2013 an Amazing Year!

This was the SIHA’s biggest year yet — more programs, more partners and big successes! We survived an emergency fire evacuation of the Redfish Center, and closures of our bookstores due to fires and government shutdown. Despite those challenges, I am pleased with the quality of our programs. We are moving forward and perpetuating the past, protecting the future. Come share your stories with us and help our programs. You help make a difference! Any membership or donation is tax deductible for Federal and State charitable giving and is eligible for the Idaho Education Tax Credit, which can be worth 50% of the gift. (Up to a $1,000 gift for joint filing or a $500 gift for singles. You’ll need to check with your tax advisor for specifics).

We have great plans for next summer so be sure to give us your e-mail to receive a springtime calendar of events and special e-news about our opening dates for the Redfish Center and Gallery, the Stanley Museum and the Forum and Lecture Series in July and August. Some stories are old as the mountains, some swim past in the river, some are from the pioneers, some are a way to protect the future. Come share your stories with us and help create new ones. — Janet Kellam, membership committee chair

FROM THE PRESIDENT
Greetings Members & Friends

First, thank you Art Selin. Art is now Director Emeritus! Art has been with us from our creation in 1972, first as Forest Service liaison, and later as board member. We suffered a sad loss when long-time Director Marilyn Marquis passed away late this summer. Please read our special tribute to her.

This past spring we launched our newly updated web site: www.DiscoverSawtooth.org. With technical help from Stanley Web Cam guru Dave Pinney and a generous donation from Board Member Wes Wills, we mounted a new camera at the Redfish Center. It is embedded on the new web site which has seen visits grow to over 5000/ week. The camera will operate year-round thanks to support from Redfish Lake Lodge, Sawtooth Mountain Guides, Mountain Mamas and several Association board members.

Check out our Facebook page. — It was updated daily with interesting pictures and posts all summer.

Under the able direction of Coordinator Lin Gray, the Redfish Center’s talented staff set new records for program attendance! Photographs and paintings of Sawtooth landscapes by some of Idaho’s finest artists adorned the Redfish Gallery walls, and we featured some unique and beautiful wood-turned bowls this fall. Our finest artists adorned the Redfish Gallery walls, and we featured some unique and beautiful wood-turned bowls this fall. The best of the best! Art is now Director Emeritus! Art has been with us from our creation in 1972, first as Forest Service liaison, and later as board member. We suffered a sad loss when long-time Director Marilyn Marquis passed away late this summer. Please read our special tribute to her.

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Finally, to our partners: Redfish Lake Lodge, Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch, Sawtooth Society, Val A. Browning Foundation, Sawtooth National Recreation Area, Idaho Rivers United, Salmon River Electric, and Idaho Humanities Council — We owe our success to you! — Terry Clark, Executive Director
NEWS FROM OUR FOUR PROGRAM AREAS:

1. Stanley Museum & Ice House

The Stanley Museum hosted more than 3,200 visitors this year who were greeted by our excellent museum docent, Ken Hartz. Especially popular with kids were the Junior Ranger programs presented by Historic Specialist Kyle McCormick and Forest Service volunteer Jenny Waters. The SA once again hosted the annual Salmon Festival in partnership with Idaho Rivers United at the Museum. Under the able leadership of SA Vice-President Joe Gallagher and grants from the Sawtooth Society, Salmon River Electric and study of Humanities Council our Ice House/cold cellar interpretive displays were finally completed and dedicated. It turned out beautifully. In 2014 we will have new outdoor exhibits thanks to a grant from the Idaho State Historical Society. Structural repairs on the museum will also be finished this spring with grants from the Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee, Idaho Heritage Trust and the Sawtooth Society.

2. Redfish Center & Interpretive Programs

The Sawtooth Association successfully operated the Redfish Visitor Center, aka the Redfish Center, for a third year in 2013. The center opened on June 14 and operated seven days/week through September 15. The Center staff installed new displays and managed the gallery, which featured art from ten Idaho artists. We were able to add two more Naturalists to our staff and served 8,900 visitors at the center despite closures and smoke issues in July and August. SIHA hosted an additional 4,636 learners at 509 interpretive programs including Junior Ranger, Redfish Lake boat tours, discovery stations, Sawtooth Synopis on the front porch, evening campfire programs and nature walks. One of the Naturalists that we added this year was due to the support of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area’s Wildlands Education program. The Forest Service funded one person and their housing which allowed the Association to carry out Wilderness Education for 1,052 people entering the Sawtooth Wilderness throughout the summer.

3. 2013 Forum & Lecture Series

The sixth annual Sawtooth Forum & Lecture Series featured a wide range of topics this year. Over 876 people attended one or more of the ten programs. Programs covered topics such as wolves, star gazing and solar viewing, “the oldest man in Idaho”, backcountry photography, salmon, and fire ecology. The most popular events were programs on Falconry by Forest Service biologist David Skinner, Bats by Sawtooth NRA Ranger Barbara Garcia, and “Stanley Memories and Tales” featuring longtime Stanley residents Tom Kovalicky, Dave Kimpton, and Marie Osborn. The lectures are presented every Friday night in July and August; one at 5 PM at the Stanley Museum and one at 8 PM at the Redfish Center.

4. Promoting & Preserving Local History

The SA continues to promote preservation of local history. Our growing oral history collection and collection of photographic history are among our finest assets. Volunteer Doris Stewart, is accessioning and cataloging all our historic artifacts. We have applied for grants to archive, preserve and make these treasures more available for use and enjoyment of scholars, our members and visitors. Current projects include: Oral history project - We continue to record, archive, and share interviews with local pioneers, miners, cattlemen, outfitters and guides, climbers and mountainers. More than 100 interviews have been recorded in various formats.

Stanley Walking Tours - The Association has produced quality free brochures for self-guided tours of downtown Stanley and conducts guided tours for large groups on request.

Redfish Lake Lodge Historic Tours - This year Lin Gray implemented these guided tours of this Idaho icon, originally built by the legendary Robert Limbert.

Doc Day Cabin stabilization - The Doc Day Cabin in the Stanley Basin is a National Register of Historic Places property owned by SA. Future plans include guided tours focusing on early mining history.

Shaw Cabin restoration – in partnership with the City of Stanley and the Sawtooth Society the Association is restoring this historic cabin in the Stanley Pioneer Park.

Marilyn Marquis - An Appreciation

Marilyn Marquis passed away on August 26th, 2013. A long time community resident of Lower Stanley, Marilyn loved to backpack, fish, bird and study wildflowers in her beloved Sawtooth Mountains. Marilyn, when she died, was an active board member of the Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association. She had been on the board for more than 20 years, and had served as President. Marilyn’s passion was the restoration and preservation of historic structures and sites. She was a member of our Historic Preservation Committee, leading the effort to reconstruct the Historic “Ice-house” at the Stanley Museum. Later, she helped develop the interpretive exhibits there. Marilyn devoted many hours to staining and chinking the building. At the time of her death she was leading the effort to preserve and interpret the historic “Shaw Cabin” at the Stanley Pioneer Park. She was a wonderful board member, always ready to volunteer her time and energy for projects that benefited her community. Marilyn has been named the recipient of the 2013 Bethine Church Award for service to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, sponsored by the Sawtooth Society.