

**January 2007**



"The Horse is nobility without conceit, friendship without envy, beauty without vanity, a willing servant, yet no slave."

~Author Unknown

2007 Officers

<u>Director</u> Rick Guglielmi	<u>President</u> Chuck Herburger	<u>Vice Pres.</u> Phil Sharkey	<u>Secretary</u> Debbie Sutor	<u>Treasurer</u> Roz Wentz	<u>Trail Coord.</u> Stan Tressler Roz Wentz	<u>Editor</u> Angie Depping	<u>Legislative</u> Open
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**The Prospector and The Gunslinger**

An old prospector walks his tired old mule into a western town one day. He'd been out in the desert for about six months without a drop of whiskey. He walked up to the first saloon he came to and tied his old mule to the hitch rail. As he stood there brushing some of the dust from his face and clothes, a gunslinger walked out of the saloon with a gun in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other. The gunslinger looked at the old man and laughed, saying "Hey old man, have you ever danced?"

The old man looked up at the gunslinger and said, "No, I never did dance. Reckon I just never wanted to."

A crowd had gathered by then and the gunslinger sneered, "Well you old fool, you're gonna dance now" and he started shooting at the old mans feet.

The old prospector was hopping around and everybody laughed uproariously. When the gunslinger fired his last bullet he holstered his gun and turned to go back into the saloon. The old man reached up on the mule, drew his shotgun, and pulled both hammers back making a double clicking sound.

The gunslinger heard the sound and everything got quiet. The stunned crowd watched in horror as the gunslinger slowly turned around looking down both barrels of the shotgun.

The old man asked quietly, "Sonny, have you ever kissed a mule square on his ass?"

The gunslinger swallowed hard before he sorta croaked, "No sir. But I've always wanted to."

Moral: Don't mess with old farts.

## PENDLETON BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

January 3, 2007

President Chuck Herburger called the meeting of the Pendleton Back Country Horsemen to order at 6:35 pm at The Saddle Restaurant. Members present included Forest Rhinehart, Kent & Valerie Fisher, Pam Campbell, Don Erickson, JoAnne Smith, Angie Depping, Roz Wentz, Debbie Sutor, Vernita Herburger, Chuck Herburger, and Robin Dale. Guests present included: Kittee Custer, Dale McKain, Kate Custer, George & Jean Ehmer.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the December 2006 meeting had been printed in the newsletter and sent to members for review. Pam Campbell made a motion to accept the minutes as published, seconded by JoAnne Smith. Motion passed with 10 yeas and 1 nay.

Per the nay vote, JoAnne Smith made a motion to strike the Trail Coordinator election from the minutes as the subject wasn't actually discussed during the December meeting. Seconded by Debbie Sutor, motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL:** Roz Wentz gave a financial report, stating a beginning balance of \$594.22; \$143.00 was received for calendar sales, \$100.00 in donations (\$50 from Pam Campbell, \$50 from Phil Sharkey) making total receipts of \$588.00. \$21.47 was spent on the cake for the Christmas party, \$7.25 to purchase the dinner for December's guest speaker, \$50.00 paid as a corp dividend to keep our non-profit status and \$255.00 paid in state dues, creating a total of \$333.72 in disbursements and leaving a total balance on hand of \$848.50. JoAnne Smith made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Debbie Sutor. Motion passed unanimously.

**RIDE REPORT:** Robin Dale reported that she and a non-horsey friend rode last Thursday at Bennington Lake. She had a cool but nice day, went home and soaked in the hot tub to warm up.

We almost had a New Years Day ride, but the responded e-mails were not read by our President until too late. President Herburger asked if anyone would like to plan a ride in January, the members responded that the weather is too unpredictable at this time to set up a ride.

Lee Ferren e-mailed Chuck Herburger saying she would like to host a ride on Bridge-Creek Flats on May 26<sup>th</sup> as her second attempt. May 26<sup>th</sup> falls on Memorial day weekend and the feedback from the members present was that there are several conflicts for that weekend. Sounds as if the group would prefer to do it Mother's Day weekend. Chuck Herburger will contact Lee Ferren to discuss other possible dates.

Robin Dale reported that the John Wayne ride starts in Stamped pass and basically crosses the state of Washington. The ride is on an old railroad bed, therefore it is a fairly flat and easy spring ride with a few gentle grades. Attendees may ride as little or as much as they wish for the one flat fee of \$95.00, which includes the permits needed, busing fees, use of the outhouses and your registration. Riders move their vehicles forward to the next camping spot each morning and the trail organizers bus the riders back to the camp spot prior, so they can ride to their vehicles. The ride is a total of 2 weeks long, the last week in May and first week in June. Volunteers come to prepare dinner (for small fees) each night. It's an early morning person's type ride as you need to get up, clean up your camp site, and shuffle your vehicle forward prior to stating your day of riding. The shortest day is approximately 10 miles and the longest is about 28 miles. Robin will provide a schedule which shows where they will be each day as you may attend any day(s) desired, and more information will be put in the newsletter.

