Mission Statement

“We believe that the 88,000 acre Scotchman Peaks roadless area, spanning the Idaho/Montana border, deserves permanent protection as wilderness. Faced with growth and change, we want to make sure this special place stays the same.”

Birds Found on the Scotchman Peaks

Chickadees  By Earl Chapin

Most folks I talk with say that their favorite bird is the Chickadee. Chickadees are not afraid of people and will perch closely in trees and bushes in our yards. They look as though you could just walk over and pick them up. They will take a seed out of a feeder you have in your hand. The most common Chickadee we see is the Black-capped. You can see them at 2000 feet or on top of Scotchman Peak.

We have three other Chickadee species, the Mountain, Chestnut-backed and Boreal. These three species like timbered areas and higher elevation, although in winter the Mountain and Chestnut-backed descend to lower elevations and are often seen in our feeders.

The Mountain Chickadee is black capped and has gray sides and a white eyebrow above the eye. Chestnut-backed have a sooty brown cap, white cheeks and a beautiful Chestnut color on its back and sides. The Boreal Chickadee is usually seen above 5000 feet elevation. It has a gray-brown head and back, white cheeks and brown sides and flanks. Boreal Chickadees are not as common as the others, but in summer I can usually find them with other Chickadees. In summer, all four species may be seen together in small flocks at higher elevations.

Cool Hats

Just in time for the heat of summer, FSPW is offering Scotchman Hats, which should reach our outlets in early July. They will be available with our shirts and sweats (including T-shirts in children’s sizes) at Mountain Meadows in Libby, Huckleberry Thicket in Trout Creek, Outdoor Experience, Café Bodega, Eichardt’s, and Sandpoint Sports in Sandpoint, The Hope Market Café in Hope, Lucy’s Deli in Clark Fork and REI in Spokane. Out of the area, contact jmellen@imbris.net. Other Scotchman merchandise is available in our online store run by Café Press at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/store/html.

Carol Jenkins reports that we have been honored to receive a grant from the Cinnabar Foundation for the third year! This ongoing support validates our efforts and we are most appreciative. As this is a challenge grant, we shall receive $4000 only when we have raised an equal amount through donations from our supporters. This is a wonderful opportunity to support Friends of Scotchman Peaks, knowing that donations are a dollar-for-dollar match.
The Future Looks Bright

July 4: The FSPW banner will again be proudly displayed on the second ugliest truck in the Clark Fork Fourth of July parade, courtesy of Joyce and Konrad. We’re hoping for first place this year.

July 4: “United We Stand” is the theme for the Sandpoint Independence Day Parade. Please wear your Scotchman shirt and join us for our fourth year marching in the July 4th parade through downtown Sandpoint. This is a great way to remind folks that “we stand united” for wilderness designation for the Scotchmans! The parade begins at the corner of 5th and Church at 10 am. Please join up with the Scotchmans group before that time (just look for our shirts) and enjoy a delightful small town experience.

July 4: A group of Friends of Scotchman Peaks will gather and march in the Noxon parade. Contact Martha Scherzer at (406) 827-0305 if you want to join the group.

July 4: To join FSPW for the Fourth of July Parade in Troy, Montana, contact Bill Martin at (406) 295-5258.

August 2: A big time Music Fest sponsored by FSPW is planned in Libby from 6-9pm. Admission is free and the groups scheduled promise great music and a good time. The featured groups are The Allan Lane Band and Andre Floyd and Mood Iguana. Watch for posters, advertisements, and press releases about this big event. The event is coordinated by Charlie Clough (406) 293-5310, who is working to raise interest and support in Lincoln County for the Wild Scotchmans.

August 8, 9, 10: A group of Scotchman supporters will march in the parade at the Annual Trout Creek Huckleberry Festival with our banner and throw candy to the crowd, as well as staff a display table. Contact Ernie Scherzer at (406) 827-0305 for information.

