

SQUAW BUTTE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

CHARTERED 1992

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2008

IN THIS EDITION:

LIGHTNING RIDGE REVIEW

TUCKER'S FIRST PACKING

HITT MOUNTAIN

DANGER! HORSE EATING BOG

AND MORE



Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen meet the first Thursday at 7 PM every month
La Costa Restaurant, 517 N. Washington, Emmett ID
Social hour and no-host meal begins at 6 PM

For more information contact Ellen Knapp, President, 398-7279 or president@sbbchidaho.org

Presidential Ponderings

Dear Members,

Did you read that our Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA) volunteer hours for 2007 was the highest ever in the 22 years of our organization's existence? We contributed over \$5.6 million in total economic value. That equates to \$432 for each of our 13,000 BCHA members. Over the last 13 years our organization has contributed over \$37 million in value to the public. That is a fantastic amount for a volunteer organization. Back Country Horsemen perform more volunteer service hours on Federal lands than most any other single organization. That is incredible. And this service benefits all the users of the public lands.

I want to draw your attention to an article in the Back Country Horsemen of America summer 2008 newsletter. Our Public Lands Chair, Steve Didier (of BCH Idaho) wrote the article titled "Public Lands Musing". I found the musings he enumerated very profound especially in light of the numbers stated above. Steve points out that we equestrians have come increasingly under 'unwarranted attack' by

the International Mountain Biking Association and other organizations. The following two sentences from the article really hit home: "What puzzles me is that, to my knowledge, there has never been a campaign waged against any other user group by equestrians to eliminate that group from the public landscape. In fact, BCHA has worked side by side with other groups to rebuild, build and maintain trails and trail heads that often benefits those other groups more than equestrian users." Wow! That is why it is so important for us to continue to lobby for continued access to the public lands. That is why it is so important that we continue to reach out to these other user groups and work with them to preserve and maintain continued access to the public lands. That is why it is so important for us to publicize our good works. All public land users face continued decreased access partly due to decreased budgets, funding, and personnel in the managing agencies. I encourage you all to think about this and do something about this. Together, united, we have power.

See ya on the trail, *Ellen*

- President** Ellen Knapp president@sbbchidaho.org 208 365-0737
- VP** Tami Buthman info@sbbchidaho.org 208 549-2054
- Secretary Team** Linda Phillips secretary@sbbchidaho.org 208 585-3019
- Linda Hayes secretary@sbbchidaho.org 208 571-0376
- Treasurer** Charles Lox treasurer@sbbchidaho.org 208 398 7279



LIGHTNING RIDGE REVIEW

By Linda Hays

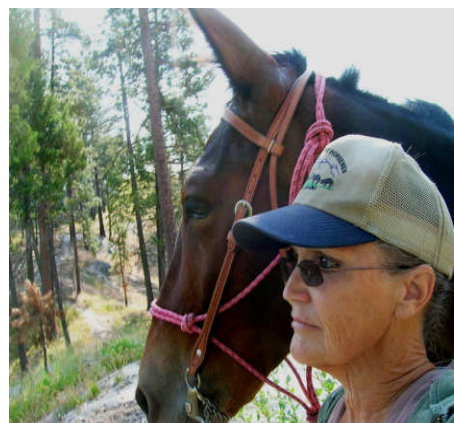
Early morning July 20th I headed out with my mule "Lily" to Rob Adams' place to share trailer space with "Willow" and "Moosely" to the Lightning Ridge trailhead. We left early as it promised to be a hot day and we were not sure what we were going to run into. Rob had gone up prior that week to see if the trailhead would accommodate our horse trailers and found it to be quite unfriendly. It could only allow possibly 5-6 trailers at most. We got there about 9am, saddled up and left the trailhead by 9:30.

We rode along a logging road for awhile, admiring the beautiful granite rock formations that set the tone for many sites we would come across during our ride that day. The horses and mule moved along looking at the surroundings and probably were thinking "where are we now". Soon there was a faint detail of a trail to the left and a hill in front of us that had been grooved by quads. I asked Rob if he had ridden this trail before, he said "no", not exactly what I wanted to hear, but Rob seems to have some kind of an internal map in his head and seemed to know where we were going, so Lily and I followed along.

The trail headed toward a gorgeous rock formation that was on both sides of the trail. The trail at this point was well defined and led us to the start of an incredible venture along the ridge. Just beyond that the

trail disappeared in the heavy brush along the granite formation and hillside, we continued on not too sure if we were on the actual trail. However, once past the brush the trail started up again and we gazed out to see both sides of the mountain. Rob, tied up his stock, took his trimmers and headed back to open up the trail. I got to stay and make sure those rascally critters we were riding didn't get into any trouble. I thought I could handle that.

