



# Beyond Basecamp

The Newsletter of Montana Yellowstone Expeditions

[www.myeconnect.org](http://www.myeconnect.org)



## From Basecamp

Ellen Sagmyr  
MYE Program Director

November has been a busy and exciting time, at MYE and also for the USA. At MYE Montana we are well down the track in our planning for the 2009 summer. We are expanding our Wilderness Challenge Course participant numbers and are very excited about the innovations we have lined up for all our courses, including the two Leadership Labs we have programmed.

We are partway through some building and remodeling projects at Basecamp which will continue on through next Spring...all intended to streamline our processes and further increase the quality of the Basecamp experience for MYE students and staff.

On the National front, you would have had to have been unconscious for two years to have missed the protracted build up to the 2008 Presidential Elections. Hopefully the historic significance of the result, the landslide election of the first US African-American President, outweighs campaign fatigue even for the most jaded or politically disinterested of us, regardless of one's political persuasion.

A rekindled interest in the democratic process was reflected in the highest voter turn out in a US Presidential Election since 1908. More than 60% of eligible voters turned out to vote, and many stood in lines, some up to 1/2 mile long, sometimes waiting for over 4hrs, just to have their say. The youth vote was up 10%, and various other minority groups felt empowered and motivated enough to vote in record numbers.

Many of our students are too young to vote this time around, but young people everywhere still found ways to be involved in, and inspired by, the democratic process as recounted by Andi R. in her story on pg 6.

The unprecedented involvement in this election from all sectors of the population, the fervor with which issues were discussed and argued, and a result that was inspired by a message of hope, openness and the desire for constructive change make me feel more optimistic about the future we are creating for our young people and future leaders....that is all of you, MYE Alumni. When people are inspired, empowered and galvanized, they can effect change for themselves and in their environment. Obama role modeled this in his successful run for President.

I believe we are all able to do the same thing in our own lives, it is a matter of skills, knowledge, opportunity and choice. In our programs, we provide our participants with new experiences and exposure to new ideas. We support them as they identify their strengths, work through challenges and dare to dream. We empower them to make decisions and take action, and then accept responsibility for the outcomes. We hope this experience and our Continuing Education program inspires, empowers and galvanizes them to believe they, like all of us, can make a positive difference in the world. We just need to have a vision, set our sights on it and take the first step.....

### In This Issue

<b>From Basecamp</b>	Ellen Sagmyr	Pg 1
<b>MT Reunion</b>	Andy Leider	
<b>Next Steps - The Leadership Lab</b>	Ellen Sagmyr	Pg 2
<b>CA Workshops and Retreats</b>	Jerry Lawrie/Julissa Castillo Rachel Rohrbach	Pg 3/4
<b>Inconvenient Youth/CA Reunion</b>	Andy Leider	Pg 5
<b>Current Events/Opinions/POV</b>	Andy L/Tanya Smith/Andi R	Pg 6
<b>MYEarth Thanksgiving - You Are What You Eat</b>	Ellen Sagmyr	Pg 7/8
<b>A Native American Morning Thanks</b>	Chief Jack Swamp	Pg 9
<b>Classifieds and Notices</b>		Pg 10

## Montana Alumni Reunion - Grizzly Creek Ranch December 6th 2008



**Who:** MYE Staff and Students 2004-08  
**Where:** Grizzly Creek Ranch  
**When:** Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am - 6:30pm  
**Meeting Time and Place:**

- ▶ Bozeman High School Parking Lot, Main St by Swim Center 9:30am
- ▶ Livingston Albertsons, Front Entrance 10:30am
- ▶ Tom Miner Hwy 89/Tom Miner Rd Junction 11:15am

**Theme:** MYE MT Family Reunion and Wolf Winter Ecology

We'll head up to Grizzly Creek Ranch for an afternoon hike or snowshoe, depending on the weather, and have lunch at the ranch. Then we will drive down to Chico Hot Springs for a soak, before heading back to town.

During the day, we'll talk winter wolf ecology with Greg Smith (aka Jim Deacons), explore the ranch in winter, reconnect with old friends, and make a few new ones. We'll also make lunch together, and explore ways for MYE to continue to support you as you move on in school and life. You'll learn all about MYE scholarship opportunities, and how to apply for support from MYE to do the cool things that you're thinking of tackling.

