



Lake Washington Saddler

Mid-Summer Update 2021

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Hello all! Our show season is more than halfway finished. I hear that it's been a really wonderful year, so far, so it kind of feels sad to be looking at the last half of our season. But, we still have a few more shows:

Show Calendar

August

- 13-14 LWSC Noel Clark Clinic
- 15 LWSC Obstacle Challenge & Training Day
- 20 LWSC Members only jumper schooling (5pm)
- 21-22 LWSC Hunter/Jumper Schooling Show*
- 28 LWSC Equine & Vines Prize Ride*

September

- 11 LWSC Academy Hunter Jumper Schooling Show*
- 12 LWSC Dressage Schooling Show
- 17 LWSC Members only jumper schooling (5pm)
- 18-19 LWSC Hunter/Jumper Schooling Show*

October

November

- 6 LWSC Annual Awards Banquet - *Meydenbauer Ctr*

AND, we anticipate having our annual awards banquet and silent auction this year at a new location; The Meydenbaur Center in Downtown Bellevue. There will be more information on that soon!

Annual Awards Banquet and Silent Auction 2021 !!!!

It's not too early to start soliciting and gathering donations for our auction.

Ask trainers if they will donate services. Talk to your massage therapist or body worker. Consider what you can donate. Things are nice, but services that we all need anyway are even better. We will soon update and have available to you the forms needed for soliciting donations. For now, just start thinking about what you can do to make the auction a huge success!

Make sure your membership is up to date if you hope to have a year end award!

Also, keep in mind that only the points you earned at shows where your membership was already paid for this year will count toward consideration for an annual award at the banquet. Your membership must be paid up at least by the DAY OF the show or sooner for you to get credit for all your hard work at that show. If you have missed updating your membership for 2021, here is the link to get that taken care of: <https://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/membership.html>

You can see if you are on the **current membership list**:

https://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/uploads/1/0/0/6/100699188/lwsc_membership_list_2021.pdf

SO FAR

Recap of July Dressage Show:

By Indra Krastins

A big thank you to all our first place winners in the July Dressage show. All are current members of the Saddle Club and we are grateful for their support. A big thank you to our judge **Kathryn Christensen** for her thoughtful comments and **to all our volunteers**.

Introductory Level A, Jr:	Brielle Flaherty
Introductory Level B, Jr:	Bellamarie Hoover
Introductory Level C, Jr:	Cadence Barber
Introductory Level A, Sr:	Anne Wilkinson
Introductory Level B, Sr:	Meryl Baker
Introductory Level C, Sr:	Meryl Baker
Training Level 2, BNA:	Amelia Capron
Training Level 1, Sr:	Suzanne Kagen
Training Level 2, Sr:	Mandy Schoen
Training Level 3, Sr:	Sonja Saltzman
1 st & 2nd Level Combined Class:	Anna Kulkova (2nd place)

Hunter/Jumper Academy

The Academy Hunter Jumper Show Series is off to a great start in its first year being offered at LWSC. The May and July shows were filled with smiles and success. The final show of the season is scheduled for September 11.

The Academy show series was designed to meet the needs of those in our community looking for a more introductory-friendly jumping show compared to the high-paced Classic Hunter Jumper series the club also offers. The Academy shows offer jumper and equitation classes from ground poles up to 2'3" and allow those showing 18" and higher the chance to show in the "big ring" with the full Bridle Trails experience.

Introduced this year for the ground pole and cross rail divisions in Ring 2 is the Danish judging system. Riders and horses are awarded ribbons based on individual performance rather than against one another. Every well-executed round receives a blue ribbon, a few mistakes on course will earn a red ribbon and quite a few errors on course will earn a yellow ribbon. The feedback for this system has been positive and the feedback for the rainbow ribbons given has been even more so.

Thank you to the volunteers and series supporters who have helped develop this new LWSC offering.

Want to join in on the fun?

LAST ACADEMY - SEPTEMBER 11th.

Registration opens August 9 @

www.horseshowtime.com.

Questions can be emailed to the show manager via the LWSC website under "Academy HJ."

PC: Nature's Course Photography



Julie Carpenter Horsemanship Clinic, June 30 – July 4

by Jennifer Duncan



We had a terrific time; it was great to have Julie back. It had been too long! It was wonderful to gather with friends, talk about our horses and learn more about horsemanship from this talented lady. There were people with new horses this year which was fun. It was amazing to see the change in our horses (and ourselves) over the course of the five days.

This clinic focuses on strengthening the partnership with our horses by improving communication between horse and rider. More

softness, improving the clarity in how we ask the horse, really getting our horses to be with us, were all worked on. We all love our horses so much; this clinic helps us to understand that relationship from our horse's perspective and teaches us how to effectively get the cooperation and partnership we all want.

Julie emphasizes that when a horse's thought is more important than the rider's thought, resistance builds. When there is clarity in what a horse is being asked, a horse can learn to let go of a thought – to relax and submit willingly to a rider's direction. When the horse is not resisting, muscles can relax and stretch, allowing the horse's overall development and balance to occur naturally.

We spent the five days working on ways to keep our horse's thought and attention with us whether we are on the ground or in the saddle. There was also some work on making trailer loading a more comfortable experience for some of the horses. We all learned new skills to help us refine our horsemanship. Many thanks to Julie for making the trip from California, we look forward to working with her again, hopefully in early 2022. If this clinic sounds interesting to you, please contact Jennifer Duncan, president@lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org. LWSC members audit clinics for free.

NEW AT THE PARK

Bridle Trails Park Foundation “Forest Summer Camp” at Bridle Trails State Park

Working directly with Bellevue School District educators, the Bridle Trails Park Foundation has designed a neighborhood environmental education summer camp with the goal of “cultivating a knowledge of and love for this amazing urban forest and its unique equestrian culture”.

Equestrians with horses around the Park were recruited to provide horse demonstrations at the end of each day. Mary Decher brought her mini horse Lacey and her cart to wow the kids. She provided instruction regarding what to do when you encounter a horse in the Park. Momi Henne provided a jumping demonstration, and Heather Andreini brought her 3 beautiful Friesian horses to visit with the children, while Juliette Cimitiere offered an impressive demonstration of their Liberty skills.



**FOREST
SUMMER
CAMP**

When
July 12-16
1-4 pm

WHERE
Bridle Trails State Park
5300 116th Ave NE, Kirkland, WA 98033

COST
\$75
Discover Pass Included - Distributed on the First Day
Scholarships Available

Led by Washington State Certified Teachers who live in the Neighborhood.
Engaging youth is a priority shared by the Bridle Trails Park Foundation and the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

More Information: www.bridletrails.org/summercamp2021

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADES 1-6

FOREST FRIENDS
1st and 2nd Grade

NATURE DETECTIVES
3rd and 4th Grade

TREES AND TECHNOLOGY
5th and 6th Grade

482 ACRES
An important urban forest uniquely and wonderfully shared by pedestrians & equestrians

Bridle Trails Parks Foundation
www.bridletrails.org
Email us: btpt@bridletrails.org





COMING UP SOON



EQUINE & VINES PRIZE RIDE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH



Trail riding and wine tasting afterwards. What could go together better than that?

This event is very popular and has a limited number of places for participants, so please register early.

To support everyone's safety, we are still following Covid precautions as follows:

- Only online registration, payment and waiver signing will be possible. **Online registration will close on or before Thursday, August 26th** so that we can prepare for the event. Register at: [2021 Equine & Vines Prize Ride Registration Form - Lake Washington Saddle Club](#)
- Instead of staffing stations along the trail, drawing numbers at each station, etc., riders will purchase either one raffle ticket or as many as three raffle tickets.
- To avoid handling of paper raffle tickets, the prize ride team will assign raffle ticket numbers to participants during online registration and the prize ride team will draw winners the night before the event. At registration, participants can choose to either purchase one raffle ticket for \$10 or three tickets for \$25.00.
- Prizes will be primarily limited to a variety of gift cards. During registration participants will be asked to identify the types of cards they are interested in. Prize ride team will package the gift cards in envelopes with winner's names and will pass out the prize as riders start out on their ride.

- Ride times will be scheduled in designated time periods that space people out. Please try to not arrive more than one hour before your ride time.
- Riders will then have a wonderful trail ride along a marked trail with trail markers always on your right.
- Riders will return to the registration area to let us know you arrived back.
- We hope to offer wine tasting for purchase after the ride with some pre-packaged snacks. We have submitted paperwork for the permit and are waiting to hear back if it is approved. Wine must be consumed in the designated area within the picnic grounds. No one under 21 is allowed in that area.
- Stalls are available to rent for \$5. Please strip your stall before leaving.
- Masks are optional at this point, but we will follow whatever recommendations are active at the time of the event.
- No dogs, stallions, carts or ponying of rider-less horses allowed.

HEADS UP!

Bear Sightings in the Park and Surrounding Neighborhoods



When you enter the Park these days, you will see signs letting you know that bear(s) have been sighted in Bridle Trails State Park. Note, these are confirmed sightings so it is real. The pictures above are from a yard near the Park.

At the time of this writing, we are not aware of any plans to trap the bear. Neighbors are being asked to take down bird feeders and to keep garbage can in their garage until the actual garbage pick up day. If we eliminate unnatural sources of food, it is likely the bear will move on to an area with a better food source.

The signs at the Park provide the following advice if you encounter a bear:

- Stop, remain calm, and assess the situation. If the bear seems unaware of you, move away quietly when it's not looking in your direction. Continue to observe the animal as you retreat, watching for changes in its behavior.

- If a bear walks towards you, identify yourself as a human by standing up, waving your hands above your head, and talking to the bear in a low voice.
- Don't throw anything at the bear and avoid direct eye contact.
- If you cannot safely move away from the bear or the bear continues toward you, scare it away by clapping your hands, stomping your feet, and yelling.
- Don't run from the bear unless safety is very near and you are absolutely certain you can reach it (knowing that bears can run 35 mph). Climbing a tree is generally not recommended as an escape from an aggressive black bear. They are adept climbers and may follow you up the tree.

Water Tower Replacement Project to Begin – Some Trails will be Closed Each Day for Safety Reasons


As you may be aware, the water tower at the south end of the park is going to be replaced. At first Bellevue had the idea to expand the footprint substantially. That was a few years ago and the community outcry had Bellevue re-thinking their approach. The City sought out community involvement and formed a community action group that consisted of LWSC, BTPF, State Parks and some key neighbors. We worked with Bellevue to settle on a plan that does not expand the existing footprint but does allow the water tower structure to be 10 feet taller.

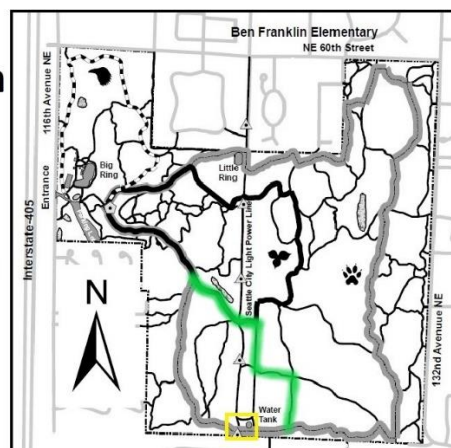
Construction activity on the project began a month or so ago with some work just outside the Park at the south end. This work involved ensuring that the construction equipment to replace the water tower would enter and exit the park ONLY from the south end. That work is complete, and the City of Bellevue received official permission to enter the park as of July 6, 2021. So far, they have just done some very preliminary work within the park.

Around early to mid-August, the selected contractor (HPC) will begin work to drain, demolish, and remove the existing reservoir, remove necessary trees (per approved WSP permits), establish construction fencing for work and storage areas, and then begin construction of the new reservoir which will start with site excavation and related earthwork. Depending on how smoothly the project progresses, some of this work in the park may not begin until early September. The project is not expected to be complete until August 2022.

Trail users' safety is a top priority, and as a result State Parks and the City of Bellevue have agreed that a trail detour should be established during the work hours of 7:30am-3:30pm Monday through Friday, for the duration of the project. Below is a map of the planned detour.

