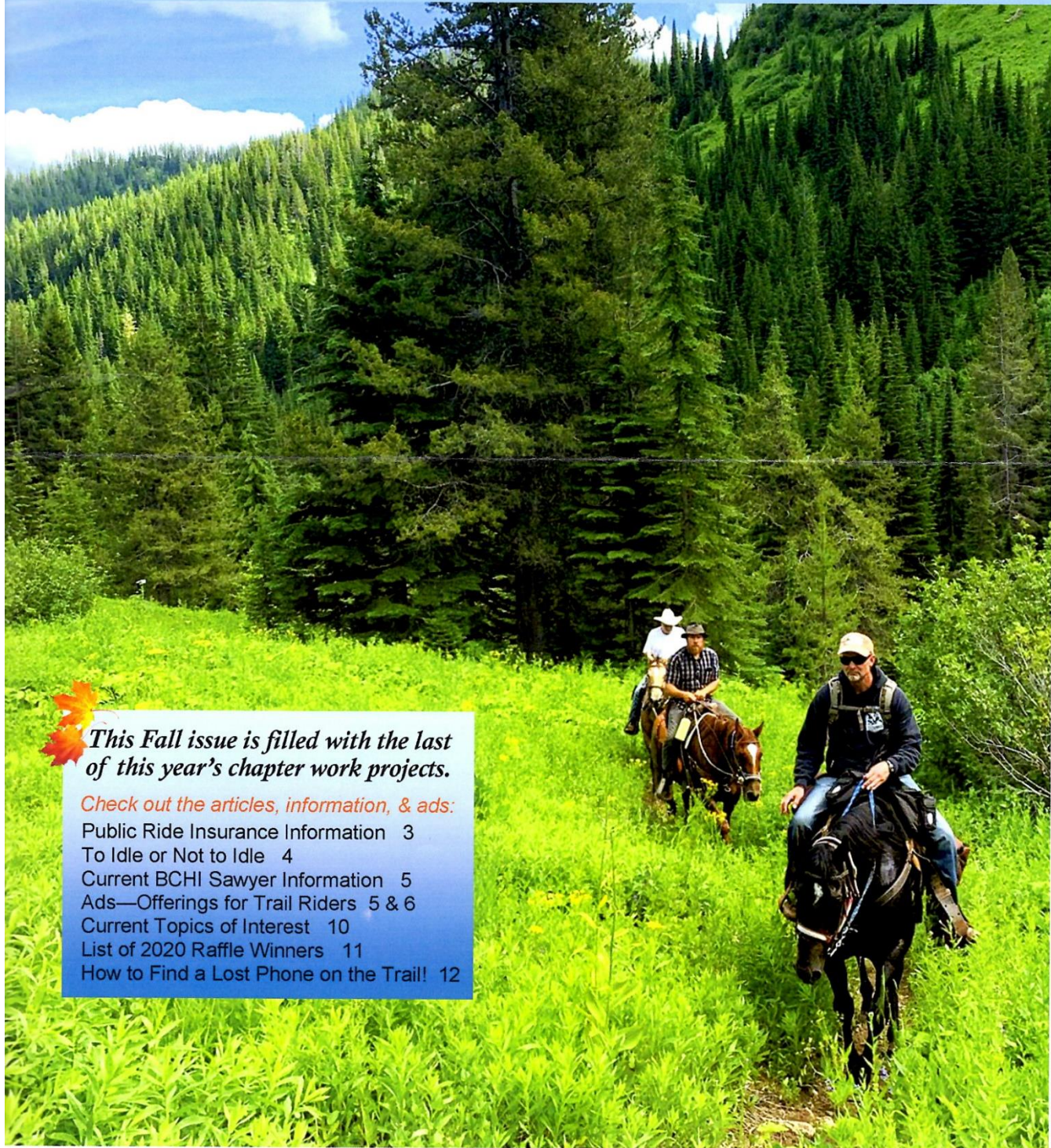




# BROOMTALES

Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc. Newsletter

Fall 2020



*This Fall issue is filled with the last of this year's chapter work projects.*

*Check out the articles, information, & ads:*

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**Rod Parks—CHAIRMAN**

208-791-3246  
rod.d.parks@gmail.com

**Chris Reed—VICE CHAIRMAN**

208-596-1222  
gunslinger44@turbonet.com

**Debbie Samovar—SECRETARY**

208-245-3041  
secretarybchi@gmail.com

**Kay Ryan—TREASURER**

208-398-8993  
ryan3863@speedyquick.net

**Bill Conger—PAST CHAIRMAN**

208-369-0768  
congerwd@gmail.com

**Marybeth Conger—NAT'L DIRECTOR**

208-369-0769  
mbconger1@gmail.com

**Aline Brinkmann—NAT'L DIRECTOR**

208-521-3480  
horsnmd@q.com

**Vacant—ALT NAT'L DIRECTOR**

**Gary Kalmbach—PUBLIC LANDS-NO**  
208-962-7305

garykalmbach@wildblue.net

**Curtis Elton—PUBLIC LANDS-SO**

208-484-8598  
eltonchak@yahoo.com

**Tim Palmer—PUBLIC LANDS-East**

208-604-2736  
tpalmer@watkinsdist.com

**Chris Reed—WAYS & MEANS**

208-596-1222  
gunslinger44@turbonet.com

**Marybeth Conger—EDUCATION**

208-369-0769  
mbconger1@gmail.com

**Karen Kimball—EDU CO-CHAIR**

208-772-2434  
jkkimball01@gmail.com

**Alice Millington—BROOMTALES**

208-475-4107  
millington0606@gmail.com

**Debbie Samovar—CALENDAR**

**& MAILING LIST COORDINATOR**  
208-245-3041

secretarybchi@gmail.com

**Steve Didier—RECRUITMENT**

208-451-0146  
steve.didier@gmail.com

**Jill Nebeker—WEBSITE**

208-922-4370  
jillnebeker@hotmail.com

**Corey L. Dwinell—INSURANCE**

208-661-4265  
coreysfarmers@gmail.com

**Bill Holt—FOUNDATION CHAIR**

208-398-9825  
bill1holt@hotmail.com

[www.bchi.org](http://www.bchi.org)

## View from the CHAIRMAN'S SADDLE

The simple article for this issue would be to just run the same one that was in the Summer Broomtales Issue, as not much has changed in reference to Covid-19 and social distancing. Most of us are wondering when the end of this will come. I know that I never dreamed that it would still be affecting so many people in the world.

Riding has become the therapy to deal with lives being rocked by things we cannot control. Well, actually I love the excuse to ride more. Two new horses have been good for all of us with many hours together.

