



WILDERNESS: WELLSPRING OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

THE 45TH ANNUAL GATHERING OF THE
MONTANA WILDERNESS ASSOCIATION
BEST WESTERN GRANTREE INN, BOZEMAN, MONTANA

DECEMBER 5-6, 2003



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

11:30 AM	Registration Begins	
1:00 PM	Call to Convention	Steven Kirchoff , Mayor of Bozeman; Dr. Richard Young , President, Madison Gallatin Chapter
1:15 PM	The State of Wilderness Protection in Montana	The Montana Wilderness Association educates the public and works in Montana communities to protect wilderness and traditional recreation opportunities for everyone. Gerry Jennings , President, Montana Wilderness Association
1:30 PM	From the Mountains to Main Street	Wilderness improves quality of life and helps build strong Montana communities. Dr. Andrew Hansen , Professor of Ecology, Montana State University; Michael Liebelson , President, Zolaris Biosciences; Steve Zabel , owner, Montana Trails Gallery. Moderator, Betsy Buffington , The Wilderness Society.
2:30 PM	Bob Brown, Secretary of State (Invited)	Bob Brown is on the State Land Board, which determines policy for state lands, and is a Republican candidate for governor. What are his goals for public land management in Montana?
3:15 PM	Meeting on the Trail	Many forests, including the Gallatin, are deciding now where motorized use will be allowed for the next 15 years. What do different communities of trail users value about roadless lands and how do they conflict and cooperate? Jenny McCune , member, Gallatin Valley Bike Club and MWA; Anne Banks , board member, Madison Gallatin Chapter, and BWAG; a Gallatin outfitter and hunter. Moderator, Eva Patten .
4:15 PM	In Their Own Words	Scott Bischke presents his multimedia project, "Conversations with Pioneers of the Montana Wilderness Movement," featuring the recorded words of six early wilderness champions: Ken and Florence Baldwin , Agonia Lauckner , Clif Merritt , Doris Milner and Dr. John Montagne . Their words are powerful, poignant, wise, and fun. Mr. Bischke accompanies the presentation with spectacular slides of Montana's wild country.
5:00 PM	Dinner	Sample one of Bozeman's restaurants with old and new friends.
7:30 PM	Gary Ferguson - Children of the Landscape: How the Rocky Mountains Shaped the American Imagination	Award-winning wildlands author Gary Ferguson has written for numerous national magazines and has published many books, including <i>Shouting at the Sky</i> and <i>The Yellowstone Wolves</i> . His latest, <i>Hawks Rest: A Season in the Remote Heart of Yellowstone</i> , was described by the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> as "mournful and defiant as a wolf howl . . . an eloquent tribute to a threatened place and its lone protectors." Introduced by Douglas Smith , Yellowstone Wolf Project Leader.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:30 AM	Achieving Wilderness	Learn about this year's work for Montana Wilderness at the annual membership meeting. Bob Decker , Executive Director, Montana Wilderness Association
9:15 AM	The Rocky Mountain Front: Premier Landscape, Profound Threats	No place in Montana deserves Wilderness protection more than the Rocky Mountain Front. But the Forest Service and BLM are trying to open the Front to the damage of gas drilling and motorized use. Together, we can protect the Front for future generations. Rick Graetz , Montana author; Randall Gray , Mayor of Great Falls; Dr. Barrie Gilbert , Senior Scientist (ret.), Utah State University; Paul Edwards , Coalition for the Protection of the Rocky Mountain Front.
10:30 AM	Brian Schweitzer	Brian Schweitzer is a Democratic candidate for governor. What are his goals for public land management in Montana?
11:00 AM	Community Solutions for the Forest	Can traditional opponents find common ground to protect Montana's roadless lands as Wilderness and provide timber for local mills? Gordy Sanders , Pyramid Mountain Lumber; Julia Altemus , Montana Wood Products Association. Introduced by John Gatchell , Conservation Director, Montana Wilderness Association.
11:45 AM	Lunch	Meet like-minded people and get a good seat for the Soap Box. Register for lunch below.
12:30 PM	Soap Box	Fifteen wilderness advocates get two minutes each on the Soap Box.
1:00 PM	Dr. Michael Dombeck - Wildlands Conservation Challenges for a New Century	As U.S. Forest Service Chief, Dr. Michael Dombeck guided the nation through the development and adoption of the Roadless Rule, which received more public input than any rule-making process in U.S. history. He is one of the most renowned and respected contemporary conservationists, and currently serves as the Global Environmental Management Pioneer Professor at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.
2:00 PM	From Main Street to the Mountains: The Political Path	What can you do in your community to help protect Montana's pristine public lands as Wilderness? Dan Funsch , Director, Center for Environmental Politics; Drusha Mayhue , volunteer member, Gallatin County Weed Board; Steven Kirchoff , Mayor of Bozeman. Moderator, Donald Mazzola .
3:15 PM	People Need Wilderness, Wilderness Needs...	Leaders . Montana conservationists work locally and successfully to protect Montana's best landscapes. We'll honor the people and organizations that led conservation efforts over the past year, celebrate successes, and present the Founders Award to a long-serving champion of Montana wilderness.
4:00 PM	Peter Metcalf - Taking a Stand: Business for Wilderness Protection	Peter Metcalf is President of Black Diamond Equipment, an avid mountaineer, and a committed wilderness activist. Using the economic power of the Outdoor Industry Association, he has put political pressure on Utah Governor Mike Leavitt to recognize the importance of wilderness and outdoor recreation to Utah and reverse his anti-wilderness policies.
5:00 PM	Happy Hour	Mingle with convention speakers and friends and get ready for the Live Auction.
6:00 PM	Live Auction	Jim Jensen , auctioneer
7:30 PM	Banquet	Relax, toast old friends, meet new activists, and take a trip in time to 1879 with The Buffalo Hunter .

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00 AM	State Council Meeting - All Members Welcome	Learn more about the Montana Wilderness Association by meeting with the people that lead the organization.
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