



News and information on the state's border-to-border Arizona Trail project

Vol. 14, No. 1 – Spring 2007

## The Arizona Trail – A Love Story

Every February, Arizona Trail Association (ATA) members gather to celebrate that which is near and dear to their hearts: the Arizona Trail. And what a love story it is.

The Arizona Trail evokes passion, drama, elation, promises of everlasting devotion, and quiet contentment. To be sure, there are the moments of doubt, frustration and impatience, but as time shows, love conquers all, and our Trail steadfastly rewards our fidelity.

Attendees for this year's annual member's meeting arrived this third day of February 2007 to find the lobby of the National Bank building in Phoenix brimming with activity. Prominently on display were numerous tables filled with silent auction items to make the heart throb faster. The silent auction raised \$1,400 for the ATA. Way to show the love, everyone!



credited the "tightwad" leadership of Executive Director **Dave Hicks** for the positive balance statement.

Dave took the podium after Randy and immediately dispelled the tightwad label. "I prefer the term 'frugal'," he said good-naturedly. Dave also joked that his role as executive director was like herding cats. If that be the case,

then Dave is one heck of a cat-herder, as his summary of ATA accomplishments for the last year proves.

Perhaps the most notable accomplishment is the progress made this year toward completing the final sections of the Trail. In addition to the 9.5 miles of new trail added around the state, the superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park signed off on the trail miles needed to link the South Rim to the North Rim. The ATA has now completed all but 57 miles of the Arizona Trail!

ATA membership rose to 833 this year and continues to grow. Additionally, hundreds of trail-loving folks volunteered more than 21,600 documented hours of their time on the Arizona Trail in 2006, working with our 65 trail stewards to "git-r-done." And **Laddie Cox's Hit & Run** crews were always there to fill in the maintenance gaps.

*Continued on page 4*



*ATA President Kent Taylor called the 13th Annual Members' meeting to order and welcomed attendees.*

After an introduction and welcome to the 140 Arizona Trail enthusiasts by ATA President **Kent Taylor**, Treasurer **Randy Warner** presented an overview of ATA finances. "Our organization runs lean," he said with a wry grin, explaining that more than \$136,000 came into the organization while only \$129,900 was spent. Warner



*Randy Warner, Arizona Trail Association Treasurer, reported on the financial state of affairs.*



# Dave's Arizona Trail Top Ten

From the ATA executive director ([executivedirector@aztrail.org](mailto:executivedirector@aztrail.org))

## The Arizona Trail Our Vision...

a continuous, non-motorized trail traversing the state nearly 800 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** Kent Taylor

**Vice President Finance**  
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**Secretary**  
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Marty Shultz

Eric Smith

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Wendy Erica Werden

Doug Whitneybell

Terry Woolston

### Founder

Dale Shewalter

**Executive Director**

Dave Hicks

**Chief Trail Steward**

Anna Pfender

**Administrative Manager**

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**Volunteer Coordinator**

Helen Hill

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- 1 **Arizona Trail Facts** – The latest total AZT mileage when the trail is complete – 807 miles; 57 miles are yet to be completed. Ninety-nine percent of the AZT is on public land. The Arizona Trail is the most scenic and beautiful long-distance trail in the USA. Just the facts!
- 2 **ATA Annual Meeting, Saturday, February 3** – It was another enjoyable day with many AZT friends and partners. My personal thanks go out to the many people who make the day happen. Like everything else with the ATA, such events don't happen without our incomparable volunteers.
- 3 **Trail Maintenance** – Have you looked at the Trail Work Events Reports from the Field page on the ATA website ([www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org))? That's a neat place for any of you to place color pictures and activity descriptions of happenings on the AZT.
- 4 **New Trail Stewards Needed** – We are always looking for new individuals, clubs, and groups to volunteer to become Arizona Trail stewards, and we will train. It's such a gift to have volunteers taking ownership of the Arizona Trail. If you are interested, contact Anna Pfender at [chiefsteward@aztrail.org](mailto:chiefsteward@aztrail.org).
- 5 **Trail Development** – Did I mention that there are 57 miles yet to complete on the AZT? Actually that number keeps dropping as new trail construction continues in the White Canyon and Las Cienegas passages. In addition, the Coronado National Forest has begun the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process on the proposed route north of Oak Tree Canyon in the Santa Rita Mountain foothills.
- 6 **Water and the Arizona Trail** – Long-distance trail hiker and super AZT supporter Fred Gaudet will address the most frequent question people have about the Arizona Trail: Where's the water? Join Fred at the REI Paradise Valley store on Tuesday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m. It's free and no reservations are required.
- 7 **Hike The Arizona Trail** -
  - Join AZT through-hiker Jerry Nash on Wednesday, April 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the REI Paradise Valley store as he recounts his 2005 AZT hike. A great primer for future AZT users. It's free, too.
  - Or join me on Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Glendale, Arizona, Adult Center, 5970 W. Brown St., for an AZT briefing. The Glendale Hiking Club is looking to begin a series of group hikes on the Arizona Trail with the goal of hiking the entire thing. You may want to join them on the AZT, too.
- 8 **National Trails Day: Flagstaff Arizona, June 2** – There are many National Trails Day events planned for Saturday, June 2, but a special one is being put together by our long-time partner, the Peaks Ranger District in Flagstaff. Please join them for a day of building the Arizona Trail connector loop near the Arizona Snowbowl. Check it out on the [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org).
- 9 **ATA Membership** – Thanks to everybody for renewing your membership in the ATA. Your dollars allow us to continue to pursue this trans-Arizona path.
- 10 **ATA Board Meeting, Saturday, April 28** – All ATA members are invited to attend the next ATA board meeting, which will be held in Casa Grande (404 E. Florence Blvd). The meeting will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

