

Friends of Tubbs Hill

Fall 2016 Newsletter



Jessica Bryant

The Tubbs Hill Foundation is fortunate to have as a board member Jessica Bryant, an award winning artist whose work includes many wonderful scenes of Tubbs Hill, including one showing a particular scene as it appears in each of our four seasons. Bryant, a Coeur d'Alene resident since 2001, had her scene "Canyon Country" chosen by NIC President Rick MacLennan as this year's choice to become part of NIC's permanent art collection. Each year, NIC's president picks one selection from the juried art show at Art on The Green to be included in NIC's permanent collection. Her beautiful watercolor, which depicts a glorious mountain meadow view in Grand Teton National Park, was also given a Jurors Award. Jessica has received numerous other awards for her work, including having her work selected for the Flora of the National Parks exhibit at the U.S. Botanical Garden in Washington D.C., and the Google Cultural Institute's "One Project" which celebrates the centennial of the National Park Service.

Jessica has been a THF board member for several years, and is the person most responsible for the recent upgrading to our website. She has also been Artist-in-Residence at several national parks and at Sorenson Magnet School. While there she worked with students to create a large scale mural of a portion of Tubbs Hill, and an educational activity booklet called the Junior Friends of Tubbs Hill Activity Guide. Jessica's love for nature is evident in her work, and she uses Tubbs Hill to foster an ethic of environmental stewardship in Coeur d'Alene youth.

In August of this year Jessica became the first non-Alaskan to serve as Artist-in-Residence for the Western Arctic National Parkland, four NPS units located north of the Arctic Circle. The area, which is about the size of Massachusetts, is quite remote and very sparsely populated. She reported that while there, often living in a tent, she saw more grizzly bears (nine) than she did people.

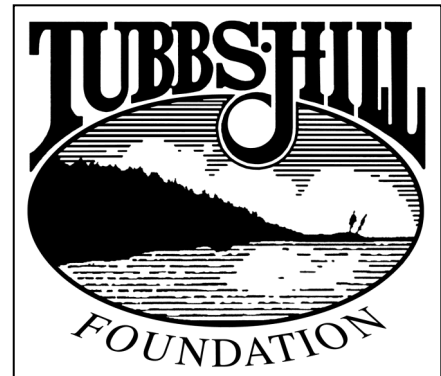
The THF board is honored to have Jessica as a member and congratulate her on her recent awards. If you wish to view her work go to www.jessicabryant.com.

By George Saylor

Tubbs Rambles

It's been the usual CDA summer with family trips, out of state visitors and time squeezed in for the occasional stroll amidst the beauties Tubbs presents to its many friends. It seems like a lazy time until I reflect back over the THF board's recent months.

Following a number of intrusive activities which threatened Tubbs, Dave Hagar, new Patrol Captain in



Coeur d'Alene, joined the board for its July meeting. Accompanied by Chief White, Capt. Hagar outlined department efforts to keep a lid on activities that degrade the hill. As Capt. Hagar noted, "McEuen and Tubbs Hill combine to make a very unique park, and we have stepped up our efforts to address some issues, especially activities to prevent camping/misuse of the hill." Patrol Officers have begun proactive efforts to contact folks at the Plaza and put out feelers to others who might know of mischief planned there. They also have officers patrolling the hill at night, as staffing allows. In response to a query of how citizens can become more engaged, Chief Lee White especially requested that we remind all Friends of Tubbs of the "Lock it or Lose it" campaign to prevent car thefts, particularly at the 10th St. parking lot. Of 90 car thefts reported recently, he noted, only 8 occurred in locked cars. "If you spot questionable activity, he told us, "call 446-1300 for non-emergency calls and 911 for emergencies."

July also brought a community tribute to commemorate the work done by Scott Reed and Art Manley to safeguard the environment and keep treasured places like Tubbs Hill and Lake Coeur d'Alene accessible for public use and enjoyment. Co-hosted by the Kootenai Environmental Alliance and the Tubbs Hill Foundation, the celebration drew over 300 to the

Continued next page...

