

# THE PICKET LINE

Back Country Horsemen of GALLATIN VALLEY  
P. O. Box 3232 , BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59772-3232

**AUGUST 2011**  
**Newsletter**

<http://qvbch.bchmt.org>

## Officers (1 year)

### President

Jim Allbright 599.4620

### Vice President

Rich Inman 388.1564

### Secretary

Marianne Meyer 388.2676

### Treasurer

Charley Smith 547.3459

## Directors

### 2 year

Clark Kinney 388.1505

Michel Harney 586.3571

Mike Haugan 539.0538

### 1 years

Stacy Bragg 222.0077

Henry Glenn 578.2084

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 763.4241

## BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh 587.7578

webmaster@bchmt.org

<http://qvbch.bchmt.org>

## ***OUR PURPOSE:***

*To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use. To assist various agencies responsible for the maintenance and management of public lands and. To educate, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise and sustained use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public, commensurate with our heritage. Foster and encourage formation of new Back Country Horsemen organizations.*

## **Up coming Events**

**General Meeting August 18, 2011: 7:00 PM**

**Belgrade Alliance Church**

**205 West Cameron, Belgrade Mt 59714**

**Ride August 6th South Boulder Lost Cabin Trail**

**Steak Ride at 3:00 PM August 27th 2011**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

President's July Report.....	Page 2
Board Meeting Minutes, July 7, 2011.....	Page 2,3
General meeting Minutes, July 21,2011.....	Page 3
Bridger Bowl GVBH Poker Ride Report.....	Page 4 & 5 & 6
Trail Reports.....	Page 7
Sponsors & Contributors.....	Back page



## President's report

Hello GVBCB

Well the great news is finally here. We have received our approval from the IRS that we are now 501(c)3 tax exempt. This means that we won't have to pay taxes on the monies we get to run our great club. Also, any monies that anyone might donate to the GVBCB will be tax deductible. This is great news for us. I want to thank Rich, Henry and Dan M. for all the support and help they have given me to get this job done.

Now moving on: The trail clearing, by Dick's and Larry's crews, is well on the way. I want to personally thank those who show up to help out.

Next, I want to thank Sherrie White for the fantastic job she did on organizing and running the poker ride. I don't have the amount of money the club made as of this writing but I do know we made a profit and that's great.

The next outing we will have is annual steak ride. More to come on this soon. Sorry, I missed the last general meeting but I went to Fla. to see my 98 year old father who is doing great. Wow, hope I live that long and still can clear trails. Its time to close for now and see everyone at the next general meeting.

Your Pres, Jim



**Mirror Lake Trail  
July 6 2011  
Trail clearing Wed.**

### Board Meeting Minutes

**July 7, 2011**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Jim Allbright, President.

Officers and directors present were: Jim, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer, Clark Kinney, Michael Harney, Mike Haugan, Stacy Bragg, Henry Glenn, and Dan Marsh. Also present was member Sonya Berg.

Jim A. asked for a motion to approve the minutes from June 2 board meeting. Rich made the motion, Clark seconded and the motion passed.

#### **Bills/Correspondence**

Insty-Prints, newsletter printing - 25.78 + 28.04  
Livingston Enterprise - 27.25  
Bozeman Printing, Poker Ride posters - 51.25  
Bozeman Daily Chronicle - 315.98  
Rich Inman, trailer paint etc - 29.48

Total bills - \$477.78

Stacy Bragg made a motion to approve the presented bills, Marianne seconded, motion was passed.

#### **Membership**

Marianne reported 81 paid memberships.

#### **Issues**

There is a public hearing on Bear Canyon Timber Sale July 13<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at the DNRC office on Boothill Court. Dan Marsh rode Moonshine Trail and checked out New World Gulch; they are both in pretty bad shape.

#### **Bills – again**

Marianne had one more bill to present. The bill from Markel Insurance to add a rider to our policy was \$106. Henry made the motion to pay the bill, Michael seconded and the motion was passed. Rich will talk to Lisa Stoeffler about us having to provide this indemnification. Hope to

eliminate for next year as this was the first time we ever had to do it.

