

The Picket Line

October 2009

Officers (1 year)

<u>President</u>	
Dan Marsh	587.7578
<u>Vice President</u>	
Jim Allbright	995.4441
<u>Secretary</u>	
Amy Hathaway	282.6089
<u>Treasurer</u>	
Brenda Kessler	763.4241

Directors

<u>2 years</u>	
Marianne Meyer	388.2676
Sandy Kypfer	600.4737
Rich Inman	388.1564
<u>1 year</u>	
Stacy Bragg	222.0077
Dan Porter	388.0290
Larry Thomas	586.6878

State Board Directors

Rich Inman	2 years
Jim Allbright	1 year
Alt: Stacy Bragg	1 year

Membership

Marianne Meyer	388.2676
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Newsletter Editor

Margaret Burns Vap	587.2390
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BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh	587.7578
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dmarsh@montana.edu

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, October 1 @ 7 pm**
Dan Porter's Office, 1745 S. 19th

General Meeting – **Thursday, October 15 @ 7 pm**
Belgrade Alliance Church
Program: United in Light, Draft Horse Sanctuary

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October 2009 Schedule of Events

- **Board Meeting** – Thursday, October 1 @ 7 pm
- **General Meeting** – Thursday, October 15 @ 7 pm
Belgrade Alliance Church
Program: Our October speaker will be Deborah Derr with United In Light, Draft Horse Sanctuary, from Livingston. In early spring of this year, Janice met Deborah when she took a group of the Horsecamp Kids over on a field trip. Standing amidst all of those huge horses was a humbling experience. Deborah also had a display at our Spring Safety Clinic. To learn more about the sanctuary and what she offers, come to the meeting (or visit www.draftrescue.com).



President's Report

October 2009

Those of you that didn't make it to the general meeting missed out on two great presentations. Lance from Murdoch's Ranch & Home brought in two excellent speakers and some new pack gear. Lance showed me a new set of panniers that is canvas on the outside and lined with a waterproof fabric on the inside so you can throw in elk quarters and not have to worry about blood soaking through the canvas. Our first presenter was Dennis Hodgeson of Fort Dodge Animal Health and had a great presentation on vaccinations and de-worming. Our next speaker was Mike Willson from Nutrena Nutrition, who also presented at the Helena BCHM state convention, offered us some very interesting facts on horse feed. You can find a more detailed write-up later in this newsletter.

We had a wrap-up report of the Sage Creek corral project and for just over \$1,000 we were able to put in 4 24 X 24 corrals complete with gates. We had a great turnout for help with the project and I want to thank Larry and Rich for riding herd on the corrals. We probably could have finished the whole thing in one day but Rich wouldn't let us put in a 12 hour day. Rich said he didn't want to deprive the folks that could only make it on Saturday the fun and ownership of working on the corrals. We had everything done before Noon on Saturday and everyone was pleased with the way it looked. Since that project went so well we decided to get the ball rolling with the Gallatin Forest Service on getting some corrals put in at the Spanish Peaks trail head.



The trail crews have started winding down for the year. The Wednesday crew was still working on some trails through September but it was on a call in basis. Please don't forget to turn in your volunteer hours to me if you did any trail clearing on your own. I also need your volunteer hours for things such as educational training such as our horse safety clinic or any LNT or packing seminars.

Bettye White and Janice Cartwright offered to head up the Belgrade Fall Festival Parade and I am looking forward to seeing some pictures from that event.

President's Report

October 2009

Amy Hathaway has taken back her duties as secretary for the rest of the year and is also busy getting things in order for the Back Country Horsemen of Montana 2010 Convention we are hosting in Bozeman on March 19th through the 21st at the Holliday Inn. Please contact Amy and offer your help with the event. We have got quite a few speakers and vendors lined up already but we are still looking for more donations and vendors. Thanks to Jim Albright we have procured Montana Rose for our entertainment on Saturday evening.

The Gallatin Saddle and Harness Club will be hosting our Christmas Party this year on December 5th at Lee Hart's barn again. The cost will be \$20 for a steak dinner and entertainment by Open Range. Please bring your own beverage and an appetizer. I will bring the prizes that were left over from the poker ride as door prizes.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Marsh
President GVBCH

**FOR SALE:
ROUND GREEN POWDER RIVER HAY FEEDER**

Used very little. Large enough for a round bale or some small squares. Easily taken apart and moved. Feeds a number of animals at once and protects hay from being trampled.



Originally \$459 - Now \$300!
Jan Elpel
8215 Fowler Lane, Bozeman
587.5844

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen Board Meeting September 3, 2009

President Dan Marsh called the meeting to order following a brief presentation by Steve Johnston from the Big Sky Community and Gallatin County Advisory Committee (see notes below). In attendance were Jim, Brenda, Dan P., Larry, Marianne Meyer, Stacy Bragg, and Sonja as proxy for Sandy Kypfer.

Minutes of the past board meeting were in the newsletter. Jim motioned to accept them as printed, Stacy seconded; approved.

New Bills: Lee & Dad's IGA for Steaks \$342.24. Jim motioned to pay this bill, Larry seconded; approved.

Stacy will be getting bolts and drill bits for the Sage Creek corral project and wanted to be sure that the club would approve of this purchase. The money for this project has been designated from specific funds and this purchase will definitely be approved.

Correspondence: A reminder notice for Secretary of State filing for the club has been received. Dan will follow up. Proposed Gallatin Forest Plan Cleanup Amendment will be open for public comment until October 9th. Dan will peruse.

Membership: Marianne has an updated list of all members on Excel.

Issues: Yellow Mule Trail Access

Steve Johnston from Big Sky and a representative of Gallatin County Advisory Committee presented a brief history and current proposal to the Yellow Mule Trails. In 1998 there was a relocation of the existing trail heads. The 1st Yellow Mule access is now at the Ousel Falls trail and access has been lost to the other two except from the top. This occurred due to developments in Big Sky. Steve has suggested that a new trail head be developed for horse access to reroute around the current side hill, and heavily used Ousel Falls trailhead. This project needs support of the Gallatin Preserve Property, which is currently and will remain the secondary route for the Yellowstone Club Community. The developer, Robert Hicks, also needs to approve the easement for this trailhead development. Although there are many steps to pursue, the proposed trailhead will be presented to the County Commissioners on September 10th. Steve asked that GVBC write a letter in support of the trailhead development. Amy made a motion to support this measure, Dan M. seconded; with one opposing vote from Jim, the motion carried. Jim wanted to be sure to have included in the wording of our letter that the Ousel Falls trail NOT be shut down to horses, just because the new trailhead was being developed, as we do not want to lose any riding rights. This was agreed upon as well as the trailhead being able to accommodate parking for horse trailers.

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen Board Meeting September 3, 2009

Publicity: Stacy may seek to get news coverage on the Sage Creek corral project.

Newsletter: Hurrah for the fantastic newsletter editor! It has been a treat!

Trail Crews: Trail work will continue as long as people are willing and the weather is allowing. Call the crew leaders to confirm before going.

Program: Program for September will be provided by the fabulous people at Murdoch's. Nothing is set in stone for the future, so if anybody has suggestions they would like to hear, please contact Janice.

Old Business: The Steak Ride was a great success again - thank you Dan Porter. After paying the last of the bills, the club is ahead by approximately \$180.00. Approximately 50 members and guest enjoyed the ride.

New Business:

- The Sage Creek Project is September 11th and 12th. Meet at 7:00 am at Sage Creek to join up with the USFS crew who will be there with Bobcat and Post Hole Digger. There will be a campout for those interested on Thursday p.m. at the trail head. The USFS will be heading up Teepee Creek in the morning to fall the trees we will use for our rails. Still need saw horses, 18 bolt drills, generators, etc. Marianne will be attending on Friday and will pick up refreshments. Stacy motioned to reimburse her for this expense, Jim seconded, carried.
- Belgrade Fall Festival is September 19th. Contact Betty or Janice if interested in riding.
- 2010 Convention has just begun to make some headway. More to come.
- The Christmas Party this year will be held at the Lee Hart's and hosted by Gallatin Saddle and Harness Club. It will be the first weekend of December. Mark your calendars.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway.

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen General Meeting Minutes September 17, 2009

President Dan Marsh called the meeting to order following a combined presentation by Lance of Murdoch's, Dennis Hodgeson of Fort Dodge Animal Health, and Mike Willson from Nutrena Nutrition.

Board members and committee chairs in attendance were Dan Marsh, Brenda Kessler, Jim Allbright, Sandy Kypfer, Janice Cartwright, Dan Porter, and Amy Hathaway as well as many fantastic members.

Program: Dennis Hodgeson reviewed West Nile vaccination, following up with worming information every horse owner should know.

2009 resulted with six Montana horses having been confirmed to have been infected with West Nile residing in Lake, Flathead and Sanders Counties. Fort Dodge now only recommends one annual booster for this area in the spring 4-5 weeks prior to heavy mosquito time. The earliest this virus has been cited in Montana is July 25th, due to the fact that the early April-May mosquitoes do not transmit West Nile.

For a quick overview of the worming information:

Primary GI Parasites in the Horse are:

- Large Strongyles "Blood Worms"
- Ascarids "Round Worms"—parasite of young horses less than 2 years.
- Cyathostome "small strongyles"
- Bots—actually a larval fly, not a worm
- Pinworms "Butt-itch"
- Tapeworm—are seeing more in Montana

Ones to be concerned about today are the Small Strongyles and the Tapeworm. The Small Strongyles will burrow into the horse to emerge in the spring. The tapeworms should be wormed for with the Fall worming. Dennis suggests using Qwest Plus or Ivermectin Plus products in Late Fall to eliminate tapeworm infestations for the following year.

A new, more individualized method of worming is now being suggested to prevent resistance to existing drugs. It has been suggested to do fecal counts on individual horses at specific times of the year to see the infestation of specific animals. Treat the high counts up to four times a year, but leave the lower fecal egg count horses to lesser wormings. This will maintain refugia, a parasite population that is still susceptible to the existing de-worming products.

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen General Meeting Minutes (continued) September 17, 2009

Program *con't* Mike Willson of Nutrena Nutrition offered feeding tips to prevent colic and choke during pack trips or hunting season. Nutrena offers a number of excellent complete feeds that can be purchased at Murdoch's that are Montana Weed Free Certified. Mike suggests converting to a different feed slowly—not overnight. Also, my favorite tip, to slow your horses down while eating pelleted food, add a handful of round rocks to the feed bucket for them to lip around.

Minutes: Jim made a motion to accept minutes as appeared in the Newsletter; Janice seconded, carried.

New Bills: Dan Marsh had a bill for registering BCH with the Montana Secretary of State; Stacy Bragg presented a receipt for screws and bits for the amount of \$205, rails came to \$805.54. Jim made a motion to pay the SOS bill, Janice seconded, carried. The rails, bits and screws were previously approved and designated for purchase.

Issues: The Yellow Mule trail access (see notes from Board Meeting) was to be presented to the County Commissioners in September, but has been postponed until October. Jim Allbright has fears that Big Sky is trying to enforce "no horses" on the Ousel Falls trail.

The last corral project was so successful that we should start looking for another. A suggestion was made to do corrals at Spanish Peaks.

Membership: The current member registry has 73 entries.

Newsletter: Margaret has been doing a wonderful job.

Trail Crews: Still heading out there, but call before you go.

Program: Janice always appreciates your suggestions.

Old Business:

- The Steak Ride was a fantastic success, feedback was positive, money balanced in the positive and approximately 50 riders had a great day. Thank you, Dan Porter.

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen General Meeting Minutes (continued) September 17, 2009

Old Business *con't*

- The Sage Creek Corral project has been successfully completed. Approximately 25 people showed up, and the project was completed with amazing efficiency. The cost of this project seems to be less than \$1,100. That makes future projects of similar magnitude definitely within the scope of reaching for.

New Business:

- Jim and Rich will be attending the State Board Meeting on September 19th.
- At least six riders will be representing the GVBCH at the Belgrade Fall Festival—thanks goes to Bettye White and Janice Cartwright.
- Reminder that 2010 convention is to be held in Bozeman!!! Convention plans are coming together rapidly. Be looking to sell raffle tickets in the near future!

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway.

Tales from the Trail

Trail Riding

Editor's Note: Apologies to members Pat Fritsche, Catherine Nelson and Connie Myslik, who I forgot to mention in my Garnet Mountain write-up last month.

Ranch Ride, September 13

Janice Cartwright

On Sunday, September 13, Connie Myslik (on Ollie) and Catherine Nelson (on Sam-I-am) joined Janice at the ranch for an open air/open country ride at the base of the Crazy Mountains. We moseyed through pastures and fields up onto our neighbors butte/plateau/mesa. They arrived early enough to find Ron and Janice along with Ron and Sherrie White (just back from their Sage Creek building efforts) and Harold Dyke ready to move some heifers to a new pasture, so they even got to trail some cows first. Nice day. Nice company. Nice ride.

Catherine and Connie with the Crazies (mountains, not Janice and Ron)



Tales from the Trail

Trail Riding

Mt. Ellis, September 18

Janice Cartwright

Forgetting Anything?

On a beautiful Friday morning, myself and guest (Sharon Fraser) headed off for Mt. Ellis to meet Margaret Burns Vap and Toba Lord (another guest). I've always worried about forgetting equipment since I haul so many horses around for different people to different places. I hardly EVER forget anything, but this time I did.....a horse! As we pulled up to the trailhead and I saw Margaret talking to Ken Yankelevitz, I had that sinking feeling, realizing that I forgot that Ken was coming and Raven was still at home. Ken had mentioned his participation during Horsecamp on Tuesday and I did not get it into the lesson book. Crumbcakes! That's a first (and hopefully, a last).

Ken was very gracious about the whole incident. Since he had ridden his motorcycle and had a bruise on his shin from beginner canter efforts a few days before, he opted to drive down to Gardiner instead. Thank you, Ken. The rest of us mounted up and headed up the hill. We plan to head back there to explore some of the many side trails around, hopefully with ALL of the horses I need for ALL of the riders this time.

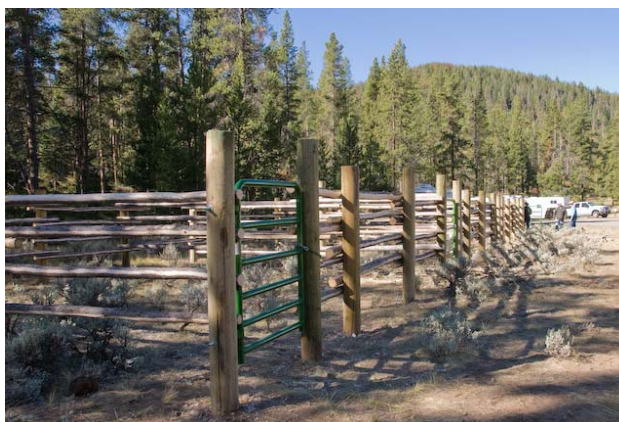


Tales from the Trail

Corral Building!

Sage Creek Corral

Stay tuned for the full scoop on this project coming in Nov!



Our Member from Monaco

the wealthiest square mile in the world!

BCH member Andrea Soheily returned to Monaco after the summer hitting the trails here in Montana with her horse JD. Here's Andrea with JD on the Steak Ride, and in front of the Monte Carlo Casino, with the BCH sign on the front of their car.



Belgrade Fall Festival

On a not-so-fall-like day (it was HOT!), six horses and riders, with a fabulous float behind them, were entry #35 in the Belgrade Fall Festival. Janice Cartwright, Margaret Burns Vap, Sonja Berg, Emma Treut, Monica Robinson and Deeanne Hainsworth were on horseback while Lily Treut, Debbie, Laura and Jeannie Johnson, and Morgane Vap all rode on the float. The theme was "Today's Readers, Tomorrow's Leaders", and Janice put together a fun float complete with our own personal book titles (see next page). Fundraising benefited the Belgrade public library.

Margaret's husband David Vap drove the truck so wasn't able to work on his "parade wave" from behind the wheel, but their 4-year old daughter Morgane rode on the float and did in fact master her parade wave. Margaret rode her new horse Dude Boy up front with Janice (on head Horsecamp honcho Bridger), and both did very well amidst all the people and excitement. Janice emphasized our "safety first" message (along with all riders wearing helmets) by reminding the crowd to stay behind the white lines!

We had anxiously searched for Bettye White as we waited for the parade to get moving, and there she was waiting for us at the starting point. She hopped in and rode shotgun in the truck with David.

Many thanks to Janice for all her hard work and creativity to pull everything together for a great parade experience for all!

Margaret Burns Vap



Belgrade Fall Festival

Our float book titles included:

- Back Country Horsemen Women Trail Manual (on our float truck)
- Tales from the Chief Joseph Appy Ride (by Sonja Berg, on Rocky the Appy)
- Becoming a Cowgirl Yogini (by Margaret Burns Vap)
- Trail Riding – A Safe Approach (by Janice Cartwright)
- How to Handle Being Horse Crazy (by Monica and Deeanne)
- How to Judge 4H Fowl (by Emma)
- Fancy Footwork (by Kevin Morgan, farrier)





December will be here before you know it!

So far we have confirmed that the party will be held at the Broken Hart Ranch on December 5th. Open Range will be our musical entertainment. There will be a silent auction, and donations are welcome. Please remind the lucky person who won the suitcase last year to return it this year so it can continue on its journey. A steak dinner will be served, and the cost will be \$20 per person. Please bring your own alcoholic beverages/mixers and a potluck appetizer. Dinner will be served 7-7:30ish, with a social hour before and dancing and the GSCH meeting to follow. We will need to know how many members to serve and will let you know the deadline as it gets closer.

Carrie Hargis
GSCH Secretary

**GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING
BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2009 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
Bunkhouse Originals
CBU
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
Chalet Sports
Cole's Custom Saddlery
Concrete Construction
Divine Equine &
Three Forks Chiropractic
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

Gold's Gym/Jim Albrook
Gourmet Gas Station
Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher
Hardaway Vet Clinic
Harrington's Pepsi Cola
Kountry Korner Café
Lee & Dad's
Madison House
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 Horseman
Rocky Mountain Supply
R O Brooks Custom Leather
Sandra J. McManus Jewelry
Designs
Second Self
Bob Steinman & Assoc. Real Estate
Three Forks Saddlery

Tri-Animals
Way Out West
Western Pines

Member Donations

Janice Cartwright
Jan Elpel
Bob Furu
Bonnie Hammer
Laura Hanks
Jane Huffine
Rich Inman
Sandy McManus
Brown & SammyLu
Parsons
Alice Pilgeram
Dan Porter
Ron & Sherrie White

Other Sponsors

We'd like to acknowledge
several anonymous
donors for providing
prize and cash donations
for this year's event.

Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen

