

## **BCHNWA NEWS Summer 2023**

**Back Country Horsemen of Northwest Arkansas has had their boots on the ground this summer representing Northwest Arkansas equestrians as trail stewards.**



**The Hobbs region helped prepare trails so races could be safely held, led by Marla Walker and Debbie Townsend.**

**The War Horse Legacy foundation region gathered under the direction of Jacci Ryan and blazed a new trail down to the waterfall so the veterans have a gorgeous place to relax and be one with nature. Jim Center assisted, bringing his tractor to help move logs and debris. Kathy and Roy Henson along with Kathy's 91 year old father, Cecillia Wiser, Valorie Jones, and Wally assisted in the project.**



**The Pea Ridge Military State Park BCHNWA region has been working on the trail system, adding an additional 15 miles to the equestrian trails under the direction of region leaders Roy and Kathy Hensen with Lonnie O'Bryant helping with the permissions .**



**Devils Den State Park regional leaders Jim Center and Billy Jones coordinated members to assist in clearing several downed trees on the yellow trail and assisted with getting the horse camp renovated by setting new posts at every camp and offering continued support to the park in efforts to improve the park for stock use.**

**BCHNWA is excited about the new pavilion being added by the park. Several local equestrian organizations gathered and interviewed in June by local news channel 5 regarding the new pavilion and other renovations being added to the horse camp. BCHNWA is very proud and grateful to be assisting in this beautiful park, and appreciative of the parks leadership from Tim Scott and Monte Fuller for working and helping equestrians and all other outdoor enthusiasts.**

**Rhonda Kelly-Duncan and Cecillia Wiser attended the Arkansas State Trails Council meeting along with other State BCHA leaders Jacque Alexander, Pam Floyd and Nancy Diesch, where Rhonda spoke to the council, giving current updates on the great work BCH is doing for equestrians in Arkansas**



**Jacci Perry Ryan gave a presentation to a group of Four-H students at Equestrian Bridges regarding safety and what Trailriders carry in their saddle bags on the trail.**





**RBCH Arkansas Back Country Horsemen has the first USFS standard equestrian sawyers in the State and will have another selected group going through sawyer training later this year.**

**Arkansas four chapters of BCH gathered at Cowboy up campground in May for the annual Arkansas State BCH meeting. All chapters are under the umbrella of the Arkansas BCH.**

- 1. Buffalo River Back Country Horsemen**
- 2. Sylamore Back County Horsemen**
- 3. Lower Buffalo River Back Country Horsemen**
- 4. Back Country Horsemen of Northwest Arkansas**

<https://www.bcha.org/>

<https://arkansasbch.org/>

<http://www.bchnwa.net/>

**Written by Rhonda Kelly Duncan & Jacci Ryan**