

# OKANOGAN VALLEY CHAPTER

## BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

FEBRUARY 2010

OF  
WASHINGTON STATE

OVC NEWSLETTER

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

by

PRES. DAVE SWANBERG

In this month's article I thought I would review what the Okanogan Valley Chapter members have accomplished in the past decade and what the public lands trail systems would look like if we were not dedicated to keeping trails open for recreational purposes. **It's a big pat on the back to us.**

Early in the decade we were a small Chapter with a few energetic members like **Ernie and Lavina Fields, Jim Pruitt, Francis and Denny Gregory, Frank and Linda Osborne, Tryugve and Janet Culp**, just to name a few. They were cleaning trails in the National Forest and keeping the mission statement alive.

The Chapter has grown in the last 10 years and so have our obligations in keeping trails open and developing new trailheads and trails for the public and stock users to enjoy.

The list of accomplishments are impressive.

Food for Thought, What would our trail systems look like today if it wasn't for our hard working members?

Would the following trailheads be available and would the associated trails be open?

1. **The Bonaparte Trail System**—Maybe, but not in the condition as it exists today, including extensive trun pikes over some consistently wet areas.
  2. **4th of July Trailhead**— No. It started out as a wide spot utilized by woodcutters, now we have developed it into a 1st class trailhead with campsites, picnic tables, fire rings, hitch rails, high lines, toilet facility, informational signage, and loading ramp.
  3. **Bannon Mtn. Trail System**— No, It was originally was just a place for loading and unloading cattle. Now it is a useable camping area with toilet facilities, camp sites, picnic tables, fire rings, hitch rails, high lines, loading ramp and convenient stock water. We cleaned many miles of trails, installed trail number sign at the trailhead.
  4. **Sinlahekin Trail System**— Maybe, It was developed in just 2 years from an impassible existing trail and canal from the headquarters to Blue Lake. With just our continued usage and unofficial maintenance a trail is being developed from Blue Lake down to Hunter's Camp.
  5. **Disappointment Trail System**— Maybe, The trails have been improved by the Snowmobilers and our members in the last 2 years by installing turnpikes and general annual maintenance.
  6. **Whistler Canyon Trailhead**— Yes and No. Access was over private property and this courtesy was withdrawn in 2008, because our Chapter volunteered to take the lead in developing the new trailhead and began working with the Forest Service and the County, a trailhead available to the public will be completed in a timely manner.
  7. **Barnell/Bailey Trail System**—No, due to our dedicated members, we will develop this into another trail system for all to enjoy. Some work has done and more is scheduled for this year.
  8. **Wilcox Driveway Trailhead**— Available now but only for parking with toilet facilities. This year we will provide materials and volunteer labor to develop it into a first class trailhead with hitch rails, high lines, and a swinging gate. We are proud to know our work will be part of the PNW Scenic Trail System from Wilcox down to the new Whistler Canyon Trailhead on Highway 97
  9. We did all this along with clearing many miles of trails, building turnpikes and installing bridges throughout Okanogan County. If it wasn't for Okanogan Valley Chapter members, where would we riding today? Give it some thought and when the call goes out for help on some of these projects, consider being a part of something that is a "whole lot bigger" than just you and me. DAVE.
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# Leave No Trace

## March/April BCHW Trailhead News

Please send in your events for the Calendar in the Mar/Apr 2010 issue of the Trailhead News by Feb. 1. BCHW would like to thank you all for your hard work in getting articles to us every issue. This issue we will be putting in articles that we had held last issue due to space issues, calendar events, and grant articles only .BCHW is offering a 10% discount on Chapter Event Ads (space only). Please call Crissy at (360) 754-4543 for details. Note: all ads must be purchased by April 1, 2010 to run in any issue in 2010. Offer expires April 1, 2010  
If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank You,

Joyce Wilms & Dick Yarboro

BCHW Trailhead News Public & Managing Editor BCHW

Trailhead News Publicity Chair & Editor

Crissy McGee

BCHW Trailhead News Editor & Advertising Manager [bchw@wamedia.com](mailto:bchw@wamedia.com) P.O. Box 7184 Olympia , WA 98507

### JACKET DONATION

Dick and Renee Sweetman have kindly donated 2- like new **Okanogan Valley Chapter** jackets. They will be auctioned at the Sweetheart Dessert Auction on Feb 17, 2010. The men's size is Xlge With embroidery of OVC on the back and the woman's jacket is a Lge. Size with OVC silk screening on the back.

If you are interested , be sure to be at the Dessert Auction  
Wednesday February 17, 2010

### *Valentine's Day Feb. 12*

*Remember  
a woman's 'heart is just  
like your campfire, If you  
don't tend to it regular,  
You may lose it.....*

**Dinner** at the Breadline on Sat.Feb 30, was great success. Seventeen people enjoyed a great dinner , and to add to the festivities, it was Gail Sunde's birthday. Happy Belated Wishes to a very special lady. Those who were not able to attend missed a great time.