Join us to rekindle the warm spirit of MYE in the beautiful winter chill of Grizzly Creek Ranch.

RSVP is required by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Andy Leider or Ryan Welty at MYE in Bozeman, 551-2022, or [basecamp@myeconnect.org](mailto:basecamp@myeconnect.org). We'll send you more information and plans before the 6<sup>th</sup>.



## ▶ Next Steps.....The 2009 Leadership Lab

MYEF is intending to run two full-scholarship Leadership Lab's in Montana during the 2009 summer season. These 25-day programs include an extended expedition, a 3-day rock climbing workshop, a service component, advanced river skills and an ascent of a local peak.

If you are accepted for a Leadership Lab you can expect to have a fun time with a group of highly motivated MYE alumni, folks like you who want to challenge themselves and go to the next level with MYE. On the Leadership Lab you and your fellow participants will further explore and develop your leadership skills, expand your technical outdoor skills, visit new places and have a high level of input into the quality of your experience and program outcomes.

### The Leadership Lab is MYE 2.0 and takes exceptional MYE alumni to the next level.

- ▶ **The aim of this program** is to help students further develop a sense of who they are, what they value and how they can use their strengths and skills to have a positive impact in their world and in reaching their goals.
- ▶ **Successful applicants will have demonstrated** an ongoing commitment to their own learning and development since attending their Wilderness Challenge Course in Montana. It is an advantage to applicants to have had regular attendance and contributions to MYE Continuing Education events, and/or be involved in community service projects.
- ▶ **The Leadership Lab has two phases** – a 25 day Outdoor Pursuits Course based in Tom Miner Basin in Montana and a second phase that kicks off after course participants arrive home.....This will be coordinated by a MYE staff member online and through telephone conferencing.

### MYE 2009 Leadership Lab Dates:

Course One: June 18th - July 12th  
Course Two: July 21st - August 14th

#### To apply for the Leadership Lab you must:

- ▶ Have attended and completed a 25 day MYE Wilderness Challenge program.
- ▶ Be attaining passing grades at school.
- ▶ Have no active judicial or criminal record.
- ▶ Complete an MYE Leadership Lab Application, including all supporting material, and return it to MYE by the due date.
- ▶ Have high energy, a positive attitude, the ability and willingness to work long hours and multiple days in a row.
- ▶ Be physically fit and active.
- ▶ Be able to be in Montana for the dates of the program and be committed to being an active participant during the subsequent school year.
- ▶ Have written permission from your legal guardian to attend the course.
- ▶ Provide a letter of recommendation from someone who is not a relative.

#### It would benefit your application if you:

- ▶ Were 16 years of age or older.
- ▶ Could show demonstrated leadership abilities, community service involvement and/or participation in outdoor activities since your MYE Wilderness Challenge program.
- ▶ Have kept in touch with MYE after your Montana program (this could be through the Life Skills program, newsletter contributions, MYEarth contact, contacting us to tell us what you are up to in terms of leadership/community service, etc).

### Applications for the 2009 Leadership Lab open on December 1st 2008

and will close when we have filled our programs with suitable applicants, or mid-February 2009, whichever comes first.....

- ▶ Leadership Lab information is available on the MYE website/Leadership Lab page
- ▶ Application forms and gear list can be downloaded from the MYE website via a link on the Alumni or Leadership Lab pages/or can be emailed to you by request to Ellen at: [ellen@myeconnect.org](mailto:ellen@myeconnect.org)

MYE Website: [www.myeconnect.org](http://www.myeconnect.org)



## ▶ 2008 MYE California - College Workshop Series

*By Jerry Lawrie - MYE CA Coordinator*



### The College Workshop Series courses are in full swing right now.....

13 MYE Alumni are six weeks into our 10-week Princeton Review SAT prep Course. Each 2 hour class is spent reviewing and practicing SAT testing techniques to prepare participants for their upcoming tests. Good luck to all course participants. Keep up the good work.

