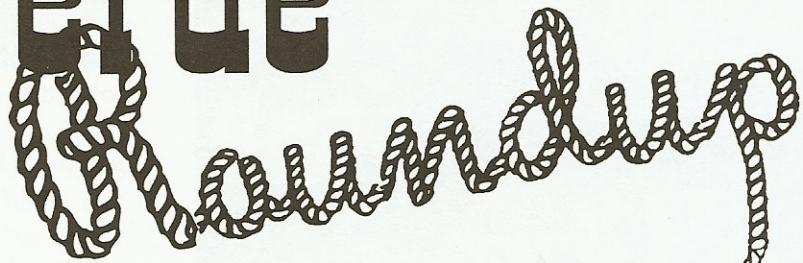
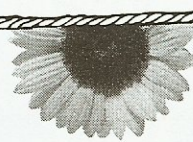


Rio Verde

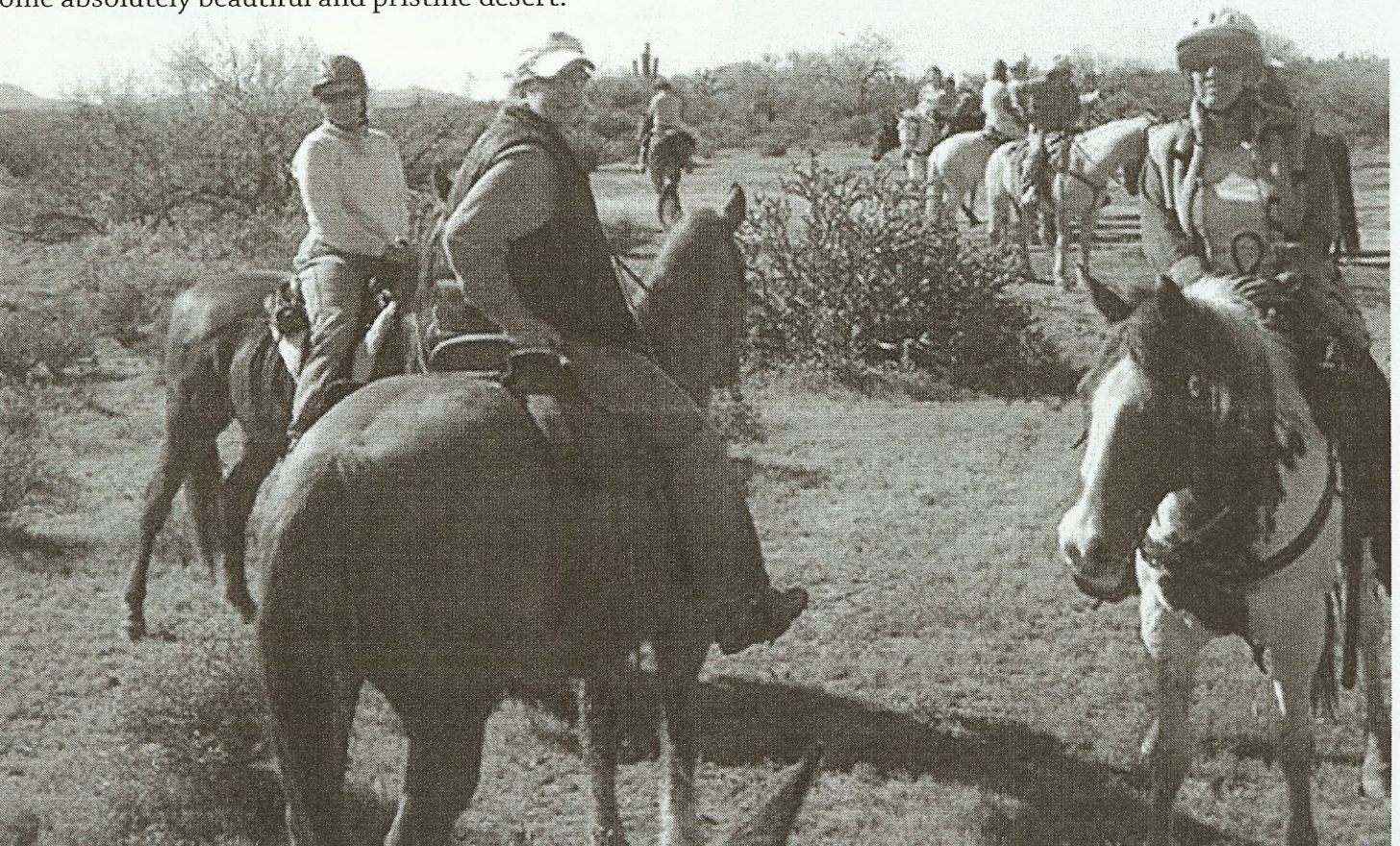
June 2010



The Rio Verde Horsemen's Association serves the unincorporated county lands north and south of Rio Verde Drive. The Association's purpose is to protect all horse properties and privileges and to preserve the equine and rural lifestyle. Membership is open to all, horse owners and non-horse owners alike, who support this purpose. Voting is only open to property owners in this area.

MARCH OFF-TRAIL RIDE

On Sunday, March 14th forty-nine riders gathered at Rio Verde Saddle Club Ranch (formerly the Box Bar Ranch). Our trail boss was Rocco Wachman, who was assisted by Denney Schilthius. These two guided us all through some absolutely beautiful and pristine desert.



RVHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Margaret Scott
(480) 473-3777 • margaretscott@desertinet.com

1st Vice President, Mo Wachman
(480) 471-3131 • mo@desertinet.com

2nd Vice President, Cecile Rudis
(480) 471-0988 • crudisrltr@msn.com

Secretary, Jenny Powers
(480) 861-8392 • Twister1000@rnsmtc.com

Treasurer, Judy Riley
(480) 471-0056 • jer4horses@msn.com

DIRECTORS

Mary Kay Della Vella (480) 206-2937
mkdv@desertinet.com

Chuck Monroe (480) 471-1048
monroe@pegasus.org

Cortland Parks (480) 948-0025
cortland01@aol.com

Ray Wallage (480) 943-9209
Ray@wallage.us

Lori Bridwell (480) 471-3151
info@cowboycollege.com

Jim Campbell (480) 471-7788
jcampbell@gorvw.net

RVHA COMMITTEES

Membership – Chairman
Mo Wachman • (480) 471-3131

Area Emergency Committee – Co-Chairmen
Cheryl Ward • (480) 471-4635 - Sue McGuire • (480) 471-3591

Trails Committee (Community Trails) - Co-Chairman
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Rio Verde Roundup Newsletter
Margaret Scott, Editor • (480) 473-3777

Copy Editor - Article Submission
Amy Cohorst • (480) 471-2822

Advertising
Amy Cohorst • (480) 471-2822

“And the Winners Are...”
by Jenny Powers • (480) 861-8392

Historian
Nena Henry • (480) 471-7678

Member Complaints
John Wachman • slipslider@desertinet.com

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association

28150 N. Alma School Pkwy., #103/112, Scottsdale, AZ 85262

www.rvha-az.com

President's Comments

I hope everyone has been enjoying the wonderful spring temperatures; unfortunately it will be ending soon (probably by the time you read this) and the hot stuff will have arrived. Just remember all those lovely spring flowers and weeds will dry up and become a fire hazard. Be cautious. Be safe.

The annual RVHA Election/Luncheon was held on Saturday, March 6th at Greasewood Flat. Congratulations to all returning Board members. Thank you to all the RVHA members who attended.

The RVHA Swap Meet/Tack Sale held on Saturday, March 13 was a big success. Due to member requests look for another one this fall!!

