



Mountain Ridge

Back Country Horsemen of Utah

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

**N E X T
M E E T I N G :**

**March 8 at 7pm
Bear Study Information — Jordan Pederson**

[Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road \[4752 South\]](#)

**March 9-11
Utah Horse Expo.**
So Jordan Equestrian Center

March 24
Search Party Ride
For Joseph Bushling
MUST RSVP!

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Hello Everyone,
 March into spring with horse madness!
 As spring approaches not only do we have the itch to be on our horses more often, but our beloved equine friends itch to be out under the stars. Nothing beats sitting in the saddle under the night skies watching Pegasus marching through the constellations. So, if you are one to enjoy a ride under the moonlit skies follow

these few safety tips: Pack a flashlight or wear a headlamp; stay in open areas where light is best; stay on known trails; avoid roadsides; wear light or reflective clothing and if possible go with a riding buddy. March 8th promises us a full moon as well as our monthly meetings, so hope to see you there and in the saddle soon.

—Paul Deputy

MOUNTAIN RIDGE BCHU 2012 SCHEDULE

*Mustangs near Dugway Last Week!***March 8 Monthly Meeting**

7pm, Cottonwood Retirement Center, 1245 East Murray-Holladay Rd (4752 South) Bear Study Information — Jordan Pederson

March 9-11 Utah Horse Expo.

South Jordan Equestrian Center. www.utahhorsecouncil.com/expo.htm A few more volunteers needed for BCHU booth Friday. Contact Perry White 254-8798 whitemt@aol.com

March 24 Search Project Ride (WEATHER CONTINGENT)

MRBCHU contact Perry White **254-8798(H); 594-2495(W)** whitemt@aol.com

RSVP and Contact Info: Tarryn Galloway, Cell (801) 668-1792 (call or text), Office (801) 621-4015, or tarryngalloway@aol.com.

Help needed March 23-25. BCHU members will be there March 24 RTR 8am.

RSVP to find out details of where we will be assigned to ride. Email Tarryn above. Tell her you are a member of Mountain Ridge BCHU so we can be assigned together.

Website: <http://www.facebook.com/events/179862175445908/>

At this time and for this search, we are looking for experienced only riders who will form groups or teams and scour fully designated/assigned areas in very challenging terrain. Garmin Rino radios and GPS savvy a plus.

Primitive camping (bring all of your own water) is optional near Incident Command on BLM land, or you may choose to camp at Simpson Springs, which will be about 25 miles away from where Incident Command will be staged. You may volunteer any single day or all 3 days. Please RSVP with your contact information. Also, do you have GPS and/or mapping skills?

This search is not sponsored by any entity (government, local, county, state) at this time. It is being organized by Tarryn Galloway, who is a member of WFBCHU. You would be volunteering your time and efforts at your own risk.

26 year old SPC Joseph Bushling's story: he left English Village in a black 2010 Mitsubishi Lancer on Saturday night, May 7th, 2011. According to a press release issued by Dugway Proving Ground on Sunday, May 8, 2011, at about 7 p.m., he left a voice mail for a friend at Dugway stating that he had run out of gas and needed help. That was the last known contact Bushling made with anybody. His last known location was west of Granite Mountain, which is about 35 miles west of

Dugway's main gate.

The car driven by Bushling was discovered Saturday night, May 14, 2011, in a ravine 65 miles south of Dugway's boundaries. Soon after, searchers found the baseball cap Bushling was wearing. The hat was located about 6 miles west of the car. Bushling was presumed to be barefoot and possibly using his shirt as footwear.

April 12 Monthly Meeting

April 28 Obstacle Course Ride (contact Ray Smith)

May 10 Monthly Meeting

May 12 Sheep Creek Ride (contact Steve Johnson)

May 19 Dimple Dell Project for Sandy Trails Day (contact Diana vanUitert)

June 14 Monthly Meeting

June 23 Bruce's Book Ride! North Willow (contact Bruce Kartchner)

June 29-July 1 Blackhawk (contact Cindy Furse)

July 12 Monthly Meeting

July 14 Woodland / Bench Creek Service Project Ride (contact Larry Newton)

July 19-22 Island Park (contact Paul Kern) Please RSVP.

August 9 Monthly Meeting

August — date TBD: Uintas Pack Trip (ask Fred Leslie / Cindy Furse)

September 13 Monthly Meeting

September 21-23 Logan Canyon Rides (Old Ephraim, White Pine),

(contact Bill McEwan)

October 11 Monthly Meeting

October 20 Cattle Drive Grantsville (contact Larry Newton)

October 26 Bison Roundup

(contact Cindy Furse)

Nov. 3, Johnson's Pass (contact Keith Christensen)

November 8 Monthly Meeting

December 13 Christmas Party & Auction 6pm (contact Paul Kern)

RIDERS NEEDED FOR DAVIS COUNTY TRAILS

Dear Mountain Ridge Members:

In accordance with the directives from National , Mountain Ridge has been assigned to ride and investigate the numbered Forest Service trails that come under the purview of the Salt Lake Ranger District. This is a large area encompassing the trails in Davis County up to Ogden , south and east to Pleasant Grove and west to and including the Stansbury.

Mountain Ridge is in need of volunteer riders who are familiar with the trails in Davis County. These trails are on Forest Service land and are numbered. They are the following:

- 1605 Buckland Ridge**
- 1606 Tuttle Loop**
- 1608 Parrish Creek**
- 1609 Farmington Canyon**
- 1611 Gold Hill**
- 1612 Deep Creek**

- 1613 Baer Canyon**
- 1614 Adams Canyon...3 branches, one very short**
- 1621 Sunset**
- 1628 Holbrook Canyon...2 branches, one very short**
- 1629 North Holbrook Route...2 branches, one short**

Please help by volunteering to ride these trails and report back on if indeed these trails are suitable for horses. This means the trails would be classified as a **3** — a horse and rider with a pack train could readily negotiate the trails including tight corners, etc.

It's a little early for most of these trails, but we would like to begin riding them in May. If you plan to ride these trails please let Paul Deputy, Fred Leslie, Perry White or Pat Wilson know . Tell s which trail you have/will ride, and

what condition these trails are currently in.

All this counts, both time and mileage, as nonprofit contributions on your BCHU volunteer hours and also (probably) your taxes.

Pat Wilson 801 278 6608
Paul Deputy 801 539 0210
Fred Leslie 801 533 1873

You can find maps to the Forest Service Trails (click on Salt Lake Ranger District) here:

www.fs.usda.gov/main/uwcnf/maps-pubs

Here is information from BCHA on Trail Classification.

www.backcountryhorse.com/Trail_Classification_Assistance_Program.html

NYLON STRAPPING MATERIAL AVAILABLE

Paul Deputy (pmdeputy@gmail.com) has some extra 3/4" nylon strapping material available (free) for members. Let him know what length you need, and he will cut and burn the ends and bring to the next meeting. Makes good light weight lead rope, straps for packing, ties to keep your trailer door open (or closed), strapping to keep your water tank upright in your trailer, color-yourself hatband, econo-reins, hammock extenders, Christmas ribbon, and hefalump traps (see Winnie the Pooh). OK, I'm joking about a few of these uses for nice 3/4" nylon strap, but not that fact that Paul has some he is glad to share. Send him an email and let him know what length you would like.



RIMROCK BY PAUL KERN COWBOY POETRY CD OF THE YEAR 2011



SANDY, UT - The Academy of Western Artists www.awaawards.org has announced that Paul Kern's CD "Rimrock – Where Memories Rhyme" has been selected as the Cowboy Poetry CD of the Year (2011). The award was presented on January 26, 2012 at the Casa Manana Theater in Fort Worth, Texas. The selection was made by a blind jury of experts in the field. Names were submitted from many sources and selections were made. Over the years, these juries have kept the quality of the highest standard. As a recipient of this award, Paul joins the ranks of past winners and renowned cowboy poets Buck Ramsey, Red Steagall, Larry McWhorter, Yvonne Hollenbeck and Jay Snider.

The CD contains 18 poems underlaid with music performed by the Shawn Harris studios. The poetry recounts the story of a life laced with horsemanship and involvement with livestock. Paul made the recording initially for his father to listen to as he was undergoing chemotherapy and was otherwise disabled. He wanted to share the memories of a lifetime once more before his father passed away. From the poem "At Coddling's Place" which recounts Paul's experience as a boy learning to ride a horse with his father at his side to "On Smokey before I Go" which is his father's wish to ride one last time, the CD covers a spectrum of themes essential to successful living. The importance of service and putting others first is the message of "A Horse Camp Has a Rhythm of Chores." Making good choices and living with the consequences is central to "The Parting of the Waters" which makes reference to Two Ocean Creek that splits in two on the continental divide in the Teton Wilderness Area of Wyoming. Family and marriage are highlighted in "A Cowboy's Pay" and "As I Bridle in the Morning."

Throughout the CD, Paul's delivery is low key but engaging as he draws

the listener into the message he is conveying. In addition to the "message" poems there are some humorous ones as well and a collaboration with Crawford Gates on "As Evening Sets on the Yellowstone."

Paul and his wife Kathie, residents of Sandy traveled to Fort Worth in January for the awards ceremony.

Paul was previously awarded the prestigious "Lariat Laureate" award for his poetry by the definitive cowboy poetry website

www.cowboypoetry.com

You can learn more about Paul and his poetry at www.paulkern.com and at www.cowboypoetry.com

At Coddling's Place

by Paul Kern

For just a moment I thought I saw,
Our brood mare lying in the straw,
Foaling a colt in the early morn.
Now the weeds grow tall where he was born.

The tack shed with the sagging gate,
Is where I learned to sit and wait,
As my father caught his horses at dawn.
It's quiet now - the horses are gone.

For just a moment I could smell it again,
That good horse smell in the old catch pen,
Same warm smell on both young and old.
You can't go back - the horses are sold.

It was the scene of a trailer fight,
Between Dad and Slippers - oh what a sight,
The rope took off part of his thumb.
Just maybe now, I should not have come.

At Coddling's place was my first ride,
My father walking close beside,
He carved out memories for me his son.
Where he kept horses now there are none.

Those boyhood horses each had a hole,
That left a mark upon my soul.
At Coddling's Place was my first ride,
My father walking close beside.

In another place and another time,
On a different farm that I call mine,
We keep horses on that place,
A paint, a pinto and a bally face.

DIANA VAN UITERT RECEIVES OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD BY DORIS RICHARDS

Sandy City recently held its annual Appreciation Dinner to recognize the work of volunteers. MRBCHU member Diana vanUitert received the Outstanding Citizen Volunteer Award for 2011. In addition to Diana's hours in and out of the saddle on behalf of BCHU, she devotes time and energy to both State and National Pony Express events, serves on Sandy City's Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee and on Salt Lake County's Dimple Dell Advisory Board. She has taught nature classes at the Sandy City Senior Center, Se-go Lily Gardens and Dimple Dell Park. Over the years she was a consistent volunteer in her children's schools. Through her efforts beginning in 1985, Dimple Dell Park has remained a natural urban park and a close destination for equestrians throughout the Salt Lake Valley. As a founding member of the Citizens for the Preservation of Dimple Dell Park, Diana spear-headed political, educational and fundraising efforts which have led to the park's accessibility to all non-motorized user groups. The award is truly a long-earned accomplishment.

Congratulations, Diana! Thank you for all you do!

Diana van Uitert receives the Sandy Outstanding Citizen Volunteer Award from Mayor Tom Dolan



WEST BOUNTIFUL ANIMAL ORDINANCE BY FRAN WILBY

West Bountiful City ended a 10 month process of updating the Farm Animal Ordinance last week. The West Bountiful Equestrian committee served a vital role during the process by advocating for farm animal owners, representing farm animal owners in all city meetings where the issue was discussed, and working to make farm animal owners aware of the ordinance change process and involving them in that process.

With increasing urbanization of the Wasatch Front, horse and other farm animal owners will come un-

der increased pressure. Well-meaning people move into these rural- feel communities thinking they will enjoy the atmosphere but then complain about conditions that come along with living next to farm animals; smells, flies, dust etc. Pressure is put on city councils by way of complaints and ordinance challenges.

Due to the continual work of the equestrian committee the city added a conditional use permit clause in the ordinance which will allow horse owners to increase the horses on their properties to 2 horses per half-

acre from the previous 1 horse per half acre. It will become necessary for horse owners across the Wasatch Front to be more involved in these processes in order to protect their animal friends. If there is one thing I've learned during this process is this—begin working with city councils and planning commissions now to develop relationships and a track record of involvement so you are ready when the challenges come—like the big earthquakes on the Wasatch Front—it is not a question of “if” but of “when”.

