

Southwest Cairn

Marking the trails for our members



From the Presidents Saddle



An unforgettable journey to the Netherlands! Jeanette and I traded our saddles for suitcases and headed to the Netherlands to visit the famous tulip fields, see family, and explore our roots. We immediately learned Rule #1 of Dutch travel: bicycles own the road. They move fast, they move everywhere, and you'd better stay out of their way.

Back home, our horses carry us for miles across the red desert. In the Netherlands, it was our turn to walk the cobblestone streets along historic canals, and past centuries-old churches, museums, and wonderful crooked old buildings.

We climbed the Bell Tower-465 steps up and 465 steps down. The view from the top was amazing and was worth every breathless moment with views stretching over the city to Amsterdam and Rotterdam. By midday, I fully understood how my horse feels after a long ride.

Keukenhof Botanical Gardens was a spectacular park in full bloom. Stunning shapes, sizes and colors of seven million blubs, including tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and orchids.

Our journey continued into the countryside, where working windmills turned steadily in the breeze. We climbed their wooden stairs to look out over tulip gardens bursting with the multiple colors of tulips in full bloom, then wandered through shops where cheese and wooden shoes were still made the traditional way.

Our train ride traveled past miles of deep green pasture with Holstein dairy cows and the most stunning

(Continued pg 5)



Memorial Day

NEXT MEETING

See Page 8 for details



June 13th
Duncan Springs

See Page 8 for Details

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Ride Story	2
Ride Pictures	3-4
From Presidents Saddle (Con't)	5
Meeting Minutes	6-7
Calendar—Hat of the month	8
Membership Application	9

Next Meetings June 3rd

Business 4:00PM at
Washington County Library

Social 6:00PM at Black Bear
Diner

BCH RIDE AND BURGER BURN ENTERPRISE, UTAH

Mike and Kathy Duvall generously hosted riders from both the SW and Wasatch Front Chapter at their family ranch in Enterprise on a beautiful, cool morning. After passing through the first half of their obstacle course, we rode a loop on the hills out their back gate and ended with the last half of the obstacle course. Riders from SW Utah chapter were Kathy Duvall, Freddy Dunn, Jeanette Blasdell, Tammy Engeness, Justeena White, Helena DeRosa, Jarice Butterfield, Layla Smith, and Eliza Edger. We were joined by Richard Webb, Lorrie Rumpsa, Lafe and Melody Feller, Lyn Taggert, and Jill Poll of the Wasatch Front Chapter.

The hills took us up to beautiful views toward the distant Pine Valley Mountains and the closer Square Top Mountain. Along the way Kathy told us about some of the human and natural history of the area. Of special interest to the group was the 1983 flight of a B-52 Air Force bomber that crashed into Square Top in 1983 killing all 8 of the crew. Even though it sounds recent, the area was much more remote and communications more difficult than they are now with GPS and SOS in our pockets.

Riding through juniper, golden grass, a few spring blooms, and volcanic ash rocks that stood up like sculptures we circled across the hill and gullies. We were excited to come over a rise to see some of the local wild mustangs across the valley. We weren't close but close enough to be excited that the group included a foal. Kathy told us about the burn area we were riding through being started by a welding torch. A reminder about how quickly a small spark can become a large fire so be fire wise in our dry lands.

As we closed the loop by riding down the hill we saw deer and rock squirrels and completed the obstacle course. Our mounts enjoyed a drink in the creek before crossing the creek behind the Duvall's house.

After settling the horses, we enjoyed the burger burn with Grill Master Mike Duvall. Pasta salad created by Helena's husband (made with fresh basil from his garden) and Eliza's cornbread casserole (she said it's really easy with Jiffy Cornbread Mix) were two very popular side dishes.

A beautiful day and ride and a great chance to meet some fellow BCHA members and their horses. Thanks to the Duvall's for hosting a great ride

Ann Guhman



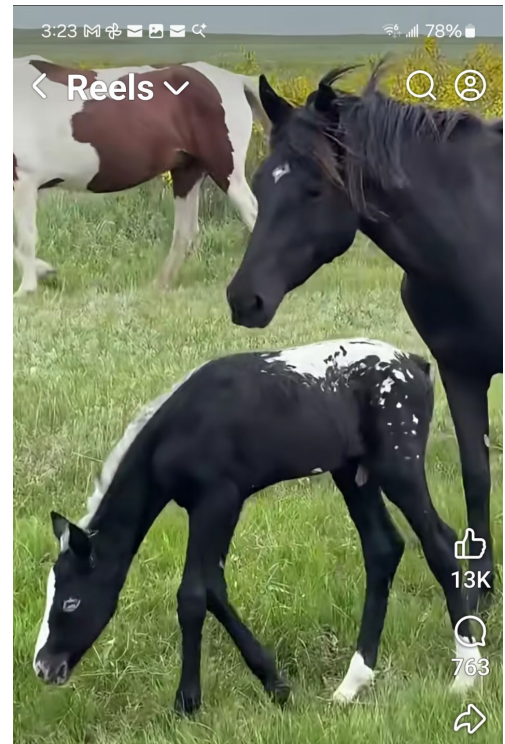




black Friesian horses grazing between sparkling water canals.

