



# July & August 2014 Newsletter



The majestic bald eagle,  
photo by Jan Horan

## 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 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 (461-7421) for details.

**Show & Go Thursday 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 group.

**Show and Go Tuesday evening flatwater paddling:** Join an easy-going group of kayakers and canoeists who paddle on lakes somewhere close to Helena on Tuesday evenings. Bring your own boat & lifejacket. Call Susan (443-5980) or email [snimick14@gmail.com](mailto:snimick14@gmail.com) for details and to get on the email list for locations. You can also check the Basecamp and Capital Sports websites for weekly details.

## Note:

During our HOC planning meetings, we've noticed that leaders are increasingly reluctant to schedule day trips weeks or months in advance. They tell us that they would prefer to list them a week or two ahead of time on our Yahoo group list. Given uncertainties in weather & fluctuations in personal plans, this is totally understandable. As we already have a very viable and functional way to communicate through our Yahoo group, we suspect that this will increasingly be the trend in the future.

Most current HOC members are already on our Yahoo list but if you are not, it's time to sign up. If you don't have a computer, maybe you can ask a friend to give you updates. As an alternative, you can also check messages at a public facility such as the library.

## July/August

**Backpacking Basics:** we are offering an opportunity for folks who would like to learn from experienced mentors what and how to pack. We'll have an evening of analyzing backpack contents and one short overnight trip to get you started. Time and location will be determined by the participants. Interested mentors and learners should contact MaryAlice (495-8787) or [mac59601@yahoo.com](mailto:mac59601@yahoo.com).

**Monday, July 28, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: paddle technique class at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for recreational kayakers who want to learn basic paddling techniques. \$19 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Check our Yahoo e-group messages for additional trips this summer.**

**Monday, August 4, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: safety & rescue class at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for recreational kayakers who want to learn safety & rescue techniques. \$19 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Wednesdays, August 6, 13 & 20: 5:30 - 7:30 pm: kayak rolling classes at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** Each event is a fee-based UM-Helena class. Max. 3 people/class. \$99 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Sunday, August 10: Devil's Glenn hike in the Scapegoat Wilderness.** A gentle hike for beginner and more advanced hikers. About 7 miles round trip. Leaving at 8:00 am. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for meeting place and to register.

**Monday, August 11, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: paddle technique class at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for recreational kayakers who want to learn basic paddling techniques. \$19 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Saturday, August 16, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm: Missouri River flatwater kayak class with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for anyone who wants to experience paddling on the Missouri. \$49 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Monday, August 18, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: safety & rescue class at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for recreational kayakers who want to learn safety & rescue techniques. \$19 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Saturday, August 23, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm: Missouri River flatwater kayak class with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for anyone who wants to experience paddling on the Missouri. \$49 + kayak. Visit

[www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**Monday, August 25, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: paddle technique class at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for recreational kayakers who want to learn basic paddling techniques. \$19 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

## September

**Monday, September 8, 5:30 - 7:30 pm: safety & rescue class at Spring Meadow Lake with JoAnne.** This fee-based UM-Helena class is for recreational kayakers who want to learn safety & rescue techniques. \$19 + kayak. Visit [www.umhelena.edu/continuinged](http://www.umhelena.edu/continuinged) for full description, availability & payment, or call 447-6945.

**September 13-14: MONTANA DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL on Flathead Lake.** JoAnne's boat is full but she's still taking names for a waiting list in case someone cancels. Contact her (449-7971) if you wish to be an alternate rower or join the group to cheer from the shores. For general information, visit [www.montana.racedragonboats.com](http://www.montana.racedragonboats.com)

## Multi-Day trips:

**NOTE:** multiple-day events are open to the public but we reserve the right to give priority to current members of the Helena Outdoor Club. If you want to invite a friend who is not a member we'll put them on the waiting list until the registration deadline when we'll let them know if there is still room. Or ask them to become a HOC member to secure their spot.

**Thursday-Sunday, July 3-6: kayak river trip & camping in Western MT.** For advanced kayakers. Call Mike (442-6277) for details.

**Thursday-Sunday, July 10-13: hiking in the Two Medicine area, Glacier NP.** There will be seven easy-to-moderate day hikes to choose from. We'll drive up on July 10 to secure tent sites and do a short hike. More day hikes on July 11 & 12, and possibly on Sunday. Contact Jan or Tim (442-1619) for details and to register.

**Saturday-Sunday, July 19-20: family campout close to Helena.** This is a family trip that will involve some hiking & camping with parents & children. Call JoAnne (449-7971) for details.

**Tuesday-Friday, July 22-25: backpacking in the Crazy Mountains with emphasis in summiting Crazy Peak.** This is a strenuous hike with a lot of exposure for experienced hikers only. On Tuesday we'll drive to the trailhead & camp, or stay in a motel in Big Timber. We'll hike to Blue & Thunder Lakes, our basecamp, on Wednesday. Depending on weather conditions, we'll summit Thursday or Friday, and then return home. Call Jan or Tim for details (442-1619) and to register.

**Be safe and have a fun summer!**

## Community Events:

**2014 Wilderness Walks:** The Montana Wilderness Association organizes and leads hundreds of hikes around Montana between May and September. Check them out and register for hikes online at [www.wildmontana.org](http://www.wildmontana.org).

**Sunday, July 13:** Moonlight Hike: Granite Butte LO  
**Sunday, July 20:** Music in the Woods-- Moose Creek Cabin  
**Thursday, August 7, Moonlight Hike:** Refrigerator Canyon  
**Saturday, August 9, Wilderness 50<sup>th</sup>:** Gates of the Mountains [montanadiscoveryfoundation.org](http://montanadiscoveryfoundation.org) or call Debbie (495-3711).

**Friday-Sunday, September 5-7: MWA Wild 50<sup>th</sup> Fest @ Seeley Lake.** A free fun-filled 3-day event with music, tours, yoga, easy to strenuous hikes, and much more. Visit <http://wildmontana.org/join-us/50th-events/> for details.

**Stay in touch through our Yahoo group:**  
**Reminders, additional and last-minute trips will be posted by HOC members 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/](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](mailto:monique@mandali.com) and she'll send you instructions. It's FREE to HOC members and a super way for everyone to post their own outings *and* find out about other people's trips all year long!

**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](http://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 & Tim 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 |

And many other dedicated volunteers! Thank you!



HOC friends on top of Sphinx Mountain, May 2013