

The Picket Line

March Newsletter

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 year

Clark Kinney 388.1505

Michel Harney 586.3571

Mike Haugen 539.0538

1 years

Stacy Bragg 222.0077

Henry Glenn 587.2084

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 763.4241

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 (March 4, Thursday) Place **Belgrade Alliance Church. 205 W. Cameron , Belgrade, MT: 7:00**

General Meeting (March 17, Thursday) Place : **Belgrade Alliance Church. 205 W. Cameron , Belgrade, MT: 7:00**

Program for March 17: Ride-Right Instructor Karen Ososki (see inside for complete description)

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Hello Fellow GVBCH,

March is here and the summer days are coming closer. However, when looking out the window and looking at the thermometer, I am wondering. And the weather forecaster is saying that the cold, cloudy with above average precipitation weather is going to continue through out March.

Our February general meeting was well attended with the pot luck as always exhibiting much and many different, and delicious selections. It is always fun to get together, socialize and eat with fellow horse people.

Brain and Fred had an interesting presentation and, as always, expressing how much they appreciated the Back Country Horsemen and the many projects we do. Dates for the chain saw and cross cut training by the Forest Service is Scheduled for April 16th and 17th in Helena. Those members who want to cut logs need to have that training. Once accomplished, the training certificate is good for three years. We are working on obtaining a training or trainer in our own community. This would make it much easier for our local chapter.

I want to thank the Belgrade Fire Department for sponsoring the CPR and First Aid training. And especially express our appreciation to our two instructors, Jason Wheeler and Lisa Strickler for taking time on a Sunday afternoon to provide training for our members. Also, I want to commend the 10 people who took their Sunday afternoon to obtain the training. These dedicated people included: Ron Rassley, Mike Haugan, Henry Glen, Bonnie and Clark Kinney, Larry Thomas, Rich Inman, Ron White, Brenda Kessler and myself. The training was thorough and interesting.

Finally I would like to welcome Henry Glenn on board as a director. Please welcome Henry and express our gratitude. With this, I know we are all looking forward to the summer months and I hope to see everyone at the next general meeting

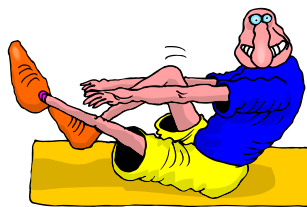
Jim allbright
President



Certified sawyers : Jim and Larry "working hard"

FROM Janice Cartwright: Program description for the March 17, 2011 General meeting

As a Ride-Right Instructor Karen Ososki is a sought after clinician in the NW, helping riders of all levels to improve their performance and success. It doesn't matter if you're a weekend warrior or a professional training and showing in any English or Western discipline, Karen and the Ride-Right program can help improve your performance and success by teaching you an amazing series of un-mounted exercises designed to improve your mounted balance, suppleness, fitness, symmetry, coordination, core strength, straightness, and posture. The exercise equipment includes: balance boards, bodyblades, medicine balls, balimo chairs, exercise balls, hula-hoops and more. The program is designed for lots of fun and laughter. Shake off the winter **"It's too cold to ride blues"** and **let's get in shape for spring.**



Board meeting minutes: February 3, 2011 January 6, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Jim Allbright, President.

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

Directors present were: Dan Porter, Stacy Bragg, Sonja Berg as proxy for Brenda Kessler, Mike Haugan and ex-officio Dan Marsh

Jim Allbright asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January board meeting. Dan Marsh asked for a correction: he should be recorded as ex-officio. Jim Allbright asked for a motion to approve the minutes and corrections. Dan Marsh made the motion, Stacy Bragg seconded and the motion was passed.

Bills

We received the insurance renewal bill in the amount of \$500. Discussion followed that we would contact them to see if we can reduce the amount since the club no longer participates in all the parades around the valley.

Membership

Marianne reported that 28 members are paid up for 2011 at this time. A discussion followed about how to get everyone else to renew. Dan Porter offered to send an email blast reminder with a link to the application on the website in February. Following that in March, a hard copy will be mailed by US mail to any remaining members from 2010 that have not renewed for 2011.

Issues

Dan Marsh checked online for any topics affecting back country horsemen, and found nothing serious. HB290 got shelved.

Trail Crews

Rich, Jim and Larry had a meeting with the Forest Service. They reported that they had a good discussion regarding classification of trails, how to include kids in volunteer work (the opportunity is there), and got an update on when FS training will be available for re-certification. There is a firm date in Helena, on April 16 & April 17. In our area the date has not been set yet.

Business

A suggestion was made that we make a memorial donation to the Heart of the Valley shelter in memoriam for Arthur Van't Hul. He was a former member of the club. Stacy made a motion to donate \$25, Mike Haugan seconded, motion was passed.

Dan Marsh found lists of trail heads for stock use on the USDA website under recreation. He suggested that we should link their info with our website. He would also like to see us improve/update the handout for trail heads/mileage that is available to members & guests. Can we create a link on our website to the USDA website? Dan Marsh will contact the Forest Service.

Dan Porter presented a list of trail work materials that Henry Glenn had researched and put together. Such a list had been requested from the trail crews by Jim Allbright at an earlier meeting. A discussion on whether to spend the money or not followed. Some tools may be available from the Forest Service.

The state of repair of the club trailer came up. Jim Allbright put forth that it may be time for a new trailer and he would personally contribute \$1,000 for that purpose. Discussion followed that the old trailer would be fine for the couple of times a year that we need one as long as some maintenance is done on it. Mike Haugan offered to fix the lights. It was decided to pick a "maintenance day for the trailer" at the general meeting.

Rich Inman received an invitation from the MT Wilderness Assn. to attend their 53rd annual meeting on 4/29 – 4/30 at the Galatin Gateway Inn. He sent the invitation on to Dan Porter as Rich will not be able to go. Dan in turn contacted Henry Glenn who offered to go and speak on behalf of the GVBCH during the panel discussion on Saturday. Dan and Henry will work together to prepare for the discussion.

Jim Allbright asked for a motion to close the meeting.

The motion was made by Marianne and seconded by Stacy Bragg. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

AT THE Thursday, February 17th Pot Luck regular meeting:

Thirty-five members and guests participated in the wild game potluck from 6 to 7 pm. There was an endless buffet of delicious food for all to enjoy.

Jim Allbright introduced speakers from the Forest Service, Brian McNeil and Fred Haas, at 7 pm.

Presentation Notes : Fred Haas and Brian MCNeil, Presenters

Reported by Marianne

Fred reported that dates for the RAC projects have been blocked out. Those projects are Windy Pass, Window Rock, and Porcupine. Logistics and other planning are in progress.

Brian informed us that more groups and people are getting involved in volunteering for the Forest Service. As a result, there will be new protocols but they are not finished yet. One definite change is that there will no longer be individual volunteer agreements. Instead, the entire club will have one volunteer agreement with a copy of our roster attached. Chainsaw and crosscut training will still be required for those who will operate them. Everybody will still be required to take a defensive horsemanship class. First Aid and CPR must be current for sawyers. Dates for FS training are set in Helena, 4/16 and 4/17. Dates locally will be around the first week of June. Hard hats, saw chaps, gloves for chain sawyers can be provided by Brian. The FS budget is still pending; therefore Brian did not have a trail plan done yet. This year, Brian hopes to have better reporting between volunteer organizations and the Forest Service on what work is done. Both ways! Final important note: make sure you are current on the roster by the time it gets submitted to the FS. Only then will you be covered by the agreement which covers volunteers' injuries as workmen's comp. If you are not on it, then the FS is not liable

General meeting minutes

February 17, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Jim Allbright, President.

Officer present were: Jim Allbright, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer, ex-officio Dan Marsh.

Directors present were: Mike Hagan, Clark Kinney

Jim Allbright asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January general meeting. Dan Marsh made the motion, John Mutter seconded and the motion was passed.

Bills

Three new bills were presented: PO Box dues for \$60, bill from Ag Insurance for \$500, Sandy Kypfer \$44 postage for a roll of stamps for snail mail newsletters.

Clark Kinney made a motion to pay the bills presented, Barbara Mutter seconded and the motion was passed.

Issues

Two issues presented were the Bear Canyon area and Cherry Creek Road south of Big Timber.

Publicity

Marianne brought up the MSU Equine conference on 03/05/11. The exhibitor fee has been sent in which includes one registration for the conference. Marianne also paid for a registration for herself and asked if other members were interested in helping staff the table. Several members offered to help with set-up and taking turns staffing the table.

Newsletter

Jim reported that Brenda is working on the next newsletter.

(Continued on next page)

General meeting minutes continued

Trail Crews

Larry has prepared a list of possible trails but anything in June is very tentative. Schedule is weather dependent, and also dependent on what the Forest Service comes up with.

Programs

Janice will have something for the March general meeting! Suggestions of what members would like are welcome. June 14th is the longest day of the year, which falls on a Tuesday. Janice would like to have the June general meeting at her place that day, which would include a horse training presentation by Joe Turner and campfire meeting after. On June 25th, Janice will have kids from the Park County 4H at the ranch in Wilsall. She could use a couple of members to help. A preliminary poster is done for the Safety Clinic; it will be posted during Winterfest at the fairgrounds.

Business

There is a director position available on the board. If interested, contact Jim Allbright before the board meeting on 03-03-11.

Rich Inman has raffle tickets for the next State Convention in Butte. Buy some and support their convention.

Rich will be attending the SWMT Trails Conference. If interested in going, contact Rich.

There are two resolutions that will be voted on at the State Convention and we need to vote on how we want our delegates to vote.

The Back Country Horsemen of America require all state organizations, their chapters, and affiliates to strictly adhere to the original Purpose and Name of the "Back Country Horsemen" upon application for membership or be refused acceptance into this organization.

Rich asked for a motion to support this resolution.

Beth Merrick made the motion and Henry Glenn seconded. The motion was passed.

The 1128 members of the Back Country Horsemen of Montana urge the US Forest Service, Forest Supervisors and District Rangers within the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex and proposed wilderness areas to enforce the law and stop any illegal trespass and use of any mechanized transport, including bicycles.

Rich asked for a motion to support this resolution.

Bob Campbell made the motion and Barbara Mutter seconded. The majority response was yay, there was one nay.

All eight spots for delegates to the State Convention were filled. The convention is 3/25, 26, 27.

Miscellaneous Announcements:

Sandy Kypfer announced that Gallep will have a Horse Club Summit on 3/29 at the Bozeman Public Library, 6:30-8pm. Gallep is inviting representatives from each local horse club for a round table evening. The event is also open to the public.

Jim Allbright welcomed guests Wes and Lori Dooley, and new member Madeline Lieb.

Henry Glenn will be at the MWA event on Saturday 4/30, Gallatin Gateway Inn. They have offered us a booth at no charge for the entire day. He needs materials for a display. We can keep everything from the MSU Equine Conference booth together so he can then use it at the MWA event.

Beth Merrick reported that her horse is aging and someone suggested to her that she might be, too. They both would be very interested in shorter trail work days, i.e. work on the lower end of a trail and head home mid-day. Anyone else interested?

A motion was made by Rich Inman to close the meeting and seconded by Beth Merrick. The motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

The Back Country Horsemen of Gallatin Valley has had many inquiries about obtaining horses to ride for a day, a week, a month or a season. Below is a description of Montana Horses which will furnish horses, trailers and even riding equipment on a daily, weekly, monthly or on a seasonal basis.



Montana Horses

, located outside of Three Forks, offers gentle and seasoned mountain trail horses for lease by the trip or season. Pack and riding equipment, as well as horses trailers or delivery are also available. If you find yourself with more friends than horses this summer and are in need of a few solid mounts to supplement your ride, please contact Kail or Renee Mantle at 406 285-3541 or see the website at www.montanahorses.com.

The Ultimate Horse Course, a permanent 30-obstacle trail challenge course located at the Mantle Ranch home of Montana Horses is open for seasoning your trail horses and for monthly clinics and competitions this summer. Obstacles include water crossings, slick rock, gates, bridges, and so much more. Plan a weekend with your friends, club, or group - or show off your talent and win money at one of the Challenges. Good news! The road will be fully paved to the door by summer.

Also Check out the Montana Horses Annual Horse Roundup and Drive as over 300 horses charge down Main Street Three Forks on Saturday, April 23rd.



PLEASE NOTE

Clark Kinney is spearheading a committee to establish or create a set of guidelines of common courtesies for our trail maintenance crews and/or the Gallatin Valley Back Country horsemen authorized trail rides. The committee would appreciate any comments you, as a Back Country Horsemen member may be willing to share. Please send or relate these suggestions to

Clark Kenney phone: 406 388-1505
e-mail address: ckinney@rmtcine.com

MORE INFORMATION FROM JANICE CARTWRIGHT:

Everyone keeps asking about Cowgirl Yoga. Well here are a few fun photos of some of the (more extreme) stretches/poses that are done. Pictures below

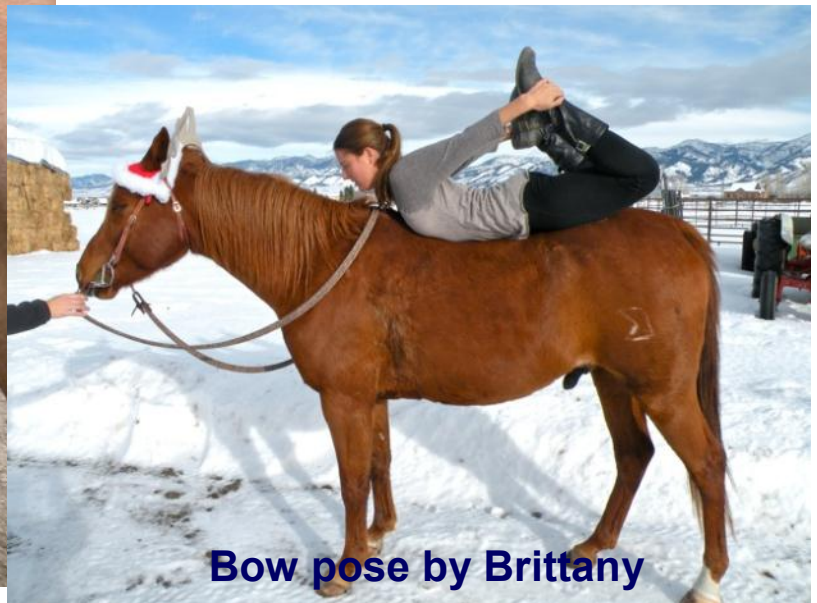
Caution! DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME !



Tawney Yoga pose



Steak ride stretch- Margaret



Bow pose by Brittany

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
Sandra J. McManus Jewelry Designs
Tri-Animals
Western Pines

Member Sponsors:
Don Drake
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Vi Huffman
Rich Inman
Linda Kelly
Alice Pilgeram
Dan Porter
Ron & Sherrie White

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men
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