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# Arizona Trail ASSOCIATION NEWS

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

Vol. 8, No.3  
Fall - 2002

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## Welcome Our New ATA Executive Director, Denise Meridith!

The Arizona Trail Association is proud to announce the selection of Denise Meridith as our organization's new Executive Director.

In this position, Denise will work with the ATA board of directors to expand the organization, coordinate development activities and support a variety of efforts to complete the Arizona Trail. The position is being funded as part of a significant grant provided by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust.

The culmination of a two-month national search for our new Executive Director brought our selection committee and interview panel directly back to an Arizona candidate in their unanimous decision to offer the position to one of the state's most prominent leaders in natural resources and recreation.

For the past seven years, Denise led 600 employees in eight offices as the Arizona State Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), with responsibility for management of 14 million acres of public lands. In June 2002, Denise retired from her impressive 29-year professional career with the BLM to focus on her desire to begin a consulting



*"The Arizona Trail Association is a great organization full of enthusiastic, dedicated volunteers. I am looking forward to attracting, motivating and working with even more people and organizations to help preserve the scenic beauty and diverse outdoor experiences found along the nearly 800-mile route of the Arizona Trail."*

career and expand her community involvement, utilizing her strong business management and nonprofit leadership skills.

Denise is a Natural Resources/Wildlife Biology graduate of Cornell University, and she has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Southern California. Prior to her Arizona position, Denise served as the Deputy Director of BLM in Washington, DC, where she developed a strong relationship with members of Congress and many leaders in land management agencies.

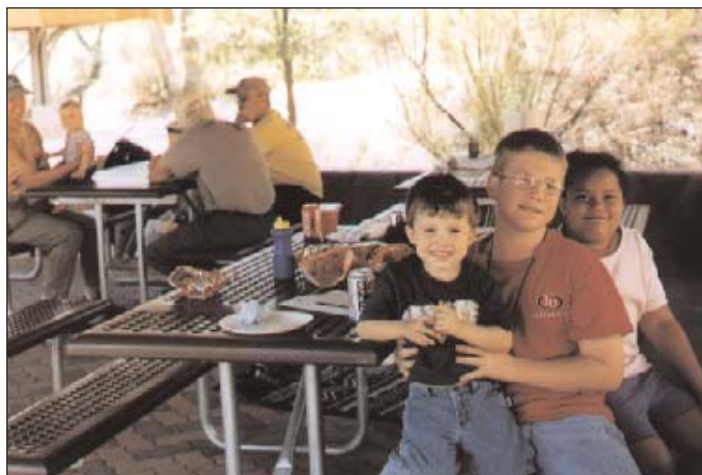
While in Arizona, Denise has been active as a volunteer, including serving on boards with the Girl Scouts, the Greater Phoenix Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Arizona Tourism and Sports Authority. She also led the Parks and Recreation Subcommittee of the last City of Phoenix bond campaign and co-founded the Arizona Tourism Alliance.

Her civic contributions have been acknowledged by numerous organizations: YWCA Entrepreneur of the Year 2001; the first ever 2002 BLM Legends Award for Lifetime Achievement;

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## Arizona Trail Day at Oracle State Park



*by Randy Warner*

Oracle State Park is one of Arizona's lesser-known public land gems, and the Arizona Trail goes right through it. It sits on 4,000 acres of rolling high desert that used to be owned and ranched by the Kannally family of Oracle.

On October 5, 2002, the Arizona Trail Association held "Arizona Trail Day at Oracle State Park," a purely fun event for ATA members and prospective members. We couldn't have had a better day for hiking, biking or riding the Arizona Trail had we special ordered it. Members got the chance to experience the Arizona Trail within the Park, as well as explore the Park, including the historic Kannally ranch house. And after their hikes and rides, they were rewarded with hot dogs on the grill and an ample supply of spicy Cheetoes (courtesy of the Hicks clan).

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

a continuous, non-motorized trail traversing the state nearly 790 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:

Jan Hancock

*pres@aztrail.org*

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*rwarner@aztrail.org*

### **Executive Director:**

Denise Meridith

*ed@aztrail.org*

### **Chief Trail Steward:**

Larry Snead

*sneadlarry@qwest.net*

### **Executive Coordinator:**

Deb Morgaina

*debaztrail@cs.com*

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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Phoenix, Arizona 85067  
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[www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)

by Jan Hancock



Looking over all that we've accomplished together thus far in 2002, it's hard to believe that we're still packing in more activities in our calendars before the end of this year!

On November 10-13, 2002, our new Executive Director, Denise Meridith, our Chief Trail Steward, Larry Snead, and I will be attending the National Trails Symposium being held in Orlando, Florida, to share our Arizona Trail story with trails enthusiasts and agency officials who will be in attendance from throughout the nation and many other nations from around the world.

We will all be conducting special presentations and attending sessions that will feature the nation's most spectacular trails, including the Arizona Trail, and we have a beautiful new display highlighting the scenic beauty of the route of the Arizona Trail that will be on exhibit at the Symposium for three days.

My pride in our Arizona Trail project always swells enormously as I meet with people from

all over the world to share our trail's story and our success as an organization. It is at these types of national meetings that we realize how much we have accomplished in such a short time. Most long distance trails are 30 or more years old, hundreds and hundreds of miles away from completion, and most have truly significant, long range obstacles to overcome, such as purchases of expensive private lands for their trail's pathway.

The Arizona Trail Association has been blessed with fabulous support from our land management agency partners, and equally strong support from thousands of volunteers. We don't have any land we have to buy, and we don't have many of the other obstacles being experienced by trails organizations around the nation and the world.

