

Southwest Cairn

Marking the trails for our members



From the Presidents Saddle



THE EXCITING NEWS OF THE DAY IS that we have been awarded the grant to build the bridges in Pine Valley. (See page 3)

The American Hiking Society reported that 3,954 miles of trails were improved on National Trails day June 2nd. Thousands of miles of trails were cleaned up, and more than 750 miles of trail were built or maintained in a single day! That's something to be proud of. Although our efforts on the White Rocks trail was pretty modest. Freddy and I had a chance to meet with Nick Glidden, Acting District Ranger for Pine Valley. He told us that just about any trail in Pine Valley needs some work and he would

welcome any efforts on our part.

Any of you computer savvy folks out there!! We are looking for someone to be our chapter's Facebook person and maintain our page on the BCHU's website. (www.bchu.com).

I serve on a trails committee for Washington County and they are working on an awesome website that will eventually have every trail in the county on it. I have seen the site (not up yet) and it is wonderful. I have provided around 60 photos from our BCH rides for the website so far. I will let everyone know when the site is up.

As of today (Thursday 6-28) there is a large fire burning on Pine Valley Mountain. It is located in the proximity of Mill Flat and was burning to the north. Let's hope that our firefighters get a handle on it quickly.

Have a great 4th of July and be Safe,

Paul

NEXT MEETING

August 14th, 6:30PM
Community Building
See Page 5 for details



NO RIDE IN JULY

August 11th
Navajo lake

September 8th
Undetermined



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August 14th
Meeting at the Commu-
nity Bldg 6:30PM
No meeting in July



Happy July 4th

BCH Work Ride at White Rocks

June 2, 2018

By

Paul Sloane

As you will recall we changed the work ride date from our regular Saturday to coincide with National Trails Day which was on June 2nd. It would be a bit of a stretch to say it was very successful although ultimately a fair amount of work was accomplished. On June 2nd only myself, Julie Greninger and Michelle Berthoty showed up for the task. Given the lack of help we basically went for a ride but did find time to do some rock removal in one of the difficult areas.

After being advised of the poor turnout on the 2nd Freddy & Larry Dunn put the word out that they were going up to work on the trail the following Saturday and invited others to join them. No takers arrived but undaunted went up and removed rocks, clipped some branches and enjoyed a nice ride in the process. Somewhere in the middle of all this Pat Matthews and Jeanette Blazdell went up the mountain and did a little more clearing as they enjoyed a ride of their own.

The trail was not in horrible condition but is plagued with lots of rocks that continue to roll onto the trail, both big and small. The difficult sections of the trail are still difficult just because of the geography and that does not look like it will change anytime soon. All three sets of riders were startled to see how low the cattle pond was at White Rocks, it had less than 25% of the water it normally has, just not enough snow pack this year.

At our June 12th chapter meeting we agreed that putting effort into maintaining the White Rocks trail seems to be counter productive and not popular with our members. When we adopted the trail as a chapter in 2012 we were getting eight to twelve people on each work ride thru 2016. Since then it has become difficult to get folks out to work on the trail. We decided at our chapter meeting to contact our new Pine Valley Acting District Ranger and ask him what trail(s) in Pine Valley would they like us to adopt in lieu of White Rocks.

In the end not a great deal of work got done but everyone had an enjoyable ride in the mountains.



Great News!

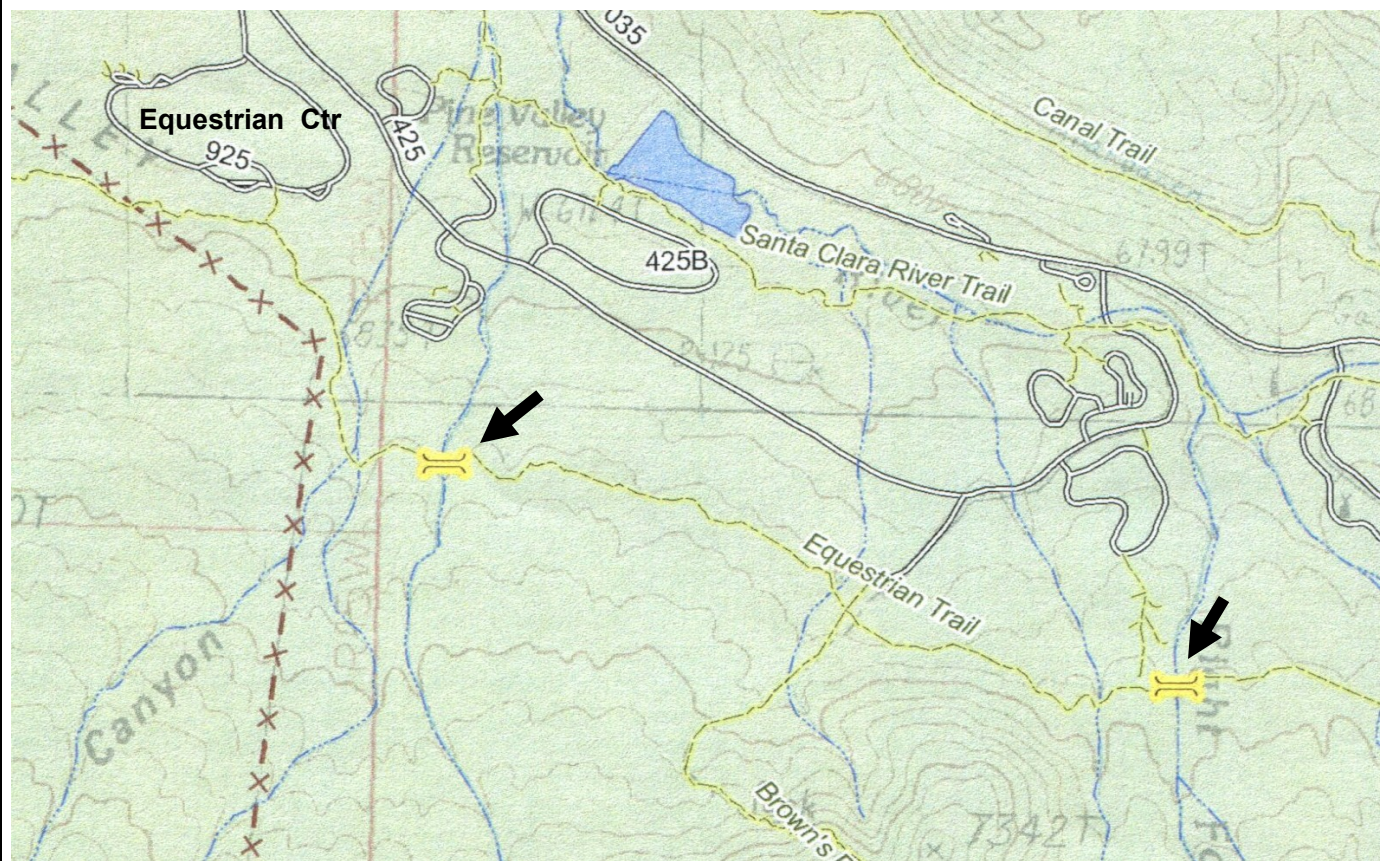
We were awarded the Utah Outdoor Recreational Grant to build the bridges over two difficult water crossings in Pine Valley!

