

**Next Meeting: Thursday,  
February 12**  
Monthly meeting, 7 pm,  
race track bldg  
SL Equestrian Park



# Mountain Ridge

## Back Country Horsemen of Utah

### P R E S I D E N T S   M E S S A G E

#### N E X T   R I D E :

**Saturday, Feb. 28:**  
Puddle Valley, West  
of Great Salt Lake

Details on pg. 3

#### T H A N K   Y O U :

Paula Hill for man-  
ning our booth at  
the Trails Ex-  
travaganza

#### I N S I D E   T H I S I S S U E :

Meeting Minutes	2
Ride Schedule & Who is this Buckaroo?	3-4
New Member Highlight ICE Weather update	5
Notes from USU Horse Expo	6
Volunteer Corner & Truck Crash Notes	7



This cold weather has made it a little uncomfortable riding outdoors this winter, but this time of year allows us to get our saddles and tack cleaned and oiled and get ready for those spring rides which aren't too far away. For those who want to ride and stretch out our horses so they stay in shape there are always a few indoor arenas in the area including the Salt Lake County Equestrian park. A schedule of the open ride times are posted on their web site so you don't make a trip to the park for nothing, [www.slcoequestrian.org](http://www.slcoequestrian.org)

The Trails Extravaganza in Farmington was a great success and all those who attended got plenty of information about new trails they can ride anywhere in the state. Each unit of Back Country Horsemen had a booth at the show and provided a list of their coming events and rides which each of us can join as members. We owe Paula Hill a big thank you for assembling the items that were provided by some of our members for the booth and then spending most of the day sitting at the booth to answer questions. I don't know how many new members of our chapter Paula received but for the time I was in the booth we signed up six new members and I received commitments from two other families. So our presence there was a success.

At our state meeting on Friday night we heard the reports of the different units around the state and I was quite impressed with the amount of volunteer work

that is taking place. We have a new unit in Kanab, who made their first report and it sounds like a lot of new trail heads are planned for the Grand Staircase area and work will be done on a lot of existing trails in the area. We wish them success in building their unit and want to give our support to them if we can help.

I will be contacting a couple of groups to see if we can get an instructor to teach us how best to use a GPS while horse back riding. I will try to set that up for our meeting in March, at our last meeting in January, there seemed to be a lot of interest in this training. I will get more details out as soon as I confirm an instructor and time.

I am looking forward to a great year of riding and service projects, so remember to keep track of your work hours and meetings you attend this year because it seems as though we are doing a lot of work, but forgetting to report our time and it was amazing to see how much those hours add up to at the end of the year.

— Ray Smith

## JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Minutes for Back Country Horsemen on Thursday, January 8th, 2009 at 7:05 pm. held at the Race Track Building at the Salt Lake Equestrian Center.

Read and approved November minutes.

Larry Newton gave the financial report and membership report. We have about 60% of our membership that we had last year. Typically it takes until March to get the full membership going. We will contact Jo Stoddard to call those who have not renewed their membership for 2009. It was suggested that Denise Kirby would possibly be willing to help Jo with that calling. The financial statement was approved and seconded. New phone numbers and e-mail addresses will be put on the membership list, if they were put on their checks or applications. Larry indicated that his comcast e-mail is the best one to contact him on.

The State meeting is the 16th of January at 6:00 pm, with a meal and meeting after with the cost of \$15.00/per person at the Country Inn in Bountiful. Bev Heffernan has prepared the State report for 2008 to be presented by Paula Hill at the meeting. The Jordanelle project for this summer has not be approved and Bev Heffernan indicated it takes six months for those project approved. She did mention that there is a new trail head at the Ross Creek north end of Jordanelle. There is a parking lot and pit toilets available. The equestrain trail is closed in the winter time due to wildlife issues.

Mountain Ridge Chapter will have a booth at the Trails Extravaganza using our logo banner as a backdrop. The event will be held on January 17, 2009 from 9am to 4 pm at the Davis County Legacy Center, 151 South 1100 West, Farmington, Utah. The assignment was given to

Bob Baker to prepare some information on the Hemegog Trail project and the Courage Reins Ride at Dimple Dell. Diana VanUitert was given the assignment to prepare some information on Dimple Dell. Paula Hill volunteered to assemble the information from the different trails for our booth. Doris Richards will get some information on the Porter Rockwell Trail. Steve Johnson was going to get information on the Puddle Valley Ride and Paul Kern said he had some pictures of that ride that he could provide. Set up of the booth will be between 8:30 and 9:00 in the morning.

We appreciate all the work Cindy Furse and Rinda Black did on our first newsletter of the year. Cindy would like to assign people to write about their experiences if they would like to in the near future. She also mentioned it would be good to learn how to use a GPS. It was suggested we contact REI to see if one of their instructors would be willing to do a presentation for our group. Larry Newton suggested that we

contact Dean Gill from our group who has received training from REI and might be willing to teach us what he knows. Ray Smith said he would contact Dean to see if he would be willing to teach, if he his not available he would contact REI.

Pocket calendars were made available to the members that were in attendance. Bob Baker indicated that Courage Reins are having second thoughts about doing rides outside of their arena since a ride that they held at Vivian Park had a bad experience of some sort. Bob will contact Courage Reins and see if he could alleviate any concerns that they might have about riding in Dimple Dell. It was thought also that maybe costs of fuel and the lunch they have provided for our group might be a concern. It was mentioned that we would be willing to help supplement that luncheon if that would help.

Upcoming Events — See next page.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.



*Rinda, Santa, Cindy, Lynnette in a None-Horse Open Sleigh*  
To get your pictures from the Christmas Party, go to the BCHU snapfish group site (contact Cindy Furse if you haven't gotten an invite)

## MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCH 2009 SCHEDULE



*Puddle Valley Ride 2006 — Ride it again Feb 28*

**Thursday, February 12:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center, 10800 S. 2200 West, South Jordan

**Saturday, February 28:** Monthly ride, Puddle Valley, West of Great Salt Lake, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

This is about a 3-4 hour ride on sandy open desert with easy terrain and big, open sky views. Horse shoes not necessary. Bring a lunch and be ready to ride at 10. To get there, take I-80 west to exit 62. Turn right onto the frontage (dirt) road and go about 2 miles. We will be parked in a large open area on the left. If you cross the RR tracks, you have gone too far.

**Thursday, March 12:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**March 13 -15:** Horse Expo, South Jordan Equestrian Center. Help manning the booth needed. Info, Ray Smith, rayscki@yahoo.com, 969-0758. Details about expo www.utahhorsecouncil.com

**Saturday, March 28:** Monthly

ride, Mile Marker 10, near Mercur. Ride to the Cabin, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

**Thursday, April 9:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**Saturday, April 11:** Monthly ride, Look-out Pass, East Side of the Mountain info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

**Saturday, April 25:** Service project, Courage Reins, Dimple Dell, info Bob Baker, 801-572-3996, bobbucksnot@q.com

**Thursday, May 14:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**Saturday, May 16:** Monthly ride, Sheep Creek, Spanish Fork Canyon, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

**Saturday, June 6: National Trails Day Event** — Monthly ride, Mt Ridge Breakfast/Ride, Dimple Dell Amphitheater, info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

**Thursday, June 11:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL

Equestrian Center

**Thur-Saturday: June 18-21:** Monthly ride and campout, near Bryce Canyon, camp at Ray Smith Property, Info, Ray Smith, 969-0758, rayscki@yahoo.com

**Thursday, July 9:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**Fri-Saturday, July 10-11:** Service Project, Current Creek State BCHU Service Project. Paula Hill, trail boss, details www.bchu.com

**Saturday, July 18:** Monthly ride, Bench Creek, South of Woodland, info Steve Johnson, 801-541-6008

**Thur-Saturday, July 23-26:** Monthly ride and campout, Island Park, ID, Paul Kern Property (Rides of 12 & 20 miles; not for the faint of heart), info Paul Kern, 942-8928 [kernpr@gmail.com](mailto:kernpr@gmail.com)

\*\* Remember that transporting a horse out of state requires a Coggins, vet certificate, and brand inspection. Get yours early.

**Fri-Sunday, August 7-9:** Bench Creek Pack Trip. Self Support Pack Trip (Not Catered), info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

**August 7 - 9, 2009 - Leave No Trace Training at Hardware Ranch** Paula Hill and Paul Kern have indicated they would like to go for training. Anyone else, contact Ray Smith)

**Thursday, August 13:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**Thursday, September 10:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

## SCHEDULE (CONT)

**Saturday, September 12:** Monthly ride, Strawberry River Ride, North of Strawberry Reservoir, info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

**Saturday, September 26:** Service project, Hemangog Trail Work, Corner Canyon, info Bob Baker, 801-572-3996, bob-bucksnot@q.com

**Thursday, October 8:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**Saturday, October 10:** Monthly ride, Settlement Canyon, Tooele, info Bruce Kartchner

**Saturday, November 7:** Monthly ride, Look-out Pass, West Side of the Mountain, info Keith Christiansen 571-6129

**Thursday, November 12:** Monthly meeting, 7 pm, race track bldg, SL Equestrian Center

**Thursday, December 10:** Annual Christmas Party/Auction, Sheriff's posse building, South Jordan Equestrian Center. Info, Ray Smith, 969-0758,

**Sunday Rides:** There will also be some ad hoc rides schedule for Sundays. Watch for more information.

**Camp Outs:** A lot of times people camp informally the night before and/or after BCH rides. Contact the ride leader to see if they know of anyone doing this.

**Want even more rides?**

Remember, join one BCHU unit and you've joined them all. Check out other great activities and rides throughout the state at

## FULL MOON LUNATIC RIDES

Ancient wisdom says that the full moon inspires lunatics. On clear full moon nights in winter, the trails are bright, and the horse-shaped moon shadows on snow are awesome.

If you are interested in riding in Dimple Dell on the nights of the full moon in winter/spring if the sky is clear, contact Cindy Furse 581-9225 cfurse@ece.utah.edu

Full moon names date back to Native Americans, of what is now the northern and eastern United States. Those tribes of a few hundred years ago kept track of the seasons by giving distinctive names to each recurring full moon. Their names were applied to the entire month in which each occurred. There were some variations in the moon names, but in general the same ones were current throughout the Al-



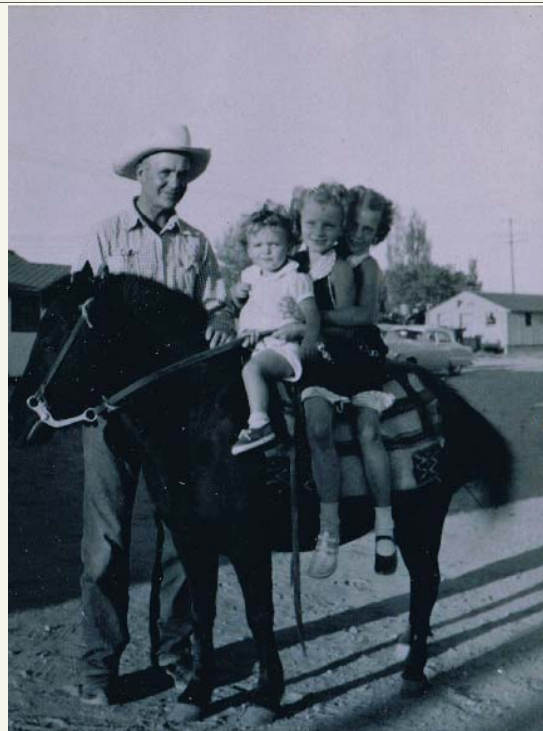
gonquin tribes from New England on west to Lake Superior. European settlers followed their own customs and created some of their own names.

**Next Full Moon:**  
**FULL SNOW MOON. Feb. 9, 7:49 a.m. MST -(most likely will ride Feb 7 or 8)** - Usually the heaviest snows fall in this month. Hunting becomes very difficult, and hence to some tribes this was the Full Hunger Moon.

**Moon Information From**  
<http://www.space.com/spacewatch/090109-ns-full-moon-names-2009.html>

### *Who is this Buckaroo ???*

(hint, the one in the middle) Turn the page to find out.....



**WHO'S THAT  
BUCKAROO??**

**NEW MEMBER  
HIGHLIGHT  
GINA LEVESQUE**

I've loved horses since earliest memory! I'm the girl in the middle of the picture on the previous page (holding the reins). I remember that long after my sisters were finished, my uncle had to drag me off! I could never get enough! Now I ride Competitive Trail, CTR, because I get to stay in the saddle all day and see wonderful country that I would otherwise miss. I'm excited to join a local chapter of BCH. I joined for the first time last year and loved the women that I met. The only problem was I joined a group in the Ogden area and really could not attend the rides and meetings on a regular basis. I'm looking forward to a great year and some wonderful rides.

**Competitive Trail Riding**

Find out more about competitive trail riding at [www.natrc.org](http://www.natrc.org). The goal of competitive trail riding is to condition your horse to as high a fitness level as possible and complete a trail (including obstacles) with as little stress on the horse as possible.



**ICE:  
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**



If you should ever become incapacitated in case of an emergency, paramedics need a quick way to find out whom they should contact. Since so many people carry cell phones these days, a new standard has been developed called 'ICE', which stands for

'In Case of Emergency'. All you have to do is put the name of your emergency contacts in your cell phone phone book with the word "ICE" in front of them. For example, if your emergency contact is Sheila, you should put "ICE -- Sheila" in your phone book. That way, emergency workers treating you can quickly contact Sheila to get the information about you that they need. You can also have more than one emergency contact -- you just list them as ICE1, ICE2, and so on. Not that we expect an emergency on the BCHU trail ... but just for fun, go ahead and enter them into your phone now. And, if a rider gets hurt ... check his/her phone for ICE numbers to contact family or friends.

**WINTER  
WEATHER INFO**

Want to know the weather before you ride? Check out: [wunderground.com](http://wunderground.com). This site has 5 and 10 day forecasts, hourly forecasts (the 24 hour ones have been dead on in my experience), and an almanac of yearly averages. You can check your own zip code, or the zip code of where you plan to be riding. Another great site for Utah traveling is [commuterlink.utah.gov](http://commuterlink.utah.gov)

This gives traffic, construction, and road condition updates. You can view camera images of major roadways throughout the state. These images are updated every few minutes ... so check it during the DAY. The night pictures are not very exciting! Also, you can call 511 for road condition updates.



**NOTES FROM  
USU:**

February 5 Davis County 6 pm **Managing your horse on a tight budget** FREE event Pre registration is requested so that hand-outs can be provided.

February 12 Heber City 7 pm **Managing your horse on a tight budget** FREE event Pre registration is requested so that hand-outs can be provided.

February 27- 28 **Judges' Short Course**

March 5 Davis County **4-H Western Riding Class.** use of live horses to demo new 2009 class. contact Justen Smith at [Justen.smith@usu.edu](mailto:Justen.smith@usu.edu)

March 27- 28 **Judges' Certification,** Saratoga Springs

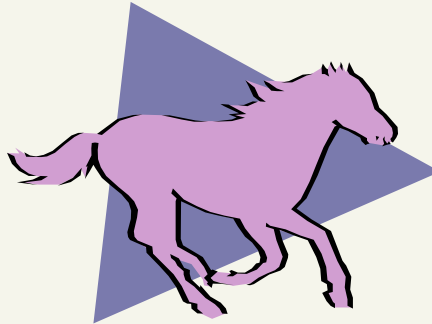
For More Info:  
<http://extension.usu.edu/equine/>

Or contact Dr. Pat Evans  
Extension Equine Specialist  
Utah State University  
4815 Old Main Hill  
Logan, Utah 84322-4815  
435 797 2142  
[pat.evans@usu.edu](mailto:pat.evans@usu.edu)

**GAITED  
HORSE  
OWNERS**

Jane Zubia clinics and private lessons available March 13-22. Contact Jane (307) 254-0666 [www.janezubia.com](http://www.janezubia.com) or Terrie Griffith (801) 721-5202 [tgfox-trot@gmail.com](mailto:tgfox-trot@gmail.com) for more details

**UTAH HORSE  
COUNCIL  
EXPO:**



March 13 – 15, South Jordan Utah Horse Council Horse Expo. This event is a great educational program. More information for this event can be found at the Utah Horse Council's website. [www.utahhorsecouncil.com](http://www.utahhorsecouncil.com)

**DID YOU GET  
YOUR  
NEWSLETTER**

**(OF COURSE  
YOU DID! BUT  
HOW?)**

We are sending this newsletter via both email and US mail to everyone on our list. If you are not receiving it one way or the other, please notify Cindy Furse [cfurse@ece.utah.edu](mailto:cfurse@ece.utah.edu) 581-9225

Also, we are trying to take care of the mail shredding problem by putting two stickers on the bottom instead of one.

Got a favorite horse photo? Send it for the newsletter!



*New Members Pat Wilson and Gina Levesque enjoy Dimple Dell in the snow.*

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

**Online Forms & Instructions**

www.backcountryhorse.com/  
Volunteer\_Hours\_Form.html

Send yours to: Doris Richards  
10508 Weeping Willow Dr  
Sandy, Utah 84070  
(H) 572-1253  
(W) 816-1111  
(c) 694-4273  
OhioanInUtah@gmail.com

**Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:**

**Saturday, April 25:** Service project, Courage Reins, Dimple Dell, info Bob Baker, 801-572-3996, bobbucksnort@q.com

**May 1-3: Jordanelle Project** (regional project for all chapters). Terry Morrison reported that Mike Johnson the ranger over the Jordanelle was very horse friendly. Is in the process of making two parallel trails for horse and walkers from the Cross Creek Trailhead and wants BCH involved with them in the planning and developing. Has plans to cut in 4 new trails with cabins along the trail for users. Need

BCH help with weed spraying and control as well. More details to come on bchu.com

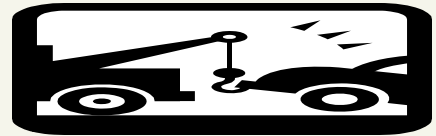
**July 10-12 Strawberry area Current Creek Project** (regional project for all chapters) Paula Hill reported that the last project was successful with funding available. Several managers were repaired and 2 corrals were build, 6 more need to be. Donations of materials and work effort are needed. More details to come on bchu.com.

