



SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Pony Tracks

www.SHA4U.org

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FEBRUARY 2025

ISSUE 5 — VOLUME 44

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Darryl Cross
(602) 820-9583

Vice Chairman

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Jeanne Kennedy

Secretary

Pam Gaston

Membership Chair

Jan Kramer

Director-at-Large

Peggy Wilson

Lisa Rogers

Judy Hood



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 - Liz Eason

AJ Rodeo Grounds - Jeff Watson

Road Cleanup - Roger Luth

Program Director - Sheila Shattuck

Editor - Lisa Rogers

SHAPonyTracks@yahoo.com

4th Annual - SHA Pony Express

Saturday, March 1st, 2025

By Darryl Cross

Superstition Horsemen's Association, in conjunction with the Hitching Post Saloon proudly presents the 4th Annual Pony Express here in Apache Junction on Saturday, March 1st 2025.

Come on out and watch the riders carry the mail as a reenactment of the original Pony Express. Riders will carry post cards that can be purchased at the Hitching Post Saloon, Paula's Crazy Horse Saddle Shop, the Superstition Mountain Museum, and at Lost Dutchman Days. Post cards are \$5 each. You provide the address and a short note to your loved one. We will provide the postage to anywhere in the world. Then, your post-card will be carried throughout AJ by horseback and delivered to the Post Master at the Hitching Post Saloon. From there, it gets delivered to the address on the card by normal methods.

The Map is the route the riders will take with the first leg starting at City Hall at 10 am, and the last leg ending at the Hitching Post Saloon.



Scan this QR code or visit our web site: sha4u.org to see more details including Route Map and exact locations for Hand-offs and approximate times.

Proceeds from the sale of these cards will benefit SHA and its Equine Welfare program, Cowboys for Kids (501c3) and other local charities.

Come on out and cheer on the riders as they ride throughout AJ helping to keep the spirit of the West alive and Strong in Apache Junction!

**BUY A POSTCARD
to be CARRIED BY
HORSE AND RIDER**

Only \$5 each

* Price includes postage and will be mailed anywhere in the world





SHA Board Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2025

The SHA Board Meeting was held at Tina's on Wednesday, February 5th, 2025.

The meeting started at 7:14 pm. Board Members of SHA who were present were: Pam Gaston, Jeanne Kennedy, Judy Hood, Lisa Rogers, Peggy Wilson, Sheila Shattuck, Jan Kramer, and Darryl Cross. Other SHA members were Chip Wilson, Bob Diroff, Jeff Watson, Sharna Watson, Ann Adkins, Ed Kramer, Barb Houck, and Roger Luth.

- **SECRETARY** – The Secretary's minutes from December 30th were approved. Pam Gaston made a motion for the minutes to be accepted, and Peggy seconded it. All were in favor.
- **TREASURER** – The checking account has \$7620.89. The Equine Welfare Account has \$3207.77. This includes \$2500 and the \$800 check plus \$200 in cash. There was \$1895.42 to pay for the Equine Welfare Account that came out of checking. Money coming in was \$1000 including the \$200 cash, a gentlemen donated for Jeff's breakfast and that was \$20, \$30 for membership, \$155 for Silent Auction from Pam Gaston. At the Festival, we had \$480 and \$987 to Equine Welfare which totaled \$4,557.42. Money going out was \$32.12 for Stamps, Pony Tracks

being printed was \$200.64, registration for our name was \$60.80 and for five years for domain name was \$39, SHA insurance was \$1279.68, Project Help we gave \$529, \$3300 to equine welfare plus \$30 equals \$5471.24. Total for Silent Auction was \$1448.00.

- **MEMBERSHIP** – Jan Kramer reported there were Thirty-nine individuals and Thirty-Seven families plus five honorary memberships. This equals one hundred and twenty members in SHA this season.
- **POLITICAL** – Pinal County new regulations for the county is ON HOLD. Everything has ceased and has stopped for now. There is no date for a reassessment at this time. Discussion ensued about affordable housing and parking and how the state is taking away the City's ability to zone and take care of their own lands. What the City has voted on for the use of their land is null and void because of State mandates. Water usage and conservation was also discussed for communities.
- **EQUINE WELFARE** – The mares must find a place to go from the trainer by this coming Saturday. Sheila Shattuck made a motion to reimburse Pam Gaston 1620.00 for the training for the horses. Lisa Rogers seconded the motion all were in favor. It was agreed there would be an adoption fee of \$50 for each horse. A donation would be to a 501C3 or rescue only.
- **PARADE** – Liz Eason volunteered to lead the parade unit. There will be practice on February 11th at 11 am

in the back lot of True Value with lunch at The Rusty Buckle and then another practice at 11 pm on Feb. 17th. Everyone who wants to ride is welcome, including the Pony Express Riders.

- **STORE DIRECTOR** - Nothing to report.
- **AJ RODEO GROUNDS** - Liz Langenbach spoke to the at our membership meeting about what is coming at the AJ Rodeo Grounds.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR – Jeff Serdy will be the guest speaker at the next membership meeting on February 19th at the Multi-gen center. Jeff Watson suggested a ride out of Prospector Park on April 5th or the 12th. Discussion ensued regarding a definite date.

- **PONY EXPRESS** - Darryl Cross spoke to the group the Pony Express is coming along well. Running handoffs have been scheduled. There was a nice ad in the newspaper, The Independent. We are looking forward to a Radio Spot coming up soon.

OLD BUSINESS

- **PONY TRACKS** - Lisa Rogers stated we need 300 copies for the Pony Tracks.

NEW BUSINESS

- **TRAILER INSURANCE** - Roger Luth stated he has paid the insurance on the trailer until June. *Thank you, Roger.*

...Continued on Page 3

Board Meeting Notes

Continued from Page 2...

- **TONTO FOREST** - Kent and Charlene Krone sent SHA a letter regarding an ATV path in horse/hiking/biking trails that could be stopped because no motorized vehicles are allowed. Discussion ensued regarding what we can do and how we can help the lack of enforcement and prevention. As most of you know, Cottonwood Springs has been vandalized.
- **ROAD CLEAN UP** – There will be a road cleanup on March 8th. Roger Luth is the lead for this event.

Pam Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ann Adkins seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

WANTED

SHA HISTORIAN

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

February 2025

Submitted By: Jan Kramer
Membership Chair

Our current SHA roster includes 39 Single memberships, 37 Family memberships, and 5 Honoraries.

The Superstition Horsemen's Association values your membership. Please help spread the word about our organization.



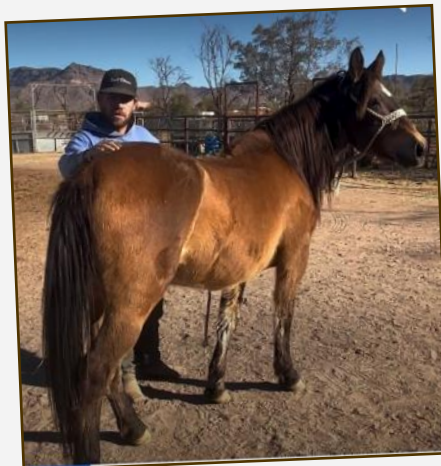
- ♦ **Dan, Mary & Leia McKinnis**
- ♦ **Byron & Sara Light**

As always, feel free to contact me with any membership questions or concerns. My email address is imareadertika@icloud.com.

Mustang Update

By Sheila Shattuck

The Mustangs that were surrendered in October are back from the trainer and have found foster homes that are possible forever homes. The mares have been getting training in ground manners and loading. They have gained weight, been vet checked, and seen the dentist and farrier. The gelding was adopted in December. They are on the road to happily ever after!



SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Membership

**Please join
or renew today!**

SHA Membership Year
OCT 1, 2024— SEPT 30, 2025

SINGLE membership
only \$20.00

FAMILY membership
only \$30.00



FIRST MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF SHA ON JANUARY 15TH, 2025

By Pam Gaston



Sheila Shattuck welcomed everyone and then led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. There were 30 people in attendance. Sheila then introduced Liz Langenbach, the Director of the Parks and Recreation of Apache Junction. Liz then introduced Dave Butler who is the Parks Superintendent.

Liz Langenbach spoke about the Multi use system of trails that are on the outskirts

of the city boundaries. This starts with Sheep Drag Trail and then follows the powerlines.

It also goes from the North side of town all the way to Silly Mountain and then all the way to Gold Canyon. These are wildcat trails used for hiking, horseback riding and bicycling. In portions of this land there is some state land which is east of

Goldfield, but it is also zoned as horse property. High density building is going on to the south of Apache Junction but probably not in the north because of this zoning making it less desirable to builders. State land does require a permit that costs little and can be renewed yearly. She also stated the straight roads behind the Prospector Park are being used for Parks and Recreation events and if you are curious as to where you are, look at the fence, the city uses straight wire. She also stated the BLM will build a trailhead during the closure and it will take 3 to 5 years to get it done. Currently, it is taking 2 years according to the BLM closure. The east side of SR88 to the west is legal and there are approximately 140 horse crossovers in this area. If you see a problem, please notify the AJ City Parks and Recreation. Liz introduced Dave Butler, the Parks Superintendent.

Liz told the group that the Rodeo Grounds has been

operating for 40 years and the city has been maintaining those 20 acres. Originally, there was a BLM lease but it did not allow for commercial activities – no profit allowed – so the City of Apache Junction purchased the 20 acres for 1.4 million and began a Master Plan. It is designed in 3 phases.

Dave Butler explained the phases:

Phase 1 – infrastructure such as water, electricity, connectivity, a catchment for the washes, fencing, shade structure, covered stalls. This will be done by June 30, 2025. This will cost 4.5 million.

Phase 2 – More shade, more seating up to 4,000, more fencing and covering of live-stock pens. This will be 9 million.

Phase 3 – Event stage, additional RV hookups, 280 event areas with electricity. This will be 9 million. There is a total of 23 million for the Master Plan but that also depends on funding. The City of Apache Junction wants to make the best out of their money and are very frugal. Jeff Watson spoke about solar panels and Liz stated that because of aesthetics it would be for perhaps maintenance buildings, etc.

Darryl Cross spoke about the upcoming Pony Express on March 1st and all that it entails including some of the stops and the grand start from City Hall.

Liz Eason spoke about the upcoming parade and is now the lead for the Dutchman Days Parade. The first practice is behind True Value on February 16th at 1 pm. If you are interested in being in the parade, please contact Liz Eason. A signup sheet was given to everyone in the room.



...Continued on Page 5

FIRST MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF SHA

Continued from Page 4...

Sheila Shattuck spoke about the mustangs in our care. Sharna and Jeff Watson have adopted the gelding and named him Dude. His edema in his legs and his poor condition is getting much better. The two mustang mares are in training with Houston Davis. The community has jumped up to help with Peter Heck from the AJ Mounted Rangers giving us \$2,500 and Paws for Life giving us \$1,000. Sheila also spoke about the possibility of these mares going to help Veterans. The mares have been vetted, shod, and had dentistry work done. They are in their late to mid-teens. They are looking for homes that are willing to foster or adopt.

Pam Gaston made an announcement regarding the parade signup, the SHA Booth Signup for the EVBCH Fun Festival and the Silent Auction and passed around those signup sheets.

Pam Gaston had a drawing for the 50/50 which amounted to \$60 and Ed Kramer won half and walked away with \$30. The remainder was given to Jeanne Kennedy.

Pam Gaston had some tickets drawn for raffle items. Lucky winners were Lily Chamberlain, Sylvia Drummond, Russ Eason, Liz Eason, Vinnie Mendes, and Kathy Boron. Items that were won were scarves, knives, money, a gun ticket, and a t-shirt.

There was nothing for the good of the order.

We had great cookies and water. The cookies were brought by Pam Gaston and Bob Diroff brought the water. We had a great meeting.

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Thank You!

SHA BOOTH & SHA SILENT AUCTION *at the EVBCH FUN FESTIVAL*

By Pam Gaston

Thank you to all of you for your participation in the EVBCH Fun Festival in January. We had 63 items and sold all but seven things. **We earned \$1448.00.**



THANK YOU to Vinnie Mendes, Bob Diroff and Roger Luth for bringing the trailer and setting up and tearing down. You are the BEST!! We could not have done it without you!

THANK YOU to everyone who worked shifts at the SHA BOOTH, the PONY EXPRESS BOOTH, and the SILENT AUCTION. Your help was invaluable and so very much appreciated. **Thank you for your time and expertise, Sally Poklen and Teri Neeley** for your help setting up the Silent Auction. You made it happen!!

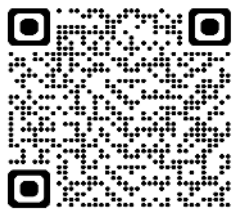
THANK YOU to all of you who visited the BOOTHS or the SILENT AUCTION, your participation was appreciated and THANK YOU to all of you who donated so many nice things!! We could not have done it without you!

AT THE END, we were scurrying around like mad. **THANK YOU, JAN AND ED KRAMER,** for your help breaking down and counting money. **THANK YOU, TERI NEELEY, KATHLEEN CHAMBERLAIN and LISA ROGERS** for starting to clear items and call people for their bids and **THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU who were patient with the process and walked away with a nice item or items!**

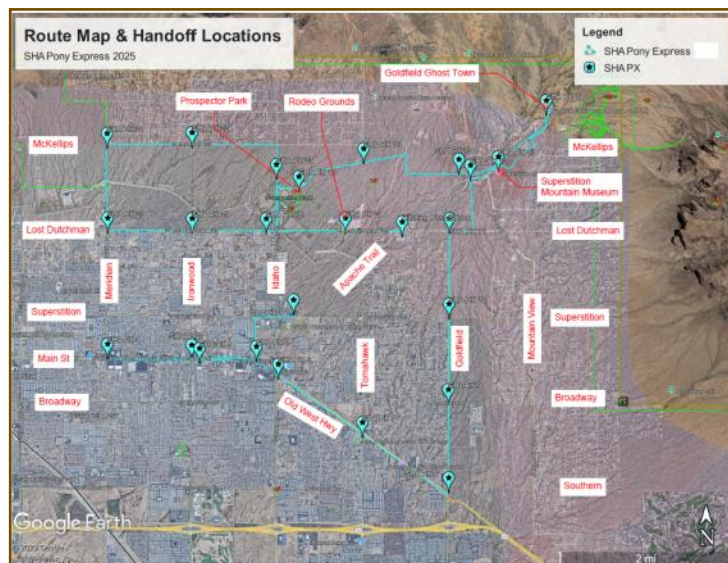
IT TAKES A VILLAGE! **THANK YOU * THANK YOU * THANK YOU!!** You are the BEST!

Superstition Horsemen's Association

4th Annual - SHA Pony Express Saturday, March 1st, 2025



← Please scan this QR code
or visit our web site: sha4u.org
to see more details including
Route Map and exact locations for
Hand-offs with approximate times.



START TIME IS 10:00 AM, on March 1st, 2025

- Leg 1:** City Hall W. on Superstition to N. Plaza Dr. S to shopping center and through the parking lot to the Marquee at the NW corner of W Apache Trail and N Apache Trail. 10:10 am
- Leg 2:** From Marquee W. on Apache Trail to Ironwood Dr. Crazy Horse Tack and Stuff. 10:20 am
- Leg 3:** From Ironwood Dr. W. on Apache Trail to Meridian Rd. with handoff at Office Maxx parking lot. 10:30 am
- Leg 4:** From Office Maxx make a U-Turn around median at light on W. Apache Trail and Meridian Rd. E on W. Apache Trail to Shoppers Supply parking lot. 10:40 am
- Leg 5:** From Shoppers Supply E on W Apache Trail to Idaho Rd. in front of QT. 10:50 am
- Leg 6:** From Idaho and W. Apache Trail continue SE on Old West Highway to Tomahawk Rd. 11:00 am
- Leg 7:** From Tomahawk Rd. SE on Old West Highway to Goldfield and E. Southern Ave. 11:10 am
- Leg 8:** From E. Southern Ave go N on Goldfield Rd. to Broadway Rd. 11:20 am
- Leg 9:** From Broadway Rd. N on Goldfield Rd. to Superstition Blvd. 11:30 am
- Leg 10:** From Superstition Blvd N on Goldfield Rd to Lost Dutchman Blvd. E on Lost Dutchman to end of pavement. 11:40 am
- Leg 11:** From end of pavement E. on Lost Dutchman to Powerlines. N under Powerlines to Highway 88 11:50 pm
- Leg 12:** Cross Highway 88 and enter Weekes Wash. Travel upstream in Weekes Wash to the Trail that takes you East up over to Food Truck Picnic Area. Cross Highway 88 and Loop the entire Superstition Mountain Museum from the South side to the East side then west along the North side fence. (You will be on the inside of the fence) You will do a running Hand-off over by the Chapel. 12:00 pm
- Leg 13:** From Museum, cross Highway 88 and go back through Food Truck Court and over to Weekes Wash. Travel upstream and over to the Goldfield Ghost Town. Perform running Hand-off along "Mainstreet" traveling N up the hill towards the Chapel. 12:10 pm
- Leg 14:** From Hand-off travel N towards the Chapel and leave the Ghost Town on the N. side. Head Westerly across desert to SRP Substation. on Hackamore Rd. 12:20 pm
- Leg 15:** From SRP Substation and Hackamore Rd. SW parallel with powerlines along main trail over to Cortez Rd. Alignment. 12:30 pm
- Leg 16:** From Powerline Trail and Cortez Rd. Alignment, SW over to Prospector Park. Through Horse Parking and Staging area out to paved N. driveway area for running Hand-off. 12:40 pm
- Leg 17:** From Hand-off travel W to Idaho Rd. Go S. on Idaho Rd. To Lost Dutchman. Turn W On Lost Dutchman and Hand-off to Leg 18 near bottom of hill. 12:50 pm
- Leg 18:** From Lost Dutchman and Idaho go W. on Lost Dutchman to Ironwood Dr. Cross Ironwood Dr. and Hand-off to Leg 19. 1:00 pm
- Leg 19:** From Lost Dutchman and Ironwood continue W to Meridian Rd. N. on Meridian to P&M Arena for Running Hand-off. 1:10 pm
- Leg 20:** From P&M Continue N on Meridian Rd. to McKellips Rd. Turn E on McKellips and Hand-off to Leg 21. 1:20 pm
- Leg 21:** From McKellips and Meridian travel E on McKellips to Ironwood Rd. Cross Ironwood and Hand-off to Leg 22. 1:30 pm
- Leg 22:** From McKellips and Ironwood Continue E to Idaho Rd. Turn S and travel S. on Idaho to Overhead Powerlines. 1:40 pm
- Leg 23:** From Idaho Rd. N of Prospector Park at Powerlines travel S. on Idaho to Lost Dutchman. E. on Lost Dutchman to W entrance gate of Rodeo Grounds. 1:50 pm
- Leg 24. ALL RIDERS** as one large group, Continue E. on Lost Dutchman Rd. to Highway 88. Cross Highway 88 and turn S. into the back parking lot of the Hitching Post Saloon. All riders will stop at Main backdoor entrance to the Hitching Post and wait for the final Hand-off of the mail to the Post Master. 2:30 pm

Calendar

of Events



SHA Membership Meeting WED, February 19th at 7PM

By Sheila Shattuck

Please join Superstition Horsemen's Association Wednesday, February 19th, 2025 at 7 pm, for our membership meeting at the Multi-Gen Center. Our guest speaker is SHA member, Pinal County supervisor Jeff Serdy.



Pony Express **DEMONSTRATION**

Come on out and watch Superstition Horsemen's Association Pony Express demonstrations prior to the 4th Annual running on March 1, 2025.

- ◆ **February 15** at high noon at the Goldfield Ghostown
- ◆ **February 21, 10:30 am** Lost Dutchman RV Park
- ◆ **February 21, 22, 23** opening Lost Dutchman Days rodeo
- ◆ **February 26, 10:00 am** LaHacienda RV park

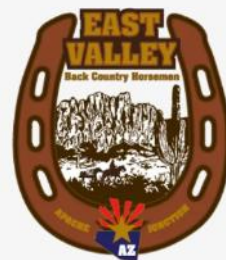
March 1, 2025— 4th Annual running of the SHA Pony Express



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](#)

EAST VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

To learn more about EVBCH visit our website at EVBCH.org



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Important Dates to Remember



- **February 15, 21, 22, 23 & 26, 2025** - SHA Pony Express Demonstrations. See Page 7 for details
- **February 19, 2025** - Membership meeting at Mulitgen Center, 7PM, in Apache Junction
- **February 21-23, 2025** - Lost Dutchman Days. Parade, running handoff at rodeo, SHA & Pony Express booth
- **February 22, 2025** - Lost Dutchman Days Parade, 9AM, SHA riders and Pony Express riders. Lead: Liz Eason
- **March 1, 2025** - SHA 4th Annual Pony Express, sponsored by Hitching Post Saloon. Lead: Darryl Cross
- **March 8, 2025** - Road Cleanup. Lead: Roger Luth
- **March 19, 2025** - Membership meeting at Mulitgen Center, 7PM, in Apache Junction
- **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: MAR 5, APR 2 & MAY 7.** 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!