

THE PICKET LINE

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

September 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 (temp) 763.4241

BCH Webmaster

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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 September: 15 2011 @7:00 PM

Belgrade Alliance Church

205 West Cameron, Belgrade Mt 59714

Program: Rick Woienski

Wagyu Beef (high end specialty beef)

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President's Report

Hi GVBCH,

Well, I have had a very busy month. I have gone on a couple of trail clearing trips with Larry but mainly, I have been in Billings working on an Exxon contract, flying helicopters over the oil spill which occurred on the Yellowstone river. While I was gone, I understand that Michael Harney put on an excellent steak ride at Spanish Peak. Thank you, Michael for taking on this job for me and the good work. It was reported that about 50 GVBCH members and guests attended. Many said they had a great time. This is part of what this club is about: That is getting together and having fun with our fellow friends and horses.

In the following month, we will still be clearing trails. So I hope to see you out there. I, also, want to take this time to say, "thank you", to Henry Glenn for taking on the job of heading up the cabin work. Henry, I understand spent many hours of he's own time putting all that work together.

This is going to be a short one this month as I was gone for more than half the month but will see you all at the next general meeting.

Your President Jim



Larry and Jim

Board Meeting Minutes

August 4, 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, Brenda Kessler, Michael Harney, Mike Haugan, Stacy Bragg, Henry Glenn, and Dan Marsh.

Jim A. asked for a motion to approve the minutes from July 7 board meeting. Clark made the motion, Dan seconded. Correction to the minutes was brought up: Stacy Bragg had made the suggestion to get two smaller coolers that would be more suitable in size than the giant cooler in the trailer. Motion was passed with the correction noted.

Bills

Lee & Dad's, Poker ride food - \$858.21

Livingston Enterprise, Poker Ride related - 16.35

Bill for two coolers (as previously approved) \$93.98

Rich Inman obtained a quote for tent frames to replace the dilapidated one. Frames would be 14x17 and 14x12. Normal price is around \$1,300 - quote to the club is \$930.

Michael Harney made a motion to approve the new bills and order the new tent frames. Clark seconded. Some discussion followed after which the motion was passed.

Membership

Marianne reported 87 paid memberships.

Issues

Dan Marsh received copy of an email Chuck Miller sent to the BCHA regarding RTP reauthorization. Also, a study was published by the GAO regarding the impact and side effects of horse slaughter cessation.

Jan Elpel is still planning on the Lost Cabin ride on August 6th.

Brenda attended a meeting arranged by the Forest Service

where volunteers from various interest groups met to talk about what they do.

Publicity

Currently, only PSAs are going out.

Trail Crews

Michael reported on work done on the Langhor trail. The trail was all but lost so treadwork was done and cairns built to guide hikers through the meadow. The trail goes from Langhor to Cottonwood and needs more work.

Rich reports that attempts to get up to various lakes are still stopped by snow. The Monday crew reports being done but Dick Haines did not have enough help. Board discussed on getting together with Dick to see how we can help his crew. Henry said he would get in touch with Dick.

Clark reported that Cory's bicycle club offered again to help on a project.

Programs

No program had been announced by the time of this board meeting.

Old Business

Poker ride - some thoughts were brought up regarding Poker Ride 2012. One question raised was do we need to keep the Coggins requirement? There have been no further cases and the state does not require it. Suggestion was made to have a committee meet earlier with notes from the previous year. Decision was made that if we get enough interest we will have a Poker Ride wrap up meeting prior to the next general meeting.

Henry: bills have been submitted for the Window Rock expenses. Windy Pass project will just consist of an evaluation this year. The cabin is still available as previously arranged (18th -

(Board meeting minutes continued: following page)

(Board meeting minutes continued: from previous page)

23rd). A trip to Windy Pass for evaluation is tentatively mapped out for the 18th, 19th, 20th.

Porcupine RAC funds will be used at Buffalo Horn.

Clark: - Cabin work in Yellowstone went off without a hitch. Good communication, good work got done. Party consisted of Clark, Rich, Mike, Henry, Larry, and John Mutter.

