

PBCHA

April 16, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President, Karen Kimball followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation by Bob Hickman, Hickman's Saddlery

Presentation of a variety of saddle materials: rawhide, fiberglass, polycarbonate fiber

Polycarbonate fiber is the strongest, very lightweight and lifetime warranty; has a cable rigging.

A custom polycarbonate saddle starts around \$4000

Regarding fit for the horse:

Do not measure the gullet. The fit depends on the angle of the withers and the tree bars.

Semi-quarter horse – slim horse

Regular quarter horse – average build

Full quarter horse – thicker build

If the saddle slips or rolls down when mounting, the saddle is too wide

Regarding fit for the rider:

Not based on seat size

Is based on the size of thighs and how they sit below the pommel/swell

There should be a two-finger width between swell and thigh

Cleaning: Clean before oiling

Spray well with water, then use liquid glycerin saddle soap; lather with cloth, rinse and let dry

Use a lot of water and saddle soap with a toothbrush on tooling

Oiling: after saddle has dried

Use Neatsfoot oil or olive oil

Neatsfoot has proper PH to preserve and soften leather

Oil the top only; don't try to oil the back side (rough leather)

Don't oil the latigo unless it is looking very dry and worn

Oil will cause the latigo to get sticky and to stretch

Clean and oil headstalls in the same manner

Business meeting:

Reminder - last month's minutes are on website

Stan Smith made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from last month; seconded by Bea Christopherson, all approved

Cost Share Agreement with Forest Service – the request has been fulfilled; \$1,000

Bea Christopherson gave the treasurer's report. Trish Nordquist made the motion to accept the report; seconded by Bryan Farley; all approved

BCHA is asking for a \$5 increase in annual dues

We need to think about whether we want to increase our membership dues or "eat" the difference as a club. This will be discussed and voted on later

8 people completed the First Aid/CPR class

7 people completed the Chainsaw Certification

Robert gave update on the moving of the pavilion at Farragut State Park. The original company (**Steel Structures of America?**) considering doing the move has backed out. It seems to be costlier than expected.

Farragut State Park has been clearing the area of the equine trails and they are putting in a new RV park.

Likely to increase the use of the trails by non-equine users

Heyburn Trail Clearing is scheduled for the 1st weekend in May

Julie Volpi is leader and will be making contact with more information soon.

Marie Creek Trail clearing scheduled for May 10th

Leader?

Asotin Ride: Memorial weekend (May 24-26th)

Lewiston area

Request for submission of photos for next year's calendar.

5 from each chapter

Club will vote in the Fall

Meeting adjourned at 8:38