



Cabin Tracks

[Chinook Pass Cabin Owners' Association](http://www.cpcoa.com)—Fall 2020

www.cpcoa.com

President's Letter - Ralph Berthon

Dear Fellow Cabin Owners,

This has been a year for the books. COVID 19 has impacted so many of us in so many ways. One bright star is our cabins. They are a great place to social distance and even quarantine as needed.

This year has also impacted our Association. Due to COVID we were not able to hold elections this year. Earlier, in the spring I asked for nominations to the board in order to have a slate of board members to vote on. I only had one nomination. But with no meeting site we were not able to hold an in-person meeting. We considered doing a virtual meeting using ZOOM or other such platform. It was decided that many of our members would most likely not be able to participate or be "Zoom ready." As a result, the board has chosen to maintain the slate of Board members and officers. This action taken by the board is not laid out in the bylaws. Who could have anticipated the need for a rule for such a situation? In order to be sure we operate above board, the Board of Directors is currently addressing this scenario by amending the election portion of the bylaws to allow for emergency situations where meetings cannot be held. It is highly unlikely this will happen twice. But we want to be sure we are always above board and transparent.

Without any meetings we are way down in revenues. Like me, many of us pay our dues at the meetings, if that was you plan, please be sure to download a membership form and submit your dues for this year. Thank you

If you have any questions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the meantime, stay safe and have a happy Holiday season with Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the corner.

Ralph Berthon
President, CPCOA



Welcome to the Naches Ranger District

New Naches District Ranger

Aaron Stockton has been selected as our new permanent Naches District Ranger. Aaron fills in behind Kelly Lawrence, who accepted a position as the Forest Supervisor of the Olympic National Forest.

Aaron Stockton was born and raised in Southern New Mexico. He comes to the Naches Ranger District from the Lincoln National Forest, where he currently serves as District Ranger on the Guadalupe Ranger District. Aaron has approximately 15 years of experience in public land and National Forest Management, having worked for the Lincoln National Forest, the Boise National Forest, and the Bureau of Land Management. He has a strong background in environmental planning and NEPA, public outreach, partnership engagement, recreation, and restoration. He graduated from New Mexico State University with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management.

Aaron is married to Sendi (sp correct), a fellow Forest Service employee and outdoor enthusiast. Together they reside in Carlsbad, NM with four dogs and six chickens and they are all looking forward to relocating to the Pacific Northwest (and yes, the chickens are coming, too!) His report date is October 25, 2020.

Timber Management Assistant

Paul Meyers is coming to the Naches Ranger District as the new Timber Management Assistant (TMA). Paul is a native Washingtonian. He was born in the Tri-Cities and grew up in Vancouver. He attended a liberal arts college after high school, then worked in construction for a while before deciding to pursue a career in forestry. He earned a forest management degree from Oregon State University in 2014. He then worked seasonally at JBLM, outside Olympia, and for the Rogue-Siskiyou NF in SW Oregon before moving to Black Hills in 2015 to take a permanent job as a presale forester. He's had an amazing five years in South Dakota but is excited to be returning to Washington to take on new challenges. In his off time, he enjoys reading, camping, fishing, and backpacking. Paul and his wife can hardly wait to introduce their 1-year old son to the Evergreen State.

National Forest Homeowners Association Virtual Conference

Our NFH Association is where the majority of cabin business takes place. Your cabin has value and this summer has proven so with many people recreating in the forest. On Friday and Saturday Oct. 16th and 17th, NFH is holding a 2020 Virtual Conference. All CPCOA members are NFH members so you are encouraged to join the conference free of charge. However, before the 16th you will need to log onto NFH 2020 Virtual Conference link—NFH 2020 Virtual Conference—National Forest Homeowners' site to receive conference information and

register. Sessions include: Friday—"Fire Resilience" (to remain resilient, cabin communities must not only look back but look forward to where our cabin community will be in 50 or 100 years.) This series will provide tips and insights for sustainability. The Saturday sessions are "Responsible Cabin Ownership" and "Sustainable Cabins" to include Solar for Cabins and Heating with Wood. We hope you will consider participating in this conference.



Chipper Program

We recently received word from the Yakima County Fire Marshall's Office the Chipper Program has been funded but will be working in the Boot Jack area this fall. Funding looks good for next year and they will be back working on Chinook Pass. It has been suggested that the proper way to pile up your vegetation for chipping is to put all the limbs in one direction and keep the piles within 12 feet of the roads. **DO NOT** put needles, duff from the forest floor, rocks, and trash in the pile. Keep the piles limited to limbs and small trees only. So, save your chipper piles for next year and/or add to them.



Whistlin' Jack Lodge

The lodge is under new ownership and this summer they have been doing some remodeling and upgrades of the entire landscape. The restaurant has been closed but now open for service. They now have a tent camping area and areas for RV parking. They also have for rent 2 motel rooms with a King-size bed and 4 motel rooms with 2 queen size beds. There are 2 two-person bungalows and 6 cottages sleeping 4-6 people for rent. The bungalows and cottages have new mattresses, new hot tubs, and carpets and are close to the Naches River. For cabin owners, this is a good place for friends and/or relatives to stay. To make reservations, please stop by the grocery store on Hwy 410 or call 1-509-658-2433.

Little Naches Restoration Project- Wayne Bell

This project started in 2013 and the first major event was the "Huck" timber sale along the Raven Roost Road. Presently another timber sale the "Finn" timber sale is in progress (much smaller than the Huck sale). Also, scoping is completed on a large upland vegetation restoration project (thinning forest project). Another smaller timber sale is planned for the spring of 2021 and the removal of dead or hazardous trees in the Little Naches Cabin Tract is on the agenda. Campground restoration projects in the Little Naches continue to occur. Recently we completed a road inventory of former Plum Creek Lands in the Little Naches that have been purchased by the Forest Service. The goal of this project is to update the roads and eventually open the gates to allow for public access. This will eliminate the checkerboard land ownership. (Questions or concerns contact Wayne Bell, 1-509-628-3867).