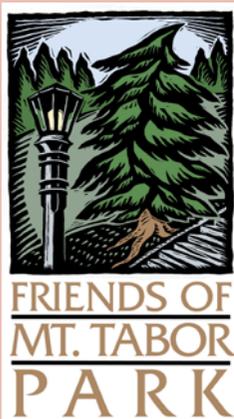


The TABOR TIMES

Newsletter - February 2020

Photo by @scoutandaboutpdx

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; and to fund and participate in park projects. We also offer programs to educate the public about the park's ecological health and its unique geological and rich cultural history. FMTP works with Portland Parks and Recreation and local neighborhood, community, and user groups to monitor park use and operation and support effective park management and maintenance.



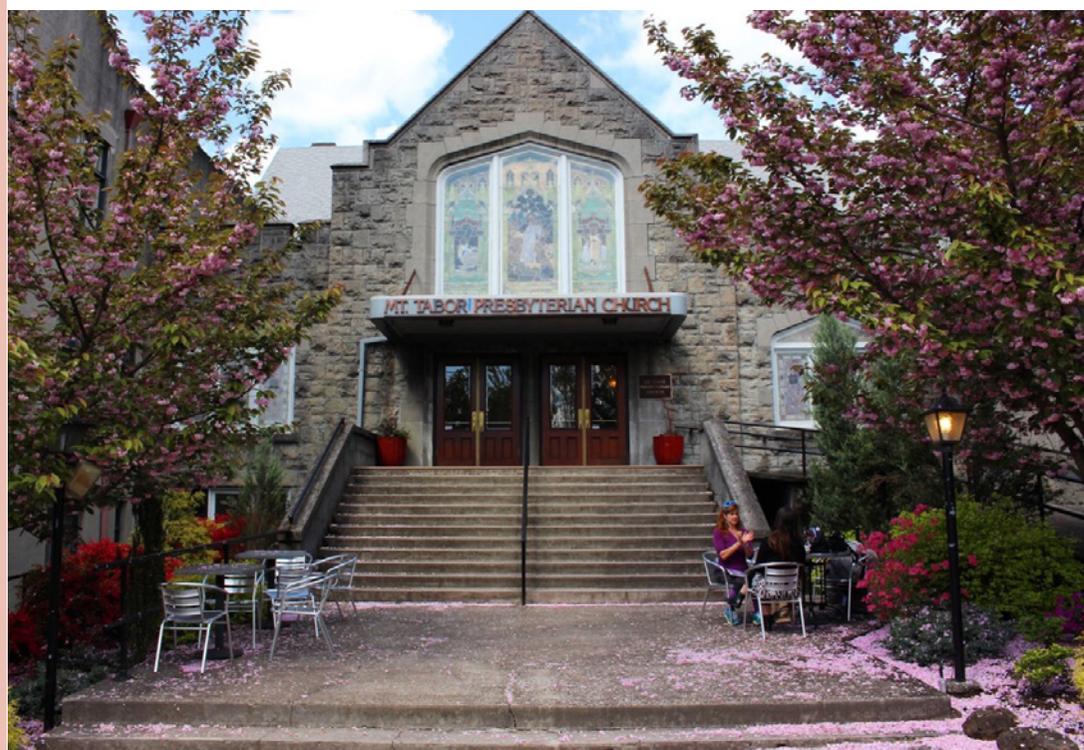
Come Vote at the FMTP Annual Meeting!

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park will hold its annual meeting on **Monday, March 9, 2020**, at Taborspace, 5441 SE Belmont Street (taborspace.org). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments and mingling, and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

We will have four open board positions and currently have **eleven extremely qualified candidates** running for the board! All dues-paying members

are encouraged to attend to meet the candidates and vote. We will begin the meeting with voting to allow time for tallying. The evening will also include annual reports, general announcements, and awards.

The annual meeting is the perfect opportunity to catch up with other FMTP members, ask the board and volunteer coordinators questions, and sample some of our members' delicious baked goods. We hope to see you there!



Happy almost-spring, members! On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our appreciation for the continued support of our members, with special thanks to those who donated beyond basic membership dues. We thank our members for trusting us to manage and spend these funds wisely.

Board members Martrese Beck, Laura Mason, and Suzanne McCarthy will be completing six years on the board this March and will not seek reelection, and long-time board member Mary Kinnick will not be completing her term, although she will continue to consult the board as needed.

A few notable highlights:

- The Board gratefully thanks Membership Chair Suzanne McCarthy for her hard work during her six-year term. See her report on [page 10](#).
- The Board also thanks Laura Mason for her dedication. Laura has been our Secretary and the coordinator of our annual summer picnics. We're happy to announce Randy Lawler will be the new picnic coordinator.
- Mary Kinnick's service to the board and FMTP cannot be overstated. We're grateful she'll continue to assist the board as needed.
- Many thanks to Anne Crispino-Taylor for organizing the 8th annual Tar 'n' Trail run, which raised \$1,400! See [page 3](#).

- Rachel White has done a great job as our new treasurer! See her report on [page 8](#).
- Bing Wong continues to serve 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 funded 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 15](#).
- The Communications Committee has done an outstanding job keeping us connected to our members and the general public. Read all about it on [page 4](#).
- Though she will be leaving the Board, as indicated above, Martrese Beck will continue to design our newsletters and oversee our FMTP website. Check us out at taborfriends.org
- Led by Lise Gervais and Emily Lytle, the Weed Warriors continue to work on the ecological health of Mt. Tabor Park. Volunteers logged 2,565 volunteer hours, thanks in part to some big work parties. See [page 11](#) for details.
- Dave Hillman and 13 Visitor Center volunteers allowed the

center to be open between 3 and 6 hours a day, for 313 days throughout 2019, welcoming a record 12,138 visitors! See [page 7](#) for a full report.

- Foot Patrol coordinator Dennis Puetz reports on another successful year on [page 6](#). *Dennis is seeking his replacement as coordinator. Please email him at taborpatrol@gmail.com for more details.*
- FMTP's new Projects Subcommittee continues to analyze priority park enhancement needs, including results from last fall's survey of FMTP members. Stay tuned for more information...
- A committee of volunteers is working to bring the summer concerts back to Mt. Tabor Park! See [page 5](#) for details.
- Gil Wistar edited, and Martrese Beck produced, our newsletter.
- FMTP's Board continues to operate without a Chairperson. Chair duties have been divided among Board members, and we welcome new candidates to fill this position.

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!

Board Member Anne Crispino-Taylor's 8th Annual "Tar 'n' Trail" Run Raised \$1,400 for FMTP!

-Anne Crispino-Taylor

2019's Tar 'n' Trail benefit run was held on September 29, and although the chilly and wet weather might have deterred some folks, many let their Mt. Tabor spirit shine. Last year we saw a turnout of 90 race participants, as well as more than 15 volunteers, and many local businesses donated goods for the post-race raffle. With the support of our community and participants, the race raised \$1,400 for FMTP.

A special shout-out to families who ran together! One family even traveled long distances to get to Tar 'n' Trail, with parents making the journey from Huntington Beach, CA to run the race with their daughter, who had traveled from Seattle. We're honored by those who made Tar 'n' Trail a destination race!

Bakrin Ajibade and Mara Kramer placed first in the men's and women's 5K races respectively, and Alan Teo and Leah Brown placed first in the 10K. Thank you to everyone who made it to Tar 'n' Trail 2019! Your ongoing support helps us maintain our trails and keep the park beautiful. The 2020 race is tentatively set for Sunday September 20, pending permit approval. For more information, please go to www.runannie.net.



Board member and race organizer Anne Crispino-Taylor



Soggy conditions didn't deter runners.



Communications Committee Report

-Rachel White

In 2019, FMTP created a Communications Committee to help us encourage visitation to Mt. Tabor Park, better connect with our members, raise awareness of the good work FMTP does, and grow our membership base. Four board members volunteered to serve: Martrese Beck, Hannah Dondy-Kaplan, Linda Fogerson, and Rachel White.

