

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen est. 1992

P. O. Box 293, Emmett, ID 83617

February-March 2009

2009 Back Country Skills Clinic

Celebration Park Ride,
Dutch Oven Cookin'
and more...

Squaw Butte Back Country Horsemen

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

For information about joining contact Ellen Knapp, 208.398.7279 or president@sbbchidaho.org



By Robbin Schindele

Celebration Park was the first SBBCH ride of the season. It was originally scheduled for February but, as happens in winter, the day came in stormy and cold with snow so it was put off 'til March 7th. A day that started cold but the promise of a clear sky and plenty of sun put us on the road.

The park is on the flood plain the Snake River Canyon, a wide flat covered with black lava rock and bordered by high nearly vertical cliffs. When the sun shines it heats up the black rock and makes the area 10-15 degrees warmer than the high ground above it. By 10:00AM Rob Adams, Nancy Harper and I and Roger Segers were in the park parking lot saddling up our stock.

We waited 'til 10:30 to get in the saddle and head out. It was cool but bright and I had expected more riders but we were burning daylight and it was time to go. We decided to ride the north side of the river and wound our way up the road to the flat where the trails begin. Many who read this have ridden this route so there isn't a lot to tell. There was a wind out of the north so the ride was brisk. Roger's gelding had a lot of "wanna go" in him so before long we were all trotting. In fact we trotted most of the way to the corrals where we traditionally lunch. Sitting there on the rocks, out of the wind made for pleasant talk as we watched the cloud shadows move across the valley floor.

In the saddle again we crossed to the trail that follows the river and headed back towards the trailhead. The wind was at our backs now so the going seemed warmer. We trotted some more where we could and walked the rest of the way back. We were unsaddling in the parking lot when Lou Ann Gaskell and a friend rode up, "Where were you guys?" She asked. IT seems they had arrived about 10 minutes after we left and followed us out. We never saw them, they never saw us. We chatted a bit then loaded up and left.

It turns out there were other people from the club there as well, Bob Poertner, Linda Hays and a third rider had parked above the park HQ and finding no one else there had ridden out alone as well.

So we had three groups riding that day and none of saw each other out there on the flat surprising but it says a lot for the diversity of trails and routes in the area.



By Ellen Knapp

So you and your horse want to go somewhere. A day ride, a weekend of riding from the trail head or a multi day pack trip, all have one thing in common. You need to Plan and Prepare.

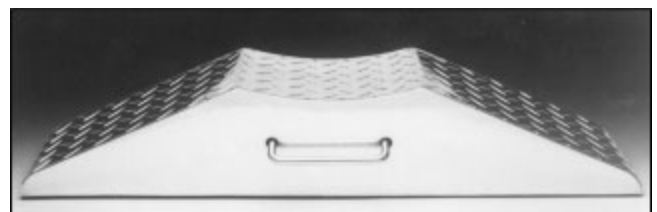
Driving to a trailhead is different from driving to the local arena. Riding from the trailhead is different from riding at the local arena. What should you have in your trailer? What should you have in your saddle bags? In this month's installment, I'll talk about what is needed for a day ride from a trailhead.

First off, I need to PLAN where we are going for the day ride. I need to find a trail route on a map. I need to make sure the horses can travel the route I have selected from the map. How do I do this if I have never been there? I call the Ranger District for the area, I go on the Internet and look up road and trail conditions for the route, I read books that describe trails. If it is early in the season I need to be aware of fast moving creeks due to snow melt. We may not be able to cross. I also need to make sure that horses are permitted where I plan to go. Is the ride during our spring rainy season? While we may get the trailer into the trailhead, we may not be able to get it out. Also, if there are more riders in the group than just me, I need to consider their experience as well as their horses' experience. I need to plan a route that is doable by the least experienced rider and/or horse.

When I PREPARE my trailer for a day ride, I think about what my horse and I need for an entire day. What do I need to drive to the trailhead, what do I need at the trailhead, what do I need on the trail, what do I need when I return to the trailer, and what do I need for the drive home.

Before I leave for the trail head, I need to make sure my trailer tires are full, not just partially full. I need to make sure my truck has enough gas and that my truck is in good working order. I have a bag in my truck with tools. I make sure the trailer brakes and all my trailer lights are working.

