

Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Agenda

Wednesday May 14, 2014

Location: REI Clackamas

Welcome

- Welcome: Tami-Kay, interested in caretaking for Snag Creek
 - Tami-Kay: interested in the Snag Creek Caretaker Vacancy, will go up on Saturday and hopefully hike the trail. She has volunteered with the PCTA in the past, as well as Mt Rainier - going out several seasons with a Ranger.
- Guests: Jason Waicunas, to discuss PCT Days
 - From Outdoor Viewfinder
 - Event Director PCT Days
- Absent: Steve Plant, Freefall
- Attended: Bill Hawley, Tami Sheets, Leif Hovin, Jason Waicunas, Ruth Weston, Tim Lagasse, Dennis Beard, Jim Webb, Ron Goodwin, Geoff O'Neill, Summer Pruit-Feist, Steve Queen, Liz Marriott, Tyler Marriott, Robert Caldwell, Bob Arkes, John Vhay, David Roe, Justin Popov, Becky Wolf, Kim Owen, Pam Owen, Tammy Turner, Dana Hendricks, Rick Schmidt, Tim Duncan, Roberta Cobb (27 people)

PCT Days

- Event Director
- PCTDays.com
- Sep 5-7, 2014 (Fri/Sat/Sun) on Thunder Island, Cascade Locks
- Recreating past events but making it bigger; family centric/mission orientation event to promote outdoor activity as a whole; celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act
- 2 - 3 Work Parties
 - Leif's rock project
- Backpacker Magazine is a title sponsor
 - Will be featured in the July/August double issue, They donated a \$5300 ad spot for the event in their issue
- Mid-July will be when the mass marketing/outreach starts
- 15 corporate sponsors so far (expecting more after mid-July)
- Gear Raffle and Auction – already have \$6000-\$10000 worth of gear donated (expect this to go up after the mid-July outreach starts)
- Expecting 1000-2000 people
- Working with the Forest Service to have classes/workshops for kids
- Working on what roles will be available for PCTA Volunteers
 - Columbia Sportswear may outfit the volunteers
- Goal: How big CAN it get? What can the area/town sustain?
 - Want to keep the cottage industry feel; 3000-5000 is optimal attendance and Thunder Island can still sustain that

Past Events

- 2014 Stats
 - 23 Work Parties
 - 24 Work Days on the Trail
 - 53 Logs Removed - expecting that number to jump soon
 - 2300 Volunteer Hours - Not counting Trail College
 - 1 Bridge Fixed
 - 1 Kiosk Added
 - 30 Caretakers (31 with Tami) + 4 Crew Leaders
 - 250 Miles of Trails Maintained (including feeders)
- April 9 REI Downtown, Iguana presents about her PCT Thru-hike
 - Sent 2 Volunteers
- April 10 PCT Presentation at Stevenson Library
 - Dana attended

- April 11 Zig Zag Wilderness Trails Meeting
 - Mackenzie organized - met maintainers/wilderness stewards from other organizations
- April 15 Hawthorne New Seasons Markets at Pacific Crest Falls: Roberta/Pace
 - Stepping stones are great
- April 17 Dennis Sheprow scouted his section, Ramona Falls PCT
 - Scouted - Drainage is looking good
- April 22 PCT by Horse Presentation at Stevenson Library
 - Dana attended - Met Bernice Murray (Completed the PCT on Horseback in 69/70 with her family) who lives in Stevenson. A documentary was made about their trip.
- April 25-27 **Trail Skills College**
 - See below
- April 28 *Wild* discussion at Stevenson Library
 - Dana attended
- April 29 Hawthorne New Seasons Markets: Bus Driver John
 - Reworked a turnpike and widened a slippery, rocky tread
- April 30 Tool Cache Day at Trout Lake: Gentleman Bob and Brice
 - Sharpened tools
- May 1 Logout Pace's section (With reporter from Gresham Outlook)
 - Featured in the Gresham Outlook and picked up by the Portland Tribune
 - Cut 9 logs
- May 1 Kiosk installation on Eagle Creek: Dennis
 - Blue Bag Station "Pack-it Out Program" - 1/8th of a mile above High Bridge right where you can start legally camping
 - 30 bags added in total, will check/refill in the next week
 - Possibility of adding a separate canister for human waste
 - Posted on Portland Hikers
- May 2-4 Wind River Saw Certification
 - 16 Total Certifications: 8 Crosscut & 8 Chainsaw
 - No reported injuries
 - Barry would like to get an annual Saw School in Northern Washington
- May 3 Friends of Mt Adams Wilderness Conference
 - Dana attended
 - A few volunteer sign ups
- May 3 Steve Plant Scouted
 - Scouted - Got in from both ends, snow in the middle
 - 30 - 40 logs
 - Plan work for Mid-June, with a chainsaw section
- May 7 Saw Cleaning: Underbucker
 - 8 saws cleaned
 - 2 volunteers
- May 8 Eagle Creek Bridge Repair: Dennis
 - 4 Mile Bridge repaired – in the rain
 - Terry along taking pics, including group shot at punchbowl
 - Found evidence of cut wood - chainsaw
- May 8 3-Corner Rock Logout: Kim and Pam
 - Cleared trail - their section is done for now
 - Signs remounted

- Another work party for more strategic improvements this fall - Drain ditch, Power brush operator to power brush the hill sides
- May 10-11 South Birkenfeld maintenance: Freefall
 - Chris - Couple of logs & lots of brushing
 - Posted video on PCTA Facebook page
- May 14: Grant's Getaways at Underbucker's
 - Photographer at Underbucker's for 2 hours
 - Cleaned 2 saws & cut 1 log
 - Schedule field work next week at Wahtum Lake
 - A little snow and water to cross to work area
 - 1 log at Horse access to PCT that is easy to get to
- Additional
 - Scouted - Herman Creek through Teakettle (nothing/clear - in terms of log); 4 god sized logs by Wahtum Lake; Decent sized log at Smokey Camp; the rest is pretty clear
 - Mess on Eagle Creek above mile 7.5
 - Report diameters in pictures submitted for downed logs/trail conditions (something to add to Scouting teaching: need a size reference, pictures can be misleading with out them)
 - 20inch log on Top Spur
 - Indian springs: 2 logs

Future Events

- May 17 Trail 400 Rock work: Leif
 - Delayed for PCT days
 - Easy access
- May 18 Top Spur Southbound: Pace and Roberta
- May 20 Hawthorne NSM Invasives: Jeff and Roberta
 - Work Crew #3 at Pacific Crest falls
- May 22 Timberline Trail: Pace
 - Moved to May 18, but may keep this one as well
 - Upper Muddy Fork: Slide work, need another crew leader
- May 23 - Geoff to scout his section
- May 24 Teakettle Springs: Tim D. and Trail Boss Bill
- May 24 possible scout Williams Mine area: Gentleman Bob
- May 27-28 - Bus Driver John to get down to logs near 7 1/2 Mile Camp
- May 29 7 Corners NSM Invasives: Jeff and Roberta
 - 7 Corners Store at Bridge of the Gods
- May 30-June 1 Tentative Little Crater to Joe Graham: Sara and Tim L.
 - Back country horseman moved to this weekend - May 16 - 18
 - Water at campground is not ready - no generator as of now, they will try to get it set up but people may need to bring in stock water
- May 31 Lolo Pass Logout: Leif
- June 5 Wilson High Community Service Fair
 - Tammy will attend
- June 6-7 North Bend Saw Certs
- June 7-8 Tentative work party Williams Mine as far north as possible: Gentleman Bob
 - Depends on snow

- June 7 Lost Lake Logout/Brushing: Leif
- June 11 Next Caretaker meeting
- Mt Hood 50 on July 14 per website www.mthood50.com
- Mountain Lakes 100 on September 27-28 per website: www.mountainlakes100.com
- Need to decommission trail down to top of punchbowl (unsafe) - Dennis
- Named Crews
 - New Seasons Crews:
 - All allocated
 - They may have interest in doing more
 - Hawthorne Dates
 - May 20: Jeff and Roberta, Invasives at Pacific Crest Falls
 - June 24: Leif – Lolo Pass North
 - July 9: Pace and Roberta –Top Spur treadwork (a rare Wednesday crew)
 - August 19: Pace and Roberta – Top Spur treadwork
 - September 9: Ruth – Timberline
 - October 7: Ruth – Timberline
 - 7 Corners Dates
 - May 29: Invasives, Jeff and Roberta location at Moody Street
 - June 24: treadwork Karla's section
 - Urban Youth Crew: July 11-12: Dana
 - Haven't heard back from everyone yet
- Potluck Sept 27
 - Scheduled
 - Steve Q: Geo Cache?
 - Yes
- See Calendar for more
- Left Over Awards - give to volunteers on work crews
 - Next annual Celebration - tone back awards/make cut off for awards higher and forget the smaller stuff?
 - Plan: Given to Specific Volunteers between annual meeting and Trails Skill College and then the rest given to Work Party Volunteers

Reports

- Budget. Kim
 - Business cards: \$55 for 1000, \$81 for 2000. (Plus some for shipping) would be charged to our budget.
 - Same as current ones, plastic with Dana's corrected email
 - Approved – will be ordered
 - Budget is the same as last year
 - If you have Special Projects/Special Supplies (snacks/food/water for volunteers) or need more Volunteers please let them know for allocation
 - Bill - Glacier Crew (White Plains) in late August: not a Mt Hood Chapter event but will use Mt Hood Chapter people. Will there be a food budget (\$300-\$400)? Can it be applied against the trail as a whole and not just the chapter?
 - Dana - would like to see this happen
 - Kim - assume it will be approved
 - Blood Borne Pathogen Requirement for Chainsaw School - may no longer be a requirement (still up in the air); it is out of the national requirement but regional keeps pushing the agenda and putting it back in
- Tools. Leif

- Where do the new radios go?
 - Extra at wind river cache (2 total with charger),
- Change repair shop to DJ's Saw Repair in Bingen – they deal with Pro Saws and are now a Stihl dealer
- Tools came back damaged – let Leif know about damages so he can get them repaired/replaced
- Still need uncut fire hoses to make scabbards
 - 1.5inch, 3inch, rubber lined
- Saws are getting cleaned, sharpened and returned to caches
- Trail Skills College Fri, April 25 – Sun, April 27:
 - Recap: gets better every year, great contacts made
 - Problems with emails and not getting the info about the classes or that you were really registered for specific classes
 - Student lists were sometimes incorrect
 - Leif – can PCTA Mt hood chapter get access to sign up lists to use for future recruiting
 - Some participants are WTA only or PCTA from outside the region
 - Maybe recruit through WTA?
 - Put more emphasis on the Chapter sign-up sheet at Trail Skills College
 - What are the goals of Skills College? Discussing with Jen in Sacramento during debrief
 - General Consensus: great program, no changes needed.
 - 101 Class for newbies was a big success and had a waitlist
 - Intro to Logout was also a big success. The fully staged log was very useful
- Saw Certification:
 - BBP certification is up in the air. Need final decision from Sacramento
- Caretaker/Crew leader Roles and Responsibility: Kim
- Training and Safety: Open
 - Wilderness First Aid Training Nov 8-9
 - Yes: Becky, Gentleman Bob A, Steve P, Chris S., Tammy (but does not need), Sara and Tim Lagasse, Jerry, Liz and Tyler, Pam and Kim, Tami K-S,
 - No: Rick (available on Sunday not Saturday)
 - David to check on Estacada Library availability
 - Has to go in to book space as it is so far in advance
- Dana
 - Roads - responses will typed and provided to the Forest Service in the next month or so
 - Conference - Lake Tahoe
 - 11 National Scenic Trails (Agencies and Non-Profits) attended
 - Problems discussed: Competitive Events and Controversial Uses (mountain bikes) using the trails
 - The Nature and the Purpose of the trails are not spelled out
 - Guidelines for all National Scenic Trails being out together to help establish/reestablish the Nature and Purpose of each trail to help with future use
 - West side of Table Mountain, there is a section of private land beside 1 mile of the trail where they are contemplating a logging operation. The easement offers no protection for the trail. The family may be willing to sell that parcel.
- Volunteer Coordinator: Tammy
 - Driving to Maine and will be unavailable by email May 15-18.
 - Barbara has access to Tammy's email and will be monitoring it for teaching purposes.
 - Submit Project information to Tammy sooner than later, she will send out the volunteer requests closer to the work date
 - Please include: How many people (min and max), where it is and date
 - Trip to Kilimanjaro in July. Barbara Niece to cover

Round the Room

- Phone problems at PCTA head office? Got "not in service" more than once.
- New slide just before Triple Falls - Ranger said it is really hard to get around, avoid it if possible
- Benson Bridge to reopen first of next week (around May 19) - pictures will be sent, looks like the original
- Certified sawyer patch is really great