

# The Mountain Ear

April 2019

## President's Message

Hello Members-

It looks like the weather has finally made a turn and spring has arrived. What a winter it has been! If you like snow and ice sports, you likely have had a lot of smiles the last couple months. Of course, if you really don't want to let it go, you only have to ascend a couple thousand feet and you get right back in the thick of it. But down low, things are definitely a-changin....

Lots going on with The Rocky Mountaineers these next couple months. Most of it will be outlined in the short articles that follow so I won't dive in too deep right here. Presentations, membership renewals, officer elections, roundtables, field days, our annual Spring BBQ and trips, trips and more trips. Please read on, and more importantly, participate!

I am now about a month away from wrapping up my two year stint as TRM President. I believe that this club has made some major strides forward over the last two years. Membership and participation has been steadily increasing. There seems to be a sense of excitement with the direction the club is heading. I believe we have accomplished some key goals that will hopefully allow TRM to remain a valued and sustainable entity to the western Montana outdoor community for years to come. Much remains to be done, however, which is sort of exciting in itself (we can always continue to make it better!). While I am proud of my part in these recent efforts, there are several others who deserve kudos as much, if not more. We have had a solid team here these last two years. Please consider casting a vote for the slate of officers nominated below as I firmly believe these folks have the best interest of the future of this club in mind. I look forward to continuing to work with them, and with all of you, to continue to make TRM better and better with each passing year.

Now, enjoy spring (or late winter), refrain from yardwork and spring cleaning (RESIST!), and get out on the trails or crags or mountains!

Cheers,  
Forest Dean

## April Feature Presentation

**Jesse Crocker- Riding the Tour Divide Mountain Bike Race**

Tuesday, April 9th - Imagine Nation Brewing Company- 6:00-8:00pm

In 2018 Jesse Crocker entered the 2800 mile Tour Divide mountain bike race, an unsupported bikepacking race along the continental divide, from Banff AB to the Mexican border. It has been described as the world's toughest mountain bike race. The race served as an in-over-his-head introduction to the world of endurance biking, and a way to reconnect with his mountain biking roots.

Jesse lives in Darby MT where he spends as much time as possible skiing, but when the snow melts he's on foot or bike. He has thru hiked the Pacific Crest Trails, Skied the John Muir Trail, and trekked through the Himalayas. When not outside he is one of the authors of the popular Gaia GPS navigation app.

Show begins at 6:00pm. Come by, grab a beer and a seat, and enjoy an evening with Jesse and The Rocky Mountaineers!

Looking ahead:

May- **Ben Darce**- Manaslu Climbing Expedition

### **Membership Renewals**

#### **DUES NOTICE**

The Rocky Mountaineers annual membership runs from May 1 to April 30. If you have not yet renewed, we would really appreciate you taking the time NOW to do so. Your current membership will expire at the end of this month. (If you have joined since January 1<sup>st</sup> of this year, your membership will be good through April 30, 2020).

What are the benefits of membership?

- Ability to participate in any of our Trips!
- Ability to participate in our educational events or clinics
- Social events
- Attend the Glacier Classic! (see below)
- Monthly Newsletter
- Be a part of a group of like-minded outdoor recreation enthusiasts!

Annual dues:

- \$25 - Individual
- \$40 - Family
- \$15 - Student/Youth (under 23 years old)

Please visit the Membership tab on our website ([www.rockymountaineers.com](http://www.rockymountaineers.com)) to renew.

Questions? Contact our Treasurer- Susanna Phillips ([susannagirolamo@gmail.com](mailto:susannagirolamo@gmail.com))

### **Business Meetings**

The next quarterly business meeting will take place on Monday, May 6th. (This is also considered our "Annual Meeting"). All members are very welcome (and encouraged) to attend! Please consider joining us and assisting with the direction of your club.

We will hold these meetings in the upstairs conference room at Big Sky Brewing Company. Meetings will start promptly at 6:00pm and wrap up no later than 8:30pm. (and yes, we can drink beer while we meet!)

