

**Mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual Members' Rendezvous at Mormon Lake
September 28, 29 and 30. See Page 4 for details!**



News and information on the state's border-to-border Arizona Trail project

Vol. 14, No. 2 – Summer 2007

Arizona Trail Seeks National Scenic Trail Status

by Mark Flint and Terri Gay

On May 12, 2007, more than 100 Arizona Trail supporters gathered at Colossal Cave Mountain Park to celebrate construction accomplishments to date and to kick off the introduction of legislation that will give the Arizona Trail official recognition as a National Scenic Trail.

U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords, the guest of honor, praised the many fine attributes of the trail and its volunteers. The ceremonies included special thanks to business supporters and to volunteer Beth Hardy, who has not let her cancer treatments over the past two years keep her from helping out on the trail. Her dedication included delivering lunch to work crews when she wasn't up to working on the crews herself.

Volunteers were also recognized in several categories including above-and-beyond involvement,



Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, center, assists Martie Maierhauser of Colossal Cave Mountain Park and ATA Executive Director Dave Hicks in the official ribbon cutting at Colossal Cave on May 12, 2007.
photo by Phyllis Ralley

crewleading and "frequent flyer" volunteers. Many Arizona Trail Association members were recognized to hearty applause from other members in attendance.

The National Scenic Trail designation can only be authorized by an act of Congress. This legislation would streamline management of the 807 miles of trail by making a single federal agency, the U. S. Forest Service, responsible for its oversight in consultation with a few other agencies and the ATA. Only eight National Scenic Trails exist currently, including the Pacific Crest Trail, the Appalachian Trail, and the Continental Divide Trail.

Please contact your legislators and encourage them to support this important piece of legislation. Help protect the Arizona Trail in perpetuity.

Please take a few minutes to let your Congressional delegation know that you support the Arizona National Scenic Trail bills that have been introduced by Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl (SB 1304) and Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords (HR 2297)

American Hiking Society's National Trails Fund Award

The American Hiking Society's Board of Directors has awarded the ATA a grant for a much-needed water well renovation project. Their presentation letter states, "American Hiking Society's National Trails Fund symbolizes the tireless work that volunteers across America put into the trails they love and also recognizes those projects and organizations which stand out among the rest. On behalf of hikers and foot trails across the United States, American Hiking Society commends your organization for its dedication toward preserving the trails we have, as well as building new trail for future generations to enjoy."

Through the generosity of L.L. Bean, Therm-a-Rest, MSR, and individual donations, the AHS was able to make awards to 16 organizations across the country.

Our heart-felt thanks go out to the American Hiking Society, L.L. Bean, Therm-a-Rest and MSR.

The American Hiking Society grant will be used to renovate an abandoned well in the White Canyon Passage north of the Gila River. The grant will provide a solar-powered submersible pump, solar panel and storage tank to provide a reliable water source about midway across a long, dry, remote stretch of the AZT from the Gila River to the Picketpost trailhead. It will also provide a sign to advise hikers and others that the well renovation was provided by a joint effort by the BLM, ATA and the American Hiking Society. It is expected that the equipment will be installed this fall.



Dave's Arizona Trail Top Ten

From the ATA executive director (executivedirector@aztrail.org)

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.

