

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 53 - Issue Number 4 - April 2013

CLIMBING•MOUNTAINEERING•BACKPACKING•DAYHIKING•BICYCLING•XCSKIING•SNOWSHOEING•RAFTING

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

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2013 Council

President	Sam Pole	523-4970
Vice-president	Sue Braastad	881-4354
Secretary	Susan McKinley	529-4583
Treasurer	Donna Whitham	520-1728

Members-at-Large

Colleen Bohan	529-0151
Karl Bohan	529-0151
Ken Durstine	524.3505
Sheila Kappel	528.8788
Joyce Storey	521-2572
Mark Whitham	520-7232

Council Meetings:

Council Meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. IAC Council Meeting Monthly minutes are available on line.

Upcoming Council Meetings:

Apr 11: Braastad's Home 1610 Blue Camas Dr.

Activity Coordinators:

Backpacking	Sam Pole	523-4970
Bicycling	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Climbing/Mountaineering	Kevin Coble	201-1840
Conservation	Open	
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
Publicity	Open	
Historian/Librarian	Barbara Brown	522-8977
WebMaster	George Cole	716-0024
Program	Bob Tyler	787-2601

General Club Meeting

Held at **7:00 P.M.** on the first WEDNESDAY of each month, normally in the Beaverhead meeting room at the Idaho Fish and Game office.

NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.

APRIL Bulletin Deadline is:

5 PM on MARCH 5

Trip descriptions, reports, and material for inclusion in the next bulletin are due by the **5TH** 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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013 @ 7:00 PM

**SNOW EXPECTED WITH A CHANCE OF
AVALANCHES**

DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

555 WEST 25TH ST

From 17th Street & Rollendet, go south to 25th Street. Turn right (west). IDW is on the left side of street. Park in the parking lot to the east of the building.

Enter via front door, then follow hallway around to the right to the meeting room.

We are fortunate to live in an area where we can effortlessly check the day's avalanche danger with a click of the mouse and we take for granted that the avalanche report was prepared by a team of forecasters using the best modern equipment and technology available. However, when Glenn Vitucci was hired by a remote Chilean gold mine high in the Andes to do avalanche forecasts and control work, he found that he was expected to perform his job using only a thermometer, a hand held anemometer and some stakes to measure snow depth. Lacking advanced ridge top weather stations, Glenn had to hold out his sole anemometer and estimate the weather conditions not only high above in the slide starting zones looming over the mine but also above a camp 30 miles away where a crew that cleared the road lived.

The Pimenton Mine would never qualify as an OSHA-approved worksite. Perched high on the side of a hanging valley at 11,000 feet in the shadow of Aconcagua, accessing it requires successfully negotiating 45 switchbacks sliced by two avalanche paths, then driving an additional 18 miles crossing 50 more slide paths. With 25 avalanche beacons for 120 workers and storms that can dump 12 feet of snow in 10 days, the challenges of insuring the safety of the miners are immediately apparent. Glenn would use an avalauncher to shoot charges high up into slide zones to precipitate avalanches and make the miners' living and work zones as safe as he could.

Glenn brings 30 years of experience as a back country ski guide to his work. He is a former owner of Rendezvous Ski Tours which operates a system of yurts in the Tetons. Come and hear Glenn's account and slideshow of his struggle both to keep men safe in a beautiful but dangerous environment and against a corporate culture that was reluctant to acknowledge the risks its workers were exposed to.

For more information contact programs@idahoalpineclub.org, log onto the club website at www.idahoalpineclub.org.

President Speaks

Unbelievably, winter is rapidly retreating. March winds are here and stripping away the snow so it is time to begin thinking about our warm weather activities: climbing hiking, biking, rafting, etc. Start making your plans to participate in several of the club recreational activities and get rid of that winter comfort pack, i.e. weight gain. Keep your eye on the newsletter and the club's Facebook page to see what is being offered each month, and let your non-club friends also know. For the club to continue in a healthy manner, it needs broader membership participation and new members. So be a club ambassador for memberships and lets have a great spring, summer and fall time. ~Sam Pole

Participation on Club Activities

Common Adventures / Trips:

With the exception of rafting trips, trips which require the use of any club equipment, or trips limited to club members: non-members may attend a maximum of ONE club trip or activity, then *must be members in good standing to continue participating.*

Participants must be members in good standing to go on rafting trips, trips which require the use of any club equipment, or trips limited to club members only, or needing rafting rentals. Participants on a club trip must pay any established trip fee, abide by club rules and activity guidelines, and must follow instructions of the activity coordinator.

An individual may not participate in any common adventure/trip of the club unless that individual has read and signed the common adventure form for that specific activity prior to embarking on that adventure / trip / activity.

All Trips Bring Your Own:

1. Water
2. Food/snacks
3. Dress in layers. Bring adequate extra appropriate protective clothing - no cotton. Hat and gloves or mittens.
4. Minor first aid items including sun screen, personal medications, as needed during the day.
5. Headlamp (& Batteries)
6. Map & Compass
7. Sunglasses
8. Lightweight shelter/space blanket.
9. Appropriate equipment- depending on activity or terrain.
10. Repair kit for your own equipment including duct tape.
11. Mat to sit on
12. Other personal items of interest

Climbing

For information on club climbing trips contact Kevin Coble at 201-1840. To find out about Spring weekly climbing locations if there will be a snow school scheduled or impromptu weekend trips, subscribe to the IAC climbing mailing list by visiting:

http://www.macrobotics.com/mailman/listinfo.cgi/iac_climbing

or, via email, send a message with subject or body 'help' to: iac_climbing-request@macrobotics.com.

YMCA Rock Climbing Gym

Call 528.8610 for information.

SUMMER HOURS:

TUESDAY 4PM - 9PM & SATURDAY NOON - 9PM

WINTER HOURS

(Effective October 1):

MONDAY - FRIDAY 4PM - 9PM

SATURDAY NOON - 9PM SUNDAY CLOSED

Idaho Alpine Club members may show their membership card to receive 10% off of daily rates or the 10 punch card.

Non-technical Hiking / Mountaineering

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, 24 hours prior to any trip.

Hiking and non-technical mountaineering is serious business...even "small" mountains. Inclement weather, exposure, traveling on snow can change an "easy" trip to a "difficult" trip in a matter of minutes. These alpine trips are not guided. These are self-supported, group adventure outings. Each trip has a leader who serves as a resource to the group and provides some basic trip structure. Participants are expected to evaluate their own physical and mental abilities prior to participating, assist with transportation, cooperate with others, participate in decision-making, identify and reduce risk to themselves and the group, and be self-reliant in preparations. The IAC has no mountaineering gear to loan. For all outings, participants are expected to bring water (few climbs have access to water); food, clothing, and appropriate mountaineering gear (and be knowledgeable and experienced in its use). Trip lengths are indicated for an approximate round trip distance. Contact leaders with questions if you are new to mountaineering or new to the area. Trips may be cancelled at the last minute due to weather or conditions outside of the leader's control.

April 6 / Day Hike North Menan Butte This will be a short 3 mile day hike. This hike is on the rim of the Menan Butte. The loop is approximately 3 miles with a steep beginning and end. Fabulous views of the Snake River meandering across the highlands, the Tetons to the east, the Italians and Centennials to the north, and the Lemhis to the west. The butte has been designated a National Natural Landmark and has been featured in geology lab textbooks for volcanic and geomorphic study. Please contact MaD Whitham (Mark 520.7232 or Donna 520.1728) at least 24 hours prior to the trip to sign up and for any additional details.

Bicycling

Even though winter has just begun, it is already time to start planning for the 2013 bicycling season. As information on other rides of interest is emailed to the bulletin editor, it will be included, unless submitted too late for applying for the ride.

If anyone would like to coordinate some local bike rides this year please submit them in the format shown below to be included in the bulletin by the submittal date indicated on the front page. If you have any questions or ideas for some local club rides, please contact the Idaho Alpine Club Bicycling coordinator: Jeff Coward at 208.522.8135.

The IAC bike rides are self-supported, group adventure outings. Each trip will have a leader who serves as a resource to the group and provides some basic trip structure. However participants are expected to evaluate their own physical and mental abilities prior to

participating, assist with transportation, cooperate with others, participate in decision-making, identify and reduce risk to themselves and the group, and be self-reliant in preparations. The IAC has no biking gear to loan. For all outings, participants are expected to bring their own water; food, clothing, and appropriate bike maintenance gear (and to be knowledgeable and experienced in its use).

Trip lengths are indicated for a round trip distance. Contact leaders with questions if you are new to biking or new to the area. Trips may be cancelled or rescheduled at the last minute due to weather or conditions outside of the leader's control.

The following are some Safe Riding Tips paraphrased from an article written by Bill Harris for cycling utah.com, the freebie that appears monthly at the downtown Great Harvest bakery.

1. The lead rider has the responsibility of pointing out obstacles in the road such as potholes, glass, and debris. As the leader approaches the hazard, take one hand off the bars and point out the obstacle. Those behind continue to signal to those behind, kind of like a wave at a football game.
2. On narrow roads the lead riders should yell out "car up" to warn those behind of approaching traffic. Those at the back of the group should yell "car back" to warn those of traffic wanting to pass from behind.
3. When turning a corner, the lead rider should signal by pointing the direction of the turn. Those behind should continue—wave theory again.
4. Maintain a constant pace and avoid quick accelerations and sudden braking.
5. Do not overlap wheels...any turn will result in a crash.
6. Stay relaxed. Do not put death grip on handlebars and keep arms bent and relaxed. Then if another rider bumps you, your body absorbs the contact force and your steering is less likely to be affected.
7. Practice looking several riders ahead and recognizing when changes in pace will occur.
8. On descents, spread out to allow more reaction time (and a better view).

