

Meeting information- SBFC Foundation meeting is Saturday, December 3rd meeting, 5-7 p.m. At Maravia Corp/Cascade Outfitters , 602 E., 45th St. - Boise. Wilderness Society will meet Monday, Dec. 5th from 6-9p.m at the Sockeye Brewery, 3019 N. Cole Rd, Boise.

General meeting notes:

April 28 & 29 Pack Clinic – This is a tentatively scheduled activity. We have notified BCHI that we will need insurance for these dates. The possibility of holding a pack clinic at one of two places- the Need for Feed store in Greenleaf or at the covered arena on Lou and Donna Kelleher's property in Greenleaf – was brought up at the last TVBCH board meeting. This idea will be further explored in the new year.

2012 Calendars- at present, Cini has the 2012 calendars if members need more. There are 25 left to sell.

Needed: Chapter display for March state board meeting. Our Chapter needs a display for the March 24th Coeur d'Alene meeting. Chapter displays are judged and awarded prize money for 1st place winner. Any ideas for design?

Trail Classification—Keith compiled the information that chapter members researched at the last general meeting. He said that Manager Nell Highfill told him to wait until after the "Field Season" to talk to the districts about our findings. Keith then spoke with Jennifer Hensiek, at Cascade, who wanted to set up a meeting with Nell and our chapter. After these future meeting/s, Keith said that our part in the classification of trails will be done.

TVBCH annual November meeting election results for—

Officers for the 2012 year: (1-year positions)

Keith Lambrecht, President
Bonnie Fox, V-President
John Millington, Treasurer

Alice Millington, Secretary

Board members (5): (2-year positions)

Jim Smolinski, Bill Lewis, Pam Jorstad,

Maureen Jackson, Paula McDermott

Ken made a motion to accept elected members, seconded by Jim Fox. Motion carried.

Upcoming events—

End of Year Party/Potluck—A tentative date of January 21st has been set for our “End-of-Year Party” The event will be held at the Fleet Reserve Building in January. Doors will be open at 6:00 pm, dinner beginning at 6:30 pm. **Potluck:** As in years past, meat will be supplied by the chapter, with main dishes, side dishes, salads, and desserts supplied by members. Alice will coordinate the event. There will be a **silent auction**, along with a **white elephant exchange**. Members should begin thinking of things for the auction—can be horse-related or not—and prepared to bring a wrapped item for the exchange—can be humorous or practical. **There will also be one or two new ice-breakers...**

New Year's Day Ride—At noon, riders will head out from Wilson Creek for a short ride to be followed by our traditional New Year's potluck. Delicious pots of chili will be provided. Members are asked to bring condiments for chili, cornbread, chips, drinks, and desserts. As in years past, a wall tent will be set up and warming stoves/pits will be going to provide warmth. **Come one; come all. Riding is not mandatory.**

Mike Carl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bonnie seconded the motion. Motion carried. Members adjourned to enjoy cake, coffee and conversation.

Discussions and Actions taken at the BCHI November Video Board Meeting:

BCHI Donation—Members voted to have to donate \$250 to the BCHI Foundation in memory of a deceased BCHI officer.

Worth of BCHA questioned—Val Johnson reported that, apparently, little is done at the BCHA meetings. However, it was decided that a national presence for BCH was still a good deal.

Membership in Sportsman's Caucus—Kay Ryan reported on our membership with the caucus. It was decided it was a good organization to belong to because of its close contact with state government. We voted to budget \$200 to be members in 2012.

"Yes" vote for a 2013 BCH calendar—Voted to sell calendars again for 2013. Discussion: It's a good money maker for BCHI. Too bad BCHA does not have a money maker besides collecting dues from us. Pictures for calendar must be in by March 24, 2012. That is the date of the BCHI conference in Coeur d' Alene. Note: Set digital cameras on "Large File" to get the highest resolution on your pictures.

Partnering with other organizations—There was much discussion about working with the Wilderness Society and the Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation. Chapter members will be meeting with these two groups on Dec 3 and Dec 5th to figure out how to work with them, also to see what they think about chainsaw use in the Frank Church Wilderness Area. (Refer to TVBCH website calendar for more information about meetings.)

Chainsaw use in wilderness—There was much discussion about chainsaw use. No one opposes it. It was decided that Val Johnson will draft a resolution stating BCHI's being in favor of chainsaw use when necessary in the Frank. It was pointed out that the request to use chainsaws must begin with the District Ranger who overlooks the trails that need the work. A chapter representative needs to sit with the appropriate District Ranger and start a dialog—ask what they intend to do about Pistol Creek Trail, 44 Creek Trail, Bernard Lake Trail and Elk Creek Trail (for example) to make them usable to the public. It needs, also, to be stated that we are ready and willing to help, but we cannot get it done without chainsaws. It was stated that the Regional Forester will make the final decision, but you start with the District Ranger and work up from there. The fella from BCH Boise (Brandon) wants to participate with us. Having the BCHI Resolution, and the support of the Wilderness Society and SBFC Foundation behind us will only help us in our argument.

BCHA dues increase coming—Reported that BCHA dues may increase in the next year or so, which will have a trickle-down effect.

Fees for Video Conference increased—Fee went from \$65 per chapter in June to \$130 per chapter for this and future meetings. John noted that, he "would not have liked to have driven a great distance for this short meeting", that the video conference cost well worth it, and light compared to what it would have been had members driven, eaten, and stayed overnight for such a meeting.