I encourage you to have a Trailer Aid or Jiffy Jack for changing tandem trailer tires. Also make



sure you have a lug wrench that will fit your trailer tire lug nuts. A few 6x6 sections of wood for added height when using a lift jack will facilitate the installation of the full spare tire. Don't forget a 6x6 or piece of log to keep the trailer from rolling when jacking it up. And, most of all, make sure you have a spare tire and your spare tire is inflated. Of course, one spare won't help much when you have multiple flats. At that point, all you can do is get a tow, drive carefully back to town, or send someone back to town to buy tires.

For a day ride, I feed my horse at home in the morning before I load him. Once I get to the trail head, I need (obviously) my saddle and its parts: saddle pad/blanket, front and rear cinches, breast collar, crupper; my headstall and reins, and various saddle bags. If I haven't already, I fly spray my horse. I also cover myself with sunscreen and fly spray.

Also in my trailer I have duct tape (a 1001 uses), a blanket for my horse, should I need him to stay warm while he dries out on the way home, a chair for sitting and socializing at the trailhead after the ride, a larger first aid kit including a first aid book, a compact leaf rake, a compact manure picker and large trash bags. These last three will be used when I talk about manure etiquette at the trail head. I carry an extra cinch, saddle pad, reins, and breast collar in my trailer, just in case I find something not repairable when saddling.



Inexperienced horses and sometimes even experienced horses won't drink 'foreign' water on the trail. What can you do? I bring water from home. It is as simple as filling a few 5 gallon plastic jugs. Granted, it may be an inconvenience, but I have personally have had a few horses become very dehydrated on a Saturday ride due to their lack of experience. Over time, horses can become 'experienced' and learn to drink the 'foreign' water.

In my various saddle bags I include water, lunch, maps, a copy of my insurance card, sunglasses, phone (knowing I may be out of range), a GPS or compass, a small first aid kit including a whistle, hoof pick, knife, pliers, wire cutter, folding compact saw, easy boot (fitted for the horse I am riding), baling twine (for all kinds of fixes), and a jacket and gloves for the weather. Those skilled in replacing a loose or lost shoe, and I am not one of them, bring a small shoeing kit. Of course, I need to remember to bring or wear the hat, boots, coat, and gloves I plan to ride in. And I need to have either the halter and lead rope or hobbles to contain my horse while I have lunch or do trail work.

I always use a breast collar with my horse. It helps to keep the saddle in place. It keeps it from sliding backwards or from turning. Cruppers are a good idea if your horse has less pronounced withers. It helps keep the saddle from sliding up on the horse's neck as well as from turning. Many folks use rear cinches. A rear cinch helps keep the saddle from tipping forward.

At the trailhead, I try to park away from the hikers to minimize any hiker/horse/car interactions. Plus, with trailers, we need more room to park and don't want to get parked in nor do we want to park others in. Now, let's talk about manure. It is a fact of life that hikers don't like manure; they step in it, their dogs eat it or their dogs roll in it. It is also a fact of life

that horses produce manure, wherever and whenever. And we riders are used to manure. Both hikers and riders need to share the trailheads and the trails. We can be considerate of all the other users of the trailhead by being aware of our manure. We don't need to rake the manure out of our trailers onto the ground when we get to the trailhead. That is unsightly for all users, including fellow horsemen, of the trailhead. We do have options. We can leave it in the trailer and take it home, we can rake it into plastic garbage bags and take those home or deposit those in a trash can, or, for a little used trail head, we can disperse, in bushes and evergreens, the manure well away from the public area of the trailhead. I do the same with the deposits my horse makes while tied to the trailer; disperse it or put it in a plastic garbage bag. It not only helps our image as horsemen in the public's eye which goes a long way to preserving our equestrian access to places, but it is common sense in preserving what we have for our own future use and for others' future use.

Before hitting the trail, if there is a sign in sheet, I make sure to register. We want to record all use of our trails by horsemen, to help maintain and preserve our access to them.

