

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 46 - Issue Number 8 - September 2006

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

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

2006 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	522-4084
Sandra Pew	524-6442
Judy Williams	523-3814

Council Meetings:

Council Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM

September Council Meeting Will Be At:

Ken Krivanek's - 2185 St. Clair Rd

Activity Coordinators:

Backpacking	Mark Whitham	520-7232
Bicycling	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Climbing/Mountaineering	Kevin Coble	529-8142
	Eric Larsen	522-9354
Conservation	Tim Adkison	542-0786
Cross-Country Skiing / Snowshoeing	Whithams	520-1728
Day Hiking	Whithams	520-1728
Rafting	Greg Hulet	523-6199
Trail Maintenance	Alan Crockett	529-5188
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	522-4064
Program	Donna Whitham	520-1728

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.

OCTOBER Bulletin Deadline is:

Midnight September 15

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.

Aconcagua - Guanacos Valley Route

Idaho Alpine Club General Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

7:30 PM at the Idaho Falls Library

At the IAC September meeting, Eric Larsen will present another one of his excellent and entertaining pictorial essays, as he leads us to the top of Aconcagua in Argentina. Aconcagua has a reputation as a windy, dusty, crowded, open sewer of a mountain. Unfortunately, it's a well deserved reputation. But in the last few years, a new climbing route has opened up on the rarely visited north side. This route, the Guanacos Valley route, is only climbed by a few parties a year, and is nearly pristine. In December of 2005, Idaho Alpine Club member Eric Larsen climbed this route, and in descending the Normal Route was able to see the contrasts in the two different sides of this popular peak.

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

Alas, the lazy days of summer are drawing to a close-never long enough at our high latitude and elevation. However, to mark the fall equinox, we have scheduled a back country camping/trail maintenance trip on Friday and Saturday, September 22-23. Here's an opportunity to see a new area, Chicken Springs, while having mules do the heavy work of carrying in our camping gear. Since the trip ends on a Saturday, there will still be time to attend church or do chores around the house on Sunday. I hope we will show the Forest Service we're willing to donate our time and labor to maintain non-motorized trails. So come on out and have a good time getting a little exercise with your fellow club members.

Bob Tyler

Day Hiking / Backpacking

For information on current trips or to sign up to go, contact Mark or Donna Whitham, 520.1728 or dayhikes@idahoalpineclub.org, unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions.

September 16-17 Backpack:

Green Lakes located on the west slope of the Tetons, class 2, 2040 elevation gain, 13 miles round trip. Leashed dogs welcome. (Whithams).

Climbing

For information on fall and winter climbing contact Kevin Coble at 529-8142 or Eric Larsen 522-9354.

Climb for Life

September 14 — September 17 (Utah). Fifth Annual Climb for Life in Salt Lake, with parties, film festival, seminars with top climbers, hosted by Black Diamond. All ages and abilities welcome; proceeds benefit ovarian cancer research. Early registration advised.

<http://ovariancancer.jhmi.edu/climb/index.cfm> then click on Events

Pocatello Pump

Saturday, September 16, 2006

Location: Ross Park, Pocatello

25 years of fun and rock climbing. America's longest running climbing competition. Categories for all levels of ability. Lead climbing and Top rope climbing events. Prizes for everyone. Contact Peter Joyce 208.282.3912 or joycopete@isu.edu More Info: <http://www.isu.edu/outdoor/pump.html>

Bicycling

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

October 7 - Old Faithful Ride

www.cycleyellowstone.com/

Fast training rides during Daylight Saving Time start from Alpine Cyclery. Coed: Every Monday & Wednesday at 6 PM.

Women: Every Thursday at 6 PM.

Fall Highway Clean-up

It is once again that time to don the stylish bright orange vests that the Idaho highway department provides, to fill matching bright orange bags with all the trash accumulated over the summer on the IAC section of Highway 31 between mile posts 6 & 8. Sturdy work boots and work gloves are required. For more details and to sign up contact the Whithams at 208.520.1728 or programs@idahoalpineclub.org.

