Trails don't just simply spring from the heavens, fully developed, as Arizona Trail builders and supporters know. Tread must be built, McLeods bought, Pulaskis sharpened, gates constructed and erected, impact surveys completed and filed. And that's just for starters, for every year, every day, the earth works to undo what we have created in the wilderness.

Since Day One, dollars to build, maintain and administer the trail are as important as the volunteers, trail stewards and trail users to the success of the trail. Today this financial support flows from a diverse group of businesses and organizations, quiet heroes whose support benefits many.

Who are these heroes? What makes them become part of the Arizona Trail family? Here's a glimpse:

**Compass Bank**
Dana Ellsworth, executive assistant to the president of Compass Bank in Phoenix, is a self-described “big-time hiker” and native Arizonan. She explained that employees at Compass Bank offer suggestions for the distribution of a fund of employee contributions, and the Arizona Trail was suggested and chosen as a recent recipient. Compass’ employee committee votes on where and how to disburse the funds each year. And, she adds, “Quite a few who people who work at Compass Bank hike.”

Supporting trails is a foregone conclusion for Dana. “We could not live in a more beautiful place!” she exclaims. Benefits to her coworkers include better employee awareness of trails, improved hiking opportunities, and our community enjoys a healthier lifestyle. She cites preservation of the land in the midst of development as another benefit. Additionally, she says, “It’s a way to see Arizona on your own. It’s such a wonderful experience.”

**AZ Partsmaster**
Dave Schlect of Arizona Partsmaster in Phoenix provides maintenance supplies to apartment complexes. When asked if he rides, hikes or bikes, his answer was simply, “Not really.”

So why support the Arizona Trail? “Seemed like a good idea,” he said, especially since Scott Summers, Arizona Partsmaster’s banker and ATA board member, encouraged the support.

For Dave, it meant doing something good for the community. “We’re probably going to be encouraging employees to do more for trails this year,” adds Dave.

**Jack K. Henness Farms**
Jack Henness of Jack K. Henness Farms in Casa Grande has supported the Arizona Trail for several years now. His support stems from a concern for creating and keeping trails open for all users, and trail building in general. “It’s important to keep access open. We’re losing more of this property, seeing that access go away,” he said.
Happy New Year!!!
by Kent Taylor, President, ATA Board of Directors

The ATA board of directors and staff would like to say thank you to all of our members, supporters and volunteers. The hard work and effort that went into the ATA and the Arizona Trail in 2006 made it a great year. The Arizona Trail was named a State Scenic Trail, and was recognized as one of the 26 most innovative ideas in Arizona by the Morrison Institute. These are great accomplishments for our organization and for the Trail itself. I’m proud to be associated with all of you and I look forward to what lies ahead in 2007.

Why is the number 66 significant? This is the magic number of miles that we have left to complete the Arizona Trail.

Only 66 miles left. From the humble beginnings of one man’s idea, we only have 66 miles left. To complete an 800 mile trail from the border with Mexico to the border of Utah, only 66 miles left. After thousands of work events, and many thousands of hours of volunteer help, we only have 66 miles left. We are so close it is unbelievable.

We only have 66 miles left. Will these last 66 miles be easy? Unfortunately, no. They are the last 66 miles because they are the most difficult. Difficult construction, land management issues or some other hurdle exists to overcome.

But we still have only 66 miles left. I’m confident though, that we can make a significant dent in that number. Why? I believe it will be because of the wonderful volunteers, members and partners that we have. So our focus for 2007 will be to reduce the number 66.

How low can we get that number? I’d like to see it at 36, but if we all work together, maybe we can get it lower than that.

Anheuser Busch Michelob Ultra Bike Giveaway

Thanks to all of you who took the time to fill in an entry form while visiting your local Wide World of Maps store this past month. The drawing for the Trek 820 mountain bike was held on Saturday, December 9th and Jeff Nard (a Wide World of Maps staff member at the Indian School store) drew out the winning ticket.

Congratulations to Bill Moore of Phoenix! Ironically Bill’s father used to eat lunch at the Anheuser Busch factory in Saint Louis when Bill was a kid. When asked what he would do with the bike Bill answered, “Ride it, I guess.” We hope to see him on the Arizona Trail soon!

