



# Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Twenty Years of  
Ageless Advocacy

VOLUME 19 NO 2  
SUMMER 2009

**20<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
EDITION!**



*Liz McCoy, MB McAfee, and Susan Tixier sweep up after the Jeep Safari Rally, Moab, Utah, 2000. (Can you find Ginger Harmon?)*

## A BROAD LOOK BACK

BY DIRECTOR LIBBY INGALLS

The history of Great Old Broads is one of exceptional, visionary, passionate women who have stood up to destruction of our wild lands and continue to speak out for wilderness. Our history goes back far earlier than 1989, the official founding of Great Old Broads. We have always been Broads and cared deeply for the silent expanse of wild places and the protection of all they hold. But it was in 1989 that we gave ourselves a name, so that is when our history begins.

At that time, Susan Tixier was working as Assistant Director of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) and spending most of her spare time outdoors, camping and

hiking in the red rock country of Utah. She and fellow activists had been speaking out and writing letters against the devastation from overgrazing for many years, but they wanted to do more, especially to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Wilderness

Act. About that time, wilderness designation had been proposed for Escalante. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) opposed it, saying, "if for no other reason, we need roads for the aged and infirm." Susan and her friends were outraged and saw clearly that an important voice was

missing from the environmental movement: the older woman -- impassioned, experienced, not afraid to speak out, and

*(continued on page 15)*



*1997 Escalante Broadwalk.*

### In this issue:

In a Broad Sense	2
Southern Arizona Monitoring	3
BHLP Partners	3
Broads' Beat	4
Calendar of Events	8
New Director	9
Broads in the Background	10
Broader Wilderness	12
Broadbands in Action	14
Lands We've Walked	18

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS  
**BROADSIDES**

**W**hat a long, wonderful trail it's been! Great Old Broads for Wilderness has been around, in one form or another, for 20 years. Ever since that ragged, disheveled gang of gals hiked out of the Escalante canyons to learn that Utah's Senator Orrin Hatch had railed against wilderness designation because it would exclude "old people" from the backcountry, we've been out there advocating for the preservation of America's wild landscapes, not only for our own and our grandchildren's sake, but simply because the planet requires wilderness to stay healthy.



## IN A BROAD SENSE

### Twenty Years of Ageless Advocacy!

The Wilderness Act has been hailed around the globe as one of the best ideas America has ever had. While it's been used to protect over 110 million acres to date, there is still a critical need for Wilderness designation for our nation's remaining tracts of wilderness quality lands, from the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska to the Shenandoah Mountains in Virginia.

The past 8 years, which nearly encompass my tenure as Executive Director of Great Old Broads for Wilderness, have been especially challenging for the wilderness movement. However, in that peculiar way that adversity has of bringing out the best in many people, the challenges have served to strengthen and grow the organization from a small, scattered band

of feisty ladies to an effective and diverse voice, speaking on behalf of that which cannot speak for itself.

Over Memorial Day weekend, I had the privilege of attending the premiere showing of filmmaker Ken Burns' most recent epic series, "The National Parks," at the Telluride Mountainfilm Festival, after which Burns and author, Bill McKibben had a conversation on-stage. McKibben mused that the preservation of lands for public enjoyment, in perpetuity, was both a political and spiritual idea, and uniquely American. McKibben's very compelling message these days is that we all must become active in driving the social and political changes needed to begin to correct the many environmental and social challenges we're facing today.

Throughout the weekend he exhorted, (although that may be too strong a term for McKibben's thoughtful, low-volume style) festival goers to become actively involved in local issues. His major project is 350.org, a burgeoning international campaign to pressure negotiators into a much tougher climate treaty – one that reflects the new reality of the planet. On October 24, six weeks before the climate "summit" in Copenhagen, 350.org is planning a huge international day of action, to send the message loud and clear to the negotiators. As McKibben said in the Telluride Daily Planet, "It's a fairly audacious attempt at a global grassroots movement and it seems to be working." 350.org is based on the connectivity

*Continued on page 11*

## A BROAD THANK YOU

Great Old Broads for Wilderness founding member and Director Emeritus, Ginger Harmon, has generously underwritten the

cost of our latest batch of brochures.

*Thanks, Ginger!*



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*Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a non-profit, public lands organization that uses the voices and activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands. Broads was conceived in 1989 by older women who loved wilderness and organized to protect it. The wisdom of their combined years told them that the Broads could bring knowledge, commitment, and humor to the movement to protect our last wild places on earth.*

*Today, the Great Old Broads for Wilderness has more than 3,500 active members. You do not have to be female, or old, or even great for that matter! to join—but you must be "bold" for wilderness. Please join us on the adventure. Wilderness needs your help!*

*Please credit Broads for any reprinted articles.*

# BROADS MONITOR RECREATION IMPACTS IN SOUTHERN ARIZONA

*Increased recreation throughout much of the Chiricahua Mountain Range in southeastern Arizona is having negative impact on native vegetation and wildlife there. The Chiricahua Mountains are one of the largest ranges in the Sky Island region of the U.S. containing the biggest Wilderness in southeast Arizona, at 87,700 acres. Home to 21 federally listed threatened and endangered species, the Chiricahuas host an amazing diversity of plants and animals. Through Broads Healthy Lands Project, Broads gathered in mid April to collect data regarding on-the-ground conditions of this beautiful area.*



Lee Verner, Karen Ryman, and Terry End learn to use the GPS equipment.

BY LEE VERNER

"Can you tell I'm wearing eye shadow?" Terri twinkled at me. Yes, I could - and on her 78-year-old eyes, it looked great. Terri End, a Great Old Broad from Aspen, Colorado, was point gal on our Monitoring Guide Form that we needed to fill out as we collected data along our route. Karen Ryman, also from Aspen, was behind the camera. I was tagging along as the

Global Positioning System reader, lining the camera up with our coordinates, which were raining down on us from three invisible satellite systems high in the No. 1 rated, clear aired, blue sky above. That morning, we had driven down out of the Chiricahua Mountains and our team was starting our first attempt at following the Broads Healthy Lands Project Monitoring

*Continued on page 6*

## BHLP PARTNERS AND PLANS

Spring and summer are always busy for Broads Healthy Lands Project, but this year is one for the record books. As we go to press, BHLP is celebrating 13 new partnerships for 2009. Were' also celebrating a data milestone - we now have more than 100,000 observation points in the database.

As you read this, we are set to embark on a series of trainings for three of our new partners - near Boulder, Montana on July 18, Bend, Oregon on July 20 and McCall, Idaho on July 24. We are also planning a training session in Southwest Colorado in August. If you are interested in these trainings and the date hasn't passed, please call Broads office, 970-385-9577, for more information on how to reserve a spot.

Additionally, we are working on new route monitoring and wilderness inventory efforts in several locations and working to expand BHLP to record data on National Historic Trails, and for use with grazing and range management applications. Thanks to BHLP's new partner groups!

- American Hiking Society
- Colorado Environmental Coalition
- Colorado Mountain Club
- Fort Lewis College, Dr. Andrew Gulliford
- Grand Canyon Trust
- Horseback Riders for the Wild San Juan Mountains
- Idaho Conservation League
- Idaho Broadband
- Juniper Group - Oregon Chapter, Sierra Club
- Montanans for Quiet Recreation
- Old Spanish Trail Association
- Sky Island Alliance
- Wilderness Workshop

## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF WILDERNESS ADVOCACY

GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS IS 20 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR AND WE'RE CELEBRATING! WE'VE WEATHERED A FEW STORMS SO WE HAVE MUCH FOR WHICH WE ARE GRATEFUL. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, WE'VE SET OUR SIGHTS ON THE NEXT 20 YEARS AND WE CAN SEE THERE IS MUCH TO BE DONE! PRESSURES FROM OUR INSATIABLE APPETITES FOR MEAT, ENERGY, AND MOTORIZED RECREATION HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE POWERFUL. ROADLESS WILD LANDS HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE THREATENED.

HELP US MAINTAIN OUR VIGILANCE. CONSIDER GIVING AN EXTRA \$20 OR SOME MULTIPLE 20 AS AN ANNIVERSARY GIFT TO GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS.



## Kane County Commissioner Rides Roughshod over Paria (and the law)

*Parts of the following were taken, with permission, from Michael Wolcott's May 29 editorial in High Country News (www.hcn.org)*

The Paria-Hackberry Wilderness Study Area in Kane County, UT was the focus of County Commissioner Mark Habbeshaw and Utah Rep. Mike Noel, who organized a ride of more than 100 off-roaders to ride up the Paria River's bed, claiming it was a county road. The illegal ride was the latest chapter in Habbeshaw's long-running feud with BLM over vehicle access in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

but well intentioned, bidding on BLM oil and gas leases in Salt Lake City last December may yet land him in prison for up to 10 years.

