

**NEXT SERVICE PROJECT & RIDES**

Come to the BCHU meeting and help plan them!

**NEXT MEETING:**  
Jan 13 (2nd Thursdays)  
[Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

**THANK YOU!**

To Everyone who contributed to and helped with the Christmas Party and Auction, especially Tom Smith for the organizing

Thank you to Paul Kern, for a great BCHU 2010!

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# Mountain Ridge

## Back Country Horsemen of Utah

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

I would like to thank some people. Paul Kern, for the wonderful job he did as president in 2010. He was a very energetic and dynamic president, some big boots to fill indeed. Thanks to all of our members who led rides, acted as officers and coordinated projects last year, as you are the backbone of all we do. Thanks to Tom Smith and all his volunteers for the wonderful annual dinner and acution. Finally, a special thanks to Kathy Kern, for supporting Paul through his tenure.

There are three areas I would like to focus on this year.

First, we should have several rides where our members can bring their dogs. Many members have dogs that enjoy running with the horses. The ride could go something like this: we gather at the trailhead, let the dogs get things worked out amongst themselves before we get on the horses, then head out for the day. Certainly members who do not have dogs can still ride. As a matter of fact this may be a great opportunity for their horse to get accustomed to having dogs

around. Riding with your dogs can be a wonderful experience.

Second, I would like to concentrate our monthly rides on locations that are within the area from which our chapter draws its members. There are many trails throughout the mountains and valleys in and around Salt Lake County. As an example, we have been working on the Hemangog trail for years. We could have an organized ride the weekend after the trail project. This trail takes us into the Lone Peak Wilderness area.



*Bob Baker leading a nice ride up Corner Canyon*

Third, there are several work projects within the Salt Lake Valley we could take on, in addition to the Sandy Pride trail cleaning project and the booth at the Horse Expo we do every year. More details at the January meeting. High profile projects can draw awareness to our chapter, increasing membership and will spotlight the goals of the Back Country Horsemen.

## President's Message (continued)

The year to come will be what we make of it. The key word in the previous sentence is 'WE'. All of us can participate in some way to make the year work. The chapter will decide which activities, rides, and service projects we do at the beginning of the year. I hope that we will see all our members attend the meeting on the 13th of January at 7:00 pm at the Cottonwood Retirement Center. Hope to see you there!

Thanks, Bob Baker

## Come Help Plan Our 2011 Rides & Projects!

**Everybody Please Come!**

**January 13 (Thur) 7pm** [Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

If you can't come to this meeting and have a suggestion or are willing to lead a ride, please contact Bob Baker. 572-3996; 631-8058 [bob-bucksnot@q.com](mailto:bob-bucksnot@q.com)



# INVITATION

TO **ALL MEMBERS** OF

**BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN OF UTAH**

**STATE MEETING - CONCERT AND DANCE**

JANUARY 14 700 PM - LEGACY EVENTS CENTER - BLDG NO 1 - FARMINGTON UT  
BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWED BY DINING AND THE PURE COWBOY MUSIC OF

**SADDLE STRINGS**



**\$15.00 PER PERSON FOR FULL DINNER OF BEEF OR CHICKEN - SPOUSES WELCOME**

**RSVP TO BEVERLEY HEFFERNAN (801) 572-3304 email [b.heffernan@bcu.net](mailto:b.heffernan@bcu.net) OR**

**CRAIG ALLEN (801) 935-1900 email [allencra@msn.com](mailto:allencra@msn.com) WITH**

**NUMBER ATTENDING AND MENU CHOICE - BEEF OR CHICKEN NO LATER THAN JANUARY 5, 2011**

# **BCHU TRAILS EXTRAVAGANZA!**



**January 15, 2011  
9am—4pm**

**Booths, Trail and Horse Information,  
Demonstrations all Day**

**Farmington Legacy Events Center  
151 South 1100 West  
Farmington, Utah**

## SOUTH POLE PONIES

I just had an amazing experience going on a research expedition to Antarctica, and I thought you might enjoy this little bit of equine history we found on the way. Early Antarctic explorers Captains Scott and Shackleton both took ponies with them on multiple expeditions to Antarctica to pull their loaded sledges over the ice. These invariably ended up being sorry misadventures for both man and beast, and as far as I can tell from my reading, none of these patient ponies ever made it back to England. They kicked and injured their handlers, fell into crevasses and had to be rescued, got bogged down in deep snow, eaten by killer whales, and an entire high line (actually low line .. They were tethered to ropes on the ice) floated loose on an iceberg and had to be rescued. Most were eventually eaten. In Scott's shack, I found this pile of strange 'what's this'? They are pony snow shoes, and they have an even bigger story. On the ill-fated trip to the South Pole, Scott and his men used the ponies to pull the sledges on the first leg of the journey. They had taken only ONE pair of



pony snow shoes with them, thinking perhaps they were just a waste of space. But it turns out they were needed, and surprisingly, they worked rather well. So a group of men were sent back to get the rest of them (the pile I photographed here), but the sea ice had broken up by then, and they were not able to return to the hut to get them. So they ended up trudging tragically forward without the snow shoes after all. For more photos, videos, info about our trip, go to [cfurse.wordpress.com](http://cfurse.wordpress.com) For pictures of the ponies, click [here](#).



*Lawrence Oates, pony handler on the Scott Terra Nova expedition. Oates later sacrificed himself in an attempt to save his friends on their push to the South Pole.*

## 2010 OFFICERS

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

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

**GET MORE MILEAGE OUT OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP ! Give a copy to a friend.**



Bring this form and a check for your renewal (\$30 for individual or \$40 for family) to the Christmas Party Dec 9, or mail it to:

**Mountain Ridge Back Country Horsemen  
P.O. Box 81**