

BOARD MEETINGS:
1st Thursday, 7 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 7 PM

Belgrade Alliance Church
205 West Cameron

OUR PURPOSE:

Shall be to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in the back country and assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of the resource and to educate, encourage and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses, commensurate with our heritage and the back country resource.

2013 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

Henry Glenn ... 578-2084
glennhavenranch@3riversdbs.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Haugan ... 539-0538

TREASURER

Debbie Moran ... 509-999-6561

SECRETARY

Marianne Meyer ... 388-2676

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

John Mutter ... 285-0516

Larry Thomas ... 586-6878

Beth Merrick ... 388-4047

TWO YEAR TERM

Dan Porter ... 388-0290, 539-0879

Steve Thienes ... 578-2124

Jim Wing ... 587-8880

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Marsh (1 year) ... 587-7578

Jim Allbright (2 years) ... 599-4620

Clark Kinney (Alternate) ... 599-4430

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey... 222-5971

pbr@wisptest.net

BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578

webmaster@bchmt.org

http://gvbch.bchmt.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOARD MEETING : ~~APRIL 12, 7:00 PM~~ **MEETING CANCELLED**
Belgrade Alliance Church

BCHMT STATE CONVENTION : April 5 - 7
Red Lion Inn, Kalispell

POKER RIDE COMMITTEE MEETING : APRIL 18, 6:00 PM

GENERAL MEETING : APRIL 18, 7:00 PM

Belgrade Alliance Church
Jason Matzinger, outdoor wildlife photographer



PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Hello Everyone,

As Spring approaches, we get anxious to ride. Then reality sets in: the trailer tires are flat, the truck battery is dead and it needs new tires. Now is the time to take care of all those maintenance issues with our rigs. Now is also a good time to get vaccinations and Coggins for all our equine friends. Remember, if you go out of state or into Yellowstone Park you need a Coggins test.

We will be having a Packing Practice session at Twisted Spur Arena on May 18th for any club member who is interested.

This is a requirement if you plan on packing with us into the AB wilderness this summer. Bring your riding horses and pack stock along with your gear to this refresher on packing. There will be lots of experts to help you with any issues that may arise.

Poker Ride committee is in full swing and needs you to volunteer to help make 2013 a success for the club's only fundraiser. Please contact Debbie Moran if you can help.

Larry Thomas and Ron White will again be heading up the Trail Clearing crews and will need your help through out the summer so give them a call and join up for some fun in the mountains of Montana.

See you down the Trail,

Henry, President

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 7

Meeting was called to order by Henry Glenn, President. Officers, directors, and state board members attending were Mike Haugan, Debbie Moran, John Mutter, Larry Thomas, Beth Merrick, Marianne Meyer, Dan Porter, Steve Thienes, Dan Marsh, and ex-officio Jim Allbright. Present as observers were Rich Inman and Clark Kinney. Minutes from the February board meeting were approved by a motion made by Beth and seconded by Debbie.

TREASURER'S REPORT/BILLS

Debbie reported \$3,592.82 in checking and \$15,017.42 in savings. There were no new bills. We have \$150 credit with Insty Prints.

MEMBERSHIP

51 memberships have been renewed for 2013. Marianne will send "payment/renewal reminders" to members who have not renewed by March 1.

PROGRAMS

March – CPR training presented by the AMA (American Medical Assn) that will benefit EVERYONE. All should come!

April – Jason Matzinger will have a 45 minute presentation. He is an outdoor wildlife photographer and produced the movie "Into the High Country".

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Marsh has been in touch with Gordon Hardaway about a possible presentation on the topics of vaccination and preparation for trail riding. He has agreed to give BCH members a discount on Coggins. Instead of a vaccination day, it is probably best members make an appointment. We could provide him with a member roster. Presentation could be the May program.

Debbie's biggest concern regarding our Poker Ride right now is finding a prize co-coordinator.

NEW BUSINESS

Rich, Clark, Larry, and John are planning a "practical day of packing" with "Obstacles on the Trail". They would like to rent Twisted Spur @\$200 for one full day; May 11th or 18th are available. The idea is for members who plan to pack, ride into the back country, or go on the cabin rides north of Yellowstone to bring their CRITTERS, bring their GEAR, and bring their QUESTIONS to Twisted Spur. Your stuff will be checked over, your questions answered, some kinks worked out of your hoss, AND this would be FREE for members, including a lunch. If you want to pack to the cabins, then come to this event and have your equipment checked. You can even ride and lead your pack animal in the arena. Beth moved to allocate \$200 to this one-day clinic, John seconded, all voted aye and motion carried.

Rich added that he would like the clinic to be on 5/18. A motion was made accordingly by John, seconded by Jim, approved by all. Henry will provide a write-up for the newsletter.

Important side note: The Red Bluff Ride on 5/18 will need to be shuffled to another day!

