

**NEXT SERVICE PROJECT:**

Aug 13-14 Crystal Lake project (p.6)

**NEXT RIDES:**

July 3: Nobletts (and 1 Horse Pack Clinic)

July 9-11: Blackhawk rides and campout (p.6)

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thur July 8 at 7pm

[Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245](#)

[East Murray-](#)

[Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

A Pinto, a Paint, and a Palomino	2
Blackhawk ride	3,7
Bear Safety	4-5
Ride & Meeting Schedule	6
Bench Creek Project	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**



*Paul and Rory riding the Pony Express (photo by Bev Heffernan)*

I just want to thank those that pitch in and make it all happen – just because we enjoy doing it and enjoy getting out on the trail with one another and our horses. Nothing would happen without the many hours of individual contribution to the overall group. Fred Leslie – thanks for taking the reins on the service projects. Cindy Furse – the newsletter and communications are becoming the “secret sauce” to the success of our chapter. Diana Van Uiter – Your efforts on the Pony Express re-ride, though not specifically part of BCHU, made a big difference to a lot of chapter members.

And I have to mention the city of Coalville, who sponsored the Castle Rock – Coalville Wagon Train for the third time this year. Kathie and I took our Surrey (with the fringe on top) and enjoyed the 150 or so member train for three days as we wound our way through the back roads of the Ensign Ranch (The ranch is roughly the size of Rhode Island.) There were times when the covered wagons other horse drawn vehicles and outriders spread out the better part of a mile – creating a visual effect that seemed to transport you back to the days of the original emigrant trains and the opening of the West. There were about twenty or so outriders from sister chapters of BCHU in the group. It was nice to have them along.

July promises to be another unforgettable month. This month’s poem is about the passage of time from a horsey kinda’ perspective. Let’s all make July count - from a horsey kinda’ perspective.

Thanks again for making Mountain Ridge such a fun and rewarding group to belong to.

— Paul Kern

What a month June has been! Chapter members have been super active - from major service projects like the Bench Creek Trail clean-up to a major monthly meeting discussion about guns in the backcountry to major rides like Blackhawk, the Pony Express Re-ride and the Castle Rock Wagon Train.

The other day I ran into a member of one of the adjoining chapters. He expressed his amazement about the level of activity that we seem to generate as a group. He commented on the website, on the newsletter, on the meetings, on the service projects and of course the rides. I walked away thinking that yep – we are having a pretty good year.

## A Pinto a Paint and a Palomino

BY PAUL KERN

The morning hues of red, orange and white,  
All run together trailing the night,  
It's an overo daybreak as the minutes fly,  
Then tobiano patterns lighten up the sky.

A pinto and a paint gallop over the hills,  
East of the Snake just where she spills,  
Thundering foam over a precipice,  
Where seagulls dive and the rattlers hiss.

As the river courses on to the sea,  
Like clockwork it flows away from me,  
Rushing away as the sun climbs high,  
The river reflects a big mountain sky.

The horses of color trot off on their way  
As a palomino sun bursts in for the day,  
Rearing up high right about noon,  
As fast as it came it'll be gone soon.

The palomino charges away on its course,  
Its gallop is swift for an old aging horse,  
To the horizon through the dust of the day,  
It'll return tomorrow a while for to stay.

There as the sun sinks into the west,  
The sunset glows in her colorful best,  
Vespers blaze bright in that old by and by,  
The pinto and paint color back up the sky.

The evening hues of red, orange and white,  
All flow together to awe and delight,  
It's a tobiano sunset as eight seconds fly,  
Then overo patterns darken up the sky.

At dawn and dusk with horses so bold,  
To the palomino as the day grows old,  
As the day came, let the day go,  
With a pinto, a paint and a palomino.



BLACKHAWK RIDE & CAMPOUT



**THANK YOU !**

To Judy Zumwalt, and her friend, Sharon, who led long and short rides Saturday and Sunday. To Cindy Furse who led the ride on Friday. To Sue Hall who helped her find it in the first place., and who led a spectacular full moon ride Saturday night And to everyone who came and rode or camped with us. This was such fun, let's do it again in 2 weeks! (See ride schedule)

## BEAR SAFETY

From <http://usparks.about.com/od/backcountry/a/Bear-Safety.htm>

For starters, you need to know that bear attacks in the wild are extremely rare. So take a deep breath and relax. Better? But there are some bear safety tips you can take away that will make you feel more relaxed and minimize your risk when you are traveling in areas that are home to bears.

### Know Your Bears

Can you tell the difference between a black bear and a grizzly bear? Check out the main differences so you know what you're dealing with.

#### Grizzly Bear



- Color: Range in color from black to light blonde. Mostly medium to dark brown in color. The long hair usually have a lighter tip, hence they look "grizzled".
- Size: Average 350-500 lbs. Larger grizzlies can reach 800 lbs!
- Height: Stand around 3.3 ft; 6.5 ft at shoulder.
- Shape: Look for a distinct shoulder hump.
- Face: There's a depression between the eyes and end of nose, and they have short,

round ears.

- Claws: Very long (2-4 in)

#### Black Bear

- Color: Range in color from black to light blonde. Many black bears have a lighter patch on their chest, and reddish-colored bears are common in the west.
- Size: Average 110-300 lbs. Large males can reach 400 lbs and be larger than a female grizzly.



- Height: A little smaller, from 2.5-3 ft at shoulder. Around 5 ft standing.
- Shape: No hump like the grizzly.
- Face: A straight line runs between the forehead and end of nose. They have larger, pointed ears.

- Claws: Shorter (around 1.5 in)

### Campground and Picnic Area Precautions

- Never cook or store food in or near your tent.
- Hang food and other items with strong odors (ie, toothpaste, bug repellent, soap, etc.) out of reach of bears. Hang items at least 10 ft above the ground and. If no trees are available, store your food in airtight or bear-proof con-

tainers.

- Change your clothing before you go to sleep; don't wear what you cooked in to go to bed and be sure to store smelly clothing along with your food/smelly items.

- Keep the area clean. Be sure to wash dishes, dispose of garbage, and wipe down tables.
- Burn garbage completely in a hot fire and pack trash

out - don't bury it.

### Backcountry and Trail Precautions

- Don't surprise bears. If you're hiking, make your presence known. Make noise by talking loudly, singing, or wearing a bell.
- If you can, travel with a group. Groups are noisier and easier for bears to detect.
- Keep in mind that bears tend to be more active at dawn and dusk so plan your hikes accordingly.
- Stay on marked trails and obey the regulations of the area you're hiking/camping in.
- If you're hiking in bear country, keep an eye out for tracks, scat, digs, and trees that bears have rubbed.

**Leave your dog at home!**

## BEAR SAFETY (CONTINUED)

**If You Encounter a Bear...**

- Remain calm and avoid sudden movements.
- Give the bear plenty of room, allowing it to continue its activities undisturbed. If it changes its behavior, you're too close so back away.
- If you see a bear but the bear doesn't see you, detour quickly and quietly.
- If a bear spots you, try to get its attention while it is still farther away. You want it to know you're human so talk in a normal voice and waive your arms.
- Remember that a standing bear is not always a sign of aggression. Many times, bears will stand to get a better view.
- Throw something onto the ground (like your camera) if the bear pursues you, as it may be distracted by this and allow you to escape.

**Never feed or throw food to a bear.**

**If a Bear Charges...**

- Remember that many bears charge as a bluff. They may run, then veer off or stop abruptly. Stand your ground until the bear stops, then slowly back away.
- Never run from a bear! They will chase you and bears can run faster than 30 mph.
- Don't run towards or climb a tree. Black bears and some grizzlies can climb trees, and many bear will be provoked to chase you if they see you climbing.

**If you have pepper spray, be sure that you have trained with it before using it during an attack.**

**If a Grizzly Bear Attacks...**

- Play dead!
- Lie face down on the ground with your hands around the back of your neck.
- Stay silent and try not to move.
- Keep your legs spread apart and if you can, leave your pack on to protect your back.

**Once the bear backs off, stay quiet and still for as long as you can. Bears will often watch from a distance and come back if they see movement.**

**If a Black Bear Attacks...**

- Be loud, waive your arms, and stand your ground.
- Fight back! Be aggressive and use any object you have.
- Only if you are sure the bear attacking is a mother who is protecting its cubs, play dead.
- If you have pepper spray, use it. Begin spraying when it's within 40 ft so it runs into the fog. Aim for the face.

As with all trips, be sure to research where you are going and what wildlife is in the area. Preparation and knowledge is the key to ensuring a safe trip for you and yours. Keep an eye out for bear warnings and always talk to a ranger if you have questions or concerns.

**Black Bear Prints:**

Look for a large toe arc, toe imprints will be father apart, and the claws usually don't leave an impression.

**Grizzly Bear Prints:**

Minimal arc in toes, toe imprints are close together, and the claw leave long, visible marks

## MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCHU 2010 SCHEDULE



*Blackhawk Flowers, July 9-11*

**July 8, Monthly Meeting** 7pm  
[Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

**July 3 Nobletts Ride**  
 If you are interested in going, contact Larry Newton. 553-7702  
[Bignewt1@comcast.net](mailto:Bignewt1@comcast.net)

**July 9-11, Currant Creek Project Cancelled, so let's do another BlackHawk Campout!** We had great wildflowers on the last ride, and are going to try one more time to hit the sunflowers in bloom. We will ride Saturday (waterfall ride, 5 hours in the saddle) and Sunday (not sure, an explore, 4-5 hours). Be ready to ride at 10 both days. Bring a lunch and water. Day parking is \$6 if you don't want to camp overnight.

To reserve a campsite in horse loop E, go to [www.reservations.gov](http://www.reservations.gov) or call 1-877-444-6777. Sorry, the group site 10 is reserved, but there are several other sites available Saturday and a few Friday. Cindy and Carol are camping Saturday night, site 6-7. You

are welcome to tie your horse with us, tent out, and leave your vehicle in day parking if you want to or can't get a site. Reserve NOW, they are busy this time of year. Potluck Saturday night at 7pm.

IF YOU ARE COMING JUST FOR THE DAY RIDE SUNDAY, please let me know ([cfurse@ece.utah.edu](mailto:cfurse@ece.utah.edu) 581 9225) We may trailer to a different trailhead, so I want to know if anyone is coming up from town to wait for them.

To get to Blackhawk, go to Payson and follow the signs to Nebo Scenic Loop. Go up the canyon about 8 miles, Blackhawk campground turnoff is clearly marked. Drive down into the campground, Loop E. Day parking is at the start of Loop E on your left.

**July 22-24, Island Park Ride** (15 riders max) (Paul Kern) Need Coggins, Health & Travel Permit for Lee Metcalk Wilderness Area. Specific information

has been / will be sent to you if you are signed up for this ride. If you haven't already heard from Paul (about the travel permit), please contact him.

**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)

MORE PICTURES FROM BLACKHAWK



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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
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## 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](http://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](mailto:cfurse@ece.utah.edu)) 801 581 9225,

## BENCH CREEK TRAIL PROJECT BY FRED LESLIE

There is nothing more enjoyable than a mountain ride on your horse through quakies, meadows and crystal clear streams unless of course the ride is with a purpose. That is what 11 of us had on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat in June in the Uintahs up the Benchcreek trail.

We had barely started up the dirt road when we passed two trucks sunk to their axles in mud. The ruts in the road were deep and we were surprised how much deadfall was over the road. We quickly decided to leave the road deadfall alone with the idea that the sheepherders could come up in their trucks with chain saws and clear it out. It was a sound decision since once we hit the single track trail by the river we had our hands full with clearing the trail.

We had 3 chainsaws which we packed on one of Fred's horses, with these saws cutting it kept everyone busy throwing the cut wood off the trail. We finally stopped for lunch around 1:30 and had a great lunch provided by Fran Wilby and Sandy Williams (and they know how to pack a lunch...it was great). After another hour of cutting and making it through the burn area we decided to call it a day (not that we were tired beat and worn out).

We made it back to the trailhead at the back of 5, we all headed home exhausted, tired and carried with us a great feeling of accomplishment. Thanks to all, Fred Leslie, Bruce Kartchner, Larry Newton, Perry White, Jim Spreiter, Kieth Christiansen, Jo Stoddard, Fran Wilby, Paul Deputy, Sandy Williams, and Diana Van Uitert.