



HIGH DESERT



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER

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It looks like spring is trying to start early this year. As we are aware, the weather can change back to winter for the month of March. From visiting with some of the members in our chapter, several have started riding to enjoy the weather.

On February 13, ten of us went to Bellevue to join the Idaho Draft Horse Assn. & the Sawtooth Rangers for a day of sleigh riding and eating. Isn't it amazing how much of a part good food plays in our group? We had a good time enjoying the sun and snow. Drake found out the hard way that when you have thrown a snow ball at Perry it is a good idea to start running when he puts on his gloves.

During the February monthly meeting, we scheduled a ride for each month of summer. So, be sure to look at the upcoming event schedule for when and where we will be riding. I want to bring your attention to June 5. That is National Trail cleaning day. Our chapter has adopted the Rim View trail in the south hills as our project. I understand it is going to take a great deal of work to clear it out. As the saying goes "many hands make light work". You can thank my folks for that lecture. So bring a friend and a spare canteen so we can get the trail cleared.

Have a good month and remember that spring is on its way.

Bret Christensen



HIGH DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Home of Norm McGuire
February 9, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President, Bret Christensen.

Bonnie moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the January meeting, seconded by Perry. Passed.

Kathy gave the treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS: Bret stated that there were 25 calendars left to sell and if we don't sell them that zeros out our profit. There were a few volunteers to try to sell them.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A reminder that we need to send pictures to Bonnie for her to send in by May 1st to use on the 2011 calendar.
2. Bret asked if anyone could attend the March board meeting in Lewiston since the state directors are unable to go. No takers, looks like we will not be represented.
3. Bret asked for a volunteer to audit the treasurer's books for 2009. Karen volunteered.
4. The club still owes Bonnie for the BOD trip to Lewiston last spring. Clayton moved to reimburse Bonnie for that trip since the chapter now has enough to do that. Seconded by Norm. Passed.
5. Roger Anderson, US Forest Service, was our guest to report on the proposed new horse camping at Porcupine Springs. He stated that he had received more money to use on this project which could be basically called stimulus money. It is a go and the engineers will be grading and doing fire rings, etc. When they have that part completed Roger will ball and let us know when they are ready for the corrals. These will be individual corrals by each campsite. He is hoping for an August target.
6. Bret mentioned that our life flight renews 2-28-10 and we should get ours sent in by then.
7. The Silver Spur Equestrian team is hosting clinics in February and March. These are various types of training. Kathy has the dates and costs if interested.
8. Squaw Butte BCH is hosting their back country skills clinic in Emmett May 22, 23, 2010. Perry and Bret have been to this and feel it is worthwhile if anyone would like to go.
9. Kathy reported the total hours and miles that were turned for our year end report to the BCHI.
10. We discussed dates for our overnight rides this summer keeping in mind that there will probably be one at Porcupine Springs in August (date unknown) with the following dates being set.
 - A. May 22nd..... Cottonwood Day ride
 - B. June 5..... Clear trail Rimview National Trail Day
 - C. June 18,19,20..... Overnighter Hunter Creek
 - D. July 9,10,11..... Overnighter over Fleck Summit Bear Creek Campground
 - E. August 6,7,8..... Overnighter Pole Creek (Jabridge)

OTHER BUSINESS: The Draft Horse Club and The Sawtooth Rangers have invited our chapter BCH to their sleigh ride near Bellevue on February 13th. It is a potluck and they will furnish the sleighs.

Noticing the danger of a couple of things at Niagra Springs, Perry has permission to remove the broken steel posts at the main gate and to redo the gate at the Fish Hatchery end of Niagra by replacing the post with the bolts sticking out. He will check out a time to do this. Bryan moved that Perry be granted enough money for the materials to do this. Seconded by Jim. Passed. Perry asked Clayton if the Fish and Game may have enough materials in their bone pile to accomplish this task without purchasing anything. Clayton will check it out.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

CALENDAR

March 9, 2010....General Membership meeting 6:30 potluck, 7:00 p.m. meeting Home of Perry Vance in Twin Falls.

