

Spring 2010



A decade of feasting? Already?
Join us for the 10th annual
WILD EDIBLE FEAST!



Photo Courtesy Karen Vail

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Hungry yet?

The past 9 years of Wild Edible Feasts have been magical! Bags of strange looking dirty things are brought to a brave chef, who creates marvelous, delectable dishes. We started at Vista Verde Guest Ranch with Chef Jonathon whose eyes lit up at the sight of garlic onions and sweet anise root. After several wonderful years at Vista Verde, we moved closer to town.

Catamount was gracious enough to host us for a few years, with Nikki organizing her troupes like a well-oiled machine. The chefs were in awe of the strange things we kept bringing. They loved a good challenge and produced some creative and tasty items. Last year's Feast at the Yacht Club with Mort couldn't be beaten, could it? Come find out!

Don't miss the 10th anniversary! The Lake House at Catamount is a spectacular venue for a unique event. I am going to pull out all the stops on collecting. Yep, the pressure is on for all you past and current collectors out there. It's fun, educational, and sometimes (OK, most of the time) really dirty. Just ask Sonja who won the award for the dirtiest outfit last year. What a great chance to learn about our local plants and their uses, where they grow, and how to collect them for your own uses! -Karen Vail

Friday, June 4th 6-9pm
The Lake House at Catamount
\$75 per person— Reserve now,
sells out early. 970-871-9151.



Sample Menu

*Wild onion crackers
with fresh rainbow trout topping*

*Sweet potato, ginger
and yampa root soup*

*Grouse with wild mint sauce
& sautéed bracken fronds*

*Sweet anise ice cream with sweet
anise angel food cake*



Mushroom Madness

Three or four days after a drenching summer rain, you will find me and others poking about in the leaf litter at the top of Buffalo Pass or hiking through the woods on Walton Peak in search of mycological magic called the King Bolete. Known in Italy as porcini or as cepes in France, this mushroom is sought around the world for its intense woody, musky aroma and flavor.

Our region is blessed with some of the choicest of mushrooms. In the spring, just as the aspens are leafing out, morels are sought and sometimes found on north facing slopes away from conifers. July and August bring out the boletes, while the August through October period provides a bounty of shaggy manes and chanterelles. Yampatika invites you to join us during our late August mushroom foray to learn how to safely identify and prepare our mushroom bounty!

-Judith & Bill Emerson

President's Message



Greetings to Our Yampatika Friends, As spring is rapidly approaching (did we really ever have winter?), we welcome an exciting line-up of summer programs. We offer something for everyone from as young as 5 all the way up to the golden years. Be sure to check our line-up of events at www.yampatika.org before making your summer plans!

As we're growing, our Board is changing. After several years, Lindarose Berkley has stepped down as president, but she is still actively involved as our past-president. As a result, I willingly moved from vice-president to the role of president. We've also added another board member, Dan Foley, Financial Planner & owner of Sleeping Giant Financial Services. Ed McArthur, president and owner of Native Excavating, is now our Treasurer. We are excited to be moving forward!

We thank you... our members, donors, and volunteers for your interest and continued support of our mission of "inspiring environmental stewardship through education!"

-Sherry Benson, President, Board of Directors

Save the date! June 13 for an exclusive tour of Walton Falls

The snowmelt rushing from Colorado's highest waterfall, Walton Falls, is a sight not to be missed. This exclusive viewing of the Falls will recognize donors who contribute \$250+ to our Environmental Learning Center at Legacy Ranch.

Donors will enjoy a brunch at Storm Mountain Cabin and a short walk to Walton Falls. A shuttle will also be provided.

If you have not already made a contribution, it is not too late! If you are not sure about your contribution level, call 970-871-9151 or email us at info@yampatika.org to find out. We are grateful to Storm Mountain Ranch for offering this unique opportunity to view the falls, located on their property.



More on the Wild Edible Feast...

To request a spot on our Wild Edible Feast Collecting Team, Call Karen at 970-870-9565. Collecting is June 2 & 3. If you are lucky, you'll get to wear the muck boots to collect cattails!



Thanks to our Event Sponsors!



Alpine Bank
"Making Your Dreams Come True"

The Lake House at Catamount Summit Distributing

Volunteer Corner

The volunteer packet for summer volunteers is in the mail. We have more volunteer openings this summer than ever before. There are 14 different Adult Field-School Hikes and several fund raisers for which we need one or two Program Hosts.

If you enjoy working with children, we have summer camps from June to August, for ages 5-14. Have fun while helping our Naturalists with the kids! We also need help with our May BLM program for 6th graders in Craig. All of these programs are lots of fun!

Please return your commitment sheet as soon as you can! Assignments are made on a first come first served basis. If you are interested and have not received your volunteer packet, please email your mailing address to me, and I will send one to you – or stop by the Yampatika office and pick one up! We'd love to have your help!

-Charlotte Jensen, Volunteer Coordinator,
Board of Directors
ontheelkcbj@wildblue.net

PS- Other volunteers are needed to help in the Yampatika office in the afternoons. We are also looking for a graphic designer, a photographer, and an editor for our newsletter.



Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day with Yampatika!

7am-2pm , Saturday, May 22nd

The Environmental Learning Center (park at Bald Eagle Lake)

This year’s theme is “The Power of Partnerships.” Join Yampatika, The Nature Conservancy, the Yampa Valley Birding Club, The City of Steamboat Springs, and the U.S. Forest Service for a family-friendly day of bird walks and engaging bird-themed activities for the whole family. Adult education topics include pollinator gardening and co-existing with area wildlife. **FREE and open to the public. No registration required!**

Youth Programs at The Environmental Learning Center

As we close our first year at The Environmental Learning Center at Legacy Ranch, we are proud to have touched the lives of many youth. The historical and modern day charm of the Ranch brought youth together to learn about their local history and environment through experiential programs. Last fall began with Yampa Valley Science School 6th graders’ service learning day, filled with projects around the property. The students were the first to break ground on our children’s garden. They also built up the first compost area. It was a very productive program, which led to many other kids’ enjoyment at the Ranch.



Photo courtesy Jess Schnittka

SOS Outreach visited The Environmental Learning Center in the fall, completing part of their community service work. Amy McFadden, Regional Program Manager noted the importance of using service learning to reiterate what students learn in class. “We enjoyed a variety of activities that focused on both service and learning. Raking the garden, turning the compost, picking up branches, and raking leaves helped Yampatika prepare Legacy Ranch for the winter season while the educational curriculum provided SOS participants with meaning and context for the service activities. Michelle taught a lesson on the benefits and detrimental effects of carbon on the environment. Learning about carbon in conjunction with working on the compost pile gave the kids meaning behind what they were doing.” The Yampatika partnership catered just to what the kids needed in the community.

In February we partnered with The Boys and Girls Club of Steamboat Springs to provide a blues break camp for Club

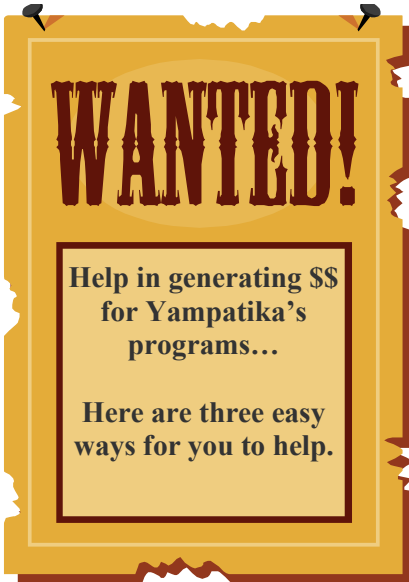
members. The camp provided 45 campers between the ages of 7-10 the opportunity to learn about snow ecology, wildlife’s adaptations to winter, and animal tracking. The numbers of kids that signed up to enjoy a day at Legacy Ranch was overwhelming. According to Boys and Girls Club Director Heather Martyn, the program brought new kids to the Club who were attracted by the Yampatika offering. We hope to participate in many more ventures with the Boys and Girls Club in the future!

“We did a wide variety of hands-on activities such as making and identifying animal prints, digging snow pits and learning how to snowshoe. The activities were fun, educational and very interactive. For many of the children, it had been their first time snowshoeing, and it was really heart-warming to see these kids outside observing and taking part in the environment in which they live. I am sure this will translate into making better decisions for their own health and the health of our environment.”

-Jessica Schnittka, Senior Staff, The Boys and Girls Club of Steamboat Springs



Yampatika and 4H are partnering to offer kids 8-18 the opportunity to raise sheep and goats at Yampatika’s Environmental Learning Center! For more information, contact Jay Whaley, 4H Youth Development Agent, Routt County Extension at 970-879-0825.



What if Yampatika earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? What if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!



GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up! GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause!

Download the GoodSearch – Yampatika toolbar, we will earn money every time you shop & search online. Add the Yampatika toolbar at...

<http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/yampatika>

Alpine Bank's Loyalty Check Card program is an innovative way for you to give back to your community. Each time you use your Loyalty Check Card, Alpine Bank donates 10 cents per transaction to organizations that are specific to your community and geographical area. Loyalty Check Cards are available with no annual fee to individuals with an Alpine Bank checking account. Yampatika benefits from the Environment card. For more information on this program, please visit Alpine Bank.



City Market Cares for Yampatika!



With your City Market Value Card, you can help us raise funds. Simply call 970 871-9151 or email us with your name, address and Card number. We will do the rest. Yampatika receives a percentage of the price of your groceries! The more you use your Value Card, the more we earn. It's as simple as that. Do contact us at Yampatika and help us fulfill our mission of inspiring environmental stewardship through education.

Q: Does it really help?

A: YES!

In 2009, City Market Cares provided enough funding for Yampatika to deliver 6 field trips to area schools! Yampatika's program provide children opportunities to safely explore their natural surroundings.

Yampatika's Offices, 8am-5pm
US Forest Service Building
925 Weiss Drive
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487
(970) 871-9151

Yampatika's Environmental
Learning Center at Legacy Ranch
See our program brochure for guided visits
(970) 846-3500

info@yampatika.org

www.yampatika.org

Yampatika and the City of Steamboat Springs win the 2010 State Honor Award!

In May we will receive this Award, "in recognition of efforts successfully made to preserve and creatively adapt for public purpose the Hutchinson (Legacy) Ranch." Recognition will take place at The Dana Crawford Awards Dinner, Colorado's largest statewide preservation awards assembly, honoring individuals and organizations who have made a significant contribution toward preserving Colorado's built history. Dana Crawford was a pioneer in saving historic buildings that were viewed as eyesores and in proving that their restoration makes economic sense.

