

## Scatter Creek Riders

### 2024 Accomplishments

As usual, we had a very active year with chapter work parties, trail rides, camping, potlucks and various other activities.

- **Work Parties (WP)** – meeting our chapter’s contribution to the BCHW mission:
  - o **Tool Grant** – We applied for and received a BCHW tool grant for our work on trails.
  - o **JBLM trails** – Laura Dell worked individually and with other riders on impromptu WP’s in Areas 13 (mapping trails) and clearing trails on Areas 20, 22 and 23.
  - o **Scatter Creek WDFW Trailhead** – our chapter donated 5/8” minus gravel for the trailer parking area so that gravel would no longer be removed with horse manure with stable forks.
  - o **Scatter Creek trails** – Scatter Creek Riders members helped on Capitol Riders WP’s doing salal brushing and trail clearing, including opening up and reworking a trail off the 300 road which had become unusable.
  - o **Capitol Forest** –
    - Kim Habel organized three cleanup WP’s of the Margaret McKenny equine camping and trailhead areas with direction from DNR for manure disposal. \
    - Joan organized gravelling and drainage WP’s on the Equine Loop out of the Appaloosa Club, and the McKenny trail section leading up to the Campground trail intersection from the 9000 Road so that it can be used for equine winter riding.
    - Scatter Creek Riders and Capitol Riders members worked with FOCF on drainage on the Mima East, Campground and Happy Horse trails.
- **Chapter Representation** – at times it is desirable to participate in recreation development projects.
  - o Laura Dell represented our chapter in JBLM activities such as ISportsman, and attending the state DNR Outdoor Recreation Plan public meeting.
  - o Joan Fleming represented our chapter working with members of the Capitol Riders and Nisqually chapters in development of a Capitol Forest Equine Users Issues document. Out of this effort, DNR has approved the creation of a new trail from Mima TH which bypasses the very busy Mima East trail (this trail has been marked) , and given us the nod to create a MnM bypass trail to avoid the very fast and crowded bicycle traffic on the MnM trail (remember, the MnM trail was developed at the request of the equine users).

- o Our chapter was represented at the annual BCHW Legislative Day.
- o Several of our chapter members were taken on a tour of the new WDFW Scatter Creek Violet Prairie tract adjacent to the T90 Ranch which will be open to the public, including horseback riders, in the spring of 2025. Once WDFW has developed a trails plan, our chapter will participate in the development of that plan.
- o Several chapter members (Kim Habel, Laura Keepers and Donna Bacon) participated in the WDFW Hunting and Fishing Day in Castle Rock with a chapter table.
- o Several members attended the 2024 BCHW Rendezvous.
- **Fundraising** – selling wreaths is our annual fund raiser. We research sources of boughs, collect them from multiple locations, pre-sale them and assemble them for sale. This is a huge undertaking involving many chapter members over several weeks.
- **It's not all work** – we also keep ourselves busy with trail riding, camping with our horses, potlucks, and more.
  - o **Chapter trail rides** – off and on during the year, we have had chapter trail rides which usually have been marked ahead of time: Scatter Creek trails, JBLM Area 20, Equine Loop in Capitol Forest (Dick Bailey Memorial Ride).
  - o **Chapter Camping Trips** – preceded by a planning meeting that winter where the sites were chosen, we camped at Rock Creek, Teanaway, Mt. Adams, and Kalama.
  - o **Playday at Scatter Creek Stables** – despite the rain, we had a good turnout, perhaps due to the potluck afterwards.
  - o **Game Day** – we had a well-attended and fun Game Day and potluck at the Violet Prairie grange.
  - o **Reichel's 4th of July event** – this annual event at the Reichel's home is very popular and well attended. Games and a potluck are the highlights.
  - o **Food at chapter meetings** – our chapter chef, Dick Booth, made us Pizza in March, Bar-B-Cue in October and Pies in November. The rest of us brought sides, salads or desserts.