

NEXT MEETING:

March 10 at 7pm
[Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

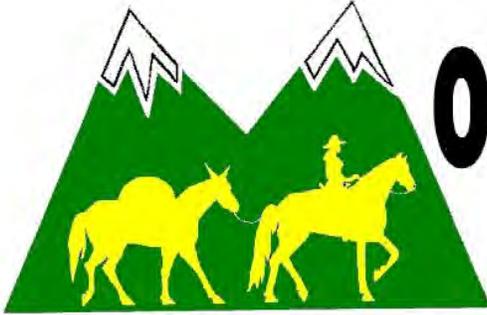
Bill Agnew —Small acreage pasture management (just in time for spring!)

NEXT RIDE:

March 12 West Desert Mile Marker 10, Perry White leading. In the Saddle at 10am. See details on page 4.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meeting Minutes	3
Pasture Management	2-3
Ride & Project Schedule	4
Ghost towns	5-7
Helmet-Hat	8
Officers	8



Mountain Ridge

Back Country Horsemen of Utah

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



Chris, Toddy, and Beverley

The fur is flying, the ground hog did not see his shadow, and spring is officially less than a month away! March will be a busy month-- we'll have Bill Agnew as our guest speaker at the monthly meeting, educating us on pasture management, which is a timely topic. We also have our monthly ride on March 12, Perry White will lead the ride at Mile Marker 10. The following weekend, March 18-20, is the annual Horse Expo, and Mountain Ridge will man the BCHU booth all day Saturday, and we'll also set the booth up Thursday night at 6 p.m. Hi Line and Hobbles will man the booth on Friday, and Wasatch Front will do the honors on Sunday, and will also dismantle the display. If you haven't yet signed up to help, I'll have the signup sheet at our March 10 meeting, or you can just

give me a call and we'll confirm the time slot.

Looking ahead to April, I'm working on a clinician who would give us some tips and demonstrate ways to solve problems horses have on trails. We'll want to discuss this further at the March meeting, and decide whether we might also want to do a pot luck supper or burger burn. We will also have a service project in Corner Canyon and Doris Richards can give us an update on that at the meeting.

Happy Trails,
Beverley Heffernan

P.S. — If you haven't already, please remember to renew your membership!

PASTURE AND HAY LAND PLANTING AND ESTABLISHMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

BY DAVID VEIGAND WITH
ARKANSAS VALLEY SEED COMPANY
WWW.AVSEEDS.COM

Planting Time

The best time to plant pasture and hay land grasses and legumes is in the early spring (mid-March to mid-May) when soil moisture is more abundant and temperatures cooler. Late summer/early fall (mid-August through September) can also be a good time but supplemental water would be necessary to get adequate germination. Dormant seeding in fall or early winter work well provide the soil is not frozen.

Site Preparation

Preparing a good seed bed is very important to ensure proper seed to soil contact and provide the proper growth environment. Rake, till or plow the site to loosen the top 3-4 inches (8-12 inches is ideal) of soil. Weeds or other undesirable vegetation should be removed or thoroughly worked into the soil. Apply a slow release fertilizer (i.e. Sustane 4-6-4) at a minimum rate of 300 #s/acre. Sustane can be purchased locally through Arkansas Valley Seed (877-907-3337). The final seed bed should be smooth, free of large clods and firm. For sterile areas, a granular/micronized mycorrhizae fungi (soil microbes) may be applied at 20 #s/acre to improve soil biology. Ask Arkansas Valley Seed about this product.

Seed Application

Drill seeding with a mechanical seeder is usually the most efficient method for larger plantings. Check with your local Soil Conservation District as frequently they have a seed drill rent/lease program for land owner. If a seeder is not available, applying the seed with a cyclone type broadcaster works well. Hand broadcasting can be done for small sites. Once the seed has been applied, rake or

drag the site to cover the seed with 1/8 to 1/4 inch of soil. If drilling, raking or dragging can be omitted. A seeding rate of 25 (drill) to 40 (broadcast) #s/acre is recommended.

