

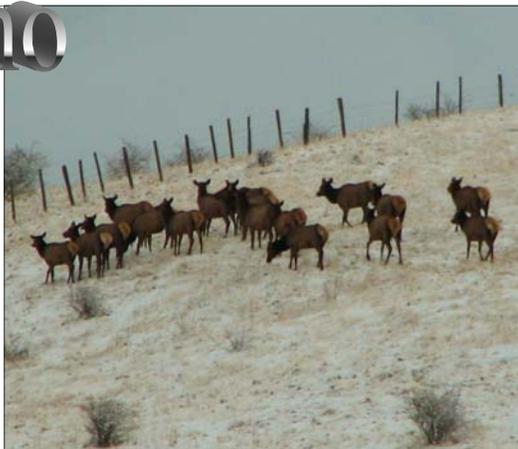
White Bird, Idaho

Community News

White Bird Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 93 White Bird ID 83554
www.visitwhitebird.com



President	Barbara Lowe	839-2444
Vice Pres	Anna Holden	839-9497
Secretary	Brenda Tilley	839-9927
Treasurer	Janice Comrie	839-2478
Newsletter	Tony Carlson	839-2625



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December, 2010

Autumn last year was just a boring old brownout—cold snap, leaves turn brown, they drop, the end. This year produced a spectacular fall for us. Vivid sumac reds and plum yellows lighting up the hills, mild temperatures and plenty of rain. Our autumn might have spawned a song: *Who Could Ask for Anything More?* (I know, that isn't the title, but *I Got Rhythm* just doesn't work). Actually, this whole year has been good—that is, if you had a job—but it's mostly memory now and here we go sliding into the holidays, which harkens up another melody: *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. Well, we do, and Happy New Year to all.

December Happenings

Town Decoration. Dec. 4, 9 AM. To help, please call Barb Lowe, 839-2444. Let's really dress up the town this season!

Indoor Flea Market. Dec. 11, 11 AM-3 PM at the community center (school). \$5 your table, \$10 ours. Sell anything (well...).

Christmas Parade. Dec. 11, 6:30 PM at the park.

Christmas Dance. Dec. 11, 8 PM at Hoots.

Christmas Program. Dec. 18, 6:30 at IOOF hall. *Christmas in the Land of Oz*. Practice starts Dec. 1, 5:30 @ IOOF hall.

Do you have an act? Want to solo? Call Carrie Marek 839-2500 or Shandra Chandler 839-9909. Santa will be there.

Get your picture taken with him. Festivities include Community raffle of donated gifts and Rebekah's Firewood Raffle.

New Years Eve Party. Dec. 31 at Hoot's. Dinner 5-8 PM (prime rib and more), dancing starts at 8; music by the *Country Band*.

Community Briefs

The new city hall. Our city administration has settled into the old White Bird school. Terri Eller, the one who spends a lot of time there, likes it a lot. Plenty of space, light and storage make it a good place to be. There is a chance that the city could end up owning this property, but it will take money. The community won't be able to handle all of whatever the cost might be, so that likely means going for a grant, and any community participation helps toward that end. Local groups using the facility can be evidence of such participation. Let's put this facility to good use. Have your group meet there. It promises great potential as the White Bird Community Center.

Heckmans reach landmark. In case you missed it in the Free Press, here is some pretty nice White Bird news. On September 25, Don and Pam Heckman celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception at Hoot's was hosted by their sons Dean and Dion, with their wives Brenda and Suzie. This was a great gathering, with more than 150 friends and relatives there to honor the couple. Donny said he felt really good about it. He and Pam got to visit with people they hadn't seen in awhile, and they got warm greetings from all over the country.



CALL FOR HELP! It's crunch time for our local emergency service. White Bird EMTs need volunteers. Cheryl Clark says they are now at the absolute minimum of personnel. Any fewer and the state will pull the truck, which means White Bird would lose its emergency service.

Injured people will have to wait for emergency vehicles to come from Grangeville. It is not hard to guess the consequences of that. So please consider helping out—it's just three or four hours a month. If you're worried about blood or vomit, don't. They need drivers and gophers as well as medical aids. Please, this is important for White Bird. Call 839-2229, 2808 or 2565.

Interested in square dancing? Call 839-2444 or -9497, and allemande left with your left hand. Say, this could be a lot of fun.

Gatherings and Meetings

WB Chamber. Next meeting is January 17, (3d Mondays). Please join us. Here's a chance to contribute to your community in a really good organization.

Next Newsletter: March 1 (quarterly).

Library Committee: 1st Wednesdays, 10 AM at the library.

Women's Christmas Social: Dec. 12, 1 PM at Beth Dalglish's home. Bring cookies, white elephant gift and a friend. All welcome. 839-2433, 839-2625.

Exercise Group. Tue/Fri. Starts Jan 4, 2-3 PM @ Baptist church. 839-9944

Salmon River Art Guild: 2nd Thurs, 10 AM at Gresham Studio. 839-2808

White Bird's Churches

Community Church. Worship 3 PM Sundays.

White Bird Catholic. Worship 9 AM Saturdays.

Pleasant View Baptist. Worship 10 AM Sundays, Sunday school 9 AM. Christmas Eve Service, 6:30. Candlelight, music and singing, desert after, everyone welcome.

Recycling Reminder. Monthly pickups are 3^d Saturdays at the highway kiosk, 9AM-12 noon. This month it will be December 18.

Where's Your Camera When You Need It?

Jane's nose alerted her as she entered the chicken house to collect eggs. She peeked around the door jam to find a skunk in one of her laying boxes, just chowing down on eggs. My job, should I choose to accept it, was to dispatch the smelly varmint, hopefully without making things too much worse—like getting *me* all smelly, as well. I went off to get my .22 rifle. A pistol would have been better, since I had to one-hand the piece around the edge of the door to avoid my disaster. The smell must have precipitated another one of those senior moments, because I didn't think to bring my camera. I missed a great photo opportunity: Pepe Le Pew playing chicken.

Damned wildlife, anyway. You'd think they were put here just to bug us. I recently had murder in my heart when a buck ripped a cage off a tree I had planted—and girdled it by horning. That pine was just starting to show some growth. The buck must have caught the cage in its antlers, because I couldn't find it anywhere. With the whitetails starting into the rut about then, I could just imagine that buck trying to woo a group of does with his fancy new headgear on—and the girl-deer laughter that ensued.

For some critters, my murderous intentions are not confined to my heart. We have about 20 feral cats in our outbuildings, and I know I'll have to apply a cost-benefit analysis—which is simple, really: a pair of pheasants recently showed up on our driveway area, and I value them a lot more than I do the cats, which also tend to gravitate toward the area of Jane's chickens. Bye bye.

White Bird Precipitation

The last four years have brought on precipitation prosperity for us—a fairly steady increase from 16 to 24 maybe inches, if December is only average. That's a 50% increase in a fairly short time. Climate scientists say that as heating continues we should look for wild weather around the globe, and that moisture will diminish severely in some places and increase significantly in others. According to the Weather Channel that looks like what's happening. Maybe we're one of the lucky recipients. May, June, July and October particularly put us ahead of the previous four years. As of the end of October, we had more rainfall than all of last year, which was a good one itself. And at this point, with a month to go, we're beyond 2009 by 2.6 inches. Looks like White Bird is headed for that 24-inch year. See graphs and more detail on the library message board.

Precipitation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Average, '06 -'07	0.56	1.15	1.34	1.75	1.66	2.65	0.39	0.62	1.91	1.00	1.82	1.20	16.05
2008	1.40	1.56	1.62	2.75	2.99	1.48	0.27	1.35	1.04	0.56	1.96	2.22	19.15
2009	2.08	0.54	2.90	1.31	1.98	3.54	0.76	3.73	0.09	1.12	1.56	0.62	20.23
2010	1.91	0.43	1.55	1.96	3.33	5.46	1.10	1.99	1.01	2.02	2.04		



White Bird Antiques
Bruce and Pat Ringsmith
Phone 208-839-2619

170 River Street
PO Box 231
White Bird, Idaho 83554

Buy Sell Trade
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Canyon House

**Big Christmas Sale
With White Bird Antiques**

December 11—Lots of new stuff!
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Hoot's Service

• Auto, truck and equipment repair •

Shop: 839-2204
Home: 839-9915

email: 4smiths@frontiernet.net

Happy Holidays, White Bird!