Regarding the winter packing seminars, Clark has talked to professionals such as Dale Moore, Bob Holverson, Brett Badgett and they are all willing and want to help. Dale has offered his notes from years of having a one day workshop.

Henry expressed concern about the long delay from the first December 3rd seminar until the second one to follow in March. Michael Harney and Marianne agreed with Henry and some discussion followed. The December 3rd seminar will have to be very captivating to ensure folks come back for the next one, many weeks later.

Rich needs a copy of the "Green Book" so he can study up for the seminars. Marianne said she would get one to him.

New Business

After the Inspiration Trail ride the BCH party discovered that members of the Saddle and Harness Club had also been out on the trail the same day. Upon returning to the trail head the S&H club approached the BCH with the suggestion of meeting up next year and having a potluck afterwards. The idea was well received so we will have to keep it in mind when we do our 2012 calendar planning.

Steak Ride is coming up in August and will be at Spanish Creek. Jim made the proposal to provide the steak and potato dinner to club members at no charge and to charge non-members \$5. His thought is that many members give a lot of their time and effort to the club without ever getting anything in return. This would be a small thank you to the GVBCH members. Rich so moved and Michael seconded, the motion was passed.

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

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

General Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2011

Following a presentation on bits by Joe Turner, Jim Allbright, president, called the meeting to order at 8 pm. Officers and directors present were: Jim Allbright, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer, Dan Marsh, Brenda Kessler, Clark Kinney, Michael Harney, Henry Glenn, and Mike Haugan.

Jim welcomed guests Ann and Bob Miller who are friends of Jehnet, and Tamara Erickson and Angie Arrington.

Jim asked for a motion to approve minutes from the July general meeting as reported in the newsletter. Michael made the motion, Dan seconded, and the motion was passed.

Bills/Correspondence

Club received two checks from USDA/Forest Service. \$837 for expenses on the Window Rock project; \$918 for expenses on the Yellowstone Park Hellroaring cabin project. Jim asked Treasurer Charley Smith to issue checks to reimburse participants for their expenses.

The only bill presented was from Insty Prints, N.L. - \$28.04.

Membership

Marianne reported a membership of 89.

Issues

Beaverhead's SOPA will no longer be mailed. If interested, go to website for information.

Newsletter

Brenda starts working on newsletter shortly after general meeting. Send submissions to her to get articles included.

Some folks are still not getting their hard copies.

Trail Crews

Larry reported that his crew is making progress. He appreciates his Wednesday "regulars" very much! Could use a few more people. He was impressed by what the Forest Service crew gets done with what they have. They rebuilt switchbacks on

Windy Pass trail, opened it up for pack stock use. He packed in a FS crew at Deer Creek and was surprised by how much they got done there by the time he went back to pack them out. Next week he will be packing out FS out of Windy Pass. Call if you want to join.

Programs

Don't know yet. Will try to get that info into Newsletter.

Old Business

Henry: Window Rock project all taken care of. The rest of the RAC money can be carried over into 2012. Windy Pass cabin project will not happen this year but by this time next year there will be new corrals there. There is a chance we will work on Buffalo Horn project this fall.

Jim: \$900 expense to purchase a new tent frame was approved at board meeting. A member who would like to remain anonymous has donated \$500 towards that purchase.

Steak Ride: The board decided to give back to membership so the Steak/Potato dinner will be free to members. Non-members will be charged \$5. Jim's been flying helicopter for Exxon and therefore cannot chair the steak ride unless we change the date. Michael Harney volunteered to take over the chair and Henry Glenn will help. Mike Haugan will haul the trailer up. Contact Michael with RSVP by August 24th and remember it is a potluck. Bring your own beverage and a side dish. Dan Marsh will email members and the GVS&H Club.

New Business

Jim and Rich went to talk to the FS.

Discussed communications issues

Spots are available but cell phone numbers have to be put in so

(General meeting minutes continued: next page)

(General meeting minutes continued)

we have to figure out whose numbers they should be Poker Ride and Rich's frustration: Why did we need a permit and extra insurance? This is our only money maker all year. We volunteer for the FS all year and put wear and tear on our equipment that we don't get any money for. Why do we have to turn around and pay extra to have an event on FS land that we work on for nothing. Our insurance has always covered the EVENT, why do we now need this expensive rider for the FS? They will contact their accountant to see if there is a loophole

Clark: Previously this year the club approved a Horsemanship Award. Clark presented the award (a set of custom reins from Cole's) to Larry Thomas.

