

**2016 SECRETARY - SOUTH  
OVCBCHW  
CATHY KVISTAD**

I was born and raised in Michigan until moving to Washington in 1976. I moved here with my 2 children to be closer to my parents who had moved to Washington in 1971. I resided in Sequim for 26 years where I owned an insurance agency. It was after I retired that I met Stan, the “mule man”, who changed my life completely. I didn’t know the difference between a mule and a horse but, of course, Stan set me straight right off the bat. The first time I rode was on his favorite mule, Squeak. The only instructions he gave me was to trust my mule and she will take care of me, so I did but things didn’t seem quite right when ,along with the saddle, I started sliding off. I accused him of trying to kill me that day and several times since but I fell In love with him and the mules so we were married in July of 2008. I’m still working on being a mule skinner. I have a long way to go but I’m learning. I had also never heard about the Back Country Horsemen but now I are “one”. I liked it so much that I decided that I needed a job so someone had faith in me and I became the Treasurer. This I became the secretary. I love the organization and believe in what they stand for.

