



# Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen

# The Picket Line

October, 2006

Post Office Box 3232,  
Bozeman MT 59772-3232  
Website [www.bchmt.org](http://www.bchmt.org)

## Officers

- President**  
Rich Inman 388-1564
- Vice President**  
Janice Cartwright 579-3445
- Secretary**  
Trina Frederickson 522-9315
- Treasurer**  
Bettye White 586-2301
- Directors**  
Wally Becker (2) 587-9607  
Dan Porter (2) 388-0290  
Larry Thomas (2) 586-6878  
Lori Brockway (1) 587-7198  
Joellyn Howell (1) 388-4493  
Jennifer Tuthill (1) 587-2289
- State Board**  
Brown Parsons (1) 586-9030  
Dan Marsh (2) 587-7578
- Alternate**  
Janet Castro 388-0966
- Newsletter Editor**  
Beth Merrick 388-4047  
[bmerrick1@aol.com](mailto:bmerrick1@aol.com)
- Membership & E-Mails**  
Jiffie Hale 763-4105  
[jhale@littleappletech.com](mailto:jhale@littleappletech.com)
- Webmaster**  
Dan Marsh 587-7578  
[dmarsh@montana.edu](mailto:dmarsh@montana.edu)

## Club Activities

### October

**19** General Meeting: check the newsletter for program.

### November

**1** Board Meeting, 7 pm, Bettye's.

**16** General Meeting: check the newsletter for program.

### December

**1** Christmas Party: check the newsletter for program.

**2** *Christmas Stroll: Bozeman.*

**16** Christmas Party with the Gallatin Saddle & Harness Club at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds with steak dinner and dance.

## Thank You Trail Workers

Now that the summer trail season has wound down, it is time to thank all of the club's members and friends who have lent a hand to improving the trails in our area. Trail bosses Bill Shields, Chick Hale and their crews have accomplished a lot this summer.

## October 16 Speaker

Justin from Sportland Trailer will talk about protecting and winterizing your investment through good maintenance.

7 pm Belgrade Alliance

## Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen Mission

*The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana's roadless 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.*

## September 6, 2006 Board Minutes

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**Meeting was called to order** at 7:06 pm by Dan Marsh, standing in for VP Janice Cartwright.

Present: Dan Porter, Bettye White, Brown Parsons, Wally Becker, Larry Thomas, Beth Merrick, Chick Hale (proxy for Jennifer Tuthill), Jiffie Hale (proxy for Secretary Trina Frederickson). Absent: Rich Inman, Lori Brockway, and Joellyn Howell.

August board meeting minutes were accepted and approved: Motion by Brown, 2nd by Larry, approved/ passed.

Treasurer's report by Bettye White will be given at Sept. general meeting. Bills: \$25.61 postage to Beth; \$336.24 expenses for Steak Ride (charcoal/steaks/ chicken) to Dan Porter. Motion by Brown, 2nd by Wally, approved/passed to pay these bills.

Correspondence: 1 member application sent just prior to Oct 1st will be accepted for year 2007. Membership for 2007 begins October 1st.

Steak Ride: discussion that the cookout was moved from cabin grounds to trail head because of high grass. 30 + attended and enjoyed by all.

Nominating committee: Only 1 response to email sent to members requesting help. Board members responded to help: Dan P., Dan M., Bettye, Janice, Sandy Archer (our one responder) and Jiffie. A chairman needs to be appointed. Discussion as to whether to have elections at \*Christmas dinner or by absentee ballot. No conclusion.

State report: Dan Marsh gave handouts. We voted to support Memorandum of Understanding between BCHMT and MWA. Motion by Chick and 2nd by Jiffie was approved and passed. We agreed to support BCHMT and their position related to the trail classification. Motion by Chick, 2nd by Brown was approved and passed. Discussion on the 'Right to Ride' bill, which has passed the House, but needs members support by writing your congressmen. That info is on our web site: [www.bchtm.org](http://www.bchtm.org) We had discussion on the 'Horse Slaughter' bill. All board members mutually did not support this bill. However, the bill was passed in the house the next day.

Trails: Chick reported that club members worked all the way up to and around the Upper Lakes on the Spanish Creek work day. It was a full day and very successful.

Standing, Issues, and Commucation: None

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jiffie Hale for Trina

## October 4, 2006 Board Minutes

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Officers and Directors in Attendance: Rich Inman, Wally Becker, Trina Frederickson, Bettye White, Dan Porter, Larry Thomas. Also in attendance were Billie Thomas, Jiffie Hale, Chick Hale Brown Parsons, Dan Marsh

Minutes: Motion to accept minutes of September 6, 2006 by Brown; second by Trina. Approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Bettye advised that she has not received a bill yet for State Dues, but we owe \$540 for single and \$625 for family memberships for a total of \$1,165.00. Motion to pay the State Dues by Brown; second by Trina.

Issues: Colorado BCH is reviewing their Forest Service Trail Plan and has concerns as the GVBCB has had about stock animals, etc.

Rich is requesting a meeting with the Forest Service regarding communications, travel plan, etc. Dan & Brown to be advised & invited once the date is set.

