### GALLATIN VALLEY BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN POB 3232, BOZEMAN, MT 59772-3232 <u>WWW.BCHMT.ORG</u>

# THE PICKET LINE

# **OCTOBER 2007**



## **Officers**

<u>President</u>	
Dan Marsh	587-7578
Vice President	
Bob Steinman	282-7166
<u>Secretary</u>	
Nanci Winget	582-5795
<u>Treasurer</u>	
Brenda Kessler	763-4241

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2 yr	
Jim Albright	995-4441
Janice Cartwright	579-3445
Rich Winget	582-5795

1 yr	
Wally Becker	587-9607
Dan Porter	388-0290
Larry Thomas	586-6878

# State Board Members

Rich Inman	2 yr
Dan Marsh	1 yr
Alternate: Jan Elpel	1yr

### **Newsletter Editor**

Jiffie Hale 763-4105 Mobile 580-0774 jhale@littleappletech.com

# BCH Web Master

Dan Marsh 587-7578 dmarsh@montana.edu <u>Backcountry Horsemen Mission Statement</u> "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."

# <u>Board Meeting</u> - Thursday, October 4th @ 7pm Dan Porter's office, 1745 So. 19th

<u>General Meeting</u> - Thursday, October 18th @ 7pm Belgrade Alliance Church, Cameron & Hoffman Sts Duane Wiltze, member, author, and our speaker will discuss his latest book

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# **SEPTEMBER EVENTS**

# Thursday October 4th 7p BCH Board Meeting, Dan Porter's office - 1745 So 19th

# Thursday, October 18th, 7 p General Meeting and Program-

Duane Wiltse, GVBCH member, will be our speaker discussing his recent book -

*Gittin' Western* - The resulting chaos when the forces of nature and the laws of physics collide where you are standing.

Duane Wiltse, upon returning to Michigan from a Wyoming hunting trip, tells his wife he has bought a horse. She rails at him, demanding to know where they are going to keep this horse, and he tells her that won't be a problem, because he's bought the ranch the horse lives on, too. To her dismay and his excitement, the family packs up and goes to live with the horse on the ranch, and the results are compiled in Duane's latest venture, his book *Gittin' Western*. The paperback regales the reader with tales from the ranch and the places Duane has made his home, from the town of Cody and the wilderness bordering Yellowstone National Park to the high plains of New Mexico and back again. Perfect for those dreaming of doing the same, and trying for anyone who is a stickler for grammar or sympathetic to his wife's attitude, *Gittin' Western* is one man's journey and millions of men's dream.

At times poetic, as when describing the mountains being "as unyielding to men's demands as they are beautiful to our sense," this book is mainly a prosaic compilation of hunting stories and tall tales. Seasons are joined haphazardly with revelations of a disintegrating marriage and tirades against the government's policies concerning the neighboring Yellowstone National Park. But the beef of the book—the anecdotes including constant worries with bears, killer fires, and a hilarious account of a hunt with an Iranian prince—is what makes this read enjoyable for those who live near the mountains and those who have the dream Duane continues to fulfill.

By Tanner Strickland

Reprinted with permission by Mike England of 'Outside Bozeman',

Southwest Montana's Outdoor Journal

# Happiness keeps You Sweet, Trials keep You Strong, Sorrows keep You Human, Failures keep You Humble, Success keeps You Glowing,

# But Only CHALLENGE keeps You Going!

A wonderful motto for our members who serve the GVBCH club as a board member or on any one of the various committees. It is said that to learn about any organization is to get involved. All members will be contacted by a nominating committee member for our 2008 list of volunteers for slate of officers, directors, and committees. We want you to share our activities, to participate with other members, and most of all - to have fun.

### OCTOBER 2007

### **President's October report**

I just got back from a goose hunt in Northern Alberta that was moved up a week from when I had originally planned. Regretfully, I missed the September meeting. It sounds like I missed a great program on the 100 mile one day Tevis endurance ride presented by Gary and Joan Cook. I want to thank Rich for stepping in for me during my absence on <u>real</u> short notice and Jiffie for stepping in and taking notes.

