



FEED BAG



Back Country Horsemen of Missoula *DECEMBER 2010* Myra Mumma, Editor

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President's Message:

It has been another busy year for the Back Country Horsemen of Missoula. In this issue there is a recap of the highlights for 2010 as well as a glimpse of what you can expect for 2011.



When you get this newsletter please check out the new officers, Board members and State Directors elected at the November General Membership meeting (page 6). Many, many thanks to the outgoing officers and board members. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! I appreciate all of you who have been so enthusiastic and passionate with your willingness to support your club in its many projects. The value of all this is.....priceless!

There is an article by Alan Hill in the Back Country Horsemen of America newsletter on page 6, about the lack of stock experience in the Forest Service. He states "that it has become apparent to some that we have perhaps gone beyond the "helping" state and have become the actual "implementers." (Please see Mike Chandler's comments on page 6. If you can't locate your copy of the latest BCH of America newsletter, you can get it online at: www.backcountryhorse.com.) Volunteerism is at the heart of Back Country Horsemen and must continue. However, we must recognize the potential dangers to an organization that is overly reliant on volunteers. It has always amazed me that we have had such good professional work from our members.

If any of you have thoughts on how we can better our organization, let us know at any time—but be sure to include ways to achieve the improvement.

Get ready and enjoy the ride each and every day.

....Paul Evenson, President

2010 Officers, Board and State Board of Directors		Committee Chairs	
<i>OFFICERS</i>		<i>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</i>	
Pres. Paul Evenson	251-2163	Education, Dan Harper	258-6467
Vice-Pres. Mark Wright	258-6795	Feedbag, Myra Mumma	542-7443
Sec'y. Jenna Wright	258-6795	Horseman's Council, Mike Hartkorn	549-0527
Treas. Connie Long	543-0528	Issues, Paul Evenson	251-2163
<i>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</i>		Membership & Website, Sandy Evenson	251-2163
Ken Brown, 1 Yr.	721-3357	Phone, Sara Wilson, Lola Mae LeProwse	251-4588
Ken Bransby, 2 Yr.	274-0619	Projects, Dan Tuxbury	883-9423
Barbara Koepke, 2 Yr.	626-4351	& Michael Moore	370-7549
Mack Long, 1 Yr.	543-0528	Publicity, Barbara Parker	544-9480
Alan Meyers, 1 Yr.	360-2121	Recreation Rides, Richard Tamcke &	258-6621
Richard Tamecke 2 Yr.	258-6621	Sandi Treadaway	728-3459
Diane Tidwell, 1 Yr.	273-0862	Social, Lana Hamilton &	251-3456
<i>STATE DIRECTORS</i>		Nancy Stoverud &	542-0085
Smoke Elser, 2 Yr.	549-2820	Diane Tidwell	273-0862
Connie Long, 2 Yr.	543-0528	Sponsorship, Anna Tucker &	273-3779
Gary Salisbury, Alternate	273-6967	Alan Meyers	360-2121

