


Arizona Trail ASSOCIATION NEWS

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

Vol. 8, No. 4
Winter - 2002-2003

Annual Meeting Held at the Spectacular Desert Botanical Garden

Members and guests of the Arizona Trail Association gathered on Saturday, February 1, 2003 for the organization's 9th Annual Meeting at the beautiful new Dorrance Hall in the center of the stunning outdoor plant exhibits that have made the Desert Botanical Garden famous worldwide. More than 140 people attended the members' meeting and recognition luncheon, which featured special presentations by Arizona Trail runner Brian Stark and keynote speaker, Sam Campana, executive director of Audubon Arizona.

Many agency representatives and community leaders were also in attendance, including the Mayor of Mesa, Keno Hawker, and many ATA members, volunteers and friends traveled from a wide array of statewide locations to attend the successful event.

Larry Snead, the Association's Chief Trail Steward, presented a report on the many new trail construction and trail maintenance activities that took place over the past year, and he recognized the many Segment Stewards and volunteers who have worked so hard to accomplish so much. His report included a running tally of the miles to be constructed in trail segments dispersed throughout the state, and the final total added up to only 114 more miles to go for completion.

New ATA Executive Director, Denise Meridith, was welcomed and introduced to the attendees, and an exciting list of upcoming events, programs, and membership activities were announced for the upcoming months. One of the most special announcements was the Phelps Dodge Corporation's donation of a beautiful new office space for ATA's Executive Director in their new high rise headquarters building located at 1 North Central Avenue in the heart of downtown Phoenix.

During the Recognition Luncheon attendees were treated to an inspiring slide presentation that chronicled trail runner Brian Stark's 39-day journey as he encountered the many backcountry terrain and weather challenges found along the route of the Arizona Trail. Brian works for Arizona State Parks at Kartchner Caverns in southeastern Arizona, and he has also successfully completed a 4,800-mile run on the American Discovery Trail, which runs sea-to-sea from Delaware to California.

Former Scottsdale Mayor, Sam Campana, who is now the new statewide executive director for Audubon Arizona, gave a



passionate presentation as keynote speaker on the importance of conserving Arizona's outdoor environments that are so critical to preserving the habitat for our state's aviary wildlife. She commended the ATA for our efforts to help promote environmental education and heighten the awareness of Arizona Trail visitors to the importance preserving our state's natural landscapes.

The Desert Botanical Garden was a very appropriate setting for the meeting because the Garden is a significant partner with the ATA in the development of our signature Arizona Trail flora project. The Garden's botanists are collecting plant specimens that are found border-to-border along the route of the Arizona Trail. This plant collection will be scientifically cataloged and permanently housed in the Garden's Herbarium. Wendy Hodgson, the Garden's Arizona Trail project coordinator, conducted special tours of an Arizona Trail exhibit in the Herbarium for meeting attendees. This unique flora collection will be the foundation for a future field guidebook with color photographs featuring the flora and diverse plant communities that can be observed along the entire corridor of the Arizona Trail.

Photographic highlights of some of the activities and awards that were presented at the ATA Annual Meeting are featured on this and other pages in this newsletter, as well as the complete list of those who were recognized for their outstanding support.

continued on page 3

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.

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

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The Arizona Trail: Linking People and Landscapes

by Denise Meridith*



I am proud to be the new Executive Director of the Arizona Trail Association (ATA). The Arizona Trail is 790 miles of magnificent and unique landscapes spanning seven

ecosystems stretching from stately Ponderosa pines to statuesque Saguaros. The ATA is a partnership, bringing Federal, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, private enterprises and interested individuals together to plan, build and maintain the trail.

I spent 29 years promoting recreation and protecting our environment during my career with the US Bureau of Land Management. So I often get asked since my retirement in June 2002, why I am not hanging out on the beach? Why I accepted the position of ATA Executive Director? The answer I give will also serve as the theme of my tenure with ATA and what I think will entice you to also get involved:

Great Mission

Great People

Great Challenges

Great Mission

The mission is to complete and, as importantly, maintain the Trail. To date 600 of the 790 miles of the Arizona Trail have been completed. The trail goes from Utah to Mexico and is open to hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, cross-country skiers and other enthusiasts of non-motorized forms of outdoor recreation. It is an invaluable asset for residents of and visitors to Arizona.

Great People

The Arizona Trail is blessed with a dedicated and enthusiastic group of board members, trail stewards and volunteers, who do everything from building trailheads to building websites. I hope to reach out to a whole new audience of visitors and volunteers to protect this valuable resource we are creating.

Great Challenges

Behind every good deed are many great challenges. Building and maintaining 790 miles of trail is not a "walk in the park." First of all, we are trying to preserve open space in the face of growing, and often necessary economic development, in one of the fastest growing states in the US. This will take cooperation and collaboration among our numerous government, nonprofit, business and individual partners. Seeking a National Scenic Trail designation is one of the goals which would give our efforts nationwide and permanent recognition.

Secondly, we must educate the public about the socio-economical and health benefits of the types of outdoor recreation associated with the Arizona Trail. Tourism is the second most important industry in Arizona; the opportunities for hiking, biking, riding and other activities from the Grand Canyon to the Santa Ritas along the Arizona Trail will play an important part in that industry. Obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease are plaguing Arizonans; use of the Trail can be an important part of a prevention or treatment regimen.

