

Volume 2018,
Issue

November ~
December

President's Message

In 2018 Gold Bar Nature trails Maintenance operated in the manner that historically the Membership is accustomed to. The annual routine maintenance plan is and has been a solid plan that is executed quite well by the PM and Team. In addition, The Facilities committee works in concert with the PM to continue to offer support on the items that can evolve throughout the year. This year new equipment was added to assist with effectiveness on Infrastructure upgrade as well as the routine maintenance and membership request. This new equipment coupled with retainage of our overall staff team has shown improvements in how the Park operates as a whole. In 2018 the BOD reviewed existing procedural documents to update such policies so that GBNT is evolving with the current membership requirements. Such updates were done in the Main office, Sales, and Membership. Another change in the 2018 year was GBNT office saw modified roles and responsibilities of the Office staff as well as utilization of an outside Bookkeeping source. Current evaluation of

these modifications have shown positive. The Board of Directors will continue to monitor these improvements and adjust as needed.

Within any business there will be fiscal challenges. GBNT Membership is not excluded from this. One of our challenges will be maintaining a solid labor force and maintaining a budget to support this labor force. Currently in 2018 the Membership saw less turnover this year than previous and even with that turnover the BOD's made strategic choices in positions and allocations of services to absorb the financial burden of labor retraining expenses. Current insurances continue to also be another sliding scale of costs that the BOD's reviews and works to mitigate throughout this year. Annually this is reviewed by the Treasurer to ensure we have sufficient coverage without excessive premiums.

Assets and Liabilities at the park are routinely evaluated through the Depreciation schedule and in 2018 New Assets were added to this schedule. The Long range committee and the Treasurer use this information to assist with the

annual budget review process and will continue to do so. The 2019 Budget is forthcoming and shall be voted on at the October Open session and then presented at the January Open Session. Membership continues to be extremely strong and in 2018 it has been no exception. The large sales numbers posting throughout the year has been very interesting in retrospect to past years. With these new sales it means new members, which has been very positive considering the years after our recession.

Gold Bar Nature Trails Membership is a community that is supported by its Members and Staff throughout the year and could not continue without the many countless and sometimes unknown contributions that each make throughout each and every year. The success of the Park thrives from these individuals and **I want to thank you** all for your continued support of Gold Bar Nature Trails for not only 2018 but the past years as well.

Donal Barnes, President

Vice-President's Message

Hello everyone, Another summer has come and gone. At this time, we would like to recognize Keith Summers who has given generously of his time and effort to the park. He has volunteered many weekend hours as a GBNT Board Member and worked many of the events. We appreciate all that you have done and thank you for all the time over the years that you have spent with us to make the park a great place for friends and family. Your presence at the board table will be missed but I am sure that we will see you volun-

teering in the kitchen for breakfast.

We would like to thank all the members who volunteer their time to the GBNT community. It's you that help this park continue to grow and prosper.

You may have noticed the work has continued on the electrical upgrade, new buildings going up at the ACH, and the new playground equipment. This has been the result of our park employees and you volunteers. A lot of this could not have happened without you. The office

staff who keep the park running smoothly. Thank you for all the hard work!

The next season we all need to be planning for is the winter season. It's time to get ready for the winter. There is nothing worse than coming up in the spring and finding that your trailer or shed was not ready for the cold weather. Don't forget that we still have activities during the winter months and breakfast as well.

Bill Ritchie, Vice-President

Park Manager's Message

Hello campers: well another year is up and gone can you believe that I have been here come this October, 8 full years. Wow it goes by so fast and look at all the changes that the Park has gone through. The Park is looking really good. A special thanks to our volunteers who put on all the events throughout the year who make GBNT the place to be! Can you believe the kitchen over Labor Day weekend put out 940 meals? Wow, now that's impressive! Speaking of time. Ranger Sue Larrabee will be retiring this fall after 32 years working here at GBNT. I'm sure she has seen plenty of change in the Park. But don't worry, she's not going far. She is also a member along with some of her family. She will be around just hopefully enjoying the Park instead of working. The staff and I would like to thank her, not only for her many years of service, but for her friendship as well and wish her a happy retirement at GBNT, thank you Sue.

