



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.”



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 are receiving this newsletter by mail and have an email address please help us save postage by sending us your email address.

Editor: Ann Wimberley
Layout and design: Sandy Compton

Urban Hiking for Wilderness

Dateline Washington, D.C. — It wasn't on the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Summer Hike Series, but FSPW executive director Phil Hough, program coordinator Sandy Compton and board vice-chair Doug Ferrell did some serious leg stretching in the last week of September as they



Hiking the Hill for wilderness are (l to r) Sandy Compton, FSPW; Rick Johnson, ICL; Phil Hough, FSPW; and Doug Ferrell, FSPW. Sandy Compton photo.

tramped the Hill in search of sympathetic ears during Washington Wilderness Week. During what Hough characterized as a “highly successful lobbying foray,” the FSPW delegation met with six of seven Congressional representatives from Idaho and Montana to plead the FSPW cause. And all of it was done on foot.

“In all cases,” Hough said, “meetings were cordial and generally productive. The Congressmen and Senators seemed less pressed for time than in previous meetings and more interested in detailed conversations. We achieved, across the board, some significant relationship building with the delegates and staff. We left with a better understanding of what may and may not be possible in the next session of congress, and our campaign and proposal is better understood by those with whom we spent time

“Unofficially, I figure we walked 14 miles on Tuesday, the 28th,” said Compton, “We hiked from the hotel to the House offices on the south side of the Capitol, to the Senate offices on the north, to the Wayburn Wilderness House near the Hotel and then back and forth past the Capitol enough times that I lost count.”

Although the 29th encompassed the majority of meetings the FSPW delegation had with Congressmen and Senators, and the majority of hiking was done on Tuesday, there was plenty of opportunity to be glad

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Over the Top Volunteers

Kally Thurman: Nurturing Creativity

By Sandy Compton

Kally Thurman, one of the moving forces behind the annual Scotchman Peaks Plein Air Paintout, has been in North Idaho since 1975. It was then she moved to Moscow to attend the University of Idaho, and got her Masters in Teaching, which, she admits, she hasn't used much. She gave her mother her diploma and never looked back. The education field's loss is the art world's gain.

Except for a stint in grad school at University of Montana and a year at Oklahoma University in Norman — torture by football, she recalls — Kally has lived in Idaho all her life.

She grew up in Pocatello, a fifth generation Mormon whose love and vision of art came from her family connections. "I come from people who have busy hands," she says with a laugh. She makes the motions of knitting. "They were always being productive."

Handwork became her art, though not in any conventional way. At OU, she studied conceptual art. "My work is so esoteric it has no commercial value," she confesses, and



FSPW volunteer Kally Thurman stands amidst the art in her Outskirts Gallery in Hope, Idaho. Sandy Compton photo

her vision came directly from nature. "It's only in nature where you discover a blue mushroom or a spider's web under a leaf with a single raindrop on it. Everything I did — which included covering entire orchards with woven webs of very thin copper wire — was completely ephemeral. It would last for a few hours or days, and then disappear."

Since coming north, though, Kally's work in support of art has developed some lasting power. In 1979, she opened the Café Libré, Moscow's first coffee house, where author Bill Kittredge and other luminaries would "cuss and discuss" until first light. It was, she says, a hotbed of what's really important: art, culture, coffee and thought.

At one time she was president of both the Moscow Arts Commission and Moscow's Downtown Association. "Downtown Moscow was emptying out to the malls," she says,

"and we young upstarts took it over. We threaded art and business together. When the Moscow Farmers' Market was started, it was to fund our arts budget."

If the present vitality of downtown Moscow is any measure of something Kally has been involved in, there goes ephemeral-ity out the window.

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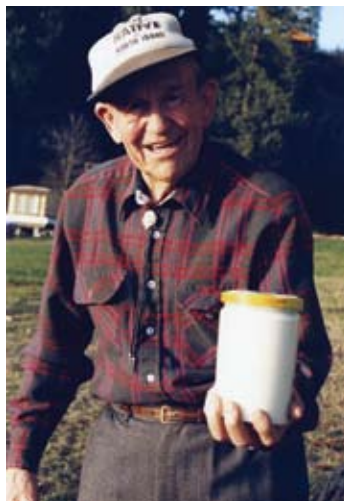
Scotchman Past

A remembrance of Paul Croy

(This issue's column is an email from Linda Croy Hossner whose father Paul was a beloved Sandpoint High School teacher and poet.)

A good friend of mine, who also grew up in Hope, sent me your Sept. newsletter. I very much enjoyed the article about the Butler store in Hope, where we used to buy groceries. When I was very young, my Dad, Paul Croy, who was a teacher in Sandpoint, would pack supplies to the lookouts in the region for summer work. He loved doing that because he was a great outdoors-man, and I am sure got inspiration from that for some of the poems in his book, *Pioneer Pencil Dust*.

He told us about his experiences leading a loaded mule string, while riding a saddle horse. The mules were kept at the Clarks Fork Ranger Station and all had personalities, just like other animals: some very gentle, others stubborn, and



Paul Croy and his legendary sourdough "starter," ca. 1995. Courtesy Sandpoint Magazine/Keokee Company Publishing.

some temperamental. However the one story I remember about Scotchman Peak did not include mules, but teeth. Dad stopped on the peak to eat his lunch, and as he always did, he removed his partial dental plate, and laid it on a log. He always was a little forgetful and didn't remember it until he was many miles back down the trail! The next time he went to Scotchman, he looked for it, but didn't find it. So if you see a squirrel up there with odd looking teeth, they might be Dad's "plate".

