

GALLATIN VALLEY BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN
POB 3232, BOZEMAN, MT 59772-3232
[HTTP://WWW.BCHMT.ORG](http://www.bchmt.org)

THE PICKET LINE

November 2005



Officers

President

Rich Inman 388-1564

Vice President

Janet Castro 388-0966

Secretary

Trina Fredrickson 522-9315

Treasurer

Betty White 586-2301

Directors

2 yr

Lori Brockway 587-7198

Joellyn Howell 388-4493

John McIlhattan 586-9094

1 yr

Wally Becker 587-9607

Donna McGeein 587-5645

Beth Merrick 388-4047

State Board Members

Brown Parsons 2 yr

Dan Marsh 1 yr

Alternate: Linda Kelly 1yr

Newsletter Editor

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BCH Web Master

Dan Marsh 587-7578

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Backcountry Horsemen Mission Statement

"The purpose of this organization shall be (1) to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in Montana's road less back country and (2) to assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource and (3) to educate and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses and people, commensurate with our heritage and the back country's resource."

Board Meeting

Wed., November 2nd, 7pm

Janet Castro's 388-0966

General Meeting

Thurs., November 17th, 6:30pm

Belgrade Alliance Church

Cameron and Hoffman Sts

Potluck Supper

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Program

Paula Kickpatrick

Professional hat maker

DUES ARE DUE

Due must be payable by January 1st 2006.

Some of you members have paid and we thank you for your promptness. An application is on back page and also available on our web site to download and print.

www.bchmt.org/gvbch/default.htm

Potluck Supper and program info

Our November 17th general meeting and program will also be a **POTLUCK SUPPER**

We will begin at 6:30pm at the church. Be sure to bring a salad or dessert and your friends. Don't forget your utensils and plate. This will be Buffalo Joe's from our Poker Ride. Janet has to empty her freezer for the elk.

November program information *by Donna*

Paula Kickpatrick, our scheduled presenter for the general meeting on November 17th, is a professional hat maker and owner of the Buffalo Gal Hat Company in Jackson, Montana. She has been mastering her craft for ten years...seven years in Jackson and the prior years in Wisdom, Montana. Her work qualifies her to teach us how a custom hat is suppose to fit and why a fitted hat works well while riding the trail or working the ranch. She will share information about the intricacies of heads and hats. We may discover something we need (or want). Paula is a full time hat maker in her shop at 213 Main Street in Jackson, MT 59736 (834-3236). She says she does not do the web because she cannot fit your hat on line. I have seen her advertised through the Dillon Chamber of Commerce. This program is your chance to experience out of town business, but in town.



Lisa and Jessica Read

Quoting Lisa on this picture where they live in Plains, Montana and still members of GVBCH

"This picture was the Sanders County Fair Parade. Jessica and I both did drill team for the summer, which was a first for both of us. It was fun for us and a great way to get some arena work done. It was a lot harder than it looked! We did several performances and the parade."

25 Uses for Baling Twine. *By Dusty DeHaven*
Hailey, the Western Horseman, July 1998 and submitted by
Bonnie Hammer

1. String together to use as temporary fencing.
2. Loop some shoelaces.
3. Use as tie-downs for pickup truck.
4. Wrap a bow around a gift for your favorite gal, guy or dog.
5. In a pinch, string up a halter.
6. Knot each piece together and create the largest ball of orange twine in the world. 'Hey the winters are long up here.'
7. Dog leash for the happy-go-lucky mutt.
8. Handcuffs.
9. Hair tie for long, unruly hair.
10. Use it to tie together a bunch of balloons.
11. Clothesline for the traveling man.
12. Weave a doormat.
13. Tie up a leaning tree.
14. Hang up a tarp to get out of the weather.
15. Light-switch pull.
16. Line to string fish.
17. Wrap around a bunch of wildflowers for the gal of your dreams.
18. Quit dog-earing' those books and use a bit of twine as a bookmark.
19. Hitch up your Wranglers.
20. String up your keys and use as a key ring.
21. Tie a piece around your finger. And don't forget!
22. Use as string-line to lay out a new shed or hay barn.
23. Dangle your wedding ring around your neck when you're working and think of your sweetie.
24. Emergency reins and to hold together a broken bridle.
25. Recycle and bale your own darn hay.

