



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK Steve Dobbs, President

Normal trail work for the summer is continuing. As we get closer to the 'Tour', our focus will be on the tour routes to make sure these particular trails will be in good shape. There will also be a new race for the tour that uses Blue Ridge, Lumberjack, and Springs. Work is continuing on Buena Vista with the present focus on the new Chihuahua Pines connector. There will be a ribbon cutting event on October 7th at Show Low City Park. Stay tuned. Steve Dobbs

Check it out below

***TRACKS LOCAL HERO OF THE MONTH!

PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE ENTIRE EMAIL!

***TOUR OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Please reach out to a friend to volunteer!

*** CHECK OUT THE HIKE SCHEDULES- DOWN UNDER!

***TRAIL WORK SCHEDULE; HIKE AND BIKE RIDES BELOW!

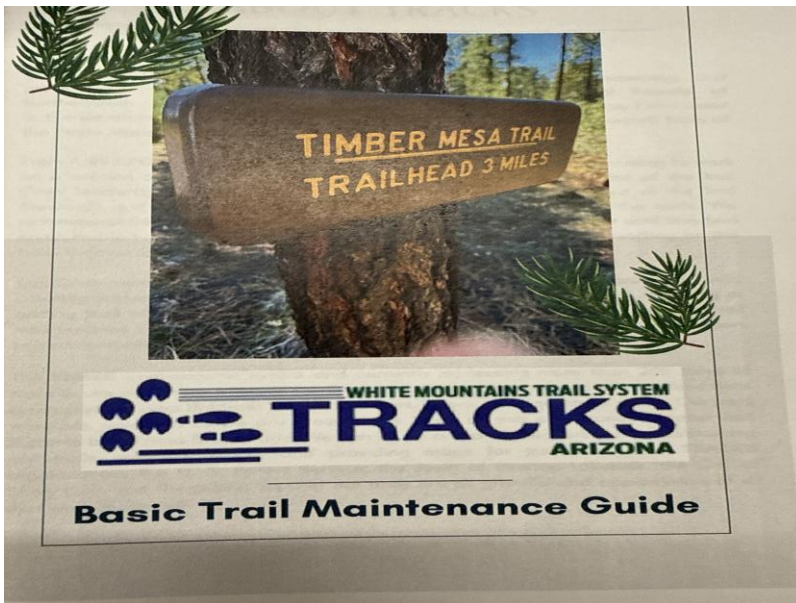
***FORWARD THIS EMAIL TO A FRIEND & INVITE THEM TO JOIN TRACKS

President Steve Dobbs -

TRAILCREW

Garth Orkney, Denny Humphrey & Jerry Good, Coordinators

Trail crew has been getting a lot of great trail work done this year thanks to our incredible volunteers. We have been receiving many compliments on the improvements that we've made. TRACKS now has a Basic Trail Maintenance Guide for trail crew members to reference. Monday trail crew meets every Monday at 7:00 am and works for approximately 3 hours. We can always use more workers. If you would like to volunteer to work on trails contact Denny at denis.humphrey777@gmail.com and I will get you signed up to receive email notifications of where and when we will be meeting each week. Denny Trail crew coordinator



THE NEW BUENA VISTA TRAIL STACKED SYSTEM

RIBBON CUTTING OCTOBER 7TH SAVE THE DATE

Save the Buena Vista Foundation Cordially Invites You!

Buena Vista Trail Ribbon Cutting Event

When: October 7th, 2026, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Where: Show Low City Park, the Old Pavilion



Come celebrate with us and our partners as we officially open and celebrate the new Buena Vista trail system!

Finger foods and cake to be served, ribbon cutting at 12:15 p.m.

PINE WOOD SHOW DOWN - ZIA RIDES

Zia Rides Pinewood Showdown is coming! This is a gravel race that brings riders to our area from miles away. Attendance has been growing and is predicted to be higher than last year. As you can imagine, we need **volunteers for this event** also. The venue is located at Wilderness Ranch which is close to the Panorama Trailhead. there are still positions open if you want to volunteer.

