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**Cascade Volcanoes Membership Meeting Agenda**

4/11/23 6:30pm Kennedy School McMenamins

Laurie Kerr, CV broadband leader, welcomed all present, with the prompt, “what kind of broad are you?”. Responses included “bodacious”, “outdoors”, “science”, hiking” etc. New broads welcomed were Ellen Mendoza and speaker Roberta Hilbruner.

**Present:** Laurie, Barb F, Barb M, Micky, June, Darlene, Jane H, Jane W., Roseanne, Trish, Doran, Linda F, Joana, Roberta and Linda B. Guest: Michael (Roberta’s husband).

**Speaker: “**Interpreting the Columbia River Gorge.” Roberta Hilbruner, retired, FS**.** Roberta is a retired Forestry Service Interpreter/manager, responsible for the content of many educational signage along the Columbia Gorge. She also was instrumental in creating the Gorge Discover Center, which merged with the Wasco County Museum. If you haven’t been, there are activities for kids, and a black granite river running along the floor to represent the Columbia (Michael’s idea). Roberta elicited direct input from local native American tribe focus groups for that section. Roberta also created, with consultation, a beautiful gorge wildflower book, not currently in publication.

*Roberta discussed “why interpret?”.* Motivates people to act and to conserve/protect. Order of learning: Know, feel, do. *Genus Loci*-tap into the heart or spirit of the place.

Ask experts including native leaders/elders. 18 seconds is average time spent at a sign, so must be formatted with clear message. Less is more. Funding for interpretation not always top priority, so creative funding is option.

**ADVOCACY**

**Healthy Forests**: Darlene gave thorough report on letter she wrote to CEQ (Council for Environmental Quality). Topic is impact of climate change on logging within NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act). Bitterbrush broads are also very involved. Darlene recommends an environmental analysis; to formulate a baseline to evaluate change in carbon storage before and after logging. The analysis options are: 1) no action-baseline and estimate 25, 50, and 100 year projections in carbon storage and sequestration, 2) same analysis on proposed timber project and 3) conservation alternative preserving old growth and mature trees in project area. .

**No Place for a Mine** Laurie reported again that Ascot Mining Co has been sued multiple times by the Cascade Forest Conservancy. Wanted are comments favoring permanent mineral withdrawal from the Green River area. Through the native plant society, Susan Saul visited Rep Marie Gusenkamp Perez in Washington.

**LSRD (Lower snake river Dams) Letter to Secretary Vilsack to support breaching dams.** Micky has been active on the Lower Snake River Dam BRAT (regional Broads advocacy group). Those attending dry creek Broadwalk this week will learn more and write comments to our governor, President Biden and legislators-listening sessions held and one more May 25, you can register to speak. June 8 is oral argument.

**Conservation Northwest:** Laurie reported**,** on wildlife connectivity or safe passage near busy highways. 3 linkages are being explored over I-5 including near Toutle/Castle Rock Washington.

**Westport Golf Course**: Laurie reported on a real success, after making comments, that the request to build golf course near state park on Washington coast was denied.

**Hantwick Trail:** Laurie shared success in protecting very popular multi use trail in Northern Clark County. The lumber company will log on a different piece of land, through a land transfer. What a success!

**BLM “rule”:** Darlene and Linda attended a webinar Act Now for Public Lands, by Conservation Lands Foundation, on the newly published BLM Rule, which makes conservation an additional key criterion. Darlene expressed concern about grazing, and if the new rule will *really have teeth* in it to limit grazing on public lands, using a conservation lens. National broads will have a webinar May 1, with same presenter, lawyer Danielle from Conservation Lands. Comments are encouraged until June 20. Darlene and Linda B will send out more info once received. Darlene has already sent out resources.

**Beavers:** Darlene spoke of the need to stop trapping and hunting beavers. States are all varied in laws to protect beavers; there is an effort towards consistent national federal protection for beavers-an executive order. She will send out more info.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Solitude Monitoring:** Final grant decision by June 1. Laurie will inform us as to training date in June-half day. Monitoring will occur in Indian Heaven which has 9-10 zones, within the Mt Adams national wilderness area. 54 total sessions are required and we’ll focus primarily on people traffic on trails. We will receive reimbursement for mileage (within area), meal, and camping. We will order long sleeve tshirts this year with the new Broads logo.

**Earth Day April 22-9 am-12 noon.** Barb Fox Kilgore announced our service project doing trail restoration with WTA at Columbia Springs nature education center, near waterfront, east of 205, south of 14. Let her know if interested.

Cascade Forest Conservancy Opportunities Laurie signed up for several of these and encourages other broads to also sign up. Just go to their website. Previous projects include native seed counts, and lamprey monitoring.

**EDUCATION**

**Train the Trainer with Leah Schrodt**—Oregon Fish & Wildlife. Linda, Laurie, Lorena, Bondi and June participated. Leah shared her knowledge, talking points and materials re: varied species, backyard bird care, native plant focus, etc. We have the tools now for future tabling opportunities, especially with children. June was kind enough to store the materials. We were authorized $200 budget for additional materials such as small stuffed animals to illustrate species, display stands, etc.

**Wild About Nature: in** White Salmon, sponsored by Vancouver public library. Laurie

* + 1. April 7 Pond Turtles in the Columbia Gorge
    2. April 14 Giant Sloths and Sabertooth Cats
    3. April 21 Flora of the North Pacific Rim
    4. May 5 Trail Cameras: A Citizen’s Guide

**Ecotrust Speaker series**: Micky

* + 1. *An Uneasy Conundrum*: Green Energy & Tribes 11am -1pm 4/20 /23-one concern is Goldendale pump project planned for native site.
    2. *Na’Ha’Met (Ours to Protect): Salmon Crisis in the Salish Sea* 11am – 1pm 5/18/23

**Earth Day Celebration** This is late afternoon to evening option at the Hillsdale UCC Congregational Church. Consists of Native American marketplace 4-7 pm followed by speaker. Contact Barb Mickey for details.

**FUN**

**Campout-August 10-13**. Roseanne gave detailed report. Held at same location as last year, near Long Beach Peninsula, Washington. Sign ups are not yet open. Next committee meeting May 1. Activities include: kayaking (bring or rent) in nearby lake or off shore, biking on Discovery Trail (bring or rent), service may be beach cleanup, possible concert at Cape disappointment. Cost is in the $60 range.

**Dry Falls Broadwalk**, (Micky/Laurie) several of our broads will be attending April 13-17 near Coulee City, Washington.

**National Broadwalks** (Laurie/Micky) these are close to $400-details on GOB website. New members get 10% off first broadwalk. If financial hardship, limited scholarships available.

Molok Luyuk 5/15 – 5/18

Ave Kwa Ame 10/8 – 10/12

Hike and Art Pittock Mansion-April 26-Barb Fox Kilgore leading group hike from lower Mc Auley to Pittock Mansion to view acclaimed Native American exhibit “This is Kalapuyan Land”. There are limited free tickets-Linda has two more passes.

**Potluck with Great Old Broads National Executive Director Sara Husby 4/19, 11-2.** Please let Micky know if you plan on attending, but you don’t need to tell her your potluck contribution. All are enthusiastically welcomed.

**Announcement:** June asked us to be aware of our night lighting and whether our lights are deterrent to birds. Shut off your outdoor lights or choose gentle yellow light of lower brightness.

**Next meeting May 24, 6:30 PM** at Kennedy McMennamins Community Room.

Minutes submitted by Linda Buckley 4/18/23