

Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 8, 2014

Location: REI Clackamas

Welcome

- Welcome: Jayme Smith, new crew leader, possible caretaker
- Attended: Summer, Ron, Tammy, Ruth, Tim L., Becky, Kelley, Geoff, Rick, Robert, Tyler, Liz, Bill, David, Jayme, Steve Q, Chris, Roberta

Past Events

- 2014 Stats: over Trail is officially logged out, about 1050 logs cleared.
 - Year to Date: over 100 trail work parties, over 11000 hours of work
 - Last Year: 69 work parties, 7300 volunteer hours
- Crews and Events:
 1. September 12: Timothy Lake Camp Cleanup: Tim D.
 - Reported by a thru-hiker to Tammy
 - Really appreciate Tim D's efforts
 - Cleaned up broken glass, "Kleenex", diapers,
 - Ron: Used to have forest rangers around to help with education and enforcement of these areas
 2. September 14: PSU Sociology Club: Busdriver John with Doc
 - Not a good turnout (Roberta can't remember – maybe 1 or 2 people)
 - Do we have to reconsider doing work parties with college groups (warner pacific cancelled the day before)
 - They may only get out if it is a class project/mandatory
 - Keep doing them with a grain of salt
 3. September 18: Crest Camp South Logout: Tyler
 - It was kind of a wreck
 - Thought there were a lot more downed logs below (vs up above) so they took the chain saw down. 2 pulls on the chain saw rope and it broke, had to get a new rope. They could have down the section below with a crosscut. The section above had 6 or 7 logs. It would have been better if they took the chainsaw up above and used crosscut on the section below.
 4. September 20-21: Bell Creek Trail Rehab: Kim and Pam with TKO and Mazamas
 - Not PCT trail
 - People could select who to self-report hours to and most chose PCTA
 - It went well
 - Tyler: big tree to take out, and they didn't get to
 - They did get several big trees (3) that took most of the day
 - Needs some more TLC
 5. September 20: Waucoma Ridge: Leif
 6. September 24: NSM Hawthorne at Lolo Pass: Leif/Jayme
 - Got their scheduled work done, small crew (3 people)
 7. September 25: Upper Muddy Fork Trail Repair: Pace
 - 3 people
 - 3 gullies cleaned out: 2 filled in from bridge (storm took out), 1 finished from a May trip
 8. September 27: MHC Potluck
 - Geocache people did a really great job
 - Great presentation
 - Katie won the carabineer and knife from finding all the caches
 - Tammy: it didn't rain, no wedding, were boy scouts (working on their rope tying badge) but they finished up before our event
 - New Seasons provided \$50 worth of brats and buns
 - They were really good
 - Talked to Dana about disappointment that so few volunteers (vs caretakers) came. Dana said it was ok and that the caretakers needed to celebrate all the work parties too.
 - Roberta: It's been like that since the beginning
 - Remember to bring condiments next year
 - Roberta: Tami will bring from Fred Meyer next year

- Tyler: maybe next year, meet someplace like Oxbow at a group picnic site and whoever wants to stay can camp at the group campground together
 - Any benefit to doing the pot luck at the beginning of the season?
 - Roberta: we have general meeting at the beginning
 - Tim: this years was the same time as hunting and fishing
 - Tammy: As long as it isn't the same weekend as ALDHA-West
 - Kelley: Not being a "city" person, Hate the drive and trying to find parking
 - Liz: the parking at Hoyt does suck
 - National public lands day there is free entry to (most) parks. Use a park included in this for the potluck?
 - Maybe BLM land?
 - Roberta: let's not worry about this now, we can throw ideas around next spring when we start planning the next potluck.
- 9. September 28: Rootwad Removal near Moody St: Leif, Kelley, Justin, Roberta
- 10. September 28: Scout Wahtum Lake & signage: Leif and Justin
 - Put up signs on Leif's section
- 11. October 4-5 Forest of Arts Festival at Hopkins Demonstration Forest: Underbucker
 - Went ok, got 2 and a half pages of volunteer sign ups
 - Ron was there on Sunday: when you get to work with Dave, you learn a lot of old stories. One of the guys there was a champion chainsaw competitor and he talked about what they used to do: you could put any type of motor you wanted on a chainsaw as long as you could carry it. He used a snowmobile engine and it would take 4.2 seconds to cut through a 2 foot log.
 - Dave: they did a lot more cutting on Sunday
 - Some of the chips were 1.5-2 inches long, Dave did a great job sharpening the saws
 - Roberta: are we going to do it next year?
 - Dave: depends on what they offer us. Need better venue.
- 12. October 7: Hawthorne New Seasons Markets at Timberline Round 2: Ruth and Jayme
 - Jayme is a new crew leader (possible caretaker)
 - Went to Timberline and took out some asphalt trails, they leveled it out to match the landscape, planted indigenous plants to fill in to prevent people from walking across
 - 12 people + 2 forest service
 - Great event

Future Events

Calendar passed around and manually updated

Planned Crews and Events Next Month

1. October 9: Jennifer Pharr Davis Speaker Series at Next Adventure
 2. October 15: NSM Hawthorne #10 at Eagle Creek: Dennis, Roberta, Jayme
 3. October 18: Crew Leader Training
 4. October 19: Crosscut Saw Selection Workshop
 5. October 24: Trail Dirt Live
 6. November 8-9: Wilderness First Aid: Estacada Public Library
 7. November 12: Next Caretaker Meeting
- Named Crews
 - New Seasons Crews:
 - Hawthorne Dates
 - October 15: Dennis - Eagle Creek - 8 people
 - See Calendar for more
 - Need another sawyer on Eagle Creek to take out a log (8+ miles in, 36" diameter log, root ball uphill, in wilderness). Tyler needs someone to go with him
 - Is Dennis's area but his back issues prevent him from staying overnight
 - May combine with the New Seasons crew
 - Pace has a log he wants to go remove from his area (4 miles in, 36" diameter log on a slope)
 - Roberta: Pace and Tyler will work together to plan the removals. Maybe send out another email to find volunteers

Reports

- Budget. Kim

Pacific Crest Trail Association Program Budget Report As of August 31, 2014 Columbia Cascades Region - MT. HOOD CHAPTER			
CMTL Grant (360)	Jan-Dec 2014 Budget	August 2014 Actual	Budget Remaining
Trail Crew Travel	500	-	500
Expendable Trail Supplies	2,000	540	1,460
Tools & Equipment		-	
Crew Programs & Training	500	344	156
TOTAL	3,000	884	2,116

- Some gloves (expendable), some tool repairs from Leif to be added

- Tools. Leif

- Tool report: 2 chainsaws to be repaired and back in service. New Silky folding saws - one for PDX & one for wind River? Corona folding hand saw repaired. I have Trout Lake reinhart repaired & ready to be returned. Southern cache gets a Katanaboy next time I see David.
 - Reinhart at Leif's house
- Leif will order new (more durable) Atlas rubber coated gloves - dozen each in small thru large and a few x-large. Probably \$150 or so.

- Trail Skills College 2015: Position Open

We are currently seeking applicants for the following volunteer organizer positions:

- Event Chair
- Publicity/Social Media Manager
- Logistics Coordinator
- Tammy is point person until Dana comes back from Italy
 - A few people have responded to email
 - Possible shadow this year/mentor next year/pass on job the following year for some rolls
 - Dana and the committee will decide when she gets back
- Saw Certification: nothing till spring
 - For those instructors that need to register to recertify, Winston put off his retirement for 1 more year so he will be available to recertify us
 - Sometime in late February/early March
- Caretaker/Crewleader Roles and Responsibility: Kim (no action)
- Scout/Surveyor roles: Tom (wait until fall)
- Training and Safety: Open
 - Crew Leader Training: Oct 18
 - No cell phone coverage
 - Only have 9 rooms (single beds), so bunk together or camp (tenting area, campers).
 - Written material?
 - Roberta: may have if she gets something written
 - Roberta will send out address and directions
 - Saturday/Saturday night (social event)/Sunday (wrap up & David doing saw workshop)
 - Jayme – will car pool with Roberta (out) and Ron (back)
 - Attending: Tyler, Liz, Tami, Rick, Leif, Jerry, Justin, Robert, Tim L, Geoff, John, the other Jeff, Jayme, Tim D, Kelley, Ron
 - Dave will pick up keys Friday, he can check anyone in on Friday if they want
 - Will have brats for dinner, soup for lunch
 - Wilderness First Aid Training Nov 8-9
 - Do we need to add CPR?
 - Had it last year
 - CPR at trail skills
 - Yes: Becky, Gentleman Bob A, Steve P, Chris S., Sara and Tim Lagasse, Jerry, Pam and Kim, Tami K-S, Rick, Kelley, Ruth

- No: Tyler, Liz, Tammy
- Estacada Library is reserved for us
- LeeAnn = instructor
 - May need hosting (may get a hotel room)
 - Money to pay for her hotel from budget?
 - Roberta: We will find a way to reimburse her
- Dana
 - Signs: Edan to order a sign for Moody Street for north boundaries;
 - Discussion about signage, reassurance markers, and road closures at the boundary between Kelley's and Chris' sections.
 - Possible decommission of the road, does need the reassurance marker
- Volunteer Coordinator. Tammy
 - Tomorrow night event at Next Adventure
 - Jennifer (walked 10000miles) set fasted know time on the Appalachian Trail. 2 volunteers for PCTA will be there
 - Talked about potential changes to the potluck (see above)
 - Trail Dirt Live (Oct 24): Talked with Angie, we need 3 or 4 people to help set up (show up about 5:30).
 - One of the things we are going to do is sell those metal stainless steel cups for \$5. All of the money will go to Dana's non-motorized pathway project (Bridge of the Gods). Email sent out before meeting about this. Using the remaining 67 cups from PCT days.
 - Kelley & Ron can help – be there at 5:30
 - When you sign in at the event you get a raffle ticket. It will be how they will count how many people came out.
 - Will have a no host bar
 - Same weekend as the PCTA board meeting
 - If you want to hear about the PCTA, this is your chance: invite anyone
 - Tammy is supposed to send out the trail skills college information to the Mazamas. Who should it go to?
 - Katie sends out all of the volunteer info

Announcements/Reminders

- Remaining Vacancies: Mt. Adams-North, 400 Trail. Leif is just fostering the 400 trail.
- Columbia Dispatch Starting Monday October 20th, days of operation will change to Monday –Friday. Office hours will be 0730-1630. **Saturday October 18th, will be the last day of weekend (7 day) coverage.**
- Carole Dearholt interested in becoming a caretaker, possibly of the 400 trail. Lives in Mosier
- John Harris also interested in becoming a caretaker, lives in Vancouver

Discussion Items

Round the Room

Steve Q: ALDHA-West was a lot of fun, first year going after a 5 year hiatus (went to all the previous since 1994). It seemed better organized, Whitney is really good at doing the job. 34 people got the Triple Crown and about 18 were there.

David: still don't have logging scheduled for Warm Springs (salvage work). It is so late in season, no going to worry about rerouting. Stragglers should be able to get around the logging area without too much problem. Hwy 224 closed for awhile as boulders keep falling (daily) from the side so you have to drive all the way around. All the trails in this area are deserted because of this.

Front page article on Oregon: USFS was forced to drop photography policy. So it won't be as much as problem as it was for us to do any professional filming or photography (\$1500 permit, 2 weeks in advance). KGW and the Oregonian really embarrassed the forest service by calling them out in public to explain the policy.

Ron: Went to the Historic Ski Bowl Warming Hut, the district Ranger and a Hot Shot crew are putting in a new foundation/rock work (will be a 2 year job). On the way to Government Camp, where they are doing all of the road work, asked them about what they are doing for Mirror Lake parking: Forest Service is working with ODOT to put in parking on the north side and putting an overpass across to the trail head. They are hoping to put in a real trail head but may have to move it east a bit. The parking lot is open now but will not be open over the winter. The district Ranger seemed like a really great guy.

Ruth: Next month bring first aid kits from caches and she will upgrade them and replace the expired stuff.

Jayne: Really excited to be here, has gotten lots of support from coworkers, excited about the partnership with the PCTA. They are already talking about what stores will be involved and when they will start recruiting volunteers for next season.

Roberta: Next week (Wednesday) at Eagle Creek. Part of the crew will work on mud at the trail head; part of the group will work on the blue bag kiosk (take it out and move to the trail head so it is easier to maintain/refill. The blue bag program worked really well and there has been a huge reduction of garbage); part of the group up to 7 1/2 mile camp to close down the wilderness box

Tyler may come up for the logs and will have some volunteers to help

Jayne will ask some of the stronger hikers if they would be interested in helping Tyler

Roberta: Getting ready for crew leader training, worried about having enough food (how much soup will 20 people eat?). We also need to talk about the Annual Celebration (annual meeting)

Ideas for speaker: Roberta wants a horse person (now that she is riding a horse) who has ridden on the PCT

Ernie (recommended by Bill)

June Mulford – Summer will ask

Awards: only get stuff if you show up to encourage people to come?

Tim: picked up a new pack horse on Monday (5year old mare), she has already packed so it will hopefully be a better scene than this year (with a gelding packing behind a mare). How did Mackenzie do with her baby?

Roberta: She had a baby girl with a head full of hair. She is planning on coming back in January

Kelley: Learned a lot from the log out on her section, would like to get saw certified as she is so close to her own section

Geoff: looking forward to getting some action on the bridge over the muddy fork – wants a hiker bridge. Bridge over the Sandy may be a higher priority

Tim: they are having a higher level discussion as to what will be done to the Sandy bridge. Right now the horses are crossing where the hiker's bridge was and hikers are crossing on the logs by the horse crossing.

Rick: thanks for putting together the potluck

Freefall: ALDHA-West - had the best attendees this year. It was great to have some people that have been with the organization for a long time. Going to a Wilderness Society event in San Francisco with about 250 invitees, Cheryl Strand, and a performance by Sheryl Crow.

Pace: has a crew this Saturday, after 2nd request there is enough people. Might try to send out short notice email for sawyers to come take care of the log on his section. It all depends on weather. Still a lot of work to do up there.

Email Bill about it, he may be interested

Tyler: with all the good weather he has taken 4 weeks to paint the house/stairs/deck. Plan on getting back up on the trail before the snow hits. Will take the Reinhart back if he can get a hold of Leif

Ron: Backpacker magazine has an interesting article on how they dropped paint filled beer bottles out of a helicopter to mark the trail for blasting. They then rapelled down the side of the mountain to do the work. Section north on Snoqualmie Pass.

Bill: this is the last caretaker meeting he will be at for a while but he will be around.