

SEPT.
11-12-13,
2026



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for EVERYONE

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1776-2026

Max Walker
Memorial Scholarship
COWBOY POETRY GATHERING

HELLS CANYON



ENTERPRISE,
OREGON

MULE DAYS

Madelyn Bell
MEMORIAL EVENTS
TRAIL CLASSES

"Always the Weekend after Labor Day"

SINCE 1981



**Bank of
Eastern Oregon**

**Kellermann
LOGGING**

WALLOWA COUNTY
**CHIEFTAIN
EAST OREGONIAN**



VISIT US: WWW.HELLSCANYONMULEDAYS.COM



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR THE 45TH ANNUAL HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS CELEBRATION OF MULES AND MULESKINNERS TRADITIONS.

As the summer season is nearing an end and the beautiful days of Fall are close at hand with shorter daylight hours and cooler evenings you know it is time to celebrate a Wallowa County tradition that started in 1981... three days of family fun at Hells Canyon Mule Days.

Mule Days is staged to rally mule men and women, cowboys and cowgirls, ranchers, farmers, rural folks and urban visitors, to enjoy the three-day weekend of family fun with activities geared for the interest and enjoyment of locals and visitors alike.

The many weekend events include mule classes that demonstrate the versatility and talents of the mule. This year there will be two free mule clinics. David Morrison, from Walla Walla, Washington, will conduct the clinics on "Saddle Fit." The clinics appeal to both mule and horse individuals and everyone is welcome to attend and learn something new. The Max Walker Memorial Cowboy Poetry Gathering Friday evening at the OK Theatre will entertain with wild cowboy tales and traditional cowboy music. Don't miss the non-motorized parade on Main Street at noon on Saturday, and enjoy the B-B-Q Scholarship Dinner Saturday early evening on The Green. The Old West Trio, now in their 30th year, will entertain you with the songs of the American Cowboy by combining the best of three voices, two guitars, and one bass. Expect to hear elements of the Sons of the Pioneers, Gene Autry, and more with a peppering of swing, yodeling, and lighthearted fun. Andy Bales will open the concert, and it will be a great Saturday evening at the OK Theatre. The skill of the Dutch Oven Cook-Off teams will be tested starting at 9:00 am Sunday morning with awards being presented after the Official Judging and People's Choice Judging at noon.

Vendors, exhibitors and western artists will delight everyone with their vast array of wares and talents. Bonnie Shields has "retired" as an exhibitor, but she has contributed three outstanding items for the Mule Days raffle and you will want to buy tickets in hopes for your winning ticket to be drawn on Sunday afternoon. Need not be present to win...

May you enjoy your stay and take time to explore all of Wallowa County... God's Country.

If this is your first visit to Mule Days, WELCOME, we are glad you are here, and if you are a returning fan, WELCOME BACK!

So, on behalf of the Mule Days event committee, I invite one and all to join and share in the fun and enjoy all the activities!

Sondra Lozier, President
Smiles always...

HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS 2025 PAST GRAND MARSHALS

1981	WADE HALL & ETHEL THOMAS
1982	MIKE & JOYCE MCFETRIDGE
1983	GLEN HAWKINS & GRACE BARTLETT
1984	LEE MANES & LYNN MITCHELL
1985	JESS EARL & CLARA HEARING
1986	LAWRENCE & ILENE POTTER
1987	CARMEN MAXWELL & A. L. DUCKETT
1988	JOE MCCLARAN & MARY MARKS
1989	OAKLEY JOHNSON & HAZEL BARTON/FLEET

1990	JOE ONAIDIA & GUS MALAXA
1991	EMORY CRAWFORD
1992	MAX & MARCEL WALKER
1993	JIM & JEAN BROOKS
1994	JIM & LOIS BLANKENSHIP
1995	GENE & MILDRED MARR
1996	SAM & LAURA LOFTUS
1997	DICK & BETTY HAMMOND
1998	PEARL INGLE
1999	DELBERT (DEB) WART

2000	FRED TALBOTT
2000	NOEL & GENIE WRIGHT • HONORARY
2001	MANFORD & VERA ISLEY
2002	MEREL HAWKINS
2003	ARNOLD SCHAEFFER
2004	BENNIE BANKS
2005	DOUG & JANIE TIPPETT
2005	BONNIE SHIELDS • HONORARY
2006	BOB CASEY
2006	GERALD PERREN • HONORARY
2007	BLANCHE MAXWELL
2007	GENE & BONNIE WESTBERG • HONORARY
2008	JUANA MALAXA & MARIE ONAINDIA
2008	MIKE BRENNAN • HONORARY
2009	CARMEN KOHLHEPP
2009	R. A. "ACE" BARTON • HONORARY

2010	BIDEN & BETTY TIPPETT
2010	BEN TIPPETT • HONORARY
2011	LEO TIPTON "TIP" PROCTOR
2011	GEORGE HIXSON • HONORARY
2012	GRANT & BARBARA WARNOCK
2012	DUKE & RHEE LATHROP • HONORARY
2013	LARRY & JUANITA WATERS
2014	DICK WALKER
2014	ART GALBRAITH • HONORARY
2015	DENNIS & PEGGY BRENNAN
2016	MARVIN LOVELL
2017	ROBERT "BOB" BALES
2018	ORAN MCCRAE
2019	JULIE KOOCH

2022	WARREN MATTHEWS
2023	CAL HENNRY
2024	JIM & HOLLY AKENSON
2025	SHAWN AND SHELLY STEEN

2026 GRAND MARSHALS

JACOB AND ASHLEY SPAUR

At just 35 and 37 years old, Jacob and Ashley Spaur are honored to serve as Grand Marshals for the 45th Annual Hells Canyon Mule Days — a reflection of their deep roots in the traditions, values, and rugged beauty of Wallowa County, Oregon. As the owners of Sour Apple Outfitters, they have built far more than a successful outfitting business; they have created a way of life centered around hard work, family, horses, and a passion for the outdoors.

