



CAPITOL RIDERS



Hoofbeats



July 2007

Volume 4, Issue 4

TidBits from the Prez



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If you haven't heard as yet, please put **Barry Russell** in your prayers. **Barry** had a Heart Attack this week, had 2 stents put in and he will be OK. For me, it's a moment to be very reflective as to the fragility of our health, work and lifestyle. It can be interrupted or taken away at a moment's notice. What was so wonderful was that **Berry's** family and friends, including many Capitol Riders members, rallied around and embraced him with their love and support. This showed me how much a family we are at Capitol Riders. I'm very proud of our club.

So, as a result of this interruption, we have cancelled or postponed the Kalama Campout. This is probably a good decision because **Ken Parish** reported that the trails at Kalama are in very bad shape, especially the Blue Diamond, as a result of last winter's storms which were the worst in several decades. Additional Trail Boss changes have been suggested. **Carrie Russell**

has switched the Keenes and Women's rides. Keenes will now be July 27-29 and the Women's ride at Mt. Adams will be July 13-15. Please call **Carrie Russell** if this change of plans is not acceptable and to arrange a better schedule.

Ken Parish has finished the Draft Capitol Riders Web site at www.capitolriders.org. He is requesting that all of us send him (electronic) content as soon as possible so he can start populating our Web site. You can either call or e-mail **Ken**.

So, be aware and very careful in the mountains because the trails are still not in great shape as yet.

Ride hard and ride safe,

Your Prez

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Minutes from the June 12, 2007 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by **Eric Anderson**, president, at 7:00 pm. There were 17 members present at the Little Rock Firehouse on Little Rock Road.

The first news that Eric provided was that our Vice President, **Barry Russell** had experienced a heart attack. The good news was that he was resting comfortably. Please be sure to keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

The only guest in attendance was the substitute guest speaker, **Darryl Wallace**, from the Scattercreek Chapter of BCHW. **Darryl** spoke about the upcoming VIP ride that will take place this summer in Capitol Forest. Four chapters will help to support the ride; Scattercreek, Grey's Harbor, Nisqually and Capitol Riders.

We need volunteers to help the "dudes" get saddled and mounted for the ride to the top. A cowboy barbeque will be served to the volunteers and the guests. We also need volunteers for planning and for assistance on the day of the event, tentatively scheduled for July 21st. If you have a minivan and can help drive the dudes to the trail, we could use your help.

If you can donate your time to help or a "bombproof" horse for one of the dudes to ride, please call **Ritz Duchesne** at 360-438-1805. We will also need riders on the day of the event to help manage the trail ride itself.

Remember, getting the elected officials and their staff members on horseback and onto the trails goes a long way towards helping them to appreciate the world we see on a regular basis. We expect to have somewhere between 20 and 40 VIP riders.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes of the May 8, 2007, meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: **Nancy Garred** presented the Treasurer's Report. Membership Dues continues to trickle in slowly. We are up to 54 members.

Director's Report: **Jeff LaBreck** stated that the Director's Report will be summarized in the next Hoof Beats edition. The auction in Monroe was an overwhelming success. Thanks to **Barry & Carrie Russell, Cindy Shue, Traci Koch** and **Ritz Duchesne** for their assistance in running the auction. There were also several members from other BCHW chapters that helped.

For those people who were curious, Capitol Riders donated a painted pony statue and a road emergency kit. These items were sold well above the price the club paid.

Committee Reports:

Trail Maintenance/Volunteer Hours: **Jeff LaBreck** will be out of town on Saturday, June 16th so trail maintenance for this month will be

delayed until Sunday, June 24th. A discussion followed. Using your horse as transportation, plan to meet at the Mima Day Use area at 10:00 AM. Bring your favorite trail maintenance horse, leather gloves, loppers or machete & sheath and a lunch. We will be attacking Devil's Clubs that day.

Events: **Carrie Russell** was not available for the meeting. The Memorial Day Ride was a tremendous success. There were 17 members from the club at the Nile Ranch. The weather was beautiful, the trails were tremendous and the food for the Pot Luck was outstanding as usual.

The Father's Day Campout & Ride at Kalama is postponed until later in the year. **Ken Parrish** told the club that some of the trails are severely damaged from the windstorms we experienced last winter.

The members in attendance agreed to have a ride Saturday, June 23rd, in Capitol Forest. People will meet at 10:00 AM.

The upcoming events are:

June 16th: Capitol Forest
July 13th-15th: Women's Ride at Mount Adams (tentative)
July 27th-29th: Keenes Ride (tentative)
August 17th-19th: Campout & Ride at Mount Adams
September 1st-3rd: Labor Day Campout & Ride at Les Hilde
September 22nd: Green Mountain Ride

Non-Club Sponsored Events are:

July 6th -8th: WASU Ride for Research

Social Events: **Shelly Anderson** stated we need a new location for the summer barbeque. **Steve Russell** graciously volunteered to hold the cookout at his home. Save the date for Saturday, June 23rd.

