

## PWV Schedule of Events

### FEBRUARY 2005

- 10 Affiliation & Education Meeting at Avo's
- 17 PWV Board Meeting\*
- 25 New Recruit Applications Mailed Out

### MARCH

- 10 Affiliation & Education Meeting at Avo's
- 11 New Recruit Applications Returned to PWV
- 17 PWV Board Meeting\*
- 18 Returning Volunteer Applications Mailed Out
- 26 First Day of Interviews for New Recruits

### APRIL

- 2 Second Day of Interviews for New Recruits
- 14 Affiliation & Education Meeting at Avo's
- 20 All Scheduling Forms & Volunteer Agreements Returned
- 21 PWV Board Meeting\*

\* PWV Board Meetings are open to all members and are held at the USFS Office Building at 2150 Centre Ave., Building E, Fort Collins.

If you like what you see in this newsletter and want to join the **Poudre Wilderness Volunteers** or support our cause, please mail us at:

**P.O. Box 271921,  
Fort Collins, CO 80527**  
or contact us at (970) 295-6730



Poudre Trails is a quarterly 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 backcountry areas.

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lions' habituation to humans was implemented. Air horns, rubber bullets and beanbags fired by shotgun were used. Signs were put on trails notifying people of recent lion activity, carcasses of deer were removed so that the lion would not return for another meal. The effort has produced good results, the lions are more wary of humans.

The upshot is that poorly informed good intentions and a dose of sentimentality are terribly inadequate to handle what is a complex and

changing relationship with wilderness. We don't have the lion lying with the lamb yet, as much as some folks wish it were so. There is a big task ahead of us and it will not be victimless.

A sleeper among the five books: *Little Things in a Big Country*, by Hannah Hinchman. Go to your nearest bookstore and take a look at it, it is also visual. I owe you full disclosure; all three final judges picked it as the winner of the MPBA non-fiction award.



**Canyon Lakes Ranger District**  
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF & Pawnee NG  
2150 Centre Avenue, Building E  
Fort Collins, CO 80526

## PWV Wants You!

by Linda Knowlton, Chair

I hope you all know that PWV has many, many opportunities to help out the organization throughout the year. Even though we all volunteer our time to do six hikes every summer, there is lots of other work to be done. And the best way to feel like you're really a part of the group is to do more than the minimum requirement. Gayle Vancil (1996), our Volunteer Coordinator, sent an email a couple of months ago soliciting names of people who want to do more. In case you missed it, there is still time to give Gayle your name and indicate where your



Gayle Vancil

interests lie. We're asking for volunteers in the following areas:

- Spring training weekend
- Kickoff night
- Conducting classes or presenting programs at the monthly PWV meetings
- Recruiting activities, such as New West Fest
- Publicity and Newsletter
- Mentoring new volunteers
- Web page/scheduling system
- Trail clearing and maintenance
- Fundraising
- Serving on Board of Directors
- Helping in PWV office
- Wherever needed

If you haven't sent your name to Gayle, please do so today. You can reach her at [vancilga@aol.com](mailto:vancilga@aol.com) or by mail at Gayle Vancil, 2709 Redwing Rd, Fort Collins, CO, 80526.

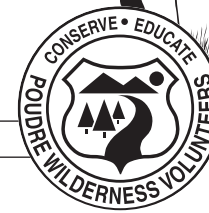
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Volume 8, Issue 1



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Winter 2005

## Notes from the Chair

by Linda Knowlton

It is an honor to serve as your Chair for 2004-2005, especially as 2005 will be the tenth year of PWV's existence. Starting in 1996, a few visionary people started an organization that has become a nation-wide leader in what we do. You should all be proud to be part of such an organization. And we should all acknowledge and honor those few pioneers who started it all.

I'm particularly happy to begin my year in office after such a successful year last year. My thanks to Jacques Rieux, last year's Chair, and to all the other people who made it such a banner year, financially and in every other way. As you know, we sold posters celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and we also began to market a version of our field guide. Those two activities have been very successful, to say the least!

