



P.O. Box 75 - Stanley, Idaho 83278



HELP US Continue Our Programs in 2017

The Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association's programs and events are compelling, educational and fun. Your donations and memberships help make them successful. Your funding supports: Redfish Visitor Center & Gallery, Stanley Museum, the Forum and Lecture Series, discovery stations, Junior Ranger and Wilderness Explorer programs, guided walks and boat tours, ice cream socials and the Stanley Salmon Festival. Thank you for your generosity!

Please help us continue this momentum into 2017 by renewing your membership, making a donation or becoming a new SIHA member. In return, you will receive a discount on area resources sold at SIHA sales outlets, special recognition in our newsletter and the chance to be part of a group devoted to preserving the past and

protecting the future of the Sawtooth-Salmon River Country.

Stay informed of upcoming SIHA lectures, programs and events by emailing your contact info to tclark@discoversawtooth.org.

Please support SIHA and join us
at our programs and events!

Erica Cole, Membership Chair



2016 - A YEAR OF GROWTH!

This year **SIHA** reached more than 28,500 people through our programs. In June we signed a 20-year permit to continue operations and programs at the Redfish Visitor Center through 2036. This spring we became the Interpretive Association for the **Caribou-Targhee National Forest**. We now operate six bookstores at ranger stations in eastern Idaho, keeping our amazing Outlet Manager, **Laurii Gadwa**, extra busy.

The 53 year old Redfish Center is getting a much needed facelift with grants received from the **Idaho Heritage Trust**, **Central Idaho RAC**, **Sawtooth Society**, and **Forest Service**. **George Nedelea**, dba **Sawtooth Contracting, LLC**, will repair the women's bathroom, replace or refurbish the exterior doors, replace handrails, repoint entryway rock-work, and replace deteriorated soffits and woodpecker damaged trim and fascia. Center Coordinator, **Kelly Martin**, secured a grant from the **Sawtooth Society** for a permanent display on Redfish Lake and the journey of Sockeye Salmon from the Pacific Ocean.

A highlight of our summer was visits from several former residents. 84 year-old **Charley Langer, Jr.** lived here from 1936 - 1943, when his father, **Charley Sr.**, was ranger at the ranger station. Charley Sr. was killed in 1943 when his plane crashed near **Ruffneck Peak** while searching for survivors of a WWII bomber crash. Charley

Jr., regaled us with stories of life at the ranger station and the mischief he and his sister got into while living there. We were also visited by **Robert Allan**, grandson of **Robert E. "Ed" Allan**, ranger from 1924 - 1928. He donated newspaper clippings and Ed's antique fiddle. Ranger **Harold Wadley** (1961-1967) also stopped by to share stories.

Thanks to our Board of Directors for its inspiring commitment to the Association. In September our Vice-President and long serving board member, **Wes Wills**, announced his retirement. We want to thank Wes for all the work he has done over the past decade. Wes was the primary mover behind the Association's Redfish Lake Webcam. He will be missed!

We look forward to an even better year in 2017 and hope you will help by donating some time and/or funds to our efforts. Please visit our Web Site: **www.Discoversawtooth.org**, our Redfish Web Cam, and our Facebook page. The Association is a tax exempt, 501(c) (3), organization and we do need your support to continue our preservation, protection and education efforts in the Sawtooth/Salmon River Country.

By **Gary Gadwa**, President; & **Terry Clark**, Executive Director

Connecting our past with our present – Tuff McGown and Amy Clegg

Last winter we received an offer we couldn't refuse from **Amy Clegg** of **Redfish Lake Lodge**.

Amy, a farm girl from Carey, has amazing artistic talent. She majored in art at Brigham Young University, and had applied for a grant to create a portrait from BYU's Office of Research and Creative Activities. Amy asked if SIHA would be interested in a painting to display in the Redfish Center or the Stanley Museum. "You bet!" we said, and sent her several historic photos to consider. "I was struck most by the photo of **Arthur "Tuff" McGown**. I loved the character of his face and hands, he and his story caught my interest and I knew I just had to paint his portrait!" she said. As she was creating the portrait, Amy realized, "I felt like I really came to know Tuff as I painted and read about him. I loved learning that his love for this area ran deep."

Tuff McGown's (1896 – 1964) love of the Sawtooth country did run deep. A native son of Stanley, his was the second family to settle there. His wife, **Edna Niece McGown** was born at the historic Paul way station in Stanley Basin in 1906. Tuff was



a trapper, miner, millworker, game warden, and mechanic. In 1961, he and Edna founded the McGown museum in the old school house in Custer. He loved to share his knowledge of Custer County and its history. Tuff and Edna inspired the founders of the Sawtooth Interpretive & Historical Association 44 years ago, and our mission: "Preserving the Past /Protecting the future".

Amy was also inspired by the McGown's commitment to loving, serving, and preserving the Sawtooth Country. "Just like them, I recognize the great blessing of living in this place - I understand why they never could leave. I feel honored to have been able to join them in preserving our

areas history. I hope that my portrait of Tuff will inspire others who come here to take the time to learn more about and appreciate the rich history of the people and places here Sawtooth country."

We at SIHA feel blessed that Amy chose to honor us with her talent. Next spring we will display her painting at the Stanley Museum. Please come and admire it with us! By **Terry Clark**



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NEWS FROM OUR FOUR PROGRAM AREAS:

1. Stanley Museum & Ice House



The Stanley Museum hosted 3,677 visitors this year from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 22 foreign countries! Visitors were greeted by first year Docent, **Jill Sisson**, and Historic Specialist, **Ken Hartz**; who helped them appreciate the rugged lives of our predecessors here in the Sawtooth/Salmon river country.

We completed plumbing and electrical repairs and added lighting and a board walk to the interior of the toolshed with grants and donations from the **Marilyn Marquis family**, the **Central Idaho RAC**, and the **Sawtooth Society**. We are working on displays of early

Forest Service life and equipment in the tool/woodshed adjacent to the ice house; look for new displays in the spring. We received donations of historic tools and artifacts from retired Valley Creek Ranger Station employee, **Bill James**, the **Forest Service history Museum** in Country Homes, Washington, and from the **Sawtooth NRA**.

Displays were updated and added by Jill and Ken throughout the summer: A "Kid's Only!" corner, historic mercantile stores of Stanley, Local place names, and communications in the valley before cell-phones and wi-fi. **Tom Kovalicky**, last ranger to occupy the museum, donated an historic Forest Service uniform which we are proudly displaying. See you next summer!

2. Redfish Center & Interpretive Programs



The Association operated the Redfish Visitor Center, aka the **Redfish Center**, for a sixth year in 2016. We opened on June 11th and operated seven days/week through September 18th. Center staff added new displays and conducted guided programs; second year program coordinator, **Kelly Martin** led our seven energetic Naturalists and served **11,652 visitors** at the center (a new high)! SIHA hosted an additional **12,639 avid learners** at on and off-site interpretive programs including Junior Ranger, Wilderness Explorer, Redfish Lake boat tours, discovery stations, "patio talks", LNT and wilderness portal programs,

evening campfire programs, nature journaling, Cooking with a Naturalist, and guided walks. We continued our well-received talks at Galena Overlook as well. The Redfish Center supplemented its regular offerings with special evening programs featuring local trail guide author **Margaret Fuller**, Boise photographer **Rob Hart**, Idaho Centennial trail hiker **Clay Jacobson**, and photographer **Ed Cannady**. Board member **Tori Madsen** did an excellent job managing the gallery and hosting four **"Scones & Scenery"** events to highlight the gallery with free scones and mimosas. The gallery features mountain and natural history themed art from Idaho artists, including the **Idaho Plein Air Painters**, and is becoming a well-known stop for art lovers in central Idaho.

3. 2016 Forum & Lecture Series



The **ninth annual Sawtooth Forum & Lecture Series** was a hit as always. This year our theme was **Water in Idaho**, and we explored how we Idahoans manage and use our water, how fish and wildlife species survive in them, and how to protect our precious fresh water resources.

602 people attended one or more of the nine programs, which covered topics on water policy in the west, the plight of pollinators, beaver, Shoshone-Bannock tribal fisheries, water law and recovering Salmon and Steelhead in the upper Salmon River, private ranch land conservation, Osprey, Otter, and Bull trout. Our final program was by Idaho

Public Television's Outdoor Idaho producer, **Bruce Reichert**, who shared parts of his film **Idaho Headwaters'** and told stories about Idaho's rivers and streams.

The most popular events were programs on "Beaver ecology and management" with USFS biologist **David Skinner**; "Osprey's and Otter's" with retired IDFG biologist **Wayne Melquist**, and "Bull trout life history and status" with IDFG Fisheries manager **Greg Schoby**. The lectures are presented every Friday night in July and August; at 5 PM at the Stanley Museum.

4. Promoting & Preserving Local History



The Association 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**, accessions and catalogs our historic artifacts. We utilize 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 record, archive, and share interviews with local pioneers, miners, cattlemen, outfitters, and mountaineers. More than 100 interviews have been recorded in various formats. Vice President **Stewart Wilder** leads this project. With the help of the **Sawtooth Mountain Mamas** and the **Idaho State Historical Society**, Stewart had all of our interviews converted to digital format last year.

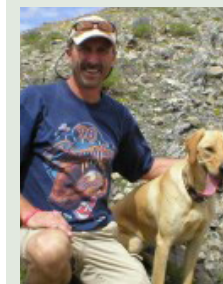
Stanley Walking Tours - We have produced quality free brochures for self-guided tours of downtown Stanley. We offer guided tours for large groups on request. The brochure has been updated for 2016.

Doc Day Cabin stabilization - The Doc Day Cabin in the Stanley Basin is a National Register of Historic Places property. Future plans include auto tours and interpretive signs focusing on early mining history, and stabilizing the cabin itself.

Shaw Cabin restoration - in partnership with the **City of Stanley** and the **Sawtooth Society** the Association has restored and interpreted this historic cabin located in the Stanley Pioneer Park.

STEWART WILDER -

Sawtooth Interpretive & Historic Association
Vice President of the board



Stewart Wilder has served on the SIHA Board of Directors since 2013 and was elected Vice President in July. Stewart guides our historic preservation committee, and spearheads our efforts to get our extensive collection of **oral history**

recordings converted to electronic files, and catalogued and transcribed, so we can make them available to scholars and residents interested in the history of the Sawtooth country. He also leads our efforts to record new oral histories. Stewart is a native of Cleveland, Ohio and a graduate of Indiana University with a BS in Geology. He first visited the Sawtooth country as a teenager in 1975 with relatives Martin and Marjorie Pollock who met each other here in 1924. Summer visits followed, and he met and courted Stanley resident Debbie Osborn, a daughter of Marie Osborn, founder of the Stanley Emergency Clinic. They've been married 24 years and have two sons, Nathaniel and Cameron. Sadly, Cameron died by suicide at 17 in 2013. Stewart and Debbie co-founded **LiveWilder Foundation**, for youth suicide prevention; Stewart serves as president, holds a seat on the Idaho Council on Suicide Prevention, and is president of the Idaho Suicide Prevention Coalition. Cam's favorite place in the world was the Sawtooth Country. Stewart's professional experience began in the mining industry in the US and Canada, and locally up the Yankee Fork. Since moving to Boise in 2002 Stewart has enjoyed new career opportunities in kindergarten substitute teaching, commercial real estate development, Interim Executive Director and former Board member of Children's Home Society of Idaho, and most recently in senior healthcare franchising in Southwest Idaho. A member of the Sawtooth Society, Stewart's passion and love is the Sawtooth Country, but mostly the people who live or have lived in this heavenly place. Fly-fishing, hiking, exploring and sharing the rich historical significance of the people and area to preserve for future generations is why Stewart is proud to support the mission of SIHA.

WATCH FOR OUR SPRING e-LETTER
WITH OUR 2017
CALENDAR OF EVENTS!

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