

MOUNTAIN EAR

Monthly Newsletter of the Rocky Mountaineers

The Rocky Mountaineers is organized as a nonprofit Club for the mutual benefit of its members to promote all phases of recreational use of mountainous areas.

November 2003

A Meeting of Rememberance

The next meeting of the Rocky Mountaineers on Wednesday, November 12th, will be dedicated to David Line and David Pengelly, who passed away this year. We have several people interested in attending and many with stories, photos and slides. The meeting will start at 7:00 P.M. in the second floor meeting room of the Court House Annex. Use the Pine Street Entrance. Refreshments will be provided.

Since we ran an article on David Line last spring, we will give you some information on Dave Pengelly.

Dave was born in the early fifties, and was athletic and involved in sports at an early age. While in high school he competed in track and skiing and other activities. After reaching adulthood his main passion became mountaineering, and not just the easy peaks, but summits like Mount Merritt, Mt. Rainier, the Grand Teton and Denali in Alaska. He also was an outstanding back country skier. His companions remember his boundless energy and label him as someone extremely difficult to keep up with. When asked about his shift in focus he said "My days of worrying about having to compete are over. I don't view activities now as competition. My interest in staying in shape is to put in a long, active day - and to be able to get up the next day."

His interests led him to the Rocky Mountaineers. Even when he first became active it was a group that not only climbed, but also got together for skiing, boating and other types of trips. He became President

of the club in the late 1980's, and ran it well for several years, stepping aside for Art Gidel in 1992. But he didn't rest. He came back and volunteered to be secretary-treasurer, an office he occupied diligently for several more years. He continued to lead

trips and would occasionally give a slide show whenever asked. He would frequently lead winter time ski-climbs to one of the Bitterroot summits such as Koch Peak or Gash Point. In early summer he annually would try the snow chute on Greywolf.

The current officers could always turn to him for advice and encouragement. For example, he gave us much advice when we wrote some new bylaws a few years ago.

Unfortunately, Dave died in a climbing accident on Reynolds Mountain in the North Cascades on June 13th last summer. He and his companion, Steve Sheriff, were trying to reach this little

known summit when he apparently lost his grip and fell down into a very rugged area.

The public is very welcome to attend this meeting and hear more stories. All of our meetings are free.

Life Goes On

Saturday, November 8th there will be a cookout party near Lolo Pass to celebrate some member couples who are planning to spend their lives together in love. Bring your kids to meet ours, and get them started enjoying the outdoors. See page four for more information.



David Pengelly while President - Missoulian photo from 10-15-91 by Randall Green

Trip Reports

October 4-5th Piegan Pass, Glacier NP: What a magnificent fall we had! And what better way to spend one of the nicest weekends than hiking over one of Glaciers best trails. All of the participants camped or got lodging as close to the trailhead as they could get Friday evening. Some of us got up early and shuttled two cars up to Many Glacier, then took the rest to the trailhead. The hike itself was unbelievable, with lots of sun, lots of goats, rugged mountains and waterfalls. We lingered too long in the magnificent high country, and then realized that we would have to make a quick pace down the many miles to the cars. But we made it before dark, and even got to the restaurant before closing. Everyone; Ron Pierson, Nancy Schrader, Dave Kahl, Julie Warner, Steve Schombel, Michael Bowles, Cathy Burleson and Fred and Eilene Schwanemann agreed that we saw Glacier at its finest. - Steve

October 12th Stark Mountain Lookout: The "Kids' Trip" to Stark Mountain lookout was a great day. The road that goes high up the west flank of the Mountain gives great views. Gharette (8) and Hannah Warner (6) with Julie Warner and David Kahl were the only kids, but Lois Crepeau and Jim Goss and Cathy Reich brought their dogs to enjoy the outing. We ran into snow not much after leaving the cars at the locked gate. Hannah was making snow angels by half way up. There were several inches of snow and a cold wind as we sat in a protected spot to eat lunch. We all got chilled and got back on the trail to warm up. This was Hannah's first real hike and she did great. Everybody enjoyed themselves and the impressive views of Western Montana from this peak. The view included a good view of the Missoula Valley from the west with Hellgate Canyon clearly visible. - Julie

October 19th Smith Creek Pass: The weather was colder, and there had been some snow in the mountains. Perhaps this is why only three of the regulars, plus one call from Kalispell, were interested in hiking this weekend. After talking it

over, Bret Doucett, Steve Schombel and Lois Crepeau decided to go to Smith Creek Pass instead of Turquoise Lake. Two of us had never been there, but wanted to see some more of the rugged part of the Swan Range around Union Peak. Lois thought this would be a better choice with some snow. It was a nice clear day, but there was a cold wind blowing up high. The trail was in great shape. Other than some people driving around the trailhead we only saw one friendly man with a string of horses all day. We were quite taken by the scenery, with several peaks north and south along the range, and alpine basins and lakes down in the Bob Marshall to explore. This trail gains a lot of elevation but is definitely worth seeing. - Steve

October 25th The Walman Trail: On Saturday, October 25, 2003, at 9:30 am, Fred Schwanemann, Jim Goss, Cathy Reich, Jessica Lin, Steve Schombel, Robin Young, Cathy Burleson, and Michael Bowles met at the Rattlesnake Trailhead. It was brisk at 9:30 am. We went up the Stuart Peak Trail a mile past the last footbridge enjoying the golden needles of the Larch. We took the West side of the Walman Trail to the summit. We had lunch at a sunny spot off a game trail with a view of Missoula's University area. We headed down the East side of the Walman Trail to the fishing trails along the Rattlesnake Creek, picked up Trail 99 and went back to the Trailhead. There was no sign of 'wildlife' on that day. - Fred Schwanemann

CLUB CONTACTS

Rocky Mountaineers P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, MT 59806
rockymountaineers@hotmail.com

President- Julie Warner 543-6508
Treasurer jawkal@hotmail.com

V.P. - Steve Schombel 721-4686
Editor ssbell@montana.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND LIABILITY WAIVER

Family Yearly Membership: \$13.00
Make checks payable to: "Rocky Mountaineers"
and send to: Rocky Mountaineers
P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, MT. 59806

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I have read this release and indemnity agreement and have fully informed myself of its contents before I have signed it.

Print Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian if Participant is Under 18 Years of Age _____

I, (print name) _____ hereby state that I wish to participate in courses and/or activities offered by The Rocky Mountaineers, a non-profit organization. I recognize any outdoors activity may involve certain dangers, including but not limited to the hazards of traveling in mountainous terrain, accidents or illness in remote places, forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons. I further understand and agree that without some program providing protection of its assets and its leaders, the Rocky Mountaineers would not be able to offer its courses and activities. In consideration of and as part payment for the right to participate in the activities offered by The Rocky Mountaineers, I agree to RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS, AND INDEMNIFY The Rocky Mountaineers and its members from any and all liability, claims and causes of action arising out of or in any way connected with my participation, or the participation of any minor that I am signing on behalf of, in any activities offered by The Rocky Mountaineers. I personally assume all risks in connection with these activities. If I am signing on behalf of a minor, I further agree to RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS, AND INDEMNIFY The Rocky Mountaineers and its members from any liability, claims and cause of action, which the minor may have arising from the minor's participation in activities. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, personal representative, and for all members of my family, including any minors. (Parents or Legal Guardians must sign for all persons under eighteen (18) years of age).

"Me Generation" Mountaineers

Here is a quote to reflect upon. It is from Ron Moody, who writes a column called "Nimrod's Trace" in *Montana Wildlife*, the newsletter of the Montana Wildlife Federation:

"The idea that hunters should assertively seek more local programs to involve young people in healthy firearm activities gets my applause. This can and should happen.

A major roadblock is that the current population of adult hunters is a ME generation caught up in self serving pleasure and can't be bothered with social or political leadership. This is how hunters have defined their identity and they face extinction because of it."

With this thought in mind, we ask our members to please answer the following questions about the club's cabin. The mailing address is on back of this half page.

The problem is that regulars in the club, the ones who lead trips, arrange meetings, etc., are not the ones that use the cabin. With few exceptions the ones that show up on the fall work days are not the ones who use the cabin. We would like to get an idea from this survey of how our members feel about the cabin. Names are optional.

(yes/no)

Do you use the cabin? _____

How often? _____

Would you be willing to join a work party? _____

Would you help on bigger repair projects? _____

Would you make a contribution? _____

Should the club continue to cut firewood and do repairs? _____

Should the club continue to lease the cabin? _____

Upcoming Trips

November 8th Lolo Pass cookout and party. Prepare for cold weather. There will be a bonfire. Plan on bringing your own wieners, buns and beverage. And bring your family. There will be several kids to play with, and there will be a full moon so a stroll or ski later is possible. Call Lois Crepeau at 728-5321 for the time and place and more information on what to bring.

November 16th Rattlesnake Hike: The fall colors will mostly be gone, but this area is still beautiful in early winter. The plan is to go up the Stuart Peak Trail to the 3 mile limit and back, staying in the "no hunting" zone. The total will be 6 miles, making for a good half day. Call Fred Schwanemann at 542-7372 for the details.

November 22nd Alberton Gorge: Rescheduled from the 9th. This is also a short, half day hike, and very quiet and scenic. There could be some snow and ice and slippery footing. If we have an extra car we'll shuttle one downstream. Call Steve Schombel at 721-4686 for details.

December 7th Lolo Pass Ski: By December there almost always is enough snow at the pass for a good ski tour. There are many possibilities in all directions. Most of our ski days are intermediate, and get longer later in the year. Some tips and trails are available for beginners. If there is a report of better snow in some other area then the group will go there. Call Julie Warner at 543-6508 for information.

More Leaders Needed: When winter is here more of us will be doing winter sports. We are always looking for more types of trips and more organizers. For example, ten years ago several friends would get together and spend a weekend at a downhill area, such as Targhee, known to have early season snow. We also used to list a lot of white water, mountain bike, ice climbs, caving, and other activities. So please give us a call with your ideas: Steve Schombel at 721-4686 or Julie Warner at 543-6508. Julie likes to do things suitable for children at least once a month.



Rocky Mountaineers
P. O. Box 4262
Missoula, MT 59806

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