

Arizona Trail NEWS

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

Vol. 11, No. 1 – Spring 2005

Arizona Trail Boulders Segment* Celebrates Completion - You're Invited!

The Mountain Bike Association of Arizona (MBAA), under the leadership of Segment Steward Anna Pfender, has reached a milestone in the history of the Arizona Trail. This tenacious group of volunteers has been working week after week, month after month, and year after year on their 10-mile section of the Arizona Trail, and they have just completed construction of the final mile this past winter and spring season.

They are planning a special celebration and ribbon-cutting event on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, 2005, to commemorate the completion of this highly successful project. The group is extending an invitation to all supporters of the Arizona Trail to join them in this celebration.

MBAA and other ATA volunteers have planned and constructed a high quality single-track trail through some rugged and challenging terrain in Pinal County. Their section of the trail is named the Boulders Segment, and the trailhead is located midway between Florence Junction and Oracle, approximately 19 miles east of Highway 79 on Freeman Road.



November 21st crew: back row, left to right, Jim McClain, Dan Shein, Dave Babcock, Ed Hiebert, and Carl Babcock. Front row, left to right, Anna Pfender, Helen Hill, and Nathan Babcock.

The celebration begins with a 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. session of trail work on Saturday to put some finishing touches on the trail, followed by a 6:00 p.m. campsite dinner and party around the campfire. Food, drink, and prizes are planned for all guests who attend the celebration.

A Continental Breakfast will be provided on Sunday morning, April 17, 2005, between 8-9 a.m., followed by a 9-9:30 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony. After the ribbon cutting, everyone is invited to hike, bike, or horseback ride on this newly completed Arizona Trail passage and return for a 1:00 p.m. group lunch and prize drawings.

If you would like to help congratulate this deserving group of volunteers and participate in the fun events on either or both days, contact Segment Steward Anna Pfender at 480-893-6610 or by e-mail: mtbbabe@cox.net, or go to the ATA website for event details and driving directions. Be sure to let them know you'll be attending so they will have enough food for everyone who plans to be there.

Congratulations to MBAA and all of the other volunteers who have kept the planning and construction of this long stretch of trail on schedule. A great job, well done!

Annual Meeting Honors Merle Parmer and Other Outstanding ATA Volunteers

More than 140 ATA members and guests attended the 11th Annual Meeting and Recognition Luncheon that was hosted by ATA and the Phoenix Zoo on Saturday, February 5, 2005. Segment Stewards and Arizona Trail enthusiasts from across the state attended, including members from as far away as Dolan Springs, near Kingman, in northern Arizona, and Sierra Vista in southern Arizona.

Members were presented 2004 annual financial, membership, and trail progress reports and conducted elections for seventeen Board members, bringing the current number of Board members to twenty-three. Our Bylaws permit twenty-four Board members.

The event was highlighted by two special presentations from keynote speaker, Gary Werner with the

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* The Boulders Segment of the Arizona Trail is located on Passage 15_Tortilla Mountains passage of the Arizona Trail.



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.

Board of Directors

President:

Dale Shewalter

Immediate Past President:

Jan Hancock

V. P. Trail Development:

Dave Hicks

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Bob Lane

John Roberts

Robert Shuler

Marty Shultz

Eric Smith

Russell Smolden

Jim Stoeckmann

Scott Summers

Kent Taylor

Dave Troutner

Executive Director/ Chief Trail Steward:

Larry Snead

sneadlarry@qwest.net

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

Arizona Trail Association

P.O. Box 36736

Phoenix, Arizona 85067

602-252-4794

www.aztrail.org

Message from our Executive Director



Larry Snead

I would like to share a recent experience with you. In late February and early March, 2005 I had the opportunity to spend a week in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the Arizona Trail and to seek federal support for all trails. It was a wonderful experience to witness and be a part of our government in operation. I attended a meeting of the Partnership for National Scenic and Historic Trails, an American Hiking Society meeting and a briefing on trail related issues. The main purpose of my trip to Washington was to work on the legislation to start the process for the Arizona Trail to become a National Scenic Trail.

