

Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS

April 1990

Time and Place: 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11, 1990, in the Montana Power Building at 1903 Russell Street in Missoula.

Program. Nancy Decou will give a slide show and program on trekking in Nepal.

Election of Officers. The current officers, who are named at the end of this newsletter, have been renominated to their offices. Further nominations will be accepted at the April meeting, and officers will be elected for the next year. If you don't show up to defend yourself, you might get elected.

TRIP CALENDAR

Apology: The rivers are rising, and a number of the club's regular trip leaders are directing their energy to river trips, generally unscheduled. Those wishing for more scheduled trips are warmly encouraged to offer to lead some.

Tuesday evenings, Mount Sentinel climbs: Hikes up Mount Sentinel leave from the parking lot at the base of the "M" at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday. Call Ralph Flockerzi at 549-7150 for details.

Thursday evenings, Mountain Biking. An interesting and varied assortment of mountain bike trips have been scheduled for Thursday evenings. Watch the "Around Missoula" column or call Ralph Flockerzi at 549-7150 for details.

April 15, Little St. Joe Cabin. Spring skiing trip to the club's charming and rustic cabin on Little St. Joe Mountain near Florence in the Bitterroots. Call Dan Weinstein at 549-6844 for details.

Sun River Float Trip, April or May. A weekend kayak, canoe, and/or raft trip to the Sun River, which comes out of the Rocky Mountain Front near Augusta, when (and if) it comes up. A great moderately easy whitewater float featuring super play opportunities and outstanding scenery, suitable for floaters of intermediate experience. We will float the same section twice, and car camp Saturday night; feel free to join the trip for either day if you can't make both. Keep in touch with Peter Dayton, 728-8101, about river levels and dates.

TRIP REPORTS

Bear Peak, March 18. Bare Peak (not Bear Peak) is the next ridge south of Boulder Peak, and two ridges south of Trapper Peak, and is located southwest of Darby in the Bitterroots. It is an undulating ridge several miles long, and the point marked as Bare Peak on the map is actually not the highest point on the ridge. Nobody in the club has skied this ridge to our knowledge, so Steve Niday led Owen Cox, Peter Dayton, and Dave Pengelly down to check it out. The weather was sunny and quite warm, and the snow was fading fast down low. We hiked for quite a ways before putting on our skis. Up higher we encountered nifty spring snow conditions and excellent scenery. After reaching the

first major point, a poll of the participants disclosed an uncharacteristic lack of ambition, so we headed out. There are a number of open slopes off this ridge that provide good telemarking opportunities, and the ridge out has fairly open trees and a gently angle. This is a ridge worth exploring further. The snow conditions had become pretty mushy from the heat of the sun, and as we descended we found ourselves skiing desperately down intermittent patches of spring snow surrounded by grass and rocks. Eventually it was no longer humanly possible to ski any further, so we all took off our boards and walked the rest of the way down, except for Steve, who skied all of the way to the car. - Peter Dayton.

Gash Point Loop, March 25: Art Gidel, Al Sillars, Dan Weinstein, and Dave Pengelly took advantage of the sunny spring weather and high elevation snow pack to make a loop trip around Gash Point west of Victor. We headed directly up the ridge to the Bear Creek Overlook and then continued up the main ridge to Gash Point. Dan and Al dropped off about 2/3 of the way and skied to the North, down into Gash Creek. Art and Dave continued on to Gash Point. This trip marked the first time in four years and numerous trips that we've ever had a view from Gash Point - and it was great. We were able to see much of the route followed a month earlier on the Sky Pilot trip, as well as being able to see the Missions, Swans, Pintlers, etc. The ski out from Gash Point via the bowl and Gash Creek was suprisingly good. - Dave Pengelly.

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OFFICERS

- Dave Pengelly, President, Trip Coordinator and Grand Vizer - 728-6512
- Steve Niday, Vice President, Program Czar and Chief Trailbreaker - 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 Chairman of the Logging Committee - 549-9986

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

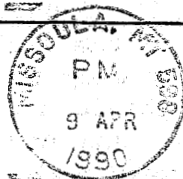
Name: _____ Phone: _____

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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