

BOARD MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 6 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:
3rd Thursday, 7 PM

Springhill Church
4769 West Babcock, Bozeman

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.

2014 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578
dmarsh@live.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Dan Porter ... 539-0879

TREASURER

Sharon Fraser ... 539-2783

SECRETARY

Tamara Erickson ... 451-8186

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

John Mutter ... 285-0516
Larry Thomas ... 586-6878
Mark DeOpsomer ... 585-7835

TWO YEAR TERM

CLARK KINNEY ... 599-4430
CHRIS NYGREN ... 546-7550
CARL BLASKOVICH ... 388-4640

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Inman (1 year) ... 388-1564
Henry Glenn (2 years) ... 578-2084
John Mutter (Alternate) ... 285-0516

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey... 222-5971
pbr@wispswest.net

BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578
webmaster@bchmt.org
http://gvbch.bchmt.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SADDLE FITTING BASICS : FEBRUARY 4, 6:00 PM

2467 W Lincoln St

RUTH VOGT & LAURA LOVE : FEBRUARY 11, 5:30 PM

2467 W Lincoln St

4 H PACKING CLINIC #2 : FEBRUARY 12, 6:00-8:00 PM

Gallatin County Fairgrounds

WILDWEST WINTERFEST : FEBRUARY 16

Gallatin County Fairgrounds

BUCK BRANNAMAN CLINIC : FEBRUARY 16, NOON

MSU's Miller Pavilion

BOARD MEETING : FEBRUARY 19, 6:00 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : FEBRUARY 19, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church

2015 STATE CONVENTION AND BOARD MEETING : MARCH 27-29

Bitterroot River Inn, Hamilton (Details [HERE](#))

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:



I hope everyone had a happy new year. We had a great planning meeting in January and pretty much filled up the calendar for events. Please keep in mind that the dates are not cast in stone and they can change at any time so make sure you look at the on-line calendar before heading out to an event to make sure nothing has changed. If you know about an event or you want to schedule a ride, please let myself or any of the directors know about it and we will put it on the calendar. Be sure if you recommend a ride that you have a trail boss that can be there or the ride won't happen. Larry and the Wednesday crew are always looking for some volunteers to help clear trails so be sure and contact Larry if you want to help out. We have scheduled a trail sign replacing event with the local bike club in the Porcupine drainage so be sure to help out if you can. We are still in need of someone to chair the Poker Ride and we need someone soon because the planning starts now. The Poker Ride book that has been compiled from many years has all the necessary information in it to put on a successful event and there will be a lot of folks to lend a helping hand so you don't have to do everything. The board voted in Mark DeOpsomer as a director to take over for the final year I had left of my term since an officer cannot be a director at the same time. If you haven't paid your dues yet please renew on our [new on-line membership form](#). You can now pay by check, PayPal, or any major credit card. Our 2015 State Convention is going to be in Hamilton at the end of March so

BOARD & GENERAL MEETINGS MINUTES

JANUARY 15

GVBCH board meeting minutes for January 15, 2015

The monthly board meeting was called to order by the president, Dan Marsh, at 6:05 pm on Thursday, January 15th, 2015, at the Springhill Church in Bozeman. Officer, Director, State director members present: Dan Marsh, Dan Porter, Sharon Fraser, Larry Thomas, John Mutter, Carl Blaskovich, Chris Nygren, Rich Inman proxy for Clark Kinney.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Reported on bank balances, new bills, and membership dues received.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Christmas/Thank you note from Forest Service and a donation from Bozeman Women's Activity Groups.

Rich Inman made a motion that Mark DeOpsomer replace Dan Marsh on chapter board of directors, seconded by Chris Nygren. The motion passed.

Dan Porter and Chris Nygren offered to do the finance audit. Dan Marsh reported that there is no RAC Grant money this year, and that someone is needed to work on FWP 90K grant.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Trail Crews – Larry Thomas discussed having a Saturday Trail Crew if there are interested members to participate.

PUBLICITY & ISSUES:

The club needs a publicity director and also someone to report on issues.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion on upcoming 4-H clinics.