## Artifact Looters Arrested

In another southern Utah legal development, on June 9, 21 people in Blanding and 3 in Durango, CO were arrested after a two-year undercover investigation into the excavation, sale and purchase of looted Native American artifacts. Blanding is situated only 2 miles from Recapture Wash. This

has been a major activity in the area for generations, and is being exacerbated by the proliferation of unauthorized motorized trails in the backcountry. This is yet another good reason to finally toughen controls on off-roading activity.

## Awaiting Jarbidge Settlement

*The following is from AP's Sandra Cherub:*

In March, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear Elko County's (NV) appeal of a federal appeals court ruling.

A judge had ruled earlier that conservationists had no legal standing

# Broads' Beat

Updates on issues that have seen Broad action



Habbeshaw and his followers claim that the Paria riverbed is a road, and argue that closure to motor traffic constitutes federal impingement on states' rights. (However the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has rejected the county's lawsuit challenging the restrictions.) For years, the BLM has bowed to local pressure over enforcement of off-road recreation in Kane County's wilderness and wilderness-study areas—in some cases requesting “voluntary compliance” from locals who are not in the least predisposed to compliance. When Habbeshaw led his charge up the Paria, BLM did at least take pictures and record license plate numbers, which were then turned over to U.S. Attorney Brett Tolman. But so far, neither the BLM nor Tolman has charged any of the protesters with breaking the law. Great Old Broads for Wilderness, and our partner group LUV (Land Use Volunteers) of Kane County have repeatedly written, e-mailed and called both the Utah State BLM Office and the U. S. Attorney's office to inquire about the status of the case, and to demand that the illegal riders be prosecuted for their criminal trespass, especially in view of the vigorous prosecution of Tim DeChristopher, whose fraudulent,

canyon is the genesis of an ongoing project of Great Old Broads, that we call *Recapture Utah!* Our focus in this campaign is the rampant expansion of motorized impacts all over the desert lands of southern Utah, including both constructed and user-created routes. (See Winter 2007 Broadsides.) We have been closely monitoring an illegally constructed ATV trail in the canyon, which is replete with archaeological sites, since 2005. BLM finally closed the trail, albeit temporarily, to motorized use when illegal pot-hunting activity was discovered there in the fall of 2007. At that time the larger undercover investigation was already underway, and we were very frustrated by the BLM's apparent refusal to investigate the criminal trespass case. In retrospect, it is entirely possible that some of the people involved in the ATV trail construction were also among those arrested in early June, but we will have to be patient and wait for further details to emerge. Meanwhile, the residents of Blanding have complained of the Federal government's tactics during the arrests, but a number of those arrested had been arrested for the same sort of illegal activities before. Indeed, looting of Native American antiquities

to participate in this legal battle over South Canyon Road in northeast Nevada that pits private property interests against environmental protection.

“This has been a long battle,” said Michael Freeman, an attorney for Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund representing The Wilderness Society and Colorado-based Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

“We think this is a really big step toward protecting the bull trout, South Canyon and the wilderness area from off-road vehicles and motorized traffic,” he told The Associated Press.

We are currently awaiting the settlement conference between the Forest Service, Elko County The Wilderness Society and Broads, which is scheduled for Sept. 22.

## Tester Introduces Forest Bill

In mid July, Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) introduced the Forest Jobs and Recreation Act that may add more than 500,000 acres of designated Wilderness in Montana, including 30,000 acres in the Yaak where Broads gathered in 2004.

While we applaud long overdue wilderness designations in Montana, unfortunately, this bill is more about “forest jobs and stewardship” than protecting wild landscapes. It includes mandatory logging cuts, new ATV trails, and legislates mandatory motorized recreation use/snowmobiles thus taking resource based management decisions out of agency hands. It also releases 5 wilderness study areas and would allow for timber harvesting and motorized recreation in these currently protected areas. Stay tuned for more detailed reviews.

### Montanore Mine Threatens MT Wilderness

The proposed Montanore mine is an underground copper/silver project 18 miles south of Libby, Montana that would be constructed on lands in the Kootenai National Forest. Montanore would extract ore from

beneath the mountains, meadows, and alpine lakes of the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness. The project would include a discharge of untreated water from the mine cavity, significant impacts to three threatened species and their habitat, and the diversion of a perennial stream. Mines Management, Inc., of Spokane, WA is seeking a permit to construct and operate the mine. We are awaiting the Final EIS and hope, hope, hope that the permit will be denied. Go to [www.saveourcabinets.org](http://www.saveourcabinets.org) for more information.

### Urge NV Rep. Titus to Reintroduce Gold Butte Wilderness Legislation

Friends of Gold Butte is stepping up efforts to protect the 350,000 acre landscape known as Gold Butte through National Conservation Area with Wilderness designation.

In 2008, Congresswoman Shelley Berkley introduced HR7132 “Gold Butte National Conservation Area and Wilderness Designation Act.” Friends of Gold Butte, partnering with the Nevada Wilderness Coalition, have asked Congresswoman Dina Titus to re-introduce and champion legislation for the Gold Butte area in 2009. Representative Titus is Nevada’s newest member of Congress and Gold Butte is located in her district.

Broads hosted a Broadwalk at Gold Butte in the spring of 2008.

Representative Titus has expressed interest in protecting Gold Butte and the Friends are asking for our help to turn her interest into a reality.

Find an example letter to send to Congresswoman Titus at [www.greatoldbroads.org/Gold\\_Butte\\_let](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/Gold_Butte_let)

Go to <http://www.friendsofgoldbutte.org/> for more information.

## PLANNED GIVING MEANS WILDERNESS FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

### Future generations are depending on us.

If humans are to survive on this amazing blue planet, we need to get serious about leaving a legacy of a healthy environment. Resource development, recreation excesses, and just plain human encroachment all pose threats to biodiversity, climate stability, and peace of mind.

Your gift to Great Old Broads for Wilderness helps build a steady foundation for us as we stand firm in our advocacy of wild public lands. You may also save on estate taxes and be able to leave more to your heirs.

There are many mutually beneficial ways for you to support Great Old Broads for Wilderness through planned giving. Talk to your Financial Advisor about these options.



#### ♦ Bequest

Include us in your will with a gift of cash, property, or a portion of the estate

#### ♦ Appreciated Securities

Avoid capital gains tax by making a gift of the gain

#### ♦ Retirement Plan

Name us on your plan and avoid income tax on the plan's assets

#### ♦ Real Estate Gifts

Stay in your home while avoiding capital gains tax and leaving more to your heirs

#### ♦ Life Insurance

Write a new policy with Great Old Broads for Wilderness as a beneficiary or donate all or part of an existing policy

Other options to discuss with your Financial Advisor include:

- ♦ Pooled Income Fund
- ♦ Charitable Gift Annuity
- ♦ Charitable Remainder Unitrust



# MONITORING RECREATION IMPACTS

*Continued from page 3*

Protocol. It was a beautiful desert day, and we were hiking up a road toward Emigrant Canyon. We were following a route outlined on a topographic locator map given us earlier by Trevor Hare, head of the Landscape Restoration Project of the Sky Island Alliance and Broads' partner in the monitoring project. Trevor is a herpetologist who is working to re-introduce the Chiricahua leopard frog to the Sky Island chain. Though Trevor wasn't our pilot on this trip, Broads Associate Director Rose Chilcoat offered a bit of perspective when it comes to choosing drivers. "Try to ride with a frog and snake person," she joked, "the bird-watchers are always looking up."

The afternoon before, our group of 20 Broads from Colorado, Oregon, Arizona, and New Mexico had arrived, at intervals, at our campsite, situated at 7,000 feet in the Pinery Canyon area on the western flank of the Range. Slowly, tents began to pop up like mushrooms, arranged near a new "I shall wear purple" purple porta potty, provided for us by Sky Island's Volunteer Co-coordinator, Sarah Williams. Rose was there to greet us, along with Tim Peterson, who was along to teach us the Protocol. We were elated, tired, and ready!

That night, after grilled fish and chicken, prepared over the campfire by the many-talented Trevor, Rose asked us to introduce ourselves and name something that had impressed us on our journey to the campsite. Food (good coffee was a plus), a particularly well stocked store, roadrunners, saguaro cactus: Broads' penchant for good food, good deals, and the natural wonders around us was evident. Retired schoolteachers, psychologists, social workers, a nurse – the group began to take shape.

These were people who had cared about the health of the systems around them during a lifetime of work. Their desire to help restore balance to wild lands seemed a natural extension.



