

Poudre Trails

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Newsletter

<http://www.fortnet.org/pwv>

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May 1998

THE WEEKEND TRAINING SESSION IS ALMOST HERE

May 29th, 30th and 31st, 1998 At Jack's Gulch

The training committee has been working at planning and organizing training that will provide you the knowledge and skills to become a valued Poudre Wilderness Volunteer. There will be two tracks during the training weekend, one for the new members and one for the experienced veterans. Plus there will be several combined sessions for both new members and veterans. Look for additional informa-

tion in this issue of the Newsletter. We encourage everybody to bring lawn or camp chairs for additional comfort while attending sessions. A small notebook is also recommended for taking notes, and don't forget the rain gear.

This training will give everyone the opportunity to meet new members, re-new acquaintances, gain knowledge, share experiences, ask questions, listen, and have fun. The PWV and the Forest Service are looking forward to seeing you at this training.

MEALS PROVIDED AT TRAINING

A new catering company - A Taste of Elegance, owned and operated by our own Kirsten Maddux, will be serving Saturday lunch & dinner and Sunday breakfast during the training weekend. Ingredients will be donated by various local vendors. She will feature meat provided by Top Cut Meat, Inc., owned

and operated by her father-in-law, Tom Maddux, Sr., out of North Platte, Nebraska. There will be a complete menu that should satisfy everyone's appetite.



Meals provided:

- Saturday Lunch
- Saturday Dinner
- Sunday Breakfast (Not Saturday Breakfast as indicated in original training announcement.)

NEW NAME FOR FOREST DISTRICT

Glenn French

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers are now associated with a new name. The consolidation of the Estes Park, Poudre, and Redfeather Ranger Districts, is now known as the Canyon

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NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

Wayne Tobey

The task of Neighborhood Grouping is in the final stages now that all interviews have been completed. At the present time we have 120 PWV's for the 1998 season. The Neighborhood Groups have been arranged according to the ZIP codes of the members. Some groups will have more than one ZIP code combined to make up the membership, while others may only have one zip code due to the numbers of members within a ZIP code. There are presently five Neighborhood Groups ranging from 20 members to as many as 35. Each group will have a least one Spokesperson, while larger groups will have Co-Spokespersons to better serve the membership and share in the coordination process of reaching individuals within the group.

Volunteers will be issued a colored name tag when checking in for the training weekend. The color will indicate which Neighborhood Group each person is assigned to. There will

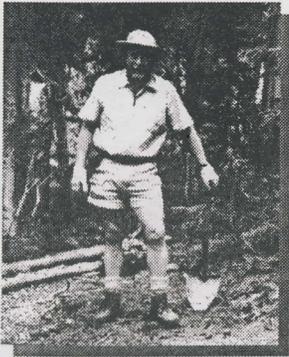
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Glenn French

Bill Dold, a Poudre Wilderness Volunteer was recently selected and honored in a special addition of the Reporter-Herald titled "Making a Difference". The article introduction read - Bill Dold, a Berthoud-area resident who volunteers to help protect the pristine and popular mountains of Northern Colorado. The article goes on to describe the PWV as a group of volunteers that rely on persuasive argument to convince hikers that dogs should be leashed or campsites shouldn't be too close to water. Bill is quoted in the article saying "We don't have any real enforcement power so we try to use what we call the *Authority of the Resource*, a phrase which was coined in a paper written by a renowned wilderness expert and PWV member, George Wallace. We explain to them the wilderness has its reasons for why things are." Bill concludes the interview by saying, "We've got a Great thing going here!" The article also quoted PWV founder, Chuck Bell, as saying "We're doing pretty well out there in the backcountry, but there's a lot of opportunity to teach people...the elements of how to leave no trace before they get out there."

Congratulations Bill, thank you for making a difference, and promoting the mission of PWV. Bill is also a member of the PWV Board of Directors.



FROM THE CHAIR

Chuck
Bell

Thank you for volunteering, and we're looking forward to another successful season of riding and hiking with a purpose.