What we do have is a stellar, dedicated, and results-oriented group of fantastic volunteers who just won't quit in their pursuit of completing our founder's dream...a completed ribbon of trail from border-to-border...and in less than a decade we are almost there! My pride in this organization knows no bounds.



## **Deb Morgaina to Assist ATA**



Deb Morgaina joined ATA in October as our bookkeeper, database manager and general administrative support for Denise Meridith. She has been a Phoenix resident since 1979. After over 15 years as a law office administrator in Los

Angeles, Beverly Hills, Phoenix and Scottsdale, Deborah Morgaina, opened her consulting practice, Avalon Office Organization & Management Consulting. In September 2002, she celebrated 9 years in business.

Deb Morgaina authored, "Minding Your Business: Law Office Expansion and Management," a chapter of *Life, Law and the Pursuit of Balance: A Lawyer's Guide to Quality of Life*, published by the Arizona State Bar and offered through the American Bar Association

In 2001 Deb was the president of the Arizona Professional Organizer's Association.

Avalon's clients range from large corporations including Allied Signal, Arizona Public Service, and Salt River Project, as well as many small business owners, entrepreneurs, home based businesses, and professional associations.

Deb's position with the ATA is funded by a portion of the recently awarded Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust grant.

If you have any mailing or e-mail address changes, or have questions regarding your ATA volunteer hours, membership dues, expense reimbursements, or any other questions relating to our ATA databases or bookkeeping, you can contact Deb through the ATA telephone message center, 602-252-4794, or send a direct e-mail message to her at: [debaztrail@cs.com](mailto:debaztrail@cs.com)

# ATA Attends National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference

The 8th Conference on National Scenic and Historic Trails was held October 17-20, 2002, in Fort Smith, Arkansas. There are eight National Scenic Trails in America, and the ATA Board of Directors is making preparations to seek a Congressional nomination for the Arizona Trail to become the nation's 9th National Scenic Trail.

In preparation for beginning the planning for this extremely lengthy and involved nomination process, the ATA asked our Chief Trail Steward, Larry Snead, to attend this national meeting to help our Association learn more about the nomination requirements and procedures, and also attend the educational sessions to learn about how to qualify the Arizona Trail for this prestigious designation. The last National Scenic Trail admitted to the system was the Florida Trail, in 1983.

Larry set up a tabletop display about the Arizona Trail at the conference, and he was very pleased with the enthusiastic reception the Arizona Trail received by the conference attendees. Many trail enthusiasts from around the nation stopped by to talk with him about the Arizona Trail, and a large number signed a petition in support of the Arizona Trail's nomination for National Scenic Trail designation.

After the conference concluded, Larry stated, "There's a tremendous amount of interest in the Arizona Trail all across the nation. People are fascinated by our diverse landscapes and the scenic beauty that you find throughout our state, from our Sonoran deserts to our alpine forests. That's what makes the Arizona Trail such a perfect candidate for the nation's next National Scenic Trail."

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## Looking for Ways to Have Some Fun in 2003?

How would you like to join some family members and friends on an outing along a section of the Arizona Trail next year?

Our ATA membership committee is looking for your ideas about some ways to have some fun out on the Arizona Trail in 2003. Do you like to photograph nature, birds and wildlife, or sweeping Arizona landscapes? Do you like to hike or go out camping overnight?

Do you have young children you want to introduce to the wonderful outdoor world at a fun outdoor excursion planned just for them? Do you have a mountain bike group, an equestrian club, hiking or walking group of friends, or an orienteering club that would like to explore a special location along the Arizona Trail?

Our ATA Vice President of Membership, Randy Allen, wants to hear from you! Randy is starting the planning for the ATA's 2003 Calendar of Members' Events, and he is also looking for some fun-

seeking new members to add to his committee. He's also looking for club leaders that would like to coordinate a special event for their own organization on the Arizona Trail next year.

As Randy recently said, "The Arizona Trail can be a wonderful attraction for people who enjoy the outdoors throughout our state. We need to help people learn more about the Arizona Trail by holding fun events where they can get more familiar with the trail and also enjoy the benefits of being a member of the ATA...we want people of all ages, and all interests, to get out on the Arizona Trail to see how really special it is."

If you have a good idea, or want to join Randy's "Fun Committee," leave your name and number at the ATA message center, 602-252-4794, or send Randy an e-mail at: [rwarner@jshfirm.com](mailto:rwarner@jshfirm.com)

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## Trail Construction Workshops Concluded

Twenty-seven enthusiastic learners, and four capable Instructors participated in the last of ten Trail Construction & Maintenance Workshops carried out under two successive grants from the National Park Services's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. Held in Tucson September 28-29, the group rehabilitated more than a mile and a half of the Arizona Trail between Molino Basin and Prison Camp, in the Catalina Mountains, including a major rerouting to address a very bad switchback, and major reconstruction of another switchback.

Workshop Coordinator (and recently named Canelo -Temporal Gulch Segment Steward) Richard Corbett was joined by Catalina District Trails Ranger Robert Magon, Safford District seasonal Trail Crew Leader Steve Marlatt, and Catalina District Trail Crew Leader Mike Watson as Instructors for the Workshop.

Learners attending the Workshop came mainly from the Southern Arizona and Saddle Brooke Hiking Clubs. The Saddle Brooke Club's John Rendall is Segment Steward for Passage 12, Mt. Lemmon -Oracle Ridge, and the Southern Arizona Club is considering further involvement.

Corbett, who worked with other Arizona Trail leaders in 1999-2000 to develop the curriculum used for the ten Workshop series, has distilled a one day workshop that can be done as an "on-the-



trail" learning experience. Contact him at [kc7ovm@dakotacom.net](mailto:kc7ovm@dakotacom.net), for more information.

