



100 Valleys

A Quarterly Publication for the Supporters of Umpqua Watersheds, Inc

An Oregon 501(c)(3) Non-Profit

Fall 2019 | Issue 81

The **10th annual Umpqua Brew Fest (UBF X)** is rapidly approaching on October 12, 2019. Preparations are underway and we have solidified music, brewery support and many other details. Once again, we are

grateful to have FCR as our lead sponsor and will have a booth at the event where you can learn more about employment



opportunities at this great local business. Oregon Serigraphics will provide screen printing and UBF swag. This year, we are excited to welcome Fortunes Folly from Eugene, a dynamic, energetic musical performance where music is felt and heard. Also on stage will be local talent Rovers and Dragons and Ken Carloni. Support from Seven13 studios has been invaluable providing our signature "Sammy the Salmon" sporting his mustache and bringing friends. Many businesses come together to help support the event. Breweries including Backside, Two Shy, Old 99. Lookingglass, Drapers, Salud, McMenamins, and North Forty are our local participants as well as The Umpqua Valley Brewers Guild. Bigfoot Beverage and Western Beverage distributors are involved and provide taps, cold beverage and advertising. Businesses that have stepped forward to support us as well are Addcox Heating, Hydroponics, Dry Pro, Motel 6 of Roseburg and Good Vibrations. More to come and if you would like to be a supporter, please contact Kasey Hovik at 541-672-7065 or Kasey@umpquawatersheds.org. It takes quite a few volunteers and we will need our membership to support this important fundraising event that so many of UW programs rely upon. Please consider lending your hand to help, whether it is set up, pouring, tear down or sponsorship. We have the foundation, we need the support and help with details. Share our posts, like our Facebook page and invite your friends. More information at www.umpquabrewfest.info and follow our Facebook page at Umpqua Brew Fest: There is no other Umpqua and it is about the water!

Visit us at www.umpquabrewfest.info for more information.

Presidents Corner... Ken Carloni

Greetings faithful UW supporters! I'd like to fill you in on some changes happening in our organization.



First, I am just beginning my third term as president of UW. I became UW's second president from 1996-8, and took another turn in that office from 2009-12. I have some ideas about the directions I'd like to see the organization focus on in the coming years that I will share with you in a bit.

But first, I'd like to introduce our newest board members! I am pleased to announce that **Janice Reid**, one the foremost authorities on Northern Spotted Owls in the region and an active UW volunteer for many years, has joined our board. She brings a wealth of scientific expertise and Forest Service agency experience to the organization from over three decades as a Pacific Northwest Research Station Wildlife Biologist, and we are excited to have her join our efforts.

We will also be joined by another long-time UW supporter, **Mark Eason**. Mark is a talented entrepreneur who has spent over four decades as a contractor providing a wide array of ecological services, mostly to government agencies. He is also a current member of the board of the Yew Creek Land Alliance, one of UW's sister nonprofits dedicated to conserving

Upcoming Events

- Sept 7:** Old Soul Music Festival 3-8 pm
- Sept 14:** Hike on North Umpqua Trail, Toketee segment
- Sept 27:** Water Symposium, Roseburg Library, 6-9pm
- Sept 28:** Umpqua River Cleanup
- Oct 12:** Umpqua Brew Fest X, 1-10pm, DC Fairgrounds
- Oct 16:** Exploring Oregon's Ancient Forests Book Signing, Library, 6pm
- October 19th** at 9:30 am river clean up (DCPARC)

Our Mission:

Umpqua Watersheds is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the ecosystems of the Umpqua watershed and beyond through education, training, advocacy and ecologically sound stewardship.

and restoring 380 beautiful acres straddling the Doe Creek-Thompson Creek divide in southern Douglas County. His business acumen and long history of forest restoration contracting in our region will be a huge asset to UW.

We are grateful to have Janice and Mark's skills and energies on our team! Read more about them and all of our other dedicated board members at <https://umpquawatersheds.org/who-we-are/board-of-directors/>.

Now back to Umpqua Watersheds and our growth as an organization. As faithful readers of this newsletter will know, UW has four major programs that help us further our mission: **Conservation, Outreach, Restoration and Education (CORE)**. These programs have their own co-equal committees, and in our newsletters, you will typically see articles written by the committee chairs associated with each program.

