



# Nag News

Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen

September 2025 Issue #9



## 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, SEPTEMBER 18th, 2025 MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING**

**CORVALLIS HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

The next General Meeting will be at the new Corvallis High School cafeteria. We will park at the Corvallis School District Administration building parking lot (formerly the REC building) and walk through a gate to a bright blue building (to the west). The door to the building is also on the west. We'll put some signs out to help you find your way.

Our guest speaker this month is our own Gene Merrell; "**28 Years On The Chief Joseph Trail Ride**". For more information contact Brad Pollman: 406-546-6491. Check out our website at: [www.bchmt.org/bitterroot](http://www.bchmt.org/bitterroot) or Facebook: **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen**.

### **THIS ISSUE**

P. 2. Presidents message, Chain Saw Recertification Clinic  
P. 3. Election info for 2026 Officers and Board  
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Pp.5.-6. Draft Board Meeting Minutes.  
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P.9. Officers and Board  
P.10. Advertisers  
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### **Editor's Note:**

#### **Newsletter:**

Beginning 2026 I will be looking for a volunteer to take over or assist me with this newsletter. I've been your editor since 2022. Some experience with Microsoft Word and Publisher is desirable. I will be pleased to work with you in the transition. Call Dan if you need more information.

(208) 940-2887 cell/text

### **A Note from Gene Merrell:**

#### **28 Years on the Chief Joseph Trail Ride**

The Chief Joseph Trail Ride (CJTR) has been an important aspect of my life. This presentation will give a brief overview of the Why and What of the CJTR and illustrate a typical day. I hope this and a few key highlights from my 28 years will demonstrate what kept me returning year after year.

**Thank you to Christy, Ed and all the volunteers for your wonderful work helping out at the Fair!**

**It was a huge success!**

### **DEADLINE FOR NAG NEWS**

**Friday, Oct 10th**

**SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES &  
ADS TO:**

[djmaiyo@gmail.com](mailto:djmaiyo@gmail.com)

## A Message from the President

Hello, Everybody!

I hope you all have had a good summer, as Fall is starting to show us it's just around the corner.

We survived another fair. Things were a little challenging with the new system. I, along with Christy and Ed, attended the Fair Committee's meeting this week. I think we can work through some changes in the gates for next year and tweak the ticket sales program so next year can be easier, smoother, and quicker than this year. A HUGE THANK YOU to Christy, Ed, and their crew!

We are wrapping up the work projects and the annual reports this week. Anything we do from here on out will be counted on next year's reports.

This year has been challenging with our public lands, and I suspect next year will be the same as we move forward with all the agencies' changes in managing our public lands. Please keep opening the emails that ask you to comment on the rules and policy changes that negatively affect our mission in keeping the trails open for equine use. If you have any questions on how to comment or what position BCH is taking on an issue, please don't hesitate to call me.

Looking forward to our first meeting at the new Corvallis High School cafeteria. Basically, we'll be parking in the lot south of the District Office building (the old REC building), then walking out the back to the newer blue metal building (to the west). The door to the building is also on the west. We'll put some signs out to help you find your way.

See you Thursday,  
Brad Pollman  
President, BR BCH

## Chainsaw Recertification Clinic

Some of you have been notified via email because your chainsaw certification either expired in 2025 or will in 2026. A recertification clinic will be held **Saturday, October 4**, location TBD. Expect it to take at least half a day. This clinic is for recerts only. Saw certs are good for 3 years. We're offering this class this fall because with covid we got backed up.

If you are interested in assisting with chainsaw needs on next year's work projects, **please reply to Brad via email** ([bpollman20@gmail.com](mailto:bpollman20@gmail.com)) to sign up for the class. This will ensure you're certified and ready before next year's projects begin. At this time it is unknown when the next clinic will take place.

**For those with an "A" certification** -- "A" certs are given to beginners. It provides an opportunity to practice with at least a "B" sawyer with them, with the expectation that by the time you're ready to recert that you have gained the experience needed to pass to the "B" level. If you haven't done any practice since your original "A" cert, you may want to reconsider keeping a chainsaw certification. I may renew your "A" one more time if you're serious about continuing your saw training and education.

