



# Mountain West Outdoor Club Newsletter

November, 2022

"I hit the highway  
In a pink RV with stars on the ceiling  
Lived like a gypsy  
Six strong hands on a steering wheel

I've been a long time gone now  
Maybe someday, someday I'm gonna settle down  
But I've always found my way somehow  
By takin' the long way, takin' the long way around."

"The Long Way Around" by The Chicks

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PHOTO CAPTION: Heading out the Golden Gate, the wide world spread endlessly before them.

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## MWOC Monthly Meeting, Monday, October 3

At the administrative meeting, we talked about the upcoming MWOC election and about ways to make the newsletter easier to produce, in addition to the usual business of budgets, new members, etc. At the general meeting, we covered the same business items and some upcoming events. Membership continues to grow at a slow steady pace. Upcoming events are covered in the newsletter as well, although we are having a few short-notice events between newsletters. All signs of a healthy active club! The high point of the evening was our resident oceanographer, Tom Weingartner, who gave a fascinating presentation about his work in the northern Pacific Ocean, entitled "A Special Sea". It was almost enough to make us want to visit there (but "Brrrrr").

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**MWOC NOVEMBER MEETING, Monday, Nov 7, 7:00 PM**

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

The general business meeting will include nominations for the December 5 election of MWOC President and Treasurer. Give it some thought and be prepared to volunteer yourself or make a nomination. (Consult with the nominee before nominating them!) Also on the ballot will be some proposed amendments of MWOC bylaws. The bylaws and proposed amendments can be viewed at [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z1G\\_2g2LVkp8yI7VUNRNPIhRgw5a8Wm3/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101250936586367040476&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z1G_2g2LVkp8yI7VUNRNPIhRgw5a8Wm3/edit?usp=sharing&oid=101250936586367040476&rtpof=true&sd=true)

*SPEAKER: Chuck Staben and His 1000-mile Odyssey!*

Many of us join one of MWOC Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday hikes. We'll hike anywhere from three to seven-miles. We'll be out a couple hours in the morning. When we've finished, we can drop by a restaurant for a bite to eat or go home and put up our feet.

But what would it be like if we hiked 15-miles day-after-day for ten weeks, and needed to set up and take down a tent each day, and had some of the most nondescript food to eat? Our very own *Chuck Staben* did just that to celebrate

his retirement no less! He hiked 1000-miles of the Pacific Crest Trail; AND, he claims it was a good experience!

During the program Chuck will describe his “1000-mile walk”. He’ll tell us about experiences on the trail, some of the people he met, emergencies he encountered. He’ll bring his equipment for ‘show-n-tell’. And the best part! Chuck will answer any questions you may have about his experience.

An administrative meeting will be held beforehand at Deli George, 220 S Broadway Ave, at 5:30 PM. Food and drink are available for purchase. Interested members are always welcome to attend.

Don't attend either meeting if you're feeling ill. Masks are optional.

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## UPCOMING MWOC EVENTS

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### **Shaw Mountain (Lucky Peak) Day Hike, Monday, Oct 31, 9:00 AM**

Looking for something to do Halloween? Mary Brown and I are planning to hike Shaw (Lucky Peak) Mountain. The hike is about 9 miles round trip with a 2000' elevation gain. The weather forecast is for a high of 66°, sunshine and clouds mixed. We plan to leave at 9:00

a.m. and be back around 2:00 p.m. If you join us bring a lunch, snacks, water, and whatever else you need.

Meet at the Boise WMA Archery Range Parking lot off East Highland Valley Road (access from Hwy 21, past the dam but before the summit. The photo shows snow but there will probably not be snow on Halloween.)

These coordinates should work in Google.Maps: 43.56229, -116.06144

Contact: Mary Brown, [brownmeb@gmail.com](mailto:brownmeb@gmail.com) or Judy Farnsworth, [jfarnsw@me.com](mailto:jfarnsw@me.com)

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### **SHOOFLY OOLITES DAY TRIP, Sunday, Nov 6**

Contact Rosalie Skefich at [rosalie.skefich@gmail.com](mailto:rosalie.skefich@gmail.com). The stated time is 11:00 AM but I recommend re-checking the start time and meeting place with Rosalie.

Shoofly Oolites is an area of rock formations with a 1.6 mile interpretive trail near Grandview ID, an hour's drive from Boise. If unfamiliar, you can Google it. (I did!)

"Join us for this self-guided adventure along 1.8 mile loop trail to learn more about OOLITES in our valley. Bring a sack lunch. Family-friendly, dog-friendly

easy walk through sand/oolites and sage brush. Short, steep, sandy trail to access the higher arch/curve formation areas where we can stop to eat lunch and take in the views. Great photo opportunities. On our way out, we can stop at the adjacent Shoofly Pioneer Cemetery.

Bring sack lunch and water. Hiking poles are always a good idea.

The area used to be the banks of ancient Lake Idaho. Lake Idaho engulfed a region the size of present day Lake Ontario, or about 4.7 million acres. It's hard to believe the majority of this valley lay under water.