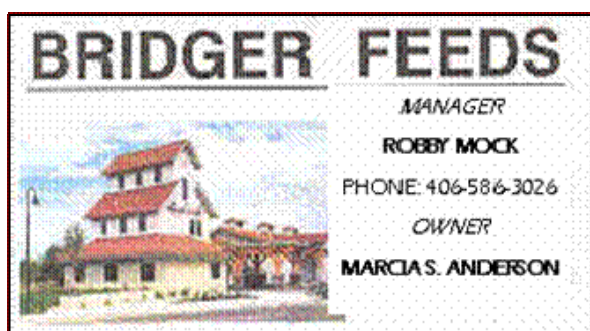
Changes

Sandra Rose email to: sandy@bigskymanagement.com

Ruth Hall has moved but still has her home on Bridger Canyon Rd.

She is now in Colorado at PO Box 7118, Loveland CO 80537

She plans to return to ride here in the summer. She sends her best to her fellow members.



Sonja Berg would like members to know that the MT State 4-H Horse Leader's Form will be held at the Comfort Inn and at the Fairgrounds on December 2nd thru the 4th. The registration is \$35 and both adults and children may attend. Call the Gallatin County Extension Office for registration and further information or Sonja @388-6087

In memory of my Danny, by Jiffie Hale



On a wet and miserable Sat in October, 2005 Chick and I had to euthanize my Danny, an 18 year old Morgan. He was a big 1200# lovable and dependable friend whom I shared hundreds of miles for the past 15 years. We brought Danny, then 3 years old, and Splash, presently in his 28th year, with us from Pennsylvania. Our first venture was to move Dwight Winchester's cattle south of Bozeman to his ranch across Huffine Lane. An adventure we shared with Dr. Gary Cook and his wife, Gus, the Four Corner's local horse trainer, as well as Dwight. Danny adapted well as he adapted well to all situations and shortly became a mountain horse. He was a great driving horse, steady with enthusiasm, and our route from home was 15 miles at a trot with a few spots of cantering up some inclines. Adding to his versatility Danny was Chick's pack horse and he packed the tools that made the most noise, rattled and moved where others might not

have been so tolerant. He was slow, but steady. To add to his steadiness, Danny was my parade horse and I quite often would move to the side so the children could pat him. He loved kids; our grandchildren would always hop on him bareback. Our son, Bob, felt he owned him while on his visits here to ride Danny on Poker Rides and work with Chick on trails. Wally rode him when his horses were still out to pasture in Wilsall.

We have had many horses in the past that were euthanized, but never one that had been with us for so many years that had been so versatile. It is not easy to lose this guy and some of you members may share our sorrow. Danny had gone through a very bad episode of founder late this summer and his x-rays proved there was serious damage and it was obvious he would never ever be comfortable nor be without pain. Our horseshoer placed his shoes on backwards as a trial in hopes that would relieve some pressure, but to no avail. He hurt and was confined 24 hrs a day—just not fair. However, Danny's and our pain was finally eased when RJ Conti gave me Nancy and Dan Bates's phone number. We trailered Danny to Gary's clinic and Gary and Nancy took over the responsibility of the completion of Danny's life. Never have we experienced such compassion and promptness as Gary and Nancy gave us. So ends Danny's adventures with us, but we have all the memories of our wonderful four-legged friend. I am sure that the kids in heaven are hopping on his back and laughing with glee. How lucky they are.

They finally did the job!

It's a long story involving a lot of people. Some few year's ago in a discussion with the F.S. we all agreed that the Hell Roaring Creek ran too fast, too deep and with too much ice to be forded during eight or nine months of the year. A hiker/horse bridge was the solution.

While this plan was being discussed, planned, reviewed, etc., we obtained permission to rebuild the trail from the trailhead to Hell Roaring Creek. This project eventually involved three club members, one hiker and six to eight young people from the Adolescent Recourse Center along with help from the FS trail crew and a renovated roto-tiller.

And so after some few years of promises the year of 2005 found the bridge on the FS schedule, timber delivered with miscellaneous materials. Our members packed in tread planks. The Nine Mile Mule Pack Train packed in the planks and other materials. Other club members packed in sheets of plywood and 2 1/2 tons of concrete mix for the required foundations. The long heavy stringers and other large timbers were delivered by the FS helicopter.

One can't overlook the engineering, planning, scheduling, etc., that was required along with all the 'grunts' who were able to complete all the work so that hunters and others can safely cross Hell Roaring Creek in all seasons.

Thank you José and Brian!



By Chick Hale

October 5, 2005 Board Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Rich Inman, Janet Castro, Beth Merrick, Wally Becker, Trina Frederickson, Joellyn Howell, Bettye White, Dan Marsh, Brown Parsons, Jiffie and Chick Hale and Sonja Berg.

Motion to accept minutes of September 7, 2005. Minutes passed as written.

