



Newsletter for June - August, 2005
Prepared by Ginny Rench

Officers

President Ginny Rench, 634-9354; Vice President Bill Dean, 567-3081;
Elaine Eaton-McCants, Secretary, 567-3219; & Diane Lovett, Treasurer, 634-2767

Fran Whetten, 634-6495; Milt Pate, 567-6378; Pat Miller; 301-4663; Joe Williams,
634-5906; and filling in as past president is Jan Endsley, 634-1945

On May 2nd 25 members attended the Annual Meeting and Election of Officer at Murphy's Restaurant. The current board, with the exception of Walter Cox agreed to stay on for another year. Pat Miller volunteered to fill the vacancy on the board. I'd like to give a special thanks to Walt for filling in this past year when we had an unexpected vacancy and also thank you to Pat Miller for volunteering to serve the club. Pat had run for the board last year and it's great that she is still willing to serve.

The members that are serving again this year as officers and board members are doing this because no one else stepped forward. VVHC seems to be experiencing small turnouts on events like many other riding clubs. With the large equine population in Yavapai County you'd think we would have more members. The only way this club will survive is if we attract more new members and get new people in who are willing to lead rides and participate in activities.

The board of directors voted to take a summer break and the club will not be sponsoring any official rides until September. Our ride on May 16th was attended by 5 members, 3 of those are also either board or officers of the club. We had a wonderful ride and wish more of you could have joined us. Many of us will be riding during the summer so if you don't want to ride alone or want to check out a new area give a call to someone on the board.

Updates from the Annual Meeting:

Congratulations go out to Bill Dean for winning the "Saddle Sore" award this year. If Bill's in town when the club has a ride you can count on him being there and supporting the club's activities. Bill is also always ready to lead a ride or bail out a temporarily lost trail boss. The buckle will be a nice addition to his collection.

The Animal Event Center in Cottonwood is still moving forward and we anticipate it opening after the first of the year. The wheels of government can grind very slowly at times; however, members Steve & Ginny Rench and Diane Lovett are determined to see this become a reality.

VVHC donated \$450.00 to the Groom Creek Horse Camp towards the purchase of a pipe corral. The Forest Service is installing 10 new 16 x 16 pipe corrals at the camp. Our donation along with \$450.00 from the Caballos del Sol charity trail ride is enough to purchase one of the 10 and a plaque will be placed on the corral with the donors names. The board of directors of Caballos is made up of Diane Lovett, Steve & Ginny Rench and Bill Dean; these 4 are hard working members of VVHC too.

Members Fran Whetten and Diane Lovett attended a “National Trails Day” work day at Dead Horse State Park on April 30th. Fran reported that the workers divided into two groups to work on the Lilm Klin Trail and the Thumper Trail. After all that hard work the volunteers enjoyed a wonderful Dutch oven lunch.

Steve Rench took his bobcat and joined a large work group at the Groom Creek Horse Camp in April to help get the camp open for the summer season. None of us should ever get bored; there are so many projects that need volunteers.

Yavapai College has recruited many of the horse groups in the county to help compile and distribute an equine survey. The survey will be ready for distribution this summer and the information will be used in a number of ways. The college equine science department is growing rapidly and director John Morgan is working on a long range plan to build a state of the art facility in Chino Valley. Classes are held throughout the county now; we have some in Camp Verde, Clarkdale and Dewey. This information will be important to the Animal Event Center that is still in the planning stages at the Verde Fairgrounds. When you receive your copy of the survey please take the time to complete and mail it in. They will be distributed at feed stores, veterinarians, western stores and by farriers.

Prescott Frontier Days Annual Trail Ride

Activities start Friday September 9th, through Sunday the 11th.

Place is the beautiful Groom Creek Horse Camp in the cool pines of Prescott, AZ

\$150.00 per person, (includes camp fee for Friday and Saturday nights)

Trail riding Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

There will be Door Prizes, White Elephant auction and live entertainment, good food and showers.

This is a fun time, good riding and lots of good old fashioned camp fire camaraderie! Join us for the event that helps keep the World's Oldest Rodeo, Prescott Frontier Days Inc. 4th of July rodeo since 1888, alive for our future. Come enjoy the outdoors with us. For more information call Joy 928-636-5387 or email, Joy Brown, sureshot78@earthlink.net or Jim Buchanan, jimbuchanan@cableone.net

Caballos del Sol Annual Trail ride has moved from March to September which means there will be a second Caballos this September. The ride will be at the P6 Ranch in Perkinsville and will start September 4th and end the 10th. If you haven't received an invitation and would like one just contact Diane Lovett at (928) 634-2767.

Have a great summer and look for a newsletter in September.