It is that time of the year again when we need to start thinking of new officers and directors for the coming year. We have had a great year with a lot of new members and a wonderful job done by the current officers and directors. Please consider stepping forward and filling one of the open positions when asked by the nominating committee.

Rich Inman and I went to the Back Country Horsemen of Montana Board of Directors meeting September 8<sup>th</sup> in Deer Lodge. We watched the new PowerPoint presentation that was burned to DVD created by Scott & Bonnie Kiser with slides sent in from all of the chapters. I brought back 25 of these DVD's that we need to distribute around the community to show what the Back Country Horsemen are all about. I will bring them to the next meeting so everyone can have a look at them. In the mean time start thinking of places to leave a copy and let me know how many you want to distribute. Issues that were brought up at the meeting include the lack of a sponsor for the Right-To-Ride legislation; the Beaverhead-Deer Lodge usage debate; Secretary Rice's opposition to the proposed coal mine planned for SE British Columbia; a wide reaching Wilderness protection bill HR 1975 that drew a lot of fire from the Western lawmakers; the new \$80 multi-agency pass to replace the existing \$50 National Park Service pass; Gates Park bridge project and other chapters events put on hold because of fires: the Forest Service decided to remove the Mike Horse Dam from the Blackfoot river; and a motion to write a letter in opposition to bikes on

the Continental Divide Trail was voted down. We need to make sure we get any resolutions to the committee as early as possible this year to avoid last year's last minute rush. The subject of Liability Insurance to cover LNT training and all of the chapters were discussed at length. It was agreed to have an insurance agent discuss our options at the next meeting. The annual report of each chapter to BCHA will be produced on a CD to save printing costs. The Forest Service trail classification issue is still up in the air. The BCHA board meeting may be held in Montana in 2010.

I need people to send me their reports on volunteer hours for education and trail clearing for the annual report to BCHA. There is also a new discussion forum on the web site that I would encourage you to look at and send in your comments located at http://forum.bchmt.org/index.php . If you have any ideas for other discussion topics please send them to me. The "Time Share" meetings I discussed at length in the last newsletter are ongoing and we have come to somewhat of a stalemate in reaching a consensus between the motorized group and the hiking group. The stock users are being represented by me along with our new member Stacy Bragg, Rich Inman, and Jim Albright. Be sure to ask Jim about his exciting visit with his son aboard an aircraft carrier in the Pacific Ocean when he returns in October

Robert Waddle has agreed to help find a location for the Back Country Horsemen of Montana Convention to be held in Bozeman in 2009. If you have any ideas of a location or know someone that could get a good deal on a convention center please let Robert know. I have got some proposals from local hotels given to me by members already. If you have an interest in helping out on the convention committee please let me know.

> Respectfully submitted, Dan Marsh President GVBCH

### New members for 2008

Bragg, Stacy Hathaway, Allan and Amy Huffman, Vi Neth, Rick and Sherrie Olson, Becky Robinson, Skip and Sue Thompson, Bob and Nancy <u>A warm welcome to you all</u>



# "Ride, Really Ride", the motto of the Tevis Cup, *by Jiffie Hale*

The Western States Trail Ride, popularly called the Tevis Cup: 100 Miles-One Day Ride is the oldest modern day endurance ride, having been held annually since 1955 making this year the 53<sup>rd</sup> running. As such, it has been the inspiration and model for the most challenging endurance rides worldwide. This year's running was held July 28<sup>th</sup> during the full moon.