For example, Conservation is not only tasked with watchdogging the public's natural resources and responding to management policies and decisions, but also includes the Wilderness Committee (formerly WOW or "Wild on Wilderness") whose major goal is to secure more wilderness in the region, and DCPARC whose focus is on county lands.

A major goal of the Outreach Program is to inform our members of important issues via this newsletter, Watersheds Moments, open houses and the annual banquet. But Outreach is also tasked with spreading our message to a wider audience via KQUA radio, public forums, UW hikes and other events. They also raise funds to support our staff and building through the fundraisers you all know and love, including the Umpqua Brew Fest, the Banquet and Silent Auction, the Outback concerts, and River Appreciation Day. The Facilities Management Committee organizes a cadre of skilled volunteers who have made dramatic improvements to our aged but solid building.

Restoration continues to make great strides to reverse the damage to our battered ecosystems, building partnerships to restore degraded watersheds, lobbying for changes to management practices, raising funds to support conservation science, and working with diverse stakeholders to protect and enhance habitat for species in peril.

The Education Program's major focus is on supporting our AmeriCorps members as they transform K-12 students into knowledgeable citizens of the biosphere through after-school programs, our Youth Wilderness Camp-out and visits by every 5th

grader in the county to Crater Lake National Park. Students who have come through our Learn, Earn and Serve program are now doing impressive things in the world and we couldn't be more proud of them. Education also looks for any opportunity to work with natural resources students in any way we can. Our new AmeriCorps member, Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld, comes to us with a Masters in Environmental Science & Policy and 10+ years of experience in ecology, conservation, environmental outreach and communication (see Robyn's bio in this newsletter). We believe that she will open new and exciting possibilities for an ecotourism initiative (see the education article in this newsletter).

In all of the complex endeavors described above, we rely almost exclusively on volunteers. This means that all of the good work we do gets done through the kindness of friends and neighbors. We also know that many of you would be more generous with your time and/or money if we just asked and made it easier for you to volunteer and to give. That's why I'll be recommending to the board at our upcoming strategic planning meeting that we appoint a **Membership Chair** to form a committee under Outreach to improve connections with our members.

Another issue that I will be asking the board to address concerns our budgeting structure. As UW has grown over the years and diversified its initiatives to meet our mission, how we raise, categorize and spend money has become much more complex. Added to this is a change in our Treasurer's position and a transition to new accounting software. Moreover, owning a building now means we have rents coming in but liabilities to pay for. Deciding how money flows through the organization to fund all of the work outlined above will be a major focus of my next tenure as president. Once that structure is in place, the pathway from strategic plan to a straightforward and transparent annual budget will be much clearer.

My overarching goal as your new president is to improve the lines of communication within the organization and outward to our members and allies. We will be working on these issues leading up to our annual strategic planning meeting in late October. I am very much interested in hearing any ideas and suggestions you may have to improve the way things work at UW. Please send your solutions to ken@umpquawatersheds.org, and you have my heartfelt thanks for your support, in whatever form it comes.

Board of Directors

Ken Carloni-President/Education Chair
Diana Pace-Secretary/Wilderness Co-chair
J. Patrick Quinn-Conservation Chair
Eric Stauder-Board member
Mark Eason-Board member

Office hours are 1-5 M-W, 9-1 Th-F.

Barbara Lynch-VP/Outreach Chair
Kat Stone-Treasurer
Stan Petrowski-Restoration Chair
John Hunter-DCPARC/Facility Mgmt.
Janice Reid-Board member

Staff

Kasey Hovik-Executive Director
Melanie MacKinnon-Office Manager
Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld-Environmental
Education and Outreach Leader
Robbin Schindele- CLWC Coordinator
Diana Larson-Bookkeeper
Patrick Schneider- KQUA Program Director

Kasey's Corner.....

Kasey Hovik , Executive Director

It was a very busy summer for Umpqua Watersheds. We kicked off the summer with our "Concert for AmeriCorps" when Lance Canales and the Flood returned to Roseburg on May 24th. We were able to raise \$800 toward 2019-20 AmeriCorps



program. A generous \$2,500 from one family, a \$1,500 grant for education from Oregon Community Foundation and other donations totaling \$2,500

nudges us closer to the \$8,200 we need to fund our AmeriCorps position for the upcoming program year. We still have about \$1100 to raise and we hope to reach our goal with the "Old Soul Music Festival, 3-8pm on Saturday, September 7th. We are very fortunate to receive so much support from our community for UW's Environmental Education Program.

