

## President's Corner

This year kick's off on January 7, 2016 at the SBBCH monthly meeting, After 12 years of attending these meetings it will be my first time sitting at the head table. I am excited to have the job and have been thinking about the role of president.

The president runs the monthly meetings and acts as spokesperson for the chapter should the need arise for one. Correspondence goes out over his or her signature. Outside inquiries are often referred to the president and either dealt with or referred to other members for their expertise. And in that I am extremely lucky. I have a wonderful and willing team of people with years, and in some cases decades, of experience supporting the efforts of SBBCH and the mission of BCHA.

Rob Adams does an outstanding job scheduling our rides and events. His work with the NFS, BLM and NGO agencies paves our way. Phil Ryan spends countless hours at public meetings and is our voice in the Idaho legislature and beyond. Other officers and committee members count the money, take the meeting minutes, service our web sites and manage our public events.

Beyond that we have a solid body of members who contribute their time with their boots and hooves on the ground. People who make their contribution with shovels and saws in their hands, butts in the saddle and tires on the road.

So how does the president, how can I, contribute something meaningful to this well-oiled machine? There are two areas I would like to focus my, and the chapter's, efforts on this year; raising awareness of SBBCH/BCHI and increasing our membership. They are efforts that go hand-in-hand. The more people know about us the more members we will attract and the more members we have the more people will learn about us.

These are perennial issues that have been, and still are, topics discussed at all BCHA meetings; from local chapters like ours to the national organization. We need members not just to get our trail work done, but also to give credence to our voices and concerns in state capitals and Washington, D.C. Nobody has yet found a "magic" solution and I doubt I, we, will either but we can try. Again.

So lets all start the year off by each of us talking about BCH to one neighbor, one merchant, one vet, or anyone we meet on horseback. Tell 'em who we are, what we do and invite them to a meeting or send them to our web site.

*"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."*

See you on the trail,

Robbin Schindele

President, Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen.