



# Lake Washington Saddler

Summer 2017

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## Nature's Diary

The weather is spectacular! Too nice to stay inside and type. No, it's perfect for riding, and I certainly hope you have had a chance to do some lately. Myself, I've been enjoying a lot of trail time, and consequently, have let the Saddler lapse from a monthly issue, to a bimonthly, to what is more likely a quarterly affair. I apologize, but I'll try to get caught up as best I can, but I encourage everyone who can to regularly check into the Fans of the LWSC Facebook page, and even scan our own website from time to time to see what's new.

As for natural news? Well, I've been out in the park picking those wild blackberries again. They are really numerous this year. The nice part about spending some time in the park on foot is that a person can see things from a whole different, more intimate perspective. Lifting a tangled bit of vine and salal, avoiding the stinging nettles, I see even more blackberries, right next the dusty, seed covered ground. These I leave for the little creatures that populate the underbrush, and feed the owls and coyotes we see. For every berry I find and pop into my can, there must be hundreds that fall to the earth unseen by humans, and feed worms or voles, or ground feeding birds. Somehow, the 'hunt' for the berries is something all creatures seem to enjoy.



## Membership News

**Corrie Scalisi**, our newest board member and membership chair, tells us that there are now 196 memberships! (Some of those are family memberships, so actual number of members is higher). We are currently sending the Saddler to those who were members last year but have not renewed for this year. This will be the last Saddler for those who are not paid up members for 2017. If you have any

questions about membership, or realize you still haven't renewed yours, go to:

<http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/membership.html>

### **So, What ARE the benefits of membership?**

Well most of you know that it entitles you to discounted entry fees, super volunteer opportunities, and that it helps support the park and the equestrian community as a whole. But did you know that it also means you can audit club sponsored clinics for free? And that you can participate in the trail challenge events for free? And our educational outreach committee has put together some fascinating 'field trips' that are only open to club members! Doesn't that make you feel glad you ARE a member?

### **Trail Events News**

**The "Horses and Hops prize ride"** on July 8th was, as expected, a great success! There were 32



riders braving the heat, and enjoying the cold brewskys afterwards. (Pictured are **Peggy Northrup, Brandon Boyd, and Brian Davis**).

Managed by **Jennifer Duncan** and **Megan Rasmussen** a good time was had by everyone who attended.

We would like to extend a special Thank You to our partner in this event, **The Bridle Trails Park Foundation**, especially **Kelly Gode** who invented this event and whose creativity, energy and "can do" attitude are truly appreciated.

Also, our appreciation and many thanks to the sponsors who donated prizes including: **The Gift Horse, The Grange, Firstfruits Feed, Olson's, Dayville Hay and Grain, and Bellevue Brewery** (who served the beer and also donated prizes).

We would also like to give a **HUGE THANK YOU** to our wonderful volunteers, your help is crucial to run these events, we could not do it without you. Thank you to: **Maggie Phillips, Alice Prince, Linda Treece, Karen Hall, Debbie Marrs, Caroline Callender, Kelly Mooney, Corrie Scalisi, Chris Van Arsdale, Jim Erckmann, and Darryl Abrahms**. You were all so wonderful, thank you!

### **New Dates For Remaining Trail Events in 2017**

To reduce possible competition with another major prize ride scheduled for the weekend of Sept. 9/10, we have elected to reschedule the prize ride and trail obstacle events to new dates.

- Equines and Vines has been rescheduled to **August 26<sup>th</sup>**

We hope you will attend and bring friends. This is a relaxed, fun event with stalls for your horse for \$5 (we just ask that you CLEAN UP by stripping the stall) and lunch is also available if

pre-ordered. Join us for a great trail ride, taste some wonderful wine, munch on cheese and crackers and then possibly win a nice prize.

- Trail Obstacle Challenge has been rescheduled to **August 27th**
- The Halloween Trail Ride Scavenger Hunt is also being rescheduled to **October 14th** so that it does not conflict with the Back Country Horsemen Halloween Prize Ride at Pilchuck Tree Farm and also so that the Trail Event Show Manager, Jennifer Duncan, can attend the Back Country event! ☺

INFO at : <http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/trail-riding-events.html> or at: <http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/trail-obstacle-training.html>

### **The First Annual Sue Shecket Memorial Trail Challenge**

This year it was under the capable and creative direction of **Robin Foster**, who added a real Competitive Trail class, with a prize to be won. This lady, still lovely and active in her 70's, won! Carol O'Connor on her beautiful mare, Princess.

This event is always looking for volunteers to help set up the obstacles and then put them away. Why not skip the gym on this weekend and come help set up Saturday evening, Sunday morning, or help put stuff away Sunday afternoon.



### **Dressage News**

Dressage had a wonderful first show in June. We had perfect weather and a full and very diverse show. We had many eventing tests as well as western dressage, pas de deux, and a musical freestyle

Check out the Friesian Pas de Deux , ridden by Heather Andreini and Brenna Nordstrom. Gorgeous!



Entries are open for the rest of the schooling shows this summer so sign up soon.