Two of three classes in the College Application and Personal Statements Course have also been completed. This course is providing information and support to minimize college application stress for our High School seniors.

Course participants are finishing their personal statements and having them reviewed before submitting them to their colleges of choice.

Lastly, we have visited two different colleges on our College Visit Program .

▶ On October 11<sup>th</sup> we spent a day touring and getting acquainted with UCSB . The campus was quiet the day we were there. We participated in a scavenger hunt, a tour of the new UCSB recreation center, and attended an information session at the visitor's center.

▶ On November 8<sup>th</sup> we headed down to USC to get a feel for what a private school is like. The campus was bustling when we got there at 9:30am. The USC football team was playing Cal Berkley and the campus was full of people getting ready for the game. We met with the Dean of the Accounting Department along with other Summer Leadership Program faculty and students. We were treated very warmly.

This is an exciting and overwhelming time for our seniors, as they move rapidly towards a transition from school to whatever comes next for them. MYE is helping to smooth this transition for seniors, and other students, through these current programs.



### Go Trojans! - By Rachel Rohrbach MYE 2/2006 Leadership Lab/2008 Intern



On November 8 a group of MYE alumni took a trip the University of Southern California in LA, to see what it had to offer and to explore the historic campus.

The day started with a presentation in the USC Accounting School, learning about their classes and getting application information. We then did a campus tour, where we really felt the USC spirit. Students and fans of the USC Trojan football team were everywhere; most of them dressed head to toe in scarlet and gold - the school's colors - and singing the school's song. They were all ready to see their team win against the Cal State Bears. It was great to see the level of pride demonstrated by the student body.



We then met up with a graduate of the USC's famous film program. He told us about the program and its many well-known graduates, who were evident in the building names - the George Lucas classroom block being right next-door to the Steven Spielberg sound stage. It was really awesome to walk the same halls as these creative directors.

School tour done, we headed to the California Science Center and were let loose to explore the center's many exhibits. We saw Wild Ocean 3D, a movie showing at the Center's IMAX theatre. The movie was about how during Fall, the sardine migration brings the sea and land together on the African coast.

It was a great day and ended with a beautiful California sunset. I got the feel of the school, liked what I saw, and definitely have it on my radar. If any of you are interested in what this school has to offer check out their website [www.USC.edu](http://www.USC.edu). It seems like a great place to get an education.



## ▶ 2008 MYE California - Rocking Retreat

*By Jerry Lawrie - MYE CA Coordinator*



On October 25<sup>th</sup>, a group of MYE Alumni joined me to have a fun filled day of climbing at San Ysidro Rock, a local crag in the Santa Barbara front-country. When we met our USCB climbing instructors at the Orfalea Family Foundation at 8am that morning it was unseasonably warm. This was a pleasant surprise as I had expected the day to be a bit cooler.

The trailhead to the crag is a 30 minute drive from Santa Barbara and by 9am we were on the trail ready for our half hour uphill hike to the rock. It was a pleasant walk and before long we were at the base of the San Ysidro crag, ready to turn our sights to the day of climbing ahead. With it being so warm, we were thankful for the shade the north facing San Ysidro rock provided.

We began with the usual climbing prep, fitting harnesses and shoes; and learning belaying, knots, and climbing calls. Most of the group had climbed in Montana and for them this was just a review of information they already knew. The UCSB instructors noticed and were impressed that we all had climbing experience.

We spent most of the day climbing. Everyone had the opportunity to climb the three routes we had set up and also had fun extending ourselves with added challenges, one being a speed climbing competition. There were climbing records set and broken throughout the day. The fastest time up the rock was 2 min. 38 seconds, on a 5-8 climb. It was quite amazing to watch our MYE alumni sprinting up a 5-8 climb. Towards the end of the day everyone who chose to had the opportunity to rappel.

We finished the climbing feeling tired from the day of physical and mental activity, and were all satisfied with what we achieved on the rock. Individual and group goals were set and met, and each of us was proud of the connections we made with other team members.

