

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
HOMETOWN HERO/CURMUDGEON  
BERT RAYNES**

**WHEREAS**, Bert Raynes started the Jackson Hole Bird Club in 1976 and has been a weekly columnist for the Jackson Hole News & Guide for 30 years; and,

**WHEREAS**, his popular ‘Far Afield’ column, monthly Bird Club meetings, and teachings at the Science School provide education, wit, and wisdom about the natural world to residents and visitors; and,

**WHEREAS**, in addition to being awarded the Rungius Medal of Honor in 2001 and having a bench dedicated in his honor on the National Elk Refuge; Bert and his wife, Meg, were inducted into the Wyoming Wildlife Heritage Foundation Hall of Fame in 2007; and,

**WHEREAS**, Bert maintains an unbridled curiosity about the world including interests in politics, our environment, the Hubble Telescope, titanium, seismic activity in Yellowstone, the exploration of Mars and the Phoenix Lander, sage grouse, antelope, and the emergence and identification of the first flowers in the spring; and,

**WHEREAS**, Bert is the author of 5 books including A Valley So Sweet, Birds of Grand Teton National Park and the Surrounding Area, Finding the Birds of Jackson Hole, Winter Wings and Curmudgeon Chronicles; and,

**WHEREAS**, Bert shares his success with his beloved wife, Meg, and credits her with introducing this ‘urban kid who was the black sheep of his family’ to the natural world; and,

**WHEREAS**, Bert is a founding member of the Deaf as a Post Lunch Bunch, which fosters a sense of community among a disparate group of authors, entrepreneurs, retired military, bankers, professors, teachers, geologists, artists, pilots, riff-raff, inventors, people from Chicago, former flat-landers, downhill skiers, river floaters, former gunfighters, tour guides, park rangers, and other generic miscreants; and;

**WHEREAS**, many, many people throughout the community consider Bert a true friend, a role model and a gentle soul;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mark Barron, Mayor of the Town of Jackson, on behalf of the Town Council and the entire Jackson community do hereby sincerely thank Mr. Bert Raynes for generously giving of his time, energy and tireless humor to educate and comfort the community, and for helping to make Jackson Hole a better place to live. Because of him Jackson is a better place.

**DATED THIS 16th DAY OF JUNE, 2008.**

TOWN OF JACKSON

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Mark Barron, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Roxanne DeVries Robinson, Town Clerk