



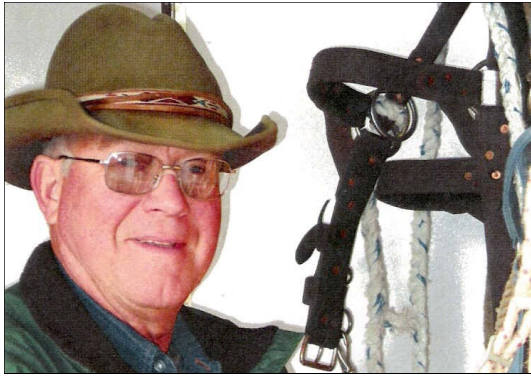
FEED BAG



MARCH 2010

Back Country Horsemen of Missoula

Myra Mumma, Editor



President's Message:

Greetings to all. The Christmas party is behind us and it was a grand time. The membership roundup is also over. This was, again, a very successful event. There was lots of good food and several new members joined. Shane Clouse provided music. Thanks to the Social and Membership Committee for the work they did to make the event successful. Alan Meyers and Anna Tucker deserve a special thank you for the work they did with sponsors for the silent auction and door prizes. Another special thank you to members who donated to the silent auction and for door prizes. I am pleased with the enthusiasm our members show for the different functions and projects of our club. Thank you!

I hope our new members are greeted with enthusiasm. We have to make sure we welcome them into the club and help them understand the different functions and projects of our club. We may have to look for a different place to have our general meetings as we may have out grown the FW&P meeting room.

We have a few things planned for spring and early summer, so make sure you check the *Dates to Remember* list on page 5 of this newsletter.

I think spring is here. I know some of you have been out with your horses and mules for a ride or two. Some of the trails still have ice in places, but with the warm weather, it has been going very fast.

I hope you will support the sponsors who provided items for the silent auction, door prizes, and money for our chapter. These donations contribute toward the work we do. Tell them you are a member of the Back Country Horsemen of Missoula--they appreciate that.

Remember the words of Winston Churchill -- "You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give."

Paul Evenson, President

2010 Membership Roundup

The Membership Roundup was a huge success and a ton of fun. Hats off to the Committee: Barbara Koepke, Alan Meyers, and Paul and Sandy Evenson. *Photos provided by Michele Hutchins.*



OFFICER PROFILES

Paul Evenson is our 2010 President. Paul retired from USDA-FS Fire and Aviation. "I had the two best jobs in the FS," he says. "A smokejumper and helicopter operations." When he retired in 2003, he joined BCH of Missoula. He believes in our Mission Statement.



In addition to packing in supplies for club work projects, Paul packs in lookout supplies, back country camps for former smokejumpers, for the Bob Marshall Foundation, for government dignitaries, for the Smokejumper Trail Crew projects—about anyone or anything that needs packing into Wilderness Areas. He is accompanied by his Karelian bear dog, Riikka, on these trips, as well as other BCH of Missoula members.

His favorite trail is the one into Gates Park up and over Headquarters Pass. "It is always different," he says. "Good view, maybe wind, rain and snow, but always a great. You will have to make it some time. The trail gets up really high and on the east side it is a bit steep in places. Along that trail is a big spring that has the best ice-cold water."

Paul was President of our club in 2009. He was Vice-President for two years before that. He was Issues Committee Chairman and on the Board of Directors in 2005 and 2006.

Mark Wright is our 2010 Vice-President and was Vice-President in 2009 as well. Before that he was on the Board of Directors. Mark has a degree in Psychology and a second degree in Emotionally Disturbed Youth, a field he worked in for 25 years. For 8 years he has been teaching Psychology at Big Sky High School. He also coached girls volleyball for 16 years. Mark is a smokejumper in the summer-time; he is certified as an EMT with the Smokejumper Assn. In addition to being Vice-President for BCH of Missoula, he teaches CPR and saw training and he and his wife, Jenna, work on every committee for major club events.



