



PWV New Chair Welcome to You

By Elaine Green, Chair

I moved to Colorado in 2006 and like many of you, never tire of looking to the west with affection and appreciation for the mountains, forests, and wilderness we have in our backyard. I am happy to assume the role of Chair of the 2019-2020 PWV Board of Directors, but I am also humbled to be part of an organization with so many volunteers who step up to play a vital role in meeting our mission to help the Canyon Lakes Ranger District protect and share the mountain and grassland resource we are lucky enough to have readily available to us.



PWV 2020 Board of Directors

Front row (L to R): Elaine Green, Sandy Sticken, Janis Kloster, Janet Caille; back row (L to R): Jim Zakely, Linda Reiter, Tom Adams, Bruce Williams, Kevin Cannon.

Not pictured: Mike Corbin, Bob Hansen, Katina Mallon, Jack Morgan, Karen Roth, Mike Shearer

The hours our members contributed last year had a value to the Forest Service of

\$635,369 and we saw over 17,000 visitors and educated many about protecting the resources we enjoy. The number of dogs off leash seen last year was at an all-time low, so perhaps that message is getting through!

2020 will bring some changes and challenges to PWV. Kevin Cannon is retiring, but with a nod to our "separation anxiety" he will serve on our Advisory Board. His duties as the liaison will be, at this point, filled by a team of Forest Service staff, led by Kristy Wumkes.

I am happy to assume the role of Chair of the 2019-2020 PWV Board of Directors, but I am also humbled to be part of an organization with so many volunteers who step up to play a vital role in meeting our mission to help the Canyon Lakes Ranger District protect and share the mountain and grassland resource we are lucky enough to have readily available to us.

As you may know, the new Young Gulch trail is now open. It's impossible to adequately show my appreciation to Mike Corbin, Kevin Cannon, and so many others who made this possible.

I hope that our members will seek new committees to join this year and know they are welcome to attend a Board of Directors meeting, as listed on our calendar. Next October we will be seeking new members for the Board, and attending a meeting is a great way to see if that is a service you would be willing to perform.

I wish you the best as you "hike and ride with a purpose" this year, and invite you to contact me with concerns, comments, or suggestions that you have.

2019 PWV Spring Training

By Tom Adams, past Chair

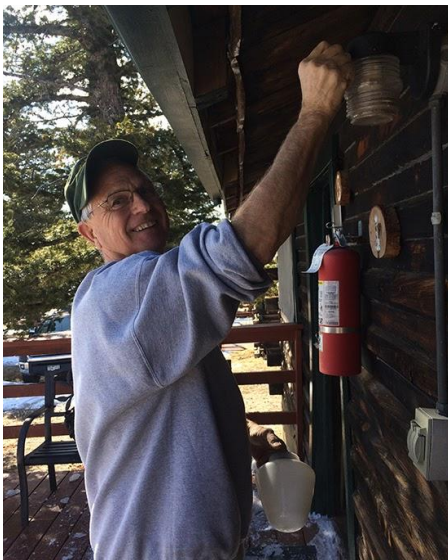
A couple of major changes were made to our spring training process this year. Instead of conducting Kick-Off-Night (KON) with new recruits and recertifying members, this year only new recruits attended KON. The recerts attended Kick-Off-Morning (KOM) on Saturday morning at the training camp. This enabled members to complete the USFS requirement for recertification in just one day.

The second major change was the spring training location. For the first time, spring training was conducted at the Buckhorn Camp. The camp allowed attendees to have the option to sleep in a

cabin or dorm if they so choose, and have access to indoor bathroom facilities including hot showers. Tenting was also an option. The spacious camp, with two lodges and numerous smaller buildings, allowed for more privacy for training meetings.

The Elkhorn Lodge consists of four dorm rooms, a dining area and a commercial kitchen from which Fred Allen and his crew again prepared fabulous meals.

Prior to the spring training weekend, several trips to the camp were necessary to perform various cleaning projects and construct a 3.4 mile training trail.



Richard Clopper helping to get the Buckhorn Camp open for Spring Training

The project to build a new training trail at the camp was managed by Fred Sprague. Fred and Mike Corbin spent four days wandering around the camp trying to figure, our various options for the trail

layout. One goal was to minimize the amount of work it would take to build the trail. It was never our intent to build a trail with tread, but we needed one our folks could hike with little difficulty. Fortunately, there were a series of old roads on the camp property that could be used for much of the trail. After the trail route was decided upon, it only took one day of trail work to clear the trail enough to be used for spring training. The trail worked well, and folks seemed to enjoy the real gold mine and the beer bottle stealing burros. The Animal Group Leaders (AGLs), role players, trainers and presenters all did a fabulous job, and the entire experience received very favorable reviews from all attendees.

The only major problem was the Elkhorn Lodge sound system, which was resolved in the nick of time with a backup system.

At our June board meeting, the Board of Directors voted to hold spring training at the Buckhorn Camp again this year. As always with a new venue, a few changes will need to be made. The goal is to make each spring training experience better than the last. This year 44 new recruits graduated and 27 members recertified.

Lastly, a big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped make the 2019 spring training a huge success.

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Newsletter Team

Mark L. Snyder, *Editor*
Caitlin Mohr, *Designer*



POUDRE WILDERNESS VOLUNTEERS MISSION

The mission of Poudre Wilderness Volunteers is to assist the Canyon Lakes Ranger District of the United States Forest Service in managing and protecting wilderness and backcountry areas within its jurisdiction.

To achieve this mission Poudre Wilderness Volunteers recruits, trains, equips, and fields citizen volunteers to serve as wilderness rangers and hosts for the purpose of educating the public, and provides other appropriate support to these wild areas.

Trailhead Hosting?

By Celia Walker

THH-at's FUN!

Want to have fun and meet lots of trail users? Consider being a Trailhead Host for a day. Trailhead Hosting (THH) is available to patrolling members and those who were patrolling members before becoming non-patrolling. Once you've completed your 2 mentor patrols, THH counts as a patrol. And you can THH all year, as long as you wear an orange safety vest between October 1 and to about January 15.

So, what does it entail?

1. Schedule your THH like you do a regular trail patrol, but for method, select Trailhead Host. Consider picking trails known to have high use, like Greyrock or Hewlett Gulch, and consider holidays and weekends, when use is likely to be high. Prepare much like you would for a trail patrol.

2. How many PWV rangers can be on a trailhead hosting? It's up to you, but on an extremely busy trail like Greyrock, four isn't too many. With less traffic, two or three are reasonable.

3. Using the PWV.org website, reserve a THH bin, available only at the USFS Visitor Center. It's not on the reservation list yet, but you might ask the Office Crew if the small portable table is available too, with a special tablecloth with brochure pockets. If the table isn't available, you'll need to bring your own. The content of the bin varies, but consists of hand-outs for trail users, like lip balm, cards, brochures, dog leashes, activity books for kids, LNT information. Tubes of sunscreen and spray bottles of a non-DEET mosquito repellent should also be included. You may wish to add copies of maps or the trail description for the trail you'll be hosting. Two orange vests are typically in the bin; if you need more, let the Office Crew know when you make the reservation.

Consider being a Trailhead Host!



Celia Walker and Janet Caille Trailhead Hosting at the Greyrock Trail

4. With the bin and a portable table, set up at the trailhead, typically near the kiosk, consider taking several gallons of extra water and perhaps paper cups if the weather is hot. You'd be surprised how many hikers neglect hydration!

