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# FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 28 ■ ISSUE 1

APRIL 2010

## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

The FRA membership follows the yearly calendar; dues are payable in January with current membership ending December 31st. Please check the label of this newsletter, if there is a "Member 2010" above your name, Thank You, your dues have been paid. If there is another year or no year listed above your name, either the dues have lapsed or you have yet to become a member. Won't you please take the time to either renew your membership or join FRA by remitting \$20 to the membership chair? Check the back page for the application form. **Thank you!**

## FOOTHILLS SPRING CLEAN-UP SATURDAY APRIL 24TH

Once again the Foothills area roads are messy with litter. Let's demonstrate our delight in living in this area! Take time on April 24th to pick-up litter along a section of your road. Board members have scheduled the day to clean the Community Center building and grounds. Help from community residents is always welcomed and it makes the day that much more pleasant. Please join us anytime after 9am – yummy snacks will be provided!

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## SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU!

I just wanted to write and tell you how I am doing, and how your funds are being put to use. I love it here at Multnomah Bible College! The classes are great; I love all of them I've had so far. (Well, except maybe Fine Arts.) All of the professors are amazing! I've made friends with many through both my classes and having lunch with them. My favorite class last semester had to be English Composition. This is quite a shock as this was my least favorite subject in high school. The topics were very interesting and it caused me to consider many important aspects of my life. This semester, I'm enjoying my philosophy class the most. Learning about great thinkers from the past is wonderful. During last semester, I started feeling a strong desire to pursue ministry in Japan. Though I am still planning to be a youth pastor, I am now pursuing becoming a youth pastor in Japan. I have even been offered a position as a teacher at an international school in Japan. Thank you so much for assisting me in finding all these great opportunities and experiences for growth.

*~Sincerely, Shea Layton*

The Foothills Newsletter is published 2 - 4 times a year by the Foothills Rural Association

Editor ■ Faye Krenkel  
rfkrenkel@ptera.net ■ 928-6610

Design by ■ BCi Creative  
kim@bcicreative.com ■ 465-9775

It is mailed to all known resident addresses in the Foothills area. Send address changes to:

FRA Membership Records  
11615 E. Temple Road  
Spokane, WA 99217

[www.ruralspokane.com](http://www.ruralspokane.com)

## NEIGHBORHOOD ALERT SYSTEM

The FRA Board is discussing methods to quickly alert members of local happenings or situations that could be potentially unsafe for Foothills residents or damaging to property. Under discussion are the use of Twitter & email. They are seeking input from residents. What is your suggestion for a Quick Alert system? Email or call one of the board members, contact information is listed on the last page of the newsletter.

## FIRE ALARM REPORT CLARIFICATION

In the November 2009, FRA newsletter stated that in 2009 the total incident count was 36 for Fire District 9. The statement should have read: "The 36 responses for the first nine months of 2009 were only for those alarms in which the Foothills station (SCFD96) had the initial response. The number did not include other calls in which Station 96 personnel and equipment assisted another station or any calls originating within the first-due area of the other eight stations. The District as a whole had 2,111 alarms during the same time period."

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR OPPORTUNITY

With this newsletter I will have served as the editor of the FRA Newsletter for the past nine years! It has been a fun, interesting and a rewarding experience but it is time for me to pass the "pen" to the next generation. As of January 2011, I will be leaving the FRA editor's desk.

The FRA Newsletter has been the voice of our association and the glue of our rural community. In its 28 year history the newsletter has evolved from a typewritten, cut and paste with scissors and glue operation to the current computer generated issues. BCI Creative transforms the editor's articles into a printed newsletter format and Griffin Publishing is responsible for mailing. An electronic version is also produced and posted on our website at [www.ruralspokane.com](http://www.ruralspokane.com) by webmaster David Fisher. During the newsletter's 28 years, there have been three long term editors: June Balcom (1983-1992), Jim Wallrabenstein (1993-2001) and myself (2001-2010).

