



# Trails event draws big numbers

## Seventy-three walk 6 Village trails in November

By JEFF MEEK  
Staff writer

Each year the Hot Springs Village Property Owners' Association trails committee organizes an event for the month of November.

This year the committee tried something new and invited the entire Village to walk six designated trails during November and to record the fact they did so.

Those who walked all six trails were then invited to a special reception where they received a certificate of participation and enjoyed cookies, chips and other goodies, together with having a chance to mingle with other trail enthusiasts.

After the event was finished committee members tabulated the totals and learned that 600 people had walked a trail in November and 73 of them had completed the six trails necessary to be invited to the recognition event.

Following last week's trails meeting, most of the 73 walkers attended the celebration.

Committee chair Dale Webb welcomed everyone, thanked them for using the trails, told about the work of the trails committee and introduced the committee members.

POA board director and board liaison to the committee Jim Owens thanked everyone for their participation and thus showing how popular trails are in the



Dale Webb, left, with prize winner Marian McLaurin and board director Jim Owens. McLaurin won a walking stick. See related photos, page 2. (Jeff Meek photo)

community.

Owens also praised the POA workers and committee members for all they do to ensure a positive experience on Village trails.

Recreation director Stephanie Stone also spoke, saying she was thrilled to see everyone attending. "It's inspiring to see all of you here," Stone said.

Later during the celebration, committee members Claire MacNeill and Ginger

Tanner handed out the certificates and made mention of a few special participants.

Trail walker Jim Collins had the distinction of being the only one to have walked all six trails in a single day, and 8-year-old Ben Romero turned out to be the youngest of those who walked the six trails.

After handing out the certificates, a drawing was held for the grand prize of the

day, a special hiking stick.

From a bag filled with names, Marian McLaurin's name was pulled and thus won the stick.

Everyone had a wonderful time at the reception in what seemed an almost family-like atmosphere of good fun and friendships made.

The next trails committee meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 17 at the Coronado Community Center.