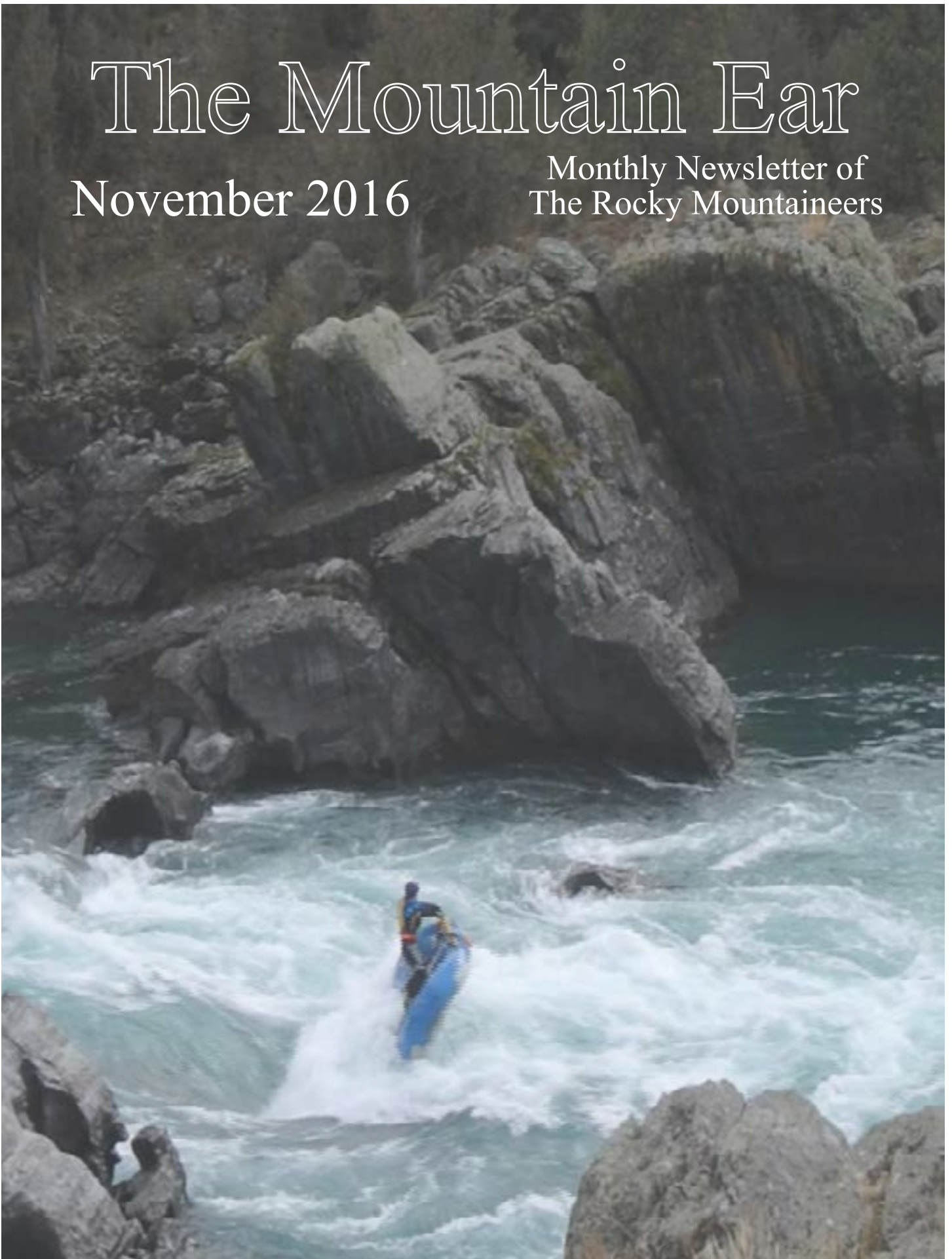
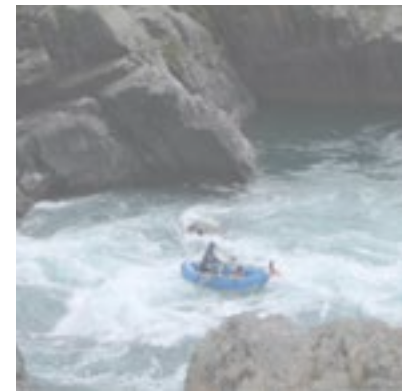
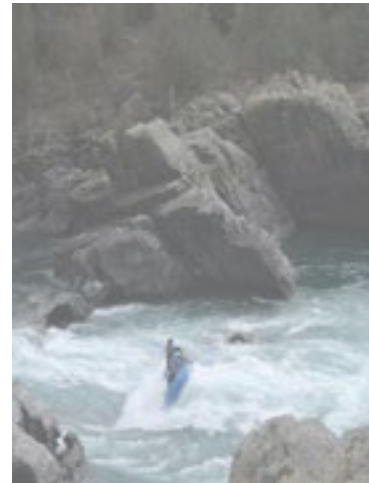


The Mountain Ear

November 2016

Monthly Newsletter of
The Rocky Mountaineers





Cover Photo: Buffalo Rapids on The Flathead River, Brandon VanArsdale in the raft, Meg Eandi in the water
Photo: Julie Kahl

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

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About the Club

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.

