

SEDONA WESTERNERS MONTHLY MEETING

January 12, 2023
at Sedona United Methodist Church

Call to Order – Welcome

Trail Boss, Donna Forsythe, welcomed both new and returning members to our monthly meeting. The meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Votes (Foreman's Report, Monthly Meeting Minutes)

The **Minutes of our last Monthly Meeting held November 10, 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 Hassan Hosseini. The vote was unanimous. **Motion approved.**

Our Treasurer is called the Foreman, who is presently Mark Bealafeld. The **Foreman's Monthly Reports** for the months of November 2022 and December 2022 was posted on our website for review by our members. Motion to approve the Foreman's Reports was made by Sophia Sweeny and seconded by Dan Celeste. The vote was unanimous. **Motion approved.**

Officer Reports

Prospector (Membership, Michael McCaffrey): Membership is up to 401, of which 123 are new members and 30 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: condolences to Sue Dannert and a get-well card to Linda Warren.

Old Timer (Sandi Heysinger): Thanks to all who have sent in pictures, especially the Amblers and the Rough Riders. Please continue to send in 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): Thanks to all who have submitted articles. Keep them coming! We would like to especially have some submissions on hiking in our recent inclement weather. Should you want to submit an article or bullet points, please email the Roundup Boss, whose contact is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Chuckwagon Boss (Adrienne Pichette, Chuckwagon Boss): Thanked those who brought treats to our meeting and asked for volunteers for refreshments for our next monthly meeting in February 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.

Cliff Walker (Cultural Resources etiquette, Gary Morgan): Reported on setting tracking apps to private. He provided slides for setting both All Trails and Gaia apps to private. Those slides will be posted on the website for reference or contact the Cliff Walker to email the tutorial slides to you. The contact for the Cliff Walker is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>

Ranger (Forest Service liaison, Amanda Maxwell): Reported on: **Greater Sedona Recreation Collaborative (GSRC)**. This is a comprehensive, interested party-driven group to discuss difficult issues in our area, related to outdoor recreation, such as: off-highway vehicles, trash, archeological sites, trail use, etc. The Ranger is looking for an alternate to represent the Sedona Westerners at these monthly meetings, should the Ranger be unavailable. Please contact the Ranger, whose contact is on our Officers page at: <https://www.sedonawesterners.com/officers.php>. If you have any issues that you want to notify the Ranger of, please do so by going to the Stewardship page on the Sedona Westerners' website.

Hiker Tip of the Month: Stay on the Trail! This prevents erosion, widening of the trail and protects plant life. Also, avoid hiking in wet, muddy conditions. If you must hike, stay to the center of the trail. Don't widen the path to avoid the mud. Furthermore, when possible, step to a durable surface when giving the right of way.

Hike Boss Reports

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

The Hike 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:

- There was encouragement to come out on the scouts of upcoming hikes – speak to the hike bosses, if you are interested
- Please consider submitting an article for the Red Rock News of any of our upcoming hikes
- Trackers: Upcoming events:
 - Hiking Basics 101 – January 18Check the Trackers Schedule for Upcoming Excursions in future months.

Announcements

Hike Database Refresh Project: over 800 hikes in our database, less than 400 of them have tracks pertaining to them. We are interested in members who have been members for a number of years who could help to provide tracks or information on said hikes.

Volunteer Service Project with the USFS: We are looking for members to volunteer to sit at the trailhead during the Cathedral Rock Trail Closure to inform hikers of the closure and point out possible substitution hikes. Perk: USFS volunteer hat.

Nominating Committee: Terri Petrescu will be the chairperson for the nominating committee. Please consider volunteering to be an officer for the upcoming year.

Guest Speaker

Our Wagon Boss, Ray LaPorte introduced our Guest Speaker, Matt Roberts who is the owner and founder of Flagline Trails. This is a trail consulting, construction and maintenance business, for various trail users. This presentation brought up some interesting facts, among them:

- Trails provide a passage through the environment, whether it be to get from one place to another, to get to a special site, or to get out to enjoy the environment.
- Trails are there to provide a positive user experience.
- Trails are not just the part that you hike on, but also the areas on either sides and the area above, known as a corridor; a trail is three-dimensional.
- The factors for Trail sustainability are: ground condition (slope, soil type, grade of trail aspect, elevation, vegetation cover), users (type, intensity and frequency), and climate and weather (seasonal variations and extreme events).

Meeting was adjourned at: 9:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia Sweeny, Wrangler