Canyon Art Happenings

Salmon River Art Guild's final business meeting of 2010 will be at the Gresham Studio on Dec. 9 at 10 AM. After the meeting and lunch, we'll present a workshop on painting flowers, using three media.

Need a Christmas gift for a special person? The guild offers reasonably priced original paintings at Canyon House and Cattleman's restaurant in Riggins. See more local art in shows at Sterling Bank in Riggins and Wells Fargo in Grangeville.

The guild might start a "patch" with the ID Gourd Society. Interested? Call 839-2808. The Society has offered to come to WB to teach chip carving.

January is a perfect time to join the guild. On Jan. 9th Frank Mignerey, from Riggins, will have a book signing and teach a workshop on "How to use your camera." New workshops are being planned. We are becoming a magnet for artists from in and out of WB. Come join in the fun. No experience necessary. We all started as beginners so don't be shy.



Overheard during Witch's Night Out at Canyon House: **We are not witches!**

Killgore Adventures

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839 2255

Chamber News

Welcome to New Chamber Member, St. Maries Hospital and Clinics.

Web site. Better all the time. Interactive maps soon: go to visitwhitebird.com

Idaho Pathfinders. With 3 Nat'l Forest trail projects, our ATV club had a busy summer. McComas Meadows trails got drain dips and clearing. We filled low spots in the Centennial Trail, and put in two bridges on the trail from Centennial to Scott Ranch—built them on site and hauled the rock. It was a 12-hour day for everyone.

Get IPA raffle tickets for a \$7,000 merchandise voucher at: Bud's Saw Shop, Mtn. Motor Sports and Tackett's Saw Shop. Available in Dec. at \$5 each, \$45 for a book of 10. Buy at Canyon House, Hoot's, & Silver Dollar.

We meet 1st Mondays, 7 PM at Hoot's (Dec. meeting at Oscar's). Check us out at idahopathfinders.org. 839-2303

Chamber members' sale. It's Canyon House and White Bird Antiques hosting their **joint sale** on Dec. 11.



Chamber president Barbara Lowe presents Mayor Rick Alley with \$290 check, proceeds from the Chili Cookoff. The money will help support the city's new community center at the old school site.

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Just this side of Heaven
FULL HOOK-UPS * OPEN YEAR ROUND
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White Bird Library

Calendars are now available for \$8, or if they need to be mailed, \$10. They will be available at the library. The theme this year is gold mining at the turn of the century in and around Florence. One of our best calendars yet!

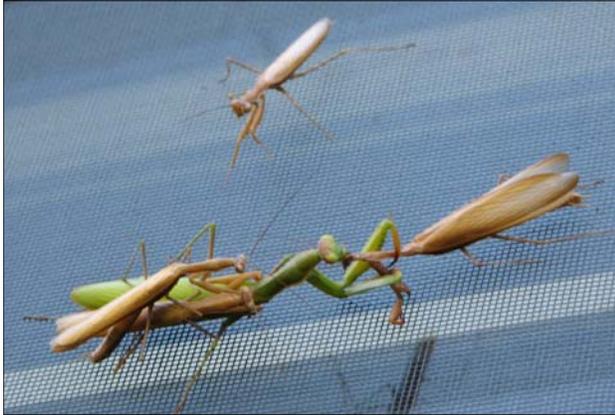
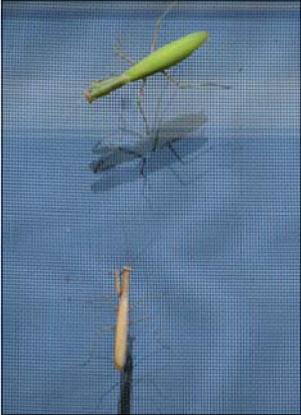
In November and December the library offers a **Holiday Special**. Bring a grocery bag and fill it with off-shelf books for one dollar! We have lots of good books that are extra or duplicates. It's time to build up your to-read pile.

