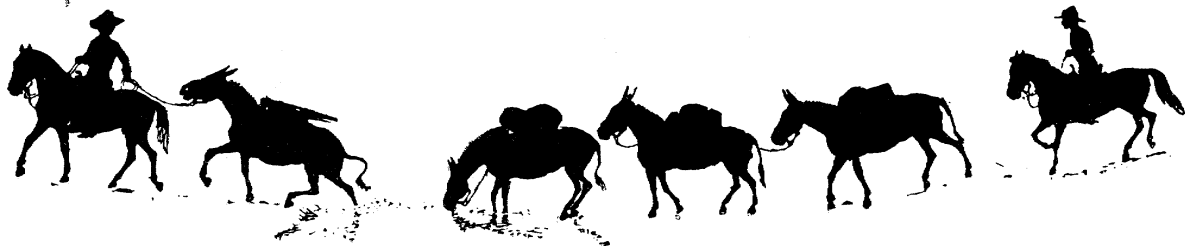


The Picket Line

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 Rassley 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 November

November 5th Board of Directors meeting

Brown Parson's home. 516 North Willson 586-9030. **Reminder** - If you cannot attend this meeting, please get a proxy to stand in for you.

November 21 - General Membership Meeting - This program has been changed. The speaker will be Kimberly Schlenker, for the Gallatin National Forest supervisor's office. Kimberly is the wilderness co-ordinator for the Benchmark Forest Travel Plan.

Club Events in December

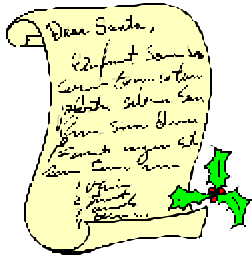
December 3rd Board of Directors Meeting - Sharon Lowry's house 160 Lake Road. 587-4013.- 7:00 PM. Brown and Sammyly are moving!



December 14th Our annual election and Christmas Party ! Much more information on the inside about this fun and exciting event.

Christmas Gift Ideas

These ideas are for your "horsey" friends.



5 lb bag of carrots or apples

50 lb bag of vitamins/minerals

Heavy-duty scissors for emergencies

Album of photos taken of person/horse

Break-away halter

Bungee trailer tie/rope

Western music tape/CD

Mini manure fork for use at trailer/camp

Brass bridle hooks

Fly mask

Etched glassware

Photo mug/t-shirt

Fleece neck warmer

Subscription to any horse magazine

Membership in BCH

Message from the President

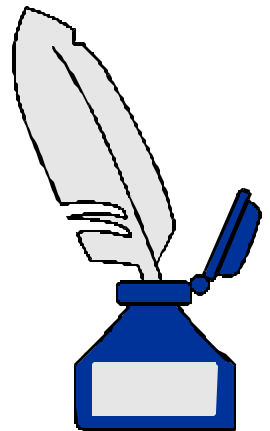
We had a very good program on winter horse feeding at our October general meeting. We should all thank Margo for lining up such good programs. For those of you who were not at the meeting, you missed a good opportunity to learn something. Our thanks to Dr. Smart for sharing some of his knowledge with us.

The big events between now and year end are our election of officers and Christmas party. Elections will take place at the Christmas party. We are sending the ballots out in the November newsletter. This will be your official ballot when you receive it you can vote and return to PO Box 3232, Bozeman, MT 59772, or bring it to the Christmas party and vote there. We have decided to allow absentee ballots since the club has a history of allowing them. We will amend the constitution the first part of 2003 to make it legal. Right now, we are acting on common sense.

The Christmas party is set for Saturday, December 14th at the Korner Café at Four Corners. Comments on the menu are elsewhere in this newsletter and our entertainment committee is busy working on a program, that should be a lot of fun. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar.

I know it is a busy time of the year for everyone, but don't forget your friends at Gallatin Valley BCH. We want to see you and get your input to the programs and activities for our group. Your club needs your support because of the competition to use the trails in the national forests. In my view, BCH is much like a civic organization that helps the community at large, so if you are not involved in any community activity you can fulfill this by being active in BCH. We are having between 30-40 members on a regular basis and we appreciate their support. We just want some of you who do not come on a regular basis to give us a try. See you in November.

Brown



Position Open!