Trail Work

Opportunities:

Friday, September 22nd to September 23rd:

Chicken Springs (Palisades Creek) Meet at FS office at Beeches Corner at 2:00 and car pool to the trail head where we will meet Dave Woodcock. We can leave cars overnight at the FS office. The plan is to hike (5.4 miles) to the Chicken Springs trail on Friday afternoon, spend the night, work Saturday and come out that evening. The work will be trail marking (putting up signs and blazing trees) and tread work on both Chicken Springs Creek and Chicken Springs Ridge trails. Some of the area was burned over and route finding is now difficult. Palisades Ranger District will take in some mules and carry whatever gear we want hauled in (food, tent, sleeping bags, etc.) but we are to provide all our own food and camping gear. The district will provide the signs, trail implements, etc. For details and to sign up contact Alan Crockett at alan@crockett.myrf.net or 529.5188

Rafting

For information on fall trips, contact Greg Hulet at 523-6199 or rafting@idahoalpineclub.org.

Chocks and Nuts:

For Sale:

Sears propane 2 burner camp stove, never used, \$25. Two pairs metal snowshoes (pointy backs) without straps \$15, one pair Cabela wood snowshoes with straps \$30. Call Rik

Thomas 745-5001 or Garney Hardy 522-6128.

Support merchants who support the IAC

- ★ Idaho Mountain Trading
523-6679
Shoup & B, Idaho Falls
- ★ Canyon Whitewater Supply
522-3932
450 S Yellowstone, Idaho Falls
- ★ Stone Walls Rock Gym: Call 528.8610 for fall & winter hours.
- ★ Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking & Biking guide books

Trip Reports:

Trail Work: Walking back to a trail junction on a trail that did not exist in the morning is the most incredible feeling. Sunburned, blistered hands, dirty, bruised, hot, tired and proud of the weekend of work. Many long time club members have participated in the Forest Service Adopt-A-Trail program. We have been participating in the program for 10 years. This year we have also participated in volunteer trail construction projects. Locally, in the Big Holes, we helped rebuild tread on Corral Creek, to construct trail on Calamity Creek, and to construct a reroute of part of the Manning Long Ridge Trail. At the end of August we will be in Glacier National Park building a section of the Continental Divide Trail on our first volunteer vacation. Following is a note from Teton Valley Trails and Pathways (TVTAP) to help inspire more to participate:

Tough days always bring out the best stories. So it was, after a full day of working in 90 degree heat with a Pulaski and Macleod on the Calamity Creek Trail, on the west side of the Big Hole Mountains. This particular evening was special, though, as TVTAP members had spent the day working with the Idaho Falls Trail Machine Association (IFTMA) to enhance and renovate a key section of Big Hole multi-use trail. IFTMA is a motorized group from Idaho Falls, which does an impressive job every spring of cutting out dead fall on popular trails all over the range. As we sat around the fire drinking a cold

one and munching on burgers, stories of the day and other trail exploits flowed into the warm mountain evening.

At the urging of Mike McFadin, the Teton Basin Ranger District Trails Supervisor, TVTAP and IFTMA organized to work collaboratively on a project that both "motor heads" and "pedal heads" could embrace. The Calamity Creek Trail follows along the banks of Calamity Creek, important Cutthroat Trout habitat. Crossing the stream twelve times, the current trail dumps significant amounts of silt into the stream every time a motorcycle or mountain bike passes by. Mike McFadin and his crew mapped out a reroute that goes well above the stream and out of the riparian zone creating a trail that is attractive to all users, motorized and non-motorized alike, and better for the creek.

Both groups met in Kirkham Hollow on Friday evening and dined on deep fried turkey and Dutch oven potato wedges provided by IFTMA. Sitting around the campfire, we got to know one another and talked about our favorite rides and trails we'd like to see improved for the benefit of all. After a good nights sleep under the stars, we woke early on Saturday morning, swung tools over our shoulders, and headed out to the trail, but not before McFadin could give one of his legendary safety talks. On the trail, we joined up with another group, the Montana Conservation Corps, who would be working on the trail the entire week until its completion. Fifty energetic trail volunteers lined up along flagged sections of hillside, and we began digging into the slope to cut an 18-inch-wide bench, which will become a world-class single-track trail. Working with a "motor head" from Idaho Falls, we talked about the common need of a trail wide enough to avoid hitting pedals or pegs on the side hill.

