

Arizona Trail NEWS

**Remember to Renew
Your Membership!**
See page 5 for details.

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

Vol. 10, No. 3 – Fall 2004

Cienega Corridor Construction Project Underway

"25 Miles in Two Years:" Southern Arizona construction project taps into community for volunteer labor

Arizona Trail supporters in Southern Arizona have launched an ambitious project to build one of the last unfinished links of the trail, a link that will connect Saguaro National Park in the Rincon Mountains to the existing trail at Oak Tree Canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains.

The slogan for the project is "25 Miles in Two Years" and the construction project has a full schedule of events to accomplish this goal. Project leaders have already gained the commitment of many community volunteers and corporate sponsors. In fact, the project's steering committee feels the trail construction could be completed even sooner.

The Cienega Corridor Construction Project is being broken into two phases. The first phase is a 25-mile stretch from Saguaro National Park to the Lakes Road in the Santa Rita Mountains. The second phase, around seven miles to tie the Lakes Road to Oak Tree Canyon, is in the route selection process.

In planning the construction, it became clear to the Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists that a project of this magnitude wouldn't get done in our lifetime if we rely on user groups. We decided to make it a community project.

A steering committee, comprised of mountain bicyclists and a representative of the Tucson Saddle Club and the Rincon Institute, devised a work plan that includes a schedule of work events, a marketing plan to attract sponsors and training for the many crew leaders that will be needed.

The committee has been asking businesses and organizations to "adopt" a work event by providing at least



Trail workers will begin the challenging work of completing 25 miles of new trail construction in the Rincon Mountains when the project launches later this year.

10 volunteers for a half-day of trail construction work as a Mesquite sponsor. Sponsors can come in at two higher levels, one at 20 volunteers (Palo Verde) and the highest, Saguaro, which requires a commitment of at least 20 volunteers plus a \$2,000 contribution. Two companies, Tucson Electric Power and HDR, have already stepped up to the Saguaro level.

Volunteer trail builders will receive a T-shirt that proclaims "I Helped Build The Arizona Trail" and a free lunch. The committee is negotiating with

a local deli chain to leverage \$1,000 in grants from SDMB and the Pima Trails Association into \$2,500 in sandwiches. The committee is also working with a local fire department to have an Emergency Medical Technician on hand for the larger work events.

The steering committee has set up a Web site — www.aztrail-build.org — to provide information and a special place for volunteers to register for the project work events.

Before the project went public with press releases and public service announcements, the 2004 work event slate had been filled, and an additional date was added to accommodate a sponsor.

Although the project slogan is "25 Miles in Two Years," the steering committee feels that, given the overwhelmingly supportive response so far, the trail could be completed by the end of May in 2005.

The committee meets every two weeks, and utilizes an egroup for communicating between meetings.

A pool of 18 crew leaders will be trained, and SDMB has

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SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, February 5, 2005

Saturday February 5, 2005 we will celebrate our 11th Annual Meeting. Plans are in the works to return to the site of last year's meeting - the Phoenix Zoo. Attendees were treated to a free visit to the Zoo after the meeting adjourned around 2 p.m. Watch the ATA web site for exact location, times, costs and reservation information.



At The Helm

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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Message from our Executive Director



Larry Snead

I hope you all had a chance to read the great story about the Arizona Trail in the Sunday, August 29th, *Arizona Republic* Travel & Explore Section. It was organized and very well written by *Arizona Republic* Reporter John Stanley. John's e-mail address is john.stanley@arizonarepublic.com. It would be nice if we all would thank him.

The October issue of the *Arizona Highways* magazine features a 20-page article about the Arizona Trail written by Larry Cheek featuring outstanding photos by Randy Prentice. I would like to share with you Writer Larry Cheek's summary remarks in his story.

Cheek wrote, "After a month of plodding over the Arizona landscape, I realized the extremes of climate, the fierce angularity, the aridity, hardly matter anymore. We could bridge the Grand Canyon and build a subdivision in the Superstitions if we chose to; we are that powerful. But maybe the most powerful thing we've built here in the last century is one of the least intrusive—this rambling, 30-inch-wide dirt path called the Arizona Trail—because it can teach us what else not to build."

T.K Whipple gave us a lot of food for thought when he wrote in *Study Out the Land*, "All America lies at the end of the wilderness road, and our past is not a dead past, but still lives in us. Our forefathers had civilization inside themselves, the wild outside. We live in the civilization they created, but within us the wilderness still lingers. What they dreamed, we live, and what they lived, we dream."

