

FROM PRESIDENT PHIL GRAY:

What a summer! Because of the extreme drought, heat, and fires in the area, the Forest Service closed all mountain ranges we usually use for summer hiking, effective May 28. Dick Paige arranged "back door" hikes for May 30. Regular hiking resumed July 25 in Madera Canyon. The President's Hike will be the Friday after Thanksgiving, in the Diablo Foothills just off the west Chavez Siding exit from I-19. Developed by Tracy Ackerman, the hike has been done only once. So for most of you this will be a new hike.

The computer is becoming indispensable. Hike records, award lists, first-time Hikers and guest counts are recorded by GVR number. A number of necessary reports and lists are generated from this data. Hike descriptions, maps, the bulletin, etc. are computerized. ALL is based on your accurately and clearly printing your GVR number on the hike sheets. If you are not sure of your number, carry it with you. Some Hikers who are not interested in receiving patches wonder why they can't just forget about using the number. First, GVR REQUIRES the number. Second, all data is kept using the GVR numbers.

All the Club does is possible only through the efforts of an incredible number of volunteers...hundreds in a Club of about 500 members. You, our members, make the Green Valley Hiking Club one of the most active and friendliest of Clubs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2002 - 2003:

President, Phil Gray; Vice. Pres., Jack Hummel; Secretary, Mary Ellen Lesko; Treasurer, Dan Schroeder; Hikemaster, Dick Paige; Asst. Hikemaster, Ron Barry; Records, Lee Huey; Membership, Doris Gerganoff; Social, Florence Gado; Orientation, Tad Bird; Trail Maintenance, Asa Chamberlain; Volunteer Service, Tom Johnson.

Barb Bader, George Chute, Kaye Gray, Phil Gray, and Mary Ellen Lesko are helping with Records. Nancy Znamierowski will be starting soon.

MEMBERSHIP reached 485 as of October 17. The 2003 Membership Forms will be available after November 1 and may be obtained from Leaders on Thursday mornings. PLEASE, mail the form and your check to the address on the form. Leaders do not accept them. The Membership Chairperson expects to receive forms by mail and is not required to take them in the parking lot.

Get your dues in early as they are due JANUARY 1, 2003. The Membership Directory, published by Helen Zaukas the end of February, includes only paid members.

On Oct. 31, 1998 - 425 members; Oct. 31, 1999 - 495 members; Oct. 12, 2000 - 543 members; October 19, 2001 - 515.

The Hiking Club Website for bulletins, hike changes, printing your bulletin, etc.: www.gvrhc.org

REMEMBER: Each Hiker signs in individually. Please do not sign for your spouse or friend.

FROM HIKE MASTER DICK PAIGE:

We have nearly completed another successful year in our Hiking Club. Numbers of Hikers each week has followed the usual pattern. Through mid October 2001 the year-to-date number was 4069 vs. October 2002 to-date-number is 4031. Given the limited hiking due to the National Forest closure, our numbers would be slightly ahead of last year.

The inventory of hikes offered by the Club continues to expand. Currently we have 112 A hikes, 82 B hikes, and 93 C hikes - a total of 287 hikes in 22 different mountain ranges.

We are in the middle of a six month trial to provide Leaders with access to a Club website for all 287 hike write-ups. The Board will decide about continuing the site in December.

The maximum number of Hikers on a hike is now 25. This should allow for more enjoyable, safe hiking when many of the hikes reach the limit during the winter months. It should also speed up the sign-in process and allow hikes to progress with less difficulty and less stress on Leaders and Assistants.

Again, the most popular hikes were the C's, close to Green Valley. We urge you to consider the wide range of options for enjoying the natural beauty and environment of the area. Starting in December at least one hike each week, indicated by an (*) asterisk, will be considered an easy C hike.

In the past two months four of our capable Leaders have resigned for a variety of reasons - Bob Lund, Wally Morrell, Tom Thompson, and Pat Caves. I ask for everyone's cooperation while we fill the void. The current count of active Leaders is down to 29. Possibly three Leaders will return this Spring. This will put a tremendous workload on Leaders when as many as 55 hikes will be scheduled some months. We are recruiting new Leaders, but it will take time to replace the talent pool.

Hikers who have trouble completing hikes are not always new Hikers. When returning to hiking after being gone, give yourself time to get back into hiking shape and acclimated to higher elevations before attempting some of the more rigorous hikes.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE CHAIR ACE CHAMBERLAIN

reports: It's been a long, hot summer in Green Valley. Even Madera Canyon offered little respite, especially as it was closed to the public because of drought and resulting fire danger. Drought has had an impact on wildlife, forcing some, especially bears, down from high terrain. We may be forced to swap our usual trail cleaning equipment - brooms, blowers, and weed trimmers for "pooper scoopers." Monsoon showers finally encouraged vegetation to grow, and we cleaned both paved loops. More remains to do.

WHO ARE YOU? We'd like to know who you are, where you live, your doctor's name, etc. Many hikers carry no personal I.D. In the event of an emergency this information is necessary. A Committee is devising an ID card for Hikers to carry in their packs at all times. More about this new program soon.

Passes for Madera Canyon (plus Mt. Lemmon and Sabino) have been extended two months because of the Forest closure.

ORIENTATION SESSIONS are once again being held at East Center. O&R (Registration) is currently in its tenth year. As of October 21 this year, 117 people attended sessions. Of this number 72 have taken at least one hike and 47 joined the Club. In 1993, 183 attended 1994, 186; 1995, 171; 1996, 165; 1997, 175; 1998, 240; 1999, 261; 2000, 263; 2001, 202.

Other interesting facts supplied by Helen Zaukas: of the over 500 members who joined in 2001, 143 chose not to join in 2002. Only 53 current Hikers were members before the Orientation program began. Of the 183 people who attended O&R in 1993, only 13 are still hiking with the Club. Of the thirteen, one has served as President, one as Hikemaster, three are currently Leaders, one is an Assistant, two are currently serving on the Board, three have served on the Board, and one is an O&R Presenter.

NEWS FROM THE "DESK OF THE TREASURER" --- 1. The bank balance is in good shape. 2. Expenses are slightly larger than income so far this year.

Tom Johnson has been appointed Librarian, responsible for the Information Files. In 1999 Bob Kotz was appointed to assemble as much information as possible concerning the areas where we hike. Hiking Club members responded outstandingly to the request for contributions of area maps and hike information. This is available to Leaders to use in finding destinations and supplying Hikers with meaningful information about areas.

At first the Assistant Hikemaster was in charge of the File. This past Spring it was proposed that much of the information could be made accessible to Leaders if it could be converted to electronic format to be available at the Leaders Hike Write-up website. Since this would be a relatively time consuming effort, it was decided to create the position of Librarian who will be responsible for the File and who will pursue the objective of making the information available on the website.

If anyone has information or would like to update current information please contact Tom Johnson at 648-5340.

The Club also has a Historical Records File which is available at Desert Hills Rec Center. Lillian Monson currently updates it.

Each year on Memorial Day volunteers from the Hiking Club take care of the display of flags on LaCanada. This year Lee Huey served as Chairman. Assisting him were Russell Anderson, Bill Cummins, Gerald Davis, Barbro Laud, Homer Miles, Nello Modesto, Bert Mueller, Inge Mueller, Alfred Ross, Cal Turner, Nancy Turner, Mert Urness, and John Walker. Many thanks to ALL who have helped in Memorial Day activities.

STANDARD HIKE DEPARTURE TIMES:

Nov./Febr. - 8 a.m.; March - 7:30 a.m.; April/May - 7 a.m.; July/Sept. - 6:30 a.m. Some hikes have special departure times.

For those who wonder when Hikers earn patches: 8 hikes, 50 mi.; 36 hikes, 250 mi.; 72 hikes, 500 mi.; 143 hikes, 1000 mi.; 215 hikes, 1500 mi.; 286 hikes, 2000 mi.; 358 hikes, 2500 mi.; 429 hikes, 3000 mi.; 500 hikes, 3500 mi.; 571 hikes, 4000 mi.; 643 hikes, 4500 mi.; 715 hikes, 5000 mi.

Clothing Logos: Discount Embroidery, 3504 E. Grant, Tucson
Club T Shirts: Creative Coyote Shop, Tubac

TENTATIVE DATES: Potluck Dinners: November 3, 2002; February 2, 2003; April 6, 2003. **Annual meeting Mar. 18, 2003**

Seija and Al Suter and Patty and Willis Griemann co-chaired the November Potluck, using the theme "Fiesta Mexico." Those on the committee were Inge and Bert Mueller, Marlene and Bill Isbell, Sandi and Bob Royes, Bonnie and Bill Becker, and Kara and Peter St. Laurent.

The February Potluck program will feature David Yetman of "The Desert Speaks."

Only Club members (and their spouses and significant others) are eligible to attend Potlucks. Sign-in potluck sheets list only current members. If your name is not listed check with the Membership Chairperson to see if dues were paid after the list was printed.

Guests must live 20 miles from Green Valley (GVR RULE), must be accompanied by a Hiking Club member (Club rule), and must observe all Club rules, including wearing appropriate footwear on hikes.

PLEASE: When you have a changed address, GVR number, telephone number, name, or email: THIS IS WHAT YOU DO: Notify in writing: GVR Hiking Club Membership Chairman, P. O. Box 1074, Green Valley, AZ 85622. This information is to be kept current.

IN MEMORIUM

Forrest Clark, Hiker

Janice McMurray, wife of Hiker Bill McMurray

ADMITTANCE TO CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT is now on a \$5 per person basis. Use your National Parks Pass (Age, Eagle and Access) for park entry! Supposedly immediate family members are included with pass holders. A posted sign reads "Photo I.D. required" so go prepared.

Since early Spring Winnie Kruper, Paul Kendall, and Jim Moore have received 3,000 mile awards. Mary Ruth Buchheister received the 3,500 mile award. Helen Berbick and Lillian Monson have received the 4,500 patch.

Where else could you live and have access to a wonderful day hiking in one of 22 mountain ranges, all within a day's drive round trip?

Have you read "Reluctant Warrior," a book by Hiker George Chute? Call him to purchase a copy.

It was Thursday, August 20, 1981, when 35 people responded to a notice in the paper that GVR members would meet with Bill and Jane Necker for a hike in Madera Canyon. They agreed to meet in two weeks for a hike to Josephine Saddle. Thus begun the GVR Hiking Club! It is interesting to review its history.

Think twice before saying "no" when asked to do a job in the Club. It is satisfying to help keep the Club viable and fun.

Contact Lillian Monson, Editor, to help with Trail Tales.