

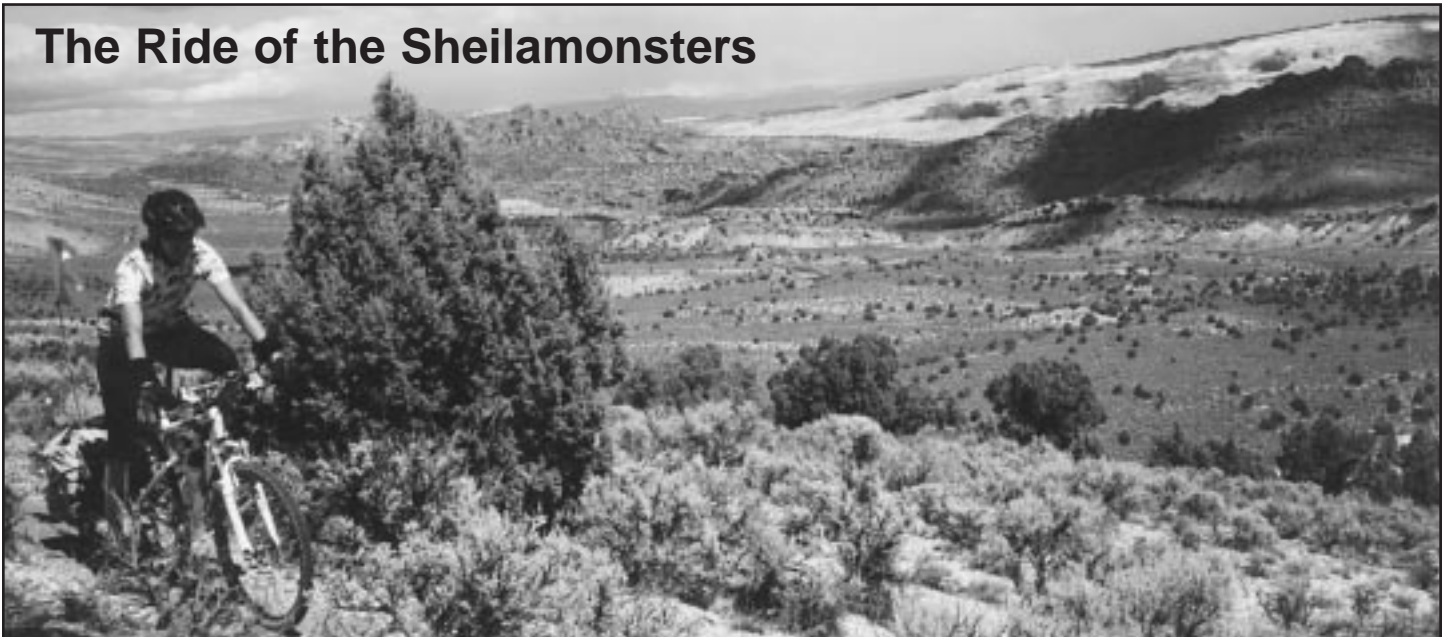
Arizona Trail ASSOCIATION NEWS

Vol. 6, No. 3

Fall-2000

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

## The Ride of the Sheilamonsters



It was September 23 after the dedication of the new Stateline Trailhead when two women left the Utah border heading south on bicycles loaded with gear. They were called the Sheilamonsters. A name that wouldn't phase anyone on the Appalachian Trail. But this is Arizona, and on the Arizona Trail, travelers are often few and far between. Especially long-distance mountain bicyclists.

So they left the trailhead leaving family and Arizona Trail enthusiasts behind. Did they realize that many of those people standing at the trailhead were shaking their heads in amazement, disbelief, and awe? What they were attempting had not been done before. The entire length of the trail was not even complete. Many sections were off-limits to bicycles, or simply not maintained or designed for two wheels loaded with gear. *Continued on page 8...*

## ATA Selects First Director of Trail Operations

With the ever-growing number of completed miles of the Arizona Trail to be maintained, and approximately 175 miles remaining in the trail planning or construction phase, the Arizona Trail Association has created a vital new staff position. ATA hired John Neeling to become the organization's first Director of Trail Operations.

John comes to our organization with an outstanding background in land and trail management. He has been a passionate supporter of the Arizona Trail for half a decade. As the Wilderness and Trails Specialist for the Kaibab National Forest in northern Arizona, and the Southwestern Region Leave No Trace Program Coordinator for the USDA Forest Service, John brings over ten years of experience in managing wilderness and non-wilderness trail systems to the Arizona Trail Association.



John has a strong background working with public agencies, volunteers, and trail users. His excellent knowledge of trail planning and management, as well as an understanding of the importance of motivating, recruiting, training, and leading volunteers are the exemplary qualifications that led John to this position.

A graduate of the University of Montana in Missoula, John's Bachelor of Science degree is in the field of Resource Conservation. He has received numerous national and regional awards for public land stewardship and his contributions to the Leave No Trace Program. John's good humor, popularity and trail expertise is well known to many of our Arizona Trail Stewards, members and volunteers who have had the pleasure of working with him. *Continued on page 8...*

## *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 use.

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Jan Hancock

*pres@aztrail.org*

Vice President: Steve Saway

*saways@aztrail.org*

Treasurer: Carl Golnik

*treasurer@aztrail.org*

Secretary: Geri DeMuro

*gdemuro@aztrail.org*

Executive Director:

Larry Snead

*director@aztrail.org*

Steve Anderson

*desertrls@aol.com*

Bob Bohannen

Dawson Henderson

*dawsonh@aztrail.org*

Cynthia Lovely

*lovely@aztrail.org*

Jim Martin

*martin@aztrail.org*

Phyllis Ralley

*maps@aztrail.org*

Terry Sario

*ntd2000@aztrail.org*

Dale Shewalter

Eric Smith

*esmith@aztrail.org*

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

## President's Pride

*by Jan Hancock*

We have some behind-the-scenes heroes that have really made me proud. For the past eleven months a very dedicated, hard-working committee has been conscientiously and consistently meeting to help draft the design of a comprehensive Strategic Plan for the next five years for our Arizona Trail Association.

This is no small task. A good Strategic Plan must rely on detailed information gathered from all over the state, from our executive director, treasurer, agency partners, board members, attorneys, accountants, insurance representatives, financial supporters, and a host of community and member volunteers.

Two strong leaders emerged from our own ranks to dedicate their hours, creativity, and due diligence to bring our 5-Year Strategic Plan to final draft form. First, our Strategic Plan chairperson and ATA Executive Board member and secretary, Geri DeMuro, volunteered early in the year to guide this large group of volunteers through the Strategic Plan process.

Working side-by-side with Geri was Eric Hiser, a lifetime member of the ATA, an accomplished environmental attorney, and the Vice President of Programs for the Grand Canyon Council, Boy Scouts of America. Additionally, looking watchfully over the shoulders of those who helped forge our future, was our Founder of the Arizona Trail, Dale Shewalter.

When the 5-Year Strategic Plan final draft is presented at the upcoming quarterly ATA Board of Director's meeting, the final approved, completed plan will be published for our membership and distributed at our ATA Annual Meeting on Saturday, February 3, 2001.

I think you will be as proud as I am of the untiring efforts of these leaders and the many scores of people across Arizona who were committed to the Strategic Plan process and who were closely involved with helping us design the future of our organization.

## Executive Director's Report

*by Larry Snead*

Ten years from now when we look back on the development of the Arizona Trail Association, there is no doubt in my mind that the years 2000-2001 will be identified as the critical transformation period. We are right in the middle of the most important time in the history of the Arizona Trail and the Association since this project began.

We ALL now have the challenge of guiding ATA from being a small support organization that provided volunteer trail workers to our land management partners into the organization in the lead role of managing the development, promotion, and preservation of the Arizona Trail. Our partners and the trail community now look to us for leadership.

And it is not a one-person job or a job that the ATA Board can do alone. It is really going to take the combined effort of all of us to pull it off. Please take a moment and reflect what you personally can do to help our association through this critical time. Here are some suggestions.

1. Renew your personal membership and ask someone else to become a member.
2. Contribute to the Fund A Foot program.
3. Ask others to contribute to the Fund A Foot program.
4. If you have a current responsibility, perform it to the very best of your ability and contribute some extra time during this critical period.
5. If you do not have a current responsibility, then volunteer to become a participating member with a specific responsibility.

We can get the Trail completely built and maintained to a high standard but to do so, we now need your help more than ever. It is your opportunity to make a real difference and be proud of your part in building this legacy-THE ARIZONA TRAIL.

### Welcome New ATA Members

#### Family Membership

Mike Bishop Scottsdale, AZ

Michael Headrick Tucson, AZ

Jack & Els Janus Glendale, AZ

#### Senior Membership

Bill & Marylee Adamson Green Valley, AZ

Maurice Garrick Los Angeles, CA

Gerald P. Kontz Green Valley, AZ

Gerald L. McCann Tempe, AZ

#### Individual Membership

Linda Cicerone Mesa, AZ

Pete Campbell Phoenix, AZ

Les Cherow Flagstaff, AZ

Mark Floor Phoenix, AZ

George Price Tucson, AZ

Meyer Turken Phoenix, AZ

## YEAR 2000 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ATA conducted a major National Trails Day Celebration on June 3, 2000 with community events throughout the state with thousands of participants. Many groups hiked portions of the Arizona Trail. This celebration was in recognition of the Arizona Trail being selected as one of our nation's Legacy Trails by the White House Millennium Council.
- ATA won a 2000 Trails for Tomorrow Award sponsored by DuPont Cordura.
- The Arizona Trail was awarded three Heritage Fund Grants from Arizona State Parks. These grants will provide funding for the Babbitt Ranch Passage land acquisition, Coronado National Forest Redington Pass realignment and the Tonto National Forest Four Peaks Arizona Trail reconstruction.
- ATA sponsored 36 trail work events, with hundreds of volunteers and thousands of volunteer hours contributed to conduct trailhead construction, trail signing, trail building and clearing, and trail maintenance. This effort completed 43 new miles of the Arizona Trail and provided maintenance of several hundred miles of existing trail.
- The completion of a new 20 minute video about the Arizona Trail by the Bureau of Land Management National Training Center. The video is being distributed to libraries throughout the state.
- The Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Strip District completed and dedicated a new, large trailhead called the Arizona Trail Stateline Trailhead at the Utah Border on National Public Lands Day, September 23, 2000.
- Completed a comprehensive Five Year Strategic Plan for the Arizona Trail Association which will provide future organizational, trail development, membership, information management and financial development goals and objectives.
- Initiated an Arizona Trail GPS Mapping Project with the State Land Department and the Bureau of Land Management. This project, when completed by the end of 2001, will result in the Arizona Trail's exact location plotted on topographic maps along with important features such as water sources, access, and crossings located along the trail.
- Launched the Fund A Foot - Build A Legacy trail development finance program that provides members, clubs, organizations, corporations, foundations and other friends of the Arizona Trail an opportunity to support the Arizona Trail Association in our trail building and trail maintenance programs.

## FUND A FOOT AND BUILD A LEGACY

Last year we launched a special program called Fund A Foot - Build A Legacy and we are continuing this program which is very important to the future of the Arizona Trail again this year. It is appropriately named because that is exactly what it does - build a legacy.

You have by now received a letter from our president, Jan Hancock, inviting you to participate in this program. Please become one of the Arizona Trail's "Fund a Foot" supporters. Give what you can afford. Every dollar counts because each dollar steps us forward one foot toward our goal.

Each year's contributors to the Fund A Foot - Build A Legacy program will receive a beautiful 8"x10" collector's certificate featuring a landscape view along the Arizona Trail. In addition, donors who contribute \$100 or more will receive a free gift copy of the 128 page hard-cover book featuring the beautiful scenery along the trail, by Westcliffe



Publishers entitled "Along the Arizona Trail."

This year we have added a second gift item and are now offering a great new western style Arizona Trail belt buckle for Fund A Foot contributions of \$150 or more. This buckle is numbered and is a real collector's item. So if your donation is over \$150 you now have a choice of either the book or the belt buckle as our expression of appreciation for your support.

If we are to continue to offer this outstanding Arizona Trail experience to our children, and their children, it is now that we must secure the necessary funds annually to both build and maintain the trail.

Your financial support is critically needed now so that the Arizona Trail will continue to exist for the recreational enjoyment and environmental education for which it is intended.

Help preserve the future of our award-winning trail. Help build a legacy with your contribution to the Fund A Foot program.

**February 3, 2001**  
**Arizona Trail Association Annual Meeting**

# Field Reports

## **Tortilla Mountains**

The American Society of Civil Engineers - Younger Member Forum is the Segment Steward of the northernmost passage of the Pinal County section of Arizona Trail. We decided to cancel the work event scheduled Nov 4th and 5th due to rain. While publicity is good, it was decided that news helicopters circling overhead as we are stuck in Ripsey Wash is probably not the way to go. Our group was rather disappointed to cancel, as we had an awesome response from everyone. Overall, nearly 20 civil engineers volunteered to work, including students from NAU and ASU.

We have rescheduled the work event for the weekend of December 2. Everyone is ready to start building trail! Meanwhile, good news from Francisco Mendoza of the BLM - the environmental clearances are expected to be complete by the end of the year for the BLM portion of the Ripsey Segment.

- Mike Luecker



*Building a section of Arizona Trail, Whitford Canyon REI Work Event.*

## **Reavis Canyon**

The third annual REI work event was a success in spite of being cut short by heavy rain. Over 80 enthusiastic volunteers working on ten trail crews constructed over three miles of new trail in the spectacular Whitford Canyon north of Highway 60 near Superior. This was a joint venture between ATA, Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona, REI, and the Tonto National Forest - Globe Ranger District. The project fulfilled an ATA goal of removing temporary AZT routes from primitive roads and replacing with new trail.

A big thanks goes to the ATA's Chuck Horner and Larry Snead; Michael Baker of Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona; and Connie Lane of the Tonto National Forest; for the tremendous effort in coordinating the trail layout and construction. An additional big thanks goes to the Phoenix area four-wheel-drive clubs that

assisted with transportation; the many crew leaders that provided excellent guidance; REI for the great meals and merchandise; Intel for the large cadre of volunteers; and EMS/Search and Rescue volunteers from Springerville. ATA looks forward to the next REI event in 2001.

- Eric Smith

## **Hardscrabble Mesa**



*Jim Turvell, Elizabeth Helms, Raymond Helms, Shirley Armsstrong, Alice Turvell*

Despite the rainy weather on October 21st, 25 miles of trail in the Mazatzal Wilderness was improved upon by volunteers from Payson and Phoenix. Shirley Armstrong from Payson and Segment Stewards Raymond and Elizabeth Helms from Phoenix rode their horses from camp to the work site. They were joined at the trailhead by Jim and Alice Tuvell, from Phoenix.

Rock cairns were either built or repaired and rocks removed to clear the tread between cairns. Thanks to this small, but productive group, there is now visible tread from the north boundary of the Wilderness 1/4 mile south toward the LF Ranch. Ray, Elizabeth, and Shirley rode their horses and packed their tools on the saddles while Jim and Alice hiked in carrying their tools. Both Jim and Alice are such energetic hikers, they had no trouble keeping up with the horses (or was it the other way around?).

The weather held until we started heading back. The rains started Saturday afternoon and never stopped until Monday, and then only briefly. Again, thanks to this small group, hikers and equestrians will have less rocks to stumble over on Trail #14. More work is planned for this passage throughout the year. If you are interested in helping, contact us at 623-849-8717.

- Raymond and Elizabeth Helms

## **Happy Jack**

Three work events during August and September successfully opened a new passage of the Arizona Trail north of the Blue Ridge passage. Led by Trish Callaghan of the Blue Ridge Ranger District, Forest Service staff and volunteers marked the new route with posts, cleared brush along the route, installed gates, and built numerous cairns. This work spanned eighteen miles, with over 261 volunteer hours logged. The next phase of work on this section will be clearing tread and installing any needed erosion control structures. Look for events to be scheduled next summer to complete this passage.

# Field Reports

## North Rim - Grand Canyon



*Kneeling: Merle Parmer ATA; Cindy Skelton, NPS  
Standing: Rumi Kobayashi, Japan; Brano Baluch, Slovakia; Aki Omae, Japan; Paula Barroz, Castro, Spain; Anne Catherine Vaes, Belgium; Tino Untermann, Germany; Shannon Ryan, Sacramento, CA; Karl Severance, NPS, Laco Jakubciak, Slovakia; Michael Connell, England, Chuck Horner, ATA*

Construction of the newest section of the Arizona Trail between the North Entrance Station and the Kaibab Trailhead was started with a ROAR in August! Literally! Chuck Horner fired up the Arizona State Parks SWECO 450 Trail Dozer on August 22, and with a little help from Merle Parmer, cut about 9 miles of trail corridor between the North Entrance Station and the road to Point Sublime (not far north of the North Kaibab Trailhead) by September 2. National Park Service rangers were hosting a group of 9 international student volunteers who spent most of 3 weeks from August 21 to September 7 doing a fine job of cleaning up several miles of the rough-cut trail using hand tools and a lot of physical effort -- they said it was "hard work".

