



# SUPERSTITION HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

## Pony Tracks

www.SHA4U.org

Facebook.com/SHAofArizona

MARCH 2026

ISSUE 6 — 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

#### 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

### SHA Booth

## at Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo

**MANY, MANY, MANY THANKS** to our Superstition Horsemen's Association **MEMBERS** that helped with our SHA booth at the Lost Dutchman Days rodeo grounds. This includes setup and tear down, trailer parking, walking about a football field's length to put away valued items at day opening and closing, 3-days with several shifts, including 2-3 members for each shift coverage. **All of you are so appreciated and SHA thanks you for your hard work and service!!!**



Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you!

Watch for next month Pony Tracks which will include updates and photos from:

- SHA Pony Express at Lost Dutchman Days Rodeo
- SHA in Lost Dutchman Days Parade
- 5th Annual SHA Pony Express





## SHA Board Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2026

The SHA Board Meeting was held at Tina's on Wednesday, March 4th, at 7:02 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 Chip Wilson, Bob Diroff, Barb Houck, Sharna Watson, Julie Martin and Cathy Diroff.

- **SECRETARY** – The Secretary's minutes from February 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 \$ 8827.45. The Equine Welfare Account balance is \$3297.99. Total deposits are \$50. We received \$50 for membership. Outgoing monies for January were \$30.42 for stamps for Pony Tracks mailing, and \$100 for Reptile Junction, \$100 for membership to AZ Trail Association. Outgoing monies' total expenses are \$230.42 and incoming monies total is \$50. Roger Luth gave Jeanne Kennedy \$89 for the shirts from the SHA Store.
- **MEMBERSHIP** – There are thirty-eight individuals and twenty-nine

families plus five honorary memberships. We have ninety-nine members currently. New members are Teresa Rodrigues, James Moyle, and Ruthann Handler.

- **POLITICAL** – There was nothing.
- **EQUINE WELFARE** – There was nothing.
- **PARADE** – There were five members who rode in the Dutchman Days Parade and no Pony Express Riders. Cathy Diroff stated nobody knew the riders were from SHA because there was no butt banner or identification. It was nice to see our group up front.
- **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. There are 9 XLs and 2 Larges left from the SHA Shirts.
- **PROGRAM DIRECTOR** – Sheila Shattuck reached out to an Archeologist from the Forest Service to come and speak about the sights in our area. Cathy Diroff suggested bringing a vet to give us a lecture on colic or various veterinary subjects.
- **TRAIL RIDE**– The last trail ride had seven riders and enjoyed the rides and the snacks afterwards. We received two new members as a result, (Teresa Rodrigues and James Moyle) and we are looking forward to the next ride at Prospector Park for the Pizza Ride on the 21st, on Saturday at 10 am. We need to have an RSVP for this ride because of the pizza. This is members only ride due to insurance. Discussion ensued.

Pam Gaston made a motion for the Trail Committee to be given \$150 for Pizza on the Trail Ride for SHA at Prospector Park. Peggy Wilson seconded it. All were in favor.

## 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, especially if there are more of us working. It starts at 8 am with donuts and coffee. We have pickers and bags so please come and join us.
- **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** - This will be on March 7th in Apache Junction. We have the Postcards for sale for \$5. Everything is settled and all is good except the Pace Car Vehicle. We have reached out to Shirley Righi to do this task.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **RODEO HAND-OFF** – We messed up the hand off in front of the rodeo and we had a lot of cheers and jeers. We did well on Friday and Sunday
- **DUTCHMAN BOOTH** – Bob Diroff spoke about what we are going to do if we do not have enough room for the trailer at the next Dutchman Days in 2027. Pam Gaston recommended having an extra booth and Bob Diroff recommended getting there first.

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## Board Meeting Notes

*Continued from Page 2...*

We also discussed the hours of operation: 9-6 pm for next year.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.



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

*We are very grateful to Ann Adkins for her hard work and service and appreciate all she has done for SHA. She will be missed.*

**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.

## **S**UPERSTITION **H**ORSEMEN'S **A**SSOCIATION

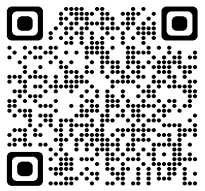
### Membership Renewal

**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

**MARCH 2026**

*Submitted By: Jan Kramer*  
**Membership Chair**

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

- ◆ Single - 38
- ◆ Family - 28
- ◆ Honorary - 5



- **Teresa Rodrigues**
- **James Moyle**
- **Ruth Ann Handler**
- **Peggy Carter**

We're so glad you've joined our club. Hope to see you at some of our activities.

