



## *Yachats Trails Committee*

Yachats Parks & Commons Commission  
City of Yachats  
441 Highway 101, Yachats, OR 97498  
541.547.3565

### **Leadership Team**

#### **Communications**

Jan Brown

#### **Development**

Joanne Kittel

#### **Invasive Plants**

Wally Orchard

#### **Trails Crew**

Loren Dickinson  
Bob Langley

#### **Chair Emeritus**

Lauralee  
Svendsgaard

### **Parks & Commons Commission Report February 2017**

**Volunteer hours for February 2017 = 74.5**

**Volunteer hours YTD = 314.5**

**Recreational Trails Immunity Provision** - This provision in the Public Lands Use Statute was struck down by the Oregon Supreme Court which means Joanne and 5 other private landowners who gave permanent trail easements are no longer protected; nor are City employees and trail volunteers. SB 327 and other bills are being introduced in the legislature to reinstate the immunity provision. Joanne is staying on top of this and has contacted our state representatives, City officials and both Tribes to enlist support for new legislation.

**Trails Crew** - The planned trails work session scheduled for February 4 was cancelled due to inclement weather. We planned to continue with repairs on the section of the Amanda Trail between Ocean Creek B&B and Amanda Creek. We will tackle that in March.

**YIPS!** - Weeding and pruning left the Prospect garden looking great. We are still trying to lay the groundwork for a meeting with an adjacent landowner preparatory to having a fence built along the west border of the garden. In March we plan to return to the Commons Wetland area; at this time of year the ivy, blackberry and other invasives are very visible, accessible and relatively easy to pull. We will also clean up accumulated debris from the wetland boardwalk.

**Siuslaw National Forest 2017 Trails Stewardship Season** - On March 18th at 2 PM, the Siuslaw National Forest will partner with the Yachats Trails Committee to kick off its 2017 Trails Stewardship Season, consistent with the National Trails Day theme. The event will feature guest speaker Loyd Collett, former Forest Service recreation and trails manager, who will share his experience planning, constructing and maintaining what would become

[Continued on page 2]

the world-class trail system now enjoyed by thousands of visitors to Cape Perpetua. Joanne will present information about Yachats trails, the Amanda Trail and trail volunteer opportunities. The Yachats Trails Committee has also been invited to have a table for map and literature.

**Radio Program** - Joanne has been invited as a guest speaker on the Lincoln County Connections Radio Program on KBCH AM 1400 at 9 am on March 23. She will speak on conservation easements, the Amanda Trail and Trails Committee volunteer opportunities.

**Interpretive Sign Project** - The signs have arrived. The frames and posts will ship at the end of March.

**Our volunteers are the best!** - The morning of our aforementioned foray into the Prospect garden dawned cold and wet, so a cancellation notice was sent out to the entire mailing list but, due to an email issue (our messages were rejected as spam), nobody received the notice. A YIPS! representative went to the work site just before the normal starting time of 10 am in order to turn away anyone who showed up. This plan was foiled as well! So many people showed up and were so insistent on working that we reversed the cancellation and spent the normal two hours weeding and pruning. The weather also cooperated just long enough and the end result was another very successful work session.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Langley*