Jenna Wright is the 2010 Secretary, as she was in 2009. Jenna grew up in Corvallis, MT. Her first horse was a palomino named Sundance. She has a degree in Health and

Physical Education and a second degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She was a personal trainer at The Women's Club Health and Fitness Center for ten years until Mark convinced her to get her teaching certificate. She now teaches Women's Health and Performance at the Frenchtown High School. Jenna served as the club's Social Chairperson, a huge job, before taking the job of Secretary in 2009.

Connie Long is our 2010 Treasurer. In her own words....."I am currently Treasurer and Senior State Director. I was President of the club in 2007 and 2008. I have been a member of the club for 15 years. I also represent the club on the Missoula Horsemen's Council, a group that oversees the Missoula Equestrian Park.



I am a Registered Nurse at Community Medical Center in an "on-call" position. This means that I fill in for other nurses who are taking vacations. Mack & I have three grown children, and two grandsons ages one and three.

I have been a hunting and fishing guide in the Bob Marshall Wilderness in the past and plan to be a fishing guide in the Bob this summer. I am a strong advocate for wilderness—there is no place I'd rather be."

Board and State Directors

Ken Brown is on our Board of Directors this year, the second year of his two-year term. Ken was active in the 1980's and was President in 1989. As with all of us, when his children were in sports and school activities, he didn't have time to be very active in BCH of Missoula. He returned to be a very active member, serving on the Board and helping with work projects in the back country. You'll also see him participating in many day rides and on committees for our major social events. Ken is the Director of Specialized Services for Opportunity Resources, Inc.



Ken Bransby was elected to a two-year term on the Board of Directors. He has been a wrangler and a packer, owned a painting business, and has recently formed Bransby Law Firm



in Stevensville. Ken says he joined Back Country Horsemen of Missoula because he thought they'd be a good group to belong to.

Smoke Elser is a founding member of BCH of Missoula which he helped organize in 1973. He was the interim president for March, April and May of 1973 until new officers were elected and Raynor Roberts took over as President. Smoke was club President two other terms, and Vice-President in 2002. He has been elected to the Board of Directors and the State Board many times over the years as well, serving as Education Chairman and Forest Service Liaison.

Many probably don't realize that Smoke was instrumental in getting the Missoula Equestrian Park set aside. He was part of the Equestrian Program at the University of Montana from 1957 to 1964 when the University supported an indoor riding arena, 40 boxed stalls, and leased out horses and classrooms. Missoula was known for the largest Northwest Horse Show in the country at that time. Smoke envisioned getting this 90-acre parcel set aside and building an indoor arena to promote the Northwest Horse Show.

Smoke and his wife, Thelma, celebrated 50 years in the Bob Marshall in 2007. They felt fortunate to have lived out their dream of living in the mountains with their outfitting business. They were running 16 to 18 summer pack trips, averaging eight days each and 4 to 6 8-day hunts each year. Smoke is a legend in the outfitting business. He once said he loved it for many reasons, but mostly to see what there might be over the mountain or around the bend in the trail.



Smoke is called a "wilderness hero" for the work he's done to protect Montana's Wilderness Areas. He has been involved in every effort to protect wilderness since before the Wilderness Act passed in 1964. He worked to protect the Lincoln-Scapegoat Wilderness designated in 1972. He's been on the political front for the Blackfoot Clearwater Stewardship Project and more recently the Forest Jobs and Recreation Bill.

Smoke teaches a Wilderness Outfitting and Packing Course at the University of Montana and also Outfitting and Packing at Ninemile Wildlands Training Center. Smoke loves ice cream.....

Barbara Koepke was BCH of Missoula's Treasurer from 2006 through 2009. She has been the chairperson of National Trails Day for the sixth year. She loves horseback riding—day rides and moonlight rides. Her current horse project is a gorgeous Palomino mare named Dancer. She is looking forward to riding in the back country again.



