Arizona's Governor Janet Napolitano and other state leaders traveled to the Arizona Trail Picketpost Trailhead near Superior, Arizona, on April 8, 2005, to conduct special outdoor ceremonies designating the Arizona Trail as one of the "Arizona Treasures." And, she took the time to actually hike a part of the Trail!

The Governor's office and the Arizona Office of Tourism have initiated the "Arizona Treasure" program to help promote tourism in our state. The Arizona Trail was selected for this honor because of its scenic beauty and the statewide ecotourism opportunities it offers for recreation and environmental education.

The special recognition and award ceremonies were part of a big kickoff campaign for the Copper Butte Project, one of the most challenging Arizona Trail construction projects ever undertaken. Many of our Arizona Trail agency partners, ATA members, and local area elected officials and community leaders attended the Governor's special tribute ceremonies at the trailhead.

Resolution Copper Hosts Copper Butte Project Ceremonies

One of the Arizona Trail Association's Premier Legacy Partners, Resolution Copper Company, presented a commemorative $100,000 check to ATA on the morning of April 8, 2005, to help fund the launch of the 25-mile rugged trail construction project north of the Gila River, which has been named the Copper Butte Project.

The difficulty of the trail construction in this area is one of the reasons it remains one of the last unfinished sections of the Arizona Trail between Tucson and Flagstaff. The route of the Arizona Trail in this area skirts west of the base of Picketpost Mountain, Boyce Thompson Arboretum, and the Town of Superior. It is located immediately south of U.S. Highway 60 and connects the Arizona Trail route to the Gila River. When Resolution Copper Company learned of the need for financial support for this project, the company pledged $20,000 a year for the next five years to help ATA fund a portion of the project costs, which are anticipated to be a total of $527,000 when the Copper Butte Project section is completed.

Following the Picketpost Trailhead check presentation ceremonies, Resolution Copper Company and Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park hosted a wonderful community reception at the Arboretum for the Governor, and many Superior area residents and school children also participated in the special occasion.
At The Helm

Message from the ATA President

April was a busy month for Arizona Trail celebrations. On April 17th I had the opportunity to participate in the ceremony to open the Boulders segment, part of the Tortilla Mountains passage from Oracle to the Gila River. The Mountain Bike Association of Arizona and segment steward Anna Pfender organized a well attended event opening for this extremely important part of the Arizona Trail.

On April 27th the Arizona Trail was recognized by the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association for its value as part of Arizona's open space. At the APRA conference on open space at Arizona State University, I shared these thoughts:

"I am happy to accept this recognition of the Arizona Trail as an important part of Arizona's open space. I accept this for all of the wonderful people who have worked or are working to complete the Trail. The Arizona Trail is a story of interagency cooperation and commitment. It is a story of volunteer spirit. And it is a story of a vision shared. All Arizonans and visitors to our state owe a great deal to you who plan for and manage our public lands. For your dedication to this task and for your recognition of the Arizona Trail, I thank you."

On April 5, at the Picket Post Trailhead near Superior, Governor Napolitano and Superior's Mayor Hing were on site to acknowledge the numerous partners working to develop the Trail in this area. The Governor also declared the Arizona Trail to be an "Arizona Treasure". The occasion was highlighted by Resolution Copper Company's presentation of a check to the Arizona Trail Association for completion of the Trail near Superior. I was given the opportunity to share these words:

"It is not possible to be here without thinking of Wil Passow, charter board member of the Arizona Trail Association. Wil spent many hours and many days working on the Trail in this area. He introduced a lot of people to the wonderful world of trail construction. We miss his energy, knowledge, and humor. There is another reason why this site is particularly meaningful to me. In 1974, work with a geophysical exploration company put me into remote deserts, canyons, and mountains of Arizona. My first job was a gravity survey around Devils Canyon, a few miles east of here. I soon discovered and began to love the biologic, geologic, and cultural diversity that makes Arizona so unique. Subsequent back country experiences throughout the State made me think that a cross-state, non-motorized trail almost entirely on public lands was possible. This idea would have gone nowhere if numerous public agency personnel, supporting individuals, and organizations had not shared the vision of an Arizona Trail. Through their continued efforts this trail will be completed, improved, and maintained. Arizonans and visitors to our State will have the opportunity to discover this incredible land step by step.

The Arizona Trail Association wishes to acknowledge and thank several partners working to complete this passage of the Trail. They include: the Tonto National Forest, Globe Ranger District, Bureau of Land Management - Tucson Field Office, Resolution Copper Company, Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund, Boyce Thompson State Park, Desert Botanical Garden, the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance Program, Pinal County, Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona, Recreational Equipment, Inc, and the American Hiking Society. The Association is honored by your presence here today. A special thanks to you, Governor and Mayor, for joining us. More than ever, the Trail is linking people as well as places. Thank you all for helping to complete this project. I hope to see you on the Arizona Trail."

As these celebrations take place, the volunteer work to complete and maintain the Trail continues. If you have not already done so, please consider participating in work events to complete new trail near Mormon Lake this summer. This forested pathway is developing into a great trail experience. Thanks for supporting the Arizona Trail!

