

# The Shoshone Rider

February 2023

## Shoshone Back Country Horsemen

### Email

[shoshonebch@gmail.com](mailto:shoshonebch@gmail.com)

### Web

<https://shoshonebch.org>

### 2022 Officers

#### President:

Kandy Christian

307-578-7705

[ktazmutt14@outlook.com](mailto:ktazmutt14@outlook.com)

#### Vice President:

Bre Fagan

307-254-0013

[clanfagan@yahoo.com](mailto:clanfagan@yahoo.com)

#### Secretary:

Judi Blymyer

307-754-0151

[jblymyer3@gmail.com](mailto:jblymyer3@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer:

Linda Putney

307-250-1696

[Lputney@tctwest.net](mailto:Lputney@tctwest.net)

### Committees

#### Watch Dog:

Mike Blymyer

307-754-0151

[utpz2@hotmail.com](mailto:utpz2@hotmail.com)

#### Activities:

Cathy Ringler

307-202-0335

[cathyringler@yahoo.com](mailto:cathyringler@yahoo.com)

#### Service:

Howard Sanders

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#### Education:

Cindy Geissler

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#### Publicity/Newsletter/Web:

Kathi Gimmeson

307-754-3490

[kathigim32@gmail.com](mailto:kathigim32@gmail.com) or

[shoshonebch@gmail.com](mailto:shoshonebch@gmail.com)

#### Social Media/Photo Gallery:

Randi Slaughter

307-645-3358

[rslaughter@nemont.net](mailto:rslaughter@nemont.net)

#### Recruitment & Retention:

#### WY-BCHA Delegates

Kandy Christian

Bre Fagan

#### Alternates

TBA



### From the President, Kandy Christian...

This year marks the club's 30th year of service as Shoshone Back Country Horsemen!!

I want to recognize our founding members Bill Brazelton and Bob Bessler, as well as Eric Loloff, the first President, and other individuals who got together and were interested in improving and developing the trails in Northwest Wyoming. They ended up completing all the requirements for Chapter membership and got us the full rights of membership in the Wyoming Back Country Horsemen and association with Back Country Horsemen of America in February 1993.

Talking with Cathy our Activities Director, Shoshone BCH plans on getting together this August, to recognize our club's 30 years of service with Back Country Horseman of Wyoming. We are looking forward to planning this event the second weekend in August at the Eagle Creek Trailhead and hopefully seeing all of our members there.

A few more months of winter and then hopefully we can hit the trails running this year! We had our yearly meeting with the Forest Service this past month and went over the proposed list of trails that Howard had put together and all were good with our list. Should be going out in an email soon. I will see about getting a copy and passing it out at our next meeting February 16. Just a reminder our Feb meeting will be at Cody's new Game and Fish building.

During the next meeting we will elect new officers. Please come join us to elect the new Officers for Shoshone Back Country Horsemen. As I have mentioned before, we all have made a big difference in the club. I want to let everyone know that I have learned a lot from every member that I got to meet and see on the trails. Thank you!

Thanks,  
Kandy

Kandy captured this image of some nice bucks.



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## Secretary's report by Judi Blymyer...

The January, 2023 meeting of the SBCH was called to order by President Kandy Christian at 6:30 after a great potluck dinner.

### PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Mike observed that the 2022 November minutes had an error. In the 'Watch Dog' report, talking about e-bikes, the abbreviation 'FS' was used, but should have been SNF (Shoshone National Forest) only, as his report did not include the entire National Forest Service.

Deb made a motion to accept the minutes after being corrected. MSP

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mike made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as written. MSP

Linda requested that the following bills be paid; Kathi G., \$13.98 for newsletter printing and meeting supplies, and Howard S. \$422.34 for shipping saws and saw sharpening. Joe Childers made a motion to pay these bills. MSP

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

*Watch Dog:* N/A

*Activities:* Cathy asked members what they thought about having another Tack Sale this year. It was decided to send out an online survey to the full membership before making a final decision on this.

*Service:* Howard talked with Alan Grubb with the BBNF on January 4, about our fall corral project. Howard showed a picture of the loop road and pads that will be put in before starting our corrals project.

