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## June 2019 Newsletter

**TRACKS May 11 General Meeting:** Thirty-two met at Darbi's for the meeting. **Lynn Krigbaum** was the leader. We welcomed visitors **Kevin Breedan** and **Ken Fichen** and members **Ielah Pratt**, and **Marsha and Dave Ronald**.

Lynn announced several things going on in town later in the day, including the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Kite Festival and 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Preparedness Fair at the LDS Church in Lakeside. Lots of other items were discussed, including:

1. Billy Creek/Moonridge Trail (really nice now downstream from bridge!)
2. Save Our Park fundraising efforts, to help the Town buy the Lake
3. Walk for the Woods – June 1
4. Balloon Festival June 28-30; Raffle tickets for ride → \$ to Save Our Park!
5. Two new recycling programs coming to town
6. White Mountain Fire Coordinating Group  
(more info on 3-6 later in the Newsletter)

### **ANOUNCEMENTS:**

**The next TRACKS General Meeting** will be a potluck dinner at **4 pm** in the large ramada at Woodland Lake Park on Saturday **June 1**, National Trails Day, after Walk for the Woods.

**The Audubon Monthly Field Trip** will be at White Mountain Nature Center on **June 1 at 8 am** (NOT 7 am). The leader will be **Dave Cagle**. Since this **Birding Walk** is part of **Walk for the Woods** (W4W), participants need to register and pay \$25 (\$30 after May 25). You can register online at [www.wmnature.org](http://www.wmnature.org) and take advantage of all the other W4W attractions (see the W4W info below).

The **Audubon Program for June** is "**Whiskers in the Woods**," stories about a local grey fox family by **Lorna Cox**. The program starts at **6:30** on Wednesday **June 5** at Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council Chambers, 325 W. White Mountain Blvd. There's no fee for this program and all are welcome.

**Ranger guided walk/hike 9 am every Friday this summer at Fool Hollow Lake.** No charge! Just tell 'em at the gate you're there for the Forest Service walk. "Short easy walks" June 7 & 21. More rugged hikes June 14 & 28. For more info on other events there check [azstateparks.com/fool-hollow/events](http://azstateparks.com/fool-hollow/events).

**Nature Center Discovery Programs, 10 am every Saturday morning** in June. Free! Learn more about gardening (6/8), planets (6/22), Feathers and Nests (6/29) and **Ron Miller, Silviculturist, on The World's Largest Living Organism and Friends** (6/15).

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**12th Annual**

**WALK FOR THE WOODS**

**June 1, 2019**

**In conjunction with National Trails Day**



This year's Walk for the Woods offers a walking, hiking, or biking event for everyone. There will be the usual 5K (3 mile) non-competitive walk, the 5-mile hike, a 0.8-mile interpretative nature walk along the Nature Center trail, a 10-mile bike ride, or a ½ mile Birding option. The Nature Center is located at 425 Woodland Road in Lakeside. All tax-deductible proceeds from this event will benefit the White Mountain Wildlife and Nature Center and Save Our Park. The Nature Center will use its proceeds to help secure property where it conducts its Discovery Series and other programs throughout the summer. The mission of Save Our Park is to assist Pinetop-Lakeside in purchasing Woodland Lake Park from the U.S. Forest Service.

Participants in the event will have the opportunity to enjoy Woodland Lake Park, the White Mountain Nature Center and the Big Springs Environmental Study Area on trails in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest while raising funds for the Nature Center and Woodland Lake Park. In addition to a free t-shirt, walkers and riders will also be able to enjoy numerous educational and fun displays and booths from local businesses, sponsors and groups offering activities in the area. They will also have an opportunity to win a door prize, eat a hot dog lunch and enjoy a free concert. Come to have a great time with friends and family and help raise funds for the Nature Center and Woodland Lake Park.

Entry forms will be available at Pinetop-Lakeside and Show Low retail outlets beginning May 1, 2019. Entry fees are \$25 (\$10 under 12, under 5 no fee, no shirt) until May 25th and \$30 thereafter, including the day of the event. Register on-line at [www.wmnature.org](http://www.wmnature.org) after May 1, 2018. On-site registration will begin at 7:30 am the morning of the event. All 10-mile bike riders start at 8 am, 5-mile hikers set off at 8:15, 5K walkers at begin at 8:30, and nature walkers at 8:45. The Birding option on our new Nest Box Trail will begin at 8 am.



