



GVR HIKING CLUB

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

SPRING 2000

PARKING UPDATE: The Long Range Planning Committee successfully moved everyone from the North Lot to the West Lot for Thursday mornings. All Hikers have been very cooperative (no surprise there.) There has been the expected congestion since we have had record turnouts this year. Congratulations to the Hikemaster and all the Leaders for making it work.

RECORD KEEPING: As you know by now, Bob Montague is no longer doing our computer hike records. His diligence and long service will be sorely missed. We are now looking for several members who are familiar with MSeXcel in Office 97 (or later) who would be willing to volunteer on a rotating basis to keep the Club hike records up-to-date. These records establish who hiked and when, keep track of members' dues status, and indicate when hike awards should be given. If you feel you can help please call Barry Murdoch at 648-5123.

Not enough can be said about all the folks who volunteer for Club projects. Their contributions enrich the Hiking Club experience for all the members. That's part of what makes our Hikers such special people.

ATASCOSA LOOKOUT: Twice this winter Club work parties hiked up to do much needed restoration work. The Lookout is an old fire watch station off Ruby Road. The Club, in conjunction with the Forest Service, is preserving it by re-roofing it, installing new window glass, and painting the exterior. Hopefully one more work session will make it weather-tight - and look a lot "prettier" than it did. This is one of two such structures in Southern Arizona and is on the National Register of Historic places.

ANDY JUHASZ is the most recent recipient of the 3500 mile patch. He received the award two days after his 84th birthday. Andy leads hikes regularly. He was seen on the new and difficult San Cayetano hike, keeping perfect pace behind the leader.

Since the Autumn issue of Trail Tales, 3000 mile patches were presented to Mary Ruth Buchheister and Ed Bieber; 2500 miles to Helen Zaukas, Dottie Babcock, and Winnie Kruper; 1500 miles to Manfred Dalley, Shelton Howland, and Don Kruper; 1000 miles to Walt Prue and Jack Brugler. Sixteen Hikers received the 500 mile patch and sixteen received the 250 mile patch.

From January 1, to March 16, 2000, eighty-- seven first time hikers have "hit the trails." In that same time frame, 42 fifty mile patches have been awarded. (From October 1, 1999, to March 17, there have been 126 first time hikers, and 62 fifty mile awards.

The Club's annual financial audit was done by Orville Jensen.

On one January C hike the average age was 67!

Club Logos on Clothing: Discount Embroidery, 3504 East Grant.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: March 13 records showed 484 Members. On March 1, 1996 - 352 members, 1997 - 360 members, 1998 - 385 members, 1999 - 436 members, 2000 - 468.

Dues are payable by January 1 of each year. Applications are available in November for the following year.

Membership Applications forms had something new added this year - a place for Hikers to indicate where they would like to help out. Without going into complete details, the highest number of volunteers fell into the categories of Potlucks, Memorial Day Flags, Country Fair, Computer Skills, Recordkeeping, Office Skills, and Writing Skills. Only one was interested in Phone Calls, and one in Photography.

ORIENTATION SLOWS DOWN: The attendance at Orientation has dropped off for the first two months of this year by 11% from 1999. (118 vs. 132). 59% of those attending have taken a first hike. Orientation meetings are led in turn by Frank Jappel, Mert Urness, Lee Kuiken, Marian Rumsey, Al Dalen, Barry Murdoch, and John Fanning. A storage locker for Orientation supplies is now available at East Center.

A VERY SUCCESSFUL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER PARTY was held January 16 to honor Hike Leaders, Assistant Leaders, Board Members, and other Hiking Club Volunteers. Mary Overby was the Event Coordinator, and with her cast of 48 volunteers created a most special gala event, from the gourmet food provided by Volunteers to the outstanding Waiters and Waitresses, to the decorations and bartending. Everything ran perfectly to make the Honorees feel appreciated to the nth degree. Entertainment was provided by the Tucson High Steel Band - a group of extremely talented, personable and lively youngsters. A gigantic "Thank you" to all who made the evening such a pleasurable experience.

Please call the Leader prior to the hike when bringing guests. Club policy allows guests if they live 20 miles or more from Green Valley (a GVR rule). You take responsibility for the guest and go on the hike with the guest. No guests are allowed on restricted hikes. A Leader may refuse the guest if it is determined that the guest is not properly prepared or would not be able to complete the hike. **HAVE YOUR GUEST SIGN AS 'GUEST' INSTEAD OF USING YOUR NUMBER...**eliminates computer clutter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Monday, April 24, 8 a.m., East Center Lounge. Coffee and doughnuts!! At the Annual Meeting... three new Board nominees are Asa Chamberlain, Florence Gado, and Dan Schroeder. Outgoing members are Ted Haartz, Vicki Mattox, and Jim Moore. Vote on the changes to the Bylaws.

MONTHLY BULLETINS: At all GVR centers. Identify yourself as a Club member when you ask for a copy.

(See reverse side)

Requirements to vote on By Laws changes: "Members who have participated in four (4) or more regularly scheduled hikes during the (12) months immediately preceding the annual meeting...shall be eligible to vote." (Article 111, Sec.3) Copies of the By Laws may be requested from the Club Secretary, Nancy Turner.

DID YOU GET A NEW DIRECTORY? You have probably never wondered how the Directory came to be...it's just always been there for you when you wanted to have a copy.

In the 1980's there was no Directory of Club Members. In 1990 Helen Zaukas asked permission from the Board to put together a list of names and addresses of Members. She passed out 3x5 index cards during hikes to collect names and addresses. (At the time, three hikes each week.) It was a big job. The first Directory in 1991 consisted of 4 pages - sold in the parking lot on Thursdays for a quarter since the Board would not underwrite the cost. When the Club implemented yearly dues in 1995, names and addresses were available. Dues increased monies in the treasury. The Directory no longer needed to be sold for 25 cents. It could be distributed free - two aspects of the job made easier. The number of pages went from 4 to 5 to 6 to 7 this year.

The Directory comes out yearly around March 1. As soon as it is published it is out of date...people continue to join. Unless you were a PAID member prior to the last week of February you are not listed. Better luck next year!

THE FEBRUARY 6 POTLUCK LARGEST ONE EVER!! 296 Hikers and guests signed up. Under the able leadership of Florence Gado and her outstanding committee, all wearing Valentine aprons made by Florence, the evening went off without a hitch. Instead of the usual table numbers, pictures of Hike Leaders attached to balloons identified each table. A representative of the Border Patrol spoke and answered many questions posed by Club members.

Since West Center holds a maximum of 300 people at tables, the time may be near when we have to limit the number of people attending our Potlucks, especially the largest one in February.

WORD OF WARNING: You are urged to mark any dish with your name to avoid confusion when you claim it, and to assure that you get your own back.

LOST AT THE FEBRUARY POTLUCK: Round 16 inch blue and white platter. Call Florence Gado at 648-3736.

THE BENIGN WEATHER THIS WINTER has made maintaining Madera Canyon an easy project. That was until our early March snowstorm. Some damage occurred-- principally downed limbs. Some of this has been cleared, but a full trail inspection and cleaning is contemplated in early April.

A PROJECT for replacing trail signs in the lower canyon has been reviewed with the Forest Service, and we anticipate that new permanent directional signs will be in place this Spring.

It is always a "day brightener" when retired Leader Svend Kristensen calls from his home in Denmark. We miss him.

The Club says goodbye to Rich Armstrong, Assistant Leader and former Board Member, who has moved to Florida.

THROUGH MARCH 10, 2000, there have been 37 hike days with 4408 total number of Hikers. The low month was August. The first Thursday in February brought out a record 260 Hikers. January was the peak month with 926 Hikers on 4 hike days, averaging 231.5 Hikers per day. (Still looking for the other .5) Scheduling nine hikes relieved the pressure.

Thirty-one Leaders and ten Assistant Leaders participate in leading and assisting. New Leaders since Autumn are Pat Caves, Wayne Moshier, Barry Murdoch, and Dick Paige. New Assistants are Walt Prue, LaVern Schroeder, and Dan Schroeder.

THE LEADERS HIKE GUIDE MANUAL contains descriptions of 257 hikes. This year so far we have made 178 hikes. 42 hikes have been repeated - some repeated more than once. Since July 1, 1999, no hikes were cancelled because of rain.

MANY OF YOU KNOW WE LIMIT OUR HIKE TO 35 HIKERS. However, there is another set of limits placed on our hikes you may not be aware of. In either section of Saguaro National Park, including Wasson Peak, the number of hikers in a group on all trails is limited to 18. The Forest Service recently informed us that all hikes entering the Pusch Ridge Wilderness in the Santa Catalina Mountains must be limited to 15 Hikers. This will necessitate adding limits to some 20 additional hikes.

In the past, when the limit was reached on these hikes we ran a second section. The rules set out by both agencies make it impractical in most cases to run a second section of a hike. As a result you may have to select a different hike if the limit has been reached. The implementation of these limits will cause some minor problems. We, as responsible Hikers, have an obligation to obey the spirit, as well as the letter, of the requirements.

As expressed by a Hiker - "If I don't get the hike I like, I like the hike I get."

WHEN SIGNING IN FOR A HIKE: Leave the sign-in clip board at the Leader's car. Print, then write your name. If your GVR number has changed (and you want credit for the hike) make a notation "New Number." New Hikers check the new hiker column. When you finish signing, check for "handouts" - bulletins, special printings, applications, etc. - THEN STEP ASIDE so the next Hiker can step up to the car and sign in.

IF YOU PLAN TO DRIVE (and if at all possible take your turn driving) tell the Leader. If you need a ride make sure you have one with a Driver. Keep track of your Driver. Drivers, keep track of your riders. "Don't assume." Often hikes fill and leave early. Keep an eye on your hike, be ready to leave early!

IF YOU ARE DRIVING: PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO DIRECTIONS! If you aren't sure, ask for them again. Have one of your riders listen also - a "Co-navigator" is good!! With so many hikes going in the same directions we need all the help we can get.

LEADERS: IF YOUR HIKE AND ANOTHER GOES THE SAME WAY, DECIDE WITH THE OTHER LEADER WHERE YOU WILL RENDEZVOUS TO AVOID CARS GETTING IN THE WRONG LINEUP. Work out a time lapse so both hikes don't leave the lot at the same time.

Trail Tales Editor -- Lillian Monson