5. As trail users pass by, you'll have the opportunity to:

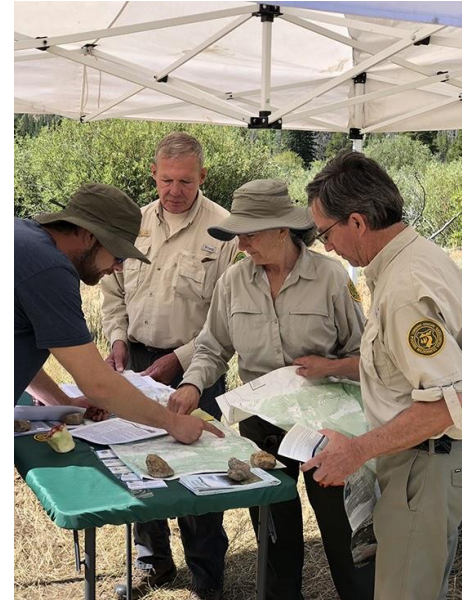
- Answer questions
- Show them the route on maps
- Advise about trail difficulty
- Suggest appropriate hiking gear (rain gear, footwear, etc.)
- Offer squirts of sunscreen and sprays of mosquito repellent for those in need
- Reinforce USFS regulations
- Instruct about poison ivy, rattle snakes, trees falling in the wind, thunderstorms
- Engage the kids about things they might watch for
- Instruct about LNT
- Remind about dog leashing and proper poop bag disposal
- Offer lip balm and USFS information
- Count trail users as usual
- Recruit for PWV
- Offer water

6. When you've finished, file a patrol report as usual, being sure to identify this as TrailHead Hosting.

Now, you ask, why do we do Trailhead Hosting? Because THH offers an opportunity to avoid some of the problems we see up the trail on regular trail patrols. That sunscreen as someone heads up the trail prevents the bad case of sunburn you might find 3 hours later; handing out a dog leash now could avoid the dog fight 2 miles further; and cautioning that elderly Chicago

visitor about strenuous climbing at altitude as you note the map location of the closest viewpoint could save a rescue. Be prepared to have talked a lot, counted a lot, and distributed a lot at the end of the day! When you return your reserved items to the USFS Visitor Center, give a big shout-out to the Office Crew who stocks, and restocks, and restocks the THH bin.

We look forward to seeing you at the Trailhead!



PWV Trailhead Hosting

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Trailhead Hosting over Labor Day

By Janet Caille

Over Labor Day 2019, PWV had a Group Trailhead Host in the Rawah Wilderness. Twenty-one PWV volunteers hosted and/or hiked West Branch, Blue Lake, North Rawah, Link and McIntyre Trails. Over the 5 days Trailhead Hosts/patrols were occurring, we saw 685 hikers/backpackers/riders and made meaningful contact with 635 of those! We saw 117 dogs on leash and amazingly only ONE dog off leash. Many tubes of complimentary PWV lip balm were handed out plus a great deal of information on where the best camping sites were and how to avoid a crowded area.

Each evening, the PWV Volunteers enjoyed camaraderie while staying at or camping near the Stub Creek Bunkhouse. We enjoyed some good meals and fellowship together.

Trailhead Hosting provides PWV volunteers with a less physically demanding alternative to hiking/riding the trails WHILE providing a great service to our public by meeting ALL hikers/riders going up or coming down a trail. A Trailhead Host typically passes out lip balm, information, water, and sage advice on trail conditions, where to hike and what to avoid, plus where to camp as appropriate.

Our hope is to expand this program next year. Let's contact more than 1000 celebrating Labor Day in 2020 – please come help us – all are needed! For information, email patrol@pwv.org.

Kids in Nature Expands Greatly

By Jeanne Corbin

Our PWV Kids in Nature (KIN) program increased greatly in 2019 as we served 160 kids and 46 staff and family members on 14 hikes, plus close to 200 with two outreach programs in Fort Collins! A large part of this increase came from a hike with La Familia / The Family Center. A community business and another

non-profit made the hike a reality by providing transportation. Mishawaka provided a bus and driver at a greatly reduced rate while Realities for Children provided the remainder of the funding for transportation. We are grateful for their support!

Our PWV Kids in Nature (KIN) program increased greatly in 2019 as we served 160 kids and 46 staff and family members on 14 hikes, plus close to 200 with two outreach programs in Fort Collins!

The PWV team and the La Familia staff brainstormed together to make this hike a reality, as well, and a very positive experience for all. Meeting the bus at Mt. Margaret Trailhead, we organized 31 kids and 10 parents into five hiking groups, each led by two PWV members. We led four family groups and a separate teen's group, with children ranging from six months to sixteen years of age, their mothers, grandmothers and three staff members from La Familia. Language barriers dissolved with the help of patient participants, some rangers' Spanish abilities plus staff and older children pitching in to translate. We went on and off trail, explaining some of the basic ecology of the forest as well as Leave No Trace principles, while encouraging all to experience nature through many senses and at their own pace.



