



The TABOR TIMES

Newsletter - August 2019

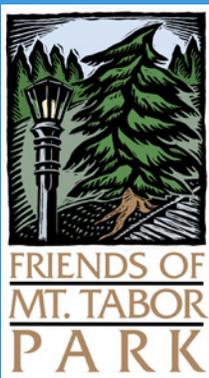
Photo © Joe Flannery

The purpose of the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park is to improve and/or help maintain Mt. Tabor Park for the benefit of individuals, organizations and the Park Bureau; to identify and help solve problems; to participate in park planning projects. We work with the Park Bureau, the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association and other community and park user groups to monitor park use and operation, to support effective maintenance of the park, and to help in the successful implementation of the parks goals and vision as stated in the Mt. Tabor Park [Master Plan](#).

Come to the Annual Potluck Picnic Sept. 10!

It is almost that time of year...The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park annual summer potluck picnic will be held on Tuesday, September 10 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. at Picnic Shelter A across from the main parking lot and Visitor Center. This is the perfect opportunity to socialize with your fellow FMTP members, chat with the Board, learn the latest Mt. Tabor news,

sample delicious homemade treats, and win some great prizes. Each guest will receive a raffle ticket for the opportunity to win. We encourage you to wear your finest FMTP gear, and please bring a dish to share; drinks, plates, napkins, and utensils will be provided. No R.S.V.P. is needed. We hope to see you there!



FRIENDS OF
MT. TABOR
PARK

From the Board

-Martrese Beck

Greeting members! On behalf of the Board of Directors, I express our appreciation for the continued support of our members, with special thanks to those who donated beyond basic annual dues. This membership generosity enables the Board to consider funding key park improvements. We thank our members for trusting us to manage and spend these funds wisely.

A few highlights so far in 2019:

- The Board said farewell to Board members Chris Olinger and Isabel Johnson. We thank them for all their hard work, and we miss them already!
- New Board members Linda Fogerson, Rachel White, and Gil Wistar were elected to three-year terms (see [page 3](#)). Thank you to all of them for dedicating time to FMTP.
- A special “thank you” goes to new Board member Rachel White, who has assumed the role of treasurer. She and Isabel have been working on a smooth transition. Find out more about Rachel on [page 12](#).
- Special “thank yous” also go to new Board members Linda and Gil for continuing Chris’ coordination work with Portland Parks and Recreation. Read more on [page 7](#).
- Suzanne McCarthy continues to work diligently to track FMTP membership. See her report on [page 11](#).
- Bing Wong is on the Mt. Tabor Reservoirs Preservation Project Committee with Portland Water Bureau, community members from the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood, and Portland Parks and Recreation. Portland City Council provided funding for a four-year project to preserve the reservoirs’ historic and aesthetic values after their disconnection from Portland’s drinking-water supply. Bing is also the Board’s representative to the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association. See his report on [page 4](#).
- Laura Mason is our FMTP representative on the Mt. Tabor Yard Planning Group and she is coordinating our annual potluck picnic (see [page 1](#)).
- Martrese Beck continues to oversee our FMTP website. Check us out at taborfriends.org
- FMTP’s Board currently has no Chairperson. Chair duties have been divided among Board members, and we welcome new candidates to fill this position.
- The Communications Committee has been planning ways to enhance outreach to the general public and with our members. Stay tuned...
- Led by Lise Gervais and Emily Lytle, the Weed Warriors continue to work on the ecological health of Mt. Tabor Park. Volunteers have logged over 1,000 hours already this year, thanks in part to some big work parties. See [page 5](#) for details.
- Since opening in October 2011, the Visitor Center continues to exceed all expectations. Thanks to coordinator Dave Hillman and dedicated volunteers, the center has greeted 647 visitors so far in July, and attendance is sure to exceed 1,000 by the end of the month. (The grand total is 60,377 since opening!) Gift shop sales total \$3,516 so far this calendar year. THANK YOU to center volunteers, who are often the face of FMTP to the public. See Dave’s report on [page 16](#).
- The Foot Patrol has added nine new members so far this year. Volunteers continue to keep the park safe and clean while racking up about 350 volunteer hours through June. See Dennis Puetz’s report on [page 9](#).
- The arboriculturists at Buds Expert Tree Care, along with a group of volunteers, cleared vegetation from the face of the caldera amphitheater wall on July 5, and what a difference it made! Read about it on [page 15](#).
- Gil edited, and Martrese produced, our newsletter.

As always, FMTP continues its commitment to work closely with Portland Parks and Recreation to identify how we can help to support them through volunteer efforts, investment of FMTP funds for park improvement projects, and in other ways. Thank you again for your support, members!

FMTP 2019 Annual Meeting

-Martrese Beck

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park's annual meeting was held at TaborSpace on Tuesday, March 12. We saw quite a few familiar faces as well as some first-timers. Treasurer Isabel Johnson completed her three-year term and did not seek re-election; the Board thanks Isabel for her diligence, patience, and expertise in organizing FMTP's finances, especially her work with the Weed Warriors Stewardship campaign. Chris Olinger, who was our liaison with Portland Parks and Recreation (PP&R) supervisors, also did not seek re-election.