Finally, we must attract, excite and involve a young and diverse group of new trail users, stewards and volunteers. We will step up efforts to involve schools, churches, nonprofit youth groups and families in educational and physical activities involving the Arizona Trail.

This year, we hope you will take advantage of one of the many ways you can enjoy this important landmark in Arizona. There will be a variety of membership options: you can fund a foot or adopt a mile of the Arizona Trail. You can volunteer yourself or volunteer to direct other volunteers in actually building the trail. Your company can donate resources or services to design and construct new trailheads or create and conduct educational programs about the Trail. We will be having a series of friend/fundraising events down the length of the trail during the months ahead. Get involved and have fun.

Some Annual Meeting Highlights



1. Executive Director Denise Meridith at the podium, welcoming ATA members and guests to the Annual Meeting held at the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix.

2. More than 140 ATA members, guests, agency and elected officials, and Segment Stewards gathered together at the Annual Meeting.

3. Brian Stark, Arizona Trail runner and a featured speaker at the Annual Meeting, shows the audience his light-weight backpack he used during his fascinating presentation about the 39-day adventure he described in his border-to-border journey in 2001.

4. Sam Campana, executive director of Audubon Arizona, delivers her passionate presentation highlighting the importance of protecting our environment, preserving our state's wild and open spaces, and protecting the fragile habitat for Arizona's birds and other wild creatures.

5. Bill Fisk, right, receives an award from ATA president, Jan Hancock, for his many years of assisting the Association by setting up our ATA exhibit at trade shows and special events. Bill is the publisher of Arizona Outdoor Journal, a popular publication featuring special outdoor events & sporting activities.

6. Joanna Scruggs, manager of the popular Arizona Public Lands Information Center, is presented a special plaque of appreciation from Chief Trail Steward, Larry Snead. Joanna and her staff sell all of the Arizona Trail merchandise and provide ATA maps and information, as well as helpful assistance about other Arizona outdoor activities to thousands of Arizona residents and visitors to our state.

7. Marie and Denny Haywood, center and right, accept a plaque of special recognition for their outstanding support of the ATA as Segment Stewards and their volunteer work on many other segments of the Arizona Trail as specialized mule packers. Their well-trained mules carry heavy trail building tools, equipment, and supplies to volunteers in wilderness and extremely remote areas of the Arizona Trail.

8. Dawson Henderson, left, receives an ATA Certificate of Appreciation from trail founder, Dale Shewalter, for his more than 15 years of support and dedication to the Arizona Trail project, including nine years of creativity and expertise in the development and maintenance of the Association's award-winning website.

Phelps Dodge Corporation Donates Office Space for ATA's Executive Director

First a Tools Trailer, then a Ford Bronco, and now a beautiful corporate office on the 11th floor of the state's newest high-rise headquarters building in downtown Phoenix...this is a mere glimpse of the enormous magnitude of support that has been so graciously donated to our organization by the Phelps Dodge Corporation.

And the support doesn't stop there...a large group of volunteers who are Phelps Dodge employees, named the "Phelps Helps" crew, has been out actually building on the Trail as well, and the Phelps Dodge mining operations in the Globe/Miami area are donating hours of special assistance in grinding and polishing our trails tools to keep them sharp for all of our volunteer crews. Every time we turn around, Phelps Dodge is there to fill the gaps for some very

important needs, and we couldn't be more thankful.

We all need to express our special appreciation to this outstanding corporation for their continued strong support of the Arizona Trail project and our organization. Special recognition should also be extended to Lyn Harry White, a member of the Phelps Dodge corporate management team and a member of our ATA Board of Directors, who has been significantly instrumental in gaining this outstanding corporate support. The ATA has never had a place we could call "home" for the operations of our organization, and this special contribution of office space for our new Executive Director could not have come at a more appropriate, and truly needed, time.

National Scenic Trails Conference



Representatives from trails organizations throughout the nation gathered together in Arkansas last fall to discuss goals and objectives for the eight National Scenic Trails in America. ATA sent Larry Snead to the conference to meet key leaders and learn more about the nomination process in Congress for the Arizona Trail to become the ninth long-distance trail to achieve this prestigious designation.

Equestrian Outing at Picketpost



photo by Chip Wilson

The Superstition Horsemen's Association, based in Apache Junction, gathered together at the newly opened Picketpost Trailhead for their traditional annual Christmas ride. More than 80 riders participated, and they somehow found the space for 29 horse trailers and vehicles in the parking areas for the event! They rode the newly completed sections of the Arizona Trail leading north out of Picketpost Trailhead.

Arizona Trail GPS Project Launched

The full length of the Arizona Trail is now being GPS'ed through a unique partnership between Garmin, Wide World of Maps, BLM and ATA volunteers. The information gathered will be placed on BLM maps available to purchase at the Arizona Public Lands Information Center in Phoenix. The data collected also will be available for use by several other mapping programs.

Garmin and Wide World of Maps got the project started with six loaner units that would collect the data in a format that could be downloaded into BLM's mapping software.

Project Manager for BLM is GIS Specialist, Dave Wilson. Project Manager for



ATA is Dave Babcock, a software engineer and active ATA volunteer.

ATA board member, Phyllis Ralley is also active in the project and will give leadership to getting the data collected onto maps.

