

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  
mutteranch@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 Haugen ... 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 : OCTOBER 19, 6:00 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : OCTOBER 19, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:



Greetings everyone,

I thought I'd use my column this month, to remind everyone that our annual election of officers will be held at the December meeting. Because we offer on line voting, nominations will be accepted and finalized at the November meeting. This year's elections are especially important because none of our four officers (Pres. VP. Sec. & Treas.) will be available for re-election. We also need three nominations for the Board of Directors plus one State Board Director and an alternate. That's a total of nine positions to be filled.

The Board positions have no term limits so those folks leaving office may run again, if they so desire. While State Board members may hold GVBCH officer positions a member of the GVBCH Board may not also be a GVBCH officer.

The nominating committee will be contacting the membership in the very near future but in the off chance you are not contacted and would like to make a nomination, just contact any current officer or board member and they will make that nomination from the floor. The duties and responsibilities of all the positions are listed in our constitution which can be found on our webpage.

Please, think about throwing your own hat into the ring. It can be a very rewarding endeavor and your club needs you.

'Till next month, Happy Trails!

—John

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 21**

**ROLE CALL**

John Mutter, Tamara Erickson, Carmen Matzick, Dan Porter, Dan Marsh, Rich Inman, Lawrence Van Dyke, Sharon Fraser and Sue Geske were present. Rich Inman is standing proxy for Carl Blaskovich.

Motion to pass August meeting minutes was made by Dan Marsh, Carmen seconded the motion, and the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

**FINANCE REPORT**

Sharon Fraser made the financial report. No new bills were submitted.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The Bridger Bowmen made a \$500 donation to the club along with a nice letter of appreciation for the work GVBCH performs each year.

A \$25 donation was made from Connie LeHockey for clearing Porcupine and Ramshorn trails.

Tamara Erickson agreed to send thank you notes for both donations.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Marianne Meyer reported on membership, we are currently at 52 paid memberships and 12 honorary members.

**ISSUES**

Senate bill 1460, to fund Land Water Conservation Fund, BCH Members are asked to contact Senator Daines and request his support.

**BLACKFOOT CLEAR WATER STEWARDSHIP ACT**

The Rice Fire devastated the area, so there is consideration about whether or not to proceed.

**TRAILS**

Henry Glenn, Dan Marsh and crew went into Buffalo Fork Creek Cabin, cleaned up the cabin and repaired damage from critters. The next week they went to Slough Creek, where they discovered damage but not as significant as in Buffalo Fork Creek. There may be another trip scheduled into Hell Roaring, depending on the weather.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Poker Ride Committee: Rich Inman reported that Beth Merrick has made some changes to the prize system that should streamline the process.

**NEW BUSINESS**

2018 Nomination Committee: We need to have a ballot printed to be presented to members at the November meeting. Outgoing one year term directors are Sue Geske, Mike Hagan, and Lawrence Van Dyke who will serve on the Nominating Committee, unless other volunteers accept the job. All four officers are up for re-election (John Mutter, President; Carmen Matzick, Vice-President;

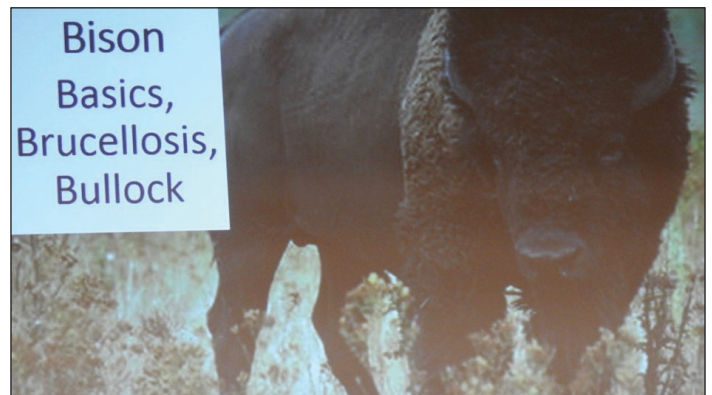
Tamara Erickson, Secretary; Sharon Fraser, Treasurer), three chapter directors, one state director and one state alternate is up for reelection. David Crisp, Dan Porter, and Carl Blaskovich are two year term directors who will serve one more year and are up for reelection in 2018.

Volunteer Hours: Please send volunteer hours to Dan Marsh ASAP, as he needs to send the information to the Forest Service by October 1.

Christmas Party: Lawrence Van Dyke made a motion that the club pay a third of the band suggested by the Saddlites, and that we share costs of food and other expenses, Dan Porter seconded the motion. A discussion was held, and the motion passed. The date has been tentatively set for Saturday, January 13 at the Hart Ranch.

Carmen Matzick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sue Geske seconded the motion, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by Tamara Erickson



Allison Kolbe,  
Gallatin/Custer  
National Forest

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 21**

Carmen Matzick made a motion to pass the August minutes, Janice Cartwright seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**PROGRAM**

Allison Kolbe from the Gallatin Custer National Forest Service gave a very interesting presentation on Bison.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Sharon Fraser reported on finances.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Bridger Bowmen made a \$500 donation to the club along with a nice letter of appreciation for the work GVBCH performs each year.

A \$25 donation was made from Connie LeHockey to express her appreciation to the club. She spent time on the Porcupine and Ramshorn trails shortly after they were cleared by GVBCH trail crew, and she appreciated the good work.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Marianne Meyer reported on membership, we are currently at 52 paid memberships and 12 honorary members.

**PROGRAM**

Next month Travis Horton with the FWP will speak about the status of invasive aquatic species in our rivers, lakes, and streams.

**STATE BOARD MEETING**

Rich Inman mentioned that anyone who would like to see notes from the state board meeting, please make the request to Dan Marsh or Rich Inman, and they can be emailed.

The RTP (Recreation Trails Program) last work day is October 17. The last draw request has already been drafted by Rich Inman. It has not been decided if there will be another grant request next year.

Rich reported that there may be no money for rehabilitating trails in the wildfire areas.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Gallatin Forest Partnership: Dan Porter and John Mutter reported on GFP progress and tentative recommendations.

Elections/Nominating Committee: Almost a full slate of new officers and directors are needed this year. The Officers are all term limited out after serving three consecutive terms, and only 3 directors will be returning, making a total of 9 new officers and directors required to fill vacant positions next year.

Outgoing one year term directors are Sue Geske, Mike Haugan, and Lawrence Van Dyke that will serve on the Nominating Committee, unless other volunteers accept the job. If you are interested in serving on the nominating committee please contact Sue, Mike, or Lawrence.

All four officers are up for re-election (John Mutter, President; Carmen Matzick, Vice-President; Tamara Erickson, Secretary; Sharon Fraser, Treasurer), three chapter directors, one state director and one state alternate is up for reelection. David Crisp, Dan Porter, and Carl Blaskovich are two year term directors who will serve one more year and are up for reelection in 2018.

All members are asked to please seriously consider serving on the board. Contact any outgoing board member if interested in running for a board position to be placed on the ballot.

Volunteer Hours: Please send volunteer hours to Dan Marsh ASAP, as he needs to send the information to the Forest Service by October 1. This includes drive/travel time.

Cache Creek Hitch Rail Project: Dan Porter headed up a project on Saturday, August 26th to use the remaining RAC Grant money to install two new hitching rails at Cache Creek. The eight member crew consisted of Dan Porter, Rich Inman, Dan Marsh, Larry Thomas, Chris Nygren, Tom Lamb, Tamara Erickson, and Dal Erickson. Larry Thomas and Dan Marsh hauled in the materials and equipment necessary to complete the job, which was finished by early afternoon. William Bennet of the Forest Service stopped by to admire the job done. The crew stopped at the corrals on the way out to see some nice signs put up in recognition of the work done by GVBCH, and to inspect the corrals.

Cache Creek Trail Ride: Dan Porter lead a trail ride into Shed Horn Mountain on Saturday, September 2nd. Several members participated including Larry Thomas and Carmen Matzick.

Forest Service Pack Trips: On August 29- September 1, Henry Glenn lead a crew including Dan Marsh and Steve Noble into Buffalo Fork Cabin to clean up and repair significant damage done by critters, who chewed through floors, got into supplies, and created a mess.

On September 5th- 8th, Henry lead another pack crew consisting of Mike Haugan, Dan Marsh, Lawrence Van Dyke and Molly Glenn into Slough Creek on a mission to maintain the corrals and cabins. They were joined by a crew from the Gardner Ranger Station. The crew discovered the cabin had also been invaded by destructive critters, but the damage was not as significant as damage to the Buffalo Fork cabin. Rich Inman identified the critter by description as a Harry Golden Marmot.

Henry reported that another trip is being considered into Hell Roaring this season, depending on the weather.

Larry Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lawrence Van Dyke seconded the motion, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

*—Submitted by Tamara Erickson*

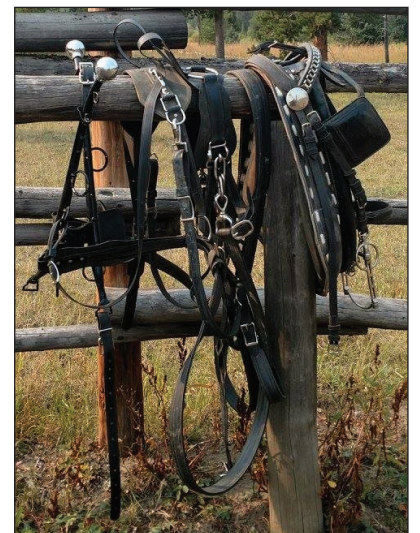
## BUFFALO FORK CABIN REPAIR

From August 29 to September 1, Trail Boss Henry Glenn along with Dan Marsh and new member Steve Nobel packed into Buffalo Fork Cabin to repair the tack shed where a critter had chewed through the floor and really made a mess of things inside. We built up the foundation to keep the larger animals out. After cleaning out the shed we laid down hardware cloth and put 2X8X8 lumber over the holes and covered the rest with 1X6 and plywood. There was years worth of garbage along with the scat that had to be cleaned up and removed. The cabin also needed wood for the stove and barely had any propane left. The wood stove fire box had so many cans and junk in it we couldn't get a fire going so that had to be cleaned before we could eat. The water filter had been left with water in it and the filters were all plugged up so we scrubbed them and made it so we could get clean water again. We put some rocks back in the cabin foundation but we need to go back and mortar them in later. We packed some garbage and an empty propane tank out and had a pleasant ride out. The pictures are of the tack shed and the 2016 fire that went through the area.



## SLOUGH CREEK CABIN REPAIR

Great trip with a lot of work accomplished! Thanks to Henry Glenn, Mike Haugan, Dan Marsh, Lawrence Van Dyke, and Molly Gerstung Glenn...with some help from the traveling trail crew from Gardener Ranger Station...shout out to Rachel, Cooper and Blaine!



**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  
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Steve Thienes  
Jehnet Carlson

DOOR PRIZES

Rocky Mountain Supply  
Rich Innman

Sorenson Vet Hospital  
Keith Lawrie  
Gene Houghtaling  
Montana Horse Sense  
Double Diamond Halter  
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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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Clearing Gallatin Trails since 1985

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