

ARIZONA'S WILDERNESS: WHAT'S MISSING?



<http://arizona.sierraclub.org>

Grand Canyon Chapter

Summer 2014

Why More Wilderness?

By Sandy Bahr



"There is just one hope for repulsing the tyrannical ambition of civilization to conquer every niche of the whole earth. That hope is the organization of spirited people who will fight for the freedom of the wilderness." – Bob Marshall

On September 3, 1964, the Wilderness Act was signed into law, creating the National Wilderness Preservation System. It described wilderness as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man..." The Wilderness Act has helped protect tens of millions of acres of public lands throughout the U.S., including more than 4.5 million acres in Arizona.

Thanks to strong grassroots efforts of conservationists and committed volunteers and to the leadership of elected officials such

as the late Congressman Morris K. Udall, Arizona has approximately 1.3 million acres of Forest Service wilderness, 1.4 million acres of Bureau of Land Management wilderness, 1.3 million acres of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wilderness, and 500,000 acres of National Park Service wilderness.

Arizona's wilderness areas range in size from the relatively small 2,040-acre Baboquivari Peak Wilderness to the vast 803,418-acre Cabeza Prieta Wilderness. Since the

See *Wilderness continued on pg. 13.*

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Above: East Clear Creek. Photo by Zachary Crumbo. Top: Tumacacori Highlands. Photo by Mike Quigley. Bottom: Blue Range Primitive Area. Photo courtesy of Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest.

Explore, enjoy, and protect the planet





Arizona Chapter Action Directory

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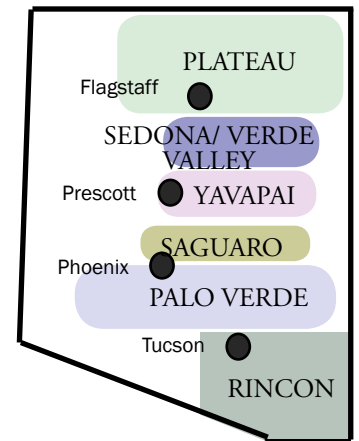
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Saguaro: Bev Full	Sedona/Verde Valley: Carole Piszczek-Sheffield	Yavapai: Gary Beverly



Chapter Announcements

JUL 21, AUG 18, SEP 15 (MON) 6:30 p.m. Political Committee meetings. 2014 is an election year. Help us make sure we elect more environmentally-friendly candidates by being part of our Political Committee! For more information, contact Thom Hulén at 602-619-9717 or tghulen@msn.com.

JUL 22 and SEP 23 (TUE) 6:30 p.m. Energy Committee gatherings. Discussions, programs, and field trips encompass renewable energy and energy efficiency campaigns nationally and locally. Everyone is invited to participate, no matter how much or how little you know about energy issues. Specific times and locations will be announced online or via email. To be added to our list or to get more information, please contact Jon Findley at 480-756-2916 or energy@grandcanyon.sierraclub.org.

AUG 6 (WED) 5:30 p.m. Publications Committee meeting. Have an idea? Help plan future issues of *Canyon Echo*! Contact Keith Bagwell at 520-623-0269 or kbagwell50@gmail.com or Tiffany Sprague at 602-253-9140 or tiffany.sprague@sierraclub.org.

AUG 13 (WED) 6:30 p.m. Wildlife Activist Group meeting. Are you interested in learning more about the wildlife that calls our state home and in working for species' protection? Join us to learn more about what's happening with Arizona's wildlife, upcoming projects and opportunities, and how you can get involved. For more information, contact our chapter office at 602-253-8633 or grand.canyon.chapter@sierraclub.org.

SEP 1 (MON) Copy deadline for Fall 2014 Canyon Echo. Theme of "Arizona's Wilderness: Management Challenges" Articles, art, photographs, poetry, essays, and brief epiphanies are welcome. Contact the editor before submitting at 602-253-9140 or tiffany.sprague@sierraclub.org to discuss word count, photos to include, licensing, issue topics, and to request submission guidelines.

SEP 24 (WED) 1-5 p.m. (stop by anytime) Canyon Echo Mailing Party. Volunteers save the Chapter hundreds of dollars by preparing *Canyon Echo* for mailing. Thank you! The job is easy to learn, and we all have a great time. Any amount of time that you're available is appreciated. Contact Jerry Nelson at 602-279-4668 or peakbagger2@gmail.com for details.

OCT 4-5 (SAT-SUN) Chapter Conservation (SAT) and Executive Committee (SUN) meetings. Club leaders meet to consider matters related to statewide conservation efforts, share experiences across groups, and coordinate strategy to align our Chapter mission and goals with that of national Sierra Club. For more information, contact Don Steuter at 602-956-5057 or dsteuter@hotmail.com or Elna Otter at 520-212-9736 or elna.otter@gmail.com. Meetings will be located in Flagstaff.

Grand Canyon Chapter – What's Going On?



I WANT YOU!

YOU ARE SIERRA CLUB

Volunteer leadership positions within the Grand Canyon Chapter are an ideal way to deepen your involvement in the issues important to you. Your club needs committed people who will give their time and energy to further its mission to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet.

Become a candidate to serve on your group or chapter executive committee! No experience is necessary. If you want to help create a vision, make policy, execute plans to protect and preserve our environment, and have fun while doing it, please nominate yourself. If you know of another good person, let us know.

If you would like to learn more about what would be involved, please contact one of the following leaders: Nominations Chair Lynn DeMuth at 480-345-2626 or lmthemuth@cox.net, Chapter Chair Elna Otter at 520-212-9736 or elna.otter@gmail.com, or your group chair (see pp. 12–13).

Guidelines for chapter and group executive committee elections:

1) To be listed on the ballot, candidates must submit their names and membership numbers. If you aren't sure what your membership number is, see your *Canyon Echo* label or contact the chapter office at 602-253-9140. Be sure to include contact information along with your submission.

2) Submit a candidate statement (recommended but not required), indicating the chapter or group executive committee for which you are running, to the Nominations Committee at lmthemuth@cox.net by **no later than August 15, 2014**. Candidate statements are limited to 200 words and must be submitted by email. You will receive acknowledgement within a few days of submission. (Because much of the executive committee's business is done by email, candidates must have email capability.)

The official ballot will appear in the Fall 2014 Canyon Echo. So, go ahead, nominate yourself or someone else you think would be a good leader.

Thank you for stepping forward!



In Memory

Steve Pawlowski

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Steve Pawlowski, our chapter's Water Sentinels Program Coordinator. Steve died on June 2 while doing what he loved – speaking up for Arizona's precious waters and advocating for Clean Water Act protections.

A native of Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, Steve earned a law degree from Arizona State University and worked for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) for 21 years, specializing in surface water monitoring and assessment. We worked frequently with him during that time on a variety of issues. In 2009, after retiring from ADEQ, he joined our Sierra Club staff.

During his nearly five years with our chapter, Steve developed a strong and dedicated team of volunteers to protect our rivers. He organized and participated in numerous events to educate others about Arizona's rivers and to engage them in hands-on protection efforts. His knowledge and actions inspired people to learn more and to get involved.

Our thoughts remain with Steve's family – his wife, Jeanie, and daughter, Sarah – and with all who knew him. We miss you, Steve.

You can read more about Steve at <http://bit.ly/SPmemorial>.



Host Homes Needed – Open Your Hearts...and Your Front Door!

The Grand Canyon Chapter is seeking volunteers across the state to host small- and medium-sized house parties this summer and early fall. Please consider helping us out!

We are asking you to open your home for a couple of hours, invite some guests, and host a short but great discussion about the state of the environment in Arizona, about political candidates Sierra Club endorses, about the upcoming legislative environment, or about a current environmental campaign – we'll provide the presenter. The Fundraising Committee will also assist in helping you with invitations, refreshments, and whatever else you need.

This is very important and meaningful work for Sierra Club. Not only will you help us get the word out to more people, but you'll also help us raise much-needed funds for our campaigns. You will be making a significant contribution by opening up your home.

For information, please contact Fundraising Committee Co-Chair John Beshears at 602-502-3990 or jbeshears@cox.net.

