

Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2016

Location: REI Clackamas

Notes by Summer

Welcome

- Welcome: William "Marty McFly" Griffith - joining us as Crew Leader without having a section. If you want an assistant Crew Leader or need some work done, call him.
- Attended: Steve Q, Ruth, Underbucker, Tammy, Gentleman Bob, Becky, Jerry, Chris K, Jim, Justin, Worm, Marty, Tami, Pam, Kelley, Little Brown, Kim, Summer, Tyler, Pace, Liz, Freefall, Roberta (23 people)
- Pre-meeting discussion about submitting reimbursement requests

Accomplishment Summary/Statistics

Thanks to Pace for generating these stats

Mount Hood Chapter Stats - Jan		
	Jan 2016	Jan 2015
Volunteer Hours, total	491.50	822.85
Trail Maint - on trail hours	213.25	350.30
Trail Maint - support hours	226.25 (1)	405.80
Outreach Event hours	3.50	38.75
Training hours	48.50	28.00
Specialized hours	99.00	81.00
Miles Logged out	4.25	n/a
Miles Maintained	2.50	5.95
Feet of Rehab/Recon	30	25
# logs cleared	42	
# Trail Work Crews	3	6
# Outreach Events	1	2

(1) MHC Admin hours not yet reported

- Roberta: Your hours as crew leader can be counted as Specialized hours – for the crew leader part of your work. You can count your paperwork filling out time as specialized time. Sawyers are also specialized time, if you are a Sawyer and a Crew Leader you can only count the time once. Travel time hauling animals is also specialized time, but not driving a regular passenger vehicle. All your time working with the animals are counted as specialized hours.
- Roberta: Log out vs. Maintained - log outs don't maintain the trail/bring it up to spec so they want to distinguish between the time. Feet rehabbed is where we bring it up to spec. Miles maintained is brushing, sloughing, cleaning drain dips, berms, etc.

Past Events

Crews and Events since last caretaker meeting:

1. Jan 23: Annual Celebration

- Chris K: I had a great time.
 - Tami: I liked the program and the history of it. She was awesome. Really informative.
 - Roberta: I didn't know what she was going to do.
 - Roberta: I have 10 mugs left over. There was a big problem with the hours, my heart sank. Pace and I spent hours getting the data accurate but couldn't get it to the right person. If you thought your hours were low it is because they didn't include admin hours.
 - Roberta: I think we will go back there next year (Forest Service HQ in Sandy, OR).
 - Steve Q: The food room was really hot.
 - Roberta: They suggested we put the food in the hallway
 - Chris K: The parking was a little sparse. I was 30 minutes early and got the last spot.
 - Roberta: Security was a little tight.
 - Chris K: There was a lot of people, I was surprised.
 - Roberta: Did anyone take a count?
2. Jan 25: VSI Recertification
 - Our last recert with Winston
 - Dave: He retired the Monday after.
 3. Jan 25: BOG Washington side cleanup: Kelley
 - Kelley: We spent a long day and worked hard.
 - Pace: We got a lot of small logs cleared out.
 - Kelley: We had 6 Caretakers and a friend on the big day. We got 33 logs, just 1 or 2 big ones, up the trail. Went out Monday after to see it all, there were a lot of people out there. We need to get it done.
 - Tyler: Had a really cool tree, how the root wad was standing, thought it might stand back up. Cut it up and left it, 10 min later it sprang up.
 - Marty: And then you have 100 feet of rehab...
 - Kelley: There is some rehab to do.
 4. Jan 30: Logout near Triple Falls: Underbucker
 - Underbucker: It was fun.
 - Tami: I think you learned how to break an unbreakable axe too.
 - Kim: It was Robert's log and I just finished it
 - Pace: It went down the falls.
 - Kim: Robert called that one perfectly.
 - Roberta: I relearned that you shouldn't let people leave their packs on the trail: We wedged a log, thought it would just lift, then released it with the Katana Boy and it lifted and then flung down the trail at 60mph. I tripped over the pack.
 - Kim: We had people at both sides of the trail stopping hikers but we almost didn't notice the people doubling back down the creek where we were rolling the logs. Thankfully, we noticed them and got them out.
 5. Jan 30: ALDHA-West event 12 Long Walks with Swami at Mazamas
 - Tammy: got 15 names
 6. Jan 31: Logout Tamanous and PCT North: Kelley
 7. Jan 31: Intermediate Cross Cut Saw Sharpening Workshop: Underbucker
 - Underbucker: It happened. We have 3 students enrolled for the spring.
 8. Feb 6: Logout #5 BOG Oregon Side: Roberta, Tami, Underbucker
 - Roberta: Still didn't get it finished. Cut 21 logs and only got to Dry Creek.
 - Liz: There is probably more after the wind on Monday.
 - Roberta: We've logged out 147 logs so far.
 9. Feb 7: Logout Teakettle: Tyler and Tim
 - Tyler: 4 miles right uphill, only rest is when you come to a log to cut out. It was pretty uneventful. There is 1 more log at 5 miles, going on Monday
 - Kelley: Is it the one at the switchback? The log that took out the switchback?
 - Tyler: The 30 inch one? That's the one.
 10. Feb 8: Pace: Monday went to Nesmith. It was bare ground up to where we are going to work with the Mazamas crew. I found 3 more logs beyond that. I will send Tammy a note to get more people.
 11. Feb 9: Pace: Got on his trail, there is a foot of snow. Trying to find access across the Sandy River. The log we used to cross last year is still there but the river has shifted. Found a log downstream from the old temporary crossing. Going from the parking lot to the Sandy River has spotty snow patches, the other side of river is snowier. There was nobody up there. Had to start at the snow gate which adds 3 miles.
 12. Feb 10: Tyler: Did the one at Multnomah Falls today. 2 weeks ago, took out the top of a 28 inch cottonwood that fell between the overpass for the train and the overpass for the parking lot. Someone came in and cleared the trail but left the log in place. 2 weeks ago, cut out the top and cleaned that up. Back up today with waders, brought it down in the creek while in the creek. And Terry went up to the bridge and came back down the 400 to Eagle Creek and there are 4 logs, one 48inch tree. Going to try to go in on Saturday.
 - Roberta: Will you talk to Carole about that?
 - Tyler: I did. Going to do this other thing on Monday and then signs all next week.

13. Feb 10: Today's caretaker meeting with pre-session on expense reporting

Future Events

Next Month:

1. Feb 14: Logout #6 BOG Oregon Side: Roberta and Tami
2. Feb 18: First Mazamas Crew at Nesmith Point Trail: Pace
3. Feb 27-28: ALDHA-West Ruck at Cascade Locks
4. Mar 1: Meeting about Timberline Trail Elliott Crossing: Pace
5. Mar 9: Next caretaker meeting

Beyond:

1. Dolly Chapman's Crosscut Saw Sharpening Workshops: March 15-17 and Mar 18-20
2. Estacada Saw Cert: April 2-3
3. Gorge Waterfalls 50K run: April 9, <http://www.rainshadowrunning.com/gorge-waterfalls-50k.html>
4. Trail Skills College: April 22, 23, 24
5. Wind River Saw Certs: April 29, 30, March 1
6. OSU Tree School: March 19, 2016
7. North Cascades TSC: May 7-8
8. Big Bend Saw Certs: June 10-11-12
9. Get Outdoors Day: June 11
10. Mt Hood 50 running event: July 9-10, <https://gobeyondracing.com/races/mt-hood-50/>
11. Bunker to Bonneville 50K run: Sept 3, <http://www.cgrcb2b.com/>
12. Mountain Lakes 100 run: Sept 24-25, <https://gobeyondracing.com/races/mountain-lakes-100/>

Reports

Volunteer Coordinator: Tammy

Feb 22 REI at Lucky Lab? Arrive 530, presentation 630

- Got this email from a REI lady. They are doing an adventure hour at Lucky Lab on Feb 22. It's about planning through hikes. At first we thought she wanted a table, but they would rather talk about through hiking instead of trail maintenance. Tammy can get them info about permits and stuff but if anyone would like to go and drink beer and talk about through hiking, let Tammy know. It is free.
 - Bill C: That would be fun.
 - Tammy: There is another one in March.
 - Tami: I can also go for general PCTA Stuff.
 - Pace: Want to go together Bill?
 - Bill C: Yep.
 - Tyler: The guy helping top set up our room for the meeting today, teaches an intro to hiking classes.
- Tammy: On the 30th, I went to the 12 Hikes Thing and it was a really good presentation. The hiker walked 12 big hikes on 18 months and it was over 14 000 miles. I had met him years ago, he is a nice guy from Australia. It was really good and we had a table there and I got 15 names. So we'll see. We are doing the Ruck on Feb 27th and will need some volunteers.
- Tammy: I received an email from a lady: "I'm a hiking book author and hike leader. I would like to volunteer for trail maintenance." I responded asking for more information. She wants a weekend before the snow melt, the Gorge is fine. She will have a minimum of 5 people and a maximum of 12. Her name is Lisa Holmes.
 - Tami: There is plenty of stuff around the Herman Creek Bridge
 - Tyler: 400 trail needs maintenance, clean up, lots of trash. There are some dips and holes. It is a pretty easy hike.
 - Pace: We can put them on the Nesbitt Trail as well.
 - Roberta: We have options. Tammy, can you nail down a date and we can pick one?
- Tammy: The girl scouts are getting a little antsy for a date.
 - Roberta: Carole is their contact and she is in England.
 - Tami: I did the Girl Scout thing all through high school, if my section is melted I can do it.

Partnership Crews

1. PCC Wilderness Lit: Ruth and Tyler to lead, Underbucker to help too. March 5
2. Apple: Tami, week of May 28th – June 5. Specific dates TBD. Two single-day projects.
3. Go Beyond Racing: Justin. Looking at dates in June on Becky's section
4. Girl Scout group: Carole

5. Danner Boots: Pace, working on dates
 - Pace: Sent her back a letter saying late March and April is good but need to confirm a time.
6. REI: Tyler. Think in September. He was talking about an overnight. Go up to our section and do something up there.
7. Outward Bound Sep 3-4. Underbucker and Becky. Tread specialists: Kim and Pam and Busdriver John have offered to help
 - Roberta: You got a lot of help on that one.
8. PGE at Timothy Lake
 - Roberta: It is their land. Its Tim L's section. She is reporting that the tread is really bad. They are offering to feed us, give up camping space, any support (moving tools), 1 or 2 other trail workers. I'll be the crew leader I think, unless someone else wants to pick it up. Will be in May, weekdays only because of Timothy Lake popularity.
 - Roberta: Wrote her today that we will have to get in to scout. Like to get it before Memorial Day. Apparently Tim has authorization to put gravel down at the ford, but he will do that with horses.
9. New Seasons Markets: From Liz: Know that there is a lot of enthusiasm to get out there and help again in 2016, and although we have many other nonprofits and schools that we volunteer/Lend a Hand with, PCTA is the #1 favorite! 38 people have signed up for crews just at the Hawthorne store + 30 at Jayme's store. Jayme is doing Saturday crews.
 - Kim: I want a crew but not sure when.
 - Roberta: They have a limit of 90 minute commute from Portland.
 - Kim: I need to talk with Pam.
 - Pace: I can do Muddy Fork. Depends on snow melt.
 - Jayme: There will be more opportunity for more crews.
 - Roberta: They would also like you to grade the work easy, medium or hard.
 - Wants dates in April-October. Monday and Tuesday crews, varying levels of difficulty. Limit of ~90 minute commute.
 - April: 1 crew
 - May: 1 crew, Pace
 - June: 2 crews
 - Pace: Muddy Fork
 - Kim/Pam: Late June.
 - July: 2 crews
 - Freefall
 - August: 2 crews
 - Roberta: invasives
 - Good time to work on high elevation
 - Sept: 1 crew
 - Tami: Lower section of Snag.
 - Oct: 1 crew
 - Jayme will arrange up to 4 crews on Saturdays, from 4 stores
10. Mazamas: wants one crew per month, weekday/weekend variety. Would like at least one 2-3 day with cross cut opportunity. Feb is covered, and they don't want a project in April (already busy enough)
 - Got this from an email from Adam, we are joining forces.
 - Tami: Can do one in September
 - Pace: Feb 18 on Nesmith
 - Roberta: Already have 5 people.
 - Could we do an overnigher on Eagle Creek at 7 ½ mile camp or elsewhere?
 - Rick willing to take a weekend day (early March or April)
 - Justin: Thinking of an overnigher on Wahtum at Smoky camp.
 - Kim: You may want a sawyer instructor. I may be interested.
 - Chris K willing to take a day after May, possibly weekend in August at Paradise for crosscut
 - Chris: To clear the Paradise Trail so the horses can get in there, I think we will need multiple trips.
 - Roberta: I asked FS if we could work on Timberline Trail east of Top Spur, no answer yet
 - Roberta: Has anyone had any luck talking with Ken?
 - No response.
 - Tami: In September there will be plenty of brushing after 2 miles.
11. FYS (Forest Youth Success): work expected on Big Huckleberry
12. Montbell: Lamar offered to lead
13. Justin: The Go Beyond. The last 2 weekends in June. They were interested doing it on a section where their race goes through.
 - Roberta: the race goes up to Frog Lake.
 - Justin: If you. Becky, have tread work they would be up for a decently long hike I think. I'll tell them one of those weekends will work fine and I'll work with Steve P, Becky and Tim for a place.

Dana:

1. Would you mind please, asking at the caretaker meeting, whether anybody just so happens to be travelling to Eugene in the next few weeks, and willing to pass off some gear. Bill Carpenter's arranging a PCTA table staffed by Mid-Oregon volunteers at the Environmental Law Conference March 3-6, and they are interested in using our roll-up standing displays.
 - o Tami: I can do it. But not going to Eugene on purpose.
 - o Marty: I'm closer (in Salem)
 - o Ruth: I can see if my husband is...
2. A volunteer could potentially offer to teach a trail maintenance skill, LNT skills, camping without hatchets, ultralight backpacking, whatever. From Matthew Shumway: Good Evening, I am with the Section W-1S, Order of the Arrow, Boy Scouts of America and was wondering if you do presentations of classes for groups. In September we have our annual Conclave, a gathering of nearly 500 Scouts and Scouters from across Western Oregon, Southern Washington, and Northern California. The weekend is full of training classes and activities in outdoors skills. One of the common requests this year is having outside groups come and teach a skill for the training courses. If this is something that could be possible or you would be interested in our event information is below. What: 2016 Section W-1S Conclave When: September 9-11, 2016 Where: Antique Powerland, 3995 Brooklake Rd NE, Salem, OR 97303 Thank you for any help.
 - o Also copied to Bill Carpenter Mid Oregon
 - o Tyler: I wouldn't mind doing that. The troop in our VFW is asking for something like that.
3. I'm still mostly working on the Skamania County issue, which continues to be very challenging. My prediction is, in the end, we'll get to protect the Gillette Lake parcel (and the others nearby) but, it's going to be an even longer more drawn out process than it has been already, dealing with how to make concessions to the county. I can't think of any other updates.
4. If you could please give everyone the heads up I'll be out from Feb 24-March 14 (vacation and staff retreat).

Bill: You might share that since we have a TSC Weekend now and 3 saw trainings scheduled, there will be very few folks from up here coming to the CL TSC or traveling that far for saw Certs.

- Steve Q: Where is their TSC?
 - o Tami: They are calling it North Cascades section
 - o Roberta: I don't know. On some donors retreat.
- Also called Roberta about road conditions in GP. Looks like our trail heads are probably free of slides, but Potato Hill from the north end (getting there from Randle, Wa) is washed out.

Budget: Kim

New budget master? If anyone really wants to do this. He will let them. About 1-2 hours per month. Some months are more when working with Sacramento and some months are no hours.

- PCTA Volunteer Reimbursement Form Handout with example and instructions on the back handed out before the meeting.
 - o Becky: If you don't have your project report/hours in, they won't issue the check until they are.
 - Kim: That is good to know.
- Guideline for \$/person/meal?
 - o Becky: I spend about \$150 for about 20 people.
 - o Roberta: I remember reading \$10/person/day when looking into it a while ago.
- We don't have a budget yet. We don't know how much money we will have.

Tools: Leif

Tool day (PDX Cache) we decided on March 12.

- Kim: A couple of things: Pam and I are working at BOG Cache on Saturday. We will start by organize the tools, schlepping the crew camping gear to Dana's and taking stock of things. The other thing. Radios. Have been doing radios for 10-15 years. If anyone is interested in learning how to program the radios we have he can pass that off too.
 - o Tami: I can go to the BOG Cache
- Most of the BOG Cache XC saws are out for sharpening.

Trail Skills College 2016: Tammy

- So, everyone here will get the Pre-registration email. It starts on the 3rd. Regular registration starts on March 8. Closing it within a couple of weeks. And pretty much that is it.
 - o Pace: Is the list of classes out yet?

- Tammy: No, we just added one more.
 - Ruth: If you are an instructor will you know you are one?
 - Tammy: Ryan is sending that out.
- Tammy: Ryan wanted the class list posted this week so it should be up in within a couple of days then he will contact people about instructing.

Saw Certification: David

- Underbucker: First one Estacada: April 1. That is nearly full at this point. It is primarily cross cut with a few dual certs. Still looking at perhaps holding the safety class, an additional one, before that. But haven't gotten any good suggestions when or when. It runs about 4 hours.
- Kim has Wind River with Jerry.
 - Kim: Everything on that is on hold, holding pattern. We're working with Ellen and she's getting TSC set up. We do have the bunk house.
- Underbucker: Big Bend weekend is June 10, 11, 12.
- Kim: Point of record: Most of the saws at BOG, crosscuts, are out for sharpening right now. There are a couple short ones.
 - Pace: How soon will they be back?
 - Kim: That's up to Dave.
 - Roberta: The saws at my cache seem to be in good shape.
 - Jim: Do we have a surplus of certified sawyers?
 - Roberta: We have a deficit.
 - Jim: If it would be helpful to have more certified people, I would be interested in recertifying.
 - Roberta: For crosscut we need all the people we can get. For chainsaw, I don't think it is as much. If you can come to the safety talk, we can certify you on the trail.
 - Kim: We did that before at a meeting, gave the safety lecture to all caretakers during a meeting. After you have the safety "lecture", you have 6 months to go out to the field and be certified. This is only for recerts.
- Dave: Do you think it would be worthwhile to hold safety class in March? Prior to the March meeting: start at 2pm?
 - Roberta: If you think so. I can make arrangements to use this room.
 - Kim: My schedule is unpredictable but if we can get 3 or 4 people together, I could come in to meet them halfway or in Portland to hold a class.

Training and Safety: Open

Discussion Items

- Changes to the Project Report:
 - Please separate Miles Logged Out from Miles Maintained.
 - Crew Leader hours are Specialized
 - Any on-trail time not scouting should have a number greater than 0 in Miles Maintained, Miles Logged Out **OR** Feet rehabbed
- Please keep the volunteer information safe. Destroy sign-in sheets properly
 - Ruth was cleaning out a first aid kit and found a big packet of volunteer info from a weeklong (with social security numbers, dates of birth, etc.). You can send those to Sacramento or scan it and dispose of them.

Announcements/Reminders

- Jerry and Gentleman Bob swapped sections. Jane to keep her mile
 - Bob: Still planning to do the tread work as needed.
- "Bag it Forward" promo at Grant Park New Seasons Market, today through Jan 23
 - Jayme: If you bring your own bag in, you can donate a nickel to charity and her store picked PCTA as one of their charities for the next 6 months.
- Halfmile 2016 updates done. Halfmile said no mileage changes from 2015.
- Vacancies: Mt. Adams-North; Big Huckleberry; Sandy River (reserved for Nate)
- **Columbia Dispatch:** Dispatch hours will be M-F 0730-1630. Reminder that if you want to work outside of these hours, you still need a TCP and a dispatcher, but it can be a friend, family worker, or volunteer who is in the front country and will take action if you don't check out. In Zigzag there's a SPOT procedure.

Round the Room

- Freefall: ALDHA-West Ruck is Feb 27 & 28. Great event for anyone thinking of hiking a long trail.
 - Roberta: We have a work party on the Sunday and a table on Saturday
- Steve Q: Investigated Mail Chimp and it looks 1000 times better than Constant Contact. We had hoped to continue to use our email list but the only thing in that is the emails. I think Mail Chimp looks good.
 - Tyler: I've been using it for 2 years, you have to settle on some sort of return email and it has to go into their personal email address or else it sucks it off to junk.
- Ruth
 - Tami: Ruth took the most amazing pic of me the other day
 - Roberta: Have you updated all the first aid kits?
 - Ruth: Waiting on Bob's.
 - Kim: You will have an expense report to submit soon
 - Ruth: Next year will be more expensive having to replace a lot of bandages.
- Underbucker: Years when we have used volunteers that aren't being certified to help with Saw Certification, it goes more smoothly.
- Tammy: Unfortunately for Mt Hood chapter, I need to go hiking. In August I'm hiking the John Muir Trail for 2 weeks. Also hiking Tuscany in May and June. I will not have email access.
 - Kim: I have a carbon fiber bear canister you can borrow. It will hold 2 weeks food for 1 person.
- Bob: Been working on Jerry for a while. We have a cabin about 2 miles from Frog Lake so we are going to try to get Jerry to do some packing for work on my section and I can bring shovels and stuff to work on his section. Maybe we can do a campout together.
- Jerry: When I traded with Bob, I traded off little logs for great big logs.
 - Bob: And a lot of burnt trees
 - Roberta: You told Adam from Mazamas that you were willing to work with all of us. Did you have something in mind for a pack trip?
 - Jerry: I don't have much on my calendar for August.
 - Roberta: That is a good time to work on Benson Plateau
 - Jerry: If we do camp out and I pack, I need to have an area to put the horses.
 - Roberta: Camp Smokey is good
 - Kim: Might not have much water
 - Jerry: Let's set a date because my schedule fills up fast. Aug 6?
 - Justin: This with Mazamas people?
 - Roberta: Yes.
 - Justin: If we are packing with horses. Is it heartbeats or people?
 - Jerry: Typically it is people.
 - Justin: Down from Wahtum or going up?
 - Roberta: Either way we have to make sure it is clear of logs
- Chris K: Last time I looked, snow pack at Timberline is 107". Wanting to get up to Paradise Park Trail, but I've been sick or stuck working on the house. Plan on getting up there in mid-March.
 - Chris K: The lower mile and a half is where you can get in early. I've been trying.
 - Chris K: At the annual celebration, did you get that trail 778 is the oldest trail (Paradise Park) on Mt Hood and that it predates Timberline?
- Jim: The article was nice. My family that saw it appreciated it.
- Justin: Talking about Nick Eaton Ridge. Was up there 2 weekends ago. There was a lot of big logs down in the first section, the climb up to the shortcut to Indian lookout. It would be a long 2 days of work at least. It's a mess in the lower part.
 - Roberta: We've cleared it out before as the Magical Mystery Trail
 - Justin: Is it wilderness?
 - Roberta: Yes.
 - Kim: We could do an overnight, Deadwood Camp, with Mazamas.
 - Justin: I would want higher level people and sawyers.
 - Justin: There was surprisingly little snow at 4000 feet, about a foot or less. Was able to find the trail. I may be able to go check on Benson Ridge a little earlier than I planned
 - Tyler: Tim hit snow at 2500 at Teakettle.
 - Roberta: Not sure the road up to Herman Camp is open. Keep that in mind for a log out work party.
- Jayme: Have to start doing stuff. Compiling lists for NSM work parties. By next meeting, I will have more solid numbers and crew sizes and action plans in place. Excited about TSC. Trying to hit up vendors for donations for raffles. Stumptown may donate coffee for breakfast.
- Marty: Working on the PCT for a year and change. Took Cross Cut at TSC and am certified for chainsaw. This year doors open as to what I can. Hope to hike the Washington section of the PCT, did the Oregon section last year. Flexible on hours.

- Tami: Took today off to run some errands and was done by 11am. Went scouting for the work party on Sunday, found 107 circumference tree, some have root wads attached and potential energy in them. Also some pixies there too. It is 34" diameter on the trail and so is the root wad and looks like it is still 1/3 attached. Lots of potential for that one to stand up. The other one up top, by 3 big mash ups (3 miles in), is only 24 inches but it is going uphill and its 45 degree angle from trail. 5 logs, one 1/8mile from trail head (Herman Creek) right after 3rd switch back. I have pictures. Roberta is calling the work party "The Valentine's Day Chainsaw Massacre Work Party" on Feb 14. We will need someone to help with tricky logs.
 - Tyler: We were up 4 miles is it past that?
 - Tami: Its 1/8mile from trail head
 - Tyler: Oh, we came in the other way
 - Tami: At that single log, there was a girl in tears, the only person I saw all day. Thought she was lost. Trying to find the pinnacles (came from Herman going to Dry Creek). I took her back and showed her the little trail to the pinnacle.
 - Roberta: I don't think we can sign it as it isn't an official trail
- Pam: Kim and I went to DC and we went to the Partnership for the National Trail System meeting. On Saturday they had strategic planning – a coalition of 30 scenic and historic trails and they have banded together to combine their lack of power, to get power for requesting funding and I think that they are getting to where they are thinking of how they can use that partnership to do other things like health insurance for the PCTA staffers. Liz Bergeron is president of the board and Saturday was just a planning session – creating a mission statement, a vision. Sunday morning was board meeting and Sunday afternoon was reports from agency people and also Wilderness Society and someone from Rails to Trails Conservancy, Back Country Horsemen. It was pretty interesting. Some of the things they mentioned: MOU for the Forest Service expires this September so it has to be redone; and they said that from the general accounting official report in 2013 (October) there were 157 000 miles of trails in the national system and ¼ are maintained to spec, 2/3 have no regular maintenance and there is a huge backlog that will never get caught up. It was estimated that it would cost \$200 million for annual maintenance. They are looking for, they have a need for, no to low cost solutions. Can you read "volunteers" there? It was a lot of interesting info. Will participate more with them
- Kelley: Forgot to put in April 9. I am leading a Friends of the Gorge Hike. Not sure how many people are coming.
 - Ruth: Want me to come???
 - Kelley: Yes! I want to thank Rick and Tim, Leif, Tyler – we worked hard. I now know what Tyler was talking about. There is now a road at Fort Raines. It needs signage because it is confusing.
 - Tyler: You get dumped out and can't see where you are supposed to do.
 - Roberta: Did you tell Dana?
 - Kelley: Not yet. Is it Forest Service that did it?
 - Tyler: I think it is the power company for the lines.
- Bill "Little Brown" C: My wife made chocolate chip cookies, I should have thought to bring some but didn't. But they made me think about Roberta's cookies.
 - Pace – party on 18th and 25th
- Kim: One thing from our DC weekend – The PCTA is the agency model for working with volunteers. Part of the GAO accounting they came up with ~\$8billion of economic impact from harvesting timber, minerals and resources to and about ~\$13 billion from recreational activities. We've got 70% of staffing on harvesting timber and less than 30% on doing recreation and maybe we should be rethinking this.
- Summer: back from Calgary. -30 and snow there; daffodils in bloom here. Llama's 29 year old birthday.
- Tyler: Will be up at Trout Lake doing signs. I have 6 signs left for Dana and 21 for Bill. I have 3 -3.5 days planned up there. Kind of a tight time frame, but if you need a sign, start thinking about it now. I've been working on getting the signs approved before I get a list to actually make them. I enjoy doing it. Thought about buying my own CNC so I can do it at the house.
- Pace: Agreed to write an article for Dana. I'm in the process of trying to get it done. Ruth is going to proof read what I write. It is "Anatomy of a Trail Crew" and about how to lead a trail crew.
- Liz: I've been working. Haven't out on the trail since last April when I hurt my back. Today is the first day I haven't hurt since last April.
- Roberta: Talked enough. getting tired of logs falling down on my trail.
 - Tami: The maples and alders are going to be so happy because the canopy is huge.