# Welcome New and Renewal Members

## New Members since March 1, 2002

Nicholas Ardito	Effie Chiu	Maj. Heather L. Lowden	Valerie Simms & Betty Gibson
Bryan Back	John Currid	June Mikkila	Kent Spillman
Glenn Barber	William C. Findley	Mike Noble	Mary Stone
Steve Bass	Rick & Tamara Hanson	Norma Norwood	Heath Therrien
Dave Billingsley	Helen A. Hiner	Scott & Merry Nowicki	Elly Van Gelderen
Daniel Brenden	Lou Hoover	Stan Peterson	Sheri Weinberger
Desert Saddle Bags Members	Lois Judd	Debbie Redmond	
Donna Buchholz	Judith Julien	George Rhea	
Jeff Caskey	Lynn Krigbaum	Chris Roberts	
Bill Cavin	David Kumasaka	Paul Seibert	

## Renewals since March 1, 2002

Judy Anderson	Janice & Chris Dunn	John Kristofl	Mark Roberts
Ray Anderson	Earl Edris	Mary Kwart	Bruce Robson
Shirley Armstrong	Tim England	Leo La Branche	Ian Rothwell
Carl E. Babcock	Charles & Barbara Ewing	David & Sally Larimer	Eric & Marty Rotter
David Babcock	John Fielder	Betty Leavengood	Clay Rubano
Douglas Ball	Hanna Flagg	David C. Lincoln	Jeffrey Rundquist
Stuart & Lynne Ball	Mark Floor	Kevin Lockart & Mary Halfmann	Eugene Rutherford
Larry Bans	Gina Flynn	Michael & Jamie Lovelis & family	Steve & Vicki Rutter
Sue Baughman	James Gallup	Cynthia Lovely	Terry Sario
Richard Bauman	Laurent O. Gaudreau	Jane A. Lovely	Ray & Marie Schaaf
Katherine Baxter	Marge Germain	Mike & Amanda Luecker	Marilyn Schrab
Colin & Jean Beals	Glendale Hiking Club	Don & Ronna Martin	Butch Schubert
Moe & Carrie Bell	Carl & Shirley Golnik	Lester Mauk	Marc Schwartz
Bob & Margaret Bohannon	Rolf (Jake) Jacobson	Lynne May	Robert Schuetz
Sara C. Bollman	Robert & Jan Ganelin	Douglas B. McCulley	Paul Seibert
Tim Bowden	George Gowman	Margrit McIntosh & Pat Penn	Dan Shein
Sheri Brown	Keith & Nancy Green	Blair McLaughlin	Richard Shewalter
The Buckhout Family	Zane Greene	Jeffrey & Barbara Minker	Byron & Kathy Simmons
David Burkett	Duchess Gruener	Bruce Moehlman	Liz Slauson & Carl Edminster
Margie Buyers	Dennis Godfrey Family	William T. & Shirley A. Moroney	Pat Smillie
Pat Calkins	Lorraine P. Halvorsen	Maynard Munger	Eric & Sharon Smith
Howard Calvert	Ken Haney	Jeanne Neff	Michael Snook & Family
Barbara Cardinal	Gail Hanna	Richard Obermiller	Rae Spitler
Linda Carey	Mike & Betty Headrick	Steve & Becky Ohlau	Dorothy Tangeman
Don Carrell	Spike & Carol Hicks	Brad & Marilyn Orr	Robyn Tangeman
Frederic Chambers	Chuck Horner	Anna C. Ortiz	Kent Taylor
Jim & Mary Charvat	Howard Howell	Harry & Doris Pederson	Jeff St. Thomas
Ron Chorba	Nancy Johnson	Don, Ellen & Cathy Peterson	Bruce & Allene Thompson
J.M. Coffman	Joseph Joyce III	Anna & Gary Pfender	Donna Thrasher
Charles Cook	Ken Kalina	William "Bill" Platt	Betty Tunstall
Louis H. Coor	Keith Kelly	Brad & Yvonne Poe	William C. Tyndall
Reinhold Cordella	Richard Kelly	George Price	Jo Anne Uhleman
Jerry Curless	Stefnie Kenny	Phyllis Ralley	Tony & Inga Viviano
Doyle & Tess Cutler	Satwant Singh Khalsa	Doug Rautenkranz	Everett L. Walter
Ray & Barbara Daoust	David A. King	Debbie Redmond	Randy & Tracy Warner
Wayne Delvin	Diane & Bob Knoff	Dr. Terry Reeves	R. Craig Wilson
Geri DeMuro	Jerry Korn		Keith Winkle
William Dillon	Kay Korn		Julian G. Woodin
Richard & Sarah Duerden	Tom Kotsonas		

# Plan to Attend the ATA Annual Meeting on February 1, 2003!

It's not too early to get out your calendar for 2003 and mark down a very special date, the first Saturday in February, which happens to be February 1st next year. Plans are already underway to make this event one you won't want to miss!

Preliminary arrangements are being made to hold the ATA Annual Meeting at the beautifully enhanced Desert Botanical Gardens, near the Phoenix Zoo, next spring. The Gardens will be just starting with desert blooms this time of year, and all of the new buildings and additional exhibits that have just been completed will be a delightful and impressive discovery to many who have not visited there recently.

ATA members will be receiving their invitations to the Annual Meeting in the mail, including a map with driving directions, in January 2003. The meeting will feature fascinating stories of recent trail excursions, progress reports on the construction of new trail areas completed this year, as well as special presentations to recognize many of our volunteers, Segment Stewards, and others who have been actively involved with trail projects in 2002.

