

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 47 - Issue Number 2 - February 2007

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	Teak Cummings	524-5136
	Jeff Coward	522-8135
Secretary	Judy Williams	523-3814
Treasurer	Ken Krivanek	528-8224

Members-at-Large

Jerry Painter	523-9428
Sandra Pew	524-6442
Jo Ann Sherwin	528-6489

Council Meetings:

Council Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM

Upcoming Council Meetings:

2/8/07: Sandy Pew's at 1208 Pacific

3/8/07: Teak Cummings' at 1860 Whitney

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	President	523-5560
Historian/Librarian	Barbara Brown	522-8977
WebMaster	George Cole	522-4064
Program	President	523-5560

General Club Meeting

Held at **7:30 P.M.** on the first TUESDAY of each month, normally in the large meeting room of the Idaho Falls Public Library.

NO GENERAL MEETING IN JULY.

FEBRUARY Bulletin Deadline is:

Midnight February 15

Materials for inclusion in the next bulletin are due by the 15th of the month due to bulk mailer deadlines.

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.

IDAHO ALPINE CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Central Idaho Wilderness

TUESDAY, February 6, 2007, 7:30 PM

Idaho Falls Library

It's six year's and counting since Congressman Mike Simpson began working on a wilderness bill for the Boulder White Clouds in central Idaho. Originally introduced as the Boulder White Clouds Wilderness Act, Congressman Simpson re-introduced his wilderness bill last year and termed it the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recovery Act to remove the word "wilderness" and try to make the bill more palatable to those who choke on the word.

CIEDRA, as it is called, is full of compromises. In addition to declaring the first new wilderness in the state since the Frank Church Wilderness was created, it would place some, but not all, trails off limits to motorized use, leaving some motorized corridors intact. CIEDRA also transfers federally owned land to Custer County and the City of Stanley in an attempt to get local office holders to sign on.

CIEDRA has something to please everyone, but at the risk of alienating some stakeholders who think the compromises are too great. The bill has split the environmental community in Idaho with the Wilderness Society and Idaho Conservation League supporting it while the Sierra Club opposes it.

CIEDRA was on the verge of becoming law in the 2006 Congress when it was attached to a spending bill at the end of the session but Speaker Dennis Hastert pulled it from the bill on virtually the last day of the session. Will Idaho finally get a new wilderness in 2007? Which areas does CIEDRA protect and what are the other provisions of the bill? Laurel Hall, staff person to Congressman Simpson, backpacks the White Clouds with the Congressman every year and will try to help answer these questions for us at our February meeting.

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 Bob Tyler at 523-5560

President Speaks

Member Donna Whitham has been arranging the programs for our monthly meetings at the library for nearly 10 years now and has decided to take a well deserved breather. We could use a new volunteer to take over the responsibility of arranging for monthly speakers. To make the transition easier for a new volunteer, Donna has assembled a list of potential presenters to choose from for future programs. If anyone would be able to help us arrange club programs, please let me or any council member know.

Don't forget that our membership meeting are now on the first Tuesday of each month.

We have a great schedule of cross country ski trips and a snowshoe trip lined up this winter. You've heard it said we live in God's country and, indeed, we have been blessed with some wonderful winter recreational opportunities nearby. So take advantage of our beautiful winter trails and get out and ski or snowshoe this winter.

Bob Tyler

Baniff Mountain Film Festival

7pm, Friday, Feb. 9, 2007

The program will feature 2 - ½ hours of best international adventure films (winter sports, rock climbing, whitewater, cycling, aerial stunts and adventure trekking).

Support the Nordic Ski Patrol. Proceeds from the benefit are used for first aid equipment, training, supplies, and maintenance of the patrol hut at Harriman State Park.

For information and tickets, contact the Colonial Theater

498 A Street Idaho Falls

Ph: 208-522-0471, ext 104

E-mail: ifac@idahofallsarts.org

Lobby opens at 6pm, general seating begins 6:30pm

Tickets

\$10 in advance / \$12 Day of Show

Also available at:

Idaho Mountain Trading (523-6679)

474 Shoup Idaho Falls

or from Nordic Ski Patrol Members

XCSkiing / Snowshoeing

Contact the Whithams 520.1728 or, xcski@idahoalpineclub.org or for trip information and to sign up to go on a scheduled trip, unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions. Ken Krivanek has kindly agreed to lead some trips while Donna is recovering from knee surgery.

February 10, 2007: Teton Canyon 1:

The Teton Canyon Road to the Teton Canyon Campground, is east of Idaho Falls near Driggs. The trail is groomed for Skate and Nordic track XCSkiing by Teton Valley Trails and Pathways volunteers. Maps and information: (<http://www.tvtap.org/index.html>). TVTAP does take donations in support of its grooming program. This is a 7-mile (12km) round trip ski that is considered to be an moderate adventure due to its length. Dogs are allowed on the trail. Remember no one likes brown klister so bring the means remove it from the trail.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

February 17, 2007: Bear

Gulch/Mesa Falls Area: The Park-n-Ski Area is located seven miles northeast of Ashton on Mesa Falls Forest Highway 47. The approximately 5-mile trail travels along the canyon rim and parallel the snowmobile trail out to the spectacular Lower and Upper Mesa Falls. Once to the falls we will return to the trailhead on the same trail we took out. The trail is recommended for intermediate skiers due to its length (9 to 10 miles). After returning to Ashton we will have dinner either at Big Jud or at another restaurant in town. Call Ken Krivanek to sign up and for meeting time and place, 528-8224 or krivanek@nicoh.com.

March 3, 2007: Teton Canyon 2:

The Teton Canyon Road is east of Idaho Falls near Driggs. The trail follows the Teton Canyon Road into the Teton Canyon Campground, which is where the trailhead up to Table Mountain starts. This is a 10-mile round trip ski that is considered to be an intermediate adventure due to its length. We will ski to the Campground where we will have a snack and then return to our cars. Before heading back to Idaho Falls we will stop for dinner at the Knotty Pine Restaurant in Victor. Call Ken Krivanek to sign up and for meeting time and place, 528-8224 or krivanek@nicoh.com.

February 25: XC Ski Lessons

Sign up at Idaho Mountain Trading: 208.523.6679 Enjoy a day of cross country skiing on the beautiful Harriman State Park Trails. The cost of IMT's 25th annual trip is \$39 per person and includes a round trip bus ride with coffee, juice, and donuts on the way up & anniversary champagne wine, cheese on the return trip. Also included is a 2-1/2 hour instructional from P.S.I.A. certified ski instructors in the morning and a 2-3 hour tour in the afternoon.

Snow Reports

Tamarack Resort

<http://www.tamarackidaho.com>

Lone Mountain Resort, Montana

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

Bohart Ski Ranch, Montana

<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

Mink Creek Nordic Center Grooming Report

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

AVALANCHE INTERNET SITES

Cyberspace Snow & 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://jhavalanche.org/>

Bozeman Area:

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

Island Park Area:

<http://islandparksnow.net/>

Avalanche Safety Instruction:

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

Climbing

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

February 24-25: Mountaineering Training Camp with Steve House in Bend Oregon.

\$349.00 Contact Kevin Grove at

541-388-7738 or kgrove@taiweb.com to sign up today. Further information at: <http://www.therapeuticassociates.com/CentralOregon>

Bicycling

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

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 Winter hours: 4-9PM Monday - Thursday, 4 - 10 PM Friday, 12-9 PM Saturday, and Closed Sunday. Call 528.8610 for information.
- ★ Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking & Biking guide books
- ★ Lynna and Leland Howard offer members of IAC a 10% discount on all of their published books. 357-1917 or 357-3166; <lynna.howard@mac.com>, <leland@wildernessbooks.com>

Free Maps:

New color topographic maps are available for download from the Palisades Ranger District web site: www.fs.fed.us/r4/caribou-targhee/caribou-targhee/palisades/maps. On this page there is an index map showing an 8 page map that covers the entire ranger district and connecting areas at a scale of 1:112,500. Each map must be downloaded separately and they can be pasted together to form one large map. Hard copies of these maps are not available from the FS.

There are also 12 more detailed "Specialty" maps covering specific trails. These maps are at a scale of 1:50,000 with shaded relief and are detailed enough to replace USGS topographic maps in most cases. Coordinates of trailheads and key intersections are provided. Since the files are large, a high speed internet connection is needed. The Palisades Ranger District Office has a limited number of hard copies of the detailed maps.

PARK 'N' SKI INFORMATION

While we all would prefer to ski free, Park N' Ski permits have financed much of the cross-country skiing development in Idaho during the past several years. Purchasing a pass provides a funding source for ski clubs and agencies interested in maintaining and developing cross-country skiing facilities. Services offered to skiers vary from year to year depending on volunteer support, donations and revenue generated through the sale of Park N' Ski permits. Poor snow years and no support of the program often translate into low income, thus reduced services. When you purchase a \$20 annual permit, or a 3- day temporary permit for \$7.50, the money is dedicated by law to be used exclusively for improving cross-country skiing opportunities. As such, the program has been widely supported by Nordic skiers statewide. When skiers purchase a permit, they are asked to designate a specific Park N' Ski area they would like to see improved. This gives skiers greater control over how and where the funds are spent.

For more information about the Park 'N' Ski Pick up a guide at one of the permit sellers in Idaho Falls, Pocatello, or Island Park. Two of the permit sellers in Idaho Falls are:

Idaho Mountain Trading 474 Shoup Ave Idaho Falls 523.6679

Eastern Idaho Visitor Info 505 Lindsay Blvd Idaho Falls 523.1012

East Idaho XC-Ski Guides & Maps

Available on the Idaho Falls Ski Club Website:

<http://ifskiclub.com>

Bear Gulch-Mesa Falls Guide Map

Brimstone-Buffalo River Guide Map

Fall River Ridge Guide Map

Harriman State Park Guide Map

Harriman-Brimstone Connector Map

Kelly Canyon Nordic Area Guide Map

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

The IFSC Nordic Ski Schedule is also available at the same web site.

Trail Etiquette & Safety

- Be considerate of other traffic on all trails.
- Yield to skiers on a downhill run.
- Make every effort to clear the trail if you stop or fall.
- Do not walk or snowshoe on either skier set or machine set ski tracks on marked ski trails. Note: Skiers may choose to skin up or run down a snowshoe track that is marked or may even parallel a ski trail to avoid breaking trail but that is their choice.
- Ski under control always; avoid trails that are beyond your ability.
- Register your trip at the trail sign-in locations; use trail maps and signs to plan your trip.
- Let someone know where you will be and when you expect to return before leaving town. Then stick to those plans.
- Ski with a partner, especially on the ungroomed trails and back country ski runs.
- Make it a habit to carry the 10 "E's"; extra gear, water, snacks, flashlight, a compass or a GPS, trail or area maps, a cell phone (very poor reception if any except for on the ridge tops in most areas), and fire starting tools, even on short trips.
- Be aware that trail conditions can change greatly with changing snow, trail and weather conditions.
- Watch for and yield to trail grooming equipment.
- Keep your dogs under control (leash or in your immediate line of sight) and off of groomed tracks, and clean their refuse from the trail. Remember even other dog lovers do not care for someone else's dog showing up unsupervised, ill mannered, and leaving refuse in the trail.

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 Council Meeting Minutes

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

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 embroidered club logo! Short sleeve \$14 each. Long sleeve \$21 each, while they last. When the long sleeve shirts we have are gone, they are gone. 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.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW

RENEW NOW

THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST BULLETIN

Idaho Alpine Club

P.O. Box 2883

Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2883