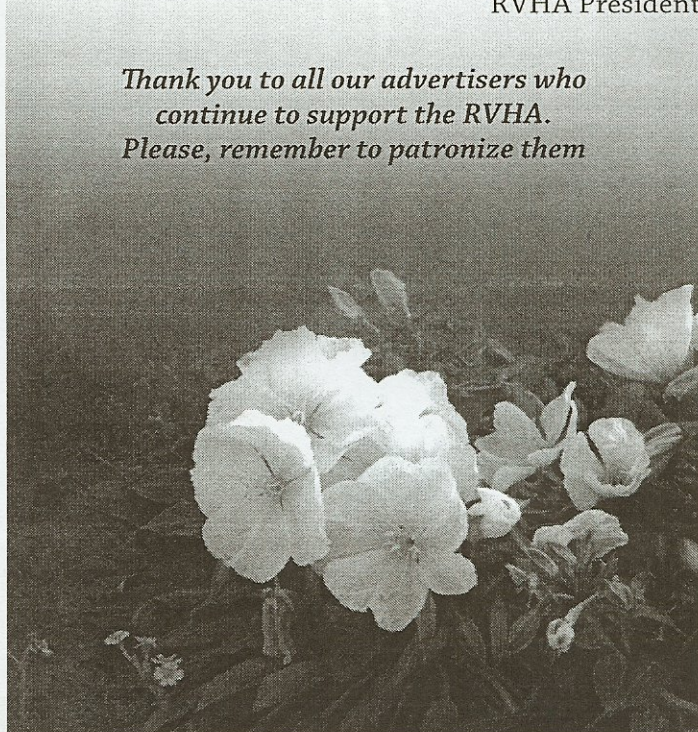
Thank you Tim & Ron for allowing us to use Reata & Greasewood for our events.

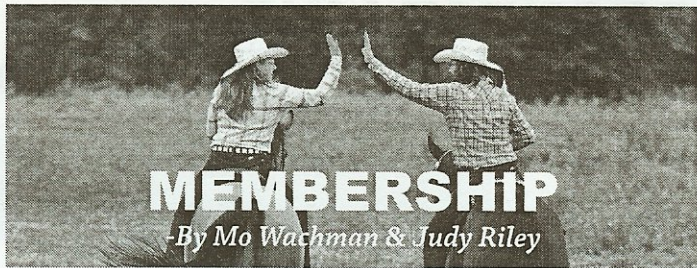
Longtime RVHA member, friend and Board member Richard Hollabaugh has moved to Colorado. God Bless & Happy Trails in your new life.

Thank you to all the 4-H kids and their parents who helped cook and sell hot dogs at the H.O.W. held at Lorill Equestrian Center on Saturday, March 17th. We are all very proud of you!! Great Job!!

Margaret Scott
RVHA President

*Thank you to all our advertisers who
continue to support the RVHA.
Please, remember to patronize them*





Well, we're almost to that half-year mark and we now are at 412 members. We have 49 brand new members to our organization and we'd like to thank the rest of you for renewing your membership!

With your membership come benefits! Throughout the year we have a number of different events that everyone can join in on. These events require all types of preparation and we're always looking for assistance. If you'd like to offer your time, let us know. We'll be more than happy to put you to work!!!

We'd like to welcome the following people who have become members since our last newsletter:

Lisa Armstrong &
William Terway
Dennis Bray, Lissi Panek-
Bray & Katelynn Bray
Tim Charnock
Sean Englund
Steve & Anne Marie
Feyrer-Melk
Rhonda Gagner
Shannon Goldwater
Fran Greene
Sheri Griffith
Connie Holling
Mary Kasten
Randy & Edie Meise
Leslie &
Avril-Lynn Neilon
Pamela Peterson

Jason & Leason Ray
Nicholas &
Suzanne Smith
Craig & Suzanne
Stevenson
Gloria Szanto &
Tom Bietz
Vickie Tanner
Melissa Thompson &
Janet Duncan

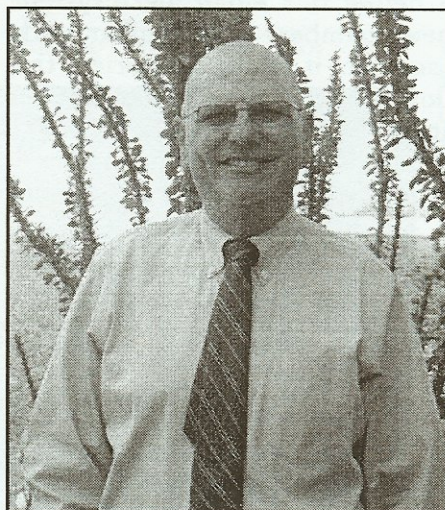
And "Welcome Back" to:
Ellen Bruce
Mike & Jenifer
Minarsich
Kevin Myers &
Rusty Toth
Patrick and Dawn Morris



As members everyone is entitled to RVHA vehicle license plates for your car or truck. If you haven't received yours yet, please contact me and we'll see to it you get yours. If you have friends or neighbors who are not members of RVHA, get the word out and get them to join our fine organization.

For any questions we can help you with, please contact either me or Judy.

WELCOME CHUCK MONROE

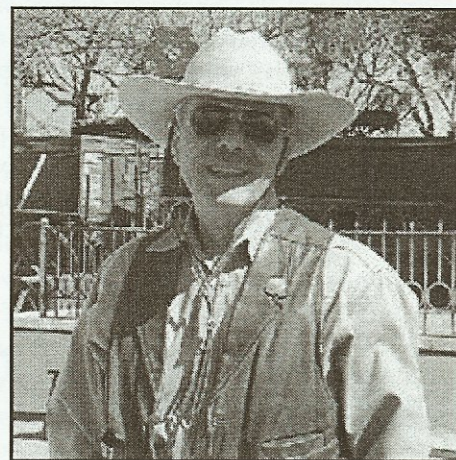


The Board of Directors of the Rio Verde Horsemen's Association would like to welcome Chuck Monroe to the Board as a Director. Chuck along with his wife Kate and daughter Anna Lee have been longtime residents of

the Rio Verde Foothills and longtime members and supporters of the RVHA. Chuck has also been serving as Co-Chair on the Trails Committee along with Theresa Thraen.

THANK YOU RICHARD HOLLABAUGH

Longtime RVHA member and Board member Richard Hollabaugh has moved to Colorado. Richard has been involved with the RVHA for years always helping where ever he's needed from trails to flipping burgers.



Richard is a dear friend who will be greatly missed. Thank you!!! and "Happy Trials"

During the month of April the RVHA lost two of its long time members. Meryl Thomas, wife of Bob, lost her long battle with cancer, and Bill Riley, husband of Jeannette and father of Judy, died on April 27.

Our condolences to both families.

Condolences to Chris and Barb Hull on the loss of their horse Touch.

E-MAIL ALERTS & REQUEST LINE

-by Mo Wachman

As usual I'd like to define our email alert system since we do have new members not familiar with how this works. We separate it into 3 categories: the alerts - notices of lost and found animals; Notices of information about an upcoming event, meeting, weekend events or invitations; and Request Line - where any member can post a request for just about anything.

Well, now we've added a new option to our email system. So very many times in the past RVHA members have wanted us to list "For Sale" item(s) in our Request Line. We just weren't ready to do that. We left those for our newsletter classified section. We believe we've got the email system working well and now have the time to add this new category.

Below are the criteria we will allow:

"For Sale" ads will be sent out via email once per week on Thursday. Each ad - up to 5 items - will be \$10 and will run only one time. More than 5 items will be an additional \$1.00 each. Ads must be prepared and received electronically. If we are to prepare the ad(s) there will be an additional \$5 charge. Pictures will be allowed. Ads must include a brief description of item(s) along with the price for the item, contact information including name, phone # and/or email address. Ads must be received by Tuesday of each week, as well as payment. Checks are to be sent to: RVHA, 28150 N. Alma School #103-112, Scottsdale, AZ 85262.

