



# Hoofbeats

## Tidbits from the Prez

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**VICE PRESIDENT**

Barry Russell (360) 438-1873

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Ritz Duchesne (360) 438-1805

**TREASURER**

Betty Reichel (360) 456-8623

**HOOFBEATS EDITOR**

Cindy Holden (360) 273-3216

We had a very successful meeting with a long agenda, a lot of discussion and a meeting length of only 1 hour 4 minutes.

I think it's high time for me to act a little more presidential and do one of my main jobs, which is to watch out for and protect the integrity of Capitol Riders. It has slowly come to my attention that BCHW, primarily certain committees and the Officers, have been undermining the rights of the BCHW General Membership for a couple of years now and have become very secretive and arrogant about everything they do. I've only just last week been able to get the new, totally different, BCHW By-laws that were approved by the Board at Leadership this year and that were

nearly finished in Draft form last June.

I did an audit and analysis of these new By-laws against the old By-laws and was totally surprised at what I found. I found FIVE new items added to the new BCHW By-laws that have materially changed what/who/how BCHW and Chapters operates. Including are issues that we have to write up totally new By-laws, we have to submit an Application to be approved by BCHW for membership that pledges around 10 or so items, and we have to sign over all our assets (including the bank account to BCHW and probably need to open a new checking account.

Then I found TEN significant changes to the new BCHW By-laws that directly affect the Chapters and the General Membership, mostly by taking away membership rights we had before. Includes are

issues that unnecessarily change the BCHW Name and Logo, totally restricts our access the private Director's Web-site, Restricts us to ever see or approve the BCHW Budget, takes away our right to vote for the BCHW Officers and went silent (removed from the By-laws any listing or descriptions of Chairs and Committees and also removed any and all Roles and Responsibilities for the BCHW Directors.

Finally there are NINE major failures of BCHW to follow written Due Process or to do what they have committed to do in both the new and the old By-laws. This is essentially where BCHW has broken the (By-) Laws and in some cases maybe they've even broken the law by accepting Dues under false or non-

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## Minutes from the March 11, 2008 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Eric Anderson, president, at 7:05 pm. There were 24 members and no guests present at the Little Rock Firehouse on Little Rock Road.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the last

meeting as written and published in the newsletter. Resolved: The minutes of the February 12, 2008, meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Betty Reichel presented the Treasurer's Report.  
Director's Report: Jeff

LaBreck provide an update on the use of BCHW or BCHWS. He presented the issues he will be taking to the Board at the Annual Meeting to continue to use the old logo and keep Backcountry as a single word. All members in attendance voted unanimously to retain the logo and keep Backcountry as a single word. This would avoid unneces-

## Minutes from the March 11, 2008 Meeting (continued from page 1)

sary costs for the changes in patches, bumper stickers, letterhead and so forth.

**Committee Reports Trail Rides/Events:** Carrie Russell had no updates to the ride schedule for the chapter at this time. She provided additional information about the April 19<sup>th</sup> Chili Dog Ride at Skookumchuck. Carrie also asked for feedback from the members for other potential locations for rides. Anyone interested can contact her at [twalkin1@juno.com](mailto:twalkin1@juno.com) or 360-438-1873.

**Social Events:** There are no social events planned at this time. Any suggestions for social events be provided to Shelly at [esafarm@tds.net](mailto:esafarm@tds.net) or you can call her at 360-978-4089

**Trail Maintenance/Volunteer Hours:** The first major trail maintenance event was the Annual Great Gravel Pack-In with Ed Haefliger as the Work Boss. This was a huge success. Several members from Capitol Riders donated their time to help. Ed Haefliger gave a brief update on the event. The crews were able to move 20,160 pounds of rock and gravel to help repair the trails.

Jeff reported that DNR has a new program in place for trail maintenance this year. Volunteers are required to send in an application to DNR two weeks ahead of time to gain approval. Jeff will submit the application for the March 29<sup>th</sup> Work Party planned at Mima. Please plan on arriving at 9:00 AM to help.