So, save the date, February 1, 2003, and plan to spend a really enjoyable day, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Desert Botanical Garden with the ATA!

*Continued from front page*

## Welcome New Executive Director

the Small Business Association's Vision 2000 Award for Minority Business Development; top 100 Phoenix leaders by City AZ; listed as one of the 2002 Phoenix's "Most Influential" citizens by the Business Journal; and September 21, 2002, was recently designated "Denise Meridith Day" in a proclamation by the Mayor. These awards, and many others, recognize Denise's outstanding accomplishments in youth programs, recreation, tourism, and economic development leadership throughout the state of Arizona.

Over the upcoming months Denise will be traveling to communities and Arizona Trail locations throughout the state to visit with volunteers, Segment Stewards, trails organizations, agency representatives, and business leaders to become better acquainted with all of our Arizona Trail supporters. She will also

focus on establishing additional corporate and community partnerships to build long-term, border-to-border support for the preservation of the Arizona Trail.

If you would like to reach Denise to welcome and congratulate her in her new position, you can leave a voice-mail message for her at the ATA telephone number, 602-252-4794, drop her a note at our ATA mailing address, PO Box 36736, Phoenix, AZ 85067-6736, or send her an e-mail at her new ATA address: ed@aztrail.org.

Our organization would also like to recognize the tremendous financial support of the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust for providing the grant that is funding this key leadership position for our organization.

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All the latest news and events are listed on our web site:

**[www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)**

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## Oracle State Park Event

Park Ranger Jerry Ravert joined us for a time to talk about Oracle State Park, and also to share stories about Kartchner Caverns State Park, where he worked for several years.

Arizona Trail Day at Oracle State Park was the first in what we hope will be regular member events on the Trail. Our members do so much work to build, maintain and support the Trail, and these events give them the chance to get together, meet each other and enjoy the Trail.

The event also featured activities for the kids, prepared by ATA member and former camp counselor Tracy Leonard-Warner. Kid-friendly events are something we hope to do again in the future.

The ATA Membership Committee's future plans include a variety of member events to suit all interests, from day events to overnights, from bikes to equestrian to hiking, from events for experts to events for newcomers and novices. Keep watching this newsletter for announcements about future events.

## All I Want For Christmas...

What are you getting your loved ones for the holidays? Another sweater? A vase they'll take out only when you come over? A book they'll never read?

This year, consider giving a gift membership to the Arizona Trail Association. For just \$25, you can give a one-year membership that will help support and sustain the Arizona Trail. The recipient will get an Arizona Trail patch or sticker, all four quarterly issues of our newsletter, and ongoing information about member events. And as a small expression of our gratitude, you will receive a limited edition Arizona Trail lapel pin.

Giving a gift membership is easy. You can buy gift memberships online at [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org), or use the mail-in form for regular or gift memberships printed on page 11 in this newsletter. You can also call the ATA voice messaging center, 602-252-4794, and ask us to contact you to take your gift membership order over the telephone. It's just that simple!

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## Reports from the Field

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### Passage 11, Santa Catalina Mts

My estimate is that we covered 1.5 miles of the Trail, including two major switchbacks - one a major re-route, and the other a major reconstruction. Our light maintenance was brushing (some quite extensive), tread repair (also some quite extensive), drainage bar cleaning, and in several locations, construction of a series of small rolling dips to help solve tread erosion (which was repaired using materials from the new rolling dips). We also constructed a significant natural barrier at the "entrance" to an abandoned section of trail, and hauled out several notable items of trash.

William Drabkin, Director, Youth Corps of Southern Arizona

### Santa Rita Passage

On September 14, 2002 the Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists once again lent their support to the Santa Rita Passage and Segment Steward Stephen Wood. Under sunny, blue skies the crew tackled the locally known "Descent o' Death (or Ascent if you're headed that way!)" which is a very steep section located just east of the Gardener Canyon trailhead. The crew cleaned and repaired several drainage dips and performed tread restoration from top to bottom. Plans were also made to develop further improvements to increase sustainability and decrease maintenance requirements."

Stephen Wood

### Boulders Segment

October 20th Work Event on the Boulders Segment



Segment Steward Anna Pfender, and friend, at newly completed section of the Arizona Trail.

We were a small but determined group who tackled what appears to be the only rocky hillside on this segment of the Arizona Trail. I was joined on that beautiful Sunday by Sue Grace, Chuck King, Doug Marsh, and Merle Parmer to construct just over 100 yards of high quality trail. The trail construction was on the north side of Tecolote Ranch Road at the edge of Tecolote Ranch which is north of Freeman Road in Pinal County. A great deal of benching and rock removal was involved, but the finished product was A-One! I really enjoyed the day and the small group on this particular work event because I got to know each person much better than I would have with a large group.

Many thanks to my hearty volunteers!

By Segment Steward Anna Pfender

### Pine Springs

On August 30th through September 2nd we set-up a base camp at Pine Springs on the Arizona Trail north of Hwy. 87 and worked on getting the Arizona Trail fully signed north to Allen Lake. Participants were Donna Howell, Howard Howell, Helen Hill, Anna Pfender, Jan Lalan, Paul Meyer, Jessica Westermeyer and Larry Snead.

Larry Snead



Labor Day Weekend Trail Crew includes (left to right), Anna Pfender, Paul Meyer, Jan Lalan, Jessica Westermeyer and Helen Hill. Jessica is new Segment Steward of the Jacks Canyon Segment of the AZT north of Hwy. 87 to FR 82.

