



Newsletter for June - August, 2004

Prepared by Ginny Rench

Our Annual Meeting on May 2nd was attended by 33 members and guests. Special thanks go out to Wayne & Sheree Pitrat from the Central Arizona Chapter of the Back Country Horsemen for coming over from Chino Valley and telling us about that organization. Sheree is the current president and she and Wayne have ridden many miles with their pack mules working on trails. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful

pictures that were passed around showing some of their members out doing trail work.

Vice President Bill Dean did a great job of stepping in at the last minute and running our meeting. Also, thanks to all of our members who volunteered to run for officer and board positions. The new officers and board members are ready to roll up their sleeves and work for you and the club this year.

Officers

President Bill Dean, 567-3081; Vice President Ginny Rench, 634-9354;
Elaine Eaton-McCants, Secretary, 567-3219; & Diane Lovett, Treasurer, 634-2767

Board Members

Ona Silva, 567-2417; Milt Pate, 567-6378; Dale Duncan, 649-1021;
Homer Harmon, 284-1116 and past president Patricia Costilow, 649-1021

Board Meetings: The board will meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at various locations around the valley. The next meeting is July 21st at Homer Harmon's in the Village of

Oak Creek. Members are always welcome, call President Bill Dean at 567-3081 to find out where future meetings will be held.

Roster Changes:

Bill & Sue Jones - P.O. Box 115, Glenwood, NM 88093 (don't have phone # at this time)
Charlie Westbury - P.O. Box 4109, Chino Valley, AZ 86323 (cell #928-710-5053)
Carol & Spike Hicks - 928-778-1833 (phone # wasn't available for the last roster)

Website: Remember to check our website www.verdehorsemen.org as it 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 at 634-2767.

Update on Equestrian/Animal Park: Some of you will remember that Ginny & Steve Rench and Diane Lovett appeared before the Cottonwood City Council in April at a work session. They were there to talk

about the feasibility of establishing a multi use complex on city owned property for a wide variety of animal activities. The council endorsed the concept; however they unanimously agreed that the best place at this time was probably at the current fairgrounds. After that meeting those 3 members had a meeting with Councilwoman Diane Joens and Councilman Steve Dockrey to further discuss the need and how to proceed. Steve Dockrey had served for many years, and in many different capacities, on the various fair boards. Steve agreed to attend a meeting with us on June 15th to meet with the Executive Board of the Verde Valley Fair Association. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the possibility of forming a “partnership” to offer not only equestrian activities, but also dog shows, other livestock shows like barrel racing and bull riding that would serve a multi-generational population. The board was very receptive and has invited these individuals to make a formal presentation to the regular board on July 19th. Bringing this concept to life will take not only cooperation from multiply agencies and organizations, but also tremendous community support. If you have time, equipment, money, contacts with contractors or suggestions please contact Steve & Ginny or Diane. When this dedicated group meets in July with the fair board they need to have as many **firm** commitments from individuals and businesses as possible.

There is a tremendous need not being met at this time and we all have the opportunity to make a difference.

Saddle Sore Award – The board of directors would like to clear up any confusion regarding which hours count for the “Saddle Sore Award”. The hours that will be counted are from scheduled club rides on Saturday’s. If we have an overnight ride to Flagstaff, Clint’s Well, Garland Prairie or other places that members can attend

for the day, then the hours for Saturday’s ride will count. Any other riding on Friday or Sunday will not count for the year end award.

Rides schedule for places like Monument Valley, Canyon de Chelly or the Superstitions **will not** be included.

West Niles Shots Is your favorite caballos current on his shots? Mosquitoes are here and the West Nile Virus is in Arizona!

UPCOMING RIDES & ACTIVIES



SCHEDULING CHANGE! In anticipation of the forests being closed soon due to the current drought the board hasn’t scheduled any new rides. Until further notice, call President Bill

Dean if you’re interested in riding at 567-3081. Bill will be riding most Saturday’s and would welcome other members to join him.

Trail bosses please remember that you need to get a release form signed by every rider for our insurance.

If the forest stays open to activities the following rides will take place. Please call Bill Dean as time gets closer to each one and he’ll have the details. These are not catered rides and, of course, members and guests are welcome to ride for the day.

July 3rd - If you signed up to work the beverage sales at the Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo for the 1:30 performance we're counting on you being there. This is great fun and an easy way to make some money for the club. Contact Ginny Rench if you have any questions.

July 24th – overnigher at Clover Springs

August 7th – overnigher at Clints Well

August 21st - overnigher near the Arizona Trail at Blue Ridge

September 30th to October 4th is the 5th Annual Monument Valley Ride! Get your money in early before this ride fills up. This is a great price and definitely a “memory maker”.