**Aug 15-23 Crystal Lake Bridge** in the Uintas (regional project for all chapters). 15 packers + pack animals have taken in 1/3 of the needed corduroy for bridges. The rest needs to be packed in, and the bridges built. Will be scheduled for a week long project with a base camp set up. More details to follow on bchu.com

**Saturday, September 26:** Service project, Hemangog Trail Work, Corner Canyon, info Bob Baker, 801-572-3996, bobbucksnort@q.com

## TRUCK CRASH NOTES

At least two of our members have had truck crashes in the past year. Bob Baker was T-boned (without his horse), and Cindy Furse was hit while towing her horse trailer. Here's what we learned about truck rentals: All truck rentals are not created equal. Rental trucks from traditional car rental places are not set up or allowed to tow trailers. Two places in town that rent (4WD) trucks that can tow trailers are **Interstate Truck Rental (1-800-900-0532)** and **Rugged Rentals (977-9111)**. Your own insurance agent can be a lot of help, even if you are hit by 'the other guy'. Bob's agent helped get the truck and brought it to him. Cindy had a lot of trouble with the 'other guy's' insurance company, because they didn't want to give her a 4WD (necessary to get her home) OR a truck that could tow, and told her that such a thing did not exist (see numbers above). Her insurance agent finally told her to call the Utah State Insurance Inspector, who intervened on her behalf.

**2009 Officers:**

**President :**  
Ray Smith  
969-0758

[rayscki@yahoo.com](mailto:rayscki@yahoo.com)

**State Rep:**  
Paula Hill 766.8393  
[colostatemama@yahoo.com](mailto:colostatemama@yahoo.com)

**Ride Coordinators:**  
Steve Johnson 541-6008  
Keith Christensen  
571-6129

**1st Vice Pres:**  
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942.8928

[kernpr@gmail.com](mailto:kernpr@gmail.com)

**Service Coordinator:**  
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[OhioanInUtah@gmail.com](mailto:OhioanInUtah@gmail.com)

**Historian:**  
Rinda Black 278-2112

**2nd Vice Pres.:**  
Bob Baker 572-3996;  
631-8058; 631-8058

[bobbucksnort@q.com](mailto:bobbucksnort@q.com)

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George & Christa Muller  
619-8632

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Cindy Furse  
581-9225  
[cfurse@ece.utah.edu](mailto:cfurse@ece.utah.edu)

**Secretary:**  
Help needed! To Volunteer for  
this position, call Ray Smith.

**Treasurer**  
Larry Newton 553-7702  
[Bignewt1@comcast.net](mailto:Bignewt1@comcast.net)

**Past President:**  
Beverly Hefernan  
572-3304  
[b.heffernan@att.net](mailto:b.heffernan@att.net)

**Featured Websites in this Edition:**

**Back Country Horsemen** [www.bchu.com](http://www.bchu.com)  
**Salt Lake Equestrian Center** [www.slcoequestrian.org](http://www.slcoequestrian.org)  
**Utah Horse Council** [www.utahhorsecouncil.com](http://www.utahhorsecouncil.com)

**Mountain Ridge Photo Sharing Site:** email  
[cfurse@ece.utah.edu](mailto:cfurse@ece.utah.edu) for an invitation.  
**USU Equine Extension** [extension.usu.edu/equine/](http://extension.usu.edu/equine/)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
BCHU.COM**

**MOUNTAIN RIDGE  
BACK COUNTRY  
HORSEMEN**

**Mountain Ridge Back Country Horsemen  
P.O. Box 81  
Riverton, UT 84065**

**Join M.R.B.C.H. and preserve our heritage!**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

HomePhone \_\_\_\_\_ Work# \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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 horse/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 Mt. Ridge BCH, individual \$30/year, family \$40/year. New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

**A Good Idea: Put this page in your horse trailer, and hand it off to someone you meet on your rides who would like to join BCHU.**

**MRBCH Editor  
9400 Emigration Canyon  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108**