

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

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

BCH WEB MASTER

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

FALL FESTIVAL PARADE : OCTOBER 2

Belgrade

BOARD MEETING : OCTOBER 21, 6:30 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : OCTOBER 21, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:



I hope everyone is enjoying their Indian Summer and getting out to enjoy the beautiful colors and cooler weather. Bears are really active now also so watch your garbage and keep an out on the trails while hiking or riding. Best time of the year to be outside though!

For our chapter it is time to get all the paperwork caught up from the summer activities, ensure we have all the trail crew equipment accounted for and ready for storage as well as ensuring we got done what needed to get done. Everything I have heard has been positive in that regard.

The next meeting is on Thursday, October 21st at the church and it will be open that night! A good program is planned (I believe about the Gallatin Forest Partnership) and trailer storage will be discussed. We will need to talk about elections candidates for December, planning training in the Spring on Defensive Horse Safety, Saw certifications and First Aid. We have some catching up to do after the impact COVID-19 has had on everything the past couple years.

There is no place you are closer to the heart of God than on the back of a horse!

—Chris

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 16

Roll Call: Chris Nygren, Carmen Maztick (proxy for Lew Goodpasture), Corrine Martin (proxy for Kathy VanDyke), Dan Marsh (proxy for Rod Wilson, Dan Porter (proxy for Vern Campbell), John Mutter, Jim Wing and Laurie Connelly. Larry Thomas, Marianne Meyer and Catherine Nelson were also present for the general meeting.

Chris called the meeting to order at 6:44 pm in the parking lot of Springhill Church due to the inability to access the building. Weather was a little cool with sunset 7:30.

Minutes of August meeting

Carmen moved to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter; Dan Marsh seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jim reported on the chapter's checking and savings account balances. State chapter dues will be due in December. The old trailer was sold for \$500. Dan Porter motioned to approve the report; Corrine seconded; the motion passed.

BUSINESS

Chris announced that the RAT Grant proposal has been submitted. He will be attending the Forest Service meeting on October 13 to answer any questions regarding our proposal for funds via the grant.

THE NEW TRAILER has had LOTS of work done to the interior to make it more useful for us. Thank you to all who did this work!! Henry, Lew, Dan Marsh and John Mutter. Please forgive me if I have unintentionally left anyone out.

There are a few items that were in the old trailer that will not be moved to the new trailer because they haven't been used in a very long time. They are available for any members who would like to adopt them.....two cooking grills, a large frying pan, an old wooden GVBCH sign, and a 3 burner stove. Please let Lew know if you would like to adopt any of these.

Next month we will need nominations for the three board member positions that will become vacant as of next year. Rod, Corrine and Carmen will be stepping down. Please be considering nominees and don't forget to consider yourself.

A disaster response group has reached out to our chapter to see if they can come talk with us regarding being available as a resource during a disaster such as we experienced last year during the fire in Bridger Canyon. We will organize that.

THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Be thinking about when, where and whether we would like to have this event this year. We will discuss at our next meeting.

TRAIL CREW RIDES & FUN-RIDES

Please be aware that Trail Crew Work-rides are for members only. Due to Forest Service liability issues those on the ride must be members that have signed the Forest Service release forms. We need further chapter discussions about how we need to handle having non-members on 'Fun-rides'. We will discuss this at our next meeting.

FOREST SERVICE CERTIFICATIONS

All members will need to be certified next spring for First-Aid and Defensive Horse Safety.

Members who wish to be able to use the chain saw on work crews will need to be certified in the spring. All current certifications will have expired by next spring.

PROGRAM

Our program tonight with Barb Cistero from the Wilderness Society will be rescheduled to next month's meeting due to no indoor facility and low member turn out (only 11 members). Barb has graciously agreed to return next month.

Carmen motioned to cancel the membership meeting for tonight due to a lack of an indoor space and low member turn out; Larry seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Corrine motioned to adjourn the board meeting; Laurie seconded; the motion passed.

Chris adjourned the meeting at 7:11pm.

—Respectfully submitted by Laurie Connelly

FIREARM QUALIFICATION FOR TRAIL CREWS

Interested in carrying a firearm when working on a trail crew?

Contact Dan Porter for the application.

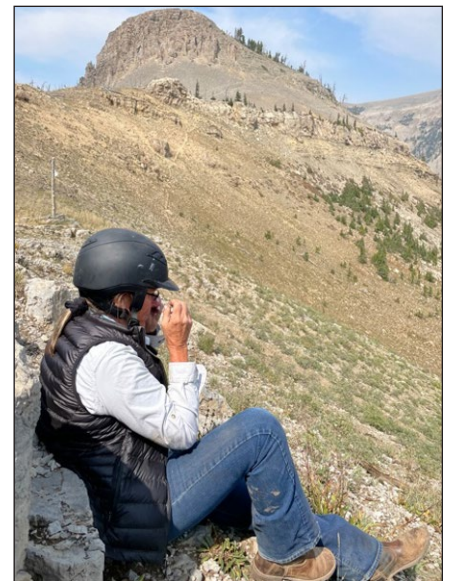
Forest Service Law Enforcement would like to have all applications at one time so they can run the background checks together and have them ready by Summer 2022.

dan@bozemanbrokers.com or 539-0879

BIGHORN TRAIL CLEARING—SEPTEMBER 4

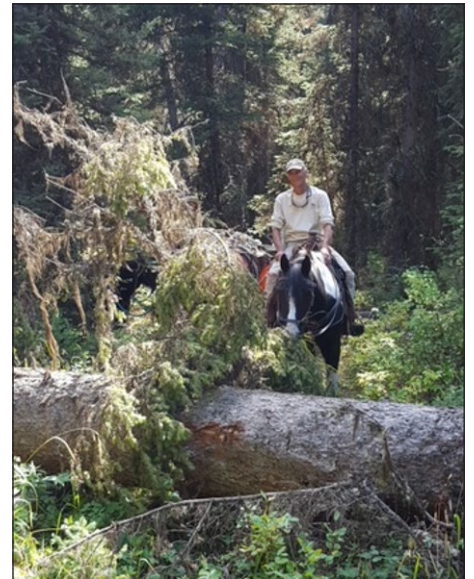
Five rode to Bighorn Pass. Luckily, we left the saw in the truck otherwise we would have spent hours clearing 25 downed trees from the trail and not made it to the pass. We were able to ride around or over the deadfall and had lunch out of the wind on the east side, returning to the trailhead by 6pm. We had a nice long easy ride to Bighorn Pass with perfect weather, some smoke, and some wildlife watching along the way. We saw 1 deer, 2 elk, 2 goats, and 2 sheep. —DP

Photos by Kenji Aoki



CLIFF CREEK TRAIL CLEARING—SEPTEMBER 11

Mark, Marianne, and I met up with 8 members of “Wild Montana” at the Big Creek Trailhead. They hiked in to build the reroute around the sluffed off section of trail that we had encountered previously. We stopped to cut down to size the one log that was blocking the trail, making it easier to pass for horses, and then rode on, using their new reroute to push farther up the trail clearing deadfall to just over 4 miles from the trailhead at Big Creek. We turned for “home” at 3 pm. The Cliff Creek trail passes through an incredibly beautiful landscape but it can only be described as “rugged”, with a lot of ups and downs, rocky sections, and wide stream crossings. Brushing and rock clearing will make the ride much more enjoyable in the future. Four miles cleared—DP



Up in the Cliff Creek, from the Yellowstone
It is quite beautiful, glad I wasn't alone.

The trail is all rocky, some small, mostly big,
To install a water bar,
Would be really hard to dig.

The trees there are tall and big of round,
We rode around a couple
Then turned our steeds around.

Four miles in and four miles out,
The courage of our horses we knew we could tout.

Through big wide stream crossings and over big logs,
They carried us safely, even thru bogs.

The wilderness crew had built a reroute
To them for a great job we gave a big shout.

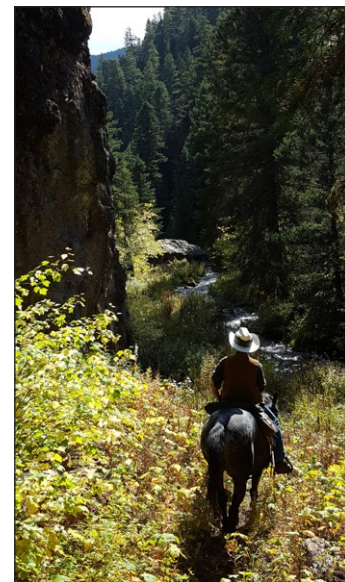
As big as a house the boulders they are,
Even the small ones are big as a car.

They crash down from the cliff wall and land in the crick,
What gets in their way they don't give a lick.

A beautiful trail day, quite a long drive,
We knew we wouldn't get home
A minute before five.

Next time we trail ride it won't be Cliff Creek,
I decided to let the trail crew it pick.

—Dan Porter





Clearing downed timber on the old Papoose Trail,
Thru the dead wood our crosscuts did sail.

My old appy cross had done real good
Just like I knew that he always would.

Mark and Kenji had come along
So I felt like I should sing them a song.

“Back In the Saddle” seemed appropriate
I wish I knew more of the words to it.

A stream crossing or two, the trail was all stony,
and the hornets were bothersome,
guess they liked my horse “cologne”.

The sky was all blue and the wind just right,
We had better things to do than just go fly a kite.



Up on the bench we rode thru the sage,
And crossed the big flat where once rode a stage.

Back down in the timber we cut a big snag
Catching it on a packhorse would sure be a drag.

Turning for home to call it a day,
We did quite enjoy it and wished we could stay.

—Dan Porter



Around the Horn of Buffalo, above the Ranch 320,
Six riders rode to Ramshorn Lake, a fun ride on a day so sunny.

Across the bridges and thru the creeks, the Cow Flat stretched serene,
The wind and sky their company, the lake and arch unseen.

Past old corrals below the cliffs, with lunch beside the lake,
The ride around the Fortress, an easy loop to make.

Past prehistoric tree remains and in to the head of Porcupine,
As yet the Arch, though riding far, they did not see a sign.

Ascending high on up the trail, the boulders here are huge,
At once the Arch becomes in view,
If only for the watchful few.

Up on a bench and there it be,
A beautiful Arch for all to see.

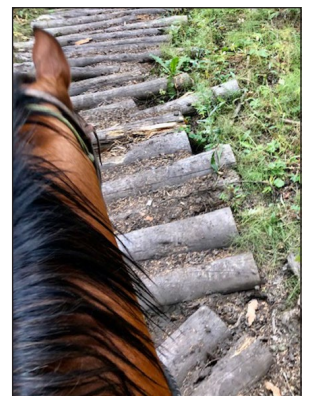
A glimpse Mark gets into the "Stone",
From up atop the divide,
Then turning for home they headed down,
A long 7 mile windy ride.

A second past and Larry called "bee!",
But Oh, it was a sight to see.
Kenji and Carmen they kept their seats,
They made us proud and rode it out,
Cowboy, Cowgirl, coulda been, No doubt!

A second horse Marianne brought that day,
She plans to show her the Packing horse way.

We had a great ride like we hoped we would,
A really nice day "Pretty Darn Good!"

—Dan Porter



LAVA LAKE TRAIL CLEARING—SEPTEMBER 25



Two took the trail to Lava Lake,
The route followed the stream called Cascade,

Steep and rocky, with trees grown in tight,
Protecting our knees was a constant fight.

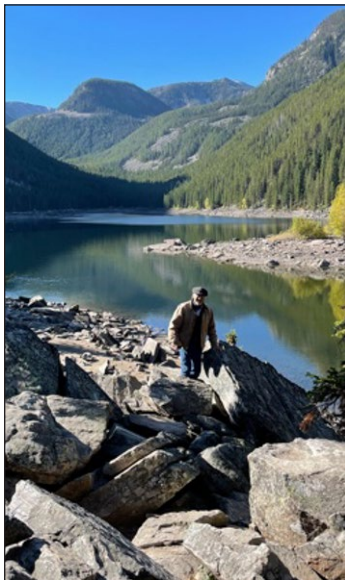
The horses did great on the rocky terrain,
But we decided quite early we didn't need this pain,

Up at the lake the water was low,
On top of the mountains hardly any snow.

Above the lake the switchbacks are many,
The hillside is steep and hair raising aplenty.

Across the ridge top towards Mountain Table,
We followed the rock cairns when we were able.

At the trail junction, an old weathered sign,
With no hesitation we turned East just fine.



Down the Asbestos to the old Karst camp,
The residents there treated us like their champs.

A thumb and a smile on the highway 191,
Got me a 7 mile ride back to where we begun.

Thank you Kenji,
for riding that rocky trail with me.
We won't ever ride that trail again.
Promise!



CHAIN SAW SCABBARD

These are pictures of the scabbard. The horse is 14.2 hands. The rig does not come with the fleece pad. Jane made that. The last one our club bought a few years ago cost about \$150. I carry a stihl 261 pro saw with a 18 inch bar; weighs about 14.5 pounds. In the bag, I carry fuel, oil and an extra chain and wedges. It balances well. With this rig, I cleared the trail to Shedhorn this year. We have been using them back there for over 10 years. Let me know if you have any questions. Good to see you all the other day. We had a good week of riding. -Dick Haines



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2021 POKER RIDE**

Bridger Bowl
Four Corners Saddlery
Hardaway Veterinary Clinic
Harrington's Pepsi-Cola

Kenetrek Boots
Madison River Propane
Montana Canvas
Montana Bank

Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply
Rocky Mountain Hat Company



Clearing Gallatin Trails since 1985

PO Box 3232
BOZEMAN, MT 59772 - 3232