

SQUAW BUTTE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

PO Box 293, Emmett, ID 83617

December, 2007



IN MEMORIUM

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen

Meet the 1st Thursday of every month at La Costa Restaurant in Emmett, ID

For information about joining contact Ellen Knapp, 208.388.7278 or president@sbbchidaho.org

ROBERT DALE HOWARD

Robert Dale Howard Nov. 11, 1928- Dec.17, 2007 Robert Dale Howard 68 years of age passed away in a Boise Hospital on Dec. 17, 2007, due to a long illness. Robert was born in Stites, Idaho on Nov.11, 1928 to Viona Scheider Howard and Wilford (Sam) Howard. Bob retired from the Idaho Highway Dept. He spent many years plowing snow on the Lochsa River and Payette Counties. He was an outfitter and guide for several decades. He adored his children and the outdoors, his horses and mules, hunting and riding in the wilderness. Bob was a member of Masonic Kooskia Lodge Number 87 and Past Master., President of Boise

Angus Club and on the board for several years, President of Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen. Robert is survived by his wife Donna and five children: son Michael and wife Gayle Howard of Nesperce, Idaho, son H. Dan Easton of Grafton, Wis., daughter Julie and husband David Cram of Summerville, S. C., son KJ and wife Machell Diamond of Boise, Idaho, son



Robert and Christy Howard of New Plymouth, Idaho, brother Neil and wife Amy Howard of Salem, Ore., step-sisters, Alexander and husband Charles Davis of Kamiah, Idaho, Rene and husband Gene Dye, of Latah, Wash., step-brothers Bob Allen of Lewiston Idaho, Bill Allen, of Alaska, Uncle

Buster and wife Roberta Howard, Lewiston, Idaho. Numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, 15 grand children and four great-grandchildren. Robert was preceded in death by both parents and grandson Cody Howard. Family requests donations go to Cody Howard Scholarship Fund: P.O. Box 11 New Plymouth, Idaho

83655 or Squaw Butte Back Country Horseman, P.O. Box 293, Emmett, Idaho 83617 Memorial at the Congregational Church Saturday December 22, 2007 located at 207 SW Ave., New Plymouth, Idaho. Refreshments at Bob Howard Residence at: 4679 Hwy. 72, New Plymouth.

Published in the Idaho Statesman on 12/20/2007.

The Emmett Ranger District has worked with the Backcountry Horseman for years now and has developed an excellent working relationship in which we rely on each other each summer to keep our National Forest trail system maintained to a level that provides an opportunity for people to easily enjoy the outdoors. Bob Howard was integral to this relationship and always supported our trail system goals. He has even helped to cross boundaries when his Squaw Butte Chapter was there with volunteers to open a motorcycle trail. We'll miss Mr. Howard and his enthusiasm for our trails.

Emmett Ranger District, Boise National Forest, US Forest Service

I remember clearly the first time I rode in the mountains with Bob. It was a June ride in the Payette National Forest to a high mountain basin on the east side of Council peak. I was leading my mustang mare carrying tools and saws. She was inexperienced, my tool boxes were experimental and let the tools rattle and make other noises. Bob and I rode together and talked throughout the ride. We talked about packing and he made a number of helpful suggestions in a way that never made you feel he was being critical. Over the years my load building and packing skills have grown significantly all under his friendly mentorship. Bob became our most popular instructor / mentors at our backcountry skills clinic with experience and inexperienced packers coming with the intent of picking his brain on specific packing problems. Bob also lent his expertise to the weeklong mule and packing skills clinic held by BCHI for forest service personal held in the spring of 2007.

Bob was also a very popular camp fire companion. He told wonderful stories of trips and adventure as well as histories of many of the areas we rode. I will miss his gentle cowboy company when I am on the trail and around the campfire, but he will always be with me as long as I practice and pass on the skills and insight that he passed on to me.

Rob Adams

In the summer of 06 Bob asked if I wanted to come up to White Hawk Basin with him and Bob Jr. It was the trip where we hauled in planks for the FS bridge. He knew I wanted to learn about packing and this would be a great opportunity. He was such a great teacher, always providing encouragement.

Anyways we had rode into the basin, had unloaded all the bundles and I was tying up the manties He was sitting their watching me and saying "Jon you are doing a great job". And then, I remember so clearly, he just looked at me and said in that distinctive voice "you know Jon I have had a great life and you know I wouldn't change anything about it".

I never forgot that. Thinking how wonderful it would be to have lived your life and not wish you could have changed something. Never seconding guessing what you had or had not done. Few can say that and I envied him for that.

I knew him for so short a time, but in that time he became very special to me. It just won't be the same.