# A Message from the Chief Trail Steward



By Anna Pfender • chiefsteward@aztrail.org

It's been over a year now since I took on the Chief Steward responsibilities, and, boy, have I been busy. During 2006, 18 new stewards were signed up! After all that recruiting, I can hardly believe that we still have some gaps in our steward list. If you're thinking that this steward thing might be the job for you, don't hesitate to give me a call. I'd be glad to discuss it with you and help you get started.

There's still so much to accomplish, and even though I traveled up and down the state and spent hours on the phone last year, I still haven't managed to meet each and every steward. I do make regular email contact with the stewards so they always know that I am thinking about them. For this spring, I have a number of work events on my personal calendar, so I'll be getting out there on the trail with many more stewards soon.



*Charlie Ewing and through-hiker Jack Frost admire Anna Pfender's new photo map of trail stewards.*



*Bernie Stalman earned honors at the annual meeting for most events attended.*

The Annual Meeting in February was a great event for me since so many of the stewards attended. I even got to meet a few that I hadn't previously met. One of the projects that I worked on for the meeting was a steward photo map to help attendees see just who our stewards are. It also helped me to identify stewards more readily, too. The other project was a slide show that recapped 2006 events on the AZT. It was great to see so many photos of stewards, volunteers, trail users, and scenic shots taken from one end of the state to the other. If anyone wants a copy of that PowerPoint presentation, I can make extra CDs. Just let me know.

Once again, I have a couple of new stewards to introduce:

- Paul Conn, Flagstaff – Passage 30d – Mormon Lake
- Neil Weintraub, Flagstaff, representing the Northern Arizona Trail Runners Association – Passage 32b – Mt. Elden

Other steward updates include:

- Ovid Bond had to step down as steward and Russell Wright has taken the lead for the Superstition Horsemen Association – Passage 18a – Reavis Canyon. I thank Ovid for his service to the AZT and wish him well.

- Richard & Diane Wertz have swapped their North Rim Passage stewardship from Passage 41a to Passage 41b – Kaibab Plateau Central.

Many thanks to these new and veteran stewards for their commitment to the Arizona Trail. We can't do it without you.

Doug Marsh reports that our volunteer hours in 2006 total 21,600 hours, twice as many as were reported in 2005. Thanks to everyone for making a huge effort to turn in your volunteer hours.

This information is very important to the Association.



*Carl Babcock and Doug Marsh install a carsonite sign to designate the north end of the 15A – Tortilla Mountains, Boulders Segment.*

## ATA Volunteer Hours

*compiled by*

*Doug Marsh, ATA volunteer database manager*

**2006 hours**

21,600

**2007 to date\***

5,081

*Hours represent work on individual passages as well as general hours for ATA general and administrative work*

*\*as of March 15, 2007*



# The Arizona Trail - a Love Story

*continued from page one*

Formerly delayed projects are now starting to roll because of \$250,000 in funds approved by the Arizona Legislature, which designated the Trail a State Scenic Trail in 2006.

The Trail is getting lots of attention these days. *National Geographic Traveler* included the Arizona Trail in a piece that also covered the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail – that's some impressive company. And the Morrison Institute released a report on major Arizona policy successes, honoring the Arizona Trail as one of the 26 ideas that have positively impacted Arizona. The report was featured in the *Arizona Republic* with a special sidebar on the Arizona Trail.

The Trail has not been alone in receiving national attention. Tucsonan **Mark Flint** was named the State Trail Worker of the Year for Arizona at the 2006 National Trail Symposium, and ATA board member **Steve Anderson** received the National Trails Public Service Award. Additionally, board member **Wendy Hodgson** was recognized for her organization of free Arizona Trail interpretive events covering everything from botany to birding.

Looking to the future, Dave outlined the quest for National Scenic Trail (NST) status. With such a designation, the Trail will enjoy national protection, and its new level of prestige will attract much needed donors. Currently eight other trails in the country have NST status. Of those eight, only the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail are complete. As of the annual meeting, the AZT is 92 percent farther along than the other six trails.

"The ATA is growing up," said Dave. Thanks to the excellent foundation laid by **Jan Hancock**, the ATA's president emeritus, the organization is ready to welcome more members and more funding. Dave explained that to secure such funding, the ATA must make "connections with corporations that have a social conscience, that support organizations like ours."

Kent Taylor then took the podium and presented Dave with a special gift as thanks for his work as the volunteer executive director of ATA. Dave loves listening to a little transistor radio before falling asleep in the backcountry, so Kent presented him with a satellite radio system. Dave

won't have to worry about static keeping him awake now! Results for the elections for the Board of Directors were announced. All current board members running were

reconfirmed. The four newly elected members are **Wendy Erica Werden** of Tucson, **Terry Woolston** of Phoenix, **Fred Gaudet** of Apache Junction, and **Gary Hohner** of Scottsdale.

