

Gear Girls Program Report Summer 2023

Volunteer/Trail Building & Maintenance: In early May, I was approached by Wendy and Chrissy to help coordinate Northern Arizona Volunteer events. We set up three trail work days: June 25th at Sandy's Canyon, July 15 at Hart Prairie, and August 26 on Anderson Mesa. The event on June 25 was canceled due to low volunteer enrollment, so we pushed the folks who signed up for that day to join our Stewardship Conference trail day on the 27th. I attended the Stewardship Conference (minus the trail work day due to a migraine headache) and made some wonderful connections! Stewards will be reaching out to let me know if they have any sections of trail that could be taken care of by the Gear Girls come this school year.

Chrissy and I worked together for a few days at Flagstaff's Art in the Park. Again, made some rad connections and got to brag on the trail!

On July 15, I led the trail work day on Hart Prairie. See the report here: [7.15 Hart Prairie Work Day Report](#). Per Matt Roberts, the trail/soil conditions on Anderson Mesa won't be responsive until after it rains so we rescheduled the last trail work day from August 5th to the 26th. Stay tuned!

ACA Explorer Program: On July 29th, I led the ACA/AZT Explorer Program ride. Athletes and families camped out Friday night, and we rode on the 29th. This an exciting new partnership engaging youth mountain bikers from throughout Arizona to experience the AZT and give back throughout stewardship projects. We will be working with Chloe Woodruff, their director, into the future. Side note: Chloe's introduction to the AZT was on a ride with Matt Nelson in 2012 where they rode Passages 17 and 16 in a day. She was instantly hooked!

Gear Girls: Will be picking up the fall session on September 6th. I will have a Wednesday (2-5 pm) and a Saturday (11 am-2 pm) group. See our schedule here: [Gear Girls 2023 Fall Calendar](#) I have reconnected with Kevin Lehto on the Kaibab and will be meeting in person soon to nail down some trail work days for this fall. He also secured the Spring Valley Cabin for us to utilize at the end of our fall session (round two - hopefully no snow this time!)

- Ladies night fundraiser @ Peace Surplus – October 28
- Sarah Dowling will likely be returning from her wildland fire season in late autumn
- REI Distribution Center reached out, and is donating a bunch of new helmets!
- Three bikes sold so far from the donated fleet – this \$ benefits our program. Thanks to Brandee from Global Bikes (and Trips for Kids Phoenix)!!!

GGG/GG: Jody and I have been meeting weekly and brainstorming into the future. We have nailed down dates for our second Gateway Community Girl's Camp (October 21-22) in Vail, AZ. We also have been supporting a mom from the Rim Country GCGC that is wanting to get a bike team started in Pine. We have connected with ACA Chloe and are currently working through the process(es) that getting a team started entails.

Next May, we plan to return to Pine and put on another camp in the same location.

Jody just launched her MENTOR girl MENTOR program which was birthed from GG's Junior Coaches which I am very excited about. This will only beef up our Gateway Community Girl's Camps.

Other brainstorming:

- Creating GG/GgG/GCGC swag – could we sell?

SOS: Clay and I will be meeting next Monday for the first time since last school year. We have kept in touch over the summer and collaborated on a few projects. I am planning on continuing to work with SOS, but will likely scale back a bit.