

THE PICKET LINE

DECEMBER 2008



Officers (1 yr)

President

Dan Marsh 587.7578

Vice President

Jim Allbright 995.4441

Secretary

Amy Hathaway 282.6089

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Brenda Kessler 763.4241

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2 yr

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Dan Porter 388.0290

Larry Thomas 586.6878

1 yr

Janice Cartwright 579.3445

Duane Wiltse 586.3597

Rich Winget 579.9866

State Board Director

Jim Allbright 2 yr

Rich Inman - 388.1564 1yr

Alternate: Stacy Bragg 1yr

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BCH Web Master

Dan Marsh 587.7578

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Back Country 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 - **Thursday, December 4 @ 7p**

Dan Porter’s office 1745 So. 19th

Christmas Party - **Saturday, December 6 @ 6p**

Broken Hart Ranch, Rt 191, Gallatin Rd, Gallatin Gateway

Please bring a potluck dessert

General Meeting and Potluck - **Thursday, December 18 @ 6:30p**

Belgrade Alliance Church, Hoffman & Cameron Sts

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December Events

Thursday, December 4 @ 7p - Board Meeting, Dan Porter’s office, 1745 So. 19th

****Saturday, December 6 @ 6p** - Annual Christmas party

Thursday, December 18 @ 6:30p - General Meeting and Program, Belgrade Alliance Church

This December meeting will be a potluck social, voting and some fun and games ala Janice C.

****Saturday, December 6 at 6:30pm - Christmas dinner party** held in Lee Hart’s large barn on 191, Gallatin Road South, Gallatin Gateway

Deadline registration is Monday December 1: Please respond for your reservation to -

Dan Marsh dmarsh@montana.edu (587.7578)

Price \$20: dinner and band

Dinner - 7pm - the band begins at 7:30pm. This is a BYOB and your own appetizer. Dress warm with layers although the barn is heated. This is a very informal affair and is lots of fun. All children, your friends and relatives (same price) are invited. We have again invited the Appaloosa Club and the Gallatin Saddle and Harness Club to join us.

The meal consists of: Table carved roast beef and ham, roasted potato and white and wild rice, a veggie, garden salad, bread, and coffee - we will supply water and left over soda from our poker ride. A plus is that we may end up with prime rib instead of roast beef because it is cheap right now to buy for the same price



Please note - The caterer is not supplying dessert. Therefore we are having a potluck dessert. Please bring a dessert for all to share. Thanks

Applications for '09 dues renewal will be on hand



Ken Yankelevitz reports that the horse sheds are finished at Eagle Mount. Patrick, the contractor, who did all the planning, and Ken put the metal siding and roof metal on two weeks ago.



Photos by Chick Hale

President's report for December

Our guest speaker didn't make it to the meeting but the good news was we got everybody home early.

I have some disappointing news to relay to everyone. Jiffie Hale has asked to step down as our newsletter editor which she has been doing for over six years. Jiffie has done a terrific job of putting out a quality publication with lots of interesting articles and pictures along with the minutes from our general and board meetings. I have had numerous comments from other chapters that say they really like our newsletter. Jiffie said she would stay on until we find a replacement and would be willing to work with the new person to help make the transition. Jiffie has also been very instrumental in "getting the word out" through email messages that members send to her. The newsletter is very important to the chapter and helps keep everyone informed of what is going on when they can't attend the meetings. I do not have anyone that has volunteered to take on this very important position and I am pleading with you to step forward if you have any interest or aptitude in producing a newsletter.

The new trail classification system the Forest Service is adopting is open for public comment again due by December 15th after their final ruling. The Back Country Horsemen of America brought a lawsuit against the Forest Service earlier on the proposed changes to the trail classification system and won a partial judgment in the case regarding not allowing public comment prior to their decision. The outcome was the Forest Service did allow a brief comment period and did make a few changes to the proposed plan. The Back Country Horsemen of America sent another comment thanking them for the changes they made but asking them to reconsider some of the clearing limits for the lower level trails. Rich Inman has been kind enough to draft a response for our chapter to submit to the Forest Service along with a copy to the Gallatin Forest Supervisor expressing our in-

terest in maintaining the trails at an acceptable level for stock use. For the latest information on the status of the new trail classification system go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/>. Individual comments may be submitted by following the instructions at the Federal rulemaking portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for document FS_FRDOC_0001-0606.

