

# THE PICKET LINE

MAY 2006



## Officers

### President

Rich Inman 388-1564

### Vice President

Janice Cartwright 579-3445

### Secretary

Trina Fredrickson 522-9315

### Treasurer

Bettye White 586-2301

## Directors

2 yr

Wally Becker 587-9607

Dan Porter 388-0290

Larry Thomas 586-6878

1yr

Lori Brockway 587-7198

Joellyn Howell 388-4493

Jennifer Tuthill 586-9094

## State Board Members

Brown Parsons 2 yr

Dan Marsh 1 yr

Alternate: JanetCastro 1 yr

## Newsletter Editor

Beth Merrick 388-4047

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## BCH Web Master

Dan Marsh 587-7578

[dmarsh@montana.edu](mailto: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 road less 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."

*This month I am a fill-in for our editor, Beth Merrick, who is recuperating in California from a knee replacement. Beth is doing extremely well and expected home sometime in May.*

*Jiffie Hale*

[jhale@littleappletech.com](mailto:jhale@littleappletech.com)

## Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 3rd 7pm

Bettye White's , 586-2301

645 E. Baxter Lane 1/4 +/- mile East off Jackrabbit

## General Meeting

Thursday, May 18th 7pm

Belgrade Alliance Church, Hoffinan and Cameron Sts, Belgrade

## Program

Fay Johnson, Head of the Bridger Ski Patrol

Backcountry Wilderness Medicine for humans

[More info page 2](#)

[May events page 2](#)

### Schedule of Events for May

Sat., May 6th, Trail ride Horseshoe Hills, trail boss-Joellyn 388-4493

Sat., May 13th Trail work ride at Spanish Peaks, trail boss- Wally 587-9607

Sat., May 20th Trail ride at Garnet Mt for green horse and/or green rider, trail boss-Chick 763-4105

Sat., May 20th Pat Green's Poker Ride and flyer will be sent via email.

Sat., May 27th Virginia City Poker Ride for benefit fire company. No further info available.

More information on each of these events will be sent via email—and for those 4 members who do not have internet connection— please have your friend with a connection give you the information.

#### *Message from your president*

*On Saturday April 4th we completed our horse safety session for 2006. About 25 participants and instructors were involved in this training. In my opinion it was a good session with both instructors and participants learning something. A special thanks goes to Janice Cartwright for her efforts to organize this training. You did a good job and I appreciate all you did. I also want to thank Chick Hale, Walter Becker, Dan Marsh and Janice Cartwright for their instruction. Their experience and knowledge really came out in their teaching. With this session in the books we now have about 66 people who have gone through this training.*

*Although it is snowing today, the backcountry is slowly opening up to access. Chick already has been out on foot looking at some of the trails to see what needs to be done. It is interesting to note that the only damage he is seeing is from human beings churning up the trails--no horses to date. I hope you all are spending some time get-*

*ting your horses past the woolly stage and slowly into condition for the coming trail rides. By the time you read this we will have the Red Bluff ride under our belts. Remember the Horseshoe Hills ride is May 6 with Joellyn Howell as trail boss.*

*Our first Spanish Creek trail work ride is May 13 with Wally Becker as trail boss. Chick Hale is also having a green horse and rider trail ride on lower Garnet Mtn on May 20. These are the spring rides requested by club members who want to learn more about horses and riding in the mountains. Come join in but make sure you let the trail boss know your are coming so they can share the needs/logistics of each ride with you.*

*Remember: We do not remember the days but the moments. Life moves too fast so enjoy your precious moments.*

*Welcome home all you snowbirds.*

*Rich Inman*

*President*

The May speaker will be Fay Johnson, Wilderness Medicine Instructor and presently head of the Bridger Ski Patrol. Fay is presently head of the Ski Patrol. In the off season she travels all over the country teaching Backcountry Wilderness Medicine (humans not horses). She and her husband have trained several avalanche rescue dogs and have participated in numerous search and rescue operations in the region. Fay is a very knowledgeable and dynamic speaker, and will be a terrific May presenter for the club. You won't want to miss this one!

*Submitted by Jenny Tuthill*

On Saturday, April 22nd the Gallatin Valley BCH held our first and successful horse safety clinic at the Fairgrounds. The day was exceptional, a few clouds and an ever so slight breeze. Showers were predicted but that was found to be a fluke. Janice was the chairperson for this event doing a superb job where everything went according to her plans. Janice gave her talk before the sessions. There were four sessions. The first two began around 9am, we broke for lunch and resumed for the last two sessions. All sessions stressed SAFETY! That was our objective and we did it.



Session #1 was taught by Janice "On the Ground-horse care and handling" and here are her remarks: "We discussed that understanding how horses think helps us to remain safe when around them. We covered approaching a horse, quick release knots, gaining respect from your horse and remaining in control." Janice was a master at tossing stones at her horse when pawing. Good shot too! Timing was awesome.

**\*\*check all these pictures in color on our web site in this May issue [www.bchmt.org](http://www.bchmt.org)**

Session #2 was "On the Trail, Safety and Trail Courtesy" taught by Chick. He said, "...giving the participants an opportunity to realize that the ultimate control of their horse for safety is dictated by the rider and not the horse. The rider must stop and think of what they should do, practice how to make the horse do it and always know that the horse must respect you. Whatever the horse wants to do, you must make him do what you want him to do."



Session #3 was "Equine and Human First Aid" taught by Dan who graciously gave up his day of hunting to teach this course. Dan discussed, for example, dressing wounds, going over vital signs of horses and what happens when horses get stressed, i.e., signs of colic and what to do. For the human side they checked materials in the First Aid kit and its proper use, covered the 3-C's of Check, Call and Care and the ABC'S of Airway, Breathing and Circulation. Everyone learned something from the group discussion and left with something to think about on their next trail ride.

Session #4 was "Tack and Equipment" with Wally teaching and Rich horse holding. Wally said, "The people learned some very useful ways for safety and I claim my methods were a lot safer, as for example, I showed when you help a person mount-- you want to make sure that no obstacles are hanging from their neck, and I showed them a different manner of a folded billet on the off side, and of installing a ring saddle for tying your lead rope by making a simple pull to release."



Photo by Janice

Dr. Don Funk, chiropractor and horse trainer volunteered his time to be with us this day. Weren't we fortunate? He watched some of the riders during the lunch break and after the sessions doing problem solving and some chiropractic adjusting to some horses. He's a very nice guy.

The day was successful in that the weather was perfect, but that was not the scene the next day. The temperature dropped to 20 and we had snow with blizzard winds. I went to church on Sunday dressed like the middle of winter with a bad sunburn! One never knows when you are in Montana.

Notices will be sent via email pertaining to the following ——— Look for them soon, very soon...this weekend maybe?

Pat Green's Poker Ride which will be a flyer — her latest information also as a separate email.

Bob Steinman's Horse packing and Camping for Dummies

Bob Steinman's Yellowstone Park Trips

Janet Cartwright and her novice rides/rider/horses

And any info on our trail rides.  
There was so much more to place in this month, but I have run out of space for those items. Watch your email.

**March 1, 2006 Board Meeting Minutes**

Officers/Directors in attendance: Rich Inman, Janice Cartwright, Beth Merrick, Wally Becker, Trina Frederickson, Joellyn Howell, Bettye White, Dan Porter, Larry Thomas, Dan Marsh, , Lori Brockway, Brown Parsons

Motion to accept minutes of February 1, 2006 by Joellyn; second by Janice. Minutes passed as written.

Bettye provided treasurer's report as follows:

|  |            |            |                   |
|--|------------|------------|-------------------|
| Opening balance 2/16/06                          |            |            | \$3,813.42        |
| Bills paid Jiffie Hale, NL and stamps            | \$80.99    |            |                   |
| Postmaster P.O. Box rental on a/c                | 37.00      | 117.99     | 3,695.43          |
| Deposits Member dues                             |            | 90.00      | 3,785.43          |
| <u>Ending balance</u>                            |            |            | <u>\$3,785.43</u> |
| Petty Cash                                       | \$51.13    |            |                   |
| Reimburse Bettye for balance on P.O. Box rental- | 13.00      | 38.13      | \$38.13           |
| Other assets:                                    |            |            |                   |
| MM Fund 1/31/06                                  | \$2,002.49 |            |                   |
| CD 3/2/06  | \$2,931.07 | \$4,933.56 |                   |

The 3-month CD is due to mature on March 2, 2006. As the funds are not immediately required, the Board has unanimously voted to invest them for a one year term. The amount of the one year investment will be increased to \$3,000.00.

Miscellaneous correspondence has been received including a Flathead BCH newsletter and BCH Education Foundation of America.

Dan has completed and submitted the Volunteer Hours Report for the Forest Service.

Our current membership stands at 42. The 2005 membership roster is being reviewed and calls placed to those that have not signed up for 2006. We're enquiring whether the previous members intend to join and, if not, their reasons for abstaining.

The RSVP organization has requested a donation to put towards their annual awards dinner, where volunteers are recognized. Motion by Trina to table this request; second by Brown.

The Tuesday/Thursday (Spanish Peaks) trail crew will be meeting at the Kountry Korner Café at 2:00 pm on March 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the work to be done this season. All are welcome to attend.

Trina provided drafts of the invitations to be available to members who would like to invite a non-BCH friend along to a trail ride or general meeting. The cards will be available at the next general meeting.

Janice and Beth are working on a prototype of the new photo board which we hope to have ready for the State Convention. Rich will then take it to Big Sky RV, who has offered to build if for the club.

The Defensive Horsemanship clinic is scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Janice has offered to teach the class, but we still need more help. Potential attendees need to e-mail Rich by March 11<sup>th</sup> in order to attend.

Joellyn is in charge of this year's poker ride. If you'd like to volunteer or donate a raffle prize, please give her a call. Breakfast will consist of coffee & muffins for \$2.00. All other costs remain the same as last year.

Current membership is 42. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by Trina Frederickson, SeC

**March 16, 2006 General Meeting Minutes**

Officers& Directors in Attendance:Trina Frederickson, Rich Inman, Bettye White, Wally Becker, Beth Merrick, Dan Porter, Larry Thomas, Jenny Tuthill, Joellyn Howell

Rich welcomed our new members and guests; Larry Ledbetter, Adam Smith, Mark Albrecht, Carrie Swenson

Dr. Peter Heideman was our program speaker. See separate article for details.

Motion by Beth to approve the minutes from the February 16th meeting; second by Janet.

Bettye White provided treasurer’s report. As follows:

|   |                 |                   |                   |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Opening balance 3/16/06                             |                 |                   | \$3,785.43        |
| Beth Merrick (Jan NL)                               | \$62.83         |                   |                   |
| Dan (state mileage)                                 | 75.10           |                   |                   |
| !st Security Bank (re-invest CD to an even \$3,000) | <u>68.93</u>    | <u>\$206.86</u>   | <u>3,578.57</u>   |
| Deposits (dues)                                     | <u>\$170.00</u> |                   | <u>\$3,748.57</u> |
| Ending balance 3/16/06 cash on hand                 |                 |                   | <u>\$3,748.57</u> |
| Petty cash \$38.13                                  |                 |                   |                   |
| MMFund as of 2/28/06                                | \$2,008.39      |                   |                   |
| CD as of 3/2/06                                     | <u>3,000.00</u> | <u>\$5,008.39</u> |                   |

The Board had made the decision to purchase a longer term CD when the Volney Steele funds came up for renewal. The amount was increased to \$3,000.00 and invested for a seven month term @ 4% interest. The CD will mature on October 2, 2006. Bills to be paid at this time are \$24.96 to Jiffie for the newsletter and \$15.00 to the Public Lands and Access Coalition, which we support. Motion by Beth to pay the bills; second by Chick.

Miscellaneous newsletters are the only correspondence received from various clubs and organization.

We currently only have three delegates heading to the State Convention in Polson, and would appreciate a few more members who can attend and lend their vote for our club.

Dan advised that the Gates Park Bridge in the Bob Marshall Forest is in need of repair. The cost is quite high, so the Forest Service is looking for alternatives. Please check out their website at [www.bch.org](http://www.bch.org) to offer your suggestions.

Trina has provided invitations for club members to take and invite non-members to our club rides and/or general meetings. If you’d like to invite a guest, you can pick up an invitation at one of the general meetings. This is a great way for people to get to know the club and members and help to dispel some of the rumours about GVBCH.

The Spanish Creek trail crew will be continuing to work on trails on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Tuesdays they will be doing trails on foot (no horses) and will have kids from the Adolescent Resource Centre helping out again this year. Thursdays, they’ll work on trails that are further in and will use horses.

So far, 20 people have signed up for the Defensive Horsemanship Clinic on April 22. The site of the clinic has yet to be determined.

Joellyn is looking for donations for the Poker Ride and has made up a two-part donation sheet; one part is for the club; the other is for the business/person to keep as a record of their donation. If you’d like to help out with a donation or are able to volunteer your time for the Poker Ride setup, please give Joellyn a call.

Jiffie advised we currently have 49 members.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm. Total Attendance: 28

Respectively submitted by Trina Frederickson, sec.

**April 6, 2006 Board meeting treasurer’s report by Bettye White, treas**

|                              |                |                |                          |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Opening balance 4/16/06      |                |                | \$3,748.57               |
| Bills paid:                  |                |                |                          |
| J. Hale (NL)                 | \$24.96        |                |                          |
| Public Lands Water Access    | \$15.00        |                |                          |
| Postmaster (NL stamps)       | <u>\$39.00</u> | <u>\$78.96</u> | <u>\$3,669.61</u>        |
| Deposits (dues)              | 70.00          |                | \$3,739.61               |
| <b>Ending balance 4/6/06</b> |                |                | <b><u>\$3,739.61</u></b> |
| Petty Cash                   | 38.13          |                |                          |
| Other assets                 | no change      |                |                          |

**April 20, 2006 General meeting minutes**

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

**Attending:** Officers & Directors in attendance: Trina Frederickson, Rich Inman, Bettye White, Wally Becker, Dan Porter, Larry Thomas, Jenny Tuthill, Joellyn Howell

**Guests & New Members:** Rich welcomed our new members and guests, which included George Zane and Jim Hamilton.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer’ report by Bettye White as follows:

|                               |                   |                   |                          |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Opening balance as of 4/6/06  |                   |                   | \$3,726.61               |
| No deposits                   |                   |                   |                          |
| Bills paid:                   |                   |                   |                          |
| Rich Inman (State Convention) | \$72.00           |                   |                          |
| Dan Marsh “ “                 | 289.96            |                   |                          |
| Gallatin County Fairgrounds   | <u>500.00</u>     | <u>861.96</u>     | <u>\$2,864.65</u>        |
| <b>Ending balance 4/20/06</b> |                   |                   | <b><u>\$2,864.65</u></b> |
| Petty Cash                    | 38.13             |                   |                          |
| Other assets                  |                   |                   |                          |
| MM Fund as of 4/2/06          | \$2,018.15        |                   |                          |
| CD no change                  | <u>\$3,000.00</u> | <u>\$5,018.15</u> |                          |

Bettye reported that we have outstanding bills for the newsletter of \$28.00, payable to Jiffie and \$45.00 for the Defensive Horsemanship Clinic (insurance), payable to Janice. Motion by Jiffie to pay the bills; second by Joellyn.

**Correspondence:** Miscellaneous correspondence received.

**Communications:** Joellyn has provided copies of our trail ride schedule for interested members to distribute at boarding stables, etc. that they frequent

**Issues:** Chick has been hiking some of the local trails and noticed damage done by other hikers, but there appears to be no hoof prints yet this year. Chick/Rich will advise the Forest Service of these findings in future communications.

Bob Steinman had offered to guide up to four people on two separate pack trips into the Yellowstone (see trail ride schedule). If you’re interested in doing this, please contact Bob as soon as possible (mid-May at the latest). Riders need to bring their personal items, sleeping bag and fishing equipment. Everything else will be provided. Please contact Bob to discuss further at 282-7166.

Regarding the “Packing for Dummies” clinic on June 10 & 11, this has now been condensed into a one-day clinic and you don’t need to bring a horse. The clinic will start at 8:00 am and go until? Please contact Bob as soon as possible to discuss further and reserve your spot (mid-May at the latest).

**State Report:** Dan advised that there is a delegate meeting on May 6, 2006. Dan will be unable to make the meeting so will check with Brown & Janet to see if they're able to attend. Dan also advised that 209 miles of trails is being closed to horse traffic in the area north of Butte. If you ride in the area, please contact the USFS to provide your input with regard to this change. The area is currently primarily used by ATVs.

Dr. John Smart was our speaker. See related article.

Meeting adjourned 9:07 Attendance 22

Respectfully submitted by Trina Frederickson, sec.

#### April 20, 2006 Program write-up

*Dr. John Smart filled in for Dr. Shannon Moreaux as our guest speaker, and gave a great power point presentation on Basic Wound Management for Horses, complete with handouts.*

*Dr. Smart advised that limb wounds are the most common in horses and can be the most difficult to manage due to poor circulation, joint movement, contamination and the lack of soft tissue between the skin and bone. If you carry a first aid kit for horses in your packs, you might include Betadine Solution (not scrub) for wound cleaning. Dilute the Betadine solution with clean water until it's the color of dark iced tea. While some people carry Hydrogen Peroxide for wound cleaning, it is advised to only use it once or twice as it inhibits healing if used more than that. Also to be added to your packs should be an 18g needle & syringe. This can be filled with water and can adequately flush a wound with out causing further damage. If the wound needs to be wrapped, wrap it from front to back, and from the outside of the leg to the inside. If you're walking out of the back country, you might*

*avoid wrapping (if possible) or cut the bandages over the hock and knee area to allow for movement. Banamine is another item you might add to your packs before heading out on the trail. It can be used in the back country with results in about one hour and lasts for 12 hours. Banamine can be used on a horse with colic, with better results than Bute, although Bute can come in tablet form, which in cold weather, can be a definite bonus over a paste. It's important not to overdose on Banamine or Bute, in an effort to make your horse more comfortable as this can be fatal. If you're concerned about what to look for with shock, some of the symptoms are: dilated pupils, the shakes/shivers, low temperature, cold sweat, clammy feel to his skin and gum color (ie. If you apply pressure to your horse's gums they will usually turn a white/light color; once pressure is removed the pink color should return within two seconds in a healthy horse). Once you're out of the back country, seek assistance from a veterinary as soon as possible.*

*By Trina Frederickson*

March 16th program speaker...

Our guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Peter Heidemann of Montana Equine Associates (formerly EVA). Dr. Heidemann gave a great lecture on vaccinations and answered a lot of questions. He is an equine internal specialist and has done residence and internships with some highly experienced vets in order to bring up his skills with horses. You can check out his website at [www.eva.bz](http://www.eva.bz) or [www.montanaequine.com](http://www.montanaequine.com).

**Eastern/Western/Tetanus (3-way):** this vaccine is given 1x/year, has low side effects, high immunization and is long lasting

**Rhino:** this is typically given with the Flu vaccination 2x/year. It is a herpes virus (ie. Once you've got it, you've got it). There can be reactions with the vaccine. In horses age 6+, who have been given regular vaccination since birth and don't travel, it may not be necessary to continue vaccinating as they will probably already have built up and immunity to the disease. Give with caution to pregnant mares and youngsters.

**Flu:** this vaccination is usually give 2x/year either intranasal (no side effects) or with a needle in the muscle (brand name Calvenza; is longer lasting).

**West Nile Virus:** given 1-2x/year and is a safe vaccine with low risk of side effects. There were no cases of WNV recorded in Gallatin Valley last year. If a horse has not been vaccinated and develops neurologic signs of infection, one out of three will not survive. If the horse has never been vaccinated for this disease, it takes about six weeks for the virus to become effective. If a horse has been vaccinated previously, it will only take about seven days for them to be protected.

**Strangles:** intranasal immunization works most effectively; the horse may still get sick, but not as sick if never vaccinated. Side effects are possible. The vaccine is not a protective as some of the other vaccines, but unfortunately, there is nothing else available at this time. Strangles is primarily transmitted through horse to horse contact and is rarely fatal.

**Rabies:** given 1x/year. The cost is about \$25/vaccine and lasts about a year. Although it isn't as common to vaccinate for rabies in Gallatin Valley/Montana, it is still possible for horses to get this disease as well as any of the other diseases. When trying to diagnosis a horse, if you've given the rabies vaccine, you can at least rule that one out of the diagnosis process.

Dr. Heidemann suggests trying to space out vaccinations rather than giving all the vaccines at one time. That way, if there is a reaction to one, you'll be able to pinpoint which one and act accordingly.

By Trina Frederickson

THE GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES  
AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2005 POKER RIDE.

WE THANK YOU ALL.

AG DEPOT

ALL WEST VETERINARY

ARDESSON BOOTS AND SHOES

BIG SKY RV

BITTERROOT TRAILER SALES

BOB WARD & SONS

BOZEMAN SADDLE OUTLET

BRIDGER FEEDS

CASHMAN NURSERY

CENTURY 21- DAN PORTER

CHALET MARKET

CHALET SPORTS

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

COSTCO

DJ BAR RANCH-JEHNET CARLSON

DOUBLE DIAMOND HALTERS

FREEWAY ENTERPRISES

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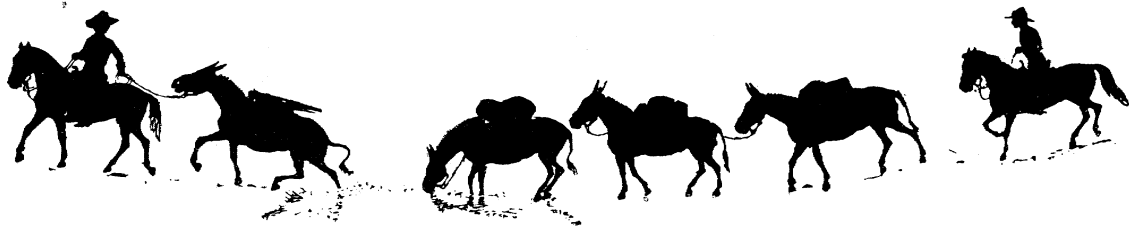
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