It was a busy week as I visited the offices and spoke with the staff of Congressmen Kolbe, Flake, Renzi, Pastor, Hayworth, and Grijalva. We also had a meeting in Senator McCain's office with representatives from the National Park Service and the Forest Service along with key staff members

from the offices of Congressman Kolbe, Senator Kyl and Senator McCain. The purpose of the meeting was to finish drafting the Arizona Trail National Scenic Trail feasibility study legislation and discusses strategies to get the legislation passed in the 109th Congress. Both bills have since been submitted. The Senate bill number is 588 and the House bill number is 1250. You can help by writing your Congressmen and Senators expressing your support of these bills.

Message from the ATA President



Dale Shewalter & Cimarron

Greetings from Flagstaff,

The Arizona Trail Association is much larger, more organized, and accomplishing much more since I was president of the infant Association. There are many people responsible for this and the near completion of the Trail, but no one more so than Jan Hancock. We can only see evidence of her countless hours given for the care and guidance needed to complete the Trail. Jan will continue her efforts for the Trail, focusing on fund-raising and organizational support. Thank you Jan!

Another big thanks needs to go to Phyllis Ralley, board member for ten years. Many of the Association's communication tasks have been done by Phyllis, and the successful topographic map project is largely due to her effort. Thank you

Phyllis! We know she will continue her creative support of the Trail, but I'll bet we see Phyllis and Jan using the Trail more, too.

Our wonderfully wet winter should provide for a great trail construction season in the high country. If your trail activity goals include work on the Arizona Trail, please continue to check the web site for scheduled work trips. With your help, work done this year will bring us much closer to completing the Arizona Trail. Thank you for your support. I hope to see you on the Trail.

Events Around the State



Governor Napolitano Scheduled to Kick Off Copper Butte Project in Superior

The Governor of the State of Arizona, Janet Napolitano, is anticipated to lead a groundbreaking ceremony for one of the most technical and difficult construction projects ever undertaken on the Arizona Trail. There are many partners involved in this 25-mile trail project that is scheduled to launch in April 2005. Resolution Copper Company will be hosting the Governor and many of the project partners at a special celebration being held at Picketpost Trailhead and Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park near Superior.

Ceremonies will include a \$100,000 check presentation from Resolution Copper Company to ATA for funding a portion of the difficult and costly construction that will be

required for building the Arizona Trail segment between the Gila River and U.S. Highway 60. The total Copper Butte Project costs are estimated to be \$527,000.

Land management agencies partnering with ATA in the project include the Bureau of Land Management, USDA Forest Service, National Park Service Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance Program, Arizona State Land Department, and Pinal County. Other project partners include Resolution Copper Company, Desert Botanical Garden, Boyce Thompson Arboretum State Park, REI and the American Hiking Society.

ATA Board Elects New Officers for 2005

Seventeen new and current Board member candidates were elected at the ATA Annual Meeting to serve new terms on the Board. Re-elected to serve another term are five returning Board members, Bob Bohannon, Terry Horne, Dale Shewalter, Eric Smith, and Lyn Harry White, and twelve new Board members were elected. They are Bas Aja, Lisa Atkins, Dave Hicks, Eric Hiser, Wendy Hodgson, John Roberts, Robert Shuler, Marty Shultz, Russell Smoldon, Jim Stoeckmann, Scott Summers, and Dave Troutner. The current Board and newly elected Board members met on February 9, 2005 to conduct the election of officers to serve one-year terms of office. The following candidates were unanimously elected to the ATA Executive Committee:

President – Dale Shewalter

Vice President, Trail Development – Dave Hicks

Secretary – Lyn Harry White

Treasurer – Randy Warner

Past President – Jan Hancock

Arizona's Congressional Members Propose Two Bills

With 100 percent support from every Arizona member of the United States Congress and House of Representatives, two significant bills were introduced in Congress on March 14, 2005, to approve a Feasibility Study enabling the Arizona Trail to become eligible for designation as a National Scenic Trail (NST). Senate Bill 588 was co-introduced by Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl, and Representative Jim Kolbe of Tucson introduced House Bill H.R. 1250.

Board Secretary Lyn Harry White chairs ATA's committee that is spearheading this effort. Watch for further news on this important proposed legislation on ATA's website and press releases in the state's newspapers. National Scenic Trail designation will provide perpetual protection to the Arizona Trail corridor and additional opportunities for national recognition and support programs.

