

publication and production of *Outdoors West*, our nationally acclaimed "flagship" publication. Hazel Wolf, our excellent editor, works for no pay whatsoever, but it is still an expensive proposition, and I am determined to find other income sources so that we may not only make *OW* even better, but also serve you in many more ways.

The problem in the past has been that since we are, in Tax Code terms, a "c(4)" organization, we are not able to receive foundation grants or other tax deductible monies. Therefore, we have decided to seek, from among our Member Clubs, one which would be willing to act as our "fiscal agent"--a perfectly legal and routine procedure, whereby the Member (tax-deductible, "c 3") Club actually sponsors the FWOC's grant proposal...and when it is successful, the grant is then funneled through the Club (which usually takes a small percentage for administrative services) and into the FWOC for its use. As of this writing, we are actively searching for such a fiscal agent; if you know of any Member Club which might be willing, I would be grateful if you could so advise me.

Third, under the heading of serving our Members in a more timely fashion, the Executive Committee has approved a new, trial, procedure for *Outdoors West* for Fiscal Year 1999. Instead of the usual Winter (January/February) issue of the 24-page publication, we are going to substitute two smaller (6-8 page) Newsletters. Scheduled for mailing in December 1998, and March 1999, we intend these Newsletters to contain, in equal parts, news about Member Clubs--so that you will all know what each other is doing...and "political" (that is, conservation) issues of the moment for your consideration and action. We very much want your feedback on this new procedure. Please let us know if you like it better, or whether you prefer to go back to the twice a year issues of *Outdoors West*.

And, if you or your members have news about your Club that you want to share with our other Clubs, please contact Ms. Shirley Cameron (35470 Ross Lane, Cottage Grove, Oregon, 97424) and she will make sure it gets in the Newsletter. Likewise, I am the designated contact person for the conservation issue news items. Or, you may simply wish to contact editor Hazel Wolf (512 Boylston Ave. E., Seattle Washington, 98102)

Finally, the Executive Committee has approved a new and exciting venture for us in a very important conservation issue: the rescue, and final protection, of our remaining groves of ancient giant sequoia trees in California. Many will be startled to learn that about one-half of all the groves of these ancient giants are not inside any National Park--but are rather located within the adjacent Sequoia National Forest, meaning that they have no statutory protection. FWOC members may be further unhappy to learn that the Forest Service has followed a practice euphemistically termed 'grove enhancement'--meaning an active logging program of huge trees of other species which also are an integral part of these same groves. The result has been a scarred wasteland of mud and stumps surrounding the individual giant sequoias still left standing...many of which, later, robbed of their supporting forest shelter, are then toppled over by the winds.

The FWOC is strongly opposed to these policies of a Forest Service which once again seems incapable of just leaving ancient forests untouched. We believe that the only solution to this ongoing pattern of destruction is the creation of a Sequoia Reserve, managed by the National Park Service. Accordingly, I