
MOUNTAIN WEST OUTDOOR CLUB NEWSLETTER

March, 2024



Thinking about spring & summer excursions?

**Consider (from left to right) the Bruneau,
Jarbridge, and Owyhee River Canyons**

MWOC MONTHLY MEETING

Date & time: Monday, February 5

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 will 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.

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
Idaho Fish and Game
March 4, 2024 7:00 PM

1. Welcome to new members
2. Treasurer's report - Laura
3. Membership report - Patti
4. Annual picnic update - Laura
5. Thank you Ruth Garcia for organizing the Bogus ski and snowshoe events. A new volunteer coordinator is needed.
6. Ridge to Rivers trail maintenance - Thursday March 21 at 9:00 AM and

Monthly Presentation:

**Springtime Rafting on the Bruneau, Jarbidge and
Owyhee Rivers**

by

**Chad Case,
Boise photographer and ROW Adventures partner
&
Johann Grubb, VP & General Manager, ROW
Adventures**

These spectacular desert rivers are located near Boise but are also so isolated and remote that it is difficult to explore them except by raft. On top of that, there are only 2 months—April and May—when their Class II-IV rapids can be safely run. Permits are strictly regulated. Chad Case will describe trips on the Wild and Scenic Bruneau and Jarbidge Rivers as well as on three sections of the Owyhee River. Johan Grubb will attend the meeting via Zoom, to share photos and

further describe these rarely-visited canyons and the wilderness whitewater river trips through them.

Note that 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.

This is a test on how carefully you are reading the newsletter. Do you know what a Chronosynclastic infundibulum (chro-no-sin-kla-stik in-fun-di-bu-lum) is and how the term arose? See "*" below for the answer.

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 and corresponding captions to Tom Weingartner at t.weingartner@yahoo.com or cell 907-388-0414.

Please include a brief description of the event and names of people in the photo!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO:

Ruth Garcia

who is stepping down as coordinator of the Thursday afternoon Bogus Basin ski and snowshoe event.



Ruth has coordinated for the past several years and will be exploring new ways to volunteer. Consequently, a new coordinator is needed to plan the Thursday afternoon wintertime Bogus Basin excursions. If interested please contact Greg Farmer.



Scenes from the February 8 Thursday Nordic ski along Bogus Basin's Lower Loop Trail

Tuesday 2/27 hikers along the Kingfisher, 8 hikers on a chilly but otherwise beautiful day!



UPCOMING PLANNED EVENTS



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!!

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.
- **NEW ITEM:** Are you and your significant other or both MWOC members but receive two separate invoices for annual membership renewals? You can be "bundled" as a two-member household and have one invoice for both memberships sent to one of you (the "bundle coordinator"). Contact [Laura Jensi](#) or [Patti Campbell](#) to set up your "bundle."

RECURRING CLUB EVENTS

Tuesday hikers visited Upper Hulls Gulch Trail, Corrals/HardGuy Trail, Peggy's Trail, and the Greenbelt. Inclement weather is bringing a lot of pavement hikes this winter.



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 will be continuing assuming conditions will not be too icy. Watch your e-mail for weekly plans



Thursday Afternoon Nordic Ski/Snowshoe group will resume on Thursdays in January and February. Warm temperatures and poor snow conditions means that Bogus Basin Nordic skiing has been open intermittently only.



PARTING SHOTS

Eggs and bacon walk into a restaurant. The host says, "We don't serve breakfast here."

What do you call a Frenchman wearing sandals?
Phillipe Phillop

“Nature holds the key to our aesthetic, intellectual, cognitive and even spiritual satisfaction. If all mankind were to disappear, the world would regenerate back to the rich state of equilibrium that existed ten thousand years ago. If insects were to vanish, the environment would collapse into chaos.”*E. O. Wilson*

****Chronosynclastic infundibulum***

DEFINITION: *n.* A place, or a moment, where all the different kinds of truths fit together, and where there are many different ways to be absolutely right about everything. *n.* To be absolutely right about everything.

Etymology:

Created by Kurt Vonnegut Jr., for *The Sirens of Titan*, published in 1959.

Originating Sentence: You might think it would be nice to go to a chronosynclastic infundibulum and see all the different ways to be absolutely right, but it is a very dangerous thing to do.

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 Tom Weingartner

MWOC officers

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

Jeanette Germain,
Vice President jeangerm@gmail.com
208-484-3551

at:
t.weingartner@yahoo.com

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

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 t.weingartner@yahoo.com

Tom Weingartner, Communications t.weingartner@yahoo.com 907-388-0414

Patti Campbell, Membership pattic0811@gmail.com 208-866-4988

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.

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