Barb was a 4-H leader for six years in Las Vegas for dog care and training projects and veterinarian science. She loves to cook, especially Dutch Oven cooking. She's famous for her huckleberry peach pie. The recipe is in a Cookbook for Breast Survivors that Barbara contributed to. Barb has many hobbies, too many she says, but sewing is at the top of her list (after horses) and she is currently working on appliquéed quilted centerpieces. If you have ever noticed her perfect handwriting you might know that she was a draftsman along with being a mom (to Michele and Diane) in earlier years. Barb drafted over 35 house plans in her working years.

Mack Long was elected to the Back Country Horsemen of Missoula Board of Directors in 2009 for a two-year term, which he is finishing in 2010.

Mack is currently Regional Supervisor for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. You have noticed his name in the media on issues involving fish and wildlife in this area, including the Fish Creek Fee Title acquisition which encompasses 41,000 acres of land west of Missoula. Mack has been very active in protecting many landscapes and natural resources in Montana through other land purchases for public use as well. He has also been a strong supporter of Wilderness and back country protection as well as training and educating the public on wilderness skills.



Mack and Connie are always ready to help out with their mule string if folks need to be packed into the back country, such as volunteers for the Bob Marshall Foundation, National Smokejumper's Association trail crews and others.

Mack has three children and two grandsons. He says his favorite trail is whichever one is under his horse at the time.

Alan Meyers was voted to a two-year term on the Board of Directors in 2009. In addition to being on the BOD for the club, he is on the

planning committee for the Membership Roundup, Christmas party and Father's Day Steak Ride. And when the committee gives him a job, you'd best stand back and watch! He is also a co-chairman of the Sponsorship Committee.

Alan was raised in St. Ignacius, Montana on a ranch. He loves packing into the back country. He says there's nothing better than watching a young horse get better and better on those trips. And, he loves getting to see new country.



Alan owns Sky-Hi Auction Company which provides farm, ranch, land, livestock dispersal and liquidation. He is an auctioneer and appraiser. Alan is a licensed realtor for commercial, land, ranch and residential properties. Previously, he was an owner of Missoula Livestock Auction and was a livestock auctioneer for 31 years. He still sells horses; always has a good, well-broke saddle horse for sale. Alan's wife, Kathy, teaches fifth grade at Hellgate Elementary. They have two grown sons who are both Missoula City firemen.

Gary Salisbury was voted to an Alternate State Director to represent our club. In 2009 he was also a State Director. In 2008, he was on the Board as Past President. In 2004, then President Bob Doty became ill and couldn't complete his term, so Gary offered to take over for him. Gary was also elected President the following year—2005. He has been the Chairman of the Steak Ride Committee for several years.

Gary started breaking horses when he was 15 years old, then started observing their behavior. What he learned through the years about horse behavior has made him one of the most successful horse trainers in our area. He is known for his success with problem horses. Gary also owns Salisbury Auction Service.



Don't miss Gary & Caroline's April 3rd Spring Tune-up for Horses and Humans. You'll get to see first-hand Gary's gift of working with horses. Caroline is organizing a Dutch oven potluck that day. Either bring a Dutch oven dish or bring a Dutch oven and ingredients and she'll help you cook it. And, if you're worried about being too cold, there will be a bonfire to warm you, one side at a time.

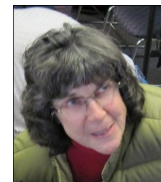
Richard Tamcke was elected to the club's Board of Directors for a two-year term. He was a Board member last year as well. He is

very active and helps about every committee formed for our major events. He has also been the club's Recreation Ride Co-Chairman for the last two years. Richard enjoys training horses, skiing, sewing, back country camping and teaching horsemanship, trail ride project and packing to 4-H'ers in the community. Richard and his wife, Diane, are wonderful dancers and they're a treat to watch at the Membership Roundup each February. Richard retired from the U. S. Postal Service. He and Diane have one son and one daughter, three grandsons and one great-grandson. Richard says he joined BCH of Missoula because he was looking for riding partners.