PWV KIN hike with La Familia

The participants had never experienced the opportunity to see our wilderness areas

and were in awe. Lorena Mendoza, La Familia staff, was so excited about the experience she exclaimed with a huge smile, even several months later, "The faces glowed! They were smiling so big!" and they were! Even the staff members' faces glowed! The participants wanted to stay longer and asked for another outing with us. PWV participants were very impressed with the knowledge and enthusiasm of both the parents and the children! It was a great and positive experience for all and we hope just the beginning of a lasting partnership.

It takes a Team to Build a Bridge, Rebuilding the Young Gulch Trail

By Mike Corbin

Building a trail is a team effort and not just one team but a team of teams. This is our third year rebuilding the trail from the flood of 2013 and the trail is now open, though we'll be working on it as needed. This year our main task was to build bridges. And we had several teams who have been helping.

- A Team of Forest Service and PWV moved 6000 pounds of concrete to the trailhead. By the end of the day we were a sore team but we got it done.
- A Team of Forest Service and PWV members cut and drilled the boards to prepare them to be hauled up the trail.
- A Team of PWV stock and hiking members along with horses moved the concrete to the work site. The horses carried the concrete but were unable to load and unload themselves. So we had to have some humans along to help. The horses learned quickly how to perform their task. We humans took a bit longer.
- A team of PWV members and Neenan Company personnel built the concrete pads. Mixing concrete in the forest by hand was hard work but our

team got it done. PWV'ers then went home to bed and our Neenan friends were off to have a good time.

- A Team of PWV and Rocky Mountain Conservancy High School trail crew moved 6500 pounds of lumber to the work site. It took 2 and a half days to move all the lumber but the high school crew just kept at it. We also had a number of PWV folks come to help haul the lumber and they were a great help.
- A Team of PWV and Rocky Mountain Conservancy High School trail crew built the bridge base. The bridge is a laminate bridge. To create, one hauls a lot of 2x12 lumber up the trail and then screws it together into one very large hunk of lumber. The kids had fun building the bridge base and we in PWV tried to keep up.
- And at last a team from O'Dells and PWV built approaches to two of the bridges.

Check out the new, improved, rerouted Young Gulch Trail and if you are interested in trail work, it would be great to have you join us.



Rocky Mountain Conservancy High School trail crew carrying up lumber for the Young Gulch Trail bridge

Building a trail is a team effort and not just one team but a team of teams.



Rocky Mountain Conservancy High School trail crew on the Young Gulch Trail bridge

“Ticked” Off... Notes from a First Year Member

By Ken Field, Antelope Group

It was a great hiking day on June 25th when Randy Ratliff and I started out on the Little Beaver Creek Trail. Good weather continued through the day. It was sunny and quiet, with only a few small groups of hikers on the trail, plus one quite large group of school kids on an extended stay pretty far up the trail. Given that, we had plenty of time to split up and seek out the many campsites to record their condition. Some of the sites are a fair distance from the well-traveled main trail. We got back to the trailhead mid-afternoon when I noticed what looked like a tick. I quickly flicked it off as it had not attached itself to my arm and frankly didn't think much about it. When I got home, I found a couple more in the shower.

We got back to the trailhead mid-afternoon when I noticed what looked like a tick. I quickly flicked it off as it had not attached itself to my arm and frankly didn't think much about it. When I got home, I found a couple more in the shower.

The next day I had a tennis match and played badly – something just didn't feel quite right. A couple of days later I developed a 102 degree fever and wife

Mary decided I should go to the doctor. Still not suspecting, I only casually told the doc that I had flicked off that tick. Wisely, he took note and contacted the Colorado CDC (Center for Disease Control). They are the ones who can verify Tick Disease and sure enough, they confirmed it a couple of weeks later. By then, I was already well over any symptoms – feeling just fine. Shortly thereafter, they contacted me directly – they wanted more of MY blood to study as tick disease is relatively rare. Just as I was going to say yes, they noted that I would be compensated for my donation! As PWV is the reason I received the money. I am tithing a portion of that back.

