



ADVOCATE

Summer 2017

BI-Annual President's Letter

A lot happened around the world in 1997. Bill Clinton began his second term as President of the United States. Steve Jobs returned to Apple Computers as CEO. Tiger Woods at 21 years of age became the youngest golfer to ever win the Masters. Princess Diana died in a car crash in Paris. Mother Teresa died in Calcutta. The British lease on Hong Kong came to an end and Hong Kong was returned to China. Woolworth's closed its remaining discount stores after more than 100 years in business. The Pathfinder spacecraft landed on Mars. In Idaho, the Sawtooth Society was established with the mission to protect, preserve, and enhance the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (NRA).

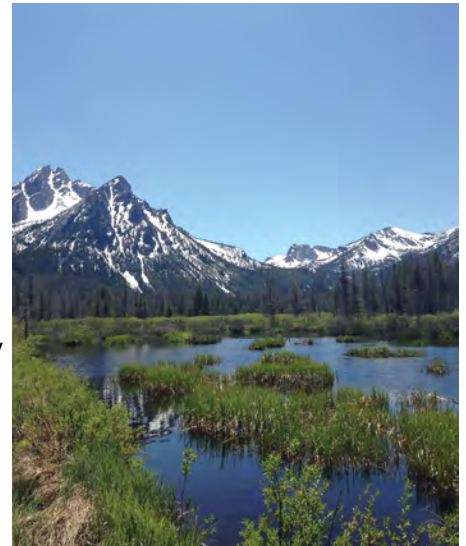
While not a world changing event, the establishment of the Sawtooth Society was certainly a pivotal milestone in the life of the Sawtooth NRA. In the ensuing 20-years since its establishment, the Sawtooth Society has grown stronger and more effective in its never-ending quest to make the Sawtooth NRA a much better place to visit, recreate, and live. What began as the dream of a few has grown into a groundswell of support for improving this special area. We can all name epic events that have occurred around the world and within the United States in the last 20-years – many of which have been tragic. Isn't it wonderful after all of this time to still have a place like the Sawtooth NRA where we can relax our bodies, renew our minds, and refresh our spirits!

The traditional gift for a 20th wedding anniversary is china. Like fine china, the Sawtooth NRA is special, fragile, and beautiful to behold. Also like fine china, the Sawtooth NRA is meant to be carefully used and enjoyed. Much like the need to dust and wash china, the Sawtooth NRA requires ongoing care year after year. The Sawtooth NRA environment is far from static. We have experienced numerous forest fires within the Sawtooth NRA. These fires, in conjunction with the massive beetle kill, result in downed trees across the trails that must be removed at least every spring. The winter of 2017, a 'hundred-year event' with record breaking snowfall levels, continues to take its toll on the Sawtooth NRA with snowmelt run-off eroding the roads and trails and continued flooding in and around the creeks and the rivers. The solar eclipse that will occur in August is expected to result in an overabundance of visitors to the area who will impact the lands and trails well beyond the 'normal' wear and tear seen year after year. All of this is set against a back drop of less funding for what has historically been the core work of the Forest Service.

It takes continued dedication and hard work by the Sawtooth Society and our partners to keep the Sawtooth NRA as a special place. One of the Sawtooth Society's goals is the continued growth of our volunteer efforts. This year the Sawtooth Society is on track to perform over 2,000 volunteer work hours and will field 200+ volunteers on the ground to directly demonstrate the Sawtooth Society's commitment to its mission. These volunteers will clear trail, restore riparian areas, and perform other important tasks in a work plan developed in conjunction with the Forest Service. Many of these volunteer hours involve youth as the Sawtooth Society works to develop a love for nature and the outdoors in the next generation and to pass on our love for this special place while hoping to instill a desire to carry on our commitment to the Sawtooth NRA well into the future.

To our many donors and volunteers, we say HAPPY 20th ANNIVERSARY and a heartfelt THANKYOU for all of your support and for making the last 20-years great ones. Please join me as we look forward to the next 20-years and beyond! I believe that the Sawtooth Society's mission to protect, preserve, and enhance the Sawtooth Recreation Area will become even more important in the next 20-years than it was in the past. Thank you for your continued support as we work to continue to increase the Sawtooth Society's positive impact on the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. We hope to see you on the trail!

