SEDONA WESTERNERS MONTHLY MEETING
November 14, 2024
Sedona Public Library
3250 White Bear Lane, Sedona, AZ

CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 pm

WELCOME
Trail Boss Terri Petrescu welcomed both new and returning members to the first 2024 monthly Roundup meeting. She invited new members to stand up and introduce themselves. New members came from Montana, Dallas, France, Phoenix, and Colorado by way of England.

Trail Boss – Terri Petrescu

- Terri talked about her first stint as Trail Boss and her first meeting, which was in 2020. Due to COVID, there were no in-person meetings or hikes that year. She has now returned as Trail Boss for the 2024-25 year.
- The photo of Munds Notch Overlook hike was shown along with an old Westerners map from Ray LaPorte.

Foreman's Report – Mark Bealafeld

- Net Revenue this month: $922
- Net Expenses this month: $1250
- 272 paid memberships
- $8949 in the bank

Voting Matters

- Approval of the Minutes of the April 11, 2004, Monthly Roundup Meeting
  - Terri called for a motion to approve the minutes.
  - Moved by Jim McCabe
  - Seconded by Jon Petrescu
  - The motion carried.

- Approval of the Foreman's Financial Report of October 2024
  - Terri called for a motion to approve the Financial Report.
  - Moved by Deb Losse
  - Seconded by Sophia Sweeney
  - The motion carried.

Officer Reports

Prospector – Sandi Heysinger

- Total members: 331
- New members: 67
- Honorary: 33 (out of the 331)

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- The club is about 30 members ahead in each category from last year, and 20 behind from the year before.
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Historian – Lora Ellis

- Overall, we're doing well in getting pictures from hikes.
- Lora encourages pictures of the hikers, preferably from the front

Roundup Boss Report – Sara Stiffler

- Thank you to those that have written articles for the Red Rock News and those that have promised articles.
- We have 10 articles published so far this year.

Chuckwagon Report – Lynn Moffat

- Lynn gave thanks to all of the wonderful volunteers at the picnic, and especially her assistant, Adrienne Pichette.

Ranger/Forest Service Liaison – Hassan Hosseini

- Hassan was contacted by Forest Service. They desperately need our help because of significant budget cuts.
- This Saturday will be a trail work day on the Scorpion Trail, 8:30-12:30. All are invited to lend a hand. Meet at the Park & Ride lot next to the high school. DO NOT park at the Scorpion Trailhead.

Sunbeam Report – Lisa Celeste

- Lisa is the official sender of cards. Let her know if anyone needs cheering up.

Hike Boss Reports:

Amblers:	**Jon Petrescu**
Rustlers:	**Lisa Critchlow**
Drovers:	**Amanda Maxwell**
Dogies:	**Jim Thomas**
Mustangs:	**Bob Apter**
Cactus Dodger/Rough Riders:	**Randy Dent**
Trackers:	**John Regalski**

The Hike Bosses thanked those who led, co-led and tailgated on the September and October hikes, and shared news of upcoming hikes. All are encouraged to participate in scouting for upcoming hikes.

New Business

The executive board approved the addition of a new hiking group below the Amblers, the Drifters.

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- Donna led the test hikes last year.
- The board recommended that group goes forward.
- This requires a change of the bylaws to be presented to the membership for a vote in January.
- If the Bylaw changes are approved, we will vote on Donna to be the hike leader for the remainder of the year.

There is a proposed By-law change that the Trail Boss & Chuckwagon Boss work together for events.

Holiday Party – Lynn Moffat
Holiday Party – Dec. 12 at the Oak Creek Country Club, 5:00 pm, for appetizers and line dancing. Reservations are now open. The cost is $20/person. Bring an unwrapped new toy for donation to Toys for Tots if you would like.

Break for Refreshments

Wagon Boss: Kelly Malek introduced Spence Gustav, geologist with a long career in the petroleum industry which took him around the world. Spence has a BA in archeology and anthropology. Has also served in Yavapai County Search and Rescue. He has volunteers with the Sedona Friends of the Forest Cultural Resources Team for 17 years

Title: "Protecting Cultural Resources in the Red Rock District from Human and Natural Impact"

Summary:
Very high concentrations of cultural resources are evident in the Verde Valley and are at great risk from both natural and human factors. We are losing them and trying to protect them. The Westerners are one of the most active groups on the trails. We rely on the Westerners to report to us about what is going on.

The Sedona Friends of the Forest Cultural Resources Photo and Research team have been active for over 15 years documenting and evaluating issues within the Red Rock District of the Coconino Forest.

Human Impacts:
Vandalism
Graffiti
Dust from ATVs

Geological Impacts:
Rock Falls, Fractures & Erosion

Natural Impacts:
Climate

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Biologic
- Lichen
- Vermin (insects, mice, rats)
- Vegetation
- Combinations of the above!!

Graffiti & Vandalism Forest Service Protocols:

- DO NOT attempt remediation without Forest Service authorization
- Report graffiti or vandalism to Forest Service representatives, the archaeologist, Friends of the Forest Graffiti Team or Cultural Resources person (Spence Gustav–Spencehg@yahoo.com)
- Friends of the Forest member who has the "app"
- Sedona Westerners representative

How you can make this process much easier & faster:

- Provide GPS coordinate or detailed description
  - On or near trail name
  - On or near social trail
  - Nearest location with commonly known name (e.g., Ice Cream Cone, Devils Bridge, Subway)

- Provide photos including
  - The general area including impacted area, preferably with scale
  - Closer in photos of specific impacted area with scale
  - Detailed photos of the actual graffiti with scale
  - Description of, scratching, whatever and how big an area.

- Why you should report, not fix
  - Sometimes there is rock art present that you don't recognize
  - Sometimes graffiti is not graffiti, or is it?
  - Sometimes ancient is not ancient

- What does this all mean?
  - Westerners are one of the most active local groups going into the forest and we go to many locations not often visited by Forest Service professionals
  - You are very valuable eyes and ears with boots on the ground
  - Please be proactive in reporting issues and spreading the forest etiquette message

Question from the audience:
Reports are made and nothing seemingly happens.
Gustav: There are areas the Forest Service and Cultural Resources Team cannot touch because of potential additional damage. It is unclear if the Site Steward program will

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continue next year. Please send reports to the Friends of the Forest. There had been a suggestion to block off the Subway, but at the moment, nothing is being blocked.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Taylor, Wrangler

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