Once I return to the trail head, I want to make sure my horse has water. I offer him a bucket of the home water I have brought. I may unsaddle him and brush him if the drive home is 'long'. If he has his long winter hair

him. He should be dry by turn him out. I will certainly loose shoes. If he has been drinking well I may offer him, to keep his gut moving the hay in a hay bag tied to hay nets. I can't seem tie prevent a horse from getting to give my horse hay if he especially if he is somewhat colic. To tell how



and is wet I will blanket the time I arrive home and check his feet for stones and on the trail all day AND some hay, before loading for the drive home. I offer the trailer side. I don't like them up high enough to its foot caught. I don't want hasn't drunk all day and dehydrated. That can lead to dehydrated he is, pinch an

inch of skin on his neck, let go and see how long it takes to snap back and unwrinkle. If he is hydrated I will only get to say the 'one' of 'one one-thousand'. If I can count to 'two one-thousand', he is pretty dehydrated.

I like to wait until I am ready to leave before I load my horse. Tied to the side of the trailer, he can move about some and stretch out to pee at his convenience. Once loaded, I don't tie my horse. I have a slant load trailer, with partition gates. I remove the lead rope and let my horse stand in his slot. I know this is personal preference and experience. I'll leave the choice to tie or not to each of you.





Apple cobbler too blasé? Pineapple upside down cake too yesterday? Looking for a new Dutch dessert? Try this loaded with flavor fruit blowout from Dutch-meister Byron Bills.

Fruit Cobbler Deluxe

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----|--|
| 1 | (30 oz.) can sliced peaches; drained | 1 | tsp. cinnamon |
| 1 | (30 oz.) can sliced apricots; drained | 1 | box white cake mix |
| 1 | (20 oz.) can crushed pineapple | 1 | can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk |
| 1 | tsp. almond extract | 1/3 | cup toasted sliced almonds |

Line a 12" Dutch oven with heavy duty foil. To lined Dutch oven add fruit, almond extract, cinnamon, and 1/2 cup of the dry cake mix; stir to mix.

In a separate bowl mix together the remaining cake mix and the sweetened condensed milk to form a batter. Pour batter over the top of the fruit and sprinkle with toasted almonds.

Cover and bake for 45 to 60 minutes using 8-10 briquettes bottom and 14-16 briquettes top until topping is golden brown.

Serve topped with whipped cream or serve with vanilla ice cream. Serves: 8-10

Learn more about Byron and find many award winning recipes at:

<http://papadutch.home.comcast.net/~papadutch/>

A Few Cast Iron No-No's

1. Never, and I repeat, **NEVER** allow cast iron to sit in water or allow water to stand in it. It will rust despite a good coating.
2. Never use soap on cast iron. The soap will get into the pores of the metal and won't come out very easy, but will return to taint your next meal. If soap is used accidentally, the oven should be re-seasoned, including removal of the present coating.
3. Do not place an empty cast iron pan or oven over a hot fire. Aluminum and many other metals can tolerate it better but cast iron will crack or warp, ruining the metal.
4. Do not get in a hurry to heat cast iron, you will end up with burnt food or a damaged oven or pan.
5. Never put cold liquid into a very hot cast iron pan or oven. They will crack on the spot!



PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

The other day, I was reading an article in our BCHA Winter 2009 newsletter about a work project last year performed by the Cloud Peak Chapter of BCH Wyoming. It reminded me of some of the projects SBBCH performed a few years back where we packed in trail crews and came back at a later date to pack them out. What struck me about the article was that, as far as I could tell, none of the BCH packers were women. The article listed the names of the rider/packers and while 'Marty' and 'Jerry' could very well be names of women, I doubt it. Now, I wasn't deliberately looking for women's names as I read the list of participants. I simply read through the list out of curiosity. It was a few minutes later that I realized it was men that packed in and packed out the crews. So I stopped to think about our own chapter. Which women pack in our chapter? I only know of a handful. That got me wondering "why". Unfortunately, I don't have the answer to this question. I certainly would welcome some input from the women in our chapter as to why more of you don't pack. I'm thinking there are some things SBBCH has missed and has taken for granted. I believe SBBCH has an opportunity here.

I welcome all our new SBBCH members and say welcome back to all of our returning SBBCH members. We have a full schedule of events, activities and work weekends lined up for 2009. We need all of our members to participate so we can achieve all of our commitments. While we do have fun rides, the core purpose of our organization is service. We work to maintain access to trails and trail heads. But we are a volunteer organization; we don't kill ourselves in pursuit of this work. And we have lots of fun and fabulous food while performing the work. Food is a core value of our chapter and figures prominently in our work weekends. We make work a social event. Work weekends are a great way to get to know the various SBBCH folks. Our monthly meetings are filled with lots of information, but are not a great way to get to know SBBCH and its members.

