

# Mission Valley Back Country Horsemen

## Autumn



## 2014



## Please join us for Oktoberfest.



**Tuesday - October, 7th 6:00pm**

**Pot Luck Dinner and Presentations**

**~ Ronan VFW Hall - Round Butte Road ~**



The Mission Valley Back Country Horsemen invite you and your friends to celebrate the harvest season with a meal and a movie in combination with our General October meeting.

- Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Members of MVBCH will provide beef stew and biscuits. Please bring your favorite salads or dessert to share.
- After dinner; our presentation will begin with Connie Long, President of Montana BCH, member of Mission Valley BCH and owner of Bob Marshall Wilderness Outfitters showing and sharing about the making of the movie, “Untrammled”. The movie was filmed in Montana’s Bob Marshall Wilderness depicting the experience of youth traveling into the back country for the very first time. You will be touched by the stories of how the freedom of the wilderness changes their lives. Here is a link to the trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8WkutlYxIU>
- Stay with us and listen to and share ideas with Eric Cooksley, Executive Director for The Boys and Girls Club of the Flathead Reservation. He invites conversation on how our chapter can make a difference in the lives of our local youth. We will discuss the prospect of setting up programs designed to teach the members of the Boys and Girls Club about Packing and Leave No Trace Camping.

If time permits the evening will conclude with a short business meeting. We look forward to meeting new friends and reconnecting with old ones.

Please call Laurie Crawford at 675-4293 if you have any questions.

### MISSION STATEMENT OF MISSION VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana’s road less backcountry and
- to assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of said resources and
- to educate, encourage and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustainable use of horses and people, commensurate with our heritage and backcountry’s resources, and
- to work with and abide by Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribal regulations and permits.

*“Quoted from the MVBCH Club By-Laws, adopted 01/31/05”*



## Notes from Your President Scott Hopper

Hello Everybody!

We made it thru another busy summer. I hope everyone got to the backcountry or at the least enjoyed a day ride somewhere fun. I want to thank everyone who helped out on the trail cleaning and trash cleanup projects. Once again, another outstanding job done by our chapter!! To the people who spent a great deal of time and effort to make sure the paper work was done on time and correctly, the whole club thanks you. I personally want to thank you who helped out. As many of you know, life thru me a curve ball that lessened the time I had to be of help. I am grateful to those who stepped in.

We got some things done this summer that I hope will help the club in the future, the new work trailer is ready to go, thanks to Larry Ruffatto and Louie Polinsky. It has new shelving that will help keep it organized. An inventory list of the clubs belongings was created and is available for any to review.

As for the upcoming Oktoberfest, I hope everybody joins us and please bring a friend. I'm pretty sure there will be enough food for everyone! October 16th is our semi-annual "Adopt-A-Highway" trash cleanup. It is always a worthwhile time and is followed with a good meal and great conversation. The Annual Poker Ride and a hunting widows or widowers ride will happen in November. AND REMEMBER THERES ONLY 89 (?) SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS!!!

Thank you, Scott

# November 4th General Meeting Special Presentation

The Mission Valley Back Country Horsemen are please to host  
**"A Ride Back Through Time to the Rendezvous Era."**  
With Perri Knize.

Ronan VFW Hall, Round Butte Rd. November 4th, 2014, 7:30pm

The MVBCH will host the Humanities Montana Speakers Bureau program "A Ride Back through Time to the Rendezvous Era" with Perri Knize on November 4th. The program will begin our November General Meeting.

**The presentation is free and open to the public.** Partial funding for the Speakers Bureau program is provided by a legislative grant from Montana's Cultural Trust and the National Endowment for the Humanities.



In 2012, on assignment for *National Geographic Magazine*, Perri Knize, in the company of a group of lay historians who call themselves the American Mountain Men, rode into an authentic, period-correct rendezvous, dressed and outfitted as a woman of the times. From 1825 to 1840 mountaineers forged routes through the Rockies that the region's first settlers would later follow, enabling the United States to wrest the Pacific Northwest from the British. Each summer, the wide-ranging trappers converged at a pre-arranged spot in the mountains to meet with a caravan arriving from St. Louis and trade their hard-earned pelts for goods and tools of survival at a month-long wilderness fair called the Rendezvous. With images and video, Knize tells the story of the Rendezvous period and her experience on a historically accurate horse trek, including demonstrations of the clothing, tools, tack, and equipment of this fascinating era.

Perri Knize, of Helena, Mont., is a long-time public lands policy reporter who has written for *National Geographic*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Audubon*, *Outside*, *Sports Illustrated*, and many other publications. She taught journalism at the University of Montana and has served as a writing coach in the Missoula public schools. She is the author of *Grand Obsession: A Piano Odyssey*, and is at work on a novel set in the Rendezvous era.

For more information about this presentation, please call Bonnie Kiser at 406-883-2186

# What's Next???

## 7th Annual - 'AFTERNOON IN THE WOODS'

A Members Only Special Event



Scott Hopper and his mule!!

**Saturday**  
**Oct. 11th, 10:00 AM**

**Set-Up on Friday**

**Oct. 10th, 12 noon**

The Henderson's  
32602 Minesinger Trail,  
Polson, MT 59860

All members of the MVBCH  
are invited to gather at Hugh &

Sue's for a day of great fun. This trail  
course will be made of all natural  
obstacles, **MOSTLY** found on the  
trail. This is NOT a judged event, it's  
just for fun.

Bring your 'trusty steed' and join us.

**However, horses are not  
required. Please come and watch  
the fun and stay for the meal.**

Bring your favorite main dish, salad  
and / or dessert. Pack along your own  
lawn chairs, eating utensils and  
beverage. See you there,

*Sue and Hugh 883-2748 Dennese 883-5876*



Crew - Scott Hopper, Bill  
Dupuis and David Crawford  
with Carl Schauss at the wheel.

The Fall Highway Clean-Up

**Thursday, October 16th, at 5:30pm**

East Shore of Flathead Lake, Hwy 35 Mile Marker 12

Bring your gloves, hiking boots and rain gear. We pick up trash rain or shine.

Susan Hahn:883-6750

Twice a year we gather and help to make the  
'paved trail' a better place to travel. The job  
is never too huge as we always have a great  
crew that helps out. The view is spectacular  
as we walk along the east shore of Flathead  
Lake. Often we make plans to share pizza  
afterwards at a local eatery. AND...the reason  
some of us go, Susan has promised to  
continue the tradition of bringing cookies for  
us trash pickers. Come out and join the fun.



## November 8th, Saturday, 10AM

Bring your horse and your luck as we take our chances in the  
woods of Jette for a poker ride. Prizes offered for High and  
Low hand. Meet at the Jette trail head north of Polson on the  
East side of Hwy 93. The riders will leave the trailhead at 10  
AM sharp. Dress for the weather and bring  
a lunch. See you on the trail.



Last years winners,  
Laurie C. and Scott H.

Dennese 883-5876

Bonnie and Scott 883-2186

*Please review the "Ride Rules".*

**Members only please.**

**Looking for a unique gift for  
your favorite Cowboy or Cowgirl.**

Dennese Schauss is creating hand  
made "Old Fashioned" neck scarves in  
a variety of colors.

Scarves come in 2 sizes:

Men's 36" x 36" \$25

Women's 28" x 30" \$20

Contact Dennese Schauss:

883-5876



## TRIANGLE - S LEATHER SHOP

Need any repairs on your horse  
equipment or want something created in  
leather for yourself?

I build/repair any horse tack; saddles, pack  
saddles, half-breeds, chinks, etc.

You dream it and I will build it!!

Don't forget your older tack.

It can be refurbished to good as new.

Contact Carl Schauss

883-5876



**Dear Members of MVBCH,**

Thank you for your contributions to this edition of The Packstring. It is a privilege to help share what is going on. Enjoy the stories submitted by fellow members. If you have something chapter related that you would like to share, please let me know. The next issues will be coming out on these approximate dates, (Lord willing and the creek don't rise).

- 1) The **end of January**-calendar for MVBCH for the year ahead, Election Results, State Convention details
- 2) **April**-Work projects, convention reports, steak ride details, re-iterate the ride rules.
- 3) **End of June or July**-Summer rides, work projects
- 4) **Early October**-Recap of summer events, Fall projects, events, work project results.
- 5) **November**-Christmas, report for elections, year in review requests.

Please consider what you would like to see in this newsletter. I need your input to make this a representation for everyone.

Remember the classified ads. Want something in the next issue?? Send in the details

Editor: Connie Plaissy dicon4374@blackfoot.net 644-5001 or Bonnie Kiser bonniekiser@centurytel.net 883-2186



## **General Meeting Minutes** **September 2-2014**

Meeting called to order by Scott Hopper – President

**Secretaries Report** – Laura Nelson

No Changes or corrections. Dennese Schauss made the motion to accept the minutes as is, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Connie Plaissay

**Motion accepted and passed**

**Treasures report** – Dennese Schauss

As of August 27-2014 Checking Balance \$8534.74

Charley Hahn made the motion to accept report, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Leroy Dumontier

**Motion accepted & passed**

**October Fest** – Laurie Crawford

Susan Hahn will be doing the decorating. Menu is Stew and biscuits – Would like the club to furnish the fixings for the stew.

Everybody else can bring salads, desserts and hors d'oeuvre. Club will also provide Cider, coffee, tea. Need to be able to get into the VFW hall at about 5:30pm to decorate and set up – Will have to talk to Dan Hall on that. Program for the meeting to follow will be presented by Connie Long. Video on Youth in the Wilderness Eric (Boys & Girls Club) can hopefully participate as well and show us he=where he thinks we can help to promote this with the youth Anybody and everybody is welcome at the October Fest

Will need to get the projector and the screen for the Program

Evening starts at 6:00pm October 7-2014

**Saddle Mountain Ride – September 13-2014**

Being led by Leroy DuMontier

Meeting at the Highway 93 Saddle Mountain Rd turn off at the Honey sign at 10:00am

Pot Luck will follow

DuMontiers will be doing the meat – BBQ

The rest of us can bring easy things like salads or desserts, chips buns etc

**State dues** – David Crawford

The current treasure is checking into this & will be reporting back to David Crawford

Will Send email with current Breakdown

Discussion on dues paid to state. Re-affirmed the motion that was passed at the board meeting in stating that we would keep dues \$5.00 over state dues. Will be getting information from Paula on what was paid last year and determine if we have been billed yet for this year This issue will definitely need some answers. Need to know what state dues are, what is Paid to National and how this money is used Hopefully we will have this information by the next Board Meeting

**General Meeting Program** - Open Forum on Do's & Don'ts in Emergency Situations/Easier way of doing things. Accident tonight involving a horse that was taken down into the Bar Pit, asked to turn around & not wanting to. The horse was impaled on a metal T-post and bleed out. Barrow pits are in general a bad place to ride due to the glass, cans, wire and in general trash found through-out. Keep a snug back cinch – prevents getting debris (branches) or a foot stuck. It is very hard to suggest this to people. Keeping halters on a horse

in the pasture – not a good idea. Again, can get them hooked on something or stick a foot through the halter. Back country: loose halters can pose the same problems. Air Splints: good for Breaks, sprains, and bad cuts. Unroll and the inflate. Very compact and easy to pack. Tree bark can be used for a splint. Spider webs will help stop bleeding. Flat tire on trailers/trailer care. Block to drive up on is the handiest darn thing – works great with a tandem axle trailer. The other thing to keep in mind with a tandem axle and a flat tire is that you can go a little ways to a safer zone to change the tire Check your axels and make sure they have some grease. Check your floor boards – especially wood to ensure there is no rot. Park your trailer on blocks in the winter to help prevent rot. It was a good program giving members something to think about!

**Thanks everyone!**

**Club work Trailer**

Larry Ruffatto has made a list of Materials he needs. Got the file cabinets from Sue Henderson the other night. Connie Plaissay has picked up 2 rubber-maid foot lockers – Larry has them. Larry is getting everything ready to build shelving in the work trailer. Need to get the other two Saw Boxes. Need master list of items in each trailer. Should have one in each trailer and a list with the Secretary or the Treasurer. Need serial #'s off the saws. Connie suggested putting the trailer up on blocks to help protect the tires. Should look for tire covers for both trailers.

**National** – David Crawford

House forest Trails Bill (HR 4886) has 17 co-sponsors. Encouraging individual support on this. Bill calls for keeping Forest Service trails open and having adequate funding to do so. Connie sent this out in an email to all members. Horseman – we need to respond to this The DNR in Washington DC says that we are causing an increase in E coli in the water systems. This was countered with a statement from University of California Davis (UCD) that there is little risk from horses – less than 1%. Connie made a point that individual responses had more of an impact than a response from a group State your membership and get your opinion/feelings submitted BCHA Crowd Funding event brought in a total of \$100,000 this year \$25,000 was spent in incentives, mailings, & Credit card fees \$25,000 was sent to BCH for educational grants.

**Poker Ride** – Dennese Schauss

Dennese will be quilting this year. Scheduled for November 15-2014 We need to pull together and see what Bonnie needs to help get this organized. What do you want us to do Miss Bonnie?

**(Update- ride is re-scheduled to November 8th.)**

**Day in the Woods** – Henderson Residence on October 11-2014.

Set up is October 10 starting at noon – need volunteers for this.

Event is scheduled for October 10<sup>th</sup> and starts between 10:00 – 11:00am.

**September board meeting at the Hahn Residence**

**Bring your own chairs**

Connie Plaissay made the motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hugh Henderson  
**Meeting adjourned**



Papa Scott and Sarah

### **Spring Trash Pickup - April 17 - Bonnie Kiser**

Another successful Spring Highway Clean-up. Many years ago we adopted a 2 mile stretch along the East Shore of Flathead Lake. Twice a year we gather to pick up the random stuff that escapes from passer byers. I won't say the weather is always great but I will guarantee that the company is. This year we were joined by two long time friends of the Hahn's and Sarah, Scott and Bonnie's grand daughter from Butte. After a very speedy cleanup, we headed to Pizza Hut. Thank you Susan Hahn for heading up this event.

**Next pick-up scheduled for October 16, 5:00pm**



L-R, Hahn's Guests, Susan, Scott H, Hugh, Dennese, Bill, Paula, Sarah and Scott K.

# 2014 Officers, Board and Chairpersons

## Officers

President:	Scott Hopper	745-0012
Vice-President:	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
Secretary:	Laura Nelson	544-5103
Treasurer:	Paula Weaver	883-3092
State Board:	David Crawford	675-4293
	Scott Kiser	883-2186
Alt:	Connie Plaissay	644-5001
National Director for the State:	David Crawford	675-4293

## MVBCH Board of Directors

2 Year	Bill Dupuis	675-3549
2 Year	Marie Hall	676-0231
2 Year	Mac Long	670-9244
2 Year	Louis Polinsky	544-5103
2 Year	Connie Plaissay	644-5001
1 Year	Charley Hahn	883-6750
1 Year	Hugh Henderson	883-2748
1 Year	Sue Henderson	883-2748
1 Year	Carol McCrum	676-8114
1 Year	Pete Weimer	675-8883

## Committee / Event Chairpersons

Audit Committee:	Charley Hahn	883-6750
	Scott Kiser	883-2186
Day Rides:	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
	Sherry Hopper	745-0012
	Laura Nelson	544-5103
Hwy Clean-Up:	Susan & Charlie Hahn	883-6750
Issues :	David Crawford	675-4293
	Scott Kiser	883-2186
	Connie Plaissay	644-5001
Work Projects:	David Crawford	675-4293
	Scott Hopper	745-0012
	Laura Nelson	544-5103
Leave No Trace:	David Crawford	675-4293
	Scott Kiser	883-2186
Membership:	Marie Hall	676-0231
Contact Help	Laurie Crawford	675-4293
	Carol McCrum	676-8114
Newsletter:	Connie Plaissay	644-5001
	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
	Bonnie Kiser	883-2186
Publicity:	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
Education & Safety:	<b>All Board Members</b>	
Steak Ride: 2014	Scott Hopper	745-0012
	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
Photo Album:	???	

More information on the web at [www.bchmt.org](http://www.bchmt.org)

# What have we been up to???

## Back Country First Aid

Presented by Dr. Righetti

*Laura Nelson*

**April 22-2014** We held a backcountry First Aid class. This was put on for general purposes and to fulfill the safety needs for trail cleaning. This class was presented by Dr. Righetti out of Polson, an avid outdoors man like the rest of us. We had a two hour presentation that touched on a wide range of topics including hypothermia, heatstroke, broken bones, jab wounds, unconsciousness, allergic reactions, snake bites, bleeding etc. He discussed items needed for a first aid kit, how to tailor that kit to the ride or trip you will be on including who you are going to be with. He touched on items that we typically carry that can used for splint or to stop bleeding, items that work on both horses and humans. Carrying little things like Benadryl, duck tape, rope, and yes always carry water – good for washing/flushing wounds. Be innovative with what you have.



Dr. Righetti with his supplies.

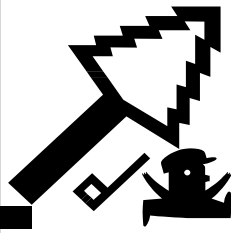
Dr. Righetti also stressed assessing the situation. Stay calm! Things are not always as bad as they may initially seem. When assessing the situation, know how long it will take to get out, how serious is the problem, the capabilities of the group, the weather etc. Let someone know where you are going and when you will be returning. Always keep in mind the time of year and yes this is Montana – snow and rapid weather changes. Use common sense!

I thought the class was invaluable. I learned things that I had never heard of before – like using spider webs to stop bleeding. Review of a simple thing like starting a fire be it dry or wet. I learned how handy a simple fish line & hook could be for suturing. So In the end it was a fantastic class and Dr. Righetti – THANK YOU! I also want to thank Charley Hahn and Bonnie Kiser for arranging the class, great job guys!

## CHAINSAW SAFETY

*Laura Nelson*

**April 12-2014** The club held a chainsaw safety course for the sawyers on the trail cleaning projects as well as any club members that wanted to attend. This class was held in prep for this seasons trail cleaning projects. Seth & Theo from the Superior Ranger District spent a morning with us in Dave Crawford's garage doing the book training. They had a very good slide presentation with excellent explanations and good common sense applications. I learned some very interesting things from chains to stress. Oh that is stress in the trees – not me!



After lunch, we moved up to Ray Stofel's place for the practical application of the whole nine yards. Here we split up into two groups, and using the clubs two new saws proceeded to show our instructors what we did & didn't know. They in turn, provided us with the safety aspects of bucking brush, reading the job, fence posting, and falling for those interested in doing that. From my stand point, it was good review!

There were a total of 8 participants including Dave Crawford, Bill Weaver, Hugh Henderson, Larry Ruffatto, Louis Polinsky, & Laura Nelson for both the book and the practical application. Ray Stofel & Carol McCrum went through the book portion.

It was a good review and reminder of things that we should watch for – a jogging of the memory so to speak! I want to thank Dave Crawford for the use of his garage and putting this all together for the club, Ray Stofel for providing us with a place to practice, & Seth & Theo for spending the time with our club instructing the class. Thank You everyone!

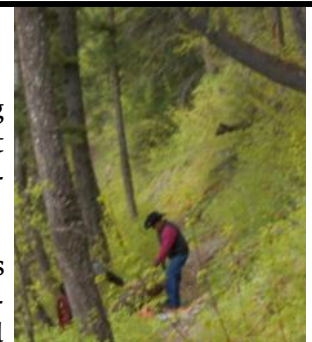


## MVBCH TRAIL CLEANING 2014

*Laura Nelson*

This year we were very fortunate to have the perfect weather for cleaning "our" three trails. These included the River Trail, Boyd Mountain Trail and Flat Rock Trail. For each one of these cleanings we all met in Dixon, Split up the equipment as needed and went to the designated start sites.

**May 14-2014** we cleaned the **River Trail**. We had a total of 8 people on this project. These included Larry Ruffatto, Paula Weaver, Louis Polinsky & Laura Nelson all starting at Ferry Landing and going in from there. Scott & Bonnie Kiser and Sue & Hugh Henderson started at the St Regis end and yep, we met in the middle. The trail was in good shape. We had lunch & spun tails of the enormous trees we had to cut just to get there. Scott Kiser provided the pack mule for the St Regis end and Laura Nelson provided the Pack horse for the Ferry Landing end. The day concluded in a proper rain shower.



Hugh Henderson  
clearing the River Trail.

**May 31-2014** we cleaned the **Boyd Mountain Trail**. For this project we had Scott Hopper, Larry Ruffatto, Louis Polinsky, and Laura Nelson. The lower end of the trail was in pretty good shape with very little cleaning to do. The work started the higher we went. This trail had big trees with a lot of them being leaners. I really learned the meaning of fence posting on this trail. Larry & Louis are good at this! By the time we were done it looked like the aliens had landed. Scott Hopper provided the pack mule for this project. He also provided us with a lesson in how to dive from your horse to rescue a mushroom!



Scott Kiser in full rain gear. River Trail

**June 12-2014** we cleaned our final trail, **Flat Rock**. Scott & Sherri Hopper with Dan & Marie Hall started at the 12 mile end with Scott providing the pack mule. Larry Ruffatto & Carol McCrum, Laura Nelson & Louis Polinsky came in at the Camel Humps end with Laura providing the pack horse. The Camel Humps end crew actually went up and camped Friday night. The tread on this trail is in good shape. The water bars that our club put in a couple of years ago a holding up good. The Camels Hump end had a lot of down fall. We started cutting almost as soon as we hit the trail. This end of the trail could also using a good brushing out. We managed to get just a little ways past Slow Creek before we met up with the other crew. There is a lot of down fall in this area, no problems finding a place to sit! We had a good lunch and hit the trail heading back to the trailers and on home.

Another year and all of the trails on our watch are clean and good to go. We utilized all of the chainsaws including the two new backup saws. It was a good season!



### **33<sup>RD</sup> Annual Steak Ride - May 4<sup>TH</sup> - *Dennese Schauss***

It's hard to believe that we have been at this for 33 years, but we have, and we are looking forward to our 34th. We have ridden pretty much all over Western Montana since we started. We have covered a lot of ground in the ensuing years, in some



**Pre-Ride Crew**  
L to R-Connie P, Laura N, Louis P, Charley H. and Scott H.

HORRID weather, snow, wind, rain, and every so often, we luck out and have sunshine. This year, it poured rain most of the morning, but just before noon, the skies cleared the sun came out and it was just beautiful the rest of the day. Those that stayed in bed, due to the rain, missed a really great ride and of course an excellent meal. The kitchen crew outdid themselves again, good meat, plus all the wonderful sides, and desserts that went along with the meal. Thanks to all of you.

We sold all of the tickets about two weeks prior to the ride, which surprised those who called after that wanting tickets. We bet that requests will start earlier next year. We do have to hold to a certain number of riders as we are limited in how many we and the trail can accommodate.

We are very thankful to our hosts, the Mike Meulie family, for allowing us to ride on their Ranch. We have ridden there for the past few years, and still have a lot of territory we have not yet ridden.

So, once again, Thanks to everyone who helps put this on, year after year, It's always a GREAT Ride!!



Waiting out the weather around the campfire.

### **The River Honoring - May 13 *Bonnie Kiser***

Another successful year at the Salish and Kootenai River Honoring located along the shores of Flathead River. Over a thousand 4th and 5th graders from all over the valley, including Frenchtown, Hamilton and Plains, visited a variety of



stations dedicated to becoming conscious stewards of the land. Scott Kiser, Connie Plaissy, Larry Ruffatto, Hugh Henderson, Carol McCrum and Marie Hall were there to teach the groups about Leave No Trace principles. The organizers of the event continue to invite BCH back year after year as they feel that our group has some important information that is well organized and entertaining. Good job. And just to make sure that Scott and the crew are well fed, we gathered on Tuesday evening for a very pleasant and plentiful pot luck dinner.



Tuesday night pot-luck.



Jackson's guitar

### **Pack Clinic / Trail Ride- North Fork of the Blackfoot River - JUNE 7 & 8 2014** *Dennese Schauss*

Mack and Connie Long offered to host our Pack Clinic at their outfitter corrals, at the N. Fork of the Blackfoot Trailhead the weekend of June 7 & 8. Fourteen people attended. We shared Friday evening with Mack, Connie and 2 of their crew, one of which offered to entertain us with his guitar, with some great renditions of cowboy music, plus some jazz guitar. Laura Nelson also gave us some fine music.



Mack demonstrates packing.

On Saturday morning we had a short session on fitting of the pack saddle, and tying on the loads, mostly manti-style packing. Then after lunch, the riders headed out for the N. Fork Cabin, returning about 6 p.m., just in time to have a cup of coffee and head over to the Bonfire for the Pot-Luck, and a bit more music. Sunday was a quiet day, although a few of the riders took another ride, shorter this time, while most of the rest of us gathered up ourselves and headed home.



N. Fork of the Blackfoot Cabin Riders

Thanks again to Mack and Connie

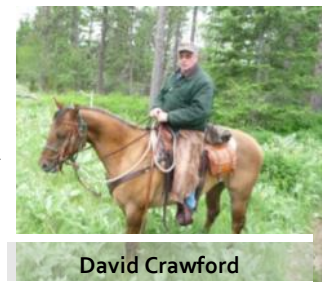
### **Father's Day Ride - June 15th - *By Laurie Crawford***

It was a rainy week leading up to our annual Father's Day Ride. Not knowing how many of our members were willing to chance the weather, Cindy and I prepared plenty of food. With concerns about serving the breakfast and having it rain we cleaned out one of our trailers to use for the kitchen and had our horses hauled in the other trailer. We hung a tarp between the trailers for added protection. Then you know with all these precautions it didn't rain!



After a great breakfast we had a beautiful ride led by David Crawford. It was so nice to see David back in the saddle again and riding Cody his four year old mare. They did a great job and this only being her third time on trail and first group ride.

Thanks to all that joined us and made this a great Fathers Day breakfast/ride.



David Crawford



## Polson Rodeo Parking - June 27 & 28

I would like to thank the following members for outstanding hard work and advanced skills.

For duty above and beyond all else! Paula and Bill Weaver, Ellen Achenbaugh, and Bonnie Kiser (the Cash girl) for Guiding the Parking on June 27th 2014. Sherry Hopper, Scott Kiser, and Bonnie Kiser (the Cash Girl) for their work on June 28th 2014.

The above members donated their time for the club and earned a \$200.00 check from the Polson Rodeo. This is added to the MVBCH treasury!!!! Lets give them a big THANK YOU!!!!

*Respectfully Submitted by Connie Plaissay the Parking "Trail BOSS".*



Scott Kiser and Connie Plaissay direct traffic.

## Gold Creek Dredge Pond Family Fun Ride - July 12th - by Carol McCrum



Gold Creek Dredge [www.Legendsofamerica.com](http://www.Legendsofamerica.com)

Larry Ruffatto and I, Leroy and Virginia Dumontier, and Harlin Gertis participated in the Upper Clark Fork BCH annual ride on July 12th. Also on the ride were Kent and Charlene Krone, Jim and Dorie Murphy, Cole Younger and Ann Johnson.

One of the great pluses to this ride is that you can come and camp the day before and the day after the actual event. This club really knows how to make you feel welcome. They do a poker ride, 50/50, and have lots of great door prizes. There were 105 riders who started at their leisure. Horses were calm and behaved well. The ride took about 4 hours, taking you thru some really beautiful country, with time to explore the giant dredge as well. We hope to see you all next year. Let's support our fellow backcountry horsemen chapters.

## Ronan Pioneer Days Parking - August 5-7th

Our club put in a total of 67.5 hours parking for the Ronan Pioneer Days August 5 - 7. It was hot and dusty but we did successfully tell everyone where to go and put them in their place! **Thanks to our trusty parking crew** that included Charley Hahn & his daughter Jessica, Scott & Bonnie Kiser (on their Bikes), Marie Hall, Natalie Nelson, Robyn Lane, Ellen Achenbaugh, Scott Hopper, Pete Weimer, Larry Ruffatto & Carol McCrum. We had a fantastic club participation for this endeavor.



## Work Trailer Upgrade - September

Larry Ruffatto and Louis Polinsky got together and set up the inside of the work trailer. They installed shelves for storage and hooks to hang the tools safely. This work trailer is sure to help protect the investments of the club. There is conversation that paperwork from year past will be stored inside too. Thank you gentlemen for your time.

*Photos by Carol McCrum*

Louis and Larry →



## Saddle Mountain Ride - September 13 - Bonnie Kiser

A delightful and large group of riders gathered at Saddle Mountain trailhead near Arlee on a pleasant end of summer day. Leroy Dumontier led the group on a 3 hour ride that took us thru country that most of us had never seen. There were panoramic vista points overlooking the valley. Arlee is beautiful from this



spectacular vantage point. We rode thru some nicely wooded areas as the trail wound its way around the back side of Saddle Mountain and concluded in a nice loop taking us right back to our trailers.

After the ride we were all treated to some of the best steak I have had in a long time. However, if you thought the steak was good.... you have to have had tried the Pecan Pie. Virginia was gracious enough to share with us her recipe.



To the entire Dumontier family, thank you for hosting a wonderful day.



2/3 c. light corn syrup  
1/2 c. brown sugar  
1/3 c. melted butter

## Dinnerbell Pecan Pie

1 tsp. Vanilla  
1/3 c. pancake syrup  
3 eggs, slightly beaten

3/4 c. pecans  
1/3 tsp salt



Combine syrup, sugar, salt, butter and vanilla and mix well. Add eggs. Pour into 9" pie shell. Sprinkle pecans over all. Bake at 350° for about 45 minutes. This recipe may also be used for tarts. English walnuts may be used instead of pecans. We like half of each best.

Coconut Oatmeal Pie: Omit nuts. Add 3/8 c. coconut and 3/8 c. oatmeal, mix well.





# 2014 MVBCH Activities

Dates and Times Subject to Change



Please Contact Persons Assigned When Making Plans!!!

Monthly meetings held the 1st Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm, VFW on Round Butte Rd.  
Board meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm at a board members home.

October 7	Tues	6:00 PM	General Meeting - Ronan VFW Clubhouse Round Butte Rd. Celebrate Oktoberfest, a Potluck meal, movie presentation and guest speaker for the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Mission Valley
October 10	Fri.	12 noon	Setup for Day in the Woods at the Henderson Residence
October 11	Sat.	10:00 AM	Day in the Woods - Henderson's-32602 Minesinger Trl., Polson - 883-2748 Arrive and ride between 10:00 & 11:00 am. NO competition, fun obstacle course with friends. Observers welcome. Potluck will follow, bring your favorite dish to share.
October 16	Thur.	5:00 PM	Highway Cleanup - Susan Hahn - 883-6750 Meet at Mile Marker 12 of East Shore Highway #35 Dress for the weather, we work rain or shine.
October 18	Sat.	11:00 AM	<b>'Home Aloners' Buffalo Bridge Ride</b> Laura Nelson - 406-599-8809 Home alone because your riding partner is gone hunting??? Come on out and let's ride alone together.....Bring your lunch.
October 21	Tues.	7:30 PM	Board Meeting Pete and Candy Weimer's 41637 O'Brien Rd, Ronan 406-675-8883
November 4	Tues.	7:30 PM	General Meeting Ronan VFW Clubhouse Rnd. Butte Rd. <b>Guest Presenter: Perry Knize</b> With images and video, Perri recounts her living history horse trek with the American Mountain Men into an authentic rendezvous.
November 9	Sat.	10:00 AM	Jette Poker Ride (Bonnie Kiser 883-2186 & Dennese Schauss 883-5876) We ride Rain, snow, or shine. Bring a lunch.
November 18	Tues.	7:30 PM	Board Meeting Carl and Dennese Schauss - 39693 Apple Rd, Polson - 883-5876
December 2	Tues.	7:30 PM	General Meeting Ronan VFW Clubhouse Rnd. Butte Rd. Elections for the 2015 year.



Sue and Hugh Henderson

Get well wishes to Hugh and Sue Henderson.

Hugh had knee surgery a couple of weeks ago and is on the mend and doing well.

He is restricted from driving for a little longer making him a bit anxious to get out.

Sue had surgery on Monday the 29th of September and is expected to return home the next Friday.

All went well with her surgery.

Wishing you both a speedy recovery.

You are in our thoughts and prayers.

# Backcountry Horsemen of America

## Volunteer Hours Report

Mission Valley Backcountry Horseman, MT

Revised May 2013



State/Chapter Summary or Project Name	Volunteer Work								Transportation			Equipment Hours		Horses & Miles		Donations
	Trail Work Hours			Trail Miles		Education & LNT	Public Meetings	Admin Service	Travel Time	Personal POV Miles	Stock Haul Miles	Power Equip	Heavy Equip	Quantity Stock	Stock Days	Dollar Amount
	Basic	Skilled	Recon	Wilderness	Other											
River Trail (St Regis)	30	18			4.5			2	16	495	495	18		10	10	\$ 4,061
Boyd Mountain Trail (St Regis)	6	18			4.5			1	8	450	450	18		5	5	\$ 2,740
Flatrock Trail (St Regis)	18	30			5.3			2	16	640	640	30		10	10	\$ 4,757
River Honoring (LNT)							112	6	9.25	283						\$ 3,072
Chain Saw Safety							44	2	3.91	105		12				\$ 1,512
High Line Program							14		3.75	54	24					\$ 468
General Horse Safety							20		0.45	20	20					\$ 493
Backcountry First Aid							47									\$ 1,041
North Fork of the Blackfoot Pack Clinic							66.5		60	1840	690			7	7	\$ 5,915.71
Highway Cleanup (Hwy 35)	18.5				2											\$ 409.59
Trailer Backing Clinic							11									\$ 243.54
<b>Totals</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>314.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>117.36</b>	<b>3887</b>	<b>2319</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>\$ 24,711.55</b>

## Backcountry Horsemen of America Volunteer Hours Report 2014 Mission Valley Backcountry Horsemen of MT

	Totals	Rate per hour/mile/day	Total Value	Calculated per Hour or Mile
Total Basic Hours	72.5	\$22.14	<b>\$1,605.15</b>	Hour
Total Skilled Hours	66.0	\$30.00	<b>\$1,980.00</b>	Hour
Total Trail Recon Hours	0.0	\$22.14	<b>\$0.00</b>	Hour
Total LNT - Education	314.5	\$22.14	<b>\$6,963.03</b>	Hour
Total Public Meetings	0.0	\$22.14	<b>\$0.00</b>	Hour
Total Administrative Service	13.0	\$22.14	<b>\$287.82</b>	Hour
Total Travel Time	117.4	\$22.14	<b>\$2,598.35</b>	Hour
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>583.4</b>			
Wilderness Trail Miles	0			
Other Trail Miles	16.3			
<b>Total Trail Miles</b>	<b>16.3</b>			
Personal Vehicle	3887	\$0.90	<b>\$3,498.30</b>	Mile
Stock Hauling	2319	\$1.10	<b>\$2,550.90</b>	Mile
<b>Total Travel Miles</b>	<b>6206</b>			
Power Equipment	78	\$26.00	<b>\$2,028.00</b>	Hour
Heavy Equipment	0	\$81.00	<b>\$0.00</b>	Hour
<b>Total Equipment Hours</b>	<b>78</b>			
Total Stock (Pack and Saddle)	32			
<b>Total Stock Days</b>	<b>32</b>	\$100.00	<b>\$3,200.00</b>	Per Day
Total Donations	\$0.00		<b>\$0.00</b>	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>\$24,711.55</b>	

The information included in these forms summarizes the dollar value of our efforts as a volunteer organization for the fiscal year 2014.

These figures are submitted to Back Country Horsemen of America. There it is combined with all the chapters and states in the United States. This information directly speaks to the value of our volunteer efforts. Together the National BCH can verify that we do indeed provided a service that is of substantial value to everyone.

For clarification or specific details regarding this report please contact Laura Nelson or Dave Crawford. Either will be happy to discuss with you how these figures were calculated and why.

Thank you to both Laura and Dave for your efforts.

Laura - 544-5103  
Dave - 675-4293



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
MISSION VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN  
P.O. BOX 604, RONAN, MT 59864



Mission Valley Back Country Horsemen  
www.bchmt.org

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

If applying for family membership, please list children under 18:  
\_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_

~~~~~ MEMBERSHIP DUES ~~~~~  
\_\_\_\_\_ FAMILY \$40 /YEAR or \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE \$25 /YEAR  
*Membership is renewed on a calendar year basis expiring on December 31st.*

**PLEASE READ!**  
Serious injury or even death can result from horse riding and related activities. There are risks inherent in equine activities, and these dangers, or conditions that are an integral part of equine activities include, but are to limited to;

- The propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm to, or death of person on or around the equine.
- The unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as medication, sound, sudden movement and unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals.
- Hazards, such as surface and subsurface ground conditions.
- Collisions with other equines or other objects.
- The potential of another participant to not maintain control over the equine, or to not act within the person's ability.

Participants in any activity shall act in a safe and responsible manner at all times to avoid injury to themselves and others, and shall be aware of the risks inherent in equine activities.

THE MISSION VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSMEN SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR INJURY TO, OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT AS A RESULT OF THEIR VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION IN ANY SPONSORED ACTIVITY.

I certify that I have read and understand the above notice.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date Signature Date

Mission Valley Back Country Horsemen  
P.O. Box 604  
Ronan, MT 59864

**Fall Edition**



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Thank you for being a part of this dedicated group of people.  
2014 is our 33rd year as a chapter of the Back Country Horsemen.



**Interested in Horses in the Back Country??  
Join us at the Next General Meeting.**

**General Meetings, 7:30 pm \* 1st Tuesday of the Month  
VFW Club in Ronan  
Contact: Dennese Schauss: 883-5876 Or Marie Hall: 676-0231**