

Friends of Tubbs Hill

Fall 2006 Newsletter

Tubbs Hill Cleanup

by Barbara Zimmer

During the semi-annual Tubbs Hill cleanup, four women in identical navy blue t-shirts came jogging down the Third Street entrance. One jogger carried a large white plastic bag packed with cans and bottles. These four women were some of the more than 200 people who showed up during the cleanup to walk along hidden paths and scabble through the dense brush of Tubbs Hill, picking up trash.

This jogging group, calling themselves LSD (Long, Slow Distance), meets four times a week, twelve months a year, to exercise on Tubbs Hill. Their ages range from 20-something to 60-something. On Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, members jog approximately three miles. On Mondays LSD members scour Tubbs Hill for trash.

"We work our way down steep places, looking for junk," says member Susan Cliff. "We have fallen sometimes and been attacked by hornets, but our running club is fun. We encourage and support one another. And we're in great shape!"

Starbucks sponsors the Tubbs Hill cleanup, furnishing trash bags, gloves, and coffee. They donate \$10 per person per hour, up to

\$1,000. All the money goes towards Tubbs Hill projects.

"This is the second cleanup this year that Starbucks has sponsored," says Evalyn (Adams) Coutts, former county commissioner. "It's been a great turnout," says Ron Edinger, city councilman. "Tubbs is as clean as it has been in years, thanks to all these volunteers."

The Tubbs Hill Foundation had organized the hill into specific search areas before people arrived.

"However, so many people lined up even before we started," says President Mark Weadick, "that we couldn't keep up with them. The line snaked out into the parking lot so we just told them to spread out all over the hill."

Some worked their way down steep hills to work at the water's edge, several like Alecia Weaver crawled under fallen trees, and a few like Sam Lyons dug into small caves and under boulders.

By the time volunteers finished at 11 a.m. there were enough trash bags to fill a city truck. Included in the dubious treasures



were a woman's wig, a baseball, a BB gun, money, an I Love Mom sign, a rusted chain, a 4x4 with 40 rusted protruding nails, a sheer black dress with gold trim, shoes, kids' jeans, a cross, a sleeping bag, underwear, an inflatable pump, and coffee mugs. Of course, these were in addition to hundreds of aluminum cans, glass bottles, and glass shards.

The next Tubbs Hill cleanup is scheduled for spring 2007. Watch the newspaper for details.



Shown during the Tubbs Hill Cleanup (left to right): LSD Joggers, Tammy Butler, Jill Cooper, Cindy Wagner and Tubbs Hill Foundation President, Mark Weadick.

Tubbs, To Me Tells It Like It Was

Friends of Tubbs Hill will want to clear a spot on their featured bookshelf or dust off the coffee table. Tubbs Hill—a Public Treasure (and how it got that way) is now working its way to the printer. This labor of love by Scott Reed is destined to become a valuable tool for foundation fund raising and public relations as well as a resource for local libraries, schools and interested folk just passing through the area.

Historic photos of Tubbs Hill plants, flowers, scenes (many from the previously unpublished collection of Art Manley) will, of course, be featured. For the true aficionados of the unspoiled treasure however, the text itself promises to be the highlight.

It was Reed after all who was cited as the

"Audubon's Will Rogers" by the Chairman of the National Audubon Society's Board of Directors, Donal O'Brien. O'Brien's quip certainly pegged the compassionate heart and wry smile that promise Scott's rendering of historical anecdotes will be in lively prose.

"Whether it has been at the local level through his membership on the Coeur d'Alene Planning Commission; at the state level as a member of the Idaho Water Resources Board; at the regional level as a member of the Board of Directors of the Western Environmental Law Center; or at the national levels as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Audubon Society, Reed has given selflessly of his

by Holly M. Gonzalez

many talents to help society as a whole."

Reed, recipient of The President's Medallion at the 2005 University of Idaho graduation, was cited for his "national reputation for his work on behalf of conservation, much of which is pro bono."

Scott's ongoing commitment to the water and land that make our environment not just a place to live but a cause of celebration led to his selection with tireless wife, Mary Lou, as Idaho Conservationists of the Year by "Idaho Wildlife."

In addition to researching and writing the book, Scott will cover the cost of publication and donate all proceeds to the Tubbs Hill Foundation. Stay tuned for details of an upcoming book launching event.