PWV, Sustain Music & Nature at Lady Moon Trail for a Sage Brush Session

By Steve Switzer



PWV Sage Brush Performance on the Lady Moon Trail

PWV and Sustain Music and Nature (a grantee of the Bohemian Foundation's Muse Program) hosted more than fifty people at the most recent “Sage Brush Session” on July 7th. Held along the Lady Moon Trail, attendees were led on a short hike by PWV Rangers Celia Walker, Mark Snyder, Holly Young, Ellen Graham, and Keith & Erin Dunn – Steve Switzer was there to photograph the event. After the hike attendees were treated to short music sets by Fort Collins area musicians Corey Wright of the band, Weareforests and the band Whippoorwill.

It was a comfortable day, to be on the trail, with mostly sunny skies and a light breeze. Adults, children and dogs all appeared to be enjoying themselves. As

everyone settled in for the short post-hike concert in a small natural amphitheater there was some heavy rain clouds and rumbling of thunder off in the distance. The weather held off to allow for a full program of good information and acoustic music.

Prior to the music representatives from PWV, Sustain Music and Nature, and the Bohemian Foundation spoke briefly about the organization partnership and the joint aims of increasing the awareness of the agencies and their missions. Celia Walker spoke on behalf of PWV.

More information about Sustain Music and Nature and the music and nature program is at

www.sustainmusicandnature.org

More information about the Bohemian Foundation Muse Program is at www.bohemianfoundation.org/music-programs/muse

PWV Winter Patrolling Class

January 28, 2020 6:30pm

REI Community Room - Fort Collins



Are you new to PWV or would like to expand your patrolling season? The Supplemental Training Committee is pleased to again have Gerry Cashman as our instructor for the PWV Winter Patrolling class. This class is designed to help PWV members transition from the normal summer patrols to the slightly different winter season. Things are different in the winter and Gerry will offer tips on how to overcome the assorted pitfalls of winter hiking. Tips include things like: how to keep warm and dry, how to keep your water from freezing, what things might be in your winter pack that are not in your summer pack, navigating a snow-covered and disappearing trail, what goes on your feet and a whole list of other tidbits. Gerry assures us THERE WILL BE NO TEST!

Are you new to PWV or would like to expand your patrolling season?



Jeanne Corbin geared up for a winter patrol

Instructor Gerry Cashman holds a Bachelors in Science Education from Ohio Univ. and a Masters in Science Education from Michigan State Univ. He taught in the public school system (Geology, Chemistry, Biology) for 33 years and for many years was the Earth Science Lead for the National Science Olympiad. After he retired, Gerry has had a second career with REI as a Sales Specialist and Clinician, teaching How-To classes. He's been involved with PWV as an Advisory Board Member, Mentor and trainer. Gerry's also a long time member of the Cameron Pass Nordic Rangers. He has almost 50 years of snowshoeing experience in Northern Michigan and the Colorado Front Range. He lives with his wife in Fort Collins and spends his extra time trying to figure out how to play Pickleball on snowshoes.

Log in to pwv.org to register, or look on the PWV website calendar for the class. Just know that the REI community room only holds 30 people, so if you are interested - don't dawdle!

PWV Affiliation Meetings Mondays, January-May 2020

January 20: Dick Heyman will be talking about his four months working at McMurdo Station Antarctica.

February 10: Elisabeth (Bets) Ervin-Blankenheim will take us through a journey deep in time to learn about the dynamic forces that shaped the

mountains and foothills of the Front Range.

March 9: Julie West will share her experience as a Fulbright scholar in India for nearly a year studying tiger conservation.

April 13: Jordan Williams will give an overview of the history behind the Cache la Poudre River National Heritage Area.

May 11: Jane Gordon will talk about the importance of a prescribed fire.

All meetings at the Collindale CB & Potts, 1441 E. Horsetooth Road, at 6:30 pm.

Come early to visit, grab something to eat & drink!



