

The Picket Line

Back Country Horsemen of Gallatin Valley

September 2010

Officers (1 year)

President

Jim Allbright 599.4620

Vice President

Rich Inman 388.1564

Secretary

Charley Smith 547.3459

Treasurer

Charley Smith 547.3459

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

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

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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 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 resource. of our heritage and the back country's

Upcoming events

General meeting..Thursday, September 16 @ 7:00 PM, Belgrade Alliance Church, 205 West Cameron, Belgrade Montana

.Program by Shannon John J Moreaux, DVM
Assistant Professor, Equine Science
Montana Equine Extension Specialist

Presentation: "Fundamentals of Equine Radiography and Radiographic Interpretation".

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Report from your President :

Howdy fellow GVBCH,

This has been a busy month! . This past week end, (Aug. 27th & 28), I and a bunch of dedicated members build four of the nicest corrals at Spanish Creek Campground. Many thanks, to all the members who showed up and worked very hard to get the job done in one day. The project started at 8 am in the morning and was finished by 5:30 that very same afternoon. **GOOD JOB**, fellow members!



Corral work: toting the posts

Next, on Saturday, many members showed up with their four legged friends and went for a wet rainy ride up into the peaks. Then to finish the day, Dan Porter showed up with the BBQ and steaks for a GREAT meal of steaks, corn on the cob, and baked potatoes. Ummmmmm! It was good.

Thanks to all the people who brought pot luck fixings that made the meal perfect. Again, the GVBH came through and made me proud to belong to this club and be your president.

Well, not much left for this year as the trail clear-

ing is starting to slow down and the snow is starting to fall. Soon, we can look forward to the Christmas party. So, see you all at the September general meeting.

Your pres, Jim Allbright

Board Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Allbright.

Directors present were: Brenda Kessler, Dan Porter, Allan Hathaway, Stacey Bragg, and Marianne Meyer.

Officers present were Jim Allbright, Rich Inman and Charley Smith.

Also present was Sonja Berg.

Minutes of the last meeting were passed around for people to read. A motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting was made by Allan Hathaway and seconded by Marianne Meyer. The motion was passed.

Bills

The following bills were presented:

Livingston Enterprise Advertisement for the Poker Ride \$ 16.35

Lee and Dad's IGA Food for Poker Ride 1,198.51

Big Johns Toilets for Poker Ride 150.00

A motion to pay the bills was made by Stacey Bragg and seconded by Dan Porter.

The motion was passed.

Membership

Membership has risen to 80 with two new members joining in August.

Programs : The August General Meeting will be held as an ice cream social at Janice Cartwright's house beginning at 6:00 PM on August 19th.

The programs will be presented by Joe Turner and the lady that talked to us about Chiropractic treatment of horses.

Old Business (Board meeting continued)

The Copper City Cleanup still needs a date. It was decided to wait until the fall when the rattlesnakes have begun to hibernate

On August 14th the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and the Wilderness Society have invited us to join them in the repair of the New World Gulch trail. They will host a Bar-B-Cue after the work is finished.

The club will begin construction of corrals at the Spanish Creek Trailhead on August 27th.

It was decided that we need a supply of #8 ringshanks. A motion to purchase the ringshanks in the amount of \$ 220 was made by Rich Inman and seconded by Dan Porter. The motion was passed. There will be a Steak Ride there on Saturday.

A motion was made by Rich Inman and seconded by Allan Hathaway that there will be no charge for those working on the Corral Project and a \$5.00 fee for those members who did not participate and a \$10.00 for non-members. The motion was passed.

New Business

501(c)3 Corporation

Dan porter has contacted several accountants to help the club apply for 501(C)3 status.

After discussing the costs a motion was made by Brenda Kessler and seconded by Allan Hathaway to employ a friend of Barbara Mutter's who has offered to do the work for a fee between \$500.00 and \$800.00.

The motion was passed.

Money Issues

Charley Smith reminded the board that prior to the State Convention last March the club had cashed in its certificate of deposit so that it would have the cash available to pay bills that came due before the convention. We now have in excess of \$23,000 in our checking account and Charley recommended that we invest a portion of this money and that as the interest on certificates of deposit is so low we should investigate alternative investments.

A motion was made by Dan Porter and seconded by Marianne Meyer that Charley look into this and report at the next board meeting.

The motion was passed.

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

Respectfully submitted by Charles D. Smith, Secretary

General Meeting Minutes

August 19 , 2010

General Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2010

Joe Turner gave us a good presentation on training horses to load in trailers.

A very meeting was called to order by President Jim Allbright.

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

Chairmen present were: Marianne Meyer, Membership and Janice Cartwright

A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Vi Huffman and seconded by Michael Harney. The motion was passed

New Bills

No new bills were presented.

The rest of the meeting consisted of details of what was needed for the Corral building project at Spanish Creek.

After that was finished a motion was made by Janet Cartwright and seconded by Sandy Kypfer to close the meeting. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by Charley Smith, Secretary.

Report on the Ice Cream Social : August Meeting held at Janice Cartright's

The ice cream social and meeting at Ken's Arena was a great success and enjoyed by all. The featured event was Joe Turner demonstrating techniques for working with horses that are hesitant to load and/or have a tendency to pull back. Check out the photos below.



Also, several new members were introduced and plans for the corral project were discussed. Mike Harney is donating sandwiches from the Pickle Barrel for lunch on Friday for the corral builders

Corral building: August 27

Pictures tell the story

SEE BELOW:



After the corrals were staked out, a bobcat, provided by the National Forest Service, and operated by Rudy, began digging holes for the fence posts.



Once the holes were started by the bobcat, each one had to be completed by hand. Above Henry Glenn watches as Larry Thomas begins a hole.

(Corral building continues: next page)



Others who dug in, were (left to right): Dick Haines, Ron White, Swep Davis and Don Drake.



Wally Becker measure a peeled timber that will be used as a rail.



Posts begin to go into place while crew members work like gophers to dig holes for awaiting posts

While holes were being dug, logs were prepared or



Mike Haugen and Ed Long put a rail in place.



peeled for use as rails in the corrals, Kay Tate & Sherrie White work together.



Michael Harney dispenses lunch, courtesy of Pickle Barrel of Belgrade, to Rich Inman and the entire crew **(continued next page)**



Dan Porter (right), watches as Dick Haines and Dan Marsh mount rails



Gates are installed by Don Drake, Ed Long and Michael Harney.



Ron Rassley , Kay Tate and Bonnie Hammer cut additional timbers needed to repair existing feed bunks and tie rails. Above Kay and Ron hooks up Sport.



It's a wrap! Dan Marsh wraps an electrical cord as the project is completed.



Ron Rassley drives Sport who tows three logs to replace rails in feed bunks and tie rails.



The commemorative sign was mounted on the south east corner of the corrals to overlook the Spanish Peaks



Completion!



First footprint (York, Bonnie's horse)



Work crew posed at the end of the day in one of the finished corrals. On the top rail (left to right): Rich Inman, Don Drake, Henry Glenn, Dan Porter, Ron White and Bonnie Hammer. Second row: Ron Rassley, Wally Becker, Mike Haugan, Jim Allbright, Brenda Kessler, Dick Haines, Dan Marsh, Colleen Carnine, Kay Tate, Ed Long and Larry Thomas.

Kneeling, front: Billie Thomas.

Others on the work crew, not pictured: Beth Merrick, Nancy Bates, Jan Elpel, Michael Harney, Margaret Lowndes, Sandy Kypfer, Swep Davis and Sherrie White

TRAIL WORK REPORTS

JULY 19, 2010 : as reported by Dick Haines

10 riders and two pack horses left Brackett creek trailhead and cleared up to Fairy lake for lunch. After lunch, most of the group continued on and cleared the Shafthouse trail. Henry Glenn lives near the Shaft-house trail head so he shuttled everyone back to their rigs. Then, in a gesture of typical southern hospitality, he treated everyone to a barbecue at his house.

August 9, 2010 (reports Dick Haines) Another 8 hour and 20 mile plus day for the Monday trail clearing group. Swep and Brenda Davis, Ron Rassley, Larry Thomas, Bonnie Hammer, Jane Huffine, Michael Harney, Colleen Carnine and I left the Blackmore trailhead at 9:00 and crossed over Blackmore. From there we went down South Cottonwood and then up History Rock trail. We were back to the trucks at 5:20. Several trees were cut with a few over 24 inches. few showers and a little hail but we got very lucky on the weather. Swep and Brenda and Michael are new participants with the Monday group this year and we welcome their help.

August 16 & 17 2010 The Monday trail crew was scheduled to work at Sage Creek Monday and Tuesday, 8/16 and 17, (no report)

WED Aug 4 Swan Creek trail met 8:30 Kay Tate, Ron R. Larry, Wally ,Colleen, Rich ,Jim, Brenda and Beth Merrick—gathered into two groups, leap frogging with the work Rich's team did about eight logs while Larry's came behind catching what was missed, By 1:00 some very tired horses after a very steep trail going towards the Gallatin Crest and passing several snow mobile trails and a 4 wheel trail (separate trails) After eating lunch, Rich's group turned back . Larry's group went on up to the bog and Ron walked across it. After which Ron advised that the horses should not go across, so they turned back. During the refreshments at the end of the trail ride, about 4:00, the talk centered around some day, someone may need to build some sort of a culvert so that horses could go on safely. It's fun to think about future projects.

WED Aug 11, Porcupine creek: Report from Jim: A full day of Riding and about 35 cuts.

Wed 18, Elk Horn; The crew of 7 (Rich, Betty McCoy, Larry, Brenda, Jim, Mike Harney and Wally) started at the trailhead at the end of the Red Cliff campground. The group met about 8:30 and started off about nine. Rich brought Mandy his sweet mule who had the new sign made by Beth Merrick. (See picture below) This sign caused several tourists from the campground to walk over and questions us about the Back Country Horsemen. After the tourist expressed their appreciation, the group started off encountering (in minutes) several logs across the trail. One interesting tree had roots across the trail and was slowly pulling the trail down to the creek, 100's of feet below. By cutting this and filling the cracks, the crew felt that this would definitely shore up this part of the trail. During the start of the ride it was cool but soon the sun let us know that it was going to get warm. But the work continued to present itself. By the time the day was over, it was estimated about 60 logs were cut (of various sizes) One great jumble, presented itself of about 10 logs as we started down and upon riding through the cut away logs it was like riding through a corridor of tree branches and cut logs lining the sides. It was most impressive and represented a lot of cutting and stacking. Thanks for chain saw, however, it was voiced several times, it would have been nice to have had two chain saws.

Some very tired sawyers settled into the end of the trail behind the Rainbow ranch. There they loaded into Rich's truck to ride up the canyon to retrieve the other rigs since we had started at another trailhead.



**Weds, Aug 25, New World Gulch/Bear Canyon:
report by Kay Tate**

A group of 8 (Bonnie, Kay, Ron, Wally, Larry, Brenda, Jim and Michael) started up New World Gulch at 9 and after 19 miles and sawing many trees we returned to the trailers @ 5:30 to some welcome refreshment. It was a hot day, 90's in the valley.

We leapfrogged wherever possible and Brenda and Jim came back looking for the Kay, Ron & Wally group. We 3 rode the west trail to the cabin at Mystic Lake, ate lunch and continued on, catching the larger group just past the lake where Bonnie was successfully fishing.

Larry had continued with Harriet and got the trees cut to the top of the hill. All together again we still found trees to clear as we came down to the Bear Canyon trail and out.....



Bonnie Hammer and Rich Inman enjoy sunny skies and lupine-scented meadow; later there were thunder showers

WED Crew: Yellow Mule Trail pictures: July 28.

Yellow Mules trail was lean on work but loaded with scenic beauty. .



Here Rich, with packhorse, cross a high meadow



Ron Rassley with Lone MT in the background



On the rocks were Michael Harney, Dick Grover, Ron Rassley and Kay Tate.



Miscellaneous Picture: Dick Haines & Wayne Fredrickson: "work among the flowers "

GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2010 POKER RIDE

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Ardeson Boots and Shoes
Barnett's MT Gourmet Honey
Biggerstaff Construction
Big Sky Yoga Retreats
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men
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