Jan Hancock, addressing the members in place of ATA founder **Dale Shewalter**, who was unable to attend, rallied the room with a thrilling call to

action. "To those who can lend a shoulder and lend a hand, now is the time. More than ever, we have a reason to finish this trail," she implored. "I find myself comparing us to other trails organizations. We're the best. We've compressed what we're doing into a short amount of time. Each segment has its character. We've captured that—not changing it—just opening it to the world."

Fred Gaudet, segment steward for the White Canyon passage, photographer, accomplished long-distance hiker,

and amateur hydrologist, then mesmerized the crowd with a rundown of the realities of water along the Trail. "Abundant. Yucky. Sorta dry," said Fred. "Expect no water. Water is THE major concern. And never, never, never run out of water." And Fred knows – his water data goes back to 2000, all carefully

charted in a spreadsheet for anyone who requests it (fwgaz@yahoo.com).

**Larry Bagley** of Tucson offered a different look at the Trail. Larry, a long-time member of the Southern Arizona Hiking Club and self-described "Medicare dayhiker," told of his adventures dayhiking the entire trail, a feat he finished in 2006. He'd heard about the Trail since the 1980s and decided in spring 2002 that "It was my time—I was ready to do it."

"A passage here, a passage there. I was very erratic," Larry said of his four-year journey, "but I patched all these things together." Car swaps, car shuttles, loop hikes, and very early morning starts helped him avoid ever spending a night in a sleeping bag. His longest day was 35 miles, from Cedar Tank to Moqui Stage, and his favorite highlights included being around Mormon Lake and Anderson Mesa

## ATA By the Numbers:

- 21,354 volunteer hours reported in 2006, the equivalent of over 10 full-time workers
- 1,010 people worked on the AZT (non-repeated individuals)
- \$376,685 worth of labor based on BLM volunteer hours
- 20% of volunteers were ATA members
- 22% of ATA members volunteered



*Fred Gaudet talks about water along the Arizona Trail.*



*Larry Bagley described his technique of day hiking the Arizona Trail.*



*Inaugural recipients of Spark Plug awards for on-going support of the ATA, or "making things go," as Dave Hicks put it. From left to right: Larry Snead, Phyllis Ralley, Terri Gay, Helen Hill, Anna Pfender, Dick Wertz, Dave Babcock, and Laddie Cox, with Dave Hicks, award presenter, in the background.*

during the elk rut and seeing six-point bulls herding their cows. His hike from a snowy Lone Pine saddle down to Roosevelt Lake was, in his words, "A glorious part of the Arizona Trail."

"Thanks to all who work on and fund the trail," said Larry. "There's no way I'd have seen half of this country otherwise. And now I've begun swinging one of those picks, too."

After Larry's presentation, **Helen Hill** received the Outstanding Volunteer Award in recognition of her amazing dedication to the ATA. Helen serves as volunteer coordinator and has hiked much of the trail. Presenting the award to Helen, Jan Hancock called her "someone who has been involved for almost as long as I can remember, who has always been there and asking what else she can do."

The ATA Board Member Award went to **Lyn White** for her role as the driving force in acquiring \$250,000 from the State of Arizona for the Arizona Trail. She was instrumental in forming a partnership with the Arizona Office of Tourism (AOT) that resulted in the Arizona Trail being featured on the AOT visitor's map for 2007.

The recipient of the Larry Snead Trail Stewardship Award, presented by Chief Trail Steward **Anna Pfender**, was **Chuck Horner**, whose resumé of dedication includes trail assessments, work events, planning sessions, newsletter submissions, administrative record keeping, training meetings, and generally a lot of hard work. Chuck is a co-steward with **Larry Snead** on the Blue Ridge passage of the Trail, and of the 812 volunteer hours reported for that segment, Chuck worked 261. Perhaps his most outstanding contribution, according to Anna, is the homemade cobbler he makes for the post-work event meals!

Recording volunteer data is **Doug Marsh's** mission. At the meeting, Doug offered a compelling view of the Trail's critical numbers, including total membership. According to Doug, these numbers will have a powerful effect on the future of the Trail. Data will be key for meeting requirements for matching funds, advertising the ATA accomplishments and organization, meeting land managers' requirements, and encouraging volunteers. He particularly emphasized the importance of reporting volunteer hours; we amplify our work results by getting him those reports!



*ATA President of the Board, Kent Taylor, joins Anna Pfender in presenting the 2007 Larry Snead Trail Steward Award to Chuck Horner.*

Doug called out **Bernie Stalman** and **Merle Parmer** as the two volunteers who worked the most events. Both worked more than 20 events!

Anna Pfender further recognized a number of generous volunteers, Laddie Cox for his work leading the Hit & Run crews as well as his work on other crews; Doug Marsh for developing the ATA volunteer database, manning booths at various events, and assisting with trail scouting trips; Bernie "Trail Dawg" Stalman for his over-the-top commitment to the Cienega Corridor work as well as many other events; and **Richard Wertz** for his success in recruiting members at Alamo Canyon and for coordinating the Mormon Lake Rendezvous event.



