

# BCHA Back Country Horsemen of America UTAH SOUTHWEST CHAPTER

*Keeping Trails Open for Future Generations*

**OCTOBER 2026**

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### OUR PRESIDENT



*A chapter built on trails, service, and good company.*







## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our chapter proudly participated in the St. George Dixie Roundup Parade, enjoying sunshine, laughter, and community spirit. The youth riders were a highlight, showing wonderful enthusiasm and horsemanship.

A restored 1967 GMC pickup, generously provided by Conrad and Tammy Engeness, led the group carrying our new BCHA banner. Tammy and Eliza shared candy with the crowd from the tailgate, while Derek walked alongside to help keep the riders safe. Deja and her horse Billy charmed spectators at the end of the parade.

The chapter was honored with a buckle for Best Rodeo Theme. Congratulations to all the riders, volunteers, parents, and supporters who made the day such a success!

Please remember to record your service hours and help keep trailhead areas clean.

## OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

**October 7, 2026 • St. George Public Library**

- September minutes and treasurer's report approved.
- Public Lands Day volunteers cleared tumbleweeds at Red Mountain.
- Chapter plans a $500 donation to support Northern Corridor efforts.
- Trail maintenance, gate improvements, and Pine Valley campground work discussed.
- December 4 fundraiser and chapter dinner preparations are underway.

*Full meeting notes continue on page 2.*




- **NOVEMBER 14**
  Babylon
- **DECEMBER 4**
  Annual Fundraiser & Chapter Dinner
- **JANUARY 9**
  Cottonwood

Deja is ride leader. Please contact Deja for changes in ride schedule due to weather or construction.

## RIDE REPORT

**October Chapter Ride • Red Mountain**

A brief shower gave way to blue skies. Riders split into two groups: Doc Johnson led the Overlook Loop, while Freddy Dunn led a shorter ride to Donut Hole. The day ended with lunch and good company.

Ride report continued on pagev3



*More ride photos and the full story appear on page 3.*

# OCTOBER CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

October 7, 2026 • St. George Public Library

**Call to Order & Attendance**
The meeting was called to order by Tammy Engeness. Attendees were Tammy Engeness, Lin Hokanna, Freddy Dunn, and Jeanette Blasdell.

**Minutes and Treasurer's Report**
The September minutes were approved as published in the September newsletter. Jeanette presented the September treasurer's report, which was also approved.

**Dixie Roundup Parade**
The chapter thanked everyone who participated. Nonmember participants will also be invited to join.

**Public Lands Day**
Volunteers tackled large tumbleweeds at the Red Mountain staging area on September 26. A remaining pile near the bathrooms still needs removal; Lin will look into hiring Mike Jewell and arranging another dumpster.

**Northern Corridor**
Lin, Jeanette, Freddy, and Tammy attended the first meeting in a series. The chapter plans to donate $500 to support Southwest Utah's efforts.

**Newsletter**
Paul Sloane is the current editor and is losing access to the program he uses. Freddy volunteered to explore options.

**Red Mountain Weed Control**
Staffing for weed abatement is limited. The chapter may explore adopting the trail and helping maintain it, with permission.

**Santa Clara Tukepetsi Gate**
With fire restrictions lifted, Lin will contact Mike Jewell about moving the entrance and installing a new gate. Debbie may contact the 4-H group to help rake and place stone path markers.

**Annual Fundraiser & Chapter Dinner**
The event is scheduled for December 4. The room is reserved, insurance is purchased, food has been ordered from D.U.B.S., and flyers are ready. Members are encouraged to help solicit donations, renew memberships, and invite friends and family. Proceeds will support Pine Valley.

**Pine Valley Equestrian Campground**
Work is underway. Panels have been delivered and more are being ordered; grading and installation were expected to begin toward the end of October.

**Service Hours**
Members are encouraged to record their volunteer service hours and ask for help if needed.

# RIDE REPORT: OUT ON THE TRAIL

October Chapter Ride • Red Mountain

Our October chapter ride at Red Mountain began with a brief shower. The rain soon passed, however, and the clouds opened to bright blue skies. The comfortable weather made for a beautiful day on the trail.

After introductions, riders split into two groups. Doc Johnson led the Overlook Loop, with its stunning mountain views and desert scenery. Freddy Dunn led a shorter ride to Donut Hole and back, passing towering rock formations and reaching a memorable view of one of Red Mountain's best-known natural features. Both rides offered plenty of scenery and photo opportunities.

After everyone returned safely, the group relaxed and enjoyed lunch together. Thank you to Doc Johnson and Freddy Dunn for leading the rides, and to Justena White, Linda Bissett, Richard Boschee, Doc Johnson, Freddy Dunn, Dave Robison, and Tammy Engeness for sharing the day. It was a wonderful outing with good friends, great horses, and beautiful trails.



*Chapter riders gathered at the trailhead.*



*Red Mountain's distinctive rock formations.*

## HELP KEEP OUR TRAILS OPEN

Backcountry Horsemen support responsible trail use, volunteer service, education, and cooperation with land managers. These efforts help preserve access to the places we love to ride and help keep backcountry traditions alive for future generations.

Red Mountain Service Project



Red Mountain Trail Work 9/2...

Perfect weather was in store for an ambitious tumbleweed removal project at the Red Mountain Trail Head Saturday September 26. The morning began at 9 am with eleven volunteers, one tractor and a giant dumpster.

A huge quantity of gigantic green firmly attached tumbleweeds were shoveled, raked and physically removed from the entire parking area. What seemed an overwhelming task in the beginning was completed in approximately two hours. It was a hard fought battle to remove them but we proved victorious. Lin Hokana and his Kubota Tractor proved to be invaluable in helping us rip them out and crush them into the dumpster.

After we were done everyone enjoyed cookies and fresh fruit courtesy of Jeanette.

Unfortunately there are still tumbleweeds piled outside the dumpster. There were just too many.

This trailhead is in need of more weed control measures before they become so large and plentiful. We plan to contact those in charge of the area regarding our concerns.

We would like to personally thank those who came out to help us. Kenneth deReulhac, Freddy Dunn, Debbie Grise, Tammy Engeness, Jeanette Blasdell, Linda Bissett, Rene Fleming, Lin Hokana, Ann Guhman, Richard and Cheryl Borchee.

Our next and probably largest ever community service project is setting up the corrals at Pine Valley Equestrian Campground in October. The grants are in, the contractors are hired and the corrals are purchased. There are still going to be plenty of hands needed to help with this big task. This is a project that is going to pay it forward for the Pine Valley Community and future equestrians who want to use the campground and enjoy the trails. Come be a part of something really great. Be a part of the transformation that returns this beautiful campground to Pine Valley.



Chapter Officers

President: Tammy Engeness
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# Back Country Horsemen of Utah

## Southwest Chapter

# Annual Dinner and Fundraiser

## Friday, December 4th, 2026

### Dixie High School Commons

### Doors open at 5:30 pm

**Catered by Dub's Barbeque!**

***Membership includes dinner***

$35 – Single Membership (1 meal)

$45 – Family Membership (2 meals)

Additional meals $20 per plate



BCHA

Back Country Horsemen of America

Utah

Please RSVP by Nov. 29th

at bchusouthwest.org

or scan the QR code

## 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:_____

E-mail Address:_____

**OTHER HORSE/MULE ASSOCIATIONS YOU BELONG TO:**

_____

_____

**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: $35.00; Family: $44.00; Patron: $100.00 to $299.00; Benefactor: $300.00+