



**New Members:**

**Marnie & Bruce Ammons  
Adam Davis  
Sam Hoshor  
John O'Brien**

**DON'T FORGET  
THE STEAK RIDE—  
June 23rd. Details  
back cover.**

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*All photos in this issue provided by Don Dodge and Ken Brown.*

# The Feedbag

June 2013



**President's Message.....**

Danger (noun): exposure or liability to injury, pain, harm, or loss  
Dangerous (adjective): exposing to or involving danger  
Safety (noun): the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury, or loss  
Safe (adjective): secure from threat of danger, harm, or loss  
 Merriam-Webster online dictionary ([www.merriam-webster.com](http://www.merriam-webster.com))

Our recognition that, through our activities as back country horsemen, we constantly encounter the former causes us to focus on the latter. If you have been around our club for even a short time, I am sure you have picked up on the fact that we talk, teach and preach safety. I thought it would be valuable to briefly outline the educational programs presented early each year, and focused on these topics, so that you can plan to attend next year.

1. CPR and First Aid Certification: Presented by Mark Wright toward the end of January.
2. Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Certification: Classroom setting presented by Mark Wright and John Favro in early March.
3. Annual "Spring Tune-up" for horse and rider: Hosted by Chris and Connie Basham and presented by Gary Salisbury at the end of March or early April.
4. Log and Water Crossing: Presented by Richard Tamcke around the second Saturday in April.
5. Defensive Horse Safety: Hosted by Dan and Marge Harper and presented by Dan, Smoke Elser, Paul Evenson, Don Barth, Gary Salisbury, Connie Long, Randy Velin and a host of other members who have assisted over the years. Generally the third Saturday in April.
6. Chainsaw and Crosscut Saw Certification: Field certification segment of saw training conducted by Mark Wright and John Favro and held in conjunction with the trail clearing project at Blue Mountain Recreation Area on National Trails Day during the first Saturday in June.

I know I have not remembered or recognized all who have assisted in the training, and I apologize for that. However, know that your skills, your energy and your input are greatly appreciated by all of us.

Defensive Horse Safety, Saw Certification and First Aid and CPR Certification clearly make our activities safer. In addition, they are required for U.S.F.S. projects in order to meet the terms of the Volunteer Agreements we enter for those projects. For those projects we also discuss a Job Hazards Analysis as a short refresher at the beginning of the event. This training helps to ensure that our members will be covered by workers' compensation insurance in the event of injury.

So, be smart, be safe, be active and be thankful for those who help to make our activities safer. 'Til we visit 'round the campfire, thanks for listening.

**.....Mike Moore, President**

**Back Country Horsemen of Missoula**  
~Mission Statement~

1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness.
2. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreation and stock use.
3. To assist the various agencies responsible for the maintenance and management of public lands.
4. To 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.
5. To foster and encourage formation of new Back Country Horsemen organizations.

## Trail Safety and Trail Etiquette

Preferably travel with experienced horsemen and women. Make sure your horse is ready for the trail--physically fit and conditioned to obstacles such as water, bridges, bogs, and gates. Your horse should stand quietly while tied. Condition them to gear such as hobbles, cruppers, britchens, rain slickers, overhead branches and riding alone. Get conditioned for riding yourself. You could avoid an accident! Leave a horse that kicks or a green-broke horse at home until you've worked with a trainer enough to take them out.

Leave stallions and dogs at home, unless the group agrees. A cycling mare can stir up other horses on the ride. Be vigilant if there is a stallion, dog or cycling mare in the riding group.

Don't leave home without your helmet! Ride with a boot heel of at least one inch. Carry an emergency medical information card. Insert your foot in the stirrup only to the ball of the foot. As you saddle up, be aware of loops hanging from your saddle that could trap you to the horse during a mishap. Always fasten the main cinch first (in increments), then the back cinch, then breast collar and then crupper.

When unsaddling, unfasten the main cinch last. (Remember to check your cinches after taking a break.) Never mount a horse that is still tied up. Remember: Horses are always more comfortable and calm if they do not feel trapped.

