

## 2009 Annual Report for Friends of Bighorn Lake

It's been another exciting and productive year at BICA with many improvements and additions to professional staff and park visitor offerings!

While local government leaders continue to work with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and COR on management plans, The Friends of Bighorn Lake (FOBHL) have taken a partnership/ advisory role with the National Park Service (NPS). FOBHL continues to support local, state and federal government representatives in their efforts to make sure Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area (BICA) is protected and managed correctly for future generations.

FOBHL have been active in many projects this year and more are underway in the coming year. We are very pleased with the progress made. Members of FOBHL, NPS and government representatives are to be congratulated for all of their efforts!

FOBHL continues to meet with the Park Service at least once a month to discuss the public's needs, concerns and plan for future developments.

### Projects in 2009:

- \* FOBHL influence felt by Gov. agencies
- \* FOBHL is a partner in the Lake mgmt team
- \* BICA web site upgrades
- \* Concessionaire at HSB marina
- \* BICA now on Twitter and Facebook
- \* New dock at Horseshoe Bend
- \* More driftwood cleanup projects
- \* Updated FOBHL web site
- \* Car counter survey for BICA visitor count
- \* More South Lake Maps
- \* VIP's serving at the Lovell Visitor Center
- \* Assisted BHC Search & Rescue in getting a boat from BICA for lake patrols
- \* Promotions programs
- \* FOBHL/BICA secured funding for: more courtesy docks at HSB, Destination platform
- for south lake, a dock and restroom for Jim Creek bay, Gangway for Kane ramp
- \* Encourage silt management and remediation at Bighorn Lake
- \* Booth at Cody Home Improvement Show
- \* Booth at Powell Home and Garden Show
- \* Public's voice for improved fairness in water mgmt in Bighorn Lake
- \* Support efforts to raise full lake level to 3645'
- \* 2009 Bighorn Lake celebration - June 20<sup>th</sup>
- \* Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) task force member helping conduct meetings to inform the public.

As a result of these accomplishments, more visitors have continued to come to the lake and area businesses have seen increased sales. We expect 2010 to be another year of increased visitor services, visitor numbers and improved area economies.

FOBHL would like to thank all of its members for their support, financially as well as physically. We would like to encourage all members to renew their membership for 2010 and to encourage everyone who isn't yet a member, to become part of this special organization and help support this wonderful recreation area!