President Ronald Regan said, "You make a living with what you get, you make a life by what you give."

We are grateful for what you all are giving to help us finish this wonderful legacy, a "most powerful thing"—the Arizona Trail.

Welcome Eric Hiser, New Board Member

Please help ATA welcome its newest member to the Board of Directors, Eric L. Hiser. Eric's involvement with the Arizona Trail goes back to the 1990s, when he became the Segment Steward for the Eastern Superstitions Segment of the Trail and the Association's first "Patron" member- which is a lifetime membership. He served as vice chair of the Association's strategic planning effort in 1999-2000, and has served on the ATA Advisory Council for a number of years.

Professionally, Eric is a member of Jordan Bischoff McGuire Rose & Hiser, PLC, where he practices in the area of environmental and administrative law.

Eric's interest in and experience with trail construction and maintenance reaches back to service at the Boy Scouts of America's flagship property, Philmont, in New Mexico, where he served as a trail

construction supervisor and ultimately as Associate Director of Conservation, Projects, with responsibility for building and maintaining a then-362 mile trail network. Since leaving Philmont, Eric has continued his involvement with trail construction working with the Boy Scouts and ATA members on several projects.

Eric also has extensive experience with nonprofit management and organization, presently serving as Vice President, Program with the Grand Canyon Council, Boy Scouts of America and Treasurer, Assistant Secretary and Newsletter Editor with the Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society, Inc. He previously served as general manager of a public service radio station and has served as an officer and board member with numerous other civic groups.

Events Around the State



National Public Lands Day Events Draw Crowds



ATA members Phyllis Ralley, left, and Helen Hill, distributed literature, printed maps of the Arizona Trail, and helped answer questions from hundreds of visitors attending National Public Lands Day exhibits.

The Arizona Trail Association joined its land management partners in volunteer events throughout the state to celebrate National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 19, 2004.

Many ATA volunteers participated in trail maintenance events in Northern, Central, and Southern Arizona on this special day, which recognizes the importance of our public lands to our nation, and recognizes the dedicated efforts of our land management agency personnel.

The Arizona Public Lands Information Center (PLIC) set up a large booth at a major celebration held at City of Phoenix South Mountain Environmental Education Center. ATA members Helen Hill and Phyllis Ralley distributed Arizona Trail brochures, answered the public's questions, and provided helpful trail information throughout the day.

Event guests could purchase section maps of the Arizona Trail from the Bureau of Land Management's "Maps on Demand" program with their extensive computerized mapping programs and printer equipment that they had on site. Phyllis Ralley, a computer design graphics professional, has contributed hundreds of volunteer hours at BLM's Arizona state office to assist in establishing GPS coordinates for the Arizona Trail on the sophisticated BLM mapping database.

ATA Calendar of Events is Online at www.aztrail.org

For an updated list of events on the Arizona Trail please visit: www.aztrail.org

The site is updated regularly with work events, who to contact, and what to bring.

For the benefit of Arizona Trail Association members, the GPS coordinates for the mapped segments can be downloaded from a passworded area of our web site for use in mapping programs and GPS devices.

APS Hosts Corporate Leaders at ATA Luncheon

Continuing their tradition of strong corporate support for the Arizona Trail project, Arizona Public Service Company invited some of the central Arizona region's top industry leaders to a funding campaign luncheon on August 24, 2004. Marty Shultz, Vice President, Government Affairs, served as the host and meeting facilitator, which was attended by more than a dozen potential corporate supporters and representatives from the ATA.

The luncheon served as a kickoff for an aggressive finance campaign to raise \$1.5 million in long-term corporate sponsorships for the Arizona Trail. These funds will help provide a sustainable budget for the future preservation of the Arizona Trail and the administrative management of the Association's statewide volunteer program.

Leaders from the farming, ranching, mining, financial, legal, and utility industries were invited to the luncheon. These core industries form a significant portion of the backbone of Arizona's economy, and the interest from each of these industries in the Arizona Trail project has been extremely strong. The finance campaign will gain momentum this fall and continue through next spring as these corporate leaders have the opportunity to meet with individual companies within their industries.

The ATA wishes to thank Marty Shultz and the rest of the Arizona Trail project supporters at Arizona Public Service Company for taking this wonderful leadership role in the 2004-2005 ATA Finance Campaign.



Arizona Trail in the News

Arizona Trail Captures More Media Attention

An unprecedented number of significant articles have put the Arizona Trail project in front of millions of readers nationwide and regionally during the months of September and October this year.

