



NOVEMBER 2009

THE MOUNTAIN EAR

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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

October Meeting

Jim Wilson's European Climbing Trip- 2009

After selling Pipestone Mountaineering this past spring, Jim Wilson headed to Europe to climb some of the Classics. He reports: "The presentation is centered around a climbing trip I took to Europe in which I climbed many of the classic climbs of the Alps including the Matterhorn, Eiger, Mount Blanc, the Grand Jorasse and several rock climbing areas in the Chamonix area." Come see pictures, hear stories and maybe even get inspired! Promises to be a great presentation.

Presentation begins at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, November 11 at Pipestone Mountaineering. This will be preceded by the Club's Business Meeting which begins at 6:00 PM. Both are open to one and all. Please join us!

Coming in December:

Wednesday, December 9 - We will have our annual avalanche awareness program (and practice day , to follow, in the field).

The Rocky Mountaineers 2010 Calendar!!

LAST CHANCE TO SUBMIT PHOTOS! SUBMIT BY NOVEMBER 23!

After a couple years of discussing it, we have decided to move forward with putting together an annual wall calendar. This calendar will be a collection of the best photos we can find taken by YOU, our members. We would like to have these calendars available by mid- November, so we are going to be looking to receive your photos right away! So, look through the best stuff you have . We ask that you submit no more than 3 photos. The photos can show people participating in climbing, hiking, biking (etc.) activities; however, the pictured individual(s) should ideally complement the scenery, rather than be the centerpiece (i.e. no group summit photos).

In order to post photos to The Rocky Mountaineers Picasa site, do the following:

- 1) sign out of your personal email account
- 2) sign in to the new Gmail account by going to www.gmail.com and using "montanamountaineers" as the user name and "TRMcalendar" as the password
- 3) go to **photos** (you will find this at the top of the screen...or in the "more" pull down menu)
- 4) you are now in **Picasaweb**. Click the **TRM Calendar album** to get inside.
- 5) Click the **+upload** button at the top of the screen to browse your hard drive and upload photos.

If you have problems with this make sure you have followed these directions exactly....then email me with your questions. Joshua Phillips- mtsurveyor@gmail.com

President's Message

We didn't get much of a fall this year. No fall weather and no fall colors either. Oh well, as long as we have lots of snow this winter, I can forgive losing out on fall. I'm really looking forward to getting out and skiing once work slows down a little.

If you are actually reading this, then you have probably noticed that the trip listings have gotten pretty thin in the newsletters of late. I guess a lot of the regular trip leaders have been busy lately. I know I have been very busy with work. Remember though, anyone can lead a trip. Now we need new trip leaders more than ever. Even if you are just heading out and would like a partner, list the trip...in the newsletter (by emailing Forest) or online at www.rockymountaineers.com Also, the website has been updated with a gear swap link! If you have outdoor gear that you are looking for or are hoping to sell, check out the links. Go to *Categories* in the *Forums* tabs and you will find *Used Equipment for Sale and Wanted* near the bottom. There are already a few items that have been posted.

Lately, when not working, I've been working on the GrizzlyMan Adventure Race website... a lot. I didn't realize how much specialized knowledge it takes to get a website going. The blog is in full swing now, so check it out. Whether you are going to race or volunteer, there will be updates and posts that you won't want to miss out on. www.grizzlymanrace.com

Joshua Phillips

The Rocky Mountaineers turn 50!

That's right, in 2010 our club will have been in existence for 50 years. We are planning a big party to celebrate. To get people in the mood we will run some articles on past leaders and other club members who had notable accomplishments in the mountains. Here is an article that appeared in the May 2003 Mountain Ear:

DAVID LINE REMEMBERED

David Line crosses through The Great Pass to the Forever Trails.

David Line, one of the founding members of the Rocky Mountaineers in 1960, passed away on April 3rd, 2003. David led one of the club's first trips, to McLeod Peak on October 15th, 1961. This was a time when articles on the Mountaineer's adventures appeared in the daily newspapers on a regular basis; both upcoming events and trip reports. David had a long history of leading trips, as members from the 1980's fondly remember trips with David as their leader.

David served as treasurer and president of the Rocky Mountaineers from October of 1967 until 1970. During this time he spent considerable time preparing a guide to short hikes for summer students at the University of Montana. He authored a memorial about Thad Lowary, for whom the Mission Mountain Peak is named. He also had compiled a complete collection of all the Mountain Ears and other club papers, including the three sets of bylaws, during his life long membership in the club. In this respect he was an invaluable resource.

David's interest in hiking remained into his 70's and he remained an undaunted enthusiast of 2-footed activities. We can only honor him today by continuing in the groundwork he laid for us and renew his vision for the club. – *Originally contributed by Virginia Vincent and Julie Warner*

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.

Sunday, November 8 – MT. SENTINEL HILL CLIMB

Description: Registration at 9 am. Race starts at 10 am. Registration & Race in the 'M' Parking lot at the University of Montana, Missoula, and goes UP, UP and UP... to the top of Mount Sentinel. Come down on your own two feet as slow as you like. Lots of prizes. \$15 registration includes hat or an earwarmer. All proceeds will benefit the University of Montana Triathlon Team.

I'm planning on doing this race and would enjoy the company of some Rocky Mountaineers! Maybe we could go out for a beer afterward....**my treat if you race!**

Joshua Phillips—H: 543-0898, C: 396-3162, email: mtsurveyor@gmail.com

Sunday, November 15 – MOUNTAIN BIKE TO THE BEACON (University Mountain)

Rating: Moderately steep climb with steep decent

Mileage: not sure...13? Approx. 3-4 hours, *Elevation Gain:* 3000'?

