

Poudre Trails

The Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 3

www.fortnet.org/pwv

Winter 2001

Another Great Year!

Volunteers Turn In 780 Days of Patrol and Maintenance Time

By Kristy Wumkes

Hard to believe that another summer has passed us by already, isn't it? I hope all of you felt that your PWV patrols were enriching and even enlightening in some fashion. I know that your ranger reports, visits, phone calls, and stories have helped to make my summer very enjoyable!

This year, 150 volunteers patrolled and cleared our backcountry trails. You've donated at least 780 days of patrol and trail maintenance to the district and have helped to inform and educate almost 7,900 people on better stewardship ethics. The newly formed trail crew cleared 150 miles of trail this year, removing more than 200 downed trees in the process.

Administrative help in the office has helped to keep scheduling and reporting moving smoothly (a task that has a few small kinks in it yet, but still could not be managed by just one person!).

With time spent on the trails, in committees, and on the PWV board of directors, you've given a whopping 14,000 hours of your precious time to a cause you believe in and are committed to for the long run. You ARE making a difference. And we thank you.

The PWV organization has a lot to be proud of — dedicated volunteers doing good things in a beautiful setting, one of the most innovative training sessions in the country, and a

(See *Another Great Year* on page 2)

Spring Training 2002 Set for May 17-19

Set aside the weekend of May 17-19, 2002, if you're interested in becoming a Poudre Wilderness Volunteer. That's when the annual training weekend is scheduled at Jacks Gulch Campground.

A pre-training kickoff event for new PWV recruits is set for the evening of Wednesday, May 8, 2002, in Fort Collins. The time and location will be announced later.

The PWV spring training event provides a great warm-up to the summer

hiking season. New recruits learn the basics of Leave No Trace philosophy, receive a crash course in wilderness first aid, and learn patrol skills during a three-mile training hike in which they encounter a variety of trail situations.

New volunteers also have opportunities to learn about each other and talk to veterans of the organization. And the food that's served up at mealtime is pretty good, too. Watch for more information about registering for the 2002 training weekend.



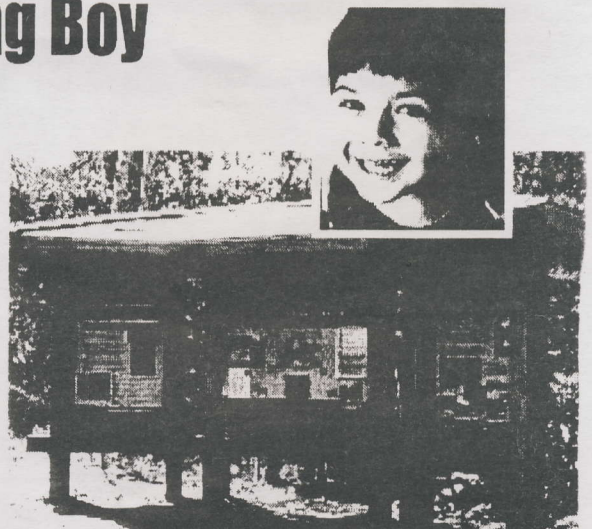
New Sign at Big South Trailhead Honors Missing Boy

By Bob Kretschman

A new three-panel information sign at the Big South trailhead commemorates Jaryd Atadero, the 3-year-old boy who disappeared Oct. 2, 1999 while hiking the trail with a group of adults.

The U.S. Forest Service erected the sign this fall to honor Jaryd's memory and to remind hikers to use safety precautions when they take children on the trail.

Jaryd vanished while hiking with his older sister and a group of adults. According to reports, he repeatedly ran ahead of the group and hid beside the trail, waiting to scare the adults as they approached him. During one of his games, Jaryd disappeared. Two fishermen who met him on the trail were the last people to see him alive.



Authorities searched the Big South canyon for several days, but they found no sign of the boy. Although speculation about Jaryd's fate abounds (theories range from a mountain lion attack to an abduction), the general consensus

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New Sign

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is that Jaryd drowned in the Poudre River or that he died somewhere in the rugged, dense forest of the canyon.

The sign contains tips for hiking with children. As a PWV volunteer, keep these tips in mind and pass them along to hikers on any trail when appropriate:

- **Keep children in your sight.** Don't let them run ahead down the trail or get behind you.
- **Make sure each child wears a brightly colored jacket with a hood.** Temperatures can change rapidly in the mountains, and staying warm is crucial to survival.
- **Give each child a whistle.** A whistle can be heard farther away than a voice and can become an important way for a child to signal location if he loses his voice calling for help.
- **Take a snack.** Raisins, granola, and candy can be easily carried in a pocket.

Teach children to remember the following information if they get lost:

- **Stay calm.** You will be found.
- **Stay put.** Hug a tree near a clearing so searchers have a better chance of seeing you.
- **Stay warm.** Put on a jacket and find a protected spot to shelter you from wind.
- **Stay noisy!** Frequently yell for help or blow a whistle as loud as you can.

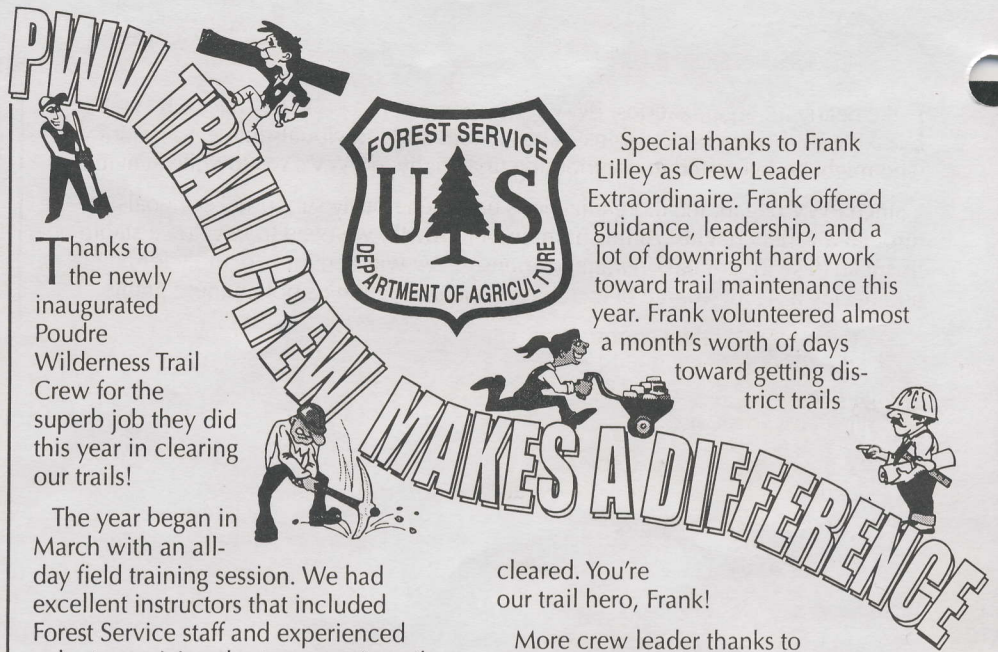


Another Great Year!

(Continued from front page)

committed and professional board of directors, among other things.

The Forest Service is committed to this organization, too. Support at the district, regional, and national levels has already been attained by PWV, and I have no doubt this will continue into the future. You are all meeting the Forest Service mission of caring for the land and serving the people. It's been a pleasure to work with you this year.



Thanks to the newly inaugurated Poudre Wilderness Trail Crew for the superb job they did this year in clearing our trails!

The year began in March with an all-day field training session. We had excellent instructors that included Forest Service staff and experienced volunteers giving short courses in trail maintenance and construction and tree clearing — all with hand tools, as required by the Wilderness Act.

This year's crew cleared all the major northern district trails, a feat for their feet which involved hundreds of miles of walking. The crew cleared well over 200 trees from the trail! Frank "the Lumberjack" Lilley alone accounted for three-fourths of all trees cleared.

Special thanks to Frank Lilley as Crew Leader Extraordinaire. Frank offered guidance, leadership, and a lot of downright hard work toward trail maintenance this year. Frank volunteered almost a month's worth of days toward getting district trails

cleared. You're our trail hero, Frank!

More crew leader thanks to Garin VanDeMark, Bill Bolinger, and John Cochenour.

The intrepid year 2001 crew included Bill Dold, Dan Wethington, Gilbert Yoh, Tom Maddux, Craig Hevner, James Johnson, Jacque Rieux, Tony Shock, and Tom and Delores Linnick.



—By Kristy Wumkes

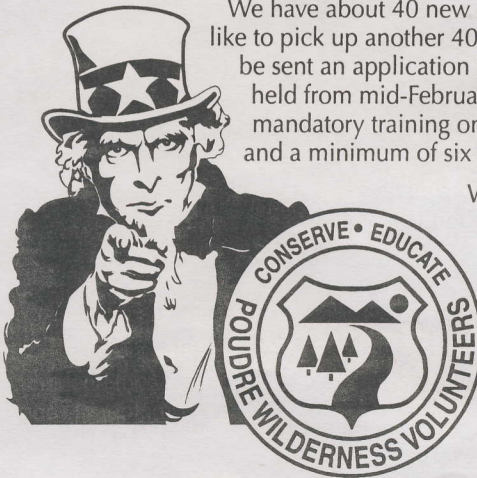
We Need You in 2002

By Ras Erdal, PWV Recruitment Committee

This article is an annual plea from the Recruitment Committee. Please talk about your PWV service to your friends, neighbors, and those you work with. If they are like-minded, encourage them to submit their names to us at 970-498-2776.

We have about 40 new candidates for 2002, but we would like to pick up another 40. Let your contacts know that they will be sent an application in due time, and that interviews will be held from mid-February to mid-April. Also mention the mandatory training on the weekend before Memorial Day and a minimum of six days on the trail.

We like to think of every PWV member as a member of the Recruitment Committee. If you know of good places to post our 2002 recruitment flier, please contact me at 970-225-9035 or at Rmerdal@aol.com. I can snail-mail or email a copy to you.



PWV Seeks Financial Contributions

Like nearly all organizations, PWV requires money to operate. That's why we're asking PWV members to think of businesses and individuals in the community who might be interested in contributing financially to PWV's worthwhile activities.

Since PWV began, local organizations have generously supported our goals through a variety of gifts. At this point in our growth, we need to develop a stable financial base for annual operating expenses. We will continue to apply for grants, and having a steady source of matching dollars will help us obtain these grants.

- PWV members, if they choose, can help by contacting their employers to ask whether the company would consider a financial gift to a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization whose mission is to protect wilderness in the mountains west of Fort Collins and Loveland.
- PWV members might also think of individuals who are interested in making tax-deductible donations to the organization. However, PWV volunteers are under no obligation to give money themselves; the only requirements of PWV membership are to attend training and spend at least six days volunteering during the summer.
- Another way to remember PWV is through an estate plan. Your estate-planning attorney can help you with a testamentary bequest.

Contributions to PWV can be sent to the organization at P.O. Box 271921, Fort Collins, CO 80527. For more information about PWV's fund-raising efforts, contact Bette Blinde at 970-881-2902 or bjb333@aol.com.



PWV Board Welcomes Three New Members

Three Poudre Wilderness Volunteers were elected to the organization's board of directors during a board meeting Oct. 24. New board members are Donn Maynard, Ken Owen, and Jill Sanford.

The PWV board meets monthly. All PWV members are welcome to attend board meetings and to contact board members with questions, concerns, ideas, or thoughts about the organization. Board meeting dates vary month to month, so any member interested in attending a meeting should contact the board chair to find out the next date, time, and location.

Here is a list of current PWV board members and their email addresses:

- Chair**—Garin VanDeMark (hsvgmv@juno.com)
Chair-Elect—John Cochenour (johncoc@uwyo.edu)
Treasurer—Bob Hansen (bhansen@hp.com)
Board Member at Large to the Executive Committee—James Johnson (jandajohnson1@home.com)
Director—Paul Asmus (pasmus@peakpeak.com)
Director—Brett Berlin (brettrberlin@home.com)
Director—Bette Blinde (bjb333@aol.com)
Director—Dave Cantrell (cantrell@verinet.com)
Director—Ras Erdal (rmerdal@aol.com)
Director—Bob Kretschman (kretschman@earthlink.net)
Director—Donn Maynard (dmaynard@ci.fort-collins.co.us)
Director—Ken Owen (kdownen@att.net)
Director—Jill Sanford (jilli@quixnet.net)
USFS Representative—Kevin Cannon (kcannon@fs.fed.us)

Also, outgoing board member Cheri VanAckern was elected to a three-year term as an advisory director. Current advisory directors re-elected to three-year terms are Chuck Bell, Del Brown, Art Bunn, Frank Lilley, Jacques Rieux, and George Wallace.



We Need Info to Track Gremlins

We're trying to track down the extent of glitches that appear to have affected some patrol reports filed last summer via the PWV Web site. Some electronic reports might not have reached the U.S. Forest Service folks.

To determine the extent of the problem and to validate the ranger report database, we're asking all PWV volunteers to look back in their records and compile a list of dates, trails, and hiking partners from the 2001 season. You don't need to re-create your patrol report; all we need is the date, trail, and hiking partner from each of your hikes.

You can email the information through the PWV Web site (<http://www.fortnet.org/pwv/>) or to Bob Hansen (bhansen@hp.com) or call Bob with the information at 970-495-1129.



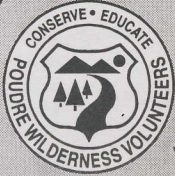
Avoiding Hypothermia

By taking only a few simple precautions, you can avoid hypothermia during your outings. Here are some suggestions, courtesy of Backpacker magazine.

1. **Eat before you get very hungry.**
2. **Rest before you get very tired.**
3. **Warm up by putting on more clothes before you become very cold.**
4. **Watch out for your hiking companions.** An early sign of hypothermia is cloudy thinking; many victims, unaware of their condition, will say they are OK. Look for incoherent, slurred speech, violent fits of shivering, drowsiness, and exhaustion.

If someone exhibits such symptoms, stop hiking and get out of bad weather. Administer hot drinks, get the victim into dry clothing, and feed the victim high-energy foods to replenish the body's fuel.





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Subscribe to the E-List

Do you have an email address but feel like you're out of the PWV loop? The solution is simple: Subscribe to the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers electronic bulletin board.

By subscribing, you can receive email from other PWV members who are looking for hiking partners, reporting unusual occurrences on trails, or sending reminders about upcoming PWV special events. If you're interested in receiving electronic messages from PWV, email a note to Bob Hansen (bhansen@hp.com), and you'll be added to the list.



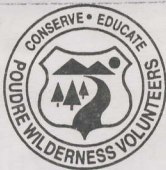
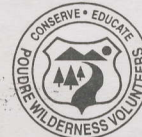
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If you like what you see in this newsletter and want to join the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers or support our cause, please mail us at

**P.O. Box 271921,
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or contact us at
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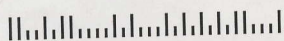
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