

Mount St. Helens Institute 2010 Annual Report



President's Address



The year 2010 was huge for Mount St. Helens and the Mount St. Helens Institute. Not only were we commemorating the 30th anniversary of the eruption of our beloved mountain but it was a banner year in terms of accomplishments by the Mount St. Helens Institute. The year began with a flurry of planning that focused on events leading up to the 30th anniversary on May 18. In March we launched a new website. In April, board member Bill Nye (the Science Guy) conducted two events locally engaging over 1000 enthusiastic 6th graders from Vancouver School District in his science presentation and later that evening he dazzled a great audience of adults and kids in Portland. The Institute also hosted a film premier – *Mount St. Helens: Life From Zero* – in Oregon and Washington. On May 15 we hosted our annual “It’s A Blast: Volcano Science in Your Backyard” event for over 1000 visitors at Johnston Ridge Observatory (JRO), and then on May 18 assisted the Monument and Forest Service with its Anniversary of the Eruption Event. This date also marked the Illahee Lectures and the dedication of the new *Taking the Pulse of an Active Volcano Exhibit* at JRO that was championed by the Institute with financial support from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Ben B. Cheney Foundation and many individual donors.

We established or enhanced several new programs including the Youth Stream Team and the Volcano After Dark programs. Serving kids in science education is integral to our mission and we take it very seriously. We also celebrated two prestigious awards received by MSHI – The Partners in Conservation Award from the U. S. Department of Interior for our work on science education and the Evergreen Alliance Award for our work with area partners in reopening the Pine Creek Visitor Center.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. In 2010, 384 individual volunteers contributed 17,078 hours of service. Whether they were teaching science, pulling weeds, guiding climbers or managing office tasks, our enthusiastic volunteers made the Institute hum!

These are only some of the remarkable accomplishments achieved by the Institute this year. It goes without saying that none of this could have been done without our dedicated army of volunteers, hard working and creative staff, a committed board of directors, our understanding and cooperative partners and many, many, generous donors. Thank you all for a great year. We look forward to many more significant achievements in 2011.

For the Board,
Bill Kelley, President



Explore and Enrich with an Amazing Outdoor Classroom



How can we engage urban teenagers in environmental education while also filling an important need for the forest?

That was the question we set out to answer in 2009 and we achieved the answer through the creation of the Youth Stream Team. Managed through a wonderful partnership with the Vancouver Police Activities League, 20 youth have spent almost 1000 hours conducting stream monitoring at specific project sites. Oscar Hernandez, a student on the project, said that he “enjoyed using the laser-imaging to map the stream structure” while Boman Olomua was excited about conducting the pebble-counts because the students have to be in the river for this part of the project.



Outfitted in waders and ready to hit the water, members of the Youth Stream Team prepare to conduct a pebble count.

We Love our Volunteers!

On a bright, clear day in the summer of 2010, a Mount St. Helens climber had an accident. He was injured enough to need first aid treatment and left untreated, he might have been in a serious situation. Luckily for him, the Mount St. Helens Institute Mountain Stewards were also climbing that day and provided appropriate care. In a thank you note later, the climber said, "I am overwhelmingly grateful to your volunteers for this help and their skills that day."

Our Mountain Stewards are just one of our volunteer groups providing critical assistance to visitors and climbers every day. You may not see all of their work but be assured that weeds are regularly pulled, streams are monitored, trails are maintained, habitats are improved and hundreds of questions are answered by well trained and committed MSHI volunteers.

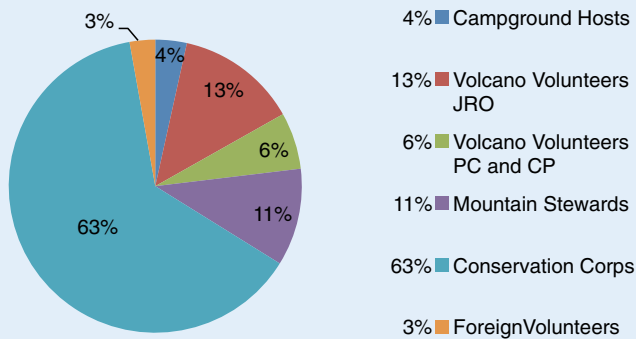


Members of the Mountain Stewards.



The volunteers of an Intel work crew pause during work at Kalama Springs.