August 20-23: The Friends of Scotchman Peaks will have an exhibit booth at this year’s Bonner County Fair. The hours are: Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 10:00am-8:00pm, Friday 10:00am-9:00pm. If you would be willing to help staff the booth so that we can continue our outreach to the public, please contact Will Valentine at valentine66@internaxnetworks.com.

October 8-11: Plans continue to evolve for the First Annual Scotchman Peaks Wilderness Plein Air Paintout with over twenty dozen artists being invited.

Message from the Chair

By Phil Hough

The summer hiking season is off to a slow start in the Scotchmans. Snow that is supposed to be melting in June has been piling up deeper in the high country. Mother Nature, as always, is full of surprises! But that is what makes a wilderness adventure so interesting – you never know what to expect. In the coming weeks trails will return to relatively easy travel and we will have opportunities to explore all the Scotchmans charms.

Deb and I are taking off to “recharge our spiritual batteries” on a long walking trip. We plan to spend July, August and Sept hiking the wilderness along the Continental Divide Trail. As this newsletter goes to print we will be somewhere in the vast Glacier Peak/Bob Marshall wilderness complex. The spine of the northern Rockies is wild country and we will follow it all the way to Rawlins Wyoming. Long wilderness walks are the way that Deb and I find ourselves connected to each other, and to this planet. It’s an experience we seek out every 2 or 3 years. We’re overdue – our last trek was in 2004. So this is the summer we do the northern half of the Continental Divide Trail.

My desire is to make sure that a similar wilderness experience is available closer to home, for those times when we only have a few days or so, that there are areas like the Scotchman Peaks where we can experience wilderness, refresh our souls and recharge our spiritual batteries. Places where you can do that too, and where your children will be able to do it as well. While I am gone, the Scotchmans will remain in my heart. And part of me remains behind, continuing our efforts to bring about wilderness designation.

While we are gone, the Scotchmans Campaign will continue on in the very capable hands of our other board members. If you want to help, contact one of our board members listed on the back page of this newsletter. And enjoy the Scotchmans this summer – when the snow finally melts, get out and take a hike! Or if you can’t wait, strap on snowshoes. Deb and I will be back this fall, in time for a few October hikes while the larch are turning yellow and a fall nip is in the air and maybe, just maybe, this late spring snow has finally melted.

Happy Trails to You

The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness with support from the Idaho Conservation League have produced a high quality hiking map for the Scotchman Peaks area. This shaded relief, topographic map shows maintained trails and trailhead access routes on one side. The other side of the map has information designed to inspire as well as assist in trip planning. You can pick up your FREE copy at many locations throughout our communities, including those retail businesses that sell our t-shirts and other merchandise, forest service ranger district offices, chambers of commerce, or at an upcoming Friends of Scotchman Peaks event.

Thanks and Congratulations to our Friends

Thanks are due to fellow friends Ursula Hall and Peter Lupsha, formerly of Montana, and now of Tome, New Mexico for a donation in honor of their friends’ June 2008 wedding. Congratulations and Best Wishes to Cynthia Rockenfield and Edward Budney of Cody, Wyoming. A little bird tells us that Cynthia is an avid outdoors participant and Edward is a good sport.
The Mystery of Scotchman Explored

By Tim Daugharty

(Part one of Tim's Story is found in “Scotchman Past”)

I went to the University of Idaho to pursue a Forestry/Park Management degree. In 1976, I landed a Park Aid job at Round Lake State Park. Manager Dave Russell was my mentor for the park internship that I needed to fulfill my degree obligations. That summer my college roommate and I moved back to our cabin in Ponderay. I had come home.

We spent endless hours in the Cabinets conducting a botany survey for college credit, evaluating the area under the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) Study. This directed study was under the leadership of Professor Douglas Henderson. Our mission was to find any or all rare or exotic alpine plants that might be present in the Cabinets. We saw all the high country and were in awe of the solitude and biodiversity of the Cabinets. Needless to say, we often wondered if this was really class work or just a great way to spend a summer in a true wilderness. On one of these trips I experienced my first head trip of déjà vu.

I hiked to the top of Scotchman on a hot afternoon carrying a full pack with the thought of spending a few days in the Alpine collecting plant samples. The south facing slope robbed the sweat from my body as if I had just showered. I finally got to the top as Pica sounded the alarm that there was an intruder in the solitude. With a couple of hours to burn I set up a nice camp in the then dilapidated lookout my grandfather had built. I cooked dinner and as dusk approached the lights of Clark Fork and Sandpoint twinkled in the distance.

As I slid and stumbled my first steps out of that horrific place, I met a rodent who had sabotaged my plans. For the downhill. I found some twine in my pack and cursed the little gnawing sound became my nightmare as I slept. The night of the night I had a fitful sleep, undoubtedly being haunted by my ancestors who had sculpted this dilapidated ruin of a lookout.

As the fireworks subsided, I could feel my pulse rate dropping and the night faded into a torrential downpour. The rain fly was not working and I shivered in my wet down bag as a gnawing sound became my focus. The rest of that night I had fitful dreams, undoubtedly being haunted by my ancestors who had sculpted this dilapidated ruin of a lookout.

Horizontal rain welcomed my waking that next morning. Fog and mist made the surreal scene that much more ominous. I decided it was time to abort my plans and head back to the cabin in Ponderay which now seemed like a foreign land.

I threw my gear into the pack not caring how it was organized. I knew the weight would be burdensome, the wet shifting shale dangerous, and the downhill slog torture. I slammed on my now drenched boots and reached for the leather laces. They were gone. The night of gnawing had robbed me of the thing I needed most, ankle support for the downhill. I found some twine in my pack and cursed the little rodent who had sabotaged my plans.

As I slid and stumbled my first steps out of that horrific place, I met face to face with the guardian of this heaven or hellish mountain. The goat’s matted fur was shedding water efficiently as it shook its head in pity of this disgusting and disheveled human. I felt contempt for the wisdom in the goat’s eyes and stumbled off to the shrill biting chirp from the Pica rarely heard in the rain. I knew I had been whipped by this mountain I knew as SCOTCHMAN.

Suddenly, there was a burst of light so bright that I thought an extraterrestrial was invading Scotchman and with it the loudest boom I had ever or since have heard. I was in for a good old fashioned thunder and lightning show, Scotchman style. I have no idea how long it lasted but it was a lifetime that night. As the thunder rolled and the lightning cracked some of the old stories from my childhood memories were revisited in Technicolor. I had never before been so humbled by Mother Nature.

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From the Top

In this issue of Peak Experience, we welcome three new columnists. Our column on Scotchman plants will now be written by Valle Novak, a member of the local Kinnikinnick Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society. Valle is well known in this area for her column, “Weekend Gardener”, in the Bonner County Daily Bee. She is also an Idaho Master Gardener. Beginning with the first issues of Peak Experience, fellow Kinnikinnick member Marilyn George has frequently shared her wonderful plant photos.

Sylvie Amezcua White, the new president of the local Coeur du Deluge chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute, will now write our “Scotchman Rocks” column. Sylvie drew the map locating the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness on the first page of each issue. She recently opened “The Map Store” in Sandpoint.

Members of families who pioneered in this area have generously shared their memories in our history column. In this issue, Tim Daugharty contributed both the Past and Tales columns. Tim, a native of Clark Fork, currently lives in Alaska but still enjoys hiking the Scotchmans. The story of Mike Daugharty’s experiences in building the Scotchman Peak Lookout is in the newsletter archives on our website, volume 3, number 3. Tim has promised to contribute future columns. I’d love to hear of other reader’s Scotchman adventures. You can email me at afwim@yahoo.com.

As this issue of the newsletter is being put together, those of us who live in this area are tired of the cool rains of spring and look forward to the bright summer days of July and August when we can get out and enjoy the Scotchmans. Hope to see you on the trail.

Ann Wimberley
Peek Views

The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness is proud to present our Summer 2008 hike series schedule! We may add hikes as summer progresses, so check the website occasionally for updates.

We have something for every skill level and interest. You will see first hand why the Scotchmans are so special. Group size is limited and reservations are required. To sign up contact the hike leader listed. For more details go to our website at: www.scotchmanpeaks.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Martin</th>
<th>Spar Peak</th>
<th>07/12/08</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Rating: Moderate</th>
<th>Contact the hike leader for information about meeting time &amp; location 406-296-5269</th>
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<td>John Harbuck</td>
<td>Spar Peak</td>
<td>07/19/08</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Rating: Moderate</td>
<td>Contact hike leader for more information 208-263-9894 or <a href="mailto:harbuck@norlight.org">harbuck@norlight.org</a></td>
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<td>Peter Lesica – Co-sponsored by the Idaho Native Plant Society &amp; Cabinet Resource Group</td>
<td>Little Spar Lake</td>
<td>07/28/08</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Rating: Moderate</td>
<td>Little Spar Lake trail is a moderate to strenuous hike on the east side of the Scotchmans accessed from the Bull Lake area. Stream crossings can be difficult - hence the runoff warning. Plants range from typical low elevation cedar/hemlock habitat types to glacier lilies and ferns. Length of the hike will depend on plants found and the enthusiasm of the folks that show up. Contact Judy Hutchins for more information <a href="mailto:jhutch749@aol.com">jhutch749@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Mellon</td>
<td>Scotchman’s Loop</td>
<td>08/01-03</td>
<td>Friday-Sunday</td>
<td>Rating: Strenuous</td>
<td>Round the Scotchmans Loop. This three day backpacking trip involves hiking to Scotchman, then circling Scotchman and Scotchman Two in a clockwise direction. The trip is rated as difficult - experienced backpackers only. The group size will be limited to six. August 1-3. Contact Jim Mellon at <a href="mailto:jmellon@imbris.net">jmellon@imbris.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol &amp; Irv Jenkins</td>
<td>Ross Creek Cedars</td>
<td>08/20/08</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Rating: easy</td>
<td>Contact the hike leader for information about meeting time &amp; location <a href="mailto:ironcarol@imbris.net">ironcarol@imbris.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Mellon</td>
<td>Scotchman Peak</td>
<td>08/21/08</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Rating: Strenuous</td>
<td>Contact the hike leader for meeting time and location. This is an uphill hike that rewards you with great views! Jim Mellon 208-265-5261 <a href="mailto:jmellon@norlight.org">jmellon@norlight.org</a></td>
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<td>John Harbuck</td>
<td>Upper Ross Creek</td>
<td>08/29/08</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Rating: easy/mild</td>
<td>Contact hike leader for more information 208-263-9894 or <a href="mailto:harbuck@norlight.org">harbuck@norlight.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Lundstrom</td>
<td>Scotchman Peak</td>
<td>09/13/08</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Rating: strenuous</td>
<td>Meet at Scotchman Coffee House in Clark Fork at 8 am. This is a strenuous uphill hike with great views at the top. Contact hike leader for more details 406-755-6304 or <a href="mailto:slundstrom@wildmontana.org">slundstrom@wildmontana.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol &amp; Irv Jenkins</td>
<td>Ross Creek Cedars</td>
<td>09/21/08</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Rating: Easy</td>
<td>Contact the hike leader for information about meeting time &amp; location <a href="mailto:ironcarol@imbris.net">ironcarol@imbris.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Drumheller</td>
<td>Little Spar Lake</td>
<td>09/28/08</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Rating: Moderate</td>
<td>Contact the hike leader for information about meeting time &amp; location 208-263-4987 or <a href="mailto:sdrumheller@wildidaho.org">sdrumheller@wildidaho.org</a></td>
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Scotchman Past

Genealogy in the Scotchmans

By Tim Daugharty

As I reflect on the mountain area my family has always known as “SCOTCHMAN”, shivers run up my back. I have been on a few continents and spent time in some of the remotest places on earth. However, the attachments and the experiences of this homeland will be forever etched into the memories of my family. You see the wish to have my father's ashes spread at Char Fall and mine on the top of Scotchman #1 will be stories that will go on to the generations that follow. What a great legacy to our progeny.

My story is four generational and with that deserves a mention of those people and times that I so fondly recall. Both my parents were raised in the little town of Clark Fork, at the mouth of one of the most beautiful and impressive rivers in the West. If Lewis and Clark had only known the gem that they crossed early in their adventure they would have saved many hardships. Lightning and Blue Creeks meet this river near Clark Fork and that was the playground to which I was introduced. While enjoying my youthful days on the Henderson dairy farm, “Scotchman” was what we monitored and gauged our seasons by. I remember watching the snow level drop in the fall and recede as spring arrived in the valley.

As a boy I would sit and listen to the elders talk of the way it “yoused to be” The trips up Lightning Creek to fish for Char and Blue backs, wading in the clear cool waters in my high top Chuck Taylor Converse with fishing pole in hand, were adventures as a boy that seem surreal now. The smells of cedars, firs, pines, and hemlocks are still ingrained in the failing grey matter between my ears. Lakes named Darling, Porcupine, Estelle, streams named Rattle, Blue, East Fork, and mountains named Goat, Pend Oreille and, of course, Scotchman still frequent my dream world. It was a child’s paradise.

I remember stories about building the lookout on top of Scotchman and marveling how anyone could have gotten the materials needed to the top in the first place… about nights in the lookout so frightful occupants left at first light never to return… about a mining claim miles up Lighting Creek and how torturous the horse rides were to work it. Hunting was a thing of survival for those who lived in this rich valley. I recall cool crisp mornings with the Tamarack blazing in the fall waiting for elk or deer to be herded by for harvest by my uncles and grandfather. We were rich and never knew it. Behind all of these memories was the catalyst of the Western Cabinet range and the places we all knew as “SCOTCHMAN”.

In the late sixties the farm was sold and we physically moved from our sanctuary in the Clark Fork river valley and Scotchman's shadow. We settled outside of Spokane but still desired to maintain contact with Northern Idaho and that state of mind. We restored an old cabin built during the depression in Ponderay near Sandpoint. We still had our touch of north Idaho and Scotchman, the background across Lake Pend Orielle. We spent many good days at that cabin and could always get to Scotchman if we needed to touch that wild land. I would always call that river valley and mountain range home.
Wild Creatures of the Scotchmans

Bats of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness

By Mindy & Doug Ferrell

When people think about bats, they often imagine things that are not true. Bats are not blind. They are neither rodents nor birds. North American bats will not suck your blood. The best protection we can offer these unique mammals is to learn more about their habits and recognize their value.

There are two species of bats that are full-time residents of the proposed Scotchman Wilderness area, the Little Brown Bat and Townsend’s Big-Eared Bat. The Hoary Bat is a migrant that visits out area in the summer. As a group, these species all have similar habits and habitats, and they all function as voracious predators, pollinators, and prey. The year-long residents are largely colonial cave dwellers, and also use abandoned mines as maternity roosts and hibernacula (where both the Little Brown and Townsend’s hibernate). The Hoary Bat is much more solitary and will spend most of its daylight hours in trees among the leaves or on the trunks. All feed on various nocturnal flying insects near the foliage of trees and shrubs, and the Little Brown Bat likes to feed over reservoirs. During feeding they will often brush flowering shrubs or other flora thus pollinating as they feed. The Townsend’s Big-eared bats specialize in small moths; other insects in the diet include lacewings, beetles, true flies, and wasps. Hoary bats will also feed on diverse insect fare such as butterflies, aphids, spittlebugs, gnats, mosquitoes, and cicadas. Although they glean insects from foliage, most are captured in the air using their well-known method of echolocation, the sonar-like system of detecting and locating objects by emitting high-pitched sounds and using the echoes to track down their victims. A careful listener can sometimes hear these squeaky sounds at dusk or after dark, although many of the frequencies used are too high to be heard by the human ear.

I remember as a child discovering a bat right outside the window, clinging to the bottom of the roof overhang. We could examine it from only a couple of feet away. It was hanging upside down with its wings wrapped around its body, but the fine fur was visible as well, and the tiny head and sensitive ears were easily visible, though I do not remember what species it was. The bat seemed oblivious to our squirmy presence and slept there all day and disappeared during the night.

It is reasonably easy to differentiate our three local bats. Tuning into their habits as mentioned above would provide an answer to most of the puzzle, but on closer inspection, if possible, these three bats are widely different in size and color. The Little Brown Bats are only about 2” in length compared to Townsend’s Big-Eared length of 4” and Hoary’s length of 5”. Unique to the Townsend’s are its large ears and fleshy lumps on its snout. The Hoary’s fur is white-tipped compared to the Little Brown’s cinnamon-buff fur with glossy tips, while the Townsend’s can range from gray to brown to cinnamon.

In the fall, hundreds of Hoary Bats may migrate together. Most overwinter in coastal areas. When feeding, Hoary Bats tail and wing membranes are used to catch insect prey. Some insects are captured by the tail membrane which forms a pouch-like compartment. The bat must bend its head forward in order to grasp the insect with its teeth. Little Brown Bats catch insects directly with their mouths, preferring locations with high concentrations or swarms of insects. They may consume half their body weight per night, during seasons when they are active.

A small percentage of bats do carry rabies, which is a very serious disease. For this reason it is best not to handle bats, and simply admire them from a distance.

What Grows There

Ninebark: *Physocarpus malvaceus* (*capitatus* west in the Cascades)

By Valle Novak

One of the prettiest shrubs in our North Idaho forest country is Ninebark. Sort of a “free form” shrub, it is always attractive, bearing little pompom “bouquets” of white-petaled flower clusters in spring which dry in late summer to tan seed pods beloved by chickadees and other songbirds.

Named for its loose, shaggy, brown-to-grey “layered” or scale-like bark, it bears attractive three-lobed alternate leaves, 1 1/2 to 2 inches, of bright green above and covered with starlike hairs beneath. Leaf shape is reminiscent of currants or mallows, and as a member of the Rose family (Rosaceae), Ninebark shares an affinity with spiraea and oceanspray.

I’m not certain where the appellation “nine-bark” originated, but in the Journals of Lewis and Clark, Lewis described it as “Seven-bark”, noting its presence in our Rocky Mountains and in the coastal Cascades as well.

It is found nearly anywhere in high and low elevations, along water courses, in open woods, and in dry pine and Douglas fir habitats. Hardy and non-invasive, it is a good choice for the home garden, and when mature in full bloom has often been compared with the old-fashioned “Snowball” bush of the cultivated Hydrangea. Deciduous, its autumnal leaf-fall leaves a winter-time presentation of overall mottled rose-brown, lovely in the snowy landscape. I personally never prune natives, but early spring pruning of broken or damaged twigs is of course, an option.

Transplant as a small dormant shrub or grow from cuttings, it is difficult to start Ninebark from seed. Incidentally, Ninebark’s beauty has drawn the attention of international plantsmen, and cultivars are now touted in catalogs and at nurseries. Look for the purple-stemmed – yes, purple – Ninebark with pink flowers. Utterly beautiful!
Scotchnan Rocks

Above the Floods: The Scotchnan Islands

By Sylvie White

Where would you want to be if you were in the midst of a flood of catastrophic proportions? The best place to be would be somewhere high and dry, perhaps a place such as the “Scotchnan Islands.”

At the height of the last Ice Age, about 15,000 years ago, a mass of water equivalent to the volume of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario combined—500 cubic miles worth—swept through the place where the present-day Clark Fork River empties into present-day Lake Pend Oreille. The flood events happened repeatedly—in 50 year intervals—and suddenly—each flood event lasting only a matter of days.

The source of the floods was Glacial Lake Missoula, a great inland lake formed by an ice dam that blocked the Clark Fork River. The Clark Fork watershed (drainage) is big and so Glacial Lake Missoula was big. When the ice dam failed, the mass of water flooded out in a mighty torrent, sloshing its way across the Rathdrum Prairie and ripping through the landscape of eastern Washington as it made its way to the Pacific through the Columbia River Gorge.

The ice dam that formed Glacial Lake Missoula was a lobe of the massive continental ice sheet that stretched southward down the Purcell Trench, with another branch that split and turned eastward down the Clark Fork Valley. The actual position of the ice front at any one time was between Lake Pend Oreille and Thompson Falls, Montana. The ice dam was as much as 3000 feet thick and extended into portions of the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. Glacial Lake Missoula reached a maximum elevation of 1300 m (4260 feet) in the Clark Fork Valley behind the Clark Fork ice dam. And emerging out of the water and ice were the highest peaks, the “Glacial Scotchnan Islands.”

Had anyone been around to bear witness to these events, the best views and the safest place to be out of the torrent’s way would have been on these highest peaks, these ice age islands. So the next time you trek up one of the peaks of the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness, imagine yourself climbing up and out from under glacial ice to the magnificent views of a fantastic event that shaped much of our landscape. With an altimeter and/or a GPS, you can mark the elevations of the ice and the subsequent flood, and as you pass that elevation mark, breathe a sigh of relief that you are out of the flood’s path. Set the flood water level to 1300 m (4260 feet) and the ice level to 1524 m (5000 feet). The GPS waypoints for the locations where the Scotchman Peak trail crosses these elevation marks are available at The Map Store.

The proposed Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail would essentially be a network of marked touring routes extending across parts of Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, with several special interpretive centers located across the region. The trail has the potential to bring economic, educational and cultural benefits to our region, and we invite you to join us in our efforts to encourage Congress to move the project forward.

For more information about the proposed trail and the Ice Age Floods Story, visit the Ice Age Floods Institute website and consider joining the local chapter. Contact Sylvie White, president of the local chapter at The Map Store in Sandpoint 208-265-8883.

References:
Ice Age Floods Institute. Website: www.iafi.org.
Author(s): Russell F. Burmester, Roy M. Breckenridge, Reed S. Lewis, Mark D. McFadden

Along the Trail

June 8: Lake Pend Oreille Cruises honored FSPW by highlighting the Scotchman Peaks during the three-hour guided tour of Lake Pend Oreille, the islands and the Clark Fork River Delta. Linda Mitchell, First Mate and co-owner of Lake Pend Oreille Cruises, says “Of the many beautiful places we visit while cruising on Lake Pend Oreille, the Clark Fork Delta is my absolute favorite for its stunning scenery, wildlife and aura of mystery.” Perhaps the biggest mystery that afternoon was what Scotchman Peak looks like, as it was enshrouded in clouds. It was otherwise a fine day and a beautiful cruise, and passengers filled the boat to capacity. MANY, MANY THANKS to Linda Mitchell and her husband, Captain Curtis Pearson, for their ample generosity in donating ten percent of ticket and concession sales to FSPW. We are particularly thankful, as this is the second time we have been the recipients of their generosity.

June 22: The annual Bull River Picnic and Gathering, featuring the legendary wilderness historian, advocate and story teller Doug Scott, attracted a fun crowd and lots of enthusiasm. Many political candidates attended as well and were pleased to see such a good crowd. This picnic has become an important tradition. The group provides burgers, beer, and soda and the friends bring an amazing potluck. The event is held at the pavilion at the Bull River Campground, which is a large shelter over a big area of picnic tables and grills, all with a good view of the Scotchmans nearby.

June 26: The annual State of the Scotchmans celebration was held from 4-7pm at the Pend Oreille Winery. Volunteer Recognitions were given to Earl Chapin, Sandy Compton, Deb Hunsicker, Joyce Pence and Brad Smith for their over the top contributions to FSPW. Jim Mellen was presented with the Second Annual “Old Goat Volunteer of the Year Award” for his work in managing our merchandise inventory, leading extreme hikes and taking gorgeous pictures of the land we love.
Great Gear for Great Pictures

By Ann Wimberley

When you pick up a copy of Peak Experience and savor its beauty, the person to credit is Pama Bangeman. For each issue, I email her plain word documents and a few photos and then smile with delight at the proof she returns for review. The magic she works is best demonstrated by the fact that whenever I email “Is it possible to do this?” the answer is always “I’ll find a way.”

