

**NEXT SERVICE PROJECT:**

March 12-14, Horse Expo booth (see p. 7)

**NEXT RIDE:**

March 20, Lookout Pass (Date Change!)

**NEXT MEETING:**

Thur March 11: 7 pm, [Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

**THANK YOU!**

Don Bradshaw (saddle presentation)  
Ray Smith (2009 Pres.)

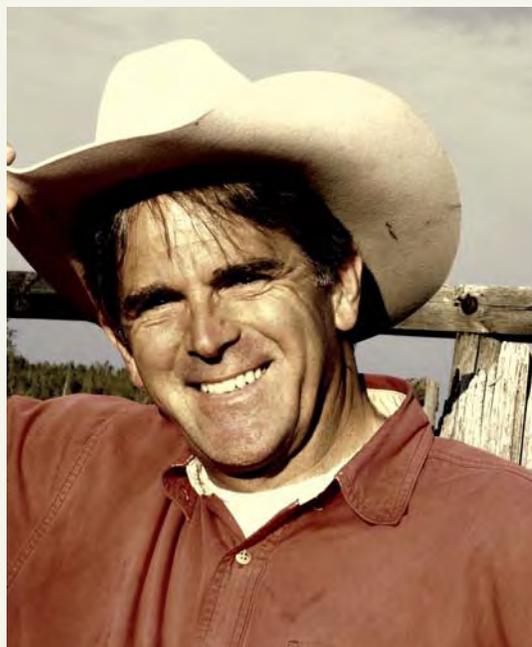
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**P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E**

For those that missed out on our last meeting, you missed out on the stimulating conversations that followed for the next couple of days. Don Bradshaw was an engaging though somewhat controversial speaker. He demonstrated some of his saddle making techniques, talked extensively about saddle and leather care and then towards the end recited the poem "The Heart of the Appaloosa." The meeting was very well attended and a lot of fun. You don't want to miss next one – first Thursday of March (That would be March 11) when we will have JW of JW Hats come along for what promises to be an engaging evening. I recently spent some time with JW going over what he might present in the meeting – and I have to say – this guy is western to the core and full of stories. Though his presentation will revolve around high-end western hat making, I am sure that a story or anecdote of some sort is bound to sneak into the mix. OK – so if you do miss it – I told you.



Among other things, the Horse Expo is just around the corner. We are still in need of volunteers to man the booth. Fred Leslie is heading up the effort in his capacity of Service Project Coordinator. We are co-hosting the booth with the Hi-lines and Hobbles chapter of Utah Valley. It will be a good opportunity to rub shoulders with our neighbors to the south.

Good riding weather is just around the corner. My horses are molting out and the robins have returned to my pasture. I even went out and picked up a seasons supply of no. 4 horse shoes for my half-draft Rory the other day. My new colt is gelded and branded, wolf-teeth are out and he is coming along nicely in his early training. I am sure that each of you is experiencing something similar in your own barn, paddock or pasture right

about now. All of this is the sort of stuff that holds us together as a group. We all share those common experiences. Come and share, come and ride, come and help out. It's all good. As we anticipate spring, here is poem of mine you may relate to. Be seein' ya.

— Paul Kern

March will be a busy month for us.

## When Emerald Strikes the Clover

by Paul Kern

The haystack now is melting down,  
I see the hoar frost flee,  
The wind cuts short her howling  
moan,  
Dark days are blowing over.  
A snowbird sings and so will I –  
When emerald strikes the clover.

It's calving time and lambing too,  
They struggle to breathe free,  
Most will live but some just won't,  
Cold days are nearly over.  
Just hang on for a few more weeks -  
Till emerald strikes the clover.

The horses stand in mud unshod,  
Their coats hang long and shaggy,  
Winter moustache on my bronco's  
lip,  
The shoer is driving over.  
They'll be ready again for work -  
When emerald strikes the clover.

Springtime fills most every step,  
These muddy boots will take,  
Don't mind too much the windy cold,  
But am glad when it's all over.  
I live for days when life ebbs back -  
And emerald strikes the clover.

The haystack now has melted down,  
And frost takes to the wing,  
Breezes wafting light and slow,  
Blue skies have taken over.  
A songbird sings and so do I -  
When emerald strikes the clover.



## MOUNTAIN RIDGE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 14, 2010

President Paul Kern called the meeting to order at 7 pm. Including latecomers there were 22 members present. Paul asked Beverley to take minutes. Paul thanked Lisa and Bob Baker for a great Christmas party. Larry Newton presented a financial report. Gross revenues from the Christmas party were \$3,099.30 (including dues payments) and expenses were \$824.35. About \$1,450 in dues were collected and the silent auction/auction/raffle brought in about \$1,600, about the same as last year's party even though attendance was down a bit from 2008. About 50% of our chapter members have renewed so far, we owe the state BCH \$918 for their portion of the dues, and cash on hand is \$3,422.28. We need to call and urge members to renew; Sandy Williams, Stephanie Yeager and Diana von Uiter will do that, with Diana in charge. Beverley noted that 2009 membership was about the same as 2008.

Paul noted that the BCHU Trails Extravaganza is coming up January 16 and that is an important source of new members. He encouraged everyone to come. Fred Leslie said there are a total of 52 booths this year, 12 for the BCH chapters around the state plus 40 from other non-commercial organizations including Breed associations, Pony Express, land management agencies, and etc. Cindy read the schedule of presentations for that day and there are lots of informative presentations going on. Admission is free. Paul ex-

plained details for our booth, setup will be at 8 a.m.

Next on the agenda, Diana introduced Sherry (sorry I didn't get full name) who is on the board at Dimple Dell and they discussed the proposed nature and education center. Their feeling is that it is good for horses. There will be a public meeting next week (January 20) at Eastmont Middle School, do be sure to attend and provide comments, whether you are for or against it's important to give information and input. There is not as yet funding to build this facility but it is hoped that having a building that can also be used for wedding receptions and other gatherings might be a revenue stream to help maintain Dimple Dell.

Next, Paul and the group developed the ride schedule for 2010 and Fred led planning for the service project schedule for 2010. See calendar in monthly newsletter for details and changes as they occur throughout the year. We ended up with a very full calendar and it was decided that the June breakfast and barbecue should not be held this year.

Paul asked for volunteers to help with monthly meetings, specifically, lining up guest speakers and/or helping Denise with refreshments.

Bob Baker made a motion to adjourn, Lisa Baker seconded, meeting adjourned 9:15 p.m.

Minutes by Beverley Heffernan

## MOUNTAIN RIDGE BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 11, 2010

**Present:** Paul Kern, Kathy Kern, Ray Smith, Tom Smith, Bruce Kartchner, Sandra Williams, Jo Stoddard, Stephanie Yeager, Diana van Uitert, Fred Leslie, Denise Kirby, Larry Newton, Jim Spreiter, Camille Stoll, Don Bradshaw, Perry White, Bob Barker, Lisa Barker, Paula Hill, Cindy Furse, Lawrence Furse

Paul Kern called the meeting to order at 1908. Paul Kern proposed, that lacking formal meeting minutes from the January 2010 meeting, that information included in the January newsletter serve as the meeting minutes from that meeting. Sandra Williams seconded this proposal. This proposal passed.

Paul Kern presented a thank you gift from the Mountain Ridge Unit to Ray Smith for his past service as president. This gift included a complete bound edition of all the Mountain Ridge Newsletters for 2009 and an official BCHA belt buckle.

Diana van Uitert reported on the Dimple Dell Advisory Board meeting:

1. New access through 13th east at the Wrangler Trailhead; This will allow easier movement between the two park parts. This construction is proposed to start in the spring.
2. 10 foot wide paved walking area to go between Granite Park and Lone Peak.
3. Nature Center open house was well attended. There is 4-5 million dollars for the nature center. It will be some time before construction starts. Express concerns to: [ACALACINO@SLC.org](mailto:ACALACINO@SLC.org)
4. Questionable: Urban gardens in Dimple Dell.
5. As many as 25 coyotes have been counted in Dimple Dell. So

far no formal complaints regarding coyotes. Please be careful.

Camille Stoll is a new member and a member of ATLASTAHOME Horse Rescue. She said the group has 12 horses currently in rehab with 5 now ready for adoption. She said there is a fund raiser on February 27, 2010 at her house at \$30.00 per person. There will be animal communicators giving a workshop. This conflicts with a planned monthly ride in Puddle Valley but, if the weather is poor this might be a good alternative. You can contact Camille @ 801 274 1116 for more information.



*Don Bradshaw, Saddle Maker*

Fred Leslie spoke regarding service hours. What IS counted is any clinic

including both prep time and teaching time. Be sure to log your mileage as this counts as well. Service Time **IS** counted such as manning booths at the Expo etc. Riding in public lands (not private) **IF** you pick up trash **IS** public service and can be counted. Anytime you do a service gas/mileage **IS** deductible. Fred encouraged everyone to keep track of their hours and turn everything in to him. All forms are archived in the January newsletter. Fred stated that there is a major project coming up on April 24th in Dimple Dell, in May there is the UTA trail clean up, and in June there is the Bench Creek clean up.

Ray Smith reported that he has started meeting with the 18 different entities that have input to the Jordan River Parkway. Ray is hoping to make sure to have Equestrian access from the Utah County line all the way north.

Don Bradshaw spoke to us regarding saddle making and what makes a good saddle. The bar length should be between 22-24 inches **NO LONGER**, and the seat should be a 15 or 16 **NO BIGGER**. Bigger and longer puts too much weight over the kidneys of the horse. The best leather in a saddle should be used in the stirrup leathers from the same hide. The next critical area for the leather is the seat and then your next best leather is for the rigging. Can't use screws when making a saddle, only nails. Hides need to be ¼ "everywhere. Don stated that the best manufactured saddle is the McCall followed closely by Crates and then Colorado Saddlery. Don stated that he likes to really deep clean the leather on his saddles with the following formula: 6 parts ammonia +3 parts water + 3 parts Ivory ultra dish-washing soap. Wet leather

( F E B R U A R Y M I N U T E S C O N T I N U E D )



*Trees are poplar covered with raw hide, each made to order*



*Fancy hardware for a State Fair Saddle (above)  
Paul Kern checks out his future saddle (below)*

aggressively with a sponge. Use a knife or some other sharp sided instrument and scrape the strings and latigo. Rinse thoroughly, let dry naturally then lightly oil. Don feels Neatsfoot oil is a good choice. Don will donate a saddle re-lining and new strings for our Christmas auction.

Paul Kern reported that the Horse Expo is 12, 13,14 of March. We will be working with High-line and Hobbles. Times are not determined yet.

Pat Wilson moved and Denise Kirby seconded that all business being discussed that the meeting be adjourned. This motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2055.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Wilson



*THANK YOU! To Don Bradshaw, for an intriguing and entertaining saddle evening*

## D I M P L E D E L L U P D A T E

By Diana van Uitert

### Dimple Dell Nature Center

Angelo Calacino from SL County's Parks and Rec. gave us an update on the comments from the Open House for the Dimple Dell Nature Center:

1. The hard surface parking area may be separated by a greater distance from the soft surface (equestrian friendly) parking area than the current plans showed.
2. A more natural landscaping plan with native wild flowers and trees is being considered rather than lawn .
3. A separate display area may be constructed outside of the large classroom so the public will not disturb the classes while viewing the displays.
4. The building itself may be constructed of more historical type materials and more earthen colors.
5. A small cool down area may be constructed near the soft surface parking area for people to cool down their horses after a ride with fencing, tie ups, and a watering trough. This will also be for people to tie up their horses and tour the nature center if they wish.
6. There will be a capacity limit on rental of the building for receptions or reunions. It is a small building of only 3100 sq feet. Parking problems are not anticipated.

The site for the proposed nature center was dedicated in 1994. The estimated cost for is around \$5M, but there is no funding available at this time. Construction may not be for several years. If you have any comments please email Angelo at [acalacino@slco.org](mailto:acalacino@slco.org).

### Undercrossing at 1300 East and Dimple Dell Park

The on again, off again project of getting an undercrossing with the

1300 East beautification and road widening project is currently "on" again. The county has received some federal stimulus funding. It will be a 14' by 14' lighted tunnel (equestrian friendly) that is elevated above the ground so it is separated from the water culvert. A new trail will be constructed on the west side leading up to this tunnel. The Advisory Board thinks a bridge like the one at 700 East is better for safety and flood control. We are still working on this. Funding is the problem here. 700 East was a UDOT project and 1300 East is a Sandy project. If all goes well, the undercrossing will be started in spring of 2011.

### ADA Paved Trail

Advisory Board member, Jared Campbell, has been working with the American Disabilities Act on this for years. Funding is not available for this project either. The county has estimated the cost of a 10' wide paved trail that goes from the Granite Trailhead down to the Lone Peak Park near the homes on the north top rim at \$4.5M. A soft surface equestrian trail will still remain there as well. Without \$, this project may not happen for many years.

### Re-Opening of Park Access at 20th East

Years ago, there was an access into Dimple Dell Park at 20th East and Dimple Dell Road. A homeowner who lived adjacent to the access, had big dogs behind his fence that scared horses as they came up the hill on this trail and some of the riders fell off. Growing tired of the constant complaining about his dogs, the owner decided to buy the access from a private landowner and closed it off to the public. The county and some of the board members were in negotiations with him to re-open it when someone bombed his gate. That sealed the deal and access was denied. He recently

moved away and the access has been used during the POMA water project. The county is working on opening that access back up to the public and it may be one of the projects we undertake on our MRBCH Service Project in Dimple Dell on April 24th.

### Coyotes

Recently, the county has been receiving complaints about coyotes nipping at dogs in Dimple Dell Park. When questioned, all of these people admitted that their dogs were not on leashes. Although coyotes harming humans is extremely rare, caution should be taken when encountering them. Do not try to feed, attract, or befriend them. They are mostly curious and pose no danger unless they feel threatened during the spring denning season. Unleashed dogs pose that threat to them and they will defend their territory by fighting. DO NOT allow your dogs to go unleashed in Dimple Dell Park. This is also against the ordinances in the park. Currently, there are at least 25 coyotes that are frequently sighted in the park. The county's policy is to leave them alone since this is a nature park. They come and go with the food supply.

Dimple Dell Park covers an area over 650 acres and the county is understaffed due to budget cuts. Your help is needed by reporting things that need to be repaired or problems that you might see. Some of these problems can be addressed through service projects and groups as well as county employees. Help keep Dimple Dell Park the "Jewel of the Valley" that we equestrians have been given the opportunity to enjoy. Contact Wayne Johnson at [wjohnson@slco.org](mailto:wjohnson@slco.org) if you need to report something.

## MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCHU 2010 SCHEDULE



*LookOut Pass Ride 2009, Ride It Again March 20*

**Mar 11 Monthly Meeting**, Custom Hat Making with JW hats (coordinator: Paul Kern) [Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

**Mar 12-14 Utah Horse Expo**, Jordan Equestrian Center, Help needed for BCHU Booth (contact Fred Leslie 553-1873) [fredleslie101@gmail.com](mailto:fredleslie101@gmail.com)

**Mar 20 (DATE CHANGE!), Lookout Pass Ride** (Steve Johnson 541-6008) Ride is 4.5 Hours, about 13-14 miles, moderate terrain (shoes required). Bring a lunch and be ready to ride at 10. Water is available for the horses.

To get to the trailhead, take Hwy 36 through / past Tooele, turn on the scenic byway to the Pony Express Road (Lookout Pass). Go about 4 miles. Turn to the right on a gravel road. Go about a mile (pass the corrals), and we will be parked on the left. [Google Map](#)

**Apr 8 Monthly Meeting**, Bronze Sculptures (coordinator: Sandy Williams)

**April 17, Jordanelle Reservoir Ride** (Ray Smith)

**April 24, Dimple Dell Trail Maintenance Project (Service Form)**

**May 13, Monthly Meeting & Sandy Pride Day Trail Project** (Porter Rockwell Trail (Doris Richards)

**May 15, Corner Canyon Ride** (Bob Baker)

**May 27, Deer Creek Full Moon Ride** (Cindy Furse and Diana van Uitert)

**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 Uitert)

**June 19, Bench Creek Trail Deadfall 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](http://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 Coggins, 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)