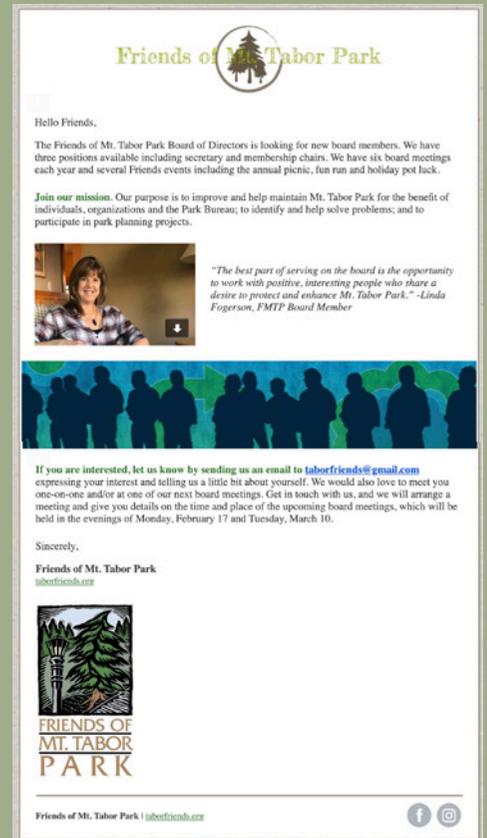
All previously-established communication activities will continue. These include our newsletter *Tabor Times*, articles in the Southeast Examiner, our website (taborfriends.org), our e-mail account (taborfriends@gmail.com), and social media presence ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)).

In 2019, the committee decided to use Constant Contact, an e-mail marketing platform that makes regular communications

easier and more consistent for a group like FMTP. With this tool, we've sent monthly or bimonthly e-mail "blasts" to members about upcoming events in the park, as well as to supplement our paper-based year-end membership drive. We believe more frequent communications and the ability to remind members to renew and donate online was a significant factor behind a 47% increase in membership renewals this year! Constant Contact e-blasts are now reaching over 350 people regularly, allowing us to communicate with our membership and volunteers at significantly lower cost and increased frequency than using direct (snail) mail.

Special thanks go to board member Linda Fogerson and our Communications Intern Caitlin Lyons for taking on the job of getting Constant Contact up and

running and providing content. We look forward to continued use of this platform in 2020.



New Mt. Tabor Ornament

Guests at our Visitor Center during the 2019 holiday season were happy to find a new item for sale: the Mt. Tabor Park ornament! The beautiful design (right) was available in cherry and maple wood and we quickly sold out of the 150 ornaments in stock.

Many thanks to Dave Hillman for spearheading this project. He commissioned Bend artist Wendy Scholz to design and create the ornaments. Wendy is a self-taught artist with a background in design and engineering. All of her intricately-cut ornaments and cards are her original designs; much of her inspiration comes from the natural beauty throughout Oregon. You can find more of her products at Made in Oregon stores.

The 2020 edition is already in the works. Stay tuned . . .



Damaged Light Fixture Replaced

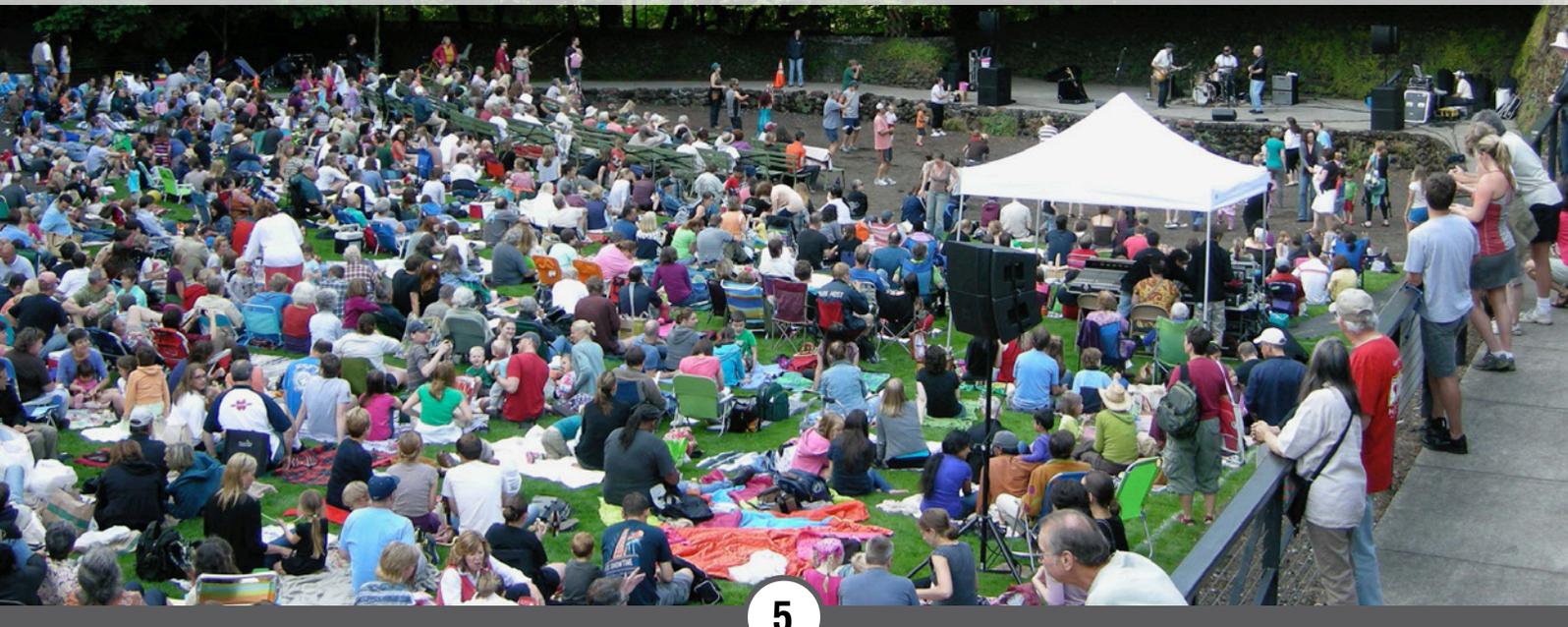
In 2019, a Portland Parks and Recreation maintenance crew accidentally knocked over the trail lamp post positioned on the south slope of the park where several trails intersect south of the Harvey Scott statue. Thanks to the many of you who expressed your concerns to Parks and Recreation, the fixture was replaced in January. Your concerns were heard!

Ardent park fans will note that the lamp post is different than the one that was removed. This is the explanation from a Parks and Rec representative as to why the older lamp post could not be re-installed: “Unfortunately they are not able to buy replacements for the existing historic poles in our older parks. However, they were able to find a pretty close substitute for the old style. They have started installing these in Laurelhurst, and they just installed one at Mt. Tabor Park.”



SUMMER CONCERTS MAY RETURN IN 2020!

The absence of the Mt. Tabor summer concerts in 2019 was lamented by many. At the end of the year, FMTP put out an APB for volunteers to lead the fundraising effort required by Portland Parks and Recreation, who organizes the summer concerts. Several area residents and businesses stepped up to work with PP&R to bring this fun annual event back to Mt. Tabor. The fundraising campaign continues as we try to raise the \$1,500 per concert. Would you like to help? Donations of \$300 or more should be made directly to PP&R for proper recognition on concert materials. Donations under \$300 may be made via the [FMTP online donation page](#). Thank you for your support!



2019 Foot Patrol Report

-Dennis Puetz

The Foot Patrol (FP) had another successful year in 2019 keeping the park clean and orderly; we are focused on creating a safe environment with our presence in the park. There are important updates on FP operation in 2020, so please read further. 2019 became a new standard for Foot Patrol. Since late 2017, the park has reached a trash-free status. Visitors to the park can see and experience this, and are doing their part to keep it clean. I am very proud of this achievement! We plan to continue this high level of cleanliness, with almost every foot patrol receiving compliments from visitors, such as: “thanks for cleaning up the park;” “you are awesome;” “thanks for what you do;” or “this is the cleanest park in the city.” Our volunteers are motivated to keep up the great work, and as a result, Mt. Tabor Park is immaculate!

FP continues to find dogs off leash, graffiti, and campers, but I am glad to say there are fewer needles/syringes than in previous years. Smartphones are being used frequently to report problems to Portland Parks’ website ParkscanPDX.org, and to communicate with park employees and management.

2019 also saw eight new people join the Foot Patrol.

In 2019, the Trails Committee was busier than in any previous year. Ten trail & tree posts were made, repaired, or reinstalled. (The posts were originally installed in 2009.) This work is very time consuming and difficult. As a result, the FMTP Board approved hiring a carpenter to help maintain the posts (see [page 16](#) for the companion article about our new carpenter, Steve Slusarski). The carpenter’s focus is making, repairing, and installing trail and tree posts as directed by the Trails Committee.