REMINDER: Be sure your animals have collars and tags with current information. Microchips are also a great idea!

If payment is not received by Tuesday, the ad will be held until the following week or until payment is received.

6. The RVHA reserves the right to edit and/or refuse ads.

This new email service will be set up as a separate group of members' names and you will have the option to have your name removed from the list if you do not want to receive these specific email notices.

We'll probably have a few kinks to work out in the beginning, and hopefully, everyone will find this to be another asset of RVHA membership.

Again, we certainly appreciate everyone who takes the time to report a lost or found animal, and those of you who care for the found ones until their owners are located. THANK YOU!!

If you haven't been receiving our alerts, please notify me and I'll make sure I have your current/correct email address in our system.

Alerts are available to RVHA members in good standing. If you'd like to be added to the alert list, please send me an email at: mo@desertinet.com or call me at 480-471-3131.

RUSLETO'S STORY

-by Chuck Monroe

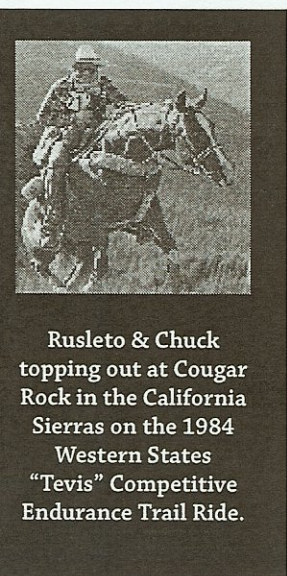
Rusleto, Son of Rusch (1980-2009)

Ruszt (1) was a Polish Arabian imported by Tom Chauncey and Gene Autry. As you may know, Polish Arabians are larger than Spanish Arabians and are proved on the track in Poland. I was told Ruszt was jumping champion at the Scottsdale Arabian Show. Ruszt sired a colt out of Queen Aleta: HCC Rusleto.

Rusleto was registered with the Arabian Horse Registry of America, Inc. as HCC Rusleto # 175155.

I bought Rusleto from Ted Jury of the Hyannis Cattle Company (the "HCC" on Rusleto's papers) in McNeal, Arizona on August 13, 1983 when Rusleto was two years old. Ted had a cattle ranch in Idaho where he also raised Arabians and used the Arabians to push cattle around.

Rusleto was very nervous about the trailer and the traffic on the highway as we drove from McNeil to Phoenix on I10. On I10 near Casa Grande an 18-wheeler passed us and Rusleto bolted in the trailer and broke his butt bar which made him even more nervous. Rusleto was always nervous (some might say "frisky")



Rusleto & Chuck topping out at Cougar Rock in the California Sierras on the 1984 Western States "Tevis" Competitive Endurance Trail Ride.

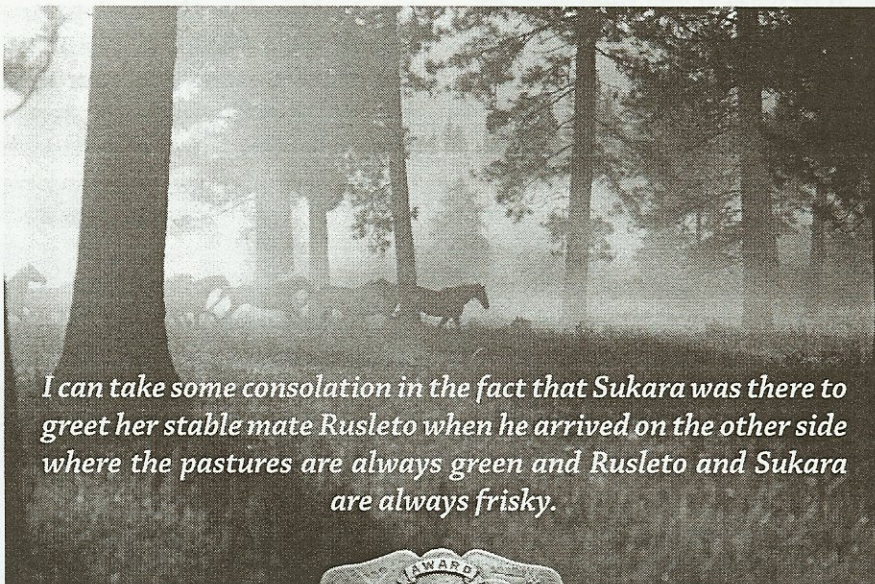
but finally reached a point where we could effectively and efficiently go down the trail together. Some say I let him throw me until he got tired and gave in. Also, we never seemed to bond like I had bonded with many other horses – horses which would acknowledge your presence.

Rusleto was an excellent equine athlete. He had stringy muscles and didn't gain unnecessary weight. he still exhibited nervousness on the trail. For example, he would go past a boulder and then act startled. There was some discussion that he might have had a warped cornea that could cause items in his vision to appear to jump as

he passed them on the trail. So an apparently moving boulder would cause Rusleto to jump. The one time he acknowledged my presence was when he was stabled in the Auburn Gold Country Fair Grounds as we prepped for the Western States Competitive Trail Ride. He nickered at me as I walked into the stables. It was as if he was asking me to take him home. I consulted a psychic to try to understand Rusleto's physical and mental condition and thereby better support my equine partner. After addressing some minor physical issues the psychic explained Rusleto's personality would best be described as autistic if he were a human. That explained his aloof personality. While our Fox Trotters follow us around the yard like puppies and always want to know what we are doing, Rusleto would never acknowledge our presence unless we went to him and held out a hand with an apple treat in it.

After many fifty-mile endurance rides in Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico, I took Rusleto to the 100-mile Western States "Tevis" competitive trail ride in northern California. I would go to ground and jog while "tailing" him as we climbed and descended the 9,000 feet of altitude gain and loss on the Tevis trail. If we were on a flat I would mount and we would stride out. That way we cycled our muscles and saved our mutual strengths.

After dark, we were on the trail parallel to the American River and the shadows caused by the moon and the leaves in the trees made it appear we were walking into



I can take some consolation in the fact that Sukara was there to greet her stable mate Rusleto when he arrived on the other side where the pastures are always green and Rusleto and Sukara are always frisky.



a shallow cave or cliff against which we would smash into. Rusleto had better night vision than me and strode right through the imaginary cliff wall with me following him.

Rusleto was "one" for "one" on completing the Western States Tevis Competitive Trail Ride.

Rusleto became arthritic so we put him on supplements and an occasional Phenylbutazone dosage. Clearly Rusleto's competitive days were over so we did small trail rides in the neighborhood to keep us out and moving around. Eventually Rusleto was too arthritic and lame to go for our small neighborhood rides so he lived out the rest of his days in his stall and turned-out in the yard.

Rusleto & Chuck topping out at Cougar Rock in the California Sierras on the 1984 Western States "Tevis" Competitive Endurance Trail Ride.

I was always asking myself when the end would come and how I should handle it. I wanted Rusleto to live with us as long as his life had some value and meaning to him. I was told by Doc Tryon and others that I would know when Rusleto's time had come. Rusleto's time came when he no longer moved around his stall or the turnout area. He would stand by his feeder all day and all night but show no interest in his food and show no reaction to us or the other horses. Rusleto had become immobile. Rusleto was erect and breathing but he was no longer really present with us. When Rusleto passed at the age of 29 in November 2009, I lost a partner of 27 years.