The group thanked Robin Dale for her great articles she wrote and were published in the State BCH Newsletter.

Robin Dale invited the membership to camp with herself and her friends at Burke Lake in the spring. She will find out the dates they are planning and let the chapter know.

**OLD BUSINESS:** JoAnne Smith said she got some great photos of the Chapter Christmas Party and will have them to put in next year's calendar. Anyone who did not attend missed out on a great evening.

Debbie Sutor drafted a letter for Chuck Herburger's signature, inviting the members of the disbanded Walla Walla Chapter to become involved with the Pendleton Chapter. The letter mentioned the activities the Chapter has performed over the past 7 years. Some response has already come from the letter, but to our knowledge no new memberships have yet developed.

Roz Wentz made a motion to leave Stan Tressler listed as our Trail Coordinator until we hear from him or his spouse, Joanne Smith seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Roz Wentz agreed to continue to fill the position temporarily until Stan is able to fulfill his obligation and/or we are notified that he is stepping down from the position.

Right to Ride: Dan Applebaker is our legislative rep for the state of Oregon. The Right to Ride legislation is very difficult to understand, so per Roz Wentz's request they have published a synopsis in the BCHO newsletter so members may more easily understand the issue. The best thing we as members can do to help this situation is for all of us to write letters to the Senators. Contact Roz for a template letter to assist in writing a letter of concern to our Senators. An impact has already been seen in our area, we are no longer allowed to ride on the reservation land and many of the trails in our area are being disbanded because of the lack of funds being funneled to this issue. There are lots of people out there who do not want horsemen on the trails, if we want to retain our right to do so, we need to flood DC with letters telling them so.

Trail Cleaning: The Walla Walla Forest Service has sold their pack mules which they used for cleaning trails. This is an indication of what is to come. If they do not have stock to carry their equipment into the mountains, they will most likely be cleaning less and less trails. Also, since the disbandment of the Walla Walla Chapter, there will now be trails that they used to maintain which will no longer have any care. Our Chapter is going to have to step up to bat and start taking on more trail cleaning projects if we want anywhere to ride.

We need to contact our local Forest Service again to try to find out which trails they will be cleaning and which ones they cannot. George Ehmer spoke up to say that in the Walla Walla area they have figured out that the only way to get it done is to just go do it. The Forest Service has a list of specifications that trail maintenance needs to be performed to, which is one reason it is more difficult to work with them opposed to just doing the maintenance on our own. The LaGrande chapter seems to just notify the Forest Service and then go work on the trails. George said that the Forest Service has lent out tools to the Chapters in the past. It was agreed that our Chapter needs to keep in line with the Forest Service to avoid potential liability. Roz Wentz will contact Howard Bailey to see if any members of their group would be willing to spend a day (or more) working with our group on some of the trails which need major repair. Howard's group has many years of experience and knowledge when it comes to rebuilding trails. Debbie Sutor will contact the Forest Service to try to talk with Jeff Blackwoods' replacement. Joanne Smith was on Coyote Creek Trail, about ½ mile up the trail it collapsed under her, this a local trail which needs major work.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Roz Wentz found a web site which has a live camera in Africa where you can watch the wildlife. Contact Roz for the address. It is summer in Africa right now.

Tri-Cities has a Cowboy Music Event taking place on April 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds. It is \$10 per ticket, and consists of food and entertainment. Contact Robin Dale for more information.

Country Supply.com will make a donation to the National BCH after you place an order on line. All you have to do is watch for the place to put your code during the check out process and enter BCHA. It doesn't cost the shopper anything additional and only takes a second to help out the BCHA.

BCHA is looking to raise funds by raffling a ¾ ton pick up. Tickets are \$100 each. They are wanting each Chapter to committee to selling 6 tickets. Some discussion took place and the membership is in agreeance that the ticket price is too high for successful sales. This issue is actually old news, therefore our chapter doesn't need to reply to BCHA – it would be a mute point at this time.

The BCHO ride: They have 3 groups which have volunteered to host the State ride this year. The Pendleton Chapter put in for some dates in August. We think the decision will be made at the spring Board meeting as to which group or groups will be the official host.

We need to set some dates for rides in 2007. Robin Dale volunteered to take the group to Conrad Meadows, which is before White Pass, about an hour from Yakima. Robin said she has heard wonderful things about it although she has not ridden there before. It would make a good 3 day camping trip. More dates and trips will be discussed at next month's meeting, please come with your calendars in hand and prepared to set some locations and dates.