Henry et al had a meeting with the Forest Service regarding summer projects. Henry would like to make the 3-day trips to the cabins available to everybody. There will be more than just 1 trip to each cabin, happening in July / August.

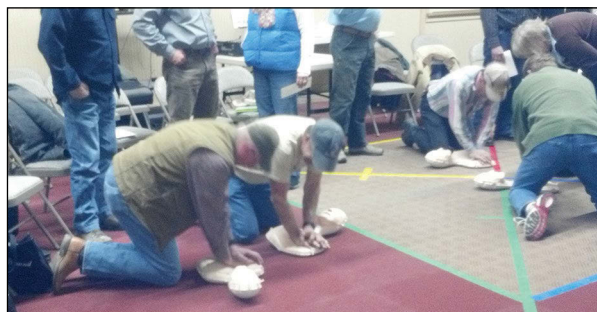
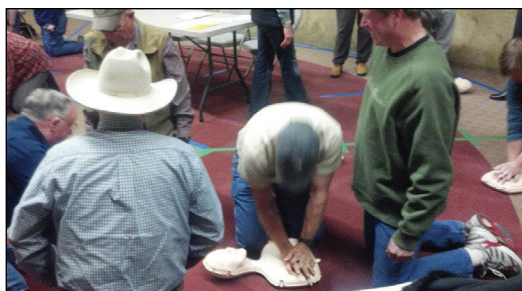
Board discussed getting a PayPal account and Dan Marsh presented the different levels available. The Flathead has a PayPal account. Debbie made a motion to set up a PayPal account at the "ZERO" level. Dan seconded with the addition to evaluate after first year. There is no cost when not used. A fee is deducted when a donation or payment is made. Henry added it is better to have a donation and pay a fee than to not have the donation at all.

Beth presented an idea of getting a business card made up for our chapter. It would have a QR code, show that we are a 501(c)3, and provide some contact information. Debbie made a motion to get cards made up, Dan seconded, motion carried.

Rich pointed out that since our insurance increased by \$190 he felt compelled to contact Edna for a breakdown. Our base is \$550. The total is \$709. The additional costs are to indemnify the Forest Service. HOW is this possible when we volunteer all year long for the FS? We should not have to indemnify the FS as volunteers. Rich will take this up with FS.

Jim moved to adjourn the board meeting, Beth seconded, all voted aye, and motion carried.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 21

PRESENTATION NOTES

Close to 30 GVBCH members attended the General Meeting which included a presentation about Sudden Cardiac Arrest, a video of a family who experienced and survived such an event, and a video on how to administer bystander hands-only CPR. Sudden Cardiac Arrest strikes an estimated 295,000 Americans each year (that's over 800 events a day on average) and 80% of SCA events occur in the home. 92% of those who suffer SCA die before reaching the hospital. Communities with higher CPR participation have increased survival, as CPR before the arrival of professional rescuers doubles the chance of survival for a victim of SCA. Success begins with bystanders. After the presentation everyone had a chance to practice CPR to the beat of "Staying Alive" on about a dozen dummies scattered around the room.



Sharon & Ron

Business meeting was called to order by Henry at about 8:15 pm with officers, directors, and state board members Mike Haugan, Debbie Moran, Marianne, Jim Wing, Dan Porter, Steve Thienes, John, Larry, Beth, Dan Marsh, Jim Allbright and Rich Inman present. Minutes from the February meeting were approved by a motion from Jim and seconded by Beth.

TREASURER'S REPORT/BILLS

Debbie reported \$3,552.86 in checking and today's receipts; \$15,017.42 in savings. No new bills.

MEMBERSHIP

Marianne reported 54 paid memberships. She mailed out 66 letters inviting former members to renew.

ISSUES

A link was sent out by email blast regarding public meetings and comments on outfitter use of YNP. The comment period was extended to 4/15/13. Read this information and comment. Let's keep access open.

Dan reported on the following issues:

- HB 147 – Revise Hunter Trespass Laws. Would raise fines 5-fold, require restitution. Passed House.
- HB 274 – Relaxes Outfitters Regulations
- SB 299 – Civil Penalty for Trespass \$1,500. Someone can take a picture of you and get a \$1,500 penalty against you for an alleged trespass. Passed Senate and sent to House.
- HR 1505 – Creating a 100 mile border to be controlled by Homeland Security. Dying in committee.

Rich reported on a local issue regarding potential access changes to the Bear Basin/Beehive area. The Forest Service will host an additional public meeting and extend the

comment period on the potential exchange of rights near Big Sky. The meeting on this proposed "Big Sky Exchange" will be on Thursday, April 4th at Buck's T4, 4:30 – 6:00 pm. Public comment period has been extended to April 12th.

NEWSLETTER

Send interesting pictures or articles to Brant for our newsletter. The more everyone contributes the more interesting it will be.