PWV Restoration Young Gulch Trail loading the horse

PWV Stock Clinic - All Invited

March 14, 2020 - Saturday

Great way of introducing PWV stock & hiking members to the equine community. Presentations of anything and all things equine. Great event to horse around. **SAVE THE DATE.** Look for details, as location, speakers & events are confirmed.

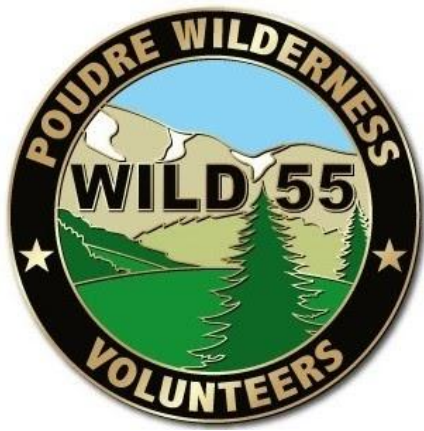
Members Creating Art to Support PWV

By Pam Vagge

If you attended the End of Year Event in October, you would have noticed two of our talented members selling PWV related items.

Our first featured artist is Russ Smith. Russ created beautiful 1 inch metal pins to commemorate this years' Wild 55 celebration, which he is generously selling at cost. There may be some left, if

interested contact Russ. What a wonderful way to remember this milestone year for our precious wilderness and your role in protecting it for years to come! Thanks Russ!



Our second artist, Pam Vagge, created a variety of handmade pottery items that feature our very own PWV logo. They will also be available for sale at future PWV events. Choose from mugs, Christmas ornaments and refrigerator magnets. They are all available in a wide range of colors. The mugs come in a variety of sizes and shapes. They are microwave and dishwasher safe. "Wild 55" commemorative mugs are available by special order only. A portion of proceeds from all sales are being donated to Poudre Wilderness Volunteers.



Thank you to ALL of our members that contribute so much collective talent in so many ways. We are truly a diverse group with diverse skills all with one mission. If you were at the End of Year Celebration, you couldn't help but be impressed by all we do.

PWV thrives and prospers with support from people like you!

USFS Kevin Cannon Retirement & Roast

Please save the date for a Celebratory Roast of our fearless USFS Liaison, Kevin Cannon, as we tell him thank you for his 18 years of dedicated service to PWV!

Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020

Time: 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Place: The Drake Center

Menu: Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Rolls

Please bring one of the following: appetizer, dessert, bottle of wine, OR, beer (and be prepared to take home what you bring!)

ALSO, please give generously to the Donation Jar - we don't want Kevin to have to pay for his own party!

If you have an endearing, funny, or informative story to share or pictures to include, please send them to Janet Caille at janet.pwv@gmail.com. For any questions, use the same email.

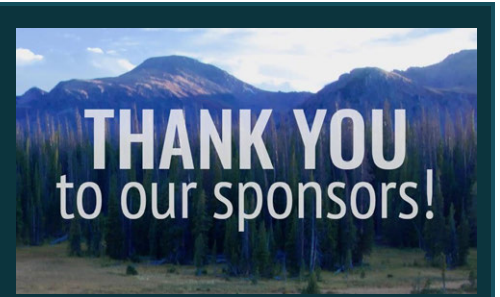
Please RSVP by logging into pwv.org and view the calendar entry. You must RSVP in order to attend.

Thank you - we look forward to roasting Kevin and hope you can join us!

Support PWV

PWV thrives and prospers with support from people like you! For the past two decades, dedicated individuals have served the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers by providing countless hours patrolling and maintaining trails, educating users of the backcountry and wilderness areas of Northern Colorado, thus creating and preserving the legacy of these cherished areas for future generations.

Donations to the Poudre Wilderness Volunteer and the Endowment Funds qualify as a tax deductible charitable donation. PWV is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Note: When making a donation, you might want to explore whether your employer has a matching donations program. www.pwv.org/donate



PWV recognizes the generosity of sponsors and contributors.

Our success is enhanced by their participation:

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Special thanks to:

- **National Forest Foundation**
- **National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance**

PWV on the Trail

