

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.

2017 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

Sue Geske ... 581-6058
Mike Haugen ... 539-0538
Lawrence VanDyke ... 586-2440

TWO YEAR TERM

David Crisp ... 239-776-6279
Dan Porter ... 539-0879
Carl Blaskovich ... 388-4640

STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Inman (1 year) ... 388-1564
Dan Marsh (2 years) ... 587-7578
Jim Albright (Alternate) ... 763-4241

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey... 222-5971
pbrantr@gmail.com

BCH WEB MASTER

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

4-H CLINIC 4 : MARCH 11, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
CIRCLE L ARENA

BOARD MEETING : MARCH 16, 6:00 PM

SPRINGHILL CHURCH

GENERAL MEETING : MARCH 16, 7:00 PM

SPRINGHILL CHURCH

CHILLI FEED : MARCH 5, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

TEXAS WAY [[MAP](#)]

BCHMT STATE CONVENTION : MARCH 24-26

KWAQAQNUK RESORT, POLSON

Membership reminder:
renewals are due and
can be done [online](#).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Greetings everyone,

Last night I attended a gathering to bid farewell to Lisa Stoeffler of the USFS. After 14 years in the Custer Gallatin, Lisa has been promoted to Deputy Forest Supervisor on the White River in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Way to go Lisa! Lisa has always been a good friend to the Gallatin

Valley Back Country Horsemen and she will be missed. However, while Lisa has traded Big Sky for Aspen, we still have Wendi Urie covering our backs here at home. I'm confident that our relationship with the USFS will be as strong as it ever was!

We currently have one opening left for a voting delegate to the state convention in Polson, MT. Mar 24 - 26 (the club will reimburse the \$90 registration fee for delegates but not travel or lodging expenses). You don't have to be a delegate to go but if you've never been to the convention, it's a great way to learn what goes on at the state level. Besides it's a lot of fun and I need a partner for the crosscut saw competition! If you're interested please contact Henry Glenn or find the registration form on the BCHMT website.

It's a bit early to be getting Spring Fever yet but we've already started talking about the Poker Ride and such. Tamara has volunteered to head up the Poker Ride committee again this year and I can't thank her enough. It's a tough job! Also, there's still a little room on the calendar, so if you have any suggestions for summer work projects, now is the time to suggest them. Things will fill up fast as the weather warms.

Last Saturday, a few of us trailered over to the Circle L Arena to take advantage of the open riding opportunity. We all had fun finding the holes that had developed in our trusty steeds over the winter. I would suggest everyone get out at least a little bit before riding season hits if full force. It's good for you and it's good for your horse. Till next time, Via con Dios!



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16**

Attendees: John Mutter, Sue Geske, Dan Marsh, Sharon Fraser, Tamara Erickson, Jim Albright, Dan Porter, Rich Inman, Lawrence Van Dyke, Dan Porter, Mike Haugan, Marianne Meyer, Carmen Matzick, Henry Glenn, Dave Crisp and Carl Blaskovich.

John Mutter called the meeting to order and took roll call.

Carmen Matzick made a motion to approve the September board meeting minutes, Lawrence VanDyke seconded the motion, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

MEMBERSHIP:

John suggested that printing and sending out a hard copy of our event calendar could possibly help with encouraging membership renewal and member participation. His thinking is that if people have a hard copy, it may provide more of a reminder.

Dan Porter mentioned that there are not many dates established on the calendar at the moment and would need to be more complete before sending it out. A conversation was discussed about the Spanish Peak project, dates were discussed, as well as ideas to increase participation.

Several other ideas were mentioned to help increase membership. Marianne said that she is willing to send out a letter highlighting and promoting the clubs activities and accomplishments over the past year to send out to members who have not yet renewed their membership in hopes of reminding and inspiring them to do so. Everyone agreed this was a good idea and Rich Inman offered to help draft the letter.

Dan Porter mentioned membership cards, Dan Marsh said that we used to distribute membership cards and that there may still be some floating around, possibly in the trailer.