Dale Shewalter
For Members Only! Access to GPS Waypoints Online

Instructions for uploading the GPS data files into a GPS:

After you have loaded the GPS data file into the Topo! software per the instructions above, you can upload this same data into a GPS. You must first configure the Topo! software for the type of GPS you are using. Follow the instructions in the Topo! software to do this. You can test your connection to the GPS to verify it is working correctly at the end of the Topo! software configuration. With the desired GPS data file loaded in Topo! click on the "GPS" menu entry at the top of the screen. In the dropdown menu select the "Export Wizard" entry. This brings up the Export Wizard window. On this Step 1 screen you may either select the option for transferring GPS waypoints to a GPS receiver and click "Next". On the Step 2 screen you may either select "All Waypoints (without routes)" or, if you only want some of the waypoints loaded, select "Only The Selected Waypoints In The GPS List". If you choose the latter you must first go through the GPS waypoint list and highlight the ones you want loaded into the GPS. After making your selection on this screen click "Next". On the Step 3 screen select NAD83/WGS84 and click 'Next' again. On the Step 4 screen you may verify your GPS connection to make sure you are connected correctly. Then click 'Finish' and the waypoints will be uploaded into your GPS.

An alternative method of loading the data into a GPS would be to use the DNRGarmin software available on the web at the Minnesota Dept of Natural Resources. It is free and can be downloaded from their website. This software only works with Garmin GPS units. It is a Windows based application and has a fairly extensive set of instructions included in the "Help" section.
Events Around the State

Arizona Trail “Tracks” History at Mormon Lake

by Eric Hiser

One of the best aspects of the Arizona Trail is how it puts us back in touch with Arizona’s history. A great example is around Mormon Lake, south of Flagstaff. Forest Service and ATA trail crews have been busy building the Arizona Trail through this scenic area. And what better location to build the Arizona Trail than following the historic route left by railroad loggers during the heyday of Arizona’s railroad logging days in the 1920s!

Starting from Anderson Mesa just south and east of Flagstaff, the Flagstaff Lumber Company built an extension of its main line south to Mormon Lake. The goal of the line was to reach over 80,000,000 board feet of timber in the Mormon Lake and Sawmill Springs areas. Construction started in 1923.

Interestingly, the Mormon Lake extension followed the line of yet an earlier railroad, the Arizona Mineral Belt, which had been projected to run from the Santa Fe railroad line in Flagstaff to the copper mines in the Globe area. The Arizona Mineral Belt never made it beyond thirty miles or so south of Flagstaff, (although it did make an abortive start at a tunnel through the Mogollon Rim), but the older line’s roadbed made a good start for the grade running along the west side of Walnut Creek and on toward Coyote Basin.

Flagstaff Lumber Company was purchased by W.M. Cady in 1924. After some initial difficulties, Cady contracted with D.H. Cooper in 1924 to assume logging and train operation responsibilities in the Mormon Lake area. Cooper headed up this operation and was the man likely responsible for locating the sections of railroad the Arizona Trail is following. He served until 1926, when the Flagstaff Lumber Company was reorganized as the Cady Lumber Corporation of Delaware, which later became part of Southwest Lumber Mills.

Cady Lumber completed its cutting in the Fulton Canyon and Coyote Basin areas in 1926 and 1927. The Forest Service insisted, however, that before it would sell more timber to Cady, that Cady needed to complete logging on Mormon Mountain itself. The Company had delayed constructing up the mountain because of the steep grades, difficult terrain, and the need to back the locomotives down from the top. As a result of the heavy expenses and a slump in the timber industry beginning in 1926 and continuing into 1927, Cady was forced to close its Flagstaff operations in October 1927. The rails were pulled in 1938.

While the railroad saw little more than 3 to 4 years use before Cady discontinued operations, during that time as many as 300 people would clamber aboard the logging train to travel the rail for a weekend at Mormon Lake, beginning the area’s legacy as a recreational destination for Arizonans.

It is fitting that the Arizona Trail follows this reminder of Arizona’s pioneer past on its way to Flagstaff, true to its goal of binding us with the people and communities who helped build this great state. If you are in the Mormon Lake area, take a hike on the Arizona Trail and reflect on the pioneering people and railroads and the opportunities that their labor still brings to us today!

ATA Board Member Eric Hiser points out the path of the old railroad on the Arizona Trail near Mormon Lake.

ATA is Busy and Growing!

All of ATA’s members, volunteers, agency partners, and supporters will be pleased with the ever-growing number of members and activities that help our organization’s mission in so many ways. Thanks to our ATA Membership Committee and Chairman John Roberts, we have already added 160 new members to ATA since the beginning of this year, and we will be printing a thank you list of these new members and others to welcome them to ATA in an upcoming newsletter. Several ATA volunteers are paying their own way to represent our organization by attending a number of national trails related conferences in upcoming months, bringing additional national visibility to the Arizona Trail. These volunteers will be attending the Partnership for the National Trails System Conference being held in Las Vegas in June; the Rails-to-Trails “TrailLink” Conference in Minneapolis/St. Paul in July; and the Colorado State Trails Symposium in Denver in September. If you have interest in attending any of these events, please contact ATA and request the registration details.
**East of Camp Geronimo, April 16-17, 2005**

Thanks to the energy and enthusiasm of 33 volunteers, including 10 crew leaders, the Highline Trail received some much-needed cleanup and improvement. Crew leaders were: Eric Anderson, Michael Baker, Ken Fiebelkorn, Mike Galwey, Conrad Griese, Mike Henderson, Lee Milne, Ken Ryan, Mike Snodgrass, and Marge Sparks. The other volunteers were: Barb Bruno, Dan Cline, Cathy Droll, Marilynn Greiser, Carl Golnik, Sandy Heunisch, Martha Hobbs, Nancy Hughes, Jim Knott, Gail Landry, Dick Mayo, Jeri Merritt, Pete Michaels, Shawn Redfield, Bob Royal, Anna Ryan, Nancy Spence, Deb Stevens, Sandra Stirmweiss, Mary Suave, Bruce Weidenhamer, Jess Wile, and Kelli Williamson. A total of 373 man hours yielded: 13 cleaned water bars; 4 old trails/potential social trail closures; a dismantled fire ring; 300 ft. of debermed trail to allow cross-slope drainage; and the crowning achievement, 53 drain dips newly built or repaired! Special thanks to Ted Julius, Camp Geronimo Manager, for his cooperation over the years and use of the camp's amenities; Walt Thole, Tonto National Forest Service, for logistical support and identification with the VOAz mission; and the Sierra Club for sharing the food cost.

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**22_Saddle Mountain**

**Adam Hawk's Eagle Project, March 12, 2005**

Trail Construction on The Arizona Trail up by Bushnell Tanks

The start was not the fun part of my Eagle project. It involved countless calls to the Forest Service from the beginning. I had first heard of the trail from some of the adult leaders in the troop. They pointed me to an article and told me 'get to work'. That was the start of my Eagle project. Like I said after talking to 3-4 Arizona Forest Service employees, I received the phone number of Forest Service employee by the name Scott Mcbride. After several weeks of playing telephone tag I finally caught him on the phone. That first phone call lasted about five minutes but it did what I needed. Within two weeks I met with him at the Forest Service building in Mesa. That meeting lasted another 10 minutes, but it accomplished what needed to be accomplished. I signed a volunteer service agreement form and he signed my Eagle Scout leadership service project workbook. We planned to meet on the 11th of January to look at the trail and to meet my trail coordinator. On the 11th of January Mr. Kuhl and I went down to the patch of the trail that I would be working on. At the time someone else was carrying out his Eagle project so I only had a few minutes to meet and plan our next meeting with Mr. Golnik (trail coordinator).

My first glance at my part of the trail was not encouraging. I saw a major hill full of rocks, a lot of stumps, and a huge tree/bush that needed to be removed (just for starters). With seeing my future project I realized that I needed help, a lot of help. I started promoting my project 6 weeks before it happened. It paid off because I had 24 scouts and adults come and help me (I thank each and every one of them). On March 12 (2 days after my birthday) my project took place. It was a fun and enjoyable project (in my opinion). We left the church at 6:30 (after donuts) in the morning and arrived there at around 7:30. After we arrived I organized the boys into 4 groups so that we could cover more ground faster. The project lasted about 4.5 hours and we covered 1200 feet, about 1/4 of a mile. The work we did included replanting some plants, moving big rocks (boulders), and taking out 7-8 tree stumps. After the work we headed back for lunch (Subs and cookies). After lunch we went back to the church while I went home to finish my project workbook. All in all the project was a success. I enjoyed every minute of it.

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Adam Hawk
Hello. My name is Alex Williams. On April 2nd of 2005 I led a crew of 26 people up to clear a section of the Arizona Trail about two and a half miles outside of Sunflower, Arizona for my Eagle Scout Project. It was a clear, windy day and working conditions were perfect. We started work about 8:30 a.m. and worked steadily, allowing for a few 10 minute breaks and a slightly larger break for lunch, until about 1:30 p.m. To organize the project I worked with Arizona Trail representative Carl Golnik. The work consisted of tread construction. We dug up brush and rocks, filled and packed in the dirt, and cut back the surrounding foliage to Mr. Golniks specifications. All in all the project went wonderfully and I am grateful to Mr. Golnik, my crew, and my family for helping me make it a success.

The Forest Service conducted an employee stock training session on Memorial Day weekend. We rode the new segment from the Pinegrove Campground area over past Mormon Mountain, Dairy Spring, and on to Double Spring, and wow, what a ride! Between the ten miles or so of great trail that’s been completed there in the past year, the perfect experience you get, the views, the turkey we saw, the calf elk laying by the log, etc., it was a fantastic trail ride, and this section is a great addition to the Arizona Trail. This week a national Sierra Club trails group is furthering the work on the trail south from Double Spings Campground toward the town of Mormon Lake, along the old Lakeview Trail. Larry Snead is coordinating with them, and we’re looking forward to yet another great segment addition to the trail! John Nelson, Coconino Nat’l Forest

This article is a follow up to the article posted in the last newsletter, as some items were reported incorrectly or omitted:

An American Hiking Society Volunteer Vacation project was conducted in the Walker Basin area of the Temporal Gulch segment of the Arizona Trail from March 20 – 26, 2005. The crew was made up of 14 volunteers including ten University of Wisconsin students participating in an alternative spring break project. There were also four other individual volunteers. Sue Baughman, an ATA member from Dolan Springs AZ, Michelle DeCourten from Redlands, CA, Lois Mansfield from Washington, Utah, and Joel Sourum from Colfax CA, Robert Best, Temporal Gulch Segment Steward, Richard Corbett, Canelo West Segment Steward, and Zac Ribbing, U.S. Forest Service Trails and Wilderness Ranger, supervised the group. The crew was able during the week to construct approximately one-half mile of new trail to replace the existing rocky, steep, rutted two-track road above Walker Basin. In addition they were able to rehab about one and one-half miles of the single track beyond the end of the new construction. The crew was wonderful and actually was able to accomplish more work than had been planned and they were even able to take a pleasure hike to Mt Wrightson on Wednesday. All experienced a great time of work and fun. Segment Steward Robert Best would like to extend his thanks to Richard Corbett for his help in planning and conducting the project and to Zac Ribbing for his help supervising the project and especially his chain saw operation which was very important to our ability to complete the work. Special thanks to Sue Baughman for coming out a day early to help with the base camp set up, and to the University of Wisconsin for their participation.
**Reports From the Field**

**43_Buckskin Mountain**

A big thank you needs to go out to Annis Englen and her crew from American Conservation Experience (ACE) out of Flagstaff (www.conservationvolunteersusa.org) for their hard work on the AZT. Ten international volunteers from France, Germany, Korea, Sweden, New Zealand, and Scotland worked six ten-hour days in a row to give Segment 43 a makeover. The trail has never looked this good. Also deserving gratitude is Arizona State Parks for the grant to make this happen, and Dave Kiel of the BLM for facilitating this outstanding event. THANKS!

Michael Carr, Segment Steward

*Editor's Note: The trail maintenance work on this section of the Arizona Trail is one of many projects being funded by the Federal Highway Administration's Recreational Trails Program Grant awarded to the Arizona Trail project.*

**23_Mazatzal Divide**

By Spike Hicks and Lon Willoughby, BCH of Central AZ

In April and May 2005, members of the Arizona Trail Association and Backcountry Horsemens of Central Arizona (BCHCAZ) volunteered to support trail work in the Mazatzal Wilderness. Under the direction of District Ranger Walt Thole, of the Payson Ranger District, United States Forest Service, BCHCAZ packed youth trail crew equipment and supplies into remote camps in the wilderness. BCHCAZ is the Segment Steward of the Red Hills Section of the Arizona Trail which runs through the Mazatzal Wilderness.

The Mazatzal Wilderness embraces the north end of the Mazatzal Range, and consists predominantly of rough desert mountains, sometimes broken by narrow, vertical-walled canyons. Further west below the brush-covered foothills, the Verde River flows through the Sonoran Desert found there. This river was designated by Congress in 1984 as Arizona’s only Wild & Scenic River.

Elevations range from 1,600 feet along the Verde River to 7,903 feet on Mazatzal Peak. There is an extensive system of trails and their condition varies from very good to poor.

The Mazatzal Wilderness now contains over 252,500 acres of the Tonto and Coconino national forests. Established in 1940 and expanded to its present size in 1984, its name is from an old Indian culture in Mexico, and is correctly pronounced “Mah-zaht-zahle,” meaning “Land of the Deer”.

An extensive wildfire in 2004 followed by heavy rains caused extensive damage to the Mazatzal trail system.

Backcountry Horsemens in conjunction with Wilderness Ranger, Craig Eckstein, used six pack animals and a variety of packing styles and equipment to transport the supplies and equipment. The project started April 27th and involved three separate move-in and move-out of crews through May 18, 2005.

**22_Saddle Mountain**

The photo above is of two hard working ATA Volunteers who are just taking a break while supporting on an Eagle Scout project on the Arizona Trail in Sunflower.

**STATISTICS TRAIL PROJECT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Skilled Labor (Packing) Hours</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel &amp; Preparation Time Hours</td>
<td>156</td>
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<td>Personal Vehicle Miles</td>
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<td>Number of Stock Days</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

This portion of the project proved to be so valuable to the trail reclamation effort that District Ranger, Walt Thole, has asked BCHCAZ to provide the same type of support for four dates in October 2005 and four dates in April 2006.
On May 21st and 22nd in Prescott, 30 outdoor enthusiasts from throughout Arizona successfully completed the second intensive, 16-hour Wilderness First Aid Class. The class participants are now nationally certified in Wilderness First Aid, and better prepared to handle serious injuries and illnesses in remote backcountry settings. These class participants desired this training because they are park rangers, trail crew leaders, and hike, horseback, rock climbing, and mountain bike trip leaders.

This year, ATA partnered with the Wilderness Medicine Institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School (WMI-NOLS), who provided two outstanding instructors, Erin Lotz and Dave Craig. The class participants learned to assess and treat many types of injuries and illnesses when medical attention could be hours or days away. The class participants can now move on to more advanced training to include the Wilderness First Responder and Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician certifications. More than 65 inquiries were received to fill the 30 spaces in the class, demonstrating much desire for this type of training. If you would like to assist with future classes, or need the training for yourself, please notify me by contacting ATA.