### Santa Rita Passage

Oct 19 brought beautiful weather and a crowd of eager trail workers to the southern Santa Rita Mountains. Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists once again showed excellent form in realigning a nasty switchback on the locally famous "Descent o' Death" (very tongue in cheek!) located at the Gardener Canyon trailhead. Two of the attendees were recent graduates of the VOA/ATA Crew Leader school, so I was able to step back and let them and their teams exercise their abilities. Thanks to their efforts, this climb is now rideable to a few more cyclists, as well as more open for the equestrians as the 20 mule posse that rode through can attest. William Drabkin's group from Youth Corps of Southern Arizona came out to Kentucky Camp on Oct 24th and 25th. We worked on rehabbing tread in the KC area on Thursday followed by a cookout/campout and they put the finishing touches on our work in Gardener Canyon from Oct 19th by taking a rough climbing turn and building a very substantial switchback pad. It was very hard work and they did a great job. I'd recommend the use of William's group to other stewards.

Stephen Wood

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**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The ATA keeps track of all donated volunteer hours in a computer database, whether it is volunteer work out on the Arizona Trail, or any other type of volunteer work you do to help the ATA. This information is very helpful (and impressive!) when we submit applications for grants and make annual reports to our land management agency partners. Please keep a running log of any volunteer work you do, and if you would like us to send you an "ATA Volunteer Hours Form," please contact the ATA by telephone, mail, or e-mail.

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# Reports from the Field

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## A MONUMENT TO TRAIL BUILDERS

A Pictorial Essay by Larry Snead

### Blue Ridge Passage

#### Switchbacks Coming Up On Battleground Ridge

On September 7th and 8th a great crew gathered to re-build some switchbacks that take the Arizona Trail from the General Springs Wash up on Battleground Ridge. These switchbacks were not originally constructed in a correct manner and as a result they experienced extensive erosion damage. Participants were: Diane

Wertz, Richard Wertz, Chuck Horner, Merle Parmer, Dave Burkett, Carl Babcock, David Babcock, Laddie Cox, Howard Howell, Donna Howell, Rick Obermiller, Jeff Pappas, Helen Hill, Tom Coulson and Larry Snead. Trish Callaghan and Rose Harley from the Mogollon Rim (Blue Ridge) Ranger District also joined in the work.  
Larry Snead



Arizona Trail Before Work Event



Big Rock - Rick Obermiller (left) and Laddie Cox tackle moving a big rock that had to go for the middle of the Trail route.



Arizona Trail After Work Event



Arizona Trail After Work Event

### Blue Ridge Passage

#### Switchbacks Follow-up

Because of lots of rain on Sept. 7-8, believe it or not, we did not get the new switchbacks completed. So we scheduled a follow-up work event to complete the project on September 23rd and 24th. There was no rain and we got the job done. Participants were: Chuck Horner, Laddie Cox, Merle Parmer, Dave Burkett and Larry Snead. Also participating was Sue Cox and she fixed all our meals which were wonderful. Thanks, Sue, we really appreciated and enjoyed having your great cooking.  
Larry Snead

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# Calendar of Upcoming Events

## NOVEMBER

**November 9-10.** REI Annual Service Project, Picketpost Trailhead near Superior. Project will include both building a new trailhead and improving the Arizona Trail north of the Trailhead. Registration will start on September 1st at the Customer Service desk at either of our two valley locations. REI Tempe, 1405 W. Southern Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282, (480) 967-5494 REI Paradise Valley, 11634 N. Paradise Village Parkway West, Phoenix, AZ 85032, (602) 996-5400 Or they can register by e-mailing Paul Reinshagen, REI Events-Arizona, at preinsh@rei.com. More info will appear here soon including registration link.

**November 17 (Sun),** Santa Rita Passage. Meet just off the eastbound I-10 Rt. 83 exit at 8:30 a.m. Work will be on the east slope of the southern Santa Rita Mountains. Wear trail work appropriate clothing and shoes, and bring sunscreen, water, and snacks. For work day details refer to the calendar at <http://www.sdmdb.org/cal1.html>, or email Stephen Wood, [aztraildoc@yahoo.com](mailto:aztraildoc@yahoo.com).

**November 16-17,** Antelope Peak segment, new trail construction. Eastern Pinal County south of Florence and north of Oracle, south of Freeman Road. Beautiful high desert country, a great place to spend some time in the cooler fall months. For more details contact Kent Taylor, Round Trip Bike Shop. 520-836-0799 or [ktaylor@roundtripbikeshop.com](mailto:ktaylor@roundtripbikeshop.com).

**November 16 (Sat),** work day on the Eastern Superstitions segment of the Arizona Trail. We will meet at the intersection of Highway 188 and the Thule Mesa turnaround access road at 7:00 am and then travel to the Upper Horrell turnaround (which is a 4 wheel drive access only). We will then hike into the Arizona Trail to complete brushing activity from the junction of the Campaign Trail with the Two Bar Ridge Trail north to Pine Creek. We should finish be back to the cars by 5-6 pm that evening. Tools needed are loppers (preferably), bow saws, work gloves, work boots, eye protection and long sleeves/pants and 3-4 liters of water. Unpurified water should be available at the worksite. Please contact Eric Hiser at (602) 279-5009 if you are interested in participating. Because this project will be in the Superstition Wilderness, the number of participants is limited to 12.

**November 16-17,** Ripsey Segment "Big Hill" Trail building, South of Superior (near Town of Kearney). Work one or both days. ATA received a grant to hire experienced trail crews to work on the "Big Hill" for 3 weeks in November. This event will be held in conjunction with these experienced crews. Bring gloves, boots, sunscreen, water and food. Primitive camping will be available. Please RSVP with Mike Luecker at 480-829-6000 (work), [mluecker@pre-engr.com](mailto:mluecker@pre-engr.com)

**November 23-24,** Pinal County north of Freeman Road (SE of Florence). New trail construction. Contact Anna Pfender at 480/893-6610 or [mtbbabe@cox.net](mailto:mtbbabe@cox.net).

