

# Southwest Cairn

Marking the trails for our members



## From the Presidents Saddle



The marijuana meeting went well and we had a good attendance. Lots of interesting stuff was discussed and it is great that the grows are declining in numbers; as a result of good policing and the publics help. (see story on pages 4 & 5)

I am sure everyone is happy that it is warming up and wishing it would stay like this through the summer, we can dream can't we? Hope you will be saddling up and joining us on our up coming chapter rides. The next one at Gooseberry Mesa is a pretty ride and well worth the trailer ride getting

there.

There are work projects to be thinking about. First will be fixing up the corrals at the equestrian campground in Pine Valley which will be just before the memorial day weekend. Next will be our annual clean-up of the White Rocks trail in June. I am sure other projects will pop-up as we go along.

Since we have had such a wet winter be aware of the potential for muddy trails and even quicksand in rivers and streams. Riding on muddy trails can do a lot of damage to the trail and unsafe to ride in places, so be careful and thoughtful.

Happy Trails,

Paul



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**April 11th 6:30PM**  
**Community Building**  
**See Page 7 for details**

**Monthly Ride!**

**April 8th**  
Gooseberry Mesa

**May 13th**  
Confluence Park



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**April 11th**

**Potluck and meeting at  
the Community Bldg  
6:30PM**

**BCH Ride at Snow Canyon**  
March 11, 2016  
By  
Paul Sloane

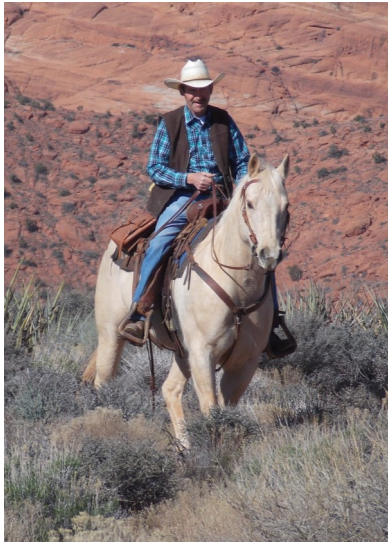
Spring has sprung and 14 riders arrived on a beautiful day at the Snow Canyon overlook to enjoy a short ride in the canyon and a burger burn which followed at the overlook. The riders today were: DeAnn Fieselman, Rick Tabet, Vic & Jan Middleton, David & Judith Mayfield, Larry & Freddy Dunn, Paul & Alice Sloane, Ann Hirschi-Boden, Richard Boschee, Keith Christensen, and Larry Bell.

As would be expected some of the horses that have been cooped up in muddy corrals were anxious to hit the trail and stride out. That can make the start of the ride a little more exciting but soon everyone settled down and the ride went beautifully. Even after nearly fourteen years with the BCH I am still surprised at the places I haven't been and the Snow Canyon Overlook trail is one of them. It is a longer ride from the parking area to the north entrance of the park than I expected but with great views of the park and it was well worth it. I have always enjoyed the ride from the north entrance down into the park as you weave through the trees along the great white formations in and out of ravines and arrive on a plateau overlooking the views of the park from above. We continued on dropping in elevation until we came upon the lava tubes which are very popular with the park visitors who hike in from the road inside the park. It was at this point that everyone decided to head back as their lips were tasting the burgers already. The return ride provides views from a different perspective and it seems like it is not the same place that you just rode through going down.

We had set up the tables and assembled the grill before leaving for the ride so we could get right to cookin' and servn' once everyone got their mounts undressed. A 10'x10' pop-up shade cover went up and folks were claiming their spots in the shade. My daughter Sherri Phillips and her husband Carl arrived with their two boys Nathanael and Bradley to help with the burger burn. Everyone brought a side dish of some sort so there was plenty to eat and we all had a great time visiting. It was a good day to be on a horse and enjoying the spring weather.

