

PBCH Newsletter December, 2015 Tails and Trails

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Issue No. 12



2016 PBCH President Jerry Shriner President's Saddlebag

As I write this it is just a week since the PBCH Christmas Party. Thanks to Karen and her helpers for all your work.

It was a fun evening spent with good friends. As you read it the new year will already be here and I hope you all had a good Christmas and a happy beginning to 2016.

The dry, hot weather made for a bad fire season and the cancellation of several trail rides and trips into the back country but we still managed several rides, events and projects. I remember the tune-up clinic, the de-spooking clinic and Escure Ranch. I didn't make the Asotin ride or the 4th of July Pass ride but I did get to pack a couple Idaho Public TV staff into St Joe Lake to film part of their program on Idaho river headwaters.

We had work projects at Marie Cr., Red Ives, Heyburn State Park and Chilco Mtn. Maddy and Jim K. just finished repairing the roof on the storage trailer for the last project of the year.

Like many of you, I was able to squeeze in a few non-chapter rides so it was a good summer in spite of the fires.

So while we clean our tack, repair some pack gear and correct a bad habit or two (ours and theirs), we can start to think of what to do as we creep up on spring. Perhaps some early rides where the weather warms up early or some projects that didn't get done this year will go on your list for 2016.

Happy trails. Jerry

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

November PBCH Minutes

PBCH Meeting November 21, 2015

AGENDA

6:45-7:07 p.m.: Program: Fire Starter Options by Arnie Wilkens

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 7:07 p.m.

PLEDGE

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS- none present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income- \$140 (2016 Calendars)

Expenses- \$420.80 Bill Clarke (State BOD)

\$33.96 Karen Kimball (2 mo. refreshments)

\$20 Joni L. (2 mo. newsletters)

\$4.20 Deborah S. (service certificates)

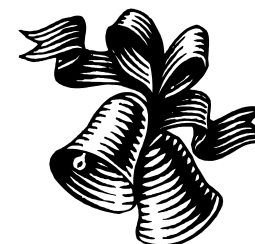
\$223.74 Jerry Shriner (State BOD lodging)

Total- \$702.70

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Information Corner

Newsletter Editor Joni Lueck 659-9066 or jklhorserider@gmail.com

Please go to www.pbch.org and print out 2016 **membership form** and mail in. Please email Stan Smith, treasurer sdsmith7566@yahoo.com if you have questions.

2016 Calendars now available. These make great Christmas gifts: \$20. A great deal for you and the club. This year's prizes will be 11 - \$500 gift cards and a grand prize of a \$6000 gift card. This is a great fundraiser for the chapters in Idaho.

Remember to get your PBCH membership card which is good for **10% discount** at the North 40 Store. Get it from treasurer Stan Smith.
Life Flight memberships. The yearly dues are \$45 for BCHI members. Cindi Richardson has membership applications. Her phone number is 699-3116. Important to have in case of med evac emergency in mountains during trail riding or other events.

Calendar of Events

January 16^{3rd} Saturday of the month PBCH socialize at 6:30, and the business meeting starts at 7:00. Dalton Gardens City Hall, 6360 4th St. There will be no regular business meeting in December.

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Progressive Pot- \$28 (\$114 from last month will be deposited into the PBCH account)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT-

Line Creek- Jerry contacted Tracy Gravelle in St. Maries. The Trail Committee will work with her on a new project for summer 2016.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Events committee

Karen talked about the Christmas party. She would like to see people bring toys (Toys for Tots) or canned food donations (Food Bank) in lieu of a gift exchange. Please send Karen your photos from the last couple of years for inclusion in the Christmas party's slideshow.

Trail committee

Blue Creek Trail- the BLM contact says many comments were received from the mountain biking community but none from the equestrian community. Karen, Jerry, and Joni will represent PBCH and meet with a BLM contact in January to give input. Jim Kimball made a motion to oppose bicycle use on all current and proposed Blue Creek Trails. Diane Shriner seconded and suggested that the members of PBCH prepare to work on the trails.

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2016 PBCH Officers, board members and public lands coordinator contact information:

Jerry Shriner, president, 667-2949 ;

Arnie Wilkens, vice-pres. 755-2193;

Deb Stratton , secretary, 659-8737; and

Stan Smith, treasurer, 755-4490.

Board members: Bob Funke 660-7919;

Bill Clarke 687-1968;

Ray Heilman 772-7301; and

Karen Kimball 772-2434.

Jill Reineccius, public lands coordinator 660-5549

Christmas Party 2015

The Christmas Party Dec. 5 at the Broken Tee Grill at the Coeur d'Alene Public Golf Course Clubhouse was a nice location with lots of lights, pretty Christmas decorations, and enough room for the group to enjoy a photo presentation put on by trail boss Karen Kimball. The food was buffet style with beef and chicken as the main meat selections. Two types of vegetables, bread and potatoes made up the main course. A cheesecake was the featured dessert selection.

Cindi Richardson and Alan Harper were named Horsewoman and Horseman of the year for their contributions to the chapter. Incoming officers Jerry Shriner, Arnie Wilkens, Deb Stratton and Stan Smith were introduced and will head the chapter in 2016. We want to thank Dan Trevithick and Kathy Baker for their service as officers last year 2015.

Blue Creek Bay Recreation Area Update

There are new trails in the planning stages west of the Blue Creek Bay existing trail system off Yellowstone Trail Road. PBCH members Jerry Shriner, Karen Kimball, Shari Bolander and Joni Lueck met with BLM representatives Dec. 8 to learn about the proposed trails and parking areas.