Some chapters have not been having monthly meetings while many others have been creative and meeting in parks, fairgrounds, and any public place that is outdoors. The challenge is getting more difficult with fall and cold weather arriving. I encourage all of you to keep in touch with other members and try to find a place to hold meetings.

And, many of you have found ways to fulfill your commitments to agencies and accomplish volunteer projects with your approved Covid Plans for the agencies. Thanks for your dedication.

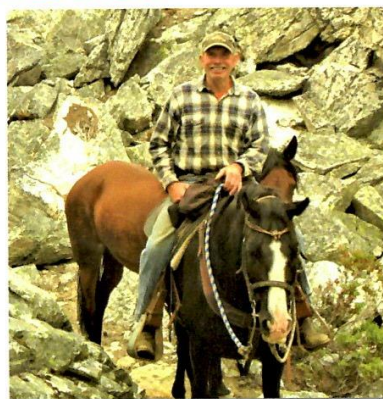
This last month, there have been quite a few issues from BCHA and the Forest Service. BCHA is asking each state to provide our members' phone numbers, cell phone numbers, and alternate email address. In 2018, BCHI voted to provide our email addresses to BCHA, only. BCHA is also asking us to provide a list of members that would like to receive the National Newsletter by email rather than by hard copy. This would add a lot of work for our volunteer secretary, Deborah Samovar.

BCHA Issues that are on the forefront: e-bikes and stock-designated campgrounds across the country being filled by non-stock users. The latter has been a problem for years in more populated states. With Covid and members staying closer to home, conflicts have increased.

With the Department of Interior opening non-motorized trails to e-bikes in some areas and many states having e-bike classifications, the Forest Service has decided to give classifications for e-bikes. To that end, the Forest Service asked for public comment on proposed updates to FS Manual 7700 (Travel Management) and FS Manual 7710 (Travel Planning) by October 26, 2020, on how e-bikes are managed on National Forest. These proposed directive updates will provide needed guidance to field units under existing Travel Management Rule definitions, and establish criteria to designate roads, trails, and areas for e-bike use. Here is a link to learn more on the proposed directive—new proposals are highlighted in yellow:

[cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=ORMS-2619](http://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=ORMS-2619)

—Cont. top of page 3



## BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF IDAHO



### MISSION STATEMENT

To perpetuate the commonsense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country & wilderness.  
To work to ensure that public land remains open to recreational stock-use.  
To assist the government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources.  
To educate, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of these resources by horsemen and the general public.  
To foster and encourage the formation of new Back Country Horsemen state organizations.

**Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc.**

P.O. Box 513

Salmon, Idaho 83467

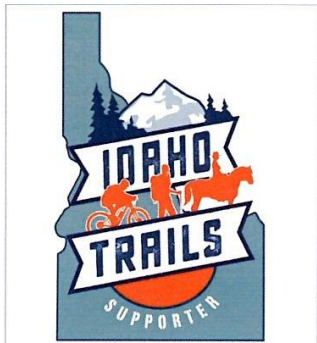
For more information about Back Country Horsemen of Idaho state chapters, visit us on the web at:

**[www.bchi.org](http://www.bchi.org)**

Broomtales is the membership newsletter of the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho, Inc., a non-profit service organization, and is published three times a year—Spring, Summer, and Fall issues.

**Front Cover**—Palouse BCH members Kent Ellsworth (in foreground), followed by Rueben Germain and Bub Latta on the "Celebration" Pack Trip. **Back Cover**—PBCH member Dave Coleman on same trip.





(cont. from page 2) It incorporates new definitions for bicycle, electric bicycle (e-bike), Class 1 e-bike, Class 2 e-bike, and Class 3 e-bike to facilitate designation of these three classes of e-bikes on National Forest System (NFS) trails, on NFS roads, and in areas on NFS lands.

#### A reminder:

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's "Idaho Trails Supporter" Sticker became available on National Trails Day, 2020. For a \$10 donation, you can sponsor Idaho's hiking, biking, and equestrian trails. All proceeds of this voluntary program will go toward maintaining and protecting Idaho's non-motorized trails. To purchase: search for **Parks & Rec Trail's Supporter Sticker Program** on your computer.

*May you all have a fantastic, safe fall and winter,*

**Rod Park**  
BCHI Chairman

## Education Report

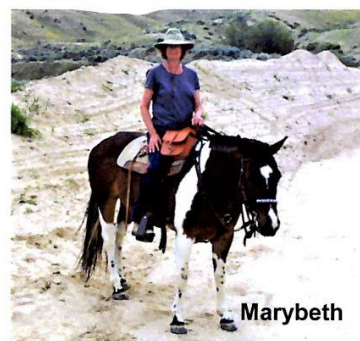
The following is a synopsis of Marybeth and Karen's Education Report, which was submitted for September's BOD meeting:



In answer to the question, "Why do we do, what we do, for the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho organization?", check out a video made of pictures taken on a recent backcountry pack trip at this YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/cjgLgGyMAx8>.

Years ago, an elaborate video was made as a recruitment tool for BCHC to answer that question, and the creation of a new education/recruitment video is in the works.



The new BCHI website looks great! The Education page is less cluttered now and more user-friendly. The changes you now see are a work in progress. We are updating several education documents and adding some new ones to make these tools relevant.

In addition, there's another tool we will be adding: a BCHI Certificate of Achievement as a way to recognize members for their educational accomplishments. The certificate guideline is a simple one, it can be used by BCHI chapters upon successful completion of one of the educational programs found on the BCHI Education page.

To support member development and public outreach, Karen is emailing all chapter presidents (maybe your president has already gotten theirs) to get a number count for the BCHI handbook. Karen will purchase handbooks using dollars from the BCHI Education budget. The plan is to deliver these handbooks at the upcoming convention. This is but another reason to attend the upcoming 2021 convention!

**Marybeth Conger & Karen Kimball**  
Education Co-Chairs

## Chapters: Time to Nail Down Your "Public" Rides for 2021



All BCHI chapter "public" events, such as pack clinics, fund-raisers, community rides, etc., where members of the public are invited, *must be covered by insurance*, which means *registering them with BCHI Insurance Coordinator, Cory Dwinell*. **So, what do you do to register? Read ALL of the following to make this easy:**

Each chapter is allowed insurance coverage for **two public events** during the policy year.\* So, if your chapter intends to invite non-BCHI members to events, your chapter must complete the **Annual Schedule of Events Open-to-the-Public Form** (that's a mouthful), listing your 1 or 2 public events, and send the form to Cory by **February 15, 2021**. The policy does not cover BCHI members, only members of the public.

To find the form; definition of what a "public event" is; answers to frequently asked questions (FAQ); and Corey's contact information, please open the BCHI website (BCHI.org) and click on **Members Only** \*\* to find links to Insurance. The instructions are easy to read and will answer any questions you might have.

