

BOARD MEETINGS:
1st Thursday, 7 PM

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

OUR PURPOSE:

Shall be to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in the back country and assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of the resource and to educate, encourage and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses, commensurate with our heritage and the back country resource.

2013 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

Henry Glenn ... 578-2084
sedancowboy@outlook.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Haugan ... 539-0538

TREASURER

Debbie Moran ... 509-999-6561

SECRETARY

Marianne Meyer ... 388-2676

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

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

TWO YEAR TERM

Dan Porter ... 388-0290, 539-0879
Steve Thienes ... 578-2124
Jim Wing ... 587-8880

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Marsh (1 year) ... 587-7578
Jim Allbright (2 years) ... 599-4620
Clark Kinney (Alternate) ... 599-4430

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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BCH WEB MASTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOARD MEETING : AUGUST 1, 7:00 PM
Belgrade Alliance Church

SWEET PEA PARADE : AUGUST 3

WEDNESDAY TRAIL CREW : AUGUST 7, 14, 21, 28

GENERAL MEETING : AUGUST 15, 7:00 PM
Silver Spur Arena, 115 Dirt Road, Belgrade

POTATO FESTIVAL : AUGUST 17
Manhattan

VIRGINIA CITY POKER RIDE : AUGUST 31

STEAK RIDE : SEPTEMBER 7

Spanish Creek
Reservations paid by Sept 2 to Jim Allbright

Directions
HERE

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Hello everyone

Summer is in full swing and the Trail Crews are going at full speed. Larry and Ron have done an amazing job and gotten a lot done. Please help them when you can.

Dan Porter has been doing some Saturday projects so if that fits your schedule better then please contact him. The Poker Ride was a huge success and I want to thank Debbie Moran and the crew for all they did.

Wounded Warrior Project was also a success and I want to personally thank Bill Cohen for the generous donation he made to the Gallatin Valley Back Country Horseman. The Slough Creek Project is half done and we will go again in September. I want to thank Dahlton and Zach, MSU students for helping us out.

I want to encourage young people to be involved in our great outdoors. I am in talks with the Montana Conservation Corp to do a trail project or two with them.

If there is a project that needs our attention please let me or someone on the Board know so we can take a look at it. The Steak Ride is coming up so get your horse and your appetite ready and come on out. Check out the calendar on our website and join us on a project before Summer gets gone. May God Bless the Trails You Ride.

Henry



— THERE WERE NO OFFICIAL BOARD OR GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY —

GENERAL MEETING — AUGUST 15

The General Meeting is going to be held at the [SILVER SPUR ARENA](#), formerly the Twisted Spur, at 115 Dirt Road in Belgrade. The program will be Karen Ososki on being a balanced rider. Contact John Mutter for more details.

www.KarenOsoski.com

Jerry Graybill has made the Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen an offer for the membership to consider. Jerry has offered our club access to the Silver Spur Arena, formerly the Twisted Spur Arena, at 115 Dirt Road in Belgrade the use of the kitchen area and meeting room and use of the arena for the chapter's use for board and general meetings. The offer is to try it out for six months for no charge. He would like the arena to get more exposure and likes what our club does for the local trails so he believes it would be a benefit for both parties. For more information on what the arena has to offer, visit their web site at <http://silverspurmt.com/>.

The plan is to hold our August meeting featuring Karen Ososki, one of the top 50 riding instructors in America, that will demonstrate her painted horse that shows muscle and bone structure and how to become a proper balanced rider. Please bring a guest and enjoy this free presentation.

The members have asked over the years for the club to provide more interesting programs that involve our equine companions. We have also been asked by the state organization to try to involve more youth and having hands on demonstrations in a heated arena would help keep their interest and further that goal.

Please consider this offer by Jerry and let your thoughts and concerns be known at the August meeting. The Belgrade Alliance Church has been very good to our chapter over the years but this could provide a number of opportunities we are not able to realize in our current settings.

Dan Marsh

DIRECTIONS TO SILVER SPUR ARENA:

From Belgrade take Jackrabbit Lane

Go West onto Amsterdam Road

Go through 2 lights

Go right at Royal Road, go to end of Royal

Take a Left onto Thorpe Road, follow Thorpe for approximately 3 miles

Take a right onto Richman Road (the sign is on the left)

Arena is 1/2 mile up on Left side

The Bridgers during the Poker Ride



SPANISH LAKE TRAIL MAINTENANCE

The second day of Club trail maintenance for 2013 was on our adopted trail to the Spanish Lakes. Workers were Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, Jim Bohrmann, Walt Becker, Dan Marsh, and myself. The previous Saturday, we also had help from Jim Wing and John Mutter. This is the trail that our BCH Chapter adopted 30 years ago and committed to maintaining for public use, before any other trails. This is "Our Trail".

We had a great day with only two large trees to cut and rode almost to the lakes before snow drifts halted our progress. Average age of our club members participating was approximately 72 years old. Hopefully, some of the younger members of the club will step forward in the coming years to continue this tradition and service to the public.

— Dan Porter



BUFFALO HORN TRAIL CLEARING

Crew clears a slug of trails July 29-30:

Score for the 2-day clearing was 67 trees, 1 bridge repair, 2 moose and 3 bears

Monday, July 29: Our crew of 8 split into two groups and went separate routes to clear trails out of the Buffalo Horn trailhead. Dick Haines (with packhorse), Jane Huffine, Bonnie Hammer and Jan Elpel traveled trails #560, #161 and #100 before meeting the other group on #57; later they split to head up #39 past the Buffalo Horn cabin. That group cut 22 trees on their 15.5 mile journey and saw two moose near the cabin. Meanwhile Ron Rassley (with packhorse), Kay Tate and Ron and Sherrie White covered trails #1 and #57 before joining up with the second crew. Ron, Sherrie and Ron Rassley later completed trail #199 toward Elk Ridge before returning home after cutting 55 trees on that day.

