



# The Picket Line

Okanogan Valley Chapter  
 Back Country Horsemen of Washington  
 Volume 27, Number 11  
 November 2013

## Presidential Musings

Stan Kvistad, Chapter President

Well let's see - the fall color ride went well although there hadn't been enough frost to brighten up Gebber's orchards yet. We were joined by Claude Miller from the Methow and a couple of guests - seven riders in all.

Folks without any sugar coating we need some help. We need a new newsletter editor; Tryg is moving on to the state level and I would like to thank him for his great job! Thank you Tryg. New member Cheryl Johnson said she would take over the volunteer hours so that's a big help! Thank you Cheryl.

The Halloween party was fun with good food and a dang tough piñata! Sally Taylor and Jerry Downs won the costume prize for big kids and Levi Stone won the little guy division. Thanks to all!

God bless.  
 Stan



*Dave Swanberg, Jeff Taylor and Dave Sunde assemble the culvert for the Carter Mountain Trailhead access road*

## Out on the Trail

### **WDFW – Horse Spring Coulee**

Dave Sunde

For the past few years I have used the WDFW property for both early spring rides and late fall riding with guns (hunting). This area offers many choices of terrain and almost no defined →

routes. There are rocky cliffs, extremely steep solid clay like ridges, dry lakes (wet in spring), and gentle rolling hills. It is almost impossible to get lost. If you come to a fence just follow it and that will lead you back to the road. If your horse needs exposure to Llamas, then might I suggest riding along the western fence. There are usually lamas in the adjacent pasture and they will usually come over to greet whoever is there.

This area is deceptive. There is a lot more area than is visible from the road. I've attempted a couple of times to ride the entire perimeter fence and have always fallen short due to time constraints and horse conditioning. One year I encountered snow on some of the northern

**See "Trails" continued on page 2**

***“Trails” continued from page 1***

aspects. I’ve ridden this area as early as February and as late as November. Trygve and I recently rode this area and came up with an idea for an early spring conditioning ride. Since it is so open we are thinking of providing everyone with a map with a lunch spot marked. How one gets there is up to them and the condition of their horse. We’ll all meet at that spot and have a bite of lunch and discuss the areas we have ridden. After lunch people will be free to ride back to the trailers, taking the route of their choice.

There is trailer parking at the junction of Horse Spring Coulee Road and North Pine Creek Road. The parking area is on County land so no Discover Pass should be required. Just be sure and not block the collection of newspaper boxes. The entrance to the WDFW area is a wire gate about 100 feet west of the parking area.

*Editors Note: Dave and I recently spoke with Justin Hogue, Manager of the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area, who oversees this area for WDFW. Justin told us it is OK to park inside the fence at the location Dave described above. Just be aware that inside the fence you will need a Discover Pass or WDFW Hunt/Fish Access Pass to park your vehicle and trailer. THC*

**“One has fear in front of a goat, in back of a mule, and on every side of a fool.”**  
***Anonymous***

**Trail Boss Report**

Dave Sunde

On October 7<sup>th</sup> a few of us attended the Okanogan County Commissioners’ meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to set the minimum bid for the Whistler Canyon parcels. However, it did not appear that the planning department did a thorough enough job so the commissioners continued the meeting until October 21<sup>st</sup> with strict instructions that they wanted a final resolution from the planning commission before them on that date.

The Soap Lake ride was fairly well attended. Since I was not able to attend that ride, I’ll let Stan report on it.

We had a work party at the Wilcox Trailhead on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup>. We placed several more signs on the Wild Horse Spring trail so it will be easier to find your way. I think that as more people use this trail, the route will become more obvious. Gail made a Dutch Oven Potato soup, 7-UP biscuits, and an apple cobbler. It was cold and we had a bit of hail before we left, but

**See “Trail Boss” on page 5**

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## Minutes of the October 2013 Chapter Business Meeting

VP Steve McKinney called the meeting to order at 7:00. There were no guests. A motion was made by Dave Sunde to approve the minutes as printed in the newsletter and on the web page. Seconded by Jerry REPORTS

Treasurer: Cathy Kvistad stated that since we withdrew money from our savings account the bank charged a service charge of \$20.00. Dave Sunde made a motion to move the money to checking. He then amended the motion to say move to the best location. Gail Downs seconded the motion. Passed.

Director: Dave Swanberg reminded us that the state dues went up \$5.00. He also reminded us that it had been approved to move the money from the Whistler Canyon Fund to the property sale fund. Peggy added that our BCHW dues could be paid on line using a credit card of Pay Pal.

Trail Boss: Dave Sunde stated that the last work party for the year had been completed at Whistler Canyon.

Legislative: See report in Newsletter.

