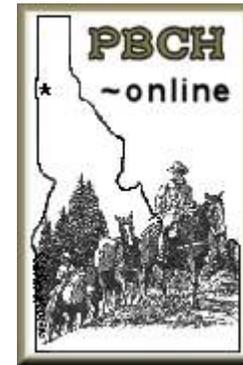


PBCH Newsletter January, 2015

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The President's Saddlebag

**Jerry Shriner, 2015
PBCH president**



The 2014 PBCH activities ended with an entertaining Christmas party at Cricket's. Thank you Sandy Beamer. The food was great and it was fun to get together with so many PBCHers and friends.

It was a great time to look back on the rides and events of 2014. Two individuals completed work and were awarded \$500 scholarships, work projects on both the St. Joe and CDA forests and at Farragut were completed, our annual tune-up clinic and the packing clinic were very successful and combined with fun rides far and near shows it was a great year. Thanks to Karen Kimball and the many people who stepped up to work on the rides, projects, newsletter, various committees and officer responsibilities. Because it seems like a daunting task to me, I especially want to recognize Joni Lueck for her work on the newsletter. So, thanks to all of you for making it a great year.

In January we will start planning for 2015. Bring your ideas for new rides and projects as well as your support to repeat events we have had before. Be ready to volunteer. Remember, I know where you live!

Calendar

January 17 3rd Saturday PBCH meeting 6:30 social and 7 p.m. meeting start. 6360 4th St., Dalton Garden City Hall. Will discuss events and rides for the year.

February 21 3rd Saturday PBCH meeting 6:30 social and 7 p.m. meeting start. 6360 4th St., Dalton Garden City Hall.

Information Corner-----

Newsletter Editor Joni Lueck 659-9066 or jklhorserider@gmail.com

PBCH, P.O. Box 1903, Hayden, ID 83835.

Please go to www.pbch.org and print out 2015 membership form and mail in. Good through Dec. 31.

2015 Calendars now available. These make great Christmas gifts: \$20. A great deal for you and the club. There will be 12 \$1000 drawings and because of the lottery restrictions all the drawings will be done at one time in December.

Remember to get your PBCH membership card which is good for a 10% discount at the North 40 Store.

Classified Ads

Member Scott Bengfort has 2 registered Pinto mares he would like to find a home for. Mother/daughter Tobiano sorrel and white ages 7 and 16. He doesn't have time to ride them. He will winter them and continue their maintenance. 964-0755 or sbengfort@hotmail.com

2015 Officers and board members contact information:

Jerry Shriner, president, 667-2949 ; Dan Trevithick, vice-pres. 691-3823; Kathy Baker, secretary, 819-3252; and Stan Smith, treasurer, 755-4490.

Board members: Bob Funke 772-5326; Bill Clarke 687-1968; Ray Heilman 772-7301; and Karen Kimball 772-2434.



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Scholarship Winners Maddy Baker and Jessica Reineccius. Editor's Note - PBCH granted two scholarships worth \$500 each. The recipients met several criteria, one of which was to write a 500-word essay. The money will assist them with the cost of tuition, textbooks, and computers or other school equipment.

The Unexpected Benefits of PBCH Membership

By Maddy Baker

The Panhandle Back Country Horsemen's mission, according to PBCH.org, is to keep public lands open to recreational stock use as they assist a variety of public and private agencies in maintaining and managing those lands. After twelve months of membership with the PBCH, I would argue that they accomplish far beyond their stated mission.

One of my favorite PBCH memories from this past year was the clinic in May at the Kruger Ranch. Mr. Jim Kimball blew me away with his knowledge on plants. He let me try some and explained their medicinal properties. Others were out back making delicious concoctions with Dutch ovens. Dr. Misty Parker from McKinlay and Peters Equine Hospital shared some helpful advice for trail emergencies. Then Mr. and Mrs. Bob and Linda Funke brought out one of their mules to demonstrate how to properly pack a horse, and we finished up the day with a lesson on high tying. Everyone there was helpful and answered all my questions with patience.

My first PBCH ride was at Farragut State Park. Prior to the ride was a club sponsored trailer backing clinic in which my mom needed to participate. Imagine my surprise when members encouraged me to take the steering wheel and back through the obstacles. Seeing my deer-in-the-headlights expression, Mrs. Sandy Beamer hopped in the passenger seat and successfully coached me through. During lunch we chatted and swapped horse stories. The members were welcoming and offered kind words of advice for my rookie questions. During the ride, others went out of their way to include me in the conversation and make me feel comfortable. That day, not only did I receive riding tips and advice, I was taught the importance of simple gestures of kindness.

The next PBCH adventure was at Chilco Mountain, with Mr. Bob Funke leading the way. It was a little embarrassing when my "pet" horse could not keep up after the first fifteen minutes, but the other riders patiently waited so my chubby mare could catch her breath. When the members stopped to clear the trail, I was amazed at how quickly Mr. Funke hopped off his mule, unpacked the chainsaw, worked with members to cut the fallen trees which blocked the trail, and had his foot back in the stirrup just as I would catch up. Never before had I stopped to consider how our public trails were maintained. This experience brought a newfound appreciation for the PBCH. When we reached the top of the Chilco Packsaddle, the view took my breath away. Hayden Lake and Coeur d' Alene Lake were below us, with mountains all around. The gentle scent of the flowers twirled in the air. And that was when I felt another lesson make its impression upon me: the harder the climb, the better the view. There were a few times when my horse and I were both ready to throw in the towel and turn around. But with the encouragement and patience of the other riders, we made it to the top.

My final PBCH ride of the season was at the Fourth of July Pass. There were some new faces at this ride, and I had made more friends by the time it was over. On the trail, members gave tips for my next western pleasure show, exchanged laughs over our horses' antics, and shared in silence the beauty of the scenery. At the end of the ride chairs were pulled from trucks, and, congregating around a trailer, we continued our fellowship. It made an impression on me that this gathering occurred after a lengthy ride, teaching me that PBCH members value friendship and community.

The unexpected benefits of PBCH membership are numerous. From teaching about brand inspections, to local flora, to innumerable tales of horsemanship wisdom that apply to all areas of life, PBCH has greatly enhanced my horse sense and my circle of friends.

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Scholarship Winner Jessica Reineccius

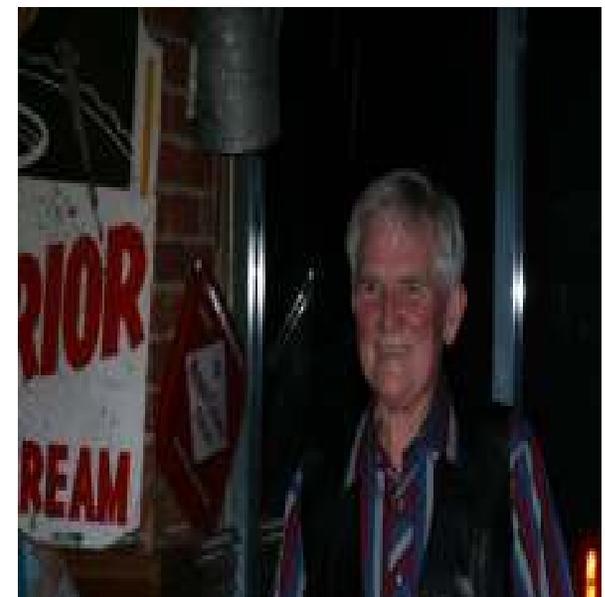
As I took a deep breath of the crisp clean air, I noticed two deer standing side by side the horses, sharing the hay. I slowly sipped my coffee and I noticed a third deer, a nice three by three coming down the hillside to join them. I just stood there quietly for a few minutes continuing to watch the deer interact with the horses, not phased a bit. I made some noise trying to find my camera and the three whitetail trotted off into the field. This year at the Red Ives camp we were welcomed by many deer, elk, moose, and even a bear. It was only my second time at this work party, but it didn't fail to be my favorite again. There were many trails that needed our attention, but we had to choose just a few. The trail I was assigned to first was so overgrown we had to clear it on foot and it was blistering hot. The trail was a tiny narrow one, barely a foot wide, following a run off creek and the brush was so thick we could hardly see where we were walking. Without the horses, it took us most of the day to clear only a couple miles, but it felt like ten. When we finally saw the other half of our group coming down the trail toward us I felt excitement and relief. They had covered probably twice as much trail on horseback and were happy to see us as well. It was a long hard day and the feeling of accomplishment was accompanied by the thought of being on horseback tomorrow. Back at camp we were greeted by a cow moose and her young calf. We happened to be camping in her daily route to water and she was not about to find a new one for the weekend we were there. She was big and intimidating, but her calf was so small and awkward and cute. As the sun began to set, we sat by the fire and shared stories from the day.

I grew up riding horses. My parents got me my very own horse when I was ten and I never saw another day without one. Almost every childhood memory I have involves me on the back of a horse and I feel very fortunate for that. From sun up to sun down my sister and I would ride every day. And on the weekends I would get to go with my mom and her friends on all day trail rides. I was involved in 4-H and my mom drove me to all the local horse shows where I met lots of girls my age who enjoyed the same hobby. I am so thankful I grew up riding and that I have been able to continue to enjoy this luxury.

Whether it be from my back yard or up the Coeur d'Alene River, I have always felt a sense of peace, relaxation and beauty when on the trail from the back of a horse. I've been shown so many new incredible trails in the last three years being a member that I may never have gotten to see otherwise. Keeping trails clear is the only way I will be able to continue to enjoy them throughout the years and being a part of this group has shown me this. This makes me excited to learn new trail systems in the future because there are so many I have yet to ride.

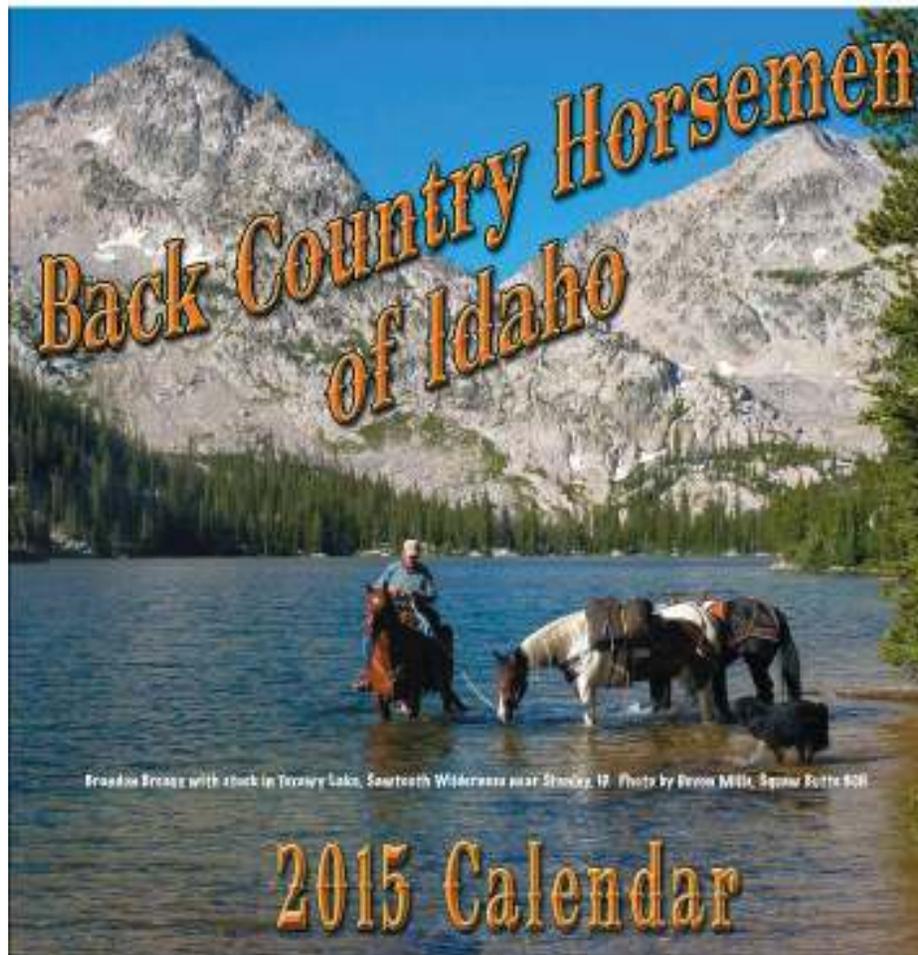
Becoming a member of the Back Country Horsemen has been a very fun and exciting time for me and I am looking forward to many more years. I am able to enjoy the days spent in the wilderness with my mom and our horses while meeting new people and continuing to enjoy a hobby most of my friends have forgotten.

Top Photo: Karen Kimball gives Ginger Swisher the Horsewoman of the Year award. Lower photo: Jerry Shriner named Horseman of the Year.



2015 CALENDARS ARE IN!

CONTACT: Ray Heilman, 208-772-7301, rayjay301@Aol.Com or Lori Jenkins, 208-457-2411, ljenkins95@Hotmail.Com



2015 Calendar

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Year 2015 Fall Calendar
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YOUR CARD HERE

Go to www.pbch.org, fill out 2015 membership form, check level of Membership & Business Card insertion OR Sponsor and send fees to: PBCH, P.O. Box 1903, Hayden, ID 83835.

Mail card to: Debbie Samovar, 9176 E Soaring Hawk Ln, St Maries, ID 83861 for scanning or e-mail digital file to dsamovar@gmail.com.
Your card will run in the newsletter each month and on the web site.

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Scholarship Information

Panhandle Back Country Horsemen will grant two individuals with a \$500 scholarship each. They must meet the below requirements and be selected by the Board of Directors. The goal of the scholarship is to assist young people in the rising cost of tuition. Individuals must be willing to be involved in trail conservation, education and horsemanship through PBCH membership. Below are requirements to be eligible:

1. Membership in PBCH chapter. You can download the membership application from www.pbch.org web site.
2. Attend 3 meetings throughout the year.
3. Participate in two club-sponsored activities such as work parties and fund raisers.
4. Complete a 500-word essay entitled “ What it means to be involved in PBCH.”
5. Maintain 2.7 GPA or above in school.
6. Must be age 16 or older or be a graduate of 2014 or 2015.

The above requirements must be completed from Jan. 31 to Jan. 31 of the following year.

Eligibility and determination of individuals to be awarded the scholarships will be decided by PBCH Board of Directors.

Scholarship may only be used for the following items unless authorized by the PBCH BOD.

1. College or other higher education tuition.
2. College textbooks.
3. Computers and other school equipment.

For more information please contact Jamie Smith at 208-755-4490

or email jkimball2331@yahoo.com

2014 Calendar Winners

Each winner was given \$1000 in gift cards.

Jason Winters, Middleton, Id
Robin Schindele, Emmett, ID
Carol Young, Boones Mill, VA
Bonnie Stacy, Jerome, ID
Debi Riggan, Walla Walla, WA
Ray Robinette, Grangeville, ID
Les Chapman, Meridian, ID
Brenda McRoberts, Grangeville, ID
Cassidy Lindsey, Meridian, ID
Sharon Katzke, Caldwell, ID
Jo Hardy, Grangeville, ID
Phil Ryan, Emmett, ID



Karen Kimball, left, presents Linda Funke with her own helicopter. Linda was injured earlier in the summer and had to be airlifted out of the woods after her horse fell.