

October 2006



Red meat is NOT bad for you.
Blue-green meat, now that's bad
for you!

Telling a man to get lost and mak-
ing him do it are two entirely differ-
ent propositions.

If you can't drive the pickup truck, sit
in the middle. You may have to hunch
your legs because of the stick shift, but
you don't have to get out and open
every gate.

2006 Officers

Director
Rick Guglielmi

President
Chuck Herburger

Vice Pres.
Phil Sharkey

Secretary
Carol Wells

Treasurer
Roz Wentz

Trail Coord.
Stan Tressler
Roz Wentz

Editor
Angie Depping

Legislative
Open

Translations of Help Wanted Ads

Energetic self-starter: You'll be working on commission.

Entry level position: We will pay you the lowest wages allowed by law.

Experience required: We do not know the first thing about any of this.

Fast learner: You will get no training from us.

Flexible work hours: You will frequently work long overtime hours.

Good organizational skills: You'll be handling the filing.

Make an investment in you future: This is a franchise or a pyramid scheme.

Management training position: You'll be a salesperson with a wide territory.

Much client contact: You handle the phone or make "cold calls" on clients.

Must have reliable transportation: You will be required to break speed limits.

Must be able to lift 50 pounds: We offer no health insurance or chiropractors.

Opportunity of a lifetime: You will not find a lower salary for so much work.

Planning and coordination: You book the bosses travel arrangements.

Quick problem solver: You will work on projects months behind schedule already.

Strong communication skills: You will write tons of documentation and letters.

PENDLETON BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

October 4, 2006

President Chuck Herburger called the meeting of the Pendleton Back Country Horsemen to order at 6:30 pm at The Saddle Restaurant. Members present included Forest Rhinehart, Nyla Macomber, Stan Tressler, Roz Wentz, JoAnne Smith, Vernita Herburger, Angie Depping, Robin Dale, Chuck Herburger, Phil Sharkey, Carol Wells, LaDonna Cozby, Dick Cozby and Pam Campbell. Don Erickson was a guest.

MINUTES: The minutes of the September meeting had been sent to members via e-mail. Forest made a motion to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Phil. The minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL: Treasurer Roz read the financial report, stating the Beginning Balance on Hand was \$1021.85, receipts of \$35.00 from Robin Dale for dues, disbursements of \$272.63 to Debbie Sutor for software and \$25.00 to BCHO regarding Robin Dale membership, leaving a Ending Balance on Hand of \$759.22.

RIDE REPORT: Roz started off the ride report with the Sinks ride stating it was a really nice trail. Six riders rode. Afterwards they all drove to Weston to eat, but found The Longbranch to be closed. They found a restaurant open in Athena and enjoyed a good meal.

Robin reported on the John Wayne ride. She stated she won the poker ride and ended up buying a pair of chaps with the winnings.

Joanne stated she tried to ride the Coyote Creek Trail at Corporation but the trail was in really bad shape with a lot of overgrowth and soft dirt. Her horse tumbled when the trail gave way. Phil questioned the forest land boundary and if power equipment could be brought in.

Phil reported that on Sept. 22nd – 24th he took his daughter out of school and rode in the Eagle Caps for three days (Bowman and Tupan). He said it was T-shirt weather in the afternoons. No other people were seen, nor did he hear shots fired. A bear was seen. He gave a road report. On Sept. 30th – Oct. 2nd he packed in at Buck Creek. The weather was wet and colder.

Roz gave a report regarding Hurricane Creek. Three riders rode to the ruins where they found snow on the ground. The weather was beautiful. It was a very long day, but awesome.

UPCOMING RIDES:

Columbia River Ride Oct. 15th. Meet at pump station 9:00 am.

Baldy Lake Ride Oct. 21st – contingent on weather. Meet at Ukiah Park 8:00 am.

Dead Man Pass Ride Nov. 4th. Meet at end of road past rest area 10:00 am.

OLD BUSINESS: Chuck asked about the software status. Roz reported Debbie ordered a month ago. Angie said there was a computer glitch and it didn't get ordered until recently. Roz has a reimbursement check made out to Debbie.

Chuck read a response memo from Becky Hope regarding our interest in hosting the State Ride. Apparently, there may be three State Rides next year, one hosted by Klamath Falls, another by Eugene at the coast, and ours. Our club had decided at our last club meeting to host a ride the third week of August. Chuck will send this information to Becky.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

4 Meeting at Saddle Restaurant, 6:30pm.

15 Columbia River Ride, meet at pump station at 9:00am

21 Baldy Lake Ride, meet at Ukiah Park 8:00am - contingent on weather

November

1 Meeting at Saddle Restaurant, 6:30pm.

4 Dead Man's Pass, meet at the end of the road at 10:00am

December

TBD Christmas Party

NEW BUSINESS: Chuck reported on Right to Ride legislation and encouraged members to write to our senators.

