

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 54 - Issue Number 4 - April 2014

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

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

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2014 Council

President	Sue Braastad	881-4354
Vice-president	Karl Bohan	529-0151
Secretary	Susan McKinley	529-4583
Treasurer	Donna Whitham	520-1728

Members-at-Large

Colleen Bohan	529-0151
Ken Durstine	524-3505
Sheila Kappel	528.8788
Sam Pole	520-3630
Richard Scheerer	881-6331
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 10: Durstine's Home	896 Linden Dr.
May TBD: Kappel's Home	3776 Marlene St.

Activity Coordinators:

Backpacking	Sam Pole	520-3630
Bicycling	Ken Durstine	524-3505
Climbing/Mountaineering	Kevin Coble	201-1840
Conservation	Open	
Cross-Country Skiing / Snowshoeing	Whithams	520-1728
Day Hiking	Sam Pole	520-3630
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, in the meeting location indicated in the program description.

NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.

MAY Bulletin Deadline is:

5 PM on APRIL 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

'FIRST ASCENT OF GAMLANG RAZI'

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

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.

Last September, Andy Tyson led a group of five Americans and two climbers from Myanmar on a climb of 19,258 foot Gamlang Razi located in an extremely remote spur of the Himalayas on the Myanmar-Tibet border. The group spent two weeks on the 150 mile approach to the mountain, staying with villagers many of whom have never seen outsiders before. On the approach, it was a constant struggle to maintain health and strength as the climbers endured heat, rain, numerous biting insects, snakes and gastrointestinal troubles. Trails were often steep and marginal and river crossings were made via rickety rope bridges. Unlike Nepal, Myanmar is not yet a trekking trade route and climbers rarely visit the area. Andy's slideshow will not only feature the group's encounter with the mountain, but it will also offer a glimpse of a pristine culture that is just emerging from the constraints of 50 years of military rule.

Andy is a professional guide and has guided Cho Oyu in Tibet and Mt. Vinson in Antarctica. He has first ascents in Patagonia, China and the Wrangell Mtns. He is also co-author of Glacier Mountaineering: An Illustrated Guide to Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue.

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

President Speaks

April is here, spring is on the way,

Time to clean up the winter gear,

And stow it away....

Get out those little used bikes,

Break in those boots,

And be ready for some beautiful hikes....

This summer, enjoy the rain on your face,

The smell of flowers & songs of the birds,

Enjoy the journey as you go, it's not a race!

Happy Hiking, Biking, Rafting, Climbing and any other outdoor activities you choose to do this summer - Be Safe!

Sheila Kappel

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.

Wednesday, April 9th, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at the Marriott Residence Inn, 635 W. Broadway, Idaho Falls there will be a public forum open house "Connecting our Community Plan"—included is the proposed bike park. You are invited to see the proposal and maps, provide your comments and support the concept of a bike park: Alta Planning + Design, at the request of IF Parks & Recreation, has developed a conceptual design for a proposed bike park on 760 acres of BLM land about 7 miles west of Idaho Falls. Included in the design is a network of single and double track trails with optional deviations to obstacles or jumps. A smaller section of land is proposed for dirt jumps, a dual slalom and pump track.

Non-technical Hiking / Mountaineering

Unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions contact Sam Pole: 520-3630, or email sbpole@cablone.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 hikes or 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 26 - 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.

July 5 - Hike / Scott Peak: Scott Peak is the highest peak in the Bitterroot Mountains. My plan is to meet along Highway 28 at the Nicholia Road exit at 8 AM. From there, we will carpool to the trailhead. We will use the southwest ridge route as shown in the attached link from summitpost. This route is Class 2, with 10 miles roundtrip distance and 4,000' of gain. Call John Hamann at 575-437-6303, or e-mail me at john.hamann@holloman.af.mil. Please contact me by mid-June if you want to come. Summitpost link:

<http://www.summitpost.org/sw-ridge-approach/166330>

July 6 - Hike / Caribou Mountain: Caribou Mountain is the second highest peak in SE Idaho at 9,803'. My plan is to meet at an appropriate location in Idaho Falls at 7:30 AM. From there, we will drive about 60 miles southeast to reach the mountain. I have found a route on the northwest side of the mountain that utilizes a road and a trail not shown on any maps. The entire hiking route will be mostly, if not all, on a trail or road. The round trip distance is about 4 miles, with 1,600' of gain, assuming we can drive all the way in. Call John Hamann at 575-437-6303, or e-mail me at john.hamann@holloman.af.mil. Please contact me by mid-June if you want to come. Summitpost link: <http://www.summitpost.org/caribou-mountain-id/658557>.

Climbing

For information on club climbing trips contact Kevin Coble at 201-1840. To find out about weekly climbing locations 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 (June 1-September 30):

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 daily rates or 10 punch card.

Bicycling

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.

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

April 19 / Bicycle Ride Teton Park: We are going to start the IAC biking season with a ride in Teton Park before the roads open to motorized traffic, weather permitting. Meet at the Starbucks coffee shop in Fred Meyers at 9 AM for possible car pooling an estimated ride start at 11 AM at the Moose visitors center. Round trip to Jackson lake is a mostly flat 40 miles with the exception of the moderate climbing between the visitor's center & Taggart Lake trail head.

http://www.nps.gov/grte/planyourvisit/upload/Bike_12.pdf
With luck, we will have sun warmed pavement, temperatures in the upper 40s, bring your sunscreen, water, and some lunch. Road bikes normally work fine although sometimes a mountain bike is better to slug it up the signal mountain road to the look out. Figure an additional 10 miles round trip with 900 feet elevation gain, assuming the road is plowed all the way to top. There are lots of options for this ride, some people park at the Taggart lake trail head and just ride the short distance to Jenny lake and back. Bring a buddy or two and pick your own ride, there are lots of scenic spots for lunch. The club is providing no SAG support for the ride and there is no motorized access on the route past Taggart lake trail head until the Jackson Lake dam. Be prepared. Contact me at kdurstine@gmail.com or 208-524-3505 prior to the ride.

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.

TRIP REPORTS

February 22 XC Ski / Darby Canyon: Club members Karl and Colleen Bohan, Richard (& Samson) Scheerer, Susan McKinley, Sheila Kappel, and Mark and Donna, Whitham, participated on this very snowy Idaho Alpine Club snowshoe trip. It snowed quite heavily most of the day. The predicted high winds, thankfully, did not occur.



Hiking 101: Binoculars

Whether you're participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count or want to get closer to nature on your hikes, a good quality pair of binoculars is indispensable to helping you get close to the action.

When purchasing binoculars, the first thing you'll probably notice is that they all bear a magnification rating such as 7x35 or 10x42. The first number is the level of magnification. So a distant moose viewed through 7x35 binoculars will appear 7 times larger, but viewed through 10x42 binoculars it would appear 10 times larger. However, as the magnification gets larger the field of view becomes smaller, sort of like cropping a photo and the image can also be shakier.

The second number is the size of the objective lens (the lens furthest from your eyes). Basically, the larger the number the more light it lets in and the brighter and clearer the image will be. When weight and size aren't a big issue, opt for the larger number as it noticeably improves image quality.

When using binoculars you'll notice that they have a hinge between the two barrels. This hinge allows you to adjust the distance between the eyepieces so that they match the distance between your eyes. You should see one clear image without any dark spots or without seeing two of the same object.

Most binoculars also include an adjustable eyepiece on one barrel. This feature allows a person to adjust for the differences in vision for each eye. To adjust the eyepiece, first, using the focus wheel usually found on top and between the barrels, focus on an object and view it only through the barrel without the adjustable eyepiece. Clear? OK, now view it through both eyepieces. Is the image fuzzy? Turn the eyepiece adjustment ring until the object is clear and crisp. Note the number it is on and set it to this number each time you use these binoculars. This is especially handy when sharing the binoculars with another person.

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Dates to Remember:

Apr 2: IAC GENERAL MEETING
'FIRST ASCENT OF GAMLANG
RAZI'

Apr 9: Public Forum Open House
"Connecting our Community
Plan"

Apr 19: Bicycle Ride / Teton Park
Apr 26: Hike / Menan Butte

Jul 5: Hike / Scott Peak
Jul 6: Hike / Caribou Mtn.

Climbing: Subscribe to find out
updates to the weekly
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.

The mountains are calling and I must
go. -John Muir

**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
Snake River Crossing (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