Mary Kay cosmetics now available locally. 839-2721

Angel's Nook RV Park has full time, full service RV sites for rent. 839-2880

Odds and ends

Wild Sex. In September I was treated to a voyeur experience right here at my desk. It could have been a prequel to Kathryn Van Acker's very nice photo of a female praying mantis constructing her "Styrofoam" egg capsule. A female (green) had been on the screen to my window for a week. I figured she had just found a reliable source of bugs. When a male (brown) showed up one morning, I got my camera, just in case, and went to get a better shot from outside. There were eight more males on the side of the house, in a big circle around her. The pheromones must have really been flying to draw them all in like that. As they slowly closed on her they did little shivering dances. She got interested in the closest one, but it wasn't mating she had in mind, because she grabbed him in a neck hold and began to eat him. One of the other males soon climbed aboard to do the mating. She chewed on the sacrificial guy's "throat," maybe to kill him, then ate a leg off, then started with his head and on down to the last bite of wing. Brrrrr, that's *really* cold. Who designs this stuff? All during the feast the breeding continued and more males piled on. It didn't look like the others mated with her. Among them were two greenish ones about the same size as the males—females? It is mind-boggling to think about how a behavior such as this might have evolved. I hope it's confined to the mantises. Occasionally, people say sex isn't that fun. Maybe this is what they have in mind. Boys, I know there's a metaphor about us in here somewhere, but I'm not going there.



Stark Plumbing

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Clint Stark**

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Office: 983-1719 Local: 839-2242

Silver Dollar Bar

A White Bird, Idaho gathering place

good drinks
good company

839-2293

Cow talk. A few times a year we hear the cowboys and their dogs working cattle across the creek. It's often a noisy, frustrating-sounding, seemingly uncoordinated effort. But the job of getting the cows from one place to another always gets done and—if you watch closely—with a good deal of skill. At first I was surprised to hear that all of the beeves seemed to have the same name. Sometimes, the dogs too. After I thought about it, maybe not so surprising. I recalled that the cows on my folks dairy farm were often hailed by that same moniker. Maybe a cow is just a cow, and one by any other name would still be one.

A horse by any other name. Under a long and pleasant relationship, we have boarded horses for Don and Barbara Wright of Slate Creek. In good weather they ride from our place over onto the Battlefield, where there are nearly 1,500 acres to prance around on. Sometimes they take Brandi Trivett, whose horse stays here too. My history with and feeling about horses is mixed at best. I've been on a few (even hanging beneath one once). I don't want to own a horse myself but I like to have them around, love to feel their noses and admire people who own and respect them. I just figure that living in White Bird doesn't require me to be a horse person. Well, in September the Wrights put me to the test. They invited me to go riding with them. That's like inviting a cowboy to go to the opera. I figured Don knew more about saddling than I ever had, though, so I'd probably stay on top of *this* horse. Someone must have prayed for me because I hit the saddle that day and enjoyed the heck out of it.

Cirque du Soleil. We got to see the show in Boise last month. Spectacular! I'd recommend it to anyone, any age. Everything about it was perfection: costumes, lighting, music, sets, clown humor and, of course, the amazing skills of the performers. Kids in the audience were big-eyed and open-mouthed during most of the show, and they really howled at the farting clown horse.

Barbara O'Nash at White Bird Motel keeps a list of people with skills. For someone who wants to work, it is a way to put your skills out there (free). For example, Jane was looking for someone to teach her more advanced crocheting, and found them.

Missing. Beth Dalglish's electric roaster (Nesco, speckled blue) needs its inner pan returned. Please. 839-2433

Sleazy and cowardly—an apt description of vandalism to the highway kiosk light, which lit the event sign and hurt no one.