2014 Highlights, by Cynthia Gibson Executive Director:
This last year was highlighted by partnerships, community work and real change in Idaho. Early in 2014, Idaho Walk Bike Alliance (IWBA) changed its name and opened a small office in downtown Boise, which is now a block from the Statehouse allowing staff to walk or bike to our partners throughout the City.

IWBA partnered with Idaho Smart Growth and Conservation Voters for Idaho to travel the state, meeting with advocates and stakeholders about ways to improve walking and biking in their communities. IWBA’s goal is to have sidewalks and bicycle facilities always included in Idaho road projects.

With our partners, IWBA released poll results showing that 77% of Idahoans believe Idaho would benefit from a more balanced transportation system, which includes transit, walking and biking. With the Sonoran Institute and our partners, IWBA helped bring eight Idaho communities to the Community Mobility Institute in Boise for three days of hands-on training in November. IWBA also worked with Bonners Ferry to re-configure Highway 95 to be safe for all road users.

The Community Choices for Idaho federal grant program completed its second cycle and ITD received approximately $11 million more in grant applications than available funds. IWBA continues to strongly advocate for this valuable program and we are excited to see new non-motorized infrastructure funded by these grants in communities throughout Idaho.

IWBA organized Boise’s Walk To School Day in October. Participants included Boise City Council members, representatives of Idaho Transportation Department and Ada County Highway District, State Senator Chuck Winder, and U.S. Senator Jim Risch. A direct result was reduced speed limits and freshly painted crosswalks at two participating schools, as well as a new awareness of children’s safety by our decision makers. At IWBA’s request, Governor Otter proclaimed October 8, 2014 as Walk To School Day!

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2014 Income: $95,074

2014 Expenses: $96,622

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In Memoriam: Beloved IWBA members W.G. Atteberry and Harvey Pine, passed in 2014. We honor their passion for safe streets for walkers and bicyclists.