





Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen

November 2023 Issue #11

BACKCOUNTRY 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.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH 2023 MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGCorvallis Elementary School CafeteriaPot Luck Dinner: 6:30 pmMeeting: 7:00 pm

The next General Meeting will be at the Corvallis Elementary School Cafeteria. **It is not** at the Corvallis High School Cafeteria where our usual meetings took place. From Hwy 93 at the Woodside Cutoff light, drive east to the 4-way stop in Corvallis. Turn left (north), then an immediate right into the parking lot on the west side of the school. Additional parking is off 2nd Street at the NE corner of the school. There will be signs showing where to enter the school. A potluck dinner will be served at 6:30 pm followed by our monthly meeting from 7:00-8:30 pm. Guests and new members always welcome. No guest speaker this month. However, Dan Brandborg will present a slide show of our projects this year. For more information, please call Gene at 208-310-6326 or check out the website at: <u>www.bchmt.org/bitterroot</u>. Facebook: **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH)**.

HIGHLIGHTS THIS ISSUE

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- President's Message
- Update on Joe Tenzer
- Pantry Partners Announcement
- Candidates for 2024 Officers and
- Board Members

- Horse Sense
- Back Country Kitchen
- October General Meeting Minutes (Draft)
- November Board Meeting Minutes (Draft



A message from our President

Hello Fellow Members, I hope this letter finds you well and happy!

Winter has already visited us, kind of ending our riding time, but we can always hope to see the snow melt and give us some more late fall trail time. Our projects have been completed for this year and all went well. Since I was not here for 6 weeks riding horses in in Mongolia, I missed the Annual Ravalli County Fair but understand that all of your volunteer work was greatly appreciated. I understand that our fair buildings have been spruced up to make them more comfortable and easier to work in. Also, money and tickets collected was much more efficient this year. Thank you all for your hard work. We did receive \$4000 for our efforts working the fair, which is our main fundraising project every year.

Now we will be heading into the holidays and hopefully visiting with family and friends. Halloween is behind us and we look forward to our annual Thanksgiving membership meeting on Thursday, November 16th at the Corvallis Elementary School Cafeteria. This is a different place than where we have been having our meetings. We will not be meeting at the Corvallis Grange anymore nor at the Corvallis High School Cafeteria where we had meetings in the past.

From now on, starting this month, our meetings will be held at the Corvallis Elementary School Cafeteria. This is right near the 4 way stop light in Corvallis. A map in this newsletter will give you directions on how to get there, where to park and what door to enter. Lots of folks have signed up to bring many traditional homemade dishes and we will have Turkeys and hams to accompany those goodies. Feel free to bring guests and family if they happen to be visiting!

There will be no guest speaker at this meeting. However, Dan Brandborg will be showing slide photos of our summer work projects. We will also be having our election of Officers, Board Members and State Representatives (see photos below). A fine slate of members stepped up to run. Ballots will be handed out at the meeting. If you cannot be present, you will still have the opportunity to vote via our website. Those votes will be counted and added to the live votes at the meeting. You may contact Bonnie Morgan or Nancy Pollman if you have questions on how to vote absentee. Those voted into office will begin their terms on January 1st, 2024. We hope you will take the time to vote for the candidates of vour choice.

Please remember that our meeting will be taking place in a brand-new facility – Corvallis Elementary School Cafeteria. I hope to see you at our annual Thanksgiving Meeting so we may all enjoy good food, good company and life's blessings.

Until then I remain, Your President Jan Bullock

Update on Joe Tenzer

Long-time member Joe Tenzer was recently transferred to the Skilled Nursing Unit at Discovery Care Center in Hamilton. He can be reached on his cell phone (406-241-3157) or via text to his daughter Joey Tenzer's cell

Pantry Partners Announcement

On Thursday, November 30, and Friday, December 1, the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen will be packing food boxes for Pantry Partners again this year. From 1 - 3 pm on Thursday, November 30, afternoon we will be assembling the boxes and setting the food items out on tables. We need 6 volunteers on Thursday to help with these phone (406-210-1743). She will get text messages to him. Cards can be sent to her address also: 183 Westside Road, Hamilton 59840. Joe would appreciate any form of contact from members who knew him.

tasks. From 9 - 10 am on Friday morning, December 1, we will be filling the boxes, sealing the boxes, and loading them in a trailer for delivery to Pantry Partners' facility. We need about 12 volunteers for these tasks. Sign-up sheets will be distributed at our General Membership meeting on Thursday, November 16.

