

Welcome to the Over the Hill Hiking Club's 2019/20 Season!

**Current Members:** If your contact information has changed since you originally joined the Over the Hill Hiking Club ("OTHHC"), please provide us with your updated information. See the following list of information requested by the club. As well, please let us know if you wish to be removed from the membership list.

**New Members:** We need the following information for each new member and you can provide it by email to Nancy Stenson at [stensonnancy@gmail.com](mailto:stensonnancy@gmail.com):

- **Name**
- **Email address**
- **Cell phone number (if you have one)**
- **Home phone number in Shadow Hills**
- **Street Address in Shadow Hills.**

You will receive an email confirming you were added to the membership roster and that the hike leaders were notified of your membership. You may then register for hikes in keeping with our registration policy. There are no membership dues.

When you meet the group on your first hike, you will be asked to sign the standard Sun City Shadow Hills Community Association waiver for participation in a club activity.

For every hike, hikers should always have with them:

- Appropriate hiking shoes or boots (no sneakers)
- Identification
- Medical insurance cards
- Name and telephone number of an emergency contact person
- Appropriate clothing (hikes to Idyllwild and the high desert are frequently 20 degrees cooler than valley hikes)
- Hat, sunscreen, sunglasses
- Sufficient water (1-2 bottles or personal requirements)
- Tissues
- Snacks, high in carbohydrates
- Plastic bag for trash (carry out all that you carried in)
- Fanny pack or back pack.

If you wish to make a reservation for a hike or cancel a reservation, please email the contact person shown for the specific hike. **Registration for individual hikes will open two (2) weeks before the hike date and will close at 6:00 PM the evening before a hike.** Hikers will be registered for hikes in the date and time order in which their reservation request is received. You will be notified by return email (1) that you are confirmed for the requested hike or (2) that the hike is full. There will be no wait lists for hikes.

If you find you cannot attend a hike for which you registered, we ask that you promptly email your cancellation to the hike leader so the vacated spot can be opened for another member.

**When you register for a hike, please be certain to mark the date on your calendar. Given that registration is only 2 weeks out from the hike date, there will be no reminder email sent to you.**

The number of hikers per hike is usually limited to 20, but may be increased or decreased occasionally at the discretion of the hike leader. Guests are permitted if there are spaces available at 7:30 AM three (3) days before the hike. Guests will be required to have proper hiking footwear and must sign a waiver if we do not already have one in the OTHHC files.

Our hike leaders are listed at the end of this letter. Each hike will have a leader. A sweep will be designated by the leader. Hike leaders scout the hike approximately one week prior to each hike.

Hikes take place in a variety of areas around the Coachella Valley and High Desert, including Coachella Valley Preserve, Idyllwild, Joshua Tree, Whitewater, Indian Canyons and Pioneertown Mountains Preserve. Some hike areas have entrance fees.

Our hikes are categorized using the following criteria:

<b>Easy:</b>	up to 5 miles long; elevation gain of up to 500'
<b>Easy/Moderate:</b>	up to 5 miles long; elevation gain between 500' & 1000'
<b>Moderate:</b>	up to 8 miles long; maximum elevation gain of 1500'
<b>Strenuous:</b>	over 8 miles long and/or over 1500' elevation gain.

With hikes you may experience rocky and/or narrow trails. Elevation gains may be scattered throughout a hike or concentrated at the front or back end of a hike.

**Hikers will meet at 7:15 AM at the west end of the Montecito Clubhouse parking lot, near the HOA office.** They will check in with the hike leader and sign waivers as necessary. Informal car pools will be formed and the hike leader will provide drivers with written driving directions to the trailhead. *Non-drivers will pay the driver 10 cents/mile up to a maximum of \$5 per person. Please remember to bring small bills with you if you do not plan to drive.* Drivers are always appreciated!

The hike schedule can be found on the Sun City Shadow Hills' website at: [www.scsorca.com/hiking](http://www.scsorca.com/hiking).

**General questions? Email Nancy Stenson at [stensonnancy@gmail.com](mailto:stensonnancy@gmail.com).**

**Questions about individual hikes? Email the hike leader for that specific hike.**

**Hike Leaders:**

Ella Haylock	<a href="mailto:ellahaylock@hotmail.com">ellahaylock@hotmail.com</a>
John Phelps	<a href="mailto:hoosierjohn2@gmail.com">hoosierjohn2@gmail.com</a>
Sam Seebart	<a href="mailto:samseebart@aol.com">samseebart@aol.com</a>
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