



DECEMBER 15, 2007

President Ginny Rench  
Vice President Steve Harris  
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Board Members:  
Joe Williams  
Nancy Allbright  
Ann Smith  
Diane Lovett

**VVHC AND CAAHA JOINT HOLIDAY PARTY A GREAT SUCCESS** Approximately 45 - 50 people of all ages enjoyed an evening of superb food, fun, and good company. The "Wild Gift Stealing Game" was hilarious and almost no one came away with the gift they really wanted!!

**EXPERTS SAY INFLATE YOUR TIRES WITH NITROGEN.** The latest information on tires is that if you inflate your tires with Nitrogen, you will have to check your tire pressure only every 3 to 6 months instead of monthly. Nitrogen is a gaseous element whose molecules expand or contract less than air. You will get slightly better gas mileage, and it is better on both tires and rims which results in less tread wear. The going rate right now is \$29.95 for four tires (at Steve Coury Service Department). Use Nitrogen in your horse trailer tires too!!

**RED ROCK RIDE BEAUTIFUL, RELAXING.** Six riders joined Steve Harris and Fran Whetten for a relaxing, scenic ride in the Red Rocks on October 20. The day was warm and the group enjoyed a leisurely lunch. A fascinating find was a large sinkhole, which seemed to go into the center of the earth. No one volunteered to get down and investigate!!

**SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO THE HUBBARD FAMILY.** Long time member Cathy Hubbard lost her husband Del in late November. Several VVHC members attended memorial services in Dewey. Our thoughts go out to Cathy.

**CLUB MEMBERS DONATE TO LOCAL ANIMAL DISASTER SERVICE.** Pat Miller and Slim Chapman donated a large animal crate and two kennels to the local area Animal Disaster unit. The unit here is busy equipping for any emergency to provide shelter for evacuees' animals.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL AND JUNE DEAN.** A group of people surprised Bill and June on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The group was waiting at a local restaurant and when Bill and June came in, they were truly surprised. It was fun to honor this special couple that are long time VVHC members.

**EQUITATION CLINIC VERY BENEFICIAL** The clinic in late November was very well attended and there was not just showing instruction but also lots of good equitation techniques. It is hoped that Leo Hansen will return for another clinic, perhaps in February. Check the February "Voice of the Horseman" for information.

**"RUTHIE'S CLOSET" PROGRAM.** VVHC member Ruthie Ferrone runs the equestrian program at Copper Canyon Academy. Ruthie's girls ride and compete at local shows. Due to the costs of attending Copper Canyon, many of them do not have the extra money to purchase show clothes. CAAHA is sponsoring a program where any show clothes, new or gently used, will be donated to Ruthie to build her girls a collection of show clothes. Monetary donations to purchase show clothes will also be welcomed. Donations can be brought to Future Hope Equestrian or call Ann Smith at 928-301-7588 or Danielle Keeseey at 928-713-8673.

**YAVAPAI COLLEGE OFFERS EQUESTRIAN COURSES.** Ann Smith and Danielle Keeseey, VVHC and CAAHA members will be teaching at Yavapai College again in the Spring Semester. They will be teaching English and Western Riding I on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and English and Western Riding II on Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. They also teach Equine Events Management on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Register at Yavapai College if you are interested!!

**DESPOOKING CLINIC II SCHEDULED** Another of the popular despooring clinics will be held on Saturday January 19, 2008 at the Cottonwood Equestrian and Animal Event Center. This is valuable training for a horse that is easily frightened by various objects that are encountered on the trail or in the arena. The clinic will begin at 10:00 a.m. Participants should be tacked with halters by this time. Lunch will be provided. The clinic will end at 2:00 p.m. Space is limited so be sure to reserve yours by calling Ann at 928-301-7588 or Danielle at 928-713-8673. The cost is \$40.00 per person.

**ARIZONA STATE HORSEMENS ASSN. WANTS YOU.** The Arizona State Horsemen's Assn. is your statewide voice of horsemen. This organization has representatives on almost all of the equine related organizations in the state. They are now initiating a statewide program to better defend ourselves when the situation arises such as equestrian lifestyle issues; horse property and ownership issues; planning, zoning and comprehensive plan issues that are inconsistent with the rural lifestyle; and trail usage and access. They are the official state representative to the American Horse Council who represent equine interests nationally. They would like to have representatives from all clubs and associations in Arizona and always want your individual membership. For more information call Ed O'Brien at 602-769-2486.

**FRAN WHETTEN IS IN NEED OF 6 TO 8 FENCE PANELS, ANY SIZE.** Call Fran at 928-634-6495 if you have any you would like to sell.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- DECEMBER 29 Saddlebag Potluck on the banks of Oak Creek. Get creative for your contribution to lunch from your saddlebags. Bring your own utensils and drink and whatever you need to serve your dish. In the saddle ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. at the "Deer Pass" Trailhead just off of 89A between Cottonwood and Sedona. Call Steve Harris at 928-301-4825 to let him know you are coming or for more info. Be sure you have a Red Rock pass or Golden Age Passport.
- JANUARY 19 Despooking Clinic at the Cottonwood Equestrian and Animal Event Center. Begins at 10:00 a.m. and goes to approximately 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided. \$40 per person, space is limited. Call Ann Smith at 928-301-7588 or Danielle Keesey at 928-713-8673 to reserve your space.
- JANUARY 26 Duff Flat area ride. Meet out Sycamore Canyon Road at the cattle guard with the VVHC sign on it. This is a 3 ½ to 4 hour ride rated a 2 to 2 ½. Be in the saddle ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Bring lunch and water. Call Joe Williams at 928-634-5906 for more info and to let him know you are coming.
- FEBRUARY 5 VVHC Board of Directors meeting at Rench's at 6:30 p.m. Members are always welcome. Call Ginny at 928-634-9354 for info.
- FEBRUARY 9 Hot lunch ride on the Lime Kiln Trail. Meet at the corrals just off of Bill Gray Road (behind Magoo Gardens). In the saddle ready to ride at 10:00 a.m. Cost is \$5 per person and you must call Ginny at 928-634-9354 by February 6 to reserve your lunch. This is a 2-hour ride to lunch and 2 hours back on a scenic portion of the historic Lime Kiln Road. Rated a 2.
- MARCH 1 Spring ride up Copper Canyon. Mark the date on your calendar, more details in the February "Voice of the Horseman".

We are putting 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 e-mail all of those with e-mail and call others. Please remember to check your e-mail for our messages.