*Arizona State Parks was recognized with the Agency Partner Award for its support of the ATA. Former ATA executive director Larry Snead presented the award to Annie McVay, State Trails Steward, and Dan Shine, Chief of Resources. "Without Arizona State Parks, the Arizona Trail would not be what it is today," said Larry. Arizona State Parks manages the Heritage Fund grants, the State Trail Fund, and the Recreational Trail Fund, along with many other critical aspects of trail administration.*

With the honors given, laurels placed, adventures recited, advice offered, and data distributed, it was time to end the annual ATA meeting. With a spirit of camaraderie and shared commitment charging the room, there were handshakes, hugs, and long goodbyes all around. The meeting may have ended, but our passion for the Arizona Trail, the jewel of the Valentine State, has never been greater.



# Botanizing Along the AZT Made Easier

By Wendy Hodgson, Senior Botanist, Desert Botanical Garden, ATA Board Member at Large

Back in 1999, Jan Hancock approached me at the Desert Botanical Garden (DBG) to ask if we would be interested in doing a comprehensive documentation (with photographs, herbarium specimens and notes) of the plants along the entire Arizona Trail. I eagerly agreed and we both envisioned our study to provide information for 1) land managers and agencies and 2) a user-friendly guidebook as to what plants one might find along this amazing trail.

In seven years, DBG research staff and volunteers have walked over 450 miles and taken hundreds of photographs and plant specimens from along the Trail. Documenting plants with photographs, information (including location), and herbarium specimens (which are permanently dried, pressed the plants affixed to special paper and stored in an herbarium for future reference) is not easy, requiring a great deal of time and energy.

Usually, we have to drive and leave vehicles at starting and end points, which can take most of the day. Sometimes our trips require backpacking. Besides carrying food, clothing and shelter gear, we must carry collecting and photography equipment, including plant presses, maps, GPS, cameras, geology picks and pruners. Documenting plants while backpacking becomes even more difficult as it is necessary to take the pack off each time we stop and collect plants. There is the ever-present urge to NOT stop to collect plants (and take the ensuing precise locality/ecological notes), but rather, continue along until a more appropriate or convenient time to stop is chosen. Plants are missed, locality data is erroneous, and plants collected become a limp shadow of their former selves by the time they are put in the press. The amount of miles covered in a single day is rarely more than seven because of the slow pace of collecting and having to hike and deal with backpacks.

Help was on the way! After some preliminary planning, our work was made a lot easier with the outfitting services of James "Jim" McManus and Tina Bartsch. They, with Jim's mother, O'Hara Fleming, created, and now own, Coronado Outfitters, located in the beautiful San Rafael Valley. Coronado Outfitters is an outfitting and guided adventure company that caters to equestrian and outdoor enthusiasts, providing several day rides and pack trips throughout the year in the Coronado National Forest. Furthermore, Jim and Tina are ardent supporters of the

Arizona Trail, themselves being trail stewards along the Temporal Gulch segment in the Santa Rita Mountains.

In August 2006, DBG volunteer Dawn Goldman, herbalist Mimi Kamp, and I set out with Jim and his pack horses to do the entire Canelo Hills East and West segments, a



*Dawn Goldman and Jim McManus's pack horse, Al, along the Canelo Hills segment.*

*Photo by Wendy Hodgson*

beautiful 34-mile stretch of rolling hills and oak woodland. We soon realized we were to become very spoiled! Jim took care of all our needs relating to comfort, food and shelter, making sure we had a safe, productive and fun time. Because he packed in and moved our supplies at each campsite, we were allowed the luxury of having to only carry what we needed for the day. We could concentrate on collecting plants, thus ensuring the preparation of high quality specimens by stopping more frequently, acquiring more concise data, and pressing the plants immediately. Jim also

picked up our filled plant presses and dropped off "fresh" empty presses each day. This, too, contributed towards the preparation of far better, higher quality specimens. If we had to backpack, all of the hundreds of specimens we collected would have gone in temporary backpack presses for the length of the trip. Such a practice contributes to mold developing in poorly pressed plants. And, just as important, we would have had to carry the presses ourselves! Not only were the specimens in better shape, so were Dawn, Mimi, and I, enjoying our hikes with daypacks and the comforts of a very well supplied campsite in the evening. We relaxed at a camp complete with table, stoves, tents and many other essentials (and luxury items), including "real" food as opposed to food we'd never even THINK of normally eating.



*Jatropha (Jatropha macrorhiza) along the Canelo Hills passage of the Arizona Trail.*

*Photo by Mimi Kamp*

# History-making Re-route on Canelo East

By Zay Haratigan, Segment Steward



On March 10, segment #2 had a history-making re-route. After much plotting and planning, segment steward Zay Hartigan moved three-quarters of a mile of old fence that was slated for rebuilding last summer. The trail, which had been forced into rocky and unsuitable terrain by the fence, was ready for relocating. This is the first time a fence has been moved to accommodate the trail, instead of the other way around. The cooperation of the two ranches (Vaca and Pinline) whose leases were involved, as well as Bill Edwards of the Coronado National Forest, were crucial to this project. Our thanks go out to them.



*Left to right: George Gowman, Richard Corbett, Quentin Lewton, Krystine Grace, and Andy Bedrosian hard at work. The flag in the foreground shows the route progressing across the old fence line, represented by the metal fence post.*  
*Photo by Zay Hartigan*

Segment stewards for the first three segments, Steve Saway, Zay Hartigan, and Richard Corbett, led volunteers George Gowman, Quentin Lewton, Andy Bedrosian, and Krystine Grace in changing the route. The trail now meanders on both sides of the ridge, opening up spectacular views into the San Rafael Valley while maintaining the awesome views of the Sonoita Valley. The original route only looked into the Sonoita Valley. The treacherous footing over steep uneven rocks and eroded tread have been replaced by much better naturally draining tread. The new route crosses what was the old fence line six times in a one-quarter-mile stretch, though the new tread represents only one-eighth of a mile.

