

THE PICKET LINE

NOVEMBER 2008



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2 yr

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Back Country 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.”

Board Meeting - **Thursday, November 6 @ 7p**

Dan Porter’s office 1745 So. 19th

General Meeting - **Thursday, November 20 @ 7p**

Belgrade Alliance Church, Hoffman & Cameron Sts

Program

Dr. Peter Heimann

Montana Equine Medical & Surgical Hospital

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November Events

Thursday, November 6 @ 7p - Board Meeting, Dan Porter's office, 1745 So. 19th

Thursday, November 20 @ 7p - General Meeting and Program, Belgrade Alliance Church

November Program will feature Dr. Peter Heidmann

Montana Equine Medical & Surgical Hospital

www.montanaequine.com

Dr. Peter Heidmann grew up with working draft horses and learned to ride and drive from old time Yankee farmers. During veterinary school, he trained under specialist doctors in Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. He completed an internship at [Arizona Equine](#) in Gilbert, Ariz. and a fellowship in medicine and surgery at [Oregon State University](#). Following a three-year residency in equine internal medicine at [UC Davis](#), Dr. Heidmann obtained board-certification in [Internal Medicine](#), with special emphasis on neonatology, immunology and respiratory disease. In addition to his core internal medicine interests, Dr. Heidmann's practice also includes specialist lameness and performance evaluations, and advanced dentistry. Dr. Heidmann accepts referrals from veterinarians statewide, as well as from surrounding states, and also offers consultations to veterinarians throughout our region. Dr. Heidmann is the owner and hospital director of Montana Equine. During his days off, he enjoys his time outdoors.

A
REMINDER
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All members will be called and asked to serve on the board in some capacity or to help on a committee. Please consider this offer. The club is looking for our newer members to serve while bringing in new blood with new ideas. It is the way to learn about us and how we run our club. Please consider joining the board or to help on a committee. Thank you.



President's Report for November 2008

I want to thank Joe Turner for his Power-Point presentation on Horse Psychology 101. Joe gave a number of valuable tips to use when communicating with your horse. The main idea was to train the horse to look at you for answers and to think when faced with a bad situation instead of resorting to fight or flight.

Our member Ken Yankelevitz has donated a generous sum of money to Eagle Mount to be used in building them a couple of new loafing barns for their equestrian program. A local contractor has offered to donate his time in constructing the barns and has asked for our help in putting them together. Please contact Ken or Dan Porter if you can spare some time to help out.

I have the trail reports from both of the trail crews now and I will get them compiled into a form that the state needs to combine with all of the other chapters in the state. The state directors then bring the Montana total volunteer hours to the national meeting where it is combined with all of the other states volunteer hours to show how much the Back Country Horsemen organization donates to education and trail maintenance. With that in mind if you have donated time to educating the public on horse safety or leave no trace principles please let me know the approximate hours you spent. I would also like to hear from you if you have done any trail clearing while on your own or in another group besides the two main trail crews for the club.

Our Christmas party is set except for finding a caterer. I will be calling businesses within the next few weeks to firm someone up. If you know of someone that would be interested in catering our party please have them give me a call or e-mail me. We will hold our elections following the Christmas party at our general membership meeting on December 18th which will include a pot luck and ice cream social.

Members of the nominating committee made up of Janice Cartwright, Duane Wiltse,

and Rich Winget will be calling you over the next few days asking you if you want to run for an office or if you would be interested in becoming a board member. I would encourage you to get involved with the club at some level even if you would volunteer to help on a committee or help out with one of our projects or trail clearing. We would love to see some new people get involved and don't worry about feeling like you are too new to the organization to help. Fresh ideas are always welcome!

As an update to the status of the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act of 2008 (H.R.6598) the latest major action was on 10/3/2008 when the House Committee on Agriculture Granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than Jan. 3, 2009. To track the status of this bill go to <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d110:h6598>; and find the latest developments. While the bill had good intentions the unanticipated fallout is going to lead to many abandoned horses and fines or jail time when you try to humanely say goodbye to your old horse.

For an update on the status of the lawsuit brought against the Forest Service by BCHA on the new trail classification system go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/>. On October 16, 2008, Forest Service published in the Federal Register interim final directives for the national trails classification system. The interim final directives will be available for public comment for 60 days. Comments must be received by December 15, 2008. Please send comments to Jonathan Stephens, National Program Manager for Trails and Congressionally Designated Areas, US Forest Service, Recreation, Heritage and Volunteer Resources Staff, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Mail Stop 1125, Washington, DC 20250; or by facsimile to (202) 205-1145. Comments may also be submitted by following the instructions at the Federal rulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for document FS_FRDOC_0001-0606.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Marsh

Trailer Training, *by Joe Turner*

I want to start off with a big “Thank You” to everyone who attended my presentation on “Thinking Like a Horse” in October. It could not have been possible without you, great questions everyone. Now regarding this month’s question I am going to refer to one of the questions asked at the presentation. “What do I do if my horse has problems trailer loading?”

Great question! Let’s take a step back and view this question from the horse’s point of view. That trailer is a big scary cave to your horse, and inside that cave is a big, mean, gonna eat you up mountain lion. Heck, even I don’t want to go into that thing when it’s been put that way but that is how the horse naturally looks at a trailer, no matter how big or small. There are a few things that can make the experience easier for the horse, the bigger the trailer and the more light in the trailer will help out but let’s face it this isn’t a perfect world so lets work with what we have. The idea is to have your horse think that the trailer is a good place rather than a bad place, a place to desire and yearn for rather than fear and loath. How do we do this in a way that is gentle and natural and at the horses pace so we have improvements and not set backs?

First off we need to have communication with our horse and find out what is bothering him/her. Is he/she scared? Does he/she just not want to go? Did he/she ever have a bad experience in a trailer? Is this the first moving cave that he/she has ever seen? All of these things matter in our success and determine our approach and speed of the lesson. Sure we may be able to force our horse into the trailer but what will that accomplish besides having to try to shove him/her in again when you have to go home and each time it will get harder and harder and he/she will get smarter and smarter at resisting. How about a horse that’s willing and wants to load up, is excited about going somewhere? No, we don’t have to bribe them

or drug them either! Listen to what your horse is telling you and then together you can decide on when to move forward to the next step or continue working on the task at hand. Should you ask for more progress or slow things up for a bit, listen and they will tell you.

Once we know the problem then we can correctly go about finding the desired results in a way that makes sense to our best friend and doesn’t present fear or resentment towards us or the trailer. Let’s make the trailer a good place to be, once we know how to give direction to our horse on the ground and move their feet in every direction without having to move our own feet then we can start to work with the horse correctly. We will start by showing our horse the trailer out of both of his eyes, having him/her working when he/she is away from the trailer. We want to work with our horse away from the trailer, lounging for respect and changing directions while pivoting on the haunches (make it work not play time), then we can move into working next to the trailer having our horse work between us and the trailer utilizing both eyes separately to focus on the trailer. Once our partner is smoothly working from both sides in both directions then we can ask for a rest and entrance into the trailer, making sure that every time he/she makes an attempt to place full interest into the trailer then we reward with a cease of asking and a short rest.

Standing at the drivers side of the entrance into the trailer we will ask for forward motion into the trailer, do not stop asking until an actual attempt is made. No matter how slight of an attempt is made we reward with a short rest (rest times will vary) and then ask again for forward motion stopping only when an attempt is made to move forward into the trailer. If done correctly and rewards are giving for tries and persistence & patience is given when the horse is not responding correctly then you will start to make your horse curious of the trailer and learn that the trailer is a good place of rest

and pleasure. If your horse should happen to bolt backwards quickly or try to run away or even run over you then don't fight with him/her (don't let him/her try to run you over either of course, but try to be bigger than him/her if safety allows), let him/her go away from the trailer but it is our job to immediately put him/her back to work and have him/her learn that every time he/she wants to go away from the trailer it is fine but we will have to go back to work and it will be hard work, then when we go back to loading into the trailer that is when he gets his rewards and rest and when he finally loads into the trailer he will get a long rest with a good rub down. Always no matter what give your horse the choice of work or rest, without the option then you set your self up for failure and for your horse getting frustrated and starting a fight with you, which you

will never win. Teach them to think their way out of situations and you will achieve a relationship that you have always dreamed about. Partnership!

