

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.

2016 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

PRESIDENT

John Mutter ... 285-0516
mutteranch@q.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379
cmatzick@msn.com

TREASURER

Sharon Fraser ... 539-2783

SECRETARY

Tamara Erickson ... 451-8186

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR TERM

Harry Huntzinger ... 580-2788
Chris Nygren ... 546-7550
Carl Blaskovich ... 388-4640

TWO YEAR TERM

SUE GESKE ... 581-6058
Mike Haugen ... 539-0538
Lawrence VanDyke ... 586-2440

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Inman (2 year) ... 388-1564
Henry Glenn (1 years) ... 578-2084
Dan Marsh (Alternate) ... 587-7578

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

BCH WEB MASTER

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

CHAINSAW/CROSSCUT TRAINING : MAY 15, 9:00 AM

Battle Ridge Trailhead

BOARD MEETING : MAY 19, 6:00 PM

Springhill Church

DEFENSIVE HORSE SAFETY : MAY 19, 7:00-8:00 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : MAY 19, 8:00 PM

Springhill Church

BCHMT STATE BOARD MEETING : MAY 21, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Broken Arrow Casino & Steak, Deer Lodge

GALLATIN RIVER RANCH POKER RIDE : MAY 21

DEFENSIVE HORSE SAFETY COURSE : MAY 22, 1:00-4:00 PM

Gallatin County Fairgrounds

VIRGINIA CITY POKER RIDE : MAY 28

WEDNESDAY TRAIL CREW : JUNE 1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Spring has sprung.
The grass has riz.
This is where all the darned shedding horse hair is!

Yep, it's Springtime and we're about to start another busy season. It's hard to believe but Rich and Jim and a few others have already been out. I've been told they cleared the first few miles of Indian Ridge with a crosscut when Jim's chainsaw couldn't cut it (pun intended). It won't be long before the snow is gone and we're at it full time.

The 4H Packing Clinics have concluded for the year. All that's left is a trip to the OTO Ranch for trail experience and then Greg and Marty will take them into the "Bob" for a hands-on pack trip later this Summer.

I'm not sure how many of you go to some of the area's other Poker Rides. Barb and I go to a few different ones every year. We've never been to Gallatin River Ranch's ride but I used to ride all over that country and it can be a fun place. I'm not sure about all the houses that are there now but we may give it a try. Also, we've been to the Pony Homecoming Club's (PHC) ride twice and although they don't have much for prizes, it's been one of our favorites. It will be held on the Sitz Ranch this year. If possible, Barb and I will be going. We use these rides as an opportunity for us to be social and get our horses in shape at the same time. If nothing else, these other rides give a person perspective on just how truly awesome our own Poker Ride is.

Speaking of our Poker Ride, it's on July 9th at Bridger Bowl. Like last year, Tamara Erickson is in charge of the event and is currently looking for a few good men (and Women) to fill the roster. Please give her a call and get on the list. You'll be glad you did! Tamara's number is 406-451-8186.

That's about all I have at the moment. I've got to go shovel all that darned horse hair out of the drive so I can get the car in the yard!

Respectfully submitted, *John Mutter*



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21**

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21**

Chris motioned to approve the March meeting minutes; Dan Marsh seconded; motion carried.

MEMBERSHIP:

Increased by two.

We need to write State newsletter by May 5; volunteers requested.

POKER RIDE:

Pre-registration is up and going online.

GCC Meeting: April 30.

Resolutions are on BCH website ([HERE](#))

Nonprofit organizations can deduct 14¢ per mile, this applies to trail clearing and board meetings.

Rich addressed the trail funding. They have not decided how they will allot the funding.

NEWSLETTER:

Dan requested to ask folks to sign up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Remember Safety Clinic, May 19-22, 1:00 - 4:00 pm at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds— must be member of 4H or BCH. Not open to the public; membership is key, only a few select horses will be there.

State Board Meeting, May 21

GRR Poker Ride, May 21

No freelancing to government agencies. We are a club, make it available to all members. State needs to be open on the calendar. Use the Contact Person, use a disclaimer that all are welcome.

Letters of appreciation to politicians

Pay for sign bought at convention. Paid for by donation— all were happy with that. Thanks to all who donated for the sign.

Lawrence suggested we contact Chronicle to shadow the trail crew and get some publicity.

Submit form for reimbursement delegates at convention \$90.

Chain Saw & Crosscut Saw Seminar, May 15.

Dan motioned to adjourn; Sue seconded.

—Submitted by Carmen Matsick

PROGRAM:

Julie Cunningham

Lawrence moved to accept newsletter; Dan seconded; Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

7 expense vouchers State Convention.

\$7,167 in checking account.

MEMBERSHIP:

Two new members.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

SAFETY CLINIC:

Review green pamphlet and bring to May 19 meeting

Practical, May 22, 1:00-4:00 PM at the Fairgrounds

Every three years renew Horse Safety

Hand out of books

NEW BUSINESS:

Forest Service funding resolved. Request letters to State Delegation, senators, representatives to thank them. Call John for addresses.

Saw Certification

Poker Ride Preregistration

GCC Wilderness Study

Wednesday Trail Crew, June 1 or at least a month.

Several will bring treats.