Mulching

Applying a light layer (maximum 1/4 inch) straw, Hydrostraw All Purpose with 3 % tackifier, or organic material on top of the seed bed greatly improves the chances of success, especially if no supplemental water is available. Mulching improves soil moisture and protects the seed from blowing away or being eaten by rodents and birds.

Watering

The lack of proper moisture during establishment is the number one cause of failure of most seeding projects in the arid west. Providing supplemental water to the site great-

ly improves the success rate. Note that generally Mother Nature provides enough moisture during the growing season on an average of one out of every 3 years. If supplemental water is not available make sure the seed species in your mixture are for Dryland plantings as those species are most drought tolerant. If supplement irrigation is available, an irrigated pasture mix is preferred and typically more productive. Both dryland and irrigated pasture and hay land mixes are available from Arkansas Valley Seed.

Weed Control

Weed grow and establish much faster and easier than perennial grasses and can rob the soil of valuable moisture during the establishment period. The best method of weed control is by mowing the site before the weeds can mature and set seed. Chemical applications are generally



Kim Agnew's 0.9 acre irrigated pasture which supports 3 horses year round. The pasture was established with Arkansas Valley Seed's Irrigated Pasture mix. <http://www.avseeds.com/> Kim is a member of MR-BCHU, and her husband, Bill, is an agricultural consultant.

**PASTURE AND HAY LAND PLANTING
(CONTINUED)**

not recommended unless you can spot spray areas of heavy weed growth. If a legume is included in your mix mowing during the establishment period may eradicate that desired component of your mix.

Establishment Time

Under proper growing conditions you should start to see grass growth in 4 to 6 weeks with full

development in 6 to 8 months. Depending on planting time, available moisture and weed control, full establishment may take more than one growing season. It is generally recommended that grazing be deferred or only light use be allowed the initial establishment season. Remember, the more care and effort you provide initially will greatly influence the establishment time and success

of your pasture and hay land planting.

Article Contribution by David Weigand with Arkansas Valley Seed Company - dweigand@arkansasvalleyseed.com

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11 MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 with 12 members present. The January meeting minutes as published in the newsletter and posted on the Facebook page were approved without revision. Beverley noted that we need volunteers for the Horse Expo, Saturday March 19, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and a signup sheet was available at the meeting. She'll also need help setting up on Thursday evening at 6 p.m.

Stephanie Yeager gave the Treasurer's Report, we have received four membership renewals, and the balance in the bank account is \$9,373.63.

Doris and Lisa gave an update on the February 9 meeting at Draper City Hall on the Draper Master Plan. There was a great turnout of equestri-

ans and a lot of people in attendance. The proposal for the trail system is 85% accessible to bikes, with 15% off limits to bikes and intended for equestrians and hikers only. Everyone is urged to go to the Draper City web site to review the proposal and take the survey.

Beverley advised that we have been asked to submit nominations for our favorite trails on BLM land, this is a little tricky because BLM Utah does not formally designate trailheads for horses, but we will give them information on trails we use anyway, such as Mile Marker 10, Five Mile Pass, and Pony Express trail. This is due February 16, Cindy will help Bev.

Our monthly ride is being led by Fred Leslie on February 13 at 10 a.m. at Five Mile Pass, about four hours of riding plus lunch.

ing the proposed closure or modification of the Salt Lake Equestrian Park. John Norman brought the contact information for all of the county council members so we can contact them with our comments. The head of the Utah barrel racing association is spearheading efforts, Tyra started a Facebook page, and Monica and Tyra will follow up with Sheri Young on ways in which we might help or coordinate efforts, such as a rally at the Equestrian Park.

Next, Monica showed the vest options that are available at Callister's. We now have a club account at Callisters, so we can place group orders and get 20% off. Those at the meeting tried on and scoped out the various styles and colors, and it was decided we would go with black and brown canvas in mens' and womens' sizes. They retail at around \$50, John Norman will explore embroidery costs and another location was suggested- Karen Pullman Pro Shop- that Beverley will scope out. More information to be posted as it becomes available.

For our March meeting, Perry White has not been able to confirm a vet as a guest speaker, so we will invite Bill Agnew to speak on pasture management.

Drawing for the door prize (a water bottle and holder) was held, and Pat Wilson won.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes recorded by guest secretary Tyra Canary

February 2016 Financial Report and Tentative Budget!

Xmas party expenses: \$834.27
 POB Renewal: \$97.00
 Newsletters Nov and Jan: \$92.10
 Silent Auction Proceeds: \$1,795.00
 Memberships paid to date: \$1739.68

Cash On Hand: \$9376.63 (January 2016 Statement & 2-11-16 deposit)

Projected Expenses/Budget in 2016:

Newsletter every other month: \$400.00
 Calendar 200.00
 POB Renewal October: 74.00
 State Membership Dues 2,000.00
 Christmas Party: 1,000.00
Leaves available: 6,002.67

'Placeholders':
 Service Project Expenses 1,000.00
 Ride/Meeting/Clinic Expenses 1,000.00
 Administrative 500.00
Leaves Available: 3,502.67

Not counting additional dues expected, perhaps another \$2,000?

Lisa Caddy showed examples of safety vests that we might order to wear during service projects.

There was discussion on logo placement, different vest styles, and sizing, it was decided that Lisa is authorized to do further research and spend up to \$40 per vest for 8 vests, 4 size medium, 4 large/extra large.

Next, Monica added to the agenda discussion of the issues surround-

MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCHU 2016 SCHEDULE



Thursday March 10, 7 p.m. Monthly Chapter Meeting, Cottonwood Retirement Center, 7 p.m., Bill Agnew, Small acreage pasture management.

Saturday March 12, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. Monthly ride, West Desert, Mile Marker 10 (cabin or kitchen, depending on conditions).

Trailhead: Mile Marker 10 on Highway 73 (which runs between Cedar Fort and Tooele). Parking is on the east side of the road.

Bring lunch and water, dress for the weather. Plan on a 4-5 hour ride. Much of this terrain is rocky, so plan on shoes or boots for your horse. Be ready in the saddle at 10am.

Perry White will be leading this ride. 801- 254-8798; 801-330-7828

March 18-20 Horse Expo, Need help setting up the booth Thursday night, and manning it all day Saturday. Please contact Beverley Heffernan 801-891-5349 b.heffernan@att.net

Saturday April 2, 10 am Service Project, install water trough at Corner Canyon, (Doris Richards)

Saturday April 9, In The Saddle@10 a.m. Monthly Ride, Antelope Island, park at White Rocks, (Lisa Caddy)

Thursday, April 14, 7 pm Monthly Chapter Meeting, Tentative clinic at Corner Canyon Equestrian Center in Draper in lieu of Cottonwood Retirement Center to have demonstrations of various horse tips, Beverley Heffer-

nan working on details, possibly including pot luck or burger burn.

Thursday May 12, 7 pm Sandy Pride Day service project in lieu of 'indoor' meeting, Doris Richards coordinating, details/meeting location TBD.

Thursday May 14 Pony Express Riders swearing in at Fairfield.

Thursday May 21, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. Monthly Ride, Lookout Pass or Black Rock, Fred Leslie leading

Saturday June 4, National Trails Day Possible poker ride for equestrians AND hikers AND bikers, (Lisa Caddy)

Thursday June 9, 7 p.m. Monthly Meeting, Cottonwood Retirement Center

Saturday June 11, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. Monthly ride, Sheep Creek, Scott Richards leading.

Friday June 24-Sunday June 26 Joint Service Project with Wasatch Front, up Ogden Canyon, park at Bluff Springs, work in Sugar Pine/Montecristo. Camp Friday and Saturday nights if desired, pot luck dinner on Saturday, riding to work project Saturday, ride if desired on Sunday before heading out. Hal Peck coordinating for Wasatch Front.

Saturday July 9, In The Saddle @ 9 a.m. at Ballard Equestrian Center Ride and Service project, maintenance on Hoof and Boot trail in Corner Canyon, (Doris Richards)

Saturday July 14, 7 pm Monthly Chapter Meeting, Cottonwood Retirement Center, 7 p.m.

Saturday July 16 Placeholder for our half of joint service project w/Wasatch Front, see August for current date (Fred Leslie)

Thursday August 11, 7 pm Monthly Meeting at Dimple Dell, Park at Monument Trailhead, bring your horse, we'll set

up some obstacles for fun training purposes, possible pot luck or burger burn, Beverley Heffernan coordinating

Saturday August 13, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. Strawberry Ride, Tyra Canary and Monica Zoltanski leading, option to camp overnight if desired (Friday and/or Saturday).

Saturday August 20 Joint Service Project with Wasatch Front, Meet at grocery store in Kamas, time tbd, we'll open up trail at Woodland/Little South Fork, will have 4 chainsaws and will need many others to hold/move horses and remove downed trees, chapter will provide food, including possible burger burn after, specifics will follow later, Fred Leslie coordinating (see above, might be moved to July).

Weekend of August 27 Placeholder for a pack trip if anyone is interested? Maybe North Fork?

Thursday, September 8, 7 p.m. Monthly Chapter Meeting, Cottonwood Retirement Center

Saturday, September 10, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. Monthly ride and service project, Yellow Fork

Saturday September 24, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. (Diana van Uitert) Fall foliage ride in Provo Canyon.

Saturday October 1 Annual ASHAU Obstacle Course at Dimple Dell, (Doris Richards)

Saturday October 8, In The Saddle @ 9:30 a.m. Monthly ride, American Fork Canyon, park at Transfer Station, (Fred Leslie)

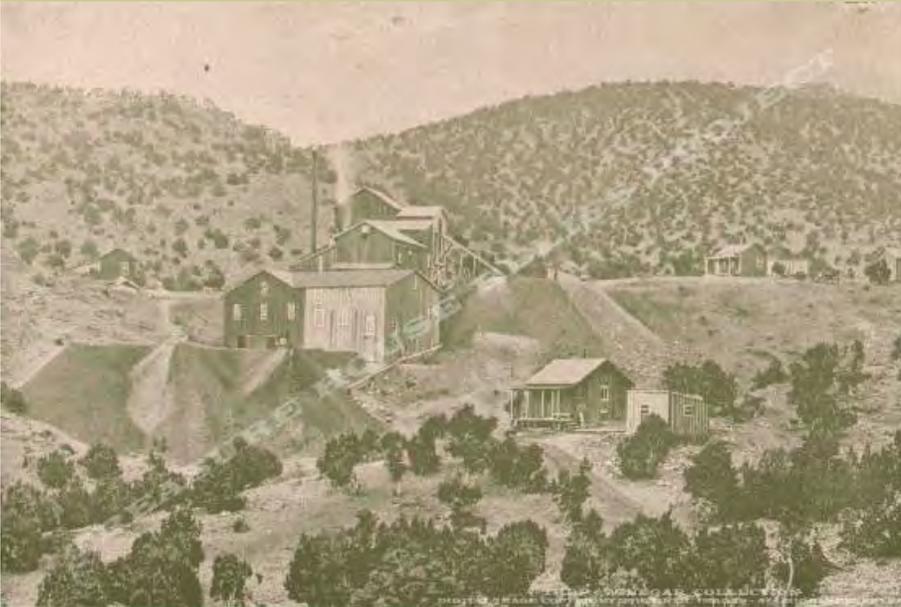
Thursday October 13, 7 p.m. Monthly Chapter Meeting, Cottonwood Retirement Center

Thursday November 10, 7 p.m. Monthly Chapter Meeting, Cottonwood Retirement Center

Saturday November 12, In The Saddle @ 10 a.m. Monthly ride, Mile Marker 10

Thursday December 8, Christmas Party and Elections

THREE WEST DESERT GHOST TOWNS



View of the Sunshine Mill just south of Sunshine camp. c.1898 From: <http://www.miningutah.com>

Sunshine

The Sunshine Mining & Milling Co. was the first mining company in the area to complete and operate a mill. It extracted gold using the cyanide process from 1895—1910. It is estimated that the Sunshine mine produced over \$220,000 in total values, most of that Gold.

