

## INSIDE

**Book Review**  
**Spring Training A Hit**  
**Horse Training**  
**Trail Crew Report**  
**Affiliation & Education**

Volume 7, Issue 3



users.frii.com/clrdvol/PWV

Summer 2004

# Poudre Trails

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Newsletter

## Forest Service Report

by Kevin Cannon



### The Bridge To Nowhere.

The bridge crossing the Poudre to Hewlett Gulch is complete, but the trailhead itself is not. Visitors will still be parking along Highway 14 and walking up from there. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the trailhead parking area and facilities are expected to be completed by the end of September. Also, gates will be put in place to restrict access to private land.

**Fire Ban.** Larimer County has lifted its fire ban.

**The new office US Forest Service building** in Fort Collins is under construction and expected to be completed by the beginning of October, with the move to take place around mid-October. The building will house the Forest Supervisors office, the Canyon Lakes Ranger District office, and a visitor's center. Forest Service volunteer groups will be sharing a space. The November PWV Board meeting should be the first one we will have in the new building.

**A reminder:** volunteers only represent the Forest Service while in uniform and should conduct themselves in a professional manner to shed the best light on PWV and the Forest Service. **Safety First:** If you find yourself in a situation with visitors and it is becoming more confrontational, just back away. Report the incident. The CLRD has law enforcement officers who are well trained to deal with problems.

You are all doing great on the trail reporting! Thank you for your efforts and we hope you are having a safe and enjoyable hiking season.

*For there are some people who can live without wild things about them and the earth beneath their feet, and some who cannot. To those of us who, in a city, are always aware of the abused and abased earth below the pavement, walking on the grass, watching the flight of birds, or finding the first spring dandelion are the rights as old and unalienable as the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We belong to no cult. We are not Nature Lovers. We don't love nature any more than we love breathing. Nature is simply something indispensable, like air and light and water, that we accept as necessary to living, and the nearer we can get to it the happier we are.*

—Louise Dickinson Rich,  
author of *We Took to the Woods*.

## Ah, Wilderness!

By John Paul Lumpp

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act into law. As we celebrate this important legislation, a review of the history of the Act and relevant facts may be appropriate.

With this legislation, Congress established the National Wilderness Preservation System and certain federal lands were designated as wilderness areas. At that time, 9.1 million acres were set aside. Through subsequent designation, the system has grown to nearly 106 million acres. To be considered for wilderness designation, the land must be federal land generally 5,000 acres or greater, and are wild lands found to be largely in their natural state. The Act states that they are areas "...where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

Four federal agencies of the United States government administer the National Wilderness Preservation System: the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the USDA Forest Service, and the National Park Service. The USDA Forest Service manages 32% of the System's land and 406 wilderness areas.

The Act did not come about over night. Rather, our nation's history is filled with well-meaning if not all successful attempts at such legislation. Each successful effort set a precedence upon which future efforts were built.

As far back as the Plymouth Colony in 1626 with the passage of ordinances regulating the cutting and sale of timber on colony lands, we have sought to preserve a part of our land in its natural state and restrict the amount of abuse.

Many noteworthy individuals have fought to establish public policy toward wilderness preservation. Of note, but certainly not the only contributors:

- In 1832, Frontier artist George Catlin suggests that the government create a preserve to protect "the wild freshness of nature;"
- In 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt set aside vast acres of federal land and created



CELEBRATING  
AMERICA'S  
WILDERNESS

the first national wildlife refuge at Florida's Pelican Island;

- In 1920, landscape architect Arthur Carhart proposed the first designation of an undeveloped and roadless area at Trapper's Lake in Colorado;
- And, in 1924, Ecologist Aldo Leopold achieved designation of the first official wilderness area, the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico.

Howard Zahniser, considered by many to be the father of the Wilderness Act, wrote the first draft of the Act in 1956. An eloquent wordsmith, he chose the word "untrammelled" to characterize wilderness in the Act. Others questioned this choice, yet Zahniser was



Howard Zahniser is considered by many to be the father of the Wilderness Act.

adamant about its use. Senator Hubert Humphrey first introduced the bill in 1956. Although Zahniser steered the draft through 65 rewrites and 18 public hearings, he died just

four months before it was signed into law on September 3, 1964, by Lyndon B. Johnson. (Source: [www.wilderness.net](http://www.wilderness.net)).

There has always been a great debate over the need for and against designating wilderness areas. A discussion of these arguments would fill many more pages than we can consider in this issue. As PWVs it is assumed that we are proponents of wilderness and our dedication to our stated mission helps to preserve our wild lands. The question of why we take on this mission is an individual matter. However, for my own reasons, I offer the following from author Wallace Stegner — "We simply need that wild country available to us, even if we never do more than drive to its edge and look in. For it can be a means of reassuring ourselves of our sanity as creatures, a part of the geography of hope."