2011 Work Projects and Rides

April 7	Log/Water Crossing Clinic & Ride, 10:00, Erskine Fishing Access, Frenchtown	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
April 23	Blue Mountain Day Ride, 11:00	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
May 1	Lubrecht Experimental Forest Ride	Mark & Jenna Wright, 258-6795
May 7-8	Franklin Bridge Ride & Intro to a Pack Trip, Rattlesnake Trailhead*, 10:00	Ken Brown, 207-6067
May 14	Pattee Canyon Ride, Noon, BBQ After the Ride	Don Sokoloski, 544-7830
May 15	Annual Wildflower Ride, Marshall Canyon, 10:00	Dan & Marjorie Harper, 258-6467
June 5	Mount Jumbo Day Ride, Rattlesnake TH*, 10:00	Ken Brown, 207-6067
June 8	Stuart Peak Day Ride & Trail Maintenance, Rattlesnake TH*, 10:00	Richard Tamcke, 10:00, 258-6621
June 11	Woods Gulch Ride, Rattlesnake TH*	Ken Brown, 207-6067
June 12	Pre-Steak Ride, Scout the Route, River City Grill in Bonner, 7:00 AM	Paul Evenson, 251-2163
June 19	37th Annual Father's Day Steak Ride, BlackFoot-Clearwater Game	Paul Evenson, 251-2163
June 24-27	Burnt Cabin Work Project, Monture TH, 9:00 AM	Mike Moore, 370-7549
July 9	Larry Creek Ride, Bitterroot, 10:00 <i>Directions: Take Hwy. 93 So. Through Florence. Go 3 miles to "Bass Creek" sign on right. Turn right after sign (comes up quickly) onto Bass Cr. Rd. to Charles Walters Camp-ground on the left. Turn right to Larry Cr. Horse Facility.</i>	Jane Kelly, 370-4363
July 16	Tyler Creek Ride, 10:00 <i>Directions:</i>	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
July 23	Blue Mountain Day Ride, 10:00	Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
Aug. 20	Stuart Peak, Rattlesnake TH*, 9:00	Ken Brown, 207-6067
Aug. 26-29	Rattlesnake Elk Meadows-Tour of Lakes, Rattlesnake TH*, 8:00	Ken Brown, 207-6067
Sept. 4	Lolo Area Day Ride, 11:00 <i>Take Hwy. 93 So toward Lolo. From the Peak Fitness Center, drive about 4 miles; turn right into the lane PAST Bird Lane on the right. Ride will be up the mountain from the corrals.</i>	Alan Meyers, 360-2121
Sept. 10	Ray's Gulch, Rattlesnake TH*, 11:00	Ken Brown, 207-6067
Sept. 17	Bear Creek, Bitterroot, 10:00 <i>Drive south from Victor for 3 miles to Bear Creek Road. Turn right and go 2 miles to Red Crow Road and turn right. Continue for a half mile to road junction, turn left and go 3 miles to Bear Creek trailhead.</i>	Jane Kelly & Diane Tidwell, 370-4363
Oct. 1	Blackfoot Clearwater Game Range Wire Rollup, 7:00 AM at the River City Grill in Bonner or 9:00 AM at the Game Range	Paul Evenson, 251-2163

**FS Group Limit of 10 Animals, RIDE TIMES ARE "READY TO RIDE", Bring a Lunch Unless Noted Otherwise*

MEETINGS

November 30 BCH of Missoula Board Mtg., 6:30, Stone of Accord
 December 11 MT BCH Board Meeting, Quality Inn, 10:00 AM
 January 5, 2011 Board Meeting, 6:30
 January 19 General Member Meeting
 February 2 Board Meeting
 March 25-27 MT BCH Convention, Copper King, Butte
 April 26-30 National BCH Meeting, Butte, War Bonnet Inn

SOCIAL EVENTS

December 11 BCH of Missoula Christmas Party
 Quality Inn on Brooks, 6 PM,
 Details p. 7
 Feb. 26, 2011 2011 Membership Roundup
 August 19 August Potluck

Board Meetings are always the 1st Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the FW&P office. General Membership Meetings are always the third Wednesday of the month at FW&P Meeting Room, 3201 Spurgin Rd., Missoula.

2011 CLINICS AND EDUCATION

- Jan. 22, Saturday CPR and First Aid, Mark Wright, FW&P, 258-6795
- April 2, Saturday Annual Spring Tune-Up & Potluck, Gary Salisbury & Caroline Bauer, 273-6967
- April 7, Saturday Log & Water Crossing, 10:00 AM, Erskine Fishing Access, Richard Tamcke, 258-6621
- April 16, Saturday Defensive Horse Safety Clinic, 9:00 AM, Dan & Marjorie Harper, 258-6467
- April 23, Saturday Saw Training, 9-1:00 PM, FWP, Mark Wright, 258-6795
- May 7-8, Saturday Intro to a Pack Trip-Rattlesnake Franklin Bridge, 10:00 AM, Ken Brown, 207-6067
- May 21, Saturday Horse Expo, Missoula Equestrian Park, Mark Wright, 258-6795
Planning Meetings Every 2nd Wednesday of Month, Press Box, 6:30 PM
- June 4, Saturday National Trails Day, Blue Mtn. Trailhead, 8-2:00 AM, Barb Koepke, 626-4351
- August 4-13 Educational Pack Trip, Bob Marshall WA, Ken Brown, 207-6067
- October 15-16 Leave No Trace Demo, Hunting Camp in the Rattlesnake, 10 AM, Ken Brown, 207-6067

