

BOARD MEETINGS:
1st Thursday, 7:00 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM
Belgrade Alliance Church
205 West Cameron

OUR PURPOSE:

To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness. 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. 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.

2012 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

Henry Glenn ... 578-2084
glennhavenranch@3riversdbs.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Harney ... 548-4217

TREASURER

Brenda Kessler ... 763-4241

SECRETARY

Marianne Meyer ... 388-2676

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

Clark Kinney ... 599-4330
Rich Inman... 388-1564
Mike Haugen ... 539-0538

TWO YEAR TERM

John Mutter ... 285-0516
Larry Thomas ... 586-6878
Beth Merrick ... 388-4047

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Marsh (2 years) ... 587-7578
Rich Inman ... 388-1564
Stacy Bragg (Alternate) ... 222-0077

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey... 222-5971
pbr@wisptest.net

BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578
webmaster@bchmt.org
http://gvbch.bchmt.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOARD MEETING : MAY 3, 7:00 PM

Belgrade Alliance Church

BACK COUNTRY ADVENTURE: MAY 12, 9 AM-4 PM

Hands-on packing for registered students

BCH STATE BOARD MEETING: MAY 12

Deer Lodge

POKER RIDE COMMITTEE MEETING : MAY 17, 6:00-7:00 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road, Bozeman

GENERAL MEETING : May 17, 7:00 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road, Bozeman

*NOTE
Location Change*

RED BLUFF RIDE EASY, RICH INMAN TRAIL BOSS: MAY 19

VIRGINIA CITY POKER RIDE: MAY 26

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Hello Everyone:

I hope all of you are having a great Spring! Sure a lot different than last year. A lot is happening in May so let's get ready of our first ride 5-19-12 at

Red Bluff contact Rich Inman (388-1564) for times and details. We will have a booth at Copper Springs Ranch for the Spring MSU horse sale so stop by and visit May 4th & 5th. We are also doing a Packing Demo on Friday at 1 pm. Back Country Adventures is having the last Clinic on May 12th. I have been getting lots of kudos on the Clinic. Congratulations to the crew who has been working so hard for the club on Back Country Adventures. We will be having a saw training with the Forest Service in May, stay tuned for the date. Looking ahead a little is National Trails Day on June 2nd. We will be discussing what we will do at the board meeting.

We had a great time at Rob Brooks Leather at the April meeting. Larry reminded us how to be safe with and around a chain saw.

He also reminded us that you don't have to run a saw to go on trail clearing crews as there is lots of work for everyone. Pruning tree limbs with loppers, moving brush off the trail and digging water bars. Speaking of which, Rich and Larry will demonstrate how to maintain water bars in the trails at the May meeting which is at Janice's place on Harper Puckett Road. Poker Ride planning is in full swing so please plan to help where ever you can.

May God Bless the trails you ride,
Henry Glenn, President



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 5 , 2012

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Henry Glenn, President.

Officers, directors, and state board members present were: Henry Glenn, Rich Inman, Brenda Kessler, Marianne Meyer, Mike Haugen, John Mutter, Beth Merrick, Larry Thomas, Dan Marsh, Stacy Bragg, and Jim Allbright (ex-officio). Dan Marsh was acting as proxy for Clark Kinney and Rich Inman acting as proxy for Michael Harney. Also present was Sonya Berg.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the March board meeting as published in the newsletter. Motion passed.

BILLS/CORRESPONDENCE/TREASURER'S REPORT

Brenda reported \$4,303.63 in the checking account. Two checks to the Markel Insurance are open. The first check most likely was lost in the mail, so a second check had to be sent to prevent our insurance from expiring. So far neither one had been posted. New bills included Rich Inman's expenses for traveling to the convention (\$249.63) and purchases to repair the display for the convention (\$40.00). Marianne made a motion to approve the bills, Mike Haugen seconded and motion passed. A bill for \$34.71 from Lee & Dad's did not require approval as it was for expenses for BC Adventures clinic #2. Any of those expenses are paid from the money the event brings in.

Sacajawea School sent a thank you letter to Henry who spoke at the school about our non-profit club. The letter will be published in the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 46 new and renewed memberships as of the date of this board meeting.

PROGRAMS

April meeting is at Rob Brooks leather shop. Larry will be passing on some chain saw knowledge outdoors; meeting will be in Mr. Brooks's shop.

