

BOARD MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM

First Security Bank
2046 Cattail St & 19th St

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.

2025 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT

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

TREASURER

Elizabeth Heppler ... 209-2063

SECRETARY

Kathy VanDyke ... 209-0613

DIRECTORS

TWO YEAR TERM

Bob Criswell ... 595-8150
Dan Porter ... 539-0879
DC Stark ... 307-690-9905

ONE YEAR TERM

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

STATE BOARD DIRECTORS

Dan Marsh (1 year) ... 581-3160
Chris Nygren (2 year) ... 546-7550
Sid Boswell, alternate (1 year) ... 595-7197

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey ... 223-3077
pbrantr@gmail.com

BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 581-3160
webmaster@bchmt.org
<https://gvbch.bchmt.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOARD MEETING : NOVEMBER 20, 6:30 PM

First Security Bank

GENERAL MEETING : NOVEMBER 20, 7:00 PM : BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

First Security Bank

BCHMT STATE CONVENTION : MARCH 27-29, 2026

Bozeman

CHRISTMAS PARTY : DECEMBER 13

Eagle Mount

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Fellow Members,

As we wrap up another productive season, I want to thank everyone who helped make 2025 such a strong year for GVBCH. From early spring trail clearing to our recent fall projects, we've continued to demonstrate what a dedicated and capable chapter we are. Every workday, event, and meeting this year has reflected the energy and teamwork that define our club.

We've also had a great year for new member recruitment, which is great to see. Some of that growth reflects the reality that the U.S. Forest Service has reduced seasonal positions and overall staffing, leaving more of the stewardship work to volunteer groups like ours. It's an important reminder of how vital GVBCH's role has become. If you know anyone who enjoys using our local trails and wants to contribute, please invite them to an upcoming meeting. We're always eager to welcome more people who share our commitment to keeping the back country accessible.

At our October meeting, we began preparing for 2026 officer and director elections. The nominating committee is now active and will present a slate of candidates at the November meeting, with elections to follow in December. If you're interested in taking a more active role, whether as an officer or director, please let Laurie know. Serving on the board is a great way to learn more about the organization and help guide its future.

We also continue to make steady progress on plans for the 2026 BCHMT State Convention, which GVBCH will host in Bozeman on March 27-29, 2026. Committees are being formed now for sponsorships, programs, logistics, and more, so there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. This will be a major event for our chapter and a great way to showcase our community and all that Bozeman has to offer.

Our November program will feature the topic originally planned for October, and I want to thank Janice for her continued work in coordinating such a great lineup of speakers throughout the year.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting at First Security Bank on Thursday, November 20, with the Board meeting at 6:30 PM and the General Meeting at 7:00 PM. Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Christmas Party on December 13th at Eagle Mount (come early at 4pm to get festive and help decorate).

See you on the trail, Sid Boswell, President, GVBCH



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16**

Roll Call: Sid Boswell, Henry Glenn, Elizabeth Heppler, Kathy VanDyke, Nanci Marx, Dan Porter, Laurie Connelly, Devon Kerley

CALL TO ORDER BY SID BOSWELL.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING

Dan moved to approve the minutes as written; Henry seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elizabeth reported the chapter's savings and checking, two CDs that are accruing interest, and some miscellaneous expenses incurred since the last report. Devon moved to approve the report; Laurie seconded; the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Trail Crew: Wednesday crews are done for the season; Dan may take a group out on Saturday.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee should consist of the vice president and the directors whose terms are ending, i.e., Henry, Laurie, Nanci and Lew. Laurie moved to approve the committee as named; Nanci seconded; the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Marketing proposal: Sid and Dan Marsh were approached by Outdoor Media regarding a website revamp with targeted marketing on several platforms. The project would be expensive and likely not worth the cost.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dan moved to adjourn; Henry seconded; the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by Kathy VanDyke

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16**

PROGRAM

Henry presented a slide show from the three AB wilderness work trips.

CALL TO ORDER

Sid Boswell called the meeting to order.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING

Dan moved to approve the minutes as printed; Chris seconded; the motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Elizabeth reported the chapter's savings and checking, two CDs that are accruing interest, and some miscellaneous expenses incurred since the last report. Devon moved to approve the report; Stacie seconded; the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

BCHMT Annual meeting update: Molly reported that the raffle prizes have been finalized and are a rifle, a Rocky Mountain Hat Co. hat, and a quarter-beef cut to order. She has also been working with the hotel to finalize costs (facility, meals). Stacie presented one of the table decorations that she prepared. Anyone with vendor suggestions should contact Molly.

TRAIL CREW

Wednesday crews are done for the season; Dan may take a group out on Saturday.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee consists of Henry, Laurie, Nanci and Lew. There are numerous board positions to fill: four officers, three 2-year directors, one 1-year director, one 2-year state rep, and one 1-year alternate state rep. Anyone interested in serving on the board should contact a committee member. The slate will be presented at the November meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Laurie made a motion to adjourn; Elizabeth seconded; the meeting adjourned.

—Submitted by Kathy VanDyke

DEER CREEK — OCTOBER 4

On a cool, rainy day, I left my horse at home and drove up to the Deer Creek trailhead. Using a combie and mattock I spent 3 hours improving the switchback to make it more horse-friendly and sustainable. Two archery hunters and two hikers passed by, returning from morning outings. They reported no sight or sound of elk and only a few small deadfalls across the trail in the first 3 miles.

After a granola bar snack and a few cups of coffee, I traded the digging tools for a backpack, bear spray, and a large pruner and headed up the trail with only occasional misty light precipitation. There were a number of places where evergreen limbs and willows have been forcing trail users off the trail, as well as numerous aspen saplings encroaching into the 8' trail specification. I used the pruners to advantage and cleared trail until 4:30 pm at which point I was .63 miles from the trailhead. There is a portion of the trail that would benefit from installation of 4 water dams but otherwise the trail seemed to be in good condition. — *Dan Porter*



**GVBCB IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2025 POKER RIDE**

Carter's Boots
City Brew (Cattail St)
Double Diamond
Four Corners Saddlery
Kenetrek Boots
Madison River Propane
Montana Canvas
Montana Horse Sense
Montana Silversmiths

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Owenhouse Ace Hardware
Rikki's Furniture Gallery
Rocky Mountain Hat Company
Tactic
Dan Marsh
Alice Pilgrim



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