

The Mountain Ear

October 2019

President's Message

The recent snow and cold weather has got me anxious for ski season. I know it's just a passing anomaly and that we'll have fall back in no time. Also, I'm normally not the type that gets excited for the upcoming season and fall has always been my favorite time of year in Montana. But for some reason this year I'm jonesing for deep snow and long ski tours. Additionally, it's the time of year that I post lots of trip to the club calendar. So, keep your eyes on the calendar for upcoming ski tours!

At our September meeting I had the honor of presenting our Lifetime Service Award to Alden Wright and our Lifetime Achievement Award to Paul Jensen. It was a humbling experience due to the fact that I've looked up to and these friends for many years. Congratulations to Alden and Paul.

Joshua Phillips

October Presentation

THROWBACK TO 1987: An ascent of Denali's Cassin Ridge

Tuesday - October 8th (6-8pm) at Imagine Nation Brewing's The Center Room

Local paraglider pilot, **Dexter Hale**, will share about his other passion: alpinism. Many are unaware that Dexter is an experienced alpinist and ice climber with many of the classic alpine and waterfall ice routes of the Canadian Rockies under his belt. Maybe this is because, at every turn, Dexter's modesty seems to prevail. He claims that perhaps his most notable skill is his "ability to enlist more talented climbing partners." Having first learned to climb in New Hampshire, Dexter arrived in Missoula in 1972 and immediately began recruiting local hard men Don Scharfe, Randy Winner, and Todd Onken as his climbing partners. While he continues to adventure with these talented climbers, perhaps it is up for debate on who is enlisting who?

Come for an evening escape to the Alaska Range as Dexter Hale shares photos and stories from his 1987 ascent of Denali's Cassin Ridge with Randy Winner and other anecdotes from his 9 other expeditions to the Alaska Range!

Looking Ahead:

November- Rogers Pass/Bugaboo's Ski Touring- Ian Magruder

December- Avalanche Awareness- West Central MT Avy Center

January- Alaskan and Canadian climbs in the era of no communications: Robson, Fairweather, Lucania, Steele and others- Steven Gaskill

Annual TRM Cabin Workday

THIS SATURDAY- October 5th

Join us as we prepare our club cabin for winter use! We will clean up the inside, make repairs as needed, cut and stack firewood and get the facility ready for the upcoming season. Additionally, we will be rebuilding a couple of the sleeping platforms to make for a better sleeping situation! We really encourage you frequent users of the cabin to come and give us a hand! Afterwards we will have a BBQ at the trailhead. Bring your own food and drink. Distance to cabin is about 1.5 miles and gains about 1200'.

Please help out in any way you can! Contact Forest Dean with your availability and any resources (tools) you may have access to. We will plan to meet in the Cabela's parking lot on the south side of Missoula at 8:30am for anyone who wants to carpool.

Support Your Local Avalanche Center

The 13th Annual "PRAY FOR SNOW PARTY" will take place this Friday at Caras Park. While this is not a Rocky Mountaineers event, many of you rely on what Missoula Avalanche provides for us all winter and this is a great way to help give back. Consider attending and showing your support for this important organization!

From their FB Post:

Join us for the 13th Annual Pray For Snow Party on Friday, October 4th from 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm at Caras Park in Downtown Missoula!

The Pray For Snow Party brings the winter community together for a night of great beer, food, music, raffles, and one heck of a good time. All proceeds benefit the West Central Montana Avalanche Center.

What better way to help support avalanche forecasts and education programs than drinking beer and winning fresh gear? Last year was the biggest bash yet, and this year we're expecting even more snow sliding friends to join in the fun. We hope to see you there!

Upcoming Trips and Activities

Cabin Workday- TRM Cabin Maintenance- Sat, Oct 5

Alpine Traverse- The Joe's Traverse (Bitterroots)- Sun, Oct 6

Climb- The Sphinx and Helmet (Madison Range)- Sat, Oct 12

Climb- Borah Peak (Lost River Range)- Sat-Sun, Oct 26-27

Ice Climbing- Hyalite or Glacier- Sat-Sun, Nov 23-24

Ice Climbing- Bozeman Ice Festival- Wed-Sun, Dec 11-15

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

www.rockymountaineers.com

Business Meetings

The next quarterly business meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 17. 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!)

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- Joshua Phillips
Vice President- John Bardsley
Secretary- Fintan Maguire
Treasurer- Susanna Phillips

Website- Alden Wright
Archivist- Julie Kahl
Newsletter and Past President- Forest Dean

The Rocky Mountaineers Quarterly Business Meeting

Date: September 16, 2019 Location: Big Sky Brewery Time 6-8 pm

Members present:

Joshua Phillips (JP) President
Jonathan Bardsley (JB) Vice-President
Susanna Girolamo (SG) Treasurer
Fintan Maguire (FM) Secretary
Forest Dean (FD)
Steve Hancock (SH)

JP stated that he wants the club to get 501c3 status and that we needed to get the new website online.

SG/Treasurer reported that the TRM bank account has \$4449.95 and the GMAR bank account \$2071.94

1-Monthly presentations

No one is currently scheduled for the October presentation.

A few suggestions for the October presenter included Leah Samberg, Dexter Hale, Steve Gaskell.

SH suggested a presentation or discussion about actual climbing accidents involving club members. He said he could discuss his recent ice climbing accident.

It was agreed that the December presentation should be about avalanche awareness. FD said he would contact Missoula Avalanche regarding the presentation.

2-Roundtables

A few of the topics we would like to discuss:

- Navigation basics and the electronic devices/apps that we use

- Avalanche rescue with a field component (Big Sky Beacon park)

- Ice climbing

- Intro to backcountry skiing roundtable and field day

SG suggested we advertise the roundtable discussions earlier so more people can attend.

3-Evening Socials

We all agreed these are popular club activities and we should try to at least have an event every 3 months. FD said he would put an event on the calendar soon.

4-Avalanche Rescue Clinic

FD said he will contact Missoula avalanche about organizing another class for TRM this winter.

5-Honary Memberships

FD suggested we give honorary memberships to individuals that have given the club a lot of support.

He nominated Bjorn Nabozney of Big Sky Brewing and Robert/Fernanda Rivers of Imagine Nation Brewing

Everyone agreed this was a good idea and the motion was carried.

6-Glacier Classic wrap-up

Everyone enjoyed the event and thought the new location was more suited to our growing annual event.

7-Trip Leader Bios on new website

JP suggested we write rewrite our bios for the new website to help give club members more insight into the club leadership.

8-Cabin workday tasks

The cabin workday is scheduled for October 5th.

FD suggested replacing the door, a new bed platform under the cooking table, and moving a loft lower. He suggested a social event following the work day.

SP said she would reach out to Paul Jensen who usually leads this annual event to ask for his advice.

9-Plan to change club status to 501c3

JP said in order to qualify the club will likely need either a youth education or community service program. JP recommended we could maintain the trails up to the club cabin on Little St. Joe. Most likely we will need the assistance of a lawyer with changing the club's status.

10-Big Sky Brewery Concert Fundraiser wrap up

This event was a great fundraiser for the club and we all agreed it would be great to do this annually. The amount raised was about \$2571 and FD said it would have been higher if it weren't for the thunderstorms.