



SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Pony Tracks

 www.SHA4U.org

 [Facebook.com/SHAofArizona](https://www.facebook.com/SHAofArizona)

JUNE—JULY 2024

ISSUE 9 — VOLUME 43

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman

Darryl Cross
(602) 820-9583

Vice Chairman

Sheila Shattuck

Treasurer

Jeanne Kennedy

Secretary

Pam Gaston

Membership Chair

Barb Houck

Director-at-Large

Peggy Wilson

Roger Luth

Lisa Rogers



SHA4HORSES@gmail.com

BOARD MEETINGS:

First Wednesday of every month at 7PM
at "BREAKFAST AT TINA'S"
on N. Apache Trail
next to Hitching Post Saloon

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Political - Darryl Cross

Equine Welfare

Jeff Watson (480)-628-6454 or
Chip Wilson (602) 361-6135
walterchip@aol.com

Bylaws, Rules, and Conduct

Chip Wilson

SHA Store - Ann Adkins

Parade - Pam Gaston

AJ Rodeo Grounds - Jeff Watson

Road Cleanup - Roger Luth

Program Director - Sheila Shattuck

Editor - Lisa Rogers

SHAPonyTracks@yahoo.com

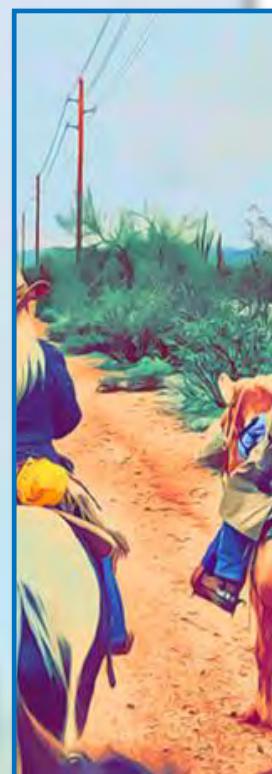
Power Lines: Horses and Riders

By Pam Gaston



I was recently speaking with a friend about riding my horse under powerlines for any extended length of time. She told me one of her friends who has a pacemaker was adversely affected when he rode under powerlines and also found that sometimes some horses were affected as well. This got me to thinking about walking or riding anything under powerlines and discovered some very amazing stories about the invisible magnetic fields that are created around powerlines and the electrical impulses that are emitted as a result.

As I read article after article and some blogs too, I discovered varying accounts of people being completely shocked and others who claim there was snapping and cracking of electricity as they rode or walked along or under powerlines. Some people experienced nothing and others had adverse effects. With this in mind, as an equestrian who rides a powerful, sensitive animal with steel or metal shoes, I will have to think about an alternate route around powerlines and the surrounding areas for my future riding enjoyment.





SHA Board Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2024

The SHA Board Meeting was held at Tina's on Wednesday, June 12th, 2024. The meeting started at 7:00 pm. Board Members of SHA who were present were: Darryl Cross, Pam Gaston, Jeanne Kennedy, Roger Luth, Lisa Rogers, Peggy Wilson and Barb Houck and Sheila Shattuck were online. Other SHA members were Bev Dougherty, Bob Diroff, Sharna and Jeff Watson, Tom Tuft and Chip Wilson, Director of the Political Committee.

- **SECRETARY** – The Secretary's minutes from May were approved. Pam Gaston made a motion for them to be accepted and Roger Luth seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- **TREASURER** – The checking account has \$11,834.04. The Equine Welfare has \$1773.19. Deposits for the month were \$48. Withdrawals were \$2901.25 that consisted of \$97.30 for the cookout, \$29.24 for stamps. Checks were given to Darryl Cross for the Cookout that was \$566.57, the Safe Ride program for blinky lights were \$846.41 and for the Pony Express was \$1279.90 and a zelle to Lisa Rogers for the Pony Tracks for \$81.83.

- **MEMBERSHIP** – Barb Houck reported there are ninety-two memberships which includes 127 individual members.
- **POLITICAL** – Nothing for Political.
- **EQUINE WELFARE** – The City has had some complaints about a horse in poor condition and they notified the Police Department. The Police Department contacted the Department of Agriculture. They saw the horse and declined to do anything about it.

On another case, there were pictures taken by a drone of a complaint about a horse in poor condition and the Police Department cannot use those pictures because they are not legal. There was also a complaint about 6 horses, a steer and dogs. The neighbors said the animals had not been fed in 3 days. The Department of Agriculture was called, and they had the City of AJ call the Pinal County who refused to do anything regarding the horses. They were asked to do a welfare check on a person and they did. They did this on Monday. On Sunday, there was a young man feeding the horses, but neighbors claimed they had not been fed in five days. The Department of Agriculture came out and they deemed the horses were not being fed so notified the owner who is currently residing in Prescott. Currently, they are all being fed including the dogs.

- **PARADE** – Nothing for parade.
- **STORE DIRECTOR** - Nothing for Store Director.

- **AJ RODEO GROUNDS** - Nothing for AJ Rodeo Grounds.
- **PROGRAM DIRECTOR** – The Forest Service is currently working on Cottonwood Springs, and they are about halfway through the project. Sheila Shattuck is willing to set up a campout or a Trail Ride if there is any interest. Also, Sheila Shattuck talked about a watch party for the TV Show, Best by America.
- **HISTORIAN** - We are looking for a Historian. Do you like to Scrap Book? This is the job for YOU!!

OLD BUSINESS

- **PONY TRACKS** - Roger Luth stated we need 250 copies for the Pony Tracks. There will be no July issue.
- **PONY EXPRESS** - That date for the Pony Express Meeting is June 12th at 6 pm. The next Pony Express in 2025 will be on March 1st, 2025. We are going to purchase a 10x10, yellow pop-up tent in yellow. We are also going to get an ad in the newspaper thanking our sponsors and in the Pony Tracks. We also discussed expanding the route...one would be around Road Haven or coming from Queen Valley. Discussion ensued. Sheila Shattuck mentioned a supposedly historic trail behind the museum that also might be incorporated into the Pony Express. Discussion ensued. Barb Houck mentioned Betty and Jim Swanson who might have some idea about that trail.

The next meeting will be on August 7th, at 6 pm.

...Continued on Page 3

Board Meeting Notes

Continued from Page 2...

- **WEBSITE** - There is an assignment for SHA members to look at other horse organizations other than ours that might give us some ideas how to make it "pop" and be more interesting to others. Darryl Cross is going to enter Kara Kennedy as an administrator for our Face Book Page for pictures and ideas.
- **BEHIND THE GOLDFIELD GHOST TOWN** - Do not ride behind the Goldfield Ghost Town on BLM land as you will receive a ticket. This includes both sides of Hackamore and both sides of Route 88.

NEW BUSINESS

- **BOARD MEETING** - There will be no SHA Board Meeting for July. The next meeting will be on August 7th, at 7 pm.
- **DONATIONS** - We donated \$275 to Horizon Gardens and our logo will be on the back of their shirts.
- **SCHOLARSHIP** - We are still considering using excess funds for a scholarship for a AJ Senior who would be continuing in the agriculture area toward veterinary or agricultural area. Pam Gaston made a motion that for next year we develop an amount for an annual scholarship that is for continuing education for an AJ Senior for the 2025 year toward a Junior College or University for agricultural or veterinary interests. Roger Luth seconded it. All were in favor. Jeff Watson mentioned taking the \$400 that was set up for the Christmas Party and take that money as a donation. Discussion ensued.

- **HORSE BINGO** - Jeanne Kennedy mentioned having horse bingo as a donation or membership drive ride. Discussion ensued. Where's Waldo Ride is another idea that Sharna Watson mentioned, and the riders would have to have the correct number of sightings. Discussion ensued.

Pam Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Roger Luth seconded it. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.



We need an SHA Historian to keep our history alive through pictures and write-ups. You will notice on the front page that we have removed the Historian label because no one has stepped up to do this job.

If you like to scrap book or keep memorabilia, this is the job for you.

If you are interested, please notify Pam Gaston, Secretary.
We need a Historian desperately!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

June/July 2024

Submitted By: Barb Houck

Our membership count remains stable, with a slight increase over last year at this same time.

Our numbers include...

93 memberships with a total of 129 individual members.

And we would like to introduce recent "new" members:

- ♦ **Scott and Karen Brown**



We are always open to new members. *Thank you all for your support of our Superstition Horsemen's Association.*

SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Membership Renewal

**Please join
or renew today!**

SHA Membership Year
OCT 1, 2023— SEPT 30, 2024

**SINGLE membership
only \$20.00**

**FAMILY membership
only \$30.00**



SHA Pony Express 2025

SHA Pony Express committee members met both in person and via Zoom for the 2025 Pony Express. We tossed around numerous ideas of what we can do to build on this for next years ride.

Everyone is in agreement that we need to build on our promotion efforts. **We really did a great job last year and with that continued effort and an earlier start date of our promotions, we will surely have an even greater impact in 2025.** Some of our ideas are to expand our promotion to more retirement parks. The ones that we demonstrated running handoffs and picture ops at were very well received. By getting on the schedule with the events coordinators at these mobile home parks we can reserve a spot to be one of their spring events. Our winter visitors appreciate being a part of our community. Another idea is to expand the route to include more riders and more of our city. Lost Dutchman RV Park was thrilled to have us pick up the post cards the day of the ride. I can only imagine how many post cards we could sell and pick-up if the Road Haven mobile home park was to be added as a pick-up point. We are still having residents reaching out to us and telling us that they missed us. They didn't know about it until pictures and live feeds on Facebook were occurring. Hopefully this year we can get ahead of that and make sure everyone knows. I know that the city is liking what we are doing and are getting involved with it. Another idea that is brewing and hopefully will come to fruition someday will be starting our Pony Express in our sister city of Superior, AZ.

Here is a big question that the committee is mauling around. What do we do with our proceeds. Well, obviously we will use some proceeds to help with our operational needs for the SHA organization. We will also make donations to the Hitching Post Saloon for their charity "Cowboys for Kids." Mo and Tina have used this charity to funnel monies to our local kids need like sponsoring football leagues to sponsoring young riders with their rodeo dreams just to name a couple. As a committee, we have thought about maybe creating a Highschool Scholarship fund to help a graduate attend higher education in agriculture or animal husbandry.

This Pony Express thing is really beginning to take off. Not only does it help preserve the western way of life in Apache Junction, it brings awareness to our city that we are a horse community and we are here to STAY! We have lots of plans and ideas. **We need both boots on the ground and boots in the saddle to keep making this happen. If you would like to be apart of this exciting annual event, reach out to me and let me know.**

Our next meeting for the 2025 Pony Express will be August 7th at 6 pm. Please watch for an email with a Zoom link or join us in person at Breakfast at Tina's at 6 pm.

Happy trails and stay safe everyone,

Darryl Cross: SHA Chairman/Pony Express Trail Boss



**4th Annual
SHA Pony Express
SATURDAY
March 1st, 2025**

Superstition

**Horsemen's
Association**



*** Follow us on Facebook
for events and photos**

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Superstition Horsemen's Association

**Visit our website
<https://sha4u.org>**

THANK YOU to all of our SPONSORS for the 2024 PONY EXPRESS

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SPECIALISTS (GILBERT)
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480-428-3199

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480 MARINE
480-266-4818

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SHA Nostalgia

By Barb Houck

Another blast from the past...

SHA TRAIL RIDE NEWS - May 2010

On Saturday, April 17, we rode the Arizona Trail north of Picketpost Mountain. We often pick this trail for our April ride because it usually comes through with a great wildflower display. We followed a three-part route. The first part includes most of the flower display and runs along a rolling ridgeline with views for miles in all directions. Next, we drop into Whitford Canyon where a running stream offers refreshment for thirsty horses. The trail crosses the stream several times and passes through stunning red cliffs and woodsy mesquite groves. We tied up in the trees along the creek and enjoyed a shady lunch break. Afterwards we left the AZ Trail as we came out onto the forest service road and followed it back to a right turn which took us to our final stretch.....a long sandy wash which led us almost all the way back to our trailers.

SHA is the trail steward for this section of the AZ Trail, and Russ Wright is the coordinator. Russ and his crew have done a great job of trail maintenance each year, not only trimming overgrown trees, bushes and cactus, but repairing creek crossings and trail footing, especially after flooding rearranges the trail and the trail markers.

Our SHA trail rides are over with for this season. Now comes planning for next season's rides. Can you help? We will have a planning meeting the same night as the board meeting on June 2, and at the same place.....the Boys and Girls Club on Idaho and Tepee, just past the Library. The meeting will begin at 7:00. We're looking for ideas on trails to ride, what kind of rides do we want to have, how often, who can lead them, etc. All input is welcome. Please let me know if you can attend this meeting. I will be coming down from Pine, but not if there is no interest. Call or email Barb Houck.

Membership Corner



Re: September elections for SHA Board members

I've finally arrived at the decision that it's time to step down from Membership Chairman. After 25+ years I think it's time to share this board position. The system is already set up. A membership list is kept on a computer file. Applications and renewals are processed and recorded as they come in. Each new member or renewal then receives a membership card. The process is set up and ready to take over. Election of board members is always held the last Saturday in September, and candidates will submit a paragraph about themselves in the August or September Pony Tracks issue.

I hope to see that one, or some, of you will consider running for this important and necessary Board position. Contact me at **bghouck@live.com** if you want more information on what this position involves.

Barb Houck
Current Membership Chairman

*Submit your accomplishments or stories about you to SHAponytracks@yahoo.com



We would like your ideas for our SHA website updates and changes.

We are looking into improving our SHA website; easy to use and eye-catching! Please share other horse websites that you like, and specifically 'what' you like about them.

Submit your suggestions and ideas to Darryl Cross, SHA Board of Directors Chairman. *Thank you!*

Calendar

of Events




AZCowgirls4Christ.com - 1Cor:13

COWBOY CHURCH - Every Sunday @ 10 AM
 Services are held at the Superstition Mountain Museum
 See Arizona Cowgirls for Christ
 website and Facebook for schedule
 Website: AZCowgirls4Christ.com
 Facebook: [click on this link](#)

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 ✉ info@alpineanimalchiropractic.com
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Important Dates to Remember



- **August 7, 2024** - Pony Express Meeting, 6PM at Tina's and via Zoom
- **August 7, 2024** - Board Meeting, 7PM at Tina's and via Zoom
- **October 1, 2024** - New membership year begins
- **March 1, 2025** - SHA 4th Annual Pony Express
- **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: AUG 7, SEP 4 & OCT 2.** The Board meets promptly at 7pm. Anyone is welcomed to attend either in person or online via ZOOM and hear what they are working on and planning for the yearly events. You may volunteer to assist with upcoming events or be part of a planning committee! In person meetings are being held at Breakfast at Tina's next to the Hitching Post Saloon in Apache Junction.

NOTE: ALL BOARD MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE BY ZOOM & IN PERSON. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN PRIOR TO THE MEETING IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONNECTED IN THE ZOOM BOARD MEETINGS EACH MONTH TO LISTEN IN TO THE BOARDS DISCUSSION OF OLD AND NEW BUSINESS. IF YOU DO CONNECT, PLEASE MUTE YOUR MIC.

Superstition Horsemen's Association, Inc.

P O Box 2120

Apache Junction, Arizona 85117

www.sha4u.org



Use your smart phone camera
and scan this QR Code to take
you directly to SHA website!