

SCOV Hiking Club
Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Board Members Attending: Bernie Rosling, President; Doug Gouzie, Vice President; Chris Shepherd, Secretary; Byron Wolffing, Chief Guide; Nancy McDermott, Treasurer

Other Attendees: Meg Gerken, Debbie Hansen, Ken Percival, Richard Babin, Ann MacDonald, Dana Laudenbach

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Bernie Rosling at 3:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The December 3 board meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Bank statements are available on the 10th of the month; as of December 10 our balance was \$6,308. Membership renewals have come in since then, bringing the current treasury balance to approximately \$7,000.

President's Report: The Wine and Cheese event's chosen presenter has not responded to our invitation. Matt Nelson, Executive Director of the Arizona Trail Association, was recommended as an option. Bernie will contact him. Another alternative is a Zoom presentation regarding the success of our wildlife overpasses.

Vice President Report: The New Year's Eve picnic was a success, with 45-50 people attending. For the upcoming Spring Picnic, Doug will verify sandwich prices.

Chief Guide Report: Byron distributed a list of hikes occurring October through December, 2025. The data shows the majority of hikes attended were the "C" (47%) and "D" (43%) level hikes. Dana reported that "A" level hikes are averaging around 6 people.

We still have a Garmin for sale. It is about 2-3 years old. A purchase price of \$70 (half of its original purchase price) was suggested. In addition to the purchase price, a user would need to purchase a monthly subscription. It was noted that most phone GPS applications have similar capabilities without needing to purchase the monthly subscription.

There was some discussion regarding the website submission dates for upcoming SCOV hikes. The hike leaders would like to push out the submission date so they can more accurately predict weather and trail conditions; however, a later submission may not be received well by club members who like to get hikes on their calendar as far in advance as possible. This will be discussed in more detail at a future trail guide meeting.

John Terp was put forward by Dana Lauderbach and Meg Gerken as a new guide. It was moved, seconded and approved to add him. Byron will follow up with him regarding preparedness and first aid training.

Membership Dues: Current members have until January 31 to renew their membership. To help hike leaders identify who has/hasn't paid during January hikes, Jim Locnikar will update the membership roster weekly.

Webmaster Update: No one has stepped up to take over Richard's job. Richard agreed to review and update the job description to reflect skills needed such as a working knowledge of Word and Excel and a general comfort level with computers. George Sauter was suggested as a possibility. Meg will approach him to gauge his interest.

Richard reports that Hike Submission Leader Debbie is doing a great job!

Nominating Committee: Ann MacDonald has accepted the nomination for Secretary. Nancy McDermott has agreed to continue to serve as Treasurer.

Mileage: No report.

Annual Trip: Nancy has reserved a group meeting room in Santa Fe for October 11-16. The meeting room is not ideal (will be under a tent and no alcohol is allowed). She will continue to research other options. Richard offered to drive there and scout potential hotels/meeting places and the proximity to area hikes.

Discussion Items:

SCOV Club Activity Fair Table The Fair is scheduled for February 17. Doug is coordinating the club's participation.

2026/2027 Picnic Location There was discussion about keeping our club picnics at Catalina State Park given the increased annual park fees. There have been some recent improvements to the CSP group site, such as nicer bathrooms and increased number of covered and uncovered tables and seating, plus there is always plenty of parking and there are electrical outlets available to keep food warm. Most of these things would not be available in other Oro Valley/Oracle locations. It was decided to keep the Spring Picnic at the same location this year and assess attendance and feedback. It was agreed that members with a current CSP pass could offer rides to non-pass holders to help offset higher entry fees.

500,000 Club Mileage Patch In a little over a year, the club will be approaching the 500,000 mile milestone. The current 250,000 milestone was celebrated with a patch. Discussion was held on having a new patch made for the 500,000 mile attainment. It was generally

agreed that a sticker would be used more than a patch. There was also discussion on developing a new logo for the sticker.

Other The Baby Jesus Trail has apparently been widened and “improved” to include bikers. There was no feedback from the group on this impact on hikers. Chris Shepherd indicated the equestrian riders are not happy about bikers being on this trail as it had been exclusively for hikers and equestrians.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.