The town of **Sunshine** itself was small but sported the typical aggression of mine buildings, dwellings and boarding houses, saloons and gambling dens. Those who knew best considered it one of the most vile of the late-era mining towns.

Mercur, formerly called Lewiston, was a town that refused to die. During the 1860s, a few hardy prospectors eked out an existence by mining in Lewiston Canyon. Results were meager. Eventually, persistence paid off and good deposits were found. Gradually, as the word spread, miners came to town to work the silver mines and soon a real boom developed. When the boom died in 1880, Lewiston died with it. Now came a rebirth. A lone prospector came to the deserted town looking for a deposit of gold. What he discovered was evidence of quicksilver, a vein of cinnabar. He named his claim by his word for mercury, Mercur. Assayed, the ore showed a good content of gold worth more than the mercury. Efforts to get the gold out of the rock proved to too expensive. The town, now named Mercur, died once again. Next came a group of men with financial resources dedicated to finding a way to extract the gold from the rock. They succeeded and Mercur rose again to be a boomtown. During the early part of 1896, a fire nearly destroyed the entire town. Mercur was soon rebuilt and was



Mercur c.1902 From: www.usgwarchives.net

again destroyed by fire in 1902. Again rebuilt, the current boom lasted until 1913 when deposits seemed to be failing. By 1925, Mercur was once again a ghost town. However, in 1934 a side canyon called Horse Thief Gulch was found to be rich in gold and in two years Mercur had risen again to become the second gold producing town in Utah. The end finally came in 1951 when the cost of mining

exceeded the value of gold. In 1983, newer processes were used to go through the old tailings for a few years. Now, access to the site is forbidden but you can get to many good overlooks of the area by taking four wheel drive roads from Ophir towards the site of Manning.

(From: www.ghosttowns.com)

WEST DESERT GHOST TOWNS (CONT)



Jacob City c.1979. Photos by J.R. Huff (Hotel has since fallen down)

From: <http://www.ghosttowns.com> See map: http://www.tooelecountytrails.com/jacob_city_loop.html

Jacob City

Jacob City is accessed from Dry Canyon south of Stockton. Its Hidden Treasure operated up until the late 1960's, but almost all of the mines in this canyon dried up before 1915. Jacob City's population, roughly 300 at its peak, dwindled rapidly once ore became scarce.

Back in its day, Jacob City could have sprung straight from a script-writer's imagination. Cabins, boarding houses, a butcher's shop, and a brothel clung improbably to Dry Canyon's steep walls. Crusty old prospectors and adventuring entrepreneurs alike rubbed shoulders at the local tavern. One of the city's more prominent personalities was Matt Gisborne, owner of the phenomenally rich Mono Mine. At its peak, his thick vein of silver was delivering over sixty thousand dollars a month in pure profit. That's not too shabby for the 1890's. Adjusting for inflation it's roughly equivalent to a million dollars each month.

The *Galaxy*, a periodical based in New York City, sent a journalist out to Jacob City to investigate and interview Mr. Gisborne. At that time the *Galaxy* was considered one of the best literary magazines in the country, though it had a tendency to take liberties with its subject material. The writer's name was John Codman, a self-styled New York "expert" on Utah and the Western United States.

When Mr. Codman arrived at Gisborne's residence near the Mono mine, he was surprised to find his wealthy host holding a cheap cigar in one hand and a bottle of whisky in the other. His feet were kicked up on a table, and a shabby suit draped his frame. The journalist couldn't comprehend having money and not spending it. Apparently a bit flustered, he asked Gisborne why he wasn't living in luxury on 5th Avenue. With a deadpan gaze Gisborne responded flatly, "All I need is my cigar and this whiskey."

