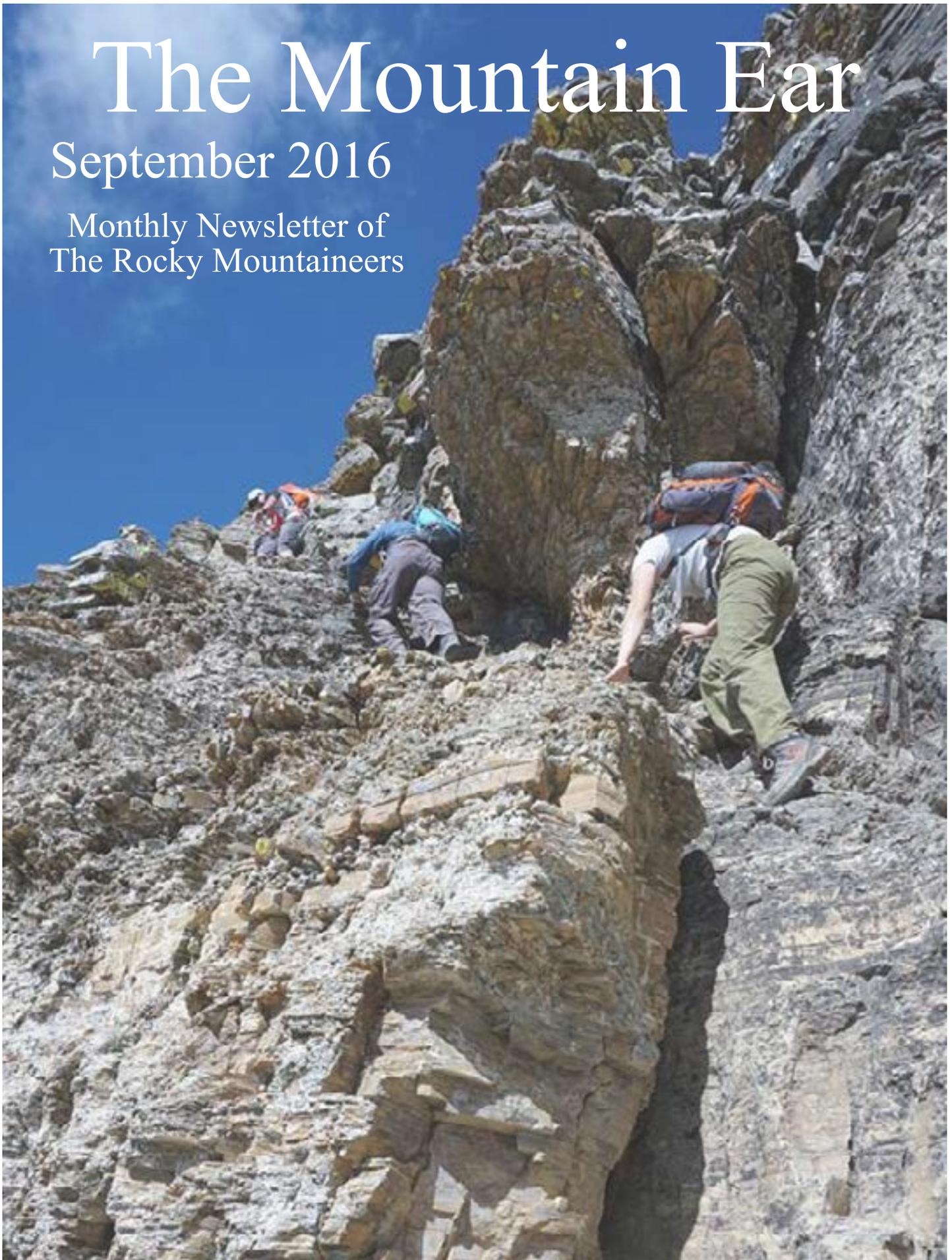
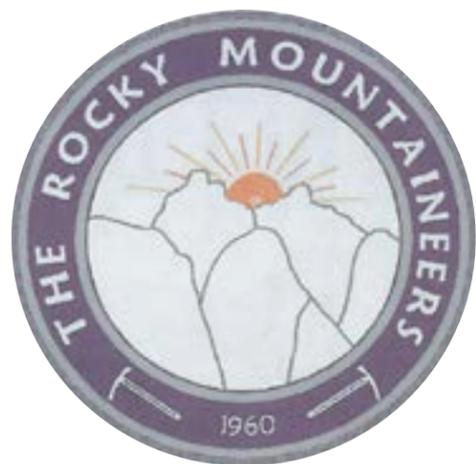


