

CAPITOL
RIDERS



OLYMPIA, WA.

HOOFBEATS

APRIL 2013

The next general meeting is scheduled for April 2nd, 7 pm at the Littlerock firehall on Littlerock Road.

Trail ride April 6th!

The destination is Nisqually-Mashel out of Eatonville. As always we are hoping for great weather. Ride out is 11 am. It's a potluck and chili dogs will be provided. Bring your own chair.

April 13th is the Great Gravel Haul in the Capitol Forest. Meet at 9 am at the Margaret McKenny campground off Waddell Creek Road. Don't worry if you don't have a Discover Pass. A day pass is available for volunteers. Work will consist of hauling and spreading gravel on the new winter equine loop trail and other work.

April 5-7, Lewis County chapter is putting on an LNT Basic Skills class in Randle. There may still be room. Contact Deb or Doc Wesselius at wesselius@wildblue.net or 360-736-6106.

April 20th is Olympic National Park's "Barn Day", 9 am at the Elwha Ranger Station.

Per Nisqually chapter meeting minutes recently, the mountain bike community is poised to take over maintenance of Fall Creek Campground, thus removing about 93 miles of trail from the equestrian community for riding.

This is a prime case of "use it or lose it". Other users have the backing and supporters to get out and do trail maintenance on a regular basis. The horse community pales by comparison. We are letting Capitol Forest go to the bikes.

On both June 29th and September 21st, make it your priority to head to Fall Creek Campground and go riding for the day. Show DNR that the need for horse trails should remain one of their priorities.

Next meeting April 2nd 7 pm
Karen (Coffee), Gretchen (Treats)

BCHW is looking for photos for the calendar. It does not matter when they were taken. Refer to last month's newsletter.

If you don't want to do the Gravel Haul on April 13th, there is a Large Animal Extraction class in Rochester that day. Tom Berryman's Farm at 19012 Old Highway 99, Rochester. 9am to 2 pm. Dress for the weather and be prepared for hands on training with animals. \$25 per student. edelong@spscc.ctc.edu or 360-596-5549

Don't forget the chapter garage sale on May 4th. Hopefully you've been getting all your unwanted goodies together and pricing them too. I personally like reading old westerns!

The 2013 Rendezvous is now history. Jeff LaBreck was presented with the Cinch Award (accepted by Dick Yarboro as Jeff was not there for the first time in ten years.). Congratulations Jeff!

Planning for restoration at Haney Meadows is underway. If you've never been to Haney Meadows you are missing out on seeing a beautiful area with gorgeous views. Granted with the fire it may not be looking so pretty but Mother Nature has a way of fixing things. And you will have the chance to help. So start thinking about making the trip. Your rig will need to be up to the haul up the hill so anything less than a 3/4 ton will make for an "iffy" climb. Remember, you'll be towing a trailer with at least one horse and that can be a lot of weight on a long grade. The hill scares many not used to driving forest roads.

Events - partial for 2013

April

- 2 - General Meeting Littlerock fire hall 7 pm
- 5-7 - Lewis County Chapter Basic Skills Class wesselius@wildblue.net
- 6 - Nisqually-Mashel chapter chili dog ride, potluck with an 11 am ride out
- 13 - Capitol Forest Great Gravel Haul 9 am Margaret McKenny Campground
- 13 - Large Animal Extraction Class, 9-2, Rochester
- 20 - Olympic National Park "Barn Day" 9am Elwha Ranger Station 360-565-3178
- 22 - Earth Day
- 26-28 - Methow Valley chapter Spring Ride

May

- 1 - Capitol Forest opens to Horses
- 4 - Chapter Garage Sale
- 7 - General Meeting Littlerock fire hall 7 pm
- 9-13 - Beaver Creek chapter campout Methow
- 11 - Lewis County chapter fun ride Burnt Ridge 9 am \$10, 360-262-9132 or 360-748-8640
- 18 - Elbe Hills chapter day ride 11 am ride out, camping optional
- 19 - Vetter Dental clinic, Ritz 608-449-0319
- 23-27 - Nile chapter campout Naches
- 26 - Roslyn Riders Poker Ride (Fun Ride)
- 30 - DNR User meeting 6 pm, 801 88th Ave Tumwater

Capitol Riders meeting minutes

Littlerock Firehall

3/5/13

President Laura Kingman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

21 in attendance.

Guests: Tya Litts, Kristina Dilworth, Tamra ?, Judy Johnston, Amber ? and her young child.

Minutes from February meeting approved.

Treasurers report – Traci Koch, treasurer not in attendance.

Newsletter/web site – Chris had nothing to report.

