



# Nag News

## Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen

In Partnership With



Volume 47

November 2020

Issue 11

### In this Issue

President's Letter	1
Important Member Info	3
Horse Sense	4
Back Country Kitchen	6
General/Board Mtg Notes	7
Ads & Services	8

### BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN MISSION STATEMENT

1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness areas.
2. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
3. To assist the various government, state and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustaining use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.
5. To foster and encourage the formation of new back country horsemen's organizations.
6. To cooperate with other B.C.H.A. organizations.



**DEADLINE FOR THE  
Dec 2020 NAG NEWS is  
5 p.m. Dec 9, 2020**

**SUBMIT YOUR  
ARTICLES AND ADS TO:**

[lionel.lavallee47@gmail.com](mailto:lionel.lavallee47@gmail.com)

\*To improve accuracy please  
confirm all ads by deadline date.

### *A Message from Our President*

#### Greetings Members:

We are entering an important point on our chapter's journey through 2020. In this newsletter, you will find a link to vote online for this year's election of 2021 officers and directors. Please vote by noon of November 19<sup>th</sup> so that your vote may be counted. Since our meetings are now virtual, we will not be able to hold the election during the November 19 meeting, hence voting will only be online. Results from the balloting will be announced and we will welcome the 2021 officers and board.

In this newsletter you will also find information regarding an incentive program your board is initiating. We have been concerned with the low attendance at general membership meetings, including the October Zoom meeting. Your participation is critical to our success today and into the future. Please see the details and join our meetings.

There are some exciting developments supporting our future projects. Members of your board are working with the Bitterroot National Forest leadership to identify collaborations that make sense within the Great American Outdoors Act. This Act is funded by the federal government to assist the Forest Service and other agencies in addressing deferred maintenance needs. We also will make application to the Ravalli County Resource Advisory Committee for funding to support a 2021 trail maintenance project with a partner, to be named. Members of the board are also beginning the planning for a Recreational Trails Program grant. Updates on these will be forthcoming.

Your board is busy working for you and our region. Please join with us to be part of that action.

Gene Merrell, president



<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CHAIRS AND MEMBERS</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
<b>Audit</b>	Nancy Pollman	406-546-6492
<b>Budget</b>	Candace Erickson	
<b>Audio-Visual Equipment</b>	Ed Bullock	907-575-7878
<b>Election &amp; Nominations</b>	Katie Williams	531-0688
<b>Equipment &amp; Inventory</b>	Chris Grove	381-7600
<b>Fair</b>	Bill Black/Mark DeGrazier	363-6834/777-1234
<b>Fundraisers</b>	Ed Bullock	907-575-7878
<b>RTP Grant Committee</b>	Lionel Lavallee	640-1242
<b>Historian</b>	Laura McManus	642-3018
<b>Issues</b>	Lionel Lavallee	406-640-1242
<b>Memberships</b>	Kathy Stroppel-Holl	961-0096
<b>Newsletter</b>	Lionel Lavallee	640-1242
<b>Packing Clinic Scholarship</b>	Chuck Miller	961-5453
<b>Parliamentarian</b>	Rebecca Jones	415-264-5457
<b>Programs</b>	Philip & Pam Torgerson	360-4933/360-3201
<b>Projects</b>	Dan Brandborg/Lionel Lavallee	381-5643/640-1242
<b>Social Marketing</b>	Susan Slempe	821-2017/381-5910
<b>Sunshine</b>	Cindy Beck	360-1165
<b>Trail Rides</b>	Jan Bullock	907-242-9853
<b>Training</b>	Bonnie Morgan	381-9021
<b>Education Committee</b>	Ed Duggan & Christy Schram-Duggan	369-3140/360-5947
<b>Website Design</b>	Nancy Pollman	406-546-6492

### **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen 2020 Officers & Board**

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
Gene Merrell 208-310-6326	Dan Brandborg 381-5643	Christy Schram-Duggan 360-5947	Sandra O'Brien 907-529-1315

#### **Directors:**

Ed Bullock (2020-21) 907-575-7878	Lionel Lavallee (2019-20) 640-1242
Jan Bullock (2019-20) 907-242-9853	Mike Costanzo (2020-21) 375-1340
Ed Duggan (2019-20) 406-369-3140	Julie Schram (2020-21) 961-2457
Joe Kirkland (2020) 802-2286	Dan Maiyo (2020-21) 208-940-2887
Tim Meyer (2019-20) 907-440-0841	

**Past President:** Karen Philips 406-961-0101    **State Chairman:** Sherri Lionberger 208-691-6218

**State Directors:** Chuck Miller (2018-20) 961-5453  
Lionel Lavallee (2020-21) 640-1242

**Alt State Director:** Taylor Orr (2020) 930-5838

## NOVEMBER BRBCH MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

November meeting will be held virtually @ 7pm through Zoom.  
Program Speaker: None

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

#### 2020 ELECTION

Voting will be online via Survey Monkey. Please make sure to vote by noon on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Here is the link to copy and paste into your browser (or click on): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMYHSCF>

#### ATTEND AND BE A WINNER!

As an incentive for members to attend the Bitter Root BCH Zoom meetings, each month a random drawing will award one attendee a \$20 gift. For the November meeting, the winner will receive a \$20 gift certificate to one of our sponsors, "Cowpokes Ranch Supply" in Corvallis.

#### 2021 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Membership applications for new and renewed members are now being accepted for 2021. Memberships run from January 1-December 31.

Forms can be downloaded from the BRBCH website (<https://bchmt.org/wp/bitterroot/forms-and-publications/forms/>) or contact Kathy to have one sent to you by regular mail. Please completely fill out the application form – it satisfies our insurance coverage. Renewals need to update phone number, email, and address as needed. Cost for an individual is \$30, families are \$40, and secondary memberships are \$10 (individual or family if your primary membership is with another chapter). Mail the form with your check to BRBCH, PO Box 1083, Hamilton, MT 59840. You can also contact Kathy to arrange to meet if you want to pay cash. Thanks!

Kathy Stoppel-Holl  
[kshmes@outlook.com](mailto:kshmes@outlook.com)  
406-961-0096



**Due to the Covid-19 outbreak and social distancing rules**, there will not be a printed, mailed version of the September issue of Nag News. If you are aware of a fellow member who doesn't have Internet access, please print up the web version for their benefit.

Thanks, from your editorial staff.



## MUSTANG CHRONICLES, PART 2: TRAINING CHICA

by Sandra O'Brien

Sometimes, looking at my mustang Chica with the herd of domestic horses we have, other than a yearling mustang, who I don't believe has spent much, if any time in the wild, I imagine she is the same as the rest of her adoptive herd. But she isn't.

She came with a different language. It's like she speaks Spanish Basque and the rest of the herd a kind of Standard English. A very wild dash of something in a group of horses who accept me hanging over their backs, or lifting a back leg without donning a halter or pulling a tail to help stretch a back.

She came speaking a totally different language. Some will say a horse is a horse. But when Chica came to live here, she didn't really seem to want to interact and even now is kind of like that stranger who doesn't quite fit in and looks awkward when the other horses are close. Like someone who's moved into the neighborhood and has strange customs. She is shy approaching the lowest gelding in the herd for a mutual neck scratching, or tolerating one of the mares, who pushes over to say hello. She appears to be frustrated by some interactions and maybe the small nod she gives to acknowledge the lead gelding isn't even seen by him. And maybe she double-barreled the other mare because she was is a domestic dullard and moved in on the hay when Chica was clearly claiming it. In her language. She picked up my dog Baxter when he didn't pay attention to her signals. She left no marks or bruises. She simply surprised him because he wasn't paying attention. A reminder that we are bound to have moments of miscommunication.

I still have not accomplished getting a trim for my mustang Chica. She is still somewhat fearful of other people, and I am not fearless when it comes to her feet; unless they are moving. When she moves, she is like music. She wears her hooves down when I work her each day in the pebbly sand of the arena, so she is not too overgrown, but I know that one of these days I will have to brave working on those beautiful, big boned feet. Mustangs in the wild survive because of their feet. She is thick boned and hard footed. I had her DNA tested and her top three breeds are, in order – Peruvian Paso, Rocky Mountain, and Mountain Pleasure. Though from a line of gaited horses, she is not gaited. She moves like water over stones though and I can imagine that we will one day be loping in Montana meadows and clambering over stony paths in the Montana Wilderness.

We are still working on our relationship in movement. Step by step, by step we are exploring tuning our partnership to

Sponsored by



We carry all your equine  
Vaccination and deworming needs.

Plus a large supply of animal  
Health products.

See us in Corvallis or Deer Lodge  
On Facebook

Or

[www.cowpokeranchsupply.com](http://www.cowpokeranchsupply.com)

406-961-4917

Monday – Friday 8 – 5:30

Saturday – 9 – 4

406-961-4917

a finer level. I can ask for a circle around me, her wrapped around, as if in a body hug. We have moved from a walk, to a trot, and now we are practicing a canter. She has learned to come to a call, across the arena. She will also come over barrels or whatever is in front of her, to arrive at my shoulder. We even competed, she and I. We braved the world of technology and videoed ourselves to compete at liberty. We didn't place because I didn't read the instructions correctly, but she was my hero, working diligently at each task presented. We trotted over poles and over the bridge, over a blue tarp and then forward and backward through the "L", side-passed both ways over a pole and then pivoted both ways in a box.



She stood still while I requested a “hold” and walked completely around her and then she trotted snakelike through the cones to a stop.

What language do we use? A nod, a hip, a crouch, and lots of laughter, together and separately, acknowledging the differences, and yawns and lip licking and big smiles recognizing our sameness and our desire to connect.

### **Donate to BRBCH just by shopping at Amazon Smile**

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen has been issued a donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation. Once per year, the AmazonSmile Foundation issues donations to all registered organizations that have earned donations, even if the donation amount is below the \$5 minimum.

We can increase donations for Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen by reminding you, our supporters to do your Amazon shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). If you're a first time shopper to Smile, simply go to the link, sign in with your amazon password, and select “Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen” as your charity.

### **FROST ON PASTURES**

Horse owners should take precautions when grazing pastures after the first killing frost. Frost damaged pasture species can have higher concentrations of nonstructural carbohydrates, leading to an increase in the potential for founder and colic, especially for horses diagnosed with EMS, PSSM, laminitis, obesity or Cushings. To reduce the chances of adverse health effects, we recommended horse owners wait one week before turning horses back onto a pasture after the first killing frost.

Info and picture shared from University of Minnesota Equine Extension Program.





### Navy Bean & Bacon Soup

*Perfect time of the year to pull out those comfort food recipes. It's snowing and not even winter yet!!!*

### Ingredients

- 1 cup dried Navy Beans sorted, rinsed and soaked
- 3 Strips thick cut bacon, sliced crosswise ½" pieces
- 1 tablespoon Olive Oil
- 1 Medium Onion finely diced
- 2 Carrots diced
- 2 Celery Ribs diced
- 3-4 Garlic Cloves minced
- 1 tablespoon Tomato Paste
- 1 teaspoon Dried Oregano
- 1 teaspoon Spanish Paprika
- Black Pepper to taste
- 4 cups Chicken Broth
- 1 Bay Leaf
- Salt

### Instructions

**Soak the beans - use the overnight or the quick soak method.**

1. Overnight method: Add the beans to a pot. Cover the beans with 4-6 cups of water. Let the beans soak overnight. Drain the water completely and rinse the beans well with fresh, cold water.
2. Quick soaking method: Add the beans and 6-8 cups of water to a large pot. Place the pot over medium-high heat and bring the water to a boil. Boil the beans for 2 minutes, then remove them from the heat, cover and allow them to soak for one hour. Drain and rinse the beans. I use the quick soak method and it has worked well so far.

