

Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS
OF WESTERN MONTANA

November 1964
Vol. IV, No. 3



BLODGETT
CANYON

HIKERS' &
CLIMBERS'
MECCA

BITTERROOT
MTNS.

Taken from a
photo by V. Vincent
May 1960

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Subscriptions, Shirl Braxton "

Subscriptions: with each membership (\$3.00/yr.) or \$1.50 for 10 issues.

We appreciate your contributions of articles, maps, and notes on hiking, climbing, and ski-touring. Please submit articles typed and doublespaced. Black and white photos and colored slides are especially useful and can be traced easily onto our multilith stencils.

ANNOUNCING - Monthly meeting - Nov. 10, 1964 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 107, Geology Bldg., MSU campus. (The Geology Building is just south of the Adm. Bldg. on the oval. Park cars behind bldg. with clock tower.)

The evening's program will include a slide show on climbs made this summer. At 9 p.m. a demonstration of equipment will take place. YOU are invited to bring your back-packing and climbing equipment. There are many members who would like to know more about boots, packs, cooking gear, clothing, carabiners, slings, etc., etc.

Do you have a club patch? Back issues of the MountainEar? The Mission Mtns. map? All will be available for sale at the November meeting. They are 60¢, 20¢, and \$1 respectively.

At this meeting plans for an over-Thanksgiving trip will be made.

"CLEARING HOUSE" - All persons interested in participating in club-sponsored activities must call the leader of each trip or the "Clearing House" (Braxtons) 549-2513, by 10 p.m. on the appointed day - Thursday for overnight trips, Friday for Sunday trips. Also a good bet to get up informal trips. (Trip leaders: PLEASE let the Braxtons know details of your trip.)

OFFICERS 1964-65

Pete Hall, Pres., Rte. 3, Missoula, 9-3636 or 3-7241, Ext. 770
John McCammon, Vice-Pres., 540 Daly, Missoula
Martha Ward, Secy., 1609 Madeline, Missoula, 9-2237
Sam Braxton, Treas., 2100 South Ave. W., Missoula, 9-2513

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Nov. 8 Trappeur Cr. Hike

Leader: Sam Braxton 9-2513

Leave: MSU Lodge, 7 a.m.

Return: 9 p.m.

Cost: \$2.50 per person for transportation

A reconnaissance hike to the base of the highest peak in the Bitterroot Range (10,131') to check on the conditions at this time of year. No climbing is planned due to uncertain weather but hike will go rain or shine. Be prepared for cold, blustery weather. Abt. 12 miles round trip.

Bring: lunch, warm clothing, footgear for snow, mittens, camera, binocs if desired.

Nov. 10 Meeting, Rm. 107, Geology Bldg., MSU campus, 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 14 or 15, Climbing School

Nov. 22 St. Mary Pk. Hike

Leader: John McCammon

Leave: 7 a.m., MSU Lodge

Return: 7 p.m.

Cost: 75¢ per person for transportation

Bring: lunch, winter clothing, footgear for snow (possibly snowshoes or skis), sunglasses, hat, mittens; binocs, camera if desired. Drivers should have winter equipment for cars.

This peak in the Bitterroot Range is west of Stevensville, Mont. A forest road gains some altitude above the valley. Much of area is above timberline and at this time of year mid-winter conditions will prevail. Plan to go irregardless of the weather in town as fog in the valley often means sun 500 ft. above!! If it's too wintry, we'll have a low-country trip.

Be sure to check with the "Clearing House" (549-2513) or the trip leader in order to get a 'berth' on club trips. Thursdays are closing dates for overnight or Sat. trips - Fridays for Sunday trips. Please call before 10 p.m.

NOTE: As many of our trips return after supper time (due to the shortness of our daylight hours) many of our participants plan to have a meal on the road during the return to town.

