

MISSION VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

The Packstring

**Merry Christmas
and
A Happy New Year
December 2014**



**You are invited to the MVBCH
Christmas Party & Pot Luck Dinner**

December 6th 6:00 p.m.

Hosted by Susan & Charley Hahn...

~ 39626 Eli Gap Rd, Polson ~

883-6750

Contact Susan for details and directions.



If Your Last Name Begins with...

A - H:

I - Q:

R - Z:

Consider Bringing...

Main Course

Dessert

Salad

**Plates and Utensils, Soda, Teas and Coffee, Turkey, Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes,
Rolls and Stuffing will be provided by MVBCH**

Please bring additional beverages (BYOB) you wish to enjoy.

Each guest bringing a wrapped and unlabeled gift valued near \$15 and horsey or ranchey in nature will be given a number. Your number will determine the order in which gifts are drawn, opened and traded. **Don't loose your number.**

After dinner we gather for an entertaining evening of "Secret Surprise Gift Exchange". The person with #1 begins the fun, they choose and open a gift. Next, #2 can either steal #1's gift or open a new one. If it is a steal, #1 gets to open another and on the evening will go until everyone who brought a gift has one to take home. **Please Note:....a gift can only be stolen 2 times, it is then the property of the person who has possession.** Our **Hostess** will have the final word should there be **ANY DEBATE.**

Merry Christmas and see you there!

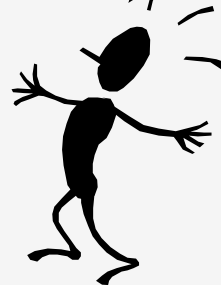


Elections for the 2015 Year

December 2nd, 2014 General Meeting 7:30 PM

Please plan to attend, volunteer and vote!!

How may I HELP??



Nominations for officers and directors may also be made by members **from the floor**, prior to election. Read how YOU can nominate from the floor on the next page!!

Nominating Committee's Recommendations are.....

Candidates for Officers

President..... Dennese Schauss Secretary:.....Laura Nelson
Vice President:.....Scott Kiser Treasurer:.....Charlie Hahn

Candidates for Local Board of Directors

Board of directors to be elected for a 2 year term: Remaining on The Board of Directors one more year.

Vote for 5 of these Volunteers

Sherry Hopper, Carol McCrum, Larry Ruffatto
Carl Schauss & Paula Weaver

Not up for Re-Election

Bill Dupuis, Marie Hall, Mack Long
Connie Plaissay & Louis Polinsky



Candidates for State Board of Directors

(Not up for Re-Election).....Scott Kiser has 1 Year Remaining of his second 2 Year Term.

(Up for election) David Crawford has completed the 2nd year of his first 2 Year Term.

The nominating committee recommends David Crawford be elected to his 2nd two year term.

(Up for election) Alternate for 1 Year Position - Recommendation - Connie Plaissay

State Directors may serve in 3 consecutive 2 year terms. Alternate may serve an unlimited amount of 1 year terms.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of our committee members.

Laura Nelson 544-8809, Hugh Henderson 883-2748 and Paula Weaver 883-3092.

Thank you Committee members for your dedication.

The following is excerpted from Mission Valley BCH Constitution.

Article VIII Elections

Section 1. All officers and directors shall be elected by a majority vote at the regularly scheduled meeting and their term of office shall be the calendar year next following the date of such election.

Section 2. Directors vacancies will be filled by two (2) year terms with the five (5) vacancies occurring one year and five (5) the following year.

Section 3. No officer shall hold the same office for more than three consecutive terms. There shall be no limit for service by directors.

Section 4. A nominating committee of three officers who have served at least one year shall be appointed by the current president on month prior to regular election of officers.

Section 5. The purpose of the nominating committee shall be to provide a list of suitable candidates for this organization's Officers and Directors to the membership. Nominations for officers and directors may also be provided by the membership from the floor, prior to election.

Section 6. State Board Directors from MVBVH will consist of two (2) directors and one (1) alternate director. Terms will run for 2 years and no director shall serve for more than 3 consecutive terms. Alternates will be elected annually. State Board Directors are elected every other year. If a director cannot complete a term, the alternate will complete it and a new alternate will be elected by the MVBCH Board.

If you would like a copy of the complete Constitution, please contact any Officer or Board Member.

Mission Valley B.C.H. follows

Robert's Rules of Order as to how to hold meetings, generate discussion in an orderly fashion and for guidance during elections.

? Learn more? or contact Connie Plaissy 644-5001.

<http://robertsrules.com/>



How a nomination is made from the floor during an election??????

“The following information is excerpted from Robert's Rules of Order and is a **example** of procedure.” During the meeting, the current President will begin the elections.....

The Nominating Committee Chair delivers report....

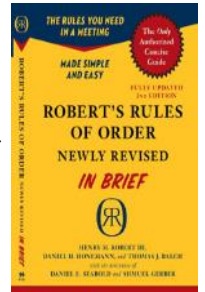
President: The nominating committee nominates Judy Smith for president, Dave Jones for vice president, Ricky Shores for secretary, and Sarah Thomas for treasurer. Nominations are now open from the floor. Are there any further nominations for president?

Nominations from the Floor

As soon as the president opens nominations from the floor, any member can bring forth a nomination. However, the rules for a member nominating a candidate are the same as for the nominating committee. A member should know beforehand if the person he or she wishes to nominate is both eligible and willing to serve. When the nomination is from the floor:

- A member does not have to get recognition, and often in small assemblies, a member can call out a name while still seated.
- A person can nominate himself or herself.
- A nomination does not need a second.

- A member can be nominated for more than one office.
- A member can't nominate more than one person for an office until everyone has had the opportunity to make nominations.
- Nominees do not have to leave the room during the nominations, when the vote is taken, or when the vote is counted.
- The presiding officer can continue presiding, even if he or she is one of the nominees for the office.
- A member can rise and decline the nomination during the nominating process.
- After each nomination, the president repeats the name to the assembly. For example, the president says: President: Tom Ford, for president. Are there further nominations for president?
- A motion to close nominations is usually not necessary unless it is apparent that members are nominating people just to honor them, and that the nominees have no intention of serving.
- Usually the president closes nominations when no further nominations come forward from the assembly.
- If at any time during the nominating process a member realizes that he or she will be unable to serve if elected, the member should stand and request that his or her name be removed from nomination. Removing your name during the nomination process is better than waiting until after you are elected.



I accept your nomination!



Please send your thoughts and comments about the newsletter to:

Connie Plaissy dicon4374@blackfoot.net 644-5001 or Bonnie Kiser bonniekiser@centurytel.net 883-2186
Next proposed newsletter scheduled for distribution at the **end of January 2015** will include the calendar for MVBCH for the year ahead, Election Results, State Convention details. *Thank you*

Year in Review for 2014

Do you have something you would like to see in the 2014 Year in Review program?

Submit your ideas to Bonnie before Jan. 15, 2015.

The program is scheduled for the February 2015 General meeting.

Happy New Year

May your Holidays be filled with laughter and love. Thank you for being a part of this dedicated group of volunteers. 2015 is our 34th year as a chapter of the BCH. We look forward to another successful year in the Mission Valley.

Please consider renewing your membership.



2014 Officers, Board and Chairpersons

Officers

President:	Scott Hopper	745-0012
Vice-President:	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
Secretary:	Laura Nelson	599-8809
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	599-8809
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	599-8809
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:	All Board Members	
Steak Ride: 2014	Scott Hopper	745-0012
	Dennese Schauss	883-5876
Photo Album:	???	

More information on the web at www.bchmt.org

Volunteer...[vol-uhn-ter]

The principle of donating time and energy for the benefit of others as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reward.

Thank you!!!!



2014 Officers and Board Members

L-R, Back Row: David Crawford, Mack Long, Charlie Hahn, Louie Polinsky, Scott Kiser, Pete Weimer
Middle Row: Bill Dupuis, Paula Weaver, Dennese Schauss, Connie Plaissay, Scott Hopper, Laurie Crawford
Seated: Carol McCrum, Laura Nelson, Marie Hall, Hugh and Sue Henderson.

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos into order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow." -Melody Beattie

**MVBCH General Meeting
November 4-2014**

We started the evening out with Perri Knize presenting “**A Ride Back Through Time to the Rendezvous Era**” This was a very good program. Perry was dressed to the period in brain tanned buckskins, leggings, & moccasins. She had a wide variety of items used during this period and did give a demonstration on saddle packing. You would be amazed at how much you can actually pack under your saddle, around your saddle and on your saddle. The question is can your horse pack all of that as well as you!

Perri told us how she became interested and was finally allowed to join in on a Rendezvous. Yes, to this day they do meet! Everyone and everything they have with them must be period (pre 1841). That means all equipment, clothing bedding, shelter, etc. must fit the bill. What Perri presented was a demonstration of how we keep our history alive, be it packing like our club does or trapping and trading like the Mountain Men that opened this country up for us did. **THANKYOU PERRI!**

- Meeting called to order by Scott Hopper – President
- **Secretaries Report** – Laura Nelson, no corrections or additions. Connie Plassiey made the motion to accept report as sent out, 2nd by Hugh Henderson. **Motion Passed**
- **Treasures Report** – Paula Weaver
Checking Balance - \$10,652.08
Two checks have not cleared yet.
Susan Hahn made the motion to accept the treasures report, 2nd by Marie Hall **Motion Accepted & Passed.**
- **Annual Elections**
Nomination committee was formed: Members include: Hugh Henderson, Laura Nelson, & Paula Weaver
- **Jette Poker Ride**
Ride starts at 11:00am November 8-2014
Bring a lunch and of course your best Poker Face
Will also need your tribal permit. We will meet at the Cove afterward for Hot Chocolate & Coffee
- **Christmas Party December 6, 2014 at the Hahn Residence. Party starts at 6:00pm.**
Club is providing the meat. The rest is ‘Potluck’ style, meaning bring a salad, desert, or side dish. We will have the Chinese Auction following dinner. Bonnie Kiser will have all of the information for this in a special edition of the Pack-String Newsletter.
- **State/National** – Dave Crawford
New Grant funds will be available soon through the BCHA
This money is from the online drive and will soon be available

- in the form of grants mostly for educational purposes.
- **Trail/Trail Head Work**
Dennese asked Dave Crawford what kind of trail head work was available? This would be through the Forest Service over in the Swan Area. For that area we would have to go through the Big Fork Ranger District. May want to see what Beth out of Superior has to offer as far as different types of projects
There is a new guy at Big Fork who is more horse oriented – know would be a good time to touch base with him. Introduce our club and what we have to offer as a club. We are looking for something to do as far as projects to go along with our trail cleaning projects. Every year The Forest Service sends out a list of Projects in which they are looking for help on – mostly packing. Mack Long usually gets a copy of this. He will see to it that we get a copy of it as well. **Thanks Mack!** They are generally looking for people to pack for them
The list usually comes out early spring.
 - **Mileage Turned into the State** – Laura Nelson
There was a typo as far as what was turned in & a mileage mistake itself. The Mileage turned in came directly from the mileage that was turned into the Forest Service – this is wrong. The Forest Service pays a flat per mile rate for trail cleaning. We have a contract with the forest service to clean 3 trails. The Forest Service adjusts the miles on the trails to ensure that we stay within the contract dollar amount. In our case the actual mileage was decreased on a couple of the trails. What gets reported to the State will be the following:
 - River Trail – 10 miles
 - Flat Rock – 5 miles
 - Boyd Mountain – 7milesThis totals 22 miles one way. We can only report one way because that is all we did, clean one way. If we had cleaned coming back out, we could claim both ways.
David Crawford will make the correction since all of the information is turned into him – **Reporting 22 miles to state!**
 - 50/50 drawing of \$16.50 was won by Natalie Nelson
 - Membership drawing was won by Scott Kiser
Not sure how much he won.
 - Cookie Monsters for November are Sue Henderson and Carol McCrum
 - November board meeting is at the Schauss Residence.
Pete Weimer made the motion to adjourn, 2nd by everyone!
Meeting adjourned

Laura Nelson - Secretary

*Please note, the above minutes are **Draft**, subject to approval or revision at the next General Meeting to be held January 6, 2015.
Any corrections or additions will be made at that time.*

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”



Mission Valley BCH ACTIVITIES!

Plans are subject to change, please call for details prior to the event.



December 2	Tuesday	7:30 PM	General Meeting , Ronan VFW Clubhouse Round Butte Rd. Election of officers for 2015 Year
December 6	Saturday	10 AM	State BCH Meeting Missoula Contact Scott Kiser 883-2186 or David Crawford 675-4293
December 6	Saturday	6:00 PM	MVBCH Christmas Party Potluck and Secret Surprise Gift Exchange at Susan and Charley Hahn's home Contact: Susan Hahn 883-6750
December 16	Tuesday	7:30 PM	Board Meeting Kiser's 883-2186
January 6	Tuesday	7:30 PM	General Meeting , Ronan VFW Clubhouse, Rnd Butte Rd.

Upcoming Event ideas????

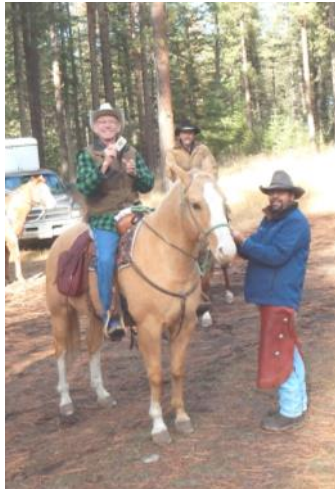
Bowling, Horse Play Day at an indoor arena, Pack Clinic and Horse Safety Clinic.
If you have a request for an event, please let one of your Board Members know.
This is the time of the year to plan.



Are you interested in a week-long pack trip with the chapter this summer????? Let us know.

Mission Valley BCH Annual Poker Ride

We held our Annual Poker Ride on Saturday, November 8th. We met at the Jette Trailhead on a BEAUTIFUL DAY. A large group showed up for, what traditionally is the last ride of the year. The ride began at 11 a.m. and we rode for about 3 & 1/2 hours. We stopped now and then to draw a card for the Poker Hand. We could trade cards back and forth after each draw but once the last card was drawn there was no more trading. At least none that was visible. There were prizes for High and Low hands. This year high hand was won by Sherrie Hopper, with 5 (yes 5) Aces, and she took home a bag of horse feed. Low hand was won by Scott Kiser and he took home a bag of chocolate chip cookies. There was a debate about high and low hand as Scott thinks Dennese's chocolate chip cookies was a pretty good prize!!!!!! It was a great day, a good ride with some of the nicest weather we have had since we began our November Poker ride. See you next year.



Leroy D. draws from Scott K.



There were no losers in this group... A good time was had by all... See you next year.



The view from the top of the Jette Ride.

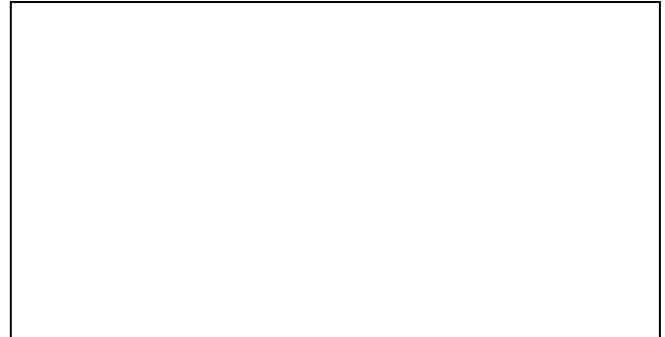
Questions to ponder..?..?..?

Why are you a member of Back Country Horsemen and Women?
What do you love about our organization?
What are we doing well? and... How do you see us improving?
What can WE do and what can YOU do????



Respectfully, Your Editor..... Bonnie Kiser

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



Happy Holidays



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**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: Marie Hall: 676-0231**