**November 23rd & 24th,** Ripsey Segment "Big Hill" Trail building, South of Superior (near Town of Kearney). Work one or both days. ATA received a grant to hire experienced trail crews to work on the "Big Hill" for 3 weeks in November. This event will

be held in conjunction with these experienced crews. Bring gloves, boots, sunscreen, water and food. Primitive camping will be available. Please RSVP with Mike Luecker at 480-829-6000 (work), [mluecker@pre-engr.com](mailto:mluecker@pre-engr.com)

**November 23 & 24** - Boulders Segment in Pinal County southeast of Florence Join Segment Steward Anna Pfender for a terrific weekend in the beautiful Arizona desert. Activities include Trail Hiking & Riding, Scavenger Hunt/Geo-Caching, Prize Drawings, Clif Bars & Other Giveaways sponsored by Bike Barn bike shop, Free Saturday Night Dinner, Drinks and Music, and Trail Construction, of course. The camping is primitive (no facilities available), so bring everything with the exception of dinner and refreshments for Saturday night. Contact Anna Pfender at (480) 893-6610 (h), (602) 744-4904 (w) or [mtbbabe@cox.net](mailto:mtbbabe@cox.net) to sign up and to get details and directions.

**Nov 30 - Dec 1,** Whitford Canyon. Enjoy beautiful fall weather in the desert at a 2-day work event north of Picketpost TH near Superior. We will be finishing up any unfinished trail work from the Nov 9 REI event and cleaning up a trail re-route from last spring just north of Highway 60. Overnight camping is available at the newly revamped Picketpost TH. A cowboy cookout dinner will be provided Saturday evening. For more information, please contact Rick Obermiller at 602 225-5449 days, 480 786-0083 eves, or via email at [obermiller21@qwest.net](mailto:obermiller21@qwest.net).

## DECEMBER

**December 7-8,** Whitford Canyon. This event is a continuation of the Nov 30 event north of Picketpost TH near Superior. The event will be full day Saturday, half day Sunday, fine-tuning newly constructed trail from the past year. Camping available at the beautiful Picketpost Trailhead at the base of towering Picketpost Mountain. A cowboy cookout dinner will be provided on Saturday night. An optional hike will be available Sunday afternoon to the top of Picketpost Mountain along with a discussion of the geology of the area. For more information, please contact Rick Obermiller at 602 225-5449 days, 480 786-0083 eves, or via email at [obermiller21@qwest.net](mailto:obermiller21@qwest.net).

**December 14th,** Huachuca Mountains Passage, Sierra Vista Ranger District. Continuation of work as described above for September 28th. Work site is about 2.5 miles north of Montezuma Pass on the Crest/Arizona Trail. We will continue clearing the trail of heavy brush. Tools will be provided. Volunteers will need to bring a daypack with lunch, water, sun screen, hat, and gloves. For meeting time and place, call Steve Saway, (520) 459-8959.

**December 14,** Santa Rita Passage. Meet just off the eastbound I-10 Rt. 83 exit at 8:00 a.m. Work will be on the east slope of the southern Santa Rita Mountains. Wear trail work appropriate clothing and shoes, and bring sunscreen, water, and snacks. For work day details refer to the calendar at <http://www.sdmdb.org/cal1.html>, or email Stephen Wood, [aztraildoc@yahoo.com](mailto:aztraildoc@yahoo.com).

LATEST CALENDAR INFORMATION IS LOCATED AT  
[WWW.AZTRAIL.ORG](http://WWW.AZTRAIL.ORG)





# Superstition Wilderness

## Rogers Trough Trailhead to Roosevelt Lake

### General Information

This Arizona Trail passage through the legendary Superstition Wilderness provides many scenic views of Four Peaks, and as we near the northern end, there is a great panorama of Roosevelt Lake against the backdrop of the Sierra Anchas.

**Location:** Central Arizona within the Tonto National Forest from Rogers Trough trailhead north of Superior to the bridge at Roosevelt Lake.

**Length:** 24.4 miles

**Difficulty Rating:** Difficult

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

**Access:** To reach Rogers Trough trailhead from the Phoenix area, follow Hwy 60 east through Apache Junction and Florence Junction. Two miles east of Florence Junction, turn north on the paved Queen Valley road, drive approximately a mile and then turn right on FR 357 and cross RR tracks. Follow FR 357 two and one-half miles to FR 172 (Hewitt Canyon Rd). Turn north and follow FR 172 for approximately eight miles to primitive road FR 172A. This difficult three-mile-long 4WD road leads to Rogers Trough trailhead.

To access the Arizona Trail from the Roosevelt Lake trailhead, drive northwest from the Globe-Miami area on Hwy 88 to the Frazier trailhead, which is two miles south of the Roosevelt Lake bridge, or proceed to the Roosevelt Lake trailhead just south of the intersection of Hwy 88 and Hwy 188 at the dam. Trail users who choose to overnight may use the Tonto National Forest lakeside campground just north of Frazier Trailhead on Highway 88.

Another route from Phoenix is Hwy 87 north to Hwy 188, and then travel through Punkin Center southeast to the Roosevelt Lake trailhead.