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- 1 Arizona Trail Day/Members Rendezvous** – Block out September 28 – 30, 2007 and plan to join fellow Arizona Trail Association (ATA) members for an exciting weekend enjoying the Arizona Trail. I hope you will come to the Mormon Lake Lodge area and have a good time, see your friends, meet some new ones, spend some time on the AZT, and, if you wish, help raise some money for the ATA. Look for details of this event on pages four and five of this newsletter.
- 2 Fast Through-hiker** – Adam Bradley, of Reno, Nevada, started hiking the AZT on April 8 this year and according to Adam, “actually walked every step of the way from Sonora to Utah” before finally finishing on May 7. That’s a marathon average of 26 miles per day for 31 days but who’s counting?
- 3 Arizona Trail: The Official Guidebook** – Get them while they are hot! Issued in late fall of 2005, the first printing of 4000 copies of the AZT guidebook has now sold out. Westcliffe Publishing reports that sales are still brisk with 700 copies sold from February to April 2007. Have no fear though, a second printing has been published and you can purchase your copy at the ATA website (www.aztrail.org) – with no shipping or handling charges.
- 4 Trail Development** – We continue to make progress on completing the remaining undeveloped portions of the AZT. We now have less than 57 miles left to go. As this newsletter goes to print, the following actions are in the works:
 - Comments are being requested for the proposed 10.5 miles of trail in the Coronado National Forest
 - Saguaro National Park is holding public meetings on its Trail Plan, which includes an AZT spur into the Park
 - Trail construction began last fall along the White Canyon passage north of the Gila River
 - The Peaks Ranger district celebrated National Trails Day with trail construction of a link to the planned 16 mile AZT route and will follow up this summer with new AZT trail construction.
 - The one-mile link in Flagstaff should be complete this coming fall.
- 5 Trail Maintenance** – The ATA continues to need self-motivated people, social clubs and employee groups to become Arizona Trail stewards. Currently 74% of the Arizona Trail is on National Forest land. Despite a continued recreation use increase, the federal National Forest recreation budget (which includes trails) has been steadily cut in recent years and an 11 percent cut is proposed for the upcoming year. It’s up to our volunteers to shoulder an increasing workload to aid our hard-working but short-staffed land management partners.
- 6 Trail Partner** – Long-time Arizona Trail supporter Pima County Parks and Recreation has stepped up once again. Included in their 2008 bond program request is more than a million dollars for Arizona Trail projects including some badly needed trailheads. That’s a no-brainer for outdoor-crazy Pima County residents to support.
- 7 National Scenic Trail** – Please take a few minutes to let your Arizona Congressional delegation know that you support the Arizona National Scenic Trail bills that have been introduced by Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl (SB 1304) and Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords (HR 2297). Because the Arizona Trail has progressed so quickly in its brief existence (thanks to ATA members and partners), and its 93% completion status, and because the AZT does not require any acquisition of private property, both bills request that a costly and multi-year feasibility study be bypassed. I assure you that passage of these bills is far from a certainty. In fact, once submitted, most bills never get heard. It’s up to you and me to not let that happen. Send your hard-copy letters, faxes and, as a last resort, emails, asking for quick passage of those bills – it will help. Search the THOMAS Locator web site for the address of your members of Congress: <http://thomas.loc.gov/>
- 8 In Memoriam** The ATA website now pays some much deserved respect to several Arizona Trail aficionados who have passed on. We miss them all very much and in many ways. Several generous donations to the Arizona Trail Association have been made in their memory, and like their namesakes, they are truly appreciated.
- 9 American Hiking Society (AHS)** The nation’s top hiking association has recently

continued on page 3

A Message from the Chief Trail Steward



By Anna Pfender • chiefsteward@aztrail.org

Spring has flown by and it was a busy time for me, filled with work events, meetings, new steward appointments, training, and other activities. It was also a bittersweet time in that along with signing up new ATA stewards, we also lost one of our long-time stewards, Carl Golnik, who passed away in May. I attended the services for Carl and I learned that he was a most giving person both on and off the trail. Carl was greatly admired by his family, friends and peers and he will be greatly missed.

Out on the trail I attended six work events across the state that included the Boulder Creek Segment near Sunflower, Las Cienegas Passage south of Vail, the Oak Springs segment just south of Pine, the Marshall Lake segment south of Flagstaff, the Kaibab Plateau North Passage up on the north rim, and the General Springs segment up on the rim north of Strawberry. It was great to get out in the fantastic Arizona springtime weather and work with stewards and volunteers from all over Arizona and beyond. I saw firsthand how each segment has its own challenges which is part of what makes the Arizona Trail so unique.

In May, while in the Flagstaff area for the Marshall Lake work event, I took the opportunity to meet with many of the Flagstaff area stewards to discuss steward duties, segment conditions, and work event plans for the summer. Four prospective stewards joined us and subsequently decided to become new AZT stewards. What a productive weekend that turned out to be!

The ATA hosted a booth at the Flagstaff National Trails Day event June 2 at Arizona Snowbowl. I was joined at the booth by Doug Marsh, Gay and Gary Hohner, and Andrea and David Michaels. Arizona Trail Founder Dale Shewalter also attended the event, working with the volunteers to begin construction on a connector trail from the ski area down to where the AZT will be built nearby. Dale had an opportunity to say a few words about the Arizona Trail and to thank the volunteers for their help on this important project.

ATA volunteer Doug Marsh and I used the June General Springs event to conduct an informal one-day Crew Leader Training session for four ATA stewards and one National Forest Service ranger from the Mogollon Rim Ranger



June 16th Crew Leader Training Class visits Chuck's switchback on the General Springs segment of the Blue Ridge Passage. Left to right: Chuck Horner, Anna Cain, Gary Hohner, Beverly Chambers, Mark Weinberger, and Anna Pfender (kneeling). photo by Doug Marsh

District. It was a unique opportunity to hold such a session out in the field where we could observe trail maintenance solutions in action.

