

THE PICKET LINE

Back Country Horsemen of GALLATIN VALLEY
P. O. Box 3232 , BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59772-3232

OCTOBER 2011
Newsletter

<http://qvbch.bchmt.org>

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 Haugan 539.0538

1 years

Stacy Bragg 222.0077

Henry Glenn 578.2084

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 (temp) 763.4241

BCH Webmaster

Dan Marsh 587.7578

webmaster@bchmt.org

<http://qvbch.bchmt.org>

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

General Meeting October 20, 2011: 7:00 PM

Belgrade Alliance Church

205 West Cameron, Belgrade Mt 59714

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's September Report.....	Page 2
Board Meeting Minutes, September1, 2011.....	Page 2,3
General meeting Minutes, September 15 ,2011.....	Page 3
General meeting minutes & overview of Sept Program.....	Page 4
More Steak ride pictures.....	Page 5
Trail Reports.....	Page 6
Backcountry Adventures	Page 7
Sponsors & Contributors.....	Back page



President's report

Hello GV BCH,

Well, another month goes by and we are still clearing trails. At least, Larry's crew is still going with the exception of today. Called Larry last night and he had been chopping wood for the last three days, so it ended up that Brenda, Sonny, Koda, Shep and I went trail clearing. We decided to go up Hell Roaring and then on to the North trail. The first down fall we came across, I was able to move it off the trail myself. (Brenda did not think I could but it wasn't as heavy as it looked) Then we came across two other trees which I couldn't move so we all stepped or jumped over the trees. Not a big deal but we all had fun and a great ride and lunch.

As most of you see Clark Kenny has put together a great packing clinic for the coming winter. Those of you that are interested, please make your reservations. The number of spaces are limited

Hopefully, we might have a couple more trail clearing weeks left so those of you wishing to go contact Larry on Tues. for more information on when and where we might be going. Remember, if anyone has a story they might want to share with the club: Get your information into Brenda so she can put your story into the newsletter. So far we have had a great year and we have exceeded our membership this year from last year.

I have been gone for the last two months flying so I again, would like to thank all those members who have stepped forward and taken on jobs and spend countless hours working on different projects from steak ride to cabin rebuilding. Looking forward to seeing you all at the next general meeting. Get out and ride as the snow will start falling soon. Your President, Jim



Jim & Koda
Yellow Mule trail
9/20/11

Board Meeting Minutes September 1, 2011

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

Officers and directors present were: Jim, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer, Clark Kinney, Brenda Kessler, Michael Harney, Stacy Bragg, Henry Glenn, and guest Sonya Berg.

Jim Allbright passed around the minutes from August 4 board meeting for review.

Bills

Heeb's bill for Steak Ride steaks - \$325.81

Issues

Dan Marsh received an email from Ben Lamb, Montana Wildlife Federation (MWF) which he had forwarded to the board. The MWF is asking various hunting, fishing, and recreational clubs to sign on a letter opposing HR 1581/S 1087. Discussion about the topic followed and it was decided that we did not need to take any action.

The minutes from the August 4 board meeting were reviewed by everyone present and Jim asked for a motion to approve them. Henry Glenn made the motion, Stacy seconded, motion was passed.

Membership

Marianne reported 91 paid memberships.

Trail Crews

Bridger Crew is done. They have hit all the trails on their list. Larry's crew is still going. Recent ride covered Moonshine – Mirror Lake – Bear Lake where the crew found lots of trees down. Crew consisted of Wally, Larry, Ron and Rich. Next Wednesday destination is Elkhorn from Red Cliff.

Programs

No program had been announced by the time of this board meeting however Brenda will try to find out what it will be and get it into the newsletter.

Old Business

Henry reports that the Windy Pass "pack in and pack out" is finished. The crew packed out 400# of trash which took 8 loads. The FS is happy with the results and Fred appreciates all we do. The BCH team evaluated the corral site to be built next summer. The current corral is near the only water source/spring. The BCH of GV recommends building the new corral away from the water to protect the spring.

(Continued next page)

(board minutes continued from previous page)

New Business

Michael Harney did some research online on courses offered by the 9 Mile Pack Station. They offer courses and certification for window and log work. Michael asked if we should send a couple of people so we can work independently. Some discussion ensued on this idea and Rich cautioned that cabin work could snowball on us. How much cabin work do we want to bite off? Will this fit in with our Purpose Statement?

