

BACKCOUNTRY HORSEMEN



OF ARIZONA

THE PURPOSE OF BACKCOUNTRY HORSEM OF ARIZONA 1. To perpetuate the common sen and enjoyment of horses in Arizona backcountry and wilderness. 2. To work to insure that public lands remain open to recreational stock use. 3. To assist the various government and private agencies in their maintenance and management of said resource. 4. To educate, encourage and solicit active participation in the wise us backcountry resource by horsemen and the general public commensurate with our heritage. 5. To foster and encourage the formation of new BCH chapters in Arizona TERRITORY OF ARIZONA.

BCHAZ, Back Country Horsemen of Arizona

A State Organization of Back Country Horsemen of America
Jim Buchanan, State President
8250 N. Buchanan Drive
Prescott, AZ 86305
jimbuchanan@cableone.net
928-713-8911

State Web site www.bchaz.org

2009 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BCHA NBD

It seems each year has its challenges and opportunities. In retrospect, I feel 2009 was a year in which we held our own. Each of our Chapters was successful and their reports will provide greater detail. As I write this in the first quarter of 2010 I look forward to our report next year as I feel we are moving forward in significantly positive ways. We have elected our second National Director who comes from the East Valley Chapter. Please welcome Howard Hargis! Gayle Higgs who has served Arizona well on the National Board the last 2 years will be our alternate this year. Jim Higgs continues to serve Arizona and National on the National Board of Directors. We have amended our State Constitution bringing it much closer to the National recommendation. And we have someone in Tucson, Arizona working to form a chapter there.

Central Arizona had a good year and was very active on trails, packing, Forest Service issues and access issues at Grand Canyon National Park. Grand Canyon National Park and the ways they may restrict horsemen will, if implemented, potentially have a very detrimental impact on horsemen in all National Parks. We need BCHA's involvement on this.

East Valley had another good year. Snowbirds, most of them but they contribute and amazing amount of volunteerism. And with just 16 membership units they have again sent National a \$200 donation from their general funds.

Chloride had a good year and held their first fundraiser trail ride. It was at a beautiful location and everyone including Barb and I had a great time. Chloride is working to do more volunteerism and packing for projects.

I want to thank the leadership of all the Chapters for their commitment and work for BCH. It is not always an easy job but they all do their best as they say for the good of the order. Most significantly they have all pulled together this spring to move the State Organization forward!

Last, we want to thank all of you! You are our National Directors who work all year long on many issues for the good of us all. Thank you!

BCHAZ, Back Country Horsemen of Arizona

A State Organization of Back Country Horsemen of America P.O. Box 4486, Chino Valley, AZ 86323
State Website www.bchaz.org

Back Country Horsemen of America, National website www.backcountryhorse.com

Chapters: note each chapter has 3 members represented on the State Board of Directors. President does not represent a Chapter and only votes in case of a tie vote.

BCHCAZ, Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona, www.bchcaz.org EVBCH, East Valley Back Country Horsemen BCH Chloride, Chloride Back Country Horsemen Contact chapters through their representatives listed below

Jim Buchanan, State President, (also temporary Treasurer) 8250 N Buchanan Drive, Prescott, AZ 86305-8801 928-445-0072 - home; 928-708-6902 - office; 928-713-8911 - cell Email jimbuchanan@cableone.net

Gayle Higgs, State Vice President, BCHCAZ, Alternate National Director 2010 year 3420 W. Emory Oak Way, Prescott, AZ 86305 928-445-3809 - home Email jghiggs@commspeed.net

Kelly Schwartz, State Secretary, BCHCAZ 3365 Black Jack Ridge, Prescott, AZ 86305 928-717-2237- home Email kelly@jksfinancial.biz

Jim Higgs, National Director, 2009-2010 term 3420 W. Emory Oak Way, Prescott, AZ 86305 928-445-3809 – home Email jghiggs@commspeed.net