Tuesday, July 30: Ron Rassley (with packhorse), Kay Tate, Bonnie Hammer and Ron and Sherrie White rode to Ramshorn Lake on trail #1, then continued up to the ridge on #164 and back out on Buffalo Horn Pass #1, clearing 12 trees. A group of riders had reported a bad spot on a bridge on the trail to the lake, so the group stopped to replace some rotting timbers and fill in a hole on that bridge. On the way home from the 13.25 mi. trek, the group spotted 3 black bears (mama and two cubs) running through a meadow in front of them.

Photos by Bonnie Hammer & Sherrie White



Dick Haines and Jane Huffine work together to remove a tree across the trail



Ron Rassley follows Bonnie Hammer on the trail to Ramshorn Lake

Ron White rides over the bridge on which the crew replaced some rotting timbers and filled in a nasty hole. A day could be spent repairing bridges on the much-used trail to Ramshorn Lake!



Ron Rassley and Bonnie Hammer pause by the lake before enjoying lunch



PORCUPINE TRAIL CLEARING — DAY 1

We cleared a total of 47.5 trail miles, with 75 trees and considerable lopping on this two-day clearing mission.

Monday, July 8: A crew of eight rode 19 miles and cleared 41 trees from the trailhead toward Ramshorn Lake (Trail #34/#160). The cast of characters included Dick Haines (with packhorse), Jane Huffine, Ron Rassley (with packhorse), Kay Tate, Bonnie Hammer, Stormy Knight (new recruit from Great Falls) and Sherrie and Ron White.

Photos by Sherrie White.



Stormy Knight observes as Dick Haines slaughters a tree on the trail to Ramshorn Lake



It's just part of the job: Ron Rassley sharpens the chain after the first tree of the day on Monday

Monday's troop got a little damp after a brief shower; here Bonnie Hammer leads as Dick follows



PORCUPINE TRAIL CLEARING — DAY 2

Tuesday, July 9: We split into two groups in order to knock out two trails. Dick, Jane, Bonnie and Stormy, headed toward Hidden Lake (Trail #466/66). They mopped up 8 trees along the trail that climbed 3000 ft. and rode 12.5 miles.

Photos by Bonnie Hammer.



Jane Huffine, Dick Haines and Stormy Knight enjoy lunch amongst the wildflowers with a view of Lone Mountain



Dick and Stormy toss logs like twigs

Meanwhile, Ron Rassley, Kay Tate, Sandy McManus and Sherrie and Ron White claimed 26 trees and 16 miles on the trail over Elk Ridge toward 320 Ranch (Trail #199)



Sandy lops from atop a most cooperative steed, George



Ron Rassley tackles this fine mess with a handsaw, though the bulk of the work was by chainsaw



WAPITI TRAIL CLEARING

Lions, and Tigers and BEARS . . . Oh my!

After reading in the Bozeman Chronicle about the the FWP's plans to bait bears in the Taylor Fork area, we thought our July 20-21 clearing in the Wapiti area might have to be canceled. However, Ron White conferred with the Forest Service and FWP and was told that FWP would steer clear of the Wapiti area so we could proceed as planned.



Part of the crew leaving the trailhead on Saturday: Stormy Knight, Sandy McManus, Jane Huffine, Daryl Purdy and Rich Wallace

Sunday, July 21: Our mission was to clear Eldridge Trail #172. No one in our clearing group of eight was familiar with this trail. We had no expectations, but we all agreed it was a most pleasant trail with some spectacular views. We lopped and chopped and blew our way through 13 miles and 23 trees on a cooler day with fewer flies. Happier campers this day were Sandy McManus, Bonnie Hammer, Dick Haines (with packhorse), Stormy Knight, Jane Huffine and Ron and Sherrie White.



Bonnie Hammer lops with Dick Haines and Ron White in the background

Dick Haines slices through one of the larger trees across the trail



Rich Wallace wields a handsaw to remove a pesky branch



At the end of the day Ron and Sherrie repaired some rails on the Wapiti cabin corrals

Dick Haines leads his packhorse on a scenic part of the trail



HORSING AROUND



Ron Laden & Chris Nygren: Trail Prep Time



Walt Becker leading a group of riders on the 2013 Poker Ride

13 riders - this is part of the group -
July 20th, Mystic Lake, Lookout Point



Wednesday crew rides up Little Hellroaring. In front is
Wally Becker, Rich Inmann & packhorse, Jim Allbright
and Ron Rohletter (photo by Bonnie Hammer)



GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2013 POKER RIDE:

Ardeson Boots & Shoes
Montana Canvas
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply
Northern Energy Propane
Rocky Mountain Hat Company
DJ Bar Ranch
Ag Depot
All West Veterinary Hospital
B&B Plumbing
Big Shooters Espresso
Big Sky RV
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Bridger Glass & Windows
Bunkhouse Originals
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
Double Diamond Halters
Faithful Friends Animal Clinic
Four Corner Saddlery
Freeway Enterprizes
Hardaway Veterinary Hospital
Knife River
Kountry Korner Café

Lee & Dad's
Mama Mac's
Matt's Saw Shop
Montana Equine Medical & Surgical
Center
Montana Side Saddle
Owenhouse Ace Hardware
Remuda Coffee
R.O. Brooks Custom Leather
Rocky Mountain Supply
Rocky Mountain Supply
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Sandy McManus Designs
Steer In Trailer Sales
The Coffee Pot
Mountain Arts Pottery / Coffee Pot Bakery
Three Forks Saddlery
Touch of Sense Massage
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