Howard and others will have a January 23 meeting with SNF on our Cost Share trails for this year.

There was a short discussion on the Big Creek trail that gets lots of use but is in dire shape of cleaning. It is one of the harder trails to clean, due to part of it being in the Wilderness.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration will be held at Timber Creek Ranger station this year. Details to come.

*Education:* Marty brought us up to date on upcoming clinics. The Youth and Packing Clinic will be held at the Silver Spur Arena on Saturday, April 1.

The two Desensitization Clinics at Ron Ostrom's will be held on April 15/16 and April 29/30. To cover arena costs, Ron is charging \$25 per 2-day clinic per person. Call Marty to sign up for a clinic if interested. Clinics are limited to 10 riders per session.

*Publicity/Newsletter:* N/A

*Social Media/Photo Gallery:* Randi reminded us to let her know who the people are in the pictures and where the pictures were taken when submitting photos.

*Recruitment & Retention:* N/A

### OLD BUSINESS:

Barry Reiswig shared a few resolutions that are going to be brought up at BCHA's convention meeting in Kalispell, on April 14-19. He reminded us of the resolution he wants our club to submit. (October, 2022 minutes, Old Business)

Debbie Black made a motion to adopt Barry's resolution on limiting the number of delegates from two to one if the state has less than 1000 members. MSP. He will take our resolution to the State meeting and then it will be forwarded to the BCHA for review.

### NEW BUSINESS:

There was a discussion of how and where to celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a club. We decided on Eagle Creek or Fish Hawk trailhead in August to include a potluck and Dutch oven cooking. Cathy R. said she would take the lead in organizing this.

Finally, Linda handed out printouts of the budget and led us through the Proposed Budget for 2023-2024. After short discussions about donations to Dano Camp and Commissioner Tag monies, Deb B. made a motion to donate \$1000 to Dano Camp from the Youth Funds, and Tom F. made a motion to amend the operating budget by moving \$2000 from operating to Commissioner Tag money for work on the Kirwin and Clark Fork trailheads. MSP This is not a 'set in stone' budget but a flexible budget for the year.

Carol O. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55.

MSP = Motion seconded and passed.

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**Treasurer's Report**  
by Linda Putney

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen  
**Reconciliation Detail**  
for Period 1/01/2023 – 1/31/2023  
--- For February 2023 Meeting---

Type	Cleared	#	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
<b><u>First Bank of Wyoming accounts</u></b>						
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT Beginning Reconciled Bank Balance 12/31/2022</b>						<b>\$ 14,458.97</b>
<i>Cleared Transactions</i>						
Check	01/20/23	1734	H. Sanders	Saw sharpening & shipping	-422.34	
Trsfr	01/27/23	Trsfr		Transfer to new CD; int rate 2.5%	-5,000.00	
<b>TOTAL Cleared Checks and Payments</b>					<b>-5,422.34</b>	
Deposit	01/13/23		3 – 2023 Dues;	Sunlight Sports donation	523.65	
Deposit	01/23/23		20 - 2023 Dues;	\$20 donations	820.00	
<b>TOTAL Cleared Deposits and Credits</b>					<b>1,343.65</b>	
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT Ending Reconciled Bank Balance 1/31/2023</b>						<b><u>\$10,380.28</u></b>
<i>Uncleared Transactions</i>						
Check	10/29/22	1732	WYBCH	National & State Dues: 83 @ \$23	0.00	Lost; Replaced w/#1735
Check	01/19/23	1733	K Gimmeson	Newsletter printing & meeting supplies	-13.98	
Check	01/30/23	1735	WYBCH	National & State Dues: 83 @ \$23	-1,909.00	Replaced #1732
<b>Net Uncleared Transactions</b>					<b>-1,922.98</b>	
<b>CHECKING ACCOUNT Ending Checkbook Balance 1/31/2023</b>						<b><u>\$8,457.30*</u></b>
*Of this balance, \$3,963.37 reserved for Youth: Donations in memory of Jim Hillberry \$1,322; Dale Olson \$340; Charles Sheets \$380						
<b>MONEY MARKET (Commissioner's Tag) Beginning Bank Balance 12/31/2022</b>						<b>\$29,561.59</b>
<i>Cleared Transactions</i>						
None.					0.00	
<b>TOTAL Cleared Checks and Payments</b>					<b>0.00</b>	
Interest	1/31/23			January interest income	3.46	
<b>TOTAL Cleared Deposits and Credits</b>					<b>3.46</b>	
<b>MONEY MARKET (Commissioner's Tag) Ending Bank Balance 1/31/2023</b>						<b><u>\$29,565.05</u></b>
<i>Uncleared Transactions</i>						
None.						
<b>MONEY MARKET (Commissioner's Tag) Ending Checkbook Balance 1/31/2023</b>						<b><u>\$29,565.05</u></b>
<b>12-MONTH CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT Beginning Balance 12/31/2022</b>						<b>\$10,307.13</b>
Trsfr				Add \$5,000 from Checking; new 13 mos CD @ 2.5%	5,000.00	
Interest				Interest Income – Annual/Redemption	9.76	
<b>12-MONTH CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT Ending Balance 12/31/2022</b>						<b><u>\$15,316.89</u></b>

