

## Live Auction Items

### ***LA-1 Swan Song! Swan release with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service***

This could be your last chance to help release a swan! After eight years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Blackfoot Challenge are close to achieving their goal of establishing seven breeding pairs of trumpeter swans in the Blackfoot River watershed. The winning bidder will be allowed to hold a single swan as it starts its journey back to the wild. This unique experience to touch the wild will undoubtedly also touch your heart as you give one magnificent creature and its species a chance to survive and thrive in its natural habitat.

The trumpeter swan was the only species missing from those encountered by Meriwether Lewis when the Corps of Discovery came through the Blackfoot River Valley more than 200 years ago. With a wing-span of up to eight feet, the trumpeter swan is an icon for wetland restoration. What an incredible opportunity to be a part of this success story!

**Date Restriction:** The swan release will take place in fall 2017 and will be determined well in advance by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Blackfoot Challenge, which will coordinate with the winning bidder.

***Donor: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service***

### ***LA-2 Angling for Open Lands – Blackfoot River Bliss – Guided fly fishing, lodging and gourmet dinner***

Head west of the Divide with this unique Montana fly fishing adventure. Escape the crowds on the Missouri

and head to the Blackfoot River with professional fly fishing guide and river guru, Garrett Munson of Montana Fishing Outfitters. It's a full-day, guided fly fishing excursion for two, including lunch, drinks, tackle and gear. All you need to do is show up, catch fish and have fun. We can guarantee you'll love every minute on the water with Garrett and his friendly, humorous style.

Not only do the two of you get a fully guided day on the river, but you'll also experience a night of luxurious lodging and a gourmet dinner at Double Arrow Resort, which is nestled between the Mission Mountains on the west and the Swan Mountains to the east. The resort's restaurant, Seasons, features creative entrees and hearty appetizers, such as free-range West Texas rattlesnake cakes with smoked jalapeno cream sauce and grilled wild Alaskan salmon paired with a Flathead Valley port wine cherry glaze. The wine list at Seasons has received Wine Spectator's Award of Excellence for having one of the finest restaurant wine lists in the world for five years running.

***Donors: Garrett Munson of  
Montana Fishing Outfitters,  
Double Arrow Resort***

***LA-3 Sketches of Spain: Wine,  
Music and Appetizers for 10 at  
the Home of Mike and Cheryl  
Lamb — plus MATCHING GIFT!***

Think of it as the Alhambra at the base of Mount Ascension, with an expansive view of the Helena Valley and surroundings. Listen to the sounds of Spanish jazz, taste the delicacies of assorted tapas, expand your knowledge of the wine regions of Spain — all in the elegant warmth of the home of Mike and Cheryl Lamb.

Sam White and Cody Hollow, renowned musicians of Reverend Slanky and Pan Blanco fame, will serenade you and nine of your friends as you sample the creations of chef Jeff Spurlin. Sommelier Jill Roberts, owner of the Hawthorn, will give you a taste tour of the Spanish wine regions. All in the in the comfort of Helena's own backyard. Olé!

**SPECIAL MATCHING GIFT:** The Lambs have donated not only this special evening, but they will match a portion of the winning bid, up to \$2,000. Thank you Mike and Cheryl!

***Donors: Mike and Cheryl Lamb, Jeff Spurlin, Jill Roberts, Sam White, Cody Hollow***

### ***LA-4 A.L. Swanson Collector's Cabinet***

When A.L. Swanson thinks of Prickly Pear Land Trust, he says he thinks of moving parts. He wanted to reflect that vision in this one-of-a-kind collector's cabinet he created specifically for PPLT's 20th anniversary. The result is this stunning, contemporary, but functional, cabinet that looks as if it could float off its ebony base.

Made from tiger maple, rosewood, cherry and ebony with an abalone shell inlay, the cabinet is 24 inches wide, 16 inches deep and 47 inches tall. Al says it can be used for anything from lingerie to fly fishing gear. As a special treat for the winning bidder to discover, a small item commemorating PPLT's 20th anniversary is hidden away in a secret compartment somewhere inside the cabinet.

