

Idaho Alpine Club Bulletin

Volume 45 - Issue Number 5 - May2005

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Conservation

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Cross-Country Skiing / Snowshoeing

Mark/Donna Whitham 520-1728

Day Hiking

Mark/Donna Whitham 520-1728

Program

Donna Whitham 520-1728

Rafting

Greg Hulet 523-6199

Trail Maintenance

Open

Please mail completed common adventure forms to the secretary.

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.

Membership Fees

	Full Year	July 1 - October 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.

Council Meetings

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

April Council Meeting: George Cole's
1704 East 25th Street

Bulletin Deadline:

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.

June Bulletin Deadline is Midnight May 15

“ANTARCTICA”

Idaho Alpine Club Meeting: Wednesday, May 4, 2005, 7:30 PM ~Idaho Falls Library

Alan Crockett has been to Antarctica 4 times for the National Science Foundation and will show slides of his trips from Punta Arenas Chile to Palmer Station via the scenic inland passage and from Christchurch, New Zealand to McMurdo Station, the largest base in Antarctica. The trip to Palmer Station was via plane to the Chile's Marsh base on King George Island and then via ship to Palmer Station on Anvers Island. Palmer and McMurdo Stations are respectively the smallest and largest of the 3 permanent US bases in Antarctica.

The third base is Amundsen-Scott Pole Station at the south pole. Expect lots of pictures of ice, icebergs, and penguins, etc. The other wildlife that will be shown are Bob Lugar and Greg White, his compatriots on the trips.

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

Hello Fellow IAC Members!

From time to time, a club needs to go back and review its bylaws and make sure things are running the way they're supposed to. The IAC Council decided that now's the time to have a look at our own bylaws and see if any changes or clarifications are needed. Garney Hardy, Barbara Brown, Tim Adkison and I make up the committee to do the bylaw review. We sat down and thoroughly went through the bylaws and proposed some changes and clarifications to bring the bylaws up to date with the objectives of the current IAC. So to follow the directions of the current bylaws, the proposed changes will be read at the next general meeting in May. Hard copies of the current bylaws and the proposed changes will also be available at the May meeting and the June meeting as well as on the website. Any comments are encouraged; please feel free to e-mail us with your input. At the June general meeting, the club membership present will vote to either accept or reject the proposed changes to the bylaws. We really appreciate your participation in this necessary club business! Many thanks to Garney, Barbara, and Tim for the time spent on this project.

Now Go Take A Hike!

Michelle

IAC Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 04/19/2005

Invitees: Tim Adkison, Betty Adkison, Michelle Benson, Jeff Coward, George Cole, Alan Crockett, Ken Krivanek, Gary Vecellio, (attendees are underlined).

Note Taker: Jeff Coward

1. Meeting Called to order: 7:45 pm
2. Reading of previous month meeting minutes: previously approved via e-mail.
3. Treasurer's Report (03/01/2005 through 03/31/2005):

Income - February:	\$95.50
Expenses - February:	\$112.41
Rafting Fund Balance:	\$1,900.00
Overall Balance:	\$5,814.09
Checking Balance:	\$787.92

Members to Date: 85 as of April 9, 2005
Treasurer's Report approved by vote.
4. Old Business:

Preparation of old bulletins for CD scanning (Barbara/Jeff)
Second group of bulletins needs to be picked up for processing. Barb has indicated that the next batch may prove to be somewhat difficult to scan due to paper colors.

Review/revision of by-laws

The by-laws review & revision committee has completed their proposed updates and changes to the club by-laws. The proposed changes consist mostly of clarifications and updates to take into account current technology and club practices. The proposed changes will be read at the next general meeting in May as specified in the current by-laws. Hard copies of the current bylaws and the proposed changes will also be available at the May meeting and the June meeting as well as on the website. Comments from members are welcome and can be communicated to any council member. The club membership present at the June General Meeting will vote to either accept or reject the proposed changes to the bylaws.

5. New Business:

Rafting coordinator

A proposal was made to give Greg Hulet a free family membership in the Alpine Club for 2005 in recognition of his service to the club for storage and maintenance of the club rafting equipment over the years. The proposal was passed.