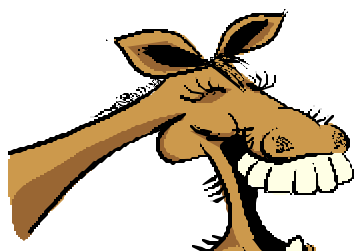
This year has been fun with all the help you have given me in putting together this Newsletter. We have had more information than I can ever remember coming from members. It was fun to read about all the rides and the hard work that all of you have done. All good things must come to an end however, and I will be resigning from the Editor position at the end of the December Newsletter. There are a number of us that can give a new

editor all the help you would need. Please step forward and volunteer!

Sharon

Tidbits

- A horse usually has three heartbeats for every one breath
 - on a day with a light wind, a cow can smell things up to 6 miles away.
 - Among the worlds domesticated animals, only dogs outnumber pigs.
 - Pigs are the only creatures besides humans that can get a sunburn.
 - When measuring a horse from the ground to the top of the withers using the term "hand", a hand equals 4 inches.
 - When two palominos are mated, the odds are 50% that the foal will be palomino.
 - As the horse matures, the legs grow more slowly than the rest of its body.
 - Superstition says that it is bad luck to milk a cow while you are sitting on the ground, the cow will go dry.
 - The horse was first domesticated about 5,000 - 6,000 years ago near the Black and Caspian Seas.
- Thanks Bonnie!*



Christmas Dinner and Party

Buffet Menu:

- Two meat entrees:
 - Baron of Beef
 - Stuffed Chicken Breast
- Twice baked potatoes
- Vegetable
- Salad Bar
- Dinner Rolls
- Desert
- Beverage



The dinner and party will be held at the Kountry Korner Café at the Four Corners, 7:00PM on Saturday the 14th of December. The meal will be \$13.50 per person (the gratuity is added in). Please confirm your reservation with Jiffie Hale 763-4105 no later than December 10th.

The Reindeerettes will be providing entertainment.
We also will be holding our annual election.
Come on out and join us for a fun evening.

Report on a Late Ride

A chilly ride up So. Cottonwood

About 11am Fri., Oct 25th Betty called and said, "It's going to warm up, let's go for a ride." The night before the temp went down to 12 and it was now 20, but the sky was blue, sunny, no clouds and we agreed. Chick and I met her at the So. Cottonwood trailhead at noon and off we went. It was a bit cool. We said the sun will warm us up. We might have been dreamers. This trail is shady, but a great trail for a hot summer day's ride. The ground was frozen, creeks had ice and we had no sun. We traveled on to the brightest spot for lunch. So O.K., at least there was no wind, snow, rain or hail. Think positive. After our warmish lunch and Bettye taking my spare lined gloves, we proceeded on to a "hidden and secret" trail that Chick and Wally found a while back. It skirted the creek, crossed, and wandered up the Wheeler Draw where we found remains of a log cabin and an old trail sign on a tree. There were lots of downed fir trees and the trail was more like a herd path although a nice one. We could have used lots of pruning here. We pushed through tree branches, over fallen limbs and greenery till we got to an overgrown meadow. We had run out of trail, but we had a bit of sun. It was getting colder. Chick and Wally in the past had tried to find the trail, which would take one up to Little Bear. No trail, no sun and we turned for home with the temperature dropping. I put on my ski hat and felt in heaven. On the way back, Chick did a little bushwacking and found another trail in the opposite direction. We'll try that another time. This day, Chick was riding my horse, Jazz, and bringing up the rear, when two bikers spooked him from behind and all of a sudden Chick was in the lead. The bikers apologized and said they were going too fast. Glad I was not riding him today! My riding Splash was the first in 14 years---he was once my horse. When we dismounted at the trailhead our feet hurt they were so cold. The day did not warm up,

but we did ride and in spite of the cold we enjoyed ourselves. Mileage? Well, Chick thought it was about 8

miles, Bettye thought 10 miles and I wasn't going to go there. But my opinion on the temp?---it never got out of the 20's. *Jiffie*

GVBCH Oct. 1, 2002 Board Mtg minutes

Attendance: Brown & Sammylu Parsons, Margo Doohan, Rich Inman, Bettye White, Aaron Linton, Linda Roffe, Sonja Berg, Ron Rassley, Harry Boughton, Sharon Lowry, Bonnie, Chick & Jiffie Hale, Joan Holborn.