Multiple-page feature articles have appeared in the Arizona Republic, Tucson Citizen, and *Arizona Highways* magazine, creating tremendous interest in Arizona from people out-of-state, and many Arizona residents who are just learning about the Arizona Trail.

Arizona Republic outdoor writer John Stanley has taken a special interest in the Arizona Trail project and he has been hiking many sections of the trail for more than one year to gather information about the people and the places making the trail project a reality. His well-written 8-page series of articles were the cover feature articles in the Sunday August 29, 2004, Travel & Explore section of the paper. His articles featured some of the people who have through-hiked the trail, and others who are experiencing the trail piece-by-piece. The Tucson Citizen frequently shares John's articles with outdoor enthusiasts in Southern Arizona, as well as articles from its own reporters.

Renowned writer Larry Cheek worked with many of our Arizona Trail Segment Stewards and our Executive Director, Larry Snead, to select some of the most unique sections of the Arizona Trail to feature in the *Arizona Highways* magazine article. His account of his trail experiences is both entertaining and humorous. This is a not-to-miss issue with 20 pages of beautiful photography and maps, and skillful writing about the lure and magic of the Arizona Trail. The writer ends his article with a very special message about the importance of preserving the Arizona Trail and our wildlands for future generations.

Larry Cheek is working on another Arizona Trail article for *Sunset* magazine that will appear next fall.

ORDER YOUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

Just send your request to receive the e-mail version of ATA News to: editor@aztrail.org. If you have any questions, please let Dawson know by sending an e-mail to: webmaster@aztrail.org.

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Cienega Corridor

a half-dozen trained "Technical Resources," who will be on hand to address any design or construction issues that come up during the events. Crew leaders will have two primary responsibilities: volunteer safety and making sure everyone is having a good time.

The committee is documenting the process, and will make those documents available, as well as "how we could have done better" assessments that will be collected throughout the year.

Article by Mark Flint, ATA Regional Steward and Advocacy Director, Sonoran Desert Mountain Bicyclists



ATA Plans and Challenges



Summer Forest Fires Affect AZT in the Mazatzal's

Reports from the Tonto National Forest regarding the devastation from the "Willow Fire" indicate that the lightning-caused fire has scorched many of the uniquely wild and beautiful areas of the Arizona Trail in the Mazatzal Wilderness. The 30,000-plus acre fire began on June 24, 2004. It continued its march into the rugged wildlands for nearly 3 weeks, and even closed Highway 87 to Payson several times.

Areas affected include Mt. Peely and forested mountains near Deer Creek and Barnhardt trails, and the LF Ranch, which was fortunately spared. Trail areas north of the LF Ranch and north of the East Verde River were untouched.

The fire burned at very high temperatures, which caused scorching of the ground and nearly complete annihilation of most of the 150-year old timber in the burned area as well.

Arizona Trail users are urged to contact the Tonto National Forest, Payson Ranger District, before planning any trail use in the affected areas of the Mazatzals. Some of the most damaged areas could be closed, signage has been destroyed, and heavy seasonal rains and snow could cause flooding and potential landslides in some canyon areas. Our land management partner agencies are the key contacts for any trail condition information on our public lands and the Arizona Trail.

THANKS TO OUR SANTA CATALINA RANGER DISTRICT HEROES IN THE CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST WHO WORKED SO DILIGENTLY TO REOPEN THE ARIZONA TRAIL AFTER THE FOREST FIRES ON ORACLE RIDGE AND MT. LEMMON!

ATA Updating 5-Year Strategic Plan

A special ATA Strategic Plan Task Force has started the process of reviewing the Association's 2001-2005 Strategic Plan and readying a draft for the next five years, 2006-2010, to be presented to the Board of Directors for adoption late next year.

Eric Hiser, an environmental and administrative law attorney with Bischoff McGuire Rose & Hiser, PLC, was the chair of the original ATA Strategic Plan Committee, and is a new member of the ATA Board of Directors. He has agreed to chair the strategic planning project once again. His experience and understanding of our organization's original plan will be a big help in keeping the updating process efficient.

The ATA has grown into a much larger organization, with many more volunteers and hundreds of new miles of the Arizona Trail completed over these past years. Charting the future for the Association over the next 5 years will be a rewarding, but daunting, task. Many individuals at all levels of our organization will be involved in drafting the recommendations for our next 5-year Strategic Plan.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for the plan update, please contact the ATA by e-mail, telephone, or mail, and your communication will be given to the Strategic Plan Task Force.