The lake drained into the Pacific Ocean about two million years ago, leaving behind tiny formations called oolites that, over time, helped carve the pathway for the Snake River. Oolites, about the size of BBs, are small, round grains of sedimentary limestone that formed by the moving currents of water. After millions of years, the hardened, clumped-together oolite eroded away into wavy cliff formations that include arches and curves."



### **RAKE UP BOISE, Saturday, Nov 12, 9:30 AM**

Rake Up Boise is just around the corner. It is a city-wide volunteer day in which organizations are matched with seniors and disabled members of our community. We'll be raking yards and doing light clean up. MWOC has participated for over 20 years. It's always very satisfying to help those in need. Usually we are assigned two yards.

Let's meet at 9:30 AM. We're usually done around noon. I'll provide the addresses to those who sign up. We'll meet at the first yard and then move on to the second. Bring gloves, rakes, brooms, dust pans or leaf catchers ... whatever you like to use for yard clean-up. Bags will be provided. There'll be goodies to snack on as we're wrapping up. Please email me if you can join us so I have a head count. Looking forward to it!

Mary Brown, [brownmeb@gmail.com](mailto:brownmeb@gmail.com)

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### **MWOC DOG-SITTING CO-OP (proposed)**

Our own irrepressible and peripatetic Jean Weingartner would like to start a dog-sitting co-op to watch each other's pets while traveling. If interested, please contact Jean at [wein330@gmail.com](mailto:wein330@gmail.com).

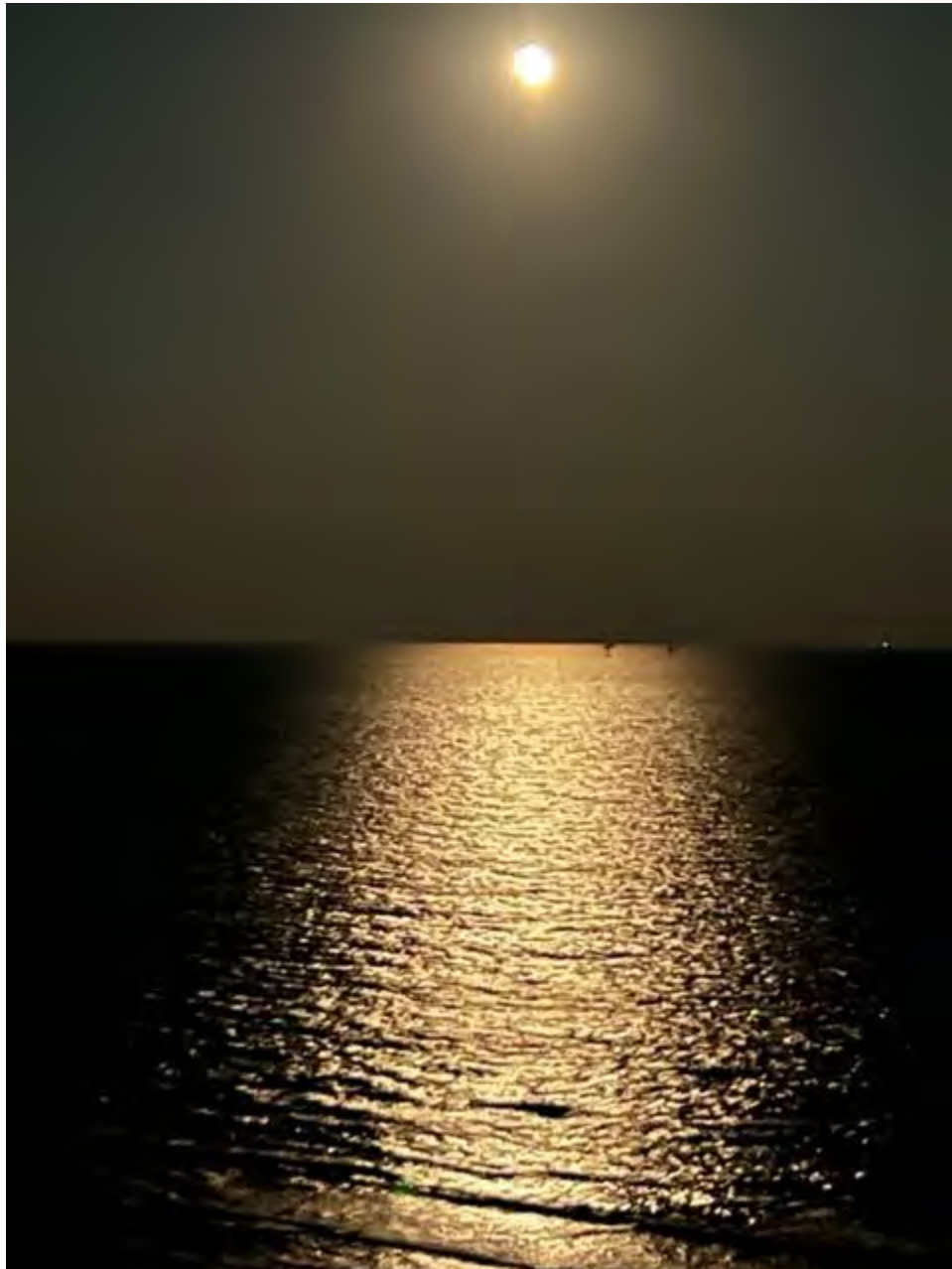
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## **MWOC CHRISTMAS NIGHT POTLUCK, Sunday Dec 25, time TBA**

