

**BCHI State Convention
November 6, 2010
Elks Lodge, Grangeville, Idaho
Hosted by North Central BCH**

North Central BCH President Linda Cooper welcomed the delegates to the 2010 BCHI State Convention. The Pledge of Allegiance was presented by the NCI Youth. A Moment of Silence was held for our Veterans and departed BCH members. Mark Bogar, State Vice Chairman, opened the meeting at 830am. Mark thanked the North Central BCH chapter for hosting the State Convention. Secretary Dorothy Bailey held roll call. All chapters were present except Cache Peak, Eagle Rock, North Idaho and Sawtooth.

Treasurer's Report: Kay Ryan, BCHI State Treasurer reported on the application sent to BCHA that includes BCHI under the BCHA 501(c) 4 group exemption in accordance with the wishes expressed at the July BOD meeting. According to Peg Griewe, BCHA Executive Secretary, the IRS group exemption information is updated sometime in October so it is not known at this time if BCHI has been covered under the exemption. Completion of the IRS form 990 after the beginning of 2011 will confirm whether BCHI is covered. BCHA also holds a 501(c) 3 exemption but it is not a group exemption. Both 501(c) 3 and 501(c) 4 organizations are tax-exempt and while very similar in many respects, there are important differences. Donations to 501(c) 3 organizations are generally tax-deductible to the individuals making the contribution. This is not the case with the 501(c) 4 organizations. As per the July meeting, the Treasurer was asked to research the process and costs of applying for the 501(c) 3 exemption. The cost of applying for a group exemption is \$3,000 and could include all chapters within the state. It takes a minimum of 18 months for the application to be processed. The IRS has not increased its personnel to process these requests which have exploded in number over the past few years. Applications, which are more than 30 pages in length, are often returned for additional information so the approval process could take even longer. The cost for an individual exemption is \$850. There was discussion among the delegates if BCHI should apply for a 501(c) 3. Beth Wykle made a motion for the state to not pursue the 501(c) 3 status and use the Foundation 501(c) 3. Seconded by Marybeth Conger. Motion carried.

BCHI Chapters Discount at Cabela's: Contact Kay Ryan, BCHI State Treasurer for the account number for a 12% discount that Cabela's has offered to BCHI chapters.

Foundation Report: Jack Lamb presented a review of the annual Foundation meeting on November 5, 2010. Election of officers for 2011-2012: Mitch Christensen, President, Jack Lamb, Vice President, Lorraine Genzmer, Secretary/Treasurer. Jack presented the Treasurer's report in Lorraine's absence. Jack reported the allocation or request of the Ambassador Grant Funds (\$500 limit) from a chapter must be education related. If the education is LNT, it is a requirement to have a LNT master trainer on site for the reimbursement. Jack Lamb and Karen Parks strongly encouraged all of the chapters' Foundation directors to attend the annual Foundation meeting. A BCHI Foundation Director cannot be a BCHI State Director. Jack Lamb reported a business can donate grant money to the Foundation under a chapter's name and that money can go directly to that designated chapter, minus 5% administrative fees that goes to the Foundation. There was a request from the BCHI chapters for the Foundation to consider waiving the 5% admin fees for "In kind" donations. The Foundation Directors will discuss to waive the 5% for "In kind" donations. Discussion of "In kind" donations: The Foundation application forms for donations and the instructions to fill out the forms are posted on the BCHI website. Karen Parks distributed an application to each chapter.

Example: A chapter can submit mileage reimbursement (calculated on the Federal tax schedule) from a BCHI chapter sanctioned work project(s) submitted as a chapter project to the Foundation. The member completes the application, the chapter's Foundation Director verifies,

approves and signs the form, the form is sent to the Foundation by the chapter member. The chapter member will receive a receipt from the Foundation to claim on their tax return for tax deduction purposes. This also includes grocery costs for a sanctioned chapter work project. After discussion among the Officers of the Foundation and the chapter Foundation Directors, Jack Lamb stated the BCHI Foundation will waive the 5% operating costs for the "In kind donations".

Trail Classification Standards Update: Steve Didier reported on the TCS program that is available on the BCHA website: www.backcountryhorse.com.

