

# Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS  
OF WESTERN MONTANA

VOL. XIII NO. 5  
Feb. 1974



Tower stands lonely  
Waiting for us to return  
Another summer.

S.F.

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## OFFICERS - 1973-4

Pres. Bill Ballard 549-5097  
 Vice-Pres. Andy Butcher- contact at KGVO 543-8313  
 Secy. Florence Murray 542-2363  
 Treas. Charles Hamma 549-0463

FLASH!! at least 6" of white stuff at Lolo Pass (2/2/74) & at least 4 of that is unconsolidated. Not the easiest touring conditions!

MEETING

February thirteen  
 7:30 PM

Bob Beñsch will give a slide show on ski-touring here and in Utah

W. Fed. Savings & Loan, Hwy. 93 S  
 (time & temp. sign, downstairs.)

More info. on coming events ---  
 Refreshments

A short re-hash of past meetings reveals a varied & interesting roster. Started the present season with a most informative lecture by John Craighead on recent developments concerning the fate of the grizzly bear in Yellowstone Nat. Park. (Watch National Wildlife Magazine for more on this subject.) Tony Qamar provided a well-rounded & entertaining slide show of climbing in the Bugaboos, while Jim Ullrich presented a variety of wildlife & mountain slides from thruout the West. Most recently Louis Hays gave an illustrated program on trekking in Nepal giving us an insight to activities in far-away places.

The Rocky Mountaineers are looking forward to future programs at their 2nd-Wed.-of-the-month meetings to be given by such people as Dah Burden (bicycling), Al Day (climbing), Arnold Finklin (mountain esthetics), Charlotte Gill & Virginia Vincent (Yukon River float.)

SCHEDULE

- Feb. 16-17-18 Rocky Mountaineers' Base Camp in Glacier Nat. Park. Ski-touring; winter-camping; those who wish could back-pack for a night or two. Meet at 7 A.M. Sat. W. Fed. Savings & Loan, Hwy. 93 S to combine cars. For more info. leave your name at 543-8313 (KGVO) & Andy Butcher will contact you.
- Feb. 17 Day trip, ski- or snowshoe to Wisherd Ridge (up the Blackfoot) with Bill Ballard. Meet at Eastgate Shopping Center 8 A.M.
- Feb. 23 Easy snowshoe & ski-tour; "an afternoon on the woods in the woods"-Ninemile Cr. area - Meet 1 P.M. Liberty Lanes lot near bridge. Home by 6 P.M. Virginia Vincent leader, 543-8078.
- Mar. 2 Strictly Snowshoe hike - Grart Cr.-Stuart Pk. area (not suitable for skis). Meet 8 AM at Safeway or W. Broadway. Leader: Charles Hamma 549-0463.
- Mar. 10 Ski-tour & Snowshoe hike with Bill Ballard. Destination to be announced. Leaders phone is 549-5097.

THE MOUNTAIN EAR NEEDS ARTICLES ON RIVER FLOATS & BICYCLING,  
 EQUIPMENT NOTES & RECIPES. Please & thanks!

In this winter of discontent, he who buys long-johns is not necessarily going skiing!

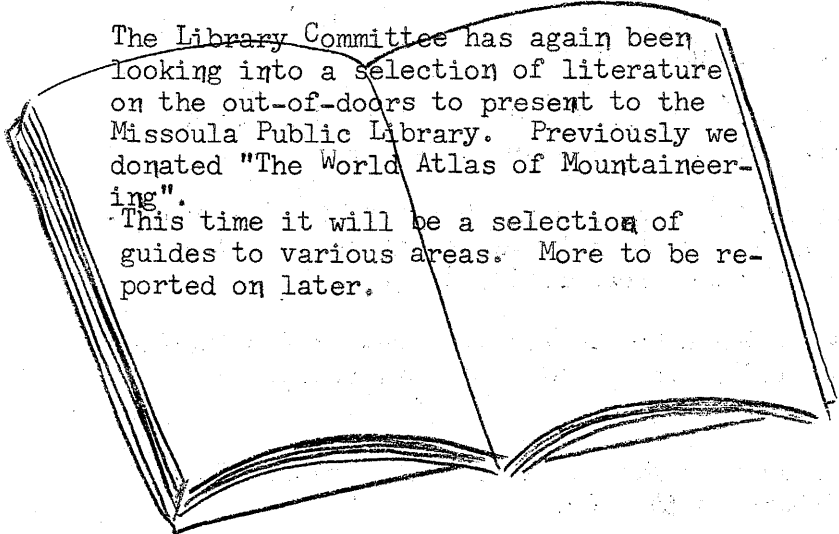
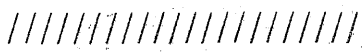
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Think what might be. Ask why not!?  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Have you been living up to your 1974 Resolutions? Pick up a wrapper.  
Pack out what you pack in.  
Return your empties. Organize a paper drive.  
\*\*\*\*\*

From National Wildlife Magazine Feb. '74:  
The Chief of the U.S.F.S. soon will make a decision which, if cleared by the Administration & Congress, can have profound & lasting effects on Idaho's magnificent Salmon R. (Middle Fork) drainage. Involved as well as the beautiful stream are the adjacent Salmon R. Breaks & Idaho Primitive Areas with their abundant fish & wildlife resources.

The big question is how much wilderness is enough, as well as where it is located. "River of No Return" Council, Id. Wildlife Fed., other conservationists recommend 2.3 M acre wilderness, Gov. Andres proposes 1.8 M, while a coalition of industrial groups plugs for "resource development" (mining & logging).

A vigorous & vicious campaign against wilderness has been waged by industrial groups, promising economic benefits. Conservationists point to hazards for water quality, fisheries, aesthetics, but emphasize economic benefits from recreation.

National Wildlife Fed. urges us who care to support wilderness for the "River of No Return" by writing The President, White House, Washington, D.C. NOW!!



The Library Committee has again been looking into a selection of literature on the out-of-doors to present to the Missoula Public Library. Previously we donated "The World Atlas of Mountaineering". This time it will be a selection of guides to various areas. More to be reported on later.

ACT NOW! The Bureau of Land Management here in these United States was not included in the Wilderness Act of 1964. Now there is a BLM Organic Act in the Senate Interior Comm. Montana's Sen. Lee Metcalf will offer a wilderness mandate to be included which will require the BLM to inventory its lands in the light of potential wilderness & report such to Congress. IF a mandate is not included existing Primitive Areas could be abolished by a single signature. WRITE NOW!!

Obtainable at the Info. Desk of the Fed. Bldg. (Pattee St. entrance): leaflets for each of these U.S.F.S. Nat. For. Kaniksu, Gallatin, Coeur d'Alene, St. Joe listing camp & picnic areas with maps.

For Ski Patrol & non-patrollers: Mountaineering & Avalanche course Feb. 16-17 at Snow Bowl, Missoula. Sign up with Al Day, 258-6993 Non-patroller fee \$15 - this is an overnight, on-the-spot exercise. See Jan. 1974 issue for schedule of activities. Coming up with same organization: Ski Mountaineering 3-day course in March. Al Day will again have info. Sponsored by W. Region of National Ski Patrol \*\*\*\*\*

Frostnip, affecting the upper layers of skin, is a mild form of frostbite. High winds & extreme cold cause a sudden blanching of the skin on the nose, chin, cheeks, ears, fingers & toes.

It is easily relieved by covering the area with a warm hand & applying steady pressure. Don't rub! But blowing on cold hands & cupping warm hands over nose or cheeks is a safe alternative. Fingers can be warmed by holding them in the armpits. A Good Friend may suggest that you warm your feet on his toasty stomach. According to Jack London, Eskimo women quickly warm the frosted hunter's feet under their ample bosoms. This may or may not be practical.

When extremities cease to feel cold or painful after they've been nipped & uncared for, they are being bitten. This is a signal to seek shelter & perhaps medical care.

If the hiker has miles to walk for shelter he should keep his shoes on & keep walking instead of removing them to thaw his feet. Walking on frozen feet is less harmful to the tissues than walking on thawed-out feet. Alaskan prospectors have walked for several days on frozen unthawed feet to reach a place where they could be treated, carried, or flown to a hospital.

According to the latest American Red Cross procedure rapid re-warming in water of the affected extremity is preferable. Place in a large vessel of water maintained between 102-105° F. Warm the victim's body, too. The only dry heat method to be used is to wrap the frozen area in a sheet & blankets. If area has thawed & refrozen warm at room temperature. Discontinue warming as soon as affected part becomes flushed. This avoids severe swelling.

Never expose the frozen parts to open fire, extremely hot water, or any intense heat. The frostbitten extremity is numb & the skin may burn before the individual realizes what has happened. Don't rub the frosted area before, during, or after rewarming. Applying snow or iced water is PASSE! Out! No good!

Quickly seek medical care because the tissue damage is likely to be serious.

WORK (?) PARTY ON LITTLE ST. JO.....by Sue & Joe Bemben

Late this past December we joined a group of 13-14 willing Mountaineers organized by Bob Benson to clear part of the trail to the future cabin site on Little St. Joe in the Bitterroots. With assorted skis, snowshoes, saws, axes, hatchets & one machete packed into 3 vehicles, we were able to drive to within 1½ mi. or so of the trail-head. The road was hikeable but most everyone was eager to try their winter gear. We decided to plod up carrying our skis - a good excuse for bringing up the rear! The beginning of the trail passes through a fairly open stand of trees, so nothing was cleared near the road - an added deterrent to wide-spread use of the trail.

The hatchet & saw men fell to work as the trail steepened, cutting only what was necessary to widen it enough for a turn or runout. We tagged along behind trimming branches off the downed trees ( they later found their way to several homes as Christmas boughs) & lopping the stray bushes sticking out ready to catch an unwary skier. Refueled with lunch, the strong-armed fellows continued up the trail for quite a distance. Surely their muscles let them know it the next day! They certainly earned a vote of thanks from every skier who can now come gliding down the trail without (?) fear.

*Ed. Note - sounds like a good work party.*

**FLORENCE MOTOR INN**

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 \*\*\*\*\*

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✱ ✱ ✱ ✱

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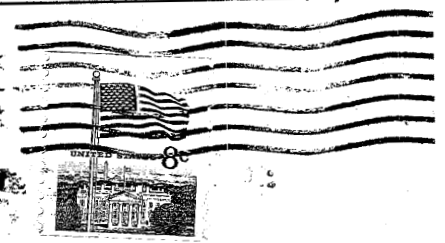
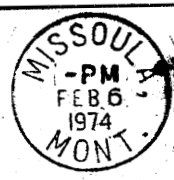
**BRAXTON  
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Sam Braxton & Sons, Bart & Dalt  
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STORE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 2 to 8 PM  
 Sat. 10 to 6 PM or by  
 appointment

ECOLOGY - ECONOMY - EXERCISE

Watch for BIKECENTENNIAL '76



Third Class

Dave Line  
 4949 Whitaker Dr.  
 Missoula, Montana 59801