Wendell and Janette are reviving a wonderful MWOC tradition, hosting a potluck dinner for members who find themselves alone at Christmas. The tradition was held for many years until the hosts could no longer manage it. Now it's revived! Guests will be limited to about 25 people due to parking and meal space. Please contact Wendell at [wendellmartin2@aol.com](mailto:wendellmartin2@aol.com) to express interest. (*Hint: Wendell is currently trekking in Nepal so he won't respond till next month.*)

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## **ALASKA CRUISE, Weds August 23 2023, Vancouver BC**

"Taking an Alaska cruise has been on my bucket list for awhile. I'm hoping it is of interest to you too. I think traveling as a group would be a blast. Please contact {Cheri Worsley} if you are interested. You may also contact Brian, the trip planner with Princess Cruise Lines.

Princess 7-day cruise plus 5 night land tour, leaving Vancouver August 23, 2023. Late August to Sept. allows for the possibility of seeing the Northern Lights as well as wildlife before they go to hibernate AND the kids are back in school. The cruise is a voyage of the glaciers with several stops along the way. Land travel is done by rail to two different Denali area lodges. The tours are guided with lodging and meals included. Princess has a program that includes Naturalist and Park Rangers for a more educational experience.

Check out full details here: <https://www.princess.com/cruise-search/details/?voyageCode=H326&resType=T&tourCode=T3APA5&fareType=BESTFARE>

There are many different options with prices starting about \$2000 per person, double occupancy. It is also possible to only do the cruise without the land portion that starts about \$650 but will not count towards a group discount. I'm planning on getting a package that includes the tips, some drinks, and wifi. The current promotions allow for only a \$100 refundable deposit so the risk is small. I recommend you reserve a cabin now if there is any interest at all. We may be able to set up special group excursions depending on the number.

Questions about the cruise can be directed to Brian with Princess Cruise. His number is 800-901-1172 ext 41057. Give my name and Mountain West Outdoor Club. We will get additional onboard credit if we schedule at least 5 cabins. His email is [bmeece@princesscruises.com](mailto:bmeece@princesscruises.com). Please reserve through Brian. There is no additional cost but will increase our discounts.

Also, you can call or email me [cheriworsley@gmail.com](mailto:cheriworsley@gmail.com) 208-870-7444. I will maintain a separate email list rather than sending to all MWOC members

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## **CLUB EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER**

Thanks to everyone for sending current photos. There's a LOT that goes on between newsletters. Keep those emails and photos coming! (Email addresses at end of newsletter.)

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## **MWOC WOMEN'S HIKE, Sat Oct 8**

### **DAY TRIP TO OREGON ELKHORN CREST TRAIL & HOFFER LAKE TRAIL**

I have no information or photos about this trip except that I think it happened. I didn't see anything in the newspaper so I assume everyone is OK. (As you may know, photos and dramatic narratives are always welcome!)

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## **MWOC DAY TRIP TO COLLEGE OF IDAHO FOOTBALL**

### **SATURDAY OCT 29**

The Yutes played Southern Oregon and won 28-24. We assume that MWOC members yelled themselves hoarse. Rod Haars was named MVP.

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Tuesday hikers visited Dry Creek, Corrals Trail, Greenbelt / Crescent Rim, and Veterans Trail.

The photo shows Thursday hikers because those lazy Tuesday hikers didn't submit a single photo.



Wednesday hikers visited Mores Mountain, Table Rock, Watchman Trail, and Polecat Trail.



Thursday hikers visited Hidden Springs, Hyatt Hidden Lakes, and Hillside to Hollow.

We still need some people to help Liz McWhorter lead hikes. Love it or lose it, folks. I can provide some suggestions for Thursday hikes if you don't have any favorites.



Kayakers did some things, I think, but I have no information or photos.

Biking group is under re-evaluation.



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## CLUB ACTIVITIES

**MONTHLY MEETINGS** are held on the first Monday of the month at Idaho Fish & Game Headquarters, 600 S Walnut St, Boise. Enter by the southeast doorway, not the main entrance. There should be a club member at the door.

**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 GROUP** occurs (mostly) weekly. If you are interested in kayaking, please contact Francesco Satta ([capitanosatta@yahoo.com](mailto:capitanosatta@yahoo.com)).

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:laura.jenski@gmail.com).

## MWOC officers

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**Ruth Garcia**, Treasurer  
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