### Goal Setting and Rock Climbing

*By Julissa Castillo MYE 15/2008 Intern*

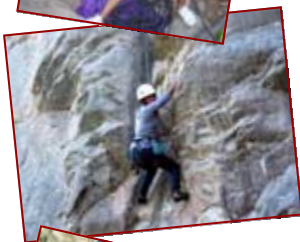
The rock retreat began with a mini uphill hike to the rock climbing site. Most of the group had been rock climbing at least once before, so we had an idea of what to expect.

The session began with a briefing, reminding us about the importance of communication between the belayer and climber; reinforcing rock safety issues and we also re-learned how to tie a figure eight knot.

There was a lot of excitement and enthusiasm in the group. Having had good experiences on the rock in Montana people couldn't wait to start climbing. Some climbers made the climbing look really easy while others had some trouble and needed encouragement to continue towards their goal. We had so much fun not only climbing but also joking around and catching up with friends we hadn't seen for a while.

Towards the end of the day most of us were pretty tired - with the exception of Ryan Marquez and Pedro Valdovinos. They spent 30 to 40 minutes competing to see who could get to top of the rock in the least amount of time. There were several trials and though Ryan beat Pedro initially, Pedro didn't go down that easy and refused to give up. He was determined to beat Ryan's time and after several attempts finally achieved it.

Pedro's consistency and determination reminded me of how you can achieve whatever you want by setting your mind to it. Pedro didn't give up until he got what he wanted. This can be a reminder for all of us to not forget - you can set your mind on a goal and continue to fight for your goal until you achieve it.





**Inconvenient Youth - *By Andy Leider MYEF Executive Director***

Once in awhile, those hours spent idly surfing the internet yield some pretty cool stuff. I was floating through the site [www.ning.com](http://www.ning.com) (see below) and came across Inconvenient Youth (ICY). ICY is a place for students to gather in a social network to make a statement and a difference in the world today.



As their website states:

*“The Inconvenient Youth (ICY) is a non-profit organization established by Mary Doerr, a high school senior in Palo Alto, California. Frustrated with the lack of a coherent political agenda regarding global warming, she organized this group to educate and inspire young adults to become agents of change.”*

Like MYE, ICY strives to build an intentional community of youth who are engaged in positive action on climate change and other pressing issues. Their name is a play on Al Gore’s documentary An Inconvenient Truth, which many of you watched at MYE.

*“We, The Inconvenient Youth, are a network of teens across America who really care about our future. We feel that the time has come to act in the face of climate change. We believe that, given the urgency of this incredible problem, we can no longer rely on others to take responsibility on our behalf. We see solutions to this problem, and they are within our reach. We know that as a generation, we can solve it. Act today. Join us.”*

ICY looks like a great outlet for learning from, and collaborating with, students from around the country, and working toward a shared vision of empowerment, activism, and change. Sounds like another organization you all have some experience with ... MYE.

ICY has a full website with lots of information, forums, groups, photos, blogs, and links to cool stuff from across the Net. Check it out at [www.inconvenientyouth.org](http://www.inconvenientyouth.org), set up your own page, or set-up an MYE page!



If you like MySpace or Facebook, check out Ning. Ning is a weird name for a site that allows individuals to set up and run their own social networks. There are 1000s of active networks on 100s of topics. It takes about 30 seconds to join the site and be able to join any of the networks, or create your own. [www.Ning.com](http://www.Ning.com)

**CA Retreat - Come and Climb Little Pine Mtn. Saturday December 20<sup>th</sup>**



**Come join MYE on a hike, explore the backcountry of Santa Barbara and climb a local peak.**

We are headed to Little Pine Mountain a 4,506 peak in the Santa Ynez Valley, only a half hour drive from Santa Barbara. The trail we are taking is a 10.5 mile roundtrip with an elevation gain of 2000 feet past steep cliffs, through oak woodlands and across vast grasslands. The route is not as testing as the high peaks of Montana, but is a great climb and very achievable even if you haven’t been hiking for while.



This retreat is perfect if you would like to get in a great hike and some revitalizing exercise, enjoy good company and explore your backyard over the Christmas break.

**More information is coming to you via email, or follow the link and download the Assumption of risk form on the MYE website/Alumni page. Or contact Jerry: [jerry@myeconnect.org](mailto:jerry@myeconnect.org)**

**The assumption of risk must be faxed or mailed by 12/12/08 in order to hold your spot. Please fax to 805-565-7554 or mail to: 1283 Coast Village Circle, Santa Barbara, CA. 93108 Attn: Jerry Lawrie MYE**



**Power Vote with We Can Solve It** - *By Andy Leider*

On October 29, 2008, the organization We Can Solve It ([www.wecansolveit.org](http://www.wecansolveit.org)) hosted PowerVote. This was a 30 minute interview, and a question and answer session with Al Gore, author of An Inconvenient Truth and Nobel prize winner, and one of the leading voices on climate change.

Check out the YouTube link to the video on the We Can Solve It homepage.

The goal of PowerVote was to engage young people to get out and vote the environment. The message of the web-cast, which was simulcast on college campuses across the country and in which Gore took email questions from students, was that students can make a difference in the election (which you did) and in the movement to combat climate change and address our energy needs.

**Historic Times** - *By Tanya Smith MYE Basecamp 2006/07 Support Staff*

I am here in good ol' Gettysburg, Pennsylvania enjoying my somewhat stressful junior year. I am keeping busy with my job at the Center for Public Service, presiding over the Habitat for Humanity chapter, actively participating in all intramural sports, lots of outdoor activities, and oh yeah - doing work with those pesky things called classes!

This past November 4th was no doubt, an historic election. I feel very special to have voted for the 44th and first African-American President. He is in my mind undeniably one of the greatest speakers of the century and his credentials and charisma are enough to blow anyone's mind. I could go on and on about how brilliant his campaign was or how his victory will help mend foreign relations. However, I want to focus on one thing in particular that really disturbs me.

On November 5, a New York Times article read, "Obama elected president... sweeping away the last racial barrier in American politics." The fact that we elected a black man as our Commander-In-Chief is a great feat, but does not mean we have eradicated racism from America. Unity and equality is an ongoing process and one that must not be overlooked. Don't let the media fool you - there are still a great number of crazy white supremacists out there. Now, more than ever, we need to unite under one flag and support Obama and his long-term plan to for us to dig ourselves out of the financial crisis we are currently experiencing.

**Directing Traffic on the Big Day** - *By Andi Rodriguez MYE 2/2006 Leadership Lab/2008 Intern*

November 4th, 2008 - The Big Day. Unfortunately, my big day (the big one-eight) wouldn't be for another couple of months, which meant I couldn't vote. After months of hearing about this "once in a lifetime" election, when the day finally came, I couldn't even have my say. I did however, find a way to get involved. I didn't get to wear one of those "I voted!" stickers, but I did get to pass them out.

I heard from my friend that there was a program offering a stipend of \$130 for working at the poll booths on election day. At first the money was the only thing that interested me, but once I started going to training sessions I really began to like what these people were all about. The Student Poll Working Program teaches high school and college students what goes on behind the scenes on election day.

They give us specific jobs we would do from the minute the polls opened to the moment they closed. I was a Traffic Clerk, which meant I directed voters to the correct precinct. Sounds easy; but let me tell you that I had to go through two hours of training for it! Not only was it the longest working day I've had in my life (6 am to 9 pm), I was stationed at UCSB. This meant I had college students coming in either totally confused about what to do or dismissing me completely. A few people completely ignored me and went to the wrong precinct, waited in the wrong line for a half hour and then came back to yell at me. Then there were students who came decked out in Obama pins and I had to tell them to take them off. Most understood the rules of electioneering, but for those who didn't I had to spend a half hour explaining it to them. Luckily, I was well trained, so had no problem telling them why they couldn't wear the pins.

Even with the few mishaps, the day went great. It was long and lonely sitting at the front of the room by myself, but it was worth it. Luckily Jerry called to let me know what was happening with the election! Even before the polls had closed, the news of Barack Obama winning had spread throughout the campus, and you wouldn't believe how many red, white, and blue Speedos I saw that night.

We were finally able to close the poll booths down and start packing up, but one crucial thing was left to do before we left. Count the ballots. Of course we didn't do it, a big machine did, but we got to see the results. And lucky me - I got to actually sign the final tally as a witness.





## You Are What You Eat - *By Ellen Sagmyr*

Your food choices, what you eat and where you buy it from, are good places to impact the triple bottom line of sustainability - healthy people, healthy planet and healthy local economy.

In days gone by, it was easier to track the food we ate from the ground or pasture to people's plates, and to know what was in it. The globalization of our food chain has made this much more difficult and, combined with a lack of accountability in our food quality systems, is putting the quality and safety of our food in jeopardy. It is time to wind back the clock, and educate ourselves about food. Establishing where it comes from, and what is in it; are significant steps in becoming empowered to make healthy, informed food choices.

The urgency to do this was highlighted recently by the Chinese melamine scandal. Melamine, a nitrogen-based compound used in commercial and industrial plastics, is now embedded in the global food chain - thanks to a number of Chinese food producers. What is the problem with melamine? Ingesting it can cause health problems including kidney stones and kidney failure, and in some circumstances can result in death.

**Why add melamine to food? Protein levels in foodstuffs are measured by their nitrogen levels. Some Chinese food producers, concerned about their financial bottom line, added nitrogen-rich melamine to their products to make them appear high in protein and therefore worth more in the world market...brilliant!**

This was first revealed in 2007 when cats and dogs in the US died after eating pet food containing Chinese produced 'wheat gluten'. This news caused a stir but the world took the situation more seriously early this year when thousands of Chinese babies got sick, and some died, from drinking Chinese produced baby formula. Test results confirmed the formula had dangerously high levels of melamine.

Since then numerous foodstuffs from grocery shelves across the globe have been tested and presented with high levels of melamine. What have they got in common? They contain Chinese produced dairy derivatives and/or wheat gluten. Reading labels on processed foods won't necessarily help you avoid the problem as these ingredients may not be listed - and it appears many US food producers don't even know it is in their food.

There are also examples of food safety issues originating from closer to home - the safety of spinach, tomatoes and jalapeños has been in question in the last year. What can we do? We can start by lobbying our law-makers to extend and enforce food safety standards. We can also educate ourselves about what we are eating and where it comes from, so we are making informed choices. Why not start this on Thanksgiving...where food is a symbol of our gratitude for the good things in our lives? Here are some ideas for you to make healthy, local, informed food choices this Thanksgiving.....



### The Main Course

99% of the turkeys eaten over a typical US Thanksgiving holiday are raised in 'industrial' conditions. The most common Thanksgiving turkey is the artificially bred 'Broadbreasted White' variety. These birds are raised in crowded conditions on factory farms, pumped full of grain, anti-biotics; and in some cases injected with saline and vegetable oils to make them taste better. Millions of dollars worth of turkeys are imported, the most common importer being Canada. So your common garden variety of Thanksgiving turkey is unlikely to be local, additive-free or sustainably raised.

#### What can you do?

You could go cold turkey this Thanksgiving. If that isn't an option think about buying an organic, sustainably raised or heritage turkey for your thanksgiving feast this year.....

For more information about Heritage Turkeys and other healthy turkey options talk to your local butcher or go to:



[www.heritageturkeyfoundation.org](http://www.heritageturkeyfoundation.org)  
[www.heritagefoodsusa.com](http://www.heritagefoodsusa.com)  
[www.marysturkeys.com](http://www.marysturkeys.com)





### What would your meals look like if you used ingredients that were only grown/produced within a 100 miles of where you live?

In 2007, students and faculty at the University of Virginia met for an unusual Thanksgiving meal, motivated by the knowledge that most ingredients in North American's diets travel an average of 1,500 miles to reach our tables.

Their meal was created with ingredients only found within a 100-mile radius of their homes. During their research and planning process they developed personal connections with local farmers and producers, learned about the local growing environment and seasonality, and the often-difficult circumstances faced by local farmers. They also produced a delicious meal.....

This is a challenge we could all take on in some form. Whether it is for one meal (Thanksgiving?), an ingredient or group of ingredients (eg dairy products) - ask yourself, "what can I do to eat locally, promote healthy eating, and reduce my impact on the planet?"