The editor position offers the opportunity to become involved with the community, its people and events by being the "eyes and ears" of the Rural Foothills Association. It requires regular attendance at the board meetings and events; computer skills, some editing skills, which can be easily learned, along with the enjoyment of getting to know your Foothills neighbors. I would be happy to provide assistance and training for this position. If you are interested please call or email Faye at 928-6610 or [rfkrenkel@ptera.net](mailto:rfkrenkel@ptera.net).

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## BIRDING TRAILS

For information on Mt. Spokane State Park birding trails visit: [www.spokaneaudubon.org/Content/Documents/Document.ashx?DocId=42825](http://www.spokaneaudubon.org/Content/Documents/Document.ashx?DocId=42825)

## MOM OF PRESCHOOLERS

If you're a mom with young children, you've got your hands full. At MOPS, moms can come together and share advice, stories and encourage each other through the preschool years. Mothering changes everything! That's why our MOPS group is a special place where you can come and feel accepted, understood and cared for. We meet the 1st Tuesday of the month at Foothills Community Church from 9a-11:15a, September - May. What can you expect? Speakers who provide practical insight and ideas. True friends with whom to relate and share advice. Crafts - Fun easy projects, even for the least crafty of us. And lots of delicious food. If you have any questions please contact Michelle Baxter at 465-2285.



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## FARMERS MARKET

Have an abundance of produce? Excess craft items? Would you be willing to participate in a community "farmers market?" Board members are looking into sponsoring a very limited farmers market which would be held at the Community Center. The proposed idea is to once a month, at a specific time open the Community Center for residents to sell farmers market items. If you are interested or you would like more information please call or email Holly, [hmweiler@yahoo.com](mailto:hmweiler@yahoo.com) 921-8928.

## UPCOMING FRA EVENTS

**Subject to change. For current info go to:  
[www.ruralspokane.com](http://www.ruralspokane.com)**

### 2010 EVENTS:

- April 3 • Easter Egg Hunt**
- April 24 • Spring Clean-up**
- May 13 • Scholarship Applications Due**
- June 19 • Fun Run/Walk**
- July 10 • BBQ with FFFF**
- Sept 18 • Founders Day**
- Oct 31 • Chili Feed**
- Dec 10 • Family Christmas Party**

## STORIES FROM OVER THE FENCE

*The distinctive beauty of the Foothills area is what has lead many people to call this place home. Even though the rural setting may mean your closest neighbor is a mile down the road there is a strong sense of community among all that live here. It is a community of people that look out for one another, offer a helping hand and share stories over the fence. The following pages contain a collection of those such stories written by your Foothills neighbors. If you would like to share your story please email the FRA Editor, Faye Krenkel, at [rfkrenkel@ptera.net](mailto:rfkrenkel@ptera.net).*

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### THE HORSE RAN AWAY WITH A MOOSE

by Kelly Pfley

On Sept. 30, 2009 at 6:30 pm neighbors called our house to say that one of our horses was at their house, which was weird because we had just fed both horses and all was well. Morgan (12) and Kelly (mom) grabbed a bucket of grain and a spare halter/lead rope and headed on foot to the neighbor's house. By the time we arrived, our horse Annie, was nowhere in sight. According to the neighbor, our horse had bolted at top speed up and down the lawn of the property three or four times. On her final run into the woods, the cause of the commotion was visible: a bull moose was chasing her! With no horse in sight and all of the trails leading uphill, we headed back home to saddle up our other horse, Buster, to ride the mountain in search for Annie. Morgan and the neighbor, hopped onto the four-wheeler with grain and halter in hand to look for her beloved pet. We covered a lot of ground and searched for two or three hours, going different directions to widen our search, but found no horse.

The next morning, I drove south on Forker Road in search of Annie. As I rounded the bend near Morrison Road, there was the mare! I rolled down my car window and hollered at Annie in the hope of slowing her down long enough for me to get out of the car to give her some grain and get the halter on her. Guess what she did....she didn't stop. Instead, she kept trotting down the road. When she got to the petting farm she stopped, neighed at the horses in that pasture, and when they didn't neigh back, she kept on trotting! I couldn't believe it! I continued to follow her as she moved towards the Community Center. I pulled into the old drive way south of the center, got out of the car with the grain bucket and called her name. She didn't slow down! Instead, she ran right passed me towards the Community Center and that was the last I saw her. Later that same day, after driving around for several hours looking for Annie, I headed home. I must have knocked on every door in the entire area to figure out where this horse disappeared to.