*BHLP Director Tim Peterson gives instruction on using the GPS equipment.*

So, Saturday morning, there we were, trying to get it right, and photographing signs, roadways, trails and cows, lining them up with satellite readings and their designated codes in the "Conditions Observed" column of the project Field Form. Luckily, a jeep carrying a rancher and his wife slowed to discover who was traveling the route toward their ranch. Polite and curious, they pointed out the roads that they used to head up into the hills to water their cows. Some, they told us, were passable and some were to be avoided. We asked about deer in the hills above their ranch. "Oh, I think the mountain lions keep the numbers low," the rancher answered. "Hmmm," said Trevor later. "It's good to know how they are thinking about things. We haven't been up there in a while, and we wondered what was there." Sky Island Alliance

has as a goal of closing 200 of the 400 "roads" that now lie inside the proposed Wilderness Area. How the local ranchers are using the roads is an important consideration.

Back at camp Saturday night, we discovered that we had forgotten to click a picture of the GPS clock to begin our picture sequence, causing extra work for Tim, but still, the good cheer was contagious. Jinny Moore of Mancos, Colorado observed, "I haven't met anyone in a bad mood! We did it wrong, and we didn't get in trouble. (Jinny and her group had also forgotten to take their first camera shot of their GPS clock.) "I'm having fun, and now I know what to do."

For Joan VanDenbos from Tubac, Arizona, it was a "de-mystifying experience. I get the digital camera, the GPS, and map reading. It gives me hope."

JoAnn Caruthers of Sierra Vista, Arizona, pronounced the day, "Interesting. I learned how to



# IN THE CHIRICAHUAS

document conditions along a road. I learned a lot about the area. I met a lot of people from different parts of the country, had a lot of fun, and learned how to turn my car around in a very tight precarious rocky hillside condition...and did it with three helpers!"

And for Billie Hughes who divides her time between Arizona and New Mexico, "We do a lot of documenting of road and forest conditions up in Apache Sitgraves National Forest. So this provides new protocols. Interesting people traveling from all over who are taking their retirement and turning it into something they care about. They are making a difference for the next generation. My grandson will benefit from anything we do up here."

After breakfast on Sunday, we were off again, in different groups. For the

women in my group, the assignment is to document the Long Park Trail Loop near Rustler Park. Half of this trail is an old road that has been closed to all but foot traffic. Today, it's getting easier to see where a short 'spur' that leaves the main trail has led to a dispersed camp site. We're able to record the spots where erosion of the trail is leading to deep ruts, and also where prompt Forest Service action has stopped run-off from eroding another section of the trail. We're becoming more competent.

We are also learning to appreciate the Chiricahua Mountains with their beautiful and confusing confluence of four distinct ecosystems: the Sierra Madre Mountains to the south, the Chihuahuan Desert to the East, the Rocky Mountains to the north and the Sonoran Desert to the West. We begin to distinguish Ponderosa from Apache pine and a Mexican pinyon from

an alligator juniper. The vermilion flowers of the pincushion and hedgehog cactus show off the desert, while the red-orange Indian paintbrush, a native, too, of Colorado, is a sudden friend among strangers. All this and the long view - as we crest the mountain, we can see the basin and range landscape that gives rise to

the name, Sky Islands. The desert flats below become a sea, out of which the volcanic ranges vault skyward.

Back at camp once again Sunday night, the grounds slowly empty of Broads who are starting their trip home. The camp quiets into deep silence, broken only by the rapid repetition of the northern pygmy owl's call. It is good to reflect and rest.

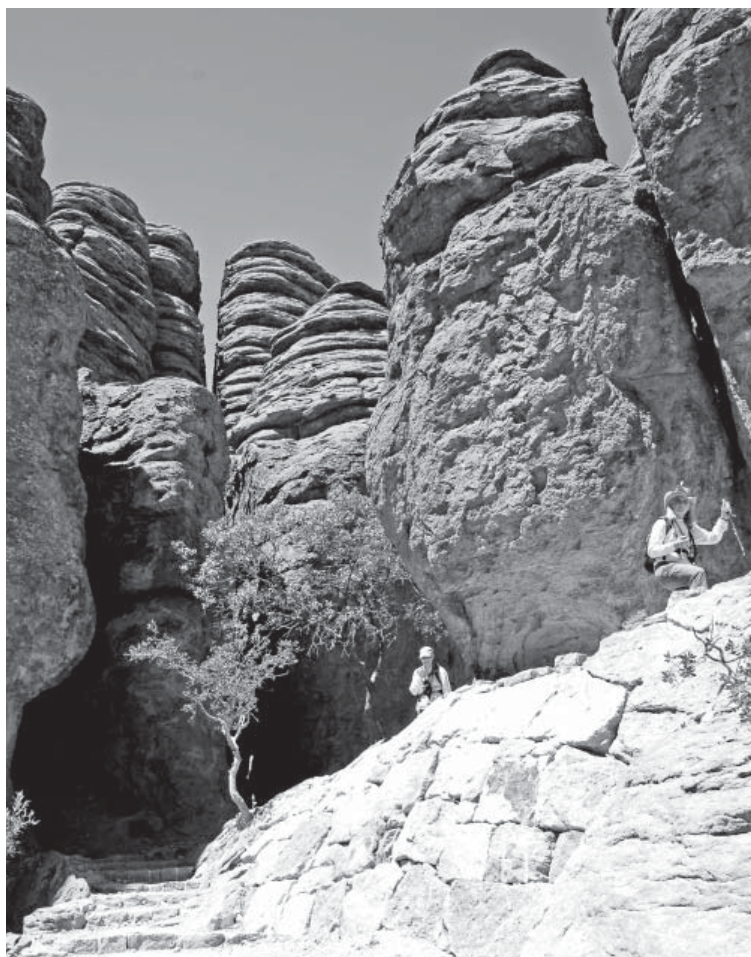
Monday, those who had decided to stay an extra day break camp and head out to the Chiricahua National Monument for one last hike. For the Chiricahua Apaches, this Monument encircles what they call, "The Land of Standing Up Rocks."

Wind and water, working on the Rhyolite Canyon Tuff left by the Turkey Creek Volcano eruption millions of years ago, has left the land with hundreds of standing spires, balanced rocks and columns. They look like Easter Island acolytes: hoodoos calling "yoo-hoos" across a wonderland of stone.

At the end of the trail, we say our final good-bys. Terri is sitting on a large rock as I trail up from the canyon floor. Her eye shadow still looks great, and she has out-paced me once again. I sit with her for awhile and think about what Saralaine Millet, a Broads Board Member from Arizona, had explained about her own experience: For her, she said, being there was in large part about the women: "I love them...older women. You can really be yourself. We all understand each other."

*Data collected will help Sky Island Alliance develop route recommendations for the Coronado National Forest Travel Management Plan. For more information on this area go to [http://www.skyislandaction.org/SIAC-Library/state\\_of\\_the\\_coronado/Chiricahua\\_EMA.pdf](http://www.skyislandaction.org/SIAC-Library/state_of_the_coronado/Chiricahua_EMA.pdf)*

*After work, comes play. The group took advantage of being in the Sky Islands with this fun hike in the Chiricahua National Monument.*



## AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!!

DONATIONS OF OUTDOOR GEAR,  
VACATION STAYS, ADVENTURE TRIPS,  
BOOKS, JEWELRY, CLOTHING & MUCH  
MORE ARE NEEDED FOR  
OUR 5TH ANNUAL  
**WILD FOR WILDERNESS**  
ON-LINE AUCTION! OCT 26-NOV 15  
[www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php)

## Broadwalk

**20th Anniversary Escalante  
Celebration** This event is Full! Call  
Rose to add your name to the wait list.

**Dates:** October 1-5, 2009

**Location:** Escalante Outfitters, Escalante, UT

**Cost:** Member \$155/non-member \$180

We're going back to our roots in the mysterious and spectacular canyons and plateaus of the Escalante region of southern Utah to celebrate 20 years of wilderness advocacy. There'll be hikes

## Monitoring Event

**We need  
monitors  
for the  
BHL  
Escalante  
Monitoring  
Event. Sign  
up now!**

**Dates:** After  
our 20th  
Anniversary  
Broadwalk  
Oct 5 - Oct 8

**Location:**  
Escalante,  
Utah -  
Basecamp  
will be at  
Escalante  
Outfitters

**Cost:** \$75 - includes camping at Escalante  
Outfitters and some meals.



BHLP monitors prepare  
their gear at the spring Sky  
Island monitoring event in  
southern Arizona.

For this event, Great Old Broads for Wilderness is working in partnership with Land Use Volunteers (LUV) of Kane County and The Alliance for the Escalante River Basin.

This event is limited to 25 volunteers. Monitors will work in teams of 2 or 3. For more information and to sign up, contact Rose Chilcoat at 970-385-9577 or [rose@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:rose@greatoldbroads.org). Visit [www.healthylands.org/](http://www.healthylands.org/) for more information on BHL. For details on the event, go to [www.greatoldbroads.org/events.htm](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/events.htm)

## Auction

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild for Wilderness  
On-line Auction**

**Dates:** October 26-Nov.15, 2009

**Location:** <http://auction.greatoldbroads.org>

Just in time for your holiday shopping

# The Great Old Broads for Wilderness 2009 Calendar of Events

for all abilities, workshops, volunteer projects, special guests including some of our founders such as Susan Tixier and Ginger Harmon, speakers from local organizations and agencies and more! Come join Broads, old and new, to experience the energy and Broadness of our wilderness family. (America's Red Rock Wilderness Act would ensure permanent protection of these incredible landscapes. Your support is needed.) Find more information at [www.greatoldbroads.org/events.htm](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/events.htm)

**Purpose:** To gather photographic and location data on off-road vehicle use

Broads Healthy Lands Project invites you to provide on-the-ground service for the betterment of our public lands management. The data from this monitoring event will be used to help improve land and recreation management on Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Dixie National Forest public lands.

or a bit of self-indulgence, Great Old Broads for Wilderness is hosting our fifth annual Wild for Wilderness On-line Auction fundraiser. Here's your chance to make shopping both easy and meaningful, because 100% of funds raised will be used to support Great Old Broads' important wilderness advocacy work. To donate an item, go to [www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php)

## Join Broads at National Public Lands Day Events

### Saturday, September 26, 2009

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. In 2008, 120,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, removed trash and invasive plants planted over 1.6 million trees. Join us for the 16th annual National Public Lands Day. Great Old Broads for Wilderness will be on the ground in various locales. See if your local Broadband has a project underway...or help them get one going.

If Utah is on your radar this fall, Broads will again be helping the Monticello Field Office of the BLM with various projects in the Kane Gulch/Cedar Mesa Wilderness Study Areas as part of our Recapture Utah! Campaign. Projects we will help with include - Re-habitation of closed roads within the Wilderness Study Area (WSA) boundaries, remove illegal fire rings, block illegal access to (illegal) firewood cutting areas, install signs/interpretative kiosks, site visits to archeological sites and check for impacts/

illegal digging, remove old carsonite signs and re-habitate previously closed areas to enhance visual resources, remove illegal graffiti in/near archeological sites, install WSA gateway signs, and re-vegetate areas around the Kane Gulch Ranger Station. Broads will camp Friday and Saturday evening at the BLM primitive campground in Comb Wash just west of Comb Ridge and south of Hwy 95 and share a potluck dinner Sat. night. Please join us! To register contact [rose@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:rose@greatoldbroads.org) or call 970-385-9577.



# Broads Enlists New Director

## Welcome Saralaine

"We trashed our cities and we're trashing our landscapes," said Broads newest Director Saralaine Millet. "It's a national tragedy." Saralaine hopes to help Broads expose public land abuses and advocate for respectful uses of our wild lands.

The daughter of a peach farmer, she was raised in a small Georgia town where, like many of her generation, she was expected to spend her days outdoors. "From the time I could ride a bike, I had the run of the town," she said. "It was just a few blocks to the woods and fields." She was bitten by the western bug as a young teen after she signed up for a summer of travel

with a youth group. They headed west and spent six weeks camping from Georgia to Arizona. "I was so enthusiastic about it," she said, "that my parents agreed to make a similar journey the following year. It was wonderful!"

College years found Saralaine in New England at Wellesley College and then in New York at Stony Point for training in English as a Second Language (ESL). She taught ESL in Istanbul, Turkey in the mid 1960s and then worked as an anthropological field assistant and editor in Egypt. After a stint at Yale

University and the birth of her first daughter, the family moved to Toronto where wilderness deprivation set

in. "Hiking wasn't a family activity for us," she recalled. "There are beautiful parks in Toronto with lots of ravines but it's still urban hiking. And the highways are terrifying so getting out of the city was difficult."

In 2005, she shed her "urban housewife" persona and moved to rural Tucson, Arizona. She's now a half hour from the closest grocery store and loving every minute. It's a good thing one daughter and her grandchildren are also in Tucson or



they may not have had the pleasure of much face time with grandma.

Saralaine worked for many years as a volunteer for La Leche League, a group that advocates and provides educational

*"Broads' mission is big and bold."*

and counseling services for breastfeeding. She is currently a volunteer for the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in the department of Mammalogy and Ornithology and in the Invasive Species Program.

Her vision for America's future includes nothing less than a restructuring of how we think. "Commercialism has come to dominate our thinking," she said. "We're taught to be and expected to be 'consumers.' This has to be reversed." She sees Great Old Broads for Wilderness as a link in the chain that can lead us back to a conservation ethic. "Broads' mission is big and bold," she said. "It implies significant educational outreach," something that offers the promise of future generations of conservation-minded citizens.



*L-R Terry End, Lee Verner and Saralaine just love those giant Douglas firs in the Chiricahuas.*



# Broads in the Background: A Couple of Originals - Frandee and

Okay. So how many of your friends have checked Colin Fletcher, *The Man Who Walked Through Time*, for ticks? If you're a Broad, you can count at least two. Just ask Frandee and Dale Johnson about their experience with Fletcher in 1989 as he started his *River* journey from Wyoming to the Pacific along the Green and Colorado Rivers. They'll tell you how they got to the "bottom" of the situation.

That was 20 years ago and, coincidentally, the same year that Frandee and a group of old broads founded the Great Old Broads for Wilderness. It wasn't too long afterward that Dale was "roped in," she said.

Broads first "official" meeting, Frandee remembered, was at a ski hut in Aspen. "We wanted it (the organization and its name) to be loose and brazen," she said. "We wanted it to sneak up on you that we were serious."

Frandee's interest in all things out-of-doors started many years earlier. She grew up in St. Louis and had signed up to go to Vassar College right out of high school. But her plans changed quickly after a friend brought a Year Book from the University of Colorado, Boulder, into her life. "That was 1956," she said. "It changed my life. I had never seen the mountains and school just wasn't as important as those mountains." She moved to Boulder, learned to ski and climb, hiked all over the Rockies, and even matriculated at CU in her spare time.

After graduating, she and her first husband bought the Gold Miner Hotel in the mountains outside of Boulder where, for 11 years, they raised their three daughters. Though she and Dale "ran in the same group," they rarely interacted, she said. "I was terrified of him. He was this successful businessman who traveled all over the world and I was a struggling teacher." At that time, Dale was something of a legend in Boulder's climbing community. "I found out later, he was terrified of me, too."



*Yes, that's the Matterhorn behind this couple of wilderness advocating globe trekkers.*

After Frandee divorced, Dale called her to see if she wanted to go for a hike. They hiked up Saw Tooth where Frandee lost her ice pick in a slide down the glacier. "I still didn't know it was a date," she laughed.

Born in Rifle, Colorado, Dale was a small-town kid with no thoughts

of college when he graduated from high school in Durango, Colorado. "There was no way my folks could send me to college. I didn't even consider it," he said. He didn't consider it, that is, until a teacher suggested he take the entrance exam to get into CU, Boulder. "They gave me a full scholarship," he mused. "That teacher changed my life."

Dale signed on to the aeronautical engineering program at CU until he discovered rock climbing. Then it was geology that piqued his interest. Before he could graduate, he was drafted. This was during the Korean War but he was never called overseas. He was released 6 months early to finish his degree and hired on with an oil company for a few years.

When he realized he didn't care for interpreting well logs all day, he quit and found a job selling backpacking and climbing equipment. He stayed with that company for 8 years, learning the industry. He eventually started the Frostline Kit Company – the company that manufactured backpack and outdoor gear kits that many of us stitched together at home in the late 1960s and early 1970s. "I sold the business to the Gillette Corporation (think razor blades) in 1978 and have been happily unemployed ever since," he said.

Since their marriage, in 1984 on a mountain in a snowstorm, the couple has led a life of adventure and wild land advocacy. From the depths of Fiji waters, to the Rwanda jungle, to the peaks in Alaska, Peru, Nepal, Africa, Europe, Asia, and New Zealand, they appear to be the original Globe Trekkers.





# d Dale Johnson



Using his own airplane, Dale became one of the first pilots for Project LightHawk, a.k.a. "the environmental air force." The organization takes news people and decision makers into the air to view the environmental devastation caused by coal fired power plants for example. "The industry is very clever about inviting environmentalists to places that they can't reach," Dale said. That's where LightHawk comes in handy.

The couple is also involved with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) and has taken members of their advisory board on flights to show them the threats to the environment in southern Utah.

"It's a great way to get to know these issues," said Frandee. "We've developed a great respect for all of the people involved."

"In the early years of Broads," she said, "we were mostly focused on southeastern Utah because Susan (Tixier) came out of SUWA. We all

love that country," she added. "While I was on the Broads Board of Directors in the mid 1990s, I advocated for a 'Broader' vision," she said. "It's evolved into something really good – much more organized and focused with Broadbands and Broad interests scattered across the whole of the U.S."

With Great members like Frandee and Dale, Broads is still a little bit outrageous and our sense of humor is intact. We are forever grateful for their vision, their diligence, and their humor.

## In A BROAD Sense: 20 Years of Advocacy

*(continued from page 2)*

of the internet and e-mail and, says McKibben, "We've got to take advantage of that connectivity – it's our one wild card."

While global warming is not *per se* a wilderness issue, it has everything to do with healthy landscapes, biodiversity, and a livable planet in the future. Around the globe, human beings rely on intact, functioning ecosystems for clean drinking water, productive fisheries and forests, stable soils and many more "ecosystem services" provided by these protected places. Yet, all the protection in the world won't help if the planet continues to warm at the current rate. I believe it is incumbent upon every one of us to make it clear to our political and business leaders that immediate action to reduce carbon emissions to a sustainable level is imperative. Thus, I am encouraging Broads all over the country to go to 350.org and learn about what you can do in the next few months to organize

a local action of some sort on October 24th. Bake 350 cookies and give them away, wear "350" armbands to work. One great suggestion I've heard is for multi-generational groups to get together and be photographed holding signs that tell what the CO2 level was in the year they were born, then post the picture to the 350.org website and send it to the media. Our office has 3 side-by-side windows facing the street, in which we will display the numerals 3, 5 and 0 prominently. The website has all sorts of do-able, fun suggestions. The possibilities are endless.

Mr. McKibben told me that he just loves Great Old Broads for Wilderness, and is very excited to have us linked to the 350.org website. Our position as the wise elders puts us in a very good position to demand responsible action on the part of our leaders to ensure that we leave a habitable planet to future generations. I told him of our 20th Anniversary this year, and

how I hoped we'd still have our precious wilderness and all of the wildlife contained therein, 20 years from now. We agreed that our challenge is to organize as many people as possible in the next few months around getting meaningful action on climate change enacted, or there may be precious little wilderness left to protect. I believe that the stakes really are that high, but I also believe the old Ashanti proverb, "You must act as if it is impossible to fail."

And so, dear Broads, Happy 20th Anniversary to all of us! We've weathered many a storm, and there will be many more to come. In the immortal words of Ellen Meloy, which can be found in our brochure, "We are still out there, walking, limping or crawling ... we simply want our grandchildren to have the chance for similar experiences of solitude, peace, and quiet, even if we have to stay home, strapped to our sofas, sobbing with envy while they go."

“So get out there and hunt and fish and mess around with your friends, ramble out yonder and explore the forest, encounter the grizz, climb the mountains, bag the peaks, run the rivers, breath deep of that yet sweet and lucid air, sit quietly for a while and contemplate the precious stillness, that lovely, mysterious and awesome space.”

- Edward Abbey

## NH - Logging Slated for Roadless Area in White Mountain NF

The Forest Service issued a decision in mid May approving its fifth timber sale within an Inventoried Roadless Area on the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire. The Stevens Brook timber sale would log 157 acres in the South Carr Mountain



*South Carr Mountain Inventoried Roadless Area, White Mountain National Forest, New Hampshire. Stand 39/11, before and after logging on the Batchelder Brook Timber Sale, 2008.*

roadless area; 43 acres would be clearcut.

“The White Mountain National Forest is fixated on logging roadless areas in defiance of conservation science and the public will,” says Mollie Matteson, conservation advocate for the Center for Biological Diversity. “Roadless areas are critical ecological

havens in an era of global warming. Plans to clearcut them demonstrate very acutely the need for strong, nationally consistent protection for all roadless areas.”

For more information, go to the Center for Biological Diversity website - [www.biologicaldiversity.org](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org)

## OR - Malheur NF Rivers Granted Reprieve from Poorly Managed Grazing

A federal judge ruled in mid June to protect native steelhead trout in the John Day River basin. The court

order temporarily halts cattle grazing within important native trout streams in eastern Oregon’s Malheur National Forest. This latest round of the decade-long litigation targets, as the court put it, “repeated failures” by the Forest Service to address grazing impacts to fish habitat. The steelhead, an iconic Pacific Northwest native trout, is listed under the Endangered Species Act as a “threatened” species in danger of extinction.

The court order halts grazing until the Forest Service complies with a series of promised mitigation and monitoring measures intended to ensure against further damage to fish habitat this summer. The protective measures cover 330,000 acres and 235 miles of streams on the forest. The court also indicated it would stop grazing mid-season if the Forest Service failed to comply with the order. In the ruling, Judge Haggerty states, “The time has come for the Forest Service to adaptively manage these allotments in response to conditions on the ground rather than in reaction to this court’s rulings.”

Great Old Broads for Wilderness has a long history of calling land managers to task on poorly managed grazing allotments. It’s this exact abuse that started us on our journey of wilderness advocacy. This ruling carries with it a hope for the returned health of all western waterways, which are so susceptible to degradation from livestock grazing habits.

For more information, go to the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) website - [www.onda.org](http://www.onda.org)

*Nancy Blackadder took this photo of the John Day River during the Spring Basin Broadwalk in the fall of 2008. Broads worked with ONDA to advocate for wilderness designation of 6,382 acres near the John Day River.*





## OR - Bills Introduced to Protect Devil's Staircase

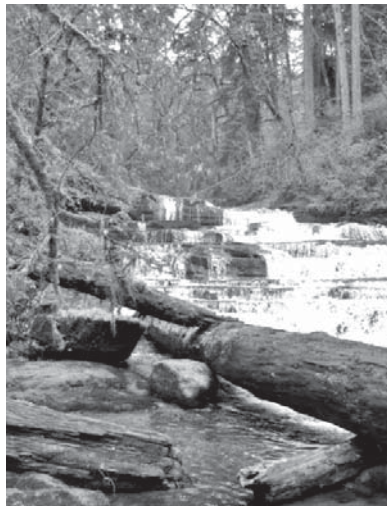
On June 16, Sens. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore. and Ron Wyden, D-Ore., introduced a series of bills to permanently protect federal land surrounding Devil's Staircase, and to designate Wasson and Franklin creeks, which run through it, as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

The Devil's Staircase area is the wildest and most remote roadless country left in the Oregon Coast Range and the largest roadless area in the Washington/Oregon Coast Range between the Olympic peninsula and the Rogue River. There is almost no other roadless land of 5,000 acres or more remaining in the Coast Range.

A very small percentage of the Oregon Coast Range remains unlogged. The Devil's Staircase area is one of the largest remaining mature and old-growth forests left.

Now's the time to encourage our representatives to protect the Devil's Staircase. The Devil's Staircase area needs Wilderness protection so that it will permanently be off limits to logging and other intrusions and be able to stay wild.

Go to [www.devilsstaircasewilderness.org](http://www.devilsstaircasewilderness.org) for details.



*The Devil's Staircase Waterfall. Photo by Dave Tvedt*

## WV - Act Protects Remote Monongahela NF

In March, President Obama signed into law a wilderness act that protects 37,000 acres of West Virginia public lands. Nearly 19,000 acres of Roaring Plains West, Spice Run, and Big Draft are new to the system. The remaining acres are additions to the Dolly Sods Wilderness, the Otter Creek Wilderness, and the Cranberry Wilderness.

The addition to the Cranberry Wilderness makes it, at 47,815 acres, the largest Forest Service

Wilderness in the East.