There is a nice trail in **Steve & Emma's** neighborhood that will take about an hour to ride. He has room to accommodate rigs in his field. He suggested that we ride in late afternoon and then eat; two of the favorite things for the members. More details will follow in email form.

Membership: No update was provided.

Education: No update was provided.

Hoofbeats Newsletter: No update was provided at the meeting. For those who read Hoofbeats, **Donna** will be stepping down as editor at the end of the year. The club is looking for a volunteer to act as editor starting in 2008. **Donna** offered to coach someone through the process. If you can volunteer, please contact **Ritz Duchesne** at 360-438-1805.

Ways & Means: All outstanding receipts for the yard sale have been collected. There are no more fundraising issues planned for the remainder of the year.

Hoofprints Program: **Jeff** reminded members to keep track of their riding time. There are 20 paid members in the Hoofprints program this year.

Historian: **Betty Reichel** and **Karen Johnson** did a grand job of creating the photo board that we used at the Annual Meeting. A motion was made and seconded to reimburse **Betty** for the cost of some of the materials used.

Betty & Karen will continue to sort through the items that have accumulated and provide periodic reports.

Co-Use Program: **Tom Crowson** did not have an updated.

Website: **Ken Parrish** has a test website put together now. Try looking up 222.capitolriders.org His goal is to have links to the BCHW and DNR sites from the home page. He is also looking for digital pictures or articles. If you have pictures of club events or trail rides, please forward them to **Ken** at www.packhorseklp@comcast.net.

Eric suggested we have the 2007 issues of Hoofbeats available. He will contact **Donna** for the electronic files.

Ken also intends to have news, digital maps, volunteer information and data about the chapter. All members are encouraged to send ideas to **Ken** at the above noted email address.

Ken submitted a bill for the domain and website. **Nancy** will reimburse him. This is good for two years.

Ken said the Club could consider putting paid ads on the website in the future. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

Ken is also trying to find the Capitol Riders logo digitally. He will give us an update at the next meeting in August.

Old Business:

There was no additional old business at this time.

New Business:

Reminder:

There is no meeting in July. The next meeting will be held at the Little Rock Firehouse on August 14th at 7:00 PM.

Treats for the next meeting: **Karen Johnson** will provide the treats for the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Ritz Duchesne, Secretary.

Observations on the Annual Meeting By Ritz Duchesne

I just thought I would share with you the experience some of us members had as we helped support the fundraising efforts of the BCHW at the annual meeting held on June 2 at the Monroe Fairgrounds. This was an experience I shared with **Jeff LaBreck, Carrie** and **Barry Russell, Traci Koch** and **Cindy Shue**.

As you know, **Jeff** was “volunteered” to be the coordinator for this year’s auction at the annual meeting. On May 18th, **Jeff** held a meeting at the Littlerock Fire House to review the procedures for the auction. Of the support team he had for the event in 2006, only one member (**Traci Koch**) was present to help again this year. **Carrie, Barry** and I volunteered to help **Jeff** in this endeavor.

When my alarm rang at 3:45 AM on a Saturday, I got up and got moving. I had the horses, donkeys, dogs and cats to feed as usual. Since I had packed my car on Friday night, I was ready to go after my shower and breakfast. I was in the car by 5:00 AM, just like a normal workday.

The **Russell**’s and I had agreed to travel up

together. They used their camper and I followed in my car. I appeared on their doorstep at 5:30 AM thinking that this was definitely not the hour to be ringing doorbells. The day was so beautiful; we were thinking this would have been perfect to go on a trail ride. Nevertheless, off to the auction we went!

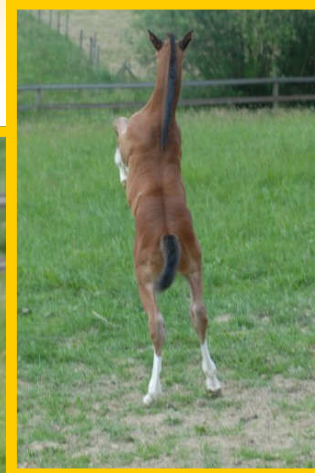
They finished loading their camper and we set off for Monroe. Being fairly new to the state of Washington, this was the first time I had ventured north of Seattle. The traffic was light so the trip was relatively uneventful. Our walkie-talkies came in handy for us to communicate on the road.

