

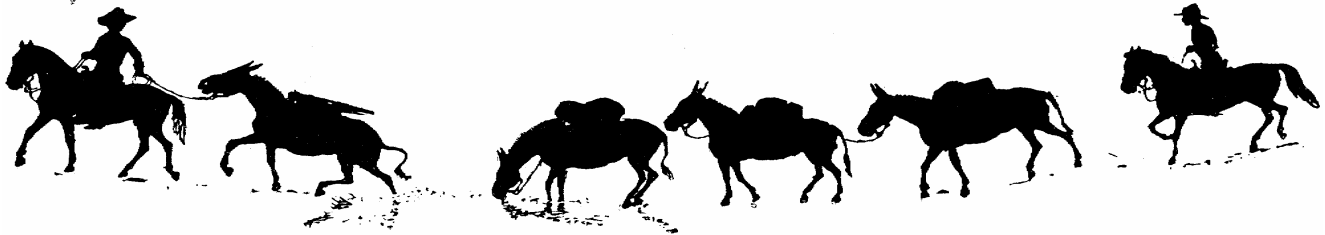
JANUARY 2004

The Picket Line

Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen

Post Office Box 3232, Bozeman MT 59772-3232

www.bchmt.org



Officers

President

Rich Inman 388-1564

Vice President

Janet Castro 388-0966

Secretary

Joan Holborn 586-3306

Treasurer

Cinda Eichenfels 285-4651

Directors

1 yr

Joyce Haner 388-4273

Sharon Lowry 587-4013

Jim Nelson 388-2201

2 yrs

Wally Becker 587-9607

Dave Read 388-1154

Amy Waring 585-2785

State Board Members

Linda Roffe 1 yr

Dan Marsh 2 yrs

Alternate: Brown Parsons 1yr

Newsletter Editor

Jiffie Hale 763-4105

Cell 580-6455

jhale@imt.net

BCH Web Master

Dan Marsh 587-7578

dmarsh@montana.edu

Backcountry Horsemen Mission Statement

“The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana’s roadless back country and (2) to assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource and (3) to educate and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses and people, commensurate with our heritage and the back country’s resource.”

Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm

Sharon Lowry’s, 160 Lake Rd. 587-4013

Outgoing and newly elected members are expected to attend

General Meeting

Thursday, January 15th at 7pm

Belgrade Alliance Church

Hoffman & Cameron

This is a very important meeting

See your president’s letter on page 2

Very important message from your new president, Rich Inman

As your new president, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the 2004 year. At our December Christmas party I told those attending that I retired from a very exciting and fulfilling 39 year career with the Forest Service. I started out as a range conservationist and ended my career as deputy forest supervisor of the Gallatin National Forest. As I came into the management ranks I was given many hours of management/leadership training. I plan to use that training and experience as I coach GV BCH this next year.

I assume that each of you is a member of the club because you enjoy horses/mules, being outside, working on projects/trails, learning from our monthly programs or any combination thereof. One of the things I want to do is get more members involved in club activities. There is a lot to do and a lot of fun to have so plan to come and enjoy. Our January meeting is when we put the projects, rides and programs together for the year. Come participate and get your ideas on the table.

GV BCH is a great organization that does lots of volunteer work. It also provides an opportunity to learn about the many aspects of owning, riding and caring for a horse. And, you get to put into practice what you learn. The club has many seasoned horse people who are willing to share what they have learned over the years. Let's all come together and enjoy the fellowship of each other's company. My goal is to have each of us that participates in activities to be able to look back at 2004 and have that inner feeling that we had fun and enjoyed the activities in which we participated.

I hope that you all enjoyed the holidays with family and friends. May God bless you.

New Member:

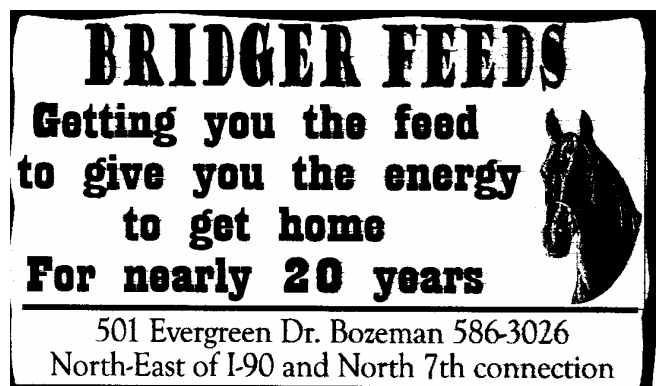
Anna Holstrom
2370 Butch Cassidy
Bozeman MT 59718
ahdiver@pocketmail.com

DUES ARE DUE!

*"I almost had a psychic girlfriend,
but she left me before we met."*

Steven Wright

As most of you know Harry and Alice Boughton plan to move to Great Falls sometime in May not far from where Harry grew up. Their plans are not definite as yet, but Harry feels certain it will happen (depends on his job certainty). And Alice is retiring from her job at MSU. Harry is a charter member of our club and is very active with the state BCH, which he will no doubt continue. We will miss them.



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Another Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen Christmas!

Amongst the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, it was delightful once again to celebrate the birth of Christ and the many blessings bestowed on the Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen in the year of our Lord 2003. Our lay minister in residence, Tom Griffith, led us in thanks not only for the delicious feast we enjoyed at the Country Korner Cafe', but also for the good tidings and great trail accomplishments and enjoyment we shared in throughout the spring, summer, and fall. We are thankful that our many-termed retired president, Brown Parsons, will continue to guide us on the board of directors, and that his successor as president will be a man who already knows the forest and trails well, retired U.S. Forest Service Deputy Supervisor, Rich Inman. And we are thankful as well for the services—and extensive trail work—of vice president, Ron Rassley, who is replaced by newly elected Janet Castro. We're thankful for the accurate accountings of Bettye White (get over the flu soon!), retiring as treasurer, and we offer best wishes for continued club "riches" to her newly elected replacement, Cinda Eichenfels (new to the club this year and getting right into it!). And, as in years prior, we thank club secretary, Joan Holborn, for her tireless recording of meeting events, and for kindly allowing us to elect her once again as secretary. The club is again indebted to the experience and effort of Sharon Lowry, who not only keeps us informed online, but does so much along with Beth Merrick and many unnamed others to make our annual premier event, the poker ride, a success. We are especially grateful for getting out our club news in

The Picket Line by our editor, Jiffie Hale, who will continue to give us more good words in 2004; she not only collects and edits the news, but also lays out the paper, gets it printed and in the mail each and every month. We are very glad this year to have three new board members, Amy Waring, Dave Read, and at least one member of the club's great "sweat equity" trail clearing and building team, Wally Becker. It must be noted here that another very active team player on the trails, Chick Hale (who invented an incredible trail machine this year, Pat. Applied for #3456789), has let it be known that he prefers to serve the club—and trail riders and hikers throughout the valley—by continuing to toil directly on the brush, fallen trees, rocks, and dirt of the trails themselves, especially the upper reaches of the vaunted Spanish Peaks Trail. We thank club trail workers one and all, for they are a lot of what the club is all about—and our member, Jose' Castro, U.S. Forest Service District Ranger of the Gallatin Forest, has often expressed the service's appreciation for their trail work, as well! We will be represented at the state level by Linda Roffe again this year, and now by Dan Marsh and alternate Brown Parsons. And finally, the club is especially indebted to the unprecedented generosity of Dr. Steele, whose contributed gaited horse and saddles, breast collar, and chinks were sold and auctioned off to several generous member-bidders for the benefit of the club—over \$3,000 altogether! It's been another great year for GVBCH, and may 2004 bring much more of the same!

Jim Gould

Cross country skiing is great if you live in a small country.

GVBCH Board Mtg. Minutes Dec. 3, 2003

Attendance: Rich Inman, Bettye White, Sharon Lowry, Aaron Linton, Ron Rassley, Bonnie Hammer, Brown Parsons, Beth Merrick, Joyce Haner, Jiffie & Chick Hale, Jim Nelson, Sonja Berg, Tom Griffith, & Joan Holborn.

Treasurer Report: Bettye states acct has not changed since last report at general mtg.
2 Bills Paid Kinkos for \$93.11 & Bozeman Trophy for \$10.50

Beth submits bill for approval for Trail etiquette Videos \$60.00 to Todd Buhmiller. Jim moves to approve, Sharon 2nd, passes unanimously.

Joan requests permission from board to submit a request to BCH of America for their 501c-3 tax exempt number for the donation to the club by Dr. Volney Steele. Copies of the completed BCHA charitable donation form presented for review. Motion by Joyce, 2nd by Bonnie to approve submission, passed unanimously.

Audit: Jiffie and Rich volunteer to review financial records.

Motion: Beth moves Chick be responsible for trial etiquette videos, 2nd by Rich, passes.
Respectfully submitted by Joan Holborn, Secretary

GVBCH General Mtg. Dec. 13, 2003

Nominations brought to floor as printed on ballot, no new nomination made.

Votes collected & tallied, Jiffie reported a tie between Beth & Wally. A blank paper ballot was given to those in attendance to vote between with Jiffie announcing Wally voted onto board. New President: Rich Inman, Vice-President: Janet Castro, Treasurer: Cinda Eichenfels, Secretary: Joan Holborn, New Directors: Amy Waring, Dave Read & Wally Becker. State Board Member: Dan Marsh, State Alt.: Brown Parsons.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Holborn,