Jacob Spaur was born in May of 1989 in Silverton, Oregon, to Vern and Theresa Spaur and moved to Wallowa at the age of three. The youngest of three children, Jacob was raised with a deep appreciation for the outdoors thanks to his father, an avid outdoorsman who taught him from a young age to hunt, fish, and cut firewood. Jacob excelled in athletics during his years at Wallowa High School, where he enjoyed football and earned a state wrestling title. It was also during high school that the dream of owning an outfitting business first began to take shape. Working for Ashley's family and learning from her father, Bill Graning, Jacob completed his senior project on "How to Pack," gaining hands-on experience and knowledge of the backcountry that would later become foundational to their future.

Ashley Spaur was born in December of 1990 to Bill and Amy Graning and was raised on her family's ranch in Joseph, Oregon. She grew up alongside her two siblings in a family deeply connected to ranching, horses, community, and the outdoors. Family has always been at the center of Ashley's life, and one of the roles she treasures most is being "Auntie" to her nieces and nephews. Growing up in Wallowa County gave Ashley a strong connection to the traditions and values of Eastern Oregon while also shaping her passion for hospitality and caring for others. Ashley learned to cook at an early age from her mother, Amy, who was known as an incredible cook — especially in hunting camps and outdoor settings where good meals brought people together after long days in the mountains. Those lessons became a lifelong passion and are still reflected today in the meals Ashley prepares for family, friends, hunting camps, and guests who visit Sour Apple Outfitters.

Jacob and Ashley met at the young age

of 14 while attending high school, and from that point on, their lives and dreams became closely intertwined. Their upbringing in the mountains and canyons of Eastern Oregon prepared them for the demanding lifestyle they have built together.

In 2012, while Ashley was attending college and playing softball, the couple started their first business together, Back Country Spraying. Their work often took them deep into the Snake River country, completing noxious weed spraying contracts for the Forest Service, county agencies, and private landowners. Over the years, their businesses expanded to include fencing and trail-clearing contracts alongside spraying and outfitting work.

In December of 2022, Jacob and Ashley purchased Steen's Wilderness Adventures from Shawn and Shelly Steen, lifelong family friends whom Ashley often describes as her second parents growing up. The opportunity was both meaningful and humbling for the Spaur's, who felt honored to continue the legacy and traditions established by the Steens while building the future of Sour Apple Outfitters.

Today, Jacob and Ashley are widely respected throughout Wallowa County for their work ethic, integrity, and dedication to both their clients and community. Long days, harsh weather, remote country, and the constant demands of outfitting are simply part of the lifestyle they embrace. They care for approximately 35 head of horses and mules, guide clients through some of the most breathtaking and rugged backcountry in the Pacific Northwest, and work tirelessly to maintain the high standards they have built their reputation upon.

At the center of everything they do is family. Jacob and Ashley are the proud parents of two children, Kylee (10) and Ryker (8), who are already deeply involved in the outdoor traditions that define their family's way of life. Whether it's hunting season, camping, sports, or 4-H projects, the kids are immersed in the same values of hard work, responsibility, and appreciation for the outdoors that shaped their parents. During the school year, they balance busy schedules, but whenever possible, the entire family heads to camp together one way or another.

Ashley handles the bookkeeping for both of their businesses while also serving as Chairwoman of the RMEF Wallowa Mountain Ladies Event. One of her favorite



DEEPLY COMMUNITY-MINDED, THE SPAUR'S ARE PASSIONATE SUPPORTERS OF THE RURAL TRADITIONS AND VALUES THAT MAKE WALLOWA COUNTY UNIQUE.

times of year is second elk season, when she heads to hunting camp to cook for the crew — a tradition she cherishes deeply. She is also the founder and host of Huckleberry Haven, an annual women's retreat held each August outside of Joseph, Oregon, in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Women from across the country travel to Wallowa County to experience horseback riding, glamping tents, home-cooked meals, fresh mountain air, and the peace and healing found in nature far away from the stresses of everyday life.

Jacob is known by many as a true jack of all trades. Though he prefers to stay out of the spotlight, those who know him best recognize his remarkable ability to build or repair nearly anything. With a calm and thoughtful spirit, he approaches every task with seriousness and pride. When he's not packing stock, spraying weeds, fencing, or clearing trails, Jacob enjoys chukar hunting, shed hunting in the spring, and spending time outdoors with his family. Together, Jacob and Ashley share a passion for both

rifle and archery hunting — traditions they are proudly passing down to their children.

Deeply community-minded, the Spaur's are passionate supporters of the rural traditions and values that make Wallowa County unique. They understand the importance of preserving agricultural heritage, supporting local families, and strengthening the bonds between neighbors and community members. Their generosity and hospitality have created an atmosphere where guests quickly become friends, and friendships often continue long after the trip has ended.

