



Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS
OF WESTERN MONTANA

October, 1989

Time and Place: 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11, in the Montana Power Building at 1903 Russell Street in Missoula.

Program: Ron Milam will present a slide show on scuba diving in the northwestern United States, British Columbia, and Belize. If you have been looking for a sport to fill that awkward gap between the end of the hunting season and the beginning of decent skiing, scuba diving could be just the thing.

November Program: Next month, Pat Caffrey will present a slide show on a climb of Mount Vinson, the highest peak on Antarctica.

TRIP CALENDAR

We have sort of a dearth of trips scheduled this month; a number of the regular trip leaders are preoccupied with hunting, and Art Gidel is off to the Himalayas. We would like to emphasise that all club members are cordially invited to lead trips, and that we would like to see people scheduling more moderate-to-easy trips.

Sat-Sun October 21-22, Salmon River. An overnight backpacking trip starting on the Main Salmon River downstream from Shoup and Corn Creek, and probably going up Horse Creek. This area is low in altitude and generally warmer and dryer than the Missoula area. Avoid both nasty fall weather and the beginning of the hunting season by retreating to the land of the spudheads. Call Dan Weinstein, 549-6844, for details.

December 19-24, Mt. Cleveland. An attempted winter ascent of Mt. Cleveland in Glacier Park. Call Steve Niday, 721-3790, for details.

TRIP REPORTS

Mission Mountain hike, September 23: Peter Dayton, Bret Doucette, Joe Kipput, and Dan Weinstein drove up to the St. Ignatius area to climb the prominent, unnamed, sort of hatchet-headed peak between McDonald Peak and Kakashe Peak. After encountering some access problems in the area directly to the west of the peak, we drove to the campground at the east end of Mission Reservoir and headed northeast up the ridge that leads to Kakashe Peak. When we reached the north shoulder of Kakashe, about 4,200 feet above Mission Reservoir, we dropped into the cirque to the north of Kakashe. Kakashe would be fairly hard to climb from this side because you would have to cross a series of massive, cliff-faced gendarmes to get to the summit. From this cirque we headed northeast up to the top of our objective. This mountain looks fairly imposing, but you can scramble up almost any part of the west face without much difficulty. The scenery is outstanding, with great views of most of the south end of the Missions. Unfortunately I got no pictures, as I discovered, after carrying my camera all the way to the top, that it was dead as a doornail due to the fact that one of its batteries had inexplicably reversed polarity. I won't forget spare batteries next time! We were delighted to discover a well-graded trail which switchbacks up the ridge that leads to Kakashe. Although we only followed sections of this trail, it leads all the way up to the top of the ridge. On the way up we got sidetracked onto a spur trail that leads off to the north to a

illegal cabin which was recently burned by the tribal authorities, and on the way down we got bored with the switchbacks and headed straight downhill, unfortunately down the wrong spur ridge. However, if you can control your inclination to wander off into the bushes, this trail is in excellent condition and very scenic, with great views into the mountains above Mission Falls. There aren't a lot of trails this good in the Missions.
- Peter Dayton.

Little St. Joe Cabin Work Party, September 24, 1989. Bev Chin, Art Gidel, Steve Niday, Gerald Olbu, Dan Weinstein and Dave Pengelly comprised the annual Little St. Joe cabin work party. We cut the usual supply of firewood and hauled in new insulated stovepipe material to replace the chimney. After discovering that we needed a different size roof box, it was decided to prepare the roof opening, and Steve Niday and Dave Pengelly returned a week later to complete the job. The old stove pipe was severely deteriorated, so it was a task that was quite necessary for the safety of the cabin and those who use it. Thanks again to those who were able to take the time to get the cabin ready for the winter. - Dave Pengelly

Cabin Fund Status: Due to the cost of the stovepipe materials, the cabin fund is presently in the red. The materials required to bring the chimney up to U.S.F.S. requirements cost \$155.00, but the cabin fund presently has only about \$70.00, which leaves us short about \$85.00. Contributions to help defray this cost would be greatly appreciated, and we hope that everybody who has used the cabin, or would like to use the cabin, will chip in.. Mail contributions to the Rocky Mountaineers Cabin Fund, c/o Arnold Finklin, P.O. Box 4262, Missoula, MT 59806. Also, we discovered that the log book is missing from the cabin. It was last seen in late May or early June. Please tell one of the officers if you know where this historical and interesting book might be.

Newsletter Masthead: The club has been using the same masthead on its newsletter for yea these many years, and your editor wonders if it's time to get a new one before the old one becomes illegible due to repeated recopying. We have assembled a committee of artistic and marketing experts, and are prepared to consider all suitable submissions.

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OFFICERS

Dave Pengelly, President and High Exalted Leader - 728-6512
Steve Niday, Vice President, Trip Coordinator and Program Tzar - 721-3790
Arnold Finklin, Treasurer - 543-8705
Colleen Hunter, Secretary and Newsletter Distribution - 728-8101
Peter Dayton, Newsletter Editor and V.P. for Comic Relief - 728-8101
Ralph Flockerzi, Refreshments and Bicycle Club Liaison - 549-9986

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

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

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



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