Don't be shy about using a mounting

block or log or rock to get into the saddle. Once mounted don't start down the trail until everyone is in the saddle. A horse left behind can get extremely nervous making it difficult, if not impossible, for anyone to mount. Wait for all other riders at water crossings or obstacles. Wait at water tanks, streams or ponds until all the horses have had a chance to drink. Stay together.

Stay alert! Remember you are the one with the thinking and reasoning

### **Safety is a state of mind.**

ability. Maintain control of your mount at all times and think about what effect your actions might have on others less experienced than you. Maintain the proper distance between your horse and the one in front of you--two to five horse lengths between horses. Don't crowd. Always be aware of your own horse in relation to others. Remember there is no such thing as a bomb-proof horse. If you can, dismount to put on your raincoat, unfold a map or handing another rider an item. Even if you don't spook your own horse, you could spook another horse in the group.

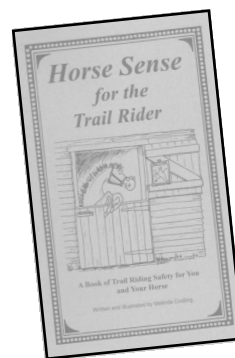
And speaking of dismounting, kick both feet free of the stirrups. That way if your horse moves you won't get the left foot hung up in the stirrup. Watch that loose garments don't catch on the saddle horn.

Walk your horse on mountain trails. Don't gait or trot unless all riders agree. Keep up so you don't find your horse trotting to catch up. If a rider needs to stop, notify the leader. Avoid stopping when going uphill or downhill when there is another rider behind you. The more difficult the terrain, the slower you and your

group need to travel and the more room you need to give other horses. Preferably dismount if you must turn your horse around on narrow and/or steep trails. Always turn his head out over the down side so he can see what his feet are doing. Your weight will not be able to throw him off balance this way either. Give your horse his head in a bad spot and don't be too quick to bail off if he stumbles. This applies particularly to stream crossings, bog holes, etc.

Approach any stock with caution, letting them know you are in the area, either by voice and/or touch. Yield to uphill users and pack strings. When approaching bikers or hikers, talk with them so they will hopefully respond. That way the horses can see and hear them. Also, have them stand on the downhill side of the trail so they are less threatening to stock. Be courteous and respectful.

*Adapted and revised by BCH of Missoula members: Smoke & Thelma Elser, Paul Evenson, Gary Salisbury, Richard Tamcke, Dan Harper, Randy Velin, Don Barth, Connie Long and others.*



**New  
Library  
Book**

### **Horse Sense for the Trail Rider: A Book of Trail Riding Safety for You and Your Horse**

by Melinda Codling  
Back Cover: "Here for the first time, in one book, is all the information you will need to make your trail riding experiences safe and enjoyable." Call Myra to check it out.

2013 DATES	PROJECTS, RIDES, TRAINING, CLINICS	CONTACT
June 23	Annual Steak Ride	
June 27-July 3	Back Country Work Project, Burnt Cabin	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
July 7-14	Pack In and Pack Out Smokejumper Trail Crew North Fork of the Blackfoot	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
July 13	Hwy. 200 Cleanup	Herb & Sue Monk, 549-8756
July 20	Tyler Creek Ride	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
July 27	Petty Creek Ride	John Favro, 864-8644
August 16	Annual Summer Picnic & Potluck, Holt Heritage Museum, Lolo	Barb Parker, 544-9480
Sept. 14	Primm Meadows Ride	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
Sept. 18	Ice Cream Social Preceding General Membership Mtg., 6 PM	
October 12	Wire Rollup & Trails Project, Blackfoot Clearwater Game Range	
October 26	Hwy. 200 Cleanup	Herb & Sue Monk, 549-8756
December 7	Club Christmas Party	

**2013 Membership Roundup and Potluck  
Lolo Community Center, February 23**



Gary Salisbury was again Chairman of this annual event. He and Caroline Bauer, and all their helpers, made it a success. A sincere thank you for all their hard work and time. Upper Left: Nancy and Mike Chandler, Bill and Ramona Holt. Lower Left: Earl Tidball. Center: Caroline Bauer and Suzette Moore helping with the live auction items.



