

Southwest Cairn

Marking the trails for our members



From the Presidents Saddle



Well, here we are at the end of 2020, a tumultuous year for our chapter, and our nation. We can only hope that next year will bring us back together on the trail again, and there are projects to be done.

Personally, I really missed having our annual Dutch Oven Dinner and Auction, it is a great time to break bread together and get to know one another at a different level.

Having said all that we need to focus on moving forward and putting the pieces back together. At the top of the list is our membership. If you

have not already renewed now is the time to do so. If you are so able, we can use contributions to the chapter to help fund our projects and make up for the loss of revenue from the auction.

Equally important is the election of officers for our chapter. In our November newsletter Lin Hokana wrote a great piece on the importance of serving as an officer in the chapter. Let us know if you would like to utilize your skills in one of our elected positions. We will be holding our elections next month, format yet to be decided.

In the mean time have a Happy and Joyous Holiday season.

Happy trails,

Paul

NO MEETING



Monthly Ride!

No Rides Scheduled

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NO
Meeting at the Commu-
nity Bldg



Search for Britton Kelsey

Friday evening residents of Dammeron Valley received an automated message from the Washington County Sheriffs' office about a 15-year old boy missing at Red Mountain. Soon after that I received a call from a Dammeron Valley Fire Department volunteer, asking about getting search assistance on horseback. Arrangements were made and Freddy Dunn sent an email blast to our members asking those able to help to meet between 7 and 7:30 AM Saturday morning at Red Mountain trailhead.

It was 22 degrees F as I left Dammeron with my mare, but temps rose as the sun revealed itself. New member of our chapter Kathy McGann, Deja and Sierra Schweitzer and Steve Julian arrived and we five were dispatched to the southern trails to search for the missing hiker. It was now pushing 18 hours missing. Our routes were quite away from where the family had hiked and son went missing and had not been searched by the numerous volunteer hikers and county search and rescue teams. Horses covered the areas within 4 hours and helped eliminate those sections as possible locations.

Additional riders came after we started; Aaron, Matt and Jason McArthur plus Ty and Drew Wilcox. I did not get to meet them and don't know what assistance they provided. Thank you for coming out.

It was an amazing turn out of volunteer help that hiked and searched where Britton had last been seen. A lot of Search and Rescue members were out on ATV's and UTV's. As we finished at about noon, Search and Rescue had a lead with footsteps they were pursuing, helicopter included. By about 4:30 PM Britton had been found in good shape and returned to his family. In the end, that's what matters. The young man will have quite a story to tell over his lifetime. His family expressed their appreciation for having horses help that day. I'm glad we were able to have a very minor role in that story.

Happy trails...



BCHU State Meeting Minutes
23 Nov 2020
Via Zoom

Chapters not represented

High Uintah
Central
Uintah Basin

Chairman statement

Daniels Chapter – awaiting further contact

How are chapters dealing with the current pandemic and what can be done to keep them going?
Discussion between attendees showed all chapters proceeding with caution but still viable

Vice Chairman

Volunteer hours reporting – All chapters please start gathering and if possible loading via web form. Send non-web form entries to Richard Webb

Treasurer (Bev)

Expenses and income statement presented and approved

Data needs for BCHA- phone numbers and join dates as previously announced plus election of officers
please report new officers to BCHU State officers

Newsletter online or by mail will be a choice

Membership - maintaining and increasing how membership – make this a priority

Secretary (Craig)

PO Box Cancelled - New address is on website application

Scam Reimbursement alert – Be aware

LNT Virtual Training -Contact Craig Allen if interested in virtual awareness presentation

Public Lands (Rod)

-Equestrian Campground issues

-E-bikes

GAOA

Chainsaw training – (Peter Warnick)

Forest Service is approving an extension on training

Planned training?

Officer's election

Nomination for state positions Wayne and Richard will stand for election next year. (Jan 2021 meeting)

Reporting new chapter officers please get the word to BCHU webmaster

Next meeting will be in January via Zoom

November 2020 EC call

Public Lands & Recreation Update

S. 1695 – “Bikes in Wilderness” Bill

Coordinated a response by BCHA and allies prior to a Senate Natural Resources (ENR) Committee hearing that included S. 1695, the “Human-Powered Travel in Wilderness Areas Act.” Authored and submitted BCHA testimony in opposition to the bill; co-authored and submitted testimony in opposition of the bill by a coalition of regional and national trail organizations affiliated with the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS). Worked with BCH Alaska on their submittal of testimony opposing S. 1695 to ENR Chairman Lisa Murkowski.

Great American Outdoors Act – Implementation

Conducted a webinar for BCHA member on how to influence GAOA spending by the US Forest Service at the local level in order to facilitate the deferred maintenance of trails, etc., important to horsemen in Fiscal Years 2022 through 2025.

Non-Equestrian use of Horse Camps

Brought the issue of people without stock occupying equestrian campsites on national forest lands before American Horse Council’s (AHC’s) Recreation, Trails and Land Use Committee. The committee voted unanimously to recommend to AHC’s Board of Directors that AHC lend assistance in BCHA’s search for solutions to resolving the issue.

Electric Bikes and the Lincoln NF

Crafted “pre-decisional objections” that were submitted by BCH New Mexico in response to a Draft Decision Notice for a trails plan in the Lincoln National Forest. Despite our victory in moving the Lincoln NF to reverse its proposal to allow e-Bike use among the non-motorized trail system, the filing of objections will guarantee BCH New Mexico a “seat at the table” in the forthcoming objections resolution process. Should other parties attempt to negotiate the e-Bike ban, BCH New Mexico will have an opportunity to voice support for the decision by the Forest Service.

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail – Foundation Document

Represented BCHA as part of an inter-organizational and inter-disciplinary team during six 3-hour virtual workshops to craft a “Foundation Document” for the PCT. The Document will serve as the underlying guidance for administration and planning decisions related to the PCT. It will describe the core mission of the trail by identifying the trail’s purpose, significance, fundamental and other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. The primary advantage for an agency—in this case, the US Forest Service—to develop a foundation document is that it provides a framework for the agencies (USFS, NPS, BLM, etc.) to integrate and coordinate all types and levels of planning and decision making from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the trail.

Calendar of Events

CHAPTER MEETINGS :

No meetings Scheduled



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

No rides scheduled



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: **Santa**



Chapter contacts

President: Paul Sloane	632-7642 psloane@infowest.com
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Secretary: Jeanette Blasdell	818-415-1305 jzblasdell@gmail.com
Treasurer: Freddy Dunn	862-6181 freddydunn@gmail.com
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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