At this time, we have six new Arizona Trail stewards that I would like to introduce. They are:

Scott Guinane, Vail, representing the Southeastern Arizona Horseman's Association – Passage 7 - Las Cienegas
John Peel, Phoenix, representing Arrowhead Wildlife Society – Co-steward for Passage 26b – Hardscrabble Mesa
Lloyd & Beverly Chambers, Flagstaff – co-stewards for Passage 31c – Walnut Canyon

Doug Thomas and Carol Zazubek, Bloomington, MN - co-stewards for Passage 31c – Walnut Canyon

I would like to say "Welcome" and "Thank You" to these new stewards for lending a hand on the Arizona Trail. I think that about wraps it up for now. Don't forget to get up to the high country this summer and lend your own hand to the Arizona Trail. Our stewards will appreciate it.

Dave's Arizona Trail Top Ten continued from previous page

rewarded the Arizona Trail twice. First, we received a \$4,550 grant from the AHS to revitalize a defunct well along a to-be-built section of the AZT in the White Canyon passage. And just a few days ago, the AHS recognized Bernie Stalman of Sierra Vista as the Southwest Volunteer of the Year for his frequent and widespread travel to many work AZT work events and for his tireless work on the trail. Congratulations to Bernie.

10 ATA Board Meeting – The next scheduled ATA Board of Directors meeting is set for 10:00 a.m., Saturday,

August 4 at the Mormon Lake Lodge conference room. All ATA members are welcome to attend. It's a great place to spend a summer day.

P.S. The "Top Ten" could have easily been the "Top Fifty". There are many noteworthy ATA activities and projects currently underway to benefit the Arizona Trail and the ATA. Thank you to everyone who works so diligently to make many activities and projects. Your efforts are not overlooked.

DH



2nd Annual MEMBERS RENDEZVOUS at MORMON LAKE



COME JOIN US
FRIDAY SEPT 28 – SUNDAY SEPT 30
Mormon Lake Lodge

The Arizona Trail Association is celebrating National Public Lands Day with a fun-filled weekend at Mormon Lake Lodge AZ.

Bring your family and friends (who would like to join the ATA) and enjoy the western ambiance of the Lodge and the nearby National Forest.

See the updated Members' Rendezvous agenda at www.aztrail.org

Friday Night Pot Luck Social Hour
Saturday Night – Count the Miles
as the **Arizona Trail Day** event Hikers and Riders return to base with their totals and stories!
Free dry camping for Tents and RVs (bathrooms and pay showers available)
Contact Mormon Lake Lodge (928-354-2227) to reserve Horse Areas/Pens, ATA discount rooms at the Lodge and RV hookups.

Events and entertainment for adults and kids!
Free Breakfast Saturday and Sunday
Pot Luck Social Friday night, Free Dinner Saturday AND - group hikes; Mt bike rides; horse rides; kids fishing contest; horseshoe contest; blacksmithing exhibition; acoustic music; GPS class; Adobe Mountain Wildlife exhibition; a surprise visit from Smokey the Bear, and much more.
In observation of National Public Lands Day, there will also be some light trail work for those so inclined!

NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS
ORGANIZATION, BUSINESS or CLUB	<i>We do not share our members' information.</i>
HOME ADDRESS	NAMES OF PERSONS ATTENDING
CITY	AGE IF UNDER 18
STATE ZIP	NAME
PHONE	NAME
	(ATTACH SHEET FOR ADDITIONAL NAMES)

You must RSVP to receive meals, door prize tickets and free camping.

Sign up with this form and mail to the Arizona Trail Association, PO Box 36736, Phoenix, AZ 85067 or sign up online by Monday, Sept 17. Please do so now. Attend all or part of this event.

Call 602-252-4794 with questions

ATA Business Partners

Trail Guardian
AZ Partsmaster
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Trail Blazer
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Round Trip Bike Shop
Sportsmen's Warehouse

Hike, Run, Ride or Bike



OVER 200 MILES FOR

Arizona Trail Day

Fun draiser for the Arizona Trail Association Saturday, September 29, 2007

Join others to collectively trek 202 miles (25%)
of the 807 mile Arizona Trail.

You choose any section of the Arizona Trail and spend a self-supported day enjoying the trail. For instance, get dropped off at the North Rim and run the Canyon then catch your sag wagon at the South Rim and get to Mormon Lake Lodge by 6:00 p.m. Or choose a shorter section of trail closer to Mormon Lake. After your AZT trek, report back to the Mormon Lake Lodge event epicenter for a gala Arizona Trail Day celebration and dinner as part of the Arizona Trail Association's Members Rendezvous**

Yes, you can hike early! You may travel your section, by your choice of modes, any time in September, then report in to the ATA, or at the Rendezvous. All participants must register with the ATA to be eligible for prizes. Prize recipients must be present at Mormon Lake to win.