### Trail Route Description:

The Arizona Trail enters the Superstition Wilderness at the Rogers Trough trailhead and descends northwest into Rogers Canyon on trail # 109. At approximately 1.3 miles at the intersection with trail # 110, trail # 109 turns northeast and travels up a drainage, up onto Reavis Saddle, and on to the ruins of Reavis Ranch. Elisha Reavis, the legendary recluse, homesteaded 60 acres and farmed here for more than twenty years until his death in 1896. He supplied fruit and vegetables to the mining camps, and to the military with his pack trains of burros. Local historians believe that the present route of the Arizona Trail from Reavis Ranch to Picketpost trailhead closely follows the original route of his pack trail. In the old ranch area, there still is a producing apple orchard of more than 300 trees. There are good campsites upstream and downstream from the old ranch, but camp at least 300 feet from water and trails.

The trail proceeds north from Reavis Ranch on trail #109 to a junction west of the orchard and then follows trail #117, which leads northeast across Pine Creek (good campsites) towards Reavis Gap. At a trail junction approximately two and one-half miles from the ranch, the route turns northwest on trail #119 which leads in a northerly direction past Walnut Spring, Klondike Spring, Two Bar Mountain, and along the high Two Bar Ridge. Just beyond Pinyon Mountain, trail #119 ends at the Black Bush ranch road. The Arizona Trail follows the ranch road for one mile and then turns north on trail #120. The trail drops into scenic upper Cottonwood Canyon, reaching perennial Cottonwood Spring in about 1 mile. Further down the canyon at a tank and old corral, the trail follows a 4-wheel drive road (FR341) out and then back into lower Cottonwood Canyon. The stream crossing at Thompson Spring is the junction with a spur trail leading out to Frazier trailhead just south of Hwy 188 (accommodates horse trailers). The trail follows FR341 out of Cottonwood Canyon where it connects with Trail #121. Trail #121 parallels the shoreline of Roosevelt Lake, passing near the historical Roosevelt Cemetery (Note: The trail continues along the roadway, crossing the Roosevelt Dam Bridge to connect with the Vineyard Trail at the north end of the bridge.)

**Notes:** Make local inquiries for availability of water. Water may exist at Rogers Spring, Reavis Creek, Pine Creek, Walnut Spring, and Cottonwood Spring (one of the best sources of water), but it is important to carry a reserve supply. Coming from the south, trail users should resupply at Walnut Spring. Klondyke is hard to spot going south to north and the path to it is very overgrown. Klondyke is fairly easy to spot going north to south, but the access and reliability problems remain. It is about 3/4 of a mile between Walnut and Klondyke Springs.

**NOTE:** Mountain bikes are prohibited from the Wilderness Area. Please use low-impact camping and backcountry travel techniques.

### For more information:

Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, 26 N. MacDonald, Mesa, Az., 85211, 480-379-6446; Tonto Basin Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Hwy 88 HC02 Box 4800, Roosevelt, Az., 85545, 520-467-3200; Arizona Trail Association, P. O. Box 36736, Phoenix, Az., 85067, 602-252-4794.

**Resources:** Tonto National Forest Map; USGS Topos: Pinyon Mountain, and Theodore Roosevelt Dam; Tonto National Forest - Superstition Wilderness Map



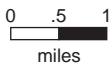
**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This passage sheet is intended only as an informational document to introduce you to the many recreational opportunities provided by the Arizona Trail. Always refer to the appropriate Forest Service or topographic map before planning any outing on the Arizona Trail; do not rely on 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. ©2002, Arizona Trail Association

