

BOARD MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 6 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 7 PM

Springhill Church
4769 West Babcock, Bozeman

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.

2016 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

John Mutter ... 285-0516
mutterranch@q.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379
cmatzick@msn.com

TREASURER

Sharon Fraser ... 539-2783

SECRETARY

Tamara Erickson ... 451-8186

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

Harry Huntzinger ... 580-2788
Chris Nygren ... 546-7550
Carl Blaskovich ... 388-4640

TWO YEAR TERM

SUE GESKE ... 581-6058
Mike Haugen ... 539-0538
Lawrence VanDyke ... 586-2440

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Inman (2 year) ... 388-1564
Henry Glenn (1 years) ... 578-2084
Dan Marsh (Alternate) ... 587-7578

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey... 222-5971
pbrantr@gmail.com

BCH WEB MASTER

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BCHMT STATE BOARD MEETING : DECEMBER 3

Fairbridge Inn, Missoula

BOARD MEETING : DECEMBER 15, 6:00 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : DECEMBER 15, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church



PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Greetings everyone,

It's hard to believe the year is almost over. On the State level, BCHMT managed to head off a 30% cut to Region 1's trail budget. Locally, Larry led another very effective and efficient trail crew. Dan Porter led several "Fun Rides". Our 4H packing project went off better than expected. Henry helped the USFS with their cabin restoration and Rich managed to stay ahead of the RTP grant. All in all, I'd say we had a very effective year and I'm proud to be a member of this fine organization!

We only have one remaining chore to complete before the year's end and that would be our Election of Officers for the coming year. I know the Nominating Committee called all of you asking for volunteers and or nominations for the various positions. I'm disappointed to announce that with the exception of the Board of Directors they were unable to obtain any nominations! So all of this year's officers graciously offered to serve another term. Elections will be held at the general meeting Thursday, Dec. 15th. A list of nominations will appear later in this newsletter and Dan Marsh will get a ballot out to everyone via e-mail so that those not able to attend the meeting can vote online if they prefer. Just remember that all online ballots MUST be received and counted by Wed. Dec 14th. the day BEFORE the meeting. No exceptions.

As I said earlier, I'm proud to be a member of GVBCH and am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as your President for 2016.

Sincerely, John

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17

Attendees: John Mutter, Sue Geske, Dan Marsh, Sharon Fraser, Carl Blaskovich, Chris Nygren, Tamara Erickson, Jim Allbright, Dan Porter, Rich Inman, Lawrence Van Dyke, Dan Porter, and Mike Haugan.

John Mutter called the meeting to order and took roll call.

Dan Marsh made a motion to approve the September board meeting minutes, Sue Geske seconded the motion, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

FINANCE REPORT:

Sharon Fraser reported one new bill from the Mini Nickle for the poker ride ad, a bill for Air Med Care, and a bill for the BCH state membership.

Sharon agreed to call the Mini Nickle to check into that bill, because she thought it had been paid. The Air Med Care bill is for membership renewal. The renewal fee is \$55 per household, and is due on December 6, 2016, which is prior to the December meeting. Dan suggested that we contact all GVBCH members up for renewal to ascertain whether or not they want to renew, and that the club write a check dues so that the payment is made on time. Those members would then be responsible for reimbursing the club.

CORRESPONDENCE:

PLWA raffle tickets are available, and some really great prizes are available to support a wonderful cause. Please contact John Mutter if you would like to purchase raffle tickets.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT:

Dan Marsh reported that the Department of the Interior cancelled 15 oil and gas leases in the Badger Two Medicine area of the Lewis and Clark National Forest in response to concerns raised by the Blackfeet Nation and others that drilling would damage the pristine area. Devon Energy, who owned shares in the leases, was reimbursed for expenses, there are only two remaining leases in the area.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The nominating committee presented a ballot including the following nominees:

Board of Directors: Jim Allbright, David Crisp, Connie Lien, Dan Marsh, and Dan Porter are all on the ballot for board of Directors, with three new Board positions to be filled.

State Board: Jim Allbright, Henry Glenn, and Dan Marsh are all on the ballot, with one position available to be filled.

John Mutter is on the ballot for President, Carmen Matzick for Vice President, Tamara Erickson for Secretary, and Sharon Fraser for Treasurer.

STATE BOARD:

Rich Inman reported on the October State Board meeting, since no report was made last month. Some issues were mentioned: the saw policy update is still in progress, RTP deadline was November 1st and Rich made a submittal. He said we have used about two thirds of the grant, and we are waiting for the last check to come in.

FOREST PLANNING WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION MEETING:

John Mutter and Dan Porter attended a meeting last Tuesday with a group of other like-minded stake holders who share an interest in our National Forest, including representatives of other active, non-motorized clubs, to put together a cohesive set of recommendations to present to the Forest Service for consideration in the Forest Revision process. The group is hoping they can pick up where the GCC left off, continue any progress they may have made, and provide a cohesive set of recommendations to the Forest Service in hopes they will have more weight coming from a larger group.