We lost an Arabian mare, HCC Sukara, to a lightning strike in our backyard in September 2001. I can take some consolation in the fact that Sukara was there to greet her stable mate Rusleto when he arrived on the other side where the pastures are always green and Rusleto and Sukara are always frisky.

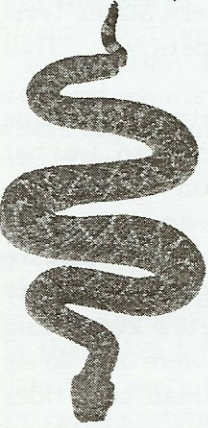
It is time to meet and lift our glasses in a toast to Rusleto, Sukara and "the horses".

Note: (1) ARABIAN HORSE WORLD, September 1975, "The Annual Polish Issue".

DOGTOR T --- THE PET VET

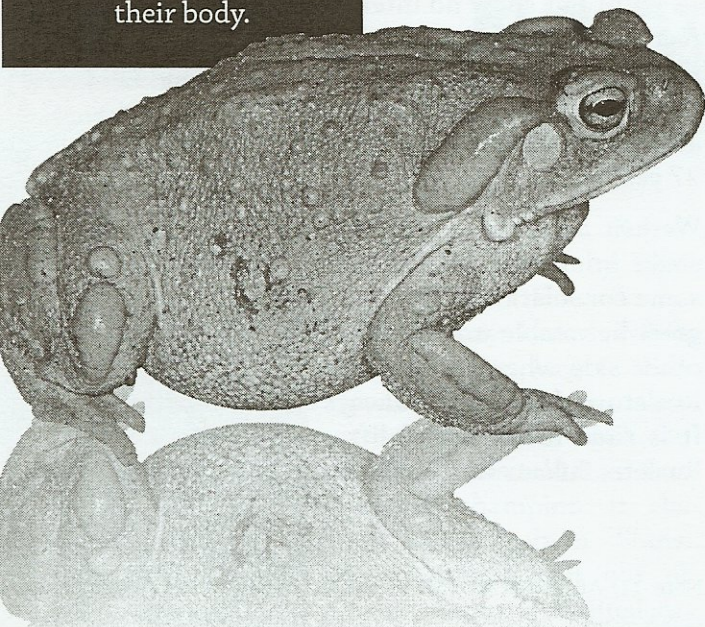
-by Melissa Thompson, DVM

Nothing says spring in the desert like seeing all the cactus bloom, listening to the birds sing, watching the little lizards scurry, the toads catch flies and, oh yeah, finding the first western diamondback of the season. Mine was early this year, the beginning of April. I know a lot of you have had your dogs snake trained, thanks to the RVHA and Mike Wiederhold, but accidents can still happen. I have been asked many questions about the "rattlesnake" vaccine. How does it work, will I still need to see a vet, the list goes on.



In short the vaccine stimulates the body to make antibodies against the venom should your dog get bit. This in turn allows the body to fight off the venom faster and may reduce the amount of antivenin that might be given. Although the hard scientific data is minimal, many veterinarians in areas where they see 300+ bites a year, feel that the pets that get bit who have had the vaccine fare much better than those without. The swelling and other side effects from the bite are reduced as compared to their unvaccinated counterparts. It is still necessary for your pet to see a vet if they are bitten even if they have been vaccinated. The vaccine does not protect against coral snake, Mojave rattlesnakes and a few others that are not prevalent in this area. It also does not protect your pet from infections

The toads produce a toxin that is released through glands on their body.

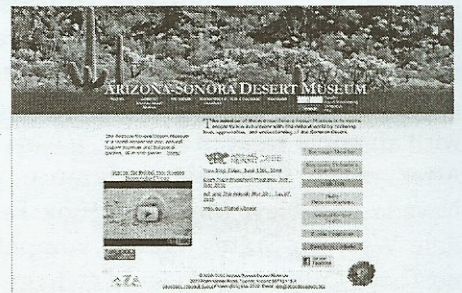


that can be caused from the snake bite.

The down side to the vaccine is that it needs to be given frequently. For the best protection, your pet should be vaccinated BEFORE the start of snake season. The vaccination series includes 2 vaccines given 30 days apart. This will provide protection for about 6 months. If your pet is in an area that has snakes around for longer periods, the company recommends boosting every 3-4 months. Otherwise, vaccinate once a year after the initial 2 vaccines. For more information about the vaccine visit the vaccine company's website at www.redrockbiologics.com. If you are interested in getting your pet vaccinated contact your local veterinarian.

Let's get back to those toads for a minute. Those strange creatures that sit out on the patio catching bugs can be quiet entertaining to watch, but can be downright lethal to your pets. *Bufo alvarius* aka Sonoran toad or Colorado River toad are native to this area and are out from May through summer. They are very prominent during the monsoon season as that is their time to mate. They are usually seen out at night, especially in the warmer weather. The toads produce a toxin that is released through glands on their body. Dogs usually find these creatures very interesting, and upon picking up/licking the toad, get poisoned. The poison acts as a hallucinogenic and has cardiac effects. Pets can have hypersalivation (drooling), ataxia (uncoordinated walking), and seizures, become hyperthermic (very high fever) and can go into cardiac arrest and die.

If you see your dog playing with a toad, or is starting to drool, walk funny etc, rinse out his mouth right away with a garden hose and seek veterinary care IMMEDIATELY. Never stick your hand in a seizing pet's mouth; they will not swallow their tongue, you will only get bit! If you would like more info on the Sonoran Toad and other wildlife in our area visit the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum at www.desertmuseum.org



Dr. Thompson is a Rio Verde Foothills resident and RVHA member. She practices at Banfield, The Pet Hospital, at 7077 E. Mayo Boulevard.

FOUR PEAKS ANIMAL RESCUE CORNER

Ginger: Labrador Mix - Ginger is a 2 year old (as of 04.19.10), spayed Labrador mix. She hasn't had the easiest of lives. She came to FPAR three days before she gave birth to 7 gorgeous pups. After having many complications with the pregnancy she has recovered nicely. Ginger was disregarded by her former owner...

issues. She is very leery of men at first, but once the trust is built she is loyal to them as well. Ginger needs to have her confidence built!!!!

Romeo: He is a 2 year old neutered male Chihuahua weighing 6 ½ lbs. He is short haired with very cut markings in tan, white and black. Romeo was also brought to us by a very kind veterinarian who took him in as a very thin stray with only one eye. He doesn't seem to mind his minor disability and is as sweet as they come. He is a real lap dog that sticks close by all the time. Romeo is house broken, crate trained and can use a dog door. He loves the kitties and dogs, and plays nicely with buddy Armando (a 3 month old Chihuahua/Pug). He is fairly quiet only barking when someone new arrives. Due to his kind nature and small size, he should not be placed in a home with any small children.

Do you shop? Do you search online?

If you answered yes to either one of these questions then you need to check this out. Igive.com is a website that is linked to hundreds of online stores and services. There are stores for clothing, household items, pet supplies, restaurants and everything in between, all at your fingertips. The good thing about Igive is that it is free. The great thing about Igive is that you can generate donations for Four Peaks Animal Rescue at the same time at no additional cost to you. Igive has a list of retailers that donate a percentage of your purchase to a charity of your choice. The donations range from 1%-5% with a few retailers offering even 10%! How easy is this? You can do your regular shopping and donate to a great cause all at the same

time. If you're not an avid shopper, you can still help by using the Igive search engine. For every qualified search, Four Peaks gets 1 cent. Please check out Igive and see how you can give back. When creating your account, be sure to list Four Peaks Animal Rescue as your charity of choice. See more at www.igive.com. Happy shopping!

