

## **Proposal to create income and new memberships to grow the BCHI organization**

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Submitted by: Boise Chapter of BCHI

Project name: BCHI RENDEZVOUS

**Summary:** With the age of BCHI members, it is imperative that “New Blood” be brought into the organization. In order to accomplish this, BCHI needs to create an event that will draw new members into the BCHI organization and at same time creating revenue for BCHI and its chapters. The Boise Chapter of BCHI is proposing that BCHI organize a bi-annual event referred to as a “RENDEZVOUS”

**Introduction:** This proposal is twofold, first it is a membership drive and second, it is a way to bring in needed revenue. This will be accomplished by attracting nonmembers and existing members to a centrally located event promising educational clinics, recreation for the equestrian owner, and select certifications for those who want to ride and camp in a nice forested area away from civilization. We feel that this is a way to achieve this.

This is a great way to connect with like-minded individuals who are passionate about preserving equestrian access to public lands, while also contributing to important conservation efforts.

**Objective:** First, we need to attract new members. This will be done by exposing nonmembers to the enjoyment and purposes of the BCHI community. This Rendezvous will expose the Equine community to Camping in the woods, Trail Riding, Projects to improve trail heads, Training in subjects of interest such as packing, and trail clearing and bucking. Additionally, we can provide fun events with prizes which also sharpen wilderness skills.

Secondly, we need to bring in some revenue to assist in the BCHI’s annual budget. This can be done by requiring a participation fee for overall attendance and an additional fee for some individual events.

**Methodology:** This will be accomplished by the selection of a centrally located site offering the opportunity to conduct multiple events.

Offering trail rides, special events, entertainment, and food will assist in generating new memberships. The revenue will be created by having a general participation fee, with some special events having an additional fee. Some benefits need to be given in return. It is suggested that we offer:

BCHI Membership for non-Members: This would include membership for the remaining of this year and the next full calendar year. Providing them with Newsletters, insurance coverage necessary to ride with chapter rides, and voting privileges, etc.

*Note: Different Chapters have membership rates that can differ, the committee will have to set a standard fee to be distributed to the national, state, and chapters for each new applicant. Each applicant will pick the chapter of his or her choice. Remember, this event is a membership drive, money is secondary. Out of state participants don't have to select a chapter and the entire fee will go to the state organization.*

### **Other possible activities**

- a. Daily Rides
- b. Guided Fishing trip
- c. Music with dancing
- d. Work projects
  - i. Work with USFS
  - ii. building/installing hitching posts, build a fence, improve trail, Repair old barn, put in a well, etc. (Local materials need to be on hand)
- e. Cook offs (Breads, Deserts, Chili, etc.),
- f. Presentations
  - i. A presentation on "BCHI and its Goals" for the membership drive?
- g. Demos and Education Clinics
  - i. Visiting demo such as a Medivac retrieval
  - ii. Sawyer expo, offer a Sawyer Chainsaw & Crosscut Certification class of some sort (need a nearby burnt forest to use as a training ground).
  - iii. Packing, 3 days of training, followed by an overnight pack trip
  - iv. Trainer demo of some sort
- h. Fund Raiser ride for charity
- i. Competitions/contests with prizes
  - i. Photo contest of "Pictures of a Rendezvous". To be placed in our calendar for specific month(s) with cash prize for best pic. (Or a flyer inserted in calendar advertising for next Rendezvous with pictures)
- j. Float down a stream (renting tubes and/or canoes)
- k. Mountain man/ Indian village offering trade goods
- l. Put on an endurance ride or some similar event with another organization.
- m. GPS Course

*Note: some events may require a special fee which could be split between the presenting chapter and BCHI as determined by the committee.*

**Expected Timeline:** Once the committee is formed at the 2024 convention, work will start immediately as site selection and examination needs to occur early enough to have preliminary work accomplished prior to the event. Probably a late September or early August date for the event will give enough time to be prepared. However, this will be left up to the committee.

**Scope of Work:** This proposal is for BCHI to create a committee that will be tasked to do some of the following:

- 1) Determine the audience for the event, BCHI members only, State residents only, Advertise nationwide.
- 2) Select a site(s) for the Rendezvous
- 3) Define how many rigs can the site(s) handle
- 4) Create a list of tasks needed to be performed before and during event
  - a. Do we need to do any prep work on site prior to event?
    - i. Put up signs to reserve sites x days prior to event
    - ii. Mark camping sites
    - iii. Establish head quarters
    - iv. Mark trails
    - v. Get drinking water delivered
    - vi. Arrange for feed
    - vii. Establish area for horses
    - viii. Stockpile poles for fencing project
    - ix. Design an advertisement poster, maps of area
    - x. Print or make signs, permanent and or temporary
  - b. Do we need any special equipment for support?
    - i. Delivering hay
    - ii. Water tank of drinking water (maybe a national guard water trailer)
    - iii. Ice
    - iv. Out houses
    - v. Tables, tents
    - vi. Fire wood
    - vii. Tools, (post hole digger, drills, etc.)
- 5) Create a list of events to be offered during the Rendezvous
- 6) Establish rules for participation in Rendezvous and its events
  - a. Number of participants
  - b. Rules for events
  - c. Prize distribution
- 7) Site selection
  - a. Offer a selection of trails in length and difficulty.
  - b. Is it Flat enough for the camping rigs?
  - c. Is there water for the stock?
  - d. If a fire occurs in area, do we have multiple exits?
  - e. Are there outside activities?
- 8) Define the revenue structure such as registration fees and event fees. To include distribution back to chapters and the BCHI state organization

- 9) Enlist chapters and/or individuals to perform needed tasks
- 10) Establish a budget to accomplish the above
- 11) Identify and arrange for any external support required, fire, medical, Farrier?
- 12) Develop a registration procedure
- 13) Make sure we are covered by insurance for event.
  - a. BCHI insurance
  - b. Work projects for USFS (must follow safety USFS rules)
  - c. [CHAPTER 18 EQUINE ACTIVITIES IMMUNITY ACT](#)
  - d. [Another insurance option if ours does not cover us](#)
  - e. List of rules and or suggestions
    - i. No Dogs on trails! OK in camp?
    - ii. No drinking on trails!
    - iii. Groups on a trail, no larger than 6 in group?
    - iv. No individual fires except for cooking?
    - v. Firepit construction?
    - vi. No four-wheelers? Except for support
    - vii. No shooting?
    - viii. Limit bikes to roads?
- 14) Determine the dates and length of the Rendezvous
- 15) Oversee the operation of the event
- 16) Create a registration process
  - a. Online?
  - b. What questions do we ask?
- 17) Work with USFS to get any needed permits

**Budget:** At this time, a budget is not possible. It will be the committee's responsibility to record all the costs associated with the proposal, including materials, labor, equipment, and any other expenses. A motion to give seed money to the committee can be made at the Board of Directors meeting and then approved by the general membership at the convention. This seed money can be used for such things as permits, advertising, deposits for Port-a-potties, and other items requiring deposits or advance payments. Seed money and the revenue generated by the Rendezvous will not be used to reimburse the committee for travel expenses in the planning or execution of the event. This will be the option of each chapter to reimburse any expenses incurred by its own members.

**Benefits and Justification:** This is a major undertaking for the BCHI organization. However, with time, this could become a very good way to grow our organization and help support our objectives. As well as make some money for the BCHI annual budget

and its chapters. At a future time, depending on our by-laws, this event could be substituted for our convention if held bi-annually.

**Risk Assessment:** Although this could grow into a large event, initially it would probably draw a smaller crowd and only generate little growth and revenue. We may have to deal with weather, fire restrictions and other regulations that may affect the event in an adverse way. Initially it could start small and grow with time. Each chapter would eventually have to participate as the event grows. If multiple sites can be found for the event, multiple chapters would have the opportunity to host the event. We need to put on a good event so “word of mouth” is good for the next events growth.

Additional information and ideas can be found at [https://tcmorgans.com/?page\\_id=2483](https://tcmorgans.com/?page_id=2483) (this is just a test site, so ignore other areas)

**PROPOSAL:** The Boise Chapter proposes that the BCHI organization host a bi-annual Rendezvous (also called “event”). The BCHI organization would form a committee, give it some seed money to pay for the materials needed in the events preparation. The committee would try to follow, but not be required to follow, the guidelines and suggestions in this document above. The committee would have the final say in all decisions made for the purpose of putting on the event. This is to include but not be limited to location, dates, fees, events or activities, travel reimbursements, and the distribution of revenue back to the BCHI organization and its chapters. The committee will have a chairman, a treasure, and a secretary. The chairman will have the responsibility to report all votes and budget expenditures to BCHI monthly.

The Following Boise chapter officers approve this proposal for submission with the approval from members at the 11/14/2023 chapter meeting:

Schott H. Nichols, President

Ann Potcher, Secretary