



Trail Crew Alumni Association Update

Updates for alumni and current crew.

December 2015

Announcements

Membership Challenge!

Annual Reunion

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Membership Challenge!

Peter Jensen will contribute \$10 to TCA for each new member who pays their dues by April 15, 2016.

I am doing this to honor all the crew members who served with me as first, second, third, and fourth yearmen from 1976 to 1979.

So please send in your memberships (\$35 for a regular membership, more will be gratefully accepted). Remember you must be a new member (you qualify if you have not paid dues in the past

TCA Alumni-

The Trail Crew Association (TCA) exists for the benefit of former seasonal employees of the Appalachian Mountain Club Trails Program - the trail crew, caretakers, Camp Dodge staff and others. The TCA is governed by a board of directors who have been active this past year. The TCA maintains the operating costs for the Trail Crew Cabin in Shelburne, NH, publishes the Chips and Clippings for the membership, maintains the database of members, holds the annual reunion, and has operational expenses for the website and the current trail crew bash.

Paid dues for 2015 (which began arriving at the TCA mailbox in October 2014) numbered 24 alums. We also added one new life member this year. We now have a total of 16 life members. This is out of over 300 active names with addresses and/or emails.

Below you will see the accounting for the association.

As you can see we are teetering on the brink. We will only be able to sustain one more year of operation given the above financial information. To be fair, there are several expenses for 2015, such as checks for the checking account, the roof repairs for Shelburne Lodge, which are not regular expenses. However, it still leaves us very vulnerable.

So what are we going to do? If we had 150 dues paying members (at \$35/year) we would generate enough funds to make ends meet (\$5,250). We only had 24 members paying for 2015 - one sixth of what we need. Of those 24 members many contributed more than the minimum \$35.

3 years). Bob Proudman will validate all the new memberships as association secretary, and I will pay up! **I want you to join and support TCA!**

Dues can be sent to:

Trail Crew Association
PO Box 101
Gorham, NH 03581.
Checks should be made out to **Trail Crew Association**. You can also pay dues using PayPal through the TCA website.

If you have suggestions for dealing with our financial situation, questions or comments, please contact me at: Peter@trailbuilders.com

In recent years we have made strides in improving Chips and Clippings - more content, more interesting information but costs a bit over 10 percent of our operating expenses. Shelburne Lodge was built 40 years ago and it is aging and in need of some maintenance. Shelburne Lodge accounts for about half of our operating expenses (this year). The TCA website costs us 10 percent of our annual operating expenses. The annual reunion/meeting cost us about 8 percent of the annual operating expenses. The same goes for the funds we provide to trail crew for the bash. So, which of these items do we give up? How can we continue to maintain our operations with the limited income that arrives in our PO Box?

We really only have one answer to this question - more dues paying members and additional donations to the TCA in support of Shelburne Lodge and Chips and Clippings. We also need an Annual Meeting which pays for itself (hint: donate more funds to attend or pay more at the door). You can help justify the existence of the TCA website by paying your dues on line through the website (although there is a small bite taken there by PayPal). You could donate additional funds in support of the trail crew's bash (you all remember what bash was like, right?)

2016 is right around the corner and it will be 40 years since my first year on TFC. As this was a life changing event for me, I am going to issue a challenge to the alumni who have not been regularly paying dues (you know who you are). **See my Membership Challenge (to the left).**

Treasurer's Report 2015 - Respectfully submitted by,

Peter Jensen, '76 -'79, TM '79
President, Professional Trail Builders Association



Here's how the numbers have stacked up in 2015:

Income for 2015

Membership dues - \$255 (4 members)
Member donations - General fund - \$127.88 (2 donations)
Life member payments - \$350 (1 new member)
Shelburne Lodge fund - \$600 (2 donations)
Promotional sales (hats) - \$15

Total Income - \$1,347.88

Expenses for 2015

Association Operations
Website - \$539.84
Trail Crew Bash support - \$400
Supplies (hats) - \$729
Printing (Checks for checking acct) - \$50.94

Chips and Clippings - \$638.17

Shelburne Lodge - \$2,445.40 (of this amount, \$950.40 was the net cost for roof repairs done so far by alums (\$1375 donated) - the remainder covered lease, taxes, and insurance). (There will be more costs in 2016 to complete the re-roofing and other planned maintenance.)

Annual Meeting/Reunion - \$438.17

Total Expenses - \$5,286.52

Net income to date for 2015 is a negative \$3,938.34.

The deficit encountered this year required me, as TCA Treasurer to move funds from our savings account (\$2,000) over to the checking account. The remaining funds (\$1,938.34) was drawn from our checking account. Our current Savings Account has \$5,705 in residence. Our checking account has less than \$100 dollars.

**Annual Reunion - Mark your calendar now!
Saturday, November 12th, 2016**

Complete information will be posted on the Web site soon.



TCA Web site - amctca.org!

Website additions and modifications are being made. Be sure to visit the site in about two weeks to see the interesting new information.

