

BOARD MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 7:00 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.

2019 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Nygren ... 546-7550
chrisnygren@berglawfirm.com

TREASURER

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379

SECRETARY

Kathy VanDyke ... 586-2440

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

Tamara Erickson ... 451-8186
Marianne Meyer ... 585-4780
Rod Wilson ... 539-1338

TWO YEAR TERM

Carl Blaskovich ... 388-4640
Vern Campbell ... 570-6117
Lew Goodpasture ... 575-639-9091

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

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

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:

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY : JUNE 1

WEDNESDAY TRAIL DAYS : JUNE 5, 12, 19, 26

PACKING SKILLS CLASS : JUNE 8-12

North Fork Blackfoot River Trailhead, Ovando

PONY POKER RIDE : JUNE 15

Sitz Ranch

REGIONAL FORESTER RIDE : JUNE 17-19

BOARD MEETING : JUNE 20, 6:00 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road

GENERAL MEETING : JUNE 20, 6:30 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road

POKER RIDE TRAIL CLEARING : JUNE 26

Call Henry Glenn if you are going, 578-2084

BIG SKY DRAFT HORSE SHOW : JUNE 28-30

POKER RIDE : JULY 6



PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Hello, Horsemen,

Hope you are having better luck getting Spring work done than me. I was hoping that Winter would be over but Mother Nature has decided otherwise.

The Poker Ride planning is going well thanks to Dan P and Carmen. We have set the clearing date for the Poker Ride trails for Wed June 26th. Meet at Bridger Bowl Parking lot at 9 AM. If you are helping at the Poker Ride, and I hope you are, then please be at the June meeting at Janice Cartwright's for the meeting. We are having a Ice Cream Social and final preparation for the Poke Ride. The board meeting will be there also.

Check with Larry for the trail clearing schedule and info on National Trails Day on June 1. If you can help and the weather cooperates we will have a project for everyone to work on.

A big shout out to Brant Robey for the best newsletter in the State. Thank you for all you do for our chapter.

Lets all remember to be safe and don't be afraid to remind others to be safe as we start work for this 2019 season.

—Henry, President

BOARD & GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 16

Roll Call: Henry Glenn, Chris Nygren, Carmen Matzick, Rich Inman, Marianne Meyer, Lew Goodpasture, Dan Porter, Dan Marsh, Vern Campbell, Carl Blaskovich; Chris stood proxy for Rod Wilson; Rich stood proxy for Tamara Erickson.

Called to order by Henry Glenn.

MINUTES OF APRIL 2019 MEETING

Carmen moved to approve the minutes as written; Vern seconded; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carmen reported on the club's savings and checking accounts. She received bills from Town & Country, Bed, Bath & Beyond, and trailer expense (all Poker Ride related). Marianne moved to approve the report; Carl seconded; the motion carried. Vern moved to approve bill for the trailer, Carl seconded; the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

July meeting: The meeting will be at the church and the program will be the "rushing grizzly bear" to allow for bear spray practice.

OLD BUSINESS

Poker Ride: Trail clearing will be on Wed., June 26. In the event of bad weather, the day may change but Henry wants it completed by the week of July 4.

State meeting: Dan Marsh passed out cards with instructions on proper etiquette for pedestrians/bike riders when they meet a horse/rider on the trail.

June meeting: The meeting will be held at Janice's and will consist of an ice cream social and final Poker Ride planning.

Wilderness cabin trips – Henry made call to the Forest Service to confirm but he hasn't received return call.

National Trails Day: June 1. Larry has talked about Spanish Creek and per Rich that's about the only area that's accessible now.

Adjournment: Carl moved to adjourn the meeting; Vern seconded; the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by
Kathy VanDyke



PROGRAM

Danielle, head of sales with the Duckworth Company, made a presentation on their fine wool clothing. This wool comes from a special breed of sheep owned by the Helle Ranch out of Dillon.

CALL TO ORDER

Henry Glenn called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

Janice moved to accept the April 2019 minutes as written, Larry seconded, and the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carmen reported on the club's savings and checking accounts. She asked that anyone who'd incurred Poker Ride expenses get the bills to her. Chris moved to accept the report, Marianne seconded and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Poker Ride: Dan Porter has posters. There are still "jobs" available so please let him know if you'd like to help. Trail clearing is planned for June 26 and flagging will be done on July 5.

June meeting: The meeting will be held at Janice's farm at 1655 Harper Puckett Road. The ice cream social and board meeting will begin at 6:00, with the general meeting beginning at 6:30. The meeting will focus primarily on the Poker Ride.

Challenge to Challenge: Flathead BCH chapter is planning a get-together from August 22-25. The deadline to RSVP is June 1.

NEW BUSINESS

Amazon Smile: Dan Marsh announced that if anyone makes a purchase on Amazon and designates GVBCCH as the recipient, .5% of the purchase price will be donated to the club.

National Trails Day: June 1. If Larry chooses a location, he'll notify Dan Marsh and an email will be sent out. It's possible that work will be done on the 401 Trail if it's accessible.

MT Wilderness Assoc.: Dan Porter stated that the group is planning to do some work on June 8 at Cliff Creek.

Carmen moved to adjourn the meeting and Janice seconded; the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Kathy VanDyke

DUCKWORTH PROGRAM

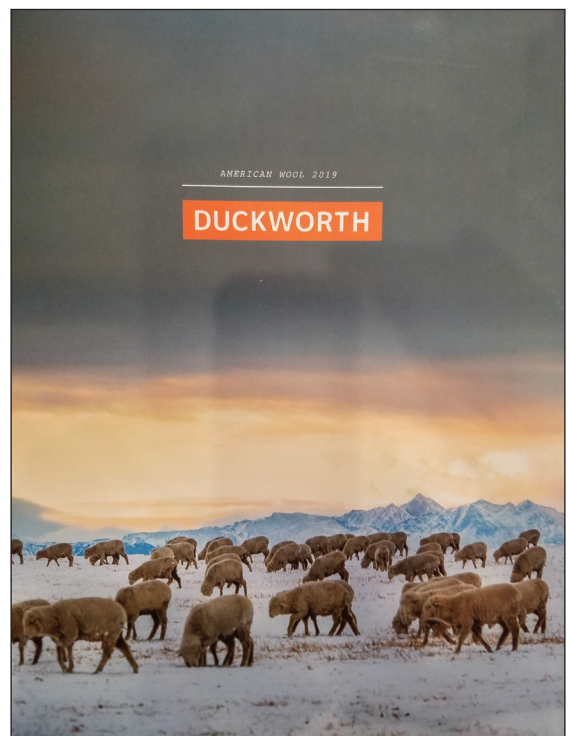
Danielle Fedora gave an interesting program on The Duckworth Company at our May meeting. (The name came from a “famous” sheep shearer in New Zealand.) This company is located in Dillon, MT with it’s main offices in Bozeman. Schnee’s is their flagship store. USA Today did a news blurb on them a few years ago, on Dec. 24th, and when they went in to work on Dec. 26th, all of their inventory had sold out, for the year. The business was launched.

100% Made in the USA merino wool, starts with the Helle families large herds of Rambouillet Sheep, summering at altitudes of 9500 feet, and ends with single sourced, fine micron wool to produce their product lines. MSU’s Wool Lab (one of two in the nation) does the DNA testing. Peruvian sheep herders care for the herd and a sheep shearing team of 5 comes from the US.

For more information about Duckworth and to peruse their product line, you can go to duckworth.com.



GVBCH members can receive a 20% discount on Duckworth products using code BCH20



CHILI FEED



Are You Ready?

Montanans are tough people. No wonder, because we may have to deal with fire, flood, or blizzards. But are you ready for when disaster occurs? Here are some guidelines and ideas to help you prepare.

Plan Ahead and Communicate

Have a written disaster plan. Work with neighbors, learn what you have and what they have and pool your resources. Have phone numbers for your secondary contacts, veterinarian, farrier, county extension office, animal control, and any disaster-preparedness teams in your area. Evacuation plans are different for each person and situation. They are dependent on the type of expected disaster and terrain, the equipment available, and the number of animals and their individual needs.

For the disasters that we see in Montana, you usually have a few days' warning that problems are on the horizon. Pay attention to warnings and evacuate early. It's a good idea to move your horses and mules, even if you might not end up having to evacuate yourself. If you wait until the last minute, you may not be allowed to return for a second load of animals or supplies. But having them in a secure location early will increase likelihood of a good outcome for all your stock. Be prepared for the worst case scenario.

Contact friends that live outside of your disaster area. Set up at least two places, in different regions, that you can go to. Don't assume anyone will be willing or able to house your horses or mules. Discuss it with them now, so that it's not a surprise to them later. Plan your route to your evacuation locations, and plan a secondary route to each in case roads are closed. Have a friend or relative far outside of disaster area that can make phone calls for you, because the phone lines within a disaster area may be damaged and their capacity may be quickly exceeded.

Ready your Rides

Make sure your truck and horse trailer are serviced and functional. Have them hooked up and ready to roll at a moment's notice. Fill the tank ahead of time.

Train your equines to load in all circumstances. Practice in a variety of trailer configurations and situations. Make sure they load in the dark, in the wind, in the rain, in the snow, and with or without another horse in the trailer.

Your horses and mules should have at least one form of temporary and one form of permanent identification.



A velcro leg band worn just above the fetlock. The other side has the owner's phone number embroidered on it.

Permanent identification includes a microchip, brand, or lip tattoo.

Temporary forms of identification include neck collar, fetlock band, or braid-in tag. Marking with a livestock marker can be done at the last minute.

If there is any chance you may need to cross state lines to get to shelter, you should have a current brand inspection and Coggins test certificate. If you anticipate travel, get a CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, commonly known as a Health Certificate). Proof of ownership with pictures is especially useful to reclaim your stock if you get separated during the disaster.

Current vaccinations are important. First of all, tetanus is critical if a horse is injured. Also, your horses may be housed in a group situation, where a respiratory or contagious disease can run rampant. Making sure vaccines are current helps protect your horses from secondary problems.

Evacuate

The first priority is to get out of harm's way. Even if you haven't planned where you will end up, you need to get going. Packing and leaving is a lot like packing and going to the high country, so this is something you are already good at.

Make Your "Go Bucket"

A "Go Bucket" is meant to have the minimum items you need to evacuate your horses. Keep in mind that more than half of evacuations occur at night. It should have a lid to keep everything inside clean and dry, and it should be well-marked so that if somebody else is moving your horses they can find and identify it easily. As an added bonus, when you arrive at your evacuation destination, you will have a bucket for your animals to drink from.

Bucket Contents

- Halter & lead rope for each animal you own
- Identification to attach to your animals
- On the lid, write emergency contact information
- Inside, put documents showing animal identification and proof of ownership. You may also include a veterinary treatment authorization document with specific instructions about your horse
- Any medications, or special needs information, for



each animal – at least three days' worth

- First-Aid kit: Bandage material (such as vetrap, gauze, and padding), a cleanser that can be used in eyes or wounds, a thermometer, and an anti-inflammatory pain medication such as bute or Banamine

- Folding Saw
- Multi-tool or pocket knife
- Gloves
- Headlamp, with a red light function and fresh batteries
- Duct tape and baling twine

You have to carry it all, so keep it light!

Bonus Items and Emergency Tools to Take in Your Trailer

- Your helmet
- Clean towels
- Full water tank in your trailer
- Chain saw
- Hammer/nails
- Wire cutters or fencing pliers
- Fire extinguisher
- Shovel or snow shovel
- Crowbar
- Tow straps
- Water for both animals and people
- Forage or cubes for horses
- Non-perishable snacks for humans

Stuck At Home

Prioritize animal needs. Water is the most important and critical necessity. Hay is second, followed by medications and grain. In blizzards, shelter from precipitation and wind is needed, but in fires or floods, horses and mules will do best in large, open areas. Many horses in hurricane Katrina drowned in their stalls due to extreme flooding. In fire or flood, move equipment, trucks, and trailers to high ground or the middle of an open field.

Water

Ideally, you should store 15-20 gallons of water per horse per day. Even storing 10 or 20 extra gallons will prolong your horses' lives. If you don't think you are going to be able to leave, fill all stock tanks, then fill plastic trash cans or line metal cans with large, clean trash bags and fill them with extra water.

Have a generator ready to help power your well or stock tank heaters. Consider getting a propane stock tank heater for extreme cold weather.

In floods, water may be everywhere, but it can be contaminated and contain dangerous debris. You can reduce bacterial loads safely by adding two drops of chlorine bleach per quart of water. This works out to 40 mls (just over 1/8 cup or three tablespoons) per 100 gallons.

Food

Store a minimum of 72 hours worth of forage. A week's worth is better. Grain is less important, horses and mules can get by on hay alone. A forage-replacement product, such as alfalfa cubes, may be easiest to store for emergencies or to take with you. If flooding is expected, store hay elevated.

Fire Remediation

Keep your property clear to minimize fire danger. Mow pastures. Remove debris and dead or dry plants within at least 30-feet from your buildings. Keep plants near your buildings green. Open space between buildings deters fire from jumping from one to the other, and construction with metal roofs helps minimize burnable material.

If you are lucky enough to have a pond or irrigation ditch on your property, make sure that it is accessible for fire trucks to pump water from. If it's not yet time for you to evacuate, but fire is on the horizon, water your yard and buildings down to prevent drifting embers from igniting them.

Test your readiness at <https://thehorse.com/features/natural-disaster-are-you-and-your-horse-ready/>

Stacie G. Boswell, DVM, DACVS

An Equine Veterinarian at Hardaway Veterinary Hospital in Belgrade, MT and member of the Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen Chapter.

Contact stacieboswell@gmail.com.

BACKCOUNTRY GEAR

SAWS

What would a BCH trail clearing project be without good saws? Here are some suggestions to keep the sawdust flying!

Crosscut Saw:

TUATAHI RACING AXES AND SAWS

(pronounced Two-Ah-Tah-Hee)

M Tooth Work Saws-Custom made in New Zealand

www.tuatahiaxes.com



Saddle Saws:

- ◆Corona 18" Pruning Saw (Lowe's) \$24.98 
- ◆Corona Clipper RS 7120 13-Inch Razor Tooth Curved Pruning Saw with Cushion Grip Handle (Amazon) \$23.69 
- ◆Silky BigBoy 360mm Folding Hand Saw (Cabela's) \$52.66 
- ◆21" Pack Saw w/Scabbard (Trailhead Supply) \$115 

BACKCOUNTRY FLORA

Edible Plants

Wild Salsify (*Tragopogon dubius*)

Also known as: "Johnny-go-to-bed-at-noon; Jack-go-to-bed-at-noon; Western Goat's Beard; Oysterplant"



Horsemen Favorites

Bear Grass (*Xerophyllum tenax*)

Also known as: "squaw grass, soap grass, quip-quip, and Indian basket grass"



BACKCOUNTRY FAUNA

Steller's Jay:

- * Rocky Mountain/Interior color white line on head
- * Males and females similar color/different size



Gray Jay:

- *Nickname "Camp Robber", Whiskey Jacks and Canada Jays.
- *Cache food
- *Carry food with feet



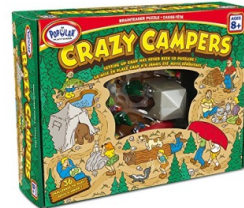
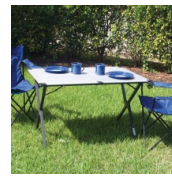
Clark's Nutcracker:

- *Male incubates eggs
- *Cache food-help with dispersal of pines
- *William Clark thought they were a woodpecker



JUST FOR FUN

"Christmas is Coming!"



Quote of the Day: "Failure rides shotgun with success, and experimentation is the order of the day."

**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2018 POKER RIDE:**

POKER HAND PRIZE DONORS

FOUR CORNERS SADDLERY
MADISON RIVER PROPANE
MONTANA CANVAS
MURDOCH'S RANCH & HOME SUPPLY
ROCKY MOUNTAIN HAT COMPANY

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