And thanks again to Anheuser-Busch Michelob Ultra for sponsoring the bike and bike gear giveaway. Thanks to all three Wide World of Maps stores for collecting sign ups for the raffle.
Chief Trail Steward activities this fall consisted of festivals, fairs, work events, and one very special AZT assessment hike in Alamo Canyon.

The hike that I speak of occurred on October 9, a Columbus Day holiday for State employees, Doug Marsh and I. We set off to take a look at the new trail that was constructed last spring on Passage 17 in Alamo Canyon. We wanted to see how the trail was holding up after some pretty heavy rain during the summer months. The highlights of the hike, however, besides the spectacular views of Picketpost and the Superstition Mountains, were the wildlife that we discovered along the way. While trail dog Chevy was mucking about in the pools of water still lingering on the canyon floor, Doug and I and trail dog Bailey came upon not one, but two desert tortoises on and near the trail! Can you picture our astonishment? Neither of us had seen these creatures out in the wild before. As you can imagine, the tortoises didn't do much so we didn't linger too long. They probably had lots of places to go and things to do that day too. We pressed on to the end of the new trail construction and then bushwhacked our way down to the canyon floor to make our way back via the old trail route. On the way through the brush we came across a very large tarantula. We later learned from our entomologist co-worker Dave Mills that October was mating season for tarantulas so that explains why that fellow was out and about on that day!

Our next destination that day was the Tortilla Mountains Passage 15 to scout the old Florence Road route off of Florence Kelvin Highway leading to Ripsey Ranch. We encountered a lively rattlesnake along the way and of course stopped to take some photos. What a lucky day this was out on the Arizona Trail. This Chief Trail Steward job does have some rewards!

As for the other major activities, they included manning the ATA booth at various festivals and fairs, assisting with a huge Medtronic employee work event on Passage 21, and organizing the December 2 work event at Alamo Canyon. You can read more about those activities and events in separate stories in this newsletter. That about wraps it up for the fall of 2006. See you out on the Arizona Trail...

ATA at Scout-O-Rama

On November 4, I set up the display at the Phoenix area Scout-O-Rama. This is like a state fair for the Scouts. Scout units of all ages set up booths of various scout skills and activities. There were thousands of scouts and their families in attendance. I was able to talk to a lot of people about the trail and conservation projects. I handed out flyers for the up-coming trail project as well as general information about the trail and the association. On the following weekend at an Order of the Arrow Convention in Las Vegas, I taught two classes on where to go camping. There were 440 scouts and adults in attendance. I was contacted by an eagle scout candidate about doing a project on the Arizona Trail. I made a lot of contacts regarding future projects and, hopefully, recruited a lot of new ATA members over both weekends.
1. Enjoy the AZT: Have you been out for a trek on the Arizona Trail lately? We are fortunate that at any time of the year there are many AZT weather-friendly sections available to use. Grab a friend, a horse or bike and hit the trail!

2. Annual Meeting - Another fun and interesting ATA Annual Meeting is set for Saturday February 3, 2007. It will be held at the National Bank of Arizona Banquet Center in Phoenix. And it is still an affordable $15, including lunch. The annual meeting is always a great place to find out what's happening with the AZT plus see old friends and meet new ones. See you there.

3. Trail Development - New trail construction was recently started in the White Canyon passage of the Arizona Trail north of the Gila River. This remote 20 mile stretch from near the Gila River to the Tonto National Forest boundary is the longest stretch of the 66 miles of Arizona Trail yet to be built.

4. Trail Maintenance - There really is no end to the task of keeping the most scenic long distance trail in the USA in good condition. The next 3-4 months are critical for many sections of the trail. Please keep an eye on the events calendar (http://www.aztrail.org/calendar.html) and join the dedicated trail stewards for a few hours on the AZT. And while there, take a little time and treat yourself to a stroll on the AZT.

5. Renewing ATA Members - My personal thanks to all of you who so promptly renewed your ATA membership recently. It's very heartening to see such support. We have such great members. And, as was noted on your renewal thank you letter, future renewal dates have been changed to a quarterly system.