Three of the loaner units have been returned and ATA has purchased three of the GPS units to complete the project. August 1st is the current projected completion date depending on weather and fire danger closures. ATA volunteers started collecting the data in late December and to date have GPS'ed over 161 miles.

For more information contact Dave Babcock at dbabcock7@hotmail.com.

Dave Babcock pauses to take an accurate reading of his position on his highly accurate Garmin GPS unit.

Youth Corps of Southern Arizona Builds a Fantastic Trail

When a section of the Arizona Trail requires the expertise of a highly experienced, skilled and heavily equipped trail crew, our land management partners and the ATA will recruit professional assistance to supplement the work of our own volunteers. Sometimes the safety of volunteers can be a concern in building an unusually difficult trail section, and such was the case of “The Big Hill” located south of the Gila River in Pinal County.

The Youth Corps of Southern Arizona (YCOSA) is a specialized team of extremely talented and very dedicated group of young, trained trail construction experts who accepted the challenge of building a section of the Arizona Trail on an extremely slippery and rock-strewn slope to the peak of a very high hill in Pinal County. Once on top of the hill, the views to the surrounding landscapes take your breath away, but getting there safely was a very big challenge.

Jeff Pappas coordinated the project for the ATA under the direction of our Chief Trail Steward, Larry Snead, and the YCOSA crew leaders, Kamilla Hoban and Greg Seabloom, provided first-class trail building knowledge and superior leadership for the youth involved in the project. YCOSA Trail Consultant, Jason Kirby, provided technical advice and was the liaison between Jeff Pappas and the ATA. The crew worked for four weeks to build this exceptionally challenging two-mile uphill section of the Arizona Trail, and donated the last week of trail building labor to the ATA at no charge. A significant grant from the Tucson headquarters of the National Park Service’s Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program funded the first three weeks of construction activities.

ATA volunteer Chuck Horner, ATA’s very experienced trail layout planner (also known as our “trail guru”) established the trail design and flagging prior to the project to get the project off to a great start. Both Chuck and another talented ATA trail

planner/builder volunteer, Merle Parmer, led the efforts to construct the approach section of the trail to the base of “The Big Hill.” Members of the successful YCOSA crew were Amanda Benton, Pablo de la Cruz, Sophia Fabri, James Fox, Forrest Hinkson, Clair Ingalsbe, Sara Lilegard, Tyler Michaelis, Patrick Nelson, Jennie Rosenblit, and Marielle Traiman. The ATA would also like to recognize YCOSA staff members William Drabkin, Mallory Marquet and Chris Craig for organizing and scheduling this project with the ATA.

Thanks to everyone involved for completing this super new section of the Arizona Trail!

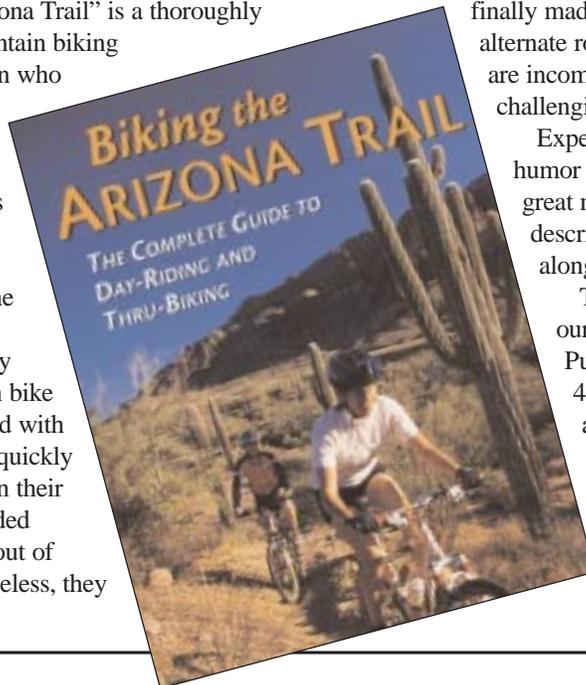


Heather Southworth, Josh Sanders and Laddie Cox dig in on the Big Hill

Westcliffe Publishing Releases New Book on Mountain Biking the Arizona Trail

Hot off the press! “Biking the Arizona Trail” is a thoroughly entertaining book chronicling the mountain biking experiences of two adventurous women who struck out on the Arizona Trail at the Utah border in September 2001. The new book has just been received at many bookstores in Arizona and retails for \$14.95.

Fondly known as the “Sheilamonsters,” Andrea Lankford, the book’s author, and Beth Overton, who were both Flagstaff residents when they started their border-to-border mountain bike excursion, left the Utah border trailhead with high expectations for a tame ride, and quickly discovered the perils of cactus spines in their bike tires and steep grades that demanded getting off of their bikes to get in and out of some rugged canyon country. Nevertheless, they



finally made it to the Mexico border, often taking alternate routes to avoid some of the trail areas that are incomplete, in wilderness areas, or too challenging for one reason or another.

Expect a good read...and some wonderful humor throughout the narrative, as well as some great maps, photos and very detailed descriptions of the trail passages they explored along the way.

To order this publication from the ATA or our partnership organization, the Arizona Public Lands Information Center, call 602-417-9300, or send an e-mail to:

az_plic@blm.gov The Center has just received a large shipment of these books and will try to maintain a good supply in stock for your orders.

Ripsey Segment - Pinal County

We had an incredible season this fall on the Ripsey Segment, with events held on November 16th/17th and 23rd/24th. These events were held in conjunction with the Youth Corps of Southern Arizona (YCOSA), who were hired by ATA to build the affectionately named "Big Hill." YCOSA worked about a month on the Big Hill and transformed a beautiful trail out of this very rugged hillside.

We would like to thank YCOSA for their commendable efforts in completing the Big Hill and ATA members Larry Snead, Jeff Pappas, Chuck Horner and Merle Parmer for coordinating the YCOSA efforts. In addition, Chuck Horner's mid-week work crew helped tremendously by cutting in tread and clearing the mile of trail between the YCOSA basecamp and the Big Hill, prior to the YCOSA event. I would also like to thank the following people who helped with our November work events including: Lani Good, Ben Good, Jim Harrison, Mike Hedrick, Amanda Luecker, David Pendergrass, Josh Sanders, Jamie Sanders, Heather Southworth, Heath Therrien, Jessica Therrien, Fred Nelson (along with 3 Boy Scouts) and Carrie Westhoff.

Everyone really pulled together to work on the most difficult section of the Ripsey Segment. These efforts truly exemplify the spirit of the Arizona Trail. Please look at the events calendar to see upcoming events in January, February & March, as we move even closer to completing the Ripsey Segment.

by Mike Luecker

Ripsey Section Segment Steward on behalf of the Arizona Society of Civil Engineers Younger Member Forum (ASCE YMF), Phoenix Branch

Boulders Segment – Pinal County November 23 -24, 2002

If you weren't there then you missed out on a terrific weekend. Besides trail construction, the weekend included giveaways and libations from New Belgium Brewing Company, Clif Bar energy bars, awesome trail riding, Saturday night dinner, Arizona Trail



Trivia game, great company around the campfire, and perfect weather. You just can't ask for more than that! And if you've never met Jeremy Walker with New Belgium Brewing Company you really should sometime. He's full of all kinds of information, some useful, some interesting, and some just plain odd!

We constructed a high quality stretch of trail on what appears to be the only rocking hillside on this segment of the Arizona Trail. Most of the participants were new to trail construction, but they learned quickly and did excellent work. Many thanks to all the volunteers who came out that weekend: Chuck King, Jim Hunton, Tyler Hunton Mary Halfmann, Anthony Ohotto and Peter Hogan with the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona; Doug Marsh, Russ Becker, Laddie Cox, and Merle Parmer with the Arizona Trail Association; and Jeremy Walker (New Belgium Brewing Company) and his friend Chris Giles. We have several more work events scheduled for this winter and spring so don't miss out next time. Jeremy will be back with more trivia and more beverages! Thank You New Belgium Brewing Company, Clif Bar, Bike Barn and the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona for their sponsorship and support, and also to Doug Marsh who helped me put together the fine meal on Saturday night!!

By Segment Steward Anna Pfender

North of the Gila

The Arizona Trail Association has had a lot of difficulty identifying where to place the trail north of the Gila River to link to the White Canyon and the Alamo Passage. One day, not too long ago, a working cowboy in the area spotted some hikers out "in the middle of the desert." He rode up and asked them what they were doing out there and they said, "We are hiking The Arizona Trail."

"There's no trail here," replied the cowboy. "There will be!" said the hikers.

This so intrigued cowboy George Hunt that he contacted the ATA and offered to help identify a trail corridor. He is seen here with Merle Parmer and Dave Hicks in a scouting expedition to do just that!



Kelvin Cowboy, George Hunt, showing ATA volunteers Merle Parmer (left) and Dave Hicks a possible route for the AZT north of the Gila River.

Reavis Trail Canyon

On January 7th, Terry Sario, Cindy Peck of the Forest Service, Dick Wertz, Larry Snead, David Babcock, Lisa and Cheryl hiked the Reavis Trail Canyon in order to look for camping sites for the Sierra Club event Feb 2-8th. We also looked at the work area where the event will concentrate on rerouting part of the trail in the switchback area.

On January 24-26th, there was an emergency work event to brush the lower portion of the trail in order for pack animals to get through with food and supplies for the Sierra Club people.

Dick Wertz

ATA Annual Meeting Award Recipients

The following individuals and organizations were recognized for their outstanding support in 2002 and were presented beautiful award plaques at the February 1, 2003 Annual Meeting:

Outstanding Corporate Partner Award -
Phelps Dodge Corporation

Outstanding Partnership Award - Desert Botanical Garden

Outstanding Foundation Partnership Award -
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust

Outstanding Agency Partner Award - 4 Recipients
Brian Poturalski - Peaks Ranger District, Coconino National Forest; Patricia Callaghan - Mogollon Rim Ranger District, Coconino National Forest; Quentin Johnson - Tonto Basin Ranger District, Tonto National Forest; Joanna Scruggs - Arizona Public Lands Information Center

Outstanding Volunteer Awards - 4 Recipients
Denny & Marie Haywood, Richard Corbett, Helen Hill, Jeff Pappas

Distinctive wood-framed Arizona Trail Association Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following individuals and organizations for their special volunteer project work with the ATA: Wide World of Maps, Garmin, REI, Donna Thrasher, Joe Winfield, Kevin Cochary - Grand Canyon National Park, North Rim; Shirley Hearn - American Hiking Society; Youth Corps of Southern Arizona; Dave Hicks, Louis Coor, Bill Fisk, Dave Wilson, John Nelson

In addition to those listed above, Brian Starks and Sam Campana, who were special guest speakers at the Annual Meeting Recognition Luncheon, were also presented individual Certificates of Appreciation.

All the latest news and events are listed on our web site:
www.aztrail.org

Trail Founder Dale Shewalter Pens a Poem Symbolizing the Arizona Trail

If you've ever had the pleasure of experiencing the Arizona Trail in the company of its founder, Dale Shewalter, you know that he comes equipped with a harmonica that magically appears around the campfire after a day out on the trail, and his tunes become meshed with lots of great stories about the history of our state and Dale's unequalled reverence for our magnificent backcountry landscapes.

At the ATA Annual Meeting on February 1st, Dale surprised the attendees with a moving poem he had written just for the occasion, and we thought everyone would like to have a copy of his poem, which is simply titled, "The Arizona Trail."

The Arizona Trail

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

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

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

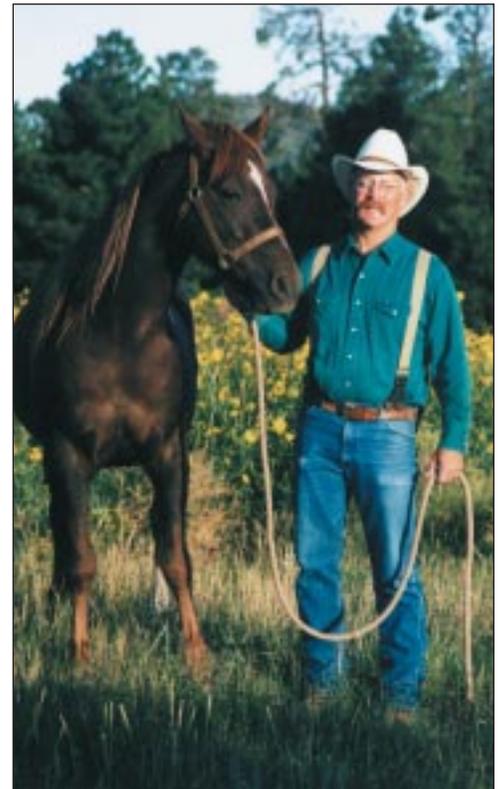
*Oh, sure, you'll sweat and blister
You'll feel the miles each day
You'll shiver at the loneliness
Your feet and seat will pay.*

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

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

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

Dale R. Shewalter,
February 1, 2003



*Dale Shewalter, founder of the Arizona Trail,
and one of his best friends.*

ATA Advisory Council Expands to 64 Members

An impressive group of new members has been recruited to join our ATA Advisory Council by our Executive Director, Denise Meridith. The Advisory Council is a group of statewide supporters who provide leadership and valuable outreach to communities, organizations, and individuals who would like to become more

involved with the Arizona Trail project. The ATA Advisory Council will continue to grow as more and more community leaders become aware of this unique opportunity to help the ATA in its mission.

The list of community leaders who are current Advisory Council members includes:

Carolyn Allen	Bill Fisk	Wayne Lawson	Marquis Scott
Mark Aubry	Mike Ford	Leandra Lewis	US Congressman
Barbara Barrett	Marc Garcia	Valerie Manning	John Shaddegg
Betsey Bayless	Steven Gobat	Sylvia McDowell	Christine Sheehy
Mayor Steven Berman	Rebecca Godley	Tom McKinley	Karl Siderits
Mayor Jon Beydler	Mayor Keno Hawker	Rick Miller	Tice Supplee
Bob Blaney	Don Henninger	Angela Miller-Brooks	David Troutner
Margaret Bohannon	Tom Hessler	Christina Naugle	Meyer Turken
Sara Bollman	Eric Hiser	Caroline Newsom	Keith Underwood
Mike Butler	Roxanne Huxley	Wayne Parker	Chip U'Ren
Sam Campana	Tom Irvine	US Congressman Ed Pastor	Randy Virden
Carla	Abraham James	Cathy Patterson	Gene Waldrip
Chris Champion	Gerry Kroloff	Bob Rink	AZ State Senator Jim Waring
Don Charpio	Co. Supervisor Andy Kunasek	Bill Scalzo	Tamara Woodbury
Sarah Craighead	AZ State Representative	Lois Scherer	Elaine Zielinski
Bill Dowdle	Leah Landrum	Randy Schilling	
Betty Drake	Bob Lane	Dan Shilling	

ATA Thanks Outstanding Supporters for the ATA in 2002

The following list of very special people was recognized for their outstanding support to the Arizona Trail Association in 2002 at the Annual Meeting. For those who were not able to attend the Annual Meeting, here are the names of those who were recognized.

Corporate sponsors

Arizona Public Service Company
American Express
Arizona Outdoor Journal
AT&T
Babbitt Ranches
Babbitt Bros.Trading Co.
Bob Sellars Toyota
BJ Communications
Coyote Creek
Interactive Ink
Mormon Lake Lodge
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Southwest Gas
Salt River Project
Summit Hut
Tucson Electric Power
Company
The Mouse That Roars
Walsh Bros. Office Environments
Weatherford Hotel
Wells Fargo Bank

Westcliffe Publishers

Other outstanding supporters

American Hiking Society
American Trails
Amy Prince, Desert Botanical
Garden
Andrea Lankford, Author
Annie McVay, Arizona State Parks
Arizona Commission on the Arts
Arizona Horse Lovers Foundation
Arizona Mule & Donkey
Association
Arizona Office of Tourism
Arizona Public Lands Information
Center
Arizona Quarter Horse Association
Arizona State Association of Four
Wheel Drive Clubs
Arizona State Committee on Trails
Arizona State Horsemen's
Association
AZRA - Arizona Rafting
Barbara Zinn
Beth Overton
Bill Fisk - Arizona Outdoor Journal
Billy Cordasco, Babbitt Ranches
Bob Gaylord, Attorney at Law
Bob Rink
Boyce Thompson Arboretum

State Park

Brad Buckhout
Brian Poturalski, Coconino National
Forest
Briar Patch Inn
Chris Townsend, Author
Christine Maxa, Writer & Author
Chuck Horner
Chuck Lakin
Chuck Lauer, Historian, Author
Coconino County Board of
Supervisors
Connie Lane, Tonto National Forest
Cynthia Nemeth, City of Flagstaff
Dan Godek, SWCA Inc.
Environmental Consultants
Dave Hicks
Dave Wilson, BLM
Deborah Tuck, Grand Canyon
National Park Foundation
Desert Botanical Garden
Don Applegate, Bureau of Land
Management
Donna Russ, Cave Creek Saddle
Club
Donna Thrasher
Eric Hiser, Von Oppenfeld, Hiser &
Freeze
Friends of Kentucky Camp
Grand Canyon Council,

Boy Scouts of America

Helen Hill
Huachuca Hiking Club
IMBA Trail Care Crew
Janet and Dick Walsh
Jeff Olson, Millennium Trails
Council, Washington, D.C.
Jeff Spellman, City of Phoenix
Parks & Recreation
Jerry Ravert, Oracle State Park for
Environmental Education
Jerry Sieve, Jerry Sieve
Photography
Jim Babbitt, Babbitt Bros. Trading
Company
Jim Mahoney, Bureau of Land
Management
Joanna Scruggs, AZ Public Lands
Information Center
Joe Kullman, Tribune Newspapers
Joe Winfield, National Park Service
RTCA
John Stanley, The Arizona Republic
Kelly Tighe, Author/Writer
Kent Taylor, Round Trip Bike Shop
Kevin Cochary, Grand Canyon
National Park
Kevin Lockart, MBAA
Kim Vander Hoek,
Tonto National Forest

other outstanding supporters continued:

Laura DuPee,

Coronado National Forest

Liz Slauson, Scottsdale

Community College

Louis Coor

Lyn Harry White, Phelps Dodge

Corporation

Mark Flint

Mary Halfman, MBAA

Maxine Lakin

Merle Parmer

Michael Baker, Dorothy Garske

Center

Mountain Bike Association of

Arizona

National Endowment for the Arts

Pam Gluck, American Trails

Paul Paonessa, City of Phoenix

Parks & Recreation

Paul Reinshagen, REI

Patagonia Visitor Information

Center

Peter Backus, Coyote Creek

Pinal County Board of Supervisors

Quentin Johnson, Tonto Basin

Ranger District

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Richard Corbett, Pima Association

of Governments

Robert Seams, Grand Canyon

National Park Foundation

Scott Sticha, Coronado National

Memorial

Shirley Hearn,

American Hiking Society

Sidney Franklin, Crown C Ranch

Sierra Club

Sierra Vista Visitor Information

Center

Southern Arizona Youth Corps

Steve Elkinton, National Park

Service, Washington, D.C.

Superior Chamber of Commerce

Suzanne Pfister, B.J.

Communications

Tammy Vehige, AZ Dept. of Health

Services

Tom Folks, Bureau of Land

Management

Tom Jones, Author

Tony Garrett, BLM, National

Training Center

Trish Callaghan, Mogollon Rim

Ranger District

Tucson Saddle Club

Valley Field Riding & Polo Club

Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona

Walt Thole, Payson Ranger District

Wendy Hodgson, Desert Botanical

Garden

Youth Corps of Southern Arizona

Phoenix Chamber of Commerce Hosts ATA Reception

A large group of community leaders gathered together on January 29, 2003, to participate in a Welcome Reception for our new Executive Director, Denise Meridith, and the ATA's Advisory Council members. The reception was held at the spacious Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce's conference center at the top of Bank One's high-rise building in downtown Phoenix.

Many corporate leaders, elected officials, media personalities and land management agency partners joined a group of ATA volunteers and members of the ATA Board of Directors to honor our new Executive Director and the new members of the Advisory Council.

Valeria Manning, Executive Director of the Greater Phoenix Chamber, introduced Denise to the more than 70 attendees, many of whom knew Denise well and had worked with her on a number of state and community projects over the past years. The attendees included representatives from Senator John McCain's office, and Representative John Shadegg and Ed Pastor's offices, as well as a number of Arizona State Legislators and Mayors representing

several Arizona communities. People traveled from throughout the Valley and the state to attend the function.

Two special plaques of appreciation were presented to representatives of the Phelps Dodge Corporation and the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust during the event, recognizing them for their outstanding support of the Arizona Trail Association.

The theme of the event was centered around outdoor camping gear and campfire food, including everything from very popular Power Bars to dehydrated backpacking treats from REI, and some delicious "fresh-from-the campfire" blackberry cobbler, all of which provided a fun and creative atmosphere for the special group of attendees.

