

Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS
OF WESTERN MONTANA

February, 1988

MONTHLY MEETING

NO MEETING THIS MONTH!!!! The Montana Outdoor Recreation Center has scheduled a slide show about Baffin Island by Grey Thompson on Wednesday, February 10, 1988, when we would normally hold our meeting. Since an informal poll revealed that everybody (including Steve Sheriff, who was scheduled to give our presentation) wanted to go to Grey's presentation more than they wanted to go to the Mountaineers' meeting, we decided to bow to the inevitable and cancel our February meeting. Everybody is encouraged to go to Grey's slide show, which will be at 8:00 p.m. in the Underground Lecture Hall at the University of Montana. The slide show, which is free, will be about a repeat of the classic Swiss route on Mt. Asgaard and a new route on Mt. Freya on Baffin Island.

March Program: Assuming nothing better comes up, Art Gidel will give a slide show on his trip last spring to Mount McKinley.

TRIP CALENDAR

Saturday, February 6, Stuart Peak. Ski trip up Stuart Peak in the Rattlesnake Wilderness Area. Call Joe Knotek, 549-2040, for details.

Sunday, February 7, Koch Peak. Strenuous ski trip and climb up Koch Peak in the Bitterroots. Call Steve Niday, 721-3790, for details.

Saturday, February 13, Lost Trail. Ski trip to the burn near Lost Trail Pass Ski Area. Call Martha Yale, 549-2163, for details.

Sunday, February 14, Glen Lake. Moderate ski trip to the mountain above Glen Lake. This is the mountain north of Gash Point. Call Peter Dayton, 728-8101, for details.

Sunday, February 21, Boulder Peak: Ski trip up Boulder Peak in the Bitterroots, southwest of Darby. May change the trip to Eagle Pass or Mount Harding in the Missions if the conditions aren't attractive. Call Art Gidel, 543-6352, for details.

Sat-Sun, February 27-28: Overnight ski trip up Trapper Peak in the Bitterroots southwest of Darby. Not too difficult but a grunt. Call Dan Weinstein, 542-0283, for details.

March 2-6, Mount Rainier: Ski ascent of the north side of Mount Rainier via the Emmons-Winthrop Glacier. Call Steve Niday, 721-3790, for details.

Sunday, March 6, Discovery Basin: Off-area skiing down the back side of Discovery Basin Ski Area, coming out on the highway by Philipsburg. Call Ralph Flockerzi, 728-5462, for details.

Saturday, March 26, Grey Wolf: Ski trip and climb up the south side of Grey Wolf Peak in the South Mission Mountains. Crampons, ice axe, and basic mountaineering skills required. Call Art Gidel, 543-6352, for details.

Sometime in March: Overnight ski trip. Call Joe Knotek, 549-2040, for details.

March or April, Mount St. Helens: Exact date to be determined shortly. Call Peter Dayton, 728-8101, for details.

April, El Capitan. Ski trip and climb of El Capitan. Date depends on snow conditions, but tentatively April 16-17. Call Art Gidel, 543-6352, for details.

April or May: Martha Yale is looking for people who are interested in skiing for 4 or five days in Canada, with a possible helicopter ride. Call Martha Yale, 549-2163, for details.

TRIP REPORTS

Stark Mountain Lookout, January 16: When my hopes of climbing Homer Young Peak were stymied by blocked roads, Dave Weinstein and I instead climbed Stark Mountain Lookout, which is northwest of Missoula, north of Tarkio. We approached the peak from the east via Ninemile Creek. You must cross the Barone Ranch to get access to this trailhead, but Jim Bolinger, the manager, graciously gave us permission to cross their land. The weather had been very warm and rainy, and the trailhead isn't much higher than Missoula, so we were a bit nervous about the snow conditions. However, the ground was well covered with about a foot of raincrusted snow topped with some new snow. This provided us with a nice climb up, but a rather fast and lumpy ride down. The first part of the climb is on an open ridge, which has some excellent potential for a fun ski out. After a saddle the trees get dense at times, and you are probably best off staying on the trail. The trail is old and poorly marked, so you may eventually lose it. As you get higher the trees gradually open up, and there are some super telemarking slopes through open trees east of the lookout. These slopes are steep enough that you should probably avoid them if avalanche potential is high. The ridge leads right up to the lookout, which has a good view when it isn't snowing. We telemarked down the open slopes and then dove down the trail for the car. In general this is a slightly long trip, about fourteen miles round trip, but one well worth doing. I would recommend that you try to do it when there is some new snow to slow you down on the trail and provide acceptable conditions at the low altitudes found at the beginning of the trip. - Peter Dayton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Avalanche Information: Call 549-4488, day or night, for taped information about avalanche conditions.

Authors Wanted: You too can become a published author! Provide prestigious citations for your resume! All members are encouraged to submit trip reports to the Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

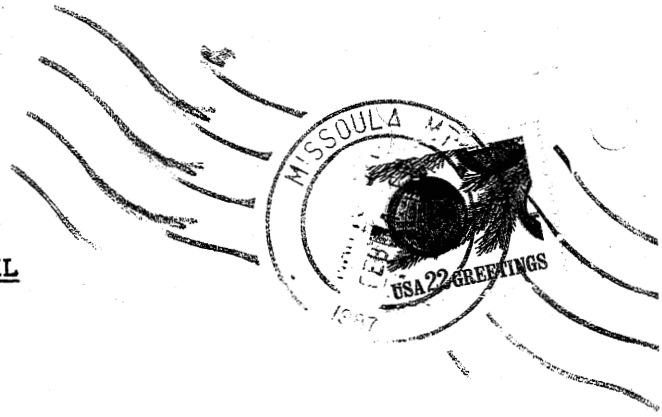
Address: _____

Check one: Individual (\$6.00/year) _____ Family (\$8.00/year) _____

Mail a Check payable to
"Rocky Mountaineers" to
Arnold Finklin, P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, Montana 59807

THE MOUNTAIN EAR
P.O. BOX 4262
MISSOULA, MT 59806

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Dave Line
1135 Whitaker Drive
Msl.
59803

For all your shoe repairs, zipper repairs, hiking boots resoled - come to 1270 W. Kent - north end of Tremper's shopping Center

Lloyd's
SHOE REPAIR



**BRAXTON
BIKE SHOP**

"AN OASIS FOR THE
CYCLO-TOURIST"

1987 bicycles now on display.
CANNONDALE . PEUGEOT . ROSS . UNIVEGA
CENTURION 'Ironman'
MOUNTAIN BIKES AS LOW AS \$219.95.

WE RENT CANNONDALE MOUNTAIN BIKES!

PARTS. REPAIRS. ACCESSORIES. CLOTHING

2100 South Ave. W.
Missoula, MT 59801

549-2513