Remember away from the trailer means work and loaded in the trailer means rest. Next thing you know your horse will be trying to load you up into the truck and himself into the trailer so you guys can go for a ride somewhere. Hope this little bit of insight helps out, it is a lot to convey on paper so if you have any questions or need any further assistance please feel free to call me at 406-579-6622 or email me at joe@rockymountainhorseman.com and keep those questions coming.

Safe & Happy Riding,

Joe Turner, Rocky Mountain Horseman

It's Haying Season, By Ron Stuber, member Flathead BCH

What's the difference between grasses? What's the difference between good hay and bad hay? What's the difference between first cutting and second cutting? What's the difference in the time of day hay is cut? Let's look at some facts.

Poor timing in the harvesting process can turn a good crop of hay into a poor or unsafe crop lending it unsafe for horses because of mold and/or dust. Hay needs to be baled at a proper stage of drying. If cured too long, it loses its nutrients and can become dusty. If baled with too much moisture, it will produce mold within the bales.

Stage of maturity at cutting time is essential. Alfalfa should be cut at early bloom for the highest protein level. Grasses should be cut at boot stage which is when the seed head has not emerged but swells at the top of the stem. An example is timothy which should have small short heads. The larger or longer the heads, the less protein and nutritional value will exist. Some farmers will cut hay later than normal because mature hay produces more tonnage per acre than younger grasses with more nutritional value.

First cutting grows slower in cool spring weather, but it will have more weeds. First cutting will yield plenty of fiber for adequate energy and protein, but it needs to be cut at the proper time. Second cutting grows faster in the heat of summer and will be more leafy and fine stemmed and have little to no weeds. Second cutting will also have less concentration of sugars and starches, and therefore, be safer for obese horses and horses that tend to founder easily. Second cutting will usually produce more nutrients in the hay.

Hay cut in the late afternoon has higher nutrient content than hay cut in the morning. Plants accumulate sugar and starches during the day through photosynthesis and use up the nutrients at night as they grow. Therefore, the highest nutrient value will be produced in hay that is cut in the late afternoon. But, if your horse is obese, insulin resistant or prone to founder, hay cut in the early morning is best when the plant is lowest in sugar and starch content.

Hay can be baled too early and have a higher than 16% content of moisture which will produce mold in the bale, or if baled too late, it will be dry and lose its leaves in the baling process in addition to the nutrient value. If the hay gets rained on, it takes longer to dry out enough to bale. The extra drying time bleaches the hay and reduces the nutrient quality and it also can become dusty with leaf loss. Baling is best in the evening when the humidity rises a little so the leaves stay attached. There is a certain art and science that goes into growing and harvesting hay. All hays are not the same and even hay in the same field can have different quality depending on the time of day cut and baled.

Curing, as mentioned above, is not only important in the field but it is important in the barn. By this I mean that hay baled with too high a moisture content can produce heat and combustion and result in a barn fire. Many horsemen think that hay has its final time of curing at baling time, but baled hay may even take up to several weeks before it is totally cured and safe for horses that have a tendency to founder. As most horsemen know, horses can founder on early spring grass in the field, but they can also founder on freshly baled hay that has only been in the barn a week or two.

Permission granted for reprinting

Eagle Mount has three new sheds, *by your reporter*

A blustery overcast Saturday morning at 9am, November 25th five BCH members met with Pat, his construction crew and other volunteers to build three run-in sheds at Eagle Mount's handicap facilities. The wind was constant with intermittent drops of rain. The temperature was OK making excellent work conditions and blue sky tried to show so nothing deterred the men from their planned work. The original building was a dilapidated mess and needed to be replaced. It still stands and probably will be used as temporary hay storage. Rather than replace the present run-in, this project had to be located a bit further away. It was a good turnout by Ken Yankelevitz - our BCH supervisor, Dan Porter - who was Ken's #1 side kick, Chick Hale - retiree from his construction firm and who brought his 50+ year old tools but left them in his truck, your trusty reporter and her camera snapping the work progress, Larry Thomas and Wally Becker who both use tools on the trail but found that a hammer and a few nails are different



than a Pulaski and a shovel. The wind lasted all day with no more sprinkles. The mud dried up a bit and the sun came out almost full force – but oh the wind. The crew quit at 2 pm when the wind made it unsafe to try putting the red metal siding on. The framing is completed and the siding will have to wait until a day when it is calmer. This, as far as I know, was the first carpentry work for BCH other than the corals at Ramshorn Lake and bridges at Hell Roaring and Spanish Creek. ***This is a full blown three sided building!*** A proud bunch you all are, but keep it a secret - GV BCH might be asked to do more of this stuff! Is it in our mission statement? Sure thing and we now have three new sheds for Eagle Mount horses.

Pictures by Ken and his reporter



EAGLE



MOUNT

10.2.08 Board Minutes

At 7:10 p.m. President Dan called the meeting to order. In attendance: Stacy Bragg, Larry Thomas, Jim Albright, Brenda Kessler, Rich Inman, Dan Porter, Chick Hale (proxy for Janice) and Jiffie Hale (proxy for Amy). Absent were Duane Wiltse and Rich Winget.

Jim Albright made a motion and Chick Hale seconded to accept the September minutes as printed in the October newsletter and it was approved.

Treasurer's report: Brenda reported new bills: \$77 mileage for state board delegates and \$86.12 for the October newsletter and stamps. A motion to pay the bills was moved by Chick Hale and seconded by Jim Albright and was approved.

Correspondence: Dan received a DVD on trail maintenance techniques and a book covering the same topics. Dan is adding this to our collection of CD's, DVD's, and books which Dan keeps on hand for member's use.

Standing Committee reports:

Membership: Marianne was absent, but Jiffie spoke for her saying membership dues are now due. Applications and rosters were on hand. One can download an application from <http://gvbch.bchmt.org/documents/BCHMembership.pdf>.

Issues: Lionhead National Protection area meeting is Oct 8, 1 pm, Holiday Sun resort, West Yellowstone. The meeting will pertain to an attempt to keep mountain bikes on certain trails in the Lionhead area as stated in the Travel Plan. The Forest Service is proposing removing mountain bikes from the trails to preserve it as a Wilderness study area. The mountain bike group wants to create a National Protection area which would allow them to use the trails. Rich Inman agreed to attend the meeting and represent us.

Discussion on the Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act: The Horse Slaughter Bill has been sent to the Agriculture committee and has not had further action. **Members – keep your letters going to your representative. Information can be found at <http://www.thehorse.com/viewarticle.aspx?ID=7719> or <http://www.americanhorsecouncil.org>

Publicity: Volunteer hours are needed to be totaled and given to Dan to report to the state. Dan is going to compile the volunteer hours and give them to Stacy Bragg so he can put together a publicity release to show the work the BCH does for the trails and education.

Newsletter: no report

Trail Crews: There was discussion on a Bridger Bowl project to install water bars and erosion repairs. If the weather holds a crew will be gathered to do the work this Fall. The trails are on private land that we use for our Poker Ride trails.

Program: Janice is still pursuing the Nov. meeting program.

Old Business

Paperwork to file as 501(c)3: Jim Albright and Rich Inman are working on the paperwork to get us filed with the IRS as a non profit organization. They will also look into filing as 501(c)4.

First Aid & Chainsaw certifications: These cards will be mailed to those who completed the course.

State Board meeting report: Rich Inman and Jim Albright presented a report on the state board meeting in Deer Lodge. Live auction money will be donated to club and the silent auction money will go to the state as it has in the past. Silver buckles have increased \$20 to \$110. The 2009 BCH State convention will be held in Helena the last weekend in May. Black Water Project – added 87,000 acres to the Bob Marshall. Write letters for the 'Right to Ride' bill to legislators as we need to hear more on Pack and Stock. Art work is being submitted for BCH license plates – check on the state web site. It's a money maker for the state organization which will cost about \$4000 as startup costs.

Poker Ride report: No report, but if you have any ideas for 2009, contact Sherrie White.

New Business

Eagle Mount work project: A contractor is contributing free time and labor to remove the dilapidated loafing shed

and build two new ones. They may need help and would appreciate volunteers. Contact Dan Porter or Ken Yankelevitz.

Christmas Party: The Old Country players are going to be the entertainment and a caterer is being located. The party location has been donated by Lee Hart for us to party in his large barn as per last year. The Saddle & Harness club and the Apply Club are again invited to share with us.

Nominating committee: The nominating committee will consist of the 3 outgoing directors: Janice Cartwright, Rich Winget, and Duane Wiltse. They will be contacting members to get a slate of officers and board members. If you would be interested in working as an officer or on the board, please contact them. The club especially welcomes new members – it is a great way to get to know the club, the members and how we function and does not really take much time. The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jiffie Hale
proxy for Amy, sec

General Meeting Minutes October 16, 2008

President Dan Marsh, called the meeting to order following the excellent program by Joe Turner, Rocky Mountain Horseman. Board members in attendance were Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Janice Cartwright, Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, Duane Wiltse and Amy Hathaway.

Minutes: Jim Allbright made a motion to accept minutes as printed in the newsletter; Amanda seconded; approved.

Treasurer's report: Brenda Kessler reported a balance of \$4,391.96 in the checking; \$6,044.85 in CD; and \$2,223.00 in a Franklin Templeton money market account. Total account balances are \$12,659.81.

New Bills: Rich Inman had one bill of \$59.40 for fuel to attend the meeting on the Lionhead National Protections area.

Correspondence: Eagle Mount sent a *Thank You* for the donation. BCH Mission Valley Newsletter, Gallatin National Forest Project Listing on fall quarter proposals (this can be seen on their website, as well), and Water Land Access issues letter from Steve Hample were also received.

Membership: Marianne Myers is the Membership Chair. Renewals for 2009 start in October. Please complete the application and dues at the next meeting. The total membership for 2008 had 53 single entries, 35 couple/family entries. Dues from this membership will be \$1,670 to the State BCH due in December.

Issues: Equine Cruelty issue HR6598 seems to have gone stale in the Ag Committee and may be past its time limit.

Rich Inman went to an *Information Session* for the Lionhead National Forest. The current discussion is to recommend the area be a National Protection Area which differs from a Wilderness Area in that bikes and mechanized trail maintenance are allowed. The issue being here that there are three trails used quite extensively and historically by motorcyclists and this would close these trails to them. Rich will follow up as this develops further.

Publicity: Stacy Bragg, publicity chair, will be compiling the volunteer hours and trail maintenance for articles to be submitted to various newspapers in the area.

Trail Crews: Bridger Bowl has some issues with water bars on their trails and Larry and Dan Porter have decided the club can take this project on as we use this area for our Poker Rides. It may not be until next spring depending upon the weather.

Program: Janice is open to suggestions for the November program.

Old Business: Nobody was present to report on the Eagle Mount Work Project.

Rich reported on the director meeting in Deer Lodge. The certification process allowing BCH to train its sawyers is coming together. In March the state convention will be in Helena making it easy for people to

attend. The state BCH is proposing a license plate and wants design suggestions emailed via the website. Blackfoot Clearwater Coalition needs to insure that the words *stock/horse* etc. be integral parts of government land designations, basically to insure the Right To Ride and not loosing it through loose government wording.

The Belgrade Fall Festival was very successful and enjoyable for those who rode. Eleven horses presented. Janice had a write-up in the October Newsletter and photos are on line on the website as well.

New Business: Janice, Rich W., and Duane are the nominating committee and will be contacting members to see if they have any desire to fill any officer or board positions. Nominations will also be accepted at the November meeting and elections will take place at the December 16th Potluck Meeting.

We need somebody to step up to chair the Christmas Party. Most details have already been worked out, but an organizer is needed to complete the process.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway, sec

Equine student is from a long line of horse trainers

<http://ag.montana.edu/excellence/aglink/AgLinkSpring07.pdf>

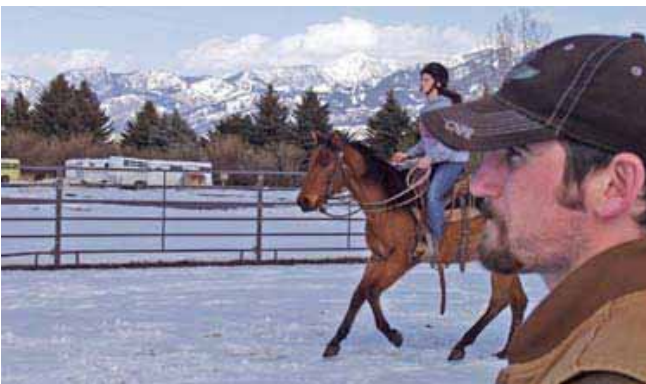
It should be no surprise to see Wade Black in the corral, teaching Montana State University students how to train colts. He's the son of Martin Black and grandson of Ray Hunt, after all, both internationally-known horse clinicians. Wade, himself, rode horses before he could walk and spent his first 12 years on a 1.25 million-acre Nevada ranch with 15,000 cows and 400 horses. Cowboys were his mentors, and horses were his life. Every job possible on the ranch he did from the back of a horse. "The way I was raised, you didn't do anything unless it was on a horse," Black said. "If you can't do it on a horse, we will find something else you can only do on a horse."

Black later moved to Owyhee County in southeast Idaho, where his dad's family has ranched for six generations. The three-million-acre county has no stoplights, but offered plenty of opportunities for riding colts and learning bronc riding skills. "We were dad's crash dummies,"

Black said, laughing. "Dad would put us on colts, and we would crash around."

Black came to MSU to earn his undergraduate degree and compete on the MSU Rodeo Team. After graduating in 2006, he is working on his master's degree in animal and range sciences and

still riding broncs and roping cows for MSU. He is teaching students in MSU's colt training and breaking program. Some of the colts in this year's class were sold at the MSU spring rodeo to benefit the school's equine science program. "I think he really understands what the horses need and finds a quicker way to communicate with them without pushing them too hard," said Theresa Brown, one of his students, during a recent class that began in the Miller Pavilion and continued outdoors. "I just think he understands their minds and how they think a little more than a lot of people I have worked with in the past," Brown continued. "It's not like he's speaking to them verbally, but he's communicating with them." Black said he believes in using the gentle methods espoused by Tom Dorrance, a horse whisperer who shared his secrets with Black's grandfather who passed them along to Buck Brannaman and other respected trainers. "There's just a softer way," Black said. Black explains the concept in a handout he wrote for his students. "A person can get more done with a horse out of trust than out of fear," he said. "A person must decide in what manner they will communicate with the



horse -- slave or partnership, tell the horse or ask the horse.”

Article was suggested by Alice Pilgeram Marsh

Recommendations For The Effective Use Of Bear Spray

Friday, August 15, 2008

The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee recommends the use of bear spray and reminds hunters and others that despite its proven effectiveness, it is not a substitute for using proper bear safety techniques in the first place. The IGBC provides these guidelines...

When to use bear pepper spray:

Bear pepper spray should be used as a deterrent only in an aggressive or attacking confrontation with a bear.

Bear pepper spray is only effective when used as an airborne deterrent sprayed as a cloud at an aggressive animal. It should not be applied to people, tents, packs, other equipment or the surrounding area as a repellent.

How to use bear pepper spray:

Each person should carry a can of bear pepper spray when working or recreating in bear habitat. Spray should be carried in a quick, accessible fashion such as in a hip or chest holster.

In your tent, keep bear pepper spray readily available next to your flashlight. You should also keep a can available in your cooking area. Spray should be tested once a year.

Do not test spray in or near camping area. Be sure to check the expiration date on your can of bear spray.

- Remove safety clip
- Aim slightly down and towards the approaching bear. If necessary, adjust for cross wind.
- Spray a brief shot when the bear is about 50 feet away.
- Spray again if the bear continues to approach.

- Once the animal has retreated or is busy cleaning itself, leave the area as quickly as possible (don't run) or go to an immediate area of safety, such as a car, tree, or building.

- Do not chase or pursue the animal.

Selecting a bear pepper spray:

Purchase products that are clearly labeled "for deterring attacks by bears," and that are registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The EPA Bear Deterrent web site lists registered bear pepper spray manufacturers.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks' wildlife managers say the minimum requirements for the effective use of bear spray include:

- A minimum spray distance of 25 feet.
- A minimum six seconds of spray. A burst of two to three seconds will create a cloud of orange. It may be necessary to spray a second burst if the bear continues, or if the first cloud disperses in the wind.
- A minimum of 7.9 ounces of a one to two percent solution of oleoresin capsicum and related oils per can.
- Other features that impact how the pepper spray works include the weather and the wind's force and direction.

The can must be carried in a quickly accessible location such as a hip or chest holster or hand held as FWP bear managers do when walking through an area known to have bears.

No deterrent is 100% effective, but compared to all others, including firearms, bear spray has demonstrated the most success in fending off threatening and attacking bears and preventing injury to the person and animal involved, said the IGBC.

The proper use of bear spray will reduce the number of grizzly bears killed in self-defense, reduce human injuries caused by bears, and help promote the recovery and survival of the grizzly bear.

For more on living with bears and being bear aware, see the FWP home page at fwp.mt.gov and click on Be Bear Aware, or go to www.BeBearAware.org

GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2008 POKER RIDE - THANK YOU ONE AND ALL

*Ag Depot
All West Veterinary
Ardesson Boots and Shoes
Biggerstaff Construction
Big Sky RV
Bozeman Fence
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Bridger Feeds
Bumblebean Coffee Shop
Bunkhouse Originals
CBU
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
Chalet Sports
Concrete Construction
DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service
Dr. Phil Aumann
Don Funke Divine Equine
Double Diamond Halters
Equine Solutions
Four Corners Saddlery
Freeway Enterprises
Gallatin Valley Horse Resource*

*Gourmet Gas Station
Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher
Hardaway Vet Clinic
Harrington's Pepsi Cola
Insty Prints
Kountry Korner Café
Lee & Dad's
Madison House
Mail 'n More
Mountain Magic Ranch
Momma Mac's
Montana Canvas
MT Equine Medical and Surgical Center
Montana Harvest
Montana Horse Sense
Murdoch's Ranch & Home
Owenhouse Ace Hardware
Paula's Pepper Jellies
Rapid Tech
Rocky Mountain Hat Company
Rocky Mountain Supply
R O Brooks Custom Leather*

*Root 66 Salon
Sandy McManus Jewelry Designs
Second Self
Steer In Trailer Sales
This and That
Three Forks Saddlery
Tire World
Way Out West
Western Pines
Members
Sonja Berg
Janice Cartwright
Jan Elpel
Bob Furu
Laura Hanks
Bonnie Hammer
Rich Inman
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