New Board members elected at the meeting were Linda Fogerson, Rachel White, and Gil Wistar (left to right in the picture). On the newly-formed Communications Committee, Linda has been developing member outreach ideas and planning a summer workshop with Board members and PP&R supervisors. Rachel has assumed the role of treasurer. Already a Weed Warrior Crew Leader, Gil agreed to take on the job of editing FMTP's semiannual newsletter and help out on other Board projects. We welcome our new Board members and look forward to working with them!

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of awards. Long-time volunteer Pat Morgan was recognized as the 2018 Friend of the Year. She served on the Board for nine years (!!); at one time acted as our membership chair; hosted perhaps more FMTP meetings and parties than anyone; served pies at summer concerts; and assisted with mailing newsletters to members (back when that was the mode of newsletter distribution). Pat has also participated in the placement and maintenance of trail markers in the park, and fills the brochure racks on the park informational kiosk regularly. Congratulations to Pat on this much-deserved award!

Weed Warriors coordinator Lise Gervais presented a special award of appreciation to Mary Kinnick for her tireless work to initiate and help coordinate the 2018 fund-raising campaign for the FMTP Weed Warriors Stewardship fund. The fund, managed by the Oregon Community Foundation, is designed to ensure payment of our part-time Stewardship Coordinator (currently Emily Lytle) for many years to come. Mary was largely responsible for bringing in more than \$100,000 for the fund.

Thank you to everyone who came out for our annual meeting, especially those who brought refreshments. It's always fun to reconnect with fellow members, and to share updates about our organization with everyone.



Welcome new Board members Linda Fogerson, Rachel White, and Gil Wistar



Dennis Puetz presents the Friend of the Year award to Pat Morgan



Lise Gervais (r) presents a special award to Mary Kinnick

Mt. Tabor reservoirs' restoration status

-Bing Wong

This summer, visitors to Mt. Tabor Park will find Reservoir #1 fenced off (right and below), as work continues on making general repairs and sealing the basin from leaks and weathering. Additional work is planned on basin parapet walls at Reservoirs #5 and #6.

There is great news for funding: Portland City Council approved a budget for the final year of the four-year restoration project. While the City Budget Office's original proposal omitted this funding, the Mayor added it back in before Council voted on the entire city budget.

It's not all good news, though. Continued high demand for construction work in Portland has led to project cost increases that in some cases exceed contingency set-asides. A committee consisting of Mt. Tabor neighbors, Portland Parks & Recreation, and the Portland Water Bureau continues to review and adjust projects based on rising construction costs. As an example, it now appears there's insufficient funding to bring historic lighting to all the reservoirs (1, 5, and 6). Therefore, the committee is evaluating the use of towers and fixtures with modern light-emitting diode (LED) illumination, similar to existing ones in the park. (Restoring the historic lighting poles would create a different view than night visitors see right now.) In any case, completing these projects may require fundraising. Also on the lighting wish list is replacement of the pole lighting (mall) around Reservoir #1.

Finally, the Interpretive Signs Project continues, with opinions differing on the number of words and content on each sign. Signs would be placed at reservoirs and at other park locations.



What's Going On?

Mt. Tabor Reservoirs Preservation Project
Reservoir 1
Road & Walkways CLOSED
Construction through August 2019

Background
The Portland Water Bureau continues work to maintain and preserve the historic Mt. Tabor reservoirs. The reservoirs were disconnected from the water system in 2015 and no longer provide drinking water. They are now maintained as historic water features.

This project will help protect the structural integrity of the reservoir.

About Construction

- Work began in May.
- Work is scheduled to be completed by August.
- Crews will:
 - Clean reservoir surface
 - Replace some concrete
 - Fill voids with grout

Park Use and Traffic Impacts

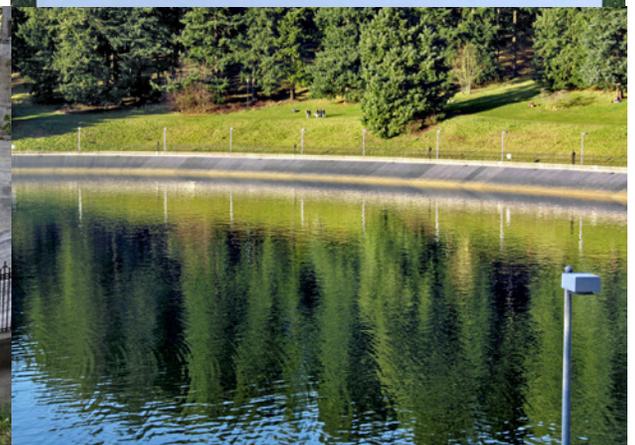
- Blue Trail access around Reservoir 1 will be detoured.

Did you Know?
In 1894, the city completed the original storage reservoirs at Washington Park and Mount Tabor and the conduit from Bull Run to the city.