(Next time you hike up Scotchman, you might enjoy a mule to ride, much easier and faster!)

Paul Croy was born in 1905 and lived to the ripe old age of 92. As a high school English teacher at Sandpoint High School, he gained the loyal respect and friendship of hundreds throughout his decades in education.

His legacy encompasses several books of poetry, including Old Blazes, Pioneer Pencil Dust, and

Pioneer Pencil Dust: Covered Wagons to the Moon.



Message From the Chair

In early Oct, Deb and I led a group of 13 other hikers on a fall hike up Scotchman Peak. A clear sky, fall colors, warm "Indian Summer" weather and Mr. Scotchman was at the top made for a great hike! Of course, we were not the only ones to take advantage of the idyllic conditions. In fact, there were more hikers on the mountain than I have seen before.

On the one hand this is great – people are getting out, experiencing the peak firsthand and hopefully becoming energized to help protect it. Our website and hiking maps have made it easier than ever to hike Scotchman Peak. It's nice to know we are succeeding in creating awareness and appreciation.

This summer the Forest Service graded the access road and reconstructed the Scotchman Peak trailhead, which help make it easier for folks to visit. In June an FSPW volunteer crew worked with the Forest Service to clear major windfall debris, re-opening the trail to hikers. Many people have commented favorably on our efforts as well as the Forest Service work.

But can a good thing become too much? And, have we reached that tipping point yet? For some, finding anyone at all on "their" trail is viewed negatively. For others, getting as many people as possible up off their couches and out of doors is viewed as desirable. I personally don't think that the Scotchman Peak trail has reached its "carrying capacity". But, it is time to start thinking about how to make sure we keep the Scotchmans and the hiking experience special. In advocating Wilderness protection it makes sense to manage an area as if it *were* Wilderness.

One upside to higher use of the Scotchman Peak Trail is that it concentrates use along one, well established route, leaving the backcountry to the bears and "bullish" hikers. In most designated Wilderness areas group sizes are limited, usually to some number between 8 and 15 people. This is done to protect an area from overuse, minimize erosion, trail and habitat damage and to assure some solitude. Most people don't like limits, preferring the freedom of individual choice; yet most of us will accept that sometimes restraint is positive. We can all do our part.

If you have the option, consider a weekday hike rather than a weekend. If you have done Scotchman Peak before and want views, consider hiking Star Peak, Spar Peak, East Fork or Lightning Peak. For our part, the group hikes that FSPW leads will be limited to no more than 15 people. This means that if you want to come on a hike to a popular destination, like Scotchman Peak, then you should sign up early. And if decide to cancel, be courteous and let your hike leader know earlier so that they can take someone else in your place. The last thing we want to do is to "love this place to death". Instead we want to "love this place to Wilderness"!

Phil Hough, Chairman, FSPW

From the Top

The wet fall in the Panhandle produced a bumper crop of mushrooms and cold weather vegetables as well as Plein Air paintings, our 3000th friend, and memories of days spent hiking the trails.

As we relax by the fire and enjoy the harvest, the wilderness continues to welcome visitors. Bundle up and see the trails from the winter perspective. Orange vests allow hikers and hunters to co-exist. Hike leaders are planning winter walks/snowshoes soon to be posted on our website or you can head out on your own. Back East, the videographers are working on the FSPW documentary as we work to preserve the Scotchman Peaks area for future generations to enjoy. The big question here: will La Nina bring the snow?

Happy Holidays.

Ann Wimberley

Along the Trail

September 9: Friends of Scotchman Peaks welcomes our 3,000th Friend — Rick Dieterich of Thompson Fall.

September 24-26: Friends of Scotchman Peaks Plein Air Paintout was held in and around the Scotchman Peaks, with a show of the work produced held at the Outskirts Gallery in Hope, Idaho. 17 painters produced 66 new paintings in the most successful Paint Out to date (see the story on page 6).

September 26-29: FSPW exec Phil Hough, program coordinator Sandy Compton and board member Doug Ferrell traveled to Washington, D.C, for Wilderness Week (See the recap on page 1).

October 19: FSPW board member Doug Ferrell made a presentation to the Sanders County Community Development Corporation.

October 21: Sandy Compton and Phil Hough made a presentation to the Kootenai Environmental Alliance in Coeur d' Alene.

October 24: The StoryTelling Company kicked off the 2010-11 storytelling season at the Panida Little Theater with a fundraiser for Friends of Scotchman Peaks.

November 1: Phil Hough and Sandy Compton made a presentation at Gonzaga University in Spokane.



3,000th Friend Rick Dieterich (l) and the FSPW volunteer who signed him up: Ernie Scherzer.

Photo by Sandy Compton



Wild Creatures of the Scotchmans

Moose (*Alces alces*)

By Doug Ferrell

The word *moose* is used both for a singular animal and as the plural form for multiple moose together. The moose is the largest member of the deer family, and the second largest North American mammal after the bison. Big males in our area can weigh up to a thousand pounds. Everybody knows what moose look like, with their large bodies, dark hair, spindly legs and huge droopy muzzles. The calves are extremely gawky looking when they are young, and appear like something drawn by Dr. Seuss on an especially creative day.

Like other members of the deer family, males (called bulls) have antlers which they drop after the fall rut and grow again in the spring. Antlers take three to five months to develop and may weigh over 70 pounds. Females (called cows) do not grow antlers. This is in contrast to animals like sheep and goats where both sexes grow horns that stay on permanently, and get larger over the years.

Moose inhabit large areas of Alaska, Canada and the northern U.S., as well as parts of Northern Europe, Russia and even into northern China. Moose tend to be solitary animals that co-exist remarkably well with humans.

Moose can be dangerous to humans however, and it is best to keep your distance and treat them with respect. They can charge when surprised or provoked. I can still clearly remember the time I came around a bend in the trail with a heavy pack on, and saw a large cow and calf way too close, just off the edge of the trail. I knew I was in trouble when the cow lowered her head, pinned her ears back like a mean horse, and started pawing the ground. I walked backwards while I loosened the pack's belt, talking to the cow in a voice that I hoped was a lot more calm than I felt. She kept pawing the ground and making menacing moves with her head, but did not come after me.

During mating season in the fall, cows attract bulls with their



A majestic bull moose

Photo by Donald M. Jones Great Gray Imagery
don@donaldmjones.com

deep calls and strong scent. Bulls use their antlers in threat displays when fighting over a cow, and may get into pushing matches and sometimes injure each other. One or two calves are born in the spring without spots, weighing about 35 pounds. They will gain over two pounds a day while nursing. They reach full size at about four years of age.

Moose normally browse on twigs and stems of woody plants in the winter and shoots of deciduous plants in summer. In many areas, underwater vegetation makes up an important part of their diet. We used to have a lot of moose around our old place on Swamp Creek years ago. I have seen moose walk forward over a 20' aspen or cottonwood and browse off its leaves as it bends under their body. When they have sampled enough, they just keep walking forward until the sapling springs up behind them. You might think this would be an uncomfortable sensation, especially right at the end when the tree top slides past their genitals and up their hind end, but I never observed them to be phased by the sensation. They would just walk forward over the next sapling, bend it down under their belly and begin chewing all over again.

From page 1: Urban Hiking

to be wearing good shoes (or in the case of Compton, hiking boots) beginning on Monday, the 27th. An all-day workshop on the nuts and bolts of lobbying for wilderness was held by The Wilderness Society and Campaign for America's Wilderness a 20-minute hike from the hotel. In attendance were 200-plus wilderness advocates from all over the country.

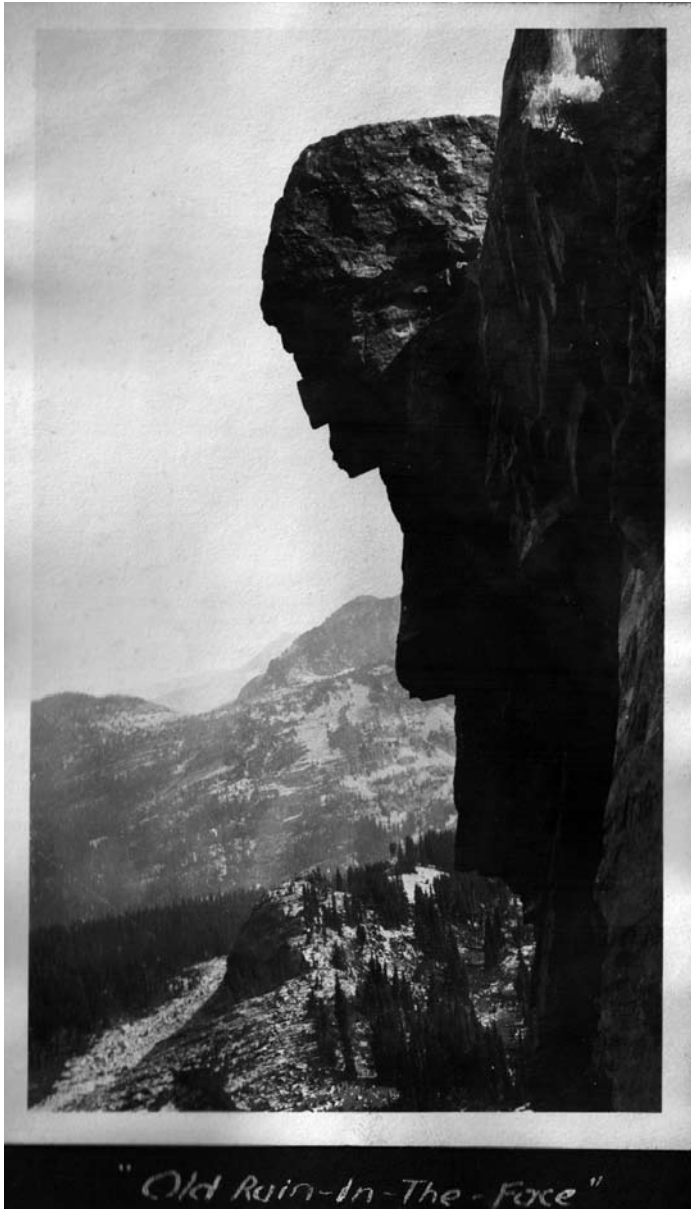
Was it worth the walk? "In some senses," Compton says, "this is one of the best three-day hikes I've ever been on. I feel like we were there to make a difference in our world, and that we accomplished that in some small way, laying ground work for the future. And, I'm glad I was wearing my hiking boots."

Wilderness Week was closed out at a reception at the Wilderness Society's Washington, D.C., headquarters — about 45 minutes from the hotel — on foot.



Scotchman Rocks

*Where in the world
(of the Scotchmans) is this?*



This picture is from a Farmin family album entitled, "Cabinet Mountains August 1921." In that year, Rollin (Dusty) Farmin spent a month exploring the Cabinets and photographing the sights with his brother Wray and their friend M.B. Dunklin. Rollin was a mining engineer and geologist.

You can make your guess (or affirmation) about where this is by writing to mr.scotchman@scotchmanpeaks.org. Watch for the answer on the Scotchman Peaks Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ScotchmanPeaks.

Thanks to the Farmin family for letting us use this fine photo.

The Future Looks Bright

November 2: Sandy Compton will participate in a panel on global warming at a Faith and Environment meeting in Spokane.

November 6-8: Phil Hough travels to Boise for the Idaho Trails Association meeting.

November 10: Doug Ferrel and Sandy Compton will make a presentation to the Wednesday Women in Western Sanders County.

November 10: The Lincoln County FSPW Friends Appreciation event will be held in Libby at the Venture Inn.

November 21: The StoryTelling Company, sponsored by FSPW, will be at Ivano's beginning at 5:00 p.m.

November 29: The Annual Friends of Scotchman Peaks Pend Oreille Winery "Sip-n-Shop" event will be held at the winery at the corner of Third and Cedar in Sandpoint beginning at 5 pm.

December 10: Winter Wildlands Film Festival will be cosponsored by FSPW and Idaho Conservation League. 7:00 at the Panida Theater in Sandpoint.

December 11: FSPW and Idaho Conservation League will co-sponsor a winter workshop to be held at Sandpoint Community Hall featuring USFS avalanche expert Kevin Davis and Selkirk Outdoor Leadership Education educators Dennison Webb and Erik Yost.

December 19: The StoryTelling Company, sponsored by FSPW, will be at Di Luna's beginning at 5:00 p.m.

January, 2011: The Winter Hike series begins

Birds of the Scotchmans



Our bird column will return next issue. Jon's so busy he asked this Great Blue Heron to take out his laundry.

Photo by Jon Isacoff



3rd Annual Scotchmans Plein Air Paintout a Big Success

By Neil Wimberley

Seventeen talented artists from the Inland Northwest began arriving on Friday Sept 24th at the Hope Marketplace on the eastern shore of Lake Pend Oreille to spend the weekend capturing in paint the beauty of the Scotchmans Wilderness. The early fall weather was cooperative, and by 1PM Sunday over sixty fresh paintings were framed and hung for public viewing at Kally Thurman's Outskirts Gallery.

Three highly respected local artists – Stephen Schultz, Romey Stuckart, and Kevin Watson – along with a fourth judge (70 ballots from the viewing public) awarded Robert Bissett's blue hued "Sam Owen" the Best of Show. This beautiful oil painting was purchased by FSPW to be displayed and enjoyed at future events.

Second prize went to Susan Conway Kean 's "Afternoon Clearing", third prize to Connie Scherr's "Pack River Flats", and honorable mention to Betty Billups, Gregg Caudell, Diana Moses Botkin, and Dorothy Modafferi for their outstanding work.

Artists Jared Shear and Aaron Johnson each donated for silent auction (to benefit FSPW) a beautiful watercolor inspired by their Extreme Plein Air hike in July.

The judges noted the very high quality of the paintings this year, and plans were made to find popular local venues where the public can continue to enjoy this collection, and have it available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds going to the Scotchmans Wilderness effort. The Outskirts Gallery: Hope Marketplace showed the paintings during October. Then they travel on to **Foster's Crossing** mini mall in Sandpoint for

the month of November, **Evans Brothers Coffee** in December, and then the **Laughing Dog Brewery** after the New Year.

Special thanks go to Kally Thurman at Outskirts Gallery who donated her time and boundless enthusiasm for promoting



Outskirts Gallery: Hope Marketplace during the third annual Friends of Scotchman Peaks Plein Air Paintout.

Left: Judges Romey Stuckart, Stephen Schultz and Kevin Watson confer with gallery owner Kally Thurman as they sort through the 66 entries.

Neil Wimberley photos



plein air painting, artists, and the Scotchmans Wilderness. The strong support from the artist community for this annual event is especially noteworthy, as the visual arts connect people to nature and the wilderness in a unique and powerful way. **Come see for yourself as the show goes on the road this fall and winter!**



Robert Bissett's "Sam Owen" was awarded Best of Show and purchased by FSPW.

Wildlands film festival and Winter 101 workshops

Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness and Idaho Conservation League welcome winter on December 10 and 11 with the Winter Wildlands Alliance Backcountry Film Festival and two primer courses on winter travel and survival.

The films show Friday, December 10, at the Panida in Sandpoint. Doors open at 6. Movies begin at 7. Doorprizes big and small will be awarded. Tickets are \$8 at the door or at Eichardt's, Monarch Mountain Coffee and other retailers.

On Saturday, December 11, Forest Service hydrologist and avalanche expert Kevin Davis will teach a workshop on avalanche basics, followed by lessons in basic winter survival and travel from Dennison Webb and Erik Yost from Selkirk Outdoor Learning Experience.

The workshops begin at 9 a.m. at Sandpoint Community Hall. A ticket to the film festival is also admission to the Winter 101 Workshops



Photo Contest results

The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness 2010 photo contest is all in, all done. Each 1st and 2nd place winner will receive some Scotchman Peaks swag, and we will run winning pictures in upcoming newsletters.