Many people were very gracious to let me and my daughter ride Buster through their property to find our horse. We drove and rode through much of the immediate Foothills area continuing our search from Wednesday night until Sunday night. On Monday I continued to search talking with numerous people. Some people stated they had seen our bay horse run north all the way to where the fields end and the wooded area begins. Still others say they saw the horse head west, jump an old barbed wired fence and disappear over the edge which runs above Hangman.

On Monday evening, a lady in Greenbluff called to say she had captured our Annie in the Greenbluff Canyon and had her corralled on her property. Over two and a half days, Annie had run the better part of 15 miles and had injured her left leg below the cannon bone. By this time, my frustration level made me feel that it was time to solve any further problems with my gun and a 35 cent bullet. When Annie was finally in our possession, we took her to our vet for an evaluation. After cleaning up the wound, she had only torn the skin on the back side of the joint and had not severed any tendons or ligaments. However, an infection had set in the hoof. Morgan religiously medicated her pet for the next eight weeks.

After 10 days of oral antibiotics, the infection was still present. A second visit to the vet with the horse allowed us to get antibiotic injections that were administered into Annie's neck for 10 days. Still, the infection continued. A third visit to the vet on a snowy Friday evening, November 13, 2009 was the final day for Annie horse. She had to be put down. Morgan was on her way to Montana with her dad on a hunting trip for 10 days. She never got to say "good-bye". As sad as I was for having to put the horse down, I was glad the ordeal was over. She was a good horse. Morgan loved her and they had formed a strong bond. I can speculate for a long time on how this all began, but it's not worth getting grey hair over it.

# BURGLARY

by Mike Britton

On Wednesday, January 27 as I returned home from work, I saw the house lights were on and the garage door was open; so were the front door and the slider. Our dog was standing in the driveway with a look that 'I didn't mess up the house, someone else did'. If the garage door is open or the lights on or the dog outside, that usually means that Cheryl is home, but not this night.

I cautiously entered the house and saw that the gun-safe had been attacked by my claw hammer, the combination dial was knocked off and the opening lever mangled. The house was 60 degrees with the furnace heating feverishly. In the living room, the TV was missing as were all DVD's; VHS tapes were scattered about. A wooden foot-locker of my son's was chopped open in the living room, wood chips spread around. Three knives were stolen, but they left an heirloom knife worth about \$400. All of the kitchen cupboards and drawers were open. Every drawer in the back room, bedroom, and bathroom had been yanked open and contents tossed in piles. There was a frozen turkey from the freezer on my desk, along with a bag of trail mix. The still frozen turkey made me think that whoever had been here, left not long ago. I wondered if Cheryl would have surprised them had she come home at her usual time, instead of late this evening.

Before moving anything, I took pictures and closed the outside doors; then began an inventory. A bed sheet and quilt were taken, probably to carry and cushion the loot. The gallon jar of pocket change from the bedroom was gone, but the same jar in the kitchen remained. From the back bedroom a new rangefinder, knife, and flashlight were stolen.

From the garage my Husqvarna model 61 chainsaw was taken; I loved that saw. I had bought it when we moved here in 1985 and it had cut dozens of cords of firewood, thousands of board feet of saw logs, and limbed and brushed tons of debris.

The garage side door was bashed and had shattered jambs. It could not be opened because a dresser and about 200 pounds of sand-blasting sand were obstructing it. The crook's method of entry was to pry the overhead garage door open by breaking the connecting bracket between the door and the remote opener. The last line of defense was the friendliest dog in all of the Foothills.

About 20 minutes after calling, a deputy was on the scene asking questions and writing notes. Pictures and fingerprints

were taken; I received a report instruction form and a Case Number. It was disheartening.

We have begun the insurance claim process and have spent numerous hours on report forms, replacing items, and worst of all, trying to list the collection of approximately 200 DVD movies. The insurance company wanted an itemized list for replacement purchase costs; otherwise they would only pay current value. What a pain.

