

January 2017



**IDAHO
PUBLIC
TELEVISION**

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GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

2D Barcode



Past GM Reports

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Quotes

I watch nothing other than IdahoPTV and especially love Jerry Varnell as well as local Idaho programs. CREATE channel is great too!! Thanks for doing a good job. —William

Thank you so much for all that you do for our community and state. I absolutely LOVE IPT! —Josephine



— Airs Fridays, beginning January 6, at 8 p.m.

With the start of the 2017 Idaho Legislative season, Idaho Reports expands to a full hour. It will continue to feature video stories from around the state, interviews with key legislators and other newsmakers, and analysis from regulars Betsy Russell, Jim Weatherby and featured guests.

Governor Otter's State of the State and Budget Address



— Airs Monday, January 9, at 1 p.m. Mtn/12 p.m. Pac

Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter shares his vision for Idaho and his proposed budget for 2017 with the Legislature and the state's citizens. The speech is also streamed live at idahoptv.org/insession, where it will be archived for viewing on demand.

In the Community

Join Idaho Public Television for Free Screenings of the First Hour of Episode 1 of Victoria on Masterpiece



The screenings are free, but you must pre-register at idahoptv.org.

Hayden Discount Cinema
January 10 at 7 p.m.

Colonial Theater, Idaho Falls
January 10 at 7 p.m.

Village Cinema, Meridian
January 12 at 7 p.m.

In 1837, a diminutive teenager is crowned Queen Victoria. Navigating scandal, corruption and political intrigues of the Courts, Victoria soon rises to become the most powerful woman in the world. This highly anticipated series follows the drama of the candid, spirited monarch who was perhaps the first woman to seem to have it all.

Join Idaho Public Television for Free Screenings of Splash and Bubbles - One Big Ocean



The screenings are free, but you must pre-register at idahoptv.org.

Magic Valley Cinema, Twin Falls
January 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Colonial Theater, Idaho Falls
January 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Splash and Bubbles is a new animated PBS KIDS series that dives into marine biology and ocean science. The series follows the adventures of Splash, a yellow fusilier fish who has migrated all over the oceans before settling down with his family in Reeftown, where he befriends Bubbles, a colorful Mandarin dragonet, and other neighborhood sea creatures. Created in partnership with an advisory panel of top marine biologists, digital media innovators and preschool educators, the series covers a variety of foundational concepts in biology that are relatable to the everyday lives of young children such as home and habitat, physical and behavioral traits, and the importance of taking care of our oceans.



On December 14, Outdoor Idaho's program "The Outfitters" was the featured attraction at the annual Idaho Outfitters & Guides Association meeting. The half-hour show profiled outfitters and guides in their element and presented a first-hand look at the lives they lead and the challenges they face.

The Outdoor Idaho crew also presented at the Thursday, December 15, luncheon as well. IOGA members watched a special half-hour version of the hour-long "Beyond the White Clouds" created just for them.

New Initiative

This month we welcome Kari Wardle as IdahoPTV's community teacher ambassador.

Kari was recently a 5th grade teacher at the White Pine Intermediate School in Burley and has been a full-time teacher for eight years. In addition to teaching 5th grade, Kari served on her district's CORE tech team where she helped other teachers implement new technologies in the classroom. She also initiated BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) programs and the use of iPods in her school, plus she was in charge of overseeing the online gradebook system for her entire school district. Kari has described her new job at IdahoPTV as her dream job, and we are very much looking forward to working with her.

IdahoPTV was selected, along with stations in Iowa, Montana, North Dakota and southern Oregon, to be part of a three-year PBS grant, which is focusing on developing strategies to provide support to teachers in rural, low resource communities.

Our IdahoPTV Productions



“Exoplanets”

– Airs Tuesday, January 17, at 2 p.m. MT/1 p.m. PT

Planets that orbit around stars outside our solar system are called exoplanets or extra solar planets. Astrophysicists searching the universe have found a variety of exoplanets and are looking for signs of life. How do scientists find these planets well beyond our solar system? What are exoplanets like? Host Joan Cartan-Hansen will be joined by two scientists from NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory: Nick Siegler, astrophysicist and the chief technologist for NASA’s Exoplanet Exploration Program, and Tiffany Meshkat, postdoctoral scholar in the Exoplanetary Science Initiative, to answer students’ questions.

In the News



‘Victoria’ Enthralls Public TV Supporters

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KAREN BOSSICK

December 14, 2016

“Hi, I’m Norma and I’m a recovering ‘Downton Abbey’ addict,” Norma Douglas said as she addressed a hundred-plus men and women gathered at Gail Severn Gallery Sunday evening.

Members of the audience laughed, but many of them could’ve given the same speech.

Those in attendance were supporters of Idaho Public TV, and some freely admitted to wailing and gnashing their teeth when the Masterpiece Theatre classic ended its run this past year.

But now, at a reception thanking them for their support, their interest was being piqued by cutouts of the beautiful Queen Victoria and the dashing men in her life.

The Masterpiece Theatre series will start Jan. 15 and run for eight weeks.

Victoria has some of the same qualities as “Downton Abbey,” including good writing and intrigue, the station’s General Manager Ron Pisaneschi told those gathered. And Jenna Coleman who portrays young Queen Victoria has been commissioned to appear in the first three seasons, after which she will be replaced by an older queen.