2006 Tubbs Hill Fires

This year we were extremely lucky or could it be good stewardship? Controlled burns have been very effective in keeping fires manageable and response times quick. This year the Coeur d'Alene Fire Department responded to two fires. The first one was on August 7 when five firefighters responded to a 10 x 100 foot fire.

The second fire occurred August 10, with 20 firefighters responding to a half acre fire. It is suspected that both fires were started by a carelessly discarded cigarette.

So, what have we learned from these two latest fires? You should watch your butts!

Ponderosa Pine Seedlings on the North Side of Tubbs

Last April volunteers, including a Boy Scout troop, helped to plant 150 ponderosa pine seedlings on the north side of Tubbs Hill. The ponderosa pines were planted in openings created by the death of Douglas fir trees due to root rot, a fungus that clogs the transport systems of the trees. The presence of root rot in the soil means that Douglas fir trees will no longer be able to grow to maturity in this area.

Ponderosa pine is not susceptible to this root rot, and is therefore the best hope for growing large native trees on these sites. It is also a species that would more naturally make up about half of the trees on this part of Tubbs Hill if fire had not been excluded from Tubbs Hill. Currently the north side of Tubbs is only 20 percent ponderosa pine.

Tubbs Hill Foundation member Mark

Weadick made a survey of the newly-planted pine seedlings in July and found that there was good survival. However, by September, many of the seedlings had died. This was the second year of planting seedlings, as many of those planted in 2005 also died.

There are several factors that are making it tough for planted seedlings to survive on Tubbs Hill. One factor this year was the very dry summer. Until they have had time to grow, the roots of the young trees are in a small area and must have adequate moisture close at hand.

Another challenge is that ponderosa pines are sun-lovers. Although small plots were cleared in the fall of 2004 in which to plant pine trees, the shrubbery is again

Thanksgiving and Holiday Greetings!

We are so **THANKFUL** to all our Tubbs Hill friends and welcome your continued support during the upcoming holiday season. Financial gifts to our tax-exempt Foundation can help you on your tax return for next year and continue to help preserve the future of Tubbs Hill.

Gifts of stock or other financial equities can be accepted. Donations in honor of family members would make a unique and special gift.

Applications to become a Tubbs Hill Member or to have your name engraved on one of the monuments are included in this newsletter. Thank you for your consideration.

Warm Season's Greetings To All Of You!



encroaching and depriving the seedlings of needed sunlight. Along with the native shrubbery are many young Norway maple trees that are sprouting up from seeds that wind and birds have brought to Tubbs Hill from the surrounding neighborhoods.

Tubbs Hill Foundation Annual Membership Application

_____ Individual Membership, \$15—Includes a spring/fall 2007 newsletter

_____ Family Membership, \$25—Includes a spring/fall 2007 newsletter

Name(s) _____

Street or PO Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please mail all applications to: Tubbs Hill, Inc., P.O. Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID, 83816-3061.

THANK YOU for your generous support. Your annual membership contribution to the Tubbs Hill Foundation is tax-deductible as permitted by federal law for nonprofit foundations.

Friends of Tubbs Hill



Tubbs Hill Rock Engravings

Claudette Weaver Herenandez, Garry Weaver, Mike Normand, Rick Hutton,
Sheryl Wytychak, Peter and Beverly Finney, Colleen McGruder-Krajack,
Harvey and Norma Hunt, Bill and Joan Gundlach,
R. Max & Donna Landes, Roger & Irene Smith, Phyllis Bacon-Heumier.

Contributions

Deborah Stone, Louis & Susan Garbrecht, J. Lynne Strang,
Parisot Family, Sarah N. Mitchell, Fern Anderson Nell, Mark Weadick,
Eugene O'Meara, Jr., Dave and Laura Umthun, George and Juli Ives.

**If we have failed to include your name, please let Teresa know at 765-1739.
We will be sure to print your name in the upcoming newsletter. Our apologies!*

Board of Directors

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Tubbs Hill

Monthly Meetings

Please join us for our monthly
meetings held the second
Thursday of each month,
7:30 a.m., Iron Horse Restaurant,
407 E. Sherman Avenue,
Coeur d'Alene.

Brochures & Maps

Tubbs Hill brochures and maps are
available at the Coeur d'Alene Parks
Department, 710 E. Mullan Ave., and at
the Visitor's Center located next to the
Museum of North Idaho, downtown.

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