

State report from Minnesota

We are celebrating our 10-year anniversary this year at our events. Membership has increased consistently as we have grown in those 10 years.

We lost one of our founding members this year, Ken Olson.

He was a founding member and past officer for local and state offices. His knowledge and experience will be missed by our chapters and the Arkansas chapter.



Each year we host a Rendezvous at different locations around the state. This past year it was held at Zumbro Bottoms Horse camp, where we celebrated the passing of another founding member, Russ Wright, for his work with both BCH-MN and MTRA throughout his years. We also celebrated memories of other past equine riders that had passed by having their names added to a list posted. Got over 20 names added throughout the evening. Bless their memories.

Each year MN holds a Horse Expo which BCH-MN had a booth to advertise our existence. Each year we grow our membership and promote horse riding in Minnesota. We would like to thank all the members that volunteered there.

This past year we have added another chapter in the Northeast section of MN, welcome BCH-Duluth, (Duluth Area Horse-Trail Alliance) to our family. They have been hard at work advancing trails in their area by getting approval to scout trails in the Nemadji State Forest and in the city of Duluth.

Our Southeast MN chapter partnered with the MN DNR to host a few “Bark Ranger” presentations. This is a time we bring horses and campers together at Forestville State Park to meet and discuss proper trail etiquette. The participants learn what to do and not to do when meeting equine on trails, with their dogs or just walking on the trails. It’s good training for the equine also, as there were lots of dogs and people.

This group SE-MN also installed tie lines at different horse camp areas and repaired manure bunkers pads at different horse camp areas in SE MN. Volunteers also assisted with the Berne Church Wood Fired Pizza events, where in one night they assisted in making over 300 pizzas and got to listen to local bands playing their music on an open stage, fun work and great listening.

The Zumbro Bottoms chapter members volunteered to be camp host where they covered every weekend during the riding season, which helped campers by answering questions and informing riders of problem areas on trails.

The Northwest Metro chapter was recognized by the MN DNR for their volunteerism and work to clean up the Bob Dunn Horse camp in the Sand Dunes State forest area along with other trailheads. They have teamed with the local snowmobile group to do trail maintenance and camp repairs.

We donated a total of \$162, 488 worth of time and material to the MN DNR and horse camps in Minnesota.