



HIKEMASTER'S REPORT

Hello friends - We had a warm summer of hiking for the second year in a row, so we hiked at higher elevations in a variety of mountain ranges. Yet, our number of hikers during May - September mirrored those from the previous two years.



Much of our energy during the spring and prior to my assuming this position was spent testing and refining the new database system. The Hike Selection Committee (*Jim Chisholm & Bill White "A" hikes; Kim Boswell & Barb Jepkema - "B" hikes; and Duane Dotson & Judith LeCaire - "C" hikes*) used it to upload their hike recommendations for my selections. I was able then to enter leader preferences for hikes during a given month, make hike assignments, and generate a summary with ease for distribution to leaders and assistant leaders. In June, we trained 13 leaders in this system, and in October we trained another 10 leaders.

Regarding leaders, several focused on developing new hikes for the club; some of these hikes are already on the schedule, and others are planned for future months. Watch for them on the monthly Bulletins. This summer, two leaders (Keith Blair and Wayne Moshier) and one assistant leader (Steph Herron) retired. New leaders and assistant leaders are now being trained.

A goal is to broaden our hike offerings, so the Hike Selection Committee will give preference to hikes that are infrequently offered and other interesting hikes in mountain ranges beyond our wonderful Santa Ritas. The true beauty and history of Arizona is located all over the state. As a new resident here 10 years ago, the Club introduced me to places I would not have sought out nor knew existed, especially in other unique yet magnificent mountains. Some of my favorite hikes are in the Chiricahua's and Huachucas.



Assistant Hikemaster, **Steve Toeinskoetter** and I welcome the return of our seasonal members, and we appreciate those who weathered the hot summer with us. As our numbers swell, please ease into hiking, carry lots of water, check your equipment, and use the on-line reservation system available on the Member Services page. Happy Hiking!

Kay Pasley, Hikemaster (2024-2025)

Recognizing the Special Relationship between the Green Valley Hiking Club and the Friends of Madera Canyon

As current members of the Green Valley Hiking Club and the Friends of Madera Canyon (**FoMC**), we are in a unique position to acknowledge and value the enduring relationship these two organizations hold. We are linked by our abiding love for the Canyon. We have shared history and values in that we have both been around for a while, with the hiking club established in 1981 and FoMC being founded in 1987. In fact, the first hike conducted by the club was on the Madera Canyon Nature Trail.

Our interests have been united in the conservation and maintenance of the Canyon for public recreational opportunities. In mutual pursuit of these goals, we have each repeatedly signed volunteer services agreements with the Forest Service of Coronado National Forest. Presently both organizations are active in trail maintenance activities and have been mutually engaged in training programs.

Hiking club members volunteer in many capacities in the Canyon, most often at the Visitor Information Station or as roving Ambassadors on trails and in parking lots. FoMC members look to the Hiking Club for input on needed trail and infrastructure maintenance, and sometimes for reports on unusual animal or plant sightings in the Canyon.

The hiking club is probably the biggest consumer of the Madera Canyon bounty with our hikers utilizing the Canyon on a daily basis. And on Thursday club hikes, Madera's trails are filled with happy hikers enjoying the views, the wildflowers, the birds, and occasional bear sightings. Southeastern Arizona is rich in nearby mountain ranges that are frequently hiked by our club. But Madera Canyon and the Santa Rita Mountains are truly the home range.

The advocacy efforts for a thriving Madera Canyon are and should be a concern for all who participate in enjoying her gifts. The Green Valley Hiking Club and Friends of Madera Canyon will remain linked in that common purpose and we encourage all our members to be involved as well.



**David Linn,
 Vice President, FoMC**

**Anita Woodward, Coordinator:
 Visitor Information Station**



[Check out the canyon here!](#)



Stephen Herron, Web Master and sweep

A huge vote of appreciation for Steph Herron, our outstanding and unfortunately, retiring programming wizard of our club's computer applications. While managing the club's website for over 10 years he also further contributed as a hike sweep supporting more than 168 hikes.

Everyone in the club: Hikemasters, leaders, sweeps, and best of all, our hikers, owe him accolades for a task well done! **Thanks Steph!**

Fortunately, this critical club function will now be managed by **Steve Delise**, who prehaps not surprisingly, is also a sweep! Should you see Stephen or Steve one hike morning, please pass on your thanks for their service to the club.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great club we have! I am thrilled to serve as club president this year.

Even though I have been a GVR Hiking Club member for only six years, I have met so many of my Green Valley friends through hiking and our social events.

Our club runs on all-volunteer work by our members. So many opportunities and great work done by all! Thank You for giving back to the club, as well as the various community service projects you also may do! If anyone is looking to join our volunteers, please note that on your club profile, or contact our Volunteer Services Coordinator, Nancy White.



