



BILLINGS SADDLE CLUB

Alkali Creek Road, PO BOX 385 Billings, Montana 59103

April 2006

Happy  Easter!

2006 BOARD MEMBERS

President	Pat Cole	962-3002	
Past President	Josie Skibstad	373 6524	jskibstad@imt.net
1 st Vice President (Membership)	Susan Malmstrom	373-6736	suem@tbems.com
2 nd Vice President (Horse Activities)	James Sorlie	259-9995	sorlie@imt.net
3 rd Vice President (Social Activities)	Nancy Bjelland	373-0045	Nancy_Bjelland@blm.gov
Corresponding Secretary	Polly Namen	33-9400	
Recording Secretary	Maria Schillinger	670-8785	
Treasurer	Doris Gillespie	656-9977 or 861-9977	
3 Year Director	Sandie Green	373-9029	sam7sell@yahoo.com
2 Year Director	Debbie Magilke	252-7638	ddmag@imt.net
1 Year Director	Sue Schwend	445-2436 or 670-8028	
One-Day Horse Shows	Beth Anderson	671-7522	anderart@180com.net
Stirrup Editor	Polly Namen	633-9400	
Gate Combination	5555 (will be 2222 after April 4/22)		
Club Website	www.billingsaddleclub.org (for access to member restricted area, enter "member" and "2222")		

The May Board meeting will be held Monday, May 1 2006 @ 6pm at the clubhouse. All BSC members are always welcome to attend.

Quotables: “I’ve discovered that the horse is life itself, a metaphor but also an example of life’s mystery and unpredictability, of life’s generosity and beauty, a worthy object of repeated and ever changing contemplation”author Jane Smiley

MEMBERSHIP

Membership applications received:

*Kerry & Eva Schaff 690 Cushman Road Lavina, MT 59046 667-2155. Kerry is a farmer/rancher and Eva is a teacher.

Children: Carly (1997) and Rodney (2000).

*Jack & Beth Oswald RR1 – Box 45 I Broadview, MT 59015 667-2146. Jack is a truck driver and Beth is an Administrative Associate.

Children: Ciara Fandek 1/25/91, Amberli Oswald 1/31/98, Gus Oswald 6/28/00.

*Mike Sartorie 1916 Hawthorne Lane Billings, MT 59105 245-9599. Mike is a farmer. Children: Jordyn 6/23/00.

*Rema & Bill Schelm 2606 Alkali Creek Road Billings, MT 59105 254-7271.

*Heidi L. Pfosch PO Box 81313 Billings, MT 59108 670-2547 Heidi is a land surveyor for the BLM

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!!!!!!!!!! This is it – duty is calling – our club workday is scheduled for 9am on April 22 and 23 and WE NEED YOU to be there, with your gloves and shovels and hammers and tamping bars. We’ll feed you PIZZA! See you there....

SHARE THE WEALTH Please let the STIRRUP editor (Polly Namen) know of *any information or events* that our other members might be interested in knowing about. The more informed we are, the better horsemen we have the opportunity to be!!!

Please share your email address with us If you didn’t receive the March and April STIRRUP via email, we don’t have your email address. Using email where we can will save the club a lot of money in copying and postage costs!

HORSE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR 2006			
April 17***	Horse Show Organizational Mtg 7pm	June 19	Rainout date
April 21 & 22	Barrel Clinic w/ Shirlee Parini	June 25	Summer Trail Ride tba
April 22 & 23	Workday 9am (PIZZA lunch)	June 30	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 7pm
April 23	Fun O-Mok-See 2pm	July 2	Horse Show 9am
April 29 & 30	BSC Barrel Race	July 7	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 7pm
May 3	Jackpot Barrel Race 6pm	July 8 & 9	BIG SKY STATE GAMES 9am
May 6	Hairy Horse Show		
May 7	Clinic & Open O-Mok-See 10am	July 16-21	National O-Mok-See @ Gillette, WYO (www.omoksee.com)
May 10	Jackpot Barrel Race 6pm	July 28	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 7pm
May 14	Spring Trail Ride tba	August 6	Horse Show 9am
May 17	Jackpot Barrel Race 6pm	August 11	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 7pm
May 21	Open O-MOK-SEE 2pm	August 20	Rainout date
May 29	Open O-MOK-SEE 2pm	August 27	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 2pm
June 2	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 7pm	Sept 2 & 3	State O-MOK-SEE @ Cut Bank
June 3 & 4***	Horse Show Clinic	Sept 10	Horse Show 9 am
June 11***	Horse Show 9am	Sept 17	Memorial O-MOK-SEE 2pm
June 16	Intra-Club O-MOK-SEE 7pm	Sept 24	Fall Trail Ride tba