Originally, there were several spots where the trail touched the fence. This has been remedied, and although the new fence is still visible from some parts of the trail, it is much less so than before. Several metal T-posts will remain in place for the next year and most of the wooden posts will stay until they fall over. They will serve as a visual indicator of where the fence once was. The old tread is now covered with dead branches that were the result of a fire some years back, as well as some rocks, and is on its way to being reclaimed by nature. The work also opened up a very nice spot for camping or for equestrians to rest and let their horses graze. Anyone who is familiar with this segment will notice a greatly improved user experience.

There's still a LOT of work to do on this segment, including two more small re-routes across the old fence line that will remedy some erosion. One re-route will bring the tread right up to some amazing rock formations.

Plan to join us on future events and get a detailed look at and insight on this "never-been-done-before" project. The next work events are set for May 5 and October 13. Zay is also hoping to do a presentation on this project at the next annual ATA meeting. Segment stewards interested in discussing possibilities on their segments are encouraged to contact Zay.

*continued from page 6*

## ... Botanizing Along the AZT Made Easier

The record amounts of summer precipitation likewise resulted in record size and numbers of plants along the Trail in this area. For botanists, this was a dream come true, although the size and density of some plants made the trail more difficult to follow. The orange flowered caltrop (*Kallstroemia grandiflora*) blanketed the hillsides while saiya (*Amoreuxia palmatifida*) poked its large, conspicuous salmon-yellow flowers through dense brush, an amazing sight not often experienced in such profusion (images will be added to ATA website later this year). Some plants, like the beautiful butterfly-pea (*Clitoria mariana*) are rarely seen and were discovered on our trip.

We have not identified or processed all of the specimens as yet, but look forward to doing so soon, knowing that they are in fine shape due to the kind and very professional services rendered to us by Jim and Coronado Outfitters.

We were also very touched and grateful for being met by Tina and their very young daughter Maggie on our last day, near the end of the trail segment. We lost the trail a few times that day due to the luxurious overgrowth of plants and were hiking in severe lightning/thunderstorms. Were we ever glad to see them! Jim and Tina's support, hard work and wonderful kindness were, and continue to be, so much appreciated. Without their help, our task of cataloguing the plants and plant communities along the 800-mile Arizona Trail would be far more difficult and time-consuming, and not nearly as fun!

For more information about Coronado Outfitters, visit them on their website or contact them at [information@coronadooutfitters.com](mailto:information@coronadooutfitters.com), or HC2 Box 154, Patagonia, Arizona, 85624; (520) 394 0187.



# Welcome New Board of Directors Members



After retiring as an administrator for GateWay Community College, **Fred Gaudet** became a long distance hiker. He completed the Arizona Trail in 2002 and hiked/completed the Continental Divide Trail 2003-2006. Water sources on the Arizona Trail have been a major focus for Fred over the past six years. He is steward for the White Canyon segment. Fred plans to

begin the Pacific Crest Trail this summer.

**Gary A. Hohner** and his wife Gay are co-stewards of AZT Segment 31A. In addition, he has been researching and writing grant applications for the ATA since last spring. Gary's interested in management of major projects to complete, maintain, and improve the Arizona Trail.

He is retired and lives in Scottsdale. Previously Gary co-owned and served as president of a small manufacturing business in the Chicago area. Prior to that, he worked for the Quaker Oats



Company for about 20 years in research and development in the U. S. and Europe.



**Wendy Erica Werden** has lived in Tucson since 1992 after deciding that a lifetime of living in cold and snow in her native Cleveland, Ohio was not compatible with her love of the outdoors. She is an avid horsewoman, a member of the Tucson Saddle Club and Pima Trails Association, and co-chair of the AZT Cienega Corridor Construction Project. Wendy Erica

brings her professional experience of more than 20 years in media, marketing and communications to the board.

**Terry Woolston**, partner in Woolston Tarter P.C., and segment steward for the challenging Mazatzal Divide Passage, is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys hiking and biking.



## Arizona Trail Ambassador Neil Hornbeck



The Mesa District of the Grand Canyon Council, Boy Scouts of America, had their Mountain Man Rendezvous March 15-17 at the R-C Scout Camp just below the Rim on Highway 260. There were more than 1,800 scouts and leaders and more than 400 staff for a total of 2,200 scouts and adults. This was the largest Varsity Scout event in the world. Arizona Trail Ambassador Neil Hornbeck distributed a lot of maps, color handouts, and ATA membership applications. He made contact with several Eagle Scout candidates for future trail projects, and also provided flyers to Scout leaders who wanted to help in spreading the word about the Arizona Trail.

That is Neil on the left, in traditional Mountain Man garb from the 1800's, pointing out the AZT through the Grand Canyon.