⊗ Blue Trail Detour

Thank you for your patience while we work to maintain the historic Mt. Tabor Reservoirs.

Questions: Rhetta Drennan • 503-823-3028 • Rhetta.Drennan@portlandoregon.gov



Weed Warriors on the rampage

- Lise Gervais

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Weed Warriors continue to work to help improve the ecological health of the park. Under the guidance of park ecologist Steve Lower, and in collaboration with our Portland Parks liaison David Grandfield, Emily Lytle (our Weed Warriors Stewardship Coordinator) continues to guide us in these goals with skill and enthusiasm.

This year, the Weed Warriors are focusing mostly on Units 14, 5, and 6. Unit 14 starts near the Salmon St. park entrance and runs along the Green Trail, ending near the stairs between Reservoirs 5 and 6. We are removing introduced species such as English ivy, Himalayan blackberry, and clematis from this area. In units 5 and 6, just east of the summit, we continue to remove introduced invasive plants from areas with both new and established native plantings.

Many volunteers at our Last-Saturday events – either individually, with friends/family, or as part of a group – have joined in these efforts. So far this season we've been joined by ADT, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Childpeace Montessori, the Cleveland High School Honors Society, the Lincoln High School Key Club, and a Portland State

University sustainability group.

In addition, high school students have volunteered over 400 hours during special weekday events. For the 2018-19 school year, 13 groups of students from Franklin High School and a group from Portland Adventist High School have



helped with stewardship projects and learned more about the environment. (One class planted 140 plants in the pouring rain, and another put a smile on one of the Doug firs – see picture.) Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and hard work have been inspiring, and give me faith in the next generation of stewards.

In September, we're again looking forward to partnering with Warner Pacific University for its annual Day of Service, and hope to get more school groups for park plantings in late winter/early spring.

The annual Nature Conservancy/Portland Parks/Weed Warriors event will be on Saturday, October 26. This will be the sixth year for what is usually the biggest event of the season, with around 180 attendees who do amazing amounts of work.

A big thank you to New Seasons for providing lunch and to RainOrShine Coffee House for providing coffee at the two Weed Warrior crew-leader trainings last winter. Kudos also to BiPartisan Café, which donates coffee for our Last Saturday events, and to KIND, which provides snack bars to keep our volunteers energized.

Much gratitude to new and continuing volunteer crew leaders! We value your dedication and ability, which create on-the-ground results while keeping other volunteers safe and making them aware their time and efforts are of great value to the park. We couldn't function without you.

Meet the Members - Jacob Rose

-Jacob Rose

When I moved to SE Portland, my dog Mallory and I discovered Mt. Tabor Park while on neighborhood walks. I was lucky to have it just down the road. I was especially lucky to have it as my new puppy was having issues with potty training. The only way to teach her was to go on long, long walks. The park was the perfect place to wander.

From that day onward I was hooked. I was spending more and more time at the dog park and walking the trails more and more often. I was a boy scout in my youth, and never lost the hiking and camping bug. The one thing I knew was that I wanted to spend time in the park, and help it remain as pristine as I could. That's when I found Mt. Tabor Park's Foot Patrol.

Walking the trails with a bit more purpose increased my love of the park. I was now part of the park, however little. Clearing trails of trash, counting dogs, and keeping an eye out for the park in general is always fulfilling. Early mornings in the park when the mist is still lingering before the sun burns through are some of my favorite times.

Then Dennis had a project for me.

I started the scavenger hunt for all of the Trees of Tabor Park markers. Every now and again they need to be cleared of plants, and scrubbed down, so a new coat of yellow paint will help folks identify trees from

afar. For the most part they are easy to find. Some, however, have been covered with foliage or are in need of a serious cleaning. It has been the most fun part of volunteering at the park. It's hard to translate exact locations on a map, so finding them all is time consuming – but fun.

The best part is how often I am stopped and asked what I'm doing. I always carry a few extra tree guides. More often than not, people love the idea and start on their own hunt for the trees of the park. While I am only cleaning the markers themselves, I appreciate all the hard work and planning that has gone into the park before I ever set foot in it. As long as I'm part of keeping it there for

more and more to discover and love, I am happy.

[Note: A [scrapbook](#) of all "Meet the Members" people was created in 2015, and is updated twice a year.]



FMTP Board seeks increased collaboration with Portland Parks

- Gil Wistar

Responding to FMTP's invitation, three Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) supervisors with different levels of responsibility for Mt. Tabor Park met with several FMTP Board members back in April. This meeting was designed to re-establish communication and coordination between the entities. Though PP&R re-organizations and staff changes over the past few years had made such coordination a challenge, PP&R's creation of a new Land Stewardship Division presented an opportunity for FMTP to reconnect.

The meeting focused on Land Stewardship's mission of managing and enhancing developed parks/natural areas like Mt. Tabor, against the reality of its staggeringly inadequate funding for such work citywide. At a May follow-up meeting, we began planning a summer workshop, to involve Board members and appropriate city officials. PP&R's 2000 Master Plan for Mt. Tabor and our individual assessments of high-priority park needs will be on the agenda. At press time, this workshop was scheduled for July 22. Ultimately, we hope to reach consensus on key work projects and how/when they might be funded.

We'll be sure to keep members informed as we reach noteworthy milestones. Hopefully, good teamwork and persistence will create pathways around the many "insufficient funding" roadblocks.

Annual 5k and 10k FMTP Walk/Runs on Sept. 29

-Anne Crispino-Taylor

The 8th annual Friends of Mt. Tabor Park 5k walk/run and 10K run will be held on Sunday, September 29 to celebrate autumn in the park. Prices for the races remain the same at \$25 for the 10K, \$15 for the 5K, and \$5 for kids 12 and under entered in the 5k. The race is designed to raise funds for the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park. Over the past seven years, the race has provided over \$8,000 to FMTP!

Mt. Tabor Park has a well-designed forested trail system consisting of three trails—Red, Green, and Blue—that circumnavigate the park. For this event, the 10K will use all three trails, while the 5K will use the Blue Trail. Traffic on the 1-mile Red Trail loop will be routed counter-clockwise, while on the 1.7-mile Green Trail loop it will be clockwise and on the 3-mile Blue Trail loop, counter-clockwise.

The 10K race begins at 9:00 am and the 5K race begins at 9:05. For check-in and same-day registration, please come to the parking lot near the Visitor Center

between 8:00–8:45 am. After the race, feel free to mingle with other runners and enjoy post-race snacks generously donated by local businesses. There will also be a post-race raffle for prizes, donated by other local businesses.

Please come join us for a fun run in and around the park on September 29th and support FMTP!

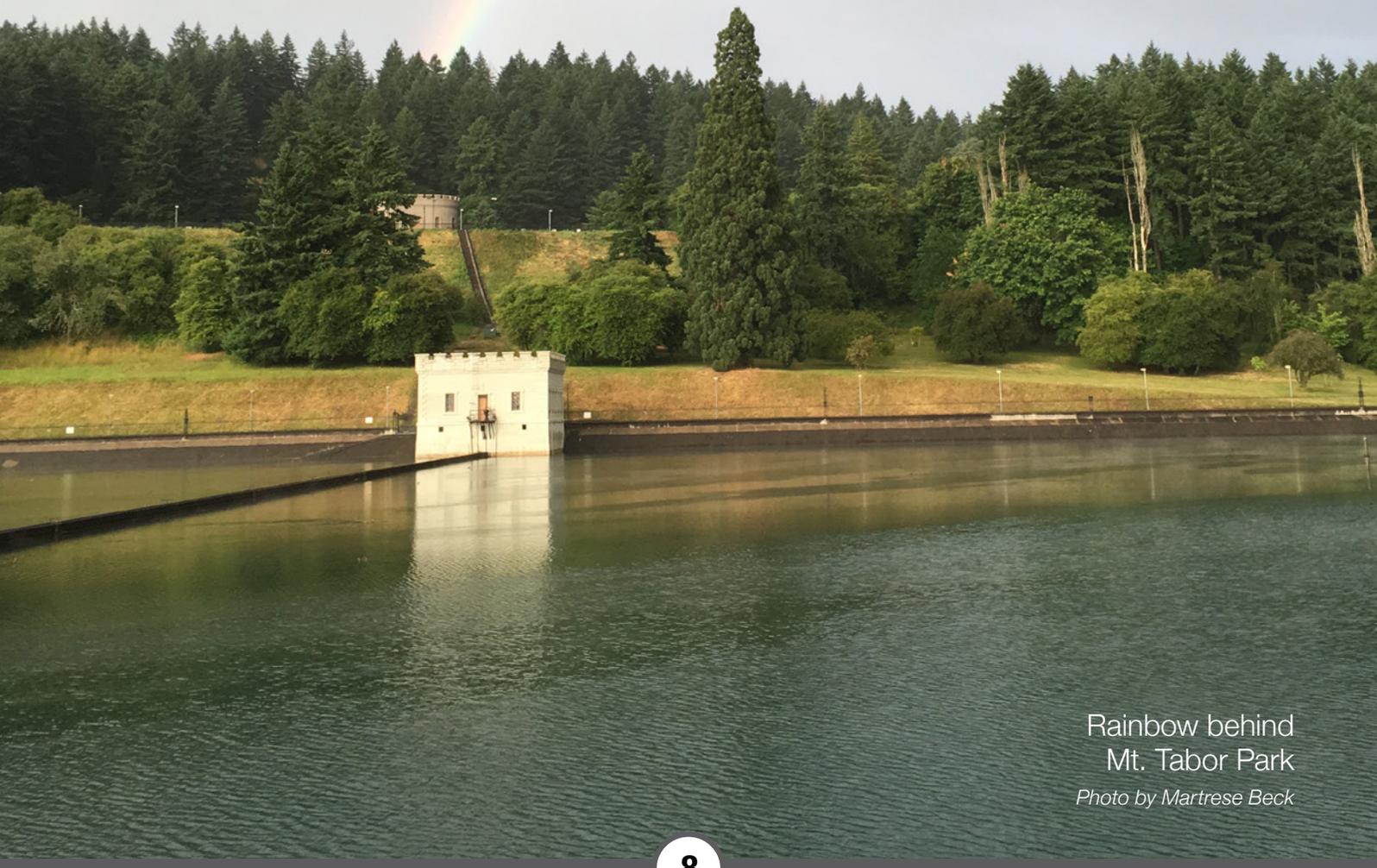
To register in advance online go to [Ultrasignup](https://ultrasignup.com).

For mail-in registration, and to learn more about the race including route maps, go to www.runannie.net.



“Life throws challenges, and every challenge comes with rainbows and lights to conquer it.”

-Amit Ray



Rainbow behind
Mt. Tabor Park
Photo by Martrese Beck

Foot Patrol Report -Dennis Puetz, Foot Patrol Coordinator

The Foot Patrol's purpose is to keep Mt. Tabor Park clean, safe, and secure. Members act as park ambassadors, and observe, record, and report items such as theft, vandalism, graffiti, improperly secured facilities, and lost & found items to pdxreporter.org. Members also assist park visitors and pick up litter.

The Foot Patrol (FP) has had another successful year keeping Mt. Tabor Park clean and orderly, as well as enhancing park safety.

I first want to acknowledge FP member Steve Bingold (below), whose contribution is more than many realize; without Steve, the Foot Patrol would not be as successful as it is. Thank you, Steve!



Steve Bingold's contributions:

1. Being among the top five FP patrollers;
2. Being a maintenance adopter for the Green Trail;
3. Maintaining the Foot Patrol hut; and
4. Training all new FP members.

Key FP news and events for the first half of 2019:

1. Foot Patrol added nine new members between January and June 2019; this is excellent!
2. Someone broke into the hut on May 16 by cutting the lock. Luckily, only a few minor items were taken. New and better locks for the FP hut and Visitor Center are being researched.

3. New member Glenn Kayes (below) has been an outstanding addition to FP. In just his first few months, he picked up over 100 gallons of trash and found 20+ needles in the south side of the park. This area tends to get the least attention from FP since it's on the opposite end of the park from the hut. Thank you Glenn!



4. New member Joe Mealey (below) has also provided great service, and is one of the top FP volunteers.



5. The number of items lost by visitors has drastically increased with the warmer weather. The Lost & Found area at the Visitor Center now has keys (some for cars), wedding rings, a stroller, a diamond pendant, cell phones, and more.
6. We purchased 12 new patrol vests: 8 large and 4 small. We also purchased 2,000 plastic bags for trash pickup. Each year, we fill about 600 of these bags with trash. (We try to recycle all glass, cans, and plastic bottles that are not dirty.) Mt. Tabor Park is immaculate, as clean as it ever has been; visitors tell us this on every patrol, and thank us for our service.

(continued)

- We're using smart phones increasingly to document events/problems in the park. All problems are reported to www.pdxreporter.org; photos are provided when possible.

The adoption program for trail maintenance is still working well. In June, trails were cleared of plant growth and trail posts repainted as needed. The following FP members adopted maintenance of the following trails:



Red Trail:
Ellen Simmons



Blue Trail:
Dave Beltz



Green Trail:
Steve Bingold

2019 FP statistics through June

- Total members: 70+ (This number is based on our email list).
- Total volunteer hours for FP members: approx. 350.
- Total number of foot patrols since year 2000: approx. 4,850.

Challenges for 2019

- Addressing off-leash dogs, which remain the biggest problem for FP - and for park visitors.
- Increasing FP members' participation, especially from those who have not performed a foot patrol during the previous year.

Schedule for remaining 2019 FP meetings

- Tuesday, August 27, 11:30 am (Mt. Tabor Park Picnic Area B); and
- Tuesday, October 22, 7:00 pm (Patricia Morgan's home).

We welcome new Foot Patrol volunteers. Please contact us at taborpatrol@gmail.com to schedule an orientation. Thank you for your support!



FMTP Cocktail Fundraiser at Local Bar Blank Slate

-Martrese Beck

Many thanks to our neighbors at **Blank Slate** bar for featuring Friends of Mt. Tabor Park in their May 2019 “Cocktails for Community” program. Their monthly specialty cocktail was “Running Up That Hill,” and \$1 from each cocktail sold in May went to our organization. \$100 was raised! Want to make this delicious elixir at home? Here’s the recipe:



- George Dickel Rye
- Amaro CioCiario
- Lemon
- Orange syrup
- Soda
- Orange mint

Membership Report and Dues

-Suzanne McCarthy

As of midyear, there are 117 FMTP members. Since a donation received represents a household, and many households have more than one person, total membership is estimated to be at least 150. This compares favorably with recent years.

The Stewardship Drive of 2018 (designed to raise an endowment to support ongoing Weed Warrior expenses) introduced many park lovers to the Friends. Some of these new Stewardship Drive donors continued their involvement by joining as regular members in 2019.