Activities – Vice President Peggy Tucker

Rides – Carrie Russell

One day ride a month

Chili Dog ride April 6th, Elbe Hills, Kennedy Creek, beach ride, Danville trail system (new to Capitol Riders), Nile, Joe Watt (most likely Wenas won't be open), Indian Camp - Teanaway, Western Dream Ride – lower Teanaway (Carrie asked who had been). Laura said it's a fund raiser for Olympic Chapter. Good food, Lots of area for camping, swimming pool, trails. Mount Adams (Chris said the trails may still be closed due to the 2012 fire), Les Hilde and Keenes.

Work Parties - Karen Johnson

Gravel haul April 13th, Motorized work parties. Mima Mounds work parties (confusion as to when)

Lewis County Chapter LNT class – dutch oven cooking, bunkhouse, \$50 fee for weekend. First weekend in April.

Garage sale – May 4th. Get your stuff together. Mark the price on your items beforehand. Joyce's at 6 pm on Friday.

Rendezvous – March 15-17. Barb Apple clinic, tack sale, dinner, auction, dutch oven cookoff, compass and map class, vendors.

Director's Report – Karen Johnson

Gravel haul. Need a liaison between BCHW and DNR. Need bucket loaders (30 pounds per bucket) and others with experience will load the animals. Need unloaders, spreaders. Lunch at the end. Will be working on the winter equine trail.

Cindy McAllister asked about vandalism at the Mima trailhead. Members said they had not experienced any there.

Good of the order

JBLM training area 23 currently closed. At area 22 do NOT park on the prairie (grass). And clean up after yourself and the animals.

Sue Koch asked about trail miles. Peggy Tucker explained the hoof prints program. You log your trail miles (no pasture or arena). It's \$5 when you turn in the form. Chris will send the link again. Make checks out to Peggy.

Gretchen Shea offered to bring treats to the April meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:38 pm.

A question was asked about tables at Rendezvous – Jeff LaBreck said they hold 8 and they are first come first served. Jeff will not be going this year, the first time in ten years he's not attended. He has too many 4 day weekends in the fire this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Enrico
Secretary

BCHW Board of Directors Meeting
3/15/2013
Ellensburg, WA-Kittitas Valley Event Center

Officer and Committee Reports

1. Ways and Means Committee: Dave Swanberg Of the 1500 raffle calendars ordered for 2013, there were about 100 left. The net sale of the calendars for 2013 is about \$14,900 so far. A motion was made to order

the same number for 2014 with the same cash awards. The motion was passed. Changes for 2014: The calendars will be purchased by the chapter and checks made out to the chapter. The chapter will then send ONE check to BCHW. The calendar cards will be collected by the chapter and sent in all together. VIP calendars: Chapters must submit a list of names to BCHW President Bob Gish for calendars that they will be donating to.

2. Rendezvous Committee: Lori Lennox and Jason Ridlon expressed their thanks to Peg Griewe for undertaking Rendezvous registration herself! Directors were urged to be sure to thank her for such a huge responsibility.
3. Education Committee: Doc Wesselius The committee drew up a safety document for BCHW that will be in compliance with the USFS Health and Safety Code Handbook. It includes an Emergency Evacuation Plan which is critical for proper conduct in the event of an injury or life threatening situation involving equestrians.
4. LNT: Jane Byrum commented that there are now 49 certified sawyers and 35 instructors in the state with BCHW. LNT (Leave No Trace) classes still have openings for folks. (Check the Trailhead News or BCHW website for locations/dates) If you haven't been, please attend!
5. Awards Committee: Deb Wesselius Deb read off the names of the chapters that donated funds to purchase the awards. She thanked them all.
6. Public Lands Committee: Jeff Chapman Jeff urged BCHW members to write letters and comments to our legislators (US and state) to support the legislation that BCHW is following. (Dungeness Spit Nat. Wildlife Refuge, Wilderness Stewardship Plan- Olympic NP, and others) Responding in numbers is the best way to be heard and get legislation passed!

Unfinished Business

June BOD Meeting Date changed to June 22.

Wilcox Horse Camp (Haney Meadow) rebuild project- Jason Ridlon The Forest Service needs our help rebuilding the trails destroyed during the Table Mtn. Fire last fall. Chapters may donate funds to the Alpine Lakes chapter to buy supplies needed for rebuilding bridges etc. Chapters may also send volunteers to help with clearing trails, building bridges, and clearing the camp. Work will begin @ second week in August.

New Business

Louise Caywood distributed DVD's that she made from chapter photos about LNT and work parties held during 2012. All chapters received a DVD to show at a meeting.

