



Feeling Grateful: Kay Pasley, Hikemaster

My goal this year was to bring back many of our 500+ hikes that hadn't been offered in 3-5 years. I knew this would require more work especially on the part of the leadership teams (leaders/assistant leaders), because we'd had two years with good monsoons before 2024. Also, early scouting of hikes was needed, so substitutes could be identified and made.

The teams willingly took on the challenge, often fighting through cats-claw and other menacing vegetation while trying to locate destroyed/absent trails and navigate newly locked gates, private property signs, and blocked trailheads -- only to conclude sometimes that what was, is no longer. This resulted in 24 hike revisions and 6 hikes being archived. None of this deterred our training of a new leader and eight new assistant leaders.

"It takes a village" has been my mantra this year, and what a village I have had! I was privileged to count on former hikemasters, leaders, and assistant leaders for support, guidance, problem solving, and good cheer. They often made me laugh and were forgiving when I made yet another error. Still there are many more who operated in the background to make things run smoothly.

Collectively, these individuals are the lifeblood of this great Club, and all made my job as Hikemaster enjoyable and manageable. I have been honored to serve in some small way here, and I have no doubt that I leave this position in the capable hands of **Steve Toeinskoetter**.

Assistant Hikemaster, Steve Toeinskoetter

My time as hikemaster is rapidly approaching. I have enjoyed working with Kay this past year and appreciate the way she has helped me learn my new duties. I am now excited to begin working with **incoming Assistant Hikemaster, Barb Fleshman** as she brings her enthusiasm and energy to the role.

I remember when I started with the club, that I could just show up and there were hikes available, each with a leadership team prepared to take us out for an adventure. I didn't think then about what went on behind the scenes to make that happen.

Our club has over 500 hikes available, many of which won't be found anywhere else (and with more being added all the time). These hikes weren't just pulled from a book or website, but rather developed through the years by club members scouting obscure areas looking for new routes and places of interest. There have been more than a few occasions during a hike that I asked myself how did someone ever find this?

The Thursday hike schedule is chosen from these 500 plus hikes via our selection committee.

I just had the pleasure of meeting with the committee for the first time to choose the May and June hikes, and the thought process impressed me greatly. They are looking at everything to ensure that each Thursday there is a variety of hikes at different skill levels across various mountain ranges, while not repeating hikes. It's a daunting task that they do well!

Hopefully, this gives our new hikers a little insight into how Thursday's come about, and I look forward to continuing to meet new hikers.



Kay, Steve, Barb

President's Report

Hello Fellow Hikers!

What a nice winter hiking season we have had. It is great to see all the hikers on Thursday mornings, enjoying the wide variety and new hike selections our club has offered. Our Club membership remains strong, and we have good attendance at orientation sessions, so the future looks encouraging!

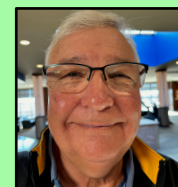
We unfortunately have had some Hike Leader and Assistant Hike Leader retirements, yet true to form, we have Club Members step up and volunteer to fill those important positions. What a great group of people we hike with!

The board has been busy working on some Club By-laws and Policy Manual changes, fine tuning the Hall of Fame process, and making it easier for new members to join in the Fall months, reviewing the Historian/Librarian Chair position, and updating board and committee chair job descriptions.

I want to give a big shout of Thanks to all the great volunteers in our club, working tirelessly on all facets of the Club hiking and Community efforts that continue to make ours the best Club in Green Valley Recreation!

I hope to see all of you joining in on "safe and enjoyable" hiking this spring!

Mark Buchholz, President



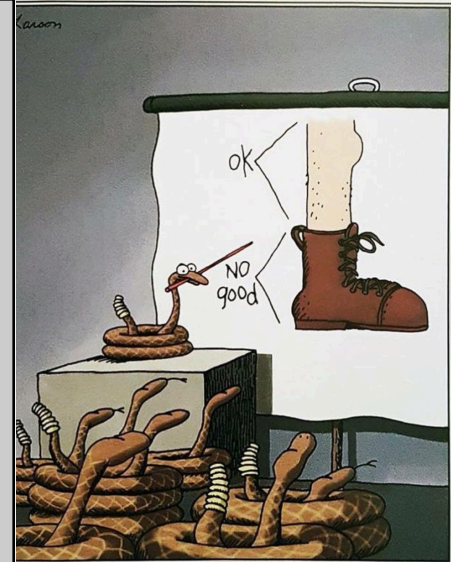
Ever wonder where BAD RAINBOWS go? To PRISM, but it's a light sentence and they get to reflect a lot!

Mileage award patches from April

by Mary Pulkrabek

50 miles -- 6, 250 miles -- 8

- 500 -- Dave Graber, Russ Bunner, Bill Engle
- 1000 -- Barbara Sincere, Peter Burggaard,
Jim Delperdang, Dave Toeniskoetter
- 1500 -- Nancy White, Barbara Rydall, Barbara Fleshman
- 2000 -- David Powell
- 2500 -- Kay Pasley
- 3000 -- Patsy Sills
- 3500 -- Bob Koons, James Chisholm
- 4000 -- Patty Greimann**



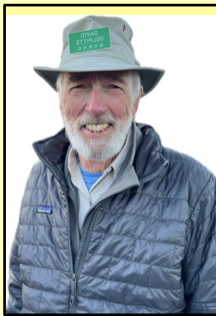
2025 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

The Green Valley Recreation Hiking club's Board of Directors is pleased (and proud) to announce the following 2025 inductees to its **HALL OF FAME***. The Hall of Fame is a way to acknowledge retired leaders or sweeps who have provided exceptional **'above and beyond'** service to the club as measured by a number of criteria:

Including but not limited to; served as Hikemaster or as a board member, led or sweep a significant number of hikes, trained or mentored new leaders and sweeps, developed or upgraded hikes, volunteered to support orientation, trail maintenance, or provided training on the use of maps or GPS systems. Perhaps best indicated in summary as ... **"What can I do to help out?"**

**These Hall of Famers, and all the "Famers" in the history of the club can be found on the GVR Hiking Club web site on the Information page, under "Other Information".*

David Colpitts – Leader 2010 - 2024



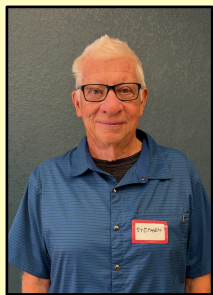
David was active with the club for 22 years, part time from Yellowstone, Northwest Territories, Canada with his wife, Wendy. David joined the club in 2002, became a leader in 2010, and led over 80 hikes before retiring in 2024. He served as Vice-President 2011-2012, President in 2012 -2013, and Volunteer Services 2013-2014. As a leader, David was passionate about packing along alternative plans on hikes in case something went awry, and he was excellent at navigating in diverse and unfamiliar terrain.

David will be remembered for initiating, developing and teaching how to read topographic maps, conducting orienteering courses, how to use a compass and assisting with GPS courses.

He mentored several members to become leaders and assistant hike leaders. David was an Orientation presenter, shared his international hike treks as a speaker for Potlucks and was a contributing writer to Trail Tails.

David was known for carrying a thermos of red rose black tea that necessitated a longer than usual break because *"you just don't rush teatime,"* for introducing club members to the yellow plastic banana pack case that protected his banana, for playing the harmonica on Christmas time hikes, and for writing three books available on Amazon.

Stephen Herron – Assistant Leader 2013 – 2024

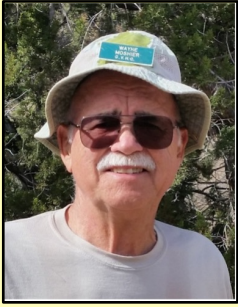


Stephen Herron joined the club in 2011, started sweeping in 2013, and continued that until 2024, amassing 168 sweeps, and is still hiking approaching his 2500 miles patch!

As an Assistant Leader, he ensures safe and enjoyable hiking for all! He is asked to occasionally perform the duty of the leader, — especially when the leader receives a mileage reward. Stephen had the honor of presenting the 6500-mile patch to Helen Zaukas, as well as awards to others while they led hikes.

Stephen took over managing the club web site when it was just a few pages of information, developing the ability to add member photos. He also set up the Box Cloud site so club files could be shared and kept up to date. He then researched and set up Wild Apricot to serve membership, sales, orientation, and finally, online sign up for hikes. He always quickly solved website crashes with all efforts representing hours and hours of much appreciated work with useful results!

Stephen also was the designer of our t-shirt logo, represented the club by volunteering with the Friends of Madera Canyon, helped set up the Memorial day flag display along La Cañada, and volunteered in helping with trail maintenance and the club's semi annual Whitehouse Canyon Road clean-ups.



Wayne Moshier - Leader 1999 – 2024

Wayne joined the club in 1998 and led his first hike in December 1999. Until his retirement in 2024 he led over 4,000 hikers on 312 club hikes and received his **7,000-mile patch**.

Wayne served as the Trail Maintenance Chair from 2006 to 2009, Assistant Hikemaster in 2008-2009 and Hikemaster in 2009-2010. He trained and was a beloved mentor to many hike leaders.

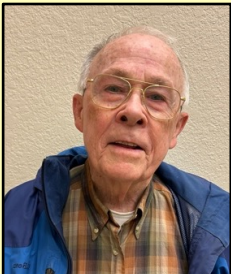
Wayne was famous (*some would say, infamous*) for exploring and inventing new hikes. He created, co-authored and updated more than 100 club hikes.

Many of his hikes were developed with the assistance of the "Tuesday group" which he organized and led for many years. Wayne's ability to bushwhack his way through canyons and across mountain ridges where there were no trails became so well-known that bushwhacking came to be referred to as "Moshiering."

As he navigated his way through what appeared to be impossible terrain, he would rally his hikers with...

'How bad can it be?' or 'We don't need no stinkin' trails!'

What the club now calls "**Moshier Spring**," was discovered by Wayne near Rogers' Rock in Madera Canyon during one of his many wanderings. *For more details on Wayne's retirement and contributions to the club, be sure to check out page four of the 2024 Fall Trail Tales edition.*



Jim Riley – Leader 2007 – 2024

Jim joined the hiking club in 2001. Jim loved hiking in the Santa Ritas and was particularly fond of Pete Mountain and Waterfall Loop. He frequently led Seven Falls in the Catalinas. Jim often hiked with his wife Marilyn as his assistant hike leader.

Jim took great pleasure in leading, not only hikes (135), but also in supporting the club, serving on the board from 2010 until 2014. He was President for two years, 2011/12 and 2013/14, Assistant Hike Master in 2014/15 and Hike Master in 2015/16. Serving in these roles shows how passionate Jim was about keeping the hiking club on a steady trail.

While Jim was skilled at taking on leadership roles, he admits he needed more than a "sweep" to help with anything related to computer or technology and grateful for the help he was given.

As a retired dentist, Jim honed his skills on telling puns on people who couldn't respond sitting in his dentist chair. When he became a hike leader he used these puns on hikes, often in an attempt to distract hikers from steep climbs or rough trails. Hikers did groan at times but often laughed at them which helped make his hikes not only safe, but enjoyable as well.

Membership Report

Our current Club membership for 2025 is 304 members. This includes 31 members who are new to the club. We welcome new members and invite them to take part in volunteer opportunities within the club.

As a reminder to all hikers, you should carry an information card in the smallest zipper section of your backpack. Please make sure that information is up to date. If you need a new one, please see me in the parking lot.

Marysia Czachor, Membership Chairperson



Orientation Program Status

At Orientation in September 2024, we introduced spousal teams as presenters. This now offers a more diverse and realistic perspective for our attendees who may have hiking experience but often don't realize that hiking in Arizona is vastly different from a stroll through a local park.

Over the past year, we've held 23 sessions, with 121 people attending Orientation. Of those, 45 have become members, resulting in a 37% conversion rate—compared to 55% in 2023.

Rich Calderazzo, Orientation Coordinator

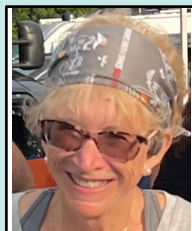


Social Report

Our last Potluck for the 24-25 Season will be held on April 6th at the GVR West Center. Doors open at 4:00 pm with dinner at 5:00pm followed by our speaker Danny Valenzuela, a club member and an Ass't Hike Leader. Danny will present a video presentation on his 506 mile hiking adventure on the Camino Santiago Trail in Europe.

You won't want to miss this event and the opportunity to socialize with fellow hikers and guests.

Rhonda Wills, Social Chairperson



Tales from the Trail

(Barb Fleshman) When I started hiking with the club in 2016, I had no idea what adventures and education lay in store for me. The flora and fauna of Southern Arizona was foreign to me. Hiking with seasoned club members opened the door for me to learn about new plants, animals, trails, and mountain ranges.

A special gratitude sweeps over me when I can identify a sweet trailside flower or plant that long-time club members taught me or when I am able to identify a mountain range or trail based on land features that hikers with more experience have taught me to recognize.

There is a wealth of knowledge to be shared and learned within the club as long as we stay curious.

(Jeff Gross) I've been so impressed by the leaders and sweeps and their caring attitude. They do everything in their power to make each hike safe, enjoyable, and memorable. Because of them, we often go to areas that we would never find or be comfortable on our own. A great example was the Elephant Head hike. There are many spots on this hike/scramble which would have been challenging to figure out solo but with Rick Thrall's leadership it was a stress-free awesome hike! Seeing this peak every day knowing that it was "conquered" is a rewarding feeling made possible by the Club.

(Jan Heetland) Last fall I sadly had to retire from GVRHC, after 13 wonderful years.

I enjoyed the variety of hikes, the hike leaders and sweeps who shared their knowledge, all the fellow hikers whom I met and know, and the positive atmosphere that radiated through each and every hike.

There were many memorable highlights of my hiking career, learning about sky islands, exploring from Sweetwater to Madera Canyon and from Starr Pass to Parker Canyon Lake, enjoying flower hikes, and learning about our unique desert flora.

So many leaders deserve my appreciation for making those years so positive. Among those who made lasting impressions were; Dan and Lavern Schroeder, Bill Hill, Duane Dotson, David Colpitts, Judith LeClair, and Pat Boeck (Nelson). Especially memorable hikes were when I received my 50-, 250- and 500-mile badges, and I continue to treasure those emblems of achievement.

I regret not being around long enough for another 423 miles to earn my 1000-mile badge, but I leave in the spirit of Bob Hope's infamous comment, "**Thanks for the memories!**" and Roy Rogers and Dale Evans' slogan, "**Happy trails to you!**"

Vice-President Report:

The Vice-President schedules all facilities with GVR: the Thursday parking lot, board meeting spaces, hike leader meeting spaces, orientation spaces, the potlucks and any other special event. GVR schedules out a few months at a time, so this is done several times a year.

A committee to select 2025 Hall of Fame candidates was formed, followed by an in-depth review of recent leader and sweep retirees as potential candidates. Four candidates were approved by the board and were acknowledged for induction at the annual meeting on March fourth! (**Reference the preceding section on the 2025 Hall Of Fame Inductees.**)

We completed the annual GVR paperwork which included: the ten page GVR Club Agreement, officer information, a membership roster, club inventory (items stored on GVR property), and a year-end financial report completed by member Jeff Gross, a retired CPA.

The club received a desk sculpture from the US Forest Service inscribed, "*In recognition and appreciation of your partnership with the Coronado National Forest.*" This to be kept by current and succeeding trail maintenance directors for home display.

Sue Palfrey, Vice President



Volunteer Services Report:

As VS coordinator, winter activities included organizing, promoting and managing T-shirt sales (*orders for 117 shirts!*), Summit Hut Discount Days, and name badge orders (25). Support was provided for two key GVR events, the **annual club workshop** and the **club show case** event. Another key item was renewing the clubs Pima County Adopt A Roadway permit.

Spring and Fall activities are the main "seasons" as they allow more contact with the generous volunteers our club is honored to have. Memorial Day flags are put up by 20 GVRHC volunteers on La Canada, between Continental and Esperanza Blvd. and 32 volunteers are needed for Adopt a Roadway to pick up trash along a two mile stretch of Whitehouse Canyon Road, 16 volunteers stepped up for Fall (15 bags of trash collected) and 16 more members get an opportunity in the Spring.

Watch for future e-blasts and continue to "give" as it is so appreciated by the club and all the residents of Green Valley.

Nancy White, Volunteer Services Coordinator