Their love for the wilderness is evident in every horseback ride through the mountains, every campfire conversation, and every effort they make to protect the beauty of the country they are privileged to work in each day. Through hard work, resilience, family values, and a genuine passion for the Western way of life, Jacob and Ashley Spaur proudly represent the spirit and traditions celebrated by Hells Canyon Mule Days.

2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- 8:00 am Main Gate Opens
- 8:00 am Mule Show
Halter and Showmanship Classes, Driving Events
- 9:00 am Exhibitors, Vendors & Western Gear
The Green and Quonset Building (Food Booth: JD's BBQ & Catering 7am - 3pm)
- Noon Log Pull, Mule Races & More!
(To follow Driving events)
- 1:00 pm Mule Show
Timed Trail Class - Warm Up Arena & More Fun Classes in Main Arena
- 7:00 pm Max Walker Memorial Scholarship
Cowboy Poetry Gathering
Gathering Emcee - Andy Bales
- OK Theatre Admission - \$10.00 Adults
\$5.00 Kids (12 years and younger)

Please Note: Times may vary for class events



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 8:00 am Main Gate Opens
- 8:00 am Mule Show
Cattle Sorting & Penning Classes
- 9:00 am Exhibitors, Vendors & Western Gear
The Green and Quonset Building (Food Booth: JD's BBQ & Catering 7am - 3pm)
- 9:00 am Free Mule Clinic
"Saddle Fit" Clinic • Livestock Pavilion
Everyone Welcome
- Noon Non-Motorized Parade
Downtown Enterprise
- 12:45 pm Spectator Kids Events
Stick Mule Race & Boot Scramble
4-9 years
- 1:00 pm Grand Entry & Mule Show
Main Arena
Fun and Entertaining Events:
Driving Classes
Fast Ass Express
Speed Ball
Barrel Racing
Musical Tires
Pole Bending
Jump-Off Challenge
and more.
- 5:00 pm BBQ Dinner On The Green
\$15.00 Advance - \$20.00 At Dinner
- 7:00 pm The Old Wet Trio
Songs of the American Cowboy!
Andy Bales to Open.
- OK Theatre Showtime: 7:00 pm
Doors Open at 6:00 pm
- Tickets: \$25.00 - \$20.00 Seniors, Students, Vets.
Tickets may be purchased at HCMD

Please Note: Times may vary for class events

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 7:30 am Main Gate Opens
- 7:30 am Cowboy Church
Outdoor Stage
Jeff Barnhart & Soul Renovation
Come for Church and Stay for Breakfast
Food Booth: JD's BBQ & Catering
7am - 3pm
- 9:00 am Mule Show
Trail Class, English & Western
Pleasure, Ranch Riding, Flapjack Race,
Bareback \$5 Challenge, & lots more!
- 9:00 am Exhibitors, Vendors & Western Gear
The Green and Quonset Building (Food Booth: JD's BBQ & Catering 7am - 3pm)
- 9:00 am Dutch Oven Cook-Off
Two member teams, One pot cook-off -
Main Dish and/or Dessert
Buy your People's Choice Packet
and be part of the tasting and judging.
- 10:00 am Free Mule Clinic
"Saddle Fit" Clinic • Livestock Pavilion
Everyone Welcome

3:30 pm Mule Show Awards Presentation

Please Note: Times may vary for class events



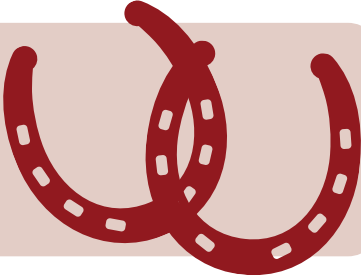
FOR UPDATES & MORE:
HellsCanyonMuleDays.com

ADMISSION

- Admission Button
- Daily Admission

Adults: \$10 | Seniors: \$8 | Youth (7-12 Yrs.): \$3 | Return privileges all 3 Days

Adults & Seniors \$5.00 | Youth \$2.00



HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS 2026

Sept. 11, 12 & 13, 2026 • Enterprise, Oregon

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sondra Lozier President
Craig Yaw Vice President
Kathleen Yaw Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

**Peggy Brennan, Julie Kooch, Angie Nash, Vicki Searles,
Janet Werner and Kathleen Yaw**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER IMPORTANT PEOPLE

Arena Director:

Craig Yaw

Arena Crew:

Kathleen Yaw, Dick Walker, Reed
Chandler, Mike McWilliams, Peggy
Brennan, Sierre Carver and crew

Show Announcer:

Tony Yost

Official Show Judge:

Angie Turner

Trail Judge:

Elaine La Rochel

Show Secretary:

Carisa Yaw

Chute Boss:

Craig Yaw

Awards presentation:

Janet Werner, Kathleen Yaw and
Crew

Show Photographer:

Angelika Ursula Dietrich-Garoutte,
Wildhorses Thunder Studio

Sound:

J's Place - Jay Connolly

Grand Marshals:

Jacob & Ashley Spaur

County 4-H Court 2026-2027:

Hope Bates, Reese Ripson, and
Phoenix Gomes-Schaffer

BBQ Dinner:

Belinda Kuntz & crew

BBQ Meat:

JD's BBQ & crew

Cowboy Gathering:

Andy Bales

Dutch Oven Cook-Off:

Vicki Searles & Crew

Exhibitors/Vendors:

Sondra Lozier

Graphic Designer:

Ali Garrett

Marketing & Publicity:

Sondra Lozier

Parade:

Tina Hite & Brenda Brock

Parade Announcer:

Tony Yost

Show Logo Design:

Bonnie Shields

Signs:

Jerry Hays

Sponsors:

Sondra Lozier

Water Contractor:

Contract Water Wagons

President's Patient Husband:

Kent Lozier

IT'S OUR 45TH ANNUAL

LET THE GAMES, GOOD TIMES AND FAMILY FUN BEGIN

The Show will be three full days of events that include classes for every age group and skill level. It is a fun family weekend and youngsters enjoy competing and showing their mulemanship abilities as much as the older well honed contestants. The gates open at 8:00 am on Friday with a line-up of Halter & Showmanship. The afternoon events include the Log Pull for singles and teams, Timed Trail Class in the main arena followed with other fun events. Highlights of the weekend events include the Classic Jump-Off Challenge which is always a crowd pleaser, and fast action events include pole bending, barrel racing, and the Fast Ass Express. Don't miss the free mule clinic at 9:00 am Saturday and 10:00 am on Sunday for special tips on training your mule. Before the Grand Entry on Saturday, the popular Kids Stick Mule and Boot Scramble Races are scheduled. These two events are for kids (ages 4 - 9 years) who are spectators and everyone wins a blue ribbon and special awards to the winner of each heat. During the Saturday afternoon show there will also be a contest for the oldest spectator and the spectator who has traveled the most miles to attend the show.

The weekend is packed full of mule related happenings and there is always something to see and do for the whole family. Visitors can enjoy strolling The Green and visiting with vendors, exhibitors and western artists. Be sure to buy your lucky raffle ticket for your favorite item in the Mule Days Raffle. Some of the raffle items included will be a Buffalo Skull from Stangel Buffalo Ranch, a complete Dutch Oven setup for the beginner to enjoy Dutch Oven Cooking, Bonnie Shields, well known Tennessee Mule Artist, "mule art" designs and also a signed copy of the book about her story and artwork, and a HCMD Belt Buckle.

The Max Walker Memorial Cowboy Poetry Gathering will start at 7:00 pm Friday evening at the historic OK Theatre in downtown Enterprise. Come sit, enjoy some cowboy yarns and experience traditional country music from a great line-up of poets and musicians. The admission fee is a \$10.00 donation and will go to the Max Walker Memorial Scholarship Fund. Early arrival is advised as this quickly becomes a standing-room-only event.

Saturday events not to be missed include the non-motorized parade with this year's Grand Marshals, Jacob and Ashley Spaur, leading the precession of riders, teams, pack-strings, local horse clubs, and former Grand Marshals. Enjoy the Saturday evening Memorial Scholarship B-B-Q Dinner on The Green at 5:00 pm.

The Saturday night concert starts at 7:00 pm, doors open at 6:00, at the OK Theatre. The Old West Trio, an outstanding trio that performs western music in the silver screen tradition. PRE - \$25.00 • Seniors, students, and vets \$20.00

Sunday morning starts with Cowboy Church at the outdoors stage with Soul Renovation at 7:30 am and Jeff Barnhart will conduct the morning church service. Everyone is welcome... Come for church and stay for breakfast, being served by JD's BBQ & Catering (home cooked style) in the Food Booth.

The Dutch Oven Cook-Off is scheduled at 9:00 am on Sunday starting with some great local and visiting teams working their culinary magic. If you wish to enter the Adult or Youth categories the Dutch Oven Cook-off packet is on the Mule Days website. Spectators are invited to visit team members and learn about traditional pioneer cooking. There will be a People's Choice category and the packet entitles samples of each team's dishes, a vote on the best dish in each category. People's Choice packets are limited and may be purchased during the Dutch Oven Cook-Off.

Your HCMD Souven-ears Admission Button is valid for return privileges all three days... \$10.00 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors (60 & older) \$3.00 for kids (7 thru 12 yrs.) and kids 6 years and younger are free when accompanied by an adult. Can only attend the show for one day? Daily admission, adults or seniors \$5.00, kids (7 thru 12 yrs.) \$2.00.

Handicap Accessible • Covered Seating • Free Parking

Be sure to make HCMD part of your summer plans and come celebrate with us a Wallowa County Tradition of Mules and Muleskinners.

FMI: Sondra Lozier, Home 541-426-3271, Cell 541-263-0104,
Work/Antiques Shop 541-426-3229.

HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS 2026

CLASS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPT. 11 • STARTING AT 8 A.M.

