ICE HOUSE NEWS
In September, SIHA’s Board of Directors voted to move forward with planning and installing interpretive displays inside the ice house at the Stanley Museum. The Board accepted designs submitted by Interpretive Planning consultants, LOKI, adding that artifacts and photos from the museum should be incorporated into the exhibits. While the restoration of the structure is nearly complete, the interpretation is just beginning. SIHA will hire designers and fabricators to provide the best possible experience to our visitors when they enter the cold room. This may include signs on the exterior describing ice collecting and life without refrigeration. The interior will replicate a cold storage room full of ice and provisions. Grants have been applied for and the Board will look at its budget to see what it can support with on-hand funds. We hope to have the bid package approved by the end of the year and have design, fabrication, and installation completed during the summer of 2012.

THE SIHA STORE
Several new items rejuvenated sales this year. Two of those were Wonders of Wilderness by Thad Gerheim, a beautiful photographic tribute to Idaho Wilderness, and Raptors of the West with fantastic raptor photography and documentation. Also new to the bookstores were DVDs about salmon and wolverines. Finger puppets continue to be a hit with the children.

Next year we will carry several new books. We are also planning to carry hiking medallions so visitors can document their outings and water bottles to encourage healthy and environmental hiking.

Remember, all purchases made in SIHA sales outlets help us continue our goal of education and preservation. SIHA members receive a 10 or 20% discount. SIHA books, trail guides, and nature guides make perfect Christmas gifts…..especially since we always have super discounts at our Annual Holiday Sale.

Greetings SIHA Members and Friends,
2010 was a banner year for SIHA, but 2011 was nothing less than spectacular. Ambitious board members started the year with a new vision…to step in when the Sawtooth NRA feared it could not fund operations at the Redfish Lake Visitor Center. The planning and remodel took time, energy, and cooperative funding. The success was beyond our expectations. Visitors found new and informative programs and exhibits at the Center. The gallery of local art and photography was a real hit and the expanded sales and gift shop outlet provided many new items. Our staff and their interns kept programs and activities a buzz every single day, seven days a week.

SIHA made a big leap forward when we hired our first Executive Director, Terry Clark. We are so fortunate Terry chose to retire recently from a long and varied career with the U.S. Forest Service.

The Ice House restoration has been making great headway again thanks to a handful of dedicated folks. Hopefully, 2012 visitors will see the inside of the Ice House with new interpretive displays.

I especially want to thank our supporters during this year of progress for the Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association. We could not have accomplished everything we did without your generous donations. The many hundreds of volunteer hours of support donated by our members and friends allow SIHA to achieve our mission to educate, interpret, and preserve the natural and cultural history of the Sawtooth/Salmon River Country.

Gary Gadwa
President

HELP US GROW!
Included with this newsletter is our annual membership drive letter and an envelope to indicate the level of support you want to provide in 2012. If you are as excited as we are about the programming we provide, we hope you will support us by becoming a member of the Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association at the highest level possible. Thank You!
NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In the summer of 2011, SIHA hired its first ever Executive Director: Terry Clark of Hailey and Stanley, Idaho. Terry recently retired from a 34-year career of land stewardship with the US Forest Service on National Forests in Oregon, Washington State, California, Utah, New Hampshire, and twice on the Sawtooth National Forest in Idaho. His career was centered on recreation, trails, wilderness, heritage resources, interpretive programs, and lands. Terry says he wanted to work for SIHA to stay involved with wildland issues and because he has been in love with the Sawtooth Country and its people since he first crested Galena Summit in 1989.

As Executive Director, Terry is responsible for operations at the Redfish Center and Stanley Museum, the Forum and Lecture Series, and hiring staff and volunteers. He will be our liaison with the Forest Service and other cooperators in the local community. Please help us welcome Terry to SIHA!

FORUM & LECTURE SERIES ENTERTAINS AND EDUCATES

The fourth annual Forum & Lecture Series (FLS) saw over 1,100 attendees.

Speakers gave presentations at 5:00 PM at the Stanley Museum and then prepared to speak again at 8:00 PM at the Redfish Center. Expanding to our second venue allowed the FLS to reach more visitors as well as gave locals two options to accommodate their busy schedules.

Our season included both returning and new speakers, who were all big hits. FLS attendees were let in on the secrets of pronghorn migration, discussed Idaho wolf management, likened the Mountain Pine Beetle to the bubonic plague, and even dusted off their cowboy hats for a night of cowboy poetry and music. The Series also included a talk on the elusive wolverine, subject of a study coming to the Sawtooth NRA this winter.

Thank you to those of you who spoke, attended, and supported the 2011 Forum & Lecture Series! Plans for next year’s FLS are already underway. We look forward to marking the 40th anniversary of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area by celebrating its past, present, and future. We hope to see you all next year!

SIHA TAKES ON THE REDFISH LAKE VISITOR CENTER

In early October, after Ann Hill heard that with the budget cutbacks the Forest Service might not be able to fund Redfish Lake Visitor Center in 2011, she suggested that SIHA consider adopting and managing it. It would be a daunting task on very short notice, but maybe...if we could find the right partners and funds...

The idea turned out to have terrific legs, and over the next few weeks a coalition of interested, able partners formed to support the notion. We would need to act fast and decisively if the Center was to open in 2011.

There was never any doubt that SIHA, already in partnership with the Forest Service, should spearhead the effort, but it was a big stretch of people power and resources.

The Forest Service agreed to provide housing for staff, the building and its maintenance, and training. Jeff and Audra Clegg of Redfish Lake pledged $5000 and the Sawtooth Society also provided $5000 to support the Center. There was Stanley community support with a $3000 donation from the Sawtooth Mountain Mamas. Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch also made a generous donation for the effort. Keith Reese and John Dean of Sawtooth Builders donated many, many hours of construction labor to renovate the center.

SIHA and the terrific Redfish Center staff exceeded all goals and expectations for the first year of the newly defined center. The Center opened on schedule June 24 and operated 7 days a week until Labor Day weekend receiving more than 10,000 visitors! Visitors of all ages received information about hiking, camping, trail conditions, recreational opportunities, rules and regulations, and safety. Plus, more than 2,400 participated in interpretive programs!

THANK YOU!

With my first season as Executive Director of SIHA under my belt, I want to thank the many folks that support us as we continue to grow into the premiere interpretive association in Idaho, providing dynamic natural and cultural history educational programs in the Salmon River-Sawtooth Country.

First, let me thank our tireless Board of Directors for all the risks they took this year and the love they show for preserving and protecting this spectacular landscape. I also want to thank four ladies who have worked hard on our membership, ice house, and oral history projects: Terry Carstensen, Annie Legg, Ann Hill and Debra Lamorte.

The hardest working people at SIHA are the folks that operate and maintain the Redfish Center, the Stanley Museum, and provide all the interpretive programs that help our visitors learn about and grow to love the Sawtooth country. These talented people are interns and docents: Jena Sherrick, Matt Buss, Mark Beaver, Don Scott, and Ken Hartz; Forest Service interpreters Bernie Hartz, Carol Cole, and Susan Kranz; and Forest Service Maintenance Stars Steve Rogers and Jimbo Funderburg. Thank you all so much for your dedication! I want to single out Redfish Center Coordinator Lin Gray and Interpretive Program Coordinator Jess Haas. These two dynamos provided the energy, enthusiasm, and creative spark that kept all of our programs running at peak form throughout the summer.

Finally, to our partners who supported our programs this year: Redfish Lodge, Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch, Sawtooth Society, Sawtooth Mountain Mamas, Stanley Community Library, Jones Family Foundation, Sawtooth National Recreation Area, Sawtooth Builders, Idaho Rivers United, Wes Will, Laurii Gadwa, Janet Kellam, Harvey Dale and Debra Lamorte, Ruth Barker, and Jack and Wendy Stevens. We owe our success to you!