Back Country Horsemen of America
Trail Classification Assistance Program
TRAINING PROGRAM
To Assist BCH Chapters Monitor Implementation of
the Forest Service Trails Classification System

- PART 1 WHY WE NEED TO BE CONCERNED**
 - PART 2 UNDERSTANDING THE KEY TRAIL FUNDAMENTALS**
 - PART 3 SUGGESTED APPROACHES FOR OBTAINING AND VALIDATING DATA**
 - PART 4 EXAMPLES OF RATIONALE THAT WE MAY RECEIVE IN RESPONSE
 TO OUR INQUIRES**
 - PART 5 THE PLANNING PROCESS**
- TCS Training Reference Package**
Trail Fundamentals and Trail Management Objectives

Steve reviewed the trail classification definitions from 1935-2001. BCHA filed a lawsuit in 2005 against the USFS challenging the revision of TCS public notice and comment. Then a court standard for management intent was established. In 2009, there were 41% of trails that are designed for pack and saddle stock. We have an opportunity to help improve the data. Rod Parks will distribute the list of the trails to each designated chapter. Steve presented an example of the USFS Trails in Idaho from a spreadsheet of the trails, trail name, number, location, and classification and user groups. Robbin will help sort the file by Forest Districts.

Calendars: Karen Parks asked if any chapter would like to volunteer to take any additional 2011 calendars to sell on a consignment basis. There are 230 calendars left to sell. The delegates had a discussion to continue the calendars sales as a state fundraiser for 2012. Jack Lamb made a motion to continue the calendar sales for 2012. Seconded by Robbin Schindele. Motion carried. Debbie Samovar will send the Photo Submission form for the 2012 Calendar to the chapters and provide helpful criteria for the chapter, such as camera settings, etc. Deadline to submit the photos for the 2012 calendar is April 1, 2011.

Dorothy Bailey, BCHI State Secretary presented the following proposal.

Proposed Amendment of the
BY-LAWS OF THE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF IDAHO

(From the BCHA Organizational Handbook for new and established BCHA groups, revised

edition 2009): BCHA has two specific requirements which must be included in the writing of state by-laws. First, Article I must have a sentence naming the organization which includes the words "Backcountry Horsemen of (your state).

Second, the state organization must include as Article II- Purpose, the five guiding purposes of BCHA as they are stated in the Constitution of the national organization that were drafted by the founders. Do not make significant modifications or embellish these purposes. (From the BCHA Organizational Handbook for new and established BCHA groups)

BCHI Current Objectives and Purpose:

Article II

Objectives and Purpose

To perpetuate the common sense, use and enjoyment of horses in America's roadless back country.

To assist the various government and private agencies in their management of said resource.

To educate, encourage and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses and people commensurate with our heritage and the back country resource.

To foster and encourage the formation of new member organizations and BCHI.

Proposed Amendment:

Article II

Objectives and Purpose

To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness,

To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use,

To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource,

To educate, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage,

To foster and encourage the formation of new Backcountry Horsemen organizations.

Submitted by Dorothy M. Bailey, BCHI State Secretary

The delegates approved the BCHI Bylaws Amendment for Article II Objectives and Purpose

Annual BCHI State Convention: Raenette Didier led a discussion regarding changing the annual BCHI State Convention from November to the month of March. The date will be set by the sponsoring chapter to host the State Convention and should be scheduled prior to the BCHA National meeting held each April. Bill Conger made a motion to move the annual BCHI State Convention to the spring. Seconded by Gary Towle. Motion carried. The next State Convention will be in the spring of 2012, hosted by the Panhandle BCH in Coeur d'Alene.

Video Conferencing for BCHI Board Meetings: Ken Nungesser presented information about video conferencing at the University of Idaho satellite extension offices for the July 2011 BOD meeting, date to be determined. The facility fee is \$25.00 per hour. The locations are in Salmon, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls, Caldwell, Moscow, Post Falls, Coeur d'Alene and Sandpoint. The benefits of video conferencing include decreased travel time, travel expenses and motel expenses. The delegates discussed if all of the 15 chapters divided the cost of the video conference facility fees, the cost would be approximately \$67.00 per chapter.

Wilderness Pack Clinic 2011 Update: Bill Conger gave an update on the progress on the Squaw Butte 2011 BCHI Wilderness Pack Clinic, August 14-21, 2011 at the Grandjean Trailhead, Sawtooth Wilderness. Enrollment is limited to 25 participants. Cost is \$600.00. If anyone is interested in participating as an instructor for the clinic, contact Bill Conger, the packing instructors and the support cooking staff will be paid for mileage reimbursement. Raenette made a motion for the Foundation to reimburse the BCHI Packing Clinic Education expenses through the Ambassador Program up to \$1700.00 in grant funds if needed. Seconded by Marybeth Conger. Motion carried.

Chapter Reports

Boise: Gary Towle reported in July the chapter volunteered for a week long cabin maintenance and corral repair in the Chamberlain Basin, Idaho Fish and Game property at the Stonebreaker Cabin. Two members met with the Bruneau State Park Senior Ranger to discuss the future corral rebuilding and new corrals for a project next year. In August at one of the chapter's monthly meetings, Stacy Meiser attended and discussed plans for a Cowboy Campground in Idaho City in 2011. In September on National Trail Clean Up Day at Wilson Creek in Owyhee County, four members participated and recruited two new members for the chapter. In September, the chapter had a trail ride and overnight at Bear Creek near Fairfield. In October, multi chapters had a get together and a ride at Horseshoe Bend including a potluck lunch. In November- plan to ride at Avimor in Ada County.

