

May 2010

NEXT SERVICE PROJECT:

Porter Rockwell Trail Project, 6pm May 13 (see p.6)

NEXT RIDES:

Corner Canyon May 15 and Deer Creek May 28
See p.6

NEXT MEETING:

Thur May 13 at 6 pm, Doris Richards house (See p. 6)

THANK YOU!

To everyone who helped out on the Dimple Dell Service Project and the Mile Marker 10 clean-up. Great job, thank you!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Trap Coral Made of Stone	2
April Minutes & More Cool Stuff	3
Mile Marker 10 Ride & CleanUp	4
Dimple Dell Ride & CleanUp	5
Ride & Meeting Schedule	6-7



Mountain Ridge

Back Country Horsemen of Utah

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E



Since our last newsletter we have been on some good rides to Elk Meadows and the trail at Mile Marker Ten where we performed a major service project that involved pack horses. Some of us participated in the state meeting in St. George. During our monthly meeting we had an engaging evening learning about the photography of horses and Cindy even procured and sold a few trailer magnets with the Mountain Ridge logo on them. I think we are doing pretty well as a chapter and I personally have been looking forward to the good riding weather that is now upon us. I have been impressed by Fred Leslie's new horse – a mustang he bought at the gathering in Heber City

last November. I now have been with Fred on two rides where that horse came along. That horse has spirit – and not in a bad way – but I have to admit that I can relate to it. You might recall the ride we took out through Elk Meadows south of Stockton. We were in the sagebrush and the brome and the bunch grass. This is mustang range. Fred's mustang took the opportunity to head for the hills when left unattended for a split second. All saddled up he headed out at a lope and a trot. A couple of miles later, it was only a wire fence that stopped his course, otherwise he would have been gone. Aren't we all just a little bit like that horse? Isn't that why we do what we can to get out and ride the open range from time to time? And isn't it those pesky fences of duty and obligation that send us back home? But it's those fences that allow us to keep order to things and then return at a future time. So we try to strike a balance and we do the best that we can living in our modern day confinement – just like that mustang of Fred's. So - thanks to so many who are making this year a good one for Mountain Ridge. Your involvement and help and your sense of duty make it possible for us to return to the hills at least once a month. This month's poem is about a mustang stallion from Antelope Island that once "belonged" to the fabled lawman of the pioneer era – Lott Smith. He had the same, if not worse experience than Fred.

—Paul Kern

Editors' Note: See Fred's Mustang redeeming himself dragging a tire on p. 5

THE TRAP CORRAL OF STONE BY PAUL KERN

The west may all be settled but its spirit can't be thrown,
On an island in the old salt sea stands a trap corral of stone.
It's use to some a mystery but to others it's well known,
To whence a storied feral stud - the spotted wild roan.

Trap corrals catch mustangs when there's just no other way,
When they're too fast and wily and keep you well at bay.
A herd of horses wild, well bred and fast and free,
Once roamed this island range out in the old salt sea.

High upon a rocky ridge a trail there bends and curves,
Fast horses slow up some to settle down their nerves.
Years ago they built right there a trap corral of stone,
To catch the colts and mares and the stallion spotted roan.

A finer horse you'd never find, that wild spotted roan,
Lott Smith knew his mind and would have him for his own,
Run 'em in and throw 'em down and tie 'em nose to tail,
He and his partners did the deed and did it very well.

They tried to break and tame that feral spotted roan,
The stallion that they caught there in the trap corral of stone.
One day all saddled up the spotted roan broke free,
And swam back to his home out in the old salt sea.

Never to be caught again, the saddled spotted roan,
Never to come close again to the trap corral of stone.
Corralled but hardly captured the spotted roan remains,
The blood of wild horses flows deep in western veins.

The men who ride fast horses in places wild like these,
Share heart that rides the wind and dally ties the breeze.
The west may all be settled but its spirit won't be thrown,
On an island in the old salt sea near the trap corral of stone.



**MOUNTAIN RIDGE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, April 8, 2010 – Pat Wilson, secretary

Present: Paul & Kathie Kern, Pat Wilson, Doris Richards, Ray Smith, Stephanie Yeager, Sandy Williams, Diana vanUitert, Bob Baker, Bruce Kartchner. The meeting was called to order by Paul Kern at 1905. Minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and unanimously voted to be accepted.

Ray Smith reported that Jeran Farley, the Open Space and Forest Supervisor for So Jordan would like assistance in spreading bark on the trail from 98th south to 114th south. Please let Ray know if you can be counted on to help with this. Envision Utah is not letting BCHU attend any of their upcoming planning meetings.

Bob Baker would like to remind us all that we need to bring our garments to the next meeting if we wish to have the BCHU logo placed on them.

Karen Beals of Pine Canyon Photography gave a presentation on how to get the very best pictures of your horse. She had some simple but wise suggestions:

- There are three parts to photographing a horse (the front, middle, rear). If you photograph your horse straight on the animal will appear to have a huge head, no middle, and a tiny behind.

- Try to not take pictures at noon or your own shadow will show up. Best times to photograph are late morning (9-10am) and anytime after 3pm.
- Squat down when taking your pictures.
- If your picture is of a moving horse try to get the forward leg closest to you as it is striding forward so your picture 'flows'.
- Take LOTS of pictures. This increases your chances of getting something you actually like and will keep. (Editors note: Cindy agrees! Check out the snapfish site for ALLLLLLL the BCHU pictures....)

Diana vanUitert reported that there are several events in Many and June that will be celebrating the Pony Express. The mail comes through Salt Lake on June 14th. Diana (and others from BCHU) will be carrying the mail for one segment.

Cheryl Smith report that Kamp Kostopolus now has an indoor arena and that it is now open. Kamp K is starting a riding program for veterans called Horses for Heroes. Horse savvy volunteers are needed.

Doris Richards reported the Service Project in Dimple Dell is being held April 24th.

MORE COOL STUFF...



For summer shade Gina Levesque likes this: [Long Riders Helmet Brim](#) (below) (805) 547 2322

Cindy Furse and Aleta Hansen like this Australian Helmet Shade (right): www.helmetshades.com 1-888-467-7234. Cindy added a 'bone' choker from [Tandy Leather](#) as a hat band.



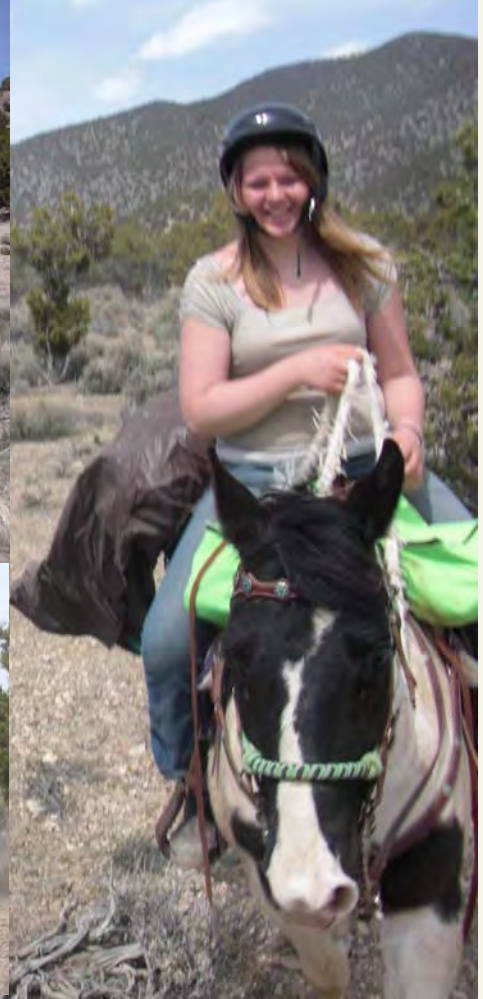
Carol Lang uses these Western 'Falls Creek' Safety Stirrups from Smoke Elser Wilderness Outfitters Consulting Group, LLC in Montana. Phone: (406) 549-2820. They are \$65 + shipping.

For other safety stirrups, see the Nov 2009 newsletter available at www.bchu.com

MILE MARKER 10 RIDE AND CLEANUP

April 17, 2010

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Mile Marker 10 cabin ride and clean-up! The facts: 17 riders, two 'pack horses' (what better way to teach your young-un to pack?), full garbage bags, no rodeos. The important facts: Gorgeous blue-sky day, good friends, good fun, good horses, good riding! Thanks, everybody!



DIMPLE DELL CLEAN-UP

By Doris Richards

MRBCHU's second service project of 2010 was a success! Dimple Dell Regional Park in Sandy was the focus. In total, 15 Mountain Ridge members were at the project at one time or another. In 4-1/2 hours, we installed 8 new "trail closed" signs to clarify current park trails usage, cleaned the area around the wild-life pond, removed a transient hut and some tires from the Dry Creek bottom area, cleaned the amphitheatre, pruned trails and hauled trash out. Thanks to Paul Deputy, Cindy Furse, Bev Heffernan, Paul Hillier, Lynette Leonard, Fred Leslie, Bill McEwan, Craig Moody, Karen Moyle, Larry Newton, Scott & Doris Richards (organizers), Ray Smith, Jim Spreiter, Jo Stoddard, Fran Wilby and Sandy Williams (who rode out with snacks and water!) Thank you, one and all, for your support!



MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCHU 2010 SCHEDULE

*Deer Creek, Ride it in the Full Moon, May 28*

May 13, Monthly Meeting & Sandy Pride Day Trail Project (Porter Rockwell Trail (Doris Richards 572-1253; 694-4273 ohioaninutah@gmail.com))

Note change of time:

6:00 PM Thursday, May 13

Scott and Doris Richards house
10508 Weeping Willow Drive
(approximately 120 East, first street east of State Street on 10600 South in Sandy.)

Our May meeting includes a brief but important service project--our unit's annual Porter Rockwell trail maintenance/cleanup from 10200 South to 11400 South. This is our BCHU participation in Sandy Pride Day on Saturday May 15; cleaning the trail earlier actually helps Sandy City crews by freeing them up for more Saturday projects. The trail is so much improved since our initial project in 2005 that the project can be literally a pickup walk. Our involvement on this urban trail is strategically very important as the entirety of the Porter Rockwell trail currently allows midvalley equestrian travel north-south uninterrupted from 10200 South to the Point of the Mountain and beyond as well as providing access to Dimple

Dell Park. Sandy and Draper have expressed their commitment to maintaining equestrian access down this corridor, and with the impending Trax extension to Draper, keeping our volunteer presence known can only help our cause should any changes be proposed in the future.

Bring gloves, pruners if you have them, maybe a shovel if convenient. Garbage bags will be provided. After the meeting we can out from both the north and south ends and probably be done within an hour with enough helpful hands!

May 15, Corner Canyon Ride & Intro to Draper Trails (Bob Baker 572-3996; 631-8058 bobbucksnort@q.com)

Meet at the Andy Ballard Arena ready to ride at 10. Clark Naylor, Draper Trails advocate, will tell us about the various equestrian trails in Draper. He is bringing maps of the updated trail system for us. Then Bob Baker will lead a ride in Corner Canyon. The trail intro plus ride will be about 3 1/2 hours. We will eat lunch af-

ter returning to the arena, so if you need a snack, pack something in your saddle bag. Bob would like our feedback to the Draper Trails committee on the equestrian trails and how to improve them, so plan on that discussion over lunch. Part of the trail will be 'urban riding' (small amount of street riding/crossing). The rest of the trail is pretty soft. Shoes are optional.

Andy Ballard Arena is 1600 East Highland Dr. which is 13675 South. To get there, go south on 1300 East to about 140000 S where the road ends. Go left (up hill). The arena will be on your left in a mile or so. Park in the gravel area behind (downhill from) the arena.

May 28 (note change of date), Deer Creek Full Moon Ride (Cindy Furse 581-9225

cfurse@ece.utah.edu and Diana van Uitert)

The date of this ride may be adapted if needed depending on the weather (we need a reasonably clear night to see the moon). Please RSVP to Cindy (cfurse@ece.utah.edu 581-9225) so I know you are planning to come in case we need to make last minute changes.

Meet at the Deer Creek trailhead parking lot ready to ride at 7pm. The parking lot is just WEST of the dam on the north side of the road (the uphill side). It isn't really marked, but you can see the paved road to the parking area. The trail is wide, open and nearly flat along the reservoir, great for trotting / gaiting (We'll do some of that), and we should be able to see the moon really well. The trail is coarse gravel. We will ride about 3 hours. Bring water and a snack.

SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

June 5, Nobletts (Uintas) Ride & 1-Horse Packing Clinic (Steve Johnson / Cindy Furse)

June 10, Monthly Meeting, Chapter Business Meeting (Paul Kern)

June 12-14, Pony Express 150th Anniversary Celebration (Diana van Uiter)

June 19, Bench Creek Trail Dead-fall Cleanup Project (Fred Leslie)

June 25-27, Blackhawk Ride & Wildflower photography (& optional campout) (Paul Kern / Cindy Furse)
Reserve a campsite in horse loop E at reservations.gov or call 1-877-444-6777

July 8, Monthly Meeting, Firearms for Backcountry Safety (coordinator: Paul Kern)

July 9-11, Currant Creek Trail Project (Paula Hill)

July 22-24, Island Park Ride (15 riders max) (Paul Kern) Need Cogs, Health & Travel Permit

Aug 12, Monthly Meeting, Backcountry Tents and Tipis (Kirkhams), (coordinator: Ray Smith)

Aug 13-14, Crystal Lake Corduroy Packing Service Project (Fred

Leslie)

Aug 19-21, Bryce Area Ride (Ray Smith)

Sept 9, Monthly Meeting, Dutch Oven Cooking (coordinator: Rinda Black)

Sept 18, Hemangog Trail Maintenance (Bob & Lisa Baker)

Sept 25, Soldier Hollow Ride (Bev Heffernan)

Oct 14, Monthly Meeting, Mustangs or First Aid with USU (coordinator: Cindy Furse)

Oct 23, American Fork Ride (Pat Wilson/Tom Smith)

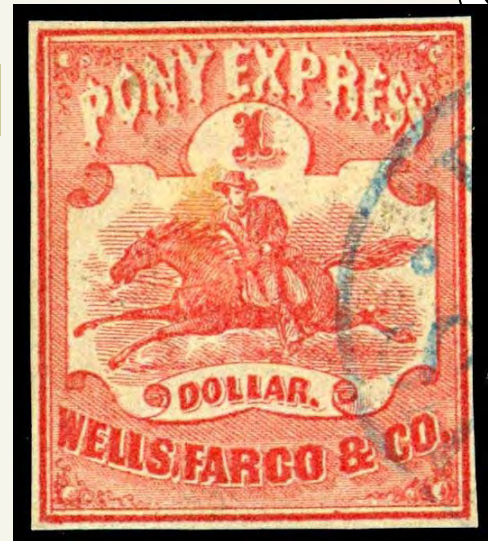
Oct 29-30, Antelope Island Bison Roundup (30th) / opt campout (Paul Kern)

Nov 11, Monthly Meeting, Bare Foot Trim (coordinator: Tom Smith)

Nov 20 weekend (tentative), Wild Bunch-Robbers Roost Ride (Bruce Kartchner)

Dec 4, Stansbury Petroglyphs Ride (Paul Kern)

Dec 9, MR-BCHU Christmas Party (Tom Smith)



This year is the 150th Anniversary of the Pony Express, so there will be a lot of special events this month leading up to the June 12-14 re-ride. On Thursday, May 20, at "This is The Place" Heritage Park, Pony Express historian and author Christopher Corbett will speak. Chris is the author of the book "Orphans Preferred." He is a very entertaining speaker, and a great guy. Make it a point, as part of your 150th Anniversary activities, to come up to the Park on May 20, pass by the Fairbanks Statue and the Station, and meet Chris. The lecture will take place at 7:00 P.M. at the visitors' center just north of the big monument.

Also, Diana vanUiter has information about the celebration in Callao, which is attached if you get the email version of this newsletter. If not, contact Diana 755-2888, and she will send you one.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
[BCHU.Com](http://www.BCHU.com)

HOW TO JOIN BCHU

The membership form to join Mountain Ridge BCHU is in the January newsletter. This is on the web at www.BCHU.com. Go to the Mountain Ridge chapter page, click on Newsletter Archives, then January 2010. It is on the last page of the newsletter. OR contact Cindy Furse (cfurse@ece.utah.edu) 801 581 9225, and I will send you one. Thank you!

BCHU LOGO-WEAR

Attention all Mountain Ridge members, this spring we are again offering logoed apparel to our members. The program works like this, the small logo can be done on the chest of a shirt, jacket, or vest for \$5.00 and the large logo can be done on the back for \$10.00. Any piece of clothing can be logoed. We will collect new or laundered shirts and vest at the April and May meetings, so please bring your items to the meeting with a note attached with your name and where you want the logo, or call me (Bob Baker 801-631-8058) to arrange to get the items to me. After the May meeting I will deliver the items to the company who will do the logo, have the finished product by the June meeting, at which time payment will be due.

At this time we can get Levi vests like the ones some member have for \$21.99 + shipping.

I have some members interested in vests. If any members are interested please call Bob to place your order, so we can receive the vests before the May meeting. Please call Bob Baker 801-631-8058 with any questions.