MORE TRIPS IN DECEMBER

THE WILDERNESS TRAIL PICTURE IN THE STEVENSVILLE
DISTRICT OF THE BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST
by Charles MacDonald, Ranger

At present over 100 miles of trails, good, bad, and indifferent, are located within the Wilderness area of the Stevensville Ranger District. In addition, at least fifty miles are outside the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness leading from road ends into this area. A listing of these trails, with their approximate length, termini, condition, location and trail number, as found on the map, may prove of value to those who wish to go a-hiking or a-riding. Many of the distances were actually measured with mileage lettered on signs along the way. The distances may be challenged by some, as being "Forest Service" miles. The rougher the trail the longer it seems. West side trails are listed from north to south of Bitterroot Valley:

1. McClain to One Horse - first part a jeep trail - is 5 miles to Carleton Lk., and 3 more to One Horse Lk.; foot or horseback - a poor trail. (Ed. Note: This is probably the so-called Carleton Ridge road.)
2. Sweeney Trail #93 (now #393) - covers 7 miles to Holloway Lk., via Duffy Lk.; horse or foot - poor.
3. Bass Tr. #4 is 8 miles on north side of creek, consists of 3 miles on old road (not shown on maps), plus 1 mile on trail, and 4 more on old road; horse or foot - fair to excellent. It is proposed to connect, via a new trail, with Holloway Lk. via Pyramid Buttes and the head of the So. Fk. of Lolo Cr., about 5 miles; very scenic. It's possible to go afoot from Bass to the lakes at the head of the So. Fk. of Sweeney Cr. Also a side trail leads to Lappi Lk. which leaves Bass Cr. 4 miles up, then is 2 more on side trail. By foot or mountain-trained horse - a hiker's and ski-tourer's area. Hope for a loop connection into Kootenai Cr., about 3 miles from Lappi Lk.
4. Kootenai Tr. #53 covers 12 miles to either So. or No. lakes; fair to good. A connection from Bass Lk. into an unnamed fork of Kootenai, 5 miles, exists; good hiking chance, a bit hazardous for stock use - scenic.
5. St. Mary L.O. Trail #116, plus McCalla Lk., just So. of summit, rises to summit in 6 miles; scenic after leaving road-end. Development of McCalla Lk. for recreation and fishing is proposed.
6. Big Cr. Canyon Tr. #11 (now #118) covers 14 miles to Pack Box Pass. A dozen or more miles exist in side trails into Stormy Pass-Maud Pass, and up the So. Fk. of Big Cr. to Lake and Garnet Pass (Bear Cr. Pass) - Tr. #118, etc. Portions are very good to poor, via foot or horseback. Can connect with Bear Cr. via Garnet Pass (Bear Cr. Pass) or by Pack Box Pass and White Sand Lk., by way of main lake route.
7. Glen Lake Tr. #120 is about 6 miles long starting at end of present road but planned log roads will end within a couple of miles from lake. The old foot trail to Hidden Lk. needs clearing out.

BITTERROOT TRAILS (contd.)

8. Sweathouse Tr. #121, some 4 miles of old, poor trail, is in need of clearing, and leads into real primitive conditions. Access through the B. Hackett lands not assured to the public as rights-of-way are not on record.
9. Gash Cr. Tr. #122. What little of the old trail remains above the log road leads to real primitive conditions.
10. Bear Cr. Tr. #5 leads via the Middle Fk. to Bryan Lk. and Garnet Pass (Bear Cr. Pass). Nine miles of new excellent trail affords the problem of keeping scooters off it. Two miles above the lake remain to be built. Branch trails to Bear Lk., 4 miles, are poor and boggy, but provide a hiking chance. Up So. Fk. of Bear to its head is 8 or more miles, mostly a hiking chance; very scenic in the headwaters. Hope to be able to connect over the top with Fred Burr trail, an expensive job.
11. Fred Burr Tr. #38 provides 14 miles of poor trail to a pass (scenic) from road end at the reservoir (7 mi. of very poor road from the county road). No public access, except by foot. Connects with Mill Canyon trail at the pass.
12. Sheafman Trail #82, 8 miles to the pass, is steep and poor most of the way. It is hoped a connection of 2 miles can be made with Fred Burr, to make a loop.
13. Mill Canyon Trail #64 (now #364) is 15 miles to the pass and connection with #38, via Mill Lk. and Lockwood Lk. Two lakes, Sears and Hauf, to the south are reached in about 2 miles each by hiking trails. Mill trail is mostly poor.
14. Blodgett Tr. #19, about 14 miles to the lake, is mostly poor but very heavily used. A connection about 2 miles from Mill Lk. to Idaho and the route to Big Cr. is made via Big Sand Lk. A branch about 3 miles long to High Lk. is being rebuilt by the reservoir owners this year. It remains a hiking chance. No trail exists to Lake Lomo, despite being shown on old maps. The canyon route is becoming too heavily used by big outfit trail-rider expeditions on the route to Big Cr. canyon via Idaho. But more about Wilderness use at a later date.

