

SEPTEMBER 2014

THE MOUNTAIN EAR



The Monthly Newsletter of the Rocky Mountaineers



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

Club Contacts

Website: <http://rockymountaineers.com>
e-mail: info@rockymountaineers.com

Mailing Address:
The Rocky Mountaineers
PO Box 4262
Missoula MT 59806

President: Paul Jensen
paulfjensen@yahoo.com

Vice-President (and Webmaster): Alden Wright
rocky@wrightmontana.net

Secretary: Julie Kahl
jawkal@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Steve Niday
seniday@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor: Dan Saxton
apologist497@yahoo.com

The Mountain Ear is the club newsletter of The Rocky Mountaineers and is published at the end 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 Tuesday, September through May, at 6:00 PM at the Trail Head. Each meeting is followed by a featured presentation or speaker at 7:00 PM.

Please be sure to check out our **Facebook group** to receive the latest up-to-date news and post short-notice trip proposals:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rockymountaineers/>

Cover Photo: A sea of peaks to the north from the summit of Mount Siyeh, Glacier National Park. Photo by Dan Saxton,

TRIP REPORTS

Photos along with trip reports are greatly appreciated!

10th annual Glacier Classic - August 29-31

For the first time in the history of this event, we had to change the dates due to weather. Originally scheduled for the weekend prior, a nasty looking forecast made us look at our options as nobody really wanted to drive to Many Glacier to sit in the rain all weekend. Due to other already scheduled plans, a number of those who were planning to attend the previous weekend were not able to make it for Labor Day weekend. In the end, however, we still had a nice small gathering of 14 of us attend and enjoy some great climbs around this incredible part of the Park.

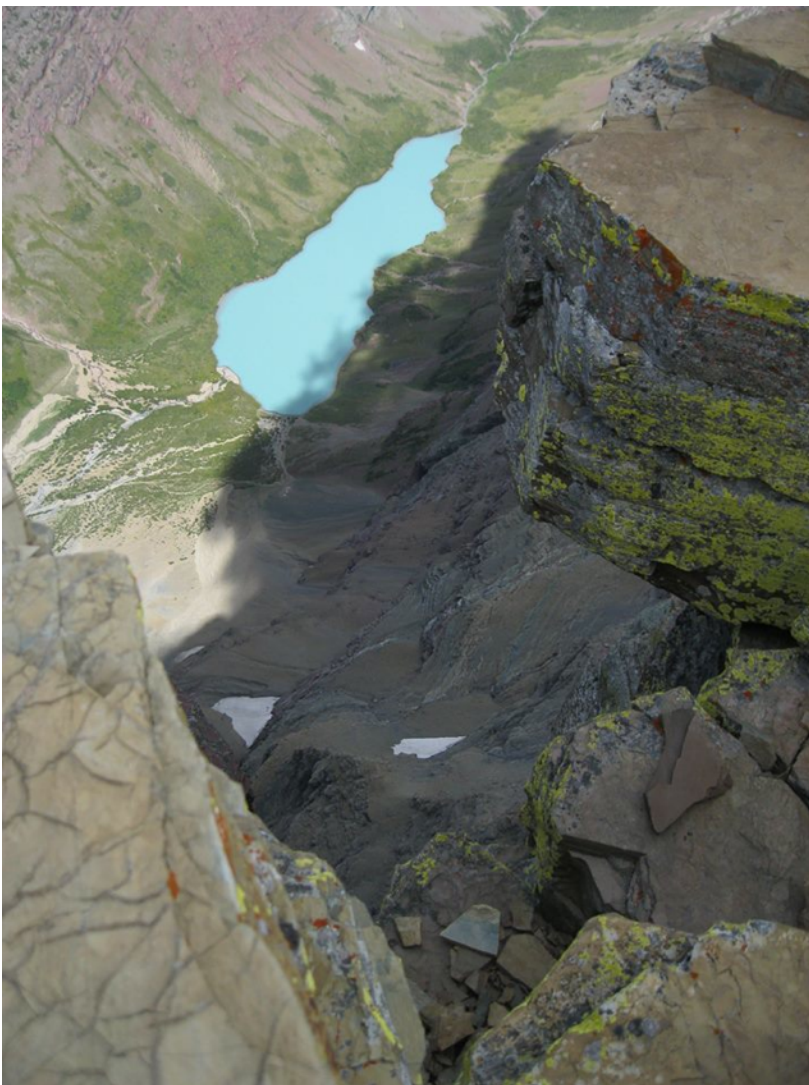
Pat Caffrey graciously arrived at Many Glacier early on Friday morning to nail down a couple campsites (campground was full by nine AM). Several of us arrived late in the afternoon and a couple more very late in the evening. The Mt. Siyeh climbers (see below) rolled into camp at dusk. We all ate, drank and enjoyed the campfire camaraderie.

Saturday was spent in the mountains (with the exception of the Caffrey gang who only

climbed barstools) with another campfire party in the evening. We greatly missed Tom Hanou's traditional Burrito feast as he was one of those unable to attend this year. Sunday saw some of us leave, while others headed back for a bit more climbing and hiking (more reports below).

All in all it was once again a very fun, and albeit less well attended, successful Glacier Classic. Here is to another 10 years!

Cracker Lake 4,000 feet below from the summit of Mount Siyeh. Photo by Dan Saxton.



Friday, August 29, 2014 - Mount Siyeh (10,014')

I'd been wanting to climb Mount Siyeh ever since my dad and I had to skip it due to being exhausted from the difficulty of the 5-day "North Circle" backpack that we did from Many Glacier in 2000. Now, half my lifetime later, I finally got my chance.....



Mount Siyeh from Preston Park. Photo by Dan Saxton.

I drove Sun Road from the west that morning, the first time in 14 years, and was impressed by how smooth and gentle the road's condition was - they've always been investing so much in keeping it up throughout the years! Reaching Siyeh Bend at 8:30am, I found one of Pat Caffrey's daughters, Sarah, waiting at the trailhead. She had sent on her sister, Jannah, ahead a while earlier because Jannah went at a slower pace. We made good time up the easy trail to Preston Park and met Jannah at the junction with the Piegan Pass trail. Going along the Siyeh Pass trail, Preston Park seemed surprisingly wooded, and it was a while before we could find an obvious way left to gain the south slopes of Siyeh - but it was no problem once we left the trail.



The gully on the S side of Mount Siyeh. Photo by Dan Saxton.

We ascended up the prominent gully right above the highest green patches of vegetation on Siyeh's south face - that is the standard route. It was my first time ever off-trail in Glacier, and did not disappoint - I was impressed by the layers upon layers of rock and the staircase nature of the gully. The rock was

loose, yes, but not overly so in my opinion. As we went further up, I began to prefer more solid, slightly steeper rock on the gully's left side while the Caffrey girls stayed more to the right. This resulted in us being separated for a little bit at the top, but we rejoined each other on the scree slope. The day was very clear in air quality, but the wind was howling up high. Gusts sometimes were in the realm of 40mph.



Views S from the route, looking towards cloud-capped Mount Jackson. Photo by Dan Saxton.

When we reached the last slope below Siyeh's summit, just below the snowfield there, the girls were behind me a bit and I waited for them. When I saw them, they hurriedly beckoned for me to join them - and pointing up the slope, there were 3 grizzly bears about 200 yards away, on top of the ridge! A mother and her cubs, the most dangerous combination! These were my first grizzly bears seen since 1995. Thankfully, the bears were a good distance away and slowly moved down to the left, away from the summit, so we decided it was OK to push on, staying further to the right.

From there, it was just a slog to the summit, which we reached in early afternoon. What a view! The wind was blasting us in big gusts, yet the scene was marvelous. With care, I kneeled down to look over the 4,000-foot N face, but it was too dangerous to stand right on the edge because of the wind. Almost everything in Glacier was below us, that quintessential "sea of peaks." Only the other 5 10,000-footers rivaled us, all visible nearby. The Sweetgrass Hills, Mission Mountains, and Cabinet Mountains were all discernible about 100 miles away each.



The bears! Photo by Dan Saxton.



Summit cairn on Siyeh. Photo by Dan Saxton.



Sarah and Jannah Caffrey atop Siyeh. Photo by Dan Saxton.

After about 1/2 hour on top, we began the descent, which went slowly but without trouble. As we neared the trailhead in early evening (7pm), I asked the Caffrey girls if they had a ride to Many Glacier. They had thought they would come back early enough to catch a shuttle, but we had taken more time and it was too late. I thus took them in my truck and we stopped in Saint Mary to try to contact Pat, since we did not know for sure if he had secured the Many Glacier campsite for us. But of course the pay phone (which was broken at the store) could not connect to Pat since there was no cell phone service. So we just drove to Many Glacier which we reached at dusk, and after checking the group site (which other people had taken), we found the Rocky Mountaineers campsites without too much further trouble. We were thankful for that! We then hung out around the fire with the other folks for a while before turning in for the night. *Dan Saxton*



Mount Cleveland and Mount Merritt from Siyeh. Photo by Dan Saxton.

Saturday, August 30, 2014 - Mount Henkel



Alden Wright ready to climb Mount Henkel.
Photo by Dan Saxton.

On Saturday morning, not sure who would join me for Mount Henkel/Crowfeet Mountain, I took my time in getting ready. Forest Dean told me that Alden Wright was up for doing Henkel. I asked a couple of the other people, and Jim Goss was interested, if we would skip Crowfeet.

Considering that I was planning to drive back to Missoula later that day, I agreed to do just Henkel and save time, and Jim joined the group. It was a bit cloudy today, but didn't look like really bad weather was coming, so all looked well for the climb.

We left the campground at about 8:30am, and quickly reached the climber's path which left the Iceberg Lake Trail at the first stream. This path led to just below the first cliff band, and then petered out. We found this cliff band to be a little frustrating, as it sloped up to the right, away from our direct line of ascent and the rock was particularly loose, though they were not technically too difficult. After some grunting, we reached the first of the two upper basins of Henkel. I was amazed at the brilliant colors of the red rocks.



The upper basins of Henkel.
Photo by Dan Saxton.



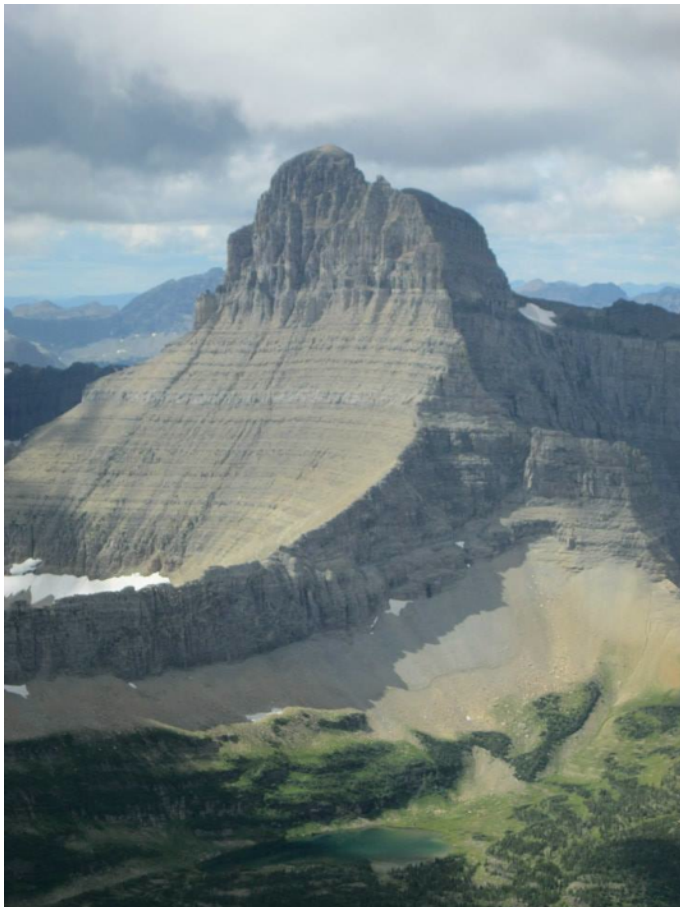
Zigzagging up the cliff bands. Photo by Dan Saxton.