September 19th Woods Gulch Ride

.....submitted by Ken Brown

The Woods Gulch ride left the Rattlesnake horse trailhead and rode up the Woods Gulch road to the Woods Gulch trailhead. We followed the trail up the gulch until it branched into three trails. We took a sharp left and followed the newly built trail that winds west. The trail has many up and downs but is located in a ravine through a park-like forest where it is common to see wild turkeys and pileated woodpeckers. We took a faintly marked cut-off trail (which is why you need a certified Back Country Horseman trail guide) north to Ray's Gulch. Once we hit Ray's Gulch the trail paralleled a creek to a road that leads back down into the upper Rattlesnake. As a posse we stopped at Don Harbaugh's house in the upper Rattlesnake valley hoping for goodies. Don was not home so we crossed Rattlesnake Creek. My horse tripped in a deep fishing hole and I got wet to my knees. One of the hazards of riding a short horse. We came out at Spring Gulch in the Rattlesnake Recreation Area. Then we crossed the horse bridge and came back to the horse trailhead. Once at the trailhead we put our horses on hobbles and pulled out the lawn chairs to have group therapy around a cooler of pop and iced tea. And so ended another successful horse adventure! *Photos submitted by Don Dodge & Ken Brown.*



Far Left: Vest says BFI but it's really Ken Brown! Lower Center : Bob Wiesner ready to ride. Upper Center: Larry Popp with a huge smile on his face and Bob Wiesner "riding drag." Right: Jayme Feary on the palomino and Diane Godfrey in the foreground.



Highway 200 Cleanup

On October 16 a group of club members gathered to clean up litter on Hwy. 200 near the Clearwater Junction. Thanks to them our club will get some recognition from the sign that is now posted—"Adopt a Highway Litter Control—Back Country Horsemen" Watch for it! *Photos by Don Dodge*

NEW MEMBERS' PROFILES!

Diane Godfrey: "I am a Missoula native . . . born, raised, educated, gainfully employed and somewhat sheltered. After recovering from a ten year hiatus from horseback riding, I've been enjoying riding with some wonderful BCH members this summer. My practice as a massage therapist helps support my horse habit. I am usually pretty quiet and reserved, unless you ask me about my horses or granddaughter! I am looking forward to being more involved and doing more riding."

Tom Watts: "My dad introduced me to Back Country Horsemen years ago. He was a member of the Kalispell chapter. He also sent me to Smoke Elser's packing class while I was in college. Another big draw for the Back Country Horsemen. My dad also sold cattle via Al Meyers while on the ranch. So these are all the people that have brought me to Back Country Horsemen. I am looking forward to next summer and getting more involved with the ideals of BCH."

Ernie Otoupalik: Ernie is passionate about his horses. He calls himself a "horseaholic." He packs into the back country, rodeos in his indoor and outdoor arenas and spends most of his time with his horses.

Jayme Feary recently relocated in Missoula to work on a Master's degree at the University. He is from Jackson Hole, Wyoming where he was in the Police Citizens Mounted Unit. He's one of 180 Long Riders in the world and a member of Back Country Horsemen of America. Jayme is a freelance writer as well as photographer and videographer. He also trains horses and dogs and owns a mule named "Big Mama." Check out Jayme's website: www.jaymefear.com

Alan and Christine Waltz: "Alan and I enjoy life on our small ranch in the lovely Bitterroot Valley. We love the Montana mountains and wilderness, both of us enjoy riding horses, packing into wilderness areas, and working as teamsters on horse drawn equipment. At present, We own two saddle horses, two Norwegian Fjord horses, and one small pomeranian dog with the name of B.C. or "Barking Cat". We are look-

ing forward to participating in Missoula BCH this year."