As a registered AZT Day participant, you and your family and guests are welcome to participate in the entire weekend ATA Members Rendezvous activities**

Prizes for:

- most miles completed by: hiking; running; biking; and horseback riding, etc.
- Longest distance covered
- Area covered farthest from Mormon Lake
- Largest group
- Most diverse group (mix of different modes)
- Youngest trekker
- Oldest trekker
- Most participants from one business, club, scout troop, etc.
- most money raised
- and more...

See the ATA web site for details and updated information
for more information about this fund-raising event and to register
see www.aztrail.org or call 602-252-4794

The Arizona Trail Association is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization



Reports from the Field

Passage 31A (Marshall Lake to Fisher Point) Walnut Canyon May 5-6, 2007



Dedicated workers, snowy lunchtime photo by Don Mahr

The Forest Service, Arizona Trail Association and Flagstaff Biking Organization were rewarded with a great group of volunteers. We had a fun and productive event in spite of the chilly, snowy weekend. By Saturday afternoon the weather improved, and the results of the teamwork were evident.

We accomplished a major part of a repair to a deeply-eroded section and rebuilt more sustainable route. Special thanks to Peaks/Mormon Ranger Districts, and especially Kyle Grambley and her crew who moved 46 tons of crushed

rock before the event. Thanks also to Rinker Materials of Flagstaff which contributed crushed rock. Thanks to Tom Coulson, Anna Pfender, Kyle Grambley, Mark Gullo and Anthony Quintile for serving as crew leaders. Thanks also to those volunteers who arrived Friday to do prep work.

Many people contributed to the success. Thanks to Mark Gullo and Flagstaff Biking Organization for helping to sponsor this event. Seventeen ATA members were joined by volunteers from FBO, Flagstaff Hiking Club, Arizona Outdoor Travel Club, and Coconino Rural Environment Corps. Thanks to Don Mahr for his photographs. We appreciate Paul Conn's logistical support. Jan Cummings provided a delicious dinner of barbecued beef, beans and dessert. Marilyn Schrab and others provided trimmings.

Dale Shewalter, founder of the AZT, joined us after dinner Saturday. Everyone felt especially honored to hear Dale's tales of the Arizona Trail.

Sunday morning dawned clear and bright. Some of the hardy campers hiked this scenic section from Marshall Lake up to Sandy's Canyon.

See the Event Reports section online for more photos and complete report: http://www.aztrail.org/reports/event_reports.html

Join us at the next event Saturday, July 7. See the Events Calendar.

Gary and Gay Hohner, David and Andrea Michaels

General Springs (Segment 28a) Reroute, May 11-13, 2007

A total of 13 people signed in either for a couple of hours, the day or all three days. What a great working crew! They came with a spirit of having a lot of laughs and we all had some great social times. Friday we did major erosion control. Mary McMullen from Payson joined us for the day. Saturday we re-worked a major gully so the access wasn't so steep. This required using the manual jack-hammer quite a bit. This crew was Carl and David Babcock from Tempe, Tim McCabe from Tucson, Joe Longbotham from Payson and Chuck Horner from Peoria. Another crew, Dori Pederson from Surprise, Bernie Stalman from Sierra

Vista and Bill Webster from Prescott reworked another erosion area by doing a re-alignment. Larry Snead from Phoenix brought in the tools and was our camp host. We were visited by Barb Houck, Jane Ericson and Ron Keller (all from Pine) for a couple of hours. This group was hiking the canyon and stopped and got in some trail work with us; they plan on coming back in June. The weather was great, the stream in the canyon was running, our beverage sponsor, New Belgium Brewery, provided Fat Tire and Skinny Dip beer, we had Dutch oven Chili Manana and Dutch oven peach cobbler for Saturday evening's dinner. Was a great time, too bad you weren't there!! Chuck Horner

Trail Rehabilitation on the Highline Segment, April 21 & 22, 2007

Nether rain, nor sleet, nor snow, nor hail could keep the intrepid VOAz volunteers from completing their mission: rehabilitating 1,200 feet of severely deteriorated trail heading east at the Geronimo Trailhead. Special thanks to Walt Thole of the Tonto National Forest and Ted Julius, Camp Geronimo Manager, for their support.

Leadership team: Marge Sparks, Event Manager; Marilyn Schrab & Shirley Armstrong, Food Service; Lou Arminio, Technical Advisor; Eric Anderson, Crew Leader and Tool

Manager; Michael Baker, Robert Bruce, Sandra Stirnweis, Bruce Weidenhamer, Joseph Zveglich, Crew Leaders.

Crew members: Eric Alexander, Ed Blanchard, Jill Bluhm, Judy Breen, Jesse Dwyer, William Emerson, Ken Fields, Matt Gilbert, Bruce Gorman*, Doug Gregory, Stephanie Hawthorne*, Joe Longbotham*, Dick Mayo, Peter Michels, Shawn Redfield, Logan Snidenwora*, Karsten Solheim*, Nancy Spence, Aleph Stevens, Nell Teter. *First VOAz event.