These Foot Patrol members have adopted trails:

Red Trail: Ellen Simmons

Blue Trail: Dave Beltz

Green Trail: Steve Bingold

The top Foot Patrol volunteers for 2019 based upon patrols completed are:

Volunteers	2019 Patrols
Dennis Puetz	65
Steven Bingold	45
Terrence E. Jenness	31
David Beltz	30
Beau Russell	28
Glenn Kayes	25
Ellen Simmons	14
Joe Mealey	12
Glenda Fay Chaite	8
Gayle & Bunny Marechal	8
Julia Smith	7
Stasia Honnold	7
Donna French	6
Bridget Stollfus	5
Ellen & Jim Simmons	4
Joel Stibbe	4
Kristen Hope	2
Dave Fogerson	2
Beau & Nancy Russell	2
Patricia Morgan	2
Nancy LaPaglia	2
Jacob Rose	1
Kristin Jackson	1
Adriane Puetz	1

Foot Patrol stats for 2019

- Total number of members at end of 2019: 63
- Total patrols by members: 318
- Total volunteer hours for foot patrol members: 839
- Total number of foot patrols since year 2000: 4,823

2020 Foot Patrol meeting schedule

The schedule is changing for 2020, and special meetings can be called anytime as needed. This change is a trial; the major benefit from past meetings has been with the summary I send out after

the meeting. Hence, I will continue to send out a summary report, which I have retitled as a newsletter. You can still look forward to these newsletters as so many of you have told me (“I love reading your summary, the summary is very good reading, thank you, the summary is excellent,”... etc.).

- March, TBD, meeting or newsletter.
- August 18, Mt Tabor Park, picnic area B, 11:30 am, potluck, plates & napkins & utensils provided
- October, TBD, meeting or newsletter
- December, holiday party - depending on interest

PLEASE NOTE: I'm into my fifth year as FP leader, and am interested in finding a new leader, or

delegating some of the duties, in order to reduce my workload. The position of the leader is held by a FP member who commits to leading the FP (usually for 3 years or more). If you'd consider being a candidate, please let me know. Another option is for someone to take on one or more of my duties: (1) assemble the monthly FP volunteer hours report to the City of Portland; (2) manage the trails committee; or (3) write FP articles for the Tabor Times.

Foot Patrol purpose: Keep park clean, safe, and secure. Act as ambassadors who observe, record and report items such as theft, vandalism, graffiti, improperly secured facilities, lost and found items; assist park visitors; and pick up litter. Report all reportable items to www.pdxreporter.org.

2019 Visitor Center Report

-Dave Hillman

2019 has been another very successful year, thanks to the 13 motivated and dedicated volunteers who staffed the Visitor Center (VC) throughout the calendar year. They allowed us to be open between 3 and 6 hours a day, for 313 days throughout 2019! With more volunteers, more days being open, and more hours per day, a record 12,138 visitors came through the door during the year!

The VC has become a critical landmark for those seeking maps, information, directions, or wanting to make donations or buy cards, posters, magnets, hats, shirts, or other items available for sale. Some visitors come in to report a problem or seek an item they lost; we collect an array of lost keys, glasses, clothing, wallets, phones, jewelry, etc., and are delighted when we can reconnect such items with their true owners. (See also the [article](#) in this issue on the park's Lost & Found program.)

Of course, we also have our four-legged visitors, and we love when they visit, especially those who consider the VC a main stop on their walk in the park. Dogs seem to have an uncanny knack for finding exactly which drawer contains treats. It's also interesting to hear stories about dogs showing up at the VC door, only to find it closed. That's

always a r-r-ruff experience for the pooches, since they came primarily for their treat and – doggone it – no one was home!

We can always use more volunteers, especially those already connected to the park in some way, such as FMTP members! The VC is a fabulous place to meet, greet, and welcome people, whether they're local or visitors from another state or country. We welcome all new volunteers, if only for an hour or two each week or month; it's a fun and rewarding experience to meet our park visitors, be they adults, children, or hungry pets.

If you're interested in volunteering, contact me and we can talk in detail: (503) 720-0979 or davehillman@comcast.net.



Volunteers Randy and Allie

2019 Treasurer's Report

-Rachel White

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park accomplished a lot in 2019, and we continue to maintain a sound financial base to fund our volunteer and stewardship activities in the park. This report summarizes our fiscal year, including the establishment of our Weed Warrior stewardship fund, budgeting and planning efforts, and FMTP's income and expenses for 2019.

We began 2019 with a bank balance of \$39,602 and ended with \$37,762. Notable expenditures in 2019 included the purchase of Directors and Officers insurance for Board members (\$1,042), and the printing of 10,000 revised tree brochures (\$2,593) and 25,000 redesigned trail maps (\$2,063) - both of which are available for free at the Visitor Center.

Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) Stewardship Fund

In 2018, the FMTP Board authorized a special fund-raising campaign to ensure the sustainability of FMTP's Weed Warrior program, which is designed to increase the park's ecological health. Ending last year, these efforts brought in over

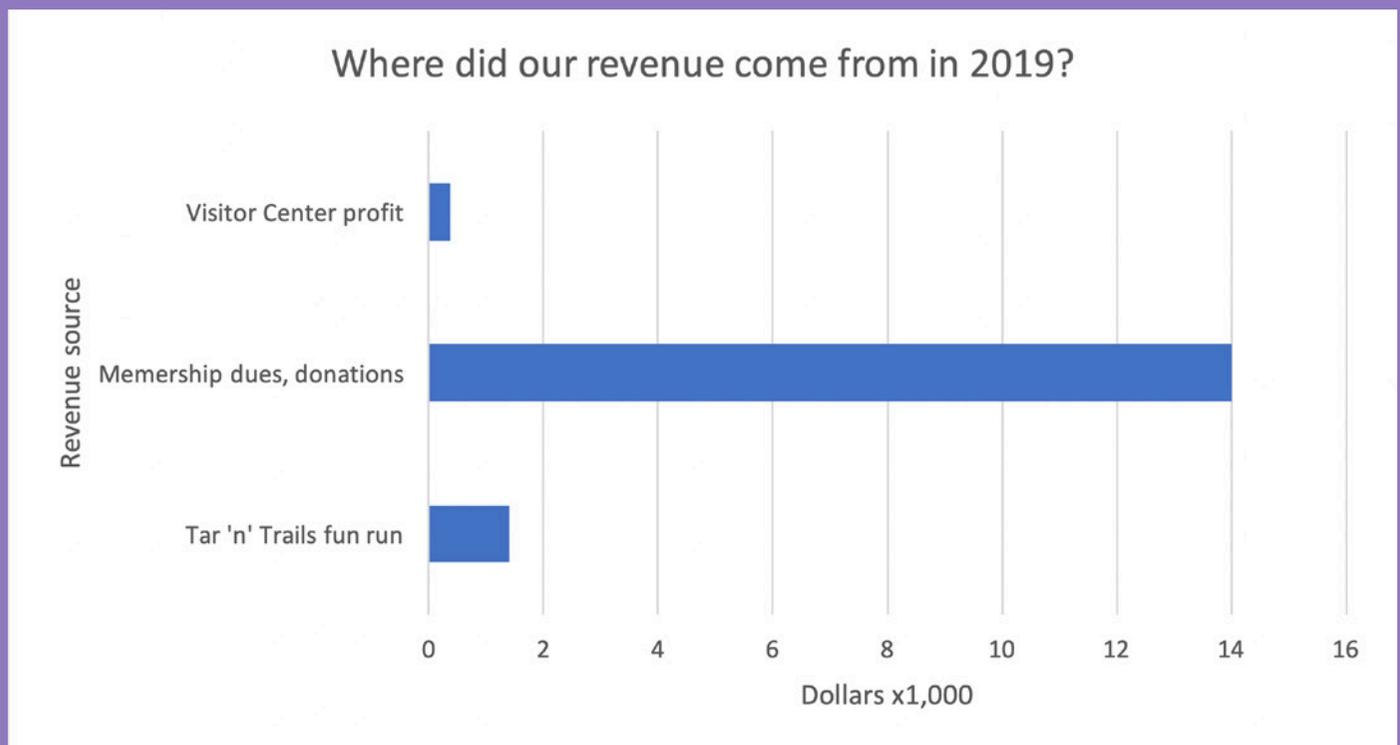
\$100,000 to serve as an ongoing endowment, which we placed in an account with the Oregon Community Foundation. In 2020, the Board will begin taking annual distributions of \$4,400 from this account to cover about 2/3 of our Weed Warrior Volunteer Coordinator's annual salary. (The City of Portland stopped funding this position a few years ago). The intention is that such an annual "dividend" from the OCF fund will continue indefinitely.

Budgeting

The Board held a work session in October to develop a prioritization process for spending our funds. Attended by a majority of the Board, the two-hour meeting included discussion of our vision and goals, past park accomplishments, and our income/spending history for the last five years.

Comparing our anticipated annual income with ongoing expenditures, we developed a ranked "wish list" of future spending projects. We organized the project list as follows: independent (those we could do without Portland Parks &

(continued)



Recreation funds); partnership (likely requiring PP&R's funding and/or permission), and visionary (likely needing many years to raise the large sums needed to implement). Additional discussion included setting spending caps for each of FMTP's core stewardship programs (Foot Patrol, Visitor Center, and Weed Warriors).

Income and Expenses

2019 was a record year for total donations from individual members, bringing in \$13,997. That's 47% more than in 2018! This was the fifth consecutive year we increased membership dues and donations.

The Visitor Center continues to pay for itself, but with a relatively small overall profit margin. In 2019, the Visitor Center bought and sold about \$4,000 more than in 2018.

This year's annual Tar 'n' Trails run brought in \$1,400, in spite of rainy weather on race day. See Anne Crispino-Taylor's race recap on [page 3](#).

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Statement of Income and Expenses for year ending December 31, 2019 (not including funds raised and expended for the endowment fund):

Income:

Individual membership dues	2,730
Donations	12,596
Visitor Center product sales	8,854
Tar 'n' Trail Run	1,400
Total income:	\$25,580

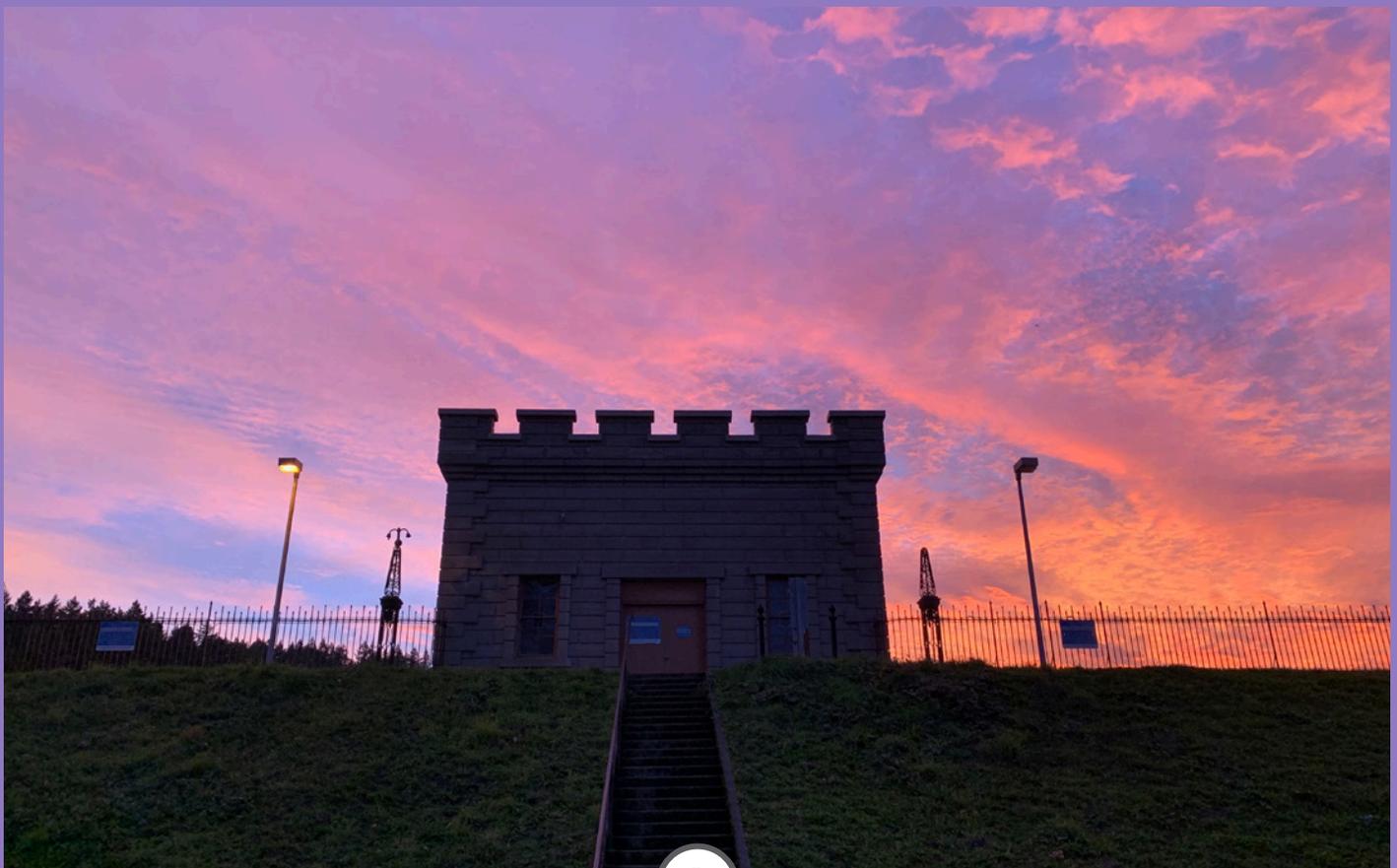
Expenses:

Weed Warrior Program	6,847
Foot Patrol Program	1,037
Visitor Center products	9,469
Administrative expense	1,756
Park projects	3,247
Total expenses:	\$22,355

Net income: \$ 3,225

Net assets as of December 31, 2019:

US Bank:	\$37,762
Oregon Community Foundation:	\$117,041



Membership Report and Dues

-Suzanne McCarthy

Friends of Mt. Tabor Park began the New Year with enthusiasm. The November 2019 renewal drive was very successful, bringing in a number of new members. The ease of donating via the website allowed many members to join or renew online. This reduces the number of checks received, streamlining our administrative process. Of course, we're always happy to accept checks, too! If you wish to sign up or renew on the website, visit www.taborfriends.org/membership and click on "Join FMTP"

In 2019, the Friends obtained a P.O. box, allowing us to provide a single address on brochures and other publications, as well as for anyone needing to reach us by mail. Our new mailing address is:

FMTP • 4110 SE Hawthorne Blvd. #312 • Portland OR, 97214-5246

At press time in mid-January, we had 142 memberships, representing 189 people – an increase of about 20 people since the close of 2019, so a great start to 2020! A standard Friends' membership is \$15 a year per household. It's heartening to see how many have generously contributed more; our "Tree List" below honors our 110 members donating \$25 or more in 2019. Thanks to all!!

\$25 - \$49.99 - Linden

Baller, Gretchen
Beck, Martrese
Coulton, Kate
Crabb, Will
Ellison, Ashley
Endacott, Rod
Edwards, Betty
Fisher, Stephen
Fitzpatrick-Bjorn, Jeff & Erin
Frank, Diane
Godfrey, Craig
Goodall, Jocelyn
Goodman, Elizabeth (Betsy)
Guptill, Bertha
Hard, Thomas
Hecht, Margriet
Johnson, Ben & Shari
Johnson, Isabel & Creel, Brad
Karavanic, Karen
Leonard, David
Lukacs, Chuck
McCarthy, William (Pat) & Suzanne
McWilliams, Robert & Mary
Mealey, Joseph
Nelson, Chris, Rainbow, & Frances
Nussbaum, Steven
Puetz, Dennis
Ryan-Baxter, Barbara
Snodgrass, Laura
Souvignier, Douglas
VanKrieken, Fred
White, Rachel

\$50 - \$99.99 - Red Leaf Maple

Bishop, Lynda Ann
Blythe, Roger
Cohen, Jane
Corrigan, Phyllis & Dennis

Crymes, Alan & Lynn
Englander, Wayne
Graham, Janet
Hawkins, Sarah
Hicks, Gary & Bangert, Kathleen
Kleinman, Jeffrey L.
Kuehnl, Cathy
LaPaglia, Nancy & Slusarski, Steve
Lillie, Gerard & Alice
MacKay, Jim & Betsy
McPencow, Barbara & Dennis
Mull, David
Powell, Michael & Alice
Pritchard, Hap
Quetel, Mike
Rahe, Stephen
Russell, Beau & Nancy
Smith, Julia
Smith, Michael
Snyder, Susie & Greenlick, Mike
Steely, Robyn & Seaman, Varner
Timm, Vicki
Williams, Janis & Clark
Wilton, Claudia
Young, Carolyn

\$100 - \$249.99 - Red Alder

Anderson, Richard
Baker, Sarah
Bingold, Steven & Colleen
Bragg, Michael
Carlson, Jeff & Makinen, Lori
Carmody, Gloria
Christensen, Mary & Jeff
Dougherty, Molly & Alton, Cliff
Drinkhouse, Mary
Duckwall, Larry & Baumann, Carol
Freudmann, Gideon
Gold, Steve
Goodwin, Donna

Hammerschlag, Richard
Hillman, Dave & Guin
Horse Brass Pub
Kinnick, Mary & VanCleave, MaryBeth
Lawson, Barbara & Terry
Lee, Jason & Suzanne
McQuade, Dot
Nassar, Steve
Olinger, Catherine
Olinger, Chris
O'Reilly, Kathleen
Portland Nursery
Puetz, Adriane
Rence, Brad & Eileen
Rubinstein, Ellen & Baudhuin, Josh
Sage, Jane
Sany, Rick & Lynn, Nancy
Sheibley, Kathryn
Simmons, Ellen
Strommer, Geoff & Susie
Taylor, Daniel & Linda
Wilton, Courtney & Hillary

\$250 - \$499.99 - Madrone

Anonymous
Furth, Wynne & Brenneis, Don
Lee, Becca
Leupold, Norbert & Christine
McClanathan, Robert
McLaren, John
Pease, Katherine
Rotert, Joel & Lipske, Joanna
Wong, Bing

\$500 - Sequoia

Caplener, Jan
Cook, Andrea (Warner Pacific Univ.)
Curry, Michael & Hannegan, Julia
Reppenhagen, Frank & Sarah

Annual Weed Warriors report, 2019

-Lise Gervais, Volunteer Program Coordinator

The Friends of Mt. Tabor Park's Weed Warriors continue to improve the park's ecological health by removing invasive species, planting native plants, and encouraging the many wonderful volunteers who come out each month to help us with this mission. In 2019 we removed invasive vegetation manually from Units 1, 2, 8, 14, and 15, and planted native plants in Units 8 and 15.

Emily Lytle, in her role as Stewardship Coordinator, continues to do a terrific job coordinating projects, and guiding Crew Leaders and other volunteers with enthusiasm and skill. Total volunteer hours for 2019 were 2,565, compared to 2,422 in 2018; 2,106 in 2017; 1,650 in 2016; 2,056 in 2015; 2,345 in 2014; 2,001 in 2013; 1,870 in 2012.

Last-Saturday events

Total volunteer hours for Last Saturday of the month stewardship events in 2019: 1,480 hours, compared to 1,558 in 2018; 1,516 in 2017; 1,282 in 2016; 1,340 in 2015; 1,157 in 2014 and 381 in 2009 when regular WW reporting started.

An average of 58 people volunteered at Last-Saturday events, compared to 61 in 2018; 59 in 2017; 53 in 2016; 54 in 2015; 36 in 2014; 32 in 2013; 42 in 2012; 37 in 2011; and 27 in 2010.

The Nature Conservancy/PP&R/ Weed Warrior event in October went very well. Traditionally our biggest work party of the year, 150 volunteers attended this one, including 15 Crew Leaders. Plans are in the works to continue this annual event.

Crew Leaders continued to give generously of their time to help ensure other volunteers were comfortable, safe, and appreciated. Between 9 and 16 participated at each event. A big Thank You to Dick Anderson for again volunteering himself and his pickup truck for Last-Saturday events.

Crew Leader trainings were held in February and March, both at the Visitor Center and in the field. Training included: 1) history of the park; 2) origins of Friends of Mt. Tabor Park; 3) plant identification; 4) tool safety; and 5) effective and inclusive ways to work with volunteers. New Crew Leaders were paired with seasoned Crew Leaders during stewardship events. We continued to see volunteers returning and becoming regulars.

We've been joined in our efforts by many volunteers who come to our events as individuals, with friends and family members, and from groups such as ADT, Blueprint Foundation, Boy Scouts Troop 432, Childpeace Montessori, Cleveland High School Honor Society, Franklin High School Key Club, Franklin High School

AVID, Lincoln High School Honor Society, Point B, Portland State University Sustainability Group, and Warner Pacific University.

Special events

In addition to working at our eight Last-Saturday events, several Crew Leaders also participated in special work parties. These included two middle school groups from Bridger K-8, 20 groups from Franklin High School, a group of 85 students from Madison High School, 30 students from Portland Adventist High School, and a 4-H group from Columbia County.

In September, we again participated in Warner Pacific's Common Day of Service. Despite the heavy rain, students and staff cheerfully removed a large

(continued)



amount of invasive blackberry, and untangled bindweed from young trees and native shrubs in Unit 2.

In late September, invertebrate data was collected at Mt. Tabor Park as part of a district-wide high school science project. With a permit from Portland Parks & Recreation, biology students from Franklin High School sifted through soil samples and recorded all invertebrates that emerged. The data was uploaded to the iNaturalist app, where entomologists identified the invertebrates. This is expected to be an annual project that may provide interesting data on the kinds of creatures living in the park – especially in areas with ongoing restoration work.

Donations

[Bipartisan Café](#) donated coffee for our Last-Saturday events. [Rain or Shine Coffee House](#) donated coffee and [New Seasons Market](#) on SE Hawthorne donated lunch for Crew Leader trainings.

Looking forward

For the upcoming Weed Warrior Season, Stewardship Coordinator Emily Lytle has been developing work plans with our Portland Parks liaison David Grandfield and ecologist Steve Lower. These plans are responsive to the park's overall ecological goals.

This year's Crew Leader training will take place on Saturday, Feb. 29, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. If you or anyone you know is interested in attending or have any questions, please contact Emily Lytle at emily.fmt@gmail.com. Our first stewardship event is on Saturday, March 28, 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Challenges for 2020

- Making the best use of a finite number of volunteer hours, and impressing upon volunteers how much we value their efforts and accomplishments
- Finding more ways to inform the community about continuing volunteer opportunities at Mt. Tabor Park

- Continuing to reach out to people of ethnic, racial and cultural groups who have traditionally not been included in mainstream conservation efforts
- Continuing effort will be needed to remove invasive species reverts, and to engage in early detection and removal of opportunistic introduced plants.
- Planning alternative stewardship activities for dry summer months when yellow jackets and rock-hard soil are a concern. Some community science projects, such as monitoring Western redcedars in the park, might be a good alternative.

With the high level of climate anxiety that many people are feeling, participating in climate action by improving the park's health can be helpful. We try to convey to our volunteers that their efforts can bring better air and water quality to the whole city. I continue to be impressed with and grateful for all volunteers who devote their time and take such great care of the park – and park visitors who appreciate how special Mt. Tabor is.





“Teaching children about the natural world should be seen as one of the most important events in their lives.”

-Thomas Berry

Photo by Ari Slaughter

Meet The Members: Glenn Kayes

-Glenn Kayes

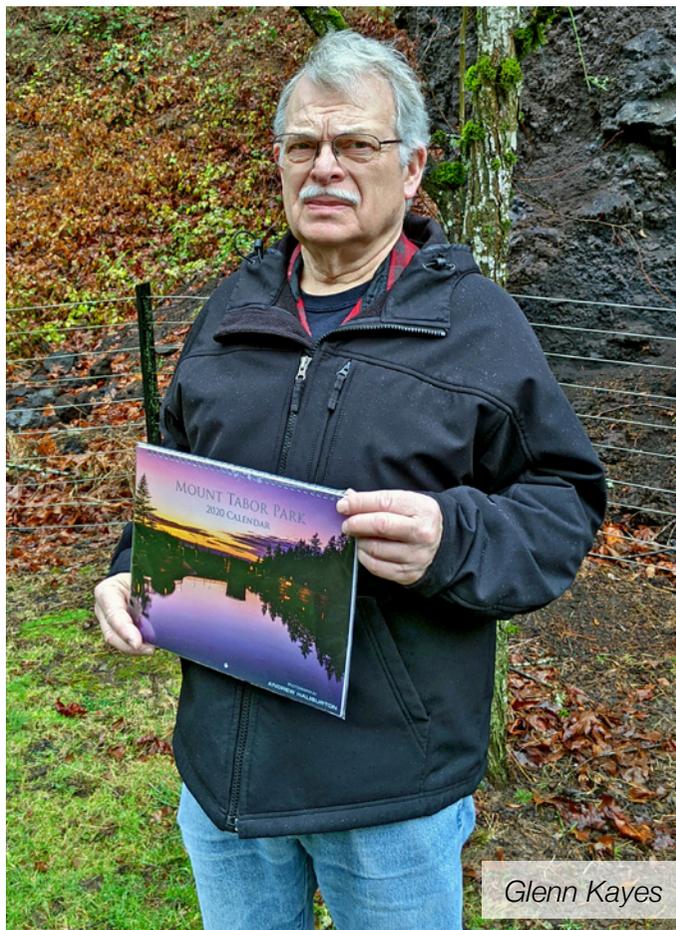
Hello to all the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park! Here's a little about me and why I chose to join the park's Foot Patrol.

