

Tunnel Echoes



Arch Cape/Falcon Cove Beach Community

A Newsletter

September 2020

Welcome to the Fall Season in Arch Cape

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Cover Photo by Gil Kinch

Quarterly Clean – Up & Zoom Meeting

Saturday, September 19, 2020

Everyone is welcome!

10 a.m. Clean-Up: Meet at St. Peter the Fisherman Church. Pick up supplies to walk Highway 101 and pick up litter.

The annual Arch Cape-Falcon Cove Beach Community Club's general membership meeting is set for Saturday, Sept. 19, at 5 p.m., via [Zoom videoconference](#).

While this is not the event we'd hoped for — and we will, of course, miss the potluck! —

we wanted to get as many folks together as we can, even if it's only virtually. It's also important that we have our Annual Membership meeting and Elections that we missed back in May that had to be canceled due to COVID-19. We really hope that many of you will be able to join the Zoom meeting, either via audio or online.

Arch Cape-Falcon Cove Beach Community Club's hoodies



Now available for \$40 in 3 distinct colors: Royal, Charcoal, & Red

Arch Cape-OSU Research

by Diane Matson, Board Member

If you remember back several months ago, there were two researchers from OSU doing a study on the effects of waves on sand and shoreline. They spoke at the February community meeting. As you might expect, they were no longer able to do their work this summer because of the pandemic. Instead, they have postponed it to August 2021. They regret not being able to meet with us again this year, but plan to keep in touch over the next year leading up to August 2021.

Cape Falcon Marine Reserve News

by Nadia Gardner

Oregon's ocean supports bountiful fish, whales, seabirds and other wildlife species. The State manages it three nautical miles from our ocean shore. Since 2016, the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve has served to conserve our biodiversity and provide a location for new scientific study. It is located between Neahkahnie Beach (north of Manzanita) and Arch Cape. View a map and learn more: www.nehalemtrust.org/capefalconmr



Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve work to educate and engage the public in our ocean. This year, the Friends have adapted programming to be online. Now, you can see our presentations anytime by viewing via Facebook or YouTube. Recent presentations include: Graceful Giants: Gray Whales; Oregon's Amazing Ocean; and Oregon Marine Reserves Ecological Research.

Watch videos and learn about upcoming events:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CapeFalconMR

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYuqtSQuQ4bUab7N8pd9mpQ>

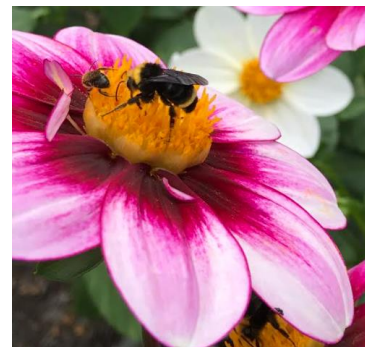
Instagram: www.instagram.com/capefalconMR/

The Garden Buzz

Submitted by Mary Jo Mosby

The Oregon Bee Atlas

Creating floral habitat that provides nectar and pollen, and not using pesticides in our yards is an essential step in supporting our native bee species, and in Oregon we estimate at least 630 species. This includes our non-native bee, the European honey bee, and other species of pollinators such as butterflies and hummingbirds. Why is this important? Besides being so wonderful and adding to the quality of our lives, bees especially are important pollinators of flowering plants and agricultural crops. One out of every three bites of food depend on pollination by bees. The commercial almond industry in California requires honey bee colonies to efficiently pollinate and produce nuts. In Oregon, native



bees such as the leaf cutter bee are managed commercially for the pollination of alfalfa, and mason bees for the agricultural pollination of apple and cherry trees.

Because I wanted to make a better world, I looked at quite a few citizen scientist programs before I chose to join the Oregon Bee Atlas (OBA) program. The Oregon Bee Atlas has a devoted professional pollinator health staff at Oregon State University whose mission is to "train and equip citizen scientists to: a) create and maintain a comprehensive and publicly accessible inventory of the state's native bees and their plant-host preferences, b) to educate Oregonians on the state's bee biodiversity and c) to conduct an on-going survey of native bee populations in order to assess their health."

The Oregon Bee Atlas is a part of OSU's Extension programs and is a branch of the Oregon Bee Project. "Initiated in 2017, the Oregon Bee Project is a cooperative effort between Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon State University Extension, and a diverse set of stakeholders who are actively engaged in caring for our bees. ...The strategic plan sets targets and describes activities to: 1) protect bees from pesticide exposure, 2) increase habitat, 3) reduce impacts of diseases and pests and 4) expand our understanding of the bees of Oregon." The Oregon Bee Atlas serves under the 4th strategic plan objective.

We must understand what bees are here in our state, establish a species checklist and a baseline of abundance and diversity of these species before we can have science-based evidence to know if our bees are healthy or declining, and before we can advise land managers in their restoration projects. As a citizen scientist of the Oregon Bee Atlas I assist in collecting bees across the state, entering and recording data including the plant the bee was visiting when it was collected. In the field I use the iNaturalist app where the data is uploaded to OSU's database for further analysis and research. Records in that database must be re-verified, then the collected bees are pinned, labeled, and sent to OSU's Arthropod Collection. There is a professional taxonomist who verifies the species before it goes to the collection.

The bees and the data online will be available to researchers worldwide. I also joined OBA's Master Melittologist program where you can learn how to identify native bees down to the species level, participate in outreach programs to the public and conduct your own research. There is a place here for every citizen science volunteer. You can focus only on the collection of data, only on outreach programs, or on taxonomy. If you have any questions or want to become a volunteer please contact me at maryjomosby@gmail.com. We are fortunate to live in such a wonderful state where funding was provided to establish a pollinator health program. We have much to **bee** proud of!

Please check out the websites below to learn more. I believe we all can make a difference collectively in pollinator health.

To learn more:

Oregon Bee Project: <https://www.oregonbeeproject.org/>

Oregon Bee Atlas. <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/bee-atlas>

Donate: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/bee-atlas/donate>

In pollinator health,

Mary Jo Mosby

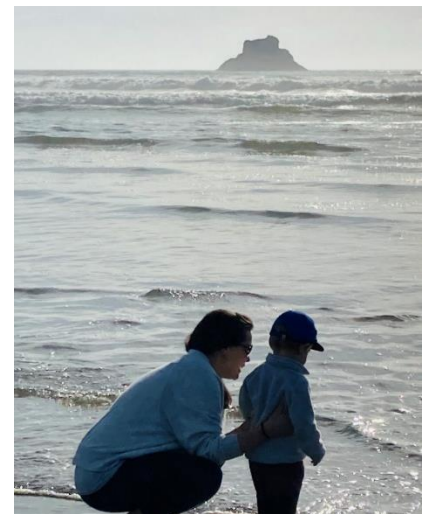


Photo provided by Diane Matson

Overnight Camping in Arch Cape and Falcon Cove Beach

Submitted by Linda Eyerman

We Need Your Input. Please take the Camping Survey posted at [ACFCBcommunityclub.org](https://www.acfcbcommunityclub.org).

This summer there have been several reports of campers setting up tents or parking RVs on undeveloped lots in Arch Cape and Falcon Cove Beach. When the Community Club first heard about this, we assumed camping was illegal, as it is in most urban and rural residential communities.

An inquiry to Clatsop County Community Development resulted in an unexpected response. Camping on private lots, we were told, is not prohibited anywhere in the County and does not require a permit if it is for no more than 30 days in any 90-day period.

Arch Cape and Falcon Cove Beach are located in rural residential zones which have ordinances to protect the health and safety of those who live in these communities, as well as those who visit. But these protections, such as the requirement that habitable premises include toilets, do not extend to undeveloped lots. Allowing camping on these lots presents a multitude of health and safety concerns.

The Community Club Board of Directors decided at its August 2020 meeting to send a letter to the County in hopes of getting this situation corrected. It included two major points: one, that overnight camping is in fact prohibited by the specific zoning ordinances which govern Arch Cape (AC-RCR zone) and Falcon Cove Beach (CR zone); and two, that even if camping is currently allowed, we want to start a conversation with the County with the goal of getting an ordinance enacted which prohibits camping in our local zones. What follows are excerpts from this letter, which is awaiting a formal response from the County.

Dear Community Development Director:

It has come to our attention that Clatsop County may be relying on LWDUO 2.052 (Exclusions from Development Permit Requirements) to allow overnight camping on privately-owned unimproved lots in Arch Cape and Falcon Cove Beach. If so, this is a major change in our understanding of how land may be used in our AC-RCR and CR zones, and the Club strongly opposes this change for health and safety reasons. This is not a hypothetical concern, since we have had recent reports of campsites on vacant lots in Arch Cape, on both the east and west sides of Highway 101, as well as in Cove Beach, and our members are alarmed.

We are reaching out to County officials in hopes we have misunderstood, or if not, we are hoping to reverse this camping free-for-all by offering insight into the hazards associated with overnight camping and the harm camping can do to our rural and coastal communities. Here are a few of the many policy reasons why overnight camping on unimproved lots is a use that should not be allowed in our AC-RCR and CR zones.

No Sanitation Facilities. Unimproved lots by definition have no sewer connection or septic system installed. There are no public restrooms in either Arch Cape or Falcon Cove Beach. The options for campers are to bury their waste or bag it for taking with them. Neither is a good option in communities like Arch Cape and Falcon Cove Beach which have many riparian elements, wetlands, many homes, and no public refuse containers.

No Running Water. Unimproved lots by definition have no water connection or well installed and, therefore, no water source for hand washing and other sanitation needs. We do not endorse using our creeks as bidets or for washing soiled parts of the human body. In this era of Covid-19, the need to prevent disease and surface contamination has never been so important.

Fire Danger. Campers like campfires, and unimproved lots tend to be heavily vegetated. They have no fire pits or other containers to safely make a campfire, no smoke detectors or fire extinguishers, and no water source to put out a campfire should it get out of control. It can take significant time to get a response team to this area, and especially to our many lots without motorized access. It should be noted that we already have a problem with illegal campfires on the beach so it is especially important to consider the very real danger of campfires associated with camping.

Vehicular Concerns. Many unimproved lots in our communities have no motorized access or any access at all except through undeveloped rights-of-way. Where there are roads in the ACRCR and CR zones, they are mostly narrow with little room for safe on-street parking. Parking on unimproved lots is destructive to existing vegetation and wildlife habitat, and can lead to unauthorized activities such as cutting trees to accommodate RV parking.

Commercial Camping. There now are online listing services including Airbnb and Hipcamper which connect property owners with paying guests who are looking to camp on unimproved lots in locations such as our beautiful Clatsop County coast. If this were to occur, and at this point we're monitoring these sites for local activity, the County under its interpretation of Section 2.052 would be powerless to impose health and safety regulations or collect visitor taxes from these businesses as it does with short-term rentals. And just to be clear, family camping on developed lots is not our concern at this time.

Developed lots have services which would be available to family members or guests sleeping in a backyard tent or to a RV parked legally on the property. Our concern is camping on the many unimproved lots in our communities, some on streets which are otherwise fully built, others in areas with no road or other improvements, and yet others in our significant wetlands.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

In order to gauge community sentiment on this issue, a short survey is posted on the Community Club's website, [ACFCBcommunityclub.org](https://www.acfcbcommunityclub.org). Please report campers (with date and location) to the Community Club so we can create a data base.

Clatsop County Comprehensive Plan Update

Submitted by Charles A Dice, President

As noted in prior TE Articles, Clatsop County is in the midst of an update to the County's Comprehensive Plan. In our area, the SouthWest Coastal Citizens Advisory Committee (SWCCAC) is working on providing information to the Planning Department to update both the County Wide Comprehensive Plan as well as the SouthWest Coastal Area Comprehensive Plan. Members on the SWCCAC include: Linda Eyerman, Margret Treadwell, Todd Lundy, Chris Anderson and Charles Dice.

The SWCCAC meets on the second Wednesday of each month by teleconference and these meetings are open to the Public to observe. We are working our way through each of the 18 Statewide Land Use Planning Goals. You can follow our progress and also find a wealth of background information at the following Clatsop County Web page: <https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/landuse/page/southwest-coastal-advisory-committee>

The SWCCAC is currently working on Goal 5 which is the topic for our meetings in Aug through March of 2021 (Goal 5 is a very complex Goal and contains many specific areas). One of the areas in Goal 5 is the identification and preservation of Historic and Cultural sites – if you know of any such sites that should be included for the SouthWest Planning Area (from Cannon Beach south to the Tillamook County border) please get in touch with one of the Committee members. We would very much appreciate you help and your knowledge.

Short-Term Rentals

The issue of Short-Term Rentals (STRs) has become a hot topic in Falcon Cove Beach and Arch Cape. Clatsop County recently hosted a Teleconference on Short-Term Rentals in Falcon Cove that was well attended and that focused on some of these issues. The Teleconference was on 28 July and the Agenda and minutes from the meeting have been posted on the Clatsop County Web site at: <https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/landuse/page/falcon-cove-short-term-rental-meeting> Some of the key issues raised during the Teleconference were:

1. Large number of STRs in a small, residential community like Falcon Cove Beach is changing the character and livability of our small community.
2. Concerns about large groups (10 to 14 people) in a house originally designed for a family of 3 or 4. Especially with respect to Septic System design and capacity
3. Large number of cars associated with such groups (sometimes as many as 8 to 10 cars at an STR with some cars parked on the street.
4. Parking on the streets – the Streets in Falcon Cove Beach are NOT county roads and are often only 12 feet wide so cars parked on the street present a hazard to other cars traveling the road and especially to any emergency vehicles (such as large Fire Engines).
5. Noise – some of the groups that rent STRs are “party” groups that do not necessarily pay attention to the “Quiet Hours” specified in the Clatsop County Short Term Rental Ordinance.
6. Lack of Enforcement – most often violations of the STR Ordinance occur on the weekends when Code Enforcement is not reachable and by the time they get the complaint as a voicemail or email the weekend is over and the renters are gone. This has occurred with some regularity for a few specific STRs.

The County is looking at possibly using a third-party vendor who can provide a 24/7 “hotline” service to log complaints and to contact the STR representative immediately to get the issues resolved. Other suggestions from Community members who were on the 28 July Teleconference (and/or submitted suggestions by email) included:

- a. Capping the number of STRs in small communities such as Falcon Cove Beach or Arch Cape
- b. Limiting STRs to owner occupied residential dwellings
- c. Requiring STRs to post a Notice visible from the Street listing the STR Permit Number and Name and Contact info for a Property Manager or Contact Person
- d. STR permits to be for a fixed period (like 3 years) and NOT automatically renewable.
- e. Limit how close an STR can be to another STR (like 500 feet)
- f. Have Code Enforcement log ALL complaints with a written response required to be given to the complaining party regarding the outcome of their complaint.

If you have comments or suggestions you would like to add, please use the ACFCBCC Web Site to provide them. Your input would be greatly appreciated and would be most helpful to provide some guidance to the SouthWest Coastal Citizens Advisory Committee (SWCCAC) that is currently working on an update to the Clatsop County and SouthWest Coastal Planning Area Comprehensive Plans which will include looking at Short-Term Rentals.

Arch Cape Water & Sanitary District News

By Phil Chick

Arch Cape is \$1 million closer to owning our drinking water source forest! Arch Cape Water District was recently awarded a Forest Legacy Program (FLP) grant through the US Forest Service and in partnership with Oregon Department of Forestry. The District is currently in the due diligence period of the property acquisition and has most

recently completed a baseline financial plan for the purchase and continued management of the property. The project has also been placed on the priority funding list for an additional \$2.5 Million through the FLP, which the District anticipates learning of officially in early 2021. This additional FLP grant award would bring the total funding up to \$3.5 Million of the estimated \$5.3 Million needed to purchase the property.

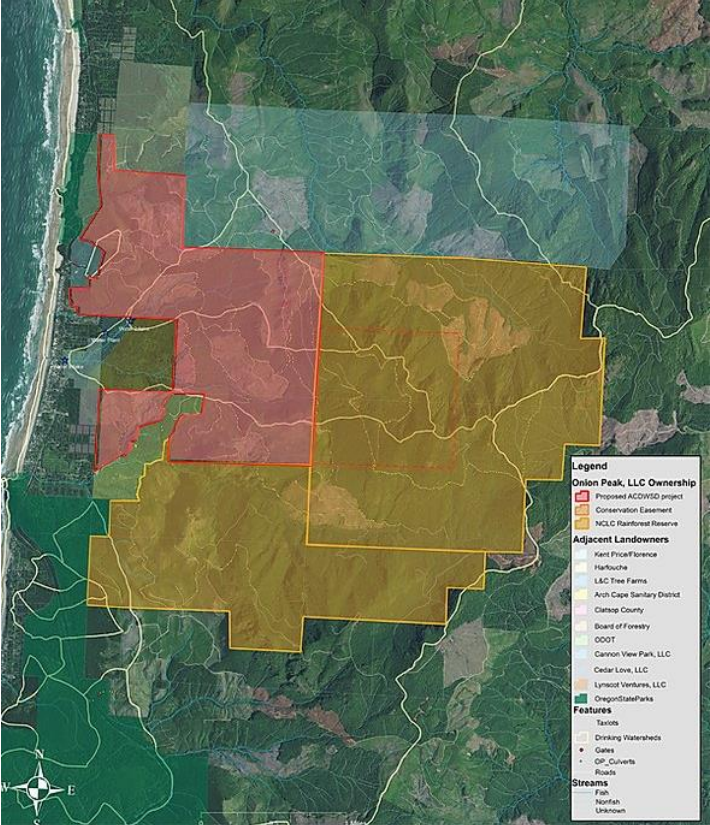
The Water District, in close coordination with the Arch Cape Sanitary District, has been working to acquire the 1,500-acre drinking water source forest for four years. It is located just east of our community and can be hiked into by the forest road at the north end of Arch Cape.

If the purchase is successful, the Arch Cape Forest will be stewarded to provide the multiple benefits that are achieved through community forestry including drinking water protection, forest management, recreation, and conservation.

The Water District is currently starting the very important process of developing a community advisory committee. This committee, appointed by the Board, will work in coordination



Photo provided by Nadia Gardner



with the Water District Manager and a consulting forester engaged by the Board, and will assist in the development of a Forest Management Plan setting forth objectives for the Forest including forestry operations, recreation, and conservation. To learn more about the project or to become involved please contact District Manager, Phil Chick, at 503-436-2790 or philchickacutil@gmail.com The Water Board meets the third Friday of each month and the Arch Cape Forest project holds a continued place on the agenda. Public comment is welcome and appreciated at every Board meeting.

Read more:

https://www.dailyastorian.com/news/local/arch-cape-water-project-will-benefit-from-great-american-outdoors-act/article_b74b49c8-d821-11ea-8b69-83a3dd081518.html

Keep up with the project by liking it on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/ACFcoordinator/>



Photo provided by Chance Felisky

Region-wide Construction Map Available

By Lianne Thompson



The weather is changing and construction projects are getting underway! We've put together some tools to help you navigate the season and the roads around you.

See which projects are being constructed in 2020

Whether you are looking for a broad look at the transportation construction projects across the Willamette Valley and North Coast or a closer look by county, we've got you covered.

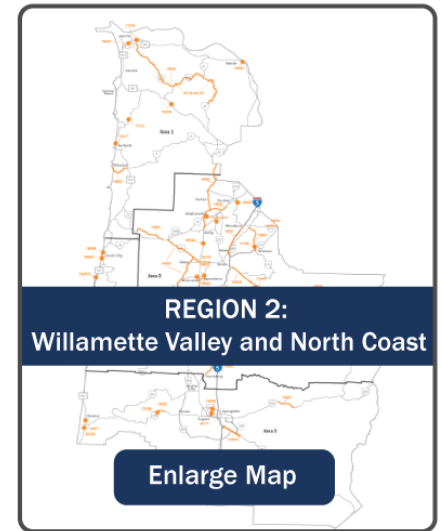
We have compiled a resource page that has maps, schedules, impacts and links to the project pages for additional information.

You can:

- Check projects planned on a corridor
- Find information on a specific project
- Sign up for [updates](#) and/or [flash alerts](#)

If we have a project in your community and you have the ability to help us get the word out, let us know by [emailing the communications team](#).

[Visit the Region 2 C](#)



Sign up to receive project updates and news via GovDelivery

Choose your preferences – opt in, opt out and pick the topics you would like to sign up for Construction Resource Page.



**Support your local Cannon Beach/
Arch Cape/Falcon Cove CERT Team**

Being A Good Neighbor



I went to the Sleepy Monk Coffee shop today. Waiting in our socially-distanced line to place my order, I read a sticker from the City of Cannon Beach Public Works: “Take care of each other. Take care of the place.” Right concepts, in right priority, I think.

Do you call yourself a local? Do you live here full-time, part-time, or do you visit? Do you rent out your house or live in it yourself? If you fit any of these categories, it’s probably because you love the place, the people, or both. On the North Coast, the wild and beautiful upper left edge of the US, we love the place, but sometimes it’s more challenging to love the people.

We have lots and lots of people. We’re called upon to share our place with the world. There are freedoms in the US, and one of them is freedom to travel. So they come here, those lots and lots of people, to enjoy a sense of wild beauty and greater freedom from stresses and strains at home, coming to the ocean and the forest.

The beauty of the place calls for appreciation; it also calls for respect. Sneaker waves and rip tides can drown you, if you don’t respect their power. Forests can burn, turning you and your stuff into ashes. Decaying trees can fall on you and crush you like a bug. Cars bring freedom of movement, but mistakes or heedlessness can hurt or kill you.

As my dad used to say, “The laws of physics still apply.” The laws of human relationships still apply, too. We’re called to be good neighbors, on both a permanent and transient basis. How do we do that?

I understand that people want to escape into play when work or life is too hard or too much. But when they want to park in the lane of traffic on US 101 because there’s no legal or safe parking place? When they want to pitch a tent on a vacant lot in our neighborhood because there’s no motel or hotel or legal campsite left? When they party loud and long and large?

When they build campfires during the burn ban, because they don’t know or don’t care that we have a burn ban to protect lives and property during fire season? When they don’t know or care what “fire season” means at the wildland-urban interface?

How do we be good neighbors and encourage everyone else to be a good neighbor, too? Big breath. Perhaps consider concepts like “scope of authority” and “chain of command.” “Scope of authority” defines who gets to control what actions of others. “Chain of command” means who’s accountable to whom for what results. Those are twenty-five cent words to say who gets to be the boss of whom and for what.

Maybe you’re a regular visitor, a second home owner, or even a full-time local, so you think you know what you’re doing and don’t want to be bossed by somebody or anybody else. Maybe you think you know what the rules are, and you want others to behave according to your rules.

Conflicts can arise. We can look for who has the scope of authority and for the chain of command that will preserve our lives and property by limiting someone’s freedom to do what they want. But how do we be good neighbors in all of this?

Being good neighbors means negotiating boundaries and activities with compassion and forgiveness. Nobody’s perfect all the time, and nobody’s wrong all the time. No angels, and no demons. We’re just all humans, wanting to be seen and heard and loved.

Marjorie MacQueen, maven at Cannon Beach Library, pointed me to a book by John Burdett, *Bangkok Haunts*. In it, he said, “When you tear away the last veil, you know with certainty that love is the foundation of human consciousness, that there really is nothing else. It’s our constant betrayal of it that makes us crazy.”

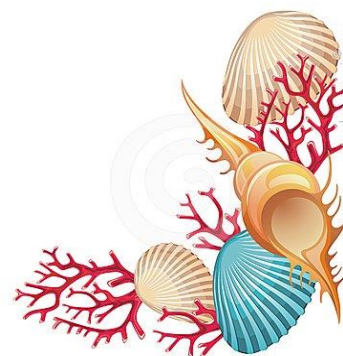
If we can’t behave to honor the safety and well-being of the people and the place, we destroy the place and deny the essential positive human connection we all want and need. That’s when we start looking for laws and punishment, looking for whose scope of authority and chain of command can stop those who threaten us and the place we love. Alternatively, we can find reasons to love one another, no matter what.

We can be good neighbors. Let’s do that.



**ARCH CAPE
FALCON COVE BEACH
COMMUNITY CLUB**

79729 Highway 101, Arch Cape, OR 97102



Arch Cape - Falcon Cove Beach Community Club

The Community Club meets four times yearly on the third Saturday of May, September, November and February. Membership in the club is \$16 for a household and includes membership as well as a subscription to this newsletter.

Not a member? Please join or renew today.

You can mail to ACFCB Community Club, Attn: Treasurer, 79729 Hwy 101, Arch Cape, OR 97102

The Tunnel Echoes is published 4 times per year: February, May, September, November.

Board Members

Charles Dice — President

Charles Dice — Treasurer

Diane Matson — Secretary

Rand Dufka – Member

Chris Anderson — Member

Carl Matson — Member

Ralph Wyatt — Member

Linda Eyerman — Member

Questions/Concerns/Comments?

Contact: acfcbcc@gmail.com