

SPRING 2010 NEWSLETTER

Our new Mission Statement: *Desert Trails is an informal and friendly club. Our mission is to provide members a variety of hiking, social, and stewardship opportunities.*

We trust you all have enjoyed another great winter hiking season. The number and variety of hikes offered reached a new high, as did attendance at club socials; new venues proved to be extremely popular. Turnout was also excellent for our stewardship projects, trail building and maintenance at Pioneertown Mountains Preserve (Pipes Canyon) and Mission Creek Preserve. The Death Valley Getaway attracted a large and enthusiastic group of hikers, and DTHC members contributed their time and spirit to another successful Hike for Hope.

Now is the time to get your boots ready for spring. Forty hikes are scheduled Apr-Jun, including a full-moon hike in Joshua Tree N.P. and a river walk on the Santa Rosa Plateau (near Fallbrook) led by a member. In addition there's a campout, an Earth Day cleanup in Berdoo Canyon and two more socials. Mark your calendars.

The club continues to grow – so many new faces, so much new energy. We're working hard to keep up with the growth while maintaining the friendly informality that makes Desert Trails a special club. In recent months DTHC has transitioned from a Board of Directors with fixed position descriptions to a Coordinating Council, with council members signing on for the myriad of individual tasks required to keep our growing club sound in all areas. Our goal is to increase transparency in club functions and to make it easier for members to get involved in the work of the club. We hope you will join our efforts to keep Desert Trails a great club by volunteering today.

Rich & Vera on behalf of the Coordinating Council