Rich

PROGRAMS

Jason Matzinger for April meeting.
Gordon Hardaway for May meeting.
June meeting is also planned already, details to follow.

OLD BUSINESS

Everything is set for 5/18/13 for a practical day of packing, asking questions, testing out your critters and your gear. This education and training clinic will be at Twisted Spur arena, no charge and lunch is free. PLEASE RSVP with Rich so he will have a head count for lunch. There will possibly be another such education clinic in June.

The Poker Ride committee meets once a month and planning is moving along nicely. Online registration is a GO, Steve Thienes will be in charge. Barb Mutter has volunteered for the prize coordinator position. Madeline Lieb will be at registration the day of the ride. Speaking of which, the date is July 6th, right after the 4th of July.

Dan Marsh could still use pictures for the display horse. If you have hi-res images, email them to Dan and he will get

Brenda & Sonja

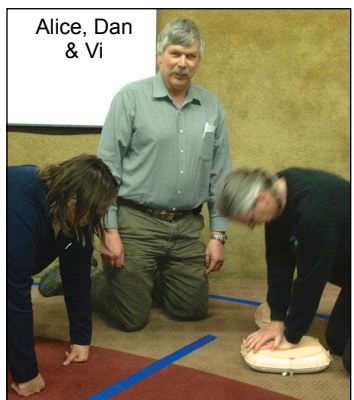


8x10's printed to put on our horse. The convention is April 5, 6, and 7.

No new business. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, Janice seconded, motion passed.

Submitted by Marianne Meyer

Sonja & Madeline



THE MYTH OF THE WESTERN RANCH



The Western Farmer
Stockman, March 2013
Reprinted by permission
By Robin Arthun

Mahatma Gandhi once said: An error does not become truth by reason of multiplied propagation, nor does truth become error because nobody sees it. These words were likely spoken in a political or religious context, but they could also apply to Hollywood perpetuation of what I call the Myth of the Western Ranch.

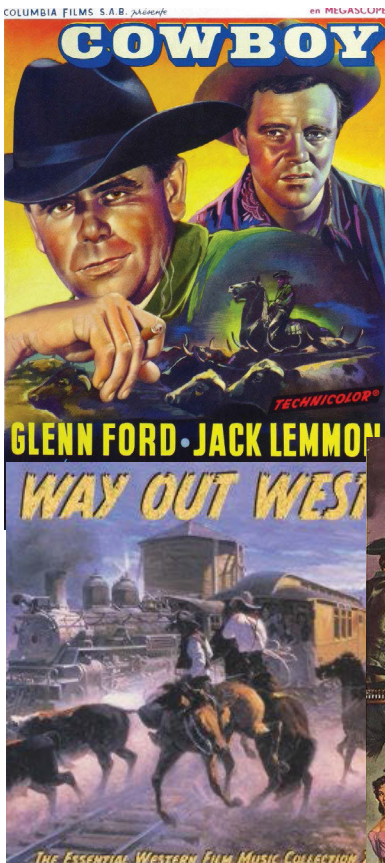
Hubby and I aren't cinema buffs, but in the off-season (football, that is) we sometimes watch a movie. Lately we've seen some wholesome but unintentionally stereotypical films set on a modern-day ranch in the West. Since I'm no film critic, I hesitate to offer counsel to Hollywood. But in the unlikely event that screenwriters and directors read this column, I offer the facts, free of charge:

☆ Mustangs don't run wild through every canyon in the West. The wild horses that I've seen don't have the benefit of farriers or grooms, so they don't have neatly trimmed hooves or shiny, tangle-free manes and tails. I've yet to see a horse concurrently rearing, pawing the air, and whinnying.

☆ No respectable horseman yanks back on the reins while pounding his horse in the flank and yelling Giddy up.

Nor does he ever gallop his horse back to the barn—unless it's on fire. Fortunately, barn fires aren't as frequent as the Myth would suppose.

☆ A rancher wears gloves when fixing a barbed-wire fence, unless he wants to test the limits of that tetanus vaccination he had way back when.



☆ The Myth wrongfully costumes ranch women in chambray blouses and CMT-style cowboy hats. In truth, our shirts and hats have had the style and color completely worn out of them. Most of us don't do hair and make-up before we do chores, because animals judge us according to our kindness, not our panache.

☆ Set directors should take a short course in animal biology. Cows, steers and bulls all exhibit striking anatomical differences.

☆ All rich neighbors are not bad guys scheming to cheat less-privileged ranchers of their land. Most rural neighbors treat one other with kindness and integrity, partly because that's who they are, but partly because, in storms, accidents or hard times, neighbors can be lifelines.

☆ One doesn't herd cattle by galloping into their midst, waving one's hat and whooping and hollering. Scattering the herd in seven directions quite defeats the purpose, which is to get them all to travel in one.