2023 Committees	2023 Chairs & Members
Audit	Joe Kirkland, Shawn Kern, Judy Posey, Bonnie
	Morgan
Audio-Visual Equipment	Ed Bullock
Budget	Earl Philips/Gene Merrell
Education	Ed Duggan/Christy Schram-Duggan
Election & Nominations	Bonnie Morgan, Diane Duffie, Leslie Conner-
	Maiyo, Judy Posey
Equipment & Inventory	Ed Duggan
Fair	Christy Schram-Duggan
Advertising	Ed Bullock
RTP Grants	Dan Brandborg, Diane Duffie, Barb Walker
Historian	Tim Meyer
Issues	Carol Johns
Memberships	Leslie Conner-Maiyo
Newsletter	Dan Maiyo
Packing Clinic Scholarship	Chuck Miller
Parliamentarian	Rebecca Jones
Programs	Monica Stanton
Projects	Dan Brandborg
Social Marketing	Travise Grinnell
Sunshine	Cindy Beck
Trail Rides	Jan Bullock
Training	Bonnie Morgan
Website Design	Nancy Pollman

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen 2023 Officers & Board

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	Chapter Officers				
Position		Name	Term	Contact	
President		Jan Bullock	2023	(907) 242-9853	
Vice President		Christy Schram-Duggan	2023		
Secretary		Kathy Stroppel-Holl	2023		
Treasurer		Barbara Walker	2023		
Board Members Term		State Director	Term	BCHMT State Chairman	
Dan Brandbo	rg	2022-23	Brad Pollman	2022-23	Wade Murphy
Carol Johns		2022-23	Chuck Miller	2023-24	
Dan Maiyo		2022-23			
Karen Philips		2022-23	Alt. State Director		BCHMT National Director
Travise Grin	nell	2023-24	Ed Duggan	2023	Brad Pollman 2023-24
Joe Kirkand		2023-24			
Diane Duffie		2023-24	Past President		
Dennis Hard	lman	2023-24	Gene Merrell		
Brad Pollma	n	2023-24			

Candidates for 2024 President



Candidates for 2024 Vice President



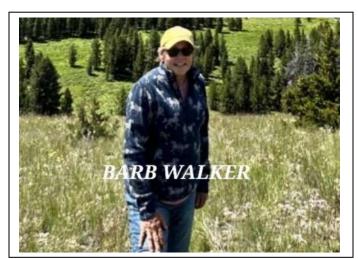


Candidate for 2024 Secretary



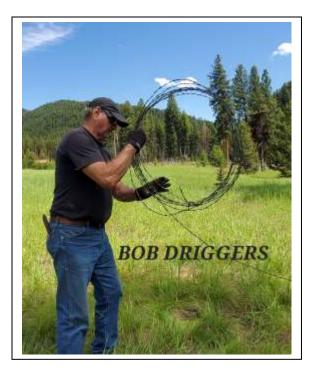


Candidate for 2024 Treasurer



Candidates for 2024 Alternate State Director





Candidates for 2024 Board of Directors



DAN BRANDBORG

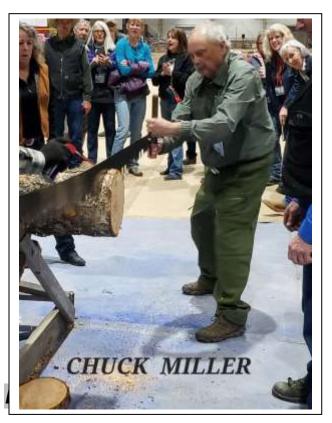




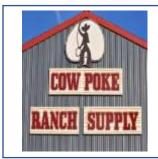




Candidate for 2024 State Director







We carry all your equine vaccination and deworming needs, plus a large supply of animal health products.

