



**OKANOGAN COUNTY
BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
OF
WASHINGTON
NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2010 ISSUE**

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CHAIR

By the time you read this article we will have already accomplished our first trail clearing project and trail ride of 2010 on the Sinlahekin trail system. The trails are located in the lowest elevation in the valley and the general area so they offer us the first opportunity to begin our work/ride schedule. For those who have not had the opportunity to ride on these trails, it is an ideal place to start getting yourself and your horse/mule in shape after a winter of less activity.

In April we are scheduled to clear the trails and also ride on the Bannan Mtn. trail system. It is at a slightly higher elevation than Sinlahekin, but still accessible earlier in the year than some of our other committed areas. If you are able to participate in the trail clearing, a KFC bucket of chicken will be provided from a donation by Renee Sweetman. A side dish or dessert would be a nice donation if you care to participate. Also, you should let Bob Crowell know if you do plan on attending so we can be sure to have enough chicken for all. A more detailed article for this project will follow in the upcoming events and/or Trail Boss Report. Later in April we will be clearing the Whistler Canyon trail, so again read further in the newsletter for more details.

March 18-21 saw quite a large contingent of OVC members traveling to Ellensburg for the BCHW annual meeting, rendezvous, gathering, dinner, dance, auction, leadership training and other educational classes. We had 20 members attend and I believe we had more members attend than any other Chapter. To my knowledge, everyone had a good time. I would like to thank all of you who made the time to attend the event and for showing your support for BCHW as well as our Chapter. The auctions at the annual meeting made fund raising for BCHW a fun event as there were some really nice items to be either won or purchased. BCHW was able to add a significant amount to their annual budget.

In the Directors meeting in Ellensburg, OVC volunteered to chair the next annual meeting as long as other chapters or personnel would volunteer to fill all the required positions before they adjourn for the evening. Low and behold, we filled every position allowing for entire year to prepare for next year's event. If any member out there has a desire to be in management, this would be a good opportunity to volunteer to "oversee" any of the other committees to ensure they are able to accomplish what needs to be done. There will be more information coming at our monthly meetings and I'm sure Trygve will provide more details in his Director's article.

That is the summary of the good news, now for the rest of the story. Tom Windsor, Trail Boss of extreme competence, has resigned his position. He still plans on being as active as possible with our Chapter and our events, but with major changes in his extended family, he feels he must commit to their needs first. We regret losing Tom, but wish him well with their new adventures and know that Tom and Donna will both enjoy having their children living closer. Bob Crowell will step up from Alternate Trail Boss to fill Tom's vacant shoes and I know he will do well keeping us safe and keeping us working.

That's all I have for now. Enjoy the spring weather and I hope to see on the trail.

Dave

Trail Boss Report

Bob Crowell

As I write this report I am really looking forward to getting the field season started

The Sinlahekin trail clearing and ride will be completed with Bannon Mountain and Whistler Canyon imminent by the time this is distributed. These projects close to the main valley are important to our members and other riders so are quite worthy of our efforts.

A few of us plan to attending the USFS Tonasket Ranger District public meeting regarding projects in the bailey and Aeneas Creek areas. We should have a brief report for the April business meeting.

The Packing/Camping Clinic planned for May should also be discussed at the April meeting.

I hope your horse is predictable, your mule is steady, and your chainsaw always start.

Good Lord willing, I'll see you out there, Bob.

Congratulations

OVCBCHW 2010 Saddle Raffle Winners

Drawing for the 2010 member raffle after the annual meeting in Ellensburg Saturday , March 20. Winner were as follows:

**First Prize #3093 Custom Saddle Heather Moorman, Kennewick
Second Prize #3061 Eden Valley Reservation Pat Greiwe, Graham, Wa.
Third Prize #3152 Breast Collar and Headstall Tom Windsor, Omak
Forth Prize #3156 Highline and Saddle Blankets, Lorene Bexanson, Richland, Wa.**

**“ Don't get mad at someone who knows mor'en you do,
It ain't their fault”**

FIREARMS SAFETY TRAINING

On Saturday March 13th, 2010, thirteen members of the Okanogan Valley Chapter met at the Okanogan Sheriff's firing range for some basic firearm safety training. Deputies Tait Everett, and Michael Blake worked with the group from 9 :A.M.-6:30P.M.

The entire morning and for a couple hours after lunch break they devoted the time to covering the fundamentals of safety, firearm care and operation, necessary equipment, laws, and the proper use of firearms.

We moved outside to the range and practiced what we had learned in the classroom. The emphasis was always on safety first, and then proper stance and body control. Accuracy followed the proper use of the previous.

The course was well fitted to our group. The instructors did a good job of gearing the course speed and content to the least experienced people while not overlooking the more experienced members of the group. They used a shooter/coach method on the range so each person was involved whether they were shooting or not. There was little or no "down time" on the range using that method.

DID YOU KNOW

You can write letters to the Editor

You can send pictures to be included in the next newsletter.

You can send in articles you feel could be of interest.

You are our most valuable asset, We are proud to have your membership in the Okanogan Chapter.

Because of You Okanogan Chapter is one of the busiest in the State, and we probably have the most diverse areas in which to ride.

Respond to all of the above to nrappe@wildblue.net or N. Rappe at P.O. Box

1980' Something
Jim Pruitt, Linda
and Frank, Carmen
and ?
Frazier, Roy and
Florence Miller,
Game range ride



Quite the
lineup from
2002



Probably
2006
Chiliwist



CORRECTION ALERT!!!!

In the March issue "Leave No Trace class" FOOD: Breakfast, Sack lunch, And Dinner on Saturday. Breakfast and Sack lunch on Sunday. That class will be May 14, 15, & 16, at Blue Lake in the Sinlahekin Contact for this event is Janet Logan—509-997-0020

APRIL 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Small, faint text at the top of the advertisement section, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.



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Horse Riding Safety

When riding a horse you should always have a helmet on, no matter the age a helmet should be worn when riding! Don't be so quick to say no way! They have some pretty neat looking helmets to choose from in many different styles. Wearing a helmet can be the difference between a minor scrape and cut and possibly hurting your head or worse. Do be sure to pick an approved helmet!

When riding you should always wear sturdy shoe that has a heel. That will keep your feet safe in the stirrup at all times.

It is best to wear jeans or close fitting pants, loose leggings could get caught and cause injury or accident.

Before each ride, be sure and check your bridle and saddle for any problems, after each ride, check and clean tack.

Safety First usually means there will be a second time to ride again.

Like to see your Horse and rider in print??

Just send or email your pictures to Nora Rappe' at Box 453 Malott, Wa. 98829 or email nrappe@wildblue.net



Not sure
swhat he ha
planned for
that rope,
That grin
tells me he's
gonna catch
something!!

April Coming Events

**Friday 9-10 Bannan Mt. Trail
Clearing**

Sun. 11- Bannan Mt. Ride

**Fri.16-17Whistler Canyon Trail
Clearing/Wilcox Trailhead**

**Sun. 18-Whistler Canyon Trail
Ride**

**Mon. 19- Chapter Officer's Board
Meeting—7:00P.M. Crowell's**

**Wed 21- Monthly Business
Meeting**

7:00 P.M. Tonasket Sr. Center

**Friday 23-25 Methow Valley
Chapter,**

Spring Ride L1 L2

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