

GALLATIN VALLEY BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
POB 3232, BOZEMAN, MT 59772-3232
WWW.BCHMT.ORG

THE PICKET LINE

September 2004



Officers

President

Rich Inman 388-1564

Vice President

Janet Castro 388-0966

Secretary

Joan Holborn 586-3306

Treasurer

Cinda Eichenfels 285-4651

Directors

1 yr

Joyce Haner 388-4273

Sharon Lowry 587-4013

Jim Nelson 388-2201

2 yr

Wally Becker 587-9607

Dave Read 388-1154

Amy Waring 585-2785

State Board Members

Linda Roffe 1 yr

Dan Marsh 2 yr

Alternate: Brown Parsons 1yr

Newsletter Editor

Jiffie Hale 763-4105

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BCH Web Master

Dan Marsh 587-7578

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Backcountry Horsemen Mission Statement

"The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana's road less back country and (2) to assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource and (3) to educate and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses and people, commensurate with our heritage and the back country's resource."

Director's Meeting

Wednesday, Sept., 1st 7pm at Sharon Lowry's 587-4013

General Meeting & Program

Thursday, September 16, 7pm

Belgrade Alliance Church, Cameron & Hoffman Sts.

Program

Agriculture in the Community

Presented by Dwayne Burkenpas

Rides and Parades

Sat., Sept 4th Virginia City Poker Ride

Monday, Sept 6th Labor Day

Sat., Sept 11th Elk Bugle Ride @ Bacon Rind

Trail Boss: Wally Becker 587-9607

Sat. Sept 18th Belgrade Fall Festival and Parade

Sat. Sept 25th Construct 3rd bridge up Spanish Creek

Chick Hale 763-4105

This work is tentative. We are waiting for an answer from the Forest Service

Welcome new members:

Lori Brockway, 1753 Moffit Canyon Rd., Bozeman, MT 59715 587-7198 Lomcco@aol.com
Denise Jensen, 1206 S. Grand Ave., Apt. 1A, Bozeman, MT 59715 570-6807 dmj_mt@yahoo.com
Jennifer Tuthill, 810 S. 7th Ave., Bozeman, MT 59715 587-2289 jentuthill@aol.com

President's message

Summer is winding down and the beautiful Montana fall season is fast approaching. If you are like me you wonder where the summer has gone. This usually is a sign of how busy we are. We have accomplished much this summer.

I have been out with the trail crews a few times and want to say thanks for their efforts and persistence. Bill Shields and crew have done a great job of keeping trails cleared in the Bridgers and a few other places. Chick, Wally and Larry have worked on our adopted Spanish Lakes trail, Garnet Mtn. trail and Hellroaring. They have cleared, cleaned water bars and built many new water bars. They also have built alot of new tread in places where the tread has sluffed. Many thanks to these crews and all who have joined them from time to time. I have met many people who are using these trails and they expressed their appreciation for what GVBCH does to keep trails open.

Our 17th annual Poker Ride was a huge success. The figure I got was 182 registered riders. This success is due to the club members and friends who helped with the many tasks that must be done. I will not name all the people who helped for fear of missing a name but I do want to thank you all for generous, timely help. If you did not participate, you missed out on a great gathering and a good opportunity to get to know other club members. Put it on your calendar for next July and come join in.

By the time you read this, the Steak Ride will be history but I hope you went to this feed. Jim Nelson has been busy getting the steaks, corn on the cob, beans, cake and pop all ready. It is kind of a thank you to the members for all they have done.

There still are some parades and trail rides left this year so come have some fun. It is always best if you let the contact person know in advance that you are going to be there.

Dave and Lisa Read and family have moved to Plains. I want to thank them for their contributions to GVBCH. The whole family really supported the club and gave countless hours helping out with events and projects. My best to you as you continue your careers in a new place.

With Dave Read leaving and Amy Waring announcing that she is going to have a baby, I am in need of two directors to complete the second year of their two year terms. I will be contacting some of you to ask if you will serve but I also would appreciate anyone interested to give me a call.

