



# POUDRE TRAILS

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Newsletter <http://www.fortnct.org/pwv>

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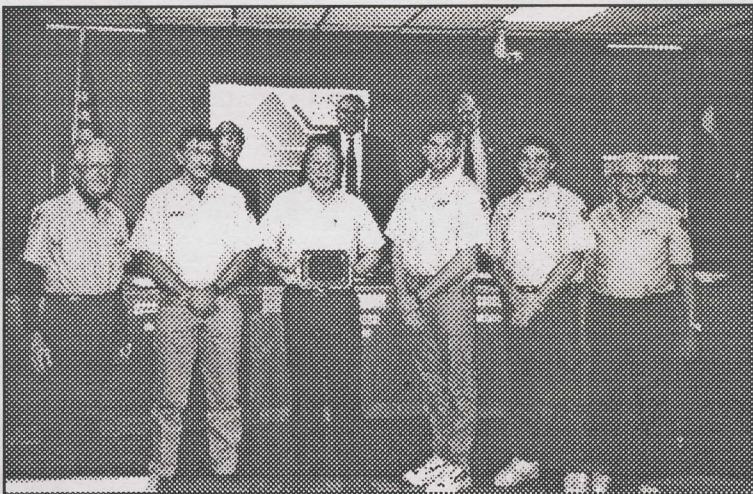
January 1997

## ***1997 IS OFF TO A GREAT START!***

Thanks to REI and Hewlett-Packard Company, 1997 is off to a great start for the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers!

REI's national headquarters in Seattle has contributed \$1,000 toward our printing costs for 1997-1998, matching an earlier gift by HP. Supervisor "Patch" Patchell of the Fort Collins REI store emphasized his company favors groups organized through "grassroots efforts of local communities. This is our way of giving back to customers who support our store."

Will Arduino, public relations manager for Hewlett-Packard Fort Collins, noted the company had been one of our first donors early in 1996 as a pilot project and "we were so excited about the group's success, we wanted to continue our support." Arduino said HP was impressed by the impact of PWV and the attention the organization had drawn from other groups across the country. "Poudre Wilderness Volunteers gets citizens involved in protecting our



Chuck Bell proudly holds the Larimer County Environmental Award. Joining him are PWV board members Ray Sons, Frank Lilley, Todd Graus, Z Steinhart and Del Brown. In the background are commissioners Janet Duvall, John Clarke and Jim Disney.

wilderness areas. We think the group will have a positive, lasting impact through education of wilderness users."

Kudos to our co-chair Art Bunn for his hard work on the HP grants!

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## ***TOP HONORS***

In our first year of existence, the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers have earned one of the top honors Larimer County bestows upon those working to preserve our environment. The county commissioners and the County

Environmental Advisory Board presented the Environmental Stewardship Award to our organization December 16. PWV chair Chuck Bell accepted the plaque from Mark DeGregario, chair of the advisory board, who praised our organization for its educational efforts to foster proper use of the wilderness and noted we had contacted 7,500 hikers and campers our first season.

Many thanks to Ellen Vollmer Hodges, Canyon Lakes District Ranger for the Forest Service for the nomination.







## FROM THE CHAIR

Chuck Bell

The recognition continues. The Larimer County Commissioners gave us their Environmental Stewardship Award. Other conservation groups call to ask the secrets of our success. Large organizations like Hewlett-Packard and REI give us sizable donations. Smaller local businesses and individuals give us smaller contributions.

This is all wonderful testimony to the enthusiasm and dedication of our volunteers -- but we cannot rest on our laurels. To continue making a difference in the backcountry, new volunteers are needed for the coming summer. Last season, as a new organization, we were front-page news. This year, we cannot expect the same publicity that brought PWV to the attention of all of you. We need to do something else to attract volunteers.


That something else depends very much on the efforts of each of us -- the current volunteers. I anticipate our best source of new volunteers will be our friends and

acquaintances.

At this writing, Art Bunn tells me we do not have enough new applications to replace those who must drop out of PWV. And we want to field at least 50 more! Last year proved our effectiveness is very dependent on the number of volunteers we're able to field.

It is up to each of us to recruit new members. Brochures for use in recruitment are available at Martha Moran's office (College and Pitkin, Fort Collins). If everyone brings in just one new name, we can do a superb job and firmly establish the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers for many years to come.

*Thanks for your  
dedication!*



Poudre Trails is a bi-monthly publication of the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers, a non-profit corporation organized to assist the United States Forest Service in managing and protecting wilderness and other back-country areas. Mail should be sent to P.O. Box 271921, Fort Collins, CO 80527.

