The Presidents Corner

Take the Challenge!
As we begin 2011, the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation marks its 15th year providing volunteer service to the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Scapegoat Wildernesses. We have come a long way in those fifteen years. We have grown from a small operation with a part time coordinator funded by the Forest Service to a fully functional organization with two full time staff and four seasonal crew leaders. Along the way we have become a nationwide model for wilderness volunteer programs. As I look back, we have achieved some remarkable results. We have hosted 551 volunteer projects involving over 5,000 individuals. Foundation crews have worked with the Forest Service to maintain almost 4,300 miles of trail. That would cover a distance from Big Prairie to New York City and back again. Our partnership with the Forest Service has stretched limited tax dollars with work valued at over five million dollars. The Foundation’s work has improved wilderness access so visitors can enjoy the wild lands (more on page 7).
About a month before I started this job, I went looking through the photos that had I collected during my three seasons as a BMWF crew leader. Some of them I took and others were taken by project volunteers, but our different perspectives had a lot in common. There were pictures of breathtaking peaks, fields of wildflowers, and bear tracks in the mud.

More than anything what stood out to me were the pictures of volunteers with pulaskis or crosscut saws in hand, hard hats perched, usually pretty dirty. In face after face, from trip after trip, there were a couple of kinds of expressions—either everyone is smiling like they just won free ice cream for life or they’re looking proud and rugged next to their finished work.

In many ways, BMWF projects offer up a kind of rice and beans wilderness experience for outdoor enthusiasts, or maybe meat and potatoes. Either way, our projects provide participants with a host of fortifying ingredients. Even the American Hiking Society has themed this National Trails Day (June 4th) “Made with all natural ingredients”. Perhaps you’re a wildflower or wildlife enthusiast; you enjoy working with your hands; maybe you want to meet some new friends who share your interests; or you can’t get enough backcountry pancakes. BMWF trips have all of that with opportunities for the greenest green-horn and the saltiest old salt.

One of the coolest things about serving as a BMWF crew leader was saying hello to a group of strangers on Saturday and goodbye to a bunch of friends a week later. Many of us come to The Bob drawn by the idea of a rare place—rare for its vastness, its wild landscape, and wild inhabitants. But nearly everyone I know who’s visited The Bob, whether for a single BMWF project or a lifetime of work, cites the people they meet as the most outstanding feature. And that’s what’s really exciting in returning to the BMWF—the opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to make a bunch of new ones.

As Fred describes in the President’s Corner, BMWF volunteers have put up some pretty impressive numbers in service to fellow wilderness travelers and resource managers. So many people, from so many places, have contributed over the past fifteen years to the Foundation becoming an established and effective agent within the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex. I am grateful for the opportunity to follow on the heels of people like Carla, Paul, Shannon, and Keagan, not to mention those who are serving or have served on our Board of Directors, or our partners on each of the forests in The Bob.

Whether you’re a veteran of many BMWF projects, or contemplating your first go with us, we look forward to seeing you out there this summer. We’re putting together some really exciting projects for 2011, which will be listed in our March Newsletter, so when the hunger for some good work with some good folks gets to gnawing at you, pick a project (or six) and come spend some time with us.

Nick Cheney
Nick Cheney, Program Director

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**Program Director’s View**

**HAPPY TO BE BACK IN THE BOB!**

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**VOLUNTEER ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2010**

| 47 projects | 66 acres of weeds treated |
| 394 volunteers | 150 feet of puncheon replaced |
| 1,836 volunteer work days | 24 campsites rehabbed |
| 199 water bars maintained | 597 icy backcountry baths taken |
| 57 miles of trail brushed | 126 Pulaski’s sharpened |
| 4,774 yards of tread work | 0 dinged cross cut saws |
| 1,573 trees cleared | 394 new friends made |

**Value of volunteer sweat, time & smiles!**

$329,868
Financial Overview 2010

• We ended the 2010 project season with 47 volunteer projects completed and 394 volunteers participating, equaling a value of work donated at $329,868.