 = **Construction site**

 = **Construction bypass route (for coyote)**



This detour map will be posted at the starting and ending points of the detour, as well as at the limits of the construction site. The trails leading to the construction site will remain open for those who would desire to do an “out and back” on that segment of the otherwise detoured trail. However, barricades will be set up where these trails meet the construction site each day to prevent trail users from passing through the site. At the end of the work day, these barricades will be removed so that during off-work weekday hours and weekends all trails will be open. The construction site and materials storage areas will be secured by tall construction fencing but the main trails through those areas will be accessible during the off-work periods.

This project will be disruptive, but it could have been so much worse! Many thanks to the City of Bellevue for working closely with State Parks and park stakeholders via their Community Action Group process, to ensure that this project addressed the needs and concerns of those who love Bridle Trails State Park.

Equestrian Safety and Signage on 132nd Ave. NE

The City of Bellevue was proposing some changes to signage along 132nd Ave. NE that included replacing the equestrian signage with pedestrian signage on crosswalks along 132nd Ave just north of the S curve. A group of local equestrians learned of this change and are working to reverse this decision and work with Bellevue to improve equestrian safety. Representatives from Lake Washington Saddle Club (Jennifer Duncan), Bridle Trails Park Foundation (Candice Boyd), Bridle Trails Community Club (Dana Kapela), attended Bellevue’s Traffic Commission meeting and made the case that the proposed changes were not acceptable.

In conjunction with that effort, a meeting was held July 15th onsite at the S curve with the individuals noted above, Bridle Trails State Park (BT Ranger Matt Birklid), a senior traffic engineer from Bellevue Traffic Engineering Division, the Bellevue Neighborhood Safety Service Manager, and Bellevue Traffic Engineering Manager. We learned at that meeting that the proposed changes have been put on hold and they would like to work with us to devise a plan that improves safety for both pedestrians and equestrians.

We hope for a productive dialog that results in some real improvement. 132nd Ave. NE has become a challenging obstacle for every equestrian that has to cross it to get in and out of the Park. As a result of our meeting, Bellevue will be following up with the following preliminary actions:

1. The Senior Traffic Engineer will be following up with their maintenance team to enhance the footing near Acheson property and trimming of foliage along 132nd to create better visibility of equestrians waiting to cross the street.
2. We are working to get a temporary radar signage for both directions (electric or battery) to hopefully decrease speeding.
3. The current work order is on hold. Bellevue will research and re-work current signage plan on the work order and will share the plan with this group in about three weeks.
4. Bellevue will set up cameras at crosswalks for a few days to gather data on crosswalk use.

These actions are a first step. We will continue to work with the City of Bellevue to improve equestrian safety around the Park

Welcome to the NEW Ponies in Bridle View neighborhood!



We now have 9 horses in Bridle View with the addition of Ben & Jerry. They are owned by Patricia Allen & came to the neighborhood in April of this year from Oregon. Abby & I are helping her take care of them & Ava (our 3-year-old friend) is riding them! I'm attaching a photo of Ava (the blond) & her friend grooming Ben. They are Shetland crosses & we think maybe Icelandic. Jerry is the black gelding & Ben is the chocolate (I'm not sure what to call him)



Jerry is around 10 & Ben is around 13 according to the vet. Both are incredibly sweet & we go for walks around the neighborhood & in the Park.

Lake Washington Academy Show, a personal perspective

By Jen Norton

I have been competing in the LWSC shows for nearly 8yrs (or more) and have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful people. It was hard, last year, without the shows and not having an excuse to escape to the park with others who are just as passionate about the Saddle Club & horses as I am.

This year was extra special, I finally moved up a division! It was an opportunity to reconnect with old friends, who have seen the good, the bad, and ugly, while also making new friends that I otherwise would not have met in the lower division. Over the years, we have seen each other grow, we've witnessed great successes as well as difficult challenges & setbacks for our fellow riders. Even when competing in the same division, we are all there, standing at the arena rail, cheering on our friends and offering support. "It's OK to be worried, or anxious, here is my story ..." "What a great ride!" "You've got this!" "Wow, I can't believe how far you've come! Keep it up!"

To me, everyone at the LWSC H/J & Academy shows are like family. The support and enthusiasm are infectious. I can't wait to see everyone at the next event and continue to watch us all grow and succeed!



Jen Norton & Elvis