On July 19-21 we celebrated the service of our two AmeriCorps members, Christine Smith and Maris Wilson at our 4th annual AmeriCorps campout. While the primary goal of the campout is to give all of us some special time with our AmeriCorps "superheroes" we also invite any AmeriCorps serving with our United Community AmeriCorps partner. It was an amazing time and it was great to look back at all of the wonderful contributions Christine and Maris made to UW and our community. We are very grateful that they chose to serve two years in the AmeriCorps program. We are very excited that United Communities AmeriCorps is adding Camp AmeriCorps as a part of their yearend program. We will once again celebrate River Appreciation Day during Camp AmeriCorps. Next year we will be at Steamboat Ball Field in the Umpqua National Forest for a 2 night campout. combined with River Appreciation Day.

The final activity for Christine and Maris as they finished their AmeriCorps service was to lead our annual Twin Lakes Youth Wilderness Campout on the Umpqua National Forest. We enjoyed spectacular weather and the wonderment in the eyes of the kids who attended was a great reward to all of us who worked with Maris and Christine to facilitate the campout. We



Monthly Board of Directors:

When: 3rd Monday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

For board and staff members only. If there is a topic you feel the board should broach let us know!

Email kasey@umpquawatersheds.org

Education Committee

When: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month, 6pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Ken Carloni - ken.carloni@gmail.com

Restoration Committee

When: 3rd Tuesday of Every Month, 5:30pm

Where: McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

Stan Petrowski - Stanley@umpquawatersheds.org

Conservation Committee

When: 3rd Tuesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: McMenamin's Roseburg Station Pub

J. Patrick Quinn- jquinn@mydfn.net

Facility Management

When: 1st Tuesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

John Hunter- goldenarchie46@yahoo.com

Wilderness Committee

When: Last Wednesday of Every Month, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Bob Hoehne - oho937@hotmail.com

Douglas County Parks Resource Advisory Committee (DCPARC):

When: 3rd Wednesday, 6:00pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

John Hunter, goldenarchie46@yahoo.com

Outreach Committee

When: Last Thursday of every month, 5:30pm

Where: Umpqua Watersheds Office

Barbara Lynch at bjflynn@hotmail.com

had presentations on bats, sea birds, owls and a hike to "the rock" at dark for an astronomy talk. The next day Ken Carloni led a botany hike and Heather Wise talked about dragonflies and that ended at the point overlooking Twin Lakes. It is always a highlight of the campout and the questions and comments made during these educational activities gives us all hope that we are making a difference by "planting seeds" in the hearts and minds of kids so they will have a special appreciation and dedication to protect our natural environment.

We are very excited to announce the next AmeriCorps, Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld, who will join UW as our Environmental Education and Outreach Leader this year. See her biography in this newsletter.

The Tragedy of Oregon Spring Chinook



I've used this medium to update our membership on the sadly declining numbers of Spring Chinook returning Umpqua Basin and coastal Oregon in general. Did you know that there are only two viable wild Spring Chinook runs in the entire Oregon coastal ESU (Environmentally Significant Unit)? It's true. And the Umpqua River basin hosts them on the North and South River forks. From data gathered during the last 50 years, it has been concluded that the south fork run is no longer viable. An annual average of 176 salmon have been returning to the ancient natal spawning grounds on the upper end of the river system. It is alarming that only 28 fish returned last year and the official count for this year is 56. These numbers are much lower than the already tragic low numbers recorded over the last half century. It pains me to even consider it.

NOAA/NMFS Folly of Species

I know many reliable agency folks working within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service. I doubt very much that we can realistically appraise the intense political pressure these folks are consistently under to deal with the many marine species going extinct and the political pressure not to list them as a threatened species.

In addition, they are seriously limited both fiscally and staff wise to address these problems appropriately. We, the citizenry, are responsible to encourage Congress to provide them with resources needed. How about we reduce the oil and agricultural subsidies to do that?

Nevertheless, we are strapped with what we have. It has caused serious shortfalls and political shenanigans within the agency. One related to the issue at hand involves NMFS managing salmon species on a large ESU scale instead of the scale that nature has outlined. What I mean by that is that anadromous salmon return to their birth stream, not on the scale of say a coastal region. These fish take on different characteristics associated with the unique geography and ecology of the watershed that they spawn in.