What's next? We have begun to place a security system; are contemplating a gate, and with this newsletter article, raising awareness with our neighbors. A network of neighbors watching out for each other is the best security, but we are out of sight from our neighbors.

What are good methods to protect your home? Don't work, stay home 24 hours every day. Soon you'll have no home or possessions to steal. A good deterrent is to write down every unknown license plate number that enters your property. Send the numbers to the crime reporting center. They may be able to get areas targeted for emphasis patrol or times of activity; or may be able to connect repeated criminal action. Do not place yourself in danger. Confronting serves no purpose; just have the facts to convict: description, numbers, and pictures.



CRIME CHECK  
456-2233

**Crime Check is service provided by Spokane County for non-emergency calls. Crime Check will process reports for some local law enforcement agencies as determined by those agencies.**

#### **Tips when Calling Crime Check:**

- **Know where you are and your telephone number.**
- **Stay calm.**
- **Answer the Call Receiver's questions and stay on the line until the Call Receiver is finished obtaining all the necessary information.**

**If you are unsure you have an emergency, dial 911 and let the communications center decide what action is necessary.**

# GREAT HORNED OWL

by Ron Dexter

Everyone has seen a Great Horned Owl silhouetted against the night sky on a power pole or heard the deep “Whoohoo-hoo” call at night. But, how much more do you know about these large birds? Great Horned Owls are 18”-25” tall with wind-spans up to 60”. They start breeding at 2 years and can live up to 30 years. Adult females weight only 3 ½ pounds and males 12 ½ pounds. Their bones and feathers are hollow. They can fly at 40mph and their wings are designed for silent gliding which allows them to approach their prey. They can hear and catch mice under weeds or snow. Quoting from the Audubon Nature Encyclopedia, “One can compute the food requirements of a pair of Great Horned Owls as nearly 50,000 grams (110 lbs) of meat per bird per year. About 75% of its mouse diet is the white-footed mouse and 24% the field mouse. Since these two mice weigh 14 and 34 grams respectively, a little more arithmetic shows that one such owl, if 90% of its diet were mice, would eat over 2,750 mice per year! The pair of them would eat some 5,500 mice, and given two young for half a year, a family would consume some 8,250 mice.”

Here in the Foothills, their main foods in addition to mice are voles – those fat little rodents that make tunnels all over the place. Can you imagine what it would be like here in the Foothills without predators? Mice and voles reproduce very rapidly. There would soon be millions of mice running around – including in buildings looking for food and places to build nests. This is part of the reason that all owls, hawks and falcons are protected by State and Federal laws. Great Horned Owls swallow mice whole, then strong acids in their stomachs digest all the meat. The hair and bones of the mice rolls up into a ball and is then regurgitated from their mouth. If you search carefully beneath the poles where the owls perch, you may find some of the pellets or hair balls. By carefully separating these pellets, you may be able to find the entire skeleton of a mouse or vole.

An interesting trait of owls is that the female starts incubating the first egg as soon as it is laid. A couple days later, a second egg is laid and sometimes a third several days later. This creates a situation where the babies are different sizes. The biggest always gets fed first. If there are enough mice, etc. to go around, the others get fed in turn. This is nature’s way of matching the number of predators to the prey.

*Reprinted from the January 1996 FRA Newsletter*



## EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 3RD

Come join us for the 2nd Annual Foothills Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3rd at 10am! This is a fun family event held at the Foothills Community Center, which is located at 11000 N.

Forker Rd. Also includes a donation-only bake sale & hot coffee to keep parents warm during the event. All proceeds benefit the Community Center playground. If you have any questions please contact Angie Gardner at [brianangieg@yahoo.com](mailto:brianangieg@yahoo.com).

