

OVCBCHW

2016 Publicity Chair

Linda Osborne



I was born in Tom River New Jersey and moved to Shelton at the age of 7. I received my first horse at the age of 10. My step-father was an old cowboy and believed that you learn to ride bareback before you ever sat a saddle. Thank heavens I did, saved me many a times while riding young horses over the years.

Graduated from Shelton high and went onto Olympia vocational college. I got a job as a school bus driver for the Shelton school district in 1967. During this time I met my husband Frank

(who was working at the Shelton Correctional Center). At this time we had 4 horses and I was a member of a girls drill unit.

We ladies practiced every week in a friends covered arena and every summer we drilled at horse shows, rodeos, and did drill team competition all over the west coast. It was about 1981 that Frank got a transfer to Omak, where I resumed driving bus for the Omak school district and joined the Omak Ghost Riders Drill Club. I didn't do as much drill riding, but did some local parades and got in some awesome rides up in the high country.

We bought a small farm just south of riverside where we started raising Tennessee walking horses, cattle and hay. We found our Tennessee Walking Horses would sell in Spokane and on the coast, but not in the Omak-Okanogan area so we decided to sell out our breeding stock and just trail ride. It was about this time that we met Denny and Francis and got involved in the Back Country Horseman. We loved going to Blewett Pass (Haney Meadows) for the back country horseman week-end get togethers. It was a great time to meet so many different chapter members with their horses. We've been members since the chapter started in the Okanogan Valley back in early 80's.

So after 32 years of driving school bus my husband said it's time to retire. I knew just what I wanted to do with my time, as much horseback riding and camping as we could get in from spring to fall. Come winter when the snow flies we're out snowshoeing and snowmobiling, enjoying the outdoors and mountains. In my old age (64) I'm in hopes to keep active w/horses and keep arther (arthritis) away, and having a healthy body and lots of fun, now that I have the time.