***Donors: A.L. Swanson***



***LA-5 Puerco, Cabrito y Fuego  
South Hills Pig Roast for 10  
Hosted by Debra & John Beaver  
and the PPLT Board of Directors  
– Plus MATCHING GIFT!***

Ready to go “hog wild” and “get your goat”? The Beavers and the Board are cooking up a real shindig in the South Hills this year – sooeey! You and your gang of nine guests will be treated to a downhome pit-barbeque experience in the Beavers’ backyard at the base of Mount Ascension: pit-roasted pig and goat, a variety of homemade BBQ and Mexican-style sauces and condiments, delicious side dishes, homemade desserts and beverages to wash it all down. Nobody will leave this dinner hungry – and you’ll get leftovers to take home, too!

Pit barbequing is a traditional, slow-cooking, labor-and-time intensive process resulting in a bounteous, mouthwatering feast. Come early and enjoy the process – we’ll be there ALL DAY! The meat is Montana-raised, almost organic (but not certified) pork and goat from the Shields Valley! Enjoy a truly unique dinner of pit barbequed Boer goat and Hampshire pig raised by 12-year-old Hazen and 16-year-old Isabel (family and friends of the Beavers) on Cottonwood Creek at the foot of the Crazy Mountains.

**Date Restrictions:** Due to the timing of raising the pig and the goat, Deb’s schedule as a school teacher, and John’s busy summer field work, the Beavers would recommend a late summer or fall time frame 2017. At a minimum, please consider scheduling after June 16, 2017. At this time, dates from July 29 through August 12, 2017, are unavailable. Please make your arrangements early.

**SPECIAL MATCHING GIFT:** The Beavers will match a portion of the winning bid, up to \$1,000. Thank you John and Deb!

***Donor: Debra and John Beaver,  
and the PPLT Board of Directors***

***LA-6 “Hikers. And Runners.  
And Bikers. Oh My!” – Original  
Wooden Quilt by Beth Cummings  
– Plus MATCHING GIFT!***

What better way to celebrate PPLT’s 20 years of protecting open lands and promoting our fabulous trail system than with this wondrous work of art? Master wood-quilter Beth Cummings has hand-pieced another in her series of wooden quilts donated for Harvest Moon – four years running now! Inspired by our South Hills Trails, this piece arranges figurative hikers, runners, bicyclists and trail names together with an assortment of intriguing bits and pieces to form an evocative, cohesive whole. This work will take you out there, running, romping, and riding wild through the woods and hills of our home.

Beth’s creations are the definition of “eclectic,” with a mix of traditional Americana and creative repurposing. Each of her works is “one of a kind,” using recycled wood, molding, boxes, and antiques, overlaid with myriad disconnected odds and ends. Each block and piece of this fanciful creation is cut one at a time, then painted and assembled into a neo-classic quilt design. The end result of Beth’s painstaking labor is a pleasing homage to PPLT’s trail work and the active runners, hikers and bicyclists who love it. Quilt measure 36 inches by 48 inches.

**SPECIAL MATCHING GIFT:** Beth has donated not only this wonderful piece of art for auction, but she and her husband Mike (through the Elizabeth and Michael Cummings Charitable

Foundation) will match the winning bid up to \$5000, effectively doubling the proceeds to PPLT from this item. Thank you Beth and Mike!

***Donor: The Elizabeth and Michael Cummings Charitable Foundation***

***LA-7 River and Rocks Rendezvous  
Missouri River Float, Wild Game Dinner, Lodging and Entertainment for six***

Chances are you've floated on the Missouri River — probably staring at a tiny dry fly waiting for the delicate sip of a trout's mouth. This trip offers you and five of your friends the opportunity to look up, listen and learn how the landscape formed. Retired science teacher and musician Jim Schulz will accompany you on this float and regale your group with history and geology lessons of the area. For instance, did you know that a stretch of the Missouri cuts through a volcanic complex? Around 50 million years ago, lava poured out onto the surface of the region and created a rugged landscape of igneous extrusive rocks. Over time, erosion has diminished much of the basalt; however, several remnants remain including Tower Rock. Designated one of the newest state parks in Montana, this impressive feature towers 400 feet above the Missouri River. It was a significant landmark for Native Americans, Lewis and Clark and myriad fur trappers who followed.

End your day with a wild game dinner, with music provided by Schulz, and lodging at Jim Hunt and Barb Howe's lovely river house.