**Membership dues are OVERDUE, by the time you read this message.**

**Call Treasurer, Cathy Kvistad, 826-1421 and promptly take care of this matter.**

**Newsletters are sent to members in good standing only.**

### PERSONAL PROTECTION

**WASP SPRAY!** Wasp spray can shoot up to twenty feet away and can be more accurate than pepper spray where the danger would have to be much closer and you could be at risk of being overpowered or getting some of the spray on yourself. Wasp spray can temporarily blind an attacker until they get to the hospital for an antidote. Some self defense experts have recommended wasp spray for decades and, as with late season riding many of us already carry a can in our saddlebags.

Information shared by Teresa Naylor

## PHOTOS—PHOTOS—PHOTOS

2009 was a pretty dismal year for submitting photos to our historian, **Sandra Walters**. Nobody submitted any photos. We know you took them, but what happened???

It is possible with digital convenience, we don't have that extra print we used to have. It is very reasonable to have a disc made or if you have the capability, just email those photos to Sandra at [walterss@pcnuthut.com](mailto:walterss@pcnuthut.com)

### PHOTOS for BCHW CALENDAR

We have no record of Okanogan County having a picture from our Chapter on the BCHW calendar.

The main reason may be that no one has submitted a photo. We know for a fact that our scenery and our Mules and Horses are just as good looking and( maybe better) than those we see every year on the calendar. BCHW editor is making a plea, **for photos**, Contact Vickie Clark, [HRRLEERYDR@gmail.com](mailto:HRRLEERYDR@gmail.com). Deadline is 3-1-2010The great news is that **DAVE SWANBERG**

Has donated a **CARROT CAKE** to anyone in Our chapter who has their submitted photo printed in the 2011 calendar. Go thru those photos now, and think about it as you ride, taking those pictures, get those action shots, scenic shots and even those down right comical ones , You could have a winner !Maybe we can hold Dave to this for next year too....

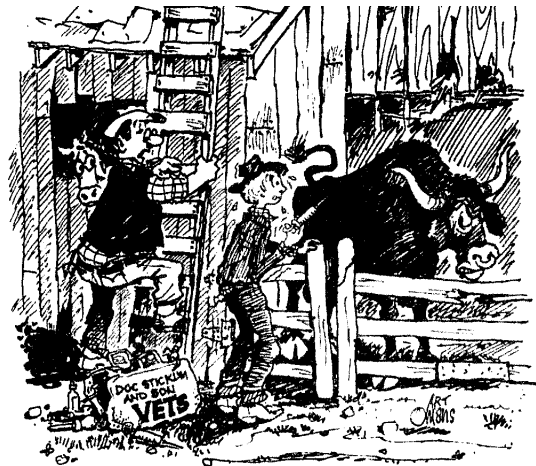
### WANTED!!!!

**A volunteer** is needed to canvas the Tonasket, Oroville and Riverside area businesses to obtain advertisement for our newsletter.

The advertising Dollars we receive help offset the cost of printing and mailing of our newsletters.

This is an important function to keep our expenses to a minimum.

Time **spent and mileage** are considered as a **volunteer hour activity**. Contact Dave Swanberg for complete Details  
Need phone #509-486-1107



**"GIVE HIM HIS SHOT, SON, I'LL BE ON TOP OF THE BARN**

**MEMBERS** are our most important asset. Some members are able to be more physical, some members have other talents and abilities. Some members like to be very **VOCAL**, others are quiet and seldom speak. Some members are political minded and have what it takes to keep the rest of us informed ,Some members just like the Pot Lucks, and nothing warms the hearts of the women who bring their favorite dishes as seeing someone really enjoying it. Some members are musically talented and there are those who just like to sing along. Everyone has an important role, whatever that may be. Each of you are very important, It takes all of to make it click. **Keep your membership active, We need you.**

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**TRAIL BOSS REPORT  
JANUARY/FEBRUARY  
2010**

Here it is the 19<sup>th</sup> of January and it feels like March with all the warm weather and rain we've had the last few weeks. My corral is such a quagmire that I'm having to feed my horses in the pasture which is also getting wet and muddy in places.

Fortunately, I'm a 4 season recreationist and the snow has been decent for snowmobiling this year. As of January 17<sup>th</sup> there was over three feet of snow on Starvation Mt. and in Beaver Meadow with a little over two feet at Salmon Meadow. This is still below average for this time of year, but we could still get some good snow storms in February and March at the higher elevations.

We don't have any work parties scheduled until March. However, we have been doing some reconnaissance and layout of trailheads at Carter Mt. on Highway 97 near Crumbacher and at Horse Spring Coulee located a few miles west of Tonasket. These trailheads are located on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife land and we are in the process of applying for a grant for purchase of equipment and material for development of the trailheads. If we are successful in getting the grant, the trailheads will increase our early spring front country riding opportunities.

