

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.

2021 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

Chris Nygren ... 546-7550
chrisnygren1@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

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

TREASURER

Jim Wing ... 579-3230
wingit_4@msn.com

SECRETARY

Laurie Connelly ... 579-2859

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379
Rod Wilson ... 539-1338
Corinne Martin ... 539-2856

TWO YEAR TERM

Vern Campbell ... 570-6117
Lew Goodpasture ... 575-639-9091
Kathy Van Dyke ... 586-2440

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578
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UPCOMING EVENTS:

KBZK : JULY 2, 6:15

Janice and Rich pitch the Poker Ride

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

Contact Lew Goodpasture, 575-639-9091



POKER RIDE : JULY 10

Bridger Bowl

TRUMAN FS PACK IN : JULY 12, 8:30AM – 5:00PM

Truman Gulch Trailhead, Walker Road, Bozeman

BOARD MEETING : JULY 15, 7:00 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road

GENERAL MEETING : JULY 15, 7:00 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road

SATURDAY TRAIL CREW : JULY, 3, 17, 24

Contact Dan Porter, 539-0879

BIG SKY COUNTRY STATE FAIR : JULY 21-25

Gallatin County Fairgrounds



PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The Bridger Bowl Poker Ride is upon us! Saturday, July 10th is the date and preregistration is required to ensure you get a meal and that can participate. That includes GVBCH members as the number of participants is capped at 250 per the US Forest Service and Bridger Bowl. Counts will be kept of all riders with no more than 250 total and the number of lunches that will be ordered are only for the number of people who preregister by July 3rd. If you are not preregistered, no lunch will be available and possibly, no opportunity to ride.

We have had some great trail crews so far this year with clearings Asbestos Creek, Indian Ridge, Hellroaring, Buffalo Horn, Cliff Creek and basically every trail off the Spanish Creek Trailhead. Eighteen people worked as part of National Trails Day on June 5th at Spanish and a large number went for a trail ride when the work was done. The new GVBCH trailer was there and should be at the Poker Ride all decked out.

As you paraphrased from those bumper stickers: Get Out in Montana (not necessarily get lost) and BCH would love have you join us. Next chapter meeting is on July 15th at Janice Cartwright's house 11655 Harper Puckett Road just west of Bozeman. Outdoor meeting, possibly with ice cream!

—Chris

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 17

Roll Call: Chris Nygren, Dan Marsh, Henry Glenn, Jim Wing, Vern Campbell, Kathy VanDyke, Carmen Matzick, Rich Inman, Marianne Meyer, Dan Porter, and Laurie Connelly. Carmen is proxy for Corrine Martin, Vern is proxy for Lew Goodpasture.

Chris Nygren called the meeting to order at 6:34pm

Henry moved to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter; Vern seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim Wing reported on the chapter's checking and saving accounts. Lew has some bills for the supplies bought for the Spanish Creek repairs to the corrals and signage. Vern motioned to approve paying Lew for those supplies and also for the report from Jim. Laurie seconded; the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

The new trailer is parked at Henry's at the moment as he is organizing the painting and interior upgrades. He is planning a work day for this purpose for Tuesday, 6/22. Let him know if you would like to help with that project. Vern reported on the search for best price for applying signage. Kathy motioned to go with Kelly at Signs and Designs; Carmen seconded; the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Kathy reported on the progress of preparations for the Poker Ride. A lengthy discussion was held regarding how to deal with people showing up without having registered on-line. It was suggested we provide a rider map sheet to all who have signed up on line. At the registration table they will be provided a raffle ticket to present for their lunch. Those who arrive to sign up on ride day will not be given a lunch ticket. The online registration will emphasize that the registration closes on July 3 and the ride must be restricted to 250 riders. The rider restriction is placed on us by the Forest Service and Bridger Bowl.

Chris motioned to adjourn the Board Meeting; Kathy seconded; the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

—Submitted by Laurie Connelly



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 17

New members JoAnn and Rachel were welcomed

Chris called the meeting to order at 7:11pm

Janice Cartwright motioned to approve the meeting minutes as published in the news letter; Stacie Boswell seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim Wing reported on the chapter's checking and savings accounts. He also reported that there are bills from Lew for supplies needed for the Spanish Creek work day. Vern motioned to approve the report and the paying of those bills; Molly seconded; the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

The new trailer is at Henry's house until the Poker Ride. He is planning on a work day to paint the interior and install fixtures/shelving/wood working. He is planning on Tues.day, 6/22. Please let him know if you would like to help with that project.

NEW BUSINESS

Trail Work: Connie reported on the progress of the Wenesday Trail Crews work so far this summer. A lot of work done already. Dan Porter reported on the progress of the Saturday Trail Crew's work. Also an impressive amount of work accomplished so far. Please watch for the emails on Tuesdays and Fridays that announce the plans for the Wenesday and Saturday rides. All are welcome and appreciated.

POKER RIDE

Kathy reported on the progress made in planning the ride. Another lengthy discussion was had regarding the issue of people not signing up online and arriving on ride day expecting to be able to register and ride as has been the process in the past. Due to the lingering Covid restrictions we have chosen to do online only registration. We will try to accommodate those that show up having not registered online. First, the ride must be limited to 250 riders. This is a rule proclaimed by the Forest Service and Bridger Bowl. If they arrive and are under the 250 they can register but will not receive a lunch. The online registration will close on July 3 so we can have numbers for the lunch prep. We will cushion that number with 50 extra meals. Please REMEMBER GVBH members need to register as well as the general public.

We will not be doing a 50/50 draw this year.

Volunteers:

Pop Stops: Larry, Carl, Mike, Laurie, Dan Porter and John Mutter

Registration: Marianne, Kathy, Connie, Corrine and Jim
Jim will pick up the lunches.

Volunteers will arrive around 7:00am

The Ride starts 8:30am

Henry is leading the Clearing of the trail on Wenesday, 6/7 at 0900.

Janice is leading the Flagging of the trail on Fri. 6/9

Friday night is set up and dinner in the Bridger Bowl parking lot.

Connie is leading the sweep riders at the end of the ride
Carmen and Dan are leading the Deflagging on Sunday 6/11 at 0900

John Mutter has volunteered to call for the Porta Potties.

Tell all your friends and family about the ride. The sign up is on our web site and can be found via Facebook as well.

John motioned to adjourn the meeting; Molly seconded; the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

—Submitted by Laurie Connelly



NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

National Trails Day, June 5, at Spanish Creek trailhead. We gathered and cleaned out the corrals and cut up/cleaned up a tree that had blown down next to the corrals. Then a large group set out on the 401 trail to do some clearing. It was nice to have our new trailer there! —Dan Marsh

National Trails Day was a great success for GVBCH with 18 members participating in removing and spreading manure built up at the Spanish Creek corrals from the 2019 & 2020 seasons.

Ten members also rode in the 401 with plans to clear sediment from water bars past previous work that had been done. After a quick lunch, there was a discussion and hands on learning session of the hows and whys of steps and diversions.

Carmen, Marianne, Kenji, Curt, Kenny, Melissa, Laurie, Tom, Larry and Dan then pitched in to clear diversions and install a new one at a site selected by Larry. Thunder in the distance convinced the crew to head for home,

Which we did, arriving at the trailhead just in time to get drenched by a downpour of rain and hail.

Thank you to everyone who helped out, including Henry, Molly, Dan M., Jim, Dave and Nancy Marx, Chris, and Mark who also helped clean up the downed tree next to the corral and get the tools transferred to the new trailer. —DP





WEDNESDAY TRAIL CLEARING

June 2: The Wednesday crew divided into three groups and Jim went on his own and cleaned water bars about 2.5 miles. Rich, Vern and Bruce went up the #401 trail with the chainsaw and got to the Big Brother Lake junction and cut out around 20 trees. The second group Dan, Mark and Kenji went up #407 to #410 and got just about to the top of the switchbacks when we had to turn around. They cleared about 18 trees and worked on a couple water diversions. The third group went up #400 Little Hellroaring with Lew, Larry and Connie and cut out about 50 trees and made it to about 3/4 of a mile from the Indian Ridge trail.



June 16: The Wednesday crews met at Spanish Creek and split into two crews. One crew with John, Kenji, Kenny, Bruce and Tim went to Mirror Lake and cleared to the lake cutting out 35 or so trees. and returned at 5:00 PM. The other crew with Dan, Wayne and Connie took a crosscut and 3 Silky's up the #401 to Camp Creek on to Big Brother Lake. The trail had been cleared up to Camp Creek but we ran into trees all the way to Big Brother. Wayne noticed a couple miles from Big Brother that his 4' Silky and come off his horse, so if you're up that way he would appreciate you looking for it. We cut 44 trees before the Wilderness Boundary and ended up cutting out 70 trees by the time we headed back. We started at 9:00 and got back to the trailer at 7:00 PM and covered 17+ miles, needless to say we were tuckered out when we got back.

WEDNESDAY TRAIL CLEARING

June 9: Rich, Larry, Jim, Kenji and John worked the Indian Ridge trail from the trail head to the junction with the Little Hellroaring trail. We cleared 12 down trees in this 5+ miles. We looked at working down the Little Hellroaring trail but ran into impassable snow drifts in the first quarter mile. It will be at least a week before Little Hellroaring is passable with horses. We left the trail head about 0830 and returned about 3:00 pm. Encountered some strong gusty winds but no bugs. Beautiful day in God's backcountry. Another crew went up Hellroaring for 14.25 mile round trip with Mark, Dan, Connie, Wayne, Tim and Bruce. We cleared out 28 trees with a lot of double cuts in the Wilderness. We got to the North Fork turn off around noon and had lunch. Tim and his pack horse didn't have shoes so he and Bruce headed back to the trailers. The remaining crew went about a half mile up Hellroaring Creek trail and stopped a couple times to cut out trees. At the last one Wayne noticed he didn't have a horse anymore! We turned back and his horse was munching grass at the NF junction across the creek. We think he was missing the other horses. We then decided to head up the North Fork trail and cut a bunch more trees and turned around at the top where there was some room to turn. Wayne wanted to get back by 5:00 so we headed back and got to the trailhead at 10 to 5.

Also, June 9: We split into two groups, one crew went up Hellroaring and the other crew worked the Indian Ridge trail from the trail head to the junction with the Little Hellroaring trail. The Hellroaring crew of Dan, Mark, Wayne, Bruce, Connie and Tim did a 14 mile day and cleared 38 trees. We cleared up to the Wilderness boundary with a chainsaw and cached it there to pick up on the return. We got to the North Fork turnoff around noon and had lunch. We decided to go up Hellroaring Creek but after stopping to clear trees a half mile in, Wayne discovered his Canadian decided to head back without him. We saddled up and found his horse munching grass across the creek where we had lunch. It was early so we decided to go up North Fork this time. We got to the top of the switchbacks and Wayne said he had to be back by 5:00 so we turned around and headed back to the trailers. Connie's Icelandic broke the land speed record and we got back at 4:50!



SATURDAY TRAIL CLEARING

June 5: We took care of all the corral type work with spreading out all the compost "material" and cutting up the fallen tree and disposing of all the branches so now the corral area looks "ship-shape". A large group went for a trail ride possibly involving some combi work. I'm guessing about 12 to 14 people. A group of us all looked at the new trailer that Jim Wing brought to the trailhead and discussed ways to fix it up internally. I now have it at my house and later this week it will be brought to Henry's house along with the old trailer and necessary modifications can be made to empty out the stuff in the old trailer, placed in the new trailer with racks etc. Then it can be hauled directly from Henry's place to Bridger Bowl for the Poker Ride on July 9th. Thanks for the storage ideas for the new trailer and we can discuss further at the June meeting since we can just keep it at Henry's place until after the Poker Ride. We also need to discuss what to do with the old trailer (use as storage, sell it etc.). The trail crew panniers and tools are now with Dan Marsh as Jim brought them to Spanish Creek in the new trailer and then we moved to Dan's trailer so he can coordinate getting it to the Wednesday trail crew people (like Connie and others). Dan Porter can also coordinate with Dan Marsh as necessary. — Chris

I counted 18 and may have missed a couple. Ten rode up the 401 to the meadow past the big blowdown you and I stopped at last Saturday. Carmen and Marianne gave an "excellent " demo on how to clear water bars going down the hill to the west. Weather threatened to get ugly so we skedadled back to the trailhead just in time to get soaked while loading horses. —DP

June 12: Kenji, Kenny, and I rode up the Asbestos Creek Trail with Silky and Crosscut at ready...leaving the trailhead at 9 am and returning at 4:30 pm. Saws "at ready" is an understatement as we encountered deadfall at nearly every turn, cutting 20 trees from the trail by noon and another 10 before reaching the ridgetop overlooking the head of Asbestos Creek. Views of the Gallatin Crest from Hyalite Peak to Eaglehead Mountain are spectacular from this vantage point. Regretfully we turned back at 3 :00 as man and beast were worn thin by the constant climb and deadfall. Opportunities for future trimming along the trail were noted. One hiker was met on the way in and two on the way out. —Dan Porter



SATURDAY TRAIL CLEARING

June 19: "Juneteenth" seven GVBCHeRs caravanned up to Big Creek to scout the Cliff creek trail towards the Gallatin Crest. The plan was to check out the work being done by the Wilderness Association and then ride on to begin opening up more trail above last year's progress. Unfortunately, our progress was slowed by large downed trees like the one shown here. We met MWA members just after noon and continued on, clearing deadfall until about 1:30. At that point we encountered a trail wash out that was deemed marginally unsafe to cross. After much discussion it was decided to leave the horses parked and walk on past the washout to continue, clearing which we did. Connie had led her horse around the washout and rode on ahead. Returning she reported that the trail is "unseeable" at approximately the 3.2 mile mark. We determined to return next Saturday with packhorse "loaded for bear" to tackle the washout, improve the log crossing obstacle, and reconnoiter trail beyond. —Dan Porter



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2019 POKER RIDE**

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Ace Hardware Belgrade
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