



FENW Newsletter

November 2013

Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness www.fenw.org

Greetings from the President of the Board

Happy autumn and early winter!

I hope this edition of our newsletter finds all Friends well and prepared for either a late fall getaway or getting your ski gear prepped for a great winter. If you can escape to somewhere warmer, I trust you will be recharged and ready to celebrate a couple of huge anniversaries next year. If you read this column when you first received this edition of our newsletter, thank you. This gives me the opportunity to remind one and all that 2014 will be the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act *and* the 20th anniversary of our very own Friends of the Eagles Nest Wilderness. The Board has given the celebration and requisite planning the shorthand handle of "50/20". I hope you find it catchy, and will use the term in many of your encounters with our neighbors and visitors to raise awareness of these landmark events.

I would imagine some will be less than awestruck by the giddy feelings our Board has contracted by these two dates assuming a vaulted place in US History and this is understandable. All are invited to every board meeting when updates will be presented by a special 50/20 Committee. Listening to the vast amount of brainstorming and inspired discussion of the almost infinite suggestions to enhance the celebrations could make even the most cynical of forest volunteers tingle.

In the interest of restoring seriousness, all across America events are being planned and coordinated for recognition of the passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964. Please have a look at the web site, <http://www.wilderness50th.org/>. Among the many really great resources, you will see opportunities for a photo contest, essay submission information and samples of really cool, available swag. FENW is applying for grant support to purchase swag for next year's volunteers and we even plan to customize some bumper stickers with interpretations of our 50/20 logo. The Board is discussing many celebratory possibilities and is calling for your ideas and suggestions to add to an extensive list already presented.

The USFS has determined the weekend of August 9-10, 2014 for the specified Wilderness Act 50th celebration in the Dillon Ranger District. The celebrations will be observed in the Eagle/Holy Cross District the following weekend of August 16-17 and FENW will participate in both festivities. There will be more details to follow in the MAY 2014 Newsletter.

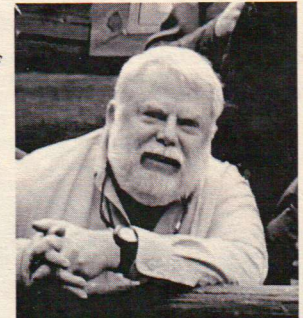
We are hoping to promote activities including, but not limited to the following:

- Resolutions by the US Congress, Colorado Legislature, County Commissioners, Town Councils and anyone else so empowered.
- Showings of documentaries such as *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time* and *Wilderness, The Great Debate*.
- Campfire programs at local campgrounds.
- Lectures and panel discussions regarding Wilderness, its future, sustainability and management challenges.
- Procurement and presentation of Wilderness swag to volunteers to encourage continued involvement and as an expression of gratitude.
- My favorite, a local brewer to produce an Eagles Nest brew.

As you can tell, this is really cool and potentially has a very high fun quotient. Please "stay tuned" and even better, contact a Board member to see how you can help prepare for this once in a lifetime celebration.

Thanks for being part of FENW during this exciting time. See you on the trails!

John Currie Craven
President of the Board of Directors, FENW



"Currie"

Inside this issue:

Greetings from the President	1
Trailmaster's Column	2
Noxious Weeds Specialist's Column	2
Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Co-coordinators' Column	3
TRAFx Trail Monitoring System	4
Tool Maintenance Program	4
Signage... and more	4
Annual Dues Campaign	5
Thanking our Donors	6
Financial Report	7

Trailmaster's Column

2013 was the year of the water bar for FENW. We built scores of them on our N. 10 Mile (JUL), Eccles Pass Overnight (AUG) and Gore Range (SEP) projects. We also removed or cleaned-up a couple dozen illegal or over-developed campsites on these projects. More than 30 volunteers contributed 364 hours to our wilderness trail maintenance projects this year.

