

**BCHI Annual State Convention Meeting
Twin Falls, Idaho
November 14, 2009**

State Chairman Phil Ryan opened the meeting at 0830. Phil welcomed the group to Twin Falls. The pledge of allegiance was led by Phil Ryan.

Steve Didier introduced Terry Morrison, BCHA Chairman.

Roll call was completed by the secretary. All chapters were present except North Idaho.

Treasurer's Report: Gretel Kleint gave the treasurer's report. Gretel reported the Audit report of the BCHI account entries were accurate.

Life Flight Report: Kay Ryan reported in 2010 there is a fee increase for Lifeflight memberships.. Individual memberships will be \$35.00 and a family (husband, wife, immediate family) will also be \$35.00. THERE WILL BE A 25 FAMILY MINIMUM, BUT NO BLOCKS OF 100 ARE REQUIRED. If your chapter has less than 25 members, your chapter is covered as the BCHI group. Sections of Eastern Idaho may not be covered by Lifeflight network. BCHI chapters in eastern Idaho should contact LF to check if their region is covered by LF Network. Each of the BCHI chapters has a designated contact person for the Lifeflight Network program. The names of the chapter contacts have been sent to Carol Huteson, Lifeflight Network Coordinator in Boise. Lifeflight Network will be sending each chapter an individual application form with their chapter's name on the application form.

Foundation Report: Karen Parks presented a review of the Foundation meeting on November 13, 2009. One of the BCHI chapters submitted to the Education fund a LNT reimbursement request and the application has been lost. Karen asked for the chapter to contact the Foundation.

Lighthouse Grant: Lighthouse has changed from business owned to employee owned. Lighthouse has \$1400 in the BCHI Foundation account; they have asked the four northern chapters (NIBCH, PRVBCH, PBCH and SVBCH) to use the funds that are available for trail improvements. After these funds have been used, the Lighthouse employees will extend the Lighthouse grant to other chapters in the state. Required documents for reimbursement: pre and post pictures of the trail project, expense form completed (available on the BCHI website).

Karen asked the chapters to consider any local businesses who may be interested in donating to the Foundation.

Radios for Chapters: Bill Conger reported SBBCH sent a request to the Idaho Emergency Communications Commission and received permission to use the VHF channel for the EMS frequency. VHF frequencies can't be used without authorization from the State. This frequency can only be used for contacting EMS. If a chapter wants to request the VHF frequency information from the State, contact Bill Conger and he will send the information to your chapter.

Types of Emergency communication tools:

VHF radio (it needs to be programmable) for EMS Channel, cost range is \$300-\$350.

Personal location beacon \$450

Spot Locator (Beacon system), preprogrammed, yearly subscription

Once your chapter has been approved to use a VHF frequency, your chapter should hold a training session for the members to learn the operations of the radio. BCHI strongly encourages and recommends for each chapter to purchase a radio which enables Lifeflight to locate an injured person in the backcountry. You can also program the radio on the other channels for your chapter communication needs for work parties.

Calendar updates from chapters Phil reported this is our second year selling the BCHI calendar. All of the chapters have committed to selling the 2010 calendars. Phil read a letter he received from one of the \$500 monthly drawing recipients to the Convention delegates. Mark Bogar reported the calendar was the major source of revenue for BCHI. Mark Bogar reported on the calendar's improvements for the selection of prizes for 2010. The delegates at the convention discussed if BCHI should continue selling calendars as our primary BCHI fundraiser. Discussion among the delegates was a positive consensus to continue the calendar sales for 2011. Chapters receive 10% of their calendar sales. Mark read a letter from Senator Mike Crapo about the positive impact of BCHI and thanked BCHI for his BCHI calendar.

Each state director was given the Photo submission form for the 2011 calendar, deadline to submit the photos is May 1, 2010, send to Debbie Samovar. Val Johnson made a motion to adopt the 2011 BCH calendar sales as a state fundraiser. Rob Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the delegates.

Discussion regarding the possibility of adding a shopping cart on the BCHI webpage to sell BCHI hats, signs, posters.

Misty Rhett, DVM from the Roche Equine Veterinary Service of Twin Falls presented a PowerPoint Presentation on Equine Dentition and Dentistry and Melinda Roche, DVM, from the Roche Equine Veterinary Service of Twin Falls presented PowerPoint presentations on Dealing with Colic on the Trail and Tying Up on the Trail.

Trailer Stamp: Wendy Coome, TVBCH and Raenette Didier, NCBCH presented information about the User tag for horse trailers for a livestock recreation fund that would only be allocated for equine activities. The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is divided into six regions. The amendment of the bill would create an Advisory Board, three member from each of the six regions (appointed by IHC) to determine who would be the recipients for the grants for equine projects, examples such as trail projects, building and improving trails and equestrian opportunities on Idaho Public lands. Wendy is asking BCHI chapters to support the proposal. Cost would be \$15.00 per sticker per trailer. Wendy would send updates on the draft of the Bill to the state directors. This bill is supported by the Idaho Parks and Rec Dept and the Idaho Recreational Council. The BCHI BOD supports the concept of the trailer stamp.

Resolutions and Proposals from chapters/discussion

At yesterday's board of directors meeting two proposals from the chapters had been brought forward to be voted on.

Rob Adams presented this proposal to the BCHI delegates, the instructors of the Packing clinic would be BCHI chapter members. This is pilot project, possible repeat the clinic every 2 years in another location in the state of Idaho. Goal: Participation of staff, mentors and attendees would be from members of BCHI chapters throughout the state. Discussion included that SBBCH should organize the logistics of the clinic. The BCHI delegates unanimously supported the proposal.

Proposal

The Squaw Butte Chapter of Backcountry Horseman of Idaho presents the following proposal to the state board of directors.

WHEREAS: One of the prime mandates of Backcountry Horseman is providing educational opportunities for our members.

WHEREAS: Opportunities for attending comprehensive multiday packing skills clinics are limited and can be expensive.

WHEREAS: Backcountry Horseman of Idaho has a number of members with extensive packing experience and a developed curriculum for such a clinic.

BE IT PROPOSED: That Backcountry Horseman of Idaho sponsor and hold a five day Wilderness Packing Clinic open to members of Backcountry Horseman of America. The first Wilderness Packing clinic will be held adjacent to the Sawtooth Wilderness at the Grandjean trail head and campground in August 2011.

Submitted to BCHI, Board of Directors by the Squaw Butte Chapter, BCHI
(Rob Adams & Mary Beth Conger delegates)

Details of the Proposal:

Backcountry Horseman of Idaho Wilderness Packing Clinic BCHI host a five day wilderness packing clinic open to members of Backcountry Horseman of America. Attendees will at the end of the clinic be able to safely and confidently pack and transport a variety of loads from a trail head to a destination. They will be able to travel and camp in the backcountry with minimum impact using LNT techniques, produce hearty meals and maintain healthy stock.

The BCHI mentors will guide the attendees through a curriculum that is both fun and comprehensive. Some of the items covered will be:

- The function and fitting of the pack saddle and its' uses
- How to make up loads that will ride
- How and why to tie different hitches
- How to safely lead a string of mules or horses
- How to deal with hard to handle pack stock
- "Leave no trace" methods of livestock camping
- Basic back country first aid for livestock and humans
- Backcountry meal planning and preparation
- Traditions and history of packing in the in backcountry

Location: This inaugural clinic will be held at the western gateway to the Sawtooth Wilderness at the Grandjean trail head and camp ground. This facility located in Boise National forest next to the head waters of the South Fork of the Payette River provides outstanding stock camping facilities, and is a perfect venue to learn the skills needed to pack into the Sawtooth Wilderness.

Time: The clinic is planned for August of 2011

Costs: There will be a \$250 fee for active members of Backcountry Horseman of America to attend this clinic. There will be a \$75 dollar per person fee required at early registration, and certified weed free hay will be available for purchase.

What will be provided by BCHI: Training material, mentors, a variety of loads to train with and a rich history of packing experience to draw from: Community Meals will be provided. A very limited number of training pack stock will be available.

What Attendees need to provide: Camping gear for both Trailhead and a backcountry overnight? Riding stock, pack stock if they have it and all required tack and stock containment for use at the trail head, and a highline for the over night.

Sponsors: Backcountry Horseman of Idaho, US Forest Service Boise National Forest and SRA

Logistics:

1. Special Permits to hold the event at the Grandjean Trail head from the Boise National Forest
2. Certified Weed free Hay for stock
3. Base camp wall tent to serve as clinic office, eating area, tarp and tables
4. Potable water
5. Preparation of training materials (assist mentors)
6. Clinic kitchen for preparing meals
7. Porta-Potties for the duration of the clinic
8. Food for attendees' and staff at the Trail head Camp
9. Food for attendees' to pack in and cook during their overnight
10. Packing Mentors, support staff
11. LNT mentors, Forest Service presenters, cross cut training
12. Advertising in the State and National news letters, maybe national Magazines
13. Support and Logistics staff
14. on site EMT

Costs:

1. Travel, food and forage expenses for staff and mentors
2. Food and staff
3. Certified Weed free hay will be provided for sale at cost to attendees.
Number of bails attendees need will be indicated at early registration.
4. Backcountry meal kits for the attendees overnight meals.
5. Porta potties

Chapter Support: Squaw Butte will take the lead on providing the logistics for this first five day clinic

Other Chapters: Mentors and other staff positions

Misc: As envisioned this clinic could support 20 Attendees slots. A slot could be a single person or a couple assuming that couples will work as a team. If successful in 2011, it is envisioned this clinic could become an annual or biannual BCHI event and move to other locations around Idaho, with other chapters assuming the logistics role

Marybeth Conger presented the following SBBCH proposal to the BCHI delegates. Discussion among the delegates was: our calendar sales have been from only one year of sales. Delegates voted, proposal did not pass. Steve Didier encouraged BCHI to consider in the future designating a portion of the calendar sales towards a legal fund for trail classification issues.

Proposal

The Squaw Butte Chapter of Backcountry Horseman of Idaho presents the following proposal to the state board of directors.

WHEREAS: One of the purposes of Back Country Horseman is to assist the various government, state, and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.

WHEREAS: Doing trail work to insure that public lands remain open for recreational stock can be expensive.

WHEREAS: Back Country Horseman of Idaho acquired some net monies as a result of the calendar sales in 2009.

BE IT PROPOSED: that Back Country Horseman of Idaho set aside a total of \$3,750 to reimburse chapters for Trail work activities. Each of the 15 chapters could request reimbursement up to 250.00.

By the Squaw Butte Chapter, BCHI
(Rob Adams & Mary Beth Conger State Directors)

Details of the Proposal:

This fund could be transferred to the Foundation who would then handle the reimbursement details or remain with BCHI to handle the reimbursement.

Bike Poster: Phil Ryan state the BCHI Bike poster has been very successful, 120 Idaho Bike shops/Bike clubs were sent a BCHI Bike poster to post in their store as a bike/equine educational poster. *The poster is also available on the BCHA website at: www.backcountryhorse.com/trail_bike_poster.pdf*

Robbin Schindle has received numerous requests for the bike poster and outstanding compliments from several organizations throughout the United States about the BCHI Bike poster. Robbin has had requests from the Intermountain Biking Association and the Bay Area Equestrian Network, www.bayequest.com. The BAEN distributed the poster via their monthly newsletter (22K+ readers.).

Robbin is developing a new poster for hikers: the poster has a bear imposed on it instead of a cougar for the National Hiking Society.

Next Convention:

North Central Idaho BCH will be hosting the 2010 BCHI Convention in November 2010.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Dorothy Bailey