## ATA Business Partners

### Trail Guardian

Arok Inc.  
AZ Partsmaster  
Compass Bank  
Desert Botanical Garden  
Southwest Gas  
Suzanne B. Gilstrap & Associates

### Trail Blazer

Camelback Hotel Corp.  
Donald McCabe  
Jordan, Bischoff, McGuire, Rose & Hiser, PLC  
Outdoor Adventures  
Tucson Saddle Club

### Trail Supporter

Aspen Sports  
Capitol Consulting LLC  
Carlson Homes  
Equity Title Agency  
Hancock Resources LLC  
Hatch Insurance  
Jack K Henness Farms  
JQC Development Company LLC  
REI  
Rough Rider Guides, Inc.  
Round Trip Bike Shop  
Sportsmen's Warehouse  
Supergo Corp

# 2007 Interpretive Events



## **Cultural and Natural Resource Exploration along the Arizona Trail, Oracle State Park**

**Leader: Ranger Rick Gagnon (with Wendy Hodgson)**

**April 7, 2007, Saturday, 9 a.m.**

Oracle State Park is a 4000-acre environmental education park located in the northeastern foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains near the town of Oracle. Come join Rick Gagnon, Center for Environmental Education at Oracle State Park to learn about the Park's cultural and natural history while walking along part of our own Arizona Trail. Rick and Wendy will also discuss the many varieties of plants we'll encounter – Rick has been compiling an impressive plant list of the Park for some time. We will meet at the Kannally Ranch House inside Oracle State Park at 9 a.m. There is an admission fee of \$6/car. Go to the Arizona State Parks website for more information, including directions, on this jewel of the high desert along the Arizona Trail.

Rick Gagnon has been working, for Arizona State Parks for about 15 years. He has a bachelor's degree in Plant Science from the University of Arizona. He's worked at Catalina State Park, Patagonia Lake, and the newly opened Sonoita Creek State Natural Area. At Oracle State Park, Rick's involved with school programs and continues developing a plant list for the park.

Contact Wendy Hodgson ([whodgson@dbg.org](mailto:whodgson@dbg.org), (602) 276-0760, or Rick Gagnon, (520) 896-2425, [rpg2@azstateparks.com](mailto:rpg2@azstateparks.com), before March 28; after March 28, please contact Rick (not Wendy). Bring lunch. Limit 15.

## **Birding and Botanizing along the Arizona/Highline Trail**

**Leader: Tice Supplee (with Wendy Hodgson)**

**June 23, 2007, Saturday, 9 a.m.**

Escape the dry heat of June and join us for a fun, information-packed trip to the Mogollon Rim along the Arizona Trail with expert birder, Tice Supplee, botanist Wendy Hodgson, and all-around naturalist Mel Bramley. Tice is Director of Bird Conservation, Audubon Arizona, and is armed with years of experience and passion in the study of Arizona wildlife, including our feathered friends. We will also discover and discuss numerous plants as we walk along the Highline Trail, a scenic and well-known part of our Arizona Trail. Mel Bramley has graciously offered his cabin to those who would like to stay there that Thursday, Friday, and/or Saturday evenings (inside or outside; contact Mel at [melbramley@cox.net](mailto:melbramley@cox.net)). Information on food and other items to bring will be supplied to participants upon registration. Limit 10.

### **NOTE:**

**Preregistration required for all trips. Contact Wendy Hodgson ([whodgson@dbg.org](mailto:whodgson@dbg.org); 480-481-8108) unless otherwise noted in trip description. Bring hat, water, snacks, sun screen; wear comfortable shoes.**

## **Ethnobotanical Walk along the Trail, Flagstaff Area (exact location to be determined)**

**Leader: Phyllis Hogan (with Wendy Hodgson)**

**August 4, 2007, Saturday, 9 a.m.**

It is always a rare, wonderful opportunity to go on a walk with Southwest herbalist guru Phyllis Hogan. Phyllis shares her vast knowledge, passion, experience, and heart with those who are fortunate to accompany her on her walks. And what better place to experience this than on the Arizona Trail, beneath the cool pines of summer? This will be an easy walk – the hike is geared for those who want to learn more about plants and cultures, not just how they are used, but how they play such an important part in the lives of native cultures.

Phyllis Hogan is a practicing Southwest herbalist for 25+ years and the owner and operator of Winter Sun Trading Company in Flagstaff, Arizona. In 1983 she founded the Arizona Ethnobotanical Research Association, which records, preserves, and teaches the uses of the Southwestern plants by indigenous peoples. She has taught ethnobotany in bilingual programs for the Pima, Hualapai, Havasupai, and Navajo tribes. Phyllis is also a board member of the heritage seed conservation organization Native Seed/SEARCH.

Bring lunch. Limit 15.

## **Forest Ecology – Undergrowth of Ponderosa Pines in Response to Fire on Coconino Plateau along the Arizona Trail (exact location to be determined)**

**Leader: Jennie Rambo (with Wendy Hodgson)**

**August 15, 2007, Wednesday, 9 a.m.**

Have you ever wondered what happens to our Ponderosa Pine forests and its undergrowth following significant burns? Join Jennie Rambo on this informative hike along the Arizona Trail under the cool pines. Jennie will share knowledge she acquired while working on her master's thesis at Arizona State University, involving the response of under story vegetation to prescribed fire in northern Arizona Ponderosa Pine forest. Jennie is also a botanical artist and teacher, instructing numerous classes in the Desert Botanical Garden's Botanical Art and Illustration Program. We will also help Wendy document plants as herbarium specimens for the Plants and Plant Communities of the Arizona Trail project along the selected segment. Bring lunch. Limit 15.

## **Birding and Botanizing on the Arizona Trail near Picketpost Mountain,**

**Leader: Tice Supplee (with Wendy Hodgson)**

**November 11, 2007, Sunday, 8 a.m.**

Only one other season is better than spring in the Sonoran Desert, and that is fall, unless of course, you are a true-blue diehard desert rat! Join expert birder Tice Supplee and Wendy on another birding and botanizing trip in the magnificent Arizona Uplands of the Sonoran Desert, with Picketpost Mountain as an awe-inspiring backdrop. We will meet at the Picketpost Trailhead. Bring lunch. Limit 12.



# Calendar of Events and Activities

## APRIL

### April 7 - Cultural and Natural Resource Exploration

Oracle State Park is a 4000-acre environmental education park located in the northeastern foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains near the town of Oracle. Come join Ranger Rick Gagnon, Center for Environmental Education at Oracle State Park, as we learn about the Park's cultural and natural history — while walking along part of our own Arizona Trail. For more information, see the Calendar of Interpretive Events.

### April 14 - Hardscrabble Mesa

You are invited to join friends of Arrowhead Wildlife Society and volunteers from Tonto Rim Search and Rescue to help with general maintenance on about two miles of Arizona Trail in the Hardscrabble Mesa passage near Pine, Arizona. Main activities will be to trim brush, remove trail debris and fallen logs, and repair water bars and cairns. There's something for everyone who can hike. We will meet at 8 a.m. at Pine Trailhead – look for a sign on the east side of Highway 87, just south of Pine at approximately MP 266. Pull in, drive back to the big parking area, and find people ready to do trail work. Bring a day pack, water, tough gloves, sturdy trail boots, light snack, and your energy. Watch the weather for any chance of rain. We will supply trail tools, brief training, and refreshments/snacks afterward, BUT only if you let us know you are attending. Contact Rick Heffernon at rickh67@starband.net or (928) 476-3710.

### April 21 - Canelo Hills West

Segment Steward Richard Corbett will lead another 4 WD entry into the Red Rock Road area of the Canelo West Passage as we continue work started in January, including trail rehab, brushing, and hauling some more trash out when we are finished. Enjoy beautiful views of wide vistas, valleys, and tall mountains. Tools and some special “naughty” cookies will be provided. Please bring your own snacks, lunch, and water (at least four liters), and wear long pants, a wide-brimmed hat, and preferably a long-sleeved shirt. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the post office in Patagonia, 60 miles from Tucson. Contact Richard Corbett at (520) 623-0017 or kc7ovm@dakotacom.net for more information or if you plan to help.

### April 21-22 - Highline

Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona (VOAz) has been working on rehabilitating sections of the Arizona/Highline Trail around the Geronimo Trailhead since 1999. For this event VOAz is partnering with the Grand Canyon Chapter of the Sierra Club, segment steward for this section of the Arizona Trail. Camp Geronimo is once again offering their comfortable campground for our base. The work will be near the Geronimo Trailhead, which is only a short distance from Camp Geronimo. Recent fires came through this area and it has been hit hard by bark beetles. The loss of vegetation has caused some serious erosion. We will rebuild three turns (switchbacks) and improve drainage along about 1,200 feet of trail. Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast will be provided.

Level of difficulty: Moderately hard. Minimum age: 14. Volunteers needed: 25+. Register starting in April at [www.voaz.org](http://www.voaz.org). For more information, contact Marge Sparks, event manager, at [m.sparks@voaz.org](mailto:m.sparks@voaz.org).

### April 22 - Santa Rita Mountains

The work this season will be reduced in scope due to limited agency resources. Our projects may also be subject to change in order to better support the efforts of the Forest Service, and specifically the fine folks from the Nogales Ranger District. The planned projects (still) include improving the drainage in the “Flume” area;

realignments along the pipeline above the Gardner Canyon trailhead and north of Box Canyon Rd.; completion of the resource protection project at FR 785 and Gardner Creek, and brushing/tread work from FR 165 to Oak Tree Canyon. We sometimes ride in to work on mountain bikes and use a B.O.B. trailer to haul tools. Events are held on Sunday and the meeting place is the parking area at the I-10 and SR83 interchange. Standard meeting time is 8:00 a.m. and we will wait until 8:05 a.m. Please contact Stephen Wood at [aztraildoc@yahoo.com](mailto:aztraildoc@yahoo.com).

### April 28-29 - Buckskin Mountains

Come on up to the top of the trail for a general maintenance trip. Supper on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday will be provided. Please RSVP to Mike Carr at (928) 779-4370 or [michael.carr@nau.edu](mailto:michael.carr@nau.edu), and tell a friend!

## MAY

### May 5 - Canelo Hills East

Come help with some routine maintenance on Canelo East. We'll be working on the south end of the segment. From Jones Mesa, only a mile hiking in. Tools will be provided; bring food, water, and work clothes/gloves. Call for details, limited space on this one. Bonus: ride to work area with locals, who'll identify landmarks, discuss area. Contact Zay Hartigan at (520) 394-2420 or [azt1@zaycom.com](mailto:azt1@zaycom.com).

