



# Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS  
OF WESTERN MONTANA

MARCH 1985  
Volume 23, No. 7

MARCH MEETING: Wednesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.  
Montana Power Building, 1903 Russell, Missoula

PROGRAM: Andy Onken will talk about her ascent of Mount McKinley.

Also: It's time to start thinking about new officers for next year. A nominating committee will be selected.

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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dave Line 1135 Whitaker Drive Missoula, MT 59803
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Stuart Peak - February 16

Art Gidel, John Pierce and Dave Pengelly left the Rattlesnake Creek parking lot at 7:15 a.m. and walked and skied up Spring Gulch to the Stuart Peak trailhead. Those of us with waxable skis chose to walk on the crust rather than putting on klister. At the trailhead we put on climbers and skied up the trail to the Rattlesnake Wilderness Boundary. From there we followed the ridge to the east of the trail and worked our way to the south face of Stuart Peak. After a lunch stop overlooking the head of Pilcher Creek, we climbed to the top of Stuart Peak. Although it was not perfectly clear, we had good views of the Swans, the rest of the Rattlesnake Range, Greywolf Peak in the Missions, and the Bitterroots.

The return trip was considerably more exciting than the climb. Variable snow conditions made the turning quite tricky on the first half of the descent. The final three miles was comparable to a bobsled run -- quite fast and with few escape routes. On our trip out we passed one party of snowshoers and four parties of skiers going in on overnight trips. We were back at the parking lot by 3:00 p.m.

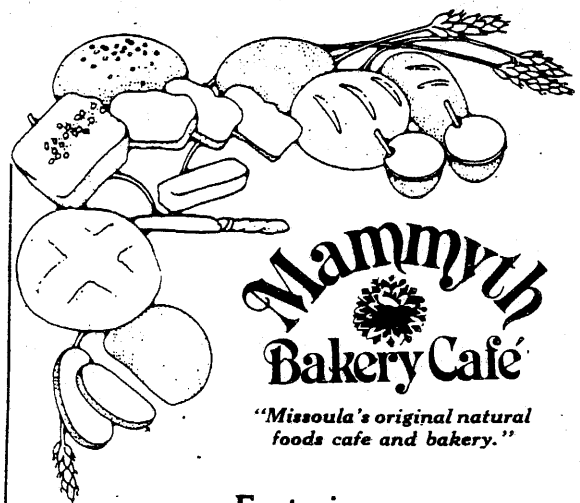
--Dave Pengelly

Wisherd Ridge - March 9

Bright sunshine and snow a little soft but not icy meant a great trip for Joe Knotek, Ralph Flockerzi, Nancy Braun, Joe Kipphut, Clarisse Landry, Brett Doucette, Dave Line, and Bob and Eric Benson. The group left the cars at West Twin Creek at about 8:45 a.m. and walked for a mile or so on hard snow before putting on skis. Former Mountaineer member Paul Jenson caught up with the group and then went on his way to Sheep Mountain.

This 6-7 mile round-trip includes a lot of vertical climb which required skins or climbers for everybody except Bob, who had the "perfect wax." After reaching the top, several people made extra runs in the bottom part of the cirque, where powder skiing was excellent. Everybody needed skins or climbers for the trip back down on a narrow, challenging snowmobile-tracked road. The total time of 7 hours was as good as I've had in my 20 years of skiing this ridge (including 12 or so leading Mountaineer trips).

--Bob Benson



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TRIP CALENDAR

- March 23 -- Sweeney Peak. Strenuous ski trip: 20 miles round trip with 4500-5000 vertical feet. Call Art Gidel at 543-6352.
- March 30-31 -- Lost Trail weekend, as described in last newsletter. Additional participants welcome, but will have to sleep on floor. Cost of \$12 doesn't include payment to those who drive. Call Ralph Flockerzi at 549-9986.
- April 13-14 -- Overnight trip to cabin in Chief Joseph Pass area. Moderate. Nominal charge. Limited to four bunks, plus several more on the floor. Call Wayne Hecker at 251-4853 for reservations.
- April 6-7 ---- Watch the Missoulian for an announcement.

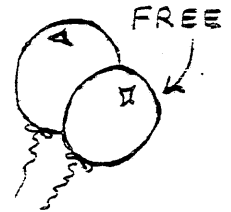
MEMBERSHIP NEWS

<b>New:</b> Kenneth Moe 512 South 2nd W. Missoula, 59801 Ph. 721-6433	Brett Doucette 1819 So. 8th W. Missoula 59801 Ph. 543-4927	John Pierce 125 Brooks Missoula 59801 Ph. 542-2640	Robert D. Oset 320 Lost Horse Road Hamilton 59840	Mei Long (2 yrs.)
Jonah S. Friedman 1101 W. Greenough Dr., Apt. A-6 Missoula, 59802		<b>Renewals:</b> Martha Laurence Allison Easterling Jeanine Byrne (new address: 27757 Bouquet Canyon Rd., Saugus, CA 91350)	Mary Rettig Lois Crepea. Wayne Hecker	

Omitted from last month's membership list:  
Greg and June Siple, 717 DeFoe, Missoula 59801, Ph. 542-2607.

Send membership dues (\$5.00 individual, \$7.50 family) to Arnold Finklin, Box 4262, Missoula, 59806. One complimentary copy of The Mountain Ear will be sent on request.

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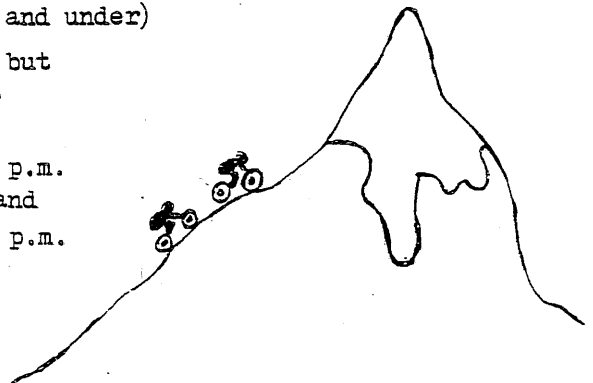
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3rd through SATURDAY, APRIL 6th

Register for free (\$595 Value) Cannondale Bicycle  
(must be 15 years of age or older)

or  
Peugeot kids' bicycle (15 years and under)

MUST BE PRESENT TO REGISTER but  
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Sale hours: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Wednesday-Friday and  
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday



WELCOME TO OUR NEW ADVERTISER - James H. Baker, for Yurika Food Products



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James H. Baker  
Distributor Yurika Food Products  
1524 South 12th West  
Missoula, Montana 59801  
Phone: 543-5329 or 543-8304

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Mr. Martin Brooks, President  
Yurika Foods Corporation

Dear Mr. Brooks,

As team leader for the China-Everest 84 Expedition, we enjoyed having Yurika Foods provide us with dinners for our successful climb of Mt. Everest.

The dinners were very good at any elevation, but were especially important to us at the high camps, where meal preparation is more difficult. Yurika's fine taste was also important, as the high altitudes often decrease the appetite for all but the most tasty foods.

Although the meals are slightly heavier than freeze dried foods, we were willing to carry them in order to have a good meal.

As I wrote on a post card to one of your distributors from Base Camp, "The best meals are the Yurika!!!". I heard many of the team members say repeatedly that they were "the only way to go". For your information, we tried to consume up to 10,000 calories a day and still lost weight.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that the team lost less weight on this expedition than on any of the Himalayan expeditions I have led. I feel this is due in part to Yurika dinners.

Best regards,

Lou Whittaker  
Team Leader