There is a whole movement dedicated to eating the '100 mile diet' and plenty of information on how to get started. If you are interested in finding out more about this, Google 100 mile diet or go to: [www.treehugger.com](http://www.treehugger.com) or [www.100milediet.org](http://www.100milediet.org)

### EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT THE FOOD YOUR ARE EATING THIS THANKSGIVING

Choose ONE ingredient from your holiday menu that is grown in your area.

- ▶ Purchase the ingredient at a local farm, farmers market, co-op, or food store
- ▶ Learn everything you can about the ingredient including:
  - The name and location of the farm where it was grown.
  - The part of the plant we eat (root, leaves, stem, etc).
  - Nutritional value.
  - Uses (culinary, commercial, medicinal, etc).
  - Region where it was first domesticated by humans.
  - Folklore or any other related facts
  - How the food was raised and prepared (i.e. seed variety/animal breed; soil amendments; pest control techniques; planting times; harvesting times; animal housing, feeding, and slaughter methods; storage; processing; transport).
- ▶ When you serve your "local dish," share all the trivia you learned with your guests and family. Strike up a discussion on the importance of local food, find out other food facts or ways to use your ingredient from your fellow diners.



### Scholarships Through The MYE Foundation

MYE Foundation offers MYE alumni access to several types of scholarships. We care about you and your future education, and want to support you as best we can. MYE Foundation scholarships are for MYE alumni in good standing. This means that you have stayed in contact with MYE, participated in Life Skills events, written for our newsletter or website, and are seeking the next level in your development or education. This means you!

#### MYE Foundation Program Scholarship

This scholarship will help you to access programs and opportunities beyond what MYE provides. The programs need to support the goals and spirit of MYE – with a focus on learning, leadership, service, sustainability and/or the outdoors. You don't need to wait for us with this one, if you see something you are interested in being involved with that fits the criteria above – apply for the scholarship and step into your next adventure!

For more information and application forms go to the Alumni/Life skills page at the MYE website: [www.myeconnect.org](http://www.myeconnect.org) or contact Jerry Lawrie at: [jerry@myeconnect.org](mailto:jerry@myeconnect.org)

In the last year MYEF Program Scholarships have supported MYE alumni in the following activities:

- ▶ Youth conferences
- ▶ SAT Prep courses
- ▶ Leadership Programs
- ▶ Private tutoring
- ▶ Transportation to school activities
- ▶ College testing fees

Up to \$1500 available - applications accepted on the first of every other month. Next application deadline is January 1st



### A Native American Good Morning Message

To be a human being is an honor, and  
We offer thanksgiving for all the gifts of life.  
Mother Earth, we thank you for giving us everything we need.  
Thank you deep blue waters around Mother Earth,  
For you are the force that takes thirst away from all living things.  
We give thanks to green grasses that feel so good against our bare feet,  
For the cool beauty you bring to Mother Earth's floor.  
Thank you, good foods from Mother Earth, our life sustainers,  
For making us happy when we are hungry.  
Fruits and berries, we thank you for your color and sweetness.  
We are thankful to good medicine herbs,  
For healing us when we are sick.  
Thank you, all the animals in the world,  
For keeping our forests clean.  
All the trees in the world,  
We are thankful for the shade and warmth you give us.  
Thank you, all the birds in the world,  
For singing your beautiful songs for all to enjoy.  
We give thanks to you, Gentle Four Winds,  
For bringing clean air for us to breathe from the four directions.  
Thank you, Grandfather Thunder Beings,  
For bringing rains to help all living things grow.  
Elder Brother Sun,  
We send thanks for shining your light and warming Mother Earth.  
Thank you, Grandmother Moon,  
For growing full every month to light the darkness for children and sparkling waters.  
We give you thanks, twinkling stars,  
For making the night sky so beautiful  
And for sprinkling morning dew drops on the plants.  
Spirit Protectors of our past and present,  
We thank you for showing us ways to live in peace and harmony with one another.  
And most of all, thank you, Great Spirit,  
For giving us all these wonderful gifts,  
So we will be happy and healthy every day and every night.

