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HAPPY BIRTHDAY WILDERNESS!
A SUMMER FULL OF CELEBRATION
CHECK OUT PARTY DETAILS INSIDE

FEATURED VOLUNTEER: CHRIS EYER

Meet Chris Eyer. He’s a BMWF Volunteer Packer, skilled electrician, and all around good guy. We had a great time getting to know him better this year and sure you will, too.

► How many BMWF trips have you done?
Not as many as I want to do for them next year. I had a time on my trip this year!

► What is your favorite BMWF trip memory or moment?
My favorite experience is always the same on each trip. It’s that feeling about two miles after I start a trip. Loads are all secure. Decker rings are all straight. Cinches snug. My mules all in rhythm. Hooves clopping and their ears are all flopping. Sitting on my horse with 15-20 miles in front of me. Then that feeling washes over me and I remember that this is all so much bigger than just me and my small little life. Just sitting there watching the wilderness unfold mile after mile and feeling so fortunate to be able to spend whatever time I can in there. Connecting the wilderness in my heart with the wilderness out there, that’s my favorite.

► What’s your inspiration in coming out and giving back to The Bob?
I volunteer for the BMWF because of the great work they do on the trails that so many of us use. Those trails are the...
As we start the 50th Anniversary year I can’t help thinking we are at a historical tipping point. In his kick-off presentation to the “50 years of Wilderness” speaker series, Rick Potts made two stand out points:

1. The 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act is being celebrated with much fanfare as compared to the 40th Anniversary when celebrations were stifled at a national level. At BMWF we are proud to be a leader in recruiting public support for Wilderness by engaging youth and adults in backcountry experiences that change lives and provide stewardship for one of the world’s most spectacular places – The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.

A key component to BMWF’s success is YOU -- the volunteers, members, partners and donors who believe in BMWF’s mission and support stewardship through hard work and financial contributions. In 2013 338 volunteers donated $413,528 of labor to clear trails and fight noxious weeds. Thank you!

Despite these successes, challenges loom on the horizon. Federal grants for trails are declining and competition for each dollar is increasing. BMWF stayed ahead of the federal sequester through the generosity of donors who contributed $5000 to backfill the funding call back. Thank you to all who filled the gap, your generosity has kept BMWF on the trail to a successful 2014.

In 2014 we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the designation of the Bob Marshall Wilderness with ‘50 Miles for 50 years’ (50 miles of trail clearing and maintenance on all three of the Wilderness Areas in the Complex). Each trip will be a mini celebration marking the miles to 50 with a special patch for volunteers. See the calendar on page 6 for more details.

See you on the trail to 150 miles!

Carl Treadwell, BMWF Executive Director, and her husband, John, exploring The Bob.
BMWF hosted the 1st annual Wilderness Speaker Series which brought wilderness education to Flathead Valley Community College while the BMWC slumbered under snow.

Norcross Wildlife Foundation awarded the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation a grant to fund the purchase of new cameras and computers. Our crew leaders used the cameras to take fabulous, super, fantastic photos of their summer work!

Plum Creek Foundation gave BMWF a grant to purchase safety equipment and pannier coolers so that the crew could keep volunteers safe and well fed!

320 hardworking folks volunteered for 49 project trips and cleared and restored 220 miles of trail. 16 of those miles were on the Continental Divide Scenic Trail and 6 of those miles were in partnership with the Montana Wilderness Association trail program, CDT Montana.

The BMWF is building for the future by creating an endowment fund that will ensure the long-term sustainability of the Foundation. Three generous donors have contributed to the sustainability fund. BMWF needs to raise another $5,000 to achieve matching funds that will double the size of the Endowment. Participants for a fund raising pack trip are being accepted for summer 2014.

Many partners came together to put boots on the ground… individual and group volunteers from across Montana, the US, and the world, volunteer packers, and raft companies. An example of the partnership web that BMWF brought in 2014 is the Castle Lake Trip where Snowy Springs Outfitters packed in 8 hard working volunteers Glacier Raft Company floated the crew out after 5 days of trail work on the Castle Lake Trail.

