

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

STEVE THIENES ... 578-2124

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@wispwest.net

#### BCH WEB MASTER

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

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

BCHMT STATE BOARD MEETING : DECEMBER 5, 10:00 AM

Missoula, Guesthouse Inn

CHRISTMAS PARTY : DECEMBER 5, 6:00 PM

Broken Hart Ranch

BOARD MEETING : DECEMBER 17, 6:00 PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : DECEMBER 17, 7:00 PM

Pot Luck Dessert & Social

Officer and Board elections

Springhill Church



#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Merry Christmas everyone. This will be my last President's letter but since John is running unopposed I'm sure he will do a fine job as the next president. John has been at most of the trail clearing and projects over the year and has been very involved in the 4-H clinics. I want to thank all of the current directors and officers for their work this year. I want to thank Brant Robey for taking on the newsletter and agreeing to be the editor again next year. I also want to thank both Sharon and Tamara for offering to run again next year. We had a very productive year clearing trails thanks to Larry's excellent leadership. I want to especially thank Rich Inman for all the work he did this year on trail work, 4-H clinics and keeping track of the education hours, work on the RTP grant, and last but not least being there any time I needed guidance or help with anything. I want to thank Dan Porter, my VP, for getting the grant for the Cache Creek project and riding herd on the bunch of volunteers that put up the corral in a day. Henry Glenn and Molly led the charge at the Buffalo Fork and Slough Creek, along with cooking at both of those in addition to Cache Creek and the Steak/BBQ ride and coming soon Christmas Party. If you haven't had some of Henry's brisket you haven't lived yet. Tamara Erickson did an excellent job taking over the Poker Ride chair in addition to her secretarial duties. Sharon Frasier has done a great job keeping track of the books and had a very busy year with all of the new grants we had to keep track of. Some of our new members like Carmen Orr has been to just about all of the trail clearing, helped pack out the CDT crew, and graciously accepted taking on the chair of the Christmas party. Lawrence Vandyke and his wife Kathy also helped pack out the CDT crew and he helped Henry at Slough Creek, helped at the 4-H clinics, and also helped clearing the trails. Harry Huntsinger has done a marvelous job as the publicity chair and has agreed to run as a director. I want to also thank all of the folks that have agreed to run as a director or officer next year. There are many more folks that have contributed a great deal such as Jim Wing,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 19**

Dan Marsh called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and took roll call.

Dan Marsh, Sharon Fraser, Tamara Erickson, Larry Thomas, Mark DeOpsomer, Chris Nygren, Carl Blaskovich, Rich Inman and Henry Glenn were in attendance.

**MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING**

Tamara Erickson made a motion to accept the minutes from the October Board meeting, Larry Thomas seconded the motion, the motion passed and the October Minutes were accepted.

**TREASURERS' REPORT**

Sharon Fraser reported. No new bills were received. The club made member reimbursements for mileage, etc. that will be covered by the RTP Grant but the RTP Grant check has not yet been received in the mail. Rich Inman reported that it should be on the way and is expected to arrive sometime in late November.

Henry Glenn has not be reimbursed for food costs as stipulated from the Cache Creek Project, which will be looked into.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

A newsletter was received from the Bitterroot BCH Chapter, as well as a scoping letter regarding the Shooting Star Ranch Land Exchange from the U.S.D.A. It proposes a land exchange, swapping land-locked acreage for highway frontage that will allow a new trail head and parking lot for increased public access. Henry Glenn reported that he was familiar with the general details of the deal and that it seemed to be in the public's best interest.

Membership: Membership stands at 57 but Sharon Fraser reported that there is missing information on a new membership that was generated at the Poker Ride, which needs to be followed up with Marianne Meyer.

**ISSUES**

Dan reported that the LWCF bills SB338, SB890 and HB1844 are still in committee.

**PUBLICITY**

Harry Huntsinger was not in attendance but Dan Marsh reported that an article regarding the 4-H Packing program was submitted to both the state and national BCH chapters. It was published in last month's state newsletter.

**NEWSLETTER**

Dan Marsh reported that Brant Robey has agreed to continue her work editing the newsletter in 2016 and reminded everyone to continue submitting stories and photos.

**TRAIL CREWS**

Larry Thomas reported that trail work has been suspended due to cold and snowy weather. He also mentioned the Oregon BCH Chapter's work promoting change in the chain saw use policy in wilderness areas. He noted concern that many trails have been lost and will continue to be lost, due to difficulty in clearing trails in wilderness areas because of restricted tool use.

A discussion on the issue was held regarding the difficulties in creating changes to the current laws. Chris Nygren shared information about how a group of farmers and ranchers overcame a similar problem by winning the argument in court. A Judge's orders allowed heavy equipment to be flown into a wilderness area for irrigation management, illustrating the point that there may be avenues available for changing the rules without requiring new legislation in congress.