***There will be a **horse show organizational meeting** with Jim Sorlie and Beth Anderson on April 17th @ 7pm at the clubhouse. **Please attend** and help get the show season planning off to a great start with your input!!

A "State of the Club" message from your President, Pat Cole.....

Hello BSC Members!

Wow! We are already into April – how fast the tail end of winter went. Now we can all look ahead to being in the great outdoors, seeing friends and starting to get our faithful horses in tip top shape! I know that our horses here at home have had quite an easy winter. They got out of running with Muri and Alex in the Winter Series and have really pounded up. They may have even gained more weight than me..... (yeah right!). Remember to take it easy on them and yourselves for awhile.

My knee is recovering super. What an experience that was. For those of you who have had ACL replacements, I now know what you went through. It was amazing to me how easily the ligaments in the joints can be damaged. I relate this to you because in the conditioning of your horses this Spring, always remember that the potential for equine injury is tenfold at least if you neglect to take the time to warm up your horses. I, for one, will try to practice what I preach! I am truly honored to represent the Billings Saddle Club as President. Thank you for this opportunity! I am looking forward to seeing all of you again, meeting some new friends and to sharing a great riding season! ~ Pat

Branding Etiquette (taken from the eclectic horseman)

(or, How to be safe, and get invited back next year....)

Here are many unspoken rules to the tradition of gathering and branding calves at seasonal spring brandings. Horseman Buck Brannaman offers some suggestions to help keep everyone safe and your horse and cattle happy.



Gathering

- Riding in ahead of the boss is disrespectful.
- When you are given an area to gather in go exactly where you are told. Do not cross over into another rider's area. If you didn't come back from the gather or if your horse fell or bucked you off, the boss needs to know exactly where to go look for you.
- Never assume that you are going to rope. When you arrive, step off your horse and keep him out of the way. Help with whatever needs to be done to get set up on the ground first. It's a good idea to have your horse hobble broke so that he's not in the way and doesn't upset things.
- Watch everyone else, be where you can be of help and keep from getting in the way.
- Wait for the boss to tell you to get your rope; wait for the invitation. The easiest roping is at the beginning when the cattle are fresh. Toward the end of the branding when they have figured out what is going on, they will be more difficult. Most times the boss will select a mix of weak and strong ropers to be in the pen together so that there will always be a flow of calves coming to the fire. *Continued.....*

Roping

- Never lope your horse in the branding pen.
- When taking your shot, consider where the calf is going to go. You don't want to get another roper in trouble. It's a lot like a game of pool. You consider where the cue ball is going to end up after your shot.
- If your horse is not in a good position to get to the fire, don't take the shot.
- Watch out for your fellow ropers. If you are making plans to take a shot but notice that a nearby roper is not looking your way or aware of what is going on, pass up the shot.
- Never ride in front of a fellow roper; move to where there is an empty spot in the branding pen.
- Help set up shots. Good hands know that as the branding goes on, the calves that were missed earlier in the day will be harder to catch. You can help set up a shot by getting the calves to move from left to right in front of a roper so that he can get a flank shot.
- There are some good hands who use a team rope style of roping and use a rubber horn. I prefer a slick horn because you can be easier on both your horse and cattle by tapering pressure on and off by slipping rope. With rubber on the horn, the pressure is either on all the way or off, and there is no give. I've seen some calves really stretched out by a header and heeler. With a slick horn if your horse backed up too much and was going to put too much tension on rope, you could slip a little rope over your horn and save the calf. This is not to say that just having a slick horn makes a good roper, because if you don't know how to use it and take 5 wraps, you aren't helping your horse or the cattle.
- If I'm on a young horse, I will always set up my shot facing the fire. That way I'm not always having to whirl them around to drag the calf. It keeps them good mentally and prevents them from getting too worn out.
- A good roper will know how to stalk the cattle by leg yielding and keeping a slow pace so that he can set his shot up without scattering the calves all over the pen.

