



Nag News



Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen

September 2022 Issue #09

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Ads & Services

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN MISSION STATEMENT

- To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's backcountry and wilderness areas.
- To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use.
- To assist the various government, state and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource.
- 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.
- To foster and encourage the formation of new back country horsemen's organizations.
- To cooperate with other BCHA organizations.

A Message from our BRBCH President

Hello All,

Well, I am back from my month-long trip to Mongolia. It was awesome there and I plan to go back. Plans are to put my pictures together and do a public presentation! I will let you all know when that will be!

Looks like the Ravalli County Fair went well this year. Thanks to all of you that volunteered to take and sell tickets! We could not do it without you. This is our major fund-raising event and I know the Fair Board really appreciates our help. Even though it was hot and smoky, all of you did an excellent job and with the new ways we did things this year our future will only be bright for the fair folks.

We did not get to do any fun trail rides this year and I apologize for that. Perhaps we can do one or two when the weather cools down and the smoke goes away. I am more than ready for some cool and clear fall weather. I do not know about you, but it is my favorite time of the year to ride.

Unfortunately, we missed a few projects this summer due to extreme heat and wildfires, but I am sure we will hit it hard next summer and we can catch up on some of the trail work we missed this year. We can now look forward to our fall and winter meetings now and some great food for our potlucks.

We have lined up some good speakers for our future meetings including me in October to talk about Mongolia! It will be hard to squash that talk into 20 minutes, but pictures do tell a thousand words and I have quite a few pictures to share.

It might be hard to imagine during this scorching summer, but winter is on its way, and we can look forward to elections and our wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas parties! It looks like our Chapter is gaining increased memberships and that is impressive! Be sure to thank our advertisers and visit their businesses and tell them thanks.

I am going to share a couple pictures with you just to get you excited to experience my trip! I hope to see you at our next meeting On September 15 at the Corvallis School cafeteria. And be sure to bring lots of goodies! See you then!

Your President, Jan Bullock

**DEADLINE FOR THE
October 2022
NAG NEWS is
5 p.m. October 13,
2022**

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 Dan Brandborg
 Susan Slempe
 Cindy Beck
 Jan Bullock
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 Nancy Pollman

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen 2022 Officers & Board

Chapter Officers

Position	Name	Term	Contact
President	Jan Bullock	2022	(907) 242-9853
Vice President	Christy Schram-Duggan	2022	
Secretary	Kathy Stroppel-Holl	2022	
Treasurer	Barbara Walker	2022	

Board Members

Name	Term
Ed Duggan	2021-22
Travise Grinnell	2021-22
Joe Kirkland	2021-22
Katie Williams	2021-22
Julie Schram	2021-22
Dan Brandborg	2022-23
Carol Johns	2022-23
Dan Maiyo	2022-23
Karen Philips	2022-23

Past President: Gene Merrell**State Chairman:** Sherri Lionberger

State Directors: Brad Pollman (2022-23)
 Taylor Orr (2021-22)

Alt State Director: Chuck Miller (2022)

SEPTEMBER 15TH 2022 GENERAL MEETING
(Potluck, bring a dish!) BRBCH Monthly meeting
Thursday, September 15th Corvallis High School Cafeteria
Social: 6:30 pm Meeting: 7:00 pm

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen host their monthly meeting on Thursday, September 15th at the Corvallis School Cafeteria on Eastside Highway in Corvallis. Potluck dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. The meeting runs from 7-8:30 p.m. The guest speaker is Carolynne Merrell. As a graduate student at the University of Idaho, she researched and recorded Native American peeled trees along historic trails in the Northern Rocky Mountains. Carolynne will describe the trees' uses and benefits to humans and horses at that time. We welcome guests and new members. For more information, please call Gene at 208-310-6326 or check out the website at www.bchmt.org/bitterroot.

Find us on Facebook at: **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH).**

Below are pictures of Jan's Mongolian adventure!



LOST & FOUND:
A Max Grill Cooler was left in the BRBCH fair office. Please contact Karen Phillips to claim your cooler.

Editor's Note: Jake Long has an opening from September 12th through September 18th at the East Fork Guard station for completion of the corral project. The bundle of rails have arrived and I estimate about a half days work to attach the rails to the remaining jack fence and also top off the posts. Please contact Dan Maiyo (208) 940-2887 or email: djmaiyo@gmail.com if you are interested. Thanks.

A giant shout out to all the volunteers who helped make the 2022 Ravalli Co. Fair a success! Thank You!



Editor's Note: In recognition of the 58th anniversary of passage of the WILDERNESS ACT, the following is the first installment of the ACT to be included in a series of upcoming issues of Nag News. Also, it can be viewed in its entirety via the BRBCH website link.

WILDERNESS ACT
of September 3, 1964,

(P.L 88-577, 78 Stat. 890; 16 U.S.C. 1 1 21 (note), 1 1 31-1136)

**To establish a National Wilderness Preservation System for the permanent good of
the whole people, and for other purposes.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Short Title

Sec 1. This Act may be cited as the "Wilderness Act" (16 U.S.C. 1 1 21 (note))

WILDERNESS SYSTEM ESTABLISHED STATEMENT OF POLICY

Sec. 2. (a) In order to assure that an increasing population, accompanied by expanding settlement and growing mechanization, does not occupy and modify all areas within the United States and its possessions, leaving no lands designated for preservation and protection in their natural condition, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the Congress to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness. For this purpose there is hereby established a National Wilderness Preservation System to be composed of federally owned areas designated by Congress as "wilderness areas", and these shall be administered for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will leave them unimpaired for future use and enjoyment as wilderness, and so as to provide for the protection of these areas, the preservation of their wilderness character, and for the gathering and dissemination of information regarding their use and enjoyment as wilderness; and no Federal lands shall be designated as "wilderness areas" except as provided for in this chapter or by a subsequent Act.

(b) The inclusion of an area in the National Wilderness Preservation System notwithstanding, the area shall continue to be managed by the Department and agency having jurisdiction thereover immediately before its inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress. No appropriation shall be available for the payment of expenses or salaries for the administration of the National Wilderness Preservation System as a separate unit nor shall any appropriations be available for additional personnel stated as being required solely for the purpose of managing or administering areas solely because they are included within the National Wilderness Preservation System.

DEFINITION OF WILDERNESS

(c) A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this chapter an area of underdeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

Editor's Note: Tired of the heat? Enjoy it while it lasts, cause it's gonna be over soon!

WATER RITES

Dan Maiyo

CHANGIN THE WATER EVERY ODD DAY
ALL IN THE HOPES OF GETTING TWO CUTS OF HAY

BUT-
MY FINGERS ARE CRACKED
MAY FACE IS PEELED
THE SHOVEL JUST BROKE
HARDPAN IN THE FIELD

NOXIOUS WEEDS IS GROWIN IN THESE ACRES OF CHARM
GOO UP TO MY KNEES
ALL THE WAY TO THE BARN

PATCHES OF BROWN SHOWS THE HIGH DRY SPOTS
A HOLE IN MY MUD BOOTS-
MY FOOTS GOT THE ROTS

THE FUNGUS GROWS FASTER THAN THE GRASS!!

THEN-
THE SKY TURNS GREY
WINTER SNOWS COME

AND –
I'LL SOON BE WISHIN FOR THOSE HOT DAYS
AND WATER IN THE SUN!

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Saddling a Tied Horse

This article originally appeared in Eclectic Horseman Issue No.69

Written by Buster McLaury. A product of the big ranch country in West Texas, Buster McLaury brings a unique perspective into his clinics and demos. Over 40 years around livestock has provided him with a wealth of information, experience, and stories which he readily shares with others. Learn more: www.bustermclaury.com

I rarely saddle an older horse that is tied up, and I never saddle a young horse that is tied up. I think too much of my horses.

Let's give a little thought (Ray Hunt would be proud) to a scenario that could happen; you've got ol' Pete tied to your trailer, the fence, or, God forbid, a hitching rail. He's good about being tied, and he's good about being saddled so why not? Just strap it on him.

So you throw your wood up there, run the latigo through the cinch ring a couple of times, and just before you pull it snug, a paper sack blows out from under the trailer, or the dog some boarder brought to the farm and turned loose comes chasing the barn cat around the corner, right underneath your horse. That surprises or scares him right?

What's the first thing a horse does when he's surprised or scared? He throws his head up, and his feet start to move. When your surprised horse throws his head up, the halter grabs the top of his head and instantly becomes a mountain lion that's just jumped on him. So, he sits back and strikes back at those two predators that have just attacked. When he sits back suddenly, this causes your not-quite-tight-yet saddle to turn off his side and under his belly, instantly becoming a bear that's fixing to rip his guts out.

I'll leave it to your imagination as to what happens in the next few minutes. I can think of a lot of things that could and probably will happen and they're all bad.

Maybe, hopefully, he didn't get on you or someone else when this wreck started, but I can assure you that everything I described happened in a couple seconds, and that was only the start.

When he finally quits thrashing around, now you've got to untie a scared, dangerous horse if the halter you had him tied with didn't break. The halters most of you use broke, because they are made to look pretty and sell, not to hold a horse that has set back. The slip knot you had him tied with will not slip now that it's tight. If it broke, this wreck has scattered through people, cars, fences, and maybe out on the highway.

I know there are a world of excuses for tying your horse up. Here are a couple;

(1.) "He won't stand still while I saddle or groom him."

It's your responsibility to teach him his responsibilities. If he moves while you're saddling him, it's likely due to one of two things. He either lacks a little confidence about what's going on, or he hasn't learned that it's his job to stand still during the process.

If it's a lack of confidence, he needs to be able to move his feet so that he can get this deal worked out in his mind that he is in no danger. He needs to feel that he can keep that sense of self-preservation. They all lack confidence to start with. My suggestion? You allow him to move. You just direct where he goes, the best you can. (Those reins are hooked to his feet! Ray Hunt) When he finally stands still, look at what all he learned while he was learning to stand still.

If he just wanders off while you're saddling, he's not "with" you. He's not trying to help you because he doesn't think of you as being very important. He has some "horse stuff" he'd rather be doing, so he does it. You're not the leader, you just happen to be in the vicinity.

(2) "I can't keep up with the lead rope/reins while I put the blanket/saddle on him."

It's not his fault that you aren't that handy. (In difficulty there is opportunity. Ray Hunt) You want the horse, once saddled, to go with the prize, do a job, or go for a nice trouble-free trail ride, yet you aren't handy enough (yet) to hold the lead rope while you put the saddle on. And you wonder why the horse has trouble once you're mounted?

My suggestion? Tie your halter on the top rail of the fence and practice throwing your saddle up behind it. The fence won't move or step on your foot while you practice. Do it from both sides.

I know a lot of you have been saddling this way for years, and grandma did too and we've all gotten along fine, and blah blah blah.... That's fine.

As for me, I rarely saddle an older horse that is tied up, and I never saddle a young horse that's tied up. I think too much of my horses.

BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
(DRAFT) GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, AUGUST 18TH, 2022

The August 2022 general meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order by VP Christy Schram-Duggan at 7:02 pm. The meeting was held at the Larry Creek parking area. Approximately 36 members were present, with no Board quorum. Travis

Grinnell led the Pledge of Allegiance to start the meeting.
Guests: None.

PROGRAM

See **Old Business** for Christy's talk on Fair Ticket Selling/Taking Training.

BUSINESS

Minutes: The July minutes were printed in the August Nag News They will be voted on at the next meeting when a quorum is present.

Treasurer's Report: Barb presented the August treasurer's report – there were no updates. They will be voted on at the next meeting when a quorum is present.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safety Moment: The latest FS safety alert on chainsaw cuts to swamper was presented. The alert notes the sawyer and swamper need to be aware of and avoid the strike zone, which is a 360-degree radius around a sawyer at a distance equivalent to the sawyer's arm length plus the length of the chain saw and bar.

Bitter Root Humane Association Photo Opportunity: The BRHA is offering a fundraiser photo session on Oct 1 with 4 local photographers for owners and their pets big or small. See the flyer for more info and/or contact Barb Garten at 513-292-2997 to schedule an appointment.

Jan Bullock's Mongolia Trip: Jan will be back soon with thousands of photos and tales of camel riding and horse thieves!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Issues: No report.

Projects: Christy spoke about the recent Fred Burr project reconnaissance. She noted the Gold Creek and Two Good Cabin projects were cancelled due to Stage 2 fire restrictions. Dan Maiyo summarized the successful East Fork corral project.

State Directors: No report other than the FS safety alert.

Education & Training: Christy noted project leader training will be held in early 2023.

Membership: There are 90 memberships and 154 members. See Leslie for new member packets and membership cards.

Outreach: No report.

Program: The Sept speaker is TBA (post-meeting update – Carolynne Merrell will talk about Indian trees). Josh Lisbon, MPG Ranch, will provide a future presentation with the mountain lion research video. Jan Bullock will speak about her Mongolia trip at a future meeting.

Sunshine: If anyone knows of a member who needs a get well, congratulations, or condolence card, let Cindy Beck know.

OLD BUSINESS

County Fair: Christy talked about fair ticket selling and taking. The Main Gate is now called the South Gate. There are still spots to fill at the gates, but looking good for 2 weeks out from fair. A 4-hr shift equals 1 free entry other than your work day. The signup sheet was passed around. Ed D is the East Gate manager. Each gate has a new sign created by Cheyenne, Christy, and Jon. The South Gate will have a lunch promo lane managed by a fair person from 11-2, W-F; return the ticket before 2 and get reimbursed for entry. Season passes are Adult for \$29 and Youth/Sr/Mil for \$22. Day passes are Adult for \$10 and Y/S/M for \$8. Youth 5 and under are free. High school graduates are adult. New this year is free entry on Thu for sensory sensitive visitors and their chaperone wearing a multicolor wristband. Carnival sounds and light will be off. The County is paying for this service. Fairground staff and board members will have a badge on a lanyard. Blue wristbands are on 4H kids, gets them in gates. Kids showing are in black pants/white shirts.

Christy explained how the ticket sale accounting form is reconciled. She will train people when they check in and provide a job aid. Every window (except the lunch promo) has an iPad, and all transactions are entered for cash, check, or debit/credit card. She can run reports for each iPad. Sellers need to note start and end time on the form, iPad name, and pull tickets at the start and end of shift (blue areas on the form). Shift info will be already indicated (yellow area). The form can be turned in for reconciliation by Christy or day/evening manager.

Christy will alert gates if a missing child report comes in. She will get text message and description from Melissa, and radio info to the gates. When child is found, Christy will let gates know. The protocol to follow if the child is spotted by a BRBCH member is being hammered out by the County commissioners.

North Gate – stock auction on Sat a.m. Buyers come in thru N Gate only, starting around 5:30-6 for breakfast; may get tix or may have buyer's paddle. Gate closes at 10 and stays closed. West Gate – vendors come in between 7-9, exit out N Gate. All vehicles need a pass to come on grounds. Wagons provided for vendors at W Gate. South Gate – if needed, ask cops to escort you with money bags, especially in evening. East Gate – Ed D managing; will have a separate meeting with those volunteers. All

gates: no pass, no entry. No dogs except service dogs; 4H dogs stay in the rodeo area. Arrive 15-20 minutes to check in at the West Gate before your shift. There will be 3 parking slots by the W and N Gates. Tix sellers carry only their money bag to their gate. Day and evening managers provide backup for tix sellers or takers if a break is needed; more details provided by Christy. IT questions go to Christy. Radios are at each gate. There was further discussion on logistics selling and taking tickets. Gate cleaning and setup workdays are 8/27-28. Tickets spools will be mounted by each window and other booth updates to be done. The N, S, and E gates have bathrooms nearby. BRBCH members are providing personal side-by-sides to transport volunteers to gates.

Fair is BRBCH's only fundraiser; we will be reimbursed \$4000 by the fair. We have provided gate volunteers since 1975, and the fair has improved their gate income since then. No taxes support the fair, hence tickets are sold for entry. We are the first impression for folks coming into the fair, so make it good! Bitterroot Beanery will be donating coffee each day, and there is a small frig with water at each gate. The W Gate will have a "lounge" area. Gene thanked Christy and Ed for their 2021 fair efforts that went well. Turnout for the 2021 fair was better than expected – ticket sales were \$165K (it was \$145K in 2019). Melissa (fairgrounds manager)

wants to hear about any small things that could improve the fair. Take notes if you hear of any issues.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: Sept 15 at the Corvallis School Cafeteria, potluck at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Christy Schram-Duggan (for Kathy Stroppel-Holl, Secretary BRBCH)

BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN BOARD MEETING MINUTES, September 1st, 2022 NOTE: The September 1st Board Meeting was canceled.

Lovely QH mare for sale. 18 years old, good ground manners, green but good start under saddle. Registered. Private Treaty. Contact Leslie Conner-Maiyo for more information. (406) 961-7644.



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Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen



NEXT BRBCH MEETING

Thursday, September 15th 2022

**Location: Corvallis School Cafeteria on
Eastside Highway in Corvallis.**

Social at 6:30pm Meeting at 7:00pm

Visit our Website:

bchmt.org/bitterroot

*Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen
P.O. Box 1083
Hamilton, MT 59840*