### **Board of Director Elections**

As we approach the end of our fiscal year (April 30) it is time to start thinking about nominations for our Board of Directors. A new Board will be elected at our Annual meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> (members will have the opportunity to vote on the slate of officers via electronic format prior to that). Any current dues paying member who will have retained membership for at least one year as of April 30<sup>th</sup> is eligible to be an officer (must be 18 years of age). Members can nominate themselves or other members. We have four positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary. All are one year terms with a maximum of two consecutive terms (except Treasurer- 4 terms).

Anyone meeting the above criteria is eligible. If you would like to get involved in the direction of the club, please don't hesitate to nominate yourself or at least let us know you are interested! All nominations must be made by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The current Board of Directors has nominated the following individuals:

PRESIDENT- Joshua Phillips

VICE PRESIDENT- John Bardsley

SECRETARY- Fintan Maguire

TREASURER- Susanna Phillips

### **Upcoming Trips and Activities**

BC Ski- **Ward Mountain (Bitterroots)**- Sat, April 6

Roundtable- **Snow and Glacier Travel**- Thurs, April 11

Field Days- **Snow and Glacier Travel**- Sat-Sun, April 13-14

Hike- **Greenough Area Log Roads**- Sat, April 13

Climb- **Bell Mountain (Lemhi's)**- Fri-Sun, April 26-28

BC Ski/Snowshoe- **Trapper Peak**- Sat, April 27

Spring Fling and BBQ- **Kiwanis Park**- Sat, May 4

Hike- **Cha-pp-qn Peak**- Sat, May 4

Rock Climb- **Mulkey Gulch**- Sat, May 4

*More TBA*

BC Ski- **McDonald Peak (Missions)**- Sat, May 11  
Climb- **Lost River Range (Multiple Peaks)**- Fri-Sun, May 17-19  
Hike- **Pattee Canyon to Miller Creek**- Sun, May 19

*Please visit our website for all the details on these trips!!*

[www.rockymountaineers.com](http://www.rockymountaineers.com)

### **Education**

**Snow Climbing and Glacier Travel Basics**- Thursday, April 11- Roundtable discussion at Big Sky Brewing Company (6:30pm). This moderated talk will cover the basics of steep alpine snow climbing and glacier travel techniques as well as gear requirements. Perfect for those looking to move beyond mere summertime scrambles or those wanting to set their sights on big Cascade or Canadian peaks. Folks with experience are strongly encouraged to attend as well to share their ideas and experiences.

**Snow Climbing and Glacier Travel- FIELD DAYS**- Saturday-Sunday, April 13-14. This two day program is for beginner and experienced climbers alike. We will spend two days at Snowbowl reviewing and practicing the following fundamentals of mountaineering: clothing and gear options, steep snow and ice, crampon technique, self-arrest, rope management, efficient pacing, snow anchors, route finding, glacier travel, crevasse rescue.

Please note that this is not an "instruction" clinic. The leaders are not trained guides or certified instructors. We will, however, be happy to share what we know and what we have learned from experience (and will encourage other participants to do the same). Primarily, we will be practicing all the fundamentals listed above! Previous climbing experience is not required. Participants should, however, be in good physical condition; and have some backpacking or scrambling experience. *Group Size Limit: 8* See our website for contact info and registration.

### **TRM Spring Fling and BBQ!!**

On **SATURDAY, MAY 4<sup>th</sup>**, we will have our Annual Spring BBQ. This will be held in conjunction with a day of activities! Please mark this on your calendar and consider attending!! We will be sending out an email in the next couple weeks with more details.

Our tentative plan:

- Several trips to choose from during the day (Saturday, May 4)
- Cha-pp-qn hike; Rock Climbing @ Mulkey Gulch; Local Hike; More TBA soon!
- 6:00pm- BBQ in Missoula @ Kiwanis Park. Free Food, Beer and Drinks!
- Raffle Prizes!
- Lawn Games!

We REALLY want you to attend this event! (Thus, the free stuff and raffle prizes as an enticement!) Hope to see ALL of you there!

## **The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Glacier Classic**

This is The Rocky Mountaineers most popular and signature event! Every year since 2005, we have gathered in Glacier National Park in the latter half of August to climb peaks, hike trails, and have a grand ole time in camp. This year we will once again be basing out of St. Mary, but this time we will be camping at Divide Creek Campground. The event will take place August 15-18. A complete list of the planned activities are still being put together; preliminary list includes the following options (more to come):

- Mt. James- class 2-3 hike and scramble
- Allen Mountain- class 3 scramble
- Ipasha Peak- class 3-4 scramble
- Piegan Mtn- class 2 hike and scramble
- Mt. Cannon- class 3 scramble

There will be a couple trips on Friday, several on Saturday and 1-2 on Sunday. You can arrive when you like, participate as much as you like, and depart when you like. Most folks will arrive at Johnson's sometime on Friday afternoon/evening. Carpooling can be arranged (and is encouraged).

It's never too early to let us know you want to attend! It will be a great time- guaranteed! See website calendar for contact info and continue to watch for more details.

## **Trip Reports**

All reports from club trips can be found at: <http://therockymountaineers.blogspot.com>  
All future Trip Reports will be posted and archived on this site as well.

## **Club Officers**

President- Forest Dean

Vice President- Joshua Phillips

Secretary- Kelsey Wellington

Treasurer- Susanna Phillips

## **TRM Quarterly Business Meeting – March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Attendance: Joshua Phillips, Susanna Girolamo, Julie Kahl, Kelsey Wellington, Paul Jensen, Alden Wright, Jesse Blaha, Forest Dean (presiding).

Called to order at 6:08pm

1. Meeting minutes will be archived on Google Drive
2. Treasury Report
  - a. TRM account: \$2222.55
  - b. GMAR account: \$2071.46
3. Old business items
  - a. Website status



- iv. Other ideas
  - 1. Level 1 Avalanche was incredible, we should offer it next year
  - 2. Rock climbing
  - 3. Ice climbing with Whit Magro
  - 4. Teach people what gear to get
- b. Presentations
  - i. March: Jeff Shapiro
    - 1. Susanna will post flyers
  - ii. April: Jesse Crocker
  - iii. May: Ben Darce
  - iv. Presentation on Roger's Pass/Bugaboo Spring – Ian Magruder present for the fall (November?)
  - v. Location: we'll see how Jeff's presentation goes!
- c. Trips & events
  - i. Need more trips, especially for summer
  - ii. Events
    - 1. May BBQ + trips
      - a. 5/4
      - b. Great event!
    - 2. Summer Solstice event
      - a. Tentative date: 6/15
      - b. Another social event
        - i. Paul's backyard?
        - ii. Party (potluck BBQ) after a day of trips
    - 3. Glacier Classic
      - a. Campground reservations have been made
      - b. Divide Creek Campground
    - 4. Wind River Trip
      - a. Brent + Forest
      - b. Change the dates?
    - 5. Possible Tetons trip? – Kelsey
    - 6. Stone Hill trip?
    - 7. Wild Iris in June?
- d. Trip leader benefits
  - i. Training (First Aid, WFR, avy training, etc.)
    - 1. Waiting for other things that take priority
- e. Achievement and recognition
  - i. Lifetime awards
  - ii. Peak lists
  - iii. September welcome back party – fun ideas
    - 1. Finalize a list
    - 2. Ask for nominations
- f. Collaboration with BSBC for concert next summer
  - i. Fundraiser for Conrad Anker's foundation is happening at one BSBC concert this summer
    - 1. All beer sales from concert will go to foundation
    - 2. TRM members will get to volunteer at concert and party at Bjorn's house, mingle with Conrad and Jenny

3. TRM will gain relevancy, have a chance to advertise
- g. May annual meeting and elections
  - i. Kelsey is leaving as secretary
  - ii. Forest's term as president expires
  - iii. Joshua's term as VP expires
  - iv. Susanna's term as treasurer continues (4 years total)
  - v. Nominations
    1. Forest's nominations:
      - a. President: Joshua Phillips
      - b. VP: John Bardsley
      - c. Treasurer: Susanna Phillips
      - d. Secretary: Fintan Maguire
        - i. Or Forest will serve as Secretary
        - ii. New blood is important!
  - vi. Model we need to develop is leadership development
  - vii. Get Laurel more involved to groom her

Adjourn at 7:52pm