Years ago, after completing a six-year military obligation in the Air Force Reserves, and at the same time completing a degree in science from the University of Washington with a two-year mandatory work requirement, I became a national certified health care allied member.

I married in 1977, accepted a job offer, and moved to Portland, finding it exciting. My wife Peg and I moved to a neighborhood that was only two blocks from Mt. Tabor Park. We went there when we could, loving the trails and views. We also grew to appreciate the reservoirs, knowing our water flowed from Bull Run watershed simply by the force of gravity. Seems like the perfect system! After the 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helens, we wondered if Mt. Tabor would ever erupt again. A geologist assured us it would not, and it had been more than 300,000 years since the last eruption.

When our children (Kevin and Steve) came along, we established a routine of frequent visits to Mt. Tabor; for both the kids and for us to get away! The playground above Warner Pacific Univ. was our favorite hangout. Hiking in

the park took us to Reservoir #1, and then the old soap box derby track. Later came grandchildren, and we continue to create lifelong memories at the park. The grandchildren see Mt. Tabor as the best playground ever; their grade school doesn't compare in the fun



level – and there are no bullies on Tabor. Our youngest grandchild wants to know why the city is in his park.

Now retired, I have even more time to be in the park. If we ever move, we'd need to be near a park that can provide so much walking, hiking, bicycling, and relaxing. Loving the park so

much, I recently felt obligated to help others and the park in some way. During a meeting at East Portland Community College, I learned about the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park and its Foot Patrol. This seemed the perfect way to give back, stay in good physical condition, and have fun. I joined the Foot Patrol in March 2019, and was hooked. I enjoy keeping the park clean and safe for all users, and helping visitors. Early morning is my favorite time in the park; starting from the SE Harrison St. entrance, to the playground, picking up anything that could be harmful to children, then to the dog park and to Lincoln St. I spend most of my patrol time on Tabor's south side, which gets less attention than other park areas. Its blackberries, steep trails, trash, and sometimes dangerous needles left by people parked in the evening along the road provide quite an experience. The list of objects found could fill pages; I often get 15+ gallons of trash while out on patrol.

I'm so thankful for the Foot Patrol and for my opportunity to serve this great park!

Note from Dennis Puetz, Foot Patrol leader: most volunteers perform Foot Patrol for 1+ hours on each round; Glenn often patrols for 4-6 hours at a time, and almost every week.



Status of Mt. Tabor Reservoir 1, January 2020

-Bing Wong

This is the fourth year of a \$4-million project, authorized by City Council, to plan and implement preservation work on all of Mt. Tabor's reservoirs, in light of the historic significance they represent to Portland's past and present. (In 2004, the National Park Service added Reservoirs 1, 5, and 6 to the National Register of Historic Places, giving them significant protections - and restrictions.) A key part of this preservation work has been a standing committee of neighborhood members, including the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association, the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park, and Portland Water Bureau/Parks & Recreations staff, which holds regular meetings.

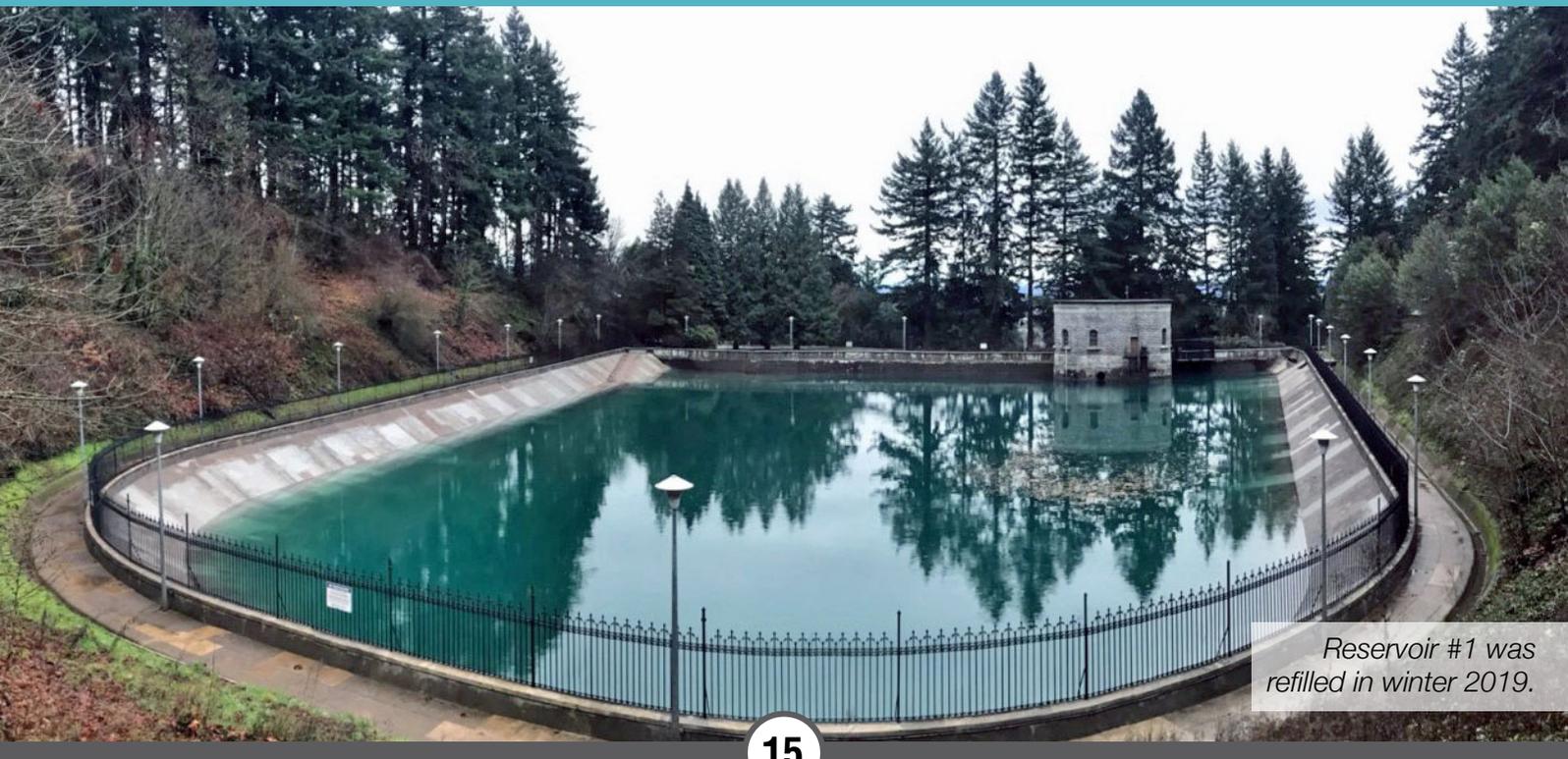
A majority of the restoration work has focused on the much-needed renovation of Reservoir 1, Portland's first publicly-constructed reservoir to provide safe drinking water. (All but one of Mt. Tabor's reservoirs were taken off line as sources of drinking water in 2015.) In December 2019, following completion of restoration work, Reservoir 1 was finally refilled with water.

In 2020, work will continue on Reservoir 1's gatehouse and weir buildings. This will likely include repair of windows, doors, and the balcony, as well as of the fence and tapered towers, and replacement of some historic lighting. However, because the budget for all of this work is limited, the extent of the future repairs will depend on their costs.