Most of the Mountaineers know more about the peaks, canyon walls, etc. than I do, so no mention will be made of those possibilities. Some very pleasant primitive, unspoiled camp sites can be found in cirques and sites off main trails, though little or no fishing will be found that high. Most of the loop connections are over high open passes, which can be very rough in a storm. Inexperienced hikers are advised against trying these unless accompanied by more experienced helpers, or in the midst of the summer season. Well, good luck in your Wilderness explorations.

(Contd. pg. 6)

Lolo Pk. in the autumn

If it's foggy in Missoula, be sure to go to the mountains! More often than not it will be clear and warmer, as it was October 11 when a group hiked to the main summit of Lolo Pk. The club-sponsored trip left Missoula at 7 a.m. in a dismal fog but once on the Mormon Ridge road got into the sun.

We were rather jammed into two cars, but the more the merrier! We left the cars where trail #310 leaves the Mormon Ridge road to the 6000' level. After a short area of dense forest we reached the open forest that leads to the gap at the west end of Carleton Ridge. We dropped down to the larger Carleton Lake where we had a lunch stop. From this point there is a choice of routes to the summit of Lolo Pk., directly above Carleton Lakes. We took the rib that rises from the head of the lake and gained the summit in about two hours. There was some snow and we followed the fingers of solid snow to the ridge. Another route is the ridge along the south side of the upper (larger) lake but there is some rock scrambling along that portion of the ridge.

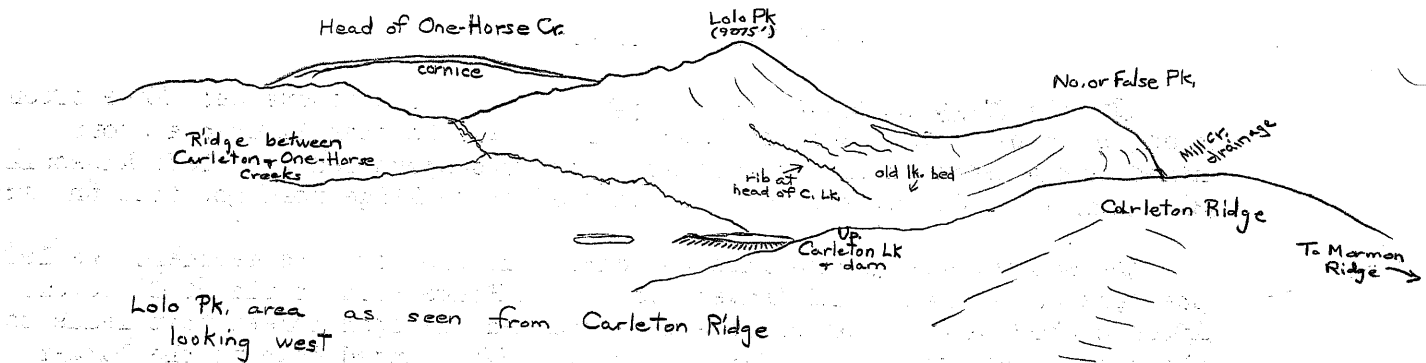
At the top we spent quite some time enjoying the balmy air and the fascinating view. There wasn't even a breeze. Directly south of us St. Joseph Pk. loomed with St. Mary Pk. and the Heavenly Twins flanking it, though further away. The Bitterroot Range was quite snowy as were the Missions to the north. There was very little snow on other ranges.

The majority of the group descended into the saddle at the head of the Carleton drainage, skirting under the North or False Summit. We picked up the red-flagged trail where it drops into a swale just south of Carleton Ridge. It was such a beautiful day that we dallied on the way back and reached the cars at a quarter of six.

All in all it was a fine trip. We did have one goof along who went, by himself, out on the long cornice that overhangs the ridge heading up the One Horse drainage. He proceeded to sit on the edge and knock chunks out from under him. This is one of the cardinal sins of snow travel---- that of approaching the edge of a cornice as one has no way of knowing the fracture zone.

