



April 2013 Newsletter



Arrowleaf balsamroot,
photo by Tom Kilmer

April Program

You are invited to a free public presentation on **Thursday, April 11 at 7:00 pm**, at **the Montana Wild Center** next to the MT Wildlife Rehab Center at Spring Meadow Lake.

Note: This program is rescheduled from last November when we had to cancel it due to a blizzard.

Kayaking Shoshone Lake in Yellowstone National Park



Shoshone Lake is believed to be the largest backcountry lake in the lower 48 states that cannot be reached by road. It was first viewed by fur trappers in the early 19th century. Join **Tammy Filliater** and **Roger Peffer** as they share photos and stories of two separate kayaking trips on Shoshone Lake as well as several day hikes that started from their campsites, including one into the Shoshone Geyser basin.

Open water, rivers, thick forests of lodgepole pine, hot springs and geysers were all part of their adventures as they kayaked this beautiful lake and camped on its shores. They saw plenty of wildlife and when they listened carefully, they could hear elk bugling at night from inside their tent!

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 hikes: join Barb on short hikes in the Helena area. Meet at 9:00 am in the parking lot next to Ben Franklin on Euclid. We're usually back by mid-afternoon. 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 across from the L&C Library. Hike on Mt. Helena or Ascension trails. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for details.



Monday, April 1 SPECIAL EVENT: Fritz Behr Memorial Litter Pickup.

The Monday hiking group is hosting a Litter Patrol morning at the Tumbleweed Trailhead in the Scratchgravel Hills. We'll provide garbage bags and will recycle cans. Meet at 9:00 am in the parking lot next to Ben Franklin on Euclid. Back around noon. Call Barb (443-1159) for details.

Saturday, April 6: Mt Haggin ski or snowshoe. Ski or snowshoe on a large network of nicely groomed trails near Anaconda. Leaving at 9:00 am. Call Pat (406-241-6336) for meeting place.

Saturday, April 20: mountain bike ride from Sieben Ranch (near freeway) to Canyon Creek. It's a wide dirt road with some flat parts and an uphill to the plateau. Makes for a fun downhill on the way back! There will be a shuttle for those who want to go one way only (approx. 11 miles). Leaving at 9:00 am. Call Julie (410-1037) for meeting place.

Sunday, April 28: Sheep Mountain hike. Assuming it's pretty clear of snow, we'll summit this small peak north of Clancy at 5,942 ft. It features dramatic 200 ft. spires and outcrops, and offers spectacular views of the Elkhorns. A moderate 5-6 mile hike. Leaving at 10:00 am. Call Tim or Jan (442-1619) for details and meeting place.

Sunday, April 28: Casey Meadows (snowshoe) hike. A moderate 6-mile hike in the Elkhorn Mountains with a 1,300 ft. elevation gain & loss. Depending on snow conditions, we'll loop via McClellan and Willard Creek drainages. Leaving at 9:00 am. Call Anne (459-4757) for meeting place.

* * *

Reminders, additional and last-minute trips will be posted on our [HOC YAHOO e-list](#), a growing network of over 140 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 2013 membership renewals:

A big THANK YOU to all of you who have already sent in your 2013 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!

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 & others	461-6741
Weekend Event Coordinator	Jan Horan & others	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!

Community Events:

Saturday, April 27, 8:30am - 5:30 pm: First Aid and CPR for leaders of outdoor activities such as the youth hiking group or HOC trips. The class will be taught by Lena Conlan of Crossing Latitudes and will have an emphasis on outdoor situations and simulations. Call Cedron Jones (442-1271) or email cedronjones@hotmail.com for details and to register. The \$45 fee will be paid by the Helena Outdoor Club for those who commit to be either youth or adult trip leaders. Call now as space is limited.

Sneak Preview of **Montana Wilderness Association Summer Walks** -- watch for the 2013 Summer Walks booklet coming to members in mid-April and to the public two weeks later. Early season walks in the Helena area will include Hauser Dam Loop hike, Crow Creek Falls and Mullan to Priest and back. Call MWA (443-7350) for information or visit their website: <http://www.wildmontana.org/>



Relax ... spring will be here soon ...