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# JESS KRONQUIST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

## Foothills Rural Association • Blue Ribbon Circle

**Scholarship Eligibility and Administration:** The amount of each scholarship may vary. Past scholarships have averaged \$500-\$1000 each; with three to four recipients. Scholarships will be awarded to Foothills residents as selected by the Foothills Rural Association Scholarship Committee. The scholarship will be applied toward tuition and paid directly to the recipient's college, university, or other accredited educational institution. Consideration will be given to:

✓Need and use of the scholarship ✓Grade Point Average ✓School activities/community service ✓Completion of application as directed

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT OR GUARDIAN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS ATTENDING COLLEGE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education:** Attach a copy of your most recent high school or college transcript.

**Essay:** Attach a description of your background, your personal and educational achievements, along with your interests and/or activities. Share your goals and aspirations and tell how this scholarship will be used to achieve them. Be sure to address the listed considerations. • Return the completed application to one of the individuals listed below no later than **MAY 13, 2010**.

• All applicants are required to be interviewed by the Scholarship Committee.

• Applicants will be contacted for this interview tentatively set for **MAY 20, 2010**.

**Foothills Scholarship Committee:** Carol Stoll (926-2944)  
16221 E. Lincoln Rd.  
Spokane, WA 99217

Mike Britton  
13502 N. Forker Road  
Spokane, WA 99217-9640



## SCHOLARSHIPS 2010

The FRA with the Blue Ribbon Circle annually fund up to a total of \$3,500 for college tuition. Applicants must be a resident or a child of a resident of the Foothills area, as determined by the Scholarship Committee. Applicants must be 18 or older – any older age! Additional Jess Kronquist Memorial Scholarship applications may be downloaded from [www.ruralspokane.com](http://www.ruralspokane.com)

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**Spokane, WA 99217**

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Call, 921-2729 or 475-7126

## MEMBERS ONLY CLASSIFIED ADS

### FRA MEMBERS - FREE

Email your ad information to [kim@bcicreative.com](mailto:kim@bcicreative.com)

*NOTE: Ad space is limited and ads will be rotated.*

NON-MEMBERS: May advertise for a fee - Call 465-9775

YOUTH ADS: Foothills youth ages up to 18 years are welcome to advertise for jobs for Free.

*NOTE: Ad space is limited and available on a first come, first request basis.*

## YOUTH ADS

**Prepared to Work!** Pastor Brian has a big list of eager, fit, and responsible, young people seeking part time, occasional, or regularly scheduled work. He is usually able to find workers upon short notice. Call Pastor Brian at his office, 926-4971 or at home, 921-7885

**Babysitter:** Dependable and reliable. Own transportation. Call: Alicia 921-2729

## FRA MEMBER BUSINESS LISTINGS

*Below is a listing of FRA Members' Businesses & Services*

A Protection Home Inspection ..... 270-0812  
*Home inspection services*

Alpine Frames ..... 922-4825  
*Custom framing & photography*

Anderson Collision ..... 924-2748  
*Auto frame repair & painting*

BCi Creative ..... 465-9775  
*Graphic & web design*

Britton Tole & Decorative Painting ..... 922-1494  
*Custom hand painting*

EcoEnergy Systems ..... 979-2508  
*Solar, wind, grid-tie, backup, RV, marine*

Foothills Suri Alpacas ..... 928-0299  
*Alpaca breeders*

Impact Business Products ..... 928-8782  
*Office Supplies & Cash Register Supplies*

Knecht, Allison ..... 921-2729 or 475-7126  
*Licensed massage therapist*

Potter, Ashley ..... 994-8538 or 927-8532  
*Piano lessons for ages 6 to adult*

Wensleydale Computer Service ..... 892-7594  
*David Fisher - Upgrades, tuning & networking*

West Towing ..... Northside: 467-2800 or Valley: 924-0194  
*Automobile towing services*

Yokes Fresh Markets

## FRA BOARD MEETINGS

### BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held at the Community Center and convene at 7:00pm. All Foothills residents are invited to attend.

2010 Board Meeting Date: April 12

The Foothills Rural Association, 11000 N. Forker Road, was established as a non-profit corporation under section 502(C) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code on December 12, 1983. The purposes of the corporation are to organize the property owners and/or current residents within the boundaries of Fire District 9, Station 6: to provide a forum by which the property owners and/or current residents to assist governmental agencies in better planning the use and resources of the Foothills area: to preserve and protect the rural agricultural environment.

