

SEDONA WESTERNERS MONTHLY MEETING

JANUARY 14, 2021

Trail Boss, Terri Petrescu, began the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Terri wished us all a Happy New Year, that hopefully will allow us to resume our hiking season. Note that our hiking season is currently paused through the month of January.

Terri mentioned that due to our hiking season having been paused, there will be no Hike Boss reports at this meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS

Michael McCaffrey, Prospector, reported that as of January 13, 2021 the total members are 270, of which 59 are new members and 29 are honorary members. This time last season, the membership was 368 total members.

Mark Bealafeld, Foreman, reported that the club has a cash balance of \$11,901.95 as of January 1, 2021. The complete Foreman's Report is on the website at <https://sedonawesterners.org/minutes.php>

Terri Petrescu presented for Phyllis Elliott, who is the Sunbeam officer. A card was sent out in December to: the family of Don Hooven. In January, an e-card was sent to Stefka Regelous on the passing of her father. Should you have knowledge of cards that would need to be sent out, please contact the Sunbeam through the link found on the Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Michael Henry, Ranger, reported on his reports to the US Forest Service, which included 11 reports of graffiti and vandalism, 1 report of trash, 1 report of trail destruction, and 1 report each of bicycles and motorcycles in the area. He noted the higher numbers due to a combination of us not having a December monthly meeting (so the amounts are for two months, not one), and the high influx of tourists during the Holiday season. He reiterated guidelines for our hikers: first, in the event that a hiker sees any graffiti or vandalism, to capture the location (with GPS and pictures, preferred) and not to try to remove the graffiti ourselves; secondly, if a hiker encounters a transient camper NOT to approach the person, but to note the number of persons and their location, and if possible, to discretely take photo or GPS to aid law enforcement. In all cases, send the information to the Ranger whose link is found on the Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Terri Petrescu presented for Harold Brockman, our Roundup Boss. Thanks were expressed to those who have already submitted articles for the Red Rock News. There are requests for more articles. Dave Minott, agreed to write up the presentation of our guest speaker for tonight, Mr. Ed Webster. If you would like to submit an article of a hike that you have done with the Westerners this season (or in past seasons), please contact the Roundup Boss through his link on the Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php> This is especially important now that our hiking season has been paused.

VOTES

Firstly, the Trail Boss asked the general membership in attendance to vote on having a Fund Drive in the month of February for the Red Rock Trail Fund, whereby the Sedona Westerners would match donations up to \$1,000. Additionally, an anonymous donor has also agreed to match donations, up to \$1,000. The resolution passed unanimously with no objections. **Action item: There will be a fund drive for the Red Rock Trail Fund in February, where the Sedona Westerners will match donations up to \$1,000, and an anonymous donor will also match donations up to \$1,000.**

Secondly, the Trail Boss asked the general membership in attendance to vote on passing the Foreman's report dated January 1, 2021. The resolution passed unanimously with no objections.

Thirdly, the Trail Boss asked the general membership in attendance to vote on accepting the General Meeting Minutes dated November 12, 2020. The resolution passed unanimously with no objections.

AUTOCAMP

The Trail Boss informed the general membership that the proposal for the AutoCamp in the Bear Mountain area was in the phase where the Board of Adjustments would consider whether the AutoCamp would be granted an exception to the current zoning which would then allow them to use trailers as housing for short-term rentals. The organization Keep Sedona Beautiful (KSB), opposes this project and urges us to make our feelings known about the AutoCamp proposal by contacting Development Services at planning@yavapai.us, and by attending the virtual hearing on January 19th. Sedona Westerner member Sandi Heysinger informed us that the meeting has been postponed. In researching this on the 15th, the date has not yet been determined, but it is believed that it will be held in February.

New members were welcomed.

The Wagon Boss, Dave Minott introduced our guest speaker, Ed Webster, who is a world-class mountaineer and author. Mr. Webster has been part of 7 Himalayan expeditions. Mr. Webster spoke on "Mt. Everest – The Really Hard Way." This presentation took us through his early interest in rock climbing, which also led to him learning ice climbing and alpine climbing. A few facts that were presented:

- In 1976, Ed Webster climbed Fire Bird located in Oak Creek Canyon, and also did and pioneered climbing Fire Cat, that is located next to Fire Bird.
- Mr. Webster has since returned to the Sedona area 4 or 5 additional times, and has climbed the Mace at Cathedral, Airport Tower via a new route, and Submarine also via a new route.
- Mr. Webster was in a Ford or Chevy truck commercial. He was filmed climbing a rope bridge at Cathedral in Sedona.
- Mr. Webster was in Mt. Everest expeditions in 1985 and 1986 before his historic attempt in 1988.
- In 1988, Ed Webster was in a 4-man team that attempted a new route up the East face of Mt. Everest, called "Neverest".
 - This expedition used no oxygen, no radios, and no Sherpas
 - The East face is very dangerous due to frequent avalanches on this side
 - Of the four climbers, only one made it to the summit of Mt. Everest
- Much of the information from this presentation and photos are found in Ed Webster's book: "Snow in the Kingdom, My Storm Years on Everest", available at: edwebster@mtnimagery.com. \$70, includes shipping and handling.

Terri ended the meeting at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sophia Sweeny
Wrangler

