



TRIPLE CROWN



Hiking the entire lengths of the AT, PCT, and CDT is a proud accomplishment for all long-distance hikers. ALDHA–West recognizes this accomplishment with the presentation of the Triple Crown Award to deserving recipients. The Awards are presented at the ALDHA–West Gathering each fall. As of October 2011, 155 hikers have received the Triple Crown Award from ALDHA–West.

The Triple Crown Award Ceremony is the highlight of the ALDHA–West Gathering. We highly recommend that you attend the Gathering to receive your award in person! Although it's simply a small plaque, you certainly know what it represents to you. The determination, sacrifice, and toughness that it took for you to complete all three trails is unmatched. The electricity and camaraderie felt at the Award Ceremony is indescribable. Receiving your Triple Crown Award at the Gathering is a moment you will remember forever. The 2012 Gathering will be held September 28–30, at Camp Arrah Wanna, Welches, OR. A list of all past Triple Crown recipients (including photos and videos of the Awards Ceremony) can be found here: <http://www.aldhawest.org/triplecrown.html>

DEADLINE FOR RECOGNITION

In order to be recognized as a 2012 Triple Crown Award recipient, you must: (1) Complete hiking the full lengths of the AT, PCT, and CDT before September 1, 2012. (2) Provide all the information detailed in this letter before September 1, 2012. (3) Submit your photos before September 1, 2012.

COST OF THE AWARD

ALDHA–West presents the Triple Crown Award free of charge to recipients who attend the Gathering. If you choose not to attend the Gathering, ALDHA–West will mail your award to you for the cost of the plaque plus shipping (Cost yet to be determined).

SPONSORSHIP

Whether you attend the Gathering or not, we encourage you to invite a special friend to sponsor (pay for) your award. Who was important to you during your hikes? Was it a family member who you called from every town stop? Was it the person who coordinated all your maildrops, who knew how terribly important it was that your packages were delivered accurately and on time? Was it a hiking buddy whom you shared many miles with? Was it a Trail Angel who gave you a helping hand at a crucial point in your hike? Surely that person would be honored to sponsor your Triple Crown Award!! All you have to do is invite that person to sponsor (pay for) your award, and then he/she can be a part of your Triple Crown Award acceptance. Your sponsor will have the opportunity to

say a few words as you receive your award at the Gathering. If your sponsor cannot attend, he/she is welcome to write something for the Awards Coordinator to read. When you have your sponsor lined up, please ask him/her to email the Awards Coordinator for more information.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

Now for the nitty gritty details – we need some specific information from you:

1. What is your legal name (first and last names)?
2. What is your trail name?
3. What year did you complete the AT?
4. What year did you complete the PCT?
5. What year did you complete the CDT?
6. If you section-hiked a trail, what years did that occur? For example, "I section-hiked the AT over three years (1999, 2001, 2002), finishing the AT in 2002."
7. Will you be attending the 2012 Gathering?
8. You will need to submit four photos (see below for details).

REQUIRED PHOTOS

Please provide us with four photos of yourself: one each from the AT, PCT, and CDT, plus one photo of you as a child. These photos should show only you (no other people in the photo), and at least one of the trail photos should clearly show your face. The trail photos should show you in different situations – for example, try to avoid sending three photos of you standing at beautiful viewpoints. The photos will be used at the Award Ceremony, also as part of a video yearbook, and also may be posted on the ALDHA–West website. *Photos MUST be submitted via email.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Although the deadline to be recognized is September 1, 2012, PLEASE try to get your information to us ASAP -how about doing it today?!? This is especially crucial regarding your photos, because the production of the video yearbook is very time-consuming.

Finally, if you have friends who qualify for the Triple Crown Award, please advise them to contact us. ALDHA–West does not seek out hikers for Triple Crown recognition. It is an "asked for" award. We recognize only those hikers who ask to be recognized.

Contact me here: Lawton Grinter, aldhawesttriplecrown@yahoo.com I will return your email ASAP. If you do not hear from me within a week from when you sent your email, please send it again.

Lawton "Disco" Grinter,
ALDHA–WEST Triple Crown Awards Coordinator