• The BMWF spent $179,591 on volunteer project expenses, volunteer leadership, project planning and coordination, and administration in 2010, which when compared to our value of accomplishments is quite the return on investment!

• Our spring fundraiser event, Telluride Mountainfilm, grossed over $18,500 in its four nights of films making for a 22% increase from the previous year.

• We took in $8,600 with our Voices of the Wilderness fundraiser in October, a 17% increase from 2009.

• We continue to have strong funding support with our Bob Marshall Wilderness license plate sales and growth in our Bob Squad membership numbers, successfully making our goals with your continued support.

Do you have a group of friends or family, fishing buddies, or out-of-town visitors with a desire to see The Bob and lend a hand?

Create a custom trip with the BMWF! You just get 4-8 people together with a willingness to learn, motivation and a good sense of humor (you have to spend the week with them after all), and we’ll take care of the rest. We have a number of itineraries ranging from 2-8 days, car-camping and once-in-a-lifetime backcountry opportunities to choose from. We’ll supply a wilderness crew leader, food, tools, safety gear, camp kitchen and packers to help carry in some weight!

Volunteer Costs = Food, tools, gear, travel. 
Administration = Fundraising. 
Program Development = Project planning & coordination. 
Volunteer Leadership = Crew leaders. 
Miscellaneous = Advertising, website, postage, printing, insurance.
GOLDEN PULASKI MEMBER
Bayne Family Foundation
Larry and Pamela Garlick

CROSS CUT SAW
Jim Sadler and Kathryn Ordway
Kramer Family Fund
Robin Chopus, Emerson Grill
Nishi Shah--Soros Fund Charitable Foundation Match

DOUBLE BIT AXE
Great Northern Brewing Company
Robert & Randee Blackstone
Bill Stricklin
Fred and Nancy Flint
Gregory Kennett
John Kuehn
Robert Mullin--Walmart Foundation
Charitable Match
North Star Consulting Group, Inc.
Richard and Jeanne Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crawford, Jr.
Dick & Dulcy Zoellner
Building Bridges
Montana Academy
Summit Preparatory School

SWINGING PICK
Robert Delk
John and Carol Santa
Jim Cossett
Ingrid Akerblom
Jim Anderson
Anonymous
Lou Bahn
Bret Beyer
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Bruce Boody Landscape Architect
Adriene Cardan
David Chesnoff
Gail & Thomas Colman
Julie DeBok
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Gentry River Ranch
Ed and Lee Ann Gottfried
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Ed Lieser
Tim Light
Jim & Norma Mackenzie
Bradley and Barbara Massam
Eleanor Morris
Richard and Glori Moy
Bob & Sue PaDelford
Stephen and Lollipop
Maggie Doherty
Margaret Pittman
Chris Ryan
Nancy Searles
John Shaw
Chany Reon-Ockert
Bill Sullivan
Lee Travis
Brad Wood
Scott Friskics and Jennifer Smith
Dean Robbins
William A. Thomas
Robert Johnson
Mathew McDonald--REI Employee Match
Schreiner University

BLAZING BOW SAW
Stephanie Christensen
Anonymous
Carla and Andy Belski

Terrie Casey
Applied Materials Matching Program
Ann and Jim Gordon
Dick Haberkern
Gregory Hertz
Susan Johnson
Joan Johnston
Rich Jurichich
Paul Lamb
Sue Lefebvre
Ed Lieder
Carole Mackin
John McIntosh
Charles and Dianna Miller
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John Sisco
Alan Stacey
Robert Stephens
Hank Taylor
Rebecca R. Williams
Robert Stephens
John and Sandra McNinis
Kate McMahon
Peter and Jan Metzmaker
William Leonard Moyer
Tom Oswald
Dave and Kay Owen
Anna McCabe
Elizabeth Paugh
Mark Plante
Tony and Debbie Porcarelli
Franklin and Sun Schroeter
Dan Short
Chuck Stearns
Carol Weaver and Michael Clow
Teresa Wenum
Whitefish Pottery
Matthew Wilson
Keagan and Guy Zoellner

MEMORIAL DONATIONS
In Memory of Brian Brekke--Anonymous
In Memory of Jon McBride
James Snapp

In Memory of Brian Curtis Wright
Joel Greunke
Fox Meadow Elementary Social Committee
In Memory of Keith Granrud
Katherine Weyhrauch

IN-KIND DONATIONS
Rod Mclver
Andy Brelend
Backcountry Horsemen of the Flathead
Charlie Russell Backcountry Horsemen
Hammer Nutrition
BMWF Board Members

VOLUNTEER PACKERS & OUTFITTERS
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Ralph & Keni Hopkins, Flathead BCH
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Gary Dalen, Flathead BCH
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Ron Trupett, Flathead BCH
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Jeff Brandt, Helena BCH
Tug Liberman, Flathead BCH
Ed Langlois- Flathead BCH
Mark Himmel, Charlie Russell BCH
Charlie Russell BCH Members
Brent Palmer
Jim Borman
Frank Vitale & Dale Duff
Joe Maretta, Paws Up Ranch
Crazy Outfitting
Sue & Bob PaDelford, Outlaw Ranch
Pat Clanton, South Fork Outfitters
Shawn & Capri Little, Snowy Springs
Glacier Raft Company
Building Bridges

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Lincoln Ranger District
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Seeley Lake Ranger District
Spotted Bear Ranger District
Swan Lake Ranger District
Schreiner University-Texas
Summit Prep School
Continental Divide Trail Alliance
Big Sky Bible Camp
Boy Scout Troop #1941 Columbia Falls, MT
Boy Scout Troop #1945 Polson, MT
National Smokejumper Association
American Hiking Society

MANY THANKS!
Please help us thank our amazing supporters including Bob Squad members, donors, volunteers, sponsors, businesses & partners.

John Mackinnon

HARD HAT
Michael Bestwick
William Carey
Gregory Hertz
Halgrim Hollo
Kevin and Deborah Horton
Bobby and Stan Keil
Clifford Kipp
Steve and Sandy Kratville
Ed Lieser
Tim Light
Jim & Norma Mackenzie
Bradley and Barbara Massam
Eleanor Morris
Richard and Glori Moy
Bob & Sue PaDelford
Stephen and Lollipop
Maggie Doherty
Margaret Pittman
Chris Ryan
Nancy Searles
John Shaw
Chany Reon-Ockert
Bill Sullivan
Lee Travis
Brad Wood
Scott Friskics and Jennifer Smith
Dean Robbins
William A. Thomas
Robert Johnson
Mathew McDonald--REI Employee Match
Schreiner University

Shannon Freix
Harvey and Joan Goldstein
Daniel Harper
Susan Hawthorne
Dennis and Marie Haywood
Dan Hensley
Jane Horton
Murray Jewett and Melinda Cole
Diana DeSimone
Philip Johnsrud
Theresa and Tom Koltzak
Loren Kreck
Joe Kroeker
Laura Law
Mary Ann Lower
Nancy and Chuck Manning

Please help us thank our amazing supporters including Bob Squad members, donors, volunteers, sponsors, businesses & partners.
We have joined with the Flathead National Forest, Swan Ecosystem Center and the Hockaday Museum of Art to present the Artist*Wilderness*Connection artist-in-residence program again in 2011.

The program places professional working artists in various disciplines, media, and styles in remote forest cabins for five- to seven-day stays followed by a public presentation related to the residency. The experience will focus on the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Mission Mountain Wilderness Areas, with opportunities for artists to reside in cabins in or near designated Wilderness.

From now through February 28th, 2011 Montana artists are invited to apply for the Artist*Wilderness*Connection program. The program will host three artists in cabins on the Flathead National Forest during the months of August and September.

To download an application, visit the Hockaday Museum of Art web site at www.hockadaymuseum.org. For more information, please contact Keagan Zoellner with the BMWF at 406-387-3847 or Teresa Wenum with the Flathead National Forest at 406-758-5218.

Help us out in 2011!
We offer weeds projects with and without herbicides, float based trips and GPS mapping. Check out the spring newsletter for a full listing of trips.
Paul Travis joined with SU Project Leader Micah Wrase to develop the agreement that has resulted in such sustained success. The BMWF trip is organized by the University’s Mountaineer Adventure Program (M.A.P.), which “offers an opportunity for students to reach outside the box and embark on the volunteer adventure trip of a lifetime.” Students must apply for the limited spaces available each summer and the popularity of the trip has been quite strong, with more applicants than opportunities. For those who have participated, the projects have been a good place to hone team-building skills and develop leadership actively through service. Schreiner groups have worked on several of the districts in the Wilderness Complex, sampling a variety of terrain and trail projects.

Most projects have been a week long with a day off in the middle for exploration and relaxation. Emphasis has been placed on giving group members a chance to work on outdoor skills such as fly fishing that may result in a lifetime of personal fulfillment and an enhanced sense of stewardship.

We at the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation would like to thank Schreiner University for five great summers so far while looking forward to many more. This is just one example of how we all can benefit from working together in The Bob and we encourage other groups out there to contact us to develop similar partnerships. Happy Trails!
that belong to all of us. In doing so, we have helped preserve our western traditions of hiking, riding and hunting in the vast open spaces that make Montana so special. We have promoted wilderness stewardship by restoring damaged sites, eradicating noxious weeds and preserving historic facilities. Our work contributes to the local economy by improving backcountry opportunities for hospitality and outfitter businesses. We promote active wilderness stewardship. Over the years, Foundation volunteers have had a unique opportunity to see the amount hard physical work it takes to maintain the pristine conditions we all value in The Bob. Our partnerships with youth groups have given many young people their first exposure to wilderness and wilderness stewardship. As they work, they learn responsibility and the simple satisfaction of plain hard physical labor. All these volunteers have given of themselves to insure the “Bob” will be there for future generations to enjoy. It is this desire to enjoy and preserve our wild land heritage that unites us all in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation. The Board of Directors, general membership, partners, individual volunteers and Forest Service employees all want to give back to this special place that means so much to so many. We need your support and help to continue our mission of fostering wilderness stewardship skills and education through volunteer opportunities.

There are many ways you can do your part in preserving The Bob for future generations. Sign up for a project in 2011. Volunteer to serve on one of our many foundation committees or perhaps on the Board of Directors. Contribute financially by becoming a member, through annual and planned giving, by attending and contributing to our fund raising events. Take the challenge! Be part of the legacy! I’ll see you on the trail,

Fred Flint - BMWF Board President

Monthly Giving Program
Need a More Convenient Way to Give?

Workplace Giving
Double your donation this year by asking your employer about Workplace Giving.

Planned Giving or Bequests
Help create an enduring legacy well into the future with your planned gift.

Contact our office at 406-387-3847 or exec@bmwf.org and we’ll get you started on your giving program today.

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Mission Statement
The Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation assists in maintaining and restoring 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. Call us: 406.387.3808

www.bmwf.org
I WANT TO JOIN THE BOB SQUAD!

Enclosed is my membership of $_________.

Membership Levels
- $1000 Golden Pulaski
- $500 Cross Cut Saw
- $250 Double Bit Axe
- $100 Swinging Pick
- $50 Blazing Bow Saw
- $25 Hard Hat

I would like to remain anonymous.

To say thank you, we publish an annual donor list in our Trails Newsletter.

With my gift of $100 or more please send me “The Bob” tee featuring Bob Marshall himself, olive green.

(Women’s tees fit very snugly; we recommend ordering one size up from your normal size.)

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

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 > Support the BMWF.