The REI Service Project is scheduled for Nov 3-4. Look for more information in the ATA events listings.

Michael Baker

Reports from the Field



26B_Hardscrabble Mesa Trail Maintenance April 14, 2007

Thirty energetic Arizona Trail supporters turned out at Pine Trailhead on a sunny April morning to help keep the Hardscrabble Mesa passage of the Arizona Trail open. The group included eight representatives from Arrowhead Wildlife Society, ten from Tonto Rim Search and Rescue, and a seven member all-girl team from the Outdoor Adventure Club at Payson's Rim Country Middle School. Four trail dogs also came along for a chance to test the waters of Bradshaw Tank.

Working in three groups, trail volunteers brushed out a mile of overgrown trail, repaired clogged water bars and fallen rock cairns over two miles, and cut and cleared more than a dozen ponderosa pine trees that had fallen across the trail during the last six months. Several white-tailed deer observed activities at close range, and a loud family of acorn woodpeckers monitored the tree cutters from branches above. Trail volunteers also got to see some early spring flowers in the high country, including Indian paintbrush, purple wood betony, and the bright pink Woodhouse's phlox.

For their efforts, all of the trail volunteers were served a post-event lunch of sandwiches and refreshments provided



Payson teacher Scott Davidson and members of the Outdoor Adventure Club work on trimming brush from the trail.

by Arrowhead Wildlife Society and Arizona Trail Association.

Rick Heffernon

Once a year the Arizona Trail Association takes a break from all the work and invites the members to come together for a fun weekend. This year the 2nd Annual Members' Rendezvous is at Mormon Lake Lodge on September 28, 29 and 30. See page four for details.

Join other ATA members for a fun weekend full of events for adults and children.

Jacks Canyon Re-route on National Trails Day by Jessica Westermeyer

On May 31, June 1 and 2, 2007 we had a great turn out for our re-route project on the Happy Jack Passage. Happy Jack is near the Mogollon Rim and this portion of the trail is between Hwy 87 and Mormon Lake. The re-route was needed because the old trail dropped very steeply into Jacks Canyon and was getting damaged due to erosion. The new design (laid out by Chuck Horner) will meander back and forth down the hill, taking in more of the canyon views.

This event, during the weekend of National Trails Day, was successful thanks to a collaborative effort between Blue Ridge Rangers, Camp Colley and City of Phoenix Parks & Recreation Department.

Paul Paonessa from the City of Phoenix Parks & Recreation brought up his newly graduated cadets and put them through the difficult task of building a new switchback. They hauled large boulders and backfilled the trail to create a well designed and stable turn on the trail. Jeff Spellman works with Camp Colley (<http://campcolley.org/>) and he brought a large group over on Saturday and introduced children and their parents to



New switchback wall crew Anna, Paul Paonessa, Mike Faustich and Paul Meyer

trail work. The rangers from the Coconino National Forest, Blue Ridge Station, helped at the event, hauled gravel and also brought out the tool trailer.

Thanks again for a job well done and we hope to see you again at a future event when we will complete and sign the new re-route and eliminate the old trail.



Welcome New Board of Directors Members

The Arizona Trail Association would like to welcome the following new Board Members, elected in February 2007 at the Annual Members Meeting in Phoenix. Doug and Emily have been serving since last summer when they were appointed to fill two vacancies on the Board.

Doug Whitneybell

- * Married to wonder wife Joy. We have four terrific sons.
- * Born Portland, Oregon
- * Moved to Phoenix 1951
- * President of Whitneybell Perry Inc., 1976 to the present

Important Stuff

- * Owns and has used a backpack
- * Hiked rim to rim to rim of Grand Canyon (This mistake was a result of the distance not looking very far on the map)
- * Hiked Mt. Whitney (Plan to return and leave a bell on top).
- * Hiked the Kautz Expedition Route on Mt. Rainier and spent 2 nights on top (subsequently retired from climbing glaciers)
- * Hiked Mt. Humphreys and spent the night on top (subsequently gives greater thought to lightning and very high places)
- * Hiked from west to east over the Andes in Ecuador (got along fine by knowing three basic Spanish words _____).



*Doug Whitneybell
Phoenix, Arizona*

Emily Nottingham

Emily Nottingham is the Director of the Community Services Department for the City of Tucson, a position she has held since 2002. She is responsible for funding and implementing housing, human services and community development programs throughout the Tucson and Pima County metropolitan area. She has worked in the field of community service for 29 years.



*Emily Nottingham
Tucson, Arizona*

She also held faculty positions at Pima Community College and Indiana University and currently at the University of Arizona.

