

Newsletter for February - April, 2004

REMEMBER, IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES FOR 2004 THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWLETTER, PLEASE RENEW NOW.

Welcome To New Member

John Davis, Jr.
300 S. Willard, Suite 102
Cottonwood, AZ 86326
(928) 634-3008

Longtime member Jean Cox passed away January 6th. Jean, and her husband Walt, were hard working members of the VVHC for many years. All of us that knew Jean will miss her wonderful sense of humor. A donation of \$50.00 was sent to the Cancer Center of Sedona in memory of Jean from the club.

Board openings – At the board meeting on January 12th the following vacancies were filled: Bill Dean was elected vice president, Elaine Eaton-McCants was elected secretary and Jan Endsley was elected to fill Elaine's position on the board. The officers will hold these positions until the annual meeting in May. Thanks to all of these members for stepping forward.

Website: Our website www.verdehorsemen.org is updated regularly; membership applications can be printed as well as current newsletters. This is also a great place to refer prospective members to. Check out our links and if you know of others that would be appropriate please let Diane Lovett know.

Club Photo Albums - has anyone seen them? Somewhere out there we hope that we still have several albums of photos taken during club activities over the years. They may have inadvertently been put up on a shelf with family albums; the board would sure appreciate it if you'd all check your closets.

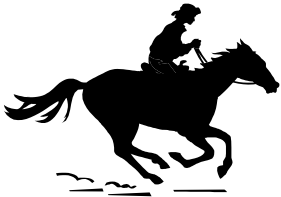
RIDE REVIEWS

January 10th The "Red Rock" ride hosted by Homer Harmon was attended by 20 members and 14 guests. The weather and scenery were both perfect and, as always; Homer was a very gracious host. Isn't it wonderful to have so many guests join us on a ride? Let's get them all to join the club!

January 24th Superstition Ride - Twelve of us camped at the First Water Trailhead. It rained on Fri. night and the sky was cloudy when nine riders rode into the Superstition Wilderness Area near Apache Jct. on Sat. the 25th. This is the same ride that John and Cheri did last year and it was such a beautiful ride that no changes were made this year. Ethan's mustang miscalculated a slippery rock but fortunately Ethan was quick to pull out of his stirrups and had no problem mounting back up. We all had a great family style dinner at the Miner's Camp Restaurant. It was a great meal and a wonderful day of riding. We ride that area regularly so if any of you would like to return or didn't make it on this ride – let us know and we will call you on our next trip down. Dale & Trish

ELECTIONS ARE COMING UP IN MAY. President Costilow will be appointing a nominating committee in March so start thinking about running for a spot on the board. Someone from the nominating committee will be calling you in March, so how about volunteering? The membership will receive the slate of candidates in April by mail along with the date and location of our annual meeting.

UPCOMING RIDES & ACTIVITIES



Trail bosses please remember that you need to get a release form signed by every rider for our insurance. A copy is being included in this issue; please make extra copies if you need them. The board appreciates your help on this.

Bill Dean was recently appointed as the clubs “trail boss” by President Costilow. If you have a favorite ride that you'd like to lead for the club, or if you would like to check out a new area give Bill a call at 567-3081 and let him know.

February 14th - ride to Casey's Corner for lunch on Valentine's Day. This ride will start at Oak Creek Valley Road (north of Cornville Road and approximately ½ mile east of Hwy 89A, there will be signs out), be ready to ride at 9:30 and we'll be back to the trailers around 3:00. Trail boss is Beth Blay and you need to call her by 2-10 so that she can let the restaurant know how many will be there. Non riders would be welcome to meet us for lunch. Call Beth at 634-1234.

February 28th - Oak Creek ride leaving from the parking area next to Trail Horse Adventures (old Kachina Stables). Off 89A, take Lower Red Rock Loop Rd, then right turn on to Elmerville Rd, turns into Mockingbird. Keep on the asphalt, parking will be on left. This will be a saddlebag potluck lunch to be eaten at the creek by the old Drake homestead ruins. Be ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. There will be a Trail Horse Adventures photographer at the river to take our pictures crossing the creek if you'd like yours taken. Pictures can be purchased at the THA office (prices vary according to size) after the ride. Call, trail boss, Jan Endsley at 634-1945 if you're planning on coming.

March 6th - Grief Hill ride starts at 9:30 from the Grief Hill trailhead, it's rated a 3 with Bill Dean as trail boss. Call Bill at 567-3081 and let him know if you're coming.

March 13th - Brins Mesa Ride starts at 9:00a.m. In Sedona Dry Creek Road turns into Boynton Pass Road. Just before the junction with Long Canyon a dirt road goes off to the left just before the small bridge. Take this road to a large open area at the end. There is plenty of room to turn around your rigs if you go all the way to the end of the dirt road. Rating: 3.0 Call Dale or Trish to confirm. 649-1021

April 3rd – Hackberry Ride: The rating for this ride is a four and it is usually about a seven-hour ride. This is a long ride over rocky terrain, but the food is always good and the ride is worth it. Horses should be well shod because of the rocky terrain. To reach the starting point you take Hwy 260 East to Fossil Creek Road (approximately MP 229). Turn right on Fossil Creek Road and go about 8 miles to Doc Roberts' old ranch. There is a gate and we park just off the road. We will put a sign out to indicate where the parking is. There is sufficient parking for all. We will ride out at 9:00. We will eat lunch at an old-line shack and there are Indian ruins nearby. The club will furnish hot dogs, buns and condiments, so bring a potluck dish to share. Call John or Cheri by March 30th, at 928-567-2458 if you're going.