No.	Class	Award
1	Parade Entry Saturday Line up at 11:30 AM on North side of track	
2	Halter Mule Foals of 2026	Ribbon
3	Halter - Mule Yearlings	Ribbon
4	Halter - Mules - 2 Year	Ribbon
5	Halter - Mules - 3 Year	Ribbon
6	Halter - Aged Saddle Mules - 4 Years and Older (John)	Ribbon
7	Halter Aged Saddle Mules - 4 Years and Older (Molly)	Ribbon
8	Halter - Aged Pack Mules - 4 Years and Older	Ribbon
9	Halter Grand Champion Mule	Buckle
10	Showmanship - 18 & Older	Ribbon
11	Showmanship - Amateur 18 & Older	Ribbon
12	Showmanship - 14-17 Years	Ribbon
13	Showmanship - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
14	Showmanship - Novice	Ribbon
15	Showmanship - Open Green Mule	Ribbon
16	Showmanship - Grand Champion Showman	Buckle
17	Pleasure Driving - Team-18 & Older	Buckle
18	Pleasure Driving - Team - 17 & Younger	Buckle
19	Obstacle Driving - Team - 18 & Older (Carts)	Buckle
20	Obstacle Driving - Team - 17 & Younger (Carts)	Mule Bucks
21	Obstacle Driving - Team-18 & Older (Wagons)	Buckle
22	Obstacle Driving - Team - 17 & Younger (Wagons)	Mule Bucks
23	Heart Race Driving - Team - 18 & Older (Wagons)	Jackpot
24	Heart Race Driving - Team - 17 & Younger (Wagons)	Ribbon
25	Heart Race Driving - Team - 18 & Older (Carts)	Jackpot
26	Heart Race Driving - Team - 17 & Younger (Carts)	Ribbon
27	Speedball - Driving - Team - Open	Jackpot
28	Four Barrel Race - Driving - Team Open	Jackpot
29	Two Barrel Flag Race - Ridden - 18 & Older	Jackpot
30	Two Barrel Flag Race - Ridden - 17 & Younger	Jackpot
31	Pleasure Driving - Single - 18 & Older	Buckle
32	Pleasure Driving - Single - 17 & Younger	Buckle
33	Obstacle Driving - Single - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
34	Obstacle Driving - Single - 17 & Younger	Mule Bucks
35	Pole Bending - Driving - Single - Open	Jackpot
36	Heart Race - Driving - Single - Open	Jackpot
37	Speedball - Driving - Single - Open	Jackpot
38	Four Barrel Race - Driving - Single - Open	Jackpot
39	Reining-18 & Older	Mule Bucks
40 TC	Reining - Amateur	Mule Bucks
41 TC	Reining-14-17 Years Old	Mule Bucks
42 TC	Reining-13 & Younger	Ribbon
43 TC	Reining - Novice	Ribbon
44	Reining Open Green Mule	Ribbon
45	Team Cattle Sorting #1 - Two (2) Riders per team	Jackpot

Timed Trail Class - Warm Up Arena - 1:00 PM

No.	Class	Award
46	Timed Trail - 18 & Older	Buckle
47	Timed Trail - Amateur 18 & Over	Buckle
48	Timed Trail - 14 to 17 Years	Buckle
49	Timed Trail - 13 & Under	Ribbon
50	Timed Trail - Novice	Ribbon

Max Walker Memorial Cowboy Poetry
and Western Entertainment Gathering
Friday 7:00 pm • OK Theatre, 208 W Main St, Enterprise
\$10 - Adults •\$5 - Kids (12 years and under)

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12 • STARTING AT 8 A.M.

No.	Class	Award
51	Team Cattle Sorting #2 - Two (2) riders per team	Jackpot
52	Team Cattle Penning - Three (3) riders per team	Jackpot

9:00 AM	Free Mule Clinic - “Saddle Fit” Hosted by David Morrison @ the livestock pavilion - Everyone Welcome
11:30 AM	Parade Line Up - North side of track across from Les Schwab
12:00 PM	Parade begins in downtown Enterprise on Main Street
12:45 PM	Stick Mule Race and Boot Scramble - Arena
	Stick Mule Race (4-9 Years-Spectator kids only)
	Boot Scramble (4-9 Years-Spectator kids only)
1:00 PM	Hells Canyon Mule Days Grand Entry - Open to all contestants

53	Pleasure Driving - 4 Up - Open	Buckle
54	Fast Ass Express - Three (3) riders per team	Jackpot
55	Obstacle Driving - 4 Up - Open	Buckle
56	Speedball - Ridden - 18 & Older	Jackpot
57	Speedball - Ridden - 17 & Younger	Jackpot
58	Jump-Off Challenge - Jackpot Sponsored by Main Street Motors	Jackpot

On the Track

59	Log Pull - Single - 18 & Older	Jackpot
60	Log Pull - Single - 17 & Younger	Jackpot
61	Log Pull - Team - 18 & Older	Jackpot
62	Log Pull - Team - 17 & Younger	Jackpot

In the Arena

63	Pole Bending - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
64 TC	Pole Bending - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
65 TC	Pole Bending - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
66 TC	Pole Bending - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
67 TC	Pole Bending - Novice	Ribbon
68	Barrel Racing - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
69 TC	Barrel Racing - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
70 TC	Barrel Racing - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
71 TC	Barrel Racing - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
72 TC	Barrel Racing - Novice	Ribbon
73	Steer Daubing #1 - Open	Jackpot
74	Breakaway Roping #1 - Open	Jackpot

Saturday Night Smoked BBQ Dinner

5:00 PM On the Green by the Chuckwagon

BBQ Pork, Cowtown Coleslaw, Buckaroo Beans,
Yeller Corn, Warm Rolls & Lemonade and water
Advanced Tickets \$15 , Day of the Dinner \$20 , 10 yrs. and younger \$10

The Old West Trio Live at the OK Theatre

Doors open at 6, Concert at 7
at the OK Theatre, 208 W Main St, Enterprise

Expect to hear elements of the Sons of the Pioneers,
Gene Autry, and a peppering of swing, yodeling, and lighthearted fun.

