

September 2017 Newsletter

August Tracks Meeting: There were fewer than usual people attending the August General Meeting due to soggy weather conditions and a group of TRACKS members on a bicycling trip abroad. No new members were introduced. Anthony Cooley was reintroduced. Following the meeting, a group walked around Woodland Lake.

Announcements:

Ron Majors is leading a mushroom outing on August 15. Meet at Honda at 11:00 AM. Plan to bring a dish for potluck and optionally camp overnight.



Woodland Wildlife Festival at the Nature Center September 2. Lynn needs volunteers for the TRACKS table.

Annual Fall Festival at Charlie Clark's September 23 and 24. Lynn needs volunteers for the TRACKS table from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Nick needs volunteers for **Tour of the White Mountains Bike Race** which takes place Saturday, October 7 by September 11, giving him time to coordinate the schedule.

Annual Nature Center Fund Raising Dinner at Honda September 16. Lynn has tickets for this event for \$50 each. She described item donated for raffle, a necklace from White Mountain Jewelry worth \$3,500. There will be many silent auction items. Music this year will be a DJ playing a wide variety of music.

Sock Hop at Nature Center this evening to raise funds for Walking Down Ranch project involving renovation of Rainbow Ranch by and for veterans. Tickets are \$15 at the door including food and entertainment. John Burton added that a board meeting for Walking Down Ranch will be held at Show Low Café Wednesday, August 15 at 9 AM.

Dedication of Keith Davis' Bench at Show Low Bluff at 10:00 AM on September 9 after the TRACKS Meeting was announced by John Davis. The bench is located on the lower Show Low Bluff trail. There will be some wine and, of course, music. If you have questions call, John at 928-537-7523

Trail Care Program:

Lynn announced that the TRACKS Yard Sale produced \$2,300 for the treasury for trails. Trail work is progressing slowly due to muddy conditions.

Rosemary Huylebroeck, Trailhead Adopter Coordinator asked that designated adopters call or meet with her so she can become more familiar with everyone. Phone 928-205-7345 or email mrlila4@yahoo.com.

SAVE THE DATE: The 22nd Tour of the White Mountains Bike Race is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th. If you would like to volunteer, please send Nick an email lundaz@cableone.net or call 928-241-2444. Let him know your t-shirt size, *your cell phone #*, and if you would like to be at any particular location. 700 riders are expected for this year's event. This is a good fundraiser for TRACKS since Epic Rides makes a donation because of TRACKS members' valuable involvement.



Fall Highway Clean Up: Jan Newton will be holding the fall highway clean up on Tuesday, October 17, at 9 AM. Meet at Show Low Park at the Large Ramada where you will get your vests and equipment. Wear sturdy shoes, gloves, bring water and sun screen. Refreshments will be provided at the end of the work session. Contact Jan at 928-368-7888 to let her know you are coming.

TRACKS emails and newsletter: John Burton has joined the TRACKS Board, and uses a service in his business that allows mass emails. He volunteered to send out our TRACKS emails and newsletter as a service to TRACKS. Starting in late July we began using his service and it has not only worked very well, but also has saved considerable time and effort. As an example, my email provider limited the total number of people on a single email than to less 100 and no more than 300 emails daily; so when I sent out emails to the membership, which is over 400 people, I had to do so over several days in order not to be locked out of my email system. We will continue to guard your emails carefully and to keep the number of emails to a minimum. John will also be co-coordinating the trail crew work with me, and Diana Burton has been helping make our database EXCEL files more efficient. Sincere thanks to John and Diana for providing these services for TRACKS.

I also want to add a big shout of thanks to all our trail stewards and trailhead adopters. TRACKS now has multiple volunteers for trails and trailheads, which has increased our efficiency of reporting needed work on our White Mountains Trail System. We count on the feedback of members reporting work that you feel needed; so, if you do report, please be as accurate as possible about the location of the work (e.g. closest coded white diamond), and, if it is a downed tree, if you can, include a picture so that our chain saw “gang” can know in advance what might need to be done.

Nick Lund, President

Annually, we ask TRACKS members to renew their membership so that we can keep our membership database accurate. If you joined TRACKS during 2017, you don't need to do anything. All others, please, no later than September 1, do the following (after that time we purge the membership rolls):

a) send Nick (lundaz@cableone.net) an email saying that you wish to remain a TRACKS member....and give any updates to your email, papermail address, phone number and email lists you want to be on or taken off of.

b) OR go on the TRACKS website and fill out the “email me form” to renew your membership.

c) OR call Nick (928-241-2444) with any updates to your email, papermail address, phone # and email lists you want to be on or taken off of.

We sincerely hope you will continue as TRACKS members!

White Mountain Nature Center Dinner

On Saturday, September 16th you are invited to attend the 12th Annual Benefit Dinner at Hon-dah at 5PM. This event supports our annual operating expenses and diverse programs. It's a combination of great fun, merchandise, prizes, dancing, entertainment and food, all for a great cause. White Mountain Jewelry has donated jewelry valued at \$3,500 to be raffled during the evening. For more information go to www.naturecenter.org .

SNAPSHOTS



TRACKS Hosted a Dinner For Trail Crew: The TRACKS organization arranged for a special dinner for the TRACKS Trail Crew on August 2 at Jalapeno's in Show Low. Members enjoyed their special tacos, quesedillas, and other great food and a good time was had by all.



This is an example of a "widow maker" that is difficult and dangerous to take down. Many thanks to Bill Lucas and Steve Campbell for removing it from the Blue Ridge trail.

September 1, Friday	<u>Nature Walk</u>	9:00 AM Fool Hollow Recreation Area
September 2, Saturday	<u>Children's Program</u>	4:00 PM Fool Hollow
September 2, Saturday	<u>12th Annual Wild Life Festival at the Nature Center.</u> Interactive booths and displays with lots of live wildlife, demonstrations and exhibits.	10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
September 6, Wednesday	<u>Audubon Monthly Meeting:</u> Speaker Andrew Bridges, PhD, wildlife biologist at Petrified National Forest will give a brief overview of the park's resources.	6:30 PM Council Chambers
September 6, Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hike</u> East Fork Trail	6:45 AM at Pinetop KFC. 6 miles difficult hiking. Carpool \$5
September 7, Thursday	<u>TRACKS Board Meeting</u>	1:00 PM at the Nature Center. TRACKS members welcome
September 9, Saturday	<u>TRACKS General Meeting & Potluck.</u> Bring a dish to share	8:00 AM at Woodland Lake Park Large Ramada
September 9, Saturday	<u>Dedication of Keith Davis' Bench</u> at Show Low Bluff trail	10:00 AM at lower Show Low Bluff trail following TRACKS meeting.
September 13, Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hike</u> West Baldy Trail #94 from Sheep's Crossing to Bridge.	6:45 AM at Pinetop KFC. 5 miles of difficult hiking. Carpool \$5
September 16, Saturday	<u>12th Annual Nature Center Benefit Dinner.</u> Great fun, Merchandise, Prizes, Entertainment and Food	5:00 PM Hon-Dah Convention Center This event supports annual operating expenses and diverse programs
September 20, Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hike</u> Indian Spring Trail #627	6:45 AM at Pinetop KFC. 7 mi difficult hiking. Carpool \$5
September 23 & 24	<u>Charlie Clark's Annual Fall Festival</u>	9 AM to 3 PM Lynn needs volunteers for TRACKS table
September 27, Wednesday	<u>Up The Hill Gang Hike</u> Escudilla Trail #308 (Sack lunch or lunch out.)	7:45 AM at KFC in Pinetop, 5 mi moderate to difficult hiking. Carpool \$5.00
October 7, Saturday	<u>Tour of the White Mountains Bike Race</u>	Contact Nick at lundaz@cableone.net to volunteer
October 17, Tuesday	<u>Highway Clean Up</u> (see article above for details).	9:-00 AM meet at Show Low Park
MONDAYS	<u>Trail Crew</u>	Contact Nick to get on mailing list or Liz at 928-



**425 S Woodland Rd
Lakeside, AZ 85929**