

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 47 - Issue Number 3 - March 2007

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

web site: www.idahoalpineclub.org

e-mail: info@idahoalpineclub.org

2007 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:

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.

MARCH Bulletin Deadline is:

Midnight March 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.

"Utah's Wilderness Areas: The Complete Guide"

IDAHO ALPINE CLUB GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, March 6, 2007, 7:30 PM

Idaho Falls Library

"The Complete Guide" is the most comprehensive guidebook covering the state's wilderness lands, both designated and proposed. Packed with useful facts and advice, the book encompasses all of Utah's wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, and instant study areas, as well as recommended wilderness in national parks, monuments, and recreation areas.

A mix of practical information and pure inspiration, this guide combines author Lynna Howard's detailed and cleverly crafted text with breathtaking full-color images by her brother, photographer Leland Howard. Together, the Howards reveal the best outdoor experiences Utah's vast and diverse wildlands have to offer, from the alpine peaks of the High Uintas Wilderness to the shadowy slot canyons of the Colorado Plateau.

Backcountry adventurers, particularly hikers and backpackers, will find this guide an invaluable tool for discovering Utah's spectacular wilderness and other wild areas.

The Howards will present Leland's large format slides, along with Lynna's commentary for the IAC meeting. They will end with a question-answer period on hiking in Utah.

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

If you are a procrastinator like me, you wait to the last minute to decide what to do for the weekend. And if you want to do an outing and get someone to join you, it's too late to put it in the newsletter. So you end up going alone or not going at all. If this describes you, I have some help for you. First off, if you have a trip and you want some company but have missed the newsletter deadline, come to the monthly membership meeting at the library and announce your trip. You might just pick up some trip companions, especially if you are doing something on a weekend when nothing else is planned. Second, we are introducing a new initiative that allows members to publicize personal trips on the club website thanks to Jeff Coward, who has volunteered to be the contact person to enable members to do this.

You should send an e-mail to VicePres@IdahoAlpineClub.org describing your trip and giving a contact phone number and Jeff will post the information the club website. You don't have to memorize the e-mail address. You can find it on the club website. Don't include your e-mail address in your message because this may expose you to spam. The sooner you can post a trip, the better your chances of finding a partner, but you should give Jeff at least a week's notice so he has time to post the trip to the website. And, if Friday night rolls around and you are casting about for something to do over the weekend, you might want to just check out the club's website to see what's happening.

Hopefully, if enough members take advantage of the website, it will become a useful way to find people to do things with.

-Bob Tyler

XCSkiing / Snowshoeing

Contact the Whithams 520.1728 or, xcski@idahoalpineclub.org for trip information and to sign up to go on a scheduled trip, unless otherwise indicated in the trip descriptions.

March 3: Meet at Harriman State Park for Cross Country Skiing. \$4 Day Use Vehicle Entrance Fee. Nordic Ski Daily Fee - \$2.00 per person, per day (assessed during winter ski season in addition to all other fees). Call us by the 2nd to make arrangements to meet.

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://jhalanche.org/>

Bozeman Area:

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

Island Park Area:

<http://islandparksnow.net/>

Avalanche Safety Instruction:

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

Recreational XC-Ski Waxing

Technical information on waxing and maintaining your cross country skis can be found online at <http://www.swixsport.com>.

Additionally, every fall, thru community education, Mountain Trading teaches an one evening class on maintaining your skis at their store where all their equipment is. The class is approximately \$25. If we have enough interest in the fall, the cross country ski coordinators will set up a similar separate class for the IAC. Here is some information for most recreational skiers who just want their waxless or waxable skis to last longer and to get some decent glide out of them. At the end of the season, before putting your skis away for the summer; take a few minutes to generously spray or wipe a good base cleaner on the bases. Wipe down the bases with either fiberlene or

just a clean rag you don't mind getting oily and gross from the dirt, crud (brown klistar), and old wax. Let the bases dry at least 15 minutes. Repair any gouges with Ptex. Deburr metal edges with a gummy stone. Then hot wax with a universal wax either the tips and tails of waxless skis or the entire base of waxables. Check your bindings for damage, loose parts, cracked rubber on NNN bindings, or rust. We usually spray our bindings with a lite oil and leave the coat of wax on the bases for summer storage. In the fall scrape the bases with a wax scraper. Remove wax from the grove down the middle of each ski with the rounded corner of your scrapper. Then take fibertex or a green scrubbie pad, and rub downwards only from tip to tail. Wipe the remnants of oil from the bindings. Sweep or vacuum up the wax shavings from the floor. You are ready for the new ski season. That is if you can find your poles, gloves, boots...

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>

Climbing

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

Hi Everyone,

I hope you are all having a good winter so far. Keep thinking snow, I'm not ready to give up skiing yet.

Just wanted to give everyone a heads up on what's been going on. Firstly, I got a call from Peter Joyce from ISU last week. He is looking for somebody locally to teach the beginning rock climbing class at Stonewalls Gym. It's on Friday mornings, from 8-11am. It starts in early March (forget the exact date) and runs for 8 weeks. If you're interested, or know somebody who might be interested, let me know and I'll pass it on. He sounded pretty desperate, so let's not let him down.

Next, it looks like Wednesday nights will work for me and Kevin to run the club climb nights, so we'll go with that for the summer. We'll start around the end of May.

Lastly, this is a tentative schedule for some other climbing activities for this year. More details will be forthcoming in the Alpine Club bulletin, but I probably won't get to it until next month. Let me or Kevin know if you have anything else you might be interested in:

April 21st, snow school,
May 19-20th, Lost River mountaineering (something fairly nontechnical like: Saddle, Dickey, or Lost River)

June 16th-17, Teton mountaineering (maybe Buck, or something similar)

August 17-18-19, Grand Teton, NOTE: space will be limited, sign-up will happen sometime in July, and a prerequisite is verification of skills at previous climbing outings, including the Wednesday night climbs.

Nov/Dec - Bozeman Ice Festival

- Eric

Bicycling

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

Day Hiking / Backpacking

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

March 31- Menan Butte: Weather dependant, early season hike on the rim of the south Menan Butte. The loop is approximately 3 miles with a steep beginning and end. Fabulous views of the Snake River meandering across the highlands, the Tetons to the east, the Italians and Centennials to the north, and the Lemhis to the west.

Trip Reports

Teton Canyon-February10: Barbara and Derrick Brown, Donna DeTullio, Bob and Marie Tyler, Mark and Donna Whitham enjoyed a fabulous day of cross country skiing on classic or skate skis. The freshly groomed track had received a skiff of snow and was firm and fast. We enjoyed reasonably warm weather, filtered views of the Tetons through the clouds skittering across the sky, lingered over lunch and leisurely skied back to the vehicles.

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. 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 LOOK AT YOUR MAILING
LABEL TO SEE IF THIS MAY BE
YOUR LAST BULLETIN**

*Idaho Alpine Club
P.O. Box 2883
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2883*