Jonathon Seel

One of the first broad grins we can remember is here in Emmett was that of Bob Howard. Last year was our first year as members of SBBCH. We count ourselves as fortunate learning and listening to Bob about mules and life on the trail. As I reflect and think back on the short time, all I can think of is his kind nature in such a wonderful soul. To me, he reminds me of determination to overcome challenge and to enjoy life to its fullest. I'll miss his kind eyes and laughter. I'll miss hearing his stories about strings of mules. I'll miss his advice. And, with me I'll take how to be a better person by his example that he lead with. And, I'll think of him often on the trail. To those he leaves behind you are in our prayers and loved dearly.

The Beyer Family, Tracy, Trisha, Laura and Roger

I thought if he had more time, I would come up and be with him, but that was not to be. Sigh. I am just so incredibly grateful to have had the awesome opportunity to be with this beautiful family and to be a part of it. The stories Bob Sr. had to share – some made you laugh and some made you cry because you are laughing so darn hard. This world is a much better place – to have known him; and a much sadder place without him. I will hold the laughter, knowledge and friendship he shared so willingly with me forever.

Karen Farnese

Never and unkind word.
 Always a way to complement strengths and ignore weaknesses.
 Eager to share his strength, stories, experience and knowledge.
 Shy to receive and always grateful.
 Tenderness for those who lost something dear.
 Enthusiasm for good groceries.
 Forever finding the way in the will.
 He was our friend.

Sally Schindele

I remember Bob as a big, burley imposing, deep voiced man;
 With a HUGE, gentle, generous and giving heart;
 With a warm and welcoming smile;
 With a wonderful sense of humor.

I remember Bob with tremendous knowledge regarding horses and packing;
 With tremendous experience regarding horses and packing;
 With a great willingness to share that knowledge unconditionally;
 With a great willingness to share without judgment;
 With a great willingness to share with us novices;
 Patiently.

I remember Bob with an unflinching seat on his horse;
 And great confidence in his horse;
 Despite the trail crumbling out from under him.
 He continues to gives me confidence in my riding.

I remember Bob as a very fair man
He never spoke ill of anyone.

I remember Bob as a wonderful Dutch oven cook;
He fed us fabulous delights.

I remember Bob teaching me
to back splice our ropes
and critiquing, encouragingly, my novice efforts.

I remember Bob teaching me,
patiently, to mantee a load with elegance and minimal effort;
many times, each time with equal patience.

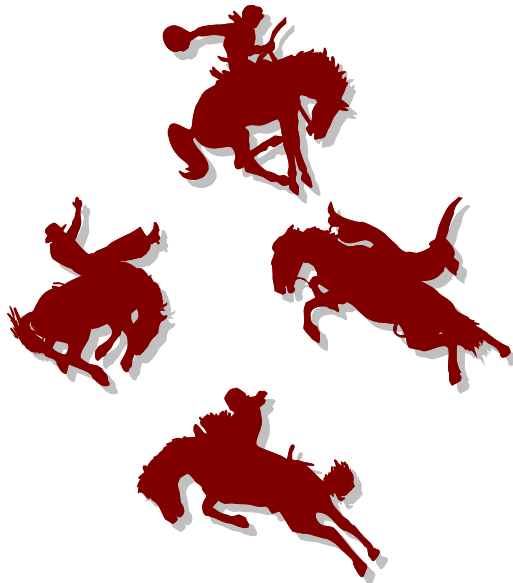
I remember Bob,
I will never forget Bob,
Bob lives on in me,
for he imbued in me his knowledge,
and made me a better person for my knowing him.

I remember Bob
And I will miss him greatly.

Ellen Knapp

What I will remember most about Bob is his attitude towards a difficult job.
Forge straight on until the task is done and Powder River, let'er buck!

Robbin Schindele





PONDERING FROM THE PREZ' SADDLE

Hi All –

This month we lost one of our members. Bob Howard, past SBBCH president, my predecessor as president and my mentor, passed away. Bob was ill for many months; something that I am sure frustrated him since he was such an active man around his ranch, in the saddle, and with SBBCH.

Today was the memorial service for Bob. It was a fitting tribute to his life, his character, and his heart. The reverend mentioned, that as she was listening to stories of Bob and recounts of his life, she thought of Isaiah 52:7 – ‘How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news’. The reverend talked that Bob’s feet followed the path of work and responsibility, but, she said, when he had free time his feet were in the stirrups, traveling to the far corners of the mountains,

admiring God’s work. I thought that was such an apt image of Bob and his life. I will always remember that verse when I think of Bob.

This month’s newsletter is full of remembrances many of us have of Bob.

Please remember our Howard SBBCH members: Donna - his wife, Bob and Chirsty – his youngest son and daughter-in-law; in your thoughts and prayers.

I will miss Bob, but I will think of him with his feet in the stirrups, riding to the far corners of the mountains, admiring the beauty of God’s work, as I ride the mountains.

See you in the saddle.

Ellen

DUES ARE DUE

DOWN LOAD THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FROM THE WEB SITE (LINK IS AT THE BOTTOM OF HOME PAGE) AND BRING IT TO THE MEETING OR MAIL IT IN.