**Must be current in First Aid to participate.** Visit our website to verify your chainsaw and first aid status. The direct link is:

<https://bchmt.org/wp/bitterroot/check-your-training/>



**Ravalli Sheriff's Posse during the Fair!**

## Elections for 2026 Officers and Board Members

September is the month we contact you to ask whether you can contribute a bit of your time to help keep the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen functioning effectively in 2026. We appreciate your interest in the club and our mission and wanting to be a part of who we are. In November we will elect four board members, a representative and alternate representative to the state association, a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Several of our members have served in multiple capacities and are willing to help get you up to speed in your new role. Please talk to any of the current officers and board directors if you have questions about the time commitment or duties. Also, consider co-campaigning for the secretary position with a friend. It reduces the work for each of you!

### The following are the job descriptions of each position, as per our constitution:

**President:** It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the organization, to exercise general control over the affairs of said organization, to call special meetings of the organization and of its Board and to perform all other duties pertaining to such office. The president may co-sign checks for the disbursement of funds.

**Vice President:** The Vice President shall assist the President when called upon to do so and in the absence of the President shall be vested with all the powers and duties of the President. The Vice President may co-sign checks for the disbursement of funds.

**Secretary:** The Secretary shall record and keep minutes of regular, Board, and special meetings, shall be responsible for the preparation of correspondence on behalf of the organization, shall maintain a file of correspondence sent and received for organizational records and shall perform those duties as pertain to this office and/or special instructions from the Board.

**Treasurer:** The treasurer shall collect dues, shall maintain an up-to-date register or roll of members for the purpose of organizational business, notices, etc., shall keep and disburse funds of the organization and shall keep a written account of same which shall be open for inspection by any member in good standing, shall furnish

a written report of the state of the finances monthly and shall be one of the three check signers of record.

**Board of Directors:** The Board shall manage and execute the affairs of the organization as directed by the membership at large. When the general membership is not in session the Board shall have the authority to take actions necessary to carry on the business of the organization.

**State Directors:** (The job description is not listed in the constitution) Attend State BCHMT meetings and report back to the Board and General Membership. Take any concerns the club has to the meeting.

Also, we have **committee positions** to fill, such as a new editor for our newsletter. While not everyone can do the actual trail clearing or who aren't ready to step into elected positions, there are other ways you can be an active part of the club without the physical aspect that trail work requires and might be a better fit for your unique abilities. Sharing the leadership is always helpful. We hope that you can find a place to make the load lighter for all.

### Committees:

**Audit, Advertising, Audio-Visual Equipment Budget, Election and Nominations, Equipment and Inventory, Fair, Grants, Historian, Issues, Long Term Planning, Membership, Newsletter, Outreach, Parliamentarian, Pleasure rides, Programs, Social Events, Sunshine, Training, Website.**

Thank you for joining the club and sharing your unique skills to help us accomplish our mission while meeting great equine enthusiastic folks and enjoying our beautiful Bitterroot valley. Please let one of the members of the Nomination Committee know if you might be interested in a position or need more information about the commitment. Thank you!

The Nomination Committee:

Bonnie Morgan [mrgnbnn@gmail.com](mailto:mrgnbnn@gmail.com) 406-381-9021

Julie Schram [dbarjranch@aol.com](mailto:dbarjranch@aol.com) 406-241-1776

Diane Duffy [dduffie@earthlink.net](mailto:dduffie@earthlink.net) 707-529-8284

**BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN**  
**DRAFT GENERAL MEETING MINUTES,**  
**AUGUST 21st, 2025**

The August 2025 general meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order by President Brad Pollman at 7:12 p.m. The meeting was held at the Rock Creek Horse Camp, Lake Como. Approximately 19 members were present, along with guest and former member Dan Nelson. There was a board quorum. All members led the Pledge to start the meeting.

**PROGRAM**

**County Fair Gates, Christy Schram-Duggan:** Christy mentioned three past fair volunteers who won't be able to help this year due to health issues: they are Harry Thorning, Kathy Harris and Ron Sanguin. Get well and thank you cards were circulated for them. She reported the following about the fair: We are using laptops instead of tablets. The company providing the software is also providing the equipment needed. BRBCH is the "first face" at the fair. Tickets are the same price as last year and can be purchased online. Ticket sellers will print QR tickets for folks paying at the gate, for day and season tickets. Ticket takers will use a QR scanner to scan tickets and stamp visitors. They will mark across one of the QR codes on season tickets. Ticket sale reconciliation forms are updated for this year. Volunteers work 4 hours, get in that same day free, and get a ticket for another day. Friends and family are welcome to volunteer. Volunteers have to fill out a background check – this is primarily for liability. The form can be found online and dropped off at the fairgrounds office. Every gate has shade and seats for the ticket takers. Thursday will be sensory day again with no lights or sound in the carnival – entry is at the south and west gates. North gate is where Saturday morning's live auction buyers will enter and fill out a form indicating how many are in their party. They don't pay for tickets to get in. Christy emphasized that vendors must enter through the west gate and exit through the north gate; this is to provide a quick exit in case of emergencies. Mounted shooting takes place Saturday. Artists come in on Thursday. Local checks only are accepted. Christy will have Barb send an email ASAP to members specifying slots still open and help needed.