6. National Scenic Trail - The ATA Board of Directors and I are gearing up for another run at getting Congress to pass legislation that would begin the process for the Arizona Trail to become a National Scenic Trail. Among other things, this prestigious recognition will provide long term protection to our beloved path. Be ready to lend your support!

7. Did you know? - The meandering Arizona Trail passes into parts of eight Arizona counties. And the county with the fewest AZT miles is Maricopa County.

8. On the Map - Look for the 2007 Arizona Office of Tourism state map due out in early 2007. On a back panel is a prominent promotion of the Arizona Trail. The map is distributed to 600,000 people annually.

9. Bashas Thanks A Million Program - The ATA benefits from your shopping at Bashas until March 31, 2007. Just tell the cashier the ATA code # 24540 and the ATA gets a portion of the sales.

10. ATA Board Meeting - The next scheduled ATA Board of Directors meeting is set for 10:00 AM, Saturday, January 13 at the Desert Botanical Gardens located in Papago Park in Phoenix. All ATA members are welcome to attend.

---

Good Business: Generosity Builds the Arizona Trail

continued from page one

Jack likes to recreate on two wheels, while his wife prefers the two heels of hiking boots. They first became aware of the need to support local trails when they used to go mountain biking in Colorado in the summers. The struggles trails groups were having there foreshadowed Arizona's trail challenges. He worries still that everything will eventually be “covered up with cement and brick.”

“I think it’s real important to appreciate the effort of those who actually do the work,” said Jack. “The fun part is working on the trail. I wish we could do more.”

Businesses and organizations that support the Arizona Trail are all quiet heroes. Unfortunately there's only room to profile a few here. Their contributions feed the visible activities that most people see as “trail work.”

A universal desire for bettering the quality of our lives, for saving our grand vistas and wilderness experiences, and developing recreation opportunities fosters their choice to give to the Arizona Trail in the ways that they have.

In the words of Compass Bank’s Dana Ellsworth, “Supporting the Arizona Trail is a wonderful way to give back to the community.”

Do you do business with any of these quiet heroes? Be sure to say thank you from the Trail next time you see them.
How can I get there from here? This question unites all people, past, present, and future, who have an interest in long distance trails. It's also a fundamental question that we have asked ourselves many times before venturing out to fulfill our wanderlust. I suspect that most of us can remember the earliest time when we first asked ourselves this question.

For me, at a very young age, I can recall gazing out of my second story bedroom window through an opening in the oaks and maples at distant rolling fields and forests – wondering what lay beyond and thinking how fun it would be to walk there. Planning for such a journey, on my bedpost I hung a cotton-cased, aluminum scout canteen and an old, somewhat mildewed binocular case filled with flour, sugar, and salt – the basic ingredients for crude bannock biscuits. And of course, my Case XX barlow-style pocket knife was always with me, wearing a hole in the front pocket of my Lee Rider jeans.

What are your first recollections of an inspirational moment that led you to wonder and wander? Was it an unforgettable view, a teacher, or a certain passage from literature?

In Arizona we are fortunate to have a seemingly unlimited number of vista points to inspire us to venture further and longer into the unknown. The sky-islands of southern Arizona come to mind as having particularly motivating vistas that compel us to travel from here to there. One peak stretches the eyes to another, and another, and another. I feel fortunate to have visited many of these high points during the 1970’s. Certainly many of the seeds that grew into the Arizona Trail were planted while I stood at these vantage points.

Wonder, inspiration, and wanderlust – all so richly connected by Arizona landscapes and a trail from Mexico to Utah. How can I get there from here? I will ask you what led you to that question when I see you along the Arizona Trail.

Dale Shewalter, Founder

Bridge Dedication on Flagstaff Passage

Many thanks to the nearly 200 folks who showed up for the ribbon cutting ceremony for our new bike/ped bridge over Cedar/Forest on Friday, November 17. Flagstaff Mayor Joe Donaldson made an excellent presentation and if you weren’t moved by what Arizona Trail founder Dale Shewalter had to say, it may be time to check your emotions meter for a buildup of excessive jaded.

Special Visitors on a Special Trail

Rose Harley of the Mogollon Rim Ranger District of the Coconino National Forest submitted this photo of Arizona Trail users. The group in the picture were going to see the waterfalls near General Springs Cabin on the Blue Ridge Passage of the Arizona Trail.
Bashas' Thanks A Million Program

The Arizona Trail Association has chosen to participate in a Bashas' fundraising program called "Thanks A Million". The program began September 1, 2006 and will run through March 31, 2007. Each group choosing to participate is assigned a 5-digit group identification number. Then Bashas' customers link the group ID number to their Thank You Cards and a portion of every Thank You Card purchase is donated to that group. Bashas' will donate one percent of the total sales linked to each group's ID number, up to a $2,500 donation.

The Arizona Trail Association group ID number is: 24540.

So the next time you visit a Bashas' store, please ask your cashier to link our ATA group ID number to your Bashas' Thank You Card and start earning money for the ATA! For more information on the Bashas' Thanks A Million program, visit their web site at http://www.bashas.com/charity.php

Boulder Creek Project Links Previous Work Events

Each year all employees from Medtronic, a biomedical equipment manufacturing company in Tempe, are given one regular paid workday to volunteer for a variety of community improvement projects. This is just one way that Medtronic gives back to the community where its business resides. On October 27, over 50 volunteers from Medtronic, along with Arizona Trail Association (ATA) and US Forest Service Crew Leaders, constructed over 1/2 mile of new trail along the Boulder Creek near Sunflower.

For quite some time the ATA and several partners have been working to take a portion of this trail off of a highly used Forest Service road, rerouting it along very scenic sections of Boulder Creek. The Medtronic project ties together trail completed during two previous REI Annual Work Events and several other volunteer projects.

We were met with beautiful weather as all the volunteers hiked cross-country for one hour to the work site. Several crews of about six people each, moved rocks, smoothed tread, and grubbed roots of shrubs needing removal. A couple of teams locked horns with some larger roots, but refused to give in until they were out! Medtronic jeep drivers brought in water and lunch over a nearby 4-wheel-drive trail. We greatly appreciate how everyone really pitched in with a fun-loving spirit. In just 4 1/2 hours, the entire 1/2 mile section was completed.

We extend our gratitude to Mike Sprouse from Medtronic for spearheading this event. Mike recruited volunteers and coordinated activities on work day. We also wish to thank Angela Wilkens (US Forest Service, Mesa Ranger District) and District Staff for all the assistance in coordinating the event and transporting tools to and from the site. We greatly appreciate the ATA and USFS Crew Leaders who made the event possible: Fred Gaudet, Robert Baldwin, Anna Pfender, and Doug Marsh with the ATA, and Patrick and Adrian with the USFS.

—Marie and Denny Haywood, and Carl Golnik

Marie's crew member Dick prevails over a nasty root removal

Denny Haywood (left) and crew deal with a large boulder
ATA Reaches Out to the Public
By Anna Pfender

Patagonia Fall Festival
October 14-15, 2006
Doug Marsh, Zay Hartigan, and Anna Pfender represented the ATA by hosting a booth at the Patagonia Fall Festival. Huge and very well run, it was mainly an arts festival with over 100 vendor booths selling all manner of handmade arts and crafts items. There was an area with about 20 non-profit booths in addition to food booths and a bandstand with entertainment all day long. It was estimated that the festival would attract 12,000 visitors during that weekend. Traffic at the ATA booth was pretty much non-stop from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. The audience was well suited to our cause, consisting largely of outdoor enthusiasts and environmental-minded people from the surrounding south-central Arizona area. We handed out loads of AZT information, sold some ATA merchandise and held free raffle drawings each day where we gave away two copies of an AZT coffee table book. The booth was very successful and we all felt that we generated a great deal of new interest in the trail as well as interest for trail maintenance volunteers which are badly needed in that part of the state.

