



SEPTEMBER 2008

THE MOUNTAIN EAR

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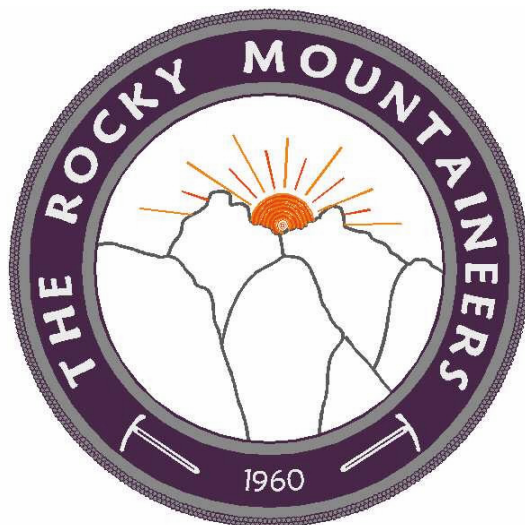
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The Monthly Newsletter of The Rocky Mountaineers



Climb. Hike. Ski. Bike. Paddle.
Dedicated to the Enjoyment and Promotion of
Responsible Outdoor Adventure.

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The Mountain Ear is the club newsletter of The Rocky Mountaineers and is published near the beginning of every month. Anyone wishing to contribute articles of interest are welcomed and encouraged to do so- contact the editor.

Membership application can be found at the end of the newsletter.

ABOUT THE CLUB:

Mission Statement:

The Rocky Mountaineers is a non-profit club dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of responsible outdoor adventures.

Meetings and Presentations:

Meetings are held the second Wednesday, September through May, at 6:00 PM at Pipestone Mountaineering. Each meeting is followed by a featured presentation or speaker at 7:00 PM.

Activities:

- ☐ Hiking
- ☐ Backpacking
- ☐ Alpine Climbing & Scrambling
- ☐ Peak Bagging
- ☐ Backcountry Skiing
- ☐ Winter Mountaineering
- ☐ Track Skiing
- ☐ Snowshoeing
- ☐ Snowboarding
- ☐ Mountain Biking
- ☐ Rock Climbing
- ☐ Canoeing & Kayaking
- ☐ Rafting
- ☐ Kids Trips
- ☐ Terracaching/Geocaching

Monthly Meetings Resume!

Summer seemed to come to an abrupt end this past weekend. Snow in the mountains on Labor Day weekend? Sure enough there it was. Many of you likely either were up there experiencing it firsthand, or altered your plans because of it (your editor is a case in point). As compared to the last several years, it sure has been a strange year...lots of snow, timely rains, and little to no smoke in the air. All good stuff, just makes for a short summer hiking season.

However, many of you would likely agree that the fall can be the best time to get out and hike, climb, bike, etc. And not only that, but the fall is also when you can once again come and enjoy our monthly meetings and presentations! What more could anyone ask for! So, to start things off, we will once again use our September meeting as a **Picture Potpourri**. Any and all can bring their digital pictures to the meeting and have a chance to show and talk about their interesting or unique adventures from the past 12 months. A few “rules”: 1) please try to keep your presentation to about a 15 minute limit to allow others time to do theirs (we don’t want this to run until midnight); 2) digital media preferred...you are welcome to bring prints to pass around, but it is not really set up to have you present your trip story this way...slides are okay, providing a slide projector is available; 3) try to organize your pictures beforehand on a memory stick, CD or laptop...this will save time when its your turn to plug in and present.

In addition to the pictures, we also encourage everyone to bring some beverages (beer, soda) and snacks. Certainly not mandatory, but we like to make this a fun event.

The business meeting will begin at **6:00 PM** and will be followed at **7:00 PM** by the Picture Potpourri. Please feel free to attend both! Everything takes place on **Wednesday, September 10 at Pipestone Mountaineering**.

Below, is a list of the next few monthly Feature Presentations. All meetings/presentations take place on the second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 PM, Pipestone Mountaineering.

October 8th – Michael Hoyt will do a slide show focusing on Bitterroot peaks, including some summits which are seldom visited. He will also talk a little about SummitPost and try to explain its use as an excellent information source. How long he talks will depend on how interested the audience is and how many questions there are. Come out and see why he goes by the moniker thephotohiker.