BUSINESS

Poker Ride – Letters with proof of insurance coverage have been sent to the FS and to Randy at Bridger Bowl. Lisa (with FS) promised to have the permit in our hands soon.

Meeting with FS – Henry, Rich, Clark, and Larry met with Lisa, Fred, and Brian at the FS. Topics included RAC grant projects, tools, training (CPR and saw), and trails. RAC monies have to be used up by 9-15-12. (Bills can be submitted later, work just has to be finished by 9-15-12). We have Windy Pass scheduled for August 16 thru 19. Lisa said CPR training should be available the 1st week of June. Saw training either on May 19th or 26th. The group discussed the fact that the FS would like to switch us from a volunteer to a contract agreement. Time was also spent discussing

trails we will work on this summer. John and Mike hope to work some Saturdays this summer and will coordinate trails with Larry.

B C Adventures - Second clinic went fantastic. Great set-up, thorough presentations.

Convention – Reports from the convention were published in the newsletter. Next year's state convention will be early April in Kalispell, celebrating the organization's 30-year anniversary. A letter was sent out by BCHA wanting to raise dues by \$5. Both Dan and Rich have already sent replies.

Circle L Expo – Henry, Clark, Larry, Mike, John along with a couple of other members and Dale Moore manned our booth and put on presentations on both days. We got a couple of new and a couple of renewed memberships during the event.

CSR Top of the West Horse Sale – The event is May 4th and 5th. Clark has arranged for our club to get free booth space and needs help with set-up prior to the horse sale. He will also need some folks during the horse sale. Another packing demo (similar to the Circle L demo) will be presented by us on Saturday. Contact Clark if you wish to assist.

Miscellaneous Topics – The brand inspector offered to come to any meeting in May or June to speak about brand inspections. Tentative plans for May meeting include Rich and Larry presenting a water bar construction demo at Janice's place. In June we will have an ice cream social meeting at Janice's. Dan Marsh is keeping our calendar up to date on the internet. Let him know if something is missing and he will add it. Club member Syd Grosfield is looking for an economical way to have horse manure cleaned out of her corrals and hauled away. She can be reached at 209-2778.

Henry asked for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Rich made the motion, Larry seconded, and the motion was passed.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2012

About 25 members found their way to Rob Brooks Leather Shop and listened to Larry's chain saw do's and don'ts on this mild April evening. The meeting then moved inside the shop where Janice talked about saddle seats, fenders, and safety stirrups. She found a "Western Safety Stirrup" that employs the peacock design long used for English safety stirrups. The company offers a group discount so anyone interested in purchasing a pair should contact Janice. Henry then showed us a water filter system that weighs less than 2 ozs and has been used by the military.

Following the program, Henry called the meeting to order. Officers and directors present were: Henry Glenn, Michael Harney, Brenda Kessler, Marianne Meyer, Clark Kinney, John Mutter, Mike Haugan, Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, state board member Dan Marsh, and ex-officio Jim Allbright.

Larry gave us a quick report on Walt Becker. He is doing real well for having had a stroke just one week earlier. He's already been moved out of the hospital to Mountain View Rehab for physical rehab. Word is, he's wasting no time getting in trouble!

BILLS, TREASURER'S REPORT, & CORRESPONDENCE

Brenda reported \$3,581.84 in checking, \$15,010.44 in savings.

Michael (& Margaret) Harney, Jim Allbright, and Brenda Kessler submitted convention registration expenses totaling \$340.00. Dan Marsh reported that he asked Insty Prints for one bill covering the remainder of the year. He therefore had one bill for \$22 and another one for \$160.00. Rich moved to approve payment of these bills, Janice seconded, motion passed.

Sacajawea letter of thanks will be published in the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

We have 59 paid memberships.

ISSUES

It is official: the BCHA has a new executive director!

A resolution had been presented at the state convention that would demand the BCHA to support the state's stand on HR-1505. As it turns out, BCHA sent documentation that they, in fact, did write letters already.

MWA, GYC, Wild Recreation Partnership, and the bike group requested that we (BCH of GV) fill out a form every time we've used or worked on a trail, as that use occurs. They want to gather usage data from all user groups in the area. Their request and our response will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

PROGRAMS

General meetings in May and June will be at Janice's place on Harper Puckett!

BUSINESS

Twisted Spur Arena – Henry and Janice visited Wes and Lori Dooley at their arena on Dirt Road in Belgrade. They offered the use of their arena at no charge for club meetings. In turn, they hope members will come and rent the facility.

Clark's Projects – Clark obtained a booth space at no charge for the weekend of the Top of the West Horse Sale at CSR and is asking for a motion to approve a booth. Set up would be Friday from 9 to noon. Members are needed to man the booth on Friday from 1 – 5pm. Saturday, all day. The club will put on a packing demo from 1 – 2:30pm. Michael made a motion to proceed with having a booth, John Mutter seconded, motion passed. Two more dates are coming up for the B C Adventures, 4/28 and 5/12.

Club Trailer – Rich Inman asked if anyone remembered when the trailer's wheel bearings were last packed. Nobody had any recollection. Jim Allbright offered to do it for free at the airport. Rich also suggested putting our logo on all four sides of the freshly painted trailer and asked for talented folks to step up and help. If you have ideas or are interested – talk to Rich.

Poker Ride (Rich) – The committee met again just prior to the general meeting. It is time to dole out assignments for prize gathering. Dan Porter, Rich Inman, and Mike Haugan agreed to contact the sponsors of the big Poker Hand prizes again this year. If you are not interested in being an officer or director in the club, here is your opportunity to help the GVBCH. The Poker Ride is our biggest fundraiser and there is a job for everyone! Detailed reports on jobs will follow and this will be discussed at every meeting prior to the event.

Henry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Janice made the motion, Mike Haugan seconded, motion passed, and meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

CLICK FOR:
2012 GVBCH CALENDAR

R.O. BROOKS
APRIL 19 PROGRAM

Our host for the April GVBCB meeting was Rob Brooks. We met at his saddle shop for a multi-purpose evening. John Mutter brought his new horse early for a saddle fitting session. Larry Thomas gave a demonstration about chain saw safety for use in our trail clearing adventures. We were able to enjoy the nice evening during Larry's talk. Then, we headed inside for a discussion about comfort on the trail for us and our horses. This dealt with various saddle types, movement and placement of stirrups and legs, proper body alignment and other ways to make our time on the trail and on horseback more enjoyable. Henry and Michael handled the meeting and we adjourned early.



John Mutter brought his new horse for an early saddle fitting session.



CHAIN SAW SAFETY
APRIL 19 PROGRAM



Larry Thomas, chain saw safety for clearing trails

Carl Smith, author of Chain Saw Safety Training Guidelines:

If you place your hands on a chain saw, you must keep in mind that it is like grabbing a hand grenade without a pin in it. It is very likely to go off in your face. From the moment that you take it out of storage to the time that it goes back to the same place, you can be hurt by either it, or by whatever you will be cutting.

The chain saw is the most dangerous hand tool that can be purchased on the open market. It requires no license and no training to own or operate it.

Carl Smith described the chain saw as "...the most dangerous hand tool that can be purchased on the open market." Every year over 165,000 people are injured while using chain saws in the U.S. Chain saws are relatively common and may seem simple to use, but using a chain saw, clearing brush, and felling trees are operations that require training and proper safety precautions. Logging is among the most dangerous professions, and if it is dangerous for professionals, amateurs should consider carefully their need for training before buying and using a chain saw.

Most chain saw accidents are preventable. The only answer to reducing these accidents is proper training and knowledge with a lot of time using a saw - which is experience.

— Carl Smith is a fifth generation logger who received a forest technician degree from Green River. Carl started his career with The Weyerhaeuser Company. Smith eventually went to work for the United States Forest Service where he trained employees of the National Park Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

MAY & JUNE GENERAL MEETINGS

The MAY and JUNE meetings will be held at Ron and Janice's place - [1655 Harper Puckett Rd.](#) off of Valley Center. The MAY meeting will start promptly at 7:00 pm (you are welcome to come early and visit, look at our improvements from last year, meet the horses...take a nap). Rich Inman will be demonstrating building a water bar and we'll be addressing Defensive Horsemanship Safety topics for our members. A brand inspector will be here for a short presentation of the "rules" and to inspect any horses in need of updating. Ron and I have two horses for inspection. Please call me if you are bringing a horse for inspection (579-3445). Come dressed for the weather and bring a chair to sit on. The meeting will take place around the council fire or inside the arena if weather is not permitting. Marshmallows and S'more fixin's will be available. (Have you ever tried Nutella on a S'more? Yummy!)

