

## President's Message

In my final month as president of the hiking club, I would like to express my thanks to all those who helped make 2012-13 an enjoyable and safe hiking year. I believe that we have a great program. It fits Green Valley and it meets the needs of our members.



It doesn't "just happen." The club runs smoothly because of all those who pitch in. And there are a lot of them. Let's look at it from the perspective of a new hiker.

First, to launch a new hiker's journey from a patch-less neophyte to a patched 50 (and more) miler, there is orientation. Board member Sue Kazmier is responsible for briefing potential new members Monday mornings through much of the year, a duty she shares with several others.

Then a first hike, selected from a schedule drawn up by Frank Surpless, our hike master, and his committee of experienced hikers. Before arriving at the West Center parking lot on Thursday morning, we check for any changes on our web site taken care of by our web master, Ron Barry. We may also look up background information on the hike in the web site's on-line library researched and written by Tom Johnson.

We then show up at the parking lot, sign in to our hike and take our first hike led by one of the club's 40 leaders and aided by one of the 20 assistant leaders, confident in their ability to guide us along a route that they have scouted at least once. They will lead one of the club's over 450 hikes developed over the many years the club has existed. We notice that the assistant leader carries a club first aid kit maintained and replenished (not often, we hope) by our assistant hike master, Larry Boehms. And if we do not already have one, we can pick up a copy of *Trail Tails*, our bi-annual newsletter edited by Katherine Carlson.

We return, and our mileage is recorded by George Chute, Phil Gray, or Karen Chadwell. We pay dues after our second free hike, mailing our application to Sandra Rooney, who's responsible for membership. Our treasurer, Larry Grove, deposits the money and Thom Davies, who does our directory, records the information.



The Annual Leaders' and Assistant Leaders' Breakfast is a time set aside to thank our leaders for all their time and contributions. It was held at East Center on January 7. The speakers were Helen Zaukas, Ken Fleshman and Wayne Mosier. The theme was the history of the club with an emphasis on personal stories.

We can buy a name tag from Marilyn Riley, who patrols the West Center parking lot Thursday mornings. After we have been credited for 50 miles, Bev Rosenthal, responsible for awards, will give our 50-mile patch to the hike leader for presentation.

When we receive a request for help with trail maintenance in Madera Canyon, our vice president, Susan Beck-Brown, liaises with the Forest Service and relays the request to Jim Riley, past president and now volunteer services coordinator, and to Jim Chisholm, who is responsible for trail maintenance. They request volunteers and organize the work.



Trail maintenance crew clears debris from a wash in Bell's Park, March 2013

Pot lucks are organized by Rosie Lemke three times a year. She is aided by greeters, reception desk, kitchen help, a speaker (often from the club), and of course her unofficial assistant, Ron Lemke. The large number of helpers ensures that all goes smoothly.

I must mention one other who is only visible at our annual meeting, and that is our secretary, Elaine Spindler. She takes the minutes for that meeting as well as for board meetings throughout the year.

Add it all up, and you will find that a lot of people are involved through the year – there is a good chance you are one of them or, if you are new, you will become one. Of course, there is overlap, since many people help in multiple areas.

So what do I do? There's nothing left – it's all done, not for me but for the club, by many volunteers doing what they do quietly, efficiently and conscientiously. They have my sincere gratitude for making my job so easy. It's been a pleasure working with them and serving all members this past year.

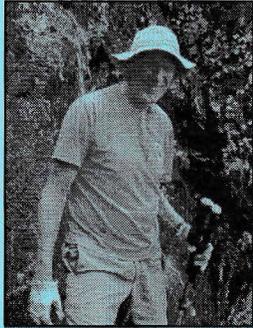
Susan Beck-Brown will be taking over as president, and it is apparent she will



## President's Message (continued)

inherit an active, capable and enthusiastic organization.

Finally, I would like to express our gratitude to Jim Riley, Bev Rosenthal, and Rosie Lemke who will leave after three years on the board, to Frank Surpluss for his exemplary



**Bill Hill, New Assistant  
Hike Master**

job during his one-year appointment as hike master, and to Ed Westhoven who was responsible for trail clean-up for so many years. Replacing them are Anita Woodward, Pam Boehms and Mary Bashore who have been elected to the board for three-year terms, Bill Hill, who will become assistant hike master as Larry Boehms moves up to hike master, and Jim Chisholm, who has taken on the trail maintenance/clean-up function along with Jim Riley. Lorrie Koons has recently volunteered for the position of historian, while Marilyn Riley has handled name tags during the absence of John Brant. I thank them on behalf of all members.

-- David Colpitts, President

## FROM THE HIKE MASTER...

From May of 2012 to April of 2013, The Green Valley Hiking Club has experienced growth in many ways. A new leader has come on board, a new sweep is making her presence known, and many new hikes have made their entrance upon our hiking stage.

Jim Chisholm, a veteran hiker in his own right, has already led his first hike after leader training during the winter. In addition, he has taken over the leadership of our Maintenance Committee and has shown his camera expertise in providing the club's web site with a stunning photo of one of our hikes adjacent to the Mexican border.

At the same time, we've lost six of our veteran hike leaders to retirement: Bill Cummins, Vicki Mattox, Walt Prue, Don Gfroerer, Bill Becker, and John Brant. Just to give an idea as to one of our leader's accomplishments, Bill Becker's hikes have put together the combined elevation of 5½ Mt. Everests! We lost one sweep to retirement, Merle Batty, a former leader and hike master; his place has been taken by Renee Fontaine-Ebel, whose enthusiasm adds much to the hikes she sweeps.

May 1 of 2012, saw 427 hikes in the club's hiking repertoire. As of April 2013, the number has climbed to 455! Our leaders have continued to research pristine areas for our Thursday hikers to explore and enjoy. Some of the new hikes are variations of previous hikes, but the changes have added much to the total enjoyment for all of us. But we've had to archive ten of our hikes because of mining activity: Rosemont took over one of our trail heads which four hikes used. And Freeport-McMoRan purchased some State Trust Land for installing a number of monitoring wells to protect our aquifer, thus eliminating six hikes.

The Green Valley Hiking Club is not a static organization. The club continues to add to and expand our trails. The end result? Hikers returning from a Thursday hike with the knowledge that they've trekked to often far-flung and unusual destinations, with stories to tell and photos to share. Can't beat that!

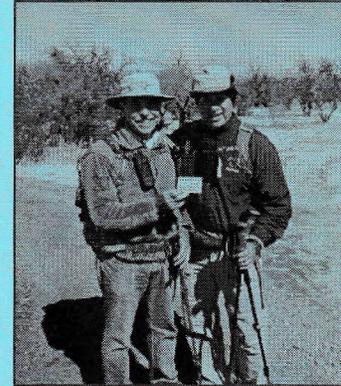
--Frank Surpluss, Hike Master



Ever wonder where members get those shirts, vests, caps, etc., sporting the GVR Hiking Club logo? **Discount Embroidery**, 3504 E. Grant St., Tucson, 326-6525, will machine embroider the club logo on an item that you bring in to the store. The cost is \$7.00 per item. Allow 4-7 working days.

## Meet Jim Chisholm, New Hike Leader

My wife, Lynn, and I became full-time residents in January 2012, following my retirement from the Wisconsin Air National Guard (ANG), where I worked for 40 years in aircraft maintenance. The first club we eagerly joined was the hiking club. It was an opportunity for us to meet new people and to get some exercise while enjoying the great outdoors. I was immediately impressed with how well-organized the club is and how enthusiastic the leaders and members are. I appreciate all the guidance and knowledge that the leaders have shared with me and I look forward to leading "Safe and Enjoyable" hikes for our members at all levels.

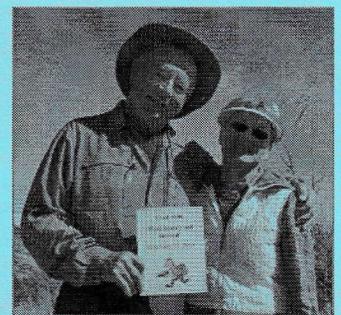


**Jim (on left) receives his  
leader patch from Assistant  
Hike Master Larry Boehms**



I have two doctors. my right leg and my left.

G.M. Trevelyan



**Bill Becker and wife Bonnie  
celebrate Bill's 100th (and final)  
lead at Pena Blanca and  
Beyond, February 21, 2013**

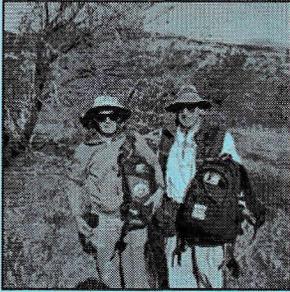
## IN REMEMBRANCE

Andy Juhasz  
Jim Moore  
Kay Perry  
Olive Walker



## Awards

Bev Rosenthal reports that from October 25, 2012 to March 14, 2013, the club presented a total of 77 patches. Congratulations to everyone who earned patches, with special congratulations to the following members who were recognized for 2,000 miles or more:



Bonnie Becker – 2,000  
 Ron Barry – 2,500  
 Bud Boysen – 2,500  
 Kathy Chute – 3,000  
 Jim Campbell – 5,000

**Jim Campbell and Tom Johnson**  
 have logged 9,000 miles

## Treasurer's Report

The club ended 2012 with a checking account balance of \$8,260.48. This is \$5,018 greater than the balance at the end of 2011 due to the cashing in of a \$5,524 CD that was yielding insignificant income. During the year we switched banks from Bank of America, which charged us a monthly service fee, to BMO Harris Bank, which has no fees. Dues income for 2012 was \$3,530 --\$1,620 below 2011. This is due to the fact that fewer dues for the new year were collected in December. A full copy of my report presented at the annual meeting is available upon request.

--Larry Grove, Treasurer

## Orientation News

To prepare prospective hikers to hike safely in our desert, the hiking club provides Orientation and Registration sessions every Monday in November through March, and twice monthly the remaining months except for the summer. Our O&R presenters include Bud Boysen, Bob Koons, Winnie Kruper, Ron Lemke, Walt Prue, and myself. John Brant has just joined us to replace Don & Barb Gfroerer, who have moved out of GV and whose services will be greatly missed.

In 2012, 200 people attended O&R, with 104 taking the first hike. So far in 2013, 126 have attended O&R with 74 taking the first hike, compared to 131 taking O&R in 2011.

Our purpose is to give the O&R attendees the information to decide if they can safely hike with our group, but even if they don't decide to hike with us, we feel that we provide a valuable service to those who do choose to hike in our area.

--Sue Kazmier, Orientation Chair

## Assistant Hike Master's Report

Eight small ("mini") first aid kits have been purchased, bringing the total number of mini-kits to 14. These mini-kits replace the old, larger kits and will be used exclusively for club hikes as of March 2013. In addition, each leader has been given a sling and splint for their backpack and each assistant leader a sling. Thanks to Sally Boysen for making the slings and Frank Surpluss for

purchasing the splints. I am happy to say the amount of first aid supplies used to date has been limited – a good sign that our hike leaders and assistant leaders are doing a good job of promoting our motto, "Safe and Enjoyable Hiking."

Communication between the Border Patrol and Hiking Club has been excellent. Each month we send the Nogales Border Patrol Section (and other sections as needed) copies of our hike bulletin so that field agents can be notified of our presence in the hike area. We appreciate the continued cooperation and support of the Border Patrol.

--Larry Boehms, Assistant Hike Master

## These Couples are *Golden*

Congratulations to three long-time hiking club couples who recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversaries. *Bud and Sally Boysen, Bob and Lorrie Koons, and Bert and Inge Mueller* are proof positive that couples who hike together, stay together (and take really nice anniversary trips too)!



**Inge and Bert** (pictured here in Ventana Canyon) celebrated with family on the Big Island of Hawaii



**Bob and Lorrie** journeyed to France



**Sally and Bud** enjoyed hiking among the clouds in Norway

## Social News

As I come the end of my three-year term, I am grateful for the opportunity to give back to the club that my husband Ron and I enjoy so very much. It was my pleasure to serve. I thank the volunteers at the potlucks, too many to list. I thank the speakers: Bill Adamson (twice), Ron Lemke, David Colpitts, Dean Feige, Doug Kruetz, Border Patrol, Ralph Coltrin and Cathy Hufault and Joe Frazier. The potlucks are well attended and provide an opportunity to see our fellow hikers in attire other than hiking apparel. The club invited Leaders Emeritus to attend the February Potluck, and Jim Campbell displayed photo albums of the history of the club. Tom Johnson, the club's librarian, displayed books available for check-out.

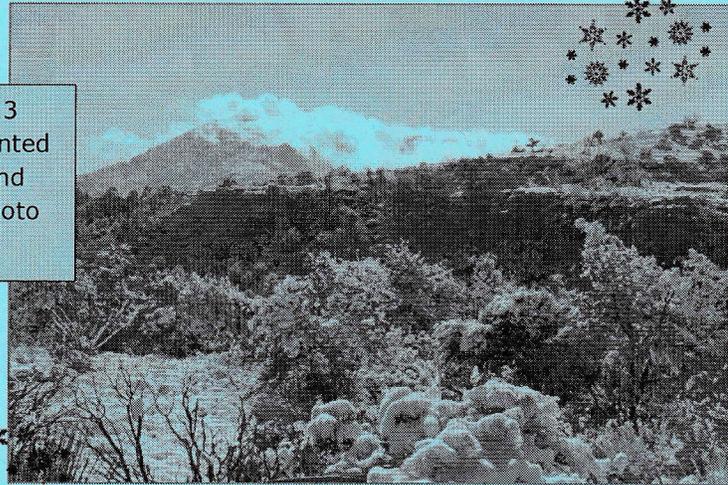
--Rose Marie Lemke, Social Chair



### On the Trail . . .



The winter of 2012-2013 brought nearly unprecedented snowfall to our desert and provided some unique photo ops.



A snowy scene at Corral Nuevo

Elaine Spindler makes a "snow angel" during the Beyond Box Frame Tank hike on February 21.



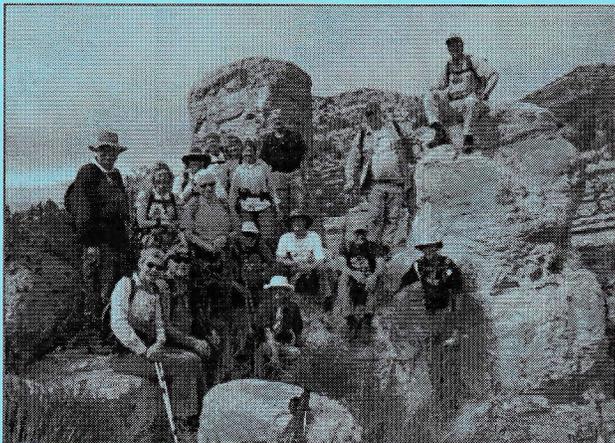
But we still enjoy the opportunity to appreciate the wonders of nature and the pleasures of hiking *without* all that white stuff!

Intrepid hikers make their way carefully down the trail while scouting the Corral Nuevo Ramble.

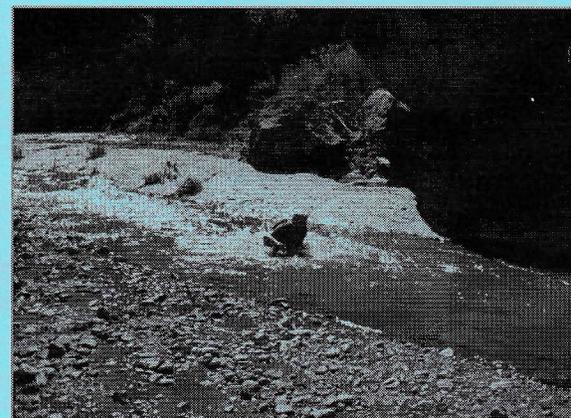


Robles Pass hikers were impressed by this palo verde serving as "nurse" to no fewer than 27 saguaros!

Hikers pause for a photo on "The Mexico Sphinx" at Amigo Basin on January 24.



A prehistoric-looking "Chihuahua Lubber" posed for this photo on Bob Porterfield's fingers.



Neal "Splash" Bashore takes an unexpected swim in Aravaipa Canyon.