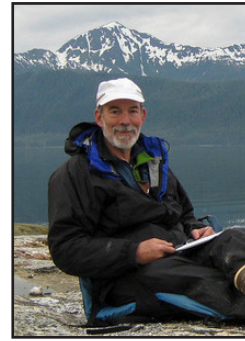


New Endowments!

It is with profound gratitude that Wild Gift announces the establishment of two generous endowments funded by major gifts.

The Anderson Family Wild Gift Fund will serve as a living legacy to internationally known cell biologist and long time Wild Gift supporter Richard "Dick" Anderson (1940-2011). Dick was born and raised in Philadelphia but adopted Oregon as his home and spent much of his career in Dallas, Texas. As a cell biologist, he was a very successful researcher, Department Chair, and recipient of many awards in addition to being a member of the team that won the 1985 Nobel Prize in medicine. Dick's exploration of nature was all encompassing, from the cellular level on up to the rugged backcountry, which he and his wife Barbara loved to share with all of their family members. For over 20 years, a central guide in this exploration was Wild Gift founder Bob Jonas. It was on many a trail that Dick and Barbara actively discussed and supported Bob as he shaped his concept of Wild Gift. As Dick prepared to leave this earthly trail he created The Anderson Family Wild Gift Fund to ensure that Wild Gift will continue to support the preservation of wildness through future generations of leaders.



The Nelson Family Endowment is a memorial to Bill and Gayle Nelson, left to Wild Gift by their father Lloyd Nelson (1913-2011). Born in North Dakota, Lloyd took a job at Cargill as a teenager shoveling grain. He worked his way up to regional sales management roles where he opened and ran Cargill offices, mostly in the West. He began visiting Sun Valley in the 1970s to see his daughter Gayle. She was an environmental advocate, a friend to Wild Gift, and an adventurer, once sailing on a crew at sea for nearly five years. Lloyd moved permanently to Sun Valley in 2002, where he cross-country skied and hiked daily, into his mid-90s. Lloyd's gift will be used to foster the dreams of Wild Gift leaders supporting the spirit of entrepreneurship and hard work that Lloyd believed in.



Plan for tomorrow. Building an endowment fund is an act of forward thinking and a commitment to future generations. Each gift is professionally managed, with a percentage of the income used to support Wild Gift Leader projects while ensuring the endowments continue to grow. For more information on how to support Wild Gift's work, contact Deborah Knapp at deborah@wildgift.org or call (855) 687-9453.

P.O. Box 3064
Sun Valley, ID 83353
www.wildgift.org
Phone: (855) 687-9453
Email: info@wildgift.org



Where in the World is Bob?

Founder Bob Jonas has passed the Wild Gift Executive Director torch to Deborah Knapp, though he will continue to serve on the board. "I'm committed to the vision of Wild Gift until the day I die," says Bob. "It continues to be extremely gratifying to see the program evolve. When we started, our focus was a deep wilderness experience for outstanding new Leaders. Then we began to support their better world entrepreneurial initiatives. Now our alumni are coming back. They are serving on the board and participating in the first Network Council. They are committed to building sustainable communities that steward the gifts of wild nature."

Bob and Sarah will be traveling the country next year visiting Wild Gift Leaders and their projects. Look for their blog at wildgift.org in early 2012.

Join us on a Wild Gift adventure. There is no better way to understand the power of the wild and its impact on these emerging leaders than to join a trek yourself. This type of adventure is something every Wild Gift donor and their friends can experience. Check out the 2012 schedule of trips by visiting wildgift.org or call Deborah at (855) 687-9453 for more information.

Founder Bob Jonas with new Executive Director Deborah Knapp

Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You

In September, we welcomed our 2011 recruits to the Wild Gift Leader Network. We deeply appreciate and thank the following people for their help in making this year's wilderness trek a great success:

TRIP LOGISTICS: Iain Duncan, Susan Scovell, Barbara Anderson and Sarah Michael for their all encompassing support with the endless food, equipment and lodging details.

GUIDING EXPERTISE: Scott Douglas, Cam Cooper, Ted Angle, Matt Furber and Iain Duncan for guiding us down the Middle Fork of the Salmon. Francie St. Onge of Sun Valley Trekking for leading us through the White Cloud Mountains.

ORIENTATION PRESENTERS: Bob Jonas, Debra Boher, Jima Rice, Will Pryor, David Sundholm, Andy Munter, Kelley Weston, and Patrick Graham. Their words and experience informed, motivated and inspired the Leaders.

OUTREACH: Andy Munter and his crew at Backwoods Mountain Sports for hosting a community BBQ to introduce the new Leaders to the locals. Nicola Potts, Ramsey Potts, Leslie Silva and Peggy Wagener for their assistance with the successful art show and Wild Gift fundraiser held at Ketchum's Coffee Grinder and Gallery. Tatiana Mumm, Ashley Dreyfus and Charlotte Woodham, the talented and generous young artists who donated their time and work for the show. Gina Olszowski, Wild Gift alumni and journalist on Wild Gift assignment.



Wild Gift

Newsletter
Winter 2012

Meet the Wild Gift Class of 2011



“ Thank you for the most empowering gift a young leader could ask for— people who believe in my capacity to bring a better-world vision to fruition. ”

- Josh Arnold, Wild Gift Leader, Class of 2011

JOSH ARNOLD first took an interest in the Grange after reading the book, *The Populist Moment*, by Lawrence Goodwyn. “I was attracted to their belief that together, they could come up with the solutions: feed themselves, clothe themselves, build shelter, raise barns,” he says. “Our culture has moved toward a sense of hyper-individualism— everyone has to have their own car; each kid has their own TV. And that sort of individualism is a really energy-intensive way to live. It's not only unsustainable, it's unfulfilling.” When presented with the opportunity to buy an old Grange Hall in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, Josh knew it would be his lifelong project. The renovation of the historic community center is guided by the building's legacy of community support, reciprocity, and self-reliance. Josh's vision for the Grange is to provide a space for local farmers and artisans to sell goods, for community groups to educate and collaborate, and for the rich history of the Grange to be passed on. galacommunity.org

In January 2010, **SARAH BELLOS** and her sister Ali created Artisan Natural Dyeworks, a Tennessee-based company that uses plant and earth derived dyes to color garments and fabric for independent designers. For her Wild Gift project, Sarah wants to take her business a step further. “I think it's important to draw attention to the fact that the majority of small farmers in America don't make a living wage,” she explains. She sees natural dye plants as a great solution. They add ecological diversity to an existing farm, while providing a value-added product that requires less labor than the typical vegetable crop. By launching a line of scarves and shawls, Sarah envisions an opportunity to boost her local economy, educate her customers, and preserve a landscape and a way of life. Look for her new line, Southern Hues, in 2012. ecodyeit.com

GARRETT GAUTHIER, who hails from Ontario, Canada, turned down a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford last year to start PEDAL Across the Americas, an international bicycle adventure in search of real-life sustainable living solutions. Garrett recalls visiting his cousin's family for the first time. “I was completely blown away by how well they lived while staying true to their values,” he says. Inspired, Garrett set his sights on transforming sustainable concepts into action, and he was amazed by the many examples he found. “Sustainable livelihood is not just an ideal. It's something that people are achieving,” he says. Through PEDAL, Garrett and his partners are exploring sustainable solutions to our global ills, from the Onaen Sustainable Housing Project in Ontario to the Durika Biological Reserve in Buenos Aires, Costa Rica. The journey is 100% human-powered on bicycles, and the findings will be made available in a practical online toolkit. pedalacrosstheamericas.com



“ Images of Sawtooth horizons, of paint-peppered alpine meadows, of tourmaline lakes, of sun-colored straw-covered hills, of rushing and relentless river rapids, and most of all of caring, passionate, motivated, beautiful people will forever inspire my vision of a better world. ”

-Garrett Gauthier, Wild Gift Leader, Class of 2011

From left: Sarah, Hugo, Josh, Brendan, Francie St. Onge (Guide), Iain Duncan (Network Council Chair), Garrett



Wild Gift 2011 Class Trek

HUGO LARA plans to bring the flavor of his native Peru to his Wild Gift project. Combining a love for food and a passion for the environment, Hugo will create a business that offers culinary tours centered on cooking and sustainable food issues. “I've always been interested in food, but for a while, I was fighting it,” Hugo confesses. “I guess I felt that I should be doing something more serious, or something that would create a greater change in the world.” After time spent working for the Rainforest Alliance in Peru, it hit home what a profound influence food-related issues have on his country— issues such as deforestation, climate change, overfishing and population growth. Hugo saw a need to educate and engage people in a way that would be fun for them. His vision is to teach travelers to not only cook new dishes, but to appreciate the culture and the land that make it all possible. Hugo currently works and lives in Montpelier, Vermont.

When **BRENDAN BUZZARD** was doing research on elephants in Kenya a year ago, he noticed a lone bull that wandered an unusual distance, crossing cultural territories and tribal lands. Fluent in the local dialects, Brendan spoke with people about it, and became fascinated by this elephant's ability to transcend boundaries that kept people divided. For Brendan's Wild Gift project, he plans to study this elephant on foot and write a book about its journey. “It will be a collection of different stories and viewpoints from the different groups,” Brendan says, “and the elephant can be a way that they connect.” Brendan explains that part of the challenge in conserving elephants is that they require lots of space— space that is in high demand as people compete with the animals, and with each other, for limited resources, but he believes that the future of both man and beast hinges on our ability to come together and bridge the cultural divide. We are excited to watch his story unfold. Brendan splits his time between Kenya and Mazama, Washington.

Dear Friends of Wild Gift,

2011 has been a monumental year at Wild Gift. After eight successful seasons, we are moving from a volunteer-run organization to a professional and sustainable community. Here are some highlights:

We hired a new Executive Director. Deborah Knapp brings a love of nature and a diverse professional background to Wild Gift. She has more than 20 years of experience as an environmental lawyer and mediator, six years in the non-profit sector, and countless years as a volunteer community organizer and environmental advocate. Her enthusiasm for Wild Gift is infectious.

Two generous endowments were received. Thanks to contributions from the Anderson and Nelson families, we will be able to attain a higher level of professional management and more effectively achieve our long-term goals.

Five Leaders joined our family. Be sure to read about these remarkable innovators and their bold initiatives in the article above.

A Network Council has been launched. The newly formed Network Council is structuring support services and promoting ongoing engagement and collaboration with our Leaders.

The Wild Gift board is expanding. We have added four new members to our board: Chris Johnson, CEO of an early stage consumer web company in New York City, Scott Douglas, a film producer and guide, Barbara Anderson, former VP of the Container Store and long time Wild Gift supporter, and Peggy Wagener, a successful entrepreneur and magazine publisher. These individuals provide a wealth of experience and energy to ensure the fulfillment of the Wild Gift Mission.

Grants to be awarded. In December, we will be announcing awards of the first Network Grants to provide financial support for select Leader-directed projects.

The future looks bright. We continue to be motivated and inspired by our Wild Gift Leaders. They serve as reminders of the enormous opportunity and responsibility we have to build a network of courageous innovators - now more than ever.

It truly takes a village to change the world. Your support is helping us make real progress in building a new generation of Leaders. We are grateful to all of you who have contributed to Wild Gift and hope you are compelled to continue your support. For those of you new to Wild Gift, we ask too for your support in making this organization still bigger and stronger.

Thanking you all in advance,

The Wild Gift Board

Ken Aldridge • Ted Angle • Barbara Anderson • Cam Cooper • Scott Douglas
Iain Duncan • Chris Johnson • Bob Jonas • Heather Lukacs • Susan Scovell • Peggy Wagener

