

SEDONA WESTERNERS MONTHLY MEETING

November 10, 2022
at Sedona United Methodist Church

Call to Order – Welcome

Trail Boss, Donna Forsythe, welcomed both new and returning members to our first monthly meeting in 2 ½ years (since February 2020)! The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Announcements

Passings

Our Trail Boss, Donna Forsythe, shared that we have had two recent passings: Mike Conyers and Jim Tanis. A moment of silence was observed.

From our recent emails:

Westerners T-Shirts

They've arrived! There was a pick up at tonight's monthly meeting. They will also be brought to the Holiday Party and to future monthly meetings.

Holiday Party

Our annual holiday party, last held in 2019, will return this year. Buffet dinner, cash bar, music, and dancing! Cost: \$20/person. Guests are welcome. Please let us know you are coming by Dec 1st. Reservations are being accepted online.

When: Thursday, Dec 8 from 5-9 pm.

Where: Oak Creek Country Club – 690 Bell Rock Blvd (VOC)

Musical Guest: Gina Machovina

Hiking Spree

The Highlands Center for Natural History (Prescott) is sponsoring their annual hiking spree in the Prescott National Forest that hikers may complete at their own pace. The event lasts through Nov 28, but you can explore these trails on your own anytime. Trail maps and directions here: <https://highlandscenter.org/hiking-spreed/>

Votes (Foreman's Report, Monthly Meeting Minutes)

Our Treasurer is called the Foreman, who is presently Mark Bealafeld. The **Foreman's Monthly Reports** for the months covering: April 2022 – October 2022 was posted on our website for review by our members. Motion to approve the Foreman's Reports was made by Jan Taylor and seconded by Adrienne Pichette. The vote was unanimous. **Motion approved.**

The **Minutes of our last Monthly Meeting held April 14, 2022**, as a "draft" posted on the website by our Wrangler, Sophia Sweeny, also needs Membership approval. Motion was made by Jim Meade and seconded by Kelly-Leigh Thomas. The vote was unanimous. **Motion approved.**

Honorary Members

Honorary Members have been members of the Club for at least 10 years and have served as officers of the Club for at least 4 years. They no longer pay annual dues, and they receive a special name badge. The new Honorary members are: Terri Petrescu, Jon Petrescu and Michael McCaffrey.

Officer Reports

Prospector (Membership, Michael McCaffrey): Membership is up to 342, of which 83 are new members and 33 are honorary members. We are delighted to note that not only is the total number at this time above last year's, but it is also greater than that of 2 years ago.

Sunbeam (Sunbeam, Peg Cook): Cards were sent out for the following: to Amanda Maxwell, on the death of her father; to Phyllis Conyers on the death of her husband, Mike; to Gloria Vander Peut who had undergone surgery; to Jan Tanis on the death of her husband, Jim; to Kelley Malek on the death of her father; to Linda Schumer who has been suffering with cardiac issues.

Chuckwagon Boss (Adrienne Pichette, Chuckwagon Boss): Thanked those who participated in the Fall picnic, where we had 130 attendees. She also thanked those who brought treats to our meeting and asked for volunteers for refreshments for our next monthly meeting in January 2023. If available, please contact Adrienne Pichette, whose contact is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Foreman (Treasurer, Mark Bealafeld): Our Treasurer related our current financial picture.

Old Timer (Sandi Heysinger) Wishes to thank everyone who has contributed photos for the year book. We are currently in good shape, but she reminded us to continue to submit your photos. If you are having any issues, please feel free to contact Sandi, whose contact is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Roundup Boss (Red Rock News articles, Dick Williams): Greatly appreciates those who have submitted articles. Dick notes that we seem to be in good shape right now, but to keep those articles coming. He also mentioned that a number of people have come up to him about the articles and how much they enjoy them. Should you want to submit an article, please email the Roundup Boss, whose contact is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Ranger (Forest Service liaison, Amanda Maxwell): A Volunteer Service Agreement was signed by our Trail Boss with Board approval. This agreement handles insurance and other legal matters allowing us (both as a group and as individuals of the Sedona Westerners), to volunteer for certain Forest Service projects. Individual members who volunteer for a work project must sign a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) at the work meetup location prior to the start of volunteer service.

Also mentioned was a reiteration of the Leave No Trace policy that Sedona Westerners should familiarize themselves with and follow. Information on the Leave No Trace policy can be found on our website at <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/stewardship.php>

Cliff Walker (Cultural Resources etiquette, Gary Morgan): was absent. Donna Forsythe gave the report. Concerns about tracking apps that can be public – make sure when using these apps, that the settings are marked “private”, as well as photos taken that have the GPS coordinates attached (there are ways to change the settings on your photos to opt out). Also mentioned, is when a tourist asks for direction to the latest “it” spot, what should our response be? It brings up the question as to what our

roles as Westerners and stewards have evolved into. A dialogue on this will be opened up in the future.

Hike Boss Reports

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| Amblers Boss: | Jan Taylor and Jon Petrescu |
| Rustlers Boss: | Deb Hicks and Christina Loggia |
| Drover Boss: | Kelley Malek and Hassan Hosseini |
| Dogie Boss: | Lora Ellis and Lisa Celeste |
| Mustang Boss: | Jim Sweeny and Gary Morgan |
| Cactus Dodger (Roughriders Boss): | Kelly-Leigh Thomas and Trish Travis |
| Trackers Boss: | Charlie Schudson and Tim Lowrey |

Bosses thanked those who led, co-led and tailgated on the past month's hikes, information on the criteria for their level of hikes was provided on the power point slide, and they shared news of some upcoming hikes.

Notes:

- Drovers needs a leader for Bear/Pac man on December 11th.
- Dogies needs hike leaders for the Steamboat/Wilson Canyon (December 20) and Dry Creek/Earl's Cabin Loop (December 27)
- Mustangs needs leaders for Apache Maid (December 22nd) and Chalice Loop (December 29th)
- Trackers: Upcoming events:
 - Loy Canyon Rock Art led by Scott Newth Nov 16 – waitlist only
 - For those who missed the first event: VVAC and Atkeson Pueblo – Jan 4
 - Hiking Basics 101 – January TBD
 - Lowell Observatory, Grand (Chocolate) Falls, and more are in the works

For those interested in such events, the sign-up is open when you receive an email with the information listed with a link for the sign-up.

Guest Speaker

Our Wagon Boss, Ray LaPorte introduced our Guest Speaker, Julie Morrison, author of "Barbed, A Memoir" about the trials and tribulations of a would-be woman rancher in the Verde Valley. She spoke about her evolution into becoming a published writer of several different genres. This presentation brought up some interesting facts, among them:

- The writing process was long and with fits and starts, but all the parts were necessary in the journey to writing/re-writing the manuscript. She also tried different types of writing: poetry, non-fiction, fiction, fantasy, young adult.
- She is currently working on a collaborative book of poetry and prose with Lisa Schnebly Heidinger (author of *The Journal of Sedona Schnebly*)
- Website: www.juliemorrisonwriter.com , she is on Facebook, on Instagram at: @juliemorrisonwriter, and you can email her at: juliemorrisonwriter@gmail.com
- The Forest Service, which gives out the range permits to graze on public lands, determines how many cattle you can graze (the range).

Meeting was adjourned at: 8:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Sweeny, Wrangler