



HIGH DESERT



BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN

MAY 2010 NEWSLETTER

highdesertbch.org

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324-4754

Spring has arrived with all its wind and teasing temperatures. Why is the weather always nasty on my days off? It's hard to go riding when I need Velcro to stay on due to the wind.

Last month, I wrote about basic nutrition for the horse. This month I am writing about founder also known as laminitis. It is defined as inflammation of the area between the hoof wall and the bony tissue directly under the hoof wall or lamina. Founder is often attributed to sudden changes in feed, overeating, and lack of exercise. This time of year when the pasture is growing rapidly and we turn them out for too long the horse is at an increased the risk for founder. One way to use the extra energy is to ride more often. If a horse is being worked hard, they use up the extra energy they get from spring pasture.

The most obvious symptoms of founder are stiffness in the joints, a painful stiff-legged gait, and the animal rocking back on their hind legs to reduce the weight on their front feet. Remember that 60% of the horses weight rest on the front feet so they will be trying to reduce this pressure.

Treatment may include standing the horse in cold water to reduce swelling and to call your veterinarian. In severe cases, there can be irreversible damage to the hoof due to rotation of the coffin bone inside the hoof. This damage is permanent. If it is a mild form and there is no apparent permanent damage you need to be very careful with your horse in the future because it becomes easier for a repeat occurrence.

When your horse is in the pasture signs to be aware of include excessive weight gain, a cresting of the neck, rapidly growing hooves, a noticeable horseshoe shaped layer of fat around the tail head. Easy keeping horses and horses that have spent most of their time in the desert or a corral are at higher risk because they do not know to stop eating when they are full. From past experience horses raised in the desert where lush grass is very limited will eat until it literally kills them. So be very careful when you buy a new horse and start turning them out in your pasture.

Summer is coming and I look forward to riding with everybody. Remember that we have move the May meeting to Bonnie Stacy's house. Directions are included in the newsletter.

Bret



**HIGH DESERT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Home of the Christensens
April 13, 2010**

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

The treasurers report was read and Shirley moved to accept the report as read, seconded by Perry. Passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Perry had expressed concern over our decision what to do with the left over calendar cards that we had not sold. His concern was that the state or to donators of the prizes would be upset if our club one some of the prizes instead of an individual. Also what would the club do with the winning items and how would they be split up. After lengthy discussion, Vivian suggested that in case of a win for the club that we could select items from Cabellas in the amount of the win and sell or auction these items on a smaller level and the money would go into the club treasury. Perry agreed with this suggestion as a plausible solution. Twig move to appoint a committee to choose the items from Cabelas, seconded by Karen. Passed. Then it was decided to use Bret's name on the remaining cards and send them to the state. That way they could be kept separate from others sent in.
2. Bret reminded the group of the activity at Niagra on 4-16... 18 and on April 30... May 2. Please find somewhere else to ride those days.
3. Be sure to get your digital photos to Bonnie by May 1 to enter your selection for the 2011 calendars. They are asking that the subject, place, photographer, all be identified then Bonnie will compile them and send them off on May 1.
4. Our discussion recapped the overnights and work projects as listed on the calendar of events. Perry stated that we had also been invited to join Squaw Butte on their 4th of July ride which , this year, is on the north or east fork of the Boise River. We will publish instructions and directions and maps of the rides in the newsletter that comes out before the current ride.
5. Perry reported that he had fixed the gate and broken steel posts at Niagra.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bret gave a brief overview of the recent stat BOD meeting in Lewiston.

1. Our Broomtales (state newsletter) is in the process of changing over to being sent by e-mail to save money and they need current updated email addresses from each chapter. It will be posted on the BCHI website.

2. Raenette Dieder suggest we use our "Mountain Manner" pamphlets which have been posted on the BCHI website and we could have copies made to use for promotion in our own areas.
3. Another poster has been developed similar to the one with the biker and the cat showing what the biker looks like to a horse. This one is of a hiker/back packer and will be distributed throughout the state. They seem to be a good idea.

Twig expressed appreciation for the hospitality at the Christensens. Perry moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Norm.



DIRECTIONS TO MAY 22 RIDE

Cottonwood Canyon.....Go straight south of Twin Falls on Blue Lakes to the foothill road, turn left and travel about 2 miles and on the right you will see the sign about Cottonwood. Turn right and go approximately 5.29 miles, there is a primitive parking area just before the road forks to the left. Be in the saddle, ready to ride at 10:00 a.m., that does not mean driving in or brushing horses. Bring lunch and water. Bryan is the trail boss. 543-2416.



Wildness is a bench mark, a touchstone. In the wilderness we can see where we have come from, where we are going, how far we've gone. In wilderness is the only unsullied earth sample of the forces generally at work in the universe.....
Kenneth Bower

MOTHER

You filled my days with
rainbow lights,
fairytale and sweet
dream nights,
A kiss to wipe away my
tears, gingerbread to
ease my fears.
You gave the gift of life
to me and then in love
you set me free.
I thank you for your
tender care, for deep
warm hugs and being
there.
I hope that when you
think of me a part of you
you'll always see.

Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes.

*******TOSTADA BAR*******

CALENDAR

May 8, 2010....Saturday, 8:30 a.m.
North Rim cleanup day. Meet north of the Perrine bridge on east side.

May 11, 2010....Membership meeting
hosted by the Stacys potluck 6:30 p.m.
meeting at 7:00 p.m.

May 22, 2010....Day ride Cottonwood

June 1—17, 2010....Wagon Train from
Burley to Blackfoot and back.. anyone
may participate. Contact Lloyd Warr
808-0385 for prices and details.

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 (Jarbidge)

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

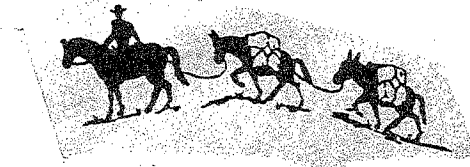
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**BE SURE TO CALL PERRY
TO MAKE SURE THESE
EVENTS ARE HAPPENING.
280-1730**

DIRECTIONS TO MAY MEETING

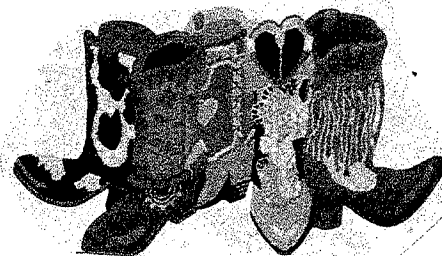
THE STACYS..324-5603 IF LOST
FROM TWIN FALLS, CROSS
PERRINE BRIDGE, TURN LEFT ON
GOLF COURSE RD. APPROX 4
MILES (FOLLOW WHITE FENCE ON
RIGHT) TURN ON 100 E AT THE
END OF THE FENCE, GO 1/8 MI
NORTH, FIRST PLACE ON THE
LEFT. FROM THE FREEWAY EXIT
168 SOUTH OF JEROME GO
SOUTH 3 1/2 OR SO MILES TO
STOP SIGN, TURN LEFT GO 1 MILE
TO 100 E, TURN LEFT FIRST
PLACE ON THE LEFT.

BRING A POTLUCK DISH, WHAT
YOU WANT TO DRINK. SEE YA'
THERE.



NORTH RIM CLEANUP

May 8th is the day to cleanup junk
and garbage from the north rim of
the canyon where the park is to be.
Meet at 8:30 a.m. on the north side
of the Perrine Bridge on the east
side of Hwy 93 and the BLM will be
there with instructions and
orientation. This is a "no horse"
project. Bring lots of water and
walking shoes. We will be working
with the 4 wheel and off road clubs.



THE COWBOY

A cowboy, named Bryan, was overseeing his herd in a remote mountainous pasture in Idaho when suddenly a brand new BMW advanced toward him out of a cloud of dust.

The driver, a young man in a Brioni suit, Gucci shoes, RayBan sunglasses and YSL tie, leaned out the window and asked Bryan, "If I tell you exactly how many cows and calves you have in your herd, will you give me a calf?" Bryan looks at the man, obviously a yuppie, then looks at his peacefully grazing herd and calmly answers, "Sure, why not?"

The yuppie parks his car, whips out his Dell notebook computer, connects it to his Cingular RAZR V3 cell phone, and surfs to a NASA page on the internet, where he calls up a GPS satellite to get an extra fix on his location which he then feeds to another NASA satellite that scans the area in an ultra-high-resolution photo. The young man then opens the digital photo in Adobe Printshop and exports it to an image processing facility in Hamburg, Germany. Within seconds, he receives an email on his Palm Pilot that the image has been processed and the data stored. He then accesses an MS-SQL data base through an ODBC connected Excel spreadsheet with email on his Blackberry and, after a few minutes, receives a response. Finally he prints out a full-color, 150 page report on his hi-tech, miniaturized HP LaserJet printer, turns to Bryan and says, "You have exactly 1,586 cows and calves."

That's right. Well, I guess you can take one of my calves," says Bryan. He watches the young man select one of the animals and looks on with amusement as the young man stuffs it into the trunk of his car.

Then Bryan says to the young man, "Hey, if I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me back my calf?" The young man thinks about it for a second then says, "Okay, why not?" "You are a Congressman for the U.S. government", says Bryan. "Wow that is correct," says the yuppie, "but how did you guess that."

No guessing required." Answered Bryan. "You showed up here even though nobody called you; you want to get paid for an answer I already know, to a question I never asked. You used millions of dollars worth of equipment trying to show me how much smarter than me you are; and you don't know a thing about how working people make a living—or about cows, for that matter.....

THIS IS A HERD OF SHEEP.....NOW GIVE ME BACK MY DOG."