Henry Glenn wanted to bring up a couple of questions for discussion.

Do we need a third crew?

Communication with entire club membership. Can we send out invitations more regularly?

How can we entice new members and even long-time members to participate more? Are they discouraged by the need of certifications?

Discussion followed that there are a lot of ways to get folks up

to speed on trail work. A horse safety clinic could be covered in a general meeting; on the job training (on the trail training). These are topics to bring up at the planning meeting in January.

Another "empty" trail ride is coming up on the schedule, meaning there is no trail boss. This will need to be addressed at the 2012 planning meeting as well. Rides can only be posted on the schedule if there is a trail boss as well.

Jim asked for a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Stacy made the motion, Henry seconded, and the motion was passed.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

General Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2011

Following a presentation by Rick Woienski, owner of Montana Wagyu Beef, Jim Allbright, president, called the meeting to order at 8 pm. Officers and directors present were: Jim Allbright, Rich Inman, Charley Smith, Marianne Meyer, Dan Marsh, Brenda Kessler, and Mike Haugan.

Jim welcomed guest Melissa Sue Ostrander.

Jim asked for a motion to approve minutes from the August 18 general meeting as reported in the newsletter. Sandy Kypfer made the motion, Kay Tate seconded, and the motion was passed.

Bills

Rich Inman turned in two bills to Charley. \$41.37 for paint and brushes, and \$69.00 for the trip to Deer Lodge State Board meeting. Billie made a motion to pay the bills, Kay Tate seconded, and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report

Charley reports approximately \$2,500 in the checking account and \$15,006.70 in the savings. The \$6.70 is interest earned since we opened the account.

Jim Allbright again thanked Michael Harney for the excellent job he did as chef for the steak ride and said the plan for next year is the same, club members will get the steak dinner at no charge. Sonya Berg asked that thanks should also be expressed to Larry, Billie, and Madeline Lieb who came early the day of the steak ride and oiled the feed bunks and hitch rails at Spanish Creek trailhead. Thanks also should go to Dan and Alice Marsh for all the work they did that day.

Jim Allbright went on to add thanks to Dan for his ongoing work on the GVBC website, and for getting the newsletter out on the web each month after Brenda sends it to him.

Membership

Marianne reported a membership of 91.

Issues

Dan Marsh presented issues from the State Board meeting. They discussed HR 1581/S 1087 which aims to release WSA from such management. They brought up HR 1505, a bill to prohibit the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture from taking action on public lands which impede border security on such lands. (the act may be cited as "National Security and Federal Lands Protection Act"). Basically, they want to turn over certain sections of US/Canada and US/Mexico borders to the Dept of Homeland Security. Dan also presented a letter from Max Baucus (June 28, 2011) to Chairman Herb Kohl and Ranking Member Roy Blunt regarding the GAO report on horse welfare and the unintended consequences due to cessation of horse slaughter. Baucus asked them to end the ban enacted in 2007.

Trail Crews

Larry will not be trail boss next week; it will be Rich Inman instead. Destination Yellow Mule, going on Tuesday instead of Wednesday.

New Business

Jim, Rich and Dan went to the State Board meeting in Deer Lodge, September 10. They reported that: Decision was made to print another 10,000 copies of *Mountain Manners*.

Report from the meeting on Volunteerism cited numerous certifications that a volunteer should obtain, including for example a "Certification on blood borne pathogens". Rich challenged the presenter to think outside the lawyer box. Too many requirements will impede volunteerism. Also, why do volunteers have to be re-certified so often? What is the need when nothing new gets presented?

The BCH was asked for affirmation to push for protection of the Rocky Mountain Front (prevent oil exploration)

(General meeting minutes continued on next page)

Several Forest Service “higher ups” were taken into the Monteur Trail Back Country on a “Show Me Ride”. They were shown LNT methods, type of trail work done by BCH. You can see over 100 pictures on the web at bchmt.org/gallery. Also, the book “*When the Mountains Roared: The 1910 Northern Rockies Fires*” was reprinted.

Dan Marsh reported on behalf of Clark Kinney on progress made with the winter packing seminars. Several folks had a meeting at the Copper Spring Ranch and made some decisions. The seminars will be called “Backcountry Adventures” and will be well worth the time and low fee of \$20. There is a limit of 50 attendees. (25 from the club, 25 from the public). I.e. 25 spots will be held for club members for sure; however more can attend if there is not enough interest from the public.

The first Saturday will consist of lectures at 4 stations. Later on it will be hands-on learning with horses, equipment etc. CSR is handling the marketing, printing the registration form, and providing their arena at a much reduced rate of \$100 per day.

The brochure / registration will be on the websites, both BCH and CSR. Just \$20 for a neat opportunity to

learn from instructors such as Dale Moore, Bob Hover-son, Brett Badgett and some of our own experienced backcountry packers.

There will also be vendors and sponsors present. We need a motion to approve payment of the \$400 arena fee in case our sponsors back out. Sonya made the motion, Dan seconded and the motion passed.

Charley was presented with another bill in the amount of \$22.32 from Insty Prints. A motion was made to approve payment, seconded by Billie, and the motion passed.

Jim asked for a volunteer to bring goodies for the next general meeting. Kay Tate volunteered.

Lastly, Jim asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. ? made the motion, it was seconded by Sandy Kypfer, and the motion was passed.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer, Secretary.

September Program

Wagyu Beef (high end specialty beef) Presentor: Rick Woienski

September’s speaker sent us home with a tasty and generous portion of his product; Wagyu beef. Ours was of the hamburger cut; which makes up almost 80% of the cow. When I served it to some friends the next day, barbecued on the rare side, they commented that it tasted more like steak than hamburger. It definitely lived up to the promise that Rick Woienski made during his presentation to our club.

Rick told us how he first came to Montana as a MSU student then served in the military during which time he lived in both Japan and Korea. After spending time with a disenchanting career he turned to beef and is now totally enamored with cattle raising. He raises his herd, which is a cross between Japan’s Wagyu cattle-known to produce “kobe” beef – and Angus cows here in Belgrade, Montana.

They are raised humanely on grass and grain without the use of antibiotics and hormones. His business is family run and operated; he is involved with every step from the drop of the calf to its production of beef. He uses this particular cross to get the special texture of the Angus and the luxurious taste of the genetically-ensured marbled quality of the Wagyu beef.

For those of us, like me, with little knowledge of the role that the USDA plays in the production of beef in this country, his story was quite interesting. After the cow reaches 30 months of age; the last six months being fed whole grains in addition to continuing being grass fed, it goes to the slaughter house, also here in Montana. A USDA inspector has to be present, he will examine the organs as well as the blood. Only less than 3% of the country’s beef is labeled as grade A prime. The Montana Wagyu Cattle Company has attained this standard.

We would like to thank Rick for his informative talk and for the samples he gave us to enjoy.

He has a freezer storage located in Four Corners and would be happy to provide you with great specialty meat.

(article written by Sandy Kypfer)

Montana Wagyu Cattle Company
6195 Round Mountain Road, Belgrade MT Phone: 406-451-5513:
or consult the web site:
www.montanawagyu.com---

More (as promised) of the Pictures from August 27 Steak Ride
Photos provided by Janice Cartwright



Grill master: Mike Harney



Ken watching, Anna arranging & Dan cooking

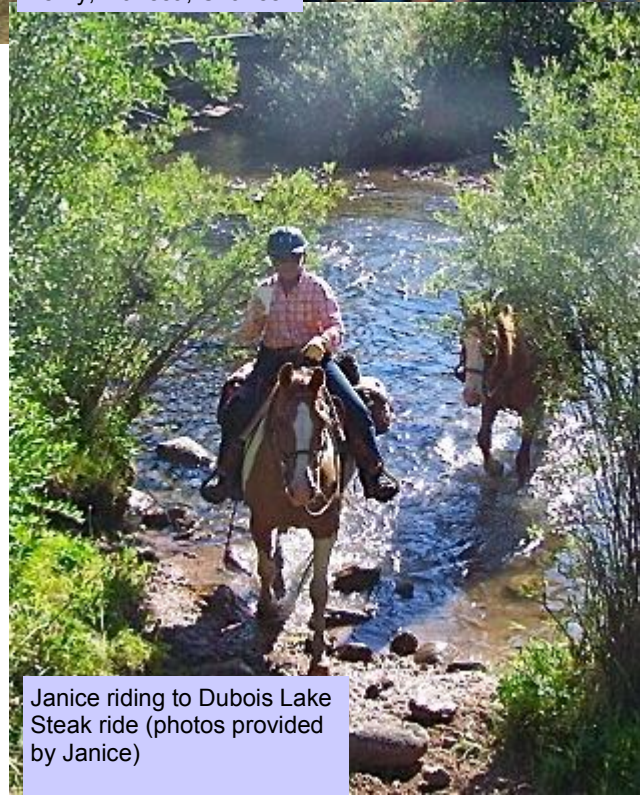
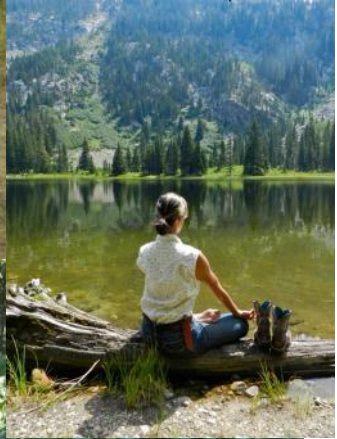


Henry, Marissa, Charles



Ken, Chic, John & Barbara

Dubois lake
(Steak ride meditation)
↓



Janice riding to Dubois Lake
Steak ride (photos provided by Janice)



VI riding to Dubois Lake -Steak ride

Trail crew reports

Elk Horn to Twin Cabin Creek Wednesday, September 14, the Wednesday crew met at the Red Cliff campground . Because the campground was under construction, the crew parked in front of the bridge. Larry unloaded and took his outfit down to the trail head 46 (Twin cabin creek) behind the Rainbow Ranch to serve as the relay ride. Soon, he was back with Rich as Rich had followed him down. We, then, rode the horses through the empty campground to the Elk Horn creek trail (trail 165) and started up: Soon to be cutting downed trees. After about 25 cuts, we stopped counting and just continued to cut and ride. Before reaching the ridge, we discovered that the trail had been rerouted to a draw which was mostly swamp. Looking around, the crew discovered the original trail above this wet area with several downfalls across it. (Probably, the reason it had been rerouted.) The crew cut the downfalls and reopened the original trail.

Once up, on the Ridge (trail 199), we had a wonderful view of Lone Mountain with the open meadows on the East side of the canyon in the foreground. On the other side of the highway, the village and the buildup of civilization was most apparent. Catching the trail (trail 46 Twin Cabin creek) we were soon riding steeply down and were in the trail head behind the Rainbow ranch by 4:00. The drivers quickly shuttled back to the campground to collect the other vehicles. It was a great day with, beautiful fall weather, cool in the morning but pleasantly warm by afternoon.

(Reported by Brenda Kessler)



Yellow Mule

Sept 20, Larry's group, Wally, Jim and Brenda, Rich, and Bonnie, showed up at 9:00 at the Yellow Mule/ Ousel Falls trail head near Big Sky. The crew rode up 2nd Yellow Mule and cleared 5 or 6 trees, two big ones where the trail is narrows right above the water falls. It was a clear day but quite cool, in fact near the top of the trail by Yellow Mule cabin there was ice still on a pond of water at 1:00 pm. However, the biggest thrill of the day was when this perfectly beautiful 6/7 point bull elk decided Brenda's palomino horse was a cow that he needed to herd. Larry, at the front of the group, saw the bull cross the trail in front of him and head up hill. Five minutes later, Brenda said, "There is a bull