Howard Hargis, EVBCH, National Director, 2010-2011 term 250 S. Tomahawk Rd., # 162, Apache Junction, AZ 85119 817-613-6590 – cell Email haranch@gmail.com

Chip Wilson, EVBCH 128 S Starr Rd., Apache Junction, AZ 85219-2212 480-671-1210 – home Email WalterChip@aol.com

Wilbur Bogart, EVBCH 2747 South Val Vista Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85219 480-671-3381 – home Email bogartfarms@juno.com Lester Krause, BCH Chloride 6970 Music Alley Lane, Kingman, AZ 86409 928-692-8695 – home Email hackamoreman@hotmail.com

Mary Kiedrowski, BCH Chloride 8366 Mae Lane, Kingman, AZ 86409 928-692-0090 – home Email rmkied@citlink.net

Sue Baughman, BCH Chloride P.O. Box 634, Dolan Springs, AZ 86441 928-767-3676 – home Email itchyft2005@yahoo.com



P.O Box 4486, Chino Valley, AZ 86323

Annual Report 2009

Brief Chapter History

The Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona chapter was formed in 2000 and for several years was the only chapter in the state of Arizona. Since that time our membership has grown and continues to grow. We have helped to foster the establishment of additional chapters and a state organization. We have emphasized the information age by encouraging our members to communicate via e-mail and to use our website www.bchcaz.org to keep our members current on upcoming events, to do their volunteer hours reporting and to keep their membership information updated. The chapter incorporated as an Arizona non-profit corporation on December 28, 2005 and now has a 501 (c)(3) status.

2009 Board of Directors

Gayle R. Higgs, **President** 3420 W. Emory Oak Way Prescott, Arizona 86305 928-445-3809 jghiggs@commspeed.net

Kelly Schwartz, Vice President 3365 W. Blackjack Ridge Rd. Prescott, Arizona 86305 928-717-2237 Kelly@jksfinancial.biz

Miramae Welch, **Treasurer**P.O. Box 2994
Chino Valley, Arizona 86323
928-636-8424
miramae@highwaterranch.com

Peggy Konecny, **Secretary** 1515 Louis Trail Prescott, Arizona 86305 928-925-9523 happymuleacres@commspeed.net

Harley Cox, **Director At Large** P.O. Box 2328 Chino Valley, Arizona 86323 928-583-0114 ropercox51@yahoo.com

Denny Murray, **VP Projects** 1395 Buffalo Run Road Chino Valley, AZ 86323 amberlee8008@msn.com

Spike Hicks, **VP Trails** 3230 W. Chipmunk Dr. Prescott, Arizona 86305 928-778-1833 spikehicks@cableone.net

Wayne Pitrat, **VP Packing** 9500 E. Perkinsville Rd. Chino Valley, Arizona 86323 928-713-6571 halfhorse@hughes.net

Jim Higgs, **VP National Director** 3420 W. Emory Oak Way Prescott, Arizona 86305 928-445-3809 jghiggs@commspeed.net

Volunteer Hours

| Totals | 2009 Rates | Value | | |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------------------|--|
| | Trail Recon | 190 | \$15.00 | \$2,850 |
| | Trail Work | 428.5 | \$15.00 | \$6,428 |
| | Total Skilled | 2,047 | \$25.00 | \$51,175 |
| | Total LNT-ED | 0 | \$15.00 | \$0 |
| | Total Public Mtg. | 2 | \$15.00 | \$30 |
| | Total Admin | 25 | \$15.00 | \$375 |
| | Total Travel | 330.5 | \$15.00 | \$4,958 |
| | Personal Vehicle Stock Hauling Subtotal | 337 7545 <i>7882</i> | \$0.90 \$1.10 | \$303 <u>\$8,300</u> <i>\$74,418</i> |
| | Power Equip | 48 | \$64.00 | \$3,072 |
| | Heavy Equip | \$3,000 | , | \$3,000 |
| | Donations | . , | | \$0 |
| | Total Stock Used | 186 | | · |
| | Total Stock Days | 225 | \$100.00 | \$22,500 |
| | <u>-</u> | | | |
| | Total VH value | | | \$102,990 |

Annual Meeting – January 2009

Our annual meeting was held at the Smoki Pueblo again this year. Great food was provided by the chapter. Wayne Pitrat made his world famous Carnitas meat, Jim Buchanan made his fabulous beans and Harley Cox had 4 big dutch ovens going outside with mouth watering cobbler and ice cream.