NEW BUSINESS:

Insurance was discussed and whether we can get a better rate. If someone has expertise in this area the board could use your input.

A Poker Ride Chairperson and committee members are needed.

The General meeting was called to order by Dan Marsh at 7:00 pm, after the board meeting.

Many 2015 calendar dates were set; information and the calendar will be on the GVBCH website, contact Dan Marsh if you have ideas or an event to add, the calendar is a work in progress, check back often for updates. Janice Cartwright offered to head up the Program Committee, please contact Janice (406-579-3445) if you are interested in helping or have ideas for future programs. Susie Finley offered to help with publicity for the club.

Many trail projects were discussed including potentials for National Trails Day on June 6th.

A motion to adjourn was made by John Mutter, seconded by Chris Nygren, none opposed. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Sharon Fraser

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, CONTINUED

be sure to buy a raffle ticket for one of the great prizes listed later in the newsletter. If you want to buy a raffle ticket and can't make it to a meeting please give me a call and I will make sure you get one, or two, or three... There will also be a photo contest so if you have some good pictures please bring them to a meeting and we will enter them in the contest for you. If there is someone out there that is interested in keeping up with the current issues and would like to be the chair for that committee, please let me know. Jeremiah Kunzman the Forest Service Volunteer Coordinator is getting certified to teach First Aid and should be able to certify us after February. Let us know if you plan to help on the trail clearing and need chainsaw and first aid certification. We were awarded our RAC grant but unfortunately the congress did not renew the funding for it so we can't use the money for our projects and gas reimbursement. Contact your legislators and request that they try to find a way to fund the Secure Rural Schools Act. Check out the events this month at the Miller Pavilion on the MSU campus and if you are interested in keeping public lands in public hands that is supported by our state and national organizations, there will be a rally in Helena on February 16th at noon to show support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Marsh

Larry won the "Member of the Year" award for outstanding service.



GVBCH 2015 CALENDAR

MARCH	19	6 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
	21	9 - 4 PM	4H Clinic 3	Circle L Arena, Belgrade
	27- 29		2015 BCHMT State Convention	Bitterroot River Inn, Hamilton
APRIL	11		Equine Boosters Top of the West Horse Sale	Copper Spring Ranch, Bozeman
	11 - 12	9 - 4 PM	4H Clinic 4	Circle L Arena, Belgrade
	16	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
MAY	9	9 - 3 PM	4H Clinic 5	Circle L Arena, Belgrade
	21	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
	23		Virginia City Poker Ride	
JUNE	3		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	6		National Trails Day	Garnet Mountain
	10		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	13		401 Trail Maintenance	Spanish Creek, Montana
	17		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	18	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	1655 Harper Puckett Rd, Bozeman
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	1655 Harper Puckett Rd, Bozeman
	20		Porcupine Signage	Porcupine Trail
	20 - 21		Wilsall Rodeo	Wilsall
	24		Wednesday Trail Crew	
JULY	1		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	8		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	11		Poker Ride	Bridger Bowl
	15		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	15 - 19		Gallatin County Fair	Gallatin County Fairgrounds
	16	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
	22		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	24 - 27		Buffalo Fork / Slough Creek	
29		Wednesday Trail Crew		
	31 - Aug 1		Bozeman Stampede NRA Rodeo	
AUGUST	1		CDT Pack In by Gallatin Valley 4H	Targhee Pass
	5		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	8		CDT Pack out	Targhee Pass
	12		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	15		BBQ Ride	Henry Glenn Ranch, Wilsall
	19		Wednesday Trail Crew	
	20	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
	22		Cache Creek Corral	
26		Wednesday Trail Crew		
	28 - 31		Buffalo Fork / Slough Creek	Gardiner
SEPTEMBER	17	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
OCTOBER	15	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
NOVEMBER	12 - 13		MSU Ag Expo	
	19	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
DECEMBER	12		Christmas Party	
	17	6 - 7 PM	GVBCH Board Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church
		7 - 9 PM	GVBCH General Meeting	Springhill Presbyterian Church