Visit us in Corvallis or Deer Lodge, on Facebook, or www.cowpokeranchsupply.com 406-961-4917 Monday – Friday 8 – 5:30 Saturday – 9 – 4

Editor's Note:

Apologies to all. Horse sense will return next month.

BACKCOUNTRY KITCHEN Sponsored By:



The Shirt Spot

1704 N 1st St Unit C Hamilton MT 59840 406-389-4096 The Shirt Spot is new to Montana since April 2023, but has over 20 years' experience in the industry! Services offered include printing, embroidery, sign banners, stickers and business cards. Quality clothing including tee's tank tops, and ladies crop tops are offered at a reasonable price. Also offered is a huge variety of headwear ready for embroidery!

DUTCH OVEN ROAST TURKEY Use deep dutch oven or larger depending on the turkey

- 1 small turkey
- 1 cup water
- 1 or 2 or 3 garlic cloves
- 1 tablespoon ground pepper
- 1 teaspoon thyme
- 1 teaspoon sage
- 1 onion
- 1 stock celery
- 2 or 3 pieces of bacon

Rinse turkey inside and out. Remove neck, giblets. Mix spices in a bowl and rub mixture inside and out of turkey. Cut onion, celery into large pieces, chop garlic: place inside turkey. Place bacon strips over breast, add enough water to steam or roast in moist heat. A tent can be place over the dude to prevent excess browning. Cook in hot dutch oven 20 minutes then reduce heat to 300 – 325 for 15 minutes per pound or until well done. Start with 14 coals on top and 10 on the bottom.

BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN (DRAFT) GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, OCTOBER 19TH 2023

The October 2023 general meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order by President Jan Bullock at 7:03 pm. The meeting was held at the Corvallis Grange. Approximately 35 members and 5 guests were present. There was not an officer quorum. Bonnie Morgan led the Pledge to start the meeting.

Guests: Joan Schaeffer's neighbors joined us. Judy Posey's sister and brother-in-law were visiting from Oregon.

PROGRAM

Kristin Mortenson, **DNRC/County Preparedness Fire Prevention Specialist:** Karen introduced the speaker, Kristen Mortenson, who works for the Dept. of Natural Resources Southwestern Land Office and is a member of the Fire in the Root Council. She spoke about wildfire preparedness from the homeowner, livestock owner, and recreational perspectives and provided guidance on evacuation planning. The Fire in the Root Council is a group whose mission is to promote and facilitate the long-term reduction of risk from wildfire, and adaptation to wildfire bv communities and residents throughout Ravalli County. Ian reminded evervone she is still the equine preparedness/evacuation coordinator for Ravalli County.

New Bitterroot National Forest (BNF) Staff: Mark Smith, BR Trails Specialist, introduced new BNF staff. From the West Fork district: Jake Long – Wilderness, Trails, and Outfitter/Guide Manager; Nikki Kupfner – Forest Animal Packer; Jai Lust – Wilderness Ranger; Erika Leister – Wilderness Ranger; and Sierra LaBonte – Trail Crew Leader. Not all of those mentioned were able to attend tonight's meeting.

BUSINESS

Minutes: The September minutes were printed in the October Nag News; there were no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Jan presented the October treasurer's report. There were no updates. The \$4,000 fair check has been received and deposited.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safety Moment: A reminder it's hunting season – wear orange on both humans and animals. A general safety reminder: Helen Engle shared that a friend found a male in her car in a local grocery parking lot.

Thanksgiving Meal Signup: The sign-up sheet was passed around. One more person is needed to cook a turkey. Members are reimbursed for the cost of the turkeys and ham.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Grants: Presented by Dan Brandborg. The grant committee will meet with USFS Mark Smith to determine which projects would work for available grants. The committee will coordinate with the USFS, MCC crew, contractors, and the Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation.

Issues: Presented by Carol Johns. The Holland Lake Lodge is no longer being developed; it is up for sale. A group is working with DEQ to obtain testing on the sewage lagoon into Holland Lake. Darby also needs to work with its sewage lagoon to prevent further eliminations into the Bitterroot River. Julie Schram mentioned that Wild Montana said the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Act is now out of committee and is on the Senate floor. There was discussion regarding categorical exclusions and associated comment timeframes in the Bitterroot and Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests.

Projects: There was no report.

State Directors: Presented by Brad Pollman. Both Chuck and Brad attended the State meeting in Deer Lodge in late September. Chuck Miller presented an excellent report to the directors. Most of the meeting time was spent on issues. There appears to be a weak spot in public lands issues from chapter to state level. Brad is chair of the public lands committee at the national level and will be working to rectify this. Overall Montana is in good shape. The Mile High and Upper Clark chapters will be working together to host the 2024 state convention, which will be held at Fairmont Hot Springs March 8-10, 2024. The State BCH newsletter was recently sent out. If you did not receive it, notify the membership chair to update your email address. Also, when renewing your membership application provide any updated contact information needed.

Education & Training: Presented by Bonnie Morgan. Brad Pollman hosted a trailer backing clinic last weekend that included discussion, along with a practical driving course. The size of the group was manageable with three attendees, all of whom arrived with full truck and trailer outfits. First aid/CPR training will be handled early in the season, with saw training hopefully in April/May 2024. **Membership:** Leslie reported there are currently 89 memberships and 140 members, which includes one new membership. Renewals have started for 2024. Any new memberships from now through year-end will cover 2024 membership. The annual membership drive will be held during the December meeting. Donations are being accepted.

Outreach: No report.

Program: There is no speaker for the Nov meeting as elections will be held. Jan Bullock has been asked to share stories from her trip to Mongolia during the December meeting.

Sunshine: If anyone knows of a member who needs a get well, congratulations, or condolence card, let Cindy Beck know. Cindy's email and phone number are listed in the chapter membership directory.

OLD BUSINESS

Fair Report: Presented by Christy Schram-Duggan. Christy provided a great breakdown on the stats from the fair. This year's fair was the largest in attendance yet. The chapter received a note of thanks from the Fair Board for all our work in preparing and manning the gates.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee: Bonnie thanked those participating and those who have volunteered to be a candidate. If interested in a position, please contact one of the committee members. Bonnie also noted each newsletter lists all of the committees and their chair. Some of those chairs are looking to pass the torch. If you're interested in being a chair or working on a committee, contact that chair.

Report for Volunteer Hours: Christy noted the volunteer hours report was turned into BCHMT and BCHA. Total mileage for this year: 8931 miles; this was about 2100 miles more than last year. Christy will provide the full breakdown of hours, etc. in the next newsletter.

Mileage Reimbursement: Christy turned in the project mileage reimbursement form to BCHMT.

Report to FS: Christy turned in the Forest Service report. BRBCH had 48 of our 140 members participate in projects this year.

Thank you + \$500 Cash Donation: Due to lack of a quorum, this topic was tabled to the next meeting.

Pantry Partners Food Pack: Gene Merrell will be leading this event. One day will be preparing the boxes and food; the next day will be the actual packing. Dates need to be confirmed but will be near the end of November. More details will be provided at the November meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: November 16 at the Corvallis Primary Cafeteria, potluck at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 pm. Directions and information on where to park and enter the building will be in next month's newsletter.

Coffee: Christy Schram-Duggan, hot water: Judy Posey

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Nancy Pollman (for Kathy Stroppel-Holl, Secretary BRBCH)

BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN (DRAFT) BOARD MEETING AGENDA, NOVEMBER 2ND, 2023

The November 2023 Board meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order at 7:02 pm by Jan Bullock. Present were President Jan Bullock, VP Christy Schram-Duggan, Treasurer Barb Walker, and Secretary Kathy Stroppel-Holl; Board members Dan Brandborg, Diane Duffie, Travise Grinnell, Dennis Hardman, Carol Johns, Joe Kirkland, Dan Maiyo, Karen Philips, and Brad Pollman (also State Director); Alt State Director Ed Duggan; and Past President Gene Merrell. Absent was State Director Chuck Miller. Gene led the Pledge.