So just what are the work weekends like and what are they NOT like?

- Work weekends are NOT marathon work events. We hit the saddle Saturday after a very filling communal breakfast. We stop for lunch. We try to be back in camp about 4:30 in the afternoon. Sunday is usually a fun ride in the same general area.
- Everyone is NOT required to have pack stock. We usually have a few tools, a couple of chainsaws, and fuel to pack along and only need a few animals to tote it.
- Everyone does NOT need to run the chainsaws. There is plenty to do lopping out the overgrowth, removing cut logs, and holding horses. If you have a bad back, bad hips, bad knees, or bad whatever, stay in the saddle. But do come and ride with us.
- The trails are NOT for ONLY experienced horses and riders. Most trails are suitable for novice horses and riders and riding the trails with the SBBCH folks will increase you and your mount's experience and confidence. SBBCH folks observe trail etiquette guidelines. We ensure every one is in the saddle before moving off, we wait to make sure everyone has crossed the bridge or water, we keep tabs on the slower riders and wait for them to catch up.
- SBBCH DOES try to make it easy for our members to attend the work weekends. SBBCH provides the certified hay. Trail head directions are available on our web site. Trailer sharing and trailer caravanning is available. SBBCH members are willing to help others learn to camp with their horses and often have excess equipment, like a highline, to lend. SBBCH sets up a communal kitchen, Saturday and Sunday breakfast is communal and Saturday dinner is pot luck.

I look forward to seeing familiar faces and new faces this year at our rides, events and work weekends. I look forward to getting to know each of you better.



SBBCH Monthly Meeting-Thursday, April 02, 2009-La Costa Restaurant, Emmett ID CONTACT: Ellen Knapp president@sbbchidaho.org 208 365-0737

Saturday 4/11/2009, Little Butte Day Ride & Potluck, Spirithorse Ranch, Emmett, Project Leader- Ellen Knapp, president@sbbchidaho.org or 208.365.0737 Directions

Friday 4/17/2009, Idaho Horse Expo, Nampa Horse Center, Nampa, Project Leader- Tami Buthman, info@sbbchidaho.org or 208.549.2054. Volunteers are needed to man the booth as well as possible set up and/or strike. Contact Tami for details.

Saturday 4/25/2009, Day Ride/Brand Inspection, Emmett Cycle Park, Emmett, Project Leader- Rob Adams, projects@sbbchidaho.org or 208.584.3780, Click Here for more details, [Directions](#). A state brand inspector will be there to provide permanent brand inspection certificates for your livestock

2009 SBBCH OFFICERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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		208-571-0376
Treasurer	Kay Ryan	treasurer@sbbchidaho.org	208-398-8993
Education/Foundation	Bill Conger	education@sbbchidaho.org	208-365-9864
	Bill Holt (alt)		208-398-9825
State Board	Rob Adams	state.board@sbbchidaho.org	208-584-3780
	Marybeth Conger		208-365-9864
	Phil Ryan (alt)		208-398-8993
Projects & Rides			
Boise National Forest Emmett & Cascade NFS Districts	Rob Adams	projects@sbbchidaho.org	208-584-3780
	Terry MacDonald		208-584-3767
Payette National Forest Hells Canyon & Weiser NFS Districts	Tony Buthman		208-549-2054
Public Lands	Tony Buthman	public.land@sbbchidaho.org	208-549-2054
	Chris & Bill Holt		208-398-9825
	Robbin Schindele		208-365-1789
Newsletter/Webmaster	Robbin Schindele	newsletter@sbbchidaho.org	208-365-1789



On a cool and clear Saturday, sixty members and guest came together at the Circle G River Ranch to exchange information and learn new skills. This was the 7th clinic that Squaw Butte has hosted, and each year we try to introduce new thing while improving on the core skills and information a backcountry rider need to know for a fun and safe experience.