Voting Membership in the Association is open to any property owner or current resident within the Foothills boundaries. Membership dues are \$20 per year. Non-voting Membership is available to others through payment of dues. The Association is governed by elected volunteer officers and a board of directors.

A Community Crime Log has been established in an effort to increase community awareness about crime occurring in our area. The crime log will be published in the newsletter. Residents are encouraged to report all crimes to the police. After making a police report, call or email Mitch Roland at 951-9983 or [mroland831@air\\_pipe.com](mailto:mroland831@air_pipe.com).

The Foothills Community Center, 11000 N. Forker Road, which is located adjacent to the Foothills Fire Station, exists as a result of community efforts to save and renovate the former Foothills School Building. The Center, used for many community activities, is maintained and supported by the Foothills Rural Association. It is available for use by members of the Foothills Rural Association for a nominal utilities charge and by non-members for a reasonable rental fee. The community center includes complete kitchen facilities. For information or to reserve a date, call: Sherrie Potter, 927-8532.

Foothills Rural Association Website: [www.ruralspokane.com](http://www.ruralspokane.com)  
Contact: David Fisher, Webmaster: [davidf@ruralspokane.com](mailto:davidf@ruralspokane.com)

### 2010 Board Officers

President	Rich Krenkel	928-6610	<a href="mailto:rfkrenkel@ptera.net">rfkrenkel@ptera.net</a>
Vice-President	Holly Weiler	921-8928	<a href="mailto:hmweiler@yahoo.com">hmweiler@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Allison Knecht	921-2729	<a href="mailto:alknecht@wwdb.org">alknecht@wwdb.org</a>
Treasurer	Don Tucker	924-9105	<a href="mailto:dat@wwdb.com">dat@wwdb.com</a>

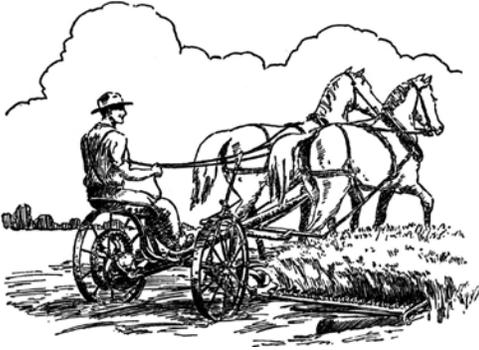
### Board Members:

Eric Barr	(10)	891-9993	<a href="mailto:ericb11969@yahoo.com">ericb11969@yahoo.com</a>
Cheryl Britton	(11)	922-1492	<a href="mailto:mbritton@icehouse.net">mbritton@icehouse.net</a>
Maria Edelen	(12)	928-2405	<a href="mailto:mariaedelen@aol.com">mariaedelen@aol.com</a>
Ashley Humbird	(11)	927-8532	<a href="mailto:itsherragain@aol.com">itsherragain@aol.com</a>
Mitch Roland	(10)	951-9983	<a href="mailto:mroland831@air_pipe.com">mroland831@air_pipe.com</a>
Marc Tainio	(12)	891-0118	<a href="mailto:marc@tainio.com">marc@tainio.com</a>

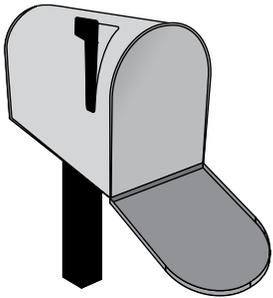
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## Membership

**It's easy to become a member of the Foothills Rural Association.** NOW is the time to play an active roll in the foothills community. Annual dues of **only \$20** will help support programs, events and information for our community.

**It is time to renew your membership for 2010.** If you have not been a member in the past or have let your membership lapse, we invite you to support your community organization so that we can continue to offer programs for the Foothills area. *Thank you* to those who continue to support FRA!

Please complete the form and mail it with your annual membership dues of \$20 to:

FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION  
16115 E. Temple Road  
Spokane, WA 99217

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we are willing to volunteer for one event during the year \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

***Thank You for being part of the Foothills Community.***