

50 YEARS



IDAHO PUBLIC TELEVISION
idahoptv.org

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



Ron Pisaneschi
GENERAL MANAGER

2D Barcode



Past GM Reports

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Quote



"Thank you to all the people involved who bring this amazing show to us. The difficult (and at times, dangerous) work, expertise, creativity, the admiration and respect you have for our beautiful state, shines through with each and every show. I think Outdoor Idaho really brings people together in feeling a common thread of pride we all have and how we love living in Idaho." --Pam

IdahoPTV Celebrates 50 Years

You are invited to help celebrate our 50th anniversary!

Celebrate!

Join us as we share highlights from our first 50 years ... and look forward to our future.

Boise, The Owyhee
Thursday, Oct 8
5:30 pm - Reception
6:15 pm - Paula Kerger
1109 W Main St, 2nd Floor Grand Ballroom
RSVP by Oct 5 to RSVP@idahoptv.org

50 YEARS

Both events are FREE and open to the public.

Special Guest Speaker
Paula Kerger
President of PBS

Idaho Reports Opens 44th Season With Half-Hour Weekly Show



— Airst Fridays, Beginning October 2, at 8 p.m.

Idaho Reports opens its 44th season as a weekly half-hour, in-depth look at issues and news that affect Idahoans. The series begins Friday, October 2, at 8 p.m. MT/PT and repeats Sunday, October 4, at 10:30/9:30 a.m. MT/PT.

The show continues as a weekly half-hour report through the fall until the Legislature begins in January when it again offers a one-hour weekly legislative report and analysis.

Co-hosts Aaron Kunz and Melissa Davlin, with producer Seth Ogilvie, say they are expanding the field of coverage to include Idaho's Congressional delegation, trying to bridge the gap between Idaho and Washington, D.C.

"We will have the same political analysis and in-depth coverage we've always offered," Davlin says. "But we're also going to do more investigative reporting and more congressional coverage. We also will continue to travel to all corners of the state as we follow Idaho issues."

Our IdahoPTV Productions

Behind the Stories

"Rockhounds"

By Melissa Davlin



At the top of the bookshelf in my living room sits a cardboard box filled with stones and pebbles. I call it Garrett's Rock Box, and whenever he has a chance, my two-year-old son will show off his collection to visitors.

The rocks aren't remarkable from a geological or aesthetic standpoint, but something about each one of them had caught Garrett's eye. Every time we go on walks, he scans the ground for a rock, pine cone or acorn to stick in his pocket and add to his stash. (We keep Garrett's Rock Box out of reach because he has a tendency to throw the rocks when he gets excited. I'm hoping he grows out of this.)



Whenever he sticks another rock in his pocket, I'm reminded of "Rockhounds" and the people I've met while working on this episode.

When I was assigned to produce half an hour about rockhounds, I wasn't sure how to approach the show. It was my first *Outdoor Idaho*, and though I'd gone garnet digging and fossil hunting in north Idaho in college, I can't say I'd ever been interested in making it a hobby. So I started making phone calls, which led me to rockhounding enthusiasts across the state.

Regardless of their specialty or experience, each was friendly and eager to help. The reporting trips took me to some of the most gorgeous places in Idaho, some of which I'd never been to despite living in the state for 30 years. My personal favorite: a trip to hunt jasper and fossils in the Owyhees with rockhounds Brent Stewart and Greg Biebel. The journey took a few hours, and we spent the last leg on ATVs that allowed us to ride into a steep canyon with breathtaking views.

I learned plenty about production during the assignment, too. I have a background in print journalism, and while I've worked on Idaho Reports for two legislative sessions, I quickly (and painfully) realized producing outdoor programs is a different beast. The shooters and editors I worked with were mostly patient with me during the process, and hopefully, the next *Outdoor Idaho* I work on will go more smoothly.

There was another snafu: in early July — right in the middle of writing "Rockhounds" — a freak storm slammed Boise, resulting in a flooded production area and a couple inches of water in our offices. I was on vacation at the time, but other IdahoPTV employees saved my belongings from the flood.

Among those items: All the rocks and fossils I had collected over the previous 12 months while producing "Rockhounds." General manager Ron Pisaneschi had carefully packed them up and labeled the box "MELISSA'S ROCKS."

Now both my son and I have our rock boxes, and I'm beginning to understand the allure.



The Boise: Old Friend, New Understanding

By Peter W. Morrill, Volunteer



Sometimes you think you know everything about an old friend. Such is the case with the Boise River. My image of it is a lazy summer afternoon, with people floating through cottonwoods, traveling down its crystal clear waters. All of this amidst Idaho's largest city. Simply amazing.

Over the years, I have traveled along sections, but never in a way that allowed me to see the river completely. There is so much more to it, beyond what we see each day. In fact, I'd venture to say that the Boise is the state's best known Idaho river that few have fully experienced, including me.

