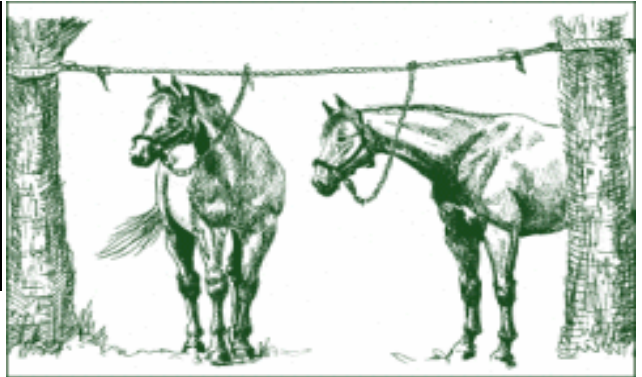


Highline

October 2003

Volume 3, Issue 10

Inland Empire Backcountry Horsemen
P. O. Box 30891, Spokane WA 99223
www.iebch.com



President's Saddlebags

This last weekend was a doozy. The Chili Feed was a great success, with over thirty trailers showing up (most with two or more horses and riders). If you missed this one, don't worry- we will be doing this again!

Several things struck me about this event. For starters, it was a great time. We got to visit with a lot of people we hadn't seen for a while. Some were members, some weren't (yet), but everyone was having a good time. Secondly, we were riding on publicly owned land-ok, it is "front country" instead of "back country", but it still fits our Mission Statement. Third, I looked over the area when I left, and saw that all the manure piles had either been removed or thoroughly raked out, and there was no garbage left behind. There were a LOT of people there, and the site was left clean. This is Leave No Trace etiquette in action. I was impressed, and hope that the powers-that-be of Riverside Park are too.

It may be common courtesy to clean up after yourself, but it isn't always done. For whatever reason, it was important to everyone at the feast to make that effort. I want to personally thank each person there for taking on that small task. Practicing what we preach keeps our credibility intact, and goes a long way toward keeping us welcome on Park land (or BLM, or DNR, or...?).

That BCH sticker on your trailer carries a lot of weight.

(Continued on page 2)

October Meeting Program

Scott Clark of K.D. Saddlery in Davenport, WA will give a program on tack types and how to fit them correctly.

Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council Building, 6116 North Market, Spokane. Social 6:30 PM Meeting 7:00 PM

We hope to see you there.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Inland Empire Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington is to preserve and enhance the right to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands.

VISION STATEMENT

Develop and keep trails open for responsible recreational use.

Objectives to Achieve Our Goals

- * To unite equestrians to achieve the goals and objectives of Backcountry Horsemen.
- * To encourage citizen involvement in political and governmental actions affecting public lands.
- * To be proactive in regulatory issues regarding equine use on public lands.
- * To educate and inform users about the etiquette and impact of recreational use on lands.
- * To introduce interested horsemen to the use and enjoyment of trails and backcountry.
- * To be an active volunteer in building and maintaining trails.
- * To provide social activities for equestrians.

(Continued from page 1)

Display it with pride, because your organization has put in a lot of time and effort to make it a group to be proud of. This last weekend, the non-members at the Chili Ride saw some good examples of Leave No Trace behavior, general good companionship, and overall horse sense. Remember, we are all ambassadors to the general public.

Riverside Park may be like our back yard, but there are more people using it than you find in the wilderness areas. The sheer number of users creates greater potential for abuse. If we are welcome here, we will be more likely to be welcome in the wilderness areas. Good job, everyone! Happy Trails!