Dr. Gary Cook, DVM and Joan, his wife and ride secretary, spoke on vetting this event, which Gary has done for 25 years. This year's ride had 183 starters and 93 finishes. The ride used 800 volunteers to hold the event that also had endurance runners. Each rider who completes the 100 mile course from Tahoe to Auburn within the 24 hour limit and whose mount is judged "fit to continue" is awarded the coveted silver Completion Award Buckle. As such, not all 93 finishers might have received a silver buckle. Joan Cook has ridden this ride, completed, and received her buckle. Every year when she helps Gary she gets the "itch" to ride the ride again - until she realizes the work and time it takes to prepare for such an event. Her mount when she rode her ride was a Morgan. Today's horses are a high percentage of gray Arabs and they are the breed with endurance and stamina to complete, being ready to go further after 100 miles, but there are many breeds competing, including mules. Riders come from all over the world to ride. Some riders bring more than one horse if one does not vet out before the ride starts. And there are those that lease or rent trained horses for the ride. Cost? About \$5000. Importantly, there is safety in this ride, as quoted, "Sweep Riders Of the Sierra's (SOS), which is an all-volunteer riding group established to provide safety and on-trail communications for endurance events on the Western States Trail and other Northern California locations. Our responsibility during these events is to 'sweep the trail,' that is, to follow the last few runners or riders and assure that no one is lost or injured. Each sweep team is comprised of 2 to 3 riders,

sweeping one section of the trail from 7 to 20 miles in length before being relieved by a fresh team. Over some parts of the course, we also deploy a second mounted team in the middle of 'the pack' to provide added coverage. SOS Team Leaders are experienced riders who are also licensed amateur radio operators. Using hand-held HAM equipment, they keep contact with the central Event Control station while traversing the sometimes remote and otherwise inaccessible trail. GPS equipment is also carried so as to provide accurate location information to emergency rescue units, such as MedEvac Helicopters. SOS Team Members each carry a full pack of survival and first aid supplies. In the event of an incident on the trail, involving injuries or otherwise, teams also gather information for review by Event management, Comm management and SOS itself. Horses and humans get injured and sometimes it is difficult to get to them for rescue."

The ride starts at the first check point and vetting area at an elevation of 7,200' at Robie Point. The trail travels to Auburn, 100 miles away. The riders go out staggered starting at 5:30am. There are 13 check points each at a different elevation: Robinson Flat at 6730' is where Gary began his vetting before moving on. The ride has various changes in elevations ranging from 8700' to 700' to finish at Auburn at 1200'. That's hard on horses and riders in high temps and riding in the dark (therefore the full moon). The rider carries his water, a sponge dangled on a string to reach creeks and sponge horse as they ride on, electrolyte for horses if not dehydrated, and snacks for energy. Horses gobble up food at stops and most horses will suck up water from those bottles that have a tube, but every spot of water on the trail the rider gives the horse the chance to drink.

Gary's presentation was extremely interesting. One wonders, "Why does one do it?" It's a challenge. It takes a lot of work and time to train your horse, and yourself, to complete 100 miles over rough terrain, riding hours in the dark, with high temperatures – within 24 hours. To have you and your horse complete this ride in fit condition is a feat to be proud of. You have a bond with your horse. You are a team.



# **Ramshorn Ride to the lake, Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>** by **Robert Waddel** and Janice Cartwright with her photos.

**Robert Waddle writes** with an addition or two from Janice **Great trail, Great ride. Our group of riders departed the trailhead around** -10 AM. The Buffalo Horn trailhead, located behind the 320 Guest Ranch, was all ours as we saddled up in preparation for the ride. None were disappointed. The weather was very cooperative with a slight breeze and moderate temperatures all day.

**Buffalo Horn trail leads to -***Rams Horn Lake, an isolated and pristine high mountain lake ad-*

joined by corrals and a pleasant meadow and this well used trail included eight bridges and a couple of small water crossings which were routinely handled by all. Routinely handled by all AFTER we all had time to practice this skill. We found that following over such obstacles is quite different than leading. At least that was the horse's opinion. Lunch was enjoyed by all participants before the return trip. **Wally, our fearless scout, led the** 



group up the trail. Janice was in charge of details. On the return various other riders took turns in the lead. Join-

ing this Back Country sponsored ride were Ken, Janice, \*Susan or S?, Joelle, Bob, Jim, Susan and Robert Waddle. Betty and Pat got a later start and joined the other riders for the lunch break.