Committee Chairs present: Bonnie Morgan, Leslie Conner-Maiyo

BUSINESS

Minutes: The October 2023 meeting minutes were published in the October Nag News – there were no updates. **Christy Schram-Duggan motioned and Travise Grinnell seconded to accept the minutes as published. The motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report: Barb provided the account balances. BCH MT dues are \$2,350 and will be sent on Dec 1. There were no questions on the report. **Karen Philips motioned and Christy Schram-Duggan seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion carried.** Gene asked how things stand relative to the budget. Barb noted some line items are over and some are under. The budget is \$100 currently under. Discussion proceeded on BCHA's need to increase national dues by \$5 and on the chapter making a donation to BCHA for 2023. Brad provided more information on this topic as to BCHA's needs for this increase. The Board discussed donating \$450 to BCHA for 2023, which would be included with the BCH MT dues. BCH MT would then send one check to BCHA to cover member national dues and chapter donations. Christy Schram-Duggan motioned and Karen Philips seconded to donate \$5 per membership from the chapter's savings account to go to BCH MT for the chapter's BCHA 2023 donation. There were 9 ayes and 3 nays. The motion passed. This will now go before the membership for approval at the Nov general meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Nov general meeting will be at the Corvallis Primary School lunchroom. Kathy will send a map of the school parking for the newsletter, and send the map to Leslie and Travise for them to email and post. Brad will have boards for Travise to put signs on for the meeting at the school.

Leslie is collecting Dec general meeting raffle items – she needs 25-30 items as there are no leftovers from the previous year. Dan M will contact Cowpoke, Leslie will contact Murdoch's, and Ed B will contact Getn' Western. Christy suggested talking to newsletter sponsors as well.

The cook trailer is currently located outside at the Maiyo's. A plea will be made to the membership requesting a covered storage space.

The SPWBCH invited BRBCH to a weenie roast on Sat, 11/4 at Lake Como, 11-4. Jan and Carol are attending.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Grants/Projects: The committee met and has narrowed the field to apply to 3 grants: RAC, RTP, and TSP (Trail Stewardship Program). The application process opened on Nov 1; will know of grant approval in Mar-Apr 2024. Dan B provided a slideshow of the proposed project areas. Project 1: A loop from Fred Burr to Mill Creek has been scouted. Bids will be obtained from contractors, at \$2/foot or about \$15k for the first mile. Multiple switchbacks up Fred Burr to the upper reservoir will be considered for the first grant cycle. The trail tread needs lots of work. This could be a multi-year project. Project 2: A loop up Big Creek thru an Idaho trail to connect to Bear Creek has been scouted. Proposing to use an MCC crew on 2 hitches to work the loop. The Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation (SBFC) is also looking to work this loop. Chuck Miller (who is on the SBFC Board) will discuss this project with the SBFC. They would like BRBCH pack support for their project. Brad noted that BRBCH is covered by the Region 1 agreement to work on the Idaho side. **Christy Schram-Duggan motioned and Brad Pollman seconded the Board approve the Bear Creek/Big Creek and Fred Burr switchbacks projects. The motion carried.** BRBCH has permission from the FS and private property owners to get driven up the access road to the Fred Burr lower reservoir. The original purpose of these trails was for reservoir access over 100 years ago and for fire protection 40-50 years ago. Dan B suggested putting together 2023 project photos for a slideshow, along with this grant projects slideshow, for a future winter general meeting to show some greenery!

Issues: Carol talked about shaded fuel breaks and where they will be done. She noted the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) definition will be modified, but it unknown how that will affect the projects. She asked if it would be worthwhile to show members a map of what will happen and where to let folks know how a project may affect trail use. She will talk with Jacqui Parks at the FS for help on this. It was thought a map would be useful for the members.

State Directors: See the BCHA donation discussion under the Treasurer's Report.

Membership: Leslie provide a list of new and renewal memberships to approve. These were discussed. **Brad Pollman motioned and Travise Grinnell seconded to accept the new and renewal memberships as presented. The motion carried.** For 2023, there are 91 memberships and 144 members.

Outreach: No report.

Program: There is no Nov program speaker as elections will be conducted. Jan Bullock will speak at the Dec meeting about her Mongolia trip. Dan B may speak in Jan or Feb about the grants projects. Other winter meeting speakers include the FS talking about shaded fuel breaks, and Ted Hall speaking about the Lewis & Clark descent trail. A student who went on the 2023 summer UM class pack trip with Eva Maggi is another potential speaker.

