

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.

2024 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR**PRESIDENT**

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

VICE PRESIDENT

Sid Boswell ... 595-7197
sid@sidboswell.com

TREASURER

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379

SECRETARY

Kathy VanDyke ... 586-2440

DIRECTORS**ONE YEAR TERM**

Bob Criswell ... 595-8150
Dan Porter ... 539-0879
Devon Kerley ... 704-562-5021

TWO YEAR TERM

Laurie Connelly ... 579-2859
Nanci Marx ... 763-4172
Lew Goodpasture ... 575-639-9091

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Chris Nygren (1 year) ... 546-7550
Dan Marsh (2 year) ... 587-7578

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

BCH WEB MASTER

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOARD MEETING : FEBRUARY 15, 6:00 PM
Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING, FOREST SERVICE & WILD GAME FEED : FEBRUARY 15, 6:30 PM
Springhill Church

2024 MEMBERSHIP

RENEWALS ARE DUE

[HTTP://GVBCH.BCHMT.ORG/](http://gvbch.bchmt.org/)

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Hello Everyone,

I want to thank the outgoing officers and board members for a job well done. The many thankless hours that go into serving our chapter is much appreciated. As we begin a new year I encourage each of you to participate wherever you can in the activities that drive our club forward.

We will be having our annual wild game potluck at Springhill church this February meeting so please bring your best wild game dish for us all to sample.; Molly Glenn will send an email out about the potluck in the near future. I hope everyone can attend this very important meeting to visit with the local Forest Service staff that we work with throughout the year. Also this is when we sign our Volunteer Agreement with our local District office. So please plan on attending.

We have several exciting projects coming up this summer season and I hope you will find one or two to participate in. We will be making final plans and updates throughout the year so check the chapter calendar and newsletter often.

The annual Montana Back Country Horsemen convention is being held at Fairmount Hot Springs this March 8-10. We still need some delegates so please let Sid or I know if you would like to represent our chapter. It is always a fun time so if you have not been before consider this important part of BCH.

Consider doing a snow dance so we can have enough moisture for the summer.

Happy Trails, Henry

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 18

Roll Call: Henry Glenn, Sid Boswell, Carmen Matzick, Kathy VanDyke, Devon Kerley, Bob Criswell, Dan Porter, Nanci Marx, Laurie Connelly, Lew Goodpasture, Dan Marsh, Chris Nygren, Rich Inman, John Mutter

CALLED TO ORDER BY HENRY.

Henry welcomed new board members and thanked everyone for their service to the chapter.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2023 MEETING

Chris moved to approve the minutes as written; Laurie seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carmen reported on the chapter's savings and checking accounts. Devon moved to approve the report; Laurie seconded; the motion passed. Carmen asked that anyone with outstanding bills for 2023 get them to her immediately so she can finish out the books for the year and prepare for the annual audit.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT

It's time for the annual audit of the chapter's accounts. Laurie, Sid, and Devon agreed to sit on the committee, and Carmen will contact them to schedule a date. The audit report will be presented at the February meeting.

PROGRAMMING

(1) Trail crew: Henry wants the trail crew bosses to lead the April meeting. We will discuss expected participation, answer questions, and work out any issues that have arisen in the past. It was suggested that the trail bosses meet with a Forest Service rep for info and insights that might be presented at the meeting.

(2) Henry wants to start the Poker Ride planning process at the March meeting. The Poker Ride will be on July 6, 2024.

(3) John suggested that some of the meeting programs be led by members instead of bringing in outside presenters. Topics could include procedures, questions, and topics of concern/interest to the members.

(4) The general meeting will include putting together the 2024 calendar. Henry noted that if a member puts an activity on the calendar, that member is responsible for making the event happen and should not delegate it to someone else.

FS RETIREMENT

Mary Erickson, supervisor for the Custer/Gallatin National Forest, recently retired. Henry attended her party and wanted to pass along her gratitude for all the work GVBCH performs, and for being a great group to work with.

OLD BUSINESS

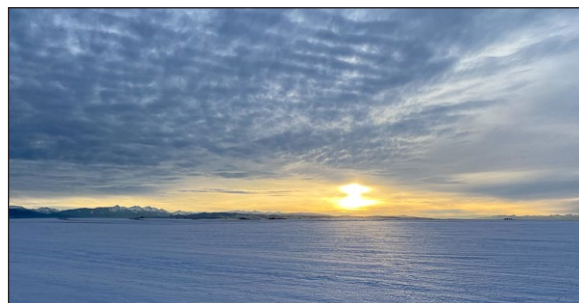
State convention: The convention is March 8-10 at Fairmont Hot Springs. We can have eight delegates; so far, we have five (Henry, Laurie, Sid, Stacie, Dan, Alice).

Chris has raffle tickets for sale. Dan Marsh noted that we need to provide 15 photos for a slide show, we are supposed to provide a display, and that we need to provide an item for the silent auction. Chris noted that the BCHMT wants a "public lands volunteer" to be designated by each chapter. The volunteer would meet with local governing agencies re. local public lands and with other organizations using public lands.

4-H

Carmen noted she has been in contact with the new leader in Bozeman about possible involvement with the group. It was decided that the chapter would be interested in doing a 1-day packing clinic. Carmen will pursue this and determine if there's adequate interest from 4-H and let them know that they will need to take the lead in setting up the event.

Adjournment: Henry adjourned the meeting.



photos by Janice Cartwright

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 18**

PROGRAM

We did not have a program this month. Instead we worked on the 2024 calendar. Henry noted that if a member puts an activity on the calendar, that member is responsible for making the event happen and should not delegate it to someone else.

January 18: GVBCH Meetings

February 15: 6:00 board meeting; 6:30 wild game potluck; 7:15 general meeting

March 8-10: State convention; 3/21: Meeting and discuss the Poker Ride

April 18: Meeting: We'll discuss trail crew stuff

May 16: Meeting. Wednesday trail crews will start in May depending on weather & snowpack; Tuesday trail crews will not go every week (it'll depend on interest expressed); Dan Porter will do trail work on Saturdays and everyone's welcome to join him (he'll send an email when he's going out)

June 1: National Trails Day (we will come up with a project); 6/20: Meeting at Janice's (final planning meeting before the Poker Ride)

July 3: Poker Ride trail clearing; 7/5: Poker Ride set-up; 7/6: Poker Ride; 7/7: De-flagging; 7/11-14: Ramshorn corral project; 7/18: Meeting at Janice's; 7/21-17: Buffalo Fork cabin trip

August 15: Meeting at Janice's; 8/26-9/2 – Slough Creek / Wounded Man project

September 13-15: BBQ at Spanish Creek; 9/19: Meeting

October 17: Meeting

November 11/21: Meeting

December 12/14: Christmas Party; 12/19: Meeting

Corinne Martin moved to approve the minutes as printed; Molly Glenn seconded; the motion passed.

The 2024 GVBCH calendar can be found at:

[HTTPS://GVBCH.BCHMT.ORG/CALENDAR.HTM](https://gvbch.bchmt.org/calendar.htm)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Carmen reported on the chapter's savings and checking accounts. She asked that anyone with outstanding 2024 bills get them to her as soon as possible. Rich Inman moved to approve the report; Devon Kerley seconded; the motion passed. The annual audit will be performed this month with the results presented at the February meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

State Convention: The convention is March 8-10 at Fairmont Hot Springs. We can have eight delegates; so far, we have five attendees (Henry, Laurie, Sid, Stacie, Dan, Alice).

Chris has raffle tickets for sale. Dan Marsh noted that we need to provide 15 photos for a slide show, we are supposed to provide a display, and that we need to provide an item for the silent auction (Henry will take care of this). Chris noted that the BCHMT wants a "public lands volunteer" to be designated by each chapter. The volunteer would meet with local governing agencies re. local public lands and with other organizations using public lands.

NEW BUSINESS

Wilderness cabin projects: Get in touch with Henry if you're interested in participating. The dates are as follows:

Ramshorn Lake: July 11-14

Buffalo Fork: July 21-27

Slough Creek / Wounded Man: Aug. 26-Sept. 2

Defensive Horsemanship: The last presentation was two years ago (everyone has to attend once every three years); there will not be an in-person presentation this year so if you need to do it contact Janice or go online at MTBCHMT.

FS retirement: Mary Erickson, supervisor for the Custer / Gallatin National Forest, recently retired. Henry attended her party and wanted to pass along her gratitude for all the work GVBCH performs, and for being a great group to work with.

John Mutter moved to adjourn the meeting; Carmen seconded; the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by Kathy VanDyke

SWEET PEA PARADE

The Sweet Pea Parade is August 5, 2024 and this year GVBCH would like to enter a group of riders/packers representing the chapter. Although the chapter has not participated for a while, it used to be a yearly event for us back in the '80s and '90s. Wally, Chick, Ron, Kay, Betty White, the Parsons and others all used to participate. I know Janice has some of the old photos to share with the group.

Since Janice does the Backcountry Horseman Safety Class I asked her if she could be involved and put together some kind of Parade Prep/Safety Class. She graciously agreed to put on 2-4 classes at her place to prep for the parade.

Some additional steps that need to be investigated prior to actually riding in the parade:

1. Contact the Saddlelites (Anne Jones) about their experiences in the parade, where are the equine staging areas, placement in the parade lineup, etc...?
2. Talk to Sweet Pea parade admissions and see if we need a hard number of horses registered or a guestimate of say 4-8 horses participating and that's good enough to enter.
3. Where do we park the horse trailers?
4. Can a truck/trailer be part of our entry so we would be able to have some non riding members participating too?
5. Do we need to have someone cleaning up horse apples? Or does the street sweeper get the job done?
6. Make sure GVBCH insurance policy covers our one day ride in the parade.

Anybody interested in participating in the Sweet Pea Parade please contact Mark DeOpsomer (406-585-7835) or Janice Cartwright (406-579-3445).

THX, Mark DeOpsomer



**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
TLC Services
Town and Country



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