**Membership:** Please remember that all dues for 2008 should be sent to Betty Reichel by March 1. Failure to renew by that time will result in eliminating your name from the membership list. Currently there are a total of 37 members for Capitol Riders.

**Education:** Karen Johnson & Betty Reichel have been working to coordinate a CPR/First Aid class for the chapter. Plans are in place for a training class to be held at the Little Rock Fire House on Tuesday, April 22. This will start at 6:30 PM and will go to 10:00 PM. The cost is \$30 per person. If anyone is interested, please contact Karen Johnson at her email address on the membership list.

Ritz has registered for the Basic Skills for the Leave No Trace programs coming up in April. The discussion topic for

the May meeting will be LNT.

**Hoofbeats Newsletter:** Cindy Holden reminded people that articles for the newsletter are always welcome.

**Ways & Means:** Joyce Nelson reminded the membership that the annual yard sale will be held at her home on Saturday, May 3. You may bring items to the April meeting for Joyce to take home. For larger items, please contact Joyce to make arrangements for delivery. There will be a work session on the night before the sale. Volunteers are needed to help Joyce with the set up on Friday night starting at 5:00 PM. Volunteers are also needed on Saturday to provide assistance.

Betty Reichel will put an ad in the Olympian when the date approaches.

**Hoofprints Program:** Jeff will continue to accept participation forms for this year's Hoofprints Program. Currently there are 15 members participating. This is a good way to track your miles for the year and these miles help to track the usage of the trails and the volume of miles

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disclosed pretense.

My plan is to enlist several other chapters of a like mindset, take this analysis and list of issues I've developed to the Board of Directors Meeting at Jubilee and get all or more of these issues resolved. Failing that, we'll be discussing this

BCHW problem and will look for some answers at our next meeting. So, I'm not all that excited about being a member of BCHW currently.

If anyone wants to delve into or understand the BCHW problem more clearly, then Please call or

e-mail me and I'll send you my write-up and analysis on this subject via e-mail.

Ride hard and ride safe,

Your Prez,

Eric D. Anderson

"...we'll be discussing this BCHW problem and will look for some answers..."

## Dentist's retirement party 44 years in making (courtesy of the Olympian)

TUMWATER — A retirement party will be held Thursday for George Gundersen, who worked as an Olympia-area dentist for the past 44 years.

The party will begin at 4:30 p.m. at Gundersen's former office at 115 Cleveland Ave. S.E. in Tumwater.

Gundersen, who is 74, worked until late last

year. His son, Arne, has taken over the business.

The elder Gundersen has volunteered at clinics the past three years at South Puget Sound Community College and the Union Gospel Mission. He also has volunteered at a Salvation Army soup kitchen, ran one of the region's first soccer equipment stores and has helped with coaching the game at Bush Middle School.

**Wishing George a  
Happy Retirement!**

## Minutes from the March 11, 2008 Meeting (continued from page 2)

we accumulate as a chapter. For further information, please contact Jeff at [wildhorses@scattercreek.com](mailto:wildhorses@scattercreek.com). Remember, the year for tracking runs from November 1, 2007 to October 31, 2008. You may already have some miles accumulated.

**Historian:** Betty Reichel are putting together the display board for Capitol Riders to be used at the BCHW Jubilee in Ellensburg to be held on March 21 to the 23. If anyone has suggestions, photos, artwork or items to be displayed, please contact Betty or Karen. Ritz will provide some photos of the Great Gravel Haul-In. Any other pictures will be helpful.

**Co-Use Program:** There was no update on this topic. However, members from the Friends of Capitol Forest participated in the Great Gravel Haul-In.

**Website:** Ken Parrish has added the various forms the chapter uses to the website. He is always willing to receive photos and articles for the website.