Education & Training: Training is done for the year. Dennis asked about group trail rides on the places where projects are performed. More effort should be made in 2024 to offer this, especially to new members. Leslie suggested doing an introductory trail work ride around the fairgrounds; Bonnie noted this would also work in DHS training. Dan M suggested that after DHS, it would be good to expose riders/horses to other riders in a controlled area. He talked about sending out a questionnaire to members asking

about why they do/do not work on projects. This will be discussed at the next board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Nominating Committee: Bonnie thanked the committee for all the calls and contacts. She passed out the example ballot, which has folks running for all positions – 4 Board, 4 Officers, 4 Directors, 1 State Director, and 1 Alt State Director. She will talk to Nancy about putting the ballot on the website. Discussion ensued on what to do about ties; Bonnie will look into this potential issue.

Thanksgiving Meal Signup: The list was passed around to catch any remaining signups.

NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Santa: The Hamilton Downtown Association emailed their request for the Cowboy Santa at Tree Lighting. Ed B is willing to do this again if it is safe to do so – he may walk the horse if there are icy conditions. Tree Lighting is on the Friday after Thanksgiving, 11/24.

Pantry Partners Food Pack: The St Mary Family Center is reserved for Thu, Nov 30 to build boxes and organize food items. Box packing will be Fri, Dec 1. A signup sheet will be passed around at the Nov general meeting. There will be 240 boxes packed. Gene will provide info to Dan M for the newsletter.

BRBCH Constitution Review in 2024: It has been 10 years since the constitution was last updated. A committee will be formed to pursue this activity in early 2024. Brad is interested.

OTHER BUSINESS

Budget: Gene discussed that budget building time is approaching. Folks need to think about what

might be needed that isn't normal in the budget and should be taken into consideration. Budget info is needed by early January.

Donation Clarification from Oct Board Meeting: Jan asked for a clarification of the donation approved at the Oct Board meeting since she was not there. Karen explained that Ed, Christy, and the gates crew did major modifications at the fair gates. She said a one-time donation was deserved as a show of appreciation for the extra time and expense they put in. Brad explained his support of this donation as the fair gates committee members are mostly working families who took time off work as opposed to retired folks who handled it in the past. Jan noted she need to know where this comes out of the budget - is it a donation or reimbursement. She wants to relay the info correctly to the membership, without alienating anyone. Leslie noted this big thank you was for a special activity that serves our major fundraiser. The committee took it upon themselves to improve the stations that the members use to work the fair. Christy explained how and where funds were used from both BRBCH and from the fairgrounds to cover expenses. Dan B noted that this donation is 1/4 of the fair volunteer income. Gene discussed where the funds will come from since this item was not budgeted. Brad suggested moving \$500 from the Capital Fund to cover this expenditure. Jan will present this to the general membership.

Travise Grinnell motioned and Diane Duffie seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm. The motion carried.

Kathy Stroppel-Holl, Secretary BRBCH

DEADLINE FOR NAG NEWS is Thursday, December 13th SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES AND ADS TO:

djmaiyo@gmail.com

Wishing You All a Wonderful Thanksgiving!

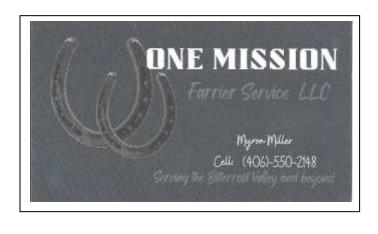


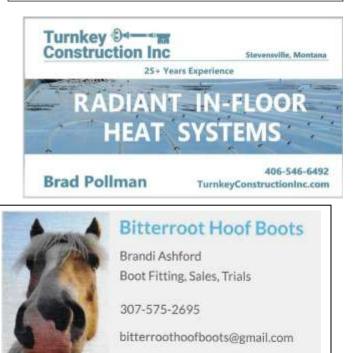












Check us out on Facebook!



Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen



NEXT BRBCH MEETING

Thursday, November 16th 2023

Location: Corvallis Elementary School Cafeteria Dinner 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