Wayne Hughes
President, Sawtooth Society



Stewardship Project Update



Sponsored by the Sawtooth Society

As many of you know, the past winter delivered more snow to the Sawtooth NRA than any year in living memory. Not only did the snow pack exceed previous records, but the timing and conditions of the storms resulted in severe loads to the forest. The trails are in rough shape due to numerous downed trees, avalanche debris and erosion problems. For instance, one of the Society's assigned trails, Alpine Way between Redfish Lake and Stanley Lake, has hundreds of downed trees over its 20-mile length.

The Society and its volunteer partners have thus far made a good dent on this necessary trail work. In collaboration with the College of Idaho Outdoor Recreation Program, the Limelight Hotel Employees, the Idaho Trails Association Crew Leader College, and Boise Young Professionals, through June 30, 2017 we have completed over 28 miles of trail clearing and water bar maintenance (52% of our season goal of 52 miles), with 860 volunteered actual work hours (not counting lunches and breaks!), with 75 unique individuals devoting anywhere from a day to four days of work per person. The commitment of our volunteers is incredibly inspiring! We have cleared and/or constructed:

- First three miles of Hell Roaring Trail (until we hit solid snow) • Fishhook Creek from the Redfish trailhead past the Wilderness Boundary
- Iron Creek road, campground and trail to the Alpine Way Fork • First three miles of Alpine

Way from Redfish trailhead • Seven miles of the Fisher Williams loop • Tin Cup hiker's and stock trailheads to end of Pettit Lake • Pettit Lake to Yellowbelly Lake connector • 300 feet of log-worm fence at Elk Creek Campground • Ninety volunteer hours of dispersed campsite cleanup around Decker Flats

The significant work needed on the Alpine Way has commenced, and will be completed with the help of youth groups on six different 3-night backpacking trips.

In addition, during our Crew Leader College, held jointly with the Idaho Trails Association (ITA) the weekend of June 16-18, six Society affiliates and partner leaders earned their USFS Crosscut Sawyer certifications (and an additional five ITA new sawyers). This collaboration with ITA results from models elsewhere in the US, where partner groups are collaborating to improve skills and build volunteer capacity. In particular, the Southern Appalachia Wilderness Stewards ("SAWS") program is a great example of numerous USFS partners cooperating in traditional tools training, "Educating, cultivating, and empowering an engaged public for the stewardship of protected public lands". We look forward to expanding our engagement with ITA and other stewardship organizations to replicate the success of SAWS in Idaho and the Sawtooth NRA.

On our way home from trail work on June 18, we

were fortunate to meet and chat with legendary hiker and Idaho hiking guide author, Margaret Fuller along the Pettit Lake trail! Margaret was delightful as we lined up on a narrow portion of trail to have our photos taken with her. Stewardship Coordinator Greg Travelstead was particularly excited having used Margaret's guide to the Sawtooths and White Clouds on his first backpacking trip in Idaho in 1980. The 6th edition to this guide will available this July.

Society member Debra Shiraishi-Pratt deserves special mention for her efforts in June. After completing the three-day Crew Leader College, Debra went on to join two additional trail days the following week. Not only is she devoting significant time to the effort, but she works as hard or harder than anyone else on the crews. We are grateful for her initiative and leadership. She and her husband Dick split their time between Oahu, Hawaii and their cabin at Iron Creek.

Our tools are sharp, our upcoming schedule is robust, and your help is REALLY needed! Please join us for a trail maintenance day July 12, where we'll take the boat shuttle across Redfish Lake to work on the Redfish Canyon trails, or for a trail maintenance backpacking trip up Big Boulder Creek to the Boulder Chain Lakes in the White Cloud Wilderness August 14-17.

Give Greg Travelstead a call at 208-721-7665 to explore these and other opportunities.



Newly certified crosscut sawyers Pamela DeMetro (L) and Debra Shiraishi-Pratt (R) tackling a complex situation on steep hillside along the Tin Cup trail during Crew Leader College



Crew Leader College – Field proficiency day for the next generation of trail crews



Stewardship Coordinator, Greg Travelstead and Margaret Fuller share their love of the Sawtooth NRA along the Pettit Lake Trail

Congratulations to Rob Hart of Boise who correctly guessed our last Mystery Photo – Packrat Lake viewed from Reward Peak.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE SAWTOOTH NRA?

MYSTERY PHOTO CONTEST >

Guess this location and be the first to call Gary at 208.721.2909 to win a nifty prize and get credit in the next newsletter!



Sagebrush Soiree

JULY 29, 2017 · 6PM

SAWTOOTH SOCIETY'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
- COCKTAILS & DINNER, BLUEGRASS MUSIC, SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS -

TICKETS: 208-712-2909 · GARY@SAWTOOTHSCOCIETY.ORG
SAWTOOTHSCOCIETY.ORG



THE SAGEBRUSH SOIREE IS COMING – DON'T MISS IT!

The Society will host its annual gala dinner and fundraiser on Saturday, July 29th, at Tera and Ken Verheyen's Home with its panoramic views high above the Salmon River. As an attendee at last year's event so aptly stated, "The Soiree puts the "fun" in fundraiser and I would not miss it for the world".

Attendees will indeed experience a fun and high energy event, and will also enjoy an elegant gourmet dinner, along with incredible views of the Salmon River, the Sawtooth and White Cloud Mountains. Plus, it is an opportunity to make new friends and acquaint with former colleagues and neighbors. Invite



Gather up your friends and come to the Sagebrush Soiree on July 29

someone to their first Soiree to learn about the Society's efforts in protecting, preserving and enhancing the Sawtooth NRA and take in the grandeur it has to offer!

This year we have a wide variety of over 80 unique gifts to be auctioned, in both a

A sampling of the auction items includes:

- Historic, fully-restored and operational fire truck given to the City of Stanley by Stan Harrah
- "Front Curl", a live acrylic painting by this year's featured artist, Ed Anderson
- A 21-day adventure to Nepal
- Kevin Costner's saddle from the film "Dances with Wolves"
- "Sawtooth Sentinel", a museum quality bronze mountain goat sculpture by David LaMure
- Custom Pet Portrait by local vet Dr. Randy Ackers and Fisher Creek-based portrait artist Donna-Marie Hayes
- Unique dinners by fine chefs in Boise, Stanley and the Wood River Valley
- Get-aways at Redfish Lake Lodge, Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch and the Limelight Hotel
- Rafting on the Bruneau and Middle Fork Rivers
- A handcrafted Italian Bottega Veneta leather handbag

- Varied and highly unique recreational opportunities
- A large custom bronze bell by Rocky Mountain Hardware
- Custom Oil Portraiture by Amy Clegg and many more stunning photographs and paintings by regional artists, including "The Bat Dog" by Adam West, aka Batman
- An opportunity to be named as a female character in Pat Lee's upcoming book
- An unlimited adult ski pass at Sun Valley
- Notorious American outlaw Belle Starr's boots
- Fine wines, including a one-of-a-kind oversize bottling with Linda Lawler's oil painting on the label
- A high-end bourbon tasting complete with a Pappy Van Winkle 20-year barrel head, and
- A custom mountain-themed Maravia raft commemorating the Society's 20th anniversary!

The date is quickly approaching and space is limited, please call 208.721.2909 now to get your tickets.

If you cannot attend, but would like to receive the final gift list to place an absentee bid please let us know. Attend the Soiree and help us celebrate 20 great years protecting, preserving and enhancing the Sawtooth NRA!



Don't miss your chance to secure one of the wonderful auction items!

Terry Clark & Ann Hill Receive Bethine Church Awards

On Thursday, June 22, the Society presented the Bethine Church Awards, which recognizes individuals, who give significant contributions to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

Bethine Church, the Society's founding President passed away in December of 2013. She played a major role in helping to make the Sawtooth NRA what it is today, and it was a role she took very seriously well into her later years. It is very important and appropriate to be able to connect her legacy with others who have also given much to benefit this area and each one of us.