**BUSINESS**

**Minutes:** The July minutes were printed in the Nag News. There were no corrections. **Bonnie Morgan motioned and Mary Odell seconded to accept the July general meeting minutes as printed. Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Elaine presented the August treasurer's report. There were no questions. **Gene Merrell motioned and Mike Batnick seconded to accept the August treasurer's report. Motion carried.**

**Correspondence/Announcements:**

Update on Chuck Miller: Brad reported that he and Dennis visited Katie Miller, Chuck's daughter, to evaluate the hay and critter situation. Brad visited Chuck at the rehab center and said that Chuck is home now. Helpers are coming in and appointments are being set up for Chuck. He thinks clearly and but has trouble communicating. Chuck will decide how

much hay will be needed.

BRBCH PR cards: Brad encouraged members to carry them on rides to share with the public and Barb circulated them to members.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**State Directors:** Brad reported that the next state board meeting takes place at Deer Lodge on Sept. 20. Sponsorship and donation requests for the BCH display at the National Museum of Forest Service History in Missoula are ongoing. BCHA is trying to collect \$25,000 to contribute to this effort. Our chapter's goal is to raise \$500 from members.

**Training:** Bonnie Morgan updated members on the status of saw recertifications for our chapter. This training schedule is being arranged by Brad. Mark, Travise, Ed and Brad are trainers.

**Membership:** Barb Walker reported that there are currently 68 memberships and 107 members.

**Outreach:** Karen Philips requested members who have photos from trail projects with good resolution to send them to her. She will use one or two of them on notecards to be printed and used in 2026.

**Projects:** Christy reported for Ed that the project committee meets Sept. 2, 6:30, and they will review all project reports. Christy will help everyone with the information needed for the final report.

**Program:** Barb reported for Pam Ristad. Gene will present information on his 28<sup>th</sup> Nez Perce Trail Ride at our September 18 meeting. Pam is asking project leaders to present summaries of their projects, hopefully at the October 16 meeting.

**Public Lands:** Brad reported on the reorganization by USDA of the Forest Service's nine regional offices into five hubs. There was enough pushback from the public on this proposal that USDA is opening up a public comment period. Saw certification is one example of a problem with no regional certifiers. That affects our ability to get our members certified. Another point made is that the locations of these hubs are proposed in states with very few national forests, and none in states like Montana with many national forests. A letter is being written by Randy Rasmussen, BCHA's Public Lands & Recreation Director, to address these potential and actual problems. Members can submit individual letters too. This issue is ongoing and could last for a year or more.

**Nominating committee:** Bonnie, Julie, and Diane are committee members, and they will contact our chapter members in September asking them to step up and run for positions. Four board positions are open, along with officers and state directors. Dan Maiyo said if he got an assistant to help with the newsletter he would continue as editor longer.

**Sunshine:** If a member needs a get well, congratulations, or condolence card, let Jenna Wright know.

**Continued next page**



## August 21st General Meeting Minutes continued

### OLD BUSINESS

None.

### NEW BUSINESS

None

### OTHER BUSINESS

**Next Meeting:** September 18 at the Corvallis High School Cafeteria, a new location. Brad and Dennis Hardman checked out this new venue beforehand. We will park at the Corvallis School District Administration building parking lot (formerly the REC building) and walk through a gate to a bright blue building. More detailed directions and a map will go out to the membership before the meeting. Potluck at 6:30, meeting at 7:00 pm, with coffee provided by Karen Philips and hot water by Diane Duffie.