# Superstition Wilderness

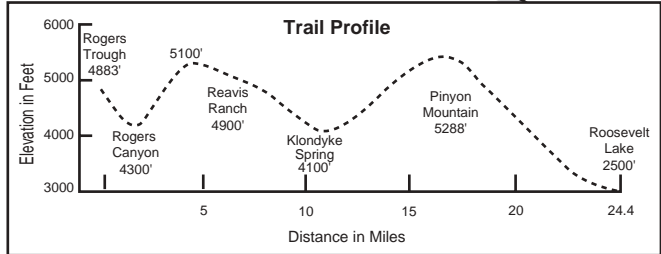
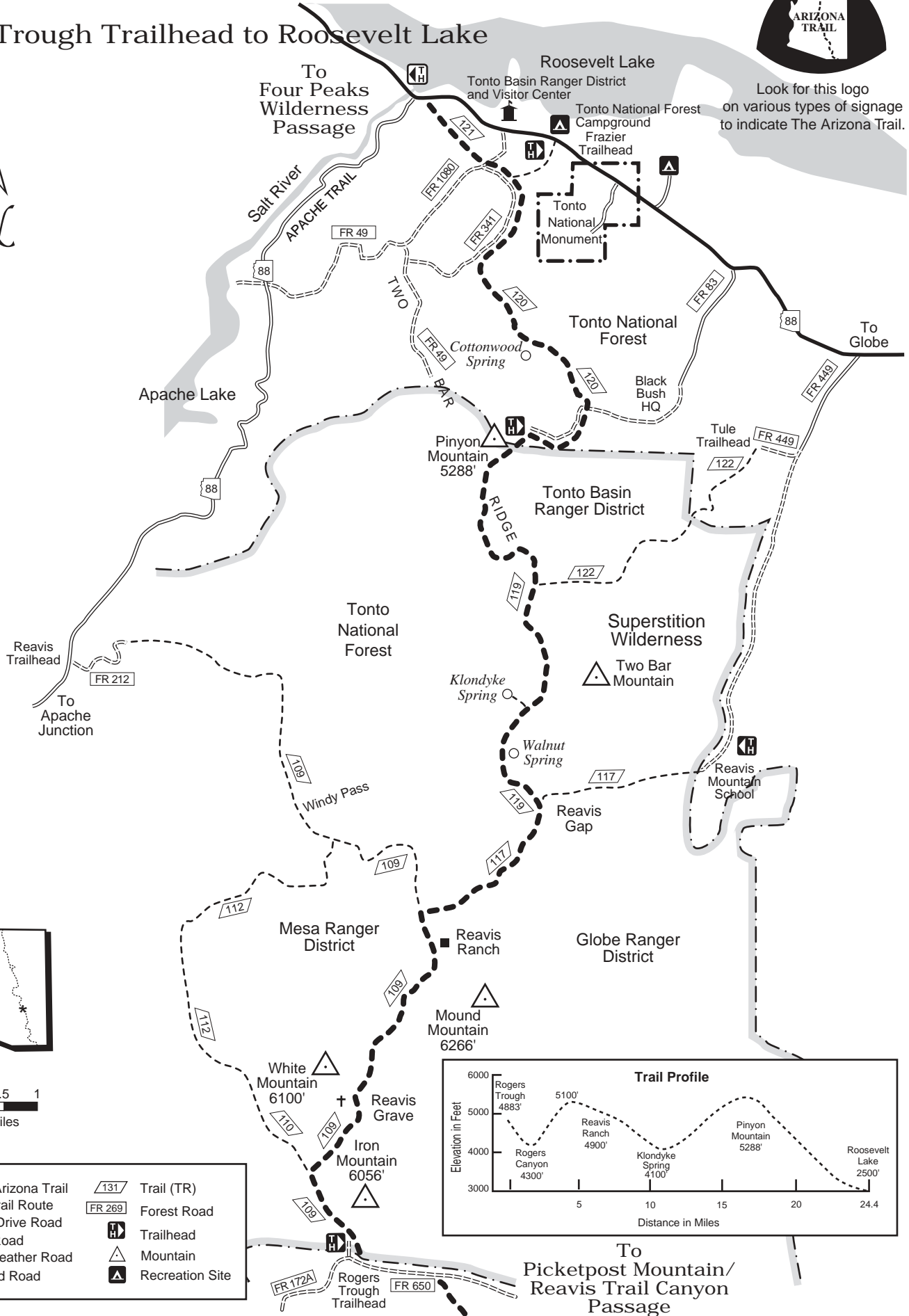
## Rogers Trough Trailhead to Roosevelt Lake



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		



To Picketpost Mountain/  
Reavis Trail Canyon  
Passage

# Arizona Trail Merchandise



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### BOOKS/MAPS:

ATA Passage Maps packet	_____	x \$7.00	_____
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ATA Essential Guide for Long-Distance Travel	_____	\$3.00	_____
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"Crossing Arizona" by Chris Townsend (softcover)	_____	x 17.95	_____
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# Become an Arizona Trail Member

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 volunteer!

Would you like to volunteer in any of the following ways?

- Help build and maintain The Arizona Trail
- Become a Segment Steward
- Assist in Phoenix office
- Distribute Trail and event information in your area
- Donate materials or professional services

Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

- Help raise funds for The Arizona Trail
- Recruit additional volunteers
- Membership services and development
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your primary non-motorized trail activities?

(check all that apply)

- Hiking
- Horseback Riding
- Mountain Biking
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Types of Membership (please check one)

- |  |   |            |
|--|---|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual  | <input type="checkbox"/> Family             | \$25/year  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student   | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior             | \$15/year  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organizations with budgets <i>less</i> than \$25,000    |   | \$50/year  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Trailblazer Member                                      |   | \$100/year |
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ATA welcomes articles and photos from trail users and volunteers. Please mail to ATA or e-mail: [editor@aztrail.org](mailto:editor@aztrail.org)  
Arizona Trail Association, P.O. Box 36736, Phoenix, Arizona 85067 (602) 252-4794, [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org) Next Deadline: Jan. 15, 2003

## 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 - Telephone and E-Mail Messages for Trail Work Events and the ATA Calendar - [deserthill@worldnet.att.net](mailto:deserthill@worldnet.att.net)

Deb Morgaina - Membership mailing list, databases, invoices, payments and other financial information - [debaztrail@cs.com](mailto:debaztrail@cs.com)

Donna Russ - ATA Brochures and Videos - [druss@worldnet.att.net](mailto:druss@worldnet.att.net)

Larry Snead - ATA Tool Trailer, Segment Steward information - [sneadlarry@qwest.net](mailto:sneadlarry@qwest.net)

Randy Warner - ATA Membership and Events - [rwarnar@jshfirm.com](mailto:rwarnar@jshfirm.com)

Joanna Scruggs - ATA maps, trail information, apparel, merchandise, and books - [az\\_plic@blm.gov](mailto:az_plic@blm.gov)

## Leave a Legacy - Touch the Future

Every day people like you support our organization through your membership, making an annual gift, attending an event, or volunteering your time to help others. Whatever your connection, we're grateful for your support, and you mean a great deal to us.

We hope that you feel your participation in the Arizona trail Association is appreciated and an integral part of our success. We hope you feel you are touching the future.

Another significant way you can help the ATA in the future is to consider leaving a legacy through your will, life insurance policy, or trust. It could be a percentage or a specific dollar amount of your estate, IRA, or 401K plan.

Your gift, no matter the size, will insure the health and strength of our organization to serve future generations.

If you would like to participate in this program you can contact the Arizona Trail Association at 602-252-4794 or you can find more information at [www.LeaveALegacyArizona.org](http://www.LeaveALegacyArizona.org).

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If you have any questions, please let Dawson know by sending an e-mail to: [webmaster@aztrail.org](mailto:webmaster@aztrail.org).