



April 2018 Newsletter

March TRACKS Meeting: Approximately 22 people were in attendance at TRACKS March 10, 2018, General Meeting held at Darbi's in Pinetop, including 3 new members: Edie Webber, Trudy Balcom and Jim Weymiller.

The meeting was called to order by Lynn Krigbaum at 8:00 AM . Lynn introduced the new TRACKS President, Jim Snitzer. Jim announced that he will be making some changes in the TRACKS organization to maintain the level of expertise that TRACKS has shown in the past. See more details about these plans below.

Minutes of the previous General Meeting were reviewed and a motion made by Ruth Nelson to accept as submitted. The motion was seconded by Rick Olson and approved by those present.

White Mountain Trail System:

Jim stated that work on the Chihuahua Pines Connector will begin some time in April. Lynn said that Woodland Lake Park NEPA is progressing slowly as well as the 2 1/8 mile connector from Mountain Meadows to the Hitching Post Trail.

Announcements:

Lynn passed the hat for donations for Walk For the Woods sponsorship. TRACKS cannot use their funds for projects other than those trail related. Sponsorship is \$300. After passing the hat, she said that donations are still short by \$100, so she will continue to request donations at future meetings. Walk For the Woods helps to fund expenses for purchasing the park, appraisal costs, etc.

Lynn discussed various events to be held on June 2 re Walk for the Woods, such as a bike ride, hikes of different lengths, booths, music, T-shirts and lunch. Fee to participate is \$25 up to May 25 and \$30 up to the day of the event. Ann Groebner has designed this year's T-shirt for Walk For the Woods. This event is in conjunction with National Trails Day.

The next TRACKS General Meeting will be April 14 at Darbi's at 8:00 AM. The Town Hall presentation has been postponed to allow more discussion time. Please come so we can get your input on the future of TRACKS.

Walk for the Woods News:

Here's your chance to donate to the sponsorship for TRACKS for the Walk for the Woods. Lynn will be at the General Meeting at Darbi's on April 14th. 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 11th annual morning celebration of National Trails Day and will occur on June 2nd starting at 7:30 AM. Registration materials will be available at the TRACKS May meeting and on line starting May 1st at www.WMNature.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 plus this year we are adding a Birding Walk on the new Nestbox trail at the Nature Center. There will be free t-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! For questions or more info – contact Lynn Krigbaum at gemma.krigbaum@yahoo.com or (928) 242-8814

In early March, Nick Lund submitted the following letter of resignation as President of TRACKS:

TRACKS Members,
After 12 great years of serving as president of **TRACKS**, I am resigning. **TRACKS** has grown from about 150 members to over 350, there is a stable financial base and strong Board, the White Mountains Trail System is recognized by AZ State Parks as one of the top 100 trail systems in the State, the WMTS is an economic driver for the White Mountains, we were given a National Award for Community Service from American Hiking Society, and we installed a white diamond safety system that has significantly reduced response times for emergency responders to reach those in trouble on the WMTS.



TRACKS is a wonderful, dedicated group of outdoor enthusiasts that are great to work with. I encourage each of you to be actively involved in continuing to move **TRACKS** forward. You can volunteer to be a trail steward, trail head adopter, work on the trail crew, serve on the Board, help with the website, assume some of the tasks that make the organization run effectively, and continue to provide financial support. Let any of the Board members know how your talents can be put to good use to keep **TRACKS** a strong, vital, contributing part of the White Mountains communities.

Nick Lund

At the March Board Meeting, Jim Snitzer was elected to be TRACKS' new President. He has proposed a number of changes in the way TRACKS manages its activities which will involve participation from many TRACKS members, described in his letter to the TRACKS membership:



TRACKS Members,

Losing Nick Lund as president of **TRACKS** is a huge challenge. Fortunately, Nick is willing to help us make the transition by keeping up many of the tasks he has been doing until we find someone to take them over but we need to make the transition in a few months. Nick provided a daunting list of his tasks - over a page and a half, and that covers just some of the things he has been doing!