BLM Agua Fria Festival
October 21, 2006
Helen Hill, Spike Hicks and Fred Gaudet manned a booth for the ATA at this event which was held at the Horseshoe Ranch in the heart of the Agua Fria National Monument. The Agua Fria Festival was held to recognize the 1906 - 2006 Antiquities Act Centennial and the preservation efforts of Arizona's archaeological, historical and fossil resources. It is estimated that approximately 1,500 people joined the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and its partners to enjoy the informational exhibits, field tours and hikes, children's activities, live entertainment and delicious food. ATA was among over forty exhibitors who participated in the Festival. The entertainment included Native American music and dance by the Yellow Bird Dancers, and singing and story-telling by Arizona's official balladeer Dolan Ellis and State Historian Marshall Trimble. In addition, the Festival had special appearances by Alan Day, co-author of the Lazy B book with Sandra Day O'Connor, and Joyce Hunsaker, a.k.a. "Fannie" the folklore interpreter. Our volunteers at the booth reported that the event was very good and that they were kept busy talking to interested attendees. Visit http://www.blm.gov/az/afria_festi.htm for a complete story and photos about this event.

Adventures Phoenix
November 18-19, 2006
ATA volunteers Dave Hicks, Gary Hohner, Dori Pederson, Helen Hill, Larry Snead, Matt Shannon, Doug Marsh, and Anna Pfender staffed the ATA booth during this event which was hosted by REI at the Paradise Valley Mall. Adventures Phoenix was sponsored by REI, City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department, and Backpacker Magazine and was a free weekend-long outdoor festival showcasing outdoor clubs and organizations, gear demos, a kids corner, clinics and presentations, mini-adventure races, and more! It was held in conjunction with the Phoenix Summit Challenge where participants hike to the highest point in seven of the city's mountain parks and preserves: Camelback Mountain, North Mountain, Lookout Mountain, Shaw Butte, Piestewa Peak, Papago Park, and South Mountain. The turnout was very good for this event and the ATA gave out a great deal of information about the AZT and also made a lot of good contacts for the organization.
Tom Coulson found himself enchanted with the Arizona Trail in 1993 after reading an Arizona Highways article on the “new” trail through Arizona. His curiosity made him initially contact the Forest Service, which told him to write to the volunteer group creating the trail.

Tom expressed his interest to the leader of this volunteer group, Larry Snead. He didn’t meet up with the rest of the pack until the Arizona Trail Association’s annual meeting in February 1998. By then, the organization was really a going concern, according to Tom. It wasn’t long after the annual meeting that Tom had lunch with Larry and told him he loved hiking and biking, had some time to offer, and in general had a passion for the outdoors. Tom was soon put to use, indoors, helping with the ATA office work, mailing letters and updating the database.

Contagious Enthusiasm

Tom also met Dale Shewalter, Michael Baker, Helen Hill and other early ATA enthusiasts. He says his own enthusiasm caught fire just talking to them. Then, recalls Tom, “I did my first work event in Oracle nearly ten years ago now, with Merle Parmer. I had no idea what to do. And we’ve been friends ever since.” Merle schooled Tom, teaching him trail construction techniques and standards.

“This is what I was meant to do,” said Tom, “and I knew it at the beginning.” The work just seems to fit this native Phoenician who loves mountain biking, camping and hiking. It’s clearly evident how enjoyable and satisfying trail work is for this steward. His excitement and passion for the trail has even inspired one of his co-workers at Sedona’s Pink Jeep tours to plan to hike the trail in 2007.

Lakes? Not So Much, But the Mountains....

Linda, Tom’s wife, hails from Michigan, and her take on Arizona’s lakes, um, stock tanks/ponds, is not unexpected. Linda was not impressed with our waterways, but it was Arizona’s mountains that “floored” her. She married into the Arizona Trail family when she and Tom tied the knot in 2002. They were stewards on the Picketpost segment, a difficult and especially tough segment to build. Linda said her son was amazed that people had to build trails. In the words of a mom, “Do you think God just put them there?”

They took a year off after they lost their son Adam and moved from Mesa to Camp Verde. Still wanting to be connected to the trail, the Coulsons took on the verdant Happy Jack segment 29D that runs from Maxie Tank north to Allan Lake, south of Mormon Lake. The four miles is all pines and gentle terrain. It’s also perfect for equestrians, with the Gooseberry Springs area featuring good access and plenty of room for horse trailers. “Horses are good for the trail,” adds Tom. Linda points out that families like the area because it is easy to get to and the Mormon Lake community is nearby for dining, accommodations and supplies.