Visit us at www.tubbshill.org

Tubbs Hill Projects in 2016

In spring following a seedling planting of 400 new trees, the Tubbs Hill Foundation and the City's Urban Forestry Committee hiked the hill together to discuss management objectives. Many recommendations were generated during lively discussions that led to successful projects over the summer. These projects included removing dead trees near trails for safety purposes (three by a barge and crane), reduction of non-native species and discouraging use of non-authorized trails.

The City of Coeur d'Alene's crews removed dead and dying trees to help enhance public safety. Due to a root rot disease and drought conditions, there has been an increase in the number of dead trees on the hill. Debris is left onsite to break down naturally adding much needed organic matter to incorporate into the soil. No healthy trees are ever removed and many dead trees are left for wildlife habitat. Dead standing trees have major benefits for wildlife habitat but can cause a public safety threat if they are too close to hiking trails. Tree risk assessments and removals eliminate some of the most hazardous elements to firefighters while fighting fires on the



hill. The Fire Department, Parks & Recreation Department and Idaho Department of Lands combined resources to identify these trees and distinguished those not being used as habitat for wildlife. Idaho Fish and Game was contacted for recommendations and also local forest insect and disease experts were consulted in management efforts.

The biggest project entailed removing three large dead trees with a boat and crane in August. Since the trees were located so close to the water, the debris couldn't be left onsite to break down naturally, since the logs would end up in the lake. Due to limited access, the trees had to be removed from the water's edge with a crane and a barge. With support from the city and the Tubbs Hill Foundation, this work was accomplished by a contractor. This work assists in pro-

moting a healthier forest and a safer place for recreation users.

Parks staff worked on removing various non-native trees from the hill. This is a continued project started in 2010 aimed at restoring the hill to a natural state after trees such as Norway maple, cherry and horse chestnut started to take over some areas making it impossible for native plants to grow. The trees removed were small saplings which grew from seed brought in by birds and wind from nearby urban trees.

The trail crew had three work sessions with volunteers to close down non-authorized trails. Non-authorized trails are created by foot traffic off main trails and cause a number of issues such as confusion of routes, trampling native plants and creating erosion problems. The volunteers worked very hard and scattered debris over the trails closing various non-authorized trails on the east side of the hill.

A seedling planting of 300 ponderosa pine trees has been scheduled for fall. Continued seedling plantings of ponderosa pine, larch and white pine are ongoing to help in re-establishing a healthy stand of trees.

By Katie Kosanke

Rambles Continued...

Avista Plaza where they enjoyed huckleberry lemonade and ice cream, lilting music and the obligatory speechifying to celebrate Scott and Art's legacy. Memorial stones with plaques honoring the two were unveiled at the event and have now been placed at each entrance of the Lakeside trail circling Tubbs Hill.

The Foundation also enjoyed a visit by our Mayor who invited us to suggest how we would like to see the property at 8th St. adjacent to Tubbs used for the community good. Currently a rental as part of a project under an Ignite CDA (formerly LCDC) jurisdiction, the parcel will revert to the city in the next few months. Since it abuts Pine Street, the south city hall parking lot and Tubbs to the west it enjoys unique development potential.

Other noteworthy projects involved partnering with the CDA Fire Department, Urban Forestry and Open Spaces Committee on enhancements of mutual interests. Glenn Lauper, Asst. Chief, noted that, "The FD has used the Tubbs Hill fire road this year but not in a fire emergency... yet! We have used the road to access a few dead trees on the hill that the parks department had determined to be hazardous. Last year (after more than a dozen man-caused-fires on the hill) many of our firefighters took a hazardous tree falling class that included recognition of nesting sites, bug infestation and root disease. The FD and Parks Dept. will use the road in the future to reduce risk on the hill with hazardous tree removals, reduction of ladder fuels and cleaning up garbage by squatters."

And of course it wouldn't have been summer without an informational display during the annual Taste of Coeur d'Alene event. Board members extolled Tubbs and its treasures for three days --including during the almost obligatory thunderstorm.

By George Ives

Friends of Tubbs Hill Annual Membership or Engraving Application

Mission Statement

Tubbs Hill, Inc. is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho while providing for compatible public use. We act as advocates for the park; advise the city administration on issues pertaining to the park; and support volunteer efforts, fund raising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.

To become a member or have a name engraved on one of the monuments, fill out the form below, attach a check or money order for your choice of membership or \$150 for each line of engraving and mail to Tubbs Hill, Inc., PO Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-3061.

If you would like to engrave your company's logo on a separate corporate monument, the cost is \$500, plus the engraving charge. The maximum logo size is 4" x 4".

For more information please contact the City Parks Department, 208-769-2252.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Annual Membership

(Both include upcoming newsletters)

_____ Individual Membership, \$15 _____ Family Membership, \$25

Engraving

The monuments are located at the Third Street Entrance to Tubbs Hill and at the East Tubbs Hill Park. Please designate which location you prefer:

_____ Third Street Entrance _____ East Tubbs Hill Park _____ Corporate Rock

Please print the name as you would like it to appear below. Spaces count as one letter. Total cannot exceed 22 spaces. Please note IN MEMORY OF inscriptions may require two lines for a total cost of \$300.

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

Fall Clean Up

The Fall Clean Up of Tubbs Hill is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 8, 2016. Please join your Tubbs Hill Friends at the 3rd Street Entrance and we'll clean the Hill for a nice winter rest.

THF President George Ives is arranging for collection bags and coffee, so all you'll need to bring are your gloves and smiles.

Membership

Thank you for your generous donations and membership dues. These monies pay for THF website, newsletters, special maintenance projects on the hill and helps defray costs of some area school programs which teach the younger generation about the history and value of Tubbs Hill. **Your membership in both body count and dollars helps the THF in fulfilling its missions advocates to preserve Tubbs Hill as a unique and natural park.**

Art On The Green Weekend

With the inviting scents of the Taste of Coeur d'Alene wafting about us, our Tubbs Hill table and tent were located on the east side of City Park. It was well-staffed by board members who were, at times, accompanied by family and friends. The vibe was a good one all weekend, with the possible exception of an absolute downpour late Sunday morning. Don Waddell is to be commended for not cutting and running!

We enjoyed reconnecting with many Tubbs Hill supporters as well as acquainting newcomers with our "urban wilderness." One visitor from Maui, upon learning of our treasure left a \$10 donation because, "We need natural places." Another gentleman would have purchased one of Scott's books, "A Treasure Called Tubbs Hill," but we were sold out. When he heard it would take \$10,000 to reprint it, he immediately pulled \$7 from his wallet as seed money!

Many thanks and smiles go out to everyone who either simply stopped by, shared a story, signed up on our ever-growing email list, took a bumper sticker to proudly display, became a new member of The Friends of Tubbs Hill, and/or gave a donation. Thank you for caring, for sharing, and for doing your part always to keep Tubbs Hill the unique natural area it is, here in the heart of downtown Coeur d'Alene!

By Linda Wolovich

Tubbs Hill, Inc.
P.O. Box 3061
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-3061

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Friends of Tubbs Hill

Our Sincere Thanks To Our Recent Contributors:

Lois Carlson
Bea Fisher
Mary Duff & Dave Yadon
Ron Edinger
Tex Peak
Art & Trudy Elliot
Evalyn Adams
Kathy Hostetter

Roger & Irene Smith
James O'Connell
Justin Stormogipson
Pat Barber
Steve & Karen Ruppel
Jay & Mary Broderick
Mary Jo Kringas
Peter Luttrupp

Our sincere apologies if we have failed to include your name. Please let Peter Luttrupp know at 667-9833. We will be sure to print your name in the upcoming newsletter.

Visors Available \$7 — Call Barbara 666-6050

New Members Wanted! Please join us!

Board of Directors

George Ives, President
Chuck Hosack, Vice President
Barbara Fillmore, Treasurer
Barb Crumpacker, Secretary
Ron Edinger, City Council Liaison
Mark Wallace, Legal Counsel
Evalyn Adams, Director
Jessica Bryant, Director
Julie Clark, Director
Peter Luttrupp, Director
Nils Rosdahl, Director
George Saylor, Director
Don Waddell, Director
Mark Weadick, Director
Linda Wolovich, Director
Barb Zimmer, Director

Tubbs Hill Monthly Meetings

Please join us for our monthly meetings held the second Thursday of each month, 8 a.m., at the Iron Horse Restaurant, 407 East Sherman Avenue, Coeur d'Alene.