Let me end this message on the Christmas Party. It is not too early to be organizing this and getting a reservation lined up. We need someone to lead this charge or there will be no party. If willing to lead, please give me a call.

Rich Inman
President



Rich preparing to cook our steaks

Have you ever stared at the frozen orange juice can because it said, 'CONCENTRATE' ?

Hyalite Divide Trail Ride, by Janet Castro

It started on the way up to the trailhead. Some of us were lucky enough to spot a bull and a cow moose in a pond on the side of the road. What an awesome site! My first Montana moose sighting.



One of the most spectacular rides I have ever been on. That was all I could think of as we made our way up to the top of the Hyalite divide.

We had a great turn out for the ride. 12 riders showed up. Weather was

wonderful, nice and cool in the morning. We saddled up, and started to follow our fearless leader, Chick, to the top. We went through about 24 switchbacks up the first big climb, which was



a nice gradual ascent through the woods. Then we came out to a grand opening. High mountain meadows, wild



flowers of every color still in full bloom, lots of running water in little streams, breathtaking, everywhere you looked was a Kodak moment. We spotted some mountain goats on the side of a rock slope.



We continued up the last leg of our journey to the top of the Hyalite Divide. It was a little scary on the side of the slope, but well worth the trip. When we got to the top there was nothing like it. You could see for miles in every direction. We settled in for a nice lunch and a well-deserved rest for the horses. Against our will, we started our trip back. I recommend this 12-mile (round trip) ride very highly, you won't be sorry!



Photos this page by Janet Castro and Chick Hale

Trail Crew Report, *by Chick Hale*

Since the last report in the August NL the following work days can be reported:

July 29th Six of us hand sawed trees and impediments along Spanish Creek Trail. Many trees we found easier to pull with a come-along and chains so if you see a monster section of tree twenty plus feet along the trail it wasn't put there by brute force alone. We picked up another willing worker, Brent Stewart, who besides being a horse trader in cahoots with Larry Thomas, is a willing worker and great to work with.



August 2nd Wally and I spent the day exploring. We traveled up Squaw Creek Rd, up Rat Lake Rd, through a FS gate and continued on a very difficult road up to Garnet Mountain Lookout. All of this to see if we could bring out Adolescent Resource Center members up to work the top of the trail. NO WAY! It rained while up there and we slid down.

August 3rd with Rich Inman, Larry Thomas, Wally Becker, Chick Hale, horses and pack horse we decided to make a run for the high trail to Spanish Lakes. From Mirror Lake junction up to within one mile of the lakes we cleaned and replaced water-bars, removed rock, re-dug tread to the tune of 300' and raised the trail at one creek to stop water from running down the trail. We worked well above the new trail that we put in several years ago.

August 5th Starting about 1 1/2 miles up from the Garnet Mountain trail head we re-dug 420' of trail. 60' of this trail required a log retainer along bottom edge. Brent Stewart and Ernie Rajala, non-members, assisted Larry, Wally and me. Won't be long until the non-members outnumber the members of BCH.

August 10th We were blessed with our ARC young people, totaling 5, including one supervisor. Also, the FS with Will Shoutis and Carry came to help Larry, Wally and me on the Garnet Mountain trail. Will and Wally teamed up and picked on Larry and me all day. I spent 4 hours with the young people all of whom were with us for the first time. Through all of this we installed some log retainers and tapered the upper edge of the trail and in general dressed the trail up. I think the FS were really on a spy mission to check on our young people. Will had to admit that we had a good thing going.



August 12th On horseback, including three of the McGeeins, 7 of us total and 4 of the FS crew, worked Garnet Mountain trail about 2 miles up. We cut, peeled and installed log retainers, re-dug tread and sent the FS crew ahead to do some rock removal and cut retainer logs. A considerable amount of work was accomplished with eleven people totaling 66 hours of hard labor and lots of chuckles.

