



EAST SLOPE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

37 YEARS TRAIL TAILS March 2015

OFFICERS

President:

Bob Hermance

Vice President:

Joe Suta

Secretary:

Helen Suta

Treasurer:

LeAnn Hermance

State Directors:

Fred Fitzpatrick
Ron Ries

Alt. State Director:

Merlyn Huso

Chapter Directors:

Bill Poser
Clete Gregory
Lisa Schmidt
Dick Kinyon
Steve Hutton
Debbie Ries

Jr. Director:

None

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Hermance@3rivers.net

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BCH of Montana:

Chairman: Connie Long
Missoula Chapter

ESBCH-Web Site:

[www.bchmt.org/esbch/
default.html](http://www.bchmt.org/esbch/default.html)

Montana BCH Web Site

www.bchmt.org

March President's Letter:

State convention is the end of this Month and everyone that is planning on going has made their reservation. The Selway-Pintler has several things planned for us in Hamilton and I know it will be a good time.

LeAnn has raffle tickets that we need help selling which supports the host chapter putting on the State convention this year. The items are Crosscut saw metal art, custom saddle stand, oil painting and 32" TV & DVD player. If you could help out by selling or buying a few we would greatly appreciate it.

State Convention is on my mind also but not the one in Hamilton. It is the 2016 State Convention that our Chapter East Slope will be hosting in Great Falls. Hosting a convention takes commitment and time. Our Chapter is going to do the best we can and I hope our members can help when we need them.

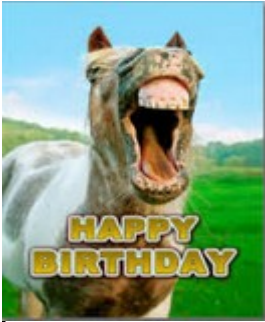
The 2015 project list will be discussed and dates will be set for the year at the next general meeting March 19, 7:00 pm at the Library. Some of the projects we are looking to do are Lange creek spraying weeds, this project has been a little challenging finding let alone getting to. Elk pass trail we have cleared this trail the last 2 years, but unable to connect the two trails. Black leaf area trails for maintenance.

I'm looking forward to getting back in to the mountains this year and working with my stock. Every morning when I feed they are asking me "when are we going" well if they could I'm sure they would be.

Hope to see ya on the trail.

BOB





MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Deborah Schatz,
Adam Fitzpatrick
Greta Gustafson

East Slope Back Country Horseman
Regular Meeting/Chili Feed
Ron and Debbie Ries
February 22, 2015

President Bob Hermance called the regular meeting to order at 5:15, February 22, 2015, at the home of Ron and Debbie Ries. Members present were Clete and Bonnie Gregory, Joe and Helen Suta, Bob and LeAnn Hermance, Dick Kinyon, Steve and Abby Hutton and Lisa Schmidt, Merlyn and Linda Huso, Fred Fitzpatrick, Kurt Dyer, Zane Drishinski, and new member Keith Alltucker. Guests attending were Mary Jane Kinyon, Tom and Lucky Kinyon, Chris Ries and Amber Schoenrock, Brenda Ries and Beau Lindberg .

Bob asked if the members would approve the minutes as published. Fred Fitzpatrick said that for those who couldn't be present for the meeting, he thought it would be good to publish the names of any guests in attendance. Guests that attended the January Annual meeting were Keith Alltucker, Mary Jane and Lucky Kinyon, and Isley Poser. Minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: LeAnn gave the Treasurer's report. We currently have a checking account balance of \$692.92. A check in the amount of \$137.60 was paid to Dr. Dick Kinyon for the prime rib dinner prepared for the annual meeting. LeAnn said that to date, she had received nine membership renewals. She presented a bill in the amount of \$84.00 for stamps 49.00, and \$35.00 for a tire swing as an auction item for the convention.

Committee Report: Fred reported that the Forest Service has published a new handbook for employees

and volunteers. Horse safety and proper clothing and gear for personal use were some of the revisions. In regard to horse safety, several guidelines were offered as well as a requirement to have your horses inoculated and wormed, feet shod or trimmed, and general safety around horses. Bob asked if they were going to require us to carry documentation as proof that horses were given shots and wormer. Fred said the handbook doesn't say anything about that. Merlyn said that might be something we want to bring up at the March convention. The handbook was revised by Thomas Schmidt, Deputy Regional Officer.

Merlin Huso said he attended a meeting in Choteau regarding the Heritage Act, and how it was to be implemented in regard to determining boundaries for enforcement around Gibson dam. There would also be issues regarding local ranchers moving cattle in and out of the area to be addressed. The date of April 11th has been set for the Bob Marshall Complex Managers meeting to consider setting boundaries on the south side of Gibson dam and other boundary issues.

Old Business: Bob has received a work project list from Ian. He said Ian is also asking for project suggestions. Ian also said that the Lange Creek project still needs to be done. A meeting date of March 12th at Bob and LeAnn Hermance's home was set to go over the projects and available dates. Clete Gregory, Joe and Helen Suta, Dick Kinyon, Ron Ries, Merlyn Huso and Bob and LeAnn Hermance will meet at that time to go over the project list, and set a schedule for the year.

