

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 39 - Issue Number 2 - February 1999

P.O. Box 2885, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2885

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1998 Executive Council

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Vice-president

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Secretary

Mike Wolters 528-8580

Treasurer

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Please notify Barbara Brown of address

changes or errors. Please mail completed
common adventure forms to the secretary.

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Climbing/mountaineering

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Kurt Myers 522-5279

Conservation

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X-Country Skiing

Mark/Donna Whitham 524-6119

Bicycling

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Jeff Coward 522-8135

Kayaking

Rob Mullin 524-3594

Canoeing

Open

Rafting

Vicki Hulet 523-6199

Trail Maintenance

Paul McCarthy 523-6486

Norm Kramer 522-8677

Day Hiking

Mark/Donna Whitham 524-6119

General Club Meeting

Held at 8:00 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.

Membership Fees

Full year:

Individuals: \$20

Family: \$25

After July 1:

Individuals: \$15

Family: \$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.

Council Meetings and Bulletin Deadline

Any interested member is invited to attend.

Materials for the bulletin are due by the weekend before the
council meetings. Please send material to the bulletin editor at
2188 St. Clair Road, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83404 or by email to
rener@srv.net

“TREKKING IN NEPAL WITH BRUCE BECKER”

February 3 @ 8 PM

in the Idaho Falls Library Main Meeting Room

During the Spring of 1997 Bruce Becker trekked in the Khumbu region of Nepal.

The trekking experience in Nepal is dissimilar than backpacking in this country in several distinct ways. First, there are villages along most of the routes where food and shelter can be purchased. Secondly, the elevations are considerably higher than hiking in the United States. Bruce attained elevations over 18,000 feet while just trekking.

Bruce's slide show presentation will highlight a bit of what you can expect while trekking in Nepal.

President Speaks

February is almost here and more great presentations and outings are coming up for you to participate in. Our IAC 1999 Council

is: Members at Large: Susan Farnsworth, Eric Peterson, Bob Tyler, and Mark Whitham, Treasurer-Don Norman, Secretary-Mike Wolters, Vice President-Kurt Myers, and President-myself. I am happy to serve as President for another great year with the IAC.

For those who missed the party, we had a drawing for some cool prizes, tasty finger food to eat, beverages to drink, photos and slides to watch, and a huge turnout to enjoy all. Winners of the three large prizes were: Paul MacCarthy/ \$75 Gift Certificate from Timberline Outfitters, Jim David/\$75 Gift Certificate from Idaho Mt. Trading, and Alan Crockett/ A one month membership at Stone Walls Climbing Gym. Timberline Outfitters, Idaho Mt. Trading, and Stone Walls donated plenty of additional prizes, so there were chances to take home something even if not the larger prizes. A representative video of the Banff Mountain Film Festival was shown and tickets for this years showing in February were available. Thank-you to all those members who have already renewed their memberships for the new year and a big welcome to the new members who have recently joined the IAC.

Donna

Council Speaks

Council Meeting Minutes

Held: December 29th, 1998

Location: 1208 Atlantic

Attendees: Mark and Donna Whitham, Bob Blyth, Don Norman, Bob Tyler, Mike Wolters and Eric Peterson

Note Taker: Bob Blyth

Treasurer's Report: General Fund - \$3575,46; Rafting - \$3157.88

The previous month's minutes were read and approved.

January Note Taker: Mark Whitham

1999 Officers were selected as:

President: Donna Whitham
Vice President: Kurt Myers
Secretary: Mike Wolters
Treasurer: Don Norman

Old Business

Bob Tyler continues work on finding documentation for the REI grant.

The Wilderness Medicine Inc. (WMI) first aid training has been confirmed for Saturday and Sunday, May 8th and 9th. The council approved sending WMI a \$500 check to secure these dates. Tentative location is Stone Walls. Training cost to class participants is \$120.00 each. Participant payment is due by April 7th to Don Norman. We had several "near miss" accidents last year. Knowledgeable first aid made these misses and not hits. Coordinator attendance is encouraged.

Attendance is open. IAC members will be given attendance preference. Mike Wolters and Bob Blyth have the lead on spreading the word about this event.

The council agreed to pursue a simple IAC business card for distribution to potential members. Donna will arrange for printing.

The January membership sign up meeting will be held Wednesday January 13th, at 8:00 in St. John's Episcopal community room. Bob Tyler will arrange for door prizes of \$75.00 gift certificates to Idaho Mountain Trading and Timberline Sports. Kurt will arrange for refreshments, simple hors d'oeuvres and final room arrangements. Council members are also asked to bring snacks. Post Register advertising will be handled by Jerry Painter (Donna to remind) and in the Free Press by Constance Blyth. Donna and Don will handle creation and distribution of event fliers.

The Great Western Trail Association application was declined. The project is in a feasibility study phase. It appears that little

of the requested money would be spent on trail construction. The council felt that IAC funds would be better spent elsewhere.

New Business

Eric Peterson will investigate possible IAC involvement in the American Alpine Club.

Next Council meetings: Tyler residence
2340 St. Clair on 2/23/99 beginning at 7:30

WILDERNESS FIRST AID COURSE

May 8 - 9, 1998

Mark your calendars! The IAC will be sponsoring a two day Wilderness First Aid course from Wilderness Medicine Inc. Offered since 1975, this two day course is used by many organizations to introduce first aid training and long-term patient care to trip leaders, camp counselors, guides and rescue team members. This course is recognized by the American Camping Association (ACA) as meeting their first aid requirements. Successful completion of the course will certify students as Wilderness First Aid providers. In addition it is often used for recertification by those with previous training. Current WFR cards from the following organizations: SOLO, NOLS, WMA and WPT can be recertified by attending this course. Tentative location is Stone Walls. Training cost to class participants is \$120.00 each. To register for the class contact Donna Whitham 524-6119. Payment must be in full to hold your spot in class. No refunds after April 7th.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Mark & Donna Whitham, 524-6119

Don't forget to be prepared. Bring the essentials!!

January 31 - Craters of the Moon Day Tour

West of Idaho Falls. Gentle terrain in a unique and beautiful landscape. 7 mile loop groomed for track skiing. Daily entrance fee is \$1.00 per skier. See last years trip report on the website for Craters of the Moon to read more about this trip. Call Mark and Donna Whitham to sign up and for meeting place, 524-6119

February 6 - 7 - Teton Canyon Overnight

East of Idaho Falls, near Driggs. Ten miles round trip moderate trail. Camp overnight at Teton Canyon campground and depending on snow stability conditions, we will ski into the Jeddiah Smith Wilderness Area before skiing back to the cars on Sunday. See last years trip report on the website for Teton Canyon to read more about this trip. Call Mark and Donna Whitham to sign up and for meeting place, 524-6119

February 13 - 15 - Lost Trail Hot Springs

North of Idaho Falls in Montana. Explore the many miles of groomed XC-ski trails on Chief Joseph Pass and Lost Trail Pass or try out Lost Trail Powder Mountain Ski Area. Soak in the hot pool evenings. See last years trip report on the website for Jackson Hot Springs to read more about this area. Call Mark and Donna Whitham to sign up and for details by January 9, 524-6119

February 20 - Ponds to Harriman

Northeast of Idaho Falls in Island Park. Rolling intermediate terrain. Trail is rated as advanced due to the 12+ miles. A shuttle will be needed so those that would rather ski at Harriman could drop the rest of the skiers off at Ponds and drive the cars back to Harriman. End of the day beverages and snacks. Ski Club members will need to provide their ski club member number. See last years trip report on the website to read more about this trip. Call Mark and Donna

Whitham to sign up and for meeting place, 524-6119.

March 13 -14 - Huckleberry Hotsprings

East of Idaho Falls near Flagg Ranch. Easy 2 mile ski in over mildly rolling terrain. Depending on the trip participants, we may continue on to Polecat Hotsprings to camp and soak there. This is also great snowshoeing terrain. Last year we had a full moon for a moonlit stroll. See last years trip report on the website to read more about this trip. Call Mark and Donna Whitham to sign up and for meeting place, 524-6119.

April 10 - Meadow Lake

North of Idaho Falls in the Lemhi Mountains. 5.5 miles of moderate difficulty with a 2000 foot elevation gain to Meadow Lake Campground. Meet at Bagelbys on Broadway at 7:30 A.M. to car pool to the trail head at the old townsite of Gilmore. End of the day beverages and snacks. Ski Club members will need to provide their ski club member number. Bring towels and tevas in case it is necessary to ski the hot springs at Goldbug instead. Call Mark and Donna Whitham by March 31 to sign up 524-6119

April 11 - Bike Trip in Teton Park

This one will depend on when the Park Service starts plowing the roads but is a great time to ride in the park with out having to dart the tourists. See last years trip report on the website to read more about this trip. Call Mark and Donna Whitham to sign up and for meeting place time and date, 524-6119

April 24 - Roller blade in Teton Park

This one will depend on when the Park Service starts plowing the roads but is a great way to start getting those legs in shape for the start of backpacking and hiking season just around the corner. Advanced skating if we do the Jenny Lake loop. Call Mark and

Donna Whitham to sign up and for meeting place, 524-6119

Other Ski News

Weekday Nordic Trips

Barb Brown is interested in forming an e-mail network for short-notice weekday trips. Trips could be an hour or two in the local parks, two hours on the Rexburg golf course tracks, half days to Kelly or Pine Creek or an occasional full day to Fall Creek, Harriman, Bear Gulch, etc. Probably fairly low pressure. Most likely days would be Tuesday, Wednesday (which eliminates Targhee trippers), or possibly Friday. Send your e-mail address to me and I'll try to keep a current list circulating. Snowshoers would also be welcome. Barb Brown (barbara@srv.net)

KELLY CANYON TELEMARKING

WITH OUR VERY OWN NORM KRAMER:

The hill above the Ski Club Hut is in excellent shape for telemarking or doing a lot of traversing and kick turns like I do! I will give you a private tour of the area most anytime and show you the route to the top of the mountain. Call Norm Kramer - 522-8677

HARRIMAN STATE PARK

OVERNIGHTER - March 5

This traditional trip is usually a Saturday/Sunday affair, but Harriman is becoming too popular and reservations are hard to get on Saturday night so we are trying a Friday/Saturday schedule this year. Hopefully, skiers who have Friday off or are retired will participate. We will carry our sleeping bags, etc. one mile, sleep in the dormitory, eat in the quaint cookhouse, and ski their wonderfully groomed trails. Ski Club members will have to provide their Ski Club Member Number. Trip coordinator, Garney

Hardy 522-6128. Sign up by

Timberline Outfitter Snowshoe Events

Try the latest snowshoes for free at all these great outings!

February 7th: Free Local Demo Day & 1 mile Fun Run.

February 21st: Harriman State Park Winter Walk II

Contact Wade Seeley at 552-9853 for more information.

(Tentative)

1999 Idaho Alpine Club Climbing/Mountaineering

Schedule for Beginner to Advanced Climbers

This schedule can be somewhat flexible in terms of the routes we choose and the difficulty of the climbs, depending on the levels of the climbers taking part in each trip. The trips to City of Rocks, Massacre Rocks, and Thursday night climbs will provide good opportunities for less advanced climbers to practice technique and learn more about rock climbing protection and placement of gear.

April 24-25 Massacre Rocks
(by American Falls)

May 8 Snow School
May 14-17 Smith Rocks and Mt. Hood,
Oregon

June 5-6 City of Rocks

July 9-11 Mt. Rainier - Liberty Ridge route
or other, Washington

July 16-18 Tetons: Mt. Moran - CMC route
July 30 – Aug 1 Tetons: Middle Teton or
Grand Teton

Aug 13-15 Grand Teton- route on North
side

Aug 28-29 Sawtooths - Finger of Fate or
other.

Sept 3-6 Wind River Mtns., Wyoming
(Cirque of the Towers)

Oct 2-3 Devil's Tower, Wyoming

There will probably be other climbs or hikes not on this schedule, as well as activities coordinated by others. Call Kurt Myers or Eric Peterson for climbing and scheduling information.

Thursday night climbs

Thursday night climbs will start on May 27th. These are short, local-area climbing outings which take place every Thursday evening for much of the summer. We leave at 6:00 pm from the lot behind the old McDonalds (between Burger King and Albertsons), travel to the area, and climb for 1 ½ to 2 hours. The schedule details will be released soon.

Other News & Info...

CW Hog Ski - A -Thon

Saturday, February 20th, 1998
Pebble Creek

Help raise money for the Cooperative Wilderness Handicapped Outdoor Group (C.W. HOG). A regional self-help group, established in 1981 to provide recreational opportunities for people of all abilities.

Get pledges from family and friends and if you gather \$150 or more in pledges you can

see free at Pebble Creek. On March 3rd will be the awards party. Who ever raises the most money will be choose from the list of prizes!

\$250 Gift Certificate to Scott's, Sunset or Surf's Up, One year membership at Fitness Inc., One week float on Salmon river with Warren River.

All participants will receive a PASS sweatshirt, (retail approx \$75), which is embroidered with artwork designed by local artist and disabled skier Kevin Killan. For more information call Jeff Brandt at 236-3912

"Roads to Everest"

Presented by Jeff Rhoads
Thursday, February 11th - 7pm
Woodriver Room - ISU Campus

Jeff Rhodes, a local mountaineer is presenting a slide show documenting the path he followed that lead him to the top of Mount Everest. Jeff is doing this presentation as a fund raiser for the Access Fund, which works to keep climbing areas open to climbers. (More news about the Access Fund is below.) \$4.00 for the community. \$2.00 for students and facility.

Access Update

Access Fund Sues Park Service over Climbing Ban At Idaho City of Rocks

The Access Fund, the largest national climbing organization in the United States, filed suit against the National Park Service on November 9, 1998 in Federal District Court in Boise, Idaho. The access Fund's complaint alleges that the NPS decision to prohibit climbing and all recreation on and around the Twin Sisters, the largest and most spectacular rock formation in the City of Rocks National Reserve, was in conflict with the agency's own scientific findings and

recommendations of past and current superintendents and furthermore is arbitrary and illegal.

Michael Kennedy, Access Fund president and former publisher of Climbing magazine, said, "This lawsuit is one of the most important actions the Access Fund has taken in its nine-year existence. We are fighting for the principle that no sector of the public should be discriminated against in the legitimate enjoyment of public lands. We are fighting to force the Park Service to acknowledge its own findings, which are that climbing and historic values can co-exist. With this lawsuit, we have reached a new level of activism on behalf of the climbing community."²

The Twin Sisters have the oldest and longest climbing routes at City of Rocks, and feature true, independent summits with spectacular views. These characteristics are unique to this formation no other crags in the reserve provide a similar climbing experience.

The ban on recreation around the Twin Sisters stemmed from claims by private historical groups that climbing was "inappropriate" and would adversely affect the "feeling" of the historic scene. In fact, the Park Service's Twin Sisters Resource Impact Study determined that climbing had no significant impact on the rock, vegetation, wildlife or historic ambiance. The study revealed that climbers could not even be seen by other visitors from any point along the historic California Trail.

Access Fund attorney Paul Minault said, "The Park Service's decision is based on a preconception that active recreation is incompatible with historic and cultural values. The National Park Service's own study found that climbing had no effects of any kind on the Twin Sisters. Nevertheless, they put it under a glass museum case and said that anyone who goes in there is committing a crime."

In its complaint, the Access Fund asks the court to annul the Twin Sisters closure and to order the Park Service to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to analyze the effects of any closure on the recreational experience at City of Rocks.

For more information: www.accessfund.org
or call 303-545-6772

LOOK WHAT YOU GET IF YOU JOIN THE IAC!!

- ▶ 10 % discount on (nonsale) outdoor equipment at the following stores:
 - Idaho Mountain Trading, Shoup & B
 - Timberline Outfitters, Eagle Rock

Station

--Sports Korner, Inc., 660 Northgate

Mile

- ▶ \$1.00 discount at Stone Walls Climbing Gym
- ▶ Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking and Biking guide books
- ▶ Outdoor (nonrafting) gear is available for free use by paid up club members
- ▶ Rafting gear available at a low rental fee
- ▶ Connect with climbing, whitewater, hiking, backpacking, biking, ski, ... expertise
- ▶ Great activity schedule

- ▶ Two annual socials (January and August)
- ▶ Specialized information on outdoor activities from local experts
- ▶ Informative, fun, and even occasionally educational programs
- ▶ And last but not least, a subscription to this wondrous newsletter. . .

Membership Notes: If you haven't gotten around to joining up yet for 1998, you can do so by sending in the application attached to this bulletin. Or pay up at the next meeting. See following member advantages.

Alpine Club Rental Gear: Gear is available to paid-up members. Call the appropriate coordinator for more information.

North Face VE-24 tent--George Cole
 Climbing helmets-- Leon Wolfram
 Climbing harness, carabiner & figure 8-- Eric Peterson
 Caving helmets-- Dean K.
 Carbide lamps-- Dean K.
 Ice axes-- Leon Wolfram
 Clinometer & compass for cave mapping----Dean K.
 PLUS rafting equipment --Vickie Hulet

Newsletter Advertising

Members: Free space is usually available for members' ads for used or needed equipment. Free space (up to half pages depending on space) is also available to businesses that offer discounts to members.

Nonmembers:

Half page ad - \$25

12 half-page ads, purchased at the same time - \$20 each for a total of \$240

Full-page ad - \$40

12 full-page ads purchased at the same time \$33.34 each for a total of \$400.

Stone Walls Rock Gym hours are 3:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 1:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00

p.m. Sundays. The gym offers a \$1 discount to Alpine Club members. *[Note: these hours may be out of date--please call to check.]*

Web site news

Have you visited the Idaho Alpine Club's homepage at <http://www.srv.net/~iac> lately?

Have you tried the great interactive features that have recently been added to the site:

* An IAC CLUB BULLETIN BOARD where you can post information, announcements, ask questions, make comments, whatever you'd like. It's like our own club newsgroup! A 'SHARE-A-LINK' page where you can link to WWW sites submitted by members. You can even submit your own favorite links and they'll automatically be added to the list.

* Looking for specific information on the site? - use the IAC SITE SEARCH feature to locate pages of specific interest

*Check out the "SITE STATISTICS" to see who's been visiting the site, which is the most popular page (it's not the homepage), even the most popular time of day (or day of week) to visit the site.