Dean Giles

Membership

By Jack Abel, Membership Chair

It must be autumn because the leaves are turning, the stores are polluted with Halloween everything and the politicians are knocking on everyone's door. That means it is also time for IEBCH renewals for 2003-2004. If you did not bet on the Atlanta Braves and San Francisco Giants in the playoffs, you probably still have enough in the bank to renew now. Dues are still incredibly cheap at \$29 single membership and \$40 for a family unit. Should you be purchasing your supplies at one of the three Spokane Area stores that honor our membership cards for in store discounts, then you are saving enough to more than pay IEBCH dues. Those stores are: Ace Hardware (South Hill), Aslin-Finch and Kountry Kritters (on Newport Hwy). There is no better value in all of Washington than IEBCH membership. In fact I have heard that even Walmart and Costco are considering selling our memberships in the future! Thanks for reading and we look forward to having all of you as members again in 2004.

HIGHLINE

The Highline is published monthly by the Inland Empire Chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington. Submissions are welcome and encouraged.

Send to:

Bud Arbuckle, Editor,
16008 N Bayview Ct
Nine Mile Falls, WA 99026
or Email:
arbuckle@gpacable.com

Views expressed in the Highline are the sole responsibility of the author and are not necessarily the official view of BCH.

MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$40.00 per family, \$29.00 for single membership, covering local and state dues.

To join or renew, send your check/moneyorder and your completed application/waiver (on back of Highline) to:

Inland Empire BCH
P.O.B. 30891
Spokane, WA 99223

Please complete and sign the application/waiver for all renewals and new memberships. They need to be updated yearly. Dues are due January 1.

AFFILIATIONS


The Inland Empire Backcountry Horsemen is a chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington (www.bchw.com) and the Backcountry Horsemen of America (www.backcountryhorse.com).

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Meeting Programs

By Margaret Robinson, Program Chair

October - Scott Clark (K. D. Saddlery, Davenport, WA) will present a program on tack--types and how to fit. Saddles and bridles must be comfortable for both horses and riders. Saddle sores are out. If you have head gear or bits that you have questions about, bring them. If you have unusual tack that would interest the group, we'd like to see it.

November - Officer elections will be held. Please come and participate.

December - The annual Christmas party will be held at the Inland NW Wildlife Council on Sat, December 20, 2003.

the floor for any further nominations at the October and November membership meetings.

Members who cannot avoid missing the November membership meeting may vote by absentee ballot. All absentee ballots must be delivered by hand and/or mail to a designated person and/or address no later than the day of the November meeting. Anybody interested in voting by absentee ballot should contact Lew Sutton, phone number 924-6403

To be eligible to vote new members must have joined in person or have post marked their application no later than the October membership meeting date.

novich pass this legislation. PLEASE contact your Representative and ask them to support this legislation. Better yet – ask them if they will be a co-sponsor. Remember, your Representatives are generally willing to work with their constituents.

The following is a partial list of the members that Radanovich's staff would really like to see sign on – so if any of you are in their district, please contact them right away: **Bill Thomas** (CA), **Buck McKeon** (CA), **Jerry Lewis** (CA), **J.D. Hayworth** (AZ), **John Shadegg** (AZ), **Coleby** (AZ).

This is a unique opportunity to preserve an important American heritage. The struggles that take place on a forest by forest basis to keep trails and camping areas open to stock use is nearly impossible for any individual or organization to follow to completion. Plus, the national forests will be starting their forest plan reviews all across the country, and there is just simply not the staff, time or money to chase each one of those plans to ensure there is no net loss of opportunities for pack and saddle stock use.

Thank you for any help!

ELECTION OF IEBCH OFFICERS

By Lew Sutton, assistant state director

As of October 1, 2003 the Nominating Committee has developed the following list of nominees for the offices indicated:

- President ----- **(have not been able to find anyone willing to run)**
- Vice President ----- **Ken Elliott**
- State Director ----- **Rick Grant**
- Secretary ----- **Barbee Scheibner**
- Treasurer ----- **Margarett Robinson**
- Board Members (two are elected) ----- **Cece Hite, Nikki Goetz**

If you are interested in running for any of these offices, please contact **Lewis Sutton** at 924-6403.

The Nominating Committee Chair will present the nominees to date and open

Right-to-Ride Livestock on Federal Lands Act of 2003

By Marily Reese

Hello All –

Today, in Washington DC, Congressman **George Radanovich** held a hearing on his proposed legislation HR 2966 – “Right-to-Ride Livestock on Federal Lands Act of 2003.” The National Forest Recreation Association (NFRA) is fully supportive of this legislation and **we need your help!** The Bill directs the National Park Service, the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Fish and Wildlife Service to “preserve and facilitate the continued use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on such lands, including wilderness areas, national monuments, and other specifically designated areas where there is a historical tradition of such use.” Basically, any reductions in use or access could only occur after full public involvement, as required by NEPA.

In reviewing past testimony on this is sue, it goes back over 20 years! The time is now to help Congressman Rada-

Recreation Strategy

By Vicki Gish

This information is important to any horse or mule back riders. **Debbie Wilkins** is planning the Recreation Strategy for part of our area. If it works in this small area it will be applied across the rest of the US Forest. Ruby Creek Area could be set up now in the forest plan for horse use. We need interest from horse-back riders to back her up. **Bob** and I are not enough, we need other voices. We need more horse people at these meetings. There will be 2 meeting dates in Spokane on Oct 28 & 29. Place to be announced.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	PLACE	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
Oct 19	Cornerstone Training	Riding Clinic	Ted Krauss 448-2122
Nov 25	NW Wildlife Council Bldg	Chapter Officer Elections	Lew Sutton 924-6403
Dec 20	NW Wildlife Council Bldg	Christmas Party	Margaret Robinson 926-4106

Please see our website for the most complete listing of events. (www.iebch.com)

GET TOGETHER

By Vicki Gish

November 8th, at 5:00 pm, you are invited to a pot luck at **Tom & Brenda Walton's** Bed & Breakfast. This meeting will be of great interest to those of you that ride horses or mules on Forest Service land. **Lu Lemieux**, trail tech from the Forest Service, will be talking about the trails available to ride now, trails that need a little work to be passable on horseback, trails that have not been cleared for 20 years that I call "orphan trails", and to show you how these trails relate to each other on a map. **Jimmy Lemieux** from the Pacific Northwest Trails Association will explain how that trail system goes hand and hand with our work and how we can benefit by teaming up and working together.

Priest River Valley BCH are inviting all BCH and Saddleclub folks to this informative and fun time. Bring your favorite pot luck dish and meet a bunch of great people who are all interested in preserving our right to ride on public lands.

Directions: North on highway 2, Turn west on highway 211, Turn east on Deer Valley Rd., Travel about 5 miles there is a 4'x 4' sign "Camden Gap Saddleclub" turn onto this driveway for 1/2 a mile. Road Y's go to the right. You are there.

Any questions call 509-276-6226.



FORT BENTON

By Vern Hopkins

It was really a neat little town, nestled down in a deep canyon on the banks of the Missouri River. Fort Benton, Montana, even the name has a historic ring to it. Back in the fur-trading and early exploration days it was as far up the river as water traffic could go. Parts of the original fort are still there incorporated into the city park. There is a lot of history wrapped up in that area. Charlie Russell, the famous western artist, used the landscape around there in many of his paintings.

Spring of 1967 found us training racehorses at Fort Benton. I had decided to leave the ranch at Arlee and go back to the track. I contacted some Quarter Horse breeders around the state and picked up a few two-year-olds. They were nominated for the Montana Futurity that was to be run there in the fall, but they also had a spring race meet. We started getting them ready at the fairgrounds in Missoula and, when the Fort Benton track opened for training, we moved up there.

We had a little thirteen-foot camp trailer that had a stove, sink, a built-in table with two seats and a double bed. Kaye and I slept in the trailer. Our kids, Kathy, David and Marvin, slept in a tent. If it was raining too much, the kids would move their beds into an empty stall. We had rented a used refrigerator in Great Falls and set it at the end of our barn. There were some other family camps around the grounds that were pretty much like ours so we felt right at home.

