



News from 10,000 Feet!

December 2013

Brian Head Town News

Volume 12



A depiction of Norse god – Ullr (from the Internet)

Brian Head's Annual Ullr Ritual

Some local residents of Brian Head Town held their annual Ullr celebration on Friday, November 8, 2013. Ullr is the Norse god of skis and snow. For the past 26 years, these locals have conducted an annual ski sacrifice to Ullr. The purpose for the ritual is to make it snow.

The ritual is conducted on a different day every year, depending on “the pulse of the community”, as well as prevailing weather conditions. The group consists of mostly Christian individuals who also value nature. Local resident, Bob Goldhirsch (a volunteer fire fighter for Brian Head Town), has become the leader of the group and gets to light the bonfire each year.

The ritual consists of sacrificing old snow boards and skis to Ullr in a large bonfire. A short “prayer” is said,

followed by drinking and many toasts. The bonfire is a pyramid of several bales of hay with the deteriorating skis in the center with the tips to the sky. A drip torch is used to light the fire. There is a belief that, whatever direction the skis fall, is the direction that the beacons snow storm will come from. After the toast and ignition of the bonfire, there are fireworks.

According to Norse mythology, Ullr is the god of snowshoes, hunting, the bow, and the shield. He was the handsome stepson of the thunder god Thor. His mother was Sif, the Goddess of Fertility. Ullr's name, which means glorious or dazzling, clearly reflects his abilities, and myth has it he once held the seat of the highest god. As the undisputed master of skis, he often used his skill to escape from foes or track down prey. It is rumored that Ullr sent out the Aurora Borealis to light the sky during the period of the longest nights. He was such a great skier that he would streak across the sky leaving the brilliant stars as his trails.

Let's hope the 2013 ritual worked and we get LOTS of snow this year! WE LOVE SNOW!



November 8, 2013 - Ullr Bonfire



Getting ready for the 2013 Ullr Ritual



Brian Head Ullr Celebration – November 8, 2013



Clayton Calloway

Introducing our Newest Town Council Members . . .

At the November 2013 Town election, incumbent Mayor Deutschlander was elected to another 4-year term! Clayton Calloway and Reece Wilson were elected as the 2 newest Brian Head Town council members. They both begin a 4-year term starting January 1, 2014. Clayton Calloway was appointed as a council member in April of 2013 to take the place of Hans Schwob who resigned from the Tow Council for personal reasons. Calloway starts his term with several months of experience behind him. Reece Wilson is starting fresh as of January 1, 2014.

Clayton Calloway has been a part of the Brian Head community since 1979. He first became involved in Town government serving on the Planning Commission for over two years. As mentioned above, he was appointed to the Town Council earlier this year. Calloway states, “This has been a great experience learning how local government works. I still have a lot to learn. I got involved because I care about Brian Head’s future.” His goal is to work towards insuring tax dollars are spent wisely.

Clayton is a contractor by trade and his business is based in Brian Head. He stated he has been married to Shelly, the “apple of my eye”, for 32 years. They have one son and four grandchildren. Calloway really enjoys all seasons in Brian Head, except Mud Month. He wants the public to know they can contact him anytime – he

appreciates hearing everyone’s point of view on Brian Head issues. Thank you Clayton!



Reece Wilson

Reece B. Wilson has been an active Brian Head community member since 2010 where he is a property manager and a volunteer fire fighter. He was born in Washington and moved to Utah with his family in 1992. Prior to his residency in Brian Head, Wilson spent ten years in Moab, UT working in the tourism industry and engaging in multiple civic activities.

Wilson’s vision for Brian Head includes fiscally responsible commercial growth, increased year round tourism, and to become a vibrant mountain community with diverse activities for all to enjoy. Welcome aboard Reece!

Town Tidbits

- Town Shuttle Services will be offered this year from December 15, 2013 through April 20, 2014. The shuttle will run day **and night** on Fridays, Saturdays, and Holidays until 10 p.m.
- For those residents who receive **only** garbage service from Brian Head Town, we will start billing quarterly (\$33 per quarter). We encourage those that receive this service, to feel free to pay annually (\$132). This will help save on billing costs.



Police Officers Help Keep You Safe (By Brad Benson, Deputy Public Safety Officer)

“Hey! I know what you are, you’re a cop!”

“Yes I am” I replied to the 4 year old boy standing with his mother in the grocery store checkout line.

The mother looked at me with that half embarrassed, half exasperated look that all mothers of 4 year old boys have. She had a lot of groceries and the checker looked like it had been a long day, so it would take a while before they would be ready to leave.

The boy however, looked like he was full of sugar and ready to take on the world. I didn’t want to just stand there and stare at the celebrity magazines in the rack so I continued the conversation.

“How can you tell,” I asked?

“Cause you got a Gun and all that other stuff,” he said pointing.

“Yes, that’s right,” I said. Then I added, “What do cops do?” The boy never missed a beat and said excitedly, “they catch bad guys and they give my mom speeding tickets.”

The mother then shot me another embarrassed look, hidden behind a smile. I was starting to wish I had decided to check out what the Kardashians were up to in one of those magazines, but then quickly decided that this could be a “teaching moment.”

I then said to the boy (and everyone else that was now listening) “Yes, that’s what we sometimes do, but do you know why we do those things?” Not wanting to embarrass his mother anymore, I didn’t give him time to answer the question and quickly said “a cop’s job is to keep everyone safe. Sometimes we give people tickets to help them remember to be safe.”

The boy looked a little puzzled and didn’t reply, giving thought to that statement. That gave me the chance to change the subject. I asked him what he was having for dinner and what his favorite food was and other such things until the checker had finished checking their groceries and they left the store.

As the evening wore on I kept thinking about my encounter with that talkative little boy. I wondered what his experiences with cops really were. I wondered what his mother had told him about why she had gotten a speeding ticket. I don’t know, but I wonder if the conversation or remarks were something to the effect that cops are mean.

I am sure he has watched TV shows where the cops are shooting and beating up the bad guys; driving in high speed car chases; and doing all sorts of things that are exciting to watch on television, but in reality are very rare in the daily life of any police officer. After that conversation I’ve decided to address the truth about what cops really do for a living.

We have all heard the motto, “To protect and to serve.” How many people (and even cops for that matter) really understand what that statement means? It is a very broad statement that can encompass a wide range of topics. I want to address the very basics of police work as they relate to Brian Head.

Who do cops protect? The answer is everyone. Laws are made by the legislative branch of government to help protect citizens from all sorts of dangers in today’s world. These laws are put into place with fines and incarceration penalties attached so that people will hopefully choose not to violate these laws. The police work under direction of the Executive branch of government to enforce the laws and the judicial branch oversees prosecution of offenders. Again how do cops protect the public?

Let us assume that most people don’t want to violate the law and most people don’t want to be fined or jailed. The best way to avoid violating or breaking the law is to obey the law. Simply put, if you don’t want to get a speeding ticket then don’t speed. It’s the same with all laws.

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Brian Head Events December 2013, January & February 2014

(Contact Brian Head Resort at (866) 930-1010 or Brian Head Town at (435) 677-2029 for more information)

December 24 (Monday) - Christmas Eve Bonfire & S'mores. Enjoy the bonfire while drinking hot cocoa and eating yummy s'mores. Free, Free, Free! Come see Santa! Time: 7 pm. Location: Brian Head Town Pavilion. *Sponsored by Summit Mountain Lodge Resort.*

December 31 (Tuesday) - New Year's Eve Fireworks & Torchlight Parade. Parade starts at dusk. A Party will follow from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Location: Last Chair Saloon. Cost: \$20, 12 and under \$10.

January is Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month! Brian Head Resort is offering great deals during the month of January. Packages include a lift ticket, rentals and two-hour sessions.

January 4, 2013 – Triple Crown (Rail Jam) – The Brian Head Resort Triple Crown will consist of three competitions: Rail Jam, Slope Style and Big Air. The first of the three will be the Rail Jam. Prizes will be awarded three deep in each category. Visit brianhead.com to download the registration form. You can also register the morning of the event. Start time: 1 p.m. Location: Base of Giant Steps. Registration Fee: \$5. Categories: Ski and Snowboard – Men's Amateur, Men's Pro and Women's Open.

Beginning January 7, 2013 - \$25 Tuesdays every Tuesday at the Resort

Beginning January 9, 2013 – College Night - \$15 Night Skiing every Thursday (no college I.D. required)

January 11, 2013 – Klondike Derby at the Resort

January 24 – 25, 2013 – Great White Weekend

February All Month Long – Students of the Snow - Students of all grades with a current student I.D. will be able to hit the slopes for less all month long. Students can enjoy the mountain with a \$20 lift ticket (excludes Presidents' Holiday Weekend February 15-17, 2013).

February 8, 2013 – Triple Crown (Slope Style) – This is the second event of the Triple Crown series, Slope Style. Prizes will be awarded three deep in each category. Visit brianhead.com to download the registration form. You can also register the morning of the event. Start time: 10 p.m. Location: Bypass Terrain Park. Registration Fee: \$5. Categories: Ski and Snowboard – Men's Amateur, Men's Pro and Women's Open.

February 14, 2013 – Valentine's Day! – Brian Head Resort is fixing people up one chairlift at a time with lift dating. Cost: FREE (with purchase of a lift ticket)

February 15, 2013 – Annual Brian Head Town Snowmobile Poker Run – The annual poker run will begin in Brian Head and go to Duck Creek and back. Enjoy the scenic views of Southern Utah on snow mobile trails, with 7 poker stops. The day will end with dinner at Cedar Breaks Lodge, where prizes will be awarded in various categories.

February 22-23, 2014 – Hero's Weekend – Heroes, such as military personnel, EMTs, firefighters, paramedics, and law enforcement will receive 50% off lift tickets February 22-23, 2013. To receive this special offer, heroes show their ID at the ticket office to receive the discount.





Parowan High School Invitational – starting point (September 25, 2013)

PAROWAN HIGH CROSS COUNTRY INVITATIONAL

(By Jameson Griffiths, PHS cross-country runner)

The frigid gale swept through the Navajo Ski Resort parking lot, buffeting groups of individuals who were huddled for both conversation and warmth. These individuals were all gathered for a single purpose: To run.

On September 25, 2013 cross country teams from Parowan, Kanab, Delta, Beaver, Millard and Enterprise High Schools met to compete for the title of victory. They were joined by Desert Hills, Snow Canyon, and Hurricane High Schools, all of which are 3A schools from the Washington County area. Approximately 250 runners took part in the race, which began in the Navajo Lodge parking lot.

The course incorporated a number of narrow switchbacks which led downhill and a long, steep uphill that reduced any runners from their "race pace" to a slow trudge. After reaching the summit, those who pushed on were rewarded with a short downhill, which led them onto an ATV trail that wound behind Town Hall and onto the adjacent road.

Runners continued up the road slightly and turned past the construction vehicles parked on the next street up. They continued on the pavement until they reached the stone bridge that connects the parking lot with the main road. They turned left and hit the Town Trail all the way back to Navajo Lodge where they finished.



September 25, 2013 - Cross Country Participants

Most of the runners had very positive feedback from the run. Many spoke of how beautiful the trees were, how challenging the run was and how enjoyable it was. Due to the positive feedback from the course, the Parowan Cross Country team has decided to make the Brian Head XC Invitational an annual event, and is expected to be a popular course for many seasons to come.

Parowan High School Cross Country Coaches and runners would like to thank Brian Head Town for their support in making this meet a big success.

Note from Brian Head Town Go Rams! Thanks for holding your invitational in our Town. We love to share our beautiful scenery with everyone.

More Pictures from the 2013 PHS Cross-Country Invitational



Some Participants from Parowan High School



Police Officers Help Keep You Safe

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Police Officers protect people by simply being on patrol. An Officer's mere presence is a great crime deterrent and provides safety to the public. Think about this situation. You're driving down the road and you see a police vehicle. What do most people do? They check their speed and slow down if they need to. I have personally witnessed people look at police vehicles and immediately put on their seat belts. I wonder how many lives have been saved by Police Officers who decided to park their patrol car on the side of the road.

Police Officers not only protect the public but also serve the public. The Brian Head Marshal's Office is very unique in its service. One of the main duties for Brian Head deputies is helping motorists after they have slid off the road or gotten stuck in a driveway. Each deputy has tow straps and we use them frequently.

Living or visiting Brian Head can be a challenge to people who are used to living in more metropolitan areas. Who do you call when your car won't start or the furnace in the cabin you rented won't light? How about when you get to your condo to find a bat flying around (which is a story in of itself)? People call the Brian Head Marshals. We are happy to help anyone with any problem they may have while in Brian Head. If we can't help we know someone who can. That's what service is.

I hope that little boy learns that cops not only catch "bad guys" and give speeding tickets to his mom, but are there to protect and to serve. **Be happy and be safe.**



Safety Information Regarding Icy Ponds *(from the Internet)*

Since Brian Head Town has dug a Reservoir, we feel it is appropriate for us to share some winter safety information. It happens way too often during colder months – we hear news stories of people who have fallen through ice and died. In February 2010, an ATV rider fatally crashed through the ice in Lac La Hache, B.C. In December 2010, two preteen brothers were playing hockey on the Red River in Manitoba when they both fell through the ice. A preteen brother and sister were sledding on a frozen pond in Missouri in January 2011 when the ice gave way; they both drowned. Avoid being a victim of thin ice.

Ice Thickness Safety Levels

- 7 cm or less (2.75 inches or less) – STAY OFF
- 10cm (3.9 inches) – ice fishing, walking, and cross country skiing
- 12 cm (4.7 inches) – one snowmobile or ATV
- 20 – 30 cm (7.9 inches to 11.8 inches) – one car or small pickup
- 30 – 38 cm (11.8 inches to 15 inches) – one medium truck, pickup, or van

How to Test Ice for Thickness

How do you test for ice thickness? Using an ice auger, an ice chisel, or even a cordless drill, make a hole in the ice until you reach the water below. Insert a tape measure into the hole and hook the bottom edge onto the ice to get a reading of the ice thickness.

Bear in mind that ice will be different thicknesses on the same body of water. It can be half a foot thick in one spot and only inches thick not far away. Temperatures, water currents, and snow cover can greatly affect ice thickness levels in short time periods.

What if you Fall Through Ice?

What do you do if you fall through ice? Stay calm and keep your wits. Focus on taking deep breaths. Doing so will greatly improve your chances of survival. Using your fingers to get a tight grip, gently pull yourself out of the hole and roll onto your side. Don't try to stand as you might break through the ice again. If you cannot get out of the hole, prop yourself up the best you can so you are visible to others.

What if Someone Else Falls Through Ice?

What if you are with someone who falls through the ice? Resist the instinct to go pull them out as chances are you will join them in the hole. Use a stick, a rope, or anything handy to pull the water-logged person out of the hole.

Stay safe while venturing out on the ice – never step onto the frozen water if you have any doubts.