November 12th – Steve Lamar will talk about Swan Valley place names. Steve has written his first book, Swan Valley Place Names, a Mosaic of History, Stories and Local Lore. For our meeting he will focus on the origins of names of mountains and other wild features like “The Angel’s Bathing Pool”. He will also show how he used our archives and archives of an older group called “The Montana Mountaineers” for background material.

December 10th- TBA. Likely will be dedicated to Avalanche Safety and Awareness, and hopefully will coincide with and Avalanche Training clinic.

January 14th – Nancy Shrader will show slides of her recent trip to Madagascar. She spent a little time in a rainforest but spent most of it doing three hikes in Parks in the rugged, rocky interior.

The Rocky Mountaineers Cabin Workday and Party!!!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

Once per year, we hike up to our Cabin on the flanks of Little St. Joseph Peak in the Bitterroots to perform maintenance and cut firewood for the winter months. Please plan to try and attend to give us a hand on Saturday, September 27th. We will meet at the K-Mart parking lot at 10:00 am to carpool down to the trailhead. Bring a lunch, water and gloves. We will need a couple chainsaws and a few wood splitting mauls as well. If you can bring one of these, please give the workday coordinator **Joshua Phillips** a call or email in advance so he can, well, coordinate! (Contact info on page 2).

After we get done with the cabin work, we will hike back to the trailhead and as long as the weather is good it will be party time! There are a couple tables located at the trailhead and a fire pit. So bring some food, a dish or two to pass, and some beverages, and plan on spending the day. We promise the work won't be hard, and fun will be had!

President's Message

The 4th Annual Glacier Classic was *my* first. (Actually, it was only my 3rd or 4th time to visit the park!) Wow! What a great time! Between being scared to death on the choss-heap they call Mount Wilbur, eating Tom's homemade burritos, and making a fool of myself at the campfire, I'd have to say the thing I enjoyed the most was just hanging out as a club and getting to know some of you guys a little better.

I'm still decompressing after our climb on Wilbur. I've been rock climbing for 15 years and have never been on rock that was so loose, exposed, unprotectable, and insecure all at the same time! The only rock I was comfortable on was the diorite sill...too bad there was only about 75 feet of it in our 4400' climb. I'm amazed and impressed with those climbers that have come before us and pushed the limits of climbing in Glacier Park. (...and some of them are even active members of our club!)

If you didn't join us for the Glacier Classic, I'd really encourage you to come along next year. I stepped out of my comfort zone and was greatly rewarded.

Looking forward to seeing you at this year's meetings,

Joshua Phillips

PS – Don't forget to bring some photos of what you've been doing over the summer for the "show and tell" meeting on September 10th!

UPCOMING TRIPS AND ADVENTURES

Trip Notes:

Please contact the trip leader for more information regarding any listed trips.

Mileage listed is round trip mileage. Elevation listed is gain only. For information on Class Rating see below:

Class Rating System

CLASS 1 – HIKING Mostly on trails, but may also include some easy cross country travel.

CLASS 2 – EASY SCRAMBLING Rugged off trail hiking, no hands required.

CLASS 3 – SCRAMBLING Use of hand to ascend some sections of rock. Little to no exposure; a fall would not likely cause serious injury.

CLASS 4 – CLIMBING Easy climbing, great exposure; a fall would quite possibly cause serious injury. Use of a rope and protection at times possible.

CLASS 5 – TECHNICAL CLIMBING Use of rope, protection and belay are a must.

CLASS 6 – AID CLIMBING Use of equipment to support your weight as you climb.

Fri-Sun, Sept 12-14 – WHITE CLIFFS CANOE TRIP (Missouri River)

Description: This will be a two day trip covering about 46 miles of the Missouri River through the White Cliffs area. We would leave Friday evening and spend the first night near the put-in and the second night (Saturday) "on the river". We would rent canoes from a company in Ft. Benton for \$25/day for two people. We would drive back on Sunday. Limit: maybe 6-8 people? Experience might be nice, but not necessary. Everyone will need to bring their own food, camping equipment, water, etc. and it all has to be in waterproof bags of some sort (though there is no whitewater).

Leader: Chris Dunn - 203-4962, email (best way to contact) hammaneater@yahoo.com

Saturday, September 20 – GrizzlyMan Adventure Race Course Development

I'm hoping to have a few interested members help me in devising a course for our adventure race! The race course will be in Lubrecht Experimental Forest and will include trail running, mountain biking, orienteering and whatever else we want to put racers through. Obviously, if you participate in any way with course development, you will not be allowed to register for the race. Bring running shoes, water (camelback), food, appropriate clothing and your imagination. We might decide to bring mountain bikes as well. The day will require a fair amount of exertion, but there will be time for brainstorming and discussion as well. Plan on a full day. Call me or email me if you are interested.

Leader: Joshua Phillips – mtsurveyor@gmail.com 543-0898

Saturday, September 13th – HOMESTAKE PASS ROCK CLIMBING

Description: Anyone want to go climbing? There are several traditional climbs in this area that would be good for folks interested in crack climbing, multi-pitch techniques or placing gear. Hopefully the snow stays away long enough. (Wow, did I really just type that?) If it doesn't we could go a little further and climb at the drier Spire Rock. Call or email if you're interested.

Leader: Joshua Phillips – mtsurveyor@gmail.com 543-0898

Friday, September 26 – BASS PEAK via BASS CREEK/KOOTENAI CREEK LOOP (Bitterroots)

Rating: Class 3; *Distance:* 21 miles; *Elevation:* 6000'

Description: Weather and work schedules permitting, this will be a TGIF hike/trail run/scramble/climb starting at the Bass Creek trailhead and ending at the Kootenai Creek trailhead. Will hike/run up Bass Creek to the lake, then scramble and climb Bass Peak (8855'), drop down to the Kootenai Creek drainage (and possibly check out the lakes), then hike and run out to the Kootenai trailhead. If we can get two vehicles we will do a shuttle; otherwise I plan to bring bikes to return to the Bass Creek trailhead. I plan on an early (headlamp) start.

Leader: Forest Dean- 240-7612, mtnear1@gmail.com

Sunday, September 28 – SWAN PEAK (Swan Range) *CLASSIC SERIES TRIP*

Rating: Class 4; *Distance:* 12 miles; *Elevation:* 5500'

Description: Will approach via the climbers trail up Squeezer Creek. Recent reports suggest that this route is no longer a heinous bushwhack. The approach is 5 - 7 miles, with lots of elevation gain, and then the plan is to approach via the ridge to the north, gaining the summit with a bit of potential for short class 4 pitches.

HOWEVER, if it has been cold and there is snow on the peak, I will plan on extending the trip to both days of the weekend, and hiking in Lion Creek Saturday and camping, and then attempting the peak from the easier south side Sunday, and then hiking out. Meeting location/time to be announced, but it will be early, as it's a pretty good climb from the valley floor. Participants should be fairly comfortable on class 3-4 rock, and should consider bringing a helmet. I will plan on bringing a short length of rope if anyone would like some assistance on the crux near the summit.

Leader: Lewis Kogan – 529-6943 or lewis.kogan@gmail.com

Sunday, October 5 – LOLO PEAK (Bitterroots) *CLASSIC SERIES TRIP*

Rating: Class 2-3; *Distance:* 13 miles; *Elevation:* 4300'

Description: This trip will be up the standard route from Mormon Peak Road. My mother (a botanist) tells me that there is a unique sub-species of Larch found almost exclusively on Carlton Ridge, which turn a little earlier than other Larch trees. If we are lucky, these may be in full autumn show for the hike! The trail switchbacks up the side of Carlton Ridge before dropping slightly to Carlton Lake and then ascending Lolo Peak.

Leader: Lewis Kogan – 529-6943 or lewis.kogan@gmail.com

Sunday, October 12 – PETTY MOUNTAIN (Bitterroots)

Rating: Class 2; *Distance:* 10 miles; *Elevation:* 4000'

Description: At 7270', Petty Mountain is one of the prominent points on Missoula's skyline to the west. This time I would like to try a route I have never done; hike up from lower Petty Creek. There is a little over 4000' elevation gain in 5 miles on this route, but there is a trail all the way. There should be some nice fall colors out this time of year.

