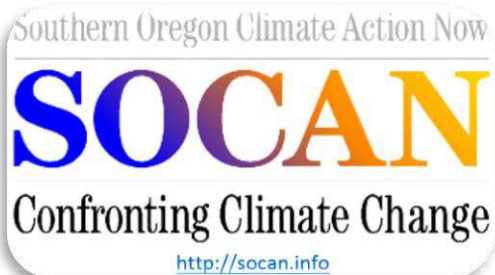
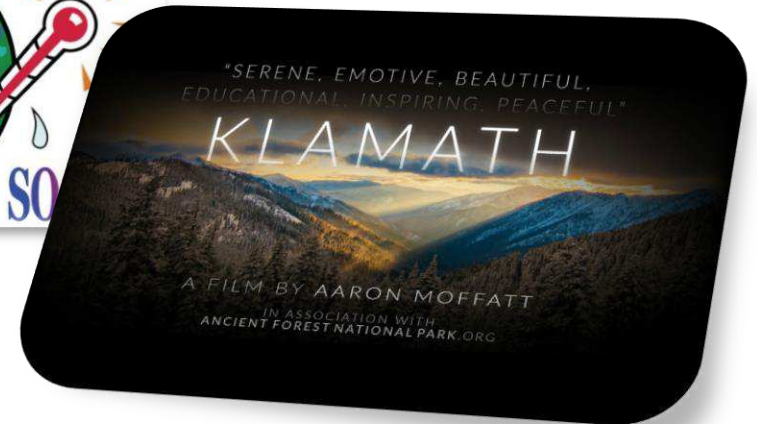


Southern Oregon Climate Action Now SOCAN



Annual Report 2016

February, 2017

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

SOCAN

Confronting Climate Change

Dear Friends,

A year of such promise, with the possibility of passage of state climate pollution legislation and a new President and Congress that acknowledge science and the climate problem were dashed by year's end. Not only did science lose at the federal level, but here in Southern Oregon, the tragic passing of our Senator, Dr. Alan Bates, left the climate movement short one major statewide climate champion. Since long-time environmental champion Representative Peter Buckley had already decided to step away from the legislature, our delegation of champions in Salem seemed sorely depleted. Fortunately, however, Ashland City Council member Pam Marsh took up the challenge and now serves in Salem as our local champion for meaningful climate action at the state level. Because of events on the national scene, state action to address the problem and keep our state and nation on the path of sanity towards fossil fuel reduction is even more critical.

Throughout the election cycle, SOCAN continued its efforts to educate area residents about global warming and climate science, and motivate individual and collective action to address the crisis we face. As you will see below, this comprised not only SOCAN projects – the heart of our commitment – but also many collaborative efforts with other groups having similar concerns. During the year, the number of SOCANistas on our email list crossed 1000, so we are now truly a millennial organization. It is always, as Alan will testify, delightful to be able to offer comments in various situations, on behalf of 'the over 1,000 Southern Oregon residents who are SOCAN.'

Please enjoy the following summary of the SOCAN year, and renew your personal commitment to making this a livable region and planet for our children, our grandchildren, and the great diversity of life with which we share this beautiful corner of the world, and this planet.



Alan Journet & Kathy Conway, Co-facilitators

alan@socan.info & kathy@socan.info

SOCAN Leadership



Alan Journet provided the vision for SOCAN and has been on the board since 2014. His scientific background and inquisitive mind provides the basis for the “Science-based” knowledge of SOCAN. In addition to being Co-facilitator and Board President, Alan makes numerous presentations and is the energy behind the many media presentations. He also leads the Government, Forestry and Fire, Media Corps, and Presentations teams.

Eric Dittmer joined the board in 2016 and serves as the leader of the water group. Eric brings to SOCAN a wealth of knowledge about the region, its water resources, and the seismic realities we face. A constant source of inspiration to us all, Eric’s knowledge of the region, and his familiarity with the key voices of Southern Oregon provides a font of resources for all our collaborative projects.