\*Susan OR Sharon Jenkensen (Not sure of her first name or how to spell her last.) is from Big Sky and she knew other members. She's on the palomino gaited horse.



**Bridger Bowl Ride in early Sept.'07,** *by Janice*. Some of our members did not have a chance to participate in the Poker Ride this summer. So...I am offering segments of this ride. We rode the Bridger Bowl Ski Hill a few weeks ago. Here's what we learned and practiced: Susan Waddle had a new bit on her horse which gave her much more control. Amy Guza (horse owner wannabe) joined us and learned how to ride in the mountains, very different from her Ohio origins. We all practiced steep descents, straight down and zig zagging and how different horses and situations work best. Sandy Kypfer had her horse on his second trail ride (with her) and saw progress from the first. We were able to trot, canter, and gait some on the easy forest service roads. It was pleasant and a good practice session. And a note to Ken - Amy showed up for the ride on her motorcycle - now you have competi-

tion!

<u>9/8/2007 Ramshorn Lake Ride, Sat., Sept. 8th</u> by Diane Furhman This won't be up to Janice's standard of story telling, but I will do my best. Janice and Wally suckered me into taking pictures and writing the article. Jiffie had a hand in it also. So-o-o-o here goes. There were 9 GVBCH riders, with Wally Becker as our trail boss and I must say he did an excellent job! Riders were: Catherine Nelson, Jan Elpel, Connie Myslik-McFadden, Diane Fuhrman, Anna Holstrom,



Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Susan Des Jardins, and our trail boss, Wally. No one had problems and he was right there to help if needed. We even got a taste of what trail clearing was all about as Wally stopped several times to clear deadfall and other obstructions that might have caused problems for other riders. At one point, I held Lady, Susan Des Jardins' horse, so Susan could help Wally clear the trail, while the rest of us stayed on our horses and watched. Shame on us! Starting out, the weather was down right cold with cloudy skies looking like it might rain anytime. I was wishing that I had listened to that little voice in my head, saying you are in Montana, expect anything and always be prepared (wear your long- johns), but by mid-day it cleared up, turned warm and was very enjoyable. The lake was calm and clear and the

fish were jumping for entertainment while we ate our lunch. Not much conversation because the scenery was so beautiful. Got back just fine, loaded the horses and headed home. I really enjoyed the ride and I think everyone else did also.



# Ride to Ross Peak, by Janice Cartwright

Wally, Diane and I started out for a 2 hour ride on another segment of the Poker Ride. With such a small group,



we were moving right along so...we decided to extend our ride to include The Pass at Ross Peak. Neither I or Diane had ever been there before, but Wally had and was once again our scout. However, I remained in charge! (Wally and I have an agreement - it's a control thing!) It sure was windy when we crested the top! On the way down we chose to lead our horses for the steepest and somewhat slippery part. Good idea since my horse slid onto

her side at one point. The entire ride took less than 3 hours. Nice day. Nice ride. Good company.

### This is my story for this ride, by Jiffie Hale

On a gorgeous Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> Wally led our ride up South Cottonwood to Wheeler Gulch. This ride was instigated by Wally, Chick, and me - me mostly. My horse, Sunny, had never ridden narrow ledges with a drop off and I needed to do this sooner rather than later – I hate heights! Chick and I have new 3 year olds and we are over the "senior citizen category," but in the "old age realm." Our Rocky Mountain boys are safe, quiet, sensible, but always need training on each ride while experiencing their new riding adventures. It had been arranged that Wally would lead and I would follow in order to keep my young guy quiet (he is already quiet!).