There was another band of cliffs in the red rocks, which was particularly interesting as it was easy zigzagging through these layers. The whole mountain slope was composed of layers running the whole way east towards Altyn Peak. Above the red rocks, the color changed to a tannish hue, and the slopes became crumblier. Here we began to traverse to the south

ridge to end our ascent on an easy note, and goat paths helped here and there (we saw one lone goat high above too), though we had to take care on the fragile slope.



Ipasha Peak and Mount Merritt from the S ridge of Mount Henkel. Photo by Dan Saxton.



Mount Wilbur and "Shangri-La." Photo by Dan Saxton.

Upon reaching the ridge, we saw some showers beginning to come in, and the wind was picking up - the cold front was starting to pass through. Graupel/sleet also came down, but it was localized in nature and so we just dressed up warm and continued trudging up to the summit. The clouds were swirling around several of the peaks like Mount Gould and Mount Merritt, making for some dramatic scenes.

We reached the top of Mount Henkel some time after noon, and relaxed for about 1/2 hour, enjoying the views of Kennedy Lake below and seeing the showers hammer the areas to the south.

Iceberg Lake, Peak, Notch, B-7 Pillar, and Vulture Peak. Paul and Forest were somewhere up there..... Photo by Dan Saxton.





Jim Goss and upper Swiftcurrent Valley below. Photo by Dan Saxton.

Going down, we had to be very careful on the crumbly slope below the ridge, but once we were back in the basin “scree running” helped us lose elevation rapidly. We took a different way down the lowest cliff band, although it involved a slightly exposed Class 3+ down climb at the very bottom. Maybe there are easier ways than what we took? Without further mishap, we returned to the campground at 4pm and after hanging out for a little bit longer I began the drive back home. *Dan Saxton*

Saturday, August 30, 2014 - Iceberg Peak



Paul Jensen, Eric Jones and I set out at 7:45am for Iceberg Lake. This popular trail leads 5 miles to the lake while gaining 1000 feet. We saw and photographed a couple moose en route. After arriving at the lake, we headed to the north and up the grassy shoulder towards the steep face to the east of the prominent snow-filled couloir north of the lake. After gaining about another 1000' we started up the class 3 or 4 face towards the notch. From a distance this face looks incredibly steep, but once on it the route is straightforward and rarely difficult. There is a prominent algal reef that runs horizontally across the face about 2/3 of the way up; the climb through this is really the only area that could be considered class 4 (don't fall here). Eric decided to turn back here as his comfort level after recovering from various maladies wasn't up to his liking.

Looking up to Iceberg Notch. Photo by Forest Dean.

We arrived at the "notch" (the top of the aforementioned couloir) at around noon and had a bit of lunch. From there we traversed around the north side of the peak until finding a break through some cliffs which led us upward again. Another short traverse to the westerly side of the peak, then a scramble to the summit (9145'), arriving about 2:00.

Paul Jensen approaching Iceberg Notch. Photo by Forest Dean.





We got pelted by a bit of graupel on top, but still enjoyed good views of all the surrounding peaks. Looking 3000' directly down at Iceberg Lake was rather exciting. With the slightly inclement weather we soon retreated heading back the way we came. Downclimbing the pitch on the reef was a bit more challenging than the ascent, but we both managed just fine. We then slowly descended the rest of the way to the lake and then endured the 5 mile hike out, arriving back at camp at 6:45pm. An 11 hour day, 12 miles round trip and around 4400' of elevation gain and loss. Dramatic peak, fun climb and another great day in Glacier! *Forest Dean*

Iceberg Lake straight down from Iceberg Peak. Photo by Forest Dean.