He also reported receiving information regarding the formation of a Recreation Resource Advisory Committee and members are being sought. If anyone is interested contact Chuck for more information.

Chuck expressed concern regarding disgruntled members due to last minute cancellation of rides last spring. He would like to come up with some criteria for canceling rides. Members discussed that there is no club liability to attend rides and members have the option to ride or not at their leisure. Attendance is not mandatory and ride participation is fully dependent upon situations that may arise shortly before a ride. It was stated that in the past participants would call the ride organizer of their intent to ride so the ride organizer would know how many would be coming. It was suggested that this be started again as a courtesy to the ride organizer. Roz will send a card to Lee Farren who was the host of a cancelled ride last spring. Also cancelled last spring was Beryl Grilley's ride. This ride has been rescheduled for Nov. 4th.

Chuck asked if members are interested in a Christmas Party again this year. The club responded yes and dates were discussed. It was decided on Dec. 16th as first choice, the 9th as second choice, and the 2nd as third choice. Phil will make arrangements with The Hut Restaurant. Pam will arrange for a cake.

Chuck reminded members that elections will be soon and to be thinking of candidates.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wells, PBCH Secretary

30 Hay Twine Uses

By Amy K. Habak from the Western Horseman Web Extras

Thanks to all that hay twine, the stable's garbage bin needs to be emptied again. But wait, why throw away something that saves time and money? Tuck that twine over in the corner where it can easily be reached. It'll come in handy in the near future.

Because hay twine is always easy to find around barns, it's free and it's recyclable, why not take advantage of it? Following is a list of ways to turn unwanted hay twine into a horse person's must-have.

1. Braiding hay twine into a horse's tail results in a braid that will stay in longer than one secured with a rubber band. A horse's tail will stay cleaner with less tangles and grow better with the weight of the braid. After dividing the hair into three sections, grasp a piece of twine in the middle. Braid each half in with two of the three sections of hair and tie at the bottom.

2. Forget a knife to cut hay twine off a bail of hay? No problem. Just grab a free piece of hay twine. Slip it under both twines on the bail and pull it back and forth in a sawing motion. The twine will break shortly.

3. Replace missing horse-blanket straps with hay twine.

4. Tie twine on the end of hoof picks and sweat scrapers for easy hanging. Hang on the wall in the grooming/washing area for easy access.

5. Cut several short strands from a piece of hay twine and attach to the end of a crop or bat. The stick is transformed into a fly whisk.

6. Cut a few hay twines into one-foot strands. Attach them on an old brow band on a horse's halter. This homemade fly brow band helps keep annoying insects out of a horse's face. This is especially nice for horses with short, ineffective forelocks. If a horse is extra-sensitive, you can make a similar fly protection by attaching strands to the noseband.

7. Can't find a lead rope when it's most needed? Twist 12 uncut loops of hay twine into a strong, easily replaceable lead rope. This easy process results in ropes that are very good for turn-out since good ropes aren't dirtied with everyday use. Use more or less twines to vary the length and thickness of the rope.

8. Have a lot of twine? Turn that twine accumulation into a hay net or two simply by tying a few knots. A great craft idea for kids or adults, this project leaves the crafter feeling thrifty indeed.

9. Double a piece of hay twine and hold the ends, one in each hand. Use as a sweat scraper by pulling over a horse's coat the same way you would a metal scraper.

10. Sometimes hay arrives with different colored twine. Use this orange or bright-green twine to make wire fencing more visible. Cut into strips and tie at regular intervals between posts. Because it won't rip the twine last longer than plastic strips.

11. Carry a loop or two of hay twine on trail rides for emergency tack repairs. Just about any part of a bridle or halter can be replaced with a piece of twine, and it doesn't take up much space in saddlebags.

12. For a saddle without strings, simply attach some twine to the dees or horn to tote saddlebags, water bottles or other items on trails.

13. For a horse that can be difficult to catch, tie a short length of twine on the halter, where a lead attaches, to create a catch rope to grab when he comes near. The twine will break if it gets caught on anything.

14. When catching a horse with no halter or lead, slip hay twine around the top of his neck and lead him with that. This works best with horses accustomed to leading this way, but in a pinch can help hold a horse steady until a halter is acquired.

15. The bright green, orange or other colors of hay twine make good trail markers. Cut into strips, place in saddlebags and head out on the trail. Mark the way by tying the strips around tree limbs.

16. The drawstring on hay bags often gets lost as it blends in with the rest of the bag's strings. Rethread the drawstring with a new piece of hay twine and it'll stand out from the rest, enabling easy, quick filling.