The correspondent didn't get much more than that out of the unforthcoming Gisborne. He gathered up his en-

tourage and went elsewhere. He visited the Chicago and Grey Rock mines further up the canyon, gushing about their gracious superintendents.

Matt Gisborne's mining operation continued to haul money out of the narrow but rich vein of silver threading its way through the mountain. The operation cruised along until the miners and engineers hit a fissure at the back of their drift. At some point in geologic history, an earthquake had sheared the rock deep within the mountain, slicing the vein and dislocating it from the rest of the ore body. Gisborne tossed the dice and guessed that the vein had shifted upwards. He squandered a fortune trying to find where it had gone, before eventually giving up.

(From: www.wildernessutah.com/explore/jacobcity.html)

MAP & GPS DETAILS AT RIDEWITHGPS.COM

**Start: Five Mile Pass
MileMarker 17 on Hwy 73**

OVERVIEW METRICS EXPORT
 Jan 03, '16, 10:55AM EDIT
BCHU SUNSHINE
 Start at FiveMile Pass, east side (where the 4wheelers park). Ride through the foothills towards Sunshine Canyon (northeast), there are many different trails. This was great in the snow, following a jeep road. The snow was deep, but the jeep tracks made it great footing for the horses. The snow covered/padded the very rocky road, and there was almost no ice (been too cold for a thaw/freeze), so the footing was great. When we got to the top, we had a 360 degree view, super pretty. To the north we could look over the ghost town of Mercur. We rode past, but are not

Start: MileMarker 45 On Hwy 36

OVERVIEW METRICS EXPORT
 Dec 13, '15, 10:25AM EDIT
BCHU JACOB CITY
 This was a super fun ride, starting at the Stockton Gravel Pit and riding east. Jacob City is a mining Ghost Town with lots of ruins of buildings, mining tailings, etc. On the flats (which have lots of ups and downs/draws /ditches/etc) you can trot a lot. Up the canyon is rocky. We had snow cover that made the footing nicer for the horses on the rocks. This track has a lot of bushwacking and some 4wheeler tracks. With quite a lot of trotting, and a lot of exploring Jacob City, this ride took about 6 hours.
 Historic Jacob City:

**Start: MileMarker
10
On Hwy 73**

OVERVIEW METRICS EXPORT
 Feb 07, '15, 11:28AM EDIT
MM10CABIN NICE28:43
 Park at Mile Marker 10 on State Road 73. This ride takes you to a dilapidated cabin. Much of the trail is rocky, and can ice up in the winter.
SEE OTHER RIDES
 By: **CF**
 Started in: Tooele County, UT, US
 Distance: 9.4 mi
 Elevation: + 1769 / - 1761 ft
 Moving Time: 02:27:55
 Gear: **Tesla**
 Privacy: Public

RideWithGPS.com >> Search for BCHU for a listing of GPS tracks I've linked. Please add yours! (include BCHU in the titles, so others can find horse trails.)

More Info on Mercur Cemetery: <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=cr&CRid=109328>

SPRING SHOT CLINIC

NEW WESTERN FELT HAT / HELMET

Spring Shot Clinic date and location TBD

— From South Mountain Equine

Vetera Gold 6-Way Vaccine = Full Spring Series - \$60 (WNV,
EEV, WEV, Influenza, Rhino, Tetanus)

Strangles - \$29

Rabies - \$10

Tetanus - \$15

Flu/Rhino - \$30

Fecal Egg Count (tests for parasites, includes dewormer if
needed for horses shedding moderate
or high numbers of parasite eggs) - \$15

Ivermectin Deworming - \$15

Coggins - \$20

Microchip - \$30



<http://resistotridesafe.com/>

We can check teeth on any horse we vaccinate at no charge.

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