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August 17th Larry and I worked with 7 youth and 2 supervisors from the ARC. **The Hell Roaring trail #81 has been completed from the trailhead to the creek, a total of 9,000'** Sections of the trail were touched up, the upper side of the trail was tapered, pruning was completed and some rough areas repaired. Next Tuesday will be the last day our youth will be available due to school beginning

August 24 We spent the day with the ARC working on a little used trail called the 'Gallatin River Trail' #137. This trail branches off the Garnet Mountain trail #85 about ¼ mile up from the trail head. It finds its way down to the Gallatin River and is used by hikers and rock climbers. One rocky knob has rock projections that would make a horse and rider think twice, but might be possible if you bring your inside stirrup up over the saddle. Larry, Wally, Ernie and I, along with seven members of the ARC cleared, pruned, removed rock, etc., to improve 1560' of trail and bringing it up to hiking quality. We finished our work and proceeded to wish the ARC kids luck in the coming year and of course I had to tell them, 'BEHAVE.

Our annual steak ride was a fun day. The weather held for us, although people did scatter around the cabin and BCH trailer and tent to find the shade. Jim Nelson, chairman, chief cook and bottle washer, did a superb job. Of course he had help from wife, Karma with her special blend of baked beans. Rich ordered the steaks marinated which were tender, tasty and juicy and he then proceeded to cook each steak to your order. Judy Inman also had her large pot of special baked beans which gave the final touch. We had a feast of delicious beans — ate the whole thing! Along with corn, rolls and carrot cake we all went home with full bellies. A few members had last minute problems and were not able to attend so their steaks were bought by Dan and Alice Marsh




for their freezer. Lucky kids! Janet Castro hobbled around on her peg leg supervising the affair. She had an accident suffered from a fall off her horse recently and injuring her MCL.

It was nice to have our gathering at the cabin. It was secluded, cozy and made the perfect atmosphere for a fun afternoon.



BRIDGER FEEDS



MANAGER
ROBBY MOCK

PHONE: 406-586-3026

OWNER
MARCIA S. ANDERSON

Words to live by—

- The most beautiful attire is a SMILE
- The two most power-filled words are "I Can"
- The most destructive habit is Worry
- The worst thing to be without is Hope
- The greatest asset is Faith
- The most prized possession is Integrity
- The most powerful force in life is Love

Not receiving your newsletter in a timely fashion?

Some (90%) members received the August issue VERY late. Let me explain: I purposely mail the NL's from the Gallatin Gateway PO as they are sent to Butte (except Saturday) for sorting and most all members receive them in a day. THAT IS FACT! If I mail them from Bozeman they are sent to Billings to be sorted and you never know when you will receive them! THAT IS FACT! Now last month the truck out of GG broke down and the postmistress had to take them to Bozeman to be mailed. That explains the delay!

I make every effort to get the NL to you prior to the first event or meeting. So in the future, if you do not receive your NL in a timely fashion, I suggest you go into our web site. I always send the NL to Dan prior to mailing and he promptly places it on our web site. It will be there! I guarantee that! Besides, on the web you view your pictures in color. Try it you'll like it. Dan does a superb job.

Here is the direct address that will take you there: <http://www.bchmt.org/gvbch/newsletters.htm>

I have the saddest news to tell you.

As most of you know the Read family has moved to Plains, MT. Lisa had written me recently that their horse's first day in the new pasture was, "a Big Bummer of a day." Apparently they think wolves chased their mare through the fence and a bunch of trees and shrubs, along with taking out six metal T posts and four strands of barbed wire. She quotes, "Unbelievable. This is hardest on Brandon since it was his horse." The picture of the mare's right front leg is very graphic, exposed down to bone. It brought tears to my eyes; I was very choked up. They put the horse down as there was not much hope.

Jehnet Carlson has had her personal injury problems. While riding her colt on the Chief Jo trail ride, she was putting on her slicker when she got bucked off and landed on her hip. Since the doc already had his hands full with a serious head injury and a broken arm she did not bother him. But after getting back on and riding on about 2 miles she hurt all the way to her toes and knew she was in trouble. So, getting out in the open and away from the others she felt the colt getting nervous and began to buck. She didn't last long and landed on her shoulder. Jehnet suffered a fractured pelvis and nerve damage. She spent the rest of the week in camp—being waited on. She is on the mend now and going "stir crazy."