E-mail from club member

An e-mail was received from a club member commenting on the April program description in the bulletin. This was discussed, and Michelle will send a reply.

National Trails Day

Donna sent Michelle an e-mail regarding a trail maintenance project for National Trails Day on the Darby Canyon trail to the Wind Cave for June 11th. She noted that although National Trails Day is on June 4th, that date conflicts with the beer fest in Idaho Falls and it might prove somewhat difficult to recruit volunteers for the June 4th date. It was decided to go with the June 11th project as the club's annual trails day project.

Possible program idea

An idea for a possible program similar in type to the Banff Film Festival was received from Clarke Kido. This would be a potential way to raise funds for the club, and the program presenters would benefit by receiving promotion for their program. It would involve considerable time and effort to organize though. It was decided to check with the program coordinator to see if there was any interest in pursuing this.

Program presentation compensation

Compensation of various types for program presenters, both members and non-members was discussed. It was decided that all program presenters would get a short-sleeve IAC t-shirt. The program director will be authorized to provide up to \$25 worth of compensation to non-member program presenters without prior council approval. Compensation of a value over \$25 would need council approval.

6. Administrative Business:

Web page update

A note will be added to the club's home web page indicating that viewers should check the bulletin.pdf links for the latest trip activities or other info, in case other web page links have not yet been updated.

Replies to e-mails received by the club

When answering e-mails sent to a club e-mail address that pertain to club business, we need to make sure to put the appropriate club e-mail addresses in the BCC field on the reply so that other council members or coordinators receive a copy and know that the e-mail has been handled. George provided copies of the club e-mail address distribution matrix.

April General Meeting snacks: Jeff & Ken

April Council Meeting at: George Cole's
1704 East 25th Street

8. Meeting adjourned: 9:45 pm

Upcoming Programs and Events:

Sea Kayaking Presentation by Ron Mizia

Spring Highway Clean-up May 14

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 winter on the IAC section of Highway 31 between mile posts 6 & 8. Sturdy work boots and work gloves are required. Afterward, we are planning a potluck picnic. See the bicycle calendar for a bike ride afterwards in Teton Valley. For more details and to sign up contact the Whithams at programs@idahoalpineclub.org or 520.1728.

National Trails Day Project - June 11

The Darby Canyon Wind Cave trail, located on the west slope of the Teton Mountain range, will be the location of this year's National Trails Day project. This year the project is scheduled for the week after the annual brew fest. We will be doing trail maintenance to clear the trail of winter debris and open up the water bars to drain off standing water. Sturdy work boots and work gloves are required. Safety glasses, pulaskis, hedge trimmers, and bow saws, etc. are desired. Depending on the snow level in the canyon, we may be able to work all the way to the Wind Cave. This trail underwent some major work to mitigate user damage and to control erosion last summer.

After work we plan to car camp at the trail head. Potluck dinner Saturday night. Sunday morning we are planning to go for a dayhike to observe some of the wildlife, (a really big moose lives in this canyon), birds, and flowers. Contact the Whithams for more details and to sign up: dayhike@idahoalpineclub.org.

**Map and Compass Workshop
To Be Scheduled Based on Participation**

Have you ever wanted to travel cross country or hike up to the top of the knoll above camp? Have you ever been on a trail that was supposed to be going downhill but seemed to go upward instead? Have you ever realized you were probably lost, and only then recognized that your compass doesn't have a "back to the truck" arrow?

We have all ended up in one or another of those situations. Here is your chance to find another use for your compass besides being a handy mirror for tick checks. Consider joining us for this beginner level workshop on map and compass use. Even if you have a GPS, you need to know how to read a map and use a compass.

Tim Adkison and Gary Vecellio have volunteered to instruct a 2-part class on understanding and integrating the map and compass. This will be the 3rd year IAC has offered this opportunity. Compasses with adjustable declination and a topographic map (to be named later) will be required. The class will only be offered if sufficient interest is shown. There may be a refundable deposit required. The class is 1 evening in the classroom, and 1 Saturday afield. Target dates are TBD based on participants. Phone or E-mail Tim (Ga2idaho22@msn.com) or Gary (Vecellio@vece.myrf.net) with questions or to express interest. Minimum enrollment of 8 required.