[CALENDAR DETAILS HERE](#)

MSU Equine Educational Snippets

Brought to you by MSU College of Agriculture

Department of Animal and Range Sciences

Wednesday Nights 5:30 - 7:30 PM ~ January 21 - February 11

MSU's Bob Miller Livestock Pavilion

(Free to students & the public)

January 21

Janice Cartwright ~ Montana Horse Sense

Preparing the Rider for the Ride

January 28

Karen Ososki ~ Refined Performance Horsemanship

Equine Biomechanics (how anatomy determines natural movement)

***February 4 ~ 6:00 - 7:45 pm

Dana & Tracy Ecklund ~ Lil Shop of Horses

Saddle Fitting Basics

February 11 (Pending)

Ruth Vogt ~ Capricorn Dressage
&

Laura Love ~ Love Sport Horses



Contact Andi Shockley for more information ashockley@montana.edu

Andi Shockley
Equestrian Manager
Montana State University - A&RS
(406) 994-6878
ashockley@montana.edu

PLWA

PUBLIC LAND/WATER ACCESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

"Keeping the public on public lands & waters"

KEEPING THE PUBLIC ON MONTANA PUBLIC LAND AND WATER (NOW AND FOREVER!)

Greetings!

More on the legislature and how PLWA and MWF are standing up.

The experienced reader will know that the 90 days of the Montana legislature can bring forth the nastiest of bad surprises for an unsuspecting public. Nothing could be more true than in the area of conservation and wildlife politics. Nascent emotions and commercial greed erupt in a cascade of bills to privatize wildlife and wrest the control of wildlife from the public trustees into the hands of profiteers. Initial appearances are that the 2015 session will be no different. By the same token it offers an opportunity to advance the conservation agenda.

In the interests of advancing the conservation agenda, and defending against its enemies, PLWA is partnering with the Montana Wildlife Federation again this session. They have an experienced lobbyist, Mr. George Golie, and are tracking bills - both good and bad - as they appear and grind through the legislative sausage maker. To that end MWF has set up a "legislative tracker" on their website. The January 23 page is shown below. We urge readers to log on to the site and get familiar with it. It is Montana Wildlife Federation Bill Tracker. Note that several of the bills being tracked relate to public roads and public land access.

FOR MORE "HOT TOPICS" VISIT: www.plwa.org

BILLS AIMED AT ASSURING ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDGREAT FALLS TRIBUNE 1-23-2015

Landowners who illegally gate roads would face stiffer fines and need to show proof of ownership before blocking access under bills introduced in the Montana Legislature.

Two Great Falls lawmakers said in a statement that they introduced the bills to improve public access to public lands by keeping roads they say are public open.

The bills are backed by wildlife and public access groups, and opposed by private property and ranching interests.

Private landowners and hunters and anglers increasingly are butting heads in court over remote roads into the state's forests, mountains and rivers. At issue in these cases are whether roads crossing private land are public or private. The roads have become contentious because they often cross private acreage leading to public lands.

House Bill 304 is sponsored by Mitch Tropila, D-Great Falls, and would increase the penalty for gating a public road from \$10 a day to \$500 a day. "This bill will clarify language in our state laws, raise the penalty for failing to remove an obstacle and ultimately solve disputes over access quickly and fairly for everyone involved," Tropila said.

The second bill, House Bill 286, sponsored by Rep. Tom Jacobson, D-Great Falls, would require that individuals wishing to close a public road first contact local officials and legally prove that the road should be closed. A disputed road would have to remain open until it's proven to be a private road. "The burden of proof should not be on the public who have used these roads for decades," said Jacobson, calling access the No. 1 issue for hunters and anglers.

The Montana Wildlife Federation and Public Land/Water Access Association are pushing the bills to address what they say is a growing problem of people blocking off large tracts of public land by gating public rights of way.

[Read More of Tribune Story](#)

It is easy for the typical internet user to track bills and find names of legislators and see how they are voting - and what committees they are on. Just go to the site below and click around. Don't piss and moan about what happened after the fact. Get smart and take action!

