



OVBCHW

NEWSLETTER

December 2012

In Account With

**Charles Henry Bourn**

**Saddle and Pack Horses**

**Specialty Guiding and Packing**

**To Mount Baker and other Mountains**

Well folks, as 2012 closes we need to be thinking about renewing our memberships for 2013.

A few highlights of this past year have been our Wilcox trailhead picnic tables and fire rings, two bridges on the Whistler Canyon trail and some benches that have yet to be installed. We attended the Okanogan County Commissioner's meeting in June and got the ball rolling again to start the bidding process for the Whistler Canyon trailhead which resulted in construction starting this month. The project will be completed before the end of November.



**Stan on Skeeter**

We built signs, as a fund raiser, for Okanogan Trail Coalition and refinished the signs that were constructed in past years. And, of course, the normal logging out of more than 135 miles of trails accounted for many hours.

Our plan this year was to cut back on our work and do more riding and I'm not sure what went awry but somehow we set a new chapter high of 3122.5 hours with a value of \$99,430.95. Now that is something! I'm proud of you all – thanks! We did get some riding in and had some good food. A good time was had by all.

Another thing that we did was to alternate our meetings between Tonasket and Omak along with summer meetings in the parks and it has been received well

and our attendance has been up so thank you again!

We also started a 50\50 drawing with three tickets for a dollar or an arm's length for \$5. The winner gets half and the chapter the other half. With our half we've been supplying the food our in the park picnics making it a win-win all around with smiley faced member. It's been fun!

The whistler canyon trail head project is all but completed. The asphalt apron off the highway will be paved in the spring. Dave Swanberg and Trygve seeded some dry land pasture mix on all the disturbed areas so it should be greening up in the spring.

Strider construction stepped up and donated the machinery and gravel to build the connecting trail from the parking lot to the existing trail. So a big thanks to Jim Gebhardt and Strider. Also Gary Reposa, the dump truck driver donated his time hauling the crushed rock! Thank you, Gary!

As your president it has always in my mind how to keep this fun, enjoyable and affordable so with your help and ideas we will try for a good 2013.

Thank you, Merry Christmas and God Bless.

Stan

# OVCBCHW

## Meeting Minutes

November 21st, 2012

The meeting was called to order by our President Stan Kvistad at 7:00pm. We rose for the pledge of allegiance. There were 16 members present and one guest, Kristi Pinger, Jodi Curry's sister. Peggy Swanberg noted corrections of spelling of "Rae" Morris and that "she" will do the Blue Book. A motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Newsletter was made by Trygve Culp, 2nd by Dave Sunde. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Cathy Kvistad gave her report. We are solvent. A motion to approve was made by Dave Sunde, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gail Sunde, approved.

### REPORTS

**Director:** Trygve Culp said if we order anything from the BCHW store that he will be able to bring it back when he goes to the directors meeting with no shipping or handling. Order forms are in the Trail Head News or on their website. It was noted at this time that the club is purchasing small decals to go in the

new member packets. See the complete report in the Newsletter.

**Trail Boss:** Dave Sunde stated that our last ride for the season was the Chili-wist Fall Color ride with Stan Kvistad leading. Nothing is upcoming until next spring.

**Legislative:** Dave Sunde stated that the Sportsman Act looks like it will pass in the lame duck session and to expect some budget cuts in 2013.

**Volunteer Hours:** Peggy Swanberg told us to keep track of our administrative hours to turn over to the new volunteer hour person.

**Website:** Dave Sunde said he had added pictures to the Website.

**Newsletter:** Dave Sunde said he would do the Newsletter until January, at which time Trygve Culp will take over.

**Social Director:** Gail Sunde will talk about the Christmas party later in the meeting.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Whistler Canyon Trail Head Work:** Before Stan Kvistad gave his report he presented Dave Sunde with the book "Ben Snipes, Northwest Cattle King", as a Thank You for all of his hard work of over 900 volunteer hours! A hardy round of applause followed!