Treasurer's Report: Money Market Fund balance is currently \$1,974.67. Motion was made to pay \$1,175 for 2005 state dues by Beth; second by Joellyn.

Dan Marsh gave State Board report.

Jose Castro provided a brief update on the status of the Forest Service's Travel Plan. Suggestions and input from various parties is still being reviewed by the Service. The final decision is expected late Spring of 2006.

Joellyn and Trina have volunteered to take part in the Nominating Committee. Rich will ask Donna if she will also assist.

Sandy Archer has volunteered to replace Jiffie on the newsletter. Following a discussion about the duties and requirements of the position, the decision was made to have Sandy and Beth Merrick share the position.

The Board and attendees discussed how best to get the newsletter out to the membership. Jiffie will send out a questionnaire to the membership to see how many would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail vs. a hard copy by regular mail.

The Christmas Party will be held at Four Corners on December 9th at 6:30 pm. Cost of the dinner is \$18.00 each (includes gratuity).

Total Attendance: 13 Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted, Trina Frederickson, sec.

October 20, 2005 General Meeting Minutes

Rich brought the meeting to order at 8:20 after a very informative program with Dr. Warren, Hardaway Vet Hospital, speaking on 'Winterizing your Horse and also delving into the aspects of the problems with founder in horses. Approximately 20-24 members attended.

September minutes were accepted and approved.

Treasurer's report by Bettye for 10/20/05 was accepted and approved:

Checking a/c balance 9/15/05 **\$3,381.29**

Bills paid:

Montana BCH state dues for 2005	1,175.00		
Reimburse Jiffie Hale stamps for NL	37.00	\$1,212.00	\$2,649.00

Deposits:

Dues:	40.00		
Steak Ride (Elpel)	12.50	52.50	\$2,701.79

Checking a/c balance as of 10/20/05 **\$2,701.79**

Petty Cash \$48.56

Money Market \$1,974.67

3 mo. CD \$3,148.69

Outstanding bills: Kinko's \$3.50 Motion by Joellyn/2nd by Sonja to pay this bill.

Still have unpaid members from their reservations on the Steak Ride Fondue

State report from Dan: (see separate article beginning below)

Wally mentioned that our GVBCH handmade wooden sign is missing at the Spanish Peak trail head. Rich will follow up on this.

It was decided that the November general meeting we will hold a potluck supper. Janet must clean out her freezer of Buffalo Joe's left from our Poker Ride. She needs to make room for the elk that José plans to get!!!! Please bring a salad or dessert, your utensils w/plate and bring your friend(s). Time is 6:30. Meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted by Jiffie Hale, proxy for Trina Frederickson, sec

State Report by Dan at General Meeting October 20, 2005 Dec. 10th will be the Back Country Horsemen of Montana State Delegate meeting at Smoke Elser's barn in Missoula. The Right to Ride bill is still being routed through the different committees. The bill currently has 25 co-sponsors, but none of them are Montana legislators. Members may check the web page at <http://www.bchmt.org/> for more information and also a link to where you can send an email or letter to your congressman asking them to support the bill and become a co-sponsor.

Continued...

The *BCH Mountain Manners* book is in progress of being updated and the original artist has agreed to update the drawings. A copy of the manual is being sold on the Back Country Horsemen of America web site. The law suit against the Forest Service has still not been filed pending more information gathering.

This law suite is regarding the National Forest Service change of the trail designation without proper public comment, which BCHA feels may harm the trail maintenance budget for horse trails. The Back Country Horsemen of Montana delegation is not in favor of the law suit, but they were outvoted by the other State Chapters at the National Convention. As a side note, our own Merlyn Huso is the new National Chairman of the BCHA. John Favro spoke on the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Fee Demo Program). Overall it is a very positive thing for maintaining enhanced Forest Service facilities and camping areas. John prepared a slide show that is available on our web site at <http://www.bchmt.org/> A Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will be formed and we hope to have some BCH representation on that committee. The National Parks Pass, Golden Eagle Passport, Golden Age Passport, and Golden Access Passport will rollover into the new America the Beautiful pass when available. There is currently over nine Billion dollars in backlog requests for trail maintenance. More information is available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/recfee>. There are quite a few pewter belt buckles available at \$40 each. The 2006 convention will be held in Polson on March 24th through the 26th at the Great Western.

Decals will be ordered with the BCH of Montana logo for your horse trailers and trucks. The Missoula Community Access Television is asking for us to help them put together information about our organization that they will produce and show on their station. Contact mcat@mcat.org if you are interested in their offer. There was a request to voice your support for a livestock-appropriate bridge across the North Fork of the Sun River at Gates Park. The Gates Park Bridge is on the US Forest Service's Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) list for the Lewis and Clark National Forest (Page 11 of the following site):

http://www.fs.fed.us/rl/lewisclark/projects/docs/3rd_2005-sopa.pdf

Another item to keep your eye on is the renewed interest in opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for drilling.