Get the Word Out

More people need to know about the trail, say both Tom and Linda. The greatest challenge is that the trail here doesn’t get a lot of use. “It just needs to be hiked more,” laments Tom.

In their efforts to increase the use, Tom and Linda run three work events a year on their own section, and then go to one or two others. The work events take about three days, with Friday being a set-up and organization day, getting tools ready, work plans in place and welcoming volunteers who show up usually on Friday night and Saturday morning. Work runs until about Sunday noon. The most recent event hosted about 36 scouts from Troop 88 in Gilbert which, by all reports, was a stunning success. Expert technical consultation was provided by Merle Parmer. “We’re very, very happy with the work we did on that event,” said Tom.

“I told them, and I truly believe this, that the most satisfying thing is to walk back over trail you’ve built.” And any of us who’ve done just that will whole-heartedly agree.

You can join Linda and Tom in their next work event. Watch the Events Calendar for postings of upcoming work days at http://www.aztrail.org/calendar.html.
You are invited!!!

2007 Annual Members’ Meeting

Mark your calendar for the
Saturday, February 3, 2007
National Bank of Arizona Banquet Facility
6001 North 24th Street, Phoenix, Arizona
(24th Street south of Lincoln/Glendale)
Exit the 51 at Glendale/Lincoln and go east to 24th Street. Turn south and go to the first traffic light which is Arizona Biltmore Circle and turn left. National Bank of Arizona occupies three buildings on the south side of Biltmore Circle. The Banquet Facility is the third building to the east

9:00 a.m - 10:00 a.m. visit exhibits
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. meeting & luncheon
$15.00 per person

Speakers: to be announced...

Please RSVP by Friday, January 26th

LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

(name print)

Your name________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________________
City___________________________State ______Zip_____________
Phone: _________________________Evening _______________________

Total _______ lunch reservations @$15/per person - Total enclosed $_______________

Please make check payable to Arizona Trail Association and mail to:
Arizona Trail Association, P.O. Box 36736, Phoenix, AZ  85067
602-252-4794

Mail reservations to arrive by Friday, January 26, or phone in by Monday, January 29, 2007.

YOU MAY ALSO MAKE RESERVATIONS AND PAY FOR THE LUNCHEON ONLINE AT: www.aztrail.org
January

**January 20 - Canelo Hills West**

Please join Segment Steward Richard Corbett who will lead a 4 WD entry into the Red Rock Road area of the Canelo West Passage. We will rehab trail that has had no work in at least five years, including brushing a section that grew up a lot with the generous monsoon rains, and hauling some trash out when we are finished. This area has really beautiful views of wide vistas, valleys, and tall mountains. Tools and some special ‘naughty’ cookies will be provided. Please bring your own snacks, lunch and water (at least 3 liters), and wear long pants, a wide brimmed hat, and preferably a long sleeved shirt. Meet at 7:00 AM at the Post Office in Patagonia, 60 miles from Tucson. Contact Richard Corbett at (520) 623-0017 or kc7ovm@atdakotacom.net for more information or if you plan to help.

February

**February 3 - ATA Annual Meeting**

It is time once again for the Arizona Trail Association’s Annual Meeting & Luncheon. For details on the days events and where the meeting will be held, see the annual meeting page.

**Trail Runners Take Notice February 4, 2007**

Fleet Feet Arizona Trail Race in Colossal Cave Mt Park

See www.fleetfeettucson.com

**February 17-18 - Tortilla Mountains**

Join us for a weekend of fun out on the Boulders Segment southeast of Florence. Our maintenance weekend will include free happy hour and dinner Saturday night as well as breakfast on Sunday sponsored by New Belgium Brewing Company, the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona and the ATA. We guarantee a great time around the campfire with prize giveaways too! Camping is primitive so bring your gear, water, and lunches. Contact Anna Pfender at (480) 518-6021 or mtbbabe@atcox.net for directions and details.

March

**March 10 - Canelo Hills**

You can make history! For the first time ever, we have moved a fence to improve the routing and views on the Arizona Trail. The fence is gone, now we need to re-route some badly eroded trail. Come help with some minor trail rerouting on Canelo East. Beautiful views of wide grassy valleys and tall forested mountains. A short (1.5 mile) hike, all down hill on the way out. Tools will be provided, bring food and water. Meet at the Canelo Pass trailhead, 65 miles from Tucson. Contact Zay Hartigan at (520) 394-2420 or zayy@atzaycom.com.

