

Mount Hood Chapter, PCTA Caretaker Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2018

Location: Clackamas REI

Notes: Summer

Welcome

- Absent: Dana (Costa Rica); Bob and Jane and Brook (VD), Ruth (Statehood Day); Frank (Tasmania); Lamar (Australia penance); Chris (Hike the Hill)
- Attended: Robert, Thomas, Bill, Roberta, Kelley, Ron, Rob, Peter, Leif, Chris, Diane, Tim, SteveP, Rosemary, Summer, SteveQ, David, Tami, Tammy, Becky, Terry.
- Welcome: Terry Hill. Retired 5 years from law enforcement. Met Ron at Friends of Multnomah Falls, Ron then introduced me to Roberta. I am saw certified. I'm a little tiny ant, I'm a little fragile but I can kick butt if i need to. Sometimes it kicks back. I really like to run a camera, I really am passionate about it. If you need a camera or would like a camera, I'm figuring out how to do both, but I am willing to adopt part of a trail somewhere. Frank is going to take me under his wing.
- Roberta - Terry will take Gillette Lake in conjunction with Frank.

Past Events

Crews and Events since last caretaker meeting:

1. Jan 13: Basic Tread Maintenance: Ruth and Brook
Roberta - It went well.
Little Brown - on Gillette Lake, lots of new people. We did some tread work. It looks good.
2. Jan 13: Scouting: Frank
Roberta - Frank scouted Dog Mountain and Gillette Lake. We were asked to do tread work on Dog Mountain.
3. Jan 13: Scouting: Little Brown
Little Brown - It was a beautiful day. Scouting for a crew at Gillette Lake on February 25 with Leif.
4. Jan 14: Small Crew near Greenleaf: Frank and Pace
Pace - Went in from the upper end and walked south. Cleared 20 logs.
5. Jan 17: Trail Work: Dawn
Steve - Lots of work with Dawn's name. It has to do with the burn area.
Roberta - Those were our 4 first work areas in the Gorge.
6. Jan 18-19: Advanced XC Saw Maintenance Workshop for Southern Oregon Rockers: Underbucker
Underbucker - It went well. Sharpened saws all weekend. The group is getting going, trying to expand their area this year. They cover the Mount Ashland area and want to expand up into the national monument. They are based in Medford.
7. Jan 20: Trails 100: Roberta and Brooke
Roberta - The class was at Walking Man. It was a pretty nice facility at street level. It was really cold in there.
Steve Q - Walking Man owns the whole building?
Roberta - Yes. It was called the Grain Room. It went really well. It was the first day I could talk about the trail assessments.
8. Jan 21: **Cancelled due to Gov't Shutdown**: Trails 101 (field): Frank and Ruth
9. Jan 21: Scout Fort Rains: Little Brown
Little Brown - That was for projects coming up this Saturday
10. Jan 23: **Cancelled due to Gov't Shutdown**: Trail Work: Dawn
11. Jan 24: **Cancelled due to Gov't Shutdown**: Trail Work: Dawn
12. Jan 28: Trails 101 (field): Frank and Pace
Pace - I went from Fort Rains north and did several hundred feet of benching. There is a short section right by Fort Rains that hasn't been done yet.
Little Brown - Will clean some drains south of Fort Rains and hope to hit that section on Saturday
13. Jan 31: Trail Work: Dawn
14. Feb 1: Trail Work: Dawn
15. Feb 3: Annual Celebration at Fort Vancouver
Chris K - It was nice.
Roberta - The speaker was good.
Tammy - Good, I'm asking him to come to Trail Skills College. I thought he was good.
16. Feb 4: Scouting Gillette Lake: Little Brown
Little Brown - Training with Thomas and Peter. We did a practice scouting as part of Leadership Training.
17. Feb 6: Crew Leader Training: Dana and Tami
Tami - Went out to Fort Rains and went south. It went really well. We hiked up to half mile and opened a drain, cleared another drain and took a lot of muck off the trail. It was a really great day. The group was great.
18. Feb 7: Trail work: Dawn

19. Feb 7: Leadership Meeting: Roberta
Roberta - You know there is a leadership group, Pace, Leif, Little Brown, Tami, Dana, Steve and sometimes Ellen. We had it at Thunder Island. We talked about crew leader development and the admin assistant role. It was short. It was good.
20. Feb 9: 100 Intro to Trail Maintenance: Roberta
Roberta - We held it at the Pavilion and it worked out pretty good. There was supposed to be 20, 14 came. It was a good class. Very interactive.
21. Feb 9: Scout Ramona Falls area: Pace
Pace - I thought I would check it out. The gate is still locked at the Sandy River crossing. The PCT is bare. I looped back down on Muddy Fork. Some snow at the crossing. I found 6 logs, cleared 4. Hopefully we get a crew in there pretty soon unless there is snowfall.
Tim L - let me know if you hear when they will open the gate.
22. Feb 13: Burn Area Trail Work #5: Roberta and Pace
Roberta - This was our first crew with people outside the hand selected group, Susan and Bob and Adam, and we worked on Gorton Creek trail. It was brushy and the ground was frozen, it was hard work. We got about a mile and a half done.

Future Events

Next month: See calendar on website (changes are frequent).

Steve Q - The new website, the calendar moved from the main page to the tab. Does that bother anyone?

Roberta - It is bigger.

Next meeting: March 14, REI Clackamas

Advanced Skills Training: March 16-18, Wind River

Columbia Cascades TSC: April 20-22, 2018

Reports

Columbia Cascades Regional Rep (Dana)

- Liz was very impressed and energized by your Annual Celebration.
- Dana was too. We love you guys.
- Wilderness First Aid: the opportunity I'd mentioned earlier for the 2-day course with Friends (May 19-20) – unfortunately we had some misinformation about the cost, and don't think we'll be able to cover it for everybody who had expressed interest this year. Sorry. Marijke is still working towards becoming certified to teach WFA but she's running into obstacles and we may run out of time to offer WFA before summer. When I get back from vacation I'll check in with those leaders whose certs are expiring and we can talk about options.
Steve Q - Did everyone get the email about scanning your card (first aid from November class) and sending it to Ellen?
- TKO is thinking about offering an additional TSC-type weekend event. There's a survey going around to try and assess the needs and interests. Tammy has it.
- Skyline/Sasquatch will be published for registration any day now!
- Also new trail construction projects on Mt Jefferson. Build new trail!!!
- Thanks everybody!

Roberta - Working about getting it out of the flats (PCT)

Steve Q - There is a new trail in Northern California that extends the PCT by 2.5 miles. When that gets integrated into the Guthook app, I will update the website.

North Cascades Regional Rep (Michael)

Chair (Roberta)

- Thanks to all for an excellent Annual Celebration
Roberta - Thanks to Steve P for helping with audio, thanks to everyone with help with the pizza.
- Frank Jahn is now caretaker of Gillette Lake. Terry will join him once he's ready.
- Eagle Creek Burn Area Update
 - Closure reduction in Hood River RD
 - Crews moving to working in the burn area instead of more classes on the Washington side
 - Protocols for working in burn area, plans for expanding volunteer base
 - Working with TKO and USFS on more collaboration

Roberta - Dawn has progressed faster at relaxing her rules. She has already turned it over to those she has approved to lead crews. 2 crew leaders, check in and out with dispatch, have to wear hard hats at all time. Check in and out with incident commander. There is a whole slew of different stuff. Pace made a new checklist for that area. We are stopping classes on the Washington side and working in the burn area. Trying to work closely with TKO. We are having a sit down with Dawn, the Forest Service, and TKO to figure out how we are properly collaborating.

Steve Q - We have a checklist? Do you want it on the website?

Pace - Its current right now but will change at the first of the month.

Chris K - Are we stopping the classes right? Or just moving stuff there?

Roberta - No more new classes. I said no more classes as of April. We have TSC. Once we are in the burn area, it will be on the job training. The idea of the classes was to give the volunteers something to do. We got some good volunteers out of it. It worked out.

Chris K - Nothing more other than what is scheduled?

Roberta - Scheduled through March. I have 3 yeses and 1 maybe for March 1st. March and beyond have not been filled. Rosemary will be recruiting for those.

Chris K - Any training from here forward send to TSC?

Roberta - Yes. TKO wants to have a second spring training which may be confusing.

