

Idaho Alpine
Club Bulletin

Volume 38 - Issue Number 10 - November 1998

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

web site: <http://www.srv.net/~iac/>

e-mail: iac@srv.net.

1998 Executive Council

President

Donna Whitham 524-6119

Vice-president

Robert Blyth 529-2388

Secretary

Don Cott 528-6858

Treasurer

Bob Tyler 523-5560

Members-at-Large

George Cole 522-4084

Kurt Myers 522-5279

Paul Worth 522-6907

Bulletin Editor

Rene Miller

2188 St. Clair Road

Idaho Falls ID 83404

Bulletin Assistants

Barbara Brown 522-8977

Publicity & Community Liaison

Open

Historian/Librarian

Barbara Brown 522-8977

Please notify bulletin editors 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

Open

Rafting

Vicki Hulet 523-6199

Trail Maintenance

Paul McCarthy 523-6486

Norm Kramer 522-8677

Day Hiking

Mark/Donna Whitham 524-6119

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

After July 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

FWOC AND CLIMBING SHOTS November 4 @ 8 PM
in the Idaho Falls Library Main Meeting Room

What is FWOC? Marty Huebner is going to tell us what exactly FWOC is and what FWOC does for the IAC and other outdoor recreation enthusiasts at our November meeting. Once a year FWOC holds an annual conference, where representatives from outdoor clubs in the west meet and do more than party all weekend. Marty and the IAC as a member organization have been members of FWOC for many years. This is your chance to find out all about it. After Marty's presentation, Eric Peterson has arranged for Pat Perry to show us slides of climbing shots in the Tetons and elsewhere.

The Council Speaks

Held: 29 September 1998

Location: 706 Laurelwood (Whitham's house)

Attendees: George Cole, Mark Whitham, Kurt Meyers, Bob Tyler, Donna Whitham, Rene Miller.

Meeting commenced at 8:15. Last month's Council meeting minutes were read and approved.

Note taker this meeting: Donna.

Next note taker: Bob Tyler

Treasurers Report

General Funds - \$3880.15

Rafting Funds - \$3042.88

New Business

Canoeing Coordinator - Sports Korner will run the Kayaking / Canoeing calendar

REI Outdoor Clubs Grant Program - REI awards grants of equipment or money to non-profit organizations such as the IAC to support outdoor programs that increase access to outdoor activities and or encourage involvement in muscle-powered sports for all people, or that promote safe participation in outdoor muscle-powered sports. Donna provided copies of the REI paperwork to rest of council. Bob will look thru the treasurers files for the paperwork that REI requires. A course in back country first aid will be the objective of a proposal for a grant. Wilderness Medicine puts on a 16 hour course that would be of use to the multi-interest groups in the club. Donna offered to scan the forms in to a WordPerfect format and type the proposal.

Council Nominating Committee - By-laws require 3 members at large plus President to nominate candidates for the Council. Members of nominating committee will be Bob T., George C., Donna W., and Patty T. Volunteers to run will be gladly accepted. We have two volunteers already and need at least four more to run for the council. Bob T. will print out a list of the current members and their phone numbers for the committee to call for more volunteers.

Newsletter Editor - Position has been filled by Rene Miller.

Next three council meetings will be held as follows:

B. Tyler / 2340 St. Clair - 10/27/98

K. Meyers / 1128 Boise Ave. - 11/24/98

B. Blyth / 1208 Atlantic - 12/29/98

The President Speaks

Let it snow!!! I am looking forward to winter snow season for cross country skiing and snowshoeing. Now is the time to check your gear and start planning your trips. I hope it is a great year for the white stuff!

Upcoming Programs:

December: Margaret Fuller and Jerry Painter on Trails of Eastern Idaho

January: Our Annual Winter Member Party and Renew Your Membership Bash at St. Johns

Cross-country Skiing
Mark & Donna Whitham, 524-6119

As soon as there is enough snow Mark and Donna are planning a trip to ski at the Rendezvous Course in West Yellowstone. If you are interested in going give them a call and they will contact you once a date has been set. Call Mark or Donna at 524-6119 for more details.

Christmas Tree Cutting Snowshoe Trip - Saturday, December 5th, 1998

Search out the perfect Christmas tree in Tie Canyon, which is in Pine Creek Pass area. Forest service Christmas Tree permits required. They are available at the Forest Service office at the Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce on Lindsay Blvd. (Permits were \$5.00 last year.) Snowshoes are available for rent at Timberline Outfitters. Cross Country Skiers Welcome! Call Mark or Donna Whitman to sign up and for the meeting place and time at 524-6113

Idaho Falls Ski Club Ski Sale
November 6-8, 1998
Old Carpetland Store in Centennial Square Mall on 17th Street Across from Mall

Friday, November 6, 1998: 8-11:00 pm
Saturday, November 7, 1998: 9:00-6:00 pm
Sunday, November 8, 1998: 10:00-2:00 pm
Sunday, November 8, 1998: 2:00-4:00 pm Return Equipment Pickup

Snow Shoeing - Wade Seeley, 552-1427

Timberline Outfitter Snowshoe Events

Try the latest snowshoes for free at all these great outings!

December 31st: Full Moon New Year's Eve Romp to Kelly Mountain Warming Hut (pending scheduling of hut)

January 16th: Free Local Demo Day - Try the latest and greatest snow shoes for free!

January 23rd: Harriman State Park Winter Walk and book signing by Jerry Painter

February 7th: Free Local Demo Day & 1 mile Fun Run.

February 21st: Harriman State Park Winter Walk II

Contact Wade Seeley at 552-9853 for more information.

City of Idaho Falls

Cross Country Ski Program

Weather and snow conditions permitting, the classes will be given for four (4) consecutive weeks at Pinecrest Golf Course. The course will combine classroom clinic with outdoor instructions on skis. Outdoors the student will learn how to walk and glide on skis using the diagonal stride for level terrain. Methods for traveling up and skiing down gentle slopes will be explained and practiced. The last session will focus on skiing down slopes using various ski turning methods including the telemark turn. Inside sessions will discuss what to wear for your winter outings; explain how really simple it is to wax skis, how to avoid frostbite and hypothermia, explain the ski equipment available and it's uses, discuss what to carry with you on your ski trips, and lastly how to avoid avalanches and help those that didn't know.

Saturday Classes - January 9, 16, 23, 30

Session #

Time

Level

1F

8:00 - 10:30 am

Novice/Intermediate

2F

9:30 - 12:30 pm

Novice/Intermediate

3F

1:00 - 3:00 pm
Novice/Intermediate

4F
2:00 - 5:00 pm
Novice/Intermediate

Sunday Classes - January 10, 17, 24, 31

Session #
Time
Level

1G
1:00 - 3:30 pm
Novice/Intermediate

2G
2:30-5:00 pm
Novice/Intermediate

1G
9:00 - 1:00 pm
Advance Track TBA

Fee: \$45.00 + 2.25 tax = \$47.25

Register at Idaho Mountain Trading at 474 Shoup Avenue, 523-6679 or at the Recreation Center at 520 Memorial Drive, 529-1480

=====

WHAT THEY DID ON THEIR SUMMER VACATION

By Jerry Painter

Just like second graders in English class, it's a natural thing for outdoor enthusiasts to share with each other "what I did on my summer vacation."

A recent gathering of participants in the "Ultimate Backpacker Challenge" sponsored by Timberline Outfitters in Idaho Falls, turned out to be a cataloging of fantastic places to hike, climb and camp. After reading the list, you may want to add a few more places to your personal "to do"

list.