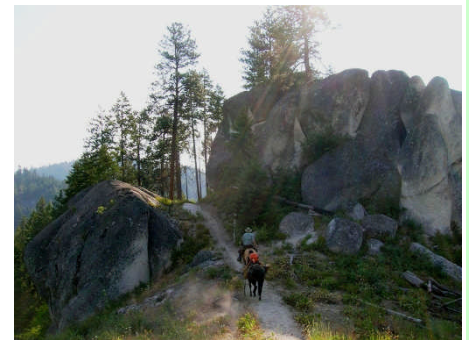
Rob was gone for awhile and I was snapping pictures of the rocks, trees, flowers, bear scat and the mountain side when I noticed that Lily was standing stiller than I had ever seen her. She was looking out into the mountain side with the most serene look in her eyes; I was not sure if she saw something of interest or was just mesmerized by the site. So now I was taking pictures of Lily and thought I would try a self portrait while I waited. No body was around, right, and Rob was still down trimming brush. So I snapped a head shot of me and Lily, now see



what happens when you get left alone with a camera and a bunch of horses that are behaving. Do you

know hard it is to take a picture of yourself?

Anyway, Rob finally comes back and we start up the trail on the ridge. The trail was just beautiful, everywhere you look were open views of both sides of the ridge, more granite rock formations and lush green areas with flowers



blooming. We stopped again to clear some brush on the trail, still not completely sure we were clearing a hiking trail or an Elk or Deer trail. We were steadily climbing along the ridge and we come across a marker on a tree. 6.5 miles is etched on the marker, Rob says the trail leads to Deadwood reservoir and it is 13 miles from the trailhead where we started. I think that makes us half way there, right?

We continue to climb along the ridge, the trail so far seems to be fairly tame, it gets a little iffy every so often on the side of a slope and the trail gives away from under the horses feet, I can't see what going on under my mules feet, so I'm not too worried. My biggest worry at this time is figuring out how a horse or mule can walk on a small loose dirt trail (12 to 14 inches wide), and stay on it while trying to enjoy the buffet of delicious grasses and flowers along the way.

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As we are riding the ridge we look up to see what appears to be some kind of skulls and cross bones nailed to the trees ahead, thinking they are probably someone's Elk head left behind, we ride forward to check out the trail and what kind of skulls they are. Curious as to why they were placed there, I have decided they are horse heads and have all kinds of things running through my head as to why they would be placed at this place in the trail. As we look ahead to where the trail goes, it looks as though the trail ends here or it goes around the face of the granite rock in front of us. Rob decides to ride forward on a dirt area between the rocks and as he gets to the top he looks both ways and says "this doesn't look good, I don't have anywhere to go". Not good, not what I want to hear from the trail boss at all. But Rob, taking it all in stride and not letting his horses know there is a potential problem, guides them down the rock and says "we are going to lead them over the rock" All I see is one big rock that

goes nowhere and whether or not there is trail on other side is up for discussion. Now here is where it gets to be fun, Rob gets off, leads his mustangs over the granite rock to the trail on the other side, no problem. I am trying to get my footing on the loose granite pieces around the rock when Lily notices that her buddies are out of site, knowing I can't keep up with her I let go of the reins and she hops up on that rock and goes over it like it was nothing, leaving me still slipping on the granite. I finally get over it to see the trail, Lily and Rob. Looking back it doesn't seem so frightening now, however I still wonder why the skulls were there. And wouldn't you know it, I didn't get a picture! I guess we'll have to go back so I can take that picture.

The trail ahead was good, but not a beginners trail. Rob and I stopped to clear a couple trees on the trail and I got to get some practice with the chainsaw. We climbed approximately 1500 feet in elevation along the ridge, had lunch on some

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large rocks overlooking the forest, enjoyed the view, and then marked our destination with the GPS and headed back to the trailhead. The ride back was mostly uneventful, just a chance to enjoy the beauty of the forest, and a chance to see that much of the fire damage is on the mend. However, as we neared the end of the trail, Moosely's pack saddle slipped to the side and he gave us a one last moment of excitement as he attempted to lose the gear.

It was a spectacular ride with lots of challenges; I have a new respect for the forest and mission of the Back Country Horsemen. This is my first summer riding trails with Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen and I have learned so much about myself, my skills and most of all, about trust. Trust in my ability, trust in the people I ride with and trust in my mule to get me anywhere I want safely.

a b c d e

TUCKER'S FIRST PACKING

By Ellen Knapp

The first weekend in August we set for working the West Mountain trails, namely Poison Creek and Squaw Creek. It's been a number of years since Charles and I have been to the Poison Creek trailhead, and we were there only a few times, so it took us a bit to find the traditional camping area. That area, however, was completely taken by 4-wheeler

families. We scouted further down the side road for a likely place for about 5 rigs and easy access to horse water. We found a nice location and settled in. This was Tucker's, first official camping and packing adventure. Tucker is our second baby. He is a 5 year old Paso Fino/AQHA mix. Since he hasn't trailered much, it took a bit of time to get him in the trailer Friday afternoon to leave for the weekend. We set up camp and put the horses in their hot wire corral. Tucker looked like he was going to do ok camping out in his hot wire corral; of course veteran Pecos was there

showing him the ropes. Chris and Bill Holt were the next to arrive, followed by Bob Portner. Lou Ann Gaskell and Bill B. arrived as darkness was settling.

We were a bit disorganized the next morning, as Rob Adams had not yet arrived. Fortunately Rob pulled in as we contemplated the making of breakfast while sipping our respective second cups of coffee. By 10:30 AM we had breakfasted, were saddled and ready to hit the trails. Rob gave me a quick reminder of the key features of the Poison Creek Trail as I was to be the 'trail boss' of

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen that trail. By the time he was telling me to keep looking back as we rode through Greenfield Flats I had forgotten whether to turn right or left toward the trailhead when we hit the forest service road. I have only ridden the trail twice and that was at least 6 years ago. Oh well, I thought, I'll find it.

Chris and Bill went with Charles and me. Lou Ann, Bill, Bob went with Rob down the Squaw Creek Trail. The Poison Creek Trail is almost a steady pull up. But the views back



toward the Emmett Valley are beautiful, when not obscured by the smoke of distant fires which was unfortunately the case that day.

Once we got on the trail, Tucker figured out that he need to follow Pecos and could not travel side by side as he had done on the road. Early on we encountered a wooden bridge over Poison Creek. Tucker has never had to cross a bridge. But with veteran Pecos in the lead, walking quietly over the noisy bridge, Tucker and Brio followed calmly. It's great when we can take advantage of their herd mentality. When we encountered our first downfall, we tied the horses up and grabbed the chainsaw. I wondered how both Tucker and Brio (another young horse of ours with very little trail experience) would react to the sound to the chainsaw. As Charles prepared to start the saw, I watched

the horses, who were inquisitively watching us. I was pleased to see that all the horses were fine with the noise of the saw. We loaded up and once again headed on up the trail. After cutting out 3 more downfall



we topped out in to Greenfield Flats. The meadow was covered in blue lupine. It was an incredible and beautiful sight. We rode to the Cascade Lake overlook, tied up the horses and lunched surrounded by awesome views. The smoke from the surrounding states' wildfires made it hazy, though.

Eventually and reluctantly, after soaking up as much of the beauty as possible, we mounted up and headed back down the trail to camp. Robbin had arrived during our absence and was busily preparing a Dutch Oven roast. We had been relaxing in camp for over an hour before the other trail crew straggled in. They had encountered much



larger downfall and had to almost

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cut their way up the trail. That evening, as usual for SBBCH, we feasted on a delicious assortment of pot luck items. We sat around the evening fire, telling tall tales and solving the word's problems until the chill of the mountain air and the day's work pushed us all off to bed.

Sunday dawned clear and crisp. We breakfasted, packed up and headed down the road to the Rammage Meadows Trail Head. This time it only took a tiny bit of persuasion to get Tucker to load into the trailer. Once saddled and packed, we rode the road to the Wilson Corrals Trailhead. The idea was to ride down the steep Gabe's Peak Trail to where we had left the rigs. Tucker had learned well from the previous day and followed behind Pecos.

There was deadfall immediately beyond the trail head. Since there were more than enough bodies available to cut and remove the deadfall, Charles and I took the opportunity to practice crossing the creek at the trail head. It was good experience for Tucker and Brio. Soon we were all headed down the trail. It was a 'good experience' trail for our two novice horses with short bog sections, water crossings, and mud. Again, Pecos quietly went through all the trail challenges and Tucker and Brio calmly followed. There was lots of downfall and we even rerouted a section of trail when the downfall was simply too thick to cut through.

At one point, I was leading, and lost the trail in a meadow full of cow paths. Rob found what he thought was the trail, but it took us into a boggy area and the cows. He pulled out the GPS and determined that the

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen trail was 'over there'. We got out of the bogs, found a place to tie up the stock and had lunch while Rob scouted where 'over there' was. Rob returned shortly, having found the trail. However, given the time of day, given the amount of downfall we had already encountered and cut out, and given that we had only ridden 1/3 of the loop, it was decided that we should retrace our route and head back down the trail. We would try to come back to the loop another day. We followed the true trail back to where I had lost it. What I had thought was simply a salt lick and worn ground was part of the real trail.

Near the bottom of the trail, Rob got off the real trail onto a game trail. I followed the real trail and was once again in the lead. We crossed a small creek and the trail went left through

mud and rock. However, Pecos decided to go straight. Immediately we were knee deep in bog. I kept him moving forward so he wouldn't wallow and headed him left toward drier ground. Brio, whom Charles was riding decided the grass looked greener to the right and headed deeper into the bog. Soon Brio was 'bogged down' and he fell, face first, into the mud. Charles once again performed one of his slow motion, over the head of the falling horse, dismounts. Once unburdened from Charles, Brio easily extracted himself, and wandered over to eat the green grass, completely unperturbed, but covered with a mud facial. Charles gathered up Brio, mounted up and we all arrived back at the rigs without further incident. This time, Tucker walked into the trailer without hesitation.

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All three horses were ready to go home.

I was very pleased with how well Tucker did on his maiden camping and packing weekend. At some point, you have to take the young novice horses on the real trail and 'just do it'. But you also don't want to cause any wrecks with the youngsters either. Both Tucker and Brio had spent time with the same trainer. The trainer had been able to compare and contrast them and had commented that Tucker was 'not talented' and was simply a 'go down the trail horse'. For me, that was quite a compliment, because that was exactly my goal in a horse when I bred for him 5 years earlier: a quiet, calm, sane, mountain trail horse.

a b c d e

HITT MOUNTAIN

By Ellen Knapp

Working with the Payette National Forest, Tony Buthman coordinated a work weekend West of Cambridge on Hitt Mountain. The Tool Cache Trail has not been maintained since the 1970's.



We headed out Friday afternoon traveling an uncharacteristic West instead of North East from Emmett. Most of our work projects have been on West Mountain or in the Frank Church. I was navigator, but was also working on the August newsletter and I missed our turn onto West Pine Creek Road 3 miles out of Cambridge. I knew Mill Creek Road, further down the highway, would connect with our trailhead road and there really wasn't any place along the highway to turn the rig around. We found Mill Road; it was a bit narrow and the overhanging branches were a bit low in places, so low that they took out 2 of the vent covers and one of the stack covers on top of the camper. The road to the trailhead was a typical Idaho mountain road,

clinging to the hillside. The trail head was wide open and fairly flat with Easterly views of Cambridge and West Mountain. Phil Ryan and Chelsea P were already there and set up. While we were settling in, Bill and Chris Holt, Tony and Tami Buthman, and Robbin Schindele rolled in. That evening, we sat around the fire philosophizing on life. The hollow logs, placed vertically in the fire, created an unique chimney-like flame. Eventually we all drifted off to bed.

Saturday morning, fortified with a few cups of coffee apiece, the stoves were lit and the cooking began. Eggs, hash browns, bacon, pancakes were cooked and dished up. As usual, we had quite the spread of food. Linda Hays and Bob P. pulled in as breakfast dishes were being

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washed. Once everyone was saddled, chainsaw were packed, and loppers dispersed, Tony separated us into 2 work parties. One would work the Tool Cache Trail and the other would work the Sturgill Peak Trail. We had so many pack animals that some had to stay in camp – they simply were not needed that day and we didn't want to risk a wreck with too many head on the trails.

Since the Tool Cache Trail was not yet signed, it took Tony a bit to find it. It was apparent not much had been done for many, many years on the trail as it was very overgrown.

At one point, we lost the trail and headed uphill. While Tony scouted for the trail, we all decided to have lunch. We had fantastic views of



Cuddy Mountain and the Eagle Cap Wilderness in Oregon. Eventually Tony returned saying we had taken a wrong turn "up" and that he had found the real trail. We all mounted up and rode back down the hill to

where we took the wrong turn and then continued to ride further downhill to meet the real trail.

Soon, Tony, Charles and Bill walked the trail cutting and lopping while Tami, Chris and I brought along the stock. I had my hands full with a pack horse and Charles' horse so I looped Tucker's lead rope around Brio's saddle. I thought I could pull Brio and Tucker would follow.



However, Tucker, our young, new, pack horse, was not having that. He has spent 3 days on trails following Pecos and he was not going to follow Brio. He kept trying to pass Brio every chance he got. And when we stopped I had horses facing every-which way. I soon gave up and let Brio loose to follow on his own. However, instead of following the horses, Brio followed the humans. When Bill moved down the trail, Brio's nose was at his shoulder. When Bill stopped to lop, Brio stopped, often a bit too close for Bill's comfort however.

We stopped at a little creek crossing the trail. The horses drank thirstily as this was the first water they had had since beginning down the trail. Meanwhile the guys walked on sawing and lopping. Once Brio had his fill, he looked up and realized the humans were gone down the trail. Brio took off gaiting down the trail and disappeared around a curve.

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There was nothing I could do to stop him and I figured that the guys would catch him. A few minutes later Brio came gaiting back up the trail. His horse herd was here. However about a minute later, off Brio went again down the trail in search of the humans. A few minutes later, back came Brio. It was clear that here was a horse torn between being with his horse herd and being with his human herd. Poor Brio, I laughed at him unmercifully.

Eventually the guys came back and declared the trail 'looking good' from here. Time turn around and head for the barn. It was a nice ride back on the trail that we had cleared. We really had only gone about 3 miles, but it had taken all day. We rode into camp at about 4:30 PM to the jesting of the other trail crew. They had returned at 1:30 PM! Yes, we had the 'harder' trail this time.

Sunday we switched trails, with the one crew riding the Tool Cache Trail we had cleared and we rode the Sturgill Peak Trail. The Sturgill Peak Trail is a relatively short trail. It tops out into a meadow. From there you



can ride cross country up to the Look Out if you wish. The views are simply stunning.

It was another good weekend of good company, good food, good scenery and good work.

DANGER! HORSE EATING BOG

By Rob Adams

This summer we have had two wrecks on trail rides. Both happened in the same area. The group was riding along a creek on a rocky, muddy trail. The creek was to our right with a green grassy area gently sloping up to our left. Riding along this trail, I am sure both horse



and riders were thinking "Why I am

riding on the crummy trail when I could be walking through that nice green grass".

Both wrecks happened the same way. The horse choosing the grass over the rocky muddy trail, strides boldly into a very wet soft area "bog" and has its front feet sink in to its knees. This pitches the rider forward. The horse then dropped his rump to try and pull his legs out, pitching the rider back. The horse then lunged forward pitching the rider over his head into the bog.

The horses each struggled out to dryer ground and stopped to eat. The first rider was lucky only getting very wet and muddy. The second was not so, landing on her face in the mud, bloodying her nose. Both could have been much worse with serious injury.

Were there any warning signs that this was a horse eating bog? A posted sign, no. Maybe there should be at this location, but you can't post a sign on a trail everywhere there might be a hazard. It is the rider's

responsibility to be watching the trail and to guide their mount to the safest path.

Let's look at this bog and see if there were clues that could have prevented the wrecks.

Clue 1: The area above the trail on the left was green, with willow and other damp loving plants.

Clue 2. Even though it hadn't rained it quite a while this section of trail was wet and muddy. Where was that water coming from?

Clue 3. The defined trail was through a rocky area of firm ground.

Bogs don't have to look like the bottom of an almost dry lake; most mountain bogs are the best looking grass in the meadow. So while you're out riding Idaho's scenic mountain trails and meadows, watch out for those horse eating bogs, and if you need to cross one, be ready and not caught off guard and ultimately in the mud.

a b c

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Fun Ride- Diamond Basin, on the Silver City Road - Saturday, September 27, 2008

TIME: Be ready to ride at 10:30 AM, bring a lunch, shoes optional.

DIRECTIONS: Take Highway 45 South out of Nampa. Pass Dan's Ferry Service (on the left hand side of the highway near the base of the grade off the bluff) at Walter's Ferry on this side of the river, cross the bridge and bear left. Turn left (South) onto Highway 78. Drive to Murphy and travel 4.1 miles further on Hwy 78 to the Silver City Road. Turn right (Southwest) on the Silver City Road and go approximately 5-6 miles; still on the pavement. Turn to the right (North) onto a dirt road that takes you back to the corrals. Our turnoff is just before the Silver City Road takes a big turn to the left. Park at the corrals. Trailer-pooling available. Ellen can take one horse/rider.

CONTACT: Ellen Knapp president@sbbchidaho.org or 208-398-7279.

OCTOBER EVENTS

SBBCH Monthly Meeting-Thursday, October 02, 2008-La Costa Restaurant, Emmett ID

CONTACT: Ellen Knapp president@sbbchidaho.org 208-398-7279.

SBBCH Packers Play Day - Public invited-Saturday, October 18, 2008-Circle G RanchHandout: <http://www.sbbchidaho.org/pdf/ppd3.pdf>

Squaw Butte members joined Back Country Horsemen to get out of the arena and into the mountains. On this day, we are going to reverse that. Come join the chapter members, local 4-H riders and guest for a day of fun on horses at the Circle G River Ranch. There will be some new events this year, bring your horse and be ready to try some new things! There are a number of jobs required to host events like this, so volunteers are needed.