***Planning Ahead...Then What?***

Many of us have considered how to put our affairs in order to make the transition of our estates easier for our families after we are gone. But, did those plans include your horses, livestock or pets? If you were suddenly incapacitated or deceased, what would happen to your horses and animal friends?

**Four-Legged Friends and Your Estate** is an article on BCHA's Education page that addresses many aspects of what may happen to our animals in the case of our absence and what we can do to ensure they are cared for according to their needs and our wishes. Oftentimes, family and friends do not have the means, knowledge, ability or desire to take on our four legged friends.

Even if you have planned to transfer ownership to someone or have them sell your animals, make sure they have the necessary information for the well-being of the animals and their future owners. Write out the names, descriptions, ages, personalities, training, routine care and caregivers, ie: vet, farrier, and diet as well as special needs. Have registration papers, bills of sale, brand inspections and health records available to whomever will be responsible for your animals.

The BCHA article has many considerations and suggestions to help you provide for your animals and their best future.

*Service by Howard Sanders*

### **SBCH FEBRUARY 2023 SERVICE REPORT**

Five of us met with The Shoshone National Forest Trails Coordinator on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the Cost Share Trails for 2023 and three Trail Head projects, for approval.

The three Trail Head projects are:

Jack Creek corral repairs,  
Kirwin feed bunk repairs, and  
Clarks Fork feed bunk and corral repairs.

The Cost Share Trails are the following:

Franc's Fork/Haymaker Tr #657, West Timber Cr Tr #664, Dick Cr Lakes Tr #656.1A,  
Timber Cr/Deer Cr Tr #656,

West Black Water/Natural Tr #775, Clock Tower Tr #784, Kitty Cr Tr #756,  
Crow Cr Tr #751.2A, Mormon Cr Tr #754, Big Cr Tr #765.5,

Deep Cr Tr #613.1D, Bear Tooth Loop/Stockade Tr #613.1A, BT Loop Little Rock Tr #613.1B,  
BT Loop Hauser Tr #629, Tolman Mountain Tr #613.1C, and High Line Tr #613.

This gives us a total of 34.9 miles of Wilderness Trails, 70.9 miles of Non-Wilderness Trails for a total of 105.8 miles of trails.

There is a lot of beautiful country to be seen and enjoyed in all of this. Doesn't this sound like a lot of fun? Wouldn't you like to take part in this?

Howard Sanders  
Service



Jack Creek Corrals



Kirwin Feed Bunk



Clark's Fork Trailhead

**Trailhead project locations for 2023. Come help with these repairs and enjoy these beautiful places!**

#### **WHY VOLUNTEER HOURS ARE IMPORTANT**

- ◆ **Volunteering helps keep trails open** for all. It shows us as good neighbors with the community and other user groups.
- ◆ **Volunteering helps overcome negative opinions** about sharing trails and enhances our image as equine users on trails.
- ◆ **Volunteering promotes education** for ethical backcountry use, horsemanship, etiquette, trail safety and training for saw use and First Aid.
- ◆ **Volunteering is our clout.** Volunteering gives credibility to BCH during discussions with land managers and legislators. They recognize that our volunteer hours are an asset, and that volunteers perform work that may not otherwise get done because money is not available due to budget cuts.
- ◆ **Volunteering shows** that as a user group, **we take responsibility** for keeping our public land in good condition for future generations.
- ◆ **Volunteering gives a sense of pride, promotes teamwork and brings a positive attitude** to our chapters. Volunteering is the core of our organization.
- ◆ **Volunteering provides opportunities for community outreach.**