On Aug. 1, the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center is hosting a

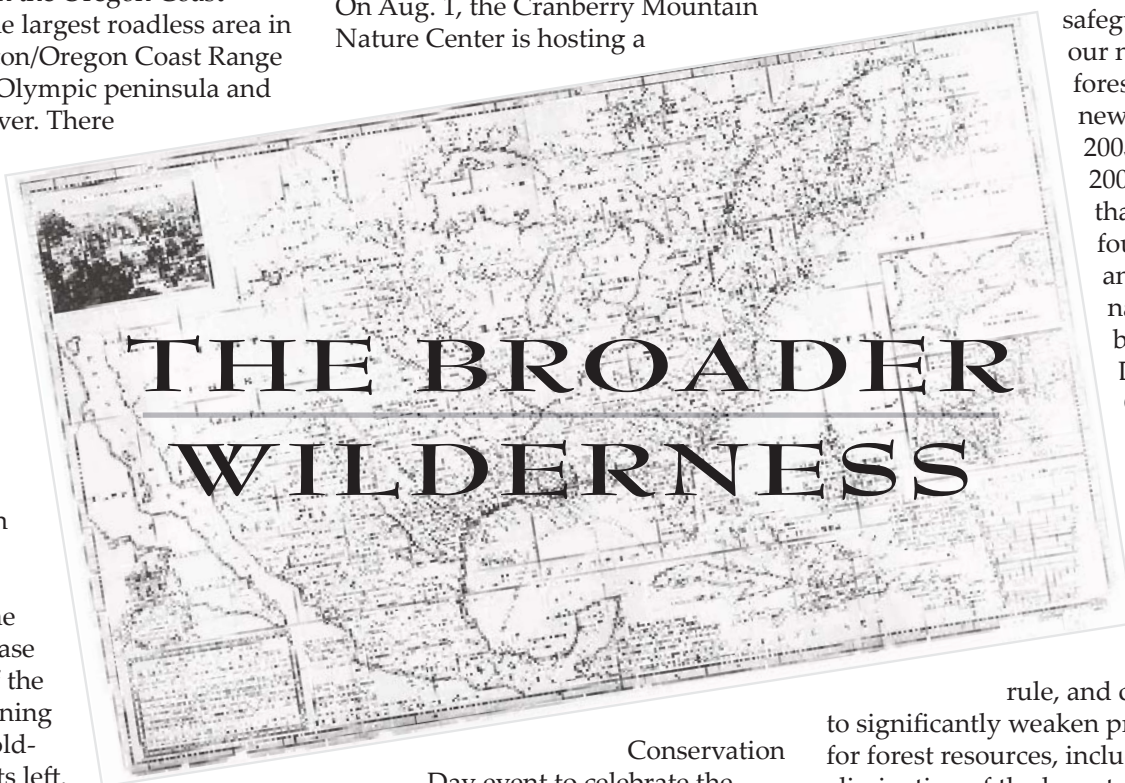
govern the 193-million acre national forest system. The court found that the Forest Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act when it revised the regulations in 2008. The court has prohibited the Service from implementing the 2008 rules, and ordered it to reinstate either the 1982 or 2000 versions of the regulations.

During the 1980s and '90s, the Forest Service operated under nationwide regulations that provided mandatory protection for forest resources, including a requirement to ensure the viability of fish and wildlife species. These regulations governed all proposed projects — such as timber sales, livestock grazing, and road construction.

Under the Bush administration, the Forest Service attempted to essentially remove all environmental safeguards for our national forests with a new rule in 2005. In March, 2007, however, that rule was found unlawful and enjoined nationwide by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. The new 2008 rule was very similar to the 2005

rule, and continued to significantly weaken protection for forest resources, including the elimination of the longstanding requirement to ensure viable populations of fish and wildlife species.

Find more information on the Center for Biological Diversity web page - [www.biologicaldiversity.org](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org)



Conservation Day event to celebrate the Cranberry Wilderness expansion and Smokey Bear's 65th birthday. For details, call 304-653-4826.

## '08 Forest Service Regs Rejected

In June, a federal court ruled against the U.S. Forest Service in its third attempt to revise the rules that

## Florida

Four Broads and two Bros from the Tampa area were among the volunteers who joined in a county effort to clean up McKay Bay. Nearly three tons of trash and over 500 pounds of other waste including tires were hauled out of the nature park area. Much of the debris collected included recyclable plastic bottles and aluminum cans.



(L to R)  
Henry Valenti,  
JoAnn Valenti,  
Jean Plowden,  
Beverly Grif-  
fins, Richard  
Arcuri, and  
Anna Arcuri.



## Southern New England

The Southern New England Broadband held their kick-off event in early June. Leader Pamela Meier planned three Broad events in their inaugural year. Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire are on the docket for Broad action this year.

## Four Corners, CO, NM, AZ, UT

The Four Corners Broadband traveled to Natural Bridges National Monument in southeastern Utah in April to help the Park Service with their spring trail clean-up. We were fortunate to have a group of Fort Lewis College students from Professor Andrew Gulliford's class helping.

All told, a dozen of us maintained back canyon trails, closed social trails,



Jacqueline and Angelo examine stone grooves at the Bear Ladder archaeological site.

and rubbed modern graffiti from sandstone walls.

*The following paragraphs are from an essay written by student Jacqueline Brisson-Stahl about her experience at the Monument.*

"Down stairs and ladders we made our way to the Sipapu Bridge base, although it wasn't long until we had to stop due to graffiti in the sandstone walls carved by visitors. In order to combat this we rubbed sand on the stone, which essentially eliminated the graffiti. Already we had begun to see our work make a difference!



(At) Lightning House, there were several structures and all sorts of artifacts including dried corn, pottery shards, and arrowheads. Our purpose here was to monitor for activity of human collection, which we found very quickly. Various pieces of pottery and corn were set upon a rock, so one of the rangers photographed it for their records. There were a few pictographs here that included a human figure.

Angelo and I met many visitors that were very thankful for the work we were doing. Every person that walked by thanked us and seemed to really appreciate our work. Simply seeing the changes we made was enough for me, but seeing the impact we made on other visitors made me feel great.

I feel very inspired to do more volunteer work in the future – perhaps even for an entire summer at a park. I appreciate this chance very much and made some great memories, contacts, and learned valuable lessons."

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO START A BROADBAND IN YOUR AREA? LET US HELP. WE'RE TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR OUR NEXT BROADBAND LEADER BOOT CAMP AT [www.greatoldbroads.org/bootcampap.pdf](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/bootcampap.pdf). FOR CURRENT BROADBAND LOCATIONS AND CONTACTS, GO TO [www.greatoldbroads.org/local\\_broads.htm](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/local_broads.htm). CONTACT ROSE AT [rose@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:rose@greatoldbroads.org) OR 970-385-7577 FOR MORE DETAILS.**



# A BROAD LOOK BACK

*Continued from page 1*

definitely not needing roads. But what to call themselves? Soon thereafter, out hiking and discussing what action to take, they spotted a group of elderly ladies coming off a trail, dusty, tan, sinewy, gray-haired. Susan (or a friend, the accounts vary) remarked "What a bunch of great old broads."

The name stuck. It encapsulated the spirit of the new environmental organization they envisioned, emphasizing the old and the feminine. More importantly, the name had humor, a core value of the organization from the beginning. The name turned out to be a stroke of genius, as it continues to bring smiles to people's faces, entrées to agencies, and media attention.

They chose as their logo, the humpbacked dowager female version of Kokopelli, the Native American fertility deity, usually depicted as a humpbacked flute player. Instead of a flute, Kokopelli-moni carries a walking stick.

## **The Early Years: 1989 - 1999**

The first 12 years were really Susan's years. She founded the organization, had the original vision, invited friends and acquaintances to join the board, conducted the board meetings, planned the Broadwalks, raised funds, wrote most of the articles in the newsletter, and was the public face and voice of Broads. She was an articulate, passionate, charismatic spokesperson for wilderness and for the organization.

She believed Broadness was about communing with the outdoors, eating and sleeping under the stars, swimming naked, being in touch with our primal female selves, communicating with our hearts as well as our minds, nurturing the land, each other, ourselves. In this spirit, Broadwalks were born. And men were welcome. Broadness was defined as a state of mind, embracing all genders, as well as folks under 45 as Training Broads.

In 1989, Susan wrote a framework document for the organization, declaring it to be a "nonprofit, social organization dedicated to the protection, use, and enjoyment of the wilderness (designated, proposed or imagined.)" There were no dues. To become a member you just had to declare yourself one, and then you could buy a t-shirt to proclaim it to the rest of the world. As one of the main purposes was to increase designation of wilderness areas, an annual Broadwalk would be held in a designated or proposed wilderness area. Annual lobbying trips to Washington soon followed.

In 1993, with a growing membership and expenses, the board decided to institute annual dues of \$25, though payment was optional. In 1994 it became necessary to hire a staff person to keep the membership database, publish *Broadsides* and maintain public relations. The Broads' official address was wherever the staff person happened to live. The appearance of instability (justified) and expense of continually having to print new letterhead with every move ultimately led to the establishment of a Broads office in Durango in 2001.

*Continued on page 16*

## **A Broad 20th Anniversary Wish List**

If we have our way:

- ⇒ Each of our members will introduce a young child (or two!) to a wild place. Then tell us about the adventure
- ⇒ Members and Friends will donate an extra \$20 for the 20th (or how about multiples of 20!)
- ⇒ Members will recruit 20 friends to become members of Great Old Broads for Wilderness
- ⇒ Members will add Great Old Broads for Wilderness Facebook page to their favorites and tell at least 20 of their friends
- ⇒ 20 more members will support us with a \$20 a month donation to help cover our monthly office overhead
- ⇒ A glut of tempting mid and high value items will pour in for our Wild for Wilderness on-line auction fundraiser
- ⇒ A Broadly generous person will donate a reliable vehicle ... Thelma Louise, our 1991 Toyota Previa van, has more than 265,000 miles on her and her transmission is slipping
- ⇒ Passionate candidates (doers, donors, and door-openers) will apply for our Board of Directors
- ⇒ A generous friend will donate a functional office phone system (or funds for one)
- ⇒ Our Ginger Harmon Wilderness Essay Contest will attract sponsors, mentoring teachers, and numerous student participants - go to [www.greatoldbroads.org/gingeressayinfo.pdf](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/gingeressayinfo.pdf) for information
- ⇒ Our Broads Healthy Lands Project (BHLP) will boast numerous new partners and our members will tell their local grassroots organizations all about how BHLP can help (visit [www.healthylands.org](http://www.healthylands.org))
- ⇒ A website designer will donate time and expertise to help us bring the internet face of Broads up to date

If you can be our fairy godmother or godfather and grant us any of the wishes above - please let us know by calling Ronni or Rose at 970-385-9577.



Rose Chilcoat

# A BROAD LOOK BACK

*Continued from  
page 15*

Meanwhile, Susan and the board organized an annual conference and

Broadwalk, first in Colorado, then in Utah. The intent was to gather Broads together to bring attention to a proposed or threatened wilderness area, study the wilderness issues, add the Broads voice to the campaign, get out and experience wilderness, and demonstrate that no, we do not need roads for access. A main component has always been having fun, inevitable when you get a bunch of Broads out in the wilds!

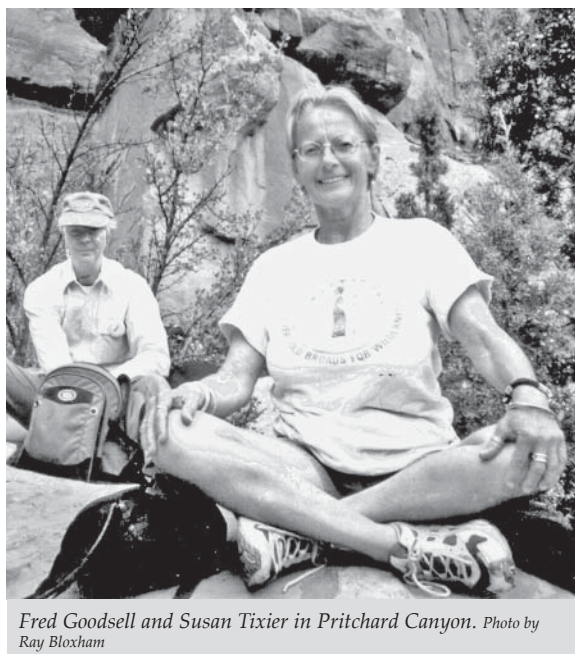
The most ambitious Broadwalk was the four-week Broadwalk across Utah's Wilderness in 1995. Previously, Broadwalks were three to five days of hiking followed by a two-day conference. In 1998, we changed the format to integrate the educational component with hiking, which continues today.

Stretching the bounds of Broadwalks, in 2000, Broads demonstrated at the Moab Jeep Safari, brooms in hand, to "sweep up" after 3,000 jeeps ripped across the fragile landscape. This was followed by restoration, revegetation, and monitoring projects. In the same year, in partnership with The Wilderness Society, we demonstrated at Jarbidge, Nevada, against the "Shovel Brigade's" attempt to rebuild an illegal, washed-out road along the Jarbidge River. These brought wonderful media attention, one of our most effective tools.

In 1999, Susan organized a mentoring conference, Chix-in-the-Stix, at a ranch in Arizona to bring together older and younger wilderness activists to

teach, inspire, share, motivate, play and experiment. Rather than talking heads, the emphasis was on different methods of communication, such as story telling, acting, and exercises integrating female qualities, such as passion and emotion, with wilderness activism. Continuing the theme, the next year in Reno we created personal totems from found objects and wrote stories, instead of listening to a series of speakers.

So what effect were we having? Personal transformations, empowerment, enrichment . . . all hard to measure. We were certainly adding an element of fun and humor to the environmental movement and showing that gray-haired ladies (men and Training Broads) have much to contribute and are a force to be reckoned with.



Fred Goodsell and Susan Tixier in Pritchard Canyon. Photo by Ray Bloxham

One of our tangible accomplishments of these early days was working with the BLM in Escalante to reduce the number of grazing allotments and extent of grazing. Ginger Harmon was the driving force of this campaign. In 1996, Broads adopted Escalante in an effort to stop the damage from overgrazing and bring attention to

BLM's mismanagement. We held a Broadwalk there each year for the next four years, individuals registered as "interested public" on allotments, and we made regular visits to the BLM office.

## The Transition Years: 1999 - 2002

On our 10th anniversary in 1999, Susan, with board approval, decided it was time to take the giant leap toward making Broads a professional organization by hiring professional staff. She became Executive Director of Broads and Liz McCoy was hired as Associate Director. Susan made a grazing plan, work plan, fundraising plan, wilderness plan, gave interviews, wrote articles, and traveled back and forth across the country, spreading the word, raising money, and speaking at conferences. The whirlwind was short-lived, however. Liz resigned in June 2000, and six months later, on January 29, 2001, Susan submitted her resignation and announced that she had accepted the job of Executive Director of Forest Guardians, in Santa Fe.

MB McAfee, who had been Chair of the Board, agreed to take on the position of Executive Director in March 2001. She is to be credited with laying the foundation of the organization as we know it today. After 12 years of an office on the move, she established a permanent address in Durango, organized and established the office, our files, our accounting practices, our legal status, and our professionalism. She hired Rose Chilcoat as Program Director, and the two of them brought Great Old Broads for Wilderness into the 21st Century.

For all her many accomplishments, MB's directorship was short-lived. For health reasons, she submitted her resignation May 29, 2002, effective September 30.

The ever-competent Rose Chilcoat eased the transition to the next



directorship. Rose -- exceptionally intelligent, energetic, and Broadminded -- soon became invaluable as an anchor and spokesperson of the organization.

### **To the Present: 2002 - 2009**

For a split second we thought we would look outside the organization for an Executive Director, and actually advertised and interviewed. It was all too discouraging, though, so we looked within and asked Ronni Egan if she would take it on temporarily while we continued the search.

Ronni had joined the Broads board in 2000. An activist, outfitter, guide, climber, and horse wrangler, she had never held an administrative position or a desk job. She was ready for a change, though, in both career and home, and accepted with the stipulation that she get outside regularly. The board assured her she could concentrate on Broadwalks and the areas in which she felt comfortable, and Rose was there to assist and complement her skills. Coming from a non-administrative background seemed to work in Ronni's favor, as she was fresh, resourceful and imaginative. She grew into the position immediately, and found the challenges, issues, and daily array of conservation activities suited her.

That was in 2002, and since then Broads has grown in stature, budget, membership, staff, scope, and vision. We present three to five Broadwalks and workshops each year, actively collaborate with nearly 25 partner organizations, sign on to litigation when suitable, and are a recognized player in the wild lands protection arena. Ronni leads fundraising trips, speaks at conferences, lobbies in Washington, oversees a staff of seven, and writes, writes, writes, . . . all with the assistance of Associate Director Rose.



*Cecilia Hunter and Ginny Wood.*

Programs and activities for our members have expanded beyond our traditional Broadwalks. In 2003 and 2004, we rallied at Yellowstone National Park against the use of snowmobiles inside the park. We had our first Broadfloat in 2002, down the Colorado River through Ruby Canyon. In 2003, Ronni led a Broadfloat on the Hulahula River in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Our "Days in the Desert" workshops began in 2002 and became an annual event for the next three years. Working with scientists of the Utah Wild Project, Broads assisted in the development of a riparian area assessment system that enables both activists and land managers to scientifically determine the health of streamside ecosystems. Currently our off-road vehicle monitoring workshops, in conjunction

with Broads Healthy Lands Project (BHLP), are attracting individuals and organizations across the west and making an impact on off-road vehicle awareness and management.