Sunday, August 31, 2014 - Allen Mountain

Eric Jones and I got a late (9:00am) start this morning from the parking lot at Many Glacier Hotel. We decided to follow the "High Traverse Route" into the Snow Moon Basin. The route headed directly south from the parking lot and gradually climbed using a network of very good game trails up onto the flanks of an unnamed ridge. At around 6500', another good game trail heads east along the base of some upper cliffs and eventually into Snow Moon Basin. We arrived at Falling Leaf Lake at about 11:00, had a snack, then crossed to the east side of the basin to head toward the peak. The approach was across a mostly tundra-like landscape to the base of the false, north summit of Allen Mountain. We decided to climb to a saddle on the northwest ridge of Allen. As we started our climb through some cliffs to head to this saddle, Eric decided again that (like yesterday) his body was not yet up to the task and was going to head back.



Allen Mountain from Fallen Leaf Lake.
Photo by Forest Dean.

I headed on up to the saddle, then quickly up the northwest ridge to a low point between the two summits of Allen Mountain. A quick jaunt up to the true, south summit (9376') put me on top at 1:30pm. Snow was blowing through the air, but I was able to get good views of the Many Glacier and Snow Moon Basin areas. Had a quick lunch then headed down, back the way we came. At the north end of Snow Moon Basin, I decided to descend via what Edwards refers to as the "Bushwhack Route" (which involves no bushwhacking). This steep descent pops out on the Cracker Lake about a mile east of Many Glacier. Easy hike back to the parking lot with an arrival at 3:45pm (Eric followed same route out and was already back - we both prefer the High Traverse Route). So, about a 7 hour round trip - 8 miles - 4400' of elevation gain. Snow Moon Basin is beautiful and relatively easy to get to on good game trails - highly recommended! *Forest Dean*

Looking down at Snow Moon Basin and Lake Sherburne from Allen Mountain summit. Photo by Forest Dean.



Sunday, August 31, 2014 - Cracker Lake

Participants: Jim Goss, Paul Jensen, Alden Wright.



Cracker Lake. Photo by Jim Goss.

Forest Dean and Eric Jones left to climb Allen Mountain just before we started on our hike to Cracker Lake at about 9:20. Forest said that it might take them until 7 pm, so our hike was not hurried. The first two miles of trail is heavily used by horses from the local livery stable. Often we were hiking on the edges to keep out of the mud in the middle of the trail. After leaving the horse loop, we climbed high above the deep canyon of Canyon Creek. When we got back down to the creek, we could see that Canyon Creek had experienced heavy flooding during the 2013 Calgary flood. There were reports that Cracker Lake had lost its beautiful blue color after this event, but we found that the beautiful turquoise color had returned. While we were near the lake, the cold wind was always strong, and we experienced intermittent showers. We hiked around near the head of the lake and ate lunch under a very unique old tree. We returned to the Many Glacier Parking lot by 4:30, and found that Forest and Eric had already returned. *Alden Wright*



Alden and Paul under a neat old tree near Cracker Lake. Photo by Jim Goss.

Saturday, September 6, 2014 - Mount Calowahcan (9,061')

John Bardsley joined me on this tough ascent of one of the most spectacular peaks in the Mission Mountains. We started from the Eagle Pass Trailhead just after 8am (which can be found by driving the Eagle Pass Trail road and then turning left alongside the west side of the canal for about a mile; see the new Cairn Cartographics map too) and followed the trail for about 2/3 mile, when we left it at the first switchback to go along an old road/trail, which continued for about 1/2 mile before disappearing. We then followed a stream up for about a quarter mile in some nice coniferous forest that was relatively open.



Hell on the lower ridge of Calowahcan. Don't go this way! - stay on the stream longer! Photo by Dan Saxton.

As the ridge opened up to the left, I wasn't sure about where to gain it, and thought it wouldn't be too bad to try it out. Nope - it quickly became brushy and filled with deadfall. John and I suffered for about 30 minutes before things opened up more and we began the ascent in earnest. Once we reached the main crest at about 6,000 feet, we picked up a herd path that continued all the way to treeline.

