



April 2011 Newsletter

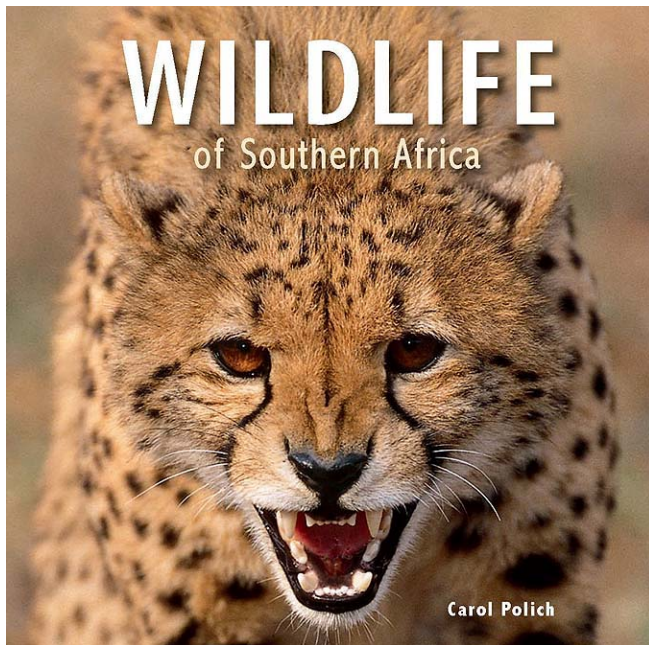


Hello Spring ...

April Program

You are invited to a free public presentation on **Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 pm**, in Room 125 at **UM-Helena**, 1115 N. Roberts, just east of Helena High.

Wildlife of Southern Africa



Join us for "Wildlife of Southern Africa" and "The Art of Photography", a stunning visual presentation by nature photographer and author **Carol Polich** of Bozeman. Travel enthusiasts, naturalists, wildlife behaviorists as well as photographers and everyone else will want to take notes at this program. Polich's most recent photo adventures took her to South Africa and Namibia for three months in 2010 where she covered 12,000 miles. Her program includes photography "in the field" and "in camera" photos with art, envisioning and positioning. Music adds an exciting dimension to her photo essays.

Polich's presentation includes anecdotal tales about some of her wildlife photos and connects images of animals to everyday survival in the bush. Her regional photo book, "Portrait of Paradise" about the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem has been a bestseller since 2007 and her photos have been published in many regional and national magazines.

Autographed copies of Polich's work will be available at the program.

April Day Trips

All trips are weather-dependent and subject to last minute cancellation. Please check with the leader to make sure the trip is a go.

Show & Go Monday morning trips: Join Barb on short hikes in the Helena area. Meet at 9:00 am at Center Stage near Van's IGA on Euclid. Call Barb (443-1159) or read about each trip via the HOC Yahoo e-group.

Show & Go Tuesday evening hikes: Meet at 5:30 pm in the parking lot next to Birds & Beasleys across from the L&C Library. Hike on Mt Helena or Ascension trails. Call Jo Anne (449-7971) for details.

Show & Go Tuesday evening flatwater paddling: Come join an easy-going group of kayakers and canoeists who paddle somewhere close to town for a couple hours. Locations include the Holding Reservoir, York Bridge, Chinaman's Gulch on Canyon Ferry, Riverside Campground below CF Dam, Black Sandy and others. We decide each Tuesday where we'll meet the following week and get the word out through e-mail. We usually meet on the water at 6 p.m. If you have your own boat & lifejacket and would like to join us or want more information, call Susan Nimick (443-5980) or email her: snimick@mt.net.

Saturday, April 2, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm: paddle & rescue class at a local pool with JoAnne. This fee-based UM-Helena class is for people who are new to kayaking and want to learn paddling as well as safety & rescue techniques. Call Mary Lannert at UM-Helena (444-7378) to register and/or rent a boat.

Saturday, April 9, 10:00 am - noon: kayak practice session at a local pool with JoAnne. This fee-based UM-Helena class is for people who have some kayaking experience and want to practice wet exits and re-entries. Call Mary Lannert at UM-Helena (444-7378) to register and/or rent a boat.

Sunday, April 10: Crow Creek Falls hike. Intermediate hike in the Elkhorns to beautiful falls located by an old abandoned mine. Meet at Dillard's parking lot at 9:00 am. Call Helen (461-6741) or JoAnne (449-7971) for more information.

Saturdays April 16, 23 & 30, 10:00 am – noon: kayak rolling classes at a local pool with JoAnne. These fee-based UM-Helena classes are open to anyone who wants to practice rolling and other kayaking techniques. Call Mary Lannert at UM-Helena (444-7378) to register and/or rent a boat. Bring nose plugs and a neoprene spray skirt. Max. 3 people/class.

Saturday, April 23: Crow Creek hike (not to the Falls). Follow Crow Creek in the Elkhorns eastward on this mostly flat, intermediate and lovely 4-5 miles RT hike. Look for birds and wildlife along the way. Leaving at 8:00 am. Call Tom (202-3367) for meeting place.

Reminders, additional and last-minute trips will be posted on our HOC YAHOO e-list, a growing network of nearly 100 local outdoorsy folks. You can find us here: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hoc_members/. **If you aren't already on this list and don't know how to sign up,** email Monique (monique@mandali.com) and she'll send you instructions. It's FREE to members and a super way to read about those spontaneous trips!

Last call for 2011 membership renewals:

A big THANK YOU to all of you who have already sent in your 2011 membership dues. To those who haven't yet: this is your **last reminder**. At only \$10/year for you *and* your family, it is one of the cheapest deals in town. Your membership contribution helps us present free monthly programs, maintain an updated website, purchase office supplies, coordinate & lead outings, donate equipment for children and co-sponsor educational outdoorsy events.

Mail your check to HOC, PO Box 135, Helena, MT 59624 or give it to MaryAlice at our monthly meeting. We truly appreciate your support!

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Community Events:

The Montana Wilderness Association booklet with Summer Wilderness Walks all around Montana will be available mid-month. Call MWA (443-7350) for information or visit their website: <http://www.wildmontana.org/>

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THE HELENA OUTDOOR CLUB is for everyone, regardless of age. Our outdoor activities vary with the seasons and include hiking, backpacking, canoeing and kayaking, bicycling, snow shoeing, XC and downhill skiing. Most activities are free. Members organize and guide trips for the casual recreationist. No experience necessary. We also offer free public presentations on adventure travel in Montana and around the world.

Yearly memberships are only \$10/family. Mail check to PO Box 135, Helena, MT 59624. www.helenaoutdoorclub.org

A club for non-motorized recreation since 1972

Steering Committee:

Trip Coordinator	Jo Anne Thun	449-7971
Trip Co-Coordinator	Helen Fee	461-6741
Weekend Event Coordinator	Jan Horan	442-1619
Memberships & Treasurer	MaryAlice Chester	495-8787
Database & Newsletter	Monique Mandali	495-9206
YAHOO Group Moderator	Monique Mandali	495-9206
Website	Monique Mandali	495-9206
Refreshments Coordinator	MaryAlice Chester	495-8787

And many more volunteers. Thank you!



MacDonald Pass - Photo by Barb Belt

... Bye Bye Winter