I recall we had seven colts in training and one saddle horse. This was in the days before mechanical hotwalkers were common, so after exercising the horses they would have to be led by hand until they were cooled out. I would bring a hot horse in off the track, wash it, throw a blanket on it and hand it to David, who was mounted on the saddle horse. He could lead one on each side. It took about a half hour for each one to cool out and so our morning training lasted around three hours. Kaye did most of the stall cleaning. Kathy's job

was to clean the tack and to help Kaye with the kitchen chores. I don't remember what Marv did with his time, mostly just play around and help where he could. Anyway, that was our daily schedule. On race days, Saturdays and Sundays, we did all that plus run any horses we had entered on the afternoon card.

The track was built right on the west bank of the Missouri River. If a horse should happen to blow the far turn and jump over the outside fence, he would land in the river. This did occur a couple of times when we were there.

Racing wasn't quite as sophisticated there as it was at the bigger tracks. For one thing, the trainer would pay the jockey his fee right in the paddock. You would hand the rider his money before he mounted your horse. If he won the race you would give him extra. The trainer was also expected to handle his own horse in the starting gate, lead him in and hold him straight and ready until the race started. The system seemed to work well enough because everybody was on equal ground.

We always had an enjoyable time there. Our kids would play with all the other racetrack kids and everyone would gather in the evenings around a campfire. We would play music and sing songs or play cards. A lot of times we'd just sit and visit about any and everything. We made a lot of good friends during those days. There was a city swimming pool downtown at the park. Sometimes in the hot afternoons the moms would take the kids over to the pool to spend the day.

We have a few interesting memories from our time there. One of the first was about a jockey riding there by the name of Mitch Toussain. He was a black kid and an excellent rider, although not 100% honest. During a race one day he was just crossing the finish line in the lead when he noticed one of

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the stewards looking right at him. He had been using a "buzzer," a little hand-held, battery powered electrical device that would give the horse a shock and was supposed to make him run faster. They were strictly illegal and if caught using one you would be disqualified and suspended. Well, Mitch noticed that the racing steward saw him with it. After the race he pulled up in the clubhouse turn. He jumped off the horse, turned him loose on the track, climbed over the fence and took off. He ran out behind the barns, got in his car and disappeared. We didn't see him again for about a month. He probably figured there was no way he could talk his way out of that one.

On another occasion a few of the guys were sitting around using a couple bales of hay and a saddle blanket for a card table. They were playing poker and had a hand of lowball going. David was about nine years old then and was standing behind one of the men. In the middle of the betting Dave casually announced to the group, "John's got a king." Of course that broke up the hand. The guys got a laugh out of it though and for the rest of the meet whenever they saw Dave they would say, "Here comes the king."

We had another little episode involving the kids. We were sitting around the fire one evening when the town constable walked up. He said he had caught some little kids crawling out of the concession stand under the grandstand with candy bars and cigarettes. Naturally they were all ours, so he turned them over to us to dish out the punishment. I can't remember exactly what we did but I know we used it for a good object lesson and gave them plenty of extra chores.

Child labor laws must not have had much of a hold in those days. While at Kalispell once, Kathy got a job with the carnival selling toys or stuffed animals or something like that in a booth on the midway. Another time she and Dave got a job holding the dogs for a trained-sheepdog rodeo act. They were only nine or ten years old.

One day I hadn't seen Marv around for awhile. I didn't think too much about it because the kids were quite often out of sight for an hour or two. The races had started and I went over to the grandstand and was watching the first race. Pretty soon I saw Marv coming up the stairway wearing a paper hat and carrying a tray full of popcorn bags yelling "Popcorn, popcorn." I guess he figured,

being six years old, it was time to get a real job.

It was the morning after the meet was over and we were packed up and ready to move. We were waiting for one of the owners to arrive with a stock truck. He was going to haul the horses to the next track for us. We had everything all set to go and decided to go into town and have breakfast. We got back in an hour or so and found that somebody had been there and taken the halters from all the horses. I had to go back into town and buy a bunch of halters just so we could leave.

After Fort Benton, we would go to all the other towns that were having races with their county fairs. We felt like a band of gypsies moving from town to town every week. It was exciting and the kids loved it because there was always either a circus or a carnival and a rodeo everywhere we went. We would take in the meetings at Helena, Kalispell, Missoula, Hamilton, Shelby, Great Falls and then back to Fort Benton in the fall for their fair. After the Montana fair circuit was over we would take the horses to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho for their fall races.

With summer over it was time to get the kids home and back in school, turn the racehorses out for the winter, gather up the yearlings and start breaking and training them for the next season's races. We were always hoping and dreaming that we would come up with a stake horse.

The key to it all was that we loved the business, the satisfaction of developing a young horse into a seasoned athlete, training a horse to run his best and the joy of winning. I think we would try just as hard and get just as big a thrill out of running for a cup of coffee as we would for ten grand. Nobody said race-trackers were brilliant. We just loved what we were doing.

The Dusty Trail

By Katrena Foltz, Trail Boss Rides

Rules of Horseback Riding

- 1 - Keep a leg on each side of your pony.
- 2 - Keep the ear side up and the steel side down.
- 3 - You are responsible for all limbs and bushes between the top of your horses ears and the top of your hat.
- 4 - If everything goes south, don't scream. You'll just scare the horse!

Chili Feed at Riverside State Park

October 5, 2003

By Cece Hite, Board Member

The IEBCH put on a Chili Feed at Riverside State Park. It was a great success and the weather was absolutely perfect! This event was free to members and their families and guests. The club wanted to give back something to the members for all of their donated time and energy that is spent promoting the BCH to the community. We also wanted our families and guests, who might be potential members, to be able to come together and meet and be able to get to know each other.

Ted Krauss told lots of people about the ride at the Ride the West Show. **Christi Giles** and I called many of the members who did not have email about the ride and had a good response from the calls. Many of the members that we called could not come but still appreciated the effort we made to let them know about the ride. We may see them at future events just because of this one phone call and personal contact. We had 30 horse trailers at the event and about 80 people. We also signed up several new members and had several more that will sign up later.

Most of us spent the morning riding in the park enjoying the wonderful fall day. Some of us know the park fairly well and led people who did not know the park. I know that the people I rode with were thrilled that the park was available, especially during hunting season. We had the Chili Feed at 2 o'clock and everyone was more than ready for our chili, hot dogs, baked potatoes and cold slaw. We also

(Continued on page 6)

ADVERTISE!!!

Do you own a company?

Do you have a product or service to sell?

Do you have a web site to advertise?

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Only \$50 for a business card ad in 12 issues also includes a link on our web site to yours

Contact: Cece Hite at 927-9801 or e-mail to cecerider555@aol.com

Members and non members welcome.

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(Ads must be resubmitted monthly if they are to continue running)

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FOR SALE: Purebred Paso Fino 9 year old gelding 14.1H stocky build sorrel. Loves trails with a fast smooth pace for experienced rider. \$1200 1 509 796-4585 Alex Murphy

FOR SALE: Two Registered Arab Mares, 12yr Chestnut w/Blaze. 8 yr Dark Dapple Grey. Both Beautiful, Broken & Sound. \$2000 for both or will sell separately—Moving. Call Pat if interested 443-6870

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FOR SALE: Pair of handcrafted tool pack boxes \$60.00, Call Donna at 509-838-3420

FOR SALE: Perfect Grandkids pony, 21 yr old Welsh mare. Rides and packs, perfect ground manners. 12 HH, \$1,000. Includes all tack. Good trail horse, 11yr old Quarter/Arab mare, 14.2 HH, leads and follows good, good manners. Perfect woman's horse, \$1,000. 10 yr old, 14.3 HH, John mule. A sweet heart but needs patient handler, Packs, \$800. All above vaccinated WNV. Call 235-4809 Ryan Roberts.