Emily has a Bachelor's Degree from Indiana University where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She has a Master's Degree from Fairfield University and a Doctorate in Mass Communications from Indiana University.

She is active locally and nationally in housing and community development organizations, as well as serving on local boards such as the Comstock Children's Foundation, and doing volunteer work for children's organizations.

She has been a member of the Arizona Trail Association for many years, and enjoys hiking different sections of the trail on weekends.

Mark your calendar for the 2nd Annual Members' Rendezvous at Mormon Lake September 28, 29 and 30. See Page 4 for details!

Arizona Trail Association Membership Report

The Arizona Trail Association (ATA) continues to grow, with 855 members as of May 31, 2007. Additionally, our plan to offer free memberships to people who work on the trail is paying dividends—we have 172 free first-year members (included in the 855) on the roll this year. These are excellent numbers. We must make it a priority to retain these new members next year.

September 28, 29, and 30 are the dates for this year's Mormon Lake Lodge Members Rendezvous. In conjunction with the Rendezvous, we'll hold the first annual Arizona Trail Day. See the article regarding the two events on page

four and five of this newsletter.

The goal this year is to reach 1000 members by the end of 2007. This means that we need to pick 145 new members. If everyone adds one new member, we will easily surpass our goal. So talk to your friends, your clubs, your associations and ask them to join. The Trail is nearing completion—only 57 miles to go. Now is the time to turn fence sitters into trail blazers.

Remember two magic numbers needed to reach our goals: 57 miles and 145 members.

Richard Wertz, Membership Coordinator

On a personal note, my wife Diane, and Ron Silverthorn, Corrine Geersten, and Debbi Zinkl have been riding mules on the Arizona Trail. In March, Ron and Diane started at Canelo Pass and rode to Redington Pass Road. After a two-week break, Diane and Corrine rode from Redington Pass Road to Picketpost, skipping the White Canyon and Alamo Canyon passages. On June 13, Diane and Debbi started from the Pine Trailhead and headed north toward Flagstaff. They had nine days to ride and rest before Diane and I traveled back east. I was driving, cooking, and sagging for the riders. Check out our blog site at azt-mules.blogspot.com, where you can follow our adventure.

Richard Wertz

Volunteering to Build the Arizona Trail



By Bernie Stalman

Almost three years ago, I moved to Arizona to finish building the Arizona Trail (AZT). Why? To answer this question, I need to start "way back when," in 1996, when I was section-hiking the Appalachian Trail (AT) and one of my hiking buddies, noting my affinity for trail building, suggested I should get involved with building and maintaining the AT. I joined the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC), and my life changed forever.

At the time, I was still working, making it difficult to both hike and to do trail work. So I quit hiking the AT—except when I was working on it. It did not take long to realize that I had found something that not only was better than going to work, but provided a higher level of both satisfaction and achievement.

I did not realize then the Appalachian Trail and the Arizona Trail would cross paths in my future. In fact, it was not until I attended an Appalachian Trail Conference (now Conservancy) meeting a couple of years later and heard Jan Hancock's presentation on the Arizona Trail that I realized such a thing even existed. It was exciting to envision working in some of the remote areas in Arizona that I had previously visited. In 2004, we moved to Arizona and my AZT trail life began.

Why does one volunteer to build a trail? I have already

mentioned the satisfaction and achievement that give us that good feeling of accomplishment. But what about improving our self-worth? Meeting new friends, contributing to the community (and in this case to the entire state of Arizona), staying physically active, and enjoying the outdoors, all of which contribute to one's self-worth.

The first two benefits are self-explanatory. These days, many folks don't get enough physical activity. In fact, in many ways it appears that people often work hard not to do physical work. This country was built with tools similar to what we use today to build the Arizona Trail, and I believe we need to keep this knowledge alive and pass it on to our grandkids and their kids. There is just so much out there to enjoy and learn from when working on a trail like the Arizona Trail.

For those of us who are "on the trail," we get to rekindle these experiences with others who have the same interests. For those folks who have not yet retired, this is a superb way to add a volunteer activity to our lives and perhaps pass on these skills to future generations. And for those of us who have retired, this is a great way to stay in touch, teach others, and continue to contribute to our society.

Happy trails to you.

Backcountry SUV

By Tom Taylor



Hualapai the burro, with backpack, on a hike with friends in the Superstitions. photo by John Beckett

Nothing beats a good backpack trip on the Arizona Trail.....except for one problem.....the backpack. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) had my solution: The Adopt-a-Wild Horse or Burro Program. I adopted my wild burro in 1989, tamed and trained her to take a halter and lead rope, and then to carry a packsaddle. In turn, she took all the load off my back!