BHLP is undeniably one of the major and most visible accomplishments of these past years. This is an interactive off-road vehicle monitoring program, the brainchild of Diane Tracy. Diane is a computer whiz and avid hiker who was outraged by the off-road vehicle abuse she constantly encountered. Independently she created a data base to record the effects of off-road vehicle abuse that could be put on the web and made available to others. In 2003, she was introduced to Broads, joined the board, and offered to donate her program to us. Diane stayed actively involved in the further development of the program and monitoring workshops until 2004 when BHLP was given the name and took on a life of its own,

attracting the involvement of more computer geniuses and activists.

Another significant accomplishment is the establishment of Broadbands across the country. New Broadbands are forming each year as Broads see the need and fun of such a local group, and become inspired by Broads' national events and other Broadbands.

One might think we have come a long way from the outraged group of women sitting around a kitchen table 20 years ago. But at heart we are still the same gray-haired ladies and men passionate about wilderness, who just like to be out under the stars, skinny-dipping, telling stories, laughing, and caring for the earth and each other.

# WHAT'S BECOME OF THE ...

**1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2006, 2009 - Various locations and Broadwalks/conferences/trainings in Utah:** America's Red Rock Wilderness Act, which seeks to permanently protect more than 9 million acres of wilderness quality land in Utah was re-introduced in the 111th Congress on April 2, 2009 with 105 original cosponsors in the House and 15 original cosponsors in the Senate. The proposal, based on an exhaustive field inventory conducted by citizen volunteers, was first introduced in Congress by former Utah Representative Wayne Owens in 1989. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) assumed the role of House sponsor in 1993 and Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) introduced the Senate version in 1997. With each new Congress (every two years), the bill has been reintroduced with steadily increasing bipartisan support. The 111th Congress represents a real opportunity to gather the support and momentum needed to hold congressional hearings and ultimately pass America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. All lands proposed for wilderness designation in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act are owned by the American public and administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Encourage your Congressional delegation to support Utah wilderness!

**1994 - Grandmother Mountain Broadwalk, ID:** Still managed as a Wilderness Study Area and in need of permanent protection

**1996 - Boulder Whiteclouds, ID Broadwalk:** Still the focus of an ongoing effort that would trade wilderness designations for some motorized use mandates and unacceptable land exchanges for development. The legislation's name, the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Promotion Act (CIEDRA) says a lot

about its true purpose. We continue to advocate for better protection for the Boulder Whiteclouds and have seen some improvements to this legislation over time. We intend to see a better bill pass.

**2000 - Nightingale Mountains, NV Broadwalk:** Was inventoried for wilderness character but has received no protection to date.

**2001 - Otero Mesa, NM Broadwalk:** One of the Bush administration's most controversial energy proposals lost traction in May when a federal appeals court ruled the Bureau of Land Management violated numerous federal environmental laws in its quest to open native grasslands on New Mexico's Otero Mesa to oil and gas development. No permanent protection yet for this amazing landscape.

## WON BIG 'W' PROTECTION

**2002 - Ventana Wilderness, CA Broadwalk:** In late 2002, the Big Sur Wilderness and Conservation Act of 2002 passed, expanding the wilderness for the fifth time, adding nearly 35,000 acres and increasing the total acreage of the wilderness to its present size of 240,026 acres.

## WON BIG 'W' PROTECTION

**2002- Ruby Horsethief - Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness, CO Broadwalk:** Designated in 2000, the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness forms the core of the 123,430 acres McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area.

**2002 - Shawnee National Forest, IL Broadwalk:** Work is underway to protect, for people and for wildlife, the wild heritage of three more

exceptional areas as wilderness in the Shawnee National Forest--Camp Hutchins, Ripple Hollow and Burke Branch.

**2003 - Roan Plateau, CO Broadwalk:** The fight for protection of the Roan Plateau continues. September 2008, the Bureau of Land Management issued leases for the public lands on the Roan Plateau, and dismissed over 15,000 protests filed by concerned parties ranging from local citizens to the State of Colorado. On the same day, a team of sportsmen, recreation and conservation groups filed for an injunction in federal court to prevent full-scale drilling of the Roan Plateau and protect its important natural values as they are today. In October, all parties involved, including the Bureau of Land Management and the oil and gas companies holding the new leases on the Roan, agreed to a ban on surface disturbance on the Roan Plateau until June 2009. This ensures that the concerns expressed in our litigation will be heard and carefully considered before any development will be contemplated. June 2009, the issued leases were purchased by Bill Barrett Corp and the future of the Roan is still in question.

## WON BIG 'W' PROTECTION

**2003 - Vermont Wilderness Broadwalk:** In Sept 2006 Congress passed the bipartisan New England Wilderness Act of 2006 which combined the efforts of Vermont Senators Patrick Leahy (D) and Jim Jeffords (I), and New Hampshire Senators Judd Gregg (R) and John Sununu (R) to pass the Vermont Wilderness Act and the New Hampshire Wilderness Act. The legislation increased the number of wilderness acres in the Green Mountain National Forest to a total of about 107,000 acres.



# ... LANDS WE'VE WALKED

## **2003 - Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Hula Hula River, AK**

**Broadfloat:** The Refuge is still at risk from oil and gas development and in need of permanent wilderness protection. Ask your members of Congress to cosponsor H.R. 39--the Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act--and help launch a new era of Arctic conservation.

## **WON BIG 'W' PROTECTION**

### **2004 - Dominguez Canyon -**

**Gunnison River, CO Broadfloat:** Designated March, 2009 as the Dominguez Canyon Wilderness (66,280 acres) within the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area.

**2004 - Yaak, MT Broadwalk:** As we go to press, Senator Tester has introduced legislation that would designate 30,000 acres of wilderness in the Yaak. Unfortunately, this is really a forest jobs and stewardship bill mandating logging and motorized recreation in some pristine landscapes. Watch for action alerts and let Tester know that wilderness is not something to be traded for development.

## **WON PROTECTION**

### **2005 - Valle Vidal, NM Broadwalk:**

The Valle Vidal Protection Act passed in Dec 2006, making this area permanently off limits to energy development.

## **WON BIG 'W' PROTECTION**

### **2005 - Wild Skykomish, WA**

**Broadwalk:** The Wild Sky Wilderness Act (May 2008), became the first national forest wilderness to be designated in Washington State in 24 years protecting 106,577 acres of low elevation wilderness.



*Broads in the Tumacacori Highlands, AZ, 2006*

### **2005 - North Shore Road, Great Smokey Mountains National Park,**

**NC Broadwalk:** In October 2007, the National Park Service and the Federal Highway Administration released its final environmental impact statement, recommending a financial settlement to Swain County in lieu of building the road, sometimes called the "Road to Nowhere." However, Congress still has not appropriated the money.

### **2006 - Tumacacori Highlands,**

**AZ Broadwalk:** The Tumacacori Highlands Wilderness Act was re-introduced this year by AZ Rep. Raul Grijalva under the 111th Congress and given a new bill number. It must pass the House before going to vote in the Senate and reaching the President's desk. Add your voice of support for its passage.

### **2007 - Dona Ana Broadwalk - Las**

**Cruces, NM:** The Dona Ana County, NM Citizens' Wilderness and National Conservation Area Proposal would formally designate as Wilderness certain areas including Broad Canyon, the East Potrillo Mountains, and the eight Wilderness Study Areas recommended by the BLM; and create a National Conservation Area for the unique east mountain range that

would permanently protect the Organ Mountains, the Doña Ana Mountains, and Tortugas "A" Mountain. New Mexico Senators Jeff Bingaman and Tom Udall, and Congressman Harry Teague need to hear from us in support of this proposal. This vision can become a reality.

### **2007 - Scotchman Peaks near Clark Fork, ID Broadwalk:**

The 88,000 acre Scotchman Peaks roadless area spans the Idaho-Montana border about 60 miles south of Canada and has been managed by the U.S. Forest Service as having wilderness potential since the 1970s. The Friends of Scotchman Peaks Wilderness believe now is the time to preserve the Scotchmans, one of the last, and largest, wild areas in the region.

### **2008 - Gold Butte, NV Broadwalk:**

Efforts to protect the 350,000 acre landscape are moving forward as the Gold Butte National Conservation Area and Wilderness Designation Act. Gold Butte's new Congresswoman, Dina Titus, has been asked to re-introduce and champion this legislation. Let her know we want this area protected.

## **WON BIG 'W' PROTECTION**

### **2008 - Spring Basin, OR Broadwalk:**

Created by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, and signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 30, 2009, Spring Basin Wilderness is a 6,382-acre wilderness area located near the town of Clarno, OR.

### **2009 - Hidden Gems near**

**Carbondale, CO Broadwalk:** This wilderness proposal is gaining momentum and will protect a number of low elevation pockets of wildness important for habitat connectivity. More in the fall Broadsides.



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