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And, next time you stop at Vern's Place in LaPorte for one of their yummy cinnamon rolls, be sure to identify yourself as a volunteer and thank these kind folks for their financial support. Vern's recently contributed \$100 and hopes to participate in the future.

We greatly appreciate the support of local businesses. The fund-raising committee welcomes your suggestions as it continues making proposals to local, regional and national organizations.

The committee will meet again Feb. 4 at the Forest Service visitor center at College and Pitkin.

— Jill Reynolds



# TID BITS

Martha Moran, our secretary and Forest Service contact, invites any of our members interested in sharing the wilderness message to attend an upcoming "Wilderness Box" training, Feb. 19 and 20 from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Forest Service visitor center, College and Pitkin, Fort Collins.

The Wilderness Box is actually a trunk filled with hands-on materials and accompanying curriculum that combine to create a truly interactive learning experience. Please leave a message for Martha at 970-498-2776 if interested.

## ***RAIN GEAR, RADIOS AND FIRST AID KITS***

The first four months of 1997 are critical in securing funds for some of our outstanding needs, such as rain jackets, first-aid kits and additional radios, says Frank Lilley of our fund-raising committee.

"We need help from all our dedicated volunteers so we can hit the trail this spring properly equipped," Frank says. He urges members to pick-up the volunteer and contribution flyers from the front desk of the Forest Service office at 1311 S College, Fort Collins, and distribute them to prospective volunteers and donors.

Friends and family members, neighbors, professional acquaintances, doctors, dentists,



## **Todd's Training Notes**

**"Horse-Packing for Backpackers"** is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8, 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the CSU Equine Center, CSU West Campus on S Overland Trail. (The first-aid certification and wilderness hazards course originally has been rescheduled for March 8)

The goal of the class, taught by our own Chuck Peterson, is to acquaint our hiking members with the work done by our horse troop and to increase comfort levels when contacting folks on horseback. Some four-legged friends will be on-hand to help demo proper packing technique. Coffee and refreshments will be served. Questions? Call Vita Young at 221-7174.

**A Big Thanks to Julie Burt**, CSU PhD candidate for instructing the Tree & Shrub ID class and the 18 volunteers who braved the elements. **And to Einstein Bros. Bagels**, 1101 West Drake for the 80 bagels and 8 lbs. of flavored cream cheese we consumed!

A make-up class can be scheduled if enough folks are interested. E-mail Todd at [tgraus@holly.colostate.edu](mailto:tgraus@holly.colostate.edu) or phone 491-3117 to sign-up.

small business owners and people interested in the preservation of our wild areas are all potential supporters.

we stand.

Prospective new members should phone 970-498-2776 to request an application.

## ***ON THE PHONE AGAIN...***

Just can't wait to get on the phone again... Co-chair Art Bunn is phoning new applicants for membership and inviting them for interviews. He has conducted phone interviews with last season's veterans to sound them out for re-enlistment for '97.

Art urges those who intend to serve again to please mail in your application forms as soon as possible so we know where

## **Wilderness Trivia**

*by Glenn French*

- 1. Of the 33 wilderness areas in Colorado, which one is the largest?**
- 2. Which Colorado wilderness area was the last to be designated? (the largest of several in 1993)**

*Answers on back Page —>*





## ***VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT***

Kris Kirkeide was the champion PWV hiker in our inaugural season because he was such a ready volunteer.

Kris told Chuck Bell "I'll do as many trails as needed." Chuck took him literally and assigned him to fill as many gaps in trail coverage as one strong and eager fellow of 21 could handle! That's how Kris became our busiest backcountry ranger, logging an incredible 17 tours of duty.

Kirkeide's love of the outdoors grew from

12 years as a Boy Scout where he rose to Eagle rank. His eagerness is now fed by career hopes. "I'd like to be a forest or park ranger in Alaska," he says. In pursuit of that goal, he is a forestry student at Colorado State University.

His favorite hike takes him to Emmaline Lake in the Comanche Peak Wilderness.

Kris, who comes from Aurora, is single so no family responsibilities inhibit his hiking plans, but he may not be able to beat his own service record for us in 1997. He's applied for internships in the forestry industry that would take him away from Fort Collins this summer. He'll return for the fall semester to continue working on his degree.

In addition to youth, Kris has method on his side in finding the stamina for so many miles on the trail. "I'm slow and steady," says he.

Answers: 1. Weminuche (492,418 acres), 2. Sangre de Cristo, 226,455 acres



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