☆ Even the softest-hearted rancher would never allow his children to adopt orphaned wolf pups. Wolves make poor neighbors, killing calves and sheep as matter-of-factly as I make a peanut butter sandwich. Horses make mincemeat of themselves when running through barbed wire to escape wolves. Livestock that aren't injured are often so stressed that their health and reproductive capabilities are compromised.

☆ Hay is not fed by the handful, lest animals quickly starve to death.

☆ Few ranchers are lucky enough to have a wise Native American working for them who can doctor an unruly, injured horse while simultaneously dispensing life-changing advice on romance and parenting.

Hollywood doesn't get it all wrong, though. The hard work and challenges inherent in ranch life do encourage responsibility and self-esteem, and a relationship with a good horse can indeed help to heal a wounded soul.

Arthun writes from a ranch near Worland, Wyoming. Readers may contact her at tailsandbales@gmail.com or read her blog at <http://hayseedfiles.blogspot.com>.



HORSING AROUND

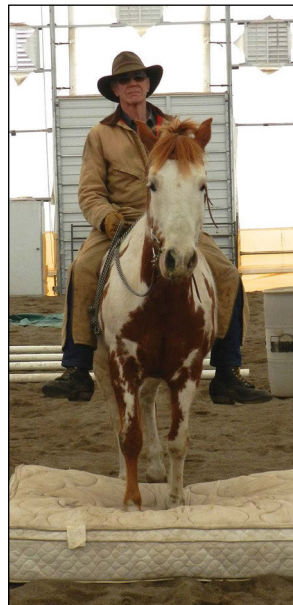
Riding season will soon be here. Will you, your horse, your tack and your trailer be prepared? Take a few minutes to go through your tack. Check for anything that might need to be repaired. If that's a yes, get it done now. Do a thorough safety check on your trailer. Clean it out now, if that got overlooked last Fall. Start a stretching and strengthening program for yourself to limber up those muscles that get most used when with our horses (shoveling manure, lifting feed sacks, hauling bales, hoof picking, trail clearing). Does your horse need vaccination? A Coggin's Report, an updated Brand Inspection? It's a good time to get your horse started on conditioning, manners, despooning, anything that did not go well last year during a ride...work on it now. There are various indoor facilities available to interested riders.

Ron and I have started moving some horses back from the ranch. This early start gets us in shape and our horses. We utilize this time to focus on each of our horses (make that 13 of our own now, YIKES!), working with them to improve communication between horse and rider and to introduce as many objects, obstacles and situations as we can. In the past, some members have joined us for various sessions and reasons. If anyone is interested in getting started and needs some assistance/support (or a lot of assistance/support) feel free to call to discuss.

★Tack: consider R.O. Brooks. We had a program on tack at his shop last spring.

★Health Care: Dr. Hardaway is on the schedule for our May program, the possibility of a discounted shot program to our members is in the works.

★Horse and/or Rider Help: Janice Cartwright (579- 3445)



GVBCH member, Madeline Lieb, and Picasso "legging" up.

A good horse is never a bad color.
Experience is another word for mistakes.
'For a barn can get clean, someone has to get dirty.
You've got to control yourself before you can control your horse.

If you wake up half way between "Oh, Lord" and "My God,"
you've overdid it.
(...or you've been clearing trail with Larry's crew!)

You can't be hurt by the words you don't say.
It's hard to put a foot in a shut mouth.
Admire a big horse. Saddle a small one.
Important comes in two sizes, yours and mine.

GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2012 POKER RIDE:

BIG CONTRIBUTORS

Ardeson Boots & Shoes
Montana Canvas
Murdoch's Ranch & Home
Northern Energy Propane
Rocky Mountain Hat Co
DJ Bar Ranch: MULEMAKER

Ag Depot: RAFFLE PRIZE
All West Veterinary Hospital
B&B Plumbing
Big Shooters
Big Sky RV
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Bridger Glass & Windows
Bunkhouse Originals
C'est La Vie
Chalet Market
Double Diamond
Faithful Friends Animal Clinic
Four Corner Saddlery
Freeway Enterprizes

Hardaway Veterinary Hospital
Knife River
Kountry Korner Café
Lee & Dad's
Mama Mac's
Matt's Saw Shop
Montana Equine Medical
Montana Side Saddle
Owenhouse Ace Hardware
R.O. Brooks Custom Leather
Remuda Coffee
Rocky Mountain Supply
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Sandy McManus Designs
Steer In Trailer Sales
The Coffee Pot
Three Forks Saddlery
Touch of Sense Massage
Treasure State, Inc.
True Value Hardware
Wheat Montana
Yellowstone Country-Belgrade

GVBCH MEMBER SPONSORS:

Alice Pilgeram
Beth Merrick
Dan Marsh
Jan Elpel
Janice Cartwright
Spensor Simons



FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