Chase Crawford: "I am the owner of Crawfords Auto and Motorsports on west Broadway, providing complete auto repair, parts and service on ATV's and motorcycles. I will give a 10% discount on labor to members of BCH of Missoula. I am new to horses and have really enjoyed it thus far. Alan Meyers who is a customer of mine signed me up and I have gotten lots of useful information from him."

Mike & Barb Starmar: Mike & I are transports from the Midwest about four years ago. We got into horses, fly fishing and golfing. Mike and I run a medical distributorship called Emergent Resources here in Missoula and I am a part-time writer. We have one child who is 30 this year and one grandchild. She spends a month with us every year and loves Grandma's horse. She actually participated in the TWH show this year and won a ribbon with Grandpa who rides and is on the MT Tennessee Walking Horse Assn. Board. We ride four to five times a week in the arena and on trails weather permitting all year long. Our horses and three cats are family now. Mike is the packer of the two of us as I limit my riding to day trips or overnights where I can sleep on the cot in the tent or in the camper. A girl has to be able to walk the next day, you know!

Horse Sense for Humans

By Marianne Birenbaum RN MPH



Recently, we received a 64 year old gentleman visiting from Germany, into our Emergency

Department. As part of the "western experience" he had been drinking and enjoying a horseback ride with his wife and friends. This gentleman had worn a helmet during his time on the trail; however, he chose to remove his helmet as he was dismounting. The horse spooked and he was thrown, landing directly on his head. In medical terminology, he sustained an "egg-shell" skull fracture (picture a hard-cooked egg dropped onto a

counter). This gentleman sustained multiple fractures of the skull and face, as well as multiple brain hemorrhages. He was unable to speak, follow commands or move his right side. No other injuries were identified. Some improvement may occur over time, but he will never regain his previous level of functioning.

In a split second, the life this gentleman had known and enjoyed was forever lost to him; his injuries are not repairable and the extent of damage is enormous. His wife watched this series of events as they unfolded and will have that sequence of images locked in her memory. The effect of injuries such as these extend far beyond the victim.

Could this accident have been avoided, at least partially? Yes! Hindsight is a great teacher, if we choose to pay attention. So, what could this gentleman have done differently? 1) Don't drink alcohol and ride. If you want to drink alcohol wait until your ride is finished and your horse is safely tied or put away. Alcohol impairs your ability to respond quickly. 2) Don't remove your helmet until you are safely dismounted and you are able to give your horse your full attention. Keep contact with your horse until you are safely on the ground. I have heard reports that putting on or removing helmets after mounting may cause horses to spook if they catch movement in their peripheral vision. Most of us have learned, one way or another, the hard lesson that horses spook for any number of reasons. It doesn't need to make sense to us humans. If you think it will never happen to you, please revisit that belief. Ride smartly—a smart ride is a safe ride.

For Sale: St. Patrick Hospital Trauma Services has Troxel equestrian helmets for sale. \$23.00. Contact Marianne Birenbaum at 214-7575

In Memory Of

Matthew Guschausky, Jr., Keith's father, died on November 16th. Keith was a very active BCHM member for years.

Warren Williams, longtime BCHM member, died November 17th in a car accident on Mullan Road.

Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area Wire Rollup Project, October 3rd



For the past several years BCH of Missoula has been lucky to hold their annual Father's Day Steak Ride at the Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area (BCWMA), or the Game Range, as it is called by the locals. This 30,000-acre parcel is about 40 miles east/northeast of Missoula. It is one of the largest and oldest WMA's in Montana and is administered by the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The property was managed as a working ranch from the late 1800's until FWP began acquiring parcels in 1948. Almost every year a participant's horse encounters some downed barbed wire at the Game Range. BCH of Missoula members set out to clean up some of this wire to remedy the hazard to horses and riders.

Early on October 3rd, part of the project group met at the River City Grill for breakfast. Guests at breakfast were Heather and Kendra, seniors majoring in wildlife biology at the U of MT, who so graciously offered their help. The entire group met at the Game Range where we left most of our vehicles. We all piled into pickup beds to drive up the mountain road not suitable for cars. We stopped where the Father's Day Steak Ride horses had gotten tangled up in some barbed wire this year. There we divided into two groups; we called ourselves Company A and Company B and we worked in opposite directions.

