

laura.jenski@gmail.com

From: Mountain West Outdoor Club <MountainWestOutdoorClub@wildapricot.org>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 2:28 PM
To: Laura Jenski
Subject: MWOC NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 2023



MOUNTAIN WEST OUTDOOR CLUB NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 2023

PHOTO CAPTION:

CLIMBING MOUNT WHITNEY

September 2023

UPCOMING MWOC EVENTS



MWOC MONTHLY MEETING

Date & time: Monday, December 4

Officers & interested parties, 6:00 PM

Agenda & program, 7:00 PM

Place: 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.

Winter meetings happen indoors at Idaho F&G and don't include dinner. In place of a potluck dinner, we have interesting speakers.

Okay, the December newsletter is late, and this meeting already happened. Entirely my bad. But it was a particularly good meeting! In addition to an interesting speaker, the monthly get-together trialed a Zoom session with the in-person meeting. The officers were worried that everyone would Zoom and no one would show up. No need to worry! About 60 stalwart members showed up in person to socialize and hear the speaker while 5 members joined us remotely. It went well.

The December meeting featured our own adventurer, Bob Kenworthy, giving an account of his hiking and biking trip through "The Maze". The Maze is the third unit of Canyonlands National Park in Utah. It is a remote area filled with convoluted canyons, pinnacles, and indigenous pictographs/petroglyphs. The structures include whimsical names like Orange Cliffs, Cleopatra's Chair, and Bagpipe Butte. Bob wisely took along a guide, did not get lost in the Maze, and returned to tell us of his journey. His narration kept the audience in rapt attention. There were many questions as we each pondered how to replicate the adventure for ourselves.

Sections of Warm Springs Ave *will be closed* through next Spring. At present, it is open from the west, including Walnut St.

Please note: Doors in the Idaho Fish & Game Building are locked after regular business hours. A MWOC member will be stationed at the door to allow persons to enter for the MWOC meeting. As a courtesy to your fellow members, please arrive on time for the program. The door monitor will leave the door locked and unattended after the 7 PM program begins.



GAME DAY, Sunday December 17

Everyone is invited to enjoy indoor board games and refreshments on a chilly winter afternoon. The event will take place at John and Anne Olden's house, 6101 N Portsmouth Ave in northwest Boise, from 1:30 PM to 4:00 PM. They have Quirkle, Rummikube, and Dominoes. Additional games are welcome.

RSVP please at 208-853-1066.



McCall Winter Ski Trip, January 23-25, 2024

Hello winter enthusiasts! It's time again to enjoy McCall in winter. Our trip will be January 23-25 this year. When you make your reservations for lodging, you will be staying the nights of the 23rd and 24th, checking out on the 25th. This event is open to Alpine and Nordic skiers as well as snowshoers. We usually ski or snowshoe together in groups then meet somewhere for dinner. It's always nice to stay at the Ponderosa cabins but it appears that those are reserved now. Some people are on a waiting list with Reserve America. There are several nice motels in town and probably some B&B's too.

Please let me know your intention to attend and your lodging status. Future emails will only go out to those who have notified me of their lodging status.

Ruth Garcia ruthg1617@gmail.com

{Photo courtesy of Dinu Mistry, sunrise over Payette Lake, Dec'2023}



EMPIRE STATE TRAIL BIKE TOUR, JUNE 2-7, 2024

We'll start our tour at Battery Park in Manhattan and finish in Albany NY. We'll bike 200 miles of the trail, covering 28-47 miles each day. Along the route, we'll see all manner of scenery! The trail is a mix of paved bike path, rail trails, and quiet roads. At Albany we'll turn in our bikes and return to the City by train.

[Discovery Bicycle Tours](#) is putting together our tour. The package includes 5 nights lodging and most meals, a guided bike tour of Manhattan, detailed maps and itineraries. We'll have full van support – **PLUS** the use of a bike and a helmet. To learn more information about the tour, go to: [Empire State Trail](#).