Good of the Order

1. One chapter will donate \$500 toward the BCHW Legal Defense Fund if two other chapters will match it. This funding may be needed to cover the expense of attorney fees to represent BCHW vs. the US Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the BCHW position (preserving the Right to Ride) on the Dungeness Nat. Wildlife Refuge. The ruling on this issue could affect many other locations in the US that have US Fish and Wildlife Refuges. BCHW feels it is very important not to lose our Rights to Ride in these areas.
2. The Clackamas Chapter donated \$500 to BCHW from an auction they held.
3. Doc Wesselius announced that the WTA (Washington Trail Association) sponsors two persons each year to attend their Trail Crew Leadership College. Volunteers needed.
4. BCHW Wilcox ride at Les Hilde CG can accommodate 200 campers. Chapters can camp together if they make arrangements.

Karen Johnson

Director

Capitol Riders Chapter

Wet weather equine health concerns

Written by Dr David Bartholomeusz, B. Sc, B.V.M.S, M.A.C.V.S

Hoof conditions:

With the wet a lot of people are having trouble with hoof abscesses.

So what can we do to lessen the possibility of this causing a problem for our horses?

Make sure you keep their hooves in optimum health. This can be achieved by having your farrier visit on a regular basis, ideally at least every 6 weeks or sooner if your farrier advises. Keep a record of your farrier's advice & make sure you follow through with what they suggest.

At the moment it is very hard to control the environment unless your horse is stabled. Paddock horses need to have their feet cleaned out daily & a suitable hoof dressing applied (check with your farrier). Stabled horses also require the same care, it is also very important to keep the bedding in their stable clean & dry.

What should I do if I suspect my horse has a hoof abscess?

Hoof abscesses are extremely painful. You need to call your farrier or your vet as soon as possible. Which one is hard to say, often your farrier will be able to locate the problem & help you resolve it. At other times it may be a job for your vet depending on what is going on. You will find that both these professionals may refer the job back to each other or if the condition warrants it, work together to get your horse comfortable again.

Skin Conditions:

These are really exacerbated by humid weather.

There are a multitude of conditions & treatments which would take pages to cover. If you are having problems resolving a skin condition it is more economical to have your vet examine & suggest a treatment plan than go through a number of treatments that are not resolving the condition. Some conditions may need topical (on the skin) as well as oral or injectable treatments.

How can I prevent skin conditions occurring?

If your horse has sensitive skin, keep it rugged. Spray or wipe some form of insect repellent (natural or conventional) on them twice daily. If your horse has had problems before, check it daily & take action as soon as the condition appears to re-occur.

How to Dry a Wet Horse in Cold Weather

By Kimberly DiCostanzo

While winter riding is enjoyable, be mindful of how hot and sweaty your horse becomes.

Whether your horse has rolled in wet, chilly mud or worked up a sweat from training, drying the horse in colder temperatures can be tricky. While winter bathing it is not impossible, you should strive to minimize it. Working quickly to keep your horse comfortable is most important to keep in mind. Avoid the use of heat lamps or other appliances in the barn, as they can be a fire hazard. You can safely bathe or work a horse in winter temperatures as long as he is healthy and not prone to immune problems.

Bathing

If possible, bathe your horse inside and away from drafts. Wash your horse using a sponge and bucket rather

than using a hose, and wash only the areas that you must. Waterless or dry shampoos are a smart alternative and require far less water, which will reduce drying time. Scrape off excess water with a sweat scraper, then place a fleece cooler over your horse. Replace the cooler as necessary until the horse is dry. While your horse is drying, place him in a stall or barn that is free of drafts.

Intense Training

Galloping through snowy paths and trails with your horse can be an exhilarating way to enjoy the winter weather. After a hard workout, briskly rub the wet areas of the horse with a clean towel. Place a fleece cooler over your horse and make sure his stall is free of drafts. If the horse is very wet after work, place a traditional square-shaped cooler over the first fleece cooler. To speed up drying time, place fluffed up hay or straw between the coolers, to allow heat to escape and dissipate without causing a chill to the horse.

Rain Scald or Rain Rot

By Katherine Blocksdorf, About.com Guide

Rain Rot:

When you first encounter rain rot you might be concerned that is a skin condition that can be passed from horse to horse, or perhaps is zoonotic and passed on to you. Don't worry, that's not the case. One horse can not get rain rot from another horse and it isn't like ringworm that can be passed on to people or other pets. Rain rot can vary from small bumps or can break into very open, weepy sores. Some horses seem to be more susceptible than others, and the weather conditions have a bearing on how rampant rain rot is. A cool, dark, rainy fall when horses are putting on their thick winter coats is a the perfect recipe for rain rot. While it's often associated with horses in poor condition. But that's not always the case.