Louise Shawkat has been on the board since 2014. She continues to take a leadership role on the Master Climate Protector, SOCAN at Mountain Meadows, and Transportation projects. Additionally, she represents SOCAN on the Ashland Climate and Energy Action Plan Ad hoc committee and is active in making comments at the Ashland City Council as well as Commission meetings.

Kathy Conway is Co-facilitator and serves as Secretary of the Board. She has been on the board since 2014. She and Alan initiated SOCAN. Kathy now leads the Climate in the Classroom group and serves as the organizing guru around which SOCAN operates, and without whom SOCAN would be chaos. Kathy’s skills are largely the reason our general meetings and website are effective.

Bob Scheelen became a SOCAN volunteer activist for climate during SOCAN’s first year of existence and joined the board in 2014; he has been integral in our projects ever since. Bob is well-known among SOCANistas for his sage and calm advice and particularly his contributions to Government group activities especially visits to field staff of our Federal representatives.



Roger Pearce, Pearce Law LLC, serves as our General Counsel. Roger has proven invaluable in guiding us through our early incorporation and offering wise counsel in legal matters. We appreciate his contributions immeasurably.

SOCAN Re-Launch Retreat

The board held a retreat in January to reform the structure and direction of the organization; guided by Donnie Maclurcan, Co-founder of the Post Growth Institute. SOCAN leaders developed a clearer sense of where we are and where we are going as an organization – a sense that has served us well through the year, and as we plan for the future.

Website Redesign

The website was redesigned in 2016 with the goal of making the information more accessible to viewers. David Gordon of Ashland Websites assisted our webmaster, Kathy Conway, greatly in this design and update. We hope that you enjoy your web experience with us. As you may appreciate, websites are living entities, so any suggestions you have to improve it will be gratefully received.

Review of 2016

Monthly Meetings

SOCAN organizes monthly meetings at the Medford Public Library on the last Tuesday of the month. All meetings are open to the public. Speakers and videos offer information about issues related to climate change. Attendance in 2016 ranged from 25 to 120.

Presentation topics included:

- ***Renewable Energy: Lake County and Beyond*** by Jim Walls, Executive Director, The Lake County Resources Initiative
- ***Transportation in The Rogue Valley – A now and future look*** by a panel including Al Densmore, Senior Account Executive with John Watt Associates Public Affairs doing consulting work for the City of Ashland Public Works Department and RVTG; Julie Brown, General Manager, RVTG; and Mike Faught, Director, Ashland's Public Works
- ***Health & Psychological Impacts of Climate Change*** by Ken Deveney (*Climate Change and Stress*) and Dr. Bryan Sohl (*Changing Health Concerns in a Changing World*)

Presentations

- Renewable Energy
- Transportation in The Rogue Valley
- Health & Psychological Impacts of Climate Change
- Transformational Resilience
- The Nuclear Conundrum

Videos

- Racing Extinction
- The Case for Optimism on Climate Change
- Oil On Ice
- Six Degrees Could Change the World
- Klamath



- ***Transformational Resilience: How Building Human Resilience to Climate Disruption Can Safeguard Society and Increase Wellbeing*** by Bob Doppelt
- ***The Nuclear Conundrum*** by Dr. Charlie Sinclair.

Videos included:

- ***Racing Extinction*** showing images that expose issues of endangered species and mass extinction
- Al Gore's TED Talk "***The Case for Optimism on Climate Change***" and Greg Craven "***How it all ends***"
- ***Oil On Ice*** discussed the impacts of drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
- ***Six Degrees Could Change the World***, National Geographic presents the alarming changes that may face us all.
- ***Klamath*** a film by Aaron Moffatt of Ashland promotes an Ancient Forest National Park along the California-Oregon border.

SOCAN Projects

Our projects are the essence of our existence. It is through these that we achieve our Mission of educating the region about the science of global warming and climate change, and the consequences, and stimulating action to address these issues. All that is required to start a project is an idea, a team leader, and a few volunteers with similar interests. The project wheel logo you see frequently depicting SOCAN represents one of the many design and technology contributions of Steve Vermie.