17. Little Susie can't keep her horse's head up when he wants to eat grass. Solve this problem by making a grazing check. Loop a section of uncut twine around the crown piece of the horse's bridle and run it up through the gullet of a western saddle and over the horn. Two loops of twine might be necessary to make it long enough. This is easy to undo by simply raising the horse's head and slipping the loop over and off the saddle horn. Modify this eating strap for English saddles by tying to the front saddle dees. For quick use, attach metal clips to the twine to snap onto the rings.

18. Make a temporary gate latch. This comes in handy when getting several horses one at a time from a field. Loop hay twine around the gate. After the gate's opened, it can be shut quickly by just looping the other end of the twine over the gate post.

19. Hay twine makes a temporary fence-repair job easier. Horses trained to respect electric fence probably will respect the twine. If a downed fence is discovered while riding, close the fence with some twine. This is easy, quick and will suffice until appropriate fencing supplies are available.

20. Tie some hay twine around a pair of scissors or knife and hang them conveniently by the hay. Getting the twine off bales will never again be a hassle.

21. On rainy, windy days, secure a potential horse-spooking, billowing poncho by tying a piece of twine around the waist.

22. Give a short-tailed horse a "hair implant" by attaching pieces of hay twine to wisps of existing tail hair. The horse will be thankful for having a tail to swat away the flies. Make sure the strands aren't so long that the horse can step on them and pull out his real hair along with the twine.

23. Love camping? Hay twine is invaluable in camp craft and at home in the stable. Using hay twine, lash a branch between two trees to create a place to store saddles off the ground. Find a grove of trees and do this all the way around for a temporary corral, or fix a fence rail by lashing it with hay twine.

24. Build a jump with hay twine. Lash two pieces of wood or branches together in the form of an X. Place one or two branches or poles between two Xs to form a cross rail or vertical jump. Adjust the height of the jump by sliding the twine on the X to form either a tall and skinny X or a short and wide X.

25. Tie a strand of hay twine to the bar on the outside, left side of your horse's stall. Stretch it across to the last bar to hang blankets, halters, towels and other horse-care items conveniently on the stall door.

26. Show off ribbons by stringing a piece of hay twine across the stall front. Hang the ribbons on the twine. This ribbon hanger can also be used on a wall, over a doorway, etc.

27. Hang about anything from feed buckets to stall balls and signs with hay twine.

28. Use a piece of hay twine to keep English stirrups from banging a horse's sides as he lounges. Simply tie a foot-long piece from one stirrup, across the seat of the saddle to the other stirrup. Now there's no need to worry about run-up stirrups sliding down.

29. Instead of attaching crossties directly to the post or wall, attach them to a small loop of hay twine in turn attached to the wall or post. If a horse panics and the snaps can't be unhooked, the twine will break and release the horse without injury. Use this break-free hay twine loop whenever a horse is tied to a solid object. Similarly, use a small piece of twine to replace the leather loop on a break-away halter.

30. If grain is stored in a garbage can, tie some twine through one side handle, over and through the lid handle to the other side handle to keep raccoons from taking off the lid.

With a little creativity, hay twine can be used for many other things. That "good for nothing" pile of twine can save time and money, and make life more convenient around the stable. Hay twine is a veritable tool for everything! It might even be worth picking out of the trash.

Warm Up to Winter Riding

It's not always the easiest time to ride, but you can beat the cold-weather blahs with some of these tips and strategies for winter riding. By Debbie Moors

If you live in a cold weather climate, you know how challenging riding through winter can be. Here are a few tips for taking the chill off barn and riding time.

1. Wear layers. Before you head out to the barn, know whether you're just going out to feed and check on the horses, or if you'll be riding. If you're not doing strenuous barn chores or schooling your horse, wear heavier clothes. And, if you are going to be getting your heart rate up and working hard, dress in layers.

Wear a light-weight base layer that'll wick sweat away from your skin (polypropylene or silk are two options) then follow that with a middle layer of wool, or a synthetic that insulates without adding a lot of bulk. A jacket system that has a zip-in vest or jacket offers even more options.

2. If you'll be trail riding, pack a small waterproof container or ziplock bag that has matches, an extra layer of warmth and a "space blanket." Boating supply companies offer small kits that are waterproof and crush proof, and can usually be slipped into a saddlebag or fanny pack.

3. Warm up. A good grooming session before you ride will warm you up and will help warm your horse's muscles, too.

4. During your grooming routine, check your horse's hooves for snow or ice if he's been outdoors. Pick out his feet, then spritz with cooking spray or coat with Vaseline to keep snow and ice from packing into his feet.

5. While you groom your horse, wear your horse's bridle under your jacket to help warm the bit, or wrap it in gel hand warmers. Or, check out The Bitten Store's bit warmer--which'll double as a body warmer or can slip into your pocket as a hand warmer.

6. Plan extra time to cool your horse down after a ride. If your horse is clipped, consider using a quarter sheet--it'll drape over his hindquarters and keep him a little warmer during cold-day rides.

7. If you wear insulated boots, make sure you're able to move them easily in the stirrups. Consider ordering over-sized stirrups for use during the winter months. Try gel-pack foot warmers to protect against popsicle toes.

8. Take time to stretch and warm your muscles before climbing into the saddle. And give your horse plenty of time to warm up before you start a strenuous schooling session.

9. If you're going on a long ride, wear a Camelbak (drink delivery system that you wear like a backpack) or similar product to carry water. It's easy to get dehydrated in the winter, and dehydration makes you more susceptible to hypothermia and frostbite.

10. Water is a concern for your horse, too. Studies show that when they're offered warm water, horse's will drink more in the winter than if their water is ice cold. Keep an eye on water tanks and buckets (make sure they're clean and ice-free). Decreased water intake can increase risk for colic.

11. On really cold days, take a riding break. Check in on your horse, then grab your tack and head to a warm tack room, or your house, and do a little cold-day cleaning. Wash bits (Listerine makes a great bit cleaner and disinfectant), clean headstalls and saddles, and check for any worn leather or broken buckles.

12. Do a safety check. Walk through the barn and pasture, checking for ice and hazards. Mix sawdust and de-icer to both melt ice and absorb moisture, and double-check water lines when frigid temps are predicted.

13. Visualize summer. Sometimes, staying motivated requires goal setting. Think about goals for yourself and your horse, plan to attend some winter clinics and horse expos, and make a month-by-month list of what you'll do to make your goals come true.

14. Enjoy your horse. Even if you only have time for a deep whiff of eau d'equine or you just sit and listen to barn noises for awhile, it can help recharge your batteries for that next sparkling winter day, when winter riding is at its best.

Take a look at the latest toasty riding apparel and accessories in "Weathering Winter" in the December 2005 issue of *Horse & Rider* magazine.

And the Truth Comes Out!!!

For a couple of years, I've been blaming it on iron poor blood, lack of vitamins, dieting and a dozen other maladies. But now I found out the real reason. I'm tired because I'm overworked. The population of this country is 237 million, and 104 million are retired. That leaves 133 million to do the work. There are 85 million in school, which leaves 48 million to do the work. Of this, there are 29 million employed by the federal government. This leaves 19 million to do the work. Four million are in the Armed Forces, which leaves 15 million to do the work. Take out the 14,800,000 people who work for state and city governments, and that leaves 200,000 to do the work. There are 188,000 in hospitals, so that leaves 12,000 to do the work. With 11,998 people in prisons now, that leaves just two people to do the work. You and me. And you're sitting there screwing around with email.

How Horses Keep Warm

How nature helps horses to keep warm in the cold winter temperatures.

By Jayne Pedigo

In my area of coastal Texas, we bask in mild temperatures in the 60's well into December. However, by then, many other areas have already seen snow and will see a lot more over the course of the winter.

So how do horses keep the elements at bay? In actual fact, the horse's body is well equipped to deal with temperatures way below the human comfort zone. Often horse owners will arrive at the barn, bundled up in layers of clothing, to find their horses frolicking in the snow quite oblivious of the sub-zero temperatures.

On the Outside

The most obvious concession to the season is the horse's winter coat, which can start growing in around late August in some northern areas. As the days shorten, the "hair factor" kicks in. In addition, sudden cold temperatures such as a cold front will prompt the horse's body to start producing his winter coat. Here in Texas, I have noticed my horse, Annapolis, starts to get a little hairy in about mid-October. In spite of the fact that it is often in the 70's, the shorter days and a couple of cold fronts coming through are enough to convince Annapolis' body that it's time to don the winter woollies.

The horse's winter coat differs from the summer coat in that the hairs are longer and coarser. The horse is able to fluff up his coat, the individual hairs standing out, rather than laying flat against the skin, trapping air close to his body and thereby insulating him from the cold. The additional grease which accumulates in this thicker coat, especially in pastured horses, gives additional insulation.

On the Inside

Nature has designed the horse to withstand the cold from the inside too. Horses are grazing animals that fare best if there is a small amount of food constantly being processed by the digestive system (hence the old adage "*feed little and often*") As the gut digests the fiber in the diet, heat is generated, contributing to the horses body warmth, even in freezing temperatures. One of the most natural ways to help a horse keep warm in the winter is to allow him ad lib access to good quality hay.

Today's domesticated horses are more prone to impaction colic in the winter. This is due to the fact that they are often confined to stables in inclement weather and receive less turnout and exercise, while still receiving a full grain ration. The fact that horses often drink less in winter, when the water is at or near freezing, increases the chances of a colic.

**Next meeting November 1, 2006.
Meeting and no host dinner will start
at 6:30pm at the Saddle Restaurant.**



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