There are so *many* good pictures, we can't decide which one takes the grand prize, which will be professionally framed and given to the photographer. So, you get to help. We've posted an album called "Best of the Scotchmans, 2010" on our Facebook Page (at <http://on.fb.me/aEKJK4>). isit the album, pick your favorite and click on "like." Whichever gets the most "likes" by Thanksgiving is our grand prize winner. Here are the winners in each category.

Flora, Fauna and Water:

1st Place: "Star Peak Pika" by Jim Mellen; 2nd Place: "Two Goats" by Noel Phillips; HM: "Horseshoe Evening" by Sandii Mellen

Microcosms

1st place: "No Fear" By Deb Hunsicker; 2nd Place: "Water



Sandii Mellen's Orange and Yellow Descent won First Place in the "People" category.

Place: "Water Color" by Melissa Compton; HM: "Cairns of the Scotchmans" by Jim Mellen

Funniest:

1st place: "Hiking Sandals" by Angela Potts; 2nd place: "You Can't See Me" by Sandii Mellen.

Best Cell Phone Picture:

"Tree Dweller" by Holly Clements

Remember to visit www.facebook.com/ScotchmanPeaks to cast your vote for Grand Prize

on Fungi" By Angela Potts; HM: "Spring Violets" by Deb Hunsicker

People:

1st place: "Orange and Yellow Descent" by Sandii Mellen; 2nd place: "Made It!" By Randi Lui; HM: "Swinging!" by Jim Mellen

Scenics:

1st Place: "Scotchman Two from 48-Hour

Pass" by Daniele Puccinelli; 2nd

Tales of Scotchman Peaks

The Art of Wilderness

By Susan Conway Kean

Five years ago I spontaneously signed up my husband, Jac, and I to join Phil Hough for a FSPW hike that I saw in the newsletter. "Hike up Scotchman's, blaze a trail over the saddle to Goat Mountain and down from there". It sounded like a nice walk and I was anxious to start exploring the wilderness area. So we put on our sneakers and threw a couple small bottles of water in a day pack. I was so happy to finally do some of the adventures that I hadn't had a chance to do when I lived in Sandpoint during the 80's.

At that time, raising babies, stoking the fire, operating my tile painting business and everyday life seemed to fully occupy my time. We threw a quick pb&j into the bag and told our friends that we'd be back after lunch. WRONG!! That was a challenging, exhilarating, spectacular hike that left us parched, hungry, achy, and... eager for more.



Susan Conway Kean (finally) on top of Scotchman Peak.

That summer day turned out to be somewhat of a milestone for me in many ways. It ignited a newly discovered passion I felt for the "backcountry". Upon returning to my island home of Maui, I got involved in a Land Trust, working to preserve our own precious open spaces. And it sparked my desire to paint. Since then, Jac and I have hiked every summer in the Selkirks and the Cabinets, especially loving the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness. As an artist, I found that with each hike I couldn't help noticing the way the light bounced off the mountain tops, bathing the hillsides with a warm afternoon glow. I noticed rhythms and patterns emerging in the shadows under the trees and the filtered sunlight dancing on the rocks. I began walking with intention, honing my skills of observation. It had been over 30 years since I had painted with oils on canvas and I thought perhaps it was time to try it again. I felt a strong desire to put my outdoor experiences into a painting. I became a student once more, enrolled in a couple workshops and quickly discovered that this endeavor was not as easy as I thought it would be! But, Oh, how I enjoy it! Painting en plein air (French for "in open air") has increased my awareness and my absolute joy of being outdoors. The more I paint the

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Trail Talk: Pillick Ridge Trail #1036

By **Sandy Compton**

If you're looking for a new workout, and already climbed Scotchman Peak Trail #65 and Big Eddy Trail #996, try Pillick Ridge Trail #1036 for big cardio leading to big views. Pack plenty of water and high-energy food and bring your legs and lungs.

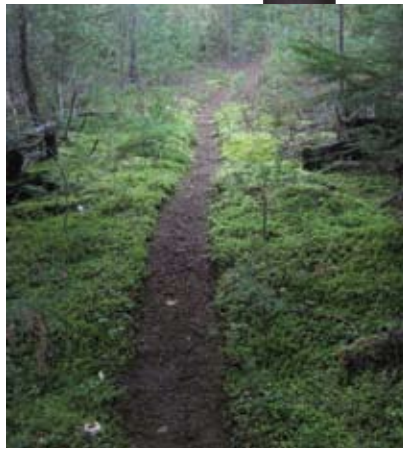
Trail #1036 is a classic old trail, built by the Forest Service in the early part of the 20th century when mules were the primary means of conveyance for trail builders and lookout builders. It leads to the top of its namesake and then (eventually) to Star Peak lookout, but the lookout is 11 miles from the trailhead. Unless you're feeling exceptionally burley, you may want to make this an out-and-back that terminates short of that, because you may not be feeling too burley when you (finally) hit the top of the ridge.

The trailhead is in the Bull River valley at 2450 feet, a third of a mile off of Montana Highway 56. The road to the trailhead, between Mileposts 6 and 7, is well marked. The family sedan carefully driven can get to the parking lot, which is large. It was built to accommodate horse trailers, and though use is not as heavy as it once was, folks still use horses to access the ridge top, some great elk habitat and dandy huckleberry picking.

