



BLACKHAWK NEWSLETTER

BOD Meeting Update

The BHR POA Board met on January 14, 2023, with all board members present. Art reported that the 2022 YTD actual expenses was \$95,636.43 with a budget of \$95,600.00. There is a \$36.43 variance over budget for 2022 although this may change after the audit is complete. Jim stated that he has completed the culvert and percentage grade road surveys. There are 70 culverts out of 180 that need to be cleaned. It costs \$200.00 per culvert to clean and \$2,000.00 per culvert to replace. The work on the "slide area" of Four Mile Canyon is done and 9/10's of a mile of road base was applied from the first water crossing on Four Mile Canyon Road towards Timber Drive.

Brad has requested Jared Fleming to come to the ranch and perform an official measurement of the work completed to date to allow the EMC to tailor our work in 2023 to complete the grant and submit a final report by the end of May. Brad also stated that Team Rubicon will again help us with mitigation along the steepest areas of Wapiti in 2023.

The Board is continuing to seek new volunteers for Snow Captain, Search Team, and Fire/Weather signs monitor. Please contact Brad Brooks if you are interested in helping. Access the links on the left for the full Minutes as well as the Financials.

Important Links

- [Blackhawk Website](#)
- [Blackhawk Facebook](#)
- [Covenants](#)
- [Driveway and Building Compliance Forms](#)
- [Contact Information](#)
- [BOD Meeting Minutes and Monthly Financials](#)

Editor: [Susanne Bloomfield](#)

Reporters: Nancy Pasternak, and Melissa Miller.

Agriculture Census

by Susanne Bloomfield



Many on the Ranch have received the Department of Agriculture Census concerning cattle grazing.

After consulting the Agency, we have been told that recipients should complete only sections 1 and

36, or on the front of the census, simply write that you do not own cattle but own property that is a part of a POA that has a cattle lease. This should handle it.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Our most hazardous driving conditions are coming up in the next few months. Be sure you have four-wheel drive and good snow tires! Drive safely everyone!

Team Rubicon Returns!

by Brad Brooks

We have a couple of pieces of good news with regard to our Colorado State Forest Service-Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant. First, 2022 was a banner year for Blackhawk Volunteer engagement on this grant. We have been able to complete the mitigation on 24.5 acres of the 30 acres we committed to in the grant. Our supervising forester on this grant said what we have completed looks excellent. However, we still have 5.5 acres to go before the grant officially ends on June 1, 2023.

Good job by all who have worked on this challenging project, together we are going to bring this to a successful conclusion this spring.

Second, we are going to get some great help on at least part of what is left! Team Rubicon (<https://teamrubiconusa.org/>), who helped us greatly last spring, have agreed to come back and give us a hand with some of the steepest parts of the remaining 5.5 acres! Wooohooo!

Over thirty Team Rubicon Gray Shirts will join us on the Blackhawk for a fire mitigation mission from April 27 – 30. We are oh-so-hopeful our tempestuous and fickle weather will cooperate with us on this. As last year, we need as many Blackhawk volunteers as we can muster.

We have **two major support missions of our own during this time:**

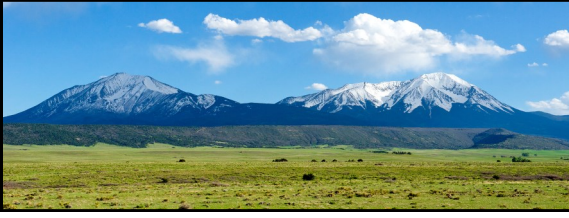
- 1) We need volunteers to prepare, deliver and serve home cooked meals to 30+ tired and hungry Team Rubicon men and women on the evenings April 28, 29 and 30**
- 2) We will need two teams of volunteers to run two chippers that will follow along behind the Team Rubicon Gray Shirts as they create slash piles to chip each day.**

Both of these Blackhawk support teams will be essential to the success of the Team Rubicon project, allowing us to close out this very successful fire mitigation grant. Those of us who worked hard with Team Rubicon last spring, can vouch for how inspiring these veterans are and what an honor it was working with, and serving, them. Please consider volunteering for a day, or even a few hours of your time on either of these two Blackhawk support projects. Give Brad Brooks or Susanne Bloomfield a call, text or email if you can join your neighbors on this worthy endeavor. You won't forget it.