A FMTP tradition is the “honors” list, highlighting those who have given \$25 or more (regular dues are \$15). The classes are named for trees, and as of midyear, honors group totals are:

Linden - \$25.00 to \$49.99:	30
Red Leaf Maple - \$50.00 to \$99.99:	27
Red Alder - \$100.00 to \$249.99:	35
Madrone - \$249.99 to \$499.99:	9
Sequoia (\$500 and over):	3

The winter newsletter will list the donors’ names.

Thanks to all who joined, new and old! It looks like we’re doing well this year. Joining is easy. You may pay online through the website (www.taborfriends.org/membership), or send a check made out to FMTP, 7705 SE Market St., Portland, OR 97215. We also still accept cash!



Treasurer's Report

-Rachel White



I would like to introduce myself as the new Treasurer of Friends of Mt. Tabor Park, taking over from Isabel Johnson, who's done a fantastic job and been a patient guide as I learn the ropes.

A Montana native, I've lived in SE Portland since 1999, and work full time as a science writer for the U.S. Forest Service. Since my son Miles left for college, I've been fighting off empty-nest syndrome by expanding my engagement with the community. Most rewarding so far has been joining the Board of FMTP! When I'm not tracking FMTP's books, you can find me walking through Mt. Tabor, knitting, reading grim Scandinavian mysteries, seeking out Portland's best ginger-molasses cookie, watching baseball, and volunteering as a decoy for bomb-sniffing dogs in training.

Regarding FMTP's mid-year 2019 finances, the Weed Warriors and Visitor Center account for most of our recurring expenses, though the thriving Visitor Center continues to show a net profit from product sales. See the tables to the right for details on FMTP's income, expenses, and net assets as of mid-2019. Note that we're in the off-season for membership dues, so current expenses slightly exceed income. This will likely even out when membership dues ramp up at the end of the year. Stay tuned until then for my end-of-year Treasurer's Report!

Income:

Individual memberships	3,360.00
Other donations	778.25
Visitor Center sales	3,130.00
Total income:	\$7,268.25

Expenses:

Weed Warrior program	3,188.70
Visitor Center	2,764.44
Administrative	607.86
Brochure printing	472.28
Foot Patrol program	755.81
Square (online payment service) fee	34.69
Total expenses	7,823.78
Net income:	\$ -555.53

Net assets as of June 21, 2019:

Total Net Assets:	\$35,124.60
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George Arthur Peake's views of Mt. Tabor Park

-Patricia Sanders

I'm sure many readers of this newsletter have pleasant memories of Mt. Tabor Park, from childhood and/or from more recent visits. Although I lived near the park as an infant (and grew up in California), it's always been a mythical place to me thanks to my mother's shared memories, family visits, and photos from my grandfather, George Arthur Peake (1878–1944).

Trained as a pharmacist, my grandfather worked in drugstores in England, his birthplace, and later in the U. S. Back in those days, pharmacies were the place to go for photo supplies, cameras, and processing, so perhaps this is what got him started in photography. While he also did commercial photography in England and California (where he moved in 1909), he developed an interest in "artistic" photos of various subjects.

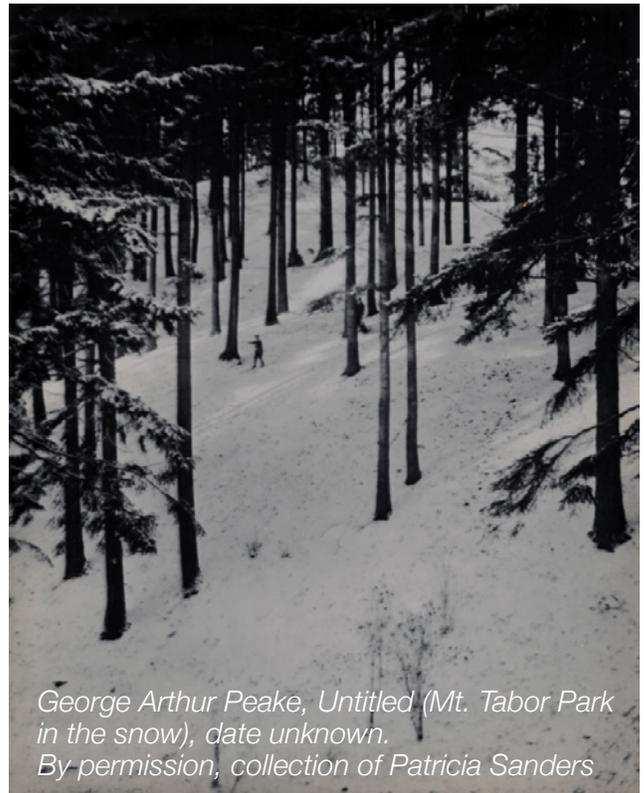
In 1919, he moved his family from California to Portland, and began working for the Blumauer-Frank Drug Co. in NW Portland. On weekends, he'd pack up his heavy Cycle Graphic camera, tripod, etc., and check out interesting locales for photography in Portland. Then, in 1926, he moved with his wife and children to SE 68th Ave., four blocks north of Mt. Tabor Park, remaining there until his passing in 1944. His interest in artistic photographs continued, including subjects within the park.

