



## Vermont Wilderness School, Inc. Annual Report For the year ended August 31, 2007

The Vermont Wilderness School was founded on a commitment to building a powerful community of naturalists, teachers and leaders. Our programs go beyond traditional "environmental education" to help develop a deep understanding of self, community and nature, and in doing so, build healthy connections to the natural world and each other.

The year in review:

- **September 2006 - August 2007**
  - Jill Wallace and Ralph Meima completed their term of service on the Board (thank you for your dedication and service Jill and Ralph!)
  - Welcomed Barry Shaw, Marc Bobrow, and Amy Hyatt as new Board members
  - Created formal and legal separation between Vermont Wilderness School and Deep Wilds
  - Developed a Vision Statement that has been revised nine times responding to feedback from multiple concentric rings of our community—currently available on our website
  - Began writing draft of guiding principles
  - Moved the office to its new location on Western Avenue in West Brattleboro
  - Began cleaning up the books and records, identifying delinquent accounts, switching accounting programs
  - Designed and completed an organizational survey of our sister schools
  - Hosted Art of Mentoring 2006
  - Successful fundraising campaign
  - Worked with Walker Korby to design new VWS logo: Great Blue Heron
  - Created and funded Ingwe's Path Scholarship with the blessing of Elizabeth Powell, Ingwe's widow. The scholarship supports participation in nature awareness and mentoring programs that further the vision of Vermont wilderness School, but are not offered by the school itself
  - Said goodbye to Cara Benedetto as she retired from managing the office (Thank-you Cara!!)
  - Initiated job search for office worker and realized how unusual our office needs are
  - Participated in monthly conference with other wilderness program leaders (North East Regional Council)
- **September 2007- present**
  - Negotiated collaboration with CWI to run the Thursday homeschool program
  - Held a beautiful ceremonial re-opening of the school after our year of reflection
  - Board member Bret Harris completed his term of service to the Board and moved with his family to Virginia. We give our thanks and blessings to Bret and Kate and wish them an exciting new adventure.
  - Welcomed Charlie Laurel as a new Board member
  - Amy Hyatt stepped down as a Board member, and was hired as office manager. Amy still works with the Board as an advisor (Thank you Amy!)
  - Hosted Art of Mentoring 2007
  - Began building relationships with past high donors
  - Finished revisions on the Guiding Principles for Vermont Wilderness School (soon to be on the website!)
  - Held regular joint meetings of the Board and the Thursday Program Central Fire
  - 2007 fundraising campaign
  - Continue with monthly Northeast Regional Council call
  - Begin process of hiring Executive Director for VWS; hiring will be completed by early 2009



**Vermont Wilderness School, Inc.**

**Summary Financial Statements**

**Profit and Loss for the year ended 8/31/07**

Fundraising income	23,981
Programming income	39,700
Product income	1,611
Total income	<u>65,291</u>
Fundraising expenses	1,357
Programming expenses	36,455
Product expenses	641
General & administrative expenses	19,956
Total expenses	<u>58,408</u>
Net income	<u>6,883</u>

**Balance Sheet as of 8/31/07**

Cash	19,839
Current assets	3,944
Other assets	1,059
Total assets	<u>24,842</u>
Total liabilities	361
Retained earnings	17,598
Net income	6,883
Total equity	<u>24,481</u>
Total liabilities and equity	<u>24,842</u>

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to those who have made financial contributions during the year. It is their generosity which allows the School to continue to pursue its mission.

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|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Connie Ahara                               | Howard Holt                        | Rolando Negoita               |
| Philip K. Allen                            | Sue Howard                         | Marla J. Pedicini             |
| Helen C. Armstrong                         | Catherine Huskins                  | Ashley Polucci                |
| Ruth Aftab Beckett                         | Amy Hyatt                          | Wendy Redlinger               |
| Barbara Benedetto                          | William & Mary Jo Hyatt            | Bob Repoley                   |
| Alan Keith Booker                          | Judy Hyde                          | Thomas Ruth                   |
| Wilmer Brandt                              | Loretta Indigo                     | Marilyn K. Scholl             |
| Brattleboro Savings and Loan               | Jonathan King                      | Nancy W. Sullivan             |
| Donna J. Brennan-Gallant                   | The Rev. & Mrs. George Klinefelter | Rita Stascavage               |
| Michelle Bulna                             | Richard T. Kramer                  | William J. Sydor              |
| Central Connecticut River Valley Institute | Garry S. Leonard                   | Claudia Teachman              |
| Jim Dobkowski                              | Emma Linderman                     | Tim Thoman                    |
| Miriam Dror                                | George Livanos                     | Paul Tobin                    |
| Caroline M. Durr                           | David B. Lowry                     | Mark Allen Tollefson          |
| Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund              | Becca & Chris Martenson            | Laura Tomaso                  |
| Selena S. Gallen                           | Susan Martenson                    | Twin Eagles Wilderness School |
| Dan Gardoqui                               | Lisa Merton                        | Winifred S. Vogt              |
| Beth Generalli                             | Warren Moon                        | Jill Wallace                  |
| Charles Goldensher                         | Luz Elena Morey                    | Bob Weissberg                 |
| Andrew Hall                                | Philip & Colleen Morey             | Claudyne Wilder               |
| Linda Haltinner                            | Peter Motson                       | Steve Young                   |
| Bret Harris                                | Ruth Nangeroni                     |                               |