

Welcome to the Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen, a chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of Montana. The Montana BCH web site is <http://www.bchmt.org/> where you will find information on our chapter and other chapters in the state of Montana.

You have received the new member packet loaded with information, the club's latest newsletter, the 2008 schedule of events, the most recent roster, an application should you wish to bring another friend to join, and a decal to place on your horse trailer, if you so choose. Each month you will receive a newsletter which welcomes articles from members. You will also be notified of any changes to events or new activities as they come about or as needed by email.

We are a busy club with many activities. We hold our monthly meeting every 3rd Thursday at the Belgrade Alliance Church and present a program before our meeting, sometimes holding a wild-game potluck supper.

We have our trail rides beginning in April and on through to Fall, ending with our elk bugle ride.



We especially take pride in our trail maintenance and our crews as they work alongside the Forest Service. We keep the trails open and in good condition. Some of the best horse training comes about when participating in trail maintenance.

At present, some riders are enjoying riding and having lessons from one of our members. This is being held at the Fairgrounds and this member has horses for rent for these occasions for those that do not as yet have a horse.



For the past two years we have sponsored a very successful and educational Defensive Horsemanship Clinic free to members and to the public.

Each year in early July the club has its annual Poker Ride, riding out of Bridger Bowl. This is our main fund raiser held yearly. This Poker Ride has had over 180 riders with young and old participating and coming from far and wide. This participation is due to our great prizes donated by local businesses and our members as listed on the back cover of our newsletter.

Again, we welcome you. We hope to have you on our rides, working on trails, and participating in our club activities. This is a volunteer organization and we hope you will be able to volunteer in helping to keep our great club alive and growing.



Back Country Horsemen Mission Statement

"The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana's road less back country and (2) to assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource and (3) to educate and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses and people, commensurate with our heritage and the back country's resource."