

The Mountain Ear

October 2022

President's Message

I took note of the changing season while bushwhacking through miles of the Bitterroots last weekend. The forest is readying for winter and the Aspens and Western Larch are amping up for their last colorful show.

We have some exciting things coming up for our club. We have our first presentation of the series coming up next Tuesday, October 11th featuring The Bear Aware Campaign. Most of us have bear spray canisters dangling from our packs when we climb & hike but have never sprayed it. Come learn all about how to use it and how you can protect yourself effectively in bear country. We also have our first Round Table discussion of all things Navigation on Tuesday October 25th at Big Sky Brewing Company.

Also starting back up this week are our Winter Conditioning Wednesdays on Jumbo and Sentinel. It is a great way to condition for your favorite winter sports or just come out to hike with community members mid-week. We hope to see you out there. Please check out our event calendar for more details on all these events and more!

A big thank you to the TRM members who worked hard to clear trail in The Great Burn a couple weeks ago. Candy Hartman was instrumental in coordinating this first year of trail work and we are looking forward to many more years giving back in this way.

And lastly, I just want to share something that has been weighing heavily on my heart this week. A week ago a woman (and fellow mom) I have long revered was killed in an avalanche on Manaslu in Nepal. As many of you know Hilaree Nelson was a world class professional ski mountaineer and the captain of the North Face Team. She was a giant in her field (male or female) and had too many high-altitude



accomplishments to list here. I feel she continued to show us that you could go out and really push yourself in the mountains and then come home and be a present mom and not lose your own identity in the process. The standards for men and women mountaineer parents when it comes to risk in the mountains has always been askew in our society and it is nice when you see a woman living her one precious life to its fullest and breaking down these silly societal roles as a result. Rest in peace beautiful mountain soul.

"It's truly a necessity to have a passion as a compass in life." - Hilaree Nelson

See you in the mountains,
Elizabeth

October Presentation- Tuesday, October 11

Be Bear Aware!

Presented by: The Be Bear Aware Campaign

For this month's presentation we will have the folks from the Be Bear Aware Campaign discussing all things related to backcountry travel in bear territory. This should be a great educational event!

From the Be Bear Aware Campaign...

Black bears, grizzly bears, polar bears, oh wonderful bears! They are majestic, playful, protective, and affectionate to their young. Bears are not mean or malicious - they are wild - and all wild animals need their space.

It is an exhilarating opportunity to watch bears and cubs forage, play, wrestle, and sleep in their natural habitat - provided you are a safe distance away. Whether you are hiking, biking, camping, hunting, even rafting in bear country it is important to know what to do, and not do, when you encounter a bear.

The mission of the Be Bear Aware Campaign is to provide you with information and educational resources so you can safely and responsibly enjoy bears in the wild. If a close encounter should occur, our goal is to educate you on the best way to handle the situation and minimize the bear encounter risk.

Promoting safety for people, and safety for bears, is what the Be Bear Aware Campaign is all about.

Location: Spirit of Peace Community Building- 506 Toole Avenue. This is located on the northside of the downtown area- very close to the pedestrian bridge over the train tracks.

Event begins at 6:00PM.

NOTE: You are more than welcome to bring food and beverages (including adult beverages) for this event! Additionally, we will have beer and snacks on hand (donation suggested).

Looking Ahead

November- Nate Bender- Glacier 10K'ers Traverse

December- TBD- Snow and Avalanche Awareness

January- Forest Dean- Climbs and Scrambles in the Bitterroots

TRM Cabin Workday- October 8th

Join us as we prepare our club cabin for winter use! We will clean up the inside, make repairs as needed, cut and stack firewood and get the facility ready for the upcoming season. We really encourage you frequent users of the cabin to come and give us a hand! Afterwards we will have a BBQ at the Larry Creek Group Camp Shelter. (Bring your own food and drink for this one- and a small grill if desired). Distance to cabin is about 1.5 miles and gains about 1200'. If you'd like to help out, please contact Forest Dean with your availability and any resources (tools) you may have access to. We could certainly use a couple of chainsaws and splitting mauls. We'll plan on carpooling (for those interested). Plan will be to be at the Bass Creek Overlook trailhead by 10:00am.

