

**BABY, IT'S COLD** outside. Chilly, misting, frosty, damp and wet — call it whatever you like, but *did you know horses can also die from hypothermia?* Please make sure they have shelters to go under if they chose. Keep an eye out to see if your animal is shivering. If so, brush and blanket it and find a way to get its body temperature back to normal. Remember to brush your animal's back during and after rainfall to reduce the chance of rain rot. Matted hair inhibits air circulation and the animal's ability to keep itself warm.

Don't know if this is happening to you but my horses seem intent on destroying their blankets this year. Please keep in mind we can help raise PSHA funds by shopping at Country Supply ([www.countrysupply.com](http://www.countrysupply.com)) by entering the COUNTRY-CARE Code PSHA during checkout. When you do, Country Supply will donate 5% of your product's purchase price (excluding dewormers and shipping) to Patterned Speed Horse Association.

***Sno Valley flood news from Amy (Amyanndeboer@aol.com) on Jan 1:***

We heard from the neighbor on the hill that the water is above the cook shack windows now. Sno Valley Riding Club is under water again. This sucks. Apparently the water is supposed to peak at Midnight. These pictures were taken at 2 pm. They had just fixed everything in the clubhouse from the flooding two years ago. This has been hard times for this club. The tractor had been moved this time.



***And this flood news from Tamer@aol.com:***

In early January 2009, Western Washington experienced torrential rains resulting in devastating flooding in many areas. Over 18 counties declared a state of emergency, as a combination of heavy rain and previous snowfall caused a number of rivers to break their banks. 40,000 residents had to evacuate their homes, many with their pets and livestock. Over 300 horses are being temporarily housed at area fairgrounds.

As the waters recede, residents are returning to find that their winter's supply of hay and grain has been destroyed by the rushing water. With hay prices at an all-time high, the flood damage has created a severe crisis for area horse owners. To help the horses and owners affected by the floods, Second Chance Ranch (<http://www.secondchanceranch.org/>), in partnership with HorseReunions.com (<http://www.horsereunions.com/>) has established a Flood Relief Fund. This fund will provide emergency feeding grants to help Washington horse owners meet their horses' immediate needs as they begin flood recovery efforts. (<http://www.komonews.com/news/37488089.html?video=YHI&t=a>), (<http://www.flakesale.com/>), (<http://fuglyhorseoftheday.blogspot.com/>), (<http://fuglyhorseoftheday.blogspot.com/>)

Winter, spring, spring, winter, winter, I am not sure that Mother Nature has made up her mind yet which season we are in. I haven't been riding my horse much so it must still be winter and we still have a foot of snow even though we have seen 50 degrees.

One show at the Trails had to be canceled due to SNOW (I know that must be the first for them). Pictures have been circling as to the rising water on the Sno Valley Arena. Just two years ago they experienced the same situation and I know that there was a lot of members that helped keep the club going. They are going to need that help again to get things back in order for their first show.

**Region Treasurer Reports for 2008:** Just a reminder that the **Region Presidents** must have their treasurer's turn in a financial report for their region by **February 1st** to me. If you need help with this report, please contact me.

**Annual Meeting 2009:** We need all annual meeting proposal sites turned into me by **February 1st** so that we may begin to solidify a date and place for our meeting.

**Season Change Proposal Committee:** We have yet to begin our many committee member e-mails only because I have been truly very busy with work and my Grandmother who had a stroke last week. I am going to begin by asking the committee members to collect information from their region PSHA members as to the pros and cons of changing our season dates which at the present time is August 1<sup>st</sup> thru July 31<sup>st</sup>. So please attend your region meetings or discuss with your region representative if you have any opinions on how this may affect your region or club in a positive or negative manner. We will take all the information and present it at the annual meeting this fall.

**March Timers & Judges Clinic** is **March 14<sup>th</sup> 2009 10:00 am at the Ellensburg Fair** Grounds Heritage Center, [www.co.kittitas.wa.us](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us) for directions. Flag staffs and PSHA brochures will be handed out to those clubs in attendance that will be organizing game shows for the year. These will be handed out at no charge to the clubs. Also on the agenda will be committee reports and financial reports. We will also take 30 minutes to have some discussion and input from members on the season change proposal that was tabled. This is only discussion time for the committee to continue to put forth all information that can be presented at the Annual Meeting in the fall. There will be no vote taken on this proposal until that Annual Meeting.

I feel like I have forgotten to mention something, but for the life of me I can't bring it to the thinking part of my brain.

So with that I will sign off and wish you all a Happy New Year!

*Lesla Bland,*  
PSHA President

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## Treasurer Shannon's report

Not much happening since the last newsletter. The weather sucks so not much action with shows.

Don't forget to start working on Sponsorships for State finals. We want to have funds available so that when Holly finds some great deals she can snap them up.

I haven't received any photos for next year's project yet. Except for Lamae. She is great! But if you don't want to only see a Jack and Kirk pony show, make use of some of this wet weather and get some pictures scanned in and sent! I will get them back to you.

Candid, best wrecks, even the really good pictures. Remember, if you don't submit them, I will bribe one of your family members to do it! If you can scan them in, e-mail them to me at [gogetabz@genext.net](mailto:gogetabz@genext.net) .

Or regular mail to:  
Shannon Fadden-Davis  
4800 Malaga-Alcoa Hwy  
Malaga, WA 98828

If anyone knows a sun dance, get it happening!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm ready — and I bet Sno Valley is too!  
Shannon

## Timeskeeper

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The only news I have is the progress on the new timeskeeping program is moving along well, and we should be out of the dark ages by the time the show season gets strongly underway.

Terri Forslof [tforslof@hotmail.com](mailto:tforslof@hotmail.com)

## Olympic Peninsula Region

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While many adults are resting those horses (and their own butts) this winter, several of our PSHA youths are working hard to keep their horses in shape and are looking forward to their first Washington State High School Equestrian Team district meet in Feb. It's the first of three WAHSET district meets before the state finals in May. Tanya and Tammy Hull's three horses are dry and well after being rescued from chest-deep flood water with the help of a state Department of Transportation worker and a State Patrol trooper. Read more about the story on our Web site [www.patternedspeedhorse.com/archives](http://www.patternedspeedhorse.com/archives).

It's kind of exciting to hear the Backcountry Horsemen National Board Meeting is being held in Washington this year in our region at the Fort Warden State Park out of Port Townsend:

<http://www.backcountryhorse.com/pdf/files/BCHA%20V%2019%2015%20web%204.pdf>

**\*March 18, 6:30 p.m. Spring meeting** at Waynora's Hair Care.

Compiled by Karen Griffiths

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## West side

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Hi, I'm happy to be involved in a show that is near and dear to my family's heart. I hope to continue to make this show go as great as Robin has had it going for so many years. I am planning on doing a prize ride again hopefully in May. Will update when I have more info. If anyone on this side of the mountains wants to have another classic show let me know and will try to help as much as possible.

Happy Trails,

Brook Contratto

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