American Hiking Society Sends Volunteers to Help ATA

A hearty group of twelve college students braved the snows and winter weather of the Wisconsin roads and drove across the country on their spring break in two university vans to work on a realignment of the Arizona Trail route in the Temporal Gulch area of the Arizona Trail north of Patagonia the week of March 20-25, 2005. The event was organized and hosted by Segment Stewards Richard Corbett and Robert Best from Tucson, who are also American Hiking Society Ambassadors along with Sue Baughman from Dolan Springs, Arizona, who also attended the weeklong work event.

Shirley Hearn, an AHS Volunteer Vacations leader, provided all of the logistical support and made the travel

and work event arrangements for this significant project. The university students competed on campus for the opportunity, and we understand there was a long list of eligible candidates that wanted to make the trip and do this trail work project on the Arizona Trail.

The American Hiking Society has been a strong supporter of the Arizona Trail since our organization was founded. The Arizona Trail project has attracted a large number of Volunteer Vacation projects in the past, and the groups work hard, get a lot of trail work accomplished, and go home as advocates to share their stories and pictures of their memorable week helping build the Arizona Trail.



Events Around the State

Annual Meeting (continued from page 1)



Merle Parmer receives the American Trails outstanding volunteer award from Larry Snead of the ATA.

Partnership for the National Trails System, and Brian Poturalski with the Coconino National Forest in Flagstaff. Both presenters brought fascinating and inspiring comments and photographs to share with the attendees. Gary Werner shared how other famous long distance trails have become National Scenic Trails, and Brian Poturalski chronicled the highlights of his 40-day border-to-border trek of the Arizona Trail to celebrate his 40th birthday.

During the Recognition Luncheon a special presentation was made by



ATA supporter REI had an informational booth set up for members during the meeting breaks.

Nadine Brunhofer, state president of the Colonial Dames XVII Century, a national group of women who can prove their ancestors were in America prior to 1701. Ms. Brunhofer's state organization presented a generous check for \$1,500 to ATA to help with the construction of the Arizona Trail.

Guests were treated to a display of a very wide range of new outdoor products available from REI, Arizona Public Lands Information Center, Summit Hut, the American Hiking Society, and the International Mountain Bike Association. Twenty-five lucky attendees went home with special door prizes provided by the exhibitors and other sponsors, including a Grand Door Prize of a Mormon Lake Lodge weekend for two complete with a steak dinner. This door prize was provided by Mormon Lake Lodge in Flagstaff, a significant ATA partnership supporter.

The event concluded with an impressive group of Segment Stewards who were introduced and recognized for

their many contributions to the construction and maintenance leadership they provide to volunteers and their partnership work with their land managers. Twenty-six individuals were honored with beautiful Arizona Trail Certificates of Appreciation designed by Phyllis Ralley, graphic artist for the ATA, which featured a color photograph of a Pinal County sunrise along the Arizona Trail taken by Executive Director, Larry Snead.

Please Send Us Your Volunteer Hours

It is now more important than ever that you keep track of the volunteer hours, include driving time, you donate to the Arizona Trail and report those hours. That includes hours working at a trail construction or maintenance event, volunteering to answer questions at an Arizona Trail display or help with the Annual Meeting. Please report your hours for both group activities and individual time.

We recently were informed by a group of Federal land managers that the value they have placed on a volunteer hour, including drive time, is \$17.64. That means if you work 6 hours at a project and it is a 2-hour roundtrip drive to the project site your contribution is valued at \$141.12. Your volunteer hours can then be used to match both Federal and non-Federal grants. Your volunteer hours are called "soft dollars" and they can be used to match "hard dollars." For every hour you donate, we can leverage \$17.64 toward building, maintaining and protecting the

Arizona Trail but we have to know about it.

Karen Buckhout has volunteered to gather this information and keep track of it. She can be reached at Doxophone@cox.net. Karen will be contact all our Segment Stewards and other volunteers urging them to submit their work event sign-up sheets in a timely manner. Also she wants to know about your individual volunteer hours. We have a form to report both work event hours and your individual volunteer hours and you can get copies by contacting Shane at shane@gilstrapmottacole.com. But actually you don't need a form to report your volunteer hours. Just send Karen an e-mail with your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, number of hours worked (including travel time), date and location of work.

We will greatly appreciate your help on this project to benefit the Arizona Trail.

