pushing membership. Anyone who joins now is paid through the end of 2012.

Approval of Minutes –

Corrections –

BJ/item 9, newsletter (giving BJ authority to manage the budget)

Phred/page 2, resolution on executive director

Carole/bottom of page 2 – 'fly into/out of'

Phred/top of page 2 – applies to state (level)

Motion to accept minutes as written with corrections made by Jim Kitzhaber. Motion seconded by Susie Wood. Unanimous vote of approval.

Carole Hopkins will submit corrected minutes. Carole requests chapter reports be submitted digitally for ease of recording. A thank you and a round of applause offered to Carole for all of her hard work.

NEW BUSINESS –

Jim Kitzhaber says that West Cascades chapter will be doing the Sportsmen's show and Albany Expo in 2012. They have already reserved and paid for the booth at the Albany Expo. They are asking for any monetary and volunteer help that the other chapters can offer. The cost of the booth and entry tickets ranges \$800–\$900. Michelle Morin is in charge again this year. The dates are March 22–25.

Sourdough chapter is selling 30 raffle tickets at \$20 each for dinner and a night's stay for two at the Seven Feathers Casino. Drawing is December 29th.

Motion to adjourn made by Susie Wood. Second made by Carole Hopkins. Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.

Submitted by Joy Senger, Secretary

Chris Tornow

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Signed_____ **Date**_____

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New___ Renewal___ (Please check)

BCHO website www.bcho.org/chapterlocations.htm

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c/o Laurie Hufstader

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Veneta, OR 97487

(541) 935-2176

Upcoming Events

BCHA National 2012 Board Meeting

It's time to start thinking about the BCHA National Board meeting, which will be held in Eugene, Oregon at the Valley River Inn, April 24-28, 2012. On behalf of BCHO, we are welcoming national directors from all over the United States to our beautiful area. The meeting will be held in the Willamette Valley, just a stone's throw away from the Cascade Mountain range and the same distance from the Oregon Coast. BCHO Board Meeting Committee plans on having several events planned prior to the board meeting and the week following. Some of the planned events include a visit to Crater Lake National Park, horseback and mule rides on the Oregon beaches just outside of Florence, and a mid-week Packers' social event. After the meeting, several of the Directors have expressed a desire to head down to Klamath Falls for the High Desert Pack clinic. The entire event will cover five days for the majority of the directors and as many as ten days for a few.

What can the BCHO chapters and individuals do to support the event?

Several things: from collecting raffle items to assisting with the sign up booth at the opening of the event, or helping out on the beach ride. Oregon wants to make this the best National Board Meeting ever, so come for the meeting, attend the sessions and social events, or help behind the scenes.

If you are interesting in helping, contact the National Board Meeting Committee members for more details:

Phil Hufstader: Sawbuck3h@aol.com, (541) 914-3725

Del Orchard: (503) 705-4104

Brenda Cordonnier: (541) 884-0862