SAFETY CLINIC:

The bicycle club is interested in doing another safety clinic. The objective is to desensitize horses to bicycles, and also teach bicyclists about horses, including how to react when encountering horses on the trail. Ideas and suggestions are welcome on when and how the safety clinic should be held. It was suggested that instead of holding the clinic in an arena setting, it may make sense to try and do it on the trail instead in order to expose the horses to bikes where they would normally encounter them in real life situations.

4 H:

The first 4-H Packing Clinic meeting was held, and Mike Haugan reported that they have begun planning and setting clinic dates. Clinics are scheduled on January 12, January 26, February 18, March 11, April 8, May 20, and the OTO Ranch practice ride on June 16-18.

BCHA SAW CLINIC:

BCHA sent out a one question survey and are asking for a response regarding whether or not chapters are interested in attending a saw clinic. They are hosting a two day saw training on April 18th and 19th in Great Falls. The 18th will be classroom training, and the 19th will be hands on training. They would like to know which clubs need such training, how many are interested in attending, and who many are already certified.

John Mutter adjourned the meeting.

— Submitted by Tamara Erickson

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17

PROGRAM:

Forage 102 by Emily Glunk, PhD. Back by popular demand, Dr. Glunk once again provided a very interesting and educational program that built on the information she provided during last year's program, Forage 101. Topics included: an equine nutrition overview, how to feed a horse in winter and in hard work, feeding a confined horse, and pasture management basics. Dr. Glunk answered questions and provided handouts.

MINUTES:

Dan Porter noticed an error in the October minutes. He noted that on page three, the proposed pack trip idea was billed as a "fun ride". However, it was intended to be a work trip, with an option for some people to stay the night. Three crews could work on different parts of the trail, and meet up to camp, if desired, that night.

Larry Thomas mentioned that an overnight trip would be a great time to work on a bridge that needs to be repaired, and is too big of a job to do in one day.

Dan also pointed out that this trip would not necessarily be limited to people on horseback, because it would be possible for hikers on foot to also participate.

Dan Marsh made a motion to accept the October minutes with the above noted correction. Jim Allbright seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

FINANCE REPORT:

Sharon Fraser reported on the account balances, and that three new bills were received, including a bill from the Mini Nickle for poker ride ads, a bill for Air Med Care, and a bill for the state membership dues. Sharon agreed to call to check on the Mini Nickle, because she thought that had been paid.

The Air Med Care membership program is up for annual renewal. Renewal fee is \$55 per household, and is due on December 6, which is prior to the December meeting. Dan Marsh suggested that we contact everyone up for renewal, and that the club pay dues for everyone interested in renewing so that the payment is made on time. Those members would then be responsible for re-paying the club.

If you are interested in renewing your membership and have not been contacted Dan Marsh, please get in touch with him to let him know if you would like to renew your Air Med Care membership. If you verbally commit to renewing an Air Med Care membership, please make sure to send a check in to GVBCH to cover the dues. In order to receive a discount, Air Med Care requires that GVBCH write one check to cover all GVBCH member dues, and then must be reimbursed by participating members.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Newsletter and invitation to purchase raffle tickets was received by Public Land and Water Access. Please contact John Mutter if you would like to purchase raffle tickets. There are some really great prizes, and it supports an organization that does a great job obtaining public access.

MEMBERSHIP:

Current membership stands at 58.

PROGRAMS:

No program in December due to the election.

CHRISTMAS PARTY:

The Christmas/Holiday party has been scheduled for Saturday January 28th at the Lee Hart Ranch. The Saddle and Harness club will be hosting the event. There is no cost to members, and Henry Glenn will provide meat, but side dishes and desserts will be pot luck.

MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION:

John and Dan attended a meeting last Tuesday with a group of like-minded stake holders involved in other non-motorized groups such as guest ranches, outfitters, bicycle groups, and activists, with an interest in our National Forest, to put together a cohesive set of recommendations to present to the Forest Service for consideration in the Forest Revision process. The group is hoping they can pick up where the GCC left off, and continue any progress made.

BCHA SAW CLASS:

Because some chapters have trouble providing instructors, BCHA is hosting a two day saw training on April 18th and 19th in Great Falls. The 18th will be classroom training, and the 19th will be hands on training. Please contact Rich, Dan or John if you are interested in attending.

RTP UPDATE:

Members who participated on the trail clearing crew this summer received a check for mileage reimbursement tonight from the Forest Service. We are currently waiting for the most recent reimbursement from the RTP Grant submission, which should arrive before Christmas.

Refreshments: Sharon Fraser agreed to bring goodies to the December meeting.