CONTACT: projects@sbbchidaho.org or Ellen Knapp president@sbbchidaho.org 208-398-7279.

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen – Chartered 3/92 8/7/2008 Regular Meeting Minutes

2008 SBBCH Officers and Board of Directors:

President: Ellen Knapp, Vice President: Tami Buthman, Treasurer: Charles Lox, Secretary: Linda Phillips, Linda Hays
Past President: Ellen Knapp

State Directors (2): Joanna Stroeder (2), Robbin Schindele (1), Alternate State Director: Phil Ryan

Foundation Director: Margaret Berggren, Alternate Foundation Director: Bill Conger

Regular meeting brought to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Ellen Knapp

Pledge of Allegiance**Introduction of Guests:** Chelsea Pennoyer**MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING**Motion to approve the July Meeting Minutes by Tony Buthman, 2nd by Bill Holt and carried**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balance:	\$5000.09
Deposits:	\$1447.56
Expenses:	\$494.13
Ending Checking Account Balance:	\$5953.52
CD Investment:	\$3500.00
CD at maturity:	\$3598.07
Total:	\$9551.59

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Phil Ryan, 2nd and carried**COMMITTEE REPORTS****Public Liaison Report:** Leon Berggren not in attendance.

State Directors Report: Phil Ryan reported on the State Board of Directors meeting, July 12th in Nampa. Triangle State Budget Report; BCH not going to be in the hole. Next outdoor show will be held in Lewiston. There will be 2 prizes for auction and 1 for bucket rally, \$50.00 each. Discussion followed. Kay Ryan brought a copy of the confirmed calendar for 2009, it was passed around to members present. Discussion continued regarding number of calendars to be sold in our chapter; we need to sell a total of 250 calendars, to date we have reserved approximately 165 copies to members and businesses. Linda Hays will continue to send out emails to all members to get their reservations in. Phil and Kay plan to do a road trip to pick up calendars when ready and visit each chapter. Kay discussed November 15th meeting in Salmon and need for reworking of BCH of Idaho website. Presentation plaque made to BCH in memory of Sally Schindele.

Education & Foundation Reports: Margaret Berggren not in attendance**Work Projects and Rides Report:**

- July 4th Pack Trip – Frank Church Wilderness ride - Phil and Linda H. reported there were 9 members and 1 guest, with 21 head arriving in 6 full horse trailers. All had a great time, turned Saturday ride into a survey and work project, had to hand saw a log off the trail on way to Bernard Lake. Jon and his guest Mike packed in 60 pounds of spirits and ice, not sure if that's a record. Robbin had a flat tire and with help from all the boys he got back on the road.
- July 18th Moonlight ride. Linda H reported 5 riders showed up, had a nice ride, weather was perfect. Rob led the way and all made it back safely with no need for lights.
- July 20th Lightning Ridge Ride. Linda H reported Rob and Linda H only riders on trip, arriving in 1 trailer with 3 head. Rob scouted the trailhead earlier in the week and found the trailhead to be small and able to accommodate possibly only 5-6 trailers and maybe less if trailers were large. The trail was heavily brushed in many areas and hard to detect. The views were spectacular and the granite rock formations made for many Kodak moments.
- August 2nd & 3rd West Mountain ride – Ellen reported 8 riders / 12 head in 5 trailers. Saturday Poison Creek – views awesome and Sunday Rammage Meadows. Rob reported via email: West Mountain North / Squaw Creek Trail - from trail head to upper meadow - Removed a lot of big downfall. Poison Creek - from trail head to upper meadow - removed some downfall. Wilson Coral - from trail head to within a mile of the upper meadow (salt lick) removed a lot of big downfall. More work to do to finish this trail. Gabe's Peak - Not done - maybe later this year.
- August 23rd & 24th Hitt Mountain project by Tony Buthman reported regarding trail #270. Directions are on website. There has been no maintenance since 1974, a mini excavator will be used to mark trail; we will be moving trees and brushing back trails making way for mini excavator. Work Saturday and fun ride Sunday. Plenty of room for trailers at trailhead, some plan on going up Friday.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- SBBCH shirts are in and will be distributed at end of meeting.
- AED and satellite phone: Ellen reported that we are going to table it for now. Some discussion followed regarding "One Spot" or "Spot One" satellite link Distress call for \$149.00 to \$169.00.

- Additional dollars for CD – Charles reported that CD at Key Bank matures August 15th @ 4.7%. Phil proposed we take money set aside for AED and put it back into another CD. Charles volunteered to look for best rate for CD and will look for bank that will give interest on checking account. Discussion followed related to budget and money needed for 2008 functions. Shannon Schantz made a motion to put \$7000.00 in a CD that would leave SBBCH with \$2551.59 in checking to date. Chris Holt 2nds and motion is carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- Advertising status – Charles reported 20 local businesses are confirmed to advertise in our newsletter @ \$30.00 each. Charles also volunteered to ask our sponsors to buy calendars.
- 4-H trail help - Ellen will send emails out asking for help and ideas on location. Some discussion followed regarding having same location or possibly the Willow Creek area as a new location. Date set for September 13th.
- Tony Buthman brought up discussion related to the Heartland Chapter of BCH and our working in conjunction with them and ranchers on cattle trails in the area of Cascade Lake. Historic Trails “traditional usage” (stock use) Kay stated that would be good publicity for SBBCH and all BCH to work with other groups to maintain trails and with public. Tony to pursue that for next year.
- Phil working on CD regarding horses and trails new to Idaho. Montana has already done this and offered to Idaho so we can create our own.
- Gina Waddell brought idea for Outdoor Idaho on PBS on doing a Pack Trip with BCH.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Notices:

- Cowboy Horsemanship with Shannon Allison will be doing Clinic at Circle G Ranch in Emmett- Dates to follow.
- BCH hats, magnetic signs and shirts for sale.

Door Prize: Guest Chelsea won 1st door prize, 2nd door prize won by member. Ellen and Charles gave out free copies of Microsoft Publisher Deluxe 2002 to everyone that wanted one.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15

Respectfully submitted by Linda Hays, Secretary, SBBCH

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen – Chartered 3/92 9/4/2008 Regular Meeting Minutes

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Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Guests: Chelsea Pennoyer, Matt Provincio, Tracy Hillman

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST MEETING

Motion to approve the August Meeting Minutes by Kay Ryan, 2nd by Robbin Schindele and carried

TREASURER’S REPORT

Beginning Checking Account Balance: \$ 5953.52

Deposits: \$ 3936.38, CD withdrawn, t-shirts, ads

Expenses: \$ 175.89 food, shipping, stamps, totes

Ending Checking Account Balance: \$ 9714.01

CD at maturity: \$ 3598.07 withdrew, deposited in checking account

Total: \$ 9714.01

Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report by Robbin Schindele, 2nd by Joanna Stroeder and carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Liaison Report:

- Phil Ryan reported that the Payette National Forest has sent a management plan for Stolle Meadows seeking input (it was burned last year). The plan includes designated campsites with equestrian hitch rails. There will be 20 miles of non-motorized trails added. We will probably end up doing the work to keep the trails open. There is a pdf on our web site. We have 30 days to respond. Phil plans to send in saying we have no objections.

- Frank Church Wilderness, west side, 3 main trails, one closed, bridge burned out in 2002. Verbal understanding from district trail coordinator that Forest Service will not put the bridge back. There is an 8 foot deep hole that you must go through. There is 5 million dollars in Bear money, seems like that could be used. There have been volunteers to work on the bridge. We have gone to the top, if they don’t replace the bridges, we will probably have a lawsuit. Forest Service is saying that there will be no bridges in the Frank Church Wilderness but bridges were there first. Discussion followed.

- Idaho Sportsmen Caucus – meeting this Saturday, Phil needs someone to go for him. Robbin said he can go. Phil will fill Robbin in on what is going on.

State Directors Report: Phil Ryan reported that there will be a state convention in Salmon in November. The state has asked every chapter to submit pictures and stories of our heroes and memories of those we have lost for a CD they are producing to be handed out at the convention. We will submit Bob Howard and Sally Schindele. It was suggested that Rob be submitted as our hero. Everyone agreed. Ellen will take care of it.

Education & Foundation Reports: Margaret Berggren – not in attendance

Work Projects and Rides Report: Rob Adams

- Hitt Mountain results- Tony Buthman reported that there was a real good turn out, ten members, one guest. They had a support crew of eight pack animals; a lot had to stay in camp. Group of five worked 268 trail, primarily motorcycle trail, it was in pretty good shape. Group of six worked the 270 trail. It hadn’t been worked for many years. They couldn’t find it to begin with, finally found it, it took all day, and they only went 2 – 2-1/2 miles. Lots of

pruning was done. The help was phenomenal and the food was wonderful. Tony went and talked to the Forest Service, they are planning to put trail markers up and do some blasting to take care of a couple of bad spots.. Tony says a Big thank you to everyone. Ellen added that the trailhead was very nice, has latrine, hitching posts.

- West Mountain again on 9/13 – loop ride, Wilson Corrals trail. Beautiful view, will be returning on the Gabe’s Peak Trail, it is very exposed.
- Fun Ride 9/27 – Diamond Basin, in the Owyhees, directions will be on the web shortly. Ellen will be leading.
- BCHA Volunteer hours – why do we track them? Used for grants as matching funds. We put in a lot of hours; it helps our local Forest Service and also at the national level. Rob says a big thanks to everyone for coming to the work parties, there has been a great turn out this year.
- SBBCH Volunteer hours to submit – Linda H needs volunteer hours for events in which you have participated. She needs mileage, time, number of riding stock, pack stock. Also needs mileage and time and purpose for meetings, conventions, etc. you have attended. She has the information for most of the rides but needs the information for meetings, conventions, projects that need to be logged in, including scouting for projects such as scouting that Tony did for the Arlene Trail. She also needs Packers Play Day information. Ellen said she has it and will get it to her.
- Lettie Guinn announced that Oct 25 will not work for the Packers Play Day this year, 4H has a Halloween event that day, so it will be Oct 18 instead. There will not be a BBQ this year.
- November fun ride – TBD
- Dec – end of year party location needs to be decided.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CD Issues – Ellen Knapp reported that Charles Lox went to the Idaho Credit Union to try to open a new CD with them since ours matured and the offer 4% interest. They wouldn’t our money because we are not a registered entity with the Idaho Secretary of State. BCHI and other chapters are registered but we are not.

Calendar orders – to date Linda H has 165 ordered, we need to sell 250. Charles will ask our sponsors to buy calendars, he said he needs something to show them. Phil will give him one from another state. Phil announced that the final draft has been sent to the printer, calendars should be available in Sept.

Tony – update from last meeting - Ranchers trying to get an old trail reopened up by West Mountain – Cascade/Donnelly area, old trade route. Tony was contacted so he and Tami went to the Heartland Chapter BCH meeting. The Heartland Chapter has been working with the rancher to try to get the trail developed but it has not been successful. Tony has been doing research and found it is on the topo, but the terrain is like a jungle. We are going to work cooperatively with them next summer to try to get it punched through.

NEW BUSINESS

Idaho Secretary of State Registration – Ellen researched incorporation of a non-profit on the Idaho Secretary of State website. We don’t have to have an attorney file it for us. Cost is \$30. There are samples of forms online. We need a registered agent, address where someone could receive a service of process if litigation occurs. Bill Conger has experience with this through the Sheriff’s Posse. Bill said it can be any member, but must be a physical address. A form will come each year. If person is no longer a member or has moved, it can be changed by a form. We will have to fill out a business report each year but it is a simple form. We don’t have to have a 501C3 designation. Bill volunteered to take care of it. Bill’s physical address will be used. Kay Ryan made a motion to file to incorporate as a non-profit and use Bill Conger’s physical address. Motion seconded by Phil, passed unanimously. Kay Ryan also made a motion that Charles put the money from the matured CD in another CD when he finds the best interest rate, Linda Adams seconded, passed unanimously.

Chris Holt – do we need to buy weed free hay? We have three bales for West Mt. At this point there is no need to buy any more. Dan Walton will have it available for us at first cutting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

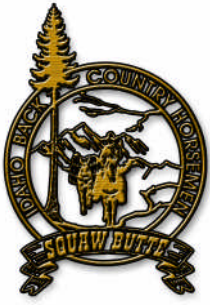
- Missing axe left at Wapiti – Bill Conger
- Cowboy Horsemanship – Joanna - Shannon Allison will offer “from the ground up” training on Sept 13, 9 am to 4 pm at the Circle G River Ranch. Lunch will be provided by Lettie Guinn, donation to 4H. BCHI members \$75, others \$80. The class limited to 25. Shannon is also offering a one day colt demonstration, How to get your horse to the 2 year old stage, Oct 11th, at Vale, OR rodeo grounds. \$10 for the day. Flyer, website or email questions to Joanna shannonallison@shannonallison.com
- 10 Mile Tack Auction 9/7 – Joanna - Musick Auctions, 10 am corner of Eagle and Columbia, Boise
- Spay Neuter Idaho pets – Ellen - LouAnn Gaskin – new spay neuter center. Contact LouAnn for information
- SBBCH hats, shirts, magnetic signs available for sale – Ellen
- Dr David Hayes is now the Idaho State Vet, no longer taking new patients at his clinic – Robbin
- Jake Lemon is looking for pasture for 2 well behaved mules for two months.
- Ellen – Microsoft Publisher software free to everyone who wanted one.

Door Prize Winners: MaryBeth Conger, Linda Adams, Tami Buthman

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25

Respectfully submitted by Linda Phillips, Secretary, SBBCH





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