TRAILER SAFETY # 1 – TYING YOUR HORSE IN THE TRAILER

This is the first of several upcoming articles on trailers and trailer safety. There is a consistent debate about if you should or should not tie your horse in the trailer.

Reasons to tie your horse:

- Keep them safely positioned next to the wall with minimal shifting around
- Keep their head up so they don't get it under the divider and panic
- Keep them from biting or dominating other horses in the trailer
- Keep the lead rope from getting tangled in their feet and legs

Reasons not to tie your horse:

- If they fall, they will not be entangled and will be more likely to be able to get back up. A horse must be able to put his head down to get his body up.
- Especially if you close a divider between horses, they are not going to be moving around.
- Allow them to drop their heads to cough and clear their throat.

Since I've heard every reason above from a variety of reputable horse people, I can only conclude that there is a debate on this subject.

If you do tie your horse, here are several things to consider:

- Tie your horse at the right height.** As with any other tie, you do not want your horse to be able to get a foot over the rope. Especially if they rear in panic in a trailer, this is easier than you would think. Use a tie ring as high as possible in the trailer, and tie the rope high enough that the loop is just under the horse's chin when he is standing normally.
- Use a quick release knot/clip.** Consider using a pull through ring often prescribed for horses that pull back. This way if your horse

falls, the rope can slide through the ring and not hold his head up high.

- Use a break-away halter,** something that will break under pressure. Most leather halters are considered breakaway. Nylon halters will not break, unless they have a leather strap such as the one shown here. You can take a regular halter and turn it into a breakaway halter with a bit of leather.
- I like to ride with a low profile **rope knot halter** under the bridle. Here is a way to turn that halter into a breakaway halter. Just add a loop of leather or string, and tie through that loop rather than the halter loop. If you want to make it not a breakaway while you ride, just put the tie back in its usual place. The small extra loop will stay there out of the way while you ride.



**Leather
break-
away**



**Extra
Break-
away
Loop**

•Correct order to tie and load:

Perhaps the greatest risk of accident is while you are loading or unloading your horse. The order in which you do this makes a big difference in safety. If a horse is tied in the trailer and starts to back out, he may panic and pull back, having a scene in the dangerous confines of the trailer. Or he may have enough rope to get his back feet out but not his front, and can injure his back legs trying to re-step into the trailer. Here is the safest order to load and tie your horse:

- 1) Load your horse in the trailer. Drop the rope outside of the trailer and have someone else hold your horse, or loop it back where you can hold it. Do not tie the horse up yet.
 - 2) Close the divider or horse compartment so the horse is held in by something other than the rope.
 - 3) NOW you are ready to tie the rope.
- To exit the trailer:
- 4) Untie the rope FIRST!
 - 5) Then open the horse compartment or divider
 - 6) Unload your horse. Have a great ride!

THANK YOU! – DAVID NAY, SADDLE MAKER



Thank you to David Nay, Saddle Maker, for his excellent presentation at February's BCHU meeting. If you have a leather project in mind, you can find him on FaceBook under Nay's Custom Leather or give him a call at 801-562-3000



E M A I L O R S N A I L M A I L ?

Save a tree! Each month it costs just under \$1 to copy and mail this newsletter to you. If you received this newsletter by snail mail, and if you would be happy to save a dollar and save a tree, email cfurse@ece.utah.edu to receive future newsletters email only.

Each month I email the color newsletter to everyone with an email on file. If you are NOT receiving this by email, please send me your corrected email address. Thank you! Cindy

2 0 1 2 O F F I C E R S

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Mountain Ridge Back Country Horsemen
Chapter Application
Join M.R.B.C.H. and preserve our heritage!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home # _____ Work # _____ Cell # _____

e-mail _____ Newsletter by: _____ Email _____ Regular Mail _____ Both

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: _____

Make check payable to Mt. Ridge BCH, individual \$30 year, family \$40 year. New _____ Renewal _____
Mt Ridge BCH, P O Box 81, Riverton UT 84065