# The Mountain Ear

September 2016

Monthly Newsletter of  
The Rocky Mountaineers





Cover Photo: Climbing Mt. Reynolds  
Photo: Bryan Kercher



About the Club

Climb, Hike, Ski, Bike, Paddle.  
Dedicated to the Enjoyment, and Promotion of  
Responsible Outdoor Adventure

Club Contacts

Website: <http://rockymountaineers.com>  
E-mail: [info@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:info@rockymountaineers.com)

Mailing Address:

The Rocky Mountaineers  
PO Box 4262  
Missoula, MT 59806

President: Steve Schombel

[ssbell@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:ssbell@rockymountaineers.com)

Vice-President: Paul Jensen

[pauljensen@yahoo.com](mailto:pauljensen@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Julie Kahl

[jawkal@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:jawkal@rockymountaineers.com)

Treasurer: Steve Niday

[seniday@yahoo.com](mailto:seniday@yahoo.com)

Newsletter Editor: Julie Kahl

[jawkal@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:jawkal@rockymountaineers.com)

Webmaster: Alden Wright

[rocky@wrightmontana.net](mailto:rocky@wrightmontana.net)

Mission Statement:

The Rocky Mountaineers is a non-profit club dedicated to the enjoyment and promotion of responsible outdoor adventures

Meeting and Presentations:

During September through April, on the second Tuesday of the month, business meetings are generally held at 6:PM at MacKenzie River Pizza in downtown Missoula, before the general membership meeting at 7:PM the Trail Head, with a featured presentation or speaker. General meeting is free and open to the public, business meeting is open to all members. The May meeting is usually a picnic.

On a weekend in late August we gather in Glacier NP for the Glacier Classic Outing

Dues: Club dues are \$10, and due in April of each year, payment can be made through PayPal. Membership application is at the back of this newsletter.

The Facebook group is used to post short notice and up-to-date news as well as recent trip reports  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/rockymountaineers/>

The Mountain Ear is the club newsletter of the Rocky Mountaineers and is usually published once a month. Anyone wishing to contribute articles are encouraged to do so - contact the editor

Cover Photo Submission Guidelines: Must be up and down format (Portrait), prefer no recognizable people  
Retro Photos Submission Guidelines: Should be a former or current dues paying member or speaker to submit, but it doesn't have to be from a Rocky Mountaineers trip, no recognizable people

SEPT. 13TH MONTHLY MEETING

At the Trail Head, 7:PM The Sept. meeting is traditionally a time for members to share images and stories of the summer's adventures  
For all meetings there is a business meeting at 6:PM, before the meeting at MacKenzie River Pizza downtown, all are welcome  
Suggestions for speakers are welcome

OCT. 11TH MONTHLY MEETING

Jim Ullrich will present a slide show and presentation of "Denali in the days of cotton and wool". He summited Denali on July 5, 1976, forty years ago. Climbing Denali is a lot different now than it was 40 years ago, fewer crowds, fewer regulations (which are needed) about human waste, the advances in clothing and sleds. It took two attempts for him to make the summit, with the famous guide Ray Genet who later died on Everest.

UP COMING TRIPS AND ADVENTURES

**September 9-11. Three summits and campouts**, Seeley Lake Ranger District north of Ovando, MT.  
**September 9, Dunham Pt.** This is a short class 1 hike, 2 miles round trip, 700' elevation gain for a scenic views of Lodgepole and Dunham Creeks, and proposed additions to the Bob Marshall Wilderness. I will camp over that night in Shanley Creek.  
**Saturday 10** after volunteer participation in the Ovando Grand Fondo a fund raiser for the Missoula Symphony I will travel to near Morrell Fire Lookout and camp.  
**September 11**, Morrell Mtn & an Unnamed 8000' Pk. Leave camp about 9 AM for Morrell Mtn and an unnamed 8,000' peak northeast of Morrell Mtn. This is class 1 and class 2 ridge hiking with four elevation gains/losses mostly less than 500'. Round trip is approximately 7 miles.  
At least an hour will be spent on each summit taking in the views, looking for goats, hawks and other wildlife, and operating a small low-power ham radio station for their 'Summits on the Air' program.  
Rocky Mountaineers are welcome to join in all or part of the hikes. Bear Spray is recommended. Contact is Vick Applegate [k7vk@arrl.net](mailto:k7vk@arrl.net) or phone me at 549.0027 for details.