By Chief Jake Swamp  
Based on the Thanksgiving Address,  
An ancient message of peace and appreciation of Mother Earth  
From the Native people known as the Haudenosaunee,  
Also known as the Iroquois or Six Nations  
Mohawk, Oneida, Cayuga, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscarora.



## ▶ Classifieds, What's Been Happening and General Notices

### What's Been Happening in a Nutshell - October/November 2008

#### CA Outdoor Climbing Retreat - Santa Barbara, CA

25th October : Jerry and a group of MYE alumni had a great day of climbing at San Ysidro Rock in the SBA front-country. Read the reports on pg 4 of this newsletter...

#### MYE Continuing Education College Visit

8th November: Jerry and a group of MYE High School Seniors headed down to USC to get a feel of what a private school was like. Read about their experience on pg 3 of this newsletter.

#### CA Governors Conference

22nd October: OFF staff attended this huge annual gathering in Long Beach CA, hosted by Maria Shriver and her husband Arnold Swarznegger. This conference supports women entrepreneurs and business development. The mostly female OFF staff gathered ideas and energy from the gathering to bring back to their work in Santa Barbara country and elsewhere in SoCal. This years conference speakers/attendees included Gloria Steinem, Christiane Armanpour, Condoleeza Rice, Bono and Warren Buffet.

#### Farms For Families Community Dinner

In early November Andy and Cari attended a dinner hosted by FFF as a thank you to community members. Robert Porte, MYE's 2007 Kitchen Coordinator, cooked the dinner. Andy said it was fun to see so many MYE faces in the FFF slide show in which MYE 14-22 were all represented.

### What's Happening in a Nutshell - November/December 2008

#### MYE 2009 Montana Summer Recruitment

##### Wilderness Challenge Course

Although Jerry has already done several recruitment presentations, our 2009 Wilderness Challenge Course recruitment drive starts in earnest in the first two weeks of December, when Jerry and our 2008 interns will be visiting schools all over our CA recruitment area spreading the word and inspiring another wave of potential MYE participants. Look out for them at your school and help them spread the word.

##### Leadership Lab

We are accepting applications for our 2009 Leadership Lab from December 1st.....Are you an MYE alumni? Was your Wilderness Challenge Course experience something you would like to build on? Do you want to further develop your leadership skills and spend another fun summer in Montana? Look for the ad on pg 2 of this newsletter, go to our website or email Ellen at: [ellen@myeconnect.org](mailto:ellen@myeconnect.org) for more information and inspiration.

#### MYE CA Outdoor Retreats:

For more information on the Outdoor Retreats please contact Jerry Lawrie: [jerry@myeconnect.org](mailto:jerry@myeconnect.org) or 805-698-6450

##### Upcoming Outdoor Retreats:

November 21st- 23rd: Weekend trip to Quail Springs Permaculture Farm.

December 20th: Day retreat climbing Little Pine Mountain in the San Pedro Park

#### MYE MT Alumni Reunion:

December 6th: MT alumni reunion at Grizzly Creek Ranch with guest appearance by Greg Smith aka Jim Deakens. See pg 5 of this newsletter for details

#### CA College Prep Workshop Series.

SAT course with Princeton Review and College Application and Personal Statement Course continue though November

December 11th Financial Aid Workshop - available to High School Seniors.  
`Contact Jerry Lawrie for details.

#### MYEF Board Meeting

Andy is heading out to Santa Barbara to attend the annual MYEF Board Meeting being held at the OFF offices on the 18-19 November. He will be joined by Doug Capelin, Board member from DHE, Natalie, Lois, and Solveig. They will be looking at the 2009 MYE season, granting decisions for 2008 and direction for 09. We will include a board meeting report in the next newsletter.

*Beyond Basecamp* is published monthly by the Montana Yellowstone Expeditions Foundation.  
428 Mendenhall St, Bozeman, MT 59771

November 2008

Board President  
Natalie Orfalea

Executive Director  
Andy Leider

Editor  
Ellen Sagmyr

Contributing Editors & Writers  
MYE Staff & Students

Program scholarship applications are due on January 1st and every other month after that. Look at the bottom of page 8 of this newsletter for more information