Merle helped Park Service rangers instruct and assist the student volunteers build tread for most of the first two weeks while



*Chuck Horner operating the SWECO machine on new trail construction on the North Rim*

Chuck did the SWECO work. The international volunteers had almost no experience at trail building, but learned quickly and worked very hard to make this trail-building event a huge success. These

students volunteered through the Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE), and were led by Shannon Ryan from Sacramento, CA.

The rangers with the National Park Service (Jeff Martinelli, Kevin Cochary, Ron Martin, Cindy Skelton, Karl Severance, Lindy Allee, Joel Ellis, and several others) provided the guidance and direction for the work project, and were very helpful and generous in providing support -- food, tools, housing and information for the student and ATA volunteers -- and arranging transportation and tours for the international visitors. They made this work event a very rewarding experience for all.

Although a lot was accomplished, the Park Service will continue to need volunteer help in finishing this section of trail on the North Rim, and the ATA will need to provide a Segment Steward to help the Park Service arrange and conduct work events for both trail building and trail maintenance.

- Merle Parmer

## Coconino National Forest

A group of ATA trail activists and Forest Service officers met October 15th to discuss ATA trail status on the Coconino Forest. This section of trail through the Mormon Lake and Peaks districts has been one of the most difficult to complete.

We are happy to report that there is much new enthusiasm for the Arizona Trail. A variety of new and continuing projects are scheduled for this fiscal year. These projects include trail building, maintenance, and environmental (NEPA) analysis.

We are looking for new volunteers to help us with this years effort. Please contact Regional Steward, Dale Shewalter, and let him know how you can help. (520-527-3748)

**Send us your Trail Outings reports and photos!  
See addresses on page two banner**



*Putting the final touches on the recently completed Buckskin Passage. House Rock Valley and Paria Wilderness in background.*

## Top of the Trail Dedicated



*Opening ceremony for the new trailhead at the northern terminus of the Arizona Trail. Shown above from left to right: Michael Carr, Buckskin Passage ATA Trail Steward; Tom Folks, BLM; Dale Shewalter, ATA Board member; Roger Taylor, BLM Arizona Strip Field Manager.*

This flagship trailhead at the Arizona-Utah border officially opened September 23. Designed and constructed by the Bureau of Land Management's Arizona Strip District office this impressive project was completed under the leadership of Tom Folks.

Construction was funded by numerous grants for various elements of the trailhead. This outstanding trailhead offers camping, horse trailer parking and camping, toilets, ramadas, and a kiosk featuring area and trail information. It is the details that make this trailhead stand out above the rest (and the magnificent scenery helps too). Details such as the bench and ramada overlooking the valley.

The trailhead, located along historic House Rock Valley road, welcomes you to the Arizona Trail or to the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (depending on which direction you are facing!).

While it is a long drive for most visitors, we highly recommend a visit. Go for a hike and camp and you can say you've been to the top of the Arizona Trail!



*Brent Jensen, retired BLM employee and now Public Lands Foundation volunteer, leads the "Mule Tool Train" on the Buckskin Passage trail work event.*

## Gifts of Remembrance for Robert "Woody" Wise

Many friends of hiking enthusiast "Woody" Wise, who was killed by a lightning strike near the Mogollon Rim while out on a hike in August this summer, are sending donations to the Arizona Trail Association in remembrance of Woody, who had a special love of the Arizona Trail.

Woody was an avid hiker, and he particularly enjoyed hiking in Arizona's backcountry. He was a member of many hiking groups, including the Glendale Hiking Club and the Y-Trekkers, which are extremely active and supportive hiking organizations that have provided many years of volunteer support for the Arizona Trail Association.

A number of Woody's special friends and organizations have recently sent contributions to the ATA, which will go a long way toward helping to build and maintain the Arizona Trail. Donations in the memory of persons who loved the Arizona Trail, like Woody did, help to build a living legacy, now as well as long into the future.

Donors who have recently made contributions in Woody's memory include, Y-Trekkers, Glendale Hiking Club, Marguerite Bacon, David Burkett, James & Marilyn McAlpine, Backcountry Hiking Club, Vickie Wolfe, and Jack & Dorothy Hart. The ATA thanks all of you for your special remembrance of Woody.

---

## Library Videos

More than half of the 125 requests for the video - "The Arizona Trail - A Journey Through Time" have been filled by volunteer Donna Thrasher. The video is being sent to community libraries upon request. Elementary, high school and college libraries are also requesting copies, which are being filled until our supply is exhausted. The video was written, directed and produced by the Bureau of Land Management's National Training Center who also donated 200 copies to ATA. The photography by Jerry Sieve and the narration by Bob Davies were donated by the artists. If your local schools or community libraries have not requested a copy of the video, please let them know that there are a few free copies still available, but they are going fast!



## Arizona Trail at the National Trails Symposium



*ATA Director Larry Snead, welcomes visitors to the ATA information booth at this year's National Trails Symposium*

The 15th Annual National Trails Symposium held in Redding California, September 21-24, 2000 featured an Arizona Trail exhibit and was a topic of discussion at several sessions. Two Arizona Trail Board members received national recognition as Arizona's Outstanding Trail Advocate and Trail Worker. Eric Smith and Jan Hancock were among approximately 40 others from states around the nation honored for their work in recreational trails. Eric is the City of Prescott's Trails Coordinator and Jan serves on the Board of Directors for American Trails, the sponsoring organization for the Symposium.



*Eric Smith and Jan Hancock accept awards at National Trails Symposium*

## Desert Botanical Garden Surveys Arizona Trail

Desert Botanical Garden botanists Wendy Hodgson, Liz Slauson and Amy Prince have been busy surveying the plant life along the Arizona Trail. During the plant flowering season they have been collecting plant samples, taking photographs, and marking their course with a Global Positioning System.

Their work will provide the basis of a new exhibit at the garden that will teach visitors about the plants found along the trail. This 5-year project is being funded by The Dobbs Foundation and Bishop Family Trust, and the Rocky Mountain Research Station, U.S. Forest Service. When the work is complete, the Garden will house a permanent plant specimen collection from the trail. Upon completion of the survey work, a guidebook of plants found along the trail route will be published so that we may all learn

about the enormous variety of plant communities you may find along the Arizona Trail.

## Margarita Ride Enjoys the Arizona Trail

Equestrians gather each year for a long weekend of trail riding to give their support to the Wendy Paine O'Brien Treatment Center. The Center is a counseling and trauma facility for troubled youth, a program of Samaritan Health/Banner Health Systems of Arizona. This year over 100 Margarita Ride participants gathered near Gardner Canyon, north of Sonoita, to ride the Arizona Trail for several days.

John Amory, ride chairman, reported that "the Arizona Trail is simply beautiful, and it was in excellent condition." Our special thanks to the segment stewards and land managers who maintain the scenic Gardner Canyon and Kentucky Camp sections of Arizona Trail. This isn't the first time we've had such excellent reports on the top notch care these volunteers and agency partners give to this section of the Arizona Trail!

## ATA Accepts New Role

New Intergovernmental Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding for the cooperative planning, construction, and maintenance of the Arizona Trail were signed in September. The new agreements were revised to transfer Arizona Trail coordination efforts to the Arizona Trail Association. For the past seven years, leadership of the project under the Arizona Trail Steward's position until now has been under the direction of Arizona State Parks.

In a special signing ceremony with Ken Travous, Director of Arizona State Parks, and Jeff Hrycko, State Trails Coordinator, the final signatures completed this historical moment. These new agreements launch ATA into its new role in coordinating all of the trail management, agency relationships, and volunteer efforts. The first step in ATA's new role is the establishment of the Director of Trail Operations position. John Neeling took the reins as ATA's first full-time, paid staff member November 1st.



*ATA President Jan Hancock, State Parks Director Ken Travous, and State Trails Coordinator Jeff Krycko (standing) add their signatures to documents which transfer Arizona Trail coordination responsibilities to the Arizona Trail Association*

*The Ride of the Sheilamonsters, Continued from page 1*

Andrea Langford and Beth Overton had heard all the warnings, and so turned up the big hill that would take them onto the Kaibab Plateau and towards Mexico. They had miles ahead of them. Not all of these miles would be on the designated Arizona Trail. There would be times they had to backpack (the Grand Canyon), and sections where bikes were not permitted or recommended where they chose parallel dirt or paved roads, and where there was no trail yet they chose alternate routes.



*Andrea and Beth climb a steep section of the Arizona Trail.*

So, what was the experience like? They did make it to the end of the trail at the Mexico border on October 18, 808 miles later. Would they do it again?

Did they enjoy the experience? Would they recommend it to others? Well, here is a sampling of what the journey entailed.

Day 1: The first day of the trip begins with the challenge of pushing fully loaded bicycles uphill two miles.

Day 2: They see some of the wildlife the Kaibab Plateau is known for - turkeys, deer, jackrabbits, porcupine, and hunters.

Day 7: They meet the cowboys working the Babbitt Ranch north of Flagstaff.

Day 10: Both Andrea and Beth are forced to backtrack to retrieve lost gear.

Day 12: Rains turn the route to mud that sticks to the tires so much, the brakes become useless.

Day 14: The fifth flat tire in two days as they search unsuccessfully for the trail that will lead them up and over the Four Peaks mountain range.

Day 16: The anticipated 'easy' day of highway travel around the Superstitions Wilderness Area degrades into a grueling ride against 35 mph headwinds.

Day 18: A flash flood blocks their way as they travel across Pinal County.

Day 22: The hearsay about the route from Oracle to Mt Lemmon becomes painfully apparent as they push their bikes up steep slopes through thorny shrubs and cactus.

Day 25: They ride a "fun single track with scenery to beat anything we've seen" in the Santa Rita Mountain foothills.

Day 26: The end of a successful 808 mile journey at the infamous barbed wire fence.

When asked if they would do it again and if they would recommend the trip to others, Andrea's reply was "no". Did they enjoy the experience? Well, Andrea had to think about that one. Some sections yes, others no. As Andrea said she once explained to Beth during a particularly grueling section, this was not necessarily meant to be enjoyable - it was more of an exploration. They were on a mission to research if the trip could be done on bicycle. What they found was that some sections were outstanding on mountain bike - the Kaibab Plateau, the Grand Canyon to Flagstaff, and the Kentucky Camp area. Their realization that other sections were not so bikeable can now be passed on to others so that alternate routes can be identified and/or improvements made to existing sections of the trail.

The entire 26 days of journal entries were featured weekly in the Arizona Daily Sun. Go to the Sheilamonster's website for links to the newspaper articles, photos, and more ([www.indigo8.com/aztrail2000](http://www.indigo8.com/aztrail2000)).