Email Forest at: mtnear1@gmail.com

Achievement Awards

At our September Welcome Back Party, we presented certificate of achievement awards to two individuals for completing one of the peak lists on our website. Congratulations to the following:

Corey Hinshaw- MISSOULA HORIZON PEAKS
Elizabeth Moore- RATTLESNAKE PEAKS

The Rocky Mountaineers annually recognize any current club member who has completed one or more of the several peak lists listed on our website: (www.rockymountaineers.com/index.php/achievement-awards). Perhaps you have finished one of these lists and don't even know it! Or you are close? Get after it- next round of awards will be given out next September!

Winter Conditioning Wednesdays

Once again, we will be offering a chance to get out with fellow Rocky Mountaineers on Wednesday evenings to hike up one of our local peaks. Get ready of ski season or simply get a good midweek workout! Hikes start at 6PM- bring your headlamp, traction crampons and/or poles. All abilities welcome. Location will vary from week to week; please see our online calendar for the location and who is leading the charge each week.

Roundtable Education Event- Backcountry Navigation

Do a search for navigation apps on your phone these days and you will find a multitude of options. How do you know which ones are best for doing the type of backcountry travel that you like to do? Or maybe you are using one and you feel there is a better option out there? Well, we decided to host a roundtable event to try and make sense of the options! Please join us to share with everyone what you use and why AND to learn what others are using and why. Additionally, we will discuss the Garmin Inreach (and other satellite communication devices) and good old-fashioned Map and Compass! Walk in, grab a beer (if desired) and head up to the second floor conference room. Bring your Inreach/Spot if you have one.

Tuesday, October 25- 6:30-8:00pm

Contact Forest Dean (mtnear1@gmail.com) for more info

Upcoming Trips and Activities

Cabin- TRM Cabin Workday & Party- Sat, Oct 8

Scramble- Printz Ridge Peaks (Bitterroots)- Sun, Oct 9

Hike- Lubrecht Ski Trails- Sun, Oct 16

Scramble- Union Peak (Swans)- Sat, Oct 22
Education- Navigation Roundtable- Tues, Oct 25
Mtn Biking- Copper City Trails (Three Forks)- Sat, Oct 29
Education- All About Ice Climbing Roundtable- Tues, Nov 15

Please visit our website for all the details on these trips!!

www.rockymountaineers.com

TRM Merchandise

We have merchandise for sale and available for purchase at our presentations, quarterly business meetings, the Spring picnic, etc. Please contact Elizabeth Moore if you'd like to purchase something for a local pickup.



Beanie \$25



Pint Glass \$10



Keychain \$5



T-Shirt \$20



Baseball Cap \$20



Buff \$10

Trip Reports

All reports from club trips can be found on our website. Check it out. Reports are now easier to locate thanks to the diligent work of Alden Wright.

rockymountaineers.com/tripreports

Club Officers

President- Elizabeth Moore

Vice President/Safety Officer- Casey Lammers

Secretary- Tom Statz

Treasurer- Chris Soriano

Website- Alden Wright

Archivist- Julie Kahl

Newsletter/Trip Coordinator- Forest Dean

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS - Business Meeting

September 20, 2022- 6:00 PM Location: BSBC Conference Room

Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to order (Attendance)

- Start 6:05pm
- Attendees: Forest Dean, Elizabeth Moore (Presiding),
Chris Soriano, Alden Wright, Julie Kahl, Tom Statz,
Candy Hartman, Mark Korwald

2. Approve Minutes from May 10th meeting / set date for Dec. meeting

- Minutes approved
- Next Meeting – December 6th.

