

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 41 - Issue Number 3 - March 2001
 P.O. Box 2885, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2885
web site: <http://www.srv.net/~iac/>
e-mail: iac@srv.net.

2000 Executive Council

President
 Donna Whitham 524-6119
 Vice-president
 Tim Adkison 542-0786
 Secretary
 Doug Clark 542-9754
 Treasurer
 Garney Hardy 522-6128
 Members-at-Large
 Betsy Adkison 542-0786
 Kevin Coble 529-8142
 Jeff Coward 522-8135
 Leon Wolfram 523-0067
 Bulletin Editor
 Rene Miller 542-5126
 2188 St. Clair Road
 Idaho Falls ID 83404
 Bulletin Assistant
 Barbara Brown 522-8977
 Publicity & Community Liaison
 Idaho Falls - Donna Whitham
 524-6119
 Boise Area - Deborah Fulkerson
 345-9272
 Historian/Librarian
 Barbara Brown 522-8977

Please notify Barbara Brown of address changes or errors. Please mail completed common adventure forms to the secretary.

Coordinators

Program
 Donna Whitham 524-6119
 Backpacking
 George Cole 522-4084
 Mark Whitham 524-6119
 Caving
 Dean Killian 357-7354
 Climbing/mountaineering
 Eric Peterson 529-9538
 Kurt Myers 522-5279
 Conservation
 Bob Tyler 523-5560
 X-Country Skiing
 Mark/Donna Whitham 524-6119
 Bicycling
 Don Cott 357-7595
 Jeff Coward 522-8135
 Kayaking
 Rob Mullin 524-3594
 Canoeing
 John Page 356-6486
 Sue Page 356-5118
 Rafting
 Vicki Hulet 523-6199
 Trail Maintenance
 Open
 Day Hiking
 Mark/Donna Whitham 524-6119
 Boise Coordinator
 Alan Queen 208-336-8421
alanq@micronet-systems.com

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
 From July 1 - October 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

Wednesday, March 7, 2001, 8PM, at the Idaho Falls Public Library

During October 1996 Richard Bly trekked to the North Base Camp of Kangerjunga in Nepal, at 17,000 feet. Kangerjunga is the third highest mountain in the world. Richard's trek began in Kathmandu and lasted 25 days on the trail with no phones, faxes, television, or even electricity, only the breathtaking scenery in the Himalaya. The age range of the trekkers was 29 to 71 years old.

Trekking in Nepal -Continued

The trekking experience in Nepal is dissimilar from most backpacking in this country in that the elevations are considerably higher than hiking in the United States. An 8 - 12 mile day, with only a day pack, is significantly harder. Richard's slide show presentation will highlight a bit of what can be expected while trekking in Nepal. The presentation is open to the public and all outdoor enthusiasts are invited to attend.

Richard is one of our IAC members who makes his home here in Idaho Falls and is planning his next trekking adventure.

President Speaks

March is just around the corner and the IAC is planning some of the summer trips. The mountaineering schedule is in this bulletin. The Joshua Tree, Red Rocks, and Smith Rocks trips will be great for even those who want to just get away for a little car camping and day hiking. Contact the coordinators to sign up to go. Snow school is a little early this year but based on the snow pack we are seeing out there this year, it could be marginal in later in the season.

If you haven't signed up for the Wilderness First Aid course there is still time to sign up for this valuable course. Don't wait till the last minute to sign up. Coordinators and potential trip leaders are strongly encouraged to take the course.

If you are looking forward to a kick start to the backpacking season and don't mind a little winter camping, the annual Huckleberry Hot Springs trip is a lot of fun.

Don't forget that Gary Vecellio has offered again to teach map and compass skills. He is also offering a fly tying and fly fishing session depending on how many of us are interested.

There are still several more winter trips planned so get out there and enjoy before the mosquitoes start biting. The annual trip from Pond's Lodge to Harriman will be over with by this time but it is shaping up to be a large trip again this year.

Donna

IAC Council Meeting Minutes – 1/28/01

Meeting Convened at 8:15 p.m.MDT

Attendees: Donna Whitham, Garney Hardy, Tim Adkison, Betsy Adkison, Jeff Coward, Kevin Coble, Doug Clark, and (later) Leon Wolfram

Notetaker: Kevin Coble

Minutes from previous meeting read and approved by 8:21 p.m. MDT

Meeting date for February council meeting changed to 2/26/01 by general approval.