A Moment in Time

by Nancy Pasternak



Did you know that the Ute and Comanche Indian tribes lived in our area of Colorado and on Blackhawk Ranch in the 1800's? They had encampments near the base of the Spanish Peaks along the Chucharas and Huerfano Rivers. They believed that

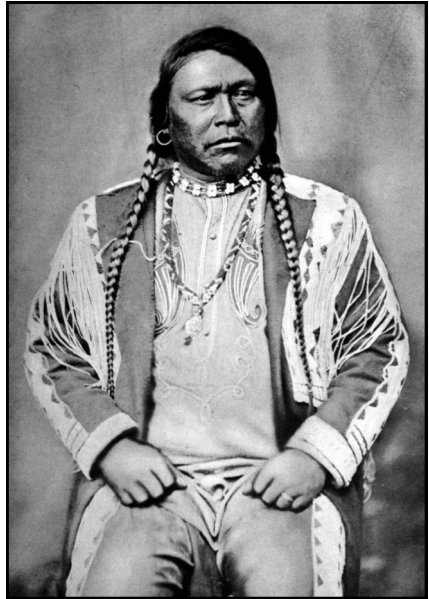
the "rain gods" lived atop the Wahatoyas (aka "breasts of the earth"), and would provide water to the valleys below.

The Ute tribe was led by two chiefs, Kaniache, "warrior chief" of the Muache Ute, and Ouray (photo below), "peacemaker chief" of the Tabeguache Ute. Chief Kaniache waged war against the gold rush miners flooding west to California in 1849 and to Colorado in 1859, along with settlers, all impacting their native hunting grounds. Their response was to block trails and raid settlements.

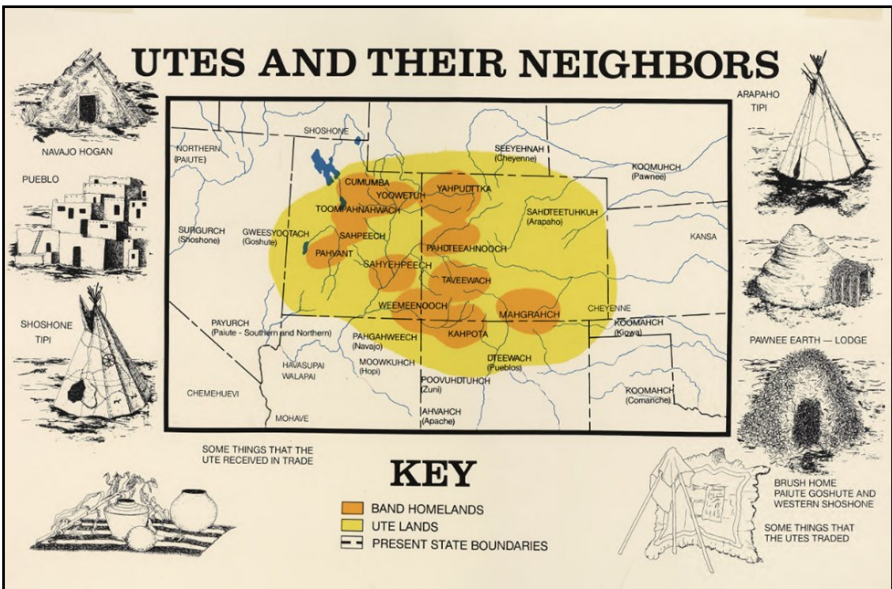
By 1862 they were assigned to the Cimarron agency in northern New Mexico, but failures in food distribution led to more problems. In the spring of 1863 they raided Fort Francisco, near present day LaVeta, and stole and slaughtered the settlers' cattle. In October of 1866 they stole horses and terrorized residents along the Huerfano River. At Badito they killed two settlers, kidnapped Mrs. McClure and her four children, and stole all of the town's livestock.

A month before these hostilities, Colonel Alexander fought Chief Kaniache in the Purgatoire Valley and captured many of his warriors. When Chief Ouray heard of these events he went to Fort Garland and negotiated with Chief Kaniache and Fort Garland commander, Kit Carson. Chief Kaniache released the McClure family in exchange for his warriors and agreement to return to northern New Mexico. The next uprising occurred in 1873 when the Southern Utes were offered one-half million dollars in exchange for a huge area of mining land in the San Juan mountains. He refused to sign the agreement, and later that year Colonial Francisco wrote a letter to Colorado Governor Elbert, asking for help and accusing Chief Kaniache of stealing cattle and destroying crops. The last year of Chief Kaniache's life was in 1880 when he refused to sign another treaty. When he was struck by lightning, it was taken as an omen and the other Utes signed the agreement which ended the saga of the Ute wars.

