

McCall Hiking Club 2007 End of the Season Report

We had a great year of hiking. Our official hiking season runs from June through September. At the end of the season we had 99 members, had hiked 3,015 miles over 266 miles of trails, gained 40,200 feet in elevation, and hiked to 33 lakes.

We had good participation as 73 of the paid up members actually went on hikes. One member hiked over 200 miles and eight members exceeded 100 miles this summer. Since we started tracking individual mileage three seasons ago, 31 members have earned one or more 100 mile pins, three have hiked over 400 miles and one has hiked over 500 miles. Janis Seufert was our "Hiker of the Year."

We started running "scenic" hikes twice a month this year which are shorter, closer in, low elevation change hikes. These were very popular.

Twenty-eight of us had a great camping/hiking trip to the Sawtooth Mountains in August. Our normal monthly socials, including the July boat social, were big successes.

We were impacted by the wildfires and had to change hike locations several times, but only lost one day of hiking to the fires.

Next year should also be a great year. We will go back to the Sawtooths in August for another camp/hike trip. The dates are in on August 4th and out on August 8th. We will try to avoid the weekend rush next year. We will be making the campsite reservations in early January. If you know you are going to be camping or think there is a good probability of you attending, let me or Susan Waters know so we can get enough campsites.

It will be very interesting hiking next year as we see how the fires have impacted our trails, especially in the Loon Lake area.

The club leadership will remain almost the same next year with me as president, Joan Apodaca as vice-president, Leslie Siegle as treasurer, Janis Seufert as social chairman, and Bill Starowicz as trail guru. Gary Newby has taken over our photographic history work, Bruce Hovey will be the new trail maintenance coordinator with the Park Service, Sheree Sonnfield manages our website, and the ever reliable Hal Wiking continues to create our Trail Trash Award for the Hiker of the Year.

Our website should be updated shortly. In the past we tried to put out monthly newsletters. This past year I tried to put out email updates as necessary which ended up being nearly weekly updates. I will continue the updates in 2008 but will not try to put out a monthly newsletter.

Thanks to all of you for your participation, help, and companionship this year.

See you on the trail in June.

Tom Derieg