**Cascade Volcanoes Great Old Broads Membership Meeting**

**6:30 PM Tuesday evening February 20, 2024**

**Present:** Laurie K, Barb F, Barb M, Lisa, Oshi, Trish, Bondi, Rosanne, Lorena, Carolyn, guests Stasia H and Kassie S, Susan S (member/presenter), June, Jane H, Doran, Anne, Ann, Joanne, Nancy S. Nancy W, Roxie, and Linda B.

**Laurie led us in introductions-sharing something we’re good at.**

**Topic tonight by WTA regional Coordinator Stasia Honnold: *Safety on the Trails.*** WTA started in 1966 by a woman!! One major principle of WTA is: if people use and respect a trail, they will want to protect it-even urban walks. It’s 30th anniversary of the TRAIL MAINTENANCE program. Last year, there were 3500 volunteers, contributing many hours. One innovation has been shared interest work groups, like BIPOC or women . WTA values advocacy too, and many comments/letters have helped to protect public lands, with 3 different government entities.

**HIKING SAFETY:** some topics elicited from group: sharing trails with other mammals, trailhead safety, trail features. Stasia shared a plethora of resources, many of which can be found on the WTA website such as trip planner, trail news, families go hiking, signpost blog, trail smarts, weather at TH, signpost blog, trail action network, hot to read topo maps, cross streams,

Communicate with companion about their limits, and assess children’s capacities. Leave itinerary at home with hike trailhead, ETR (estimated time of return) car make/model, color of clothing, boot size-form on website-this helps search and rescue. Let companion know if taking critical meds and where located in pack. Additionally see these links: The hike finder map: <https://www.wta.org/go-outside/map>

Trail Smarts: <https://www.wta.org/go-outside/trail-smarts>

The fillable trip plan form: <https://www.wta.org/go-outside/new-to-hiking/hiking-101-1/wta-hike-itinerary-form.pdf>

Newsletter signups (which includes the Trail Action Network): <https://www.wta.org/news/sign-up/trail-news-signup>

Advocacy: <https://www.wta.org/get-involved/action>

Volunteer: <https://www.wta.org/get-involved/volunteer>

Become a member/donate: <https://give.wta.org/give/526022/#!/donation/checkout>, and the [microspikes](https://kahtoola.com/traction/microspikes-footwear-traction/) Kassie was talking about:)

Prepare ahead of time, not just the 10 essentials, but be honest in self-appraisal regarding: difficulty, elevation gain, length of hike, special challenges. Please do write a trip report afterwards, as this helps others and alerts staff to maintenance needs.

Both Kassie and Susan S shared some of their personal favorites for additional essentials, such as rain gear, micro spikes (kapula one brand), sit pad, poles, pack cover. Consider investment in a spot or garmin device with SOS capabilities for emergency.

**Maps**: may be expedient to have both paper and virtual.

**Recent projects by WTA**: with WSU students, have repaired and built broadwalks over wetlands on campus, retaining wall on Hamilton Mountain trail, decommissioning social trails at Coyote Wall-can prevent hikers from getting lost.

**Ways to get involved in WTA**: volunteer for stewardship, advocacy, outreach, donate. Laurie asked about legacy trail near Morgan Creek. Stasia will look into it.

Business Meeting:

**ADVOCACY:**

**Old Growth Sign on Letter**-Darlene Chirman is the champion and not present.

**LSRD Breach Now Rally March 11** in Olympia. Please meet Laurie at the Woodland Washington Park n Ride at 9 AM. So far Lorena, Doran and Barb F going.

**Palouse Healing Canoe Journey and Camp** -(April 19)-9am -2pm-at Sacajawea Park in Pasco, camping possible, visit Hanford. This would be a celebration of culture of the Palouse Tribe. The rally is a demand for their land and fishing/hunting/gathering rights which are now decimated. The public is welcome and we can plan on attending and camping on April 18.

The Canoe journey in May is an event which will start in Lyons Ferry and involves members of the Palouse Tribe. The ceremony at Lyons Ferry will begin on May 5 and involve 4 days of paddling with at least 5 canoes and up to 10 canoes with members of the Palouse Tribe.

**Field Checking** (assessing environs for old growth, measure trees) **March 8 i**n Yacolt Burn area with Jim Oliver, from the Center for Responsible Forestry. Laurie will send details of location and time-meet him 11AM. Virtual training will be held at 2pm on March 5 followed by an in-person event on March 8 at Yacolt Burn State Forest.

**Longview Biomass Plant**: A large logging waste manufacturing site in Longview Washington

(Drax) claims it is carbon neutral, but the risk to the local environment is significant. Drax has a history of underestimating pollution from its plants, and lying about source material for wood pellets. We expect an air permit hearing at SW Clean Air Agency sometime in March--and a 30-day comment period beforehand Heidi Cody will speak in March about this issue so we can submit comments at that time.

**STEWARDSHIP**:

**Tree planting at Steigerwald Saturday**. Sign up with Lower Columbia estuary partnership. Meet 8:15 AM at the Salmon Creek park n ride to carpool if desired.

**Tree planting March 16**-with Friends of Trees in North Portland. Ellen Mendoza organizer. 8:45 AM-1:00 PM. Come join the fun and the mud with Ellen Mendoza on March 16 from  8:45am until 1:00 pm, who will be leading a planting crew with Friends of Trees.   Gloves, tools, coffee/tea/hot choc and light breakfast included!   You bring the fun!   Dress of the weather, wear sturdy shoes/boots for planting in the Arbor Lodge, Kenton, and Piedmont neighborhoods.

Here is the link to register for this event: https://www.tfaforms.com/4840511?tfa\_26=a0T5G00000fQk9T&tfa\_2189=North%20Portland%20neighborhood%20planting&tfa\_31=a0V5G00000W2cjH&tfa\_45=Tree%20Planter,%20%20at%20March%2016,%202024%20at%208:45%20am&tfa\_2190=2024-03-16&tfa\_49=4.25&tfa\_886=Standard%20FOT&tfa\_51=offsite

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Rosanne continues to diligently clean up the rolls, checking on inactive members, or duplications etc.

**RUKS event**-Barb F is participating and hoping to table for GOB at this event in Stevenson-Skamania fairgrounds-cost $35 includes breakfast/lunch, booths, workshops-for long distance hikers/backpackers. Barb has been trying to network new broads residing in Hood River and White Salmon.

**EDUCATION:**

**WTA Symposium:** Carolyn and Lauri are planning to attend the Symposium in Wenatchee at the Convention Center October 3-5. They may present our project on solitude monitoring at the symposium.

**PIELC March 1-3-Public Interest Environmental Law Conference-The 2024 theme is “Cultivating Community” Schedule of events TBD.** Register here: <https://www.pielc.org/productsr>. Eugene, Or.

**Grazing permit retirement webinar March 5-3 PM-The Voluntary Grazing Permit Retirement Act was introduced last year. This legislation would allow permit holders voluntarily waive their permits to graze cattle and sheep on federal lands. This would allow the government to retire grazing allotments from further grazing. The national Broads HZ is hosting a webinar on Volunatry Grazing Permit Retirement Act on Marc 5 at 3pm PST.** Register here: https://greatoldbroads.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/greatoldbroads/eventRegistration.jsp?event=545&

**ONDA-**high desert **speaker series March 20-7PM** at Hollywood Theatre-Cultivating partnerships: traditional ecological knowledge and science in land stewardship

**New book group: Killers of the Flower Moon**-Laurie distributed library books that MUST be returned on APRIL 26. . Date is: April 26, 2-4 pm at Laurie’s home. Refreshments will be provided.

**WALTZ-**April 19-24-in Santa Fe New Mexico-Both Rosanne and Bondi were chosen to attend and receive this leadership training.

**FUN:**

**Snowshoe 2/21**-**cancelled** due to weather-Frog Lake trailhead to Lower and Upper twin lakes

**2/28-Hike 4Ts led by Linda F.** details available on the calendar of events google. 10 AM meet at Portland Zoo.

**Campout**-**July 18-21-**hardworking committee found location at Camp Wilkerson, near Scappoose and Stub Steward State Park, bike trails, hiking, 5 Adirondack cabins, water, bring own bedding. **Needed is additional dinner shopper/organizer**. All will sign up to help with food prep and clean up. If you can help, please contact Rosanne or Laurie.

**Silver Falls state park hike April 24** led by Willamette Broad Maya. More info later

**National Broadwalk**: Bondi encouraged all to check them out on the GOB website. Cost is $395 with 10% off if your first-must be member.

* March 18-22= Avi Kwa Ame-may be full
* August 19-23-Eastern Sierras
* River rafting and art-$1300 due to private company managing trip.
* October 14-17 Wilderness and Beyond Conference at Estes park Colorado-lots of capacity.

**Bad Ass Broad AWARD**: Rosanne Hudson was recognized for her exemplary dedication to detail via her activity report tracking and cleaning up our rolls.

Minutes by Linda Buckley

**Next meeting date: March 19, 2024**