**July 16<sup>th</sup>** with judge Kellie Larsen

**August 13<sup>th</sup>** with judge Kimberly Mitchell

**September 17<sup>th</sup>** with judge Molly Martin (dress up show)

The show photographer this year will be Emily Lisenko of Equine Reflections Photography

We also need volunteers for the remaining Dressage Shows. Contact [dressage@lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org](mailto:dressage@lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org) if you can spare some time and help us out.

**Heather Andreini** – show manager and **Indra Krastins** – show secretary

## **Hunter/Jumper News**

In general, attendance has been amazing. Weather has been amazing. Horses have been amazing. Just all around great things happening. Attendance has been running so high that pre-registration as early as possible is recommended to guarantee a spot. All info and registration links:

<http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/hunterjumper.html>

**Next Show: July 22/23**

**And then August 19/20**

**And September 23/24**

## **It is OFFICIAL – Lake Washington Saddle Club is a 501c3!**

After a lot of hard work, including re-writing our bylaws, articles of incorporation and managing member voting and approval of those items, we received notification from the IRS that our request to change from a 501c7 to a 501c3 was approved effective December, 2016.

We are just starting to explore and understand what this change means. Of course, we will continue to focus on providing great schooling shows, fun events and partnering with State Parks as an official “friend” of Bridle Trails State Park. We are excited about the possibilities to do even more as we get used to this change.

So stay tuned, we will need your ideas and input. We received our first donation from an employee giving program at a local corporation and also a donation related to corporate compensation for the time a member spent volunteering at LWSC. It is wonderful to be eligible for these types of programs now that we are a 501c3.

## LWSC Support to Save A Forgotten Equine (SAFE)

LWSC welcomed the opportunity to sponsor two high point awards at the upcoming Eleventh Annual SAFE Benefit Horse Show, August 5-6 at Donida Farm. In keeping with LWSC's focus on providing schooling shows for young and novice riders, we decided to sponsor the high point award for Dressage Training Level and English Rider 13-17. We are honored to support such a wonderful organization and a terrific event. If you are not familiar with SAFE, check out their web site; <https://www.safehorses.org/>

## It's getting close to that time Again!!! SAVE the DATE! Awards Banquet and Auction time! November 4<sup>th</sup>!

Last year we had a change of venue that, while really a very lovely locale, was just too tight for our expanding club. We have managed to secure a date back at our old favorite; the Courtyard Marriot in downtown Bellevue. This venue gives us room for everyone who would like to attend. Information on how to order your seats will be coming out a bit later in the summer.

And, Yes, November is still some time off, but it's not too early for us to be thinking about who we'd like to nominate for Lake Washington Saddle Club Annual Awards including:

Service Award, Senior Sportsmanship, Junior Sportsmanship, Mother of the Year, Father of the Year, Trainer of the Year. We will also be voting on Horse of the Year from the Horse of the Month articles published in the Saddler during 2017. So write a short article about your wonderful horse for the Saddler and your horse will be eligible for Horse of the Year.

You can access and download the Annual Award Nomination Form from the Home Page of LWSC web site [www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org](http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org) .

Which brings me to . . . . **VOLUNTEER HOURS!** **DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH TO QUALIFY FOR AN AWARD, SHOULD YOU WIN ONE?** You need to have 8 hours of volunteer time to qualify for year end awards. Don't miss out, volunteer soon!

And, if you have good ideas for **Auction Items**, start setting things aside, or procuring great donations from your trainer, your barn owner, your farrier, your employer, your fairy Godmother, etc.



## College Scholarship

Every year the Saddle Club offers a \$1000 scholarship to a young person attending college with an area of study in the fields of Equine, Environmental or Forestry areas of study. It must be used at a two- or four-year accredited college or university within the academic year following receipt of the scholarship. It may be used for tuition and/or fees. The application entails both an essay and letters of recommendation, due September 1<sup>st</sup>. You can find general information and the application form on the LWSC web site at: <http://www.lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org/college-scholarship.html>

The winner will be announced at the Awards Banquet. Please think about applying NOW! Don't wait until the last minute. Applicants do NOT have to be club members.

## Meet the Board!

Let's meet two more members of the board, one new, and one veteran:

### Megan Rasmussen

I was born and raised in Bridle Trails and fell in love with horses early on since I had easy access to them in my back yard as my dad would board them on our property. I got my first horse officially for Christmas when I was 9, a beautiful 7 year old chestnut Arabian, Danny. We grew up together and competed in the LWSC western fun shows– but trail riding was our passion and we spent so many years wandering every trail in Bridle Trails.

My husband, Kenny, and I have made this community our home and welcomed our son, Connor (7.5 months) last year. I still love to get out and ride in the trails, and it's become my special "mommy Zen" time with my faithful companion Cody, he's a wonderful 16.2 palomino quarter horse.



I joined the board a few years ago and enjoy helping coordinate the prize rides with Jennifer by managing the vendor relationships especially with our Horses & Hops and Equines and Vines event.

