

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 48 - Issue Number 4 - April 2008

CLIMBING MOUNTAINEERING BACKPACKING DAYHIKING BICYCLING XCSKIING SNOWSHOEING RAFTING

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

2008 Council

President	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Vice-president	Teak Cummings	524-5136
	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Secretary	Jerry Painter	523-9428
Treasurer	Ken Krivanek	528-8224

Members-at-Large

Jim McBride	529-0586
Holly Preslar	359-1418
Jo Ann Sherwin	528-6489

Council Meetings:

Council Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM

Upcoming Council Meetings:

April: Painter's home, 1439 Riviera Drive

May: Krivanek's home,

Activity Coordinators:

Backpacking	Sam Pole	523-4970
Bicycling	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Climbing/Mountaineering		
	Kevin Coble	529-8142
	Eric Larsen	522-9354
Conservation	Open	787-2601
Cross-Country Skiing / Snowshoeing		
	Whithams	520-1728
Day Hiking	Sam Pole	523-4970
Rafting	Greg Hulet	523-6199
Trail Maintenance	Alan Crockett	529-5188
Bulletin Editor	Donna Whitham	520-1728
Bulletin Assistant	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Publicity	Open	787-2601
Historian/Librarian	Barbara Brown	522-8977
WebMaster	George Cole	716-0024
Program	Bob Tyler	787-2601

General Club Meeting

Held at **7:30 P.M.** on the first WEDNESDAY of each month, normally in the large meeting room of the Idaho Falls Public Library.

NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.

MAY Bulletin Deadline is:

5 PM on April 10

Materials for inclusion in the next bulletin are due by the 10th of the month due to bulk mailer deadlines.

Please send electronically to the bulletin editor at editor@idahoalpineclub.org

Note: Hand written or hard copy material will be included in the bulletin, time permitting.

IDAHO ALPINE CLUB GENERAL MEETING

"Biking Around the World"

Wednesday, April 2, 2008, 7:30 PM

IDAHO FALLS LIBRARY

Al Young was 52 when she gave up her job as a music teacher in Driggs and plopped down \$32,000 to embark on a year long organized bike ride around the world. The year was 2000 and 246 people started the ride on New Year's day in Los Angeles in the Rose Bowl Parade. They headed south into Mexico and Central and South America and eventually rode on through 45 countries on 6 continents. Although the ride was supported, it was not easy. Pre-dawn wake up calls, long days in the saddle in less than ideal weather, sleepless nights in noisy campsites, not to mention the occasional illnesses. The worst nightmare for Al, though, was when she was injured in a biking accident in France and had to take a three month leave from the cycling friends she had grown close to in the course of the ride so she could recuperate from her injuries. However, rejoin the ride she did and eventually finished at the 2001 Rose Bowl Parade with only 56 other surviving riders. This summer, in a smaller reprise of her 2000 effort, Al will participate in the Orient Express Ride which, you guessed it, goes from Paris to Istanbul.

The meeting is open to the public and all outdoor enthusiasts are invited. For more information log onto the club website at www.idahoalpineclub.org or contact Bob Tyler at programs@idahoalpineclub.org.

President Speaks

Hey Alpine Club members! Spring is almost here. Is your bike tuned up ready to go or just hanging around with flat tires waiting for someone to lube the chain? Don't feel bad, mine is still hanging in the garage.

Bike riding in the spring can be a little problematic. You have to dodge a lot of pot holes and watch out for the loose gravel and sand on the side of the roads. You won't see too many more powder days skiing in the backcountry and the easier x-country trails won't be groomed much longer.

Snowshoeing actually gets better as the snow-pack settles but watch out for those warm afternoons when the snow gets soft and you end up post-holing the last couple miles if you didn't plan a shady route back to your car. Hiking and mountain biking become flat land sports this time of the year and can be quite muddy until the high country opens up around the end of May or the first of June. So what is a person to do? Try a bike ride in Grand Teton or Yellowstone National Park. The roads are open to bikes but not cars for a few weeks in the spring. Hiking the lava trail west of town or the Menan Buttes is also good this time of year. But the best answer to recreation in the spring is a road trip to points south. Red rock country in southern Utah is at its best in the spring before the temperature gets too hot. There is hiking, biking, climbing and lots of something we haven't seen much of this winter ...sunshine. See you when I get back. Mark Whitham

Bear-Proof Food Canisters Required for Backcountry Camping in Grand Teton National Park

Grand Teton National Park Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott announced today that all persons camping below 10,000 feet in the park's backcountry will be required to use approved, portable bear-proof canisters for food storage—except at certain designated backcountry campsites where food storage facilities are provided. Hard plastic bear-proof canisters of the type approved by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee will be required beginning March 15, 2008. Although food canisters are not required for areas above 10,000 feet, proper food storage will still be compulsory in those locations.

For more information regarding this: <http://gtnpnews.blogspot.com/2008/03/bear-proof-food-canisters-require-d-for.html>

Day Hiking / Backpacking

Unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions, Contact Sam Pole: Home-523-4970, cell-520-3630, or email sbpole@cableone.net for trip information and to sign up to go on a scheduled trip.

NOTE: The following meeting and time information applies to trips led by Sam Pole. If anyone else is leading a trip call them for the meeting location, time, and to sign up to go.

Trip Meeting Places:

Unless otherwise noted will leave from two locations:

1. Trips west of the Snake River at Idaho Falls will leave from the West-side Walmart (parking lot at the garden side).
2. Trips basically east of the Snake River at Idaho Falls will leave from the East-side Walmart on Hitt Road (north end or McDonald's end of parking lot). Trip departures will be at 7:30 a.m. from the parking lots, unless otherwise noted in the previous month newsletter. If running late, please call or at least always check the parking lot first because others may have called to say they also will be late. If it is more convenient for you to meet us on the way or at the trailhead, please call to let me know. For instance, if someone lives in Rexburg and we are headed past Rexburg to go hiking, we can always meet-up there and proceed.

Hike Minimums:

1. Water
2. Food/snacks
3. Protective clothing-no cotton
4. Minor first aide items
5. Appropriate shoes
5. Personal medications, as needed during the day.

Suggested Other Items:

1. Sun glasses
2. Sun screen
3. Hat
4. Light gloves
5. Hiking staff
6. Other personal items of interest depending on whether one is a minimalist or tech-head.

The IAC 2008 Hiking season will begin April 19, 2008 with a hike at the Craters of the Moon National Monument. This season will be similar to 2007 in that your hiking coordinator intends to continue to schedule one Thursday hike each month. Thursdays are obviously aimed at retirees and other slackers but also allows for additional hikes without tying-up and additional weekend. I hope more of the Thursday trips can make this year because they are a lot of fun and there are no crowds.

Overall this year will include old standards and new hikes. Another goal is to schedule at least one 2-nighter in June, July, August and September.

April 19, Dayhike / Craters of the Moon, Saturday.

Round trip approx. 6 miles not counting short side trips to view various volcanic features off the main trail. Trip Coordinator: Sam Pole. This is an easy hike under early season desert conditions. Will proceed out to Echo Crater, and beyond if the group wishes and time allows.

May 10, Dayhike / Snake River Canyon Rim, Saturday.

This hike is along a shelf above the Snake River canyon east of Heise. Round trip 6-8 miles depending on how far folks wish to go. This is a beautiful early spring trip. Trip Coordinator: Sam Pole. Fairly easy hike along a canyon shelf overlooking the South Fork of the Snake River.

May 22, Dayhike / Devil's Half Acre, Thursday.

Round trip approx. 11 miles. Trip Coordinator: Sam Pole. Let's try this again earlier in the season. Last year only two of us did this hike in July and it was very draining. Dry rocky hike over basalts to volcanic vent and back. This is a moderately difficult hike over relatively flat terrain with somewhat uneven footing.

Update: New Snowshoe Trails East Idaho Guides & Maps

Two new snowshoe trails have been cleared and marked at Kelly Canyon. One trail is an extension of the Connector and extends it across road 218 to Glen's Grunt. This allows for making a nice ~3.5 mile loop that avoids roads when combined with Upper Cole's Climb, Shoers Delight, Glen's Grunt and the older section of the connector trail.

The new Kelly Mt trail has been marked and cleared. It departs the Nordic parking lot at the Resort and climbs very steeply to the flat area on Kelly Mt west of Moose Canyon. From the flat, the trail is currently only with marked with flagging and parallels the rim of Moose Canyon until it connects with the Forest Service boundary fence. One caution: getting across the flat on Kelly Mt can be difficult when visibility is poor. After paralleling the boundary fence one can connect with the sparsely marked and seldom used Kelly Mt Ridge Rd. From the junction, one can snowshoe southeast to Norm's Hill and descend to the warming hut or ski northwest to the new cell phone tower and return via the Repeater trail. The new trail map has been posted on the Kelly Canyon map on the IF Ski Club web site: highlight "Weather, Areas, Maps, Info", click on "Trails Maps and Guides", go to Kelly Canyon Nordic Area and click "Map".

Additional area maps are available on the Idaho Falls Ski Club Website: <http://ifskiclub.com>

Bear Gulch-Mesa Falls Guide Map
Brimstone-Buffalo River Guide Map
Fall River Ridge Guide Map
Harriman State Park Guide Map
Harriman-Brimstone Connector
Kelly Canyon Nordic Area Guide
www.Delorme.com kindly allows the ski club to use these maps.

Dubois Grouse Days April 11-12

Questions or to request a registration form: Call Jeri at (208) 374-5422 or e-mail her at jtavenner@mudlake.net

Climbing

For information on fall and winter trips, driving instructions, or to sign up to go, contact Kevin Coble at 529-8142 or Eric Larsen 522-9354.

Weekly climbing continues indoors at Stone Walls Climbing Gym. Contact Kevin to find out how to get on the email list for weekly climbing events.

Bicycling

For spring bicycling information and trips, contact Jeff Coward at 208.522.8135 or by email: bicycling@idahoalpineclub.org

March 10: Plowing on Teton Park Road in Grand Teton National Park began. Depending on weather, snow conditions and plowing progress, the roadway should become accessible to traditional springtime, non-motorized activities by April 1st. Re-opening of the Teton Park Road will be announced once the road has been plowed and snow removal equipment is no longer operating. The road opens to vehicle traffic on May 1st.

Support the Merchants who Support the IAC

Show your membership card for 10% discounts on regularly priced merchandise:

- ★ Idaho Mountain Trading
523-6679
Shoup & B, Idaho Falls
- ★ Canyon Whitewater Supply
522-3932
450 S Yellowstone, Idaho Falls
- ★ Alpine Schwinn 523-1226
1352 S. Holmes Ave.
- ★ Bill's Bike Shop 522-3341
805 S. Holmes Ave.

- ★ Lynna and Leland Howard offer members of IAC a 10% discount on all of their published books. 357-1917 or 357-3166; lynna.howard@mac.com leland@wildernessbooks.com
- ★ Stone Walls Rock Gym. \$1 off of Daily Rate. Call 528.8610 for information and winter hours.
- ★ Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking & Biking guide books

Highway Clean-Up May 3

It is that time of year to contribute to the community and have a great time with friends while helping to clean up our little 2 mile section of Highway 31. The section is located between milemarker 6 & 8 near the old Pine Basin Ski area.

Benefits include getting out in the fresh air, exercise, spotting early spring flowers blooming as soon as the snow melts, the feeling of pride in your efforts every time you drive thru that section of highway, the potluck picnic, and / or a bike ride or hike afterwards. In return matching bright orange safety vests and trash sacks are provided for our use.

Work gloves are required. Leather boots & safety glasses recommended.

The Burrells have graciously offered their home near Palisades for the Potluck afterwards.

For more information and to sign up for this easy fun trip, call the Whithams at 520.1728.

Enjoy the outdoors with the
IAC
Join today

Dates to Remember:

April 2: General Meeting / Biking Around the World

April 11-12: Dubois Grouse Days

April 19, Dayhike: Craters of the Moon, Saturday

April 22: Earth Day

May 3: Highway Clean-up

May 10, Dayhike: Snake River Canyon Rim, Saturday

May 22, Dayhike / Devil's Half Acre, Thursday

Now you have no excuse,
so get out there
and experience it!

**Enjoy the outdoors with the IAC
Join today**

For more information write to the address below or visit our web site to download a free newsletter and application:

**Idaho Alpine Club
P.O. Box 2883
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2883
www.IdahoAlpineClub.org**

Membership Fees

Full Year 7/1 to 10/1

Individuals: \$20 \$15

Family: \$25 \$20

After October 1, the payment of full year fee applies to the following year. Full-time students (18 or older) and seniors (65 or older): \$5 off the above fee schedule.

IAC Council Meeting Minutes

NOTE: Monthly minutes are available at www.idahoalpineclub.org

IAC Logo T-Shirts!!

Short sleeves or long sleeves, crew neck, heather grey Dri Release material with embroidered club logo! Short sleeve \$14 each. Long sleeve \$21 each. Sizes Small, Medium, Large, and X-Large. The shirts are available at the monthly meetings, but if you just can't wait until the next meeting, contact the club Treasurer to get yours sooner.

White 'n' Grey Sale!!!!

All long sleeve white and grey silk screened IAC logo T-shirts are now \$14 instead of the normal \$21. All short sleeve grey silk screened IAC logo T-shirts are now \$10 instead of the normal \$14. These would make a great gift for the hiker that has everything. We will not be ordering any more white or silk screened logo T-shirts; this is your last chance. Contact the club Treasurer for size availability and to buy now.

*Idaho Alpine Club
P.O. Box 2883
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2883*