

# Rio Verde

June 2009

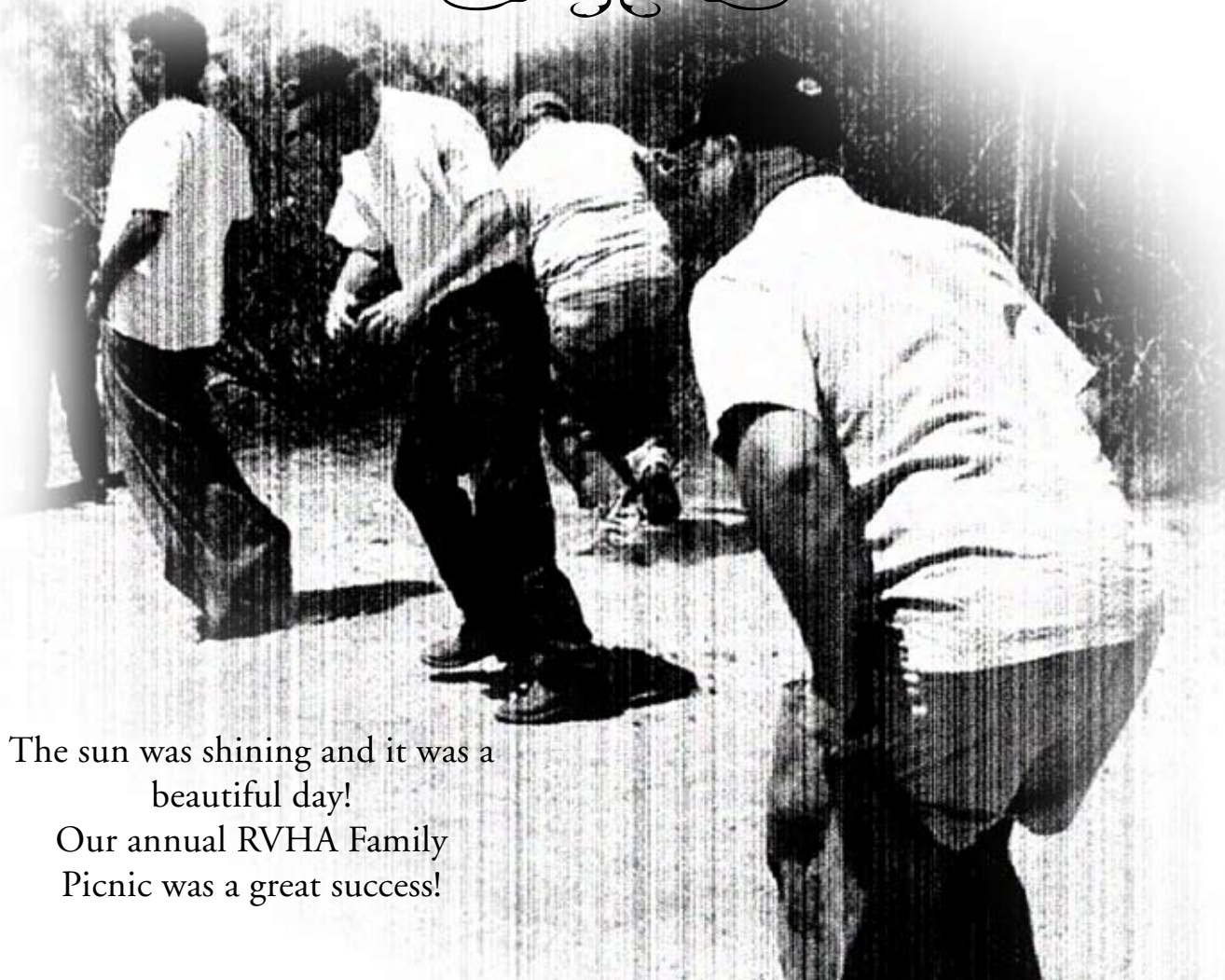


Summer

Rounding

*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.*

## RANCH FAMILY PICNIC



The sun was shining and it was a beautiful day!  
Our annual RVHA Family Picnic was a great success!

## RVHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Margaret Scott  
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Chuck Monroe • (480) 471-1048

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

Off-Trail Rides – Chairman  
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Powerline Advisory Committee – Chairman  
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Rio Verde Horsemen's Association • P.O. Box 25601  
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## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Wow, can you believe it's June already. Where does time go? Yes, it's hot out there, and, it's also Fire Season. So please make sure you have a fire break around your house and barn. Also remember it's very important that your fire coverage subscription with Rural Metro is up to date. Let's make this a safe and fire free summer.

The RVHA Election was held on March 7, 2009 at Greasewood Flat. Thank you to Greasewood Flat for a great lunch and to all the RVHA members who attended and showed their support. Welcome to the new RVHA Board of Directors. (Look for the Election article in this issue).

The RVHA Family Picnic held on Sunday May 3, 2009 was so much fun. (That's what everyone who attended is still telling me). Thank you to Rocco, Lori, Elaine, Mary Kay, Carl, Ceil, Mo, John, Dora, Scott, Chuck, Gary, Dave, Deena, Larissa, Betty, 4-H kids and John Hornewer of Rio Verde Water for supplying us with water for the dunk tank. And to everyone else who helped in making it such a success. Thank you to Bev Oglesby and family for allowing us the continued use of Four Peaks Performance.

Gail Starr, what can I say? God blessed you with talent. Thank you for sharing it with us and for the very special tribute to Don. I'm sure he was smiling down on all of us.

On a sadder note...for those of you who do not know, long time RVHA member and dear friend Don Oglesby passed away on March 19, 2009 after a long heroic battle with cancer. He will be greatly missed by everyone.

Update on the Overlook Project...Development of Pinnacle Peak Ranch, 132nd & Rio Verde Dr. has been put on hold until further notice due to the economy.

Thank you to all the advertisers who continue to support the RVHA. Please patronize them.

Have a Happy & Safe Summer!!!

*Margaret Scott  
RVHA-President*



-by Mo Wachman

Renewals for 2009 have been strong. At the date of this writing we already have 411 members. Among those 411 are 36 members new to our organization. We closed out the 2008 membership year at a total of 485 members.

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

- Dr. Alex & Michelle Casuccio
- Dave & Liz Fuehr
- Jeff & Dana Hutchings
- Herb & Carol Reill

We welcome back previous RVHA members:

- Emily Clancy
- Jim & Michelle Ford

Our directory is in the works. This year there will be only two formats offered. You will either have the option of a CD, or for those of you with high speed internet, we can send you a PDF version. If you received a hard copy in the past and have not made an alternative selection, you will receive a CD version. This change is being made to save in both printing and mailing costs, and to save our trees.

If you have friends or neighbors who are not members of RVHA, spread 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.

Mo Wachman \* 480 471-3131  
mo@desertinet.com

Judy Riley \* 480 471-0056  
jer4horses@msn.com

## RVHA ELECTION – 2009

-by Cecile Rudis

The 2009 RVHA Election was held at Greasewood Flat on March 7, 2009 at 11 AM A big “thank you” to all the members that joined us on that beautiful sunny day.

The Election results are as follows:

### Officers

President	Margaret Scott
1st Vice President	Monica Wachman
2nd Vice President	Cecile Rudis
Secretary	Judy Riley
Treasurer	Jenny Powers

### Directors

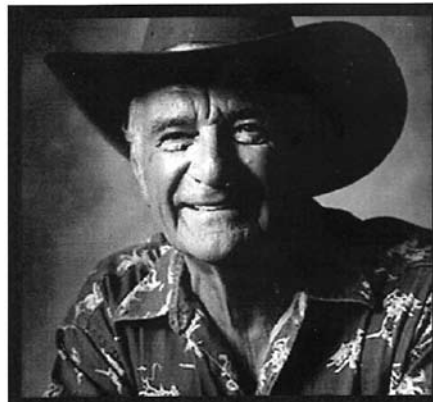
- Lori Bridwell
- Jim Campbell
- Mary Kay DellaVella
- Richard Hollabaugh
- Cortland Parks
- Ray Wallage

After the Election everyone was invited to stay for lunch.

Thank you all, for your support! See you at the next Election!!!

## “SAYING GOODBYE”

-by Margaret Scott



Longtime RVHA member, former RVHA Board member and dear friend, Don Oglesby passed away on March 19, 2009, following a heroic battle with cancer. Don will be greatly missed by everyone. Don was a person who

was always there to lend a helping hand with words of encouragement and advice. He was one of the kindest and most generous persons I have ever known.

The RVHA would like to express our deepest sympathy to his beloved wife of 56 years, Bev, and his entire family.

Don, you may be gone, but you will never be forgotten... Every function we have at Four Peaks Performance, we know you are there with us. We miss you.

“Happy Trails” my friend, till we meet again...

# RANCH FAMILY PICNIC

-by Mary Kay Della Vella

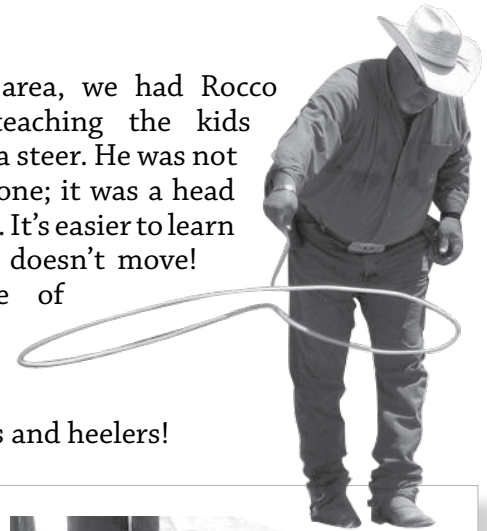
The sun was shining and it was a beautiful day! Our annual RVHA Family Picnic was a great success! Kids and adults had fun playing games and getting dirty. Why not get dirty; we had the dunk tank to go in to clean off! At first no one wanted to go in. Then we had a line waiting to get dunked. It almost caused a riot when Chuck Monroe, who was manning the tank, needed a break to get some food! But all was well again when he finished his meal.



The cookies were great and hopefully they made lots of money for their kitty. All the parents are to be commended for the help and guidance they provide these kids. Many of those parents were also helping and running the games for the crowd. Special thanks to Deena Dunham and Larrisa Burgess for all their help.

In another area, we had Rocco Wachman teaching the kids how to rope a steer. He was not using a live one; it was a head on a hay bale. It's easier to learn on one that doesn't move!

Now maybe some of them can go out to try it on a moving one. Maybe we have some future headers and heelers!



Ray Wallage came riding in a cart being pulled by his daughter Lynn's mini horse. Those of you who know Ray, know he is a big guy. What a sight to see

Lauren Dillon will be participating in the San Diego 3 Day Breast Cancer walk. Lauren had several items in pink to help raise money towards her goal.



him being pulled by that little horse! They also brought another mini horse and both kids and adults joined in to pet the little fellows..

Elaine from Lorill Equestrian brought a saddled horse that was available for the kids to ride. There was a good number of smiling kids after their ride on the big horse!

Our 4-H group put in a lot of overtime baking all those goodies for their bake sale. I was told they were up late the night before getting all that done.



Everyone who participated will be there in spirit with Lauren on her 60 mile walk. I hope you all got to see the apron that Annie Hodgkins won in the raffle. Annie really wanted that apron. I'm glad she got her wish!

The kids had a game with paddle balls. They aren't made the way I remember them. I had a hard time keeping the ball bouncing. But the kids all appeared to be having fun. Later they tried to eat donuts off a string with their hands tied. Dora made sure she brought donuts covered in chocolate! Lots of chocolate covered



faces after that event. I hope someone got pictures of some of them! The potato sack races were also a big hit. I hope no one



you to Gina and Purina!

As usual El Paso Bar-B-Que provided an excellent lunch. I'm sure they appreciated the fact that we put them in the pavilion out of the

sun!

We all miss Don Oglesby very much. Margaret gave a heartfelt tribute to him. His family attended and Gail Starr did a musical tribute to him. Our thanks, as always, goes out to Bev and the rest of the family for the use of the facility.

still has gravel embedded under their skin from some of the falls. Not every one is graceful



This was a free event for RVHA members. It does not mean it was free for the organization. When you RSVP for an event like this,



hopping to the finish line in a sack!

We also had a demonstration on making cobbler in a Dutch oven on an open fire. Cortland Parks took us thru all the steps. I never did get any of the cobbler, but I have had some in the past so I'm sure it was wonderful! Thank you, Cortland!



your meal is paid for. If you failed to attend after you said you would, we were still charged for your meal. In order to be sure we have enough food for everyone, we needed your response. We are sorry if this bothered some people. If anyone knows of a better way to plan an event like this, please be sure to let someone on the Board know so we can rework it!

So, until next time, everyone be happy and safe. Enjoy you summer and we will see you all in the fall for the annual Dinner Dance!



Gina Mazzella, from Purina Mills, sent over items for giveaway. I hope everyone got theirs. Thank

# 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 – information about an upcoming event, meeting, weekend events or invitations; and Request Line – where any member can post a request for just about anything (except if it is monetarily beneficial to the member).

Since our last issue, I've sent out a total of 83 email alerts. Lost and found animals only made up 14 of these. I look at that as a good thing. I hope it means that people are making sure their animals are confined properly – both large and small. Tim and Deena Dunham added a dog to their household when nobody claimed the critter they found. I don't always hear back about the "misplaced" animals, but if you can, please let me know the outcome. So many people ask about a certain animal and I'd like to be able to give them information. Remember to keep those collars and tags on your furry friends, and that the information on the tags is current.

As you all know, our Request Line has proved to be quite popular. Since March we've tallied 35! Once again Mary Miller used this service for her goats. This time she was looking for someone to debudd her young goat, and Lauren Dillon was looking for fresh milk to make cheese. I believe Mary Miller

came to her rescue. We had Angie Keene give away airline tickets, and Amy Cohorst was able to find a wonderful home for her Quarter Horse. I hope everyone was successful in your requests. All in all the responses to the requests have been pretty phenomenal. We have some very helpful and generous neighbors out here!

We've sent out about 34 emails regarding some type of information – there were several meeting reminders, picnic info and reminders. We also told you about the large animal rescue training; snake training for your dogs.

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](mailto:mo@desertinet.com) 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!**



# ARIZONA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

-by Jean Anderson

The Arizona State Horsemen's Association (ASHA) had an Equine Summit last October, 2008, where over 55 people attended. Out of this summit, there came many suggested items for ASHA to do, and one of them was sponsoring a "Career Day". The date has been set: October 3, 2009, at the new Queen Creek Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Center, 20464 E. Riggs Road, in Queen Creek, Arizona. ASHA, along with the Arizona Agribusiness & Equine Center, and the Festival of the Horses Youth Fair, is sponsoring this Equine Career Day.

According to American Horse Council figures, the horse industry supports more than 1.4 million full-time jobs. There are a variety of careers in the horse industry, from hands-on jobs like large-animal veterinarian to jobs that support the industry, such as a feed and supplement distributor. There are jobs in breeding, showing, health, education, product manufacturing, research, recreation, and service industries, to name just a few.

Most people work in the horse industry because of their love of horses, which often supersedes their love of money. Many hands-on jobs provide minimal pay and benefits just for the pleasure of being around horses. Salaries and earnings greatly improve with higher-level hands-on equine professions and service jobs, which often pay the most and offer the best benefits.

There are many jobs available outside of the barn with a wide variety of careers that are connected to the horse world. Distance learning holds the key for those who have full time school, jobs, children and other responsibilities that make it difficult to attend classes at a college campus.

The 2009 Arizona Equine Career Day will be held on Saturday, October 3rd, ONLY. The schedule features some of the different career options event participants

can explore. There will be one full day for attendees to meet and talk with career professionals in the equine industry. This will be an outstanding opportunity for teens and adults to get their questions answered and to help guide their equine career decisions. There will be a charge to get in, but the charge will cover the all day event and will include a lunch. As the event draws closer, more information will be available on the ASHA web site and on the festival site.



**The 2009 Arizona  
Equine Career Day will  
be held on Saturday,  
October 3rd, ONLY.**

Interested participants will receive information about a variety of education and training locations where they can pursue classes in the equine industry, including an Associates Degree, Certified Equine Specialist certification, Dual High School Credit (graduate from High School with an Associate's Degree also), or just take classes of interest that provide additional knowledge about the horse industry. There are a number of online courses available, offering participants a way to reduce travel expenses while receiving their training.

We plan to have representatives from schools and universities that have equine science or equine programs of study/curricula in Arizona and neighboring states at the Career Day event as well. We are inviting: Maricopa County Community Colleges, University of Arizona, University of Colorado, University of New Mexico, and William Woods University. These people will be able to discuss the details of their programs and consult with potential students.

# RVHA WEB SITE

-by Mo Wachman

www.rvha-az.com

When you have a few minutes, check out our new Website. It has totally been re-done by RVHA member, Frank Turben, and his company 123 Computer Help, www.123computerhelp.com

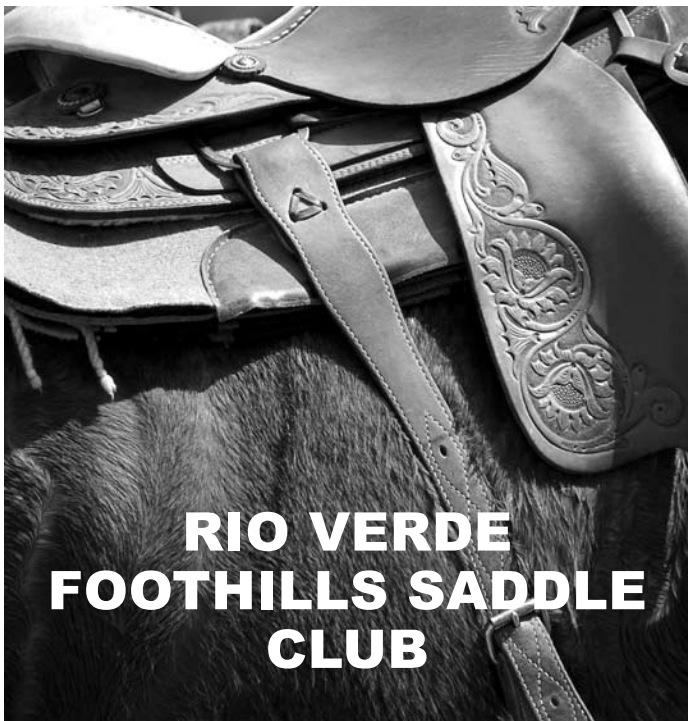
At this writing we are still in the working stage and there are still some pages and links to be added. Maybe by the time you read this, all will be finished. Check the Calendar page to find out what upcoming events we have planned. The Area Awareness page will keep you informed of important issues your RVHA



Committee is working on. We've included links to several other sites relative to our common interests, such as ASHA, Four Peaks Animal Rescue, etc.

We've added an Archive page with photos from all of our past events. Click on the thumbnail photo to enlarge it. If you attended one of these events, you'll probably find your photo there.

If you have any comments or suggestions, you can send them to me in an email to mo@desertinet.com Keep checking back, and we hope you like what you see!!



The RVHA Board is looking into the possibility of forming a saddle club in our area. The club would be similar to any of the other saddle clubs in Arizona. The focus being on gymkhanas and equine related social events. Trail rides in conjunction with our existing Trail Ride Committee, maybe a clinic now and then, or even riding in a parade.

With Rio Verde being Arizona's finest horse community it just seems odd that we don't have our own saddle club. A lot of us trailer off to New River or Horse Lovers Park so that our family or friends can get their gymkhana "fix". It would be nice to have another option closer to home to consider.

This would be a completely separate club from RVHA with its own board of directors, own bylaws and of course its own group of volunteer moms and dads. What we are looking for at this time is feedback. Is this something the community would support? Are there enough gymkhana folks out there to make this worthwhile? If you have never tried it, would you like to?

Your RVHA Board would work with the new committee as necessary to get this concept up and running if there is enough interest.

Please contact Cortland Parks at cortland01@aol.com with your thoughts on this, or just give him a call at 480-250-2704.

# RANCH NEWS



*How to be a Cowboy*

Our own Rocco Wachman has just delivered a book to one of the Largest Publishing Houses in the world, Harper Collins about the "American Cowboy." The book, simply called "How To Be A Cowboy", is in the process of editing, layout and then printing. The manuscript will be available in the spring of 2010. It is the

culmination of almost twenty years of work and two years of writing but has been nothing short of a labor of love. To spread the word of a dying tradition and an very needed way of life has been Rocco`s passion for over a decade. Rumor has it that the publisher has already shown some interest in a second book although the subject matter is "Top Secret."

The RVHA wishes a speedy recovery to Bill Henry & Senna Wallage.

We're sad to announce the loss of RVHA member Lynn Reilly, sister of former Board member John Reilly... Our deepest symphony to the Reilly family for their loss.

BEL Peruvians is delighted by the births of two outstanding foals this spring. BEL Mojito, a colt, was born in mid-April and a filly, BEL Frangelica was born about a week later. Both foals have the distinctive Peruvian Paso gait from birth and excellent personalities. Owner and breeder, Liz Potof, graciously offers everyone the opportunity to visit these adorable foals and learn more about the Peruvian breed at BEL Peruvians, 31824 N 142nd St. Call 480-683-2017 to arrange a visit!



*BEL Mojito at four weeks old this Peruvian Paso colt displays his natural gait.*

In addition to her success in reining with Lotsa Bueno, Theresa Thraen also finds time to train and compete with her dogs in agility events. Several months ago

Theresa adopted Cookie from a Border collie rescue organization. Cookie is now an enthusiastic agility competitor at the beginning level and has also demonstrated good instincts in herding sheep. Theresa's Border collie, Joe, is again qualified in agility for the North American



*Cookie - Overachiever in Frisbee Training.*

Challenge, which is in October and just recently did some film work for PetSmart. Joe, who has an agent, was called a rock star by the director and was adored by the film crew. Joe may have a promising acting career developing!

Theresa is now on staff at Partners [wwwpartnersdogtraining.com] training agility dogs. Theresa teaches on Saturday mornings and offers an introductory agility class and a level one class. There are also fun runs and individual advanced classes available. Visit the Website for class schedules and more information.

Welcome Home" Lynn Scott. Enjoy your time here before you return to Afghanistan.





# FOUR PEAKS ANIMAL RESCUE CORNER

Please visit The Four Peaks Animal Rescue website at [www.fourpeaksanimalrescue.org](http://www.fourpeaksanimalrescue.org) to view photos and detailed descriptions of

all our available and deserving adoptees.

Four Peaks Animal Rescue is a no-kill organization. We have many dogs and cats abandoned in our desert. Rescue animals require medical attention for their rehabilitation to good health prior to adoption. We hope to continue our efforts to provide all the care and TLC necessary to give these displaced animals a place to stay before going to new permanent homes. Thank you for your support in our endeavors.

\*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

Home About FPAR Available Cats Available Dogs Available Other Pets Calendar of Events List an Animal Lost Your Pet? How You Can Help! Tips for New Residents Related Websites

**Four Peaks Animal Rescue**

"Placing People with Pets"

Call Us: 480-471-3520

Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00am - 5:00pm

E-Mail Us: (please include phone number) [Nancy@FourPeaksAnimalRescue.org](mailto:Nancy@FourPeaksAnimalRescue.org)

**Paws Around The Fountain**  
Pet Adopt-A-Thon & Family Fun Day

Free Admission  
Sunday • March 29th • 10am - 3pm

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
Four Peaks Animal Rescue is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, training and placement of animals in need of care in Maricopa County, Arizona.

The Squirm Foundation  
FPAR is a 501 C (3) Non-Profit Organization, founded under the SQUIRM Foundation.

**FOSTER**

[Pets911.com](http://Pets911.com)

Charles



Greystoke



Nellie



Phineus & Ferb



Coco



Iggy



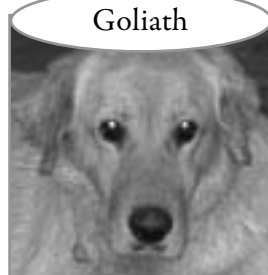
Chopin



Smooch



Goliath



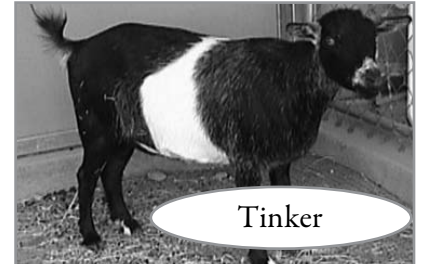
Great Dane & Lab mix puppies



Max



Tinker



**Four Peaks Animal Rescue**  
All donations are tax-deductible

**28150 N Alma School Pkwy**  
**Ste 103/470**  
**Scottsdale, AZ 85262**

**480-471-3520**  
**Fax: 480-471-2201**

**[www.fourpeaksanimalrescue.org](http://www.fourpeaksanimalrescue.org)**

# TRAIL TRIALS WRAP-UP FOR HORSES HELP

-by Star Thornton



Our Trail Trials event took place on March 21st at McDowell Mountain Park. We were excited to have 65 riders and horses ready to participate in Horses Help's Trail Trials 2009. This event was spearheaded by Star Thornton a longtime friend of Horses Help. The event served as a fundraiser for Horses Help's therapeutic riding programs that provide therapeutic and recreational riding for the special needs community. This year we were especially grateful to Farnam, who sponsored the event!

The weather was magnificent and the wildflowers were just beginning to bloom, crystallizing the vision of why we all live in Arizona this time of year. The course was 7 miles of sandy washes, decomposed granite and a hill with a view of Four Peaks, the McDowell Mountains and the amazing geyser of Fountain Hills in all its glory. A total of eight obstacles were designed to be fun and showcase the horse/rider relationship. The ride was not geared to any one riding discipline, there were Western, English and some that were a little of both.

Many breeds of horses were represented on this outing such as Arabian, Quarter Horses, Paint, Thoroughbred, Appaloosa, mules and various gaited horses. The top finishers all had one thing in common: a good trusting relationship with their horses. Each rider was judged independently and given information concerning their obstacle completion. The day was capped off by a catered meal by Burnt Biscuit, lots of raffle prizes and the exchange of ideas for future successes! This was such a wonderful event we can't wait until next year.

RVHA member Sue McGuire on Satchmo placed 5th in the Masters Novice Class, Di Troyk on Outlaw

placed 6th in this class and Mary Jo Flaherty riding Kit placed 8th.

In the Adult Novice class Bob Eckert riding Cowboy was 6th and his wife Krissee riding Ali came in 9th.

We wish to thank all of our participants and volunteers who made this a very special event!

A heads up, all of the future Trail Challenges will be sanctioned by the American Competitive Trail Horse Association (ACTHA). They have training videos for the judges and standardized criteria for judging each obstacle. These folks also keep track of your horse's points and earnings. Open division will offer \$525 in cash. Pleasure and Junior divisions will be awarded ribbons. There is also a non-judged Buddy class for people that want to go on a fun ride and help raise funds. This is a weekend event. As always we will have our raffle, plus a 50/50 raffle and a poker hand. The ACTHA season will start in June and go

to next June and will end with a Championship ride. The ride on June 27 will be to benefit Arizona Equine Rescue. If anyone needs further information or wants to sign up, contact me at 480-510-6713 or [BoxTstar@aol.com](mailto:BoxTstar@aol.com). The ACTHA schedule is as follows:

June 27, 2009 in Flagstaff.

November 21, 2009 in Apache Junction (pending).

December 5, 2009 at Bumble Bee Ranch.

March 20, 2010 at McDowell Mountain Park, over new trails.

June 2010 in Flagstaff -- Championship Ride. Top 50 points earners will be eligible to ride.

For more information about future Trail Trials, contact Star at: [boxTstar@aol.com](mailto:boxTstar@aol.com). Horses Help please visit our website at [www.horseshelp.org](http://www.horseshelp.org). We look forward to many more years of hosting this type of event and look forward to seeing everyone next year!

*The top finishers all had one thing in common: a good trusting relationship with their horses.*



# NEWS FROM LORILL EQUESTRIAN CENTER

*-by Lori Bridwell*

We finally had our little foal. After waiting over 11 months Echo was born. Lola (mom) was due April 15th, so we decided to have a baby pool. I, having had many foals, did my research and picked my date, put in my \$5 dollars. I was sure I would win; maiden mares are always early, so I picked an early date. My day came and went along with the next week and a half. Echo was born the 27th of April healthy and happy. Finally a boy horse. We have had fillies the past 9 years!

As a life comes into the world a life must leave. I had to put my dog of 14 years, Dually to sleep May 7th. Having the new foal helped. It also helps to have FIVE more dogs, two cats, a pig, chickens, ducks, cows and two chinchillas.

We have been so busy here. Two weeks ago we took 10 children to a gymkhana. All the kids did very well. Perla, our resident 9 year old, took runner-up high point in the novice division. Congrats to Perla.

Last weekend Elaine and I took some students to a western show. Elaine won Grand Champion in the Ranch Horse Class on Rocco's horse Smartie. I won the trail horse class on another one of Rocco's horses. Thanks Rocco! One of our students Hunter Popp has been selected to be rider of the month. So needless to say we are very proud of him. Ribbons were received by all who attended.

Next week we will take some students to an English show. We are all practicing hard. Some of the students will be jumping for the first time. We wish them luck! This week (May 10-16) we have a college coming in. Tilly is from England, Sonya is from Germany, and Paul is from Houston, Texas. What a great group. We are all still checking for our cow Jezelle to calf. No baby pool for her. But any day we should have another new baby. In a couple of weeks we will be gearing up for our summer camps for the kids. These are always a lot of fun. We still have some spaces for more students, so if you know any horse crazy kids or don't know what to do with yours for a week or so give us a call.



# DEVELOP A QUIET PRESENCE WITH YOUR HORSE

-by Leslie Nichols

Taken from Just Relax! Discover the Extraordinary Power of Relaxation by Leslie Nichols, due out this summer.

The leader of a herd of horses exudes a presence of quiet strength. An aggressive horse can win the position of herd leader, but only in the absence of a strong and silent leader. You can become the strong and silent leader in your "herd of two," but you must develop a Quiet Presence with Horses™ Relaxation in your approach, in your style, in your way of thinking, is the key to achieving this very powerful and beneficial quality.

It begins with a reality check. The leader of the herd is prepared to back up his position with a good kick or charge with bared teeth. The use of force, aggressiveness, might, and speed are out. They must be replaced with intelligence, knowledge, wit, creativity, persistence, and the use of tools to cause your horse to do what you want with little effort from you. Most importantly, the strong and silent leader exudes presence. Presence can be learned and it begins on the ground. When you are working with your horse or simply hanging around with your horse, do the following:

## Quiet Presence with Horses™

- Move as little as possible in comparison to your horse.
- Keep at least 5 feet between you and your horse, unless you invite him to come in closer.
- Learn to calm your breathing, and exhale slowly.
- If it's safe, turn your back on your horse, or at least turn your side to your horse.
- Scan the horizon to let your horse know that you are "watching his back."
- As you and your horse are investigating an object of concern, be sure to stop, look around, and turn your back to the object.
- Stop a lot and do nothing for at least 15 seconds.
- Seldom look directly at your horse's head or eyes, and when you do, make sure it's to get his attention.
- When you are working with your horse, stand up very

straight, put your shoulders back, hold your head up.

- When you are hanging out with your horse, slump your shoulders, cock your foot, exhale loudly, and exude a nonchalant attitude (you are mimicking your horse's cocked hind foot).

- Learn to respond very slowly to the sudden actions that your horse makes. Think slow... slow... slow...

- Do everything with your horse at half the speed that you are doing it now.



Slow and Deliberate. Slow and deliberate actions automatically exudes presence and authority. There are two keys to becoming slow and deliberate, the first one is... slow down your movements. The second is to break down your actions into many small steps and focus on each one.

What does this look like? Let's say that you need to pick up your horse's foot, do this:

Relaxation in your approach, in your style, in your way of thinking, is the key to achieving this very powerful and beneficial quality.

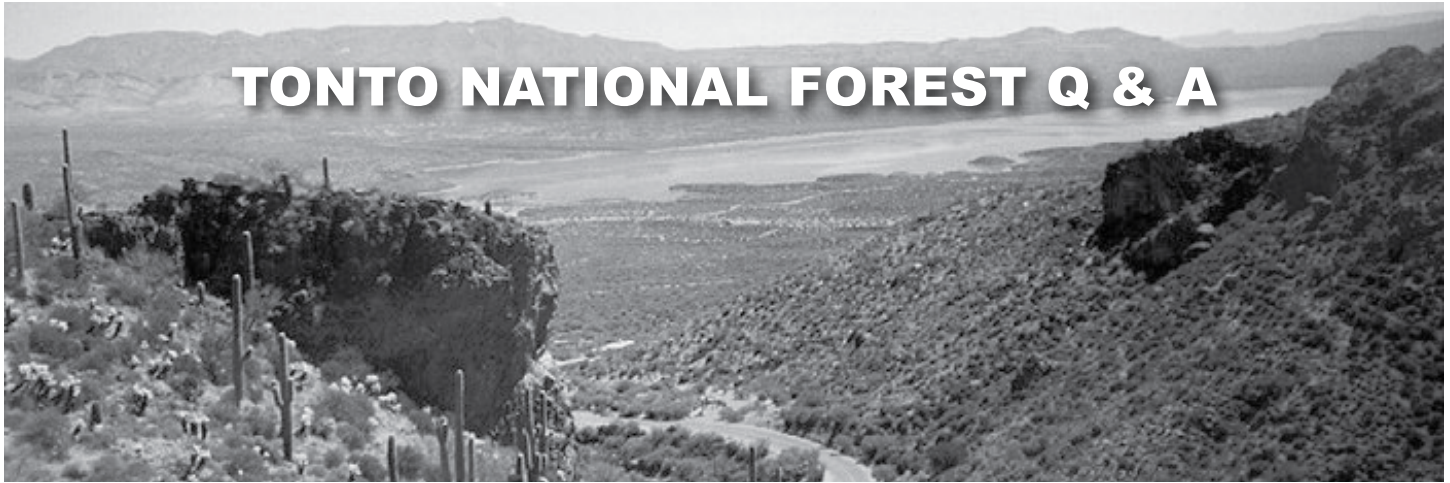
Look over at your horse's shoulder... take a few steps over to his shoulder... put your hand on his withers... pause and look around... stroke him down to his forearm...

bend over... stroke down his leg... squeeze his lower leg... wait for him to shift.... wait for him to lift his foot... reach down and pick up his foot.... hold it in your hand.... look at it... pull out your hoof pick.... begin to pick out his foot.....and on and on.

On a final note, understand that the quality of your time with your horse is always more important to your horse than what actually gets done.

To get on the list to purchase Just Relax! Discover the Extraordinary Power of Relaxation by Leslie Nichols, email [leslienicholshorsemanship@gmail.com](mailto:leslienicholshorsemanship@gmail.com)

# TONTO NATIONAL FOREST Q & A



We have had questions from our members regarding the Tonto National Forest. We'd like to thank Tammy Pike from the Cave Creek Ranger District for her insight on these issues.

RVHA: Do you need a pass or permit to ride your horse in the Tonto?

RANGER DISTRICT: The Tonto pass is only needed if you are utilizing the developed recreation sites such as Needle Rock/Box Bar to park your vehicles.

RVHA: Do you need a pass or permit to trailer down to the river to ride?

RANGER DISTRICT: See #1

RVHA: Do you need a pass or permit to ride a four wheeler or motorbike in the Tonto?

RANGER DISTRICT: See #1

RVHA: What are the age and vehicle requirements?

RANGER DISTRICT: The State handles who can ride/drive what vehicle, we do not.

RVHA: Can you ride on the blacktop down to Needle Rock?

RANGER DISTRICT: FR20 is a county road therefore State laws apply. Any vehicle riding on the road must be in compliance with State law which requires it be licensed and have a licensed driver. I would not recommend riding a horse down the blacktop.

RVHA: What are the fines and or penalty for cutting the fence?

RANGER DISTRICT: The citation can be written one of two ways both are damage to government property: 1) mandatory appearance and the fine would be the cost to

repair, or 2) cite and release with a \$250 fine plus value of the damage.

RVHA: Are you required to stay on designated trails?

RANGER DISTRICT: We currently are working on a motorized travel management plan and once completed motorized users will be required to stay on trails designated for motorized use. Now they are asked to stay on existing routes.

RVHA: Can you camp anywhere?

RANGER DISTRICT: Outside of our designated and/or developed areas you can, in general, camp anywhere.

RVHA: Are there any certain hours of operation?

RANGER DISTRICT: We do have developed day use only areas otherwise we do not.

RVHA: Can you hunt or discharge a firearm anywhere in the Tonto?

RANGER DISTRICT: You can hunt just about anywhere. We do have large portion of the southern part of the district closed to recreational/target shooting. See the website for the map.

RVHA: Why was the Tonto fenced?

RANGER DISTRICT: We have had continued problems with incursions on the southern boundary; we fenced it to avoid these problems.

Contact information:

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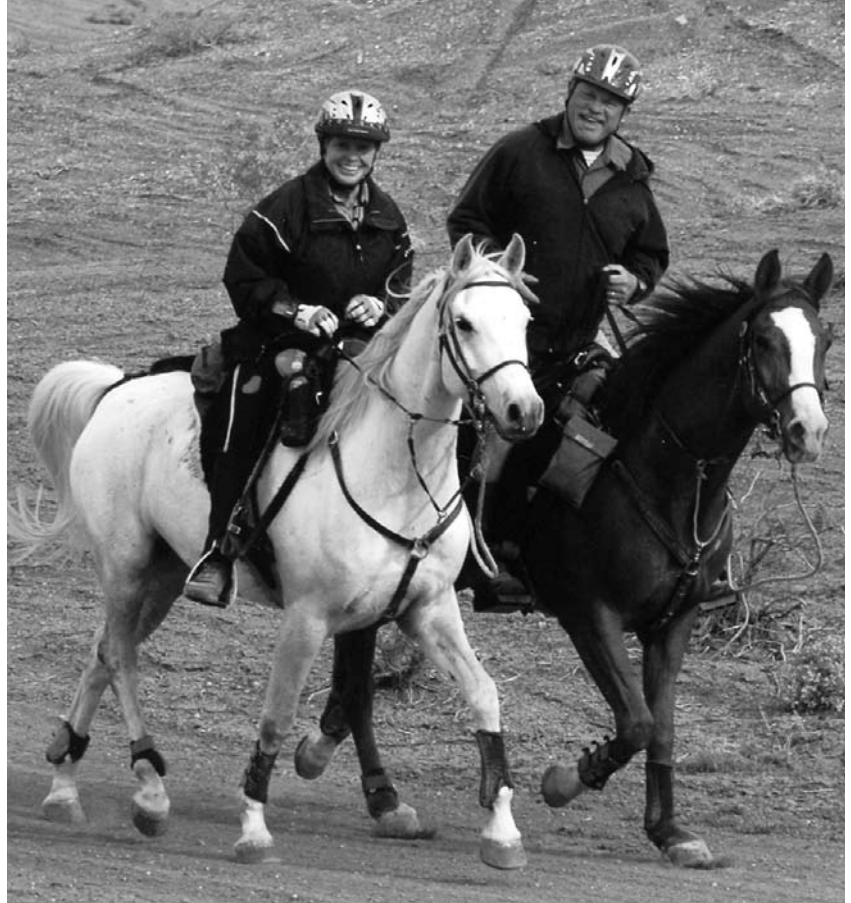
# AND THE WINNERS ARE...

-by Jenny Powers

Members of RVHA have been active in competition this spring. We begin with Liz Potof who rode her stallion Rayo de CZR (Grey Boy) to first place in the Performance Division at the Carousel Fun Show at WestWorld in March. Grey Boy also won first place in the Breeding Stallion Division and has sired two lovely foals this spring to prove he deserves this award! Grey Boy at 19 years old is still going strong but has semi-retired and is standing stud at BEL Peruvians. His extensive show career has taken him from Texas to California with awards ranging from Best Gaited Stallion at the Peruvian Paso National Show in Ft Worth, Texas to Champion Performance Stallion in Pomona, California just last year. Congratulations to Grey Boy on his success in the show ring and siring beautiful babies!

Theresa Thraen and her lovely mare, Lotsa Bueno, who Theresa bred and raised were the 2008 Year End Ladies Champions in the Desert Reining Horse Association. Theresa won a beautiful silver buckle for this award. Theresa and Lotsa also did well at the Cactus Classic winning the Circuit Champion Ladies Division. In the Limited Non-Pro they placed second out of 34 entries and just missed winning the saddle by one point! Lotsa and Theresa were also second place in the AQHA Select, which earned them the points needed to qualify for the AQHA World Show later this summer. Congratulations to Theresa and Lotsa Bueno on consistently great results!

Local endurance riders were enthusiastic about a new series of rides called Valley of the Sun that were held for the first time this year at McDowell Mountain Park. The series of three rides had increasingly good attendance and as ride management and volunteers settled into their roles the rides expanded amenities for the riders and added Limited Distance (25 miles) to the final ride in the series on February 28 ride. Congratulations to RVHA members and their Arabian horses in the 50 mile ride: Rick Poteste and Lad, Jenny Powers and Twister, Barb Debi and Mac, Clydea Hastie and Quimby, and Nancy Boomer and



*Jim on Frozen Assets and Clydea riding Rushcreek Quimby completed the first day of Color Country finishing top ten*

Hawk. RVHA member Joe Ingram rode Shadow and Zondra Poteste rode I Love Lucy to completion in the Limited Distance event.

Barb and Jim and Clydea Hastie traveled to Hurricane, Utah for the Color Country Ride in April. This ride provides unique weather experiences every year, from hot and dusty to cold, rainy and snowy. This year provided just a little rain and otherwise decent riding conditions. Barb and Mac completed two of the three days, 50 miles each day. Jim on Frozen Assets and Clydea riding Quimby completed the first day placing in the Top Ten. Congratulations!

Jim and Clydea returned to Utah on Mother's Day weekend for the Mt Carmel XP Ride. Jim completed the first two days riding My Prints. Clydea completed all three days on Zebra Splash and placed third overall for those riders completing all there day with one horse. Congratulations on this excellent accomplishment!