Also, this fall Terre Brammer our full-time night ranger is also retiring after 11 years here at GBNT she has been a valuable part of security keeping us all safe and sound during your stay. She will continue to be a member at GBNT and from all the staff wish her the best. Thank you for keeping us safe and keep in touch we will miss you.

Youth center staff had a great time. The added BBQ shack increased their sales of \$6,500 last year to just over \$9,000 this year. With all the added activities the youth center provided this year

the kids said they had a great summer. Also, a special thanks to the ultimate volunteer who worked all summer in the BBQ shack Rick Beaver and with him, Dave from the kitchen, they made some good Burgers and fries and now fish & chips. I can't wait until next summer! makes my mouth water just thinking about it.

The Maintenance crew has been doing an outstanding job with the electrical upgrade and water project this past year. With 109 campsites completed with power pedestals and water stand pipes, 20-meter packs and 6 disconnects installed since last September. Not to mention taking care of both pools with outstanding compliments from the state health department on how well maintained our facilities and water quality is. Our crew is maintaining the park on immediate requests like water leaks, power problems to septic and more. They had a busy year with more ahead. Give them a big Thanks when you see them working throughout the Park, they would appreciate it.

As some of you have noticed we have quite a few dead trees in the Park. According to a local arborist in Gold Bar we are not alone. The last two years of drought have hit not only us, but all of Washington's forests. He informed me that trees go into shock and the first to go are the cedar trees as they have shallow root system unlike the hemlocks and firs but they too are affected by the drought and once the trees are in shock they are more vulnerable to insects and other diseases

making it hard to recover. That's about as much of a free consultation as I could get. So, if you have or see dead trees in your area GBNT knows about them and on time available will do our best to try and keep up with them along with other projects just give us time. Thank you

This year we have added to our equipment inventory to help further the electrical/water project. Front end loader, mini skidsteer and finally another mini excavator this late summer. Added a cover over the screened material pile for the project.

Other projects included are kitchen entry way and stairs. Playground equipment at the ACH for the younger kids was installed. And the start to a new temp building for storage for the ACH kitchen. New digital hand-held radios have been purchased for our employees for better communications. A new sliding glass door at the ACH.

This past year has had some up and downs to it but thru it all Barb and Sue in the office have helped make it one of my best. They have taken on way more duties and responsibilities than before and have helped improve on many areas too numerous to list. If any information is ever needed just stop by the office and ask we are here to help.

Again, thank you all for giving me such a wonderful 8 years. Looking forward to number 9.

Steven Thaele, Park Manager

Membership

Welcome to all of the new members! We have had 18 new members in August and we had 8 in September. We have 9 scheduled for October and 5 waiting to be scheduled in November.

Thank you to the committee for working so hard to get all of our new members into the park.

Help Wanted

The Park has two open positions:
Full Time Maintenance
Full Time Cleaning/Maintenance

Violations

- 18-43** - Circumventing 270 day rule = \$175 fine
- 18-44** - Circumventing 270 day rule = \$125 fine
- 18-45** - No tabs on RV = \$125 Fine
- 18-46, 47, 48 & 49** - Cutting down tree without permission = \$100 fine bar for 30 days
- 18-50** - Destruction = \$250 fine
- 18-51** - Neglect = \$500 fine bar for 30 days
- 18-52** - Guest over 14 days = Reduced to warning
- 18-53** - Guest over 14 days 2nd offense = \$275 fine bar member and guest for 60 days

Welcome New Members!

August 2018

Ochs, Marian & James	899
Elwell, Brent & Julie	576
Tobin, Shawn & Rene	272
Morris, Connie	163
Bryan, Sarah & Michael	1037
Holly, Jason & Jessica	120
Piskun, Oksana & Becker, Marcie	1162
Piskun Tatyana & Anatoly	1161
Egnelhart, Susan	50 51
Moell, D'Veanna	371
Merrin, Michael & Anspach, Kenneth	406
Davidson, Dorothy	716
Martin, Norm	175
Eichner, Susan	1121
Bates, Stephen & Linda	705
Martinez, Debbie & Danny	21
McKitterick, Erick & Erika	857
Wood, Reggie & April	1092

September 2018

Jensen, Jennifer & Gray, Julie	907
Nielsen, Robert	451
Cowan, David	809
Muramoto, Kristina	339
Broadwell, Julie	269
Veremchuk, Oleg & Larisa	991
Kelley, Marcia & Hanson, Ronald	414
Hawthorne, Edwin & Linda	158

Treasurer's Report

This is my first full month as treasurer for GBNT.

There is a lot to learn and at times it seems like I'm back in school after many years.

Currently the board is finalizing the park's budget for 2019. The 2019 budget will be voted on at the October open board meeting.

Peggy Fitzwater, Treasurer

In Loving Memory

Jim Price

Larry Bryarly

Robert Salter

Administration

Workshops

Gold Bar Nature Trails holds workshops for Activities, Administration and Facilities, Safety & Security at 10 am on the second Saturday of the month except during the month of December. All members are encouraged to attend the workshops. The liaisons for the three committees chair the sessions and keep minutes of the discussions.

Workshops are a means for members to discuss items of concern or interest such as the need for a stop sign at a specific intersection; a rule regarding building permits that may be unclear; or a holiday activity that the member would like to help coordinate. After discussion, generally one of the following actions will occur - no further action is necessary; the topic will

be revisited at a future workshop after further research; items may be referred to the park manager for his approval and/or action; or a motion will be made. If a motion will incur costs such as the purchase of playground equipment, the motion must include three bids for any item costing over \$300.

The motion will be voted on by the members at the workshop. Motions that fail at the workshop are recorded in the minutes but no additional action occurs. If the motion passes, it is the liaison's responsibility to ensure the motion does not conflict with any existing rule or bylaw. Valid motions are presented at the next open board meeting by the committee liaison.

At the open board meeting, the board of directors will hear the motion and review any submit-

ted bids or additional information. Individual board members will ask questions, discuss pros and cons and express their opinion of the motion. The board president will then open the discussion to park members present at the meeting. After listening to information and views provided the board will vote on the motion or table it until additional information is obtained. The board members will vote for or against a motion for a variety of reasons such as improving park facilities, updating rules, financial issues, safety concerns, conflict with existing rules, or how the motion will impact the membership at large. The board's vote is the determining factor if a motion is approved or not approved.

Peggy Fitzwater, Liaison

MSA's M = Motion S = Second A = Approved

August 2018

MSA: to revise Rules Section 1, D to align with the Building Code Regulations pamphlet.

MSA: to open the youth center from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturdays for the months of September and October on a trial basis. To be staffed by one paid temporary employee paid from Activities.

MSA: to have the Burger Shack open Saturdays for three hours September and October.

September 2018

MSA: Change the hours of the Youth Center from 11 am – 5 pm for the months of September & October.

MSA: to allocate up to \$750.00 for October 13 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner from Activities fund.

MSA: to allocate up to \$1,000.00 for October Halloween Event for children from Activities fund.

Annual Voting Ballots

Peggy Fitzwater 152 * Don Abeles 128 * Rita Tuck 152 * Connie Cathcart 28

Total = 215 ballots Invalid Ballots 22

There was no quorum for the annual meeting with only 67 members signed in.

Annual Report

As I sit and reflect on my 1st year on the BOD. I realize I have learned a lot but still have a lot to learn. The park has purchased 3 pieces of equipment for the water and electrical upgrades, they will also be used on many other projects in the park. We have had 1 security ranger resign and another retire, I would like to thank them

for their service, and best of luck in the future. The park has hired 2 new security rangers and we feel they will do a great job. The park has put in a couple of new stop signs that has helped with safety. Also, we have placed new yellow speed limit signs around the park in critical areas. I would like to take this opportunity to thank

Keith Summers for his service to the park. With that said I am looking for to the next 2 years.

