

Uintah Basin Back Country Horseman History on the CHILDRENS JUSTICE CENTER RIDE

In July of 2001, Chief Cecil Gurr of the Roosevelt Police Department was killed in the line of duty. The U.B. Chapter of the Back Country Horseman voted to hold a fund raiser poker ride to help his family out. Chief Gurr's wife asked us to donate the funds we would be raising to the Childrens Justice Centers of the basin, as they were centers that he fully supported and helped to organize.

The Childrens Justice Centers are home like settings used by detectives and investigators when dealing with children who have been sexually, physically and mentally abused. These children are victims of crime that have been traumatized.

The centers have rooms set up for various age groups where the children can be interviewed by trained investigators and councilors. The interviews are audio and video tapped. The tapings are and can be used at preliminary hearings and sometimes at trials in an effort to avoid traumatizing the child any more than necessary. Although the centers are state and federally funded, it is not enough to keep the centers upgraded and fully staffed, therefore they depend on outside donations.

Sexual child abuse is a growing crime in this country and these centers are desperately Needed in helping our victimized children.

The Uintah Basin Back Country Horseman of Utah decided to do the fundraiser on an annual basis while honoring Chief Gurr, and other fallen officers of the basin along with a fallen member of the U. B. Back Country Horseman.

A date for the 1st Childrens Justice Center charity poker ride was set for 9-15-01. As everyone knows America was attacked on 9-11-01 by a foreign country, just 4 days before our charity ride. Not knowing what the future for the United States was going to be, the UBBCH went ahead with plans and held the 1st annual charity rider. There were 3 camps, approximately 35 people of which approximately 20 riders rode and the chapter took in \$1,835.00. The chapter by unanimous votes gave \$165.00 from the chapters own coffers, making it possible to donate \$1,000.00 to the Daggett and Uintah County Justice Center, and \$1,000.00 to the Duchesne County Justice Centers for a total of \$2,000.00.

The charity ride has been held every year since 9-11 on the closest Saturday to 9-11 and has grown to a two day event with many participants camping overnight.

The 2007 charity ride consisted of the poker ride Saturday morning, of over 50 riders, donating \$5.00 per poker hand, many riders picking up several hands, many of the people that came and didn't ride donated several hands. Prizes and gift certificates were given to

all who picked up poker hands.

Next came the raffle and this year over \$5,000.00 was donated to the raffle by donating \$1.00 a ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.00. The raffle tickets were printed and donated by the “Old Town Printing Shop“ a local business’ and sold by the members of the U.B.B.C.H. The 1st place drawing was \$500.00 cash which was won by a U.B.B.C.H. member. The 2nd place drawing was a donated oil painting done by a local artist and donated by a U.B.B.C.H. member. The 3rd place drawing was a camp chef stove bought and paid for by a U.B.B.C.H. member.

Entertainment is provided and donated throughout the day. The last 3 years a local surgeon and his partner from Ogden, Utah have picked and played a variety of music, much of their own writing. The crowds have grown because of their great entertainment. They donate their time and equipment and spend several hundred dollars on poker hands and raffle.

A fine Barbeque meal has been cooked every year by a local Attorney, and a superb chef, and a person who is on the “Childrens Justice Center Board of Directors.” He has a food handlers permit and makes the best barbequed beans this side of the Rockies. All of the food and equipment for the barbeque are provided and cooked at no charge by local members of our U.B.B.C.H. Members go out and get donations of corn on the cob, salads, butter, and condiments. This year we had deserts cooked in Dutch-ovens and donated to our club.

Approximately 100 to 125 people were fed this year at \$5.00 a plate or what ever donation they wish to make.

An auction is held every year and is out biggest part of the fund raiser. The members of the U.B.B.C. H. canvas the basin spreading the word receiving donations in products, service and cash from businesses, merchants, and individuals. There have been many items that have been made, created, drawn and painted by the individual making them one of a kind.

The charity ride is supported by the local radio stations, donating many hours of advertising in promoting the Uintah Basin Back Country Horseman and the Children’s Justice Centers purpose and importance to the communities.

Planning has already begun for the 2008 Children’s Justice Centers Charity Ride to be held September 12th, 13th, and 14th. The poker ride will be on the 13th at 10.00 am.

A new attraction was added this year with the addition of one of our members printing T-shirts and hats for sale with our U.B.B.C.H. logo on them, they sold very well.

Donations received and given by year are as follows:

2001	\$2,000.00	
2002	\$3,000.00	
2003	\$4,000.00	
2004	\$6,000.00	
2005	\$12,000.00	
2006	\$10,000.00	(We had a bad rain storm that night)
2007	\$16,757.00	(We had a huge tent donated for the night)
2008	\$20,000.00	(new goal for the year)

Respectfully Submitted

Gale C. Robbins

Uintah Basin Back County Horseman President