This has been a joint project with the USFS, ACE (American Conservation Experience) and our BCH chapter. The total grant award is \$20,987.00. That will be applied to the cost of the two 20ft long bridge kits. The USFS service and ACE will be providing the manpower and funding for preparing the approaches to the bridges, which involves significant rework of the trail. Our chapter is kicking in \$5,000.00.

Although the grant terms allows us until June of 2020 to complete the project we expect to have the project completed before next summer 2019. The really fun part is that our chapter will be installing the bridges so be prepared for some fun work on a great project this spring. Tentatively the plan is to have the bridge kits built this fall/winter and delivered around April. About the same time the ACE crews will be remodeling the bridge approaches and then it is our turn.

If you are a taken back a bit on the cost of the bridge kits, it is because the USFS wants bridges that will be there for many decades with minimal maintenance. These bridges are pressure treated with a special (costly) chemical that will maintain the woods integrity for a long time.

Bridge locations



BCHUSW Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2018

The **BCHUSW** chapter meeting was called to order June 12, 2018 at the St. George Community Center by President Paul Sloane.

In attendance were: Paul Sloane, Vic Middleton, Freddy Dunn, Judith Mayfield, Keith Christensen, Larry Dunn, Pat Matthews, David Hill, Pat Hill, and Jeanette Blasdell

Minutes: A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes as posted in May's newsletter.

Treasurer' Report: Judith Mayfield presented the Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparisons. Our total assets as of this month are \$5,999.31 as compared to last year's total of \$6,388.27. Our net income at this time is \$965.23 as compared to last year's \$328.82.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the presented budget.

Report from National:

Freddy Dunn reported on the National meeting. Currently they are exploring options to simplify recording volunteer hours. They are hoping to procure an app that members can load onto their phones.

Old Business:

- We are still looking for a tech savvy webpage person.
- Washington County contacted Paul as they are putting together an awesome website. Paul was able to give them approximately 60 photos of trails we have used in the past and linked them up with someone that will help with descriptions of the trails.
- Lynn Scott received our input in regards to improving Cottonwood Trailhead. There is no idea of when changes will occur.

New Business:

- A W9 was requested for the Pine Valley Bridge Grant we applied for, so Paul is hopeful that means our grant application has been accepted. We should know within the week.
- Due to the minimum usage, high maintenance, and dwindling interest in maintaining White Rocks trail, members agreed to perhaps take on a different trail in Pine Valley.

Ride Calendar

- July is our dark month for both a meeting and a ride
- August 11 –Navajo Lake
- September 8th-

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Respectfully submitted by Jeanette Blasdell



Calendar of Events

CHAPTER MEETINGS :

- **August 14th—St. George Community Bldg. 6:30pm**

Come and participate in our decisions for the chapter!



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

- **August 11th—Navajo Lake in the saddle at 10:00A, bring lunch.** This is a 4-5 hour ride in beautiful country, not difficult. *Allow 1.5—2hrs travel time from St George.* Take hwy 14 east off of Main Street in Cedar City (Zion’s Bank on corner) go 27 miles to the lake , turn right onto the road to Navajo Lake and go all the way to the west end of the lake, look for BCH signs to the parking area which is by a FS restroom that can be seen from the road.
- **September 8th—** To be determined



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.

Helmet of the Month!

Sported by: Julie Greninger



Chapter contacts

- President:** Paul Sloane 888-8919
psloane@infowest.com
- Vice President:** Vic Middleton 879-9597
vicjan@skyviewmail.com
- Secretary:** Jeanette Blasdel 818-415-1305
jzblasdel@gmail.com
- Treasurer:** Judith Mayfield 656-0959
sixagl@awinets.com
- Newsletter:** Paul Sloane 688.8919
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