Repeated from last newsletter: Mark off the dates of September 30th through October 4th, 2004 and join us for our 5th Annual Monument Valley Ride! We will meet on Thursday, September 30th at Goulding's and caravan to the camp site. We will be riding down on the floor this year.

There will be adequate parking for rigs and your favorite horse or mule. Stock water will be available; however, you **MUST** furnish all of your own drinking and showering water. There will be 2 porta-potties; however, you should plan on being self-contained! Meals will be catered starting Thursday evening through Sunday night. You **MUST** furnish your own breakfast for Monday morning or get something in town on your way home. We will have people in camp, non-riders, most of the time while we are out riding keep an eye on rigs, etc.

Your horse should be in reasonably good condition and recently shod; however, there will not be any real tough parts other than, as usual, lots of sand. The ground is very

hard, making it difficult to use electric fences and trees are in short supply. Wondering sheep will probably come into camp and they will eat any feed left out. If you bring dogs, they can not be left loose. There will be Indian dogs coming into camp, sometimes with the sheep and other times on their own. Your horses should be current on their shots and you should have a current Coggins test with you.

The total cost will be \$225.00 for members and non-members. This includes your meals and the cost of our guide, permits, stock water and porta-potties. **DEADLINE FOR RESERVING YOUR SPACE IS September 1, 2004.** Send your ride application and your check, and mail it to VVHC, c/o Diane Lovett, P.O. Box 1341, Cottonwood, AZ 86326. You will receive directions, further information, etc. by September 15th. Any questions call Bill Dean at 928-567-3081, or Homer Harmon at 928-284-1116.

Other Upcoming Events

This fall Gail Pate has offered to host a clinic to expose our equine friends to llamas. Some of us have met llamas on the trail and most animals seem to be

very frightened. We'll have details later in the summer with a date, time and place. We could incorporate bicycles, back packs and other scary objects.

Saddle Fitting: We're planning a saddle fitting clinic this fall too. Shawnah Knittle is a saddle maker from the Chino Valley area and would be willing to come to the Verde if we have enough interest. Several of our members have gone through this process with Shawnah and highly recommended offering it as a clinic for our members. Please contact Ginny Rench at verdeweeds@commspeed.net or call 928-634-9354 if you're interested.

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



DON'T MISS OUT, SIGN UP EARLY!

**The Verde Valley Horsemen's Council's
5th Annual Monument Valley Ride**

Mark off the dates of September 30th through October 4th, 2004 and join us for our 5th Annual Monument Valley Ride! This year we will be down in the floor and Lonnie Yazzie will once again be our guide. We will meet on Thursday, September 30th at Goulding's and caravan to the camp site.

There will be adequate parking for rigs and your horse or mule. There will be stock water available; however, you **MUST** furnish all of your own drinking and showering water. There will be 2 porta-potties; however you should plan on being self-contained! Meals will be catered starting Thursday evening through Sunday night. You **MUST** furnish your own breakfast for Monday morning or get something in town on your way home. We will have people in camp, non-riders, most of the time.

Your horse should be in reasonably good condition and recently shod; however, there will not be any real tough parts other than, as usual, lots of sand. The ground is very hard, making it difficult to use electric fences and trees are in short supply. Wandering sheep will probably come into camp and they will eat any feed left out. If you bring dogs, they can not be left loose. There will be Indian dogs coming into camp, sometimes with the sheep and other times on their own. Your horses should be current on their shots and you should have a current Coggins test with you.

The total cost will be \$225.00 for members and non-members. This includes your meals and the cost of our guide, permits, stock water and porta-potties. **DEADLINE FOR RESERVING YOUR SPACE IS September 1, 2004.** Cut off the reservation application below, enclose your check for the proper amount, and mail it to VVHC, c/o Diane Lovett, P. O. Box 1341, Cottonwood, AZ 86326. You will receive directions, further information, etc. by September 15th. Any questions call Bill Dean at 928-567-3081, or Homer Harmon at 928-284-1116.

Ride Application for Monument Valley Ride

Thursday, September 30th - Monday, October 4, 2004

Deadline is September 1st. No cancellations after September 10th

No stallions or dogs on ride – dogs permitted in camp they must be on a leash.

Ride fees: 10 meals for \$225.00 (Thursday dinner through Sunday's dinner)

Please print or type all information

Last Name First Name

Partners Last Name First Name

Address City, State & Zip

Home Phone Business Phone

Make your check payable to VVHC send to Diane Lovett at P.O. Box 1341, Cottonwood, Verde, AZ 86326

ALL RIDERS PLEASE SIGN

For good and valuable consideration, I for myself, my heirs and administrators, release the VVHC, its officers, directors and affiliates from any and all liability. For loss damage arising out of illness, injuries, loss of life, damages to property sustained by me with reference to or in any manner connected with the 2004 Monument Valley Ride. I assume the risk of injuries.

Signature Date

Signature Date