The trails will be shared among hikers, equestrians and mountain bike riders. One section of the new trail system is being planned for just mountain bikers as it is steep and winding, said Mitch Owen, recreation planner for BLM. The proposed trails for the horse folks will be in the middle of the approximate 300-acre parcel and the outside loops may accommodate the bicyclists, he said. Other plans could include a kiosk, trail maps and possibly an outhouse, he said. This Westside parcel is part of a 736-acre parcel acquired by BLM with help of the Wallace Forest family. Currently the trail system is marked with a color scheme. Forester Debbie Paul suggested the new trails could be named with help of PBCH.

PBCH did offer future help with trail marking, trail maintenance and construction of a trailhead horse gate.

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Public lands

Jerry reported a potential sizeable project at Line Creek next summer. Joni sent out information on the Pacific NW Trail and the Continental Divide Trail. In January there will be discussion of using club fees to pay for gas for members to travel to work parties.

Membership committee- no report. Diane S. asked that a spring push be made to beef up active membership. Jerry recommended starting in January. Diane suggested that we examine looking at the dues structure (when they are due) to more align to the riding season. This may be put on the January agenda for discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

Scholarship grants- One student, Madeline Baker, has applied for the scholarship and has completed all but one of the requirements. She will work with Jim K. to repair the roof on the storage shed.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit committee appointments- a financial review is required annually based on our by-laws. Arnie, Kay, and Carla will work on this committee. They will work with Stan to review the records at the first BOD meeting and prepare a report for the January general meeting.

Chapter T-Shirts- Karen K. is putting together an order for pullover sweatshirts, t-shirts, zip-up hooded jackets, and hooded pullovers.

Progressive Pot- Ray H. made a motion that 100% of the pot go to the person whose name is drawn if that member is present at the meeting. This would start in January, 2016. Arnie suggested that it be kept at half and the other half goes toward reimbursing people for fuel toward work parties. Diane S. made a motion to table the discussion until the January meeting. Deborah S. made a second. Karen K. shared that it has been in the past minutes that members may request reimbursement for fuel (typically \$50).

Report of the nominating committee (Joni, Stan, and Traci) & election of 2016 officers - Stan made a report. All positions were open.

Jerry accepted a nomination to run for a second year as president. There were no other nominations for president. Stan agreed to be the treasurer again. No one has agreed to serve as secretary. Dan had agreed to serve another year as VP but is now moving to Wyoming. Arnie offered to serve as VP. Kim H. made a motion to nominate him. Ray and Bob F. will serve on the BOD for another year. Deborah S. moved that they pass a unanimous vote for the slate of officers with the exception of the open secretary position. Jim K. made a second.

Les Schwab agreed to sell PBCH calendars. Karen purchased a stand to display a calendar. Ray H. will look for some at the Dollar Store. Stan made a motion to buy stands for calendars. Deb S. made second. Arnie made a motion to reimburse Karen K. for hers; Kim made a second.

Progressive Pot \$28- Michael Anderson's name was drawn. He was not present.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m. Minutes submitted by Secretary Kathy Baker

PBCH \$500 Scholarship Winner Maddy Baker

"What are the benefits of participating in the Panhandle Back Country Horsemen activities for young people such as yourself?"

The past two years of participating in the Panhandle Back Country Horsemen have been an incredible opportunity to evaluate life in and out of the saddle. As a younger member of the Panhandle Back Country Horsemen, I was gifted with many opportunities to simply listen to insightful messages of many of our members while surrounded by God's creation.

Although the riding season was cut short by wildfires this year, I was able to join some PBCH members on the Marie Creek trail ride. Before we started out, Mr. Kimball educated me on the necessity of carrying a pocketknife at all times on the trail, explaining that it can mean the matter of life or death for a horse. I borrowed the Kimballs' mustang, Reno, who was clearly more knowledgeable than I on the trails. As we went along enjoying the views, I loved to hear the members reminisce past trail rides, which often times were accompanied by a lesson applicable to the trail. Crossing the streams gave way to a discussion on how to encourage unsure horses to cross bodies of water, and the advice I received has helped me greatly with my mare. These are just a few examples of the helpfulness and insight the members provided to me whenever I had a question.

The chilly morning warmed up within a few hours, and we tied the horses up to start on some trail work. Mr. Kimball handed me a saw, and after about thirty minutes, I had cleared out some dead vegetation that was partially blocking the trail. Doing little things like this on the trail really encourage me in knowing that I can make a difference and help people simply with some elbow grease. And, better yet, looking at the work the group did as a whole renewed my sense of togetherness and team work.

The Marie Creek trail ride is a memory I cherish, not only for the helpful advice I received, but also because it was a great chance to work and ride alongside some very insightful members.

More recently, at one of our last meetings, Miss Ginger provided a discussion on trail safety during hunting season, which is something that I had not put much thought into – thank goodness Ginger gave some valuable pointers before I rode again, or else my horse's head might be hanging above a fireplace at this very moment... One point I particularly found memorable was that not only is it a good idea to cover oneself in bright colors during hunting season, but it gives us, as horse owners, an opportunity to desensitize our horses from bright orange "scary" things, and as Ginger demonstrated, can be fashionable as well.

Overall, the two best benefits of being a young person in the Panhandle Back Country Horsemen were getting an opportunity to be outside and learning from many experienced riders. It seems that more and more people, especially my age, are choosing to spend their time inside looking at a screen. The Panhandle Back Country Horsemen have provided me with many opportunities to be outside and grow a greater appreciation for nature as well as for the mount I am riding. Listening to other members share their wisdom was greatly enriching, and not only improved my trail safety and knowledge, but helped me with much more broad topics that I will carry with me for a lifetime.