## **Karen Hall**

I was born in Seattle and have lived here all my life. I am about to enter my 70s, which I am finding depressing, and I'm also in denial. I think I was in about first grade when I realized horses existed, and since that time virtually nothing else has existed for me. My first horse was a bay tobiano named Shamrock and I got him in 1962. I have never been horseless since. Rushs Shonshone, a palomino tobiano paint, is my current horse. I have had her for seven years. Pretty much all we do is trail ride at a walk and trot. I'm afraid my cantering through the woods days are over. This is my second stint on the Board. I was on the Board in the late 70s and 80s and was President of the Club in 1983. As we move to the future, the Club is important to remind people that this is a horse area and we have this wonderful horse oriented park that is like no other.



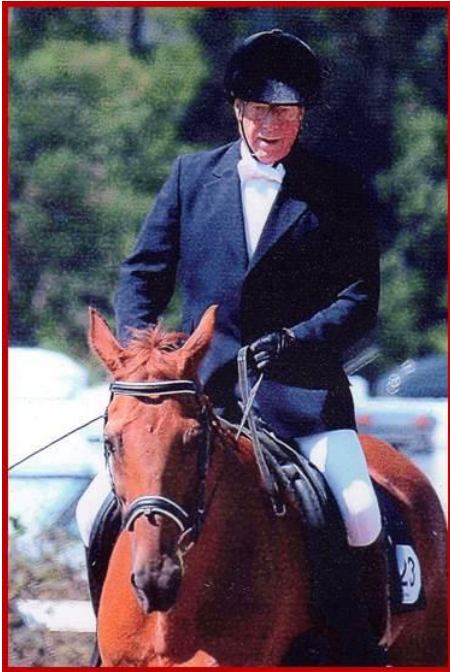
### **Are you interested in being a Board Member?**

Board positions run for two year terms. Every year positions open for reelection at the Annual Awards Banquet, this year in November. If you are interested in serving on the board, or volunteering in any capacity, please contact me:

[saddler@lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org](mailto:saddler@lakewashingtonsaddleclub.org)

## Passages

We were saddened to learn that Lothar Pinkers passed away on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Lothar was a terrific supporter of Lake Washington Saddle Club and an advocate for all things equestrian throughout his life. We received word from Andy Lorig, his longtime friend. She spoke so eloquently of her dear friend we hope it is OK that we have re-printed her email note below.



*Lothar Pinkers (shown riding his horse Sid, in the "100 years" class, where the horses and rider's age combined must equal at least 100)*

I had a call from Lothar's daughter, Christie, this morning, letting me know he had slipped away last night after several years of increasingly compromised health. Our friendship spanned well over 30 years, Sid was in my care from his youth till age 33, our daughters showed together as teenagers and we shared a long family history.

As many of you know, Lothar's interest in The Park and horse activities extended far beyond his own personal enjoyment. He and his late wife, Carolyn, shepherded the last of LWSC's open horse shows, like me, he was a founding trustee of the Bridle Trails Park Foundation, he served as a TD to many regional dressage shows for years and was a driving force in the creation of The Washington State Horse Park. Being a surgeon by trade, Lothar was instrumental in creating local triage capability at Seattle hospitals and glued more than one of us back together on the side.

A patriot to the end, he chose to leave on July 4th following the example of such founding fathers as John Adams.

By Andy Lorig



Lothar and Andy



## Lake Washington Saddle Club Field Trip!

# Pegasus Training and Rehabilitation Center

Lake Washington Saddle Club members toured the Pegasus Training and Rehabilitation Center located in Redmond, Washington.



When researching places for members to tour, the best description found of the facility was from a 2007 Seattle PI article by Dick Rockne titled *"Mayo Clinic for Thoroughbreds meets the Four Seasons"*. After the tour, it was crystal clear what he meant.

After you pass through the automatic PEGASUS inscribed iron gates, the drive takes you up into the most beautifully manicured 100-acre estate that houses the state of the art training and rehabilitation facilities.

Pegasus is the vision of Dr. Mark Dedomenico. The Doctor toured different barns around the country and brought all the best ideas back to Washington to build Pegasus. There are about 30 full time staff on-including staff on-site to care for horses 24x7.

Below is a list of amenities in the barns:

- Hay steamers - No dust or any chance of mold
- Spraymaster System for insect control above the stalls
- Stalls built for maximum ventilation/airflow and Softstall flooring that supports joints, tendons and ligaments
- Rubber brick pavers throughout the barns and property to provide traction and the safest environment possible
- Fire Prevention System
- Scales to monitor nutrition
- Eurocisers
- Polytrack footing in arenas and around 5/8 mile track

The Rehabilitation Center includes:

- Hyperbaric Oxygen Chamber
- Nuclear Scintigrapher
- Coldwater Therapy
- Whole Body Vibration Therapy
- Hydrohorse water treadmill
- Equine Swimming Pool
- Equine Solarium

The facility was awe inspiring, but more so is the story of survival and treatment of a horse that survived a barn fire. Her owner brought her to Pegasus after other vets had recommended putting her down. The mare has responded well to the Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy and is thriving today because of her treatment at Pegasus.

**Our next "members only" field trip is planned for September 9<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a "Behind The Scenes" tour of Emerald Downs! You can sign up from the LWSC web site Home Page.**