- Pinhead Buttes is vacant. We need to support it as a group until a new caretaker is found. Other vacancies: 3 Corner Rock, Eagle Creek and Indian Springs
Roberta - Tim L and Jerry may take Pinhead.
- Leadership meeting recap. (see above)

Volunteer Coordinator (Rosemary)

- Everything is going good. I'm about to put up March events on Eventbrite this weekend. I will need details on March classes for the list.

Tammy - Roberta has a room, Mazamas, Underbucker doesn't.

Tim L - We ran into the REI person at the National Parks meeting, Janet, she was on board having volunteer organizations use these rooms.

Trail Skills College Coordinator (Tammy)

- So we had our TSC meeting last night, Ryan has finalized the classes. We are going to put it up on the Facebook page and the PCTA website. We might have a baked potato bar. I've wanted one for 8 years. It's going forward, doing what it's supposed to.
- Advanced Skills Training. Roberta, Sway and I did a site visit. It is really nice. Carol is a lovely human. She offered us numerous buildings for having classrooms. Sway is our cook. There is a potluck on Friday night, classes on Saturday and Sunday, Registration is open.
- National Get Outdoors Day is Saturday June 9. It is on the calendar. 10-3 at Fort Vancouver. We will do the saw thing, they will get us 3 logs and they will be at our site. I will need people when we get closer.
Terry - Last year I didn't have anything to do. I think we had too many. There were people just standing behind the table.
Tammy - We are supposed to be doing rubbings, stamps, and things to do with the kids.
- The other thing Dana wanted me to talk about. Does everyone remember Bernadette Murray? She works for Tourism something. She sent Dana this thing about National Trail Day's 50th Anniversary of the National Trail System Act and she wants to have a celebration on June 2, which is National Trails Day. She is really pushing for this. Dana told her we don't have the capacity. Bernadette wants the PCTA to host it because she works for Tourism Oregon and can't be the host. Sacramento said no. She asked if we wanted to do it and I said I don't, we have too many things right now. Bernadette went to Dana and said "please, please, please", so Dana asked me to ask. I don't have time to be an event coordinator for another organization. I'm not really clear what she thinks we will do. If someone wants to do this, I will give you Bernadette's info and you can work with her. "It would be horrible shame if the PCTA was not a part of this celebration" ~Bernadette. Dave Odell, the first Triple Crown, and Steve Q are willing to speak.
Roberta - We can't commit if we can't get more information.
- Then I got a thing today, Tom Smith, from Rainier, wants to have a volunteer fair at his business on April 24 from 11-1. He has 115 employees and wants us to come and have a table and talk to people. I'm willing to put it on the calendar and see if we can get someone to do it.
- Terry Hill, a wonderful tabling volunteer, is staffing a table tomorrow at Edgefield, Looking Beyond the Ashes by Portland Parks.
- Terry will also be at the ALDHA-West Ruck on the 24th, a Saturday, out at Cascade Locks pavilion and I was wondering if anyone else is going and would like to stand and help him?
Steve Q - I will be speaking there.
Tammy - Just so everyone knows. I will put out a request so that at least everyone knows it is happening.
- Along with looking beyond these, I got a thing from Miranda. Eric from Evolution Health and Fitness wants to have partners have a table and maybe a raffle. He wants a fundraiser for the fire efforts and to help businesses in the Gorge. I said yes to a table. It will be mid-May.
- The TKO TSC. Steve Kruger came and at the end (Leif had left) and they are looking to see if there is interest in having a mid-May TSC type thing. They sent out a survey, I can share with you. The main difference is it will be geared for agency partners and they will charge them and they might have to charge volunteers as well.
Becky - The agency people would be \$50 and volunteers are \$10.

Tammy - So there is a survey to see if there is actually interest in a second one. Maybe having more later in the season. During the season you won't get a lot of people that want to go to a training thing on the weekend because that is when they are out working on the trail.

Tammy - I don't know, this was something that Steve Kruger and Dana asked if I was willing to help. I said no, but I'm willing to be a consultant.

Pace - Where is the money going?

Tammy - I don't know. He did ask how we got the Pavilion.

Ron - Most of those people already had a week worth of training with the Forest Service.

Chris K - They have their own training and mentoring program.

Tammy - It came out because so many agency people would like to get their people into TSC.

Outreach and Event Coordinator (Tammy)

- Hoping to get a volunteer to go to "Oregon State Parks presents: Looking Beyond the Ashes". 6:30 - 8:00 pm, Blackberry Hall, McMenamins Edgefield, 2126 SW Halsey Street, Troutdale

Partnership Crew Coordinator (Kelley)

- Not much to report. No takers for Renee's request. May 29 or 30. June 1 or 2. I think.

Tim L - Dana has some brushing near the Warm Springs area that needs to be done.

Kelley - I'll send it out again.

Training and Safety (Dana)

- Missing first aid certs. If you took the class last November and haven't already, you need to send a photo or scan of your card to Ellen.

Volunteer Saw Instructor Program Coordinator (Leif)

Leif - We're on. Off and running. Estacada was posted today

Underbucker - Posted this morning as of 5am only 3 positions left. If you have a sawyer you need to get into Estacada. We have a slot reserved for Ron.

Leif - Other option, if we do the classroom part there, we can do the trail stuff on the trail too.

Underbucker - We do have additional space in the classroom.

Leif - Can be chainsaw or cross cut. 2 hours Saturday morning.

Leif - The Forest Service will have a workshop in Missoula. I will attend that and then mad scramble to update our presentation for saw training. Wind River is the weekend after TSC. Last weekend of April, Friday afternoon and Saturday morning are recerts (27, 28, 29). Estacada is geared more to crosscut but we will do both and Wind River geared to chainsaw

Tool Czar (Leif)

- We need a tool day for PDX Cache.
 - Kim re-programmed 4 radios in the PDX cache to have Gorge Work instead of GP work. Labels are green instead of yellow (and noted Gorge Work channel).
 - The leaking oil caps have been fixed. I'll get the saws back to the caches so they have them. 2 pick mattocks for the Wind River cache. We need a tool day in March for Roberta's cache.
- Roberta* - Make sure you get matching sticker colors when taking radios from my cache.

Budget Coordinator (Kim)

- Bill Canavan to take over budget coordinator position.
Little Brown - I know nothing yet, I haven't talked to Kim yet.
- From Jen: We have the following amounts budgeted for 2018 for the Mount Hood Chapter:
 - Trail Crew Travel: \$550
 - Expendable Supplies: \$2,500
 - Volunteer Training: \$560

Crew Leader Development Coordinator (Pace and Bill)

- Little Brown - It's going well. We have 7 or 8 potential people in the pipeline and we have a plan.

Statistician (Pace)

- We are much ahead of last year. 2016 had more total hours but this year we have more on-trail hours.

	Jan 2018	Jan 2017	Jan 2016
Total Volunteer Hours	662	261	833
Specialized hours	66	27	150
Number of Trail Crews	6	0	3
Miles Logged out	3	0	4
Miles Maintained	6	0	3
Feet of Rehab/Recon	2,497	0	30
Number of Logs Cleared	20		
Volunteer hours by Category			
Trail Maint - crews & scouting	394	3	213
Trail Maint - support	158	238	477
Trail Skills Training	110	20	139
Outreach Events	0	0	4
	662	261	833

Discussion Items

- Put GTRT on the reports if you are working in the Gorge Recovery Area. We have to report separately for this too. Make sure you label things scouting, logout or maintenance and make sure to add the location in the title and add the number of logs you clear in the description. Please, no dates in the title. This will help with our stats.

Announcements/Reminders

- If you are logging onto the PCTA website to enter a Project Report for your activities on GTRT projects, select the "Report on or view existing Projects" before you pick "Create a new project". Scroll down the listing by date to find if your project is already listed, then select submit report under Choose Action.
- 9 Vacancies:** 1) Steamboat Lake (reserved for Lamar Fontaine); 2) Indian Heaven South (reserved for Thomas Calvary); 3) Three Corner Rock North (fostered by Tami); 4) Lolo Pass South (reserved for Peter Hoffman and Diane Kelso); 5) Pinhead Buttes; 6) Lower Eagle Creek; 7) Middle Eagle Creek; 8) Upper Eagle Creek; 9) Indian Springs Trail;
- Columbia Dispatch:** Dispatch on winter hours: 0730-1630, Monday - Friday. Closed Sat. & Sun. If working on the weekend: remember to have an alternate dispatch and submit a TCP to your agency partner, your alternate dispatcher, Dana, and Roberta.

Round the Room

- Ron* - Are we getting new business cards?
Roberta - Yes, it's in the works with the new logo and Rosemary's email and the new website.
Tami - Will there be new caretaker t-shirts now that we have a new logo?
Roberta - Yes. I haven't gotten down to Big Frog to check them out. Nothing on the back, logo on the front and the 50th anniversary logo on the sleeve.
- Rosemary* - Bought a house, moving to Vancouver. We start moving mid-March.
- Thomas* - I'm gone next month. I signed up for crosscut with WTA in early April.
- Tammy* - Friday at 7am I'm flying to Rwanda and gone until the 27. Leif has been kind to take over if it is urgent.
- Tami* - Rob and I have been tossing around some dates to go scout on the south side of my section. The end of March/beginning of April. The only thing left will be the north side.
- Hey Man* - Looks like I'm going scouting in March with Tami. I had 3" of snow at my place this morning. It was pretty squirrely getting down to Sandy.
- Ron* - Signed up with the Cape Horn Conservancy to give out info to hikers. Right now the trail will be open 3 days a week. A lot of people signed up and it sounds like it will be an interesting thing. There will be 2 shifts a day with a little cache at the trailhead in a box. Someone at the overlook and one at the highway. We'll stop people with dogs, they

don't want dogs on the trail. It is a trail for 2 years. The birds have been nesting there for hundreds of years. Pika- the University of Utah is asking for a grant for studies of pika in the Gorge. So it will be nice to have one of those citizen science grants here. Still a lot of excitement at the falls.

- *Terry* - We found this burnt log in the trail with an old metal PCTA logo facing up, the logo was really nice but the tree was burnt up. We took it out through Herman Creek. The Forest Service really like it, and will cut it down and put it on their mobile display. Its super cool.

Roberta - It was 10 feet long.

- *Chris K* - I kind of sorta scouted my trail. I was at the national forest meeting. I thought "hey, I'm going to sneak up there". Snow at 3200 feet was pretty spotty. I went up Hidden Lake a little and went down to Zigzag. There was a couple of drainage issues but it looks so much better than it did. The bridge is holding up this year too.
- *Kelley* - Thrilled to be working on my section. Going back the 21st. I hiked Wind Mountain in 8" of snow. It was good.
- *Steve P* - Terry is my music festival partner. One gal at work missed 2 weeks, 1 for the flu, 2 from pneumonia. She came back for 1 day then home for pink eye. They are dropping like flies.
- *Peter* - Working with Little Brown on crew leader training. I'm in that pipeline.
- *Diane* - In the Oregonian, Pacific Coast Trail, was how they labeled us.
- *Tim L* - Christmas trees burn really good. Sarah is posting pictures of us burning the trees I cut last summer.
- *Little Brown* - Development is going better than expected. Things are going forward.
- *Underbucker* - I have one more opening in next Friday's log out in Cascade Locks. This will be the 1st official log out in the burn area. It is a chainsaw log out. If anybody wants to join that crew let me know right away. We are limiting it to a pretty small group.

Steve P - I'll do it. Put me in. I really want to go in there and I really want to use a chainsaw.

Steve Q - Do you do anything differently when sawing a burnt tree?

Underbucker - Yes. The chains are semi-chisel vs chisel. You do more boring to determine the soundness before you start cutting. That's part of the output of this trip to come up with a checklist for chainsaw leads to consider for following work parties.

Chris K - Will there be cross cut eventually?

Underbucker - This is from Moody St up towards the falls, so all chainsaw. If Dawn is happy with the results, we will want to schedule a cross cut log out to do exactly the same thing. It gets our foot in the door for cutting in the burnt area.

Kelley - When will the Forest Service be in there to take out the killer trees we are flagging?

Roberta - We will have to wait for Dawn to answer that.

Underbucker - Lastly, try to give a space or two for "A" level sawyers. We discovered that we don't have enough sawyers and we barely get through the season. We need to be developing the new people that are starting. Even if you have a core 8-person crew, leave the 9th and 10th a space open for recruitment so we can bring in that person that really wants to be a sawyer.

- *Pace* - I woke up to snow this morning as well. It was surprising. I have a crew tomorrow, we have one cancellation if anyone wants to go.