Congratulations to all class participants. Thanks to WMI-NOLS for the excellent partnership for the class, thanks to Chapel Rock – The Arizona Church Conference Center for the fine hospitality, and finally, thanks to Annie McVay and Arizona State Parks for the funding contribution to lower the registration costs.

Reports From the Field

22 Saddle Mountain

My name is Mike Song and I am part of Boy Scout Troop 347 am sponsored by Los Arcos Church. My project was to make part of the Arizona Trail that is located near Sunflower/Bushnell Tanks. This took place on the 8th and 9th of April. Part of my troop came up on the 8th and camped out. The rest of the troop and other volunteers arrived the Saturday morning. When everyone was there we hiked a 2.5-mile hike to the work site. Mr. Carl Golnik gave a safety speech to all the people present. He explained that we were going to be using McClouds to clear the grass, and trimmers and saws to remove brush that had grown into the trail. We worked from 8:30 a.m. to noon, and then we ate lunch that was provided by volunteer moms. Then we worked until 3:00 p.m. and went home.

I estimate that we cleared about 1,000 feet of trail that day. It was a beautiful day and we had perfect conditions for working. I think that this project was fun and I would recommend other Scouts to do the same type of project.

Second Annual Wilderness First Aid Class A Success
by Eric Smith, ATA Board Member

On May 21st and 22nd in Prescott, 30 outdoor enthusiasts from throughout Arizona successfully completed the second intensive, 16-hour Wilderness First Aid Class. The class participants are now nationally certified in Wilderness First Aid, and better prepared to handle serious injuries and illnesses in remote backcountry settings. These class participants desired this training because they are park rangers, trail crew leaders, and hike, horseback, rock climbing, and mountain bike trip leaders.

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Reports From the Field

42_Kaibab North

All five segments totalling 78 miles of the Arizona Trail north of the Grand Canyon received some much needed attention over the Memorial Day weekend. Stewards George Hay and Glenn Jordan hosted a crew of horse riders and worked on Segments 39 and 40. And a few miles to the north, 18 people joined Stewards Mike Carr and Dick and Diane Wertz as they led a widely assembled group who cleared many miles of the AZT in the northern reaches of the state. Camping at the Orderville trailhead, in the evenings the group enjoyed group dinners and the bluegrass musical talents of ATA member Mike Headrick who entertained the group. A very productive and fun Memorial day weekend.

by Dave Hicks
Vice President, Trail Development

28_Blue Ridge

The Arizona Trail summer season was launched in a big way May 19-23 when nine volunteers joined Larry Snead and Chuck Horner on a major trail re-route just north of General Springs. The old route is badly eroded. This half-mile re-route is complete except for a major switchback and a climbing turn and the necessary new trail to get off the ridge where the new route is being constructed. Volunteers participating in this event were Laddie Cox, Dan Shein, Merle Parmer, Jeff Pappas, Lou Hoover, Bernie Stalmann, Dave Hicks along with Chuck and Larry. Five Forest service employees also joined the switchback work crew including Frank Dickson, Patrick Wercinski, Pat O’Brien, Polly Haessig and Linda Powell. Additional work events have been scheduled to complete the job. Those dates are June 9-13, July 22-24, August 26-28 and Oct. 7-9

by Larry Snead

15_Tortilla Mountains

Two work events were held this spring to complete the construction of the Boulders segment of the Arizona Trail. Volunteers who stayed overnight with us on Saturday evenings enjoyed complimentary happy hours (thanks to New Belgium Brewing Company) and terrific dinners together around the campfire. Here are some highlights:

March 19th and 20th

The final push was on to complete the segment before our big blowout celebration in April. We were really feeling the pressure since we had to cancel our March 6th event due to extreme rain and mud. Our crew of 11 focused on brushing, grubbing and minimal McLeod work to rough in our final 0.65 miles of trail. Our critter discovery on this event was a tiny baby groundsnake! My weekend volunteers included Jeanette and Gary Wright, Mark Maddox, Shawn Redfield, and Dave Klein; ATA members Rick Stallbaumer, Dan Shein, Doug Marsh, and Dave Burkett (who is also a YTrekkers member); and MBAA member Don Smith.

April 15th and 16th

We put the finishing touches on the final 0.65 miles of trail and also did some maintenance on the first 0.50 miles of trail to make it “pretty” for our ribbon cutting ceremony on the 17th. We had a huge group happy hour and dinner Saturday night, followed by a nice evening around the campfire that included prize giveaways for everyone. Our excellent crew of 24 included MBAA members Melanie Meyers, Gen and Bill Garan, Chuck King and Gary Doyle; ATA volunteers Larry Snead, Doug Marsh, Chuck Horner; Merle Parmer; Rosemary Minter, Laddie Cox, Kent Taylor, Dan Shein, Dave Burkett, and Helen Hill; Arizona State Land Dept. volunteers, Jody Latimer and Gloria; AZ State Parks volunteer Annie McVay, and volunteers Lee Lambie, David and Reina Klein, and David and Derek Mills.

by Anna Pfender
Reports From the Field

Many New Miles of Trail Built in Southern Arizona

The Cienega Corridor Construction Project wrapped up its first year in May, with trail constructed from the northern terminus near Rincon Creek to the La Sevilla Picnic Area in Colossal Cave Park, a distance of approximately 7 miles. Another 3-plus miles were completed from Three Bridges on Marsh Station road to the park’s southern boundary.

Progress slowed as the trail got into steep and rugged hillsides, but project leaders are confident that the remaining 15 miles can be completed when work resumes next fall. As soon as trail is completed in the park the terrain will much less challenging.

Work parties, held at least twice a month, averaged 50 volunteers, many of whom had never done trail work before — but loved it and kept coming back for more. Indeed, many of the volunteers have come back to hike and ride the trail.

"Drawing from such a broad community base has given people a strong sense of ownership in the trail," said Chris Everist, one of the project steering committee members. "There is a lot to be said to have shared this project with as many people as we did. Sure, initially it was a way to get the project done quickly, but it accomplished so much more than that. It was a tremendous gift to experience this sense of community and ownership among such a diversity of people."

Event sponsors made it possible, providing funding to cover the cost of lunches and T-shirts for volunteers and 10-40 volunteers. Saguaro level sponsors, who provided significant funding and volunteers, were HDR Engineering and Architecture, Tucson Electric Power, America Online and the Lytle Family. Other event sponsors included the Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists, the Sonoran Institute, Inner City Outings, Friends of the Arizona Trail, Vail Middle School, Tucson Saddle Club, The Saguaro Horsemen, Wells Fargo Bank, Southeast Arizona Horseman's Association, Tucson Area Gay Straight Alliance, the University of Arizona Biocats, the University of Arizona Zuckerman College of Public Health and the Southern Arizona Arabian Horse Association. In addition, two Boy Scouts organized work events as Eagle Scout projects.

Longtime trail supporter Peter Backus of Coyote Creek Properties also contributed to the project. Organizations that have given at least $500 include the Pima Trails Association, Saguaro Horsemen and Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists.

Project organizers are meeting in June to refine and improve plans and to get ready for the second trail building season. Among the leaders who put in long hours making the work events happen were Jon Shouse and Everist — Chris also did the design and maintenance of the project Web page, www.aztrail-build.org. Crew leaders Bernie Stallman and Scott Morris put in several long afternoons doing final alignment ahead of the work events.
Sierra Club's Week Long AZT Service Project A Big Success

On May 29th to June 3rd we were fortunate to have a National Sierra Club Work Event on the Arizona Trail near Mormon Lake. The group spent the week upgrading the Lake View Trail just south of Double Springs Campground. The Lake View Trail will become a section of the AZ Trail.

Coconino National Forest, Peaks Ranger District provided the crew leadership including Kyle Grambley, Andrew Johnson and other Peaks RD Trail Crew members. There were 13 Sierra Club participants lead by Jan Keith from California. Other participants are Dave and Nancy Barziza from Houston, Texas; Lois Mansfield from Utah; Norma McAllan from New Mexico; Robert McKee from New Mexico; Maike Luedersen from Washington, DC; Gene Millburn from California; Beth Druhe from St Louis, Missouri; Peggy Hepburn from Silver Springs, Maryland; Mitra Ekhtiar from Austin, Texas; and Grant Starr, a student from Appalachian State University in North Carolina.

The results of their effort was extensive upgrading and repairs on about a mile of trail tread, including the construction of lots of new waterbars. This mile is the first of seven planned for completion this summer on the south side of Mormon Lake, which will complete the Arizona Trail from Flagstaff to south of Superior.

Each Sierra Club participant pays a participation fee which includes food and each also pays for their own transportation to and from the work site.
April 17, 2005: It was a beautiful spring day with hedgehog cacti blooming right next to our trail sign that was adorned with red ribbon. Twenty-six people gathered at the Freeman Road trailhead of the Boulders Segment of the Arizona Trail to acknowledge the hard work involved and to celebrate the completion of this beautiful 10-mile segment. This project began in October 1999 and now, with over 200 volunteers putting in over 5000 hours during the last five years, we are finally finished!

The morning began with some introductory remarks by yours truly, followed by remarks from Arizona Trail Founder Dale Shewalter. I felt very honored that Dale had traveled all the way from Flagstaff that morning to share a bit of history about the Arizona Trail project and to be part of the celebration. Larry Snead talked about the Pinal County section of the Trail, acknowledging a number of volunteers who have been instrumental in the planning and construction in this area. Larry also presented me with a beautiful wooden plaque in the shape of Arizona with a line burnt into the wood representing the trail. Mountain Bike Association of Arizona (MBAA) Administrative Director Gen Garan then presented me with a certificate on behalf of the MBAA. Then it was my turn to give out some awards and I presented my chief crew leaders, Doug Marsh, Merle Parmer and Dave Klein with gift certificates from Sportsman's Warehouse and some lovely books about Arizona.

Finally it was time to cut the ribbon during which I was joined by Dale Shewalter, Larry Snead and Pinal County supervisor Ken Buchanan. After the ribbon cutting Ken said a few words about Pinal County's involvement in the Arizona Trail project and reinforced their commitment to the future of this and other trails in Pinal County.

After the ribbon cutting, we had a raffle prize drawing and handed out many nice gifts provided by our sponsors. Guests were then given trail maps and invited to go out and hike or ride the trail, capping off a wonderful celebration!