# Book Review

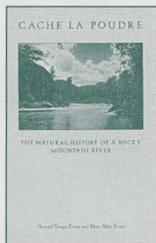
by John Paul Lumppp

## Cache La Poudre

The Natural History of a Rocky Mountain River

by Howard Ensign Evans and Mary Alice Evans  
University Press of Colorado;  
(1991)

ISBN #0-87081-301-3, Paperback, \$15.00.



If you are looking for the definitive text on the natural history of the Cache la Poudre, this is it. This book is extraordinary as it not only does an exceptional job describing the geology of the canyon, but offers a complete study of the river as an ecosystem from peaks to plains.

The Evans do an excellent job of not only telling of the river's geological history, but also man's part in the area's more contemporary history. The authors do this in a clever manner that leads you from science to history seamlessly. As an example, while telling how the mountains were formed by an upthrust referred to as the "Laramide Revolution," they explain the origins of the name comes from a French trapper by the name of Jacques LaRamie. From LaRamie comes the name the LaRamie River and so on.

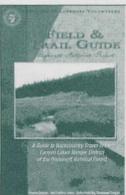
Who was Kelly Flats named for? Who was Dutch George? *Cache* is full of fascinating tidbits about the canyon. This book is so complete it is hard to imagine something may have been left out. From start to finish *Cache la Poudre* is enjoyable to read... and re-read. It makes you want to go up the canyon to make your own discoveries.

## Fort Collins Walk for Wilderness Cancelled

Because of the delay in finding affordable insurance, the PWV Board of Directors has decided to cancel our hosting of the Fort Collins walk. Instead we will devote time and efforts to celebrating the 40th Anniversary at other venues including the New West Fest.

## Book Update

Sales of PWV's *Field & Trail Guide* continue to grow. So far, we have been able to sell nearly 750 books. Redfeather Lakes Regional Council says that sales remain strong through their 30 retailers. The *Guide* is also available at Jax Outdoor, REI (Fort Collins, Denver, and Boulder) and Sportsman's Warehouse in Loveland.



# Spring Training A Hit

By Ginny Sawyer

This is a summary of the comments solicited from participants at the end of Spring Training. The full text of the comments is available at the PWV office, Forest Service Building on Pitkin Street.

**ANIMAL GROUPS/ DROP-IN SESSIONS.** New this year were three Drop-In Sessions:

- Garin VanDeMark led a presentation on Leave No Trace;
- Wayne Tobey and Tim Brooks, his associate from Sportsman's Warehouse, presented the latest in camping gear; and,
- Kevin Lee Hayes gave an introduction to land navigation and map and compass.

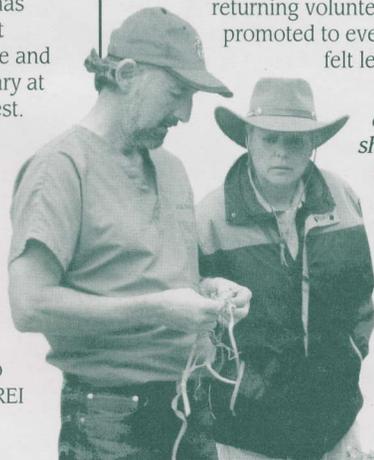
The intent of the drop-in sessions was to provide returning veterans an enjoyable educational program and to provide more social opportunities for all PWV participants. It was very successful and we attracted a large number of veterans who were pleased with the program.

Unfortunately the timing of the sessions was such that the last three animal groups leaving camp were not back in time to join the sessions. This caused some frustration and disappointment among those who were not able to attend. By providing more programming for veterans we created a minor snag for new recruits. To illustrate, we heard from one Drop-In session leader, "my drop in session may have been a bit crazy, but there was significant positive response afterwards—20 people contacted me."

While from a leader of the Grizzlies, the last group to leave camp, "the problem we had being the last group was twofold: A) ...restlessness in the morning, wanting to get on the trail... B)...our group wanted the opportunity to participate in the afternoon drop-in sessions, but due to our schedule, they were all out on the trail... sessions were intended for the returning volunteers, but they were promoted to everyone so Grizzlies felt left out."

*"Drop in sessions are great...we should do them twice...maybe Sunday."*

Some potential solutions to the programming conflicts were presented and included shortening total time on the trail, making



Yum, what's for dinner? Cattail Bob lecturing on edible and not-so-edible wild plants.



*"Training weekend was superbly planned and executed. It far exceeded my expectations, and I'm sure all other trainees agree. As chair, you can take considerable satisfaction in the way the weekend went."*

drop-in sessions accessible to all, trying shotgun starts for animal groups, and having half the groups walk the trail clockwise, and the other half, counterclockwise. Along with these suggestions came the following objections. Shotgun starts would result in some groups hiking much greater distances than others, ... (the) trail is linear so a shotgun start is likely to be complicated and time consuming in its own way. Another objection pointed out that the present sequence of encounters builds on each other, where a more random arrangement would lose this important quality.

All comments and ideas are greatly appreciated and will be reviewed for the next Spring Training.

Here are a few last comments:

**Group leader:** "I really liked not having the drop-in sessions in the past where I could spend more time with my group at the end of the hike."

**Group leader:** "We always start out early in the morning for our group. Had not thought about the timing for those that start later ...worth some review."

**Returning veteran:** "Thanks for the invitation; drop-in sessions added a whole new element to a program that was already good. They would be good for everyone if that could be arranged."

"I think we did a good Spring Training... PWVs stepped up to make things happen and it worked out great."

**VOLUNTEERS.** Organizing a specific program for veterans generated good response both in

attendance and satisfaction. The flip side is that volunteers wanted to attend the presentations and the drop-in sessions and the role players felt short handed.

**ROLE PLAYING.** The recruits liked them, organizers were short handed. Though they contacted many volunteers, some did not perform for one reason or another. Several comments were that the simplified group in distress scenario was superior to previous years.

**CATTAIL BOB.** The afternoon presentation had glowing reviews, instructive, entertaining, hands on etc. The evening session, as the weather got colder, had mixed reviews. Many legitimate complaints that it was too long must be balanced by the fact that some 20 people hung on to the bitter (and very cold) end.

*"The evening presentation with Cattail Bob was great...I was bundled up for the cold, so the weather didn't bother me."*

**CAMPFIRE.** Wayne Tobey keeps raising the bar each year. Good food and drink, lavish accommodations, roaring fire. It has become a prime occasion for people to meet, to talk and to get to know each other. There were some com-



Garin VanDeMark presents Leave No Trace

## Spring Training for Horse Patrollers

by Amy Williams

In early May, 12 riders consisting of veterans and new recruits took advantage of a beautiful day and an obstacle course set up at Lory State Park to freshen their skills for this patrol season.

A group of veteran PWV members assisted with the course and served as trail observers, backpackers, bike riders, dog handlers and such. A big thank you goes out to Bill and Jacque Bolinger, Bob Hansen, Ellen Nelson, Gail Blinde, John Paul Lump, Chuck and



Chef-extraordinaire Joe McCarthy preparing breakfast for the troops.

plaints about noise too late at night for some people. In the future we will designate a "quiet" area, and make sure that people know clearly that the option is available and where it is located.

**FOOD.** Johnny Carino's Saturday night dinner unanimously praised. The quality and quantity of the food was exceptional. The courteous and efficient service with a smile was appreciated.

Joe McCarthy's substantial breakfast was very well received. Hot offerings at breakfast satisfied one of the lacks noted last year. That big pot of chili at the end of the trail greeting hungry hikers was a hit.

However, Joe said, "I contacted several members prior to the event and they said they would help, well needless to say they did not show up." The comment is similar to role-players' comment. Serving hot meals is more labor intensive. Joe would like to schedule three-hour work shifts from 6:00 AM to close.

**KUDOS!** Mark Rosoff's presentation on First Aid was excellent, as usual.

Nancy Bell, Jacques Rieux, and Kathy Burgess. Finally, a big thank you goes out to Joel Hayward for bringing over two of his llamas to help orient the horses!

If I've forgotten anyone who helped on the course, please accept my apologies!

Happy trails to all!



PWVs Mark Snyder and Jeremiah Kost, next to a 19 inch diameter downed pine tree, that was blocking the Comanche Lake Trail amongst old growth trees. Mark and Jeremiah took turns sawing with 21 inch Corona saws and using wedges, pounded in by a mallet to take a section of the trunk off the trail. A by-pass trail was already started, though not yet established and they were able to put a stop to the social trail in our wilderness by keeping the trail clear of large deadfall.

## Trail Crew Report

by Mark L. Snyder

The PWV Trail Crew team made base camp at Jacks Gulch, the weekend of June 18-21. We hiked the Little Beaver Trail, the Old Flowers Road, Comanche Lake Trail, Emmaline Lake Trail and other trails in the area removing trees blocking the trails.