Now we (my burro Hualapai and myself) can hike multiple days with fresh food and beverages. We hike with loads measured in pounds and don't fret about which freeze

dried meal tastes best or how many ounces it weighs. A burro is superb for a long distance route such as the Arizona Trail.

Coming off the public rangelands, BLM wild burros are sure footed, in peak stamina, and tolerant of extreme climates and terrain. Yet within a short period of time, they become people friendly and result in a willing partner for the Arizona Trail or any backcountry roaming.

The BLM adoption process is clear and direct, and the staff is accessible and helpful. There are numerous means of support should you adopt a wild horse or burro, including a website of volunteer mentors to assist you by answering questions about your efforts in taming your equine. The may even be willing to come to help you in person.

For more information on the Wild Horse and Burro Program visit: www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov or call 1-866-4MUSTANGS

Tom Taylor has hiked segments of the Arizona Trail and hauled water and tools for the Arizona Trail segment near Sunflower, AZ. He is also a volunteer for BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program and is willing to provide more information or answer questions about wild burro and horse adoptions and backcountry hiking with a pack animal.

Email: arizonadeserttom@aol.com

Phone: 480 964-6482

Tom and Hualapai have been invited to attend the Members Rendezvous in Mormon Lake this September.



Calendar of Events and Activities

July 7 – Walnut Canyon

Come to the cool high country southeast of Flagstaff to work Saturday, July 7 on Segment 31A between Marshall Lake and Fisher Point; reservations required. No prior trail work experience is necessary. Tools and Saturday lunch will be provided. Experienced crew leaders. Required: sunglasses or other eye protection, long trousers, boots or sturdy closed-toe shoes, no flip-flops or sandals! Prizes include one-year memberships in ATA (for non-members). Option: camp Friday night and enjoy a fun evening before the work event. More details on schedule and location will be provided when you sign up; please provide contact information and we need to know if you plan to camp on Friday night. The segment stewards are David and Andrea Michaels and Gary and Gay Hohner. To sign up contact Gary Hohner at (480)-595-9303 or sghohner@cox.net.

July 14-15 - Happy Jack

Join us in the cool pines north of Happy Jack to build new tread and maintain existing trail on a section of the Arizona Trail south of Allan Lake Tank, approximately 4 miles north of Happy Jack and 6 miles south of Mormon Lake. We will meet at 8:30 AM east of mile marker 311 on the "Hutch Mountain" and "Mahan Ranch" road proceeding 1.5 miles east of Coconino County Road 3 (this is the road between Clints Well and Flagstaff). Proceed east on the Hutch Mountain road for 1.5 miles to the Work Event camp. For details and what to bring.

Contact Segment Stewards Tom and Linda Coulson at aztrailhiker@aol.com or call (480) 213-5795 or (480) 326-0459.

July 21 - 22 - Grand Canyon

The ATA Hit & Run Crew will be installing a gate in the boundary fence between the Grand Canyon National Park and the Kaibab National Forest on the newly authorized segment of the Arizona Trail near Tusayan. We will also be installing a major sign at the gate site. We will, as well, drive about 18 or so carsonite posts and place decals on them from the gate site north for several miles toward the South Kaibab trailhead as well as south for about one mile. The work site is about 100 yards west of Hwy 64 and north of the access road to the Moqui/Apache Stables north of Tusayan at or very near GPS coordinates: Lat: 35.99187 degrees North and Long: 112.12413 West. In degrees, minutes, and seconds the coordinates are: Lat: 35 59 31 N and 112 07 27 W.

I have reserved two camp sites (149 & 155) in Mather Camp Ground (South Rim) for the nights of Friday, July 20 and Saturday, July 21. (The group sites were already taken.) Each site will accommodate six people. I plan to be at camp site number 155 by about 1500 hours (3:00 PM) on Friday, July 21.

It would be great to greet each and everyone there that evening!

Please let me know by e-mail or by calling (520) 579-3484 or (cell) (520) 780-4864 if you can give us a hand, and of course, get out of the heat as well. -- Laddie Cox

July 21 - Mormon Lake

Join the American Society of Landscape Architects on the Arizona Trail July 21. We completed our segment of the trail last summer, but are working to maintain and improve our segment with several work events this year. We will be working near Mormon Lake in the cool elevations of the ponderosa pine and aspens on Saturday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. with opportunities for camping in the area. Please call Conrad Langley at 602-363-8761 or email at conradlangley@hotmail.com for more information and directions.

AUGUST

August 4 - Ethnobotanical Walk in Walnut Canyon

Come to Walnut Canyon and take an easy plant and culture walk on the Arizona Trail with Southwest herbalist Phyllis Hogan. For more information, see the Calendar of Interpretive Events at www.aztrail.org

August 15 - Forest Ecology

Have you ever wondered what happens to our Ponderosa Pine forests and its undergrowth following significant burns? Join Jennie Rambo on this informative hike along the Arizona Trail under the cool pines. For more information, see the Calendar of Interpretive Events at www.aztrail.org.

