



OKANOGAN VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2009

The President's Corner

Peg gets angry with me because I seem to start each newsletter with a weather report. She says people can look out the window and see the weather, but I can't resist. So, as I write this, winter is still with us but it cannot seem to decide if it should blanket us with fog, snow on us or get colder. No matter what, I think right about now everybody is ready for some spring weather.

There is going to be a slight changing of the guard from what was printed in the Yearbook. Linda Parker will be retiring as Treasurer and she will be replaced by Cathy Kvistad. Thank you Linda for your hard work over the years as the newsletter editor and as treasurer. Cathy will be a welcome new face on the board and I look forward to having her participate and bring some fresh thoughts to our board meetings. Gail Sunde will remain as the Social Director for 2009 so you should respond to her for any social events that require an RSVP. You might want to make note of the change in your 2009 Yearbook.

February is the real start of our 2009 and we will kick it off with our Sweetheart Potluck and Dessert Auction Feb. 18th. This is always a crowd pleaser and with a few new members, I think we might have some new desserts to auction off. With out a doubt, there will be plenty of calories to go around. February 21st is the packing clinic at the CCC in Tonasket. See Tom's article further in the newsletter for the details.

If you have not renewed your dues, this will be the last newsletter and Trailhead News you will receive until you do renew your dues. But in regards to the last Trailhead News you did receive, be sure to read the Whistler Canyon Trailhead article written by Trygve Culp. This project is very important to BCHW and to Okanogan Valley Chapter as it will provide a new, easy access trailhead to the National Forest. If you or anybody that you know would like to donate funds to this worthy project, let me know and I will mail a donation letter.

The Baxter Black performance is getting closer. If you are planning to attend, don't wait too long to purchase your tickets. Just as we did in 2005, we are expecting a "sell-out." Since Baxter will not come again in 2010, we have scheduled "Wylie and the Wild West" for a concert and cowboy poetry performance on March 27th, 2010. I had never heard of Wylie, but Peg has and so have many others. All claim he is an excellent performer.

That's all folks. I'll see you on the trail, but not until it gets a little warmer.
Dave

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No Host Dinner

February 13 @ 6:00PM ~ Shannon's in Tonasket

RSVP Gail Sunde

THANK YOU!

A special Thank You to
Sandra Walters ~ Past Secretary
Linda Parker~ Past Treasurer

2009 YEARBOOKS

The 2009 Yearbooks are here and have been distributed to every 2009 current member. If you did not receive your Yearbook it could be because you are not current with your 2009 dues. If you have a question, please contact Peggy Swanberg at davepeg@gdimail.net or 486-1107. *And just as a side note, this will probably be the last newsletter you receive unless you renew your membership!*

See you on the trail!

Peg

DONATIONS

Our Chapter has just received a nice donation from Omak hay growers, Don and Wendy Mahlendorf. Earlier in 2008, they offered to donate \$.50 per bale for every bale purchased by an OVBCB member and their generous check arrived January 2nd.

Their donation is very much appreciated and will be put to good use for fuel, materials and meals for volunteers working in support of our mission statement.

If you know the Mahlendorfs or purchase hay from them, please let them know how much we appreciate their donation. They are a good source of quality hay as well as certified weed seed free forage now a necessity for use in the National Forest. If you have not purchased hay from them, you might consider it in the future. It's always nice to support those that help to support us.

February Board Meeting: At the Swanberg home on 16th at 1:00pm

Sweetheart Potluck & Auction in place of General Meeting February 18th!

February 2009

Monthly Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesdays at the Tonasket Senior Center

Social Hour 6:30

Meeting @ 7:00

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Strategic Planning Mtg. 1:00PM Swanberg Res.	7
8	9	10	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 No Host Dinner 6:00PM @ Shannon's	14 Valentines Day 
15	16 Board Mtg. @ Swanberg's 1:00p.m.	17	18  Sweet Heart Potluck and Auction Tonasket Sr. Ctr	19	20	21 Pack Clinic @ Tonasket CCC 9:00AM
22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25	26	27	28

2009 Officers

President: Dave Swanberg **Vice President:** Gail Sunde **Director:** Tryg Culp **Alt Director:** Frank Osborne

Secretary: Dawn Crowell **Treasurer:** Cathy Kvistad **Legislative Chair:** Dave Sunde

Education Chair: Janet Logan **Trail Boss:** Tom Windsor **Asst Trail Boss:** Bob Crowell

Volunteer Hours: Peggy Swanberg **Newsletter Editor:** Susan Beck **Historian:** Sandra Walters

TRAIL BOSS REPORT FEBRUARY 2009

The Trail Boss Report will be a little short this month as there isn't much happening in the trails department in January and February.

