

# Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 49 - Issue Number 12 - December 2009

CLIMBING MOUNTAINEERING BACKPACKING DAYHIKING BICYCLING XCSKIING SNOWSHOEING RAFTING

web site: [www.idahoalpineclub.org](http://www.idahoalpineclub.org)

e-mail: [info@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:info@idahoalpineclub.org)

## 2009 Council

President	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Vice-president	Teak Cummings	524-5136
	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Secretary	Susan McKinley	529-4583
Treasurer	Donna Whitham	520-1728

## Members-at-Large

Colleen Bohan	529-0151
Jim McBride	529-0586
Sam Pole	523-4970

## Council Meetings:

Council Meetings are held on the second TUESDAY of each month at 7:00 PM until further notice

Upcoming Council Meetings:

December: Pole's Home      Call for new address

## Activity Coordinators:

Backpacking	Sam Pole	523-4970
Bicycling	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Climbing/Mountaineering		
	Kevin Coble	201-1840
	Eric Larsen	522-9354
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
Bulletin Assistant	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Publicity	Open	
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.

## **JANUARY Bulletin Deadline is:**

### **5 PM on DECEMBER 10**

Trip descriptions, reports, and material 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](mailto:editor@idahoalpineclub.org)

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

## **IDAHO ALPINE CLUB GENERAL MEETING**

### **"TREKKING THE ANNAPURNA CIRCUIT"**

**BRING A FRIEND AND ATTEND**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009 ~ 7:30 PM**

## **IDAHO FALLS LIBRARY**

Steve Priebe will entertain us with slides of his 26 day trek of the Annapurna Circuit which he completed three years ago this November. Steve walked 200 miles and cumulatively climbed 50,000 feet. Even more remarkable, he did the trip on his own, eschewing the services of a guide or outfitter. Nights were spent in teahouses and companions were people Steve met along the way. Steve traveled through the Manang District and visited the temple of Muktinath built in 1815. He walked through the Kali Gandaki between Annapurna and Dhaulagiri, a 21,000 foot deep valley which ranks as the deepest valley on earth. Annapurna base camp was also on Steve's itinerary as well as Thorung La Pass, at 18,000 feet, the highest point on the trip.

Come to the meeting to enjoy Steve's slide presentation and learn about this scenic part of the world.

The meeting is open to the public and all outdoor enthusiasts are invited to attend.

For more information contact [programs@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:programs@idahoalpineclub.org), log onto the club website at [www.idahoalpineclub.org](http://www.idahoalpineclub.org), or contact Bob Tyler at 787-2601.

## **President Speaks**

We have two new council members after the annual membership party. Al Jantz and Matt Sweetser are the new council members and Donna Whitham and myself are returning for another term. I would like to thank everyone that volunteered to run for positions on the council. Thank-you for the good work to the council members whose terms are expiring at the end of this year: Jim McBride, Teak Cummings, Donna Whitham and myself.

If you didn't make it to the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Membership Drive Party, you missed another one of Teak's outstanding parties. Many thanks to Teak for all the work to put on the party and to Wilderness Books, the Whithams, and the IAC for donating raffle prizes for the annual party.

I would also like to thank all the activity coordinators for the past year. Getting involved is what has made the club work for the last forty-nine years. As the IAC begins its 50<sup>th</sup> year, resolve to participate in some of the meetings, parties like the membership party, and especially the trips. Don't worry if you don't have someone to go with. The activity coordinator wants you to go with them. Call the activity coordinator and make plans to go, it's that simple. If you have a really great idea for a trip, talk to the appropriate activity coordinator about it. Remember that the bulletin editor will need some time to get the trip listed in the news letter so plan ahead...

Mark Whitham

**Participation on Club Activities Common Adventure / Trips:** With the exception of rafting, Non-members may attend a maximum of two club trips or activities, then must be members in good standing to continue participating.

Participants on rafting trips or rafting rentals must be members in good standing.

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.

### **XCSkiing / Snowshoeing**

Contact the Whithams 520.1728 or, [xcski@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:xcski@idahoalpineclub.org) for trip information, meeting location, and to sign up to go on a scheduled trip, unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions. Additional trips to be added over the winter, depending on conditions. If the roads are closed, or the weather too severe, the location of a trip may change or the trip may be canceled at the last minute.

### **Carry or Bring Your Own:**

1. Water
  2. Food/snacks
  3. Dress in layers. Hat and gloves or mittens. Do NOT show up in cotton clothing to XC-ski or Snowshoe. Wear wool or synthetics with the final layer being a wind and or a waterproof barrier. Bring adequate extra Winter appropriate protective clothing-no cotton.
  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-skis or snowshoes, boots, poles, skins, shovel and avalanche transceiver depending on activity or terrain.
  - 10 Repair kit for your own equipment including duct tape and wax kit or glide liquid.
  - 11 Mat to sit on
- Other personal items of interest.

**December 5 Snowshoe/XCSki/ Annual Christmas Tree Hunt:** We plan to search for the perfect tree in the Big Holes. Tree hunting tag required. Tags may be obtained at the Eastern Idaho Visitors Center or the Forest Service or if they have any left, at the Swan Valley Commissary. Last year the tags were \$10 for up to a 12 foot tree.

**December 12 Snowshoe at Kelly Canyon:** Explore the snowshoe trails in Kelly Canyon. If there isn't enough snow, we'll hike. Plan to soak at Heise afterwards.

**January 9 XCSki: Brimstone:** The trailhead is a Park-n-Ski area and is located ¼ mile north of the Island Park Ranger Station near Ponds Lodge Resort. There are four large loops classified as beginner to intermediate. The terrain varies from gentle grades to downhill runs through tree groves. There are nine miles of trail in this area. Bring binoculars. We'll meet at Pond's Lodge for breakfast and then XCSki afterwards.

**January 10 XCSki or Snowshoe at Harriman State Park:** Meet at the park to Classic or skate ski the over 10 miles of groomed trails at Harriman State Park. Day pass is \$2 plus parking fee approx. \$4.

**January 17 XCSki Ricks Basin:** Depending on conditions we will skate or XC ski on the groomed Nordic trails at Grand Targhee Resort. There are 10 miles of groomed trails that range from beginner to advanced. Day passes are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors or children.

**Idaho Falls XC-Ski Locations** – (according to the Post Register) Given enough snow, two parks in Idaho Falls are groomed for cross-county skiing. Freeman Park and Tautphaus Park are open to skiers daily. Some of the other parks in town occasionally are groomed, but usually will have skier set tracks.

Additionally, on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Sand Creek Golf Course will be open for XC-skiing for a \$1 fee.

If you want to snowshoe in any of the parks, stay off the groomed tracks.

Check with us on weekends that are not scheduled in advance. Even on domestic weekends we usually will go over to one of the parks to skate or classic ski or snowshoe with the dogs.

### **AVALANCHE INTERNET SITES**

**Cyberspace Snow & Avalanche Center** This one stop site provides links to just about everywhere, plus tons of information about avalanche safety in the back-country: <http://www.csac.org/>  
**North America:** <http://www.avalanche.org/>  
**Jackson Area:** <http://jhavalanche.org/>  
**Bozeman Area:** <http://www.mtavalanche.com/current/index.shtml>  
**Island Park Area:** <http://islandparksnow.net/>

**Avalanche Safety Instruction:**

<http://www.avalanchecourse.com/>

**XC Ski Trail Conditions**

Lone Mountain Resort

[http://www.lmranch.com/lmr\\_content/winter/ski\\_cond.shtml](http://www.lmranch.com/lmr_content/winter/ski_cond.shtml)

Bohart Ski Ranch

<http://www.bohartranchxcski.com/weather.php>

Chief Joseph Ski Trail Conditions

<http://bitterrootxcskiclub.net/trail%20reports.htm>

West Yellowstone

<http://www.rendezvouskitrails.com/report.html>

Rick's Basin (Grand Targhee)

<http://www.grandtarghee.com/winter/snowrpt.php>

Teton Valley (Driggs, Victor, Alta)

<http://www.tvtap.org/>

Harriman State Park

Phone: 208-558-7368

A web cam at Rainbow Reality gives you an idea of the snow on the ground conditions:

<http://www.rainbw.com/>

Island Park Ranger District for Brimstone/Buffalo

Phone: 208-558-7301

Ashton Ranger District for Bear Gulch/Mesa Falls and Fall River Ridge

Phone: 208-652-7442

Mink Creek Nordic Grooming Report

<http://www.pokyxc.org/7128.html>

**E. Idaho XC-Ski Guides & Maps**

Black and white Kelly Canyon Nordic area map brochure will be available locally and at the trailhead.

A full color version of the current map can be downloaded from the IF Ski Club's web site, [www.ifskiclub.com](http://www.ifskiclub.com).

These and 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 Map

Kelly Canyon Nordic Area Guide Map

[www.Delorme.com](http://www.Delorme.com) kindly allows the ski club to use these maps.

The IFSC Nordic Ski Schedule is also available at the same web site.

**Climbing**

For information on club climbing trips contact Kevin Coble at 201-1840. Otherwise to find out about climbing locations or impromptu weekend trips you will need to subscribe to the IAC climbing mailing list by visiting:

[http://www.macrobotics.com/mailman/listinfo/iac\\_climbing](http://www.macrobotics.com/mailman/listinfo/iac_climbing) or,

via email, send a message with subject or body 'help' to:

[iac\\_climbing-request@macrobotics.com](mailto:iac_climbing-request@macrobotics.com)

**Stone Walls Rock Gym**

Call 528.8610 for information.

Winter hours are:

4-9 PM Monday - Friday

12-9 PM Saturday

Idaho Alpine Club members can show their membership card to receive \$1 off of the daily admission price.

**IAC Logo T-Shirts & Patches!**

Short sleeves or long sleeves, crew neck, heather grey Dri Release material with embroidered IAC Logo!

Short sleeve \$14 each.

Long sleeve \$21 each.

Sizes Small, Medium, Large, and X-Large.

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

The shirts and patches are available at the monthly meetings or contact the club Treasurer to get yours sooner.

**Caribou-Targhee Maps on Line**

Most of the Palisades and Teton Ranger District color topographic maps on the Caribou-Targhee National Forest web site have been revised to reflect trail number, trail route and trail use changes. Many of the Palisades district trails have been recently GPSed and so the maps are now considerably more accurate. There are 11 maps at a scale of 1:112,500 covering both ranger districts and 13 more detailed maps (hiking scale, 1:50,000) covering popular trails. All maps are Acrobat format and can be printed at home.

Dates to Remember:

DECEMBER 2: IAC GENERAL MEETING  
" TREKKING THE  
ANNAPURNA CIRCUIT"

December 5: Snowshoe/XCSki/ Annual  
Christmas Tree Hunt

December 12: Snowshoe / Kelly Canyon

January 9: XCSki: Brimstone

January 10: XCSki or Snowshoe at  
Harriman State Park

January 17: XCSki Ricks Basin

Climbing: Subscribe to find out any  
updates on the weekly  
climbing plans. See page  
2.

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
NOW IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY**

Winter - Snow - Fun  
Come play in the snow with us!!!!

**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](http://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 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, Idaho Falls
- ★ Alpine Schwinn 523-1226  
1352 S. Holmes Ave. (Excluding  
bicycles)
- ★ Bill's Bike Shop 522-3341  
805 S. Holmes Ave. (Excluding  
bicycles)
- ★ Canyon Whitewater Supply  
522-3932 (Accessories Only)  
450 S Yellowstone, Idaho Falls
- ★ 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](mailto:lynna.howard@mac.com)  
[leland@wildernessbooks.com](mailto:leland@wildernessbooks.com)
- ★ Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking  
& Biking guide books

*Idaho Alpine Club*

*P.O. Box 2883*

*Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2883*