Youth group: We talked last fall about how to get young people more interested in BCH and horses. Robin Dale suggested that we could set a day that each of us bring a child with us on a particular trail. It was agreed that we should keep it to a 2 hour long ride (or less) and should be in a safe location. Bennington Lake, the Umatilla River and Spring Creek were some of the locations mentioned. We will table this discussion until later to pick a date and a location, but all agreed that Robin had a great idea.

We need to speak to Rick Guglielmi about putting a sign on the Big Creek Trail letting the public know that it is maintained by the Pendleton Chapter BCH. A date for this year's cleaning project will be set once we are able to talk with Rick about his schedule.

With there being no further business, Forest Rhinehart made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Roz Wentz. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Sutor, PBCH Secretary

## **How Safe is the One-Rein Stop?**

**Montana clinician Curt Pate's cavalry-style alternative balances horse and rider so that both gain confidence.**

**Article by Fran Devereux Smith**

I've been hesitant to even talk about how safe the one-rein stop is because it's such a popular maneuver and natural horsemanship selling point for safety," Helena, Montana, clinician Curt Pate admits. "And I've even talked about the one-rein stop at horse fairs myself, but I've never really felt comfortable doing it.

"Instead, I now use an old cavalry trick I learned to check a horse, and I think it's a lot safer alternative."

The conventional one-rein stop is the safety net for many riders. When things seem out of control, the rider pulls his horse's head around, either right or left, to disengage the hindquarters and, in effect, stop the engine that's propelling the horse forward.

"It seems a perfect solution, but it's not," Curt adds. "The way a horse is positioned for the one-rein stop, once he loses his balance he can't regain it. Since I've started talking about safety and this stop, four people have thanked me - all four had broken their necks while practicing the one-rein stop or using it in a bad situation."

During the interview for this article, Curt was surprised when Lindsey Frick, who worked with the trainer last summer, added another name to that list.

"Make that five," says the Pflugerville, Texas, horsewoman, who is a member of the Texas Tech University equestrian team. "A horse I was riding in Texas spooked, and my instinct was to grab one rein and pull. But that didn't work. The horse lost his balance, and I hurt the C7 vertebra in my neck.

"It happened really fast. Now I try not to do one-rein stops."

Following is why Curt thinks the alternative cavalry maneuver is a safer and more effective option, as well as being beneficial from both the horse's and the rider's perspectives.

For the rest of this story, pick up the January 2007 issue of *Western Horseman*.

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

January

3 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

February

7 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

March

7 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

April

4 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

May

2 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

June

6 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

July

4 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

August

8 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

September

5 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

October

3 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

November

7 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

December

5 Meeting @ 6:30pm, Saddle Restaurant

# Horse Anatomy Facts

Here are some interesting facts about a horse's body.

- Horse's hooves grow at a rate of about 1cm per month.
- The forelock on a horse's head helps to keep flies out of the eyes.
- Horse's legs are built so that they can sleep standing up, but to get a good rest they need to lying down.
- Each leg has a small spot that looks like a scar called a 'chestnut'.
- Horse's knee caps are not done fusing until they are about 3 1/2 years old. That's why many young racehorses are injured.
- Mares come in to heat around age 1, but usually can't be safely bred until 4.
- Stallions are mature and can breed around 2 or 3 years of age.
- A horse's heart weighs about 10 pounds.
- A horse's back cannot bend, it remains stiff when the horse moves. That's why it's hard for horses to get up after rolling or resting.
- The teeth take up more room in a horse's head than its brain does.
- Horses can see color.
- Horses can see in two directions at once.
- Horses have two blind spots where they cannot see- directly in front of them, and directly behind them.
- Human hair and fingernails are made from the same protein as horse hooves.
- Horses have 36-42 teeth, with females usually having 36 and stallions and geldings having 40-42. "Canine teeth", remains of fighting teeth, are present on some horses, usually males, in either 1 or 2 pairs. "Wolf teeth" can be present in males or females, and sometimes have to be pulled because they cause pain.
- Most breeds of horses have 18 ribs, 6 lumbar bones, and 18 tail vertebrae. Arabians have 17 ribs, 5 lumbar bones, and 16 tail vertebrae.
- A full grown horse that weighs about 1,000 pounds contains approximately 13.2 gallons of blood.
- Horses have about 175 bones in their body.
- Horses make 8 basic sounds- snort, squeal, greeting nicker, courtship nicker, maternal nicker, neigh, roar, blow.
- It is almost impossible for a horse to vomit-- if they do, their stomachs usually rupture soon after.
- It takes a horse 60 days to double its birth rate.
- A horse focuses its eye by changing the angle of its head, not by changing the shape of the lens of the eye, as humans do.
- While horses graze, they keep a look out for predators.
- A racehorse averages a weight loss of between 15 and 25 pounds during a race.
- Adult electric eels 5 feet to 7 feet long produce enough electricity – 600 volts – to stun a horse.
- A horse weighing around 1000 lbs. voids from 1 1/2 to 8 1/2 quarts of urine daily.
- A horse's gestation period is 11 months, but can be anywhere from 10-12 months long.