It was agreed that it is a problem worthy of the club's attention and that further discussion will be held on the issue.

**PROGRAM**

December's general meeting will open with a social hour including pot luck desserts and will consist of the club's 2016 officer and board elections.

**STATE AND NATIONAL DUES**

The state and national dues are due and Sharon agreed to send payment.

**THANK YOU**

Dan Marsh drafted a thank you letter to the Bank of Bozeman for their recent donation of \$91 generated in a "Blue Jean Friday" event, as well as their \$100 donation during the Poker Ride.

It was suggested that more local banks be contacted for support during the 2016 Poker Ride. Tamara Erickson agreed to make a note in the "Poker Ride Bible".

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Christmas party will be held Saturday, December 5th at the Lee Hart Ranch. Carmen Orr has agreed to head the Christmas Party Committee. Dan Marsh reported that a conflict with the state meeting in Missoula will prevent Henry Glenn, Dan Marsh and Rich Inman from attending and there was a discussion regarding the conflict, which has been a problem for the past several years.

Henry Glenn offered to prepare the meat for the party and members will be asked to bring pot luck side dishes and desserts.

It was agreed that members will be asked to RSVP by December 1st and that they are welcome to bring guests. Henry Glenn made a motion that the club should pay for



the Christmas party expenses, so it will be free of charge for members and guests. Rich Inman seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2016 nominating committee, headed by John Mutter, submitted a list of nominations for 2016 officers and board members.

The nominations included: John Mutter for President, Carmen Orr and Sue Geske for Vice President, Tamara Erickson for Secretary, Sharon Fraser for Treasurer, Sue Geske, Carmen Orr, Harry Huntsinger, Mike Haugan and Lawrence Van Dyke for Board of Directors, Rick Inman for State Board, John Mutter for State Board Alternate and Brant Robey for Newsletter Editor.



steaks across the saddle bag ( backstraps)



Only a two horse outfit, a guy's got a walk out when he shoots an elk!



double parked horses, waiting for the elk load

photos by Mark DeOpsomer

Jim Allbright, who was in attendance, mentioned that he had not been contacted by the nominating committee and was interested in running for Vice President, Board of Directors and State Board but Rich Inman pointed out that open nominations will be held during the general meeting and that his name, as well as any others that may have been missed by the nominating committee, may be added at that time.

#### RTP GRANT UPDATE

Rich Inman reported that club reimbursement is still in limbo but that a club reimbursement check should arrive by late November.

Rich Inman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chris Nygren, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

— Submitted by Tamara Erickson

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT—CONTINUED

Ron Rohletter, Jim Allbright, Brenda Allbright, Bonnie Hammer, Beth Merrick, Marianne Meyer, Barb Mutter, Mike Haugan, Sue Geske, and Dale Moore. All of the members have been great this year and if I didn't mention you, blame it on a senior moment that has been coming more frequently lately. Of course, there is Alice who had to

put up with me for the last 26 years. I will still be around working on trails and the web site but I need more time to work on a few projects next year. It has been a pleasure serving as your President and I am thrilled to have been involved with such a great bunch of folks.

— Dan Marsh

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 19**

Dan Marsh called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He welcomed three guests in attendance: Jim, Careen and Katrina Martin. The Martin family are new club members who are interested in trail riding and helping clear trails.

A drawing for one of three Walter Becker halters was held and Marianne Meyer was the winner.

#### **PROGRAM**

Mr. Gary Robson presented a very informative program on AirMedCare, a membership program that offers flight benefits to members in case of medical emergency. The AirMedCare network is the largest of its kind in the world with over 220 locations in 32 states, offering services to its 1.7 million members 24 hours a day, 365 days per year.

AirMedCare aircraft in the Bozeman area are capable of a 400 mile round trip to expedite patient delivery to medical care facilities, are piloted by experienced, military-trained pilots and staffed with seasoned medical personnel capable of treating a wide range of illness or injury. They carry patients in need of transfer between medical facilities and they also respond to search and rescue or law enforcement calls to retrieve patients in remote or rugged areas, including mountain trails.

Members will incur no out of pocket expense for AirMedCare flights, even if insurance denies the claim. All members living in the member's household are covered by membership benefits. There is no limit on flight benefits and membership renewals can never be refused.

Enrollment is being offered to GVBCH members at a reduced price of \$55 per year, which is a \$10 savings off the regular membership cost of \$65 per year. Additional information and details can be found online at [www.AirMedCareNetwork.com](http://www.AirMedCareNetwork.com), or by phone at 1-800-793-0010. In order to qualify for the \$10 discount, a membership application and dues must be made through GVBCH.

