



Mountain Ear

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS

APRIL, 2001

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 May 10th, at 7 p.m.

Summer is prime time for hiking, backpacking, climbing, and mountaineering. We take these months "off" to get the full enjoyment out of these wonderful months. May will be the last month the Mountaineers will meet prior to summer. We will reconvene in September for the next meeting, followed by the members "potluck" slide show in October. Please take numerous photographs on all of your trips, so you can either pass around prints, or give a mini-slide show to our members at the October meeting. Although the club does not meet during the summer, you will continue to receive the newsletter. If you have a trip you would like to list or give a trip report for, please contact the newly elected President and/or newsletter editor.

At the April meeting, the club spent time examining the BY-LAWS of the club. Dave Line, our only remaining active and original charter member of the club, provided us with copies of these. We examined the officer structure as it was set up in the original club. Due to various changes and influences throughout our charter history, the structure, duties, responsibilities, and even the addition or subtraction of certain offices has unfolded. We have tried to move back towards the original intent on how the club should be run. We have therefore deleted the Co-Vice Presidency, and added to the responsibilities of the President. The President and Vice President will share the honor of obtaining guest speakers for our monthly slideshows and/or other events. The office of Secretary will include the former position of Newsletter Editor. The Treasurer position will remain as is.

MAY PROGRAM: May is the month we elect new officers. Usually April is the month in which a nominating committee is formatted to research likely members of our club for various officer positions. We, however, opted for nominations from those in attendance at the April meeting. The more active members of the club have been nominated from that group to run for positions at the May meeting. Additional persons can be nominated or run as write-in candidates at the May meeting. You must be present at the meeting to cast your vote! Ballots will be distributed and tallied at this meeting. The future of the club rests with all members, so please attend and cast your vote! Remember again, other members can be nominated and run as write-ins, so if you feel yourself or someone else would be of benefit to the club, please attend and get that person's name in the hat.

NOMINATED POSITIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS

President: Penny Palm, Jordan Shapiro, Tami Sabol, Tony Sabol (deferred)

Vice President: Whoever gets the second highest amount of votes from the presidential election

Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Tami Sabol (deferred), Tony Sabol

Treasurer: Matt Grandy, Bob Koca, Julie Warner

The remainder of the May meeting will be utilized to plan and coordinate trips for the upcoming year. Please bring maps, pictures, etc., of ideas you want to share with the club. This will be a great time to find people who may be interested in joining you for a wide range of outdoor experiences. Please also bring any photographs or slides you would like to share with the group from any trips you may have done this past winter.

May will also be Pizza month! Bring a few bucks you have hidden somewhere, as the group will be ordering pizza to make this a festive event. We'll be ordering vegetarian and pro-meat pies, so don't worry about going hungry. Please show up on time at 7pm so we may get everyone counted, and our order placed early in the evening.

TRIP CALENDER

May 6th, Kent Peak (8,999 ft): Climb the highest peak in the Sapphire Mountains! We will start at Coyote Meadows and travel approx. 4 miles to the summit. The upper portion will involve scrambling through some cliffs and snow-covered boulder slopes. If time allows, an attempt at nearby Congdon Peak (8,884 ft) could also be part of the adventure. Snowshoes and an ice axe will be required. Call Tami Sabol @ 273-2566 for more information.

May 13th & 14th, Homer Youngs Peak (10,621 ft) or Squaw Mountain (10,404 ft):

Journey to the Big Hole valley and the Beaverhead Mountains for adventure on the two highest peaks in this region. We will select one of these two peaks depending on weather and current conditions. Elevation gain for either peak will likely be from 4500 to 5000 feet, so be prepared for a bit of a work out. Participants will also want snowshoes or skis to deal with any slushy/posthole areas, as well as an ice axe and crampons for the snow-covered ridges. Interested parties may want to spend the night and climb another peak on Sunday. You can wish your mom a Happy Mothers Day from the top of one of these continental divide peaks! Please call Tami Sabol @ 273-2566 for information on these peaks.

May 20th, Mt Powell: Climb to the top of the highest peak (10,168 ft) in the Flint Creek Range near Deer Lodge. Hike and scramble about four miles, with over 4,000 feet of gain, to the top of this scenic peak. Views from the top are fabulous, with numerous alpine lakes located below, and countless mountain ranges in view in all directions. Participants will want to bring snowshoes or skis, plus an ice axe for any challenging sections. Call Penny Palm at 258-2000 for information.

May 27th-30th, Mt Adams, Washington: Do something memorable this Memorial Day weekend and 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 at 273-2566 to get the skinny on this great peak.

June 24th-25th, Milwaukee Pass, St. Paul & Chicago Peaks: A short and easy backpack into a high lake in the southern Cabinet Mountains, the area of the proposed Rock Creek Mine. There should be enough time on Saturday for an afternoon scramble up St. Paul Peak. On Sunday, we'll explore the alpine basin and scramble up Chicago Peak, with its multiple summits of rocky knobs. Call Steve Schombel at 721-4686 for info.

June 2000, Liberty Ridge, Mt Rainier: 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. Dates for the trip will depend upon when the road opens on the northeast side of the mountain. Participation is limited, and a team has been formed, so we'll keep you updated on our progress. Tony Sabol

July 1st-5th, 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 at 258-2000.

