



TRAIL TALES

HIKING CLUB

P.O. BOX 1074, GREEN VALLEY, AZ 85622

AUTUMN 2004

FROM PRESIDENT JUDITH LECLAIR: I am honored to serve as your President of the Green Valley Hiking Club for the upcoming year. We have a dedicated Board of Directors and numerous Committee Volunteers that are working hard on behalf of our Club. New this season is a position to improve our communication and working relationship with the Friends of Madera Canyon. Patty Greimann, Hiking Club Vice President, has accepted this assignment and will also serve as a FOMC Board Member. Additionally, we are in need of three individuals to coordinate our vast number of trail maintenance volunteers. Working with the Forest Service, one group will focus on Madera Canyon, another on the upper hiking trails in the Santa Ritas, and the third will arrange trail clean-up efforts. If you are interested and can support our Hiking Club in any of these important roles, please contact me. It is with appreciation for their many contributions that we have accepted resignations this summer from Jan Dalen, Board Member, and Lillian Monson, originator and Editor of our TrailTales newsletter.

2004/5 Board of Directors members include: President Judith LeClair, Vice President Patty Greimann, Secretary Jim McBride, Treasurer Joe MacIsaac, Membership Doris Gerganoff, Awards Lee Huey, Social Barb Schild, Orientation Lee Kuiken, Volunteer Services Tom Johnson, Hikemaster Peggy Smith, Ass't Hikemaster Merle Batty.

We have experienced a wonderful summer of hiking, thanks to all who have made that possible! Special recognition goes to MaryAnn/Jim Jordan and Helen Zaukas for coordinating our "unofficial" June hikes, Kathy Chute for again ensuring our Summer Potluck was a success, and to Peggy Smith/Merle Batty's weekly efforts to schedule, staff, and ensure a full complement of interesting and cool hikes this summer. We now look forward to the return of members who have been away as we anticipate an autumn/winter of safe and enjoyable hiking. See you on the trails!

SANTA RITA EXPERIMENTAL RANGE

The Santa Rita Experimental Range held an open house on 27 March 2004. Volunteers from the Green Valley Hiking Club contributed significantly to the success of that open house. Prior to the open house, Richard Calabro led a team consisting of himself, Jim Doherty and Jim Jordan on a major cleanup effort to prepare the facility for the open house. The three spent three days at the facility painting picnic tables, painting the trim on the barn and some of the other buildings, raking leaves and Weeding the flowerbed. On the day of the open house, the hiking club provided 22 dozen cookies which were eagerly devoured by the 163 people in attendance. The volunteers providing the cookies were Carolyn Bird, Jim Campbell, Kaye Gray, Patty Greimann, Marlys Johnson, Winnie Kruper, Lee Kuiken, Carol Lim, Vickie Mattox, LaVern Schroeder and Peggy Smith. Many thanks to all who helped make this worthy event a success.

Tom Johnson, Volunteer Services

A SALUTE TO THE LEADER IN THE RED HAT: A new hiker was overheard saying "Whew, I thought my first hike would be a walk in the park with that little lady in the red hat leading. Was I ever wrong! She was like the battery bunny that doesn't run down." That little lady, of course, was Lillian Monson. In addition to being a dedicated leader, Lillian has been the editor for Trail Tales, the club newsletter she began 1991. This year, Lillian decided it was time to turn the reins over to new editors, who are afraid they'll never be able to fill the "little lady's shoes!" Lillian joined the hiking club on January 19, 1984 when she took her first hike to KZAZ Radio Towers, and on November 6, 1985, Lillian became a leader. Over the years she also has served as a board member and assistant Hike Master. She helped set up O & R and the fee schedule, and has written the club history, updating it periodically. She created the design for all the patches except the first one and * designed the letterhead for Trail Tales. This year she was the first club member to earn a 5000-mile patch. ...And she is still actively involved. Hikers appreciate her good humor, her desire to improve our club, and welcome her "built in" sense of direction - has she ever been lost?

THANK YOU, LITTLE LADY, THANK YOU!

The numbers: A successful summer season of hiking and good fortune in avoiding devastating wildfires is giving way to cooler temperatures and later sunrises. Rewards for early rising and 6 AM departures were lush new growth, profuse wildflowers, glorious butterflies and exciting wildlife sightings in spite of disappointing rainfall. There were 58 official hikes between May 1st and August 31st attracting 699 hikers.

Welcome home! Numbers will grow now as we WELCOME HOME our winter gang who have frittered away the summer at sea level amidst humidity, black flies, tornadoes, hurricanes, and grumpy grandchildren.

4 Legs are better than 2! Over the last year it has been encouraging to notice more and more hikers (especially reformed skiers!) catching on to the joys of hiking with 2 adjustable poles whose metal tips bite into our rocky slopes. The luxury of poles with springs gives added cushioning to aging (let's face it!) shoulders, wrists and elbows. Far fewer slips, slides, and "Oooo those knees again," as well as zingy hips, which remind us at night of the happy day on the trail.

