

## Mission Statement

"Spanning the Idaho/Montana border, the Scotchmans are one of the last, and largest, wild areas in our region. We conduct education, outreach and stewardship activities to preserve the rugged, scenic and biologically diverse 88,000 acre Scotchman Peaks Roadless Area. We believe the Scotchman Peaks deserve congressional designation as Wilderness for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations."



Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc. (FSPW) is a non-profit organization. The proceeds from all events and sales benefit our wilderness preservation efforts. Donations are tax deductible.

If you receive this newsletter by mail and have an email address you can help us save postage by sending us your email address.

Acquisitions Editor: Ann Wimberley  
Layout and design: Celeste Boatwright Grace



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

We are trying something new for the New Year – this first 2016 edition of the FSPW Newsletter includes, as an insert, our Annual Report for 2015 (see pages 5 through 8). We've had a pretty exciting year and so much of what we might say in reviewing the last year overlaps with an Annual Report, that it seems to make sense to bring that report into this newsletter. We hope you enjoy this format.

2016 comes with an increasing sense that this may be a breakout year for the Scotchman Peaks! As you will read in our Annual Report, we are excited at the prospects which lie ahead. These are built upon the work, and voices, of many people over many years, including most everyone who is reading this. Pat yourself on the back. But, keep in mind that now is not the time to let up. We hope you continue to help us protect the Scotchman Peaks in the coming year by volunteering, donating, writing letters, emails or just having a conversation with your neighbor!

— Phil Hough, Executive Director



Idaho Forest Group executive Bob Boeh approaches the top of Scotchman Peak. IFG President Marc Brinkmeyer hand delivered a letter of endorsement to the Idaho Delegation in 2015

## NOW IS THE TIME!

We've never been closer to getting an Idaho bill introduced in Congress. Now is the time to thank the Idaho Delegation for their recent work on Wilderness in the Boulder-White Clouds and ask them to keep up the good work by introducing a bill for the Scotchman Peaks. It's easy. Just go to [www.scotchman-peaks.org/you-can-help](http://www.scotchman-peaks.org/you-can-help) and fill out the on-line comment forms today.

INSIDE:

**PAGE 5: THE 2016 FSPW ANNUAL REPORT**  
**PAGE 9: DR. CARRIE: A PIONEER WOMAN AT THE FOOT OF THE SCOTCHMANS • BY JACK NISBET**

## 2016 WINTER HIKE SCHEDULE • E = EASY • M = MODERATE • S = STRENOUS • S+ = S+UPID :-)

Hike date	Exertion Rating	Destination/ Hike Name	Leader	Description and contact info
1/31/16	M	Ross Creek Cedars	Randi Lui & Deb Hunsicker	Contact: Randi Lui <a href="mailto:randi1982@msn.com">randi1982@msn.com</a> Snowshoe 3.5 miles up a closed service road to the beautiful ancient cedar forest. Pack a lunch for a picnic and wander amongst the cedars before heading back down the road to the vehicles.
2/20/16	M	Hike the Fatman Roundabout	Sandy Compton	Contact: Sandy Compton <a href="mailto:sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org">sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org</a> Take a wintry walk around the Fatman Road at the south edge of the Scotchman Peaks. Beautiful and quiet snowshoe "stroll" along a un-plowed FS road. The hike is about 6 miles, with about 600 feet gain and loss.
3/14/16	M-S	East Fork Blue Creek	Chuck Gross	Contact: Chuck Gross <a href="mailto:ckgross44@gmail.com">ckgross44@gmail.com</a> Follow old roads and whack some not so thick bushes on this snowshoe exploration of the north side of the East Fork of Blue Creek at the foot of Clayton Peak. We will have lots of choices of destination and distance. The only thing that will make this hike strenuous is going the full distance.
3/19/16	S	Star Peak Equinox Hike	Sandy Compton	Contact: Sandy Compton <a href="mailto:sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org">sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org</a> It's not <i>quite</i> the equinox, but it's close enough. This hike/snowshoe to the oldest fire lookout in Montana offers great challenge and wonderful views. Expect almost 4,000 ft of elevation gain and bring your camera to capture one of the most picturesque privies in Western Montana. If we can see it in the snow.
3/26/16	S+	Goat Mountain Hop	Jim Mellen	Contact: Jim Mellen <a href="mailto:jimnsandii@gmail.com">jimnsandii@gmail.com</a> The 10th Annual Goat Mountain Hop. Gaining 4,000 feet vertical, this is one of the steepest trails in the region. Although you don't have to be crazy to sign up, it does help. Round trip: 7 miles, Elevation gain +/- 4000ft. To sign up for this hike, fill out the online Hike Signup Form. For further information about this hike, please contact the hike leader listed above.
4/9/15	M	Birds of Prey	Brian Baxter	Contact: Brian Baxter <a href="mailto:b_baxter53@yahoo.com">b_baxter53@yahoo.com</a> Start with a classroom session at Heron Community Center, then head to the field to look for raptors, owls and hawks. Dress appropriately, bring lunch, snacks, water, and smiles and good attitude for fun day! Some off trail hiking. Meet at 9 am Pacific time; 10 am Mountain time at Heron Community Center in Heron, MT. Email Sandy at: <a href="mailto:sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org">sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org</a> for directions. We'll carpool for the field portion of the day.
4/23/15	S+	Scotchman Peak Snow Bound	Jim and Sandii Mellen	Contact: Jim and Sandii Mellen <a href="mailto:jimnsandii@gmail.com">jimnsandii@gmail.com</a> Snowshoe, ski, or snowboard the tallest peak in the Scotchman's. This is the 11th annual Scotchman Peaks winter hike. Generally, the trailhead is inaccessible this time of year, adding 2.5 miles each way and 500ft elevation gain for an incredible day. This is for the extremely fit adventurers only! Round trip: 12 miles, Elevation gain: 4200 ft. To sign up for this hike, please fill out our online Hike Signup Form. For further information about this hike, please contact the hike leader listed above.

To learn more about or sign up for any of our hikes, summer or winter, visit [www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking](http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking)

## A CRY FOR HELP. NOT!

By Natalie Shaffer.

Dear Friends of Scotchmans Peak Wilderness,

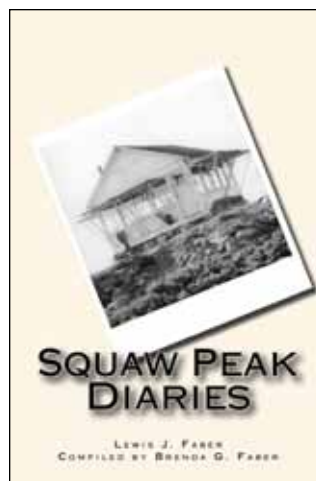
I recently moved to Post Falls from Syracuse, NY, with my boyfriend Jacob. We moved to northern Idaho for many reasons but mostly for the vast outdoor opportunities. We are avid backpackers and have spent many nights in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains.



Natalie and Jacob in their Goat Mountain camp — before the helicopter.

Our first hike in the Scotchmans was up Goat Mountain. Although we did not summit, we knew we would definitely return. A couple of weeks later we prepared ourselves for an overnight and

*Continued on page 11*



## 1940s STAR PEAK LOOKOUT TELLS HIS TALE

Lew Faber and his family came to visit Star Peak in August, 2014. It was a homecoming for Lew, in both the physical and spiritual sense. In the ensuing 18 months, Lew has put that homecoming, as well as the story of his first long-ago visit into a book.

With the help of his sons and daughter-in-law, he has written and published "Squaw Peak Diaries." Following is the book's excerpted introduction:

"This is the story of Lewis Faber, who at the age of 17 leaves his home in Grand Rapids, Michigan and travels to Noxon, Montana. Lew has volunteered to work for the US Forest service as a fire lookout.

*Continued on page 11*





FSPW Money Matters is a new section of *Peak Experience* in which we will detail how we steward the grants and individual donations of both time and money that are the life blood of our organization. Thanks to all of you who give of yourselves to keep us working for wilderness!

## OVER THE TOP VOLUNTEERS: NEW WEAPON FOR THE WAR ON WEEDS IN THE

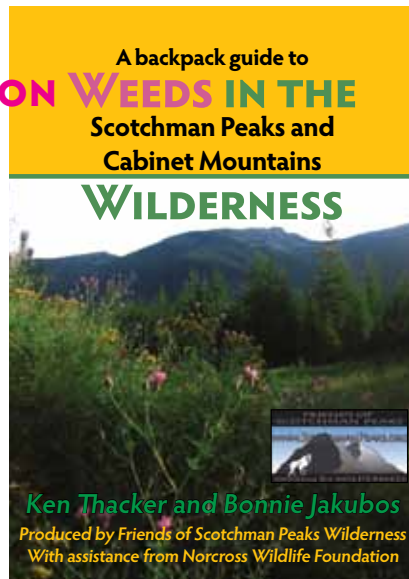
By Nathan Mynatt

This spring, we will be embarking on a great battle against a worthy foe – weeds. More specifically, we will be asking volunteers to help us catalog the proliferation of noxious weeds along trail corridors in the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscapes drainage, and document the effectiveness of treatments.

Although I'm sure that you are aware of the maladies posed by noxious weeds, I'll give you a quick rundown to jog your memory. Noxious weeds are injurious to natural ecosystems, causing damage by growing aggressively without natural controls. Most have been introduced by mankind, and thereby threaten the primeval character and natural conditions of wilderness. Each state maintains a unique list of noxious weeds. In both Idaho and Montana, state laws require noxious weed control.

In the Scotchman Peaks, we face a particularly nasty team of noxious weeds. Nearly all of those found in the Scotchman Peaks are inedible to local wildlife, and they crowd out the native species that animals in the Scotchmans depend on for survival. Of particular notoriety are four "worst offenders." Common Tansy is a fast-growing plant with yellow button flowers that can reach 6 feet tall, and is most easily identified by the strong camphor odor that it emits. Hawkweed appears in a number of varieties, both native and non-native, but invasive species can often be identified by their leafless flower stalks and thick patches of roots connected by roots and/or runners. Knapweed, of both the spotted and diffuse versions, is highly invasive and can often be identified by its deeply lobed leaves and white, pink, or purple button flowers. Rounding out the lineup is St. John's Wort, which has distinctive star-shaped yellow leaves and paired leaves on opposite sides of the stem.

Because it would be nearly impossible to identify these noxious weeds by the paltry descriptions given above, we



asked weed expert Ken Thacker and illustrator Bonnie Jakubos to put together a weed book for us. The result is "A Backpack Guide to Weeds In The Scotchman Peaks and Cabinet Mountains," a fascinating little book full of useful information and even more useful pictures. Printed on weatherproof paper, it should be the perfect companion to volunteers doing weed surveys. We are also hoping to introduce a high-tech solution to data collection this year, in the form of iPads equipped with a program called GIS Pro, which will allow surveyors to draw polygons on topographical maps

where they find noxious weeds, take pictures, and make notes.

For this project, we will be looking for 10-15 volunteers who are willing to commit a few days to surveys over the course spring and early summer. Each volunteer, or pair of volunteers, will adopt a trail in the Lightning Creek drainage to survey after receiving training on weed identification and operating the GIS Pro program. If this sounds like loads of fun to you, send an email to [Nathan@scotchmanpeaks.org](mailto:Nathan@scotchmanpeaks.org), letting me know that you want to help out!

## SCHEDULED GIVING MAKES DOLLARS AND SENSE FOR DONORS AND FSPW

Our Salsa content management system has made it easy for regular FSPW donors to become — well — even more regular. Contributors can make a one-time donation, but it's just as easy to schedule an annual, quarterly, monthly, or even weekly donation. They can be set for any amount, \$5 or over, and can be directly deducted from your checking account or charged to a debit or credit card. The donor can set an expiration date, if they wish. This is an efficient way to support our mission as well as keep your memory from being overloaded. Visit [bit.ly/FSPWScheduledDonations](http://bit.ly/FSPWScheduledDonations) to learn more.

## THE CALENDAR ALONG THE TRAIL

**October 16-18:** FSPW secretary Carol Jenkins led eight FSPW volunteers through the wilderness first aid class.

**October 25:** FSPW Volunteer appreciation picnic was held at Round Lake State Park.

**October 27 – 31:** FSPW staff Phil Hough, Sandy Compton and Nathan Mynatt and volunteers Brita Olson and Todd Dunfield attended the NWSA conference in Missoula

**November 7:** FSPW co-sponsored the American Long Distance Hiking Association Fall Hiker Fest at the Bonner County Administrative Building

**November 11 - 19:** FSPW exec Phil Hough and ICL associate Brad Smith traveled to Washington, D.C. and met with the Idaho delegation and others.

**November 19:** 50 Friends — and the general public — helped consume another keg of McDuff's Goat Hop Ale at McDuff's Beer Hall in Sandpoint.

**December 3 - 5:** A film crew from *This American Land* worked with FSPW staff, volunteers and Friends on footage for their Public Broadcasting System show to be aired in the spring.

**December 9 - 11:** FSPW Exec Phil Hough attended a meeting on regional rare forest carnivore monitoring in Missoula

**December 12:** Friends celebrated the holiday season with a gathering at the Outskirts Gallery in Hope with appetizers, beverages and a look at the display of art from our Plein Air Paintouts. Several paintings were sold.

**January 14 and 15:** Nathan Mynatt led the first two of our 2016 Winter Tracks programs at Round Lake State Park.

**January 15:** 80 Friends attended the 11th Anniversary Party at the Little Panida Theater in Sandpoint.

**January 16:** Brian Baxter led eight students on a tracking class out of the Heron Community Center.

## THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

**January 25 & 26:** Program Coordinator Sandy Compton will attend USFS partners meeting at Lubrecht Forestry Campus in Montana

**February 3:** Just in time for Valentine's Day perusing, join us at the Pend Oreille Winery for our annual sip and shop. 5:00 to 8:00

**February 11:** Winter Tracks Program with Forest M. Bird Charter School at Round Lake.

**February 26:** Idaho Conservation League and FSPW will host films at the Eagles Club in Coeur d'Alene.

**March 2:** Join your Friends at the Idaho Pour Authority for some creative beverage analysis and some serious fun.

**March 4:** FSPW presents The StoryTelling Company at the Little Theater in Libby. Time and details to be announced.

**March 5:** FSPW presents The StoryTelling Company at the Rex Theater in Thompson Falls. Time and details to be announced.

**April 9:** Brian Baxter will lead a search for the big birds around the Clark Fork and Bull River Valleys. Details at [www.scotchmanpeaks.org/stewardship/upcoming-events](http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org/stewardship/upcoming-events).

## ON THE HORIZON

**June 2:** The Annual State of the Scotchmans at a location to be determined. You never know WHO might turn up.

**June 4, National Trails Day:** The Annual FSPW Trails and Hike Leader Training Day. Eddy Creek Campground and Trail #999. All Day. Sign up online at [bit.ly/2016FSPWTrailsTraining](http://bit.ly/2016FSPWTrailsTraining)

**June 17:** National Trails Day event on Scotchman Peak Trail.



## WANT TO BE AN FSPW INSIDER?

GET THE WEEKLY INSIDER NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL BY  
WRITING TO [INSIDER@SCOTCHMANPEAKS.ORG](mailto:INSIDER@SCOTCHMANPEAKS.ORG)

## WINTER TRACKS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER

Tire of sitting inside? Maybe you should consider heling out with Winter Tracks, our winter youth education program. Winter Tracks will get over 300 kids into the woods this winter. Pioneered by Kristin Nowicki last winter, the Winter Tracks 2016 project is led by staffer Nathan Mynatt, and will include middle and high school students from Troy, Libby, Noxon, Clark Fork, Sandpoint, and Spokane.

The program consists of field trips to outdoor locations in Montana and Idaho, and features five modules, including Animal Tracking, Tree Identification, Animal anatomy – (using pelts and skulls), Habitat study and Native American/animal interactions. Each field trip is comprised of four of these modules.

This is a great opportunity to help acquaint youth with the joys of the out-of-doors and get them started on a life-long relationship with the wild. To volunteer, contact Nathan Mynatt at 704-877-2101 or write to [nathan@scotchmanpeaks.org](mailto:nathan@scotchmanpeaks.org)

FSPW  Winter Tracks '16

# Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness 2015 Annual Report



## BIG PROGRESS TOWARD DESIGNATION

By Brad Smith, Phil Hough and Sandy Compton

The long-awaited release of the Land Management Plans for the Kootenai and Idaho Panhandle National Forests recommend that Congress designate approximately 61,800 acres of the Scotchman Peaks as wilderness. Of this, approximately 13,900 acres are within the State of Idaho, and 47,900 acres are located within the State of Montana.

**2015 MIGHT STAND OUT IN THE MINDS OF SOME AS YEAR OF THE FIRES OR YEAR OF THE GOATS, BUT IT MIGHT BETTER BE CALLED YEAR OF THE ENDORSEMENTS. HUGE LEAPS WERE MADE IN THE POLITICAL REALM.**

### Support Grows in 2015

In Montana, our Lincoln County Community Prosperity Forum series and Voices In the Wilderness project have helped to build community conversations and support for Wilderness. In Idaho, the Lightning Creek Treasured Landscapes project as well as numerous outreach events continued to build community consensus needed to achieve Wilderness Designation.

Over 6,000 individuals have expressed their support for the Scotchman Peaks as designated wilderness by becoming Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. Eighty-five percent of these people live within two hours of the Scotchman Peaks.

In the last year we have gained notable new resolutions and endorsements in the last year.

### Resolutions From Governing Bodies

On March 24, 2015, the Bonner County Commissioners unanimously passed a resolution, asking Idaho's congressional delegation to sponsor wilderness legislation for the Idaho side of the Scotchman Peaks.

Other noteworthy resolutions of support have come from the cities of Sandpoint, Idaho, Ponderay, Idaho, and Thompson Falls, Montana.

### Endorsements

Year 2015 saw three important endorsements for the Scotchman Peaks. On February 11, the **Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce** endorsed the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness.

**Montana Governor, Steve Bullock** endorsed the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness on March 17, 2015. In September 2015, the **Idaho Forest Group** endorsed the Idaho side of the Scotchman Peaks and called upon the state's congressional delegation to take action on the proposed wilderness.

Other noteworthy endorsements include Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Bull Lake Rod and Gun Club, Federation of Western Outdoor

*Continued on next page*

## PERSISTENT FIRES AND PESKY GOATS MARKED SUMMER



### We saw fire, but not much rain.

Fires began with a lightning event on August 13 and burned well into October. Approximately a third of the proposed wilderness was affected, including many of the trails in the east half of the wilderness. The good news is that the fire behaved "nicely," creating a mosaic burn in most places that Forest Service personnel and others feel will be beneficial to the forest over time. FSPW plans a follow-up project in which photo monitoring of forest recovery will be implemented.

### Scotchman goats were getting into packs and the news.



In September, Scotchman Peak trail #65 was closed at the request of Idaho Fish and Game because of repeated reports of human-goat confrontations involving food and

other resources. At least one person was bitten after letting a mountain goat lick perspiration off their legs.

FSPW has been and will continue conducting educational outreach regarding the danger of habituating wild animals by feeding them, and goats in particular. FSPW is hopeful that Trail #65 will reopen soon.



### *Progress, from page 5*

Clubs, Pend Oreille Chapter of Idaho Master Naturalists, Kinnickinnik Native Plant Society, Idaho Panhandle Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Montana Backcountry Horsemen, Montana Wildlife Federation, Plains and Paradise Chamber Commerce, Plains Grange, Sandpoint Kiwanis, Sandpoint Rotary Club, Spokane Mountaineers, and Wildhorse Plains Backcountry Horsemen.

Perhaps our most hopeful moment from 2015 was at a Congressional Committee hearing in May when **Senator Jim Risch of Idaho** proclaimed that after the Boulder White Clouds bill passes he would most likely turn his attention to working on Wilderness for the Scotchman Peaks!

### *Media Endorsements*

In 2015, the editorial boards of the Bonner County Daily Bee, Missoulian, River Journal, Sanders County Ledger, the Sandpoint Reader, and Spokesman Review have all endorsed the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness.



### *Web Resources*

Friends of Scotchman Peak Wilderness maintains an extensive web-site. Our entire list of endorsements and resolutions can be viewed at <http://www.scotchman-peaks.org/about-the-friends/endorsements/>

### *Looking to the future*

YOUR voice has been heard in the halls of congress! As noted earlier, a large and diverse group of individuals, business and community leaders as well as everyday constituents have expressed the idea that Scotchman Peaks should be wilderness. And our congressional representatives are listening. We are finally at that point where our forward momentum has us talking less about “whether” and more about “when and how” to put together a congressional bill that will designate the Scotchman Peaks in Idaho as Wilderness. We are looking to 2016 to be a breakout year for the Scotchman Peaks.

There is nothing certain in politics - the process can move slowly and then suddenly lurch forward, but support from the Idaho delegation for a bill that would designate the Idaho portion of the Scotchman Peaks is, we believe, on the near horizon.

### *Kootenai Forest Stakeholders take a big step forward*

In December, after many years of work, the Kootenai Forest Stakeholders Coalition (including representatives

from the timber industry, wilderness and conservation groups, small business owners, hunters, recreation groups and local officials) came together and took a huge step forward to resolve long standing conflicts over best management of our natural resources. The KFSC voted unanimously to approve an agreement for timber harvest guidelines, motorized and non-motorized areas and wilderness designations for key roadless areas in the Yaak, Cabinets, and Scotchman Peaks!

Further work needs to be done for these agreements to be adopted. But a strong path forward has been charted and important progress made towards these eventual goals. We hope this big endorsement will help us protect some of the precious wild country of the Kootenai!

## FINANCIALS

These financial statements are based on our most recently completed fiscal year, Fiscal 2015 which began Oct 1, 2014 and ended Sept 30th, 2015. Because our accounting is handled on a cash basis, we report expenditures and receipts at they are actually transacted.

2015 Revenue	\$215,051	
Grants	192,102	89.3%
Donors	14,383	6.7%
Merchandise	1,101	0.5%
Events/Other	7,171	3.3%
Interest	294	< 0.1%

2015 Expenses	\$193,213	
Programs	158,906	82.2%
Admin	25,062	13.0%
Fundraising	9,245	4.8%

**In Fiscal 2015 we received \$215,051 in support from individual donors, merchandise sales, fundraisers, and foundation grants.** The following foundations provided support: Cadeau Foundation, Campion Foundation Clif Bar Family Foundation, Community Foundation, Community Foundation / Equinox , Confidence Foundation Forest Service, High Stakes Foundation, PEW Charitable Trusts, Kendeda, Maki Foundation National Environmental Education, National Forest Foundation, The Cinnabar Foundation, The New-Land Foundation, Inc., Wilburforce Foundation, and the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation

**Our expenses totaled \$193,213.** We started the year with a cash balance of \$99,468. We ended the fiscal year on Sept 30 with \$121,153.

**January 9, 2015:** A gala celebration of the 10th anniversary of Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness was held at Tango Café in Sandpoint. A sell-out crowd enjoyed a wonderful evening of fun, food and fine entertainment.

**February 18:** Lincoln County Prosperity Forum on the recreation economy with feature speaker Lee Boman was held in Libby, with 72 in attendance. Ashley South started as a shared employee with Montana Wilderness Association in our Libby office.

**February 28:** Winter Tracks Class open to area youth and their parents was held at Sandpoint Community Hall and at Trout Creek in the Pack River Delta; Jack Nisbet gave a talk to Kinnickinnick Native Plant Society and Idaho Master Naturalists, co-sponsored by FSPW at the Community Hall in Sandpoint.

**March 5:** 60 eighth graders from Forrest M. Bird Charter School in Sandpoint traveled to Round Lake State Park for a day of tracking fun as part of the FSPW Winter Tracks program.

**March 11:** Lincoln County Prosperity Forum on Tourism Marketing was held in Libby with more than 50 in attendance. The focus was tourism.

**March 17:** We received a letter of endorsement from Governor Bullock of Montana

**March 24:** Bonner County Commission unanimously passes a resolution asking the Idaho Congressional delegation to introduce legislation to designate the Idaho portion of the Scotchman Peaks as Wilderness!!!

**March 27:** A Tenth Anniversary Celebration was held at the Venture Inn in Troy, featuring Jack Nisbet, speaking on David Thompson. Approximately 50 pounds of food and \$175.00 were donated by attendees.

**April 9:** At a FSPW fundraiser, MickDuff's Brewing released Goat Hop Ale at their Brew House on Cedar with 60 folks in attendance. New Assistant Project Coordinator Nathan

Mynatt was introduced.

**May 4, 6 and 8:** FSPW Board member Carol Jenkins taught a wilderness first aid class to volunteers

**May 18 – 22:** FSPW Exec Phil Hough, Brad Smith of Idaho Conservation League and Sandpoint Chamber Exec Kate McCallister traveled to Washington, D.C. and met with Congressional delegates from Idaho and Montana.

**June 6:** FSPW and the Forest Service hosted National Trails Day and FSPW Trails Skills and Hike Leader Training Day at Eddy Creek Campground and Trail 999;

**June 10:** FSPW Staff, Three Rivers USFS Trail Crew, Montana YCC and kids from Forest Bird Charter School under the guidance of Selkirk Outdoor Leadership combined to build one-half mile of new trail in a reroute of the first part of Ross Creek Trail #142

**June 19:** First Take-A-Kid-Hiking Day of the season took place in Morris Creek; Doug Ferrell made

a presentation to the Thompson Falls Chamber of Commerce.

**June 26:** The kickoff for our 2015 Trail Stewardship Season took place at Scotchman Peaks Trail #65 as we began the realignment of the lower mile of trail.

**July 4:** FSPW volunteers and staff marched in parades in Sandpoint, Clark Fork, Heron and Noxon.

The FSPW/Cougar Creek

Band Float took first place in the Clark Fork parade; FSPW had a booth at the July Fourth celebration in Troy.

**July 10:** A Field Day Friday workday in Dry Creek/Star Gulch with the Cabinet Ranger District. Staff and volunteers realigned intersection of Dry Creek Trail #1020 and Star Gulch Trail # 1016

**July 17:** Fifteen volunteers and 3 staff



established 1000 feet of new tread on Scotchman Peak Trail #65 reroute, including a massive effort by the FSPW crosscut crew removing multiple blowdowns.

**August 13:** A lightning storm started myriad fires in the Scotchman Peaks, including the West Fork of Blue Creek; Pilik Ridge; Hamilton, Star and Napoleon

Gulches; and Sawtooth Mountain.

**August 14:** Workday on Scotchman Peak Trail #65 reroute. The lower half of the reroute was connected to the old trail, a half mile of new tread being finished.

**September 11 and 12:** The lower half of the Scotchman Peak Trail reroute opened for traffic as volunteers and staff decommissioned and rehabilitated the lower quarter mile of the old trail.

**September 14:** Scotchman Peak Trail #65 was closed because of habituated mountain goats.

**October 10:** The Annual Plein Air Paintout featured three well-attended workshops at the Outskirts Gallery in the Hope Marketplace next the Post Office in Hope.

**October 3:** Second Annual Bonner County Employees

Wellness Hike went to East Fork Peak, with two Commissioners and three employees,

**October 27 – 31:** FSPW staff Phil Hough, Sandy Compton and Nathan Mynatt and volunteers Brita Olson and Todd Dunfield attended the NWSA conference in Missoula

**December 12:** Friends celebrated the holiday season at the Outskirts Gallery in Hope with appetizers, beverages and a look at the display of art from our Plein Air Paintouts. Several paintings were sold.

**December 12:** Ryan and Kate Sullivan signed as our 6,000th and 6001st friends.





## BOARD AND STAFF

### CHAIRMAN & MONTANA DIRECTOR

**Doug Ferrell**, Trout Creek, MT  
(406) 827-4341 • doug@scotchmanpeaks.org

### SECRETARY

**Carol Jenkins**, Sagle, ID  
(208) 265-9204 • carol@scotchmanpeaks.org

### TREASURER

**Jacob Styer**, Sandpoint, ID  
(828) 989-8095 • jacob@scotchmanpeaks.org

### EAST BONNER COUNTY DIRECTOR:

**Neil Wimberley**, Hope, ID  
(208) 264-5379 • neil@scotchmanpeaks.org

**Bill Martin**, Troy, MT  
(406) 295-5258

**Will Valentine**, Sagle, ID  
(208) 255-1114 • will@scotchmanpeaks.org

## The Staff

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

**Phil Hough**, Sagle, ID  
(208) 946-9127 • phil@scotchmanpeaks.org

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

**Sandy Compton**, Heron, MT  
(208) 290-1281 • sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org

### ASSISTANT PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

**Nathan Mynatt**, Sandpoint, ID  
(704) 877-2101 • nathan@scotchmanpeaks.org

### LINCOLN COUNTY PROGRAM ASSISTANT

**Ashley South**, Yaak Valley, MT

### 2015 SUMMER INTERN/RANGER

**Brita Olson**, Sandpoint, Idaho



Morris Creek trail crew, September 26, 2015



Eric Ridgway set a record for new Friends signups: 193!!



Don Otis led our first 2015 summer hike.

Matt Stauble, Joe Foster, Jake Simon, Tim Lindsey, Molly O'Reilly, Steve Lockwood, Lexey DeFremery, Jan Wasserburger, Max and Jim Zuberhuhler, Deb Hunsicker, Pat McLeod, Jack O'Brien, Melissa Thompson, Kelsie Brasseur, Greg Peters, Bev Newsham, Diana Moses Botkin, C. Rod Bacon, Doug Scott.

## VOLUNTEERS

### ACQUISITIONS EDITOR

**Ann Wimberley**, Hope, ID

### NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

**Celeste Grace**, Sandpoint, ID

### MERCHANDISE MANAGER

**Jim Mellen**, Sandpoint, ID

### WEBMISTRESS

**Trisha Miller**, Scottsdale, AZ

### INVASIVE WEED SPECIALIST

**Ken Thacker**, Sagle, Idaho

### CAMPAIGN INFORMATION SPECIALIST

**Brad Smith**, Sandpoint, Idaho

### US FOREST SERVICE LIASON

**Joel Sather**, Cabinet RD

## Some of our Stellar Volunteers

Brian McVey, Bill Arnold, Diane Brockway, Erika Finley, Sara Rose, Melissa DeMotte, Irv and Michelle McGeachy, Phil Degens, Matt Davidson, David Vosen Family, Dan Simmons, Margaret Harker, Celeste Grace, Golden Canine, Rod Barclay, Rodd Galloway, John and Susan, Harbuck, Clem Yonkers, Lori Getts, Dave Pietz, Mark and Karen Sheets, John Hastings, Chuck Gross, Irv Jenkins, Holly Clements, Mary Franzel, Sandii Mellen, Randi Lui, Brian Baxter, Judy Hutchins, Shane Sater, Mike Wolcott, Jake Ostman, Aaron Theisen, Ron Mamajek, Karen and Ed Robinson, Denise Zembryki, Dave and Suzie Kretschmar, Mark Cochran, Gary Payton, Tim Patton, Chris Bachman, Marie Valentine, Pete and Fiona Hicks, Jeff Pennick, Brian Sherry, Scott Rulander, Justin Randall, Bonnie Jakubos, Chris Compton, Cate Huisman, Molly Montana, Eric Ridgway, Kristin Nowicki, Eric Grace, Ben Olson, Kate and Erick Walker, Susan Jodi Kramer, Conway-Kean, Becky Reynolds, Mindy Ferrell, Jon Isacoff, Don Otis, Gayle Bolin, Mark McFadden, Valle Novak, Todd Dunfield, Ashley and Anthony South, Marjorie Trulock, Ward Tolbom, Kally Thurman, Vera Gadman, Don Clark, Charlie Clough, Ernie Scherzer, Jean and Ohani Polequaptewa, Dan Krabacher, Donald M. Jones, Randy Beacham, Marylin Macintyre, Kenny Olson, Aaron Johnson, Jared Shear, Jeff Nizzoli, Howard and Coni Shay, Linda Mitchell, Matt Stauble, Joe Foster, Jake Simon, Tim Lindsey, Molly O'Reilly, Steve Lockwood, Lexey DeFremery, Jan Wasserburger, Max and Jim Zuberhuhler, Deb Hunsicker, Pat McLeod, Jack O'Brien, Melissa Thompson, Kelsie Brasseur, Greg Peters, Bev Newsham, Diana Moses Botkin, C. Rod Bacon, Doug Scott.

## 2015 BY THE NUMBERS — A NONSTATISTICAL LOOK AS SOME OF OUR STATISTICS

**6,050 Friends/Supporters** (a gain of over 1,000 in the past year), **2573 Facebook friends** (up 600+), as of January 2016

**13,000-plus unique visitors** to our website

**Media coverage** has been regular across a region of 750,000 people.

**Our newsletter** now reaches an estimated audience of 12,000 people

**Winter and summer stewardship projects** in 2015 engaged over 100 volunteers.

**Volunteers, staff and interns worked approximately 800 total hours** (100 total work

days) on trail construction and maintenance.

**Volunteer hike leaders** organized and led 16 winter and summer hikes in 2015 (not including three cancelled by fires)

**.65 miles of new tread** was cut for a realignment of Scotchman Peak Trail #65.

**One-half mile of new tread** was cut by USFS, FSPW staff and dozens of youth volunteers in a realignment of Ross Creek Trail #142.

**3-plus miles of general maintenance and repair** on Dry Creek, Star Gulch, Napoleon Gulch and Morris Creek Trails.

**6 patrol and maintenance trips** to our three most popular destinations by our summer intern. (This program was cut short by fire season)

**Two kegs of Goat Hop Ale** from MickDuff's Brewing were consumed during fundraising events.

**Staff and volunteers hiked approximately 1200 miles** during 2015 on projects and leading hikes

**100-plus youth** experienced wild country and outdoor education through our Winter Tracks and Take-A-Kid Hiking Programs.



## DR. CARRIE: A PIONEER WOMAN AT THE FOOT OF THE SCOTCHMANS

By Jack Nisbet

At a gathering of Idaho Fish and Wildlife volunteers last fall, I was seeking a little information about John and Carrie Leiberg, an energetic couple who lived around both Hope and Bayview on Lake Pend Oreille during the 1880s and 90s. I had been dabbling with them for a couple of years, and turned up lots of information about Mr. Leiberg's exploits as a botanical collector and forest surveyor—he was one of the pioneers in thinking about how local residents should balance the interests of mining, forestry, and agriculture with the sensitive habitats of our local landscape. Yet Carrie remained a shadowy figure, and even people from around the region who revered John Leiberg's accomplishments could not agree on the simple pronunciation of the family name. The scientists I knew usually insisted it should be LIEberg.

"Funny they should think that," said one of the volunteers. "My grandparents used to live around Bayview, and they remembered the Leibergs very well. Talked about them often, and always pronounced it LEEberg." Since one of the first rules of public history is that solid oral information trumps written conjecture, that was a clue that I could use.

*There are other clues* about the character of Carrie Leiberg, but plenty of gaps as well. She was born as Carrie Marvin in Vermont in 1852, before the Civil War. At age 30 she graduated from the Illinois Woman's Hospital Medical College, which was later incorporated as part of Northwestern University. The California Board of Medical Examiners certified her ability to practice as a physician in 1883, making her Dr. Carrie Marvin at a time when not many women held such a title.

Two years later, a child named Bernard Leiberg was born in Minnesota,



Encampment at Indian Meadows near Hope on the north end of Lake Pend Oreille.

**Photo by Dr. Carrie Leiberg, 1898; courtesy Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture**

which seems a long way from California. Before that child was out of short pants, John Leiberg began pounding on what eventually totaled 28 different mining claims scattered around the steep terrain of the Coeur d'Alene River's North Fork drainage. On several of those glory holes, Carrie's name was registered alongside John's.