To make matters worse, the Chinook Salmon are lumped together as a single species. I know. I know. You've heard me ranting about this before. It bears repeating. We are losing our entire coastal Spring Chinook run because the agency is resisting the clear scientific documentation that shows beyond doubt that Spring and Fall Chinook are not the same fish. Not only is their life history very different. Not only is their body confirmation different (Springers are much fatter and often larger than Fall Chinook), but the UC Davis studies from Mike Miller's Salmon Genetics labs clearly shows a different genetic mutation that separates the Springs from the Fall run. This mutation took place once in geologic time. If we lose the two wild runs of the

Oregon coast they will most likely never be replaced. Other watersheds along the coast that boasted Spring Chinook runs are currently extirpated. They are gone. Once mighty fish runs dwindled down to nothing and then blink off the radar screen.

I know that ODFW is culpable in all of this also. They are under the same socio-political pressure.

Umpqua Watersheds to the Rescue

Dear citizen and lover of the natural world. This tragic drama is transpiring right here in the Umpqua basin river system. When was the last time you ever queried to discover who are the decision makers that have brought us to this place in time? Are you aware of the lengthy process that it takes to change policy and action in your watersheds? Do you know that your attention on such matters sheds light and is a significant influence on what gets done and when? Umpqua Watersheds has taken this very loss of a keystone species very seriously. We consider it an honor to have partnered with the Native Fish Society and the Center for Biological Diversity to petition the US Fish and Wildlife Service to list the Oregon Coastal Spring

Chinook as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

When speaking with advisors and people in the know, we were asked if it was appropriate in the current political climate to advance this petition. We had no alternative. The fish are disappearing before our eyes. The natural world isn't waiting for political climates to change. It is dying now. By the time you read this, the petition will have been submitted or very close to being submitted within days.

Preparation for this petition took over two years. An unbelievable

amount of time and resources were utilized by the project partners. Please consider contributing to the Umpqua Watersheds general fund to help us defray some of the costs. Mention that this is in relation to the Spring Chinook campaign. Your contribution is tax deductible. The work invested in this project assigned to Umpqua Watersheds was done under the auspices of your UW Board of Directors volunteers. It's what we do. Nevertheless the organization needs your fiscal support to continue this critically important tasks. You know that is how the system works and your contributions of any size make a significant difference. Of the tens of millions of dollars spent annually on restoration projects UW receives nothing. You are the life line for our project watchdog efforts. Thank you.

DCPARC Update....John Hunter

DCPARC has many issues that they have been addressing and reviewing. Columbia County logging of County and City Parks, Leachate problem at DC landfill, Land Use Board of Appeals decisions, and grease dumping in downtown storm drains. We invite you to read it in detail on the website:

umpquawatersheds.org/dcparc-september-2019



Conservation... J.Patrick Quinn

The Conservation Column in the June, 2018 edition of this newsletter, contained the following: *"Thus, when we became aware of what seemed to us to be an egregious request to impose yet another 1,400 feet of forest road through old growth on BLM managed public land near Susan Creek Falls so that Lone Rock Timber might access a few acres of second growth, we objected. Despite meeting with supervisors at the Roseburg District, and suggesting reasonable alternatives, quite a few very ancient trees were felled, ostensibly so that machinery designed to greatly automate clear cutting could gain access. However, as of this writing, it looks like that particular six acres of private timber has been taken off the table, the right of way carved through primary public forest an apparent road to nowhere, at least for the present."*



Readers may recall this impasse and related issues reported in local media. Recently, a News Review investigation revealed that the Douglas County Sheriff's Office had taken the precautionary step of monitoring the social media postings of several individuals and organizations regarding a purported threat made to Lone Rock Timber, after that company went ahead and felled the many large old trees within that 1,400' public land right of way. The sheriff's office didn't say whom they were observing, but we can guess. For the record, no one associated with Umpqua Watersheds leadership, that we are aware of, was responsible for making this alleged threat, or any other for that matter. As outlined in past conservation columns, UW voices its objection to egregious and ill-considered forest management actions through participation in the NEPA process and/or by joining in face to face discussion with management agencies and other stakeholders. Intimidation through the issuance of violent threats never has been and never will be UW's modus operandi. Never.

The forest road that Lone Rock gouged through your public land and old growth and mature forest last year faced no discretion either to object to or prevent it, and no alternatives were available. Lone Rock was permitted because no law precludes it. Interestingly, just this past week we were informed by the agency that timber extraction is being planned for that very locality, facilitated, one would reasonably assume, by that same

disgraceful road. Did the agency know this when they denied any ability to prevent this egregious action and subsequently approved this one more environmental outrage? Perhaps not, but given the long lead time typical of BLM planning endeavors, it is at least likely that they did, although no hint of such future public land logging was revealed when we met to discuss alternatives to still more road building through primary forest. Sadly, this is how conscientious skeptics metamorphose into bitter cynics.

Euphemistically titled "Umpqua Sweets," this proposed logging activity, which we are informed will include more than one kind of large canopy opening, and which, will fall trees up to 140 years old, is very near to the Roseburg District's ongoing Third Rock timber sale. Both of these large actions impact important drainages of the iconic North Umpqua River. And critical to note, these public forestlands do not exist in a vacuum but are sited within the infamous and most unfortunate "checkerboard" of alternating ownerships. Large, poorly regulated private industrial clear cuts, with their suite of related and often questionable management activities, can occur all around the public lands whenever the whims of financiers and timber markets dictate. Environmental criteria, you can be quite sure, will not play any significant part in how these fiber farms will be managed.

Google Earth images reveal that just to the west, a cut over landscape rivaling anything on the Oregon Coast Range in Douglas or Coos Counties, or across the hills above the beleaguered South Umpqua River. For years, UW's Conservation Chair has been highlighting this geographic management context to the BLM, insisting that all of this rampant private timberland clear cutting and monoculture restocking, with its attendant aerial herbicide spraying and never ending road construction, must be fully acknowledged and mitigated for on the adjoining public lands under the management of the BLM. For all of the apparent good that has been done, we might just as well have been whistling into the wind. Regarding past and current extractive practices on many of these degraded watersheds, the BLM remains in apparent denial, slave to the out of date insistence on achieving its assigned sale quantity. It is our position that the efficacy of any agency management activity ought to be measured by the number of acres rehabilitated to natural function, rather than by the number of board feet felled and trucked to one or another mill.

This is not to say that no one at the BLM has been engaged in any restorative activities; far from it. In fact, in the very area referred to above, along Rock Creek, a key North Umpqua tributary, BLM currently working on extensive riparian restoration. And there are other worthwhile efforts of a similar nature underway on the Coquille and elsewhere. Unfortunately, while one agency hand encourages nature's healing, the other seems to be doing its best to obviate it. Of course, this is not to mention the impact of private land practices on the public resource that go so far in helping to undermine public land restorative efforts on this very landscape. As so many times before, we intend to make our position regarding regeneration logging of public forestlands known. If we are not able to prevent these environmentally egregious actions on your public lands, UW will at least bear formal citizen witness to them, in the hopes of someday realizing true reform, with complete conservation of older stands, wider spread rehabilitation of

plantations and meaningful changes to the very retrograde Oregon Forest Practices Act as one of our ultimate goals.

Despite discouraging developments on the watersheds of the Umpqua, the Coquille and beyond, we are pleased to report on positive developments on USFS rehabilitation proposals: Skillem on the Tiller Ranger District, and Calf-Copeland on the North Umpqua Ranger District. Commercial harvest on these projects in existing young plantations and thinning of some older stems for legacy pine conservation on Calf-Copeland are projects that UW supports. Commercial logging is not the driver on either ranger district, but rather is a declared bi-product of restoration. Are either of these proposals perfect? No, there are particulars, such as temporary roads into reserves on Skillem, as well as extractive activities in NSO critical habitat, both of which UW would prefer not to see. However, matrix plantations are slated for skips and gaps on both projects, as well as the reintroduction of minority species, such as Sugar Pine and the restoration of oak meadows. Significant reductions in forest road miles is a part of Skillem and Calf-Copeland, although not as much as we would prefer. With forest roads in general, it is safe to say that less amounts to more. And refreshingly, unlike current BLM proposals, regeneration "harvests" (read: "clear cuts lite") have no part in these restoration efforts. UW will offer its honest critique of those aspects of these exciting restoration projects as needed. At the same time, it is our overall intention not to let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

Among a host of retrograde environmental roll backs proposed by the Trump administration, readers may have heard about draconian changes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As outlined in a recent conservation column, NEPA is the portal through which citizens and their representative organizations can provide critique and offer suggestions regarding actions by federal agencies that might have detrimental impacts to public lands and the life forms, including human, that depend upon the conservation and/or restoration of habitats. On Forest Service lands, these changes would greatly increase the size of areas given a pass from engaging in the NEPA process. Some of the political appointees currently managing federal agencies are less than ideal and a picture of the worst that such an administrative might well allow. UW is co-signatory to extensive group comments opposing these possible diminutions of critical Forest Service functions, undertaken in fulfillment of the public trust.

Not to be outdone, the Medford and Roseburg BLM Districts have proposed their own version of a NEPA end run. It appears that 14,000 acres of poorly defined extractive activities, along with up to 25 miles of new forest roads, would be permitted annually on the Medford District forestlands, while some 1,000 acres and 5 miles of new roads would be allowed on the South River Field area of the Roseburg District. These activities would possibly be extended across all land use classifications, including Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Late Successional Reserves, Riparian Reserves etc. Considering the compromised interests of current appointees at the Department of the Interior, we feel regrettably justified in fearing the worst from this proposal. We have filed extensive comments regarding the potential dangers involved on both districts. In return, they have promised to solicit more public input via meetings, tours etc. Stay tuned, remain alert, and get engaged. The watersheds you save may be your own!

Help keep KQUA alive and commercial free

99.7 KQUA is a low-power, non-commercial FM station on the air since the spring of 2017. The station is operated by passionate volunteers who spend time and skill on the operations. However, the cost of keeping KQUA on the air is growing. Among the many costs to operate a radio station, it requires \$750 to keep our Emergency Alert System up to date. This system lets our community know of impending dangers such as inclement weather, child abductions, earthquake and tsunami warnings, and more.

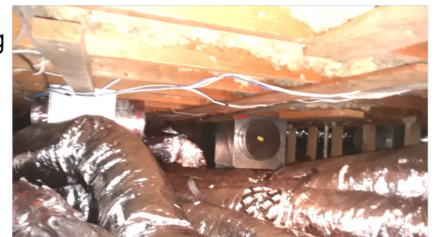


As we grow, some of our equipment falls below the capacity to bring our listeners more and better programming and needs to be upgraded. By 2020, we are hoping to improve some equipment that will help us broadcast to a larger area more clearly. Also, we are working to stream 99.7 KQUA to the world via the internet. But we can't do it without listener support.

There are several ways the community can help. Businesses and individuals can donate time and/or goods and services that will generate funds for operations or donate tax deductible charitable contribution. Business owners and non-profits who donate to 99.7 KQUA can receive mentions for their organization on the 99.7 signal. In the near future we will provide SWAG as an appreciation for their support. Listeners can donate a couple different ways: www.umpquawatersheds.org and make a donation through the website making note to direct funding to KQUA. A donation can be made in person at our offices at 539 SE Main St. Roseburg, Oregon. Business owners who would like to donate can call us at 541-672-7065 for more details.

Facility Management.... John Hunter

Summertime has been a busy season for the Facilities Management Committee. We achieved one of our goals of replacing the ventilation ducts in the attic thanks to Addcox Heating. Our attic is now more accessible, our office environment healthier and our HVAC system is more efficient. Drywall repair from the installation is next on the list.



Replacing the building's aging water heater became the next priority and thanks to the talents of Phil Schad, the replacement only took a few hours. Our new water heater will provide years of dependable service.

We are hoping to secure a donated storage area to allow us the time and space to sort through years of records and items while enabling us to create more efficient office space. We hope to update some electrical outlets and insulate our attic. Fortunately, we are blessed with 4 dependable renters! If you have or know of someone that would like to donate storage space, please contact our office.

There is always something that needs to be done. Please join us at our monthly work sessions, the 2nd Saturday of every month at 10 am. Your efforts will be appreciated! We meet the first Tuesday of every month, 5:30 pm at the Watersheds office.