The group's mission was to see who would log the most miles, climb the most peaks and visit the most backcountry lakes. Of course, the overall idea was to use the contest as motivation to get out just a little more. Prizes, such as packs, water bottles, socks and boot treatment were offered as incentives. Randy Kinnaman of Idaho Falls turned out to be the mileage champ. His summer goal was to hike a major portion of the Pacific Crest Trail - that route which follows the Cascade and Sierra Nevada mountain ranges from Canada to Mexico through the states of Washington, Oregon and California for close to 2,700 miles. He ended up with 467 miles and might have gone farther except for snow-clogged mountain passes in the Sierra Nevada mountains. One of his favorite stomping grounds on his trek: Mount Shasta. He ended up climbing the volcanic peak twice. Among the women, Idaho Alpine Club President Donna Whitham, Idaho Falls, turned in the most miles - 284.7. (She out-distanced her husband, Mark, by 1.5 miles). Donna also was the champ for the number of backcountry lakes visited - 61. She compiled her miles in Idaho and Montana. "We had a real good time staying at the Granite Park Chalet (in Glacier National Park, Mont.)," Donna said. "We hiked up to the chalet and then did day hikes out from there. In the evenings we'd sit on the porch and count the grizzly bears." The park system's backcountry chalets are no longer an inexpensive getaway. About 20 years ago, couples could stay overnight at the miniature inns for around \$30 a night with meals included. Today, it's about \$120 a night, not including meals. Mark Whitham said one of his best summer trips was a week-long trip through the Sawtooth Wilderness of central Idaho. "Before this trip, we'd just done short overnight or day trips into the Sawtooths," he said. "We saw some great country when we got back in there." He was impressed with the scenery, lakes and mountains.

George Cole, Idaho Falls, who logged 207.5 miles with a pair of llamas, reported that he finally did a trip "I've wanted to do all my life": A 60-mile trek along the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Area. The main attractions along the river trail are several hot springs great for soaking. "Some of the hot spring, everybody knows about, but there are a couple I don't want to tell you where they are," Cole said. He said it's nice to soak your tired bones at the end of a day of hiking in a warm hot springs. Maureen Gordon, of Blackfoot, hiked 200 miles. "The best and worst hike was Mount Borah," she told fellow hikers. She was impressed with the

views from the top of Idaho's highest peak, but hurt afterward. Patty Teckmeyer, Idaho Falls, logged 153 miles for the contest. She did many of her miles teaming up with Donna Whitham. Her favorite trek this summer: "Mine was Hilgard Basin by Hebgen Lake," she said. "It's just so beautiful." Craig Kantack, Idaho Falls, didn't log many miles, but he did bag several peaks. Kantack set his sights on a few of Colorado's fourteeners (peaks more than 14,000 feet in elevation). One of his favorite was

Capital Peak. He also enjoyed climbing Mount Corruption in Idaho's Lost River Range near Leatherman Peak. "I climbed it because I knew it probably doesn't get climbed much and it looked so interesting," he said. The locally famous Rick Baugher, who works at Timberline Outfitters, said he continued to work on his mountaineering goal of climbing all of Idaho's 11,000 foot peaks. This past summer he climbed 26 peaks. Baugher says he was impressed with the backcountry along Continental Divide which makes up the Montana-Idaho border. Much of this country is just

bushwhacking because of the lack of trails.

Other places mentioned during summer vacation reports included climbing Mount Moran and the Grand Teton in Wyoming's Teton Range, Yellowstone National Park hikes and trips in the nearby Big Hole Mountains east of Idaho Falls. As for me, other than the trips I've already reported on in past issues of Let's Go!, I was impressed with a three-day backpacking trip our family made into the Dark Canyon Primitive Area south of Lake Powell in southern Utah. I have also enjoyed climbing four of Idaho's nine 12,000 foot-plus peaks this past summer - sometime in the future when I've gotten them all, I'll write about it.

Jerry Painter is the author of "Great Trails for Family Hiking: TheTetons" and co-author of a new guide book, "Trails of Eastern Idaho,"featuring 95 trails throughout the region. Find these books at the Post Register and area stores. Contact Painter online at Jpainter@idahonews.com.

Hot Springs Galore in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness
July 28 - August 9, 1998
by Rob Jones

Day 1: Beam us down, George: (Phillips Transfer Camp (Loon Creek) to Upper Loon Cr. HS, 6 miles.) Hey, we are finally back in the MF Salmon country, almost exactly one-year after the "Llamalot at the MF Salmon?" trip of 1997. This time, we entered via Loon Creek, and planned to come out at Mule Hill. Perhaps all that needs to be said is Jeanine's poem, accompanied by a few photos, but I feel compelled to say some other stuff.....

I'm writing notes on a low bluff overlooking Loon Creek. After a dip in the magnificent Upper Loon Creek hot springs (HS), the wear of the day is fading as I watch the jagged outcrops of the Idaho Batholith granite and marvel at its lovely dark spires splashed with large swatches of screaming yellow lichen. Memories of the drone of traffic noise, whirring electronics and gadgets, demanding blurring, whining, shrieking phones, etc., the bombardment of electromagnetic impulses from everywhere slip away. We are in the expansive, enveloping Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness, and we know we are home.

This time, there are six of us: George, Bruce, Garney, Paul, Jeanine, and me. And, three harmonica-nosed llamas are packing with us: Alfie, Snowball, and Cicero, a beast of a pack llama, and new addition to George's llama troop.

We officially started the trip with a dip in the Sunbeam hot springs (HS). It's a busy HS, alongside the highway between Challis and Stanley. But, when you're at the HS, you are near the Salmon River, so much of the traffic and tourists can be ignored. See the HS in George's HS and Hiking Pages. After eating the lunch we brought with us from Challis, we met Tracy, our shuttle driver, in Sunbeam and headed up the Yankee Fork toward Loon Summit. Along the way, we passed mounded scalloped-rows of what was once the Yankee Fork riverbed. Rocks and gravel were dumped in a chaotic jumble as they left the butt-end of J.R. Simplot's gold dredge (how many decades ago?), without any soil or even the appearance of a riverbed. A few tiny, scrubby, twisted pines protrude from the mounds, reminders of what the "Idaho Council on Industry and

the Environment" considers "multiple-use."

Continuing our tour of Idaho's shining mining legacy, we passed the whole-mountain scars of Hecla's Grouse Creek Mine. This mine was mothballed in Oct. of 96 and has had a major landslide, cyanide spills and a proposed EPA fine of \$85,000 for water quality violations. Where is this cyanide now? This "development" is a symbol of how your public lands are sold to the lowest bidder, and how you will be required to pay for the leaking (and toxic) leaching ponds abandoned high on the shoulder of what used to be a rolling green (publicly-owned) mountain. We snaked over the lofty Loon Summit before we could no longer see the mine multiple-abuse. Here we entered the Middle Fork Salmon drainage.

Bumping down to Phillips Transfer Camp, we arrived at the edge of the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. Tracy headed back to Stanley with the vehicle, and we finished packing and headed into the glorious Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness (FCRONRW). Starting at 5411', we would camp roughly 6 miles later at 5080'. We rolled down alongside and above the turquoise Loon Creek from the Casto to Rock Creek USGSquadrangles. Just after we entered the FCRONRW, passing the FS notices about wolves, moose, wolverines, other wonderful creatures in the wilderness, a flood of a hard rain set in, accompanied by unsignaled booming thunder. I quickly got wet, then stopped under the next tree as my boots began to fill with rain water. I sat out most of the storm, but the others continued on. Twenty minutes later, it stopped raining but there were plentiful opportunities to get wet because the trail was like a

serpentine lake.

And, thus began what would turn out to be our 98-mile trip in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. It's 98 ways to enjoy the country of the MF Salmon!

Editor's Note: Rob's trip report is a great adventure to read. Unfortunately all thirteen days couldn't fit in the newsletter. The rest of the trip can be found at http://www.srv.net/~iac/trips/rj_rpts.htm.

LOOK WHAT YOU GET IF YOU JOIN THE IAC!!

- ▶ 10 % discount on (nonsale) 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
- ▶ Outdoor (nonrafting) gear is available for free use by paid up club members
- ▶ Rafting gear available at a low rental fee
- ▶ Connect with climbing, whitewater, hiking, backpacking, biking, ski, ... expertise
- ▶ 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. . .

Membership Notes: If you haven't gotten around to joining up yet for 1998, you can do so by sending in the application attached to this bulletin. Or pay up at the next meeting. See following member advantages.

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
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. Mondays-Fridays, 1:00 a.m. -9:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 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!

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 SSITE SEARCH feature to locate pages of specific interest

* Check out the "SITE STATISTICS" to see who's been visiting the site, which is the most popular page (it's not the homepage), even the most popular time of day (or day of week) to visit the site.