*For two decades, the Leibergs called Lake Pend Oreille home*, sending Bernard to school in Hope while at the same time building up a homestead and orchard within what is now Farragut State Park. Both husband and wife revealed details of their sojourn in a series of remarkable letters to Mrs. Elizabeth Britton, an eminent bryologist at the New York Botanical Gardens. John's unlikely hobby had always been plant and moss collecting. When he mailed some specimens to New York for identification, Britton first encouraged his serious interest, then connected him with government agencies who hired Mr. Leiberg to perform plant and forest

field surveys all over the American West.

Dr. Carrie, meanwhile, picnicked with John and little Bernard on various raw digs, kept track of the homestead (often by herself), and engaged the rough-and-tumble Idaho Panhandle head on. Over the winter of 1889-90, according to one of John's letters, the doctor plied her trade in the boomtown of Post Falls, staying with some family friends at nearby Fort Sherman. Presumably Bernard stayed with her.

*The following year Carrie was managing the family place* when Mrs. Britton sent some mounted slides of moss specimens that arrived while John was out working one of his claims. Carrie took the liberty to acknowledge Britton's package, adding that as a doctor she had prepared plenty of slides herself, and complimented Britton's careful work. Doctor Carrie also confessed that she was thinking of getting an amateur photographic outfit to occupy her time during the coming summer.

*Continued next page*

*Dr. Carrie, from page 9*

In that letter Carrie went on to describe a rag doll she had fashioned for little Bernard out of a dish towel, bragged on the child's ability to recognize the early spring's first buttercup, and fretted about a local woman suffering from peritonitis: "Unfortunately I have a very uncomfortable disposition regarding my patients, and a bad case worries me greatly."

Dr. Leiberg got to worry twice as much that spring of 1890, when Bernard came down with scarlet fever. "I voluntarily quarantined myself in an old shanty a mile from the village, determined to prevent the spread of the disease if it were possible," she wrote to Britton after receiving a sympathy card. "Very desolate there I assure you." The boy pulled through, and in Carrie's next letter, dated January 1891, she expanded on her life at their Pend Oreille homestead—wild weather, fantastic skies, rowing over to Bayview for the mail, and watching Bernard play with his toy train on the floor.

**But Dr. Carrie did not spend all her time as a stay-at-home mom.** That fall John wrote to Britton with the news that "Mrs. L is in Spokane Falls, prospecting places for the establishment there of a Maternity Hospital and Training School for Nurses. There is not in the whole of Idaho or Eastern Washington an institution of the kind and there is a great need of it." In February of 1893, while John surveyed a railroad route out of Hamilton, Montana, Carrie wintered in Chicago, "dividing her time between her Alma Mater, the Women's Medical College, and the Polyclinic—Anatomy and Surgery are her delights."

The resourceful Carrie also began to find delight in photography. It was Carrie who probably took the shot of her husband John a few years later, standing in front of the famous bear paw petroglyphs near Hope. From time immemorial, tribes from all over the region



Leiberg Homestead on Blackwell Point, in what is now Farragut State Park on the south end of Lake Pend Oreille.

North Idaho Museum, with thanks to Linda Hackbarth

had gathered around those petroglyphs at what white settlers called the Indian Meadows for a fall encampment to hunt and gather their winter stores. John published a paper on these petroglyphs in 1897; during her own time on the scene, Dr. Carrie documented the annual tribal gathering with a series of photographs that showed not only teepees and drying racks lined up at the edge of the meadows, but also family groups and children running through camp.

**Those pictures did not interfere with her main career.** In October of 1893, Carrie had just finished writing a long letter to Elizabeth Britton from Hope when a man with a lantern appeared at her door, water streaming down his back, to declare that his wife had been in labor for three days. The doctor gathered her kit and pumped 10 miles on a railroad hand car to the man's house, where she found an exhausted woman lying in great distress. Leiberg performed a high-forceps delivery of a stillborn child, then stayed with the mother till she was somewhat revived. After Dr. Carrie pumped her way back home she added a postscript to her letter in a somewhat

disconsolate tone: "Oh! If one could but reform the world, and take from it a portion of its *needless* misery!"

The following year a landmark notice appeared in *The Medical Sentinel* journal, with variations repeated in *The Medical Fortnightly* and *The Railroad Surgeon*:

"Dr. Carrie Leiberg of Hope, Idaho, has recently been appointed division surgeon upon the Northern Pacific Rail Road. This is the only instance of such distinction of a lady that we know of in the United States."

**The lady never stopped reaching for such distinctions.** In 1896, Dr. Leiberg published a technical account of her treatment of an ectopic pregnancy. Four years later, she was on the Republican ballot as a candidate for the Idaho state legislature. In 1905, while son Bernard apprenticed with Excelsior Carriage and Gas Machinery in Spokane, Carrie practiced as a physician from that city's Mohawk building. And in 1910, after she and John had moved to a farm on Oregon's Mackenzie River, she published another medical article detailing their

*Continued next page*



**Dr. Carrie, from page 10**

treatment of John's diabetes through diet and naturopathy.

That same diabetes led to John's demise three years later, and after he passed away Carrie drifted into the shadows again—a woman of remarkable accomplishments, with a very elusive character. She herself died in the spring of 1937, in Oakland, California, the place where she had first been certified as a doctor half a century before.

So far as is known, Dr. Carrie left behind no personal papers other than a handful of letters to Elizabeth Britton and government botanists, or photographs other than the ones from around Indian Meadows. A courthouse fire in Rathdrum burned up many documents that would have shed light on her property and finances. No contemporary accounts by her neighbors around Lake Pend Oreille or cohorts in the medical profession have come to light. And although John sent a photographic portrait of Carrie to Elizabeth Britton as a keepsake in 1893, no likeness of his wife is known to have survived.

More than a century ago, Dr. and Mr. Leiberg found a way to live and work in our area, while at the same time confronting issues that ranged from land use to wildfires, from public health to climate change. It is possible that their responses to such timely questions could provide new ways for us to look at them today. At this point, any little scrap that might relate to Dr. and Mr. Leiberg—even something so small as the way neighbors used to pronounce their name—would be a valuable addition to one of the more intriguing sagas of the early Northwest.