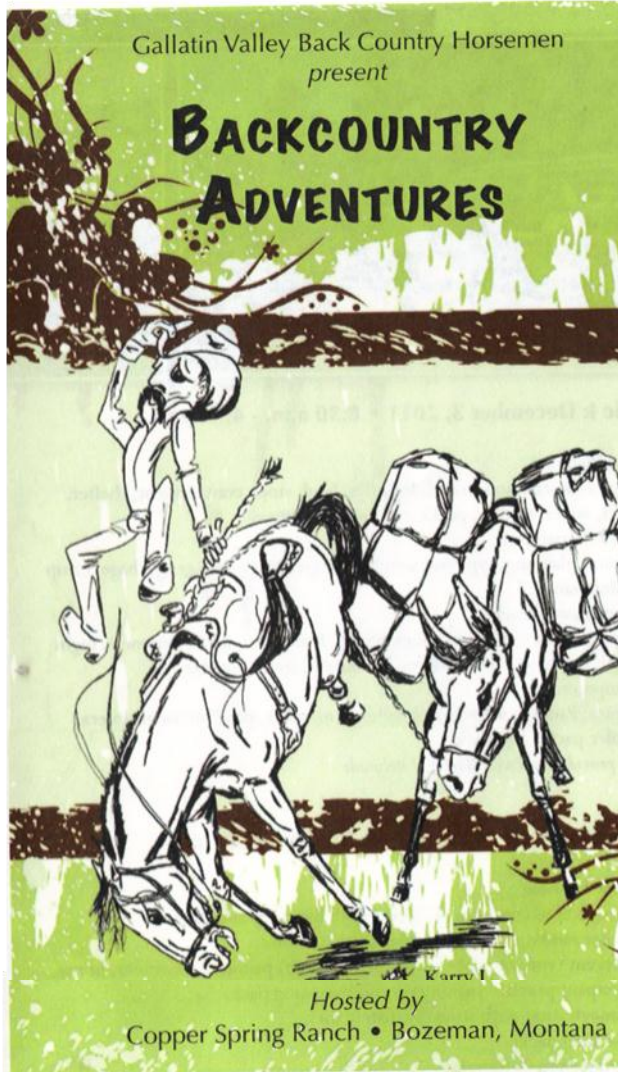
elk following us up the trail." Sure enough, we all stopped turned around and stared at the Bull and he stared back. Finally 5 minutes later he ambled up the hill looking for the other cows that had been with him. A bow hunters biggest fantasy as he was only 10 to 15 yards away, and not scared of us at all. *(reported by Bonnie Hammer)*

Brenda had a camera but was too slow turning her horse around and getting the camera out to catch the bull—she is really slow!



(other pictures of the Yellow Mule trail provided by Brenda)

Backcountry Adventures (http://gvbch.bchmt.org/documents/Back%20Country%20Brochure_web.pdf)
 December 3, 2011 hosted by Copper Spring Ranch clinics & (GV BCH) Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen invites you to a Horsemanship, Planning, and Packing Clinics open to the public \$20 for 4 all day sessions.



The horse, the horse, is what makes a backcountry packing trip a success.

OBJECTIVE:

To provide the leadership and training in recognized and acceptable practices of using stock (horses and mules) in Montana's backcountry and wilderness settings.

This effort is the outgrowth of a recognized need to address the growth of backcountry stock users, and to ensure the enjoyment of this recreational opportunity with attention to the welfare and safety of both people and livestock.

The foundation of this effort is to use the knowledge, experience and expertise of the individuals who, through their own endeavors, have developed the skills and experience to establish recognized standards.

CLINIC SCHEDULE AND OVERVIEW:

December 3, 2011	Clinic 1 Trip Planning - food preparation, stock management, equipment
March 31, 2012	Clinic 2 Introduction to packing livestock
April 28, 2012	Clinic 3 Packing demonstration and practice
May 13, 2012	Clinic 4 General review, requested review Demonstrations Guest speakers
Clinic Location:	Copper Spring Ranch Indoor Arena 599 Hightower Road Bozeman, Montana

For more information regarding the clinic contact Clark Kinney at 406.599.4430

For directions visit copperspringranch.com

Sponsored by these local businesses:

Chris Tornow Saddlery, Ressler Motors, Scenic City Trailer Sales, Rocky Mountain Truck Center, M&K Ranch - Lee Eblen, Bozeman Saddle Outlet

Instructors:

Dale Moore	Brett Badgett
Bob Hoverson	Norma Moore
Bobbie Kinney	Dr. Gary Cook
Teri High	Clark Kinney



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
Jan Elpel
Vi Huffman
Rich Inman
Linda Kelly
Alice Pilgeram
Dan Porter
Ron & Sherrie White

Gallatin Valley Back Country Horsemen
PO Box 3232
Bozeman, MT 59772-3232