What does Rain Scald or Rain Rot look like?:

An indication that your horse may be getting rain rot is the presence of fine grey dander when you brush its coat. Rain scald appears as scurfy patches on a horse's or pony's back, shoulders and haunches. The hair may be 'staring' or matted in small areas. The hair grows through the patches at first and the scald may not be apparent until you feel the rises on the skin. Pull away the hair and the scurf will lift. The skin beneath will appear raw and oozing. If left untreated infection can set in.

What Causes Rain Rot?:

Rain scald occurs when horses (who are often, but not necessarily in poor condition) are exposed to wet weather and muddy conditions. If the horse's or pony's skin stays damp and dirty for long periods of time it becomes infected by bacterium. Sometimes, within a herd managed in exactly the same manner, some horses will be affected and some not.

The same conditions and bacteria cause grease heel.

How Can I Avoid It?:

Keeping your horse clean and dry will help prevent rain scald. During wet weather make sure that your horse has shelter, or is wearing a rainproof (and breathable) sheet or blanket. Some horses will not use a run-in shed and need to be brought in to dry out completely. If the weather is very cold, a rain sheet may not be

the best choice as it will keep your horse dry, but it prevents piloerection or what we call 'goose bumps' that help the horse stay warm. It would be better to keep your horse stabled or put on a lined winter rug that can help the horse stay warm without its natural defenses. Some people rinse that back area with a vinegar solution to keep the skin acidic. I've not tried this so can't attest to its effectiveness. If the skin is already broken however, vinegar will sting, so use caution and common sense.

How Can I Treat the Problem?:

Gently brush away and clip loose and long hair. (Sterilize your scissors or clippers before and after use.) Wash the affected areas with a mild antiseptic like betadine soap. Apply a topical such as a zinc oxide cream or antiseptic ointment. There are several topical lotions, liquids and creams available at tack shops.

During treatment the horse will have to be kept in dry, clean conditions. It could take several weeks for the skin to heal.

If the skin is infected, does not respond to home treatment within a few days, or is badly cracked, consult your veterinarian. Continue to keep the horse dry and clean to prevent a recurrence.

Any brushes or equipment used on a horse with rain scald should be sterilized before use on another horse. It may be easier to keep a separate set of brushes for each horse being treated to prevent cross-contamination.

You may have to wait to ride or drive your horse as putting a saddle or harness over top of broken skin will be uncomfortable for your horse.

The 2013 ride schedule: (subject to change)

DAY RIDES: "At a moments notice" rides can be scheduled at anytime to ride at Fort Lewis, Scattercreek and/or Capitol Forest

April 6: Nisqually Mashel : Annual Chili Dog Ride

May 18: Elbe Hills/Optional overnight camping

June 8: Kennedy Creek/Shelton

July 27: Pack Forest/Eatonville

August 10: Beach Ride /Grayland

August 17: Danville Georgetown Trail System/Maple Valley

August 31: Green Mountain/Belfair

CAMPOUTS

May 9-13: Beaver Creek/Twisp/ Methow Valley

May 23-27: Nile/Chinook Pass /Memorial Day Ride

June 13-16: Wenas/BBQ Flats/Naches (Alternative: Joe Watt/Thorp)

June 27-30: Indian Camp/Bruce Tropple Horse Camp/Cle Elum

July 11-14: Green River Horse Camp/Randle

July 19-21: Western Dream Ride/ Flying Horseshoe Ranch/Cle Elum

August 1-4: Mt Adams Horse Camp

August 22-25: Les Hilde/ Sedro Wooley

September 5-8: Keenes Horse Camp/Randle

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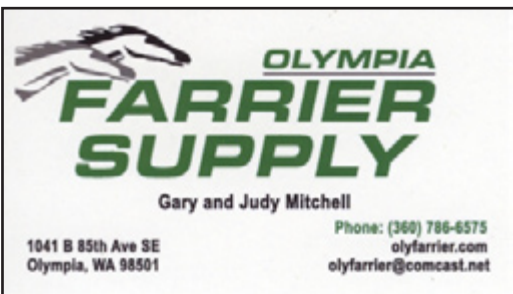
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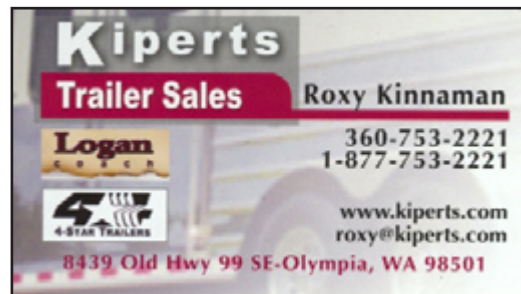
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