



## Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Twenty Years of Ageless Advocacy

VOLUME 19 NO 1  
SPRING 2009

WE'RE  
CELEBRATING  
20 YEARS OF  
WILDERNESS  
ADVOCACY!

(SEE PAGE 3)

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS

# BROADSIDES

## INAUGURAL BOOT CAMP ENERGIZES BROADBANDS

By RONNI EGAN

The room vibrated with Broad energy as a bevy of Great Old Broads gathered to learn the

ropes of grass-roots organizing around wild lands protection. The occasion was the very first (inaugural, if you will) Broadband Leaders' Boot Camp, at The Hotel Blue in Albuquerque, New Mexico, January 24-27.

*Broadbands*, Broads' version of chapters, are organized and active due to the efforts of volunteer leaders and our members. Leader trainees came from California, Connecticut, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Florida, Michigan and the southwestern states. Lynn Prebble and Karen Cox, who already have Broadbands up and running shared their successes, while most others came to learn how to start a new Broadband in their locale.

The Boot Camp was the brain-child of Associate Director Rose Chilcoat, ably assisted by Membership Assistant Joyce Thomsen, and made possible by a generous grant from Ben & Jerry's Foundation. It was a *dream-come-true* for all Broads. Since our beginning in 1989, we've dreamed of having local "chapters" all across the country

— bands of Broads using their considerable energy and talents to protect wilderness and roadless lands everywhere. It



is serendipitous that this event happened in such a momentous time in American history, since one of the touchstones of the Obama administration is *citizen involvement in public affairs*, which is one of Broads' strongest points.

The first evening kicked off with a get-acquainted session in which everyone was asked to relate the memory of her first experience in a wild place. It was remarkable how many spoke of open spaces near their homes, where they were allowed, even as small children, to roam freely for hours every day, in all kinds of weather, exploring and testing their own skills.

One of the key issues at the forefront of our thoughts and discussions was the sad image of generations of children glued

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When I first came on board as Great Old Broads' executive director in the fall of 2002, I'd been primarily an "armchair" environmentalist, having logged plenty of volunteer hours, but with no hands-on policy or advocacy experience. I sure had a lot to learn, and fast! It was just about then that the Bush administration



# IN A BROAD SENSE

*Mama Bear is Ready to Mop Up 8 Years of Detritus*

have been kept on our toes responding to one challenge after another, trying to prevent bad things from happening but not making much forward progress, other than adding our voices in support of the few wilderness bills that actually got passed. In 2003, I wrote in "Broad Sense" that I felt as if I had a mother bear in my basement who was waking up to the assaults on her cubs, and was emerging to go forth into battle to defend them. Well, that mama bruin is fully out of her den now, and she's tied on her apron, rolled up her furry sleeves, and is ready to get to work cleaning up the mess that's accumulated for the past eight years. She's ready to build (do bears build?) a brighter future for her family and all of the other creatures that walk, fly or swim in her world.

There is much to be done on our public lands, with agency budgets being slashed at every turn. The idea of a WPA-like approach to getting people to work on public projects seems to be having a renaissance. Our Broads Healthy Lands Project, which blends volunteer energy with cutting-edge technology to help improve management of motorized recreation on public lands, fits perfectly into this effort. We are poised to help

fill the void in monitoring impacts on the land and provide land managers with current information that they lack the manpower to gather. Our new Broadbands will be initiating activities in their own locales that will support the Broads vision of healthy, protected wild lands. I'm excited about our new president and his administration, and for the first time in my "professional" enviro-career it looks like it may just be possible to affect some positive changes.

While it is certainly true that the ship of state turns slowly, and that we will have to keep a close watch on the newly appointed Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, I am so excited to think that accountability, transparency and sound science may find their way back into public lands management. Even more exciting is the return of public involvement in both

decision making and implementation of policy on public lands. President Obama's emphasis on public service, by and for the public, seems to me to be one of the best strategies for getting what needs to be done, done! This is, of course, where Great Old Broads for Wilderness really shines, and the timing is perfect for our new (and reinvigorated) Broadbands around the country to put their considerable energies and abilities to work, helping to protect, or restore, our treasured wild and roadless places. Their projects will be as diverse as their geographic locations, but the sense of purpose, passion and, of course, fun, will be part of every Broadband agenda. If you've been looking for a way to be more involved in our mission, chances are good that there is now a Broadband somewhere in your vicinity. Our Boot Camp in January (see article on pg. 1) has trained a score of dedicated leaders who are ready to jump in and tackle a local land-use issue using *(continued on page 6)*



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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 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.*



# A Broad Farewell to Founder EDITH PIERPONT 1922-2008

BY SUSAN TIXIER

Edie edited professionally and volunteered her professional services to edit newsletters for the several nonprofit organizations with which she was associated. And do I know that she did it very well! Edith checked much of what I wrote over the years we worked together at the New Mexico Environmental Law Center and the Great Old Broads for Wilderness. She was not kind or forgiving. But she was always correct.

Thus, I am almost unable to put words on paper honoring Edith Pierpont, imagining her unsmiling criticism of slang, overstatement, or colloquialisms, her corrections of misuse of syntax or language. Too vivid in my mind is the day perhaps two decades ago that she and I stood on Guadalupe Street in Santa Fe having a heated, rather unladylike and loud discussion about “spin.” I argued that it was what we at the Great Old Broads for Wilderness ought to be using in some particular instance. She, of course, was determined that “spin” was a horror of the modern age bearing untruth and misinformation to readers, infecting journalism to the detriment of our society. She won—as usual.

So, Edith, please forgive me. I will speak what I know to be true. You would argue that it is too much, that there are bigger and better issues to be published in *Broadsides*. I will try to be brief and graceful, and just a bit sentimental, perhaps.

Edith Pierpont died at her home in Santa Fe on December 24, 2008, after a year-long struggle with a failing heart. She was cogent when I had visited with her just days before her death. We discussed politics, as was typical. The upcoming

legislature, the shortfall in state revenues, and the consequence to the environmental issues in the state were always and still of concern for her. I suggested that, when she recovered from this bout of bronchitis, I would take her to the “Roundhouse,” to the state capitol building, to visit the Governor. She said she did not believe she would recover.

I had interviewed Edie years ago to write an essay about “Broadness,” about what it is that makes up a Broad, as in Great Old Broad for Wilderness. We talked about her childhood in Massachusetts, her family growing up, her Ivy League education and marriage to John Pierpont. I continued to seek that “special moment” when she “became” a Broad. That there was no epiphany, no specific time in her life that pointed her in the direction of dedication to environmental awareness and concern, made me wonder about what, indeed, was “Broadness.” I expected, wanted, to hear that there had been an incident in a woods or by a stream that opened her eyes.

What I learned, however, is that Broadness, as it was manifest in Edith and, I believe, in each of us Broads, came from deep within from the cumulative effect of daily exposure to the out of doors, that it, Broadness, was as much a part of every bit of Edith’s Being that writing about it, in terms of her life, meant writing about her entire life. Broadness could not be assumed, if Edith is the model, as a mantel or mask; it could only Be. To the time of her death, she was a Great Old Broad; she was a Broad for all of her life.

She did more than simply know the kinds of birds there were outside her windows;  
*(continued on page 14)*

## 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 SITES 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.

JOIN US IN UTAH AT THE  
ESCALANTE BROADWALK,  
OCTOBER 1-5 TO CELEBRATE  
OUR PAST AND BUILD THAT  
BROADFORCE THAT WILL  
TAKE US THROUGH 2029.  
(SEE PAGE 11 FOR DETAILS)



## Suzanne Strazza Moves On to Bigger Things

*After serving as Broads’ Development Director for a little less than two years, Suzanne Strazza stepped away last fall to pursue other opportunities. Thank you, Suzanne for carrying Broads through a difficult transition period. We wish you all the best and we hope to see you soon and often on the trail or on the river!*

## Rock Creek Mine Litigation

In December 2008, the Montana Supreme Court ruled on a law suit filed by Earthjustice, on behalf of the Rock Creek Alliance, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, and nine other groups charging that the state and federal land agencies were wrong to allow the Revett Silver Company to continue with its plans to open the Rock Creek Mine. This mine was to be located in the Cabinet Mountains of northwestern Montana adjacent to the Cabinet Mountain Wilderness. The ruling requires the state of Montana to look at the social, fiscal, and environmental impacts of the mine by completing a non-degradation

© Douglas Day Photography



## Utah December Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Southern Utah has long been a priority for Broads and has been the focus of many Broadwalks and events over the years. Members and staff spend many days/weeks each year hiking through red rock territory and floating through canyons of the Colorado, Green, and San Juan Rivers. Our love of this wild land runs deep so when the Bush administration put hundreds of thousands of acres of Utah wild lands on the auction block, offering them for sale to oil and gas drillers late last year, we took exception. Many of the parcels should not have been offered for sale due to their close proximity to National Parks. Other parcels offered for sale threatened to destroy ancient cultural sites, to mar world class scenery on popular river runs, and threatened the

January U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina issued a temporary restraining order to indefinitely block 77 protested oil and gas leases on more than 103,000 acres in Desolation Canyon, Nine Mile Canyon, and near Dinosaur National Monument and Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. The judge concluded that the BLM failed to properly consider potential damage to air quality and ancient rock art before selling oil and gas leases on sensitive public lands in Utah.

On February 4, Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar withdrew the 77 parcels, scoring a victory for conservation. The lease sale was characterized as a last-minute Bush administration gift to industry, and was objected to by members of the Obama transition team, off-roaders, mountain bikers, Indian tribes, hunters and anglers, rock art aficionados and

# Broads' Beat

Updates on issues that have seen Broad action



analysis. The analysis would include an examination of the economic and environmental consequences to Idaho and Lake Pend Oreille from the mine's perpetual discharge.

Great Old Broads for Wilderness held Broadwalks on both sides of the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness in 2004 and 2007. Broads' visit to a Revett mine in 2007 gave us a glimpse of the destruction caused by hard rock mining operations. (See the stories in the Winter 2008 issue of *Broad-sides*.) If the Rock Creek mine opens, it will begin discharging water expected to contain arsenic, ammonia, nitrate-nitrogen, and heavy metals, among other pollutants directly into the Clark Fork River. According to the Montana DEQ's analysis, the discharge of water will continue for years after the mine closes and it may well be perpetual.

We are hopeful that the study will clearly show that the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness should not be "undermined."

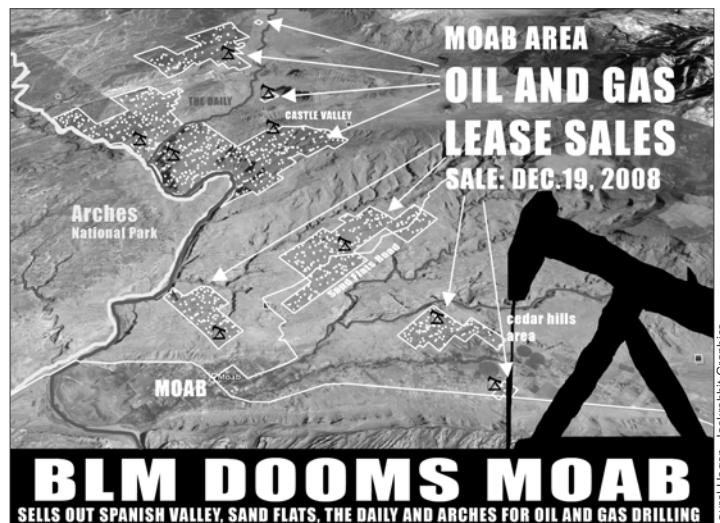
wilderness quality of lands contained within America's Redrock Wilderness Act, a bill currently in Congress.

Broads wrote a formal protest of the sale, and was set to travel to Salt Lake to protest in person when a snow storm changed our plans. Fortuitously, 27 year-old University of Utah student Tim DeChristopher was present and he bid on and won many parcels at the sale that he had no intention of paying for – effectively "monkey-wrenching" the lease sale. The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and seven other groups filed a lawsuit challenging the validity of the sale, and in mid-

conservation and environmental groups. Truly a diverse group!

## Broads' Recapture Utah! Campaign

Broads' Recapture Utah! campaign continues. Broads formally protested the BLM's final Monticello Resource Management Plan (RMP), issued just



Top left: Cabinet Mountains Wilderness. Right: Emotions ran high as the Bush administration tried to give the oil and gas industry a parting gift: southern Utah.

© Laurel Hagen, Jackrabbit Graphics

as Bush left office. Though most of the merits of our protest were (we believe unfairly) rejected, we were somewhat gratified to have our protest supported on one count: turns out that the Monticello BLM has no authority to print maps showing roads on the Manti LaSal National Forest and in Canyonlands National Park as “open” that the Forest Service and National Park Service have closed.

We also appealed the Monticello Field Office’s Travel Management Plan (TMP) on the grounds that they improperly opened illegally constructed routes and historic wagon trails to ATV use, as well as blessing as “open” many routes in wilderness study and wilderness character areas that ought to be closed. Unfortunately, the usual chain of command was circumvented by the Bush administration, cutting out the public’s ability to appeal the TMP. In an unusual (and calculated) move, the Deputy Secretary of Interior signed the decisions on the plans in addition to the Utah BLM State Director, thus removing any appeal process to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. The only remedy remaining? Sue in court. Broads is joining in litigation on the RMP and TMP with our conservation partners.

We will continue to watchdog in Utah’s San Juan County for illegal routes, to monitor impacts, and to work with the BLM on volunteer route closure projects and protecting wilderness quality lands.

### **A Partial Win on Kanab, UT Grazing Permit Appeals**

The Escalante Wilderness Project, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Western Watersheds Project, and Sierra Club, Glen Canyon Group were plaintiffs in this case taking the Kanab Field Office of the BLM to task for various failings when they re-issued 10 year grazing permits on four allotments. Our arguments were that BLM failed to adequately analyze environmental and cultural resource impacts of the decision before issuing the permits.

A recent Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) opinion in *Escalante Wilderness Project v BLM* holds that BLM violated the National Historic Preservation

Act when it renewed grazing permits in Kanab Utah. The IBLA found that BLM satisfied its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), except as to cultural resources, and under section 302 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). So this case continues and will require our continued vigilance to ensure adequate protection of cultural resources. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is also quite interested in this case and has offered its help on remand.



*Franklin Seal of Wildlands CPR and Ronni and Rose survey damage to the historic tread of the Hole in the Rock trail up San Juan Hill near Bluff, Utah.*

### **Broads Partner on Comments and Letters**

Great Old Broads is often asked to “sign-on” (lend our support) to various actions by our partners and other environmental groups. These documents range from “Dear Colleague” letters to letters of endorsement of (or opposition to) land management proposals. We also sign on to comments on resource and travel management plans generated by numerous other organizations. These comments, to be effective, require massive amounts of research and writing time, and it is much more efficient for an organization that specializes in an issue to write comments and then ask for others to sign on in support. We sign on to dozens of items in a year. Following is a sampling of the most recent ones:

- Letter defending the wilderness designation of Drakes Bay Estero in Point Reyes National Seashore, CA
- Letters asking for abolishment of the USDA – Wildlife Services program that spends taxpayer dollars to kill carnivorous wildlife
- Various letters to the BLM and US Forest Service commenting on and/or asking for proposed Oil & Gas Lease sale parcels that lie in proposed wildernesses to be removed from upcoming sales

- Various letters to BLM and USFS with specific comments regarding Resource Management Plans and Travel Management Planning processes
- Comments on the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Rangeland Health Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- Comments on the USFS National Trail Classification System interim final directives

# New Development Director Brings Lifelong Passions

Carol Clark's passions drew her to Great Old Broads for Wilderness: her passion for the land, her passion for conservation and her passion for non-profits. And she's generous with her passion. She has been sending out a call to join her in the fun since she was a sophomore in high school in Northern Michigan when she started a high school ski team. She has a way of getting people involved that seems almost magical but I suspect it has more to do with this passion and healthy doses of organization and perseverance.

After high school, she moved to Summit County, Colorado, where she took seasonal jobs at Arapahoe Basin Ski Area and Keystone Resorts for two years. Realizing that a college education might be useful, she moved herself down to Durango to attend Fort Lewis College. Not being one to follow someone else's plan, she devised a curriculum combining the school's agricultural and sociology programs, graduating with a B.A. degree in Rural Sociology.

And as if that wasn't enough, the sociology department required students to participate in a community practicum, which for anyone else would have meant time volunteering with some established non-profit group in town. Not for Carol. "I didn't go the traditional route," she said modestly. Instead, she conducted a feasibility study on starting a local farmer's market one semester and established the Durango Farmer's Market the next semester. She volunteered with that organization for the next nine years. And if past history is any indication, she probably did more than her fair share of the work.

Carol comes to Broads after five years as the Development Director for the San Juan Citizen's Alliance, a Durango-area non-profit that advocates for the wild lands in the San Juan River Basin. She took a short hiatus from the non-profit world and realized she didn't fit with the for-profit world. And that's when she found Broads and Broads found her.



Of this job for Broads in which she is tasked with raising awareness of issues, developing fund-raising campaigns, and cultivating donors and sponsors, she said, "I believe I can make a difference!"

Broads is counting on her and with the passions she has for Broads' passions and her ability to organize the throng, it's a sure bet she'll have her way.

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**ARE YOU WIRED?** As the world becomes more electronically connected, Broads relies more on communicating by e-mail with members. With e-mail, we can send you alerts and information in a timely manner. If you've recently arrived "on line" or changed your e-mail address, please help us stay connected (and save postage and trees) by sending us your current e-address. We PROMISE not to clog your in-box with frivolous items or spam! Thank you!!

## IN A BROAD SENSE: *Mama Bear Mops Up*

(continued from page 2)

the wisdom, experience, passion and humor of the local Broads and Bro's. We're excited to be able to offer our Broadbands the support they'll need to be effective advocates for their prized local wild lands.

It couldn't be more fitting that Broads is "broadening" our outreach and effectiveness at this time of transition in our country, because 2009 is Great Old Broads for Wilderness **Twentieth Anniversary!** That's right! We were founded in 1989 in celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act, by a group of audacious "mature" women who thought it was about time that the



politicians stopped using elders as an excuse to prevent the designation of wilderness. ("No, Senator, I DON'T want roads carved into wilderness just so I can get there!") We'll be celebrating this momentous milestone

all year, but the main celebration will be in Escalante, Utah, where Broads was "born," October 1-4. We'll have illustrious speakers, hikes, barbecues, and a silent auction of goodies including adventure trips, books, gear and a gorgeous framed redrock photograph by noted photographer and canyoneer Harvey Halpern.

Please visit our website for updates on activities and opportunities for action, and make your reservations for the Escalante Broadwalk 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Escalante Outfitters (see page 11). Space will be limited, so plan ahead. Watch for that determined mama bear with her mop, and find a way to join her!

# 2008 Wild for Wilderness Donors!



Thanks to our many 2008 Wild for Wilderness On-line Auction donors, our fourth annual auction was a great success, netting nearly \$33,000 for Broads' wilderness work. We are deeply grateful to our donors for their generosity and to all of our members who participated by bidding and helping to spread the word.

Below is a list of our 2008 auction donors. Please support these businesses as a thank you for their support of Broads.

If you would like to donate any item(s) for our 2009 on-line auction, please e-mail [auction@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:auction@greatoldbroads.org) or visit our on-line donation page at [www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/nadf.php). We are looking for corporate sponsorships as well as donations of adventure trips, outdoor gear, vacation stays, restaurant meals, and more.

- |                                   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 4 Corners Riversports             | Erin Moore/Pat Contor                      | Mountain Light Gallery   | Simple Shoes                                     |
| A*Broad Adventure LLC             | Escalante Outfitters                       | Mr. O's of Moab Vacation Rental                                | Sky Island Alliance                              |
| Absolute Bakery                   | ExOfficio                                  | Mt Hood Meadows Ski Resort                                     | Stephen Trimble                                  |
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| Alpacka Raft                      | Fretwater Press/Katie Lee                  | Nichibei Potters   | Sundance Bear Lodge                              |
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| B B Wolf Fine Art Photography     | Gold Lake Lodge                            | Oohs and Aahs  | Suzie Rashkis                                    |
| Backcountry Experience            | Gospel Flat Farm                           | Oregon Museum of Science and<br>Industry Hancock Field Station | Tacy & Roger Hahn                                |
| Barbara Walker                    | Graton Gallery                             | Oregon Natural Desert<br>Association                           | Telluride Ski & Golf                             |
| Battenkill Valley Outdoors        | Harvey Halpern                             | Organic Valley   | Terry Precision Cycling                          |
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A special thanks to our 2008 sponsors: Bank of Colorado and Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation.



# *Broad in the Background:* Grazing Abuses Spark the Fla

In the 1980s, Ginger Harmon spent every spring and fall canyoneering in the Escalante of Southern Utah. "Between the world-class beauty of the Escalante and the excitement of canyoneering, I should have been in funhog heaven," she said. "But, alas, I was assaulted everywhere by the sight of devastated ecosystems caused by overgrazing cattle on BLM public land allotments."

A born Broad, she didn't just sigh and mumble "oh well." She took action by applying to the BLM for what was then called "Interested Public" status. "I chose a few of the worst grazing allotments and received information on all transactions on those allotments.

For about 10 years, I wrote comments on dozens of issues that were brought before the BLM. I met with BLM staff and studied files at the Escalante Field Office."

In 1996, when President Clinton designated 1.7 million acres of southern Utah as the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Ginger's beloved Escalante, she was able to shift her attention elsewhere.

Her love of natural landscapes started, as it did for most of us, with many youthful hours spent out of doors. "I was lucky to grow up amid the great beauty of Carmel-by-the-Sea," she said, "and spend my childhood

summers in the High Sierra." When her children were grown, she was "free to devote my life to the pursuit of outdoor adventure and I have had one amazing adventure after another."

Ginger found Broads in 1989 after reading in High Country News about the formation of a non-profit wilderness advocacy group called Great Old Broads for Wilderness. "I knew for sure that I was an Old Broad and I responded immediately," she said. The group of about a dozen women gathered in El Dorado, Colorado, and appointed themselves to the first Board of Directors. "And of course, we went hiking," added Ginger.



The Escalante of Southern Utah.

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# “as for broads... I like to think of the me of Advocacy

She remained on the Board of Directors until last year when she moved to the Broads Advisory Board. “Working with Broads for 19 years for the protection and preservation of wilderness has truly been a labor of love,” she said. “The friendships I have made through Broads and through all my wilderness activities have been of basic importance to the quality of my life,” she said. “I am so very grateful to those who have joined me on my amazing journey.”

Along with her work with Broads, Ginger has volunteered at The Nature Conservancy’s Muleshoe Ranch Preserve in southeast Arizona and at Organ Pipe Cactus National

Monument. She constructed trails for National Parks including Grand Canyon and Yosemite, and helped the USGS with a Grand Canyon River Study. She has been on the board of directors for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA) and for the Wildlife Damage Review.

“Much as I would like to wander endlessly in wild places, all of my time spent on wilderness advocacy has given balance to my life and a greater satisfaction than I would have had otherwise,” she said. “It is my good fortune to have connected with Broads—an organization that reflects so much of what I believe in.”

*I like to think of the Broads, along with some other small organizations, as the conscience of the wilderness movement. Our concern is that every inch of roadless public lands with wilderness qualities must be fought for and protected as wilderness. Some environmental organizations have chosen to speak out stridently for compromise and collaboration. By announcing such a position they make clear to all involved that they will settle a priori for compromise. They have a kind of wilderness-at-any-price approach. I am proud that Broads has made our position regarding quid pro quo abundantly clear in our wilderness protection statement.*

## GINGER’S ADVENTURES

For me “adventures” are any physical activity, preferably strenuous, carried out in beautiful, wild, and remote backcountry. I intend to keep on having fun-filled adventures until my last breath. Here are a few of my activities over the past 35 years that have given me great joy and happiness.



- Exploratory slot canyoneering in Southern Utah
- Backcountry off-trail exploration of the Grand Canyon
- Leading Sierra Club trips in Arizona, Utah, Sierra Nevada, Alaska, Nepal, Egypt
- Guiding international treks, mostly in Nepal, for Mountain Travel Sobek
- Walking 3 ½ months and 1,500 miles on the GR5 trail through Europe’s mountain ranges and co-authoring *Walking Europe from Top to Bottom*
- Climbing 21,000-foot Mt. Mera in Nepal
- Mountaineering and desert raftering in the Sonoran Desert of Arizona and Baja California
- River running western rivers
- Sea kayaking the Sea of Cortez
- Cross-country skiing in the mountains of Idaho and California

*From our start at El Dorado with perhaps a dozen members, Broads has grown to around thirty six hundred members. Using our tools of educating the public, confronting agencies, and prevailing on legislators, we have become an important part of the environmental community. Our unique monitoring program for off-road vehicle damage has attracted widespread interest. Our members, our directors, our hard working staff have all contributed to making Great Old Broads for Wilderness one of the most effective small environmental advocacy organizations in America. I know even greater successes lie ahead.”*

## Monitoring Event

### Chiricahua Mountains Healthy Lands Project, Great Old Broads for Wilderness and Sky Island Alliance Monitoring Event in SE Arizona

**Dates:** April 17-19 or 20th, 2009

**Cost:** \$40/\$60 (depending on length of stay)

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. More than half of the bird species in the US can be found in these mountains. Rich with Apache history, the Chiricahuas were a regular home, refuge, and stronghold for Native Americans before European settlement.

Increased camping and motorized recreation throughout much of the range is impacting vegetation and wildlife. Logan Morley, of Great Old Broads for Wilderness will lead the training, teaching how to use a GPS, digital camera and monitoring form to collect information. We will then collect data on eroding roads, illegal ATV trails, sprawling campsites and other human created impacts. Our base camp will be in Lower Pinery Canyon on the western flank of the Chiricahuas at approximately 5000 feet elevation. We will be surveying roads to the north and east of our campsite, which will require driving to each survey area. Once out on your designated travel corridor, you will be hiking in some of the most scenic areas of southeast Arizona while collecting important data necessary

The training will begin Friday early afternoon. Monitoring will occur Saturday and Sunday. For those who would like to stay and play, Monday we'll have a fun hike to reward ourselves. Breakfasts and dinners will be provided by a camp cook each day.

Space is limited so contact Sarah Williams at Sky Island Alliance, 520-624-7080, [sarah@skyislandalliance.org](mailto:sarah@skyislandalliance.org) to reserve your spot.

## River Trip

### San Juan River Float FUNdraiser, Southeastern Utah

**Date:** May 3-8, 2009

**Cost:** \$1,212 pp (Wild Rivers Expeditions will once again donate a considerable portion of the proceeds of this float trip to Great Old Broads for Wilderness).

The incredibly beautiful red rock canyons of the San Juan River provide the setting for this 58 mile wilderness float from Mexican Hat to Clay Hills Crossing. Wild Rivers' experienced guides will interpret the river's exquisite Ancestral Puebloan culture and textbook geology while providing a quality, fun, experience of a lifetime. Trip orientation is the evening of May 3 at Wild Rivers in Bluff, Utah. Launch is May 4 and you will be returned to Bluff late afternoon



## Broadwalk

### Colorado's Hidden Gems

**Dates:** July 9-13, 2009

**Location:** Based at Bogan Flats Group Campsite, between Carbondale and Redstone, CO in the shadow of the Elk Mountains

**Cost:** members \$110/non-members \$135

Great Old Broads for Wilderness is working with members of the Hidden Gems Wilderness Campaign seeking designation of major new wilderness additions on the White River National Forest and nearby Bureau of Land Management lands. The White River NF is the country's most visited national forest, and along with nearby BLM lands, it straddles an ecologically vital portion of the Upper Colorado River watershed. These public lands contain a critical stretch of a continent-scale wildlife migration corridor while providing core habitat for Colorado's recently reintroduced lynx population.

Most of the existing designated wilderness in Colorado is of the high-elevation, "rock and ice" variety. Still unprotected are the "Hidden Gems" targeted in this campaign, which exist at the more ecologically diverse middle elevations and provide some of the most important habitat for imperiled species. Designating these areas as wilderness will add valuable biodiversity to our nation's wilderness legacy.

Hikes to experience some of the gems of the Hidden Gems, speakers from the local grassroots organizations and involved land management agencies, and a service project will connect us

## The Great Old Broads' 2009 Calendar of Events

for greater protection of this unique Sky Island. This data will go directly to helping Sky Island Alliance develop route recommendations for the Coronado National Forest Travel Management Plan. For more information on this area see [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)

on May 8. Overnight lodging May 3 is not included in the trip price. Space is limited so reserve your spot now by contacting Wild Rivers Expeditions at 800-422-7654. More information is at [www.riversandrains.com](http://www.riversandrains.com).

with these special places. Cost includes camping at the Bogan Flats Group Campsite, delicious breakfasts and dinners each day provided by a camp cook, speakers and more. Hikes will be led by local activists who know the area well. Space is limited. To register send full payment to Broads office. For more information contact Rose at 970-385-9577 or [rose@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:rose@greatoldbroads.org).



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would ensure permanent protection of these incredible landscapes. Your support is needed.) Cost includes camping at Escalante Outfitters, use of the bathhouse, scrumptious breakfasts and dinners each day, speakers and more. Hikes will be led by experienced volunteers.

To register, send full payment to Broads' office. To book a cabin (instead of camping) call Dana at Escalante Outfitters (cabins will show unavailable on their website) at 866-455-0041. Check out their website at [www.escalanteoutfitters.com](http://www.escalanteoutfitters.com). For more information contact Rose at 970-385-9577, or [rose@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:rose@greatoldbroads.org).

### River Trip Main Salmon River Trip FUNdraiser, Central Idaho

**Dates:** July 23-28, 2009

**Cost:** \$1,429 pp (\$250 pp is a tax-deductible contribution to Great Old Broads for Wilderness)

Join other Broads and Broads' staff on this outstanding Idaho wilderness rafting trip down 95 miles of the Main Salmon River through the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness in central Idaho. Free flowing Class III whitewater provides excitement for any age/ability while the white sandy beaches, forested campsites, deep canyons and mountain scenery combine to provide an ever changing river experience. Experience historic mining camps, Native American rock

vary according to your needs and are not included in the trip cost but may be arranged for you by K Bear. Space is limited so reserve your trip now by contacting Mason Kiebert at 1-877-672-7437, [mason@raftkbear.com](mailto:mason@raftkbear.com). More information is at [www.raftkbear.com](http://www.raftkbear.com).

### Broadwalk 20th Anniversary Escalante Celebration

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

**Location:** Based at Escalante Outfitters in 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



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Escalante, Utah

### 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 or a bit of self-indulgence, Great Old

art, abundant wildlife and riverside hot springs. There is plenty of time to swim, hike, and relax while the experienced staff of K-Bear River Adventures tends to your needs and serves up wholesome and delicious Dutch oven cooking. Trip includes dinner and pre-launch lodging at Corn Creek on July 23. We launch on the river July 24 and take off mid-day on July 28. Travel arrangements to/from the river (air, taxi, car shuttle, rides) will

southern Utah to celebrate 20 years of wilderness advocacy. There'll be hikes 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

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 the auction monies 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).

“BUT IN A WORLD WITHOUT WILDERNESS, WE WILL BECOME MORE DISCONNECTED FROM THE PLANET THAN WE ARE ALREADY. WITH NO CONNECTION TO THE PLANET, IT MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND CONNECTION WITH OUR NEIGHBORS.”

- Sandy Compton,  
Sandpoint, Idaho

### 11th Hour Bush Regulations that could have opened Wilderness to ATVs Withdrawn

Shortly after President Obama took office, he froze all 11<sup>th</sup> hour regulations issued by the outgoing administration, and thank goodness he did! Among many that were of concern to us was a change to the regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that could have opened designated Wilderness areas to ATVs. Motorized wheelchairs are allowed in designated Wilderness under the ADA, but the new regulations sought to broaden the definition of “power-driven mobility devices” to include ATVs. Rather than attempt to stand up to the scrutiny of a new administration in Washington, the Department of Justice withdrew the ill-advised and controversial regulatory change that would have posed a great threat to protected landscapes and wild places.

### The Omnibus Public Lands Bill

The Omnibus Public Lands Bill has finally received approval from the Senate and will now go to the House for a vote. Though it contains a few questionable proposals, the legislation would protect badly needed wildlife

habitat and recreational space.

The bill, S. 22, a holdover from last year, consists of about 160 separate proposals and would grant the highest level of federal protection to more than 2 million acres across nine states from California to West Virginia. Among the California land designated as wilderness would be about 190,000 acres in Riverside County, about 450,000 acres in the Eastern Sierra and the San Gabriel Mountains, and about 90,000 acres in Sequoia-Kings Canyon national parks. The overall package carries a \$4 billion price tag over five years.

For all its good intentions, the bill funds or allows a few troublesome projects, most notably a road through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska for use by residents of a nearby village in case of medical emergencies, even though the government has already bought them a \$9-million hovercraft for that purpose. But a revised version of the bill at least grants the Interior Secretary the authority to veto the road’s construction.

Despite such concerns, on balance the bill is heavy on benefit and light on waste. Wilderness areas enjoy a higher level of protection than any



Does this look like a wheelchair to you? ▶

© Laurence Chen/Peter Arnold Inc.

other public lands, shielding them from drilling, logging and residential development. Great Old Broads is taking the stance that the perfect shouldn't be the enemy of the good in this case, and is encouraging members to support it. The bill will:

Designate more than 2 million acres of wilderness in California, Oregon, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Michigan, Virginia, and West Virginia;

Codify the National Landscape Conservation System, which currently protects 26 million acres of natural treasures managed by the Bureau of Land Management, including such American icons as the

California coastline, and the Grand Canyon-Parashant and Sonoran Desert national monuments; protect 1.2 million acres of the scenic Wyoming Range in western Wyoming from oil and gas development; protect free-flowing rivers in California, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Arizona, Utah, and Massachusetts as Wild and Scenic Rivers; and designate numerous new National Scenic Trails, Natural Historic Sites, and National Heritage Areas across the United States.

Great Old Broads has held Broadwalks in or near several of the proposed wilderness areas, including the Dominguez Canyon proposed wilderness (this was actually a Broad-Float on the Gunnison River) in 2005 and the Spring Basin (OR) proposed wilderness, in 2008. Naturally, we like to think we had a little bit to do with their designation!

## The Roadless Rule

The latest legal volley in the ongoing roadless battle, on Dec. 8, 2008 U.S. Magistrate Judge Elizabeth D. Laporte in San Francisco issued a ruling that potentially exposes the 13.6 million acres of pristine forests to destructive logging, mining and road building.

Judge Laporte made her decision in response to a Bush administration request to lift a nation-wide injunction that she imposed two years ago, striking down a Bush administration revision of the 2001 Roadless Rule. The new court decision

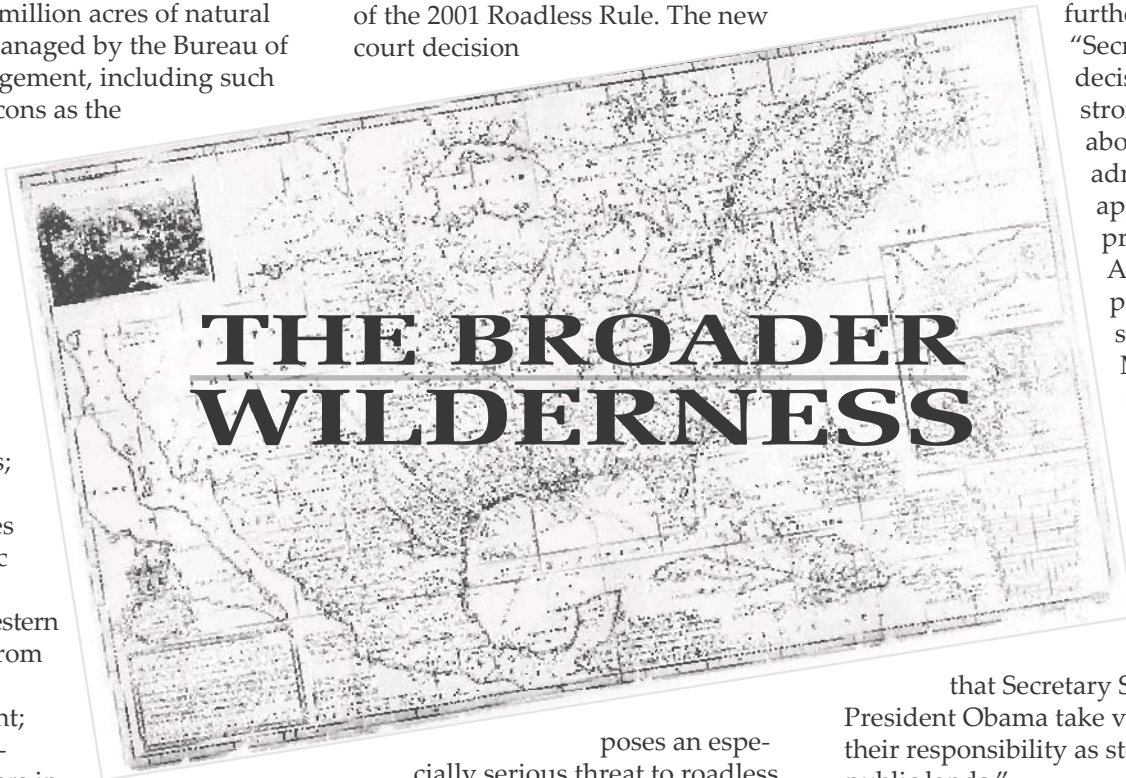
many of the Bush administration's last minute rules. Salazar's actions reinstated a moratorium on oil drilling off of our southeast coast, returned the grey wolf to Endangered Species status in the Rocky Mountains, and launched an investigation of alleged scandalous behavior in the Interior Department's Minerals Management Service. Of particular note is Salazar's removal of over 160,000 acres of wilderness quality lands in Utah from oil and gas leasing until the impacts of such development can be further studied.

"Secretary Salazar's decision sends a strong message about the Obama administration's approach to preserving America's public lands," said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "This is a great decision, and indicates

that Secretary Salazar and President Obama take very seriously their responsibility as stewards of our public lands."

## Utah's wilderness may yet be protected

In a few weeks now, Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) will introduce companion versions of the 9.4 million acre America's Red Rock Wilderness Act in Congress. This will be the 20th anniversary introduction of this legislation, which was originally sponsored by Utah Congressman Wayne Owens and upon his departure in 1993 was passed on to Rep Hinchey for the 103<sup>rd</sup> Congress. Sen. Durbin has sponsored the bill since his first year in the Senate, 1996. It would be ever so fitting if this landmark wilderness bill was passed during Great Old Broads' 20th Anniversary year!



poses an especially serious threat to roadless areas in Colorado and other Rocky Mountain states where the Bush administration sold hundreds of oil and gas leases, in the event that oil targets became available inside roadless areas. We are hopeful that the Obama administration will find a way to reverse this ruling.

## Secretary Salazar making many good decisions

The environmental community in general greeted President Obama's Interior pick of Sen. Ken Salazar (D-CO) with cautious optimism, but has been reserving judgment until seeing his performance. He has, however, pleasantly surprised many of us with his quick actions in overturning

# Farewell to Edith Pierpont

*(continued from page 3)*

she knew that they were earlier or later in hatching this year than last, not by looking at a calendar, or remembering dates, but because Edie's rhythms were in sync with Nature's. Edith was attuned to Nature, not only intellectually, although she was well-educated and bright, but in her bones and being. Walking with her was like walking with the dogs. She sniffed, her eyes sweeping back and forth, removed a bit from conversation or acknowledgement of another human's presence. She spotted changes and similarities in landscape, weather patterns, and smells. She noticed that the asters had moved down hill over the years.

Edith remembered well her family's townhouse, and the ponds nearby. She could, in the telling of it, make a listener feel, smell, the wet rubber snow boots that she would come home in after a day of sledding on the hill across the street with her "gang" of friends.

When we formally organized the Great Old Broads for Wilderness,

Edith was a model we imagined. She, the straight-backed, stern, but oh-so-graceful woman who could and would stand up to a legislative committee chairman and explain to him or to her how important wild lands and wild places were, not so she could continue enjoying them, but because her children, grandchildren and "greatgrands" deserved to experience wilderness. She could make it clear that knowledge, wisdom, kindness, compassion and passion, and, even, morality were lessons learned from being in Nature. And, she would make it clear, she expected the committee to understand her point and vote in favor of preserving wild places. "Sir!"

Edith Pierpont brought all that — wisdom, kindness, compassion, passion, and morality — to the Great Old Broads for Wilderness over the 20 years of its existence. And every bluebird that sings in the sunlight does too. We are grateful.

## Consider a Legacy Gift to Broads

*Naming Broads in your will, retirement plan, or life insurance; establishing a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder unitrust; or making a gift of real estate or highly-appreciated stock are great ways to support Broads' wilderness work. Ask your financial advisor how this type of legacy gift can be beneficial to you and your estate.*

*For more information about legacy gift options that support Broads, call Development Director Carol Clark at 970-385-9577 or e-mail her at [carol@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:carol@greatoldbroads.org).*

Date: January 8, 2009

Publication: Darien News-Review (CT)

**Edith Pierpont**, a former Darien resident, died at her home in Santa Fe, N.M., on Dec. 24. She was 86. A resident of Santa Fe for 25 years, she was a tireless lobbyist for environmental protections and was chosen as one of the city's "Living Treasures" in 1991 by the Network for the Common Good. Mrs. Pierpont was born in 1922 in Worcester, Mass., to Dr. Roger and Margaret Kinnicutt. She graduated from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y....

# First Bootcamp Energizes Broadbands

*(continued from page 1)*

to a television or computer screen, too closely watched/restricted by parents who are afraid to let them out of sight. Broadbands will address this issue in our fledgling *Broader Horizons* program, which will connect older women with young girls in the outdoors, in a mostly unstructured ways, to help the younger generations to be comfortable with and to care about wild places and things. We intend to create future advocates one child at a time!

Over the course of the four days, these Broadband Leaders energized each other and the tasks at hand. They shared their many years of experience and expertise; their ideas for best practices for working with the media, land management agencies, and elected officials as well as planning fundraising and membership events. They have each committed to organizing a group in their area and are looking to our fantastic members to make this happen.

Boot Camp highlights included dinner (and Margaritas!) at the Church Street Café, located in the oldest house in New Mexico, and an evening at Dave Foreman and Nancy Morton's home, where we were joined by local Albuquerque Broadbands. Dave and I worked together in Santa Fe in the 1970s, after which he went on to be a co-founder of Earth First!, the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, and the Rewilding Project. He is legendary in the wilderness movement, and had nothing but warm words for Broadbands' brand of hands-on grassroots advocacy.

Broadbands founder, Susan Tixier joined us at Dave's and, in her inimitable way, had us all laughing and crying and reconnecting with Broadbands' very origins and purposes as she exhorted us to "Go Wild! Laugh a lot to save the Wild!"

Perhaps the best way to describe the Boot Camp experience is to let the participants speak for themselves. These comments were taken from evaluation forms after the event:

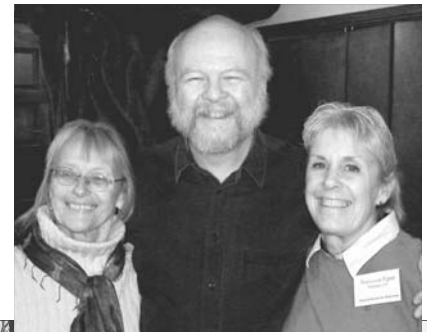
- "Those who have never been to a Broadwalk also had a chance to see what a group of like-minded Broadbands can do."
- "I have never been in the presence of so many delightful, knowledgeable, and passionate women at one time!"
- "The food was great! Broadbands' food is always great!"

Carol Clark, Broadbands' new Development Director, had this to say, "As I listened and watched all the women in the room, I thought to myself, I hope I can be 70 years old and still have the passion they have for protecting what is important to us and to our children. The Boot Camp was an inspiring weekend full of women who are determined to be a part of a solution. We learned about how we could network in our own communities and how, although the problems might be different, we could lean on each



other for advice. I can only say that I think everyone left there exhausted in a good way and ready to get up the next morning and take on the issues in their own communities."

Already, we are looking ahead to our next Boot Camp....are YOU interested?



From top right:  
Susan Craig, Joan Vandebos  
and Karen Cox enjoying some  
"round" table camaraderie; Susan Tixier,  
Dave Foreman and Ronni Egan; group training  
in BHL monitoring techniques.

For information about joining or forming a Broadband or attending a future Boot Camp, contact Rose Chilcoat at [rose@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:rose@greatoldbroads.org) or go to the Broadbands' website at [www.greatoldbroads.org/local\\_broads.html](http://www.greatoldbroads.org/local_broads.html)



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**UP FOR A CHALLENGE?**

Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation has challenged Great Old Broads for Wilderness to raise \$45,000 from members and friends before the end of May. Stretch your support dollars by DONATING NOW! Go to [www.greatoldbroads.org](http://www.greatoldbroads.org) and click on the "Join or Give" icon, e-mail us at [broads@greatoldbroads.org](mailto:broads@greatoldbroads.org) or call us at 970-385-9577.

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## Join the Great Old Broads Today!

- Basic Broad \$35
- Rockin' Broad \$50+
- Wild Broad \$75+
- Outrageous Broad \$100+
- Budget Broad <\$35
- Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 phone/e-mail \_\_\_\_\_



Broads Founder Susan Tixier gives Boot Campers her thoughts on 'Broadness.' See related story on page 1.

### Give a One-Year Gift Membership to a Broad-Minded Friend!

Enclose additional dues for this membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
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\*We will include a note that the gift membership is from you.

- Please do not share my information with like-minded organizations.
- Save paper and postage, no receipt is necessary.

Please return with payment to:  
 GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS, PO BOX 2924, DURANGO, CO 81302

### BROADS PARAPHERNALIA

Item	Size	Cost	Qty
Broads Tee (natural-runs large)	S,M,L,XL	\$17	
Long Sleeve Tee (natural)	S,M,L,XL	\$22	
Scoop-neck Tee (white)	S,M,L,XL	\$17	
Slim Fit Sage Tee	M,L,XL	\$17	
Button or sticker (circle)		\$1.50	
Coffee Mug		\$20	
Canvas Tote		\$20	
Dung to Dust Booklet		\$5	

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