We had little trouble following the trail as it is quite well blazed, especially on the upward trip. Coming down we all lost the trail at one point or another as there are diverging blazes and the trail is not well-worn. (If on descending one ends up at a pool that blazes lead to, simply side-hill to the left and the main trail is quickly regained.) Mormon Ridge is definitely the approach to Carleton Lakes and Lolo Peak as one crosses but four sections. The routes up Carleton Ridge or Lantern Ridge are very long.

Participating in the hike were Victor Andressen, Don Burgau, Roger Bergstrom, Keith Flaugh, Mikols Gratzner, Rene Hall, Ralph Hutchinson, Kit Jones, Jay Josephson, Todd Naegeli, Roger Nichols, Chuck Seeley, Ray Springer, Dave Schneider, Barry Taylor, Martha Ward, and Virginia Vincent, leader. This is a wonderful turnout but I was a little disappointed that more old club members didn't participate. It would be nice to have the old-hands along for propaganda reasons if nothing else. In addition, Pete Hall, John McCammon, Ove Madsen, Dick Larsen and Dave Line worked on the trail leading to Carleton Ridge. More blazing and widening for skitouring were accomplished beside a climb of Lolo Peak. by Virginia Vincent



Log of Lolo Peak Hike (as recorded by a not-too-fast hiker)

45 minute drive from campus to trail #310 on Mormon Ridge

Left cars 8 a.m. - Arrived Carleton Lk. dam 10:15 a.m.

One-half hour lunch stop

Left damsite 10:45 a.m. - Arrived top of peak 12:45 p.m. via ridge from head of lake

Started down 1:40 p.m. Arrived at trail above dam 3:20 p.m. via north peak ridge

Arrived cars 5:40 p.m. after several rests and dallying along way.

Trail and snow conditions excellent

For further directions see Mountain Ear, I, 6,5; II, 4,3; II, 5,5 & 7; II, 6, 4; III, 4, 6 & 7; III, 5, 13.

TRAILS OF THE BITTERROOT (contd.)

Ed. Note: This area, commencing but 10 miles south of Missoula, Montana, provides some of the most diversified hiking and climbing area found in western Montana. From Highway 93 running through the Bitterroot Valley one looks up the myriad canyons leading seductively into the vast Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness Area. These canyons provide easy access to a variety of terrain for activities in all seasons.

The U.S. Forest Service has a new map (1963) published for this area. Large copies cost about \$1, and a small map of the Stevensville District of the Bitterroot National Forest is available upon request. It is obtainable at the map division of the Regional Office at Fort Missoula. The map is quite detailed with boundaries brought up to date.

WE DOOD IT!! - 28 MILES IN A DAY OF HIKING

And it was a cinch, almost! We didn't get bad blisters, we got ourselves out of the woods, we enjoyed it, and we did it on purpose. Most of this past summer Martha and Virginia had contemplated a 50 mile hike but the more we thought of doing it on a highway, the less appealing it was. So we figured 30 miles in the mountains ought to be comparable. Thus on Sept. 13th, 1964 M. Ward, V. Vincent, joined by Betty Heliker, set forth to see Blodgett Lk.

The evening before we had driven to the mouth of Blodgett Cr., over that horrible road, and camped where the trail begins. Here a sign reads "Blodgett Pass 16 miles." Maps do not indicate this much distance and show the lake a couple of sections beyond. We arose at 3 a.m. and after a hot breakfast, departed from camp at 4:15 a.m. After $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours by flashlight we arrived at the 3 mile mark and bridge that crosses to the north bank. (There are mile markers all along, and with the easy, easy grade we were doing as well as 3 miles an hour on some stretches.) After this point it was daylight, crisp and frosty. About 7:20 we stopped in a grassy opening for a breakfast of sorts, trail type. We passed the junction with the Blodgett Pass trail at $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles. About a quarter of an hour after seeing the 12 mile sign we arrived at the lake, at 10 a.m.