### May 5-6 - Walnut Canyon

The Coconino Forest Service, the Arizona Trail Association and Flagstaff Biking Organization have joined forces to produce a fun and productive work event in a spectacular setting near Flagstaff. Easy access. No prior trail work experience is necessary. Saturday, May 5 work until 3:00 p.m. Tools and Saturday lunch provided. Bring your own drinking water. Optional camping (primitive, but we will have a porta-potty). Sunday morning option: may finish work and/or hike this beautiful and varied segment. Event wrap up by Sunday noon. To sign up or for more details, see [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org) or contact Gay Hohner at (480) 595-9303 or [sghohner@cox.net](mailto:sghohner@cox.net). **\*Please see web site for details of another event on this passage July 7-8!!**

### May 11-13 - General Springs

Come help us do some fun trail work up on the Mogollon Rim at 7200 feet in the beautiful tall pines. We will be working in the General Springs Canyon doing maintenance. Workday starts around 7-8 a.m. being back in camp by 3 p.m. to freshen up and have social time until dinner. For those of you staying overnight with us, we will provide Saturday evening dinner with a Dutch oven cobbler. Also, New Belgium Brewing Company is our beverage sponsor. RSVP by May 7 and specify if you have any dietary requirements if staying Saturday night. Camping is primitive so you will need to bring your gear, water, and lunches if staying overnight. We will send you directions and suggested items to bring. No children under 14 please. Contact Co-segment Stewards Chuck Horner at [chuckhorner@cox.net](mailto:chuckhorner@cox.net) or Larry Snead at [sneadlarry@cox.net](mailto:sneadlarry@cox.net) for more information.

### May 19 - Santa Rita Mountains

Contact Stephen Wood at [aztraildoc@yahoo.com](mailto:aztraildoc@yahoo.com) or see the website at: [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org).

### May 26-28 - North Kaibab

See the website at: [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org); contact Mike Carr at (928) 779-4370 or [michael.carr@nau.edu](mailto:michael.carr@nau.edu).

**See [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org) for the most up-to-date information on many more events on the Trail!!!**

# A Legacy Leaves Us With Fond Memories



Charter ATA member and 20-year supporter of the Arizona Trail, Dean Prichard, died March 18, 2007, after a short illness. He was in his 80's.

Dean was involved in the Arizona Trail project from the beginning when Dale Shewalter was bringing his vision of a border-to-border trail to the attention of Arizona State Parks and the U.S. Forest Service. Dean was the owner of High Jinks Ranch in Oracle, which is now a national historic site and a prominent highlight of the Arizona Trail.

Dean was close friends with Jim Schmid, who worked for the Coronado National Forest and served as the first steward. Together they planned much of the route of the Arizona Trail in the Santa Catalina Mountains and Oracle, and they were instrumental in developing support for the Arizona Trail Association in its infancy.

A University of Arizona graduate and, later, an English instructor, Dean had an illustrious and long career as a newspaper writer during World War II, reporting from across Europe. He continued his writing in far away places such as the Soviet Union, Asia, Australia and Denmark.

After moving to Oracle and High Jinks Ranch in the 1970's, he became the editor of the *Tombstone Epitaph*, a territorial newspaper with subscribers from around the world. Working from his High Jinks Ranch office, a many-windowed parapet perched atop his home that was reached by way of a very steep staircase, he drew his writing inspiration while looking out for miles across the San Pedro River Valley and the distant Galiuro Mountains.

Dean's legacy will live on in the hearts of those who knew him and worked with him on the origination and development of the Arizona Trail route in southern Arizona.

## Become an Arizona Trail Member

Build a Legacy!

### ARIZONA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

The Arizona Trail needs your active support. Help build the ARIZONA TRAIL as a resource for today and preserve it as a legacy for future generations.

#### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Helper   | \$20   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Hand     | \$50   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Builder  | \$100  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Blazer   | \$500  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Guardian | \$1000 |

- New Membership     Renewal Membership

#### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Contribution for new trail development    \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- "My Mile" contribution (\$100 per mile)    \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- This is a gift membership from:  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are your primary non-motorized trail

activities?  hiking  horseback riding

mountain biking  other: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY STATE ZIP  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS  
\_\_\_\_\_

We do not share our member information.

Make checks payable to **Arizona Trail Association**.

Mail to :

Arizona Trail Association  
P.O. Box 36736  
Phoenix, Arizona 85067-6736

Membership form and dues payment also available online at:

[www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org)

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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](http://www.aztrail.org) or e-mail: [editor@aztrail.org](mailto:editor@aztrail.org) Next deadline: June 15, 2007

## Arizona Trail Association Premier Legacy Partners

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## 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!

Dave Babcock - website questions - [webmaster@aztrail.org](mailto:webmaster@aztrail.org)

Helen Hill - Segment Steward database & communications - [deserthill@worldnet.att.net](mailto:deserthill@worldnet.att.net)

Anna Pfender - Chief Trail Steward - Segment Steward information, work event information - [mtbbabe@cox.net](mailto:mtbbabe@cox.net)

Phyllis Ralley - Membership mailing list and database, invoices, payments and other financial information - [ata@aztrail.org](mailto:ata@aztrail.org)

Dick Wertz - Membership Coordinator  
Special membership programs, membership information - [rawertz@commspeed.net](mailto:rawertz@commspeed.net)