It is the dominant, life-giving source for this region of Idaho. It also helps shape the personality of the capitol city. If the foothills provide the backdrop, then the Boise must be its liquid soul. So, when the chance came to volunteer to shoot video and explore from its namesake to its headwaters, I readily agreed.



The project began in late August, when friend Rick Gerrard and I drove the 80 bone-jarring dirt miles, to film the river from Boise to Atlanta, Idaho. There we met up with an *Outdoor Idaho* crew led by executive producer Bruce Reichert and videographer/director Jay Krajic. Our group then hiked 16 miles to Spangle Lakes, the headwaters of the Boise River, in the heart of the Sawtooth Wilderness. All this work was to gather video for a new, one hour documentary entitled "Idaho Headwaters," premiering December 6, on Idaho Public Television.

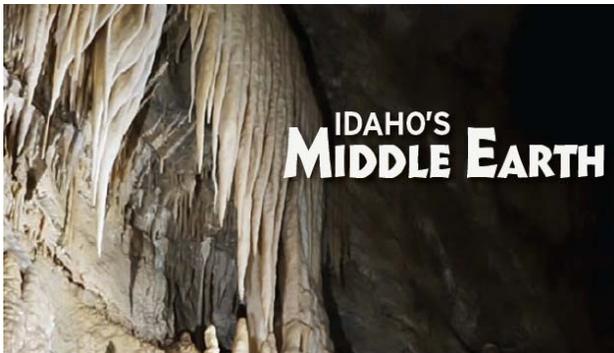
What surprises me most about this remarkable river are the personalities it reveals... and the challenges it faces. Alpine stream, classically clear Idaho river, deep blue reservoir, urban wildlife habitat, and sadly, over-worked resource.

From its genesis in the rock formations at 9,000 feet around Spangle Lakes, its water quickly picks up volume as it descends past Flytrip, Rock and Mattingly creeks, to the historic mining town of Atlanta. There it meets the first of many dams and diversions. The flow continues through deep canyons, past mining claims, to the reservoirs of Arrowrock, Lucky Peak, Diversion and Barber Pool, before it passes gracefully through the city of Boise. From there, the river's personality evolves into an over-worked resource, with its final 60-mile drive to its confluence with the Snake.



The 120-plus mile length of the Boise River isn't much compared to the Salmon or the Snake, whose distances are measured in hundreds and thousands of miles. But what it lacks in size, the Boise excels in sheer natural beauty and life-sustaining qualities benefiting the state and region.

After working on the Headwater's project, I know that I will never look at this remarkable river, this old friend, in quite the same way again.



—Airs Thursday, October 8, at 8 p.m.

Caves were home to our ancestors, providing shelter from the elements, their walls a canvas for memories. Today, we are still drawn to the dark, the unknown, and even the beauty of what lies beneath our feet. *Outdoor Idaho* goes under Idaho to discover and illuminate the pitch black world of wild caves in the first show of its 33rd season.

“Other than the deep ocean, there’s nothing on the surface of the world as unknown, as mysterious, as potentially complicated as caving,” says caver Bob Straub.

“When you go into that different ecosystem you come out a little different. You have a little different viewpoint about your role on the planet,” says Johanna Kovarik, Forest Service National Cave Program Coordinator. “There’s something you take away with you.”

“To crawl, rappel, and climb underground is an experience like nothing you can imagine until you’ve done it. It tests your fear of the dark,” says producer Sauni Symonds. “It was a challenge not only for our camera gear, but our crew as well.”



“Saving Gorongosa”

—Airs Friday, October 2, at 7:30 p.m.



Bob Poole

Host Marcia Franklin talks with three people involved with a six-part PBS series, *Gorongosa Park: Rebirth of Paradise*. The series premiered on September 22, 2015.

Guests include Greg Carr, a philanthropist from Idaho, who’s committed at least \$50 million towards restoring Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique; Bob Poole, the cinematographer and host of the series; and James Byrne, the producer.

Gorongosa Park, which used to be full of wildlife, and attracted tourists from around the world, was decimated by a civil war in which much of its animal life was killed for food or for their tusks. It's also being deforested by residents trying to grow crops.

The series, filmed over a period of two years, chronicles the lives and behaviors of various animals, such as lions and elephants, and also profiles leading scientists studying wildlife, birds and insects in the park. It also shows efforts to assist the local economy.

Franklin talks with her guests about why they wanted to produce the documentary, the techniques used to film the wildlife, the challenges faced, and how working on the project affected them. The discussion was filmed in front of a live audience.

“Samuel Hunter”

—Airs Fridays, October 9 and 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Host Marcia Franklin talks with playwright Samuel Hunter in a two-part interview. This Moscow, Idaho, native is only 34 but has already won an Obie Award and a MacArthur “Genius Grant.” Hunter discusses what he is planning to do with the fellowship, and the role Idaho plays in his work.



“Making ‘The Sagebrush Sea’”

—Airs Friday, October 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Host Marcia Franklin talks with Marc Dantzker, producer of a PBS documentary about the greater sage-grouse. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently decided the bird should not be listed as endangered. Dantzker explains the threats faced by sage-grouse and how he made his film.