The ascent was stiff and long, yet views of the Mission Valley steadily opened up behind us, under a perfect crystal-clear sky. The summit crags of Calowahcan started to peek out far above.



The first good view of Calowahcan's upper slopes. Photo by Dan Saxton.



The infamous Class 4 section. The way to go traverses on the big ledge at center to under the dark chimney, scrambles up to the chimney's base, and then traverses on more ledges further right to easier, mostly Class 3 terrain. Photo by Dan Saxton.

It doesn't get to be Class 3 until very close to the important ledge that you need to take to get to the best route up the west face to avoid a vertical notch (see photos for more details). At about 1:15pm, John and I got to this section, and tried to figure out the best way up. John wanted to try a prominent gully under a deep chimney, but I felt that a bit further down the ledge was the best way (he turned out to be right in the end). There is just not a lot of precise prior beta for this peak! We ended up climbing a series of exposed ledges a bit to the south, a couple of them a good Class 4 with fall potential. Above these it was simple Class 3 to the top, which is about 200 feet above the main ledge we traversed on.



The Mission Valley
from the summit.
Photo by Dan Saxton.

The views were stunning and tremendous - the horizon was the limit. 225 miles from Trapper Peak to Canada, the viewspan ran. All of Glacier's peaks were visible 75-100 miles away, and McDonald Peak's north face, still covered by a thin layer of snow from that week's storm, loomed darkly to the south.

Calowahcan is definitely the most difficult peak in Montana I have climbed to date overall, and the most satisfying!



McDonald Peak from
Calowahcan. Photo by
Dan Saxton.



First snow of the fall. Photo by Dan Saxton.

On the way down, we got closer to the notch and found it to be mainly just Class 3 going down, with maybe a smidgeon of Class 4. A key ledge got us into the gully below the prominent chimney that John had noticed before.



The convoluted terrain on Calowahcan's west face. Photo by Dan Saxton.

From there it was just a long tedious knee-killing descent down. I took us down to the stream sooner and found that route to be much easier going (5200-5400ft is the target elevation to leave the stream going up). The forest along the stream still had a lot of trees, but no brush or significant blowdown. We got back to the trailhead at 6:30pm, for a 10 1/2 hr hike, 8 miles round trip, and 5,700 feet of elevation gain. What a great day and peak, one for only the dedicated explorers! *Dan Saxton*



Calowahcan from Eagle Pass Trail Road. Photo by Dan Saxton.

Saturday, September 13, 2014 - Saint Joseph Peak (9,587')

Todd Kaye and Tom and Devern Gingerich joined me for this climb of the highest peak in the northern main Bitterroots. We struck off at 8am from the Bass Creek Overlook on the trail to Little Saint Joe. It took about 3 hrs of steady climbing to reach the summit - temperatures were nice and cool, with a slight cloud overcast above, which cleared off as the day progressed. When we reached Little Saint Joe and saw the connecting ridge to Saint Joseph, Todd decided it would be best for him to stay behind and wait for us so he wouldn't get into terrain too tough for him. That turned out to be a good decision.



Bass Creek Crag,
Saint Mary Peak,
and the Heavenly
Twins on the way up
Little Saint Joe.
Photo by Dan
Saxton.

The ridge had plenty of interesting variety, as we bypassed two prominent crags on the Little Saint Joe side, the first one having an interesting notch requiring a solid Class 3 move on the west side. It then opened out and became delightful in the middle section, before tapering off to a craggy crest for the final section to the summit cliffs of Saint Joseph. A little coating of snow clung to shady sections on the north slopes. The last section of ridge is a bit

tedious and is best done alternating between occasional crest-hopping and traversing on the south side; rudimentary paths helped out a little bit in this section.



The ridge to Saint Joseph.
Photo by Dan Saxton.



Saint Joseph's N face.
Photo by Dan Saxton.

When we got to the sheer cliffs guarding the peak of Saint Joseph, the normal route moved out onto the north face, which looked pretty steep and cliffy higher up. I was following Mike Hoyt's guidebook, which said that it would be no more than simple Class 3, but it seemed tougher. Devern and I tried to keep things a bit more conservative by traversing lower, but ended up on crumbly scree, while Tom stayed higher and picked out a more solid route along steeper but firmer rock.



The N face gully - darker rock is more solid. Photo by Dan Saxton.



Looking south along the Bitterroots from Saint Joseph Peak. Photo by Dan Saxton.

When the dark rock ended, we turned left to scramble up the first prominent gully. Mike Hoyt's photo of the gully, however, did not seem to match up with what we saw in reality. The best way angled up mainly along the left side of

the wide gully, utilizing the darker and more solid rock rather than the light rusty-colored, crumbly main section of the gully. Patient scrambling brought us up to the summit plateau, and from there it was a glorious walk to the main summit, which we reached at about 1:30pm. It's definitely one of the flattest high peaks I've seen for a while!



Bass Lake and Peak from Saint Joseph Peak. Photo by Dan Saxton.



Looking back to Little Saint Joe from Saint Joseph. Photo by Dan Saxton.

After about an 1/2-hr siesta, we went back down the same way, except that all of us followed Tom's higher route, which definitely looked like a mountain goat path of some sort. The slope was very steep, but it was fairly simple to just cross it following this "path." It is not for the novice, though - I rate it high Class 3! I thus recommend that those taking this route up Saint Joseph be comfortable on steep, often fragile rock (don't try to go straight up the ridge unless you want to get technical, or very close to technical....).



It was comparatively simple retracing our steps back to Little Saint Joe, which we reached at 4pm and reunited with Todd. The descent went smoothly and rapidly, and we returned to our vehicles at 6pm.

Saint Joseph is a worthy summit, but one that does require some work and experience to get to. It was another magnificent day and good climb with excellent partners! *Dan Saxton*

Stevensville from Little Saint Joe.
Photo by Dan Saxton.

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.

Please send trip proposals by email to Alden Wright for posting on the website or use the Facebook page to post them.

I (Dan Saxton) will also post proposals that way over the next month as it is becoming harder to plan long-term due to winter's imminent arrival.....

Saturday, October 4, 2014 - MCLEOD PEAK (8,620')

Rating: Class 2+ or mild Class 3, 10-11 miles RT, 4,500' elevation gain

Description: The highest peak in the Rattlesnake, nestled way back in there and only visible from the south at a long distance (or high up in Missoula), McLeod is either a long bike ride and a relatively easy ascent or a more difficult long walk in from the west but manageable for those who don't have two wheels. This trip falls into the latter class, so I am calling on all non-bikers (and bikers who are willing to surrender their privileges!) to join me in scaling McLeod from the west! We'll start at the mouth of Finley Creek and follow the primitive path along it to the valley's head, scramble up to the ridge, and take it to the summit.

This is the second time I've rescheduled this hike, and this weekend's weather looks great - so it should work out now??

NOTE: Tribal permit required; a year pass is available for \$17 at Bob Ward's.

Leader: Dan Saxton: apologist497@yahoo.com

Saturday, October 4, 2014 - ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS CABIN WORK PARTY

We will meet at 9 am at the Walmart parking lot (south end of Missoula). The primary goal will be the usual firewood cutting. Rejuvenating the cooking platform and lowering the upper sleeping platform are also on the list. Please give me a call so I can get an idea of how many people might be coming (728-6881).

Leader: Paul Jensen

Saturday-Sunday, October 11-12, 2014 - SEELEY LAKE LARCH

Description: This is just a short walk through some groves and into campgrounds along the west side of Seeley Lake, not really a Rocky Mountaineers' type of hikes. But, if you've never seen it, you owe it to yourself to go up and see the larch when they are gold. It is one of Montana's most spectacular views. I'm doing this with my family, but most people I hike or ski with know us well, so call if you want to coordinate our schedules.

