



Neskowin Community Association

Neskowin Village Voice



October 2021

NCA President's Letter

By Robin Crowell

Welcome to fall and our final newsletter of the year. It was a fantastic summer despite some cloudy days. The farmer's market new location was great and it was wonderful to have some new and returning vendors added to the mix.

The village was busy with summer visitors and the Cafe, the Scoop and the Neskowin Trading Company were keeping everyone fed, stocked and happy. What a great group of young workers scooping ice cream.

The golf course was so busy you needed a tee time! The talented and fun staff and group of volunteers make this Community "jewel" something we are all proud of. New activities for kids, bingo, wine and music were enjoyed by all. Stop by to see the new paint on the clubhouse.

Fundraising began with memorial weekend trash to treasures and ended with the tournament weekend in August. We thank our wonderful volunteers who helped raise funds to support grant requests from our community entities and we so appreciate all of the community donations and participants. Great job everyone!

Our emergency egress is almost a reality. Fantastic residents made much-needed repairs to potholes. Volunteers painted messages on our village streets cautioning to go slow and watch for children at play. The Carlton beach access update was completed and all beach access points were improved. No-parking signs were posted to allow for emergency access to the beach. It is wonderful to have so many people willing to help out when needed. The Neskowin community thanks all of you!

As we say goodbye to summer, we send a message for good health to you and your families and friends. Enjoy the next seasons in our beautiful Neskowin.

Neskowin Beach Golf Course Update

By Missy Moss, Neskowin Beach Golf Course Clubhouse Manager

NBGC is having a great season. The course is in great shape. Greens are the best they've ever been. Business is better than any year since 2015. Community engagement and participation have been incredible. Members and guests and those who are new to the community enjoy the course and the clubhouse patio.

Our clubhouse and maintenance shed look great with a new coat of paint. Jeff Linman led the painting project. Many thanks to Jeff and NBGC board members and a team of volunteers who all chipped in their time and energy. NBGC is receiving bids and plans to replace the clubhouse roof next spring.

Emergency access road work continues. The new bridge closest to NBGC is complete and paving will occur in the coming months. We look forward to having an improved roadway outside the clubhouse.

NBGC is following Oregon State COVID mandates, limiting the number of people inside the clubhouse and requiring masks. These limitations affect our ability to host indoor events. When the mandates change, and we hope to provide gatherings inside the clubhouse. Stay tuned by following NBGC on Facebook or our website.

A very special thank you to Sean and his team, Missy and her team and the many volunteers who helped create a record-breaking season. We are winding down an incredible season, and we look forward to many years of providing memorable experiences for our members and guests.

Thank you to our members for a terrific season. Hope to see you in the off season. If you have any questions, Missy Moss call anytime at 503-819-5043 or email missy.nbgc@gmail.com.

NCA Golf Scramble & Tournament Weekend 2021

By Susan Linman

The NCA Golf Scramble returned in August 2021! In addition to the golf scramble, we offered other events and called it our Tournament Weekend. Our goals for the weekend were to:

- Make it a fun weekend and make sure everyone had a great time.
- Raise money to fund NCA's annual budget and its grants program..

We called these combined goals FUNdraising.

We were able to achieve these goals with the support of friends, family and neighbors who played in the Golf Scramble and participated in our other events, as well as those who generously donated and purchased our auction items.

Several changes were implemented this year. We changed the Friday potluck to Bring-your-own-Picnic. Fun entertainment was added to the evening with music by The Perry Gerber Band, which had the patio dancing until last call! Sunday's delicious box lunch was prepared by the Café on Hawk Creek.

The traditional Golf Scramble was divided into 3 divisions (men's, women's, mixed) with prizes given to winning teams in each division. For next year we've added two more divisions- Youth and Senior Divisions. We also added other events Saturday afternoon, which ended up with lively and competitive Bocce and Corn Hole competitions. We successfully conducted the Wall of Wine, Raffle, Silent and Oral Auctions. The oral auction featured art and treasures created by our very talented Neskowin neighbors.



Gary McClain, Auctioneer and Comedian

We had a great team of people who managed all elements of the weekend events:

Robin Crowell and Kacey Joyce started offering their help in February and worked tirelessly throughout the year. The Tournament project team really rocked all of the events, setup, catering, raffle and auctions: Susan Amort, Connie Leben, Lisa Miller, Jack Eichler, Missy Moss, Kelli Leisure and Jeff Linman. Throughout the week, we received great help from Tina and Frank Schmidt, Joe and Stephanie Leben, Alex Sifford, Cathleen Callahan, Don Graber, Sean Tonner, Ann Wieck, John Epp, Gary McClain, Shelley Stoll, Jim Affolter, Lauri Braich, 'the Clubhouse Team and our tent providers (the Eatons, Rowlands and Wiitalas).

Mark your calendar for Tournament Weekend 2022 which will be held July 29-31!

Beach Access Improvements

By Ran Koch and Cameron Nagel

Improvements to all three emergency Neskowin Beach access ramps have been completed. Emergency vehicles now have access to Proposal Rock and Neskowin Beach from three points: Carlton Avenue East, McMinnville Avenue West, and Mt. Angel Avenue West.



Photo: Cameron Nagel

Additionally there remains a set of riprap stairs at Carlton Avenue West which have been improved with the addition of a rope handrail. The recent NCA grant funded by the Tillamook County Transient Lodging Tax has covered all expenses to date and will include any maintenance costs for these access ramps over the coming winter months.

'No Parking' signs and traffic cones will be added as well as a means to keep these emergency access points open for our local fire & rescue teams.

We are also working with Tillamook County on improving traffic signage to discourage excess vehicle loads on our village streets, as we recently discovered many of the online maps direct visitor traffic onto village streets as well as onto private property. Visitors trying to access Proposal Rock and the Ghost Forest stumps on South Beach are directed by various online maps to private property for access to the beach instead of to the State Wayside public parking area and adjacent walking path along Hawk Creek to the beach. (The sand path alongside Hawk Creek out to Proposal Rock was also recently restored as part of the emergency vehicle access work.)

Thanks to Shelby Vantassel of Robert Warren Excavation and his crew for making these important beach access improvements. Locals and tourists alike also benefit from these improvements that provide for safer foot traffic access as well!

South Tillamook County Emergency Volunteer Corps

By Marge Jozsa

The South Tillamook County Emergency Volunteer Corps (STCEVC) members is a key source of information and training on emergency preparedness.

STCEVC has updated its website and web address. Visit www.southtillamookcountyevc.org where you can find information about Firewise, Go Bags, CERT Training, and Emergency Communications, and download our training brochure and our new emergency communications brochure.

We are participating in the planning of Cascadia Rising 2022, a statewide emergency preparedness drill to be held in June 2022. For Tillamook County, STCEVC is working with the Emergency Volunteer Corps of Nehalem Bay. The Tillamook County drill will occur on June 13 and 14, 2022. The focus will be emergency communications, with participation by our GMRS radio users, Ham radio operators, and our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Neighborhood Captains. Our South County partners are the Nestucca Valley School District, the Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District, the Neskowin Water District and the Adventist Health Brooten Road clinic. We will be contacting other partners during the next month. This is a perfect time to purchase a GMRS radio and/or become a Ham operator and join our monthly drills!

Our next CERT Basic Training class begins on Wednesday, October 6. This class will combine online learning, Zoom meetings and in-person skills sessions. More information on the CERT class is available at STCEVC's website.

The Neskowin tsunami signage project is nearing completion. The last tsunami evacuation signs will be installed when the egress road is finished. The final step of the project will be to conduct a tsunami drill so all residents and visitors in the Neskowin community can practice walking to their assigned assembly area. We will post more information about the tsunami drill on our website.