Jim asked who could bring goodies for the next general meeting. Billie Thomas volunteered.

Lastly, Jim asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry made the motion, it was seconded by Michael, and the motion was passed. Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

Window Rock Project July 16.

Submitted by Henry Glenn

On July 16th, 13 members of the GVBCH came together to build the corrals at Window Rock We started at 7am and put in 4 new post for the 2 gates and 2 for a cross fence to keep horses out of the spring in the back of the first corral, by lunch we had the



Spring that was fenced



project well in hand. After lunch we hung 2 new 4' gates and finished the rebuilding the fence panels. after a

rest we sawed up quite a bit of firewood for the cabin. Afterward some members took advantage of the free cabin and spent the night. **Thanks to all who made this project a success!**

Photos submitted by Marianne

WINDY PASS "PACK IN PACK OUT" PROJECT August 17 & August 24, 2011

Submitted by Henry Glen

On Wednesday August 17th GVBCH Packed in a work crew and their tools and materials to refurbish the Windy Pass Cabin. If the packing was not hard enough we had to endure 7 miles of the "road from hell" which took us one

hour and twenty minutes, no less.

Larry Thomas led a team of Walter Becker, Michael Harney, Jan Elpel, Rich Inman, Steve Thienes and Henry Glenn with 5 pack horses and Mandy the pack mule. We packed in supplies to restore the Cabin including enough



Wally with Pack horse



Henry with pack horse

(Continued next page)



Lunch time for the horses @ the cabin

6' boards to re-floor the porch. While there we laid out the new corrals which we plan to build next August. Everyone should plan on being there and having fun. What a beautiful day we had and ***“any day horseback is better***

On Wednesday August 24th we packed the crew out and all their tools and leftover stuff.

Note: The stove destruction crew of Steve, Wally and Michael. I never seen 3 men have more fun trying to fit a rusted out wood stove into 2 pack bags. I think the plan was to save the door and legs but “OOPS” that never happened.



Lunch time @ the Cabin



Stove “destructors!”



Rich & Mandy the pack mule

than one day working”.

On the pack out we decided to name the crew the **BCHTH:** that is the **Back Country Horsemen Trash Haulers.**

Get out and Ride!

Trail crew reports Dick Haines Reports

On July 5th, Dick Haines



This rarely seen snow creature appeared to warn: “ **turn back**”

crew cleared up to the ridge on Little Hell Roaring and clearing came to a halt about 4.2 miles up Little Hellroaring when a deep snow drift made it impossible to proceed.

On Friday, July 22, Dick Haines, Ron Rassley, Kay Tate, Bonnie Hammer, Jane Huffine, Ron and Sherrie White cleared the fairy lake trail from the Brackett creek Y. Several trees were removed and one big mess at a stream crossing took about 45 minutes. Judging by some signs, the forest service is planning to move the trail between the big switch back and the lake. We had a short lunch in a cold drizzle at the lake.



TRAIL work: Ron Rassley, Ron White, Bonnie Hammer & Dick Haines, trail boss

More pictures from Dick Haines' trail crew (July work)



A scenic view on the 401 trail is enjoyed by Dick Haines, Bonnie Hammer and Ron White

On Wednesday, July 6, the crew cleared Spanish Creek # 401 trail to the Sweden creek junction. This was a 20 mile day.



Ron White, Dick Haines and Marsha and Nolan Powell cross a creek while clearing the 401 trail

Trail reports: WED: crew

Reported by Larry;

North Fork Hell Roaring Trail: Wednesday, July 27th
The good bunch (Wednesday crew): Rich Inman, Walter Becker, Bonnie Hammer, Ron Rohletter, Michael Harney, Henry Glen and Steve Thienes cut out numerous trees, moved rocks on switch backs and did general maintenance on the trail. (Missing that day was Jim and Brenda) The crew ended the work about a mile from Thompson Lake because (guess what?): snow. Many thanks to the crew for a hard day's work.

