The SIHA Store

This Fall we have highlighted some favorite books which reflect the SIHA mission of education and interpretation. Among the bestsellers are:

- Scott Marchant’s new *The Day Hiker’s Guide to Sun Valley & Ketchum* contains a wealth of local hiking details and descriptions.
- *More Than Petticoats: Remarkable Idaho Women* gives the reader a sense of the tough women who earned a place in Idaho history.
- *The Cutest Critter* is a delightful children’s book with real life photographs of young animals. Kids will love to pick out the cutest of them all.

- Lone Pine Publishing’s *Plants of the Rocky Mountains* helps identify those tantalizing red, yellow and blue flowers.
- The new 265 *Images of Northern Rocky Mountain Wildflowers* by Earle and Lundin is an easy to carry laminated field guide.
- SIHA’s books and wildlife puzzles for children promote reading as well as helping bring the out-of-doors into their lives. Great finger puppets have attached “fun fact” tags to help educate children and adults about the animals.

As the Holidays approach, you will be able to find SIHA store items in many of the Forest Service Ranger Station outlets. Be sure to look for them in November and December. New products are added every Spring, so don’t forget to come back in and browse.

Thanks to all who contributed to this Newsletter, especially: Terry Carstensen, Gary Gadwa, Laurii Gadwa, Ann Legg, Marilyn Marquis and Wes Wills.
During 2010, the Museum enjoyed over 4600 visitors (a new record) including Forum and Lecture Series attendees. Our dedicated Museum attendant, Diane Willis, provided warm welcomes and historical insights to all. However, after three full years in this role, Diane has elected to pursue some new adventures next summer. We will certainly miss her!

2010 bonus events included: The 275 Oregon Bicycle Riders who came to Stanley and stayed to enjoy their campout at the Stanley City Park; the Oregon Women’s Horseback Trail Riding Association, who spent a week riding in the Sawtooth Mountains; and “the Stanley Steamers” who came from far and wide to pose their beautifully restored antique cars with the Museum as a backdrop. SIHA enjoyed sharing local history stories with each group. SIHA is able to provide its various programs because of the dedication and generosity of our Board members, Volunteers and Sponsors such as the Sawtooth Society, Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch, and the Sawtooth Mountain Mamas. We look forward to an even greater year in 2011 and hope you will help by donating some time and some dollars to our efforts. Hope to see you at the Museum or at one of our educational programs next year. In the meantime don’t forget to visit our Web Site www.discoversawtooth.org or our Facebook page (search for Sawtooth Interpretive and Historical Association).

A New Interpretive Plan for the Museum Complex

In December of 2009, with funding from the Sawtooth Society, SIHA contracted with LOKI Interpretive Group of San Francisco to develop a comprehensive new interpretive plan for the entire Stanley Museum complex. Completed in May, the plan’s overarching theme is Rugged People, Rugged Place, which is supported by several interrelated secondary themes:

- A Land Like No Other,
- Everyday Life,
- Stanley Voices (regional oral histories),
- The Hub,
- Keeping it Cool (the Ice House),
- Wild Recreation, and
- What Makes This a Rugged Place.

Once implemented, the plan should provide visitors with a more cohesive and consistent sequence of exhibits on the history of the Sawtooth–Salmon River Country. Timing and details of implementation are currently under review.

2010 Sawtooth Forum & Lecture Series

Wow, was there ever a LOT of interest in the third Sawtooth Lecture Series! Attendance for the nine lectures exceeded 1000! In fact, we had to scramble several times for extra chairs for overflow crowds. The “Critters and Creatures” theme proved very popular with area residents and visitors alike. It was exciting to see such interest in the inhabitants of our fabulous Sawtooth-Salmon River Country.

The first of the hour-long Friday afternoon talks began with a bang on July 2 with Dr. Toni Ruth, of the Selway Institute, discussing Cougars and their interaction with other predators. The following week, Beth Waterbury, Idaho Fish & Game (IDFG) wildlife biologist, discussed Sand Hill Cranes (we learned that our local cranes migrate to southern New Mexico for the winter). Janie Fink, Director of Birds of Prey Northwest, discussed Raptors of Our Area and shared live birds—a Bald Eagle, a Peregrine Falcon, a Great Horned Owl and a Red-Tailed Hawk—with a standing-room-only crowd in the Stanley Community Center.

Robin Garwood, Sawtooth NRA wildlife biologist, discussed results of important research done here in the Sawtooths about our healthy, but elusive, population of Wolves. Dave Cannemela, Director of the MK Nature Center, gave a fine presentation about Native Fishes of the Region. This included the anadromous Pacific Lamprey that used to migrate to Idaho in the tens of thousands. Dave also conducted a terrific Saturday morning “Class in the Creek” in Valley Creek near the Stanley Museum. We collected and identified a huge variety of critters that are part of our “water world”—we even caught a 6” sculpin! It was lots of fun and an up close glimpse into our high-quality watershed.

The Series’ August portion included a great talk on Mountain Goats (so iconic here in the Sawtooths) by Laura Wolf, IDFG wildlife biologist. She has been involved in the most recent goat survey and she estimates that about 175 live on the Sawtooth side and another 225 live in the White Clouds. Later in August, through a special grant from Idaho Humanities Council, P. Gary Eller gave an encore presentation of Historically Based Songs of the Salmon River Country.

One of the Series’ highlights was the discussion about Northern Rockies Wolf Recovery. Carter Niemeyer, noted wolf authority, shared current and personal insights about the challenges and responsibilities of wolf re-introduction and sound wolf management in Idaho. Tom Curet, Regional Fisheries Manager with IDFG, did a great job in the final lecture explaining the Technology of Tracking Salmon. He made sense of all of the clips, buzzes and beeps, to help us understand how we know what we know about salmon. Thanks Tom!

Special THANK YOUs to the fine folks at Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch for their generous support of the Lecture Series and to the Sawtooth Society for their ongoing support of this community-based Series.

The Lecture Series Committee is planning programs for next year, so be sure to send in your topic suggestions; and please consider volunteering to help SIHA present this important community program again next summer. Go to www.discoversawtooth.org to suggest topics or to volunteer for the Series.

Oral Histories: Capturing the Past from Those Who Lived It

SIHA has conducted more wonderful Oral History interviews this year, which are available in CD format. These histories have been added to those previously collected by the Sawtooth Mountain Mamas, the Forest Service, and others (approximately 50 to date). They are available for listening—and in some cases, viewing—at the Museum during operating hours.

To better direct visitors to interviews of particular interest, we plan to categorize the histories by theme, and provide a brief summary of each interview. We also intend to make histories available for check out—hopefully through the Stanley Library on a year round basis. Perhaps they will compete favorably with Netflix during Stanley’s long winter months!

Other plans include the commission of a professionally generated CD, composed of enlightening “snippets” from various interviews. Our interviewers and subjects all report that the process is a rewarding endeavor! While the recording of oral histories continues, assistance of SIHA members and others is needed to help further document these very special stories of the Sawtooth–Salmon River Country.

SIHA Ice House Update

During late Spring and early Summer, we accomplished a lot toward the reconstruction of the Ice House and surrounding grounds. We still have work to do, though, before this project is complete!

The first step this year was ground leveling, then replacing all the sod torn up during the 2009 construction period. Gravel borders were placed around the Ice House and rear of the Museum, and a new sprinkler system with control box was installed. Thank you to Webb Nursery for the excellent work performed along with Ice House Reconstruction Committee.

Painting and daubing (chinking) of the building then followed. Unfortunately, the color and chinking materials used proved not to meet Forest Service specifications, nor were they compatible with other Museum Complex buildings. Corrective steps are currently underway, and approved chinking and paint will be applied next Spring.

In August, the Reconstruction Committee had an electrician install two 20 Amp. circuits in the Ice House to provide lighting and outlets both in the Cold Storage and Tool Rooms. This helps set the stage for installation of the ice blocks, tools and other displays in the two rooms, Big THANK YOUs to Hi McComish, Marilyn Marquis and Joe Gallagher for their work on the Ice House Committee.

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