



May 2019 Newsletter

TRACKS April General Meeting: Eighteen people attended the April 13 meeting held at Darbi's Restaurant in Pinetop. **Jim Snitzer** called the meeting to order at 8 am. The following items were discussed:

- Sue's Crew 8th annual anti-cancer fundraiser walk (more on this later),
- new TRACKS caps, shirts, and hoodies soon,
- plans for bike gates for fences along TRACKS trails,
- dedication of 2019 trail work to the memory of Liz Wise and Bob Pena,
- TRACKS is now an official sponsor for Walk for the Woods, thanks in part to funds donated by those at the March 9 and April 13 General Meetings!

Three new members introduced themselves – **Kathy and Scott Bothwell** and **Rob Miller**. Rob is interested in working with Forestry and TRACKS to have a **new half-mile connector trail** to provide east side access to Buena Vista Trail. This is a great idea. The great views for which the trail was named are mostly on the east side of the trail, an 8 to 10 mile round-trip walk from the trailhead. The proposed new trail would permit much easier access to the grandest views of Buena Vista Trail. Rob plans to continue talking with Forestry about how to make this happen. TRACKS support could really be helpful on this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next TRACKS General Meeting will be at Darbi's in Pinetop on Saturday May 11 at 8 am. Come early to order breakfast.

The June General Meeting will be a **potluck** after Walk for the Woods on June 1 at 4pm at the large ramada at Woodland Lake Park.

Help Prevent Fire in Pinetop-Lakeside! Saturday May 4, 9am-2pm. Meet at Billy Creek bridge to remove flammable forest thinning debris from the Moonridge Trail. Thinning has been done by Pinetop and Timber-Mesa Fire but **volunteers are needed** to help remove debris. Wear work clothes and shoes and bring hats and gloves. Snacks, water and lunch provided. RSVP at 928-367-2199.

Trail Stewards: Spring is an important time to check your trail, fix minor problems and report major ones to **Jerry Good** at jgood6@cox.net or **Ron Miller** at tracks_ts@yahoo.com.

Wednesday-morning Up the Hill Gang hikes: The summer schedule has been prepared by **Jim Meeker, Kay Alderton, Arlene Nelson, and Heather Steiner**. The TRACKS Newsletter and website will include these hikes in their Calendars. If you want to be added to the mailing list for these hikes, contact Nick Lund 928-241-2444 or lundaz@cableone.net.

Wednesday May 1 Petrified Forest Hike: Scheduling for this hike is tricky because the Park limits the number of hikers. To go, you must be among the first 16 people to contact **Jim Meeker** (jmeeker@azsunshine.us or 480-734-5750). Meet at 7:45 am on Mayday at Show Low Social Security parking lot. Carpool fee for this trip is \$10. If more than 16 contact Jim, he will make a 2nd list for a hike at the Chihuahua Pine Connector Trail; get directions re: where/when to meet for this 2nd hike from Jim.

White Mountain Audubon Society: (all are welcome at **WMAS** events!)

The next Audubon meeting will be at 6:30 pm Wednesday, May 1 at Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council Chambers, 325 W. White Mountain Blvd in Pinetop. **Diane Tilton** from Arizona Game & Fish will talk about the impact of the Wallow Fire on **Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep** and about recent translocations of sheep to the area near Greer to reestablish and supplement a number of Bighorn Sheep populations that suffered losses from the catastrophic wildfire.

The May 18 WMAS field trip is to Pintail Lake, about 10 minutes north of Show Low. Open-water and marsh birds should be easily observed, especially with the help of spotting scopes. To get there from Show Low, find the Maverick gas station by the stoplight at the Junction of highways 60 and 77. Drive 3 miles north on 77 and turn right on the dirt road at the Pintail Lake sign. Plan to meet at 7am at the parking area a half-mile to the east. The quarter mile trail to an enclosed viewing blind and an open observation deck is paved and wheelchair accessible.

EVENTS at NATURE CENTER and MOUNTAIN MEADOW, Woodland Rd.

Saturday, May 11 – WMNC and Pinetop-Lakeside present the **Inaugural Kite Festival:** 9am to noon, Kids learn to make their own Kites at the Nature Center, then enjoy Hot Dogs and Chips for lunch! 1-3pm Kites will fly at Mountain Meadow (if the wind cooperates).

Saturday, May 18, Movies in the Park starts at 7pm at Mountain Meadow – **“Ralph Breaks the Internet.”** Admission Free! Concessions, Popcorn. Bring folding chairs, blankets, etc.

May 23-27 (Memorial Day Weekend) – White Mountain Spring Carnival: Family fun with rides, games and food at Mountain Meadow, 958 Woodland Road in Lakeside. The Carnival helps support the White Mountain Nature Center.

May 24-25 – Hogs and Hot Rods Benefit for the Love Kitchen, at Mountain Meadow and the Love Kitchen (behind Eddie’s Market in Pinetop). If you love hot rods, cycles, road rally’s and the Love Kitchen, read on. If not so

much, skip to the next section On Friday 2-5 pm there will be a “Fun Run” (actually a Fun Ride for fancy cars, trucks, and motorcycles) from the Love Kitchen to Molly Butler’s Lodge in Greer and then back to The Hub in Lakeside for hamburgers, etc. Pre-registration starts at 1pm Friday at the Love Kitchen. The entry fee for this Pinetop to Greer rally is \$15/driver and \$10 for each adult passenger. These fees are waived for entrants registered for the Show and Shine Car and Cycle show the next day, Saturday, from 9-5 at Mountain Meadow. Registration fees to enter hot rods and cycles in “Show and Shine” are \$35/car, \$25/cycle. In addition to the car and cycle show, there will be food and multiple events and contests. Admission is free for the public but a minimum donation to the Love Kitchen of \$1/person is requested. For additional information, contact **Danny Lewis**, 928-241-1548.

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 acquiring Woodland Lake Park.

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 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 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.

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST in the next 5-6 weeks:



Saturday, May 18 - Sue's Crew 8th Annual 30-Mile Fundraising Walk: Last year 30-40 people did the whole 30 miles, sunup to sundown !!! Sign up in advance to participate and/or donate at suescrewaz.org. Donations can be made to Sue's Crew in general or on behalf of specific walkers or cancer victims. TRACKS will man an aid station to provide drinks & snacks for the weary travelers from noon 'til 5 or 6 pm in Show Low at the junction of Sierra Park Trail and Central (aka Woolford). Four tracks volunteers are needed to work 2-3 hours each. Contact **Lynn Krigbaum** to volunteer – 928-242-8814 or gemma.krigmaum@yahoo.com.

Community Cinco de Mayo Festival (actually Quatro de Mayo!) from 2 to 4 pm Saturday, May 4 at Blue Ridge High School parking lot. Mexican music, food, games and pinatas, sponsored by Spanish and Culinary Arts classes.

Innovation Nation: Free family fun from 10 to 2 on Saturday April 27 at old Blue Ridge Elementary. Robotics, virtual reality, STEM hands on projects.

Google **Lakeside Annual Preparedness Fair** to get information on this event designed to help you prepare in advance for emergencies. **Saturday May 11** from 10 to 2 at Lakeside LDS Church. (The 5/19 date on website is incorrect.)

Report on April 15 **Field Trip to the Biomass Electricity Generation Powerplant:** On Monday April 15, Thirteen TRACKS members and friends visited NovoBioPower. **Brad Worsley**, President of the company, described their efforts to demonstrate that forest thinning debris can be **cleanly** burned to generate electricity. The cost of this electricity is higher than solar or wind power BUT there are a number of important benefits, including decreased air pollution from “controlled burns” in the forest, increased removal of flammable thinning-debris from forests and, most importantly, decreased risk of catastrophic forest fires. Several people attending the field trip have written letters to the Arizona Corporation Commission encouraging them to adopt policies to mandate that part of Arizona's electrical power will continue to come from cleanly burning forest waste (biomass).



Reporting Trail Problems: You can help make the trails better! Notify **Jerry Good** at jgood6@cox.net or **Ron Miller** at tracks_ts@yahoo.com if you see trail problems; give the name of the trail and the number on the closest quarter-mile trail diamond. Photos may also be helpful. Jerry is available to go with you to see problems. Thanks for your help.

TRACKS EVENT CALENDAR, April 27 through June 1, 2019 (BUSY !!!)

Mondays	Trail Crew is back at work!	To get on the Trail Crew email list contact Nick Lund, 928-241-2444 or lunaz@cablone.net
April 27, Saturday 7:30 am	Walk for the Woods Volunteers Planning Meeting	Darbi's Restaurant 235 E. White Mtn Blvd Pinetop
April 27, Saturday 10 am to 2 pm	Innovation Nation: Free family fun, robotics, virtual reality, STEM projects.	Fab Lab by UofA at the old Blue Ridge Elementary School in Lakeside
May 1, Wednesday 7:45 am	Up the Hill Gang: Agate Mesa in Petrified Forest – first 16 who contact Jim Meeker can go. Call 480-734-5750 or jmeeker@azsunshine.us	Meet at Social Security parking lot in Show Low. 6 miles moderate hiking, Carpool \$10 (Drive is a little over an hour each way.)
May 1, Wednesday 6:30 pm	Audubon Monthly Meeting: Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep, By Diane Tilton of AZ Game & Fish	Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council Chambers, 325 W. White Mountain Boulevard, Pinetop
May 4, Saturday 9 am to 2 pm	Help Prevent Fire in Pinetop: Work with firefighters to thin Moonridge Trail	Meet at Billy Creek Bridge. Snacks, water, and lunch! RSVP 928-367-2199
May 4, Saturday 2-4 pm	Cinco de Mayo Festival Mexican music, food, games, pinatas	Blue Ridge High School parking lot
May 8, Wednesday 7:45 am	Up the Hill Gang Hike: Winema Wildlife Refuge, owned by AZ Game and Fish Department	Meet at Show Low Social Security parking lot; level trails along the Little Colorado. Carpool \$5
May 9, Thursday 1 pm	TRACKS Board Meeting (Members welcome)	White Mountain Nature Center, 425 Woodland Road, Lakeside
May 11, Saturday 8 am	TRACKS General Meeting	Darbi's Restaurant in Pinetop. Arrive early to order breakfast
May 11, Saturday 9am-12 build 'em 1-3pm fly 'em!	Inaugural Kite Festival	9am-noon – Nature Center 1-3pm – Mountain Meadow
May 11, Saturday 10 am to 2 pm	2nd Annual Outdoor Preparedness Fair: Help preparing for emergencies.	Lakeside LDS Church
May 15, Wednesday 7:45 am	Up the Hill Gang Hike: Country Club Trail #632, including Pat Mullen Mountain (Huff and Puff !!!)	Meet at KFC in Pinetop, 4.5 mi. moderate to difficult (at Pat Mullen Mountain). Carpool \$2
May 18, Saturday 7 am	Audubon Field Trip to Pintail Lake (See Newsletter above for details.)	From Show Low Maverick gas station, drive 3 miles north and turn right at Pintail Lake sign
May 18, Saturday Starts 5:30 am !!!	Sue's Crew 30-Mile Walk !!! Cancer fundraiser	Sign up <u>in advance</u> to walk, run, or give at suescrewaz.org .
May 18, Saturday 7 pm	(Free) Movies in the Park See Newsletter above for details.	Mountain Meadow. Bring folding chairs, blankets, etc. Concessions.
May 22, Wednesday 7:45 am	Up the Hill Gang Hike: Springs Trail #633 From Pinetop Fish Hatchery	Meet at KFC in Pinetop, 4.5 Miles easy hiking. Carpool \$2
May 23 to 27 Memorial Day W/E	13th Annual White Mountain Spring Carnival	Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex, 958 Woodland Road
May 24, Friday 2-5 May 25, Sat. 9-5	Hogs and Hot Rods: see fancy cars, trucks and cycles; Rally to Greer. (see Newsletter above for details.)	A Love Kitchen Benefit at Mountain Meadow. \$1 donation per person is requested
May 29, Wednesday 7:45 am	Up the Hill Gang Hike: Panorama Trail #635 – Short Loop	Meet at KFC in Pinetop, 4.5 miles moderate to difficult, Carpool \$2
May 31, Friday 4 pm	Walk for the Woods Volunteers Final Preparation Meeting	Nature Center
June 1, Saturday 7:30 Registration	12th Annual Walk for the Woods (See Newsletter above for details.)	White Mountain Nature Center, 425 Woodland Road, Lakeside
June 1, Saturday	National Trails Day TRACKS General Meeting POTLUCK	4:00 PM, Large Ramada at Woodland Lake Park

Help Support TRACKS: Each time you order from Amazon, please use [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). Use your same username and password to log in, designate TRACKS as your non-profit of choice, and a donation will be made to TRACKS, at no cost to you!

Help Save Woodland Lake Park: If you're 70½ or older and have an IRA, you may be able to decrease your taxes by donating to Save Our Park from your annual "Required Minimum Distribution." Go to woodlandlakepark.com and contact your tax advisor for details.



958 S. Woodland Road
Lakeside, AZ 85929