PARKING for these two meetings needs to be organized. PLEASE park to conserve spaces and keep all cars on gravel. Our grass is reserved for horses only. We'll have parking attendants (this is a request for volunteers) to help. This is a BCH event so no dogs other than our own, please. * Mike has been taught to bark (alarm dog) when cars or people enter the property. Ignore him and he'll be your best friend. Try to pet him while he's barking and he'll keep barking. Thanks.*

WANTED: SLOWER HORSES & RIDERS

MODERATION IN ALL THINGS EXCEPT AGE:

- ★ INCLINES ★ DISTANCES ★ RIDE DURATION
- ★ TRAIL CLEARING EFFORT ★ TRAIL SPEED

WHEN: Tuesdays or possibly Wednesdays-- hit the trail at 9 am. and occasional evening rides

WHERE: Spanish Peaks, Bridgers, and others

WHAT: brushcutting, waterbar cleaning and clearing small downfall off the trail and occasionally work as sub-unit with others

DISTANCE: 8 - 10 miles round trip. Likely to ride in and clear trail on the way out

NEED: Long-handled clippers, hand saws & picks, gloves that you carry yourself

CONTACT: You must confirm 24 hours before ride starts
Beth Merrick bmerrick1@aol.com 388 4047.

SHARE: Transportation & gas expense

E-MAIL YOUR INTEREST ALONG WITH THESE:

- ★ day preference: Tuesday or Wednesday ★ if you can offer or need a ride,
- ★ commitment: weekly or occasional ★ contact info and address ★ email or phone

TRAIL
CLEARING
LITE



LETTER FROM BRAUCH & BUCKNER
SACAJAWEA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our names are Hannah Brauch and Allison Buckner and we have been part of an access class at Sacajawea Middle School. Our class focuses on our economy, especially non-profit organizations. It was our task to pick a non-profit organization, gather information about them, conduct an interview, and produce a final product with all the information we learned. We decided to research the Backcountry Horseman Association.

We had the great opportunity to meet with Backcountry Horseman's president, Mr. Henry Glenn, for an interview who provided us with all of the information we needed. Mr. Glenn clearly proved to us the importance of the Backcountry Horseman.

All of the Bozeman families who enjoy hiking or horseback riding in the mountains would be hurdling over logs and all sorts of debris if it weren't for the Backcountry Horseman. Their job is to maintain and manage trails throughout our area. In addition, their goal is to continue the basic knowledge of horses, and to carry on our heritage of using horses in the backcountry. Without the Backcountry Horseman, we wouldn't be able to persist in most of the recreational activities we enjoy to do in the mountains.

As you can see, this unique non-profit organization is essential to the continued use of the backcountry. All of their volunteer work surely pays off towards our community. We would just like to recognize the Backcountry Horseman and thank them for all of the work they have done for our society. Thank you Backcountry Horseman!

*Sincerely,
Hannah Brauch and Allison Buckner*

Coming Soon to the mountains near you



photograph © 2011 Brant Robey

GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2011 POKER RIDE:

Ag Depot
All West Veterinary
Ardesson Boots and Shoes
Biggerstaff Construction
Big Sky RV
Big Sky Yoga Retreats
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Bozeman TV & Appliance
Brett Anderson, farrier
Bridger Feeds
Bridger Glass & Windows
Buffalo Bump Pizza
Bunkhouse Originals
CBU (Citizens for Balanced Use)
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service
Double Diamond Halter Co.
Faithful Friends Animal Clinic
Four Corners Saddlery
Freeway Enterprises
Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher
Hardaway Vet Clinic
Harrington's Beverages
Kitchen T.L.C.

Knife River Road Mix
Kountry Corner Cafe
Lee & Dad's
Mama Mac's
Montana Canvas
Montana Equine Medical & Surgical Center
Montana Harvest
Montana Horse Sanctuary
Montana Horse Sense
Mountain Arts Pottery / Coffee Pot Bakery
Murdoch's Ranch & Home
Northern Energy
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
Spur Line
Tri-Animals
True Value, Belgrade
Valley Trailer Sales
Western Pines

MEMBER SPONSORS:

Jan Elpel
Laura Hanks
Touch of Sense Massage
Rich Inman
Beth Merrick
Alice Pilgeram
Dan Porter
Ron & Sherrie White



FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

