

CAPITOL RIDERS



OLYMPIA, WA.

Hoofbeats - May 2009

Howdy folks;

It has been a long and somewhat bumpy road for our chapter over the last year. The board members and I have had quite a ride.

We have had to come to grips and settle a nasty kettle of fish that was left behind by a past chapter administration, who left in a huff following a disagreement with the officers and some members of BCHW. We had to first find out all of the locations of the dirty laundry and then what to do with it. The next step was, can we continue as a chapter; we handled that and gave the membership a chance to continue. About now we ought to begin to look like a gang of super hero's. The truth is that we are only human and are about flamed out, so much so in fact that I sent forward my resignation. I was reminded that I had gotten the board into this job (sorry, I forgot) and withdrew it.

What does all of this mean to the membership? Plain and simple it means that if we do not get enough interest from the membership to fill all of the vacant officer positions in October, we will need to find the proper way to cease to operate as a BCHW chapter. This board has given the chapter a second, no a third chance to survive. It has come up with a slug of good viable ideas for activities but in fact for whom? There is a saying "if you build it they will come", ok! Where are the, "they?"

This is not intended to admonish any reader with slaps of guilt, but instead it is intended to let you know where we are and how we got here. I personally do not have an opinion of what is right or wrong for this adventure but will serve the membership the best I can with in then limits of my time constraints. You the membership will in the next few months decide on where this chapter will go. We have done our job and given you a chapter what you do with it is your decision.

Respectfully;

Ed

President: Capitol Riders Chapter, BCHW

Minutes
Capitol Riders Meeting
May 12, 2009

Prior to the general meeting, we welcomed guests Brian Poehlein, DNR District Manager and Nick Cronquest, DNR Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator. They came to present a nice framed certificate of appreciation to Capitol Riders for our participation in the 2009 Great Gravel Pack In. In addition, they presented Ed Haefliger with a framed certificate of appreciation and a special coffee mug for being the organizer of the Great Gravel Pack In. He was awarded the first group picture and the first shoulder patch for the 2009 Great Gravel Pack In. Brian and Nick then answered questions from members regarding trail repair in Capitol Forest.

President Ed Haefliger called the meeting to order following our DNR guests.

Minutes
The minutes were read aloud by Secretary, Karen Johnson. They were then approved as read.

Treasurer's Report
Lee Munroe gave the treasurer's report. There were no recent financial transactions to report.

Director's Report
Director Jeff LaBreck announced that Karen had sent all the Thank You cards for the BCHW auction to chapters and individuals who had made donations. Jeff will send out Thank You notes to all the vendors. Jeff stated that the Tack Room Too free gratis business card ad will be in the Capitol Riders newsletter on a regular basis and will eventually be on the website as well. It is a way of thanking Tack Room Too for their generous donations to BCHW and to the Capitol Riders chapter. Jeff retrieved the Capitol Riders newsletter software from previous editor, Cindy Holden, and delivered it to our current newsletter editor, Chris Enrico. Jeff reported on the article that he wrote about the US



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Border Patrol members who attended the State BCHW meeting in Ellensburg. The Trailhead News would like more articles for publication, so put your ideas together! The next BCHW Director's meeting will be June 13.

Committee Reports

Trail Rides/Social events

The next Capitol Riders trail ride will be on May 23 at Scatter Creek at 9:00 AM with a potluck lunch to follow afterwards. We hope for a good turnout and nice weather. We will have a chapter breakfast on Saturday, June 20th at 9:00 AM at JJ North in west Olympia. It's always a treat to eat there. Tom Crowson and Steve Russell will contact new potential members and invite them to join us for the JJ North breakfast and upcoming activities.

Hoofbeats Newsletter

Chris Enrico has taken over the duty of being the new editor for the Hoofbeats Newsletter. Thank you Chris!!

Trail Maintenance

Several Capitol Riders members volunteered their time and skills to help build a manure bunker at one of the campsites in the Mima campground. It was a nice day and it felt good to be out in the fresh air! Jeff and Karen have been working on our adopted Trail 6 and are gradually clearing it. Give them a call if you would like some fresh air and exercise for you and your horse!

June 6 is National Trails Day so Capitol Riders will take horses and ride to do trail maintenance on the 15 mile loop in Capitol Forest. We would appreciate a large turnout, so mark your calendars! Jeff will send out details by email soon.

Legislative Action Committee

BCHA has appealed for chapters to respond regarding the Right to Ride bill on Federal land. A motion was made that Capitol Riders chapter support the Right to Ride bill. The motion was passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Garage sale

No location has been found to hold the garage sale, so discussion about it has been postponed until the June meeting.