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/8140524800110/false#/invitation> Garth Orkney

LOTS OF FUN TO BE HAD - LIVE MUSIC AND COMARADERIE!

ADOPT AND ACRE-Woodland Lake Park!

***Have you Adopted YOUR Acre?Woodland Park Lake stands out as a community landmark. Save Our Park (SOP), a private, nonprofit 501(3)c organization has launched a new program (Adopt An Acre) dedicated to funding consistent, quality maintenance for the 107 areas the town currently owns, with plans to expand if more acres are acquired. Go to: **woodlandlakepark.org** for details about adopting, donating and/or to subscribe to SOP's regular communications.

TOUR OF THE WHITE MOUNTAINS-

VOLUNTEER COORDINAOR- BRYAN KOLLUS



TWM SAVE THE DATE - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED-- For the 30th annual Tour of the White Mountains bike race. The event is scheduled this year for Saturday Oct 3rd, 2026. We need to fill just 20 more spots out of 187 - **Please reach out to a friend today!**

Epic Rides of Tucson manages the event, and riders can choose rides of 9, 35, 50 and new this year, **an 18 mile course** in addition to the 30-mile gravel ride . We are excited to add the 18 mile to the Tour. It'll be a challenging course that will keep riders in the Country Club, Blue Ridge, Springs area.

All the rides are on our White Mountains Trail System singletrack or a 30-mile gravel on forest roads. TRACKS volunteers mark the course, sweep the riders, help with packet pickup/registration, serve at aid stations, guide riders at critical turn points and road crossings, and help at the kids ride in the venue. You will also find additional spots on the sign up for the new 18 mile course and Los Burros Aid Station which is being hosted by TRACKS volunteers this year .

If you are interested in spending the day with a group of friends volunteering, consider volunteering at any of the 4 aid stations and have your friends sign up with you. For all of our efforts, Epic Rides makes a sizable donation to TRACKS that helps support our activities throughout the year.

******Volunteers receive a Tour of the White Mountains T shirt, Goody bag and \$40 discount on future Epic races including the TWM.*****

If you are interested in volunteering, go to <https://signup.com/go/zUsmnVE> to sign up. Please let me know at **town.volunteer@gmail.com** if you have any issues with the signup process or questions that I can answer. Thank you for volunteering; this event doesn't happen without all of your support.

Congratulations to Jim Snitzer

Local HERO for September 2026





T.R.A.C.K.S. Local Hero of the Month – Jim Snitzer- Past President

When one thinks of Jim Snitzer, “Volunteer Extraordinaire” immediately comes to mind. Besides being involved with TRACKS for decades, Jim is very active in many nonprofits around the area. Where does he find the time and energy? He’s an inspiration to us all! Jim is the type of guy who one can depend upon anytime, any day. Besides working every Monday on Trail Crew, he volunteers his beloved Dodge Durango and hauls the TRACKS Trail Crew Tool Trailer all around the White Mountain Trail System. For many years, Jim has been our “main brusher” for keeping our trails clear and safe. We can always depend on him to drive his “beautifully” decorated blue Durango in the annual Fall Festival Parade, as our members walk or bike behind him passing out trail maps. Jim is also our primary wooden trail sign maker, along with making wooden disc appreciation keepsakes we have given to honor members. Put Jim in front of his router or on a mini-excavator, and he is a happy camper! Each March, he hosts the Trail Tool Sharpening activity, where he has coffee on the stove and freshly made donuts – still warm and very delicious! And each December, he opens up his family cabin to us for our annual holiday party. The list goes on and on what Jim has contributed to TRACKS. Jim has an open and welcome personality. He has traveled the world in his previous career, and loves to share his experiences. He is so approachable, but beware. Ask him a question, and be prepared to sit down to listen for 15 minutes or more! In addition to all his volunteering, he is our area history expert. His knowledge of our community and the early pioneers is legendary. For those who are newer to TRACKS, Jim was our 7th president in 2019/2020. He raised his hand to help during a period when the current president, Nick Lund, was recovering from health issues. Jim also served on the Pinetop-Lakeside Town Council for 8 years. Besides being on the TRACKS Board, Jim serves on the Boards at the White Mountain Nature Center, Save our Park and Arizona Historical Society. He also volunteers for numerous other organizations. One of our Board members summed it all up: “During this year's tool sharpening day at his house, Jim was super kind to my son, Simon. He patiently showed him how to sharpen a McCloud and generously gave his expertise without being a know-it-all, which got him glowing reviews from Simon during dinnertime”.

That’s our Jim Snitzer

100 MILE CLUB **Destiny Medaje, Contributor**

This year, we are adding a fun initiative to our hikes: *The 100 Mile Club.*



We encourage everyone to participate in as many TRACKS hikes as possible with the goal of reaching 100 miles by the end of the hike season. Those who do will be inaugurated in the first ever 100 Mile Club. Easy peasy!

Sign those hike waivers, watch out for monthly updates on our Facebook and Instagram pages, and take lots of photos and videos. Speaking of, please assist in documenting everyone's endeavors and email your photos/videos to photosfortracks@gmail.com or text them to 928-238 1329.

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Kelly Milligan, Coordinator



Mountain Bike rides at 8:00 am. Tuesday and Thursday & Saturday, starting locations (see below).

Tuesday: [Fire Escape Road \(opposite East Lane\) in Pinetop](#)

Thursday: [Junction of Forest Roads 185 & 271](#)

Saturday: [Junction of Forest Roads 182 & 7](#)

Rides will be anywhere from 15-20 miles. A helmet is required. Make sure your bike is in a good, rideable condition. Don't forget ample hydration. Anyone with questions can contact me by email at milligankelly@yahoo.com. Looking forward to another great season and meeting any potential new riders.

HIKE: TUESDAY TREKKERS

Heather Steiner, Coordinator



Tuesday Trekkers begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday mornings enjoying 3 mile hikes at various beautiful and interesting places. Do handily save this below current month description as a helpful reminder. That being said you are always welcome to take a hike with the Tuesday Trekkers. No doubt you will want to join for more!!

Please meet at 7:45 a.m. for an 8:00 a.m. departure from the parking lot on the south side of Pinetop McDonalds. For more information email Ed Gorny at eigorny@gmail.com or Heather Steiner at steinerhm@aol.com.

September, we all will continue to enjoy fantastic beauty and appreciate the woods so very much while Autumn will be growing.

Suggested Ride Share is \$5.00

September 1: EAST Baldy (not West Baldy) , a hike through a 300-500 year old forest next to the East Fork of the Little Colorado River. Meadows, Sandstone boulders and Douglas Firs along the way.

Climb approximately 150 feet in 1.5 miles. Somewhat more strenuous than usual but well worth the effort.

September 8: Springs Trail is located in the quiet of Lakeside. It has multiple bodies of water, green riverbeds, and a forested area filled with pine trees. You'll move uphill and downhill across small rock-covered hills and picturesque riverbeds.

September 15: Sheeps Crossings: It is off Highway 273. We will start the hike from the Sheep's Crossing parking lot. There may still be a sign of the Trekker's reassembled "Potato Hallow" on a path. /sometimes we encounter elk. The path will enter a long meadow that allows views toward Sunshine and Mt, Baldy before dipping into the forest.

September 22: Blue Ridge, #1 lower trail, the trail follows Billy Creek and winds its way through a wet meadow and oak-pine trees. We start at the Lakeside Ranger Station. The trails follows Billy Creek and winds its way through a wet meadow and oak-pine trees.

September 29: Pole Knoll Rec. Area #602 to the right, west direction. It's a simply small mountain with a series of criss-crossing over and around it. The trails are signed with their names, green circle means an easy trail. What goes for skiing will also go for walking and bicycling. Then attend a lunch at Greer Molly Butler Lodge at 109 Main Street to celebrate a great Tuesday Trekker 2026 season!!! (Please let Heather know no later than 9/22 your interest so she can let Molly Butler Lunch know how many ahead of time)

HIKE: WEDNESDAYS- UP THE HILL GANG

Coordinator Kay Alderton

It's time for the Up the Hill Gang to get going on Wednesday mornings! Most hikes are between 3-6 miles. Please be sure to show up on time, bring ample water, wear appropriate shoes, bring/wear a hat, and sunscreen. Due to limited parking at trailheads, we often carpool to the trailhead. Recommendations for rideshare costs are listed in the schedule below. Any questions, please contact Kay Alderton at 928-367-7003 or send an email to

info@trackswitemountains.org.

September 2 - Greens Peak

Hike Leader: Ron Miller

***Difficulty: Moderate**

Distance: 5 miles

Meeting Time: 6:45 am

Meeting Location: McDonald's Parking lot (south side), Pinetop

Ride Share: \$5

September 9- Lon's Canyon

Hike Leader: Charmi Weker

***Difficulty: Moderate**

Distance: 5 miles

Meeting Time: 6:45 am

Meeting Location: McDonald's Parking lot (south side), Pinetop

Ride Share: \$5

September 16- Sipes Wild Life Refuge

Hike Leader: Terry Kilmer

****Difficulty: Moderate**

Distance: 5 miles

Meeting Time: 6:45 am

Meeting Location: McDonald's Parking lot (south side) Pinetop

Ride Share: \$5

September 23- Indian Springs

Hike Leader: Ed Gorney

***Difficulty: Moderate**

Distance: 5 miles

Meeting Time: 6:45 am

Meeting Location: McDonald's Parking Lot (south side) Pinetop

Ride Share: \$5

September 30- Woodland Lake Park End of Season Pot Luck

Hike Leader: TBD

Difficulty: Easy

Meeting Time: 9 am

Meeting Location: Woodland Lake Park Ramada #2 Will hike first!



HIKE: NATURE CENTER (Saturdays)

Lynn Krigbaum, COORDINATOR



The White Mountain Nature Center hikes will be available again this summer! As in the past, every Saturday, all summer long hikes begin at the Nature Center at 8:30 am for a 1.5 hour hike with a leader. Want to know more? Go to wmnature.org.

Highway Cleanup! Save the dates! COMING OCT NEAR YOU!

Lynn Krigbaum Sept 2026 This is a “Heads Up” for all TRACKS Members who like to make our world better! On Tuesday, October 13th we will do the highway cleanup on the TRACKS mile of 260. It is between the Atrium and the Family Fun Park. Then on Thursday, October 15th we will clean the Nature Center mile which is from the top of the hill with the motorized scooters and the Lakeside Forest Service office. Both days we will meet at 8 am and hopefully be finished by 10 am. There will be muffins available after the work is completed. Please wear closed toed shoes or boots, sunscreen, hat and gloves. Bring water and a cheerful spirit! Meet Tuesday at the Fun Park

and Thursday at the Forest Service office. I look forward to seeing lots of helpful people!! Lynn
Krigbaum Questions: 928-242-8814

				
ACTIVITY	DAY / DATE	TIME	DETAILS	LOCATION / WHAT TO BRING
 TRAIL CREW	Every Monday	7:00 AM	Trail maintenance, trail building, volunteer work days	Boots, gloves, sunscreen, water
 BIKE GROUP	Tuesday / Thursday / Saturday	8:00 AM	Group rides ranging from 15–25 miles depending on route	Helmet Required, Hydration, Bike repair essentials
 HIKE GROUP	Tuesday Trekkers / Up The Hill Gang	8:00 AM	Easy to moderate hikes throughout local trail system	Good footwear, water, sunscreen, dogs on leash
 BOARD MEETING	2nd Thursday of each month	1:00 PM	Monthly organizational planning meeting	Pinetop-Lakeside Town Hall
 GENERAL MEETING	2nd Saturday of each month	8:00 AM	Community gathering and monthly Potluck	Woodland Lake Park • Ramada #2