We had year-end reports from all officers and a special report on the Grand Canyon National Park Mule Use situation from Jim Parish and Ron Clayton. Mr. Ron Clayton spoke regarding the issue. He was the head mule wrangler in the Grand Canyon for 25 years. They currently have 10 mules going into the bottom each day. For 100 years, there were 20 mules going in and coming out the following day. On the average summer, 60 mules would be utilized—40 going in on a one-day trip, 20 on an overnight trip, and 20 coming out. This does not include the 12 pack mules that used to go in every day. They have closed the Kaibab completely. There are no longer day rides—just a rim ride. He thinks we have lost the use of it through neglect. Mr. Clayton said that, if there is any time we need to get together and voice our opinion, it is now.

We had election of officers and I gave out embroidered denim shirts to all the board as a thank you for their time and dedication to the chapter. It has been a privilege to serve on the board with them.

The Lon Willoughby Outstanding Service Award was given to our Secretary/Membership Coordinator Peggy Konecny. Her efficiency and organizational skills are invaluable. Her minutes of our monthly board meetings have been sent to all members in lieu of a newsletter so everyone has complete information about the projects and issues the chapter is facing.

We now have an inventory list of all equipment (pack saddles and tools) and what is available to all members in our library, books, videos, etc. She has also put out a membership directory and sends out all important e-mails to the membership. Her efforts have truly brought us into the 21st Century.



Harley Cox cooking our cobbler

Grants

We applied for a grant from the American Quarter Horse Association STEP program, funded by their corporate sponsor Tractor Supply, in July of 2009. We requested \$8000.00 for the work on the Almosta Trail Project. \$3000 was to reimburse our treasury for monies already sent of the trail and an additional \$5000 to complete a 7.5 mile loop trail. We were granted the full amount and are busy working with the forest service on trail design, flagging and putting an agreement together for the use of a SWECO owned and operated by a member of the Arizona Off Road Coalition. This is a \$90,000 piece of equipment. He is now a member of our chapter too so that the forest service would buy off on him being a volunteer and not a contractor. Part of the expense for the use of the SWECO comes from grant money the AZ Off Road Coalition is donating and \$1000 gas money is being provided by the forest service. We are hoping that with all the winter moisture and the slow grinding wheels of the government, that we can get this done or at least mostly done by September, 2010 so that we can reapply for another grant to finish another loop trail.



Contact 200 Powell Place Brentwood, Tennessee 37027 Rob Hoskins - Media

(615) 780-3332

TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY ANNOUNCES DONATION FOR TRAIL WORK IN PRESCOTT NATIONAL FOREST

FUNDING PROVIDED THROUGH AQHA TRAIL PRESERVATION PROGRAM

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (date) – Tractor Supply Company recently announced it will fund the construction of a new multi-use trail in Prescott National Forest through a donation to the Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona. The funds from Tractor Supply were donated through an American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) trail conservation program that launched in May.

The Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona made the sponsorship request through the **STEP** (**S**tewards for **T**rails, **E**ducation and **P**artnerships) program to increase the trail riding opportunities within Prescott National Forest which currently offers nearly 450 miles of trails that can be used year round for horseback riding, hiking, backpacking or mountain biking.

"We're very grateful for the partnerships we have with Tractor Supply and the American Quarter Horse Association," said Gayle Higgs, spokesperson for the Back County Horsemen of Central Arizona. "Their support enables us to provide additional recreational opportunities for those who want to enjoy all of the scenic beauty that Prescott National Forest has to offer."

The **STEP** program allows groups and individuals to submit proposals for projects that fund and generate awareness for trail conservation projects nationwide. A committee consisting of officials from AQHA, Tractor Supply, Equestrian Land Conservation Resource and National Forest Service reviews each individual proposal, selects the individual projects for funding, and assists in organizing volunteers for the completion of the approved projects. Forms for submitting trail conservation projects and additional information can be found at www.ridegreen.aqha.com.

"Tractor Supply's funding of this project through the **STEP** program enables us to build and strengthen our relationship with equestrian groups and horse owners," said Jonathan Swiskow, director of marketing at Tractor Supply. "Through this donation, we hope to not only generate awareness about preserving riding trails for our customers, but also stress the importance of environmental stewardship and land conservation for future generations."

Construction of the new trail is scheduled to begin in February 2010.

Tractor Supply Company, listed on the NASDAQ Stock Exchange as TSCO, operates more than 830 stores in 44 states. Tractor Supply Company stores are focused on supplying the lifestyle needs of recreational farmers and ranchers. The company also serves the maintenance needs of those who enjoy the rural lifestyle, as well as tradesmen and small businesses. Tractor Supply Company stores are located in the outlying towns in major metropolitan markets and in rural communities. The company offers a comprehensive selection of merchandise for the health, care, growth and containment of horses, livestock and pets; a broad selection of agricultural products; and tools and hardware selected for our customers' needs. In addition, the company sells light truck equipment, work clothing for the entire family, and an extensive line of seasonal products including lawn and garden power equipment products. For more information on Tractor Supply, access the website at www.TractorSupply.com.

Groom Creek Horse Camp Grant

This project started late in 2009 but will be completed in 2010. Led by Sheree Pitrat, Carol and Spike Hicks as an independent committee, we were looking for a way to memorialize Cathy Hubbard at the Groom Creek Horse Camp. Cathy was a major force behind the original construction of the camp. It was decided to get a pavilion built to shelter the eating area in the Group Campsite (Site C-25). We sought monetary assistance from Arizona Horse Lover's Foundation, and BCHCAZ received a grant for \$15,000. Gayle Higgs, Kelly Schwartz, and Spike Hicks met with Bruce Fahrni and Ann May, of the Prescott National Forest, and received permission to pursue the project. We also received a commitment from Prescott National Forest of an additional \$5,000. Cathy's daughter-in-law will also give the project approximately \$3,600 received as donations from Cathy's funeral. In addition, Ms. Pitrat's son-in-law will contribute the concrete work and foundations at cost. We hope to purchase the appropriate pavilion from Classic Recreation Systems, Dewey, Arizona, and erect the all metal building on the site when our annual clean up is held at the Groom Creek Horse Camp on April 17, 2010.

Projects

The Groom Creek Horse Camp preseason maintenance day was a huge success again this year. Prescott Saddle Club and our chapter worked together to clean up the camp and get it ready to open. Prescott Saddle Club bought pizza for everyone for lunch and our members from the Verde brought over water for everyone and our chapter supplies the soft drinks.



VP Projects, Mr. Denny Murray

Completed projects include—

- Trail 622 clearing, limb lopping, and brush removal. This was accomplished through the efforts of 18 or more hard working volunteers working in small groups throughout the year. He encouraged assistance with the completion of this project. We are awaiting final approval by the Prescott National Forest.
- Rode and flagged the first new Almosta Loop Trail. This trail is approximately two
 miles long and is ready to walk with Forest Service personnel and archeological
 individuals to reflag for SWECO or excavator clearing.
- Worked with the Prescott Fire Department, through the Prescott National Forest.
 Seven BCHCAZ members earned first-aid certification.
- Four members received training and qualified for intermediate chainsaw certification through the Prescott National Forest.
- Surveyed and determined material requirements for fence on end of Trail 622.
 Materials list has been mailed to the Prescott National Forest.Reconfigured some of the McLeods so that they can now break down and be placed in scabbards for easy use on horseback. We are using battery operated chainsaws so that pack animals are not always needed. They are available.

Trail mapping of new grant funded Almosta Loop Trail





Clearing crew on just finished Almosta Trail

Chainsaw Certification



Packing

Vice President of Packing - Mr. Wayne Pitrat

- 03/15/09 Boy Scouts packed in generators, jack hammers, fencing, cement, etc.
- 05/15/09 Kendrick packed mostly water and supplies to the tower
- 06/06/09 Equifest Packing demonstration
- 07/24/09 Kendrick packed panes of glass to the tower
- 09/20/09 Fossil Creek packed out trash gathered by the Arizona Wilderness Coalition
- 10/03/09 Hyde Mountain packed glass, plywood, and panels for the tower
- 10/06/09 Hot Loop Trail packed in water, tools, two porta-potties, wire, posts, and tarps.
- 10/13/09 Hot Loop Trail packed out unused materials
- 10/23/09 Sycamore Cleanup at Taylor Canyon cleaned up around Taylor Canyon and the cave
- Hot Loop Trail packed out more unused materials
- 11/13-15/09 Warm Springs Wilderness fence repair project for BLM (referred to earlier in the meeting in a letter read by Gayle Higgs from Sam Franks, Arizona Wilderness Coalition)
- Two trail crew supports were done at Lynx Lake Trail 95 in Prescott water, tools, and chainsaws were packed in to this area.



Warm Springs Wilderness Packing for BLM



Kendrick Mt. Wilderness Lookout Restock





Packing in glass to Kendrick Mountain Wilderness Lookout

Gates:

We continue to build horse gates to be installed on FS land. They provide the material and our chapter members do the fabrication and installation. Harley Cox is our main gate person. Two gates were modified and replaced on the Almosta Trail. He helped fabricate more gates. There are two breakaway gates that be packed in and one standard gate that cannot be broken down.







These signs are donated by the Prescott National Forest and we have them on 11 of our gates that we have fabricated and installed.

Little Thumb Butte Bed and Breakfast Verde River Brunch Ride

Great food and a wonderful fun ride. Everyone loved it and we are planning another one for 2010.





Website

Kelly Schwartz has really made our website a pleasure to log on to. Ms. Schwartz had available for review copies of the BCHCAZ website home page which is www.bchcaz.org. There are a number of logos on the home page but, if you click on State Line Tack and shop from this site, BCHCAZ will get a percent of what you spend. When you purchase anything on line at Country Supply and put bchcaz as your country care code when you check out, BCHCAZ will be awarded 5% of whatever you purchase. She encouraged us to support our sponsors. Rummel Eye Care and Olsen's Grain also pay to advertise on our website which helps support website costs.

Grand Canyon Issue

Mr. Parrish discussed and distributed an editorial which will be published in the *Bridle and Bit* publication next month relating to the Loss of Use of Trails in the Grand Canyon. It is included below.

Presently the NPS (National Park Service) is doing a Stock Use Plan for equine use of trails into the Grand Canyon. They are considering the following: 1) Public and commercial stock use by all equine; and 2) appropriate levels of equine use on Park trails and appropriate locations.

Word on the street is that NPS would like to remove or limit use of all trails by Equine into the Grand Canyon. The Bright Angel trail on the South rim is the most popular trail. The other trail on the South rim is the Kaibab trail, and the North Rim trail of which the mule ride concession has had their use of that trail limited.

There seems to be a consensus of opinion that the current National Park Superintendent is not in favor of continued equine use on the trails.

What does this mean? Public use of the trails may terminate. These are trails that we the public have a right to use. The trails are owned by and for the public not the National park Service. The NPS is the custodian of the National Parks for use by the Public. If we lose this right to use the trails, it could set the stage for loss of use by equine on other public lands in the future.

The other issue is the elimination of mule use into the Grand Canyon. These trails were created over a hundred years ago and mules have been used at first to help build the trails. Then when completed the public use of the trails by mules has been enjoyed by millions of people both locally and internationally. Many of these people could not enjoy the grandeur of the Grand Canyon because of physical restraints preventing them from hiking down into the canyon. Quadriplegic, paraplegic, the elderly, and other people with disabilities have been able to experience the Grand Canyon because of the mule rides. In a recent interview with Ron Clayton who was the head wrangler for the mule rides on the South Rim for 25 years tells us one of the most vocal groups against the mules and equine use of the trails are the hikers. They complain about the dust, excrement and occasional urine pools which the mule crews do clean up. What about the trash and toilet paper left by the hikers along the trails and side canyons.

The biggest trail problem in recent year has been some very heavy rains on the trails of the Grand Canyon. The NPS blames the trail erosion on equine use. Did we forget the daily use by hundreds of Nike soles on the trail? A friend of mine has hiked the Bright Angel trail ten times over the past few years. He told us that he never had a conflict with equines on all of his hikes into the canyon. Hiking use into the canyon is not limited, but the mule and public equine use is. Only 40 mules plus wranglers are allowed for day use and another 20 are allowed for overnight stay at the Phantom Ranch. Also pack mules are used to pack supplies in and out for the Phantom Ranch. The Ranch is also the termination point for River Rafters and their supplies are pack out by mule. The mules are occasionally used to bring out hikers who become sick or are hurt and can't hike out of the canyon. We might add that

the Hikers over the years have steadily increased their use of the trails without any use restrictions. Why is equine use being discriminated against?

National Director Report

Mr. Higgs said the BCHA now has an Executive Director of Issues and Policy—Dennis Dailey. This is a paid, part-time position. All BCHCAZ members were previously e-mailed a copy of the National Directors' Report prepared by Jim and Gayle Higgs, BCHA National Directors from Arizona. He reviewed some issues discussed at the meeting and noted that people attended from the Wilderness Society, US Forest Service, American Hiking Society, American Horse Council, and the Olympic National Park. He said he had always thought the Wilderness Society was against horses in the wilderness, but the three presenters dispelled that myth because all three of them have horses and want to keep the wilderness open to horseback. A Memorandum of Understanding is being developed between BCHA and the Wilderness Society so we can all have a louder voice, e.g., the Right to Ride Bill. The American Hiking Society also feels the same way that, if we partner, we will have more clout. We all use the same trails and, by working together, can have a greater impact. The American Horse Council also attended, and we are working with them. It was a very productive meeting. A year ago, the BCHA got a new Director of Development. Mr. Higgs noted that \$69,000 in donations were anticipated, and we have received \$33,000 to date. Mr. Higgs encouraged members to make a donation to the BCHA Legal Fund. The BCHA Volunteer Hours Report for 2008 includes a total of 286,153 with a volunteer value of \$6,613,643. BCHCAZ was awarded the Double Diamond Award for its Wupatki packing project. This is the second time our chapter has won this award in the past three years. BCHA are members of the American Horse Council, Coalition for Recreation Trails, American Trails, Partnership for National Trails System, and the National Recreation Trails Training Partnership (at a cost of \$2,217). By being members of these organizations, we will be apprised of what we can do to help one another. The National Trail Classification System has not made much progress. He said there is more destruction of the trails by the guads, and there is a lot of concern in this area. Mr. Higgs reported that he has been elected to the Executive Committee, and they act as advisors to the National Board. He reviewed current activities of Dennis Dailey in his position as Executive Director of Issues and Policy. It was noted that BCHA is working with a number of organizations regarding trail closure issues.

Fund Raising

I would like to take you back to our March 10th Board Meeting. We had already spent \$3,000 for the SWECO rental for the mechanized portion of the Almosta trail. We were counting on a successful Annual Ride in April to replenish our treasury and provide a surplus for further trail development. Yet, we were faced with fewer than 50 signups for the April Ride and a deadline in committing to a guarantee of 60 people to the caterer. This is against a backdrop of an uncertain economy and bad news daily about the state of things for people. We concluded we had no choice but to be conservative and cancel the April ride and re-group. We surveyed members and past ride attendees and made plans to try or change in the location and timing of the ride, with short notice to members and past ride attendees, and, even worse, having the ride the weekend before Thanksgiving, could have been a recipe for disaster. But fortunately, thanks to members and their friends for stepping in, the ride

attracted 59 riders and we succeeded in our goal of replenishing the treasury and building a surplus.

Actual Numbers:

2009 total ride income = \$4,076 2008 Total ride income = \$4,356

Everyone at the Ride seemed pleased with the Bumble Bee Ranch location, facilities, food, and weather. We will hold our 2010 ride at Bumble Bee Ranch on November 5-7, 2010. Bumble Bee Ranch works well for us. In taking care of the ride reservations, meals and



entertainment, an enormous workload is lifted. Their all weather dining facility, bar and stage is assurance of a place to gather and socialize in comfort no matter the weather. With more time to plan and prepare the 2010 ride, we hope to make it one of our best.

Pictures of the ride at Bumble Bee Ranch









Adopt A Highway

BCHCAZ adopted a one-mile stretch of the Senator Highway a few years ago. Ms. Cathy Alger maintains this highway every other month, and she was thanked for her work on this project on behalf of BCHCAZ.

Service Projects

This year we cooked breakfast for around 130 people for the Cowboy Poet's Sunday Gathering. The food was donated by a local restaurant. This used to be a fund raiser for us, but they lost their big sponsor and needed our help. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet a lot of people and to help the community.



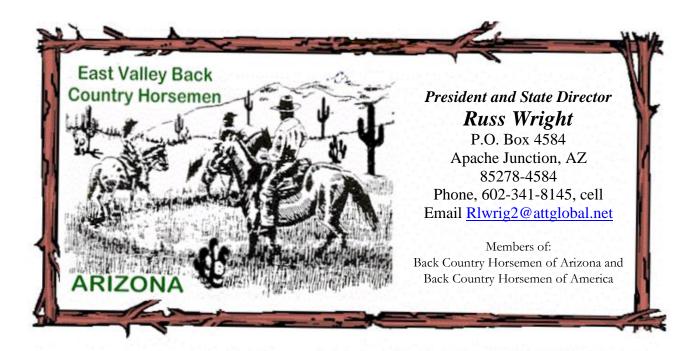
Equifest:

Olsen's Grain Feed Store puts on this event each year and we have been honored to be one of their main attractions. This year Harley Cox cooked biscuits and sausage gravy in his dutch ovens from 9 to 11 with samples given to everyone that walked by and then from 1 to 3 in the afternoon he made peach cobbler in the dutch ovens for everyone to sample. From 11 to 12 we gave a packing demonstration. We had a table set up with membership information and our display board with pictures of our activities and projects.





Respectfully submitted by: Gayle Higgs, President



DIRECTOR'S

Vice President & State Director Wilbur E. Bogart 2747 South Val Vista Road Apache Junction, AZ 85219 (480) 671-3381 bogartfarms@juno.com

Treasurer

Walter (Chip) Wilson 128 South Starr Apache Junction, AZ 85219 (480) 671-1210 walterchip@aol.com Secretary

Pearl Agard 538 South Acacia Apache Junction, AZ 85219 (480) 982-6307 pearla@pacifier.com The East Valley Back Country Horsemen Group from Apache Junction, Arizona conducted a very successful year with all of our volunteer activities during 2009.

Our club consisted of 12 member families last year and as many more families whom we called the friends of the EVBCH. Most of our members and friends are winter visitors to Arizona, bringing our own horses down for wintertime trail riding. As grateful users of the equestrian facilities in the Tonto National Forest and the Superstition Wilderness Area, we gladly volunteer our time to help maintain these same facilities.

We only held one formal meeting on Jan 29, 2009, but we organized several trail maintenance events which we held over the period of



January through March 2009 before we returned to our home states, and then in September and November we returned for some more projects.

All together we conducted 6 events with 186 work hours and 14 travel hours, as well as 400 travel miles.

We had 18 workers on two project days on Passage 18A of the AZ Trail for which we are trail stewards. We had 11 workers on two project days on Passage 17 of the AZ Trail as well, where we also are the stewards. And finally we had 5 workers on two project days on the Equestrian Parkway on AZ State Trust Land around Apache Junction.

In past years we have assisted the US Forest Service by packing in supplies for Forest Service crews who were spending a week in the Wilderness, or when they were building trail on the AZ Trail, and we packed out trash left by hikers deep in the Wilderness. I am including some pictures that we took during these events in 2007.

Sincerely, Russell Wright, Reporter







Back Country Horsemen of Chloride

2009 Report

Our year started out with our 1st Fundraiser, ride, campout and auction at the at Yellow Pine Ranch. It was fun and plans are in the works for an even better one in 2010!



The ranchers and BLM were recipients of our services throughout the year. We also helped gather cattle for a few large ranches. The mountains in this area are very rough and getting cattle herded out is a tough job. We also packed in water for the workers using some of the trails, as well as helped to maintain the trails and watch over the ecosystem.

While the Spanish Mustangs here in the Cerbat mountains are still protected, we watch over them, keeping a count of the herds and their condition, as well as making sure the watering holes are usable.

Overall, we expended 1,278 volunteer hours. We rode in parades and even led the Dolan Springs Parade. We have started taking time out on trail rides in different areas to have demonstrations on horsemanship. There is a multitude of ways room for all of us to learn more. This is an activity we plan on continuing.



Silver Creek - April 2009

We have some very good riders with good horses and mules in this Chapter which has allowed us the opportunities to enjoy fantastic rides into beautiful places.

We are looking forward to a busy year ahead! Stop by and join up with us, if you are in our area!

Sincerely, Judy Casella-Sharples

BCHAZ VH 2009 Totals

Back Country Horsemen of Arizona - all Chapters combined

2009 Volunteer Hours Reporting Totals

| Description | Totals | 2008 Rates | Value |
|------------------|---------|------------|-----------|
| Trail Recon | 190 | \$15.00 | \$2,850 |
| Trail Work | 1892 | \$15.00 | \$28,380 |
| Total Skilled | 2047 | \$25.00 | \$51,175 |
| Total LNT-ED | 0 | \$15.00 | \$0 |
| Total Public Mtg | 2 | \$15.00 | \$30 |
| Total Admin | 25 | \$15.00 | \$375 |
| Total Travel | 442.5 | \$15.00 | \$6,638 |
| Personal Vehicle | 337 | \$0.90 | \$303 |
| Stock Hauling | 10714 | \$1.10 | \$11,785 |
| Power Equip | \$48 | | \$48 |
| Heavy Equip | \$3,000 | | \$3,000 |
| Donations | \$0 | | \$0 |
| Total Stock Used | 186 | | 40 |
| Total Stock Days | 469 | \$100.00 | \$46,900 |
| Total VH value | | | \$151,484 |

BCHAZ NBD DUES REPORT 2009 YEAR

Back Country Horsemen of Arizona, State Organization

National Dues Reported by Chapter

| CHAPTER | # SINGLE | # FAMILY | TOTAL | DUES PAID |
|-----------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|
| Central Arizona | 22 | 58 | 80 | \$ 974.00 |
| East Valley | | 16 | 16 | \$ 208.00 |
| Chloride | 9 | 7 | 11 | \$ 213.00 |
| Lake Havasu* | | 0 | 0 | \$ - |

^{*}Note, Lake Havasu did not continue in 2009

Additional Information

| Number of Chapters in Arizona | 3 | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Number of new Chapters in Arizona | 0 | |
| Number of Chapters lost during 2009 | 1 | Lake Havasu |