

McCall Hiking Club 2008 End of the Season Report

The McCall Hiking Club had a fantastic summer. Our hikes did not start until June 18th due to the heavy snowfall this past winter. Even though the season was cut short club members hiked 2652 miles, climbed 31,000 feet and saw 25 beautiful lakes. Our membership climbed from 99 to 110. We also had many visitors who hiked with us. Eighty One members attended at least one hike.

The club leadership has changed for next year. Roberta Thompson will be the new president, Joan Apodaca will stay on as vice-president, Gay Foster will be the new treasurer, Vreny Middleton will be the new social chairman and Tom Derieg will be the new trail guru. Sheree Sonfield will continue to manage our website. Many thanks go out to Hal Wiking who has created our Trail Trash Award for Hiker of the Year the past six years. His position is open for anyone who would like this "Golden Opportunity".

Our club not only hikes but participates in many social activities. We had a boat social on beautiful Payette Lake, camped four days in the Sawtooth Mountains and held potluck dinners once a month. We would like to thank Hal Wiking and Char and Vern Farris for hosting these fabulous dinners at their home.

There were many awards given out this year. Club members enjoy sharing events that happen on the trail with appropriate memorabilia. Six hundred mile hiking pins went to Bill Starowiez and Tom Derieg, five hundred mile pins went to Joan Apodaca and Tom Derieg, four hundred mile pins went to Peggy Derieg and Janis Seufert, three hundred mile pins went to Marlin Jones, Roberta Thompson and Susan Waters, two hundred mile pins went to Gay Foster, Gary Newby, Ed Hershberger, Loretta McConner, Vreny Middleton and Roberta Thompson, one hundred mile pins went to Deborah Newby and Helmi Schade. Roberta Thompson was voted Hiker of the Year and Ann and Dave McQuade were selected as the best new hikers. Our club could not exist without our dedicated hike leaders. Special thanks go to the eleven members who led hikes this year. We are always looking for people who would like to share their special hikes with the club.

We are looking forward to the 2009 hiking season. We already have some new hikes planned. This summer the club camp/hike trip will be to Joseph, Oregon and the beautiful Eagle Cap Wilderness. Until then "Happy Trails".

Roberta Thompson