

Mountain Ear

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS

APRIL 2000

The Rocky Mountaineers are dedicated to the exploration of Western Montana's mountains and other high peaks throughout the world.

MEETING

CLUB MEETINGS: The Rocky Mountaineers normally meet on the second Wednesday of each month, in the lower meeting room, at the Missoula Public Library. This month we are meeting on April 12th at 7 p.m. The April meeting is the time when we nominate candidates for the officer positions. **The majority of officer positions are opening up. If you are interested in becoming a club officer or would like to nominate someone, please attend to make your suggestions known.**

APRIL PROGRAM: Our program this month will feature Scott Edgerton, who has spent years working on cruise ships. He helped organize and lead tours and expeditions to some of the most remote places around the world. Scott's presentation will focus on his experiences in Antarctica. He worked with small groups as a Naturalist, Zodiac driver, and expedition leader. Scott has departed from both Patagonia and from New Zealand, so he is familiar with both sides of Antarctica. He has many fascinating shots of the interesting scenery, the rich and exotic wildlife, and a little of the history- huts and other artifacts left by the early explorers of this frozen continent.

TRIP CALENDER

April 16th, Sun, Eagle Point: Eagle Point (7928 feet) is located on the Sapphire-Bitterroot Divide just East of Victor. The point can be accessed from either the Rock Creek Drainage or from the Bitterroot side. We will most likely start from the Bitterroot Valley and follow the Burnt Fork drainage. There may be some snow at the higher elevations and snowshoes may be helpful. Call Tami Sabol @ 273-2566 for more information.

April 22nd, Sat, Mt. Aenas: Climb Mt. Aenas (7530 feet) in the northern portion of the Swan Range. We will take a trail to Picnic Lakes and then scramble up the east side of the ridge. From there, it is an easy one-mile walk to the summit. We should have great views of Jewel Basin from the summit. Call Penny Palm @ 258-2000 for more details.

April 29th, Sat, Quigg Peak: Climb Quigg Peak (8419 feet) in the Sapphire Mountains. We will travel up the Butte Cabin Creek drainage. Most of the route will follow a trail and is approximately six miles to the summit. There may be some snow still present in shaded areas and in the higher elevations. Contact Karen Apland @ 542-3737 for more information.

April 30th, Sun, Mt. Sentinel...from the back: The Rocky Mountaineers like to offer trips that are relatively non-technical and open to beginners from the club and public. This month, Julie Warner will be leading a hike up the backside of Mt. Sentinel to the summit. The trip is about seven miles, mostly on road and trail. Tick season is getting in full swing, so this route will help avoid some of those nasty critters. Come join Julie for a great Sunday outing. Call Julie for more information @ 543-6508.

May 27th-30th, Sat-Tues, Mt. Adams, Washington: Join the Rocky Mountaineers for a trip up this Washington volcano. At 12,276 feet, this is the second highest peak in the state of Washington. Contact Tami Sabol soon @ 273-2566 to get the skinny on this great peak.

June 2000, Liberty Ridge, Mt. Rainier, Washington: This route is very technical, requiring good knowledge of glacier travel and technical ice, rope management, self arrest skills, and mountain savvy. The route ascends more than 5,000 feet of 40-50 degree snow and ice. It requires a serious commitment, as generally there is no descending this route. Participants will be required to be in great to excellent physical condition, possess appropriate gear, and have comparable route climbing experience. Participation will be limited as this is a technical route. Dates for the trip will depend upon when the road opens on the northeast side of the mountain. Please call early to begin formation of this climbing team. Tony Sabol @ 273-2566.

July 1st-5th, Sat-Weds, Mt. Olympus, Washington: Join the Rocky Mountaineers for a trip up this marvelous peak located on the Olympic peninsula. At 7,966 feet, this is the highest peak in northwest Washington. Because of its elevation and proximity to the ocean, it receives a tremendous amount of snowfall each year and remains glaciated. Crampons and ice axe will be required. Contact Penny Palm early for information @ 258-2000.