Volunteer Hours: Cathy Kvistad reminded us that she needs everyone's hours tonight. She thanked everyone for their help in getting the report completed. Peggy Swanberg complimented Cathy and Dave Sunde for the good job they had done.

**See "Minutes" on Page 4**

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***“Minutes” Continued from Page 3***

Website: Dave Sunde reported that nothing was new. Ted Sharr said he could not find the 2014 application form on the State or our Web site. Cher Bower said the form came through incorrectly and Dave said he would correct it on the Web.

Newsletter: Trygve Culp said to get things for the Newsletter to him as soon as possible and he needs pictures or articles. He tries to have it done by the first of the month.

Advertising: Linda Osborne-nothing to report.

Social Director: Gail Sunde reminded us about the Halloween party Sat. Oct 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 at the Senior Center in Tonasket. FC and OK are supplying brats and sauerkraut for the pot-luck. We will have prizes for games to be played.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Raffle Calendars: Dave Swanberg stated that he still has a few calendars for sale.

Carter Mt. TH: Dave Swanberg asked if the work could be completed this fall. We need 12” culvert for the job. Dave Sunde will check with Jeff Taylor and Von Range to see either could do the backhoe work. Dave Swanberg will get the pipe and Dave Sunde will check on getting some shale for the job.

Whistler Canyon continuation meeting with the County Commissioners: Trygve Culp stated that the hearing would be on Mon. Oct 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 at the old Virginia Granger

**See “Minutes” on Page 8**



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***“Trail Boss” continued from page 2***

other than being in the high 30s the weather was good and we did not get rained on at all. Michael Alvarado has completely logged out the entire Whistler Canyon/Mount Hull trail system over the summer. This is over 20 total trail miles and he did some sections more than once. We all owe Michael a vote of thanks. Be sure and thank him when you see him.

On November 1<sup>st</sup> we had the long awaited work party at the US-97 entrance to the Carter Mountain WDFW property. We were tasked with installing a culvert across the entrance. The original plan was to do it with 20 feet of pipe but as we were laying it out earlier this fall we decided that 40 feet would be a much better idea. We enlisted the services of Jeff Taylor and his backhoe to dig the trench. Vaughn Range donated a full load of shale for bedding and cover. We also managed to get rid of a dilapidated ATV ramp in the center of the parking area. This provided a nice warming fire while we enjoyed an apple pie that Gail made for us. This is probably the last outdoor event for

**See “Trail Boss” on page 6**

**Elected  
Officers for 2013**

**President:** Stan Kvistad  
**Vice President:** Steve McKinney  
**Secretary:** Cher Bower  
**Treasurer:** Cathy Kvistad  
**Trail Boss:** Dave Sunde  
**Director:** Dave Sunde  
**Immediate Past President:** Vacant this year

**Appointed  
Officers for 2013**

**Volunteer Hours Coordinator:** Vacant  
**Leave No Trace Coordinator:** Steve McKinney  
**Newsletter Editor:** Trygve Culp  
**Publicity Chair:** Linda Osborne  
**Alternate Trail Boss:** Trygve Culp

**ATTENTION**

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**2014 BCHW Calendars are available from Dave Swanberg or any of the Chapter officers. The calendars cost \$20 and include a raffle ticket for a monthly \$300 drawing and a Grand Prize drawing of \$3000. Excellent Christmas presents, get them NOW!**

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***“Trail Boss” continued from page 5***

the year as snow is already falling in the high country and there is snow in the near term forecast here in the valley. We have not picked a firm date for the annual planning meeting but odds are it will be toward the end of November after chapter elections which will be on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Trygve and I have a couple of early season rides planned. There will be more information coming in a few weeks.

**Director’s Report**

Dave Sunde

Dave Swanberg attended the September Board Meeting representing our chapter. He gave a full report and it is posted on the website. Here are some of the ongoing items that I think we should keep in mind as we go forward.

Nominations are open for all elected BCHW positions and we have candidates for all of them. That does not mean that others can be nominated also. The elections will be in December. If anyone has knowledge of anyone wanting to serve in any of the positions, please let me know and I’ll make sure that their name is placed in nomination.

The budget can of worms in Washington DC has been kicked down the road until January.

The USFS has reneged on their original position on the Impact Statement concerning the Pasayten Outfitter and Guides.

It seems that even the threat of a lawsuit by certain environmental groups caused them to reconsider.

In conjunction with the December BOD meeting there will be a Public Lands Meeting. I will be attending this meeting and chapter members are welcome to attend also.

***Please see “Director” on page 9***

**With Apologies to Baxter Black**  
“Everywhere I go 10% of the people do 90% of the work.”



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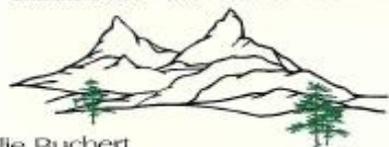
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## **REMINDER!**

The last "No-Host" Dinner for 2013 will be at the Sitting Bull Tavern in Conconully on November 16. Contact Linda Osborne for information and to make reservations. 826-5767

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***“Minutes” continued from Page 4***

school in the commissioners hearing room. He felt that the B CH presence lead to better understanding by the commissioners and they seemed more willing to negotiate. A value for the scabland was trying to be reached and Trygve offered \$750.00 per acre. Peggy Swanberg stated that information was available on the Whistler Canyon Face book page. It was noted that Pacific N. W. Trail Association would buy the land with the moneys donated by BCHOVC.

Outhouse at WCTH: Dave Swanberg asked Cathy Kvistad if we had stopped the service and Cathy K. said yes and that it would be removed at the end of Oct.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Fundraisers for 2014: Cathy K. suggested that if the Tri Rivers Chapter disbands, we take over the Extreme Trail Competition and use their equipment and location, if possible. Cher B. suggested a dinner/auction. Peggy S. suggested a Wild Horse spring trail obstacle ride. Cathy K. suggested a Poker-Dinner ride or Harvest Party. Peggy S. said most money was made from auctions and said the French Dinner at the Esterbrook winery was fun and well attended. We are to think about these and if anyone has more suggestions let an officer know. To be decided later.

Nominations: Steve McKinney led the nominations.

Pres: Stan Kvistad

VP: Steve McKinney

Treas: Cathy Kvistad

Sec: Cher Bower

Alt Director: Gene Wehmyer, Ted Sharr, Katherine Woodfield

Trail Boss: Dave Sunde

Volunteer Hours: Cheryl Johnson agreed to do the job.

Newsletter: Cher B. suggested that the Ferry County Chapter and the Okanogan County Chapter do a joint Newsletter and Lu Younge said she would think about it.

The nominations will be voted on at the Nov. meeting.

Board Meeting Notes: Cathy K. suggested that notes be taken at the board meetings. Cher B. said that she could do that.

***See “Minutes” on Page 9***

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***“Minutes” continued from Page 8***

Grant: Dave Swanberg stated that we had applied for a grant of \$13,000.00 for the Johnny Bell Relocation Trail (Loomis Forest) and we received it for \$13,000.00 plus. DNR is working on the bridge now and we will begin the work next year.

Forest Service meeting at Lambert Creek: Jerry Downs stated that it had been canceled until next year.

50/50 Drawing: Trygve C. won \$20.00

**COMING EVENTS:**

Oct 26<sup>th</sup> Halloween Party @ Tonasket Senior Center-Potluck-6:00

Nov 16<sup>th</sup> No Host Dinner @ Sitting Bull in Conconully

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Monthly meeting @ Cariboo Inn-Dinner @ 6:00-Business meeting 7:00

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerry Downs and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gail Downs. Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Respectively submitted by Secretary Cher Bower

***“Director” continued from page 6***

We still have most of the 2014 Raffle Calendars to sell. Our chapter is doing well but we can always do better. Lori Lennox will bring any item we pre-order to the December meeting. Therefore if you need anything, please let me know and I can pick it up in December and save you the postage.

Don't forget that BCHW shall implement a \$5.00 dues increase for single and family memberships, increase the



contributing memberships to \$75.00, and increase the sustaining memberships to \$125.00 for 2014. The new membership applications on the website and mailed out to members contains this information.

The next Board meeting will be on December 7<sup>th</sup> in Ellensburg. There will be a Public Lands Committee meeting on Friday prior to the meeting.

The date for the annual Legislative Day has not been announced yet but as soon as it is we'll post on the website and in the newsletter.



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**Okanogan Valley Chapter**  
**Calendar of Upcoming Activities**

November 16, 2013: No host dinner at the Sitting Bull restaurant in Conconully. Contact Linda Osborne for information and to make reservations 826-5767.

November 20, 2013: Chapter officers meeting, 5:00 PM; Dinner, 6:00 PM, Chapter business meeting, 7:00 PM. Caribou Inn, Okanogan.

November 24, 2013: Chapter 2014 Activity Planning Meeting. Time to be announced. Sunde residence at 1579 Pine Creek Road, Tonasket.

December 6, 2013: BCHW Public Lands Meeting, Kittitas Valley Events Center, Ellensburg. 9:00 AM - 4:00PM. All members welcome.

December 7, 2013: BCHW Board of Directors Meeting. Events Center, Ellensburg. 9:00 AM - 4:00PM. All members welcome.

December 13, 2013: Chapter Christmas Party, Potluck Dinner, Gift Exchange, 6:00 PM. Tonasket Senior Center.

December 14, 2014: Ferry County Chapter Christmas Party. Ala carte dinner, Bonaparte Lake Resort. 6:00 PM

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