*Funding for FPAR is derived from fundraisers, public & private donations, adoption fees. Donations & Auction items are tax deductible. IRS 501(c)(3) ID No. 36-42623



left in a backyard and continually pregnant. Ginger has some trust issues but once she feels comfortable with you she is extremely LOYAL, kind, gentle and trusting!!! She is completely housebroken, walks well on leash, loves to play with her toys and fetch. She is fabulous with our cats, horses and dogs. She is a bit nervous in a car but will just lie quietly. She appears to really like older, well behaved children. Ginger is an excellent guardian!! She will need someone that can work with her trust

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

-by Jenny Powers

Our RVHA members have been active this winter and spring and I'm happy to share their success with you!

RVHA members Lynn and Jim DeGrazia are the proud grandparents of Sawyer Dombrowski, whose mother; Stacy DeGrazia is also an RVHA member. We are catching up with Sawyer's accomplishments for 2009 and will report on her achievements in 2010 in a future article. Sawyer belongs to two riding clubs, Scottsdale Saddle Club and North Valley Saddle Club (formerly New River). She competes on her 10 year old Quarter Horse mare, Zip, who she's owned for eight years. With the Scottsdale Saddle Club, Sawyer won high point in her age group (11 to 14 years) in 2009 receiving a saddle as her award. She also won Fastest Pole Time Out (21.881 seconds) of all riders and won 1D, the fastest time in a speed event in which all ages compete. For this achievement she won another saddle! In the North Valley age group 13 to 14 years, Sawyer won both high point and 1D and received a saddle and a belt buckle. Sawyer's saddle collection is growing! Sawyer continues her winning ways in 2010 and we look forward to hearing about her success at year end. Congratulations Sawyer and Zip!

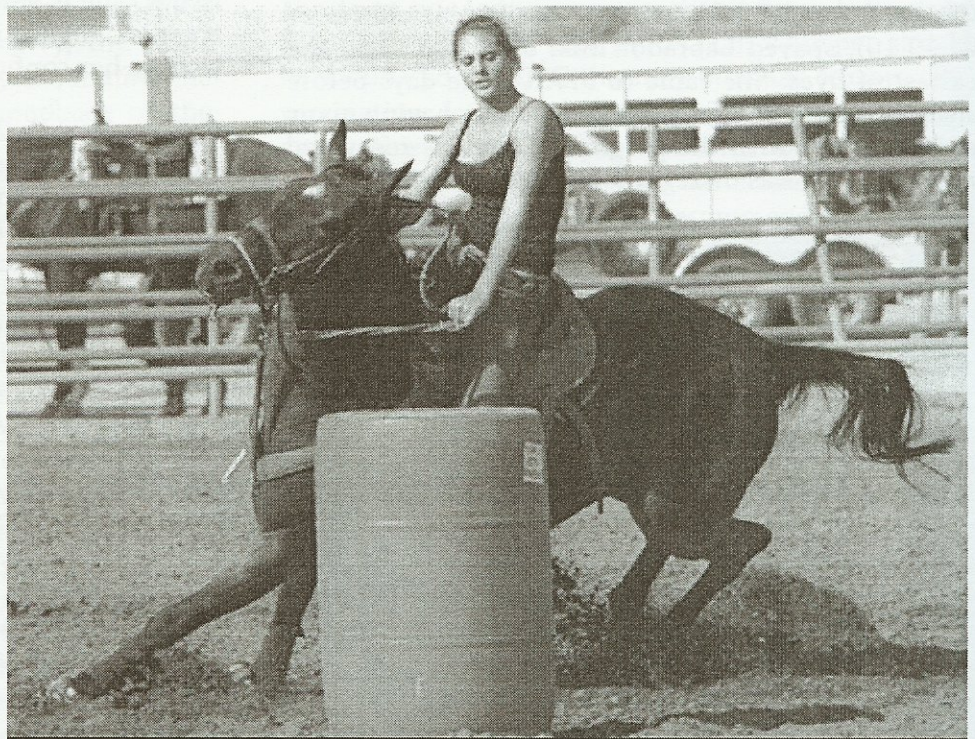
Theresa Thraen reports continued success in her Border collie Cookie's agility dog career. Theresa rescued Cookie and they have been a successful team ever since. Cookie recently completed her third agility trial. She has earned



Border Collie Cookie displays her winning form

must direct the dog from behind a line and cannot cross

the line while the dog is competing. Cookie has also



Sawyer Dombrowski and Zip

earned two Beginning titles, one in Traditional Gamblers and the other in "Trigility." Trigility consists of three dog and handler teams and each team runs a different leg of the class. Cookie also came in first in the North American Challenge, but she had too many faults for an invitation to the Nationals. Theresa and Cookie will spend the summer practicing with hopes of qualifying for Nationals next year. However, Cookie is doing great for her first year of competition! Congratulations Cookie and Theresa! Theresa has also adopted another Border collie rescue, Bryn. Bryn is a still a puppy, but her training is coming along very well and by fall she may be ready for novice dog trials.

The endurance riders in RVHA have been very active since our last issue. The terrific spring weather and several easily accessible rides created a perfect combination for competing on the trail.

In early February, Barb Debi traveled to the Eastern Mojave Scenic Pioneer Ride in Nevada with both her horses and finished Day 1 (50 miles) in ninth place on JC Mackay (Junior) and Day 2 (50 miles) on Big Mac (Mac). The most convenient ride without a doubt was Dynamite Dash on February 27. Base camp was located on 164th Street and Wildcat and the ride offered distances of 50, 75 and 100 miles with the rider option of elevating to a longer distance upon completion of the original distance. Barb and Mac chose to elevate to 100 miles having originally entered the 75 mile distance. Mac felt so good and the predicted heavy rain, wind and thunderstorms

were conveniently holding off so Barb decided to go for it. She and Mac successfully completed 100 miles well before the arrival of the storm. In May, Barb took both horses to Mt Carmel, Utah for the Mt Carmel XP Ride, a multi-day ride of 50 to 55 miles per day. She finished Day 1 on Junior, Day 2 on Mac, Day 3 on Junior and Day 4 on Mac. Mac also achieved his 2,000 mile AERC medallion on Day 2. Congratulations to Barb and her terrific Arabians!

Also completing Dynamite Dash in the 50 mile distance was Rick Poteste on Admiral's Cognac (Hank). Rick and his usual endurance mount, Echos Lad, are taking a break from endurance riding and Lad has successfully transitioned to team sorting. Watch for them at Rio Verde Horse and Cattle Club events. Rick also acquired a Quarter Horse mare to pursue his passion for roping. Way to go Rick!

Clydea Hastie quickly got back in the saddle following ankle surgery last fall and completed 100 miles at Dynamite Dash on Ashquars Dream to finish in second place in the amazing time of 10 hours and 22 minutes! Clydea and Ash went on to finish in eighth place at the Lucky Pup Ranch Ride in Benson in April. Congratulations Clydea and Ash!

New RVHA member, Sheri Griffith, who resides in Moab, Utah in the summer and in our community in the winter (lucky girl) finished the 50 mile distance at Dynamite Dash in fourth place on her Arabian-Quarter Horse cross, Jabears Streakn Twister (Streak). In April Sheri completed Day 2 (55 miles) of the Color Country Ride in Hurricane, Utah on Speedy's Cimarron Rio (Rio) and Day 3 (50 miles) on Streak. Sheri also rode at Mt Carmel finishing Day 3 on Streak in ninth place and Day 2 on Rio.



Sheri Griffith and Jabears Streakn Twister at the Mt Carmel Endurance Ride

Even when RVHA member Zondra Poteste doesn't have time to ride, her half Arabian mare, I Love Lucy manages to find a rider. Lucy carried junior rider Austin Bourgeois to a completion in the Limited Distance (25 miles) ride at Lucky Pup Ranch in April.

