

# Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 44 - Issue Number 7 - July 2004

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

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Jeff Coward522-8135

Kayaking

Rob Mullin524-3594

Canoeing

John Page356-6486

Sue Page356-5118

Rafting

Greg Hulet523-6199

Trail Maintenance

Open

Day Hiking

Mark/Donna Whitham520-1728

Please mail completed common adventure forms to the secretary.

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.

Membership Fees

	Full Year	July 1 - October 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.

Council Meetings and Bulletin Deadline

Council Meetings held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM

July Council Meeting: Purple Gecko

August Council Meeting: Location TBD

Materials for inclusion in the next bulletin are due by the weekend before the council meetings.

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.

June Deadline is Midnight July 19

## "July: No General Meeting"

Make Plans Now to Attend the  
Annual IAC Potluck Picnic

on

August 4

Details and Map Will be in the August Bulletin

## President Speaks

Presidents Message: I hope your Memorial Day weekend turned out well in spite of the weather. We had another successful rafting and camping trip at Spring Creek on the Salmon River, 55-60 people were at the Saturday potluck and the rains held off till after dinner both nights. There was one raft trip Sat (brave souls), two on Sunday and at least one on Monday.

I suspect all rafters know the IAC has rafts and other gear that can be rented. However, remember the coordinators have jobs, families and lives outside of coordinating, so be considerate and call a couple days ahead if you need something for a trip. If you call Friday night for a Saturday trip you may be out of luck!

Remember the annual picnic is Aug 4 at Sealander Park. This is a private park west and south of Idaho Falls. Directions will be in the August bulletin. See you there. Garney

## Backpacking Schedule

**August 20 - 29 - Big Horn Crags Part 2:** Reflection Lake, Turquoise Lake, Buck and Doe Lakes are all in a part of the Crags we haven't been into before. Ask for the time off at work now so you can come explore with us. The trail has been recently redone so it gently contours into that section of the Crags. Contact Mark or Donna Whitham for more information and to sign up at 520.1728 or [Backpack@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:Backpack@idahoalpineclub.org).

## Dayhike Schedule

**August 13 - 14 - Mount Borah:** See Climbing / Mountaineering schedule for details. Contact the Whithams for more information and to sign up at 520.1728 or [dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org).

## Rafting Schedule

Other Alpine Canyon trips will be scheduled, but group will be held to less than the number required for a permit. Call around to see who might be going.

**July 21-25,** South Fork Boise river (class III-IV). Camp near Danskin bridge. Contact Jim Lee, 524-5836

**Aug 14,** Henry's Fork (class III), Riverside campground to Hatchery Ford, Contact Jim Lee, 524-5836.

## Climbing / Mountaineering Schedule

August 13 - 14 - Mount Borah: The plan is to car camp at the trail head on Friday night, (maybe we will get lucky and see another display of northern lights), arise EARLY on the 14<sup>th</sup> to hike up while it is cooler and be on our way down before afternoon electrical storms. This is a steep, strenuous, mostly class 3 hike with one short, section of class 4 scrambling. The elevation gain is about 5400 feet with a little over 2000 feet in the first of the 3.5 miles to the summit. Contact the Whithams for more information and to sign up at 520.1728 or [dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org).

### Thursday Night Climbing Schedule Summer 2004

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Leader</u>
July 22	Ross Park, Pocatello	Peterson
July 29	Blackfoot	Peterson
August 5	Paramount	???
August 12	Heise Boulder	???
	(If Dry) otherwise Paramount	
August 19	Ross Park Pocatello	Peterson
August 26	Blackfoot	Peterson

\*\*Eric Peterson not available for Thursday night climb, leaders sought.

## Bicycling Schedule

Note: If anyone has any rides that they would like to do that are not listed, or any other information of interest, please contact the Idaho Alpine Club bicycling coordinators, Jeff Coward, at 522-8135 (home) or 529-0775 (work) or [jdc1100@srv.net](mailto:jdc1100@srv.net) or Michelle Benson at 525-3228. Both can be contacted at [bicycling@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:bicycling@idahoalpineclub.org) Your ideas and input are always welcome.

**Seal Coating:** The road from Madison Junction to Old Faithful in Yellowstone Park is going to be seal-coated from July 12-23. If anyone visits Yellowstone park after July 23 and before October, please report to Jeff or Michelle on the road conditions (as viewed by bicyclists) so we know what to expect for the October Old Faithful ride.

**July ??-?? (dates not yet set - make your preferences known to Jeff Coward) Route of the**

## Hiawatha rail trail (Taft Tunnel), Trail of the Couer d'Alenes,

This ride is sponsored by the Idaho Alpine Club. The ride starts near the Taft Exit 5 on I-90 near the Idaho - western Montana border. It is suitable for riders of all ages, since the outbound leg is all downhill and there is a shuttle back to the top for those who don't want to ride back up the 2% grade.