Treasury Report:

General Funds:	\$4713
Rafting Funds	\$2057

Total	\$6770

Expenditures: \$821 (January party, T-shirts, mail fees, bulletin, and stamps)

Report on CD's: Rolled over until further notice

Memberships:	Total: 153
	New: 70
	From 2000: 75
	Charter: 8

Treasury Report approved by 8:26 p.m. MDT

IAC Council Meeting Minutes - continued

Old Business

T-Shirt Report by Tim Adkison

On-Order: 3 gray Long-Sleeve XL
3 gray Long-Sleeve Med
3 white Long-Sleeve Small
1 blue Long-Sleeve Med

Jerry Painter needs to exchange shirt for Long-Sleeve

Sticker Report by Donna Whitham
Minimum order of \$150, still getting quotes in.
Artwork not transferring well.

Wilderness First Aid Course by Donna Whitham
Instructors booked: Lance Tayson and Pete Walka
Location booked: April 21st-22nd, Hospital Training Rooms

Cost: \$110 for IAC members
\$125 for non-members, \$50 deposit.

Note: Whithams and Garney Hardy are tentatively scheduled to host an instructor. Payment for training room is in exchange for allowing the Hospital first aid instructor take the class gratis.

Tri-fold Update by Garney Hardy
New wording prepared by Garney - small changes proposed by members. Addresses and phone numbers updated.

Old Raft Update by Leon Wolfram
2 or 3 old rafts can be disposed off, but are in bad condition. Jim Lee to be conferred with again.

New Business

Boise Advertisement by Donna Whitham

Boise group has asked for ~\$10/month reimbursement for advertising purposes (fliers, photo-copying of bulletins, forms, etc.). Base reimbursement was approved. Larger expenditures must be submitted to council with adequate time for general approval.

Earth Day by Tim Adkison
Earth Day is April 22nd?. This conflicts with the Wilderness 1st Aid class (April 27th for INEEL observance?). Discussion on possible activities.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 p.m. MDT

IAC LOGO T-SHIRTS!!

The t-shirts are really cool! Short sleeves or long sleeves, crew neck, heather grey (just dark enough to not show dirt unless you wallow in the mud) or white, Dri Release material with embroidered club logo! The logo is sooo detailed that you can even see the rope hanging from the little climber! Short sleeve \$12 each. Long sleeve \$21 each. Sizes Small (long sleeve only), Medium, Large, and X-Large. These shirts are great out in the field. They dry really fast and don't get stinky like the polypro stuff does after a couple days or even a week on the trail. They are also pretty cool to wear around town or even to work. The shirts are available at the monthly meetings, but if you just can't wait until the next meeting, contact Mark or Donna at 524.6119 to get yours sooner.

Idaho Alpine Club Meets in Boise

Typically meetings are the first Monday of each month at REI, 6:30 PM. Call 208.336.8421 or see website for meeting information.

Outings have included rock climbing, hiking, backpacking, skiing, and snowshoeing. Group trips often center around the Sawtooth Mountains, Idaho City area, Owyhees and of

course the Boise mountains. Watch the schedules in the bulletin and on the website for upcoming events for all IAC members to take part in.

Wilderness First Aid/ First Responder Renewal April 21 - 22

Mark your calendars for this intense hands on two day First Aid course like no other first aid course you have ever taken. Watch the bulletin for more details on cost and location. There are 15 of us who have WFA certifications expiring in May 2001.

Cross Country Ski Trips

March 17 - 18 Huckleberry Hotsprings Winter Campout.

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. Due to the new Park Service non-motorized plan, this may possibly be the last year we will be able to drive into Flagg Ranch. Call Mark and Donna Whitham to sign up and for meeting place, 524-6119 or dwhitham@srv.net.

March 31 - 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 McDonalds 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 by March 25 to sign up: Garney Hardy 522-6128 gah@ida.net or

Mark and Donna Whitham 524-6119
dwhitham@srv.net.

Contact us by Thursday every week to find out where we are headed to ski or snowshoe or winter camp.

XC Ski @ South Fork Lodge

New cross country ski touring center located at South Fork Lodge has 25 km of groomed dual track that varies in length and difficulty. The trails are also groomed for skate skiing. Snowshoeing is allowed in this new area too. Trail fees are \$8 and the hours are 8 - 3 Daily. Location is 40 Conant Valley Loop in Swan Valley. Phone: 483.2112. Web site: www.southforklodge.com. PS-They also have a great brunch on Sunday for \$10.95 which includes juice, coffee, and tea and the great food.

2-24-2001 Ponds to Harriman XC Ski Trip Report

Snow falling softly from the sky greeted 21 of us on Saturday morning as we left our respective homes to converge upon MacDonald's to arrange car shuttles and obtain go juice for the road. Wet sticky snow on the roads made the turn into Harriman State Park a tad hairy. We dropped off vehicles at Harriman and shuttled up to Ponds Lodge to make the annual Idaho Alpine Club /Idaho Falls Ski Club 12 mile trip back to Harriman or to ski around Brimstone a while then shuttle the vehicles back down to Harriman. The wet sticky snow made the trip very long. This year even the Swix "magic sauce" was no match for the conditions. The meadows were grim with the wind whipping snow into everyones faces. A tailgate feeding frenzy commenced with the arrival of the first few skiers at Harriman and finished in the visitors center lobby.

Lava Hot Springs Ski Report

By Garney Hardey

In November Paul Worth and I took a mini-vacation to spend a night at Lava Hot Springs. In the process we looked at the Pocatello City Parks ski area at Mink Creek, which has restrooms and a warming yurt. It wasn't really open yet, but some IAC members have since skied there. However, while at Lava we heard of a Park & Ski area called Trail Canyon near Soda Springs, so we got a map and drove to it. It is 8 miles from Soda Springs up the Trail Canyon road. The trailhead serves snowmobilers and skiers, and has a couple outhouses by the parking lot.

We weren't able to find a map, but there seem to be two large loops taking off from behind the lot. We went up the one to the right, which starts out as a road, then becomes a trail. It climbs steadily till it reaches the top of the ridge, then it circles around to the left and down. Since the snow was marginal we, really I, decided to go back the way we'd come. I started walking it early on, Paul attempted to ski till he crashed. Rocks and steep made it pretty scary. We went up the left loop a ways, it was a road and was also steadily up. Back at the trailhead we could see where our first trail came out, and also that there appears to be a flat trail in the meadow c the valley is quite wide there. We did not find the outlet of the left trail.

We decided a great trip would be to ski the Pocatello area on the way to Lava, stay at Lava two nights, skiing Soda Springs one day, and skiing Pebble Creek one day. The bed & breakfast we stayed at had 3 private hot pools in the basement, and they provide

big fluffy robes for you to use in your wanderings up and down. This is a trip to keep in mind for next year.

Climbing ~ 2001

This schedule can be somewhat flexible in terms of the routes we choose and the difficulty of the climbs, depending on the level of the climbers taking part in each trip. The trips to Smith 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.

March 24-25 **Massacre Rocks**
(by American Falls)

April 14 **Snow School**

April 14 -21 **Joshua Tree, CA**

Trip coordinator - Kenn Lamson-Boise

kdlamson@micron.net for details and to sign up.

April 27 to May 1 - Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

Red Rock Canyon is located about 15 miles west of Las Vegas, Nevada. It encompasses 195,610 acres and hosts nearly one million visitors each year. We will be leaving on Friday afternoon to camp out, climb, hike, and explore Red Rock Canyon on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Contact Mark and Donna Whitham for more information or to sign up to join us on this trip; 208.524.6119 or dwhitham@srv.net.

May 11-13/14 **Smith Rocks, Oregon**

July 5-8 **Mt. Rainer (Liberty Ridge) or Mt. Adams (North Side), WA**

Aug 3-5 **Tetons - Various Day Routes**

There will probably be other climbs or hikes not on this schedule, as well as activities coordinated by others. Call Kurt Myers 522-5279 or Eric Peterson 529-9538.

Thursday night climbs will start on May 31st. These are short, local-area climbing outings which take place every Thursday evening for much of the summer. We leave at 6pm from the Yellowstone McDonald's parking lot, travel to the area, climb for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. The schedule details will be released before summer.

Climbing Co-Coordinator Needed for the 2001 Thursday Night Climbs

Eric would like someone to help him out this summer on the Thursday night climbs to set the ropes and lead the routes. Contact Eric for more information about the position at 529.9538.

Climbing News of Note ---

FIXED ANCHOR RULE DELAYED

President Bush's 60-day moratorium on all new federal government rulemaking means that the US Forest Service will not be releasing a draft rule on fixed anchor use in wilderness groups before March. The Access Fund has been working hard to make sure the Forest Service stays true to the progress made by the Negotiated Rulemaking committee. This committee was disbanded last fall after two wilderness purists refused to sign on to a proposal which all other committee members supported, including the Sierra Club, National Parks & Conservation Association, and Wilderness Society. Communications with the Forest Service indicate that the unpublished agency rule is not entirely consistent with the committee's proposal, which stated:

- The use and replacement of existing fixed anchors in wilderness are permitted.
- New climbs that are completely bolted are prohibited.
- New bolts could be placed occasionally, to link crack systems or as belay/rappel anchors.

The Access Fund endorsed this proposal as a difficult but acceptable compromise, but will not support any rule more. When the Forest Service issues a draft rule for public comment, it will be critical that climbers provide feedback. Check the Access Fund Web site <http://www.accessfund.org/ActionAlerts.html> for updates on the fixed anchor issue and information on how to comment on a proposed rule.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK CLIMBING MANAGEMENT PLAN RELEASED

The National Park Service released a draft Backcountry/Wilderness Management Plan for Rocky Mountain National Park. RMNP is home to some of the most famous alpine rock climbing in this country, including the East Face of Long's Peak (the Diamond), Hallet Peak, the Petit Grepon, and Spearhead. The draft plan states

- Chipping and gluing of holds and "excessive" removal of vegetation is prohibited.
 - Chalk use is permitted, but climbers are encouraged to be sensitive to its visual effects.
 - Existing fixed anchors are allowed to be used and replaced
 - New "bolt intensive" climbing routes (entirely bolt-protected climbs) are prohibited.
- Comments on this plan are due by March 30, 2001. Review the complete plan on-line at <http://www.nps.gov/romo/pppressreleases>

ENTRANCE POLICY CHANGED AT RED ROCKS

On January 1, 2001, the entrance policy for Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area in Nevada changed; visitors can no longer access backcountry climbs prior to 6am. All vehicles must be out of the loop road by 5 PM. Local climbers and the Access

Fund are working with the BLM to address problems raised by the new system for climbers wanting to climb multi-pitch routes in the Red Rocks backcountry (i.e. Levitation 29), which have lengthy approaches and descents. Call Red Rocks' Climbing Ranger Patrick Putnam at 702-647-5042 for more information.

NEGOTIATIONS OVER YOSEMITE VALLEY PLAN CONTINUE

The Access Fund continues to work with the National Park Service regarding the "on-the-ground" effects of the new Concept Plan for Yosemite Valley. We support the big-picture goals of the plan (i.e. restoring the park's natural qualities and the reduction of crowds, traffic problems, and development). However, the Access Fund rejects the Concept Plan because it calls for the elimination of all roadside parking from El Cap Meadow to the Arch Rock entrance station along Route 140. We also object to the plan's reduction of the total number of campsites in Yosemite Valley. We will challenge any closure of roadside parking areas until satisfactory alternatives are provided which mean that climbers no longer need to use these areas in Yosemite. Contact Regional Coordinator Paul Minault at mailtopminault@earthlink.net for more information.

Rafting ~ 2001

There will be sign up sheets at the meetings for the following day section trips. Other Ideas for trips are welcome. The dates for these are somewhat flexible. We will be trying to obtain a canceled Main Salmon, or Middle Fork permit through the summer, which may take precedence over the day section trips. We also plan to do some weekend camping trips on the South Fork, below Palasades Reservoir this spring and in the fall, depending on the weather. Please

contact Jim Lee (524-5836), or Greg Hulet (523-6199) for trip information.

Rafting Scheudle ~ 2001

May 25-28

Main Salmon near Shoup (Spring Creek campground), class III. Annual event with pot luck Friday and Saturday night.

June 2

Fall River, class IV, depending on flow.

June 13-17

Main Salmon below Sunbeam Dam (O'brien campground) class III

July 7

Alpine Canyon, class II-III

July 18-22

Main Salmon near Shoup (Spring Creek campground), class III, or try for a canceled Main Salmon permit around this time.

August 8-12

Main Payette below Banks (Hot Springs campground), class III

August 25

Alpine Canyon, class II-III

Anyone interested in leading trips is welcome to contact us regarding these trips, or to post additional ones. Please contact us if you are interested in gaining captain experience, safety practice, or repair and rigging information.

Bicycle Touring:

B.A.M.I.C. + Hot Springs.

Self-contained bike tour around Idaho, visiting natural hot springs along the way.

June 20 - July 4, 2001, Approx. 700 miles (50 miles/day average). A trip description and contact information can be seen on the web at:

<http://users.sisna.com/vagabond/bamic/bamic.htm>

Conservation Notes

Tim Adkison

Clearwater National Forest "special hunt for predators"

The hunt has now been put on 'hold' due to the publicity until a possible better management solution can be found. The area in question is Game Unit 12 in the Clearwater National Forest. Here are some contacts...

Mark Collinge, Idaho State Director, Wildlife Services at

Email MARK.D.COLLINGE@usda.gov

9134 W. Blackeagle Dr.

Boise, ID 83709

(208) 378-5077 Phone

(208) 378-5349 FAX

Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game

Rod Sando, Director (208) 334-3700

Email rsando@IDFG.STATE.ID.US

600 S. Walnut

PO Box 25

Boise, ID 83707

FAX (208) 334-2114 or 2148

The time period for comments for an Environmental Assessment (EA) has passed.

The EA should be released for public comment on or about March 15, 2001, and will be open for comments for 30 days.

Boise IAC Trips

The Silver Island Mountains ~ April 7-8

Caving/camping/hiking/biking trip near

Wendover has been rescheduled for the weekend of April 7-8 to accommodate more schedules. Further details later.

Joshua Tree ~ April 13-20

Some of us will be flying to climb at Joshua Tree. Contact trip coordinator Kenn Lamson at kdlamson@micron.net for details and to sign up.

Galena Summit Mountaineering Training ~ 3/24-3/25

With Sean Duffy and his Denali climbing partner. This will be a great learning experience, and the options are open to do a ridge trek and stay in town or camp out. Don't miss this opportunity to learn life-saving and technique-improving skills! Further details on this trip will be forthcoming. In the meantime, check out Sean's website at www.webpak.net/~monsean/

Workshops for

IAC Club Members

(will schedule if enough interest)

Map and Compass workshop- 1 evening, one field day. Reading and interpreting a topographic map. Understanding your compass, and declination. Finding directions, finding yourself, and finding your way home.

Fly casting and/or Fly fishing- (for beginners) dependant upon skill level of participants. Understanding fly fishing equipment, choosing the right gear, casting a line, reading the river, choosing a fly. Maybe... catching a fish??? Would require 2 days.

Fly Tying- (for beginners) An art form in itself. Learn about the tools, techniques, and methods of making your own fishing flies. Learn the basic techniques of making wings, bodies, hackles, etc. Tie your own patterns... guaranteed to be useful on local waters! 2 indoor sessions about 4 hours each.

These classes will be made available ONLY if enough interest exists. See Gary Vecellio for information or to express interest. Watch for info in Alpine Club Bulletin.

Club Member Benefits

K & R Adventure Gear - is offering club members, with a current member card, a 10% discount on hiking, climbing, and outdoor equipment. For more information the web address is www.knradventuregear.com and email: knrgear@srv.net or call Kurt or Rebekah locally at 208.522.5279 or toll free at 1.877.369.7407.

Canyon Whitewater Supply - is offering club members, with a current member card, a 10% discount on rafting and kayaking non-sale supply and accessory items. For more information call 208.522.3932

All Topo Maps on CD-ROM are now available to IAC members who have a current membership card at a 15% discount through Timberline Outfitters

Discount membership to the American Alpine Club. Singles may join the AAC for \$40 (instead of \$65) Couples may join for \$65 (instead of \$92.50). Applications must be accompanied by a copy of your Idaho Alpine Club membership card to get the discounted rates. Applications can be accessed on the AAC website: <http://www.americanalpineclub.org> or at IAC general meetings.

10 % discount on (non sale) 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

Plus More!

Outdoor (non rafting) gear is available for free use by paid up club members

Plus much more!

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. . .

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

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

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. Mon-Fri

1:00 a.m. -9:00 p.m. Saturdays

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!