

**MCCALL HIKING CLUB**  
***“EVERY TRAIL HAS A PERSONALITY”***

**AUGUST 2005**

[www.mccallhikingclub.org](http://www.mccallhikingclub.org)

**“Well, another month of hiking is at an end bringing us to the halfway point of our season. July was a busy month with a variety of activities and it looks like August will follow suit. We will explore several new trails this month for a change of pace and try a few new activities like our upcoming “Hike-A-Thon” just to add a little spice to our hiking schedule. Hopefully, there will be something this month that will appeal to everyone. See you on the trail!” ReNae**

**HIKE-A-THON**

**Our first “hike-a-thon” has been scheduled for August 10th through 13th at the South Fork of the Salmon near Warm Lake. We will establish a base camp at Camp Creek Campground. It is located approximately 15 miles north on Forest Service Road 474 from the junction of Warm Lake Road. This is the main road to Yellow Pine coming from Highway 55. The campground has improved sites with tables and firepits. There is an outhouse but no running water or electricity. The fee is \$5.00 per night. The road is paved so there will be no problems for RV’s to access the campground. There are two lodges, Warm Lake (632-3553) and North Shore (632-2000) , that have cabins available for those hikers who desire it. Room rates vary from \$59 to approximately \$100 per night. Call Susan Waters at 634-2371 for further information. If you plan on staying for multiple days, please make sure that you fill your gas tank in Cascade.**

**Several trails are near the campground. We will run a group hike on Wednesday and Saturday as listed on the schedule. Thursday and Friday will be free to choose any of the trails in the area for further exploration. We have not fully explored these trails so it should be a new experience for all of us. All hikes will start at the campground at 9:30 a.m. to allow anyone from McCall to drive in for the day and join us. There are several hot springs in the area so don’t forget your swimsuit. Dominoes and cards are on tap for evening entertainment.**

**DUCK LAKE TO 20-MILE  
20-MILE TO DUCK LAKE**

**On Saturday, August 27, we will be dividing the hikers into two teams leaving from both trailheads. We will meet somewhere on the trail, exchange keys and continue the hikes to the end of each trail. Each team will have a scavenger hunt list of items commonly found along the trail. We will meet after the hike to determine which**

team has the most items on the list and the losing team will treat the winning team to ice cream. Hikers starting at Duck Lake will have a short uphill climb and the rest of the trail is a mild downgrade to the 20-Mile trailhead and hikers starting at 20-Mile will have a gradual incline to Duck Lake with a short descent to the Duck Lake trailhead. The trail is approximately 9 miles in length, so please gauge your hiking abilities for this distance.

### **TAMARACK RESORT**

On August 24, we have been invited to be the guests of Tamarack Resort. Guide Randy Hall will join us for a chair lift ride to the top of the mountain and lead us on a trail back to the resort. The hike will be approximately six miles in length. Please RSVP ReNae at 634-2382 so we can provide them with an approximate headcount. A meeting will be held at the resort following the hike to plan the September schedule.

### **RECAP OF JULY ACTIVITIES**

July was a busy month that included camping, backpacking and boating as well as a lot of great hikes. Our two-night camping trip involved six members of our group in the Warm Lake area exploring a number of trails for our upcoming hike-a-thon. After a tough day of hiking, we were able to soothe our tired, blistered feet in several of the hot springs located in the area followed by pie and ice cream at North Shore Lodge.

Our two-night backpacking trip to Gassy Mountain Twin Lakes consisted of eight intrepid souls who put up with a lot of biting insects. It was still a great trip topped off with fresh cutthroat trout for dinner provided by Bill Starowicz and Alexi (Susan Water's granddaughter).

The boat social was a tremendous success! We had a total of 32 hikers transported by one of five boats and another couple of hikers meeting us at North Beach for appetizers. Award winners included: Ron Hines and Susan Waters (bandaids for blisters received on the trail); Joan Apodaca (rubber ducky for playing in the stream at Boulder Lake); and double winner Jan Whitney (sunglasses strap for losing her glasses on Rapid River Trail and a red "SuperJan" cape for stopping Tom Derieg's car from rolling over other hikers at Grassy Mountain Twin Lakes).

Finally, the McCall Hiking Club provided a "Family Hiking Guide" for kids attending the McCall Arts and Humanities Council's Kaleidoscope event. Susan Waters wrote the guide that contained 8 hikes (Crystal Mountain, Duck Lake, Goose Creek Falls, Goose Creek Trail at Last Chance Campground, Hazard Lake and Upper Hazard Lake Trail, Idaho State Park Trail, The Secret Pond, Twin Lakes Granite Mountain) suitable for younger children. The kids designed their own covers for the guide. The club provided the funding for the printing costs for the booklets. Susan Waters and Anne Russell manned the booth on behalf of the club. If you are interested in learning more about these hikes or the Kaleidoscope event, please contact Susan at 634-2371.

## MISCELLANEOUS

The t-shirts and hats are in. If you ordered a shirt or hat, please send a check made out to the McCall Hiking Club and mail it to Helmi Schade at P.O. Box 30, McCall, ID 83638. The short-sleeved t-shirts are \$9, long-sleeved t-shirts are \$13, and baseball caps are \$12. Helmi can also be contacted at 634-5790 or by e-mail at [gschade@idahovandals.com](mailto:gschade@idahovandals.com).

We are tentatively scheduling a trail clean-up day for Wednesday, September 7. Bob Bechaud is heading up this project and will provide us with further information as to which trail we will work on as soon as a location is finalized with the Forest Service. If you have suggestions for a trail to be considered, please contact Bob at 634-2655.

Pam Houseman is calling for photos of all of hikes held in July. Please look through your collections and select some of your favorite photos from the hikes, camp trips or the social. Pam is our historian and keeps a scrapbook/photo album of all our hiking activities for the year. She can be reached at 634-5053.

Sheree Sonfield is also seeking photos for the website. Send your favorite photos to her at [sonfield@telus.net](mailto:sonfield@telus.net). She can also be reached at 634-2655.

Hal Wiking is looking for anything of interest found on the trail for our "Trail Trash" award given to our hiker of the season at our last social of the year. If you find any bones, metal objects, unusual flowers, bottles, etc., please contact Hal at 634-3709. So far, we have found a railroad spike, fishing lure, elk jawbone, broken bobber, rusty bike chain, etc. You get the general idea now of what we are looking for. Anything can be a treasure. Also, start thinking about whom you think deserves "Hiker of the Season". We will vote in September and award that person with that title at our September social.

Char and Vern Farris are teaching line dancing at the Sagebrush Restaurant in New Meadows on Monday nights, 7 – 9 p.m. It is a great way to keep in shape for hiking and is a lot of fun. Cost is \$5 per night. For more information, call 634-3837.

In conclusion, we have hiked approximately 52.3 miles with an elevation gain of 8,131 feet as of 7/27. We went along 3 streams, went to nine lakes, 1 river, 4 hot springs, and climbed Jughandle Mountain. Not too bad for one month of hiking. Let's try to beat that number for August.