### Old Business:

**Jubilee Auction:** Jeff provided a brief update from the Committee established for the annual auction. The Committee is prepared to get great results. Jeff purchased a trail saw with a scabbard on behalf of Capitol Riders. The scabbard is imprinted with the words "BCHW Jubilee 2008".

**Radios:** Eric brought the remaining radios to this month's meeting. If you still haven't picked up your radio, please contact Eric at 360-978-472.

**Mission Statement:** Since the mission statement for the Back Country Horsemen of Washington State may be revamped, it was decided that this topic would be tabled until the April meeting.

**VIP Ride:** Once the Jubilee is over, the VIP Ride Committee will start meeting and planning for this year's ride on July 19<sup>th</sup> at Fall Creek. Please begin thinking about the loan of horses, helmets and riders for this event. Additional information would be provided at future meetings.

**Equine Dental Clinics:** The date for this year's clinics will be May 10<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup>. Slots are still open. Please contact Ritz at [horselover.ritz@yahoo.com](mailto:horselover.ritz@yahoo.com) or 360-438-1805 if you are interested. A schedule is printed in this month's Hoof Beats.

**Club Jackets:** Joyce Nelson had no update to provide to the membership on this topic. She will meet with Carrie Russell to look at options for jackets and to bring a proposal to the April meeting.

### New Business:

**BCHW Bylaws:** Eric expressed some concerns about the methodology used for the new BCHWS Bylaws. The new Bylaws took away some privileges from the general membership. Further discussion on this topic will be available.

**Audit Committee:** No update at this time. We are still looking for an additional member to help us with the audit. If you are interested, please contact Betty Reichel.

### Good of the Order:

1 Tom Crowson announced that the date for the Washington State University Ride for Research has been scheduled for June 21 at the Sportsmen's Club. There will be a silent auction and events planned for both Friday and Saturday, June 20 and 21.

2 Carrie Russell announced that Steve and Emma Russell have rescued a Tennessee Walking Horse mare named Miss Belle. She is 11 years old and weighed about 500 pounds when they brought her home. A motion was made and seconded for the chapter to purchase \$100 of feed to help bring Miss Belle back to health. This was approved unanimously. Carrie is going to provide monthly updates in the newsletter about Miss Belle's Rescue.

3 Email: Please limit your emails to Ritz to club business. Photos can be sent to Ken Parrish and he will put them on the website. You can send these to Ken at [pack-horseklp@comcast.net](mailto:pack-horseklp@comcast.net).

4 Tom & Tootie Crowson will provide treats for the April meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Secretary, Ritz Duchesne – [horselover.ritz@yahoo.com](mailto:horselover.ritz@yahoo.com) or 360-438-1805

## The Price of the Ticket by Mark Rashid (Horsemanship Through Life ©2005, Spring Creek Press)

It's a funny thing, this life of ours. It's just plumb full of paths we can choose to take or choose not to take. And along with each one of those paths we choose to follow comes a variety of trade-offs. Sometimes we're going to be faced with what seems like overwhelming trials and tribulations; sometimes we will be faced with overwhelming joy and happiness. But we can always take comfort in knowing that neither one will

last forever.

We can also take comfort in knowing that whether things come to us that are beneficial to our lives or things come that aren't, the only thing that really matters is what we ultimately make of it. We can look at life's setbacks as roadblocks we can't get around or simply stumbling blocks we need to find a way to get over. Either way, the choice is up to us.

In the end, it's all just a sign that we're taking ownership of the life we've been given. And lucky for us, it all comes with the price of the ticket.