WANTED: Seasoned Gelding, 8—15 years old, Pleasure/Trail horse. Would like a horse that is happy at whatever pace is asked of him. Well broke, steady, will consider younger or older if they meet the well broke condition and are sound.. Call Kathy or Bud at 509-467-5744

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FOR SALE: AQHA 17 mo filly halter broke sweet disposition. She is a bay with a beautiful head and conformation. Will make an excellent mount for anyone... price \$800 Alex Murphy 509-796-4585

HANDYMAN: Landscaping/Odds & Ends/Help with your Projects - call Rich at 927-9801

(Continued from page 5)

had carrot cake, and of course all of the beverages donated by **Bob Lauritzen. Gladys Nyberg** played some fun tunes on her accordion so we even had some music. We all want to thank her for participating in the event

and making it more fun. I am sure I saw a couple of ladies up doing a little dance while she was playing! **Rick Grant** and **Jack Abel** were the official hot dog chefs and they did a great job. They said it was a "Hot Dog Cook Off", but I think that it was a dead heat, as the

(Continued on page 7)

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(Continued from page 6)

grilled hot dogs were great no matter what grill they came off of. I had lots of help with setting up the tables and food from many of the ladies and I want to thank them for all of their help. **Katrena Foltz**, who could not be there was a great help in the beginning with brochures and ideas for the Chili Feed.

Bob Lauritzen, who owns Wild Horse Photography and also works for Washington Auto Carriage was there early with his donated sodas and water. He helped direct traffic for people who were lost and also baby-sat my four-year-old saddle-bred mare who was not used to all the commotion so I could lead a ride out. He is a professional photographer who donated pictures of our members and their families or horses in addition to the sodas. We will have the proofs and negatives at the October meeting so you need to be there to get your copies and please give him a big thanks for his effort and contribution to the success of this event. Teresa Bailey brought bales of straw, pumpkins, corn stalks, a saddle, blanket, and a boot with flowers in it, scarecrows and other props for the pictures. I brought a bunch of hats for people to use and we got some great shots of our members and guests. We had a lot of laughs taking the shots and have invited Bob to be at our Poker Ride to have a booth for his photography of horses and people.

We had lots of food and thanks to Washington Auto Carriage's donation of cash for the food cost we were able to have extra food items that were not planned. They have helped a lot of our members, including myself, with fixing and explaining the right way to take care of our trailers and make them safe for our horses and ourselves. Washington Auto Car-

riage is a great supporter of the BCH and we all thank them for their continued support. I have had a lot of positive comment about what a great time everyone had and how this should be an annual event. I also had comments on how more events like these would help the club. Please voice your opinions at our meetings and we will try to set up more events like these in the future. Your ideas and suggestions do make a difference! This was a great group effort and the success is thanks to all of you and your great support of the IEBCH. Thanks
Cece Hite

Dear IEBCH:

I just wanted to send a heartfelt thank you to the Inland Empire Back Country Horsemen group for hosting the ride and chili feed in Riverside State Park this past Sunday. CeCe Hite had invited Candi Craigo and myself to join the ride as guests.....thank you CeCe. The ride was way more fun than is legal and we met some truly nice folks on the ride. Everyone was warm, welcoming and made us feel right at home. The food was delicious.....what is it about food cooked and eaten in the great outdoors? It always tastes better than any fine dining restaurant. Candi and I left at the end of the day with big smiles on our faces, tired horses in the trailer and a warm feeling in our hearts. Thank you Back Country Horsemen (and women) for what was truly a memorable day sharing a perfect fall ride with some really great folks.
Sincerely,
Jill Good & Secret
Candi Craigo & Acey

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- Vice President**
Ryan Roberts - 235-4809
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