

Officers (1 year)

President
 Jim Allbright 599.4620
Vice President
 Rich Inman 388.1564
Secretary
 Charley Smith 547.3459
Treasurer
 Charley Smith 547.3459

JULY 2010

The Picket line

Directors

1 year
 Marianne Meyer 388.2676
 Sandy Kypfer 600.4737
 Allen Hathaway 282.6089
2 years
 Stacy Bragg 222.0077
 Dan Porter 388.0290
 Brenda Kessler 763.4241

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 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.

State Board Directors

Rich Inman 2 years
 Jim Allbright 1 year
 Alt: Stacy Bragg 1 year

Membership

Marianne Meyer 388.2676

Newsletter Editor

Brenda Kessler (*temp*)

BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh 587.7578
 dmarsh@montana.edu

Board Meeting - Thursday, JULY 1 @ 7 pm

Dan Porter's Office, 1745 S. 19th

23rd Annual Poker Ride, Bridger Bowl

Saturday July 10, 2010

Registration 8 -10 a.m. neg. coggins test required

General Meeting-Thursday JULY 15 @ 7 PM

Belgrade Alliance Church

205 West Cameron, Belgrade MT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's JUNE report & June Board minutes.....Page 2
 General Meeting Minutes& trail reports..... Page 3
 Members ride & trail work schedule..... Page 4
 Sponsors & Contributors..... Page 5



Report from the Pres

I am ready to go to work, now that I have my new horse. And lots of work is on our Back Country agenda. We have the Poker Ride in the immediate future, Saturday July 10, 2010. Sherrie is faithfully and very busily doing the last minute wrap up. We are so thankful for all the many people who have volunteered to help.

And with the weather (hopefully) cooperating, we have many trails to clear and even a campsite to clean up. The building of corrals at the Spanish Creek trail head has been approved. Presently, we are just looking at the paper work and determining the exact location. The meeting for this is scheduled at the trail head with the forest service people on Monday, July 5th. And finally we still have the ice cream social, which was canceled, to look forward to and, of course, the annual steak ride that we so enjoy, later this summer.



So gear up for the rest of the summer and plan on spending many days on the trails

HAPPY TRAILS

PRES JIM and KODA (*my new horse*)

Minutes: Board Meeting JUNE 3, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Allbright. **Directors present** were: Brenda Kessler, Dan Porter, Allan Hathaway, Stacey Bragg.

Officers present were Jim Allbright, Rich Inman and Charley Smith. Also present was Sonja Berg.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Jim Allbright. A motion to approve the minutes of the May meeting was made by Stacey Bragg and seconded by Rich Inman. The motion was passed.

Bills

The following bill was presented:

Rich Inman Transportation to State Meeting : \$94.50
A motion to pay the bill was made by Allan Hathaway and seconded by Stacey Bragg. The motion was passed.

Correspondence

There was no new correspondence.

Membership

Membership has risen to 72

Programs

The next general meeting will be held as an ice cream social at Janice Cartwright's house beginning at 6:00 PM on June 17. The speaker will be Joe Turner.

Old Business

A motion to spend up to \$150.00 for posters for the Poker Ride was made by Jim Allbright and seconded by Dan Porter. The motion was passed. Details of the Copper City Cleanup will be discussed at the June General Meeting.

New Business

501c3 application

A discussion was held on the best way to change the club to a 501c3 corporation.

It was decided that an e-mail would be sent to all club members with an e-mail address to see if there is a member that is either a lawyer or an accountant that could help with the filing of the application.

Wilderness Society

It was learned that the Wilderness Society will be conducting a group meeting to discuss transportation issues. It was decided that we would send a delegation consisting of Jim Allbright, Stacey Bragg and Dan Porter.

Club Mail Box

The club's Post Office Box was originally opened in the name of Betty White. This has caused some problems because the Post Office can only make changes to the box with her permission.

A motion was made by Stacey Bragg and seconded by Rich Inman to invite Betty to lunch and take her to the post office to change the ownership of the box to the club. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Stacey Bragg and seconded by Allan Hathaway to close the meeting. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by **Charles D. Smith, Secretary**

General Meeting Minutes June 17, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Allbright.

The officers present were: Jim Allbright, President, Rich Inman, Vice President and Charley Smith, Secretary and Treasurer.

Chairmen present were: Marianne Meyer, Membership, Janice Cartwright, Activities and Sherrie White, Poker Ride.

A motion was made by Larry Thomas and seconded by Wally Becker to approve the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was passed.

There was no presentation at this meeting so that the club could concentrate on the Poker Ride.

New Bills

Sherrie White presented a bill in the amount of \$61.00 for various supplies for the Poker Ride. A motion to pay the bill was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Vi Huffman. The motion was passed.

A motion was made by Sonja Berg and seconded by Joe Turner to pay up to \$132.00 to purchase a quarter page ad for the Poker Ride in the Mini-Nickel. The motion was passed

Membership

Marianne Meyer said that the membership now stands at 73 memberships.

Publicity

The club is looking for a person to edit the news letter.

Trail Crews

Larry Thomas asked that members that were willing to work with the Wednesday trail crews should call him on Tuesday evening so that he would know who was going to help. His phone number is **586-6878**.

Sandy Kypfer made a motion to close the meeting and Esther Fishbaugh seconded the motion. The meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted by Charley Smith, Secretary.

Trail work reports

National Trails Day, June 5, 2010

Report From Bonnie Hammer

Bright and early, 11 GVBCB members met on National Trails Day to clear our designated trail at Spanish Creek. Under the Guidance of Larry Thomas, Don from Whitehall and his pack horse, Dan Marsh and his packhorse, Dan Porter, Wally Becker, Billie Thomas, Bonnie Hammer, Ken Kanadarude with his two sons, and Rich Inman headed up the trail at 9:30. About a mile out of camp Larry spotted a bear on the side hill and don saw a Mountain goat. It was a quick sighting but verified by others in the party. Rich Inman walked and cleared a lot of water bars and we sawed two logs. At the Falls Creek 'Y' we split into groups and some worked on a boggy area near the trail head while others went up past the falls and sawed a tree out. Lunch time found us all together at the "Y".

After Lunch we all continued up the trail toward Mirror Lake 'Y'. We sawed a few more trees, then a group with Larry headed back down the trail walking and clearing water bars, while the

other group went on past the Mirror Lake Trail and cut a few more logs. Both groups did some major water diversion all along the trail and by the time we headed home the trail showed considerable improvement from draining and was almost completely dry. We returned about 5:00, totaling 13 trail miles and 13 trees cleared from the trail.

Wednesday June 9, 2010 Trail clearing: South Cottonwood Trail Head, June 9, 2010,

Seven hardy members of Larry's Trail clearing group met and began working our way south. Kay Tate, Ronnie Rassley, Wally Becker, Beth Merrick, Rich Inman, Bonnie Hammer, and Larry Thomas, worked from 9:30 till 5:00, getting quite wet from a rainstorm about 4:30. We cleared 32 trees and did major water bar construction on three creek spill overs. A moose was spotted, and the trail has been cleared to about a mile past the cabin on toward History Rock. Sixteen miles total for the day. (submitted by Bonnie Hammer)

.WEDNESDAY June 23: Trail Clearing

Larry's trail crew: Hellroaring Trail

Kay Tate, Ronnie Rassley, Wally Becker, Beth Merrick, Larry Thomas and Bonnie Hammer, left Hellroaring Trail Head about 9:30. We had a nice leisurely ride for about 2 hours, clearing a few overhanging branches and a few small snags that seemed in the way. We got to the Junction and then decided to have lunch early, unsuspecting of what lay ahead. At 12:15, we headed up the trail towards Thompson Lake and within a half mile met the "Grandmother" of all fir trees. This royal monarch fell right across a switch back so we had to cut her three times. It took us two hours of sawing and then 10 minutes of pulling on ropes and prying with pry bar logs, and a great engineering job of filling in holes with scrap logs, by Kay, and the "old lady" gracefully rolled down the hill enough to clear the trail. She had over 200 rings, and was more than 30 inches across, and our two biggest saws were 36 inches long. Needless to say, we drank all our water, mounted our horses and headed for home, daring not to challenge any more trail for fear of what we might find. (submitted by: Bonnie Hammer)

MONDAY Trail Crew Report:JUNE 28:

(Submitted by Dick Haines)

The Bridger Monday clearing group kicked off the season on JUNE 28 by clearing the Bridger trail South. There were 11 riders, 4 of whom had pack horses and chain saws: Ruth Hall, Colleen Carnine, Henry Glenn, Kay Tate, Ron Rassley, Jim Nelson, Ron and Sherrie White, Dick Haines, Jane Huffine and our newest Monday addition- Kellie Corriveau.

Weather was warm. Ruth and Kay were using their new horses and Dick was breaking in a new pack horse. All acquitted themselves very well: Okay, very well about 90% of the time! We cleared about 16 miles with a small amount of dirt work and snow shoveling in one area.

If you are interested in helping on Mondays and have not received the schedule, please contact Dick Haines at 586-335 or barbwire2@earthlink.net

We have a full summer schedule with 3 overnights at trailheads to maximize our efforts.

Looking Ahead: for the Monday Trail Crew:

The **Monday of July 19** will be led by Ron Rassley.

I will be in the Bob Wilderness on a pack trip.

The present plan is this:

Be ready to leave the Brackett Creek "Y" at 9:00. As many of you as possible should try to "car pool" and thus minimize the number of trailers.

Directions:

You will go up to the old Fairy Lake Trail Head by forest service road(on horseback) and then on to Fairy Lake for lunch. then over the shafthouse hill to the shafthouse trailhead. From here you will ride about a mile past there to Henry Glenn's ranch. Henry has corrals there to put your horses. He will shuttle drivers back to the Brackett creek Y" to get your rigs.

Henry has graciously offered to have a hamburger/ hot dog roast afterwards for members of the group that want to stay.

PLEASE! E-mail Henry the week before and let him know if you can stay for the picnic so he can plan on the food.

His email is: glennhavenranch@3riversdbs.net

and phone number is: 406-578-2084.

Members ride: (submitted by Dan Potter)

On **Saturday, JUNE 19th**, Walt Becker and I rode up the South Cottonwood Trail to scout out the Wheeler Gulch trail towards Little Bear. This trail becomes hidden by Thimble Berries in the summer where it passes thru a long narrow meadow in the gulch. Walt said years ago when cattle were grazed in the area there were trails everywhere. he thought the trail went up the right side of the gulch so we bushwhacked up the right side and found it midway up. At the top of the meadow we were stopped by deep snow so we retreated part way down and ate lunch before returning. Midway down the trail we were now following switched to the south side of the meadow . We found and replaced two fiberglass Forest Service trail markers which stand above the Thimble berries and should help users to find the trail later in the year.

On **June 26, Saturday**, Walt Becker, Kent Knatterrud, and I rode in the Spanish Creek Trail and took the right fork following Falls Creek towards the upper lakes. We cleared deadfall until about 2 pm and reached the first stream crossing where deep snow prevented crossing. We returned safely and had a nice ride.

Tentative Schedules of Monday and Wednesday Crews

Mark your calendar for these **Wednesday Crew July trail dates**. Call **Larry at 586-6878 ahead of time if you plan to go**.

For those who may not have been on trail clearing rides. It is not all work. Much of the time is spent riding the trail between obstructions and enjoying the scenery.

Larry's Schedule: (Wesnesdays)

7-7 Falls creek.... Spanish creek

7-14 South Cottonwood

7-21 Spanish Lakes

7-28 Yellow Mule

Below is the planned schedule for trail clearing by the Monday Bridger Crew. If you would like to help on any of these days be sure to call **Dick Haines**, crew leader, ahead of time.

Phone number: **586-3335**

June 28: **South Bridger Trail-** leave Bridger bowl parking lot

July 5: **North Bridger trail** leave Bridger bowl parking lot

July 9 : **South Bridger Trail** this is an optional Friday ride to clear and flag the poker ride

July 12,13,14: **Porcupine trails**; the Monday group and Wednesday group are combining to cover all of these. you are welcome to camp and work all 3 days or join on the days you can.

July 19: **Shafthouse Trail** Ron Rassley will be leading this one since i will be in the Bob Marshall. it will leave from the shafthouse trail head with some one leaving a shuttle vehicle at the brackett creek Y so you can come out the fairly lake trail. (see previous insert)

July 26,27: **Spanish Creek** this will be another campout. we will do 401 on one day and Little Hellroaring on another

August 2 : **Indian Ridge** Indian Ridge trail head off 191

August 9: **Blackmore Trail** this will leave from the new trailhead up hyalite canyon

August 16,17: **Sage Creek** another camping opportunity. we will do Big Sage and Little Sage.

**** we leave the trail head at 9:00. as always, these dates or locations could possibly change due to weather or requests from the forest service. get those horses and arms in shape and we'll all have fun. thanks for your help in keeping the forests open for horse use. (Submitted by Dick Haines)

GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIB-UTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2009 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
Bunkhouse Originals
CBU
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
Chalet Sports
Cole's Custom Saddlery
Concrete Construction
Divine Equine &
Three Forks Chiropractic
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

Gold's Gym/Jim Albrook
Gourmet Gas Station
Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher
Hardaway Vet Clinic
Harrington's Pepsi Cola
Kountry Korner Café
Lee & Dad's
Madison House
Momma Mac's
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providing prize and cash
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event.

Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen
PO Box 3232
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