

# Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 41 - Issue Number 9 -September 2001

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

**web site:** [www.idahoalpineclub.org](http://www.idahoalpineclub.org)

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## 2001 Executive Council

President	
Donna Whitham	524-6119
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Doug Clark	542-9754
Treasurer	
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Publicity & Community Liaison  
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524-6119  
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429-1016

Historian/Librarian  
Barbara Brown 522-8977

Please notify Garney Hardy 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		
Greg Hulet	523-6199	
Trail Maintenance		
Open		
Day Hiking		
Mark/Donna Whitham	524-6119	
Boise Coordinator		
Alan Queen	208-336-8421	
<a href="mailto:alanq@micronet-systems.com">alanq@micronet-systems.com</a>		

## 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 [rener@srv.net](mailto:rener@srv.net)

## **The Good News, The Bad News and The Facts About Cougar Attacks**

Wednesday, September 5, 2001, 8 PM,  
at the Idaho Falls Library

Presented By Jo Deurbrouck and Dean Miller authors of  
"Cat Attacks: True Stories and Hard Lessons from Cougar Country"

## Cat Attacks - continued

Hikers and other outdoors types are more likely to die of lightning, bee-sting or snake-bite in the mountains of the west, yet the common warning sign in parking lots from Redwood National Park to Olympic National Park features a cougar. Only a very few people will ever lay eyes on a cougar. Fewer still will have to use the techniques suggested: Stand tall, maintain eye contact, make noise, never run away.

The need for such warnings is a sign of success of conservation efforts. Like most big predators, cougars started the 20th century with barely a toehold. They had been bounty hunted and starved out of most of their world - which included much of North America - by the market hunting of deer, their main food. Then market hunting was outlawed. Sport hunting limits kept killing in check. Deer herds rebounded, and the cougar quietly returned. In all, biologists think, there are upwards of 26,000 in North America, primarily in twelve western states and Canada.

Despite their killing efficiency, cougars so rarely attacked humans that, until recently, it was easy to believe the big carnivores harmless. Researcher Paul Beier's much-cited 1991 list found record of only twelve U.S. attacks between 1890 and 1980. In the 1980s, he collected eight more. Researching a book on the topic, we picked up where Beier left off and found a sharp increase in the 1990s.

In the nine years following Beier's article, thirty-seven people were attacked or killed in the United States, three times as many as in the entire previous century. In this country and Canada, fifty-three people were injured or killed by cougars between 1990 and 1999.

"Cat Attacks: True stories and hard lessons from cougar country" by Jo Deurbrouck and Dean Miller is available at [www.cougarattacks.com](http://www.cougarattacks.com), or through major U.S. and Canadian bookstores. It combines blow-by-blow accounts with essays on the complex issues surround the return of the mountain lion.

Noted naturalist/author David Quammen has called it "a lurid book of the most useful sort, filled with

sad stories of cougar-human conflict, careful research on the larger questions, and no small amount of good sense."

Jo Deurbrouck is a freelance writer from Shelley. Dean Miller is editor of the Post Register. They can be reached through their business website: [www.cougarattacks.com](http://www.cougarattacks.com)

Jo and Dean will be giving the IAC a slide presentation about "Cat Attacks: True stories and hard lessons from cougar country" on September 5 and will have books available for sale afterwards.

## President Speaks

It seems like summer just started and here it is September already. The annual potluck picnic at Barbara Browns house was lots of fun and in a beautiful location. The week long back pack trip in the Wind Rivers was a fantastic trip and for once it didn't even snow on us at the beginning of the trip. Check out the trip photos taken by Rob Jones:

<http://users.sisna.com/vagabond/windri3/windri3.htm> We are already beginning to plan next years week long trip into Yellowstone Park. Fall trips coming up are National Crags Day at the City of Rocks, the Pocatello Pump / C.W. Hog Pig-Out, Highway cleanup, and the annual day hike to Goldbug Hotsprings in November. Keep an eye on the calendar for dates.

Speaking of attacks, be careful out there. The bears are trying to prepare for winter and have less to eat with the drought this year and for the past few years. We had a minor bear encounter in Teton Park in August. Aside from a bit of minor damage to our tent and a little excitement when the bear decided to come back to our camp the next morning, we came away unharmed. We had absolutely nothing in our tent that would attract a bear and had kept a very clean camp. The bear was just habituated enough to know sometimes tents contain prizes and according to the park service, had apparently been bothering campers all summer. It was also very hard to shoo the bear away. He seemed rather nonplused that we were being so unfriendly. So be careful!! Cook well

away from your tent, hang anything that is edible, ingestible, can be put on your skin, or even has too much scent on it well away from your tent 12 feet up and 4 - 6 feet out, or store it in a bear proof container. Even avoid sleeping in the clothes you cooked and ate in. Ask about recent bear activity so you are not totally surprised if you do encounter one. Hopefully you won't run into a habituated bear like we did and good habits will help prevent the other encounters.

Definitely, mark your calendars for the National Crags Day Event at the City of Rocks on September 8 - 9. Access Fund promotes this annual event nationwide and arrangements have been made for the IAC to participate with it's own event scheduled this year. The ability to work hard for a few hours is all that is required (plus work gloves, safety glasses, and hi top sturdy leather boots).

It is that time of year that we are looking for willing members to run for the four positions being vacated by the outgoing members of the council: Tim, Betsy, Garney, and myself. Requirements are that you are a current member in good standing, enthusiastic about promoting growth of the IAC, willing to show up for the council meetings held in Idaho Falls, willing to support the By-Laws, the Incorporation Articles, the Common Adventure Policy, and to participate!! The term is for two years. Please contact me if you are interested or the nominating committee will be calling you!!

Have a great end of summer and see ya out there!!  
Donna

### **Upcoming Programs**

October - Member slide nite. Memories of past and present!

### **Idaho Alpine Club Meets in Boise Too**

Typically meets 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.

### **HIGHWAY CLEANUP - November 3**

Time again to don those stylish orange vests to clean up our section of Highway 31 between mileposts 6 & 8. Vests and matching bags are provided. Sturdy boots and work gloves are required. 524.6119 or [dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org) for more details and to sign up.

## **Backpacking ~ 2002**

**January 18 - February 9, 2002**

**Climb of Kilimanjaro (19k) in Tanzania, Africa** 3 wk trip: 1 wk for travel; 1 wk for climb; 1 wk for safari; mandated park fees/guides/porters push up cost - est. total trip cost pp = \$5000; There are now 4 people committed; we are going to book our trip shortly, so if you want to go: contact Mike or Debbie Allen at 384-1545 or [mjallen@micron.net](mailto:mjallen@micron.net)

## **Climbing ~ 2001**

**National Crags Day Event At City of Rocks ~ September 8 - 9, 2001**

Light trail maintenance and bolt work will be done at the City of Rocks with the Reserve's Trail Ranger. Afterwards we will spend the rest of the weekend climbing and hiking at the City. Everyone who is willing to do a bit of hard work before playing, is welcome to come out to help. We will be arranging for campsites for the first 12 to sign up. 524.6119 or [dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org](mailto:dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org) for more details and to sign up.

## **Pocatello Pump**

**September 15 - 16th at Ross Park**

This is the Northwest's oldest and largest bouldering contest. Everyone's welcome! Climb or just have fun.

#### Saturday Sunnyside

Top Rope Segment -Registration 7am

#### Sunday

Lead Climbing- 7am Sunnyside

Top Rope Shadyside - 12pm

For more information contact ISU Outdoor Program: [www.isu.edu/outdoor](http://www.isu.edu/outdoor)

## C.W. Hog Pig - Out 2001

### Saturday, September 15th

Eat, dance, visit with your friends at the 2001 Swine Odyssey. Enjoy BBQ Pork, Dutch-Oven Veggies, baked potatoes, corn on the cob, and music at the Lower Ross Park Pavilion. Dinner will be served from 4pm - 7pm with dancing continuing until 10pm. Contact Cindy at the HOG office if you have time to volunteer for this event.

Adults	\$12 at the park	\$10 in advance
Kids	\$6 at the park	\$5 in advance
Music only	\$5	

Fun games and activities for Piglets and Big Pigs of all ages.

## Rafting ~ 2001

Rafting the Middle Fork Salmon River  
Sept. 9 (Sun) - 15 (Sat)

We did a low water float of MFSR several years ago and it was great. We saw no people until Indian Creek. (~) 30 miles, but lots of wild life (bears, deer, elk, etc). We also hit all of the hot springs, including the one normally underwater in the river bed. This is basically a delux backpacking trip on a small (under 13') raft. If you have the equipment and the skills and are willing to forego some creature comforts (fresh

food, chairs, tables, etc) you will have a near wilderness experience. Traditional launch from Dagger Falls. Contact Mike or Debbie Allen at 208.384.1545 or email: [madallen@ev1.net](mailto:madallen@ev1.net)

## Club Member Benefits

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

- Idaho Mountain Trading,  
Shoup & B, Idaho Falls - 523-6679
- Timberline Outfitters,  
A Street, Idaho Falls - 552-3853  
[www.timberlineoutfitter.com](http://www.timberlineoutfitter.com)
- 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

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

Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking and Biking guide books

### 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-- Kurt Myers  
Ice axes-- Kurt Myers  
Caving helmets-- Dean K.  
Carbide lamps-- Dean K.

Clinometer & compass for cave mapping

--Dean K.

Rafting equipment --Greg 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.-9:00p.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.]*

## 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 Mark or Donna at 524.6119 to get yours sooner.

## IAC Website

Have you visited the Idaho Alpine Club's homepage at [www.idahoalpineclub.org](http://www.idahoalpineclub.org) 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 SITE SEARCH feature to locate pages of specific interest