Chick would follow behind me since I have a balance handicap and need to be checked on. I haven't fallen yet and don't plan to - I hold the pummel most of the time which can be tricky when I need both hands on the reins. Sunny does not neck rein, but I work on that on each ride. Following us on this ride was SammyLu, "the holder of horses" Brenda, and "the young kid Jim". We left the Cottonwood trail, headed down towards Wheeler Gulch, crossed the creek for the



umpteenth time and soon got to the cabin, its remains, that is. It seems that every time I see the cabin it sinks lower to the ground.

Then the trail got to be one blow down after another making a wonderful adventure and training for our horses. They went quietly over, around, and through all the debris without a spook, a jump, or a rush. At one point, it really looked bad. We all stopped as Wally bushwhacked up and around to check further on. He came back saying it was worse up ahead. This was after he got off his horse (of course he brought his saw) and with Jim and Chick, and Brenda holding horses, cleared a short way. We turned back to the cabin to have our lunch, chat with two hikers heading up to Little Bear.

They had a map and Wally directed them telling them to mark the trail! Chick



and Wally had been on this trail many years ago and had ridden up to Little Bear <u>having gotten lost on the way!</u> Wally, Chick and Jim plan to return in October with a packhorse and saws to open the trail out to the meadow, which we were unable to reach this day. So, it looks like my horse may get another chance to do this again and I can do some pruning from on top of him for training – he has done this! It's been said that trail maintenance



is excellent for training your horse. We will keep you posted as to the progress on trails and horse training.

# To all members - Do you have your story to tell? Everyone has one-how about sharing it?



On Monday, September 24th, a group of us set out to help "work some cows". The cows belong to Billy Whitehurst and Ron Laden. The day was a bit cool and rather overcast but we were prepared. Our vehicles were stuffed with various Carhartt items just in case. First we gathered the herd (80 pairs) in an 1100 acre field. Next we trailed them down the road about a mile or two, plugging "holes" along the way with horses and riders. Once in the corrals, the calves were sorted from the cows. That gets a bit noisy.

Then the calves were run through the chute to be vaccinated and de-



wormed. Ron White, Diane (Minnesota friend) and Diane Fuhrman



worked the shot gun, the deworming backpack and the record keeping. 2 calves were dehorned. Then we sorted out some calves that missed the first branding. There were 7. We could have run them back through the chute but it was agreed upon that roping them would be much more fun. Since Ron and Billy were both roping and Rod (cowhand) and Kyle were pinning the calves down, I even got to brand my first calf. Both Dianes worked the irons in the fire and Sherrie White was in charge of photography. Everyone helped trail the herd back to the pasture. Another good day in Montana!

PS I personally thank all of these riders that helped. It sure made my workload a lot easier! Janice C.

# October 1<sup>st</sup> - the date your 2008 dues begin.

Pay now - before the holidays. The club experienced an excellent year and we expect to have a better one for 2008. Plans are in the making. New working members have been an added addition to our club this year and we are expecting, and have already received, more new members for 2008. As the '08 dues are now due your president, Dan Marsh, has placed our revised member application on the web site <u>www.bchmt.org</u> where you can download and print. However, this month an application has been enclosed for your convenience and we sincerely hope you will fill it out and send it in with your check. Please do not lose it - you may not be receiving another. If you read your minutes for this month you will notice your dues help offset dues we pay to the state. Our only money maker is our yearly Poker Ride. Thank you one and all for your support.

# NEW MEMBER CONTEST

(to be awarded at the Christmas Party)

Quote from the May issue, pg 8, April 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting minutes: "The new member contest will run from January through December 1, 2007. The member sponsoring the most new members will receive a belt buckle from Back Country Horseman valued at \$90. The motion to purchase the buckle was made, seconded and passed." Each member having sponsored new members must contact me, Jiffie Hale, by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> or before. I need to know each member, individual or family, you sponsored. To date, one member has sponsored \_ members and if you have surpassed that number then you may be the person to receive the large and beautiful sterling silver BCH belt buckle. Please remember that a family membership is considered one member. Contact-- jhale@littleappletech.com or 580-0774 and leave a message. You can give me your information now and update if you sponsor more members.