#### **MINUTES OF LAST BOARD MEETING**

Jim Allbright made a motion to accept the minutes from the October General Membership meeting, Janice Cartwright seconded the motion, the motion passed and the October Minutes were accepted.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Sharon Fraser reported. Janice Cartwright submitted a bill for Poker Ride flagging materials. Tamara Erickson made a motion to pay the bill, Jim Allbright seconded the motion and the motion passed. Jim Allbright made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Beth Merrick seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A newsletter was received from the Bitterroot BCH Chapter, as well as a scoping letter regarding the Shooting Star Ranch Land Exchange from the U.S.D.A. It proposes a

land exchange, swapping land-locked acreage for highway frontage that will allow a new trail head and parking lot for increased public access.

Henry Glenn reported that he was familiar with the general details of the deal and that it seemed to be in the public's best interest. Henry Glenn suggested the club support the land exchange and made a motion that the club send a letter in support. Beth Merrick seconded the motion and the motion passed.

#### **AIRMEDCARE NETWORK MEMBERSHIP**

GVBCH's participation was discussed and it was decided to gather more information about also participating in the Butte Life Flight membership, because aircraft are often called from Butte to respond to emergencies in the Gallatin Valley and are not part of the AirMedCare Network. Dan Marsh will send an email regarding the AirMedCare Network Membership and interested parties are asked to make payment to GVBCH, who will then send one check to cover dues of all GVBCH members.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership stands at 57 but Marianne reported having trouble with her computer and has been unable to open the membership spreadsheet. Dan Marsh offered to help resolve the computer problem.

#### **ISSUES**

Dan reported that the LWCF bills SB338, SB890 and HB1844 are still in committee but that there is need for the LWCF to be renewed.

#### **PUBLICITY**

Harry Huntsinger was not in attendance but Dan Marsh reported that Harry wrote an article regarding the 4-H Packing program that was submitted to both the state and national BCH chapters. It was published in last month's state newsletter.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Dan Marsh reported that Brant Robey has agreed to continue her work editing the newsletter in 2016 and reminded everyone to continue submitting stories and photos.

#### **TRAIL CREWS**

Larry Thomas reported that trail work has been suspended due to cold and snowy weather. He also thanked members for good participation this summer and also said that he was happy to have help from some new members.

#### **PROGRAM**

December's general meeting will open with a social hour including pot luck desserts and will consist of the club's 2016 officer and board elections.



## THANK YOU

Dan Marsh drafted a thank you letter to the Bank of Bozeman for their recent donation of \$91 generated in a "Blue Jean Friday" event, as well as their \$100 donation during the Poker Ride.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas party will be held Saturday, December 5th at the Lee Hart Ranch. Carmen Orr has agreed to head the Christmas Party Committee. Dan Marsh reported that a conflict with the state meeting in Missoula will prevent Henry Glenn, Dan Marsh and Rich Inman from attending. Henry Glenn will prepare the meat for the party and members are asked to bring pot luck side dishes and desserts. Please contact Carmen Orr if you can to offer help.

Members are welcome to bring guests but are asked to please RSVP by December 1st. There will be no charge for members or guests.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The 2016 nominating committee, headed by John Mutter, submitted a list of nominations for 2016 officers and board members.

The nominations included: John Mutter for President; Carmen Orr and Sue Geske for Vice President; Tamara Erickson for Secretary; Sharon Fraser for Treasurer; Sue Geske, Carmen Orr, Harry Huntsinger, Mike Haugan and Lawrence Van Dyke for Board of Directors; Rick Inman for State Board; John Mutter for State Board Alternate; and Brant Robey for Newsletter Editor.

Dan Marsh stated there will be several opportunities for members to vote, including an online option.

Rich Inman acted in proxy for John Mutter, who was unable to attend and opened nomination to all members for each position.

Nominations for President were opened and called for three times. No new nominations were made. Beth Merrick made a motion to close nominations for President, Carmen Orr seconded the motion and the motion to close nominations for president passed.

Nominations for Vice President were opened and called for three times. Larry Thomas nominated Jim Allbright for Vice President. Jim accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made. Beth Merrick made a motion to close the Vice President nominations. Janice Cartwright seconded the motion and the motion to close the Vice President nominations passed.

Nominations for Secretary were opened and called for three times. No new nominations were made. Henry Glenn made a motion to close the nominations for Secretary, Janice Cartwright seconded the motion and the motion to close the nominations for Secretary passed.

Nominations for Treasurer were opened and called for three times. No new nominations were made. Tamara Erickson made a motion to close open nominations for Treasurer, Carl Blaskovich seconded the motion and the motion to close nominations for Treasurer passed.

