

MARCH 10, 2009

SAWTOOTH SOCIETY ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT

At the Sawtooth Society's winter meeting its Board has elected Paul D. Hill as incoming President. Paul will assume the role this summer as Bob Hayes steps down from the position he has served for the past four years. Paul has been actively involved with the Sawtooth Society as a board member for over four years and has served as its Treasurer the past two years.

Paul Hill has served in a variety of senior management positions including President and Chief Financial Officer of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer with Wachovia Bank and Trust Company of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Hill received an undergraduate degree in American History from Williams College and a law degree from Columbia University School of Law. He has provided consulting services to financial institutions and affordable housing organizations located throughout the United States and serves on a host of civic organizations including the Sawtooth Interpretive and Historical Association and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival boards.

Hill reported, "first and foremost I want to thank Bob for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the Sawtooth Society and the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA). Bob helped found and grow this organization to its current level and has been at the center of its numerous accomplishments over the last twelve years, many of which he served as its Executive Director. While Bob will continue to be an active member of the Board and Executive Committee, I want to recognize these accomplishments and the excellent positioning of the Sawtooth Society for its continued success over the next decade.

Hill added, "My wife Ann and I have a strong commitment to the Sawtooth National Recreational Area and we want to ensure that its current virtues are passed as a legacy to future generations. It is national treasure and we must continue to find ways to not only protect it but also to ensure the communities within its borders thrive. Also, I want to do all I can to make sure contentious issues, such as visible mining on state-owned lands within the SNRA, are satisfactorily resolved.

In addition to working on public policy issues of importance to the area, The Sawtooth Society is nearing funding for its one-hundredth project within the SNRA. It is also embarking on a number of important volunteer related projects and those who would like to help out in any way should contact the Executive Director, Gary O'Malley at 208-721-2909.

The Sawtooth Society is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization, which was formed in 1997 to advocate on behalf of the 756,000 acre Sawtooth National Recreation Area and those that recreate, live and work within it.

For more information call:

Gary O'Malley

Executive Director Sawtooth Society

208-721-2909