Diane Tidwell was elected to the Board of Directors for a one-year term. In her own words....."I have a long history with BCH. I've been a member of the Mission Valley BCH, Bitterroot Valley BCH and held several offices in Missoula BCH before this last go-round. In the '90's I was on the Board, Social Chairman, Secretary (what a laugh) and finally President in 2002. Really makes me OLD!

In 1997 (or so) at an Issues meeting, we were discussing packing in for the National Smokejumper's Assn. summer projects and when asked if we had a cook, I volunteered. I went into Webb Lake that summer and have been cooking for them ever since. I volunteered as a "dispersed host" at Monture Creek Work Center on the Seeley Lake Ranger District for five fall seasons. There I patrolled the Wilderness trailheads, saw to the Seeley Lake District's horses and mules, and generally enjoyed watching the aspen and larch trees turn to gold.



I also volunteer at the Missoula Senior Citizens Center as office help, and worked at the Lolo Food Bank last year.

Presently I have two horses. Walker, a nearly toothless 29-year old bay gelding for whom I have to provide soft, easily gummable feed two times a day, and Janie, a twelve-year old brown (Plain Jane) mare that I'm still getting acquainted with. I've been in love with horses ever since I was five years old, and seems I have made a career of positioning myself so I can own and ride horses. What a lot of work, pain, and pleasure!

Thank you, members, for sending me these profiles. Thank you also to Lola Mae, Michele, Don Dodge for photos.

HORSE TRAILS AND HORSE NUMBERS

.....Compiled by Patty Martin

Referenced from one of our library books: "Recreational Horse Trials in Rural and Wildland Areas" by Gene W. Wood, et al.

Ranking of total Federal and State lands listed by contiguous states: Idaho has the most with 16,327 miles. California ranks the second with 12,961 miles. Montana has the third most Federal and State lands with 12,991 miles. Colorado is fourth with 11,555 miles and Wyoming is fifth with 9,133 miles.

Texas ranks highest of percentage of numbers of horses with 10.6%. Colorado has 7.6%, Florida has 5.4 %, Oklahoma has 3.6% and Kentucky has 3.5%.

Wyoming has the highest ownership of horse per capita, followed by South Dakota, then Montana, Idaho and lastly North Dakota.

President Paul's Word Trivia

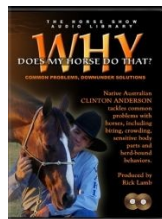
Last issue's word was ort and Lola Mae LeProwse was the winner. This issue's word is:

Quiescent

Call Paul at 251-2163 if you know what this word means. Prize is pie ala mode & coffee at Riverside Grill in Bonner.

Book Review

Great news! Our club's library has two new additions. One is an audio set of two CD's called "Why Does My Horse Do That?" by Clinton Anderson. His message is that if you are tired of your horse behaving badly, do something about it. Teach him to stop biting, fidgeting, walking off when mounting, pulling back when tied, jiggling on the trail, resisting clippers and more. The CD's address how horses think, behave, and react.



The second addition is 2-1/2 hour instructional video called "Packing Horses & Mules for the Back Country" by Brandon Carpenter. Brandon was a game warden for MT FW&P and he gives clinics frequently in this area. He addresses rope needs and knots, saddle types and fit, saddle tree fitting, packing boxes and panniers, manties, hitches, packing game and antlers and more.

In Memory of Joyce Ruana

.....By the Editor

Joyce Ruana passed away the day after Christmas. Her husband, Denny, died on February 19, 2009. Joyce cared for him during the last months of his declining health. She and Denny raised one daughter, three sons, as well as foster children.

She's left us with "a hole in our hearts." Her absence will be noticed especially when riding season starts. Riding season started every year with a call from Joyce reporting that her horse was shod. If Denny didn't have time to put the shoes on, she'd hire a farrier.

Joyce made horse backing a priority. She would let her housework and gardening go during riding season, because trail riding for Joyce was her priority and she thought it should be everyone else's priority too! Joyce kept a calendar each year of her trail rides. When you saw her on the trail she knew exactly how many she'd been on that season. And at the end of the season she was trying to pack a few more in for her calendar.