3. Treasury Report (Chris)

a. Account update

- \$2678 Including Monies Owed

b. Annual Report to Members (Jan 2023)

- Add Annual Report to website.

c. Non-profit 501c3 update - Fundraising Ideas: Pint Nights, Giving Tuesday, Missoula Gives (May 5-6, Auction/Silent Auction/Dinner, etc

- Candy talked to Gonzo at Loveboat. He gave some great feedback from a possible sponsor point of view.
- Tiered level a good idea.
- Business owners want numbers like
 - Hits to webpage
 - Swag is nice
 - Banner on webpage
 - Tables at events
 - But, mostly businesses just want to help a good cause
 - Throw in some memberships for business and employees.
- Action items to hit up some possible Sponsors.

- Gild – Candy
- Imagination – Chris
- Great Burn - Tom

4. Website Report (Alden)

a. Current Status

- Memberships
 - Family – 37
 - Individual – 73
 - Youth – 2
- We are subscribed to the following plug in plans – cost per year
 - Woo Commerce Membership - \$199
 - MailChimp - \$49
 - Teams for Woo Commerce Memberships - \$129
 - Automate Woo for welcome new member email - \$99
- Our memberships are not connected to subscriptions. This might be a good thing to do, but to do this with our current setup it requires another \$199 plugin.
- Alden is looking into automated e-mails regarding membership.
- The following are included in our Membership plugin:
 - Membership ended
 - Membership ending soon
 - Membership renewal notice
 - Team ended
 - Team ending soon
 - Team renewal reminder.

b. Updates needed- Officer and Trip Leader Bios (photos)

c. Achievement Award - Updates

c2. Advertise Merchandise

d. 12-mo membership signups. Tracking

e. Thank you letter/confirmation after joining or rejoining.

f. Reminder message to renew membership.

- Set a day each year to download and save member list. Decided on December 31st.
- Need to update waiver form, wrong membership dollar amount. Alden will send waiver to Chris to update.

5. Is there any way to track membership habits? Survey members to find out information about why they are no longer members, etc?

- Chris will put together a survey. Action item for all attendees, come up with one question for the survey for the December meeting.

6. Cabin Status (Forest)

- Firewood looks good but let's cut some more.
- Think about spiffing up or making a new outhouse.
- Forest will look into a laminated map for inside the cabin

7. Trips and Events

a. Regular Trips / Trips Reports (Forest)

- Need more

b. Great Burn Trail Workday – (Candy)

- Five people have signed up

c. Cabin Workday & Party – October 8 - Coordination (Forest & Julie)

- Planning on track

d. Skin & Wax Party – Early December?

- December 5th at Harrison st.

e. Winterfest – (Sponsorships this year-who to approach? Coordination?) (Elizabeth)

- January 7th.

f. Avy Course – Date?

- Forest will look into it. It costs us money each year but is part of our education goal. Will try to get something for Jan 7th.

g. Presentations – **Oct** – Female Mountaineers, **Nov** – Nate Bender, **Dec** – Avy Group,

Jan - Climbs and Scrambles in the Bitterroots, **Feb** - ?, **Mar** - ?, **Apr** - ?

- Candy is working on it, has Be Bear Aware for October. Maybe Fish and Wildlife later.
- Elizabeth will look into female Mountaineering
- Chris will work on Spencer
- Julie will work on rescued dog people
- Maybe Boris with Missoula Orienteering

h. Roundtables - **Dec** – Ice Climbing, **Jan** - ?, **Feb** – Women in the Wilderness,

Mar - ?, **Apr** – Snow & Glacier Travel

- Brainstormed ideas.

i. Other Field Day Events.

- Beacon Practice?

8. Merchandise/Advertising

a. stickers

b. coozies

- Shelve till December.

9. Annual Trip Leader Meeting – Date?

- March 14th.

10. Meeting adjourned 8:05 pm.