The Picket Line

Post Office Box 3232, Bozeman, Montana 59772-3232



Officers

President:

Brown Parsons 586-9030

Vice President:

Margot Doohan 586-4262

Treasurer:

Sammylu Parsons

586-9030

Secretary:

Joan Holborn 586-3306

Directors

Aaron Linton

585-3493

Bonnie Hammer

284-6822

Rich Inman 388-1564

Bettye White 586-2301

Jacki Conti 586-5047

Ron Rasslev 388-4415

State Board Members

Harry Boughton Linda Roffe

Alternate: Ron Rassley

Newsletter Editor

Sharon Lowry 587-4013 lowry@180com.net

State Web Site

www.bchmt.org



On The Calendar This Month

Club Meetings in December

December 2nd Board of Directors meeting

Sharon Lowry's home. 160 Lake Road 587-4013. **Reminder** - If you cannot attend this meeting, please get a proxy to stand in for you.

December 14th - General Membership Meeting at Kountry Corner Café. As you all know, this is our Christmas Party and election of the officers and new slate of Board of Directors for the coming year.

Club Events in January

January 7^{th,} 2003 - Board of Directors Meeting - Brown and Sammylu Parson's home. 516 North Willson - 586-9030. 7:00 PM. This is the change-over meeting for all the newly elected Officers and Board members. So please, all of you old office holders and the new need to attend. Let's start off the year with no absences!

January 16th, 2003 - General Meeting 7PM - We will be organizing our schedule for the year, so please plan on attending with ideas in mind for programs for the year, rides you would like to go on (suggestions also for trail leaders), and other activities you would like to see the club involved in . This is your chance to get something going that you would like to see us do. If you know of dates that are already scheduled in the community let us know about them too, so we can try to avoid conflicts. The one firm date we have is the POKER RIDE! July 12th.

Christmas Party



REMINDER

Christmas Party, Sat.
Dec. 14th at 7PM
Reservations to Jiffie
763-4105
Possible to make
reservations up to 13th

Expo Update

The proposed Expo for this coming year, will be rescheduled for at least one more year.

Membership

It is that time of year again! Membership dues are coming due. We are enclosing a membership application in this newsletter for your convenience. Please fill it out and return it with your payment. We have to have it for our records. March 1st is the cut-off date.

Message from the President

The year is coming to a close and we are down to our last general meeting for December, which is also our Christmas party. We will have our elections of officers and directors and I hope everyone will come to participate in the election and enjoy fellowship at the party. This year you do not have to be present to vote, but do not let that keep you away. The entertainment committee has been working hard for you.

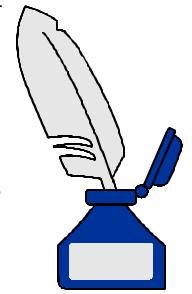
Jiffie's group will be on hand to collect for the dinner, to make sure you have a ballot and collect annual dues, if you want to pay now. We will have the election before dinner so the committee can count the votes and not miss the entertainment. Lastly your President will make his award. I will simply say thank you to all those members who worked so hard for our club. Being President, it has been rewarding to me to work with those who participate in the club activities, our officers and directors, chairpersons, trail bosses and members who volunteered to do the work of the club. To see events and activities planned and carried out without many problems and the satisfaction of knowing I was a little part of the activities. I hope each and every one of you gained some of the satisfaction as it took many volunteers to complete plans and schedules. A big thank-you to all who participated.

We will put our activity calendar together at the January meeting, so come and help plan activities for next year. Chick will be the Trails chairman, Ronnie will chair the rides, and Jiffie will do programs. It looks like we have dual newsletter editors. Jiffie Hale and Dan March will work together to keep this news coming for next year. Please continue to contribute your articles and all the fun fill-ins you have been sending. Sharon and Beth will co-chair the Poker Ride again this year, but we will need a chairperson for the Steak Ride.----Harry? We are hoping he will do it again this year. He did a terrific job.