Idaho road biking laws are at:
http://itd.idaho.gov/bike_ped/Idaho%20Code%20Related%20to%20Bicyclists.pdf.

April 26 / Bicycle Ride Teton Park (30-35 miles). This ride will be along the road from the Moose visitor center to Jackson Lake dam before the road is open to motorized traffic on April 30. The Teton Park Road from the Taggart & Bradley Lakes trail-head to Signal Mountain opens for non-motorized traffic by April 01. This is a mostly flat ride, with only a couple of minor hills. Round trip distance from the Taggart/Bradley Lakes trail-head parking lot to the Jackson Lake Dam,

including a return trip via the Jenny Lake loop is about 35 miles. The starting point is the parking lot for the Taggart Lake trail head. Riders may go whatever distance they want. Some riders may want to go all the way to the dam and those wanting a shorter ride, can avoid one of the two hills by riding out as far as the Jenny Lake loop turnoff and then returning. The scenic views on this ride are superb. A park entrance fee or national park pass is required. You will need to provide your own bike and transportation to participate.

Please contact MaD Whitham (Mark 520.7232 or Donna 520.1728) at least 24 hours prior to the trip to sign up and for any additional details.

Local Bicycling Maps

Mapman Alan Crockett has revised the set of 29 (and growing) local road biking routes used by the Tuesday morning geezer bike group (not IAC affiliated). Alan improved Barb Brown's original descriptions and schematics by using DeLorme software for developing much more useful maps enabling accurate mileages and, in most instances, adding optional extensions to the original "standard" 20-30 miles routes for the more ambitious riders.

The latest revisions include an attempt to increase the consistency in format and route labeling between maps. It's an ongoing project—ensuring junctions, points of interest, and road callouts are consistent with the existing road signs (which are not always consistent with existing mapping software) and revising routes on the basis of riders' input or changing traffic patterns.

The latest maps are available on the IAC website under club archives, road biking maps.

TRIP REPORTS

March 16 XCSki or Snowshoe / Mesa Falls: Again the weather we ordered up, was delightful for this easy 7 mile trip along the rim of the Fall River. Views of the river were outstanding. Attendees: Sue & John Braastad, Eric Clanton, Joanne Dudek, Sheila Kappel, Susan McKinley & Vicky, Abbie Zaladonis and the Whithams.

March 2 Snowshoe / Kelly Canyon: We couldn't have had better weather for snowshoeing along the ridges overlooking the Snake River and Big Hole. Attendees: Alan Crockett & Doc, Sheila Kappel, Abbie Zaladonis, Clint Wilson, and the Whithams.

IAC Logo T-Shirts & Patches!

Dri Release material with embroidered IAC Logo! Small, Medium, Large, and X-Large Short sleeve \$20 each. Long sleeve \$25 each. A women's style short sleeve shirt is available for \$20 on a prepaid special order basis. It is fitted with shorter sleeves in a wicking material.

A limited number of embroidered Color IAC Logo Patches are available for \$10 each.

Dates to Remember:

Apr 3: IAC GENERAL MEETING
SNOW EXPECTED WITH A
CHANCE OF AVALANCHES

Apr 6: Day Hike / Menan Butte

Apr 20: Bicycle / Teton Park

Climbing: Subscribe to find out updates to the weekly winter climbing plans. See page 2 for information on how to subscribe.

Become a Fan

Find us on Facebook. Last minute trips can be posted on the wall. Additionally, photos from club trips you have gone on can be easily posted on the wall singly or as an album if you took a lot of photos. To do this, the photos do need to be your photos & shared with the public.

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	
	10/1	7/1-12/31
Individuals:	\$25	\$20
Family:	\$30	\$25

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 Monthly minutes are available on line.

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 (Non-Sale Items Only)
- Bill's Bike Shop 522-3341 805 S. Holmes Ave. (Excludes bicycles)
- Canyon Whitewater Supply 522-3932 (Accessories Only) 450 S Yellowstone, Idaho Falls
- The Preparedness Store & Bosch Kitchen Center 120 Northgate Mile Idaho Falls, ID 524-8300 10% off backpacking, dehydrated & freeze-dried foods 10% off any outdoor accessories
- YMCA Climbing Gym 528-8610 755 South Capital Avenue
- Lynna and Leland Howard offer a 10% discount on all of their published books. 357-1917 or 357-3166; lynna.howard@mac.com leland@wildernessbooks.com
- Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking & Biking guide books