**Yoga in the Park** 6:30-7:30 am (!!!) every Monday in June and July at the baseball diamond at Woodland Lake Park with guidance by Rosie and others. Bring your own mat. The event is free but **please bring food suitable for local food banks**. These wake-up sessions are sponsored by Open Spaces Yoga Center in Lakeside. Contact **Lauren** for additional info, 928-367-4636, [www.openspacesyoga.com](http://www.openspacesyoga.com). There's more!

For the true yoga enthusiast, the **White Mountain Yoga Festival** (\$20-65) will be from 1-10 pm Friday June 21 and 8 am to 8 pm Saturday June 22 in celebration of **Summer Solstice** and the **International Day of Yoga**. You can find more info and register at [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

**Balloon Rides !!!** If you've never had a chance to fly with the wind in a hot air balloon, you have something to look forward to! Free tethered balloon rides will be available along with live music & comedy, food and retail vendors and a beer garden at the **White Mountains Annual Hot Air Balloon Festival June 28-30**. Lots of info on this on an easy-to-use Internet page at [wmbfaz.com](http://wmbfaz.com). Want more than a tethered ride? \$20 buys a **Raffle Ticket** for an untethered \$500-value balloon ride for two (how romantic)! \$100 buys 6 chances to win. **500 Raffle Tickets** are available now at the Nature Center (open M-W-F 10 to 2), P-L Town Hall, P-L Chamber of Commerce, and outside Safeway (**call Lynn to help with this**). The drawing will be at 6 pm June 23<sup>rd</sup> for this untethered ride. Proceeds from the raffle go to Save Our Park to help the Town buy Woodland Lake Park from the Forest Service. So, take a chance, buy some tickets and help save our favorite Park!



Two new **Recycling Programs** will hopefully be operating in Pinetop-Lakeside soon – one private, one public. For more info on the private program go to <https://recyclops.com/locations/arizona/pinetop-lakeside>. The Town of Pinetop-Lakeside plans to open a recycle facility in Lakeside across from Mountain Meadow – 9 to 6 Monday through Friday, 9 to noon Saturday & Sunday. The Center will accept solid waste, type 1, 2, and 5 plastic, glass, metal, aluminum, cardboard, paper, tree brush and pine needles. The site plans to provide brochures for individuals unfamiliar with different types of plastic. The Center **will not** accept hazardous waste. For more info and a fee schedule go to <https://www.pinetoplakesideaz.gov/341/Collection-Center>.

**Saturday, June 22, Movies in the Park**, starts at 7pm at Mountain Meadow – Admission Free! Concessions, Popcorn. Bring folding chairs, blankets, etc. The Movie will be **Trolls**, a DreamWorks animation from the creators of *Shrek*.

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### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

**TRACKS at Petrified Forest National Park:** On Wednesday, May 1, about a dozen TRACKS members traveled to the Petrified Forest. The hike was led by National Park Service volunteers, **Gary Grube**, and his wife **Connie**. They answered lots of questions and shared information about petrified wood, geology and Park history. The hike was about six miles and, because of the NPS volunteers, had sights not seen by most visitors. It was a good trip.

**Mid-May Walk/Hike/Climb:** Wow! 32 TRACKS members and friends showed up bright and early for the **Up-the-Hill-Gang** Wednesday AM hike on May 15. That's the biggest group in months! Beautiful bright calm 70-degree morning. We hiked Country Club Trail, a 3½ mile loop, starting at 7,200 ft. In the middle there's a one-mile side trail ("Huff and Puff"), climbing up 150' to the summit of Pat Mullen Mountain; 27 of 32 made the climb to enjoy the view from the top!

**The first annual Kite Festival** on May 11 was a wonderful success. TRACKS members **Arlene Nelson** and **David and Lynn Krigbaum** helped. Lynn estimates 250 people attended! There were 100 kite kits decorated, put together and flown in light breezes by kids, adults and one "professional" kite pilot (and balloonist), Russ Evans. A hot dog lunch added to the fun.



**Trailhead Adopters** are responsible for stocking trailhead kiosks with maps and current notices and for removing nearby debris. **Trailhead Adopters are currently needed for 2 trails**, Land of the Pioneers (near Vernon) and Los Caballos (near Show Low). **Joan Patrick** coordinates the Trailhead Adopters. She can be reached at [joanpc@cableone.net](mailto:joanpc@cableone.net) or 928-242-7220. Contact Joan to adopt a trailhead.

### **Preventing Forest Fires: The White Mountain Fire Restrictions**

**Coordinating Group** is an interagency multi-disciplinary group sharing information regarding fire restrictions. The Group is made up of representatives from Apache and Navajo County Emergency Management, National and State Forest Services, the National Weather Service, and local Law Enforcement and Fire Agencies. Pinetop Fire Chief Jim Morgan is a member. Conference calls are held weekly to evaluate data on weather and forest conditions along with expected upcoming human activity to determine if fire restrictions need to be put in place or modified, all in an effort to reduce risk of catastrophic fires.

**Chainsaw Gang Before/After Pictures of Los Burros Trail!**



**Good Work !!! Now where's the Trail Crew?**

## TRACKS Event Calendar, May 23 through June 30, 2019

Date and Time	Event	Location, Details
May 23 to 27 Memorial Day W/E	<b>13<sup>th</sup> Annual White Mountain Spring Carnival</b>	Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex, 958 Woodland Road
Monday Mornings <b>Bright &amp; Early</b>	<b>Trail Crew</b> (weather permitting)	To get on Trail Crew list contact Nick at <a href="mailto:lundaz@cablone.net">lundaz@cablone.net</a> .
Mondays in June, July 6:30 to 7:30 am	<b>Yoga in the Park</b> (weather permitting)	Woodland Lake Park baseball diamond (more info in text above)
May 30, Thursday 1 pm	<b>TRACKS Board Meeting</b> (members welcome)	Nature Center, 425 Woodland Road
June 1, Saturday, most of the day, Events start 8 am	<b>Walk for the Woods on National Trails Day</b> See Newsletter above for details.	Nature Center Register on-line at <a href="http://www.wmnature.org">www.wmnature.org</a> or on-site after 7:30 am, \$30
June 1, Saturday 4 pm	<b>National Trails Day Potluck with TRACKS Monthly General Meeting to follow</b>	Large Ramada at Woodland Lake Park Bring a dish to share.
June 1, Saturday	<b>Free Fishing Day – Statewide!</b> All other fishing laws apply.	Arizona Lakes, Compliments of AZ Game & Fish
June 5, Wednesday 6:45 am	<b>Up the Hill Gang:</b> Land of the Pioneers; leader <b>George Tichenor</b>	Show Low Social Security, 6 miles-moderate hike-Carpool \$5
June 5, Wednesday 6:30 pm	<b>Audubon Monthly Meeting</b> “Whispers in the Woods” – Stories of local foxes by <b>Lorna Cox</b>	Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council Chambers, 325 W. White Mtn Boulevard, Lakeside
June 8, Saturday 10 am	<b>Sustainable Gardening, Composting, Kids in the Garden.</b> Optional trip to <u>sanitary district</u>	<b>A Nature Center Discovery Program,</b> 425 Woodland Road, Lakeside
June 12, Wednesday 6:45 am	<b>Up the Hill Gang:</b> Springer Mtn Lookout via Billy Creek Connector Trail; leader <b>Ed Gorny</b>	Meet at KFC in Pinetop. 6 miles moderate uphill hiking. No rideshare cost (short ride)
June 15, Saturday 10 am	<b>World’s Largest Living Organism (and Friends),</b> by Ron Miller, our favorite expert on trees and forests	<b>A Nature Center Discovery Program,</b> 425 Woodland Road, Lakeside
June 19, Wednesday 6:45 am	<b>Up the Hill Gang:</b> Sheep’s Crossing to Potato Hollow Springs	Meet at KFC in Pinetop. 6 miles moderate hiking. Carpool \$5
June 22, Saturday 10 am	<b>Our Solar System</b> Star Lab will help us visit the outer reaches of our solar system	<b>A Nature Center Discovery Program</b> 425 Woodland Road, Lakeside
June 22, Saturday 7 pm	<b>Movies in the Park (Free)</b> “Trolls,” (from creators of Shrek!)	Mountain Meadow. Bring folding chairs, blankets, etc. Concessions
June 26, Wednesday 6:45 am	<b>Up the Hill Gang:</b> Osprey Connector Trail	Meet at KFC in Pinetop, No rideshare cost (short ride)
June 28-30, with Concert 6:30 Friday	<b>Balloon Festival:</b> Food, Vendors and Live Music all weekend	Mountain Meadow, Free tethered balloon rides 6/29-30
June 29, Saturday 10 am	<b>Feathers and Nests</b> Learn how birds fly and make their nests. Enjoy the Nest Box Trail.	<b>A Nature Center Discovery Program</b> 425 Woodland Road, Lakeside

Tim Strand, RN, MD, RD, Editor

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