Rejoining RVHA after a brief absence are our very active endurance riders, Rusty Toth and Kevin Myers. While Rusty was busy as Ride Manager of the highly successful Dynamite Dash Ride in February, Kevin was able to ride his fantastic Arab, Auli Farwa (Far) to a fifth place finish in the 100 mile distance in 10 hours and 53 minutes. To make the experience especially rewarding, Far captured

the coveted Best Condition Award! In March Kevin and Farrabba (Redford) completed the Old Pueblo 50 mile ride in Sonoita. Both Kevin and Rusty participated in the Lucky Pup Ranch Ride in Benson in April. Rusty completed the 50 mile ride on Aul Mystery (Ripper) and Kevin on Far. Then on to Mt Carmel where Kevin completed two days on Far and two days on Redford and Rusty completed one day on Ripper.

Kevin recently accepted a position with EasyCare, located in Tucson, as Director of Marketing. EasyCare products include Easy Boots. The EasyCare website, <http://www.easycareinc.com/> is an excellent resource for hoof care information and riders who share their experiences through the company's blogs. If you'd like to learn more about maintaining the soundness of your already barefoot horse or are curious about transitioning from shoes to barefoot, check out this site.

You may have noticed a small village of horse trailers, trucks, cars and horses developing on an empty five acre lot on 164th Street near Wildcat the last weekend in February. Many curious individuals stopped by to chat, which is always a pleasure. This group of people and 56 horses gathered to participate in the Dynamite Dash Elevator Ride, an American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) sanctioned event offering 100, 75 and 50 mile distances and the opportunity for riders to elevate to a higher distance upon completion of their original choice.

In spite of dire weather predictions, the ride was extremely successful and the weather cooperated until the last three of the 100 mile riders were just a short distance from base camp. The ride offered an opportunity for competitors to appreciate our lovely trails through the Tonto Forest, experience deep canyons and washes and water their horses at the Verde River. Actually having a river with rushing water was a surprise to some of the riders unfamiliar with our area. The ride ran smoothly thanks to Rusty's capable management and the support of many volunteers. Riders cooperated and showed their appreciation by leaving base camp in pristine condition. Within a day following the ride it was not apparent that anyone had used the property. The ride generated excitement, enthusiasm and pride in our community from participants and observers alike. A special thanks to all the RVHA members who so generously gave of their time to make the Dynamite Dash Ride a success. You are all winners and we couldn't have done it without you!

The column would enjoy reporting the activities of many equestrian disciplines. We are so fortunate to have a wide variety of equine breeds and riding activities in our community. Please let me know what you have been doing with your horse either individually or as part of a training barn. To share your success stories in reining, mounted shooting, dressage, cutting, team penning, team sorting, jumping, trail trials and other equine activities, please call 480-861-8392 or email jpowers@pbmi.com. I look forward to hearing from you!

PERMIT ISSUES

-by Jean Anderson

On April 30, 2010, Ferrell Anderson, a member of the RVHA, called the Maricopa County Drainage Department to come and inspect his Rip Rap that we were forced to put in by drainage, around the South and West part of the new house (not yet built) and on the West and North of our detached garage. (not yet built)

On the Inspection form, it was noted by the drainage inspector that permits MUST be obtained for the following: All of your fencing we have nothing but portable; one large turn our area, plus one round (open) and the 3 portable metal pods (we are renting them, we do not own them). Needless to say we were awed at this. Also, a few hours later, a man from Maricopa County Flood Control showed up (why, we do not know, and he also said we needed permits on all of

Both Ferrell and I would be very interested in knowing if this has happened out here in Rio Verde. If you have been cited for having portable ANYTHING, and told you must get a permit from not only drainage but flood control, too, PLEASE contact Ferrell or me. Ferrell's email is ferrell@fastq.com or phone is 480-570-4901, or Jean's email is redbug@gorvw.net and phone is 602-390-6806. Both phones are cell phones.

the fencing we have, plus the 3 metal pods on the property). By the way, we passed as far as the Rip Rap goes.

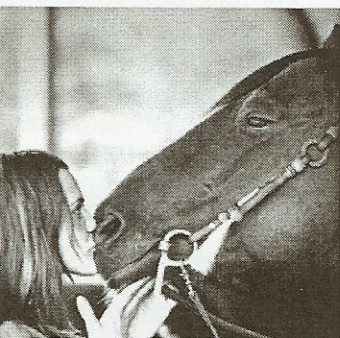
As some of you already know, I sit on the Farm Bureau's Equine Commodity Committee, and am also Director of Communications for the Arizona Horse Council. These groups have been working with the county on permits, and have been told that these types of items would only HAVE to be permitted if someone would COMPLAIN about them. Since when is a complainant an inspector??? This also means when anyone from Maricopa County calls for a permit to be inspected by a county person, that person may tell them the same type

of thing, also, for the following: dog runs, chicken coops, sheds, shades for your corrals, etc., if they are PORTABLE.

THE ARIZONA HORSE COUNCIL

-by Jean Anderson

AzHC was instrumental with helping keep the HorseLovers' Park open, at least until June 30, 2010. The park will close at that time. Together with other



horse people, we all managed to raise over \$30,000, with the help of the Az HorseLovers' Foundation. The City of Phoenix Parks Department told me that they are looking for a private entity to take over the park; so far, no one yet. Not only is this park going to be closed

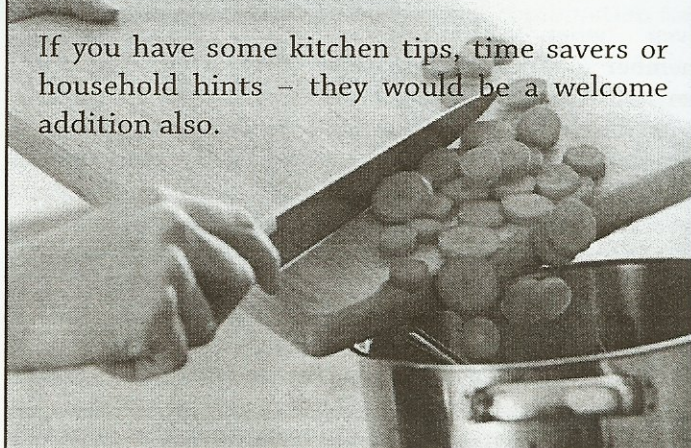
(the trails will be left open) but South Mountain and North Mountain Centers will close, too. The horses that belonged to the park rangers are gone; some went to the stables at South Mountain, and some were returned to their previous owners. That's good news!! The bad news is that NO ONE will be patrolling the Preserves, but the trails will remain open.

Please read the Horse Connection Articles written by our AzHC President, Ed O'Brien. His articles tell about AzHC, and what we've been doing to continue to "Promote, Protect & Preserve the equestrian way of life".

RVHA COOKBOOK 2009 / 2010

Thank you to everyone that has submitted recipes for the first edition of the RVHA Cookbook. I have received some fabulous favorites from our members! For those of you that haven't sent your contribution in yet, there's still time. No need to fuss – you can send hand written, torn from a magazine, typed – whatever is easiest. Please email to Cecile at crudisrltr@msn.com or Fax 480-471-7687 or email to Lynda Adams at rose@e-lend.net

If you have some kitchen tips, time savers or household hints – they would be a welcome addition also.



THE REWARDS OF RESCUE

-by Theresa Thraen

For me, there is something so rewarding about fostering dogs. I work with Arizona Border Collie Rescue (ABCR) and am on my sixth foster dog in eight months. The best part is receiving emails from the new adopters telling me how happy they are and how much they are enjoying their new forever friend.