## Volunteers Needed

The Arizona Trail Association needs help with more than just building and maintaining trail. The following are tasks that you may be able to help us with.

- Pick-up messages daily from ATA's telephone voice mail and process the message to the appropriate person.
- Pick-up the mail from ATA's post office box at least twice a week and process to the appropriate person.
- Mailing out packets to those requesting information about the Arizona Trail.
- Managing the database for our Fund A Foot program including mailing out the thank you letters and certificate.
- A person with a merchandising background to manage ATA's product sales including T- shirts, caps, mugs, patches and new products to be added.
- Manage requests for supplies of the ATA brochures, and mail or deliver the brochures.
- Statewide - we need volunteers willing to present a program about the Arizona Trail to clubs, organizations, etc.

If you are interested in helping with any of the above, please call Larry Snead at 602-222-9666.

### *First Director of Trail Operations, Continued from page 1*

John will be relocating to Tucson where he will establish his ATA Director of Trail Operations office. Many of his responsibilities will be very similar to those of the six previous Arizona Trail Stewards, whose positions ran from 1993 to 1998 at Arizona State Parks. Under the new Intergovernmental Agreements with the ATA's agency partners, the Director of Trail Operations position will now be managed by our Association's Board of Directors.

Please welcome John to his new role with the ATA, and if he is in your community while performing his trail duties, try your best to meet him. Better yet, you might even find an opportunity to offer him some "bed and breakfast" hospitality to help defray some of the ATA's overnight expenses as John travels our state helping us build and maintain one of America's finest long-distance trails!





# Superstition Wilderness

## Rogers Trough Trailhead to Roosevelt Lake



### General Information

This Arizona Trail passage through the legendary Superstition Wilderness provides many scenic views of Four Peaks, and as we near the northern end, there is a great panorama of Roosevelt Lake against the backdrop of the Sierra Anchas.

**Location:** Central Arizona within the Tonto National Forest from Rogers Trough trailhead north of Superior to the bridge at Roosevelt Lake.

**Length:** 24.4 miles

**Difficulty Rating:** Difficult

**Recommended Seasons of Use:** Fall, Winter, Spring

**Access:** To reach Rogers Trough trailhead from the Phoenix area, follow Hwy 60 east through Apache Junction and Florence Junction. Two miles east of Florence Junction, turn north on the paved Queen Valley road, drive approximately a mile and then turn right on FR 357 and cross RR tracks. Follow FR 357 two and one-half miles to FR 172 (Hewitt Canyon Rd). Turn north and follow FR 172 for approximately eight miles to primitive road FR 172A. This difficult three-mile-long 4WD road leads to Rogers Trough trailhead.

To access the Arizona Trail from the Roosevelt Lake trailhead, drive northwest from the Globe-Miami area on Hwy 88 to the Frazier trailhead, which is two miles south of the Roosevelt Lake bridge, or proceed to the Roosevelt Lake trailhead (not a developed trailhead) just south of the intersection of Hwy 88 and Hwy 188 at the dam.

Another route from Phoenix is Hwy 87 north to Hwy 188, and then travel through Punkin Center southeast to the Roosevelt Lake trailhead.

### Trail Route Description:

The Arizona Trail enters the Superstition Wilderness at the Rogers Trough trailhead and descends northwest into Rogers Canyon on trail # 109. At approximately 1.3 miles at the intersection with trail # 110, trail # 109 turns northeast and travels up a drainage, up onto Reavis Saddle, and on to the ruins of Reavis Ranch. Elisha Reavis, the legendary recluse, homesteaded 60 acres and farmed here for more than twenty years until his death in 1896. He supplied fruit and vegetables to the mining camps, and to the military with his pack trains of burros. Local historians believe that the present route of the Arizona Trail from Reavis Ranch to Picketpost trailhead closely follows the original route of his pack trail. In the old ranch area, there still is a producing apple orchard of more than 300 trees. There are good campsites upstream and downstream from the old ranch, but camp at least 300 feet from water and trails.

The trail proceeds north from Reavis Ranch on trail #109 to a junction west of the orchard and then follows trail #117, which leads northeast across Pine Creek (good campsites) towards Reavis Gap. At a trail junction approx. two and one-half miles from the ranch, the route turns northwest on trail #119 which leads in a northerly direction past Walnut Spring, Klondike Spring, Two Bar Mountain, and along the high Two Bar Ridge. Just beyond Pinyon Mountain, trail #119 ends at the Black Bush ranch road. The Arizona Trail follows the ranch road for one mile and then turns north on trail #120. The trail drops into a scenic upper Cottonwood Canyon, reaching perennial Cottonwood Spring in about 1 mile. Further down canyon at a tank and old corral the trail follows a 4 wheel drive road (FR341) out and then back into lower Cottonwood Canyon. The stream crossing at Thompson Spring is the junction with a spur trail leading out to Frazier trailhead just south of Hwy 188 (accommodates horse trailers). The trail follows FR341 out of Cottonwood Canyon where it connects with Trail #121. Trail #121 parallels the shoreline of Roosevelt Lake, passing near the historical Roosevelt Cemetery (Note: The trail continues along the roadway, crossing the Roosevelt Dam Bridge to connect with the Vineyard Trail at the north end of the bridge.)

**NOTES:** Make local inquiries for availability of water. Rogers Spring, Reavis Creek, Pine Creek, Walnut Spring, and Cottonwood Spring (one of the best sources of water), but it is wise to carry a reserve supply. Coming from the south, trail users should resupply at Walnut Spring.

Klondyke is hard to spot going south to north and the path to it is very overgrown. Klondyke is fairly easy to spot going north to south, but the access and reliability problems remain. It is about 1/2 hour between Walnut and Klondyke Springs.