Fundraising

Discussion regarding fundraising was put on hold until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of President Ed Haefliger

Ed stated that the President's office and other Capitol Rider offices are at risk from lack of members willing to take active participation to replace current officers for next year. Discussion followed regarding the President's decision to resign by June 1. Following the discussion, Ed rescinded his resignation and agreed to complete the year as President.

Capitol Riders Website

Questions were raised regarding the cost and value of the Capitol Riders website. Chris Enrico said he would look into the renewal cost and report back to the Board members who could make a decision about keeping the website active.

Future of Capitol Riders

There was discussion about the future of the Capitol Riders chapter. Members decided that they wanted to preserve Capitol Riders but attracting new members is critical for its survival. Suggestions were made about how to get people interested in the chapter and show them what we have to offer. Ed and Ritz both volunteered to write articles for the Capitol Riders newsletter and suggestions were made regarding advertising the history of Capitol Riders in the community, perhaps with an article in the Olympian newspaper.

Membership Drive

A new membership committee was formed by Tom Crowson and Steve Russell who will contact new potential members and invite them to our JJ North breakfast and to join us for activities. A motion was made that the member who brings in the most new members by the end of the year will get free Capitol Riders and BCHW memberships for 2010. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

JUNE MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 9th at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Johnson, Secretary

Upcoming events

- 5/23 - Scatter Creek ride and BBQ 9:00 am @ Red Barn on north end (meat provided, bring salad or desert)
- 5/28 - DNR multi-user group meeting
- 6/6 - National Trails Day - work party (contact Jeff)
- 6/9 - General meeting 7:00 pm
- 6/20 - Chapter breakfast 9:00 am @ JJ North's buffet, West Olympia next to Target



Ellensburg, WA – The BCHW Annual Meeting was enhanced by the presence of U.S. Border Patrol Agents Fred Bauman and Jorge Vasquez and their Mustangs Okanogan and Bullet. All four had achieved celebrity status by their participation in the Presidential Inauguration Day Parade in Washington, D.C.

The agents and their Mustangs easily became a part of our event and could be seen in their inauguration day finery riding around the area and visiting with BCHW attendees. As Agent Bauman commented, “We enjoyed the event and talked with a lot of people and were able to answer many questions.” A positive experience for the Border Patrol and BCHW.



Photo by Jim Thode

Our visitors came down from the Oroville Station of the U.S. Border Patrol’s Spokane Sector. The Spokane Sector’s Mustang Unit was formed in the spring of 2007 when they adopted eight wild horses through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program. Known for their strength, intelligence, endurance and sure-footedness, wild horses met the need for a durable animal physically capable of working in areas that are virtually inaccessible to motorized vehicles. The Spokane Sector Border Patrol’s area of operations is characterized by mountain ranges, wilderness areas, national forests and parks.

Through a cooperative agreement between BLM and the Colorado Department of Corrections, these wild horses received personal and extensive training as part of a unique inmate rehabilitative program at the Canon City, CO correctional institution before arriving at the Spokane Sector. By entering into this three-way partnership, the Border Patrol has seized the opportunity to use an integral part of American history to expand our enforcement efforts and ensure that our borders are safer.

Over the past year, the Mustang Unit has participated in the 53rd Annual Chicago’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade as well as the 70th Annual Spokane Lilac Festival’s Armed Forces Torchlight Parade, where they received the top award for “Best Specialty Mounted Unit.” Most recently, the Noble Mustangs traveled to the Ellensburg Rodeo and to Cheyenne, Wyoming for Frontier Days, the world’s largest outdoor rodeo and western celebration, where they captured the “Best Mounted Unit Award.”

Since a major BCHW focus is the clearing of trails on U.S. Forest Service and WA State Department of Natural Resources managed public lands, collaborative efforts are very important. During our visit Agent Bauman said, “We are working with the Okanogan Valley Chapter to get our Explorer Unit involved in helping with the work on Federal and State managed lands.

Jeff LaBreck, BCHW Director - Capitol Riders Chapter

March 20, 2009

Directors Meeting

Ellensburg, WA

- Bob Gish opened the meeting and took roll call and established a quorum at 7:00 pm.
- A motion was made and approved to add a new agenda item and the minutes were approved as read.
- Darrell Wallace proposed budget changes concerning grants and grant writing line items that was approved.
- Traci Koch reported on 2008 Volunteer Hours and they are up from last year.
- Dick Yarboro reported that we have BCHW brochures printed and he will pass out 100 to each chapter and they can get more if they need them.
- Heather Moorman reported that membership is down a little from last year.
- Jane Byram reported that the LNT Trailer and some Trainers were at Cabelas in Lacey giving packing demos and LNT information to the public this weekend.
- Doc Wessellius gave a Safety report and requested a \$350 line item to produce a DVD with art work. A motion was made and passed to adopt this line item.
- Teunis Wyers gave his Governance and Bylaws report and said that to proceed with the dissolution of the old corporation, we needed the signed Revenue Certificates from all the chapters.
- A motion was made and carried that all chapters soliciting donations in excess of \$25,000 for their chapter must register with the Secretary of State. All other chapters would be covered by the BCHW registration.
- Bob Brooke gave the Legislative report and said that about 65 people showed up for Legislative Day but that the motorized had about 1500 two weeks later.
- Jeff Chapman gave the Public Lands report and said we should contact the USFS on where and what we would like to see the stimulus package money spent.
- State Parks is proposing closing 13 parks and mothballing 33 additional parks. A motion was made and carried to pursue the public parks closing issue.
- Tryg Culp and Mike Reedy talked about the BCHA annual meeting at Ft. Worden in April and what we would see if we attended. This is a good opportunity to see how BCHA operates and what they do to help the State organizations.
- Tryg Culp reported on the WWHAM/Hay Growers meeting and that he had stated the BCHW position on the quality level of the certified hay.
- Darrell Wallace collected the Revenue Certificates from all the Chapter Directors.
- Bob Mayer asked for a written statement from Tryg Culp about the status of the Hanford Reach Lawsuit.
- A motion was made and passed to postpone the QA for LNT until the June meeting.
- Ken Carmichael talked about developing a brand program that would be registered with the state and he would like feedback from members who have had experience with brand inspection.
- Bob Mayer talked about the Grant County 100 year celebration and invited all members to attend.
- Bob Gish adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm. A good and interesting meeting.

Jeff LaBreck
Director

March 21, 2009

BCHW Annual Meeting

Ellensburg, WA

- Bob Gish opened the meeting at 1:00 pm.
- Darrell Wallace introduced Christine Redmond of DNR as a guest speaker. She talked about coordinating volunteer efforts with land managers, encouraging the youth to get involved and working together with the other user groups to accomplish the common goal.
- The WASART representative talked about what WASART is about, what they are doing, and working with BCHW members in the rescuing of large animals.
- Teri Starke gave the Treasurers report and said that we are operating in the black.
- Teunis Wyers reported on the status of closing the old corporation and going back to the old name and logo. He also talked about the reporting procedure when a chapter or the organization solicits \$25,000 or more in donations.
- Bob Brooke reported on the Legislative Day and the fact that our 65 members in Cowboy Hats made an impression on the Capitol Campus. He also reported on the open space taxation issue and public meetings and that the bill on that issue should pass.
- Jeff Chapman reported on Public Lands and talked about the Stimulus money and if you have a trail or campground project you would like to see funded then write a statement about it and send it in.
- Dick Yarboro reported on Publicity and his function dealing with the Trailhead News and Washington Media. He also said that the BCHW brochures are printed.
- Jeff LaBreck and Jim Thode talked about the Live and Silent Auctions.
- Heather Moorman reported on the memberships and that memberships are on track to be about the same as in previous years.
- Jane Byram talked about the LNT program. They were at the Puyallup and Tri-Cities Sportsman's shows and are participating at the Cabelas Spring affair with stock and the LNT Trailer and will be producing high quality DVDs in the very near future.
- Tryg Culp reported on the BCHA National Meeting at Ft. Worden, April 21-25. He said that they will get training on the new trail classification and will bring back the new information to the chapters.
- Dave Swanberg gave the Ways and Means report and talked about some of the items for sale in the BCHW store. He also said that we have \$33,000 of the needed \$50,000 for the Whistler Canyon project.
- Doc Wessellius reported on the Stock Safety DVDs that they are producing. One is almost done and the other will be done by the June Board meeting.
- Randy Darling reported that he has been working with the Youth Groups and that the future of the organization is bringing in the youth to the organization.
- Darrell Wallace made some announcements about the upcoming events over the weekend at this "Your Trail to the Future", Annual Meeting, Leadership and Fund Raising get together.
- Bob Gish adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm. An informative meeting devoid of controversy.

Jeff LaBreck
Director

“For the Loss of a Shoe!”

One of the most dreaded sounds to find its way to a packer or trail riders ears is the clink of a loose horse or mule’s shoe. It usually starts out as “did I hear something?” As you travel the trail a bit further it turns into “I really heard something, could it be a loose shoe?” “Na!” “It was just a shoe making rock music.” Nope! It then begins to sound off from a clink to a clink/clank and now you are committed to dealing with a loose critter shoe.

If the “I ain’t got far to go,” will not apply as a solution (it is usually a very bad choice), then you have to repair it right then and there. In most cases, it is a worn shoe that was good to go one more trip or one that was damaged on the trail. In either case, it has to be dealt with. Remember; a loose shoe on this one step can become a tool of damage and destruction to a horse or mule’s legs, on their next step. I have never been able to see very well with my ears. One clink/clank looks about the same as the next, and so off I climb and look for the offending ferrous object. For the purpose of this piece, there is no way this loose shoe is going to make it another 100 yards. I have to tie off the gang and get to working on this problem. How loose is it? Can I tighten the existing nails? Do I need to replace some of the nails? Is it beyond repair? Do I need to pull it off and replace, it or let that foot go bare? Oh! Boy’o is this fun yet?

A well set (fitted and tight nailed) horse/mule shoe can take a heck of a lot of abuse. I have seen one shoe with a trailer (back edge of the shoe at the heel) bent 90 degrees and still tight. Shoes normally will loosen from wear or from being overgrown by the hoof wall. Wear will affect the tightness by wearing off the metal on the bottom of the shoe, which includes the nail head. It becomes very difficult to remove in this condition, because the nail heads are almost flush with the bottom of the feller groove in the shoe (the deep groove with the nail hole at the bottom). One over-growth will normally have the same problem with flush worn nails. Additionally, the flexing of the over grown foot tends to roll the clinches of the nails into a curl. (Note: because of this low tight nail head, never cut the clinches free until you are sure you can get a grip on its head. I will pry on the clinch until I get enough material to tap it down and check to make sure it is out of the hole before I cut the clinch.

Now we see what is ahead of us, not considering the site we must work in. How are we going to address this loose shoe? The choice is ours and calling the local farrier in is out of the picture, until we get home. How well and safely we accomplish this flat tire, kind of repair, is directly related to how well you have tooled up for this moment. Preparation is only possible with some level of working knowledge of the subject. As a packer, or a trail rider, you are dealing with your stock as a working animal. This requires that one needs to have a plan to keep this critter at work through minor mishaps. I suggest that all of us need to take on the task of learning as much as we can about the workings and shoeing of our animal’s feet. I have been doing this for years. A suggestion, which has worked for me is, before the farrier shows up to replace shoes on my gang, I will pull a nail or two and replace it (in the same hole), with a fresh nail. This gives me practice without any risk. This is a drill for exactly what I will need to do to deal with a loose shoe on the trail.

Tooling is the next item on the list for success. A driving (shoeing) hammer with a shortened handle, a Gerber tool, a Leatherman tool, and an 8 inch four-in-one file is the extent of my shoeing tools, in

the past. They can get me by, but with a lot of wrestling and cussing. Until now, I found a neat combination tool: The Shoe Fix, manufactured by the Delta Horse Shoe Company, located on the internet at www.deltahorseshoe.com.

Shown below:



Anyone with a tool box has at least one multi-purpose tool that does nothing worth a hoot. This is not such a tool. It is manufactured by a well respected firm, from high quality tool steel. It is designed by a farrier who I have interviewed and has successfully shod over 150 horses with this tool, prior to having it manufactured. It can replace a hammer, hoof pick (that can be used to pry up a stubborn shoe), a nail nipper, a saddle horse clincher, a hammer with claws for nail ringing, and most useful of all it has a crease nail puller. That's a lot of tools in one.

A crease nail puller is golden when it comes to getting a nail out of any shoe, with the least amount of movement to the rest of the shoe. This is exactly what you need as you replace one nail at a time in a loose shoe. (Note: The bird's beak, crease nail puller on the Shoe Fix tool).

I have found that if I replace a nail in a loose shoe with the exact same size nail head, it may not last very long. Follow the bouncing ball.

If a #5 city head nail was the original nail in the shoe and it was worn away to less than $\frac{1}{2}$ its' size, then the shoe has been worn away also. If I were to replace it with the same size nail head, it would stick very proud below the shoe and could possibly be pulled out if snagged (especially if it is a rough, field clinch). I suggest that you use a smaller headed nail that will offer a lower profile and still stand up enough to allow a decent clinch. I believe that a #5 race track nail is just the ticket. This nail will be the same size shank as a #5 city head, but have a smaller/lower head. In most cases, one need



only replace the loose nails in the existing shoe using the old nail holes. On long expedition trips, it would be wise to carry some pre-shaped shoes, if a shoe is lost.

Once the shoe is gone, or if the critter is going to continue bare foot, a small file or wood rasp is handy to round off the edge of the hoof wall (mustang roll). It does not hurt to be inventive at this point. I've seen duct tape on bare feet, pieces of inner-tube cut to make a booty, and commercial horse boots. The sky is the limit, but it is necessary that we must offer some protection to an unconditioned bare foot.

I hope this work has gotten you to wondering what would, or will happen, when you need to deal with a loose shoe.

Delta Horse Shoe Company will not sell direct. I obtained my Shoe Fix tool from the Olympia Farriers Supply www.olyfarrier.com 360-786-6575

Ed Haefliger

www.mtcnaryco.com

Volunteer Packer:

Olympic National Park

Olympic National Forest

Washington State DNR Capitol Forest

Member Capitol Rider Chapter BCHW

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