



# SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

## Pony Tracks

www.SHA4U.org

Facebook.com/SHAofArizona

APRIL 2026

ISSUE 7 — VOLUME 45

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Chairman

Darryl Cross  
(602) 820-9583

#### Vice Chairman

Sheila Shattuck

#### Treasurer

Jeanne Kennedy

#### Secretary

Pam Gaston

#### Membership Chair

Jan Kramer

#### Director-at-Large

Peggy Wilson

Lisa Rogers

Judy Hood

Roger Luth

 [SHA4HORSES@gmail.com](mailto:SHA4HORSES@gmail.com)

### BOARD MEETINGS:

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

### 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** - Open Position

**Parade** - Liz Eason

**AJ Rodeo Grounds** - Jeff Watson

**Road Cleanup** - Roger Luth

**Program Director** - Sheila Shattuck

**Trail Ride Committee** - Jeff Watson

**Editor** - Lisa Rogers

[SHAPonyTracks@yahoo.com](mailto:SHAPonyTracks@yahoo.com)

## 5th Annual SHA Pony Express 'Wrap-Up'

*Darryl Cross: Trail Boss*

**The 5th Annual Pony Express was very successful this year. Our riders had a great time carrying the mail throughout Apache Junction and the surrounding areas.**

Several locations had spectators cheering on our riders with the biggest location being the Goldfield Ghost Town. The thrill of seeing our riders thunder up main street, hand off the mail bags at a full gallop and running full speed out through the back is truly a sight to see. Thank you, Phil and Ted, for always making this look so good.

**We had a few new riders this year along with our dedicated returning riders. Welcome aboard Emalise Zuber (LDD Rodeo Queen), Elaine Sherer, and Tiffany Nicholls.** We truly hope you'll join us again for many years to come! With that, a huge thank you goes out to all of our dedicated returning riders. Every year your dedication to the Pony Express is truly appreciated!

**Our total Post Card sales is not official but we sold approximately 794 cards! I consider this a great accomplishment. Thank you everyone that help sell postcards.** It takes all of us going out and selling to friends and family and random people in our community. **I need to give a shout out to Tiffany Nicholls - she sold over 150 cards! Great JOB Tiffany!**

**Our Sponsors this year stepped up as well. As always, a HUGE THANK YOU to the Hitching Post Saloon. The Pony Express here in AJ was MO's idea!** We appreciate the financial support the Hitching Post Saloon provides in making this a successful endeavor. **I also would like to thank and recognize all of our other sponsors...**



*...Continued on Page 5*



## SHA Board Meeting Minutes of April 1, 2026

The SHA Board Meeting was held at Tina's on Wednesday, April 1st, at 7:04 pm. Board members present were Sheila Shattuck, Peggy Wilson, Roger Luth, Lisa Rogers, Darryl Cross, Judy Hood, Jeanne Kennedy and Pam Gaston. Jan Kramer was on ZOOM. Other SHA members were Barb Houck and Bev Dougherty.

- **SECRETARY** – The Secretary's minutes from March were approved. Pam Gaston made a motion for the minutes to be accepted, and Sheila Shattuck seconded it. All were in favor.
- **TREASURER** – The regular checking account balance is \$8732.65. The Equine Welfare Account balance is \$3297.99. There was \$89 for T-shirt sales at the SHA Booth and total deposits were \$399. Outgoing monies were \$494.80, Pony Tracks for February \$186.74 and March \$144.63 and stamps \$32.76 and snack ride \$26.57 and Arizona Trail \$104.10. Outgoing monies' total expenses are \$494.80 and incoming monies total is \$399.
- **MEMBERSHIP** – There are forty-one individuals and twenty-eight families plus five honorary memberships. We have one hundred two members currently.

- **POLITICAL** – There was nothing. NOTE - All participants for the City Council are running unopposed. The Vice Mayor, Robert Schroeder is running for the mayor's position. Chip Wilson is not running again for the mayor's position. Darryl Cross is hoping to get the Vice Mayor's position.
- **EQUINE WELFARE** – There was nothing.
- **PARADE** – There was nothing.
- **ROOTS N BOOTS PONY EXPRESS** – This went well in spite of the heat and Darryl Cross rode in it and it was 86 miles from Kearny to Florence to Queen Creek. Each rider rode two legs and legs were at least two miles a piece.
- **STORE DIRECTOR** - Ann Adkins has resigned as the Store Director. Anyone who is interested in being the Director of the SHA Store needs to contact Pam Gaston.
- **PROGRAM DIRECTOR** – The last General Membership Meeting had Dr. Hall who made a great presentation on the health of the horse.
- **TRAIL RIDE**– The Trail Committee is not sure there will be any more rides due to the hot weather.

### OLD BUSINESS

- **ROAD CLEAN UP** - On March 14th, we had nine SHA members that helped pick up our segmented area.
- **PONY TRACKS** - There will be 200 Pony Tracks printed this month. We will have extras to give out at the Museum who seemly is out all the time.

- **5TH ANNUAL SHA PONY EXPRESS** - We sold 794 cards. Four cards were given away and ten were ruined by rain and the number of cards sold amounted to \$3970, sponsors were \$1900, rider applications \$630 which totaled \$6500.
- **GUN RAFFLE** – The amount of the gun raffle was \$3,020. Russ Eason won the gun at the raffle on April 1st.

### NEW BUSINESS

- **EQUIPMENT** – Roger suggested we get rid of the three ice chests in the trailer. Pam Gaston made a motion to get rid of the three ice chests that are no longer functional in the trailer and buy one good ice chest with a handle and wheels for our functions to be put in the trailer. Jeanne Kennedy seconded the motion. All were favor. Discussion ensued.
- **GAS MONEY** – Lisa Rogers suggested we get Shirley Righi a gas card for the Pony Express Pace Car that she drove at the Pony Express.

Pam Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lisa Rogers seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.



## SHA and SHOPPERS SUPPLY 2025 - 2026 Annual Gun Raffle

Our gun raffle for the 2025 – 2026 season was very successful. Just ask Russ Eason! He is now the proud owner of a Colt King Cobra in .22LR.

Russ has been a member of SHA for many years and has been helping out with many of our endeavors including the Pony Express. Lately, he has been working on his completion of the Arizona Trail by horseback! He is more than 50% in this amazing feat and SHA wishes him well and safe riding along the way.



As for the gun, we would like to thank SHOPPERS SUPPLY for supporting SHA. *Folks, you can't ask for a better business here in Apache Junction!* They always step up to help out when ever there is a need. Their staff is always warm, friendly, and helpful. It is amazing just how much product they stock! So, for your next "around the farm/home" project, please stop by SHOPPERS SUPPLY and let them hook you up!



I would like to thank everyone that helped sell tickets. Especially Mo at the HITCHING POST SALOON. Mo has been supporting SHA for many years. Both him and Tina (BREAKFAST AT TINA'S) have helped SHA along the way with a lot of events. They welcome the horse community and often allow riders to use their parking lot to stage for trial rides. I encourage everyone to stop by and have some of their award-winning Pizza; Mo' Crack Wings and a cold beer.

Happy Trails,  
Darryl Cross

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

APRIL 2026

Submitted By: Jan Kramer  
Membership Chair

Our current roster now totals  
102 individual members in the  
following categories:

- ◆ Single - 41
- ◆ Family - 28
- ◆ Honorary - 5

It's getting hot out there!!

With many of you leaving the area for the summer months, it's important that we have your correct summer address. **Please advise me of any changes or corrections. Receiving your Pony Tracks by email is always a great option. If you would like to switch from USPS to email delivery, just let me know.**

Of course, feel free to contact me regarding any membership questions or concerns.

You can email me at:  
[imareadertika@icloud.com](mailto:imareadertika@icloud.com)

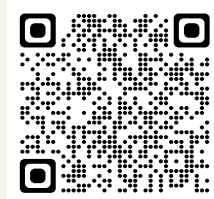
**SUPERSTITION  
HORSEMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION**  
**Membership  
Renewal**

Please join  
or renew today!

SHA Membership Year  
OCT 1, 2025— SEPT 30, 2026

SINGLE membership  
only \$20.00

FAMILY membership  
only \$30.00



## THE THIRD SHA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ON MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

By Pam Gaston

The third SHA Membership Meeting was held on March 18th, 2026, at the Multi-Gen Center at 7 pm. **The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance by Sheila Shattuck and the speaker of the meeting was Dr. Kristen Hall, an intern from AZ Equine Surgery and Veterinary Center, who is from Minnesota and will return to Minnesota in May of 2026.**

Dr. Hall showed us a PowerPoint Presentation about the Health of the Horse.

**Spoke about teeth floating that should happen once a year** for points, hooks, top jaw is bigger than the bottom jaw which creates wave mouth, and other various things. You can tell a horse's age by their teeth up to fifteen years of age.

**She also talked to us about nutrients starting with water. Horses should drink seven to ten gallons of cooler water daily.**

Energy should be taken from fats, proteins, carbohydrates, and vitamins. Proteins build muscles, fats absorb vitamins and you can get fats into a horse through corn oil or canola oil in their feed. Carbohydrates are helpful unless the horse has Cushing's and vitamins A, D, E, K and B and C are water soluble. Food sources that help with nutrition are beet pulp watered down, hay watered down and rice bran help with skinny or malnourished horses.

**Often horses develop ulcers because they generate nine gallons of acid daily;** therefore, if a horse does not have constant feed, often they will develop ulcers from acid backing up into the upper stomach. Horses also have one hundred feet of intestines from the end of the stomach to the anus. **Often intestines twist or there are impactions that create colic.** You need to check temperature and respirations of a horse with colic. You also need to administer banamine or bute when horses have colic and if they are still having colic within an hour, please call a vet. Do not feed your horse in colic. Ways for you to keep your horse from colic is by administering Sand Clear or Psyllium for one week every

month along with plenty of water and electrolytes, salt, Gatorade, carrots, and apples.

**Deworming is important for horses.** You need to deworm your horses and how much you do it is up to you. Deworming can be done every two months, three times a year or once a year. You can use Ivermectin, moxidectin, praziquantel and fenbendazole. All are safe for pregnant mares.

**Hooves are important to the health of the horse.** You should carry a horse pick with you. A farrier should trim your horse's hooves every 5 to 9 weeks with toes back and heels up. You want to look out for abscesses, founder, and rotation of the coffin bone. You can use Epsom salts for soaking and specialty shoes like Soft Rides and Cloud Rides.

Dr. Hall opened the presentation for questions and was presented with a gift card to Texas Road House.

**Pam Gaston presented some BIG THANK YOUs to Bob Diroff, Vinnie Mendes, Cathy Diroff, and Roger Luth for their outstanding and hard work with the SHA Booth at the Rodeo Grounds.** Pam also presented them all with their \$40 gift cards to The Handlebar Pub and Grill. **She also presented Sheila Shattuck, Vice President, and Darryl Cross, President with \$40 gift cards for their hard work with the Pony Express.** Darryl Cross was absent, so Sheila Shattuck took his card to give to him later.

Pam Gaston picked raffle tickets out and members won gift cards to the Handlebar Pub and Grill. Some of the winners were Karen Otterstein and Jeff Watson among other members.

The meeting was adjourned a little before nine and everyone had cookies and iced water. **It was a great meeting.**



*Continued from Front Page...*

**Other Sponsors—Shoppers Supply; Paula’s Crazy Horse Saddle Shop; Arabian Horse Association of Arizona; Apache Family Dentistry; Apache Junction Tires & Service; Arizona Cowgirls for Christ; Horning’s Accounting & Tax Service; Homestead Malting Co.; Grain R & D; Sossaman Farms; Justin Lisk State Farm Insurance; Erik Scott, Devine Signs and Apache Junction Water & Ice.** THANK YOU again for supporting the horse community of Apache Junction and helping to bring awareness that AJ is, and always shall remain, a horse friendly city!

**I would like to also thank all of the ground crew and behind the scene staff that helps make the Pony Express a success.** Roger Luth; our go to for safety, supplies and logistics. Lisa Rogers; our communications lead. Phil Fedor; our ride coordinator and course mapper. Fran Heck; our public relations and community engagement. Sheila Shattuck; public information lead and post card distribution lead. Lisa Manifold; our official photographer. Jackie Cross; post card designer and logo lead. Shirley Righi; EMT nurse and pace car driver. (Shout out for last minute volunteer!) **AJPD; they are rock stars for providing safe streets and escorting our riders! AJ Mounted Rangers; another rock star group for helping with crowd control at the Superstition Mountain Museum and the Goldfield Ghost Town.** Erik Scott with Devine Signs; our official banner manufacturer. With out any of these people or organizations, our Pony Express would not be possible. THANK YOU ALL!

The Pony Express committee will be meeting in the next few weeks to make recommendations for donating proceeds to charitable organizations around AJ and start making plans for next years ride. Let’s continue working together and keep making this bigger and better every year! I am proud of everyone involved.

Safe Ride and Happy Trails,

**Darryl Cross: Trail Boss,  
SHA Pony Express**



# 2026 Pony Express SPONSORS

Thank  
you!

*Hitching Post Saloon,*

SHOPPERS SUPPLY – APACHE JUNCTION,

**Crazy Horse Saddle Shop,**

*Divine Signs,*

ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA,

APACHE FAMILY DENTISTRY,

**Justin Lisk State Farm Insurance,**

**Sossaman Farms, Grain R & D,**

HOMESTEAD MALTING Co.,

Horning's Accounting & Tax Service,

**Arizona Cowgirls for Christ,**

Apache Junction Tires & Service,

Apache Junction **WATER & ICE**



## WANTED

SHA

HISTORIAN

We need an SHA Historian to keep our history alive through pictures and write-ups.

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

If you are interested, please notify Pam Gaston, Secretary.



Our most recent **SHA Store Manager**, Ann Adkins, has resigned and we are looking for somebody else to run the SHA Store.

Some of us have been thinking about an online presentation of jackets, shirts, t-shirts, hats, caps, and anything else some might want to purchase.

Please contact Pam Gaston if you are interested in this position.



# Calendar



## of Events

\* Nothing scheduled at this time

### TRAIL RIDE COMMITTEE

Questions? Please email Jeff at: [jwconnected@hotmail.com](mailto:jwconnected@hotmail.com)



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](http://AZCowgirls4Christ.com)

Facebook: [click on this link](#)

**CRAZY HORSE SADDLE SHOP**  
Craig & Paula Smith L.L.C.  
New & Used Tack  
1484 W. Apache Trail #3  
1/2 Block East of Ironwood  
Apache Junction, Arizona 85120  
(480) 671-0381

**ROCKING K STABLES**  
APACHE JUNCTION, AZ  
**BOARDING**  
Now Accepting Boarders • Daily, Weekly, & Monthly Rates  
Jim Leslie (480) 331-9118 ★ 1276 N. Wickiup Rd., AJAZ 85119

## Bi-Annual Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

By Roger Luth

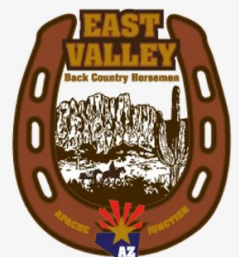
**A BIG THANK YOU** to our 9 members who came out for the bi-annual Adopt-A-Road cleanup on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, on Lost Dutchman Road between Idaho Road and SR 88. We were set up at the AJ Rodeo Grounds with water, coffee, and donuts. The city provided us with vests, gloves, plastic bags and pickers. We picked up 8 bags of trash and some wood.



## EAST VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

To learn more about EVBCH visit our website at [EVBCH.org](http://EVBCH.org)

Apache Junction, AZ



# Important Dates to Remember



- *Nothing scheduled at this time*

**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: MAY 6 and JUN 3.** The Board meets promptly at 7pm. Anyone is welcomed to attend 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.

Superstition Horsemen's Association, Inc.

P O Box 2120

Apache Junction, Arizona 85117

[www.sha4u.org](http://www.sha4u.org)



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