Wise choices! Best of all has been the change taking place in how our hikers choose hikes appropriate to how they feel on any Thursday morning. Leaders notice that many of you take hike ratings very seriously. The overall difficulty of a hike as well as information such as length of hike, altitude gain, and demands of the terrain are of critical importance to ALL of us. Taking the responsibility for choosing wisely is what makes our hiking safe and enjoyable for all. Nothing spoils a lighthearted day on the trail for ALL hikers than the nagging concern for a fellow hiker who struggles with breathing, faltering balance and/or fatigue. Good choices mean HAPPY TRAILS for all of us!

Peggy Smith, Hikemaster

MEMORIAL DAY FLAGS: Since 1991, flags have been displayed on LaCanada Drive for various holidays and events. Each year the Hiking Club has volunteered to set up and take down the flags on Memorial Day. Tom Johnson served as coordinator of this year's effort. Assisting him were Don Campbell, Mayme Clark, Dick Converse, Larry Cover, Russ Denmark, Terry Flanagan, Charles Jeffords, Martha McMahan, Homer Miles, Nello Modesto, Bert Mueller, Inga Mueller, Jim Plansky, Ramon Quiones, Barbara Schild, Bill Snyder, John Walker, and Vee St. John. The volunteers were divided into four teams, two teams working the morning flag setup and two teams taking the flags down in the evening. Thanks to all who helped in the Memorial Day activities.

AWARDS: As of August 31, 73 hike club members had earned patches representing 37,490 miles of hiking. Last year at the same time over 110 awards had been given. Although the number is down significantly, this has been a banner year – we awarded our first 5,000-mile patch to Lillian Monson! Other major mileage persons were Winnie Kruper with 3,500; Jim Perkins, Chuck Delbecq, and Tim Mouras with 3,000' Wayne Moshier, Pete Smith, and Barry Murdock earned their 1,500-mile patches' Ron Barry, Barbro Loud, Mayme Clark, and Mary Ann Jordan received their 1,000-mile patches.

IN MEMORIAM

MARV PARTIN

An active hiker, leader & hikemaster before moving to Florida

TREASURE REPORT: The treasurer reports that the clubs finances remain healthy and strong and the modest "out of pocket" expenses being incurred by the club are solely the result of the dedication and tireless efforts of the many volunteers within our organization.

Joe MacIsaac

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: As of Sept. 18th, there were 470 members of the Green Valley Hiking Club including 83 new members.

Doris Gerganoff

CALENDAR 2004/05

Board Meetings: * East Center Lounge, 6:30 P.M.
September 21, 2004, November 16, 2004, January 18, 2005,
April 18, 2005, September 20, 2005, November 15, 2005

Hike Leaders Meetings: * East Center Lounge, 6:30 P.M.
September 28, 2004, November 23, 2004, January 2, 2005,
April 26, 2005, September 27, 2005, November 22, 2005

Pot Luck Dinners:**

Canoa Hills, 5:00 P.M. November 7, 2004
West Center, 5:00 P.M. February 13, 2005
April 3, 2005
October 30, 2005

Annual Meeting: *

Desert Hills Social Center, 8:30 A.M.

March 15, 2005

*Tuesday

**Sunday

80/OVER CLUB: On August 19, 2004 on a hike with 14, seven were 80 and over! All had been leaders.

Anza Historical Trail: A number of GVR Hiking Club members joined The Anza Trail Coalition of Arizona's celebration of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail by participating in many of the treks along the old trail. Hikers, horseback riders (some in 1775 period dress) followed the 75-mile Anza Trail from Nogales to Tucson.

Many of our club leader led segments, members walked the route or provided transportation, scouting and planning for the seven-day event. An aim of the Coalition was to raise enough money to eventually mark and document this trail. Club members who participated made a \$5.00 a day donation. GVR hikers received credit for hikes they took.

Hike and Picnic Day in the Chiricahuas September 9, 2004 was a special day for the Green Valley Hiking Club. Forty-two people rode in high clearance vehicles to Rustler Park in the beautiful Chiricahua Mountains. The A, B, and C hikes involved 3, 15, and 21 individuals respectively and all enjoyed the mountain views and fantastic varieties of flowers and trees. The post hike picnic featured grilled hot dogs and a tremendous selection of salads and desserts provided by the members. Although the departure from the West parking lot was early (6am), and the day was long, the weather was perfect and all went well. Thanks to the drivers, leaders and sweeps, and all of the others who made the hike and picnic day a total success!

CREDITS FOR YOUR HIKE: A reminder from the hard working data process team of Barry Murdock, George Chute, Karen Chadwell and Phil Gray that each hiker needs to carefully and legibly both print their name and correct GVR number when they sign in to assure they will receive credit for the hike.

NEW MADERA CANYON – ROUND-UP PICNIC AND PARKING AREA: After many months on construction the newly reconstructed and designed area is scheduled to reopen in October. The area featured many new picnic tables and grill areas, new restrooms and enlarged parking areas. Hiking Club members have patiently awaited the re-opening of the access to the Super Trail.

F.Y.I..

Check out the Hiking Club's **WEBSITE:** <http://gvrhc.org>
Monthly bulletins and much, much more.

CLOTHING LOGOS: Discount Embroidery, 3504 E. Grant St., Tucson

CLUB T SHIRTS: Creative Coyote, Tubac

Printed twice a year by the GVR Hiking club

Editor: Kaye Gray

Assistant Editor: Kathy Chute

Advisor: Lillian Monson