This whole drainage is a gem of great beauty. At the mouth and for 3 to 4 miles there are granite-like cliffs varying from rounded humps to serrated ridges. The stream runs through meadows deep with grass and fir thickets and over frothy cascades. At 5 miles is Blodgett Falls, a large spummy cascade where the remains of a log cabin perch beside the water. At 7 miles the trail to High Lake west of Canyon Pk. leaves the canyon floor, and between 8 and 9 miles is the area where a forest fire swept through in 1964. Luckily it was not widespread and one is soon out of this ugly scar. (There is no disruption of the trail.) The head of the canyon is walled in by light-colored slab rock interspersed by gullies full of green grass and ruddy, frost-bitten huckleberry. Blodgett Lk. is of fair size, and though dammed, there was no bull-doing and the beaches are of sand and driftwood. As it is about 600' higher than the area we had just come up through, the view down the canyon and over to the Pass area is fine. While lolling in the sun we heard a voice-like noise and upon gazing around spotted a large goat running along a cliff about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. away. Other than grouse, no other game was observed that day.

It was hard to leave such an idyllic spot, what with sun, soft grass, and the prospects of at least 13 miles more to do. However, at 12:30 p.m. we roused ourselves and set forth. Arriving at the jct. with the Pass trail 45 min. later, we were feeling so spunky that it was decided to go up, since the sign read .5 mi. It was hardly worth it in the writer's opinion--hot, steep, and long. The sign at the top announced that the Blodgett Cr. trail was 1 mile away! But here we were on the Idaho border - the view was not what I expected of the far-flung ridges, but was of another canyon with a sharp bend. This leads to the Big Sand Lk. area and eventually to Elk Summit, a road head. So back down we went and thus added 2 mi. and consequently got in 28 miles for the whole trip.

Upon reaching the main trail we lunched by Blodgett Cr. and cooled off. Now came the grind and I admit after 21 miles it was a chore. At the falls Betty and I bathed our feet, and I changed into oxfords as my boots had pinched some toes. (This was no more comfortable, to my chagrin.) Martha by now was well ahead, as anyone who has hiked with her finds out on the return trip. We met her at the bridge and all three of us reached the car just as darkness fell. Thus at 7:15 p.m. we ended a wonderful tour of Blodgett Canyon.

by Virginia Vincent

Nature Notes - Blodgett Canyon - Sept. 13, 1964

No Coast Forest trees seen
Saxifraga sp. in mats on ground
Gentiana calycosa - Blue gentian blooming

Pileated Woodpeckers
Rocky Mtn. Goats
Clark's Nutcracker

Log of Blodgett Canyon Hike

- 1 3/4 hrs. drive from Missoula, includes 3 miles of BAD road.
- 5 3/4 hrs. beginning of trail to Blodgett Lake, includes stops and over 1 hr. by flashlight - 12 to 13 miles easy trail.
- 6 3/4 hrs. lake to car - includes 30 to 50 min. trip up into pass, rest on top, and 30 min. down to trail; and lunch stops.
- 13 + 2 miles.

For further directions see MountainEar, III, 6, 9.

Notes from the LOLO PEAK REGISTER (on main peak)

These are as interesting as any that the editor has yet recorded, especially as to what they wrote their names on!

On a strip of paper:

Sept. 11, 1955 Tom Ott Esther Foss Ernest Hunters
Cliff Worthen

On a small yellow paper:

Gallup and McBride Expeditions October 1955 windy'er than Hell.
snow, rain, hail

The Bu Bu Expedition 18 May 1956 Damn Hot (like hell)
Bettes Marion 3 hr. 48 min.

-slow bastards-

Eberle Don

Barrett Bill

Calbaum (cow-bottom) Jerry

Craig Harvey (the bunny)

Spurgeon Bill

Mathison Ed

Remarks: Snowshoes $\frac{1}{2}$ the way

Aug. 29, 1956 Betty, George & Russ Heliker and Ellis Waldron
Snow flurries and ice coated trees

Jukkala Savage Wallhagen May 25, 1963

(contd. page 10)

NORTH RIDGE OF GREY WOLF

by
Jim Kanzler

July 18, 1964 (Saturday)

Up at 6:45 a.m. It had rained hard during the night, complete with much thunder and lightning. A few clouds remained, but it looked like it was going to be a nice day. At breakfast, Dad sat and looked at the Wind Notch on the north ridge of Grey Wolf. He mumbled a couple of times, "If a guy could get into that notch, I think he might make it to the summit via the north ridge." I noticed he had been looking at the north face and north ridge a lot when we were on Blackbuck the day before.

Finally, he made up his mind, and said, "Boys, I'm going to try the north ridge. You're welcome if you want to go. Can't promise anything but some exercise. If you want a good climb, go with Braxton - my idea may be a blind alley." Lee and Skip went with Sam, and Jerry and I stuck with Dad. Doctor Downey decided to join us, so we had a group of four to explore a new route.

From camp we dropped down to the west shore of No Fish Lake and then crossed the creek on a snow bridge at the outlet. We went straight up the big couloir from the east side of No Fish. It was steep, with some loose rock but we made good time. Left camp 9:15. Started up couloir at 10:00.

About three-fourths of the way up, the couloir split into two branches. We took the left fork which goes into the notch. It had one tight squeeze up a short chimney. Dad couldn't make it with his camera pack, so we sent it up on a rope.

Walked through the Wind Notch - a good name for it - 11:35. From the east end got a good view of Grey Wolf Glacier, and the lake far below. Also a nice view of Sunset Crags. On the south wall of the notch, at the east end, there is a stair-steps leading out of the notch (toward west) and up onto the crest of the north ridge. Dr. Downey led up these and announced the going looked good up the ridge. We followed the crest of the ridge (going south) until we came to the steep face. Here we picked up a good goat trail at the base of the face, and followed it up to the col between the main summit and the west summit, keeping always uphill from the several snowfields, and below the cliffs.

We worked along the big block rocks in the col, and then crossed over the ridge to the head of the big couloir coming up from the west face of Grey Wolf. A goat trail led all the way to the summit. Arrived at the cairn at 12:55. Saw four goats just below the summit, on the Scenic Lakes side. We also must have spooked another one somewhere, because he ran down the route we had climbed and nearly ran over Gerry Cullen who was sitting in the Wind Notch. Kreck and David had gone through the Notch and dropped down to the lower edge of the glacier; we could see them heading down to Grey Wolf Lake to try the fishing. The clouds were boiling in now. Jerry saw a bolt of lightning to the southeast.

Installed the register in a new plastic water bottle. The old container was in bad shape. Logged in and began the descent at 1:10 p.m. Just below the summit, we met Alice and Gordon Edwards, and Charlie Fisher,

who had just climbed the west face and topped out at the head of the big couloir. They didn't have a rope with them and didn't want to descend via the same route without one. Gordon didn't like the cloud formations any better than we did so they made a dash for the summit and we waited for them so they could go down with us. Started down at 1:50 p.m. and arrived at the Wind Notch at 3:00 p.m. with a stop for lunch at a water trickle.

Instead of going back down the couloir to No Fish Lake, we descended a short distance onto the lower edge of Grey Wolf Glacier and glissaded down to the ice-covered pond to the North. From here we hiked back up the side of the North Ridge and to the summit of Three Summit Peak. Class two and three all the way. Then we continued north along a knife-edge ridge to the low spot below High Park Peak. Here Gordon and Alice left us and dropped down the west face on a very steep goat trail to return to camp. The rest of us went on to the top of High Park at 4:45 p.m. and then down the Northeast terrace which slopes around into Freeman's Pass. We continued on through the pass and held elevation on the west side of the No Fish drainage back to camp. Arrived back at camp about 6:30 p.m.

##

LOLO PK. REGISTER (contd.)

On the back of an appointment card of R. A. Hawkins, D.D.S. was:

July 1, 1958 R. J. Hayden

A. Schmittroth

L. Schmittroth

J. P. Hayden

J. P. Wehrenberg

July 20, 1963

S. B. Wehrenberg

Wolfgang Amadeus

J. P. Wehrenberg

Mike Wilkerson simply left an invoice for gas purchased at the Brooks St. Carter Service, Missoula, dated July 18, 1958.

On a diary sheet headed 'expense':

Esther Foss Allan Foss age 12 Sally Foss age 55 Aug. 11, 1959
climbed in 2 hrs. 10 min.

On a large sheet (as register notes go) offering SEAMLESS or full-fashioned Nylons:

David Hafer M.C.H.S. Sept. 20, 1959

Harry W. Hafer Sept. 20, 1959 Missoula

Windy

Clifton B. Worthen 606 Woodford St.

