



# Northwest Trails

Newsletter of the Northwest Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association

Volume 37, No. 1

Winter 2022

*Welcome to a new year of NW OCTA communications and activities as the chapter adapts to continuing pandemic conditions. Zoom and in-person events and activities are being planned and are described later in this newsletter. We hope to see you in 2022.*

## Election Results

*By Roger Blair*

The chapter election of officers and directors has concluded with unanimous election of the submitted slate. Your new chapter leadership is:

President: Sallie Riehl (1/22–12/23)

Vice President: Vacant

Secretary: Jenny Miller (1/22–12/23)

Treasurer: Glenn Harrison (1/22–12/23)

Director: Dave Welch (1/20–12/22)

Director: Polly Jackson (1/21–12/23)

Director: John “Andy” Anderson (1/22–12/24)

The vice-president position remains vacant. One write-in vote was submitted to fill the VP vacancy, but the individual receiving the vote declined. Dave Welch has agreed to take on the VP responsibilities for outings, the major function of the position.

Other non-elected leadership roles that need to be filled are membership and preservation. Both are important to fulfilling the goals of the chapter.

However, unless someone comes forward to assume these roles, the chapter will face a leadership crisis. I urge you to step forward in support of the chapter. Again, thank you for voting, but PLEASE consider stepping forward to maintain a viable, active chapter.



## NW Chapter Directory

**President**  
Sallie Riehl

**Vice President**  
TBA

**Treasurer**  
Glenn Harrison

**Secretary**  
Jenny Miller

**Directors**  
Andy Anderson

Polly Jackson

Dave Welch

**Chapter Website**  
Sharon Brown

**Communications Chair**  
Marley Shurtleff

**Mapping Chair**  
Robert Baker

**Membership Chair**  
TBA

**Preservation Officer**  
TBA



**Northwest OCTA**

## President's Message

Many thanks to Dave Welch and Robin Baker for the Zoom Meeting that was held on Saturday, January 15. Even though the events presented were somewhat tentative, the list gives us a plan to work from. I agree with Dave that we must go forward in our planning and do what we can to keep our members interested in the chapter. We must work around COVID and keep one another safe and still offer new ideas for exploration of the trails.

Welcome to Andy Anderson who begins this year as a director on the board. He lives in Puyallup, Washington, and is a volunteer coordinator of programs and tours at the Meeker Mansion in Puyallup.

The chapter has rented a storage unit in Oregon City as of November 2021. We have moved the book collections from Lethene Park's garage to the unit. We will be working throughout the coming year to organize and list books about the trails. The Collections Committee is made up of Sherrill Beck, Rich and Phyllis Herman, Glenn Harrison, and me. We will be working on the standards for donating material to the collection over the next 2 months.

I hope you all had a good holiday, and that you are now ready to enjoy our plans for the chapter this year. We hope to have at least one Zoom Meeting a month, and you should let Dave Welch know if you have some ideas for presentations.

Sallie K. Riehl,  
Chapter President



## First Quarter Financial Report

*By Glenn Harrison*

OCTA and NW OCTA fiscal year is October 1 – September 30

Beginning Balance (Oct. 1, 2021)	\$23,518.92
Income (through Dec. 31)	\$730.00
Expenses (through Dec. 31)	\$4,387.31
Ending Balance (Dec. 31, 2021)	\$19,861.61

\$3,197.43 of expenses were for the storage unit.

\$600 of the donations were for the storage unit.

# Northwest Chapter Events and Activities

*By David Welch*

A Zoom meeting was held on January 15 to discuss the results of the recent member survey and to plan future activities. Despite the scheduling uncertainties, we have developed a plan of events and activities that we hope we will be able to pursue. The activities are grouped in four categories: (1) hikes and explorations, (2) in-person and Zoom meetings, (3) site visits, and (4) auto tours. There will be a Zoom meeting each month at which time the dates for events will be confirmed, or events rescheduled or cancelled as needed. The dates of the Zoom meetings are listed below.

There was also considerable discussion of two other subjects that members raised. The first is the establishment of a temporary storage facility to hold books and research materials donated by members. We have rented a facility in Oregon City, and we expect to begin processing material soon. Contact Sallie Riehl for additional information.

The second subject was trail family histories. Members have expressed a desire to know more about trail ancestors of OCTA members to include not only their trail story (if known), but also where they came from and what they did after they arrived. Part of this project would also include assistance with genealogical research. We have considerable expertise within the chapter. Our trail-directed genealogical research can also provide visibility of OCTA to genealogical organizations.

## **In-person and Zoom Chapter Meetings**

Each Zoom meeting will include chapter business, planning for future events, a report on a trail activity, and comments from the attendees. The meeting will open thirty minutes prior to the scheduled meeting time for Happy Half-hour. Bring the beverage of your choice. Invitations to the Zoom meeting will be sent by Marlea Shurtleff about two weeks in advance with a reminder a few days before the meeting.

January	15	1:00 PM NW Chapter Planning Meeting- Survey Results (Z)
February	12	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting and Emigrant Springs Report (Z)
March	12	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting and Applegate Trail Report (Z)
March	TBD	Spring General Membership Meeting
April	9	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
May	7	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
June	11	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
July	16	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
August	13	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
September	17	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
September	TBD	Fall General Membership Meeting
October	15	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)
November	12	1:00 PM Chapter Meeting (Z)

## Site Visits

### Scheduled for 2022

Philip Foster Farm (OR)	June 25-26	Pittock
Oregon Lavender Festival(OR)	May 21	Pittock
Steilacoom/Orr Homesite & Salmon Bake (WA)	July 31	Welch
Steilacoom Apple Squeeze (WA)	October 2	Welch
Puyallup/Meeker Mansion (Anderson) (WA)	TBD	Anderson

### Suggestions for Future Site Visits (Coordinators Needed)

Willamette Valley Museums  
Walla Walla/Whitman Mission  
Baker City/Interpretive Center  
Oregon City  
Fort Vancouver  
The Dalles  
Washington State Historical Society (Tacoma)  
Oregon Historical Society  
Pioneer Cemeteries (e.g., Tumwater, WA)  
Other Pioneer Homes & Churches

## Auto Tours

### Unscheduled (Possibility for 2022)

Cowlitz Route - Fort Vancouver to Tumwater

### Future Options (Coordinators Needed)

Applegate Trail Willamette Valley  
Grants Pass to Willamette Valley  
Klamath to Grants Pass

Walla Walla Valley and Whitman Mission

Oregon Trail Idaho Border to Farewell Bend  
Farewell Bend to Pendleton  
Pendleton to The Dalles

Naches Pass/Naches Trail - Cascades Downspout to Fort Steilacoom

# 2022 NW OCTA Hikes

*By Robin Baker*

## **June 4 (Saturday)**

Gate Creek: east out to first Surveyors Note location, examine road depression just east of Surveyor Note location. This hike is off-trail, and mostly level, and in full sun (3 miles total).

## **June 18 (Saturday)**

Gate Creek: west up ridge to Surveyors Note location and back via northern “road”. This hike is off-trail and is up and down hill through shaded forest (2.5 miles total).

## **July 9 (Saturday)**

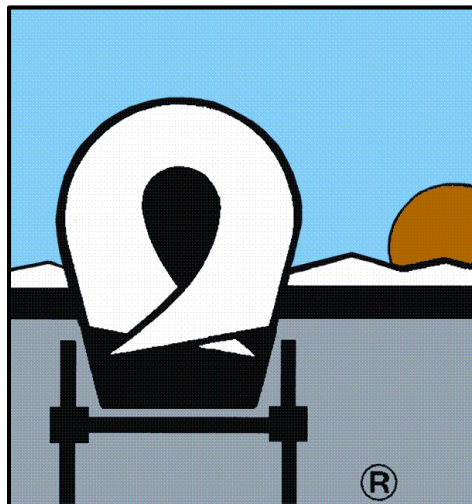
1846 Laurel Hill: end of Kiwanis Camp Road road to bottom of post-1853 wagon road at Hwy 26. This hike is off-trail up and down hill, through shaded forest, with some blowdown and light brush (2.5 miles total).

## **July 23 (Saturday)**

1846 Barlow Pass to Pioneer Woman’s Grave. This hike is mostly off-trail through shaded forest, with multiple blowdowns, and moderate brush (1 mile total).

**Contact Robin Baker at [robinbaker1927@gmail.com](mailto:robinbaker1927@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating in any of these hikes. More information will be provided upon receipt of your email. Please also indicate if you would like to participate in any of our pre-hike explorations.**

**OCTA Covid-19 protocols will be observed. You will need to provide proof of vaccination and sign the OCTA Liability Waiver.**



*octa-trails.org*

# *Northwest Trails*

## **Editor**

Susan Badger Doyle  
524 NW 3rd St  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
541-969-7660  
*sdoyle@oregontrail.net*

**PUBLISHED QUARTERLY, SUBMISSIONS DUE**  
**January 1, April 1, July 1, October 1**

Material may be submitted via email, on disk, or as email attachment in Word or Text format. Pictures (JPG format) may be sent via email, on disk, or originals for scanning. **Please send pictures separately from text document.**

MASTHEAD: Replica of *The Old Oregon Trail* bronze relief sculpture created in 1924 by Avard Fairbanks for Oregon Trail monuments.



**39th OCTA Convention**  
*Leaving the Platte*  
**August 28–September 3**  
**2022**  
**Casper, Wyoming**

***NW Trails* Editor**  
**524 NW 3rd St.**  
**Pendleton, OR 97801**