



Southwest Cairn

Marking the trails for our members



From the Presidents Saddle



This years annual Dutch Oven dinner Auction & elections for 2017 officers pretty much brought the 2016 year to a close. We had a packed house once again and enjoyed Fred Ybrights Dutch Oven delights and catered fixin's for dinner. Alice Sloane did a great job of decorating the tables, Freddy Dunn kept track of the auction items sold and collecting membership dues.

First up was a presentation made by Joe Rechsteiner, Pine Valley District Ranger USFS to Shane Christenson for Shane's dedication and work done maintaining trails in the Pine Valley mountains. Next up was a brief business meeting when elections for 2017 officers was

conducted. Elected were: Paul Sloane, President; Vick Middleton, Vice President; Jeanette Blasdel, Secretary; Freddy Dunn, Treasurer.

After dinner Mike Duvall started off as auctioneer and was later joined by Dennis Peters who is a professional auctioneer, they did a great job auctioning off 63 items donated by members and local businesses. We took in \$1,324.50 and had \$664.47 in expenses giving us \$659.03 for projects this year

We were especially pleased to welcome Fourteen new BCH members who joined this evening. They are: Shane Christensen, Rick & Virginia Olofson, Ron Johnson, Hallie & Roger Meyer, Ann Guhman, Aron Broadhead, Dennis & Susan Hansen, Corie & Tom Craig, Gary & Robyn Jenson.

It was a great evening and thank you to everyone who attended and to those of you who pitched in on setting up and taking down the room.

Paul



NEXT MEETING:

January 10th 6:30PM
Community Building
See Page 7 for details



January 14th Elephant Arch.

February ride to be announced



Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Dinner/Auction & Elections	2 3,4
Snow Canyon road restrictions	5
Meeting Minutes	6
Calendar—Hat of the month	7
Membership Application	8
	7

January 10th

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

2016 DUTCH OVEN DINNER/AUCTION



Table Decorations By Alice Sloane



Checking in with Freddy Dunn



Joe Rechsteiner District Ranger USFS (Right) presenting award to Shane Christensen for his service to the USFS



Dinner





Our two Auctioneers Mike Duval and Dennis Peters did a great job!



Check out the Maui Jim Sun Glasses



Vanessa modeling a poncho



Snow Canyon State Park Road Restrictions

Ivins –Snow Canyon State Park will begin a \$1 million dollar road improvement project January 3, 2017 with an expected completion date of January 31, 2017. When finished, 1.5-miles of park road from the Upper Galoot parking lot north to SR-18 will be expanded by four-feet on both sides of the road; providing safer passage for walkers and cyclists using the upper canyon. In addition, the entire road through the park will be resurfaced with a 2-inch asphalt overlay.

“We are thrilled this plan has been funded and is moving forward,” Kristen Comella, Snow Canyon State Park Manager, said. “This project has been our top priority for many years. Thanks to input from our Citizen Advisory Team, the Snow Canyon Joint Management Committee, and support from the Utah State Legislature, we were able to secure funding from the Utah State Parks restricted fund. The finished product will be a great enhancement for park visitors and partner events such as the Ironman 70.3 St. George.”

During construction portions of Snow Canyon Drive through the park will be restricted to one lane. Visitors and commuters should be prepared for delays ranging from five to 10 minutes. Motorists wishing to avoid delays should use SR-18 and Snow Canyon Parkway as alternate routes.

In addition, access to both the Lava Flow and Petrified Dunes parking lots will be limited. Both lots will be re-configured and expanded for safer access to and from Snow Canyon Drive. The Snow Canyon Overlook will also be closed during this period for minor repairs and improvements.

For more information on the project and lane restrictions please contact park staff at (435) 628-2255.

FYI,

I have been serving on the Snow Canyon Citizen Advisory Team representing the equestrian community for some time now. This advisory team played a role in the approval of this project and our BCH chapter was represented in the process.

Paul

BCHUSW Meeting Minutes

The **BCHUSW** chapter meeting was called to order Friday, December 9, 2016 at our annual Holiday/Membership Drive and Auction at the St. George Community Center. President Paul Sloane presided before all the festivities began.

Present were officers Paul Sloane, Rochelle Bromley, Freddy Dunn, Jeanette Blasdell, along with approximately 60 loyal members and guests

Minutes: Minutes were not addressed.

Treasurer' Report: A treasurer's report was not presented due to more pressing matters on the agenda.

New Business:

Joe Rechsteiner, Pine Valley District Ranger gave an update on the projects accomplished this year and expressed how much they rely on BCHUSW's volunteerism. Projects mentioned included:

- Stream crossings and hardening
- Stock water tank
- Clearing Forsythe Trail
- Lots of other trail work

BCHUSW member Shane Christensen was also given a commendation from the USFS for going above and beyond with trail work! As stated by Paul, 'You always know where Shane has been by the wide trails and the trail of sawdust!'

Officer Elections were held.

- President-Paul Sloane
- Vice President –Vic Middleton
- Secretary -Jeanette Blasdell
- Treasurer- Freddy Dunn
- Trail Rides- Rochelle Bromley

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 so the festivities could resume.

Respectfully submitted by Jeanette Blasdell



Calendar of Events

CHAPTER MEETING :

- January 10th—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)

- January 14th Elephant Arch, Red Cliffs Desert Reserve - in the saddle 10:00AM Bring Lunch!

Directions: **From the south** take I-15 north to Exit 10, turn left and then right at the signal onto Buena Vista Blvd. Go to Main St and turn left. Parking is on the left side of the road.

From the north take I-15 south to Exit 13, turn right onto Buena Vista Blvd and go west to Main St and turn right. Parking is on the left side of the road



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: Mike Duvall



Chapter contacts

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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