



AUGUST 15, 2007

President Ginny Rench  
Vice President Steve Harris  
Secretary Jenny Bellows  
Treasurer Fran Whetten  
Past President Milt Pate

Board Members:  
Joe Williams  
Nancy Allbright  
Ann Smith  
Diane Lovett

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING/POTLUCK HELD AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>.** Gail and Milt Pate hosted the quarterly membership meeting the evening of August 11. A Board of Directors meeting was held immediately prior to dinner and the membership meeting followed.

The Board of Directors voted to include membership for both VVHC and Central Arabian Horse Assn. on VVHC application forms. It was felt this would be an incentive for new members. Dues established are \$40 for a family membership in both clubs. \$30 for a single. The income from dual memberships will be split between the two clubs. For just VVHC membership the dues remain \$30 for family and \$20 single. The choice is optional.

It is anticipated there will be several combined trail rides. Ann Smith will work on combining trail rules to bring to the next Board meeting.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at Diane Lovett's house. As usual, members are welcome to the Board meetings. Call Diane for directions to her house.

Following the Board meeting a delicious potluck was served. Previous to the main meeting, two members of the Yaavapai County Animal Disaster Services gave a very interesting account of how you should be prepared for evacuation during a disaster such as flood, fire, etc. They showed examples of what you should always have ready for your pets so you can just gather them and the prepared kit and leave the house. Also presented was the same idea for horses. Interesting is the plan to have halters prepared for each horse with their names, your name and address and phone in key tags attached to the halters. The halters should be leather and break-away. The lead ropes should be about half of usual length. If need be in a disaster you can put the halter on the horse and turn it loose. Who finds it later will know where it belongs. Included in this newsletter is a page describing more and also notification of a training session in the Verde Valley for those interested in volunteering and contact information.

The membership meeting discussed the new joint membership applications and dues structures.

The June ride was a wonderful ride in the high country off of Stoneman Lake Road. The ride was lead by Eric Eberhard of CAHA. There were about 12 riders. It was a very pleasant day with lunch at Broliar Lake.

The July 21 ride to be lead by Pat Miller up off of 260 in the high country was another beautiful ride, but no one but Pat and Slim showed up to ride. They had a super ride themselves, but it is a shame no one joined them.

Note the rides scheduled at the meeting on the Schedule of Events page.

Fran Whetten filled the group in on the open house held by the Coconino Forest on the proposed Trails Management Plan. Fran advised that everyone should be aware of the limitations this will put on parking and riding on the forest, especially for overnight camping. Maps and a copy of the proposed plan are available at the Forest Service office and on their web site. Everyone should be concerned and educate themselves on this latest proposal. See the related article in this newsletter for contact information, etc.

The editor of the newsletter sent out 13 proposals for businesses to advertise in the Voice of the Horseman with no results. Several of the club members indicated they would take ads.

The question was asked if the club should keep membership in both Camp Verde and Cottonwood Chambers of Commerce. It was learned that the local chambers are combining this sort of thing and one membership will get to all of them. It was decided to join the Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce.

Pat Miller won a special raffle sponsored by the Pates. They passed the earnings of about \$36 on to the club.

**MEMBER ATTENDS FOREST SERVICE OPEN HOUSE.** Fran Whetten attended a public discussion of how the Forest Service is going to address the federally mandated Travel Management Plan. The open meeting was held by the Coconino Forest August 2 in Camp Verde. Fran came away with definite concerns as to how this will affect parking of our trucks and horse trailers for day rides and especially for overnight rides. The plan is being implemented to satisfy to an executive order for the Forests to develop plans to mitigate the effects of off-road vehicles and cross-country travel. Current rules allow almost unlimited cross-country travel.

The new rules will severely limit any travel of off designated roads and limit the distance from a road where you can camp. The proposal limits roadside parking to one vehicle length from the road surface and limits access to dispersed campsites to within 100 feet of a road.

It does propose allowing access beyond the 100 foot limit to existing campsites if the campsite and user created road is designated on a yet to be created Forest Service map.

A complete draft of the proposal and maps designating which roads will be closed is available on the Coconino National Forest website <http://fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/tmr.shtml>. Follow the links to "Proposed Action".

This should be of great concern to all of us who use the forests for any reason. Comments can be emailed to : [comments-southwestern-coconino@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southwestern-coconino@fs.fed.us) or by writing to: Coconino National Forest, ATTN: TMR, 1824 S. Thompson St., Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

## **SNAKE BITE SYMPTONS AND TIPS FOR YOUR DOG:**

- \*Dilation of eyes
- \*Site of bite will swell rapidly, usually within 15-30 minutes
- \*Dog may be lethargic, vomiting, and experience convulsions
- \*Loss of muscle control

If you suspect that your dog has been bitten and experiences any of the above symptoms, **SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.**

There is a “rattlesnake vaccine” that does help slow down the progression of the venom in the dog’s body and can make the bite less severe. It does not “make you immune” in the way that we think of other vaccinations. Many local vets tell us that the vaccine does “buy you time” to get your dog to medical treatment. A snakebite can cost anywhere from \$500 to \$3,000 to treat, there is no guarantee that the dog will survive.

The best method is prevention. If we can teach our dogs to avoid them altogether this will help save us all a lot of worry.

The above article is from Bridle and Bit magazine. There are local dog/snake trainers. A search on your web page will probably find several. Next time we will have an article on snakebites on horses.

**THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE’S NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (NAHSS)** web site contains information on all the major livestock groups, including an equine health monitoring and surveillance section. Two new web pages have been recently added to this section, which can be found at [www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/). From Bridle and Bit magazine.

There is a horsemanship clinic scheduled for August 25-26 in Cornville. They will mostly cover ground work and one rein stops. It is limited to 10 riders, they have some open spots. If you are interested call Nancy Allbright at 634-0592 or email her at [Nallbrig@aol.com](mailto:Nallbrig@aol.com).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- September 16                      Joint trail ride, VVHC and CAHA. Sycamore Rim Trail, led by Eric Eberhard of CAHA . The drive time from Camp Verde is about an hour and twenty minutes. Take I-17 to Flagstaff, then I-40 West to the Parks exit. Cross left over I-40 to the railroad tracks. Meet there at 9:30 a.m. If you are coming, call Eric by September 10 at 567-9577. Bring lunch and water.
- October 2                              VVHC Board of Directors meeting. 6:30 p.m. at Diane Lovett's house. Call Diane at 634-2767 for directions.
- October 20                            Red Rocks of Sedona ride to be led by Steve Rench of VVHC. Take Hwy 89A towards Sedona, turn left on FS #525, go 5 miles and look for VVHC signs. Ride will start at 9:00 a.m. and will be out 4-5 hours depending on photo stops, visiting and just plain looking around. This is beautiful country and you won't want to miss this one. Rated a 2.5. Call Steve at 634-9354 and let him know you are coming.
- November 2,3,4                      Joint ride with the Prescott Saddle Club. Overnight ride at Black Tank between Cottonwood and Sedona. Put this one on your calendar now. Details will be in the October 15 Voice of The Horseman.
- December 8                            Historic Lime Kiln Road. This ride will include a holiday party at the new trailhead on FS road 89B, just off of Hwy 89A. Many more details in the October newsletter, but get this on your calendar now.

We are going to try to get events on the schedule as far ahead as possible so they can be put on your calendar. If special events come up or you need reminding, we will email all those with email and call others. Please remember to check your email for our messages.