Date Change for the November meeting. As Nov. 8th is election day we have moved the meeting to Tues. Nov. 15th

NOV. 15TH MONTHLY MEETING

Namibia and South Africa: Wildlife, Native Culture, and Sand Dunes

On a recent trip to Namibia and South Africa, Alden and Sally Wright saw a wide variety of wild animals: rhinos, elephants, leopards, cheetah, wild dogs, wart hogs, zebra, a pangolin, and much more. We also visited the Himba tribe which maintains their traditional life style, and we learned about the San (Bushmen). Namibia has amazing sand dunes. Namibia is the African country most like Montana, semi-arid and sparsely populated. We will give a presentation on what we saw and what we learned during our visit. Alden Wright



DEC. 13TH MONTHLY MEETING

is the annual Avalanche program by the West Central Montana Avalanche Center, or missoulaavalanche.org with a focus on what dangers backcountry users should be aware of, plus a forecast

COMING FEBRUARY 21ST, 2017

Canyon & Mesa: Southwest Journeys
An Illustrated Talk by Lee Silliman

For the past six years large format photographer Lee Silliman has been exploring and photographing the backcountry canyons and mesas of the Four Corners region of the American Southwest. His quest of long-abandoned Native American cliff dwellings, pueblos, and rock art has taken Lee and his hiking companions into a variety of remote locales in Cedar Mesa, Grand Gulch, Chaco Canyon, Hovenweep, and Canyons of the Ancients. Additionally, Lee and his cohorts have enjoyed hiking the trails of Arches, Canyonlands, and Zion National Parks in search of lesser known features of natural beauty to be found when leaving behind the roads and parking lots. Come enjoy a vicarious trip into fascinating country



The Mountaineer 3/1963

Vermont Ski Lift Closed by Drifts up to 35 Feet High, The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, Feb. 18, 1963.

RUTLAND, VT. (AP) -- Thirty-five-foot snow drifts forced the closing Saturday of the East's highest ski lift, the chair lift at Killington, Vt. The wind-whipped snow jammed the lift apparatus at the 4,241 foot summit. Nearly four feet of snow has fallen there since Wednesday.

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

UP COMING TRIPS AND ADVENTURES

BLUE MOUNTAIN AREA SUNDAY, NOV. 6TH

After my last hike in a lesser known area, this month I'm planning to stay closer to home in an area familiar to most of you. This hike will also be in a no shooting area, depending on the route we take. Even if we stray some outside the boundary I doubt there would be shooting so close to a popular recreation area, and if there are some hunters they will be very aware of other hikers nearby. I'd like to go up to an unnamed point a little north of Hayes Point. This will involve only a couple of hundred yards and 330' elevation gain off the trail. If people desire we can stay on the trail. This is one of my favorite hikes with a dog, but she is getting older. I think she can still do it, and I encourage others to bring their pets if they want to get them out for a nice fall hike. We can make almost a complete loop on trail, or end up hiking down the road a short distance, or . . . there are many options in the area. More ambitious hikers can hike the road and do Hayes Point. The shorter route I'm thinking of will involve 4-5 miles and about 1300' of elevation gain. Get in touch with stephenschombel@yahoo.com if interested in joining. We will also have to be aware of the end of Daylight Savings Time and it getting dark really early

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

LOLO PASS WINTER OUTING SUN. DEC. 18TH

Ski snowshoe, what ever. Julie Kahl jawkal@rockymountaineers.com

Cabin Work Party Follow up

5 of us (Rob and Linda Mcleod, Greg Janek, Connie Keogh and myself) went back to the cabin and finished the chinking, plus we put 2 coats of polyurethane on the table.