Many Ways of Supporting Umpqua Watersheds

Fred Meyer : Support Umpqua Watersheds just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. Fred Meyer donates over \$2 million each year to local schools, community organizations and nonprofits of your choice. Just link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer. If you do not have a Rewards Card, you can sign up for one at the Customer Service Desk of any Fred Meyer store.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Umpqua Watersheds every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Umpqua Watersheds. You can choose Umpqua Watersheds to support by following directions on smile.amazon.com.

Bottle Drop : There are Two ways to give. 1) If you already have a Bottle Drop Account you can Donate From Your Balance Online. Search the list of participating nonprofits for Umpqua Watersheds and click 'Donate' to transfer funds from your BottleDrop account to our nonprofit. 2) *Give Blue Bags* are a long-term, sustainable way to raise funds for Umpqua Watersheds. Barcoded Blue Bags are available at the UW office. Fill bags with empty containers and drop them off at any BottleDrop location at their convenience.

PayPal: The PayPal button on the Umpqua Watersheds website allows you to make donations in any amount you choose. Our donation button can be found under the "Get Involved" menu on our Umpqua Watersheds Web page <https://umpquawatersheds.org>

The old fashioned way. We accept checks and cash donations. You can send in a check for any amount to: Umpqua Watersheds, Inc., P.O. Box 101, Roseburg, OR 97470

If you are inspired to give by an event or environmental issue, you may specifically designate it to a particular cause on the check or an attached note. You can send money via your PayPal account to Umpqua Watersheds with a note citing the particular Fund. Visit the Umpqua Watersheds website (www.umpquawatersheds.org).

Membership: Our annual membership categories and rates are:

Living Lightly (\$20)

Individual (\$35)

Family (\$50)

Steward (\$100-\$500)

Defender (\$1000)

Members receive a one-year subscription to our quarterly newsletter, 100 Valleys.

For more information, visit umpquawatersheds.org/get-involved/

EDUCATION REPORT: Is the Time Right for a UW Edutourism Initiative?

The following two short-term activities are listed in Umpqua Watersheds' strategic plan for our Education program:

"Conduct feasibility study re: infrastructure necessary for Educational Ecotourism."

"Acquire a vehicle(s) for field trips and ecotourism in the Umpqua and beyond."

As many of you have read in this newsletter, I spent the last decade of my career at Umpqua Community College designing, planning and conducting field-based classes in botany and ecology. These courses included a 6 day/5 night Field Botany tour of southwest Oregon and northern California, and a 10 day Ecology tour of the Baja Peninsula.

These courses were spectacularly successful, and top the list of my favorite experiences as a professor. Something special happens when human beings are removed from the trappings of modern life and transported into the heart of a living, breathing ecosystem. When immersed in wild nature, travelers see the world with new eyes and gain perspective on their place in the cosmos.

Most of us have vivid memories of "field trips" from our high school or college days, and I'd wager that those who do also remember much of what we learned on those outings. Excitement and novelty create the ideal brain chemistry for storing knowledge. In addition, learning in a community of fellow explorers deepens the experience.

Is the time right for making Umpqua Watersheds a home for educational ecotourism (a.k.a. "edutourism")? Now that I am retired from full-time teaching, and having seen first-hand the life changing experiences of my students and other community members who helped us fill the seats and break us even, I am more committed than ever to see this happen in our community.

But what convinces me even more that the planets have aligned for this initiative is our newest AmeriCorps member, Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld. As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, Robyn not only has the K-12 experience to carry the great work of our former AmeriCorps forward, but she also has extensive experience in ecotourism in Trinidad, Ecuador and Costa Rica as well as in the US. I am very much looking forward to brainstorming with her and the Education team to get educational ecotourism up and running at UW.

If you have an interest in helping us make this happen, or think you might want to join us on an excursion, please contact me at ken@umpquawatersheds.org.



Robyn Bath-Rosenfeld

AmeriCorps

Robyn is our Environmental Education and Outreach Leader! Her love for the environment and conservation came from growing up in the Sierra

Nevada mountains in Truckee, California. She received her Bachelors of Science from the University of Vermont and her Masters of Science from Northern Arizona University. Robyn spent three years working in conservation and environmental education all over the Caribbean and Latin America. She has more recently lived and worked on the Oregon coast and Portland, and is excited to now call Douglas County home. She is looking forward to bringing her love of the outdoors, youth empowerment, and conservation management to Roseburg and Umpqua Watersheds. In her free time, Robyn loves cooking, birding, and taking her dog Curry on walks in the woods.





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