Based on results from managing the "aesthetics" of water in Reservoirs 5 and 6, the Water Bureau will maintain the color, clarity, and overall look of all reservoirs by draining and cleaning them about every two years. The Bureau will also maintain the amount of water in each, taking into consideration seasonal effects on water infiltration and evaporation.

Though a date is not yet set, the committee will present a report on the preservation project sometime before summer to City Council. This will be an opportunity to update Council and answer Commissioners' questions.

Stay tuned for a 2020 celebration in the park of the beneficial restoration work on Mt. Tabor's historic reservoirs!



*Reservoir #1 was
refilled in winter 2019.*

FMTP Hires a New Carpenter

-Dennis Puetz

Last September, FMTP hired carpenter Steve Slusarski to help maintain the green, red, and blue trail posts, as well as the numbered tree posts in Mt. Tabor Park. Incidents of vandalism to these markers have increased recently, requiring a more focused plan to maintain them. Steve's primary duties include making, installing, and repairing the posts,

and FMTP has created a contract detailing the carpenter's duties and responsibilities. When the Trails Committee sees a need for carpentry work, it issues a work order to the carpenter, who works on a time & material basis. This is helpful for Mt. Tabor Park, because recent demands for post maintenance/replacement have increased beyond the availability

or capability of volunteers to address. It's worth noting that there are 115 total posts in the park to denote red/green/blue trails, as well as important trees. The three colored trails together cover about 5.7 miles, and the tree guide route is 4 miles or more.

We are all delighted to have Steve as our new carpenter!



Carpenter Steve Slusarski



Trail marker in the park

New Park Restroom Sign

One of the most frequently-asked questions our Visitor Center volunteers receive is "Where are the restrooms?" despite the restrooms being 100 feet away. As a result, the Board elected to purchase and install a restroom sign (right) at the main parking lot, a highly visible example of your donation dollars being utilized to improve the park experience for guests. Do you have a suggestion for other park improvements we might consider? Please email them to taborfriends@gmail.com for consideration.



New Digital Tree Inventory from PP&R

-Martrese Beck

Dendrophiles rejoice! After an exhaustive Tree Inventory Project, PP&R recently unveiled a new [online](#)



[resource](#) for the public to peruse the many species of trees in Portland’s parks. PP&R is currently working on creating story maps (online interactive maps) for the parks inventoried in 2019, as well as a final report for the Park Tree inventory. In the meantime, here’s a quick snapshot of what was found on Mt. Tabor:

Mature Size Class:

- Large Form Trees: 81.9%
- Medium Form Trees: 5.3%
- Small Form Trees: 12.7%

Condition Rating (*Fair trees are ones that are still thriving, but are not necessarily a perfect specimen*):

- Good: 4.0%
- Fair: 92.4%
- Poor: 3.6%
- Dead: 1.1%

On the next page is a sheet containing statistics on all trees inventoried in Mt. Tabor Park. It will surprise nobody that the most prolific species in the park is the Douglas-fir, of which 696 were counted, comprising 62% of the trees counted. The average [diameter at breast height \(DBH\)](#) for the Douglas-firs was 34.9 inches.

We’re very excited to have this data on the trees not only in Mt. Tabor Park, but in other parks around Portland. We applaud Portland Parks and Recreation for the extensive time and effort that went into collecting, analyzing, and distributing this data.

Species of Trees in the Park: (DBH = Diameter at Breast Height, in inches)

Common name	Count of Species	% in park	Average DBH
Douglas-fir	696	62.0%	34.9
Bigleaf maple	57	5.1%	24.1
English hawthorn, common hawthorn	42	3.7%	16.3
Japanese flowering cherry	36	3.2%	18.7
Western redcedar	17	1.5%	14.1
Ornamental crabapple	14	1.2%	9.3
Giant sequoia	14	1.2%	27.7
Deodar cedar	13	1.2%	32.9
Common horsechestnut	12	1.1%	25.9
Ponderosa pine	11	1.0%	10.8
Hinoki falsecypress	8	0.7%	9.1
European beech	8	0.7%	17.0
Black walnut	7	0.6%	39.0
Serviceberry	7	0.6%	1.8
Northern red oak	7	0.6%	34.2
Oregon ash	7	0.6%	19.6
Flowering plum	7	0.6%	10.6
Vine maple	7	0.6%	6.4
London plane tree	6	0.5%	15.0
Oregon white oak	6	0.5%	7.1
European white birch	6	0.5%	16.9
European mountain ash	5	0.4%	12.9
Incense cedar	5	0.4%	24.8
Sargent's cherry	5	0.4%	5.4
Western hemlock	5	0.4%	24.9
Black locust	5	0.4%	7.5
Sweetgum	5	0.4%	13.8
Coast redwood	5	0.4%	30.1
Japanese zelkova	5	0.4%	11.4
Snakebark maple	4	0.4%	7.8
Colorado blue spruce	4	0.4%	13.6
Norway spruce	4	0.4%	16.8
Bird cherry	4	0.4%	11.9
Himalayan spruce	3	0.3%	6.5
Norway maple	3	0.3%	13.3
Silver linden	3	0.3%	48.0
Pin oak	3	0.3%	8.8
Kentucky coffeetree	3	0.3%	6.4
Red alder	3	0.3%	12.2
Magnolia	3	0.3%	13.5

Common name	Count of Species	% in park	Average DBH
Paperbark cherry, Birchbark cherry, Tibetan cherry	3	0.3%	19.5
Pacific dogwood	3	0.3%	5.1
Wingnut	3	0.3%	2.9
American beech	2	0.2%	33.4
American hophornbeam	2	0.2%	2.6
Pacific crabapple	2	0.2%	10.5
Dogwood	2	0.2%	1.4
Black poplar, Lombardy poplar	2	0.2%	15.7
European hornbeam	2	0.2%	12.3
Scots pine	2	0.2%	11.7
Port orford cedar	2	0.2%	30.4
European pear (including cultivars)	2	0.2%	13.0
Grand fir	2	0.2%	12.4
Tuliptree	2	0.2%	7.0
English walnut	1	0.1%	9.4
Leuteneggeri hybrid fir	1	0.1%	23.8
Flowering pear	1	0.1%	6.1
Red maple	1	0.1%	4.1
Austrian black pine	1	0.1%	15.0
Scarlet oak	1	0.1%	9.8
Eastern white pine	1	0.1%	10.6
American elm	1	0.1%	43.4
Oregon myrtle	1	0.1%	29.0
Japanese maple	1	0.1%	8.1
Dawn redwood	1	0.1%	16.4
Common hackberry	1	0.1%	17.0
English holly	1	0.1%	11.4
Hedge maple	1	0.1%	5.0
Blue atlas cedar	1	0.1%	34.8
Sugar maple	1	0.1%	4.9
Japanese pagoda tree, Chinese scholar tree	1	0.1%	3.6
Japanese cedar	1	0.1%	10.4
American yellowwood	1	0.1%	12.9
Japanese snowbell	1	0.1%	4.0
Elm hybrid	1	0.1%	10.0
Alaska yellow-cedar	1	0.1%	17.5
Balkan maple	1		

Lost & Found at Mt. Tabor Park

-Dennis Puetz

Which of these statements is false?

1. Hundreds of dollars of lost items are reported each year.
2. Most park visitors know where the Lost & Found is.
3. There are signs in place informing visitors about the Lost & Found process.
4. There is no email address connected to Lost & Found items.
5. Most lost items are returned to their owners.
6. Most found items end up in the trash.

ALL are false!

The biggest tragedy of lost items in the park is that people are unaware of the existence and location of L&F. Items lost in the park represent not hundreds, but thousands of dollars each year. Many lost items are important and critical personal items, such as wallets, keys of all kinds, wedding rings, keepsake jewelry, watches, computers, etc.

Visitors have a few options to recover their items, often to no effect; they might post a Craigslist ad, spend hours retracing their steps while in the park, or use the link to L&F on the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park [website](#). But it's important to note that since 2013 there's been a L&F deposit box next to the Visitor Center (VC) with a phone number on it; this number connects to the park-maintenance yard on SE Division St., which calls the VC to report the lost item.