#### **Publicity**

Stacy Bragg reported that we did not make it to the TV interview offered by Beth Saboe. We did not have much notice to get someone lined up for the interview. Dennis Carlsson will be at the Poker Ride around 10 in the morning to put together a little piece for the weekend news.

The *Get Out* insert in the Chronicle last week had a little article about the Poker Ride. Considering the expenses of advertising (see above) we need to consider other avenues of PR. Stacy suggested surveying riders at registration. Henry suggested distributing a smaller version of the poster so they don't get taken down so fast.

#### **Trail Crews**

Larry's crew headed up Cottonwood for trail clearing. Also headed up to Mirror Lake – made it all the way – lake half frozen. There is a lot of water bar work. Dick Haines rode up Little Hellroaring and 10 miles up the 401, Cherry Creek. Due to snow at Bridger the PR trail has been re-routed and will be partially on the Bohart, with their approval already obtained. Rich has hard hats and chaps!

#### **Programs**

Marianne said that if no program has been scheduled yet for this month's general meeting she could get in touch with Steve Saunders who had offered to do a presentation on weeds. The board asked Marianne to verify with Janice that no program had been arranged and to then go ahead and get in touch with Steve to see if he is available 7/21.

#### **Old Business**

Poker ride – we seem to be ready to roll except Rich needs a few more coolers for chicken. The giant cooler in the trailer is not suitable for most of our needs. Rich proposed spending some  
(Continued next page)

(board minutes continued from previous page)

money for 2 more suitable size coolers. Stacy made the motion to buy two coolers, Rich seconded. Some discussion followed and the motion was amended to include "with a limit of \$100". Michael seconded the amended motion.

Regarding the 501(c)3; both Henry and Jim talked to Tom with the Advocacy Group and all talked to Linda Daniels. Our application should finally go through this month. Approval can be expected in the mail sometime after 7/15/2011.

### **New Business**

Henry: Window Rock cabin is reserved for club use from 7/13 – 7/19. The main work day will be on Saturday 7/16 and we need a good crew to show up. Materials will be there. FS to cut poles and drop off by cabin. Henry will bring some drills, tools and a generator. For other materials we have the option of letting the FS handle it, or we can procure and then include on an invoice to the FS. Henry said the invoice only needs to say "For Services Rendered" with one tally amount. Some discussion followed. Michael made a motion to let Henry procure remaining items we need and then invoice the FS for those materials. Rich seconded. All ayes and the motion was approved. Henry will keep the other RAC projects rolling.

Clark presented a project he has been working on that would start this winter. He would like to put together an opportunity for folks (members or the general public) to participate in all day

pack training seminars. Once signed up, participants should complete a series of 4 Saturdays. CSR has already agreed to provide their arena on four Saturdays over the winter at a significantly reduced rate. Clark asked the board for its endorsement of his project and offered these arguments:

The club would get families involved

The club would affirm its educational status

The club would pass along knowledge to the next generation

The club would ensure its future, its purpose, and support its philosophy.

Rich made the motion that the board endorses Clark to pull together a team to explore the development of an educational packing and horsemanship seminar for the general public. Henry seconded and the motion was approved with all ayes.

Rich thanked Mike Haugan for putting good safe lights on the trailer.

Jim asked for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Stacy made the motion, Clark seconded, and the motion was passed.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

## **General Meeting Minutes**

### **July 21, 2011**

After a presentation by Steve Saunders, Rich Inman, vice president, called the meeting to order at 8 pm. Officers and directors present were: Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer, Dan Marsh, Brenda Kessler, Clark Kinney, Michael Harney, Henry Glenn, and Mike Haugan. Rich welcomed guests and/or new members to the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves. Shirley Robinett Knighton joined at the meeting, Nancy Greeno is a new 2011 member.

Rich asked for a motion to approve minutes from the June 14 general meeting as reported in the newsletter. Kay Tate made the motion, Michael seconded, and the motion was passed. It was reported that several members who do not have email did not get their copies of the June Newsletter in the mail. Marianne had picked up extras after the Poker Ride and will mail one to Wally, Sonya, Ron, and Larry.