**October 16 meeting beverages:** Coffee – Diane Duffie and hot water – Christy Schram-Duggan

**Dan Maiyo motioned and Diane Duffie seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Karen Philips, Co-Secretary BRBCH

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### BITTER ROOT BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN DRAFT BOARD MEETING MINUTES, SEPT 4th 2025

The September 2025 Board meeting of the Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen (BRBCH) was called to order by Brad Pollman at 7:01 pm at the Daly-Leach Community Room. Present were President Brad Pollman, Vice-President Dennis Hardman, Treasurer Elaine Driskell, and Co-Secretaries Karen Philips and Kathy Stroppel-Holl; Directors Diane Duffie, Lionel Lavallee, Mary Odell, Joan Scheffer, Julie Schram, Christy Schram-Duggan, Barb Walker, and Mark Wright; Absent were Director Chris Carrera, State Director Ed Duggan, and Alt. State Director Chuck Miller. There was a Board quorum. Committee chairs and members present: Bonnie Morgan and Dan Maiyo. All led the Pledge.

### BUSINESS

**Minutes:** The August 2025 Board minutes were published in the Nag News. There were no changes. **Mary Odell motioned and Joan Scheffer seconded to accept the August minutes as published. The motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Elaine Driskell provided account balances for CDs, checking, and savings. The fair check of \$4500 arrived. There were no questions. **Christy Schram-Duggan motioned and Diane Duffie seconded to accept the September treasurer's report. The motion carried.**

### CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank You's for Fair Volunteers:** Brad will call and Karen will write thank you's to the fair volunteers. Karen pre-ordered cards last year to use this year. She will have more

cards printed with a new photo. Brad noted that Nancy can help with the cards.

**Equine and Livestock Land Steward Needs & Challenges Survey:** Karen provided a QR code for anyone interested in taking the survey.

Chuck is still recovering from recent falls and will be in rehab. Brad will provide info on where Chuck is staying. The family needs help fostering a 38-yr-old mule and young horse for the winter – Dennis and Diane will take them.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Projects:** Christy said Ed is prepping for an upcoming Mill Creek irrigation district trail trip. Dates are needed for submitting the mileage reimbursement, although it is not expected to be covered this year. Brad is taking the individual project reports to summarize for the end-of-year project report for Board review as Christy and Ed will be out of town in late September. After it is presented to the Board for approval, it will be sent to USFS and BCH MT. Folks need to start thinking about 2026 projects to discuss in Nov. BRBCH will handle closing Twogood Cabin on Oct 17. Discussion ensued on projects that could be submitted for the grant committee to pursue, such as Crazy Creek campground improvements.

**Fair:** Christy reported \$233K in ticket sales came through the gates and with online ticket sales added, the total ticket sales were \$292K (more than 2024). BRBCH got a big thank you from Melissa and the fair board for how the gate volunteers interacted with the public. Christy helped debug the software for the new QR code tickets. There is a meeting on Sept 9, at 6pm at the fair ground office to discuss issues. May need to increase the number of ticket takers over ticket sellers to handle ticket scanning. The north gate has a large amount of traffic in and out. Exit gates are needed for the north and south gates. The fair board, commissioner, and Melissa learned just how much work overseeing the gates entails. The Board gave Christy a round of applause for her work.

**Membership:** One family membership renewal for the Ashfords was presented. **Joan Scheffer motioned and Julie Schram seconded to approve the renewal membership. The motion passed.** There are 109 members and 69 memberships.



Continued next page

## Board Minutes Continued

**State Directors:** Brad noted there is a State Board meeting on Sept 20. There is a last call for USFS Museum chapter donations. Send personal donations (made out to BRBCH and note on memo line as donation for museum) to Elaine. She will send one check to BCH MT for the chapter members' donation. The Board was not asked to vote on making a donation from the chapter funds. Instead, members were asked at past general meetings to make a personal donation if they were interested. It was thought that it could cause conflict and questions with some members as it's a grey area in regards to how it meets the BCH mission. There was further discussion on how the chapter's funds are earmarked and used, and whether the chapter could use its funds for the museum donation. A request to use chapter funds could be brought to the members after the state meeting, if more funding is needed for the museum. **Mark Wright motioned and Julie Schram seconded to send a seconded motion from the Board to the members for the chapter to donate \$1,000 for the USFS museum. The motion carried with two nays.** Mark will help present this seconded motion from the Board to the members at the September meeting.

**Training:** Bonnie said the need for saw re-certification is still pending. She will bring it up at the September general meeting. The training date is TBD.

**Outreach:** Karen is submitting news releases to the Bitterroot Star for recurring meetings and another release for the monthly program.