Missoula, Mont. Sept. 20, 1959

Robert Eder

8/28/63

Jerry Eder

8/28/63

On the inside of a Hersey bar wrapper:

Aug. 20, 1960 Left south fork meadows at 8:00 a.m. Around here at
10 a.m. Beautiful Day

Ed Williams Gerald Tucker L.S. Mort

MEMBERSHIP 1964-65

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3-3715

Hall, Pete
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9-1760

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3-4435

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McCammon, John
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Nichols, Roger
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9-0126

Reichman, Roger
323 Craig Hall, MSU

Rust, David
322 Craig Hall, MSU

Schneider, David
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9-0126

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9-5378

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9-2237

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548 Edith, Missoula
9-6396

If your name is not included it means your membership expires as of Nov. '64. We would appreciate your contacting the club treasurer.

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On, Danny
Box 766, Missoula

We exchange publications with several clubs. Watch for their issues at each meeting.

(If your name is not here check with Shirl Braxton on your expiration date.)

REPORT ON THE CLIMBING SCHOOL
Oct. 18, 1964 by Ray Breuninger

The first climbing school of this year was a success. A new practice area was found and used. To get there, drive about 3/4th mile west of Lolo Hot Springs, turn south on a good gravel road, cross Lolo Creek, and go about half a mile to prominent outcrops of granite. A stream (fishing?) parallels the road.

The granite is a massive, uniform rock and forms smooth steep cliffs up to about 100 feet high. There are few handholds other than small, moderately firm knobs. This contrasts with the rounded, weathered, crumbly granite seen by the road at Lolo Hot Springs. Trees and boulders serve as good belay anchors. Piton cracks often bottom out rapidly; bolts would be useful if any climbs without upper belays are attempted. Several short but interesting cracks and chimneys give good practice in jamming (feet, knees, heads, etc.) and counter-pressure techniques.

Most of the 4th and 5th class face climbs involve either balance climbing or "musche" moves where much of the climber's weight is held by small finger-tip holds. Bucket holds are rare, as opposed to the foliated (banded) metamorphic rocks typical of the eastern part of the Bitterroot Mtns. This area has only a few easy climbs suitable for beginning climbers; perhaps as we become more familiar with the area more easy climbs will be found.

Tom Mitchell, Gary Hall, and two others got lost from the main group of climbers, when, instead of turning south just past the Hot Springs, they continued two miles west on the main road. According to them, we were the lost ones!! However, both groups had good climbing and a fine day. Tom and Gary's cliffs are somewhat higher than ours, but otherwise much the same.

REPORT ON THE OCT. 24-25 OVERNIGHT TRIP

A very successful overnight trip to the Bass Cr. Crags area was undertaken over the weekend of Oct. 24-25 by seven persons. Those participating were Pete Hall, leader, Barry Taylor, Chuck Seeley, Todd Naegeli, Dick Larsen, Chris Christensen and Charles Hasskamp.

"A vegetarian climber is one who climbs via the
grassy gullies." Thanks to Martha Ward

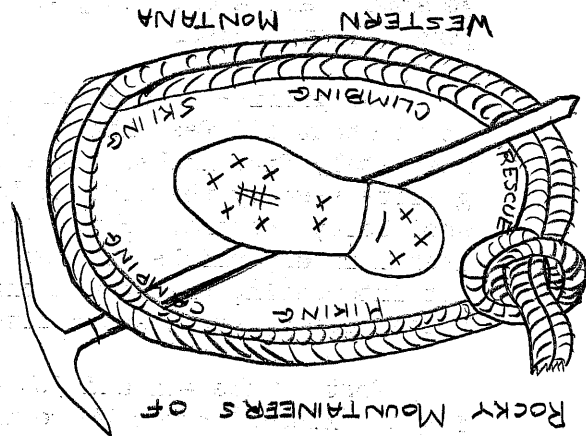
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We would like to reprint here the Seattle Mountaineers' CLIMBING CODE

1. A climbing party of 3 is the minimum, unless adequate support from those who have knowledge that the climb is in progress.
2. Carry at all times the clothing, food and equipment necessary.
3. Rope up on all exposed places and for all glacier travel.
4. Keep the party together, and obey the leader or majority rule.
5. Never climb beyond your ability and knowledge.
6. Judgement must not be swayed by desire when choosing the route or turning back.
7. Leave the trip schedule with a responsible person.
8. Follow the precepts of sound mountaineering as set forth in textbooks or recognized merit.
9. Deport yourselves at all times in a manner that will not reflect unfavorably upon mountaineering.