Please use low-impact camping and backcountry travel techniques.

### For more information:

Mesa Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, 26 N. MacDonald, Mesa, Az., 85211, 602-379-6446; Tonto Basin Ranger District, Tonto National Forest, Hwy 88 HC02 Box 4800, Roosevelt, Az., 85545, 520-467-3200; Arizona Trail Association, P. O.Box 36736, Phoenix, Az., 85067, 602-252-4794.

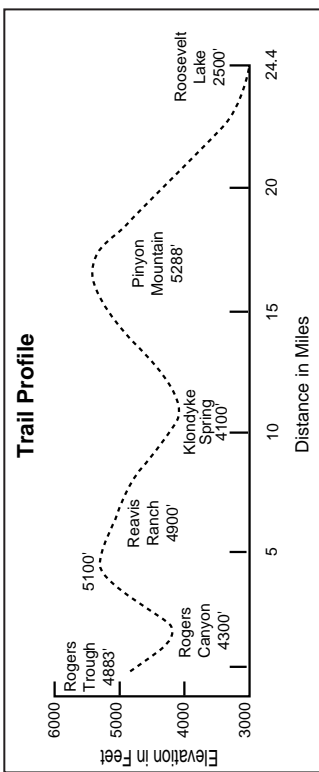
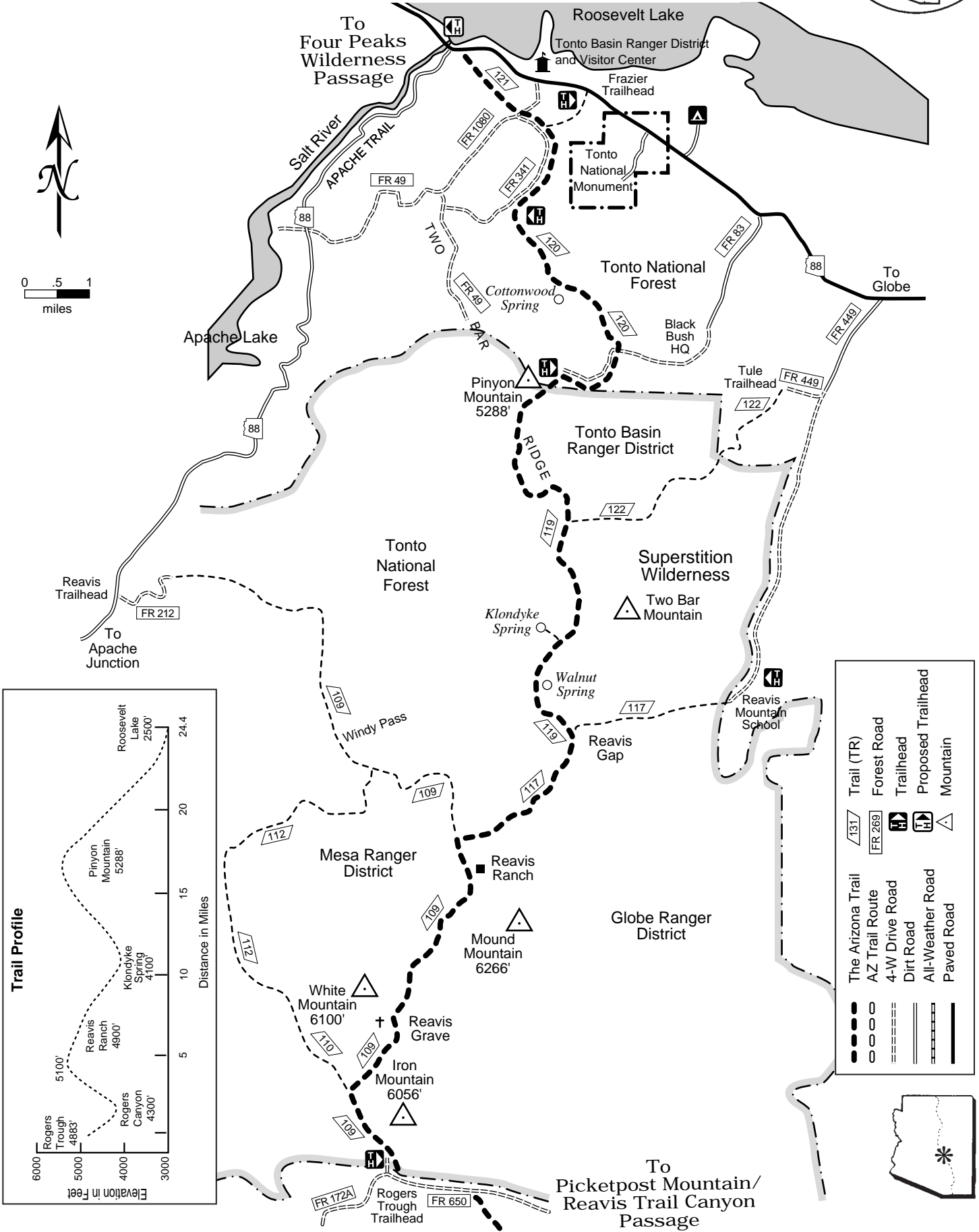
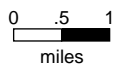
**Resources:** Tonto National Forest Map; USGS Topos: Pinyon Mountain, and Theodore Roosevelt Dam; Tonto National Forest - Superstition Wilderness Map



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

# Superstition Wilderness Passage

Rogers Trough Trailhead to Roosevelt Lake



	The Arizona Trail		Trail (TR)
	AZ Trail Route		Forest Road
	4-W Drive Road		Trailhead
	Dirt Road		Proposed Trailhead
	All-Weather Road		Mountain
	Paved Road		