We learned that it is always important to have someone double check the doors to the camper, the brake lights and the blinkers before leaving home. This is a good thought for horse trailers as well as campers. We have now added another item to our pre trip checklist.

We arrived at the Monroe Fairgrounds at 7:45 AM. As a first timer, I found the fairgrounds were maintained well and provided adequate parking for campers and vehicles. We were able to park close the

building where the events were taking place.

Gary Thorson’s sister, **Joan Griffith**, sent the below pictures with a short note. She writes, “Have got my hands full here this week, and last too, we had our filly foal arrive 2:00 am last Thursday. Baby horse is really a fireball, she's got so much energy, very unlike the Irish babies. But she is born to JUMP.....we think our Irish friends will either buy her or we will jointly own her and she will go to Ireland to become a jumper.”



Many of the vendors had set up their booths on Friday night. The tables for the directors and annual meetings were set up and several of the items donated for the auctions and raffle were already there.

There were three fundraising events for BCHW. We provided the bidder numbers for all. The live auction started at 7:00 PM, the silent auction and the bucket raffle ran from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

In addition to providing bidder numbers, we also logged in the donated items. As you can imagine, it is important to thank the donors and the bidders for their participation. **Carrie** also followed up with the vendors for donated items. Traci has all the data in her computer to take care of this.

During the day, the Directors held their meeting in the morning and the Annual Meeting took place in the afternoon. We were busy so I didn’t get to hear the presentations for the Annual Meeting. Traci presented the Lopper Awards and the Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Nina and **Gordie Merklin** arrived to join us for lunch and to see the vendors. It was great to see familiar faces.

We ended up with over 200 donated items. As they came in throughout the day, we identified them as silent or live auction, tagged them and made them available for display. Items ranged from fancy hoof picks to wall/yard art to campfire tools to a basket full of chocolates. There was something for everybody. We were busy all day long but we had short periodic breaks so we could look around at the vendors and the events.

The BLM had a supply of Mustangs that were available for auction on Sunday. I didn’t stay around for that. I don’t need another horse! However, there were some impressive young horses available. **Jeff** said the Mustang auction went well on Sunday.

The Mounted Border Patrol did a presentation. It was informative and the members present were willing to talk to anyone with questions. They are starting to use Mustangs as their mounts. **Jeff** has some suggestions about pairing up with this group to help keep the trails open.

(Continued on page 7)



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Horse Trailer Safety (20 of 23)

20) When hauling just one horse in a 2-horse bumper pull straight load, which side of the trailer should he ride on (in the US)?

Some have said on the left because the road is higher in the middle, others say on the

right b/c if something does happen, the horse isn't on the side of oncoming traffic. Which side is best?

It's best to put the horse on the roadside (left) because most roads are crowned in the center and the trailer

will be more stable.

Also, when there are two horses in the trailer, the heavier one should be on the roadside.

Our First Dental Visit By Jeff and Coyote (aka Scruffy) LaBreck

As we watched from the sidelines, many of our fellow Capitol Riders had visited the **Vetter's** Performance Equine Dentistry Trailer. We had seen the **Vetter's** informative presentation at one of the Capitol Riders meetings. The value of dental care cannot be doubted. There are very few people who would choose false teeth over the real thing. With our Equine partners, falsies are not even an option.

Even though we knew the value of regular dental care, we remained observers. The obvious question would be, "Why not get a checkup"? The answer to that question is that **Mr. Coyote** is a Wild Horse and we were concerned about the tranquilizer. Evidently someone had forgotten how much fun it was to be tranquilized in the sixties.

We finally came to the conclusion that the only fair thing for **Mr. Coyote** was to go get the teeth checked since he had recently turned eight years old. He has been educating me for almost six of those eight. We made an appointment for the May 12 Equine Dental Clinic with **Dick** and **Kathy**

Vetter. Even though we had a last minute complication, they were able to work with us with the appointment time, so we would be able to come.



The **Vetter's** e-mailed that this picture was "taken after **Scruffy's** appt. He is sleepy from the sedation, but actually more relaxed than sleepy. It is obvious he likes **Jeff** and trusts him. The horse did wonderfully, he was so good to work with. It is a big tribute to **Jeff's** handling and time he has put into him."

We arrived a little early and were able to have some of the Trails End grass while they finished up with **Tom** and **Tootie Crowson's** two horses. It was our turn and we did the paperwork, got our shot, and walked into the back of the dental office to take our medicine. We were relieved to find that we

had no serious problems to contend with. We needed to square up our teeth, tune up the sharp edges and do a little clean up. It went very well, with **Mr. Coyote** very placidly standing quiet for the dental service work.

With our work finished we backed out of the office and stood a few feet away. At that point a very touching thing happened. **Mr. Coyote** moved over and put his head against my chest, as if to say, "Please hold me dad, I need some comforting". For about ten minutes I held his head in my arms and while this was happening I knew that we had taken a big step forward towards the goal of becoming one with your horse. **Dick** and **Kathy** captured this golden moment with their camera, which was a totally unexpected fringe benefit to the dental visit.

We went home and found that chewing our hay was a little difficult for three or four days, but now everything is back to normal and we are looking forward to our next magic moment. We would like to thank **Dick** and **Kathy Vetter** for their gentle bedside manner and their concern for the health of **Mr. Coyote's** mouth.

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**Capitol Riders Subject-to-Change-At-Any-Moment
2007 Ride / Activity Schedule (changes in red)**

| Date of Event | Activity and Location | Trail Boss |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Jun 23 | BBQ | Steve & Emma Russell |
| Jul 13—15 | Women's Ride / Mt. Adams | Carrie Russell |
| Jul 21 | Trail Maintenance | Jeff LaBreck |
| Jul 24 | Work Party | Jeff LaBreck |
| Jul 27—29 | Ride / Keenes | Carrie Russell |
| Aug 17—18 | Campout / Ride / Mt. Adams | Carrie Russell |
| Aug 18 | Trail Maintenance | Jeff LaBreck |
| Sep 1-3 | Labor Day Campout / Ride / Les Hilde | Carrie Russell |
| Sep 15 | Trail Maintenance | Jeff LaBreck |
| Sep 22 | Green Mountain Ride | ? |
| Oct 20 | Trail Maintenance | Jeff LaBreck |
| TBD | Harvest Party / TBD | TBD |
| Dec | Holiday Party / TBD | TBD |

| Classified Advertising Rates for Hoofbeats Newsletter | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Business Cards | \$40 / year |
| 1/4 Page | \$20 month / \$75 year |
| 1/2 Page | \$45 month / \$135 year |
| Full Page | \$55 month / \$200 year |
| Classified ads, non-members | \$5 month |

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\$29,999. Financing is available through **Kiperts**. Ask for **Roxie** or **Annie** — Now is the time to use your coupon published on page 4! (p.s. The interest is a tax write off as a second home, too.). Call **Roxie / Annie** at 877-532-2221.



NOTICE!

June 24 Work Party now changed to July 24th

We decided at the meeting on Tuesday to reschedule the Saturday, June 16 work party. The new date is Sunday, July 24 at Mima Day use area at 10:00 am. We will be cutting out Devil's Clubs on this work party. We will be using Horses for transportation to the work sites. So bring your favorite trail maintenance horse, leather gloves, loppers or machete & sheath and a lunch. We will be going up Porter 8 skirmishing with Devil's Clubs as we go. If time allows we will go up to the 5 mile marker and back. This should be fun so please be on time.

Jeff LaBreck, Volunteer Hours Coordinator

(Continued from page 3)

After a quick dinner, we settled down for the live auction. With over 100 items to get through, it was going to take awhile. At the last minute, **Jeff** recruited spotters for the auction, security staff and other members to keep the auction moving. Bidding was fast and the auctioneer did a great job in getting the bids up. There was competition for many items so the BCHW gained. There were two short breaks for "cowboy poems" that allowed people to catch their breath.

For those of us at the table, we tried to keep things moving. Since the silent auction

ended just as the live auction was beginning, we had people who wanted to pay so they could leave while the live auction was going on. We kept very busy during the whole auction. However, I managed to bid on a couple of items and even won two tickets to see the Minnesota Vikings play the Seahawks in an exhibition game for only \$50.

The auction ended at about 9:15. We finished collecting money and checking out the goods at about 10:00 PM. Then we had to do a tally of the receipts. According to Traci's computer we raised \$7,495!! Checks and cash totaled \$7,494! With all the

transactions we took in throughout the day, we figured we had achieved success to only be \$1 out of balance.

I got to my motel room at 11:00 PM. I was very tired but thankful to all the BCHW members, the chapters and the team that helped to make this year's auction an overwhelming success. We had surpassed last year's auction proceeds by 50%! WOW!!!

Jeff's already talking about next year's auction. I think I will just ignore him for awhile.

**Treats for July
No Meeting**

July Birthdays



It's your Birthday!

9th—Joanne Graley

2007 Capitol Riders Meeting Schedule

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

January 9, 2007

**July 10, 2007
No Meeting**

February 13, 2007
Speaker: Christine Redmond, DNR

August 14, 2007

March 13, 2007
Speaker: Ken Parrish

September 9, 2007

April 10, 2007

October 13, 2007

May 8, 2007

November 13, 2007

June 12, 2007
Speaker: Carrie Russell

December 11, 2007



Capitol Riders

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Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak

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