Joyce often talked about growing up in Target Range area since her parents, Ken & Lena Richardson, owned acreage there. She told us that many days as a youngster she'd be out all day exploring on horseback. She could ride to the fairgrounds and race around the track, then up to Farviews and over to Blue Mountain. When her own children were small, Denny would come home from work at lunchtime and tell her to take a break from the house and go ride. She would take Chiquita and ride from their place on the Clark Fork River across to Kelly Island a lot.



Joyce on Skipper, a foal raised from her mare Chiquita.
Photo provided by Linda Ruana

Many wouldn't know she was an unofficial membership chairperson for our club. She'd tell her horsey friends they needed to go to the membership drives and support BCH of Missoula. "They clean our trails for us. We need to support them," she say.

Joyce will be missed terribly. We take comfort that we knew her and that we can carry on what she taught us. Now we will be the mentors. It'll be us who pick the rider up out of the dirt, dust them off and tell them to get back in the saddle. It will be up to us to call out the names of the wildflowers. Now it's up to us to help someone out with a new horse. And who's going to step up in her place to be the first one mounted? I guess we'll even have to make our own lemonade when life gives us lemons.

She's up there now—rounding up horse people and telling them to get their horses out of the corrals and pastures and onto the trails.....

**We need to support
BCH of Missoula.
They clean our trails
for us!
.....Joyce Ruana**

REMEMBER THESE DATES!

MEETINGS

March 26-28	State BCH Convention, Bozeman
April 7	MBCH Board Meeting, FW&P, 6:30 PM
April 21	MBCH General Meeting, FW&P, 7:00 PM
May 5	MBCH Board Meeting, FW&P, 6:30
May 19	MBCH General Meeting, FW&P, 7:00 PM

The 2010 Packing & Equestrian Skills Expo Committee meets every month, the second Wednesday, 6:30 PM, at the Press Box until the Expo is over.

CLINICS/TRAINING

April 3	Spring Tune-up for Human & Horse w/Dutch Oven Potluck, Gary Salisbury/Caroline Bauer, 10:00, 273-6967 (Details on page 3.)
April 10	Log & Water Crossing, Erskine Fishing Access west of Frenchtown, 10:00 AM, Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
April 17	Horse Safety, Harper Arena, 9:00 AM 258-6467
April 24	Saw Training, FW&P, 9:00—1:00 PM, Mark Wright, 258-6795

WORK PROJECTS

June 25-27	Burnt Cabin Project
TBA	Stuart Peak Trail Project & Day Ride, Harper/Barth
TBA	Mill Creek Trail Project & Day Ride, Diane Tidwell

EDUCATION PROJECTS FOR COMMUNITY

May 22	2010 Packing & Equestrian Skills Expo, Missoula Equestrian Park, 10:00 PM to 5:00
June 5	National Trails Day, Blue Mountain Trailhead, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM Barb Koepke, 626-4351 (Details on page 7.)

SOCIALS

June 20	36th Annual Father's Day Steak Ride, Blackfoot Clearwater Game Range, 11:00 AM
August 20	August Potluck, Holt Heritage Museum
September 15	Ice Cream Social before General Meeting, 6:00, FW&P

RECREATION RIDES

April 24	Blue Mountain Trailhead, 10:00, Leaders: Myra Mumma & Richard Tamcke, Lunch provided but RSVP Myra @ 542-7443
May 1	Lubrecht Experimental Forest, 10:00, Leader: Mark Wright, 531-2455, Bring your lunch.
May 8	Rattlesnake Trailhead, 10:00, Leader: Ken Brown, 207-6067, Bring your lunch.
May 15	Pattee Canyon, Leader: 12:00 Noon, Don Sokoloski, BBQ After Ride, 544-7830
May 16	Annual Wildflower Ride in Marshall Canyon, 10:00 AM, Dan & Marjorie Harper, 258-6467, Bring your lunch.

We need leaders and ride details for the 2010 Recreation Rides!! Call Richard Tamcke at 258-6621, Ken Brown at 207-6067 or Sandi Treadaway at 728-3459



Club Calendars for Sale

Pick up your 2010 to March 2011 calendar from Mark Wright at the general meetings or call him at 258-6795. These are professional quality calendars! \$12

BCH of Missoula Photo Contest

Thank you, Michele, and all who worked on the photo contest for all your hard work. The contest was a lot of fun from all reports. Thanks for all the hours you spent on it!

The wind of heaven is that which blows between a horse's ears.....Arabian Proverb

FOR SALE



Hay for Sale. Selling in Missoula or Arlee by the bale, ton or semi-load. Rounds 3X3X8 or 3X4X8, \$110.00 or \$160.00 per ton delivered. Call Alan Meyers. 360-2121 or 240-3329

Home for Sale. Target Range Four Bedroom Family Home on 1+ irrigated acres with barn and corrals for your horses. Call Ed Hogan at 549-6628. (Ed and his wife, Thelma, have sold their horses and tack and are downsizing because of age. Ed has been a member of BCH of Missoula since it started in 1973. He has been an active member and at one time was Vice-President.)

This For Sale section is a free service for members. If you need to sell something, take advantage of it!

Please renew your membership, if you have not already done so



BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF MISSOULA

P. O. Box 2121
Missoula, MT 59806

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2010

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PHONE #: _____

If applying for family membership, name children under 18 and their ages.

What events are you interested in? Day rides, work projects, clinics?

ATTENTION!

Notice of Risks Inherent in Equine Activities!! Serious injury or even death can result from equine 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 not limited to: a) the propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury or harm or the death of persons on or around the equine; b) the unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as medication, sound, sudden movements, and unfamiliar objects, persons or other animals; c) hazards, such as surface and subsurface ground conditions; d) collisions with other equines or objects; e) the potential of another participant to not maintain control over the equine or to not act within the person's ability.

Participants in any equine 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 Back Country Horsemen of Missoula 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 _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES

_____ Family: \$40/Year _____ New Member
_____ Individual: \$30/Year _____ Renewal

Membership is on a calendar year basis (expires December 31st). Please make payments to Back Country Horsemen of Missoula. Any membership dues received after October 1 will be applied to the following calendar year.



CPR Training January 3, 2010

Mark Wright (by blackboard) gave his CPR students a break in this picture provided by Don Dodge. There were 23 participants in all. CPR has to be recertified every two years and Mark provides this valuable clinic free for BCH of Missoula members.

Old Farmer's Advice

.....submitted by Gloria Curdy

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
Fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Every path has a few puddles.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Forgive your enemies; it messes up their heads.

The best sermons are lived not preached.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Sometimes silence is the best answer.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply.

BCH of Missoula Accomplishments in 2009

.....by Paul Evenson

Our chapter had a very active year as a volunteer service in 2009. We started with National Trails Day at Blue Mountain Trailhead. The next project was to pack in a hay shelter at Burnt Cabin. The annual Monture trail project was a huge success this year. In 2010 we are planning to have a camp set up at the trailhead for members to use and just stay to day ride or hike, then spend the night in the mountains. This project is set for June 25-27, 2010. Call Mike Moore, 370-7549, to sign up.

The chapter work hours totaled 2,113 at \$19.51 per hour = \$41,224.63. Stock use was 165 X 28 days = 4620 stock days. Power equipment was 46 hours X \$25 = \$1,150.00. **Total amount donated to the taxpayer—\$513,841.00.**

There were 179 volunteers on 27 projects, 276 miles of trails worked and 12,575 pounds of cargo packed.

Back Country Horsemen of Missoula believe these public lands belong to each of us and with use comes a responsibility to care for our public lands and the desire to leave it better than we found it.

My thanks to all of you who worked on the different projects and to those of you that gave your support.

**2010 Officers
Club Board and State Board of Directors
Committee Chairs**

OFFICERS	
Pres. Paul Evenson	251-2163
Vice-Pres. Mark Wright	258-6795
Sec'y. Jenna Wright	258-6795
Treas. Connie Long	543-0528

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	
Ken Brown, 1 Yr.	721-3357
Ken Bransby, 2 Yr.	274-0619
Barbara Koepke, 2 Yr.	626-4351
Mack Long, 1 Yr.	543-0528
Alan Meyers, 1 Yr.	360-2121
Richard Tamcke 2 Yr.	258-6621
Diane Tidwell, 1 Yr.	273-0862

STATE DIRECTORS	
Smoke Elser, 2 Yr.	549-2820
Connie Long, 2 Yr.	543-0528
Gary Salisbury, Alternate	273-6967

COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Education, Dan Harper	258-6467
Feedbag, Myra Mumma	542-7443
Horseman's Council, Mike Hartkorn	549-0527
Issues, Paul Evenson	251-2163
Membership & Website, Sandy Evenson	251-2163
Phone, Sara Wilson, Lola Mae LeProwse	251-4588
Projects, Dan Tuxbury & Michael Moore	883-9423 370-7549
Publicity, Barbara Parker	544-9480
Recreation Rides, Richard Tamcke & Sandi Treadaway	258-6621 728-3459
Social, Lana Hamilton & Nancy Stoverud & Diane Tidwell	251-3456 542-0085 273-0862
Sponsorship, Anna Tucker &	273-3779

National Trails Day, June 5th

Plan to join us for the 2010 National Trails Day on Saturday, June 5th, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Blue Mtn. Trailhead. We have a lot of fun putting up wall tents, eating good Dutch oven cooking, taking surveys, talking to hikers, bicyclists, birders, horsebackers, runners, dog walkers, etc. A work party will clean parts of Blue Mountain Trail that day. We hope to have a good showing of horsebackers from the club. As part of REI's Outreach program, they are sending high school and college volunteers to help BCH plant new Ponderosa pines, paint the fence rails and build a hitching rack. This year's theme is "Find Your Happy Place." Thanks to Barbara Koepke for organizing this event for the sixth year. She always needs volunteers. 626-4351



Dates for Non Club-Sponsored Events

- April 30-May 2 MT Wilderness Assn. 2010 Gathering, Grouse Mtn. Lodge, Whitefish
- May 1 & 2 Charlie Hansen Clinic at Pleasure Park Farms, 12-15 obstacles. Clinic full but can audit. E-mail lakishome@q.com.
- Mar. 27, Apr. 17 6th Annual Bitterroot Buckle Series Schooling Show, Sapphire Events Center, Corvallis
- May 28-30 American Quarter Horse Assn. Show Sapphire Events Center

Check the class schedule at Ninemile Wildlands Training Schedule. www.fs.fed.us/rl/lolo/resources-cultural/nwtc.



Back Country Horsemen of Missoula
The Feedbag
 P. O. Box 2121
 Missoula, MT 59806

MISSION STATEMENT

- ◆ Perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
- ◆ Work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreation and stock use.
- ◆ Assist the various agencies responsible for the maintenance and management of public lands.
- ◆ Educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustained use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.

TO:



2nd Annual 2010 Packing & Equestrian Skills EXPO
 May 22, 2010, 10:00 to 5:00
 Missoula
 Equestrian Park



The Expo committee is working hard to make this at least as big a success as last year's. Committee Chairman is Mark Wright. Co-Chairwomen Marjorie Harper and Connie Long.

Sign by Brite Signs



**36th Annual
 Father's Day Steak Ride
 June 20, 2010
 Blackfoot Clearwater Game
 Range
 Ride & BBQ**

There will be live entertainment this year by LeGrande Harvey, singer/songwriter who wrote Montana's State Ballad called Montana Melody. There will be wagon teams and hay rides. Bring your own horse, ride in the wagon, or sit in camp and visit, but do come!