Linda Phillips registers participants



Bill & MB Conger talk about what to take



Idaho Brand Inspector Larry Hayhurst



Tami Buthmanon on Human First Aid



Dr. David Hayes



Shannon Allison on "The Trail Safe Horse"



Hands-on "Tying the Decker Diamond"

BARER EVENTS



CABELA'S DEMONSTRATION, MARCH 8, 2009



FIRST AID/CPR TRAINING MARCH 14, 2009



HORSE AFFAIRS BOOTH, FEBRUARY 20, 2009

**SQUAW BUTTE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF IDAHO – CHARTERED 3/92
3/5/2009 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

Regular meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ellen Knapp.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS**

David Nowlin, Mark Weekes,

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Checking Account Balance: \$ 8,898.57

Deposits: \$ 1306.66 (calendars, dues, resale items)

Expenses: \$ 608.00 (P.O. Box rental, Lifeflight fees)

Ending Checking Account Balance: \$ 9,597.23

Motion to approve the Previous Treasurer's Report by Bill Conger, 2nd by Phil Ryan and carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Lands Report – nothing to report

State Directors Report – MaryBeth Conger, Phil Ryan

MaryBeth needs feedback, are we having non-members sign a liability waiver at events? Ellen Knapp asked that the state come up with a standardized liability waiver for all chapters to use.

MaryBeth will take this request to the state directors. We are members of Idaho Horse

Council. Do we want individual info sent to Horse Council? It is not being sent now. Vote:

Yes – 1, No – everyone else. Majority – No

National ID Program – debating whether to have equines in this program, if this happens, you will have to get paperwork to leave your property. We voted in favor of voluntary program

before. It is going to be brought up again. Shannon Schantz made a motion that we should vote that we are not interested in voluntary or mandatory, Bill seconded, carried.

Monthly Calendar Raffle Results – February winner sold by Shannon Schantz to someone in Emmett.

Calendar Status – have sold 1900 calendars statewide. The remainder of the money must be turned in at the Outdoor Show, if anyone has calendars they need to go back to Phil/Kay before then.

March BOD meeting and Outdoor Show 3/27-29 – Lewiston – demonstrations, live auction, bucket raffle, election of state officers. Everyone invited. Convention – November in Twin Falls.

Education & Foundation Reports – nothing to report

Work Projects and Rides Report – Rob Adams

Horse Affairs Results – Tami – had enough volunteers, didn't seem like as many people on Friday as in the past.

Celebration Park Ride 3/7 – weather dependent

Cabela's Demo – date change - 3/22 - Noon – 4:00 come if you can

1st Aid & CPR 3/14 – Emmett Ranger District 8:30 – 2:30. Anyone who wants to attend should just come. There will be a break for lunch, lunch NOT provided.

Backcountry Skills Clinic 3/21 - \$ 3.00 for non-members. Ellen passed out info on how everyone can help at the clinic. Everyone needs to come help.

The club purchases certified hay each year for our rides.

Call others to carpool to rides.

Calling Committee Report – Phil apologized for not reminding the Calling Committee to call everyone, most were called anyway.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2009 Budget – Kay – attached, MaryBeth made motion to accept, Bill seconded, carried
2009 Lifeflight status – Ellen - 75 people signed up for LifeFlight, only 25 left. The state organization has purchased 700 memberships. The state may have extras.

NEW BUSINESS

EMS Options – Bill Conger – there is an emergency medical radio frequency. He is presenting to state, must sign an MOU. Trying to get set up so we can do this through the state. Cost will be from \$0 – 250 per radio.

Display Options – Robbin Schindele – portable backdrop, wood frame using cloth cover, new ones locally range from \$600-\$4000. We get 10x10 space at shows. One on Ebay for \$425, free shipping, used, new it's \$7000. MaryBeth made motion to purchase the one on Ebay for \$425, Tami seconded, carried.

Chapter Display for Outdoor Show – Lewiston March 27-29, it was decided we would run our slideshow on a laptop. Linda Hays will carve a sign, she will have it done for sure for November Convention but will try for March.

Bill suggested we look into having a booth at the Idaho Outdoorsman Show instead of Horse Affairs. Phil is going this weekend, will look into it.

Program -

Notices – Bill- Boise Area Crime Stoppers having a fund raiser – celebrity volleyball game March 21 at Sawtooth Middle School, Meridian

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tami Buthman, 2nd by Gina Waddell and carried.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM by President Ellen Knapp.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Linda Phillips.