The group consisted of Garin VanDeMark, trail crew leader with the help of the following PWVs Ron Arrigo, Jeremiah Kost, Jim Shafer, Bill Tremblay and myself.

Throughout the weekend, we cleared trees that had fallen across trails and removed debris blocking the path. A typical day on this trail crew clearing weekend was hiking 12 miles, while carrying Corona and cross-cut saws, mallet axes with wedges and all our gear as if we were patrolling while removing trees that blocked the trail.

At Comanche Lake, Jeremiah and I came across two illegal occupied camp sites and one group with an illegal camp fire—we were in a Travel Zone within the Comanche Peak Wilderness. We spoke to both groups, educating them about the use of our wild lands and the current restrictions. While helping the second group dismantle the camp fire, we were joined by volunteers Ryan and Kari Lennartson, who were on patrol—all of us, including the campers worked together to dismantle the camp fire. The campers were appreciative and a little surprised at the number of PWVs out in force.

### Rocky Ridge Music Center

Hiking the Lily Mountain Trail or you happen to be the Estes Park area—check out Rocky Ridge Music Center, a classical music camp for young adults at the base of the Longs Peak Trail head. During the summer, there are concerts on the weekends—most are free. [www.rockyridge.org](http://www.rockyridge.org)

## PWV Schedule of Events

### JULY

- 15 PWV Board Meeting\*  
31-Aug. 1 Stub Creek Campout

### AUGUST

- 12 Affiliation & Education Meeting (6:30 pm)  
at Avo's. Subject to be announced.  
19 PWV Board Meeting\*  
21-22 New West Fest (PWV Booth)

### SEPTEMBER

- 9 Affiliation & Education Meeting (6:30 pm)  
at Avo's. Subject to be announced.  
16 PWV Board Meeting\*  
18 Walk for Wilderness, Evergreen, CO

### OCTOBER

- 16 PWV Board Meeting\*  
23 End-of-Season Party at Sylvan Dale Ranch

\* PWV Board Meetings are open to all members and are held at the USFS Arapahoe & Roosevelt NF Supervisor's Office, 240 W. Prospect Ave. in Fort Collins.

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Please complete:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Tickets: \_\_\_\_ Note: Stubs will be kept to be put in drawing receptacle.

### 40th Anniversary Quilt Wall Hanging Coupon for Raffle Ticket

Price: \$5.00/1, \$20.00/5

Drawing Date: September 18th, 2004.

Drawing Location: Evergreen Lake House  
Evergreen, Colorado

Redeem this coupon for raffle ticket(s) with your check to:

Sierra Club, Mt. Evans Group

c/o Lee Lambert

25903 N. Turkey Creek Rd.

Evergreen, CO 80439.

Quilt Size 48" x 50"

Your ticket(s) will be mailed to you. You need not be present to win. All Proceeds go to local Wilderness Education Programs.



Canyon Lakes Ranger District  
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF & Pawnee NG  
1311 S. College Ave.  
Fort Collins, CO 80524

## Affiliation & Education

by Dan Seeber

Thanks to all who came out for our first Affiliation & Education meeting on June 24! For those of you who couldn't make it, you missed a great presentation on Wild Fires by Sonya Whitesell, US Forest Service Fire Prevention Officer. Her presentation included a description of methods and equipment used to fight fires as well as a discussion of the efforts being made to promote healthy forests.

Sonya recommended two websites with current fire information nationally, regionally and locally. These are a great resource for you to use prior to heading out on the trail.

[www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/fire.html)  
(The main page for information).

[www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/morning\\_report.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/arnf/fire/morning_report.htm)  
(Ft Collins Interagency report)

Our July meeting is a campout at Stubb Creek—keep an eye out for updates on that from Bob Hansen.

In August, we are back at Avo's on the 12th from 6:30pm to 8pm (topic is TBD). From there on out we will be meeting the second Thursday of every month with the exception of October when we will hold our End-of-Season Party at Sylvan Dale Ranch.

## 40th Anniversary Quilt

Raffle tickets are on sale for the 40th Anniversary wolf quilt. This large beautiful wall-hanging is 48" x 50". The Sierra Club Mount Evans Group (MEG) is selling raffle tickets for \$5/ticket, or 5 tickets for \$20. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Walk for Wilderness in Evergreen, Colorado on September 18, 2004. You do not have to be present to win.

To purchase a ticket, please complete the raffle ticket coupon above. Send it along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check (payable to Sierra Club, Mt. Evans Group) for raffle tickets. (See details on top of page 4).

Raffle ticket(s) will be mailed to the purchaser and the duplicate stub will be deposited in the raffle bowl. All proceeds from the raffle go to wilderness education projects and programs at the local level.