All of the details have been worked out for the Christmas Party the will be held December 6th at the Broken Hart ranch. The social hour will begin at 6:00 pm with dinner being served at 7:00 followed by entertainment from The Old Country Players at 7:30. The meal will be catered by Venus Catering and will consist of table carved roast beef and ham, roasted potatoes and white and wild rice, a vegetable, garden salad, bread, and coffee. A plus is that we may end up with prime rib instead of roast beef because it is cheap right now to buy for the same price. Please bring an appetizer and a dessert to share along with your favorite beverage.

Remember we will be holding our elections following the Christmas party at our general membership meeting on December 18th. Be sure to bring your favorite pot luck dish. Ice Cream will be provided by the club for the Ice Cream Social portion of the evening. Janice has promised to provide the entertainment for the evening.

The nominating committee made up of Janice Cartwright, Duane Wiltse, and Rich Winget has presented us with a slate of officers for next year. Details of the nominees can be found in this newsletter. If you are interested in any of these positions you can still be added to the list of nominees at the December general meeting before the vote is taken. We also have a need for members to help on the various committees and we are always looking for folks to chair these special committees throughout the year. We will be hosting the convention in Bozeman in 2010 and we will need a lot of help getting everything organized for that event.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Marsh

You may be wondering? *By Janice*

Some of you are wondering....just what does Janice do on these Horsecamp Days? Well, two weeks ago we headed over to Eagle Mount to await the snow storm to pass over before we



rode. I had teenage girls with me and we took a tour of the facility and learned what type of programs they offered. We also became acquainted with the Tack Shack. This is a box stall that

holds all of the used tack that gets donated to Eagle Mount for resale. Great bargains were found by all of us. Can't believe that I had never heard of this before, used tack junkie that I am. Then, we headed to Horsecamp to ride in the light rain that was still coming down.

That week-end, I received a call from a young adult with special needs that I offer therapeutic riding to on a regular basis. She had been invited to participate in the Special Olympic Try Outs in Butte. So, I called up all of the Horsecamp kids and headed down the dark and cold highway with two horses at 6am. Monica, Lily and Emma warmed up the horses and got them used to their surroundings. I was able to coach Debbie, who rides off lead, through her classes. Monica led Christopher Robin with Laura on board, Debbie's sister. It was a very timely follow up to our visit to Eagle Mount the week before. After the try outs, we hit Quality Supply in Butte and then on to Three

Forks Saddlery to check out all of the tack, asking questions and learning as we went.

The Montana Special Olympics State Summer Games will be held at Eagle Mount in May of 2009. Debbie has been asked to participate. I'm sure I'll have some follow up articles as the time grows nearer.

P.S. Consider visiting the Tack Shack to see if there are some treasures that you can find. When you do, why not go through your own tack and see if you find something you don't need so that you can donate it on the same trip. Recycling comes in all shapes and forms.

And on another day —

Still wondering what goes on during our Horsecamp sessions? Well, the other day was a doozy. Chick and Pete showed up just as five - 12-15 year olds arrived for the day. Everyone was assigned horse chores, horses were chosen for the first round of riding and we were off. During this time, Chick often ends up working with one of my horses (seems as though I keep getting new ones to try out). Well, this "free" horse was the one that Ron and Sherrie White were here to try him out and take him home. They worked on this horse while the girls headed out into the fields. Anna Holstrom and Pat Fritsche showed up with their horses and joined the fray. Chick went out with Ron and Sherrie, then went Pat and Anna to ride the fields. The girls returned for lunch and for another round of horses in the arena, working on gate opening, side passing, backing and warming up. Then they hit the fields and the others returned. Ron and Sherrie left with their new horse — and some afternoon lessons showed up. The teenagers helped get horses ready and were taught under my tutelage. Ken Yankelevitch may have shown up also - can't remember, but he usually does, now that he owns a horse! Some more lessons showed up at 4pm. I just kept directing traffic, assigning horses, choosing tack for those

horses and teaching lessons. This all happened from 11am -5pm. Isn't this a mad house? Yep. Ask all of these people how it works as I'm not always sure how it does, but it does. A huge amount of enjoyment is had by all that participate, the horses get lots of experiences and every-one gets exercise. It's a win-win situation.

