

Newsletter for October - December, 2004

Prepared by Ginny Rench

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

Monument Valley – this year's ride was enjoyed by 60 riders plus 7 non-riders. Bill Dean and Homer Harmon did a wonderful job of organizing this catered event and many riders are already planning on next year's ride. Thanks goes out to Diane Lovett and Ginny Rench too for doing the clerical part of this huge undertaking and sharing their expertise in putting on such events. The club made an incredible profit of \$4,216.64, which will be added to our growing treasury. Way to go Homer and Bill.

GET WELL SOON!

Bill Dean took a nasty fall off of a ladder recently and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Change of address for:

Joan Dewbre
P.O. Box 1027
Silver City, NM 88062-1027
505-388-8158
jmdewbre@aol.com

Website: Remember that our website www.verdehorsemen.org is updated regularly; membership applications can be printed as well as current newsletters and special events. This is also a great place to refer prospective members. Check out our links and if you know of others that would be appropriate please let Diane Lovett know at 634-2767.

Remember that dues are due in December!

Included in this issue are:

Membership Application

Christmas Party Reservation Form

Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona Application

Check BCH out at their website: www.bchcaz.org

A big welcome to the following new members, please add them to your roster.

Joe DeVita
14353 W. Kiowa Trail
Surprise, AZ 85374
623-214-8620
jdvita@msn.com

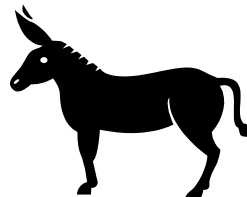
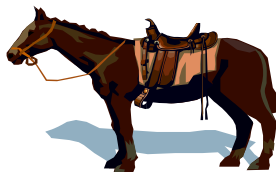
Sherry Caldwell
P.O. Box 699
Cornville, AZ 86325
928-274-2262

Tina Marie Dunn & Sara Macias
P.O. Box 2972
Camp Verde, AZ 86322
928-567-3128

**UPCOMING RIDES
& ACTIVIES**



**WE'RE HAVING A CLINIC JUST FOR YOU AND YOUR
FAVORITE MOUNT!!**



October 30th – **Llama Exposure Clinic** at Milt & Gail Pate's Spirit Wind Arabian Ranch in Camp Verde. We'll start at 9:30 and go until we're done. Bring a lunch, drinks, lawn chair and whatever else you and your mount might need. This will be a great opportunity, in a controlled environment to expose our riding mounts to llamas. Call Elaine Eaton-McCants at 567-3219 and let her know if you're coming. Deadline to sign up is October 25th.

November 6th – Dead Horse State Park will be a joint ride with the Prescott Saddle Club. The ride will start at 9:00 a.m. sharp. Rated a 3.5 and will be 5 – 6 hours with a 1 hour lunch. Parts of this ride will be different than other rides out of the park. This ride can be shortened for those who don't want to ride so long. If you are a day rider from the Verde call trail boss Beth Blay at 634-1234. Some of the PSC riders will be camping and they will be calling Carol Hicks to make their reservations. There is a \$6.00 entry fee into the park **per rig** unless you have a pass.

November 13th – ride from Cornville to Homer Harmon's in the Village of Oak Creek. Parking is 1 mile east of Casey's Corner on the north side of Cornville Road. Look for a green gate and a VVHC sign. Meet at 9:00 to shuttle trailers from staging area to Homer's house. Ride will start at 11:00 and you should arrive at Homer's about 3:30 – 4:00. Bring a lunch to eat before the ride starts.

Riders are invited to bring their RV's and stay the night. There is plenty of room to park, set up picket lines, portable corrals or Homer will have a few pens available, plus water for stock and even a restroom. Sunday there will be a ride(s) if anyone wants to go out.

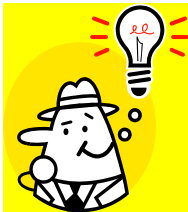
Dinner will be served around 5:30 and Homer and Kathy are providing the meat and potatoes. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and your favorite beverage. The cut off is November 10th so please remember to call Homer at (928) 284-1116. The address for the dinner and party is 2934 Verde Valley School Road, and for anyone that hasn't been there, Homer will give you directions.

November 20th is the Annual Camp Verde Marshal's Office Toy Ride. Call the Marshal's office at 567- 6621 for more information or check the local papers.

December 4th – Brins Mesa Ride. This ride will start at 9:00 and is rated a 3. Directions: Take Hwy 89 to Sedona, turn left on Dry Creek Road which turns into Boynton Pass Road. Just before the junction with Long Canyon a dirt road goes off to the left just before the small bridge. Take this road to a large open area at the end. There is plenty of room to turn your rigs around if you go all the way to the end of the dirt road. Call Dale or Trish to confirm. 649-1021.

December 10th – Annual Holiday Party. This year's party will be on Friday evening at Murphy's Grill in Cottonwood. See enclosed flier for all of the information, you won't want to miss this event.

EDITOR NEEDED A.S.A.P!! It's time for someone new to take over publishing the Voice of the Horsemen. After approximately 5 years, this time, Ginny is stepping aside. Please contact Ginny or Bill Dean for more information.