## ***A Song for Jake*** By Marty Morris

Dave Stamey is a contemporary song writer and entertainer who sings and writes western ballads. He worked as a packer and cowboy when he was younger, so his music is genuine. He wrote a song a few years ago about a friend of his who had passed away at 86 years old after a long life of being an authentic cowboy. He titled it "A Song for Jake," the cowboy's name was Jake Copas. He was raised in Oklahoma during The Depression, which was a tough place to grow up during the 20's and early 30's. At a young age he started working as a cowboy and during World War II served in the army packing mules in Southeast Asia. Packing there and then was a dangerous occupation.

If you have heard of the singer Cowboy Copas, that was a cousin of Jake's. Cowboy Copas was killed along with Patsy Cline in an airplane accident in 1963. The Copas family all sang and played musical instruments to entertain themselves during The Depression. Jake had the talent and wit to have been an entertainer if he had so desired.

Dave Stamey gives us all some good advice about horses and life itself in "A Song for Jake." He sings, "Dreams are like horses, they run wild on the earth, catch one and ride it for all that it's worth." And whether it's your horse or goals for your life, "Throw a leg over and ride it for all that you're worth." I met Dave and we had a short visit once while he was in Cody. He is a very nice and a genuine person who has a good way with words.

Jake Copas and I became friends in 1970, about the time he turned 50. He was a lean, good-natured cowboy who treated everyone he met with respect. We did some things together for a few years. At that time, he was shoeing some horses, order-buying cattle at the sale barn, and running stocker cattle on leased grass ranches with his partner G.B. Barry. Their cattle company was called the Double Cross, which was the brand they used. Barry spent a good deal of his time in old Mexico buying thousands of cattle and crossing them at the border, so Jake handled most of the daily running of the partnership.

We traded labor in those days. Most of us that ran cattle ranches would help each other when extra help was needed. A day helping Jake would go something like this; you would get up at 3 am to catch and saddle your horse, load up and meet at Mary's café in town for breakfast at 4. At breakfast I was usually the youngest, so I took a lot of good-natured flak from the older guys. They were mostly veterans of WWII or older, good people of the greatest generation. I never liked coffee and they drank it by the gallon, so I got ribbed about not being weaned. After an entertaining breakfast on Jake, those of us helping him that day would haul our horses to a leased ranch somewhere in the hills. We would get there about daylight to gather cattle for whatever was to be done to them that day. You and your horse needed to be handy with a rope to be much help. Some of the leased ranches didn't have many improvements for working cattle.

Jake always kept a positive outlook on things. He had some personal problems like most everyone, but they weren't things that he had brought on himself, and he didn't let them affect his outlook on life. I saw him crossing the street in town one summer day and asked how he was doing. His reply was that he was "fair and warmer." He usually had something like that to say. He called the horse he rode Old Dobbin. As he rode along, he would spin his rope alongside Dobbin and eventually would rope him around his neck, take it off and do it again to entertain himself. When Jake was horseback, he had a way of making everything he did look smooth and easy. He and his horse were partners and I hope that they still are.

Dave sure captured the Jake that I knew in his song, and it has a lot of serious content as well. It reflects a good philosophy that relates both to life and horses. Perhaps the easiest way for you to listen to it is on YouTube. Look up Dave Stamey "[A Song for Jake](#)" and listen carefully to the words. There is much more to it than music.



"Respect is returned in the proportion it's given." ~ Unknown

## Education by Cindy Geissler



The **Annual SBCH Youth Horsemanship & Packing Clinics** are scheduled for **Saturday, April 1st** at the Silver Spur Arena on the Badger Basin Road. If you would like to help with lunch, let Kandy know.



