



PONY TALES

trailridershelena@gmail.com

April 2019

Helena Trail Riders P.O. Box 4801, Helena, MT 59604

Board Meets: 5:30 p.m. monthly on the third Wednesday, this month: April 17

President: Marcia Gray, 443-2679
jambat@3riversdbs.net

Secretary: Kate Hollandsworth, 492-7206
avn7206@blackfoot.net

Directors:

Trail Rides: Chris Warren, 461-6257
dizzywarrenusa@yahoo.com

Historian: Penny Koehler, 475-3427

Public Relations

Bill Gray, 443-2679, jambat@3riversdbs.net

Social Director : Julia Curtis, 449-0360
Julia.curtis2@hughes.net

Penny Koehler: Montana Saddle Club Representative, 475-3427

Volunteers: Sharon Hopkins, Pony Tales, 459-6641; Cheryl Bryant, Web Page/Internet Business, 458-6165

Vice-President : Heather Hollandsworth, 492-7066
hmtnavy@blackfoot.net

Treasurer: Shirley Herrin, 442-8858
Shirley.herrin@gmail.com

Building and Maintenance: Caleb Blokzyl 465-7123
CBlokzyl@hotmail.com

O-Mok-See: Patsy Althof, 439-8916
o_mok_see@msn.com

Special Project Liaison: Vicky Blixt, liaison, 202-2355
tovikywho@q.com

Odd numbered months will have a membership and board meeting. Even numbered months we will have an activity and board meeting.



From our President:

Howdy Helena Trail Riders and Spring,

As I write, 4 to 8 inches of snow are predicted in higher elevations. I know it won't stay but I was so looking forward to a warm sun and green grass. Immediately.

Because of the extremely cold weather, the plumbing at the clubhouse froze. I think we now have running water but the drains are not due to thaw for another month, so says the plumber. We need to test it out before the next meeting (April 17) and give you an update. Using the rest room may entail a hike to the one in parking lot next to the previous exhibit buildings 1 and 2.

We welcome Patsy Althof as the O-Mok- See director. However, she has also been doing a lot of member recruiting. We have enrolled several previous members who have been away from Helena Trail Riders for quite some time. Welcome to them and other new members. Thank-you Patsy! I wonder if the new cost of dues helped?

Justin Stolp, who helps with our website, is running for the Helena School Board this spring. He will be a write in candidate in case you are looking for someone to support for school board. He and his wife, Stacey, are former long time HTR members.

I think I have an email inquiring if HTR would like to be parade Marshals at the stampede this summer. I have looked in several spots on the computer and can't find the email so if any of you know about this invitation, please help me out. I 'm starting to think I made it all up or dreamed it. I should have marked it somehow the first time I read it so I could find it again. (Found the e-mail, the info is included in this issue of Pony Tales - Sharon.)

Heather will again have a raffle for Stampede tickets. I won them last year and had a great time with fantastic seats. She may have more information at the April or May meetings.

Now we have proof there really is a black hole that consumes misplaced items and never returns any of them. I am just kidding, but I did think the picture of the real black hole was pretty cool.

The telephone and email have been pretty silent. Bill Gray wants input from members as to what you would like to see, hear and do at meetings. He welcomes ideas for speakers, programs, educational activities-horse related or not, whatever you have an interest in and would like to share.

Things to think about:

- Dollars for timers,
- Working the West gate during the Stampede
- Program ideas
- O-Mok-See dates, help out if possible
- Trail rides, go on several
- Cleaning tack
- Anything with your equine partner
- Enjoy the spring (when it comes) and summer

Marcia

-----Original Message-----

From: <marianhenry68@aol.com>

I have a friend who is involved with the Last Chance Stampede and he just contacted me wanting to know if the Helena Trail Riders would be interested in being the Parade Marshalls this year for the stampede. Not sure if you have done this in the past or if you would be interested. Looks like I need at least 6 riders for the parade. There ideal number would be 12. What I got from the meeting is that they pair you up as two riders and split you through the parade. If you know if anyone please have them contact me. You can call or email me.

