

FOUNDATION

QUARTERLY

SmileAmazon donations are coming into the Foundation: An electronic deposit to the Foundation was made on May 11th for \$37.41. This amount represents the total donations made to the Foundation through AmazonSmile since the March 11th BCHI Convention from Amazon purchases. And, eventually, it is money that will be used to reimburse a chapter for project expenses.

How did the Foundation get these donations? A person googled AmazonSmile and, following easy directions, selected (or typed in) Back Country Horsemen of Idaho Foundation as their choice of donation recipient. This means that each time they purchase an eligible item through Amazon, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the eligible charitable organization of your choice. So, at least a few persons have done this.

A little perspective: since the convention, one member's donations to the Foundation totaled \$7.82, which is a part of that \$37.41, or approximately 1/5 of the total donations. It is understandable that some members of the Back Country Horsemen are using SmileAmazon to donate to other organizations of their choice, and that is a wonderful thing. But, for those who haven't yet taken the time to sign up on AmazonSmile and donate to Back Country Horsemen of Idaho Foundation Inc, and would like to, please do so. It works.

By googling AmazonSmile you will find a website to sign up for charitable donations. It is easy to sign up and donate because they run you through just a few steps. 100% of the donation amount generated from your eligible purchases on AmazonSmile (.05% of the purchase price) will be donated. **The donation amounts generated by your purchases are combined with the donation amounts from all other customers that selected the same organization, and each quarter the AmazonSmile Foundation makes donations to registered charitable organizations by electronic**

funds transfer. The customer is not charged anything extra for a donation: The donation comes right out of the stated purchase price. So, donate, please.

In May of this year, the Treasure Valley Back Country Horsemen (TVBCH) asked Alice Millington, as an officer of the BCHI Foundation, to have the Foundation apply for a National Forest System Trail Stewardship Grant from the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA). On June 2, a grant request was submitted to NWSA to clear the Pistol Creek Trail, a trail in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. On June 18, the Foundation was awarded the grant amount of \$3,945.00 which will be used to fund the July trail-clearing work by the TVBCH. The Foundation will be the conduit to receive and disburse the grant funds.

A little more about the NWSA: The alliance "is building a nationwide network of volunteer organizations that provide stewardship for American's enduring resource of wilderness." It is the NWSA's vision "to see each wilderness area...adopted by a wilderness stewardship organization dedicated to protecting, restoring and nurturing the area's wilderness." In the words of the NWSA National Forest System Trail Stewardship Grant Project Manager, Randy Welsh, "These National Forest System Trail Stewardship Grants will accomplish much needed work to improve the ... trail systems while engaging local volunteers to get out and enjoy the National Forests."

Our thanks to TVBCH members Keith Lambrecht, who researched and found the grant opportunity, and to John Millington for completing the grant. In addition, thanks goes to Middle Fork District Ranger Dennis Kuhnel for his support of this project.

Submitted by Alice Millington, BCHI Foundation Sec/Treas