Peake's knowledge of chemicals allowed him to develop film and create prints in his basement darkroom. He liked to experiment with various lenses and printing methods to create interesting photos, some of which he sent to exhibitions and magazine competitions, occasionally winning awards. Knowing of his interest in photography, Peake's Mt. Tabor neighbors periodically asked him to exhibit his latest work at his home.

The two photos accompanying this article are examples of the "pictorialist" style popular during Peake's generation. They feature a slightly fuzzy focus, creating an effect similar to paintings, and emphasize interesting, sometimes surprising, compositions, like trees seeming to drift above empty fields of snow. Instead of simply making documentary records of



*George Arthur Peake, Mount Tabor Reservoir, Portland, Oregon, about 1940.
By permission, Collection of Patricia Sanders*



*George Arthur Peake, Untitled (Mt. Tabor Park in the snow), date unknown.
By permission, collection of Patricia Sanders*

Mt. Tabor, Peake intended these techniques to evoke impressions and fond memories of the park.

Patricia Sanders, George Arthur Peake's granddaughter, is an art historian with an interest in local history. She writes regular blogs ("Montavilla Memories") for Village Portland.

Heritage Trees in Mt. Tabor Park

- Darvel Lloyd

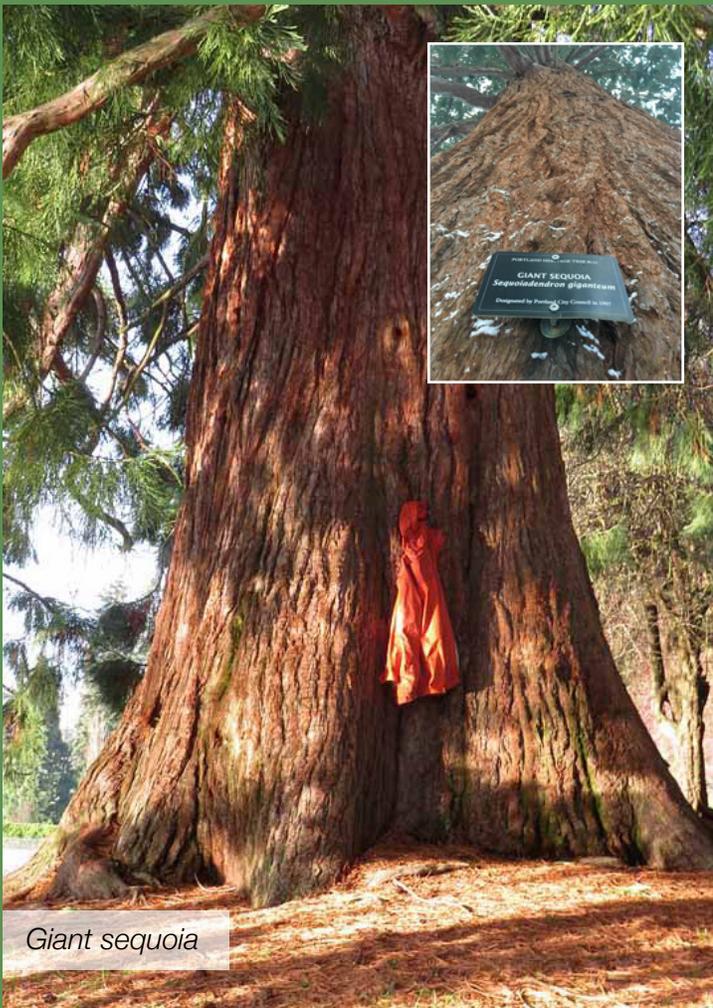
Portland City Council has a formal process to recognize noteworthy trees in the city based on their unique size, age, appearance, and historical or horticultural significance. These are called Heritage Trees. Once City Council accepts a Heritage Tree nomination, the tree is designated with a small plaque and mapped in the [Heritage Tree database](#), showing species, locations, sizes, and other data.

Our wonderful park has two Portland Heritage Trees: a giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*, below left) and a bigleaf linden (*Tilia platyphyllos*, below, right). Both are on the eastern side of Reservoir #6.

