



MOUNTAIN EAR

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS OUTDOOR CLUB

HIKING-CLIMBING-MOUNTAINEERING-SKIING-
EXOTIC TRAVEL-EXPLORATION OF PEAKS AND
MOUNTAINS OF MONTANA AND OF THE WORLD

JANUARY 2001

CLUB MEETINGS: There will not be a formal program for the month of January. We will be meeting at Finnegan's Restaurant at 7pm, Wednesday, January 17th to discuss current club business. We will be seated near the rear of the building...ask the waiters for directions to the Mountaineers tables. Topics will include the recent resignation of our President, new elections versus other options, developments with the Mountaineers cabin, and other club concerns. Please attend to voice your opinions.

Meeting 2-13-

TRIP CALENDER

Open Climbing for interested folks: Many members of our club are unable to get out and climb the scheduled trips on the weekends. If you are one of these people, and would like to become part of a "weekday" climbing group, let us know you are interested in finding similar climbers to join on weekday outings. Call the Secretary- Newsletter Editor at 273-2566 to be placed in this special interest climbing/hiking group.

January 13th, Saturday, Snowshoe Trip: This will be another snowshoe trek in the Howard Creek Drainage downstream from Lolo Hot Springs. If people desire, we could try to snowshoe along the steep sidehill where you can follow the route of the Lolo Trail. I would prefer to try to follow the North Fork Trail, which is longer and gentler, farther from the highway, and eventually tops the ridge between Lolo and Petty Creeks. There is plenty of snow already in the area. For more information call Steve Schombel at 721-4686.

January 21st, Sunday, Beginners Level Cross-Country Ski Trip: Join Julie Warner for a beginner level cross-country ski excursion. Participants will be able to enjoy some mild terrain at a location near Missoula. Call her to arrange for the trip. Reach her at 543-6508.

4th Sunday
February 3rd, Saturday, Lee Creek Ski Trip: Join Julie Warner for a ski trip near Lolo Pass. Participants should be greeted with great snow conditions and great views. Get out and get a work out with Julie and other outdoor activists. Call her at 543-6508 for arrangements.

February 10-18th, Isla Espiritu Santo-Baja Mexico, Kayak Trip: Join Sally Wenning for a kayak excursion through beautiful waters and inlets along the coast of Baja. This trip is a formally guided trip sponsored by WILD WOMEN. There are fees required. Call Sally for more information at 549-8567.

TRIP REPORTS

Want to Lead A Trip? We are looking for individuals, young or well seasoned, to lead hikes, backpack trips, climbs, mountaineering excursions, or other outdoor adventures. Please lend us your talents and volunteer to lead at least one trip per year. You can lead anything from beginner level to the most extreme. You don't have to be in cutting edge shape to be a leader. Simply possess sound judgment and be upfront with any participants as to the type of trip you will be leading. Our club members and others can benefit from the fruits of your efforts. Give it a try. If you are interested in being a Trip Leader for the Rocky Mountaineers, contact Club President Julie Warner at 543-6508 or email her at jawkal@selway.umt.edu.

Ski Trip, December 17th: When it came time for our ski trip on Dec. 17th, it looked like the weather was less than desired at Lolo Pass. There was however, a fair amount of snow in the valley, so Fred Schwanemann, David Kahl and myself opted to take a shot at skiing the Lubrecht Experimental Forest trails near Seeley Lake. There were two other cars in the lot, and the trails hadn't been groomed yet. We followed existing tracks until they ran out, then broke trail for a ways before ending in a large aspen meadow. There were no more blue diamonds to follow in that direction, and having reached our turn around time, we just backtracked over where we had come. It was a great day with about 18" of new snow. We had a great time with the varying trail conditions –Julie Warner.

Lee Creek Snowshoe Trip, December 23rd: Steve Schombel and Fred Schwanemann did a short snowshoe trek from the Lee Creek parking lot near Lolo Hot Springs. Some of you may recognize this area as the one where Missoula Parks and Rec does their snowshoe trips. We attempted to follow the Lee Creek interpretive trail and reached a flat area on top of the lower north end of the ridge. There was a large granite overhang for shelter and a lunch break, but the day was warm and calm enough that we didn't need shelter. By mid afternoon the clouds cleared and we had nice views. We retraced our track to the car. All in all a short pleasant day, and a perfect break-in to a new sport –Steve Schombel.

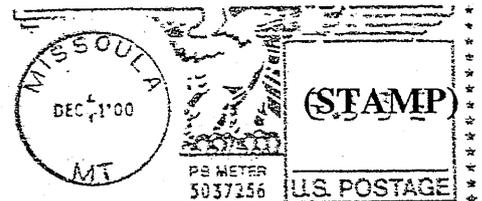


CLUB OFFICERS

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Membership Renewal 04/2001