

# SEDONA WESTERNERS MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 8, 2021

Trail Boss, Terri Petrescu, was not in attendance. Wagon Boss Dave Minott hosted this meeting, which began at 7:02 pm.

There were no new members in participation during this meeting to introduce themselves.

## VOTES

The Wagon Boss asked the general membership in attendance to vote on passing the Foreman's report dated March 3, 2021. The resolution passed unanimously with no objections.

The Wagon Boss asked the general membership in attendance to vote on accepting the General Meeting Minutes dated March 11, 2021. The resolution passed unanimously with no objections.

## MEMBER UPDATE: GRETCHEN YAGER

Members were pleased that Gretchen and Tom were able to join the Zoom call. Gretchen thanked those who sent well-wishes, and informed us that she has been discharged from the rehabilitation center and is progressing on her recovery. Recent photos of Gretchen were shown on the shared power point. Continued well wishes on her recovery!

## HIKE BOSS REPORTS

Hike Bosses were able to post upcoming hikes for April – May 2021 and if any additional Hike Leaders are needed.

## OFFICER REPORTS

Our Wagon Boss, Dave Minott, presented for Michael McCaffrey, Prospector, that as of March 31, 2021 the total members are 276, of which 61 are new members and 28 are honorary members. This time last season, the membership was 405 total members.

Our Wagon Boss, Dave Minott, presented for Mark Bealafeld, Foreman, that the club has a cash balance of \$10,054.32 as of April 4, 2021. The complete Foreman's Report is on the website at <https://sedonawesterners.org/minutes.php>

Sandi Heysinger, Historian, reported that due to our paused hiking season, she has very few pictures for our yearbook. She has requested submissions of many photos of April hikes, both of members and of scenery, from all hiking groups, especially needed was that of Rough Riders. You may contact the Historian through the link found on the Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Our Wagon Boss, Dave Minott, presented for the Sunbeam officer, Phyllis Elliott, that there were no cards sent out this past month. 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, who sends reports to the US Forest Service, which for the past month included 2 reports of graffiti and vandalism and one report of transient camping (this was in the area along Thunder Mountain Trail). Please note our 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>

Wagon Boss, Dave Minott, presented for Harold Brockwell, Roundup Boss, that more articles are needed! Please consider submitting an article, by contacting our Roundup Boss whose link is found on the Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE VOTE**

Barbara O'Connor, Chairperson of this year's Nominating Committee, (whose members included: Donna Forsythe, Ray LaPorte, and Mark Bealafeld), expressed thanks to all who have volunteered for positions for the **2021-2022 Sedona Westerners season**:

Trail Boss (President): David Minott

Wagon Boss (Vice President and Program Director): Donna Forsythe

Wrangler (Secretary): Sophia Sweeny

Foreman (Treasurer): Mark Bealafeld

Prospector (Membership Chair): Michael McCaffrey

Top Hand #3 (Actively Hiking Member): Dave Vanderwater

Top Hand #1 (Honorary Member): John Losse (1 year)

Ambler Boss: Judy Dolloff

Cactus Dodger: Ken Ferguson

Dogie Boss: Harry Strong

Drover Boss: Linda Shook

Mustang Boss: Jim Sweeny

Rustler Boss: Patricia Pierce

Tracker Boss: Charlie Schudson

Chuckwagon Boss: Patty Persons

The general membership in attendance was asked to vote on accepting the Nominating Committee's list of officers for the 2021 – 2022 Season. The resolution passed unanimously with no objections.

## **APPOINTED POSITION OPENING**

Wagon Boss, Dave Minott reported that one of the two open appointed positions, that of the RoundUp Boss has been filled by Dick Williams. Still open is the Cliff Walker position. The Cliff Walker guides the Westerners on proper etiquette at Native American cultural sites and communicates on these issues with the USFS District Archeologist. The

current Cliff Walker, Jon Petrescu, will help the next person in transitioning into the role. Please consider volunteering your time.

## GUEST SPEAKER

The Wagon Boss, Dave Minott introduced our guest speaker, Tony Merriman, who is a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Flagstaff, AZ. ([Tony.Merriman@noaa.gov](mailto:Tony.Merriman@noaa.gov)) His presentation entitled “Thunderstorms in Northern Arizona”, helped to enlighten us on the storm weather systems that are unique to our area. A few points of interest were:

- Our Monsoon season runs 6/15 – 9/30
- The ingredients for a thunderstorm are:
  - Convective instability – warm air rising (as in boiling water)
  - Moisture – primarily from the Gulf of California, can also be from the Gulf of Mexico
  - A lifting mechanism – either an orographic lift (builds over mountains), or an outflow boundary (cold air from a rainstorm procures a cold front, producing a thunderstorm)
- The most common type of thunderstorm in Arizona is the Single Cell Thunderstorm, which has a 20 – 45 minute lifespan, which is a strong storm with lightning.
  - The second most common is the Multi-Cell Cluster, which can stay over an area and cause severe flash flooding
- What should hikers do?
  - Plan ahead
  - Listen to the weather forecast
  - Monitor weather conditions
  - Take action early, to allow time to get to safety
  - Get inside a substantial building or vehicle
    - Avoid open areas
    - Don't be in or near the tallest objects in the area
    - Don't shelter under tall or isolated trees
    - In the woods, put as much distance between you and any tree
    - If in a group and cannot get to a shelter, spread out
  - If you hear thunder, get to safety “If thunder roars, get indoors”

For more information on safety in lightning conditions, go to: [weather.gov/safety/lightning](http://weather.gov/safety/lightning)

Dave Minott ended the meeting at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Sweeny  
Wrangler