Treasurer Report from Sammylu accepted as follows:

Checking Acct Balance:	\$ 2,327.53
Money Market Acct, as of 8/30/02	<u>1,913.74</u>
Total Cash	\$ 4,241.27
Bills Paid: Beth Merrick—Banner	\$ 114.53
Linda Roffe-State Board Mtg	<u>55.50</u>
Total expenses	\$170.03

Issues: Chick would like to approach County or City to get people who are working off fines to help on trail work. Discussion followed with blessing for Chick to look into.

Amendment of Constitution for elections discussed with motion made by Brown to absolve the motion in January for absentee ballot. Passed with only one opposed.

Expo: Linda reports the date is set for May 17 & 18th. Sue from the fairgrounds states they just want to break even. They have 5 full-time in house staff to assist.

Belgrade Parade : Chick reports the club won a plaque for it's mounted unit and he attributes a large part of the success to the efforts of Beth for her decorating and clean-up talents!

Thanks to Sammylu for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Holborn, Secretary

GVBCH Oct. 17, 2002 General Mtg. Minutes

Attendance: Brown & Sammylu Parsons, Margo Doohan, Bonnie Hammer, Chick & Jiffie Hale, Dan Marsh, Tom & Jean Griffith, Wally Becker, Aaron Linton, Michele Barker Sonja Berg, Joyce Haner, Bettye White, Kay Tate, Beth Merrick, Linda Roffe, Ed Long, Jim Nelson, and Joan Holborn.

Correction to September 19th minutes-Brown was present at the general mtg.

Treasurer report from Sammylu accepted as follows:

Checking Acct Balance:	\$ 2,289.38
Money Market Acct, as of 9/30/02	<u>1,915.72</u>
Total Cash	\$ 4,205.10
Bills paid: USPO (Stamps)	\$ 27.75
Kinko's	<u>10.40</u>
Total expense	\$38.15

Issues: Chick and Wally working on Hellroaring Trail with some assistance from forest service, they finished 3000 foot of trail! They would like to schedule weekend trail work and enlist the Montana Wilderness Club.

Amendment of Constitution for election: Beth made a motion to rescind original motion to address absentee ballot, 2nd by Jiffie. Motion passed by voice vote.

Xmas party is set for Dec. 14th, reservation by Dec. 1st please.

Thanks to John Smart, DVM for talk on equine nutrition

Thanks to Beth for the yummy (rum?) cake.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Holborn, Secretary

GVBCH 2002 voting information and absentee ballot

Michelle Barker is one of our most recent new members and regularly attending the meetings. She has been on the board of a resource conservation and has served on committees professionally. Michelle has a teacher's degree and is a teacher by profession.

Joyce Haner has been a member since 1999. She has served as a director and an officer of her local horse club in Indiana. She worked diligently on our 2002 Poker Ride and also on the 2001 Expo.

Sharon Lowry has been a member since 1992. She has served 3 terms as a director, 3 years as treasurer and is our present newsletter editor. Sharon was the 2002 committee chairman for our successful Poker Ride.

Jim Nelson has been a member since 2000. He has served on the board of directors of his civil engineering company in Alaska, president of the Alaska Society of Professional Engineers and president of the Juneau chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers

GALLATIN VALLEY BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
Official Absentee Ballot, December 2002

Officers to serve 1 year

President: Brown Parsons____
Vice Pres Ron Rassley____
Secretary: Joan Holborn____
Treasurer: Bettye White____

Write-in nominations

Club Directors to serve 2 years (vote for 3)

Michelle Barker____
Joyce Haner____
Sharon Lowry____
Jim Nelson____

State Director to serve 2 years: Linda Roffe____

State Alternate to serve 1 year: Ron Rassley____

Absentee voting instructions: Mark your write-in ballot and send to GVBCH, POB 3232, Bozeman, MT 59772-3232. Your ballot MUST be received on or before December 1, 2002. Your name MUST be placed on the outside of your envelope or your vote will not be counted. Family membership is entitled to two votes. Make a copy of this ballot and follow the above instructions placing BOTH names on the outside

envelope. Your ballot will be a secret ballot, placed among the others at the Christmas party and opened at that time to be counted.