Once again our most popular project was the Overnight where we completed badly-needed drainage improvements and removed campsites on the Meadow Creek side of Eccles Pass. We had only eight dedicated volunteers who built water bars, drains and check dams along the Gore Range Trail (GRT) north of the Willow Creek crossing. This finished the drainage improvements in that stretch of the GRT that can be accomplished with a one day project. That was the wrap up of our 2013 maintenance program.

In light of the popularity of the overnight project, the FENW board is considering adding a second overnight project to our 2014 season schedule. The board has already approved a plan to fund more horse-pack support for these projects to lighten the load that volunteers have to carry on their own backs.

Bill Reed



Eccles Pass

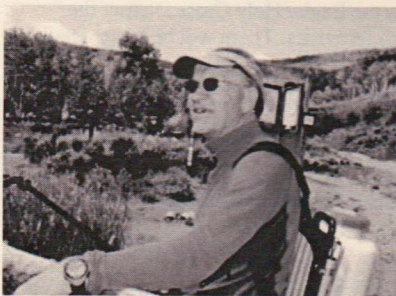


Sue and Roy Carlson



Gore Range Trail

Noxious Weeds Specialist's Column



Noxious weed warrior John Taylor brandishing his backpack sprayer

Noxious weed mitigation just got tougher!

Unfortunately, the Dillon Ranger District no longer has a dedicated seasonal weed technician fighting noxious weeds. This responsibility has fallen on volunteer efforts supplemented by FENW's 8th annual National Forest Foundation grant for the services of Weed Busters (John Pickering) to again treat high density weed areas in Eagles Nest Wilderness and the National Forest. Weed Busters treated infestations in Brush, Slate, Rock, Harrigan and Maryland Creek as well as Acorn, and Bushee Creek areas on the Ptarmigan side. Supplementing this were 7 Back Pack Warriors concentrating on trail heads to eliminate these noxious devils where they start. FENW volunteer spot sprayers treated 38 sites (50 visits and over 360 volunteer hours of education sessions, training aids, scouting and over 180 hours of backpack spraying). In the eight years of funding a noxious weed contractor, FENW in conjunction with the National Forest Foundation has made an investment of over \$75,000 to gain control over noxious weeds in this district. Our district urgently needs to do the following: 1. Realign its priorities and bring back a seasonal technician to support this ongoing effort and 2. Provide noxious weed education to its field personnel to institute a mentality of early detection and rapid response within the district. Weeds cannot continue to be someone else's problem.

John Taylor

Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Co-coordinators' Column



Cyndi Koop

There were big changes this year for the Volunteer Wilderness Ranger program. The major change was the Board's decision to no longer combine our new ranger training with Friends of the Dillon Ranger District's training. Instead, we are now combining new ranger training for our Eagle and Summit County volunteers. Our objective is to make it easier for our volunteers to hike the trails of the Eagles Nest Wilderness Area, regardless of which county the trails are in. To achieve this goal, we had to re-vamp our training manual and both of the Ranger Districts had to revise the report form to meet their District requirements. Rick Warren spent many hours creating a new report form on our website to reflect the goals of our new, combined program.

Eagle County volunteers had a successful summer, clearing downed trees from 20 miles of trails and helping the Forest Service with lake sampling. The new "Hike with a Ranger" program was also well received. Our combined Summit and Eagle County Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Program totals for 2013 are impressive!

(see text box)

We had a wonderful end of the season party for all our Eagle and Summit County rangers at Jay's Cabin, which is part of the Shrine Mountain Inn located on Vail Pass. Use of the cabin was arranged for by Sam Massman and generously donated to us by Lee Rimel and Chuck Ogilby. The food (supplied by Qdoba Mexican Grill) and liquid refreshments were arranged for by Ken Harper, Bill Reed, Gorge Resseguie, Cyndi Koop and Ken & Pam Harper. The refreshments and camaraderie were outstanding.

Thanks to all our amazing, dedicated volunteers for their efforts to preserve our Wilderness areas!

Cyndi Koop & Ken Harper

Summit and Eagle County Volunteer Stats

- Hikers contacted 2,281
- Backpackers contacted 273
- Hours volunteered 923
- Miles hiked 758
- Dogs on leash 396
- Dogs off leash 167

End of the Season Summit and Eagle County Wilderness Rangers Party



TRAFx Trail Monitoring System

Trail usage on 7 popular Wilderness trails continues to be monitored throughout the year with TRAFx infrared counters. The statistics are provided to the USFS to help manage their trail maintenance projects. Complete trail usage statistics may be found on the FENW website (FENW.org). The counters were purchased through grant funding provided by The Summit Foundation, donations from A-Basin and members' dues.

This year, two new counters were installed – one on the Surprise Lake Trail and one in the Meadow Creek trail area – bringing our total inventory of trail counters to 7. Placement of the counters is determined in collaboration with the USFS.



Tool Maintenance Program

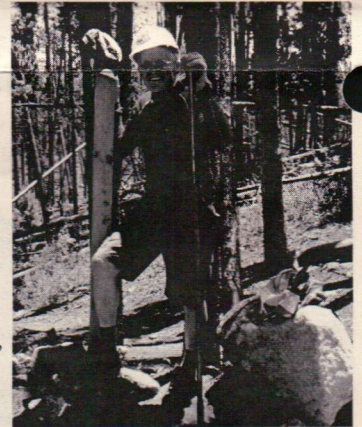


Tools of the Trade

Our Tool Maintenance Program, a collaborative effort with FDRD, continues to be extremely successful. The annual value of the volunteers' work using the tools exceeds \$125,000! Our tools are housed in two tool sheds, one of which was constructed using funding provided by The Summit Foundation

Signage

In December 2012, we received grant funding of \$4,000 from The Summit Foundation and the Towns of Dillon, Frisco, and Silverthorne to purchase new signage for Wilderness trails. Our members contributed another \$1200 to the project. The new signs provide guidelines to enhance understanding how trails may be used because the new USFS Travel Management Plan now designates many former "social or user" trails as "systems" trails and has adopted a "closed unless posted open" policy for all trails. Most of the new signs have been purchased and installed by the USFS and FENW volunteers; the remainder will be purchased by the end of the year.



Illegal campsite

- Follow campsite rules
- Pack it out!

**PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR
WILDERNESS PRIMITIVE
AND PRISTINE!**



Campfire trash

FENW 2013 ANNUAL DUES CAMPAIGN Membership Levels

Please register me for the following membership level (check one level)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUFFALO \$20.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> PINEY LAKE \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CATARACT LAKE \$60.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> GORE TRAIL \$80.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EAGLES NEST \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> BOOTH CREEK \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MT. POWELL \$500.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER \$ _____ |



I would also like to help with:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| ___ Trail Work | ___ Weed Control |
| ___ Ranger Patrol | ___ Other (_____) |

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

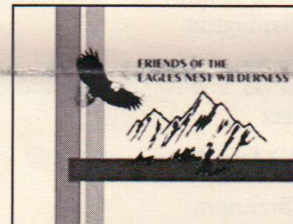
CITY: _____ STATE, ZIP: _____

LOCAL ADDRESS (if different): _____

CITY: _____ STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: (Home) _____ (Mobile) _____

E-MAIL: _____



FENW
PO Box 4504
Frisco, CO 80443

Please check box below if you would like us not to mention your contribution in a future newsletter.

PLEASE DO NOT PUBLICIZE MY DONATION

Please tear off this page and mail with your check, payable to FENW, to the address above. Or, use PAYPAL payment option on the FENW.org website.

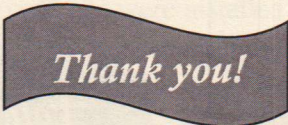
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT !

Thank you for your continuing support

We are continually grateful for the generous support you give FENW. Your contributions are used for the purchase of tools, supplies and other items used in the work of maintaining Wilderness trails. Money received is also used for matching grants which FENW uses for weed mitigation, trail signage and other trail maintenance projects.

100% of your contribution goes for the improvements of the wilderness. There are no salaries or administrative fees. All work is accomplished by volunteers.

New members are needed both as Volunteers and contributors to insure that the work of FENW continues. Please recommend FENW to your friends.



**MEMBERSHIP DONORS
November 2012 – November 2013**

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rosemarie Archangel & | Dave & Jan Lace |
| Vera Sapington | Ed & Margi Lane |
| John & Maryann Balassa | Sally Liu |
| Bill Betz | Mike Mayrer |
| Joel & Mern Bitler | John & Connie McKeague |
| Tom Brennom | Leland Miller |
| Howard & Sue Carver | Michael Miller |
| Dr. John & Ann Craven | Kurt Morscher |
| Thomas Davidson | Allyn & Joyce Mosher |
| Kirk & Jo Ann Dufty | Peter & Susana Novembre |
| Laura Davis & Tom Peterson | Gail & Ivy Parish |
| Rich & Shawna Emarine | Dave & Marilyn Raymond |
| Becky Falch | Bill & Suzanne Reed |
| Nancy Fegley | Dorothy Lee Resseguie |
| Mary Ellen Gilliland | George & Kathryn Resseguie |
| Frank and Mary Gutmann | Steve & Laura Rossetter |
| Sara Hall | Louis Skowyra |
| Elliot Henry | Ray Skowyra & Marianne Short |
| Bob & Linda Hrycaj | Pat Spitzmiller |
| Joan Hutchinson | Barbara Stiltner |
| Dave & Cyndi Koop | John & Pat Taylor |
| Jonathan & Jacque Kriegel | Stephen & Elizabeth Weseley |
| | Hans & MJ Wuster |

Grant Donors

- The Summit Foundation
- National Forest Foundation
- NFF/Ski Area Conservation Fund
- Summit County Weed Program
- A-Basin Employee Environmental Fund*
- Black Hills Parks & Rec Fund (USFS)
- Colorado State Trails/GOCO
- Larry Thomas Memorial Fund
- Pulling for Colorado (P4C)
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Jake Oster Memorial Fund
- Town of Breckenridge
- Town of Dillon
- Town of Frisco
- Town of Silverthorne

*Thanks to A-Basin COO Alan Henceroth and the 40+ contributors to the Fund for their generous donations for the 13th year in a row! We greatly appreciate their generous support.

Business Donors

- Abbey's Coffee
- All Seasons Catering
- Backcountry Brewery
- Beaver Run Resort
- Breckenridge Brewery
- City Market
- Copy Copy
- Dillon Ranger District Staff
- Eagle/Holy Cross Ranger District Staff
- Eagles Nest Property Homeowners Assoc.
- Friends of the Dillon Ranger District
- Friends of the Lower Blue
- Go-Lite, Silverthorne
- Gore Range Mountain Outfitters
- Infinite Scope
- Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches
- John Fielder/Westcliff Publishing
- Key to the Rockies
- Keystone Center
- Keystone Resort
- Leki Poles
- KSMT the Mountain
- Krystal 93
- Mountain Outfitters
- Neils Lunceford
- Nobel-Sysco
- Patagonia
- Peak Provisions
- Slate Creek Ranch
- South Maryland Creek Ranch
- Subway
- Summit County Government
- Summit Daily News
- TRAFx Research, LTD

Board Members

President:	John Currie Craven
Secretary/Treasurer:	George Resseguie
Members:	Frank Gutmann Mike Mayrer
Trailmaster	Bill Reed
Volunteer Wilderness Ranger Co-coordinators:	Cyndi Koop Ken Harper
Noxious Weeds Specialist:	John Taylor
Webmaster:	Rick Warren

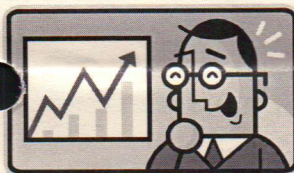
Contact Information

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Website: www.FENW.org
Information: info@fenw.org
QR Code (scan with iPhone):



Financial Report



The FENW financial position continues to be excellent. Presently, we have \$27,000 in the bank and have collected \$19,400 in grants, dues and donations so far this year. Key items include grant funding from the National Forest Foundation for weed mitigation (\$10,000), The Summit Foundation for signage (\$3,000), the Towns of Dillon, Frisco and Silverthorne also for signage (\$1,000) and A-Basin (\$2,600). We also have received dues totaling \$2,700 as of the end of October.

The funding will be used for several key programs in 2013: weed mitigation (\$11,600), signage (\$5,700), and various trail maintenance projects and support (\$5,500). We look forward to a very dynamic year helping to support the efforts of the USFS in maintaining and preserving Eagles Nest, Holy Cross, and Ptarmigan Wilderness areas.

A-Basin's Terrific Support

This is the 13th year that FENW has received donations from Alan Henceroth and the 40+ contributors to the A-Basin Employee Environmental Fund. Their generous contributions (over \$12,000 to date) have been instrumental in supporting our projects and efforts to help maintain and preserve Eagles Nest, Holy Cross and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness areas in Summit and Eagle County. We could not accomplish our objectives without their **terrific support**. *THANKS!*

Membership Donors

To date, 50 members have contributed about \$2,700 in dues in 2013. Of these, we would like to welcome John & Maryann Balassa, who live in Bill's Ranch (Frisco) and Boulder, as new members.

Jake Oster Memorial

The Board has decided that the best option for a fitting memorial for Jake Oster is building a Recreation Opportunity Guides (hiking trail descriptions and maps) display rack near the picnic tables at the Dillon Ranger District office building. Jan Cutts (USFS) is enthusiastic as is Carol Oster (Jake's mother). Rick Warren and the USFS will coordinate the project. Next steps are to design the display, determine costs and then finalize the plans with the USFS. It was agreed that any money not spent on the memorial would be used to help fund the annual DRD Recreation Guide.



George Resseguie
Secretary/Treasurer

Newsletter Editors' Column

We are pleased to present our second annual FENW Newsletter, published twice a year in MAY and NOV. Many thanks to the members of the Board of Directors (BOD) for their contributions to the Newsletter. In the future, we also welcome contributions to the Newsletter from members who are not on the Board of FENW. Please share with other members any thoughts you have on how to enlarge our membership (especially some with young, strong backs), expand our mission or enrich members' and non-members' wilderness experience. You can view the Newsletter in **full color** on our FENW website at www.fenw.org.

Frank and Mary Gutmann

DENVER CO 802

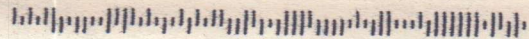
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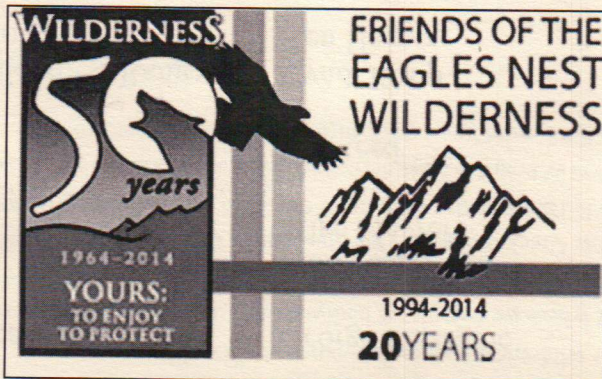
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George & Kathryn Resseguie
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Silverthorne CO 80498

80498178787



Announcement!



Check out our anniversary logo!

2014 will be the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act and 20 year Anniversary of the creation of FENW.

Watch for more news on the "50/20" celebration!