



October 2018 Newsletter

September TRACKS Meeting: There were about 46 people in attendance at the final General meeting and Potluck of the season held at Woodland Lake Park. One guest was present who introduced himself as Mike.

Beginning with the October meeting we will be at Darbi's in Pinetop at 8:00 AM for breakfast meetings through the fall and winter.

Announcements:

Nick Lund brought the group current on the Tour of the White Mountains Bike Race. He has 80 TRACKS volunteers for the October 13 event. He will also have support from WMOTA, Kachina Radio and Navajo Sheriff's Auxiliary. He will send out emails to volunteers with details. Nick also mentioned that Epic Rides makes a sizeable donation to TRACKS each year. About 750 riders are registered.



Arlene Nelson is organizing TRACKS' participation in the Fall Festival parade. She wrote a song – a parody of “This Land is My Land” - that will accompany the members marching in the parade. She said she had 37



participants signed up so far. The group will meet at the Re Center across from the Compass Bank in Pinetop at the staging area at 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 29. A banner will be displayed on the vehicle towing the TRACKS Trailer, with hikers following behind followed by mountain bikers; and participants should wear some version of a TRACKS t-shirt if they have one.

Jerry Good asked for volunteers to help remove more fence at the

Petrified Forest on September 22. They will meet at the Social Security Office on Penrod Rd. in Show Low at 6:45 AM. The Petrified Forest has annexed 100,000 acres of land that they acquired from a rancher for \$7,000,000. It is this area where the fencing is being removed. The Petrified Forest has appreciated work TRACKS has donated in the past for their project.



John Vuolo presented an Appreciation Award on behalf of TRACKS to Nick Lund for his twelve years of service and dedication to this organization. John described a number of achievements Nick was responsible for, one of the most notable being the Emergency Response System – those numbered white diamonds located at ¼ mile intervals along our trails – that has been so successful that other states are considering doing the same. Peggy Lund was also given kudos for her work for TRACKS.

Jim Snitzer reminded everyone to renew their membership. He added that TRACKS still needs volunteers to assume the diverse duties of the organization, adding that we need someone to take over writing the TRACKS Monthly Newsletter and volunteers to help with reorganizing our website. Betty Zink will assist anyone who is able to work on the website.

Jim talked about a Game and Fish project that involves drilling a well on their Pinetop property to provide a steady flow of water to all three ponds and then draining into Billy Creek. They have asked TRACKS for support in applying for a grant. The Town of Pinetop-Lakeside has already given some monetary support. Jim encouraged members to visit this area which has been devoted to endangered aquatic species and also fish that are rescued from ponds in burned areas.



Jim also talked about the “barn” behind the Nature Center that is used for raptor rehab. The goal is to rehabilitate 50 raptors a year. A veterinarian is in charge of the project. There was a release of an injured great horned owl that had been rehabilitated on July 4.

White Mountain Trail System: Jerry Good asked for more volunteers to help with Monday trail crew projects. The trail crew will be meeting the next two Mondays at Country Club Trailhead at 7:30 AM. The Crew will continue working so long as the weather allows. Anyone wanting to be included in the Trail Crew mailing list can (a) contact Jerry at 520-882-0663 or jgood6@cox.net or (b) contact Nick at lundaz@cableone.net , or (c) contact us through our website: www.trackswhitemountains.org .



Preparing Country Club for Bike Race

Passing Rider tests their Work

How I Shrunk Lake Powell with a Decimal Point:

I trust you all enjoyed Tim Strand’s Lake Powell Volunteer Trash Tracker Report last month. In the opening paragaraph, Tim describes Lake Powell as a truly awesome place. 135 miles long with 100 amazing side canyons. I managed to throw in a decimal point and downsize that beautiful lake to a paltry 1.35 miles. Oops.



Remember this guy? The bear that casually wandered through Nick and Peggy Lund’s front yard last June? Well, it seems that many of our neighborhoods, including mine, acquired their own resident bear this past summer due to the extremely dry conditions. An AZGFD website has really helpful and interesting information about everything you need to know about our local black bears and how to live with them pleasantly and safely.

www.azgfd.com/wildlife/livingwith/bears/

Trunk or Treat: Enjoy this event at Mountain Meadows where Kay Alderton and Arlene Nelson will dress up and decorate the back of Kay's Jeep in Halloween array. She gives out candy and trail guides representing TRACKS. Kay has been doing this event for several years, replacing traditional trick or treating so kids aren't out on the streets. Last year they had 6,000 kids and parents stop by and lots of unique costumes, including dinosaurs and a boy in a Transformer costume that turned into a car when he sat down.



Please consider a financial donation to TRACKS. Your financial help enables TRACKS to purchase tools, signs, etc for the White Mountains Trail System maintenance and helps pay for other organizational expenses, such as insurance. TRACKS does not have a membership fee and counts on member donations. We are a non-profit, 501.C.3 volunteer organization, so your donation is tax deductible. We only make this request once annually, so please help if you can. You can use PayPal on the TRACKS website or mail a check to TRACKS Treasurer, 928 S Woodland Road, Lakeside AZ 85929. Sincere thanks in advance for your continued support.

Date	Event	Details
September 29, Saturday	<u>Fall Festival Parade</u>	9:00 AM. Meet at rec center Pinetop staging area for parade
September 29, Saturday	<u>Cool Running</u>	6:30 and later depending on your scheduled activity at Woodland Lake Park Baseball Field.
October 3, Wednesday	<u>Audubon Monthly Meeting:</u> Nancy and Cary Meister from Yuma Audubon will present "Birds of Yuma"	6:30 PM at the Nature Center, 425 S. Woodland Rd in Lakeside
October 3, Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang hikes Greens Peak – Color Hike</u>	7:45 AM meet at KFC Pinetop 6 miles moderate to difficult hiking \$5 carpool
October 4, Thursday	<u>TRACKS Board Meeting</u>	1:00 PM Nature Center, 425 S Woodland Rd. TRACKS members welcome
October 6, Saturday	<u>TRACKS General Meeting</u>	8:00 AM Darbi's in Pinetop. Arrive early to order breakfast
October 13, Saturday	<u>Tour of the White Mountains Bike Race</u>	7:30 AM Volunteers see schedule re specific assignments and times
October 17 Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hike Juniper Ridge #640</u>	7:45 AM meet at K-Mart 5 miles moderate to difficult hiking. \$2 carpool
October 24, Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hike Ghost of the Coyote #641</u>	7:45 AM Meet K-mart in Show Low 6 miles moderate to difficult hiking. Carpool \$2.
October 31, Wednesday	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hike Ice Cave Trail #608 and Osprey Connector</u>	7:45 AM Meet KFC Pinetop. 6 miles moderate hiking. Carpool \$2
Mondays	<u>Trail crew will meet so long as weather allows for trail work</u>	Get on mailing list to receive notifications re time and place Contact www.trackswitemountainslorg