# **Board meeting Minutes, September 6, 2007**

Pres. Dan M called the meeting to order at 7pm. In attendance were Dan M., Dad P, Wally, Rich I, Janice, Brenda, Jim, Bob, Duane Wiltse – proxy for Larry, Chick – proxy for Rich W and Jiffie – proxy for Nancy, sec.

Minutes for August board meeting accepted and approved.

<u>**Treasurer's report:</u>** Brenda reported new bills: \$58 to Jiffie-Sept NL, \$150 to Cathy Coleman-Poker Ride food; \$30 gift cert. to Jerry Harwood-cutting out horse display board. Motion made by Janice; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob to pay these bills</u>

Correspondence: discussion on the watershed in Hyalite

<u>Membership</u>: Jiffie mentioned payment for our yearly dues to the state that we use the member totals as of the Sept 31<sup>st</sup> roster. Our GVBCH 2008 dues start October 1<sup>st</sup> and totals may change. State dues are paid December 1<sup>st</sup>. Dan M has made revisions to our member application form. Motion by Chick and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim to accept the revision. The new form is on our web site to download and print. <u>www.bchmt.org</u> Dan is trying to make and revise copies of GNF map used in new member packets. Dan is ordering more decals from the BCHMT and Jiffie will pursue if we can print these locally.

**Issues:** Chick gave his report from Steve White, Gallatin County commissioner, regarding the outcome of the Spanish Peaks Road blacktopping and the judge's sudden last minute decision to cease this operation. Turner and his lawyers had his signed agreement with the county, and signed by the county, not to pursue this operation for the next 10 years. A motion was made and passed to form a committee and to have Steve White attend our meeting. After much discussion the motion was withdrawn.

**Publicity:** Our club was awarded the grant from Insty Prints. This was our 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt and we asked for \$1000, but awarded \$500. Maggie, our publicity chair, was not present and discussion on whether to use this money on her new proposed club brochure or use for all printing. General-all printing was decided on and board unanimously approved.

**Trails:** Dan M spoke on Brian McNeil's co-op contracts with us. Discussion of the club's loss of liability from the FS was the issue with contracting. No outcome on this issue.

**Programs:** Sabrina has tendered her resignation for this year, but all the month's programs are planned for the remaining year. Suggestions (4-5) for 2008 were mentioned and have been noted by Jiffie and will be passed to the future 2008 chair.

**<u>Steak Ride:</u>** Dan P reported that the club made \$141 profit. There were 46 reservations @ \$10. 41 attended. Left over steaks sold at cost. Members praised "a job well done!"

<u>New Business</u>: Dan M reported on the "time share" trail sessions. There are 6 representations - hikers, bikers, stock use, etc. All must agree and come up with a consensus by Thanksgiving if we want changes, otherwise the FS will proceed with their plan. Bring your comments to these meeting and the FS will take note of them - Wed 7pm. Location – contact FS or Dan M.

Janice spoke of ideas on her "end of the season" party in October and a Sunday was chosen. She may have a Halloween to-do with costumes and games. More to come on this.

Jim Albright will chair and get education on teaching Light on the Land.

Dan P spoke on the club doing more weed pulling at the Spanish Peak trail head and also that club members need to be more thoughtful to senior members in getting them to our rides or events.

# **General Meeting Minutes - September 20, 2007**

Rich Inman, ex-officio, brought the meeting to order at 8:15p. Board members absent: Dan M (hunting in Canada), Bob, Dan P, Rich and Nancy W. The program for the evening was Dr. Gary Cook, DVM and his wife, Joan who spoke on vetting the 2007 Tevis-100-mile-one day-endurance-ride. \*see write-up.