Schedules - that's a topic on the minds of many volunteers as the summer season approaches. When will I be scheduled to patrol? What trails? And with whom

During the first two weeks of May we will massage the computerized schedule to work out the final schedule for each volunteer. And volunteers will get their schedules at the time of the training weekend (those veteran volunteers who can't make the training will get their schedules in the mail).

There is an important caveat that guides us in the scheduling process - volunteers should patrol in pairs. The reasons for this are sound. If you run into a serious problem, such as an injured hiker, it is often important to have one volunteer stay with the victim and the other go to seek help.

It is also possible for one of us to get hurt - a sprained ankle or a fall from a horse can happen to the very best of us. And two volunteers can be more persuasive than one in some situations where serious resource damage is being done. Because of this, we will not make any solo tour assignments for the regular schedule.

We will make exceptions to this rule only for day trips by veteran volunteers that are in addition to their scheduled patrols. Veteran volunteers wishing to do additional day trips alone must notify the PWV answering machine or email to Martha Moran in advance. We will not approve any solo overnights. All volunteers interested in

additional patrols must also consult the master schedule to make sure the trail they want to patrol is not already covered. Everyone will get a copy of the full summer schedule.

Finally, volunteers need to submit trail reports for all of their patrols, including any extra patrols they do. These forms are critical to the work of PWV - they are compiled by the Forest Service to determine backcountry usage levels and management problems, and they are used by PWV to measure how well we are doing and where we need to improve our performance in the field.

You will hear all of this again at the training weekend, but these are very important points to remember. And one final point - being a PWV should be fun! I hope everyone really enjoys getting out there on the trail this summer. I know I will, and I think you all will too!

ALTERNATE TRAINING SESSIONS FOR VETERANS

- Role Playing
- Interpretive Field Trip
- Ecosystem
- Wilderness Box
- Flora/Fauna*
- Trail Maintenance
- Noxious Weeds
- Wilderness Cooking

Note

These sessions are optional, veterans are welcome to attend any of the standard sessions with new members.

* We encourage you to bring any flora or wild flower book(s) that would be appropriate for the Colorado area.

THANK YOU!

The PWV Board of Directors wants to give a special THANK YOU to those of you that made a commitment to the 1998 Season, and Training Weekend in a timely fashion. Your commitment and response is greatly appreciated.

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TRAINING REMINDERS!

- Check-in, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Friday May 29th
- Evening Program, 7:00 p.m. Friday May 29th
- First General Session, 8:00 a.m. Saturday May 30th

TRAINING SESSIONS FOR NEW MEMBERS:

- Leave No Trace
- Forest Server Information
- First Aid
- Role Playing
- Map Use
- Horse Packing

WILDERNESS TRIVIA

The majority of the trails and lakes monitored by the PWV,s are within wilderness areas. An introduction to the Wilderness Act can be found in your Field Guide Book.

1. How many wilderness areas are there in Colorado? (Not including monuments, national parks, or proposed study areas)

- A) 26
- B) 33
- C) 37



FROM THE SADDLE

Amy Williams

Whether we're on patrol or not, we all go into the backcountry for the same reason: to enjoy the peace and solitude that the wilderness provides. Practicing good trail etiquette on foot or on horseback makes the experience that much more enjoyable. A couple of courtesies that we should all remember...

- When hikers and horses meet along the trail, hikers should pull off on the downhill side to allow the horses to pass. In the same token, if a hiker is overtaking horses on the trail, the horses should pull off and let the hiker pass by.
- Riders appreciate conversation with hikers because it reduces the chance that a horse will spook. Horses see things differently than humans and hikers with large backpacks appear to be walking trees. Talking will typically reduce the tension that can build in a suspecting horse and will make the encounter much safer for all.

BUG SPRAY

As the weather warms and the snow melts in the high country those biting flies and mosquitoes become an encounter of a special kind. Here's a bug spray recipe to try on both dogs and horses to keep them (and you) a bit happier in the backcountry:

For 1 gallon mix

- 12 oz. Absorbine horse liniment
- 1/2 cup Dawn dish soap
- 1 quart vinegar
- 16 oz. hydrogen peroxide

Shake well before using

Note, You'll occasionally need to flush out your sprayer, as the dish soap tends to clog a bit.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WATER SAMPLING

Chuck Bell

For the third year in a row, Poudre Wilderness Volunteers will be needed this summer to gather water samples for a USFS air quality study. According to study coordinator Laura Hudnall, several lakes in the Rawah Wilderness and the adjacent Colorado State Forest will be included in this year's study. Lakes in the Neota Wilderness may also be added this year.

Volunteers assisting in this program must attend a one-day training session to learn how to gather samples correctly, and they must be available to sample their assigned lakes during the first two weeks of August and the first two weeks of September.

Because the water samples must be taken quickly to the USFS lab in Fort Collins, members of our horse patrol are especially encouraged to volunteer to help out with this study. It is much easier when on horseback to get into the high lakes in the Rawah, do your sampling, and get back to town the same day.

Volunteers interested in helping with this study may call Laura Hudnall at 498-1094 in Fort Collins.

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Lakes Ranger District. This consolidation has been in process for several years, and became official in February 1998. The consolidation came about due to budget constraints and the need to combine some management and administrative functions. The headquarters for the new district is in Fort Collins. Ellen Vollmer Hodges is the District Ranger reporting to Peter Clark the Forest Supervisor for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests. Martha Moran, the PWV liaison from the Forest Service, said "The new name is representative of Canyons - Big Thompson and Poudre, where our trails are located and the Lakes - in Rawah and Comanche Wilderness Areas, where we patrol. There is no change in the mission or function of the PWV. We need to continue with the fine job we are doing". The new logo for the district is shown below.



TRAIL IMPROVEMENT GRANT

With the help of the PWV the U.S. Forest Service will receive a grant from the States Parks/Great Outdoors Colorado. The grant is for a trails project funding known as "Water Works". The amount of the grant is \$18,000 and will be used to make major improvements to the Rawah Trail in the Rawah Wilderness Area by USFS trail crews.

WELCOME



This newsletter marks the beginning of a new era. **Glenn French** has joined the newsletter team as editor and coordinator.

Help us welcome Glenn. If you would like to contribute stories, help in any way, or just let him know how we're doing, drop him a line at 667-6523 in Loveland, or an email at GlennF1474@aol.com.

Wilderness Trivia Answer:

Colorado has 33 wilderness areas. Source: *The Complete Guide to Colorado Wilderness Areas*, by John Fielder and Mark Pearson.

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be a chart available depicting the name tag color, location (ZIP code or codes), and spokesperson for each group. Time has been arranged on Sunday afternoon, May 31st for the Spokespersons to get together with members of respective groups at the training weekend. Members are asked to be thinking about ideas on how best people within a group could interact.

The following spokespersons have been selected and we plan on setting a meeting date for these spokespersons to discuss methods of maintaining contact and channeling information between members and the Board of Directors.

- Group 1
Redfeather, Bellvue, Wellington, and Ft Collins 80524.
Spokespersons - Tom and Kristen Maddux
Color of Name Tag - Red
- Group 2
Ft Collins 80521, and 80522

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Spokesperson - Garin VanDeMark.

Color of Name Tag - Blue

- Group 3
Ft Collins 80526, and 80527, and LaPorte

Spokesperson - Bruce Francy
Color of Name Tag - Green

- Group 4
Ault, Winsor, Greeley 80631, 80632, and 80634, Milliken, and Eaton

Spokesperson - George Brooks.
Color of Name Tag - Yellow

- Group 5
Allenspark, Loveland 80537, and 80538, Longmont, Northglen, Denver, and Littleton
Spokespersons - Glenn French, Alfred Vigil and Leslie Stewart-Phelps.

DON'T FORGET YOUR FIELD GUIDE!

The PWV Field Guide contains a lot of very useful information for your hikes. Some of the improvements being made this year include:

- Better maps of the travel zones.
- More and better descriptions of the trails and how to get there. Courtesy of **Frank Lilley**.
- Profiles of each trail.
- Approximate times to the trail heads from Ted's Place.
- Emergency contact information.

So read your field guide to get valuable information about a hike before you go, and take it with your for reference on the trail.

The Wild Flower Identification Class originally scheduled for Saturday May 16th **has been cancelled**. We will try to get this class rescheduled but no date has been determined.



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