\*A policy year runs from April 1 thru March 31 of the following year; so, the next policy year coverage will be **from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022**.

\*\***REMINDER:** Entering the Members Only page on the BCHI website requires a *password*; yes it does! BCHI Webmaster Jill Nebeker says to contact your chapter president or chapter state board representative to get that password.



## Clearing Two Trails from the West Mountain North Trailhead

—Squaw Butte BCH, Information provided by Rob Adams

Located 30 miles north of Ola, Idaho, off Forest Road 625, the West Mountain North Trailhead provides access to two excellent trails: Squaw Creek Trail and Poison Creek Trail. On two different outings, the chapter tackled each of the trails. The Squaw Creek Trail (TR 131) follows Squaw Creek up a canyon of big trees, water falls, and rock formations. This is a technical trail with a number of rocky sections; so, it is better left to experienced trail riders. Poison Creek Trail (TR-134) is a ridge trail, and while there are some steep sections, it is not technical and has amazing views.

Six chapter members worked on the Squaw Creek Trail project. They knew that the first six miles needed brushing, and expected blow down, and were not disappointed: they found lots of both. Tom and Rob handled the chainsaws, while the rest of the crew brushed. By 2:00pm, they were bushed and needed a break; so, the crew stopped at a nice spot by the creek and had lunch; this became the turn-around point, but they stopped a number of times on the way back to do more brushing. By 5:00pm, they were back at the trailers and loaded for the trip home.

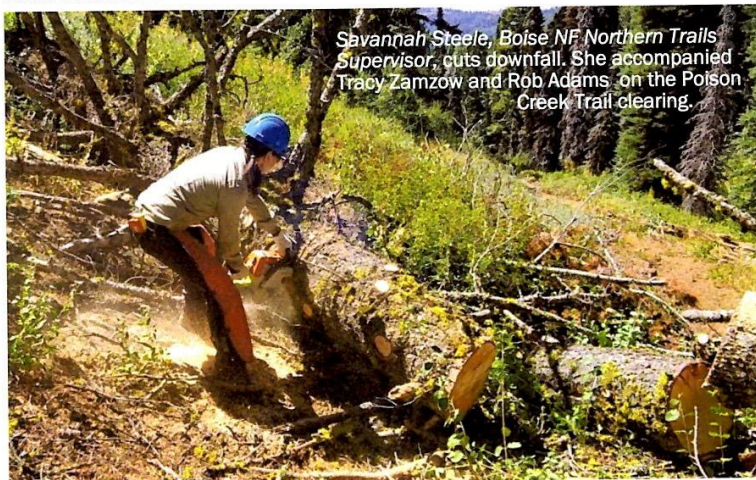
Poison Creek Trail is a very popular trail on West Mountain. It had been awhile since Squaw Butte had a trail project to clear this trail; it is generally the fun ride after working on Squaw Creek Trail. Over the years, especially with years where we experience wet springs, the brush has been growing with enthusiasm, and we found that sections of the trail had all but disappeared. On Saturday July 15, three members of Squaw Butte—"two younger woman and one old man"—with loppers in hand, cleared large sections of the trail: The crew rode about two of the three miles of this trail, stopping to brush when needed. Where they worked, they reestablished the trail corridor 10- to 12-feet on each side of the trail so that users will have little problem finding the official trail, versus all the game and stock trails that riddle this area.



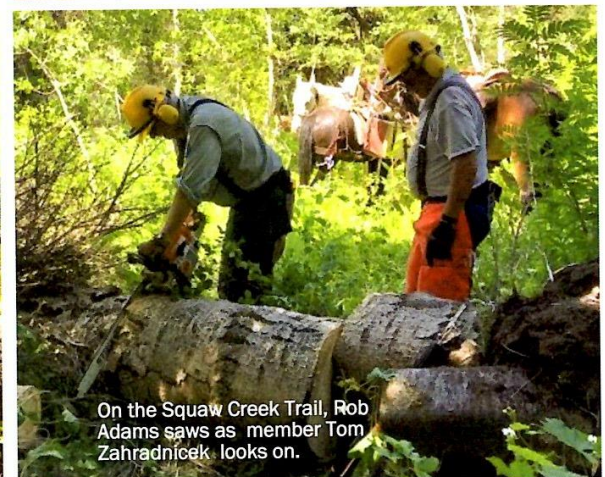
SBBCH members on Squaw Creek Trail



Pack stock on Poison Creek Trail



Savannah Steele, Boise NF Northern Trails Supervisor, cuts downfall. She accompanied Tracy Zamzow and Rob Adams, on the Poison Creek Trail clearing.



On the Squaw Creek Trail, Rob Adams saws as member Tom Zahradnicek looks on.

## To Idle or Not to Idle, That is The Question...for the diesel truck owner

By AJ Millington

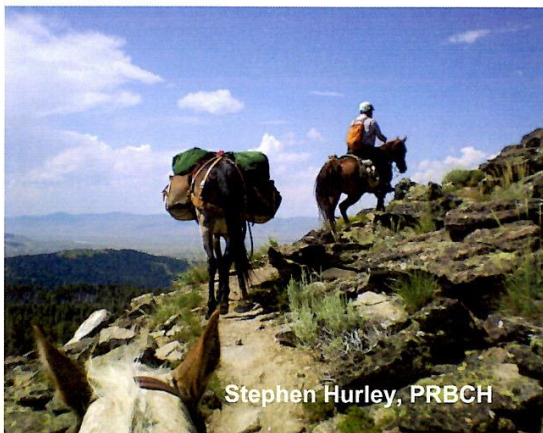


The borrowed title above belongs to an article written by Jim (only Jim) on the Escapees RV Club website about whether a person should idle their diesel trucks after a long trip, especially when pulling a trailer. His short answer: YES. "After 6+ years of traveling full-time and neglecting to regularly let the **engine cool down after long trips (by letting it idle before turning it off)**, the exhaust manifold warped...To maintain top performance and prevent costly repairs to your diesel engine...always let your truck idle for a few minutes after any long haul." I was told the same: My mechanic told me to let my diesel's engine idle for at least 2 minutes after long trips, and I do.