Right to Ride Bill

“Right to Ride” legislation has now been introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. This legislation is intended to preserve the access of horses and pack stock to public lands where there is an historical tradition of such use. These bills will help recreational horsemen in the battle against the closure of trails for equine use on public lands.

Specifically, the legislation mandates that the lands should be managed by federal agencies “to preserve and facilitate the continued use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on such lands...where there is an historical tradition of such use.” This legislation would apply to federal lands managed by the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

Representative George Radanovich (R-CA) introduced his bill, H.R. 586 in the House of Representatives on March 15, 2005 and Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID) introduced an identical bill in the Senate, S 781, on April 14, 2005.

Co-Sponsors of the legislation are needed in both the House and Senate to assist in the passage of these bills.

“...The recent request to contact your legislators about the Right to Ride bill fell short of being persuasive. But other federal lands users are working hard to **EXCLUDE** horsemen from accessing federal lands (BML, Parks, Fish & Wildlife, National Forests). If you want to be able to continue to ride horses on these lands in the future (or you want your grandkids to) send an email today. Do not think this is something we can afford to be apathetic about. Equestrians and horse-owners all over the country contribute more to the economy than some of these legislators will ever know. It seems that now is the time to remind them. ...who else other than us die-hard riders are willing to pay over-priced gas/diesel so that we can get out and get our “fix”? Not to mention the tow vehicles, trailers, gear, etc....”

Two of our GVBCH members, Ellie Nolan and RJ Conti, contacted me with this recent information for the Right to Ride Bill. This information suggests you go to the Quarter Horse web site for quick access to send your email to Senators and Representative requesting them to co-sponsor this bill. This is very important! Also, for those who do not have internet, if you go back a few months in our newsletters you will find the names and addresses of Senators Burns, Baucus and House Representative Denny Rehberg. To make your life more simple, go into our web site —

<http://www.bchmt.org/gvbch/newsletters.htm> for Nov NL issue and click on the Quarter Horse web site —

<http://capwiz.com/aqha/issues/alert/?alertid=7749306&type=CO>

THE GALLATIN VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN ARE INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES
AND MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2005 POKER RIDE.

WE THANK YOU ALL.

AG DEPOT

ALL WEST VETERINARY

ARDESSON BOOTS AND SHOES

BIG SKY RV

BITTERROOT TRAILER SALES

BOB WARD & SONS

BOZEMAN SADDLE OUTLET

BRIDGER FEEDS

CASHMAN NURSERY

CENTURY 21- DAN PORTER

CHALET MARKET

CHALET SPORTS

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

COSTCO

DJ BAR RANCH-JEHNET CARLSON

DOUBLE DIAMOND HALTERS

FREEWAY ENTERPRISES

GORMET GAS STATION

DICK HAINES

LAURA HANKS

LEE HART

JOELLYN AND JOHN HOWELL

RICH INMAN

KOUNTRY KORNER CAFÉ

LEE & DADS

MONTANA CANVAS

MONTANA HARVEST

MONTANA MANDOLIN SOCIETY

MURDOCKS RANCH & HOME

OWENHOUSE HARDWARE

PRECISION FENCE SYSTEM, INC.

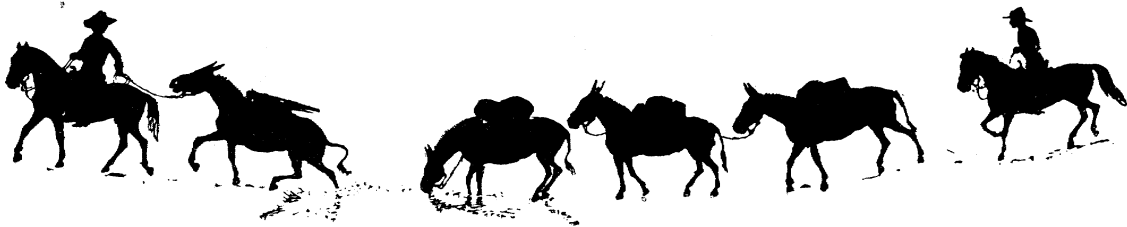
R J CONTI

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HAT CO.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SUPPLY

SCHNEES' BOOTS AND SHOES

SHEAR WEST-DIANA SWAN



Gallatin Valley Backcountry Horsemen

Box 3232

Bozeman, MT 59772-3232

