

May 2017 Newsletter

April TRACKS Meeting: About 35 people attended the April 8 TRACKS general meeting held at Darbi's Restaurant in Pinetop. Joe and Kelli Gillespie, who plan to join TRACKS, were introduced.



Announcements:

Jan Newton will lead a **Highway Cleanup on May 16** of the segment of Hwy 260 just before it connects with Hwy 60. See details below.

Jan also talked about a **March for Science on April 22** in Show Low as part of Earth Day.

Liz Jernigan talked about **Audubon summer programs** and mentioned Dan Groebner's talk about a new naturalist program.

Brian Blackman announced that **Love Kitchen needs volunteers** for serving, cooking, washing, etc.

Kathryn Melsted announced that **Rosemary Huylebroeck will be the new Trailhead Adopter Coordinator**. She can be reached at 928-205-7345 by anyone interested in becoming a Trailhead Adopter.

Steve Rodney announced **Sue's Crew 30 mile walk for cancer May 13**. Interested people can sign up on line. (see calendar below)

Jim Snitzer announced that the **Forest Service will begin installing kiosk map boxes provided by TRACKS**.

Kay Alderton **passed an envelope for Walk for the Woods donations for TRACKS to be a sponsor for that event**.

The next meeting will be at Darbi's on May 13. The June 3 meeting for the annual National Trails Day activities will be a potluck at 4 PM in the large ramada at Woodland Lake Park. There will be the usual morning activities including Walk for the Woods at the Nature Center.

Following the meeting, Ruth Nelson led a hike around Woodland Lake Park.

Trail Crew Program: The Trail Crew is back to work and needs help identifying areas that need attention. Trail Stewards and TRACKS members who hike the trails can help by notifying Liz or Lynn when they see problem areas, using identifying trail diamonds and/or gps locators and photos when describing a trail situation. Lynn can then coordinate with Liz to schedule work. Liz can be reached at 929-358-9786 or lizwiseis@gmail.com .Lynn can be reached at 928-367-2578 or gemma.krigbaum@yahoo.com .

Trail Stewards: Spring is the time to check your trail to report the ravages of winter. We



actually had quite a bit of snow this year and this is the time to see how well the tread has survived. We also need to know if all of the emergency responder diamonds are in place and if there are any trees down on the trail. Please report your findings to Lynn Krigbaum at gemma.krigbaum@yahoo.com. So far we have lost only one Steward – Ice Cave Trail is now looking for a steward. If this is a job you would like to do, please contact Lynn. The requirements are simple: hike your trail in spring and fall and report conditions. Of course you may hike “your” trail more often,

but only those two times are required. When you report that there is erosion or a tree down, it will be the job for the trail crew to fix it so we need to know exactly where the problem is using the ER diamonds. If you need to replace missing ER diamonds, we will order the codes you submit and you can do the replacing yourself. Lynn can be reached by phone at 928-367-2578.

Highway Cleanup: On Tuesday, May 16, Jan Newton will be leading the Spring Highway Cleanup of the TRACKS section of highway along Hwy 260 just before you reach Hwy 60. Participants will meet at K-Mart at 8 AM where Jan will provide those stylish neon colored vests and blue bags. The crew will work for about two hours, then enjoy refreshments when the job is done. Remember to bring work gloves, a hat, water and good shoes, and a grabber is always useful if you prefer not to bend over while working.



For more information, and to sign up, contact Jan at 928-368-7888 or newtonj6@frontrinet.net .

Walk for the Woods: Final chance to donate to the sponsorship for TRACKS for the Walk for the Woods will be at the General Meeting at Darbi's on May 13th. Please bring cash or a check written to TRACKS with W4W in the memo line to the meeting or send it to Lynn Krigbaum, 2254 S. Pine Lake Road, Pinetop, AZ 85935. Many thanks!!

The Walk for the Woods will be the 10th morning celebration of National Trails Day and will occur on June 3rd starting at 7:30 AM. Registration materials will be available at the TRACKS May meeting and on line starting May 1st at www.whitemountainnaturecenter.org/. The cost is \$25 the same as always unless you wait until after May 27th when it will be \$30. Volunteers will be needed as usual and it would be appreciated if all volunteers would register for the event. This is a fund raiser which supports Save Our Park, Inc. and the White Mountain Wildlife and Nature Center. The activities will be the same as last year – a 5 mile hike, a 5K walk, a 1 mile guided Nature Walk and a 10 mile mountain bike ride. There will be free tee shirts, door prizes, music by Fat Chance and a hot dog lunch. Your participation is so important and necessary to the success of this event plus we hope you will have a great time – as usual! Questions or more info – contact Lynn Krigbaum at gemma.krigbaum@yahoo.com or (928) 242-8814.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: Friday, June 9th from 8 AM to Noon

COMMUNITY TOWN HALL

Financing Pre K-12 Education in Arizona

Arizona Town Hall is implementing a new format in 2017. There will be one state-level Town Hall, with multiple community town halls around the State to contribute their inputs to the state level discussion. A community town hall on this topic will be held in the White Mountains region on Friday, June 9, from 8:30 am - noon at the Whipple School Auditorium, 1350 N Central Avenue, Show Low.



Town Hall is an excellent way for communities and individuals to provide input and recommendations on critical topics that are important to the future of Arizona. This new format will enable more statewide participation in the discussion.

To register for the White Mountains Community Town Hall that will focus on Financing Pre K-12 Education, please email your name, phone, email and paper mail address to lundaz@cableone.net or call 928-241-2444. More detailed information will be sent later. Please share this information with others.

Nature Center Events (From Lynn Krigbaum)

Since the newsletter is out before the end of April, I want to include a special event which will be at the Nature Center on April 29th. Ron Miller, a long-time TRACKS member and Up The Hill Gang hiker, will be presenting ***The Magnificent Trees of the White Mountains*** at 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM. Morning Refreshments will be served.



May is the beginning of the **Discovery Series at the Nature Center**. These programs are almost every Saturday and this year there is a wide range of subjects and activities included. On May 20th there will be a “Members Only” event. Many TRACKS members are also members of the Nature Center, but if you are not currently a member, you can join at this event or on line at www.whitemountainnaturecenter.org/ . The May 20th program will be given by Dan Groebner and is titled *Sounds of the Night*. The program will start at 7 PM and will include refreshments. The blurb description is “Learn what those mysterious, sometimes spooky night sounds mean and who makes them.”

The 11th Annual White Mountain Spring Carnival will be in Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex from May 25th through May 29th. This will be fun for the entire family with rides, games and food. It also helps support the Nature Center.

Then on June 3rd we will celebrate National Trails Day in the morning with the



10th Annual Walk for the Woods. There will be the usual 5 mile hike, 5K walk, 1 mile guided nature stroll and a 10 mile mountain bike ride in Woodland Lake Park and on the TRACKS-built Nature Center Trail. Free tee shirts, door prizes, music by Fat Chance, visiting with sponsors and a hot dog and watermelon lunch will come with the registration fee of \$25 (before May 27th) & \$30 on June 3rd. This

event supports the Nature Center as well as Save Our Park, Inc. which exists to help the Town acquire Woodland Lake Park. Please plan to participate in this fun morning!

Other Events at the Nature Center

On Friday, May 26th from 5 to 8 PM there will be a **Family Barn Dance** with Square Dancing, Line Dancing, other dances, a pie walk and pie sale and a free cookout with admission which is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children with tickets available at the door. This event is sponsored by Ballet White Mountains and the proceeds will benefit the Blue Ridge Scholarship Fund. For more information call Ballet White Mountains at (928) 242-5649.

Starting June 5th and going until July 14th there will be a **Kids' Discovery Learning CAMP** on Mondays thru Thursdays from 9 AM to 3:30 PM. This experience is for kids 6 to 10 years old. Breakfast and lunch are provided and local and visiting children are welcome for the day, week, or entire program. The cost is: Day = \$20, Week = \$70, 6 – weeks = \$400. This summer let your children experience the wonders of nature at the STEM White Mountain Wildlife and Nature Center Kid's Discovery Learning Camp. The program will be led by a certified teacher and assistant and will include days filled with hands-on activities, games, hikes, and fun. Space is limited so register today at the Pinetop-Lakeside Town Offices, 958 S. Woodland Road Monday through Friday 8 AM to 5 PM. More than 10 volunteer opportunities are available if you would like to help out. This is being co-sponsored by the Nature Center and the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside.

Community events at Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex:

Starting Saturday, May 13, there will be **MOVIES IN THE PARK**. The first movie will be *Finding Dory*. Movies begin at dusk. For more information email mwilliams@pinetoplakesideaz.gov/

Also on May 13th there will be a **Community Picnic** from 11 AM to 2 PM. There will be entertainment by Fat Chance, free food (while supplies last), an obstacle course, inflatables, touch-a-truck, touch-a-police car, sack races,

egg races, kickball game, community information (TRACKS will have a table as will many other community groups) and bring your kite! For more information contact mwilliams@pinetoplakesideaz.gov .



Volunteers needed!: TRACKS will have a table at the Community Picnic in Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex on May 13th from 11 AM to 2 PM. We need people to tell others about TRACKS and give out Trail Guides or lead a hike. If you can help with this, please contact Lynn at gemma.krigbaum@yahoo.com or call (928) 242-8814. Thanks so much!!

Wednesday Hikes Starting Summer Schedule in May:



The hardy hikers who remain on the mountain through the winter months have been hiking all season, but now we are ready for the summer schedule of Wednesday Up the Hill Gang hikes which has been prepared by Steve and Debi Williams. The list of hikes was sent out to all who are on their mailing list. The TRACKS Newsletter will include these Wednesday hikes on the Calendar throughout the summer. If you want to be added to the mailing list for these hikes, which enables you to receive reminders each week and keeps

you informed of any schedule changes, contact Steve or Debi at 928-242-8579 or swilliams86@cableone.net .

Picking up Trail Maps at Town Hall:

(Matthew Williams, our liaison with Pinetop/Lakeside Town Hall, has changed the procedure for picking up individual maps to make it simpler for both his office and our members as follows:)

In an effort to make things easier for everyone they have placed the maps box beside the printer, and have placed multiple copies in every trail folder. They have the trail folder, but will be keeping it behind the desk. **Any TRACKS member may ask any town staff member to make copies, and they will be glad to assist.** As always you can have as many copies as needed.

Also, all the **Trail Maps are in the back of the building on the shelves**, and they will be glad to get them for TRACKS at any time. This is safer for everyone, rather than in that cluttered shed.

Staff members are always glad to work with TRACKS and want us to know they could never thank us enough for the valuable services TRACKS provides to our community.

Please let Matthew Williams know if you have questions. 928-368-8696 or mwilliams@pinetoplakesideaz.gov .

Date	<u>Calendar of Events</u>	Time and Location
April 29, Saturday	Presentation: <i>The Magnificent Trees of the White Mountains</i> by TRACKS member Ron Miller	9:30 – 11:30 AM At The Nature Center. Refreshments will be served
May 3, Wednesday	Up the Hill Gang Hike Vista Rim Trail from Woods Canyon Lake. (bring sack lunch)	6:45 AM – meet at K-Mart in Show Low. 4 mi. Moderate Hiking, Carpool \$10
May 3, Wednesday	Audubon Monthly Meeting: Birders' Workshop Presenters will review bird identification, noting size, shape, coloration, markings, songs, habitat, range and season. There will be information on types of binoculars and their care.	6:30 PM in Pinetop-Lakeside Council Chambers. Back yard birding with suggestions about bird feeders, plants and other bird-friendly practices also will be discussed. All levels welcome.
May 10, Wednesday	Up the Hill Gang Hike Country Club #632	6:45 AM – meet at KFC in Pinetop 4.5 mi. moderate to difficult hiking,. Carpool \$2.00
May 11, Thursday	TRACKS Board Meeting	1:00 PM Nature Center. TRACKS members welcome
May 13, Saturday	TRACKS General Meeting at Darbi's Restaurant in Pinetop	8:00 AM at Darbi's Restaurant. Arrive early to order breakfast
May 13 Saturday	1st Annual Community Picnic sponsored by Town of Pinetop-Lakeside	Mountain Meadows on Woodland Rd
May 13 Saturday	Sue's Crew 30 Mile Walk for Cancer	For more details check website www.suescrewaz.org . Sign up online
May 13, Saturday	Movies in the Park <i>Finding Dory</i>	Begins at Dusk at Mountain Meadows Recreational Complex
May 16, Tuesday	Highway Cleanup – pick up for about 2 hours followed by refreshments	8:00 meet at Kmart parking lot to get neon vests and bags
May 17, Wednesday	Up the Hill Gang Hike Springs Trail #633 From Fish Hatchery	6:45 AM KFC Pinetop. 5 Miles moderate hiking. Carpool \$2
May 20, Saturday	Discovery Series: <i>Sounds of the Night</i>, presented by Dan Groebner	7:00 PM at the Nature Center. Refreshments will be served
May 24 Wednesday	Up the Hill Gang Hike Sipe Wilderness – Petroglyphs, Game and Fish Briefing	6:45 AM KFC Pinetop 5 miles moderate hiking, Carpool \$5
May 26, Friday	Family Barn Dance sponsored by Ballet White Mountains, benefits Blue Ridge scholarship fund	5 PM – 8 PM at Nature Center, Ballet White Mountains, 928-242-5649 See article for details
May 25 – 29 th	11th Annual White Mountain Spring Carnival	Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex. Rides, games, food
May 31, Wednesday	Up the Hill Gang Hike Land of the Pioneers, Ecks Mountain	6:45 Social Security Office in SL. 6 mi moderate hiking, Carpool \$5

June 3 Saturday	Walk for the Woods - will be at the Nature Center again this year. Registration materials will be available May first. See article above for details.	7:00 AM Set Up for Walk for the Woods event 7:30 AM Registration for Walk for the Woods
June 3, Saturday	<u>National Trails Day: General Meeting</u>	4:00 PM in Large Ramada at Woodland Lake Park
Mondays	<u>Trail Crew</u> is back at work.	Contact Nick lundaz@cableone.net



425 S. Woodland Rd
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www.trackswhitemountains.org