Events Around the State



Arizona Horse Lovers Foundation Becomes an ATA Premier Legacy Partner

Arizona Horse Lovers Foundation has become one of the Arizona Trail Association's newest 5-year Premier Legacy Partners, providing a significant \$25,000 grant with annual contributions of \$5,000 each year. This foundation awards funding to worthy projects that help to preserve the equestrian lifestyle in the state of Arizona.

The Arizona Trail attracts equestrians from all over the state as well as visitors who come to Arizona to ride their own horses or ride horses with outfitters on different

statewide sections of the Arizona Trail. The entire 800-mile route of the Arizona Trail, border-to-border, provides total access to horseback riding and pack stock use. The Arizona Trail connects with many equestrian trailheads and campgrounds across the state. In addition, wilderness area sections of the Arizona Trail offer horseback riding opportunities to people with physical challenges who would not otherwise be able to experience these pristine backcountry areas.

Mark Your Calendar for the 10th National Scenic and Historic Trails Conference

The Partnership for the National Trails System will hold the 10th Conference on National Scenic & Historic Trails June 18 – 22, 2005 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Arizona Trail Association members and their guests are invited to attend this conference. ATA is a member of the Partnership for the National Trails System.

This will be an excellent opportunity to meet with the other National Scenic Trails members and agency personnel from across the nation to get first-hand information about trails such as the Appalachian Trail, Lewis and Clark Trail, Pacific Crest Trail, and the Florida Trail, which is a state trail similar in distance to our own Arizona Trail.

The conference is just a short airline flight away from

Arizona with frequent daily departures from Phoenix and Tucson, or attendees can easily travel the 285 miles in approximately 6-7 hours from the Phoenix area by car. The conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

The Old Spanish Trail Association will be the conference hosts. Portions of the Old Spanish Trail cross the northern border of Arizona. There will be field trips along the route of the Old Spanish Trail, as well as tours to explore Red Rock Canyon and Lake Mead National Recreation Areas, and the forests of Charleston Peak just west of Las Vegas.

Registration materials will be available in April from Gary Werner, Executive Director for the Partnership for the National Trails System. Contact Gary by calling 608-249-7870 or by email at: NATTRAILS@aol.com

American Hiking Society Awards Significant Grant to Arizona Trail Association



**American
Hiking
Society**

ATA has just been informed that one of our projects has been awarded a \$4,400 grant to purchase the right-of-way on a section of State Trust Land for the route of

the Arizona Trail north of the Gila River. This is a key link, enabling the completion of construction for one of the most rugged sections of the Arizona Trail located in the heart of Pinal County.

ATA has been selected for grants in previous years, and our organization is indebted to AHS for the far-reaching accomplishments these contributions have made to speed the progress in building and maintaining the Arizona Trail.

Plan to Participate in National Trails Day First Saturday in June, 2005

National Trails Day is being held on June 4, 2005 throughout the nation. This special day celebrates trails in every community, and ATA members are encouraged to plan an outing on the Arizona Trail or participate in some of the fun activities planned across the state of Arizona. Look for events we have scheduled on our ATA calendar as this date approaches, or go to the American Hiking Society website at www.americanhiking.org to choose a trail activity from the list of all of the events that will be held around the state and region to commemorate National Trails Day.

**ATA Calendar of Events is
online at www.aztrail.org**



Reports From the Field

15_Tortilla Mountains

Boulders Segment Fall & Winter Work Events

By Anna Pfender

Four work events were held this fall and winter on the Mountain Bike Association of Arizona (MBAA) sponsored Boulders segment of the Arizona Trail. This segment, located southeast of Florence in Pinal County is a great place to be at this time of year, with pleasant daytime temperatures and nice cool nighttime temperatures making for excellent evenings around the campfire. 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.

October 23rd and 24th

Gorgeous weather prevailed, allowing the crew to make good progress with new trail construction. The Sunday crew even had opportunities to see a California King Snake as well as a young tarantula. About 0.30 miles of new trail was built during this work event.

Many thanks to all the crewmembers who came out to participate, including ATA members Doug Marsh, Merle Parmer, Dan Shein, Bernie Stalman and Russ Becker; Derek Mills from Hamilton High School in Chandler; and volunteers David Klein, Dave Mills, and Bill Florence.