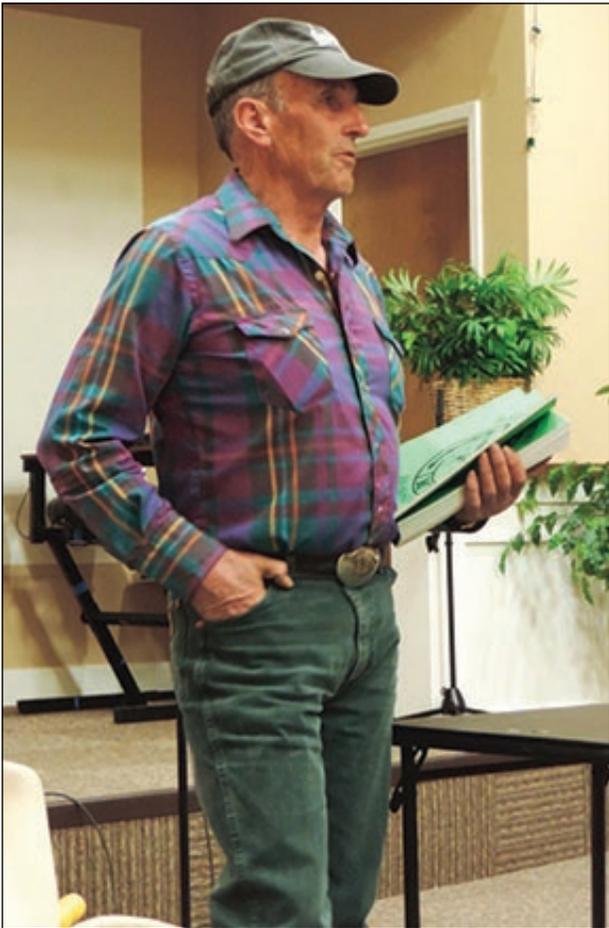
Beth motioned to adjourn; seconded; motion carried.

—Submitted by Carmen Matsick

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR GVBCH
MEMBERSHIP, THIS NEWSLETTER
IS ONE OF THE BENEFITS OF
MEMBERSHIP. [HERE](#)**

Julie Cunningham from Fish Wildlife and Parks gave an interesting program on wildlife updates in our area.





Rich Inman handed out Defensive Horsemanship Safety books for "homework" assignment to members. Assignment? Be familiar with the material in the books before next month's meeting.



Lawrence Van Dyke displaying his handiwork after completing a saw sharpening course offered by USFS last month.



Anna Holstrom and Toby are starting their spring conditioning program for trail riding season.

Hello PHC Poker Riders,

This year, 2016, the location of the Poker Ride has been changed. I didn't think we (the PHC) would be able to find a location that would be as beautiful of a ride as the one we have been riding for the last few years, but I was wrong. The Sitz Angus Ranch is hosting the Poker Ride for 2016. It is about a 10 mile ride and has GORGEOUS views! Breathtaking! Bring your camera, if you don't, you will be wishing you had! Here is the information on when/where it is being held:

Saturday, June 18, 2016

Horseback Poker Ride
Pony Homecoming Club Fund Raiser
Saddle up the horses and put on your poker face!

Held at:
SITZ ANGUS RANCH
7 Miles West of Harrison on Norwegian Creek Road
Physical Address: 37 Sitz Road, Harrison, MT 59735
Look for signs!

www.PonyMontana.com

3rd Annual
GALLATIN RIVER RANCH
poker ride

\$500
in cash prizes

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2016

early bird Registration:
GallatinRiverRanch.com

Earlybird Entry Fee: \$25
Ride Starts: 10:00 am
Ride Ends: 2:00 pm

Ride starts at the GRR Equestrian Center located at
303 Equestrian Center Loop in Manhattan, MT 59741

Entry fees benefit the Gallatin River Ranch Volunteer Fire Department.
For more information, contact the Gallatin River Ranch Sales Office at 406.284.3200

**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2015 POKER RIDE:**

TOP POKER HAND PRIZES:

Rocky Mountain Hat
Madison River Propane
Ardesson Boots & Shoes
Montana Canvas
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply

SILENT AUCTION PRIZES:

Bridger Mountain Plumbing
Mission Ranch Beef Company
Knife River
Steer In Trailer Sales
Chuteside Veterinary
Freeway Enterprises
DJ Bar Ranch
Rich Inman
Dan Marsh & Alice Pilgeram
Spencer Simons and Joann Hasilieu
Big Sky RV
Beth Merrick
Meredith Kresge
Hardaway Veterinary Hospital
Ben Masters
Keri McGinley
Farnam Company
Owenhouse Ace Hardware

4 Corners Saddlery
Montana Equine

RAFFLE PRIZES:

Freeway Enterprises
Big Sky RV
Montana Horse Sense
Double Diamond Veterinary
Lee & Dad's
Sorensen Veterinary Hospital
Café M
Three Forks Saddlery
Treasure State
Anduril Boarding Kennels
Dan Porter
Loft Spa
Mountain Arts Pottery
True Value Belgrade
Chalet Market
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Kountry Korner Café
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Corral Steak House
Rocky Mountain Supply
Ag Depot

Outback Steak House
Double Diamond Halter Company
Jan Elpel
The Boot Barn
Barbara Mutter
All West Veterinary

OTHER DONATIONS:

Bank of Bozeman
Allegra Printing
Lee and Dad's
Big Sky RV
Lehrkinds Coca Cola
Bridger Bowl Ski Area



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