The ATA extends its appreciation to Valerie Manning and the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce associates for the very gracious reception at their headquarters offices, and for helping our organization welcome our new Executive Director to our growing number of ATA community supporters.

Please Welcome Four New ATA Segment Stewards

We are excited to announce the addition of four more Arizona Trail Segment Stewards to our growing number of dedicated volunteers who have "gone the extra mile" to become ATA leaders in managing trail construction and/or maintenance on sections of the Trail that have been awaiting adoption by a Segment Steward.

These Segment Stewards work closely in partnership with their land managers and the ATA to coordinate work events and special

Passages 2, 3 and 4 -

(Canelo Hills East, Canelo Hills West and Temporal Gulch - Parker Canyon Lake to Gardner Canyon Road)

Richard E. Corbett, Tucson

Telephone: 520-623-0017

E-mail: kc70vm@dakota.net

Passage 22 -

(Saddle Mountain - Sunflower to Mt. Peeley)

Sun City Sportsmen

Contact Person: Joe Bradel, Sun City West

Telephone: 623-214-5139

projects to build, maintain, and improve the trails sections under their management. Please help us welcome these outstanding new volunteers to their new roles as Segment Stewards. If you live near the Trail area or would like to experience the Arizona Trail in their area of the state, and you'd like to volunteer to help them, just give them a call or e-mail note to let them know you'd like to give them a hand on an upcoming trail event. They are:

Passage 25 -

(Whiterock Mesa - East Verde River to Twin Buttes)

Pete Joyce, Tempe

Telephone: 480-829-7424 (winter season)

Telephone: 928-476-3205 (Strawberry - summer season)

E-mail: petej@aol.com

Passage 29A -

Jacks Canyon (Highway 87 to one-half mile north of FR 82)

Jessica Westermeyer, Phoenix

Telephone: 602-689-5825

E-mail: jessicaw@qwest.net

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March

Sat. March 1st, Alamo Canyon trail maintenance:

Meet at the Texaco station at Florence Junction at 8:00 a.m. The Arizona 4 wheel drive club will take us to to work site area via the Mineral mountain road. They will bring us back to our vehicles at day's end, in the afternoon. Bring water, day snacks, gloves and hats. This is an all day work event with some fun 4-wheeling too! The Arizona 4-wheel drive club will provide the transportation, ATA will provide the tools. Bring the family and enjoy a day of working on the Arizona Trail near remote Wood Canyon. For more information contact Tom Coulson at 480-303-4975 or 480-832-7267 or e-mail at: aztrailhiker@aol.com

Mar 8, Canelo West.

Work will be close to (1 to 2 miles) Canelo Pass (about 19 miles south of Sonoita) Trailhead. We will be doing a combination of brushing, tread, sign, and fence work. Tools will be provided. Volunteers will need to bring a day pack with lunch, water (at least 4 liters), sun screen, a hat (wide brimmed is best), work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather. Richard will have a special treat for all who help with this Project. For info on meeting place and time (carpooling is encouraged and supported), please E-mail Richard Corbett at: kc7ovm@dakotacom.net or call him at 520-623-0017 (E-mail is best). RSVP required, please!

March 8 & 9, Arizona Trail, Boulders Segment-Pinal County (southeast of Florence).

We are continuing construction of this terrific 10-mile segment of the AZ Trail in the beautiful Sonoran Desert. RSVP to Anna Pfender at 480-893-6610 or at mtbbabe@cox.net for map and more details.

Mar 9-16, Whitford Canyon just north of Superior

Build new single track, American Hiking Society Volunteer Vacation hosted by the Globe Ranger District, Tonto National Forest. ATA and Forest Service Project Managers are Cindy Peck with Forest Service and Segment Steward Rick Obermiller. Fifteen volunteers from all over the country will come to Arizona to help us complete a new single track section of the Arizona Trail in Whitford Canyon just north of Superior. For more information contact the American Hiking Society at www.americanhiking.org.

Mar 15-16, Antelope Peak segment.

Trail maintenance and switchback building, This is a great opportunity for all of to see how well our trails sections have withstood mother nature over the last few years. For those who want to attend our 2 day event in March, we will provide dinner and or breakfast to all who sign on to help on both days. It should be a great time. As always, you can get driving directions and what supplies to bring by visiting our website at www.roundtripbikeshop.com. Contact: Kent Taylor, Round Trip Bike Shop, 520-836-0799

Mar 15-21, Reconstruct trail on Four Peaks.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars will sponsor a Spring Break for college students on the Arizona Trail. This event is hosted by the Tonto Basin Ranger District, Tonto

National Forest with Quentin Johnson as the Project Manager. Quentin is the Recreation Staff Leader at Tonto Basin RD. Fifteen college students from all over the country will come to Arizona to help us re-build a section of the Arizona Trail on Four Peaks lost several years ago as a result of a major forest fire on Four Peaks. For more information about this program contact Larry Snead or NSCS's web site at www.nscs.org.

Mar 16-22, Trail Maintenance, Rogers Trough to Reavis Ranch.

American Hiking Society Volunteer Vacation hosted by the Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest. ATA and Forest Service Project Managers are Scott McBride with the Forest Service and Segment Steward Eric Hiser. Fifteen volunteers from all over the country will come to Arizona to help us work us do trail maintenance and improve the Arizona Trail from Rogers Trough to Reavis Ranch. For more information contact the American Hiking Society at www.americanhiking.org.

