



*the* A quarterly publication for members and friends of The Lands Council Legacy Circle.

# LEGACY JOURNAL

Summer 2006

## Join us for Summer Float Trips and Hikes!



Legacy Circle member Rob Piston enjoys his float on the Spokane River last September.

### Legacy Circle River Floats

Join members of the Legacy Circle and TLC's Water Watch Committee as we tour a portion of the Spokane River on kayaks from Post Falls to Harvard Road.

**Saturday, July 8th 12-3pm**

**Sunday, Sept. 17th 12-4pm**

Beginners are welcome in this calm stretch of river. We meet at Harvard Road Bridge in the Northwest parking area along the Spokane River. (Liberty Lake exit 296 off of I-90). Shuttle, guide, sit on top boats & paddles, life jackets provided.

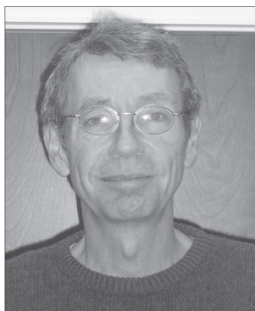
RSVP to Amber Waldref, Development Coordinator at [awaldref@landscouncil.org](mailto:awaldref@landscouncil.org) or (509) 838-4912.

### Hike the Thirteen Mile Creek Trail

This summer, The Lands Council is joining groups like the Mountaineers, Sierra Club and Conservation Northwest to host free hikes. **Join Tania Ellersick, Forest Watch Director, for a hike along Thirteen Mile Creek Trail on Saturday, August 12th.** This hike follows a rushing creek and deep gorge the first few miles, then opens up with great vistas, large Ponderosa pines and western larch. Plan on about a 5-6 mile round trip.

The drive is about 3 hours from Spokane, Hwy 2, then north on 21 past free Keller Ferry. Meet at Rosauer's (9414 N. Division in Spokane) at 8am to carpool. Please contact Tania at (509) 838-4912 or [tellersick@landscouncil.org](mailto:tellersick@landscouncil.org) to sign up or to find out about other hikes this summer.

## — DIRECTOR'S LETTER —



Dear friends,

In the last issue of the Legacy Journal, I wrote to you about The Lands Council's work to clean up the Spokane River and bring this region together to solve our water quality issues. I mentioned my desire to hire a full time "Water Watch" Director with a science background to assist us in several ongoing processes in our watershed, including the relicensing of Avista's dams, meeting Spokane River water quality standards, and cleaning up legacy mining waste from the Silver Valley.

Over the past three months, amazing progress has been made towards fundraising for this important position. I am happy to announce that we have secured half of the funds needed to keep this scientist on staff for three years. I am very grateful to several individual donors who stepped forward to help and several foundations, including Northwest Fund for the Environment and the Bullitt Foundation. Also, our annual auction was the most successful ever – we raised \$53,000 toward our conservation programs! Thus, I am starting a search and hope to have this water position filled by September.

We still have a ways to go before fully funding this position (at least \$60,000 more to be raised). One way you can help is by assisting us in recruiting new members to The Lands Council. Do you have nine friends who might support the conservation work we do? Become a table captain for our "Building Our Connections" Benefit Breakfast on September 27th and invite friends and family to join you for a free breakfast to hear how The Lands Council is making a difference in the Inland Northwest.

Thank you for your ongoing, generous support. Also, welcome to our new Legacy Circle members!  
Mike Petersen, Executive Director

The Legacy Circle is comprised of exceptional donors who provide the resources and guidance to sustain The Land Council's long-term environmental protection work in the Inland Northwest.

### Wildlife Supporter (\$250-\$499 annually)

- A copy and recognition in our annual report
- Our "Legacy Journal" – exclusive quarterly newsletter
- Invitation to the annual Patron Party, a reception to honor our highest donors

### Forest Champion (\$500-\$999 annually)

- Contributors receive the benefits above and...
- A special monthly e-newsletter
- Opportunities for personal visits and updates from Lands Council staff and board

### Watershed Sponsor (\$1000 or more annually)

- Contributors receive the benefits above and...
- Advance notice of key program initiatives and reports
- Invitations to join staff and Board on "Watershed Tours" to visit special places The Lands Council is working to protect.

## THE LANDS COUNCIL

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### LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBER PROFILE

#### Mark and Suzanne Ostersmith

Legacy Circle members Suzanne and Mark Ostersmith work hard to make choices in their everyday lives that reflect their strong environmental ethic. Since 1998, they have lived in Chattaroy on 18 acres of land with their two sons, Niklas (11) and Daniel (9). That year, Mark and Suzanne spent nine months constructing their home using as much recycled product and environmentally-sensitive building practices as possible. They did almost all the work themselves, from the design and plumbing (Suzanne) to the electric (Mark). The family uses their land to raise animals and organic produce. Suzanne hopes their house "has an impact on others" who come to see it and will inspire people to be more eco-conscious when they build new homes.

Mark grew up in Alaska and the Spokane area, where he, his brother, and parents spent their vacations camping and exploring beautiful national parks. (Mark's brother Sean is now the NW Regional Director of the Natl. Parks Conservation Association). Mark brought this love of nature to his relationship with Suzanne, who grew up in California. They spent their early married life volunteering for several projects in Central and South America, including building homes for Habitat for Humanity.

Mark and Suzanne got involved with The Lands Council through Mark's parents, Gil and Christi Smith back in the late 1990s. Recently, they have become more active in TLC activities. Mark has joined the TLC finance committee and the entire family participated in the Spokane River cleanup day.

Everyday, Mark and Suzanne reflect on ways to minimize their ecological footprint. The family chooses a simple, vegetarian lifestyle. Mark and Suzanne drive vehicles with high gas mileage and attempt to reduce his/her trips to Spokane, where Mark works as a controller for a local broker/dealer and Suzanne, a professor, directs the dance minor at Gonzaga and Whitworth Universities. As you read this article, Mark and Suzanne are sharing their passion for the global environment with their two sons in Mexico, where they are visiting with old friends and volunteering.



Mark, Suzanne, Niklas and Daniel at Maligne Lake in Jasper National Park.

### Strengthening our Connections in the Community

We need your help! Volunteer to be a table captain.

The Lands Council 11th Annual Dinner and Auction was a great success. With your help, and the help of many area businesses, we raised over \$53,000 toward our conservation programs! We thank you for supporting this effort!

We continue to think of creative ways to educate and involve members in our mission and recruit new members to strengthen our capacity.

This fall, The Lands Council is holding its first ever **"Strengthening Our Connections" Benefit Breakfast on September 27, 2006, 7:30am at the Red Lion River Inn**. The goals of this event are to raise awareness of the mission of The Lands Council, engage new people in supporting our work, and build our capacity to be effective advocates.

We need you to bring guests to fill the tables!

Please consider volunteering as a table captain for the Benefit Breakfast.

Being a table captain is simple: invite nine friends to come to a free breakfast. Your effort will expand our network of friends and increase our ability to meet our fundraising goals.

Benefit Breakfast committee members will be contacting you to see if you are interested. Please respond to Amber at 509-838-4912 or [awaldref@landscouncil.org](mailto:awaldref@landscouncil.org).



Help us fill these chairs with new Lands Council members!

### NEW LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

Dr. Colleen Carey

Jim Frank and Mary Anne Evans

Bill Grimes

Sheldon Jackson

Steve and Mary Llewellyn

John Pilley

Dave Sanders

Jon Stevenson and Cynthia Langlois

Paul and Tuija Wilkening

### BOARD MEMBERS

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