We are seeking much-needed neighborhood captains in the Village. Captains are critical to conveying emergency preparedness information. Please email me (margejozsa@gmail.com) if you are interested.

STCEVC is exploring partnering with the Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District to staff COVID-19 booster vaccine clinics in South County this Fall. Our medical and non-medical volunteers are ready to assist at these clinics. Please watch our website for more information.

Please volunteer and do your part to keep our Neskowin community safe and prepared! Emergency preparedness is a cornerstone of resiliency!

Upcoming Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

by Brandon Beaujeu

The Neskowin Citizen Advisory Committee will hold its bi-monthly general meeting on October 9 at 9:00 am. The meeting will be held on Zoom. The agenda for the meeting includes any County Notices of Land Use issues in our area, a Treasurer's Report, Identification of Short Term Rental Sub-Committee members and formation and next steps for the sub-committee, a Community Plan update, consideration of in-person meetings and how to conduct them, and options for more safety measures on Hwy 101 at Neskowin.

Mark your calendar for October 9 at 9:00 am. Sign up for the meeting at the neskowincac.org website under Upcoming Events.

Celebrating 50 Years in 2021



Nancy (Briggs) Nagel and Cameron Nagel met in high-school. 50 years hence they continue loving life (and each other!) by gardening, remodeling, and volunteering for community organizations. PEACE!

Q&A with Chief Jim Oeder of the Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District

By Nena Baker

Chief Oeder joined the district in 2009 and was promoted to chief four years ago. In addition to the Neskowin station, the district operates five other stations (Pacific City, Beaver, Sandlake, Blaine, and Hebo) that serve approximately 5,000 residents and thousands of visitors each year. The district responds to fire and emergency medicine calls in an area of approximately 125 square miles. It also responds to incidents throughout some 200 square miles of unprotected areas on Oregon Department of Forestry and US Forest lands.

Q: We're just concluding another summer season, and they always seem to be especially busy for responders. How busy is the district overall?

A: When I was hired in 2009, we rarely hit 450 calls a year. This year we are already at 760 calls. People always want to know if it's day trippers and vacationers that are driving the increase. I did some research and we are currently responding to more calls from local residents than visitors.

Q: Do you have adequate resources to respond to the demand?

A: With the levy that was passed a couple years ago it allowed us to bring on nine additional people and to work in shifts at our staffed station in Hebo. We have three people per shift, and they work 48 hours and then take four days off. Our district relies very heavily on volunteers. All of the other stations rely on volunteers.

Q: Is it hard to find volunteers?

A: It's the most challenging thing about my job. The time commitment to get them up to where they can respond to calls requires 150 hours of training just to reach the first level of being a firefighter. That doesn't include the amount of additional time it takes to go through training on all the different types of equipment we have and on driving the equipment. Most of our volunteers are employed outside of the district, so maybe they're only available to respond to calls from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Our daytime response is smaller because of that, and it becomes a challenge and a balancing act. We are trying a new thing – a "sleeper" program at our stations in Neskowin and Pacific City. We have a college student living at each station, and they are each EMT-trained. They respond from those stations when they are in the station. They get free rent, and we get a responder when they are in the station.

Q: What types of incidents does the district respond to?

A: My old chief used to say if they can't be cuffed or stuffed, we respond to it. We first respond on all medical calls. All motor vehicle accidents. Any type of fire. Water rescues. We've got a core of full-time staff and volunteers that have stepped up and put together a rope-rescue team. We also have a drone program that is made up of both volunteers and full-timers that we can take out for locating people. We're looking at another type of drone and maybe some grant opportunities to see if we can use drones for actual water rescues.

Q: Many homes in Neskowin are vacation homes that are left unoccupied for periods of time. What's the most important thing homeowners can do to protect their vacation homes from fire?

A: Have space around your home free from vegetation. Before COVID hit, we were starting a public education program called Firewise where we put on presentations about the types of plants that will resist fire compared to sugar pines and beach grass and lots of other things you see around here. This was something we were doing with the Oregon Department of Forestry. We hope to be able to do it in person again after the first of year. But there is information available online now. <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA>

Q: Residential fire pits or fire stoves have become increasingly popular in Neskowin. Does the district have rules about how and when they can be used?

A: We consider those to be warming fires for a few people to sit around and converse. For the most part those don't get shut down unless we are in a red-flag fire warning. If you have a warming fire at a residence, you need to have space around them. You don't want them near dry grass. And the fires need to be contained in a stone pit or a commercial fire pit. We need people to use some common sense and make sure the fires are far enough away from structures so that radiant heat does not warm up the side of a building or a fence. Pay attention to where the wind is blowing. On the beach, a warming fire needs to be 50 feet away from vegetation. community?

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Q: What can Neskowin homeowners do to make it as easy as possible for the district to respond to emergencies in our community?

A: Keep the trees trimmed back from the roads. We need a height clearance of 14 feet. And I know parking is terrible in Neskowin so be aware of where you park and try not to make it too tight for our responders to be able to get through. What it really comes down to is have a little patience with us. In emergencies we will be there as fast as we can. We're starting to get to the point where we are responding to multiple calls at the same time, so our resources are spread even thinner. Also, if there are people in the community interested in volunteering, talk to me. You don't have to fight fires as a volunteer. There are plenty of things you can do to help us in other areas – public education being one of them.

Q: You've explained how finding and training enough volunteers is the most challenging part of your position. What's the most satisfying thing about what you do?

A: The satisfaction comes from being able to help pretty much anybody in need. We get called on by people who are probably experiencing the worst day of their life. And we are there to help them get through that.

Reach Chief Oeder at 503-392-3313 or joeder@nrfpd.com

Editor's note: The Chief's comments have been edited for brevity.

Tillamook PUD Update

By Doug Olson, Tillamook PUD

Hello Friends and Neighbors! Here's a quick update on happenings at your Tillamook PUD.

As we move into fall and winter months with our usual high winds and storms, be assured that TPUD crews are ready for whatever comes our way. The new Neskowin transmission line is moving ahead, mostly in the background. When all rights-of-way are secured and engineering is complete, the TPUD system will interface with Pacific Power just north of Lincoln City. That will provide a second source of energy when there's an outage on the TPUD system in South Tillamook County.

Finally, there are a number of things your TPUD can do to help with energy bills. That includes weatherization, heat pumps, lighting improvements and financial assistance for those who need some help with their monthly bills. Call the PUD at 503-842-2535 or go to the website at www.tpod.org.

Neskowin Fireworks Show 2022

By Lucas Parelius

Several local families have decided to organize a safe professional 4th of July fireworks show. The 2022 show will be managed by Neskowin locals who have the required safety certifications and professional licenses, less expensive than contracting with an outside company, creative and lively, exciting and safe.

We are seeking donations to finance the show. If you want to help us finance the show or participate in organizing and producing the show, or if you have questions, please contact Lucas Parelius lparelius93@gmail.com (408) 786-7467

Editor's Note: This is not an NCA-sponsored event.



Led by Mike Morris and Ken King, The Pothole Gang fills holes and smooths the roads in the Village. The County pays for the materials.

Photo: Cameron Nagel

NESKOWIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Annual Membership Dues \$30 May to May

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Neskowin Farmers Market

By Sally Moon, Market Manager

The Neskowin Farmers Market is winding down after a wonderfully vibrant season in its new location. Our new location allowed the market to expand and diversify its vendor lineup and brought us back to the beach. The community, vendors and travelers enjoyed access to local, fresh food, quality crafts and live music right here in Neskowin!

NFM thanks the community for supporting our local farmers, food producers and artisans. We thank the vendors and our volunteers. Thanks to our host- Proposals For All, for their ongoing support.

Our last market of the season is Saturday, October 2, 2021. See you next year!



Photo: Cameron Nagel



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