

## President's Letter

Subject: St Luke's Air Ambulance Service

In the recent past monthly meetings, there have been questions raised about the Air Ambulance service providers and the cost associated with air transport coverage. As you may be aware many insurers will pay what they deem reasonable use of an air ambulance; however, sometimes the air ambulance company and the insurer disagree on the cost. Depending on circumstances, the remainder of the bill—which could run in the thousands of dollars—could be your responsibility.

There are two providers that cover the greater Idaho, parts of Montana, Washington, and Oregon area which are Life Flight and Air St Luke's. The cost of Air St Luke's is \$45.00 and Life flight is \$75.00. (For members it is \$65.)

These two agencies provide reciprocating air transport coverage and may cover out of pocket cost of their members that belong to either agency. For members that are interested in supplemental insurance coverage that covers out-of-pocket expense for medically necessary transport provided by Air St Luke's, you can download an application from the BCHI web site link noted below. <https://bchi.org/> For Air St Luke's membership application click on Links and then scroll down to Medical Air Lifts to download a copy.

You can see the attached coverage area map that shows how Life flight and Air St Luke's overlap in the coverage area, Life flight manages the North Panhandle area of Idaho and Air St Luke's manages the South and South East area of Idaho.

It is recommended that you check with your insurance provider for what coverage you may already have.

John Galdi, PBCH president 2023

Newsletter Editor  
Joni Lueck  
[jklhorserider@gmail.com](mailto:jklhorserider@gmail.com)

## Membership

Please go to [www.pbch.org](http://www.pbch.org) and print out 2023 membership form and mail in. Please email Bea Christopherson, treasurer [christobea@yahoo.com](mailto:christobea@yahoo.com) You can also sign up at any ride or event throughout the year! Mail to PBCH, P.O. Box 1903, Hayden, ID 83835.

**\*\*2023 BCHI Calendars** The chapter receives \$2 per each calendar we sell. The \$18 goes to BCHI.

**\*Life Flight membership** forms available. Cost for members is \$65 per year. A must-have! Air transport only. Also **Air St. Lukes** has memberships available at \$45/year.

**\*Classified Ads:** Please let me know if you have anything you want to sell by the 1st of each month.

## Calendar of Events:

**Saturday, February 18 PBCH monthly meeting.** Location is the church, 9485 N. Maple St., Hayden. Socialize at 6:30 p.m. and meeting starts at 7 p.m. Discuss upcoming events and rides for our chapter.

[.Calendar of events continued page 3](#)

## Year End Party and Awards Banquet



Top photo: Outgoing board members and officers from left: Audra LaBelle, Arnie Wilkens, Bea Christopherson, Jim Kimball, Karen Kimball, Ray Heilman and Julie Volpi. Photo at right: Horseman of the Year Tom Knoll shown with his gift presented to him by Karen Kimball. Not pictured Horsewoman of the Year Joni Lueck.

Calendar of Events continued from page 1

### March 17-18 BCHI State convention

Elks Lodge, Salmon, ID. Sponsored by Salmon BCH. See website [www.bchi.org](http://www.bchi.org) for more information and registration form.

### March 25 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month PBCH

**Meeting.** Location church at 9485 N. Maple St., Hayden. Socialize at 6:30 and meeting starts at 7 p.m. Third Saturday of this month is set aside for the state convention.

### Other events

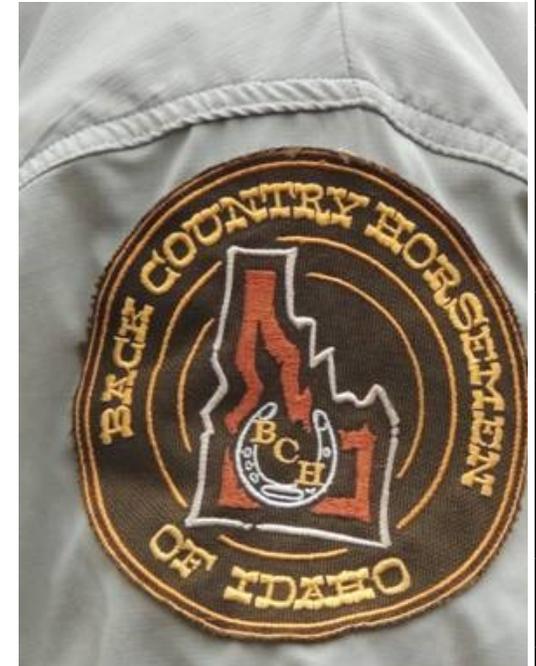
May 19-21. Sponsored by Priest River BCH chapter. Upcoming trail clearing that they would like other chapters to participate. Camping available at Reynolds Creek. They will potluck for dinner. Waylon will be doing Chainsaw certification and crosscut for members that need it. PRVBCH president Janna Ostler. Her phone number is 208-627-8893 if you have any questions. She also suggested that 1st aid training can be available for nominal cost through PRVBCH. See attached flyer for this Trail clearing Extravaganza.

Janna also shared some other events coming up:

**Packing Clinic April 29<sup>th</sup>** in Athol by Bat Masterson. Call Janna Ostler for more information at 208-627-8893.

**May 21 Poker Ride.** Riverside State Park. Sponsored by Ponderosa BCH of Washington. Go to [www.pbchw.com](http://www.pbchw.com) for more information.

**Scavenger Hunt September 23<sup>rd</sup>** at Chipmunk Rapids. Call Janna 208-627-8893 for more information.



**BCHI Patches. \$8.**

**Check out the state's website for more information.**

**BCHI.org**

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**Check out our local website [pbch.org](http://pbch.org) for interesting rides and upcoming events!**

## 2023 PBCH Officers

President John Galdi

[jgaldi6047@hotmail.com](mailto:jgaldi6047@hotmail.com)

Vice-president Arnie Wilkens

[Ajwilke@gmail.com](mailto:Ajwilke@gmail.com)

Secretary Julie Volpi

[Charlieandjulie01@gmail.com](mailto:Charlieandjulie01@gmail.com)

Treasurer Bea Christopherson

[Christobea@yahoo.com](mailto:Christobea@yahoo.com)

## Board members

Ray Heilman 208-660-2907;

Jim Kimball 208-772-2434

Tom Knoll 208-651-4600

\*\*State Board of Directors

Karen Kimball & alternate Tom Knoll  
Chapter Foundation Dir. Jim Kimball

Facebook Wrangler

Audra LaBelle

[Audralabelle@hotmail.com](mailto:Audralabelle@hotmail.com)

Joni Lueck, newsletter editor and  
website coordinator

[jklhorserider@gmail.com](mailto:jklhorserider@gmail.com)

Volunteer Hours, education chair  
and past president

Karen Kimball

[Jkkimball01@gmail.com](mailto:Jkkimball01@gmail.com)

## January Chapter meeting, awards, and installation of 2023 officers and board members



Photo from left: Incoming 2023 officers and board members: Jim Kimball, Tom Knoll, Julie Volpi, Arnie Wilkens, John Galdi, Karen Kimball, Bea Christopherson and Ray Heilman.

## Bio on new 2023 PBCH President John Galdi

*Editor's Note: I asked John to write up something about himself and here is his response.*

Retired July of 2020 after enjoying a successful career of over 30+ years in the construction industry.

During my career my titles included project manager, construction manager, offsite construction manager, and project safety coordinator. I oversaw construction project contracts and schedules for city and county public work improvements, DOD utility improvements, and residential and commercial construction projects.

I am married to Audra LaBelle and am a proud father of two children. My daughter lives in California with her husband and 2-year-old daughter, my son currently lives and works in Vancouver, Washington.

I grew up in Covina, California after my family moved there from Roselle Park, New Jersey in 1971. I have lived in Idaho since 2018 and am currently enjoying the great outdoor life and freedoms Idaho has to offer.

My hobbies include horseback riding, fishing, hunting, and hiking.

I enjoy the everyday life on the ranch working on daily tasks.

We currently have three horses, seven chickens, two dogs and four cats.

My goals as president PBCH: To Utilize Best Work Practice that ensure safety and enjoyment for all members; and work parties that will be helping PBCH maintain the trail systems; and assisting federal, state, and private agencies with efforts to maintain back country resources they manage; and to offer assistance and educational help to the public and to new members that would like to learn more about Idaho backcountry resources. I would also support the 16 other BCHI chapters we currently have registered in the state.

### Education:

- Construction Manager Certificate, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA
- California State, B General Contractors License # 6637468
- 30-hour OSHA Training Certificate (#000393270)
- CPR & First Aid (current)
- USDA Chainsaw certified

John Galdi, president PBCH 2023



Photo at right shows John with his horse Dakota.

## **PBCH January Chapter Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Karen Kimball after the Chapter enjoyed a nice meal provided by the Chapter and Karen Kimball  
2022 officers and Board Members were recognized by 2022 President Karen Kimball, Vice President- Arnie Wilkens, Secretary-Audra LaBelle and Treasurer-Bea Christopherson  
Board of Directors- Ray Heilman, Jim Kimball  
State Board of Director and Foundation-Julie Volpi

### **New Officers for 2023**

President-John Galdi, Vice President-Arnie Wilkens, Secretary-Julie Volpi and Treasurer-Bea Christopherson.  
Board of Directors- Jim Kimball, Ray Heilman, and Tom Knoll.

Karen recognized that the chapter has 12 sawyers that have been newly certified or been renewed. We are well staffed for the upcoming trail clearing.

### **Horseman of the Year-Tom Knoll**

Tom worked very hard for the chapter. He sold a huge amount of Calendars, worked at every trail clearing , and recruited new members. Thanks Tom!

### **Horsewoman of the Year- Joni Lueck (Not present.)**

Joni also worked hard for the club with her continued work as the editor of the newsletter and working to keep the website updated. Thanks Joni!

Karen passed the meeting over to John Galdi

Any public rides for this year need to be submitted to our insurance by March 1st. We need people interested in leading any public rides or events to let Karen know so she can submit the form.

We did not win the calendar raffle for 2022. It was accidentally reported previously that we had won \$500 in the raffle but in fact the website had not posted the 2022 winners.

Last year the chapter received \$1400 from the forest service for work done clearing trails.

Motion was made to change the date of the March 2023 meeting to March 25th in order to not coincide with the BCHI convention. Arnie Wilkens made the motion and Bea Christopherson 2nd

### **The chapter is looking for auction items for the BCHI convention raffle. Bring to next meeting if you have anything.**

Arnie Wilkens reported on AED unit. Arnie was able to get the chapter an AED unit donated. Its a Zoll and is a very nice unit. Semi automatic, long life batteries and a rugged built unit to withstand being taken out on the trail clearings.

**PRVbch President Janna Ostler** spoke about an upcoming trail clearing that her chapter is organizing and would like other chapters to participate. The dates are May 19th-21st. Camping available at Reynolds Creek. They will potluck for dinner. Waylon will be doing Chainsaw certification and crosscut for members that need it. Her phone number is 208-627-8893 if you have any questions. She also suggested that 1st aid training can be available for nominal cost through PRV bch.

Janna also shared some other events coming up. Packing Clinic April 29th in Athol by Bat Masterson. Scavenger Hunt September 23rd at Chipmunk Rapids.

Life Flight's rates have gone up to \$65 per year. Air St. Luke's through the BCHI website and there is a link on the site and their rates are \$45 per year.

Motion made by Audra LaBelle to adjourn, 2nd by Charlie Volpi

Meeting adjourned 7:36 pm

Respectfully submitted, Julie Volpi

## Rides and Events

These are some past rides, work parties, campouts and other events for our chapter of PBCH.

- \*Escure Ranch in Washington fun ride and campout.
- \*Obstacle Course Dalton Garden Arena Event open to the public
- \*Marie Creek trail clearing
- \*Marie Creek fun ride
- \*Asotin ride and campout in Washington at Fordyce Trail
  - \*Chilco Mt. trail clearing
- \*August Farragut State Park Hot Dog fun ride open to the public
- \*4th of July Pass fun ride and lunch open to the public
- \*Antoine Peak ride and potluck in Washington
- \*Blue Creek Bay Recreation Area fun ride
- \*Squaw Valley near Priest Lake
- \*Liberty Lake horse park in Washington fun ride
- \*Red Ives work party and campout in Idaho
- \*McKenzie Conservation Area fun ride in Washington
- \*Pee Wee Creek fun ride and campout in Idaho
- \*Heyburn State Park work party and fun ride
- \*Bernard Peak fun ride
- \*Riverside State Park day ride and campout in Washington

If anyone wants to trail boss a ride or event please let chapter officers know!