In addition, we made the Forest Service very happy by substantially increasing our trail coverage. Out of 155 active members last year, almost 64 percent completed their six-hike commitment; this is double what we did the year before. As we did last year, Board members will be phoning people who did not complete six hikes to find out what we might do to improve our trail coverage even more in the coming year. My goal for this year is to crack the 75 percent mark. I hope each of you will join me in committing to this goal.

Did you know that the PWV Board of Directors, made up of 15 people, meets every month, on the third Thursday, at 6:30 PM at the new Forest Service office building on Centre Avenue? All PWV members are welcome to attend these meetings. Especially if you think you might be interested in serving on the Board, come and see what we do.

Please let me know if you have any questions, ideas, or comments that you'd like to pass on to the Board. You can always reach me at 970-223-9328 or [llknowlton@juno.com](mailto:llknowlton@juno.com). I look forward to hearing from you!

## Bravo!

by Sharon Ruch



Chuck Bell is the focus of this edition of **Bravo!** As PWV begins its tenth year patrolling the District, it seems appropriate to take notice of one of the two founders and perhaps gain some insight on this visionary.

This PWV founding father doesn't know the meaning of the

word retirement. After years of work traveling all over the world with the Foreign Service, he settled in Colorado and immediately volunteered with the Forest Service. This was in 1993, when the federal government was not quite as parsimonious with funding, and several seasonal rangers were employed to watch over the millions of visitors coming to the Roosevelt and Arapaho National Forests each year. By 1995 funding was drastically reduced. Chuck had experienced firsthand, through his encounters with hikers and campers, the need for wilderness education.

But with the budget cuts came no more seasonal rangers, and no way to reach or teach the wilderness visitors. Chuck came up with the idea of a volunteer force, and enlisted the help of his friend, Art Bunn. The time between the origin of the idea and the incorporation was remarkably short. PWV became a reality in 1996, and within six months there were trained volunteers on the trails. Chuck credits good press coverage, from both newspapers and TV, for part of the success, but everyone who was involved at the conception worked very hard, and without that dedication there would be no such thing as the PWV. Chuck thrives under pressure.

He was born and educated in Ohio. As a youth, Chuck fished on Lake Erie, and belonged to a Boy Scout troop, but claims he had no more interest in the outdoors than most average boys. He has a degree in journalism from Ohio State University.

When he was 23 years old, he filled out an application and was accepted into the Foreign Service in the Public Affairs department. He received his training in Morocco, and from then on, it was one exotic location after another.

Chuck has been posted all over the world: Tunisia, the Ivory Coast, West Africa, Norway, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, to name just some, and, less exotic, Washington D.C. He worked as a press attaché, directed the Fulbright program, was the Voice of America broadcasting all over Africa (in both English and French, but claims his French has gotten rusty), and drafted a speech for Henry Kissinger to use when accepting the Nobel Prize for Peace.

When asked if there were any place in the world he would not want to return to, Chuck could not think of even one.

While posted in New Zealand, Chuck learned to fly fish. He claims to have landed four pound trout anytime he wet a line, and could easily catch 50 pounds on a weekend. There's no reason to doubt him ... even though fishermen tend to exaggerate. He had his catch smoked and served at embassy receptions.

Chuck lived in Washington D.C. as deputy director of more than 40 posts and embassies in Africa. The position required many trips back to Africa, and it was in southern Africa that Chuck really got interested in hiking and preserving wilderness. Poachers from Zambia were coming into Zimbabwe and slaughtering endangered rhinos. The National Park Service in Zimbabwe was underfunded and understaffed. In 1987 Chuck was instrumental in convincing the United States government to help finance a protection program to stop the poaching, and, not incidentally, the drug running and other illegal activities the poachers engaged in. He is justifiably proud of this accomplishment, since it was the very beginning of U.S. involvement in protecting wildlife and wilderness around the world.

Birding also became a passion while Chuck was in Africa, and he has since made trips to Alaska, Ecuador, Kenya and other birding hot spots to increase his life list. In fact, after retiring he started a travel business in 1994 specifically for fellow enthusiasts, using his knowledge of Africa to lead tour groups there. But that wasn't enough to keep this energetic man busy, and he also founded Trek for Light, which sponsors hiking trips for the blind, using llamas as pack animals. This is a man who likes to keep busy.