Ouray had been elected chief of the Tabeguache Ute at age 27 in 1860. Their nomadic life ranged from northern New Mexico through the San Luis Valley to the plains of eastern Colorado. He understood that the westward expansion of white men would overwhelm his people and decided to become a peace maker and save them from destruction. For the next twenty years Chief Ouray promoted peace with the whites. He frequently stopped to visit his friend, Tom Sharp, in the upper Huerfano Valley where he had built a trading post. The Utes pitched their teepees near the Huerfano River for weeks at a time. The whites and Utes entertained themselves with feasts, gambling, trading, and horse racing. However, the freedom to travel to the Huerfano Valley ended in 1877 with a treaty that established a reservation at Ignacio. The Utes were now confined to small wedges of land on the western slope of Colorado. Their nomadic way of life was over. It is believed that Chief Ouray never regretted his peacemaking efforts, realizing that his people may have lost many freedoms but managed to survive. There is a town, county, and hot springs named after Chief Ouray in southwestern Colorado near Telluride.



This map depicts land inhabited by Utes and their neighbors in Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming, Nevada, New Mexico, and Arizona. Symbols in the key include band homelands and Ute lands.



St. Patrick's Day

by Susanne Bloomfield

Although February is famous for Ground Hog Day and St. Valentine's Day, celebrations already passed, the next major excuse for a party is St. Patrick's Day in March. Although Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped, enslaved, and brought to Ireland. He escaped but returned to Ireland, bringing Christianity with him about 432 AD. He died around 30 years later on March 17, leaving behind an enduring legacy. The Irish have observed this day as a national holiday for over 1,000 years.



After Patrick died, many legends developed, the most famous was that he drove the snakes out of Ireland after they attacked him during a 40-day fast. Although naturalists believe that there never had been snakes in Ireland, the legend was a metaphor for banishing paganism from the country. However, he is credited with using the three-leafed shamrock, which symbolized the rebirth of spring, to also symbolize the Holy Trinity.

Ireland began celebrating St. Patrick's life with religious services and feasts around the 9th or 10th century; however since March 17th falls during Lent, a religious season that prohibits the consumption of meat, a special dispensation from church leaders allows them to eat meat, drink, and dance on this one special day after the morning church service. The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place, not in Ireland, but in a Spanish colony in what is now St. Augustine, Florida, in 1601. Over a hundred years later, on March 17, 1772, homesick Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched in New York City to honor their patron saint. In 1848, Irish immigrants from several Irish Aid societies banded together to begin the official New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade, the oldest civilian parade in the world. Today, hundreds of parades are held throughout the United States. The New York City parade boasts over 150,000 participants, and millions line the streets to watch.

St. Patrick's Day has generated many traditions. First is the color green, linked to Ireland's nickname as the Emerald Isle as well as the shamrock and one of the colors of the Irish flag. Then there is the tradition of being pinched for not wearing green. Green makes one invisible to Leprechauns, who will pinch anyone they can see. Today, everything from rivers to beer are dyed green to celebrate this holiday. Corned beef and cabbage are traditional foods to celebrate St. Patrick's Day along with a pint or two of Guinness.

Classic Corned Beef and Cabbage

Ingredients Needed:

- Corned beef brisket + Spice packet
- Cabbage
- Potatoes
- Carrots
- Peppercorns
- Beef broth
- Bay leaves
- Parsley

1. prepare the corned beef. You'll add it to a large dutch oven or heavy stockpot. Next, sprinkle the seasoning packet/ spices on top, as well as some peppercorns and a few bay leaves.
2. Pour the beef broth or beef stock over the top of the corned beef. You'll want the broth to mostly cover the meat so it can stay tender and juicy as it cooks.
3. Place the pot on the stove top and bring the broth to a simmer. Cover the pot and let the meat cook for about 3 hours. By the end of the cooking time, the meat will be very tender.
4. Add carrots and potatoes to the pot and cook them until they are nice and fork tender. Finally, stir in some cabbage wedges and let them cook in the flavorful broth.
5. May be served with horseradish sauce or mustard.