July 14th-16th, Fri-Sun, Glacier Park Bike and Climb: Join Penny Palm on a moonlight ride in Glacier Park. Participants will do a ride to Logan Pass on the 14th. A climb of Mt. Siyeh (10,014 feet), one of the few ten thousand footers located in the park, will occur on the 15th/16th. Call Penny for more information @ 258-2000.

July 21st-23rd, Fri-Sun, Mt. Rainier, Washington: Join Penny Palm on a glacier climb up this colossus! Participants will ascend this 14,411 foot volcano via the Emmons Glacier. This is a technical glacier trip requiring gear and knowledge for safe travel. This trip will be a joint climb with the Tacoma Mountaineers. Contact Penny Palm @ 258-2000 for the beta on this awesome climb.

September 2nd-4th, Sat-Mon, Mt. Athabasca, Canada: Join the Rocky Mountaineers for the third annual ascent of this Canadian Rockies classic (12,250 feet). There are multiple routes up this beautiful glaciated peak located in Jasper National Park. Some gear and knowledge will again be required. Call Matt Grandy @ 728-0647 for more info.

January/February 2001, Aconcagua, South America: At 22,841 feet, this peak is the highest in the western hemisphere, and the highest of any peak not located in the Himalayas. We will ascend the direct route on the Polish Glacier. Continued planning for this trip will revolve around the political arena in the area. This has been a global hotspot, so we'll see how planning goes. Contact Tami or Tony Sabol @ 273-2566 if you are interested in this fascinating mountain.

TRIP REPORTS

Moonlight Ski Trip, March 18th: Several people were interested in this trip. Steve Schombel, Charles Tree, Fred and Eileen Schwaneman, and Brett Doucett (welcome back Brett) met on the south edge of town and headed for Lolo Pass. It was dark and cloudy, and the weather kept getting worse. We skied away from the lot with a very dim moon peeking through the clouds. Then it started to snow...heavy, wet, nasty snow, but our spirits were high as we laughed and joked with one another. We did a few miles, and we all made it safely down the slick-near-freezing road. We agreed that these trips are fun whatever the conditions, and we hope others will continue the tradition - Steve Schombel

Lolo Pass Instructional Workshop, March 25th: Karen Apland, Tami Sabol, Colby, Tom, and Penny Palm skied/snowshoed into a great slope under sunny skies to practice ice axe arrests and crevasse rescue techniques. We reviewed the correct procedures for ascending a snowslope with an ice axe. In addition, we practiced ice axe arrests in all positions and with packs on, including the headfirst, on-your-back downhill position! During lunch, we practiced tying a variety of climbing knots. We then had a member of our team slide down the slope out of control into a simulated crevasse. We all took turns rigging a z-pulley system – which turned out to be very effective, as we had no casualties! We will offer another training session in May, which will be required for attendance on future glacier trips – Penny Palm

Want to Lead A Trip ? If you are interested in being a Trip Leader for the Rocky Mountaineers, contact Club President Matt Grandy at 728-0647 or e-mail him at matthewg@montana.com.



CLUB OFFICERS

President	Matt Grandy	728-0647	Treasurer	Julie Warner	543-6508
Vice President	Tony Sabol	273-2566	Secretary	Penny Palm	258-2000
Vice President	Steve Schombel	721-4686	Newsletter Editor	Tami Sabol	273-2566

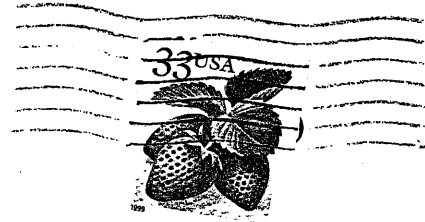
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail: _____

Check One: Individual (\$9 per year) _____ Family (\$12 per year) _____

Make checks payable to "Rocky Mountaineers" Rocky Mountaineers
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4/00

*Please renew
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