



News and Information on the State's border-to-border Arizona Trail project

Vol. 13, No. 1 – Spring 2006

## Part Awards Gala, Part Board Meeting, Part Carnival

by Chris Johnson

On February 4, 2006, the 12th Annual Meeting and Recognition Luncheon of the Arizona Trail Association (ATA) packed the main room of the Phoenix Zoo's Stone House Pavilion.

The ATA's premier membership event, the luncheon was part awards gala, part board meeting, part carnival.

More than 150 hikers, bikers, and horse riders came from as far away as Sierra Vista, the Grand Canyon, and even San Francisco, California (not to mention the San Francisco Mountains and the San Francisco River) to reconnect with old friends and get caught up on doin's along the Arizona Trail.

Before the big show, the Pavilion was abuzz with activity. Display booths for REI, the American Hiking Society, Summit Hut, the ATA, the Arizona Outdoor and Travel Club, and the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona offered



**An enthusiastic group of 157 trail enthusiasts, equestrians, mountain bikers and hikers, converged on the Phoenix Zoo's Stone Pavilion on this beautiful February day to share stories, receive awards, enjoy lunch and learn about the Arizona Trail accomplishments for the past year and plans for the future.**



**Jan Hancock, charter member and long time President of ATA, and Larry Snead, charter member and retiring Chief Trail Steward, receive parting gifts and heart felt thank yous from the Association.**

much in the way of outdoor information and motivation. Sprinkled about the Pavilion like so many clumps of jumping cholla, ATA members, trail stewards, open space advocates, extreme sports enthusiasts, and outdoorspeople of all sorts warmly greeted one another and shared conversation.

Around 10:00 a.m., the inimitable Dale Shewalter let fly with a few bars on his trusty harmonica, and the annual

members' meeting was on.

ATA President Eric Hiser called the meeting to order and offered a compelling "State of the Trail" address that closely reviewed the ATA's blueprint for the future, the Strategic Plan 2006-2010. Guests were further pleased to hear a favorable financial report from Treasurer Randy Warner.

New Executive Director Dave Hicks followed with a detailed progress report on ATA initiatives such as pending Arizona state legislation (ASB 1468) to officially recognize the Arizona Trail, efforts to obtain National Scenic Trail Designation, and Laddie Cox' new "hit and run" crews to repair the Trail immediately after fire damage. Dave also outlined some future goals, such as completing the final 30 miles of the trail, building trailside sleeping shelters, and designating an official bike route.

Warner further had the honor of presenting the inaugural Larry Snead Trail Stewardship and Jan Hancock Outstanding Volunteer Awards to their namesakes. In addition to the handsome plaques, Jan received a lovely bouquet of flowers and Larry got a refurbished vintage fire Pulaski, "a tool with character for a man with character."

After a satisfying lunch of tasty wraps and fruit, Jerry



# At The Helm

## **The Arizona Trail Our Vision...**

a continuous, non-motorized trail traversing the state nearly 800 miles from Mexico to Utah, linking deserts, mountains, canyons, communities, and people.

The **Arizona Trail Association** coordinates the planning, development, management and promotion of the Arizona Trail for recreational and educational experiences for non-motorized trail users.

### **Board of Directors**

President:  
Eric Hiser

Immediate Past President:  
Dale Shewalter

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### **Executive Director**

Dave Hicks

**Chief Trail Steward**  
Anna Pfender

ATA welcomes articles and photos from trail users and volunteers. Please mail to ATA or e-mail: [editor@aztrail.org](mailto:editor@aztrail.org)

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P.O. Box 36736  
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602-252-4794  
[www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)

## **Dave's Arizona Trail Top Ten**

by ATA Executive Director dhicks15@cox.net

There are many things going on with the Arizona Trail Association. Here are just a few items that I want to share with ATA members.

1. Success – The Arizona Trail can become the best long distance trail in the USA, but it will take continued effort and partnerships with individuals, clubs, small businesses, large corporations and many levels of government. Please do not hesitate to volunteer for any activity. (Contact Helen Hill at [deserthill@worldnet.att.net](mailto:deserthill@worldnet.att.net)).

2. Website – Keep an eye on the website ([www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)) for information and events. It is your best Arizona Trail information source.

3. Trail Development – Grand Canyon National Park officials are reviewing an ATA proposal to link the Arizona Trail from the South Kaibab Trailhead to the south Park entrance – a distance of 7 miles, nearly all on existing paths.

4. Employee Work Days – Large and small employee trail maintenance and construction work days have been a successful vehicle for some pretty amazing Arizona Trail work. Large and small employer or employee groups are asked to contact Chief Steward Anna Pfender ([mtbbabe@cox.net](mailto:mtbbabe@cox.net)), or Mark Flint ([markflint@earthlink.net](mailto:markflint@earthlink.net)) in the Tucson area.

5. Segment Stewards – The backbone of maintaining the Arizona Trail is the segment steward program. The dedication of our trail stewards impresses me more all the time. But, additional stewards are needed, especially from Mormon Lake to the Grand Canyon. Don't worry, you can do it! Contact Anna Pfender.

6. Trail Funds – The proposed Arizona Trail bill is progressing at the state legislature and proposes to provide annual funding and safeguards for the Arizona Trail (Senate Bill 1468, <http://www.azleg.state.az.us>)

7. Premier Legacy Program – Booz, Allen and Hamilton, a global consulting firm,

*continued on page 7*

## **Dale's Tales ...**

### **The Arizona Trail**

*In the land of Arizona  
Through desert heat or snow  
Winds a trail for folks to follow  
From Utah to Old Mexico*

*But you'll see moonlight on the borderlands  
You'll see stars on the Mogollon  
You'll feel the warmth of winter sun  
And be thrilled straight through to bone.*

*It's the Arizona Trail  
A path through the great Southwest  
A diverse track through wood and stone  
Your spirit it will test.*

*The aches and pains will fade away  
You'll feel renewed and whole  
You'll never be the same again  
With Arizona in your soul.*

*Some will push and pedal  
And some will hike or run  
Others will ride their horse or mule  
What else could be more fun?*

*Along the Arizona Trail  
A reverence and peace you'll know  
Through deserts, canyons and mountains  
From Utah to Old Mexico.*

*Oh, sure, you'll sweat and blister  
You'll feel the miles each day  
You'll shiver at the loneliness  
Your feet and seat will pay.*

Dale R. Shewalter  
February 1, 2003



# Annual Meeting continued from page one



Nash and Bill Findley recounted their winter through-hike of the Trail; Dori Pederson wowed the crowd with her poignant Trail photography; and Scott Morris completely blew everyone's minds with his account of mountain biking the entire Trail by himself in seven days, eight hours, unsupported.



**Arizona Trail hiker, Dori Pederson, who finished the trail this past year, gave a beautiful slide show of her adventures. Many of her photographs are featured in the Arizona Trail guidebook.**

Anna Pfender, the new chief trail steward, recognized each of her tireless trail stewards, as well as a host of behind-the-scenes volunteers. The ATA also honored many other valued volunteers and agency partners, as well as ATA board member Kent Taylor.

The day's honorees weren't the only ones who went home with hardware. Several lucky guests won some great raffle prizes, including a Dana Design backpack; three Novarra hydration systems; several

HighGear compass/LED flashlights with the American Hiking Society logo; a PUR microbiological water purifier; and a Big Agnes one-person backpacking tent.

Basking in the afterglow of Arizona Trail enthusiasm, everybody agreed that this year's meeting, organized by Carla Olson and Helen Hill, was among the best.



**Larry Snead presents an ATA award to long-time Trail Partners, the Bureau of Land Management. Don Applegate, right, and Jim Mahoney, center, accept the award.**



**The Arizona Trail Association's Executive Director Dave Hicks thanked many people for their outstanding work, and outlined the progress and the plans for the trail.**



**Current title holder for fastest traverse of the trail, Scott Morris tells how (and why) he completed the trail in 7 days, 8 hours, by mountain bike.**

**See all the photos from the day at [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)**



**Jerry Nash and Bill Findley tell the tale of their through hike with a beautiful slide show and copious thanks to their support crew.**

The Arizona Trail Association thanks the Phoenix Zoo for the use of the Stone Pavilion, REI, and Carla Olson for organizing the event, and all the ATA volunteers who helped with the event. See you next year!!!



# Reports From the Field

## For Oracle Ridge, it Looks Like Visions of Futures Past

by Chris Johnson

The air is dry and tense in the Coronado National Forest. It hasn't really rained since September. Every living thing is on edge, waiting.

Up on Oracle Ridge, along the Arizona Trail north of Mt. Lemmon in the Santa Catalina Mountains, stately hundred-year old oaks bear the scars of many fires previous. Down in nearby towns like Oracle and Catalina, locals dread the imminent closure of the Forest.

Bev Showalter, long-time trail steward for the northern section of the Oracle Ridge passage (Section 12B), knows well the impact wildfire can have on this landscape.

It was just three years ago that the massive Aspen Fire swept over the Catalinas for nearly a month in June and July of 2003, scorching more than 85,000 acres. Bev and her posse of fellow trail users and supporters from the County Line Riders (CLR), a local equestrian group, could only watch and worry as the fire consumed everything in its path, including the Arizona Trail.

### Oracle Ridge IS the Arizona Trail

The Oracle Ridge passage embodies everything the Arizona Trail strives to be and offers everything that trail users hope to find.

It's cool in the summer, and mild in the winter. The varied, well-built trail is accessible to all types of trail users, and it offers just the right balance of recreation and relaxation.

And not just beauty, but brains too. The American Flag trailhead on Mt. Lemmon Road, one of the first official trailheads established by the Arizona Trail Association (ATA), is the site of one of Arizona's oldest remaining Territorial post office buildings. It is also on the National Register of Historic Places. As is La Casa del High Jinks, the former homestead of Buffalo Bill Cody, just a few miles up the trail.

### The Trail Was Devastated

After the Aspen Fire, Bev was chomping at the bit to get back to her twelve-mile section of the trail, which currently runs from the backside of Mt. Lemmon up to Dan's Saddle and then down to the American Flag trailhead. The US Forest Service (USFS) had other ideas. Concerned about further damage to the mountain, the USFS kept the area

closed for nine months.

When she finally got a chance to see the trail in late 2003, Bev discovered that it had been badly damaged. In some places, it was virtually obliterated by bulldozers making fire breaks to slow down the fire. In the rainy months following the fire, erosion had added insult to injury.

"The result was devastating" Bev remembers, "in some places you couldn't even see the trailbed, and in the places you could see it, you could barely get through, even on foot."

Bev quickly assessed the damage and developed a long-term action plan. The plan called first for repairing the four-mile Cody Trail Loop, which was the most heavily traveled and

best-conditioned stretch of Section 12B before the fire.

### It's a Labor of Love

Over the past two years, Bev and her crew have rebuilt the Cody Loop tread (the actual trailbed) to make it virtually erosion-proof. They have built drainage culverts to reduce erosion. And widened switchbacks to accommodate cyclists. And rerouted the trail around heavily damaged spots. And removed brush. And shored up trailbanks.

For Bev and the CLR, it is a labor of love. Using phone trees and an email distribution list to coordinate more than 100 CLR volunteers—all of whom receive onsite training—Bev keeps the work schedule informal, but averages about one work event a month during the summer months and two events a month during the winter months.

Now, just when the Cody Loop section has been completely rehabilitated, the specter of fire looms once again.

The threat of another fire does nothing to diminish Bev's enthusiasm for trail work though. Since putting the finishing touches on the Cody Loop section in early February, she has been looking ahead to the next challenge: widening the trail from the top of Oracle Ridge all the way up to Dan's Saddle. With input from ATA Chief Trail Steward Anna Pfender and all-around trail guru Larry Snead, Bev hopes to start work on this project in April.

Fire may be prevalent in the Catalinas, but it is not preeminent. When asked for the one thing that people should know about the Oracle Ridge passage, Bev provides what could become the new slogan of the Arizona Trail, "it's worth the effort to get out there and explore."

*The Oracle Ridge passage embodies everything the Arizona Trail strives to be and offers everything that trail users hope to find*

**Trail descriptions for the 43 passages of the Arizona Trail are available at [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)**



# Reports From the Field



## 27\_Highline



**Arizona/Highline Trail treadwork being done in May of 2005 by the Gila County Trails Alliance.**

Gila County Trails Alliance cleared and marked the Arizona /Highline Trail Geronimo section early in May 2005. Eight members put in markers and covered misleading side trails in preparation for the Annual 50 Mile Long Distance Run from Pine Trailhead to the 260 Trailhead. The Alliance also marked and cleared tread on



**Gila County Trails Alliance crew working on Arizona Trail putting in signs and repairing tread.**

the Arizona Trail Oak Springs section from Highway 87 to Pine Creek in November of 2005 repairing damage done by forest thinning.

Shirley Armstrong  
Gila County Trails Alliance

## 27\_Highline

Before and after pictures of the signs on the Highline Trail - Arizona Trail at Bray Creek, inside the 2006 February Fire perimeter.

Mike Johns  
Segment Steward  
Bray Creek to Chase Creek



**Left: Before the February Fire.**

**Below: After.**



## 17\_Alamo Canyon

Thanks to the 149 volunteers who built trail near Picket Post trailhead on March 25-26 at the REI annual work day on the Arizona Trail. A great job and event. Thank you REI and VOAZ and all the volunteers.

We hope to have a full story with photos in the next issue of the *Arizona Trail News*.

**Trail Conditions are updated regularly at [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)  
See the link on the ATA home page**



# Hikers Enjoy Another AZ Trail Adventure

by Wendy Hodgson

Hikers were treated to exquisite views and plant lore galore while participating on one of our interpretive hikes 5 March 2006. These trips are part of our new interpretive-educational program for anyone who would like to learn more about the Arizona Trail and what it offers, whether it is plants, animals, geology, history or more. Our hike traversed the west flanks of the Tortilla Mountains, beginning just south of the Gila River near Kearny. We hiked along the relatively newly constructed and beautiful trail, which gently gained elevation as it traversed through gorgeous Arizona Upland Sonoran Desert with saguaro-studded hillsides. Despite the absence of winter rains and consequently, annual wildflowers, we were treated to not only knock-your-socks-off scenery, but an array of information regarding plant ecology, drought-induced plant responses and adaptations and medicinal lore. We were fortunate to have as our co-leaders Mimi Kamp and Francisco Ozuna. Mimi is an expert on native plant medicine in southwestern U.S. and northern Mexico, having worked with Michael Moore, a well-known authority



*Looking north from Trail from near the Big Hill.*

on medicinal plants. Francisco is a fifth-generation Yaqui-Apache curandero, having studied medicinal plants since an early age. (I put their experience to good use - as I have been trying to "kick the crud" for nearly two months, sampled some jojoba leaves soaked in water to help my sinuses/cold. The concoction tasted soothing although I was told it works best if seeped in hot water for some time before drinking.) Ruth and Steve Carter, who live at Boyce Thompson Arboretum, also joined the group. Ruth is a geologist while Steve is a horticulturist; as a result of sharing stories amongst these and other folks on the trip, we all felt our lives were enriched with new experiences, information and friendships.

Our next field trip is scheduled for 19 July up in the cool country near Walnut Canyon National Monument along the Arizona Trail. This trip will be lead by famed herbalist and ethnobotanist Phyllis Hogan and myself to identify plants, talk more about plant lore and ecological relationships amongst plants and plant communities. Refer to the Trail's website for more on this and other upcoming field trips.



*Wendy Hodgson with Mimi Kamp and Francisco Ozuna (the fearless leaders)*

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## 2006 Interpretive Hikes Calendar

### 15 July 2006

Escape the hot summer in the desert and come to the cool pines near Walnut Canyon! Phyllis Hogan (Arizona Ethnobotanical Association, Winter Sun Trading Post, Flagstaff) and Wendy Hodgson (Desert Botanical Garden) will discuss northern Arizona wildflowers and their uses along the Arizona Trail that skirts the west end of Walnut Canyon National Monument. This is a beautiful area with high plant diversity sharing numerous niches including broad, flat park-like habitats and rocky nooks.

### 15-17 September 2006

Come learn birds amidst the beautiful early fall colors of southern Arizona. Led by well-known ornithologist Vashti "Tice" Suppley (Arizona Audubon, Phoenix), this hike promises to be an outstanding opportunity to learn about southern Arizona's many bird species from a birding (and wildlife) expert who guides us along the Arizona Trail in the Huachuca Mountains foothills. Wendy Hodgson will also help us identify numerous plants along the Trail. Participants have the option of staying at a private cabin Friday and Saturday nights in Parker Canyon (see below) or camping elsewhere.

*Space is limited! Please go online for full details and for contact information or email Wendy at [whodgson@dbg.org](mailto:whodgson@dbg.org)*



# ATA Premier Legacy Partner Profile:



## Bureau of Land Management

Members of the ATA's Premier Legacy Program ([www.aztrail.org/legacy-partners](http://www.aztrail.org/legacy-partners)) provide generous annual contributions and support to the Arizona Trail. They will leave a legacy for future generations to enjoy. This month we recognize a long standing ATA partner, the Bureau of Land Management in Arizona.



The Bureau of Land Management in Arizona is responsible for managing 12.2 million acres of public land for the American people. This includes balancing the current recreation, minerals, grazing, wildlife and watershed needs while protecting the natural, scenic and historic beauty for enjoyment in the future. Some of Arizona's most interesting and rugged areas are among those acres, including Aravaipa Canyon, the Eagletail Mountains and the San Pedro Riparian National

Conservation Area. Of special interest are White Canyon Wilderness and Paria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness because of their proximity to the Arizona Trail. Visit [www.blm.gov/az/](http://www.blm.gov/az/) for more information on BLM's work.

In addition, BLM has assisted the Arizona Trail Association with the production of their Trail Passage topographic maps, available only at the Bureau of Land Management Information Center. This ongoing project has provided software and GIS (geographic information systems) expertise to Arizona Trail Association volunteers to allow for the production and sale of the 1:24,000 custom topographic maps. This is a part of the Bureau of Land Management's "Maps-on-Demand" service available at the State Office of the Bureau in downtown Phoenix.

*Continued from page two*

## Dave's Arizona Trail Top Ten

recently became an ATA Premier Legacy partner. Such agency contributions are vital to ATA operations. Please let them know you appreciate their AZT support. Let me know of other potential partners. I will be happy to contact and meet with them.

8. Neat project! – ATA member Mike Headrick has taken the lead on developing seven maps that would encompass the entire Arizona Trail. Similar to those used on the Appalachian Trail, they would provide useful information to all trail users.

9. National Trails Day – The Peaks Ranger District in Flagstaff is coordinating an event on Saturday, May 6. A good reason for family and friends to spend the day or weekend in Flagstaff. Watch the ATA website for details.

10. ATA Members Welcome – The next ATA Board meeting is scheduled for April 29 in Casa Grande, 10 a.m. to noon. All ATA members are invited and welcome to attend all board meetings. The afternoon of the 29th is set aside as a joint meeting of the ATA board and segment stewards.

I realize in my new role as Executive Director that the success of the Arizona Trail and Association is dependent on many, many people actively participating. There's a lot to do. Join us in this adventure!

## Just Itching to Volunteer? Read on.

**Wanted:** Outdoor lovers to periodically assess trail conditions, plan and supervise trail maintenance. Benefits: open air, camaraderie, food that somehow tastes better  
**Contact:** Anna Pfender, Chief Steward, [mtbbabe@cox.net](mailto:mtbbabe@cox.net), 480.893.6610

**Wanted:** Membership recruiters to contact hiking, mountain biking, equestrian, and other outdoor groups and to occasionally perform various promotional tasks. Benefits: new friends & acquaintances, new outdoor opportunities  
**Contact:** Dick Wertz, Membership Coordinator, [rawertz@commspeed.net](mailto:rawertz@commspeed.net), 928.684.7031

**Wanted:** Office assistant to handle membership renewals. Two hours per week, Phoenix. Benefits: Phyllis' gratitude, ATA members' gratitude  
**Contact:** Phyllis Ralley, ATA Administrator, [phyllis@capitolconsultingaz.com](mailto:phyllis@capitolconsultingaz.com), 602.252.4794

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### BOOKS

#### **THE WAVING TREE by Peter Viteritti**

Have you ever spent time exploring a landscape that is just as beautiful as it is dangerous? *The Waving Tree* is a true story that takes place during the summer of 2004, when the author and his cousin hiked for thirteen days through the enchanting mountain range called the Italian Alps. While they trekked through all kinds of hazardous weather conditions and even found themselves lost a few times, they also met many interesting people, including Jakob, who hiked with them the final eight days. *The Waving Tree* is about hiking, exploring, life, hope, and the fact there is still plenty of good in this world even during turbulent and stressful times. Purchase it at [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com).

### TENTS

Dana Designs Nuk Tuk with footprint, \$150. Hardly used, pyramid shaped, one pole design. Great for canoeing, snow camping. Versatile, roomy, sleeps 4 good friends. [t5a9g@hotmail.com](mailto:t5a9g@hotmail.com) or call 520-954-4619



# Calendar of Events and Activities

**APRIL, 2006**

## **April 8-9 Boulders Segment**

Maintenance continues on this newly completed segment. Feel free to come out for one day or the entire weekend. For those staying over night with us, we'll be putting on a nice dinner Saturday night as usual. Remember that New Belgium Brewing Company is our beverage sponsor! Please contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender for details and directions to the work location at 480-518-6021 or mtbbabe@cox.net

## **Wednesday, April 19, 2006**

### **Hiking the Sky Islands and the Arizona Trail with Terri Gay**

6 p.m. at the U of A Rogers College of Law  
1201 E. Speedway Blvd, Room 140, Tucson

Terri Gay is a long-time Tucson hiker, rock climber and lover desert backcountry. In March 2003, she embarked on a quest to hike the length of Arizona, 800 miles from Mexico to Utah along the Arizona Trail, a dream she's held for nearly two decades. Terri will share photos and adventures from this trek in the sky islands and across the state.

Sponsored by the Sky Island Alliance and the Environmental Law Society For more information, please contact Sky Island Alliance at 520-624-7080 x209

### **April 22 - Canelo West # 3**

Work in the Meadow Valley area, constructing a short re-route with Segment Steward Richard Corbett. Fun and fellowship with special treats. Long sleeves and pants protect you best, a wide brimmed hat likewise. Leather gloves a necessity. Please bring 3 to 4 liters of water, lunch and snacks. Please E-Mail Richard at kc7ovm@dakotacom.net if you can help, and to get meeting place and time.

## **MAY**

### **May 6 - Flagstaff**

As part of National Trails Day, the Coconino National Forest has a trail maintenance event scheduled on the Arizona Trail. The work will be on the Sunset and Schultz Creek Trails. This will be from 8:30 AM to 3 PM starting at the Sunset Trailhead located on FR 420 (Schultz Pass Road). For more information contact Kyle Grambley at kgrambley@fs.fed.us.

NOTE: In the event of a forest closure, the event would be cancelled.

### **May 20 - Canelo East # 2**

Work the east end near Parker Canyon Lake with Segment Steward Zay Hartigan, to re-hab single track that has had no maintenance in years. Fun and fellowship with special treats. Long sleeves and pants protect you best, a wide brimmed hat likewise.

### **May 20 - Canelo East # 2 continued**

Leather gloves a necessity. Please bring 3 to 4 liters of water, lunch and snacks. Please E-Mail Zay at zayy@zaycom.com if you can help, and to get meeting place and time.

### **May 21 - Santa Rita Passage**

The planned projects include improving the drainage in the "Flume" area; realignments along the pipeline above the Gardener Canyon Trailhead, and north of Box Canyon Rd.; resource protection at FR 785 and Gardener Creek, and brushing / tread work from FR 165 to Oak Tree Canyon. We normally ride in to work and use a B.O.B trailer to haul tools. Events are normally held on Sunday and meeting place is the parking area at the I-10 and SR83 interchange. Normal meeting time is 8:00 AM. If you'd like to join us, please contact Stephen Wood at aztraildoc@yahoo.com.

### **May 25-29 - North Rim Grand Canyon**

Come up to the cool country and help out on the Arizona Trail. We will be camping near the Orderville Trailhead, about 2 miles east of Jacob Lake, off of US Highway 89A. Trail work will include removing fallen debris, cleaning out and maintaining water bars, and general trail maintenance. After the winter storms, there is usually quite a bit of work to do to get the trail in usable shape. Dinner will be provided by the trail stewards on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Contact Richard Wertz at rawertz@commspeed.net or call (928) 684-7031.

## **JULY**

### **July 15 - Plants in Lower Walnut Canyon**

Escape the hot summer in the desert and come to the cool pines near Walnut Canyon! Phyllis Hogan (Arizona Ethnobotanical Association, Winter Sun Trading Post, Flagstaff) and Wendy Hodgson (Desert Botanical Garden) will discuss northern Arizona wildflowers and their uses along the Arizona Trail that skirts the west end of Walnut Canyon National Monument. This is a beautiful area with high plant diversity sharing numerous niches including broad, flat park-like habitats and rocky nooks. For more information, see the Calendar of Interpretive Events, page 6.

## **SEPTEMBER**

### **September 15-17 - Birding in the Huachuca Mountains**

Come learn birds amidst the beautiful early fall colors of southern Arizona. Led by well-known ornithologist Vashti "Tice" Suppley (Arizona Audubon, Phoenix), this hike promises to be an outstanding opportunity to learn about southern Arizona's many bird species from a birding (and wildlife) expert who guides us along the Arizona Trail in the Huachuca Mountains foothills. For more information, see the Calendar of Interpretive Events, page 6.

## **SPECIAL EVENT!**

### **September 29 - October 1 - Mormon Lake**

#### **Mormon Lake Rendezvous - Fun Weekend for members**

The ATA, in conjunction with the National Public Lands Day, and in cooperation with Mormon Lake Lodge, is holding a fun weekend for ATA members at Mormon Lake. Details can be found at the Mormon Lake Rendezvous information page on the ATA web site at [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org).

Mormon Lake Lodge is offering a 10% discount to members with a current ATA membership card. (Mention when making reservations.) Block out days are weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

**Announcing the new and expanded web site at: [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)  
the ATA Web Site for the latest information on the Trail!**





# Mormon Lake

## Allan Lake to Marshall Lake

**General Information:** This section begins south of Mormon Lake Village, with its resort amenities, and makes a semicircle around the west side of the lake area. The passage offers trail through Ponderosa Pine forest with occasional glimpses of the San Francisco Peaks near Flagstaff.

**Location:** Northern Arizona in the Coconino National Forest.

**Length:** approx 33 miles

**Difficulty Rating:** Moderate

**Recommended Seasons of Use:** Spring, Summer, Fall

**Access: Southern Trailhead:** Allan Lake - Hwy 3 The AZT crosses FH 3 approximately 0.83 mile south of FR 91. There is only a small pulloff area adjacent to the highway on the northwest side. There are gate accesses to the AZT on both sides of the highway.

**Middle Access Points: Double Springs Campground**

Double Springs Campground access road to the AZT is 2.8 miles northwest (beyond) Mormon Lake Lodge, on the left (south) side of Forest Road 90.

Note: Park in designated trailhead parking. Campground is closed in winter.

**Dairy Springs Campground:**

To reach the next AZT access point, continue on, passing FR 240, Munds Park Road, 0.2 mile beyond Double Springs Campground turnoff, and go approximately 1.1 miles to the Dairy Springs Campground turnoff, on the left (west) side of Forest Road 90. Drive past the camping area on the main entrance road (staying left) approximately 0.3 mile to the trailhead, which has very limited parking (not adequate for horse trailers). There is a kiosk marking the trailhead at this parking area. Follow the Mormon Mountain Trail for approximately 0.4 mile, where it intersects with the Arizona Trail. Do not confuse the Arizona Trail with the short Dairy Springs Loop Trail around the campground. When you reach the Arizona Trail, a left turn heads south, a right turn heads north. Note: Campground is closed in winter.

**Northern Trailhead:** Turn east on FR 128 and travel 2 miles to Marshall Lake. Take the dirt road that travels west of the often dry lake where there are AZT signs.

In addition to the above access points, the Horse Lake Trailhead is a few hundred yards east of the intersection of FR 3 and 82E, the Ashurt Lake and Pine Grove camp turnoff. The Horse Lake Arizona Trail trailhead has adequate parking for 6-8 vehicles or 3-4 horse trailers.

**Trail Route Description:** This passage begins on FH 3 near Allan Lake Tank. After passing through a gate in the fence that parallels the Highway the trail follows the route of an old railroad bed. It leaves the railroad and crosses FR 91 and then heads north-northeast until it reaches Railroad Spring. The trail is not complete from this spot to just south of Double Springs Campground (completion planned by Fall 2006) Trail users must decide whether to bushwack to Double Springs Campground or hike north to the Lodge area and follow the paved road to the Double Springs campground area. Regardless, pick up the finished trail at Double Springs Campground and continue north passing above Dairy Springs Campground, then cross FR 132 where it joins and parallels an old railroad bed for several miles. At Railroad Tank the trail turns east and passes near the Pine Grove Campground before reaching FR 3 at the Pinegrove/Ashhurst Lake turnoff (82E). It crosses FR 3 and climbs up past the Horse Lake Trailhead. The trail turns to the north and crosses Anderson Mesa, and then passes Horse Lake. It follows a two-track, turns to the west, becomes a trail again, and passes a trail junction with the Lakeview Campground Trail. After crossing FR 129 the trail passes Vail Lake and Prime Lake, and then skirts around the Perkins Telescope facility. Passing by a trailhead near the observatory, the trail heads north and then west to Marshall Lake.

### Resources:

**Maps:** Coconino National Forest map. Coconino National Forest Visitors Guide, Coconino National Forest Recreational Opportunity Guide, Arizona Trail Association 1:24,000 passage topo map available at BLM Information Center, One North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004 (602) 417-9300.

### For more information, contact:

Peaks Ranger District, Coconino National Forest, 5075 N Highway 89, Flagstaff, AZ 86004. 928-526-0866



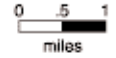
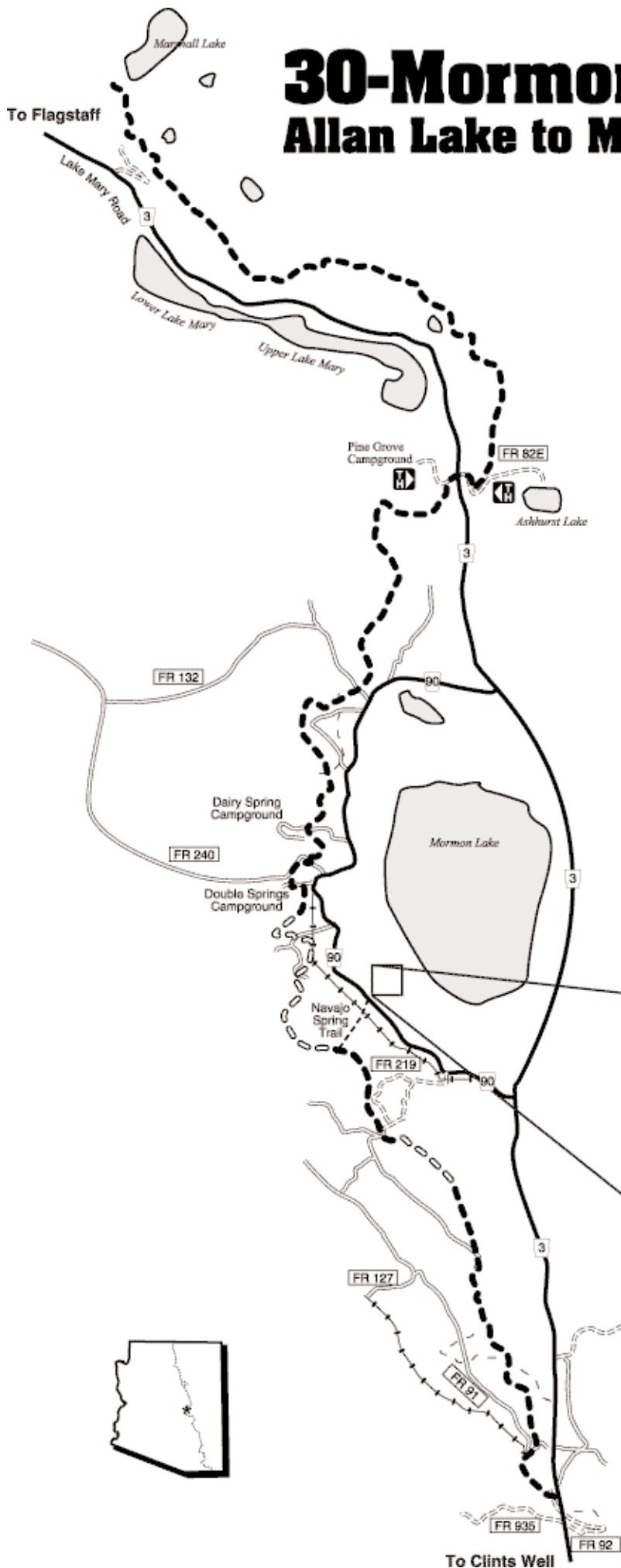
IMPORTANT NOTE: This passage sheet is intended only as an informational document to introduce you to the many recreational opportunities provided by the Arizona Trail. Always refer to the appropriate Forest Service or topographic map before planning any outing on the Arizona Trail; do not rely on the information provided in this passage sheet alone. The Arizona Trail Association is not responsible for any personal injury, damage to property, or any violation of the law which may occur in connection with the use of this document. Please respect the rights of private landowners and permittees, observe all applicable rules and regulations, and always be prepared to encounter the worst that nature has to offer on the Arizona Trail. ©2006, Arizona Trail Association

# 30-Mormon Lake

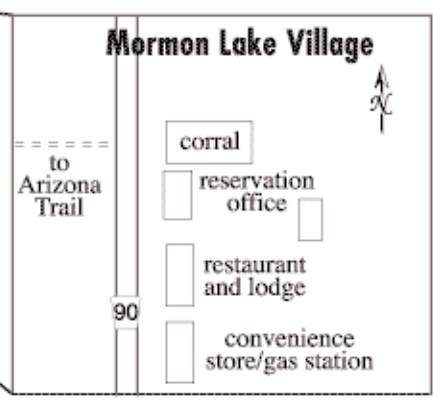
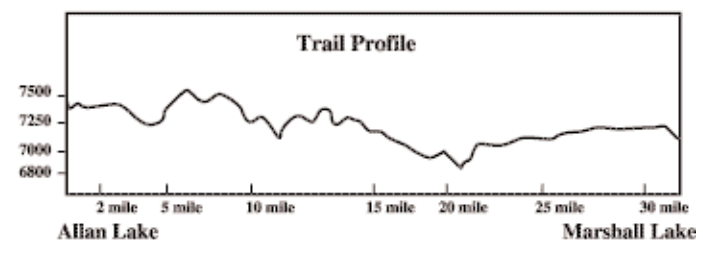
## Allan Lake to Marshall Lake



Look for this logo on various types of signage to indicate The Arizona Trail.



	The Arizona Trail		Trail (TR)
	AZ Trail Route		Forest Road
	4-W Drive Road		Trailhead
	Dirt Road		Mountain
	All-Weather Road		Recreation Site
	Paved Road		





# Highlighting our Business Members

Initiated in 2005, the Arizona Trail Business member program offers businesses three levels of membership to the Arizona. These vital dollars help with all aspects of the Arizona Trail Association's mission.

Please support these businesses that proudly display the ATA Business Member plaque.

## Trail Guardian

Arok Inc.  
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Compass Bank  
Desert Botanical Garden  
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Hancock Resources LLC  
Jack K Henness Farms  
JQC Development Company LLC  
Rough Rider Guides, Inc.  
Round Trip Bike Shop  
Supergo Corp

# ATA Merchandise

The Arizona Trail Association Marketing Committee is currently working on developing some new ATA products. In the meantime, you may purchase the new Arizona Trail guidebook online. And ATA Passage Topo maps may be purchased from the Bureau of Land Management Information Center.

To order Passage Topo Maps contact:

Bureau of Land Management Information Center  
One North Central, Phoenix, AZ 85004  
(602-417-9300 telephone or 602-417-9375 fax)  
az\_plic@blm.gov

Allow at least three days when ordering an entire set. Call ahead so your map can be printed when you arrive.

For a list of maps available visit:

[http://www.aztrail.org/passages/at\\_passages.html](http://www.aztrail.org/passages/at_passages.html)

## Become an Arizona Trail Member

### Build a Legacy!

The Arizona Trail needs **your** active support. Help build this resource for today and a legacy for future generations. Join the **Arizona Trail Association** and become a part of the legacy!

#### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Helper   | \$20    |
| Newsletter, AZT Decal, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card  |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Hand   | \$50    |
| Trail Access Maps Packet, Newsletter, AZT Decal, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card  |         |
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| New Arizona Trail Guidebook (for new Trail Builder members)<br>Newsletter, AZT Decal, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card               |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Blazer   | \$500   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Guardian   | \$1,000 |
| Arizona Trail Photo Plaque, Newsletter, AZT Decal, GPS Trail Data,<br>Thank You Letter from ATA Executive Director, Membership Card |         |

#### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contribution for new trail development                  | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> My Mile contribution for trail maintenance (\$100/mile) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> This is a gift membership from _____                    |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Member  |          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Membership                                      |          |

What are your primary non-motorized trail activities?

- |                                       |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking       | <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback Riding | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Biking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other. _____ |   |  |

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ATA welcomes articles and photos from trail users and volunteers. EDITOR'S NOTE: When taking digital photos for submission to the newsletter please be sure your camera is set on a larger size photo. The small ones are OK for sharing on the web, but do not reproduce well in print. Thanks! Please mail to ATA: Arizona Trail Association, P.O. Box 36736, Phoenix, Arizona 85067 602-252-4794, [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org) or e-mail: [editor@aztrail.org](mailto:editor@aztrail.org) Next Deadline: June 15, 2006

## Arizona Trail Association Premier Legacy Partners for 2005

Arizona Horse Lovers Foundation  
Arizona Public Service  
Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.  
Bureau of Land Management  
National Bank of Arizona  
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust  
Phelps Dodge  
REI  
Resolution Copper

## Who To Contact in the ATA

Here's a helpful list of who to contact for some of the ATA's resources. If you have suggestions or want to provide any helpful information to these individuals, they would like to hear from you. We are not publishing home telephone numbers, only e-mail addresses. If you do not have access to e-mail, please call our ATA telephone number, 602-252-4794, and leave a message. Remember, most of these fine folks are ATA volunteers, so give them some time to respond to your requests!

Helen Hill - Segment Steward database & communications - [deserthill@worldnet.att.net](mailto:deserthill@worldnet.att.net)

Dave Hicks - ATA Tool Trailer, Segment Steward information - [dhicks15@cox.net](mailto:dhicks15@cox.net)

Randy Warner - ATA contributions, donations - [warner@aztrail.org](mailto:warner@aztrail.org)

Phyllis Ralley - Membership mailing list and database, invoices, payments and other financial information. - [phyllis@capitolconsultingaz.com](mailto:phyllis@capitolconsultingaz.com)