Watch Your Mailbox for an ATA Membership Renewal Notice

Our ATA Membership Chairman, John Roberts, expresses his thanks to each and every one of our members and supporters for your 2004 ATA contributions, and he has asked that we watch for the upcoming membership renewal notices for 2005 that will be mailed this fall season to all current ATA members. Our membership numbers are continuing to grow this year, and we have almost doubled our membership since 2003.

Why is it important to be a member of ATA? Because your membership dues are the foundation of our ATA funding for Arizona Trail projects and volunteer management...the lifeblood of our organization. Memberships are available in many categories and there are special benefits that come with each membership level.

You can pay your 2005 membership dues at any time from now through the end of this year. A membership

form is printed on page 11 in this newsletter for sending your check by mail, or you can go to the ATA website and pay your dues online at www.aztrail.org

Please set some funds aside in your budget before the end of this year to renew your 2005 ATA membership, and if you have a few extra dollars that you'd like to contribute to the Trail Development fund for completing the construction of the last few miles of the Arizona Trail, there's a place on the renewal form for you do that as well.

And remember, as the Holidays approach, you can send a significant and memorable Gift Membership to someone in your circle of family or friends who also appreciates Arizona's magnificent outdoors, and their membership would also help in preserving the state's greatest pathway that takes them there.



Reports From the Field

15_Tortilla Mountains

A total of 4 work events were held this winter and spring on the MBAA Boulders (Tortilla Mountains) Segment of the Arizona Trail. Although three of the four work events were plagued by wet weather, we still managed to build about 1.6 miles of new trail and even had some fun doing it.

January 24th

Early morning rain and hail cleared out quickly and our hardy crew of eight pounded out some trail near the northern end of the segment. Volunteers included Arizona Trail Association (ATA) members Russ Becker, Merle Parmer, Doug Marsh, and Mark Trainor. Other volunteers were Jerry Nash, Joseph Smith and Bill Florence.

February 21st

This work event turned out to be a big one, with beautiful weather to boot! We were joined by a group of volunteers with the Arizona chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) who are new Arizona Trail segment stewards for the Mormon Lake area. This group joined us to receive training on crew leadership and trail building techniques, while helping us finish off the northern half mile of the Boulders Segment.

There were a total of 22 volunteers that included ASLA members Newton DeBardeleben, Michael Doyle, Jackie Keller, Dean Chambers, Wesley Mott, Christine Rasmussen, Tom Ferrell, Conrad Langley, Yasuko Takahashi, Kevin Patterson and Byron Stringham. ATA volunteers included Helen Hill, Russ Becker, Paul Paonessa, Merle Parmer and Doug Marsh. In addition, we had two volunteers from the Phoenix Ski Club, Lee Lambie and Ron LaMoureaux. Derek Mills and his father Dave Mills were also there representing Hamilton High School and Chandler Christian Church. Derek was completing his community service requirement.



February 21st crew at northern end of Boulders Segment

March 13th and 14th

Wet weather once again scared off several potential volunteers, however ten of us brave souls made our way down to the trail and found that the rain had come and gone. Five volunteers stayed overnight and enjoyed spaghetti dinner accompanied by the very best that New Belgium Brewing Company has to offer! On this work

event we came back to the middle of the segment and worked hard for two days to complete some terrific new trail.

Volunteers included David and Reina Klein, Southern Outdoor Club member Jim Spellman, and ATA volunteers David Babcock, Dan Schein, Helen Hill, Doug Marsh, Kent Taylor, and Carl Babcock.



Left to right: Keith Tomei, Stacy Grayam, Anna Pfender and Fay Gless at the April 4th event.

April 4th

On this outing our group was joined by Med Nicholson who was doing research for a story which appeared in the June issue of Pinal Ways Magazine out of Casa Grande. He was directed to our project by long-time MBAA supporter Kent Taylor with Round Trip Bike Shop in Casa Grande.

This time we really got hit hard with rain accompanied by thunder and lightening! Yikes! Our crew of eleven managed to get a couple of hours in before the weather sent us back to our vehicles. Three of us managed to wait out the rain and got in a couple more hours after lunch, so the day was not a total loss. Volunteers included University of Arizona Pharmacy School students from the Phi Delta Chi fraternity who were completing their community service work. These students were Katie Coates, Adam Wolf, Corrien Ledbetter, Holly VanLew, and Jason VanLew. We were also joined by MBAA member Keith Tomei with Broadway Bicycles in Tucson. ATA member Doug Marsh helped lead the group that also included my nieces Fay Gless and Stacy Grayam who were here visiting from Michigan.