This event would not have been a success without the support of many generous sponsors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following sponsors:

**The Arizona Trail Association** - provided food for our volunteers as well as crew leader gifts

**Sportsman's Warehouse** - provided food for our volunteers as well as crew leader gifts

**MBAA** - provided a number of giveaway items and also helped to sponsor the food

**New Belgium Brewing Company** - provided beverages for happy hour & dinner Saturday night

**Summit Hut** - provided gift certificates and many giveaway items

**Round Trip Bike Shop** - provided gift certificates and many giveaway items

**Bike Barn** - provided a number of giveaway items

**Sportsman's Warehouse** - provided gift certificates, discount coupons and giveaway items

**Arizona State Parks** - provided two camping passes for any Arizona State Park

**REI** - provided trail crew t-shirts

**IMBA and Clif Bar** - provided Clif Bars for the trail crew

**Pinal County** - provided porta-johns for our campsite & the trailhead location
On a beautiful spring day on April 9, 2005, seven intrepid hikers enjoyed the first botanical interpretive hike along the Arizona Trail. Kim Nikolaev, Sandy Sanders, Dori Pederson, Merle and Joanne Palmer, Joe Hillis and I did the "botanical crawl," observing and discussing many of the plants along the beautiful stretch of trail through Whitford Canyon northwest of Superior. That the plants responded to the winter-spring rains was very apparent, as we were treated to vast arrays of color and plant diversity for which riparian areas are known. Arizona sycamores, mesquites, wild-rhubarb, cottonwoods, Goodding's willow, giant leaf bursage, monkey flowers, California desert-chicory (a plant not often seen) and batamote, or seep-willow greeted us as we strolled along the flowing creek.

The drier slopes flanking the creek bed were not to be outdone, supporting a rich assemblage of plants that included saguaros, teddy-bear, buckhorn and chain-fruit chollas, blue and little-leaf paloverdes, brown-spined and englemann's prickly-pears, juicy, sweet-fruitied wolfberries, engelmann hedgehog (with stunning magenta flowers), Trixis and ocotillos. Some lesser conspicuous plants amongst the trees and shrubs included the cream-colored whispering bells (whose dried flowers "whisper" in the wind), desert senna, odor, cryptanthas, chia and ayenia (a small plant in the chocolate family). How do we remember all the plants that we see? For this and all future trips, we provided a plant list that included common and scientific names (because I didn't get a plant list done in time for this trip, Merle Palmer eagerly recorded everything I said, including the plant names, then compiled a list that was sent to each participant - future trips will include a pretrip list for participants to refer to while on the hike).

We didn't just look at our feet the entire trip. We were treated to seeing a banded hawk guarding her huge, rather unkempt nest at the top of an old cottonwood tree. We also shared the trail with folks who were discussing Latin plant names amongst themselves - always an attractant to a wandering botanist - and who were also birders, identifying our hawk. They had driven up from Tucson to experience this part of the Arizona Trail. All in all it was a wonderful experience sharing good times, information and experiences with fun folks while connecting with interesting inhabitants of this stretch of the Arizona Trail.

We are looking forward to our next trip, which will be held October 7, 2005, when we hike along the Trail near Patagonia along the eastern foothills of the Santa Rita Mountains. We will be camping together the night of October 6, 2005 and hike/botanize the next day (trail segment to be later determined). This is a great time of year to spend in this area, as there is a rich botanical feast for the eyes as a result of summer monsoons. And, there is the Patagonia Fall Festival! This year's 17th annual Fall Festival will be held October 8-9, providing hiking participants an opportunity to also enjoy great music, arts and crafts, and of course, food. Patagonia folks have been long supporters of our Arizona Trail, calling their community the "Gateway to the Arizona Trail."
Calendar of Events and Activities

JULY
Saturday, July 2nd - Allan Lake
Easy tread construction near Allan Lake. Meet at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, July 16th & Sunday, July 17th (until noon) Single track trail construction heading south from Allan Lake through the pines. September, August 16th and Sunday August 17th (until noon) Continuing single track trail building moving south from the Allan Lake camping spot. This section is in an easily accessible site just off Coconino County Road 3 (4 miles north of Happy Jack). Call for driving directions to work event site. We will be camping within sight of the highway (east side). We will have tools and plenty of bottled water available. This is a beautiful section of the trail and should be an enjoyable experience for all. Easy access, no off road vehicles required. Bring the family, we hope to see you! Tom Coulson 480-326-0459 or Linda Coulson 480-213-5795
July 9, 9:00 am Flagstaff Bypass
New trail construction. Meet on Rain Tree Road northside of old Route 66, east of Flagstaff Mall. Another way to get there is to take I-40 east, exit Walnut Canyon and turn north onto old Route 66. More info at www.flagstaffbiking.org, or call Coconino County at 928-774-5811.
Saturday, July 16th & Sunday July 17th (until noon)
Single track trail construction heading south from Allan Lake through the pines. This trail work is relatively easy, in the tall pines. Good camping is available at the work site (bring your own water). We will have tools and plenty of bottled water available. This is a beautiful section of the trail and should be an enjoyable experience for all. Easy access, no off road vehicles required. Bring the family, we hope to see you! Tom Coulson 480-326-0459 or Linda Coulson 480-213-5795
August 13, 9:00 am Flagstaff Bypass
New trail construction. Meet on Rain Tree Road northside of old Route 66, east of Flagstaff Mall. Another way to get there is to take I-40 east, exit Walnut Canyon and turn north onto old Route 66. More info at www.flagstaffbiking.org, or call Coconino County at 928-774-5811 or 480-326-0459.
Aug. 26-28 - Blue Ridge
Segment Stewards Chuck Horner and Larry Snead invite you to join them as we correct some erosion problems and work on construction of a new Arizona Trail re-route north of General Springs on top of the Mogollon Rim on the Blue Ridge Passage of the Arizona Trail. Great location to beat the heat. Saturday night dinner will be provided as well as some other food treat from Chuck and Larry. Lots of fun and fellowship. Beginners welcomed. For more details contact Chuck Horner at chuckhorner@cox.net or Larry Snead at sneadlarry@qwest.net.

AUGUST
Saturday and Sunday, August 13-14 (until noon)
Continuing single track trail building moving south from the Allan Lake camping spot. This is a beautiful section of the trail and should be an enjoyable experience for all. Easy access, no off road vehicles required. Bring the family, we hope to see you! Tom Coulson 480-326-0459 or Linda Coulson 480-213-5795.
September 2-5. Segment 42- Kaibab Plateau North.
Trail maintenance. Come up and experience the cool pines over Labor Day weekend. Tentative plans are for 1-2 days of trail work and 1-2 days of fun at the North Rim. RSVP Michael Carr at michael.carr@nau.edu or call (928) 779-4370.
September 14, 9:00 am Schultz Pass area
Meeting location to be determined. Check back here for more info or go to www.flagstaffbiking.org, or call Coconino County at 928-774-5811.
September 24, 2005, Temporal Gulch # 4
Work in the pines with Segment Steward Robert Best, to construct a minor re-route. Fun and fellowship with special treats. Long sleeves and pants protect you best, a wide brimmed hat likewise. Leather gloves a necessity. Please bring 3 to 4 liters of water, lunch and snacks. Please E-Mail Bob at aztrailguy@Cox.net if you can help, and to get meeting place and time.
Arizona Trail Merchandise

Name __________________________________________
Address ________________________________________
City/State/Zip____________________________________
Phone # day_______________evening_______________

Number x Price Total

Patches ______ x $3.00 ______
ATA Color Decals ______ x $1.00 ______
Trail Mug (white) ______ x $4.00 ______

BOOKS/MAPS:
ATA Passage Maps packet $6.50 ______
ATA Essential Guide for Long-Distance Travel ______ x $3.50 ______
36”x 36” Topographic Passage Map ______ x $10.00 ______
see aztrail.org for list of currently available segments
“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: ________

Mail order to:
Arizona Public Lands Information Center
222 North Central, Ste. 101, Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602-417-9300-telephone or 602-417-9375-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
Build a Legacy!

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

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP
☐ Trail Helper $20
Newsletter, AZT Decal, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card
☐ Trail Hand $50
Trail Access Maps Packet, Newsletter, AZT Decal, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card
☐ Trail Builder $100
New Arizona Trail Guidebook (mailed when released Fall, 2004)
Newsletter, AZT Patch, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card
☐ Trail Blazer $500
New Arizona Trail Guidebook (mailed when released Fall, 2004)
Arizona Trail Belt Buckle, Newsletter, AZT Patch, GPS Trail Data, Membership Card
☐ Trail Guardian $1,000
Plaque or Arizona Trail Belt Buckle, New Arizona Trail Guidebook, Newsletter, Patch, GPS Trail Data, Thank You Letter from ATA President, Membership Card

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:
☐ Contribution for new trail development $ __________
☐ My Mile contribution for trail maintenance $ __________
($100/mile)
☐ This is a gift membership from __________________________
☐ New Member
☐ Renewal Membership

What are your primary non-motorized trail activities?
☐ Hiking ☐ Horseback Riding ☐ Mountain Biking
☐ Other. __________________________

Make check payable to Arizona Trail Association. Mail check to:
AZTRAIL ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 36736
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85067-6736
E-mail: ata@aztrail.org Web Address: www.aztrail.org

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

Next Deadline: September 15, 2005

Who To Contact in the ATA

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

Helen Hill - Segment Steward database & communications - deserthill@worldnet.att.net
Larry Snead - ATA Tool Trailer, Segment Steward information - sneadlarry@qwest.net
Randy Warner - ATA contributions, donations - warner@aztrail.org
Maureen Jeffries - Membership mailing list and database, invoices, payments and other financial information - maureen@capitolconsultingaz.com
Dave Hicks - Trail Development hicksp@msn.com
Julie Allbrooks and Phyllis Ralley - ATA maps, trail information, merchandise, and books - az_plic@blm.gov

Leave Your Own Legacy to Arizona's 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 you, your family, and friends feel you are touching the future through your involvement in the mission of the Arizona Trail Association. Through your help we are preserving some of Arizona's most pristine backcountry lands and experiences for tomorrow's generations.

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 help ensure the long term strength of our organization and help us continue our environmental education and support the importance of protecting Arizona's magnificent landscapes and natural habitats.

If you would like to learn more about participating in this legacy program you can contact the Arizona Trail Association at 602-252-4794, or send a request by e-mail to: ata@aztrail.org