



Annual Report 2008-2009

It has been a mission filled year for the Wintergreen Nature Foundation. Perhaps the greatest fulfillment occurred in July at Founder's Vision Overlook when Crawford's Knob was dedicated as a State Natural Area Preserve. The Virginia Division of Natural Heritage now co-holds the conservation easement on Crawford's Knob with the Wintergreen Nature Foundation, thereby permanently protecting it from future development.

We continued our work with WPOA last year in the deer management program and gypsy moth mapping. Few community members realize how dedicated the Wintergreen Police Department is in their follow through with deer management. The project starts with the Nature Foundation's four spotlight counts and GPS mapping of populations. Russell Otis' staff follows the data shown on these counts with many hours dedicated to a scientific culling of the herd. This keeps the deer population healthy, as well as the ancient natural landscape plants that would suffer defoliation from over graze.

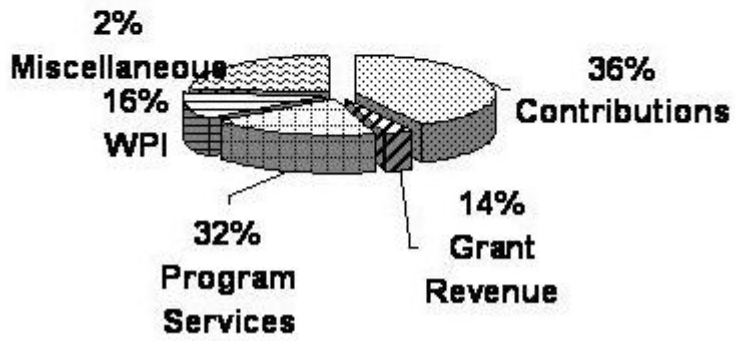
Three other research projects are underway. A new orchid study on Crawford's Knob in cooperation with The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center has started. A cooperative research project with Sweetbriar College professor Janet Stevens will soon give us the age of some of our ancient fern gardens, and the continuing work with James Madison University's Carole Nash will continue to tell us of the Native Americans who lived here.

Another great accomplishment in 2009 was the conclusion of TWNF's Trillium House Mortgage. This accomplishment ensured that we would not have to cripple operating funds to make future payments on the building. Having said this, we are still operating with 4.5 staff positions instead of the needed 7. While we continued to provide programs and accomplish our research and education mission with the help of our faithful volunteers, a forward focus will be to restore the two positions that provide marketing/development and program planning.

To this end, we owe a debt of gratitude to you, our members as well as the respective organizations WPI and WPOA for support. Our finances are stretched but our mission is strong and you as individuals all deserve great credit, as volunteers and as those who support us through membership and annual giving. A special thank you goes out to our Golf Tournament volunteers, our Plant Propagation team, our Board and all the others who support our efforts.

Wintergreen is still a community that is capable of leading by example with its environmental heritage, its current land preservation story and its land management efforts. We need to continue on this path and share our success with other communities and the public. Our marketing needs to keep pace with our good environmental efforts. We are unsurpassed as a community in this arena.

**2008
Sources of Revenue**



**2008
Purposes of Revenue**