The November 21st crew included Jim McClain, Dan Shein, Dave Babcock, Ed Hiebert, Carl Babcock, Anna Pfender, Helen Hill, and Nathan Babcock.

November 20th and 21st

A total of 0.48 miles of new trail was constructed over this weekend with the Saturday crew finally taking the trail past the south side of the "famed" Boulders area for which this segment was named after. How ironic that this is one of the last areas to be built on the Boulders Segment! It was a great feeling to finally have actual trail in place in this really cool area. The first saguaro encountered on the segment (when traveling from south to north) is also in the Boulders area and the new trail passes right by it! The Sunday crew was "rewarded" with breezy weather and a number of extremely short-lived rain and hailstorms that passed through the area making for an interesting day.

Crewmembers included Southern Outdoor Club members Edward Hiebert and Dave Babcock, ATA members Doug Marsh, Carl Babcock, Dan Shein, Helen Hill, Jim McClain and Rosemary Minter, and volunteers David Klein and Nathan Babcock.

January 29th and 30th

With all the rain this winter I suppose we were destined to see some of it on a work event weekend, but honestly, the rain, sleet and hail that bombarded us Saturday afternoon and evening truly challenged my crew's ability to stay dry, eat dinner and have fun. But they persevered, got a campfire going between rain showers and survived the night to put in a full day's work on Sunday. We ended up completing about 0.34 miles that weekend.

Massive kudos to our resilient crew that included MBAA member Don Smith; ATA members Bernie Stalman, Dave Babcock, Carl Babcock, Helen Hill, Doug Marsh, Merle Parmer, and Laddie Cox; Southern Outdoor Club members Margaret Medernach and Charles Medernach and volunteers David Klein, Julie Brozio, and Tom, Brittany, Alexandra and Weston Myers who traveled all the way from Flagstaff to help out (I bet they thought the weather would surely be nicer down there than in Flagstaff! Ha!)

February 26th and 27th

This time it only looked like rain half the time and we ended up having a very successful work event. My all male crew pounded out 0.55 miles of trail over the weekend in addition to enjoying a nice campout and Saturday night dinner (if I do say so myself since I cooked it).

Thanks to my crew that included Jack Kelly with Boy Scout Troop 127; ATA members Kent Taylor, Doug Marsh, Merle Parmer, and Jim McClain; MBAA member Don Smith; and volunteers David Klein, Shawn Redfield, Derek Mills, David Mills, Mac Stant (who traveled all the way from Holbrook), and Jarred Taylor. Extra thanks go out to first-time volunteer Shawn Redfield who cooked us up some excellent pancakes for breakfast on Sunday! Boulders Segment Completion Celebration

Due to the significant progress over the last 6 months, we anticipate completing the construction of the Boulders Segment at our April 16th and 17th work event. We are planning a celebration and ribbon cutting ceremony on the morning of the 17th after which those in attendance will have the opportunity to be the first to traverse the entire length of the completed segment by foot, bicycle, or horseback. Please come and join us on this special weekend. Lots of free food and great door prizes will be included! Contact me, Anna Pfender at 480-893-6610 or at mtbbabe@cox.net for details and directions.

(Please see article on page one of this newsletter)

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

Reports From the Field



9_Rincon Mountains



Photos by Brad and Marc Buckhout:

The first is on the way up from the border.

The second is a stone staircase ascending the Rincons.

Third is beginning the descent from the Rincons near Italian Spring.

Fourth is looking across Redington Pass.

18_Reavis Canyon



February on the AZT at a normally dry stream bed crossing of Queen Creek north of Picketpost Trailhead.

Photos submitted by Deb Morrell



Whitford Canyon along the AZT in the foothills of the Superstition Mountains - nice and green



Reports From the Field

14_Black Hills



The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Work Group members included in the picture are (left to right): Jim Strickler, Dean Werstler, Cheryl Werstler, and Dave Hydeman; someone had to take the picture, so that was me.

Photos submitted by John Rendall



John Rendall submitted this photo of a barrel cactus, which is only a few feet off the trail, and measures almost 8 feet and has a girth of 90 inches. In order to see it you must know exactly where it is because it's not generally noticeable as you hike the trail. It is very high up as you cross a rather steep wash.

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

For an updated list of events on the ArizonaTrail 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.

2_Canelo Hills East

On February 26th, a crew of 6 volunteers from the Huachuca Hiking Club held a work event on the Arizona Trail south of the Parker Canyon Lake trailhead. The crew consisted of Bernie Stalman, Bill Breeding, Ed Dvorak, Connie Gumulauskis, Kevin Scammel, and Segment Steward Steve Saway. The focus of this event was to install signs and cairns, repair tread, construct water bars, and brush overgrown vegetation. The Arizona Trail logo signs and signposts were supplied by the Sierra Vista Ranger District. Due to winter rains, a significant section of trail was covered by tall grasses. The crew re-established the tread and erected cairns to mark the route. Additional signs were installed in several critical locations to eliminate confusion. The crew also had fun re-building and adding water bars to improve the tread along steep sections of the trail. Though the weather turned cool and brought some light rain, the crew managed to make good progress along the first couple of miles of this stretch. Future work events will be held to continue signing, tread, and brushing efforts along the trail in Scotia Canyon to Sunnyside Canyon. Submitted by

Steve Saway, Segment Steward,
Huachuca Mountains Passage

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Call For Volunteers!

Good news! The Arizona Trail Association membership is growing. Our membership has almost doubled since early 2004. This increase has placed additional demands on our membership staff and we need your help. We are looking for volunteers that can help pre-assemble membership kits for new and returning members. This should only take about half a day and lunch will be served. Please contact Shane Clays at Gilstrap, Motta and Cole, 602 712-9822 to volunteer. Your help will be greatly appreciated and allow us to respond to our members much quicker.

Reports From the Field



Canelo West Progress Helped By Native Resources International, Inc.

by Richard Corbett

January 15th found 10 capable volunteers from Native Resources International, Inc. traveling south from Phoenix to help Segment Steward Richard Corbett continue his rehab of the Canelo West passage. Richard was joined by Buckeye Trail Association (Ohio) leader Elmo Layman, who helped as a crew leader.

Patty Cascio was the leader for Native Resources International, Inc., and was joined by one of the firm's owners and his brother, Jeff & Kurt Homan, plus Kevin Brenda, Manny Alvillar, Eron Dixon, Alejandro Alvillar, David Lindsey, Jose Alvillar, and Omar Alvillar. The picture shows me (Steward Richard Corbett, with pack on) demonstrating a tread restoration method, from left to right, Alejandro, Manny, Kurt, Elmo, Eron, Patty, Jose, Kevin, Dave, and Jeff. Omar took the photo.

Five of the Native Resources International, Inc. volunteers were put in each of two crews with Richard and Elmo as leaders, and they proceeded to do 'touch up' (light maintenance) on the first 1.5 miles of the Trail, such as cleaning and restoring rolling dips, working from the East Trailhead at Canelo Pass. This section had been rehabbed last year for the first time in many years.

After getting to the point (1.5 miles in) where no Trail maintenance had been done for at least five years, we began Trail rehab work in earnest. Two switchbacks were rebuilt, about 12 new rolling dips were constructed, about six sections of washed out tread were filled, many locations of berm were removed, and numerous cats' claw plants



were removed.

The result of this very successful project (thanks to Elmo and the 10 folks from Native Resources International, Inc), is that with the 1.25 miles of new trail built last March with our AHS project, we have now completed the rehab and reconstruction of the Canelo West Segment for the first five miles of the east end.

We have so far completed about 3 miles of the west and center parts of Canelo West, for a total, with the 5 miles at the east end, in just a little over two years, of about 8 of the 15 miles of the passage being up to standard.

Thanks to all who have helped us get to this point, and please do keep helping as we plan to have the entire 15 miles completely rehabbed (including about 4 miles of re-route and new trail) by 2008.

Boy Scouts Release New Jacket Patch Design

The Grand Canyon Council, BSA has completed the final preparations on a new large ATA jacket patch. The patch design comes from the new t-shirt design. The design has received the approval from the ATA Executive Board and the Executive Director, Larry Snead. The patch will consist of one main patch and 6 sections. Each section patch consists of 6 or 7 ATA Trail Segments. The idea is when you hike or ride a segment you get the main patch and that section. You then place a brad next to the segment that you hiked or rode. A copy of the final patch design is attached. The price of the patches is \$5.00 for the main patch and \$1.50 for each section. The brads are \$6.00 for ten. Shipping is extra and will be determined for each order. For more information contact Neil Hornbeck at neil@hornbeck.us, P. O. Box 2642, Overgaard, AZ 85933.