More info and tickets at TheOldOK.com

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13 • STARTING AT 9 A.M.

Cowboy Church
7:30 AM Main Stage

Service - Jeff Barnhart — Music by Soul Renovation

9:00 AM in the Livestock Pavilion

Free Mule Clinic - “Saddle Fit” Hosted by David Morrison @ the livestock pavilion
Everyone Welcome

9:00 AM on the track

No.	Class	Award
75	Trail Class - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
76 TC	Trail Class - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
77 TC	Trail Class - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
78 TC	Trail Class - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
79 TC	Trail Class - Novice	Ribbon
80	Trail Class - Green Mule Open	Ribbon
81	Trail Class - In Hand Open	Mule Bucks
82	Trail Class - Peewee Leadline	Ribbon
83	Peewee Leadline	Ribbon
84	Flapjack Race - 18 & Older	Jackpot
85	Flapjack Race - 17 & Younger	Jackpot

9:00 AM in the arena

86	Western Pleasure - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
87 TC	Western Pleasure - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
88 TC	Western Pleasure - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
89 TC	Western Pleasure - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
90 TC	Western Pleasure Novice	Ribbon
91	Western Pleasure - Open Green Mule	Ribbon
92 TC	Ranch Riding - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
93 TC	Ranch Riding - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
94 TC	Ranch Riding - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
95 TC	Ranch Riding - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
96 TC	Ranch Riding - Novice	Ribbon
97	Key Hole Race - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
98	Key Hole Race - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
99	Key Hole Race - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
100	Key Hole Race - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
101	Key Hole Race - Novice	Ribbon
102	English Pleasure - 18 & Older	Mule Bucks
103 TC	English Pleasure - Amateur 18 & Over	Mule Bucks
104 TC	English Pleasure - 14 to 17 Years	Mule Bucks
105 TC	English Pleasure - 13 & Younger	Ribbon
106 TC	English Pleasure - Novice	Ribbon
107 TC	English Pleasure - Open Green Mule	Ribbon
108	Steer Daubing #2 - Open	Jackpot
109	Breakaway Roping #2 - Open	Jackpot
110	Barnyard Jumping - Open	Jackpot
111	Bareback Challenge - 18 & Older	Jackpot
112	Bareback Challenge - 17 & Younger	Jackpot

3:00 PM Awards Presentation

Mule Bucks for 1st place equals , use as cash at our Vendors & Food Booth

COWBOY CHURCH

7:30 AM Main Stage



First formed in 1992, Soul Renovation is a Christian band from Wallowa County that will open the Cowboy Church service on Sunday morning. Pictured left to right is Jay Connolly, Janice Garrett, Gary Moffit, and Terri Moffit.

In 1992, 32 years ago, five people from Wallowa County joined forces to pool their talents and common Christian beliefs to form a band named Soul Renovation that, through the years, has lost and added new members and, at no charge, has performed concerts in locales as distant as Portland. Two members from the original five – Jay Connolly (lead guitar and vocals) and Janice Garrett (keyboard and vocals) with Gary Moffit (guitar and vocals) who joined the group in 2002, and later, Gary’s wife, Terri (bass guitar) joined to the complete the foursome. Although a handful of drummers have performed through the years with Soul Renovation, that spot today is filled by an electronic drummer the band’s human members call “Alice.”

Jeff Barnhart will conduct the short morning church service and says he is not a pastor, but likes to read and share God’s word. Plan to start your Sunday morning with attending the Cowboy Church at 7:30 am at the stage on The Green. There isn’t a gate admission fee for attending church or JD’s BBQ breakfast served in the food booth. Everyone is welcome.



2026 HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS
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HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS 2025

2026-2027 WALLOWA COUNTY 4-H COURT



Members of the 2026-2027 Wallowa County 4-H Court

Left to right: Hope Bates, Reese Ripsom, and Phoenix Schaeffer.

The selection for the 2026-2027 4-H Court was announced Saturday afternoon during the awards program at the Wallowa County Fair.

Hope Bates is the daughter of David and Bobbie Bates, and entering 9th grade at Silvies River Charter School. Reese Ripsom is the daughter of Nick and Deidra Ripsom, and will be in 9th grade at Joseph Charter School. Phoenix Schaeffer makes up the threesome, her parents are Dustin and Christina Schaeffer, and Phoenix will be in 9th grade at Enterprise High School.

The girls will spend this coming year promoting 4-H across the county, acting as emcees for awards programs, and working with community organizations as the official representatives of the Wallowa County 4-H program. At the Hells Canyon Mule Days event, they will be in the downtown parade on Saturday noon handing out balloons to youngsters, and they will help serve at the B-B-Q Scholarship Dinner Saturday evening. They will also be selling "Mule Chip Lottery" tickets to help support the Max Walker Memorial Scholarship Fund. Make sure to buy your lucky number space from them on Saturday for a chance to win \$250.00.

The HCMD show committee thanks the 4-H Court for giving their energy and support to the Mule Days event, and wishes them a great year with all their 4-H activities and projects!

For more information about the 4-H program contact Debi Warnock at 541-426-3143.

TOP HAND AWARD WINNER

Tony Yost

2026 Top Hand Award winner



Since 1981 this annual event has been organized and implemented by individuals who have a sense of community and have been part of the Mule Days event. Over the years many people have given their personal time and extra effort for the success of this annual Wallowa County tradition...

The Hells Canyon Mule Days committee, realizing that many these individuals are the life blood of the event and are often unrecognized for their valuable outstanding contributions and commitment to carry out many thankless tasks, established The Top Hand Award in 2006 as an annual accolade designed to honor exceptional individuals dedicated to the success of the event and to extend a special "thank you".

Mule Days is paying tribute to the true spirit of one special individual by presenting this year's Top Hand Award to Tony Yost. Since 2018 Tony has been the voice to kept the three-day mule show on task with a steady flow for a slate of competitive class events, order of contestants, winners and placement of contestants for each class. Tony is a great encourager, and with many of the classes, especially the fun jackpot events, he can get the crowd engaged to cheer the contestants on to the finish line.

He gives the class sponsors a big appreciation for their support every year, and no doubt, will add something about each sponsor from his personal perspective since doing business with them over the years. Tony will be sure that everyone in the grandstands know of all the other happenings that are included during the three days of the mule show. You will also find him (along with members of his family) downtown on Saturday noon at the corner of Main and Second Streets to announce each entry of the Mule Days parade.



Tony wears many hats being the show announcer and he does each one so well! He is one who can always be counted on and a true supporter of this Wallowa County tradition

The HCMD board of directors and committee members say a big "Thank You" to Tony Yost, this year's Top Hand Award winner. We couldn't do it without you!!!

PAST TOP HAND AWARD WINNERS

- 2006 **Larry and Juanita Waters**
Joseph, OR
- 2007 **Warren and Zoe Matthews**
Princeton, OR
- 2008 **Dick Walker**
Union, OR
- 2009 **Kent and Chris Lozier**
Enterprise, OR
- 2010 **Susan Hollenbeak**
Riggins, ID
- 2011 **George Burnett**
Aurora, OR
- 2012 **Alan & Cheri Miller**
Wallowa, OR
- 2013 **John Hollenbeak**
Joseph, OR
- 2014 **Clay Freels**
Enterprise, OR
- 2015 **Midge Kliever, Diane Knox**
Joseph, OR
- 2016 **Harold & Pam Stitzel**
Wallowa, OR
- 2017 **Sondra Lozier**
Enterprise, OR
- 2018 **Belinda Kuntz**
Enterprise, OR
- 2019 **Jay Connolly**
Enterprise, OR
- 2022 **Chris & Christina Lozier**
Enterprise, OR
- 2023 **Harry & Ginger Daggett**
Joseph, OR
- 2024 **Mike McWilliams**
La Grande, OR
- 2025 **Bonnie Shields**
Joseph, OR

THE OLD WEST TRIO AT THE OK THEATRE

Old West Trio performs songs of the American Cowboy by combining the best of three voices, two guitars, and one bass. Expect to hear elements of the Sons of the Pioneers, Gene Autry, and more with a peppering of swing, yodeling, and lighthearted fun. Members of the group are Steve Johnson (lead guitar), Steve Ide (rhythm guitar), and Leslie Ide (bass).

The Old West Trio Live at the OK Theatre

Doors open at 6, Concert at 7
at the OK Theatre, 208 W Main St, Enterprise.

Tickets available at theoldok.com and locally
at Favorite Finds on Main Street and The Bookloft.



2026 MAX WALKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Kylee Cunningham



Grayson Hawkins



Owyhee Harguess

The Hells Canyon Mule Days Board of Directors being focused on supporting the youth of our County are pleased to award three \$1000.00 scholarships to three Wallowa County high school seniors attending college in 2026-2027.

The scholarship committee is pleased to award the 2026 scholarships to Kylee Cunningham, daughter of Collin and Jessie Cunningham. Kylee graduated from Enterprise High School and she is attending Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, to pursue a degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in special education.

Owyhee Harguess, daughter of Adrian and Rhonda Harguess, graduated from Enterprise High School and will be attending George Fox University in Newburg, Oregon. Owyhee plans to obtain a Bachelor's of Science in Kinesiology and to graduate with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy.

Grayson Hawkins, son of Hadley and ShanRae Hawkins, graduated from Joseph Charter School and will be attending the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. Grayson plans to major in Natural Resources Enterprise Management with a minor in Fire Science.

Once again there was a strong field of applicants and each one was very deserving. The committee was impressed by the diverse goals of Kylee, Owyhee, and Grayson, and their character evaluation references, career choices and leadership qualities.

The HCMD Board of Directors congratulates each student and wishes them a successful and enjoyable future as they pursue their college education.

The Max Walker Memorial Scholarship program was conceived in 2005 to honor the late Max Walker, one of the founding members and supporters for the Mule Days event. To date, Hells Canyon Mule Days has awarded a total of \$63,000.00 to Wallowa County students to help further their academic goals. The scholarships are funded in part by the Max Walker family, and sponsors John and Glennie Martin, the family of Lee Manes, Vemco, and Wallowa County Grain Growers. Also, the proceeds from the HCMD Max Walker Memorial Cowboy Poetry Gathering helps fund the annual scholarships.



