

TWIN RIVERS BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN TRAILS AND TALES NEWSLETTER

P O Box 1633 Lewiston, ID 83501 www.twinriversbch.com

**Important Change: TRBCH Meeting, Aug. 14th 6:00 PM, Hellsgate State Park,
Lewiston, ID See Details Below!!**

Comin' round the Mountain

TRBCH Tribute to Don Uhlman August 14th

Since August will be a short meeting month, a suggestion was made and acted upon to move the meeting to Hells Gate State Park. We have reserved the large Gazebo in the picnic area for the meeting and TRBCH's Memorial to Don Uhlman. The date is August 14th. We will have a social hour from 6-7 pm, a short meeting at 7 pm, and then a potluck meal after the meeting. If you do not have a season pass to Hellsgate Park, it will cost you \$4 to get in. Please don't let this stop you from coming. The Chapter will supply the steaks; everyone bring a potluck dish, table service, chair, and what you want to drink. If you would take a few minutes and write down a story or experience you had with Don, hand written would be great. Any pictures you may have, please write on the back or on a piece of paper where it was taken and the event. We plan to make a scrapbook for his daughter. Don was a founding member of this chapter and we have had several suggestions on memorials in Don's name which we will discuss at the meeting. Come and tell us your story on Don and step up to the BBQ to see how your skills of the grill match Dons'. Please RSVP to Karen Parks (208-791-3246), leave message.

2010 BCH of Idaho Calendars

Twin Rivers Chapter has generously agreed to take and sell 400 calendars this year. That is an aggressive amount, so we will need everyone to help out this year. We have the calendars in hand, so everyone can get an early start on sales. All the photos in the calendar were taken by members of BCHI. Lisa Swanson has taken on the task of keeping track of the calendar distribution to members. They will be available to pick up at Hells Gate State Park at the August Meeting, or call Lisa at

(208-746-6741). If every membership in our chapter sold five calendars, they would all be gone. This is not only raising money for BCHI, but also raising \$800 for our local chapter, as well as spreading the word on BCH. There is a lot of information in the back of the calendar about BCH. Things are pretty much the same as last year. Every month of the year, except December, a person has a chance at a \$500 (five hundred) cash prize in a drawing the last day of the month. At Decembers drawing the winner will have a choice of a \$6000 (six thousand) gift card at Cabela's, \$6000 (six thousand) in fencing products from Lucky Acres Fencing, or they have the choice to split the prize for \$3000 (three thousand) from both retailers.

2010 Outdoor Show

Karen Parks will have an update at the August Meeting. As of right now, the show will not be a BCHI function. If TRBCH are to be a part of the show, it will be in co-ordination with the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce. The location is still to be decided between the NezPerce County Fairgrounds or Hells Gate State Park.

Idaho Fish & Game

Wapshilla Ranch Hitchrail Project

We still hope to install some hitchrails at the ranch on the Salmon River this fall. Justin Barrett, our new contact for Craig Mountain with Idaho Fish & Game, is checking with everyone involved as to feasibility and need. If it happens, we should be able to ride to the project on our stock from Wapshilla Ridge and camp in the yard. About a two hour ride. Tools, supplies and personal gear can be hauled by vehicle to the ranch. Rod Parks will be trail boss.

Over the Hill

Kids Kamp 2009

After five completed years and beginning the sixth year you would think it would get easier, but it doesn't. The lining up of people to do food, games, education, entertainment, etc. is still a big job. It takes numerous meetings and brain storming with members to put this camp together. It actually takes all year and everyone's ideas to come up with activities for five days to keep 27 kids busy.

It all comes down to Wednesday when everyone arrives and the frenzy begins: setting up tents, stocking the kitchen with food and drink, and kids arrive one after the other. We get the kids and their mounts settled in their new home for the next five days. We visit with the parents to ease their minds as to where and how things happen during camp. We also feed the families dropping off the attendees that night. We usually start with a bit of an introduction to camp, setting the basic ground rules, picking teams, explaining the program and expectations. Lisa, our game coach, had a great around the fire name game. It was very successful, if you couldn't remember the person's name, you remembered the animal each person picked or their sign.

Thursday morning the fun begins...we get the campers up at 6:00 am to take care of their animals, fix their own lunches and eat breakfast at 7:00. It is then 9:00 am SOP (saddle on pony). We do a check of gear and tack before taking off for a nice trail ride out of camp. We cross logs and early that morning have a good sized water crossing that concerns us; however, all the critters crossed the water in very good shape. At lunch this day Mark had the teams look for specific weeds, and the teams received points for bringing in the weeds. We finished the ride about 3:00 pm and they unsaddle and take care of the stock. At that point Pat H. has snacks set out for the kids and we have an education activity. We were able to get the Nez Perce County Deputy Sheriff, Bill Madison, to give a PowerPoint on the new hybrid marijuana drug growing situation in our area. What to look out for and what to do if you run in to an operation of this kind. After this we had quite a few games, Lisa managed, from sack races

to pack races. They had a very good time. Dinner is at 6:00 pm with a couple of kids helping before dinner to do set up and a couple helping with clean up after dinner. The kids usually have some free time before and after dinner for showers and socializing. After that time the fire is started and everyone enjoys the warmth, as well as the coyotes yapping, wolves howling, and kids being silly. At 10:00 pm lights out and off to bed, or maybe reverse that.

At 6:00 am it all begins again. Our ride on Friday consisted of a good ride up over Cherry Butte and thru the clay mine. Lots of great trails, good experiences and a lunch time project. This day the teams were questioned on the parts of the program we had previously studied and points were given. Upon returning to camp our educational speaker was Bruce Meacham with the Diamond C Saddle Shop. He gave a nice presentation on leather care, saddle building and general saddle care, as well as answered questions from the group. Then we had mounted horse games in the upper arena, from word scrambles to egg races. This got very competitive, with only one minor scrap to Katie, which was doctored by Chuck our First Aid man. Around the fire this night was s'mores and more fun.

And on a cold Saturday at 6:00 am we start again...the kids are sleeping better, more difficult to get up which means we are keeping them busy!! The Latah County Sheriff's Posse arrives by 9:00 am to begin the program of how to search and how to find whatever you are looking for by looking in all directions. They actually put out ~29 plates for the teams to find. It was a long day and no team found all the plates. One team found 23 out of the 29, which was very good. When we returned to camp the kids were all debriefed by the Latah County Sheriff's Posse. This entire project was a good experience for all. Later we had the remaining mounted horse games. And after dinner on Saturday the kids did a Dutch oven desert cook off for more points. They cooked a variety of cobblers that were tested by all. This went over very well. The points were totaled and kids picked their prizes in order of points. Due to the generous contributions of many they all received numerous gifts.

And another early wakeup began Sunday morning...the parents begin arriving before the

9:00 am ride out time. We had an especially good turn out of parents to ride the trail this year. We tried to find all the plates from the day before to pick them up, but didn't quite succeed and came up a few short. After a nice ride we returned to another good lunch provided for the kids and the families. Then the go home frenzy began! Cleaning all the stalls, picking up everything, taking down tents, scrubbing kitchens and bathrooms to leave the camp in shining good shape for the next visitors was a task. And of course each kid rounding up their gear, personal and horse, to get ready for home.

For the first time since we started kids' camp we did not end up with extra chairs, only a towel and a shirt (Colby's). I would also compliment all the parents for their excellent choice of mounts for these kids as we didn't have to pony one child this year, which too is a first.

We would like to thank all of those who participated in any way in making this camp the success it was. We are already looking for your help for next year, keep in mind that we need at least fifteen adults for twenty five kids, 24-7. Thanks again everyone,
Pat and Mark Bogar

Umatilla NF

We will be receiving another payment for packing out the wire and fencing from the Wenaha-Tucannon Fence removal project. If you worked on this project and did not receive reimbursement for mileage, please let Bob Hough (509-256-3336) know.

Nez Perce NF

2009 Corral Creek Trail Project

7 o'clock Friday morning of the 17th of July, found 10 members of Twin Rivers Back Country Horsemen ready to clear and or establish trail signs on trails No 318, Doc Denny Trail No 319, Marble Point Trail No 328 and Driveway Trail No 431. We were joined at the Corral Campground and Trail Head by two Forest Service Trail crew members, Blake Everson and Elise Lear. John Fantini and the trail crew had pioneered and flagged the old Mill Creek Trail No 318 on Thursday. This trail hadn't been used for years so they found downfalls, bogs, and brush, this terminating in an impassable rock. Four of us with Blake, rode and hiked the trail to ascertain the condition. There were

many bogs but they seemed to have a pretty firm bottom. Brush wasn't bad, downfalls were mostly cut out but the tread was practically non existent. The rock would have to be blasted or by passed. It was determined the scope of the job was too large for our group and needed a lot of time, money and a trail contractor.

At camp we decided to take the "cowboy trail" which bypassed the first part of the Mill Creek Trail and work on the bottom end. We brushed and did some extensive tread work until time ran out about 1 ½ miles short of the Doc Denny Trail No 319.

The "cowboy trail" goes thru some pleasant timber and ends up in meadows along the Mill Creek. Intermittent meadows follow with an occasional creek crossing. Makes you want to stop and fish.

Saturday, Blake and 2 of us took directional signs up the mountain where trail No 431 had been confused by a haul road.

Coming back to camp found the rest of the crew cutting out a tree that had fallen on the wood fence and Karin and Bill Streeter were patching the barbed wire section. Blake then took Tom, Virginia and John Partridge to the top of Doc Denny with the plan of opening up the bottom of Mill Creek and checking out the Doc Denny Trail No 319. Elise and the rest of us rode down with them and worked on a new section of trail that intersects Marble Point Trail No 328. While Elise, Bob Hough and Rod Parks worked ahead cutting down timber and falling trees, Laurel, Karin, and I trimmed trees and lopped brush. Laurel noticed a 10 foot treated 4/4 post with a directional sign on it lying on the edge of the trail. As it seemed like a trail intersection, and the post hole diggers were there, she proceeded to establish said sign post. Great job.

There was a lot of timber cut on this trail and will be a good connection between Doc Denny and the Marble Creek Trail.

As we sat resting at this intersection, Elise says "We can plant that trail directional sign here now". I said "Laurel already planted that sign about ¾ mile back up the hill". Moment of silence, Alise, "I'll go get it". In 22 minutes Alise retrieved the sign post and post hole diggers. I think we ought to sponsor her in the Olympics.

Back up the trail to the vehicles and to camp for a well earned refreshment. The rest of the crew came out of Mill Creek about 5. That evening, Tom treated us to his famous spare rib roast. The pot luck was delicious and as usual more than we could eat.

Sunday morning Blake and Elise ferried us down to the "new" trail, Doc Denny Trail no 319 to Marble Creek trail no. 328. We needed to establish

some tread marks on the new trail and ride the loop back to camp to cut out any down falls. The Marble Creek trail is a main line trail and goes thru some beautiful meadows. The grade is moderate until ½ mile from Marble Peak where it steepened but with good switch backs. Shortly after intersecting with the Driveway Trail No 431 we broke for lunch and admired all the bear grass flowers nurtured by the numerous springs along this section of trail. Dropping down to the upper directional sign post location, we found it was planted! On the second sign post location, it also was installed by the trail crew. We greatly appreciated this as our butts were getting tired and it was getting pretty warm.

As we relaxed under the Chapter's canopy we decided this was a good project with a variety of interesting rides.

Bill Correll, Trail Boss

Clearwater NF

Upper Basin Interp-Morris Cedar Grove Trail Clearing Project July 23 - 25

Another projected completed for the year! Where has the year gone? Summer is winding down fast. This project was interesting in the fact that we had some confusion as to when we were going to start work. When we all got done chastising each other, we dug in on Thursday and got a good section of the Upper Basin Interpretive Trail cleared and brushed. With a much earlier start on Friday, we whacked, cut and tossed brush and completed the project by about 3:00pm. This was a five mile loop trail that was very much in need of brushing. Bob Henriksen spent Friday with a local friend repairing a broken girder on a pack bridge. This trail has many bridges and sections of puncheon, but

has a very wide and safe trail tread. Some of the busiest creatures were the mosquitoes who were our in warfare quantities. The Forest Service advised that the Morris Cedar Grove Trail did not need brushing, and just like that we were through with the work. Everyone decided that it was time to head home before we ran out of bug spray, so camp was picked up and everyone went home Friday evening before the war with the mosquitoes started again. The forest service did a great job of providing us enough tools to get the job done! The huckleberries were just starting to come on, but were few and far between. Thanks to everyone that helped with this project. This is a great place to go in July, as the temperature was 25 degrees cooler than in the valley.

Weed Seed Free Forage

Remember, weed seed free forage is required in all national forests in Idaho and on any public land in Washington. As BCH members, we must set an example for other users

Washington State Suppliers

http://www.nwcb.wa.gov/WWHAM/WWHAM_suppliers.htm

Idaho State Suppliers

<http://www.idahoweedawareness.net/netcenter/library/weedfreeforage.html>

TRBCH Newsletter Editor/ Website Articles

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Please send all info for the newsletter or website to Rod at least ten days before the next meeting to get it included in the newsletter.

Calendar of Events

TRBCH Meeting & Don Uhlman Tribute	Aug 14 th	6:00 PM	Hellsgate State Park Gazebo in Picnic Area.
Lewiston Roundup	Sept 4-7	See Website	www.lewistonroundup.org
TRBCH Meeting	Sept. 8th	7:00 PM	Idaho Fish & Game Facility
Hells Canyon Mule Days	Sept. 11-13	See Website	www.hellscanyonmuledays.com