If you have been keeping up to date by reading the minutes then you have noticed that the state will be raising their dues. In so doing, this means our club will be forced to raise its dues. So FYI our club is compiling information from our treasurer on our expenses showing those necessary bills that have been rising and which keeps the club functioning. Hopefully next month, with this information, Dan Marsh will give us an outline from the BCHMT showing you where your money goes and what it does for you. Watch for it in your NL.

Living in the 00's and...

- ..you try to enter your password on the microwave
- ..you haven't played solitaire with real cards in years
- ..you have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of 3
- ..your reason for not staying in touch with friends is that they do not have email addresses

GVBCH Board Mtg. Minutes August 4, 2004

Attendance: Rich Inman, Janet Castro, Cinda Eichenfels, Sharon Lowry, Amy Waring, Wally Becker, Joyce Haner, Dan March, Chick & Jiffie Hale, Joan Holborn & Jim Nelson.

Motion by Dan, 2nd by Janet to accept July minutes as printed in the newsletter, passed.

Treasurer Report by Cinda, outstanding bills submitted for review.

Motion by Joyce, 2nd by Wally to approve payments of outstanding bills. Passed.

Steak ride needs discussed, Dan & Rich volunteer to assist Jim in pricing steaks.

Incorporation: After discussion, Dan volunteers to research process, costs, etc.

Club dues: Following extended discussion by the board regarding a \$5.00 dues increase coming from BCHA and considering increased operational expenses for the club, **a motion** by Jim, 2nd by Dan to increase dues by \$7.00 for both a single and family membership with \$2.00 staying with GVBCH. Passed by majority.

Donation thanks to Janet & Jose Castro for two gravel bags for trail work.

Board opening Amy announced she is not finishing her term. Congrats as she & Greg gleefully expect parenthood.

Many thanks to Sharon for hosting our meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Holborn, Sec.

GVBCH General Mtg. Minutes August 19, 2004

Attendance: Rich Inman, Janet & Gabrielle Castro, Cinda Eichenfels, Dan Marsh, Wally Becker, Joyce Haner, Jim Nelson, Chick & Jiffie Hale, Larry & Billie Thomas, Donna McGeein, Sonja Berg, & Joan Holborn.

Many Thanks to our guest speaker, Tammy Matthews from the Adolescent Resource Center serving teens at risk in the Gallatin Valley.

Motion by Dan, 2nd by Larry to accept minutes as printed in July N.L., passed.

Treasurer Report given by Cinda. Motion by Chick, 2nd by Jim to accept, passed by all.

Checking a/c balance July 15, 2004 **\$3,524.60**

Deposits (+)

Dues	\$22.00	
Dues	22.00	
Dues & patch w/postage	<u>24.25</u>	<u>68.25</u>
<u>Checking a/c bal</u>		<u>\$3,592.85</u>

Bills paid (-)

Kinko's pd on a/c	\$44.12	
Beth Merrick (reimburse)	128.81	
Sharon Lowry "	205.50	
Amy Waring "	41.01	
Janet Castro "	57.28	
Dave Read "	214.88	
Jiffie Hale "	<u>3.60</u>	<u>\$695.20</u>

Other Debits (-) **\$0.00**

Checking a/c balance **\$2,897.65**

Other Assets

Petty Cash + \$15.00	\$40.96	
Money Market	1,935.90	
3 month CD (V.S. Fund)	<u>3,084.71</u>	<u>\$5,061.57</u>

Motion by Chick, 2nd by Billie to proceed with filing for incorporation. Passed.

Club Dues: Increase discussed at length. Concerns rose about amount necessary resulting in request for a look back period of expenses addressing newsletter production, postage, and club insurance, Cinda will report back.

Many Thanks to Janet for making a cake for our enjoyment.

Respectfully submitted by Joan Holborn, Sec

We thank these sponsors for their generous contributions to our 2004
Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen 17th annual Poker Ride

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Valley View Veterinarian Hospital

Club Members::

Dick & Barbara Haines

Laura Hanks

John & Joellyn Howell

Rich Inman

Beth Merrick

Dave & Lisa Reed

Linda Roffe

Kay Tate



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