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MAX WALKER MEMORIAL COWBOY GATHERING

Local and visiting cowboy poets and musicians are on the line-up for the Hells Canyon Mule Days Max Walker Memorial Cowboy Gathering on Friday night, September 11th, starting at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30) at the historic OK Theatre in downtown Enterprise,

Emcee, Andy Bales, will head up the evening's entertainment line-up with his unique cowboy-flavored music and poetry. Andy was blessed to be born in Wallowa County, Oregon, and to be raised in the ranching communities of Joseph, Oregon, and Salmon, Idaho. He started playing the guitar at age nine with Old Time Fiddlers Association and have been wrecking musical havoc ever since. He always had a liking for the older traditional western music with Marty Robbins, Johnny Cash, and Sons of the Pioneers as major influences. He spent time working on smaller ranches growing up and can familiarize with a lot of the song material. He is a lover of mountains, music, and western history and culture. He enjoys riding and packing into the backcountry with stock and tries to do so as much as possible. He is enjoying retirement in Salmon, Idaho, with his wife, Debbie, and their equine packing partners.

You can sit and listen to cowboy tales and also enjoy some toe-tapping traditional cowboy tunes. The evening line-up of poets and musicians include... Cowboy poet and musician J B Barber, musician John Grant, vocals and guitar; Roger McGee, Wind Dancer Flutes, (Native Flutes); and to round out the evening, cowboy poets Ken Wellard and Bobbie Hunter will share their storytelling and verse to entertain everyone attending the gathering...

Admission charged for attending the Cowboy Poetry Gathering is a \$10.00 donation for adults and \$5.00 for youth, 12 years and younger. The admission funds support the Max Walker Memorial Scholarships and contribute to Wallowa County student's higher education. Please note, that all the entertainers contribute and support the scholarship fund by donating their time and many talents for the success of the Cowboy Gathering. Please be sure to thank them and support them by buying and enjoying their CD's that will be available in the lobby of the OK. So, plan to join your friends and neighbors and enjoy some great traditional cowboy music and western poetry from some of the best entertainers from near and far...

The Max Walker Memorial Fund was established in 2005 by Hells Canyon Mule Days, Inc. in the memory and honor of the late Max Walker. Max was one of the founding fathers of the Mule Days event and the driving force of this annual event for twenty years.



Andy Bales

MAX WALKER MEMORIAL COWBOY GATHERING

Friday night, September 11, starting at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30)
at the historic OK Theatre in downtown Enterprise

HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS DUTCH OVEN COOK-OFF



Dutch Oven Cook-Off Teams and Judges

Left to right: Team T-N-T, Tammy Grover & Tanna Harlon; Team Buck Wild, Lincoln West & Diana Sullivan; Judges, Wallowa County Commissioners, John Hillock & Lisa Collier; Team Grace Prairie, Paul Flanders & Terri Hall

The cooking starts Sunday morning at 9:00 am with this year's cook-off featuring a format, in which teams can enter one or two dishes, main dishes and/or desserts, which are judged individually for each category.

A panel of celebrity judges will use International Dutch Oven Society (IDOS) guidelines to determine the Hells Canyon Mule Days Dutch Oven Cook-Off winners. There will be first and second place awards of \$100 and \$75 in both the Adult and Youth category, along with a special gift for the People's Choice winner. The People's Choice packet entitles samples of each team's dishes, and to cast a vote for the best dish in each category. People's Choice packets are limited and may be purchased during the Dutch Oven Cook-Off.

This is a great event for spectators to watch the cook-off teams work their cooking magic, and the public is invited to visit with the team members during the cook-off. The goal of this event is to have fun, demonstrate Dutch oven cooking skills, and introduce the public to the joys of Dutch oven cooking. There is lots to learn from these seasoned cooks and they enjoy sharing most all their secrets for true success of cooking in a Black Pot. This competition is a fun event and geared for the novice or backyard enthusiast that enjoys Dutch oven cooking and having a great time.

The public is encouraged to join in on the fun and food prepared by competing teams cooking up a variety of dishes in the classic Dutch oven... traditional cast-iron, lidded pots with three legs that use coals or briquettes to cook the food. Everything from stews and roasted meats to bread and cake can be made in a Dutch oven.

2025 Dutch Oven Cook-Off Winners

Prize - \$100 for first, \$75 for second in each category.

People's Choice Award:

Main Dish: Team Buck Wild, Diana Sullivan & Lincoln West - Cowboy Beans

Dessert: Team T-N-T, Tammy Grover & Tanna Harlon - D O Lava Cake

First Place Main Dish: Grace Prairie, Paul Flander & Terri Hall - Turmeric Salmon & Coconut Rice

First Place Main Dessert: Team T-N-T, Tammy Grover & Tanna Harlon - D O Lava Cake

Second Place Main Dish: Team T-N-T, Tammy Graver & Tana Harlon - Pepper Steak

Second Place Main Dessert: Team Duck Wild, Diana Sullivan & Lincoln West - Lemon Corn Bread

Remember to buy some raffle tickets

For the "Let's Get to Cooking", valued at over \$450, and includes everything for the start-up Dutch oven cook! Sponsored by Camp Chef and Hells Canyon Mule Days.

HELLS CANYON MULE DAYS

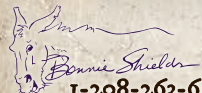
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