**DEER PEAK**, up the Deer Creek drainage of Fish Creek, **SATURDAY SEPT. 17TH**  
Depending on fire activity in the area. We can drive to within 2-3 miles of the peak and follow old roads most of the way. There would be about 3,000 feet of elevation gain. This is in a burn area, and open terrain with little shade.  
Julie Kahl [jawkal@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:jawkal@rockymountaineers.com)

**CABIN WORK PARTY LATE SEPT. -EARLY OCT.**  
We go up to our cabin on Little St. Joe Mt. to cut fire wood, clean and do maintenance. Paul Jensen has some refurbishing projects he is trying to get done. They close the road on Oct. 15th and we usually try to schedule it in late Sept. or the 1st weekend in Oct. so if we don't make it up we still have one more weekend to try.

**LUBRECHT FOREST SUN. OCT. 9TH, 2016**  
This would be a hike on logging roads in the area across Hwy 200 from the Main Lubrecht Forest Entrance. Just inside the gate two roads wye, and make a loop about 7 miles long. About 500 ft of elevation is gained in the first three miles, where, from the high point views are down into the Elk Creek area of the Paws-Up Ranch, with the Swan Range visible beyond. Julie Kahl [jawkal@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:jawkal@rockymountaineers.com)

Tentative Hunting Season trip: **OCT 22ND OR 23RD, MUDD LAKE, OR FLATHEAD RIVER** on the Flathead Reservation. Reservation Rec. permit required Steve Schombel [ssbell@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:ssbell@rockymountaineers.com)

**LOLO PASS WINTER OUTING SUN. NOV. 27TH**  
Keeping up with the tradition of doing something at Lolo Pass on the Sun. after Thanksgiving. In the past we have always been able to ski. Julie Kahl [jawkal@rockymountaineers.com](mailto:jawkal@rockymountaineers.com)

## Trip Notes

Please contact the trip leader for more information regarding any listed trips.

Milage listed is round trip mileage

Elevation listed is gain only

For information on class rating see below:

### Class Rating System

**CLASS 1 - Hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, biking etc.** mostly on trails or roads, but may include some easy cross country travel

**CLASS 2 - Easy Scrambling** Rugged off trail hiking, no hands required

**CLASS 3 - Scrambling** Use of hands to ascend some sections of rock. Little to no exposure; a fall would not likely cause serious injury

**CLASS 4 - Climbing** easy climbing, great exposure; a fall would possibly cause serious injury. Use of rope and protection at times possible.

**CLASS 5- Technical Climbing** Use of rope, protection and belay a must.

**CLASS 6 - Aid Climbing** Use of equipment to support your weight as you climb

## TRIP REPORTS

### Trip report for my hike up Porcupine Butte on August 10th.

This butte is the high point of the Cayuse Hills, which, on the map, are labeled as the high ground between the Musselshell and Yellowstone Rivers, from just east of the Crazy Mountains almost all the way to Billings. There is not one group of hills in this large area, but, like the Pine Hills, the Cayuse Hills do not show up in any high point guide books I've seen. At 7010', Porcupine Butte towers over the rest of the Cayuse Hills, and over all the other small groups of hills in eastern Montana. Only some of the major Island Ranges like the Bear's Paws equal it.

I drove in to ask permission from a landowner I had called a few years ago. The first house I stopped in happened to be his mother's house. We talked awhile, and got to like each other. No, she did not want me to drive my van up the rough roads, because of fire danger, and she thought it would be too far to hike. Eventually she offered to drive me in her 4 wheeler over to the base of the mountain. She dropped me off where an old logging road headed uphill for a couple of miles. This road wound around a lot but was not steep. It is on Google Earth, but not on any maps I've seen. It went by a little hunting cabin tucked in a gully below the steepest, rocky part. There were springs nearby, and she said her family was quite fond of that place.

Then the road reached the more level top part. It was gentle going for another couple of miles through rolling grasslands. Other jeep roads came in from different directions. Very close to the top was a large grave stone. On it was: Floyd Rudd, 1895-1984 and Frannie Rudd, 1911-1989. There were other piles of rock here and there. The very highest part did not have a cairn or benchmark I could find, but the map indicates no benchmark. I lingered awhile, enjoying the solitude and views, from the Yellowstone drainage to the east, some of the Beartooths visible through the haze to the south, nearby Sweetgrass Creek and the house I had stopped at, and the Crazies to the west.