***Donor: Jim Hunt and Barb Howe, Jim Schulz***



***LA-8 “Sunrise on the 7 Mile”  
Original Oil Painting  
by Dale Livezey***

For PPLT’s 20th anniversary celebration, renowned local artist, and big-hearted friend of the Land Trust, Dale Livezey wanted to do something special. And boy, did he ever! In this exclusive piece, Dale has focused his mastery of light and landscape, his depth of vision, and his love for the land on PPLT’s latest project, the Peaks to Creeks Initiative. Dale has captured the heart and soul of this 558-acre project, which brings together new community partners in conservation and will provide access to and restoration of Tenmile and Sevenmile creeks just west of town, near Fort Harrison. The piece embodies, through Dale’s eye and brush, the beauty and interconnectedness of this land, this sky and this community. Immerse yourself in Dale’s magic light and celebrate the subtlety and majesty of this land, preserved forever. The painting measures 30 by 40 inches, and is oil on panel.

***Donor: Dale Livezey***

***LA-9 Giant Steps  
Sleeping Giant Hike for eight,  
Fannie Sperry Museum Tour  
and Ranch Dinner***

Learn about the rich history of Helena’s North Valley while climbing the fabled Nose of the iconic Sleeping Giant, followed by a catered dinner in the Fannie Sperry Museum. Your hike will be led by a local guide knowledgeable about the history of the area and the history and legends of the Sleeping Giant. Because the Nose is difficult to access, few people make the effort to visit this Helena-area landmark. But this year, thanks to the generosity of the Synness family, PPLT is delighted to be able to offer a guided hike to the Nose. The hike will begin on the south

side of the Nose through the Synness Homestead, which dates back to 1889. In the late 1800s, the Synness, Sperry and Hilger families homesteaded the land surrounding the Sleeping Giant and what is now Upper Holter Lake. The Synness family still owns the land surrounding the Sleeping Giant and has generously offered to allow a group of eight hikers to climb the Nose with a family guide. It is about a five-hour round trip hike offering spectacular views of the surrounding area and especially the oxbows of the Missouri River through the Gates of the Mountains. Climbers may be treated to sightings of bighorn sheep, deer and other wildlife.

World-renowned Fannie Sperry grew up on the ranch at the base of the Sleeping Giant and won several professional rodeo awards during her lifetime, including Women's Bucking Horse Champion of Montana in 1904 at the age of 17, and Lady Bucking Horse Champion of the World at the first Calgary Stamped rodeo in 1912, which she also successfully defended in 1913. Many of her belongings and memorabilia are on display in the Fannie Sperry Museum — operated by Trent Synness — where your intrepid group will be treated to a catered gourmet dinner before returning to Helena.

**Date and Availability Restrictions:**

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity is offered for the spring or summer of 2017. Please make arrangements with the donors well in advance so as to coordinate with the family and the caterer. Some dates may be unavailable.

***Donor: The Synness Family***



# Premier Silent Auction Items

Mountain bike

Donors: Andy O Realty and Big Sky Cyclery

A Taste of Thailand for eight

Donors: Hub Coffee, Shalon Hastings and Dave and Melinda White

Brews and Bites party for 20

Donors: Benny's Bistro and Blackfoot River Brewing

Earrings, pendant and ring

Donor: Imagine Designs

Boxing gloves signed by Muhammad Ali

Donors: David and Annie Hull

Portrait of buyer's choosing

Donors: Amy Brakeman Livezey

Gulch Distillers party for eight

Donors: Chili O'Brien's and Gulch Distillers

Pheasant Watercolor

Donor : Loren Kovich

Sterling silver pendant with black agate,  
abalone and sapphires, by John Bagley

Donor: Eaton Turner Jewelry

Ghost stories at Peaks to Creeks

Donor: Ellen Baumler

1/2 grass-fed all natural cow

Donor: Kelly Flaherty-Settle and Scott Settle

Boulder Valley horseback tour and therapy  
passes at the Free Enterprise Radon Mine

Donor: Leah Compton

Love Note Number 146, by Doug Turman

Donor: The Estate of Dick Morgan

7-night stay at Whitefish condo

Donor: Robert Throssell

Helena stay-cation or vacation with lodging at  
the Bunkhouse and Karmadillos gift certificate

Donors: Eliza Wiley and Karmadillos