April 17th Groom Creek annual cleanup at the horse camp. This is an important event and one of the major tasks to be preformed is raking up dead pine needles around the camp sites and hauling them away. The forest service doesn't have the funding or personnel to get the camp ready and they really appreciate our help. There will be many horsemen working that day, so grab your rake, gloves, pack a lunch and join in. Anyone from the Verde interested in carpooling give Steve & Ginny Rench a call at 634-9354.

April 18th - Black Tank ride lead by Steve Rench. This ride will start at 9:30, rated a 2.5 for 4-5 hours. Call Steve at 634-9354 if you're coming and he can give you directions then regarding parking. Riders will need Red Rock passes.

April 24th – Yellow Jacket ride off Dugas road with Bill Dean as trail boss. More information will be available in the next newsletter.

Horse Shoer: There's a new "farrier team" Michael & Sheena Garner serving our area and Bill Dean and Steve Rench have both used them and are pleased with their work. If you're looking for someone to do your horses or mules give them a call at 520-907-8404.

MEMBER ADS:

For Sale:

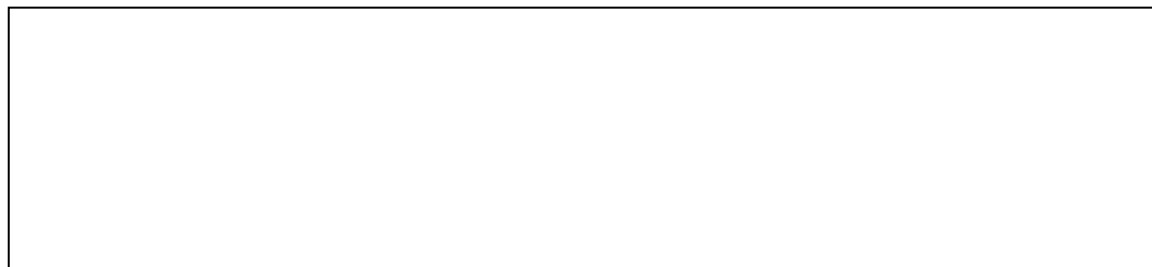
Registered, black T.B. 15 yr. old, 16.2H mare. She's an excellent broodmare, is sound to ride but needs an experienced rider on the trail. Call Elaine Eaton-McCants evenings at 928-567-3219 for more information.

16 yr. old Arabian gelding, a horse many of you know, is for sale by Bill Dean. Shadrack has been everywhere and is a great trail horse. Call Bill at 928-567-3081 for more information.

15" Marciante saddle in great condition for sale for \$450.00. Call Steve Rench at (928) 634-9354.

Wanted: Responsible renter, with references and integrity, who would enjoy the solitude of living at the end of a road by Oak Creek in a one bedroom mobile. Must love animals and be willing to care for owner's animals when owner is absent in exchange for rent. Actual rent is \$425 with water and trash included. NO SMOKING on property!!! Call Beth Blay at 928-634-1234 or email her at bbinaz@earthlink.net if interested.

Have something to sell or want to buy something horse related? Ads are free to members. Email Ginny at verdeweeds@commspeed.net. or mail your ad to VVHC, 3650 Penny Lane, Cottonwood, AZ 86326. No phone calls please.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND LIABILITY RELEASE
VERDE VALLEY HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 1341, COTTONWOOD, AZ 86326

I hereby apply for membership and in consideration of acceptance to participate in activities and ride on trail rides with Verde Valley Horsemen's Council, and my being able to participate in those events, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, waive, release and discharge all claims for damages resulting from death, personal injury or property damage which I may have, or which may hereafter accrue to me as a result of my participation in these events.

I understand this release is intended to discharge and release in advance the VERDE VALLEY HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL, its member and their respective agents, officers, officials, employees and representatives from and against any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation in these events, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities mentioned above. I further understand that horseback riding accidents have resulted in serious injury or death.

Print name of applicant _____

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Print name of Spouse _____

Signature of Spouse _____ Date _____

Print names and ages of minor children covered by this application and release

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Address _____

City _____ State & Zip code _____

Family membership () \$30.00

Single membership () \$20.00

Please make check or money order payable to Verde Valley Horsemen's Council and send with signed application/release to P.O. Box 1341, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

**If anyone joins the club after June 30th, the membership dues for the remainder of the year are reduced by 50%. Membership year is from January 1st to December 31st.

Revised 5/22/2002

VERDE VALLEY HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 1597
CAMP VERDE, AZ 86322

In consideration of acceptance to ride on a trail ride with the Verde Valley Horsemen's Council, and/or participate in any other activity sponsored by the Verde Valley Horsemen's Council, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, successors, assign, waive, release and discharge all claims for damages resulting from death, personal injury or property damage which I may have, or which may hereafter accrue to me as a result of my participation in this event.

I understand this release is intended to discharge and release in advance, the VERDE VALLEY HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL, its members and their respective agents, officers, officials, employees and representatives from and against any and all liability arising out of or connected in any way with my participation in this event, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of persons or entities mentioned above. I further understand that horseback riding accidents have resulted in serious injury or death.

RIDE OR ACTIVITY NAME _____ DATE _____

All family members please sign, parent or guardian must sign if participant is under 18 years of age.

NAME (Please Print) _____ SIGNATURE _____

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PLEASE COMPLETE THIS WAIVER AND GIVE TO TRAIL BOSS, THIS WAIVER MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE WE LEAVE ON RIDE OR BEGIN AN EVENT. THIS IS AN INSURANCE REQUIREMENT AND THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS.