

UPCOMING :

**Christmas Party & Auction! (See p.2)  
Dec. 15 at 6:30pm**

**2017 Planning Mtg  
Thurs Jan.12 at 7pm  
Cottonwood Retirement Center**

**Send your Service Hours to Doris :**  
ohioaninutah@gmail.com

**Renew Your Membership!** See email for Mail-In Form



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MEETING MINUTES – NOV. 10

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. with 17 people present; three from the University of Utah, 13 members, and one prospective member. Minutes from our October meeting were approved without changes. Stephanie Yeager presented the Treasurer's report, we have \$6,299.01 cash on hand. The treasurer's report was approved. Service hours: please get your hours to Doris Richards asap and for sure by the end of December, we need to report them to the state BCH in early January. We had the second highest number of service hours in the state in 2015, it would be great if everyone reported in and we reach #1 in 2016!

The December 15 Christmas party and silent auction were discussed, all is moving along, if you have donations for the silent auction please get them to Monica Zoltanski at her house in Sandy or her shop, 1465 S 700 East in Salt Lake City.

Officers for 2017: Bill McEwan will move up to first Vice-President in accordance with the bylaws. We are soliciting nominees for second Vice- President and President, don't be shy, let Beverley know if you are interested! Stephanie Yeager has indicated she will be willing to continue serving as treasurer.

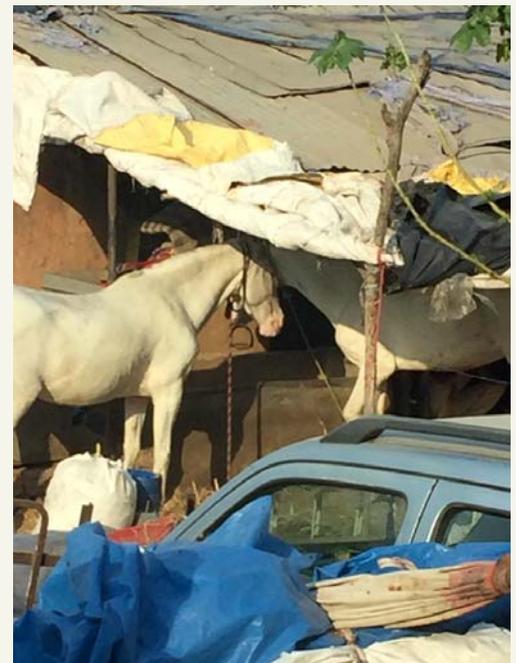
Next, we had a presentation by Dr. Mark Chynoweth, Professor of Biology at the University of Utah, on 'Tracking Wildlife in the 21st Century.' He presented a lot of interesting information on wildlife in Utah, particularly in the Red Butte Canyon study area, and passed around a cougar-sized tracking collar for us to see. Mark and his colleagues spoke to us as part of the STEM Ambassador Program, you can read more about it at [www.stem-ambassadors.org](http://www.stem-ambassadors.org).

After Mark's presentation, Beverley reported on news from the November 2 state meeting which was conducted by webinar. Among the items reviewed was thoughts on whether Mountain Ridge thinks we should have a booth at the Horse Expo in 2017. The conclusion of those present was that yes, a continuing BCHU presence is important, maybe

we only need one booth instead of the double booth, and we should do a demonstration in 2017. Monica Zoltanski proposed giving a presentation on the Saturday of the Expo on trail obstacles and desensitizing your horse for the trail; she will organize this presentation and Tyra and Starr volunteered to help. Fred Leslie will call Utah Horse Council and make them aware of our plans. At the state webinar, there was further discussion on whether BCHU should become a 501(c)(3) organization, this will be discussed further at the January BCHU meeting.

Beverley noted we have a moonlight ride on Monday November 14, meet at Wrangler Trailhead at 6 pm and be ready to ride at 6:15.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.  
Minutes by Tyra Canary



*Beverley is on vacation. Where in the world is she this time? India!*



**CHRISTMAS PARTY  
and Silent Auction  
December 15, 2016, 6:30-9:00 P.M.  
C.R. Hamilton Family Sports Complex  
13800 S 3700 W, Riverton, UT**

**Dinner is FREE with your new or renewed membership (\$35 for a single membership, \$45 for a family membership).**

**If you don't wish to join, you are still welcome, dinner is \$35 per person!  
We are serving your choice, chicken cordon bleu or ham and sides and dessert!**

*RSVP for dinner to Stephanie Yeager, 801-232-8806*

*If you have a donation for our silent auction, please contact Monica Zoltanski, 801-684-5879*

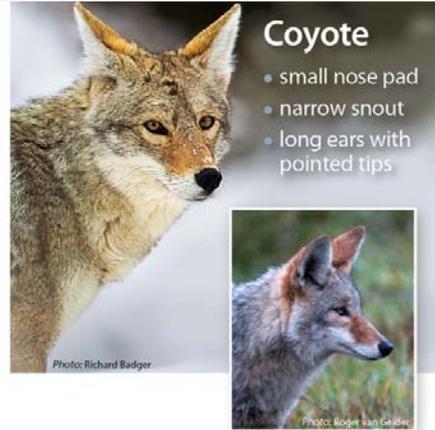
**TRACKING WILDLIFE IN THE  
21ST CENTURY**  
BY MARK CHYNOWETH

The STEM Ambassador Program (STEMAP) thanks Back Country Horsemen for the opportunity to present at the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016 meeting. STEMAP is a new program at the University of Utah designed to connect University scientists with community organizations that share a common interest. Such connections are beneficial to both the scientist and the community. Scientists often get new ideas or applications for research brought forth by community members; the public may benefit by receiving relevant, up to date information on scientific research.

Through the STEM Ambassador Program, Mark Chynoweth, a PhD candidate in the Biology Department, shared his research on wildlife biology at the November Back Country Horsemen meeting. Mark reported an ongoing study in Red Butte Canyon Research Natural Area using motion-activated camera to learn about presence and habitat use of wildlife in this protected area. Cameras in the canyon have captured images of elk, moose, coyotes, bobcats, and even cougars! Red Butte Canyon has a long history of conservation, beginning with its designation as a protected watershed in 1862. Today, it is considered one of the few remaining undis-

**Wolf**

- large nose pad
- broad snout
- short ears with rounded tips



**Coyote**

- small nose pad
- narrow snout
- long ears with pointed tips

turbed watersheds in the Great Basin. The goal of Mark's research is to use data collected in Red Butte Canyon to understand what wildlife communities in canyons along the Wasatch Front might look like in the absence of heavy human impact. Mark currently works in the Biodiversity and Conservation Ecology Lab ([www.facebook.com/BCELab](http://www.facebook.com/BCELab)). This lab hopes to extend their wildlife monitoring and research into other canyons along the Wasatch Front to learn more about how different types of human activity can impact wildlife. As Salt Lake Valley's human population continues to grow over the next several decades, this information can be used to help wildlife managers make informed decisions to ensure that wildlife is maintained as a resource for the public to enjoy.

when enjoying Utah's trails:

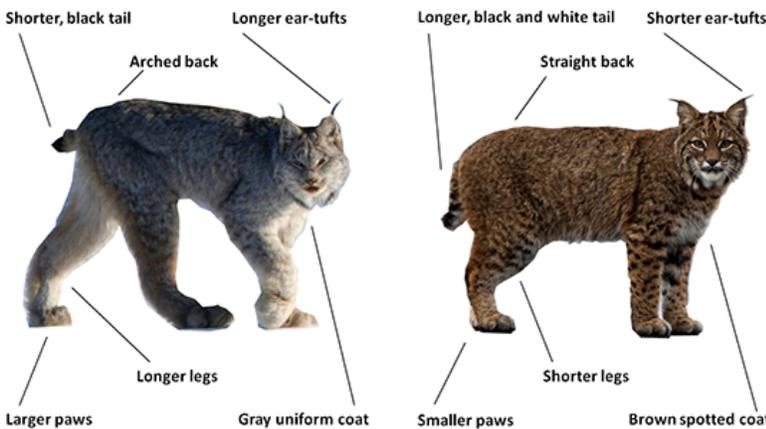
**Wolverines (*Gulo gulo*):** In June 2016, a wolverine was killed by a vehicle in Rich County, Utah. Fewer than 300 wolverines are believed to occupy the lower 48 states, so sightings of wolverines in Utah are of great interest to wildlife biologists.

**Canadian lynx (*Lynx canadensis*):** The Canadian lynx is the only lynx found in North America and can be confused with the bobcat (see image below). While reintroduction efforts have occurred in the western United States, little is known about the presence of this species in Utah.

Mark also spoke about rare species that we should be on the watch for

**Wolves (*Canis lupus*):** There have been wolf sightings in Utah over the past 5-6 years. Coyotes can sometimes be mistaken for wolves. See the picture below for tips on how to distinguish between the two.

**Lynx or Bobcat?**



**Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*)**

Photo by Keith Williams

**Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*)**

Photo by Kevin Pickell

We hope you enjoyed Mark's presentation and will keep an eye out for these rare species on the trail! If you think you see a wolverine, lynx, or wolf, the best people to contact is the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources ([www.wildlife.utah.gov](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov)).

STEMAP scientists currently represent 7 different fields of study. Visit [www.stemap.org](http://www.stemap.org) to learn more about the Ambassadors or contact Caitlin Weber at [caitlin.weber@utah.edu](mailto:caitlin.weber@utah.edu) if there are other topics you would like to hear about from a scientist!

**2017 PLANNING MEETING!  
JANUARY 12**



In January, we will be planning our rides and service projects for the year. Come help plan the year! Jan. 12 at 7pm at the Cottonwood Retirement Center 1245 East Murray-Holladay Road [4752 South].

If you can't come, but have a ride you would like to lead (or request), please let me know: cindyfurse1@gmail.com (801) 581 9225



*Mark Chynoweth presenting about Utah's wild animals at the Nov 10 BCHU meeting (See article on p.3)*

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