Executive Director Gary O'Malley (L) and President Wayne Hughes (R) congratulate Bethine Church Award winners Terry Clark and Ann Hill

This year, the Sawtooth Society honored Terry Clark for his public and private sector contributions and Ann Hill for her private sector work. The awards were presented at a reception along the banks of the Salmon River at Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch's new pavilion. In attendance were past Bethine Church Award recipients as well as members of the Stanley community, Sawtooth Society board members, members and numerous supporters, many of whom shared their heartfelt comments on how both Terry and Ann had benefitted both them personally and the Sawtooth NRA.

"The Sawtooth Society is proud to sponsor these awards and view them as a key part of our work each year," said Executive Director Gary O'Malley. "What better way is there for us to support our mission to preserve, protect and enhance the Sawtooth NRA than to

acknowledge and express our gratitude to those who have worked tirelessly to do the same and to make it the special place that it is." The award, given by the Society on a periodic basis, acknowledges individuals on what and how they accomplish services for the Sawtooth NRA through volunteerism, stewardship, on-the-ground efforts and an overall long-term commitment to the Sawtooth NRA, which is all a basis of criteria for award recognition.

"The Sawtooth Society is honored to acknowledge Terry Clark and Ann Hill who have given so much to the area," said Executive Director Gary O'Malley. "It's a joy to honor these individuals who allow us to benefit from and enjoy the Sawtooth NRA. To give these awards to Terry and Ann is a special opportunity for the Sawtooth Society and another great way to support our mission to preserve, protect and enhance the Sawtooth NRA."

Ann Hill has lived in the area for more than 20-years and received the private sector Bethine Church Award for her incredible dedication to the community and as a steward for the Sawtooth NRA, including work on a variety of policy issues to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all who visit and live in the Sawtooth NRA. A few of her many and often "behind the scenes" accomplishments were noted, including the creation of the Stanley School Hot Lunch Program, the Sawtooth NRA trail safety card and the Smokey Bear Fire brochure.

Terry Clark has served in the Forest Service in six different states for more than 30 years with almost half of that in the Sawtooth NRA. Following his career at the Forest Service he served as the Executive Director for the Sawtooth Interpretive and Historical Association and continues on its Board. It was noted that throughout his career he worked with a common sense approach to find answers to the challenges facing public land management, always with a positive attitude and striving for the protection and preservation of the Sawtooth NRA as his primary goal.

"Ann Hill and Terry Clark epitomize the mission of the Sawtooth Society and perfectly embody what this award is all about," said Sawtooth Society President Wayne Hughes. "We owe them many thanks and gratitude for their tireless service and dedication to the area."

On behalf of all those who love the Sawtooth NRA, thank you Terry and Ann for all you have done and continue to do!

Sawtooth Society Grants Make a Difference!



Drive around Central Idaho and you may notice what seems to be a growing affinity for mountain goats. License plates with a goat are more and more prevalent throughout the area. It turns out the affinity is not necessarily for goats but for the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

Purchasing a Goat license plate gives money directly to the betterment of the Sawtooth NRA and the Sawtooth Society is responsible

for investing the proceeds. Four times per year, the Society's Grants Team reviews grant requests and allocates money to recreation-based projects throughout the area.

Now in our twentieth year, we are nearing 200 grants to enhance the experiences of all those who visit the Sawtooth NRA. As the map depicts, we have invested throughout the Sawtooth NRA in a myriad of ways. Thank you for selecting a goat plate and making this all possible!



FUNDED PROJECTS

1997 - JUNE 2017



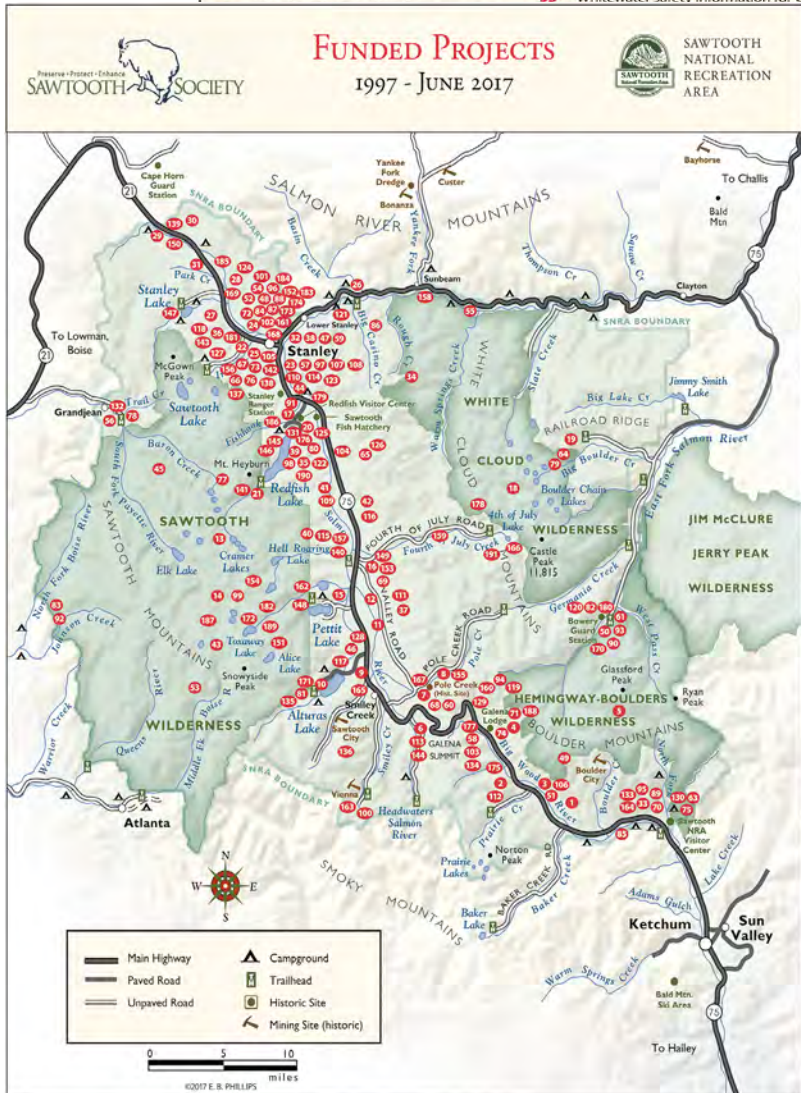
SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

- 1 Wood River Winter Recreation Coalition use plan
- 2 Maintenance of Harriman Trail
- 46 Nordic ski trail grooming
- 47 Stanley Police emergency medical equipment

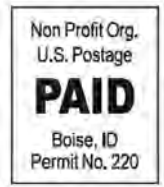
Visit www.sawtoothsociety.org to apply for a Goat License Plate grant and to view a full list of past projects!

- 8 Interpretive signs at Pole Creek Guard Station
- 9 Litter pickup on Highway 75
- 54 Equipment for Stanley Emergency Medical Technicians
- 55 Whitewater safety information for Custer commemoration

- 91 Ed-Venture Educational Program
- 92 Graham Area trails
- 93 Bowers Guard Station and Big Lake Creek fences
- 94 Winter Recreational Ranger
- 95 Support for Wildlands Education AmeriCorps
- 96 Sawtooth Forum and Lecture Series (SIHA)
- 97 Visitor signs for Stanley
- 98 Point Beach interpretive signs
- 99 Trail Pack and Saddle Stock
- 100 West Fork Big Smoky Trail Reconstruction
- 101 Snowmobile Grooming Program
- 102 Stanley Museum Interpretive Plan
- 103 Avalanche Center Advisory Report
- 104 Smokey the Bear fire brochure
- 105 Historic Walking Tour of Stanley
- 106 Mountain Goat interpretive signs
- 107 Salmon River Clinic emergency equipment
- 108 Salmon River Clinic electrocardiogram
- 109 Sawtooth Valley Rural Fire Dept. radios
- 110 Stanley Chamber Interpretive Center
- 111 Champion Creek corral and fence
- 112 Prairie Creek trail maintenance
- 113 Bethine and Frank Church Overlook Construction
- 114 Sawtooth Forum and Lecture Series
- 115 Landmark volunteers recreation and trail projects
- 116 Sawtooth Search and Rescue VHF radio
- 117 Alturas Lake viewing platform
- 118 Sawtooth Winter Recreation Map
- 119 Sawtooth Avalanche Center
- 120 Bowers Guard Station volunteer support
- 121 Little Casino Creek trail work
- 122 Wildlands Education AmeriCorps
- 123 Winter Recreational Ranger
- 124 National Smokejumper's Assoc. volunteer support
- 125 Redfish Visitor Center AmeriCorps member
- 126 Sawtooth general trail work
- 127 Trailhead information boards
- 128 Alturas Ski Trail signs
- 129 Galena ham radio repeater patch
- 130 Snowshoe Adventure Program
- 131 Redfish Lake Visitor Center
- 132 Grandjean Hot Springs trail work
- 133 Adventure Learning Packs
- 134 Avalanche Center Advisory
- 135 Idaho Trails Association Trail Stewardship
- 136 Wolverine and Recreationalist Study
- 137 Winter Ranger
- 138 Ice House Interpretive Project
- 139 Scenic By-Way Signs
- 140 Trailhead Signage
- 141 Wilderness Invasive Weed Treatment
- 142 Pioneer Park Playground Project
- 143 National Smokejumper volunteer projects
- 144 Avalanche Center Advisory
- 145 SIHA audio/visual equipment for Redfish Visitor Center
- 146 Redfish Lake Visitor Center
- 147 Stanley Lake Trail reconstruction
- 148 Trail maintenance
- 149 National Smokejumper's volunteer projects
- 150 Directional sign replacement
- 151 Idaho Trails Assoc. for trail maintenance
- 152 SIHA historical museum improvements
- 153 Noxious weed sprayer
- 154 Trail maintenance
- 155 Restoration of Pole Creek riparian areas
- 156 Shaw Cabin restoration
- 157 Wilderness Weed Management
- 158 National Smokejumper Volunteer Project
- 159 Sawtooth NRA Trail Maintenance
- 160 Avalanche Center Advisory
- 161 Stanley Museum Repair (SIHA)
- 162 Wilderness Trails Stewardship (ITA)
- 163 Headwaters-Mule Creek Trail Reconstruction
- 164 Vault Toilet Vent Pipe Screens
- 165 Sawtooth City Emergency Equipment
- 166 Sawtooth Search and Rescue Trail Safety Cards
- 167 Pole Creek trailhead signage
- 168 Stanley Ambulance training equipment
- 169 Streamside Public Access Signage
- 170 NSA Retired Smokejumper project
- 171 Sawtooth Ski Club compaction drag for trails
- 172 ITA Sawtooth Wilderness trails
- 173 SIHA toolshed and interpretive displays
- 174 SIHA wiring and plumbing repairs
- 175 Directional sign replacements
- 176 SIHA Redfish VC deferred maintenance
- 177 Sawtooth Avalanche Center's avalanche advisory
- 178 Trail maintenance
- 179 NSA retired smokejumper fencing project
- 180 NSA retired smokejumper Bowers project
- 181 Stanley Snowmobile Club's bridge project
- 182 Idaho Trail Association's Toxaway Lake trail work
- 183 SIHA infrastructure and recreation information project
- 184 Stanley Chamber of Commerce Winter Recreation Guide
- 185 Invasive Weed Treatment Project
- 186 SIHA interpretive display at the Redfish Lake
- 187 Trail maintenance
- 188 Sawtooth Avalanche Center's avalanche advisory
- 189 ITA Toxaway Lake project
- 190 NSA retired smokejumper Redfish Lake projects
- 191 NSA retired smokejumper Bowers trailhead repair/signage



- 42 Volunteer Coordinator
- 43 Mounted Wilderness/Backcountry Ranger
- 44 Information kiosks
- 45 All-weather Wilderness maps
- 42 groomer
- 88 Repair and restore Ice House
- 89 Sawtooth NRA Avalanche Center recreation reports
- 90 Bowers Guard Station volunteer support



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BECOME INVOLVED IN A STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

Get some exercise. Give back to the SNRA. Learn more about joining or sponsoring a Stewardship or Volunteer Project by contacting greg@sawtoothsociety.org or calling him at 208.721.7665.

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Stay up-to-date on the Sawtooth Society. Like our Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SawtoothSociety>



CHECK YOUR PLATES!

If it isn't a goat, it isn't giving to fund the important ongoing work of the Sawtooth Society. When you "Get a Goat", you "Give a Gift"!