The VVHC board members want to hear from you. What would you like to have offered in the way of events, rides, clinics, or ????. The rides we offered this summer were not well attended and the saddle fitting clinic was cancelled due to lack of participation. We hope to see many of you at the upcoming events we have planned.

ANIMAL EVENT CENTER UPDATE

Most of you already know that Diane Lovett and Steve and Ginny Rensch have been working diligently for approximately a year on this project. Many meetings have taken place during this time with the Cottonwood City Council, Yavapai County Supervisor Chip Davis, the Verde Valley Fair Association, Richard Faust, Parks & Recreation Director for the City of Cottonwood.

The trio are excited about the progress that has been made on this much needed facility. They've talked with various equestrian groups, local dog trial and training people, John Morgan Director of Yavapai College's Equine Department, Jeff Schlau, Cooperative Extension Agent with the University of Arizona and rodeo and gymkhana enthusiasts to mention just a

few. Former VVHC member and owner of The Bridle & Bit, Joe Wager was contacted about this project and he drove over from Payson for a meeting with the City Council one evening. City Councilman Steve Dockray has worked very hard with this small group too. Steve served on various fair boards for many years and has been a great liaison between the city and fair association.

Currently the City of Cottonwood, Yavapai County and the Verde Valley Fair Association are working on an intergovernmental agreement. The county has agreed to purchase a regulation size rodeo arena, the fair association will provide the ground and the city has agreed to assume scheduling and maintenance when this complex is built. Even with the County's generous contribution much money will need to be

raised for a warm-up arena, round pens, portable corrals for overnight boarding during events, etc. A grass area is planned for events such as dog shows, dog trials, etc. This facility will serve a multi-generational population, with varied animal interests for years to come.

At the Annual Holiday Party on December 10th this group will make a brief presentation and will be

Attention avid trail users and GPS carriers!
By Fran Whetten

The Cocopai RC&D (Resource Conservation and Development) has formed a Trails Action Team which is about to undertake the GPSing of all trails in the Verde Valley areas of these two counties. This is a mammoth undertaking and help will be welcomed from any source.

Both the Coconino and Prescott National Forests will be going into long range planning in the next year. They have maps of their "system" trails, those that show on the forest maps and have numbers assigned to them. However, we all know that many of our favorite trails are ones we have developed to get to the places we like to go. Others of them have been made by kids riding their 4 wheelers straight up and down hills, some by people who like to walk or run a mile or two or three every morning and others by people who take their dogs out for exercise. What ever the uses we make of any of these trails, the Forests would like to have them mapped for use in developing a Master Trails Plan for use in their planning process.

Bill Stafford, recreation officer of Red Rock Ranger District, has ordered three Garmin eTrex Legend GPS units for use in this endeavor.

However, for our hundreds of miles of trails from the top of the Rim to Mingus Mountain, and from Sycamore Creek down to Fossil Creek, it will take a very long time to get them all recorded with three units. Besides, only the people who get out and use them even know where all these trails are located - where they start and where they go.

asking the membership for financial support. The VVHC has made a significant amount of money over the 20 plus years of its existence. This project would be a logical place to commit some of those dollars. Equestrians of all ages and disciplines will benefit from this facility for years to come. If you have questions before the holiday party, don't hesitate to contact one of these 3 individuals.

Because of the size and importance of this project, the Cocopai RC&D Trails Action Team is soliciting the cooperation of anyone interested in preserving our trails through this planning process and the help of those people who are out using the far flung trails on a regular basis, especially if they already carry and use GPS units.

The exact settings to be used in the units, so they can be downloaded directly into the Forest Service computer system, will be determined in late October by the computer/GPS gurus who understand such things. In early November (currently scheduled for Monday the 8th, subject to change) anyone who wants to learn about the settings, procedures, process and how to effectively use the eTrex Legend will be trained. It remains to be seen whether the Garmin 12 units which several people already have and use will prove to have enough storage capacity to keep from having to download every day or two. People who already have a Garmin eTrex, or higher, unit and are willing to program it to meet the FS specifications are especially encouraged to join the project.

People who want to sign up for the training session can do so by e-mailing Randy Victory at <victorys@cableone.net> People who have questions of a not very technical nature, or who need encouragement to join in, can contact either Fran Whetten <fwhet@wildapache.net> or Diane Lovett <lovett@sedona.net>.

VERDE VALLEY HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL
HOLIDAY PARTY

WHEN: *Friday, December 10, 2004*

TIME: *6:00 p.m.*

WHERE: *MURPHY'S GRILL*
Main Street, Cottonwood
(next to Larry Green Chevrolet)

WHY: *Verde Valley Horsemen's Council*
Annual Holiday Party
AND
Very Important Business Meeting
Short meeting to discuss "Animal Event Center" funding

PRIME RIB DINNER - SEVERAL DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS

ENTERTAINMENT !!

Members \$15.00 Guests \$20.00

NAME(s) _____

Enclosed is \$_____ to pay for my reservation.

Mail this reservation BEFORE DEC. 1, 2004 to Diane Lovett, P. O. Box
1341, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