(Trail reports continued: next page)

Trail work continued: Wed crew [Wednesday August 10](#): Another day working on the [Hell Roaring trail](#) up the main fork. A nice ride for about one and a half mile to the junction which was very pleasant. However, after that things got serious: Rich and Michael cut a log out of the creek which obstructed the trail crossing. Michael's boots were waterproof but Rich's were not. After that we cut constantly for about 2 ½ to 3 miles and did not even make it to the Deer Lake cut off. Maybe next time but thanks again to a great crew: Rich Inman, Ron Rohletter, Walter Becker, Michael Harney and Margaret Lowndes. However, it is Huckleberry time so had to keep an eye on a couple of them. Again missed Jim and Brenda but sounds like the trip to Florida was very special for Jim. Thanks again guys, Larry

[Tamphery Creek trail](#) as reported by Brenda

[Monday August 22](#), the Wednesday crew which included Rich Inman (and Mandy the pack mule), Larry Thomas, Ron Rohletter, Walter Becker, Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Mike Harney and Margaret Lowndes rode the Tamphery Creek trail. Meeting at the "Y" after turning at the Moose Creek trailhead, off the highway, they started cutting downfall shortly after the 9:00 designated get-together time. Lots of downfall as Larry said "probably 50 % of the trees are dead" so the crew was busy. Jim estimated more than 60 cuts, especially since some of the trees were even laying lengthwise in the trail. The crew rode all the way to the Windy Pass cabin which was purported to be a 7 mile ride. Jim said it felt more like 17 miles. There at the cabin the crew connected with the two forest service people who were working industriously on the cabin with supplies brought in last Wednesday by the GVBH people. The weather was good and there was a grand vista of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Other than the steep ups and downs, it was a great ride. The wind did blow on the way back and the crew even got to cut a newly fallen tree (at least it was not there previous-

ly). Back at the trail head, at 6:30, tired but contented, the crew headed for home.

[New World Gulch trail](#) As reported by Rich Inman

On [Wednesday, August 31](#), Larry Thomas took his trail crew consisting to Wally Becker, Ron Rohletter and Rich Inman up the New World Gulch trail via the Moonshine route to Mystic Lake and on up to the Bear Lakes divide. Was a great fall trip with a little rain, a little wind and plenty of sunshine. We logged out 20+ trees, some of them being quite large. Saw one large bull moose in one of the many potholes. We were blessed to have enjoyed such a great day

[Porcupine Creek: September 7, 2011](#) as reported by Brenda

Again the Wednesday crew was ready to go at 9:00. Today, the Wednesday crew consisted of Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Wally Becker, Rich Inman (and his pack mule, Mandy), Ron Rohletter and Trail boss, Larry Thomas. Beautiful, September day, cool morning with a pleasant afternoon warmth seeping through by lunch. At first, it looked like we were following someone who had recently cut most of the logs off the trail but that lasted only so long. Soon the crew was cutting obstructions, downed timber and logs off the trail. After about 9 miles, lunch was eaten and the return trip was started. Rich and Larry dismounted and for several miles created and cleaned water bars. Shortly after that, with Ron in the lead (it was noted he did not have his glasses, made a wrong turn and the group ended up on the snowmobile trail. This was not sawed out and the crew had to decide whether to go back to the other trail or forge ahead. Onward was the cry and somehow the crew managed to saw once, only. The challenge became the bogs which were across the trail in several places. Carefully, the horses maneuvered through them. It was noted that Jim's horse was quite the jumper, not only the bogs but also a log which was across the trail. However, all arrived safely, at the trailhead about 4:30. It was a great ride, experiencing open meadows, high grand vista's and rich green, thickly wooded, swampy areas and no flies.



Successful Steak ride: Sept 27 : "Part of the gang"
More pictures and information in October Newsletter

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
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Bunkhouse Originals
CBU (Citizens for Balanced Use)
C'est la Vie Salon
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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
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Matt's Saw Shop
Montana Canvas
Montana Equine Medical & Surgical
Center:
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