

# Ride, campout 'one heck of a shindig'

I ARRIVED AT the barn just in time.

Several years ago, while working as special sections editor for the *Peninsula Daily News*, I stopped by Angel Farm during the annual Sequim Lavender Festival to take photos.

I walked inside its large historic barn as **Curtis** and **Kim Beus** were having their first dance as husband and wife.

They'd just said their wedding vows in front of friends, family and farm visitors.

I'd recently met Kim through my work and found she has one of those magnetic, warm dispositions that draw people to her.

Kim is a manager at Hartnagel Building Supply, and Curtis is Washington State University Extension site director.

They share a love of horses.

Last year, they joined Backcountry Horseman's Peninsula Chapter and, true to their nature, became active members.

Last weekend, they hosted a chapter ride and campout at their home off Lost Mountain Road in Sequim.

"It was one heck of a shindig," said Kim. "We had 36 riders and many other folks volunteering."

Saturday began with a 2½-hour trail ride starting at the end of Lost Mountain Road.

Riders then went back to the farm, where they had a blast going through a fantastic obstacle course designed and put together by the Beuses. It included picking up a slicker, opening a mailbox, loading a dummy, maneuvering logs, crossing a bridge, going through a pond of water, the "car-wash," negotiating around and over barrels and poles, and the favorite, the hill climb.

After every two obstacles com-

## PENINSULA HORSEPLAY

**Karen Griffiths**



pleted, either leading or on horseback, the riders picked up a playing card and, at the end, played their best five cards to win prizes.

By the way, an obstacle course can be one of the best

ways to train your horse to trust you when navigating obstacles never seen before, and for both to learn how to navigate safely through them.

**Del** and **Judy Sage** brought their gorgeous team of shire horses and a carriage for scenic rides on Lost Mountain.

Curtis barbecued beef, pork and chicken, and everyone pitched in for the potluck with food to spare.

After dinner, the **Secords** sang and played their guitars.

Later, they were joined by **Jack Reagan**, **John Lehto** and "**Tub pickin'** Barb."

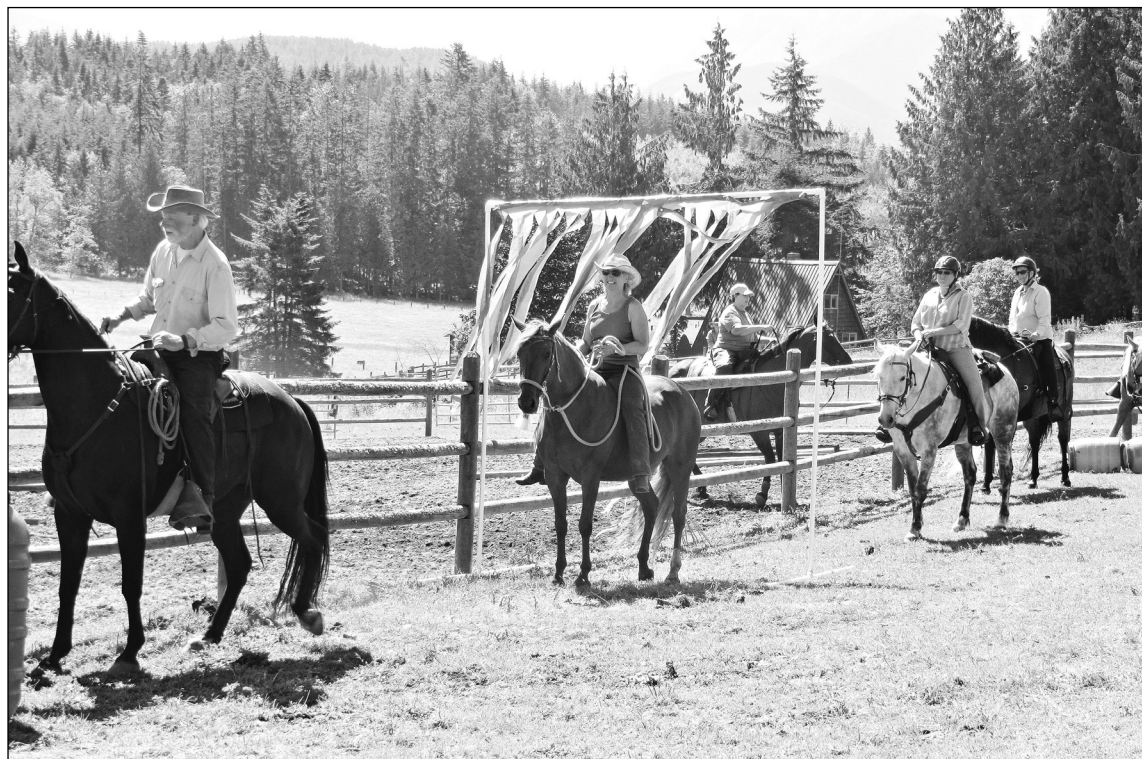
"**Eric Tobin** read some of his best cowboy poetry and had the bunch of us bustin' a gut laughing," said Kim.

Folks who camped overnight were treated to an outdoor movie, "Broken Trail," starring Robert Duvall. The tired and happy campers turned in around 1 a.m.

Breakfast was at 9 a.m. Sunday and included pancakes, bacon and eggs.

The group then set off for another trail ride.

Lunch found them back at the farm having leftovers from the night before and telling more sto-



LYNN OSTROWSKI

**Ron Price, in front, Kat Sample, Sandra Coen and other members of Backcountry Horseman try out the obstacle course set up by Curt and Kim Beus. The two hosted a chapter ride and campout last weekend at their farm off Lost Mountain Road.**

ries before heading home that evening. A wonderful experience was had by all.

So, Curtis and Kim, when's the next party? We're all eager to join you!

## Events

■ Mondays, Aug. 9, 16, 23 and 30: Horse Lover Club for Kids in Chimacum. Phone Paula Stingle at 360-710-5812.

■ Aug. 12-15, 9 a.m.: Jefferson County Fair 4-H horse show, 4907 Landes St., Port Townsend. Draft horse pull at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 14, and barrel racing

at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 15. Phone (360) 385-1013.

■ Mondays, Aug. 16, 23 and 30, 6 p.m.: Chimacum Creek Summer Barrel Racing at Chimacum Saddlery & Tack, 1091 Chimacum Road, Port Hadlock. Phone Bethel Moore at 360-301-1547 or Paula Stingle at 360-710-5812. Times only, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

■ Aug. 19-22, 9 a.m.: Clallam County Fair 4-H Horse Show, 1608 W. 16th St., Port Angeles. Draft horse pull at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, and NPRA Rodeo at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 21, and noon Sunday, Aug. 22. Phone (360) 417-2551.

■ Aug. 28, 29: Peninsula Junior Rodeo at Clallam County Fairgrounds.

■ Backcountry Horsemen Peninsula Chapter meetings are the fourth Monday of the month, 6 p.m. at Clallam County Courthouse; phone Betsy Wyatt 360-457-3102.

**Karen Griffiths'** column, *Peninsula Horseplay*, appears every other Wednesday.

If you have a horse event, clinic or seminar you would like listed, please e-mail Griffiths at [horse.play.kbg@olympus.net](mailto:horse.play.kbg@olympus.net) at least two weeks in advance. You can also write Griffiths at PDN, P.O. Box 1330, Port Angeles, WA 98362.