

# Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 55 - Issue Number 1 - January 2015

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)

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## 2015 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

Bill Beach	520-4905
Colleen Bohan	529-0151
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:

Dec 8: Braastad's Home	1610 Blue Camas Ct
Jan 14: Pole's home	1710 Del Mar Dr

## 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	Bill Beach	520-4905
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.

FEBRUARY Bulletin Deadline is:

**5 PM on January 5**

Trip descriptions, reports, and material for inclusion in the next bulletin are due by the 5<sup>TH</sup> 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

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015 @ 7:00 PM**

**"WESTERN WATERSHEDS PROJECT AND THE PUBLIC LANDS"**

**DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP**

**555 WEST 25TH ST**

From 17<sup>th</sup> Street & Rollendet, go south to 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

One of the West's more controversial environmental organizations, the Western Watersheds Project (WWP) works to protect and restore over 250 million acres of public land which is home to a wide array of birds, fish, mammals and rare plants. WWP's primary focus is to identify and end potential or existing threats to public land due to livestock grazing. The WWP believes livestock grazing leads to reduced water quality, increased soil erosion, reduced plant diversity, exotic plant invasions and reduced wildlife habitat. WWP provides input to public land managers with the ultimate focus of trying to eliminate taxpayer-subsidized livestock grazing on public lands in the belief that this is the best way to restore public land to its natural condition and provide the maximum benefit for wildlife and create the best recreational opportunities. In addition to advocating for healthy public land management, the WWP also pursues its goal by purchasing voluntarily retired grazing permits.

Travis Bruner, the Executive Director of the WWP, will discuss and show slides about the WWP's work in Idaho and particularly Copper Basin. Travis is a Bozeman native who enjoys hiking, fly-fishing and upland game hunting and is currently based in the Hailey office of the WWP.

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)

## President Speaks

Once again we ease into December with unusually mild to warm weather following a short-lived cold snap with some snow. The early cold and snow brought promise, but this is Idaho and the weather, as is the seemingly the norm, shifted again. So the weather folks may be right in predicting a milder than average winter. Let's hope their super computers are wrong again but, if not, it is good that we are ahead in our reservoir levels. But a mild winter and lower than average snow fall does not make for great snow play unless we go farther afield to places like Island Park, Harriman State Park, Grand Targhee, Big Sky, Yellowstone Park, Grand Teton Park, etc. Thus, enjoying this winter may require a little more planning, but do not let that prevent you from getting out. Keep an eye on the Newsletter for snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and rock climbing opportunities.  
~Sam Pole

## Participation on Club Activities Common Adventures / Trips:

With the exception of rafting trips, or activities 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.

Additionally, be sure to ask the trip leader if your dog is welcome on a trip. Some locations prohibit our best friend or require they be leashed.

The following list of items is a general list that applies to many activities. If you are not sure if there is a specific item that is needed on a trip, be sure to ask the trip leader when signing up for the trip:

### 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, bug repellent, 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 (Bear Spray comes to mind)

### XCSkiing / Snowshoeing

Contact the Whithams 520.1728 or, [xcski@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:xcski@idahoalpineclub.org) 24 hours prior to a trip, for trip information, meeting location, and to sign up to go on a scheduled trip, unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions. Inclement weather, exposure, traveling on snow can change an "easy" trip to a "difficult" trip in a matter of minutes. These 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 does not have Snowshoeing or XC-Ski gear to loan. For all outings, participants are expected to bring the appropriate gear (and be knowledgeable and experienced in its use). Trip lengths are usually indicated for an approximate round trip distance. Contact leaders with questions if you are new to Snowshoeing, XC-Skiing, or new to the area. Watch the FaceBook page for early season trips, 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.

**January 1 Hike or Snowshoe / Cress Creek Trail:** Join us in welcoming in the new year with a snowshoe trip to celebrate the new year and an optional soak at Heise Hot Springs afterwards. The trail is near the Kelly Canyon Ski Resort about 30 - 45 minutes NE of town. Approximately 3 miles.

**January 10 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 with the Idaho Falls Audubon Society to participate in the Winter Eagle Count after breakfast. Dress warmly as we will be stopping to spot birds, be sure to bring binoculars, and learn what other birds are wintering in the area, in addition to counting the eagles. There will be plenty of opportunities to learn from experienced birders about the birds. This is Idaho State Parks and Recreation's Free Ski day.

**February 7 XC Ski / Craters of the Moon:** Join us in cross-country skiing the Loop Drive. The groomed track is nearly 5-miles in length with mostly level terrain or gentle hills. There is one steep hill on the southwest flank of Inferno Cone. There is no charge for skiing at Craters of the Moon. This trip is weather and snow condition dependent.

**February 21 Snowshoe / Caldera Rim:** We plan to explore this snowshoe trail at the top of Ashton Hill. The trail map can be found on the IF Ski Club's web site under Trail Maps and Guides.

**March 7 Snowshoe / Fall Creek:** Join us in exploring Fall Creek with a snowshoe trip on the trails near Ashton. This is a Park 'n' Ski permit required trailhead.

Park and Ski Permits are \$7.50/3 Day or \$25.00/Annual and are available at Idaho Mt. Trading, IDPR East Region HQ, Sportsman's Warehouse, East Idaho Visitors Ctr, Scotts Ski, and the Raven's Nest.

## Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

**7pm, Thursday Feb 5, 2014 and Friday Feb 6, 2015**

The Idaho Falls Nordic Ski Patrol is pleased to host two nights of the 2014 / 2015 Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour. Our Banff shows are set for 7pm on Thursday February 5, 2014 and Friday February 6, 2015 at the Colonial Theater. Tickets will go on sale Monday December 1, 2014.

All tickets are reserved (\$15 per show) through the Colonial Theater Box office (498 A street, 522-0471). On-line ticketing with an updated seating chart is available at <http://www.idahofallsarts.org/>.

The Idaho Falls show will feature over 2 ½ hours of films with extreme skiing, climbing, water sports, exotic cultures and high adventures. The program content is family oriented. There is a drawing for door prizes. The gallery will host displays from local organizations.

Please note that tickets will not be sold at stores or by ski patrollers.

Support the Nordic Ski Patrol. Proceeds from the benefit are used for first aid equipment, training, supplies, and maintenance of the patrol hut at Harriman State Park.

## 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://javalanche.org>

Bozeman Area: <http://www.mtavalanche.com>

Avalanche Safety Instruction:

<http://americanavalancheinstitute.com/aai/Home.html>

## 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/trail-conditions/>

### Chief Joseph Ski Trail Conditions

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

### West Yellowstone

<http://www.rendezvouskitrails.com/grooming-report/>

### Rick's Basin (Grand Targhee)

<http://www.grandtarghee.com/the-mountain/grooming-map.php>

### Teton Valley (Driggs, Victor, Alta)

<http://tvtpap.org/nordic-grooming>

**Harriman State Park** (sign up for their Facebook page for current conditions) or call: Phone: 208-558-7368

## 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](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](mailto: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.

## Trip Reports



December 6 Snowshoe or XCSki/ Annual Christmas Tree Hunt: It was a much warmer day this year, for the annual tree hunt. Two lovely trees were successfully dragged out of the woods. We did tromp around a bit, before going back to the first tree spotted.

Attendees: Susan McKinley, Sue Braastad, Garney Hardy, Paul Worth, Sheila Kappel, and Mark and Donna Whitham.

## 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.



We now have 3.5" X 2.45" vinyl IAC stickers available. Renewing members will receive 1 per single or 2 per family upon renewal. Additional stickers will be 50 cents each.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It is time to start renewing memberships. There are some folks who participate in club activities, yet have not become members or renewed their memberships. Memberships are for one year only. They are not life memberships. So, if you intend to continue participating in club activities, please join or rejoin for 2015. Membership is required to participate in the climbing and rafting (or water) activities or after participating in one of any other activities.

**Dates to Remember:**

- Jan 7: IAC MEETING: "WESTERN WATERSHEDS PROJECT AND THE PUBLIC LANDS"
- Jan 1: Hike Snowshoe / Cress Creek Trail
- Jan 10: XCSki / Brimstone
- Feb 5 & 6: Banff Mountain Film Festival
- Feb 7: XC Ski / Craters of the Moon
- Feb 21: Snowshoe / Caldera Rim
- Mar 7: Snowshoe / Fall Creek

Climbing: Subscribe to find out updates to the weekly winter climbing plans. See page 3 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.

**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	Part Year 7/1 - 9/30
Individuals:	\$25	\$20
Families:	\$30	\$25

After October 1, the payment of full year fee applies to the following year. Otherwise the normal Membership year is January 1-December 1.

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 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