As the shade disappeared, so too did our energy for swinging tools. We packed up and headed back up the hill to camp. TVTAP provided the dinner Saturday night -- Snake River Brewing Co. beer and plate piled with burger, potato salad, and dessert. We talked about the progress we made on the new trail and on improved relations between mountain

bikers and motorcyclists. We made a pact to repeat the meeting the following year, to work on trails dear to both groups, build camaraderie and understanding of our different pastimes, and work towards sharing the trails in this beautiful place we call home.

The Calamity Creek project was the second in a series of three projects TVTAP is organizing for our summer forest trail maintenance program. The series is sponsored by Grand Targhee Resort, Peaked Sports, Habitat, Mountainside Village, Snake River Brewing, Grand Teton Brewing, and Wildlife Brewing and Pizza. From Christian Santelices - Executive Director, TVTAP

July 22-23: Bear Valley Lake Backpack. Located in the Lemhi range, nearly 6 miles up Bear Valley Creek, the scenic lake sits in a cirque surrounded on 3 sides by scree covered slopes. Steve Huntington joined the Whithams (Mark, Donna, Tyler, & Heyburn) for the backpack trip. It was hot hiking up the rocky canyon. Most of the springs were still flowing which provided plentiful water for Heyburn and Tyler to drink and lie down in. Arrival at the lake and dropping our packs, was quite a welcome moment. After we set up camp, Steve fished while the Whithams pumped lots of water. Within minutes Steve caught a beautiful 16" trout for his dinner. We enjoyed a filtered view of the lake thru the haze of mosquitoes and biting flies, while eating dinner.

During the night it rained and while we hoped the rain would cool things down a bit, it only served to make it muggy. The clouds lasted through morning. After breakfast, we decided to pack up and hike out while it was cloudy. Alas, the muggy air just helped the biting flies and mosquitoes stick to us a bit better.

August 12: Taylor Creek Dayhike
Taylor Creek is located in the Centennial Mountains between Kilgore and Shotgun. Donna Nicklaus, Sandra and Bob Pew joined the Whithams for a pleasant hike up Taylor Creek. The trail is an old mining road which continues on up to the top of the divide to intersect the

Continental Divide Trail (CDT) at approximately 4.75 miles. Continuing eastward on the CDT as it switchbacks toward Taylor mountain we were treated with views of Slide Mt., Lookout Mt., Signal Mt., and Big Table Mt. to the west, the Teton Range to the east, and Island Park and Sheridan Reservoirs to the south. Arnica, Goldenrod, Paintbrush, Lupine, Yarrow, and Fireweed dotted the ridge with vivid color. We finally decided that perhaps the black clouds billowing towards us meant business and made it back to the trail head as it began to sprinkle.

Hiking 101 Finding Time to Hike

Many of us can't seem to find the time to get out and hike as much as we'd like. All too often, work, family commitments, and other activities take up most of our time. While of course we should each pay attention to these parts of our lives, don't forget to take the time to enjoy these days before they're gone! So in the spirit of helping everybody to get out there this summer, here are a few tips to help us "find the time" to hike:

- * Make a commitment to meet a friend at the trailhead or to car pool to the trail - then keep that commitment.
- * If you're concerned about not spending enough time with family members on the weekend, take them with you! They'll love it. Even if you should be mowing the lawn, spending time making memories with people you love really is priceless.
- * Find a trail not too distant from where you work and hike in the evening. The weather is cooler then and you'll probably see more wildlife. Just be careful that you get back before dark.
- * When you're on your way back from your hike don't forget to stop for some ice cream - it is most certainly one of the other joys of hiking!

Printed with permission from American Hiking Society's Paperless Trail - August 2006 issue. To learn more about the American Hiking Society: www.AmericanHiking.org

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.

Enjoy the outdoors with the IAC

Join today

For more information write to the address below or visit our web site to download a free newsletter and application:

Idaho Alpine Club

P.O. Box 2883

Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2883

www.IdahoAlpineClub.org

Membership Fees

Full Year 7/1 to 10/1

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.

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 the club Treasurer to get yours sooner.

IAC Council Meeting Minutes

NOTE: Monthly minutes are available at www.idahoalpineclub.org

*Idaho Alpine Club
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