We have many ongoing initiatives in the Club we are continuing and fine tuning this year. Hike selection software, trail maintenance, online hike reservations, cloud-based digital storage of Club documents, and adding miles to our roadside cleanup project to name a few.

Priorities of our board will continue to be; support our hike master and assistant hike master, provide oversight of our club finances and administration and especially support all the hike leaders who provide our "safe and enjoyable" hiking experiences, I am looking forward to seeing all of you this fall and winter hiking season!

Mark Buchholz - BoardPresident

Membership Report

As fall, 2024, approaches we are seeing many members returning. It is also a time when we have potential new members attending orientation and taking their first hikes with the club. If it's been over five years since your last hike you will need to sign up for and attend an orientation session. Current club membership is 349 hikers.

Annual dues remain at \$20.00 and must be paid before your first hike of 2025. Please check your profile while you are renewing to insure all of your information is up to date.



Marysia Czachor, Membership Chairperson

Mileage Patches Awarded from April thanks to Jim Easter and Mary Pulkkrabek

50 miles--5, 250 miles--5, 500 miles--4

1000- Steve Toeniskoetter, Deb Thrall, Jim Richardson, Ann Tenpenny

1500 - Sue Palfrey, Katherine Carlson, Marce Pross

2500 - Anita Woodward

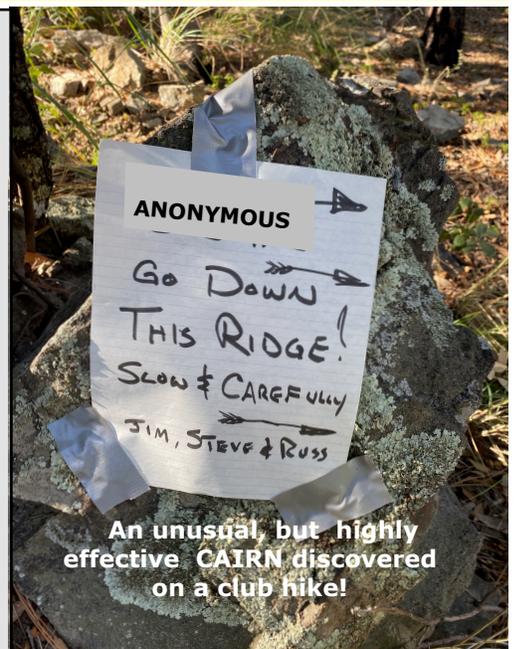
3000 - Jim Riley, Joe Frazier Janet Gerdes, Jim Easter

3500 - Terry Ferguson

6000 - Kathy Chute

6500 - George Chute

7000 - Wayne Moshier



An unusual, but highly effective CAIRN discovered on a club hike!

Orientation Program Status:

In May 2024, I took over as Orientation Coordinator from Barbara Fleshman, who served in the role for an impressive six years! During her tenure, she streamlined the newcomer process, making my job much easier.

The orientation sessions are the first impression newcomers get of our hiking club. Our presenters understand the importance of this and work hard to keep everyone engaged while addressing all questions. We have six presenters who rotate leading the sessions throughout the year. Our season begins in early September and wraps up at the end of April, with sessions held every Monday from 8 a.m. to 9:30-10 a.m.

This year, we're introducing something new; **co-presenters who are spouses**. This will allow us to represent a mix of men, women, and hikers of all levels among our presenters. As I write this, we've already had 11 attendees attend our first orientation session September 9th, compared to just 3 attendees at last year's first session. It's a fantastic start to this year's fall hiking season!



Rich Calderazzo, Orientation Coordinator



Social Report:

Our Fall Social was held on Sunday November 10, at the GVR West Center. Social hour started early this year at 4:00pm giving everyone more opportunities to visit.

The Potluck Dinner began at 5:00pm followed at 6PM with our speaker Les Bakke giving a presentation revolving around the major events of the 60's and the effects of those events on today's society.

Rhonda Wills, Social Chair



Treasurer's Report:

At the beginning of 2024 the club's checking balance was \$16,240.30. Income through August 2024 has been \$1,123.56. This is mostly dues as the majority of income comes when dues are paid for the following year. Expenses have been \$5,712.37. The largest expense is our website fees of \$2,267.65. \$5,000 was moved to a 13-month CD.

The August 31 checking balance is \$6,591.50 and the CD Balance is \$5,059.99. Total funds equal \$11,651.49.

Scott Tewksbury, Treasurer



33rd. BISBEE STAIR CLIMB

Six members of our club; **(Kay Pasley, Toni Garreffa, Pat Nelson, Diane Wilson, Barb Fleshman and Phil Benton)** (in costume as the Llama Squad) participated in the 33rd. Annual Bisbee 1,000 Great Stair Climb event this October.

This is a 5K race, with 1,034 steps, not the 1,000 as advertised, across 9 different staircases (180 steps is the longest), and **ALL** go up. As you might think, just completing the race would be an accomplishment. This year however,

Pat Nelson did one better by....

"Winning First place in the 80-84 year age category!"

Congratulations PAT!



IN MEMORIAM:

Winnie Kruper -

A highly respected hike leader and the club's first female Hikemaster. The club's "Winnie's Point" hike was named in her honor as she discovered a special view point as the turn around point for the hike.

Geraldine Paxton -

A valued sweep with an outgoing and engaging personality who contributed to enjoyable and safe hikes for everyone. Hike leaders could always depend on Geri when she was their sweep in making sure their hike went safely and smoothly as possible.

A long overdue tribute to Wayne Moshier

This past summer saw the departure of one of the Club's outstanding members, one who as a hiker, sweep, leader, and hikemaster, who gave so much of himself to help make the Green Valley GVR Hiking Club the lively organization it is today. That individual is **WAYNE MOSHIER**.

During his membership from the late 20th Century to 2024, he tallied over 7000 club recognized hike miles! Not only is the club mileage impressive, but adding in the mileage for over 78 new hikes he developed plus at least another 55 he updated his actual hike mileage is more than double the official club one. Helen Zaukas' record of 8000+miles may never be equaled, but Wayne sure tried!

There are many other comments and words of praise for all that Wayne accomplished during his time with the club. Virtually everyone who has ever hiked with Wayne Moshier has a story or two to tell about him.

Fortunately, that opportunity occurred on at his last hike lead which surprisingly



was also his 84th birthday!

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of our Hikemaster, Kay Pasley, Wayne's best friend, Valerie Robinson, and other close friends, a surprise birthday party was held at the Whitehouse picnic area following his last hike.

This proved to be a chance for folks to wish him well as he and his wife, Nancy are moving back to Michigan.

In a testimony to his legacy with the club, the current and ten past hikemasters, were there to say thanks, wish him well on his new adventures, and share antidotes and stories from past hikes with Wayne.



From left to right: A rare gathering of current and past Hikemasters

Kay Pasley, David Lynn, Kim Boswell, Frank Surpless, Duane Dotson, Sally Boysen, Wayne Moshier, Wirne Kruper, George Chute, Terry Ferguson, Ken Fleshman and Dan Schroder.

Unfortunately, we just don't have enough room in this issue to capture even a small portion of the tales from a Wayne led hike or exploration. The following however, is a typical Wayne tale: (from Frank Surpless) that serves to illustrate Wayne's extensive knowledge and experience with the vast areas covered by our club hikes.

Frank adds, "I've known Wayne since early January 2000 and when hiking with him, whether he led or joined in as a Club member, always made the hike more interesting and lively."

The following story illustrates how his hiking knowledge and experience did just that.

In 2013, with Wayne and Patsy Sills, I was scouting a fairly new Madera hike on the east side of the Santa Ritas. On the way back to a saddle, we ran into two Border Patrol agents. For a second or two they froze/reached for their sidearms, then held off when I yelled out, "Green Valley Hiking Club on a scout."

The agents were there to investigate the area as a possible conduit for illegals and to get the lay of the land. They asked if we had seen any illegals. We had not. Then they queried if we knew of any potential pathways that could be used. Their question hit the jackpot considering we had Wayne with us!

I think Wayne was the only member of our hiking club who had navigated, trekked, and discovered virtually every trail, path, bushwhack, and bramble within the range of our hikes. Maybe a bit exaggerated, true, but: he remembered them all! (*Don't forget, he created or revised 133 hikes, which comprise almost 1/4th of our total hikes!*)"

This is what the agents were interested in, and were clearly fascinated by: his descriptions of the topographical features and the possible routings for illegals. e.g. "*If you look at that ridge over there, hike to the top, then look down maybe a quarter mile, you'll see a small creek with a makeshift bridge across it; head there, cross it, turn left to see a large fallen pine where by heading west, will led to a possible camp spot...*"

45 minutes later, both groups headed in opposite directions, Patsy and I were astounded, though we had seen this before, but never in such a setting. This was Wayne at his best: terrific personality, high standards, an unequaled sense of humor, knew how to deal with all sorts of people in a considerate way, knew first aid better than the average EMT, and best of all: had a better memory than a herd of elephants!

Wayne will be sorely missed!