The highlight, though, was visiting Jeanette's family and listening to the stories. Ben cooked us true Dutch meals and we traced my roots to a small village in Ternaard where we visited the old church with graveyard. Navigating those narrow streets in a rental car became its own adventure-bicycles zipping past from every direction. It reminded us again who truly has the right of way.

It was an unforgettable trip full of beauty, family connection, old history, and renewed appreciation for my amazing horse, who carries me without a single complaint after a long day on the trail.



BCHUSW Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2026

The **BCHUSW** chapter meeting was called to order May 6, 2026 at the St. George Public Library by President Tammy Engeness. In attendance were: Tammy Engeness, Lin Hokana, Deja Schweitzer, Freddy Dunn, and Jeanette Blasdell.

Minutes: A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the minutes as published in the April newsletter.

Treasurer' Report: A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the April treasurer's report presented by Jeanette.

Old Business:

- Our newly sponsored 4-H club has received their t-shirts and the bill was paid for using the BCHA Youth Grant money that Amanda applied for.

New Business:

- Freddy and Tammy attended a rehearsal meeting presented by Brendan Botossan on the Northern Corridor. Brendan wanted input on what modifications he should make for an upcoming presentations planned for October.
- Chuckwalla's stepover has been fixed thanks to input by Freddy and Lin. They even put a boulder in place that makes a wonderful mounting block.
- Tukupetsi's gate in Santa Clara is currently under discussion. After sending pictures, Freddy and Lin have begun dialogue to move the gate's location and make it more equestrian friendly. It looks like they will buy the supplies if we can provide the labor.
- Pioneer Trailhead- dialogue will begin soon with Bob Wells (BLM) to perhaps line the kiosk roof with something that will protect a rider from getting impaled by its sharp edges. • Clean Up Trailhead signs will be installed soon at Spring Creek and Pioneer Trail. • Red Cliffs would like to do trail work in Zone 6 and actually name trails. We have been asked to chat with equestrians that ride that area. It was suggested to contact Joellen Altman for input. Amanda also rides in that area so she volunteered to provide input.

Committee Reports:

- Pine Valley- The best place currently to find out what is happening there is by following the USFS Pine Valley District page on Facebook.
- Education- Educational presentations occur at our Black Bear Diner Social Meetings. Amanda provided GPS and Pin Tracking instruction this month.
- Business Meetings- All members are welcome to join Business meetings . The best way to find out what is being discussed is to attend the meeting or read the minutes in the next newsletter.

Announcements:

- Remember to RSVP for chapter rides.
- Rule of Ride: If you are going to be five minutes late, please call someone. We never want to leave you alone.
- Have you reported your service hours? Do so at www.bchu.org and Click the blue button on the left
- Business meetings are now at the Saint George Public Library downtown.

Ride Calendar:

May 9th Duvall Ranch

June 6 Duncan Springs Work & Ride

August 8- Navajo Lake

September 12- Ford Ranch Horse Camp (Antimone, Utah)

October-10- Red Mountain

November 14 -Babylon

December – Annual Fundraiser and Chapter Dinner

January 9, 2027- Cottonwood

Adjournment: 5:00

Calendar of Events

CHAPTER MEETINGS :

Business Meeting June 3, 2026—Washington County Library 4:00PM

Social Meeting June 3, 2026—Black Bear Diner, St. George 6:00PM



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

JUNE 13th Duncan Springs –in the saddle at 10:00 (allow for extra travel time) Bring lunch.

Directions: On Pinto Road 1.25 mi South off Hwy 56 between Cedar City & Enterprise. 17.5 miles west from I-15 in Cedar C. or 19.5 miles east from Hwy 18 past Enterprise (between mile posts 43-44) Nice trail in the trees with great views at the top. 3 - 3.5 hour ride incl. lunch

REMEMBER: Dogs are only permitted on leashes anywhere in Washington County. We as Back Country Horsemen must set the example, so we thank you in advance for your compliance with the rules.



Sponsors of the Month!



Chapter contacts

President: Tammy Engeness 425-422-4450
h-trailer@hotmail.com

Vice President: Lin Hokana 209-790-9022
lhokana@tdsmail.com

Secretary: Debbie Grise 503-709-4789
mdsj@aol.com

Treasurer: Jeanette Blasdell 818-415-1305
bchswtreasurer@gmail.com

Newsletter: Paul Sloane 632-7642
psloane@infowest.com

Media/Public Relations:
Deja Schweitzer 669-2759
dejaschweitzer@gmail.com

Website: www.bchusouthwest.org
Chapter email: bchu.southwest@gmail.com



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 Southwest Chapter: Individual: \$35; Family: \$45