

# VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

*It's the little things this year's volunteers of the year have in common. They pay attention to detail, whether it's wildflowers, insects, or the color of turning leaves. They also share a simple love of conservation and truly exemplify what it means to give back.*

**Mary Crow** has been a Land Trust volunteer and member since 2006. "Mary is one of a handful of core volunteers who make the Land Trust's outing program possible. We simply couldn't offer such outstanding options for exploring our protected lands without her," said Sarah Mowry, the Land Trust's outreach manager. Mary enjoys leading longer hikes that explore the far flung corners of Rimrock Ranch or Whychus Canyon Preserve, but she is equally at home reveling in the wildflowers of Camp Polk Meadow Preserve.

"Volunteering for the Land Trust is the best job I've ever had! Where else could I pursue my passion for hiking, while reminding others it's up to them to take care of our Northwest paradise," said Mary. In addition to the hours dedicated to the outing program, Mary most recently helped document wildflowers at various Land Trust properties and was a member of the Fence Patrol at Camp Polk Meadow Preserve. Thanks Mary for all your time and energy!



**Sherry Steele** is a relative newcomer to the Land Trust, but one who has jumped in with enthusiasm. When Sherry learned of the Land Trust's campaign to purchase Whychus Canyon Preserve, she immediately called to see how she could get involved. Hundreds of hours later, she helped spread the word about the campaign while designing and tying the Whychus Canyon Steelhead Fly. "We were so lucky to have an artist like Sherry to help spread the word about Whychus Canyon Preserve. Sherry not only tied hundreds of flies herself, but she also



organized other tyers and rallied the fishing community," said the Land Trust's executive director Brad Chalfant. Thanks Sherry for your nimble fingers and beautiful art!



Finally, every few years the Land Trust is able to recognize special individuals who have consistently given a great deal of time and energy to the Land Trust. **Byron Dudley** has been photographing the Land Trust's protected lands for more than 10 years. As one of our first volunteer photographers, his amazing work helped tell the story of some of our earliest projects—Alder Springs, Camp Polk Meadow and the Metolius Preserve. Ten years later we've hiked Byron through forest, desert, and creek, and he is still willing and ready to get out and capture the next new project or recast our first in new light. We are forever indebted to Byron for contributing such amazing photos of our special places, and we are pleased to present him this year's Lifetime Achievement Award. Thanks Byron! ➤

