

# The Picket Line

Post Office Box 3232, Bozeman, Montana 59772-3232

[www.bchmt.org](http://www.bchmt.org)



## Officers

### President:

Brown Parsons ...586-9030

### Vice President:

Ron Rassley... ....388-4415

### Secretary

Joan Holborn... ....586-3306

### Treasurer:

Betty White ... ..586-2301

## Directors

### 1 year term:

Bonnie Hammer.... 284-6822

Rich Inman 388-1564

Aaron Linton 585-3493

### 2 year term:

Joyce Haner.....388-4273

Sharon Lowry..... 587-4013

Jim Nelson.....388-2201

## State Board Members

Harry Boughton

Linda Roffe

Alternate: Ron Rassley

## Newsletter Editors

Dan Marsh.....587-7578

[dmarsh@montana.edu](mailto:dmarsh@montana.edu)

Jiffie Hale.....763-4105

Cell-580-6825

[jhale@imt.net](mailto:jhale@imt.net)

## Meetings

### Director's meeting

Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

@

Sharon Lowry's

160 Lake Rd.

587-4013

Members welcome

## General Meeting

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm

Belgrade Alliance Church

Cameron and Hoffman

## Program

Saddle fitting & Care

Presented by

Nancy Peterson, owner

Three Forks Saddlery

and

## Poker Ride Update

## Events

Wed., May 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm meeting

FS Bozeman District

See information on page 5

Sat., May 10<sup>th</sup> OTO Ride

Trail Boss: Sonja Berg

388-6087

Sat. & Sun., May 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

BCH Expo @ Helena

May 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

Campout @ West Fork of

the Madison

Trail Boss: Bob Steinman

282-7166

Sat., May 31<sup>st</sup>

Head for the Hills Poker

Ride @ the Green Ranch

Contact Pat Green

285-6949

See enclosed insert

**We welcome new members.**

Please add to your roster

Tony & Charlotte Kutsch  
4911 So. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Bozeman MT 59715  
582-0868  
kutschmt@aol.com

John Shields  
POB 10983  
Bozeman MT 59719

Mark Deopsemer  
31845 Frontage Rd  
Bozeman MT 59715  
585-7835/388-4493

Lori Brockway  
1753 Moffitt Canyon Rd  
Bozeman MT 59715  
587-7198  
[LAMCCO@aol.com](mailto:LAMCCO@aol.com)

**Renewal members**

Jenny & Bryce Kawasaki  
12043 Gooch Hill  
Gallatin Gateway MT 59730  
763-5048  
jennynbryce@imt.net

**President's letter on the state convention.**

A good turnout was in attendance at the state convention hosted by the Bitterroot BCH chapter in Hamilton, MT. The Bitterroot club put out a lot of effort and did an excellent job of putting on this year's state convention and certainly receives my thanks for a job well done. Our two state directors and six delegates participated in the meetings and workshops. I enjoyed the workshops I attended. One was on the Lewis & Clark Expedition as it related to the Bitterroot Valley presented by Lonnie Bookbinder and another was on survival in the outdoors led by Lee Scharff, who had a world of knowledge and experience. The Saturday evening banquet speaker was especially enjoyable, with Captain William Clark presented by Richie Doyle. The Bitterroot Club did a great job in securing vendors and arranging their wares in an attractive set up. There was an excellent

selection of silent auction items that made a successful fundraiser for the club. The Nine-Mile Mule Team was there for their usual excellent packing clinic.

The business part of the convention was short as we voted on only one resolution and elected a new national director and one alternate director. I would suggest the use of an agenda at future convention business meetings to be sent out to the clubs beforehand so delegates would have an idea about what is to happen, I was somewhat disappointed in the President/Vice-president Breakfast session as it has always been a round robin discussion meetings in the past. I felt I was at a lecture and was not particularly interested in the subject. Brad Powell, the regional forester of the Northwest Region did not have too much new to say to us. Chris Smith, the Chief of Staff for FW&P in Helena, our Sunday morning speaker, did generate some questions and interest. Overall, I did not think the business meeting this year was worth the expense of our club sending eight people.

The most important thing I came away with from the convention was a need to have an outreach program to other backcountry user groups in order to speak as one voice when responding to our government's administration of public lands. It is not all Forest Service who administers the government plan for public lands. Congress oversees the Forest Service, BLM, FW&P and other agencies.

We have started an outreach program and should continue with this by inviting them to our meeting to explain our mission statement and to seek a compromise on issues of mutual interest. Please be thinking about this and any suggestions are welcome.

Brown

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*I have a microwave fireplace in my house. The other night I relaxed in front of the fire for the evening in ten minutes.*

## The Horse World's Best Kept Secret

*By Jenny Kawasaki*

Have you ever heard of the American Farrier's Association (AFA)? Are you aware of the voluntary levels of certification for farriers through the AFA?

We believe the AFA is one of the horse world's best kept secrets. Not many people involved with horses that we have visited with are aware of its existence. The AFA is a non-profit organization run by farriers for farriers. Its purpose is to bring together farriers for the purposes of communication, education, certification, research, and innovation. The AFA is a great resource for the farrier AND horse owner.

In the past, the AFA has been lax in getting the word out to the horse owning public about itself, but that has been changing the last couple of years with the addition of an executive director who represents the AFA at horse related events around the country. We believe the AFA will become even more well known with the election of its new president, Craig Trnka, a certified journeyman farrier from New Mexico. Craig Trnka has been on the American Farrier's Team for ten consecutive years, and is devoted to horseshoeing. He has begun conducting educational clinics for horse owners around the country regarding proper horseshoeing and hoof care. There will be one of these horseowner clinics in Billings June 7, 2003. It is free, and if you would like any information regarding it, please call Bryce or Jenny at 763-5048. Craig Trnka, CJF is a real good hand at shoeing horses, and this is something that should not be missed if you own a horse.

The AFA is also a resource for horse owners who are looking for a farrier. The AFA maintains a database of its members, and one can call the office (859-233-7411) to get a list of farriers in his/her area.

The AFA provides for furthering the education and opportunities of its members, and the sky is the limit. There are three levels of certification, and they are all voluntary. Any farrier who has undergone the certification process is to be respected, because they have put a lot of time and effort into it, not only to mention all the blood, sweat, and tears invested in the journey.

The certification exams are given and scored by other farriers. This is probably one of the few, if not the only, industry where one is tested and scored by their peers. Believe me, there's nothing harder than getting up in front of your peers and showing them what you're made of!

The first level of certification is really a classification. It is geared for those just getting out of shoeing school, or are just getting some experience in horseshoeing. The person is required to shoe two feet (both fronts or both hinds) in 1 1/2 hours with keg shoes, and to pass a written test. The person who has passed this level has the IC level, or Intern Classification. This is NOT a certification.

The second level is the Certified Farrier level. People who attempt this level have to have at least one year of experience. They are required to pass a written test, shoe two feet (both fronts or both hinds) with keg shoes in one hour, and turn in and pass a shoe display. The shoe display consists of several common modifications performed with keg shoes. The person who has passed this level is a CF, Certified Farrier.

The third level is the Certified Journeyman Farrier level. The person who takes this exam has to have passed all areas of the certified farrier exam, and have been shoeing for at least two years. This test consists of a written test, shoeing an entire horse with handmade shoes (including toe clips on the front feet and quarter clips on the hind feet) in two hours, and making a straight bar shoe, forge welded, to a pattern in 35 minutes. The person who passed this level is a CJF, Certified Journeyman Farrier.

The AFA also supports the American Farrier's Team. Each year four people are chosen from among approximately 60 competitors at the AFA's annual contest. These people are chosen based on a point system after two solid days of various contests (forging, shoeing, etc). Both time and quality are a factor. These guys are GOOD! (There has been one girl on the farrier's team so far). The farrier's team represents the AFA (and YOU) at contests around the world. For example, they compete at the World Champion Blacksmith's Contest in Calgary, and also at a very large and well known contest in Stoneleigh, England.

*Jenny and her husband, Bryce, are members of our GVBCH.  
They both are Certified Journeymen Farriers and they work  
together and/or separately at your home or barn or in their new  
forge building where you can bring your horse to them.*

*They are both active and vital to the MPHA (Montana Professional Horseshoers Assoc.)*

*Bryce is their president while Jenny is their newsletter editor.*

*They both coordinate functions for the membership of the MPHA with clinics and certifications.*

**Notice for by-law changes**  
**To be voted on**

**ARTICLE III,  
MEETINGS**

**Section 6 (addendum)**

Voting board members may appoint any members in good standing to serve as proxy representation for the purpose of voting at Board meetings. It is the responsibility of the Board member to obtain proxy representation. If the Board member fails to attend or obtain proxy representation, then the Board member shall be considered absent from the meeting.

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**ARTICLE VI  
ELECTIONS**

**Section 1**

All Officers and Directors shall be elected by a majority vote at the regularly scheduled December meeting and their term of office shall be the calendar year next, following the date of such election.

**Section 1 (With recommended changes)**

All Officers and Directors shall be elected by a majority **vote (including absentee ballots)** at the scheduled December meeting and their term of office shall be the **next** calendar year following the date of such election.

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**ARTICLE VII  
REMOVAL OF OFFICERS**

**Section 2**

Any Board of Directors member missing three (3) Board meetings within a twelve (12) month period will be replaced by the Board at the next Board meeting.

**Section 2 (With recommended changes)**

Any Board of Directors member missing three (3) Board meetings within a twelve (12) month period shall be replaced by the Board at the next Board meeting. **(Refer to Article III, Sections 6, for Board member responsibility to obtain a proxy in case of absence.)**

**Note:** One of our members informed me that the above information should have been placed in the April issue. It was then that I read the minutes! I take full blame as I really goofed this time. See, I was wrong and Chick says I am always right! It makes him so-o-o mad!

Jiffie, your replaceable editor

*What hair color do they put on the driver's licenses of bald men?*

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**Utah trip April 1-9**

Kay Tate, Ron Rassley, Bonnie Hammer, Bettye White, Sharon and Jack Lowry drove with horses and campers to the upper Paria drainage south of Cannonville, UT for two days of river canyon riding on April 1. Their favorite there was Willis Cr., a slot canyon experience. That was a little too early this year, so they drove a day to warmer climes in Capitol Reef where there is a horse facility off the Notom Rd. called "The Post" where shepherders used to get their mail. Two more days of creek/canyon riding brought an end to their trip and they turned the big horses homeward on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

*Submitted by Kay*

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**2003 Convention, Hamilton, MT**

Our eight delegates attended all sessions and shared duties at all workshops during the last weekend of March. Bettye White's son, Steve, won a raffle prize of a float trip, B&B, meals on the Bitterroot for two. I bet Mike is happy as were we all. Only one item of business was put forth during session---a trails position statement of dubious value, but at least it is on record. Workshop sessions would take up too much space and time to espouse, but suffice to say, the sessions were very worthwhile. You could choose from Smoke Elser, "Tales and Trails of the Bob Marshall"; Pete Gorrell, "Balance: The Relationship between Horse and Rider"; Harry June, "Photography with Point and Shoot Cameras"; Lonnie Bookbinder, "The Lewis and Clark Expedition – A Bitterroot Experience"; Lee Scharff, "Survival in the Outdoors" and Mark Pengally, "Nine Mile Packing Clinic".

*By Kay Tate*

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*We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.*

*By Winston Churchill*

**Hay for sale**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting straight alfalfa \$80/ton**  
**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> cutting 1/2-1/2 alfalfa/grass \$75/ton**  
**Each bale approx 85-90#. Hay has been covered, no mold. Beautiful hay.**  
**Betty White 586-2301**

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**Her name is "Snickers" and she is a coming 5 year old quarter horse (Overo) standing 15hh+/- at about 1100lbs. Dark bay with black mane and tail and one rear white sock. She has good feet, is an easy keeper and well trained with a good disposition. She has been started up in the mountains and she packs. It is suggested that she would make a good woman's horse. Asking \$2000.**

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**Also: 2 new canvas horse blankets, brown lined .Med & Lg \$40/OBO**  
**Rich Inman 388-1564**

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**Reg. Tennessee Walking Horse, 19 yrs. Mare is in foal to General and due to foal in April. \$2500. A chance to own and raise your own gaited horse.**

**Jehnet Carlson 388-7463**

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**FOREST SERVICE MEETING**

Our club has received a letter from our District Ranger, Jose Castro, of the GNF requiring regulations they require for their volunteers on trail maintenance. Their regulations require that maintenance, construction or placing of a trail, road, structure or other improvement on national forest lands requires an approved operating plan. They also require a written agreement with each individual, or sponsored group, offering to volunteer. If you are interested in volunteering this summer for trail maintenance work, requirements must be met before any volunteer trail work can be completed. **This year the Bozeman Ranger District invites all volunteer participants to an evening meeting on Wed., May 8<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at the Bozeman District office.** During this

meeting they will discuss training requirements, what is expected of the volunteer, what projects need to be done, complete applications if you haven't already done so, and discuss any questions you may have. Please contact Chick Hale 763-4105 if you will be participating as he is to contact the FS as to the number of people that desire to attend.

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***Hard work spotlights the character of people:***

***Some turn up their sleeves,  
Some turn up their noses,  
and***

***Some don't turn up at all***

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***Finally...***after many member requests

**Harry's Famous Baked Beans**

1/2 lb smoked sausage

1 lb bacon

2 med. chopped onions

1/2 c. brown sugar

1/2 c. molasses

1/2 c. crushed pineapple

1 gallon pork and beans

Cut bacon into small pieces and slice sausage. Brown bacon, sausage and onions. (No need to add oil---bacon and sausage provide that. I drained a lot of the fat after the meat and onions were browned). Add brown sugar, molasses and pineapple. Heat through, then cool. This can then be refrigerated until time to prepare for the meal. When ready for meal preparation, add the beans and cook at a simmer for 30 min. to an hour (an hour is best). Serves about 20 people.

***You will taste these beans at our annual Steak Ride Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>.***

Many thanks Harry. We members have been waiting for your recipe for 2 ?? years.



**Director's Meeting Minutes, April 10, 2003**  
**Are not available.**

**General Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2003**

**Attendance:** Brown Parsons, Bettye White, Chick and Jiffie Hale, Wally Becker, Sonja Berg, Harry Boughton, Reggie Clark, Bonnie Hammer, Joyce Haner, Rich Inman, Aaron Linton, Sharon Lowry and Beth Merrick.

**Treas. report** Bettye's report was accepted as follows:

Checking a/c	\$521.43
Dues deposit	108.00
Petty cash	35.00
Money mkt	1,924.54
Total	\$2,588.54

**Issues:** Next time we go on trail work with Chick we have a wheeled roto-tiller that fits the width of the trail. Forest Service will not permit our club to take in work permit people. Chick is working on other alternatives.

**Convention reports:** Harry reported on the Expo to be held in Helena on May 17-18. The Continental Trail near Butte and Ennis is having a "political rally" at Big Sky and someone from our club should attend to inquire about it. The 2004 State Convention will be held in Dillon, March 20-21. The National BCH Convention is in Oregon next week. The Rocky Mt. Front is doing a 2 year DNA study on bears with 1200 sites. Clubs in Northern Montana might get a chance to pack in supplies, thereby raise money.