When I got down I talked to the landowner more. She said she did not know the people on the headstone, and was thinking of having it removed. She said the other cairns were probably where people had scattered ashes. Apparently this was a local practice. She asked if I saw any elk. No, but I saw quite a bit of sign. She said when they first bought the place there was a herd of about thirty, and now there were probably well over a hundred. Some of the neighbors thought they were becoming a nuisance.

We talked more. It was very interesting to meet a local person and explore a place that must be rarely visited by "outsiders." Unfortunately, she did not invite me to stay for dinner, so I headed to town. Steve Schombel

Road on the side of Porcupine Butte



Cabin at the springs



Rudd Gravestone



E. St. Mary's Peak

of the entire Swan Range and Mt. McDonald to the north. We met Todd on the way down, and he seemed to be good, but reported some dry heaves after we had left him. On the way down, Mark and I could go down fairly fast, and then we would wait for Todd. Not too far above the trail head, we heard Todd yelling. We went back up and found him lying in the trail reporting cramps in his arms. We gave him water and electrolytes and tried to cool him off, but he couldn't keep the water down. He recovered enough to be able to walk the rest of the way out to the trail head. We talked him into letting Mark drive his car back to Missoula, but there was more dry heaves on the way out. By the next day, he was recovered.

We later diagnosed heat stroke which can be considered as a medical emergency. In retrospect, we did some of the right things but could have done better at others. It was very good that Todd decided to stop and rest. Given the excellent weather, there was no problem with leaving him. But I should have been stopping to rest more often and been more cognizant of Todd's condition both going up and coming down. We should have gone down with him rather than going ahead and then waiting. It was good that I had extra water, but we should have used all of it to cool him down. The trail head was right next to St. Mary's Lake (actually a reservoir), and we should have had him get into the lake to cool off. Alden Wright



### East St. Mary's Peak (Mission Mts.) Trip Report. August 20, 2016

East Saint Mary's Peak is one of the few major peaks in the Missions which is a non-technical hike. I had made an attempt of East St. Mary's with friends in the late spring with snowshoes, and remember slipping and falling many times. We abandoned that attempt due to high winds at higher elevations. So I decided to do another attempt under better conditions, and so I proposed this hike for August 20. Todd Kaye and Mark Mohorcich signed up. Summit post describes the way up as following "game trails", but this is not accurate. In fact, there is a well-established and easy to follow (at least in the summer) unofficial trail. There were only a few logs to cross, but the trail is unrelentingly steep for about 4200 vertical feet. I would not want to do this trail when it was wet and muddy, and I already mentioned slipping many times on snowshoes. We met 6 hikers on the way up, including a mother and a daughter who were planning in participating in the Rut Trail running races at Big Sky over labor day weekend. Mark is also planning participation. At the top of the steep climb (8300'), Todd decided that he shouldn't go further, so he stopped and rested with his dog Sadie. He had an infected toe, but it later turned out that he may have also had heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Mark and I went on to the peak. At about 8300', the trail becomes much less steep and it is mostly a tundra walk to the peak. There were stretches of easy scrambling, including just before the peak. Views were outstanding with a panorama

E. St. Mary's Peak



**Glacier Classic Recap**

Despite missing our stalwarts: Forest Dean, Paul Jensen, Rick Smith, Steve Niday and Dan Saxton, we had a good Glacier Classic out of St. Mary's campground, Sat. Aug. 27 and Sun. Aug. 28th, with 19 people. No one was there for the Citadel climb on Fri. Steve Schombel and Jim Goss arrived around 4:PM on Fri, just five minutes before David and Julie Kahl arrived. We went about setting up camp and were shortly joined by Lindsey Egelson who had been with friends earlier in the week at the west end of Glacier and took the shuttle over to the St. Mary's Visitors center and walked the mile to the campground. Others rolled in as the evening progressed with Joshua & Susanna Phillips making it just a little after 10:PM when the rest had already retired. Vick Applegate with wife Jean had their own site a few spaces away. Bryan Kercher had his own secret spot to spend the night. Kids in camps across the road were flying kites in the field.



Huckleberries were a recurrent theme for this year's hikes, Steve schombel, David Kahl and Roy Regal indulge on the Sun Rift Gorge Trail -Bryan Kercher photo

The Park Service in its infinite wisdom had decided that a group site that could fit 24 people, could only park four vehicles, (That's six people per vehicle) and instructions changed. On Fri. we were told any overflow vehicles had to be parked a mile away at the St. Mary's Visitor's Center, -Tom ended up parked down there. Two people parked in Vick's site. On Sat. they told us that anyone sleeping in their vehicles had to be parked in our site, but others could park in front of a bathroom down the road a ways. The site next to ours had two huge RV's in it, compromising our parking. Steve was parked behind them, Kahl's squeezed between him and Roy Regal, Steve and Roy both sleeping in their vehicles. So on Fri. night we left the forth space for The Phillips when they got in late, they too were camping out of their vehicle. On Sat. the camp people were there to direct parking, bemoaning their grass strips, just as some of us got back from our climbs and Phillips pulled in where Steve had been, Steve parked by Vick, and some down by the bathroom or in Vick's site. You know, they could just move their little posts closer in to the campsite, forget about their grass strip and let 6-8 vehicles park parallel in front of the group site and relieve all this stress.

It was an unusually warm night and everyone was up early, Jim Goss' and Vick Applegate's parties off to their climbs by a little after 8:AM. Joshua had intended to lead the Going To The Sun Mt. climb but no one was interested so he helped Jim route find on the Mt. Siyeh trip. Julie Kahl's party met at the St. Mary's Visitors Center thinking of taking the shuttle, but then seeing how full it was, opted to drive in two vehicles. All three parties would leave from the Siyeh Bend parking lots. At the Visitor's Center flags of the US, Canada and Blackfoot Nation were flying straight out and snapping in the wind, an omen of the role wind would play today. See trip reports below. Huckleberries were also a recurrent theme.

We were all back from our climbs by 6:PM and after the parking mess got straightened out we mostly just sat and had snacks and drinks until folks felt like cooking dinner. Vick and Jean joined us. Alden had brought a bundle of fire wood and the wind gave us some concern as it burned, Anthony had some packets of stuff to put in the fire to make the flames turn blue and green, beautiful! When the fire was out everyone had turned in by 11:PM. Around then the wind stopped blowing and the tents stopped crinkling and we could hear wolves, off across Upper St. Mary's Lake yipping and yapping at each other for several hours. That was interrupted for about an hour by someone playing loud Johnny Cash type music. It did spit a little rain that night but it was still unusually warm.

Sunday's weather called for mostly sunny with only 10 MPH winds. Alden and most of the party headed out by 8:AM to do the climb of Mt. Reynolds. Roy Regal headed home via the Flathead. Jim Goss was still in camp to help the Kahl's break down and as we did so, a "front" like cloud came in from the east with more wind. Kahls were on their way by a little after 9:AM to go back down the front range and have lunch at the Log Cabin in Choteau. Vick and Jean went up to Many Glacier to spend a few more days and Steve and Jim stopped by McDonald Lake to explore a 2 mile loop, which is partly a portion of the longer John's Lake loop.

The **Clements Mountain** climb on Sun. did not occur. Julie Kahl



**Piegan Mountain Trip**

Our attempt to summit Piegan Mountain fell several hundred feet short as brutal winds forced us to halt at the upper saddle to avoid being blown off the mountain. This was the windiest conditions many had ever experienced. Several scramblers were lifted off their feet. Predicted winds of 30-40 mph were certainly howling with much higher gusts.

The scenery included spectacular views of Glacier's prominent peaks, multi-colored sedimentary rock bands, glaciated valleys, a turquoise lake, and striking glaciers. Also seen were mountain goats, golden mantle and Columbian ground squirrels, chipmunks and Clark's nutcrackers. Upper elevations had abundant wildflowers of deep purple mountain bog gentian and penstemon, red-Indian paintbrush, yellow arrow-leaved groundsel and the white of western yarrow. Hiking featured numerous stops to feast in frequent patches of huckleberries.

For some of us, Piegan Mountain will again be on our future schedule. Vic Applegate

The scrambling group included:

Not pictured: Roger

- 1. Alden Wright    2. Edna Blanchfield
- 3. Nora Rye        4. Justin
- 5. Lauren de Paepe    6. Tom Shreve
- 7. Anthony        8. Anna

Photo Vick Applegate



**Trip Report, Mount Siyeh, August 27, 2016**

Lindsey Egelson, Joshua & Susanna Phillips, and Jim Goss traded a slightly later 8:15 start for the luxurious offer of having Joshua drive us to Siyeh Bend, instead of being at the mercy of the park shuttle.