### **Bills**

Big John's, Poker Ride - \$150

Bozeman Printing - \$129

Insty-Prints, N.L. - \$28.04

Dan Marsh made a motion to pay the bills presented, Henry seconded and the motion was passed.

### **Membership**

Marianne reported a membership of 85. We received a new membership in the mail, Jennifer Kent of Bozeman.

### **Issues**

Dan was contacted by a gentleman who is looking for folks to ride with him in Yellowstone National Park.

### **Trail Crews**

Larry reported that his crew keeps plugging away and is pushing a little further each time, as snow allows. The Monday crew is also going out as snow permits.

### **Programs**

No program has been scheduled as of the time of this meeting.

## **Old Business**

Henry: On Saturday a crew of 13 people finished the Window Rock project. We used approximately \$700 of RAC money. The rest of the money can be carried over into 2012. Windy Pass cabin and corral work will not happen this year. We will map out the project this year, but there is not enough time (too much snow) to do any work. The F.S. denied corrals at Porcupine and moved those funds to a Buffalo Horn project. This could still happen this fall.

Clark thanked everyone who helped him at the Coggins check station and deflagging after the Poker Ride. He presented his idea of an educational seminar on "planning and going on a pack trip/horsemanship/packing" for the winter of 2011/2012. CSR has agreed to reserve their arena for this purpose on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 28<sup>th</sup>, and May 12<sup>th</sup>. Clark has contacted Bob Holverson who may get involved. MT Canvas and REI were enthused when approached about it. Clark also spoke to Brian McNeil about the club adopting the Tepee Creek cabin which could then be used for education as well.

Rich reported that the letter confirming our club as a 501c3 Non-Profit organization has arrived. He expressed thanks to the team that has worked hard on this project: Jim Albright, Dan Marsh, and Henry Glenn. Henry added that Denny Rehberg's office was very helpful in the process as well.

## **Miscellaneous News**

Dick Haines could use help on the Monday crew. It has been a bit slim.

Ron and Kay reported that one of the founding members of this chapter had passed away. He had been part of the group that got the chapter going in the fall of 1984. Rich said he would send a card to the family on behalf of the club.

Ron and Kay also said that on their way to Taylor Fork last Wednesday they stopped at the Sage Creek corrals to see if they showed signs of getting used. Some folks from Minnesota were horse-camping there that very day and said they planned on being there all week. They had gotten information from Dan Marsh before leaving for Montana.

Dan Marsh said that he had received phone calls regarding the

*General meeting minutes continued* Twin Cabin ride that was coming up and listed on our website calendar, but that no trail boss was available. The ride might have to be cancelled. He also brought up the steak ride in August – Rich said that Jim Allbright is handling it.

Lastly, Rich asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Clark made the motion, it was seconded by Kay Tate, and the motion was passed.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

**Poker Ride Review: *articles & photos by Sherrie White***



Advance riders (left to right): Kirsten Alston (California), Andrea Soheily (Monaco BCH member), Janice Cartwright, Joe Turner, Vi Huffman, Connie Wallace, Ingrid Morrison (Sweden)

Registration started bright and early with the first participant at the table by 7:30. Manning registration this year were Colleen Carmine, Marianne Meyer, Julie Gavin and Madeline Lieb



On the trail were these two 2011 poker ride participants along with 160 other riders.

Meanwhile, working in the prize tent were Beth Merrick (prize coordinator), Alice Pilgeram and Teddy Dalby (Beth's most excellent assistant)

*Continued: next page*

[More on Poker Ride from \[previous page\]](#)

Sweep riders included (left to right): Barb Mutter, John Mutter, Mickey Leslie, Michael Harney, Margaret Lowndes and Wendy Leslie



Dennis Carlson of Channel 7 news in Bozeman interviewed Rich Inman; a short piece was broadcast on the evening news that night

Clark Kinney (with pack horse) organized the sweep and flagging crews. Here he heads out with Sam Cole to start the deflagging process. Other deflaggers included Other deflaggers (not pictured), were Wally Becker , Mike Haugen and Kent Kinnard



As riders returned, they settled in to enjoy a delicious lunch of fried chicken, cole slaw, macaroni salad and cookies

*Continued on following page*



Our poker ride "trail blazers" Ron Rassley and Kay Tate, take a lunch break. In addition to choosing the poker ride route, Ron manned a pop stop and Kay delivered picked up the food order at Lee & Dad's .