Well, actually we divided into three groups. Alan Meyers brought his tractor with a wire rollup implement on the back, which when it worked was great, but when it didn't there were four or five guys standing around trying to figure out how to make it work. They were the "A-Ha. So that's the problem!" group. Whenever those of us in Company A heard "A-Ha!" we tried to ignore it but admittedly there were a few chuckles.

It wasn't easy work pulling rusty old wire up through several inches of soil, rolling it up and carrying it up to the road. Oh, well. Who was it that said "Nobody ever drowned in his own sweat." And Larry Popp brought his great mare, Sabrina, who pulled up some of the deeper wires. Jay Kolbe, FW&P Wildlife Biologist, also gathered wires on a 4-Wheeler for us. At one

point Cheri Fisher and Dave Boice decided to make a safari pole to carry rolls of wire up to the road. It was a pretty good idea—letting the pole get all scratched up instead of our arms. They looked like they belonged in the African desert but there wasn't a lion hanging from the pole, just rolls of rusted wire!

Actually, I was having trouble rolling up that rusty wire. For one thing it kept breaking because it was so rotted. It surely dated back to the Boyd Ranch era. And it kept springing back out of the loop I tried to coax it into. Dave showed me how to weave the roll back and forth so the wire would catch on itself. It worked! We were rolling along pretty well until Dave got into some ground hornets under a big pine tree. Now I know you want a trail horse that knows the cue to move out—like NOW. Like when you get into the ground hornets. But Dave wasn't on a horse and he wasn't moving out either! He got stung five times! And my black lab, Oso, had several on his coat. They twisted and turned in the bright sunlight but I brushed them off before they got into his skin to sting. Needless to say that put us on alert and we kept asking Dave how he was feeling.

A little history on the Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife Management Area (WMA): The Boyd Ranch ran 6,000 head of sheep and 1,400 cattle on the ranch from the late 1800's to the mid 1940's. Wildlife populations were decimated by unregulated hunting and habitat loss as the West was settled but they began to recover after the early 1900's. It was estimated that only 200 elk inhabited the middle Blackfoot in the early 20th century. The Boyd's offered their ranch for sale in 1948 when FW&P was newly organized. FWP bought it to protect critical elk winter range and alleviate crop damage on neighboring ranches. The WMA was purchased with revenues from selling hunting licenses matched by funds from the 1937 Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act which provides for an excise tax on firearms and ammunition. The area has since grown to its present size through additional purchases in the 1990's and 2000's.

Someone mentioned lunch, so we caught a ride with Robert Nelson, a FWP WMA manager, back to the starting spot. After a nice lunch and visit, it was back to work. Klaus tried to defect then to Company B, but we

shamed him and he dutifully returned to the A Company. Our next wire-rolling was in a boggy area. Some of the metal posts that previously held wire were easy to pull in the soft soil, so Dave Boice really got into pulling. Soon Klaus went to Dave's aid. So while we waited for the two wayward volunteers, Robert and Jay, the FW&P staffers, gave us a talk on the current status of elk and deer on the WMA. Although deer populations are down, the WMA's high quality habitat has helped maintain elk at objective levels there. Soon we all piled back into the truck and headed to our starting place. I was worried my black lab would get



Load number 4 of 5 truck loads of wire!

tangled in the wire, so I rode up in the cab with Jay, Oso at my feet. Bumping down the mountain, Jay pointed out across a huge clearing. "There, at the edge of that timber," he said. "That's where that hunter was attacked by a grizzly as he dressed out his elk. I think that was about 2001." I was taken back. I had always imagined the hunter was in heavy timber and here he was right out in the open! It was eerie to see the spot where he'd died of his wounds.

After picture-taking we went separate directions. Many of the volunteers went to Klaus and Beate's place for brauts and hamburgers, and, I'm sure, some story swapping. Oso and I headed the 40 miles back to civilization. With mixed feelings. What a beautiful place I'd spent the day in. I recalled the bog with all its earthy smells and fall colors contrasting with the dark red dogwood branches. I had soaked up the sunshine and the scenery, and enjoyed the camaraderie of other BCH of Missoula members. I thought how the 14 of us worked so well together as a team, accepting advice on how to get the job done and teasing each other—so representative of our whole club. (Continued on the following page.....)

