GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN POB 3232, BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59772-3232

http://gvbch.bchmt.org

Officers (1 year)

President
Dan Marsh
Vice President

587.7578

Jim Allbright 995.4441

Secretary Not Filled Treasurer

Brenda Kessler 763.4241

Directors

 2 years

 Marriane Meyer
 388.2676

 Sandy Kypfer
 600.4737

 Not Filled
 1 year

 Stacy Bragg
 222.0077

 Dan Porter
 388.0290

 Larry Thomas
 586.6878

State Board Directors

Rich Inman 2 years

388.1564

Jim Allbright 1 year Alt: Stacy Bragg 1 year

Membership

Marianne Meyer 388.2676

Newsletter Editor Margaret Burns Vap 587.2390

BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh 587.7578 dmarsh@montana.edu

The Picket Line July 2009

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 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 – **Thursday, July 2 @ 7 pm**Dan Porter's Office, 1745 S. 19th

General Meeting – **Thursday, July 16 @ 7 pm** Belgrade Alliance Church, Hoffman & Cameron Sts.

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July 2009 Schedule of Events

TENTATIVE July schedule for Monday Trail Clearing:

- July 6 Bridger Bowl South
- July 13 North Cottonwood
- July 20 Flathead Shafthouse to Battle Ridge via Fairy Lake
- July 27 Little Hell Roaring from Spanish Creek

Let us know if you have any suggestions to the contrary. You must call Ron at 388.4415 by the Sunday before if you ARE coming. Jim Nelson and Wayne Frederickson will check Corbley Canyon and Truman Gulch to see if they need help from the crew to clear them.

July schedule for Wednesday Trail Clearing:

- July 1 Yellow Mules
- July 8 Gerome Rock
- July 15 Mystic Lake via Hyalite
- July 22 Big Brother
- July 29 Spanish Creek

Board Meeting - Thursday, July 2 @ 7 pm

22nd Annual BCH Poker Ride – Saturday, July 11

General Meeting - Thursday, July 16 @ 7 pm

Interconnect Challenge – July 23rd @ 1:30 pm

Twin Cabin Ride - Saturday, July 25

Ramshorn Ride - Saturday, August 1



Tales from the Trail

Fourth time out for the Wednesday Trail Clearing crew on June 23 Brenda Kessler

We met at the Indian Ridge trailhead. Today, the crew consisted of Wally Becker, Rich Inman, Bonnie Hammer, Catherine Nelson, Jim Allbright and Brenda Kessler. For five miles the trail went up, and during this time two blow-downs were removed and about 300 feet of trail were provided with new (freshly cut) water bars. At the Y (five miles down to the Spanish Creek trailhead) we turned around to go back (5 miles down) to the Indian Ridge trailhead. We observed some beautiful views, as we were up high and the weather was sunny but still cool. About 2 or three miles from the trailhead or our vehicles, Rich dismounted to clean water bars; he sent the gals ahead with the horses. Wally and Jim also dismounted to help. After riding about a ½ mile, realizing all the walking the guys were doing and feeling sorry for them, the girls stopped and decided to wait. It wasn't long until Rich appeared moving quickly down the trail, cleaning water bars proficiently. Shortly behind him came Wally and Jim limping along, trying to keep up. They were glad to see the horses. Jim was muttering, "boots, blisters, wish I was wearing my hiking boots ". We all climbed aboard except for Rich and headed for the bottom and the creek. Once there, we watered the horses and waited for Rich. And again, it was not long before he arrived after cleaning (how many water bars)? We were glad to continue to the vehicles, load the horses and head for home. We turned into Cottonwood road at around 6 pm - a long day!

Mt. Ellis Rides *Janice Cartwright*

Ken Yenkelevitz, Connie Myslik, Margaret Burns Vap (new newsletter editor and BCH member) and myself have been out a few times on this trail. We figured it was good conditioning for our upcoming Poker Ride.





President's Report July 2009

It seems that everyone enjoyed the presentation on Grizzly Bears by Shannon Podruzny. We had to use one of the churches smaller rooms downstairs due to construction in our normal meeting room and Shannon did a wonderful job of presenting her slide show on the wall in the cramped quarters. Shannon is an ecologist working for the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team and spends most of her time out in the field making sure the Grizzlies remain off the endangered species list. She said there is concern with the recent beetle kill in the forest removing the white pine nut, one of the bear's main sources of protein. I had asked at the meeting if you can legally kill a Grizzly if it attacks your stock and she looked it up and sent me the following reply:



In the Federal de-listing rule it reads:

"In other words, it will still be illegal for private citizens to kill grizzly bears unless it is in self defense, they have a hunting license issued by State wildlife agencies, or in the Montana portion of the DPS, if a grizzly bear is caught in the act of attacking or killing livestock (87-3-130 MCA)."

So in the Montana portion of the Greater Yellowstone, you can kill a bear without legal repercussions if it's attacking your stock. Defense of life/property incidents DO have to be reported ASAP to Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks. So, it's legal for a person to protect their horses, but not legal to keep it a secret."

Amy Hathaway has been working late most evenings and is unable to get to our meetings to act as Secretary. I am looking for someone to take over as Secretary and we still need one more director. Marianne Meyer has graciously accepted the position of director to fill one of our two open positions.

Our Poker Ride is coming together nicely thanks to all of the work that Sherrie White has put into chairing the event. If you don't have jobs assigned to you yet, please contact Sherrie and ask her what you can do to help her out. Getting the word out and putting up posters will help if you can't attend the Poker Ride to lend a hand.

President's Report July 2009

Pat Green reported that even with the bad weather they had 103 people show up at her Eagle Mount benefit Poker Ride which is average for their ride. Pat also mentioned how people she talks to rave about our ride and she is looking forward to riding it again this year.

The trail crews have been busy now that the weather has improved and have already cleared a number of trails from their lists. If you can help out on either Monday or Wednesday please contact Ron Rassley or Larry Thomas and let them know you want to help keep our trails open. Larry has given me his proposed list of trails for July and he was told by a hiker that the Mirror Lake trail was damaged by a recent avalanche. Larry said he hasn't confirmed the report so if anyone can verify the damage please let me know. Ada Montague of the Gallatin County Planning Board has asked us to participate in the Interconnect Challenge for our portion of the trail on July 23rd in the afternoon. Please let me know if you would like to participate in this historic event because we need to return a volunteer form to Ada ASAP. The plan is to traverse the entire county without using a car. Each leg will be memorialized by a spoke carried by the lead participant and handed off at the checkpoints. The spoke will be engraved with the name of the leg. At the end of the effort each spoke will be added to a wheel-shaped holder carried by the Ambassador to each checkpoint. At the end of the Interconnect Challenge the completed wheel will be mounted in the County Courthouse to commemorate the event.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Marsh
President GVBCH



Gallatin Back Country Horsemen Board Meeting June 4, 2009

President Dan Marsh called the meeting to order. In attendance were Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, Stacy Bragg, Dan Porter, Sandy Kypfer and Marianne Meyer, with Sonja Berg as guest.

Minutes of the past board meeting were carried.

New bills: No bill from the fairgrounds has been received yet, but they are still holding our deposit. Some money is owed to Sherrie.

Correspondence: The Franklin Templeton Fund in which the club has \$2,228.65 is not insured so it was decided to empty it and deposit the funds into the club's checking account. Jim motioned this and was seconded by Marianne.

Bill Hopkins has asked for a letter of support for trail improvement in Yellowstone on Pebble Creek. Dan motioned to approve and Jim seconded it.

Membership: Now at 65.

Issues:

South Cottonwood forest thinning - It was decided that this does not require our involvement.

Publicity: Stacy will put out the press release this week for the Poker ride. He will also put it in the Mini Nickel.

Newsletter: This month we have a printed paper copy for those members who do not wish to receive it online. Margaret Burns Vap of Big Sky Yoga Retreats is the new editor.

Trail Crews: Larry's crew consisted of a good turn-out and everyone worked hard. The work was done on the Hellroaring trail and consisted of a lot of rethreading.

Poker Ride: A reminder for all to deliver and post the printed Posters. It was decided to plan for 250 chicken meals; similar to the numbers from last year.

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen Board Meeting June 4, 2009

Poker Ride continued: Marianne said that Murdoch's has the bag stuffers (miniature printed posters) available at the check out counters. Stacy will pick-up the meals from Lee and Dad's before he heads up the mountain and then he also plans to ride sweep after the ride. Amy and her husband are also planning to ride sweep.

More help is needed for registration; please call Sherrie if you are available.

Old Business: No progress on the 501C-3.

The VDO of the trail work on the website was well received and displayed the work of BCH in a good light.

New Business: The need for two new directors was discussed with one position filled gratefully during the meeting by Marianne Meyer. She has accepted a 2 year Directorship and has also agreed to keep the responsibilities for membership. Larry made the motion to add her to the board and Stacy seconded it. Thank you Marianne.

That still leaves us with one open position for Director and the position of secretary or two open Director positions and Sandy Kypfer would take over as secretary.

Steak ride Aug 22^{nd:} Dan Porter has already began accepting reservations and monies. He would like all RSVP's by the l4th of August.

Convention 2010: Nothing to report.

The meeting was then adjourned early.

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Kypfer



Gallatin Back Country Horsemen General Meeting Minutes June 9, 2009

President, Dan Marsh, called the meeting to order following a presentation by Shannon Podruzny an ecologist with the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team. Shannon gave a slide presentation on Grizzly habitat and habits. She gave us tips on how to avoid contact with a bear and what to do if confronted by a bear unexpectedly.

Board members and committee chairs in attendance were Dan Marsh, Jim Albright, Brenda Kessler, Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, Sherrie White, Dan Porter, and Marianne Meyer.

Minutes: Jim Albright made a motion to accept minutes as they appeared in the online Newsletter; Larry seconded; carried.

Treasurer's report: Brenda Kessler reported a balance of \$5,829.65 in the checking account; \$6,044.85 in our CD; and reported that the \$2,228.65 in the Franklin Templeton money market account was moved into our checking account. It was determined that the money was not protected by the FDIC and was not protected if the fund should fail.

New Bills: The final bill from the Gallatin County Fairgrounds was presented for the Horse Safety Clinic which amounted to \$214. We had received \$173 in donations from the event. Billie Thomas had graciously donated a credit she had with the Fairgrounds to bring down the total amount owed. Jim Albright made a motion to pay the bill, Marianne Meyer seconded, carried.

Correspondence: We received a newsletter from the Missoula Chapter.

Issues: The timeshare trails start beginning June 6th through September 5th so look for signs to see who you will be sharing the trail with. Dan Marsh presented information from Ada Montague of the Gallatin County Planning Board on the Interconnect Challenge that she request we participate in on July 23rd in the afternoon. More details will be available in the newsletter and on the website.

Membership: Marianne Meyer, membership chair, reported 66 members.

Newsletter: Margaret Burns Vap has agreed to be our new newsletter editor. Margaret works a lot with Janice and maintains her own website for her cowgirl yoga business.

Trail Crews: Larry presented his schedule for July. Ron will be leading trails on Mondays. Larry will also assist with trail lead on Saturdays!

Program: We don't have a July program at this time.

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen General Meeting Minutes (continued) June 9, 2009

Old Business: We wrapped up the Horse Safety Clinic with the bill from the Fairgrounds for \$214.

New Business: Janice and Ron have agreed to let Ken Yankelevitz put up a riding arena on their Harper Pucket property. The arena will be open to club members at no charge. Sherrie needs a couple of more people for registration. Dan Porter is going to contact Brown and Sammy Lou to see if they can help out. A couple more sweep riders would also be nice to have so they can cover both the long and short routes. We will have three watermelons at each stop this year. We assigned people that are responsible for bringing coolers and tables. The coolers need to be brought to Big Sky RV before Thursday July 9th so Larry can pick them up. If anyone has hay that people can use to sit on please bring it to the ride. It is also requested that you dress in western attire if you are working as a volunteer. If you are working the registration table you need to be there by 7 am. If you are manning a pop stop you need to be there by 7:30 am and the advance riders need to be there by 8 am. Sherrie made a motion that we try something new this year by allowing people to pay \$5.00 per card for up to three cards to better their hand. Dan Porter seconded; and it was carried.

Goodies: Rich Inman agreed to bring goodies to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Marsh

Poker Ride Final Updates



Calls are starting to come in...from Bozeman, Livingston, Billings and Big Timber.
Ads have been placed. Murdoch's will soon be distributing mini posters. Be sure to tell all of your horse friends about the poker ride. We are almost ready to roll! Here are some lastminute notes:

TACK SALE: Members of club may bring items to sell; label with your name, phone, item, description and price. If bringing a saddle to sell, provide a saddle rack or sawhorse. Tables are appreciated for display area. Please call Janice Cartwright if you plan to display: 579.3445.

DISPLAYERS: Gallatin Valley Weed Control, Tri-Animals, Montana Horse Sanctuary, Back Country Horsemen, Joe Turner (demos with horse) and GFK Trailer Sales.

GET WESTERN: Back Country Horsemen are encouraged to dress in western garb for the poker ride. If you can, wear blue jeans, cowboy hat, a western shirt, chaps or whatever you happen to have.

SECOND CHANCE: New this year! Participants have the option of drawing up to 3 new cards, \$5 ea. when they return to camp. The Poker Ride is a fund raiser; we're hoping that this will generate some additional cash.

FOOD has been ordered: This year we are planning for 250. We'll even have butter for our rolls. Plus, kids and/or adults can choose hot dogs rather than chicken.

TABLES, CHAIRS, EASELS: We can use tables, chairs, easels, benches and weed seed free bales of hay for seating, dispay purposes, etc. If you have any, bring them! Make sure to label your items. <u>Tables</u> have been committed by: Dan Marsh, Sonja Berg, Jiffie Hale Sherrie White, Larry Thomas, Sandy McManas and Clark Kenny/Rich Inman. <u>Easels</u>: Sherrie, Jiffie, Brenda Kessler and Sandy McManus.

ICE CHESTS need to be at Big Sky RV by 5 p.m. Friday, July 10 (clearly labeled with your name). Those bringing ice chests are: Dan Marsh, Bettye White, Jim Hamilton, Larry Thomas, Dan Porter, Rich Inman, Stacy Bragg (?). Larry Thomas will pick them up and get ice and 15 watermelons at Lee & Dad's early Sat. morning.

Poker Ride Timeline

Friday, July 10

<u>Flagging crew, 9 a.m.</u> Friday (bring water and lunch): Janice Cartwright and crew, Sherrie and Ron White, Pat Fritsche, Kay Tate

Porta Potties (2) delivered by noon by Big John's

<u>Friday night step up and potluck, 5 p.m.</u> (the more the merrier): Rich Inman, Dan Marsh, Dan Porter, Brendfa Kessler, Jim Albright, Chick Hale, Sherrie and Ron White

<u>Trailer/signs delivered and set up at Bridger Bowl</u>: Wally Becker, Rich Inman

Stoves and propane bottles: Rich Inman

Saturday, July 11

<u>Pop Stop Supplies</u>: Larry Thomas to pick up ice and 15 watermelons (water/pop will be in trailer). Each pop stop crew needs to take a sharp knife and cutting board (in trailer).

Set up prizes in tent: Alice and Dan

<u>Food:</u> Coordinated by Marianne Meyer. Ron White to pick up at Lee & Dad's, 10:30. Servers: Ron White, Sherrie White, anyone available

Registration (set up begins at 7 am): Sandy McManus, Bob Steinman, Dan and Jamie Porter, Diane Yankelvitz and Marianne Meyer.

<u>Pop Stops (crew at Bridger by 7:00 am):</u> Brown and SammyLou Parsons (Pop Stop #1); Larry Thomas and Ken Yankelvitz (Pop Stop #2); Bonnie Hammer and Pete Naclerio (Pop Stop #3)

Registration begins at 8:00 am

Advance riders (depart by 7:30 am): Janice Cartwright and crew

Male Escort: Chick Hale and Pete ready by 8:30 am

<u>Sweep riders (depart after last riders, approx. 10:30 am)</u>: Stacy Bragg, Mariannne Meyer, Amy and Allan Hathaway.

Master of Ceremonies: Dan Marsh

Money box/change (\$300 in change): Brenda Kessler. NOTE: We need 2 money boxes; or 3 if one at the BCH display table. Sandy McManus to bring on

Poker Ride Timeline

Sanitation Crew: Jim Hamilton and Jim Albright

Sunday, July 12

<u>Deflagging (10 am)</u>: Sherrie and Ron White, Dan Porter, Pat Fritsche and Kay Tate.

Thanks for everyone's help!

Call or email if you have any questions: Sherrie White, 686.9169, sherrie@mexico-villas.com



Poker Ride Trail Clearing on Monday, June 29

It was a light day for the crew of 11 riders and 3 pack horses riding out of Bridger Bowl. Ron Rassley, Kay Tate, Dick Haines, Jane Huffine, Larry Thomas, Jim Nelson, Wally Becker, Jeff and Gloria Banta, and Sherrie and Ron White left the trailhead at 9 am, returning at 2:30 pm. Only four trees needed attention: two needed to be moved, two had to be cut. Loppers, Kay and Sherrie, trimmed as necessary along the 12-mile route.

By the end of the day, the trail was poker ride ready! Sherrie White

On Friday June 26 a few of us hit the beginning of the 2009 Poker Ride Trail (unless Kay, trail guru, decides on some diversions to be sure that I'll get the flagging team lost AGAIN!) just to check it out. Pat Fristche, Ken Yenkelivitz, Chick Hale, Steph and myself spent 2 1/2 hrs. riding around the slopes and some forest service trails. Nice day. Snow is melting. Maybe the trail crew won't have to dig their way through any gulley crossings like last year. The part we rode on was clear and ready to go so hopefully, the trail clearing crew won't hit the humongous blow downs that we encountered last year. See you all up there for the Poker Ride.



Janice Cartwright

Above: Chick & Pete checking out the Poker Ride crossing

Timeshare Trail Use

June 12, 2009 Press Release

Contact: Jose Castro 406.522.2520

Timeshare Trail Use Begins June 16 on Some Trails Near Bozeman

Bozeman, MT...The timeshare use configuration for five of the nine trails close to Bozeman goes into effect June 16 – September 5, 2009. The five trails are:

- Corbly #544 Foothills #534
- Ross Pass #551 Foothills #534
- Truman #535 Foothills #534
- Middle Cottonwood #586 (Trailhead to intersection) Foothills #534 (Middle Cottonwood to Sypes #531)
- "M" (#534 Parking Lot to #531) and Sypes #531

The use configuration on the remaining trails will begin July 16th – September 4. These trails are:

- East Fork Hyalite #434
- Hyalite #427 to intersection with #185
- Storm Castle Creek #185

In 2007 representatives of five trail user groups and the Gallatin National Forest developed a use configuration for nine trails close to Bozeman that the Gallatin National Forest Travel Plan Decision designated for time-shared use. The timeshare configuration establishes the when, where, and how these trails will be shared between users in space and time and responds to the public asking for more non-motorized trail opportunities on heavily used trails near Bozeman. In January 2009, the user groups met to discuss what changes should be considered based on user group feedback and monitoring from the year before. The group determined no changes were necessary other than some better signing.

For additional information please contact the Bozeman Ranger District at 406.522.2520 or visit the Forest's website at www.fs.fed.us/r1/gallatin.





I Remember When...

...I first met **Ken Yenkelevitz**. He was at one of our winter BCH meetings three years ago, with his wife, Diane. He commented that he wanted to learn to ride and couldn't find anyone to teach him! When told that I taught horseback riding, he immediately signed up for some lessons. His goal? Ken wanted to be good enough to ride horses out on the trails. A few months later, Misty Radue gave a talk on being in good condition, both horse and rider, for the hitting the trails. Ken looked at me and said, "I'll never be good enough to go on a trail ride, will I?" I responded with, "We can go tomorrow if you are available." Since then, he has joined me on numerous rides, even when others canceled due to "not nice weather"! His attitude is always one of "Let's do it!". He purchased his horse, Raven, last fall and takes him out in the surrounding fields at Horsecamp on his own. Many of you know that Ken was a driving force both with finances and gathering volunteers to help with the Eagle Mount shelters this past fall. He also volunteers there a few times weekly and gets called in as a substitute for "no shows" on a regular basis.

When I took Ken on a trail clearing ride up Hell Roaring last summer, he made the comment that he has a lot of respect for the trail clearing crews now. (And we even left the crew early to head home!)

Congratulations, Ken, on all that you have done with horses, both on and off. He's also turning into a darn good (un)hired hand around Horsecamp. Now, if we could just get him over to the ranch....

Janice Cartwright





This is in regards to Gallatin County's upcoming "Interconnect Challenge," that will attempt to get folks around the county without using a car. The event will be held July 20-24. Here is a map and the itinerary on July 23rd for the Gallatin Valley BCH portion of the trail.

1:30pm-5:30pm

Big Bear Creek/FSR 890 to Wheeler Gulch to S. Cottonwood Road to Fowler Road to Patterson Road to South 3rd to Goldenstein

~17 miles (~4 hours at a brisk walk/trot)

The Chronicle ran a story on the event over the weekend! Here is the link: http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/articles/2009/06/21/news/20interconnect.txt

I need volunteers for this ride ASAP. Please let me know if you are available.

Dan

GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEDTED 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 Compeny

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

DOD FUIU

Laura Hanks

Bonnie Hammer

Rich Inman

Marianne Meyer

Brown & SammyLu Parsons

Alice Pilgeram

Dan Porter

Tom & Amanda Steele

Ron & Sherrie White

Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen