

Flathead CORE
January 10, 2013

Sheena Pate (Whitefish Legacy Partners – Ed Outreach Coord- WhitefishTrail), Steph Paidas (Road Scholar), Mary Jo Gardner (Fair-Mont- Egan), Amy Grout(Lone Pine State Park), Patti Mason (Flathead Conservation District), Sonja Hartmann (Flathead NF-Hungry Horse), Laura Law (Glacier NP Ed Specialist), Kathy Martin (Hockaday Education), Evie Bradley (Creston Fish Hatchery)

1. Update for CORE website – Chany – first we tackled the big problems with just getting the website to load, and now we are starting to do more fine-tuning of how it looks. Chany will be helping us with this and then creating a “training manual” for us on how to make edits to the site on our own.
2. Earth Day (April 22) – FVCC has a link to the events from last year, www.fvcc.edu/2012/fvcc-to-host-earth-matters-week . They had a family carnival last year and perhaps that could be something we could help with. Mary Jo said she would contact FVCC and Melissa Sladek to start thinking about how we could be involved.
3. [Winter Trails Day events](#) are happening this weekend. A press release went out this week from Flathead National Forest and mentioned Flathead CORE. Lone Pine has free snowshoe rentals from 10-5 p.m. that day. They have the snowshoes for rental all winter (sizes = 4 medium, 3 larges, 7 youth, cost is \$5). Whitefish Legacy Partners is working with Stillwater Lodge and Ravenwood to host the event from 10 – 2 p.m. Swan Ecosystem Center is doing snowshoe hike for any beginners. A suggestion was made that we should email this info. to places like Blacktail and Big Mountain to let them know about it. Glacier NP will have their 10:30 and 2 p.m. walks. (It says 1:30 in the press release but it is actually 2 p.m. and these walks will continue every weekend until March 17.)
4. [Forest for Every Classroom](#) – is happening out of Missoula and the Flathead is trying to replicate this training. The MT Natural History Association is interested in being the lead host organization for the administrative body for the project. They would need a steering committee set up here. We need to make that decision to start planning for next fall. Patti is going to present it to the Flathead Conservation Board, Evie and Amy are tentative depending on time commitment, Diann Ericson, Laura Law and Sheena would be interested in helping. Pattie will contact MT NHC to find out what the time commitment would be for folks on the steering committee.
5. [Foys to Blacktail](#) – has been working on putting together a public workshop to gather information about local education needs (where we need to fill in holes and such). The professionals meeting will be January 18, 2013. Contact Jim Watson, jim@springbrookranch.com
6. A Wilderness Workshop is being planned for fall 2013 with Glacier Institute. Laura will contact Steve Archibald and Joyce Baltz to see about finalizing the plans. We hope to get it put on Pirnet. Here is information from [the Carhart Wilderness Center](#) website about the program:
[Wilderness Investigations](#)
Wilderness Investigations (WI) is a new wilderness education program offered by the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center. This rigorous, standards-correlated, and place-based toolkit includes live teacher training workshops, printed and downloadable teaching materials, online investigation-specific training, and a WI teacher networking site for sharing, problem-solving, and WI program announcements. WI topics are focused on key elements of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and include classroom, field, and family components. Every WI investigation includes project-based/hands-on activities, and many lead to service learning opportunities. WI is subject-integrated and geared mainly to 5th-8th grade audiences (but is easily adapted for other grades).
7. GO (Get Outside) Passport – Laura will check in with Tim to see if he still is interested in working on that. Evie said that Creston could be included. Sheena is super interested and said she could start working on it – Lone Pine, Glacier NP, the Hockaday, Creston, etc.. would want to be in the book.
8. Round Robin:
 - a. Hockaday – calendars with 4 months worth of events and show exhibits that will be up for the next 4 months. “MT Seasons” and “Catch the Vision” are opening now.

- i. Annual children's art show- entry forms are on-line, www.hockadaymuseum.org The opening reception is free, Thursday, March 7, 2013 for parents to see the artwork.
- b. Road Scholar is still planning and hiring for this summer. They have positions for this summer, www.bhei.org has the position descriptions and information. Spread the word with teachers and others who have summers off.
- c. Creston Fish Hatchery – working on a pollinator garden. Suggested to Evie some resources: Patti has a box of stuff and USFS did a “Pollinator’s Live” web broadcast last year. MT native plant society has many resources.
- d. [Whitefish Legacy Partners](#) – doing Winter Trails Day Event, then also a special needs classroom field trip, they will start a mountain biking program on the trail, they will also have a number of others they are working on.
 - i. Captain Planet granite foundation, \$500 grant for teachers who want to participate in community stewardship or env. Based education. <http://captainplanetfoundation.org>
 - ii. Suggests putting a link from CORE website to grant opportunities.
 - iii. MT Watershed Education Council also has bi-weekly lists of those kinds of opportunities.
- e. MARY JO GARDENER announced her retirement! This will be her last year teaching. We will definitely need to help Mary Jo celebrate this one!
- f. Lone Pine – 2013 program schedule available, call 755-2706. There is a cross country ski workshop this Saturday (\$10 for 3 hours at Herron Park).
 - i. They may be doing something on a Saturday around Earth Day week, April 20, 2013.
 - ii. Snow stompers program, \$3/kid on Saturdays for an hour. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate.
 - iii. Americorps members are starting next Thursday with school field trip scheduling. (We will post pdf on CORE website).
- g. FNF – Hungry Horse is working on more handouts for where to SS and things to do in that area. Stay tuned.
- h. The next meeting is March 14, 2013 here at FCD.