



DECEMBER 2018

BCH of MN Annual General Membership Meeting

Saturday, Jan 5, 2019

11:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Crow Wing State Park

Brainerd, MN

See page 4 for more details

Welcome
SEMN BCH-MN
Chapter!

Report all Trail Work Volunteer Hours

Please contact

Russ Wright

rlwright@frontiernet.net

See page 19 for more details

**Amazon
Shoppers**
Donate to Back Coun-
try Horsemen

NOTE FROM THE BCH-MN PRESIDENT

This year's Annual meeting marks the completion of Back Country Horseman of Minnesota (BCH-MN's) third year. This year's annual meeting is being held on **January 5, 2019 @ 11:00 AM, at Crow Wing State Park – Picnic Shelter, 3124 State Park Road, Brainerd, MN.** A noon lunch will be provided.

This past October, Russ Wright, a member of the original board of BCH-MN retired from the board for health reasons. Russ was one of the founding members supporting Horse Trails in what is now known as Zumbro Bottoms. Russ and his wife Darlene started spending winters near Apache Jct., Arizona in 2000. They helped start the first BCH Chapter in Arizona in 2002. Russ served as a voting delegate from Arizona from 2013 to 2016. Russ helped form and served as Vice President of Back Country Horseman of Minnesota. Even though Russ gave up his officer position this past October, they both remain active in BCH-MN. **Russ said his goal is to see that public trails are kept open and maintained for everyone to use.** THANK YOU, Russ and Darlene

This past April Diane Freese, and myself attended, the BCHA annual meeting as voting delegates. The Back Country Horseman of America (BCHA's) annual meeting was held in Spokane, WA. Steve Freese and Patsy Breitreutz also were in attendance at the Annual meeting. A few of the other States also had additional State Board members and/or general members in attendance at the annual meeting. The annual meeting is open to anyone who is interested to attend. Anyone interested in additional information about the annual meeting in April, in Asheville, North Carolina, can contact any of the board members. Access to trails is being attacked from many special interest groups, making it increasingly more important to work with other groups who have the same interest as BCH-

MN and BCHA to show support for keeping trails open and maintained for public use.

Diane Freese was appointed to fill the vacancy of the Vice President's term to year end and took over the duty of consolidating work hours which are reported to BCHA at year end. All officers' terms end with the election of officers at the January annual meeting which are one-year terms. We also elect one voting delegate to serve a two-year term to the BCHA board. Each Chapter elects one board member and an alternate to serve on the BCH-MN board to represent that chapter. Attending the National Board Meeting is an excellent opportunity to meet with BCHA members from all over the country to find out what issues they are facing and how they are dealing with them.

We are pleased to announce that several people are working to form a new BCH Chapter in Southeastern Minnesota. Their goal is to complete their formation by January 1st of 2019.

The annual meeting for year 2017 was held January 6, 2018 at Mille Lacs Kathio State Park.

BCH-MN Board continues to hold Monthly conference call meetings.

We had a BCH-MN Booth at the Horse Expo in April 2018. This was the first year we had our own booth. We will have a booth again this April 2019 at the Minnesota Horse Expo. It is an excellent venue to promote BCH-MN. We will be looking for volunteers to help man the booth during Expo.

We continue to share many of the same goals with other State equine organizations and strive to support keeping



trails open and well maintained. This is done through Grant's to the DNR for Trail and Trail Head improvements, physical work days, Legislative efforts and Personal Donations.

BCH-MN sponsored a work day at Zumbro Bottoms on National Trails Day. BCH-MN also held a clean up work party at Stony Brook in the Fall. We also had a couple other work days planed which were canceled because of wet weather.

BCH-MN is working to establish additional Chapters and explore ways where it may be possible to work together with any organization whose goal is to help keep trails open and maintained.

A reminder, all work done on public trails should be documented and turned in to the Vice President, Diane Freese.

BCH-MN's goal is to continue to work closely with the DNR of MN to support trails anyway possible.

I believe it is important to restate some goals from last year.

Establish additional New Chapters across the State in the South Eastern and Northern parts of Minnesota.

Grow our membership with supporters and those who are willing and able to do Trail work.

Give some thought on having an All Membership Meeting and Ride this coming Summer in 2019.