I first met Pama when a mutual friend decided that a warm February several years ago was a good excuse to head up Scotchman Peak in a combination hike/snowshoe. Pama took off from the trailhead and my husband and I would have been left in the dust, had there been any in February. That trip left a lasting impression of her hiking ability.

Pama was born and raised in Orange, California. After two years of college, where she was majoring in fine art with a second major in commercial art, she was offered a job in the advertising and production department of a large printing company. She enjoyed a lot of interesting projects and people during her 30 years in the graphics end of the printing business. For her, the most exciting time in her career was her introduction to the Macintosh computer in 1982. Before this, everything was manually cut and paste, but the computer changed everything very quickly.

Pama’s love of the outdoors began on family camping trips when she was growing up. As a teenager, she went on long backpacking trips. She moved to Sandpoint in 1987 because of all the different recreational opportunities and the chance to be near high alpine mountains that are so similar in appearance to the Swiss Alps. She and her husband, Bruce, enjoy hiking and fishing the high elevation lakes in this area. Her favorite part of hiking Scotchman Peak is seeing the Mountain Goats. Several years ago, she and Bruce decided to hike up Scotchman, spend the night and watch the sunrise. They got a late start on the hike up because they went to dinner with friends and started up the trail just before dark. The flashlights did not last long enough and they were too tired to set up a decent campsite for the night. They found themselves in the early hours before dawn sliding down the side of the mountain in their sleeping bag on the Bear Grass. They woke up wedged in a very uncomfortable position against a log with the Ravens voicing their disapproval at them being there. They quickly got up and hiked the last mile to the top to see the sunrise over the Cabinets. Fortunately, that sunrise was worth hiking in the dark and the stiff backs the next day.

Pama is now enjoying retirement, especially being able to get away and hike during the week. She has two step sons and three grandchildren. She enjoys watching their interests grow and change. She and Bruce recently bought a trailer and look forward to many extended camping trips in the future. As a runner, she finished 3 marathons and numerous half marathons. She recently took up bicycle riding and also enjoys reading and vegetable gardening. FSPW is lucky that she makes time in her busy life for Peak Experience.

I don’t remember much of the way down other than the angst I felt. Back then, once you went to the bottom you had to walk the flats to get to the car. My legs quivered at the change in slope and I stumbled the remaining distance to my car. I threw my gear in to the trunk and fired the engine. Gordon Lightfoot’s “Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald” was on the radio. I borrowed a phrase which I still use today, “Scotchman never gives up its dead.” I know those spirits are still on that mountain somewhere.

Enter FSPW’s newest event: our photo contest! Love the Scotchmans? Enjoy taking pictures? Check out our photo contest. Not only do you have a great excuse to get outside and take pictures, but you just might win some FSPW gear!

Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness 2008 Summer Photo Contest!

Photo Categories:
-Scotchman’s Scenery
-Scotchman’s Spirit (people in wilderness)
-Wild Scotchman’s (plants & animals)
-Wilderness Water (falling, flowing, or still)

A committee of Friends will choose 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category.

Prizes:
1st Place: FSPW Sweatshirt (hooded or crew)
2nd Place: FSPW Long-sleeve T-shirt
3rd Place: FSPW T-shirt (blue or white)

To enter:
E-mail your color or black and white photos to slundstrum@wildmontana.org OR mail a CD with your photos to Sarah Lundstrum, 307 First Ave East #20, Kalispell, MT 59901 by September 30th, 2008. Include the date and location of the photo. If it was taken on an FSPW hike, include the name of the hike and the leader’s name. Winners will be notified by October 15. Winning photos (crediting the photographer) may be printed in “Peak Experience” or used in our printed or online materials.
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 Road 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.