SOCAN at Mountain Meadows (MM) - Leader Louise Shawkat

This group comprises individuals who live at Mountain Meadows as well as others living in Ashland and other nearby towns in the Rogue Valley. They meet monthly at Mountain Meadows. Among the group's interests is transportation which

has involved meetings with the Ashland Downtown Parking Management and Circulation Ad Hoc Advisory Committee as well as the Ashland Transportation Commission. Along the way, they brought Ashland bike shop owners together to discuss transportation issues. The team also attends many other city Commission meetings while also supporting Ashland's efforts to develop a Climate and Energy Action Plan.



SOCAN at MM provides a cadre of reliable letter writers and supporters of SOCAN efforts, including the 2016 Oregon Healthy Climate Bill. During 2016, they supported two candidate



forums, held to educate the community about various candidates for elective office. While working to develop an Arboretum on the grounds of Mountain Meadows, they also led the very successful efforts to collect and donate over \$1,000 to *American Forests*, to protect and restore our forests; they are building a “SOCAN Forest.”

SOCAN at MM has also been active in opposition to the Jordan Cove LNG/Pacific Connector Pipeline project; members have also traveled to Standing Rock in support of North Dakota Access Pipeline (NoDAPL) resistance. Since SOCAN joined the Ashland Chamber of Commerce, the SOCAN at MM team has represented us at their events and hosted one of the Greeters session at Mountain Meadows. Finally, SOCAN at MM hosted SOCAN’s very well-attended and successful Winter solstice potluck.

Government - Leader Alan Journet

Serving as the politically engaged wing of SOCAN, the Government group has visited elected officials and attended local town halls to ask questions of elected officials, and visited district staff of representatives to discuss issues of concern. Speaking on behalf of the over 1,000 Southern Oregon residents who are SOCAN at public Hearings and Forums, their activities demonstrate to agencies and representatives that many individuals in this region are concerned about climate change, want action, and will support those who act / oppose those who don’t.

Major activities of the Government Group during 2016 were visits to Senator Wyden’s staff Molly McCarthy, Representative Walden’s local staff representative, Riley Bushue and, shortly after the November election, to State



Senator Alan DeBoer.
Government Group Chair Alan Journet served informally as a climate advisor

to candidate Pam Marsh. Working in collaboration with Rogue Climate, the group also organized a networking breakfast for local city council members and staff to exchange ideas about how they are addressing, or would like to address climate and clean energy issues. This September session was attended by about a dozen representatives from four local councils.

The team has also been collaborating with the Southern Oregon climate groups and the statewide climate coalition to promote meaningful comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions (climate pollution) reduction legislation both for the 2016 session, and through the summer and fall in developing principles and policy for 2017. For information visit:
<http://socan.info/oregonlegislativesession2017action/>



Forests & Wildfire - Leaders Alan Journet/Gwyn Myer
Collaborating with the Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative and the Southern Oregon Nature

Conservancy, and led by Gwyn Myer, who had secured a grant from the Model Forests Policy Program, Climate Solutions University to support the venture, we organized a stakeholder workshop – held in November – that explored ways climate concerns might better be incorporated into regional forest management actions. The focus of discussion was the Rogue Basin Cohesive Forest Restoration Strategy (RBCFRS). Attended by some 20 local forest managers and concerned residents, the workshop resulted in an Appendix to be added to the RBCFRS addressing these issues.



***Transportation
- Leader Louise
Shawkat***

The major effort of this group during 2016 was to

collaborate with the SOCAN at Mountain Meadows team and Scott Chancey of the Josephine County Community Transit (JCCT) in hosting an electric bus from Complete Coachworks in Riverside, California that was being evaluated for use in the JCCT system. We arranged an excursion aboard the electric bus from Medford to Grants Pass, where we lunched at “The Haul.” The excursion comprised some 40 SOCANistas and friends and scored a story in the Rogue Valley Messenger.

Subsequently, interested SOCANistas engaged Rogue Valley Transit District Board members in discussing the efficacy of bringing electric buses to RVTD.



***Water Management & Conservation -
Leader Eric Dittmer***

This group focuses on one of the most critical issues resulting from the global warming/climate change trends we are experiencing: the availability of clean drinking water and constant irrigation water supplies. To facilitate their effort, the team recommended that SOCAN affiliate with the Rogue Basin Partnership (RBP), a regional entity with similar concerns, a suggestion to which the leadership Circle quickly agreed.

Recognizing that the region boasts many entities with similar concerns, the group decided that they would devote themselves more to supporting other efforts than to re-inventing the waterwheel. Collaborative groups include the RBP and the Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) with whom Eric has a long and positive history.



***Voices of the Valley Leader Liz
Olson***

“Voices of the Valley” is a narrative multimedia project that started in 2016. It will present people from our own Rogue Valley communities, especially the most vulnerable populations, an opportunity to share stories of how extreme weather and climate change is affecting their physical and mental health, their work, and their home life. A series of mini-documentary interviews will be featured on SOCAN’s website as well as at public screenings. Accompanied by full sized photo displays, these will tour our public libraries and region.



Climate in the Classroom - Leaders Mary Ehlers & Kathy Conway

This group had a busy year during which the main events were:

- Offering a workshop at the August Institute of the Southern Oregon Regional Environmental Education Leaders on teaching basic global warming science. The interactive program related the subject matter to the Next Generation Science Standards that guide science teaching in Oregon schools.
- Offering a similar workshop at the September annual conference of the Environmental Education Association of Oregon.

School presentations were offered at:

- Prospect High School, in January
- Phoenix High School in March
- Klamath Union High School (several classes), in May
- Hedrick Middle School Summer Camp in June
- Ashland Middle School (15 classes) in October
- Ruch Community School (two classes) in November



Media Corps - Leader Alan Journet

The Media Corps has maintained its efforts to keep global warming / climate change before the public through appearances in print

and broadcast media with opinion columns, letters to the editor, interviews, etc. For the second year in a row, the team achieved over 230 appearances.



Master Climate Protector Leader Louise Shawkat

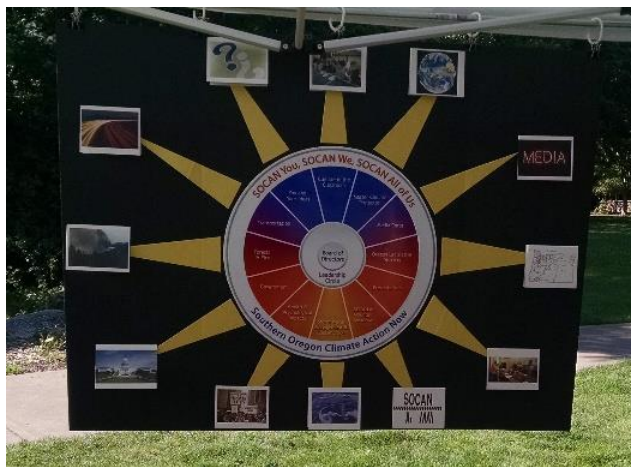
Through the latter months of 2016, the Master Climate Protector Team (Louise Shawkat, Ray Mallette, Seldom, Eric Dittmer, Kathy Conway & Alan Journet) collaborated to

develop the syllabus for the Pilot offering of this course. The Pilot (with 15 participants, not counting the team) was scheduled for February through April 2017 while the first public offering will be September to November.

Events

Booths & Tables

SOCAN had a presence at ECOS Earth Day at SOU, Rogue Valley Earth Day, Old Fashioned July 4th Parade and Fair in Ashland



Fall & Winter Solstice Potlucks

We all try to take breaks in our busy lives – the same is true of SOCAN. Our potlucks are a time to get together and enjoy each other. Very special times.