*The paperback edition of Jack Nisbet's latest book, Ancient Places, will appear later this year. Until then, he is seeking oral information from anyone who might have stories about John and Carrie Leiberg. You can contact Jack at [www.jacknisbet.com](http://www.jacknisbet.com)*

**"Diaries," from page 2**

"It is the summer of 1944 and the United States is still at war in both Europe and Japan. Most adults are in military service and the Forest Service needs additional workers. They make a difficult decision to hire juveniles between 16 and 17 years of age.

"This is not a serious story. Instead it is a humorous account of a young teenager away from home for the first time, as he learns to overcome loneliness and to perform tasks that he has never experienced before. After three months he returns home still a teenager, but a better person in many ways.

**"Help," from page 2**

headed north. We arrived at the trail head much later than expected and began hiking up the insanely steep trail. We agreed to stop and set up camp at the first flat site since it would be getting dark very early.

The evening was breathtaking; the fluffy blanket of snow shined bright, the air was still and calm, the surrounding mountains were stunningly beautiful and the sunset was incredible. We could not have asked for a more perfect evening to have dinner around a camp fire under a clear sky sparkling with stars and a bright moon rising. With our bellies full and temperatures dropping we crawled into our cozy warm sleeping bags and discussed our plan to rise in the morning and set out for the peak. We were so ecstatic to be where we were that nothing could bring us down — or so we thought.

Jacob and I could not have been more shocked to be awakened by the ever-loudening sound of a helicopter flying over and were terrified when it shined a spotlight directly on our tent! Jacob opened the tent and with a sweep of his arm, waved the pilot off, who then turned the spotlight off and disappeared into the night.

Were we dreaming? Did we do something wrong? Jacob found his phone and listened to a voicemail from the

"Seventy years later he returns to Noxon, Montana to revisit the mountain peak and relive his teenage adventures. He is now accompanied by his three sons and daughter-in-law. Even the return trip as an adult results in twists and turns that he could never have imagined."

***This is a fine little book***, with some fascinating insights into the life of a lookout in the 1940s, some historical tidbits about what was then Squaw Peak and the personalities Lew encountered. It's also a great adventure story, and it will soon be available on Amazon. When the book is finalized, we will announce it on our website and Facebook page.

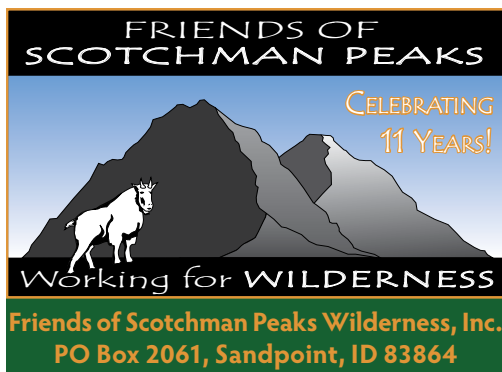
Sheriff's Office saying that they had reason to believe he was stranded on Goat Mtn. At 5:00 p.m. a civilian called the sheriff's department stating that they saw "odd flashlight movement" up on the hill and were concerned. Since it was now 4:00 a.m., that means that eleven hours were spent researching the situation, identifying the subject, organizing a rescue mission and sending a helicopter to the scene. Our hearts stopped, our stomachs sank. How had we caused such a big scene?

We are still unsure why Search and Rescue was sent for us but we don't ever want that to happen again, to us or anyone else. We are reaching out to the Friends of Scotchman's Peak Wilderness Area to help us accomplish this goal. We will gladly volunteer our own time to help make this happen. Thank you for taking the time to read this and we truly hope that you consider making this a priority as it could help save the lives of other outdoor enthusiasts!

Sincerely,

***Natalie Shaffer and Jacob Laplante***

*Thank you, Natalie and Jacob. FSPW appreciates very much the sharing of this letter and have passed it along to appropriate authorities to see what can be done to prevent such incidents in the future.*



## How You Can Help

### SUPPORT FRIENDS OF SCOTCHMAN PEAKS WILDERNESS

As concerned citizens, we support protecting and preserving the Scotchman Peaks area for ourselves and future generations. Highway 56, Highway 200, Lightning Creek Road, and Rattle Creek/Keeler Creek divide surround this 88,000 acre scenic area which straddles the Idaho and Montana border. Wilderness Designation for the Scotchmans will protect plants and wildlife, including the endangered grizzly bears, mountain goat, and bull trout; it will protect water quality; and it will preserve a special place for future generations. In addition, local communities will benefit from the unparalleled recreational and economic opportunities such wilderness provides.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation enclosed (optional). Donations are tax deductible.

☐ Please make checks payable to the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, Inc. Detach & Mail to the address above.

## BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF:

### Executive Director

Phil Hough, Sagle, ID  
(208) 946-9127  
phil@scotchmanpeaks.org

### Chairman

Doug Ferrell, Trout Creek, MT  
(406) 827-4341  
doug@scotchmanpeaks.org

### Secretary

Carol Jenkins, Sagle, ID  
(208) 265-9204  
carol@scotchmanpeaks.org

### Treasurer

Jacob Styer, Sandpoint, ID  
(828) 989-8095  
jacob@scotchmanpeaks.org

### East Bonner County Director

Neil Wimberley, Hope, ID

(208) 264-5379

neil@scotchmanpeaks.org  
Bill Martin, Troy, MT  
(406) 295-5258

Will Valentine, Sagle, ID

(208) 255-1114  
will@scotchmanpeaks.org

### Program Coordinator:

Sandy Compton, Heron, MT  
(208) 290-1281  
sandy@scotchmanpeaks.org

### Asst. Program Coordinator

Nathan Mynatt, Sandpoint, ID  
704-877-2101  
nathan@scotchmanpeaks.org

### Acquisitions Editor

Ann Wimberley, Hope, ID  
(208) 264-5379  
ann@scotchmanpeaks.org

[www.scotchmanpeaks.org](http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org) • [www.facebook.com/ScotchmanPeaks](https://www.facebook.com/ScotchmanPeaks)