March 22, Sunflower Trail Maintenance.

Contact Denny Haywood at 623-581-9219 or Carl Golnik at 480-949-1527 for more details.

March 22nd, Ripsey Segment Trail Construction, South of Superior (near Town of Kearney).

We are continuing to build a 10-mile section of the AZ Trail in a beautiful section of Sonoran Desert. It is just over an hour drive from Tempe to the trailhead. Camping opportunities (primitive) for Friday night or meet at the trailhead at 8 am. Option to carpool from Tempe Starbucks on Sat morning. I will help those from Tucson contact each other for carpooling opportunities. Bring gloves, boots, sunscreen, water and lunch. Tools are provided and no prior trail maintenance/building experience is necessary. Contact Mike Luecker at 602.438.2221 (work) or muecker@j2design.us Please R.S.V.P. Additional directions and info will be provided.

April

Apr 12, Antelope Peak segment.

Trail maintenance and switchback building, This is a great opportunity for all of to see how well our trails sections have withstood mother nature over the last few years. For those who want to attend our 2 day event in March, we will provide dinner and or breakfast to all who sign on to help on both days. It should be a great time. As always, you can get driving directions and what supplies to bring by visiting our website at www.roundtripbikeshop.com. Contact: Kent Taylor, Round Trip Bike Shop, 520-836-0799

Apr 12 & 13, Arizona Trail, Boulders Segment - Pinal County (southeast of Florence).

We are continuing construction of this terrific 10-mile segment of the AZ Trail in the beautiful Sonoran Desert. RSVP to Anna Pfender at 480-893-6610 or at mtbbabe@cox.net for map and more details.

April 19, Sunflower Trail Maintenance.

Contact Denny Haywood at 623-581-9219 or Carl Golnik at 480-949-1527 for more details.

For latest updates and information on what to bring go to
www.aztrail.org

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Phone # day _____ evening _____

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Long Sleeve T-Shirt	_____	x \$18.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> Med <input type="radio"/> Large <input type="radio"/> Extra Large <input type="radio"/> XX Large			
Patches	_____	x \$3.00	_____
Embroidered Ball Caps	_____	x \$8.00	_____
<input type="radio"/> Blue <input type="radio"/> Red <input type="radio"/> Green			
Trail Mug	_____	x \$4.00	_____
BOOKS/MAPS:			
ATA Passage Maps packet	_____	x \$7.00	_____
ATA Essential Guide for Long-Distance Travel	_____	\$3.00	_____
" Crossing Arizona " by Chris Townsend (softcover)	_____	x 17.95	_____
" Biking the Arizona Trail " by Andrea Lankford, (softcover)	_____	x 14.95	_____
Please add shipping and handling: _____			
up to 1 lb. - \$3.00, 1-3 lbs. - \$5.00, 3-5 lbs. - \$7.50			

Total Due: _____

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222 North Central, Ste. 101, Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602-417-9300-telephone or 602-417-9556-fax)

Please phone first for availability on all items. We will return your check if an item is no longer available.

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!

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Trail Helper \$20
Newsletter, Patch, Membership card

Trail Hand (Individual/Family) \$50
Book, Newsletter, Patch, Membership card

SPONSOR

Trail Supporter \$500
Belt buckle, Newsletter

Trail Builder \$1000
Plaque, Newsletter, My Mile (one mile)

Trail Supervisor \$5000
Plaque, Newsletter, Logo/link on website, Mention at ATA events, My Mile (five miles)

Trail Boss \$10,000 & more

Plaque, Newsletter, Logo/link on website, Logo on all ATA publications, Special recognition (e.g., invitations, table, banner, etc) at all ATA events, My Mile (10 miles)

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

FUND-A-FOOT \$1/foot
Certificate (\$10 or more)

MY MILE \$100/mile
Certificate, Map of the mile, List of activities/contacts

New Member Renewal Membership

Additional Information: (please fill in any that apply)

I am sending an additional contribution of \$_____ for Trail Development.

This is a Gift Membership.

Referred by: _____

What are your primary non-motorized trail activities?

Hiking Horseback Riding Mountain Biking

Other: _____

Make check payable to Arizona Trail Association. Mail check to:

ARIZONA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 36736

PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85067

(Do not include merchandise orders. Merchandise orders use separate check and mail to merchandise address.)

ATA is a 501 (c) 3 organization; donations are tax deductible.

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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
- Other: _____

ATA welcomes articles and photos from trail users and volunteers. Please mail to ATA or e-mail: editor@aztrail.org
 Arizona Trail Association, P.O. Box 36736, Phoenix, Arizona 85067 602-252-4794, www.aztrail.org Next Deadline: Apr. 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

Donna Russ - ATA Brochures and Videos -
 druss@worldnet.att.net

Larry Snead - ATA Tool Trailer, Segment Steward information -
 sneadlarry@qwest.net

Randy Warner - ATA contributions, donations -
 warner@aztrail.org

Deb Morgaina - Membership mailing list and database,
 invoices, payments and other financial information
 debaztrail@cs.com

Dave Hicks - ATA membership trail events
 hicksdp@msn.com

Joanna Scruggs - ATA maps, trail information, apparel,
 merchandise, and books - 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.

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 editor@aztrail.org.

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