I would also like to report on my presentation of the Arizona Trail at the University of Scouting held February 26, 2005 at the Heard Scout Pueblo. It was a very positive event. The event is where they teach unit leaders on a wide array of Scouting and outdoor skills. I was able to make a lot of contacts to unit leaders regarding Eagle Scout Projects along the Arizona Trail. I also received several requests for the new jacket patch. I have been asked to return with the display for the Grand Canyon Council's Scout-O-Rama on the first weekend in November. The Boy Scouts of America, Grand Canyon Council would like it to be a regular event for us to come out to both events each year if possible.

Neil Hornbeck
neil@hornbeck.us
BSA Representative to the ATA



Calendar of Events and Activities

April

"What flower is that?" Wildflower Hike on the Trail

With the rains there has come an amazing display of wildflowers! Come experience and enjoy them with Wendy Hodgson, botanist at Desert Botanical Garden on April 9th. We will hike and discover what wildflowers are growing along the Whitford Canyon area of our Arizona Trail. Participants will meet at the Picketpost Trailhead near milepost 221 just south of Route 60 (and on west side of Picketpost Mountain) at 9 am. Bring lunch and water; binoculars are also useful. Be a part of our first kick-off interpretive field day event highlighting our many wonderful natural and cultural features of the Trail. Event is free but is limited to 20 participants. RSVP by calling Wendy Hodgson at 602-276-0760 or emailing her at whodgson@dbg.org. See you there!

Apr 16-17, 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.

Sunday, April 17, 2005, Cienega Corridor

Construction work event. For more information go to <http://www.aztrail-build.org> or call 520-884-3760.

Saturday April 30, 2005 – Sunday May 1. Highline trail work event.

Spend the night at a local camp and hike (1 mile) to the trail where we will be working toward Washington Park. Some people may be asked to work from Washington Park towards the camp. The Park is located 3 miles from the camp. Volunteers are asked to pay a \$12.00 fee for the use of the camp (facility rental for night stay) and for food provided, however if you just want to come for the day and you bring your own food the event is free. We do have a program planned for the evening such as a camp fire and smore's.

- * Time: 9:00 A.M. Saturday – 10:00 A.M. Sunday
- * Location: Shadow Rim Ranch, Payson
- * Fee: \$12 per person (includes food and facility use)
- * Capacity: Minimum 25/Maximum 50
- * RSVP is a must if coming, thank you! Contact Kate Tegeler at (602) 253-6359, ext. 1202 or KateTegeler@girlscoutsl.org

May

Sunday, May 8, 2005, Cienega Corridor

Cienega Corridor Construction work event. For more information go to <http://www.aztrail-build.org> 520-884-3760.

Check online at aztrail.org for May event on Buckskin Mountain Passage.

Contact Michael Carr at michael.carr@nau.edu for more information.

Saturday-Sunday May 28-29. Temporal Gulch Passage

(option for single day Saturday) - Another backpack, to finish up the light maintenance on the trail above Bear Spring, to and over the high saddle. We will backpack into the area where we need to work (about 3 1/2 miles), set up camp there, 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 overnighing. 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!

A Trail Work Challenge from Tony Viviano

Looking for some real backcountry adventure? Join Segment Steward Tony Viviano on one of four Mazatzal Wilderness work events scheduled in April and May. The work event dates are: April 16-17, April 30 – May 1, May 14-15, and May 28-30. Trail work will include installing water bars, repairing erosion, improving the trail tread in some areas, and repairing switchbacks. Participants are to meet at 8:00 a.m. for all work events. Drive to the Barnhardt Trailhead on Highway 87 and Forest Service Route 419 to meet up with the other participants. Bring your own camping gear, food, and water. This will be primitive camping with no amenities provided. People are welcome to participate in half-day activity or the entire weekend. For additional information contact Tony Viviano at 623-398-8329 or send email to: tonyaces@cox.net

See www.aztrail.org for updated information on all calendar events

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see aztrail.org for list of currently available segments

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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: June 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

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

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