The **SBCH Members' Desensitizing Clinics** will be held **April 15-16** and **April 29-30** (Saturdays & Sundays) at **Ron Ostrom's arena**. Call Marty @ 307-899-7510 for reservations; attendance will be limited to 10 riders per clinic, so call soon.



Due to rising costs, Ron will be charging \$25 to each participant for a 2 day clinic. Please make your payments to Ron.

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## BCHA Education Resources List

Have you ever wondered where you can find more information about BCHA, our values, mission, leadership and officer training, volunteer hours reporting, recruitment & retention ideas, government agency partnership, first aid, trail etiquette, LNT and other educational resources?

BCHA has a wealth of educational information in their [BCH Education Curriculum Matrix](#). After opening the link, viewers can scroll to a huge variety of topics linked to documents and videos. Check it out!

## No Slip Tips

If cabin fever and recent warmer temperatures are tempting you to go for a ride, make sure your horse's feet are clean before loading him into the trailer. Snow, ice or mud may be packed in his hooves, especially if he's shod, and can cause him to slip and slide on the trailer floor. Take a little time before loading to inspect and clean your horse's hooves. It's a good idea any time of year, because even in warmer months, mud, debris and rocks may be lodged in your horse's feet, creating uncomfortable and unsafe footing.

Don't forget to check the trailer floor as well. Frozen urine, manure, snow, ice and wet mats create slippery footing, so keep the floor clean and consider using sand or shavings for better traction.

Don't forget to clean your own feet and floor mats before getting behind the steering wheel. Snowy, icy, muddy or wet feet can easily slide off the brake or clutch pedals, creating a situation best avoided.



*"Nothing worth having was ever achieved without effort."*

- Theodore Roosevelt

## Coming Events

**February 16 SBCH Meeting @ the new Cody Game & Fish Building**, less than 1 mile north of Cody off Hwy 120 at 2 Tilden Trail, Cody. **Potluck @ 6, meeting to follow.**

**April 1 Youth Horsemanship Clinic & Packing Clinic**, 9 am-3 pm, **Silver Spur Arena**, 721 Rd 18 (Hwy 294), Powell, WY. Contact Marty Morris (307-899-7510) to help or attend.

**April 15-16 SBCH Members Desensitization Clinic**, Ron Ostrom Arena, 9:00 am-3 or 4 pm. Clinics are limited to 10 riders and openings fill quickly, so **sign up soon** with Marty Morris at 307-899-7510; **event fee is \$25/person, payable to Ron Ostrom.**

**April 29-30 SBCH Members Desensitization Clinic**, Ron Ostrom Arena, 9:00 am-3 or 4 pm. Clinics are limited to 10 riders and openings fill quickly, so **sign up soon** with Marty Morris at 307-899-7510; **event fee is \$25/person, payable to Ron Ostrom.**

*“Where your pleasure is, there is your treasure; where your treasure is, there is your heart; where your heart is, there is your happiness.”*

*~Augustine*

*2023 Membership Dues are due!*

*Renew your membership at the February Meeting 2/16/23 at the new Game & Fish Building, Cody!*

*Don't forget to update your phone # or address if they've changed.*

## Shoshone Back Country Horsemen Membership

Membership is \$40 per year

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to receive the newsletter? by mail \_\_\_\_\_ -or- by e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed form with your check to: SBCH, P.O. Box 465, Powell WY 82435

When your dues are paid, it is noted on your newsletter mailing label after your name (PD 2023). If you receive the newsletter via email, you can write to: [shoshonebch@gmail.com](mailto:shoshonebch@gmail.com) to check if your membership is current.



PO Box 465  
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[shoshonebch@gmail.com](mailto:shoshonebch@gmail.com)

*"Life is a gift from God - and our best days are spent discovering the wonders it holds."*  
~ Unknown



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**February 16, 2023**  
at the new  
**Wyoming Game & Fish Bldg, less than 1**  
**mile north of Cody off Hwy 120 at**  
**2 Tilden Trail, Cody**  
**Potluck Dinner at 6:00 with the**  
**Meeting to follow.**