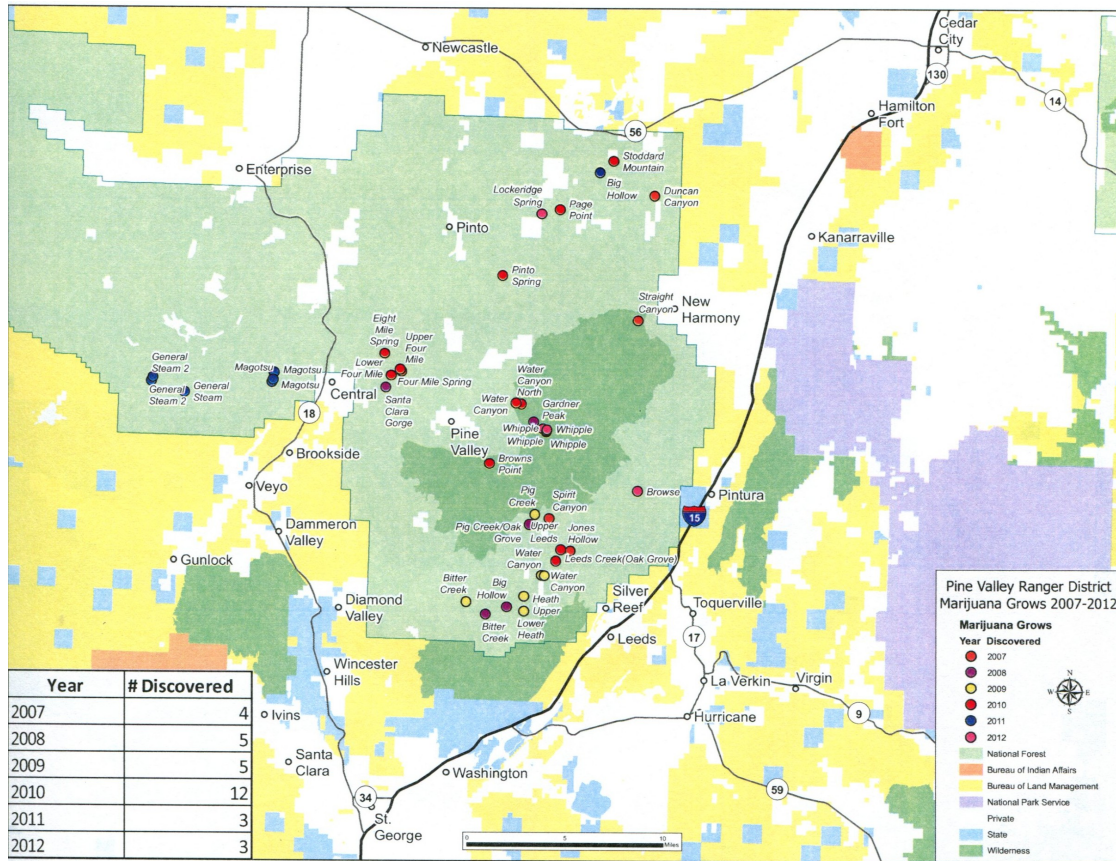








## Marijuana Grows within Pine Valley Ranger District



The following is some information that we learned from John Ball, Special Agent, US Dept of Agriculture, Forest Service, Dixie Nat'l Forest at our March 14th chapter meeting with some 30 members and guests in attendance.

There are a number of grows that we all should be aware of from Indoor grows in houses or buildings generally from 1 to 500 plants to the Drug Traffickers Organization (DTO) grows that have from 1,000 to 125,000 plants per grow. The latter is what we would most likely come in contact with in the mountains we ride. Grows need water sun, and a remote location. Gravity fed 3/4" pipe can be 3 miles long.

The growers have three teams to operate a grow. 1) Scouts who find a suitable location for a grow. 2) workers who live on site of the grow through the life of the harvest. 3) Lunch makers who continually supply the workers with food and supplies while the grow is in operation.

### Things we can look for:

- Unfamiliar vehicles parked in remote areas with water resources.
- People attempting to conceal themselves
- Not clothed or wearing gear unusual for the area
- Unfamiliar vehicle returning to the same area several times
- Appears that they have been in the woods for some time
- Wearing Camo
- If you contact them they may be asking for directions or food and water

- Unusual tire tracks
- Dropping people off and driving away
- 3/4" polyethylene pipe
- Water reservoirs
- Trash
- Large amounts of food
- Bags of Fertilizer or chemicals
- Little candy wrappers on the trail

**What you should do:**

- Pay attention to vehicles, get license plate numbers and vehicle description if it is safe to do so.
- Use GPS if you have one
- Don't touch or take anything
- Take pictures
- Remember what you saw and where you saw it.
- Don't linger
- Don't return
- **Call John at 435-680-4732**

The amount of grows have been greatly reduced since 2010 when 12 grows were discovered in the Pine Valley Ranger District due largely to increased law enforcement and concerned citizens like you.

**Why Should we care?**

- Each marijuana plant requires 1—5 gallons of water per day and that is a lot of water not reaching our streams and lakes.
- Each plant uses 1—5 pounds of plant fertilizer, plus human waste which ends up flowing down stream and contaminating our water resources.
- Most every grow that has been cleaned up fills 3 –4 dump truck loads with trash including car batteries, propane tanks, sleeping & cooking supplies, tarps for shelter, plastic bags, boxes and miles of polyethylene pipe. They carry everything in on their backs and carry nothing out but their harvest.



United States Department of the Interior  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
CEDAR BREAKS NATIONAL MONUMENT  
2390 W. HWY 56, Suite 11  
Cedar City, Utah 847209



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
L7615

February 16, 2017

Dear Interested Party,

The National Park Service (NPS) provides a variety of planning and environmental documents to help guide management of park projects. The Planning, Environment, & Public Comment (PEPC) website allows the public to select active NPS projects around the nation and participate in the planning process, including projects at Cedar Breaks National Monument (CEBR). The PEPC website can be easily accessed online at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/>.

Currently, the majority of CEBR project notifications are being delivered by post. Beginning March 16, 2017, the park will be transferring to an electronic platform to distribute correspondence regarding park projects and associated compliance documents. E-mail will be the primary method used to expedite communications with those individuals interested in learning more about ongoing projects at CEBR.

In receipt of this letter, you are currently on the CEBR mailing list. At this time, we are inviting individuals interested in receiving notifications via email to send a response to [Zion\\_Group\\_Project\\_Compliance@nps.gov](mailto:Zion_Group_Project_Compliance@nps.gov) and request placement on the e-mail list. Please enter "Electronic PEPC Communications" in the subject line and include: 1) your first and last name, 2) mailing address, and 3) e-mail address. Should you prefer to continue receiving notifications via post please submit a written request to:

Compliance Specialist – Shauna Ertolacci  
Attn: CEBR Electronic Communications  
1 Zion Park Blvd.  
State Route 9  
Springdale, UT 84767

Please note, if we do not receive a response from you by March 16, 2017 regarding your preferred communication method, your name and contact information will be removed from all mailing lists regarding Cedar Breaks National Monument projects and compliance.

If you have any additional questions please contact Shauna Ertolacci at (435)-722-0144 or by email at [Zion\\_Group\\_Project\\_Compliance@nps.gov](mailto:Zion_Group_Project_Compliance@nps.gov).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Paul Roelandt  
Superintendent, Cedar Breaks National Monument



# Calendar of Events

## CHAPTER MEETINGS :

- April 11th—St. George Community Bldg. 6:30pm; Potluck 7:00pm

## DON'T FORGET TO BRING SOMETHING FOR OUR MEETING:

**Come and participate in our decisions for the chapter!**



## CHAPTER RIDES: Every 2nd Saturday of each month (unless specified otherwise)

- April 8th—Gooseberry Mesa (Apple Valley) In the Saddle 10:00AM, bring lunch—Great views of Zion Park mountains.  
**Directions:** Take SR 9 off I-15 east to Hurricane. At the east end of Hurricane turn right on 100E, then left on SR 59 to Kanab/Lake Powell, travel 12 miles to the Gas station in Apple Valley, continue for 2-2 1/2 miles and turn left on dirt road. Follow BCH signs to parking area
- May 13th—Confluence Park



**REMEMBER:** Dogs are only permitted on leashes in the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve and in Snow Canyon. We as Back Country Horsemen must set the example, so we thank you in advance for your compliance with the rules.

## Hat of the Month!

Sported by: DeAnn Fieselman



## Chapter contacts

**President:** Paul Sloane 888-8919  
psloane@infowest.com

**Vice President:** Vic Middleton 879-9597  
vicjan@skyviewmail.com

**Secretary:** Jeanette Blasdell 818-415-1305  
jzblasdell@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Freddy Dunn 652-4892  
freddydunn@gmail.com

**Newsletter:** Paul Sloane 888.8919  
psloane@infowest.com

**Rides:** Roshelle Bromley 313-7518  
romanrider@gmail.com

**Website:** www.bchu.com—Click on Southwest link

Back Country Horsemen of Utah



Southwest Chapter Newsletter  
P.O. Box 3174  
St. George, UT 84771

**The Purpose of the Back Country Horsemen of Utah is:**

1. To perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses and mules in America's back country and wilderness.
2. To work to ensure the public lands remain open to recreational pack and saddle stock use.
3. To assist the agencies responsible for the management of public lands.
4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in wise and sustaining use of back country resources by horsemen and the general public, commensurate with our heritage.
5. To foster and encourage the formation of new chapters of Back Country Horsemen throughout Utah.

To:

**BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OF UTAH—Southwest Chapter**

PO Box 3174, St. George, UT 84771

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

New Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME/S: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please list names for family membership. Children over 18 may be included in family membership or join as individual members.

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE NUMBERS:**

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER HORSE/MULE ASSOCIATIONS YOU BELONG TO:**

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Liability Release: (MUST BE SIGNED)**

Recognizing the fact that there is a potential for an accident wherever horse/mule use is involved, which can cause injuries to horses/mules, riders and spectators and also recognizing the fact that Back Country Horsemen of Utah, including units, officers, directors, or members cannot always know the condition of trails or the experience of riders or horses/mules taking part in trail rides or other BCHU functions, I do hereby release the above named from any claim or right for damages which might occur to me, my minor children or horses/mules.

By signing this release, I/WE recognize the following Utah State Law, \*UCA 78-27b\* Limitations on liability for Equine and Livestock Activities \* It shall be presumed that participants in equine or livestock activities are aware of and understand that there are inherent risks associated with these activities. \*Inherent risk\* with regard to equine or livestock activities means those dangers or conditions, which are an integral part of equine or livestock activities. The equine activity sponsor is not liable for those inherent risks. If you are unwilling to assume these risks for yourself or for those under your supervision, you should not participate in these activities.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO BCHU: Individual: \$30.00; Family: \$40.00; Patron: \$100.00