## Surveying the Continental Divide, a Complex Adventure

—Portneuf River BCH & Eagle Rock BCH



Stephen Hurley, PRBCH



Jim White, ERBCH

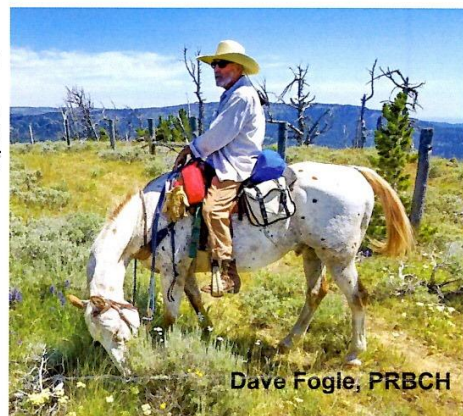
Portneuf River members, Stephen Hurley and Dave Fogle, and Eagle Rock members, Tim Palmer and Jim White, formed a partnership between their two chapters and the Caribou Targhee National Forest to survey 26-miles of the Continental Divide Trail at the end of July. The planned trip was to be short and complex, involving the exchange of vehicles. It became even more complex when one of Eagle Rock's pack mules sustained a serious injury, turning Tim and Jim back about 5 miles into their journey; Stephen and Dave received an InReach message from Tim and Jim explaining that they were headed to a veterinarian. So, Stephen and Dave surveyed the 26-miles. They ended up at Aldous Lake, very busy with people...eventually connecting with Tim and Jim and a ride back out...a very convoluted operation, as it turned out...a tough trip through paradise.

According to Stephen Hurley, surveying trails is a valuable service that nearly all trail riders can perform. He hopes to develop a way to survey utilizing apps to make the process more effective and efficient.

**At right**, in a wonderful portrait photo taken by Stephen Hurley, Dave Fogle takes in the view from horse-back on top of Little Table Mountain at 8,500 ft. elevation; they were headed for the *only* water hole 12-miles away. See the fence posts behind Dave in the photo? There were miles of barbed wire on the ground.

**Lower left**: picture taken by Tim Palmer before they abandoned the survey work to get their injured mule to the vet.

And, **upper left**, a picture taken by Dave Fogle.



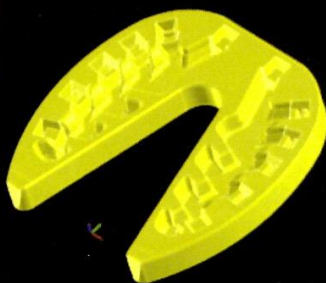
Dave Fogle, PRBCH

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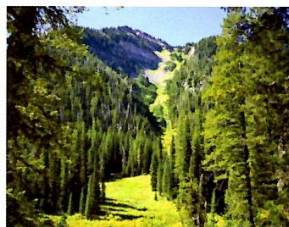
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### BCHI Sawyers

To All Current Crosscut &  
Chainsaw Sawyers:

All current saw qualifications that may have expired, or will soon expire, will now be current through October 2021. This comes out of the Washington DC office. I am seeking additional information regarding new classes but suspect they will be placed on hold until October 2021. (This is due to the restrictions on training and travel because of the ongoing Covid pandemic.)

-Todd Brown, FS

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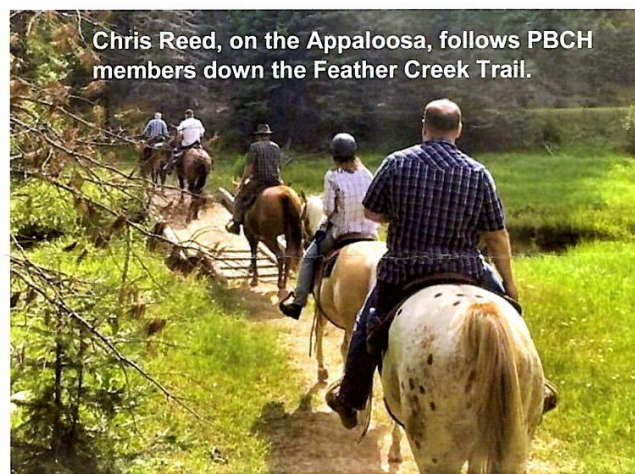
## Clearing a Go-To Trail in the Saint Joe NF

—Palouse BCH, information provided by Chris Reed

In the first part of August, the chapter cleared some trail at Feather Creek. Chainsaws, weed eaters, and loppers made for a very productive day. A little bit about the trail: Feather Creek Loop Trail is located in Idaho's Panhandle, and is a designated U.S. Forest Service trail #789A in the St. Joe National Forest. It is open to horseback riding, hiking, and mountain biking. (In 1973, the Forest Service consolidated the St. Joe National Forest with the Kaniksu and Coeur d'Alene National Forests under the administrative title "Idaho Panhandle Nat'l Forests".)

The trail is located approximately 6-miles north of Bovill, Idaho. No fees are required, limited parking is available, and the trail is open from May to October. The trail has two established loops: the smaller loop is approximately 5-miles long, and the longer loop is approximately 11-miles long. The two loops share approx. 1.5 miles of trail. We cleared both loops, which makes it 16-miles. There were probably 15 trees this year and about 7-miles of heavy brush removal.

Says Chris, "This trail is one we do the most work on as it is in heavy timber and a big windstorm will make for many trips to get it cleared. But it covers some beautiful country, and you can ride it in 100-degree weather and it stays nice and cool." The entire trail system is engulfed in a forest of cedar, birch, and Douglas fir that provides protection from the sun, and there are numerous small streams and springs in close proximity or cross the trail.



## Fish & Game Wildlife Cams Installed

—Eagle Rock BCH, info provided by Jim White & Tim Palmer

According to Jim White, Idaho Fish & Game employee and member of Eagle Rock BCH, "It was a great day in the saddle" when he worked alongside fellow ERBCH members Tim Palmer and Mitch Christensen to install two wildlife cameras along game trails for Idaho Fish and Game on June 20th. The main goal of setting up the cameras, which were installed along trails in the Caribou Targhee National Forest, is to help get a statewide population estimate on wolves. Of course, other wildlife will be captured on camera as well.

"My thanks to ERBCH. And special thanks to Tim and Mitch for the work. Pretty good hands those two," says Jim, who can be seen up the tree in the picture at left, setting up a camera. Tim is taking the picture; Mitch is in the foreground.

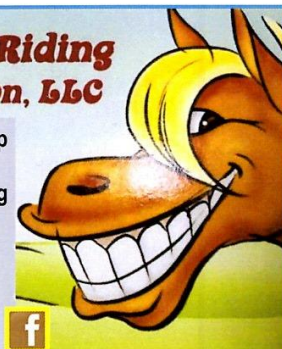
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## Chapter Has Busy Summer Clearing Trails Around Coeur d'Alene

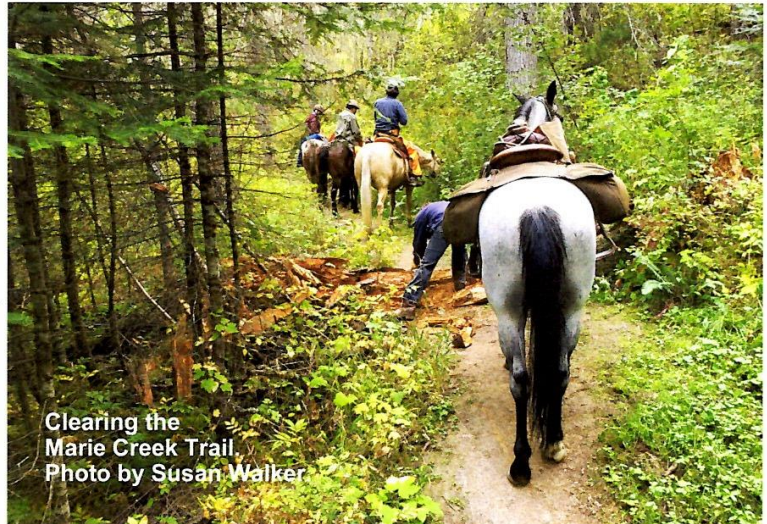
—Panhandle BCH, article by Joni Lueck

The Panhandle Back Country Horsemen chapter has been busy this summer clearing trails around Coeur d'Alene. The work parties have been small, but we have cleared US Forest Service recreational area English Point and Marie Creek Trails east of town, just in the month of September.

The English Point Trailhead is a very busy multi-use system for bicyclists, hikers, and equestrians. It is about seven miles east of Hayden on Lancaster Road. There are many trees in this lovely forest setting, so when we have a major wind event, many trees can come down and block the trails. While on the trail, the group observed a broken post on a hiker pass-through and a downed trail sign. These could be future work assignments for our chapter to repair.

On Sunday, September 20th, three chapter members met at the English Point Trailhead parking area. There was one pack animal and two saddle horses. Member Julie Volpi used her hand-saw where she could, while member Arnie Wilkens ran the chainsaw to clear a total of five trees on or near the trails. I held stock animals and also cleared debris. One large tree had fallen across a walking bridge which the group removed. Many trail users thanked us for clearing out the debris.

On Sunday, September 13th, three members from the chapter—Toni Norton, Julie Volpi, and Jamie Smith—were out pleasure riding on the Marie Creek Trail, an 8.7-mile trail located in the Idaho Panhandle National Forest that the PBCH chapter built several years ago. The members had handsaws, and did a bit of light trail cleaning, but determined that the trail really needed a good clearing with a chainsaw; so, on September 23, a work party of five members—Jim and Karen Kimball, Susan and Irv Walker, and Arnie Wilkens—worked for several hours to clear six-miles of trail with pack animals and chainsaws. The trail is shady and down along the creek, a great place on a hot day. **Photo below, left:** That's Sawyer Arnie Wilkens and Susan Walker, with her back to the camera, on Marie Creek Trail.



Clearing the Marie Creek Trail.  
Photo by Susan Walker



Arnie Wilkins saws out downfall on English Point Trail. Photo by Joni Lueck.

## Clearing an Overgrown Trail to Find Great Fishing

—Squaw Butte BCH, information from Rob Adams

Member Tom Zahradnick, an avid mountain lake fisherman, suggested that the chapter tackle the trail to Cougar Lakes that over the years has fallen into disuse, completely choked with brush and downed trees, most likely because of the trail's steepness. Getting to the lakes would be a satisfying goal, as in the words of the Forest Service website, "Whether you're spinning, fly fishing, or bait casting, your chances of getting a bite here are good." **Photo at right:** Tom is clearing downfall on Cougar Lakes Trail, while Sharie Fitzpatrick uses her lopper on brush.

In 2020, two chapter projects removed a mile of brush, which was hiding the trail, and replaced the sign marking the trail's start. This trail is a spur trail off of the Kennally Creek Trail—a popular trail leading up to multiple lakes—and climbs a very steep hillside through a series of switch backs. Directions to find the trail: Between the towns of McCall and Donnelly, in Valley Co., turn east onto Paddy Flat Rd. from Hwy. 55. Follow the road signs to the Kennally Creek Campground (trailhead), approximately 22 miles and 50 minutes from the highway.





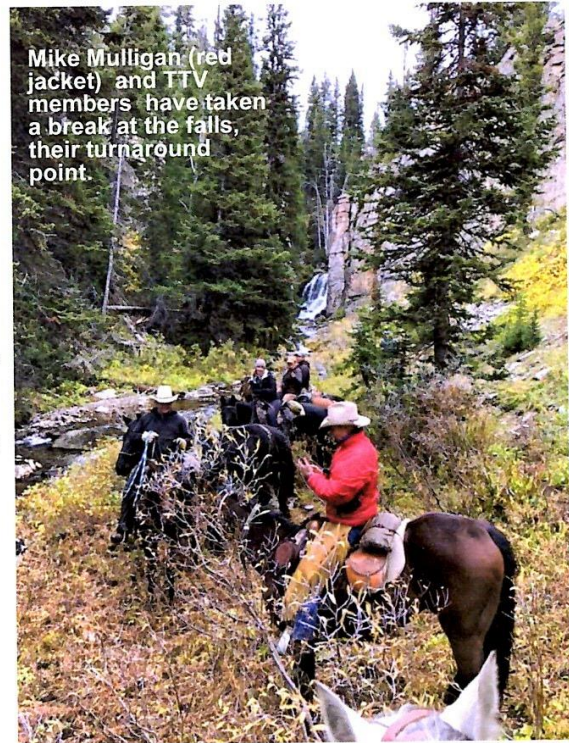
## Clearing Moose Creek Trail in the Jedediah Smith Wilderness Area

—Teton Valley BCH, information from Michael Mulligan

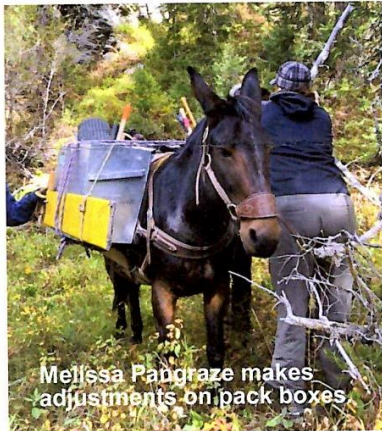
We were asked by the Forest Service to clear multiple downfalls caused by high winds on the wilderness-designated Wyoming/Idaho Moose Creek Trail. On our trail-clearing day, Sept. 27th, we were greeted by a crisp fall day, magnificent mountain terrain, rushing clear water, a mesmerizing waterfall, and happily, the sightings of two different moose. The Moose Creek Trail (038) is open to all Non-Motorized and Non-Mechanized travel: The entire trail is located within the Jedediah Smith Wilderness Area in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, and is a popular route for horses, day hikers, backpackers and Nordic skiers. It provides excellent access to the southern end of the Teton Range. This day, ten members took out several deadfalls, as we made our way up 4-miles to a waterfall—pictured at right, our turn.

With the help and oversight of Forest Service Packer and TTBCS Secretary Melissa Pangraze, who instructed us on the cross-cut saws, we removed several trees blocking the trail—some of them big. Critical to our success was Kevin Little's big draft horse, Billy, who hauled the trees off the trail. Without that draft horse, we would have literally had twice as much work: two cuts instead of one.

With mountains, horses, friends, good work, the day felt magical to me. Joining Melissa, Kevin, and Deb were Melissa's family friend Caden from North Carolina. Also in attendance, and working hard throughout the day, were Lacy Garton, Amanda LayKaiya, Tom Ferguson, Maggie Shaw, and Elaine Johnson. I cannot thank all of the above enough for devoting their Sunday to this valuable public service.



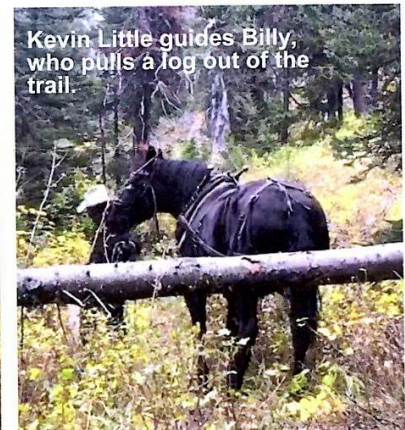
Mike Mulligan (red jacket) and TTV members have taken a break at the falls, their turnaround point.



Melissa Pangraze makes adjustments on pack boxes



Mike Mulligan looks on as Caden (left) and Melissa Pangraze begin to saw downfall.



Kevin Little guides Billy, who pulls a log out of the trail.



Teton Valley members on the Bearwalk Trail

## The Rest of the Story...

--Teton Valley BCH, article by Mike Mulligan

**Teton Valley Back Country Horsemen enjoyed an excellent first year.** We undertook three different trail projects and succeeded on all fronts. The first was a trail clearing day in June (previously reported here) at the Driggs horse non-profit HAPI Trails: we traversed rushing streams and thick foliage that needed trimming. On a more exciting front, we undertook the re-routing of a wilderness trail known as the Bearwalk Trail. This old packer trail had a section that ran down a fairly steep hillside that was plagued by a series of seeping springs.

No matter what time of year, the horses, riders, and back-packers who traveled the trail encountered mud and rock slurries that entailed tricky navigation. It was not fun. Under the direction of Dry Ridge Outfitters Kevin and Deb Little, we devoted two days to mapping out a new trail and then clearing that new passage. The outcome was a nice roundabout through dry terrain in the lovely green forest. It was hard and good work with lots of sawing, trimming, cutting, and clearing. We also recently cleared the wilderness designated Wyoming-Idaho Moose Creek Trail, that story in the article above.

With winter fast approaching it is not clear if we can now take on another project in the back-country although the Forest Service has now asked us to consider constructing some metal tie-posts-and-rails at a popular horse parking destination. We will now have to poll our chapter members to see just who has the skillsets for this project. The bottom line for us: We are off and running, have an enthusiastic membership base, and are really enjoying both riding days and service projects. My thanks to all of our members and to BCH-Idaho for your great support.





## A Tale of Volunteerism, a Mule, & Gratitude

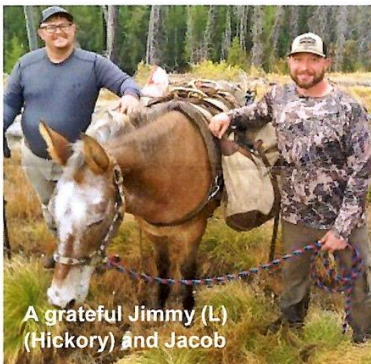
—Treasure Valley BCH, info by Steve Sanderson & Bill Bell

In late September, TVBCH members headed to Bear Valley (FS Rd. #579 off Hwy. 21) to begin clearing the Porter Creek Trail in the Frank Church Wilderness, a popular trail into Bernard Lake. It has not been cleared for years, and was clogged with downfall, so we were planning to be back in 2021. Unfortunately, members were turned back by rain before reaching the Porter Creek Trail, though we managed to clear parts of the Elk Creek Trail, which ties into it. While in Bear Valley, members enjoyed “catching up” with each other on a cloudy Saturday morning, standing outside, watching the clouds—**picture at right**. And, members Bill Bell and Steve Sanderson had a good story to share: The day they arrived in Bear Valley, they agreed to help a couple of elk hunters bring the rest of their elk out—after seeing the hunters stagger back to their camp with “half or little more of a 5X6 bull elk”. Excerpts from a heartfelt ‘thank you’ letter, from Jacob and Jimmy, to Bill and Steve, follow:



“...The next morning came and Steve and Bill were ready to go, mules were fed and saddled.... Jimmy and I led the way, back around the bottom of the drainage, past the winding creek bed, ...and into “blowdown hell.”...I tried to lay down a path that the mules and riders could follow; the mules knew better...lead mule Duke, at the spry estimation of 34-years old...made his way through some of the nastiest downfall and landscape I’ve ever picked my way through. As Duke lead the way, the 2 riders and the other pack mule followed. Nearly an hour-and-a-half into the hike, we came to a log jam, literally. At this point, we all agreed that the mules likely couldn’t go any further, so Jimmy and I headed out...picking our way through the downed burnt logs, covering the last half-mile...Jimmy and I made quick work of loading our packs with the remaining meat, excited that we only had a half-mile of this terrain to cover...As we began to climb the first ridge, out of the creek bed where the bull expired, Jimmy yelled at me, “Jake, look up!” I looked back at him and said, “Look at what?” Jimmy pointed to the top of the ridge above us; there were Bill and Steve and all four mules... I made my way to Bill and Steve, “How did you guys get in here?” Bill said, “We let Duke off his lead rope and followed him.” Needless to say, we let Duke pick the way home...I am still amazed by the generosity that we received that day. Bill and Steve had no plan of packing out elk or helping a couple of hunters fulfill their accomplishments, they had made their way into that area to work on clearing pack trails for riders and pack strings in the Frank Church Wilderness...”

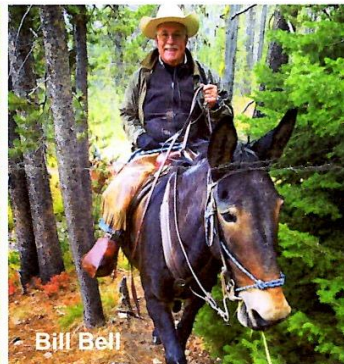
Thanks, Jimmy and Jacob



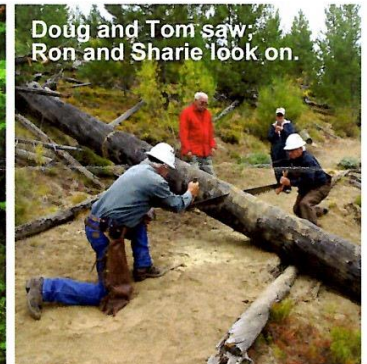
A grateful Jimmy (L)  
(Hickory) and Jacob



Steve Sanderson



Bill Bell



Doug and Tom saw;  
Ron and Sharie look on.