Many thanks to my loyal crew leaders Doug Marsh and Merle Parmer and to all of the great volunteers who braved the weather to build some excellent trail. I hope to see everyone out there this fall and winter when we will tackle the final 2.1 miles of trail on this segment.

By Anna Pfender

Reports From the Field



30_Mormon Lake



Dale Shewalter saying thank you to Mormon Lake Lodge Manager, Scott Gold. Mormon Lake Lodge hosted the Summer Arizona Trail Association Board Meeting.

Arizona Public Lands Information Center

When you place an order for merchandise, books or maps from this newsletter or from the website, it is the Arizona Public Lands Information Center (AZ PLIC) that receives and fulfills your order. Located at 222 N. Central in downtown Phoenix, the AZ PLIC, has a store filled with resources for outdoor activities on public lands - books, maps, free brochures and gifts for outdoor lovers. Park in the garage just west of Central on Van Buren - we validate! You can also phone (602) 417-9300 or email: az_plic@blm.gov and request a catalog.

AZ PLIC is the exclusive source for Arizona Trail Passage Topo maps. These 36" x 36" maps are 1:24,000 scale, and are printed on demand. Thirty six of the 43 passage are currently available for \$10.00 each plus postage and handling (add an extra \$3.00 for a mailing tube if you want your map/s shipped rolled instead of folded). When ordering a complete set, please allow 3-5 days for processing. You will find an updated list of available passages at www.aztrail.org.

Calling for All Volunteer Hours

ATA needs to start gathering all of the volunteer hours that our members and volunteers have donated to the Arizona Trail Association this past year, and this means anything and everything you've done as a time investment in our project.

Travel time should be included, as well as planning and preparation time for any of your voluntary efforts on behalf of the Trail and the Association.

Many of our volunteers sign up on forms at trail work events, and we have those records tallied. However, we don't have all of the extra time recorded for volunteer work

Nine Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust Grant



Many smiles were in order during the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust \$50,000 grant award ceremonies held on July 15, 2004. Pulliam Trust executives Bob Berger, far left, and Dr. Edmund Portnoy, far right, congratulate ATA's Treasurer, Randy Warner and ATA's President, Jan Hancock, center.

REI Helps ATA



Kristi Alexander presents check to Larry Snead, ATA Executive Director. The check to ATA was from REI on behalf of their employees and Kristi is representing all the local employees. Kristi has attended every REI Arizona Trail Service Project for the past 6 years as well as being an active volunteer doing trail work on the section of the AZT where REI serves as the Segment Steward. The \$3,000 grant from REI is to be used to pay printing costs of our new Membership Brochure.

that has occurred at other times.

Our volunteers have averaged more than 40,000 hours of donated time per year over the past several years, and these volunteer hours help our land managers secure matching financial grants for trail projects. Please send us a list of the dates and volunteer work you have accomplished for the Arizona Trail project in 2004 so we can accurately demonstrate the importance of our volunteers' efforts!



Calendar of Events and Activities

October

Oct 23-24, Boulders Segment. New trail construction located on State Trust Land in Pinal County southeast of Florence. Join us as we knock out our last two miles of trail on this fun segment in a remote, but easily accessible location. Dinner will be provided Saturday night at a camp location near the trail. Volunteers should bring a day pack with lunch, water, snacks, sun screen, work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather (long pants and sleeves are best). Contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at mtbbabe@cox.net or 480-893-6610 for details and directions.

November

November 6-7, Pine Mt/Boulder Creek Arizona Trail Passage. The 2004 REI Service Project will be held Nov. 6-7 near Sunflower along a section of the Boulder Creek Trail. The project is 2.4 miles of new trail construction that will make the entire section of the Arizona Trail in the Sunflower area single track and off roads. Rolling grasslands and higher elevation chaparral offers expansive views of the beautiful countryside. The worksite is located in the quiet valley of Boulder Creek giving a definite remote feeling. You must register at REI--opens October 1. Info is/will be posted at www.voaz.org/rei. If you have any questions you can contact Segment Stewards Denny and Marie Haywood at mulepacker@qwest.net or Segment Steward Carl Golnik at cgolnik@msn.com

November 12-14, Reavis Canyon Trail Segment of the Arizona Trail. Work will include trimming, brushing, and grubbing out roots. Dinner will be provided Saturday night. Camping will be near the trailhead. For more information please contact Dick or Diane Wertz at 928-684-7031.

Nov 13 (SAT), 2004, Canelo West Passage (south of Sonoita, southeast of Patagonia). A one day project, near the west end Trailhead. This will be our first project of the Fall on the Canelo West Passage. We will hike in about 1 1/2 mile, to continue from where our April 2004 Project left off, and continue the brushing, tread, and structure work. Volunteers should bring a day pack with lunch, water (at least 4 liters), snacks, sun screen, a wide brimmed hat, work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather (long pants and sleeves are best). I will have a special treat for dessert. Please E-mail me at: kc7ovm@dakotacom.net or call me at 520 - 623-0017 (E-mail is best) for time & place to meet. RSVP only if coming, please!

Nov 20-21, Boulders Segment. (See calendar even on October 23-24 for details). Contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at mtbbabe@cox.net or 480-893-6610 for details and directions.

Saturday Nov 20, Canelo Hills East (southeast of Patagonia). New Segment Steward, Zay Hartigan, and the Patagonia Volunteer Fire Department, will host a one-day trail maintenance work event on this segment of the Arizona Trail. For more information contact Zay at zay@zaycom.com or call 520-394-2420.

December

Saturday Dec 4, 2004 - Temporal Gulch Passage (north and northeast of Patagonia), a light maintenance project, working from the Gardner Canyon Rd Trail head. We will be working on the 'flume'. This will be new Segment Steward Robert Best's first project on the Temporal Gulch Passage, so come out and show support for Robert. We will be doing mostly brushing and some tread work. Volunteers should bring a day pack with lunch, water (at least 4 liters), snacks, sun screen, a wide brimmed hat, work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather (long pants and sleeves are best). I will have a special treat for dessert. Please E-mail me at: rcbest@cox.net or call me at 520-459-3655 (E-mail is best) for time & place to meet. RSVP only if coming, please!

2005 - January

Saturday Jan 15, 2005 - Canelo West Passage A one day project, near the east end Trailhead. This will be our first rehab project on the east end of the Canelo West Passage in more than a year, and if we get a good turnout, we may be able to complete the Trail rehab all way into Meadow Valley with this project. We will hike in about 1 1/2 mile, to where our October 2003 Project left off, and continue the brushing, and tread work. Volunteers should bring a day pack with lunch, water (at least 4 liters), snacks, sun screen, a wide brimmed hat, work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather (long pants and sleeves are best). I will have a special treat for dessert. Please E-mail me at: kc7ovm@dakotacom.net or call me at 520 - 623-0017 (E-mail is best) for time & place to meet. RSVP only if coming, please!

Jan 29-30, Boulders Segment. Boulders Segment. (See calendar even on October 23-24 for details). Contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at mtbbabe@cox.net or 480-893-6610 for details and directions.

February

Saturday-Sunday Feb 26-27 (option for single day Saturday) - Temporal Gulch - a light maintenance project, to finish the work begun on the Dec 4th project, and continue work up the trail above the flume head (in the Bear Spring vicinity). We will backpack into the area where we need to work (about 3 miles), set up camp there (near a water source), and then work up from there. Volunteers should bring either a day pack with lunch, water (at least 4 liters), snacks, sun screen, a wide brimmed hat, work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather (long pants and sleeves are best), or a backpack and the gear for overnighting. I will have a special treat for Saturday desserts. Please E-mail me at: rcbest@cox.net or call me at 520-459-3655 (E-mail is best) for time & place to meet. RSVP only if coming, please!

Feb 26-27, Boulders Segment. Boulders Segment. (See calendar even on October 23-24 for details). Contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at mtbbabe@cox.net or 480-893-6610 for details and directions.

March

Mar 19-20, Boulders Segment. Boulders Segment. (See calendar even on October 23-24 for details). Contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at mtbbabe@cox.net or 480-893-6610 for details and directions.

Sunday Mar 20-Saturday Mar 26 - Temporal Gulch Passage A week-long American Hiking Society Project to construct new single track (~ 3/4 mile), replacing crummy 4-WD road. Camping in the pines, with plenty of fellowship. Please E-mail me at: rcbest@cox.net or call me at 520-459-3655 (E-mail is best) for options as to how you might participate for one or two days (or the whole week).

April

Saturday April 9 - Canelo West Passage We will work the west end again, this time from the Red Rock Ranch Rd (4-WD). This will be our last project of the 'season' on the Canelo West Passage. We will drive in, then hike a short distance, to where our February 2004 Project left off, and continue the brushing and tread work. Volunteers should bring a day pack with lunch, water (at least 4 liters), snacks, sun screen, a wide brimmed hat, work gloves, and shoes/boots & clothing appropriate for the weather (long pants and sleeves are best). I will have a special treat for dessert. Please E-mail me at: kc7ovm@dakotacom.net or call me at 520 - 623-0017 (E-mail is best) for time & place to meet. RSVP only if coming, please!

Apr 16-17, Boulders Segment. Boulders Segment. (See calendar even on October 23-24 for details). Contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at mtbbabe@cox.net or 480-893-6610 for details and directions.



13_Oracle

American Flag Trailhead to Highway 77



General Information: This section of the Arizona Trail links the Santa Catalina Mountain Passage with the Black Hills Passage. Located in the northern foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains near the town of Oracle, this 4000 acre park contains various native plant communities, interesting geologic formations, abundant wildlife, and the historic Kannally Ranch House. The park is mandated as a wildlife refuge and environmental learning center. Oracle State Park is currently open to the public on a use fee basis; however the Arizona Trail through the park is open to the public. There are trails connecting the Arizona Trail to a network of trails within the Park. You can use the Arizona Trail anytime, parking at American Flag trailhead or Tiger Mine road. If you wish to use connecting trail within the Park there is a daily use fee of \$2 per person (\$6 per car/4 people) The Park is open 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily.

The elevation of the Oracle Passage varies from 3700 to 4428 feet.

Location: East of Oracle, through Oracle State Park, Center for Environmental Education

Length: 7.0 miles

Difficulty Rating: Moderate

Recommended Seasons of Use: Fall, Winter, Spring

Access: The southern trailhead is American Flag Trailhead. From Oracle, take Mt. Lemmon Road 3.1 miles to the first fork in the road, and bear right. The paved portion of the road ends here. The trailhead is located approximately 1 mile from the end of the pavement.

The northern trailhead is located at Tiger Mine Road and Highway 77 or you can access the trail off of American Avenue (look for Cherry Valley Wash) the northern access road into the town of Oracle, just south of Highway 77. This is a connecting trail, subject to a day use fee.

Trail Route Description: From the American Flag Trailhead, the trail proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest Land and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. The trail from the park boundary to Kannally Wash, a distance of approximately 2.6 miles, is a multi-use trail. The trail within the park is marked with 4x4 wooden posts with the Arizona Trail brand. Water is available at the windmill at Kannally Wash, however it is untested and should be treated before use by humans. At Kannally Wash follow a power line road to the north trailhead. This is a multi-use trail.

Resources: Maps Campo Bonito and Mammoth U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute quadrangles and Oracle State Park trail map.

For more information, contact: Oracle State Park, P.O. Box 700, Oracle, Arizona 85623, (520) 896-2425, (520) 896-3215 FAX



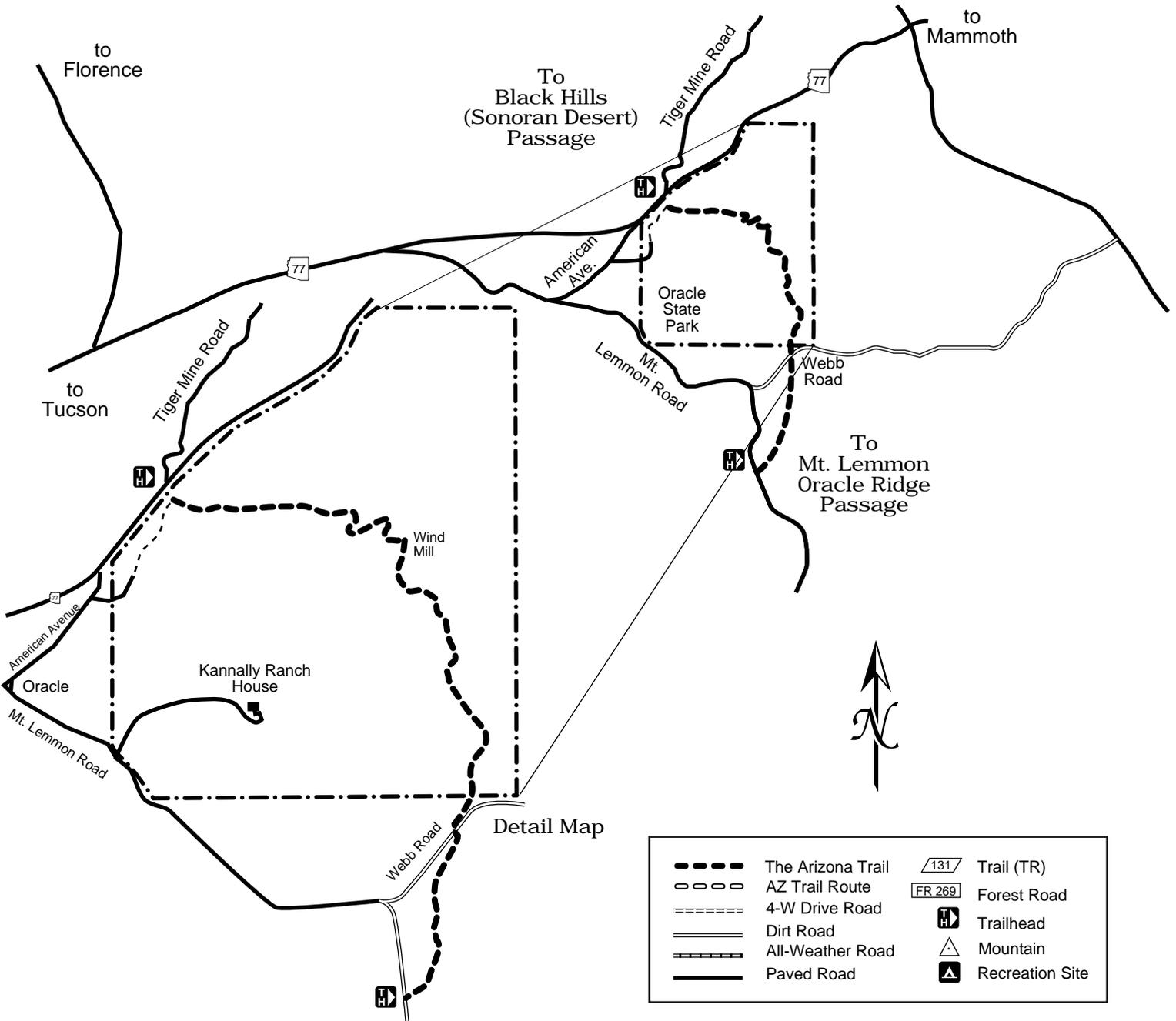
IMPORTANT NOTE: This passage sheet is intended only as an informational document to introduce you to the many recreational opportunities provided by the Arizona Trail. Always refer to the appropriate Forest Service or topographic map before planning any outing on the Arizona Trail; do not rely on the information provided in this passage sheet alone. The Arizona Trail Association is not responsible for any personal injury, damage to property, or any violation of the law which may occur in connection with the use of this document. Please respect the rights of private landowners and permittees, observe all applicable rules and regulations, and always be prepared to encounter the worst that nature has to offer on the Arizona Trail. ©2002, Arizona Trail Association

13_Oracle

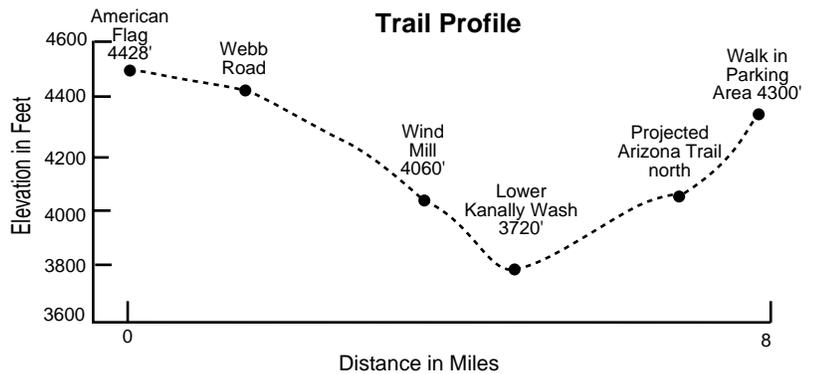
American Flag Trailhead to Highway 77



Look for this logo on various types of signage to indicate The Arizona Trail.



	The Arizona Trail		Trail (TR)
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ATA welcomes articles and photos from trail users and volunteers. EDITOR'S NOTE: When taking 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: Dec. 15, 2004

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

Shane Clays - Membership mailing list and database, invoices, payments and other financial information shane@gilstrapmottacole.com

Dave Hicks - Trail Development hicksdp@msn.com

Julie Allbrooks and Phyllis Ralley - ATA maps, trail information, apparel, merchandise, and books - az_plic@blm.gov

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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