Leader: Steve Schombel at 721-4686 or stephenschombel@yahoo.com

2008 Classic Series

<u>Month</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Leader</u>
September	SWAN PEAK (Swans)	Scramble/Climb	Lewis Kogan
October	LOLO PEAK (Bitterroots)	Scramble	Lewis Kogan
November	MT. CALOWAHCAN (Missions)	Scramble/Climb	Forest Dean
December	LOLO PASS (Bitterroots)	Backcountry Ski	Steve Schombel

TRIP REPORTS

August 22-24 – The Fourth Annual Glacier Classic (Many Glacier area)

In what is fast becoming our Club's premiere annual event, 21 of us converged on the group campsite at Many Glacier Campground in Glacier National Park on Friday evening. Chris Dunn, fresh off a two month hiking trip through parts of Glacier and north into Canada, happened to be camped right next to the group campsite, and between him and Many Glacier Hotel employee Levi Webb, they were able to lock down this nice site right on the creek...we all owe you two our

thanks! The rest of us arrived throughout the afternoon and evening and ate and drank heartily well into the night (some more than others...won't mention names here). A festive time it was! Saturday morning everyone was up and about fairly early and ready to take on one of the climbs or hikes.

Attendees set out in different directions between 8:00 and 8:30. Trip reports are listed in detail below. Later that afternoon and evening we all drifted back into camp tired, hungry, thirsty, and ready to share our days adventures with the other groups. Fortunately for all of us, a gentleman by the name of Tom Hanou graces our membership and attends this event every year. Why fortunate? Tom for the third year in a row

cooked everyone some of the most delicious burritos (with fixin's!) this side of Mexico! Imagine hiking or climbing for 12 hours, coming back to camp, and then just sitting down with a few incredible burritos and a few beers. None of us had to imagine. Tom provided. (Thanks again, Tom!) Anyway, the rest of the night was



Group campsite at Many Glacier Campground. F. Dean photo.



Saturday night around the camp fire. F. Dean photo.

spent visiting around the campfire (thanks to Alden Wright and Steve Schombel for the wood), telling tales and even listening to some live music! Much to our surprise we had not 1, 2, or 3 but FOUR guitarist's in the group! They took turns entertaining us with some acoustic music and humorous lyrics. Again we enjoyed ourselves into the night. Sunday morning some of us were up and on the trail early, some had a hard time getting up and hit the trail a bit later, and others simply hit the road back home. It was a great weekend, with near perfect weather, and great camaraderie with a great bunch of folks. Thank you to all who attended (listed below)!!!

Participants:

Carolyn Pardini
Lee Coble
Tony Coble
Lou Herrit
Cammi Foos
Steve Schombel
Ron Pierson

Sally Wright
Alden Wright
Joshua Phillips
Minot Maser
Paul Jensen
Levi Webb
Tom Hanou

Dave Kahl
Julie Kahl
Jim Goss
Chris Dunn
Steve Niday
Dan Dean
Forest Dean

August 23 – Iceberg Peak via Iceberg Notch

Iceberg Peak is now on my “Highly Recommended” list. The views in every direction are exceptional. The scenery and wildlife viewing along the way is excellent. Bushwhacking is nearly non-existent. Iceberg Lake is a visual treat and real anomaly in the lower 48. Iceberg races anyone? The trip is long enough to not be taken lightly. The climbing is hard enough to keep you focused, at least on the way down. The route finding is fun, not too easy and not too hard. Most of the route to Iceberg Notch is cairned, but the gap in cairnage through the hard section up to the Notch adds some mystery. The route is well described in Gordon Edward’s, “A Climbers Guide to Glacier National Park.” If you desire more objective directions, I collected GPS waypoints along the way. (EDITOR’S NOTE: On the cover of this issue, the Notch lies between the “T” and “A”). Whether you are experienced with tough Glacier Park peaks or want to become so, this route should be on your list. Borrowing from the Fourth Annual Glacier Park Classic vernacular, this was a fun-ass climb. With much appreciation for their abilities and spirit, I thank my partners, Lee and Tony Coble. *Steve Niday*

August 23 – Ptarmigan Tunnel

Built in the 1930's to be a pack route shortcut north-south through the park, the Belly River side is impressive. Our side (Many Glacier) was a nice steady walk for the 5 miles to Ptarmigan Lake, then a switchback trail goes up the circ headwall to the tunnel. The otherside, about 100 feet through solid rock large enough to take a loaded horse through, is in the sheer cliff face of Ptarmigan wall. Looking up it seemed obvious there was no



safe way over the top. (Two sheep we saw going over the top from the southside seemed to think otherwise.) Elizabeth Lake was about 3000 feet below, and the trail was blasted out of the cliff side. Steve Schombel, and Alden & Sally Wright joined David & Julie Kahl on the hike. The photophiles, Steve, Julie (with video camera) and David soon fell behind. Sally tagged along with a ranger lead group listening to the trail history. (In the second summer after the trail was built, they came back and found the tunnel crammed with snow, and built doors on it.) That group went off for Iceberg Lake after Ptarmigan Falls (about 2 1/2 miles), we had a snack at the falls then a broader lunch at Ptarmigan Lake, getting there at about noon, after an 8:30 start. Sally started back while

Looking south from Ptarmigan Tunnel. Julie Kahl photo.
Steve, Alden, David & Julie climbed to the tunnel. Julie and David went straight back to the trailhead as they needed to get back to Missoula and Steve and Alden took the trail to Iceberg Lake also. Alden's sharp eyes saw snow tunnels and grouse and the many loaded huckleberry bushes displaying their wares in the trail slowed us down. As we were coming into Many Glacier there was talk of a sow and cub grizzly on the slopes above but we didn't see them. *Julie Kahl*

Addendum...

While we were lingering near the tunnel, Alden Wright and Steve Schombel decided that there was enough time and they had enough energy to hike to Iceberg Lake on the way back. It added about 4 miles and 2 and a half hours to the trip, but it was well worth it. Iceberg Lake is certainly one of the prettiest places in Glacier I've seen. On the way down we slowed down and sampled more berries. Then we came across a bear watcher in the area where Tom Hanou had seen several grizzlies Friday afternoon. He pointed out a sow and cub way up on the hillside. They weren't close, but it was a bear sighting. I would highly recommend the Many Glacier area and both the Ptarmigan Tunnel and Iceberg Lake hikes to any future Glacier N.P. visitors. *Steve Schombel*



Looking north from Ptarmigan Tunnel. Julie Kahl photo.

August 23 – Mount Wilbur

Seven of us started up the Swiftcurrent Pass trail at 8:15 on a beautiful sunny day. Joining me (the trip organizer) were Levi Webb (the trip leader and Many Glacier Hotel employee), Paul Jensen, Joshua Phillips, Chris Dunn (fresh off a two month hike), Minot Maser, and my brother, Dan Dean. Dan, Chris, and Joshua were attempting their first Glacier summit, and Minot his second. We hiked about a mile and a half up the trail and then went north on a use trail along the east side of Bullhead Point. Our destination was Shangri La Lake (not named on map- but described in J. Gordon Edwards guide book). Levi had previously scouted out this approach and suggested we try it for its scenic value. The climb up to the lake was fairly straightforward and a nice route it was. After filling our water bottles for the last time, we climbed and bushwacked up to the southwest towards Bullhead Point. From there we followed the Bullhead Point ridge along its crest back to the west and towards the east face of Mt. Wilbur. The ridge walk was excellent with nice views to both the north and south. As with most steep Glacier mountains when you look straight on at the faces of them it doesn't appear there could ever be a way across. But arriving at the great east face we were able to find a nice ledge that worked its way all the way across to the southeast shoulder of the mountain (referred to as 'The Staircase Approach' in Edwards book). The exposure on this traverse really wasn't much at all. Upon arriving at the Staircase Approach we then ascended class 3-4 cliffs up to the base of our chosen route- Thin Man's Pleasure. This is a low 5th class route that climbs up through an overhang with a two foot hole in its ceiling allowing passage. We roped up for this pitch and the going was slow with seven of us trying to get up it. After all getting up, we then ascended some crappy class 4



Dan and Chris awaiting their turn for Thin Man's Pleasure.