One goal we have talked about at the board meeting is challenge to every club member to put in a least one day of trail clearing. You can read Chick's report for 2002, which shows an improvement I almost every category, but we can still use more people so the work load is spread

around. We need some young blood in this area. We are also going to need all the help we can get for our new weed program that Tom has implicated. I say again BCH is a civic organization where we do good for our community in caring for the back country. As the old saying goes-"What you get out of an organization is in proportion to what you put into it."

Like the sunset which closes a day you will never see again, this month draws to a close a year we will not live again. Come to the Christmas Party and wish your fellow trail riders a Marry Christmas and happy trails for the New Year.



Convention

This will be held in Hamilton, MT March 28th and 29th.

Theme:

Back Country Horsemen-Continuing the Lewis and Clark Experience, sponsored by Bitter Root Back Country Horsemen.

Photo contest: The categories are: 1. Wildlife/Domestic Animals 2. Candid Camera 3. Back Country Horsemen at work.

Speakers: Brad Powell
- US Forest Service and
Chris Smith - Fish,
Wildlfe, and Parks.

Workshops: Smoke Elser, packing with horses and mules. - Pete Gorrell, saddles and horse tack. Harry June - Outdoor photography. Lonnie Bookbinder - Lewis and Clark in Montana. Lee Scharff - survival in the outdoors. Nine Mile Packers - Demonstration.

Dinner Entertainment:

Richie Doyle - Lewis and Clark Impersonator

Saturday Evening

Entertainment: Dance at the Eagles.

GVBCH Nov.5, 2002 BOARD MTG. MINUTES

Attendance: Brown & Sammylu Parsons, Margo Doohan, Bettye White, Sharon Lowry, Rich Inman, Chick & Jiffie Hale (Proxy for Bonnie Hammer), Linda Roffe, Ron Rassley, Wally Becker, Michelle Barker, & Joan Holborn. Treasurer's Report accepted as follows:

Checking Acct Balance:	\$2,289.38
Money Market Acct, as of 9/30/02	1,915.72
Total Cash	\$4,205.10
Bills paid since last report:	
U.S.P.O. (Stamps)	\$27.75
Kinko's	10.40
Total Expense	\$38.15

Liability Insurance Renewal

Discussion of insurance addressed issue of adequate coverage for club events. Sharon reviewed policy document which states that 2 events are listed for coverage, the Poker & Steak rides. 6 events can be covered without affecting the present premium. Events can be added with proper prior notification.

Thanks to Sammylu for refreshments and cookies.

GVBCH Nov. 21,2002 General Mtg Minutes

Attendance: Beth Merrick, Sammylu Parsons, Sharon Lowry, Aaron Linton, Tom & Jean Griffith, Chick & Jiffie Hale, Bettye White, Wally Becker, Harry Boughton, Ron Rassley, Kay Tate, Joyce Haner, Sonja Berg, Diana Swan & guests, Connie & Al Lien, Joe Guenther, Rich & Joan Holborn.

Treasurer's Report accepted as follows:

Checking Acct Balance:	\$1,823.28
Money Market Acct, as of 10/31/02	1,917.68
Total Cash	\$3,740.96
Bills paid since last report:	
Western States Ins. (liability policy)	\$392.00
Annual Premium	
Kinko's	74.10
Total Expense	\$466.10

Beth led meeting in Brown & Margo's absence

Minutes from October approved

Treasurer's report, motion to accept by Jiffie, Kay 2nd, passed.

Beth wrangled volunteers Jiffie & Kay to audit books.

Visitor, Vicky Hassler, from the local Boy Scouts group is looking for volunteers to help authenticate Lieutenant William Clark's return trip through this region 200 yrs ago. They need horses for adults, wranglers, and pack animals. The trip will begin in Kelly Canyon & end at Grey Bear, beginning June 23rd for 1 week. Approx 10-15 Scouts are planning the event. For more information, call Vicky at 587-1553.

Thanks to Tom for arranging guest speaker Kimberly Schlenker from the Forest Service.

Thanks to Sammylu for providing apple pie and ice cream to all. Respectfully Submitted by Joan Holborn, Secretary