

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of the Hood River Rotary Club, I write in support of the Oregon Nordic Club's (ONC) efforts to rehabilitate the Tilley Jane A-Frame.

The A-Frame is an important piece of the Historic Cloud Cap/Tilley Jane District. The district is important to the people of Oregon, and especially the people of Hood River County, historically and recreationally.

It is from the district that the community American Legion climbs of the Northside of Mount Hood were launched for many years. Those climbs included the ancestors of many Hood River residents. The district has also long been the home of the Hood River Crag Rats, North America's first and longest lived mountain search and rescue organization. (The Crag Rats first were based at the Guard Station before moving up the hill to save Cloud Cap.)

Many backcountry ski trips, hiking, backpacking and mountain climbing ventures are launched from the district. Many people journey back in time by visiting the historic buildings. Most of those buildings are well maintained.

Over fifty years ago the Crag Rats rescued Cloud Cap. It's now the crown jewel of the district. Since its creation, the Snow Shoe Club has properly cared for its building. For over 30 years the Columbia Gorge Chapter of the Oregon Nordic Club (formerly The Dalles Chapter) has well maintained the Guard Station. In recent history, the A-Frame and the cookhouse have fallen into disrepair.

Under the management of the Portland Chapter of the ONC the A-Frame has been given new life. It's better cared for, more frequently used, and is being turned back into a functional building, rather than the rickety shell it was becoming. That good work needs to continue and to secure the building for years to come it needs to take the next step: a structural make over.

The Rotary's motto is "Service before self." We see that motto in practice through the good work being done on the A-Frame by the people of the Portland Chapter of the ONC. We support them continuing that work.

Sincerely,

Paul Thompson
President of the Hood River Rotary Club