rock for another couple hundred feet, arriving at a spot where the ledge narrows to several inches. Levi easily jumped across, but the rest of us gladly took a belay. The gap wasn't difficult, but the exposure was great and a fall meant the end of all things. Dan at this point decided he had had enough and was content to sit and wait while the rest of us tried to finish off the last few hundred feet to the summit. Considering this was the first mountain he had ever climbed, he certainly put up a great performance. Past the gap, a scree ledge ascended up to one of the great notches on the north side of the summit block. This ledge was a quick ascent, but then it was time for one last class 4 climb to the summit. The rock on this final pitch was probably the worst on the entire mountain, but the climbing was actually pretty quick and easy, and at 3:15 we finally stood on the summit (9,321'). We did some quick picture taking and had the incredible views looking down on iceberg filled Iceberg Lake. Just as we were getting ready to leave we looked to the northwest to the Iceberg Peak, heard a muffled shout and saw people on the summit of that mountain. We would later confirm that Steve Niday, Tony Coble and Lee Coble were there summing at the same time as us! Now that the "easy" part of the climb was done, we began the long difficult descent. Descending class 4 scree filled shelves of "rock" was really nobody's idea of fun, but slowly and surely we managed to get down. We all rappelled the Thin Man's Pleasure pitch, but the rest was all just careful downclimbing. We descended down the SE shoulder of the mountain, running down scree and beargrass fields to the trail. A relatively flat 2.5 mile hike brought us back to the campground, arriving at 8:30. All told, we traveled about 10 miles, gaining 5400', and going for 12 hours. A huge thanks to our "sheriff" and leader Levi Webb. Levi did an amazing job of leading the route, looking after and helping everyone, and even giving us some history lessons! A great climb thanks to everyone! *Forest Dean*

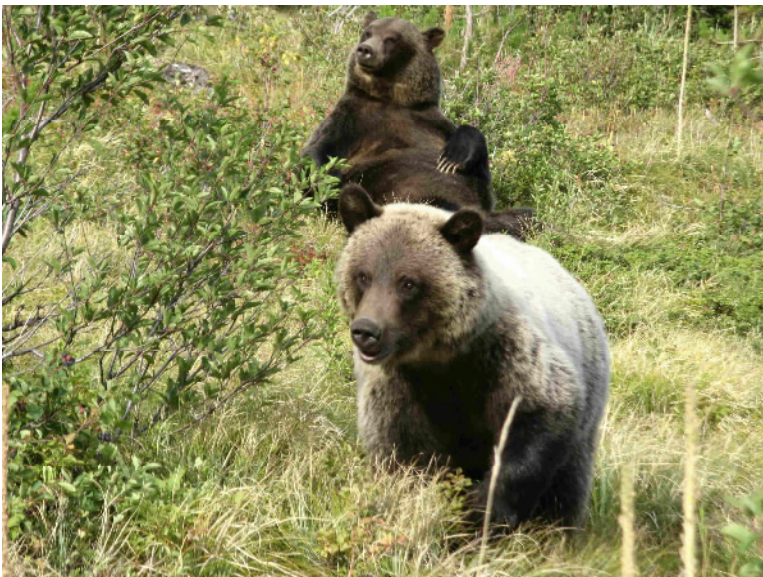


Forest, Joshua, Minot, Chris, Paul and Levi. F. Dean photo.

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August 23 – Swiftcurrent Peak

Original plan for my Saturday hike/climb was going up Altyn Peak and Mt Henkel. Due to bear activity (pic of two of the local inhabitants below), this area was closed. My next choice was to take the trail up to Swiftcurrent



Pass, then up to the Lookout on top of Swiftcurrent Peak. I was joined on this trip by Jim Goss, Carrie Foos, Lou Herrit, Carolyn Pardini and Ron Pierson. We enjoyed a beautiful day hiking past Fishercap, Redrock and Bullhead Lakes, saw a large bull moose that was all the way up the drainage and still there on the way down. The trail takes up out of the valley, switchbacking up thru Huckleberry and Serviceberry plants. We all had purple stained hands and fingers from as good of a huckleberry patch that I have ever been in. A couple of us saved some and brought down the trail to camp for breakfast for the next day. I wasn't one of

them, I eat them by the handful. The trail winds up the headwall with a precipitous waterfall coming down from Swiftcurrent Glacier high above close by. The higher we went, the better views we had of the whole Many Glacier Valley, keeping our eyes out for our comrades who were ascending Mt Wilbur. It is 6.8 miles to the pass, then up 1.2 miles and a steep trail up to the top of the 8,436 foot summit. We were all hungry, so we chowed down, but soon left the summit due to the windy conditions. Coming down we all felt so fortunate that we live in such a beautiful part of the country and that we were out there experiencing it at its best. I want to thank my fellow hikers for the companionship we shared, and the club for having this annual Glacier Classic!
Tom Hanou.



Ron, Carolyn, Jim, Cammi, Tom and Lou on summit. T. Hanou photos.

August 24 – Ptarmigan Tunnel (II)

On Saturday Ron Pierson and Jim Goss took the 16 mile, 3600+ vertical climb to the top of Swiftcurrent Peak, elev 8,460', and hence were unable to participate in Julie's hike to Ptarmigan Tunnel on that day. On Sunday



Ron led the way while hop-a-long Jim tried to keep up, with his overused knee. We managed a good pace, reaching Ptarmigan tunnel and marveling at the engineering and guts involved in toeing a trail on both sides of the mountain. We descended to Ptarmigan Lake for lunch, and witnessed one hardy soul plunge into the waters. Although we saw no wildlife, Ron found interesting evidence of a bear digging for rodents next to the trail. My camera is of insufficient quality to actually see the tunnel in the picture, but you can trace up the two large hairpin turns to approximately where it bores through the mountain. *Jim Goss*

August 24 – “Not” Scenic Point (7643’)

We woke up on Sunday, tired from the previous day’s efforts. Paul Jensen and I had been up Wilbur and Steve Niday had led a trip up Iceberg Peak. As Steve and I were feeling a bit lazy, it took a little while for Paul to motivate us. A destination was established and we piled in the car and headed down to the Two Medicine area to climb Scenic Point (7522’). We headed up the trail, swapping leads and enjoying the scenery. We found the trail in great shape as it is a portion of the Continental Divide Trail. Several photogenic Krumholtz had hikers looking for the best angles and light (we were no exception). We pressed on in the wind and eventually neared the “top”. We had neglected to bring a map (or study it carefully) and were unsure which summit was Scenic. Paul seemed confident that it was the point in the distance but Steve seemed more motivated to gain the higher point that happened to be just above us. All I cared about was getting to the turn around point so I could sit down and eat my last ProBar. Two against one, we headed up the shorter distance to point 7643’ and found a couple of hikers napping. Unaware of their presence, I promptly woke them with one of my shrill cackles. “Um...sorry.” (I don’t think they spoke much English.) We sat down to get out of the wind and looked east. We laughed about how once on the summit, we were gazing out onto the prairie...not west toward the mountains. The direction of the wind and the angle of the sun were the major factors there. One by one, we looked on as distant silhouettes of more motivated hikers gained the summit of the real Scenic Point. “We’re higher than them.” Steve pointed out. True. That was an added bonus that did make it easier for us to *look down* on them. After a good rest on the summit, we headed down the trail with a renewed spring in our step. Back at the trailhead, Steve and I waited a short while for Paul and occupied ourselves by socializing with other Park visitors. A good time was had by all. *Joshua Phillips*

The top ten things you don’t want to hear from your belayer when at the crux move:

10. You know, I've wanted to try climbing for years.
9. Hold on, I've got to pee.
8. You're going to die.
7. Dyno for the jug you can't see!
6. If you fall now you'll deck out.
5. Why is your leg shaking like that?
4. Hey, I can see right up your shorts from here.
3. Your last piece of pro just fell out.
2. Hold on, I think I have the rope in this thingy the wrong way.

And, the number one thing you don't want to hear from your belayer

- 1. Falling!**

Contributed by Steve Niday

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Membership Fee: \$10.00 for electronic newsletter

Note: Membership includes all members of a family or household.

Make checks payable to 'The Rocky Mountaineers' and send to:

The Rocky Mountaineers, PO Box 4262, Missoula, MT 59806

Name: _____

Additional Family Members Names: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone (optional): _____

Email: _____

Additional Email (optional): _____

*Joining or maintaining your Rocky Mountaineers membership has never been easier! **PayPal** is now available on the Rocky Mountaineers website. Click on the membership link on the main page.*

Rocky Mountaineers Merchandise - For Sale!!

Short Sleeve T-Shirt	\$13.00 (\$17 non-members)
Long Sleeve T-Shirt	\$17.00 (\$22 non-members)
Caps	\$18.00 (\$23 non-members)
Fleece Beanie's	\$16.00 (\$20 non-members)
Stickers	\$ 1.50

Shirts and hats are available in various sizes and/or colors. For more information, or to place your order email: seniday@yahoo.com or call Steve at 721-3790. Additionally, all of the above will be available at the Club meetings as well as the racks at Pipestone Mountaineering

Cover Photo: Looking down on Iceberg Lake, Glacier National Park, from summit of Mt. Wilbur. Forest Dean photo.

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