### Make the navy bean soup

1. Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat; add bacon pieces, cook until done. Remove from pot
2. Add the onions, carrots and celery to the pot. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring frequently.
3. Add the garlic, tomato paste, oregano, paprika and black pepper. Cook 1-2 minutes, stirring frequently.
4. Add the bacon, navy beans, chicken broth, and the bay leaf to the pot and stir. Raise heat to high, bring



the liquid to a boil, lower heat to medium-low, cover and cook 1 hr, 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Taste a couple of beans; if they're tender, the soup is done. If the beans are still a little firm, cover and continue cooking. Check the beans every 15 minutes or so, until they reach the desired consistency. Taste the navy bean soup and add salt if needed. As a reference, we added ¾ teaspoon to our soup.

5. Remove the bay leaf and discard, serve

**Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen  
General Membership Meeting  
October 15, 2020**

**&**

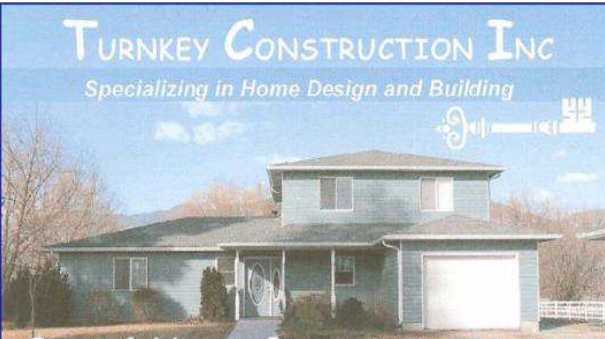
**Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 5, 2020**

**Due to time constraints and new meeting format, minutes for the past General and Board Meetings will be included in the October Virtual Meeting for the General Membership**

## Ads & Services Offered

Please consider our kind advertisers the next time need arises

**TURNKEY CONSTRUCTION INC**  
*Specializing in Home Design and Building*



**BRAD & NANCY POLLMAN 546-6492**

**COW POKE RANCH SUPPLY**



**For All Your Farm & Ranch Needs!**

1308 Eastside Hwy.  
Corvallis, MT 59828  
www.cowpokesupply.com

Ph: 406-961-4917  
Fx: 406-961-4917  
Email: cowpoke@montana.com

**MONTANA WOOD CARVING**

CUSTOM WOOD CARVINGS  
ENTRY DOORS - CABINET DOORS  
FIREPLACE MANTELS - COAT RACKS



**MIKE COSTANZO**  
406-239-2624  
woodcraftsman@cybernet1.com

**WILLOW CREEK**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY



Providing the Bitterroot one-on-one treatment to patients  
of all ages

961-3841 • willowcreekpt.com • 

Carrie & Travis Van Dyke  
**406-381-4975**



**CTC**  
**BOOT & SHOE REPAIR**

107 State Street • Hamilton, MT 59840

Used Boots  
Gently Worn  
Comfortably Priced



## Ads & Services Offered

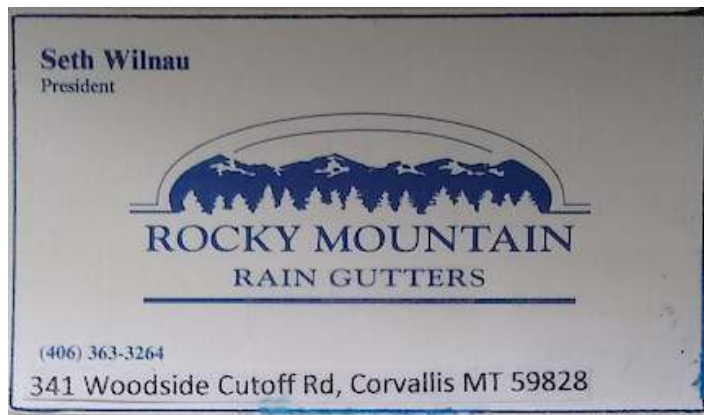
Please consider our kind advertisers the next time need arises



### Custom Saddles

Boots/Leather Repairs & Gifts  
112 Main Street  
(Front of Farmers State Bank)  
Victor, MT 59875

www.MTWCustomSaddles.com  
Tel: 406-490-6002  
Tel: 406-802-4611  
MikeThorWright@gmail.com





# Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen



---

**NEXT BRBCH MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 19th**  
**Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting**  
**Meeting at 7:00**