Heartland: Linda Hemminger reported in July Heartland and Squaw Butte did a work project on the Arling Trail. Later in the summer the trail was used to access the Hurd Creek Fire. In September members rode in the New Meadows Labor Day parade representing HBCH. In October they rode to Council Mountain, the adopted trail starts at Deseret Cabin trailhead. The USFS did some trail rerouting and the signage was completed. The Heartland BCH would like to express their gratitude and thank the Squaw Butte chapter for taking such good care of one of their members and also her horse when she was thrown from her horse.

High Desert: Kathy Kerley reported in July the chapter had a fun ride at Hunter Creek in the Fairfield Ranger District. This was an eventful weekend. As we rode up the trail the beavers had built a lot of dams and the water flooded the trail. While we were watching some of the others trying to find a way through the water, Shelly's horse completely disappeared under her, all we could see were her eyes at the top of her head. She managed to get out from under the horse and got out alright. They were both OK. We had a great time at camp with good food, good people and good stories. It poured down rain all night and when we were ready to leave the next morning, we had to unload horses and had to test their four wheel drives to get out to the main road....but that is what memories are made of. Eight High Desert members had a UN eventful fun ride at Bear Creek in the Fairfield Ranger District. We all went looking for the "old cabin" the first day...didn't find it...thought we had been sent on a snipe hunt. The next day 3 of the folks went to find the lake...also elusive. We did spend a wonderful weekend with good horses, dogs and friends.

High Desert (continued): In September, the last ride of the year was at Soldier Mountain in Fairfield Ranger District. Always open for suggestions, someone suggested we ride to the old mine instead of the regular trail to Smokey Dome. Well, it had been several years since they had done that and the trail was pretty much non-existent but it was pretty, the mine was interesting and remember the fun always starts around the campfire.

North Central: Gary Kalmbach reported in August they had a fun ride in the Gospel Hump area. In September at Moore's Station, on the Black Lake Trail they installed puncheon in the Seven Devils. Chapter members did camp inventories for the Franck Church and Gospel Hump for the Red River Ranger District volunteer project. During the hunting season chapter members assisted with the Trailhead Stewardship at the Orogrande and Red River Ranger Stations.

Members volunteered for the Selway Bitterroot Foundation projects: Moose Creek pasture fence, Meadow Creek Cabin re shingle and corral work, Surprise Creek Puncheon pack support for the smokejumpers and the Fish Lake Cabin pack support.

Panhandle: Karen Kimball reported the chapter participated in weed spraying on the Marie Creek trail on two occasions. Because of so much rain and the 4th of July holiday it was late before they could coordinate with the Forest Service to get it done. They used the tanks on the pack horse for the upper part of the trail. The rest is switch backs and more narrow so they used a back pack sprayer and took a pack horse to carry extra water and herbicide. On the weekend of August 6 & 7 they cleared trails at Red Ives on the St Joe River. We had 19 people and covered five trails. In September they had a club steak ride at Liberty Lake just across the state line into Washington. December 4th will be their Christmas Party.

Priest River: Terry Steiner reported on July 17, the chapter hosted a successful Competitive Trail ride at Peewee Creek with 26 riders. In September the chapter held a trail ride weekend at Boulder Meadows in the Cabinet Mountains with eleven members attending. Several different trails were accessed from the trailhead. In September the chapter had a work party on the Jackson trail in the Salmo/Priest Wilderness so crosscuts had to be used and another work project was done on the Hughes Fork trail. In December the chapter will have the annual Christmas party in Priest River. The chapter has several work projects they will be presenting to the Panhandle National Forest RAC committee for funding: n equestrian friendly trailhead at Chipmunk Rapids; five grates; individual campsites and manure bunks at PeeWee Creek trailhead. PRVBCH is trying to get permission from the state to install corrals and hitching rails at Dickensheet.

Salmon River: Marcella Hendricks reported the chapter did a work project at Loon Creek, hitch racks and rails; feed banks at the Falconberry Ranch cutting up and hauling out culverts, 26 mule loads total! Work project on Burns Gulch hauling materials for YEP crews. The chapter was involved in the 25th anniversary year of selling and taking tickets for the Lemhi County Fair in August. The chapter helped the Jim Evans pre ride on a section of the Nez Perce Trail for the Chief Joseph ride in August. Also worked on the Wagonhammer with the YEP group. In September the SRBCH assisted with the Salmon River Marathon (26.2 miles) manning crossroads and junctions with horses and mules.

Selkirk Valley: Dorothy Bailey reported in July the chapter volunteered for the Bonners Ferry Ranger District USFS four day work project: Keno Mtn/Goat Mtn. the chapter helped pack in 45--five gallon containers of water (weighing 40 pounds each, a total of 1800 pounds) and 120 pounds of camping gear for the Pend Oreille Pedalers into a work site past Keno Mtn. In August the chapter had a trail ride to Fault Lake, membership meeting and potluck, and in mid August for four days at Boulder Meadows members practiced packing skills with loads and hitches and setting up a packing load on a saddle. In August, SVBCH invited Panhandle BCH on a trail ride on the Hemlock Trail, 6 SVBCH members and 6 PBCH members attended. In September the chapter purchased a McMurdo Fast Find 406MHz Personal Emergency Locator. In September the chapter had the membership meeting, potluck and ride at the Wylie Knob Trailhead. The October meeting and ride was at the Bailey's residence.

Squaw Butte: Marybeth Conger reported in July, the chapter had a packing project with the Emmett Ranger District, West Mountain packing out camping equipment and tools for a summer trail crew from a camp about 3/4 of the way up Wilson Peak. Horse Camping Weekend,

Missouri Creek, and Frank Church Wilderness were a BCHI & Idaho Trails Association effort, near Yellow Pine, and the Arling Trail project, Donnelly. In August-Peace Creek Trailhead, Trails Project Boise National Forest- Kennelly Creek Trails Project- East of Donnelly. September-Yellow Jacket TH Trails Project south of Warm Lake, Cascade and Sawtooth Wilderness Trails Project - Grandjean camping weekend. In October-Fun Ride Triangle Peak Lookout near Smiths Ferry and also in October the chapter hosted a Packers' Play Day at the Circle G River Ranch in Emmett, Safe Trail Riding Clinic and Various Games on horseback. Highway Clean-up, Wild Rose Park, Hwy 52 Emmett. November-Fun Ride Diamond Basin, Owyhee Area, December-Holiday-End of Year Party.

Treasure Valley: The chapter worked on the Bear Valley/Elk Creek Project in July They cleared trail about seven miles towards Sulphur Creek and another group of the chapter started at the opposite end and they all met about halfway to complete the trail project. This project was done in collaboration with USFS and the chapter did receive financial reimbursement. In July TVBCH packed in materials for the Pistol Creek Trail and repaired the roof on the 44 Cabin.

Twin Rivers: Bill Correll reported in July: Dough Creek Adopt-A Cabin, Idaho Fish & Game, Craig Mountain, cut trail out from Billy Creek to Dough Creek. Lots of trees down from 2007 Chimney Complex Fire - Sealer on floor & Deck - Fire Break around cabin, outhouse, and hitchrails - Measured to install Formica on tables on future trip. Kid's Kamp was held at the Pony Club Grounds near Deary, ID. 27 youths attended, great facility but cost has tripled in three years so may move to new location. August: Windy Ridge Trail Work Project, Clearwater NF, North Fork Ranger District, Pack-in project, 7 members – Trail #167, multi-use trail between Lolo Motorway and North Fork Clearwater River. BCH members hauled in some supplies with stock and FS Representative hauled in larger items and culvert in motorized wheelbarrow, removed section of corduroy and installed a section of culvert at creek crossing, built rock retaining walls on culvert ends, hauled dirt and rock for fill, then had time for some trail riding after the work was done. September and October: Washington Dept. Fish & Wildlife Grant ALEA (Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account) \$360 grant – Progress to date: fabricated and installed two non-motorized access gates, one at Sourdough Canyon and one at Sheep Gulch. At the North Fork Asotin Creek Trailhead and the Fordyce Trailhead installed a fire ring and hitch rail. Set brace posts for future sections of new fencing to control hill climbing at Fordyce trail and stock from going up Sourdough Canyon. Built 400' of new fencing at Sheep Gulch to restrict motorized access. Dug holes for future highline poles. We still have to build more new fence and remove approx. one mile of old existing fence.

Afternoon Programs:

Weed Program in North Central Idaho: Carl Crabtree, Idaho County Weed Supervisor presented a PowerPoint presentation on How to Develop a Weed Control Program in Your Local Area and Roger Inghram, NCBCB chapter member presented information and gave a demonstration of the equine pack weed spray containers that the North Central Idaho BCH chapter uses in the Idaho County backcountry trails in the months of May, June and July each year for weed control.

Presentation by Daryl Reed, Brand Inspector (How to Legally Transport Friends Stock/Shot Records/Brands)

Mules Across America, The Sagebrush Story, a 60 day trip from Bend, Oregon to Virginia City, Nevada presented by - Jody Foss

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm
Respectfully submitted by
Dorothy Bailey, BCHI State Secretary

