



**Southern Oregon Climate Action Now (SOCAN)**  
2014 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

As the second complete year of SOCAN closes, we proudly share with you our Second Annual Report.

This has been a productive year for SOCAN, as you will see from the notes attached. As the year drew to a close we achieved independent IRS tax exempt status, so now we have a Governing Board and official By-laws.



Even though our fair state of Oregon is legislatively now more sympathetic to climate issues, the same cannot be said at the federal level. As you will know from the tenor of the November federal election, the New Year promises many challenges. It is not entirely clear what our best route forward will be, but a focus on local, regional, and state issues might be our best choice. We invite you to join us and share your thoughts.

That our Congress is now primed to stand as a barrier to progress on climate action means that we will need to redouble our efforts locally to counter that stance. If we can stimulate local, regional and state progress, we have a chance of demonstrating exactly what grassroots action can achieve, and thereby we can serve as a role model for the rest of the country when it regains its sanity.

If we accept the conventional international political wisdom that a 2<sup>0</sup>C (3.6<sup>0</sup>F) global warming over pre-industrial revolution conditions is what we must keep below, and if we recognize the immense greenhouse gas warming potential in the fossil fuel reserves known to exist, we must accept that action is urgent. At the current rate of accelerating atmospheric pollution, by the time our one year old grandson Ryan gets to vote, we will have exhausted our pollution allowance. For Ryan and his generation, we cannot allow this to happen.

If you have found yourself on the edge of activity on this issue over the last year, we encourage you to look at what SOCAN has achieved, and recommit yourself to volunteerism and action on this issue. What each of us individually does will assuredly not change the world, but together we can serve as a substantial cog in the wheel of progress towards a livable planet for future generations.

Thank you for all your support to date; clearly SOCAN could not have achieved what we have achieved without your effort. Please enjoy the successes reported below, pat yourself on the back, and join us for more in the coming year.

Thanks for your support,

Handwritten signatures of Alan Journet and Kathy Conway in black ink. Alan's signature is on the left, and Kathy's is on the right.

Alan Journet & Kathy Conway, Co-facilitators

[alanjournet@gmail.com](mailto:alanjournet@gmail.com) & [kathleendconway@gmail.com](mailto:kathleendconway@gmail.com)

## SOCAN Leadership

### Board of Directors:

David Beale, Kathy Conway (Secretary), Alan Journet (President),  
Bob Scheelen, Louise Shawkat  
Roger Pearce, Pearce Law LLC, General Council

### Leadership Circle:

Co-Facilitator - Alan Journet  
Co-Facilitator - Kathy Conway  
Events - Madalyn & Michael Dixon  
New Participant Orientation - Christine Haynie  
Presentations - Alan Journet

### Projects

Climate Capsules – Brad Carrier  
Climate in the Curriculum - Cara Cruickshank  
Divestment - Kathy Conway  
Federal, State, and Local Governments - Brad Carrier,  
David Beale, & Julian Bell  
Oregon Climate Declaration – Kathy Conway  
Oregon Legislative District - Alan Journet  
SOCAN RED - Steven Vermie  
Weather Reporter - Alan Journet  
Writing Corps - Alan Journet

## Volunteer Spotlight



SOCAN Board member Louise Shawkat has been a volunteer with SOCAN from the beginning. Without her late night work in preparation for 'It's a Rogue Thing,' the salmon would only have been a fry. Throughout our two years, Louise has always been the stalwart on whom we call when something needs to be done. For example, when we needed someone to choreograph our FERC appearance, Louise accepted the challenge. Parade, presentation, host for an event, Louise is there. Her concern for the planet and future generations is evident in her actions with SOCAN. THANKS!!



## Review of 2014

SOCAN has grown greatly during its second year. The monthly meetings are a focal point for sharing activities and taking action. We also occasionally show movies. In 2014 we showed “Do the Math,” “Chasing Ice,” and “Dancing Salmon Home.” Each meeting is preceded by a “Special Topic” presentation on an issue of interest.

**Presentations...** Presentations continue to be an important way of meeting SOCAN’s mission of promoting awareness and understanding about climate change. Key to the presentation offerings is a 10-week SOU/OLLI class taught by Alan Journet. The winter session was the 9th time the OLLI class was offered. Additionally, three session mini courses were again offered through North Mountain Park Nature Center in Ashland and Coyote Trails Jefferson Nature Center in Medford. Additional presentations were shared with community, service, and faith based groups. The corps of presenters is growing as are the topics. Thanks to volunteer Monica Trocker, we now have a brochure identifying the variety of topics and presentations that are available.

**Financial...** SOCAN is the grateful recipient of a grant from the Farnley Tyas Family Foundation. The first phase of this grant was developing SOCAN RED (SOCAN’s Renewable Energy Demonstrator) for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and booth in Ashland as well as the SOREEL Teacher Resource Fair in August. Plans are underway (Phase 2) to work with Ryan King, Ruch Community School teacher to use SOCAN RED in classroom instruction.

An anonymous grant was received from the Harry R. Halloran, Jr Fund administered by the Philadelphia Foundation. This generous grant has been used to cover the expenses of establishing SOCAN as an independent tax exempt entity.

**Regional Collaboration...** Stimulated by Julian Bell, SOCAN was pleased to work with Rogue Climate, a local youth-led climate group directed by Hannah Sohl, in co-sponsoring the Jackson County Candidate Forum on clean energy and climate change issues. Attracting some 200 attendees, this may have been the best attended forum during this local election cycle. Although several candidates for County Commissioner declined to participate, it was clear from the answers given by panel members present that climate and energy issues were at the forefront of their minds.



From our inception in 2012, SOCAN has been delighted to collaborate with residents of Mountain Meadows Retirement Community in Ashland. Members of the Mountain Meadows Community have been exceptional in participating in SOCAN activities. Their presence contributed to stellar involvement in the Peach Festival parade in Medford, and Earth Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> in Ashland. Additionally, they were well represented during SOCAN’s attendance at Ashland City Council meetings and Study Sessions for discussions of the Divestment proposal as well as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hearing.

SOCAN has been an active participant in the development of a statewide coalition attempting to coordinate efforts of groups around the state who are focused on climate change issues. To date, this coalition has involved monthly conference calls and two statewide



meetings. The coalition has identified four areas where we will coordinate our efforts. These are: fossil fuel exports, divestment from fossil fuels, carbon pricing, and greening the economy. In December SOCAN also participated in the 'Oregon Climate Summit: Building the Movement.' Organized by the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, Oregon Environmental Council, and Climate Solutions, this effort was designed to build the climate movement in Oregon.

SOCAN is a member of USCAN and participates in bi-weekly telephone conferences to learn what is happening in Washington DC. We are also members of the Oregon Environmental Council's Healthy Climate Partnership which involves monthly telephone conference calls allowing coordination of statewide activities. Additionally, we collaborate with Oregon Sierra Club's Beyond Coal (Coal to Clean Energy) campaign designed to promote legislative action in 2015 to shift utilities away from coal.

**Making our voices heard...** In February, SOCAN joined national organizations in protesting Keystone XL. At this SOCAN organized event, our activists were joined by many other concerned area residents. We again took to the streets in October, this time in Eugene, as we joined thousands around the world in the People's Climate March.



During the year, orange shirted SOCAN activists were prominent at Town Hall meetings featuring Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden. The orange shirts reappeared to demonstrate climate concern at the Jordan Cove LNG Export Terminal / Pacific Connector Pipeline Hearing on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Hearing in December. Speaking on behalf of future generations, many were eloquent in voicing their opposition to the proposed pipeline and



terminal, and the global warming implications of these projects.

**SOCAN's 501 (c) (3) Federal Tax Exempt Status...** SOCAN is deeply appreciative of the help provided by Roger Pearce of Pearce Law LLC who generously guided us through the process of applying for and achieving independent Federal IRS Tax Exempt status. As a requirement of this procedure, a SOCAN Board of Directors has been established and Bylaws developed, these being passed at the first Board meeting in December. We have great appreciation for the generosity of the Ashland-based Peace House. They allowed us to function under their financial umbrella as we operated for the first year and worked through this application process.

**Website...** Website development is an ongoing activity. We appreciate Monica Trocker for her review and suggestions as well as the technical assistance of David Gordon, Ashland Websites, for his contributions. If you have any suggestions or comments about the website, please send them to [kathleendconway@gmail.com](mailto:kathleendconway@gmail.com).

Website: [SOCAN.info](http://SOCAN.info)

Facebook: [Southern Oregon Climate Action Now](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernOregonClimateActionNow)

## Events



SOCAN participated in a variety of events in 2014. We staffed a booth at the Jackson County Master Gardeners Spring Fair in Medford as well as Rogue Valley Earth Day in Ashland where we also initiated the first (we hope) annual 'March for the Planet.'

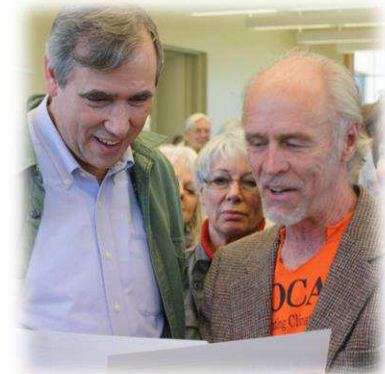


At both the Medford Pear Blossom Festival and Ashland's Old Fashioned July 4<sup>th</sup>, SOCAN marched in the parades and staffed booths. In these parades we featured the SOCAN Street Theater Company composed of the bad guys – King Carbon and his allies; the Fossil Fuel Fiend and fire. King Carbon and his allies threatened our forests and fish whereupon heroic Captain Climate and his Climate Champions (the good guys) leaped into the fray to save the planet by vanquishing the evildoers. Other SOCAN volunteers contributed with drums and chants.

## Volunteer Spotlight



Brad Carrier has been the heart and soul of our government focus group from our inception. Thanks to Brad's efforts SOCAN has developed positive relationships with the staff of our elected representatives. Whenever SOCAN has an event, Brad has been there. Thanks to Brad's efforts, SOCAN's Climate Capsules have become a staple on Tuesdays at KSKQ. Always ready to join the fray, Brad is one of the reasons for SOCAN's success over its first two years.



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## SOCAN Projects



### Divestment from Fossil Fuels

The Divestment project is designed to work with cities, religious groups, universities, and individuals throughout the community to reduce investment in fossil fuel. SOCAN's focus for 2014 was on working with the City of Ashland. These efforts resulted in the Ashland City Council unanimously voting on October 21st to ask the Boards of Oregon's Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) and Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) to review and consider divestment from fossil fuels. We experienced extensive support from our volunteers and the larger community as the issue was discussed by the council. [Oregon Public Broadcasting](#), the [Ashland Daily Tidings](#), and [Insight to Ashland](#) covered the event and GoFossilFree.org included a story about us on their [website](#).

<http://socan.info/divestment-from-fossil-fuels/>

(Leader, Kathy Conway)

Website: [SOCAN.info](http://SOCAN.info)



### Federal, State, Local Government

The SOCAN Government Group has been involved in several meetings with the staffs of our federally elected representatives (Senators Merkley and Wyden, and Representative Walden). During these meetings our concerns about critical climate related issues (e.g., a greenhouse gas pollution fee, forest management, natural gas) have been shared with staff. When our representatives held Townhall meetings locally, the group orchestrated massive displays of climate concern from orange-shirted attendees and posed critical questions to help us learn where they stand and convey where we stand on climate related issues.

The group has also been involved in discussions with local council members on climate issues and represented SOCAN in collaboration with Rogue Climate as they orchestrated the very successful and well attended Fall Candidate Forum.

<http://socan.info/federal-state-and-local-governemnts/>

(Leaders, Brad Carrier, David Beale, & Julian Bell)

Facebook: [Southern Oregon Climate Action Now](#)

### **Weather Reporter**

This project represents a collaboration with staff at the NOAA U.S. Weather Service Office in Medford. It is designed to stimulate greater attention by weather reporters to the issue of global warming when reporting the climate chaos that ensues. During the year, we received historic data from NOAA regarding climate trends in Medford which have been incorporated into our presentations and Legislative District Project summaries.

<http://socan.info/weather-project/>

*(Leader, Alan Journet)*

### **SOCAN RED** (SOCAN's Renewable Energy Demonstrator)

This project started with the development of a mobile solar panel. The panel was mounted on an electric car for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and will soon be fitted with a cart that can be used to make transportation easier. The panel is connected to a chest housing the batteries as well as gauges measuring production.

The second phase includes further modification of the equipment to use with lessons plans that are being developed with Ryan King from Ruch Community School.

This project is funded by the Farnley Tyas Family Foundation and undertaken by SOCAN volunteers.

<http://socan.info/socan-red/>

*(Leader Steven Vermie)*

### **Climate in the Curriculum**

We have been collaborating with teachers at local schools to promote attention to climate issues either in the regular

Website: [SOCAN.info](http://SOCAN.info)

curriculum or in special activities. We worked with two teachers (Mickey Laney-Jarvis, Grants Pass High School and Brook Jaentsch, North Medford High School) on developing classroom activities and lesson plans that could be shared with others. We have also delivered presentations at Crater High School (Angela Simpson) in Central Point and participated in Science Fun Day with a global warming activity (TJ Murphy) at Griffin Creek Elementary School).

<http://socan.info/climate-in-the-curriculum/>

*(Leader, Cara Cruickshank)*

### **Oregon Climate Declaration**

It is estimated that over a million Oregonians are concerned about climate change. To stimulate public policy in Oregon and in local communities we need to raise the visibility of these Oregonians. The statewide goal is 100,000 signatures. This will be a major statement that ensures that climate is an issue demanding action at the state and local levels. SOCAN has joined other groups in the state to collect these signatures. To date SOCAN has collected 500 signatures with a goal of 5,000 by the end of 2015.

<http://socan.info/oregon-climate-declaration/>

*(Leader, Kathy Conway)*

### **Oregon Legislative District Project**

Phase I: Collaborating with Interns from Southern Oregon University we are developing summaries of the climate trends, projections, and consequences for each of Oregon's 30 Senate and 60 House Districts. So far, 24 Senate (48 House) summaries are completed or nearly completed. Each Summary is accompanied by a single page Bullet List of the key District issues.

Facebook: [Southern Oregon Climate Action Now](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernOregonClimateActionNow)



Phase II involves getting the information into the Districts and stimulating local residents to use it to educate residents and legislators. Our immediate goal is to try four Pilot efforts to find out what works best and how to accomplish this dissemination phase.

<http://socan.info/oregon-legislative-district/>

*(Leader, Alan Journet)*

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<http://socan.info/weather-project/>

*(Leader, Alan Journet)*

### **Writing Corps**

Since communicating our concerns about global warming and climate chaos require media cooperation, SOCAN values our relationship with the media. Thanks to all SOCAN volunteers and media outlets for facilitating:

- Media appearances by SOCAN activists promoting SOCAN or climate issues. Our 2014 total of 235 appearances includes interviews, news items, letters to the editor, and guest columns.
- KSKQ – Radio Show; monthly appearances to promote our Special Topic session and General Meeting – Alan

Journet, and Brad Carrier – who is now a Tuesday ‘Morning Show’ Co-host.

- KSKQ – Climate Capsules: 3 minute Public Service Announcements on climate issues broadcast Tuesdays authored and narrated by Brad Carrier and Alan Journet.
- Caminos – Latino Publication. Thanks to Julia Rodriguez Seidler an article on ‘Rogue Valley Climate Trends and Projections’ was translated into Spanish and published.
- Julian’s Billboards. Associated with the October Candidate Forum, Julian Bell generously funded promotion via *Medford Mail Tribune* advertisements, and a Medford Billboard.

<http://socan.info/writing-corps/>

*(Leader, Alan Journet)*



## Social Events



Confronting climate change is why we are here, but it's important to have fun along the way.

(Left: Summer Social at Christine Haynie's home.

Right: Winter Solstice at Louise Shawkat's home.)



## Financial Report

January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014			
Income		Expenses	
Donations	\$ 1,785.10	SOCAN RED	\$ 1,337.62
Grants	\$ 3,083.00	Climate in Curriculum	\$ 200.00
T-shirt Sales	\$ 370.00	T-shirts	\$ 414.50
Projects	\$ 702.00	People's Climate March	\$ 261.48
People's Climate March	\$ 280.00	Conferences	\$ 175.00
Candidate Forum	\$ 2,413.88	Parades & Booths	\$ 625.75
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 8,633.98</b>	Candidate Forum	\$ 2,387.88
		Fees & Charges	\$ 14.00
		Non Profit Status (Oregon)	\$ 50.00
		Outreach	\$ 300.00
		Supplies	\$ 180.80
		Website	\$ 300.00
		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,247.03</b>
		<b>Account Balance</b>	<b>\$ 2,386.95</b>

## Your Gift Matters

SOCAN survives and thrives on the generosity of people just like you. As you read this report, we hope that you identify with the need to continue to work to fulfill the mission of SOCAN. We have targeted two areas for financial support as we begin 2015. The Oregon Legislative District Project needs financial support to help distribute the summaries around the state. The Oregon Climate Summit won't happen without the support of sponsors like you. Please consider a donation to SOCAN.

[Donate Now!](#)

## Mark your Calendar



Plans are underway for an important regional climate conference scheduled for October 13 & 14, 2015. **“Our Critical Climate: A Regional Summit. Rogue Basin Climate Change Impacts and Solutions”** will be held at the Smullin Health Education Center in Medford and will address the urgent climate crisis confronting the Rogue Basin. The intended audience includes elected officials, professionals, decision makers, students, and the general public. Not only will participants be better informed about critical aspects of climate change, they will be provided with actions and ideas that they and their communities can employ to address the problem. While education is a critical element in the program, this event will also stimulate regional actions and tools to combat the urgent climate crisis. Your ideas and energy are urgently needed to help organize and participate in this event. Please mark your calendar, join us, and contact [kathleendconway@gmail.com](mailto:kathleendconway@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping.

## SOCAN 2014 Volunteers



Griffin Creek School – Science is Fun Day

## Do the Math-Movie and Information Meeting



OLLI Presentation



Pear Blossom Parade

## Connect with us!

We're on facebook – ‘Like us’ to follow our activities. We also send monthly emails - visit our website ([socan.info](http://socan.info)) and sign up to “Get the Monthly Broadcast” and daily email with “News + Information” updates.

Website: [SOCAN.info](http://SOCAN.info)

Facebook: [Southern Oregon Climate Action Now](https://www.facebook.com/SouthernOregonClimateActionNow)