Volunteers ages 12 to infinity came from Montana, 25 other states, and 2 foreign countries!

22% of volunteers were youth under the age of 18.

BMWF provided project support for Wilderness Investigations—a teacher training workshop that provided wilderness curriculum and hands on experience to High school, middle, and elementary teachers. Sponsored by the Arthur Carhart Center and supported by FMF, Glacier NP, BMWF, COCEEC, and MWA.
50TH WILDERNESS ANNIVERSARY
CALENDAR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

Visit the BMWF website for updates and more info. Let’s celebrate!

3/13: Leaving a Legacy: Passing on to BMWF’s trail work. Thank you for your years of service.

3/20: Hair Raising Encounters with Dr. Ralph & Keni Hopkins. Meet Dr. Hopkins and wilderness advocate; Rebecca Powell, Program Director. See the BMWF website to see 2014 BMWF Mission Statement.

4/10: Panel discussion between elders and youth. Panelists include: Roland Chisholm, retired wilderness outfitter and writer; Chris Ryan, Retired Wilderness Manager USFS; Frank Vitale, Farrier and writer; Chris Ryan, Retired Wilderness and youth.

4/24: BLAZING BOW SAW LEVEL Great Northern Brewing Co.


6/19: LEARN FIRST INTO THE FOREST

7/11: HARDHAIT LEVEL Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation

8/15: STAFF: Fred flirt President, Al Kors Vice President, Ed Lieder Secretary, Greg Schatz Treasurer, Ralph Hopkins Director of Community Services, Peter Metzmaker Board Chair, Don Scharle Director, Kolette Boyd Associate Director, Becca Wheeler In Memory of John Brekke

9/5: Professional Wilderness Assc.

9/19: Social Media: the trail system of The Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex with national groups, youth groups and individual volunteers. We foster wilderness stewardship skills and education through volunteer opportunities in Montana’s premier wilderness area and surrounding wild lands.

GET INVOLVED Are you interested in doing more? Join a board committee, help with fundraising events, stuff envelopes, camp cook! There is something for everyone.

FMN MISSION STATEMENT

Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation creates a balanced and understanding view of the trail system of the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex with national groups, youth groups and individual volunteers. We foster wilderness stewardship, skills and education through volunteer opportunities in Montana’s premier wilderness area and surrounding wild lands.

YOU BE THE BOB! Are you interested in doing more? Join a board committee, help with fundraising events, stuff envelopes, camp cook! There is something for everyone.

DID YOU KNOW?


7/19: Go Wild! Flathead Valley Fair Grounds.


I WANT TO JOIN
THE BOB SQUAD!

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

☐ $1000 Golden Pulaski  ☐ $100 Swinging Pick
☐ $500 Cross Cut Saw  ☐ $50 Blazing Bow Saw
☐ $250 Double Bit Axe  ☐ $25 Hard Hat
☐ $119.64 - 1964 Club  ☐ $__________Other

JOIN THE BOB SQUAD!

To say thank you, we publish an annual donor list in our Trails Newsletter. _____ I would like to remain anonymous.

With my gift of $119.64 (1964 Club) or more please send me 50/50 Anniversary Tee. Color? __Espresso or __Storm Blue

Men’s (circle one): Sm  Med  Lrg  XL  XXL  OR  Women’s (circle one): Sm  Med  Lrg  XL  XXL

Name: ________________________________________________________________________________________________________

This is a ☐ Gift Membership for someone else or a ☐ Memorial Donation? Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________ City, State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________

Phone: __________________________________________________________________________________________________________ Email: __________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please make checks to BMWF; do not mail cash. Upon receipt of donation, you will receive a letter for tax purposes. Consult your tax advisor.

You can also make a donation with your credit card or debit card online at www.bmwf.org > Donate Now.