

The Picket Line

February

Back Country Horsemen of Gallatin Valley

Officers (1 year)

President

Jim Allbright 599.4620

Vice President

Rich Inman 388.1564

Secretary

Marianne Meyer 388.2676

Treasurer

Charley Smith 547.3459

Directors

2 years

Clark Kinney 388.1505

Michel Harney 586.3571

Mike Haugen 539.0538

1 year

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 Editors

Dan Porter (content)

Brenda Kessler (assistant)

BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh 587.7578

dmarsh@montana.edu

OUR PURPOSE: *To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country. To work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use. To assist various agencies responsible for the maintenance and management of public lands and. To educate, encourage, and solicit active participation in the wise and sustained use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public, commensurate with our heritage. Foster and encourage formation of new Back Country Horsemen organizations.*

Up coming Events

Board meeting (FEB 6, Thursday) Place: Bozeman Brokers: Dan Porter's Office, 1745 S. 19th Street, Bozeman, MT: 7:00 PM

General Meeting

(February 17, Thursday)

6:00 POT LUCK

Place : Belgrade Alliance Church. 205 W. Cameron , Belgrade, MT.

Program: Forest Service representative: presentation ,which will include signing up trail workers, and scheduling training (to get us ready).

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Hello Fellow GVBCH,

February is upon us and our club is busy planning our activities and endeavors for the coming summer. Summer is coming. My horses are coming up every day now for hay, water and grain. (they are fortunate to have about 200 acres to gallop on). I am sure they are anxious for the summer days of sun and grass. And I am sure they enjoy their summer's work and adventure of the trips into the woods. I know that I do and am looking forward to our GVBH activities. Do get your dues in if you plan on riding with us.

We had a good January general meeting with lots of participation, in planning this year's calendar. Of course, many items are tentative depending

on weather and volunteer involvement. Please, look at our proposed calendar (included in this Newsletter) and make plans for contributing your time, talent and expertise.

Note that at our next meeting, we are having our regular February "wild game" Pot Luck. Usually, this is the opportunity for our members, who hunt to share their excess meat and their favorite recipes with us. Of course, for those of us who do not hunt, desserts and salads are always a good option. We have also invited the Forest Service people to come, not only to present but to share our pot luck with us. Through this program, they will convey to us the latest for our proposed schedule (including the classes that we need to have for certification), and bring us the "sign ups" for the volunteers wanting to work on the Forest Service trails. Most importantly, they answer our many questions. Hope to see you all there at our February meeting for lots of food, fun and camaraderie.

Your 2011 President
JIM ALLBRIGHT



Members of the Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen:

It was brought to my attention (at the Last Board meeting) that various comments and certain opinions expressed in the Newsletter offended some readers. It was the consensus of the board, at that time, this should not occur in the future. This letter is being written to apologize to those members who felt affronted and upset by the Newsletter. It was not the intention of the newsletter editor or President to offend anyone. In the future we will strive to keep the newsletter factual and informative and clearly state when an article is an opinion piece.

As decided at the board meeting, I will continue to organize and structure the Newsletter. Dan Porter has graciously agreed to edit and censor the newsletter accordingly. We need to thank Dan for consenting to take on the job of content Editor. Please, welcome Dan in his new position and appreciate Dan for what he does for our local Back Country Horsemen Organization.

Appreciating your patience and tolerance,
Brenda Kessler

Board meeting minutes: January 6, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by Jim Allbright, President.

Officer present were: Jim Allbright, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer

Current Directors present were: Dan Porter, Stacy Bragg, Brenda Kessler, Clark Kinney, Michael Harney, Mike Haugan.

Outgoing Director present was: Sandy Kypfer

Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm by Jim Allbright, President.

Officer present were: Jim Allbright, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer

Current Directors present were: Dan Porter, Stacy Bragg, Brenda Kessler, Clark Kinney, Michael Harney, Mike Haugan.

Outgoing Director present was: Sandy Kypfer

Also present were: Dan Marsh, Web Master, and Sonja Berg

Jim Allbright asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Rich Inman asked for a correction: his name needed to be added to officers present. Dan Porter also asked for a correction: his name needed to be added to directors present at the November general meeting.

Jim Allbright asked for a motion to approve the minutes and corrections. Stacy Bragg made the motion, Clark Kinney seconded and the motion was passed.

Bills

Charley presented a bill in the amount of \$17 for engraving two additional names on the traveling trophy. Stacy Bragg made a motion to pay the bill, Michael Harney seconded. Motion was passed.

Membership

Marianne reported 15 renewals and one new member: Bob Campbell from Bozeman.

Issues

Dan Marsh had not arrived yet. Topic was tabled for later.

Publicity

Stacy Bragg will continue to submit our general meetings for PSAs, which includes the Sunday Chronicle. The next event publicity will probably be the safety clinic in spring.

Trail Crews

Rich is trying to set up a half-day meeting this month with folks from the Forest Service and two or three BCH board members. Very important to tell them we need their input on where they need us. Also, he will recommend trail classification of Class 3 on all trails that have been designated "horse and pack animal trails". Class 2 is just not sufficient.

Issues, 2nd round

Dan Marsh had joined the meeting at this point. Two issues to watch:

Tester's Forest Bill. Tester will make another attempt in the New Year.

New World Gulch timber sale and logging: Before the club puts in any time repairing or rerouting the trail, we should wait and see what kind of logging roads get put in. It could save us a lot of time.

Business

Although planning for 2011 will be handled at the general meeting, there are a few projects that need immediate attention.

Janice has requested that we schedule the Safety Clinic in early May. The Circle L has become very popular and we need to reserve a date for our event. It was decided that we will try for May 7th, 2011.

Copper City scheduling was brought up as well. It was decided to tentatively shoot for May 14th, 2011. This will be weather dependent.

Dates for the projects submitted and approved for the RAC Grant need to be decided. Those projects are:

Repair work at Window Rock (in the Hyalite area)

Replace corrals at Windy Pass and build new corrals at Porcupine creek

Clark Kinney made a motion to rent the cabin at Window Rock and the cabin at Windy Pass for one night each now, while there is a chance to get the dates we need. Stacy Bragg seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Rich Inman will reserve the cabins, Window Rock for July 16th and Windy Pass for August 20th, if those dates are still available.

Dick Haines sent an email to several board members, suggesting metal corrals. The board discussed this option and reviewed the photos and plans he sent via email. There may be situations in the future where this type of corral will be more suitable than the wood post corrals we are currently building.

The remainder of the board meeting was a closed meeting, with only board members present.

Final matter of business, Jim Allbright asked for a motion to make the same \$300 annual donation to the Belgrade Alliance Church for use of their meeting space and kitchen materials. Sandy Kypfer made the motion and Stacy Bragg seconded. Motion was passed.

A motion was made by Stacy Bragg to close the meeting and seconded by Brenda Kessler. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

General meeting minutes

January 20, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Jim Allbright, President.

Officer present were: Jim Allbright, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer

Current Directors present were: Dan Porter, Brenda Kessler, Mike Haugan.

Jim Allbright welcomed guest Steve Kroon and new member Bob Campbell to the meeting.

Jim Allbright asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December general meeting.

Brenda Davis made the motion, Marianne Meyer seconded and the motion was passed.

Bills

Jim Allbright asked for approval to send the 501C-3 application by priority mail to the Feds. Brenda Davis made the motion to approve the postage, Sonja Berg seconded, and the motion was passed.

Membership

Marianne reported 21 renewals plus 3 just picked up in the mail, plus 1 at the meeting bringing the chapter to 25. (More trickled in during the meeting.)

Issues

Dan Marsh briefly spoke on issues.

Newsletter

Contributions to the newsletter should still be sent to Brenda Kessler. She will assemble in publisher and send to Dan Porter, who will be editor. The final version will be put on website by Dan Marsh. Lastly, Dan Porter will send an email blast to all members letting them know when the newsletter is online.

Trail Crews

Rich has not been successful in getting a meeting scheduled with the Forest Service but he will keep after them.

Business

23 folks present at this general meeting jumped into planning our calendar for 2011. Dan Marsh entered everything on an electronic calendar which will be copied to our website calendar. It will also be included in the next newsletter.

Jim Allbright reminded chain sawyers to please get the saws tuned up before we get busy with trail work.

Discussion came up on how to increase membership, especially *younger* membership. Marianne suggested we get a small booth at the MSU Equine Conference, Grantree Inn. Rich Inman made a motion to approve a booth, Sonya Berg seconded. Motion was passed.

Final reminder by our president: next month is the potluck! Bring your favorite dish and join us for a relaxing evening. Janice reminded everyone to bring their own utensils.

Miscellaneous Announcements:

Rich Inman has a brand for sale. It is a "hanging triangle, lazy H". Price is negotiable, but new owner will have to pay \$100 fee to re-record the brand by 12-31-2011.

Bob Campbell mentioned that he rides all over the area, usually during the week. If anyone is interested in joining him, just get in touch.

Swepe Davis is looking for a new reliable horse.

A motion was made by Dan Marsh to close the meeting and seconded by Wally Becker. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

The following calendar was created by the members at the January 20th General meeting. This is the initial draft and may not include everything and does not reflect final dates or complete accuracy. Always,

Draft calendar 2011
GVBH

this calendar may be subject to change.. Many activities are dependent on weather and availability of volunteers, equipment and club approval. Please, contact the trail bosses on all rides ,activities and work days.

Date	Start Time	Subject	Location
1/6/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
1/20/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
2/3/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
2/17/2011	6:00:00 PM	Wild Game Pot Luck	Belgrade Alliance Church
2/18-21/2011		Winter Fair	Gallatin Fair Grounds
3/3/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
3/5/2011		Equine Conference	Gran Tree Inn
3/17/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
3/25-27/2011		State Convention (Friday-Sunday)	Copper King Inn, Butte,MT
3/26-28/2011		Horse Expo	Circle L Arena
4/7/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
4/21/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
4/26-5/1/2011		BCH National Convention	War Bonnet Inn, Butte, MT
4/30/2011		Red Bluff 5 Mile conditioning ride	call: Rich Inman Trail Boss
5/5/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
5/7-8/2011		Copper Spring Ranch Horse Sale	Copper Spring Ranch
5/14/2011		Safety Clinic	Circle L Arena
5/19/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
5/21/2011		Copper City Cleanup	Copper City
5/28/2011		Virginia City Poker Ride	Virginia City
6/2/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
6/4/2011		National Trails Day	Bridger Bowl
6/8/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
6/15/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
6/16/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church

Date	Start Time	Subject	Location
6/18/2011		Pony Poker Ride	Between Cardwell & Harrison, MM 10, on Hwy 359.
6/22/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
6/25/2011		Spanish Lakes Trail	Spanish Creek Trailhead
6/27/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
6/29/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
7/5/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
7/6/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
7/7/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
7/8/2011		Poker Ride Flagging	Bridger Bowl
7/9/2011		GVBCH Poker Ride	Bridger Bowl
7/10/2011		De□Flagging Poker Ride	Bridger Bowl
7/11/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
7/13/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
7/14-20/2011		Window Rock Cabin Booked	Window Rock Cabin
7/16-17/2011		Window Rock (corral work)	Window Rock Cabin
7/18/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
7/20/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
7/20-25/2011		Summer Fair	Gallatin Co Fairgrounds
7/21/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
7/23/2011		Twin Cabin	Dan Porter Trail Boss
7/25/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
7/27/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
7/29/2011		Continental Divide Trail	By Invite only
7/30/2011		Inspiration Trail	Inspiration Trail
8/1/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
8/3/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
8/4/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
8/6/2011		Pony Tobacco Root Area Ride	Jan Elpel TRAIL BOSS (Pony) (Tobacco Root Area)

Date	Start Time	Subject	Location
8/8/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
8/10/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
8/13/2011		Ramshorn Lake (SATURDAY)	Ramshorn Lake
8/15/2011		Monday Trail Crew	TBA
8/17/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
8/18/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
8/18-24/2011		Windy Pass Cabin Booked	Windy Pass Cabin
8/20-21/2011		Windy Pass	Windy Pass Cabin
8/24/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
8/27/2011		Steak Ride	Spanish Creek
8/31/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
9/1/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
9/3/2011		Virginia City Poker Ride	Virginia City
9/7/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
9/10/2011		Big Brother	Big Brother
9/14/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
9/15/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
9/17/2011		Elk Bugle Ride	TBA
9/21/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
9/24/2011		Belgrade Fall Festival	Belgrade
9/28/2011		Wednesday Trail Crew	TBA
10/6/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
10/20/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
11/3/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
11/17/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
12/1/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH Board of Directors Meeting	Bozeman Brokers Meeting Room
12/15/2011	7:00:00 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Belgrade Alliance Church
12/17/2011		Christmas Party	TBA



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

Ag Depot
All West Veterinary
Ardeson Boots and Shoes
Barnett's MT Gourmet Honey
Biggerstaff Construction
Big Sky Yoga Retreats
Bob Steinman & Assoc. Real Estate
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Bridger Feeds
Bridger Glass & Windows
Bunkhouse Originals
CBU (Citizens for Balanced Use)
C'est la Vie Salon
Chalet Market
Cole Custom Saddles
Damasco's Restaurant
DJ Bar Ranch Stud Service
Double Diamond Halter Co.
Equine Solutions
Four Corners Saddlery

Freeway Enterprises
Gold's Gym/Jim Albrook:
Greater Yellowstone Flyfisher
Hardaway Vet Clinic
Harrington's: Beverages
Kountry Corner Cafe
Lee & Dad's
Mama Mac's
Matt's Saw Shop
Montana Canvas
Montana Equine Medical & Surgical
Center:
Montana Harvest
Montana Horse Sanctuary
Montana Horse Sense
Murdoch's Ranch & Home
Owenhouse Ace Hardware.
Rapid Tech
R.O. Brooks Custom Leather
Rocky Mountain Hat Company

Rocky Mountain Horseman (Joe
Turner)
Rocky Mountain Supply
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
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Member Sponsors:
Don Drake
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Rich Inman
Linda Kelly
Alice Pilgeram
Dan Porter
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