

BUCKHORN RANGE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

April 2011



President's Notes

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OUR MISSION

To work toward the perpetuation of the legal and moral claim by the American people to use horses and mules for recreation on public lands.

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 maintain engagement in regulatory issues and actions regarding use of equines on public lands.**
- **To introduce interested horsemen to the use and enjoyment of trails and the backcountry.**

OUR VISION

Develop and keep trails open for responsible equine recreational use.

got mud?

Spring has finally made it, but it's still too cold & wet. It seems like we're about a month behind, weather-wise. The grass in the pasture is finally just starting to green up. Thank goodness we have plenty of hay in the barn!

We managed to squeeze in a Chapter ride last Saturday between showers. We had a great turnout - 19 riders from 3 chapters; Buckhorn, Peninsula & Olympic. Everyone seemed to have a good time, and everyone made it out (eventually).

The BCHW Annual General meeting & Rendezvous the weekend before was also a lot of fun, with mounted shooting demonstrations, a clinician (Barb Apple) & lots of vendors. Our Director, Jeff Chapman, was given a plaque, a Thank You from the Board of Directors of BCHW for all the hard work & dedication he has given for the organization, (& well-deserved!) Go to www.bchw.org to see photos from the weekend, including scenes from the demos, awards presentations, the live auction, and the dance following.

We have secured the Tri-Area Community Center for our Chapter meetings for the coming year. We may have one or 2 meetings this summer at Chimacum Saddlery & Tack to use the arena there for programs (although nothing is planned yet, if you have any ideas for a program, please let me know). The program for this month's meeting, April 8th, will be a Slideshow of Chapter rides through the years. (If you have any photos you think should be in the slideshow, please send them to me ASAP!)

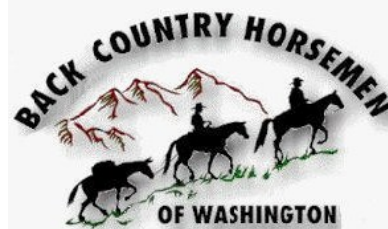
I hope to see you there!



Want to know if your saddle fits correctly on your horse? The following is a list of the seven points of existing saddle fit that the German saddle maker, *Schleese*, considers when making saddles. The saddle should be checked using the saddle without pad, fittings or rider on top. The horse must stand squarely on level ground for true picture.

- Balance – the center of the saddle (seat area) should lie parallel to the floor while on the horse's back.
- Straightness – the saddle should not fall off to one side when viewed from back. The points of the tree should be behind both scapula (shoulder blades.)
- Withers Clearance- Clearance at the withers should be 2-3 fingers between the pommel of the saddle and the horse's withers while applying slight pressure to the saddle. In no case should you ride a saddle that touches the horse's withers.
- Gullet width – Wide enough not to interfere with spinal processes or with the musculature of the horse's back. The saddle must be off the spine and spinal ligaments.
- Full Panel Contact – Should touch the horse's back evenly all the way from front to back. Saddle should not rock or have hollows.
- Shoulder Angle – Panel points should be flush with the shoulder to position saddle properly.
- Billet Alignment – Billets should hang perpendicular to the ground so that the girth or cinch is not angled.

Please check out this saddle maker on line. They would be very happy to provide you a custom fit saddle starting prices around \$5,000.00. You will never ride another saddle.



2011 Officers

President:

Bob Hoyle 732-5042

Vice-President:

Gerry Magnuson 732-4325

Chapter Director:

Jeff Chapman 385-6364

Alternate Director:

Juelie Dalzell 385-6364

Works Projects Co-

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Jeff Chapman 385-6364

Bob Hoyle 732-5042

Secretary:

Cyn Okinczyk 385-5098

Treasurer:

Judith Hoyle 732-5042

Trail Boss:

Bob Hoyle 732-5042

Juelie Dalzell 385-6364

LNT/Education :

Juelie Dalzell 385-6364

Volunteer Hours:

Juelie Dalzell 385-6364

Website:

Bob Hoyle 732-5042

Newsletter Editors:

Juelie Dalzell 385-6364

gobi@olympus.net

For newsletter submissions, or advertising, contact Juelie

Buckhorn Range Chapter General Meeting Minutes March 11, 2011

Location :Tri Area Center in Chimacum

President Bob Hoyle called meeting to order at 7:10pm
9 members present

Approval of minutes for February 11, 2011 General Meeting

Treasurer's Report: The Chapter is solvent. We still have \$1300 committed to Anderson Lake Project

Trail Boss Report: Gibbs Lake Ride last month was cold but nice, about 7 riders. This month's ride is joint with Peninsula Chapter and will be at Sandy Shores March 26th.

Work Projects: none this month

Director's Report: There was an all users group meeting for Anderson Lake Park to talk about forming a coalition to improve and maintain the park. We discussed whether we want to be part of the coalition and it was decided that Juelie will attend their next meeting and gather information.

Old Business: Judith will check out having our Tack Sale at a horse show at the fairgrounds and report back.

New Business: Kiwanis Camp starts June 28th and will need volunteers each Wednesday to help with horses and riders. Contact Juelie if you can help out.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm followed by a wonderful slide show by Bob Hoyle (using our new projector) of his hike of the Upper Dungeness trail.

TRAIL BOSS REPORT

Wahl Lake Joint Chapter Ride, March 28th 2011

Photos by Jeff Chapman

On a surprisingly dry day, 19 riders left the Seton pit (albeit 45 minutes late!) to enjoy the brief break in the Wet, and give our ponies some much-needed exercise.

Jeff Chapman led the ride because he had laid out the route, & most of the group followed him. A small group waited while some very late arrivals got their horses tacked, booted, and readied to be mounted. This caused some excitement as horses objected to being left behind and having to stand and wait for such a long period of time. It is my opinion that from now on we should not wait for late arrivals. If you arrive after the ride time, you are on your own & not part of the Chapter ride.

Although it was (mostly) dry, the wind & clouds kept reminding us that it *was* still March, after all. Everyone said they had a nice ride all the same. Most of the riders stayed for the potluck, and a good time was had by all (even though there was no cheesecake!).

Bob Hoyle, Trail Boss





CLASSIFIEDS



HORSE BOARDING IN SEQUIM

Stock get great views, an acre of land, run in shed with hay and tack storage. They get use of round pen and riding rink. Ample stock trailer parking, easy trailer turnaround. Stock are fed twice a day with your food. Hay is available for purchase. Owners police the paddock. We compost the manure. Boarding fee is \$180/head/month .Contact: Tom Mix on 360-582-0460 or via email tom@cuttinggarden.com.

Local Hay, Horse Pasture Mix. Fescue, Timothy, Ryegrass, and Clover. \$5.00 a bale.

732-4325

ADVERTISING

The Buckhorn Range Chapter is accepting business advertising in this newsletter. Cost is \$40 for a business card size ad for one year. Backcountry Horsemen members can also advertise (preferably horsey) sale items or want items for free. Non-members pay \$5 per ad. Contact the editor for info.

WILDERNESS ADDITION PROPOSAL FOR OLYMPIC NATIONAL PARK

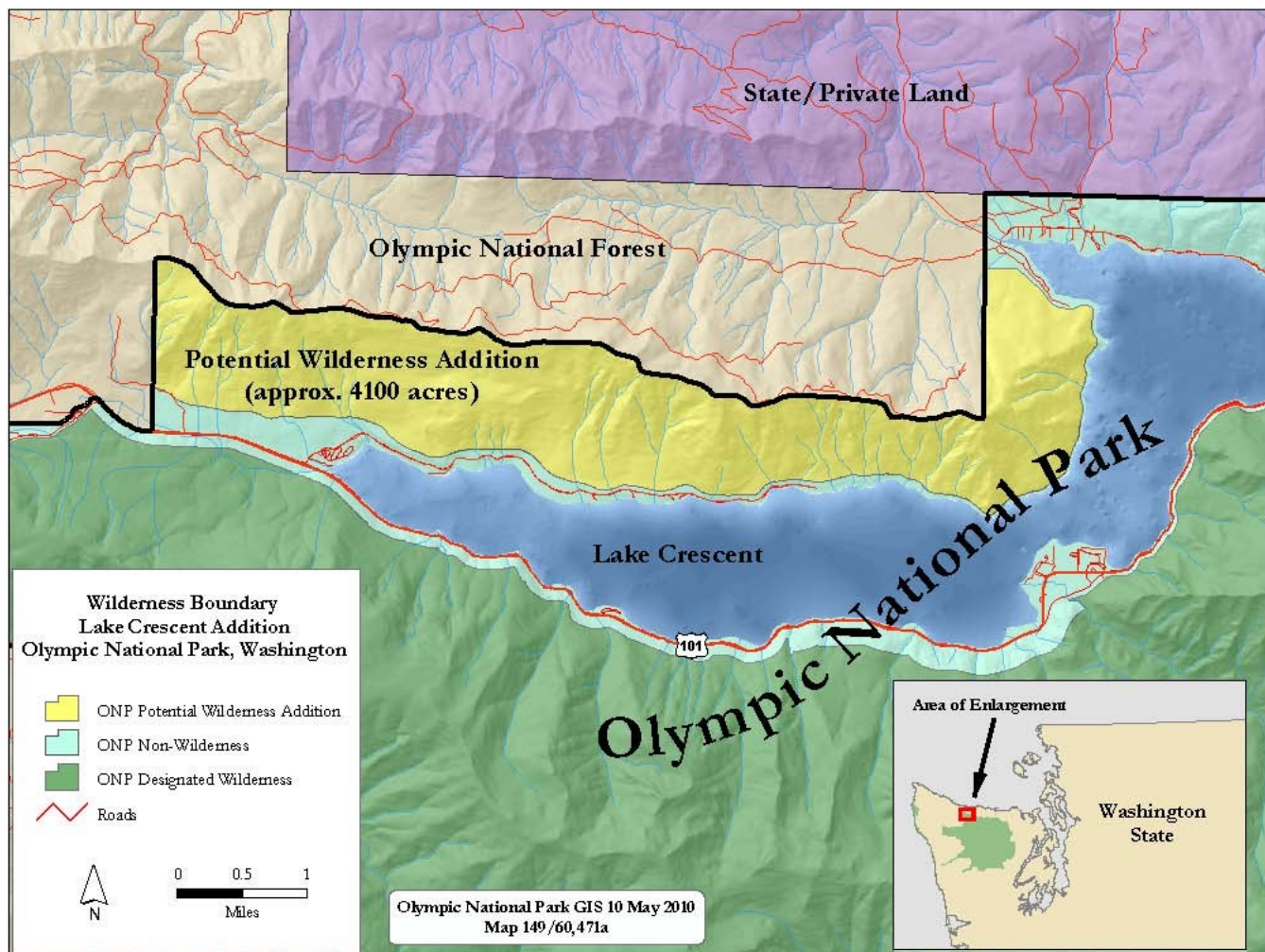
(Note: This is not the Wild Olympics campaign USFS Wilderness addition proposals)

In 2006, we reviewed the General Management Plan (GMP) draft for the Olympic National Park. At the time of commenting, the plan did address some of the wilderness issues which we reviewed. However, these topics were pulled out of the plan and postponed for the separate Wilderness Plan effort (still to come).

One item in the GMP was whether to consider the non-wilderness area of the ONP above the Spruce Railroad Trail at Lake Crescent for being included in the Olympic Wilderness under the National Wilderness Preservation System. With a suitable buffer to the Spruce Railroad Trail (aka the Olympic Discovery Trail), the 4100 acres along Pyramid Peak, including the lookout, would be considered in the future.

In 2010, we reviewed the proposed decommissioning of the failed road into Olympic Hot Springs under the Boulder Creek Environmental Assessment. This proposal would tear out 2.2 miles of broken pavement and construct a durable trail open to stock and hikers. It was known that part of the "Boulder Creek Trail" proposal that this area, once the access road was gone, would be considered a candidate for being added to Wilderness.

Just introduced are two bills in Washington D.C. that would add these two areas to the Olympic Wilderness. These are Senator Cantwell's and Senator Murray's S636 and Representative Dicks' HR 1162. There is a mention of stock use in the bills, at least as far as to the Boulder Creek Trail (the Pyramid Peak parcel by Lake Crescent is mostly steep hillside). BCHW will be considering statewide support for these bills based on what the area chapters recommend. While Peninsula Chapter is the principle chapter this affects, it is an important matter for our chapter as well. If you have thoughts about this, please send them to me, Director Jeff Chapman bbbranch@olympus.net





BARN DANCE

Featuring the band **Joe Crecca & the Homewreckers**
& **Silent Auction**

Fundraiser for Jefferson Equestrian Association - Tax deductible!



Saturday May 7th
7 pm - 11 pm
Chimacum Grange
9572 Rhody Drive



LIVE BAND • SILENT AUCTION • FOOD • BEER & WINE

Ticket Prices: \$15 Adults if paid by Monday May 2nd or \$20 at the door

Youths 15 & under \$10

Ticket price includes food / Beer & Wine for Donation

GET A
25%
DISCOUNT

Pre-register by going to www.jeffersonequestrian.org, fill out form,
mail with payment. We must receive payment no later than Monday May 2nd.

Remember, all monies paid to JEA are tax deductible!

*Please help us raise money to build our
Equestrian Event Center, right here in Port
Townsend. Non-equestrian and equestrian
people alike will all benefit from this conveniently
located, high quality, multi-use facility.*

*Please contact us with any questions:
info@jeffersonequestrian.org
360.379.0507*

*Barn Dance questions:
summermartell@hotmail.com
360.531.1726*





Calendar

April 2, Saturday, 10 a.m., Great Gravel Pack In Capitol Forest

April 8, Friday, 7:00 p.m. Tri Area Community Center Chapter Meeting. Program: Slide show of past chapter rides.

April 16, Saturday 10:00 a.m. Chapter Ride at Gibbs Lake (the long loop) call for directions! 531-2337 or 385-6364

May 7th, Saturday 7:00 p.m. JEA Barn Dance at Chimacum Grange.

Check the website in the coming weeks for information on upcoming events, at
<http://www.olympus.net/community/buckhorn-bchw/> .



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