

The Picket Line

Back Country Horsemen of Gallatin Valley

October 2010

Officers (1 year)

President

Jim Allbright 599.4620

Vice President

Rich Inman 388.1564

Secretary

Charley Smith 547.3459

Treasurer

Charley Smith 547.3459

Directors

1 year

Marianne Meyer 388.2676

Sandy Kypfer 600.4737

Allen Hathaway 282.6089

2 years

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

Newsletter Editor

Brenda Kessler (*temp*)

BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh 587.7578

dmarsh@montana.edu

Mission Statement

The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana's 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 resource, of our heritage and the back country's

Coming events

- 1.) **Short term riders-horse camp**– at Harper Pucket Road 10-13-10 ...11 am to 1 pm
- 2.) **Emerald Lake trail ride** with Janice Cartwright 10-15-10 call Janice: 579-3445
- 3.) **Shields Valley ride** with Henry Glenn 16th or 17th ..Call Henry: 578-2084
- 4.) **Copper City cleanup**- Three Forks- scheduled for 12/4/10 ..This is a club service project !
- 5.) **Christmas Party-12-17-10**— “Reservations to Terri Stillwaugh” : 222-5993
- 6.) **October General meeting, Thursday the 21st at 7:00: Belgrade Alliance Church,**
(business meeting– create a nominating committee)
- 7.) **December General meeting– December 16**-Election of new officers and Directors. We will need nominations for President, Vice president, secretary, treasurer, 3 directors, 1 state board member, and 1 alternate state board. This is an opportunity for new and old members as well, to support and guide the **GVBCH** thru the next year. If you would like to see changes, have new ideas, and a little time....Now is the time.! **Please volunteer to serve!**
- 8.) **Wednesday Trail crew** has been out clearing trails in September . If you have any interest, check with Larry Thomas...586-6878.

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Report from your President

Hello Fellow Horsemen,

This has been a crazy summer or is it just Fall, I am not sure but the weather sure has been nice. At the last general meeting Shannon John J Moreaux, DVM gave a presentation on Equine Radiography or what I call x-rays. This was a very interesting information session.

Also Dan Porter organized a trail repair day up at Bridger bowl ski area and Brenda, Wally, Dan, Rich, Marriane and myself repaired about a half a mile of trail with good old hand tools. It was a very good day as we got a lot done.

Then it was Friday, up Hyalite following Stacy's suggestion to cut some big trees which were across the trail by Grotto Falls (see picture)

For those of you, that were not at the last meeting, we have been graciously invited by the saddle and harness club to join them for the Christmas party. At the meeting, we voted to join them. However, this year it will be done a little differently. The cost of the dinner and entertainment is \$15.00. This will be paid in advance on a date that will be announced. If a person does not pay by the date announced, they will not be included. Be sure to come to the next general meeting for further information.

Just a word about my new horse, Koda. He is working out to be a great horse, much better than I had hoped. For a 4 year old he is doing great and is well on the way to being another great buddy like Shep, my dog.

Well I best say later to everyone and see you at the next meeting.

Your pres, JIM

Big Tree (before) picture furnished by Stacy



Big Tree (after) Picture furnished by Brenda



(Also: Jim and horse buddy KODA)

Board Meeting Minutes September 2, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Allbright.

Directors present were: Brenda Kessler, Dan Porter, Allan Hathaway, and Stacey Bragg.

Officers present were Jim Allbright, and Charley Smith. Also present was Sonja Berg.

Minutes of the last meeting were passed around for people to read. A motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Stacey Bragg. The motion was passed.

(continued : next page)

Bills (*board minutes continued*)

The following bill was presented:

Dan Porter Food and Charcoal for the Steak Ride \$80.16

A motion to pay the bill was made by Stacey Bragg and seconded by Allan Hathaway.

The motion was passed.

Programs

The September General Meeting will be held at the Belgrade Alliance Church **205 West Cameron, Belgrade Montana** A veterinary program will be presented by Dr. Shannon Moreaux, DVM. on Equine Radiography.

Old Business

Charley Smith stated that he had been in contact with Barbara Mutter and that they would be in contact in the middle of September to work on the application for the conversion of the club into a 502 (c) 3 corporation..

The Copper City Project is now scheduled for the first week in December.

New Business Jim Allbright asked the board to begin to think of where we could build new corrals next year. Several places were suggested but no decision was made.

It was also suggested that we place hitching rails at trail-heads where they are needed to prevent riders from tying their horses to trees.

A motion was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Stacey Bragg that the club purchase ink for Brenda Kessler's printer to replace the ink that she uses for club business. The motion was passed.

The upcoming Christmas Party was discussed. Jim Allbright is on the board of Directors of a Senior Center and said that he could arrange to use their premises for the party. Stacey Bragg suggested that in order to avoid the problems we had last year concerning the number of club members attending and the payment for the party we set a deadline for members to sign up for the party and that everyone coming should pay in advance.

A motion was made by Stacey Bragg and seconded by Allan Hathaway to close the meeting. The motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Charles D. Smith, Secretary

Minutes from the General Meeting September 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Allbright.

The officers present were: Jim Allbright, President, Rich Inman, Vice President and Charley Smith, Secretary and Treasurer.

A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Dan Marsh and seconded by Dan Porter. The motion was passed.