In total, the group removed more than two miles of hazardous and unneeded fence on the WMA! The club recently voted to make this an annual project on the first Saturday in October. As cattle and wildlife get tangled up in the wire, they drag it across the meadows, so there's a lot more wire out there to roll up. Join us!by the Editor, Edited by Jay Kolbe, FW&P Wildlife Biologist. Pictures provided by Jay Kolbe.



Wire Rollup Volunteers with their Pile of Wire in the Background

2011 Membership Roundup
February 26th

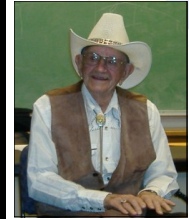
Potluck Dinner
Music
Dancing
Door Prizes
Displays
Auction

2011 Officers, Board of Directors and State Directors

Elections were held at the November General Membership meeting on November 17th. Officers include: Paul Evenson, President; Ken Brown, Vice-President, Jane Kelly, Secretary, and Barbara Koepke, Treasurer. Next year's Board members are: Mike Moore, Herb Monk, Mack Long, Alan Meyers, Diane Tidwell, Richard Tamcke and Marianne Birenbaum. State Directors are: Smoke Elser, Gary Salisbury and Diane Tidwell. Watch for their profiles in the next issue, March 2011.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE COLONEL!!

Raynor Roberts turns 90 years young on November 29th. He was BCH of Missoula's first President in 1974 and has been active ever since! Wish him Happy Birthday.



"Helpers" or "Implementers" and Federal Agency Budgets

.....Thoughts by Mike Chandler

Almost 30 years ago Smoke Elser was the first one to raise the concern that if we accomplish too much as volunteers, the US Forest Service would have trail budgets cut and employees would be encouraged to foster more and more volunteer work to cover the shortages.

This prediction, which I agreed with and helped spread the warning about, mostly fell on deaf ears but has come true more quickly than ever imagined.

I don't believe the Forest Service ever wanted this outcome as the managers also viewed the volunteer efforts as a way to get more done with a given amount of expenditure.

The primary problem no doubt occurs in budget committee meetings in Washington DC. You can almost hear the question to the FS, "Are you getting a satisfactory level of recreational trail and back country facility work done with your current budget? If the answer is "yes" or "nearly so", the trails budget immediately becomes a likely candidate for cuts or at least no increases that are needed to cover ever

increasing costs. Even if budgets are held level, the inflationary result over a few years amounts to a large reduction, regardless of public or agency need.

I don't know of any volunteer who views his contribution as a method to reduce funding for public agency trails and recreational facilities, but that obviously has been the outcome.

Volunteer work has always been considered a method to accomplish more, not struggle to maintain the status quo!

The time has arrived when more volunteer time should be directed to lobbying for better agency funding to maintain our nearly sacred back country recreational resources. See also: *Back Country Horsemen of America Fall Newsletter, page 6: www.backcountryhorse.com*

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.
Margaret Mead

Don't forget to bring
a homemade gift for
the Door Prizes!

**Back Country Horsemen of Missoula
Annual Christmas Party & Potluck
December 11, 2010
Quality Inn, 3803 Brooks Ave., Missoula, 6:30**

Decoration volunteers would be appreciated at 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The State Board Meeting is at 10:00 a.m. in the banquet room—all are welcome.

Buy your 2011 Back Country Horsemen of Missoula Club Calendar at the Party!

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace, The gladness of Christmas give you hope, The warmth of Christmas grant you love.....Unknown

**Live Music by Shane Clouse
Dancing
Fellowship
Door Prizes Made by Members
Potluck Dinner**

Taking Horse Photos

.....As Interpreted by Ken Brown

This article is based on the book, Photographing HORSES, How to Capture the Perfect Equine Image by Lesli Groves. She is the former editor of America's Horse and The Quarter Horse Journal. She has taught photography at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, MT. She owns a photography/video production and consulting company in Weathford, Texas. Her simple recipe for a good horse portrait picture (with some of my editorial comments which have made this less than simple) are:

1. The horse's profile should be parallel to the sun...or the side or broad side of the horse's body you are taking a picture of should be facing the sun. The horse's shadow should be directly behind him or her. The sun should be at your back.
2. Your camera lens should be set at a telephoto setting. In digital photography, terms that would be at least a lens of 55 to 150. Shooting with a wide angle lens will distort the horse's body.
3. Select the camera to 400 ISO (ISO relates to light sensitivity, the higher the number the less light is needed, but too high a number can make the picture grainy or have "noise"). A higher ISO will help with less blurred pictures.
4. Set the shutter speed at least at 125, again helping to reduce blurring from any of the horse's movement. However, there are times that you want a shutter speed less than 125 for creative affects of blurring to show action or speed. You decide. Another suggestion is to use a good fly spray so the horse is not bothered and remove other horses that might affect the attention/movement of the horse.
5. The best light is right after sunrise or just before sun-down.
6. Look at the background for distractions like power lines, barb wire or fence posts. You can change of appear-

ance of the background by having it much darker (being in a shaded area) than the horse. The back ground will go black. Another option is to have the distractions disappear by using a small "f stop" number (a narrow depth of field causing the object to be out of focus and therefore not seen).

7. Stand 35 feet away from the horse, in line with the base of the horse's withers. Have the horse led in with all four feet showing in the picture.
8. Kneel down to get a better camera angle closer to the center of the horse.
9. Wait for the horse's ears to point forward. Or you can have an assistant out of the view of the camera doing stupid human tricks to get the horse's attention, as well as everyone else.
10. Take the picture. If you can, "bracket" the exposures by two-thirds or a full stop. In many cameras this is a function that can be set with the camera's menu. This will greatly increase your chances of having a correct or acceptable exposure.
11. The most important thing you can do is read your camera's Instruction Manual. I have had to read mine several times; after all "There is clarity in redundancy" or "Acquiring knowledge is the easy part, keeping it for more than five seconds is the hard part." Additionally, I will be donating Lesli Groves' book to the club's library so if you want the real story you can read the book.
12. Before you take the picture try to visualize what you want. When you examine your results see how close they are to what you visualized. Photography really is where you can follow your dream. Happy shooting.

Note from your Vice-President, Ken Brown:
Please think about program presentations for our monthly meetings. They should be consistent with our Mission Statement. You can reach me at my e-mail at kenbrownori@yahoo.com or if you want to chat at 207-6067. Happy trails.....

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF MISSOULA
P. O. Box 2121
Missoula, MT 59806
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2011

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____
If applying for family membership, name children under 18 and their ages.

ATTENTION!

Notice of Risks Inherent in Equine Activities!! Serious injury or even death can result from equine riding and related activities. There are risks inherent in equine activities, and these dangers or conditions that are an integral part of equine activities include but are not limited to: a) the propensity of an equine to behave in ways that may result in injury or harm or the death of persons on or around the equine; b) the unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as medication, sound, sudden movements, and unfamiliar objects; persons or other animals; c) hazards, such as surface and subsurface ground conditions; d) collisions with other equines or objects; e) the potential of another participant to not maintain control over the equine or to not act within the person's ability.

Participants in any equine activity shall act in a safe and responsible manner at all times to avoid injury to themselves and others and shall be aware of the risks inherent in equine activities.

The Back Country Horsemen of Missoula shall not be liable for injury to or the death of a participant as a result of their voluntary participation in any sponsored activity.

I certify that I have read and understand the above notice.

Signature	Date	Signature	Date
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Please let us know what type of activities you're interested in: Day Rides, Back Country Trips, Educational Clinics, etc.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Family: \$40/Year _____ New Member
Individual: \$30/Year _____ Renewal

Membership is on a calendar year basis (expires December 31st). Please make payments to Back Country Horsemen of Missoula. Any membership dues received after October 1 will be applied to the following calendar year.

MISSION STATEMENT

Perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in America's back country and wilderness. Work to ensure that public lands remain open to recreation and stock use. Assist the various agencies responsible for the maintenance and management of public lands. Educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise and sustained use of the back country resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage.

TO:

