

Spring Tune-Up Proposal (draft)

Background information: the Supplemental Training Committee used to offer classes for returning members at Spring Training (ST.) Members who were volunteering at ST and those who just wanted to reconnect with PWV would spend the day or the weekend at camp. Supplemental Training gave them opportunities to brush up on skills such as Map and Compass, GPS Navigation, Plant ID, First Aid, Weather Awareness, Animal Scats and Tracks, Bird Watching, Yoga for the Hiker, and other areas of interest. These activities also provided good social opportunities.

However, there were drawbacks to this effort.

- the classes were remote and required transportation time. Not all presenters and attendees wanted to travel.

- weather impacted turnout.

- although people expressed interest in the topics, attendance was relatively low.

- the facilities were not always amenable to classroom learning and the outside activities.

- Spring Training volunteers such as AGLs, kitchen staff, check-in helpers, Recertifiers, and trail actors could not participate.

Several years ago the suggestion was made that the Supplemental Training portion of ST be moved to a place and time that allowed easier access and more participation by all members. It also makes sense to open this event to other committees that returning members might want to connect with. Some years PWV held a Gear Fest or a Gear Swap, which could be included in Spring Tune -Up. The first events of the year usually have good turnout, as PWVs are ready to socialize and return to patrolling.

This is an outline of how that might look, should the PWV Board and related committees decide to try it. It will be referred to as “Spring Tune-Up” in this proposal. This would be a multi-committee offering, not a Supplemental Training class.

If we do not hold the Spring Tune-Up, Supplemental Training would NOT be part of Spring Training. The 2022 Operational Plan has a good array of classes and activities.

Time: March, after the second year patrollers event, when members are thinking about returning to the trails.

Location: an indoor facility with wifi, meeting spaces, and a large room for mingling and committee tables. An adjacent outdoor space could also be useful.

Purpose: to reconnect with other PWV members; learn about opportunities within PWV besides patrolling; allow committees to reach out to members who share their interests; gain new skills or update older skills; replenish supplies.

Possible participants/stations:

USFS: meet the personnel; conduct demonstrations of SPOT-X; answer questions. If we meet at the USFS, learn about the Visitor Center.

Office Crew: replenish handouts; review SPOT-X pickup procedures.

Patrol Gear Committee: sell maps, hats, shirts, etc.

Gear Grab: give members a place to donate, buy, sell, swap gear.

Trail Patrolling Committee: update USFS volunteer agreements and member profiles, patrol report refresher (chromebooks), how to find patrolling partners.

Web Team: explore PWV website using chromebooks; answer general questions.

Presentations/handouts: First Aid; weather; Scats and Tracks; what to pack; ultralight backpacking gear and techniques; CO-TREX. Other suggestions?

Committee Outreach: KIN, Trail Crew and Restoration, Supplemental Training, Stock Patrol, Weeds, Leave No Trace. Others?

Refreshments