Correspondence

The Club received a letter from the Gallatin Saddle and Harness Club inviting our members to join them at their Christmas Party. The party is to be held on Friday December 17th. The Price for each member is \$15.00. The club must be notified by December 10th.

A motion was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Larry Thomas to accept the invitation. The motion was passed.

A letter was received from Gallatin Valley Conservation and Parks inviting representatives from our organization to attend a meeting on September 21st to discuss how prob-

lems in the Axtell Ancerey Road could be solved. Mike Haugan agreed to attend the meeting.

New Bills

Charley Smith submitted a bill in the amount of \$17.00 to cover the expense of installing a new lock in our club's mail box.

Rich Inman submitted a bill in the amount of \$106.00 to cover expenses for attending the Montana Back Country Horsemen board meeting in Lewistown. A similar bill was presented by Jim Allbright in the amount of \$54.75.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Dan Marsh and seconded by Larry Thomas. The motion was passed.

New Business

The Montana Back Country Horsemen asked if we would support electronic newsletters. A motion was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Marianne Meyer to support the electronic newsletters. The motion was passed.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Dan Marsh. The meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted by Charley Smith, Secretary.

Trail Reports

September 15: Hell Roaring Creek—Wednesday crew of Larry, Rich, Bonnie, Michael Jim and Brenda met at the trail head on Highway 191 at about 9:00. Rich brought his mule Mandy with the new sign. It was a chilly morning and everyone had their heavy coats out and on. But what a beautiful day it became. And there were logs to cut, however, not many. It was estimated at the end of the day around 10 and that included only two large ones. It should be noted that the sun was out and it was appreciated when a stop was negotiated in the sunlight. Michael's horse lost a shoe so he and Larry left the group shortly after lunch and returned to the parking lot. The rest of the crew went to the clearing on the top, about 12 miles. Bonnie was hoping to get to Thompson Lake so she could fish a bit. However, Rich reminded her that was another hour's ride and we had been on the trail for 3 hours. It was agreed that we needed to return to camp. The trail was rocky, of course, and now steeply down. It was nice to get back to the trailhead about 5 and home into the shower at 6:30, tired, but with feelings of "a great day".

September 25 Saturday Bridger Bowl Work

Report by Dan Porter; photos by Marianne

Saturday, we went up to work on trail at Bridger Bowl. Rich drove a 4 wheeler with chainsaw and tools, Marianne mostly walked, and Jim, Brenda, Walt, and I rode in on our horses. We built numerous new water bars and filled in gullies with branches and logs.

For those who missed the day, Rich Inman gave an excellent demonstration on how to build a water bar with a mattock. It was truly a thing of beauty to watch him

work. Hopefully next spring, we can schedule a water bar training field session so that Rich can teach some of us the why, what, where, and how of installing a water bar correctly. Everyone worked hard and we accomplished much on the southern route of the poker ride.

Rich also checked the work we did last year with the mt. bike club at Bridger Bowl on the north route and reported that it is holding up well and working great. He also, cleaned water bars while he was there, by his lonesome. *(Additional comments by Brenda:)* It was noted that it was a busy day at Bridger as the bicycle club was holding a race and the bow hunters were out in numbers. Most were walking but we met some on horses. It was a wonderful Fall day to be out. See following pictures



Dan and Walt creating another water bar



Jim and Walt finishing up



Rich creating a water bar, Brenda watching



Decision making at Bridger Bowl

Friday, October 1st, Hyalite trail head to Hyalite lake at about 9:00 found Larry and Billie Thomas with their pack horse Harriet ready to go to work. There, they joined Walt, Brenda and Jim. Once on the trail, they soon found the big trees that Stacy had mentioned down across the trail. Under Larry's and Jim's control, the chain saw made quick work of the tree that was down. However, several cuts were made and with Walt's help the pieces were moved off the trail. (see picture-President's Report)

On, up to the lake, other branches and trees were removed. Lunch was eaten by the lake and the group re-



This mess was also eliminated on Hyalite trail

turned to the trail head around 4:00. It was a lovely day. Cool in the morning but warm in the afternoon. Numerous people (hikers and bicyclists) on the trail noted our work and thanked us profusely. Made for good feelings

Wednesday October 6, 2010 Meeting at the Moose Creek trail head road was Larry, rich Walt, Jim and Brenda at 9:00. From there up the road about 5 miles to the trail to Tamphery creek. Started sawing immediately. By noon had counted over 50 cuts and the two chain saws were running constantly. It was nice to stop at 1 o'clock for lunch. Cut for another hour after lunch and as we started to drop down, the group decided to call it a day. We were down at the trailers by 4, actually only clearing about 4 miles but a hard four miles. Estimation: 100 cuts Below are pictures of the day.



Walt, Larry & Rich packing Mandy



Horses lined up on the trail, waiting for it to be cleared

(End of trail reports for October)

GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2010 POKER RIDE

Ag Depot
All West Veterinary
Ardeson Boots and Shoes
Barnett's MT Gourmet Honey
Biggerstaff Construction
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Bozeman Saddle Outlet
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Bunkhouse Originals
CBU (Citizens for Balanced Use)
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
Cole Custom Saddles
Damasco's Restaurant
DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service
Double Diamond Halter Co.
Equine Solutions
Four Corners Saddlery

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