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17—CONTINUED**

ELECTIONS AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

The nominating committee presented the ballot

BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS:

Jim Allbright, David Crisp, Connie Lien, Dan Marsh, and Dan Porter are all on the ballot for board of Directors. Three new Board positions available to be filled.

State Board Nominations: Jim Allbright, Henry Glenn, and Dan Marsh are all on the ballot, with one position available to be filled, with one alternate position available.

John Mutter is on the ballot for President, Carmen Matzick for Vice President, Tamara Erickson for Secretary, and Sharon Fraser for Treasurer.

Chris Nygren then opened each position and asked for additional nominations. There were no additional nominations made for any position. Please contact Chris Nygren if you are interested in nominating or running for a position.

Please note that every nominee on the ballot must renew their membership prior to election night!

GUESTS:

John Mutter welcomed guest Sean Tuttle. Sean represents Heroes and Horses in Manhattan, a nonprofit group that provides the opportunity for veterans to participate in pack trips. Heroes and Horses is currently planning a packing clinic open to the public as a fund raiser, and is also asking for donations of used tack and pack gear.

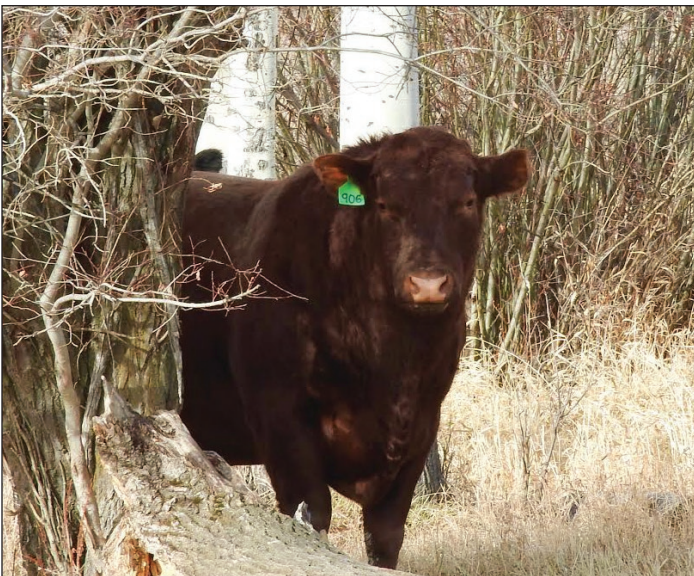
Chris Nygren made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jim Allbright seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by Tamara Erickson

SAMPLE 2017 BCH BALLOT	
President: _____ John Mutter	_____ (Write-in)
Vice President: _____ Carmen Matzick	_____ (Write-in)
Secretary: _____ Tamara Erickson	_____ (Write-in)
Treasurer: _____ Sharon Fraser	_____ (Write-in)
Board of Directors (pick 3):	
_____ Jim Allbright	
_____ Carl Blaskovich	
_____ David Crisp	
_____ Connie Lien	
_____ Dan Porter	
_____	(Write-in)
_____	(Write-in)
_____	(Write-in)
State Board (pick one): _____ Jim Allbright	
	_____ Henry Glenn
	_____ Dan Marsh
(2nd highest vote recipient will be designated as alternate)	



Sharon Fraser & Kitty



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2016 POKER RIDE:**

TOP POKER HAND PRIZES:

Rocky Mountain Hat
Madison River Propane
Ardesson Boots & Shoes
Montana Canvas
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply

SILENT AUCTION PRIZES:

Big Sky RV
Knife River
DJ Bar Ranch
Steer In Trailer Sales
Rich Inman
Ace Owenhouse
Beth Merrick
Meredith Kresge
Sorensen Veterinary Hospital
Montana Equine Veterinary
Four Corners Saddlery
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Tru Value Hardware Belgrade
Tim McWilliams
Montana Horse Sense
Ben Masters
Steve Thienes

RAFFLE PRIZES:

Treasure State (Mike Haugan)
Troxel
Montana Horse Sense
Boot Barn
All West Veterinary
Three Forks Saddlery
Double Diamond Halter Company
Dan Marsh
Rich Inman
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply
Barb Mutter
John Mutter
Chalet Market
Four Corners Saddlery
Beth Merrick
Big Sky RV
Montana Equine
Sorensen Veterinary Hospital
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Freeway Enterprises
Double Diamond Veterinary
Rocky Mountain Supply
Town & Country Belgrade

Hardaway Veterinary Hospital
DaBrim
The Coffee Pot
Bridger Mountain Plumbing
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Outback Steakhouse
Kountry Korner Café
Corral Steakhouse & Bar
B&B Plumbing

CASH/PRODUCT DONATION

Bank of Bozeman
Harrington's Pepsi-Cola
Town & Country Belgrade



FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

