

The Shoshone Rider

March 2025

Shoshone Back Country Horsemen

Email

shoshonebch@gmail.com

Web

<https://shoshonebch.org>

Officers

President:

Kathi Gimmeson

Vice President:

Kandy Christian

Secretary:

Lydia Yoder

Treasurer:

Cindy Geissler

Committees

Watch Dog:

Linda Putney

Activities:

Wanda Shorb

Service:

Howard Sanders

Education:

Cathy Ringle

Publicity/Newsletter/Web:

Kathi Gimmeson

shoshonebch@gmail.com

Social Media/Photo Gallery:

Randi Slaughter

Recruitment & Retention:

Connie Jack

WY-BCHA Delegates

Kandy Christian

Barry Reiswig

Alternates

Jesse Alcalá

Past President:

Mike Blymyer



From the President, Kathi Gimmeson...

As your new President, I would like to thank our SBCH members for the support and trust you've shown by honoring me with this position. It will be a challenge to measure up to the leadership and wisdom Mike provided as President! Thank you, Mike, for your service, and I sincerely wish you a speedy recovery to good health!

I would also like to thank everyone who served as officers and committee chairs this past year; you've all done a commendable job.

Looking forward, it will be a pleasure to serve with all who have stepped forward to accept these positions for 2025.

SBCH is fortunate to have so many members willing to give of their time and talents. The dedication, selflessness and teamwork of our member volunteers have enabled us to carry out our mission over the years, and will no doubt carry us into the future.

The recent warmer weather sure feels like spring is in the air. The cranes are back and the birds are singing! It's a good time to start preparing for the riding season.

Our next meeting will be March 20 at the PC Weed & Pest Bldg., with a potluck at 6:00. I hope to see you all there!

Kathi Gimmeson,
President, SBCH



Secretary's report by Lydia Yoder...

Minutes of 2/20/2025 SBCH Monthly Meeting by Lydia Yoder, Secretary

Following a potluck dinner, the February 20, 2025 SBCH monthly meeting was called to order by Vice President Jesse Alcala at 6:34 pm at the Park Co. Weed & Pest Bldg.

New Members & Visitors: Welcomed Laura Matthews as visitor.

Secretary's Report: Howard Sanders motioned to accept the minutes from last month as written in the newsletter. Connie Jack seconded. MSP

Treasurer's report: Kristin Alcala motioned to accept the report as written in the newsletter. Kathi Gimmeson seconded, MSP. Bill from Kathi Gimmeson for newsletter publishing \$107.84. Joe Childers motioned to pay the bill. Howard Sanders seconded. MSP

Committee Reports:

Watch Dog: N/A

Activities: N/A

Service: Howard reported A'naka applied for a Trails Capacity Grant to be used to build corrals on the Beartooth Mountains. Wes Allen of Sunlight Sports, and J.R (rec support from Forest Service), each wrote a letter of support. March 15th is when we will know if we got the grant, but the project must be finished by the end of 2025. Howard wants to have the Northwest College welding department order the materials right away. He explained how he plans to build the corrals on top of the ground. Howard motioned to pay for the Little Bear Lake Corral project with the grant, or the Commissioner Tags funds. Bruce seconded. MSP

Education: N/A

Publicity:

Newsletter: N/A

Social Media: N/A

Recruitment & Retention: N/A

WY-BCHA Delegate: Barry reported the SJ2 resolution to give public lands, minerals, dams, and forest service to the Wyoming state was voted down. Stated the Park County Senators are for the resolution and urged members to email Senators with requests to oppose the resolution for future consideration.

Old Business:

Nominations for the election of officers are: President, Kathi Gimmeson; Vice President, Kandy Christian; Secretary, Lydia Yoder; Treasurer, Cindy Geissler.

No nominations from the floor. Howard Sanders motioned to cease nominations, Connie Jack seconded. Howard motioned to carry ballots as stated, Kristin seconded. MSP

New Business:

The Dennis Daily Award was handed out. The award winners were: Bruce Fauskee, Bob Bessler, and Bill Brazelton. Mary Brazelton will accept Bill's award in absentia.

Kandy moved to adjourn, Deanne Yoder seconded; meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM. MSP

MSP (*Motion Seconded & Passed*)

*“There is great power when like-minded people come together
to work toward the same goals.”*

~ Anonymous

Service by Howard Sanders

SBCH MARCH 2025 SERVICE REPORT

For those of you that need chainsaw and/or crosscut saw Recertification, watch for emails with potential dates from Walter and Gregg, around the end of April.

There will be a limited attendance New Certification class for chainsaw and/or crosscut saw led by Shoshone Forest personnel. If you need this or have questions about it, just text or call me at 307-202-1564. When I know of potential dates, I will share them with you.

The materials for the Little Bear Lake corrals will be picked up next week (March 10-14)), during spring break, so NWC Rod Burners can get started building the panels and gates the following week.

Respectfully,
Howard Sanders, Service

Education by Cathy Ringler & Marty Morris...

SBCH Desensitizing/Spring Tune Up Clinics March 29-20 and April 26-27

Ron Ostrom Arena, 258 Lane 10, east of Powell

SBCH, in conjunction with Ron Ostrom, will offer two clinics for members at Ron's arena.

There will be a \$25 charge per person to help defray the cost of heating the arena. Make checks payable to Ron Ostrom and give them to Marty.

For more information and to sign up, call **Marty Morris** at (307) 899-7510.

Space is limited so call soon to reserve your spot!



Something to consider as you do a Spring Tune-up with your horse:
Many trainers bend their horses to ride them straight.



**“TO BE A HORSEMAN, YOU NEED PATIENCE,
A SENSE OF HUMOR AND CONFIDENCE.”** ~ Unknown



SBCH Membership Dues were due in February!

Thank You to all who have paid your dues!



If you haven't already done so,
please **Do pay your 2025 Dues** and **Don't let your membership lapse!**

A friendly reminder from your Treasurer

MISSION & PURPOSE OF SHOSHONE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

- TO PERPETUATE the common sense use and enjoyment of recreational stock use in our nation's backcountry, roadless areas, wilderness areas and other public lands.
- TO WORK to insure that the public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- TO ASSIST various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- TO EDUCATE, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise use of the back country resource by recreational stock users and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
- TO FOSTER and encourage the formation of new state Back Country Horsemen organizations.

Here are some ways our Mission Statement is accomplished. Every SBCH member is important & has knowledge & ability to share. Make a rewarding difference and have fun doing it! Contact officers & committee chairs to become involved in activities and behind the scenes work.



Jimmy by Marty Morris

This past spring our mare had a real nice stud colt. He was large at birth and continues to grow. As soon as he was born, we dipped iodine on his navel cord, gave him an enema and imprinted him with Dr. Robert Miller's method before he stood up and nursed. He has an excellent disposition and is a very willing learner. Like many new foals, his color was a going to be a question. He was dark, maybe he would be a dark bay like the mare, with no white markings except a very small star on his forehead. We named him Spot. He has excellent conformation with a natural headset for the classy look of bridle horse. He eventually turned black, which later on will help show off the silver on his headstall and bit. When it was time to geld him, I was reminded of a mustang colt that we had years ago. His name was Jimmy.

We got Jimmy right off the mare. He was a mustang stud colt. It was hard to tell what color he would be but my guess at the time was that he would shed off gray. I was wrong, he turned out to be black. He hadn't been handled but was no different than any other young colt. He seemed to have a good disposition and showed plenty of curiosity during his first lessons. He didn't have the conformation of a well-bred horse, but was about average for a range bred mustang at the time. I thought he would make a decent, usable horse.

In the large gatherings of mustangs during the 1980's, the BLM selected which horses to cull and remove from the breeding population and which horses to remain in the herds; that process ended the natural breeding selection which had gone on for centuries. This continues today. They selected the breeding mustangs for color, conformation and some disposition. The crazy ones were removed if they could be spotted, some of those self-destructed during the gathering process. At present, the average mustang has better conformation and are generally better horses than those that were prior to the government breeding program.

Before long, it was time for Jimmy to be gelded. There was no vet close to where we lived, and it cost about \$50 for the procedure. Rather than spend a day hauling him to a vet, plus spending \$50, I thought that I would cut him myself. I shouldn't need any help, and I had everything needed for the task and would save \$50.

The cleanest place for the procedure was the lawn in our back yard. I made sure my knife had a real good edge, led Jimmy out onto the lawn, threw him and tied him down. Then I disinfected the area and began the procedure. As I started to cut the bag, he squirmed and bumped the hand I was holding the bag into the knife I was using to cut. The blade was very sharp and cut a gash in my hand. That was when Jimmy the mustang and I became blood brothers.

The rest of the process went as planned. Jimmy had no problems healing and became a gentle horse. I used him mostly for driving, but he would ride and pack as well.

After I finished the gelding process, I went to town and got my hand stitched up which cost more than a \$50 vet bill.

When it came time to geld our colt this year, Spot, I took him to the vet. The bill was many times more than what it would have been for Jimmy years ago, but everything turned out fine for the colt and me.

Ways to Stay Connected with your Horse in When You Can't Ride

Winter weather often keeps us from riding or spending time with our horses. Unfortunately, horses often deepen their bond with their herd mates during long layoffs instead of staying connected with us. This can present challenges when we're ready ride again.

A few minutes of consistent, planned handling as the weather warms will help get your horse tuned in to you and be more respectful and mindful of his manners.

- Catch and tie your horse, groom him, clean his feet and inspect his body condition. Let him stand tied for a while, with or without being saddled.
- Your horse watches your body language, so be mindful of the messages you send, particularly if he becomes pushy or disrespectful. This is especially important at feeding time. Establish your boundaries with ground work. Teach him to lead correctly, stop, stand and back up when asked.
- Practice lowering his head and do yielding exercises by moving his feet forward, backward, left, and right. Teach him to turn on the haunches, and on the forehand. Teach him verbal commands.
- Longe your horse with the purpose of gaining his focus and controlling his feet; work on direction, speed and transitions.

The time spent on the ground with your horse will pay off when you're ready to ride!

Coming Events

March 20 - SBCH Monthly Meeting at the Park Co. Weed & Pest Bldg, off Hwy 14A at 1067 Road 13, Powell, WY. Potluck Dinner at 6:00 with the Meeting to follow.

March 29-30 - SBCH Member Desensitization/Spring Tune-up Clinic, Ron Ostrom arena, 258 Lane 10, Powell. \$25 per person per clinic. Space is limited, register ASAP! Call Marty Morris at (307) 899-7510 for more information and to sign up.

April 17 - SBCH Monthly Meeting at the Park Co. Weed & Pest Bldg, off Hwy 14A at 1067 Road 13, Powell, WY. Potluck Dinner at 6:00 with the Meeting to follow.

April 26-27 - SBCH Member Desensitization/Spring Tune-up Clinic, Ron Ostrom arena, 258 Lane 10, Powell. \$25 per person per clinic. Space is limited, register ASAP! Call Marty Morris at (307) 899-7510 for more information and to sign up.

Last Weekend in June - WYBCH Rendezvous at Happy Jack in the Medicine Bow NF, sponsored by the Great Divide Chapter of WYBCH.

"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well."

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

Find your joy in being useful and make a difference in someone's life!

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 2025). *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

“And in the end, it’s not the years in your life that count,
it’s the life in your years.”

~ Abraham Lincoln



NEXT SBCH MEETING:

March 20, 2025

**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.**