Sue asked for us to define our membership goals and wondered if we are looking for participation or for new members. The question was clarified and it was generally agreed that we are looking to accomplish both goals, increase membership and also to encourage more participation with existing members.

Sue suggested giving promotional brochures to outfitters and other industry professionals who may be able to pass them along to their clients interested in joining or even to simply support the work we are doing. She is thinking along the lines of a promotional campaign. The idea was discussed and generally considered to be good.

4 H:

The next 4-H Clinic is scheduled for March 11, at Circle L. The Feb. 18th clinic was cancelled due to lack of participation. A conversation was held regarding the clinic and some problems with miscommunication that came up. It was determined that someone from 4-H needs to



assume more of a leadership role and primary organizing/communication responsibilities for the clinic.

GVBCB AUDIT:

Dan and Carl performed an audit of the GVBCB books with Sharon Fraser.

SUMMER HITCHING RAIL PROJECT:

Mountain View Metal Works bid was approved for the hitching post project and we are clear to order them when the time is closer.

STATE CONVENTION MARCH 24-26 IN POLSON:

John asked if anyone wanted to serve as delegates. Dan and Alice, Jim and Brenda, Henry and Molly, John Mutter and Rich Inman have volunteered to serve as delegates.

EQUINE LIABILITY INSURANCE:

BCHA has sent a few emails regarding Equine Liability Insurance, they offer personal equine liability insurance to members and also offer a plan that would cover the club. John suggested appointing a committee to check into this liability insurance and compare to the insurance policy that we had last year, which will need to be renewed. Since Julie Nygren looked into it on behalf of the club last year, it was proposed that we ask her to look into comparing the policies once again this year. Sharon offered to make some phone calls and gather information on the two policies to present to the board next month.

POKER RIDE COMMITTEE:

A Poker Ride committee needs to be formed and the first meeting will be held in March prior to the March General meeting. Tamara Erickson will head up the committee and will contact last year's members to see if they will be interested in serving again this year.

John Mutter adjourned the meeting.

—Submitted by Tamara Erickson

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16**

John Mutter opened the meeting and welcomed one guest.

Dan Marsh made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes, Janice Cartwright seconded the motion, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.

PROGRAM:

Wendi Urie from the Forest Service presented a very informative program with updates from her office and plans for the 2017 season.

MEMBERSHIP:

It is membership renewal time! It is easy to renew memberships [ONLINE](#), or mail, please renew your membership for the 2017 season today. The board is considering ideas to increase membership as well as to encourage more participation from existing members, consider contacting a board member to share any thoughts you have.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Sharon Fraser reported.

CORRESPONDENCE:

An email was received to let us know that Bill Maloy out of Helena passed away. Bill helped establish GVBC. BCH is considering a memorial honoring several founding members who passed away recently.

NEWSLETTER:

Do you have an interesting story about a memorable horseback ride, or a perspective on a related topic you'd like to share? If so, please consider writing a short article for the newsletter. Articles can be submitted to Brant Robey for publication at PBRANTR@GMAIL.COM.

PROGRAMS:

Janice and Rich are requesting help with program ideas. Please contact with suggestions.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT:

4 H: The next 4-H Clinic is scheduled for March 11, at Circle L. The meeting on Feb. 18th was cancelled due to lack of participation.

STATE CONVENTION MARCH 24-26 IN POLSON:

Dan, Alice, Jim, Brenda, Henry, Molly, John Mutter, Rich Inman volunteered to serve as delegates and there is room for one more delegate. Contact John Mutter if you are interested in attending.

EQUINE LIABILITY INSURANCE:

BCHA has sent a few emails regarding Equine Liability Insurance, they offer personal equine liability insurance. Please contact John Mutter if interested for more information.

POKER RIDE COMMITTEE:

It is time to begin planning the 2017 Poker Ride and a committee is being formed. contact Tamara Erickson if you are interested in participating.