Be sure to check the 2010 Year Book for upcoming events and activities. Check out the "Trail Clearing Tips" on page 18 of the 2010 Yearbook if you plan to participate in trail clearing work parties this year. Remember, if you are using a chainsaw, you must have a current certification. Chainsaw certification is scheduled for 6 March at the Tonasket Ranger District this year.

Tom Windsor

Trail Boss

826-4595

**FIRE ARMS TRAINING CLASS**

**DATE;** Saturday March 13, 2010

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**WHERE:** Omak Police Range (near landfill)

**COST:** \$100. donation to Range

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:** Personal firearm, 200 rounds of ammo per person (less for wheel guns) Holster, Ear protection, Eye Protection. The class size is now 9. If we go over or under that I need to contact the instructor prior to the class. The instructor will be Deputy Tate Everett of the Okanogan Sheriff's Department.

The class will focus primarily on handgun operation and safety. If we want to include riffles I need to make that arrangement. Tate would like a mix of semi-automatic and wheel guns.

Please RSVP to Dave Sunde. , dsunde@starband.net, P.O. Box 1766 Tonasket, Wa. 98855

509-486-1547

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## Tonasket Veterinary Service

Cody E. Ames, DVM

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31648 Hwy. 97 N.  
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Fax: 509-486-1606

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509-486-8666



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Dick Sweetman-Owner

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### Advertising Rates

(Classifieds and Business Card Ads are free to members)

#### 1 MONTH:

1/4 page \$10.00

1/2 page \$15.00

Business Card \$5.00

#### 6 MONTHS:

1/4 pg = \$8.00 pr month = \$48.00

1/2 pg = \$12.00 per month = \$72.00

Business Card \$4.00 per month = \$24.00

#### 1 Year:

1/4 pg = \$96.00

1/2 pg = \$144.00

Business Card \$44.00

# Congratulations

The following people received volunteer hour chevrons for their hard work and dedication in helping us keep our Public Lands open for Recreational use for Horses and Mules

Dawn Crowell	89.5 hrs	50 hr. award
Cathy Kvistad	62 hrs	50 hr. award
Janet Logan	61.5	50 hr. award
Barb McKinney	65.5	50 hr. award
Teresa Naylor	60.5	50 hr. award
Susan Beck	196.5	100 hr. award
Sandra Walters	165	100 hr. award
Bob Crowell	232	100 hr award
Dave Sunde	580	200 hr award
Trygve Culp	1923	1000 hr award
Dave Swanberg	2016.5	1000 hr award
Tom Windsor	1872	1000 hr award

*With Leaders like this  
We can't go wrong*

## **SUBJECT: USRIDER EQUESTRIAN MOTOR PLAN– A new benefit to BCHA**

This offer is time sensitive and needs to be used during the month of February to count towards a “BCHA new membership” This program has been researched and it is as good as it says it is. It doesn't cost BCHA's members anything extra, but will benefit BCHA if members sign up during February. (Compliments of our Director of Development Kande Haertel! Way to go Kande!)

**GREAT NEWS!** Get something you want and benefit BCHA at the same time-at no extra cost to you. USRIDER has created a special limited-time program just for Back Country Horsemen of America members. For any member of BCHA who joins USRIDER between February 1 and February 28, 2010 USRIDER will make a \$10.00 donation for each new primary membership. Call 1-800-844-1409 to join. Be sure to identify yourself as a Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA member. Or, join online at [www.usrider.org](http://www.usrider.org) –be sure to choose BCHA in the “How did I hear about us?” box to assure credit to our organization. For more information on USRIDER EQUESTRIAN PLAN go to their website at [www.usrider.org](http://www.usrider.org)

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# February 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Officer Board meeting 1:00 Swanbergs	16	17 Sweetheart Potluck/Auction Tonasket	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 No Host Diner- Rancho Chico	27
28						

## SWEETHEART POTLUCK DINNER AND ACUTION FEBRUARY 17, 2010 6:P.M. TONASKET SENIOR CENTER

If you didn't indulge yourself enough over the holidays, the **SWEETHEART POTLUCK AND AUCTION** will give you a second chance. As always, the potluck starts at **6:00 P.M.** With the desert auction to follow.

For the new members and the rest of us with short memories, this is how it goes. Make a main dish, salad or side dish for the potluck dinner, then make your best dessert to be auctioned after dinner. Bring some money so you can purchase somebody else's dessert too. After the auction, all of the desserts are placed back on the dessert table for all to share, and you can take home whatever is left. It's just a big calorie exchange ....

Regarding the potluck dinner, bring your donation "ready to serve" including serving utensils We do not rent the kitchen area or their pots/pans/dishes/silver, etc. Be sure to bring your own place setting for the same reason. After the dinner and auction, **clean up** and take home all that belongs to you.

There was a considerable amount of ham left over after the Christmas dinner so there will be some ham/bean soup available. Bring a Bowl. There is not enough soup to feed everybody as the only main course, so don't be discouraged from making an additional main dish. Looking forward to seeing a lot of Hungry and Happy faces. -Dave-



