

Director's Report January 2012

Trygve Culp, Chapter Director

It seems like quite a long while since I wrote the last one of these Director Reports. Since the last one, our military family was home on emergency leave for 10 days after Thanksgiving; JC and I flew to Germany via Iceland, spent a month with family near Weiden in northern Bavaria over Christmas and New Year; flew home; shortly after arriving home, I got sick with pneumonia and the septic line froze up! A pretty hectic 6 or 8 weeks, but I got the septic system working and recovered enough to help out at the Chapter's Cabin Fever coffeehouse at the Tonasket Community Cultural Center this past weekend – more on that later. Somewhere in all of that I missed the BCHW Public Lands Day and 4th Quarter Board of Directors meeting. Our Alternate Director, Dave Swanberg, attended both meetings and reported on both events last month. There has been quite a lot of activity at the State level - as you would expect following organizational elections and the start of the legislative session.

As you may have heard, former BCHW President Bob Gish was elected to another 2-year term. I was elected Vice President and the Board of Directors approved the appointments of Teri Starke and Janelle Wilson as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Other committee chairs for the next couple of years will be presented for Board confirmation and approval at the Board meeting in March. The biggest bit of news; though, was the Board's approval of the Executive Director Committee's recommendation that BCHW move forward to hire an Executive Director for the organization. Stay tuned on this deal as a position description is developed; a search committee put together; the position advertised within the state and nationally; and an individual is interviewed, selected and hired. All of that is supposed to happen before the end of the year. In other activity at the State level, BCHW has opened a Facebook page and already has several hundred friends. I'm not too *skookum* on social media and how it works, but I'm assured that it is an excellent way to stay in touch with what is going on and to let others know in a short order what is happening between publication of issues of the Trailhead News. If that is the case, it cannot be a bad deal! Check it out – I plan to. Additionally, the Board approved the recommendation of the Ways and Means Committee to do the calendar raffle again for 2013. I'm sure a call for photos will be in the next THN – or watch for it on Facebook!

Speaking of photos, I'd like to close out with a **HUGE** thanks to Peggy Swanberg, Dave Sunde, Rae Morris, Stan and Cathy Kvistad, Nora Rappe', Gail Sunde, Ginny Bartholomew, Dave Swanberg and all of the Chapter members who brought desserts to auction for all of their hard work to make the coffeehouse Cabin Fever event a huge success. I was told that we had around 90 folks in attendance. The Community Cultural Center cleared over \$200 on the meal and I believe we made around \$1200 on our dessert auction and donations. The best part of it; though, from my perspective, anyway, were the many thanks I received from folks who attended the coffeehouse for the work we are doing to keep trails open and access to public lands available for everybody. It might be fun to do it again some time so I'd encourage all of us to take more pictures and save them on an external computer storage device like a thumb drive, CD or DVD, that can be readily transferred to other computers. Again, thanks to all who made the deal work so well.

I hope your haystack is holding up and you've got enough firewood to see you through these next 7 or 8 weeks. And I hope your septic system never freezes! See you out on the trails soon.