



Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS
OF WESTERN MONTANA

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Henbane (poisonous)



Glacier lily



Pine drops

The Rocky Mountaineers of Western Montana, Box 1575, Missoula, Montana 59801 welcomes all persons interested in the out-of-door activities of hiking, camping, ski-touring, showshoeing, river floating, bicycling, and technical climbing - summer, winter, autumn and spring. Subscription to the Mountain Ear is by membership: \$4./yr. single, \$5./yr. family, \$2./vol. to out-of-town addresses. Eight issues per vol.

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MT. EAR ED. STAFF

Virginia Vincent-Editor Mona Frangos-Art Work Florence Elliott-Clerical

MEETING

NOVEMBER 12, 1975

7:30 p.m.

W. Fed. Savings & Loan, Hwy. 93 S at the Time & Temp. sign
Tentative Program: John Briggs, Bikecentennial Presentation

TENTATIVE TRIPS

Nov. 15th. & 16th. Exploratory car camping trip to the main Salmon River. Day hiking. Leader-Bob Benson Ph.No. 549-5325

NEW MEMBERS

Tom & Janice Ferguson
315 Strand Ave.

Albert & Claire Kamego
229 W. Kent

Mike McCormick
635 Brooks

Betty L. Johnson & Son
156 Kensington

Martha Lopez
304 Pattee Canyon Drive

Jim Schultz
1403 Van Buren

Veronica McLaughlin
2710 Rattlesnake

Mary Jean Ungaretti
615 W. Kent

RENEWALS

Bill Ballard & Family

Bill & Esther Duckworth & Family
Gary & Karen Hall

Florence L. Stone

Mike Kellogg & Parents

Robert Brandenberger & Family

Bill Morgan

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The day was cloudy and cool when we arrived at the trail head. We stopped at the ski shelter to check the design and construction of the "building", then out to the ridge overlooking Bass Creek and up to Little St. Joe.

The first one-third of the ridge to big St. Joe was not so bad; a few outcroppings to go over or around, then a smooth walk for a short distance. Ahead of us was a very rough rocky ridge and further ahead a 200 foot cliff and on the north side steep solid smooth rock. We went to the south side of the ridge through gnarled fir and spruce and around and over rocks on the steep hillside. The last part of this sidehill was a clear snow covered slope. We came out on the ridge from Bass Creek to Big St. Joe about one-half mile from the top.

As always, the view was great from the top but the wind was hard and cold. We returned by way of the steep ridge to Bass Creek and then on down the creek. Most of us were well worn out. The group totaled eight; Dave Line, Bill Ballard, myself and five non-Rocky Mountaineers.

Time Schedule:

Left Town	7:20
Arrived	
Trailhead	8:45
Ski Shelter	9:45
Little St. Joe	11:00
Big St. Joe	2:30
Cars	6:30

Charles G. Hamma

Foiled Again

The Columbus Day weekend turned out to be quite rainy and the ten hardy people who showed up for the El Capitan trip decided to adjourn to Sleeping Child Hot Springs. The day was spent swimming, playing a somewhat bruising game of water polo, and occasionally relaxing with a few beers.

Sunday afternoon saw three of the survivors hike up to the Little St. Jo shelter to do a little work and, if the weather cleared up, perhaps trek up to St. Joseph Peak. The shelter showed no evidence of use since the summer work party. The last few hours of daylight were spent working on the floor.

A fine dry snow was adding to the seven or eight inches of snow already on the ground when we got up Monday morning. We continued working on the floor and added a ladder to the underground entranceway. Some work still remains to be done on the floor, but it is usable for this winter. Bunks are probably the next priority for construction but they will probably have to wait until next summer. Later in the day we put away our tools and headed down the trail and back into the rain.

Bill Morgan