**OTHER FUN STUFF...**

**THANK YOU TO RAY SMITH  
MR-BCHU PRESIDENT 2009**

**Team Sorting**

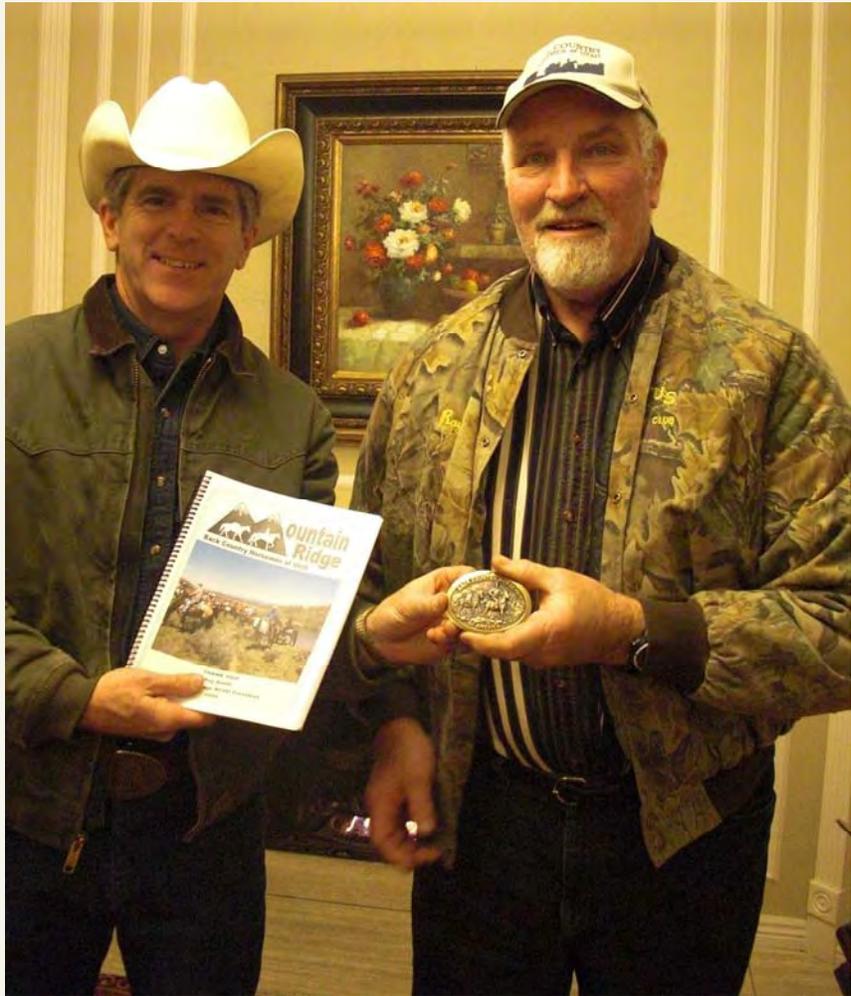
Feb 27 & March 20 Weber County Fair Grounds (exit 346), 1000 N 1200 W, Ogden. Rookie Sort starts about 4. Sorter fee \$17, Gateman fee \$7 (6 cows), plus \$3 each arena fee. Info: Dave 801-550-2787, [bigbucksteamsorting@yahoo.com](mailto:bigbucksteamsorting@yahoo.com)

**Team Penning**

Tuesday Nights 5-10pm  
[SL County \(Jordan\) Equestrian Ctr](http://SLCountyJordanEquestrianCtr.com)  
10800 South 2200 West

**TRAILER  
MAGNETS FOR  
SALE - \$15**

Email [cfurse@ece.utah.edu](mailto:cfurse@ece.utah.edu) (color is 11x17 or B/W is 12x24)



*Ray Smith accepts a BCHU belt buckle and book of his exploits from Paul Kern at the Feb. meeting*

**2010 Officers**

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**MOUNTAIN RIDGE  
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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): \_\_\_\_\_

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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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Pass this on to a friend!**



Volunteer for Utah's Trails  
[www.bchu.com](http://www.bchu.com)

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