Here's how VC leader Dave Hillman describes the park's management of L&F: We collect a huge variety of lost items, some left in the steel L&F box outside the VC, as well as items dropped off while the center is open. We categorize them into four areas: (1) keys go in one plastic bin; (2) phones, wallets, watches, etc. in a second bin; (3) glasses in a third bin, and; (4) clothing, toys, etc. in a separate area. If someone comes into the VC and asks about an item, we search the containers and see if we can match the lost item with the carefully-checked rightful owner. For items that are not claimed, we take the actions on the following page...



Glasses found in the park



Keys found in the park



Misc. items found in the park



- We turn keys, phones, wallets, etc. over to Portland's Police Bureau about once a year; items go to their property room. We collect many of these, which I estimate represents several thousand dollars' worth of keys alone.
- Glasses, both prescription and sunglasses, are turned over to the Lions Club, which cleans, examines, and repurposes them for sending to third world countries, as part of its service mission.
- We take all clothing and other similar items to the local Goodwill outlet as a donation at least twice a year, usually in a huge trash-can size plastic bag.

In 2016, I (Dennis Puetz) worked with our local park technician to develop a L&F sign for entrance/exit locations, in prominent park locations such as the summit, main parking lot, and bathrooms. The signage was designed to show where and how to contact L&F. However, while Portland Parks developed a prototype, no signs are in place because our park technician left his job, and the project therefore halted.

I also established a gmail account, TaborLostFound@gmail.com to which all reports of a lost item might be sent. An email arriving to this account is forwarded to Dave Hillman; an automatic reply goes to the email sender, indicating the L&F's location. Then, VC volunteers look for the lost item and attempt to contact the person if it were found.



Visitor Center coordinator Dave Hillman with the Lost and Found box outside the center

First Camper of 2020

-Dennis Puetz



On January 2, Foot Patrol members Dave Beltz and Dennis Puetz were on a mid-morning patrol in Mt. Tabor Park when they came across the first illegal camper of the year (right). The location was on the west side of old Soapbox Derby track, or quadrant I-10 on the Mt. Tabor Park grid map (below right). The Foot Patrol's standard procedure is to take a photo, note the camper's location, and report it immediately to a City of Portland park technician, or to the ParkScanPDX.org website, where the notification is sent to East Portland's parks supervisor for resolution.



While Mt. Tabor does get a few campers during the year, this is not usually considered a significant problem. In this case, however, there was a bit more drama, as summarized by the park technician:

I didn't call the police or the rangers but did have a couple of interactions with the camper, leading me to believe she had an impairment or disability. Rangers had received several dozen park scans regarding this camper, but it took a few days for them to respond. I met with them, disclosing the location, and saying that the person might be hearing impaired. After the rangers called the police, a mental-health specialist arrived and spent a few hours talking with the camper. The police then made her pack her bags/tent and asked me to make sure she left the park. The last I saw of this camper, she was using someone's cell phone and trying to arrange a ride out of the park.

Here are some related 2019 statistics, aggregated from monthly Foot Patrol reports:

- Campers: 8+
- Syringes/needles: 37+
- Graffiti: 7+
- Vandalism: 4+

The Foot Patrol is always in need of volunteers to monitor the park. To schedule an orientation, email taborpatrol@gmail.com.



Park grid map

2020 Events

February

16 - Sunday - FREE Tree I.D. Walk*

29 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Crew Leader Training** - 9 am–noon at the Visitor Center - We rely on Crew Leaders to help facilitate Weed Warriors volunteer work. Learn more about what's involved, and join us for a training session.

March

9 - Monday - FMTP Annual Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at [Taborspace](#)

15 - Sunday - FREE Tree I.D. Walk*

28 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

28 - Saturday - **Columbia River Orienteering Club Event** 11 am–3 pm. Exercise your body and your brain at this FREE orienteering event. Courses are available for all experience levels. Beginners, families, pets and non-CROC members are welcome. Details and registration [here](#).

April

FREE Wednesday Morning **Songbird Guided Walks** - The Audubon Society of Portland meets at the main parking lot at 7:00 a.m. every Wednesday starting April 1, rain or shine. Visit the [Audubon Society of Portland](#) for more details and to register.

18 - Saturday - **Tabor Challenge 5k** - Honor the memory of LTJG Thomas Cameron, who lost his life in 2012 when his helicopter went down during a Coast Guard training mission. All funds go to Grover Cleveland High School college scholarships. Details and registration at [taborchallenge.com](#).

19 - Sunday - FREE Tree I.D. Walk*

25 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

May

FREE Wednesday Morning **Songbird Guided Walks** - See April recap.

16 & 17 - Saturday and Sunday - **Mt. Tabor Art Walk** - The 12th annual Mt. Tabor Art Walk showcases the many artists who live in our beautiful neighborhood. It is designed to promote high-quality visual art in a variety of media within the unique setting of the Mt. Tabor neighborhood. Visit mttaborartwalk.com for artists' profiles and a tour map.

17 - Sunday - FREE Tree I.D. Walk*

30 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

30 - Saturday - **Donate Life Tabor Trot** - 9:45am–noon - Presented by Community Tissue Services, this annual pet- and family-friendly non-competitive 2 mile walk celebrates organ, eye and tissue donation and supports lifesaving programs. Visit tabortrot.com to register.

Date T.B.D. - **Run Mama Run** - It's the 10th annual Mother's Day Run Mama Run, with proceeds going to Mother & Child Education Center. For more information and to register, visit runmamarunpdx.org.

June

Wednesday Evening **Cycling Circuit Races** - Sponsored by River City Bicycles. The course is a tough, 1.3-mile hilly and curvy circuit that encircles the upper reservoir and passes by the caldera of the ancient volcano that formed Mt. Tabor. Each lap has 136.6' of climbing. Nightly cash and/or product prizes in every race! Visit mttaborseries.com for details.

21 - Father's Day Sunday - FREE Tree I.D. Walk*

27 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

* Join Bob Rogers on the third Sunday of every month as he leads visitors on a tour of some of the park's most notable trees. Meet at the Visitor Center at 2:00 rain or shine.

** 9:00 a.m.–noon - Join the Weed Warriors on the last Saturday of the month from May–October as they restore health to the park by removing invasive plant species. Meet at the Visitor Center by the main parking lot, and wear durable long pants and long sleeve shirt. If you have heavy-duty gardening gloves and supplies, please bring them; otherwise, we have loaner items. Plan to come 5–10 minutes early to sign-in. If you arrive late, we'll have information at the sign-in table regarding our whereabouts.

(continued)

July

Wednesday Evening **Circuit Races** - See June recap.

19 - Sunday - FREE **Tree I.D. Walk***

25 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

25 - Saturday - **Downhill Challenge** - Daddies Board Shop hosts a day of downhill skateboard racing. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners, including \$500 for the open skateboard class. Register at Daddies Board Shop.

August

8 - Saturday - **Get Your Rear in Gear 5k** - Join the Colon Cancer Coalition's grassroots movement to raise awareness and screening rates for colon cancer. Details and registration at donate.coloncancercoalition.org/Portland.

15 - Saturday - **PDX Adult Soapbox Derby** - Thrills, chills, and spills as soapbox racers compete on the hills of the park. As usual, all dogs **MUST** be leashed while in the park. Visit the PDX Adult [Soap Box Derby website](#) for more details.

16 - Sunday - FREE **Tree I.D. Walk***

29 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

September

1 - Tuesday - **Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Picnic** - 5:30pm – 7:30pm. Come meet the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park at our annual potluck picnic; learn about what we do and how you can help. Meet at Picnic Area A next to the main parking lot.

20 - Sunday - **Tar 'n' Trail Park Benefit Run** - Join this annual family-friendly 5k/10k run/walk, where ALL entry fees go directly to the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park! Register [online](#) and help support our efforts.

20 - Sunday - FREE **Tree I.D. Walk***

26 - Saturday - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

October

18 - Sunday - FREE **Tree I.D. Walk***

31 - Saturday (Halloween) - **Weed Warriors Habitat Restoration****

* Join Bob Rogers on the third Sunday of every month as he leads visitors on a tour of some of the park's most notable trees. Meet at the Visitor Center at 2:00 rain or shine.

** 9:00 a.m.–noon - Join us on the last Saturday of the month from May–October as we restore health to the park by removing invasive plant species. Meet at the Visitor Center by the main parking lot, and wear durable long pants and long sleeve shirt. If you have heavy-duty gardening gloves and supplies, please bring them; otherwise, we have loaner items. Plan to come 5–10 minutes early to sign-in. If you arrive late, we'll have information at the sign-in table regarding our whereabouts.