When Nick and the Board asked me to serve as the new president of **TRACKS**, I said that I was more than willing, but just not able to absorb the workload. Frankly, nobody could replace Nick!

Well, we worked out this solution: I will serve as President, but out of necessity, I will have to delegate most of the tasks to committees. In the future, the strength of **TRACKS** will be in a strong leadership team of the Board, committees and volunteers. My main job will be to coordinate their work.

This is a major change, and I am convinced that in the long term, it will make for a stronger **TRACKS**. We will need for Board members to chair the committees, and most of all, we will need for **TRACKS** members to volunteer and serve on the committees.

Look at the preliminary list of committees below and think of where you would like to serve **TRACKS**.

Membership
Publicity
Trails
Finance
"Everything else - groups and events"

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from and getting your help to make this challenging transition to a new direction for **TRACKS** in the future.

Jim Snitzer
jim@snitzer.org

MEMBERSHIP

- Maintain lists: members, trail stewards and adopters, etc.
- Collect volunteer hours each month
- Recruit and recognize members

PUBLICITY

- Maintain/update web pages and social sites
- Publish monthly newsletter
- Manage and Distribute TRACKS /trails maps and info

TRAILS

- Manage trail crew and work days
- Set up annual appreciation dinner for trail workers
- Set up Trail Head adaptors and trail Stewards
- Create/update trail maps

FINANCE

- Maintain financial stewardship including records and fundraising
- Look for grant funding opportunities

GROUPS AND EVENTS and everything else

- Prepare for monthly General Meetings
- Tour of the White Mountains
- Work with trail user groups - Hiking, Horse riders, Mountain Bikers, Skiing.
- Liaison with WMOTA
- Projects, e.g. Bike gates, Billy Creek Trail, TWIGS
- Christmas dinner party
- June Trails Day dinner, Trails Day activities, speakers

MEMO: PRESIDENT

- Delegate as much as possible to keep the organization strong healthy
- Chair meetings
- Coordinate with committee chairs to keep things on track
- Prepare Annual report
- Represent TRACKS

Does anyone recognize this spoon which was left behind at the Christmas party. If so, contact Lynn at gemma.krigbaum@yahoo.com or (928) 242-8814.



Nature Center News

March 31st is a very busy day. [The monthly Walk for the Woods meeting will be at 7:30AM at Darbi's.](#) We are still looking for sponsorship and welcome any TRACKS members to join us for breakfast.

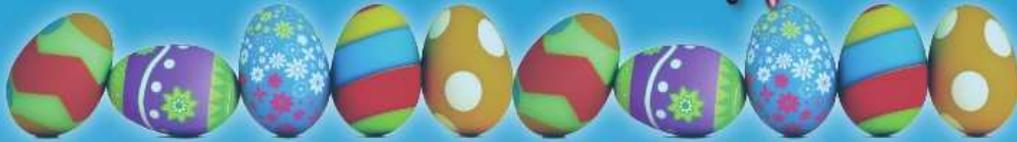
At 10 AM volunteers are needed at Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex to distribute Easter eggs for the hunt which will start at 11AM. The Easter Bunny arrives at 10:30AM on a fire truck.

Then at 1 PM Cody Lundine will be at the Nature Center. He is a survivalist and this program requires a prepaid ticket. The cost is \$25 and \$30 if you don't pre-register. The special extra program with him (for \$50) is already filled, but tickets are available for his 1:00 PM workshop. Visit www.getyourmountainonaz.com/codylundin.html for more information. The Nature Center celebrated St. Patrick's Day with 15 kids at Camp Shamrock. A wonderful excited group of adults provided the 5 to 12 year olds with a fun time doing STEM activities, movies, pizza, face painting, games and other stuff. We hope to repeat this event. Also, the Discovery Series program is now available for the whole summer on the Nature Center website www.wmnature.org . Check it out!!

There are several other events coming up in Pinetop-Lakeside: there will be a Fire Wise Summit at Hon-Dah on April 27 and 28. This event is free but you need to register at azwuisummit18.eventbrite.com/ .