New Business: Bob said a Director position and State Alternate Director were needed to replace a vacancy. He appointed Dick Kinyon as Director, and Merlyn Huso as Alternate State Director.

Convention Resolutions: So far, we have not received any convention resolutions. Merlyn said that Hall of Fame award was to be given to some people who have made significant contributions on behalf to wilderness protection, and he wanted to suggest Ken Ausk as a candidate. Merlyn wanted to bring it up and the convention, and possibly write a resolution to that effect. He said he would look into it further and make a report.

Convention 2016: Ron Ries asked if anyone had any ideas for raffle items for the 2016 convention. His suggestions were a rifle, a pack saddle and a wall tent, with his company sponsoring the pack saddle and wall tent. Clete suggested a generator. The Town Pump for a gas card and North 40 in Great Falls for auction items.

Ron said he was looking into making new metal cen-

terpieces for the convention in the shape of the BCH horseshoe logo with each club's name. He will look into it further and report at the next meeting regarding cost of making them. Steve Hutton and Lisa Schmidt will work on a name for the convention.

The next regular meeting is scheduled the 19th of March at 7:00 P.M. at the Conrad Library. Regular meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except November when no meeting is held.

ELK PERMIT APPLICATION DUE DATE:

Special drawing—Permits : **March 16th**

<http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/licenses/buyApply/appDeadlines.html>

2016 Back Country Horsemen of Montana Convention will be at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls, MT. Date will be March 25th, 26th and 27th.

BENEFIT FOR FRED FITZPATRICK

What: A Benefit Breakfast and Auction

When: Sunday, March 22, 2015

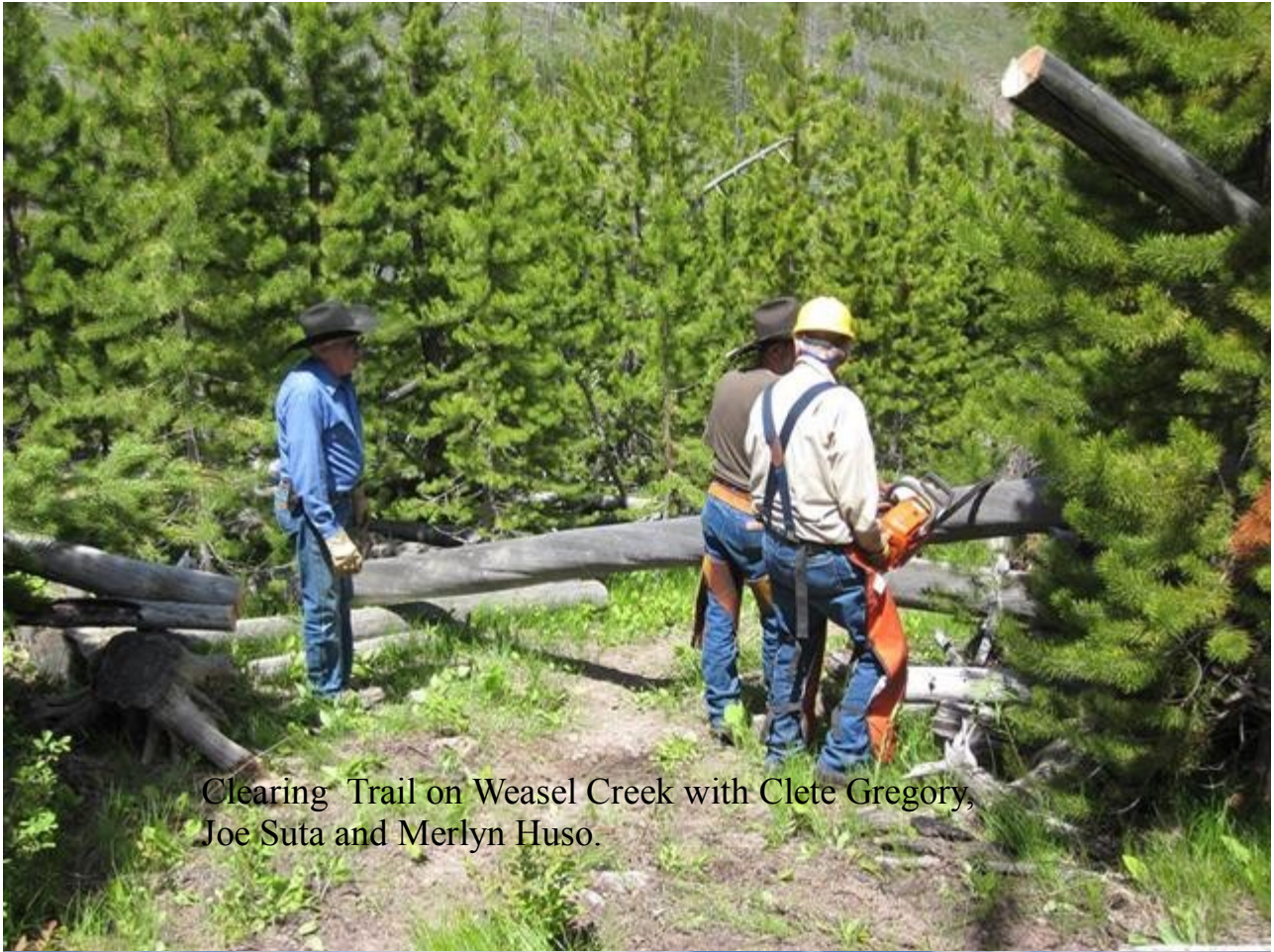
Where: Valier High School Multipurpose Room