<u>Nominations for the 2009</u>		<u>State Director</u> - Rich Inman
Officers:		<u>State Alternate</u> - Stacy Bragg
<u>President</u> - Dan Marsh		
<u>Vice President</u> - Jim Albright		
<u>Treasurer</u> - Brenda Kessler		
<u>Secretary</u> - Amy Hathaway, but requests a back up offer from one or many since she is on call for many of the meetings		
	Board of Directors:	
	Sandy Kypfer	Bob Furu
	Bob Steinman	Melanie Dyba
	Joe Turner	Cookie Gonzales
	Susan DesJardins	Amy Hathaway

José Castro, Gallatin National Forest District Ranger - has sent us

The Code of the New West produced by Gallatin County. José says, "I believe these are principles which apply everywhere, not just the West."

As good citizens of Montana, we promise to:

1. Appreciate the splendor of Montana's natural beauty; the opportunity to live here; the quality of life we enjoy.
2. Be a good steward of the land; to take personal responsibility for keeping our land weed and trash free; to promote recycling.
3. Show respect for our state laws, for wildlife, for the land and for the people ... especially those engaged in farming and ranching.
4. Be goodwill ambassadors, showing friendliness to visitors and neighbors alike.
5. Take pride in how we maintain our property, our businesses, our communities, and ourselves.
6. Become informed about how things are done in our communities and in the state, so that we fully understand the realities of living in rural Montana.
7. Take political action: read, vote, become informed, participate when necessary, to preserve and improve the good things we have.
8. Get involved with our communities, to give back some measure of what we receive from being a part of the larger family.
9. Work together for the good of the whole, neighborhood, community, county, state, nation and world.

José has also found an electronic version of the entire booklet on-line at:

http://www.gallatin.mt.gov/Public_Documents/gallatincomt_webdocs/codewest

Suggestion—Go into our web site www.bchmt.org - chapters/gallatin/newsletters/december and you can click on the link to the Code of the West. It is impressive and informative.

The Nutritional Content of Hay, by Ron Stuber, DVM

This is a continuation from the November issue on "Good Hay Versus Bad Hay" and has been given to us by Rich Inman for submission on both articles. Rich receives all these issues personally from Kalispell BCH

Last issue we talked about the difference in hays, good versus bad hay, and the time to cut and bale. Now let's look at the contents of the different types of hay.

Judging hay quality requires careful inspection of hay color, maturity, leafiness, fineness of stem, smell or odor, dust or mold, and foreign materials such as weeds, grain stubble and insects and rodents.

The basic component of hay is fiber followed by protein, minerals (calcium, phosphorous, selenium, etc.), and vitamins (vitamin A, D, and B complex). Before we can evaluate the type of hay you want to feed will depend on what type of requirements your horse demands. Therefore, we need to look at the type of horse you are feeding: 1. Maintenance horse. 2. Gestation. 3. Lactation. 4. Young and growing horses, 5. Horse in heavy work.

Grass hays include timothy, orchard grass, Bermuda grass, coastal, rye, fescue, and a few others. These all have low protein content, in addition to being low in calcium, zinc, selenium, and Vitamin E. On the other hand, they have a high content of phosphorous, Vitamin A, D, and B complex. Hay loses their vitamin content rapidly with age or as it loses its green color and turns brown.

Legumes include alfalfa and clovers which are high in protein (therefore high in energy) and calcium and Vitamin D, but are much lower in phosphorous, magnesium, and Vitamin E. This is why a good combination of alfalfa and grass hays complement each other, especially when considering a good calcium-phosphorous ratio (Ca/P ratio). Alfalfa being high in calcium and low in phosphorous complements the grasses which are low in calcium and high in phosphorous.

Alfalfa also is a good supplement hay to feed with a grain diet as grains are high in phosphorous and low in calcium. If you have the opportunity to have grain and hay analyzed you want to have a 2:1 ratio of Ca:P.

Some myths and facts concerning alfalfa are: Myth – Alfalfa's high protein causes kidney problems. Fact – High protein is not harmful to kidney problems, but the horse will drink more and therefore produce more urine to handle the increased protein which is metabolized into ammonia which must be excreted by the kidneys. Myth - Alfalfa makes a horse "hot". Fact – Some horses are more energetic on alfalfa, but it isn't from the protein. Myth – Alfalfa causes heaves and allergies. Fact –no more a cause than other hays that grow molds in the bales. Any type of hay can grow molds if improperly cured. Myth – Alfalfa causes osteochondritis dissecans (OCD), a joint disease of young horses. Fact – It is not the high protein, but an imbalance of minerals in alfalfa which could attribute to OCD. Myth – High calcium in alfalfa prevents OCD and other developmental bone problems. Fact – Calcium along with phosphorous, magnesium, protein, and trace minerals in proper proportions is the key to good bone development.

Mineral content of hays are largely dependent on the mineral content of the soil. Here is where a proper and good fertilization is important to the overall picture of mineral levels in hays. Soil analysis is important to establish the fertilizer needed, such as calcium, phosphorous, magnesium, potassium, copper, zinc, and selenium (which incidentally we live in a selenium deficient region of the United States).

Nutrition of horses is such a broad subject that we only touched on the surface here of some facts. Which leads me to two other often overlooked subjects: 1. Horses on low phosphorous diet will tend to develop a vice of eating fences or trees. The missing factor here is phosphorous and/or the lack of fiber in their

diet. This can be remedied by a supplement. 2. Pasture fresh grass has at least 80% water content and baled hay, at best, only has 10% water content. High water content is why choke and impactions are almost non-existent in horses on pasture. Soaking hay can benefit certain medical conditions, many of which are respiratory allergies. Soaking does not completely eliminate fungal/mold spores but largely prevents the possibility of these spores being inhaled. Soaking not only helps chewing and di-

gestion but also helps reduce the sugar content in hay thus being beneficial to the laminitic and insulin resistant horse. Soaking to leach out the sugars requires longer soaking for best results.

I purposely avoided discussing grains and pelleted feeds which is a whole other topic for discussion and I wanted to deal only with hays in these articles.

Permission granted for reprinting

Can my horse be spook free? *by Joe Turner*

Don't you hate that feeling of riding along just enjoying the scenery or the company of your riding partners (2 and 4 legged creatures alike) when all of a sudden you're hanging on for dear life? The horn is now your life line and that stupid little leaf that fluttered in the wind is your demise to a perfect day on the trail. Me too!

Let's look into the horses mind and find out what the heck is going on in that fuzzy head of theirs. Let's refer back to what has kept this species alive for so long (not becoming extinct), Fight or Flight. Most commonly in the eyes and brain of the horse is flight. That saber toothed tiger is the same darn thing as that dang mountain lion that was sitting on the branch of that tree a few minutes ago on our trail ride. Even though we saw "tree with leafs blowing in the wind" our equine partner saw "really well disguised mountain lion on that branch and I just saw the end of its tail flicker and that always happens right before he is going to pounce on me and eat me, heck I better get a million miles away from here and if that sack of potatoes is still on my back when I come to safety then cool but I sure hope not, maybe I can buck them off or knock them off with a branch of a tree". I particularly do not like this approach to life so I try to help my horses understand the balance between rider/horse safety and just being simply insecure in themselves, in us and our surroundings.

I start in the round pen where I always start any new task, I try not to introduce new tasks out on the trail, if I can start them in the round pen, in a safe environment, then I can ensure that at least we have somewhat of a notion of what we are doing when we are on the trail and in a potentially dangerous situation. Our goal is to build confidence in our horses and then in our partnership. We will want to start with some *desensitizing* tasks from the ground then move onto *working* tasks where the horse works if they are performing the wrong result. In desensitizing I look to find things that scare my horses. That's right I said I am trying to scare my horses, I can hear about half of you gasp right now! How can I ever expect my horse to be confident if I don't ever *teach them how to be* confident. I want to rewire their brain from the "flight" mode to "curiosity" mode, I want them to be thinking "oh looky here, here is something I have never seen before and look at the way it flutters like a butterfly, the last thing on earth I want to do right now is to expend more energy than I have to because it might be a long day and I like the energy of my partner relaxed on my back enjoying our time together" or something along those lines. So once again I try to find things to scare my horses then I teach them that everything that they think is going to eat them is actually not a threat at all so they start to build confidence in me as a leader and in themselves for inspiration on the trails. It is amazing to watch their trans-

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formations in just a few days in a young horse and a little longer for an older horse that is a little more set in their ways. No horse is beyond hope. We just have to learn to listen to our horses so we can properly work on their confidence and not set them back even further. Once we master the ground work then we can move onto working from their back and then out onto the trails.

There are many tasks that can be used to achieve the desired results but we need to be sure that we are listening to what our equine partners are telling us and have the proper approach and that includes the correct frame of mind and mental approach. Not an approach with the idea of conquering but one of empathy and understanding and wanting to work through the issues at hand, no matter how long it takes. Soon enough your days of living on the edge (about 20' or more from the trailer), to enjoying our trail rides and being the envy of your friends because finally it's their horses that are being the sour grapes of the bunch, will be over.

Please contact me if you have any questions or issues that you need help with at joe@rockymountainhorseman.com. You can also visit www.rockymountainhorseman.com or call 406-579-6622, and see you next month. Joe Turner

“We have moved,” quotes Sammylu Parsons

Recently I received an email from Sammylu Parsons saying she and Brown have sold their house at Four Corners, bought a fifth wheeler and gone south for the winter. They are presently at their daughter's home in Denver for the month of December and then they head on to Yuma, AZ until about April first when they plan to return - and I assume this means back to Denver, not Four Corners. She also said she sold her horse, Kelly, just before they left. Sammylu went on to say. “I feel he has gone to a good home where people will love him as I did. This is the first time in 38 years that we haven't had horses - it's a pretty sad feeling. Guess we have put away our saddles and now headed down the lonesome road to new adventures. We have truly enjoyed our years in BCH and the fellowship of its members. We have many good memories. Happy trails to all.” brsluparsons@hotmail.com

My resignation –

It is with regret that I am resigning as your editor. It is time for new blood to take over. I want all members to know that it has been my greatest privilege to serve you through the years in giving you information.

Out there among you there is a person that can take on this job with vigor, enthusiasm, and enjoyment, as was in my case. I loved my job, but realize that one is not indispensable.

Do not fear this task. I was self taught, made many mistakes early on and I still make them. I always knew you members were understanding and behind me. It is a fun and self rewarding challenge and gives one a great deal of satisfaction. In adding, I thank those members who willingly write articles and take pictures - without you there would be no newsletter.

I will be only too happy to help and assist anyone willing to take on a fun job as editor of our club's newsletter. Please come forth, give me a call or email and ask your questions. 580.0774 763.4105 or jiffie@q.com

Board Meeting Minutes, November 6, 2008

Dan Marsh, President called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Dan Porter, Duane Wiltse, Larry Thomas, Janice Cartwright, Stacy Bragg, Amy Hathaway, Marianne Meyer, Chick and Jiffie Hale and Sonja Berg.

Minutes of October Board Meeting were in the newsletter. Jim motioned to accept; Larry seconded; approved.

New Bills: New bills from Jiffie for Newsletter and stamps totaled \$106.49.

Correspondence: BCH State Newsletter, Public Lands Water Access newsletter, and a *Thank you* from Ron Rassley for the Certificate for chainsaw servicing.

Membership: Marianne is taking renewals for the 2009 year.

Issues: BCHA has sued the USFS for a new Trail Classification system. The comment period on this may be made until December 15th. Each forest will be handled with its own management and Brian has said that our equestrian trails will remain classified to satisfy that purpose. The biggest part to this Classification system is that current trails are not up to the previous classification requirements and by reclassifying the trails to the suggested numeric system, the forest service can alleviate a work load by not requiring maintenance to previously required levels.

Prevention of Equine Cruelty Act is currently in the Agriculture Committee. This is the bill that wants to top the shipping of horses to slaughter horses for human consumption. The deadline for the Ag Committee to move forward with this is January 3.

The Transportation Coordinating Committee was met with nearly 50 equestrians due to the organization of GALLEP. Television coverage was given and is available to be viewed on the web as well. City commissioners are taking note of the equestrian population.

Montana Animal Cruelty Laws are being proposed to revamp the current sentencing structure due to several severe animal cruelty acts.

Quiet Recreation Roundtable hosted by Phil Knight is scheduled for November 10th. An invitation has been extended to BCH members wishing to attend.

Program: Program for General Meeting in November will be Dr. Peter Heidmann. December will be a potluck followed by elections and no program will be held.

Old Business: Paperwork to be filed as 501C-3 may happen after hunting season....

Rich Inman has attended the Lionhead National Forest meeting suggesting the formation of a National Protection Area. His concern (as is ours) to see some type of "Right to Ride" wording in the USFS travel plans as new Wilderness and Protection areas are being developed.

Poker Ride Committee is starting to form. The first meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. at MacKenzie River Pizza in Belgrade prior to the November 20th general meeting. Sherrie White has a large list of suggestion for the 2009 Poker Ride. These meetings will continue each month, so please come or contact Sherrie for more information.

The Eagle Mount work project is nearly completed with club volunteers: Ken, Wally, Larry, Chick, Dan P. and Jiffie. Nearly 10 contractors volunteered there services as well.

The nominating committee turned in a list of members currently interested in Board and

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Officer positions. Nominations will be accepted through the November general meeting and elections will be held at the potluck general meeting in December.

New Business: Stacy Bragg provided a menu from Venus Catering. It was decided to go with the Roast Beef and Ham service. Stacy will follow up with the Caterer.

The 2010 Convention will be in Bozeman. Committees to organize this will be needed.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway, sec

General Meeting Minutes November 20, 2008

President Dan Marsh called the meeting to order following a short presentation from Stephanie with Eagle Mount. Eagle Mount is working on the Emergency Disaster Recovery Plan and asked if the club could assist in moving the 20(+/-) horses that are on their property in event of a disaster. As Rich Winget had previously had a similar request on a county disaster plan, Stephanie will be contacting him as well. A list of members' phone numbers has been supplied to Eagle Mount. Eagle Mount also wants to remind everyone about their Tack Shack. It is a great place to donate and buy tack at a very reasonable price.

Board members and committee chairs in attendance were Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Janice Cartwright, Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, Dan Porter, Jiffie Hale, Marianne Meyer and Amy Hathaway.

Guests: Justine Heizel and Christine Nilsson. Christine gave a brief overview of T-Touch as she is a practitioner.

Minutes: Chick made a motion to accept minutes as printed in the newsletter; Sonja seconded; carried.

Treasurer's report: Brenda Kessler reported a balance of \$4,436.07 in the checking; \$6,044.85 in CD; and \$2,225.73 in a Franklin Templeton money market account. Total account balances are \$12,706.65.

New Bills: Brenda will be sending \$1,670.00 to the Montana BCH for state dues.

Correspondence: *Hoofbeats*, the newsletter from the Flathead Chapter, and a Franklin Templeton prospectus were the recently received mailings.

Membership: Time to RENEW.

Issues: Equine Cruelty issue HR6598 is still in the Ag Committee and has extended its time limitation to January 3.

BCHA has sued the USFS due to a new trail classification system. The proposal has been submitted for public comment period. The period for comment will run until December 15th. Rich Inman has made a couple of strong points: the potential change in trail standards needs to be referenced in the travel plan. The intent is to help reduce the backlog of projects for the USFS, but by reducing trail standards, it may restrict stock use in the long term.

Montana Animal Cruelty Legislation is looking to toughen sentencing on animal cruelty. Several recent, extreme cases have occurred in Montana in the past year.

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Wolf Relisting comment period runs through November 28th. As it is outside of the club's interest, Chick moved to not respond as an organization on this issue, Jim seconded, carried.

Newsletter: Jiffie Hale will be retiring from the Newsletter Chair. We have appreciated all of Jiffie and Chick's hard work to put out such a premium Newsletter. If anybody, or group of bodies, would like to take on the monthly newsletter, contact Jiffie or Dan. Jiffie will assist in all ways possible and will continue until a replacement steps up.