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

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



### **5th Annual SHA Pony Express**

Took place on Saturday,  
March 7th, 2026

*Coming Soon...*

**Watch your mailboxes for Pony Express postcard deliveries**



## SECOND SHA MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

By Pam Gaston

The meeting was held at the multi-Gen Center and started at 7 pm. There were twenty-nine people in attendance and Sheila Shattuck, Vice President, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Sheila Shattuck introduced the speaker for the evening, Decan McKinney, from Reptile Junction who brought six live rattlesnakes and one big gopher snake for viewing.**

One was an AZ speckled rattlesnake, a Mojave rattlesnake, AZ Black rattlesnake, a sidewinder and a white speckled rattlesnake and a diamond back rattlesnake. Decan told all of us that rattlesnakes are generally about two feet long and their coloring is that of their surrounding mountain such as the white speckled rattlesnake that comes from Yuma and the Black rattlesnake that comes from Payson and high mountain areas. There are thirteen actual rattlesnakes and for the most part they are fairly congenial as they really do not want a confrontation. In most cases, they will remain motionless until they feel threatened and then they will rattle. They can only strike a third of their body length in a six-foot radius and most times will dry bite to preserve their venom; however, if someone is bitten, please take them to a hospital immediately. Rattlesnakes do not have a sense of hearing, but they do have a tremendous ability to follow scents through the Jacobson organs and through the thermal pits underneath the eyes. This gives them the ability to follow prey. If you want to have your dog aversion trained, Decan recommends Rattlesnake Ready and Rattlesnake Ranch for snake aversion training for dogs.

Rattlesnakes give birth to their young completely alive – no eggs. They can give birth to as many as thirty babies at once if they have had a prosperous year with food. Wet years allow them more

*...Continued on Page 5*



## SECOND SHA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

*Continued from Page 4...*

absorption of nutrients, so they are therefore healthier. Baby rattlesnakes are exceedingly small when born and cannot their venom. Rattlesnakes in a good nutritious year can shed their skin about every two months. During the shedding process, snakes become more defensive because their eyes are covered for a period of time. The shedding results in a rattle at the end of the tail, which is very fragile and during the shedding process, snakes are more defensive because it partially obstructs their eyesight.

After Decan spoke about rattlesnakes, he brought out a gopher snake that was five feet long. There are no bull snakes in AZ but there are gopher snakes which keep down critters and are good snakes to have around.

Decan stayed for questions and answers and for snake viewing. We paid \$100 for his time and thanked him for a highly informative experience.

**Darryl Cross came up and reported on the Gun Raffle and the Pony Express which will be held on March 7th.** He showed everyone the Post Cards that are for sale and encouraged everyone to participate by buying a Post Card for Pony Express.

Pam Gaston came up while Darryl Cross was standing there and together drew for the raffle of the evening. The first ticket was Bob Diroff for \$5, the second was Karen Otterstein for a Wild Rag, the third was Cheryl Davidson for a \$25 Black Angus Card and the last draw was for Phil Fedor for another \$25 Black Angus Card.

**A big thank you was given to everyone for coming and to Bob Diroff for Water and Ice.** Everyone enjoyed the meeting as they munched on cookies and the evening ended at 8:20 PM.





**SATURDAY, MARCH 21**

**Pizza Ride**

**Pizza party!** The last SHA members only ride of the season, **Saturday March 21st.** *Please join us!*

- Location is **Prospector Park, 3015 N Idaho Rd, Apache Junction.**
- **Be ready to ride at 10:00 AM.** Ride will be approximately 1.5 to 2 hours.
- **There will be pizza from the Hitching Post and water provided by SHA for lunch.** Be sure to bring a chair so you can sit and enjoy pizza and conversation with friends.



Please RSVP by **March 19th** so we can know how many pizzas to order.

**RSVP!** by email to:

**Jeff Watson:** [jwconnected@hotmail.com](mailto:jwconnected@hotmail.com)

**or Pam Gaston:** [rrr97w@msn.com](mailto:rrr97w@msn.com)

**TRAIL RIDE COMMITTEE**

**MEMBERSHIP  
SHA4U.ORG**



**February 21st ride was...**

**Snack Attack!**

*By Sharna Watson*

Seven riders, two of whom are new members, enjoyed both a beautiful morning and gorgeous scenery along a lovely trail that left from the Coon Bluff trailer parking area. The riders returned to some yummy snacks and good conversation. We really could not have asked for finer weather or company.

# Calendar



## of Events

### SHA Membership Meeting

WED, March 18th at 7PM

There will be an SHA Membership Meeting on WED March 18th, at 7 pm, at the Multi-Gen Center in AJ—take a right, then in the first room on the right.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR – Sheila Shattuck has scheduled Dr. Hall from Arizona Equine as our presenter.**

We'd love for you to join us for an evening of learning, connection, and fun as we wrap up our three month membership meeting series!



Mark your calendars

### TRAIL RIDE COMMITTEE

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

★ **Scheduled ride: Saturday, MAR 21st** – SHA ride at Prospector Park at 10AM with Pizza Party at the end. See page 6—SHA Members Only, RSVP.

### Bi-Annual Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

**SATURDAY, March 14 at 8AM**

**\*\*\*AJ Rodeo Grounds will open at 7:30AM**

Meet at rodeo grounds on Lost Dutchman Rd. Coffee, donuts & water provided, including vests, gloves, bags and pickers. Pickup trash between Idaho Rd and Apache Trail.



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](#)



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



Apache Junction, AZ

# Important Dates to Remember



- March 14, 2026—SHA Road Clean-up in Apache Junction
- March 18, 2026 —SHA Membership Meeting, 7PM at MultiGen Center in Apache Junction
- March 21, 2026—SHA trail ride at Prospector Park at 10AM with Pizza Party at the end

**UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: APR 1, 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!