



**Hike Master Progression in Progress !**



**Bill White**

**Kim Boswell**

**David Linn**

**A farewell from Hike Master, Bill White**

It's been my pleasure and honor to serve as your hike master. With a lot of help from others – particularly our fine group of hike leaders – our club will have offered 320 hikes for you to enjoy during my one-year term, which ends April 30. These include over 50 new hikes developed and offered in the last two years.

We've persisted and thrived though the COVID pandemic, a wild monsoon season and the launch of limited online reservations for hikes. The incoming hike master, **David Linn**, will have his own challenges and opportunities during his term, and I can assure you he is ready for them.

I wish him well, and I hope you will support his efforts as you did mine in trying to make our Thursday hiking safe and enjoyable.

**Our incoming Hike Master, David Linn**

As I gear up to assume the hikemaster position in May I'm again struck by the level of effectiveness on display by this organization. A hiking club of volunteers (*i.e., contributors*

*without obligation*) with over 300 members, has created over 500 viable and proven hikes, hikes weekly 11 months a year with between 4 to 11 hikes each week, has an impressive safety track record, and has developed policies and by-laws that GVR has duplicated. This is impressive!

It is a little daunting to be placed in a leadership role for all this. There will be much to do and many decisions to make. If I am half as capable as my predecessors both recent and removed I will be well satisfied. I do know I will not be alone in my efforts. This club takes care of its members, and its leaders, speaking of which, I am pleased to nominate and announce my assistant Hike Master for the 2022-2023 year club cycle....

**Kim Boswell, Assistant Hike Master**

Kim brings many fine qualifications to this position. She is an experienced leader and sweep, is technologically savvy, is easy to work with, is articulate, and enjoys the respect of our club members.

Not only do I look forward to partnering with her for my term as hikemaster, I have great confidence that she will be a strong leader when she assumes the hikemaster mantle during her 2023-2024 tenure.

**Club Presidents Report**

The Board and I have accomplished a number of things this year, including:

- Reviewing and updating the By Laws in preparation for the March 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
(Where the members will vote on the By Law changes.)
- Reviewing and updating the Policy Manual to present at the Feb 15<sup>th</sup> board meeting
- Supporting and Assisting the HM & AHM in their implementation of limited online reservations
- Reviewing criteria and process for 'GVR Hiking Club Hall of Fame' and 'Hike Leader Emeritus';  
These have both been approved by the board, and are updated in the Policy Manual
- Reviewing insurance needs; unfortunately, we still haven't found acceptable coverage
- Holding the fall potluck, and hoping to hold another one in the spring (March 20th)

We are in the process of finding people to fill positions on the board that will open up at the Annual Meeting. We are ALWAYS looking for people who are interested in being a part of the board. The GVR Hiking Club is an amazing club, and we need people to step up and be a part of making sure that the club continues to thrive.

Thanks to all of you who make this club so special!

**Janet Gerdes, President**

## NEW HIKE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Three years ago Wayne Moshier and Richard Shimanek asked me to join them in developing new hikes. It since has become a passion for me. There is nothing better than to talk to a hiker who has enjoyed a new hike and tells you so.

When searching for new hikes I've learned that out of about five or six tries we would be lucky to get one which might be worth developing. It might look good on paper but when it's tried out in the field, most of the time it will result in a "no go." Once we find one we want to develop, we will re-scout and re-tweak it many times before it will make it from the drawing board to the Hikemaster's desk for consideration. If we can give hikers a hike with historic interest, a waterfall, unusual rock formations, a remote location or a scenic lunch spot, we'll probably have a full hike with curious hikers wanting to check it out.