The first 2.7 miles of the 5 mile hike is on trail, then we veered left for the short approach to the cliff bands on the South face of Siyeh. Cairns were relatively easy to find as we encountered a sustained class 2-3 climb, avoiding anything more difficult thanks to Joshua's route finding skills.

It was blustery, but we never felt it was strong enough to peel us off of rock faces, as we made our way to a steep scree field, then bent left (westward) below a small snowfield, before attaining the final summit ridge and summit at about 1:30 PM. After a brief staredown of the 3,500' north face of Siyeh down to Cracker Lake, we retreated a bit to a sheltered area for lunch. The trip down was uneventful except for our third sighting of a grizzly bear about 100 feet off the trail.

We first spotted 2 grizzlies down below us as we climbed Siyeh. 2 other hikers said that they had crossed our very path only minutes earlier. Our second sighting was on the same slope as us about one third of a mile to the right, at about 9,000' elevation. Special thanks to Joshua for his much needed experience, and his firm control, which was almost lost in only one short incident on the way down. Jim Goss

Cracker Lake Northeast from the summit

Photo Jim Goss



Climbing up through the rocks

Photo Jim Goss





Jim Goss' party's route from the Sun Rift Gorge Party  
Above Left, south flank of Siyeh, they climbed up the point of trees left center, to bushes further up, this is where the Wisconsin couple encountered bears -Julie Kahl Photo

Above Right & Below Bryan Kercher outlines figures and routes on his photo of Siyeh's flank  
Red Circle 3 members of party unless white spot is Jim  
Yellow, Black and white outlines, are way points in Blake Passmore's Guide Book



**Siyeh Bend to Sun Rift Gorge 8/27/2016**

We had discussed taking the Glacier Park Shuttle to our starting point, Siyeh (sigh -EEE) Bend and back from Sun Point, but when we saw how crowded the shuttle was we opted to take two vehicles, leaving Bryan Kersher's car at Sun Point and Steve Schombel's van at Siyeh Bend. They and Roy Regel and David and Julie Kahl set out up the Reynolds Cr. Trail north from Siyeh Bend. Roy had been over this route before. David, Steve and I had been up to Preston Park on a Piegan Pass trip many years ago. The trail runs on the flank of Going To The Sun Mountain, in trees, until it meets with the Continental Divide Trail coming up from the Jackson Overlook Trailhead. We followed the CD Trail up into Preston Park, actually the drainage of Siyeh Cr. on the north side of Matahpi Peak. We quickly ran into what would be a theme for this trip, huckleberries, very sparse, and getting less and less ripe as we went up. In the 1 1/2 miles up to the trail junction we gained about 1000 ft up to Preston Park's 7000 ft, Siyeh Pass being 7766 ft. It was two miles more to Siyeh Pass, on a trail that started out fairly level, through alpine vegetation and low trees, passed a small lake, and now we were feeling the full brunt of a stiff wind. Across the head waters of the Siyeh Cr. basin we could see two small lakes -the head of the stream. We could also see the route that Jim Goss' party was using to summit Mt Siyeh. David used his binoculars to search them out, saw two people going down from a higher patch of bushes on the route. That turned out to be couple from Wisconsin who had just encountered a bear, Jim's party was still coming up from below. After crossing Siyeh Cr. for the last time the trail climbs out of the alpine vegetation going up mostly straight side hilling up to Siyeh Pass, with some switchbacks just before reaching the pass. The wind was sustained, with strong gusts as we got more exposed, under mostly cloudy skies. Siyeh Pass was a surprise, it had great views down to Otokomi Lake below in Rose Basin and back into the Reynold's Cr. basin, but there was no way to go, so the trail switchbacks up another 300 ft, when the wind was at our back it blew us up the trail, but in sections were we were facing into the wind it was rough, but fortunately short. David's hat blew off, but uphill, so he could retrieve it. He also took a last chance to scope out Jim's party, now part way up their route, Joshua Phillips was wearing a red shirt that made it easy to see him. They would summit, but the wind was too strong to stand so they crawled to the summit to look over at Cracker Lake. Hikers coming down the trail above us said they saw bears down below by Siyeh Cr., we never saw them, but they were probably part of the three bears Jim's party saw.



Looking back down Siyeh Cr. from part way up to Siyeh Pass -Photo Bryan Kercher



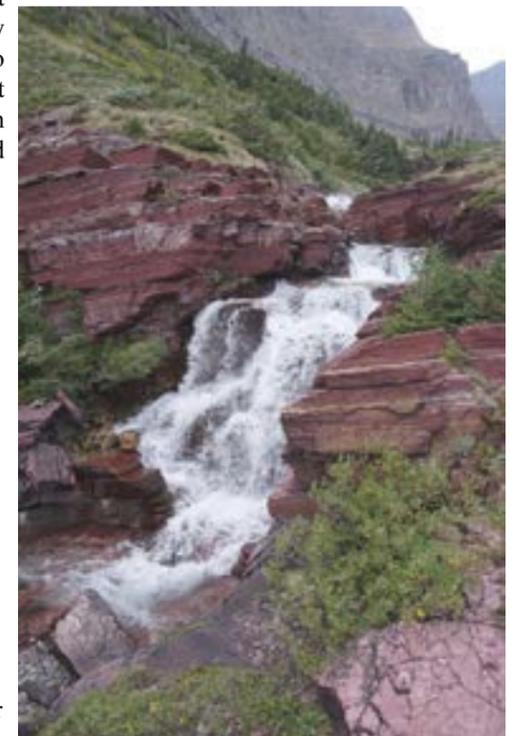
Looking down in to Rose Basin from Siyeh Pass, Lake Otokomi just barely visible on left -Photo Steve Schombel

Once to the high point of the trail over 8100 ft and over 5 miles, the trail is built under a cliff face, with a wall, and briefly out of the wind. The party regrouped had something to eat, then with the plan to drop down some switchbacks on the Sun Rift Gorge side and take a longer break in the trees we started down, over 2 miles later, still in switchbacks, but now in some stunted trees we sat in the trail and took that break. The trail had come down a knob just outside the cross over point, with a small snow field against a wall just to our right. Then the switchbacks took us down next to a cliff face also on the right, with the Saxton Glacier beyond, we got a view of St. Mary's Lake below. This section seemed to go on forever, finally getting down to some stunted windblown vegetation. The wind was still stiff and hiking down into it was a chore, but this section had rocks of amazing blues, grays and green colors amid the red rock. With the vegetation started huckleberry bushes so prolific that there were dozens of berries on each bush, acres and acres of them all up and down the slope, that, as we got down towards the bottom of the gorge got bigger. We picked berries on our break, and stopped often to pick more. The last two switchbacks before we dropped down to a "flat spot" just above where trees started to enclose the trail were very long and must have been a mile between them. From above we could see the trail come out of the trees and run along the flank of Goat Mt. miles long, gradually descending and exposed, but anything had to be preferable to the endless switchbacks. In this section we had the strongest wind gusts of all, having to just stop and stand into it. Below and across from us was the most spectacular part of the narrowing gorge, sheer rock faces and scree slopes. It had gotten sunny and the sun was just above the rim making it hard to get any photographs.

After the few miles of the flatter part of the trail, we got into an old burn, hoped it would help with the wind, but it didn't, the wind just blew through them, and the narrower the gorge got the stronger the wind was. When we were about 1/2 mile as the crow flies from the trail head, another set of switchbacks adds another mile or so to the trail, but brought us down to the bottom of the gorge where Baring Cr. cascades over mostly red rock in numerous waterfalls. After leaving the waterfalls the gorge continues to get narrower and drop, but the trail leaves it and has several short uphill sections that brought us to a final switchback that ended at a stairway down to Going To The Sun Road. It was just 5:PM, Bryan and Steve went up to get Steve's van while Roy, David and I waited and rested. The GPS said a little over 10 miles.



Blue Rock Photo Julie Kahl



Baring Cr. Falls Photo Bryan Kercher



1. Crossover point and nob
2. Cliff face -visible above lower cliff face
3. Last of the long switchbacks above lower cliff face
4. Flatspot

The route from the long level section, Photos -Julie Kahl



**McDonald Creek 8/28/16**

Driver Steve Schombel and Jim Goss headed home via Going to the Sun Road, but we made a stop just north of McDonald Lake and explored a 2 mile loop, which is partly a portion of the longer John's Lake loop.

We began by crossing a footbridge near McDonald Falls then heading down the creek, where we had a pleasant stop for lunch at a cataract. We crossed back over a one lane vehicle bridge, near the point where McDonald Creek empties into the lake. We completed the loop on a trail that follows the side of Going to the Sun Road.

Considering how busy this area is, it is amazing how little effort is needed to get away from the madding crowd. Jim Goss

**Reynolds Mountain, August 28, 2016**

Reynolds Mountain is an impressive-looking peak about 1 1/2 miles south of Logan Pass. It is a good choice for a Sunday Glacier Classic hike since it can be done in 4-5 hours from Logan Pass. Forest suggested that I lead this climb, and I agreed, although somewhat

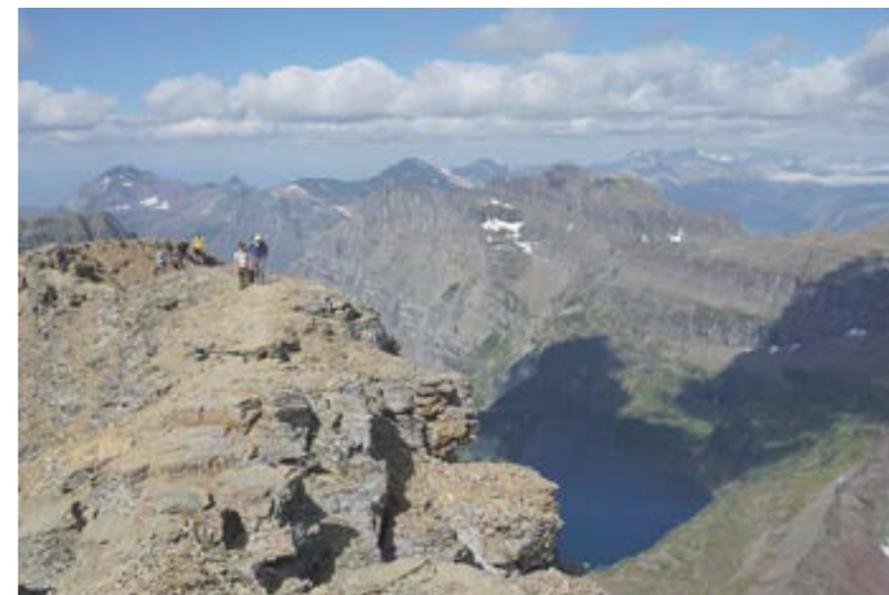
reluctantly because I am not a very capable scrambler. So I talked Bryan Kercher, who had done the peak, to come with us. The participants were myself, Bryan, Lindsay, Loren, Justin, Nora, Edna, Joshua, and Susanna. Fortunately, the weather was excellent without the strong winds of the day before. On the way up the Hidden Lake trail (boardwalk) we saw two full-curl bighorn rams. Where the trail goes down to Hidden Lake, we followed a well-established hikers' trail on the north-east side of the ridge and then crossed the ridge to the west and south sides of the peak. Here Joshua and Susanna decided to do another more challenging route that includes a goat trail across the steep north face. Just past the south ridge are many cairns marking the route (or routes) to the top. Much of the climb is loose scree which is much easier to climb if you are on a "trail" where many other people have gone up. There was a rocky section with class 3 scrambling, and then more scree,



and another scrambling section below the peak. Edna was uncomfortable with the first scrambling section, and decided not to go further. There was a steady stream of hikers going up and down, so I did not worry about leaving her. We made it to the peak about noon, expecting to see Joshua and Susanna already there---but their route was a lot longer, and we met them as we were coming down. The views from the top were outstanding, and we were surprised to see that a mother had carried her newborn baby to the top. Bryan had a commitment in Missoula, and left early from the peak. On the way down, there several very tame goats. Joshua, Susanna, Lindsay, Loren, Justin, and I took a detour to a nice waterfall in the Reynolds Creek basin where some of us took a swim. We all had a very good day. Alden Wright



All 4 Photos Bryan Kercher



# ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual Membership Fee \$10

Note: Membership includes all members of a family or household

Make Check payable to “the Rocky Mountaineers” and send to: The Rocky Mountaineers, PO Box 4262, Missoula MT 59801

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family Members' Names:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone include area code: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd E-Mail (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Pay by **PayPal** available on the Rocky Mountaineers' Website.  
Click on the membership link on the main page

## RETRO PHOTO



Photo, Steve Niday  
Upper Grinnel Lake from Mt. Gould, 2010 Glacier Classic  
Cannon A710 IS, at F4, 1/200 sec