

NOVEMBER 2015

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.

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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 encouraged to do so - contact the editor. The 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: Business meetings are held the second Tuesday, September through May, at 6:00 PM at MacKenzie River Pizza in downtown Missoula. The regular meeting with a featured presentation or speaker then follows at 7:00 PM at the Trail Head.

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: What are these peaks? Weatherbeaten signs point the way around from 9,231' Cinnamon Mountain, Madison Range, Montana, with the Taylor Peaks in the distance.
Photo by Dan Saxton.*

TRIP REPORTS

**It's that time of year - everyone's winding down and not much is happening!
Julia Kahl's Lolo Pass trip report will appear in the December newsletter.**

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 hands 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.

Saturday, December 5, 2015 - CHIEF JOSEPH PASS XC SKI

Join me for a day of cross country skiing at the Chief Joseph ski area. While I won't lead backcountry skiing, Anderson Mountain across the highway is a good area, and someone else could lead people there.

Leader: Alden Wright - rocky@wrightmontana.net

Saturday, December 12, 2015 - BEAR CREEK FALLS

Saturday, Dec. 12th we'll hike to Bear Creek Falls in the Bitterroots to see ice formations. If we can drive to the trailhead, it is about 2 miles to the series of small falls with a couple hundred feet elevation gain. If we can only drive to the last house, it would be more like 3 miles. It is a narrow dark canyon and could be very icy, so bring traction cleats. There may be enough snow to snowshoe.

Leader: Steve Schombel - stephenschombel@yahoo.com.

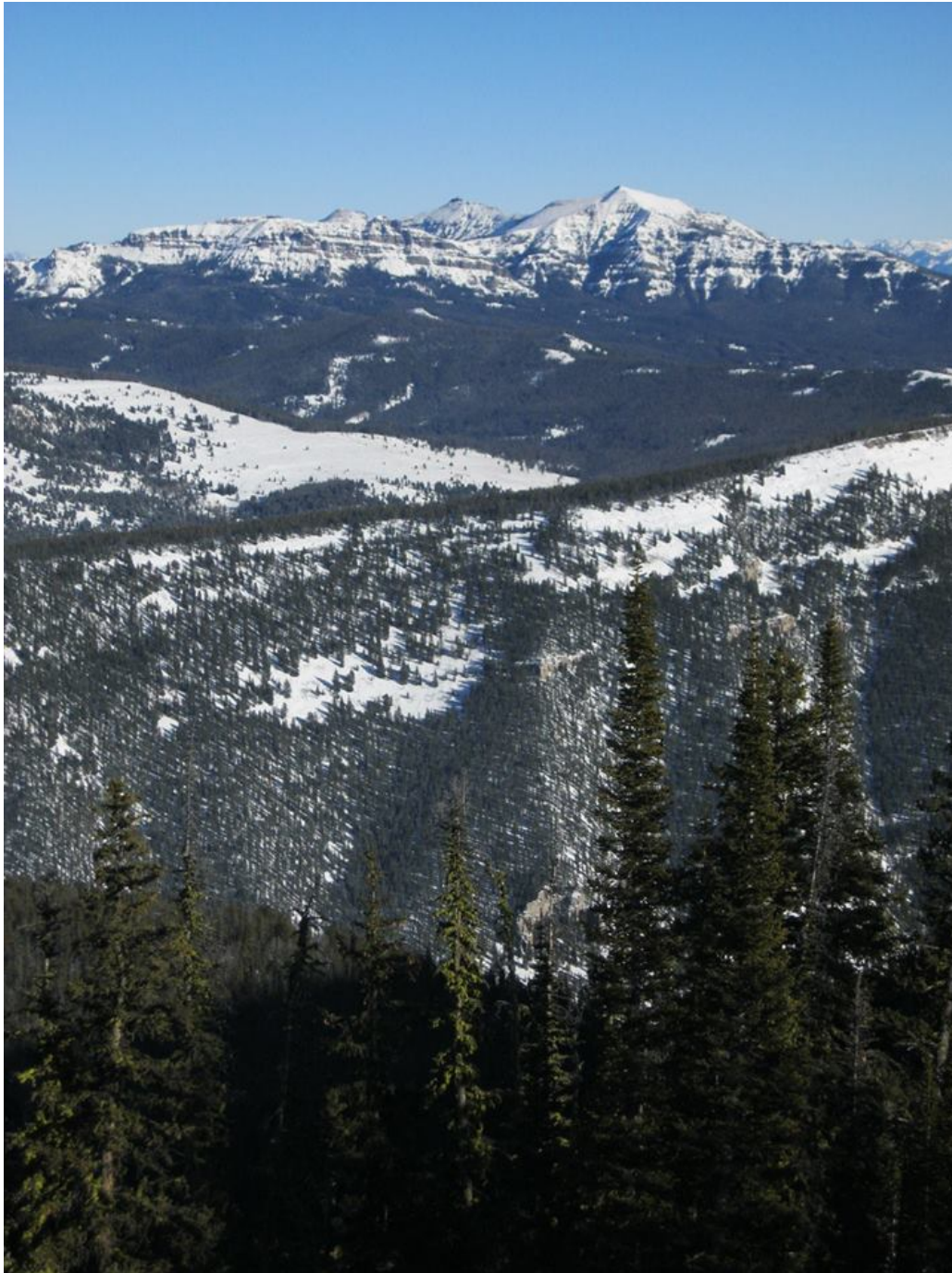


The Rattlesnake (McLeod Peak & Co.) from Mineral Peak in early November. Photo by Dan Saxton.

Looking ahead.....

The Rocky Mountaineers will **meet at the Trail Head**, 221 E. Front St., Missoula, at **7pm on Tuesday, December 8, 2015**.

Brian Martens will be giving the annual avalanche awareness presentation. It is a good time to learn about what you can face in the backcountry, and anyone can benefit, from first-time new adventurers to seasoned experts in need of a refresher.



Ramshorn Peak (10,289') in the Gallatin Range as seen from Cinnamon Mountain in the Madisons. Photo by Dan Saxton.

Rocky Mountaineers' Meeting Minutes 11/10/2015

I. Call To Order: 6:07, MacKenzie River Pizza

II. Attendees: Steve Schombel, Alden Wright, Steve Niday, Lois Crepeau, Julie Kahl, Dan Saxton

III. Treasurer's Report:

A. \$938.28

B. Steve Schombel talked to Joshua Phillips - he'll let them know when he's in town to take care of the bank accounts

IV. Discussions:

A. Speakers

1. Brian Martens will do the Avalanche program in Dec.
2. Alden will speak to the people who biked the State Line trail
3. Marc Ankenbauer who jumped in every lake in Glacier, in April
4. Steve Gnam didn't answer Forest

5. Suggestions:

- a. Mike & Linda Hoyt just hiked the Inca Trail - Steve S. will talk to them
- b. John Ashley - Glacier after dark

B. Next year is centennial of the National Park Service - some presentations on that?

C. Revisit summit registers discussion from a few years back?

D. Trips: Alden - X-C Chief Joseph 12/5/2015, Julie - Lolo Pass 11/29

V. Adjourn 6:35 PM

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.