“Stacy Schiff”

—Airs Friday, October 30, at 7:30 p.m.

As Americans prepare to celebrate Halloween, host Marcia Franklin talks with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Stacy Schiff about a time when fear of the otherworldly invaded the consciousness of entire communities. Schiff's newest book, *The Witches*, is an in-depth historical look at the Salem Witch Trials, during which 14 women, six men and two dogs were found guilty of witchcraft and killed.





“Insects”

—Airs Tuesday, October 20, at 2/1 p.m. MT/PT



Insects are the most numerous and diverse of all animal groups on earth. There are nearly one million known species, and more are being discovered each year.

On October's *Science Trek*, host Joan Cartan-Hansen is joined by William Clark, director of the Orma J. Smith Museum of Natural History at the College of Idaho; and Alan Gillogly, beetle specialist and entomology curator at the Smith Museum. They will answer students' questions about insects.

Students can watch *Science Trek* over the air or on the show's website. They can email questions to ScienceTrek@idahoptv.org or submit video questions recorded on their smartphones or webcams. Students who send in a question are eligible to win prizes for their classroom.

The *Science Trek* website offers facts, links, reading lists, a glossary, podcasts of programs, video shorts, full episodes, and special Web-exclusive programming: idahoptv.org/sciencetrek.

Idaho Public Television in the News

(Update: Paula Kerger's presentation will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 9.)



PBS president to keynote at 50th birthday of Idaho's first public TV station

MOSCOW, Idaho – Sept. 15, 2015 — Paula Kerger, president of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), will visit Moscow to commemorate the 50th anniversary of KUID, Idaho's first public television station. Kerger, chief executive officer of PBS since 2006, will speak at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, in the auditorium of the University of Idaho's Administration Building.

Her keynote address, "Public TV's Digital Future," is free and open to the public. It will be followed by a reception in the gallery of the Albertson Building.

KUID-TV began daily programming Sept. 6, 1965. It was managed by the University of Idaho until 1982, when it joined with stations in Boise and Pocatello to form the Idaho Education and Public Broadcasting System, now called Idaho Public Television.

"I am delighted that Paula Kerger will help us celebrate this milestone," said Patricia Hart, interim director of the School of Journalism and Mass Media. "The pioneers who put this station on the air laid the foundation for the most-watched statewide public TV network in the United States."

Kerger's keynote address will anchor a two-day celebration that will include an open house at the TV studio, classroom visits, a reunion of former KUID student employees and displays of photos and memorabilia from the station's early years. Unique among Idaho's public TV stations, KUID has always had a strong role in the UI's academic mission of preparing journalists and broadcasters for media careers, Hart said.

Former KUID station manager Peter Haggart of Moscow was part of the team that put the station on the air in 1965. Haggart, a longtime UI professor in television and film, will be recognized.

"Professor Haggart is a living link to the early years of the station, giving us insights into how public broadcasting has evolved nationally and in Idaho," Hart said.

As president and chief executive officer of PBS, Kerger has made particularly strong commitments to the arts, news and public affairs. Among her accomplishments are the pop-culture phenomenon "Downton Abbey," the highest rated drama in PBS history; new primetime science and arts series, and digital partnerships to ensure that PBS programming is accessible across multiple platforms and, increasingly, to a global audience.

"Paula Kerger's leadership has been instrumental to the ability of PBS to adapt to changing technology and audiences," said Ron Pisaneschi, general manager of Idaho Public Television. "She has been a strong supporter of regional networks such as ours."

As an educational station, KUID has been unmatched, said Glenn Mosley, director of broadcasting for the School of Journalism and Mass Media. "Since 1965, students have worked side by side with professionals in the studio, control rooms and editing booths," he said.

UI graduates who earned degrees in journalism, radio-television, telecommunication, visual communication, and broadcasting and digital media now work at TV stations, networks and cable channels across the country, Mosley said. Others have branched out into other news and entertainment media.

About UI

The University of Idaho is one of only 72 land-grant research universities across the country. Home to nearly 12,000 students, the UI is a leader in student-centered learning and excels at interdisciplinary research, service to businesses and communities and in advancing diversity, citizenship and global outreach. UI is home to the Vandals and competes in the Big Sky Conference and Sun Belt Conference. Learn more: www.uidaho.edu.

About the School of Journalism and Mass Media

Idaho's only accredited program for the study of journalism and mass communications, the School of Journalism and Mass Media offers undergraduate degrees in advertising, journalism, public relations and broadcasting and digital media. It has more than 350 students and 15 full- and part-time faculty members.

About Idaho Public Television

Idaho Public Television (IdahoPTV) is a statewide, non-commercial broadcast telecommunication system and new media provider based in Boise with additional staffed facilities in Moscow and Pocatello. IdahoPTV is an entity of the Idaho State Board of Education, which holds in the public trust television licenses issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

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