A hearty lunch was served to approximately 180 hungry souls. Serving crew included (left to right): Jim Allbright, Carol Becker, Kay Tate, Rich Inman. Not pictured: Anna Holstrom.



Dan Marsh presents 50/50 winner, Jo Beaty with her half of the \$320 cash prize



Top poker hand prize was awarded by Beth Merrick and Dan Marsh to Nicole Iversen who took home a Custom 50% Beaver Hat from rocky Mountain Hat Company



Second top winner was Tom Anderson who choose the Tony Lama boots from Ar-teson Boots & Shoes

Angie Arrington was the third top winner; she chose the load of gravel from KnifeRiver



**Rest of the Story  
Poker Ride**

It was a lucky day for Jo Beaty who not only won the 50-50 but the fourth prize of pannier and bedroll cover from Montana Canvas. Joe Turner won the fifth prize of a large bale of hay (approx. 1600 lbs.) from Western Pines. Unfortunately, there are no photos, but a BIG thanks should go to the following members: **Pop stop**

**crews:** Bonnie Hammer, Larry Thomas, Ron Rassley, Brenda Kessler, Ken Yankelevitz and Ron White . **Cog-gins Crew:** Clark Kinney, John and Barbara Mutter, Mike Harney, Margaret Lowndes and Mike Haugen Other members who helped in so many ways were Sandy McManus, Charley Smith, and of course, Jim Allbright was our official Sanitation (poop scooper) engineer.

**Trail crew reports** Another Wednesday and another trail work day, **July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011**; and another beautiful Montana summer day. Larry received calls the night before and we were all at the Spanish Creek Trail Head by nine o'clock. There, at the trail head, our group discovered the Monday crew, many which had been camping since Monday and clearing several of the trail (see their report for more information). After exchanging greeting and other chitchat, we started up toward Mirror Lake to the spot where we had stopped the week before.

Our group included, Larry Thomas, Trail boss, Jim Allbright, Rich Inman with Mandy, the mule, Wally Becker, Kay Tate, Ron Rassley and Brenda Kessler. The crew started to cut downfalls immediately upon getting to the spot where we had stopped the previous week. Probably about 10 to 15 downfalls were counted. However, we were at the lake by lunchtime and it was delightful to find that most of the ice was gone. Because we had sloshed through several drifts of snow, we were at moments dubious of getting to the lake.

As the crew ate lunch, they looked for goats and were thrilled when a bunch were discovered scampering across the mountain-side above, crossing the deep crevasses still filled with snow. Eight adults and four kids were counted. It was fun watching the kids bounce around the adults, across the snow into the tree and then out again.

During lunch Kay mentioned she missed her banana. It seems she had set it on her horse trailer and turned her back, heard a crunch and discovered it was gone. It seems her horse likes bananas and he did not bother to peel it. He ate peel and all.

Returning the guys, all dismounted, created and cleaned numerous water bars. Again we crossed the creek, usually on the bridges, even the very narrow foot bridges as the water was high in the creek. It was a great day and a beautiful ride. (*as reported by Brenda Kessler*)

### **Wed crew July 13, 2011** (*as reported by Kay Tate*)

We had ten riders and only 2 were women for a change, Brenda and myself. We discovered that when going to East Fork TH (Emerald & Heather Lakes) our recommendations would be to park at the Palisades TH and ride horses the remaining mile. That mile of road has deep, atrocious dips to accommodate runoff and they certainly need to be squared off.

Larry, Rich, & Michael made it in with no damage, but Brenda and Jim turned around after bending their jack 'a touch' on their NEW trailer. Henry wisely parked at the Palisades TH. We met lots of hikers with dogs who reported the lake 1/2 frozen over. We cleared trail half way up the switchbacks near the lake before being stopped by snow. The rest of the way may have been ridden but not on the trail so we stopped and lunched rather than bush whack to the lake. The guys then leap frogged, cleaning water bars, while Brenda and I led horses on the way out. One-half mile from the TH Larry broke his combi tool so we called it quits. We felt very rewarded after reading a note left on Rich's trailer thanking us for the work the Back country horsemen do, signed by: "Schnee." The Horses were led to the Palisades lot where we had drinks and watermelon.