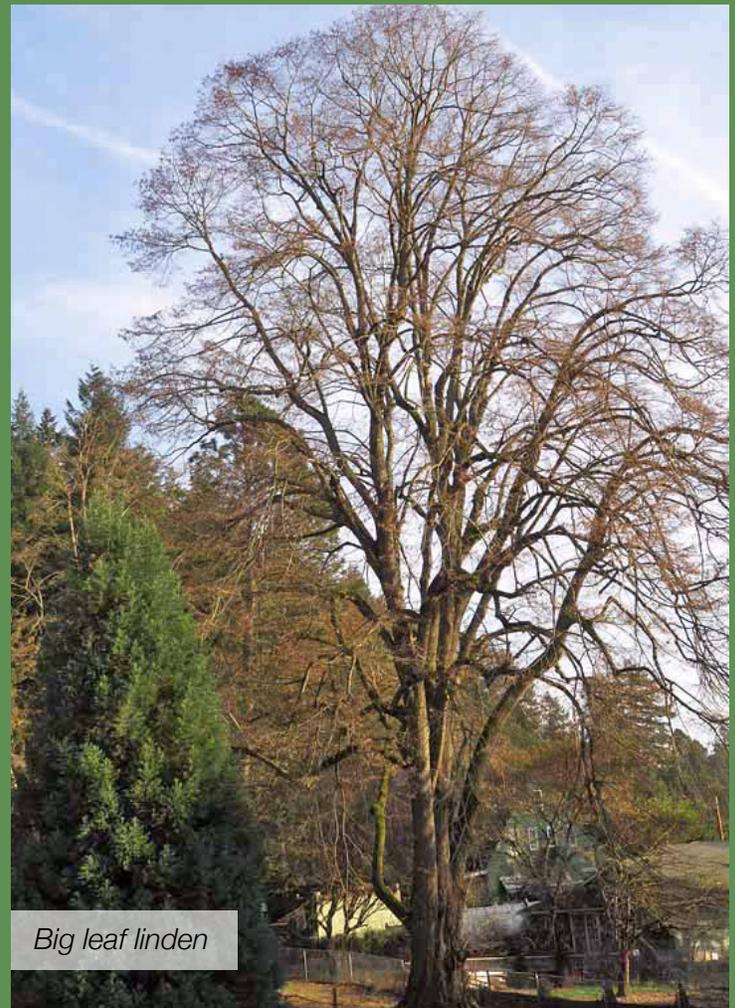
The giant sequoia, designated by the City Council in 1997, is a rapidly-growing tree that is now about 8.5 feet in diameter (at breast height) and 150 feet tall, with a crown spread of roughly 56 feet.

The bigleaf linden, designated in 1995, is about 140 feet tall, with a diameter close to 6 feet, and a spread of nearly 90 feet.

Portland has over 300 Heritage Trees, with new ones added each year. Designated trees are protected by city code and cannot be removed without consent of both the Urban Forestry Commission and Portland City Council. Note that anyone can nominate a Heritage Tree, using [this form](#).



Giant sequoia



Big leaf linden

Caldera Wall Gets a Makeover

-Martrese Beck

Many Mt. Tabor Park visitors pass right by the cinder cone caldera and ask, "Where's the volcano?" Massive vegetation overgrowth was a culprit for this park feature being so elusive. Some much overdue maintenance was in order...

Local realtor Jan Caplener and member Dave Hillman coordinated work parties on June 28 and July 5 to clear vegetation from the caldera wall. Pete Botke of [Buds Tree Care](#) volunteered equipment and labor, without which we would not have been able to remove most of the overgrowth. Many thanks to the 14 volunteers who came out on Friday, June 28th for the pre-clearing, and to Buds Expert Tree care and the three volunteers on July 5th. Another work day will be scheduled in the near future, with the objective of once again revealing the entire crater wall. If you'd like to participate, please contact Dave Hillman at davehillman@comcast.net.

For more photos of the work in progress, please visit us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).



Before work begun - the caldera wall is hidden from view.



Pete and crew get ready to work.



Volunteers Randy Lawler and Larry Duckwall



What a transformation!

Mt. Tabor Park Visitor Center

- Dave Hillman

With a growing number of people volunteering at our Visitor Center, we've been able to open the Center six days a week, for approximately 6 hours each day. With that capability, we recently surpassed 60,000 visitors! Through the years, we get lots of questions, such as:

- Where is the rest room?
- Where is the crater?
- Where do I get the best view?
- Where can I get some water?
- Can we drive to the top?
- Do we have park maps?
- How do we reserve the picnic shelter?
- How do we get to the dog park?
- Can we use a grill or start a fire?

This list goes on, but it's fun to be able to use their questions as conversation starters. This is often how we learn we have visitors from Europe, Asia, Canada, the entire United States, and other locations around the world. Check our "Pin Map" and see for yourself!

It's also a lot of fun to see our four legged visitors who come by regularly, mostly because they know we have treats for them. Most will come directly to the desk and wait for the treat drawer to be opened and the treat to be served. If we do not move quickly, some of these pooches will almost open the drawer and help themselves. Woof!! Be sure to bring your furry friends for a visit (on leash, of course) so both of you may see what the center has to offer.



Piano at the Park Summit

-Martrese Beck

For the third year in a row Mt. Tabor Park was chosen to be one of several Portland locations to be graced with a "piano al fresco." This outdoor public art and music project is coordinated by the nonprofit **Piano. Push. Play.**, which works with local piano companies to rescue and refurbish old pianos that are still in usable shape. Local artists are enlisted to decorate each piano. Once the transformations are complete, the pianos are placed in public spaces for a few weeks during the summer for all to enjoy making music. When summer is over, the pianos are rehomed to schools and community centers for everyone to play all year long.

Hopefully some of you were able to enjoy the free concert at the summit on July 7. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to be informed of fun events like this in the park.

