

THE PICKET LINE

September 2005



Officers

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Rich Inman 388-1564

Vice President

Janet Castro 388-0966

Secretary

Trina Fredrickson 522-9315

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Cinda Eichenfels 227-6508

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2 yr

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Joellyn Howell 388-4493

John McIlhattan 586-9094

1 yr

Wally Becker 587-9607

Donna McGeein 587-5645

Beth Merrick 388-4047

State Board Members

Brown Parsons 2 yr

Dan Marsh 1 yr

Alternate: Linda Kelly 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."

Board Meeting

Wed., September 7th

7pm

Belgrade Alliance Church

NOTICE ADDRESS CHANGE

General Meeting

Thurs., September 15th, 7pm

Belgrade Alliance Church

Cameron and Hofman Sts

Program

Ray Ansotequi, DVM

MSU animal science professor

Events on page 2

September Events:

Sat., Sept. 3rd Virginia City Poker Ride (no info available)

Mon., Sept. 5th Labor Day

Sat., Sept. 10th Annual Elk Bugle Ride, 10 am @ Bacon Rind Wally Becker 587-9607

Sat., Sept 17th Belgrade Fall Festival Parade – Bettye White 586-2301

Sun., Sept. 18th Trail Work Day – Spanish Peaks Trailhead, 10 am. We will be repairing feed bunks, tie rails and re-grading gravel around bunks and rails. No horses are needed.

Wally Becker 587-9607

September program information by Donna

Dr. Ray Ansotegui is our scheduled presenter for the general meeting on September 15th. He is an animal science professor at MSU. Dr. Ansotegui has years of research experience with bovine and equine species, although he says he strives to stay close to horses. He was a young buckaroo in southern Oregon and northern Nevada before coming to Montana. The focus of his program will be the do's and don'ts of equine transportation. During a recent conversation with Dr. Ansotegui he briefly mentioned vesicular stomatitis - some-

thing he will discuss further at the meeting. He says he can assist us in recognizing and avoiding trouble areas in regards to the rules and regulations of equine transportation. Currently Dr. Ansotegui teaches full time and last year he lectured at the MSU Equine Conference (next upcoming will be on 10/08/05).

The doctor can be reached at 994-5569. His address is: Dept. of Animal and Range Science, MSU @ Bozeman 59717

raymonda@montana.edu

Looking for a new editor...

I believe my time has arrived. It has been three years going into the fourth as your editor and it is time for new blood. I will finish out this year and hopefully end my term with the December issue. If you would like to volunteer please get back to me at 763-4105 or 580-6455 or email jhale@littleappletech.com I will be only too happy to help a newcomer, however there may be someone out there that has much more experience than I. Come forth, whoever you are.

Jiffie

Change of address:

Nancy Eaton has moved to Bozeman from Colorado and her address is now

135 Hideway Dr., Bozeman, MT 59718 (599-3036) Neaton2526@wmconnect.com

Bridger Group Trail Report by Kay Tate

7/25/05 The Bridger Group met Mon., 25th @ the Porcupine Ranger Station leaving to clear trail to Onion Basin after waiting an hour for Kay and Ron. Truck trouble delayed their arrival until noon. We hustled along the trail, noting the work done ahead of us and met the group coming back after completing their job. They had gotten to the basin, but were turned back by heavy fog before reaching the ridge. Hail and rain struck as we were about 1/2 way back to the cabin. Bill and Sheila saw a nice bull moose on the return. After supper of hamburgers, we turned in. Kay and Ron felt the 10:08 earthquake near Dillon and Sheila and Bill heard wolves, but Dick slept through it all.

7/26/05 Tuesday, after breakfast of sausage/gravy and biscuits we headed up the Elkhorn trail and were able to complete the entire trail. This time Bill and Sheila saw three moose, a bull, cow and calf. Now why is that!??

Trail and packing report, by Chick Hale

July 25th Wally and Larry packed two horses for the Forest Service crew with tools and supplies up the Hyalite trail almost to Hyalite Lake where they unloaded.

July 28th Rich Inman, Wally, Larry, Chick and our hiker friend, Ernie, spent the day up Spanish Creek trail preparing a section for gravel installation. One pack horse was able to transport our tools, etc.

