

The Shoshone Rider

April 2024

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen

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WY-BCHA Delegates

Kandy Christian

Barry Reiswig

Alternates

Jesse Alcala



From the President, Mike Blymyer...

Nice shot of needed moisture on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Hope everyone that is fortunate enough to have and take care of a horse pasture was able to get fertilizer spread in time to take advantage of it. I know that getting my fertilizer spread, dragging my pasture and re-corrugating has kept me a bit busier than I (and the dogs) like.

As you may have heard by now, the Forest Service took a big hit in their budget for the rest of the Fiscal Year. According to the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: *“Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management, and Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness initiatives of the USFS received cuts of up to 20%. The Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness initiative provides funds for improving access to and recreation on USFS land, including planning resources, trail management, and the off-highway vehicle program.”*

We were able to set up a meeting with Forest Supervisor, Ken Coffin and Mike LaFrentz (Forest Staff Officer) to get input on what that may mean regarding trails work and staffing on the Forest this year. Unless something unexpected happens, our Watch Dog and Service Committee Chairs should be able to update the membership on this during our April meeting.

I'd like to thank Kristin Alcala and Carolyn Danko for volunteering to perform the audit of the Chapter books.

Kudos are also in the offering for all the time Board members and Officers have spent on providing input on our new Procedures and Methods write-up. I look forward to bringing the membership up to date with our progress and our plans for disseminating this information to the membership at our April meeting.

Mike Blymyer
President, SBCH



Secretary's report by Randi Slaughter

Minutes of Meeting 03/21/2024

Meeting began: 6:32pm

Cindy Geisler requested that a motion be made to cast a unanimous ballot to elect the candidates recommended by the Nominations Committee at our February meeting. Howard Sanders moved, Kristin Alcalá seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.

Mike Blymyer then took over the meeting as the now elected President.

Secretary's Report: Kathi Gimmeson moved to accept the minutes as published in the March, 2024, newsletter. Kristin seconded. MSP

Treasurer's Report: Howard moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as published in the March, 2024, newsletter. Connie Jack seconded. MSP

Kathi presented the following bills to be paid: Newsletter printing \$7.92, Newsletter postage \$68.00, Brochure printing \$58.24, Water for Potluck \$3.99, Candy for Sunlight Sports Community Night \$8.75, totaling \$146.90. Carol Olsen moved to pay the bills, Joe Childers seconded. MSP

Committee Reports

Watchdog: Mike noted that Linda Putney had been appointed the Chairman of the Watchdog committee, then turned the report over to her.

She first provided the good news that the Fiscal Year 2024 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act provides \$41.2 billion in total funding, which includes \$6.07 billion for the Forest Service, excluding additional funding for the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve. This includes an amount for current staffing levels, and fulfills the annual commitment for projects to improve forest landscapes, as well as the Legacy Roads and Trails program to prioritize fish passage improvements and repurposing unnecessary roads as trails.

Additionally, the Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Trust Fund Administration (HB 67) now has a governance structure to allocate grants from the \$6 million held. The Park County Outdoor Recreation Collaboration, of which SBCH is a member, will be applying for these funds. Projects include a new boat launch ramp in Powell, improvement and expansion of the Outlaw trails, and other suggested projects.

Activities: Von Ringler turned this over to Cathy Ringler, but there was nothing to report.

Education: Cathy noted that the Youth and Packing clinic is getting a good response. There are 12 kids signed up, about equally split on the age groups, and 10 packers. They plan to work on skills in the morning, and have games on horseback in the afternoon. Jesse and Kristin are doing hotdogs, hamburgers and chips.

Service: Howard talked about First Aid training, which should be repeated every 2 years. Everyone cleaning trails and basically involved in all activities needs training. The class offered by the Forest Service will be held May 1 at 9:00am, in the Firefighters warehouse across from the airport. The Forest Service does not issue cards. The class should be done by noon. Those that need initial saw training can stay for that in the afternoon.

If you are not running a hand saw over anything bigger than five inches, there is no need for certification. Also there is "sawyer in training" for those too young for certification. Recertification will be offered sometime after the 15th of April. There are several members in need of recertification. Howard let everyone know who still has valid certification and who needs recertification. You need to fill out a form for the Forest Service to put in the Forest Service database.

