It has come to my attention that there is a need for more people to run for the Board in 2024. I got a call from a fellow member to ask if I would be interested because there has not been a board member from the western district in a while. My first thought was I am not part of a multigenerational Clydesdale family and my second was that I don't have 30 or 20 or even 10 horses at home. Third I am not a big time breeder of these fantastic animals, so why me?

But the more I thought about it I realized that for the last 17 years that I have had Clydes I have supported the Breed in many ways. I have ridden my Clydes on a draft horse drill team for 10 years, I have brought in the American or Canadian Flag for the Grandstand shows at our local fair for about 12 years. We have fox hunted, done mounted shooting, law enforcement training, ran barrels and other games and competed in Mountain Trail, ETS and other obstacle competitions, not to mention many, many trail rides. We have even sorted cows a little. Through all these ways that I have put my horses out there I have shown that these animals can do it all even though I still hear "I didn't know you could ride those horses, too."

Over the last 17 years I have seen putting a saddle on your Clydesdale go from a novelty to a rising trend as we can see from the sale catalogs that describe horses as broke single, double and to ride now.  A person does not have to have the expense of a wagon and multiple horses to go out and have a good time. They just need that one perfect horse for themselves and that is a market that is growing and we need to nurture it. It is something I saw at the World Clydesdale Show in Scotland and would love to see more of here in the States and something I would push for as a member of the CBUSA Board.

I am in my second year as President of our chapter of the Backcountry Horsemen of Washington after serving for three years as VP. I have also been on the Board of directors of the Sunset Farm Equestrian Park for 14 years helping to plan all the events and maintenance for the park.

Thank you for your consideration.

 Roger Edmonds

Mistyfields Farm

Custer, WA