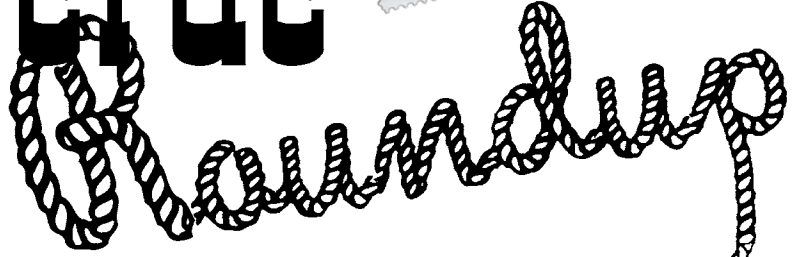


Rio Verde



March 2011



*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.*

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association Annual Election Luncheon & General Membership Meeting

**Sunday
March 20, 2011**

Greasewood Flat
11:00 A.M.

Come and meet
RVHA Board members
and neighbors.

*This is a great opportunity
to voice your opinion on
community issues.*

RVHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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(480) 473-3777 • margaretscott@desertinet.com

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Thesesa Thraen • (480) 528-9148
Chuck Monroe • (480) 471-1048

Social Committee – Chairman
Mary Kay Della Vella • (480) 206-2937

Off-Trail Rides – Chairman
Rocco Wachman • (480) 250-4625

Roadside Cleanup – Chairmen
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Nena Henry • (480) 471-7678

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Terry Stecyk • terry@rvha.us

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 is outside enjoying this great weather we're having; it'll soon be hot again before we know it.

In this issue of Roundup you will find articles concerning the Tonto Forest and McDowell Mountain Park. Thank you to Pam Griffin and Theresa Thraen for staying on top of these issues.

The RVHA Annual Election Luncheon and General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 20, 11:00 Greasewood Flat. Come have lunch, meet the newly elected members of the RVHA Board and share your thoughts and concerns about our community.

The RVHA held its annual Family Picnic on December 5th at the Beautiful Box Bar Ranch. The turnout was huge and we even had a surprise visit from Santa. Thank you to everyone who helped out and donated items for the raffles.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2011 annual RVHA Chili Cook-Off! The judges really had a hard time picking a winner at this one.

Take the time to read the articles in this issue of Roundup. If you would like to have an article included in the next issue of Roundup let us know. We welcome member participation.

Thank you to all of the advertisers who support RVHA. Everyone, please remember to patronize them. They offer some really good discounts to RVHA members. Tell them you saw their ad in the RVHA Roundup!!



Margaret Scott
RVHA President



At the time I'm writing this our membership totals 357 members. Most of those are renewals from previous years. But 51 are brand new members for the year 2011. It's just great that we have "new blood" joining our organization.

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:

Jenifer Bacon	Micky Jansen & Christine Palanuk	Mike & Janet Long
James & Mary Chabot	Gary Frazer & Susan Middents	Jason & Sharon Ottman
David & Cathy Chappell	Dee & John Gallagher	Steve & Laura Parker
Reed & Teresa Collingwood	Jeff & Stephanie Gamber	Suzi Pflumm
Nanette Cure & Nanette Corso	J. Paul Jasper & Janet Paris-Jasper	Nancy Rizzo
Ralph & Jeanne Forrest	Jim Loftis	Otto Stanislaw
Kim Engard & Tom Gendron		Susan & Dennis Summers

And Welcome Back to: Bob Thomas

With the help of our very capable website designer, Frank Turben, we're now set up to handle online applications and payments can be made using PayPal. We also have a renewal form set up on the website so that everyone can renew their membership online using PayPal. Thanks, Frank for all your help.

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 any of your personal information changes, make sure to contact us so we can update our database. Don't forget your email address; people make this change quite often. For any questions we can help you with, please contact either me or Judy.

Membership Committee Contacts

Mo Wachman * 480 471-3131 mo@rvha.us
 Judy Riley * 480 471-0056 judy@rvha.us

THE ARIZONA HORSE COUNCIL

-by Jean Anderson

The Arizona Horse Council, along with the Arizona Cattlemen's Association and the Arizona Farm Bureau, have introduced bills to the Arizona Senate and to the Arizona House for passing. The two bills are HB 2552, and SB 1183.

The bills concern the Equine Property Tax Classification. These bills will place equine breeding, training and stabling facilities into the agricultural property classification. We are also offering an amendment to the bill to include the Equine Rescues listed on the Equine Registry; one The Arizona Horse Council created at the Department of Agriculture. Maricopa County has converted many equine operations from agricultural property tax classification to a commercial classification and/or a multi-use classification - greatly increasing their property tax assessments.

Historically, equine owners have been identified as agriculture and treated as such. Over the course of a year, an assessor decided to do it differently, and said if the people wanted to change that, we would have to draft legislation. AND, so we are. If any of you would like to send an email to your congressmen, please do so.

If you have any questions please contact Chip Wilson of the Arizona Horse Council at 602-390-6806 or mattgriffis@arizonahorsecouncil.org.



CHILI COOK-OFF

2011



The 7th annual RVHA Chili Cook-Off was held on an absolutely perfect day at Lorill Equestrian Center. We had 13 chili entries and the five judges had a hard time picking out the winners.

Our judges were:

Rita Reynolds
Victor Corrales
Adam Mamerow
Karen Blease
Margaret Roach

The judges' winners were:

1st Place: Kim Gendron
2nd Place: Lynda Adams
3rd Place: Gary Thompson

And the Peoples' Choice award
went to Ed Wilkinson

Approximately 100 people, both RVHA members and friends joined in the fun, tasted the chili entries, lunched on other potluck dishes and overall had a fun afternoon.

A HUGE "Thank You" goes to Lori Bridwell for the use of her ranch. And thanks to everyone else involved in setting up, cleaning up and making it all come together perfectly!

FIRE PROTECTION ALERT:

What are you really getting when you pay for fire coverage?

If you have Rural Metro fire subscription, do you realize that there is no guarantee they will come when called or they will come out with limited water in their truck to put out the fire? We're not making this up to try to scare you - this has already happened! Does everyone understand that we are listed with insurance companies under Protection Class Ten? Reason is for lack of water source. No fire hydrants. This is the -worst class to be in.

Before we have a property loss or worse, a fatality, we would like to make our families and homes safer. If anyone has questions or concerns like we do and would like to meet, please e-mail at billconover66@msn.com.

MISTLETOE IN THE DESERT IT'S ONLY ACCEPTABLE AT CHRISTMAS!

On a recent outing I noticed several desert trees dead or dying in our desert due to large clumps of mistletoe hanging in the branches. Desert mistletoe (of which we find six species in Arizona) is a parasitic

plant that reduces the growth of your trees and will kill them if they have a heavy infestation.

There are no organic or chemical sprays that work to control mistletoe. The only way to kill mistletoe is to remove it manually. This is the best time of year to assess and treat the problem, before the poisonous berries

get eaten and spread by bird and squirrel droppings. Plus there are no snakes and fewer leaves are on the trees during the cooler temperatures.

You'll need to cut the branches a foot below where the mistletoe is attached. Use long-handled lopping shears, saw pruners or pruners with an extension pole for reaching higher branches. A power saw may be necessary for removing larger branches. You can cut off just the mistletoe flush with the trunk on very large branches that can't be removed without damaging the tree, however, it will return next year because it is living inside the host tree.

For more information you can also review these websites:

http://www.ehow.com/how_2038198_remove-mistletoe-trees.html

http://www.saguaro-juniper.com/i_and_i/trees&shrubs/mistletoe/mistletoe.html

<http://www.fireflyforest.com/flowers/2115/phoradendron-californicum-mesquite-mistletoe/>

<http://ag.arizona.edu/plp/plpext/diseases/trees/mesquite/mesquitemist.html>



Fedwell Farm Rescue



Welcome Spring! After surviving the broken pipes and frozen water bowls, we are up and running. Thank you to our fabulous volunteer Doug Larson, who came out and fixed broken pipes in the most inconvenient of places imaginable.

Fedwell Farm Rescue has now saved 411 lives in the past 2-1/2 years. That is 116 since our September newsletter. We currently have 48

dogs waiting for their new home at Fedwell Farm Rescue and another 9 black and white puppies will be available the middle of March. They will all be spayed and neutered and up to date on their shots by then and ready to head off to their new homes.

We currently have 3 cattle dog puppies left from our November litter, along with a vast array of magnificent creatures. We specialize in the herding group of dogs, Australian Cattle Dogs and Australian Shepherds are our favorites, but we have the popular labs as well. Our dogs love the outdoors: hiking, camping and jogging. They are perfect for the Rio Verde lifestyle. Come out and meet the pooches!

Check out our website, "fedwellfarm.com" and see the wonderful photographs by our new official photographer, Carol Parsons. Our dogs are looking model perfect!

As PACC 911 members, Fedwell Farm Rescue participated in the spectacular adoption event in Anthem. We had 8 adoptions in one day! Thank you to the wonderful volunteers, Wendie Christensen, Carol Parsons, Sharon Kusne and Amy Raynolds. Thank you to Carole Wright for getting us

organized and handling all our paperwork. Our success would not have been possible without the help of all of these wonderful people.



Fedwell Farm Rescue is a 501(c)(3) corporation, so your donations are tax deductible. We do not have any employees, or paid staff; all donations go directly to helping the dogs!

We are also New Hope Members for Maricopa County Animal Care and Control. Most of our dogs come from the euthanasia list at the county shelter. This means we are the dog's last hope. If we don't take them into our shelter, they will be euthanized the next morning. These are nice dogs that are either fearful in the shelter situation, or they may have "kennel cough", a simple cold that takes minimal medication with complete recovery.

All of our dogs live in our home; they do not live in kennels. These dogs interact with our family, other animals and many other dogs on a daily basis. They are used to a working routine and are ready to find their forever home with minimal adjustment needed.

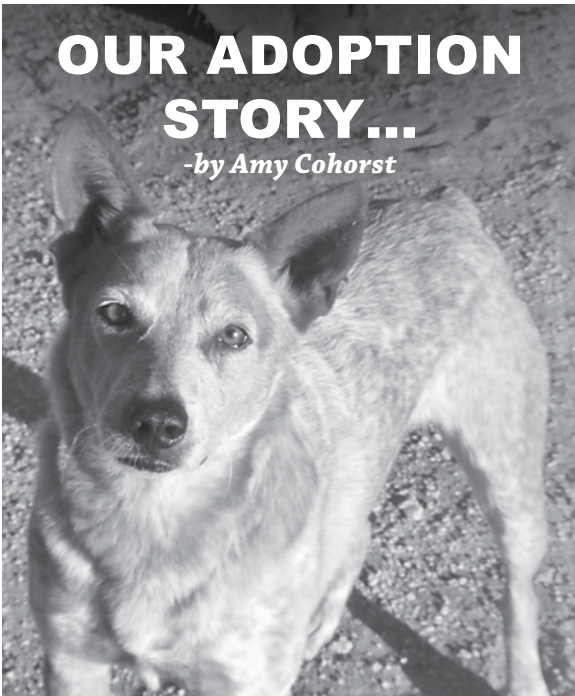
We do not have any employees, or paid staff; all donations go directly to helping the dogs!



Fedwell Farm Rescue, Inc.
602 316 8919
Fedwellfarm.com
fedwellfarm@yahoo.com

OUR ADOPTION STORY...

-by Amy Cohorst



We decided to try adoption when adding a 3rd dog to our family. All our previous dogs, we had raised from puppies, so we were a little apprehensive about adoption. How would they learn to fit into our lifestyle if we don't raise them from a puppy? What if the dog had baggage from its previous life? How will we know if we are picking the right dog? Well, let me tell you, our fears were quickly laid to rest. We emailed Carrie from Fedwell Farms about some of her dogs, and then went to meet them. After pouring over the pictures and descriptions on the website, we had a list of about 10 dogs we wanted to meet. Upon arriving at the rescue, Carrie asked us some additional questions about what we were looking for. Right away, she started bringing dogs into a large area to interact with us. We spent about an hour, and were amazed at how easily we got to know these dogs and their personalities. It didn't take long to narrow them down to three finalists, and in the end, the dog really picked us! He just kept sitting next to Dan, as if to say, I'm going home with you! His name is Handsome Harry, and we absolutely love him! He is a 2 year old Red Heeler, was already house-trained (man, was that nice!!) and after only 2 months, fits into our family wonderfully! Dan and I highly recommend pet adoption. It really feels like you're doing a good thing, and we could not be happier with Handsome Harry.

FOUR PEAKS ANIMAL RESCUE CORNER



Update from Four Peaks Rescue: **85 -- the number of pets we placed into loving homes in 2010 44 -- the number of pets euthanized at Maricopa County Animal Care and Control yesterday**

We celebrate every pet that we place in a new, loving

home. But we are limited in how many we can help.

We don't have a "shelter" and are not equipped to house 10-20 pets at a time. Every day we have to turn down owners trying to surrender their pets, and ignore the emails from Maricopa County and Arizona Humane Society asking us to take one more pet off of the euthanasia list. We are also limited on how many pets we can help by the number of foster homes we have.

Pets that enter Four Peaks are evaluated for behavior issues and screened for medical conditions before



they are placed in foster homes, where they stay until they are adopted. Because we only have a handful of foster homes, we can only help a handful of pets. The more foster homes we can get, the less often we have to tell desperate owners, "No, we can't take your pet, take them to the county shelter." The more foster homes we can get, the more dogs and cats we can save from euthanasia at the county shelter.

If you have a little extra space in both your home and in your heart to help out a furry friend in need, please contact us. We are in need of dog and cat fosters as well as puppy and kitten fosters. There are often litters of puppies and kittens that are euthanized because they are too small to survive in the shelter. We need your help to make a difference.

For more information please email 4parfoster@desertinet or call Melissa, the Foster Coordinator, at 480-528-3840. You can also visit our website at fourpeaksanimalrescue.org.

For more information about Four Peaks Animal Rescue, our available pets, events, etc, please visit our website at <http://www.fourpeaksanimalrescue.org> or check us out on Facebook.

*Funding for FPAR is derived from fundraisers, public & private donations, & adoption fees. Donations & Auction items are tax deductible. IRS 501(c) (3) ID No. 36-4262371

Four Peaks Animal Rescue
28150 N Alma School Pkwy # 103/470
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
480-471-3520 Fax: 480-471-2201



RVHA Annual

The RVHA held its annual Family Picnic on Sunday, December 5th down at the beautiful Box Bar Ranch. The weather was absolutely “perfect”. The turnout was huge and even included a surprise visit from Santa. A very special thank you to Buffy Minton for making so many kids very happy that day. Thank you also to Lori and Elaine for cooking up some delicious burgers and hot dogs, and everyone else who helped to make this event so much fun.





Family Picnic

Thank you to the following members and businesses for donating items to the silent auction and raffle.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Desert I-net | Carl DellaVella |
| Rio Verde Water | Steve Powers |
| Karsten's Ace Hardware | Mo Wachman |
| Greasewood Flat | Gina Mure |
| Joyce Eller | Lynda Adams |
| Amy Cohorst | Lynne LoCascio |
| James Coyne | RVHA Board of Directors |



AND THE WINNERS ARE...

-by Jenny Powers

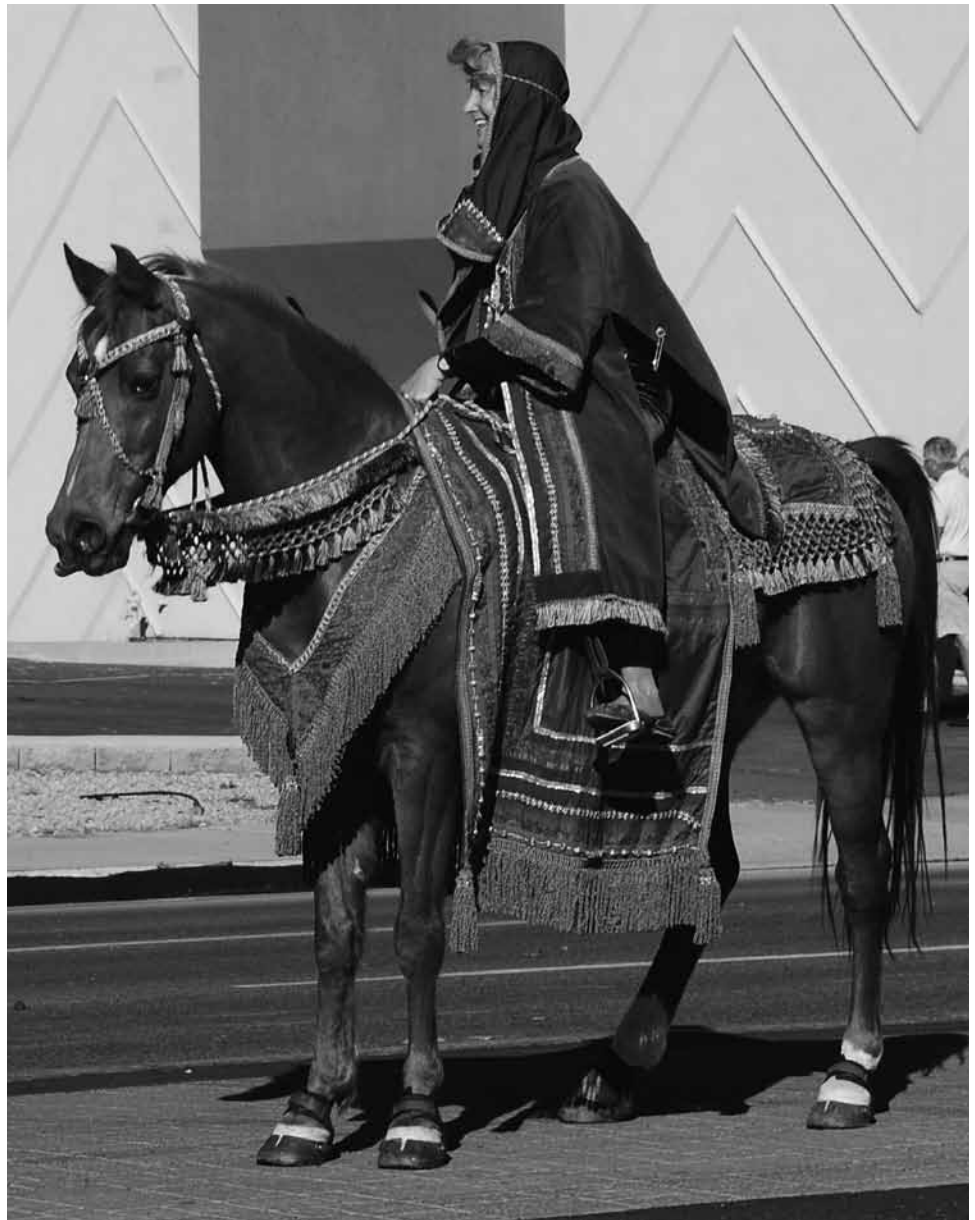
Congratulations to RVHA members Liz and Bernie Potof of BEL Peruvian Pasos, longtime owners and exhibitors of Peruvian horses. Currently the Potofs are showing their stallion, Rayo de CZR (barn name – Gray Boy) throughout the southwest. Gray Boy has an impressive championship record with wins under both United States and South American judges. That Gray Boy is still successfully competing at the age of 20 is a testament to the strength and longevity inherent in this breed. In addition to his show career, Gray Boy is excellent on trails and he is safely ridden by the Potof grandchildren. To learn more about this breed or Gray Boy specifically, please contact Liz at epotof@yahoo.com.

“And the Winners Are...” welcomes new RVHA members Sue and Dennis Summers. Sue and Dennis are part-time residents having purchased a home in the Rio Verde Foothills this winter. Their primary residence is in Colville, Washington, about 60 miles north of Spokane, where they keep several more horses. Dennis and Sue are avid endurance riders who compete at a high level of performance. They are the American Endurance Ride Conference 2010 winners of the Husband and Wife Award and are consistent winners at rides throughout the west. Most recently Dennis and Sue traveled to Safford, Arizona for the Springdale Romp Ride, which was held during an unusually cold week in late January and early February. On Day 1 Dennis came in first on OMR Tsunami (Lola), 10 year old Arab cross mare and Sue finished fourth on AM Humvee (Hummer), a Bashkir Curly/Arabian gelding bred in Arizona at Bazy Tankersley’s ranch in Tucson. On Day 2 Sue finished first on Mags Motivator (M&M), at 14 year old grey Arabian gelding and Dennis finished in second place on SHA Ebony Rose (Rosie), an 18 year old, grey, Arabian/Warmblood mare. Dennis and Sue usually switch off placings when riding together.

The RVHA community was home to a new multi-day, AERC sanctioned endurance ride over the New Year’s weekend. The Resolution Ride offered three days of 50-55 mile rides and three days of Limited Distance

rides (25 miles). Although the weather was extreme, with non-stop rain, wind and cold during the check-in day and cold, wind and snow the first day of the ride, the riders were cheerful and enjoyed the trails and base camp at Wildcat and 164th Street.

Sheri Griffith, part time Rio Verde Foothills resident and ride manager of the Moab Canyons endurance



ride held in November in Utah, successfully completed all three days on the same horse, an Arabian cross named Jabear’s Strkn Twister (Streak). Of the 155 miles of trails completed over the three days, Streak was barefoot except for one 18 mile loop on Day 3. The barefoot movement has really taken hold in this sport and we are seeing excellent results and sound horses with healthy hooves. Day 1 was won by Dennis

on Lola in a remarkable time of four hours and 22 minutes and Lola also won the coveted Best Condition Award. Sue completed in fifth place on Hummer.

Day 2 was still very cold, but without precipitation, which was a welcome relief to the vets and volunteers in camp as well as the riders. Clydea Hastie on Ashquar's Dream (Ash) finished 50 miles on Day 2 in 10th. Barb Debi riding Junior also completed 50 miles on Day 2. Sue won Day 2 on M&M with a very fast ride time of three hours and 30 minutes!

On Day 3 the sun appeared making for a pleasant change in weather for the 55 mile ride. Dennis and Lola won the ride in just four hours and 39 minutes. Clydea rode her Arabian horse to a successful completion of 55 miles. Congratulations to these RVHA riders for enduring the elements and successfully finishing their rides, and to the vets, property owners and volunteers who made this ride possible.

Although entries are judged, riding in the Parada del Sol was more of an adventure than a competition. I was invited to represent the Arizona Arabian Horse Association (AHAA) in the 58th parade held in downtown Scottsdale on February 12, riding in Native Arabian Costumes with five others. There were over 100 entries in the parade, most of them including horses. My friends greeted this news with a range of opinions from my being insane to being terribly brave for riding my Arabian endurance horse, Twister (2600 miles in AERC competition) in this event. My vet even advised administering a mild tranquilizer prior to trailering into Scottsdale. I discovered I was out of medication too late to borrow any so Twister arrived with his natural "Drama Queen" attitude intact. Much to my delight, he was unfazed by police car lights, barricades and banners, clowns on tricycles towing small wagons, buckboards, balloons, children waving flags, stagecoaches, hundreds of horses, floats with little girls twirling hoops and dancing to Brooks and Dunn (over and over), and crowds of people lining the street while clapping and cheering. It was an incredible experience with unexpected rewards and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate.

In talking with others in AHAA about the parade, we realized that those of us who own horses are often so immersed in and accustomed to our "horse life" that we lose sight of what it is like on the "other side." Those who have no contact with a life including horses tend to see horses as beautiful, even mystical beasts to be admired and maybe a little feared. The strength of that attraction to horses was very much in evidence in the crowds attending this parade. Children were delighted to be allowed to pet the horses and parents so grateful for the chance given their children. The warmth, encouragement and compliments from the crowd as we rode by, impressed upon us how very fortunate we are to have horses in our lives every day.

DEADLY DANGER OF OLEANDERS

-by Margaret Scott

Once again we would like to inform our members of the dangers of oleander.

This plant is highly toxic to livestock and humans.

Ingestion of even small amounts can KILL. The entire plant is toxic. Consuming leaves, fresh or dried, poisons most animals. All animals can be affected: horses, cattle, dogs, and even your children. It has been reported that approximately 30 - 40 leaves could deliver a lethal dose to an adult horse.

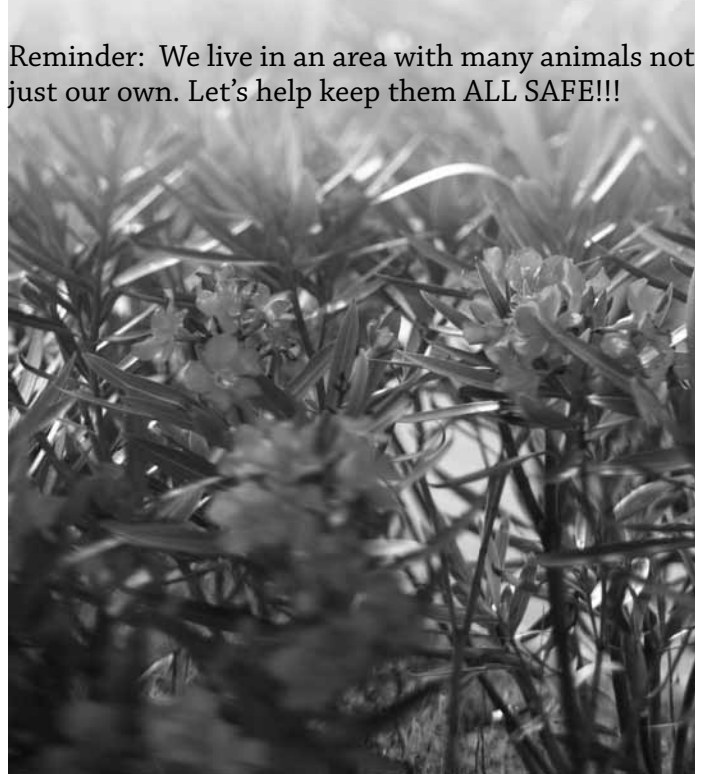
Clinical signs may develop rapidly, and the animal may be found dead with no prior warning.

In other cases, depression coupled with gastrointestinal distress is evident: vomiting (in those species that can vomit), diarrhea, and severe abdominal pain. Heart rate becomes irregular, trembling and collapse can occur, followed by coma and death within a few hours.

If you see any of these signs-call your vet IMMEDIATELY!!!!

Please exercise extreme caution in the vicinity of these plants. The plants should never be planted where animals can have contact with them. Extra care needs to be taken in cases where leaves fall or blow into the vicinity of a confined, bored or hungry animal.

Reminder: We live in an area with many animals not just our own. Let's help keep them ALL SAFE!!!



The best place to bury a dog

There is one best place to bury a dog. If you bury him in this spot, he will come to you when you call - come to you over the grim, dim frontier of death, and down the well-remembered path, and to your side again.

And though you call a dozen living dogs to heel, they shall not growl at him, nor resent his coming, for he is yours and he belongs there.

People may scoff at you, who see no lightest blade of grass bent by his footfall, who hear no whimper, people who may never really have had a dog. Smile at them, for you shall know something that is hidden from them, and which is well worth the knowing.

The one best place to bury a good dog is in the heart of his master.

(author unknown)



PASSING

Our condolences also to Rick and Zondra Poteste on the loss of their Australian shepherd, Toby. Toby suffered fatal injuries when he tumbled under a moving truck while playing with another dog on the property. Toby was rescued from a bad environment by Rick and Zondra and went on to live a great life on their ranch in the company of several other dogs. Although not particularly friendly, Toby more than made up for it with his lush coat and beautiful eyes. He was accepting of guests once properly introduced. His quirky personality will be missed.

“TONTO NATIONAL FOREST RESTRICTION?”

My buds and I were riding one of our favorite Tonto National Forest trails last week; the one that's just west of 160th St north of Lone Mountain. There are a couple of accesses to that area of the Forest. There is an off



road vehicle access on Lone Mountain and 158th St and a horse step over on 160th, north of Lone Mountain. Well, imagine our surprise to find that someone took it upon him/herself to pile tree limbs and brush every twenty feet for a quarter mile along the trail. Pretty nervy, huh? Who or what didn't this person like using this trail? ATVs? dirt bikes? horses? dog walkers? It doesn't really matter what this person's motive was, they have no authority to restrict any trail from anyone in the Forest.

So, my buds and I will schedule a day to remove all the debris on the trail. Or maybe we'll create a new trail a couple of feet from the original one.

MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN PARK ASSOCIATION

-by Pam Griffin

I am fortunate to live within a quarter mile from the 158th entrance to McDowell Mountain Park, and I ride in the park frequently. I support the park by buying a yearly pass and being a member of the McDowell Park Association. So I was very surprised when I decided to trailer over to the main park entrance one Wednesday a few weeks ago, and was told I could not park in the main Trailhead Staging Area. Instead, I was directed to the Four Peaks Staging Area. Parking there, one has to ride 1.7 miles through a deep wash before meeting up with the Pemberton and going on any particular loop one might choose. This added an hour to my planned two hour ride (half hour each way through the wash to and from the Pemberton and the Four Peaks Staging Area).

Since the main Trailhead Staging area was virtually empty (there were 4 cars there) I was quite mad about this and spoke with the Park Manager, Rand Hubbell. According to Rand, this change was made for "safety" and "consistency of the rules".

I wrote a few e-mails and got a few back, and finally learned the e-mail address of the park superintendent, Teresa Retterbush. A lot of horse people must also have complained, because I received a very nice reply from her this week. What follows is the relevant portion of the e-mail, which re-instates our right to park horse trailers in the main Trailhead Staging area on weekdays. The previous decision to park horse trailers in the Four Peaks Area on the weekends still applies, which I believe is fair.

"Over the past several weeks, the Department has heard from equestrian visitors who have voiced concerns over the lack of access to facilities, deep washes, inconsistent policies, banned horses, discrimination, and trail connectivity. While public safety is the park's number one concern, we also take the feedback we receive from our park visits seriously.

So the staff was asked to research and present several solutions that take into account each user group's needs and concerns. After consulting with the Department's management team on possible scenarios and solutions, an interim solution was identified to address the overcrowding.

During the busy season, on the weekends, November through March, equestrian visitors will be redirected by park staff to the Four-Peaks Staging Area for parking, loading and unloading their horses. This area is presently being used for special events and is underutilized; it was improved with minimal costs.

.....the Department will begin implementing additional measures to provide a safe environment for the equestrian community. These include:

Trailhead Staging Weekday Access. Equestrians can park their vehicles, load and unload their horses at the Trailhead Staging Area, unless otherwise posted (special event, filled to capacity, etc.).

Trail Connectivity. The Park will begin the process for revising McDowell Mountain Regional Park's Trail Plan. The park will make sure that you are notified of the public meetings which will occur between April and May 2011.

Trailhead Staging Ramada Rentals. Equestrian groups that reserve the ramadas at the Trailhead Staging Area will be able to park their vehicles, load and unload their horses at the trailhead. All user groups are treated the same.

Trailhead Staging Weekend Access. Equestrians will be directed to the Four Peaks Staging Area during the busy season,

November through March. Access to the Trailhead Staging Area can be made through the Shallmo Wash by horseback.

Park staff will be trimming up some of the trees along the western edge of the Four Peaks Staging Area and placing picnic tables underneath trees for a shaded picnic area.

Restroom facilities are available across the street at the competitive track area for all park visitors.

Improvements planned for the future in the Four Peaks Staging Area include shaded ramadas and restroom facilities.



RVHA E-MAIL

-by Mo Wachman



Our email system began about 10 years ago...in the days of dial-up connections or, at that time, the newfangled satellite internet service. We started the email system with the purpose of re-homing lost and found animals in this rural neighborhood. As the years went by, I had the super fast (chuckle) DirecWay Satellite as my ISP, so we were able to go a bit further and added meeting notices, or some other important message.

Here we are; it's 2011. Now we have really super fast internet service right in our own backyard, and because of it we can handle a lot more emails to many more RVHA email addresses. We are trying to offer our members as much information as possible in the most efficient manner...our email network. We hope you appreciate our efforts and if anyone has a comment or idea, please let us know.

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 - information about an upcoming event, meeting, weekend events or invitations; and Request Line - where any member can post a request for just about anything. And our newest service, the Classified Ads.

Terry Stecyk has been doing a wonderful job getting the Classified Ads started and we're making progress with each edition of the ads. Initially we only allowed items for sale, but we've changed that. We will now permit you to advertise services, like backyard boarding or personal services, like pet sitting. These are not for businesses - like ranch boarding etc I'd like to repeat the criteria we will follow:

"Classified" ads will be sent out via email on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

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.

All ads must be prepared and received electronically. If we are to prepare the ad(s) there will be an additional \$5 charge. Pictures are suggested. Send the ads to: terry@rvha.us

For sale 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 the ad week, as well as payment. Checks are to be sent to: RVHA, 28150 N. Alma School #103-112, Scottsdale, AZ 85262. If payment is not received by Tuesday, the ad will be held until the following week or until payment is received.

The RVHA reserves the right to edit and/or refuse ads. It seems like the hardest thing for us is getting the money promptly. We really don't like holding up the ads, so PLEASE get your money in on time.

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@rvha.us or call me at 480-471-3131.

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

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

The ride management, vet staff, volunteers and riders from the three-day Resolution Ride thank the community for supporting this successful event over the New Year's holiday week. Despite incessant rain, below freezing temperatures, snow and icy trails, the riders remained cheerful, the die-hard volunteers showed up from early morning to late evening and the community welcomed the event and showed the riders courtesy and friendship. Base camp at Wildcat and 164th Street alternated between mud and frozen mud, but the riders left the area spotless and even cleared much of the accumulated tree branches and kindling, which was put to good use in the fire pit at the vetting area.



Even with the inclement weather, between 30 and 40 riders started the 50 mile distance each day and between 10 and 20 riders started the limited distance each day. Two of the limited distance rides had an outstanding 100% completion rate. The 50 mile ride had an average completion rate of 93%, extraordinarily high especially considering the temperature and precipitation. No horses were treated for injuries or metabolic issues.

We are grateful for RVHA member Rick Poteste, DVM, head veterinarian for the ride, and the other RVHA members who volunteered and were excellent at multi-tasking due to a shortage of help. As is typical with multi-day endurance rides, riders who were not riding on a particular day were quick to volunteer to assist with the vet checks and anywhere else they were needed. The riders were impressed with the trails, scenery and ride management. We are fortunate to have access to trails where an event covering 150 miles can be held. Thank you!

DOGTOR T --- THE PET VET

-by *Melissa Thompson, DVM*

Does Fido have a hitch in his step, or is Trigger a little stiff? If so, they could be suffering from degenerative joint disease, also known as arthritis. There are many prescription medications available for dogs and a few available for horses to help with this condition, but many people opt for the supplement route. You can go down to the local feed store and easily be overwhelmed with the number of supplements available, and each claiming to be the "best". The most common supplement used for arthritis or other lameness issues is glucosamine and chondroitin. Glucosamine helps to repair cartilage and chondroitin maintains the elasticity and slows down the breakdown of the cartilage. Each one may help individually, but work better together.

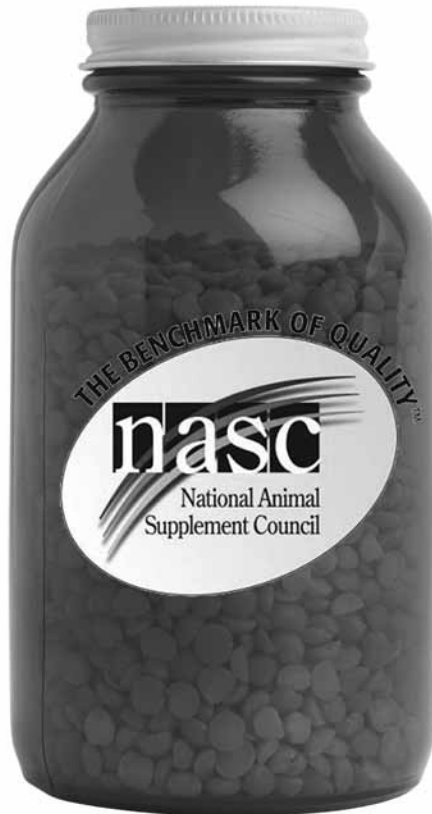
Unlike prescription medications, which are regulated by the FDA, supplements like glucosamine have no regulating authority. When a company lists the included ingredients, we just believe them to be true. There have been independent studies on many of the more "common" glucosamine/chondroitin supplements. While most do have the listed amount of glucosamine, they lack in the true amount of chondroitin as it is the more expensive of the two. It is convenient to skip out on the more expensive ingredient. Keep this in mind when price shopping as well, sometimes you do get what you pay for.

There can be side effects with any medication and the same holds true for supplements as well. Glucosamine/

chondroitin has been considered relatively safe in healthy pets, but should be used cautiously in pets with any platelet issue or those that are on medications that may interfere with blood clotting, like bute or aspirin. Make sure to discuss with your vet if your pet has a clotting or bleeding disorder or is on an anti-inflammatory medication whether or not your pet or horse should also be receiving glucosamine/chondroitin.

Another concern when looking for the right supplement is what are the sources of glucosamine or chondroitin? Glucosamine sources include shell fish and crab, while chondroitin sources include, cow, pig, chicken and shark. There are many pets with food allergies, and are on restrictive diets. Double check what source the glucosamine/chondroitin is from to be sure that you are not giving your pet something that can make his allergies worse.

If all of this seems overwhelming, you can start by looking for products with the National Animal Supplement Council's seal. While they cannot guarantee the listed analysis on the product, the NASC does audit processing plants to try and ensure that proper procedures, equipment and materials are being used in the production of a supplement. Another resource to see if your supplement made the cut is available through Consumer Labs. They audit supplements, both human and animal, to verify ingredients.



If all of this seems overwhelming, you can start by looking for products with the National Animal Supplement Council's seal.

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



RVHA GIVES BACK

Many thanks to our RVHA members who brought cash and food items for the December donation to the Foothills Food Bank and Resource Center in Cave Creek. Member Terry Holmes-Stecyk organized



the collection and delivered 375 lbs of dry goods, canned goods, a frozen turkey, even a dozen fresh homemade tamales, plus toothbrushes, dental floss and body soap. Cash donations of \$275 were also turned over to a very grateful Food Bank and Resource Center.

While December is the month we tend to give gifts and charitable donations, the Foothills Food Bank needs donations throughout the year to feed many hungry families. This food bank services our Rio Verde Foothills area as well as Cave Creek, Carefree and all areas north to Anthem. "The North Valley is often thought of as an area of well-to-do suburbs with middle to upper class residents who are getting along just fine. Pleasant urban surroundings disguise the fact that many North Valley residents are barely making ends meet in today's economic environment."

Items most needed include all canned goods items: especially fruit, tuna, soups, chili, diced tomatoes, and refried beans. Powdered milk, juice, pasta, beans, rice, mac and cheese, peanut butter and jelly. Cooking oil in small bottles. Also appreciated are baby food and formula, diapers (large sizes), laundry soap, bar soap, toilet tissue, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, and shaving gear. Have samples and left over hotel toiletries? They will accept those too.

The Foothills Food Bank helps needy families on a daily basis and administers two additional food programs. They offer a Care Club to help people stretch their food dollars by allowing them to purchase food packages at

reduced fees. They also offer a Food Plus program which provides a free food package to pregnant, nursing and postpartum mothers. This Food Plus program is also available for children up to 6 yrs old and to seniors in need. Please call the Foothills Food Bank (480-488-1145) for more details.

Cash donations are always welcome. You can mail a check to Foothills Food Bank, PO Box 715, Carefree, AZ 85377. Donations can also be made via your Mastercard, Visa or American Express cards. You can even make your donation through PayPal. Visit their website, www.foothillsfoodbank.com. Simply click on the "donate" button.

You can support the Foothills Food Bank and Resource Center for a full tax credit on your AZ tax bill with a qualifying donation. You are allowed to claim up to \$400 for a couple or \$200 for an individual. The entire amount qualifies as a tax credit, not just a tax deduction, and will reduce your AZ tax bill by the



amount donated. For more information visit www.revenue.state.az or call 1 800 843 7196.

The Foothills Food Bank is located at 6920 Cave Creek Road. Contact number is 480-488-1145.

Hours of operation are:

Mornings: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9:00 am – noon

Afternoons: Thursday and Friday from 1 – 4 pm

Evenings: Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 – 8 pm

The Foothills Food Bank and Resource Center is a registered 501 (c) (3) corporation and a Certified Charitable Organization. Their Fed Tax ID # is 86-0619725.

REMEMBERING DOC: GEORGE R. "DOC" CAVALLIERE MEMORIAL PARK



Doc Cavalliere passed away on September 19th 2009. He was almost 93. He was dearly loved by many and will be remembered with great fondness for his love of the West, particularly his love of the City of Scottsdale and the State of Arizona. He was Arizona's oldest pioneering native son at his passing. Doc had recently been inducted into the Arizona Historical Society's Hall of Fame. He is in good company with the likes of Frank Lloyd Wright, Herb Drinkwater, E.B. Brown, Winfield Scott, Robert and

Katherine Herberger, Virginia Piper, and Marshall Trimble. His unique enterprises, Reata Pass and Greasewood Flat, along with the surrounding property, have recently been put up for sale. Hard to imagine as it may be, it's possible that those favorite hangouts may not be there forever. If that turns out to be true eventually, which many of us hope won't be soon (if ever), how best might we memorialize Doc?

Marijo and John Nolan, Greasewood fans who live close by, undertook an effort close to a year and a half ago, that began with the idea that it would be great to name the mountain next to Pinnacle Peak after Doc. The City of Scottsdale had publicly asked for suggestion for names in an article in the Arizona Republic. Marijo wrote a letter suggesting the name be Cavalliere Mountain, or Mount Cavalliere.

Long story short, the Arizona State Board of Historical and Geological Names recently decided not to name the mountain at all. There needed to be a compelling reason to do so, and there was none. To answer the question, "Why couldn't it be named after Doc?" suffice it to say that according to the State's guidelines for naming places after individuals, the individual must have been deceased for five years, in order to be considered. As a side note, the name that was actually being considered was Mount Chuckwalla. No ill-will intended against the charming chuckwalla, but the powers that be seemed to have exercised some wisdom in deciding not to name the mountain at all.

The City of Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Commission heard Marijo's request for consideration of the naming of the mountain, and essentially re-directed her efforts toward a new City of Scottsdale park currently under construction and due to be completed in 2011. They advised that the naming of this park after Doc might be a possibility, as there was no need to adhere to the state's guidelines, as was the case with requirements in the naming of the mountain. The working name of the park is Troon North Park. You may have noticed the signs immediately south of the

Fire Station on Alma School Road and north of Reata Pass and Greasewood. The 34-acre site will be the City's northernmost public park. Ground was broken late last summer. Now scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2011, it will be a beautiful desert park. The plans in Phase One include a ramada, a ¾ mile hiking trail, an overlook, lighted multisport hard courts, a playground and parking. Phase Two, if it is ever funded, includes a 24,000 square foot Community Center. It would be a beautiful memorial to Doc Cavalliere. As Peggy Wilkinson, long time friend of Doc, stated as she spoke to the Parks and Recreation Commission last week, "Doc Cavalliere is worthy to be remembered by naming this park after him." No one could have said it better.

What we understand at this point in time is that the City of Scottsdale's Parks and Recreation Commission is considering two possible names for the Park. One is Reata Pass Park, a name selected by the Troon North Association. The other as presented by Marijo and the "Friends of Doc Cavalliere" is the George R. "Doc" Cavalliere Memorial Park. We are moving forward, even though we like the name "Reata Pass Park," the name is trademarked and likely may not be permitted to be used to name the park.

The Friends of Doc Cavalliere are many, and if you consider yourself as one of them--you can help by letting the Parks and Recreation Commission know your preference for naming the park directly after Doc. Also discussed at the February 3rd Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was a desire on the part of "The Friends of Doc Cavalliere" to raise funds to have a plaque or statue of Doc designed and bronzed for placement in the park.

What can you do to help?

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, please send a letter and/or e-mail to express your support for the naming of the park, the George R. "Doc" Cavalliere Memorial Park. The decision makers are the Commissioners on the Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Commission. Therefore, we recommend at this point in the naming process that you direct your letters of support to:

Jeanne Alspaugh, Chairman
Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Commission
7447 E. Indian School Rd. Ste. 300
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Send your E-mails to:

Jeanne Alspaugh, Chairman Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Commission
c/o Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director
jcameron@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

You might let Ms. Alspaugh know you are a "Friend of Doc Cavalliere" and if you are so inclined, send a copy of your letter to Annie Hodgkins, PO Box 28308, Scottsdale, AZ 85255. Send a copy of your e-mail to annhodgkins4@aol.com. This will help us in measuring the support for this idea.



CLASSIFIEDS

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Full Page Ads:

\$360 for four issues

(plus \$20 additional for back page)

Full Page Inserts:

\$120 per issue

Classified Ads:

(for members only)

For Sale, Wanted, Services

\$5 per issue or

\$15 for four issues

All ads must be paid in full by each newsletter ad deadline in order to be included in the issue.

The Rio Verde Roundup is published quarterly.

For information on placing an ad contact Nancy Arvizu (480) 686-1970 or email nanciarvizu@gmail.com or mail your ad to RVHA, 28150 N. Alma School Pkwy., #103/112, Scottsdale, AZ 85262. www.rvha-az.com

**Deadline for
New items or ads for the
June 2011 issue
May 10, 2011**



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IF PAYMENT OF YOUR ADVERTISEMENT IS NOT PAID IN FULL BY THE NEWSLETTER ISSUE DEADLINE, YOUR AD WILL NOT BE RUN. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE BY A MEMBER OF THE ADVERTISING COMMITTEE IF PAYMENT IS DUE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.