**Public Lands:** Brad spoke about the recent letter BCHA sent to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture regarding the reorganization of the USFS. The comment period opened on the Roadless Rule and ends on Friday, Sept 19 – BCHA is not taking a stand at this time. Individuals can make comments under their own name, and can use the Wild Montana's web link if they need help on what to say.

**Nominating:** Bonnie noted the committee sent out a letter and have had a few interested responses. She went through the list of the board members whose terms are expiring and whether they would re-up. The protocol is that every office and position is open to anyone to run. She will have a list of nominations ready for the October meeting.

**Long-Term Planning:** Brad said he and a few other members are on the committee. Julie, Brandi, Dennis, and Bonnie are on the committee. He expects the group to start meeting in January. Brad would like other equine users such as the Saddle Tramps and Bitterroot Equine Facebook group to also be involved.

**Website:** Nancy would like someone to work with her to train and serve as backup. Send her any changes or corrections you may find on the website.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Fall Meeting Location:** General meetings will be held at the Corvallis High School cafeteria starting in September. Directions and signage will be provided. The signed contract has been submitted. The Oct 16 date is not available, so Brad will

check on the availability of the Daly-Leach room.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Audit Committee:** Barb, Kathy, and Joe or Nancy will be on the committee. Barb will check with Joe as to whether he would like to do the audit again.

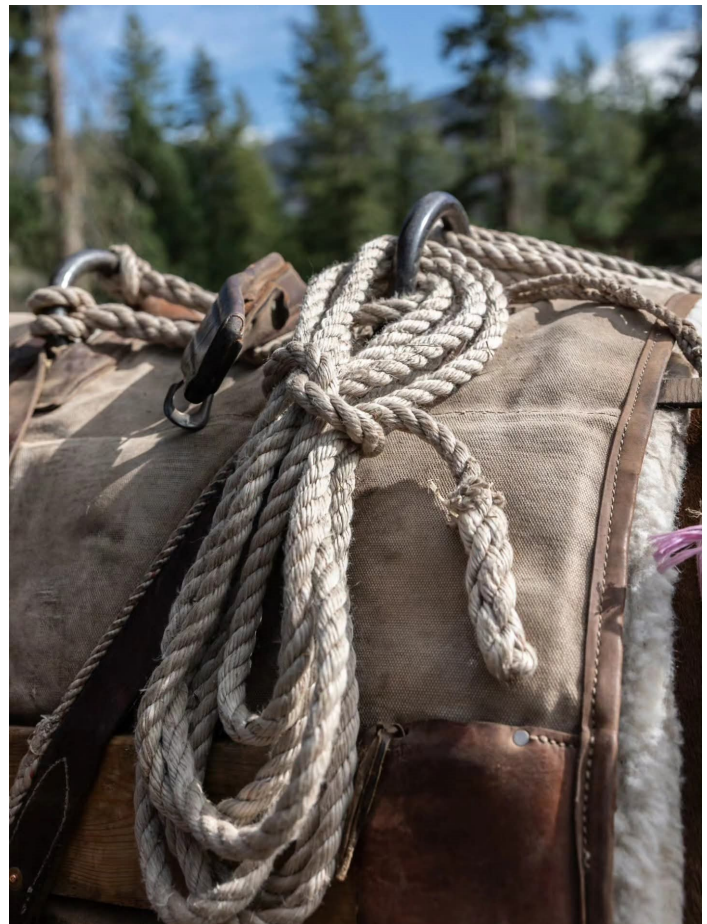
**Debit Card Use:** Brad discussed debit card use and general spending procedures. Only the UPS store, Garmin, Quicken, and McAfee have the card on file for automatic payments. It will not be on file with any other company. It is not on file with Allegra, who sends a bill. The UPS store can provide a copy of the bill to the person making the order with that person's signature on it. Brad will discuss the situation with the UPS store. Elaine is concerned with potential issues having the card on file with the UPS store.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Steve Greer donated old, outdated fire blankets, which Brad has stored. They can be used under Dutch ovens or as ground protection for small campfires. He will bring some to the general meeting and the rest to the state meeting to give away.

**Julie Schram motioned and Diane Duffie seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.** The meeting ended at 8:47 pm.

Kathy Stroppel-Holl, Co-Secretary BRBCH



## Horse Sense - Sponsored By:



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](http://www.cowpokeranchsupply.com)  
406-961- 4917 Monday-Friday 8 – 5:30 Saturday–9 – 4:00

### Hoof Function in Movement Part 2 of 2 Continued From August Newsletter by Sue Stuska Ed.D Nov. 2005 Eclectic Horseman magazine

The horse's hoof is an amazing structure. Understanding how it works will help us make good shoeing and trimming decisions in cooperation with the farrier.

**Shoeing.** Shoeing is a necessary evil. It would be desirable if horses could go barefoot all the time, but this is sometimes impractical and/or impossible.

Shoes are needed to keep the hoof from wearing down faster than it can grow. In the wild, a horse who wore his hooves too short would get sore and would move around less until they grew out. But we ask our horses to work more than the hooves can keep up. We also ask our horses to work in rough footing where the bare foot cannot protect itself. Shoes raise the sole off rocky surfaces and keep the walls from chipping.

Plus, horses don't always have ideal hooves—some have cracks, weak shelly walls, or are recovering from an injury. If your horse doesn't have strong hoof walls, it may be from genetics or from the environment. Be sure to feed him the nutrients he needs (check with your farrier and veterinarian to see if a nutritional supplement like biotin is needed to grow stronger hooves). Secondly, apply any topical treatment indicated (hoof dressing popularity seems to go in cycles, and need is also determined by how often you wash your horse's legs and if he's in a dew-to-dry environment).

When you shoe, keep natural function in mind. Wide web (wide from inside to outside) shoes are generally considered better at supporting the horse's weight across the walls and inward past the white line. (The white line is actually gray or yellow in color and is the grown-out border between sensitive and insensitive tissues.) Wide web shoes should not contact the sole; the sole should be trimmed up or the shoes beveled down. The shoe should allow the toe to dig into the ground—except in the rocks where it would not anyway. Shoes generally have four nail holes on each side; if the horse's hoof will allow it, the farrier will generally use the front three holes. This allows the heel—from the widest part of the quarter back—to expand when the horse steps down. Most farriers will fit shoes wide in this area for the same reason—when the horse steps down, the hoof wall will slide out but still be supported by the shoe. When you look down at the newly

shod hoof, you will see a little shoe showing from the widest part of the quarters to the heels. Horses working on rocky ground benefit from the sole being left (not trimmed). This gives the horse more protection.

**Trimming Necessary.** Regular trimming is necessary, regardless of whether the horse is shod or barefoot. It's best for your horse's limb and hoof health, easiest to fit into your routine, and helps your farrier take the best possible care of your horse. Work with your farrier to schedule regular trims.

The shod hoof must be trimmed regularly, even if the shoes are not worn out. Shoes with enough wear left may be used more than once, or "reset." The shoes have kept the toe from wearing off, so it will grow too long. Hopefully the horse receives care before this, but if not, the toe will carry the shoe forward. At this point, the heels of the shoe press on the "seat of corn," which is the corner of the buttress—and the place most prone to painful corns. When the shoe puts pressure on this part of the ground surface of the hoof, the hoof may show a reddening (bruising) and the horse may go lame. If the shoe is left on too long, the friction of nail head against shoe and the decreasing thickness of the shoe from wear will cause the nail clinches (turned over parts on the hoof wall) to rise. Clinches that stick out may cut another limb when the legs brush past each other. If the shoe loosens and twists, it can wound another limb. If the shoe is loose and gets pulled off, part of the wall may be broken off.

The shod and unshod hoof will both be increasingly out of balance as the toe grows. This can exacerbate conformational and/or movement problems, stress the flexor tendons, and cause joint problems leading to arthritic changes; sometimes referred to as "navicular".

**Shoeing Time-Out.** If your horse has very tough hooves and/or works on soft footing only, he may be able to go barefoot all the time. Other working situations allow horses to go barefoot behind. If you have a season when you don't ride as often or as far, your horse's hooves will benefit from some time without shoes. Going barefoot allows the hooves to go back to their most natural expansion mode. Your farrier will likely trim differently for barefoot than for shoeing; barefoot horses should have a little longer wall left on to maintain the natural concavity.



## BACKCOUNTRY KITCHEN SPONSORED BY:



### The Shirt Spot

1704 N 1<sup>st</sup> St Unit C  
Hamilton MT 59840

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!

## CHICKEN CHILE RELLENOS

### Ingredients:

#### TOASTED RED PEPPER SAUCE

4 red bell peppers, roasted, peeled seeded & chopped.  
3/4 cup red onion, chopped.

4 garlic cloves roasted.

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

1 T sugar

1 T hot sauce

1 tsp. ground mustard

1/2 tsp. chili powder

1/2 tsp. cajun seasoning

1/8 tsp. black pepper

1/2 cup olive oil

#### CHILE RELLENO

4 Poblano pepper, roasted, peeled & seeded

2 cup chicken, cooked and chopped

1 cup cooked corn

8 oz. Monterey Jack cheese, shredded

8 oz cream cheese

2 T cilantro, chopped

2 tsp. lime juice

1/2 tsp. ground cumin

1/4 tsp. chili powder

### FRY BATTER

1 cup all-purpose flour

3/4 cup rice flour

1/2 tsp salt

1/2 tsp baking powder

12 oz. beer or club soda

1/3 cup corn starch

Peanut oil for frying

### DIRECTIONS

**Sauce:** Blend all ingredients except oil until smooth. Slowly add oil while blender is running until emulsified. Strain, refrigerate.

**Chile Rellenos:** Combine all filling ingredients in a bowl. Stuff each roasted poblano with 1/4 of the filling mixture. Secure with toothpicks.

**To Fry:** Heat oil to 375 degrees in large Dutch Oven. Whisk together 5 fry batter ingredients. Dip chile in corn starch and then batter. Drop one at a time into oil, fry 4-6 minutes or until golden brown. Place on a pan with wire rack and keep warm in 200 degree oven.

Drizzle with red pepper sauce and serve.

**Exclusively at the Shirt Spot!** Embroidered Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen logo on in-stock vests and jackets or a vest/jacket of your own choice. Personnel Wyoming Traders vest shown. Custom thread color available. Inquire for pricing. Caps offered in a variety of styles and colors! \$25/cap or \$20/each/10 caps. **Tell the Shirt Spot that you saw this notice in this newsletter! Show your support for our BCH Chapter!**





<b>2025 Committees</b>	<b>2025 Chairs &amp; Members</b>
Audit	(Changes Annually) 2025: Barb Walker, Joe Kirkland, Elaine Driskell
Audio-Visual Equipment	Dennis Hardman, Travise Grinnell
Budget	(Changes Annually) 2025: Gene Merrell, Earl Phillips
Election & Nominations	(Changes Annually)
Equipment & Inventory	Ed Duggan, Chuck Miller
Fair	Christy Schram-Duggan
Grants	Brandi Ashford
Historian	Tim Meyer
Issues	Carol Johns, Kathy Stroppel-Holl
Long-Term Planning	(Volunteer Needed)
Membership	Barb Walker
Advertising	Virginia DeLeo
Newsletter	Dan Maiyo
Outreach	Travise Grinnell
Parliamentarian	Joan Scheffer
Pleasure Rides	Pam Ristad, Candice Erickson
Programs	Pam Ristad
Projects	Ed Duggan
Social	(Volunteer Needed)
Sunshine	Jenna Wright
Training	Bonnie Morgan
Website	Nancy Pollman

### **Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen Officers and Board**

<b>Chapter officers</b>				
<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Contact</b>	
President	Brad Pollman	2025	406-546-6491	
Vice President	Dennis Hardman	2025	307-699-1679	
Secretary	Kathy Stroppol-Holl/Karen Phillips	2025	Kathy 720-244-2943, Karen 406-369-0725	
Treasurer	Elaine Driskell	2025	916-698-8544	
<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>State Directors</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>BCHMT State Chairman</b>
Diane Duffie	2024-25	Ed Duggan	2025-26	Mack Long
Mark Wright	2024-25	Brad Pollman	2024-25	
Lionel Lavallee	2024-25	<b>Alt. State Director</b>		<b>BCHMT Vice State Chairman</b>
Joan Scheffer	2024-25	Chuck Miller	2025	Sandy Himmel
Chris Carrera	2025-26	<b>BCHMT National Directors</b>		<b>Alt. National Director</b>
Mary Odell	2025-26	Brad Pollman		John Chepulis
Julie Schram	2025-26	Connie Long		
Christy Schram –Duggan	2025-26			
Barb Walker	2025-26			
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		Jan Bullock		

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# Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen



## NEXT BRBCH MEETING

Thursday, September 18th 2025

New Corvallis High School Cafeteria

Dinner at 6:30pm    Meeting at 7:00pm

Visit our Website:

[bchmt.org/bitterroot](http://bchmt.org/bitterroot)

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