Nominations for Board of Directors were opened and called for three times. Larry Thomas nominated Jim Allbright for Board of Directors. Jim accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made. Tamara Erickson made a motion to close nominations, Beth Merrick seconded the motion and the motion to close nominations for Board of Directors passed.

Nominations for State Board were opened and called for three times. Larry Thomas nominated Jim Allbright for State Board. Jim accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made. Tamara Erickson made a motion to close nominations for State Board, Henry Glenn seconded the motion and the motion to close nominations for State Board passed.

Nominations for State Board Alternate were opened and called for three times. Chris Nygren nominated Dan Marsh for State Board Alternate. Dan accepted the nomination. No other nominations were made. Tamara Erickson made a motion to close nominations for State Board Alternate, Carl Blaskovich seconded the motion and the motion to close nominations for State Board Alternate passed.

## GOOD GUY AWARD

Beth Merrick presented Rich Inman with a "Good Guy Award" and thanked him for cutting down a tree in her yard before last week's windstorm that could have fallen and damaged her property. Thanks Rich!

Jim Allbright made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Beth Merrick seconded the motion and the motion to adjourn passed.

—Submitted by Tamara Erickson



photos by Janice Cartwright



## GVBCH OFFICERS & STATE DIRECTORS BALLOT

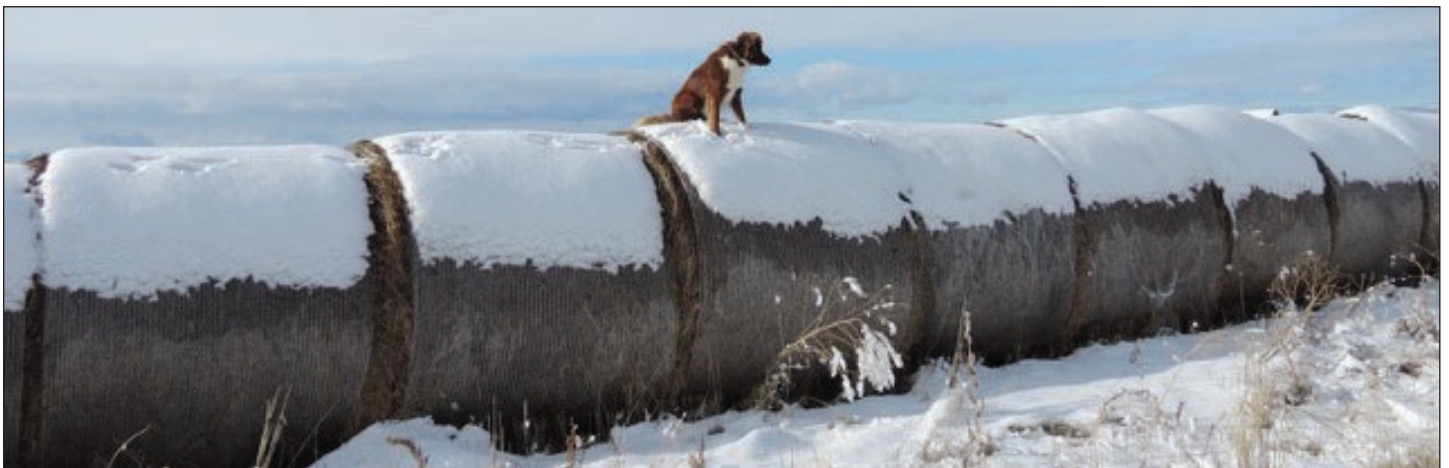
Gallatin Valley BCH Members,

If you are unable to make it to our December meeting, please vote using this absentee ballot. Your name and email on the form are necessary to verify your membership and avoid duplicate entries. All family memberships can vote twice but individual and associate memberships can only vote once. Please vote for one each of the officers and state directors and vote for 3 board of directors. The directors and state director have a two year term while the rest of the officers and alternate state director run for one year. If you would like to stay involved with the chapter please consider helping out with one of the committees.

Please follow [THIS LINK](#) to vote for your new slate of officers and directors for 2016.

PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Mutter
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Orr
(vote for one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sue Geske
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Allbright
TREASURER	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharon Fraser
SECRETARY	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tamara Erickson
DIRECTORS	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sue Geske
2 year term (vote for three)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Orr
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Harry Huntsinger
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Haugan
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lawrence Vandyke
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Allbright
STATE BOARD DIRECTOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rich Inman
2 year term (vote for one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Allbright
ALTERNATE STATE BOARD DIRECTOR,	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Mutter
1 year term (vote for one)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dan Marsh

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_



**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



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