Trail Crews: Larry has finally been reimbursed for gas from the USFS. Will check on the other crew leaders.

Program: December will be potluck, elections and socializing. The meeting is Thursday, the 18th at 6:30.

Old Business: The Eagle Mount project has been completed. Three sheds were constructed with the assistance of GVBCB members, Ken, Dan, Wally, Larry, and Chick. Contractor assistance came from Patrick Sheridan. Bridger Steel donated the sheet metal. Lumber was purchased at Simkin Hallins. Ken said Eagle Mount is so happy with them that they want more!

Sherrie White is heading up the Poker Ride Committee again this year. To join this committee, please meet at the MacKenzie River Pizza at 6:00 prior to general meeting times or call Sherrie. A long list of ideas and suggestions has already being compiled.

Dan Marsh is still compiling the volunteer hours. All hours have been submitted it is just a matter of tallying.

New Business: Nominations for the 2009 year have been completed. Chick made a motion to close nominations, Sonja seconded, carried. Elections will be held at a special December meeting on the third Thursday, the 18th, (Potluck at 6:30.)

Bulk emails from the club will now be coming from sender "BCH" instead of "Jiffie" and members are able to opt out, if you wish, on your membership form, or by contacting Jiffie.

Christmas party reservations are required to be turned into Dan Marsh by December 1st. The cost is \$20 to be paid at the door.

Reminder that 2010 convention is to be held in Bozeman!!!

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hathaway, sec

Email changes and addition to roster -

Julie Martin to: juliem406@q.com

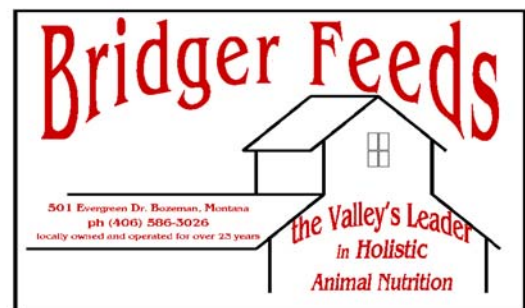
Eldo Heinle to: dbblfoxtrotter@earthlink.com

(this may change when he gets his new laptop)

New member: Joe and Leah Turner

133 Cottonwood Rd., Cardwell, MT 59721

406.579.6622 joe@rockymountainhorseman.com



GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2008 POKER RIDE - THANK YOU ONE AND ALL

Ag Depot
 All West Veterinary
 Ardesson Boots and Shoes
 Biggerstaff Construction
 Big Sky RV
 Bozeman Fence
 Bozeman Saddle Outlet
 Bridger Feeds
 Bumblebean Coffee Shop
 Bunkhouse Originals
 CBU
 C'est la Vie Salon
 Chalet Market
 Chalet Sports
 Concrete Construction
 DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service
 Dr. Phil Aumann
 Don Funke Divine Equine
 Double Diamond Halters
 Equine Solutions
 Four Corners Saddlery
 Freeway Enterprises
 Gallatin Valley Horse Resource

Gourmet Gas Station
 Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher
 Hardaway Vet Clinic
 Harrington's Pepsi Cola
 Insty Prints
 Kountry Korner Café
 Lee & Dad's
 Madison House
 Mail 'n More
 Mountain Magic Ranch
 Momma Mac's
 Montana Canvas
 MT Equine Medical and Surgical Center
 Montana Harvest
 Montana Horse Sense
 Murdoch's Ranch & Home
 Owenhouse Ace Hardware
 Paula's Pepper Jellies
 Rapid Tech
 Rocky Mountain Hat Compny
 Rocky Mountain Supply
 R O Brooks Custom Leather

Root 66 Salon
 Sandy McManus Jewelry Designs
 Second Self
 Steer In Trailer Sales
 This and That
 Three Forks Saddlery
 Tire World
 Way Out West
 Western Pines
Members
 Sonja Berg
 Janice Cartwright
 Jan Elpel
 Bob Furu
 Laura Hanks
 Bonnie Hammer
 Rich Inman
 Marianne Meyer
 Brown & SammyLu Parsons
 Alice Pilgeram
 Dan Porter
 Tom & Amanda Steele
 Ron & Sherrie White

Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen

P.O. Box 3232

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