Collaborations

An important part of working on an issue as large as climate change is working with others to accomplish shared goals. When others are leading, SOCAN tries to support in whatever way we can. Following are some of these activities from 2016.

Jordan Cove LNG Export Facility/Pacific Connector Pipeline

SOCAN supported the efforts of Rogue Riverkeeper, Rogue Climate, and others working to stop Jordan Cove and the pipeline. 2016 saw the denial of the permit from FERC and also their action when they declined to re-hear the appeal. The group stays vigilant since the issue will probably re-appear.

Common Cause & Peacehouse

A forum on “Dirty Energy, Dirty Money” was organized by Common Cause, Peacehouse and SOCAN. SOCAN’s Lee Lull made the presentation that addressed climate change.

Ashland’s Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP)



SOCAN has supported Ashland’s efforts to develop a plan for climate action from the inception. Louise Shawkat has worked tirelessly as a member of the CEAP committee as she reviews documents and plans, and meets with others to refine the ideas that will be presented to the Ashland City Council in 2017. We have also appreciated opportunities to contribute through meetings with city staff as they develop and refine ideas.

Southern Oregon Climate Coalition & Oregon Climate Coalition

SOCAN has worked tirelessly with the local team as well as the statewide team to develop legislation that promotes measures to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

City of Medford Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

Thanks to Eric Dittmer’s involvement with the City of Medford Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee, Alan Journet was engaged to provide an Appendix that deals with global warming / climate change trends and projections in the region as they relate to Hazard Mitigation.

Presentations, Courses and Mini-courses

SOCAN has offered a variety of presentations and courses throughout the year. ‘Climate Change in the Rogue Valley’ by Alan Journet is a ten week course that was offered twice through the SOU OLLI program. “How to Reduce your Carbon Footprint” by Seldom was offered in Jacksonville.

Additional presentations include:

- “What is Your Reality?”: by Alan Journet and Kathy Conway at the Third Annual SOU Social Justice Conference, January
- “Dirty Energy, Dirty Money” by Lee Lull at the Common Cause Forum Program, January
- “Josephine County Climate Trends & Projections” by Alan Journet at the Rusk Ranch Nature Center Program, April
- “Applegate Climate Trends & Projections” by Alan Journet for Friends of Applegate Library, May
- “Climate ‘n’ Critters” by Alan Journet and Kathy Conway, Diamond Lake USFS Campground program arranged through University Corporation for Atmospheric Research Climate Voices Program, August
- Southern Oregon Climate Action Now by Alan Journet at the Rogue Basin Partnership Pecha Kucha Program, September.

Financial Summary

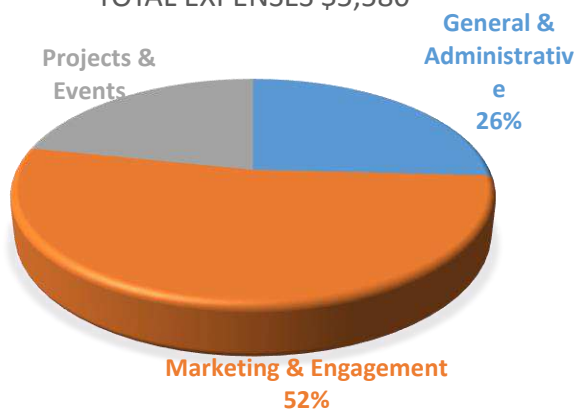
SOURCES OF 2016 INCOME

TOTAL REVENUE \$10,221



EXPENSES FOR 2016

TOTAL EXPENSES \$5,580



Your Gift Matters

SOCAN initiated its first Fund Drive in November. We are very pleased with the response. Over 60 individuals and businesses have donated this year in support of our projects.

We thank all donors for making it possible to serve our mission of promoting awareness and understanding about the causes and consequences of climate change, developing solutions, and motivating concerned citizens to take individual and collective action.

SOCAN survives and thrives on the generosity of people just like you.

Please consider a donation to SOCAN

[Donate Now!](#)