The trail, a well-defined tread featuring a steady 10 to 15 per cent grade, begins climbing immediately out of the parking lot along an old skid road through a mile and a half of varied terrain, including brushy regen, second-growth forest, a rocky ridge, and dark groves that house cedars, hemlocks and larch. Eventually it hits the east face of Pillick Ridge and begins up . . . and up . . . and up, switching back and forth through cedars, hemlock and white pine and then larch, lodgepole and Douglas fir — as well as big patches of huckleberry brush. Not quite as steep as the Star Peak or Scotchman trails, it still rises 700 feet per mile in the first four miles.

About three-quarters of the way to the top of the ridge, a rocky point on the northeast side of the trail provides grand views of the Bull River and the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness. Use caution when climbing over the rocky "dike" between the trail and the vista. The ridge falls very steeply into the river valley. If you decide to sit in the sun and eat your lunch there, it will still be a good day. If you want more, continue climbing for another mile to where the trail levels out and curves to the northwest through thick timber on a ste-e-e-p slope around a prominent point. The trail then enters a saddle and an idyllic portion of tread that climbs comparatively gently along the ridge top through subalpine forest with great, cliffy views to the southeast and occasional filtered views to the north.

There are several great camp spots on this section of the ridge. The only thing lacking is water — speaking of which, there is *none* on this trail excepting some murky sources near the trail-



The tread of Pillick Ridge Trail #1036 is well-defined throughout its 11-mile length.

Photos by **Sandy Compton**

head.

At the end of the idyll, the trail begins rising and falling in an undulating line for another six miles, plus or minus, to the lookout. Along the way, you will be treated to views north and west into the Bull River valley and the main body of the Scotchmans as well as vistas to the south of the Clark Fork river valley. It's not a stroll in the park, although it would be considered moderate — if you hadn't just climbed 3400 feet.

A big test of your burliness is at about mile 8, where the tread drops 500 vertical feet into Napoleon Gulch just to climb 600 feet over a mile and a quarter — standard Straight-up Joe grade.

On the west side of Napoleon Gulch, you're closer to Highway 200 than Highway 56 by about a mile, so you may as well go on to the lookout and then take the Big Eddy trail out — for a total

of 16 miles. If you haven't planned for it, you'll have to hitch back to your car and it's likely any benefactor won't haul you from the highway to the trailhead. Whether you began burley or not, you probably won't feel like hiking back to your car, but no matter when, where or if you turn back, though, you'll have a spectacular hike on Pillick Ridge.

Other trails connected to the Pillick Ridge trail are Napoleon Gulch Trail # 1035 and Star Gulch Trail #1016, both of which stem from Dry Creek Trail #1020. For a more complete sense of terrain and distances, consult the Heron and Smead's Bench quad maps.

Scotchman Peaks gear for the holidays!

Red or green . . . or blue?

Bandanas are now available in red and dark blue as well as orange, hot pink, light blue, green and bright yellow at \$3 or two for \$5.

Try our long sleeved T's for \$15, short sleeved T's for \$10 or our bargain shirts for \$5. Our sweats (\$30) and hoodies (\$35) are perfect second layers. Hats are still only \$10.

Pick up your Scotchman gear at The Hope MarketPlace in Hope, Café Bodega, Eichardt's, Outdoor Experience, or Sandpoint Sports in Sandpoint, ID, Mountain Meadows in Libby, MT, or Huckleberry Thicket in Trout Creek, MT. Out of the area, contact jimnsandii@gmail.com. Other Scotchman merchandise is available in our online store run by Café Press at www.scotchmanpeaks.org/store.



Interview: A moment with Mr. Scotchman.

By Sandy Compton

It's the first time I've interviewed a mountain goat, but to celebrate a new feature on our website, FSPW decided to talk to Mr. Scotchman (Monty to his Friends) about life on the rocks. We met on a pinnacle isolated from his usual haunts at Scotchman Peak, as he was worried his fans might interfere with our chat.

FSPW: I've never interviewed a quadruped before, Mr. Scotchman, much less a mountain goat. Have you ever been interviewed?

Mr. Scotchman: Please. Call me-e-e-e Monty. And, I'll try to keep the ble-e-e-eating to a minimum, but I am a go-o-o-oat after all. Nope. Ne-e-e-ever been interviewed before. Had my picture taken a lot, though. Yep. Always someone with a ca-a-a-amera pointed at me.

FSPW: Does that bother you, the "rocker-azzis," if you will?

Mr. Scotchman: Part of the jo-o-o-ob, you know. Being a spo-o-o-kesgoat has its price.

FSPW: You've been the spokesgoat for Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness since the group began over five years ago. How long will you keep the job?

Mr. Scotchman: I took it on when I was relatively yo-o-o-oung, about the time I hit fu-u-ull adulthood — three in human years. I'm approaching the goat go-o-o-olde years, now. Almost nine in human years. I'll hold on to the job a-a-a-as long as I can keep climbing. Another year or ma-a-a-ybe as long as four or five. Then some o-o-o-other guy will take the spot.

FSPW: So goats only live 13 or 14 years?

Mr. Scotchman: What do you mean o-o-o-only? See this be-e-eard? And these ho-o-orns? I gained those by living a lo-o-o-ong time. You try livin' up here with nothing but a fu-u-ur coat and four legs for ten, 12 years and tell me what you think after tha-a-a-at.

FSPW: Sorry. No offense. I was just surprised.

Mr. Scotchman: No-o-one taken. Wanta he-e-e-ear something else that will surprise you?

FSPW: Sure.

Mr. Scotchman: I'm a ju-u-unk food addict.



FSPW: What?

Mr. Scotchman: Yep. It's true. Can't leave the stuff alo-o-o-one. The sa-a-alt, ya know. In fact the who-o-o-ole family is addicted. I wish the two-leggers would realize they are enabling us by fe-e-e-eding us. We're helpless over the problem, you know, but the stuff we cra-a-a-ave is not good for us.

FSPW: Bad for your health?

Mr. Scotchman: Not only that, it also attracts us to hu-u-u-umans. And they aren't necessarily ha-a-a-armless you know. And, e-e-e-even though we appear to be kind of do-o-ocile, we're not

exactly harmless, either. We are wi-i-i-ild animals, you know. That's why we live in the wilderness. Two-leggers can help keep us wild by no-o-o-ot feeding us.

FSPW: I'll help spread the word, Monty. Don't fe-e-e-ed the goats. Hey, now you've got me doing it.

Mr. Scotchman: Har, har, har. You'd make a lou-u-u-usy goat. Two legs. No sandpaper hooves for climbing. Basically ha-a-a-airless.

FSPW: Hey. I've tried to think like a goat a time or two.

Mr. Scotchman: Not so e-e-e-easy, is it?

FSPW: No, it's not. But maybe you can help with that. I understand you're going to start answering questions on the Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness website.

Mr. Scotchman: Yep. You can learn a-a-a-all about goats and the Sco-o-o-otchman Peaks by asking me questions at (insert web page address). And, you are going to tra-a-a-anslate for me, correct?

FSPW: That's correct. Now, one last question. I know that you love the poetry form Haiku. Why Haiku?

Mr. Scotchman: Seventeen simple syllables and wild life on rocks begin with "high."

You can "Ask Mr. Scotchman," by visiting <http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org/ask-mr-scotchman/>

Winter Hike proposals available now at www.scotchmanpeaks.org

Are you an avid winter hiker and well-acquainted with the proposed Scotchman Peaks Wilderness? If so, come share your love of hiking and experience with others.

We are now accepting proposed Guided Hikes for our Winter 2010-11 Schedule, as well as hikes for the 2010 MWA Winter Walk Booklet. Share the rugged beauty of

the Scotchmans high country with friends old and new!

We need easy and moderate hikes, too. Download the form or fill it out online at <http://www.scotchmanpeaks.org/hiking/leading-hikes/>





Scotchman Natives

'O Christmas Tree!'

By Valley Novak

One of the delights in growing up near the mountains is the interaction with Nature constantly at hand. My memories of the early '30s and '40s include an education that a big-city-bred child could never experience. With a naturalist father and mother who both revered the surrounding forests and enjoyed the seasonal sustenance they offered spring and autumn mushrooms, summer currants, raspberries and blackberries, huckleberries and more I learned to live in harmony with nature from the beginning.

Interaction with Nature from foraging, hunting, fishing and making use of dead trees for firewood joined with learning about wild creatures and their habits as well as flora for edibles, salves and medicines. And through it all, one always kept an eye out for what would be the "perfect tree" for Christmastime.

What we called Balsam back then is now the Grand fir, which grows prolifically in our North Idaho mountains, and is the superlative Christmas tree by virtue of its straight growth and shiny, flat-needled branches, perfect for holding small packages. Too, it's regularly spaced branches beautifully display garlands and ornaments.

Another neat thing about the Grand fir (often called White fir) is its habit of growing in tight groves, so that if one wishes to cut a tree, it's a simple matter to select one that looks pretty from the front, but whose back is flattened against its neighbors. This allows for a nice tree against the wall while giving the remaining trees in the grove a chance to open up.

While we did, on occasion, do that, more generally Mom would select a small, perfect "baby" standing a bit apart from the clump, and have Daddy carefully dig it for replanting in our landscape. Another good location for digging such a tree was (and is) on forest roadway berms, where often soil and rocks falling away indicate the ultimate demise of the tree.

If you're of a mind to dig and grow your own Christmas tree for permanent beauty and enhancement, consider the possibility, taking the following information into account.

First of all, have the proper tools on hand. A good, sharp shovel or spade, a set of loppers (for cutting roots) and a tarp in which to wrap the tree and its rootball. Have your at-home site in mind, with both mature height and width considered so as to fit

into the space available. If planting under power lines, your tree should not exceed 25-30-feet at maturity. First, tie a piece of string or yard on a Southside branch of the chosen tree. Then, dig a 3-inch wide trench completely around the dripline of the plant, then using a sharp spade begin undercutting beneath the outer edges of the root mass, working toward the main portion of the rootball. With a spading fork, gently lift and shake the root mass while still inside the trench. You will encounter

large anchoring roots that will need to be cut with the loppers. Continue digging in a large, deep circle until you can lean the tree with its generous soil ball enough to slide the bunched-up tarp or burlap under the rootball. Rock the tree the other way to reach and pull the tarp up and around, lift from the hole, then mist the ball with water and wrap tightly for transport.

Don't leave a big, ugly hole in the woods! Fill as best as you can with surrounding soil and rocks so as to leave only a minor "footprint."

At home, a BIG (pre-dug) hole will ensure success, so have ready an area (dug or rototilled) as deep as the rootball is from bottom to tree-trunk and approximately five times the diameter of the rootball. Place the tree and its rootball, with the Southside yarn-tied branch showing you the proper facing direction, then pack soil firmly but not tightly around rootball. Water the soil and place a protective 3-foot circle of

mulch around the tree. Do no pruning. A tree properly planted will grow twice as fast and live at least twice as long as once that is incorrectly planted.

Finally, and most importantly, while the Grand fir happily accepts the change in habitat and elevation, it is not tolerant of pollution or pesticides. Keep this in mind and don't plant near dusty or tarry roadways, or in areas where sprays are used.



Grand Fir (*Abies grandis*) aka White Fir or Balsam Fir. Photo by Marilyn George

Thank you to Cinnabar matchmakers!

Thank you to the generous folks who stepped up to maximize the 2010 Cinnabar Challenge grant. Your contributions of \$4,000 means FSPW receives an additional \$4,000 for our important work. We are also grateful to the Cinnabar Foundation for this opportunity and their continued support.

The Cinnabar Foundation, Montana's home-grown conservation fund, was created over 25 years ago by Len and Sandy Sargent. To learn more, visit www.cinnabarfoundation.org



Friends helping the Friends



Johnny Donovan Memorial swimmers help Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness

FSPW is the grateful beneficiary of the 2010 Johnny Donovan Memorial Swim, held each summer in Hope in remembrance of Hope native son Johnny Donovan, who passed away prematurely in 1995 at age 49. Each year, swim participants make a donation in Johnny's memory to a cause of their choice, and this year, \$350 was donated to FSPW. These contributions were used as part of the match for our \$4,000 Cinnabar Challenge grant, and so grew to \$700.

You can read the whole story online at <http://bit.ly/bAc8XO>

From page 3: Over the Top Volunteer

She met Jim Erdman, her partner of 25 years (October 12, she noted), when he came to the back door of the coffee house "way too early" to get coffee on his way to work. Her attraction? "He made me laugh. I made him coffee."

In 1989, they followed Jim's job with Ruen Drilling in Clark Fork north to Bonner County and a house near Denton Slough, where they lived until Kally found their current home on the Hope Peninsula. "Jim wasn't really for moving, but when I walked in and found all these places to store art . . . well, mortgages are a good test of relationships."

In the early 2000s, Kally and Gloria Waterhouse opened Gallery 105 on First Avenue in Sandpoint, and in 2004, she and Jim undertook another mortgage to buy the old Hope Market, where she has been nurturing her Outskirts Gallery ever since. Her Hope Marketplace also houses — surprise! — something that very much resembles a coffee house.

Her involvement with the Paintout began in the first year, when Jim Quinn at the Timberstand Gallery asked her to help organize it. Her participation has grown ever since. Last year, after a time at Timberstand, the Paintout art moved to her gallery in Hope, and this year, she was hostess to all events, including the finalé on September 26 when 17 painters hung 66 new paintings made in and around the Scotchmans during the Paintout. (See the related story on page 6)

In pursuit of those important things — art, culture, coffee and thought — Kally's quest has become to save the building that houses her gallery and the coffee house. "One owner planned to bulldoze it and put up a cinder block strip mall," she says. She proudly points out that they paid less than \$50 for the gallons of paint they used to refresh the building inside and out, which has led to some interesting and yet compelling color schemes in the gallery and café. "We're

working on a sustainable remodel with what we have at hand. And, sustainability is all about creativity."

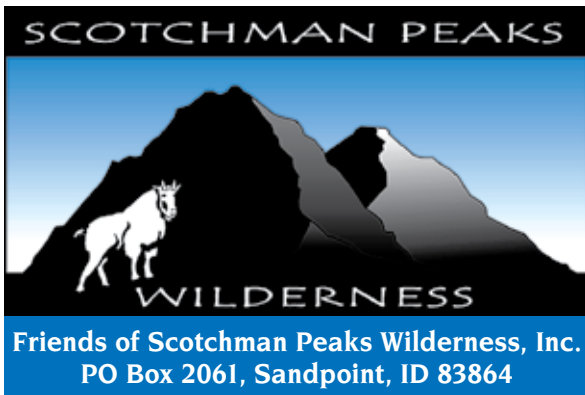
So is Kally Thurman all about creativity, and especially nurturing it in others by encouraging individual as well as collaborative effort and then giving the artists a place to display their work. She is using her busy hands, heart and mind to weave together a place for her important things.

From page 7: The Art of Wilderness

mountains and lakes, the more I fall in love. The process is what it's all about and that process is so challenging and so pleasurable that I am continuously pushed to "try it again" - to attempt to capture another moment of being fully immersed in a sensory experience. The sound of moving water, the warm smell of a cedar grove, the wind trying to topple my easel, bugs nipping at my ankles, sun scorching my neck, all while you madly try to get the paint down. Before the clouds move, the sun slides higher and the shadows retreat! I have only just begun this quest but already feel lucky to have found my bliss, pursuing my two passions of being outdoors in the mountains and creating art from it.

A couple Saturdays ago I did yet another hike up the mountain with Phil and some FSPW supporters. Having just participated in my first ever Plein Air Paintout in the Scotchman's, I was anxious to get on top of the peak. This time I brought plenty of food and water, sturdy boots, and my emerging observation skills- eyes constantly darting, recording the shifting light, noticing the changing autumn colors, and composing the future canvases that I'd like to paint!

Susan's oil painting, "Afternoon Clearing" won second place in the 2011 Plein Air Paintout.



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 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: _____

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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.

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