Remember we will be holding an election of officers and a National Delegate at our Annual Meeting in January. The By-Laws state a nominating committee should be used to present a slate of officers at the Annual Meeting. It also states that nominations may be entered at the Annual Meeting. After several attempts to establish an official nominating committee, the board ended up serving that role. Each of the current officers, offered to serve in their current position. Additional nomination will be excepted at our annual meeting.

I hope you will attend your annual meeting on January 5, 2019.

Marvin Breitzkreutz, President



Trails worth having are worth working For



***BCH of MN Annual
General Membership Meeting***

Saturday, January 5, 2019 - 11:00 AM

Crow Wing State Park – picnic Shelter

3124 State Park Road – Brainerd, MN

Please join us for the BCH-MN annual membership meeting.

Lunch provided.

Agenda will include yearly summary, financial report, membership report, set yearly dues and election of officers.

11:00 Meeting

After the meeting, enjoy the sights and sounds of Crow Wing State Park. There is good winter hiking and snowshoeing (bring your own snowshoes)

RSVP to Barb Partington at bpartington2014@gmail.com

Directions: Park entrance is south of Brainerd/Baxter off of Hwy. 371 – Exit 60th Ave. /Cty. Hwy. 27 – follow signs to Park Entrance

Baxter/Brainerd area has numerous options for overnight accommodations.

Cuyuna County State Recreation Area in Crosby has overnight “Yurt” rentals available (https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/yurts.html). These have become very popular. This area is located approximately 30 miles northeast.

Officer Elections

Elections will be held at the annual meeting on January 5. The State Board is presenting the following nominations for 2019 officers:

- President - Marv Breitreutz
- Vice President - Diane Freese
- Secretary - Ken Olson
- Treasurer - Barb Partington and Steve Freese

Nominations will be accepted from the floor

Zumbro Bottoms BCH-MN Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 27 2019
Frontenac State Park

12:00 pm Shelter open and fire going

2:00 pm Potluck

3:00 pm Meeting

Bring your own eating utensils, plates and beverage

2018 BCH-MN STRUCTURE

BCH-MN was officially formed in February of 2016

BCH-MN elected slate of Officers and Directors

Marvin Breitreutz, President	320-212-9843	mphorses43@gmail.com
Diane Freese, Vice President	507-319-5808	freese.diane@outlook.com
Ken Olson, Secretary	507-356-8686	oakridgefarm244@gmail.com
Barb Partington, Treasurer	651-345-9909	bpartington2014@gmail.com
Mark Fiting, Zumbro Bottoms Chapter Director	507-273-5883	fittingsnuthouse@gmail.com
Eileen Menefee, NE MN Regional Representative	218-259-0414	eileenm56672@yahoo.com
Tami Wenthold, Huntersville Regional Representative	218-640-0676	wentnorth2001@yahoo.com

National Directors—Marv Breitreutz and Diane Freese

BCH-MN 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT

Start a New Chapter

If there is not a chapter in your area, it only takes a small group of motivated individuals to make a difference and to start a new chapter.

We are willing to come to your group and talk Back Country Horsemen of Minnesota.

BCH-MN has a 501(c)3 non-profit status.

This non-profit status will flow down to BCH chapters in Minnesota.

For more information, email us at bchminnesota@gmail.com or check out our web site at

<https://www.bchmn.org/start-a-chapter.html>



MN Horse Expo Booth 2018

This was the 1st year we had a booth at the Minnesota Horse Expo. We were located in the cattle barn at L833.

Part of the display was a custom made chainsaw scabbard attached to a saddle. Dan Stussy of Zumbrota, MN made the scabbard. BCHA pens and magnets were given away as promotional items.

A big thank-you to Midwest Sign Tech of Rochester, MN for creating our BCHA Minnesota banner. The banner was hung in front of the table.

The winners of the Free Drawing for 3 BCHA license plate holders

Doug Wright and Kari Zenz – Oak Grove, MN,

Ally Pink – Stewart, MN

Kelly Perschau - Glencoe, MN

The 12 booth workers had 92 volunteer hours with 1312 drive miles. Several members donated pens, magnets, table, table cloth, license plate holders and folding stools.

THANK-YOU!! We could not have done the booth without all our dedicated volunteers.

What has 3 years of BCH of MN meant to me?

By Ken Olson Pine Island

I have worked as a volunteer on horse trails and in horse campgrounds since Russ Wright invited me to a National Trails Day "work day" at Zumbro Bottoms many years ago. As I worked alongside Russ he was telling me about a group of snowbirds in Arizona that got together once a month (and sometimes more often) to work on trails when he and Darlene were in Apache Junction during the winter. That's when I first learned about Back Country Horsemen of America (BCHA).