On April 14th there will be a Tillman Honor Run. This is a non-competitive family event of 4.2 miles starting and ending in Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex. Then on June 16th Pinetop-Lakeside will host the White Mountain Balloon event. This is the first time for this event and it should be a great experience. Stay tuned for more information!!

Easter Egg Hunt



MOUNTAIN MEADOW RECREATION COMPLEX

4 Age Categories

MYAC Bake Sale!

15,000 EGGS

FREE
Inflatables

Facepainting

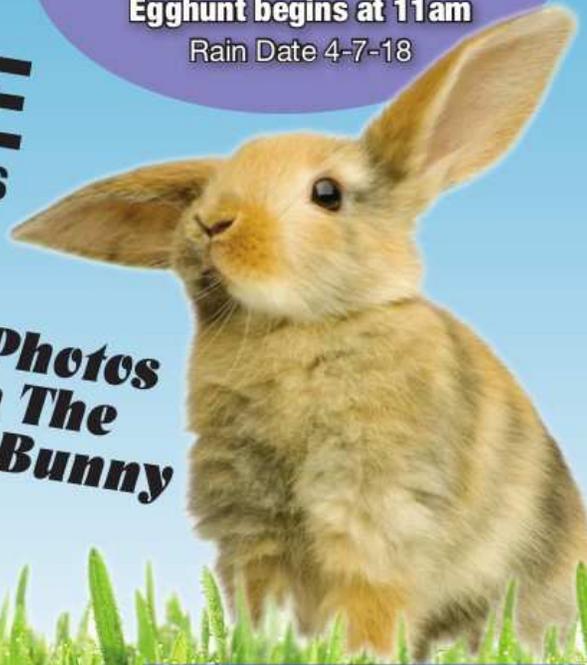
Free Photos
With The
Easter Bunny

Over 40
Prize Easter
Baskets

Fire Truck
Easter Bunny Arrival
10:30am

1101 N. Woodland Rd.
Pinetop-Lakeside AZ, 85929

Saturday, March 31st
10:00am-12:00pm
Egghunt begins at 11am
Rain Date 4-7-18



98.5^{The}
Storm

Calendar of Events

March 31, Saturday	<u>Walk for the Woods Committee Meeting</u>	7:30 AM at Darbi's
March 31, Saturday	<u>Easter Egg Hunt at Pinetop-Lakeside</u>	10:00 AM Mountain Meadows
April 4, Wednesday	<u>Audubon Monthly Meeting:</u> Larry and Gwen Ethelbah. Forest Fires and its Effect on Wildlife	6:30 PM Pinetop Lakeside Council Chambers. Everyone welcome to attend
April 12, Thursday	<u>TRACKS Monthly Board Meeting</u>	1:00 PM at The Nature Center on Woodland Rd. TRACKS members welcome
April 14, Saturday	<u>TRACKS Monthly Meeting</u> Town Hall presentation has been postponed to allow more discussion time. Please come so we can get your input on the future of TRACKS	8:00 AM Darbi's Restaurant in Pinetop. Arrive early to order breakfast
April 27, 28	3rd Annual Arizona WUI and Firewise Summit. Free Event. For more information: call 800-928-8744 or 928-369-7600. azwuisummit18.eventbrite.com/	9 AM to 4:30 PM Friday 10 AM to 12 PM Saturday at HonDah Resort & Casino
June 2, Saturday	National Trails Day: The Walk for the Woods	7:30 AM at the Nature Center
June 2, Saturday	National Trails Day Potluck Dinner and meeting	5:00 PM at Woodland Lake Park in Large Ramada
Mondays	Trail Crew Work days will take place as weather permits	We need volunteers to help with trail crew projects – planning and coordination.
Wednesdays	<u>Up the Hill Gang Hikes</u> continue through the winter. Please contact Heather Steiner for more information at steinerhm@aol.com or call her cell phone 480-620-1676	A more specific schedule will be back in effect starting in May. The summer hikes are coordinated by Jim Meeker and he will get the schedule to you in time for spring publication.