**Marian Henry
(406) 202-8219**

Anyone with suggestions for programs or activities, please come to a meeting and share, or let a board of directors member know what you would like to see or hear about.

- Any member can contribute to the Pony Tales. For sale or wanted items and articles must be to Sharon by the 10th of each month. (trailridershelena@gmail.com)
- It is important that no Helena Trail Rider member is left out of the loop because he/she doesn't have the latest social communication device. Please let us know of any member who is not receiving the newsletter either via e-mail or by snail-mail.
- Send items you wish included in the newsletter to trailridershelena@gmail.com.

Trail Rides

No scheduled rides at this time.

Chris

If you have any questions, please call Chris Warren,461-6257. Thanks.



Soon, Spring will be here!

Tidbits

Club Contacts:

Helena Trail Riders- Vickie Blixt 202-2355
O-Mok-See Coordinator – Keith Herrin 461-3614
Gone with the Wind – Peggy Huntington 459-2161
Western Patriots- Patsy Althof 439-8916
Helena Valley Blues – Moriah Parker 202-5729

- Remember: West Arena Schedule is (exclusive use) every Tuesday and Thursday and the first Friday of the month.
- Don't forget to check on all Helena Trail Riders information posted to the website (including past copies of Pony Tales). Suggestions or corrections to Cheryl Bryant 2chalkie@gmail.com
- Join us on facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/helenatrailriders>



One thing! Anyone interested in Clinton Anderson - Gone With the Wind Saddle Club has 2 of his clinicians coming to give a clinic on April 13 & 14, if you are interested in coming and watching! Location: Skip & Maria Nyberg's farm, 5485 Canyon Ferry Road.

Peggy Huntington

Wanna be a rodeo queen? Know someone who does? Here's that chance! If you're between the ages of 18-24, can ride a horse, and live within 80 miles of Helena, you are eligible to try out for the @Miss Last Chance Stampede and Fair queen! Click here for more info: https://www.lccfairgrounds.com/last-chance-stampede/miss-last-chance-stampede-queen/?fbclid=IwAR3YL-hh8q3gxeRxp6NLtwlCg-RJbd306hPa_9m8pyvklE0Oqr84tyPOOnQ



Spring is finally here – a very welcome change in seasons for those who’ve had a rough winter. This is the perfect time to give your stable, pasture and your horse a good spring cleaning.

What is the most important task on your spring cleaning checklist? Is it’s repairing damage in the stables? Or preparing for the return of mosquitos? Or maybe it’s cleaning out your grooming products and replenishing supply.

Set aside a few days once the ground has thawed and the weather has warmed to thoroughly clean what has been affected by the harsh winter. Make sure your horses are out of the barn before beginning your cleaning.

Spring Cleaning the Stable

Clean all stalls – remove all mats and bedding, thoroughly clean the interior and let it dry completely.

Check for doors and walls that may need repairs.

Organize grooming supplies.

Clean, inspect and repair or replace all tack.

Make sure you have working fire extinguishers easily accessible.

Address any drainage problems.

Implement fly control method of choice.

Spring Cleaning the Pasture

Check for hazards – tree roots, exposed pipes, poisonous plants and debris

Check fence for damage and repair if needed.

Address drainage problems to prevent standing water – which is a perfect mosquito breeding ground.

Apply fertilizer.

Spring Cleaning Your Horse

Make sure you are up to date with annual vaccinations, deworming schedules and other general health concerns.

Help your horse shed their winter coat with a shedding blade.

Body clip if necessary.

Call the farrier for routine hoof trimming.

Have your horse's teeth checked.

Thoroughly bathe your horse, giving the mane and tail special attention – Detangle and condition to help combat any damage dry winter air has done to the mane and tail.



shutterstock.com • 1175098621