COST. The cost of the tour is \$2895 (more for single occupancy). Airfare is not included. A \$500 deposit is required to reserve a spot. The deposit is refundable up to 60 days before the tour begins (which is the same day the final payment is due). We'll have a private tour *if* 10 people sign up *and* we will receive a 10% discount that will be refunded at the end of the tour.

Planning. We are planning to stay in Manhattan the night before the tour. A list of hotels in the Battery Park area will be available when we have the list of participants. Of course, you can spend time before or after the tour in the City on your own.

Come cycle with us!

1. Call Jane at (802) 457-3553 today to register. Tell her you are with Mountain West Empire State Tour with Peggy and Judy as contacts.

2. Then **text** Peggy Killen, (208) 484-7946, or **email** Judy Farnsworth, jfarnsw@me.com, to tell us you've signed-on!!

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

ELECTION OF MWOC OFFICERS

As you may remember, MWOC transitioned to a system in which we elect half our officers every year. The new system provides continuity so that the new incoming officers will overlap with the old outgoing officers.

The annual election is open NOW. Please respond to the email ballot invitation as soon as possible. The election will replace the Vice President (currently Judy Farnsworth) with Jeanette Germain, the Membership chairperson (currently Claire Veseth) with Patti Campbell, and the Communications chairperson (currently Jim Wolf) with Tom Weingartner. There is only one nominee for each position ("Soviet style" LOL) but write-ins are possible. The single nominee format exists because few people volunteer to serve.

ANNUAL RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please respond to the invoices sent by email recently. Dues are still offered at \$20/person/year, a bargain that includes full participation, all emails, and a free meal at the annual picnic. Online membership renewal by credit card is preferred because it includes the required annual liability release and because it is more straightforward administratively. Less modern members can still print and sign the liability release, and mail it with a check to the address on the invoice. We no longer accept delivery by carrier pigeon or Pony Express.

MWOC MONTHLY MEETING, Monday January 8, 2024

The monthly meeting is usually held on the first Monday of each month. We're delaying the January meeting until the second Monday, January 8, to avoid New Year's Day. I know we're all dedicated members but surely we'll have something more important on NYD.

MISCELLANY

The following business items crossed our desks recently. Interested members are invited to discuss with one of the officers:

- MWOC submitted a letter of support to the city of Stanley, favoring development of trailhead facilities for the new trail that connects Stanley with Redfish Lake. The 4.6 mile trail passes through the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. It is already open to non-motorized travel year-round plus snowmobiles in winter. Planned trailhead facilities include parking areas, restrooms, signage, and disability access. Nearby Pioneer Park offers a playground, picnic area, and a ball field.
- A movement is afoot to change up the annual MWOC picnic by adding a live music band, changing caterers, and scaling back the raffle prizes. I don't know - crazy things could happen if you get MWOC people dancing!
- Carpooling to weekly hikes is encouraged so as to minimize traffic at trailheads. Some of our trailheads have only limited parking, whereas recent hikes have had up to 25 participants. Growing pains! The lead person on this issue is Scott Stolhand.

Members are invited to **update their MWOC profiles** to insure accurate information, including phone numbers for emergencies.

You can always change your contact information (Profile) in the Member Directory by going to the club website, www.mwocid.org, logging in with your email and password, and clicking on your name in the upper left hand.

Don't know your password? Create or change your password for the MWOC website: <https://mountainwestoutdoorclub.wildapricot.org/Sys/ResetPasswordRequest>.

Please direct questions before year's end to Claire Veseth, Membership Chair, at CBVESETH@GMAIL.COM or after year's end to Patti Campbell at pattic0811@gmail.com.

CLUB EVENTS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Thanks to everyone for sending current photos. There's a LOT that goes on between newsletters.

PLEASE KEEP THOSE PHOTOS COMING! Please submit photos to Tom Weingartner at t.weingartner@yahoo.com or cell 907-388-0414.



MWOC NOVEMBER MEETING, Monday Nov 6

Outdoor travel author, Scott Marchant, described favorite trails from his recent book, *Hiking Idaho*, available at hikingidaho.com.

Easy Hikes, Greater Boise:

Sage Hen Nature Trail, page 142, 0.5 mile loop

Sage Hen Reservoir Trail, page 144, 4.2 miles loop

Eagle Creek, page 186, 7.4 miles out and back

Moderate Hikes, Greater Boise:

Black Warrior Creek, page 182, 7.4 miles out and back

Jumbo Creek, page 229, 4.3 miles out and back

McCall & Cascade:

Fisher Creek, page 182, 4.0 miles out and back

Hazard Creek Falls, page 228, 5.8 miles out and back

Sawtooth Country:

Collie Lake, page 69, 7 miles out and back

Sun Valley and Ketchum:

Jarvis Trail to Betty Lake, page 145, 10.0 miles out and back

Broad Canyon Trail to Baptie Lake, page 148, 10.8 miles out & back

North Fork Lake, page 194, 5.8 miles out and back

{humorous photo courtesy of Deb Rose}





RAKE-UP BOISE, Saturday November 18

Seventeen enthusiastic members showed up to rake leaves for elderly and needy families. No less than 27 bags of leaves were collected at the first house, followed by 20 bags at the second house. Energy was boosted by donuts supplied by a grateful homeowner. Twelve photos were submitted of this year's Rake-Up event, a good indication of how much fun was had!

No worries! The member reclining among the leaf bags was removed before the disposal truck arrived!

RECURRING MONTHLY EVENTS

Tuesday hikers visited Upper Hulls Gulch Trail, Corrals/HardGuy Trail, Peggy's Trail, and the Greenbelt. Inclement weather will bring a lot of pavement hikes in the near future.



Wednesday hikers visited Cartwright Ranch, Polecat Trail, Camel's Back Trails, and Eagle Island State Park. Eagle Island hikers got to witness snowmaking for the sledding hill (photo below).

Thursday hikers visited Veterans Memorial Park, Bob's Trail, Polecat Trail (on Thanksgiving), and the Greenbelt. The latter hike included a stop at Boise Pie Company (Yum!)





Kayakers are off-season. It finally got too cold even for them!

Friday bikers visited the Northwest Bikeway, Banbury Golf Club, Lucky Peak dam, and Pamela Baker Park. We were well received at the Banbury Grill where we had lunch!



Thursday Afternoon Nordic Ski/Snowshoe group will resume on Thursdays in January and February. Bogus Basin is already open for daily activities! Eager skiers are welcome to organize something in December as well!

PARTING SHOTS



EAGLE ISLAND STATE PARK, December 2023

Photo courtesy of Judy Farnsworth



A Determined Adventure Biker doesn't let a little water stand in her way!

Deb Rose crossing the Missouri River with her bike & gear



Road sign, self-explanatory

“

I don't deny that there should be priests to remind men that they will one day die. I only say that...it is necessary to have another kind of priests, called poets, actually to remind men that they are not dead yet.

G. K. Chesterton



S. D. SMITH
sdsmith.com/dopequotes

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

Greg Farmer,
President remraf@rocketmail.com 208-908-8124

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

Laura
Jenski, Treasurer laura.jenski@gmail.com 208-860-9477

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

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

CLUB ACTIVITIES

MONTHLY MEETINGS are held on the first Monday of each month. Winter meetings (October thru April) take place 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. Summer meetings (May thru September) take place nearby at the pavilion in Kristin Armstrong Municipal Park, 500 S Walnut St, Boise. Summer meetings are a potluck dinner -- BYO drinks, place setting, and a dish to share. No alcohol is allowed in Municipal Park.

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 Shari Wright, 208-391-8598.

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 January but will start again before you know it!

KAYAK GROUP occurs at irregular intervals. If you are interested in kayaking, please contact Francesco Satta (capitanosatta@yahoo.com).

FRIDAY BIKING GROUP email announcements are sent each week with location and time. Rides are moderately-paced with no drastic elevation changes. Almost all are pavement rides. No one will be left behind. Rides last 2-3 hours and often include a coffee stop. If you have questions, please contact Greg Farmer, 208-908-8124.

[Unsubscribe](#)