

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.

2023 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT

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

TREASURER

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379

SECRETARY

Laurie Connelly ... 579-2859

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

Sid Boswell ... 595-7197
Carl Blaskovitch ... 388-4640
Rich Inman ... 388-1564

TWO YEAR TERM

BOB CRISWELL ... 595-8150
KELLY JACOBS ... 589-3205
KATHY VAN DYKE ... 586-2440

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Marsh (1 year) ... 587-7578
Chris Nygren (2 year) ... 546-7550
Kathy VanDyke (Alternate) ... 209-0613

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578
webmaster@bchmt.org
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UPCOMING EVENTS:

TUESDAY TRAIL CREW : AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29

WEDNESDAY TRAIL CREW : AUGUST 2, 9, 16, 23,
30 Contact Lew Goodpasture, 575-639-9091

SATURDAY TRAIL CREW : AUGUST 5, 12, 19, 26

Contact Dan Porter, 539-0879

FOREST SERVICE PACK-OUT : AUGUST 7 Ramshorn

SLOUGH CREEK : AUGUST 15-22

BOARD MEETING : AUGUST 17, 6:30 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road

GENERAL MEETING : AUGUST 17, 7:00 PM

1655 Harper Puckett Road

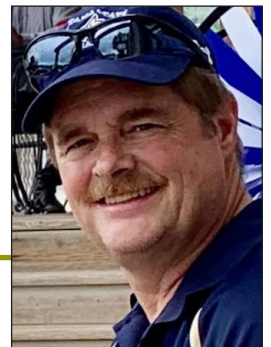
FOREST SERVICE PACK-IN : AUGUST 28

S. Cottonwood / Blackmore

SLOUGH CREEK : AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 5 Slough
Creek

FOREST SERVICE PACK-OUT : SEPTEMBER 1

S. Cottonwood / Blackmore



PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Another successful Poker Ride at Bridger Bowl is now in the books with 166 riders, seven great poker hand prizes ranging between \$200 to \$700 in value and great weather in the 70's for an approximate 10 mile course. No people injuries of which I am aware and one horse injury which was treated on site. I would like to thank all the chapter members who participated in helped putting on the major annual event of our group. Now there is at least three months of good riding weather left and lots of places to be experienced so saddle up and enjoy!

Upcoming events include a fall barbeque, more trail crew days, a couple pack trips into Slough Creek, the annual Christmas party and monthly meetings on numerous equestrian subjects which Janice rounds up. I also want to forewarn everybody about upcoming elections this fall with ballot nominations in November and elections in December. Three of the four officer positions will require new people to fill and three board positions also need filling. It is never too early to start thinking about how to keep our chapter running and doing the good work of keeping a "horse presence" in the Gallatin Valley.

Remember how short the summers and falls are and how long the winter is so get out and enjoy!

—Chris

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JULY 20

Roll Call: Kathy VanDyke, Carl Blaskovich, Carmen Maztick, Dan Marsh, John Mutter, Rich Inman, Stacie Boswell, Sid Boswell, Henry Glenn, Molly Glenn, Laurie Connelly, Chris Nygren, Janice Cartwright, Bob Criswell, Laurie as proxie for Kelly Jacobs

CHRIS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:30PM

MINUTES OF JUNE 2023 MEETING

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carmen reported on our checking account and savings accounts. Carl moved to accept the report as stated; Kathy seconded the motion; the motion passed.

POKER RIDE

We had 166 registered riders, 20 pre-registered did not show. Some registered on site so we ended up with 155 riders. After bills were paid we raised \$3680.72.

We had a lengthy discussion regarding how we might deal with inebriated riders and injured horses in the future. Suggestions were made regarding improving our "look" at the base camp, I.e. more colorful, another tent for more shade.

4-H EVENT

Five of our chapter members, Jim, Carmen, Marianne, Dan Porter, and Tim Butler volunteered at the 4-H equestrian event this month. They had a great time and were well appreciated. We hope to do this again and continue with trying to connect with the equestrians in the community.

TRAIL CREWS

The trail crews have been in need of more volunteers this year. Some crews haven't gone out or only went out with two workers. Of course they've still gotten lots of work done. We thank them very much. Hopefully as more members find time we will see greater participation in the coming weeks. We are grateful for all who can help and of course understand when 'life' gets in the way of being able to get out there.

Dan Porter has recommended that we adopt the Bridger Bowl FS trails to maintain. After some discussion it was recommended that we put those trails on the calendar when we do our January calendar meeting with the caveat that if a member puts an event on the calendar they become responsible for organizing the event and leading the participation for that event.

Carl moved to adjourn the meeting; Laurie seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Chris adjourned the meeting at 7:15p

—Respectfully submitted by Laurie Connelly

CHRIS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:23PM

MEETING MINUTES

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carmen reported on our checking account and savings accounts. Carl moved to accept the report as stated; Kathy seconded the motion; the motion passed.

BUSINESS

Molly would like access to our trailer so she can do an inventory and organize the supplies. We had a brief discussion about potentially adding an awning to the trailer and a flag holder.

POKER RIDE

Kathy thanked everyone for their help before, during and after the Poker Ride. We unanimously thanked Kathy for all her amazing organizational skills in bringing it all together, especially as she was out injured for a portion of that time but still continued to move the planning forward. We raised \$3680.72 from the ride.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

All hours involved with prep and running the event qualify for service hours so please email Dan Marsh your hours.

AB WILDERNESS WORK TRIPS

Henry is leading two more trips into the Slough Creek FS cabin for support for the FS trail crew going in and beyond the cabin to open up more trails. Those trips are Aug 15-22 and August 29- Sept 5. Please contact Henry if you are interested in volunteering for either of these.

Next month our meeting will be at Harper Puckett (Janice's place), unless the snow is flying. Someone from Eagle Mount will be presenting information about their facilities. Janice will also be presenting on Saddle Fitting.

Carl moved to adjourn the meeting; Carmen seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Chris adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm

—Respectfully submitted by Laurie Connelly

TRAIL #401 TO CAMP CREEK TRAIL #409
JULY 1, PART 1

There were 8 of us and we had a productive day, with Carmen, Tom, Larry and myself riding Tr 401 to Camp Creek trail #409 then up into the Lee Metcalf Wilderness toward Big Brother Lake. Dan Porter and Quirine, Marianne and Brenna rode with us up the 401 and continued north, turning up North Fork trail. Dan & Co had already cleared much of non-wilderness trail on both of these but once we crossed into the wilderness we got into quite a lot of work. Tom had to head back early but Carmen, Larry and I continued toward the lake another mile or so. We encountered several down trees with some creating some tangles that took a while to saw out. In all we cleared about 20 trees with a third of them requiring multiple cuts. The three of us got a solid workout with the handsaws. We turned back at about 3 pm and cut two more that had fallen since our ride up and made it back to the trailhead at about 5:15.—Lew Goodpasture



TRAIL #401 TO CAMP CREEK TRAIL #409
JULY 1, PART 2

After leaving Lew and his crew to head up the Trail #409, Marianne, Quirine, Brenna, and I continued across the Cherry Creek Trail #401 towards the North Fork. Along the way we rode right past a juvenile owl that sat motionless as we rode by. We crossed the stream with no problems and stopped at the old campsite for a quick lunch, then headed up the North Fork. I had a little difficulty locating the lightly used trail at one point but continuing on, we cut only 7 large deadfall by 2pm. We learned that Quirine's mustang did not like being last so we put her in front and with Brenna leading her pack horse in back, we made a hurried exit on the 401 ahead of threatening thunder and lightning. We reached the trailhead in time and crossed the Southfork with blue skies overhead. Thank you to all who helped out this past Saturday. A special thank you to new members Quirine and Brenna. They jumped in to round out a great trail crew and Brenna's pack horse carried all of our tools like she had been born to it. Another great day on the trail. Happy Trails,—DP



POKER RIDE
JULY 8



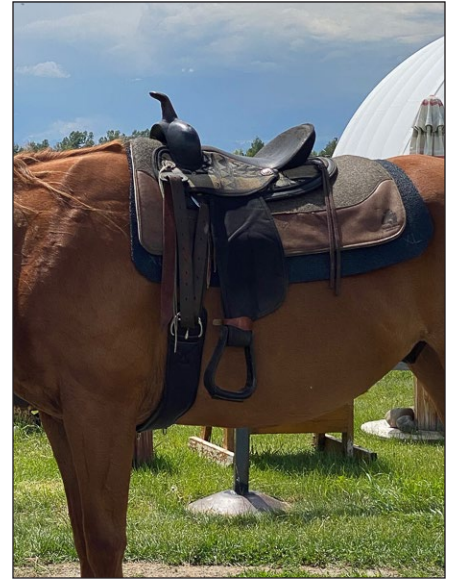
POKER RIDE CONTINUED



POKER RIDE DEFLAGGING
END OF THE TRAIL



SADDLE FITTING



August program will be about saddle fitting with Janice Cartwright



USFS PACK IN & OUT
JULY 10 & JULY 13

On July 10th, a packing crew led by Dan Marsh along with Mark DeOpsomer and Tim Butler packed in a group of Forest Service trail workers led by Kayla White into the intersection of Moonshine and the New World Gulch trail. We arrived at the trailhead at 8:00AM and tacked up the saddle horse and pack horse. The FS crew showed up and we packed up their gear including a couple of food boxes at 60 pounds each. The toolboxes were over 75 pounds with more tools to pack so we distributed the smaller items like hammers and picks into the personal gear panniers at 60 pounds each. That left the toolboxes around 72 pounds each and hit the trail at 9:15AM. We followed the crew that went ahead up New World Gulch trail which was 2.6 miles from the trailhead to the camp spot. That trail is horrible with 2-foot-deep ruts and lots of rocks with no switchbacks straight up 1000 feet. We showed the crew where the boggy spot was and headed back 3.3 miles on the Moonshine trail hoping for a better way back. It was certainly a better trail, but it needs some TLC in a few places also. We got back to the trailhead around Noon and headed home.

On July 13th the same crew met to pack them out with the plan to pick them up at 3PM. We got a late start and didn't head in until 2:15PM with Mark and I in the lead we headed up Moonshine. About a half mile up Moonshine, we realized we didn't have Tim with us, so we waited for what seemed like an hour and just before we were about to turn around and find him, he showed up. It turns out he went up to New World and after not catching up to anybody he turned around and came up Moonshine. We all headed to the camp to pick up everyone until we ran into another delay. There was a tree across the trail we couldn't get around, so Mark grabbed my 2-foot limbing saw and dispatched the tree. We got up to the boggy area and to our disappointment the bog was still there and there was no sign of a turnpike over it. We barely got across without burying our horses and found the FS crew at the camp and asked what happened. It turns out they put in a turnpike up on the main trail which we had never had any trouble with in the past. The bog, however, has been a problem for several years and most recently buried Kathy's mule up to its belly and she was lucky to survive getting out of it. The crew headed back down as soon as we got there, and we loaded up with everyone packing 120 pounds each. We went back to the Moonshine route at 4:12 and got back to the trailhead at 5:15. We dumped all the gear off and the crew raced back to the office since they were supposed to be back before 5. Both trails need a lot of tread work and bridges but unfortunately the first mile or so is State Land and they can't seem to get an agreement to maintain that section.



LITTLE HELLROARING TRAIL

JULY 26

On July 26th, what started out to be a 4-person crew ended up being only 2. The crew led by Dan Marsh with crew member Bruce May headed up Little Hellroaring #400 trail on reports there was a lot of downfalls blocking the trail. Earlier Lew had gone up the trail about a mile and cleared out a bunch of trees. We got a mile up the trail and sure enough we found about 15 trees with some completely blocking the trail with no easy way around. We used the electric chainsaw until we hit the Wilderness Boundary and cut out about a half dozen trees with a Silky and a 2-foot limbing saw. The whole trip was 10 miles round trip to the Indian Ridge junction. We had some dicey spots on the steep ridge leading to the junction where there wasn't much room to get off and saw. It was a good thing both horses allowed us to mount and dismount on the right side. The last half mile of the trail before it connects to Indian Ridge needs some tread work. There is also one particularly nasty sloping rock about 2 miles in that you need to step on the uphill side, or your mount is likely to slip and skid downhill. We trimmed some brush, but it could do with more brushing in a few spots. The horse flies were out in force and my white horse looked like he went through a hawthorn patch when we got back and that was with 2 doses of fly spray. The day was hot but offered fantastic views of the Sanish Peaks. We got back to the trailhead around 3:30PM and headed home. I left the house at 51 degrees and got back at around 91 degrees.

The large RV and trailer from Minnesota are an example of how not to park in the trailer parking area. That rig took the entire lot with barely room for my horse trailer and a couple people that packed in that day.—Dan



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2023 POKER RIDE**

Stacie Boswell
Bridger Bowl
Dreamers and Schemers
Four Corners Saddlery
Kennetrek Boots
Madison River Propane

Montana Canvas
Murdochs
Rikki's Furniture
Rocky Mountain Hat Company
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