

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.

2017 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

Sue Geske ... 581-6058

Mike Haugan ... 539-0538

Lawrence VanDyke ... 586-2440

TWO YEAR TERM

David Crisp ... 239-776-6279

Dan Porter ... 539-0879

Carl Blaskovich ... 388-4640

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Inman (1 year) ... 388-1564

Dan Marsh (2 years) ... 587-7578

Jim Albright (Alternate) ... 763-4241

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:

BOARD MEETING : DECEMBER 21, 6:00 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : DECEMBER 21, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church

CHRISTMAS PARTY : JANUARY 13, 2018

Hart Ranch

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:



Greetings Everyone!

Thursday is Thanksgiving Day and I'm reminded just how lucky I am to be alive in a world full of so many wonders. Just this morning, my wife woke me yelling, "Come quick you've got to see this"! There were two fox running and jumping and generally having fun with our two horses out in the snow. All four of them were running around dodging here and there and obviously enjoying each other's company. It was like they were playing tag. We watched for the better part of 15 minutes before the two fox ran off in the direction of their den. The den is on our property so we see them regularly but never actually playing with our horses. What a treat it was to start the day watching all the fun!

I'm thankful, too, for you having allowed me to serve as your President these last two years. It wouldn't have been possible but for the help I got from Carmen, Tamara, Sharon, and the Board of Directors. I also want to thank Brant for editing the Newsletter and Dan M. for all the e-stuff. Thank you one and all. Next year we'll have an entirely new administration and I wish them all the best.

I started out this month, wanting to list all our accomplishments for the year but decided to only mention one. In July, GVBCH was awarded the "Bozeman Award" for nonprofit organizations. It is given in recognition of organizations that, "Enhance the positive image of the Bozeman community through service to their customers and the community. "These exceptional organizations help make the Bozeman area a great place to live, work and play".

Thank you everyone! It's all of our members that make GVBCH the great organization that it is.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!
Via con Dios! (Go with God)

John

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16

Meeting was called to order shortly after 6 pm by John Mutter, president. Officers and directors present were Carmen, Sharon, Sue, Lawrence, David, Dan Porter, Carl and Jim Allbright as proxy for Tamara and Mike. Ex Pres Dan Marsh and guests Marianne and Rich were also in attendance. Carmen moved to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter, Lawrence seconded and motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

John moved through standing committees swiftly. There were no new bills, no changes to memberships, and no news from the trail crews. We received a donation request by mail from the PLWA (Public Land/Water Access). Their mission is in line with the BCH's mission and Dan Porter made a motion to send a \$50 donation, seconded by Carl Blaskovich, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Main topic is Gallatin Forest Partnership progress; John tabled this topic to be covered last.

NEW BUSINESS

John informed the board about an initiative brought up by a group in conjunction with the GFP. They propose to also assess the condition of access sites along the Gallatin River up and down the Gallatin Canyon. This was just presented to the board as an FYI.

Rich Inman asked for a motion to have signs made up for the corrals at Spanish Creek and Buffalo Horn. He presented a sample sign that has been hung on corrals in the Hebgen district. The sign is 12"x25" and would read "Public Corrals provided to accommodate multiple parties including overnight campers & day use riders. Corrals built and maintained in cooperation between Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen & Custer Gallatin National Forest. Hebgen Ranger Station, Custer Gallatin National Forest." In place of "Hebgen" Ranger Station it would read "Bozeman Ranger Station". The signs would cost \$125 a piece. Dave made the motion to have the signs made, Jim Allbright seconded and the motion passed.

The club also received a letter from the Gardiner Ranger District of the CGNF regarding preparations for an environmental assessment for the Shooting Star Ranch land Exchange. Deadline for comments is 30 days following legal notice in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle on October 24th. John asked for a volunteer to send such comment and Rich Inman volunteered.

John received an email from the YGBC, a coalition of businesses and land owners that is currently opposing two gold mines near YNP. In their email they are asking the Back Country Horsemen to join them in their agenda. The board briefly discussed this and it was decided not to get involved in political issues. This is not in line with our mission statement.

The board visited the proper protocol for procedures regarding "call for nominations from the floor" which would finalize nominations for 2018 officers and directors in the general meeting.

Lastly, John returned to the old business of the ongoing GFP meetings. He informed the board that on the same night of this meeting a vote was going to be taken by the GFP on their management recommendations. John went over all the details of the wording of each proposal affecting specific areas of the WSA such as the Hyalite area, Porcupine Buffalo Horn, and the northeast corner. As his vote is a representation for the entire club he wanted the assurance of the board that he was on the right track.

The board meeting ran long and had to adjourn to join the general meeting so the presentation could be started.

—Meeting notes submitted by Marianne Meyer

The nominating committee met on Oct. 8, 2017 and developed the following slate of nominees for the upcoming election.

President—Henry Glenn

Vice President—Chris Nygren

Secretary—Cathy Van Dyk

Treasurer—Carmen Matzick

Directors—Marianne Myer, Tamara Erickson,
Larry Thomas, Rod Wilson

State Board—2 yr. term, Rich Inman

State Board Alternate—Henry Glenn

Current members can vote online via our webpage, [HERE](#)

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16**

14 Members present. Meeting started at 8:28 pm

Welcome and Guests.

The program presented in the previous hour was by a representative of Heroes & Horses. A video documentary of their riding and horse packing program for veterans of war was shown. A question and answer session followed.

MINUTES

Approval of minutes from October 2017 meeting. Motion made by _____, seconded by Janice Cartwright. Passed.

Treasurer's report: Same as in Board Meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP

Nominees for board positions must have paid up memberships prior to the voting.

ISSUES: None

PUBLICITY: None

TRAIL CREWS: None

PROGRAMS: None

OLD BUSINESS

Gallatin Forest Partnership: John Mutter will continue to represent the GVBCH with this group to help develop land use plans for the US Forest Service. John M. And Dan Porter have put in many hours trying to hash out a unified land use plan incorporating ideas from many different organizations. They have represented the values and interests of the GVBCH. The general membership supported John's voting for the documents to be submitted to the USFS.

Christmas Party: The party will still be held on Jan 13, 2018. There was thought that the Bar J Wranglers would cause a conflict with attendees. But a matinee showing will be held during the day, so everyone could attend the Christmas Party.

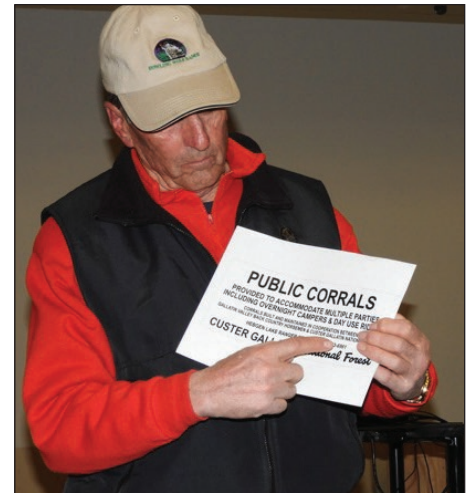
NEW BUSINESS

Larry Thomas had questions about recent volunteer hours. Anything after October will go onto the 2018 log.

Rich Inman showed pictures of the signs that will be made for \$125 to be put up at the corrals at the Spanish Creek and Buffalo Horn trail heads. They will be 12" x 25" with red and black lettering in oak.

Janice Cartwright will bring snacks for next month's meeting.

Finalize Nominations: John M. discussed the nominations. Dan P. read the list of nominees. Larry Thomas asked that his name be removed from the BOD nominations. No new names were nominated from the floor. John M. asked three times for nominations. None advanced from the floor. Dan P. made a motion to close nominations. Carmen Matzick seconded. Motion passed.



Rich show the signs that our club will be paying for and posting on various corrals in the Gallatin National Forest

Dan Marsh made a motion to adjourn. Janice Cartwright seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting ended at 9:05pm.

—Submitted by Sue Geske

Ciera Krinke, Director of Marketing and Communications, presented the general meeting program about

[HEROES & HORSES.](#)



Micah Fink, Executive Director & Founder

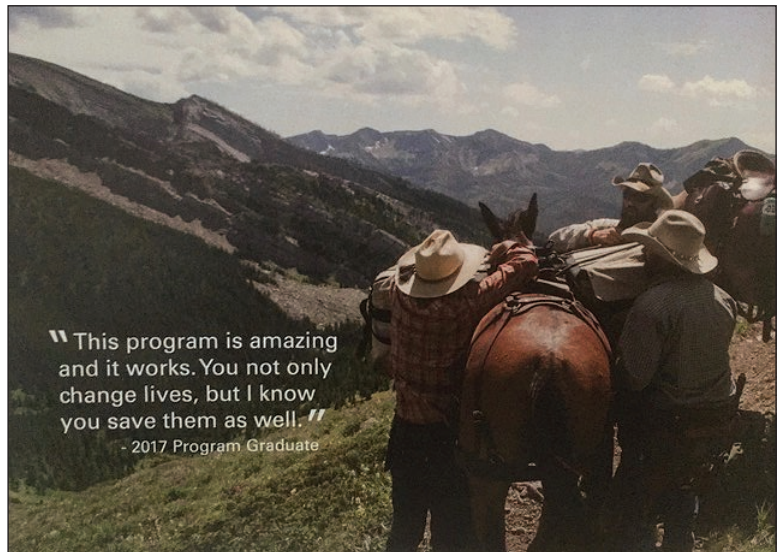


OUR PROCESS

This innovative program utilizes expedition-style horse pack trips to teach self-reliance, teamwork and perseverance. Led by experienced instructors, many of whom are combat veterans and program graduates themselves, these veterans and their pack animals travel into the wilderness on epic, life-changing journeys of self-discovery.

Many of the existing programs offered to veterans suffering from PTSD fail when it comes to rehabilitating these individuals in a realistic and long-lasting way. The available solutions, many of which include the over-prescribing of medications and shielding from stress-inducing situations, is short-sighted and does not get to the root of the issue. Our program is not a "short cut." It is not the "easy way out." It is challenging, it is intense, and, perhaps most importantly, it mandates that you look within yourself to rediscover your inner-strength, confidence, and purpose.

THIS IS #NOTAVACATION



This movie was presented about the 16 mustangs chosen to participate in the 2017 season. It covered the training process and the journey of preparation.





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

POKER HAND PRIZES

Rocky Mountain Hat Company
Montana Canvas
Madison River Propane
Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply
Four Corner's Saddlery

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Bridger Mountain Plumbing
Big Sky RV
Beth Merrick
True Value Hardware
Ace Owenhouse
Rich Inman
Steve Thienes
Jehnet Carlson

DOOR PRIZES

Rocky Mountain Supply
Rich Innman

Sorenson Vet Hospital
Keith Lawrie
Gene Houghtaling
Montana Horse Sense
Double Diamond Halter
Henry Glenn
Janice Cartwright
Jennette Carlson
All West Vet
Chalet Market
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Marianne Meyer
Dan Marsh/Alice Pilgeram
Pickle Barrel
Kountry Korner
Town and Country
Freeway Enterprises
Outback Steak
Mike Haugan

Storm Castle Café
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Double Diamond Vet Hospital
B & B Plumbing
Rikki's Furniture Gallery
Tana Kradolfer
Jan Elpel
Boot Barn
Henry Glenn
Barb Mutter
Hardaway Veterinary Clinic
Evergreen Cottage
Knife River

DONATIONS

The Septic Service
Bank of Bozeman
Harrington's Pepsi-Cola
Town & Country



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