Attending were: Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler; Kay Tate. Ron Rassley Wally Becker Larry Thomas, Rich Inman. Ron White, Henry Glen & Michael Harney

Dick Haines trail reports:

### **July 3 & July 4, 2011**

On July 3rd, the "West Bridger Division" of the Monday trail clearing group cleared North Cottonwood Canyon on the West side of the Bridgers. The group consisted of Trina and Wayne Frederickson, Liz Lewis and Steve Conklin. The next day on July 4, the same group cleared Corbley Canyon trail. If, some of you, have never ridden these trails, you don't know how indebted we should be to these folks. These trails are steep and very rocky. However, the views at the top are spectacular. Thanks so much.

### **July 4, July 5 & July 6, 2011**

On July 4th, Ron and Sherrie White, Nolan and Marsha Powell and Bonnie Hammer and Dick Haines camped at Spanish Creek. There, we used the new Volney Steele donated corrals. On July 5th, we cleared up to the ridge on Little Hell Roaring trail before hitting five foot drifts. On Wednesday, July 6, the same group cleared Spanish Creek # 401 trail to the Sweden creek junction. This was a 20 mile day. On the way home, we cleared about a mile up Placer creek but didn't make it to the junction because of time and many downed trees. If some of you haven't made it all the way back to the Sweden creek junction, you should as this is beautiful country

### **July 11 & 12, 2011**

Sandy McMannus, Bonnie Hammer, Ron and Sherrie White, Dick Haines and Jane Huffine camped at Porcupine for 2 nights in the rain, on July 11 and 12. Then on Monday, the trails were ok and we made it all the way to Rams Horn. There were a LOT of trees down. On Tuesday, the trails were even muddier and part way to Onion Basin, the rain began to threaten so we headed back down. From there, we worked the trail to the North of the creek. We cut one tree on the very beginning of first creek trail to Hidden lakes. That trail should not be attempted for awhile because the first 100 yards is straight up and down with a slick creek bank. We rode 18 miles the first day and 12 miles on the second day.

### **7-22-11 Ross Pass** (*report from Kay Tate*)

Ron and Kay, Sport, Jessie & Frankie cleared from Bridger Bowl to Ross Pass on Friday the 22nd. Only one tree to saw but tons of lopping. The F.S. has made a re-route that needed a ton of lopping so Kay's arms became jelly after a while. We put some logs across the old trail to discourage use and made some cairns to show where it leaves on the north end. Lots of lopping still needed, especially along the road. It needs to be cut way back. Anybody going up there take loppers and get off and do some work.

Kay Tate

(*for more trail reports : see September News letter*)

**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  
Big Sky Yoga Retreats  
Bob Steinman & Assoc. Real Estate  
Bozeman Saddle Outlet  
Bridger Feeds  
Bridger Glass & Windows  
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

Freeway Enterprises  
Gold's Gym/Jim Albrook:  
Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher  
Hardaway Vet Clinic  
Harrington's: Beverages  
Kountry Corner Cafe  
Lee & Dad's  
Mama Mac's  
Matt's Saw Shop  
Montana Canvas  
Montana Equine Medical & Surgical  
Center:  
Montana Harvest  
Montana Horse Sanctuary  
Montana Horse Sense  
Murdoch's Ranch & Home  
Owenhouse Ace Hardware.  
Rapid Tech  
R.O. Brooks Custom Leather  
Rocky Mountain Hat Company

Rocky Mountain Horseman (Joe  
Turner)  
Rocky Mountain Supply  
Rocky Mountain Truck Center  
Sandra J. McManus Jewelry Designs  
Tri-Animals  
Western Pines

Member Sponsors:  
Don Drake  
Jan Elpel  
Vi Huffman  
Rich Inman  
Linda Kelly  
Alice Pilgeram  
Dan Porter  
Ron & Sherrie White

Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen  
PO Box 3232  
Bozeman, MT 59772-3232

