

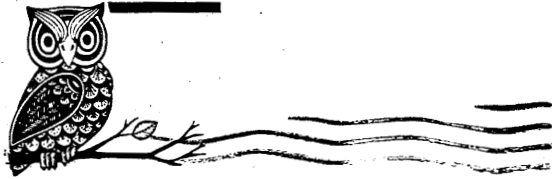


# Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS  
OF WESTERN MONTANA

NOVEMBER 1980  
Vol. XX, No. 2

NOVEMBER 12: Meeting at the University Golf Course Club House, 515 South Ave. E.  
Dave Alt, UM Professor of Geology, will speak on Glacial Lake Missoula.  
We look forward to seeing all Mountaineers and guests at 7:30 p.m.  
(The Club House is next to Elliot Village housing, just off South Avenue, opposite its intersection with Hilda.)



THE MOUNTAIN EAR  
P. O. BOX 4262  
MISSOULA, MT 59801



FIRST CLASS

Dave Line  
1135 Whitaker Drive  
Missoula, MT 59801

## CEDAR LOG LAKES TRIP, OCTOBER 11, 1980

By Virginia Vincent

Again, glorious fall weather, though foliage was not as colorful as two years ago. Thirteen members and guests made the long ride and just-right six miles hike along the Idaho-Montana border southwest of Alberton. Actually, this is the eastern end of the proposed Great Burn Wilderness.

The hike is a scant one-half mile longer than before due to the road being gated at the horse camp. But that is a much better spot to park and turn around, than at the mine road.

A leisurely 1¼ hour jaunt brought us to the overlook above Cedar Log Lake. Since the group was to split here, we lunched in the sun while gazing down at the blue water. Six went to the lake's edge where Bert Pfeiffer and Allison Easterling fished. Four brilliant Cutthroats were landed. The seven hikers dropped down a small trail to Kid Lake on the Idaho side and picked up the main horse trail along the divide. This trail actually stays on less rocky terrain below the crest, but rises to a small pass where one can gaze down the Middle Fork of Indian Creek and across tiny Mud Lake to Admiral Peak.

There were a few flowers still showing color: Indian Paintbrush, Yarrow, Red Heather and a tiny, low Phlox. Probably more thrilling were deer, elk and bobcat tracks. Ravens, hawks, red crossbills and a few rosy finches were observed.

It takes a little over two hours to drive one-way via Alberton and up Fish Creek to Schley Mountain. "Andy" Beals, Helen Cole, John David, Allison Easterling, Arnold Finklin, Barbara Hill, Ilona Hruska, Bill Kerling, Hilda Oaks, Bert and Jean Pfeiffer, Shirley Torgerson, and Virginia Vincent participated.

**DID YOU KNOW?** There are Friends of the Juniper Forest. Their address is 204 Newell, Walla Walla, WA 99362, and they bring to our attention the fact that BLM is considering different management proposals for this area.

**A DESERT WILDERNESS IN NEED OF PROTECTION  
THE JUNIPER FOREST**

In Southeastern Washington, 13 miles as a hawk flies east of Pasco, is an infrequently visited, little known area of roadless sandhills, sage steppe and western juniper tree groves known as the Juniper Forest. It is one of the few remaining blocks of unaltered steppe vegetation in Washington, and is the most northern stand of western juniper in North America. The Juniper Forest area provides critical habitat for numerous species of wildlife native to the arid environment, including four species rare in Washington: the ferruginous hawk, Ord's kangaroo rat, long-billed curlew and pygmy rabbit. It also shelters the only population of scaled quail found in Washington.

Already this land of active sand dunes and W. Juniper groves has felt the depredation of Off-road Vehicular use, even tho' some has been fenced to preserve a unique ecosystem.

WRITE: R. Burwell  
Dist. Manager, ELM  
Fed. Bldg.  
520 W. Riverside  
Spokane, WA 99201.

**WHY PRESERVE THIS?**

The Juniper Forest has long served as a unique outdoor classroom for ecological studies. Many colleges and universities use this unrivaled desert habitat for field trips and environmental studies. People visit the Juniper Forest in the Spring to see the wildflowers. Hikers and hunters frequent the area in Spring and Autumn. The increasing loss of similar ecosystems in Washington underscores the need to preserve the Juniper Forest.



TRIP SCHEDULE

- November 7-9, Fri. -Sun. Early bird skiers' and eagle watchers' trip to Glacier National Park. Drive up Friday after work. Plan to ski up the road to Logan Pass if the snow is there. Cold weather camping. Call Rob Holden at 543-5545.
- November 15, Sat. Spring Gulch hike, easy. Call Eleanor Weidman at 549-7793.
- December 10, Wed. Mountaineers' December meeting, 7:30 p.m., University Golf Course Club House. Ian Lange, UM Professor of Geology, will speak on Mt. St. Helens.
- December 13 or 14, Sat. or Sun. Wisherd Ridge ski run. Moderate skill and strength at least. Call Bob Benson at 549-1426.
- December 14, Sun. Cross-country ski trip, moderate. Call Randy Washburne for information at 721-3256.
- December 20-21, Sat.-Sun. Winter solstice weekend at Lochsa Lodge. We hope there will be snow for ski touring or snowshoeing. Call Ilona Hruska at 721-3832 before December 13.
- January 1-4, Thurs.-Sun. New Year's feast and skiing at the Rocky Mountaineers' cabin on Little St. Joe. Call Myra Bair at 728-3616.
- January 24, Sat. Pack Creek ski tour. Easy-moderate, 8 miles total, beginning at top of Lolo Pass. Call Allison Easterling at 728-5145 by Thursday, January 22.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
9AM - 9PM

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**The TRAILHEAD**

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NOV. 11th

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