**WANTED: RECIPE FOR WHITE CHICKEN CHILE SOUP THAT WAS SERVED AT THE FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP ROUNDUP!**

**Saw Training, March 16th**



Mark Wright and John Favro instructed this two-part clinic. On March 16th Mark and John reviewed Forest Service policy, proper maintenance and care of the saw, safe saw operations, and the use of safety equipment. Field certification was held June 1 at Blue Mountain NRA. Both sessions primarily focused on safe use of crosscut and chain saws. Five members certified for chain saw and five for crosscut saw. Certification is mandatory every three years for employees and volunteers alike to do project work on Forest Service, BLM land.



### 2013 Spring Tuneup & Potluck March 30, Basham Arena

A great turnout, blue skies, wonderful potluck and lots of Gary Salisbury's valuable training tips. Once again Chris and Connie Basham hosted this event. Thank you, Bashams! Judy Ward brought a to-die-for citrus cake, recipe follows.

#### Judy Ward's Citrus Cake

1 3/4 c. + 1 T. granulated sugar  
3 cups + 1 T. flour  
1 cup butter  
3 eggs  
1/2 tsp. baking soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
3/4 c. buttermilk  
1/4 c. orange juice  
2 T. lemon juice  
2 T. grated lemon rind  
1 T. grated orange rind

Gary Salisbury (far left) and John O'Brien.  
John is new to BCHM.



Preheat oven to 325 degrees, Coat a 10-inch tube or bundt pan with cooking spray. Combine the 1 T. sugar and 1 T. flour to sprinkle over oiled pan. Tap out excess. Cream sugar and butter, add eggs one at a time. Combine buttermilk, orange and lemon juice. Add flour mixture and buttermilk mixture alternately to butter mixture. Beat at low speed; stir in lemon and orange grated rinds. Bake 60-70 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes. Drizzle 1/3 of the following icing recipe on the cake while warm, the last 2/3 over the cake when it is completely cool. Garnish with orange zest.

Icing: 1/4 c. butter, 2 c. powdered sugar, 1-1/3 T. grated lemon rind and 2 tsp. grated orange rind, 3 T. lemon juice, 1 T. orange juice.

The next 2014 State Convention planning meeting will be **Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 PM at ORI.**

#### Log and Water Crossing April 13 Erskine Fishing Access, Frenchtown

The turnout for this annual event was good and the weather was, well, it was April! The Clark Fork River was low but the group of eight rode in side channels and the river bank. Cathy Ream brought her burro. The easiest way to get your horse through water is to follow Richard. He explained that horses can spook and balk at water because water is so much different than ground. It moves, makes noise and may shimmer. Humans can tell how deep water is by looking but not a horse. Horses are naturally cautious and can panic and resist, but Richard remains calm and urges quietly. He centers himself and lets the horse pick his way freely. If your horse resists water, Richard's clinic is the place you need to be next April!





P.O. Box 2399, Missoula MT 59806

## Mountain Press Publishing Company

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Mountain Press Publishing Company publishes books on western U.S. history, natural history, and non technical earth science and ecology, and children's books. We also publish the popular Roadside Geology, Roadside History, reprints of Will James, and other series. Mountain Press Publishing Company publishes books on western U.S. history, natural history, and non technical earth science and ecology, as well as children's books.

**2014 Horse Safety Clinic  
April 20, Harper Arena**

Dan and Marj Harper hosted this all day event again this year. A huge THANKS to them. Several BCH members are instructors for topics such as horse and human safety, tack/saddle savvy, knots, horse care, horse behavior, and many others.

Dan Harper



**National Trails Day  
June 1, Blue Mtn. Trailhead**

National Trails Day is a celebration of America's magnificent trail system and is held annually on the first Saturday in June. This event is designed to promote and celebrate the importance of over 200,000 public trails in the United States.

BCH of Missoula has adopted the Blue Mountain Trailhead to set up a Leave No Trace Camp, greet hikers, bikers and trail riders. Lola Mae LeProwse, Lori Hughes, Sara Wilson and Suzette Moore caught visitors to offer water and granola bars. The dogs could smell milk bones on the table and came begging. They handed out pamphlets on trail use and etiquette and took 100 surveys for the Forest Service. Other members set up camp, or cooked, or visited with each other and new members while others staid the north and south sides of the rail fence at the trailhead. New member Marnie Ammons worked hard at picking up litter. Thank you, District Ranger Carl Anderson, for participating this year!