March 13, 2010....State Board of Directors meeting hosted by North Central in Lewiston.

March 27, 28, 2010....Clinic by Paul Butler sponsored by Silver Spurs Equestrian Team.

April 13, 2010....General Membership meeting 6:30 p.m. potluck, 7:00 p.m. meeting. Home of Christensens, Buhl

April 16,17,18, 2010....Idaho Horse Expo, Idaho Horse Park, Nampa, Id

May 11, 2010....Membership meeting hosted by Judy Butler, Hagerman

May 22, 2010....Day ride Cottonwood

June 5, 2010....National Trails Day
Clear trail on Rimview

June 18,19,10,2010....Overnighter st Hunter Creek

July 9,10,11, 2010....Overnighter over Fleck Summit , Bear Creek Campground

July 10, 2010....State Board of Directors meeting hosted by Priest River at Pee Wee Creek.

August 6,7,8, 2010....Overnighter Pole Creek (Jabridge)

August ? date at later time....Work project Porcupine Springs corrals at new campground.

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**BE SURE TO CALL PERRY
TO MAKE SURE THESE
EVENTS ARE HAPPENING.
280-1730**
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Directions to Perry and Susans for the March meeting. 867 Rimview Lane, all 539-7766 if lost. From Twin Falls area, go west on Filer Ave and across Grandview then ½ mile or so, turn left on Rimview Lane, 2nd house on the right. From Buhl, Jerome area, get on PoleLine Road, turn south on Grandview, by the Dutch church go to Filer, turn right go ½ mile turn left on Rimview, 2nd house on the right. Roast pork is the main dish, bring a dish to share and what you want to drink. SE YA'THERE!!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**WE HAVE SOME NEW MEMBERS
WHO ARE:**

**ROD THOMAS, GOODING
FLOYD MILLER, JR., TWIN FALLS
TERRELL WILLIAMS, WENDELL
COLEEN MULLINIX, FILER
DWIGHT MERCER, JEROME
NORM & JOYCE CHRISTENSEN
AND CHRIS CHRISTENSEN, ELY**

**WE WELCOME ALL OF YOU AND
HOPE TO SEE YOU INVOLVED IN
THE UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND
HAVING AS MUCH FUN AS WE DO.**

THE HORSE'S PRAYER



TO THEE, MY MASTER, I offer my prayer. Feed me, water and care for me, and, when the day's work is done, provide me with shelter, a clean, dry bed and a stall wide enough for me to lie down in comfort + Always be kind to me. Talk to me. Your voice often means as much to me as the reins. Pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you. Do not jerk the reins, and do not whip me when going uphill. Never strike, beat or kick me when I do not understand what you want, but give me a chance to understand you. Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is not wrong with my harness or feet + Do not check me so that I cannot have the free use of my head. If you insist that I wear blinders, so that I cannot see behind me as it was intended I should, I pray you be careful that the blinders stand well out from my eyes + Do not overload me, or hitch me where water will drip on me. Keep me well shod. Examine my teeth when I do not eat; I may have an ulcerated tooth, and that, you know, is very painful. Do not tie my head in an unnatural position, or take away my best defense against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail + I cannot tell you when I am thirsty, so give me clean, cool water often. Save me, by all means in your power, from that fatal disease — the glanders. I cannot tell you in words when I am sick, so watch me, that by signs you may know my condition. Give me all possible shelter from the hot sun, and put a blanket on me, not when I am working but when I am standing in the cold. Never put a frosty bit in my mouth; first warm it by holding it a moment in your hands + I try to carry you and your burdens without a murmur, and wait patiently for you long hours of the day or night. Without the power to choose my shoes or path, I sometimes fall on the hard pavements which I have often prayed might not be of wood but of such a nature as to give me a safe and sure footing. Remember that I must be ready at any moment to lose my life in your service + And finally, O MY MASTER, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to starve or freeze, or sell me to some cruel owner, to be slowly tortured and starved to death; but do thou, My Master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and hereafter. You will not consider me irreverent if I ask this in the name of Him who was born in a Stable.

AMEN