[Montana Legislature Website](#)

Callers may leave messages for legislators or acquire general legislative information by calling the Information Desk at (406) 444-4800. Callers may leave messages for up to 5 individual legislators or 1 legislative committee per call.



PUBLIC LAND RALLY

keep public land in public hands

PRESIDENTS' DAY

12:00PM · MONDAY · FEB 16TH

Montana State Capitol · Helena Montana

On Presidents' Day, Monday February 16th, Montanans will gather in Helena, under the Capitol Rotunda, to demand that our public lands stay in public hands.

At high noon on Monday, February 16th, hunters, anglers, hikers, horsemen, and Montanans of all stripes will converge in Helena. We plan to send a clear message to state and federal decision-makers: keep your hands off our outdoor heritage.

Hundreds of Montanans are expected to attend from all corners of the state and lunch will be provided for each and every person.

Want to join-in? Here's a [link to RSVP](#) and join a bus leaving from your community.

For our families, for our children and for our grandchildren, we have to fight back.

Sponsored by the Montana Wilderness Association, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, and the Montana Wildlife Federation.

For more information or questions, please contact celliot@wildmontana.org or 307-272-6298.

[BUS SCHEDULE](#) [More cities HERE](#)

LIVINGSTON

Pickup Time: 9:00AM

Pickup Location: Albertsons parking lot, 2120 Park Street South

Contact: Jared White (406) 579-8943

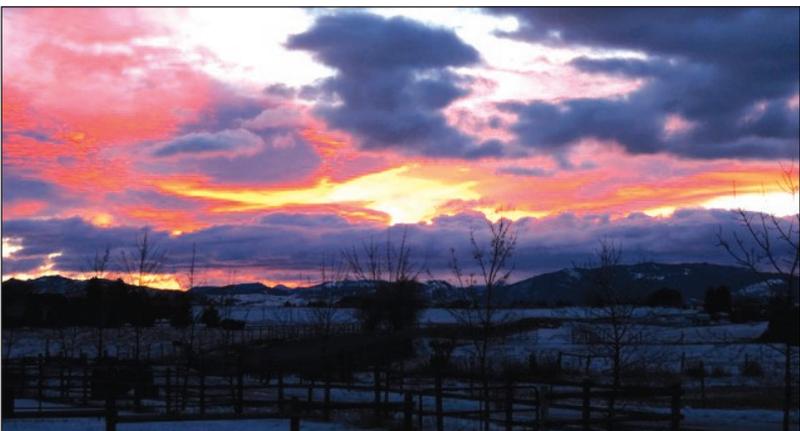
BOZEMAN

Pickup time: 9:30AM

Pickup Location: Kmart Parking lot, 1126 N. 7th Ave

Contact: John Todd (406) 404-1000

HORSING AROUND WITH JANICE CARTWRIGHT



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2013 POKER RIDE:**

TOP POKER HAND PRIZES

Montana Canvas
Ardeson Boots and Shoes
Rocky Mountain Hat Company
Northern Energy-Amerigas

SILENT AUCTION PRIZES

DJ Bar Ranch
True Value Hardware Belgrade
Big Sky RV
Montana Equine
Steer In Trailer Sales
Dan Porter
Gallatin Saddle Outlet
Bozeman TV & Appliance

RAFFLE PRIZES

Bob Hoverson
Hardaway Veterinary Clinic
Corral Bar
Jan Elpel
Freeway Enterprises
Rocky Mountain Supply
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Big Sky RV
Owenhouse Ace Hardware
Janice Cartwright
Wally Becker
Rich Inman
Chalet Market
Murdoch's

Farnam Company
Three Forks Saddlery
DL Custom Leather
All West
Sorenson Veterinary Hospital
Chuteside Vet Clinic - Three Forks
Steer In Trailer Sales
Spurline, Livingston
Pickle Barrel
Lee & Dad's
Alice Pilgeram
Double Diamond Halter Company
Double Diamond Veterinary Hospital
Mike Haugan
Montana Gluten Free Processors



FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK

