

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 44 - Issue Number 3- March 2004

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

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

2004 Executive Council

President

Garney Hardy 522-6128

Vice-president

Michelle Fox Benson 525-3238

Secretary

Jeff Coward 522-8135

Treasurer

Barbara Brown 522-8977

Members-at-Large

Betsy Adkison 542-0786

Tim Adkison 542-0786

George Cole 522-4074

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Donna Whitham 520-1728

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Rene Miller 542-5126

Publicity & Community Liaison

Donna Whitham 520-1728

Historian/Librarian

Barbara Brown 522-8977

WebMaster

George Cole 522-4074

Coordinators

Program

Donna Whitham 520-1728

Backpacking

George Cole 522-4084

Mark Whitham 520-1728

Caving

Dean Killian 357-7354

Climbing/Mountaineering

Eric Peterson 529-9538

Dennis Dunn 523-8524

Conservation

Tim Adkison 542-0786

X-Country Skiing

Mark/Donna Whitham 520-1728

Bicycling

Michelle Fox Benson 525-3238

Jeff Coward 522-8135

Kayaking

Rob Mullin 524-3594

Canoeing

John Page 356-6486

Sue Page 356-5118

Rafting

Greg Hulet 523-6199

Trail Maintenance

Open

Day Hiking

Mark/Donna Whitham 520-1728

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

March Council Meeting: Garney Hardy's home
1686 Brentwood Drive

Due to scheduling conflicts, the date has been changed to March 23

April Council Meeting: Tim & Betsy Adkison's
155 Chatham Drive

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

April Deadline is Midnight March 20

2003 DENALI EXPEDITION PRESENTATION

Wednesday, March 3, 2004, 7:30 PM at the Idaho Falls Library

NOTE: IAC General Meeting time change to 7:30 due to change in library closing time.

Alaska's Mt. McKinley, at 20,320 feet, is the tallest mountain in North America and a mountaineering goal that attracts climbers from all over the world. In July 2003, Idaho Alpine Club member Eric Larsen had a chance to join an expedition led by world renowned mountaineer Dave Hahn. The team spent 24 days on the mountain, and successfully summited after enduring the worst summer storm on McKinley in over a decade.

The presentation is open to the public and all outdoor enthusiasts are invited to attend. For more information contact programs@idahoalpineclub.org or check out the club website at www.idahoalpineclub.org or call D. Whitham at 520.1728.

President Speaks

Hi - Hope you all were able to go to the Banff Film Festival and no-one went to the library. Although it is still midwinter, temperatures are rising and the mud season will soon be upon us. So enjoy the winter sports, and give some thought to leading a spring hike, birdwatching trip, class or whatever. As for me, I'm off for 10 days in Montana so this is a very short message. Garney

1)

IAC Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 02/17/2004

Invitees: Tim Adkison, Betsy Adkison, Michelle Benson, Jeff Coward, Barbara Brown, George Cole, Gary Vecillio, Garney Hardy

(Attendees are underlined.)

Note Taker: Jeff Coward

Meeting call to order: 7:50 pm

1) Reading of previous month meeting minutes: approved

2) Treasurer's Report:

Income: \$252.75

Expenses: \$190.10

Members to Date: 68

3) Old Business:

IAC club window stickers (Jeff)

Stickers have been ordered.

Preparation of old bulletins for CD scanning (Barbara/Jeff)

Copies of all bulletins have been obtained, some from the archives of the American Alpine Club. Scanning and indexing of the first group is in progress.

Request for funds from the rafting coordinator (Greg Hulet)

The rafting coordinator has notified the council that some of the rafting funds need to be available for equipment purchases by April 1. The Treasurer has noted this and will plan accordingly.

Trail Maintenance projects

The letters of support for the Targhee Forest grant proposals for the two trail maintenance projects were delivered. Decisions on grant approvals for these and for the Harriman grant should be known later this year.

4) March General Meeting snacks: Michelle.

5) March council meeting at: Garney's home

1686 Brentwood Drive. Due to scheduling conflicts, the date has been changed to March 23.

6) April council meeting at: Tim & Betsy Adkison's

155 Chatham Drive

7) May council meeting at: Barb Brown's

201 West Commons Road

8) Meeting adjourned: 8:50 pm.

Upcoming Programs

Idaho Bicycling, IAC Mountaineering in Mexico, and Outdoor Photography.

DON'T MISS THE FUN

RENEW TODAY

IF THE MEMBER NUMBER UNDER YOUR NAME ON THE MAILING LABEL STARTS WITH "03", THIS IS YOUR LAST BULLETIN. IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR IAC MEMBERSHIP FOR 2004.

DON'T LOSE OUT ON THE FUN BY FORGETTING TO RENEW. MAIL YOUR RENEWAL IN TODAY AND BEAT THE RUSH.

Dayhike Schedule

March 27 - Menan Butte: Short, steep, sweet views from the top. Contact Mark or Donna for more information at dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org or 520.1728.

Cross Country Ski / Snowshoe Schedule

February 28 - 29 - Winter Wolf Watching Trip

We will meet Saturday morning, February 28, 2004 at the Albright visitor's center in Mammoth Hot Spring, Yellowstone National Park. We will travel from there to the Lamar Valley area of northeastern Yellowstone National Park to watch for, and observe the behaviors of wolves and other wildlife species that reside in the Park during the winter. The past several years have been relatively mild as far as temperatures but be prepared. A spotting scope and binoculars will enhance your experience and Tim has some that he can loan if you do not have your own. Lodging can be found out of the north gate of Yellowstone in Gardiner, Montana, and reservations for such will be on your own. An entrance fee to Yellowstone Park is also required. Contact Tim Adkison for further details and a more specific itinerary at 542-0786.

March 12 - 14 - Yellowstone Rendezvous Race

Test what a winter of XC-Skiing has done for your fitness level by joining us at the races. Freestyle or Classic 50k, 25k, or 10k XC-ski races can be entered by accessing the website at www.rendezvouskitrails.com

You get a great t-shirt just for entering and there are 3 yummy food stations along the race course. For an additional \$15 you can attend the awards banquet (drawings for great prizes), in the evening after the race. If you don't want to race you can still just go up, cheer the racers on, ski on the course after the races have started, and attend the banquet for \$15. We plan to stay in West Yellowstone Friday and Saturday night (everyone will have to make their own lodging arrangements). Contact Mark or Donna for more information at xcski@idahoalpineclub.org or 520.1728.

March 20 - 21 - Huckleberry Hotspots XC-Ski / Snowshoe Winter Backpack

East of Idaho Falls near Flag Ranch. Easy 2 mile ski or snowshoe in over mildly rolling terrain. Depending on the trip participants, we may continue on the additional mile to Polecat Hotspots to camp and soak there. This is great snowshoeing terrain. This is also the annual celebration of Mark's birthday. Contact Mark or Donna to sign up and for the meeting place and time, xcski@idahoalpineclub.org or 520.1728.

March 13-21 - Valley of Death, Yellowstone NP Snowshoe Winter Backpack

This moderately strenuous winter backpack snowshoe trip to a seldom visited, trail-less area, will be a hot springer's paradise, as our base camp will be located near a 100 degree large creek, that slowly gets warmer upstream (according to a reliable source).

We'll take 2 days to snowshoe the 8 miles (cross-country) to our base camp. From there, we'll do day hikes into 3 other nearby drainages to explore other thermal areas and waterfalls. We'll bring the 8-man tipi for warmth and camaraderie.

The approximate per person cost for gas, snowmobile shuttles, 1 night lodging, and satellite phone rental is \$125. As always, you must bring something special to share with the group. Limit 12. For more details or to sign up, contact Mike or Debbie Allen at 384-1545 (Boise) or madallen@ev1.net.

Harriman State Park and Kelly Canyon Notes:

Conditions at Harriman are currently hardpack and fast on approximately a 4 foot base. Hopefully those will change with some snowfall before winter gives up to spring. The Idaho Falls Ski Club reports as of February 22 that Kelly Canyon was last groomed on February 13 with 3 feet of snow at that time. For updates, <http://www.ifskiclub.com/kcnordicarea.html>.

Trip Reports

February 21 - Harriman to Ponds: Eric Larsen, Rosie Norman, and Richard Thomas joined the Whithams for a clear blue sky day to cross country ski from Harriman State Park to Ponds Lodge. We enjoyed views of the Tetons on the horizon, temperatures near 40 degrees, and no wind. Trumpeter swans, ducks, and even a bald eagle were observed as we skied the track along the Snake River. Icy hard pack snow on the track made it a guessing game for waxing. Observing a moose sunning herself along the Buffalo river made up for the challenging icy conditions on the Brimstone trails. After refreshments at Pond's lodge, the Whithams headed for the Bill's Island cabin to relax in the hot tub and everyone else headed back to Idaho Falls. Skate skiing at Harriman on Sunday we enjoyed another windless, warm, clear, blue sky day. DW

February 14 - Pocatello Area X-C: Since the Whithams were the only ones who signed up for the Mink Creek trip, Donna and I decided to make it a snowshoe trip. After watching the skiers coming down the trail, arms and legs flailing, I decided we made a wise decision. It was an overcast but fairly warm day, and Mink Creek is a pretty canyon that widens and narrows, and has a small stream running down it. We all went up about 3 miles, after which I started back down while Donna and Mark went up another 20 minutes. They got back to the car about 10 minutes after I did and we took off for a soak in the hot springs at Lava (the whole purpose of this trip). On the way to Lava it was thrilling to spot a huge bobcat making its way up a snow covered hillside along the road. We ended the day with dinner at Buddys. GH

January 9 - 11 - Island Park XC Ski Weekend

Friday night, after watching the outstanding Steve Koch slide show in Idaho Falls, Donna DeTullio and Bob Lyons joined Mark and Donna Whitham for a XC ski weekend in Island Park. Saturday morning we enjoyed a hearty breakfast at Ponds Lodge, before joining Barbara Brown, Garney Hardy, Paul Worth and the Audobon Society to count bald eagles while skiing. We actually observed two eagles. It had been much warmer in Island Park so the trail contained many icy, snow snake pits under the trees along the trail. The weather was sunny and cold. After refreshments at Ponds Lodge, Garney and Paul joined us at the cabin for the night. We soaked our snow snake battle wounds in the hot tub for an hour or so while recapping the day. Dinner was excellent at the Lakeside Resort.

Sunday was another clear and cold day. Garney and Paul toured the trails at Harriman State Park and the rest of us participated in Idaho Mountain Trading's annual ski classes. The classes are a lot of fun and well worth the time for the tips to improve technique. The skate ski class in particular was great. DW

Web Site News

If you haven't noticed, the IAC web site (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
- George Cole - IAC Webmaster

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

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 and Biking guide books

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--

Caving helmets-- Dean K.

Carbide lamps, Clinometer & compass for cave mapping--Dean K.

Rafting equipment --Greg Hulet

Stone Walls Rock Gym - 528.8610

Winter Hours are 12 p.m.-9p.m. Monday-Thursday

12-10p.m. Friday and Saturday 12- 5 Sundays.

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

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.

IAC Logo T-Shirts!!

Short sleeves or long sleeves, crew neck, heather grey Dri Release material with embroidered club logo! Short sleeve \$12 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.

Notes Of Interest...

The Avalanche Center for Avalanche updates & links anywhere in the world: www.csac.org for the Tetons <http://jhavalanche.org/index.html>

Eastern Idaho XC Ski Guides and Maps

Available on the Idaho Falls Ski Club Website:

<http://ifskiclub.com> (These also make good biking & hiking trails in the summer, printed on 8.5"x11" paper) www.Delorme.com kindly allows the ski club to use these maps.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Museum of Idaho is seeking volunteers for its soon-to-open exhibit, "Discovering Idaho: The World of Lewis and Clark." The exhibit opens Feb. 17 and will run through Sept. 6. The museum needs docents (people who provide general information to the public), security workers, cashiers and ticket takers, and people to work in the museum store. Volunteers may work one or more days per week as they are able -- and the museum accepts on-call volunteers who can serve only occasionally. Shifts available are:

Monday through Saturday

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

1 - 5 p.m.

5 - 8 p.m.

Sunday

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

2 - 5 p.m.

If you are able to commit to at least one shift per week, contact Morgan Rawson (522-1400 ext. 3002, mrawson@onewest.net).

Be Aware...Be Prepared!!!