The main event coming up on February 21 is the annual packing clinic to be held at the Tonasket Community Cultural Center from 0900-1500. We will have three instructors, Trygve Culp, Bob Crowell and Tom Windsor who are all experienced packers with both the Sawbuck and Decker packing systems. Bob Crowell will also present some instruction on use of the Lumber Bunks and how to pack boards and poles on them.

We will be using fabricated pack horses made from 2X4's and plastic barrels. If you would like to bring your own pack saddle(s) and pads to get a little "hands on" with your own equipment, please do so. We'll look at your equipment and give you some tips on how to get the best use of it and how to best make it compatible with your pack horse.

We will have some hands on training using panniers (pack boxes), manties and top packs. Ropes, knots and hitches will be demonstrated and you can get some practice preparing many loads, pannier (box) loads, top packs and actually loading the "pack horses".

Some of the topics we will cover include:

- Pack saddle parts
- Pack pad placement and cinching the pack saddle in place
- Characteristics of a good pack horse
- Types of pack saddles
- Basket hitch, Barrel Hitch, Crowsfoot Hitch, Christensen Hitch, Decker Diamond
- Use of many tarps
- Use of weigh scales
- Preparation of many loads and box loads
- Top pack use
- Lumber Bunk use
- Lash cinch and rope
- Other as time permits

Don't forget the chainsaw certification on Saturday, 7 March at the Tonasket Ranger District Headquarters.

Tom Windsor, Trail Boss
509-826-4595



Director's Year End Report

Trygve Culp

I hope that each of you had a joyous Christmas and that your blessings carry into the New Year

For the Chapter and BCHW it has been quite a year. I believe the Chapter set new records for volunteer hours in every category. We conducted a very well run horse auction last spring and sold nearly 100 animals although receipts were down from past years – maybe it was a harbinger of the global financial crisis that ensued during the late summer and fall – who knows. We did several BIG trail projects, the Antoine and Cabin turnpikes, the Johnny Bell turnpikes and construction of the loading chute at Bannon Mountain trailhead, to name just three. I don't know how many miles of trail we got logged out, but I'm sure that it was a bunch. In addition I think we had 8 or 10 no-host dinners, a Chapter campout, a wonderful ice cream social, several good trail rides and a whole host of other events to numerous for me to recall. Additionally, it was heartening to hear and read about all of the ladies rides over the course of the year. The biggest deal – at least in my mind – though, was our formal partnering with the Okanogan – Wenatchee National Forest to raise \$50,000.00 to assist the Forest Service to purchase the Whistler Canyon Trailhead property from Okanogan County. I'd bet money, chalk or marbles that this is the largest single project in terms of dollars ever undertaken by any Chapter in BCHW.

was BCHW had quite a year, also. In January, the organization was awarded provisional 501c3 status by the IRS and the Board of Directors adopted new By-Laws reflecting that change. Those actions precipitated some heated discussions around the state and made for an interesting General Meeting at the Jubilee in March. Some ongoing glitches – primarily due to IRS financial reporting requirements - remain with the transition, but I believe the biggest bumps are behind us. The Jubilee and fund raising event in Ellensburg was the best state event I have attended in many years – thanks in particular to our very own Dave Swanberg who chaired the event. On another front, BCHW was instrumental in getting the state-wide weed seed free forage program off the ground to get Washington into compliance with US Forest Service requirements for use of that type forage on lands they administer. On yet another hot button issue, BCHW successfully negotiated with the LNT parent organization to allow us to formally incorporate the use of saddle and pack stock in our “in house” LNT program. The 62,000 or so volunteer hours we contributed in 2008 to keeping trails open around the state is unmatched by any other user group organization. If you think about how those hours are “leveraged” by the land management agencies that benefit from our efforts we donated well over \$1.5 million worth of labor, stock use, equipment use, and mileage; additionally, a whole host of other, less tangible benefits for public use and enjoyment of the back country resulted from our efforts. BCHW actively participated in the rules revision process for the Washington Department of Natural Resources. As a result of our efforts: the non-permitted party size was increased from 5 people to 30 so that various Chapter activities could occur on WDNR administered lands without filing to obtain a formal permit; overnight parking at certain (equestrian) trailheads is allowed; and, volunteers can perform minor maintenance such as log out on WDNR trails without first obtaining a permit. BCHW active in the legislative arena, too. Our efforts were the driving force behind passage of the state joint resolution to the President and Congress to allow the unfettered use of saddle and pack stock on public lands – sort of our contribution to “Right to Ride”.

