

President's Message

Most of you are aware that Sue Beck-Brown was forced to resign as President last fall in the face of family medical issues. Anita Woodward, as Vice-President, filled in marvelously until the December board meeting, when I was elected to serve the remainder of Sue's term. The GVHC board and our members have been tremendously helpful in this transition and I extend my deep gratitude to you all.



Our membership continues strong with large attendance at our Monday Orientation sessions offered so professionally by Sue Kazmier and her team of presenters. A GVHC table at GVR's "Fit and Fun" Club Expo on January 26th saw many interested GVR members stop by for information regarding our hikes and the countryside around us. Articles in *Keeping Current* and the *Green Valley News* also keep the club in people's minds.

Many club members attended a set of courses in January, February, and March illuminating the mysteries and intricacies of Map Reading, Terrain Navigator, and GPS use. Kudos to David Colpitts, Dan Schroeder, and Bill Hill for a job very well done. FYI, no one has gotten lost in the classes yet!

Hike participation has grown as our winter visitors have returned and the weather has favored our outings. Many thanks to the hike leaders and Larry Boehms (Hike Master) and Bill Hill (Assistant Hike Master) for keeping us "on trek."

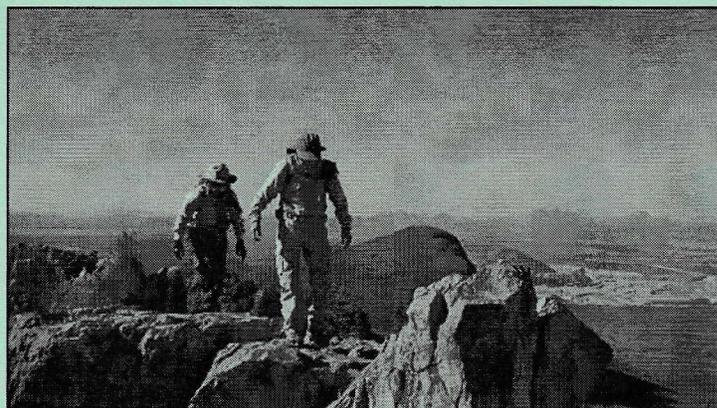
Our Pot Luck Dinners have been a tremendous success in November and February thanks to the diligence of Pam Boehms and Kathy Davisson and their army of helpers.

Thanks also go to Elaine Spindler for an excellent job keeping our records straight, Larry Grove for watching over our finances (What's this about a sinking fund with Holland America?), Mary Bashore's awarding efforts, Sandy Rooney for keeping membership in line, and so many of you working quietly to keep this great club running (or at least hiking).

Happy Trails!
--Jim Riley, President



Pres. Riley represents the club at GVR's Fit & Fun Day



Bill and Marylee Adamson negotiating the "Ridge of Death" while scouting Safford Peak (photo by Bill Hill)

Photo Gallery Makes Debut

The Hiking Club's new photo gallery is very popular with currently more than 70 photos. You can reach the website either directly at <http://greenvalleyhikingclub.tumblr.com> or through a link on the first page of the club's main site at <http://www.gvrhc.org>. Instructions for uploading your photos are also on the site.

It is easy to upload photos. Just send an email to upcfzoxtb8i@tumblr.com. You can email a few photos each time, but you can have only one description per email. Please include the name of the hike and your name with your description. One warning though — several members have found that too many photos in one email causes the email to be rejected. Three photographs is a safe number and jpeg compressed is a good idea.

Check the site weekly for photos of new hikes and please add to the gallery!

--Stephen Herron

Editor's Note: Above is just one of the many beautiful photographs currently in the gallery. For more, see **On the Trail** on page 4, or better yet, visit the gallery!

Thank you, Summit Hut!



Green Valley Hiking Club members enjoyed an exclusive event hosted by Summit Hut on January 26. See page 4 for a 15% savings on a future Summit Hut purchase!



From the Hike Master . . .



October through February has seen the traditional increase in participation as reflected in the following number of hikers per month:

- October, 308 hikers
- November, 361 hikers
- December, 319 hikers
- January 903 hikers
- The first Thursday in February had 203 hikers.

Special thanks to our leaders and assistant leaders during these busy months. In January, 22 leaders led two hikes apiece to accommodate the 55 hikes that were scheduled.

One new leader and three assistant leaders have been trained since October. We welcome Jerry Sazama as a new leader and Stephen Herron, Jim Cooper, and Geri Paxton as new assistant leaders. We would like to thank all the leaders and assistant leaders who participated in their month-long training.

I have received retirement letters from two leaders: Phil Gray and LaVern Schroeder. Also retiring is assistant leader Jim Campbell.

Jim Campbell joined the hiking club in 1987 and became an assistant leader in 1998. He has earned his 5,000-mile patch hiking with the club. Jim has participated in many club projects, including trail maintenance. If you have ever hiked with Jim, you know he has the habit of removing trash from the trail as he hikes.

LaVern Schroeder joined the hiking club in 1996 and became a leader in January of 2001. She has earned her 3,000-mile patch. LaVern has also been an assistant leader for her husband Dan, who is also a leader in the club. They make a great team. LaVern will receive her "Emeritus Leader Patch" at the Leaders' Meeting on March 25th. Her last hike as a leader will be April 17th.

Phil Gray joined the hiking club in 1999 and became a leader in 2003. He has earned his 3,500-mile patch. Phil has served the club in a number of leadership positions, including president two times. Phil will receive his "Emeritus Leader Patch" at the Leaders' Meeting on March 25th. His last hike as a leader will be March 13th.

Please remember to check the Hike Bulletin on the club's web page weekly for updates. These updates may include change of departure times, leader and hike changes. Also, please come to the parking lot at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled departure time of the hike you select. This allows leaders to assign cars and organize travel to the trail head.

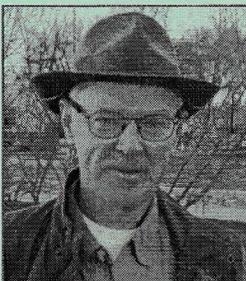
Finally, my two-year tenure as Assistant Hike Master and Hike Master ends May 1st. The leaders, assistant leaders, and club board have been great to work with during this time. The club will be in good hands under the leadership of Bill Hill, Hike Master and Jim Riley, Assistant Hike Master next year.



Earlier March and April departure times may provide hikers with opportunities to enjoy sunrises like this from the East Center parking lot (photo by Larry Grove).

--Larry Boehms, Hike Master

Meet New Leader, Jerry Sazama



I hail from Chippewa Falls, WI, where I practiced law for 40 years. This is my sixth year as an AZ snowbird and my fourth year with the hiking club. My other interests are biking, backpacking and running. I spend my summers helping to build and maintain the Ice Age National Scenic Trail. I'm

married with three adult children. GVHC is a great organization—I'm glad to be a part of it.



Orientations Set New Record

In the first 7 weeks of 2014, a record number of 108 people have attended O&R sessions. This compares to an annual total of 211 people in 2013 and 200 in 2012.

Our sessions give the O&R attendees the information to decide if they can safely hike with our group, and about half decide not to hike with us for various reasons. Even if they don't hike with our club, we feel that we provide valuable information to those who do choose to hike in Southwest Arizona.

I would like to recognize the O&R presenting team which includes Bud Boysen, Kathy Chute, Bob Koons, Ron Lemke, and Sue Kazmier. Thom Davies inputs the registration information in a spreadsheet which is used to log hikes and award patches.

--Sue Kazmier, Orientation Chair



Club Conducts Courses Over Winter

by David Colpitts

Over a 10-week period from January to March, the hiking club conducted three courses related to land navigation.

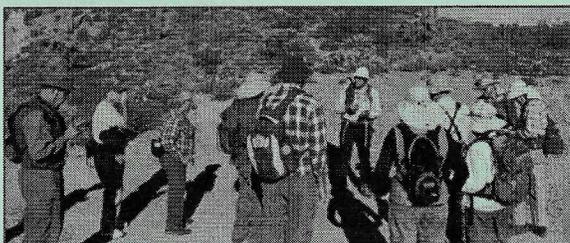
The first course was how to read a topographical map. Over two evening classroom sessions and one outdoor morning session, it covered how to use the unique features of a topographical map to read the terrain, including interpreting contour lines, USGS map symbols, route selection, and finding a grid reference. The instructor was David Colpitts.

The Terrain Navigator course was taught by Dan Schroeder and included two evenings of class room instruction. The first evening demonstrated the program and highlighted its capabilities so students could decide whether they wished to purchase the program. During the second evening, students used their copy of Terrain Navigator in the classroom, learning how to transfer tracks to and from a GPS, organize files and plot routes.

The GPS course, taught by Bill Hill, included one evening of class room instruction and two daytime outdoor sessions. The evening session answered any questions regarding basic GPS functions, while the outdoor sessions provided hands-on experience with creating tracks and waypoints and using the GPS to navigate to a location.

The courses were popular and each was run twice to accommodate the 46 members who were enrolled in the map course, 31 in Terrain Navigator, and 42 in the GPS.

Popular, but also, it has been reported, effective, since no one who took any of the courses has been reported lost.



Bill Hill takes GPS course students to the field to practice what they have learned about navigating with their hand-held GPSs (photo by David Colpitts).

Treasurer's Report

As of December 31, 2013 the club had a cash balance of \$8,496.69 vs. \$8,260.48 as of December 31, 2012. For the year of 2013 we had income of \$5,670.00 and expenses of \$5,433.79 for a net income of \$236.21. Most of the income is from club dues with small amounts from sale of name tags. Major expenses were printing and copying, \$1,278.99; purchase of award patches, \$1,232.89; donations to other hiking-related organizations, \$800; leaders & assistants annual breakfast, \$764.57; pot luck dinners and other social events, \$405.16. Our financial position is strong and virtually unchanged from the previous year. Additional details regarding the club's finances can be obtained from Larry Grove, Treasurer, at LGroveAZ@Cox.net or by phone at (520) 625-3053.

Membership Report

As of February 18, 2014, the club has 445 members, 66 of whom are new. As of this same time last year, we had 433 members, 78 of whom were new. At the end of 2013 we had 462 members, 98 of whom were new.

--Sandra Rooney, Membership Chair



I always carry with me soy sauce, bacon bits, Parmesan cheese, curry, olive oil, garlic powder, bouillon, and oregano. With those items, I figure I can make a tasty meal out of dirt and grass if necessary.

—JOHN FAYHEE,
Along the Arizona Trail, 1998



Social News

We had a great turnout for our February potluck. A total of 217 club members enjoyed dinner together and a presentation on wildflower identification by author and garden designer, Scot Calhoun. Thanks again to the volunteers who worked hard to make this a successful event.

Our next potluck is scheduled for Sunday, April 6th beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the West Social Center. We are thrilled that hike club leaders Sally and Bud Boysen will be our speakers, sharing highlights of their recent hiking trip to Norway. You can sign up for the April potluck in the West Center parking lot prior to hiking on Thursday, March 20th, Thursday, March 27th and/or Thursday, April 3rd.

For those who like to plan ahead, below are the dates for the 2014-2015 potlucks. It's never too early to put these on your calendars!

Sunday, November 2nd, 2014
Sunday, February 8th, 2015
Sunday, April 12th, 2015

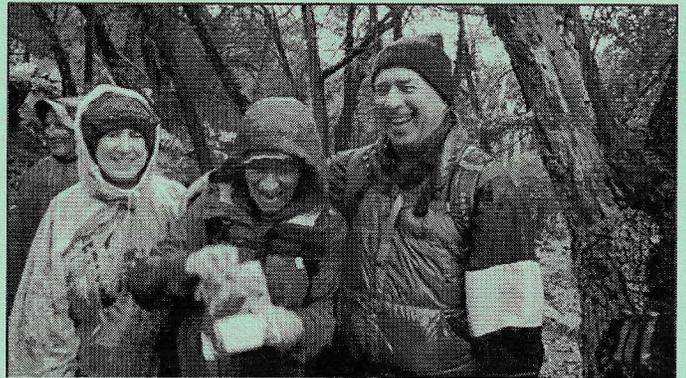
Questions??? Please call Pam Boehms (829-7270) or Kathy Davisson (777-3738).



Awards

Awards Chair Mary Bashore reports the following major awards presented since last October:

- Bill Hammond – 2,000 miles
- Helen Zaukas – 6,500 miles
- Larry Grove – 2,000 miles
- Sally Boysen – 2,500 miles



Helen Zaukas is totally surprised by Larry Boehms with a 6,500 -mile patch (photo by Bill Hill from Photo Gallery)

And...is it just a coincidence that on Thursday, November 21, two couples received awards? Bob and Lorrie Koons each received their 1,500-mile patch from Larry Boehms, Hike Master. (Bob was leading and Lorrie was his sweep.) Lynn Chisholm received her 250-mile award from Wayne Moshier, leader and former Hike Master. Jim Chisholm led the Mt. Wrightson hike that day and received his 500-mile award from Terry Ferguson, his sweep. (Thanks to Kathy Chute for passing on this news.)

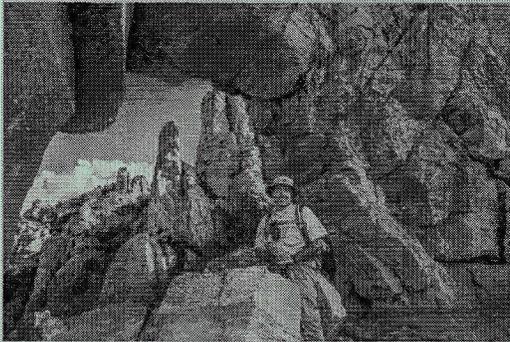
In Remembrance

Willis Greimann
Helga Hoffmann



Congratulations on these achievements and to all who have earned patches!

On the Trail . . . a few more samples from the Photo Gallery



Jim Chisholm at Window Rock (Dennis Ernst)



On the way up Elephant Head
February 13, 2014 (David Colpitts)



Lunch at Seven Falls Bear Canyon
(Frans W. Brinkman)

What else can you find on the club's website at www.gvrhc.org?

- Monthly Hike Bulletins with up-to-date information
- Official club documents such as bylaws, policy manual, officer listing, and board minutes
- Library listing indexed by mountain range
- Membership and State Land Permit Applications
- This issue of *Trail Tales* in color!

Got News?

Email Katherine Carlson, *Trail Tales* Editor, at carlson.katherine@gmail.com.

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