

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 46 - Issue Number 3 - March 2006

COME

BACKPACK DAYHIKE BIKE CLIMB MOUNTAINEER XC-SKI SNOWSHOE AND RAFT
WITH US

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

2006 Executive Council

President	Bob Tyler	523.5560
Vice-president	Alan Crockett	529-5188
Secretary	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Treasurer	Ken Krivanek	528-8224
Members-at-Large		
George Cole		522-4074
Sandra Pew		524.6442
Judy Williams		523.3814
Leon Wolfram		523.0067
Bulletin Editor	Donna Whitham	520-1728
Bulletin Assistant	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Publicity	Donna Whitham	520-1728
Historian/Librarian	Barbara Brown	522-8977
WebMaster	George Cole	522-4074
Program		
Donna Whitham		520-1728

Activity Coordinators

Backpacking	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Bicycling	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Climbing/Mountaineering	Open	
Conservation	Tim Adkison	542-0786
Cross-Country Skiing / Snowshoeing	Mark/Donna Whitham	520-1728
Day Hiking	Mark/Donna Whitham	520-1728
Rafting	Greg Hulet	523-6199
Trail Maintenance	Alan Crockett	529-5188

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.

Bulletin Deadline:

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

Note: Hand written or hard copy material will be included in the bulletin time permitting.

MARCH Bulletin Deadline is:

Midnight March 15

Idaho Alpine Club Meeting and SlideShow Presentation Climbing and Skiing the Volcanoes

Wednesday, March 1, 2006, 7:30 PM Idaho Falls Library

During the spring of 2001 Dan McPherson, went on a four week trip with three other friends to climb and ski the major volcanoes of the Northwest.

They started with Mt. Shasta and continued climbing and skiing the volcanoes as they headed north. They climbed Mt. Shasta, Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Rainier, Mt. Baker and Mt. Hood. After 4 weeks of skiing and sleeping in gravel parking lots they headed home. At the IAC March meeting Dan will take us on an entertaining virtual adventure with him and his friends.

The meeting is open to the public. All outdoor enthusiasts are invited to attend.

For more information contact programs@idahoalpineclub.org, log onto the club website at www.idahoalpineclub.org

or contact D. Whitham at 520.1728

President Speaks

At our January board meeting, Dave Woodcock of the Palisades Ranger District asked for our help in performing some trail maintenance on the Sheep Creek Trail. We agreed to commit to providing \$500 worth of labor toward this project. It will take Dave awhile to line up funding for the project but our willingness to contribute volunteer labor will make obtaining funding easier and he expects to call on our services in the summer of 2007. But not to worry, you don't have to wait until then to get your fix maintaining trails. Last year the board committed to providing \$750 worth of labor to help maintain the Hunts Corral and Chicken Springs trails this coming summer. I don't know about you, but I don't have any idea where these trails are so this will be an opportunity to learn about an unfamiliar area. Plus, I believe these trails are non-motorized so we'll have the satisfaction of knowing our efforts will benefit fellow recreationists like ourselves. As summer gets nearer, we'll schedule the trail maintenance dates and I hope I'll see some of you and enjoy a little camaraderie while rebuilding trails.
Bob Tyler

Upcoming Programs

Exploring: Wind Cave to Ice Cave
Continental Divide Trail
Africa Wildlife

IMPORTANT

Renew Membership Before March 15:

Don't forget to renew your annual membership to the Idaho Alpine Club at your earliest convenience. Your application form (found in this bulletin) and fee can be mailed, or you can sign up at the next meeting. Per the club by-laws, all unpaid memberships will be dropped after March 15, so don't forget to renew soon!

Catch Koch March 2

Brought to you by the Post Register and Idaho Mt. Trading, will be presented 7 pm, Thursday, March 2, 2006 at Eagle Rock Junior High School Auditorium, 2020 Pancheri Drive in Idaho Falls, admission will be \$3 per person. The presentation includes the first winter grand traverse in the Tetons and a recent trip to Patagonia. In Patagonia, Koch teamed up with Dean Potter and Marko Prezelj to forge a massive link-up route on Cerro Torre. Admission is \$3.

Cross Country Skiing / Snowshoeing

Contact Mark or Donna Whitham, 520.1728 or xcski@idahoalpineclub.org, for current trip information or where to meet up with us on the weekends.

In February we enjoyed an awesome avalanche awareness class put on by Idaho Parks and Recreation with more hands on practice than we have ever had, great cross country and skate skiing conditions with the Cobles and with the Mt. Trading crew on separate weekends at Harriman State Park and Buffalo River. Sandy Pew, Katherine Coble, and Donna had a pleasurable day of snowshoeing under clear blue skies in Kelly Canyon. Lastly, we attempted to check out the marked XC ski trails up at Stoddard Creek but with sub zero temps and strong winds on the divide, we settled on the Presidents Day sale at Patagonia instead.

AVALANCHE INTERNET SITES

Cyberspace Snow and 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://jhalanche.org/>

Bozeman Area:

<http://www.mtavalanche.com/current/index.shtml>

Island Park Area: <http://islandparksnow.net/>

Avalanche Safety Instruction:

<http://www.avalanchecourse.com/>

East Idaho XC-Ski Guides & Maps

Available on the Idaho Falls Ski Club Website:

<http://ifskiclub.com>

Bear Gulch-Mesa Falls

Brimstone-Buffalo River

Fall River Ridge

Harriman State Park

Harriman-Brimstone Connector

Kelly Canyon Nordic Area

East Mink Creek Nordic Center

Mink Creek Complex

Mink Creek Valve House

Mount Haggin Nordic

www.Delorme.com kindly allows the ski club to use these maps.

The IFSC Nordic Ski Schedule is available at:

<http://www.ifskiclub.com/nordic2.html>

Note: Membership in the IFSC is required to participate in the trips listed.

IFSC March Listing:

MESA FALLS March 11, 2006

Reservation deadline: March 9, 2006 Glen Hayes 523-6839

XC Ski Snow and Grooming Reports:

Lone Mountain Resort

http://www.lmranch.com/lmr_content/winter/ski_cond.shtml

Bohart Ski Ranch

<http://www.bohartranchxcski.com/weather.php>

Chief Joseph Ski Trail Conditions

<http://bitterrootxcskiclub.net/conditions.htm>

West Yellowstone

<http://www.rendezvouskitrails.com/report.html>

Rick's Basin (Grand Targhee)

<http://www.grandtarghee.com/winter/snowrpt.php>

Teton Valley (Driggs, Victor, Alta)

<http://www.tvtap.org/>

Harriman State Park Phone: 208-558-7368

A web cam at Rainbow Reality gives you an idea of the snow on the ground conditions:

<http://www.rainbw.com/>

Island Park Ranger District for

Brimstone/ Buffalo

Phone: 208-558-7301

Ashton Ranger District for Bear Gulch/Mesa Falls and Fall River Ridge

Phone: 208-652-7442

Dubois Ranger District for Stoddard Creek Area

208.374.5422

Mink Creek Nordic Center Grooming Report

<http://www.pokyxc.org/7128.html>

Dubois Grouse Days April 6-7

Friday: Tour of CAMAS National Wildlife Refuge, Banquet, auction, raffle (including a gorgeous handmade quilt) and speakers. Saturday morning: Bus tour to watch sage and sharp-tailed grouse dance on their leks; hearty brunch; tours of CAMAS National Wildlife Refuge and Market Lake and Mud Lake Wildlife Management Areas. More information to follow next month.

Rafting

For information on submitting rafting permits for specific rivers this summer, contact Greg Hulet, 523-6199 or rafting@idahoalpineclub.org.

Bicycling

For winter biking information, contact Jeff Coward at 522-8135 or send an e-mail to bicycling@idahoalpineclub.org

**REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR
IAC MEMBERSHIP NOW**

Greetings to the IAC from Washington, DC!

I must admit that I have not been communicating with the Club very much lately and hope that you will accept my apologies. The events of the past few months have been terribly rapid, and I simply have not taken time to communicate with everyone. As most of you already know, Kathy and myself were married on July 30 this past summer and were contented to settle into our life in Idaho looking forward to the coming ski season. However on August 12 (yes, Kathy got 12 days of relative calm before the storm clouds approached) I received a call from a colleague at the National Science Foundation (NSF) asking me to serve a one year "Rotator" term in the Directorate of Engineering's Chemical Transport Systems Division running the Separation Science Program as a Visiting Scientist Engineer Educator (VSEE)/Program Director. What a surprise and honor! So Kathy and myself left Idaho on October 10 and moved to Vienna Virginia – with several stops in between (including a visit to Purdue University to visit graduate student and daughter Breeze) arriving on October 14, and I started my temporary NSF appointment on October 17. Kathy is volunteering at the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History plus taking in the Washington, DC scene for the one year of our visit to the area. My home e-mail address is (esp42@cs.com). Our Vienna Virginia mailing address is Eric and Kathy Peterson, 2791 Centerboro #376, Vienna, VA 22181. This adventure requires that I resign my position as the climbing coordinator – I have had a wonderful 9 years in the position and genuinely enjoyed meeting all of the people that showed up each end nearly every Wednesday or Thursday evening during the summer. I want to say "Thank You" to all of the folks that unselfishly gave their assistance to the program and backed me up when I was not able to attend the evening climbs.

Take care and Thanks.

Eric Peterson

March 11-19, 2006: Float, Drag, Hike Dirty Devil

This will be a committing and sometimes arduous 7-day journey through a fairyland of spectacular and seldom-visited canyons up to 2000' deep in one of the most remote locations in the lower 48. We'll launch on the aptly named Dirty Devil River near Hanksville, Utah and exit 80 miles downriver near Hite. Because of the shallow depth and difficulty in determining the deepest water, small, quality boats (little rafts, IKs, or canoes) are required. We will be dragging the boats at least some of the time for the first 2/3 days. Current, but no rapids, except the last 0.5 mile, where a steep channel (avoidable) has been cut through the silt/sand deposited when Lake Powell was 200' higher. Wetsuits required. Daytime avg highs/lows are 60/29. The river is merely the conduit to the best part of the trip – hiking in the side canyons: towering cliffs, waterfalls, ruins, caves, hoodoos, glyphs, and slots await us. Many of the canyons are boxed and only accessible from the Dirty Devil. For more details or to sign up, contact Mike or Debbie Allen at 208.384.1545 (Boise). Participation limited to permit size. Note: This trip announcement is not an IAC sponsored trip but Debbie and Mike may still have room on the permit for anyone interested in participating.

Chocks and Nuts:

IAC Stickers

Two styles: 4.25" high x 3.5" wide with the IAC logo, web address, and list of club activities. 1.5" high x 11" wide "Idaho Alpine Club" sticker. The stickers are white graphics on a transparent background with adhesive on the face so they can be applied to the inside of a window on a vehicle. 50 cents per sticker or \$1 if you want one mailed to you. Contact the club Treasurer to obtain stickers.

IAC Logo T-Shirts!!

Short sleeves or long sleeves, crew neck, heather grey Dri Release material with 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 Alan Crockett to get yours sooner.

Bulletin Advertising

Members & Supporting Merchants:

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.

Web Site News

Log onto the IAC web site (www.IdahoAlpineClub.org) to find the most recent club bulletins as well as all the posted club activities. Additionally, you can:

- Look up contact information for club officers and activity coordinators.
- Download membership applications and Common Adventure Release forms in PDF format.
- Check out club discounts with local merchants
- See what club equipment is available to paid up members
- Read the club By-Laws
- Search the club classified ads or post your own ad
- View pictures from recent club activities
- 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

Climb Indoors at:

Stone Walls Rock Gym: Call 528.8610 for winter hours.

Support merchants who support the IAC:

- ★ Idaho Mountain Trading
Shoup & B, Idaho Falls - 523-6679
- ★ 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 guide books

IAC Council Meeting Minutes

January and February Council Meeting Minutes To Be Included in April Bulletin

Adopt-A-Trail Opportunity

Dave Woodcock from the Palisades Ranger District of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest attended the January council meeting and provided a list non-motorized trails in the Palisades Ranger District that need to be adopted.

Trail users often take this resource for granted until the paths become impassable, unsightly or damaged. Then, perhaps only then, do we realize that trails are essential and without them many of our most enjoyable activities are not possible.

With decreased funding for trail maintenance and increased use, many of our trails are not getting the attention they need. You can help by "adopting" your favorite trail in the National Forest and taking responsibility for its upkeep.

Adopters can be any age. You can participate as an individual, a family, a club or an office group. All it takes is willingness to get out and work on your trail and have fun accomplishing this needed work too. Work at your own pace and on your own schedule. Generally, it is best to maintain trails in the early spring so they are ready for the hiking season.

So, please come to the March meeting, review the maps showing the location of trails and pick a trail or several that you will work to maintain. You can even adopt a portion of a trail since a few are quite long. The work involves clearing the trail of downfall, loose rocks, weeds, brush and encroaching branches at least once during the year, preferably in the spring after the snow is gone. More information on the program will be available at the meeting.

Editor's Note: Adopting a trail, whether your preference is non-motorized or motorized, is a great way to give back to the outdoors which we enjoy. Many club members have been maintaining trails through the Adopt-A-Trail program for years. If you don't want to commit to adopting a trail for a year, National Trails Days Events are a fun opportunity to try it out and get stoked to adopt a trail of your own.