



President Jenny Bellow,
301-3015
Vice President Steve Rench,
634-9354
Secretary Denise Sciarrotta,
649-6151
Treasurer Fran Whetten,
634-6495
Board Members: Milt Pate,
Joe Williams, Nancy Allbright
and Steve Harris and
past president is Ginny Rench

Newsletter for March - May, 2007
Website: www.verdehorsemen.org

Prepared by Ginny Rench

Included In This Issue:

- 1) Benefit Trail Ride Application for Back Country Horsemen April 13-15.
- 2) Benefit Ride June 8-10 for Yavapai County Animal Disaster Services at Groom Creek
- 3) The Horse's Prayer
- 4) Membership Application
- 5) ASHA membership application

Time is running out - this is your last newsletter if you haven't paid your dues for 2007. If you have a yellow dot on your mailing label we still need your money.



Elections are around the corner, May 12th to be exact is the date of the Annual Meeting & Election of Officers. The nominating committee members, appointed by President Jenny Bellows, are Steve Rench, Fran Whetten and Joe Williams. You'll be hearing from one of them soon as they work on a slate of officers and board members to serve this next year. Please consider volunteering for a position. There is also an opening for newsletter editor as Ginny is resigning as of May 12th.

Highlights of Past Events



January 13th - A sincere thank you to all those who braved the elements for the ride to Crusty's in January! We had a wonderful ride with 9 riders and 11 for lunch. Of course there were many jokes pertaining to the cold but that's what helped keep the blood flowing! Am I glad the ride wasn't scheduled for the following weekend when it really did snow!!! It is possible in the future I will offer the ride again, but don't wait to try the food at Crusty's, it was really good! Thank you again for your support. Chris Bromley

Pictured are a few of the *hardy* VVHC riders that went on Chris' ride.

At the last board meeting longtime member Milt Pate was recognized for his years of service, and of course meeting the age requirement and is our newest "Life Member". Congratulations and thank you Milt and Gail too for all you have done and continue to do for the club.

February 24th – Dead Horse State Park Ride. Steve Rench would like to thank Fran Whetten who agreed at the last minute to lead this ride for Steve who had a funeral to attend that Saturday. Fourteen riders, some were non-members and guests, all had a great ride and came back to a “bountiful potluck” lunch. It must be true, if there’s food we have more people that will come. We all like to eat, that’s a fact and we’re planning more meals in conjunction with our activities.

UPCOMING RIDES & ACTIVIES



Just a note to any member that doesn't already know, the board of VVHC is trying to communicate and coordinate with other horse groups and activities that are planned that might be of interest to you. Some events may be jointly planned with another group or organization, or we just think that it might be of interest to you. The bottom line is, all of us who love our equines need to ban together to protect and promote what is important to us. Some of the clubs that we're working with are: Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona, Central Arizona Arabian Horse Association, and Prescott Saddle Club and Arizona State Horsemen's Association. Also, Diane Lovett and Steve Harris are writing a bi-weekly article for the Verde Independent on "Horse Happenings" so let them know if you have something they could include in their article

March 7th to April 25th – Buckle Series at Cottonwood Equestrian & Animal Center. Get signed up for the 4-D barrel racing and pole bending series. This is the first “official” event offered by the City of Cottonwood’s Parks and Recreation Department. You can call Hez Allen at 639-8200 or go online to www.ci.cottonwood.az.us for more information.

March 9-11th is the Billy Cameron clinic in Camp Verde. This clinic is already full with participants but spectators can still audit any day. If interested call Ann Smith at 301-7588 for more information, the charge is \$20.00 for a full day unless you are a member of CAAHA, and then it’s free. Billy will be working in one hour sessions with all kinds of horses, levels of riders and riding disciplines. This is truly a great opportunity to watch a world-renown clinician known for his abilities with both riders and horses. He will tailor your hour to your particular interest or need. He works with beginners, people with horse problems, and teaches Dressage, Jumping, Reining, English and Western Pleasure. For more information about him please go to his website www.naturalbornriders.com.

March 24th - Copper Canyon trail ride with Steve Harris leading. Meet at the trailhead ready to ride @ 10.00 a.m. Bring an item for a potluck lunch. Lynn Harris will transport food items and your folding chair to the lunch location. This is a relatively easy 2 hour ride to lunch and 2 hours back on an historic wagon trail and it is a beautiful ride. Call Steve and Lynn Harris at 639-3089 they'd like to know how many are coming and what food item you are bringing.

March 31st to April 2nd – Horsemanship clinic at Cottonwood Equestrian & Animal Event Center sponsored by Steve Harris presenting Linda Green who is a Parelli instructor. Give Steve a call at 639-3089 for more information.

April 7, 2007: Pre-season work day at the Groom Creek Horse Camp near Prescott. We plan to start at 9am and ask that you be prepared for a great and full work day. We will need similar tools, equipment etc that we use every year, leaf or grass rakes, standard rakes, forks for picking up pine needles and debris etc. come and bring a horseman friend, gloves, water, lunch, tools and equipment. Do not bring horses, please.