(continued page 6)

VOLUNTEER HOURS

This year we will be trying to track volunteer hours at the Chapter level a little more closely and we will be assigning our own dollar values to our work. You will be getting a better explanation of what will be required as an insert in your 2009 Yearbook. It looks complicated but it just requires that you report your hours and mileage accurately and timely to me. If you have a question, just send me the information and I'll figure it out.

I will also be trying to compile a report by individual members in order to streamline what we go through at the end of the year when we figure out badges and such. It might be overwhelming when we get into the months when volunteering is at a peak, but if everybody reports their hours timely, it will be much easier to keep up.

If you would like to check your personal accumulation, I will send it to you via e-mail. If you cannot open the file, I would be happy to send you accumulative totals electronically. No paper copies though, the report just gets to be too large and cumbersome.

And for your general information, the dollar value of our volunteer hours submitted for December of 2008 was \$1534.00. Way to go!

Peg



Directors report continued

Those of us brave (or foolish) enough to venture out on December 13th for the Chapter Christmas party had an opportunity to review the proposed activity calendar for 2009. It looks like we have another busy, fun filled year ahead of us. I look forward to seeing and visiting with all of you out on the trails. Again, best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year. Happy trails!

Tryg



OVBCH BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Swanber at 7:00 p.m. With 23 members present and 2 guests, Paul and Michelle Ferguson.

Minutes of the November business meeting approved

Treasures report given, we are solvent.

REPORTS

- Director's—Tryg gave a summary report of the Director's Meeting.

Hanford Reach National Monument legal litigation fund was voted on and approved . Tryg pledged \$100.00 from OVBCH for legal funds

LNT (Leave No Trace) is once again the official program of BCHW.

Leadership Training to h held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting

Legislative Day will be March 2, 2009. The more “Big Hats” for support the better!

Motion was made by Dave Sunde to Maintain \$4100.00 in OVBCH Legal Fund to cover our pledge, seconded by Gail Sunde. Motion approved.

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Tom Windsor reported that “Y2Y” (Yukon to Yellowstone) is back again and requests that we all contact our senators and representatives to convey our opposition so it does not make it out of committee.

We should be able to get out o the trails earlier this year as the snow pack is decreasing.

Peggy Swanberg explained categories for Volunteer Hours Sheet. Members please take responsibility for reporting your hours in a timely fashion. If you have any questions, please give Peggy a call.

Janet Culp reported everything is on schedule for Baxter Black, as of this meeting.

Dave Swanberg reported we currently have \$27,047.00 in donations for the Whistler Canyon Trailhead purchase.

### OLD BUSINESS

Our chapter has received \$4,737.00 from Okanogan Trails Coalition for the Antoine Trail turnpikes that we installed. Anyone wanting reimbursement, contact Dave Swanberg.

There will be a Strategic Planning meeting February 6, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the Swanberg residence, all members are welcome to attend. Contact Tom Windsor for questions.

(Continued on page 8)

## OVCBCH BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES Continued

### NEW BUSINESS

We received a \$123.50 donation from Don and Wendy Mahlendorf, as some of our members purchased their certified weed seed free hay from them. Remember, we all need to feed certified weed seed free hay in the National Forest –*it's the law!*

Discussed having “Wylie and The Wild West” as our 2010 fundraiser. A motion was made by Tryg Culp to reserve “Wylie and the Wild West” for 2010, second by Myrna Hughes.

Don't forget no host dinner at Shannon's in Tonasket on Friday, February 13th. Please RSVP Gail Sunde for reservations.

The Packing Clinic is scheduled for Saturday February 21, at 9:00AM in Tonasket at the CCC (Community Cultural Center. Contact Tom with questions.

Potluck and Dessert Sweetheart Auction is February 19th at the Senior Center. YUM!

Peggy Swanberg has donated a stained glass hanging for a raggle fundraiser. Tickets are \$1.00 each and now on sale. The drawing will be held at the Baxter Black performance.

**COWBOY COFFEE HINT:** Put your preferred amount of grounds in a coffee filter and sew it closed. Add as many packets to the coffee pot as you think are necessary and boil away. You can make several of these packets up in advance and either "chain stitch" the packets together or just put them back in the container that stores your coffee. Peg

## Welcome to New Members

Andrea Haberman

Mike and Lauri Robinson



### LAST NOTICE

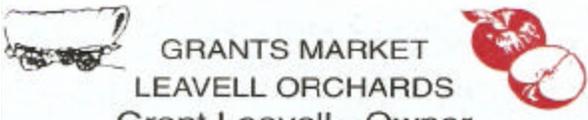
**If you have not renewed your membership,**

**This is the last issue of the newsletter you will receive.**

**(We hope to see you down the trail again!)**

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### 6 MONTHS:

1/4 pg = \$8.00 pr month =44.00

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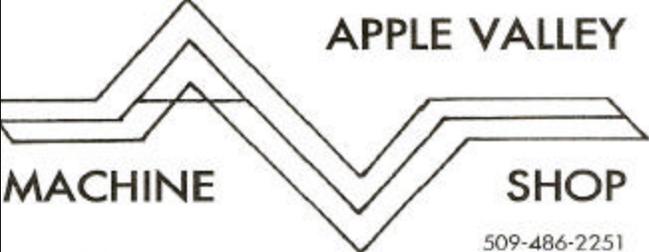

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## **BCHW**

### **Your “TRAIL TO THE FUTURE”**

The Combined General Membership Meeting, Leadership Training 1 and 2, Auction, Dinner and Dance at Kittitas Valley Event Center ( fairgrounds ) in Ellensburg will be held **Friday, MARCH 19 TO SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2009**

**This will be BCHW’s first combined LEADERSHIP, ANNUAL General Membership MEETING , and Celebration.**

The 3 day event begins Friday with the BCHW Board of Directors meeting, preceded by a Potluck dinner in Teanaway Hall.

Leadership Training Part 1 and 2 will be held Saturday morning and Sunday morning. The General Membership Meeting will convene after the Awards Ceremony on Saturday followed by the annual auction ,dinner and dance.

Plan to attend now and participate in the weekend activities. Visit with old friends, make new friends and enjoy the fun and camaraderie, support BCHW, get up- to- date information at the General Membership Meeting. Reservations for accommodations, and reservations for the Dinner & Dance are recommended. For your convenience, we are offering a discount for “Early Bird” reservations.

Republic, WA. 99166 Marked for: 2009Annual Meeting Reservation

E-Mail: [kozykabin@rcabletv.com](mailto:kozykabin@rcabletv.com)

Phone: 509-770-3218

## REGISTRATION FORM

### Dinner & Dance

The dance band is called STANDING ROOM ONLY (SRO) last year they rocked.

“Early Bird” Prime Rib and Chicken Combo Dinners-#\_\_\_\_\_x \$25\_\_\_\_\_

Early Bird Reservations includes five Bucket Raffle Tickets

Prime Rib and Chicken Combo- “No Reserve” #\_\_\_\_\_x \$28\_\_\_\_\_

There are twelve(12) round tables that will circle the dance floor that can be reserved for a group of 8 people- # of tables\_\_\_\_\_x \$5\_\_\_\_\_ on a first come, first paid basis.

### CAMPING

Camping is available at the KVEC Campground at the following rates:

“Early Bird” RV Camping, Full Service # of days\_\_\_\_\_x \$ 15\_\_\_\_\_

“Early Bird” RV Camping, Dry / Tent # of days \_\_\_\_\_x \$ 11\_\_\_\_\_

RV Camping -Full Service-“No Reserve” # of days\_\_\_\_\_x \$ 20\_\_\_\_\_

RV Camping- Dry / Tent- “ No Reserve” # of days\_\_\_\_\_x \$ 15\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL COST \$\_\_\_\_\_

Return this form and remittance not later than Feb. 21, 2009 for “Early Bird” Reservations to: Gail Downs

2009 Annual Meeting Reservation

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Republic, WA. 99166

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