The minutes of the August General Meeting were accepted and approved – Chick, motion; Jim, 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Treasurer's report:** Brenda announced a bill from Rich of \$72.00 for mileage to BCHMT meeting. Accepted and approved to pay. Jim, motion; Chick,  $2^{nd}$  (are they taking turns?) The club received the bill to the state for our dues for a total of \$1,610. This being 54 single members @ \$15 and 32 family @ \$25 = \$1,610 due the BCHMT by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> '07

**<u>Trails</u>**: Chick and Wally reported on the Wheeler Gulch trail, off South Cottonwood, in BAD condition. \*see article on Cottonwood ride. Larry reported that some trails cleared this summer, which had to be done more than twice, has to be done again.

**Belgrade Fall Festival:** SammyLu, coordinator for the parade, announced a poor response of only 3. Parade is canceled.

**<u>Membership:</u>** Jiffie reported 6 new members. 5 attended the meeting. These members are considered 2008 members and will be placed in the October  $1^{st}$  roster. Our dues commence October  $1^{st}$  for 2008. Please get your dues paid ASAP as we have to pay the state dues on our membership (see treas. report). With the profit of the Poker Ride – our only money-maker, we have insurance, news-letter printing, postage, new member packets, state delegate expenses, clinics, rent, etc., to keep the club in existence.

<u>Newsletter:</u> Jiffie requests members please send personal articles to place in issues. The response to member articles has been favorably received.

**BCHMT State meeting:** Rich reported that the Right to Ride Bill is stumbling and that Rep. Rehberg is the only supporter while Tester and Baucus seem reluctant. Rich also spoke briefly on the Continental Divide Trail and no motor bikes with no conclusion. The state has not as yet signed in with statewide insurance. Rich also mentioned that ONLY 1 horse accident was reported from the BCH volunteers and that was amazing. Rich reported that Dan has DVD's available, this being a PowerPoint made by Scott & Bonnie Kiser as a way to spread the word on what are Back Country Horsemen. They used pictures from all of the chapters, added music in the background, and then put it on a DVD. The BCHMT state convention will be held March 28-30, 2008 in Great Falls and it is advised that members try and attend. GVBCH will sponsor in 2009 in Bozeman and members need to see what goes on at these conventions – they are fun and educational. Mark you calendar.

Janice's Play Day for members: Janice is working on different dates and has lots of ideas. Members will receive the final information via email or newsletter or both. Wait and see.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 (Who is bringing goodies for the October meeting?)

Submitted by Jiffie Hale in the absence of secretary

GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEDTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2007 POKER RIDE - <u>THANK YOU ONE AND ALL</u>

Ag Depot All West Veterinary Ardesson Boots and Shoes Dr. Phil Aumann **Big Sky RV Books Off Broadway Broadway Flying J Restaurant Bozeman Saddle Outlet Bridger Feeds Chalet Market Chalet Sports Concrete Construction** Creekside Vet Hospital DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service Don Funke Divine Equine **Double Diamond Halters** Freeway Enterprises Gourmet Gas Station **Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher** Hardaway Vet Clinic

Health Works Institute Kountry Korner Café Lee & Dad's Madison House Main Street Over Easv Montana Canvas Montana Harvest Montana Horse Sense Montana Side Saddle Murdoch's Ranch & Home **Owenhouse** Ace Hardware **Precision Fence Systems Rocky Mountain Hat Compeny Rocky Mountain Supply** Second Self Sportland Trailer **Steer In Trailer Sales** The Optimal Athletic Three Forks Saddlery Valley Trailer Sales

Way Out West

Members -Andreassi Custom Homes Care For You, Denise Aumann Janice Cartwright RJ Conti Cindy deBethizy Jan Elpel Bonnie Hammer Anna Holstrom Laura Hanks **Rich Inman** Linda Kelly Sandy McManus Alice Pilgeron Dan Porter Tom Reed Kay Tate Ken Yankelevitz George Zanck

Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen P.O. Box 3232 Bozeman MT 59772-3232

