

February 2013 Newsletter



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February Program

You are invited to a free public presentation on **Thursday, February 14 at 7:00 PM** at the **Montana Wild Center** next to the MT Wildlife Rehab Center at Spring Meadow Lake (coming from town on Euclid, turn right on Broadwater across from Kessler School, then right again into the paved parking lot).

Love Gone Wild

A **Valentine's Day treat** for everyone, this month's program features **four couples** with tales and photos of



Stan and Glenda Bradshaw teach canoeing and have developed many techniques, especially on how to avoid the "couples in canoe" syndrome.



married on back-country skis at Stemple Pass.

the power and importance of togetherness in what can sometimes be stressful outdoor recreational activities.



Barb Belt and Jim Emerson discovered "love on the rocks" and still love climbing together.

Shelly and Mike Pasichnyk are so devoted to outdoor pursuits they were

Phil Cohea and JoAnne Thun will share outdoor adventure tales filled with humor, a necessary ingredient when the wife is more adventurous than her mate.



Audience members wishing to add short anecdotes about outdoor partnerships will be welcomed.

☺ ☺ **We'll also have special Valentine's treats** ☺ ☺

Day Trips

All trips are weather-dependent and subject to last minute cancellation. Check with the leader.

ABOUT SKI & SNOWSHOE TRIPS:

Snow conditions change daily. If you find snow somewhere, let us know by posting a message on the Yahoo group list. When it snows, we'll add spontaneous day trips on our Yahoo group list to favorite local spots.

Show & Go Monday hikes: join Barb on short hikes or ski trips 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. Bring a headlamp. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for details.

Saturday, February 2, 10:00-noon: beginning classic XC ski class at Bill Roberts Golf Course with JoAnne (assuming suitable snow conditions). This UM-Helena class is for anyone who wants to learn how to kick and glide. Call Christy at UM-Helena (444-6858) to register.

Saturday, February 2: backcountry XC ski on the Little Blackfoot Road. 5-6 miles round-trip. Meeting at 9:00 am. Call Julie (410-1037) for details and meeting place.

Saturday, February 9, 9:00-3:00: classic XC ski class at Stemple Pass with JoAnne. This UM-Helena class is for anyone who wants to practice kicking and gliding on nature trails. Call Christy at UM-Helena (444-6858) to register.

Saturday, February 9: snowshoe hike somewhere close to Helena. Location to be determined. Meeting at 9:00 am. Call Julie (410-1037) for details and meeting place.

Saturday, February 23, 9:00-3:00: classic XC ski class at MacDonald Pass with JoAnne. This UM-Helena class is for anyone who wants to practice kicking and gliding on groomed trails. Call Christy at UM-Helena (444-6858) to register.

For up-to-date information on ski conditions at Mac Pass, the golf course and elsewhere in MT, as well as training and other ski-related events, visit the **Last Chance Nordic Ski Club's** blog page: <http://lcncs.blogspot.com/>

The HOC has two pairs of snowshoes for use by members. Call MaryAlice (495-8787) to borrow them.

February Weekend Event

NOTE: weekend events are open to the public but we give priority to members of the HOC. If you want to invite a friend who is not a member we'll put them on the waiting list (or ask them to become a member to secure their spot). HOC's cancellation policy applies. Contact leader(s) for details.

President's Day Weekend, Friday evening-Monday, February 15-18: fun winter weekend in the beautiful Madison Valley.



Skiing, snowshoeing, wildlife watching and relaxing will fill our weekend at the historic TLazyJ ranch house in the Madison Valley south of Ennis. Located below Sphinx and Helmet

Mountains, it comes with two bedrooms (three double and one single bed) and space for more folks on the floor. Transportation to downhill or XC skiing at Big Sky or Moonlight Basin can be arranged, backcountry skiing is nearby. \$75 per person includes three dinners and one breakfast. Call MaryAlice (495-8787) for more information and to sign up. Mail your check (payable to HOC) to PO Box 135, Helena 59624.

Community Events

Feb. 9 & 10: Northern Rocky Mountains Grotto annual meeting at Lewis and Clark Caverns. For anyone interested in cave exploration. See <http://www.cavesofmontana.org/> or call Maryalice (495-8787) for more information.

For a schedule of Montana Wilderness Association's Winter Walks, visit www.wildmontana.org.

Montana Discovery Foundation sponsors moonlight (and other) snowshoe walks. For more information go to www.montanadiscoveryfoundation.org.

Stay in touch through our Yahoo group: Reminders, additional and last-minute trips will be posted on our YAHOO group, a network of over 100 local outdoorsy folks and potential trip companions. You can find us here:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hoc_members/

If you aren't already on this list and want to know how to sign up, email monique@mandali.com and she'll send you instructions. It's FREE to members and a super way for everyone to post their own outings and find out about other people's trip ideas all year long!

2013 HOC Memberships are due

It's still only **\$10/year** for you and your family, one of the cheapest deals in town. Your check will help us continue to bring outstanding monthly programs to the community and to coordinate outings all year long.

Please 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 your 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

And many other dedicated volunteers! Thank you!



Ellie, Linda and MaryAlice at MacDonald Pass, 2011