Dragging

- The best ground crews are ones that are the best horsemen. Many times the ground crews don't know enough to get out of the way of the roper who is dragging the calf to them. It can be a scary experience for a horse, and the crew should get out of the way of the man on the horse and let him ride past, then converge on the calf and do their work.

Classified Advertisements

FOR SALE: CircleY flex-lite *barrel saddle*, roughout and tooling, dropped rigging for freedom of movement and close contact, 14" green suede padded seat, a good-looking saddle. Truly like new – hardly used, daughter no longer needs. \$1000 OBO (is \$1400 new). Call Polly at 633-9400 for more information or to view/try.

FOR SALE: Women's size 6 ½ custom-made bull-hide boots Al's Bootery Nocona. Brand new, never worn. \$200 value would like \$100. Call Sandie at 373-9029 or 697-0577.

FOR RENT: (Information via Kitty Sorlie) 10 acres of summer pasture near Fromberg. Contact Doug and Joan Maier at 668-7575.

If you have (or someone you know has) horses, tack, trucks, trailers or any other horse related equipment **for sale** (or **wanted** items) that would interest our membership, contact the STIRRUP editor (Polly Namen 633-9400) with your ad information.

QUOTABLES: "All equestrians, if they stick to it long enough, learn that riding in whatever form is a lifelong sport and art, an endeavor that is both familiar and new every time you take the horse out of his pasture or stall" ~ author Jane Smiley

MEETING MINUTES – March board meeting

The Billings Saddle Club Board meeting was called to order by Sue Malmstrom, on March 6th, 2006 at 6pm.

Present: Maria Schillinger, Nancy Bjelland, Sue Schwend, Sue Malmstrom, Polly Namen, Jim Sorlie, Debbie Magilke, Doris Gillespie

Guests: Cindy Sundheim, Lori Trafford, Judy Kirkland

Minutes: The February 2006 minutes were read. Sue Malmstrom motioned to accept the minutes as corrected and Sue Schwend seconded the motion. The board approved.

Treasurer's Report: Doris Gillespie presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2006. No outstanding bills. Sue Schwend motioned to accept the report and Maria Schillinger seconded the motion. The board approved.

Correspondence: Polly Namen presented correspondence. BSC received information regarding the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Horse Activities: Jim Sorlie presented horse activities. There has been a lot of interest in the April barrel racing clinic.

Membership: Polly Namen motioned to approve the membership for Teri and Gary Davis. Nancy Bjelland seconded the motion. The board approved.

Social activities: No report.

Rentals: Debbie Magilke went over the rental schedule. The clubhouse is still available for the month of June.

Stirrup: Please contact Polly Namen with any events or ads to be published in the Stirrup.

New Business: The Boots & Britches 4-H club presented its request to ride Monday evenings from 6 to 8. The 4-H club has reserved the lower arena for their BSC members from June through September.

Unfinished Business: The Wild Horse Adoption will not be taking place this year. Contracts are ready for the Tryan and YRS rentals. The Big Sky State Games O-Mok-See has been approved, per use of helmets. There will be a total of eight games.

Director Reports: No report.

Announcements: The next Billings Saddle Club Board meeting will be Monday, April 3rd, 2006 at the BSC clubhouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Schillinger

O-MOK-SEE CLINIC It's not very often in life that we get a chance to **learn from the best.**

But, here you go! Our very own Sue Malmstrom (my personal hero) will conduct an O-MOK-SEE clinic on May 7th at 10am. Those of you that are new to our world may not know that Sue has been an O-MOK-SEE **state and national champion and record holder**, repeatedly, year after year, her whole life. She is the stuff legends are made of, and planted right here in our midst! This is an unbelievable opportunity for those of you that truly want to "learn how" from a remarkable horsewoman.

The clinic will be followed immediately by an open O-MOK-SEE at 2pm.

ATTENTION PARENTS/ADULTS – There will be instruction on how to set up the arena (lane marking, timers, sound system, lights, measuring, etc) for O-MOK-SEEs from 1-2 in the upper arena. Please **attend this session** so you will be prepared when **your** turn comes around this year to produce an O-MOK-SEE!

Another resource for you...visit <http://omoksee.org/patterns/patterns.html> for info on patterns.

"The Old Kid Horse" by HD Sloan

Two years ago I turned him out
He got too old to ride
He wasn't with the bunch today
That's how I knew he died
I rode up on the highest hill
The wind was cold and keen
From there I saw him lying dead
Down in a deep ravine

The kids had learned to ride on him
Together they had fun
He always brought them back from school
Through snow, or rain, or sun
If they fell off he'd wait for them
He didn't seem to care
How much they thumped him in the ribs
Or hung on by his hair

I rode up close to say goodbye
A horse like him is rare
And something seemed to fill my throat
To see him lying there
I wish now I had kept him in...
He'd wintered out enough
His teeth were gone, he was too old
The winter was too rough

And as I sat there looking down
On those old legs so trim
I thought of all the miles they went
Of how we'd trusted him
A horse to me is like a man
We're both the same inside
The qualities we like in men
Within the horse abide

I knew I'd have to tell the boys
Their friend had passed away
To where he'd be a colt again
With other kids to play
And so I thought as I rode on
With eyes a little dim
A boy would make a better man
Who'd had a pal like him

BILLINGS SADDLE CLUB

BARREL RACES

Stockman Bank



PPL MONTANA

APRIL 29 & 30, 2006

Entries Close: 11:30 a.m.



LUCKY DRAW PRIZES

Same Schedule Each Day

9:30 a.m.	Arena Open for General Riding	
11:00 a.m.	Time Only Runs	\$5.00
Not before Noon	STOCKMAN BANK WPRA DIVISIONAL TOUR (\$200 Added) Entries close 1/2 hour before start	\$45.00
	OPEN 4D BARRELS (\$200 Added)	\$35.00
	YOUTH 3D BARRELS (Under 18)	\$15.00
	OPEN 3D POLE BENDING	\$20.00
	Stalls – Call if coming in before 4/28/06, facilities are locked. Bring sawdust	\$10/night

Splits: 4D: Fast Time, FT+.5, FT+1, FT+2 (17.5, 18, 18.5, 19.5)

3D: Fast Time, FT+1, FT+2 (17.5; 18.5; 19.5)

Payoffs: 4D: 1D: 35%; 2D: 30%; 3D 20%; 4D: 15%

3D: 1D: 50%; 2D: 30%; 3D: 20%

Arena Location: 756 E Alkali Creek Road
Billings, MT

Info: Sue Malmstrom (406) 373-6736

Sponsors:

Bill's Custom Leather
Law Dog Hat
Pierce Home & RV
Deck The Walls
City Brew
Platinum Performance

Lockwood Auto & Truck
Lou Taubert Ranch Outfitters
Towe, Ball, Enright, Mackey &
Sommerfeld, PLLP
Denny Menholt Chevrolet
Al's Bootery

Cooper Tools
Boothill Inn & Suites
Carol Hagan Studios
Bear Mountain Silversmiths
Dr. Vicki Bokum, DVM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT JACKPOTS

BILLINGS SADDLE CLUB

756 E ALKALI CREEK ROAD
BILLINGS, MONTANA



MAY 3, 2006

MAY 10, 2006

MAY 17, 2006

May 24, 2006 (Rain Out Date Only)

Time Only Barrel Runs - \$5.00 (2006 BSC Member \$3.00)

Open 3D Poles (\$10.00 to Jackpot) \$15 Entry Fee

Open 3D Barrels (\$15.00 to Jackpot) \$20 Entry Fee

Splits: 3D: Fast Time, FT+1, FT+2 (17.5; 18.5; 19.5)

Enter @ 6:00 pm, Poles at 6:30 p.m. Followed by Time Only Runs & Barrels

Gate Opens at 5:30 p.m.

Grounds close 9:30 p.m.



More Info: Sue @ 373-6736