

PBCH

January 18, 2025

The chapter held the end-of-the-year celebration at the Athol Community Center. Dinner was provided and they handed out awards, door prizes, and conducted a silent auction. The officers for 2025 were identified and acknowledged as well.

Outgoing president, Tom Knoll led the evening and handed the leadership over to the incoming president, Karen Kimball.

Due to Karen taking the new role this year, another director needed to be selected. Julie Volpi expressed interest and Greg Parsons made a motion to choose her for the role. The motion was seconded by Beth Parsons and the vote confirmed Julie's assignment.

Those serving for 2025 are:

President – Karen Kimball

Vice-President – Stan Smith

Treasurer – Bea Christopherson

Secretary – Trish Nordquist

Board of Directors – Ray Heilman

Julie Volpi

Greg Parsons

Jim Kimball

The two that will attend State meetings and the convention are Karen and Jim Kimball with Tom Knoll as the alternate.

Joni Lueck will no longer be sending out a newsletter; however, she will be sending out emails to keep everyone informed.

### **Chainsaw certification**

Chainsaw certification will be conducted on April 5<sup>th</sup>. This is a ½ day training that will be held at English Point. The written exam will be conducted on April 4<sup>th</sup>, for new participants.

Harrison Fire Department will be providing a first aid training, possibly in March.

### **NOTE: new date for March Meeting March 22nd**

The state convention will be held March 14-15<sup>th</sup>. This clashed with the scheduled monthly meeting, so it was decided to move the meeting for March to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. This motion was voiced by Tom Knoll and seconded by Stan Smith. The vote approved this schedule change.

### **Association meeting time change**

Karen suggested changing the meeting time during the winter months to 6:30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. to allow for attendees to get home earlier in the evenings. Sherrilyn Roth made the motion to adopt the new time schedule. Julie Volpi seconded this motion and the vote confirmed this change.

Tom Knoll commended the association for the success of calendar sales and mentioned that there were about 20 more available to be sold. Karen Kimball acknowledged Tom for his immense role in this success.

### **Horseman/horsewoman of the year award**

Robert and Linda Wuest were awarded as the Horsman and Horsewoman of the year. Tom Knoll commended the couple for the many hours of service and dedicated effort at various trail-clearing and work events throughout the year including working with Farragut State Park to construct corrals. They were also recognized for making sure that the annual steak ride took place. They were presented with engraved buck knives.

Congratulations Robert and Linda! You are much appreciated!

### **Volunteer hours**

Karen Kimball provided the members with the summary of calculated volunteer hours for the year which resulted in \$51,879.61! This was an increase over 2023! Way to go team!

### **FONIT (Friends of North Idaho Trails)**

Karen Kimball reported that FONIT was successfully awarded grant money to make much needed improvements at English Point. Improvements will include regrading the parking lot and making trails more usable. She expects that the work will begin in the spring and be completed during the summer.

### **Ride Events**

Karen Kimball stated that the rides open to the public need to be scheduled by mid-February in order to be provided to the insurance carrier. These rides have traditionally been the annual hotdog ride and the steak ride, both of these events are held at Farragut State Park.

Karen also asked for people to consider being a trail boss for other rides throughout the year. There is a Trail Boss Checklist on the website.

Minutes submitted by Trish Nordquist, secretary