



Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS

APRIL 1998

MEETING

Meeting: Club meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the lower level meeting room at the Missoula Public Library. This month's meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on ~~Wednesday, April 15.~~

Thurs Apr 9

Program: Mavis Lorenz will present a slide show entitled "K2 Base Camp Solo Trip." Mavis made a 21-day trek in Pakistan to the K2 base camp in 1992. She saved several thousand dollars by directly contracting with a Pakistani company which provided guides, cooks, helpers and a jeep. During the trip, she had the opportunity to meet Scott Fisher. Mavis will explain how you can set up an individual tailor-made trek in Pakistan.

Business: Nominations for club officers will be presented at this meeting.

TRIP CALENDAR

April 11, Saturday, Welcome Creek. Hike along Welcome Creek, which is located in the Rock Creek drainage east of Missoula. The 4-5 mile trail, with about 3000 feet of elevation gain, begins at a foot bridge across Rock Creek and continues to Cleveland Mountain (7200 feet), which is in the Sapphire Mountains east of Florence. Depending on current conditions, snow shoes probably will not be required. Call Penny Palm at 258-2000 for more information.

April 18, Saturday, Black Mountain. Hike to Black Mountain (5951 feet) which is immediately to the west of Missoula. The three-mile route with about 2500 feet of elevation gain mostly follows logging roads (or short, steep sections in between), but the upper portion is unspoiled. This mountain only recently has become accessible to the public since a land exchange. Call Steve Schombel at 721-4686 for more information.

April 25-26, Rocky Mountaineer Cabin. Enjoy a fun-filled weekend at the Club's backcountry cabin in the Bitterroots. There's not much snow left, so it will be easy to get to the cabin. But, there is enough snow for fun skiing and snowshoeing around the cabin. Call Matt Grandy at 728-0647 for more information.

May 2, Saturday, North Fork of the Jocko River. Hike along the North Fork of the Jocko River, which is in the southern portion of the Missions. The route is entirely on a trail, and one option is to do a 15-mile loop hike with 2400 feet of elevation gain. Sights along this route will include the snow survey cabin, Buck Lake, Summit Lake and Lost Sheep Lake. Call Gerald Olbu at 549-4769 for more information.

May 10, Sunday, Kakashe Mountain. Climb Kakashe Mountain (8575 feet), which is located in the Missions near St. Ignatius. This 10-mile round-trip route with 5100 feet of elevation gain is mostly off-trail, and requires snowshoes and an ice ax. Descending down the back side of the mountain provides a nice loop trip. This trip is not technically difficult, but does require endurance. Call Gerald Olbu at 549-4769 for more information.

May 16-17, Lolo Peak. Overnight trip to Lolo Peak (9139 feet) which is visible from Missoula to the southwest. This is the first weekend after the road is opened on May 15. On Saturday, the route will follow a trail from the 5800-foot trail head up to the 8250-foot Vista Point, then descends down to Carlton Lake where camp will be made. On Sunday, a moderate snowshoe or ski trip will take participants to the top of Lolo Peak where excellent ski opportunities exist. Call Matt Grandy at 728-0647 for more information.

May 17, Bonner Mountain. Hike to Bonner Mountain (6811 feet), which is east of Bonner. A 6-mile trail with about 3500 feet of elevation gain will lead hikers to the summit. There probably won't be any snow at this time. Participants may have the opportunity to observe Bighorn sheep since there are several in this area. Call Penny Palm at 258-2000 for more information.

May 23-25, Saturday-Monday, Emigrant Peak. Climb Emigrant Peak (10,921 feet) which is in the Absaroka Beartooth Wilderness about 25 miles south of Livingston over the Memorial Day Weekend. The four-mile route with about 5500 feet of elevation gain is entirely off-trail. Even though the route is considered to be a scramble, an ice ax will probably be required as there may be some late season snow at the higher elevations. Depending on participants' interest, camp may be made in a campground or a bivi on the mountain. Also, it may be possible to soak in the hot pools at Chico Hot Springs. Call Tony Sabol at 728-7221 for more information.

May/June 1999, Mount McKinley. A trip is being planned for Mount McKinley (20,320 feet) in Denali National Park, Alaska. If interested, contact Gerald Olbu at 549-4769 to express an interest and also participate in the several training sessions we will have.

Want to lead a trip? If you are interested in leading a trip, contact Gerald Olbu at 549-4769.

TRIP REPORTS

March 7-8, Bass Creek. On a beautiful early spring weekend, Matt Grandy, Gerald Olbu and Chris Stout headed up Bass Creek for a winter backpacking trip. We were heading for Lappi Lake, but the warm sun made us want to just have a relaxing trip and bask in the sun. We traveled about five miles up Bass Creek where we came to a meadow with a great view of the scenery around us. We sat down and then decided to make camp. - Gerald Olbu.

March 21, Stuart Peak. With last minute arrangements, Gerald Olbu and Jason Schindler made a quick trip to Stuart Peak. We were able to walk most of the way up the trail, but eventually had to use snowshoes. We reached the saddle area near the peak, ate lunch and enjoyed the warm sun. It was supposed to rain this day, but never did and we had great weather. - Gerald Olbu.

March 29, Lolo Pass. We didn't know what we would find as Jo Ellen Lyng, Gerald Olbu, Penny Palm, Charles Tree and myself set out for Lolo Pass. We anticipated soggy snow conditions, but found a light dusting of new snow on older packed snow. The skiing was delightful. We skied up the side of a ridge, had some lunch in a brisk wind, then skied down the open and slightly treed slopes. On the way out, we climbed and skied some lower hills. All day, we had a brilliant blue sky. A good time was had by all. - Julie Warner.

OFFICERS

Gerald Olbu, President - 549-4769
Julie Warner, Secretary-Treasurer - 543-6508

Peter Dayton, Newsletter Editor - 728-8101
Len Broberg, Vice President - 549-6031

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Check one: Individual (\$9.00/year) _____ Family (\$12.00/year) _____

Mail a check payable to
"Rocky Mountaineers" to
Rocky Mountaineers Outdoor Club
P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, MT 59806

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL



Schombel, Stephen
2200 Applewood Ln
04/98
Missoula MT 59801