



Southwest Cairn

Marking the trails for our members

October 2025



From the Presidents Saddle



We commence the end of year push to find donors and work towards fund raising. Money is the necessary objective to make our organization strong and viable especially in the midst of Pine Valley Mountain's devastating fire, and particularly the severe burning of the equestrian campgrounds. We will be asked to financially support the rebuilding of the equestrian area and in so doing may have an opportunity to make it better than ever with needed improvements in water line access per site, corral increases (at least 2 per campsite), picket high lines where possible etc.... We have always appreciated the dialogue and relationship we've had with Dixie Forest personnel and in this particular season they may have more need of our organization than

ever before. We need to be prepared as much as possible.

Please do invite friends to our fun-filled auction and dinner event. The benefit of having a larger crowd is it brings more wallets to the event as well as increasing our friendships and influence once people see our efforts to assist in financing public camping facilities.

The next best thing we can do to make our event a big success is to find some worthy items from local merchants or destinations which they will be willing to donate to the cause of assisting in the rebuilding efforts. This year we have such a story to tell with the fire and devastation of environmental crisis with mudslides, erosion and just extremely difficult conditions.

Please do put yourself out a bit and see what you can do to make this year's fundraiser the best ever by finding some way to help-out with the evening's success. In the meantime, have a wonderful time in the fall season with Halloween and get ready for the Thanksgiving season. And whatever you do... try to work in a few rides in this gorgeous weather, it's turning out to be a spectacular fall!

John



November 5th
Meeting at the Community Building 6:00PM

NEXT MEETING

Community Building

See Page 7 for details



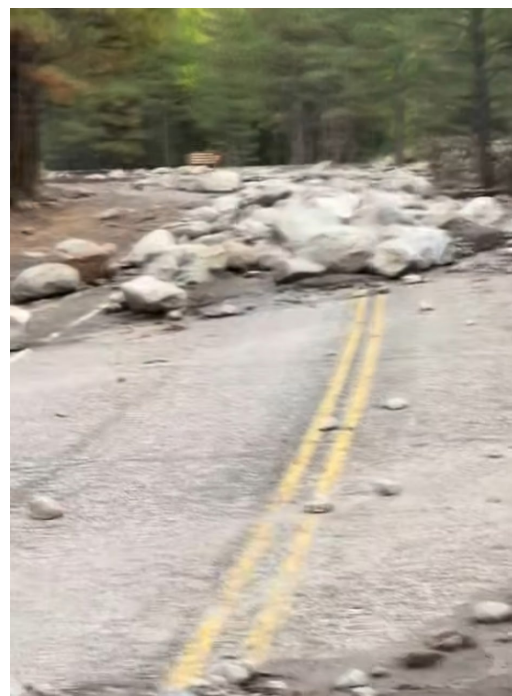
Nov 8th Cottonwood

See Page 7 for Details

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Pine Valley flood damage	2
Fall Horse Allergies	3
Meeting Minutes	4-5
Dinner Auction Flier	6
Calendar- sponors of the month	7
Membership Application	8

Pine Valley Campgrounds got hammered during recent flooding!



Even Horses Can Be Susceptible To Seasonal Allergies; Manage Your Horse's Allergies This Fall With These Helpful Tips.

If your otherwise healthy horse consistently flares up with coughs, sneezes, a runny nose, and heavy breathing in the fall, allergies might be to blame. Not unlike humans, horses can be sensitive to dust, mold, and other irritants in their environment, and show signs of respiratory irritation. The condition and reaction ranges from some irritation to allergies to seasonal asthma, which is a type of asthma triggered by allergens that appear at certain times of year.

The symptoms aren't only just a nuisance or slightly uncomfortable, as they are when you experience them, but they also impact performance. If you're showing or would simply like to take your horse out to the trail before the weather takes a turn, his allergy symptoms can put a damper on your plans. Given that horses' environments are inherently dusty and that even high-quality hay is susceptible to low-level mold, completely eliminating respiratory irritants is out of the question. However, there are some steps you can take to manage their exposure and keep them comfortable and nearly symptom free.

Turn out: While grass can become sparse at the end of summer and into fall, try to make as much use out of the pasture as possible without overgrazing. This allows your horse to be out of dustier areas, such as a stall with straw or shavings, or a dry lot, as much as possible while allergies are flared up.

Does Your Horse Have Nasal Discharge?

Opt out of round bales: Depending on your feed schedule, it may not be an option to avoid round bales, however; if you can choose smaller, rectangular bales, you're more likely to reduce mold and dust exposure. While all hay will have some dust, and even the best quality hay will have some mold, rectangular bales are easier to store so less likely to be left uncovered to accumulate and/or develop dust and mold.

Choose alternative feeds: Haylage and hay pellets or cubes are also viable hay alternatives that cut back on dust and mold in cases where soaking or steaming isn't practical. An automatic feeder can make feeding hay pellets a little less cumbersome as it allows you to feed in smaller disbursements throughout the day rather than only a couple times per day.

Feed down low: The most natural feeding position is for your horse to have their head down low. Regardless of the form of feed you choose, feed from ground level. It's has been shown to allow a horse's airways to drain properly and improve respiratory health. A low feeder or trough will ensure that the hay isn't on the ground, potentially stirring up and collecting more dust or bedding particles.

Try supplements: Along with quality feed and an effective management process, you might test the impact of some supplements. Some horses have responded well to docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), a type of omega-3, and other supplements such as MSM, some mushrooms, and vitamin C.

Consider medication management: If your horse continues to show signs of asthma despite your best efforts to manage their environment and feed, your veterinarian may prescribe treatment with aerosolized corticosteroids to manage symptoms during allergy season.

Avoid the harvest: If you're in an area where crops are harvested and you have the option to pull your horse inside, also assuming the stall or area you bring them into has relatively low dust or mold, do so. Swathers and combines stir up dust and crop particles, and can exacerbate your horse's asthma symptoms.

Learn More: [What You Need to Know About Equine Asthma](#)

Invest in better bedding: Bedding that's traditionally used in stalls and other areas, such as straw and shavings, are dusty, especially if they're fresh. Choose bedding that's absorbent and has antibacterial properties to further reduce dust and mold.

Minutes of BCHU-Southwest Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President John West

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jeanette Blasdel

Introductions were made. In attendance were: John West, Tammy West, Deja Schweitzer, Lin Hokana, Steve Julian, Mel Langness, Marie Langness, Jeanette Blasdel, Eliza Edgar, Ann Guhman, Amanda Heinritz (zoom) and Freddy Dunn.

Minutes of the last meeting were **MSP (Motion, Seconded, Passed)**

Treasurers Report – We received a generous donation from Janice Bailey. Both accounts are healthy.

Old Business

Hurricane step Over – no response from the Mayor as of today.

Bryce Canyon chapter weekend recap – Jeanette

- most of the information can be found in Jeanette's article in the newsletter.
- weather was excellent; trails were not crowded – timing excellent.
- one bottom line was that attendees should take care of themselves in regards to reservations for Bryce trail rides and food.

Dixie Rodeo Parade recap – Deja

- the truck should be in front of riders
- maybe magnets to hold banner on vehicle...maybe two banners?
- horses all did well
- need coordinated costumes
- need to create and adopt rules for riding in the parade
- practice might be a good help

The **AH Ha** from the parade is that longhorns can't do roundabouts

New Business

Dixie Rodeo for next year:

- there were cowboys & cowgirls everywhere. Perhaps a booth?

Public Lands.

Outdoor Recreation Initiative –

-five projects were presented to the committee

1. Sheepbridge Road Underpass
2. Southwestern Utah Recreation Feasibility Study for 5 county area
3. Coal Creek Campground (Cedar City area)
4. Kanarra Falls Parking Expansion project
5. Sand Caves Trailhead Restroom Project (Kanab area)

Five more projects will be presented at the October 21st zoom meeting. **ORI** has 5 councils in Utah responsible for recommending proposed projects for funding. If you would like more information please contact Freddy Dunn at freddydunn@gmail.com

Fundraiser Kickoff meeting

-committees have been formed to obtain items for our December Dinner/fundraiser

Next Meeting: presentation on hoof boots/glue on shoes by Natalie Law

Ride Calendar

- Oct 11 – Three Peaks was cancelled
- Nov 8 Cottonwood -Jeanette will lead
- Jan 10 – Valley of Fire

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:58 pm.

★ Back Country Horsemen of Utah ★ Southwest Chapter



Annual Dinner & Fundraiser

Friday, December 5th, 2025

Doors Open at 5:30pm

Dixie High School Commons

Please RSVP by Nov. 28th at
bchusouthwest.org
or scan the QR code below

Net Proceeds of this
year's fundraiser will
benefit the Pine Valley
Mountain Equestrian
Park and Campground



Catered by DUB's Barbeque!

Membership (includes dinner)

\$35 – Single Membership (1 meal)

\$45 – Family Membership (2 meals)

Additional Plate \$15 per plate

Calendar of Events

CHAPTER MEETINGS :

November 5, 2025—St. George Community Building 6:00PM

Come and Participate in our Chapters Success



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

- **Nov 8th— Cottonwood Trailhead –Red Desert Reserve 10AM—Bring lunch**
Directions: SR 9 off of I-15 south to Old Hwy 91, turn left and travel past the Walmart distribution center to the Winkles distribution bldg, turn left onto dirt road and go under I-15 to the trailhead

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

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