Chapter Reports—Final agenda item: each chapter gave a report of their events since June 2011.

The meeting was ended by 1:30 pm.

Following the meeting, John Millington e-mailed Karen Kimball to get our chapter insurance for a tentative TVBCH pack clinic April 28/29 at Bonnie's feed store. This item came up at the November TVBCH board meeting.

There is no meeting in December, but this is only a short break. Bonnie Fox is coordinating the New Years Day ride and chili potluck, which starts at noon. The January meeting is our annual banquet, scheduled for January 21st at 6:00 pm. More details will follow.

Thank You !

We appreciate the service of all the members who held elected and committee positions, organized events, and worked on projects.

At the November meeting, the Chapter elected five new Board members for 2012: Jim Smolinski, Bill Lewis, Pam Jorstad, Maureen Jackson, and Paula McDermott. John Millington was elected Treasurer. Alie Columbus is moving to North Idaho, so John will also handle Project Reports. Other officers and committee members will continue to serve in 2012.

Membership Renewals

It is time to renew your membership for 2012. There is a link to application form on the website. **Please renew by Jan. 1st**. It saves the Treasurer and Chapter a lot of time. Part of our dues are forwarded to BCH-Idaho by Jan. 31st.

Life Flight will send renewal notices in January. We understand the price has gone

up for the Back Country Horsemen group. The regular Family Membership price is listed as \$60 per year on the website.

SPOT vs. Life Flight

Several of our members have the SPOT satellite tracking system. Joe Williams met a hunter who had an emergency last year and used the SPOT 911-service. After waiting several hours, a member of the hunting party left to find help and met an Emergency team. They were dispatched to verify the need for help. The SPOT 911-call was forwarded to the closest Emergency team. The hunters were lucky to find someone with a Satellite phone and called Life Flight. It took many hours for help to finally arrive.

Joe's advice is to carry a SPOT device if you travel alone, but carry a Satellite phone. The SPOT device sends notification and provides a location, but it does not guarantee you will get help quickly. A Satellite phone is the best way to summon Life Flight in the back country. Joe found that his SPOT subscription includes Life Flight membership. It also has an optional accident insurance rider. SPOT is reliable and has great tracking features, but it is not a communication device.

2013 Calendar Photos

The deadline for 2013 Calendar Photos is March 24th. We collected quite a few of the chapter photos during the year. If you have more photos to share, please copy them to a Thumb Drive (USB) or CD and forward them to Keith Lambrecht. If someone would like to review and submit the Chapter photos this year, please contact Keith to volunteer. Instructions for submitting your photos are on the BCHI website- <http://www.bchi.org/12-mtg-convention.htm>.

State BOD Meeting - Nov 18th

The Chapter submitted some comments that were discussed at the state meeting:

- partnerships (projects and fund raising)

- wilderness chainsaw use (BCHA article)
- obtain lists of FS Trails cleared & backlog

The Chapters are in general agreement, with the same issues and concerns.

Partners & 2012 Projects

John Millington reported that our RAC Grants for 2012 are approved but unfunded. His contact expects final word on funding when the political parties are finished fighting and go back to work.

The Selway-Bitterroot-Frank Church Foundation invited our Chapter to a meeting on December 5th. Our representatives met with leaders from the Boise BCH, Squaw Butte BCH, Forest Service, Idaho Parks & Rec., Idaho Trails Assoc., Idaho Outfitters & Guides Assoc., and the Back Country Volunteers. They discussed projects for 2012 and signed up for all of the proposed projects. Joe Williams signed for two **packing** projects that the Board of Directors will consider in the project planning meeting (tentatively scheduled for Feb. 4th at 10:00 am; FRA bldg.). Joe chose packing projects that are scheduled **after** the trails are cleared.

- Pistol Creek Avalanche clearing
- Marble Creek Trail opening & maint.

With the high cost of hay this year, we will contact other chapters and investigate purchasing hay cubes in a large quantity.

Trails Classification

At the October meeting the Chapter reviewed a Forest Service list of about 140 trails. Keith contacted Jennifer Hensiek and arranged a meeting on Jan. 12th at the Boise National Forest Office. Rod Parks of BCHI provided some additional information to discuss at the meeting. Rod has worked through Trails Classification in three National Forests. He is nearing completion in one Forest office that he started working with last February.

Sportsmans Show

The Squaw Butte Chapter is organizing the BCHI booth at the 2012 Sportsman Show. Dates are March 1-4, Thursday-Sunday, 2012. There are many exhibits, a lot of people, and tickets for members manning the booth are available at a much reduced rate. The general public doesn't know much about BCH, so it is a worthwhile education event. Squaw Butte will send a schedule in January.

Calendar Sales

Send checks for calendar sales to Cini Baumhoff.

REMINDER!!

Project reports from all projects this year are due to Alie.

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January

Jan. 1st ***SUBMIT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION***

New Years Day chili potluck & ride (noon)
contact Bonnie

Jan. 12th Trails Classification meeting with Boise NF

Jan. 21st potluck banquet; 6:00 pm

Jan. 31st dues paid to BCHI

February

- Feb. 4th (tentative) BOD project planning meeting
 - 10:00 am at the FRA Building
- Feb. 28th ? Life Flight renewals due