Bob Rowe, Liaison

Annual Report

This was my second year as Corporate Secretary for Gold Bar Nature Trails. It has been my pleasure to work with the Board of Directors maintaining the corporate files, provide timely agendas for meetings, keep the minutes up to date and provide their written communications.

While the Board certainly didn't please everyone, they made an honest effort to be fair and im-

partial when making decisions relating to the welfare of the park.

I would like to thank Keith Summers for his years of volunteer service on the Board. He was instrumental in planning and helping with our Long-Range Planning as well as his duties as Violations liaison.

Thanks to our volunteers who are the heart and soul of the or-

ganization. We have a wonderful group of individuals that put in time and effort to make GBNT a great place.

Thanks to Steven and the staff for their help. A special thanks to Barb, who has been an invaluable resource as I have tried to perform the duties of Secretary.

Ken Pratt, Secretary

Reminder

Your entry Key Cards assigned to your Site are numbered 1, 2, etc. If you enter the Park with card #2 you must exit with card #2. If you do not exit with the right key card the office cannot turn off your key card for you, it can only be turned off at the exit gate.

Kitty Korner w/Cat Tales

Hi All, Sure looks like summer is here this week. So everyone will be out having fun including our kitties. We are running out of cat food or money to feed them, so if any of you members would like to donate toward them, it will be greatly appreciated. If you do, you can leave it at the office.



Little Red our tamed feral kitty has a great home in the park, so he can still do his rat patrol. We have 2 more black kitties we are trying to tame enough so they will stay in the park when we turn them lose. I notice they are getting tamer everyday.

Thank you to all you wonderful people who have and do donate money and food for them. It's important that we have our park cats to control the rat population.

Have a great summer!!!!

Sue, Orma & the Kitty Kats

Activities

It is hard to believe that 2018 is nearly over. It's been a busy year for all of us. I really want to thank the volunteers who have given their time and talents to make this a successful year.

Wrapping up this year is the Halloween Party on October 27, the annual Thanksgiving meal on November 17th and the Christmas Event on December 15th. All of these events are well attended by GBNT members and we look forward to lots of campers in the Park for these events. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available on December 15th so be sure to have your children visit with them.

We are already planning on 2019 events. I will be publishing a yearly calendar of

events which will appear on the website and on Facebook. In addition, each event will have a flyer with specific information posted as the time draws near with details. You can always find information in the newsletters or by calling/texting me at any time.

We have a band booked for Memorial Day Weekend already. If you didn't have a chance to hear the Kounty Kings this past Labor Day you can hear them again in May. They are great, put on a really professional show and have people dancing in the aisles! I would like to offer a different venue for the 4th of July and Labor Day if someone has any suggestions or ideas.

I do welcome ideas for events or activities. Working with

the Youth Center to provide fun stuff for our young campers has benefited all of us. We are still thinking of ways to "capture" the attention of the young teens in the Park with things that they would enjoy.

We will, I promise, have the Frisbee Golf Course and the Laser Tag field set up for the coming summer.

Again, please call or text me if you have an idea for activities, whether it be for adults, kids, or families and we will work with you to make it happen. All of you have lots of hidden talents that we can use.

Rita Tuck, Activities

Facilities, Safety & Security

Hello fellow campers, I wanted to thank you for your vote and confidence in what I can do in the years ahead. I have been assigned the facilities/safety and security committee which is right in line with my career. I've been doing a lot of reading on the bylaws and rules and talking to fellow board members about this assignment. I have a few

ideas from members like speeding up entry to the park on holidays, paying the dues on-line and a few others like having the "main street signs" a different color. I also want everyone to post the after-hours security phone number in their RV's so am planning how to distribute those. I am very pleased with the youth center pool attendants alter-

nating constantly and keeping a close eye on the kids. Please email me with any safety and security concerns and I'll be walking around talking to you next spring and summer. Have a safe winter and do enjoy the upcoming holidays.

Don Abeles, Liaison

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Ken Pratt #368	Secretary kenneth.pratt@gbntone.org	253-561-3698	19
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