**March 24-25 - Tortilla Mountains**

Join us for a weekend of fun out on the Boulders Segment southeast of Florence. Our maintenance weekend will include free happy hour and dinner Saturday night as well as breakfast on Sunday sponsored by New Belgium Brewing Company, the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona and the ATA. We guarantee a great time around the campfire with prize giveaways too! Camping is primitive so bring your gear, water, and lunches. Contact Anna Pfender at (480) 518-6021 or mtbbabe@atcox.net for directions and details.

April

**April 21 - Canelo Hills West**

Segment Steward Richard Corbett will lead another 4 WD entry into the Red Rock Road area of the Canelo West Passage, as we continue work started in January, including trail rehab, brushing, and hauling some more trash out when we are finished. Enjoy beautiful views of wide vistas, valleys, and tall mountains. Tools and some special ‘naughty’ cookies will be provided. Please bring your own snacks, lunch and water (at least 4 liters), and wear long pants, a wide brimmed hat, and preferably a long sleeved shirt. Meet at 6:30 AM at the Post Office in Patagonia, 60 miles from Tucson. Contact Richard Corbett at (520) 623-0017 or kc7ovm@atdakotacom.net for more information or if you plan to help.

Upcoming

**May 5-6, 2007 - Marshall Lake Trailhead near Flagstaff**

Join us for a spring outing on this beautiful segment of the AZ Trail near Flagstaff. We will be building a new reroute segment near the Marshall Lake trailhead. Easy access. Bring your family and friends. No prior trail work experience is necessary. Work either or both days. Tools and instruction provided. Lunch provided on Saturday. Optional camping Saturday night. We will work a short day on Sunday and quit about noon. To sign up contact Gay Hohner at (480) 595-9303 or sghohner@cox.net.

www.aztrail.org for latest updates!!!
ARIZONA TRAIL HAS NEW PARTNER

One of our newest partners is the Arizona Rock Product Association. They recently donated 25 tons of rock products for an Arizona Trail trailhead on Forest Road 751 on the Coconino National Forest, Mogollon Rim Ranger District. Forest Road 751 goes to Rock Crossing Campground and Blue Ridge Lake. Trail Steward, Lou Hoover, headed up a crew that spread the material to provide a parking area that is not full of muddy potholes. Lou reports that the project is about half completed and that we hope to get another 25 tons of rock product next spring to complete the project.

Marshall Lake Trailhead First Work Event

On October 21, 2006, the combination of a beautiful fall day in the Flagstaff area and volunteers from Flagstaff Biking Organization, ATA members, friends, and the Peaks District FS produced a rolling grade dip and numerous check dams in preparation for next spring's planned reroute.

We are grateful for veteran trail builder Chuck Horner's support. Not only did he spend the whole weekend with us, but he also prepared his famous peach cobbler for a warm treat around Saturday evening's campfire. Sunday morning some of us hiked this beautiful trail which begins at Marshall Lake trailhead and ends at Fisher Point.

The stewards for this segment are Gary and Gay Hohner and David and Andrea Michaels. Join us here at our next event May 5-6, 2007.

See www.aztrail.org for all the trail events and work event reports – there are many more which would not fit in this issue!
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: March 15, 2007

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!

Dave Babcock - website questions, webmaster@aztrail.org
Helen Hill - Segment Steward database & communications - deserthill@worldnet.att.net
Anna Pfender - Chief Trail Steward - Segment Steward information, work event information - mibbabe@cox.net
Phyllis Ralley - Membership mailing list and database, invoices, payments and other financial information. - ata@aztrail.org
Dick Wertz - Membership Coordinator Special membership programs, membership information rawertz@commspeed.net

Arizona Trail Association
Premier Legacy Partners

Anheuser Busch
Arizona Horse Lovers Foundation
Arizona Public Service
Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.
Bureau of Land Management
National Bank of Arizona
Phelps Dodge
REI
Resolution Copper
SRP