17078 Hours of Service

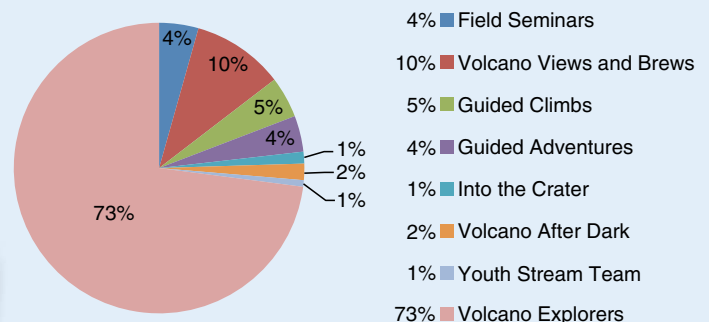


Education Programs For All Ages



Combine the most studied volcano in the world with creative minds and what do you get? The Mount St. Helens Institute Field Seminars, Guided Adventures and youth education programs! During 2010, the Institute staff, instructors and volunteers guided more than 2700

2742 Adult and Youth Program Participants



adults and youth through biology, geology, history, art and outdoor adventure programs. Highlights of the year included 35 visitors to Crater Glacier, 2000 school kids from across the country interacting with scientists through a video interface and 126 adventurous souls who peered into the crater from the summit via the Guided Climbs program.

Statement of Financial Position

Fiscal Year January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010*

Assets:	Year End 2010
Current Assets	89,482.41
Fixed Assets	266,241.08
Total Assets	\$355,753.49
Liabilities:	
Current Liabilities	13,344.24
Total Liabilities	\$13,344.24
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	290,146.03
Temporarily Restricted	52,233.22
Total Net Assets	342,379.25
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$355,723.49

Statement of Activities:

Revenue	
Donations and Membership Dues	36,584
Foundation Grants	86,700
Agency Contracts	274,037
Climbing Fees	123,926
Merchandise Sales	13,789
Event and Program Income	65,813
Other Income	4,395
Total Income	\$605,244
Expenses:	
Science Programs	361,210
Conservation Programs	33,085
Recreation Programs	100,384
Cascade Peaks Building	11,827
30 th Anniversary Events	17,461
Management and General Fundraising	120,089
Total Expenses	\$644,056

*This is an unaudited financial statement.

Mount St. Helens Institute Board Members

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Hailey Heath

Director of Volunteer Programs

Laura Kerr

Director of Science Education



The Mount St. Helens Institute operates under a special use permit from the U.S. Forest Service and is an equal-opportunity service provider.

Many Thanks To Our Donors!

Your generosity supports our mission to promote stewardship, science, and appreciation of the volcanic landscapes of Mount St. Helens and the Pacific Northwest.

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Taking the Pulse of an Active Volcano

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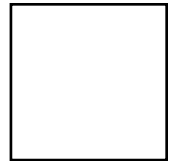
In Memory of Joseph Bohlig

Andrea Bacon
Carla Beckstom
Peter Clement
Karen and John Edmondson
Fred and Sherry Erickson
Dustin, Liz and Roi-Lynn King
Edwin Lindsay
Celeste Maris and John O'Connor
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Ruth Sherman
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Edward and Gertrude Vrana
Washington State Employees
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MOUNT ST. HELENS
INSTITUTE

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Amboy, WA 98601



Looking Forward to 2011

Events:

- May 7 Volcanoes Change the World and So Can You with Bill Nye the Science Guy®
Location TBD, Seattle, WA
- May 14 It's a Blast: Volcano Science in Your Backyard
A day of hands-on science fun for the whole family
Johnston Ridge Observatory, Mount St. Helens
- August 14 The Awesome Hike
10 miles of the most amazing views in the Pacific Northwest
Johnston Ridge Observatory, Mount St. Helens

Field Seminars: Experience Mount St. Helens first hand through engaging field classes taught by highly experienced and passionate instructors. Classes in Biology/Ecology, Geology, Natural History, Art and Outdoor Skills.

Guided Climbs: Our staff will lead you on the unforgettable journey to the rim of Mount St. Helens

Into the Crater Hikes: Join an experienced geologist and biologist as we hike to the base of Crater Glacier, inside Mount St. Helens' dynamic crater.

New Exhibit in 2011

For several years, the Mount St. Helens Institute has worked to refresh and enhance the exhibits at Mount St. Helens' world famous visitor centers. In 2010, we unveiled the *Taking the Pulse of an Active Volcano* exhibit. With new videos, new displays and improved interactive components, this exhibit has been well-received. 2011 will bring the next phase of our exhibit plan to fruition with the introduction of an interactive media experience that examines and explains how life is returning to areas devastated by the 1980 eruption. Planned installation at Johnston Ridge, Pine Creek and Cascade Peaks in May, 2011 will allow visitors throughout the monument to become immersed in the remarkable landscape that is Mount St. Helens.



For more information on upcoming events, programs, guided climbs, and more please visit www.mshinstitute.org