



Mountain Ear

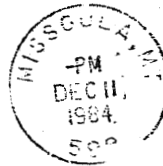
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS
OF WESTERN MONTANA

DECEMBER 1984
Volume 23, No. 4

DECEMBER MEETING: Wednesday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.
Montana Power Building, 1903 Russell, Missoula

PROGRAM: Dr. Graham Thompson of the University of Montana will show slides
of his visit to the Karakoram Mountains in Pakistan.

The Mountain Ear
P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, MT 59806



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dave Line
1135 Whitaker Drive
Missoula, MT 59803

TRIP REPORTS

Saturday, November 10 - Sweeny Peak

This peak just south of Lolo Peak is an outstanding ski trip close to Missoula. Although the snow above the parking lot had consolidated and was thin in places, we were able to begin skiing about one-half mile from the road's end. The skiing was similar to spring skiing, with sun and excellent vistas. Wayne Hecker, Beverly Chin, Brett Dusette, and Art Gidel reached the east summit in early afternoon, returning to the car before dark.

--Art Gidel

Saturday, November 18 - St. Mary's Peak

Due to warm temperatures and lack of new snow, the Sheep Mountain trip was changed back to St. Mary's Peak. Wayne Hecker and Art Gidel were able to drive within three miles of the trailhead, skiing to the lookout by about 1:00 p.m. Views of the Heavenly Twins were truly inspiring, and the telemarking on the upper slopes was fairly good. St. Mary's Peak is always an enjoyable early-season trip.


--Art Gidel

Saturday, November 18 - Lolo Pass

November 18 was a great day to ski. My son Joe, Ken Moe, Mary Rettig, and Betty Rosenkranz joined me to do the clockwise version of the Packer Meadow Loop. We went up the "J" trail where it connects with "F" and the men tried the lower level of Mt. Fugi. Needless to say, they weren't "poetry in motion," but they were having fun. We connected with Charles Hamma for awhile out on the trail and again in the parking lot where we were treated to some delicious homemade elderberry wine. The crew at the information center had the building toasty warm, and coffee, tea, and hot chocolate were available for a small donation. They are selling a new topo map of the ski trails this year for \$1.00.

--Lois Crepeau

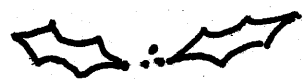
(trip reports continued on page three)



Lloyd's

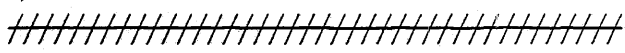
SHOE REPAIR
1230 West Kent
(N. end of Tremper Shopping Center)

- *Hiking boot collars repaired
- *All types of boot and shoe repair
- *"Vibram"
- *Accessories
- *Zippers
- *Leather care products



We will have a demonstration and some handout instructions for making rope climbers at the December meeting. (You need them to make the Little St. Joe cabin trip.)

Also at the December meeting, Art will go over the results of the questionnaire on survival equipment which many of us filled out at the November meeting.



The Mountain Ear is a publication of the Rocky Mountaineers outdoor group. Officers are:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Art Gidel, president | 543-6352 |
| Cindy Anderson, vice pres. | 549-2152 |
| Mary Jane Burns, secretary | 721-1276 |
| Arnold Finklin, treasurer | 543-8075 |
| Lois Crepeau, Mountain Ear | 728-5321 |
| Ethel MacDonald, Mountain Ear | 549-9722 |

Complimentary copies of the Mountain Ear are sent on request. Non-members may participate in Mountaineer activities prior to joining.

November 23-25, Little St. Joe Cabin

Five spirited souls began skiing the ridge above the parking lot at 9:00 a.m. The approach to the cabin was brushy and somewhat tedious, but the cabin was nevertheless reached before noon. After warming up and eating in the cabin, most members of the group skied to the summit of Little St. Joe, followed by some excellent powder skiing down the ridge north of the cabin. In the rocky areas of the bowl, some rocks were still fairly close to the surface. The following day, Sunday, two additional runs were made from the top. Cathy Golke, Wayne Hecker, John Pierce, Ken Moe, and Art Gidel were the participants.

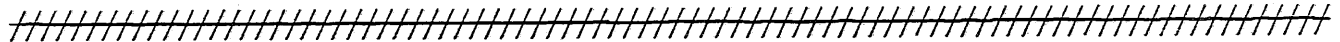
--Art Gidel

December 1-2 - Two day trips replaced the planned two-day trip:

Granite Peak - On December 1, Art Gidel's four-wheel-drive carrying Art, John Pierce, Ken Moe, Ralph Flockerzi, Robert Gilpin, and Wayne Hecker pushed through one and a half feet of powder to within one-half mile of the trailhead to Granite Peak. We skied five miles toward the peak and came within 1½ miles of it. Our thanks to John Pierce for his trail-breaking ability. We had lunch and in the afternoon had a fast run downhill back to the vehicle with a couple of exciting hills.

Lolo Pass - Mt. Fuji - On Sunday, Robert Stewart and Terry and Rosemary Jones joined Ralph, Ken, John and Wayne for an assault on the telemarking slopes of Mount Fuji at Lolo Pass. There was one and a half feet of powder on the hill and it and the weather made excellent telemarking conditions. We made numerous runs from the top to the bottom of Mount Fuji before we called it a day.

--Wayne Hecker



MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

Renewals:

- Charles Hamma
- Virginia Vincent
- Andy Smith
- Ethel MacDonald
- Art Gidel & Beverly Chin
- James & Doris Pulliam
- Bob & Eric Benson
- Alvina Graybeal
- Sharon & Tom Lukomski
- (new address in January: 4237 Edward, 59801)
- David Washburn
- (new address: 2316 W. Crescent Drive, 59801)
- Dan Weinstein
- (P.O. Box 429, Thompson Falls, 59873)

New member:

- Bill Thomas
- 806 Poplar, Missoula, 59802
- Phone: 549-0938

Dues: \$5.00 single; \$7.50 family (Annually)
Join at any time.

Send dues to: Arnold Finklin, Treasurer
Rocky Mountaineers
P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, Montana 59806



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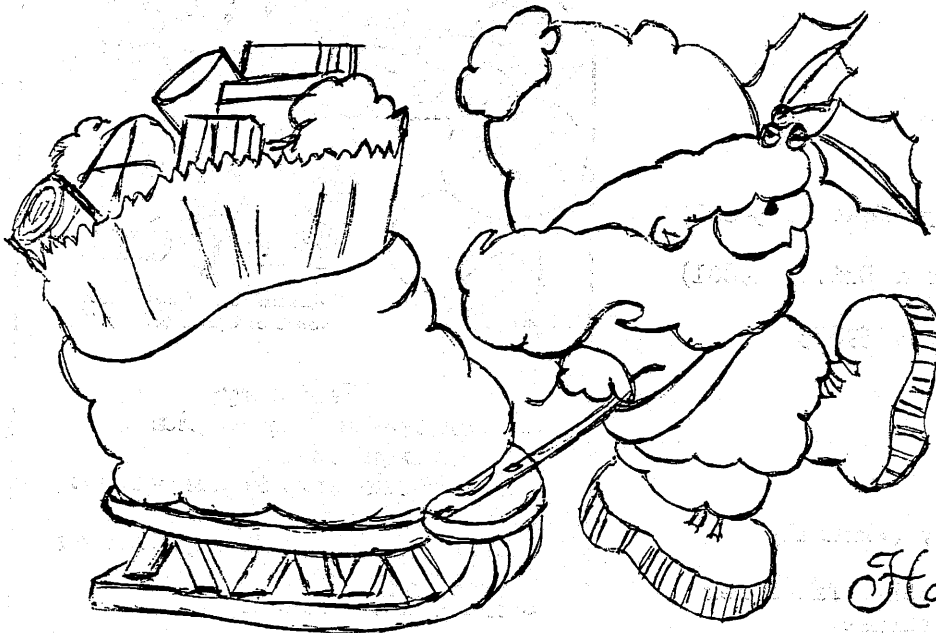
December 15-16 - Two-day ski trip, Flint Creek Range. Moderate. Call Art Gidel Saturday-Sunday at 543-6352 for details.

December 27 - Thursday - How about if all of us teachers and other lucky stiffis who have the week off meet and carpool to Lolo Pass and do a variety of trips, depending on what the group turns out to be. If interested, call Ethel MacDonald at 549-9722. (If we get snow at lower elevations by then, we can try something in the Rattlesnake.)

December 29- January 1 - Annual New Year's ski trip to Little St. Joe cabin. The main party will be Saturday and Sunday, with the dinner Saturday night. People lucky enough to have Monday off might stay four days; others might go up for New Year's Eve (Monday) and New Year's Day. Whatever your desires, you should be able to find somebody going and returning on the days that suit you. Call leader Ralph Flockerzi at 549-9986 for details and to reserve your space. Call early so you won't end up sleeping outside! (We expect a good response.)

January 5 - Saturday - Fred Burr Drainage, Bitterroot Range - Ski trip. Moderate, 10 miles round trip. Call leader Martha Yale at 549-2163 for details.

PLEASE CALL ART GIDEL at 543-6352 if you can lead a trip! We need you to keep the Rocky Mountaineers the active group it has been for many years.



Happy Holidays!