July 29th Wally and Larry took two pack horses back up Hyalite trail where they met the FS crew and packed out their tools and equipment from July 25th trip.

July 31st Dan Marsh, Reggie Clark, Rich Inman, Sammylu and Brown Parsons, Wally, Larry, Chick and our hiker friend, Ernie spent the day with further preparations to our trail that is to receive gravel.

August 8th Checked arrival of Nine Mile Mule Pack Train and then checked gravel pile at Spanish Creek. This gravel has been supplied as a donation from Brown Parson's employer. It saved the FS a considerable amount of money considering the transportation costs. Brown is to be congratulated for his efforts. Chick brought his tractor in the afternoon and separated the gravel into two piles, thus aiding the pack mules to walk between the piles so they could be loaded on both sides simultaneously.



August 9th There was a total of 25 people as we started our gravel project. Mules were loaded at the trail head with three pre-filled and pre-weighed buckets on each side of each mule. Gravel went into special gravel bags where each mule was loaded with 180-200 pounds.

When loaded the mules then traveled to the dump site where another crew was ready to open the bottom of these bags to allow gravel to slowly slide to the ground. The FS crew spread and raked and packed down the gravel. Then back for another load. Four loads were transported making four miles each trip. Our crew and the mules were quite professional and the jobs were completed without incident.





August 10th We repeated yesterday's loading and unloading procedure, but during the time the mules were traveling in and out we hand carried gravel to the short "winter trail" along the creek---and all with the help of 16 people.

August 11th There was a crew of 15 people who completed the job. Three round trips finished the hauling.



Chick's tractor hauled gravel to spread on the trail from the horse parking area to the creek. Many thanks go to you devoted members who attended any or all of the four days on this project. We could not have done the job without you.



Before and after

August 16th Wally, Larry, Chick and his son-in-law, Jim Hamilton, along with 8 of our ARC crew worked on the Bozeman Creek summer trail. We dug new tread, pruned and removed rocks on 510' of trail.

August 18th Wally, Larry and Chick did their thing on Garnet Mt. trail completing 510'.

August 19th Wally and Larry packed the F.S. trail crew up Buffalo Horn trail for a week of work.

August 23rd Larry, Wally and Chick along with 12 members of the ARC worked 480' on the Bozeman Summer trail.

August 25th Wally and Larry packed out F.S. crew's tools and equipment from the Buffalo Horn trail area.

Saturday's Pitch Fork Fondue was lots of fun. This was our annual Steak Ride and this year no one had to do a thing but just bring their chair. Most rode the trail to check the work done by the Nine Mile Mule Pack Train this month. The day was beautiful, not hot, not cold, not a cloud in the sky. What more could one ask? — and even the friendship of members made it all worth while to end our year

2005.



The pitch fork rests above on the pot. Meat was stabbed onto the tongs and then dipped into the pot to cook. We diners had to find some shade and a level spot for our chairs. Others found another spot. We moved as the sun moved.

By having the Belgrade and Bozeman Area Chambers of Commerce put on our meal our club supported their mission to provide scholarships to worthy students enrolled in the College of Agriculture.

You only need two tools: WD-40 and Duct Tape.

If it doesn't move and should, use the WD-40.

If it shouldn't move and does, use the duct tape.

Chick and Wally leading



Sweet Pea Parade

Sweet Pea Parade

Beth with flag



RJ in uniform



August 3, 2005 GVBCH Board Meeting

Attendance: Janet Castro, Beth Merrick, Wally Becker, Trina Frederickson, John McIlhattan, Donna McGeein, Bettye White as proxy for Cinda Eichenfels, Jiffie Hale as proxy for Joellyn Howell, Dan Marsh, Sonja Berg, Brown Parsons, Jose Castro and Chick Hale.

Amendment to July, 2005 minutes – add Sammylu Parsons to list of attendees. Motion to accept amended minutes of July 6, 2005 by Beth, second by Dan.

Final arrangements were discussed and worked out for the Sweet Pea Parade decorations, riders, and clean-up crew.

Janet will be sending out Thank-You's to those who supported the Poker Ride.

Treasurer's Report: The bank notified us about an accounting error in the deposit following the poker ride. Bettye will go over the matter with Cinda. We have a bill for \$120 for the outhouses from Big John's as well as a final bill from Janet for the poker ride food, in the amount of \$329.91. Jiffie advised that we had a credit at Kinko's and the expense of the August NL will be charged and used against that credit. Motion to pay the bills by Brown, second by Janet.

State Board Report: The next State Board meeting is going to be held on September 10th at Bennigan's from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Dan to find out and advise if the meeting is open to the general membership.

Trails Report: Chick has been asked to stop work on one of the trails his crew has been upgrading. The request has come from the Forest Service in response to a couple of complaints they've received from mountain bikers using the trail. Jose will look into the matter and report back.

Donna is busy working on the Steak Ride planned for August 28th. We're hoping for a "Pitch Fork Fondue" to be prepared by the Belgrade Chamber of Commerce. More information will follow as we get closer to the date.

Discussed whether the BCH wants to participate in the Belgrade Parade. We'll discuss further at the next general meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by Trina Frederickson, sec

August 18, 2005 GVBCB General Meeting Minutes

Officers & Directors in Attendance: Trina Frederickson, Rich Inman, Janet Castro, Donna McGeein, Cinda Eichenfels, Wally Becker

Don Funke was our guest speaker and gave a great presentation on equine chiropractic. Don has been in Bozeman for six months and does horse training in addition to providing "traveling" chiropractic care. Chiropractic care has been around for animals since the 1920s. It's important to have a good case history on your horse prior to having any chiropractic adjustments done. Although this type of care may not solve all of your horse's problems, as in the case of colic it alleviates some of the symptoms and lessens the occurrences. In some cases a horse's mane that doesn't lie to one side may have their back out of alignment and could possibly benefit from a visit from Don. Don spoke briefly about acupressure and acupuncture as well. As in most situations, it's important to keep ourselves and our horses in good physical condition to avoid the need for chiropractic care.

There was a motion by Dan March to accept the July 21st minutes; seconded by Chick.

Cinda provided the Treasurer's Report. The checking a/c balance is \$4,123.29 as of 8/18/05 and Other assets totaled \$5,143.41. We have a bill from Rich Inman for the Pitchfork Fondue in the amount of \$156.25. This amount is for the 50% deposit in order for the Gallatin Valley Ag Committee to host the dinner. The remainder is to be paid the night of the dinner. Motion by Sonja Berg, second by Trina Frederickson to reimburse Rich and pay the GVAC.

Following Cinda's report, Rich advised us of Cinda's resignation from the BCH and that Bettye White would be taking her place. Rich thanked Cinda for all her hard work and dedication.

The only correspondence received was newsletters from other clubs.

Chick Hale provided the Trails Report.

Donna McGeein advised that the Pitchfork Fondue is set for August 27th at the Spanish Creek Trail Head Campground at 4:00 pm. The cost is \$12.50/ea and is to be paid at the trailhead. The dinner also includes salad and dessert. Everything will be provided, except for the chairs. Call Donna to reserve your spot by August 25.

The Belgrade Fall Festival takes place the weekend of September 17th. Anyone wanting to ride in the parade can contact Bettye White.

Wally has kindly offered to bring the goodies for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. Total Attendance: 18

Respectfully submitted by Trina Frederickson, sec.

I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I
learned that most people die of natural causes.

*The easiest way to find something lost around
the house is to buy a replacement.*

Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, laying in hospitals dying of nothing.

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

There are two kinds of pedestrians: the quick and the dead.

THE GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES
AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2005 POKER RIDE.

WE THANK YOU ALL.

AG DEPOT
ALL WEST VETERINARY
ARDESSON BOOTS AND SHOES
BIG SKY RV
BITTERROOT TRAILER SALES
BOB WARD & SONS
BOZEMAN SADDLE OUTLET
BRIDGER FEEDS
CASHMAN NURSERY
CENTURY 21- DAN PORTER
CHALET MARKET
CHALET SPORTS

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION
COSTCO
DJ BAR RANCH-JEHNET CARLSON
DOUBLE DIAMOND HALTERS
FREEWAY ENTERPRISES
GORMET GAS STATION
DICK HAINES
LAURA HANKS
LEE HART
JOELLYN AND JOHN HOWELL
RICH INMAN
KOUNTRY KORNER CAFÉ

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