Time: Breakfast starts at 9:00 am till gone (they always have lots).

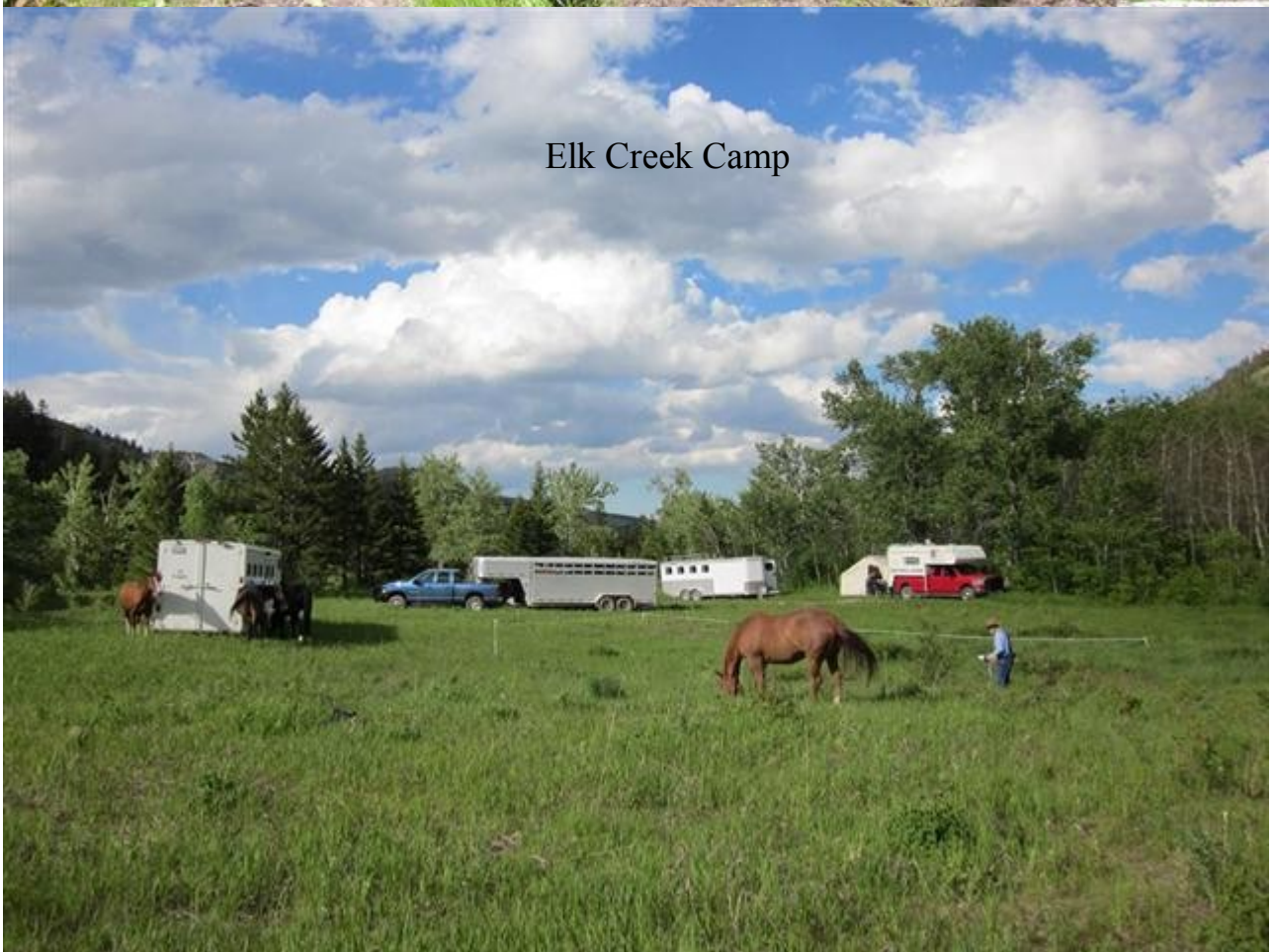
Auction will start between 10:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Auctioneer is our very own Zane Drishinski.

REMEMBER RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING, MARCH 19TH.



Clearing Trail on Weasel Creek with Clete Gregory,
Joe Suta and Merlyn Huso.



Elk Creek Camp