

BCHA WASATCH FRONT

www.bcha.org

January 15, 2020 Business Meeting Minutes

7:00 pm Call to Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of new guests/members: attending Bridgerland Chapter Members from Logan, Cindy Gordon, President, Barbara Middleton, and Ron Auger. Ed Valdez & Jeff Jones from Posse and Tess McKenzie (a former Boise, ID, BCHA member)

For Wasatch Front members, please sign up for entrée. Thank you for signing up to provide our entrée which is reimbursable.

Julie announced new officers: New VP is Don Bradshaw.

Julie Heavirland, President, Lyn Taggart, Treasurer, Don Bradshaw, VP, Nancy McKay, VP, Caren Lazarz, Secretary.

Treasurer's Report: All Financial Reports are available to all members upon request. See report provided. Julie explained to our visitors, guests and new members the difference between our Chapter monies and those of CFOV (Community Foundation of Ogden Valley) and why we must keep them separate accounts.

Current Roster: 32 current members have paid to-date. Please get your membership dues in. (Last year we had over 100 paid-for members.)

Chapter was reminded of our various work projects and fund raising efforts of 2019. Our biggest effort was in Monte Cristo Bluff Springs wherein our CFOV funds enabled installation of hitching rails and corrals up in Bluff Springs amounting to \$13K.

\$1587 was brought in from the Holiday Banquet/Auction in November. Thank you.

Our New Year's Day ride on Antelope Island was postponed to January 4th with a tremendous turn-out of four different BCHA Chapters. Everyone returned safe having had a great ride returning to a great steak-fry afterwards. Thank you all for your great side dishes.

Jill Poll, our Volunteer member who keeps track of our volunteer hours (no easy feat), worked with Julie in turning in our 2019 1900 volunteer hours. We also recorded 8500 miles. Our totals represent over \$131,000! Excellent job!

OLD BUSINESS:

We lost Michelle Montgomery in November. Dianne McFarland and Richard Webb both had significant wrecks with either their horse or skis this fall but are recovering nicely.

NEW BUSINESS:

Regarding Brand Inspections. As per Troy Higgs, Rules are still the same. Best to go into the Livestock Inspection Check with Proof of Ownership and other necessary travel documents.

Dr. Dean Taylor of Aspect Grove is now the State Vet. His practice is 95% under contract with 2 female vets and one vet and they are keeping all their clients up-to-date on developments via email. Should you have questions, give them a call.

Are there any speakers or topics you'd like to have at meetings this year? Let Julie know of any of your ideas should you have someone available.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Why did you join BCHA? What makes you excited and passionate about being involved with this organization? LaMar talked about the reaction he gets from posts on Social Media. Julie asked us about how we encounter other recreationists on the trail. Some ideas are to talk about our work on these trails. Have the others notice where we might help get trails cleaned up (even better than we already do). Why do we do it? If any equestrian enthusiast is wanting more trail riding, this is the group to join and follow. Bring your enthusiasm to the discussion, your personal feelings and how and what has made us want to be members.

What difference does BCHA make in the community? If BCHA is not out there on our trails, competing with other recreationists we'll lose this wonderful opportunity if we don't advocate for BCHA.

Why is the BCH organization important? We're a not for profit service organization that has fun. We're a big deal riding the public lands maintaining 45% of trails country-wide through service work. We have staff/lobbyist, we work with USFS, and other public land agencies. BCHA steps in to help, keeping things open for all. We have to have a voice and we have the credibility. We're in 35 states with great presence. Equine Use in the future: We are a really big deal. Others need to be educated, with the politics of things and organization to stand strong. "Impart the spirit of our organization".

So what?

This kind of conversation is what any of you can talk to other horse folks that you come across. Think of the 'so what' and the 'so that' of what BCHA does.

1) We are the kind and polite out on the trail. We try to 1) educate, at minimum, be good trail users 2) as Chapters at State levels we interface with public land managers and agencies (County Parks, USFS, DWR, DNR, BLM, and 3) at the National Level, BCHA has a lobbyist, noting the number of hours we all put in so that the lobbyist can go to BLM and Nat'l Park Service with all

the credibility our members have. And, we are up against those who speak disparagingly about horsemen. We contribute, and it is noticed at the Nat'l level to Senators, Cabinet Members, etc. The national level focuses on what kind of bills are being drafted re stock use, and LNT (Leave No Trace) our philosophy, our doctrine. Be and set the example! Be kind, educate.

Our mission – We are committed to protecting the access of equestrians to public lands. We are devoted equestrians who love to ride and explore new trails. We assist with trail maintenance and improvement projects, keeping trails clear for all user groups. We welcome riders of all types, ages and interests into our chapters!

To Re-Cap: What we do - BCHA is the only national equestrian trails service organization. We partner with organizations and agencies to keep trails open for all. We advocate at the local, state and national level for the protection of trails and the riding experience on our nation's public lands.

Upcoming rides –

Ron Auger of Bridgerland Chapter has rides planned:

Summer Social June, Franklin Basin. Date TBD

July 10^{th-12}, Exit 31, Idaho, 11am. Going to Yellowstone NP, in July. Friday, Saturday, potential pack-in, to Union Falls, to swimming hole. Each day has rides. **MUST HAVE YOUR COGGINS TEST ON YOUR HORSE** during this ride and weed free forage a must.

5-day pack trip into Uintas, dates TBD.

The Chapter will do its utmost to get dates to you. Feel free to reach out to the Bridgerland Chapter with any concerns or questions.

Cindy Gordon, President, Bridgerland Chapter, has their upcoming Winter Social at the Cache County Event Center Fairgrounds. Also included is a pack clinic! Feb. 15, 2020, 6:30 pm, featuring the Bluegrass stylings of Treebeard Trio. Cache County Event Center 450 S 500 W, Logan.

Wasatch Front Chapter Upcoming rides:

Don Bradshaw's rides:

Caballos Del Sol: January 15th, 2020 was the deadline for Caballos del Sol, AZ. 125-130 riders can be expected to attend this annual organized ride in March. Cabins available through the Chancy Ranch but know cabins are in ADDITION to the \$450 cost of the Caballos Del Sol event.

Bridgerland Chapter Winter Social: Feb. 15th. See above Cindy Gordon for details.

Moab: April 23-26th. Thursday meet at Junction 191 @ HWY 40. We will ride the afternoon at Wipeout Hill. Our potluck will be Friday night, the 24th.

Bryce: April 26 or 27 arrival. This will be a ride immediately following Moab. Only ten riders per group allowed. Camping outside the park is weed free.

John Wayne Ride, Washington, May 25 -3 weeks out: This is a 3-week horse camping journey riding the old railway tracks. Your journey will begin at Snow Qualame (sp) to the Columbia River

Clearfield City Parade: July 4th. Don needs everyone at the parade ready to go at 9am. Come all, please! Lamar Taylor will be drawing his carriage w/Grand Marshall of this important parade.

Monument Valley: September 07-12th. This is a day and a half journey to and fro.

Antelope Island Bison Round-Up: October 23-24th: Don Bradshaw has suggested that the DNR possibly reserve some additional spots for BCHU members since we do work for them out on the island.

8:20 pm adjournment