Prior to doing work in the woods, everyone cleaning trails needs to review the risk assessment and put your name on it to be turned into the Forest Service. The reason for doing this is if we are following all the rules and you get injured, but your insurance does not cover it, then the government will pick it up under the equivalent of Workman's Comp.

Frank Fagan will take the lead on trails on Sunlight. Big Creek leaders are Hannah Weed and Steve Brock.

Publicity: Kathi had no updates but asked for any pictures and articles for the next newsletter. She mentioned that the new brochures say who we are, what we do, and include information on Leave No Trace and Trail Etiquette.

Social Media: Randi Slaughter reminded everyone to send her photos. She also noted to all that Facebook posts for our chapter only should go into the private group. Announcements and interesting material for the public should go on the home page and Instagram.

Recruitment: Connie is reaching out to folks further east of Cody and Powell, and asked to let her know any names you might have. She has been texting people that haven't shown up.

Secretary's report cont.

Barry Reiswig participated in the State Public Lands Backcountry Horsemen conference that included chapter representatives from North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming. He reported that the Forest Service funding for trails remains the same, which at least is better than having it cut. There is an effort to restart work on the Continental Divide Scenic Trail, trying to reorganize and get the trail finished. The stretch in Montana needs the most work. The Forest Service has 700 positions in trails, with 400 of them vacant. 49% of all maintenance on trails is done by volunteers. There is a bill in Congress for a wide range of recreation funding. They are also trying to get rid of wilderness study areas in Johnson, Washakie, Hot Springs and Natrona counties. The badlands near Gillette did get protected.

He pointed out that when you are working for the Federal government, budgets have to be in place before posting and advertising positions.

We belatedly welcomed new member Brad Meredith.

Old Business: Audits of the books. Asked for another volunteer for the audit and Carolyn Danko stepped up.

Policies and Procedures Manual: Mike noted that first we have to systematically address this. Currently the Board is moving in the direction to focus on adding to position descriptions as they exist in the current By-Laws. They are not looking to renew or modify the By-Laws. Modifications will be done informally through procedure manuals. The Board is looking through the By-Laws to see what needs to be expanded. It will all be presented to the members. There was a suggestion to put it on the web page. We may need to have a couple of printed copies for the members that cannot get on the internet.

Dano Fund Raiser: The donation to Dano is \$2500. Dano has requested that the drawing and check presentation be at Sunlight Sports' Community Night on April 11. Thanks was given to Frank for his work both on the table and selling the raffle tickets. Kathi mentioned that SBCH will have a table there that night.

New Business: Linda requested a new computer for the treasurer. The computer that has been passed down was donated to the club in 2005 or 2006, but she had been using her own laptop. The old one will not run some of the programs needed. The request is that we buy a new one with updated technology and security. Linda checked Costco and Coulter Bay for prices, but noted that she prefers Costco for their concierge program which provides 24/7 help. Eugene Brumbaugh moved to budget \$1000 to acquire a computer for the Treasurer, Howard seconded. Motion passed on voice vote.

Appointments of Committee Chairmen: Mike made the following appointments

Watchdog: Linda Putney	Activities: Wanda Shorb	Service: Howard Sanders
Education: Cathy Ringler	Publicity: Kathi Gimmeson	Social Media: Randi Slaughter
Recruitment: Connie Jack	WY-BCHA Delegates: Kandy Christian and Barry Reiswig	
	Alternate: Jesse Alcalá	

Howard spoke on progress on the Bill Brazelton Memorial. The plaque will be in the \$300 - \$400 range. He has a picture of Bill on a white horse, another photo of Bill and a picture of Bill's pack saddle with his Bible that were displayed at his service. Mary would like to designate a spot for the plaque. Howard will get the photos to the plaque makers and get an estimate. There has been \$322 donated so far to put towards this.

Connie noted that Frannie Tack is getting ready to close, possibly in May. The shop is closing, and there are discounts on everything right now. He is not taking any more repairs after either this week or next week. Jim asked to know when the shop closes so the ad can be removed from the website. He is not selling the shop, just closing it. He has other projects he is working on.

Howard moved to adjourn, Jesse second MSP. Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

MSP = Motion Seconded & Passed

Education by Cathy Ringler...



Gear up for Spring!

The second **SBCH Members' Desensitizing Clinic** will be held at Ron Ostrom's arena (258 Lane 10, Powell), **April 13-14** (Sat- Sun).

If you want to attend, but didn't get signed up, check with Marty Morris (307-899-7510) to see if there are openings due to some cancellations. A fee of \$25 per participant for a 2 day clinic helps defray heating costs. Please make your payments to Ron.

"A person who feels appreciated will always do more than what is expected." ~ Author Unknown

**Treasurer's Report
by Cindy Geissler**

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen
Reconciliation Detail
for Period 03/01/2024 – 03/31//2024
--- For April 2024 Newsletter ---

Type	Cleared #	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
<u>First Bank of Wyoming accounts</u>					
CHECKING ACCOUNT Beginning Reconciled Bank Balance 02/29/2024					\$ 19,295.22
<i>Cleared Transactions</i>					
Check	03/21/24	1780 K.Gimmeson	Newslt, meeting water, brochure printing	-146.90	
Check	03/29/24	1781 L.Putney	New computer	-1004.15	
TOTAL Cleared Checks and Payments				-1,151.05	
Deposit	03/15/24		2-Dues,	80.00	
Deposit	03/26/24		DANO raffle	2500.00	
Deposit	03/26/24		8-Dues , other donation	330.00	
TOTAL Cleared Deposits and Credits				2,910.00	
CHECKING ACCOUNT Ending Reconciled Bank Balance 03/31/2024					<u>21,054.17</u>
<i>Uncleared Transactions</i>					
None.				0.00	
Net Uncleared Transactions				0.00	
CHECKING ACCOUNT Ending Checkbook Balance 03/31/2024					<u>\$21,054.17</u>
*Of this balance, \$6,893.44 reserved for Youth: Donations in memory of: Jim Hillberry \$1,322; Dale Olson \$340; Charles Sheets \$380; B. Brazelton \$322					
MONEY MARKET (Commissioner's Tag) Beginning Bank Balance 02/29/2024					\$23,521.34
<i>Cleared Transactions</i>					
Check	None.			0.00	
TOTAL Cleared Checks and Payments				0.00	
Interest	March interest income			2.99	
TOTAL Cleared Deposits and Credits				2.99	
MONEY MARKET (Commissioner's Tag) Ending Bank Balance 03/31/2024					<u>\$23,524.33</u>
<i>Uncleared Transactions</i>					
None.				0.00	
Net Uncleared Transactions				0.00	
MONEY MARKET (Commissioner's Tag) Ending Checkbook Balance 03/31/2024					<u>\$23,524.33</u>
12-MONTH CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT Beginning Balance 02/29/2024					\$15,763.26
12-MONTH CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT Ending Balance 03/31/2024					<u>\$15,763.26</u>

Service by Howard Sanders

SBCH APRIL 2024 SERVICE REPORT

There will be Sawyer Recertification notifications coming up, so watch for them. They will be for anyone certified in 2021. If you are unsure about your certification status, just call or text me at 307-202-1564.

Once again, Initial Sawyer Certification will be May 1, following the First Aid/CPR class. If you have any questions, just call or text me. Take advantage of nice weather and get your stock in shape.

Howard Sanders
Service



"Don't put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket." ~ Unknown

March 23rd
Desensitizing
Clinic



This is an email Linda Putney received from Wes Allen at Sunlight Sports Friday, March 29, 2024

Subject: New program for the community to donate to your organization

To: Melissa Allen <melissa@sunlightsports.com>; Buffalo Bill Cody Races <janie@runcodywy.com>; Meredith Zajac <meredithzajac@gmail.com>

Hello everyone!

I'm sending this out to you as one of our 2024 non-profit partners.

First of all, thank you for the work you do with your organization. All five of your groups—Shoshone Backcountry Horse Men, Dano Youth Camps, Park County Youth Cycling, Cody Archery, and Park County Nordic Ski Association—make our community a better place. We particularly value your youth programs.

We know how much work you put in on this, and we want to show our appreciation.

So, on to our news. Today, we launched Sunlight Basecamp. It's a customer program focused on providing more value to our community and giving customers a way to contribute to your group. I have attached a small marketing piece for it.

Simply put, when someone buys something at Sunlight, they get a credit for 10% of their purchase on their account. They can use that credit during their next purchase, or they can donate it to your group.

So far, about 80% of our customers have chosen to donate.

I wanted to let you know that we have a new way to support you. Secondly, for you, your friends, and your neighbors, if you shop here, you can directly fund your mission.

Of course, we will be in contact with you to talk about how to use those credits best.

We're excited to see you at Community Night on April 11th! It's going to be a great opportunity for you to explain exactly what you do to our community and why they should support you.

Thanks again for everything.

Wes Allen
Sunlight Sports | 1131 Sheridan Ave | Cody, WY | 82414
www.sunlightsports.com | 307.587.9517

NEW CUSTOMER PROGRAM



BASECAMP BENEFITS

- Gift** Get 10% to donate at nonprofit or use on subsequent purchases
- Guide** Get exclusive access to our Trail Guides program
- Gear** Get early alerts on new cool gear

Want to sign up?
It's easy to join! Just purchase an item here at Sunlight Sports and be sure to share your email address.



Thank you for helping us Remember Bill Brazelton!

We are working on memorial plans with Mary B. and some photos of Bill that we received. We will keep you updated on our progress.

SBCH will honor Bill with a memorial at Battle Park as a remembrance of his life and many years of service.

Thank you for your suggestions, photos & donations for the memorial!

"Wilderness areas are first of all a series of sanctuaries for the primitive arts of wilderness travel, especially canoeing and packing. I suppose some will wish to debate whether it is important to keep these primitive arts alive. I shall not debate it. Either you know it in your bones, or you are very, very old."

~Aldo Leopold

Coming Events

- April 11 - SBCH will have reps at Sunlight Sports' Community night from 5-7 pm in Cody, WY
Come for the Dano raffle drawing and to mingle, represent, recruit new members.
- April 13-14 - SBCH Members' Desensitizing Clinic, Ron Ostrom Arena, 258 Lane 10, Powell.
- April 27 - Homestead Seminar at PC Fairgrounds
- May 1 - 1st Aid/CPR @ 9:00 am, @ Shoshone Fire Warehouse, 2501 Wright Brothers Drive,
Cody, WY (required of all SBCH sawyers or service volunteers in SNF)
- May 1 - Initial Saw Certification, following 1st Aid/CPR and lunch break 2501 Wright Brothers
Drive, Cody, WY (Questions and sign-up, email Howard Sanders at sandershoan67@gmail.com
or text: 307-202-1564
- May 8 - 1st Aid/CPR @ 9:00 am, @ Shoshone Fire Warehouse, 2501 Wright Brothers Drive,
Cody, Wyoming

FRANNIE TACK SHOP

"Best Little Horse House in the West"

~ New Hours: Thurs-Sat: 8 am-6 pm ~

We offer high quality, affordable Saddlery & Tack products & services,
your source for superior quality at competitive prices.

You are sure to find exactly what you are looking for and much more!

If you have questions about our Saddlery & Tack products or services or have a
customer service request, please contact us today.

Come visit us at: Frannie Tack Shop

58 Lane 2 1/2, Frannie, WY 82423 307-664-2344

\$ ~ Dues & Don'ts ~ \$

If you haven't already done so, please **Do pay your 2024 Dues** and **Don't let your membership lapse!**
A friendly reminder from your Treasurer

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 2024). *If you receive the newsletter via email, you can write to:*
shoshonebch@gmail.com *to check if your membership is current.*



PO Box 465
Powell, WY 82435
shoshonebch@gmail.com

"Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul." ~ Henry Ward Beecher



NEXT MEETING:
April 18, 2024
at the Park Co. Weed & Pest Bldg,
Hwy 14A at 1067 Road 13, Powell, WY.
Potluck Dinner at 6:00 with the
Meeting to follow.