July 1st-4th, Mt Joffre, Canada: Mt Joffre is the highest peak between the 49th parallel and Mt. Assiniboine to the north. Located in the Canadian Rockies, this 11,315 foot mountain presents some worthwhile challenges. First are the long approach in, and a bivouac near Aster Lake. The following day we will scramble up a headwall and gain the main glacier. Roping up from here, we will approach the mountain and ascend either the North Face or the East Ridge depending on conditions. Normal to advanced glacier travel skills and gear will be required, as well as the ability to backpack in to base camp. This is an excellent peak to be on, with views of Mt St George and Mt Assiniboine viewed to the north, and the Bugaboos to the west. Call Matt Grandy if interested @ 728-0647.

July 14th-16th, Glacier Park Bike and Hike: 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), and one of the six ten thousand footers located in the park, will occur on the 15th/16th. Call Penny for more information at 258-2000.

July 21st-23rd, Mt Rainier: 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 for the beta on this awesome climb. Penny Palm @ 258-2000.

September 2nd-4th, Mount Athabasca, Canada: Join the Rocky Mountaineers for the third annual ascent of this Canadian Rockies classic. This beautiful 11,453 foot peak rests 5,500 feet above the Columbia Icefields Center, located in Jasper National Park, Alberta. From the top, one can see Snow Dome, the mountain at the true triple continental divide. It is from here that the Columbia Icefield melts and begins its descent to the Pacific, Arctic, or Atlantic Oceans. There are multiple routes up this beautiful glaciated peak. Some gear and glacier travel knowledge will be required. Call Matt Grandy @ 728-0647 for more information.

Also in Summer 2000: Remember, at this months meeting we will be going over members "dream" trips. Members will be bringing maps and photos to show of routes and peaks they intend to climb over the next several months. Often members do a lot of trips, but are hesitant to list them in our newsletter. The meeting will be a great time to hear about these planned trips, show your interest for such trips, and all members can benefit from the peak networking that will go on. Please attend and bring materials and possible calendar dates for your trips.

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 see how planning goes. Contact Tami or Tony Sabol if you are interested in this fascinating mountain. Ph#273-2566.

TRIP REPORTS

Eagle Point (7,928 ft) April 16th: Penny Palm, Tami Sabol, and Tony Sabol enjoyed a great Sunday climbing this peak in the Sapphire Mountains. We struck out up the Burnt Fork drainage of the Bitterroot and hiked to about 7,000 feet, at which point we encountered soft snow. Snowshoes worked great, and after a bit more work we were on top. We had a great lunch, and then descended into a light snowfall. Near the bottom, the thunder roared and the skies opened up. The torrential rainfall the last ¼ mile of the hike back to the truck was exciting! - Tami Sabol

Mt Aeneas (7,530 ft), April 22nd: Jim Cossit, Rick Hanners, Karen Apland, and Penny Palm headed up into the Jewel Basin in the drizzling rain. The road was still covered with snow part of the way up to the trailhead, and we had to hike about 2 miles on the road. Once at the trailhead, we put on our skis and headed up to the ridge. The visibility to the peak was terrible, and we were soaked to the bone after about a mile or so of uphill. Some of us didn't have good ski equipment for the steeper sections of the climb, so we decided this wasn't the day for the summit attempt, and we headed back down. We will make another attempt at this peak when the weather is better. It will be a fun one. -Penny Palm

Sweeney Peak (9,161 ft), April 23rd: Tony Sabol and Tami Sabol started out under partly sunny skies and cool temperatures on a spring ascent of Sweeney Peak. We encountered snow shortly after beginning our hike from the trailhead. We worked our way up towards the main ridge on firm snow. After approximately 3 miles of snow scrambling, some post-holing, and 3 false summits, we reached the summit of Sweeney Peak. The winds were cold and almost piercing...gore-tex proved to be a truly wonderful thing! - Tony Sabol

Mt. Sentinel, April 30th: It was a beautiful sunny day, but cool enough to make for a nice leisurely hike up the east side of Mount Sentinel for Eileen and Fred Schwanemann, Steve Schombel, and myself. After a lunch and a great view from the north summit, we decided to wander over and explore the south summit as well before a leisurely walk back down. This was a nice tour of the newly acquired Cox property on the south summit. Missoula is lucky to have this area so close to town! Only one tick was encountered. - Julie Warner

Want to Lead A Trip? We are looking for individuals, young or well seasoned, to lead hikes, backpack trips, climbs, mountaineering excursions, or other outdoor adventures. Please lend us your talents and volunteer to lead at least one trip per year. You can lead anything from beginner level to the most extreme. You don't have to be in cutting edge shape to be a leader. Simply possess sound judgment and be upfront with any participants as to the type of trip you will be leading. Our club members and others can

benefit from the fruits of your efforts. Give it a try. 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: _____

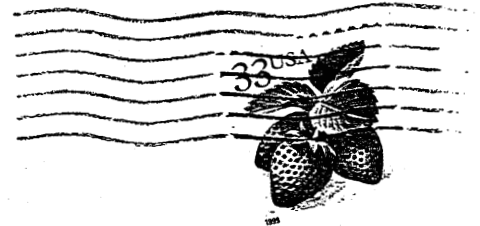
Check One: Individual (\$9 per year) _____ Family (\$12 per year) _____

Make checks payable to "Rocky Mountaineers" Rocky Mountaineers
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Missoula MT 59806

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FIRST CLASS MAIL



Stephen Schombel
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Membership Renewal ~~4.00~~
4/01