- 2 Chapter Announcements
- 4 Sandy Bahr Wins Award
- 6 Ocelot in Santa Ritas
- 7 Grand Canyon Wilderness
- 8 Blue Range Primitive Area
- 9 Land of Legends
- 11 Legislative Report Card
- 12 Group Happenings
- 14 Hikes and Outings
- 16 Service Outings

Sandy Bahr Wins Sierra Club's 2014 Larry Mehlhaff Award for Excellence

By Peter Bengtson

The Larry Mehlhaff Award for Excellence “honors a distinguished and consistent record of achievement in advancing the Club’s message or implementing ideas, systems, programs, or team efforts that have resulted in substantial improvements, efficiencies, and/or savings to services and operations Club-wide.”

Sandy received this award in recognition for her long-term work in advancing the message of Sierra Club in Arizona. The award was presented at the staff awards ceremony in San Francisco on May 30, 2014.

Sandy began working for the Grand Canyon Chapter as Conservation Outreach Director January 20, 1998. At that time, we had only one staff person, an uninspiring media presence in Arizona, and virtually no visibility at the state legislature. Sandy guided the development of a fundraising plan and committee and jump-started our current communications and political programs. This has allowed us to anchor campaigns in the Grand Canyon Ecoregion and along our environmentally-ravaged border with Mexico, and we have become a daily media presence in the state and the “go-to” environmental organization at the Arizona Legislature. Sandy integrated our work with the national Sierra Club and has taken advantage of funding opportunities. This has enabled us to shape key programs, including the coal-to-clean-energy work, energy-efficient building codes, and general Beyond Coal activity.

Sandy has also moved the chapter from being a rare media presence to being

the chief environmental communicator in Arizona. During 2013, she wrote a weekly environmental article for Phoenix’s major newspaper, *Arizona Republic*. She does regular interviews with reporters and appeared on several television programs and television interviews throughout 2013. Although Sandy is the media face of Sierra Club in Arizona, she always encourages reporters to talk to volunteers and other staff, as appropriate. Sandy regularly updates materials on social media and works with national staff and volunteers as well as other organizations to find the most effective means to communicate the Club’s environmental messages and priorities.

When the Chapter hired Sandy Bahr, we had, at best, a vague presence in the Arizona Legislature. Sandy first organized Environmental Day at the Legislature in 1997 and 30 people attended. Now an annual event, it includes numerous other environmental organizations under the Sierra Club Environmental Day umbrella. The 2014 Environmental Day involved 19 organizations and was attended by 150 people. Sandy was able to engage more than 1,100 volunteers directly and indirectly in the legislative process during the last legislative session.

Sandy’s work at the Legislature was recognized by the *Arizona Capitol Times* with its “Best Capitol Watchdog” award for 2012 – an impressive victory for Sandy and for our chapter. Sandy is clearly seen as the lead staff player in the environmental movement in Arizona.

Pete is an active Sierra Club member.



The Strand. Photo by Sandy Bahr.

Thank you to the musicians in **D-Squared**, **The Strand**, and **Pick and Holler** for supporting our Arizona Water Sentinels program with a benefit concert! Thank you, also, to the folks at **Fiddler’s Dream** for providing the venue and to everyone who came. It was a wonderful concert with great music that will cheer us with positive lasting memories in the years to come. Your generosity helped raise more than \$1,000 for our program. Many thanks!

Cast of Characters

Thom Hulen Conservation Advocate

Arizona has always been my home, but I was born in Oklahoma. My parents loaded me and a bunch of dogs in the car and headed for California when I was two weeks old. My father says we ran out of money in Phoenix, so we stayed. I do not know Oklahoma, so I consider myself an Arizona native.

Growing up in South Phoenix a few miles from South Mountain Park, I spent lots of time exploring the park. It was here that I developed my appreciation for Sonoran Desert natural and cultural history. I can still remember the first day I saw ancient Hohokam petroglyphs pecked on the surface of a huge granite boulder. I return to South Mountain Park often to see these masterpieces in stone.

My father, Boy Scouts, and education gave me the gift of appreciating the natural world. It was my father’s comments about the “Sage Brush Rebellion” many years ago and my experiences in the Superstition Wilderness that formed my values for public land.

Professionally, I have been an archaeologist, museum educator, coordinator for the Desert Botanical Garden’s Desert House project, conservation director for the Desert Foothills Land Trust, and executive director of Arizona League of Conservation Voters and of Friends of Sonoran Desert National Monument. For fun, I read, play the guitar, watch an occasional movie, bird watch, hike, fish, hunt, run, and cycle on the road and on trails. Much of this, I am able to do in wilderness and roadless areas.

Bobbie Holaday gets the credit for introducing me to conservation advocacy when she invited me to join the board of directors of Preserve Arizona’s Wolves (PAWS). I will never forget her dedication to bringing the Mexican wolf back to the U.S. where it belongs. Her willingness to reach out to all sides in this controversial matter taught me that citizens do have a voice in public policy – but only with patience and perseverance.

My first encounter with Sierra Club happened when I worked at Pueblo Grande Museum, where Sierra Club met for some time. I spoke to Joni Bosh on many occasions, and her spirit and commitment made a lasting impression on me. Currently, I am Chair of the Grand Canyon Chapter’s Political Committee and a member of the Wildlife Committee, plus I was recently elected to the Chapter Executive Committee.

I am proud of my membership and participation in Sierra Club because we are one of the only organizations in Arizona that consistently defends our environment and other matters important to our democracy, such as voting rights.



Thom Hulen. Photo courtesy of Thom Hulen.

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Trailblazers Wanted

Have you ever noticed who participates in Sierra Club activities? Do you notice only a small number of younger people? Would you like to see a greater diversity of people attending Grand Canyon Chapter programs and participating in Sierra Club activities? Do you wonder where the next generation of Sierra Club members and leaders will come from?

Many people in Arizona believe in the issues that are important to us as Sierra Club members. Many of these same people have never heard of Sierra Club. The Grand Canyon Chapter needs to bridge this gap. We need more new faces, new ideas, and new perspectives to sustain John Muir's legacy into the next century.

The Trailblazer Opportunity Fund will seek out more young people and people with limited incomes who are interested in joining the Grand Canyon Chapter. The Trailblazer program will be promoted through print and online media as well as through outreach at events. Participants will be asked to complete a one-page application. If accepted, the Trailblazer's first-year membership will be paid for after they attend at least one event with a Trailblazer Mentor, an active member of the Grand Canyon Chapter. The Trailblazer and the mentor will later be asked to complete a brief evaluation of their experience.

The chapter membership committee is recruiting members to assist with organizing and implementing the program and to serve as mentors. We also need names of people who might want to be considered in the first round of Trailblazers. This fall, we will initiate a major effort to promote the Trailblazer Program. We hope you'll join this effort!

If you want to learn more about how you can become a mentor or want to assist with the program, please contact Mark Coryell at macmpa930@earthlink.net or our chapter office at 602-253-8633 with your name, contact information, and any special interests or experiences you'd like to share with the Trailblazer. If you know of anyone who might be interested in becoming a Trailblazer, please provide that information, as well.

An Ocelot in the Santa Ritas

By Gayle Hartmann



An endangered ocelot photographed on May 14, 2014. *Photo courtesy of the USFWS.*

Two recent photographs taken with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) cameras show an ocelot on the eastern slopes of the Santa Rita Mountains, in the vicinity of the proposed Rosemont open-pit copper mine. A jaguar has also been photographed in the area for the past couple of years; both the ocelot and the jaguar are endangered species.

Partially as a result of the ocelot sighting, the USFWS announced that it will restart reviews of the proposed mine's impacts on eight endangered species. Impacts on several species, including fish and frogs that depend on the water in Cienega Creek and Davidson Canyon, will be assessed. These reviews will take approximately 135 days, that is, about 4.5 months. At that point, more mitigation could be required or, if the conclusion is that the mine would seriously

damage critical habitat, the mine could be stopped.

Augusta Resource, Rosemont's parent company, is running very short on financial reserves and has been counting on the necessary permits being issued in the next few weeks. In addition to the slow-down resulting from the new endangered species review, the required Clean Water Act 404 permit, under the auspices of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has not been issued. A recent letter from the Army Corps to Rosemont made it clear that, after more than a year of meetings with the mining company, Rosemont's plans to mitigate damage to creeks and washes are still inadequate. The Corps made it clear that it hasn't made a decision regarding the permit application, but it seems that the issuance of the permit is unlikely.

Gayle is President of Save the Scenic Santa Ritas.

Mount Graham Wilderness Study Area

By Jim Vaaler



Mt. Graham tramway tower. *Photo by Jim Vaaler.*

The Mount Graham Wilderness Study Area (WSA) was authorized by Congress as part of the 1984 Arizona Wilderness Act. The original WSA contained 60,755 acres; it was recently enlarged slightly to include 61,315 acres of potential wilderness. This area is located on the Safford Ranger District of Coronado National Forest.

On a Sierra Club backpack to this area on April

25–27, we hiked up the Shingle Mill Trail #35 with two goals – first, to find water so we could actually do a backpack and, second, to document historical archeological artifacts from the Mount Graham Aerial Tramway, which was used to transport lumber from the top of Mt. Graham down to the town of Pima from 1923 to 1925. Numerous pieces of rusted pulleys and cables were found, along with two 10-foot-tall concrete towers. It should be noted that we also found a very nice flowing stream at the 5,800 foot level.

When the Mount Graham Aerial Tramway was first built, it would have precluded

this area from wilderness consideration. Fortunately, this business venture proved to be an economical boondoggle shortly after it was finished. However, the passage of time can heal the scars that we inflict upon the landscape. Now, the remains of this tramway are interesting reminders of a bygone time and, instead, are looked upon as wilderness values that need to be left in place and not removed.

This outing took us from an elevation of 3,400 feet up to 8,300 feet. It took a fair

See Mt. Graham continued on pg. 11.

Muldoon Potential Wilderness Area

By Gary Beverly



What word would you use to describe a landscape that has few trails and no roads; supports numerous endangered species and rich biodiversity; contains a perennial river, a rare forest type, dramatic scenery, cultural and historic sites; and reveals a billion years of geologic history?

I would call it a *primo* wilderness area, but Prescott National Forest (PNF) sees the Muldoon Potential Wilderness Area (PWA) as second tier – unworthy of Recommended Wilderness Area status. As such, PNF will not recommend Muldoon to the Chief Forester for wilderness designation and PNF will not manage the area as a default wilderness pending Congressional approval.

The Muldoon PWA is about 20,000 acres surrounding 10.8 miles of the upper Verde River – some of the best native fish habitat and scenery on the entire river.

PNF's decision is the result of an evaluation of PWAs conducted as part of the forest plan revision process. In our comments on the proposed forest plan, Sierra Club's Yavapai Group complained mightily that the Muldoon evaluation was sloppy and unfair. The result was that not only did PNF ignore us but also cut the PNF's recommended wilderness acreage in half! We believe this was in



Muldoon Potential Wilderness Area. Photo by Gary Beverly.

response to comments opposing wilderness by other groups: mountain bikers, Arizona Game and Fish Department, motorized recreation, ranchers, and government-haters.

In cooperation with other conservation groups, Sierra Club has developed a Citizens Proposal for the Upper Verde Wild and Scenic River (UVWSR) that is ready to submit to Congress. Unfortunately, we need a local Senator or Representative to introduce the

bill to Congress. Local Representative Paul Gosar is extremely conservative and philosophically opposed to federal public lands; we don't think he is a good option to help protect the Verde.

The UVWSR Steering Group decided to wait for electoral change – years, if necessary – which isn't a bad strategy because PNF, as part of its plan revision process, determined the upper Verde to be eligible for

Wild and Scenic River (WSR) designation. That requires PNF to manage the river as a default WSR and to prevent degradation of the area.

While waiting for political progress, the steering group adopted a strategy of "layered protection": several types of complementary protections that overlap the UVWSR. One strategy was to move Muldoon into Recommended Wilderness status – a failure so far. We also sought designation as "Arizona Outstanding Water" to prevent degradation of water quality – this has been blocked by Governor Brewer but may be released in 2015. Finally, we anticipated that the Endangered Species Act would protect more species; this has worked out well as there are now *ten* species covered.

Muldoon is more than a strategy to protect the Verde. Muldoon PWA is easily worthy of wilderness designation, but it's clear that PNF will never move Muldoon towards Congressional designation. That task is left to us: Sierra Club, working with the Arizona Wilderness Coalition and other conservation groups.

We have more work to do – these things take time.

Gary is Chair of the Yavapai Group.

Wilderness and Grand Canyon

By Kim Crumbo



As any visitor to Grand Canyon's South Rim can readily observe, National Park designation alone does not assure the land is protected from the increasing pressure for development, nor does it require the agency to protect the visitor's "wilderness experience." Wilderness designation does. Wilderness is a "...land retaining its primeval character and influence...with the imprint of man substantially unnoticeable." Not only are non-conforming developments and practices prohibited, but, also, where recreational use is appropriate, wilderness must provide for "outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation."

The passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act instructed the Secretary of the Interior to re-

view all roadless areas of at least 5,000 acres in the National Park system and to submit a report regarding the suitability of these areas for wilderness classification. In effect, Congress "designated" all roadless areas greater than 5,000 acres as wilderness study areas. The act provided a 10-year review period and timetable for formalized the agency's recommendations.

The Wilderness Act specifies a time frame only for completing wilderness recommendations, not for enacting wilderness legislation. This (and National Park Service [NPS] policy – subject to change) requires the agency to protect wilderness suitability until Congress either designates the area as

See *Grand Canyon continued on pg. 15.*



The Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park. Photo by Kim Reinhart-Mora.

“The Blue” – One of the Crown Jewels of America’s Wildlands

By Don Hoffman



Blue Range Primitive Area. Photo courtesy of Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest.

The Blue Range Primitive Area (BRPA) was created in 1933 by administrative order under the authority of the L-20 Regulation, which was inspired by Aldo Leopold and implemented by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in 1929. Under the L-20 Regulation, the USFS created 76 Primitive Areas by the end of 1939. Today, all but one have been designated as statutory wilderness by Congress. That one missing link is the Arizona portion of the BRPA.

Aldo Leopold was on a first name basis with “the Blue.” In fact, the seeds of his “Land Ethic” were sown during his formative years as a forester in this area. Leopold’s first

assignment in 1909 was on what is now the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest where the BRPA resides. During his long pack trips into the Blue and the neighboring Gila Wilderness, he quickly grasped the value of wilderness as an unmatched recreational resource. Through his writings, he showed even greater insight articulating the value of wilderness to our understanding of ecosystems:

We literally do not know how good a performance to expect of healthy land unless we have a wild area for comparisons with sick ones. . . . In short, all wild areas, large or small, are likely to have value as norms

for land science. Recreation is not their only, or even their principle utility. (A Sand County Almanac)

The BRPA is, indeed, a special place – a geological, ecological, and recreational treasure. It is bisected by the eastern end of the Mogollon Rim. The Blue River cuts through this rim to create elevational and ecological extremes equal to those imposed by Grand Canyon. At elevations

above 9,000 feet near Hannagan Meadow, you’ll find stands of pure spruce-fir. As you descend, you’ll pass through aspen-mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, and piñon-juniper forest types. Chaparral and upper Chihuahuan Desert are at the lowest and driest locations.

A combination of factors – far from metropolis, limited access, and incredibly rugged terrain – keeps the number of visitors low, providing outstanding opportunities for quiet and solitude. The lands and waters support an abundance of wildlife – birdlife from raptors to hummingbirds; native fish, frogs, and lizards; javelina, deer, coyotes, elk,

and bighorn sheep; and predators such as fox, black bear, bobcat, and mountain lion. It is precisely because of its remoteness and high density of prey species that the Blue was selected for reintroduction of the highly endangered Mexican gray wolf in 1998. After a period of poor management, the lobo’s numbers are again on the rise. Hopefully, their howls (which I occasionally hear from my porch) are here to stay.

The administratively-defined BRPA encompasses approximately 200,000 acres. Arizona Wilderness Coalition, in partnership with Sky Island Alliance, conducted a thorough inventory of the BRPA and its contiguous wild lands. As a result, an intact unit of more than 422,000 acres has been identified for future wilderness designation. Additionally, there are numerous Roadless Areas adjacent to it. Together, at more than 700,000 acres, this represents arguably the largest and most productive wild land system in Arizona. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, we must remember that Aldo’s vision for permanently protecting “the Blue” remains unrealized. His unfinished business is our unfinished business.

Don is a retired Wilderness Program Manager on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest and retired Executive Director of the Arizona Wilderness Coalition.

Beyond the Slab



Land of Legends

By Mike Quigley



When the Wilderness Act became law in 1964, 9.1 million acres were immediately preserved. Importantly, the Wilderness Act also provided a means for other deserving lands to be designated as wilderness at any time. That foresight has resulted in a current wilderness system of more than 109 million acres in more than 750 areas in 44 of the 50 states, plus in Puerto Rico.

Arizona has 90 areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System. These are the places one reads about in hiking guides, sees photos of in *Arizona Highways*, knows as iconic natural areas: Superstition, Mazatzal, Chiricahua, Eagletail, Kofa, Paria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs, Aravaipa Canyon, Kachina Peaks, Saguaro, Pusch Ridge, Pajarita. These areas are united by their stunning natural beauty, by their high quality habitats, by people who care deeply about them – and that led to them being united as designated wilderness.

Now it is time to expand again upon that legacy. There are still many deserving



The Dragoon Mountains are a piece of the Land of Legends.

Photo courtesy of The Wilderness Society.

lands in Arizona – many lands that need wilderness protection in the face of increased population growth, development pressures, and irresponsible recreational uses on our public lands.

In southeastern Arizona, local folks have been working to raise awareness of the values and fragility of parts of the Coronado National Forest – specifically the northern Chir-

icahua Mountains, Dragoon Mountains, and Whetstone Mountains. These areas, which we are collectively referring to as “Land of Legends” areas, are natural treasures that provide clean water, world-class quiet outdoor recreation, key habitat for Arizona’s wildlife, timeless cultural and spiritual values, and stunning scenery.

The Whetstone Mountains are a hub of wildlife connectivity corridors and drain into Cienega Creek and San Pedro River. The Whetstones are also the uplands for Kartchner Caverns State Park – a jewel of Arizona’s State Parks system, a multimillion dollar economic driver for the state, and a world-class living cave system. Protecting the uplands is essential to protecting the caverns.

The Dragoons and northern Chiricahuas provide stunning scenery, intact wild-

life habitat, and challenging hiking opportunities. Combined, the Land of Legends areas provide the vast, quiet open space essential for Fort Huachuca’s Electronic Proving Ground; provide watershed protection for the San Pedro and Las Cienegas National Conservation Areas; and provide important wildlife habitat for jaguar, ocelot, and many other native species.

The Land of Legends areas and the values they provide are at risk from their proximity to expanding metropolitan areas and from increased visitor pressures. Currently, the Coronado National Forest is revising its management plan, and a coalition of groups is advocating for prioritizing these areas for natural character preservation and are recommending them for wilderness protections. We are also engaged in discussions with local communities and others to determine the best way to permanently protect the wild and historic character of these Lands of Legends in Cochise County, for today and for generations to come.

For more information, please visit <http://www.landoflegendsforourfuture.org>.

Mike is Arizona State Director of The Wilderness Society.

Song of the Sonoran

By Barbara Hawke



Arizona boasts some of the most spectacular and biodiverse deserts in our country. Against the stark beauty of the Sonoran Desert lies the sprawling behemoth of metropolitan Phoenix. Facing burgeoning development, natural resource demands, and intensifying recreational use, these desert gems need preservation now.

One of the most powerful means of protection is conservation legislation, such as the Sonoran Desert Heritage Act (SDHA). SDHA melds preservation with practicality to conserve public lands west of Phoenix. This landscape reveals unusual geologic features, expansive views, significant historic and cultural resources, and a glorious amalgam of desert vegetation and wildlife, from Gila monsters to kit foxes. Pairing environ-

mental and economic benefits, SDHA preserves wildlife corridors on the ground and military flight corridors above.

SDHA is also a great model for utilizing a full range of conservation designations. By incorporating National Conservation Areas, Special Management Areas, and wilderness, in combination with the existing Sonoran Desert National Monument, SDHA provides for a broad range of public uses while conserving the most sensitive places. See more at <http://www.sonoranheritage.org>.

Representative Raúl Grijalva introduced the SDHA in the U.S. House of Representatives on April 26, 2013. The bill currently has two sponsors, yet it’s long past time for

See Sonoran continued on pg. 10.



Little Horn Mountains, part of the Sonoran Desert Heritage area.

Photo courtesy of the Arizona Wilderness Coalition.



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Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35

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A Tribute to Stanley C. Skirvin

By Don McIver

My good friend Stan, age 86, died on March 28, 2014. Stan and I met while working together at Honeywell Bull. We shared rock climbing, backpacking, and hiking adventures. Among these adventures were climbing trips at Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains and Courthouse Rock in the Harquahala Valley. Stan was always affable, enjoyable to be with, and among the kindest men I have ever met. When you climb with someone, you learn a lot about that person. Stan was totally dependable. When Stan belayed me, I knew – absolutely knew – I was as safe as if sitting at home.

At age 17, Stan enlisted in the U. S. Navy and served on the *U. S. S. Curtiss* in the Pacific during World War II. A graduate of Ohio State University, he worked for the General Electric Company in Schenectady, New York, and Cincinnati, Ohio, before moving to Scottsdale.

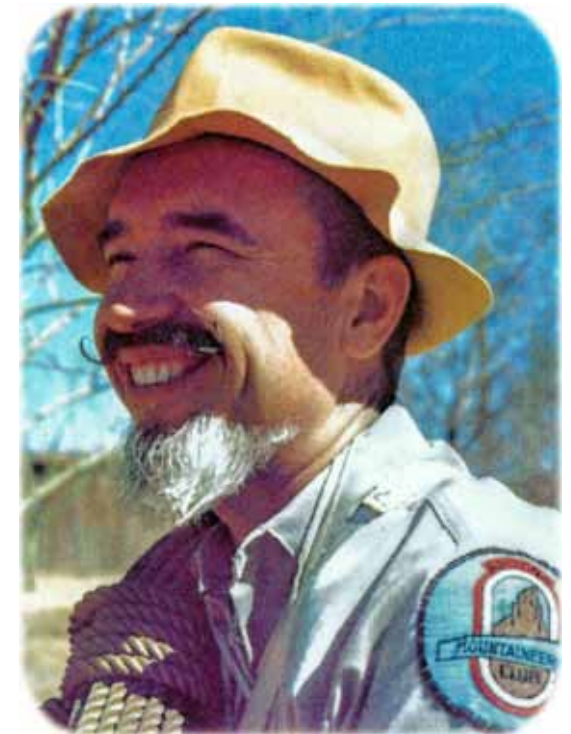
Stan was Assistant Leader on a National Sierra Club outing that began on Nankowep Trail on the North Rim of Grand Canyon, continued across the

Colorado River by inflatable kayak, and ended with a challenging hike out the Salt Trail on the Navajo Indian Reservation. He and his family led and participated in many local Sierra Club trips in the 1970s and early 1980s. He led the first chapter trip to the Sawtooth Mountains west of Tucson. Stan and his wife, Joan, also regularly participated in *Canyon Echo* mailing parties to prepare the newsletter for mailing.

Stan participated in several rescues while a member of the Arizona Mountaineering Club. He was also a member of the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society. He particularly enjoyed visits to other cactus gardens and buying plants to add to his cactus collection.

Stan is survived by his wife for more than 61 years, Joan, and by his daughter Susan M. Skirvin, son Stanley D. Skirvin, and son Jeffrey D. Skirvin and his family.

Don is an active Sierra Club member.



Stan Skirvin. Photo courtesy of the Skirvin Family.

Sonoran continued from pg. 9.

additional Arizona legislators to support this pragmatic effort. SDHA was recognized by the Center for American Progress among the "Languishing Lands" bills in Congress deserving action (see <http://bit.ly/languishinglands>).

Farther south, our evocative borderlands harbor unparalleled biodiversity and serene beauty. The Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Act was introduced in late July 2007 by Rep. Grijalva. Like many of the sky islands, the Tumacacoris lie at the intersection of disparate ecosystems, creating habitat for sensitive and rare species including jaguar, tropical kingbird, and five-striped sparrow. Legendary wilderness warrior Bart Koehler rhapsodizes about the Tumacacoris: "Throughout the ages: from when American Indians first settled at the foot of these rugged mountains; to the time when the first Spanish missionaries came to the Santa Cruz Valley and beheld this range to the West; to the late 1960's when wild author

Edward Abbey was keeping a watchful eye over these crags from a fire-tower atop Atacosa Peak – the Tumacacori Highlands have lasted until this point in time."

It's important to acknowledge legislators that champion wilderness preservation. Rep. Grijalva observes, "The Wilderness Act is, foremost, a preservation law that conserves our natural environmental legacy. The Sonoran Desert Heritage proposal area and Tumacacori Highlands are necessary wilderness areas that merit and need the protection of the Wilderness Act. Our collective work will be toward that wilderness designation. We celebrate 50 years of progress and realize that more progress is needed in Arizona."

Your action is especially important in times of scant legislative movement. You can volunteer for research, restoration, or interpretation projects with programs such as Arizona Wilderness Coalition's Wilderness Stewardship (<http://bit.ly/AWCwild>) or great programs of Sierra Club, Sky Island



Vivacious Sunset

Sun descends
 Winds sway, Ponderosa dance
 Rays through fog illuminate
 Heart filled tranquility
 Sol Sanctum.

—Sarah Johnson

Alliance, The Wilderness Society, and others. Engage with agency planning processes such as Forest Plan Revisions to voice the need for wilderness preservation.

To preserve Arizona's remaining wilderness treasures before they're lost, we need you!

Barbara is Executive Director of the Arizona Wilderness Coalition.

Keeping the Legislature at Bay

By Sandy Bahr



Despite starting off as one of the worst sessions for weakening environmental protections, the 2014 legislative session ended up being a bit better than expected – three terrible bills were vetoed, two were defeated in the Senate, and numerous bills died because they did not advance to a full vote in one house or the other. Several bills were amended to at least address some of our concerns.

Arizona legislators continued to try to harm wildlife by limiting the recovery of endangered wolves and weakening habitat protections, plus showed no respect for federal public lands or federal environmental laws. However, Governor Brewer vetoed attempts to limit recovery of Mexican gray wolves (SB1211 and HB2699) and to bulldoze wilderness areas (HB2541).

Senators defeated an attempted federal public land grab by legislators (HB2700). This bill would have required the Arizona State Land Department to identify which state trust lands have been transferred to the federal government since statehood and then would have required compensation from the federal government, even though most of these areas were acquired via land exchanges. It also directed the Legislature and Attorney General to take all steps to recover and acquire these state lands.

Legislators did not pass any of the attacks on clean energy but also did nothing to help promote energy efficiency or roof-top solar. Arizona legislators should be supporting and promoting solar energy and energy

efficiency programs. Instead, our legislature continues to promote energy sources such as coal that pollute our air and water and contribute to climate change, while our state has more than 300 days of sunshine. Each session, legislators generate attacks on energy efficiency, even though it is the cleanest and cheapest energy resource. It is past time for those attacks to stop and for efforts to support clean energy to advance.

Surprisingly enough, legislators did not re-enact the voter suppression and anti-citizen initiative provisions in HB2305, a measure the Legislature passed in the 2013 session. Because of the anti-democracy provisions in HB2305, voters signed petitions to stop the measure and to instead refer it to the ballot. Rather than see HB2305 on the ballot as a referendum, legislators repealed it early in the 2014 session.

The Legislature did undermine enforcement of election laws by limiting the Clean Elections Commission's ability to enforce non-Clean-Elections violations. It remains to be seen if this bill (SB1344) will withstand a legal challenge, however.

In our report card, Senators were graded using 12 bills, and House members were graded using 11 bills. Governor Jan Brewer was graded on eight bills. Everyone was graded on a curve. The bills focused on Mexican gray wolves, public lands, land use, importation of waste, elections, and citizen initiatives, among other issues.

Sandy is Chapter Director.

You can view the full report card at <http://bit.ly/2014SCreportcard>.

Mt. Graham continued from pg. 6.

amount of planning and commitment and turned out to be quite the trip!

Note: During this trip, we saw that a portion of the catwalk had either been knocked down by a landslide or flashflood or had possibly been physically removed.

This structure was composed of Marston (Marsden) matting, fence posts, wire, and rock fill. Marston (Marsden) matting

was the material used during World War II to construct aircraft landing fields in the Pacific Theater of Operation. This catwalk apparently followed the route of the Ash Creek logging flume (circa 1915). Although not the original flume construction, evidence indicates that it was more than 50 years old, thus making it a historical archeological artifact.

Jim is an active Sierra Club member.

	SENATE	HOUSE
A+		Clinco (LD 2), Gonzales (LD 3), Mach (LD 10), McCune Davis (LD 30), Saldade (LD 3), Steele (LD 9)
A	Begay (LD 7), Bradley (LD 10), Cajero Bedford (LD 3), Dalessandro (LD 2), Farley (LD 9), Hobbs (LD 24), Landrum Taylor (LD 27), Meza (LD 30), Pancrazi (LD 4), Tovar (LD 19)	Alston (LD 24), Campbell (LD 24), Cardenas (LD 19), Contreras (LD 19), Escamilla (LD 4), Gabaldón (LD 2), Larkin (LD 30), Meyer (LD 28), Muñoz* (LD 27), Otondo (LD 4), Peshlakai (LD 7), Quezada (LD 29), Sherwood (LD 26), Wheeler (LD 10)
B	Ableser (LD 26), Gallardo (LD 29)	Hale (LD 7), Hernández (LD 29), Mendez (LD 26), Miranda (LD 27)
C		
D	McComish (LD 18), McGuire (LD 8), S. Pierce (LD 1), Reagan (LD 23), Worsley (LD 25)	
F	Barto (LD 15), Biggs (LD 12), Burges (LD 22), Crandell (LD 6), Driggs (LD 28), D. Farnsworth (LD 16), Griffin (LD 14), Melvin (LD 11), Murphy (LD 21), Shooter (LD 13), Ward (LD 5), Yarbrough (LD 17), Yee (LD 20)	Allen (LD 15), Barton (LD 6), Borrelli (LD 5), Boyer (LD 20), Brophy McGee (LD 28), Carter (LD 15), Coleman (LD 16), Dial (LD 18), Fann (LD 1), E. Farnsworth (LD 12), Forese (LD 17), Goodale (LD 5), Gowan (LD 14), Gray (LD 21), Kavanagh (LD 23), Kwasman (LD 11), Lesko (LD 21), Livingston (LD 22), Lovas (LD 22), Mesnard (LD 17), Mitchell (LD 13), Montenegro (LD 13), Olson (LD 25), Orr (LD 9), Petersen (LD 12), J. Pierce (LD 25), Pratt (LD 8), Robson (LD 18), Seel (LD 20), Shope (LD 8), Smith (LD 11), Stevens (LD 14), Thorpe (LD 6), Tobin (LD 1), Townsend (LD 16), Ugenti (LD 23)
C+	Governor Brewer	

**Representative Muñoz was not in the Legislature for all votes; her grade is adjusted to reflect that.*

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Happenings Around the State

Six groups make up the Grand Canyon Chapter. All the events and meetings listed below are open to members interested in learning more about the Sierra Club. You can find out more at our website: http://arizona.sierraclub.org/meetings_events.asp. Schedules are subject to change. (x) Group ExCom members

Palo Verde Group (Phoenix)

<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/paloverde>

Chair/Membership:	Michael Brady (x)	480-250-4054	pvg.chair@gmail.com
Vice-Chair:	Fareed Abou-Haidar (x)	480-345-1779	fdadlion@cox.net
Treasurer:	Jerry Nelson (x)	602-279-4668	peakbagger2@gmail.com
Secretary:	Blair McLaughlin (x)	602-618-8591	blair.mclaughlin@cox.net
Conservation:	Don Steuter (x)	602-956-5057	dsteuter@hotmail.com
Outings:	Jim Vaaler (x)	602-553-8208	jimvaaler@msn.com
Inner City Outings:	Lisa Vaaler	602-468-4158	lvaaler1@gmail.com
Programs:	Ariel Lebaron (x)		ariel_leb@yahoo.com
Ex-Com (At-Large):	Gary Kraemer (x)	602-373-6301	drrealitycheck@gmail.com
	Natalie Melkonoff (x)		nmelkonoff@asu.edu

SEP 2 (TUE) 6:30 p.m. Conservation Committee meetings. Contact Don Steuter.

SEP 11 (THU) 6:30 p.m. Executive Committee meetings. Contact Mike Brady. Meetings are held in the 2nd floor conference room in the SE corner of the Quality Inn, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix.

JUL 17 and SEP 18 (THU) 6:30 p.m. Free monthly programs. The Palo Verde Group offers monthly programs on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Quality Inn Garden Room, 202 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix. Monthly programs are open to the public. Visit <http://PaloVerdeGroup.org> or call 480-990-9165 for more information.

Saguaro Group (North Maricopa County)

<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/saguaro>

Chair:	Bev Full (x)	480-221-2554	bfull@cox.net
Vice-Chair/Conservation:	Dianne Leis (x)	480-619-8789	dianne.leis@gmail.com
Secretary:	Lynne Cockrum-Murphy (x)	602-569-6078	lcockrum@cox.net
Treasurer:	Urb Weidner (x)	602-595-3301	northwoods@cox.net
Outings:	Peter Weinelt (x)	623-388-2209	vitalpaw@yahoo.com
Service Outings:	Doug Murphy (x)	602-569-6078	dbmurphy@cox.net
Website:	Harry Lumley		lumleyhw@gmail.com
Ex-Com (At-Large):	Bob Moore (x)	480-543-7409	bimoore1@hotmail.com

For information on any event, contact Bev Full.

JUL 12 (SAT) 6 p.m. Full moon hike/fundraiser at Cave Creek Park. Meet for dinner, followed by a short hike to watch the moonrise for a suggested contribution of \$10.

AUG 14 (THU) 5:30 p.m. Saguaro Group Executive Committee meeting/potluck at Doug and Lynne Murphy's home. Any interested member is invited to attend.

SEP 6 (SAT) 7:30 a.m. General meeting and breakfast at the Grotto Cafe in Cave Creek, 6501 E. Cave Creek Rd., with our guest speaker (to be announced) who will talk about the important work of the Arizona Corporation Commission.

SEP 13 (SAT) 8 a.m. Lake Pleasant clean-up. See details under "Sierra Service Outings" on pg. 16.

Rincon Group (Tucson)

<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/rincon>

Chair:	Randy Serraglio (x)	520-396-1143	soawsw@earthlink.net
Vice-Chair/Conservation:	Keith Bagwell (x)	520-623-0269	kbagwell50@gmail.com
Secretary:	Roy Emrick (x)	520-326-7883	rmemrick@cox.net
Treasurer:	Ken Bierman	520-882-2708	kbierman1@gmail.com
Energy:	Russell Lowes (x)	520-321-3670	russlowes@gmail.com
Outings:	Mitch Stevens	520-647-3823	mitchstevens@qwestoffice.net
Inner City Outings:	Judy Rubin	520-891-3310	judym@susd12.org
Political:	Lee Oler	520-791-9246	cloler@cox.net
Membership:	Natalie Lucas (x)	928-600-7844	nlucas@email.arizona.edu
Ex-Com (At-Large):	Michelle Crow (x)	520-743-9958	mcrow10@cox.net
	Carl Kanun (x)	520-297-1128	carlk2770@comcast.net

AUG 28 and SEP 25 (THU) Conservation Committee (6 p.m.) and Executive Committee (7:15 p.m.) meetings. The meetings are open to the public. Sierra Club members, in particular, are urged to attend and to participate. Hope you see you there! Located in the first floor conference room of the Historic YWCA, 738 N. Fifth Ave., Tucson.

The following program is free and open to the public. Location TBD.

For more information, contact Keith Bagwell.

SEP 11 (THU) 7 p.m. Keeping the AZ Legislature at Bay, Stopping the Big Bad Wolf Bills and a Lot More. Every year, Chapter Director Sandy Bahr goes to battle with the Arizona Legislature, seeking to minimize its damage to environmental protection as it caters to the whims of industrial polluters, desert-bulldozing developers, and those who would sacrifice our state's wildlands and wildlife for the short-term profits of a few. Using her consummate lobbying skills, she helps guide a few good bills through the process while working with coalitions to turn back many of the worst measures. Sandy will review the 2014 session, preview the prospects for improvement that the 2014 November election has to offer, and tell us how we can help create positive political change this year.

WANTED: Calendar Sales Representative (Southern Arizona)

The Rincon Group (southern Arizona) is seeking a volunteer to serve as our Calendar Sales Representative in order to sell Sierra Club calendars. The responsibilities include ordering calendars, communicating with past and potential buyers, processing payments, and mailing the calendars. Most calendar sales occur in the fall and winter. We will provide you with all of the information you need to get started.

This is a great opportunity to support our efforts and to meet new people. Please consider helping us out!

For more information, contact Lee Oler at 520-791-9246 or cloler@cox.net.

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Plateau Group (Flagstaff)
<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/plateau>

Chair:	Joe Shannon (x)	928-527-3116	joseph.shannon@nau.edu
Vice-Chair:	Sienna Chapman (x)	928-863-0074	soc3@nau.edu
Secretary:	Sarah Johnson (x)	831-998-2585	srj73@nau.edu
Treasurer:	Sharon Galbreath		sharoneg@q.com
Webmaster:	Rick Resnick		rickresnick1498@yahoo.com
Ex-Com (At-Large):	Heath Emerson (x)	661-352-4953	he85@nau.edu
	Dick Hingson (x)	928-699-8366	dhingson@infowest.com

For information about activities in the Flagstaff area, contact Joe Shannon.

Sedona/Verde Valley Group
<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/sedona>

Chair:	Brian Myers (x)	928-204-1703	ibisalliance@gmail.com
Vice-Chair:	Anne Crosman (x)	928-284-9252	annecrosma@aol.com
Secretary:	Carole Piszczek-Sheffield (x)	928-204-1517	cpsheffield@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Margaret Anderson	928-203-4355	margaret@mandersonart.com
Conservation:	Tina Choate (x)	928-204-1703	ibisalliance@gmail.com
Outings:	Angela Lefevre	928-204-5827	aglefevre@esedona.net
Political:	Duane Edwards		richietheangel@hotmail.com
Webmaster:	John Sheffield	928-204-1517	jsheffield40@gmail.com
Ex-Com (At-Large):	Carol Grieshaber (x)	928-592-9222	carol@carolgrieshaber.com

For information about activities in the Sedona/Verde Valley area, contact Brian Myers.

Yavapai Group (Prescott)
<http://arizona.sierraclub.org/yavapai>

Chair/Outings:	Gary Beverly (x)	928-636-2638	gbverde@cableone.net
Vice-Chair/Conservation:	Tom Slaback (x)	928-778-4233	prescottkid@peoplepc.com
Secretary/Treasurer/Political:	Joe Zarnoch (x)	928-636-5501	sjzar2@commspeed.net
Membership:	Robby Alley (x)	928-200-5631	robby.alley@gmail.com
Ex-Com (At-Large):	Bart Brush (x)	928-710-7691	bart_brush@yahoo.com

For information about activities in the Prescott area, contact Gary Beverly.



Los Niños at Picacho Peak. Photo by Judy Rubin.

Tucson Inner City Outings would like to give a special **shout out** to Tony Vaccaro, owner of **Brooklyn Pizza**, for his ongoing, generous donation in the form of two free pizzas for our monthly meetings! We'd also like to give a big **thank you** to Olga Kuwaja at **North Tucson Blvd. Self Storage** for a great discount on two storage units where we store all of our hiking and camping gear! Both companies support our mission to take kids outdoors and expose them to the wonders of nature! Thank you so much!

Wilderness continued from pg. 1.

passage of the original wilderness act, Arizona has had two significant wilderness bills approved: the 1984 Arizona Wilderness Act, which designated approximately 800,000 acres of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands as wilderness, and the 1990 Arizona Desert Wilderness Act, which added about 2.4 million acres to the wilderness system.

Arizonans should be proud of past efforts to establish wilderness, but the work here is not finished. Numerous additional areas in Arizona can and should be protected as wilderness – areas that were left out of or overlooked in past wilderness bills. By some estimates, between 2.5 and 4.0 million acres of unprotected wilderness lands remain in Arizona.

Areas such as the Blue Range Primitive Area in eastern Arizona, the Tumacacori Highlands in southern Arizona, and East Clear Creek in central Arizona, among others, still lack wilderness protection. Plus, there are many opportunities to expand existing wilderness to include not just the

mountains and canyons but also the low and flat lands in between.

Past wilderness protection efforts focused a great deal on areas with significant scenic value – the canyons and the mountains. Today, we know more about the ecological importance of preserving large areas of land and the need to provide connections between these areas for the passage of many animal species, especially the larger mammals. We understand more about how climate change is affecting plants and animals via extended droughts and hotter temperatures. We must expand and connect our wilderness areas, as well as protect a wider diversity of ecologically-significant landscapes to ensure greater resiliency.

It will take time and significant public education efforts to win preservation of additional land as wilderness in Arizona. We need to start now, however. What better way to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act than by reinvigorating a wilderness movement in Arizona?

Sandy is the Chapter Director.

Care for the Environment Today and Tomorrow

By including Sierra Club in your estate plans today you are creating a way for future generations of Sierrans to steward the earth tomorrow.

There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

Sierra Club Gift Planning Program
 85 Second St, Second Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105
 (800) 932-4270 • gift.planning@sierraclub.org

Explore and Enjoy Arizona

For up-to-date information about outings, visit <http://arizona.sierraclub.org/outings.asp>.



JUL 19 (SAT) "A" Mt. Wrightson Wilderness (12 mi. RT, 4000' EC). Join us for a fantastic training outing to the highest point in the Tucson area. The views from the top of Mt. Wrightson are outstanding, extending for over 60 miles into Mexico and taking in much of the sky island country of southeastern Arizona. Rising a magnificent 7000' from the desert floor, this peak is visible from great distances. The wilderness features deep canyons, lofty ridges, and sloping grasslands. If the monsoon rains are abundant, there will be a profusion of colorful wildflowers throughout the hike. We will talk about the flora, fauna, and geology of this fascinating sky island range. Contact Mitch Stevens at 520-991-1199 or mitchstevens@qwestoffice.net. **Tucson**

JUL 23-25 (WED-FRI) "C" Ruins Camp Outing. Camp two nights northeast of Flagstaff. Visit Native American ruins at Wupatki National Monument on Wednesday, Homolovi State Park and Walnut Canyon National Monument on Thursday, Montezuma's Castle National Monument and Montezuma's Well on Friday. Cost: \$60 per person, includes camping fees, two dinners, two breakfasts, and lunch fixings on Thursday. RSVP by July 7 to help secure group campground reservation. Contact Pete Weinelt at 623-388-2209 or vitalpaw@yahoo.com. **Phoenix**



AUG 1-2 (FRI-SAT) "A" Mt. Humphreys, Kachina Peaks Wilderness (14.3 mi. RT, 4430' EC). A hike to the volcanic summit of Mt. Humphreys is a true classic. From the Inner Basin Trailhead in Lockett Meadow, we will backpack Friday evening through aspen, meadows, and Englemann spruce to access Mt. Humphreys. Once upon a time, there was a large strato-volcano that had built up in the San Francisco Peaks volcano field; 400,000 years ago, it erupted and the top of the mountain blew off and left us with four high peaks around the rim of a large caldera. Mt. Humphreys, at 12643', is the highest in Arizona, and we'll find evidence of glaciations left over from the Ice Ages. We will observe and discuss the unique zone of Arctic alpine vegetation, the only such vegetation in Arizona and also the only place on Earth where you'll find the San



Celebrate Wilderness!

Hiking Loma Vista Trail in Pusch Ridge Wilderness.
Photo by Beth Ann Krueger.



Throughout 2014, outings leaders are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act by leading hikes and other trips to Arizona's 90 wilderness areas. Help us celebrate by joining one of these outings! Look for this logo for a wilderness outing.

Francisco Peaks groundsel. Contact Mitch Stevens at 520-991-1199 or mitchstevens@qwestoffice.net. **Tucson**



AUG 3-9 (SUN-SAT) "C" Flaming Gorge/Green River, Utah, Raft/Kayak. Carpool to Flaming Gorge with stops at a Moab campground with swimming pool and jacuzzi along the way. Camp along the Green River in Flaming Gorge National Recreation Area and Brown's Park National Wildlife Refuge. Enjoy gorgeous views, clear water, easy rapids, and interesting sights along the way, including Brown's Canyon Wilderness Study Area along the south side river when we enter Colorado. Cost: \$345, includes raft rentals, shuttles, food in camp, and campground fees. Limit is 15. Contact Bev Full at 480-221-2554 or bfull@cox.net. **Phoenix**



AUG 16 (SAT) "B" Lemmon Pools Loop (9 mi. RT, 1000' EC). Escape the heat of the summer and enjoy a refreshing dip in Lemmon Pools. From the top of Mt. Lemmon, we will drop down via the Lemmon Rock Lookout to Lemmon Creek. An off-trail route takes us to Lemmon Pools, which are surprisingly cold year-round. We will return via Wilderness of Rocks and an exhausting climb up Marshall Saddle. Contact John Che at tucsonbackpacker@yahoo.com (preferred) or leave a message at 520-360-2507. **Tucson**



AUG 22-24 (FRI-SUN) "C" Car Camping and Hiking in the Pinalenos. Various hikes possible. Spend a weekend (or a day) in the high country around Mt. Graham; enjoy the cool air and beautiful views of this highest of southern Arizona's sky islands. We

will camp in a group campsite on Friday and Saturday nights and take hikes during the day. Saturday's dinner will be a potluck, with everyone contributing some camp cooking. We will talk about wilderness around the state and the Mt. Graham Wilderness Study Area, specifically. Contact Meg Weesner at 520-290-1723 or mweesner@att.net. **Tucson**

SEP 2-5 (TUE-FRI) Rainbow Bridge and Lee's Ferry. Join us at Lake Powell National Recreation Area, Rainbow Bridge National Monument, and Lee's Ferry for camping, hiking, and swimming. Cost: \$195, includes ferry tour to Rainbow Bridge, camp fees (3 nights), and 8 camp meals. Contact Bev Full at 480-221-2554 or bfull@cox.net. **Phoenix**



SEP 6 (SAT) "C" Upper Sabino Box (6 mi. RT, 1600' EC). This hike will start in the cool at the top of Mt. Lemmon at Box Camp Trailhead. We will follow the Box Camp and Box Springs trails to upper Sabino Canyon and wade down canyon to the upper Sabino Box. There are several beautiful waterfalls, a slot that is deep enough to swim, and a natural waterslide to enjoy. Contact Donald Smith at 520-591-9938 or donsc@the3smiths.com. **Tucson**

SEP 14 (SUN) "B" Horton Creek Loop (8 mi. RT, 1600' EC). Head up Derrick Trail to Horton Spring, a quite impressive spring with water literally gushing out at 6850' on the side of the Mogollon Rim. After some time relaxing at the spring, we'll continue the loop down the pleasant Horton Creek. Contact John Che at tucsonbackpacker@yahoo.com (preferred) or leave a message at 520-360-2507. **Tucson**



SEP 21 (SUN) "B" Wilderness of Rocks Loop in Pusch Ridge Wilderness, Santa Catalina Mtns (6 mi. RT, 2000' EC). How can you celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act without taking a hike through the Wilderness of Rocks? Enjoy the cooler mountain air, and we'll talk about fire management in wilderness. Limit 18. Contact Meg Weesner at 520-290-1723 or mweesner@att.net. **Tucson**

Explore and Enjoy Arizona

For up-to-date information about outings, visit <http://arizona.sierraclub.org/outings.asp>.



SEP 23–26 (TUE–FRI) Grand Canyon National Park North Rim. Enjoy camping and hiking on nearby trails to vistas of the Saddle Mountain Wilderness Area and on other easy trails with awesome canyon views. Cost: \$80 per person, includes campground fees, 3 dinners, 3 breakfasts, and lunch fixings 2 days. RSVP by Sep. 7 to help secure campground reservations. Contact Pete Weinelt at 623-388-2209 or vitalpaw@yahoo.com or Bev Full at 480-221-2554 or bfull@cox.net. **Phoenix**



OCT 10–15 (FRI–WED) Annual Fall Labyrinth Canyon Canoe/Kayak on the Green River. Carpool to Moab, Utah, for four nights of camping along the river and through the proposed Red Rocks Wilderness Area. Cost: \$225, includes canoe rentals, equipment, shuttle, camp fees, and meals

along the river. Contact Bev Full at 480-221-2554 or bfull@cox.net.

OCT 11 (SAT) “B+” Mt. Ord (15 mi., ~4000' EC). The trail (formerly a dirt road) up Mt. Ord in the Mazatzal Mountains ascends to a group of towers in a pine forest at the 7128' summit. On this climb, we will hike this trail as it winds up slopes and follows ridges through several vegetation zones. In the process, we'll enjoy many fine vistas. Drive 55 miles from Scottsdale. Call Ken McGinty at 602-265-2854. **Phoenix**



Grand Canyon continued from pg. 7.

wilderness or releases it from wilderness consideration.

The history of wilderness at Grand Canyon National Park is intertwined with recreational use on the Colorado River. The question of continued motorized use within wilderness remains the central issue to the Grand Canyon Wilderness debate. The river comprises the heart of the canyon's wilderness, yet river-running outfitters remain the principal resistance to wilderness designation, primarily for economic reasons. The larger motorized craft provide concessionaires a significantly higher profitability through a lower staff-customer ratio and a shorter trip that is much easier to market.

Upon completion of the 1980 Colorado River Management Plan (CRMP), the NPS sent its wilderness recommendation to the Department of the Interior. The river corridor was proposed as “potential wilderness” until the planned phase-out of motors in 1985. Congress circumvented the phase-out. The current status of the park's wilderness remains unchanged today – a million acres proposed for wilderness and the river corridor recommended as potential wilder-

ness are pending resolution of the motorized issue.

Without explicit direction through wilderness legislation, effective wilderness management of Grand Canyon is not assured. Given the current toxic political environment, legislation should be approached with caution. The best-case scenario might be to pass intact the current NPS wilderness recommendation for immediate wilderness designation of qualifying, undeveloped land (1.1 million acres) and to defer designation of the river corridor until motorboats are phased out. That requirement could be specified in the legislation. Realistically, the prospect for motorboat removal is decades away and should involve subsequent public involvement through a revision of the CRMP. The fear is that bad wilderness legislation would remove the Colorado River from wilderness consideration or, worse, grandfather in motorized use.

You can learn more at <http://bit.ly/gcwilderness> (pp. 19–23).

Kim served as river ranger and wilderness manager at Grand Canyon National Park for 20 years. He is currently Conservation Director for Grand Canyon Wildlands Council and serves as the Volunteer Co-leader for Sierra Club's Permanent Protection Delivery Team.

ATTENTION, CURRENT AND POTENTIAL OUTINGS LEADERS!

Are you interested in leading outings for Sierra Club? Or are you a current leader who needs to update your first aid or outings leader certification?

Outing Leader Training 101 and First Aid Certification

Saturday, July 26

8:30 a.m. (first aid) and 1:30 p.m. (OLT)

Quality Inn and Suites, 2nd Floor Conference Room
202 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix

Cost for first aid is \$25; scholarships are available. OLT 101 is free. These courses are required of all Sierra Club outing leaders. First aid training is required every three years, and OLT 101 is required every four years.

RSVP required by July 24. To sign up or for more information, please contact Sandy Bahr at 602-253-8633 or sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org.



Thank you to *Edwards Mother Earth Foundation* for supporting our work to promote energy efficiency.

Do you have a favorite Arizona wilderness area or experience? Please share your knowledge, experiences, or photos! To submit a piece, contact the editor at 602-253-9140 or tiffany.sprague@sierraclub.org.

Hiking Guidelines

The Sierra Club is a nationwide organization with active local outings for members and non-members. Please join us as we make friends and explore life-enriching interests. Simply find an outing by date and contact the leader for directions, reservations, time, and additional information. **RESTRICTIONS: NO FIREARMS, RADIOS, OR PETS** (unless noted otherwise). Outings are by reservation. Call early (group limit 20). Each hike is rated for degree of difficulty and risk by the leader.

“A”	>16 miles or > 3,000 ft. elevation change (EC)		
“B”	8–16 miles and 1,500–3,000 ft. EC		
“C”	3–8 miles, 500–1,500 ft. EC	RT	Round Trip
“D”	<3 miles and 500 ft. EC	OW	One Way

The trip leader has absolute authority to question trip participants as to their equipment, conditioning, and experience before and during the trip. All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver before you choose to participate in an outing, please go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms> or contact the National Outings Dept. at 415-977-5528 for a printed version. Sierra Club liability covers leaders only. Each person is responsible for his/her own first aid equipment. If you are injured, notify the leader immediately. If you leave the trip, with our without the leader's permission, you are considered to be on your own until you rejoin the group. Hikers are encouraged to carpool and share the driver's fuel expense. Donations are accepted from all participants at \$1 (member) and \$3 (nonmember). Money is collected by the leader and deposited with the group treasurer. For more information, contact Bev Full at 480-221-2554. Hikes and outings are also listed online and in the Sierra Singles newsletters. CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

Sierra Service Opportunities

Get involved and make a difference! Join us for these exciting service outings!



Steve Pawlowski leads a buffelgrass-removal crew at Rio Salado (from left to right: Tom Lazzelle, Steve Pawlowski, Garth Orkney, Ken Kovach). *Photo by Sandy Bahr.*

Water Sentinels Monitoring

San Pedro River: Thursday, July 10, August 14, September 4

Verde River: Saturday, July 26, August 23, September 20

Contact: Sandy Bahr, 602-253-8633, sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org

Get your feet muddy and your hands wet with the Arizona Water Sentinels and help protect our important rivers. Volunteers are needed to take water samples and to make field observations. These data help track impacts to the rivers and to advocate for their protection. What could be better than spending a day in gorgeous scenery while working to make a difference?

Kelly Trails Area Monitoring

Saturday, July 26, August 30, September 27

Contact: Rick Resnick, rickresnick1498@yahoo.com

Ride your mountain bike in some beautiful forested areas while helping to maintain and protect a section of Coconino National Forest. Volunteers are needed to collect data measuring the possible effects of increased off-road vehicle trails being built in the "Kelly Trails" area, which is bordered by I-17, Lake Mary Rd., Mountaineer, and Mormon Lake. The data will aid the Forest Service in best utilizing its resources to protect our precious forest lands.

Rio Salado Habitat Restoration

Sunday, July 27, September 14

Contact: Sandy Bahr, 602-253-8633, sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org

Help us restore habitat! Join us for an invasive weed pull and clean-up at the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Area, just south of downtown Phoenix. Once a dump site, the area is now a lush riparian corridor that supports a variety of wildlife and recreation opportunities. We need help removing trash and buffelgrass, a non-native, invasive species that alters habitat and increases fire risk. Snacks, drinks, gloves, and tools provided.

Lake Pleasant Clean-Up

Saturday, September 13

Contact: Doug Murphy, 602-329-3690, dbmurphy@cox.net

Bring your kayak, canoe, and/or walking shoes to join the Saguaro Group for a shoreline clean-up of Lake Pleasant Regional Park. The plan is to launch at the Castle Creek ramp or at Scorpion Bay and spread out collecting trash and debris along the waterline in an effort to tidy up after the long summer. Don't have a boat? No problem. Kayaks can be rented at Scorpion Bay, or volunteers can grab a trash bag and walk the edge of the lake collecting trash as they go. At 11 a.m., refreshments will be served at the Cottonwood Lane picnic area.

Trip Report: Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

Leaders: Beth Ann Krueger and Mitch Stevens

On February 23, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, a Sierra Club Rincon Group hike was organized in the Organ Pipe Cactus Wilderness, which comprises 312,600 acres of the 329,119-acre Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (OPCNM). The original plan was to hike the Bull Pasture and Estes Canyon trails, which form a loop.

Upon arrival, a park ranger informed us that Ajo Mountain Drive was closed due to a search-and-rescue operation for an injured hiker. Quickly, we reorganized an "out and back" 6+-mile hike on the Palo Verde and Victoria Mine trails. All hikers were upbeat about the change of events and agreed it would give us a good reason to come back, not that we need one, as this is a magical place!

What is the allure of the Organ Pipe area? First, the "pipes" themselves – multi-

ple arms form this columnar cactus, which blooms in June. The white- to cream-colored flowers with gentle pink to lavender near the center open at night and close by about 10 a.m. Approximately 90% of the organ pipe cacti found in the U.S. are in OPCNM. Second, the biological diversity is incredible: 550 species of vascular plants, 53 species of mammals, 43 species of reptiles, and more than 278 species of birds (from OPCNM fact sheet). Third, the geology and spectacular basin and range topography provides for incredible views as well as many photographic opportunities. Lastly, when one hikes here, one can just sense and feel that this is a unique and special place; we were all very thankful to be a part of it for a day.

Highlights of the trip included bright yellow brittlebush blossoms, a few cholla flowers, wild and crazy arms on organ pipe cacti, palo verde trees, ironwood trees, trian-



Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. *Photo by Beth Ann Krueger.*

gle leaf bursage, canyon ragweed, saguaros, barrel cacti, a western patch-nosed snake, various lizards, cactus wrens, phainopeplas, common ravens, and vocal Gila woodpeckers. At the end of the trail, we were able to photograph the remnants of an old mine, including the remains of a store. We ate lunch on a small rise overlooking the mountains and valleys of Mexico to the south and

OPCNM in the other directions. The Ajo Mountains and Diaz Spire figured prominently on the eastern horizon.

The day was mostly overcast with high clouds, and there was an occasional breeze. It was a perfect time to enjoy the wilderness!

Location information: <http://www.nps.gov/orpi/index.htm>.

Beth Ann is a hike leader and naturalist.