While you’re waiting, you can get your British fix with three new Sherlock episodes starting Jan. 1, Pisaneschi added.

To the audience's delight, Pisaneschi proceeded to show the first eight minutes of "Victoria," which will focus on the 5-foot woman who ascended the throne at age 18 and navigated scandal, corruption and political intrigues to become the most powerful woman in the world.

As the show opened in 1837, Victoria was in bed surrounded by her dolls and dog.

The crowd groaned when the clip abruptly stopped in the middle.

"It's Bruce Reichert's computer," Pisaneschi quickly responded before anyone flung a meatball covered in Thai lemongrass sauce at him.

Reichert quickly restarted the clip as the heroine was thrust before the influential men of the empire: "I assure you I'm ready for the great responsibilities that lie ahead," she said. "I wish to be called 'Victoria. Queen Victoria.'"

"I'm absolutely intrigued by this," said Kristine Bretall, a huge "Downton Abbey" fan. "It's so exciting to think that Victoria was so young when she took the throne."

The men and women who turned out for the reception are some of IPTV's biggest supporters in an enclave of the state that is solidly on board. Recently, IPTV surpassed New York to become the most viewed public TV in the country.

"I record almost everything there is on PBS," said Peggy Grove. "I love 'Masterpiece Theatre' and 'Masterpiece Mystery'—I like them because they are very English."

"I loved 'Downton Abbey,'" chimed in Gail Severn. "And I'm so hot for 'The Great British Bake Off' and 'Lidia's Restaurant. I tape all the Saturday morning cooking classes."

"I like the Chinese guy!" added Mary Wilson, referring to Jacques Pepin on 'Simply Ming.' "My Mom loved the British humor of Hercules Poirot. And 'Austin City Limits'—it's even had James Taylor and Carole King."

Jim Laughlin and Peter Williams voiced support for "Outdoor Idaho," while John Lloyd and Todd Stewart waxed eloquently about the 'PBS NewsHour.'

Lloyd Betts rolled his eyes in fun at the mention of "Downton Abbey" and "Victoria."

"Charlie Rose is the best there is," he said. "He gets the most interesting interviews with the world's leaders. He has incredible access to the world's influence makers. I've been begging the station manager to get him on earlier in the evening. But he says they can't get it off their satellite any earlier."

Bruce Reichert showed a clip of "Beyond the White Clouds," which just ran on "Outdoor Idaho."

"In the studio we refer to it as 3403, which means it's the third show of the 34th season," he said.

Reichert said his crew is considering a show on the Pioneer Mountains, which sit in Sun Valley's backyard. And he plumbed the crowd for suggestions of what to include and who to interview, which they happily plied him with.

"Beyond the White Clouds" was a big hit with donors, Reichert said. "And this area has such a strong public TV crowd. I figured we'd get 10 people tonight. Boy, was I wrong."

Norma Douglas, who is an IPTV board member and a representative for the station in the Sun Valley area, said supporting IPTV is a no brainer.

“They have so much good programming,” she said. “They provide incredibly good children’s programming. They have the ‘NewsHour’ and ‘Antiques Roadshow.’ And, of course, we all love ‘Outdoor Idaho.’ ”



Gail Severn and Peggy Grove latch on to the new leading men in “Victoria.”



Roger DeBard is among those looking forward to following Queen Victoria’s career on the new “Masterpiece Theatre” show.



Idaho Public TV Board Member Norma Douglas gives her cousin Lloyd Betts a ribbing over his enthusiasm for “Charlie Rose.”



Wendy and Jim Jaquet consort with “Dialogue” host Marcia Franklin, who includes interviews with speakers at the Sun Valley Writers Conference in



Environment

The 50-Year Story Of Creating Idaho's New Wilderness Area

IdahoPTV/EarthFix | Dec. 7, 2016 3 p.m. | Updated: Dec. 7, 2016 4:24 p.m.

Castle Peak is so hidden from view that you can’t see it from any highway.

But it just might be the most important mountain in Idaho. Castle Peak and the surrounding Boulder-White Cloud Mountains have stirred up fights over mining, recreation and conservation — fights that have changed the course of political careers, including that of a self-described “Democratic lumberjack from North Idaho” named Cecil Andrus who became governor after taking a stand over the future of this rugged, mineral-rich wilderness.



Castle Peak (to the left) and Merriam Peak rise up from deep in the White Cloud mountains. Aaron Kunz/IdahoPTV

And now, a generation later and the efforts of Idaho's Republican U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson and others, it is part of the Northwest's newest wilderness area.

The team at Outdoor Idaho has the story of the 50-years-in-the-making wilderness designation for a wonderland of peaks, lakes, headwaters and steep, remote forests.

Idaho Public Television calls it "some of the most dazzlingly diverse country in the West, deserving of the gold standard of protection."

In its hour-long Special, the Outdoor Idaho crew visits the three new wilderness areas in the center of Idaho – the White Clouds, the Hemingway-Boulders, and the Jim McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness – to tell the fascinating story of how the threat of an open-pit mine eventually led to a unanimous vote for Wilderness in Congress. This program also examines some of the major battles yet to be decided.