**BRavo** continued on page 3



## New Board Members Elected

At the October 2004 Board of Directors meeting, three new members were elected to seats vacated by those whose terms had expired.

**Carmen Mendoza** (PWV, 2004) states the joy of being outdoors, greeting people and sharing the love for the environment is what brought her to PWV. This reminds her of years spent as a seasonal ranger with the National Park Service. She also enjoys the fitness aspect of hiking with a purpose and the rewards found in helping to preserve our wild lands.



Carmen is a certified business/life coach and trainer. She has shared her coaching skills with various forms of government, organizations and small businesses. She sincerely believes that who you are and what you do impacts the world.

**Mark Snyder's** (PWV, 2002) love for the outdoors goes back to the early days of his childhood, walking along the streams of Indiana, surrounding the farmers' fields near his home. He also dragged his canoe through the woods to the river about a mile from his home. The time spent observing the changes of nature, the wildlife, and dreaming about the native Americans, the trappers and hunters who experienced the untrammled wilderness lead him to appreciate the beauty of our wild lands and the need for their preservation. During the winter months, Mark volunteers with the Cameron Pass Nordic Rangers.



Mark works at the Brewers Association in Boulder; a trade organization that aims to promote and defend the interest of craft brewers, provide education and marketing support and helps to protect the multitude of beer styles—ensuring that the culture and diversity of craft beers remain strong.

Mark also volunteers with the Rocky Ridge Music Center, a summer classical music camp for young adults, where he is the board treasurer. The camp is located at the base of Longs Peak—a beautiful, forested setting where young musicians come together in music.

In addition, **John Paul Lumpp** (PWV, 2002) was elected to the Board after fulfilling the remainder of Donn Maynard's term, who resigned in 2003 when his work schedule did not allow for his Board commitment. John Paul is editor-in-chief of the *Poudre Trails* newsletter and managing editor of both the *Member's Field Guide* and the *PWV Field & Trail Guide — Roosevelt National Forest*, the public version of our Field Guide. He is also chair of the Public Relations/Outreach committee.

John Paul is Senior Partner at Ideators Design & Marketing, in Denver and its parent company Anderson McKibbin Creative, LLP.

## Book Review

by Jacques Rieux

### *The Beast in the Garden: A Modern Parable of Man and Nature* by David Baron

ISBN: 0393058077, W.W. Norton & Company; 1st edition (November, 2003); Hardcover: 288 pages

Every year the Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association (MPBA) awards prizes to books about the West in several literary categories - fiction, non-fiction, poetry etc. The books have to be published in the last year. Publishers will submit their strongest titles for consideration, and when each category is winnowed down to five books by volunteer readers in the book trade, these titles are submitted to the final judges. This year, I was again invited by MPBA to be one of the judges in the non-fiction category.

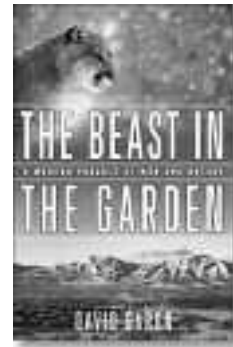
Of the five books I read, the one of most interest to the PWV membership is undoubtedly *The Beast in the Garden*, by David Baron. Its subject is the relationship of the town of Boulder with its neighboring population of mountain lions over a period of several decades. What happened there is a scenario that is being repeated all over the West, and is strikingly familiar to those of us who live in the Foothills around Fort Collins.

Boulder and its environs, like many other places in the West, have made striking population gains in the past thirty years. That means that houses have been built in areas that saw very limited human presence previously. Keeping in mind that animals follow their food sources, then, where the deer and elk go, the mountain lions are not far behind.

These new houses have gardens that have an exotic mix of plants so tempting to deer and elk; and the new resident population of cats and dogs, besides being easy to hunt, offer some variety in the diet of the mountain lions. At this point you can already see the herds coming down the mountains to check out the new curiosities! As wildlife invades suburb and as suburb invades wildlife habitat, animal behavior is changing.

As Boulderites are environmentally conscious, the city bought hundreds of acres at the city limits, on which hunting was banned, to function as open space. The inevitable happened. Over a period of five years, seeing an elk or a deer on your back porch became a common sight, to some even a nuisance. And pretty soon, people started to see mountain lions lurking around, and that was exciting. Eventually, those mountain lions were just lounging around, unflapped, just a big cat at rest.

The mountain lion is by far the largest wild cat in the United States, except for an occasional jaguar crossing the border from New Mexico. Teddy Roosevelt shot a male lion that weighed in



at 227 pounds. To the people who were alarmed by the presence of these large predators around their houses, it was explained by the Department of Wildlife personnel that historically it was extremely rare for a healthy lion to attack an adult human because they are shy and secretive animals. So, ease up and enjoy the privilege of having them as neighbors.

The author describes in detail how the lions' movements were tracked through the effort and insistence of Michael Sanders, a biologist with Boulder County, to see, from the database, if there was a pattern to their activities. Baron writes in detail about every lion attack, and describes their method of killing. First, they break the neck of the prey, then they open the ventral cavity to eat the major organs, liver, lungs, pancreas. What remains, they stash away and cover with leaves and twigs with the intent of returning later for a second meal.

But then reality cannot be reasoned away. The lion is a predator, ungulates are not. Deer may be cute, lions quickly cease to be cute. Normally, lions are shy and solitary animals, but in the course of a short three years they got "habituated" to human presence and lost their fear. Worse, their cubs never had that fear. Before long, instinct takes over, and lions will treat humans as just another prey. One of the memorable attacks described in *The Beast in the Garden* is when Lynda Walters, a jogger and good athlete, is attacked by two lions that treed her. The roles are reversed here, it's the cat that is usually in the tree. For several hours she is perched in her tree, the sun has set and she is weighing her options; none of them look good. Then, pure luck, she notices the lions are looking off to the side at some noise...it's a deer. Will they go after it and give her a possible escape? It takes forever, it seems, for them to decide. Finally, they think the deer is the better bet; Lynda scampers home. Scott Lancaster, a high school student, is less fortunate. A lion takes him in broad daylight in Idaho Springs. Many of us remember the child who 'disappeared' on the Big South trail up Poudre Canyon a few years ago. In spite of an intensive search, the only trace of him was found by accident a couple of years later.

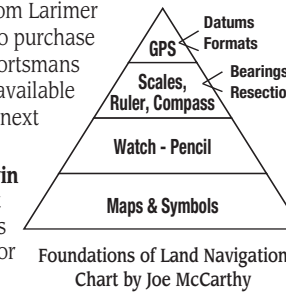
Boulder had to deal with a re-predated landscape. Without any sense of vengeance, a regular program of aversive conditioning to reverse the

**REVIEW** continued on page 4

## PWV Goes GPS

With the grant received from Larimer County, PWV was able to purchase eight GPS units from Sportsmans Warehouse. These units will be available to check out by active members next season.

**Joe McCarthy** (2000) and **Kevin Leigh Hayes** (1997), our resident land navigation gurus, remind us that a GPS unit is no substitute for a map and compass. Knowing how to navigate in the backcountry is an essential skill for all PWVs. Both Joe and Kevin have offered instruction in the past and will continue to do so.



Foundations of Land Navigation Chart by Joe McCarthy

In the next edition of both the Member's *Field Guide* and the Visitors Edition, we will be inserting GPS coordinates of trailheads and key points on the trail. PWV **Bill Dold** (1996) has already GPSed a number of our trails and has discovered a number of interesting facts, such as trails actually being several hundred meters away from what the map shows. Our goal is to be able to offer the most accurate information possible in any field guide. We invite all members to get involved in the process. So, learn how to use a map and compass, then check out a GPS unit and record your own data.

## Jeremiah's GPS Primer A level-of-use perspective

by Jeremiah Kost

### Complexity, Device Interaction, and Cost Increase as One Descends the List

#### No Computer required—

- Turn GPS "on" at starting point, record waypoint, and then turn GPS "off" until either to record another waypoint (trail junction, campsite, fishing/hunting spot, or other point of interest that one wants to be able to return to), or use the GPS to navigate to one of the waypoints recorded. **Requires only the most basic and least expensive GPS.**
- Waypoints are entered manually into the unit using the keys on the GPS in advance of the hike. The source may be a map, a book, a website, another user, or from your own collection of waypoints. The GPS is turned "on" and "off" as required. **Still a basic GPS.**
- Turn GPS "on" at starting point and turn "on" tracking feature, then hike with GPS "on" at all times, plus record waypoints as desired. **Pro:** allows "backtracking." **Con:** need to position GPS so that antenna can receive satellite transmissions at all times and runs down the batteries more quickly. Some track automatically, others need to have the feature turned "on" and "off". **Still in the basic GPS category.**

#### Computer required—

- Use computer to download or upload waypoints instead of entering them manually. Turn the GPS "on" and "off" as required to navigate and to record waypoints. **Still at the basic end of GPS technology.**
- Use computer to install electronic maps into the GPS in addition to waypoints. May turn the GPS "on" or "off", or keep it "on" during the entire hike. **Now in the mid-range of GPS technology and cost.** Software necessary to load the maps into the GPS.

- Use computer to create routes to be downloaded into the GPS. Most likely will be keeping the GPS "on" during the entire hike at this level in order to take advantage of the loaded route: "distance to next waypoint", "distance to final destination", "time to next waypoint", "time to final destination", and possibly "average moving speed" and "average overall speed." **Mid-range to high-end GPS technology and cost.** May want to buy a second map software package from another vendor (with increased detail over that of the software that allows one to download maps into the GPS) to plan and to record (using the track feature) one's adventures.

#### Possible Features:

##### Gross level:

- Electronic compass
- Altimeter
- Gray-scale or color screen
- Strip or quad-helix antenna
- Amount of memory
- User Interface (Friendly?)
- Map capability

##### Fine level:

- Location
- Direction of travel
- Distance traveled
- Time traveled
- Path traveled
- Average moving Speed
- Average overall speed
- ETA to next waypoint
- ETA to final destination
- Estimated time duration to next waypoint
- Estimated time duration to final destination
- Elevation
- Time of day
- Sun and moon: rise, set, & phase

**BRAVO** continued from page 1

Chuck moved to this part of Colorado after much research. He knew, from his many travels, he preferred a climate that is high and dry. His favorite wilderness areas involve Ponderosa Pine and rocky outcroppings. When asked if he had any favorite trails on the PWV list, he mulled it over and mentioned McIntyre, North Lone Pine and Medicine Bow. But the impression was he just loves the wilderness, period, and would gladly go anywhere he can find it.

When asked how he felt about PWV now, ten years after his vision was made reality, he answered he is "overwhelmed" by our success. He considers PWV to be the biggest and best group of its type in the nation.

Funding for the Forest Service in our neck of the woods has increased this year, and Chuck says it is due in great part to us. We keep track of the number of visitors, and can prove that millions of people are using the wilderness we patrol. He's also noticed a significant reduction in the number of illegal campsites, of trash on the trails and in the campgrounds, especially in the Rawah Wilderness.

He attributes our achievements to many factors, not the least of which is the infusion of strong new leadership and people with fresh ideas. It is smart to change management periodically to keep an organization from getting ossified, he said. And the fact we are non-political and do not try to advocate policy keeps us on good terms with the Forest Service.

Is Chuck ready to rest on his laurels? Not by a long shot. He is now in the process of organizing a new foundation that will raise awareness and funds for the preservation of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and the Pawnee National Grasslands. World traveler, entrepreneur, volunteer, humanitarian, preservationist, he's all these things and more. Just don't mention the word retiree in the same breath as the name Chuck Bell.

## Celebrating 10 Years of PWV

The 2005 hiking season marks PWV's 10th year patrolling the Canyon Lakes Ranger District. Thanks to the vision and leadership provided by Chuck Bell and Art Bunn, and to the dedication of hundreds of volunteers over the past nine years, PWV has become established as the model for wilderness volunteer groups nationally and internationally. During these years, PWVs have contacted more than 50,000 visitors, coaxed hundreds of dogs back on their leashes, and cleared countless miles of trails. PWV has been instrumental in the preservation of wilderness.