# Arizona Trail Merchandise



**T-SHIRTS**  
Beautiful full color design on ash shirt.



**AZT PATCH**



**TRAIL MUGS**



Items not to scale



**BALLCAPS**  
Original and New

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # day \_\_\_\_\_ evening \_\_\_\_\_

	Number	x Price	Total
Short Sleeve T-Shirt	_____	x \$15.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Small <input type="checkbox"/> Med <input type="checkbox"/> Large <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Large			
Long Sleeve T-Shirt	_____	x \$18.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Med <input type="checkbox"/> Large <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Large <input type="checkbox"/> XX Large			
Patches	_____	x \$3.00	_____
Original Ball Caps	_____	x \$8.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Teal <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Green <input type="checkbox"/> Olive <input type="checkbox"/> Blue			
Embroidered Ball Caps	_____	x \$22.95	_____
<i>New Style!</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Sage Green <input type="checkbox"/> Gray			
Trail Mug	_____	x \$4.00	_____
<b>BOOKS/MAPS:</b>			
ATA Passage Maps packet	_____	x \$7.00	_____
ATA Essential Guide for Long-Distance Travel	_____	\$3.00	_____
<i>"On the Arizona Trail: A Guide for Hikers, Cyclists, and Equestrians"</i> by Kelly Tighe and Susan Moran, Pruett Publishers _____ x 19.95 _____			
<i>"Along the Arizona Trail"</i> by M. John Fayhee, photography by Jerry Sieve, Westcliffe Publishers _____ x 39.95 _____			

Please add shipping and handling: \_\_\_\_\_  
up to 1 lb. - \$2.50, 1-3 lbs. - \$5.00, 3-5 lbs. - \$7.50

**Total Due:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order to: Arizona Public Lands Information Center  
222 North Central, Ste. 101, Phoenix, AZ 85004  
(602-417-9300-telephone or 602-417-9556-fax)

## Become an Arizona Trail Member

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

Would you like to volunteer in any of the following ways?  
(check all that apply)

- Help build and maintain The Arizona Trail
- Become a Segment Steward
- Assist in Phoenix office
- Distribute Trail and event information in your area
- Donate materials or professional services  
Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Help raise funds for The Arizona Trail
- Recruit additional volunteers
- Membership services and development
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your primary non-motorized trail activities?  
(check all that apply)

- Hiking
- Horseback Riding
- Mountain Biking
- Cross-Country Skiing
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Types of Membership (please check one)

- Individual    Family   \$25/year
- Student    Senior   \$15/year
- Organizations with budgets *less* than \$25,000   \$50/year
- Organizations with budgets *greater* than \$25,000   \$100/year
- Trailblazer Member   \$100/year
- Trail Patron   \$500
- Lifetime Member   \$1000
- New Member    Renewal Membership

Additional Information: (please fill in any that apply)

- I am sending an additional contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Trail Development.

- This is a Gift Membership.

- Referred

by: \_\_\_\_\_

All donations are tax deductible.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION OR BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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



**ARIZONA TRAIL ASSOCIATION**  
**P.O. BOX 36736**  
**PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85067**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
FLAGSTAFF, AZ  
PERMIT NO. 333

ATA welcomes articles and photos from trail users and volunteers. Please mail to ATA or e-mail: [editor@aztrail.org](mailto:editor@aztrail.org)  
Arizona Trail Association, P.O. Box 36736, Phoenix, Arizona 85067 602-252-4794, [www.aztrail.org](http://www.aztrail.org) Next Deadline: Jan. 1st

## EQUIPMENT WISH LIST

Here is another way for you or someone you know to contribute to the Arizona Trail. The new Director of Trail Operations and our expanding trail development and maintenance programs are specifically in need of the following:

- Laptop Computer
- Printer
- Cell telephone and service
- Copy Machine
- Fax Machine
- Truck to be used by Director of Trail Operations
- Gas to be used in Director of Trail Operations truck
- Palm Organizer
- Desk, desk chair, file cabinet, etc. for Director of Trail Operations home office
- Slide Projector
- Video Projector
- Office space in Tucson area for the Director of Trail Operations
- Office space in Phoenix area for Executive Director.

Please contact Larry Snead at 602-222-9666 or by e-mail at [director@aztrail.org](mailto:director@aztrail.org) if you can help with any of the above.

## Database Manager Wanted!

The Arizona Trail Association needs a new database manager. ATA volunteer, Carl Golnik, has been doing "triple duty" for the past few years, because he is also the ATA Treasurer and is busy trail crew leader. We are looking for someone with strong database management skills, preferably from Phoenix to maintain the existing database of membership and volunteer hours.

We have set aside a small amount of funds for this job, so if you've been looking for a part-time way to earn some extra money, and if you have a database management skills, Carl would like to

## Fall Work Events

**Nov 18-19. Pinal County**, north of Oracle, east of Florence. New trail construction. Contact Jim Martin: [jmartin@aztrail.org](mailto:jmartin@aztrail.org).

**Dec 2-3. Mazatzal Wilderness**. South of Payson. Car camp, day hike 6 mi/day to worksite. Contact Tony Viviano 623-974-8900.

**Dec 9. Sunflower: Trail maintenance**. Contact Denny or Marie Haywood; [haywood@primenet.com](mailto:haywood@primenet.com) or 623-581-9219; or Carl or Shirley Golnik: [c.golnik@worldnet.att](mailto:c.golnik@worldnet.att) or 480-949-1527.

**Dec 9. Highline Trail**. Geronimo TH north of Payson. Trail maintenance. Optional car pool from Phoenix. Contact Dan Ruppert: [rupped1@imap4.asu.edu](mailto:rupped1@imap4.asu.edu) or 480-967-1859.