## Healthy Horse Grooming Tips for Winter

Maintain your horse's health and haircoat this winter with these cold-weather grooming tips.

By the Editors of *Horse & Rider* magazine

Once Mother Nature has clothed your horse in his winter haircoat, weight loss, wounds and skin infections are harder to recognize than when his coat was short and slick. Here are some tips that'll help you uncover--and prevent--problems through the winter.

### Maintain Skin Health

Most winter skin conditions result from a dirty haircoat, which gives bacteria and fungi a foothold. Keep your horse's skin healthy by vigorously currying his body daily. In addition to lifting dirt and skin debris to the surface, it'll enable you to feel any diminishment in the fat layer over his ribs, indicating weight loss, and any bumps or clumpy hair that could signal a wound or skin condition. (For help in identifying skin problems, refer to "Skin Invader" in the March 1996 issue of *Horse & Rider*.)

*Insider tip:* For quick and easy dirt removal after currying, spray your horse's body, mane, tail and legs with a non-silicone hair-care product, such as Daily Coat Regimen (a new product by MVP Professional Horse Care Products, 817-851-0277), or Cowboy Magic, then follow with a soft finish brush or vacuum. (ShopVacs are inexpensive and work great.) Bonus: The slippery finish will help make dried mud easy to remove next time.

### Treat Your Horse to a Bath

If you have access to a draft-free area, treat your horse to a weekly hand-wash: Add a splash of Vetro-lin (or your favorite body wash) to a bucket of warm water; apply to one body section at a time using a dampened sponge; towel dry. (Note: Not recommended in below-freezing temperatures, unless you have a heated barn.) *Insider tip:* If your barn doesn't have hot water, use a wand-like bucket heater in a 5-gallon bucket. Most stores that sell stock-tank heaters carry them or can order one for you.

*Insider tip:* Speed the drying process with a human hair dryer (keep it moving to avoid burning your horse's skin) or an overhead heat lamp.

### Take the Offensive Against Scratches

Scratches are skin inflammations on the back of his pasterns) Routinely examine your horse's pasterns for signs of redness and/or scurf, possible precursors to scratches.

*Insider tip:* After cleaning and thoroughly drying your horse's lower legs, apply a liberal coating of Desitin (used to prevent babies from diaper rash) to the back of his pasterns. The ointment will provide a measure of protection from water and mud and soothe any existing irritation.

*Insider tip:* To further prevent scratches, keep fetlock hair trimmed with a coarse (No. 10) clipping blade.

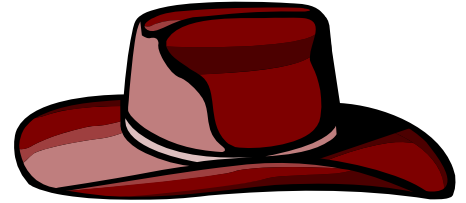
### Let Down His Hair

If your horse wears a tail bag, change it at least every 10 to 14 days, rinsing and reconditioning his tail before rebagging it. This will help prevent excessive hair breakage at the top of the bag.

### Maintain Hoof Health

Mud/manure-packed hooves provide the ideal environment for thrush. Clean your horse's feet daily. Once or twice a week, apply a commercial thrush product, such as Thrushbuster or Kopertox, as a preventive measure.

*Insider tip:* Make your own antithrush solution by mixing one part bleach to two parts water. Be careful not to get any of these products on your horse's skin (or yours!), as they can burn.



\*\*\*\*\*TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP\*\*\*\*\*

2007 PENDLETON CHAPTER OF BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

(Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_ 2007 BCHO Membership Dues:

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_ Single \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_.

(City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_.

(Phone) \_\_\_\_\_ (E-Mail) \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Dues \$ 10.00 \_\_\_\_\_.

Optional Memberships: Sustaining \$100. \_\_ Patron \$250. \_\_ Benefactor \$500. \_\_ Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_.

**\*\*\*LIABILITY RELEASE ~~ MUST BE SIGNED BY EACH MEMBER \*\*\***

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident where ever horse use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses, riders and spectators, and also recognizing that Back Country Horsemen of Oregon, Inc., including it's chapters, officers, directors, and / or members cannot know the condition of trails or the experience of riders on horses taking part in trail rides or other Back Country Horsemen of Oregon functions, I do hereby release Back Country horsemen of Oregon, Inc., it's officers, directors and members from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children or horses.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_.

Dues are not deductible as charitable contribution for income tax purposes. Dues may be considered ordinary and necessary business deductions.

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Next meeting February 7, 2007.  
Meeting and no host dinner will start at  
6:30pm at the Saddle Restaurant.



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