Last year, 2006 was an extremely successful work day with a wonderful turnout of volunteers. PLUS there have been many generous donations that have enabled the Forest Service to purchase a number of additional corrals with their matching grant; and to obtain a used golf cart for the host to get around camp better. Plus there is a new water hydrant on the upper side of Loop C providing water at a much more convenient location to a number of campsites. Every year there are improvements. This year there will be a co-host at the camp, a couple who are horsemen and will have their horses there with them. Not only will we get the advantage of the presence of the co-hosts but the fact that they are horsemen will be a real plus! Dick and Pat will be back too providing the wonderful friendly service we all enjoy.

As horsemen we need to continue our active volunteerism in maintaining and improving the GCHC so we can keep it a horse camp. Please set aside Saturday, April 7, 2007 and plan to help. See you there!

Some of the work that day will include raking out burn piles and reseeding areas, raking, loading and hauling debris to a roll off dumpster, installing 3 picket line posts, moving some tie lines, moving some corrals, cleaning pine needles off bathroom roofs, setting up the water troughs, general clean up etc. Something for everyone.

Any questions or for info contact Jim Buchanan, 928-713-8911, or email jimbuchanan@cablone.net

April 13th – 15th – Benefit Trail Ride for Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona. This will be a great weekend at the Pitrat Ranch in Chino Valley. There is an application included in this newsletter; if you like to camp with your horse or mule, ride great trails, be well fed and be with a wonderful group of people plus help raise some money for a group that works hard to protect our access to forest lands then you'd better get your money in.

April 21st Red Tank Draw ride lead by Steve Rench and Steve Harris. Ready to ride at 9:30 staging area is at the Beaver Creek Ranger Station trail head. Take Sedona exit off of I-17 at S.R. 179 east, look for VVHC signs. Call Steve Rench at 634-9354 or Steve Harris at 639-3089. This will be a 3 ½ to 4 hour ride with lunch.

April 21st – English & Western Horse show sponsored by Future Hope Equestrians at the Cottonwood Equestrian & Animal Event Center. Contact Ann Smith for more information at 301-7588.

May 12th – Annual Meeting. Gail and Milt Pate have graciously offered their home again, really their arena and barn, for our annual membership meeting. We are planning some arena games in the morning and a trail course clinic and then a potluck meal in the shade followed by our Annual Meeting and election of officers. The trail clinic will include obstacles like crossing a bridge, opening and closing a gate, ground poles, etc. Contact Jenny Bellow at 301-3015 or email her at jennysuecw@hotmail.com if you can help she would like to have an activity committee to set up the trail event & gymkhana and a committee to set up & clean up the barn for the meeting. The club will furnish paper products & drinks.

May 26th – De-spooking Clinic presented by Dana Schmidt and sponsored by VVHC and Central Arizona Arabian Horse Association (CAAHA) at the Cottonwood Equestrian and Animal Event Center. There will a limit of 20 riders and the charge is \$35.00. The clinic will be from 8:00 to noon followed by a potluck. Spectators are welcome for a \$10.00 audit fee. This is a great way to teach your equine friend to deal with scary things in a safer environment. Contact Ann Smith at 301-7588 to register.

June 8-10th – Benefit ride for Yavapai County Animal Disaster Services and the Groom Creek Improvement Fund. This ride will be at the Groom Creek Horse Camp and all of the details are included on the enclosed reservation form. Don't delay, get your money in and make your reservations with the horse camp, part of your registration fee may be tax deductible; check with your accountant to be sure. Day riders are welcome and will be ask to make a donation.

October or early November - joint ride at Black Tank with Prescott Saddle Club; details will be in another newsletter.

Welcome to the following new members

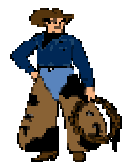
Laurie Brander of Cornville, Ruthie Ferrone of Rimrock and Pam Welch of Cottonwood and owner of Horses R Us. Also, welcome back to Carol & Spike Hicks and Marty Robertson all from Prescott. We're sure glad to have you join us!

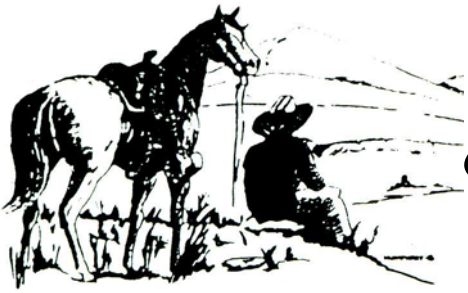
Special mailing in April will include the Annual Meeting reservation form and slate of officers. Next board meeting is April 6th at 6:30 at Jenny Bellows, members are always welcome.

Note – all club items have been moved to Gail & Milt Pate's for storage. Thanks to Jenny Bellows for taking time to make an inventory of what the club owns.

VVHC members can join ASHA for \$15.00 since the club belongs. This is an important club to support, they work hard to keep track of legislative issues affecting horsemen and protect our access to trails.

Website to check out that is very informative is www.allabouthorse.com





**COME RIDE WITH US IN 2007
& Bring a Friend**

VVHC
P. O. BOX 1597
Camp Verde, AZ 86322