



SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Pony Tracks

www.SHA4U.org

Facebook.com/SHAofArizona

JANUARY 2026

ISSUE 4 — VOLUME 45

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Darryl Cross
(602) 820-9583

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Treasurer

Jeanne Kennedy

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Pam Gaston

Membership Chair

Jan Kramer

Director-at-Large

Peggy Wilson

Lisa Rogers

Judy Hood

Roger Luth

HELPING OTHERS AT CHRISTMAS THROUGH OUR EVENTS

By Pam Gaston



At Christmas Time, SHA (Superstition Horsemen's Association) picks up a portion of everyone's meal charging \$15 this year, while the meal cost SHA at least \$22 or more per person. **That is our way at SHA, of thanking all of you for your membership, assistance and participation.**

At the Christmas meal, everyone received an envelope allowing people to give back at Christmas time to the AJ Food Bank. **We are happy to say that we were able to donate \$400 to the AJ Food Bank thanks to all of you and your donations.**

Your donation makes a difference in our community and we thank you for your generosity.

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 - Ann Adkins

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

5th Annual - SHA Pony Express

Saturday, March 7th, 2026

SPONSORED BY

THE SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
AND THE HITCHING POST SALOON

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



Only \$5 each

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

FOR SALE SOON AT ALL OF OUR EVENTS,
AND FROM A PONY EXPRESS MEMBER





SHA Board Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2026

The SHA Board Meeting was held at Tina's on Wednesday, January 7th, at 7:00 pm. Board members present were Sheila Shattuck, Jeanne Kennedy, Peggy Wilson, Roger Luth, Lisa Rogers, Darryl Cross, Judy Hood and Pam Gaston. Jan Kramer was on ZOOM. Other SHA members were Chip Wilson, Bev Dougherty, Bob Diroff, Cathy Diroff, Julie Martin and Jeff Watson.

- **SECRETARY** – The Secretary's minutes from December were approved. Pam Gaston made a motion for the minutes to be accepted, and Roger Luth seconded it. All were in favor.
- **TREASURER** – The regular checking account balance is \$11,155.28. The Equine Welfare Account balance is \$3297.99. Total deposits are \$890. We received \$20 for memberships; Christmas dinners received were \$470 which and \$400 for the food bank equaling \$890. Outgoing monies for December were \$23.40 for stamps for Pony Tracks mailing, and \$156.16 for Pony Tracks printing, and \$1.157.95 for Papa Bears Texas Bar-b-q. Outgoing monies total expenses are \$1747.51 and incoming monies total is \$890.

- **MEMBERSHIP** – There are thirty-one individuals and twenty-seven families plus five honorary memberships. We have ninety members currently. Joyce DeWeece is a new member.
- **POLITICAL** – None.
- **EQUINE WELFARE** – None.
- **PARADE** – Lost Dutchman Days Parade is happening on February 28th, 2026. See Liz Eason if you are interested in riding in the parade. Pam Gaston made a motion to give Liz Eason \$180 in a Zelle to allow the Parade Unit to be in Division 1. Sheila Shattuck seconded it. All were in favor.
- **STORE DIRECTOR** - None.
- **PROGRAM DIRECTOR** –
 - * We will have a booth at the EVBCH Day of the Horse on January 24th, 2026. We need people to man this event. Also, there will be a tack sale sponsored by EVBCH and it costs \$10 a table. Please call Sherry Baker at 303-24-0532 or Lisa Martinez at 970-215-5985 to get a table if you are interested.
 - * Discussion took place about the SHA Christmas Party that was held at the Museum. Everyone liked having it at the Museum, but some did not like the food or the time it took to serve it. Discussion took place about what days to have it on and Saturdays became the vote with a ride first. Discussion took place about not having a Christmas Party and just a party. Others suggested doing the cooking themselves. There will be more discussion in the future regarding the SHA Christmas Party.

OLD BUSINESS

- **ROAD CLEAN UP** - On March 14th, we will have the next Road Clean up. We need more people to work on our segment, and it takes only about an hour .
- **PONY TRACKS** - There will be 250 Pony Tracks printed this month.
- **EVBCH** - On Jan 24th there will be a Vendor & Tack Sale. SHA will need to get 1 booth, 10x10 @ \$50, combined for SHA membership & Pony Express. Tack tables will not be part of SHA.
- **5TH ANNUAL SHA PONY EXPRESS** - This will be on March 7th in Apache Junction. We need to update dates on sandwich boards and banners, get postcards and meetings going. Queen Creek Pony Express will be on the 21st of March and the following weekend is the Comanchero's Pony Express.

NEW BUSINESS

- **INSURANCE TRAILER** - Roger Luth has already picked up the SHA Trailer Insurance for the next six months.
- **FIRE DEPARTMENT** - Roger Luth will be escorting the Pony Express with an EMT in his vehicle from the Fire Department.
- **SHA MEMBERSHIP MEETING** - Sheila Shattuck stated that Dave Kaubash will be coming to speak about a new program for volunteers to assist the Forest Service at Trail Heads. This involves our representation at the Trail Heads

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Board Meeting Notes

Continued from Page 2...

and being trained. We need signage at these Trail Heads to assist people as to where they need to park. Regular parking is taking the horse trailer parking spots. We need representation at these Trail Heads to educate people. Discussion ensued.

- **SHA TRAIL RIDE** - On February 21st there will be an SHA ride at Hewit Station. The Trail Ride will be at 10 am and March 21st Prospector Park at 10 am with a Pizza Party at the end.

Pam Gaston made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sheila Shattuck seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

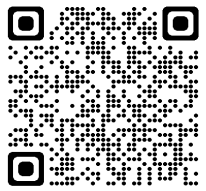
Membership Renewal

**Please join
or renew today!**

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

SINGLE membership
only \$20.00

FAMILY membership
only \$30.00



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



JANUARY 2026

Submitted By: Jan Kramer
Membership Chair

Happy Horsey New Year!

Our current roster now totals 90 individual members in the following categories:

- ◆ Single - 31
- ◆ Family - 27
- ◆ Honorary - 5



**Welcome to our
new member!**

- *Joyce DeWeece*

Make the most of your membership. There are a variety of upcoming activities available for your participation including informational membership meetings, trail rides, the Lost Dutchman Days parade and the Pony Express.

As always, feel free to contact me regarding any membership questions or concerns.

You can email me at:

imareadertika@icloud.com

*Happy
New
Year
2026*

**5th
Annual
Pony
Express**

Saturday
March 7th
2026



SHA CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR 2025

ON DECEMBER 14TH

AT THE SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN LOST DUTCHMAN MUSEUM BARN

AT HIGH NOON

By Pam Gaston



It was a beautiful day for a great celebration planned by Sheila Shattuck, Vice President, for the SHA Christmas Party. It began at high noon and there were fifty-five people in attendance, and the delicious food was supplied by Papa Bears Texas Bar-b-que. Table center pieces were supplied by Jeanne Kennedy and friends while the help setting up tables was done by Vinnie Mendes, Bob Diroff, Cathy Diroff, Teri Neeley, Roger Luth and Pam Gaston. The iced water was also brought by Bob Diroff and the biggest raffle piece was brought by Bev Dougherty. The registration table was manned by Lisa Rogers and Jan Kramer worked with the membership and a museum tour and helped outfit Ed Kramer, our Cowboy Santa. **Our wonderful music was supplied by Cowboy Dave, assisted by his wife Teresa, and needless to say, the event was a village affair.**

Pam Gaston was the MC and while she was thanking everyone, Sheila Shattuck made our party live through Facebook. After everyone had gotten their food and were meanwhile entertained by Cowboy Dave and Teresa with lasso antics and a little dancing.

The raffle began and there were sixteen items and envelopes that were given away. It began with Ed Kramer, our great Cowboy Santa, bringing in the first gift, a huge jar of PEANUT M&Ms, won by Linda Cooley and of course the Stinky Boot, won by Debby Schwartz. She will keep that for a year and give it away next year. Throughout the event various things were given away and some money too. Santa drew the number and somebody walked away with \$25 and others walked away with Christmas items and gift cards from the Handlebar and Black Angus Steak House.

We were done by 2 pm and Jan waited but the tour never happened as people left and went shopping in the Christmas Boutique at the Museum planned by Ilene Snoddy, CEO of the Museum.

It was a nice event, and everyone had fun. A big "THANK YOU" for turning out!





Superstition Horsemen's Association, teaming up with Hitching Post Saloon

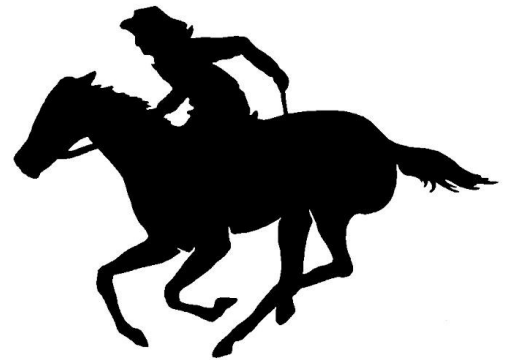
PONY EXPRESS, 5th Annual, March 7th, 2026

Pony Express Proceeds will Benefit

Superstition Horsemen's Association of Apache Junction

And the Hitching Post Saloon charity "Cowboys for Kids" 501c3

(tax deductible donation)



Superstition Horsemen's Association, Inc.

In 1980, the Superstition Horsemen's Association was created by a handful of equine owners in the City of Apache Junction, to support and maintain the rural and western lifestyle for the equine community. This includes working with various local governmental agencies involving land, street, and trail usage. SHA committed itself to the creation of a safety program educating the community on safety for all regarding motorized vehicles, equines, and their riders. In addition, SHA works with Federal agencies regarding trail cleanup, maintenance, and work projects in and around the Tonto National Forest and City of Apache Junction Adopt a Mile.

SHA, is an independent group of members, a 501c4 tax exempt organization that is currently celebrating 46 years of working with trail partners such as East Valley Back Country Horsemen, Superstition Area Land Trust (SALT), The Ari-zona Trail and Pinal Partnership to clear and maintain trails. The SHA organization coordinates with East Valley Back Country Horsemen, the Arizona Horse Council, and the Tonto National Forest to ensure trails are open to all hikers, bikers, and equestrians to have outdoor and wilderness experiences. Currently SHA is extending a request for a service agreement with the Tonto Forest Payson Ranger District to partner and assist with clean up, work projects, and pack-ing to support the Houston Mesa Horse Campground, and the 9-mile Houston Mesa Loop Trail. Included in this proposal are petitions with over five hundred signatures of people who want to see these trails improved and other trails created to accommodate everyone for access to a greater wilderness experience.

The Safe Ride Program was developed by The Superstition Horsemen's Association in 2021, after several traumatic incidents occurred at dusk/night between motor vehicles and a horse/riders due to lack of visibility. The Safe Ride Program encourages horse owners to situate light reflective slap bands on the horse's legs and red blinky lights on the tail and breast collar for better visibility of the horse to others. A brochure was also created to share with the public and to assist in educating the community about courtesy rules to follow when sharing roadways and areas with equestrians. The City of Apache Junction supported this program and bought blinky lights and slap bands to be given to all who were willing to utilize them. This program is currently ongoing and is combined with outreach to The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the City of Apache Junction to build intersections that are well marked, lighted and signaled for equestrian crossings.

In addition, SHA has held Chili cookoffs, corn hole tournaments, trail rides, chuck wagon dinners, obstacle events, campouts, a Christmas Party for charity work, and sponsoring concerts. SHA along with the Hitching Post Saloon started a Pony Express reenactment 5 years ago. SHA distributes a newsletter once a month online and in local shops. They also host educational General Membership Meetings that are fun and informative every January—March. SHA tries to give folks the opportunity to participate in community functions as a group and to represent the horse community. These are just a few of the things that SHA offers to its members and to the public.

Thank you for your support!
Superstition Horsemen's Association

Darryl Cross: Chairman; Superstition Horsemen's Association
Text: 602-820-9583
Email: darrylcross.local669@gmail.com

Calendar

of Events



SHA Membership Meeting

WED, January 21st at 7PM



There will be an SHA Membership Meeting on WED January 21st, at 7 pm, at the Multi-Gen Center in AJ, to the right - in the first room on the right. There will be a Pony Express meeting at 6 pm in that same room so please enter quietly if you come early. Our guest speaker is Dave Kaubash, to speak about a new program for volunteers to assist the Forest Service at Trail Heads. Pony Express postcards will be on sale and we will have sign-ups for volunteers for the upcoming SHA & Pony Express Booth for the EVBCH 'Day of the Horse' on Jan 24th.

Come and join us for an evening of information and fun!!

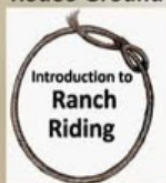
Happy Trails

MEETING: SHA Pony Express

WED JAN 21st at 6PM
Multi Gen Center in AJ

EAST VALLEY BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN

Apache Junction
Rodeo Ground



1590 Lost Dutchman Blvd
RAFFLES

January 24th
8am to 5pm



Poker Ride With A Twist!

SATURDAY, JAN 24TH

Apache Junction, AZ

TRAIL RIDE COMMITTEE



Scheduled rides...

- ⇒ Saturday, FEB 21st— SHA ride at Hewit Station at 10AM.
- ⇒ Saturday, MAR 21st – SHA ride at Prospector Park at 10AM with Pizza Party at the end.

Questions? Please email Jeff at:
jwconnected@hotmail.com

Lost Dutchman Days Parade

Saturday, FEB 28th at 9AM

SHA and Pony Express members that would like to ride in the parade, please contact Liz Eason.

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

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](#)

Important Dates to Remember



- January 21, 2026 —SHA Pony Express Meeting, 6PM at MultiGen Center in Apache Junction
- January 21, 2026 —SHA Membership Meeting, 7PM at MultiGen Center in Apache Junction
- January 24, 2026—EVBCH Vendor & EVBCH Tack Sale, SHA booth for membership and Pony Express
- February 18, 2026 —SHA Membership Meeting, 7PM at MultiGen Center in Apache Junction
- February 21, 2026—SHA trail ride at Hewit Station at 10AM
- February 28, 2026—Lost Dutchman Days Parade in AJ and SHA booth at AJ Rodeo Grounds
- March 7, 2026 - SHA 5th Annual Pony Express
- March 14, 2026—SHA Road Clean-up
- March 21, 2026—SHA trail ride at Prospector Park at 10AM with Pizza Party at the end
- March 18, 2026 —SHA Membership Meeting, 7PM at MultiGen Center in Apache Junction

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: FEB 4, MAR 4 and APR 1. 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



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