Trails: Chick advised that the last trail maintenance weekends were cancelled due to weather. Trail work is finished for the year. Chick managed to get up trail 401 and cleaned water bars as well as leveling the trail. There is a tree down on Indian Ridge that needs to be cleared.

Old Business: We will be joining the Gallatin Saddle & Harness Club for a Christmas party on December 16th, Building #4 at the Fairgrounds. Social Hour will be from 6:00 – 7:00, followed by a steak dinner. Their will be a live band from 8:30 – 11:30 pm. The cost is \$20.00/person and includes steak and baked potato. Please bring a potluck item (veggies, salad, dessert) and something for the silent auction (funds will be used to cover costs). The auction item can be anything from crafts to baked goods, horse items or anything else. Both clubs will hold elections. Please RSVP Rich (388-1564) by December 1st to attend.

The Nominations Committee is making calls to our membership seeking candidates for the 2007 Board. A couple of people who have expressed interest, but we still have open positions.

New Business: The Montana Stock Grower's Association is trying to contact ranchers effected by the recent fire season, and people who can supply materials, feed & other necessary ranch items. If you'd like to help, please call 406-442-3420 or e-mail [msga@mtbeef.org](mailto:msga@mtbeef.org).

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Trina Frederickson, Secretary

## Cole's Custom Saddles

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Sam & Cathy Cole from Cole's Custom Saddles provided an interesting program on traditional and innovative saddle construction. Amid moving their business location, the Coles provided a great overview of saddle care and constructing saddles to fit both the horse and the rider.

### Saddle Care:

Glycerin soap mixed with NOT TOO MUCH water cleans a saddle well. They recommend a light coat of olive oil, rather than Neetsfoot Oil which gets gummy with time. They like to apply the olive before the leather is dry. They use olive oil purchased in bulk, and have seen no incidents of rodents being attracted to the edible oil. They follow the oil with a conditioner like saddle butter and recommend making sure that all parts of the saddle are treated, including under the fenders all the way up to the bars.

An audience member asked about conditioning of the saddle's latigo. The Coles responded that the only reason to oil the latigo is if the leather is cracking, but if it is cracking, your safety calls for replacing the latigo with a new one. Oil with allow with latigo to stretch, and your cinch will loosen.

Another audience member asked about removing heavy mud from a saddle. The Coles recommended using a soft brush to prevent abrading saddle leather. A VERY retired toothbrush that has very soft bristles is good for removing dirt from a stamped or carved saddle. The better care you give a saddle, the longer it will last.

### Saddle Trees

The Coles displayed two types of saddle trees: a traditional rawhide over wood tree and a lightweight carbon polymer tree with cable rigging. The latter tree is indistructable and very lightweight. The stirrups can be positioned, and easily repositioned, by adjusting the location of a lock nut along the cable rigging. The weight saving in the saddle comes from the fact that only a single piece of leather is needed over the tree which can be shaped by carving. A rawhide tree must have an additional strainer layer that is needed to shape the seat and requires extra layers of leather. Additional labor is needed to "skive" the leather so that pieces meet without an edge causing discomfort for the ride.

The audience inquired about differences in saddle construction for male and female riders. The Coles like to have the buyer try the saddle on early in the process so that they can shape the tree to fit properly before the leather is added. Their new workplace with a corral at 2275 Finnegan Lane in Belgrade, will allow folks to bring their horse along to be fitted as well. Generally, the width between the legs is the largest variable between men and women in fitting a saddle. The horse may ask for different bars to accommodate different wither configurations.

Saddle innovations that reduce knee problems were inquired about. The Coles feel that most of these are caused by angle and torque problems.

The audience asked how to set the proper twist in the leathers and Sam illustrated how to arrange the stirrup leathers using PVC pipe. The Newsletter Editor recommends attending the meeting so that you can see how this is done for yourself!

## Treasurer's Report

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### Checking balance

+2824.65

### Income (Dues, Poker Ride, M&M Real Estate, Gift)

+3527.00

### Expenses (Newsletter, Poker Ride, trailer fix, change)

-1013.97

### New Balance August 17, 2006

+5337.68

### Petty Cash

+30.33

### Money Market

+2045.17

### CD

+3000.00

### Total assets

**+10,413.15**

## Trail Report

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Spanish Creek trail work is completed all the way to the lakes. The September 21 trailclearing efforts will conclude the years efforts n the Spanish Peaks trails.

## Right to Ride

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Everyone is encourage to write to their Senators in support of the Right to Ride bill passed by the House.



Gallatin Valley  
Back Country Horsemen  
Post Office Box 3232, Bozeman, Montana 59772-3232

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND LIABILITY RELEASE

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_ \$40 family membership
- \_\_\_ \$30 Individual
- \_\_\_ \$30 Associate

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Liability Release**

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for accidents whenever horses are involved that may cause injury to horses, riders, or spectators; and, also recognizing the fact that the Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen's officers, directors, or members cannot know the condition of trails, the experience of riders, or the training of horses taking part in trail rides, or other Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen functions, I do hereby release the above named persons and organization from any claims or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children, my animals, or other personal property that I may have in my possession during the trail rides, or other Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen functions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please check any committee(s) on which you are willing to serve:

\_\_\_ Social Activities

\_\_\_ Trail Rides

\_\_\_ Issues

\_\_\_ Fund Raising

\_\_\_ Newsletter

\_\_\_ Projects

\_\_\_ Planning

\_\_\_ Clinics

\_\_\_ Audit

\_\_\_ Trail Maintenance

\_\_\_ Serve on Board

\_\_\_ Refreshments

What skill, talent or resource are you willing to share with the club?

How did you learn about the Back Country Horsemen?

# September 21, 2006 Minutes

## General Meeting

Officers and Directors Present: Rich Inman, Janice Cartwright, Trina Frederickson, Bettye White, Wally Becker, Larry Thomas, Jenny Tuthill

Guest Speakers: Sam and Cathy Cole from Cole's Custom Saddlery were our guest speakers for the evening. They are opening up their new store on October 1, 2006 at 2275 Finnigan Lane in Belgrade.

Welcome: Rich welcomed returning members Clarke Kinney and Sandy Archer to the evening's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Bettye provided the Treasurer's Report:

Expenses from the Steak Ride:

\$280.24 Dan Porter (purchase of Meat/etc)

\$25.35 Beth (stamps)

\$29.40 Kinko's (newsletter)

\$31.22 Beth (stamps)

\$52.49 Rich (purchase of new coffee pot)

Motion to pass treasurer's report by Chick; second by Dan Marsh. Motion passed.

Our CD matures on October 2, 2006 in the amount of \$3,070.00. The Board will discuss whether to reinvest the CD at the next Board meeting.

Correspondence: Janice advised we received correspondence from Eagle Mount and BCH of Missoula.

State Director's Report: Dan advised that it is time to start thinking about Resolutions for the next State Board Meeting in Lewistown.

Scott Keiser (Dillon BCH) will be putting together a PowerPoint presentation and is in need of BCH photos. Please send them to Dan and he'll forward them along.

We have two new BCH chapters; Plains and Sellway-Pintner Wilderness.

If you're interested in trail classification information from the Forest Service, call Dan Marsh.

The Memorandum of Understanding has now been

passed between BCH and the Montana Wilderness Association.

Trails Report: Chick provided the trails report.

Nomination Committee: The committee has been assembled and is at work. If you'd like to volunteer your time to serve on the GVBCH Board, please contact one of the Board members. The club will cease to operate without its volunteers.

Old Business: The Right-to-Ride Bill has passed in the House, but not in the Senate. Please call or write our Senators & Congressman to support our Right-to-Ride.

As Rich was away when the request was made, Dan Marsh will be writing and submitting our addition for the BCH State Newsletter.

New Business: Rich spoke about the recent credit card scam that is underway. These thieves are calling under the guise of Visa/M/C employees. The ask question & give you information. They then proceed to ask if you are still in possession of your credit card and ask you for the last three number on the back of your credit card. Once they have this information, they then charge \$497 to your card. This is hard to have removed once its charged. Please beware of anyone calling and asking for information regarding your credit card.

Jenny will assemble all of the available items for the new member packages and bring it to the next Board meeting.

Sandy Archer volunteered to bring the goodies to the next meeting.

Adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by: Trina Frederickson, Secretary

## Membership Renewal Time

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Please take time to fill out the membership form included in this newsletter and return it to Jiffie Hale.

The Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen are indebted to the following businesses and members who contributed to the success of our 2006 Poker Ride. Please give them your business.

**BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS**

Ag Depot  
All West Veterinary  
Ardeson Boots & Shoes  
Barrett Enterprises  
Big Sky RV  
Bozeman Saddle Outlet  
Bridger Feeds  
Century 21- Dan Porter  
Chalet Market  
Cindy deBethizy Art  
Cole's Custom Saddles  
Concrete Construction  
DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service  
Don Funke Divine Equine  
Double Diamond Halters  
Freeway Enterprises  
Gourmet Gas Station  
Huft Custom Leather  
It Sew Happens

Kountry Korner Cafe  
Lee & Dad's  
MacKenzie River  
Madison House  
Montana Canvas  
Montana Harvest  
Montana Mandolin Society  
Murdoch's Ranch and Home  
Outfitter's Pack Station  
Owenhouse Ace Hardware  
Precision Fence Systems  
Quilting in the Country  
R.O. Brooks and Carter's Boots  
Rocky Mountain Hat Company  
Rocky Mountain Supply  
Schnee's Boots & Shoes  
Shear West  
Steele Halters  
True Value Hardware- Belgrade  
Your Friend's Happiness- S Hanan

**CLUB CONTRIBUTORS**

Anonymous  
Janice Cartwright  
Reggie Clark  
RJ Conti  
Cindy deBethizy  
Jan Elpel  
Dick & Barbara Haines  
Jiffie Hale  
Bonnie Hammer  
Laura Hanks  
John and Joellyn Howell  
Rich Inman  
Beth Merrick  
Jane Shields  
Bob Steinmann  
Connie Wallace  
George Zanck  
Sam Coles????????????????????

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