MEMBERSHIP:
138 Current Paid Members (42 Plus)
   Includes: 4 Membership Renewal Past Due
   Net gain of members: 9 (16 New, 7 Dropped, 1 Transfer)
58 Complimentary Memberships (agency personnel, etc.) varies by issue
   Chapter finances decreased, with an ending balance of $2675.95. This is a decrease of about $625 from
   the start of the year; $500 of that went to the restoration of Granite Butte Lookout.

LEADERSHIP:
   Leif Haugen continues to be active as deputy director for the Flathead-Glacier area and Samsara
   Chapman for Central Montana.

SUB-CHAPTER:
   Working closely with Leif Haugen, the Northwest Montana Chapter (NWMT-FFLA) was formed. The
   group currently provides volunteer staffing and maintenance for Baptistle and Firefighter lookouts on the Flathead
   NF. NWMT-FFLA has officers, a website, and logos and is working on bylaws and an MOU with the FNF.

ACTIVITIES:
The chapter has partnered on several lookout projects:
   Work continued on the Spyglass Lookout Project (Coeur d'Alene NF, ID). Lutherhaven Ministries again
   provided volunteer support, but FFLA volunteers participated throughout the summer.
   Phase Two of the Granite Butte Lookout Restoration (Helena NF, MT) led by the Montana Wilderness
   Association neared completion. The season finale was the installation of furniture, custom-made by none other
   than Leif Haugen, and funded primarily by FFLA grants. Granite Butte should be ready for rental in 2015.
   A Passport-in-Time restoration project was held at Big Hole Peak Lookout (Lolo NF, MT). A short video
   of the project (available for on-line viewing) was made by FFLA member Libby Langston.
   Leif Haugen staffed and continued with restoration work on Thoma Lookout (Flathead NF, MT), and also
   worked on restoration of the Holland Ridge and Coal Ridge cabins.
   Deputy Director Sam Chapman is working on events for the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act,
   including her own Patrol Lookout turning 50 years old in 2014.
   Restoration, maintenance and staffing continued on many fronts, with considerable involvement by FFLA
   members, whether in volunteer roles, or as agency employees.
   Three lookouts have (or are in the process of) been lost:
   McConnell Lookout's three structures (log cabin, "observatory", outhouse), Clearwater NF, were lost to
   wildfire; several others were saved, some in large part because of successful wrapping jobs.
   Huckleberry Lookout, St. Joe NF, was sold through a GSA auction; it is to be removed next early summer.
   The 1970s 20-foot R-6 was a USFS lookout on State land, recently subject to extensive vandalism
   The 10-foot L-4 at Warland Peak, Kootenai NF, was found to have collapsed, presumably last winter.
   Twenty years ago, many wondered what was keeping it standing.
   Unused lookouts continue to be seen as easy targets by some National Forests looking to reduce their
   numbers of facilities.
   The chapter will host the 2014 Western Regional Conference in Darby, MT June 27-29.

Gary Weber
FFLA-North Idaho/Montana Chapter Director