This makes the ninth year that Barb Koepke has organized this event. Coordinating and gathering materials takes a huge amount of time. The Club appreciates you, Barb!



Lower Left: Lola Mae in the background talking to trail users. Right: Cherie Fisher and Paul Evenson returning to the trailhead.



*Thank you to all 32 members who helped at the National Trails Day celebration. You were all great!*  
.....Barb Koepke

## NO TRACE HORSE USE

by Smoke Elser

What does "leave no trace" mean to horsemen? Every horseman knows that a horse is bound to leave a trace in untrampled land, tracks, manure, and the occasional pawing while tied up. It is up to the horseman to do as little damage as possible and to rehab the areas that he can where the horse has done resource damage.

Today's recreational horses are generally little used, high spirited, and unfamiliar with back country trails and campsites. For these reasons, it is very important that people who use horses in the back country pay attention to every detail they possibly can in "leaving no trace" on our wilderness or back country resource.

The first step, is to use your horses as much as possible to get them in shape and used to the back country and possibly used to other horses being around, as well as those long-eared critters, called mules. The first thing you might want to do is to make sure he will stand quietly, preferably with a buddy, but occasionally on his own. You will want to make sure he can be tied to a high line and not just any old tree. Everyone thinks that tearing the bark off the tree is the worst thing you can do with the halter rope. That isn't really the major damage. The major damage is done to the root system with a thousand pound horse prancing around the tree. This is why we use a high line which keeps them away from the trees and generally on a barren hard core surface, well away from a stream, the trail and a reasonable distance away from the campsite.

The use of tree-saver straps around the trees will prevent the bark from being peeled off and tying the horse a reasonable distance from any tree will prevent root trampling.

To get my horses and mules used to a high line I usually pick a spot in the corral where I have two good stout posts, about 20'-30' apart. I tie two bicycle inner tubes together and around the post, doing the same to both posts, then stretching a real good rope between the two

(I prefer a 5/8's of an inch rope at least), I then tie several mules and horses to this high line. Leave them stand for a period of time so that they may stretch it and pull it and find out that they can't get away. I proceed to do this several times until the horses will stand without stretching the inner tube. By the way, this is how I train my young colts, how to be halter broke, without me having to lead them around hours and hours. This generally will train a horse to the high line. I usually string the high line well above the horse's head, at his normal head height. **Never saddle horses while on the high line.** The rope may catch on the saddle horn and cause an immediate wreck. This is just for in camp containment and overnight containment of your stock while on a pack trip.

I generally sleep under a fly nearby, so that during the night I can roll over and visually see my high line and my stock. This may also prevent a wreck or problem.

My tree saver straps can be commercial or I have found a good alternative is a seat belt out of a junk car, with an additional webbing sewn between the two hookups.

Before I leave my camp, I always scatter the manure and rehab the high line area with tree limbs, pine needles, or whatever is native to the area. Rehab is always one of the most important parts of camping in our wilderness areas with stock. It is every horseman's responsibility to try and leave as little trace that you've been there as possible. I pretend that I am a bank robber and am stealing the Bob Marshall from everyone. For that reason, I try to leave no sign that I've been there so that others users will find no clue that I have stolen the Bob Marshall from them.



**OFFICERS**

Pres. Mike Moore	370-7549
Vice-Pres. John Favro	864-8644
Sec'y. Lori Hughes	626-2582
Treas. Dan Harper	258-6467

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Barbara Koepke, 1 Yr.	626-4351
Angela Lovato, 2 Yr.	549-8956
Cherie Russell, 2 Yr.	546-6492
Richard Tamcke, 1 Yr.	258-6621
Jenna Wright, 2 Yr.	258-6795
Mark Wright, 2 Yr.	258-6795

**STATE DIRECTORS**

Mike Chandler	549-7639
Gary Salisbury, 1 Yr.	273-6967
Connie Long, Alternate	240-2722