For several years Russ always mentioned BCHA when we talked. The thing about it was that it was always when we were having fun working on trails as volunteers. I really enjoy the out-of-doors and the spectacular places my horse took me. It might seem strange to some that "working on trails" was fun to me but it was! As I rode down many trails in many places I always saw where "someone" had cleared a tree from across the trail or built a water bar to stop erosion. Often that "someone" was a volunteer.

Now I was one of those "someones" and Russ' BCH concept of *keeping trails open to horses and volunteering to maintain trails* was stuck in my head. In the fall of 2015 when 4 of us started talking about forming a BCH organization in MN I already knew several more people who were crazy enough to enjoy working on trails as volunteers and would probably join us. We were right - there are other riders who enjoy working on trails (and in horse campgrounds) as volunteers and since then we've had a lot of fun doing a lot of work.

After 3 years of BCH of MN I have a much larger circle of friends who all have a significant investment in the trails and campgrounds they have worked on - all while having fun doing it! We have put up new tie lines, rebuilt many existing tie lines, cleared many trees from trails, filled mud holes,



rerouted trails to safer ground and built manure bunkers. Some people would probably tell you I'm a little bit crazy to have fun doing all of this BUT I love doing it. You can see what you have accomplished. And you know what? All of it benefits all of the riders who use the camps and trails in MN!

So what have 3 years of BCH of MN meant to me? Friends, a sense of accomplishment and more FRIENDS! These are the right kind of friends - hard workers and great people!

BCHA NATIONAL BOARD MEETING 2018**Diane Freese BCH-MN National Director**

This year I attended the National Board Meeting in Spokane, Washington with Marv Breitzkreutz. We attended as National Directors representing Minnesota. My husband Steve and Marv's wife Patsy also attended. The agenda focused on how BCHA support of members can be improved. We were assigned to Regional Breakout State groups. Marv and I were in Region 1 which included Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin and New York. The focus of these groups was to meet with every committee chairman to talk about concerns related to our states and what we need from BCHA to sustain and expand our state organizations. Some ideas our group supported were a more user-friendly website, templated formats, starter packs for new state and local chapters, how to interact with land managers and how to interact with Congressional offices. The committees were then tasked with making action plans to address these areas over the remaining year.

I serve on the Volunteer Hours Committee. Our goals for the coming year are to simplify the reporting process, improve education for reporting, and research the validity of the values to report stock usage, equipment usage, and vehicle mileage.

Marv serves on the Public Lands Committee. This past year the National and State Public Land Committees combined into one committee. The new committee is headed by 4 co-chairs and includes an additional 20 plus National Delegates. This committee will take on an even more important roll because the Federal Government is in the process of adopting a new 10-year use plan for Public Lands. These new rules will apply to National Forest first but most certainly will move down to the State and Local over time.

I am including in this report the opening presentation on Day 1 by Randy Rasmussen, Director of Public Lands & Recreation. He spoke about the reputation of our organization. You will see we have an excellent relationship with many like-minded organizations. In fact, this year 2 states have approached BCHA to have chapters in their states because of our reputation for help with land management and legislative issues.

All in all, this year's National Board Meeting was very enlightening. We all had a part in setting the agenda for the coming year. We went home feeling more connected to the national organization. We caught up with old friends and made new ones. I encourage everyone to attend these meetings. Next year it will be in North Carolina and the following year it will be in Missouri.



Day 1 of BCHA 2018 National Board Meeting

The State of BCHA

Randy Rasmussen, Director, Public Lands & Recreation:

BCHA's Chairman, Freddy, asked me to define "good will." For a business, good will is an intangible asset arising from the reputation of an organization and its relations with its customers. In our case, our partners.

So what do our partners think of us? What are they saying? Here's a quick summary from some of our most significant partners, both from the agencies and other non-profit partners:

Jaime Schmidt, National Trails Program Manager, US Forest Service

Last week, in a conversation with Jaime about the \$2.5 million increase the agency received for its 2018 trails budget, she said:

- A "huge hats off to BCHA and its partners for pushing this with Congress!
- "Without the (2016) Trails Stewardship Act, trails would not be on the (agency's) radar."
- Many people say BCHA is so strategic and doing so much..."

Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS)

BCHA has played a key role the past several years in planning the key "asks" of Congress during the annual Hike the Hill event, including:

- Hosting a webinar and leading Hike the Hill briefings on the Trails Stewardship Act (2016) and providing a briefing on the strategy to oppose HR 1349, the Bikes in Wilderness bill (2018).
- Leading the push to increase trail funding for the US Forest Service.
- Note: Key members of PNTS think so highly of BCHA that we have BCH state officers on the board of directors for both the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA) and the Continental Divide Trail Coalition (CDTC).

National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance (NWSA)

Views BCHA as a key partner in the stewardship of our nation's Wilderness Areas. Consequently:

- Last year asked Randy to represent BCHA on NWSA's board of directors.

American Horse Council (AHC)

A long-standing critical partner located in Washington, DC. BCHA sits on and recently chaired its National Recreation Committee. AHC's new director of Government Affairs said last week, with respect to the Recreation Not Red-Tape Act currently in Congress:

- "Thanks (to BCHA) for all your help on this."

The Wilderness Society (TWS)

Another long-standing critical partner headquartered in Washington, DC. Their director of Legislative Affairs last week stated his desire to continue working with BCHA based on:

- Our "different, yet complimentary skills and connections that we bring to the table."

The Storer Foundation (a philanthropic organization)

Provided BCHA a \$20,000 grant last year upon recognizing that BCHA had been a repeat invited speaker to the annual SHIFT Summit held in Jackson, Wyoming, and having spoken on such important topics such as opposing Federal Land Transfer, and reasons for our opposition to the Bikes in Wilderness bill (HR 1349). The Storer Foundation intends to award another \$20,000 grant to BCHA in mid-2018.

In conclusion, the state of BCHA and its good will with partners is strong. We are highly regarded by our partners for being strategic and shaping and moving initiatives that have a positive impact on the trails and equine community.

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<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-1466089>



Northeastern BCHMN Report 2018

by Eileen Schwankl Menefee

Looking out forlornly at my horse trailer bundled up for the winter I am dreaming of riding the trails next spring here in the Chippewa National Forest and George Washington State Forest.

I was delighted to see an increase in campers enjoying Cut Foot Horse Camp. A big shout of thanks to Cortney Weber, Recreation Tech Facilitator who kept the trails maintained. He is the one to thank for the horseshoe tp holders in the outhouses. The new split rail fence was added to the group campfire allowing for more parking along the road. We now have a new sign and sand rolling pit for our horses thanks to Cortney!

Set your calendar for a fun work weekend **May 3- 5**, at Cut Foot Horse Camp. We will continue brushing the sites, spread sand under high lines where needed and clean up any trails with downed trees. Everyone is welcome; need not be a member of BCHMN.

Stoneybrooke Horse Camp had a work party collaborating with the MTRA in September that installed new fire rings, gravel under high lines and trail cleaning.

Campground Hosts are needed for all 3 Northern MN Horse Camps!

Goals for 2019 for BCHMN NE area are:

George Washington State Forest: Maintain communication with DNR and assist with trail and campground maintenance as needed.

Chippewa National Forest:

- Develop additional drive through parking areas Suomi Hills Trails on Orange Lake Road.

- Assist Forest Service in improving wet trail areas and bridges.

- Campground maintenance of brushing and material disbursement under high lines.

June 2 Work Day at Zumbro Bottoms West Horse Camp

On Saturday, June 2, the Zumbro Bottoms Back Country Horsemen held their annual work day completing many tasks to do repairs and updating to the West Assembly area near Theilman. The first Saturday in June is always National Trails Day and for many years this has been a day for volunteers to help work on trails and campground maintenance and improvements. Thousands of horse riders use the campground and trails each year experiencing the beauty of nature on the lower end of the Zumbro River Valley.



This year 32 volunteers worked all day with tools and heavy equipment despite the threat of rain to update and improve horse tie lines, redesign the host site pad to accommodate today's larger horse trailers and re-grade the gravel around tie lines. The cost of the supplies needed to repair the host sight corals, erect a tie line and re-grade the host site parking pad were covered by a \$1000 grant from the People's Coop Power Operation Round-up grant program to the Zumbro Bottoms Back Country Horsemen organization. The cost of high line upgrades in the rest of the campground came from a Minnesota Trail Riders Assn grant and DNR funds.