Description: Meet at the corner of Maurice and South at 7am. Warm clothes and a bike light might be necessary for a short while. If there is too much snow by then, we'll have an alternative plan.

Special Equipment: Mountain or cyclocross bike, warm clothes, bike light.

Leader: Joshua Phillips—H: 543-0898, C: 396-3162, email: mtsurveyor@gmail.com

Sunday, November 15 – BLODGETT CANYON (Bitterroots)

Rating: Class 1-2, *Distance:* as far in as we want to go, probably 10 miles or so round trip.

Description: I haven't been to Blodgett in a while and thought a trip was in order. We will meet at the old Big Lots parking lot at 7am and carpool down to Blodgett. This will just be a hike into the canyon on easy trails.

Leader: Chris Dunn, email: hammaneater@gmail.com

Sunday, November 15 – LOLO PASS (Bitterroots)

Description: I plan to do something at Lolo Pass - hike, ski, snowshoe what ever conditions dictate.

Leader: Julie Kahl 543-6508

Friday, November 27 – MT. CALOWAHCAN (Mission Mountains)

Rating: Class 4; *Mileage:* 7.5 miles; *Elevation:* 5000'

Description: Here is a chance to burn off the 10,000 calories consumed the day before! The plan is to ascend the northwest ridge route to the 9061' summit. Near the summit there is reportedly some fairly difficult and exposed Class 4 climbing. I will plan on bringing a rope to negotiate this section. Participants should be in good physical condition being that there is a lot of elevation gain over a relatively short distance. PLAN B: If conditions are no good for Calowahcan, I plan to attempt LOWARY PEAK (Peak X) instead (this would likely be a ski or snowshoe trip.)

Special Equipment: Harness & Belay Device; Crampons, Ice Ax, Salish Kootenai Tribal recreation permit.

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

Saturday, December 5 – LOLO PASS SKI (Bitterroots)

Description: We will do a short ski around one of the groomed loops. This will be a good trip for beginners. Anyone who wants to do a longer ski should plan on bringing their own car.

Leader: Steve Schombel 721-4686

TRIP REPORTS

October 25 – Lolo Hot Springs

Oct. 25th was a beautiful day and new comer Michelle Powell decided to ride her motorcycle up to Lolo Hot Springs where she joined Julie Kahl members of the Schombel-Andrus family, Steve, his wife Cathy and son Michael, and niece and nephew Patrick and Genny Andrus. Genny used to go on Mountaineers trips when she was younger and it was nice to catch up with her and Patrick again. Shortly after arriving at Lolo Hot Springs we were joined by Ann Nash, whom Julie had met a few weeks ago at a contra dance. She didn't connect with Julie beforehand but decided to just come and chance meeting us. We soaked in the hot pool for about an hour, there was a chatty group of people there. When the subject of Hole In The Wall (Fish Creek) came up an older couple said their son had been the manager there for a few years. Ann asked about how our fall colors usually went and the subject of trees had another gentlemen telling us about how he makes bows (and arrows) out of natural materials. Which types of wood worked best and stuff like the yew that grows around here is toxic to work with, even though it's a good material for bows. If it's burned even the smoke is toxic. After the soak we had an early dinner at the empty bar and more conversation. Michelle and Ann, both non-traditional students at UM, exchanged information so they could get together and fly fish. We left with enough time for Michelle to get back to town before dark. A great way to spend the 1st day of hunting season.

Julie Kahl

Cover Photo: Ice Forming on Hart Lake up the Chaffin Creek Drainage in Bitterroots. J. Phillips photo.

The Rocky Mountaineers – Meeting Minutes - 14 OCT. 2009

1. Call To Order (6:22)

2. **Attendance** : Joshua Phillips, Steve Niday, Julie Kahl, Alden Wright, Forest Dean, Steve Schombel, Paul Jensen, Shawn Bennett, Chris Dunn, John Schwartz

3. **Minutes** from 10 Sept. 2009 - accepted

4. **Correspondence** - none

5. **Treasurer's Report** \$1060.62 in Checking, GMAR Account around \$900.00

6. Club Business

A. Old - Updates

GMAR

New Website GMAR.com

April 17th, PawsUp-Lubrecht again

Personnel -lost a few volunteers need a new volunteer coordinator- equivalent of a ½ time job

2010 calendars

When to have calendars done? Chris Dunn (who's force behind project) Nov. Meeting, others suggested Dec. Meeting. Seemed to default to Nov. meeting

Revisited source pool on books, maps, equipment

Make an inventory from members books, Excel format Google Doc.

Alden will create a template on the web site, can be categorized by keywords

More trips

Classic series revival brought up by Alden

Forest needs help both proposing and leading

Do more well known peaks of moderate difficulty -Steve S.

Get a long term precompiled list like GMS

Everyone come with a suggestion for a Classic Series trip next month

7. Adjourn Meeting 7:PM

Rocky Mountaineers Merchandise

Short Sleeve T-Shirt	\$13.00 (\$17.00 non-members)
Long Sleeve T-Shirt	\$18.50 (\$23.50 non-members)
Caps	\$18.00 (\$23.00 non-members)
Fleece Beanie's	\$16.00 (\$20.00 non-members)
Stickers	\$ 1.50
Newsletter Archive CD	\$20.00

All of the Mountain Ear newsletters since 1960 on one CD!!



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



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.