## Packing Restoration Materials & Tools into the Pioneer Cabin

—Cache Peak BCH, information from Mark Ottman



On Public Lands’ Day, Sept. 26th, eight intrepid Cache Peak members packed (8) 4x4 plywood sheets, tools, dimensional lumber, tar paper, and stain up to the Pioneer Cabin

from the Corral Creek Trailhead, a very steep, 5-mile climb with 49-switchbacks! Members packed three sturdy mules with the supplies. It was a great pack trip. The Forest Service and Ketchum/Sun Valley Concerned Citizen’s group had asked Cache Peak to do the packing so that the Forest Service could straighten and strengthen the cabin before winter, which a Forest Service crew accomplished on October 9th.

Also, Mark said that there was so much graffiti inside and outside of the building, that he contacted the Forest Service and Concerned Citizen’s group and let them know that the problem was serious; slogans had been painted on walls and visitors had carved quite a few initials and other words on exterior walls. And so, next spring, Cache Peak members will once again ride up to the cabin and paint and stain it to remove the graffiti. It is hoped that a sign-up log may eliminate some graffiti.



Pictures: Members of Cache Peak pack materials into Pioneer Cabin.





## Did You Get the Message?



### Update: E-Bike Use on Non-Motorized Trails

First, a little background: On August 29, 2019, the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) were directed to include e-bikes in their governing regulations by the US Secretary of the Interior (Order 3376). The order states that *"E-bikes shall be allowed where other types of bicycles are allowed; and E-bikes shall not be allowed where other types of bicycles are prohibited."*

In response to this, the aforementioned agencies included guidance rules in their governing regulations, which they could implement without seeking advice from experts, stakeholders, and the public because the "order" was made without notice or input, to the chagrin of stakeholders and the public. So, in April 2020, they proposed new regulations, and public comment was sought by all four agencies, regarding these proposed regulations; the individual comment periods for the agencies all ended in early June.

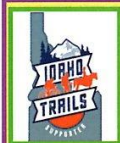
Part of the proposals: The BLM, FWS, and BOR's rules create an *opt-in* system where agency officials must decide on an area-by-area basis whether to allow e-bikes; whereas, the NPS created an *opt-out* system, which permits e-bikes access unless an NPS official restricts the use of e-bikes in an area.

Google Back Country Horsemen of America to read BCHA's formal, and very lengthy, thorough and well-written public comments to the BLM, NPS, and FWS on their proposed rules for the use of e-bikes. In a nutshell: BCHA opposes any effort, including the Proposed Rule, that would attempt to super-impose motorized forms of travel and recreation on non-motorized trails used by hikers, equestrians and others. **The Back Country Horsemen of America, joined by 60 regional and national trail and recreation organizations "expressed, in no uncertain terms, their unified opposition to any change in agency policy that would authorize e-Bikes, which clearly are motorized vehicles, on non-motorized trails."**

### The Great American Outdoor Act

With the passage of the Great American Outdoor Act, there is new funding for projects on the ground. Several of the national forests have received money, and are making funding requests for additional projects. Find out if the trails, bridges, and trailheads you know need maintaining or repairing are on a list for funding by contacting your national forest.

Note: BCH of Washington met with a District Ranger in the Umatilla NF and found out that she has requested \$2.25 million for maintenance on 90-miles of trails in the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness and \$350,000.00 to replace a bridge that burned in a fire. Good to know.



### IDAHO TRAILS SUPPORTER STICKER PROGRAM

**Just \$10 buys a Trails' Supporter Sticker**

Sticker donations are a way that trail users can ensure the trails they love stay open.

"With no dedicated funding source for maintenance, trails are slowly disappearing," says Tom Helmer, Non-Motorized Trails Manager for the Dept. of Parks & Recreation, "Help us spread the word that Idaho's trails need your support."

Google: [Parks & Rec Trails Supporter Sticker Program](#)

In the words of Stacy Gebhards, an excerpt from his book



### WHEN MULES WEAR DIAMONDS

- Mountain Packing with Mules and Horses -

"Horses seem to be more random in their kicking habits and with less precision than mules. A mule can be as accurate as a sniper with a variable-power telescopic sight and will have a reason for picking out a specific bulls eye. The first time I used spurs on "Comin", he reached up with a hind foot and spun the rowel. I thought, he can't be that good.....spurred him again.....he spun the rowel once more just to show me it was no accident."



### 2022 CALENDAR CALL for PHOTOS

**DUE DATE FOR PHOTOS—November 30th**

Photos must be of BCHI members taken by BCHI members or taken for BCHI. Can be taken in any state, but cover photo will be selected from photos of Idaho. Submit as many photos as you wish on CD, DVD or USB drive in JPEG Format. NO PRINTS. USB drives will be mailed back to you.

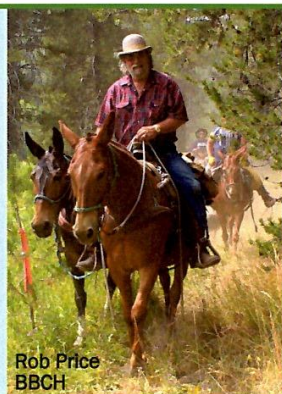
If you want your CD/DVD back please let me know. No CD or USB drive? Email them to me.

Set digital cameras to highest resolution settings possible.

**Photos must have a horse/mule in the shot. Sawyers must be wearing safety gear. Heads and faces preferred over tails and backs. Kids photos welcome. Photos are placed by seasons.**

ONLY WINTER PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT CONVENTIONS. Send submissions to:

**Debbie Samovar, 9176 E Soaring Hawk Ln, St. Maries, ID 83861  
208-245-3041, [secretarybchi@gmail.com](mailto:secretarybchi@gmail.com)**



Rob Price  
BBCH

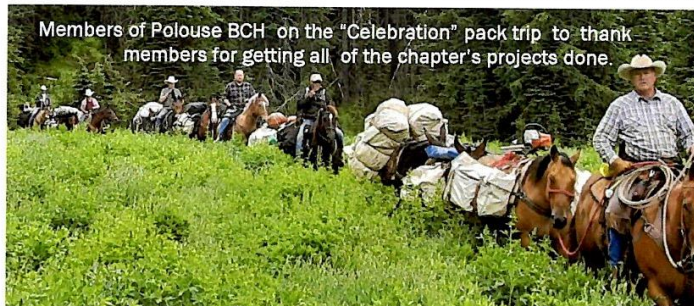


## For Your Information...

### Showing Appreciation to Chapter Members...

As we close in on the end of the year, many chapters show appreciation to members. Receiving positive recognition is a fundamental human need—it improves the lives of both those who give and receive it; it boosts moral; it motivates and inspires; it builds trust; and it shows respect. So, what have chapters done to recognize their members?: Held annual dinners; given member awards for outstanding contributions to the chapter and/or to chapters' projects; given "thank you" mementos; shared anecdotes about members and the year's adventures on the trail; put on chapter slide shows; and held trail rides.

