



GVR HIKING CLUB

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

SPRING 1998

FROM PRESIDENT ED BIEBER:

Many Hiking Club members have been a part of the club for years, many are newcomers. We're all interested in a safe and fun hiking experience. In the past four years new hikers have joined through our Orientation program. About 60% of those who attend join.

From the ranks of member hikers our hike-master searches for assistants, hoping they will become leaders. Leaders and Assistants have a big responsibility in making each hike a pleasant experience. I'm very proud of these dedicated Leaders and Assistants.

Every board member has a specific job responsibility. We've developed a policy manual, job assignments manual for board members, and a budget for the current operating year.

We've secured a state permit which allows the club to hike on Arizona state land, land leased to ranchers---many times posted with "No Trespassing" signs. We have coordinated with Mark South, US Forest Service, to settle a misunderstanding with a family leasing land in the Glove Mine area. This case helps identify our rights of access to public lands.

We are grateful to our special computer operations volunteers: Robert Montague, hiker records; Jim Kuhns, monthly hike bulletins and logging hike descriptions; Helen Zaukas, orientation, policy manual, and annual directory. And to Lillian Monson, Trail Tales editor.

To all Hiking Club Members, a big THANK YOU. I've enjoyed being on the board these past three years.

Jim Perkins spent months developing and setting up data base records for all the hikes to be used in computer records and for the bulletins. At one time the hikemaster or assistant typed the descriptions, cut and pasted information to fit the sheets. When Jim Kuhns heard this from Marv Partin, he said he could do it easily on the computer. He refined Jim Perkins work, and today information can be pulled up by hike level, length of hike, elevation of hikes, mountain ranges - all hikes in each category.

O&R- second Monday each month until Fall.
Special sessions may be arranged.

HIKEMASTER TED HAARTZ -

February could well be labeled El Nino month - the combination of more rain and lower temperatures brought more snow to lower elevations, necessitating a change of destination for eight of the 16 hikes scheduled the last two weeks. On the positive side, the accompanying run-off has made the various hikes with waterfalls spectacular. Lots of opportunities for wet feet, crossing the rushing freshets!

Attendance this quarter up after a very slow December. Three Thursdays have had over 200 hikers. January 29th's 221 hikers is thought to be the club record. Two Thursdays just missed the 200 Club with 198 hikers.

I am pleased to report Jack Hummel has stepped up from assistant leader to Leader. I am also pleased that this year's eight new assistant leaders have made a large contribution by freeing leaders from serving as assistants. They are Merle Batty, Pat Caves, Mayme Clark, Jack Gains, Russ Hartley, Tom Johnson, Peggy Smith and Tom Thompson.

THE ANNUAL MEETING IS SET FOR TUESDAY,
APRIL 28, 8:30 A.M. AT DESERT HILLS SOCIAL
CENTER. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.

As of March 20 club membership was 385. With expected renewals and new members the list is expected to surpass the "magic" 400 number during the summer.

Thanks, everyone, for renewing promptly.
The \$8.00 dues - due and payable January 1.

Congratulations to club members who have 50th Wedding Anniversary celebrations during 97-98. Morrells, Dalens, Lunds, Babcocks, Biebers, Johasz', and Shorts to name those we know about. (Does that tell you something about hikers!)

MARCH 12 the highest peak north of Box Canyon Road was unofficially named "Tracy Peak" in honor of Tracy Ackerman. A "christening," complete with champagne carried down uncorked, made it all official.

Club Logos on your jackets or hats ---
Discount Embroidery, 3504 E. Grant

(Over)

NOTES ON A NAPKIN - from Lee Haartz

The Leaders' Appreciation Dinner held on January 11 was a big success, thanks to careful planning by chairperson Peggy Smith and enthusiastic support by her committee who prepared a wonderful meal.

88 guests - leaders, assistants, leaders emeritus, computer support personnel, board members - and spouses or guests, after enjoying the delicious dinner, were entertained by two new Club Stars, Jack Gains and Barry Murdoch, and Line Dancers "Blazing Boots," a special group from those being honored at the dinner.

The February Potluck, chaired by Carolyn Bird with maitre d' Tad Bird assisting, accommodated one of the largest potlucks ever with 254 people. The committee included Phyllis and Brock Brockhaus, Mayme and Don Clark, Nancy and Bruce Chandler, Florence and Al Gado, Linda and Walt Hermanson, Sylvia and Derek Woolley. A noted archaeologist, Sharon Urban from the Arizona State Museum, presented a slide program on "Rock Art."

Ed and Jean Buehler will be in charge of the April 26 potluck at West Center.

WINNIE KRUPER WRITES -

While it is true that a new Hikemaster will begin in June, you should expect it to go rather unnoticed. Behind the scene, hikes are chosen to provide a variety of views and challenges but with temperature and sun exposure clearly in mind.

Obviously, since schedules must be prepared at least a month in advance, only general weather patterns can be considered. Last minute changes are sometimes made, but we try to avoid the chaos that can create.

I am looking forward to fulfilling the duties of Hikemaster for the next year.

I do have some thoughts about safety that should be mentioned again for the benefit of new hikers. With summer coming please carry more water than you think you will need. Another potential danger is caused by hiking sticks when not carried properly. You should be aware at all times of the position of your stick.

Wonder where dues go? From May 1, 1997 to Feb.17, 1998, some major expenses include \$719, patches; \$619, printing; \$207, trail-work equipment; \$558, miscellaneous including P.O.Box and donations to hike related organizations and help. The Club helped fund the Recognition dinner.

The Hiking Club Records Officer, Rich Armstrong, receives a printout each week. Information includes: Hiker's name, GVR#, current year dues status, last mileage award, date of last hike, number of hikes through 1997, number of hikes by month this year, and total hikes.

To keep the printout manageable, we start over in July, adding names from the weekly sign-in sheets. On March 21 the printout was 10 pages with 437 names. Guests are not listed. It contains 1997 and 1998 club members and prospective ones.

COMMENTS FROM VOLUNTEER COMPUTER RECORDS KEEPER, BOB MONTAGUE:

You may be interested in some of the particulars involved with keeping your hiking records accurate and up-to-date. Here goes:

My predecessor kept records with a "shareware" version of "PC FILE." The Hiking Club purchased a commercial "Windows" version when I took over. Using this program on my 66 megahertz machine, it seemed to sort very slowly - data must be sorted whenever a new hiker is added, like weekly. I have now upgraded to a 300 megahertz machine. Now I am considering changing to Microsoft "ACCESS" to further speed up the process. A few problems remain:

1. If I can't read your GVR# (or if it is wrong) I have to use your name - IF I can decipher it.

2. If it is your first hike but not so marked, I have to do a lot of searching to be sure the right person is credited.

You would be surprised how many surnames and initials are duplicated.

3. If your GVR# has changed but you don't so indicate, I have to hunt and you may not get proper credit.

1998 CLUB DIRECTORIES prepared each year by Helen Zaukas will be available from the Hike Leaders packets on Thursdays.

ADVERTISEMENTS

HELP WANTED: Backup for Bulletins.

Basic knowledge of DOS and Windows 95

Please call Jim Kuhns, 648-3056

March 19,1997--360 members.

March 1996 -- 352 members

Trail Tales twice a year to keep members informed. Lillian Monson, Editor/Typist