Steve McKinney said, after viewing the work that was done, that it was a beautiful and well done job. Stan K said it is close to being finished. There will be a trail built from the trailhead to the trail entrance and Strider will donate the gravel and Stan is donating his work hours. A big Thank You to Strider and Stan.

Next Stan read a list of the club's achievements for 2012. It is very impressive and can be found in the Newsletter.

**OTC Grant:** Dave Swanberg said that we should be receiving a check for \$1930.00 soon for the signs that we made.

**Chapter Officer Nominations:** Peggy Swanberg read the nominations for the chapter officers:

- **President: Stan Kvistad**
- **VP: Steve McKinney**
- **Secretary: Cher Bower**
- **Treasurer: Cathy Kvistad**
- **Trail Boss: Dave Sunde**

**Director: Dave Sunde**

A Motion was made by Trygve Culp to approve the slate as listed, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Sunde. The motion passed. It was noted that Dave Swanberg has one more year as Alternate Director. Nora Rappe has agreed to fill the Volunteer Hours position. Cher asked for a volunteer to take the minutes while she is gone. Cathy K will take the minutes. Thank you Cathy!

Sign-up sheets were passed around for location of board meetings, deserts after our meetings and pot luck items for the Christmas party.

### **COMING EVENTS**

**Christmas Party:** Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at the Tonasket Senior Center at 6:00. The club is providing Turkey and Ham. Call Gail Sunde for more information.

**December Board Meeting:** A motion was made by Trygve C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Sunde to cancel the meeting. Approved.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

50/50 Drawing: Gail Sunde won \$28.00

There was no further business and Sandra Walter made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jodi Curry. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Respectively submitted,

Cher Bower, Secretary

**OVCBCHW**

## **TRAIL BOSS REPORT**

November, 2012

Dave Sunde

November has come and almost gone. There were no scheduled chapter riding events. I still have shoes on May and Ebony but they'll be coming off shortly. The biggest accomplishment for the chapter in November has been the construction of the new access road and parking area for the Whistler Canyon

Trailhead. The website ([www.ovcbchw.com](http://www.ovcbchw.com)) has a day by day photo essay on the progress. The Chapter elections were held on November 21<sup>st</sup> at Koala's in Omak.

## OVCBCHW

Legislative Report

October, 2012

Dave Sunde

### Federal Level

#### SB3525

Action taken by the U.S. Senate in late September virtually assures a vote on The Sportsmen's Act of 2012

This is a bill we support and is scheduled for a vote by the (federal) Senate this week or next. Senator Murray has already informed us that even with her concerns, she will support the bill. We are grateful to her for that support. Senator Cantwell did not respond to our letter requesting she also vote to pass the bill.

It will then go to the House. We want to press our Representatives to support and pass this bill before Christmas. It is much less controversial than the House Sportsmen's Heritage Act, and it includes important provisions that can improve stock access to public lands. Other major parts of Senate 3525 include:

**Making Public Lands Public**, an act that requires 1.5 percent of the annual Land and Water Conservation Fund funding to be made available to secure public access to federal public land for hunting, fishing, and other recreational purposes.

And, **Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act**, a bill requiring that Pittman-Robertson funds be made available to states "for the creation and maintenance of shooting ranges." This bill encourages federal land agencies to cooperate with state and local authorities to maintain shooting ranges and limits liability for these agencies with regards to the shooting ranges. The Pittman-Robertson Act imposed a tax at the manufacturer on all hunting and shooting equipment and supplies. Federal Pittman-Robertson managers distribute these funds to the states

based on the number of hunting licenses sold in each state.

## State Level

The legislature is still out of session and the only actions are scattered committee hearings.

The bottom line: In January, the Legislature will probably start working on the 2013-2015 budget with a \$3.1 billion shortfall.

Most smart money doubts the votes exist to find the extra \$2 billion solely through budget cuts. The same is true for tax hikes. A major problem is that the overall shortfall is much bigger than \$2 billion for education every two years. First, the Legislature is already facing a roughly \$1 billion shortfall in the upcoming January session outside of the Supreme Court's education requirements. The House and Senate financial staffs calculated that the Supreme Court's ruling will require an extra \$2.1 billion in cuts and new revenue in 2013-2015, \$2.8 billion for 2015-2017, and \$2.1 billion for 2017-2019. And those numbers assume absolutely no growth between now and 2019 in all of the state non-education programs. The bottom line: In January, the Legislature will probably start working on the 2013-2015 budget with a \$3.1 billion shortfall.

Meanwhile, the House and Senate financial staffs mentioned that tax exemptions could be examined for closure. While popular in the abstract, this measure rarely survives when actually scrutinized and debated in the Legislature. The state has more than 600 tax exemptions. A special committee has reviewed 135 in the past 10 years to see if they should be allowed to expire. It recommended only 18 be terminated. The Legislature actually ended seven. Only 28 exemptions are costing the state \$100 million or more.

The five largest current tax exemptions are on sales taxes for medical, legal, financial, and other personal services, whose elimination would have raised \$3.2 billion in 2011-2013; exemptions on business and occupation taxes on employees, translating to \$2.9 billion; exemptions on sales taxes on food, translating to \$2 billion; exemptions on vehicle and special fuels, translating to \$1.65 billion; and exemptions on real estate excise taxes, translating to \$1.36 billion.

Also, the House and Senate financial staffs showed the task force a long list of potential tax hikes and new taxes — with the caveat that none were specifically recommended Wednesday. That list included:

- A 5 percent capital gains tax. This was introduced in the 2012 legislative session and went nowhere. The preliminary estimate is this tax could raise \$700 million to \$800 million a year.

- An income tax, usually considered the kiss of death to any politician who proposes one. A 2010 initiative to put an income tax on people earning more than \$200,000 was overwhelmingly defeated at the polls.
- Increasing the sale tax, this is currently 6.5 percent. A sales tax rate of 6.6 percent would raise an extra \$123 million in 2014. A sales tax rate of 6.7 percent would raise \$245 million in 2014. A sales tax rate of 6.8 percent would raise \$368 million in 2014.
- Increasing the business & occupation (B&O) tax rates. There are numerous different B&O tax rates, but the state's weighted average B&O tax rate is 0.65 percent. Increasing that to 0.7 percent would raise an extra \$252 million in 2014. An average B&O tax rate of 0.75 percent would raise \$504 million in 2014. And an average B&O tax rate of 0.8 percent would raise \$757 million in 2014.

On top of that, the Charter School Initiative passage is going to have an effect on school funding.

All of this means that there will be less money at the state level for recreation interests from keeping parks open to clearing trails. I expect to see an increase in user fees right of the bat as well as some outright closures.

# **OVCBCHW**

## **Director's Report**

**November 2012**

Trygve Culp, OVC Director

**The Director Report will be emailed out to the members after the Board of Director's meeting information has been digested.**

# COMING EVENTS

**December 15th OVCBCHW Christmas Party**

**December 16th FCCBCHW Christmas Party**

## ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

**Dave Swanberg**

Could you use \$300.00 next year?

All you have to do is buy a BCHW 2013 Raffle Calendar and you will have a chance to win \$300.00 each month next year each time we draw a winning ticket on the last day each month for the first 11 months and a Grand prize of \$3,000.00 to be drawn in December of 2013.

Raffle calendars are available at the business meetings or call me at 486-1107 or email at: swanee@gdimail.net and I will get them to you.

**Don't forget to renew your membership. The renewal forms are available on the chapter website:**

**[www.ovcbchw.com](http://www.ovcbchw.com)**

**IF YOU HAVE CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS YOU  
WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN THE NEWSLETTER**

**CALL- 486-1547**

**EMAIL [dsunde@starband.net](mailto:dsunde@starband.net)**

**Send pictures or articles of interest to the above reference. We  
welcome your input**

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