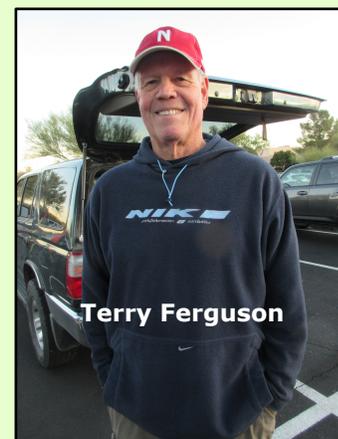
"Apache Footsteps to the Falls" and "Gardner Canyon Country" are two hikes which take you to a usually always flowing and one of the prettiest little waterfalls in Arizona. And then, "Box Canyon West" and "Murray Springs Mammoths" are hikes where mammoth bones and artifacts from human hunters 12,000 years ago were discovered. Joe Frazier will be on the hikes to show his arrowhead collection and demonstrate how an atlatl and Clovis Points were used by the ancient Clovis People to bring down their prey.

More: "Charleston and Millville Ghost Towns" have petroglyphs, a "Battle of the Bulls" monument and story, with seldom seen adobe ruins, plus not to miss; "Going Half Hog," "Red Spring Red Pass," "Red Tank Lower Sardina Dam" and "Mustang's Mysterious Cave."

Currently Susan Beck-Brown and I are working on two "Baby Jesus" hikes in the Baby Jesus Ridge area north of Tucson, an area named after a rock formation resembling Madonna and the baby Jesus. Curious? There are over 3400 different glyphs in the area and so far we have found around 200-300. One is called "Baby Jesus Petroglyph" and the other is "Baby Jesus and the Giant" (a giant saguaro).

Finally, I want to thank Wayne, the king of the hike creators, for challenging me to scout out new hikes and teaching me so much. Many, if not most of the hikes mentioned above, were co-designed with him.

**Terry Ferguson**



## NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS



<b>Appalachian Trail</b> 2,181 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 14 states</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: 124 ft.</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 6,625 ft.</li> </ul>	<b>New England Trail</b> 220 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 2 states</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: Sea Level</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 1,202 ft.</li> </ul>
<b>Arizona Trail</b> 817 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only in 1 state</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: 1,700 ft.</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 9,600 ft.</li> </ul>	<b>North Country Trail</b> 4,600 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 7 states</li> <li>• The longest national scenic trail</li> <li>• Will one day connect to the Appalachian Trail</li> </ul>
<b>Continental Divide Trail</b> 3,100 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 5 states</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: 3,900 ft.</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 14,270 ft.</li> </ul>	<b>Pacific Crest Trail</b> 2,650 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 3 states</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: 140 ft.</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 13,153 ft.</li> </ul>
<b>Florida Trail</b> 1,000 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only in 1 state</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: Sea Level</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 270 ft.</li> </ul>	<b>Pacific Northwest Trail</b> 1,200 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crosses 3 National Parks</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: Sea Level</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 7,775 ft.</li> </ul>
<b>Ice Age Trail</b> 1,200 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only in Wisconsin</li> <li>• Lowest Elevation: 580 ft.</li> <li>• Highest Elevation: 1,920 ft.</li> </ul>	<b>Potomac Heritage Trail</b> 700 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 3 states and DC</li> <li>• Consists of many sections</li> <li>• Numerous side trails and alternatives</li> </ul>
<b>Natchez Trace Trail</b> 695 miles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes through 3 states</li> <li>• Many towns and historical sites along the trail</li> <li>• Some sections used 8,000 years ago</li> </ul>	



## SURVIVAL TIP:

If you get lost  
in the woods  
start talking  
about politics  
and someone  
will show up  
to argue with  
you.



## A Chilly Thursday Morn

*The cold hung heavy upon the land, A global warming snafu;  
Enough to freeze even anti-freeze, And turn brown eyes blue. ("The Three Scotsmen")*

It was a chilly Thursday morning that day way back in February, 2011. Chilly? Heck, it was downright COLD: 15 degrees! Few hikers even showed up; most stayed in bed. I was assigned to lead the Bog Springs A hike in Madera Canyon. The hike master gave all permission to return home without loss of face, but said any leader who wished to could continue. I was the only one who wanted to go.



David and Wayne on a much warmer day

But would anyone else want to come with me? My sweep had already begged off: house flooded. And yes, there were ten hardy souls, clad in seldom-used clothing hauled down from states well north of Arizona. One hiker volunteered to sweep. You need to be careful with volunteers: will they work out? Can they do the job?

I was darn sure this one had not been doing much sweeping for years and was probably extremely rusty. But without any other volunteers...

We started at Roundup (9 degrees) and proceeded to Bog Springs. The freezing temperature was not an issue.

In fact it was a perfect winter day of the sort seldom seen in Green Valley. At Bog Springs it became apparent that one of our hikers was having breathing problems. The new plan added a diversion to Helen's Waterfall, from where we could go up a short distance to join the Pipeline Trail and return to the cars.

We got to Helen's Waterfall with no difficulties. It wasn't known as Helen's Waterfall in those days. Nor was it a waterfall on this cold day: it was a sheet of hanging icicles with few liquid droplets. Unique. And exquisite! We paused there for a snack and a water break. What water?? Our bladder hoses had frozen and were useless. At least I had my thermos of hot tea to circulate for sips all around.

On to the Pipeline Trail. It was an easy trek, but only for a short distance. A burst pipe had formed an ice pillar, with smooth ice radiating a distance from it. What now?

It was an icy uphill bushwhack which took us through bush, and fallen trees, and then down to the trail some ways further. No scrapes, bruises or blood. But blood would freeze instantly and other wounds would become numb. And then finishing off with a short hike back to our warm cars—a memorable outing it was!

Oh, and that volunteer sweep, it was Wayne Moshier.



Can This really be Madera Canyon ??

David Colpitts

### **Mileage awards!**

**50 Miles- 17, 250 miles -7, 500 miles- 3**

**1000 miles** (Jim Beckerleg, Barb Fleshman, Keith Blair, Barb Lorek, Nancy White, Mary Pulkrabek, Peter White, Duane Brown)

**1500 miles** (David Kean, Doug Jurgens, Bill White, David Linn)

**2000 miles** (Jan Jordan)

**2500 miles** (Jim Riley, David Colpitts)

**3500 miles! (Patty Greimann) 4000 miles! (Sally Boysen)**

### **In memoriam: Milt Foster**

*A hiker remembers ...*

"Milt led the very first club hike that I was on in the year 2000. Wife Kate was his capable sweep. I was completely captivated as Milt named the plants, birds, told imaginative stories & recited poetry, and made the miles melt away as he introduced me to the love of hiking in southern Arizona. I am forever grateful to the wonder that Milt shared with me that day." *Judith LeClair* (Milt was 100 when he passed!)

**Words of wisdom...Never blame someone else for the road you're on..That's your own asphalt.**

## Chiricahua Peak

In the 2013-2015 time frame, while Wayne Moshier and I were spending a lot of time in the Chiricahua Mountains developing and updating hikes, I would ask him about Chiricahua Peak and the trails leading to it. He maintained that although it was a good hike when he visited the peak, the views from the top were obstructed by the trees at the summit. Then in 2011 the Horseshoe 2 Fire burned many acres in the Chiricahua Peak area causing considerable damage to the trail system leading to the peak with many downed trees blocking the routes.

In 2019 I was in communications with the forest service about several of our hikes when I asked about the trails leading to Chiricahua Peak. They said that those trails were worked on and were once again in good shape to the peak. That was exactly what I wanted to hear. I had to find out if we could include this peak in our club's list of attainable peaks.

Chiricahua Peak at 9,763 feet peak: not only is it the highest summit in the Chiricahua Mountains, and the highest point in Cochise County; it is the highest elevation peak for the hiking club.



Looking at my maps, I found two good routes to the peak utilizing Forest Service trails. One started at the end of the Turkey Creek Road to the west of the peak. This route would be 9.6 miles with 3,600 feet of elevation gain. The second route starts at Rustler Park Campground to the north of the peak. Though longer at 12.4 miles, it only has an elevation gain of 2,400 feet. I chose this route for the Club since it has the added benefit of also visiting Flys Peak, the second highest summit in the Chiricahua Mountains, at 9,649 feet.

I first scouted the hike on 25 July 2019 with Dave Colicchio and Dave Toeniskoetter. Except for a little trouble with the intended trail at the end, everyone agreed that this was an excellent hike on Forest Service trails with exceptional views on every segment of the route.

As Wayne had advised, the views at Chiricahua Peak were still obstructed by trees. However, we found a fantastic lunch spot on the ridge to the south after visiting the peak with spectacular views and many geodes in the area. After another scout to finalize the route, we were ready to run the hike for the club but encountered COVID and weather delays. Finally on 21 October 2021, we were able to run the hike. Every hiker that went along on the maiden hike, expressed their pleasure of being able to view

the sights on this difficult A hike.



David Toeniskoetter, Jim Chisholm,  
David Linn and Steve Toeniskoetter  
(Photo by Dawn Kean)

Jim Chisholm

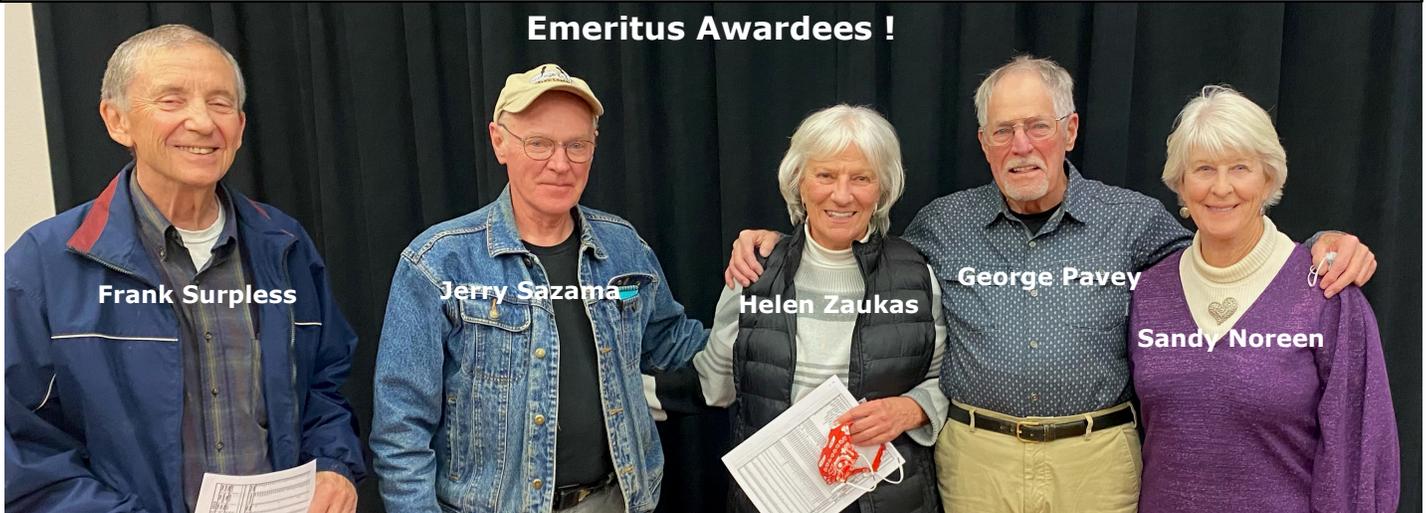
## Leader Emeritus

Five veteran hike leaders who have retired from leading hikes with our Club received the **Leader Emeritus** designation in February. They are; **Frank Surpless, Jerry Sazama, Helen Zaukas, George Pavey and Sandy Noreen.**

The emeritus designation is a special recognition that each of them contributed many years of hike leadership to help our Club succeed.

**Congratulations to each and all!**

## Emeritus Awardees !



Frank Surpless

Jerry Sazama

Helen Zaukas

George Pavey

Sandy Noreen