August 18-19 - Happy Jack

Join us in the cool pines north of Happy Jack to build new tread and maintain existing trail on a section of the Arizona Trail south of Allan Lake Tank, approximately 4 miles north of Happy Jack and 6 miles south of Mormon Lake. We will meet at 8:30 AM east of mile marker 311 on the "Hutch Mountain" and "Mahan Ranch" road proceeding 1.5 miles east of Coconino County Road 3 (this is the road between Clints Well and Flagstaff). Proceed east on the Hutch Mountain road for 1.5 miles to the Work Event camp. This is a great camping /work opportunity for couples and families too. For details and what to bring, contact Segment Stewards Tom and Linda Coulson at aztrailhiker@aol.com or call (480) 213-5795 or (480) 326-0459.

SEPTEMBER

September 8 - Flagstaff

Come out and join Flagstaff Biking Organization (FBO) for trail maintenance on the Rocky Ridge Trail. For more information, call Mark Gullo at (928) 214-0105 or trails@flagstaffbiking.org.

**See www.aztrail.org for the most up-to-date information on events
Contact Trail Steward listed for full instructions**

Carl Golnik Remembered



Carl Golnik, far right photo by Denny Haywood

The ATA has lost a giant of a man, a volunteer who was always there when we needed him. A sudden onset of cancer in the prime of his life has taken him from his family, friends, and his beloved Arizona Trail.

Always looking for ways to help our Association, Carl worked tirelessly at many important stages of our fledgling organization in the early years. Continuously helping the ATA move toward the goal of completing the Trail over more than ten years, he never lost his enthusiasm for contributing his time, creativity, and energy. As an ATA board member, Carl served for a number of years as ATA treasurer and database manager, and he prepared countless financial spreadsheets for our organization's IRS tax reports, grants, and many annual and quarterly Association budgets. He was a whiz with numbers and computers, and he put his shoulder into the challenge year after year.

As a Trail volunteer, Carl used his masterful woodworking skills to build amazing shelving and bin units in our ATA tool trailers, and he used his well-equipped home workshop to sharpen our trail tools. Carl was also a dedicated Segment Steward, assisting Denny and Marie Haywood on the Boulder Creek section of the Pine Mountain Passage near the community of Sunflower along Highway 87.

Carl had a passion for working with young people. He trained and managed hundreds of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other young people as they learned how to build and maintain the Arizona Trail as they worked toward completing special projects and Scout badges. Carl never tired of setting up and helping manage youth projects over the past decade, a testimony to his ongoing passion for making a difference in people's lives.

Though Carl was taken from all of us too soon, his contributions to the success of the Arizona Trail and the ATA are a legacy to all who knew him. His passion will live on through the many lives he has touched. He has now become another of those eternal shining stars that lights the Arizona Trail.

-Jan Hancock

Become an Arizona Trail Member

Build a Legacy!



ARIZONA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

The Arizona Trail needs your active support. Help build the ARIZONA TRAIL as a resource for today and preserve it as a legacy for future generations.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- | | |
|---|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Helper | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Hand | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Builder | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Blazer | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Guardian | \$1000 |

- New Membership Renewal Membership

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Contribution for new trail development \$ _____
- "My Mile" contribution (\$100 per mile) \$ _____
- This is a gift membership from:

What are your primary non-motorized trail activities? hiking horseback riding

mountain biking other: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

We do not share our member information.

Make checks payable to **Arizona Trail Association**.

Mail to :

Arizona Trail Association
P.O. Box 36736
Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6736

Membership form and dues payment also available online at:

www.aztrail.org

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ARIZONA TRAIL ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 36736
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85067

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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 or e-mail: editor@aztrail.org Next deadline: September 15, 2007

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Thank You

A huge thank you goes out to Merle and Joan Parmer who took on the monumental task of organizing the map collection at the Arizona Trail Association office. Thanks Merle and Joan, it is nice to be able to find the passage we are looking for. Great organizational skills!

And another huge thanks goes out to Mat Shannon, who volunteers at the ATA office doing clerical tasks, or about anything we ask. Thank you Mat, we couldn't do it all without you!

Editor's Notes

Congratulations to William Scoular from Houston TX who finished the trail in 37 days. Michael Carr tells us, "I ran into him in the evening during our Memorial Day Event at the Orderville Trailhead, and he was completing his journey. I drove around the next day to see if he needed a ride, but found out from another fellow that he had continued up into Utah somewhere."

Whew. Some people can't get enough of trails!