The first thing you do is ride through the 8,700 foot long St. Paul Pass (or Taft) tunnel. Lights are required for this ride, as are trail passes. The passes are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children ages 3 to 13, with children under age 3 free. The shuttle cost is \$9 for adults and \$6 for children ages 3-13. We will also ride at least part of the new Trail of the Couer d'Alenes - a 76 mile long paved trail on the old Union Pacific rail line through the Silver Valley and along Lake Couer d'Alene. The web sites below have maps and photos of these trails.

[http://www.skilookout.com/bike\\_home\\_page.html](http://www.skilookout.com/bike_home_page.html)

[http://www.skilookout.com/bike\\_lodging.html](http://www.skilookout.com/bike_lodging.html)

lodging information

<http://wallace-id.com/skilookout/taft.html>

[http://wallace-id.com/CdA\\_trail/index.html](http://wallace-id.com/CdA_trail/index.html)

New! Trail of the Couer d'Alenes, 76 mile paved trail!

<http://wallace-id.com/> -info on Wallace, map, etc.

<http://wallace-id.com/recreate.html#hiawatha>

[http://friendsofcdatrails.org/photo\\_trail.html](http://friendsofcdatrails.org/photo_trail.html)

[http://friendsofcdatrails.org/links.html#ride\\_the\\_wall](http://friendsofcdatrails.org/links.html#ride_the_wall)

<http://www.harrisonidaho.com/Maps/TrailMaps.html#Overview>

## Non-Club Riding in Idaho Falls

For information regarding Monday Night —Easy" Rides, Wednesday Night —Not so Easy" Rides, and the EROB —Noon" Loop, contact Peter Jensen 208.357.5148, or [Peter@EIBike.com](mailto:Peter@EIBike.com).

## Weekday Bicycling

Of perhaps interest to some of the club membership -- retirees, shift workers, and housewives or house husbands, or worker bees wanting to take a morning off -- is this year's continuation of the Tuesday morning rides. These are not Alpine Club sponsored rides but many of the participants are members. If you're not on the Sunday morning the chill in the air made us wish to burrow till the coffee was brewed, but the coffee was up a tree. Cloudy skies & a cold wind greeted us. We were glad to have too many clothes with us. Garney & Paul decided the best option was to go find a hot spring after breakfast. They packed and said farewell. We packed our rain gear with

## and Centennial Trail, Couer d'Alene to Spokane

"bike2004" e-list and would like to be, let me know ([barbbrown212@msn.com](mailto:barbbrown212@msn.com)).

## Trip Reports

**July 2- 5 4<sup>th</sup> of July Backpack Trip:** Chamberlain Basin, located in the White Cloud mountains, is accessible from several trail heads. After checking access beta with Ranger Alex at the SNRA we chose the 4th of July Creek trail head as the starting point of the IAC 2004 4<sup>th</sup> of July backpack. It is about 10 miles uphill on a well maintained gravel road from highway 75 to the 4th of July trail head.

Leaving Idaho Falls on Friday afternoon, the skies were dark & ominous looking. It was windy & it rained hard as we drove the towards the White Clouds. By the time we got to Arco the clouds were behind us. Garney Hardy & Paul Worth arrived at the trail head about 1/2 hour ahead of us. They had left town a bit earlier in order to stop for dinner at the Sun Valley brewery. Heyburn & Tyler estatically greeted them while we setup the princessmobile for the nite.

In the morning the puppies made sure we woke up before the alarm went off. After breakfasting on breakfast burritos or sandwiches, OJ, and hot go juice, we began preparing to go backpacking. At that point Paul made a trail head discovery...his boots were in Idaho Falls. Dashing all of Heyburn's hopes of getting out of the hike, Mark saved the day and loaned Paul some sneakers.

The canyon beyond the trail head parking is lined with jagged peaks still wearing patches of their winter coat. The trail climbs gently up the canyon passing 4th of July lake just after 2.2 miles. Washington lake, where we set up camp, is another .8 mile beyond. Total elevation gained is 860 feet. We camped on a rocky knoll overlooking Washington lake and a meadow filled with Marsh Merrigolds, Buttercups, Paintbrush, Shooting Stars, and

Spring Beauty. Shortly after setting up camp it began raining. It continued to rain off & on all afternoon. The rain stopped long enough to cook dinner and attempt to identify what kind of duck was paddling about the lake. Shortly, we heard thunder, then peanut sized hail pelted us as we ran for the tents.

our lunch and set off for Chamberlain Basin. It never did get very warm all day but it didn't rain either. The cool temperatures made the 14 mile round trip into Chamberlain Basin quite pleasant. Occasional patches of snow along the trail provided fun breaks for Heyburn and Tyler. The trail drops down Washington Creek before crossing it to climb up to a

junction with Germainia Creek trail. From the Junction the trail switchbacks up to a high ridge with an incredible panoramic view of Castle Peak, Castle Divide, Chamberlain Basin, Wickiup Creek, and even as far as the Lost River range on the north east horizon. Dropping the last 2 miles into the basin, we encountered a few other hikers and horse back riders. We stopped for lunch next to the largest of the lakes in the basin and let Tyler swim a bit before we hiked up a little canyon tucked between the two largest lakes. Boggy little meadows were filled with a dazzling array of flowers. Elk prints in the soft mud of the trail. A meandering creek narrowed from the lake above to gush down the little canyon, all overlooked by the jagged spires of Serrette Ridge and Castle Peak. All of this would have been lost (4<sup>th</sup> Cont.) nearly 30 years ago had a coalition of motorized and nonmotorized interests not banded together to keep this beautiful area from being mined. Hopefully, current legislation will be passed to protect the White Clouds forever.

After thoroughly enjoying the basin, we began the climb back to the ridge stopping to take a panoramic series of photos to enjoy on a winters day. Back at the camp site we discovered another party had arrived to camp at Washington Lake. Considering the holiday weekend and the easy access, it was surprising to only see one other party, besides ours, spending the night.

Monday morning dawned under clear skies and much warmer temperatures. Playing in the lake with the puppies followed a leisurely breakfast. Then with visions of a yummy Thai supper in Hailey, we packed our gear, and headed back to the trail head.

### Chocks and Nuts:

#### IAC Logo T-Shirts!!

Short sleeves or long sleeves, crew neck, heather grey Dri Release material with embroidered club logo! Short sleeve \$2 each. Long sleeve \$21 each. Sizes Small, Medium, Large, and X-Large. The shirts are available at the monthly meetings, but if you just can't wait until the next meeting, contact Michelle Benson to get yours sooner.

Now is the time to make those reservations:

Yurt Rentals for Fall Elk Watching. The Harriman Yurts are each equipped with two futon style bunk beds, woodstove, table and chairs, and propane appliances for light and cooking. The Harriman yurts rent for \$35 per night for a maximum of six people. A reservation fee of

\$6.00 is required. The yurts adjoin Harriman's extensive cross-country trail system and are only a short distance from the world famous Henry's Fork of the Snake River.

Reservations for the yurts can be made up to 90 days in advance online or by telephone:

[www.idahoparks.org/parks/yurts.html#Harriman](http://www.idahoparks.org/parks/yurts.html#Harriman), or call the park at 208-558-7368. For information, E-mail the Park [har@idpr.state.id.us](mailto:har@idpr.state.id.us).

### Web Site News

If you haven't noticed, the IAC web site ([www.IdahoAlpineClub.org](http://www.IdahoAlpineClub.org)) has recently been redesigned. For your convenience, the most recent club bulletins are included as well as all the posted club activities.

Additionally, you can:

- Download membership applications and Common Adventure Release forms in PDF format.
- Look up contact information for club officers and activity coordinators
- Read the club By-Laws
- Search the club classified ads or post you own ad
- View pictures from recent club activities
- Find out what the 10 E's are anyway?
- Check out club members' Restaurant Reviews or submit your own review
- Find links to other cool outdoor websites
- Activity coordinators and officers wishing to publish information on the web site can contact the IAC Webmaster (George Cole) at 522-4084 or [Webmaster@IdahoAlpineClub.org](mailto:Webmaster@IdahoAlpineClub.org)

### Club Member Benefits

10 % discount on (non sale) outdoor equipment at the following stores:

Idaho Mountain Trading - Shoup & B

Idaho Falls - 523-6679

K & R Adventure Gear - 522-5279

or 877-369-7407 [www.knradventuregear.com](http://www.knradventuregear.com)

Canyon Whitewater Supply

450 S Yellowstone Idaho Falls-522-3932

Free Heel and Wheel,

40 Yellowstone Ave. West Yellowstone, Montana, 406-646-7744.

### Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking & Biking guidebooks

Stone Walls Rock Gym - 528.8610

Call to check Summer Operating Hours

The gym offers a \$1 daily pass discount to Alpine Club members.

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

North Face VE-24 tent--George Cole  
Climbing helmets & Ice axes--Gary Vecellio  
Caving helmets, Carbide lamps, Clinometer & compass  
for cave mapping--Dean K.  
Rafting equipment --Greg Hulet  
Collapsible Avalanche Shovels--Mark Whitham

Note: The club does have two transceivers which are the old signal and will not be sent out per a council decision in 2000 when the old signal transceivers had been discontinued for several years. They have been for sale as a pair for best offer since then. They are only of value as collector items or for someone with the old signal or the old dual signal receivers. Be aware that rescue can not be expected with these units. The local SAR teams have long since replaced their units with the current standard signal. If anyone is interested in buying the pair contact the Whithams [xcski@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:xcski@idahoalpineclub.org) with an offer.