SUMMER PROJECTS:

The board is currently planning summer projects and ideas from members are welcome and appreciated! Please contact a board member with any suggestions.

CHILI FEED:

The Gallatin Valley Saddle and Harness Club is hosting their annual chili feed on Sunday March 5th on the Craig and Gretchen White property. Folks are asked to assemble in the parking area designated at the end of Texas Way, off Gooch Hill Road. Wagon rides will begin at 11 AM and the chili feed will start at 12:30- 1:00 PM. Three wagons are planned for the event, so plenty of room will be available and horseback riders are encouraged to ride along. Chili and cowboy coffee will be provided, but other drinks and potluck dishes are welcome. Utensils will be provided, but please bring your own chairs, etc. Friends and family of BCH and GVSHC are welcome.

GOODIES FOR MARCH MEETING:

No one present offered, so a volunteer is needed.

John Mutter adjourned the meeting.

—Submitted by Tamara Erickson

We have a interesting program about what we did this past summer season in the A-B Wilderness. Mike Haugan, Lawrence VanDyke, Mark DeOpsomer, Molly Glenn and Henry Glenn packed in supplies to repair the cabin at Hellroaring. We left the Trailhead at Jardine and packed 12 loads in about 14 miles. We worked on the outhouse, corrals and cabin in preparation for the Preservation crew coming in the next week to replace the south seal log. We will watch the DVD professionally done by Roger Inghram as this months program also we will talk about this coming seasons projects please come and join in. — Henry Glenn



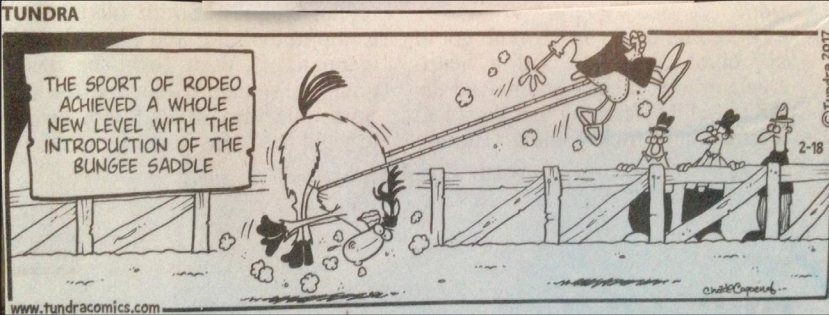


Wild Game Feed Potluck

photos by Janice Cartwright



MSU Colt Starting Program with Buck Brannaman



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2016 POKER RIDE:**

TOP POKER HAND PRIZES:

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

SILENT AUCTION PRIZES:

Big Sky RV
Knife River
DJ Bar Ranch
Steer In Trailer Sales
Rich Inman
Ace Owenhouse
Beth Merrick
Meredith Kresge
Sorensen Veterinary Hospital
Montana Equine Veterinary
Four Corners Saddlery
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Tru Value Hardware Belgrade
Tim McWilliams

Montana Horse Sense
Ben Masters
Steve Thienes

RAFFLE PRIZES:

Treasure State (Mike Haugan)
Troxel
Montana Horse Sense
Boot Barn
All West Veterinary
Three Forks Saddlery
Double Diamond Halter Company
Dan Marsh
Rich Inman
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply
Barb Mutter
John Mutter
Chalet Market
Four Corners Saddlery
Beth Merrick
Big Sky RV

Montana Equine
Sorensen Veterinary Hospital
Rocky Mountain Truck Center
Freeway Enterprises
Double Diamond Veterinary
Rocky Mountain Supply
Town & Country Belgrade
Hardaway Veterinary Hospital
DaBrim
The Coffee Pot
Bridger Mountain Plumbing
Bozeman Saddle Outlet
Outback Steakhouse
Kountry Korner Café
Corral Steakhouse & Bar
B&B Plumbing

CASH/PRODUCT DONATION

Bank of Bozeman
Harrington's Pepsi-Cola
Town & Country Belgrade



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