



Gila Livestock Grazers Association
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July 28, 2003

Dear Members and Potential members,

Once again the spring newsletter isn't getting out until summer I hope you all will forgive my tardiness.

As most of you know, we held our annual meeting May 17th and accomplished a lot I will try to give you a rundown if you weren't able to make the meeting. First as you may have noticed we have changed our name to Gila Livestock Grazers Association. Most of the members felt it was downright derogatory to be known as permittee's. Especially in light of recent court rulings that seem to favor our rights over the FS permitting system.

While we were at it we voted in an election committee. If anyone can be found, we should have some new candidates for President and Vice President as well as Secretary Treasurer. Matt and I have been doing it for a while sort of like Bill and Hillary without the drama. We want to offer our members a chance to update their representation. The Committee consists of Sherry Laney, Mary Lou Mannes and Carolyn Thompson. If any of you out there want to throw your hat in for one of these thankless jobs, I'd suggest schmoozing one of these ladies.

We updated our bylaws and board of directors list as well. Our bylaws are now consistent with our new title and you do not have to be encumbered with a forest service permit to be a member any longer. Board of Directors are as follows: Joe Nelson Glenwood; Kit Laney Wilderness; Alvin Laney Luna; Joyce

Biebelle Mimbres; Charlie McCarty Reserve and Quemado and Jack Diamond Black Range. I hope to have local area lists drawn up for each of these fine people so that they can better assist the members in their given area. If you are in these areas please give them a call and say hello. If we can gain some new members we would like to explore adding county board members. Carolyn Nelson is anxious for Joe to get his feet wet and wants to set up a letter writing campaign to help some of the beleaguered Glenwood ranchers. If you want to help her please let me know.

MEETING: On August 6 at 2:15 PM, Congressman Steve Pearce will be at the Winston Community Center to hold a mini town hall meeting. I hope to see anyone in the area, Dusty, Beaverhead, Cuchillo, TorC, Hillsboro; with federal government problems attend this meeting. Please mark your calendars for this one.

On August 8 the Coalition of AZ NM Counties will hold it's annual meeting in Glenwood NM at the community center at 7 PM. Please try to attend they are assisting us with our wolf issues and have filed suit against the USFWS for violations of NEPA as they continue this disaster of a reintroduction. If you would like to donate directly to the wolf suit please send funds to Coalition of AZ. NM Counties for Stable Economic Growth P.O. Box 125 Glenwood NM 88039

THE FUN PART: There will also be a BBQ on the 9th at Glenwood Park it is a great meeting with many speakers as well as a BBQ by the Cowbells and Bucky Allred. BBQ is 10.00 per person. Lodging will be available at the Whitewater motel 505-539-2581 or the Lariat Motel 505-539-2361. I have heard a rumor that some people want to have a baseball game after the meeting and BBQ so that should be fun. Bring your families and support our rural communities.

Another neat you should know about. Congressman Pearce is attempting to serve a steak to each of our soldiers in Iraq this summer as a kind of late 4th of July gift. If you would like to help fund that effort call NMCGA at 505-247-0584. While you are on the phone with them join up if you aren't a member they do some very good things on our behalf.

Membership Dues: yes I'm late again.
100 head or under \$35.00 Per year
100 head or over \$50.00 Per year
Associate member \$15.00 Per year

If we raise the associate amount from each person on this mailing list that would make up almost \$4000.00. We never reach that goal and this is the year to try since we are having expenses from the wolf suit and other issues that concern ranchers in and around the Gila. Send dues to Secretary Treasurer Loretta Rabenau Box 121 Winston NM 87943.

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