

# White Bird, Idaho



## Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 93 White Bird ID 83554

.....

President	Brian Lowe	839-2444
Vice Pres	Barbara Lowe	839-2444
Secretary	Brenda Tilley	839-9927
Treasurer	Terry Eller	839-2573
Newsletter	Tony Carlson	839-2625



ECRWS

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT  
No.1

Occupant/Box holder  
White Bird ID 83554

**December, 2009**

Winter is coming on. As I get more sensitive to its chill, I don't find winter quite as much fun as it used to be. In spite of that I still like the cold season. For one thing, when the leaves come off we get to see all along the creek bottom and the hills across the way — and the critters that show up there. My spotting scope is set up in the living room, where I watch a big herd of elk up the canyon all winter. The last few years they've arrived in late November and headed back up in April. This March I saw four wolves napping up there, within sight of 20 or so grazing deer and about 50 elk. I've lived in nine states and hunted most of them, but I have never seen wildlife like we get to see around White Bird. Hey, if you live in Salmon River country, the Discovery Channel is simply redundant.

## Community Briefs

**Chamber Meetings:** Third Mondays, 6:30 at Hoots. Please join us and get involved with your community.

**Next Newsletter:** March 1 (quarterly).

### Next Women's Social Group

White Bird area women are invited to a Christmas Tea, Cookie Exchange, and White Elephant Gift Exchange. It's open to all area women on Saturday, December 12th, from 2-4 PM at Anna Holden's home. This is a time to just sit around, gab, share stories, and get to know each other better. No agendas or deep discussions. Please bring something from your household that you'd like someone else to own and wrap it up! Everyone walks away with someone else's treasure or 'white elephant'. And make or buy some Christmas cookies — a dozen or two — to exchange for someone else's cookies. Anna will provide some teas, but feel free to bring along a bag or two of your own favorite. 839-2700.

### Christmas Events in White Bird

- Sunday, December 6: Please join the usual suspects in volunteering to **decorate our town:** 1 PM at the park.
- Saturday, December 12: **Family fun time** at 5 PM. Christmas parade with floats and caroling. Bon fire with cider, cookies and chili at the park. The chili will be prepared by winners of the recent chili cook-off.
- Saturday, December 19: **White Bird Christmas Program** starting 6:30 at the IOOF Hall. There will be presentations by White Bird children and other local talent. Santa with his candy bags (photos with him). A cookie and desert social in the dining area. And family dancing featuring music of the *White Bird Jam Band*.

Jim Kenser of Craigmont will donate the White Bird community Christmas tree, which will stand proudly decorated in the park.

**Recycling reborn?** You may have noticed that the recycling center in Grangeville closed awhile back. There's a lot of public interest in recycling, but Walco wasn't interested in continuing it, nor was Idaho County. A volunteer group is now collecting materials at Fenn (the elevators) and at Kooskia. Last month, their first event, they collected 7 tons of recyclable materials in one day. Collection times will be announced in the Free Press, usually toward the end of the month. The currently wasted resources will be picked up by Lewis Clark Recyclers, Inc. of Lewiston, who have been in the business for 20 years.

Some of my parents' depression era attitudes must have rubbed off on me. It drives me *crazy* to throw stuff away that could be re-used. This isn't a liberal conspiracy, folks, it's trying to use resources wisely — which looms a lot larger in importance when you think about there being 12 billion people in the world by 2050 (6.8 billion now), and having to provide for them (us).

How can White Bird participate? I know something like this never gets done if it's difficult, so lets think easy. Say we set up a time and place and take turns delivering a monthly pickup load of White Bird recyclables to Fenn. With 12 drivers, each would do it only once a year. Interested? Call 839-2625. A pamphlet describing the new Prairie program is posted in the library.

Happy Holidays,  
Everybody



**New Post Office Phone Number.** In September, a south Idaho phonebook misprinted White Bird's post office number as Boise's Social Security Administration number. Wrong number calls just kept coming in at our post office. The only solution seemed to be to change the number at our P.O. Here's the new one: **839-2660**.

**Chamber Website.** It looks good. Anna Holden will have the website up and running by the time you get this. Here's what she says about it: Through a collaborative effort from many people, White Bird's new web site is now launched at [www.visitwhitebird.com](http://www.visitwhitebird.com). There'll be more news about it from the Chamber regarding membership opportunities for organizations. Basic Chamber membership offers an enhanced listing, which includes name, email address, website. Full Chamber members get, in addition, a photo and additional publicity. This is the community's website, to support its businesses, organizations, events and visitors. When you go to the site, tell us what you think by clicking on 'email'. Our website was built by Carmen Syed of Pierce, Idaho. From here on it will be maintained and hosted by Chamber volunteers. The current six pages are a beginning. This will be an evolving effort, aimed at becoming a real asset to the community in many ways.

**White Bird Gun Club** starts in January. See the White Bird library calendar for dates, or call 839-2653.

**Local Exercise Group.** The Fit and Fall-Proof exercise class will conclude its fourth 10-week session in December. Classes will resume on Tuesday, January 5 and continue throughout the spring. We meet Tuesdays and Fridays, 2 PM at the Baptist Church fellowship hall. Newcomers are welcome. For information call Leah (2285), Kathy (9944), Ellie (2831) or Pepi (2866).



### White Bird 4-H Club

Once again, the White Bird Chamber is proud to be a 4-H booster. These young people persevered to finish awesome projects. They deserve a lot of praise, as do the group's leaders, Molly Stowers and Heather Cullin.

The 4H'rs here: **Sheanna Cook** (l.) with lamb *Sandy*, **Tyrel Cullin** with *Peterbilt*, and **Bailey Cullin** with dairy heifer *Valentine*. Both sheep won blue ribbons and Bailey's heifer made grand champion.



**White Bird Precipitation** All in all its been a wet year. Even with the scant February and September precipitation, merely average December rainfall will result in a 22-inch year. But the 2009 water output was erratic. Granted, four years is a short time to judge, but look at the numbers — only a couple of months bore any resemblance to the average of the last three years. Just look at August. You can see the whole picture better on the graphs and additional data posted at the library.

Precipitation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Average, '06 -'08	0.84	1.29	1.43	2.08	2.10	2.26	0.35	0.86	1.62	0.85	1.96	2.22	<b>17.08</b>
<b>2009</b>	2.08	0.54	2.90	1.31	1.98	3.54	0.76	3.73	0.09	1.12			

### Another Roadside Attraction

For a long time I've been curious about one of White Bird's major thoroughfares: Free Use Road. Just the name can get you thinking. Finally, I got curious enough to ask. Only got a spotty history and ran out of time, but I'll research the matter and put a piece about Free Use Road's history in the March issue. I welcome any local knowledge or stories about it that you can contribute. TCC, 839-2625.



Free Use Moose



Free Use Fun



## Member News

**Canyon House** will be closed December 25 through January 1.

**Pathfinders.** The rides and trail work are finished for the season. We had a wonderful year, with membership over 200. From simple cleanup to major re-builds, the club worked 98 miles of ATV trails on the Nez Perce, Clearwater and Wallowa Whitman Nat'l Forests: We're already setting crews for next year.

Tickets for our annual ATV raffle will be available in mid-December. This year the prize is a Polaris 550 donated by Bud's Saw Shop and Idaho Pathfinders. Nice machine! Tickets are \$5 and you can get them at Hoot's, the Silver Dollar, Primeland, or call 839-2303.

On our website ([www.idahopathfinders.org](http://www.idahopathfinders.org)) you can learn about our activities, recent legislation and other topics of interest to ATV'rs or print an application to join. Membership is only \$15 per individual or \$20 for a family. Just sign and send with the fee to IPA, PO Box 53, White Bird ID 83554.

## White Bird's Churches

**Community Church.** Worship 3 PM Sundays, Bible study 3 PM Tuesdays. Christmas Candlelight Service Sun., Dec. 20, 3 PM. Refreshments afterward, all welcome.

**White Bird Catholic.** Worship 9 AM Saturdays.

**Pleasant View Baptist.** Worship 10 AM Sundays, Sunday school 9 AM. Christmas Eve Program, 12/24 at 6:30. Traditional music and singing, desert after, everyone welcome.

## Art Happenings

**Salmon River Art Guild.** It's been an active art year. Since moving the meetings to White Bird, members participate in workshops, classes and knowledge sharing. Upcoming workshops offer both member teachers and outside artists.

Our spring and fall art shows continue. The White Bird Days show was a big success, we plan another this year. Thank you Rebekka's for use of the hall.

Works of guild artists may be viewed at Sterling Bank and The Cattleman's Restaurant in Riggins. We welcome anyone interested in art to join. See our contact information in the White Bird library calendar.

Elections will be held at the Gresham Studio December 10, 10:00 AM. Thanks to treasurer Marlene Mignerey for her dedication as a 20-year member.

**Local Artists at Moscow Art Show.** Gourd artist, Shawn Smith, and oil painter, Mary Bakker, have pieces displayed for sale at the *Camas Prairie, Salmon River Showcase*, put on by *2 Degrees Northwest*. The show runs through Christmas at 210 S. Main Street, Moscow. Other area artists represented there. For more information see the 2DNW website: [www.2dnw.org](http://www.2dnw.org). This nonprofit organization believes that arts and crafts are central to a strong and vibrant, place-based rural economy.



One of Shawn Smith's whimsical gourd creations

## White Bird Classifieds

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| • <b>Wanted: Camp host.</b> Free RV site/utility allowance. 839-2880  | • <b>Computer desk.</b> Good shape, \$30. 839-2625   |
| • <b>Farm fresh brown eggs</b> (blue, too). \$2.50/doz. 839-2625  | • <b>Antique cut glass lamp.</b> \$35. 839-2603  |
| • <b>2006 Toyota Corolla Sport.</b> 35K miles. Great condition, power everything, loaded. 35 mpg. \$10,000 OBO. 839-2285. | • <b>FREE: scrap lumber products.</b> Pick them up Fridays from 1-3 PM at Juaquin Lowe's cabinet shop. 839-2499. |

## Support our local businesses

### Hells Canyon

**Wild river tours & fishing trips**  
**WB resident discounts on tours**

Killgore Adventures 839-2255



### Merry Christmas, White Bird

## Hoot's Service

- Auto, truck and equipment repair •

Shop: 839-2204

Home: 839-9915

email: [4smiths@frontiernet.net](mailto:4smiths@frontiernet.net)

## Leveledge

### Gravel Road Maintenance

- I fill potholes, remove washboard •
- Level roads & driveways •

Tom Cole

839-2234 or 208-451-4275 (cell)

# The Library

**Calendars.** We've produced another great calendar this year. Its theme: "The Salmon River Ferry System". The calendar also provides merchant phone numbers and important dates. It may be purchased at the library or from a library volunteer (\$7.00).

We are starting a **Friends of the Library Fund** to help pay for new books and shelving. Donations, which are tax deductible, may be brought to the library or given to one of the volunteers. Receipts will be provided.

**Operating times.** We wish to meet the needs of the community. This is your library, so tell us if other hours or days would fit you better (See our newsletter ad at right for current hours). Are there magazines or periodicals that you would like added to our inventory? Please jot down your ideas and leave them at the library.



Even the Carlins' sheep are getting into the season. TCC

**Pinochle group** to meet again this year — time to be determined. Interested? Contact the library or Leah Harvey.

**No "Kids Club"** this year. Got to be someone out there who wants to start it again. Contact the library. We'll be happy to provide time, space, ideas and materials.

**Please Join us.** Our fun band of library volunteers misses you—and you, and you. *Y'all* are invited to sit in on any of our meetings: 10 AM, 1st Wednesdays. The meetings will begin again in January.

## White Bird Library

**Your Community Resource**

Hours

Tue, Wed, Sat, 10 AM-1; Thu, 3-5 PM

839-2805, 839-2866

White Bird  
**MOTEL**

*Comfortable  
rooms*

*Full service laundromat*

Call for winter rentals

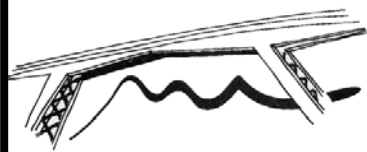
**208-839-2646**

## Silver Dollar Bar and Grill

*A White Bird, Idaho gathering place*

good eats  
good drinks  
good company

839-2293



# SALE, SALE, SALE



## Canyon House and White Bird Antiques...

### December 4, 5, 6

Come see us at our combined winter sales event. Great gifts, fun gifts, old and new.  
We appreciate your business. Thank you for shopping locally.

839-2777

• **Happy Holidays, White Bird** •

839-2825