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Education	Vacant
Feedbag, Myra Mumma	542-7443
Issues, Interim, Smoke Elser	549-2820
Membership, Interim, Dan Harper	258-6467
Nominating Committee	
Phone, Sara Wilson	251-4588
Projects, Richard Tamcke	258-6621
Mike Fisher	
Jess Maynard	
Publicity	Vacant
Recreation Rides, Gary Salisbury	273-6967
Social, Barbara Parker	544-9480
Caroline Bauer	
Suzette Moore	
Sponsorship, Interim, Myra Mumma	542-7443
Website, Connie Long	644-7889

**Club Member News**

**Ed Hogan** passed away on May 10th. He was active in BCH of Missoula and was a Board Director in 1993. He grew up with horses on a farm in Arkansas and was still working with horses until three or so years ago. His daughter, Marcia Hogan, and her husband Karl Englund are well-known attorneys in the Missoula community. Thelma, his wife, survives him.

**Colonel Raynor Roberts** (longtime BCHM member and first full-time President) and his four boys, Rob, Doug, Gary and Kent, were flown to the Planes of Fame 2013 Airshow on May 4 & 5 in a Lear jet owned by Frank Dulcich. Ray met Frank, owner of Pacific Seafood, when Frank came to Montana as one of Smoke's hunters. Ray, in retirement, worked for Smoke. The Colonel flew 70 missions in WWII, the European stage, in a P38 which he named the Rocky Mountain Sweetheart. At the Planes of Fame Airshow, five P38's flew formation over the crowd. They circled around again and buzzed the crowd. There are only six P38's left in the world. Ray is one of four pilots left and all four attended with their families.

**Montana Mule Days** is June 14-16 at the Fairgrounds in Hamilton. Over 100 classes that include log pulling, driving classes, western pleasure, trail classes, team penning, and costume class for all ages. Lots of vendors.

**Dan Harper** gave a wilderness first aid presentation on April 16th at the Shining Mountains Chapter of the Montana Wilderness Assn.

**Frank Bucknum** wants to lease an Appaloosa for the 2014 Nez Perce Trail Ride. 626-5959

**Stevensville Ranger District** closed Larry Cr. Trails and the area north of Bass Cr. Rd. to begin a timber harvest stewardship program June 12th. The area will be closed on that day. Charles Water Campground and Bass Cr. Trail #4 will be open.

**BCH of Missoula Scholarship Committee** lives on for another year. Please contact Jenna Wright if you know any high school students that might be interested in submitting an essay to the Committee. Two winners will be awarded tuition for Smoke's Packing Class.

**Coming Soon!**

BCH of Missoula will soon be dedicating the Blue Mountain Trailhead to Fred Hartkorn. Fred died in 1994 after a long career as a wildlife biologist for MT FW&P. He mentored many BCHM members, especially kids and horses. Fred's trademark was his headdress and his leather fly swatter that he used to swat flies away from his horse. He would call around during full moon to invite members on a moonlight ride on Blue Mountain. Fred always carried a thermos full of hot dogs, so when they stopped for break, he would sit on a log and eat hot dogs. Dedication date to be announced.





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

**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF MISSOULA**  
**39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL STEAK RIDE**  
**June 23, 2013**  
**BLACKFOOT CLEARWATER GAME RANGE**  
**\$25.00 for Ride and BBQ**  
**Riders must leave the Boyd ranch by 11:00am,**  
**will start serving dinner at 3:00pm**

**Kids under 12: \$10.00**  
**Wagon Rides**  
**Tickets available at Ride**  
**Pot Luck Saturday Night**

**Meet at the Boyd Ranch entrance**  
**off Highway 200, 6 miles east of**  
**the Cow at Clearwater Junction.**  
**-Look for our signs on Hwy 200!**

**Non Riders Welcome!**  
 Over night camping available.  
 Certified weed seed free feed mandatory.  
 No alcohol, stallions or dogs on ride please.  
 Dogs in camp must be on leash.  
 Please bring your own chair.  
 No fire arms in camp or on the ride.

**MISSOULA**

**\* For more information and tickets call: 529-7242 \***