**GVBCH** must get in their article for the **September State Newsletter** issue. Get your pens in action, write an article and **submit to Harry**. Harry addressed the convention fees to the State Committee saying it is too expensive and an option might be to send less delegates from each club. Several clubs were in favor...fewer people mean less to house and feed. Beth made a motion and Sonja 2<sup>nd</sup> to have Linda Roffe's convention report be printed in the newsletter. Brown brought up that the convention needs to send out their agenda first before we send delegates. Also, resolutions should be sent out to each club before they are voted on at the convention. Beth questioned the necessity of having two board meetings at the convention. A set price for meals, room and miles needs to be motioned and voted on. Sharon and Bonnie are on a committee to present a motion to the local board at the May 7<sup>th</sup> director's meeting.

**Business:** June 7<sup>th</sup>, **National Trail's Day**. Chick will be away. Wally and Rich will organize location and packing of tools, which will be a joint effort with The

Wilderness Assoc., at Castle Rock or Garnet Mt. trail. Beth will head up trail crew to work on Fridays. No excuse if you can not work on Mon, Tues., Thurs., or Fri. Harry and Sharon will head up the **steak ride**. Harry brought up the idea to award steak ride prizes as a money maker??? They accept any volunteers now.

**Poker Ride:** Beth and Sharon remind everyone to get their prizes in to Rich Inman as soon as possible in order for the posters be made and posted. **Help is needed** in finding **4-wheelers, 1<sup>st</sup> aid person, ice chest and ice, organize meals on Fri., volunteer to spend Fri. night and someone to help Joyce with cooking.** Prizes will be drawn ahead of time and people can pick them up as they come off the trail. You need to be present to win.

**Rides:** Rich Inman and 4 people rode on the Red Bluff ride. Sammylu and Connie rode Story Hills. Aaron rode Big Sandy Creek area.

Board meeting at Sharon's, 7pm, May 7<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting, May 15<sup>th</sup> Thanks to Bettye for the cookies. Chick presented videos on how the Hell Roaring trail work progressed and on Fox Hunting in VA. Respectfully submitted by Bonnie Hammer (sub for Joan Holborn, sec.)

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**2003 BCHMT STATE CONVENTION**  
**REPORT by State Rep. Linda Roffe**

*This is Linda Roffe's report since she was unable to attend our April meetings due to another BCH commitment.*

**Points of interest for the Gallatin Club:**

\***1.** Harry reported Gallatin's complaint that convention fees are getting too high.

Reply:

The convention has limited space and is for delegates first and only. (some disagreed)

All want to continue the expensive hotel food because hotels give room rate breaks with package deals.

Suggestion was made to change the convention date to mid-summer to allow more people to come with less expenses...to be held at an outdoor facility. *Nothing was decided.*

\***2.** Only 1 resolution: to define the BCHM Positioning Statement. It was reworked and tweaked. Final copies will be distributed.

\***3.** LNT expenses of over \$700 were justified.

**\*4.** BCHM stated that 1 consistent fee for all local chapters would be good. There was warning that the national BCHMT dues will increase. BCHM would like more support in return for that happening such as help with all local club newsletters. Nothing was proposed as to how (stories or newsletters electronically provided, or preprinted shells allowing local clubs to add their news inserts...needed further discussion at a later time).

**\*5.** Dan received good feedback on website development. Some chapters were anxious to provide him with their information. Still looking for technical and design support. I told Dan that I would help with design down the road.

**\*6.** Smoke was his usual crowd pleasing self, Lewis and Clark, Survival Class, Photography, and all others were very good.

**\*7.** Linda got good support and feedback from Smoke and national directors on her Power Point presentation for the Midwest Horse Fair in April. The intro section of her talk was shown at the beginning of the conference. There was a request by the national directors to show it again at the national conference in April.

**\*8.** The May BCHM Expo in Helena, May 17<sup>th</sup> is in favor by everyone. All are encouraged to participate. New flyers with updated information are soon to be out. Linda will be working with Jim on vendors after she gets back from the Madison fair.

**\*9.** The discussion was opened up to have BCH chapters help FWP pack in "Hair Snares" for the new griz population studies (that would determine delisting the griz or not).

**\*10.** Linda is working with Phillips Environmental Products to allow BCHA to profit from portable/packable toilet systems sold to the general public at special events.

**\*11.** Next State Board Meetings:  
May 16<sup>th</sup>, Helena @ 1pm; Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, Butte @ 10am;  
Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, Missoula @ Smoke's.

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***"Back Country Riding" Presentation to the Midwest was very well received.***

Linda Roffe introduced BCHA to the Midwest the second week of April. Linda presented a one hour talk twice daily for three days at the *Midwest Horse Fair* in Madison, Wisconsin. The fair consisted of 58,000 horse lovers of all disciplines. She had the opportunity to spend time with John Lyons and Richard Shrake as they were also guest speakers. Linda started with a visual introduction

timed with music to set the mood. The crowds cheered. Following the introduction, was an animated Power Point presentation that all recreational riders enjoyed. Many of the trail riders were new to LNT, weed-seed-free hay, public land policy, trail etiquette, packing, riding in predator country and BCHA in general. She also introduced the Phillips Environmental Toilet System. That was something new to the Midwest! Don't be surprised if Wisconsin is next on the BCHA map. Many potential BCHA members were talking about starting local chapters. She was invited back to give the same talk to the *University of Wisconsin Veterinary School* next February. This same "Back Country Riding" talk will be given to the *Gallatin Valley Chapter later this fall*. Be sure to invite your friends to this entertaining presentation.

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**"Dusting"**

A house becomes a home when you can write "I love you" on the furniture. I can't tell you how many countless hours that I have spent CLEANING! I used to spend at least 8 hours every weekend making sure things were just perfect "in case someone came over." Then I realized one day that no one came over; they were all out living life and having fun. Now, when people visit, I find no need to explain the "condition" of my home. They are more interested in hearing about the things I've been doing while I was away living life and having fun. If you haven't figured this out yet, please heed this advice. "Life is short. Enjoy it."

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter, bake a cake or plant a seed, ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time, with rivers to swim and mountains to climb, music to hear and books to read, friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair, a flutter of snow, a shower of rain. This day will not come around again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind, old age will come and it's not kind.

And when you go – and go you must – you, yourself will make more dust!



*A Newsletter for Employees and Retirees*

ISSUE 1

Spring 2003

## Chic and Wally - *Seasoned Volunteers*

*by Marianne Baumberger, Gallatin National Forest*

The Bozeman Ranger District is indebted to the hard work of two local Backcountry Horsemen. For several years now Chic Hale and Wally Becker have loyally volunteered their time to reconstruct and repair trails on the district. In 2002 alone they each put in over 200 hours of volunteer time.

"These two are just full of hard work, colorful stories and character," according to Will Shoutis, district trails supervisor. "Chic and Wally are in their 70s, but do the work of 20 year olds! I can accomplish an awful lot of work with Chic and Wally's help."

Over the 2002 field season the duo faithfully showed up every Thursday last summer, accomplishing more than a dozen needed repairs to Forest Service trails. They spent the last month and a half working on the Hellroaring Trail in the Spanish Peaks Unit of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness.

When asked why they do it, the 75-year-old Chic said, "I do it



*Between snowfalls Chic and Wally sneak in one more day to finish up a work assignment on the Hellroaring Trail.*

because I not only see the need, but also it is so good to go outdoors and do physical labor." The Bozeman Ranger District recognized Chic and Wally for their efforts at the December meeting of the Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horseman.