**LAST MINUTE FORT LEWIS  
RIDE CALL LIST**

1. Dean Hartman:  
705-0664
2. Jane Brooksher:  
273-8219
3. Connie Bailly: 273-5552
4. Karen Johnson:  
273-8075
5. Lee and Jim Munroe:  
866-1790
6. Tom and Tootie Crowson:  
866-2298
7. Martha Kesting:  
753-3897
8. Diana Gunderson:  
943 3121  
(prefer week days)
9. Stephen Russell:  
951-8927
10. Ritz Duchesne:  
438-1805
11. Betty Reichel: 456-8623
12. Barry and Carrie Russell:  
438-1873
13. Eric Anderson  
360-978-4089

DATE	EVENT
January 19	Leadership Meeting: CleElum
March 1	Gravel pack work party: Capital Forest
March 21-23	Ellensburg Jubilee Convention
March 29	Work Party: Capital Forest opening clean up
April 20	Chili Dog Ride: Skook: Day ride
May 17	Green Mountain: Day ride/ sack lunch
May 24-26	Wenas campout
June 7	Work day: National Trails week
June 14	Nisqually Mashelle: Day Ride/Sack lunch
July 2-4	Nile Valley or Thorpe Elk Camp: Campout
July 19	VIP Ride: Capital Forest
July 26	Elbe: Day ride or campout
August 9	Capital Forest/Margaret McKenney: Day ride/sack lunch
August 9-10	Mt. Adams Campout
Aug 29-Sep 1 Labor Day	Les Hilde or Salmon Le Sac Campout
Sept 27	Public Lands work party

## New retiree deserves thanks for years of smiles by John Dodge (courtesy of the Olympian)

After 42 years of dentistry, Stephen D. Russell spent part of his first day of retirement this week back in his Tumwater dental office. I'll take the blame.

The last time I sat in one of his dental chairs was in November for X-rays and a routine cleaning. I learned of his pending retirement and suggested we get together at his convenience for a multi-purpose interview.

I thought other patients of his would like to hear him reflect on life as a dentist and hear what he planned to do with all this newfound spare time. I also wanted a chance to thank him for 23 years of top-notch dental care, helping me keep hold of all the teeth I was born with — minus the two incisors that were pulled to make room for braces 45 years ago. Finally, I wanted to introduce to other readers this Elma-area native,

a kind and gentle man with a great sense of humor and a genuine interest in the patients whose mouths he has probed for the past five decades.

I can't remember who referred me to Dr. Russell, but I went to his office willingly for the first time in May 1985 and have been a regular patient of his ever since.

Without hesitation, I also placed my children's dental care in his hands and referred friends in need of a dentist. Incidentally, referrals were always recognized with a "thank you" card and hand-written note.

"Referrals — they're the life of a dental office and a lot of other businesses, for that matter," he said during a rambling interview.

A graduate of the University of Washington dental school, Russell was an Army dentist during the Vietnam War and opened his first family practice office on Capitol Way in Olympia in 1973, less than an hour from the 30-acre farm in

Satsop where he was raised.

There's still a lot of farm boy evident in the man — the bow-legged walk of a horseback rider who loves the back-country trails of the Cascade mountains and the horse farm he has called home south of Tumwater for 20-plus years.

### Practice

I had some questions and theories about dentistry that I've always wanted to ask him about. First, why do so many people still face a trip to the dentist with so much dread, or just keep putting it off while the health of their teeth deteriorates?

For about 95 percent of those people, many in their -early 60s and older, it was a bad childhood experience with slow speed drills and no anesthetics," he offered.

As he talked, I was transported back to a dentist's office in Shelton more than 50 years ago where the drills





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<http://www.capitolriders.org>

*Keeping the trails open...*

[www.bchw.org](http://www.bchw.org)



**Take a look at the website to see the article and pictures for the 3rd Annual Gravel Haul, as well as pictures from the potluck dinner held at the Gundersen's home!**



**2008 Capitol Riders' Meeting Schedule**

All meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., Littlerock Fire Department , 10828 Littlerock Road SW, Olympia, WA 98512



More beautiful country you can see on a group ride with Capitol Riders!

- 4—Dick Vetter
- 19— Barry Russell
- 19—Ken Parrish
- 24— Lee Munroe
- 29—Ritz Duchesne

January 8	No meeting in July
February 12	August 12
March 11	September 9
<b>April 8</b>	October 14
May 13	November 11
June 10	No meeting in December

