



Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS

April, 1994 1992

MEETING

Time and Place: Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the Montana Power Building at 1903 Russell Street in Missoula. The April meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8.

Program: Bill Wyland, a distinguished senior member of Missoula's climbing community, will present a slide show on a recent climbing trip to Patagonia.

Notice: Officers will be elected at the April meeting. Art Gidel has been nominated as President, Rick Murney has been nominated as Vice President, Dave Pengelly has been nominated as secretary-treasurer, and Peter Dayton has been nominated as newsletter editor. Further nominations will be accepted from the floor, so everybody else is still at risk.

TRIP CALENDAR

Hiking, skiing, spring mountaineering, mountain biking, etc.: No formal trips scheduled, which is pretty deplorable, especially considering the number of trips going on. Let's get more of those trips on the calendar, folks!

Floating: Call Peter Dayton, 728-8101, or Art Gidel, 543-6352, if you want to get out kayaking, canoeing, or rafting during the weekends or on weekday evenings.

TRIP REPORTS

Lochsa River, numerous trips. During March the Missoula Chapter of Kayakers Anonymous voted to start holding its meetings on the Lochsa River, two hours over Lolo Pass in Idaho. It's kind of a long drive, but the members find the boating very therapeutic. During March the river was running at 2,000-3,000 cfs, which is about 1-1.5 feet on the gauge at Lowell. This is a very friendly and laid-back level for the Lochsa, offering lots of interesting playing with comparatively little intimidation. The members of the chapter pretty much had the river to themselves, as many people mistakenly believe that the river isn't any good until water levels exceed two feet. The weather was phenomenally good, with uniformly warm air and clear skies. At the beginning of April a snowstorm boosted water levels to the 3,500-4,000 cfs level, which is around 2 feet on the gauge. This added some punch to the rapids, as well as producing a return to standard spring conditions. In the course of a day the members of the chapter were snowed on, rained on, shined on by warm sunshine, and everything in between. Despite the intimidating weather - there was fresh snow on the road from shortly outside of Lolo to about ten miles above the launch site - the river was crawling with boaters. Several Missoula kayakers joined the Chapter for their first trip down the Lochsa, and did splendidly. On the ride back to Missoula, the participants unanimously adopted a resolution naming the Lochsa as "Western Montana's Best River." - Peter Dayton

OFFICERS

Dave Pengelly, President - 728-6512
Arnold Finklin, Treasurer - 543-8705

Peter Dayton, V.P. and Newsletter 728-8101
Your Name Here - Trip Leader (hint, hint)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Check one: Individual (\$6.00/year) _____ Family (\$8.00/year) _____

Mail a check payable to
"Rocky Mountaineers" to
Arnold Finklin
P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, Montana 59807

THE MOUNTAIN EAR
P.O. BOX 4262
MISSOULA, MT 59806

(STAMP)

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