Mark Fitting of rural Plainview is the work day organizer contributing many hours to the planning, purchasing of materials and preparations for the event. This year the large equipment to do the heavy work was donated by Jim Reisinger from Farmington, Marty and Angie Murphy from Kellogg, and Barry Saylor from Wykoff. Jared Engesser, DNR staff member worked along-side the volunteers to complete the work.



This National Trails Day work day along with many other volunteer hours throughout the year contribute to making the camping and riding experience at Zumbro Bottoms an enjoyable and safe outdoor experience.



McCarthy Beach State Park
7622 McCarthy Beach Road
Side Lake, MN 55723

December 12, 2018

Greetings,

Stony Brook Horse Campground is located within the George Washington State Forest near Side Lake, Minnesota and is managed by McCarthy Beach State Park.

Stony Brook is only 13 miles from Togo Horse Camp and is connected by trail. Riders staying at Stony Brook have access to 30 miles of trails including those within McCarthy Beach State Park. Horse users will experience trails of rolling hills that wind along pine-covered ridges and through stands of birch, white pine, and old-growth red pine. A ride in the boreal forest here may give you glimpses of eagles, white-tailed deer, black bear, timber wolves, chipmunks, and red squirrels.

Stony Brook has 15 individual campsites, most of which are pull through. They all are screened and spaced nicely for privacy. The center of the campground has four group camp areas. There is also one accessible campsite and loading ramp. The campground even has a day use area with picket lines, fire rings and picnic tables. And with all these perks, I have never seen this campground full.

Spring and fall bring horse riders to the campground, a time when there is a reprieve from the bugs. It was also a good time to schedule a work weekend at Stony Brook. A grant awarded to Stony Brook from the Minnesota Trail Riders Association paid for pit run, trail maps, pitchforks and wheelbarrows. The state had also purchased new fire rings that we were in the process of slowly replacing at each campsite. After a flurry of emails and phone calls the weekend of September 7, 2018 was scheduled that included folks from Back Country Horsemen of American and Minnesota Trail Riders Association.

The days leading up to the weekend were spent moving the pit run over to the camp and stationing the fire rings and sand at each campsite. The work weekend arrived as did several horse club members and I believe some unwitting campers were pulled into the project too. All of the fire rings were installed, new pitrun was spread under the picket lines, and some trails brushed by Sunday, completing the project. This project would never have been accomplished without your support.

Please extend a belated but heartfelt thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Ryan

McCarthy Beach State Park Manager



Manure Bunker re-build at Forestville

This was our “first” work day at Forestville State Park. Ten volunteers traveled 880 miles to perform 60 hours of labor plus the use of many of the members owned tools. The task , to completely rebuild three manure bunkers. Park management did not believe we could do this in a full day and we were in and out in 6 hours.



The material for the manure bunkers was purchased with Trail Pass Money.

A big thanks to the park workers and each of the members of ZB BCH-MN for all their hard work. Especially to Dave Robson for working with Mark White and coordinating the volunteers.



I'm sorry to have missed the big manure bin project, but it sounds like things worked pretty well without the Ranger to get in the way. Our maintenance staff was thrilled with your level of effort and expertise and stated that your group was one of the best they have worked with. Your help is a big boost for our maintenance staff who have their hands full with all the flood damage over the past two years.

This is a formal thank you to all the Back Country Horsemen who participated in constructing the new bins. They look great. We're in the process of re-ordering carriage bolts and will put the finishing touches on the project soon. Meanwhile they are functioning fine with the temporary deck screws.

Hopefully the monsoon will end soon and your group can get down for some recreational horse camping.

Sincerely,

Mark H. White Park Manager

Forestville/ Mystery Cave State Park

State Forest Trail and Management Revisions Project

This project began Fall of 2017. **Huntersville and Lyons** were two of the first State Forests for this DNR “Phase II” review process.

The DNR is considering a number of measures to improve trail sustainability and enhance user experiences for both motorized and non-motorized uses including:

- Adding new trails
- Adding trail connections
- Changing allowable trail uses
- Designating areas where motor vehicle use is restricted during trapping and hunting seasons
- Closing unsustainable trails

The trail system changes do not include changing forest-wide motor vehicle use classifications.

Initially, there is a public input meeting which includes a presentation to explain what planning is occurring with DNR staff present to answer questions and take public input on a more individual basis. The public can submit their own ideas and recommendations to the MN. DNR office for a period of time via e-mail. These comments are reviewed by DNR staff who take into consideration all of the information received to develop a draft proposal following this meeting and comment period. A notice in the State Register, and in legal newspapers that serve the counties in which the forest is located, will announce the availability of the draft proposal. As required by statute, at least 60 days after the State Register notice, the DNR will hold a public meeting to receive comments. The DNR will consider all comments received, revise the proposal, and complete any required environmental review. New trail designations, trail closures, and special management area designations will be established by written order published in the State Register.

If you submitted comments you should be notified when the draft proposal becomes available. In addition, trail organizations will have postings to inform members so they submit comments which is critical for the final proposal phase.

Information about the status of individual forests is available on the DNR website at mndnr.gov, or by contacting joe.unger@state.mn.us, (651)259-5279 or Toll Free 1-888-MINNDNR (646-6367).

Report Volunteer Trail Work Hours

Volunteering is our clout. Volunteering has a positive effect when talking with land managers. It shows that as a user group we take responsibility for keeping our public lands in good condition for future generations.

Any questions and to report all volunteer hours

Please contact

Russ Wright

rlwright@frontiernet.net

See page 19 for more details

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Please to do your shopping at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 5% of purchase price to Back Country Horsemen of Minnesota.

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<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-1466089>

BCHA Offering Equestrian Liability Insurance

The Back Country Horsemen of America has added value to members by offering excess equestrian liability insurance through Equisure. The liability policy is available to BCHA individual and family members in good standing and covers excess personal liability up to \$1 million. Cost for the policy is \$20 individual and \$40 for family BCHA members. You must be a member in good standing (dues paid) to purchase. If you purchase and are not a paid member, you will be invoiced for membership dues and must pay the membership invoice prior to receiving the policy.



VOLUNTEER HOURS—DEFINITIONS

The rest of this document familiarizes you with the information we record. Here are the definitions for the fields which we use to record volunteer events:

Date(s)	Date(s) that your event was held.
Names	Names, phone or email, of everyone who participated: You will usually have a volunteer signup sheet that everyone must sign: e.g. DNR Volunteer Agreement & Report
Place	Name of the public facility: e.g. state forest, state park, or county park
Agency:	Governing agency, e.g. DNR or County where facility is located.
Work type	Description of the project work: e.g. Trimming and brushing on Trail xx, or cleanup at campground or using chain saws to clear trees, etc.
Work hours	Total number of hours that everyone spent at work. There are two types, basic and skilled . These can be hours for basic work like trimming trails, either on foot or on horseback, and then there are hours for skilled work like operating a chain saw or leading a pack horse or operating power equipment.
Travel time	Total number of travel hours for everyone, to and from the project.
Vehicle miles	Total number of miles driven to and from the project for small vehicles other than horse trailers or equipment trailers. Only vehicle drivers can count these.
Trailer miles	Total number of horse trailer or equipment trailer miles driven to and from the project. Only trailer drivers can count these.
Power equip	Total number of hours using equipment such as chain saws or four wheelers.
Heavy equip	Total number of hours using heavy equipment such as tractors or loaders
Horses	Total number of horses used on the project and total number of horse days if the project was more than one day long

Once you get familiar with these items they are not that hard to remember to keep track of for your projects. The first five items are obvious and just getting everyone's name is usually the most effort. We will be suggesting forms that you can print out ahead of time to have with you and a template spreadsheet you can use. The last five items are logical breakouts because when BCHA accounts for volunteer efforts they assign a dollar value to each type of activity so that we can report to the public agencies, not just the number of volunteer hours but also the money equivalent value of the work. We all know how much more money talks!

The dollar values assigned for 2016 will be available on the official BCHA website soon – we only need them at year end. The values are derived from US Labor Dept official guidelines and are approximately as shown here.

Basic labor	\$22.50 per hr	This rate applies to basic trail work, administrative work, trail reconnaissance work etc. all of which can be counted.
Skilled labor	\$35.00 per hr.	This rate applies to any power tools or heavy equipment operation or pack horse skills
Vehicle mileage	\$0.50 per mile	For cars or trucks not hauling anything..
Trailer mileage	\$1.10 per mile	This is for trucks pulling horse trailers or equipment trailers.
Power equip	\$26	Actual hours of operation
Heavy equip	\$81	Actual hours of operation
Horse day	\$100	Don't we wish they only cost us this much?

Send your reports to bchminnesota@gmail.com and rlwright@frontiernet.net

or 602-341-8145 for info

[illegible]