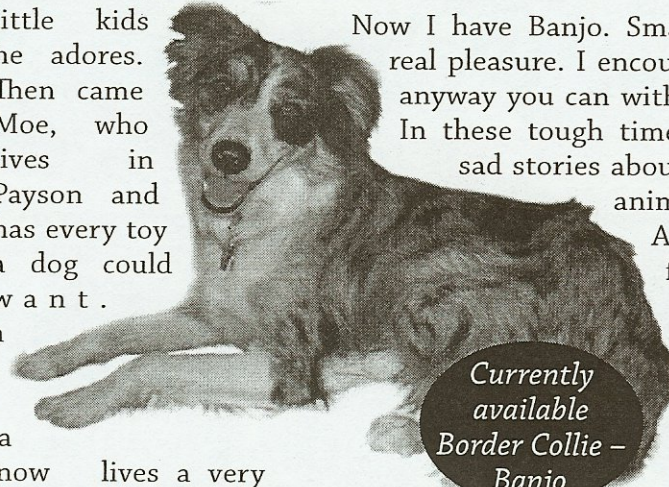


Talia and her Border Collie, Hanna

It all started with Sam. He now lives with two little kids he adores. Then came Moe, who lives in Payson and has every toy a dog could want.

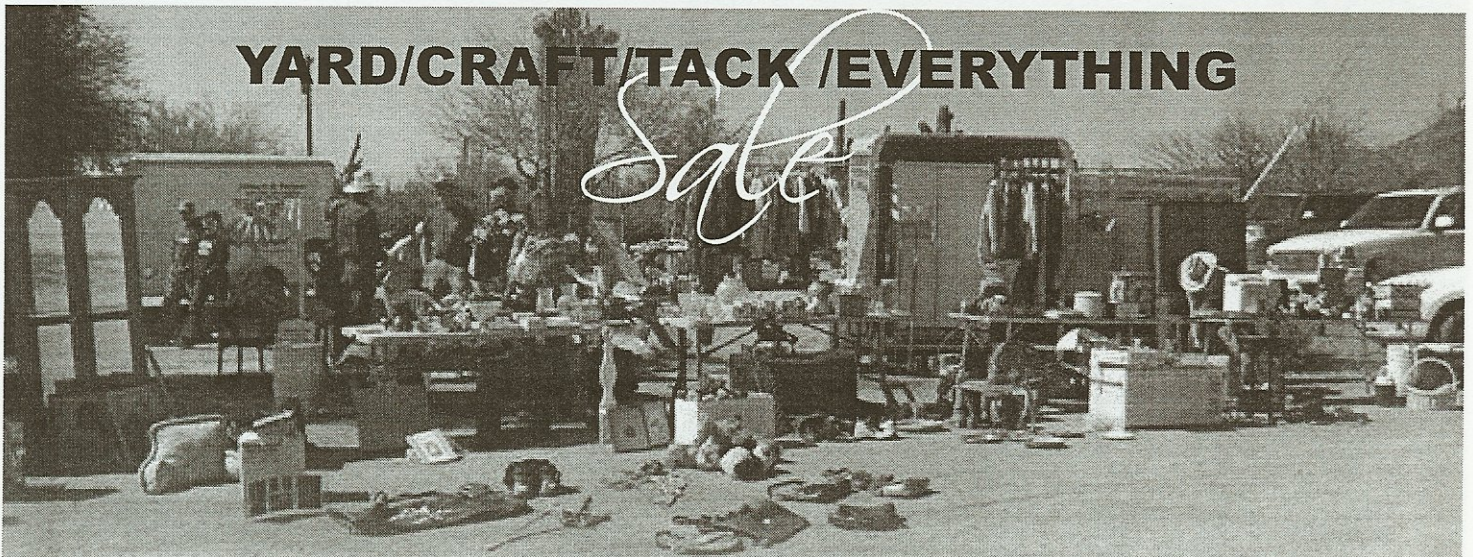
Bryn is my foster failure, which means after approval from my own Border Collie, Cookie, we added Bryn to our pack. Mick was a sad fellow when I got him and he now lives a very happy life in the Tonto Basin. Mick and his new man spend their days hiking, riding, and hunting artifacts. And then there was Hanna. This young, classic female was found near Prescott wandering with a baby goat.

After searching for her owners to no avail, she came into ABCR. A lot of people wanted to adopt her, but none of them felt right. Then Talia came along. Hanna's new forever friend Talia is 12 years old. They do everything together. They are currently taking my Agility Level II class and I predict Talia will be one of Arizona's top junior handlers by this fall. She is also thinking about getting Hanna certified as a therapy dog.



*Currently available
Border Collie -
Banjo*

Now I have Banjo. Smart and handsome he is a real pleasure. I encourage everyone to volunteer anyway you can with the rescue of your choice. In these tough times there are so very many sad stories about abandoned and neglected animals. Every little thing helps. ABCR recently received two females and both gave birth to pups. So we have 15 three- to four-week old puppies that will soon need foster homes and forever homes. The puppies as well as all available Border Collies can be seen at the Arizona Border Collie Rescue website <http://www.azbordercollierescue.com/>.



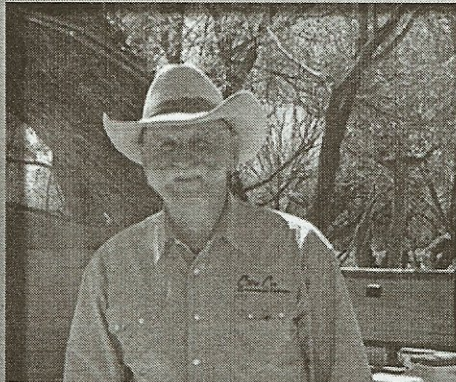
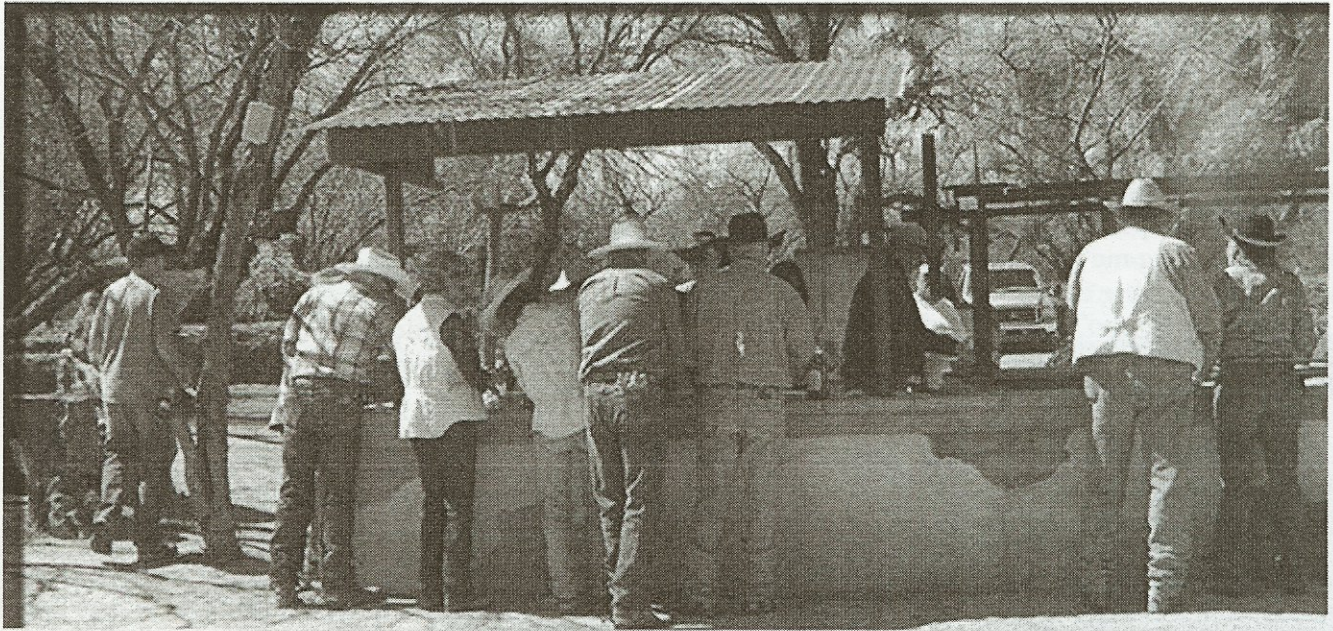
YARD/CRAFT/TACK/EVERYTHING

Sale

The morning of Saturday, March 13 started off quite chilly but as the day went on, the weather grew warmer. A great day for the RVHA Big Sale held at Reata Pass in the south parking area.

We sold 30 spaces which were 10'X10' each --- that's 3000 square feet of space filled with horse stuff, house stuff, yard stuff, good stuff, bad stuff, what-the-heck-is-it stuff and then some. Some things worked, some didn't. Some were old and some were new (perhaps those were gifts

that didn't quite make the "I love it" list). As the day went on it seems all the sellers did quite well. All the buyers went home with their new treasures. It was so successful that many members asked if we could add another sale to our event calendar. Hopefully, we'll be able to make it happen again this fall. So during the summer clean out your garage, your barn, your office, etc. and put all those items you no longer need somewhere and have it all ready for our next Big Sale.



On Sunday, March 14th forty-nine riders gathered at Rio Verde Saddle Club Ranch (formerly the Box Bar Ranch). Our trail boss was Rocco Wachman, who was assisted by Denney Schilthius. These two guided us all through some absolutely beautiful and pristine desert. We travelled south toward the reservation, then headed east to the fast-running Verde River, and eventually meandered back to the ranch. There were no "casualties", other than a few riders getting splashed by mud as just a couple of horses were quite reluctant to cross a large water obstacle ...also



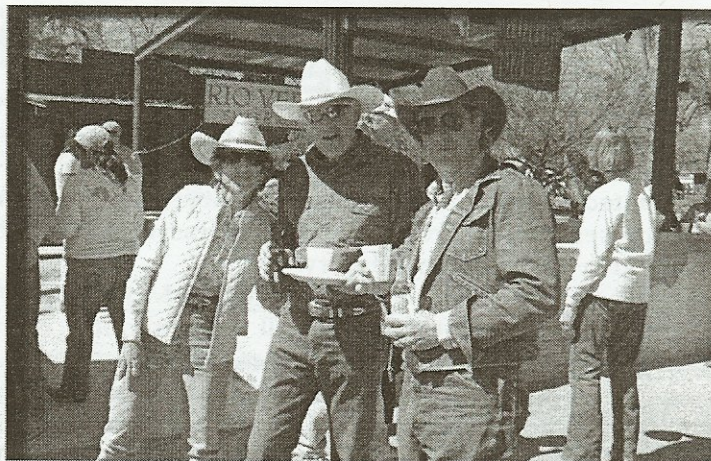
MARCH

OFF-TRAIL RIDE

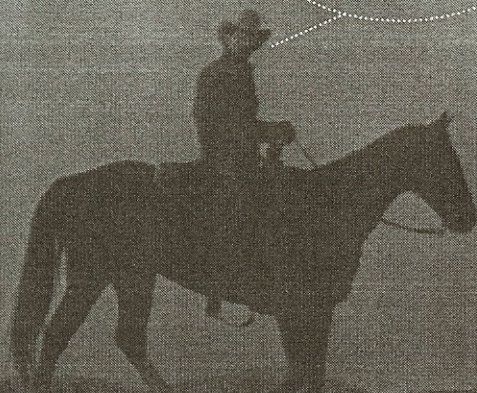
referred to as a mud puddle. They all took it in stride, especially Carol Shuler who I believe was the recipient of the most mud. Good sport, Carol.

Back at the ranch the trail riders were joined by about an additional 20 people who came to partake in a barbeque lunch. Everyone brought a dish to share and food was plentiful and delicious. RVHA provided the hot dogs, burgers and accompaniments, as well as soda and water. Thanks to everyone who helped at the grill.

We'd like to also say a huge "thank you" to Denney for his friendship and assistance throughout the last several years. Denney served as manager, ranch hand and wrangler for the Ranch for about 9 years during the winter seasons. He has now retired that position and has gone back to his home in Colorado. Denney and his wife, Carol, run Vallecito Lake Outfitters in Durango, Colorado and invite RVHA members to visit them in the summer. Check out their website at www.vallecitolakeoutfitter.com. The Off-Trail Riders take the summer off, but we'll be planning another ride in the fall.



*Hope you
can join us!*



"WHAT YOUR HORSE WANTS YOU TO KNOW" EQUINE PROFESSIONAL SPEAKERS SERIES

-Brought to you by: Leslie Nichols Horsemanship & Sun State Ranch

You are invited to join us for complimentary (free!) monthly presentations from equine professionals from every area of the horse industry.

In the speaker's presentations you will learn about equine nutrition, medicine, care and management of horses, breeding, competition, breakthrough products and technologies, new and different horse activities, and much more.



"What Your Horse Wants You to Know" speaker's presentations occur every 3rd Friday evening of the month, 6:00pm -7:30pm at Sun State Ranch 6704 East

Dale Lane (2 blocks north of Dynamite, 3 blocks east of 64th street)

We will provide water and soft drinks. Bring your own chairs!

The May Presentation was May 21st and the Speaker was Dr. Nick Warner, equine chiropractor & massage therapist

Topic: "6 Points and 4 Stretches that will Change your Horse's Life!"

June Presentation, June 18th,

Speaker: Dr. Stacy Sickler, DVM,

Topic: "How to Take Your Horse's Vital Signs and How to Listen to Your Horse's Digestive Tract."

More summer presentations to be announced.

To receive announcements of speakers and speaker dates. Email leslienicholshorsemanship@gmail.com OR call 602-571-7121.

MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN PARK

-by Pam Griffin

Stewart Udall - A piece of McDowell Mountain Park History

This spring, former Arizona congressman and Secretary of the Interior, Stewart Udall, passed away. As residents of the Rio Verde Foothills, and neighbors and users of McDowell Mountain Park, we should therefore be aware of and grateful for a critical impact Mr. Udall had in our area.

In 1992-1993, and again in 1996, land swaps were being proposed that would take away sections of the McDowell Mountain Park and give them over to developers. The earlier proposition was fought down mainly through the efforts of the Rio Verde Community Association and vocal residents of Fountain Hills. This group of folks joined forces to become the McDowell Park Association (MPA), founded to help preserve and protect McDowell Mountain Park.

The 1996 land swap proposal was harder to fight,

however, because the deal was farther along politically when it became public. It took all the efforts of the MPA, along with the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, and many local residents and public figures to fight off the second land swap proposal. Stewart Udall was asked to lend his support to help fight the swap, and a letter he subsequently wrote defining the use of land swaps in public parks went a long way in helping prevent the deal.



These events highlight the importance of associations such as the McDowell Park Association. Therefore, I urge all of our RVHA members to consider joining the McDowell Park Association, too. It only costs \$15 for individual and \$20 for family memberships yearly. Donations are also gratefully accepted. Although membership in MPA does not get you a discount for park entry, it does strengthen the

association by keeping a healthy membership level to fight off other potential threats.

For membership information please contact Pam Griffin at 471-0056