

The Picket Line

January 2010

Officers (1 year)

<u>President</u>	
Jim Allbright	995.4441
<u>Vice President</u>	
Rich Inman	388.1564
<u>Secretary</u>	
Charley Smith	547.3459
<u>Treasurer</u>	
Charley Smith	547.3459

Directors

<u>1 year</u>	
Marianne Meyer	388.2676
Sandy Kypfer	600.4737
Allen Hathaway	282.6089
<u>2 years</u>	
Stacy Bragg	222.0077
Dan Porter	388.0290
Brenda Kessler	763.4241

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

Vacant

BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh	587.7578
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, January 7 @ 7 pm
Dan Porter's Office, 1745 S. 19th

General Meeting – Thursday, January 21 @ 7 pm
Belgrade Alliance Church

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President's Report January 2009

As your new President, I want to wish everyone a great 2010. I am looking forward to all the activities associated with the Back Country club. But first, a thank you is in order to those who voted for me and supported me throughout this long and arduous election. As I look forward to the New Year, I find many projects on my agenda. The first, of course, is concerning the convention. I am most grateful for Dan Marsh's previous work and Amy, who is doing a great job keeping it all together. She, I am sure, can use help in the many venues and jobs this requires. Please contact her and remember that she is the chair person for this event and she welcomes all ideas but as with all projects, her approval and consent is needed to make this a coordinated event.

Other projects for the year include, hopefully, new corrals, the poker ride and our annual steak ride. We also need to get more and new people involved and, of course, we need chair people for these and our other, various projects. I am also thinking that getting together for several barbeques with simple hot dogs, hamburgers and/or a pot luck would be fun.

A suggestion from Dan Porter is for the club to review and discuss our mission statement; what it means along with how we as a club interpret this statement, and how our ideas coincide to the Back Country Horsemen of America and Montana. How do we stand on issues such as wilderness, increased motorized access, logging, trail classifications and other matters concerning our back country? And, of course, we always need people to continue to train in our trail maintenance. As a club we need to continue to support our trail people in their projects of Bear Canyon-New World Gulch, South Cottonwood-Telephone ridge trail, Tamphrey Creek trail rehab. by helping, whenever and however.

Again have a safe, happy new year and give those four legged friends of ours a little kiss on the nose: Take good care of them and they will take care you. And last but not least, I thank everyone for trusting in me to do this job as president. But always remembering that I can only be as effective as the help I get from each and every one of you.

I hope to see you all at the next general meeting, ready to start a great new year. Don't forget dues for 2010 are needed so let's get those in as soon as possible. It is your support that keeps the club going and together.

Happy trails,

Jim Allbright

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen Board Meeting December 3, 2009

Board Meeting Minutes December 3, 2009

Board members and committee chairs in attendance were Dan Marsh, Brenda Kessler, Larry Thomas, Stacy Bragg, Dan Porter, Rich Inman, Sandy Kypfer, Marianne Meyer, Amy Hathaway and Sonja Berg as guest.

Minutes: Correction of the word “motorized” to “non-motorized” was made. Sandy made a motion to accept minutes as corrected, Larry seconded; carried.

New Bills: No current bills. Dan Marsh had a new trophy made and that bill will be coming.

Correspondence: BCH Hoofbeats from the Flathead Chapter, Eagle Mount Christmas Card, Public Lands Water Access, State BCH Newsletter.

Issues: Trail Management Objective letter composed by Rich Inman is to be sent to the five Gallatin District Rangers.

Rich Inman spoke to the USFS in regards to the alternative route proposed for the North Cottonwood trail. As the existing USFS travel plan includes North Cottonwood as a horse trail, the BCH would appeal the alternate route if it was to not be inclusive of stock use.

Publicity: Stacy will post the general meetings on the community calendars.

Membership: Marianne Meyer, membership chair, reported 72 memberships including two new members. Previously reported was 75 members—this had been an estimate.

Newsletter: Although Margaret has been out of town, the newsletter will be coming soon. Margaret will continue with the newsletter for 2010. Thank you for your dedication.

Trail Crews: Trail crew hours are being compiled and administrative hours need to be sent to Dan Marsh to complete the volunteer hours for the year.

Old Business: Nominations are still open for President and Secretary. A suggestion was made by Amy Hathaway and Stacy Bragg to combine the board and general meetings which may free up more people to volunteer for the officer positions. Brief discussion was made with no proposals. Rich Inman suggested that the President position should be considered a one year term instead of the running of three years. It is a one year position, but has been defaulting to the predecessor for three years running—which must then be relinquished.

New Business: The existing MVP Trophy has run out of room. Dan Marsh has ordered a new trophy.

The Christmas part is December 5th at the Broken Hart Ranch. The cost is \$20/guest. 34 members have committed via RSVP.

December 12th is the State Board Meeting in Missoula. The convention packets and raffle tickets will be given to Rich Inman prior to this meeting.

The December meeting will be for election purpose and will include an ice cream social to help celebrate Wally's 80th Birthday!

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway, sec

Gallatin Back Country Horsemen General Meeting Minutes December 17, 2009

General Meeting Minutes December 17, 2009

President, Dan Marsh, called the meeting to order.

Board members and committee chairs in attendance were Dan Marsh, Brenda Kessler, Jim Allbright, Sandy Kypfer, Dan Porter, Larry Thomas, Vi Hoffman, Sandy Kypfer, Rich Inman, Stacy Bragg and Amy Hathaway as well as many fantastic members.

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

Treasures Report: \$6,292.71 in the checking account, \$6,044.85 in CD.

New Bills: \$440.00 to be paid to the GSHC for the Christmas Party. \$284.31 to Bozeman Printing for raffle tickets. The \$440.00 has not been collected from all the members who made RSVP to attend the party. Several of these people did not attend, but must still pay for the dinners. Dan Porter made a motion to pay the bills, Vi Hoffman seconded; carried with one descending vote from Jim Allbright who felt that we should not pay for the members who failed to attend the party until funds were collected from them. (If you are one of these people, please pay the club back at your earliest convenience.)

Issues: The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail organization will speak at the State Convention. This organization will assist with grants to help complete this fantastic trail proposal.

Trail Management Objective letters have been written to be sent to the Gallatin District Forest by Rich Inman. The trail management objectives are the maintenance required after the Travel plan has been implemented. Trail classifications of 1-2 are not acceptable to accommodate stock use. The letters sent required that the trails be managed to the 3-4 classification levels.

The USFS has assured Rich that the proposed North Cottonwood Trail reroute would have to allow stock as to the existing Travel Plan. The rerouting and conservation easement of this trail head are still in the works.

Membership: There are 8 current paid members for 2010 membership. Membership applications should be sent in January.

Newsletter: No report, but Margaret will continue to manage the newsletter for 2010.

Trail Crews: All the trails on the list provided by Brian with USFS were covered by trail crews this year.

Program: No report.

Old Business: Volunteer hours have been trickling in. Dan would like to see a more efficient system next year.

23 members and guest attended the Christmas party. There were 12 no shows that the club was required to pay \$20/head. These funds will need to be collected.

December 12th State Board Meeting was attended by Rich and Jim as well as Dan Marsh.

*Volunteer data was being gathered.

*Issues of Mission Statement conflicts throughout the BCH America will be addressed to the National Board. Montana Chapters are basically consistent, but there have been some inconsistencies throughout many chapters elsewhere.

*The Continental Divide Trail will present for the State Convention. Information can be found at cdtrails.org. USFS trail classifications are underway. The Red Lodge classifications have been completed and sound to be acceptable.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway, sec

Vi had a photo of her grandmother riding sidesaddle on her horse so she decided to recreate this photo for herself and her mother. A **sidesaddle was found in Ennis and she borrowed Margaret's horse, Dude Boy.** I was called in for support, suggestions, wisecracks, photo shooting and possible damage control. Actually, Vi managed to mount Dude by herself (with the help of our flatbed trailer) and dismount also. She just so happened to pick a day that was cool, crisp and clear. (That translates to 0 degrees, late afternoon sun and wind.) She was dressed in her lace and thin leather shoes while I trekked around in my Blizzard Artic Carhartts and Schnee packs crawling into irrigation ditches and laying around in the snow for that perfect shot. **The entire "shoot" took over 30 minutes and I was cold. Vi stuck it out and got 'er done, even though she turned blue in the end.** The final gift photo was well worth the effort to her very emotional mom and herself. Nice job, Vi.

Janice





Rocky



RC



Moose



Ollie

The best thing about these Holiday Hats for the horses was that the antlers moved with the ears. This was hilarious since a few of the horses ran to the end of the corral and would not stop snorting or come out to investigate the entire time the "antlers" were on the horses.

Christmas Party 2009



More pictures are available on the web site.

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!

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All West Veterinary
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Bozeman Fence
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Bridger Feeds
Bunkhouse Originals
CBU

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Three Forks Chiropractic
DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service
Dr. Phil Aumann
Don Funke Divine Equine
Double Diamond Halters
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Kountry Korner Café

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Momma Mac's
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Laura Hanks
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Rich Inman
Sandy McManus
Brown & SammyLu Par-
sons
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

PO Box 3232

Bozeman, MT 59772-3232