Backpacking / Dayhiking

For trip information, unless otherwise listed in the trip description, contact Mark or Donna Whitham, 520.1728 or backpack@idahoalpineclub.org.

Wolf Watching / Dayhiking - May 7-8, 2005

Will be the annual Spring wolf-watching trip to Yellowstone National Park. We'll be staying at either Mammoth campground or Gardiner, MT (reservations are on your own) and we will meet at the Albright Visitor's Center at Mammoth Hot Springs at 5:30am, May 7th to caravan out to the Lamar Valley. We'll pick a short to intermediate hike for mid-day and then return to the Lamar Valley in the late afternoon/evening depending on the group's decision. May 8th's itinerary will be decided on Saturday evening. Be sure and bring rain gear and cold-weather gear as well as some good binoculars and/or spotting scope. We've had good luck with the weather over the past several years but it can get ugly quick in the Park. Contact Tim Adkison @ 542-0786 for sign-up and further info.

Gibson Mountain Loop - May 15 Dayhike: This is planned as a spring flower hike so plan on plenty of stops on the way up the Gibson Jack trail, to identify flowers and or to take photos of them. We will leave and return to the same trailhead by looping back via the Gibson Mountain trail. The hike is approximately 8 miles with an elevation gain of almost 1700 feet. There may possibly be snow drifts at the top of Gibson Mountain. Be prepared to cross hard pack steep snow with stiff soled boots and hiking poles or as an option, an ice axe. The rest of the trail is well graded but rocky with little shade. Leashed dogs will be welcome on this hike.

Gormer Canyon - May 21-22 Backpacking / Dayhiking:

Depending on the weather, this will be an overnight or dayhike to Gormer Canyon along the South Fork of the Snake River. Gormer Canyon is on the north side of the South Fork between Swan Valley and Heise and is a relatively easy early season hike. This year I plan to hike to Gormer Canyon from Swan Valley where the trail offers spectacular views from high above the river gorge. Camping is along the river at the mouth of Gormer Canyon which is a moderate 4 mile hike. Dayhikers are welcome for all or part of the hike. Contact: George Cole 522-4084 or webmaster@idahoalpineclub.org for details and to sign up. Depending on the number of people that sign up, some or all of your gear can be packed in on George's llamas.

Palisades Lakes and Waterfall Canyon - June 24-26 Backpacking / Dayhiking: The plan is to leave Friday and hike to the far end of the Upper Palisades Lake and base camp. For those that are interested, we'll dayhike to Waterfall Canyon and take in the spring fed 800 foot tall waterfall. Break camp Sunday morning and return home. The Palisades Creek trail is a popular hiking trail and an easy 7 mile stroll to the end of the upper lake and another 2 miles to the waterfall. Dayhikers are welcome for all or part of the hike. Contact: George Cole 522-4084 or webmaster@idahoalpineclub.org for details and to sign up. Depending on the number of people that sign up, some or all of your gear can be packed in on George's llamas.

Climbing / Mountaineering

For climbing information unless otherwise listed, contact Eric Peterson, 529.9538 or Dennis Dunn, 523.8524, or climbing@idahoalpineclub.org.

Wednesday night summer climbing schedule is coming. Get ready for it by climbing now, at Stonewalls Climbing Gym.

Middle and/or South Teton - May 21st and 22nd

This is a great way to try out those new ice ax skills learned at snow school. The plan is to backpack up the Garnet Canyon trail and camp in the Meadows area. That afternoon will be a quick skills review and then early bedtime for the predawn wake up call. We will hike up to the spectacular saddle between the Middle and South Teton, and based on group interest climb either one or both peaks. Then we'll pack up and hike out Sunday afternoon. Neither peak is technically demanding, but both require a high level of physical fitness and determination. Previous experience with ice ax and crampons is required. Call Eric Larsen (522-9354) or Kevin Coble (529-8142) to sign up. Park regulations limit us to 6 climbers.

Mt. Adams, Washington - June 9th - 12th

Mt Adams is a spectacular glaciated peak in the Cascade Mountain Range. At 12,276 feet it provides an excellent introduction to the challenges of glacier climbing. Depending on group preference, we will attempt either the South Spur route or the more demanding Mazama Glacier route. We will leave Idaho Falls in the afternoon of Thursday the 9th and stay at a hotel in Ontario, Oregon. Friday we'll drive the rest of the way to the Cold Springs trailhead and start hiking. We'll backpack into either the Lunch Counter or Sunrise camping area, and get ready for a 3 am wake up call. On Saturday we should be on the Piker's Summit by sunrise, and from there it's a quick 2 hours to the true summit. If snow conditions are right, the decent involves some of the best glissading in the Cascades. We will return to Idaho Falls on Sunday. This climb is not technically demanding, but does require a high fitness level and previous experience with ice ax and crampons. Call Eric Larsen (522-9354) or Kevin Coble (529-8142) to sign up. Limit of 8 climbers.

Rafting

May 27-30, Annual Memorial Day float near Shoup (class III). Camp at Spring Creek campground. Pot luck dinner Saturday and Sunday night. Everyone attending is expected to help haul gear. If you can't carry your share of the gear, don't plan on rafting. Contact Greg Hulet, 208 523-6199

June 4, Falls River (class IV)

Contact Greg Hulet, 208 523-6199.

June 15-19, Sunbeam day section (class III). Camp at O'brien campground. Contact Jim Lee, 208 524-5836.

July 9, Hatchery Ford (Henry's Fork class III). Contact Greg Hulet, 208 523-6199.

July 16, Beartrap (Madison class III-IV) Contact Greg Hulet, 208 523-6199

July 20-24, South Fork Boise river (class III-IV). Camp near Danskin bridge. Contact Jim Lee, 208 524-5836.

August 13, Alpine Canyon, (class III+). Contact Greg Hulet, 208 523-6199

Bicycling Schedule

For any questions about these or other rides, contact Jeff Coward at 522-8135 or Michelle Benson at 525-3238 or send an e-mail to bicycling@idahoalpineclub.org

Note: Always check with the trip coordinator on any Idaho Alpine Club trip, especially the spring trips, since weather conditions or other factors may require changes of plans or cancellations.

Dates for IAC rides are bolded.

May 7, 2005 (Saturday) - West Yellowstone Lakeside

This ride is a loop that starts and ends in West Yellowstone. The route heads west on Highway 20 over Targhee Pass, then turns northwest on Highway 87 past Henry's Lake and over Reynolds Pass. From there the route goes east to the Quake Lake visitor center on highway 287, then past Hebgen Lake to Highway 191 where it turns south and returns to West Yellowstone for a total of about 65 miles. The motorized traffic is usually minimal at this time of year, however, you can generally count on some wind over Reynolds Pass. This ride is sponsored by the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce. There are snack stops along the route, and a spaghetti dinner after the ride. At present, I do not know if anyone from the Idaho Alpine Club will be doing this ride, although I am sure that there will be some Idaho Falls riders going. The fee for this ride, which includes a T-shirt and the dinner and prize drawing is \$40. More information can be found online at the link below.

<http://wyyellowstone.com/bicycle/>

May 7-8, 2005 - Scenic Tour of the Kootenai River (STOKR)

This is a two day ride based in Libby, Montana. There are two options for the first day. Option 1 is a 98 mile loop that heads west along the Kootenai River past Kootenai Falls on Highway 2 through Troy. The route then turns northeast onto Highway 508, the Yaak River Road, and ascends the first climb of about 4.5 miles. Highway 508 continues a gradual ascent past Yaak Falls and Sylvanite (snack stop) to the town of Yaak (lunch stop). The route then turns south onto Highway 567 and ascends to the top of Pipe Creek Summit (snack stop near the top). From the summit it is 25 miles downhill back to Libby, with a pie stop after the steep portion of the descent. Option 2 on the first day is a 45 mile route that follows the 98 mile route on Highway 2 out to Highway 56, then follows a loop south on Lake Creek Road and back to Troy on Iron Creek Road, then back to Libby on Highway 2. There is plenty of time to stop at Kootenai Falls for riders choosing this option. The second day features a 37 mile loop out to Libby Dam and Lake Koocanusa. Most of the ride out to the dam is on a paved private road with no traffic, with the return trip on Highway 37. This ride is sponsored by the Kootenai Valley Partners Habitat for Humanity. At present, there are several Idaho Alpine Club members planning on doing this ride. The fee for this ride is \$35. This year you can purchase a ride jersey for \$55, provided that your check arrived in Libby before March 11. Last year, there were about 450 applicants for the 300

available registrations, so if you want to do this ride, you should probably get your application in as soon as possible. Because of the distance to Libby, Montana from Idaho Falls, we are planning on driving to Libby on Friday, May 6. The distance is about 500 miles, but the drive is actually quite scenic. It is possible to drive back to Idaho Falls on Sunday after the ride, but we are planning on an afternoon sightseeing drive on Sunday, and returning on Monday, May 9. More information, including route maps, registration forms, ride photos, and just about anything you might want to know about the ride can be found online at the links below.

<http://www.libbymt.com/events/stokr.htm>

<http://www.libby.org/~gregrice/STOKR/>

May 14, 2005 - After Spring Highway Clean-up Ride

The Idaho Alpine Club removes roadside litter in the spring and fall from a section of Idaho Highway 31 between Swan Valley and Victor. The midpoint of our two mile section is the old Pine Basin ski area. The removal of accumulated litter is usually completed by mid-day, leaving time for other activities in the Victor area. In the past we have done a 25 mile bike ride loop from Victor to Driggs and back.

May 21-22, 2005 - Tour of the Swan River Valley (TOSRV-West)

This year's 35th annual TOSRV-West ride in Montana has a third option. In addition to the 200 and 260 mile 2 day rides, there is a 1 day ride of 116 miles from Missoula to Seeley Lake and back to Missoula. The 260 mile 2 day ride goes from Missoula to Bigfork on day 1, then back to Missoula on day 2. The 200 mile route is the same except that the start and finish are in Potomac instead of Missoula. The fees for this years ride are \$45 for the 1 day ride and \$80 for the 2 day rides. The fees include food stops and baggage transportation. There are usually several Idaho Alpine Club members that do this ride. More information on this ride can be found online at the link below.

<http://www.missoulabike.org>

Lodging options:

Brooks Street Motor Inn, 3333 Brooks St, Missoula, MT 59801, (406-549-5115) or 800-538-3260

Bigfork Timbers Motel, 8540 MT Highway 35, Bigfork, MT 59911, (406-837-6200) or 800-821-4546

June 11-12, 2005 - West Yellowstone to Warm River

This is a mountain bike ride on the old railroad route from West Yellowstone to the Warm River campground northeast of Ashton. It can be done as either a 1 or 2 day ride, depending on the preference of the riders who want to go. Total distance for both days is about 46 miles, or 52 miles if the side trip to Warm River Springs is included. If the trip is done over 2 days, the overnight stop is at the campground near Big Springs. The ride is mostly flat, with the only significant uphill section near the start as the route climbs over Reas Pass. Some of the sections of the trail that see significant ATV use may have some washboard and loose sand. Riders may want to bring some insect repellent on this ride, although the last few drought years have seen far fewer mosquitoes than some of the wet years have produced. There are usually fields of wildflowers and various

types of wildlife to be seen on this ride. The last 7 miles of this ride is all downhill and goes through a tunnel, with excellent views of the Warm River. A car shuttle is required for this ride. This is an IAC sponsored trip.

July 9-17, 2005 - North Idaho rail trail rides, boating, etc. There are several excellent rail trail rides in Northern Idaho. One is a mountain bike ride that follows the Route of the Hiawatha through several tunnels including an 8,700 foot long one and across several trestles. The ride is about 13 miles one way, at which point you can either ride or shuttle back. You can also ride another 8 miles to Avery, Idaho, with more tunnels and trestles along the way. Lights are required on this ride, and there is a trail use fee of \$8 per adult. There is also a \$9 per adult fee for the shuttle if you decide not to ride back to the start. There are numerous informational displays along the trail as well as plenty of scenic views. This is an easy ride suitable for anyone. The second trail in the area is the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes. This is a 72 mile long paved trail that runs from Mullan to Chatcolet on Lake Coeur d'Alene. The trail parallels Interstate 90 from Mullan to Cataldo, but even that section has some excellent scenery as you ride along the Coeur d'Alene River. From Cataldo to Harrison the trail leaves the interstate and we should have little traffic of any kind. The lake is crossed on a causeway and bridge. There is also the Centennial Trail that goes from Coeur d'Alene to Spokane. We should have time to check out this trail as well.

There are many other things to do in the area. There are museums and the Cataldo Mission to visit, and there is boating on Lake Coeur d'Alene. I am currently planning on taking my motor home and boat on this trip, as well as both road and mountain bikes. Depending on how many people want to go, it might be nice to have another vehicle along for shuttle use. If you are interested in this trip, please send me an e-mail so I can get some idea of how many people might want to go. More details will be available later. This is an IAC sponsored trip.

Links:

- http://www.skilookout.com/bike_home_page.html
- <http://wallace-id.com/skilookout/taft.html>
- http://wallace-id.com/CdA_trail/index.html
- <http://wallace-id.com/bestwest.html>
- http://friendsofcdatrails.org/photo_trail.html
- <http://www.harrisonidaho.com/Maps/TrailMaps.html#Overview>
- http://friendsofcdatrails.org/links.html#ride_the_wall
- <http://www.northidahotrails.net>
- <http://silver-valley.com/bike.html>

July and/or August - Rigby Lake ride(s) Date(s) for the summer rides to Rigby Lake have not yet been determined. This ride can really be done anytime, even during the week after work, since it is only about a 45 mile round trip.

Trip Reports

Yellowstone Park bike ride by Jeff Coward

On Saturday, April 16th, 7 riders made the trip to West Yellowstone to ride the roads in Yellowstone Park before

they opened to general motorized travel. The weather was the best we've ever had for this ride, with temperatures ranging from the low to mid 50's, blue sky with no clouds, and only a light breeze.

This ride, like the Teton Park ride, is generally more of a sightseeing ride than a high speed training ride. There is so much scenery and wildlife to look at that there isn't much point in driving to the park if you are going to stare at pavement lines and the wheel of the rider in front of you all day. We saw bison, elk, and many different birds. There was a bird banquet going on at a bison carcass by the side of the Madison River, and we heard that earlier in the day there had been at least one wolf there as well.

After a scenic 14 mile ride to Madison Junction, we stopped for a snack. The restrooms in the picnic area were open (and heated) this year. Two riders decided to head back to West Yellowstone at this point, while the rest continued to Gibbon Falls on the road to Norris. We stopped at the Falls for lunch, before beginning the return trip. On the way back, we had to take one of the scenic turnouts to bypass a large bison jam on the road.

When we got back to West Yellowstone, the Chamber parking lot was completely full and cars were parked on several of the streets as well. We saw more cyclists than we've ever seen before while riding back to town. This may have been due in part to the excellent weather and partly because Yellowstone is not (yet) charging admission fees to bike on the roads as Teton Park has been doing for the last several years. If you have not yet done this ride, you really need to add it to your list. There are no crowds, and only service vehicles on the roads. Thanks to all who participated.

Participants included Jeff Coward, Michelle Benson, Ken Krivanek, Barb Brown, Judy Williams, Donna Nicklaus, and Sandy Pew.

Teton Park bike ride by Jeff Coward

On Saturday, April 23rd, 16 riders joined many other riders, walkers, & rollerbladers from throughout the area for an excellent spring day of riding in Teton Park. The weather in Idaho Falls did not look promising in the morning, with lots of clouds and overcast, but upon arriving in Jackson Hole the sun was shining and there were only a few clouds in the sky. Temperatures ranged from the mid 40's to mid 50's, while winds remained fairly light for most of the day. The sky did cloud up and produce a few light sprinkles and increased breezes for about an hour in mid afternoon, but sunshine and lighter breezes had returned by the time we started our return trip to Idaho Falls.

Since there were riders with a wide variety of preferences for distance and speed of riding, there were a number of distance and loop options take by various groups and riders. Some riders rode out as far as the Jenny Lake loop turnoff, then looped back past Jenny Lake to the Taggart & Bradley Lakes trailhead parking lot. Some started riding from or finished riding at the Moose visitor center. Most of us started from the Taggart & Bradley Lakes trailhead parking lot and rode up to the Jackson Lake dam for lunch before returning. Four riders continued to the Colter Bay area before returning, with one of those having already climbed up the Signal Mountain road.

The lake is still down quite a bit, with no water in Colter Bay again this year. Distances varied from about 15 miles to over 50 miles. The route from the parking lot to the dam and back along the Jenny Lake loop is about 38 miles.

The scenery and views on this ride are always spectacular. The snow covered Tetons rise up majestically from the valley floor into the blue sky and scattered clouds. At the dam there were some photographers from back east capturing the panorama with cameras. They captured some cyclists as well. Wildlife spotted included many different birds such as sandhill cranes, ducks, geese, and one raptor looking for fish at the dam outlet, one moose, squirrels, and elk at the refuge. The lakes were still covered with ice this year.

Some of the group stopped in Jackson Hole for something to eat before heading back to Idaho Falls. Everyone had a good day regardless of the distance ridden. Turnout for the ride was excellent, and we hope to see everyone on this ride again next year. Thanks to all who participated.

Participants included Jeff Coward, Michelle Benson, Mindy Reymann, Ken Krivanek, Donna Nicklaus, Sandy & Bob Pew, Barb Brown, Judy Williams, Hank Boland, Alan Crockett, Bob & Marie Tyler, and Katherine Coble & son Nate (in the bike trailer). In the park we met up with one of the Tyler's friends and John Christensen.

Chocks and Nuts:

East Idaho Maps

Available on the Idaho Falls Ski Club Website:

<http://ifskiclub.com>

Brimstone-Buffalo River Guide Map

Fall River Ridge Guide Map

Harriman State Park Guide Map

Kelly Canyon Area Guide Map

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

Conference on Rural Development, Recreation & Tourism:

Will be held in Idaho Falls May 4-6, 2005. The agenda and registration information can be found at www.visitidaho.org. It is \$130 if registered in advance or \$175 at the door, a bit pricey and would require taking vacation time, but it may be of interest to anyone in the club who is thinking of starting a small business based on tourism. Especially on qualifying for SBA loans and stuff. The recreation trails workshop will be interesting. It is about the social and economic effects on communities, of trails like the paved pathway in Sun Valley, or the system of snowmobile trails in Fremont county, or even the new 150 mile ATV trail by Mackay.

Climb with us this winter at:

Stone Walls Rock Gym - 528.8610

Winter Hours are 12 p.m.-9p.m. Monday-Thursday
12-10p.m. Friday and Saturday 12- 5 Sundays

Support these merchants who support the IAC:

Idaho Mountain Trading

Shoup & B, Idaho Falls - 523-6679

Canyon Whitewater Supply

450 S Yellowstone, Idaho Falls-522-3932

Free Heel and Wheel,

40 Yellowstone Ave. West Yellowstone,
Montana,

406-646-7744.

Discounts on Jerry Painter's Hiking & Biking guide books

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.

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 Michelle Benson 525-3238 to get yours sooner.

Web Site News

Log onto the IAC web site (www.IdahoAlpineClub.org) to find the most recent club bulletins as well as all the posted club activities.

Additionally, you can:

- Look up contact information for club officers and activity coordinators.
- Download membership applications and Common Adventure Release forms in PDF format.
- Check out club discounts with local merchants
- See what club equipment is available to paid up members
- Read the club By-Laws
- Search the club classified ads or post your own ad
- View pictures from recent club activities
- Check out club members' Restaurant Reviews or submit your own review
- Find links to other cool outdoor websites
- Activity coordinators and officers wishing to publish information on the web site can contact the IAC Webmaster (George Cole) at 522-4084 or Webmaster@IdahoAlpineClub.org