Leader: Steve Schombel: ssbell@rockymountaineers.com

From Steve: If you are worried about hunting season, Beacon Hill is on a private ranch, and may have a few, if any, careful hunters. Seeley Lake has a zone around it closed to hunting. If anyone is interested you can send an email via the Facebook page, or I'm in the phone book.

Sunday, October 12, 2014 - SPOTTED DOG WMA

Description: Based on information we got at a scoping trip last spring, we will drive up to the O'Neil Creek trailhead, and for the most part stay on a ridge up to one of two of the high points, around 6200 ft. If this route is blocked by private land, we will use the Jake Creek trail head. Both routes are about 3 1/2 miles one way, partially on roads.

Leader: Julie Kahl: jawkal@rockymountaineers.com

Sunday, October 19, 2014 - BEACON HILL

Description: This is one place where the good folks at Five Valleys Land Trust got a conservation easement and built a trail to the top of this hill, so thank them for making this hike possible. It is about 4 miles total, with 750' of elevation gain, so it will be a fairly easy fall hike with lots of autumn colors. They say the hill is out in the open so there are great views all around. There are supposed to be some signs along the way about history, plants, etc. The plan is to carpool out in the afternoon. If time allows we could drive sections of the old Mullan Trail, and I know a nearby canyon with colorful rock formations. I'd like to get a gourmet burger in Drummond before heading home.

Leader: Steve Schombel: ssbell@rockymountaineers.com

FYI.....Lolo Pass Ski Trail Grooming Update

On Sept. 12th we talked with Buffie at Lolo Pass and she said that the Snowmobile Club will groom the trails, but they had to widen the trails and replace some bridges to accommodate the equipment. The work will be done in Oct. However they do not have track setting equipment probably until 2015-16, so no tracks set in the upcoming season. As of right now.

Rocky Mountaineers' Meeting Minutes 9/9/2014

I. Call To Order: 6:10

II. Attendees: Paul Jensen, Alden Wright, Julie Kahl, Dan Saxton, Steve Schombel, Forest Dean

III. Treasurer's Report:

A. \$932.01

B. Alden OK to pay for web hosting? Yes, from everyone, he'll pay and get reimbursed

IV. Discussions:

A. Speakers

1. Suggestions:

a. Mike Hoyt - Paul will contact

b. Nadia White, Julie will contact,

c. Rocky MT. Grotto - deepest cave, Julie will contact

d. Casey who works for David - Julie will contact

e. Josh - Paul will contact

f. Steve Karkanen Avalanche presentation, Dec. or Jan. - Steve S. will contact

2. Steve S. called Zack Porter - he can come in Nov., Forest a maybe for Feb.

3. Ask Trail Head if they want to bring in someone Paul has

B. Meeting place

1. Trail Head OK for general meeting but not business meeting
2. Market again next time or Union Club? Press Box? we'll look around

C. Trips

1. Did do the Glacier Classic Labor Day weekend, 15 people participated
 2. Cabin Work party Oct. 4th
 - a. New surface in cooking area
 - b. Lower upper bunk
 - c. Shelves, old ammo box to store stuff
 - d. Chinking
 - e. Reinforce floor in high traffic area
 - f. Take up the last of the old printing plates (can't get any more)
 - e. Cut fire wood
 - f. End with a potluck at the trailhead
 3. Julie - Charity Peak 9/28, Spotted Dog 10/11
 4. Steve S. - Camping trip this weekend
 5. Dan - McLeod Peak 9/28 **(NOTE: Changed to Oct. 4 as seen above)**
- D. Grizzly Man Race revival - Paul will ask Josh
- E. Lois will resume cookies and drinks next month
- F. Todd wants meeting info 1 month in advance, and more info, earlier

V. Adjourn 6:55 PM

Looking ahead.....

Our October meeting will be **7pm Tuesday, October 14 at the Trail Head store on 221 East Front Street**. Journalist Nadia White will give a presentation on the last leg of her journey to retrace the route of her great-grandmother going from the Oklahoma Panhandle to the Yukon. This route was from the Alaska coast to Dawson.

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Membership Fee: \$10.00

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.