As an example of the latter, the Palouse chapter held a pack trip into Goose Lake on July 17th for all chapter members. President Chris Reed described the event: "We rode into Goose Lake on July 17th, where we set up camp. On Saturday, the 18th, we spent the day riding to two of the Trio Lakes and spent some time fishing at each one. On Sunday, we rode to French Lake and spent some time there. Then, on Monday, we packed camp back out to the trailhead. Seven members took advantage of the trip." His chapter was "celebrating the fact that all [of their] trail cleaning projects had been completed for the year." It was put on as a "thank you" to members.



Kudos to all BCHI chapter members, those who ride the trails; clear the trails; provide and pack the stock; provide meals for the crew; provide education; serve as officers and board members; manage the newsletter, websites & Facebook pages; etc... to all of you, thank you for your service and dedication to the Back Country Horsemen of Idaho organization and your continued work to keep Idaho trails open.



### BCHI "FOUNDATION" NEWS

**AmazonSmile's impact to date:**  
**\$842.44**

**to the BCHI Foundation Inc.**

Last quarter we received \$109.20 from AmazonSmile's charitable giving—\$30 up from the previous quarter.

**Our "thanks" to all of you who designated the BCHI Foundation, Inc., as your charity-of-choice.**



### Winter You and Your Horse/s in ARIZONA!

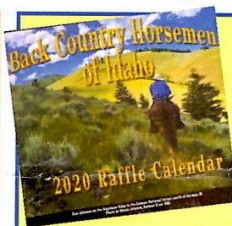
Unique opportunity to spend from one to five months in Aguilar, AZ, at a facility that provides a campsite for your camper/trailer/RV/horse trailer with living quarters AND two of your horses!

This is "dry camping" with water and regular septic pumping available. Power with solar or generator. Four (4) total campsites on a 17-acre site. Months available are November and December 2020 and January, March and April 2021, at only \$500 per month!

Included: 50'x100' parking area; 50'x100' pen; 2 - 12'x12' covered stalls. There is an arena on the property and it's 1/4 mile to BLM land. There are mountains to the north and south, and lots of horse people and trails. Hay available.

**For information: Lisa Bjerka, SBCH, at 208-481-1418.**

## Congratulations!



### 2020 Raffle Winners

**\$3,000 Grand Prize Winner:**

**Darlene Bills of Melba, ID**

### The \$500 Gift Card Winners:

Jennifer King – New Plymouth, ID  
Paul & Toni Bogar – Lewiston, ID  
Justin Kreitel – Boise, ID  
Dave Coleman – Troy, ID  
Skyla Stewart – Boise, ID  
Hilary Mourton – Boise, ID  
Julie Bentley – Grangeville, ID  
Mike Berghammer – Clarkston, WA  
Donna Geibel – McCall, ID  
Bill Murphy – Boise, ID  
Todd Roberts – Kamiah, ID

### Winner of a \$50 gift card:

**Kathleen Rodriguez - Eugene, OR**

She responded to the "Contact Us" message inside the front cover of the calendar.



### ADVERTISE IN BROOMTALES Alice Millington (208) 475-4107 millington0606@gmail.com

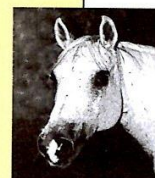
Alice may bend the rules a bit, but generally the following applies:

**FREE Member Classified Ads - Equine/Back Country-related only - No Business/Service Ads**


**FREE Chapter Event Announcements**

**Business Card-Size Advertisements—Member \$25 Non-member \$50 - Larger ads can be accommodated**

BCHI and Broomtales are not responsible for the content of any ad or the condition or temperament of any merchandise.


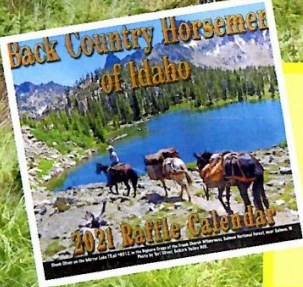






**BROOMTALES**

Back Country Horsemen, Inc.  
Debbie Samovar, Secretary  
9176 E Soaring Hawk Lane  
Saint Maries, ID 83861

**2021  
Calendars  
are Here!**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 104  
Boise, Idaho



Electronic Service Requested

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF AME  
ROBERT ADAMS  
PO BOX 486  
HORSESHOE BND ID 83629-0486

T00333



## Finding a Lost Phone on the Trail—Here's How It's Done

—by Stephen Hurley of Portneuf River BCH

This is a true story. I lost my phone riding on the 15-mile Mahogany Creek Trail near Driggs....The picture above was taken on the Mahogany Trail looking east toward the Teton Range in Easter Idaho. The Mahogany Trail is 15-miles long and has 2,800 feet of climbing. The ride is mostly through forest and leads up to a high meadow called Elk Flat—for those that want to go further, the ride continues all the way to the top of Garn's Peak, the highest point in the Big Hole Mountains.

On this ride, I lost my phone on the trip back to the trailers. Summer growth along the trail was thick. There was no hope of finding the phone by going back up the trail. And, with my phone were my driver's license, debit card, and cash. I was resigned to my fate of being \$75 poorer, not having my best-ever phone case, somehow getting another phone as fast as possible, the hassle of applying for a copy of my driving license, and going to the bank for a new debit card.

It didn't occur to me, until I got back to Pocatello, that I had used my computer a long time ago to find another phone. I knew there was no time to waste; the phone would be dead before morning. But, finding the site on the internet was easy, and in no time, I had the phone's location, shown on a Google map, plus the phone's coordinates in latitude and longitude. Because I use Google and my phone is a Samsung, the site I used was Google's Find My Device service, which provided me with the coordinates for the lost phone.

Well, the story has a good and bad ending. The bad part: I had to drive 4 hours and take another 8-mile ride up the trail to retrieve the phone. The good ending: I found the phone safe and sound: It was hidden deep in brush, and it would never be found otherwise by anybody. So, if you lose your phone (or someone steals it), get on the computer right away and find its location, either as an address or if off-road then with latitude and longitude. You might be mortified to realize that you need the GPS app on your phone to find your phone. Note: You can also locate a missing device with apps for Android and Apple.