



Mountain West Outdoor Club Newsletter
April, 2022

"The flowers that bloom in the spring, Tra la,
Breathe promise of merry sunshine —
As we merrily dance and we sing, Tra la,
We welcome the hope that they bring, Tra la,
Of a summer of roses and wine,
Of a summer of roses and wine.

And that's what we mean when we say that a thing
Is welcome as flowers that bloom in the spring."

Gilbert and Sullivan, The Mikado

Spring has definitely arrived! Temperatures are warm, flowers are popping,
and birds are singing. Ski resorts are winding down. It's time to check your
hiking gear 'cause you'll be using it soon.

The photo (above) shows a scene familiar to many Boiseans, especially the
East End people. Site of many happy outings. At the time of the photo, it was
still too muddy to hike up. But soon, soon, soon!



MONTHLY MEETING, Monday, April 4

Idaho Fish & Game Headquarters, 600 S Walnut St, Boise

USE SOUTH ENTRANCE NEAR MK NATURE CENTER

THERE WILL BE NO POTLUCK DINNER (but see below)

We've returned to our traditional meeting site at the Idaho F&G
headquarters. The March meeting was our first time in the fancy new building
as witnessed by the masked desperadoes in the photo above. Even our old
friends, the stuffed wild animals, are back on the walls.

We've decided to hold this month's Administrative meeting at Deli George, 220 Broadway Ave, at 5:30 PM. The early time should allow us to get served, dine, and depart for F&G in a timely fashion. The deli closes at 7:00 PM. Interested parties are welcome to sit at the Admin table for a meeting. Not-interested parties are invited to sit at nearby tables for an informal dinner. We'll depart for F&G by 6:45 PM, on foot or by car, your choice. Please note that the availability of beer at Deli George had nothing to do with this decision.

Members who are NOT dining at Deli George should arrive at F&G Headquarters around 6:30 PM so there's time to visit before the meeting **The meeting begins at 7:00 PM**. No food is allowed in the building.

Our April speaker will be Alvena Kinkade, our resident wildflower expert. She will present "Idaho Wildflowers" in anticipation of her annual wildflower tour in the Owyhees.

"Wildflowers! Have you been out hiking and wondered the name of a wildflower? Have you wished someone was along on the hike that you could ask?"

Alvena Kinkade, our April program speaker, is the person to have along! When she was a little girl, her mother would take her to a special meadow to look for wildflowers at the first sign of spring. As the years progressed, Alvena became more and more proficient at identifying wildflowers. Her passion has led her to take hundreds of photographs.

For our program, Alvena will show photos of wildflowers of SW Idaho. We'll learn which wildflowers bloom in the spring and which bloom later, which elevations the flowers prefer, and at which locations they're commonly found. Some wildflowers have special traits. For instance, do you know the name of a beautiful wildflower that stinks?"

We will continue Covid precautions at the March meeting. Please wear a mask. Don't attend if you are unwell, unvaccinated, or unboosted. Thank you for looking out for yourself and others.



**POTLUCK DINNER MEETINGS WILL RESUME OUTDOORS ON MONDAY,
MAY 2, IN MUNICIPAL PARK.**

SPRING ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, Noon till 3:00 PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

"Our club's annual maintenance project for the Ridge to Rivers Partnership will happen soon! Please join us!

We'll perform maintenance on the Rabbit Run, REI, and Big Springs trails. We'll assist Ridge to Rivers staff in trimming bushes and filling ruts. All the necessary tools will be supplied but, if you have a favorite lopper or a special shovel, you are welcome to bring it. Specific instructions about our meeting place will be forthcoming soon.

Please RSVP by email to kaysmith805@gmail.com or by phone to Kay Smith, 208-230-1574."

Special thanks to Kay Smith who stepped up to lead this important project!

CAMPING TRIP TO HELPER UTAH, June 7-11

HELPER, UTAH. Never heard of it? It is a fun little town in the middle of Utah that has several things going for it that got my attention. Mainly, there is a lot to do! Hiking, fishing and biking plus several interesting museums. Also, there is a 45-mile drive through the "Nine Mile Canyon" that we could spend a day exploring. 3 days should cover the highlights then we can all take off in different directions on other adventures.

"The trip is still open to all. We have over 20 people signed up for hiking, biking, a day trip in "Nine Mile Canyon", museums, happy hours and lots of socializing. I'm working with Castle Gate RV Park for tent and RV sites and one remaining cabin.

Check it out and if you are interested give Bonnie Perri a call or text at 208-571-9885 or email her at BP.56@hotmail.com."





This month's Adventurer Award goes to MWOC member, Gudrun "Gudi" Woehlbrandt, for snowshoeing BIG mountains in Switzerland.



CLUB EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

(Hike leaders, please keep sending new photos!)

Tuesday hikers...





Wednesday hikers...

Thursday hikers...

Looking for rattlesnakes the hard way. Note Grim Reaper in the red hoodie.





BIKE RIDES!!

The weather is fine, and the open road beckons. An email will go out soon (maybe today) to get more information about who's interested and what you're interested in doing. I think we have enough riders for all skill levels. We'll need some volunteers of various athletic abilities to lead the rides, analogous to our hiking strategy. Note that we don't want to disrupt or change any existing bike groups, but rather to help folks organize some new ones.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Laura Jenksi, our amazing computer guru, gives step-by-step instructions for members to change their Wild Apricot profile, update email, add an emergency contact, etc. Find the instructions at this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1J0TJ94MhgZCZr35X6zC-D866o8sHempo/view?usp=sharing>

MWOC hikers should carry emergency ID. The concern is that someone could have a medical issue while hiking such that we would need to call for help or notify a relative. Options include:

- Carry your wallet. Put a card in your wallet that states any medical issues and person to notify (include phone number).
- Claire Veseth has found a way to include emergency information on your iPhone. Go to <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT207021> for instructions. We assume that Android phones have something similar. Jitterbug anyone?
- Several of us wear personal identification in the form of RoadID (www.roadid.com). These are sturdy, stylish items that come in the form of bracelets, necklaces, or anklets. Each item bears a link and password so that First Responders can look up your medical problems, medications, next of kin, health insurance, etc. I wear mine even for local rides and trips to the gym. I may keel over but First Responders will know who I am! (Disclaimer: MWOC has no relationship with RoadID. There are probably other similar products that are just as good, cheaper, and so forth.)
- We invite other ideas to keep everyone safe. We have to look out for each other.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

MONTHLY MEETINGS are held on the first Monday of the month at the Idaho Fish & Game Headquarters. We will return to outdoor meetings in May, 2022.

TUESDAY HIKES email announcements are sent each week with location and time. Hikes are of moderate difficulty, 4 to 6 miles, lasting approximately 2 to 2.5 hours. Starting time varies with time of year and weather conditions. If you have questions, contact Pat Dailey, 208-272-0639.

WEDNESDAY HIKES email announcements are sent each week with location and time. Hikes are fast-paced, of challenging difficulty, 5 or more miles and lasting 3 or more hours, depending on trail and weather conditions. Challenging difficulty means that you'll need to be in good hiking condition because of significant elevation gain and/or increased mileage. If you have questions, contact Scott Stolhand, 208-891-2214.

THURSDAY CASUAL HIKES email announcements are sent each week with location and time. Hikes are slower-paced, less than two hours, and involve

minimal elevation gain/loss. If you have questions contact Liz McWhorter, 208-891-0426.

THURSDAY SKI GROUP has finished until next Winter.

KAYAK GROUPS and **BIKING GROUPS** will pick up soon when the weather improves. If you are interested in kayaking, please contact Francesco Satta (capitanosatta@yahoo.com). If you are interested in biking, please contact Jim Wolf (jawolf05@msn.com).

General Announcements

EMAILS Local mid-week activities (hikes, paddles, bike-rides, etc.) are announced through Wild Apricot emails. If you have questions about sending or receiving e-mails, please contact Jim Wolf at jawolf05@msn.com.

Planning or thinking of an excursion where you would like to invite like-minded souls? Any officer will help you post an email. For inclusion in this monthly newsletter send details to jawolf05@msn.com.

MWOC WEBSITE You don't have to login to visit most of the MWOC pages, including the calendar of events, news, and resources. The pages that require login are your own profile, membership directory, and Gallery. If you haven't already created a password for the website, click on Login at the top of the page, enter your email address, and click "Forgot password." You will receive an email message with instructions. Please address questions to laura.jenski@gmail.com.

MWOC officers

Wendell Martin,
President wendellmartin2@aol.com 208-888-2858

Judy Farnsworth, Vice
President jfarnsw@me.com 208-344-7973

Ruth Garcia, Treasurer ruthg1617@gmail.com

Jim
Wolf, Communications jawolf05@msn.com 208-860-2193

Claire
Veseth, Membership cbveseth@gmail.com 208-301-3841