The cabin looks good and is ready for winter! Paul Jensen



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

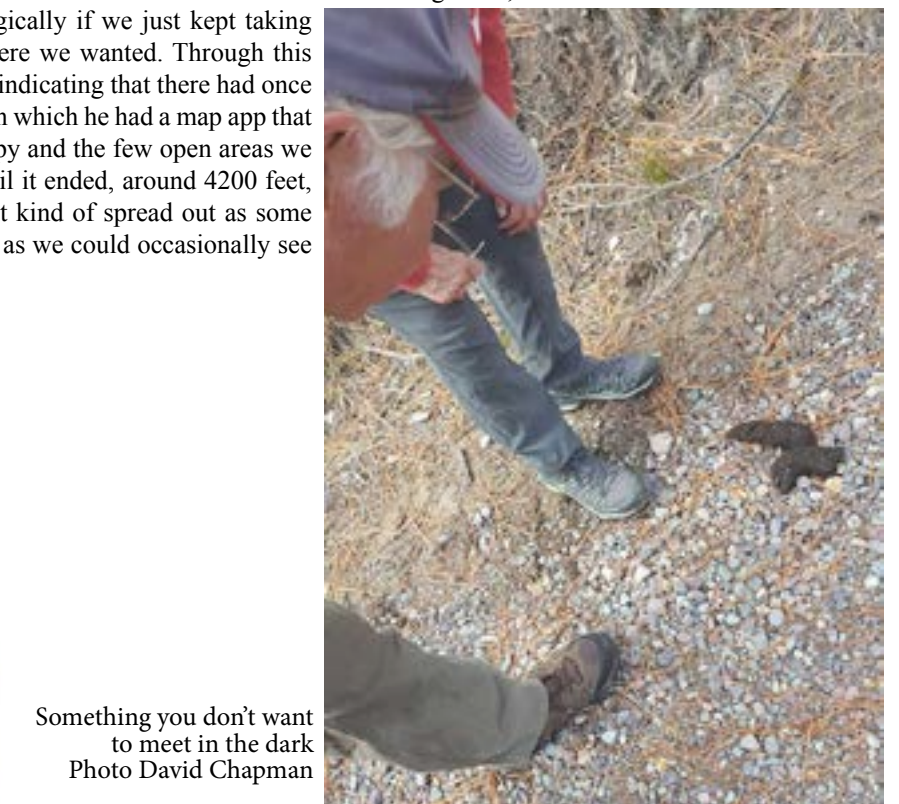
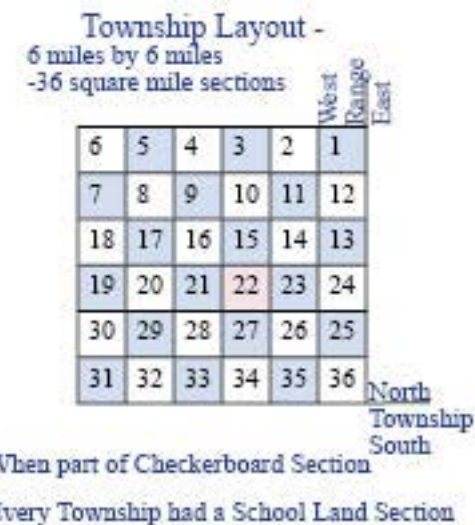


TRIP REPORTS

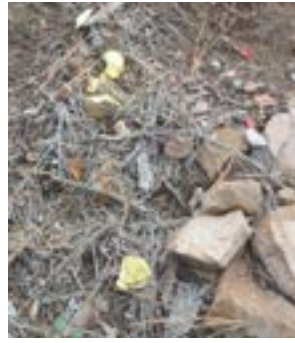
Lubrecht Hike Oct. 9th 2016 - Learning Curve Of Electronic Navigation

We met at the Comfort Inn parking lot on E Broadway at 10:30 where new-comers David Chapman and Albert Stephan joined Maria Cassidy, Steve Schombel & dog Sandy, Lois Crepeau, David and Julie Kahl. We parked at the locked gate across Hwy 200 from the main Lubrecht Forest site. Some of us were in the area this time last year and had scoped it out on a GPS. It and old maps we have from our Grizzly Man Adventure Races (data date 1983), showed that at a junction just a few feet inside the gate, the previously explored road to the left should loop around and connect to the road coming in from the right. Fortunately I explained that "in theory." I had manned an aid station at this junction for our last GMAR in 2011, on the mountain biking portion of the race, and riders had come and gone on both roads, so they had to connect to something, somehow. We also had a BLM map from 2009, there is no Forest Service lands in the area so Lubrecht is not covered on their maps, but on the BLM map it was hard to tell roads from contour lines. Also our GPS's have been updated with new OnXmaps since last year. According to the maps all of our route should have been in Sec. 11, where we parked, Sec. 10, 3 & 2. Weather wise there was a big rain storm just to the north, slowly drifting south, we maybe on the edge of it throughout the day, it was mostly cloudy though the sun did break through a few times. Wandering up the left hand road there aren't many flowers this time of year, but we did encounter a variety of sometimes very colorful mushrooms, including a nice sized shaggy-mane.

The left road at about two miles comes to the "Divided Road" junction, where just below the junction the road has a "side road" that ends at the same spot, last year we saw some big equipment parked here. We continued on another mile or so in what was now heavily cut and "cleaned up" forest, with huge slash piles pushed off the down side of the road, which we would discover later were not pushed down the "concave" gully areas, but onto the "convex" "knobs" that came up to the road. We had lunch around three miles in the same spot we had stopped hiking the year before, one of the few places you can get a good view into Elk Creek below us. I had a GPS point from that visit. This was all of the elevation gain we would get on this road, at about 4700 feet. According to our maps we should go another 1/3 to 1/2 mile and come to the first of two junctions, the first taking us across a traverse that would bring us to the right hand road at the second junction all in Sections 3 and 2. We shortly encountered a road junction, where the GPS showed roads going off toward Morrison Peak to our west. That road went left so logic said if we took the right hand road it was the one we wanted. As Lois and I started down it, Steve came up behind and said he had just seen either deer or elk cross the road in front of us, we didn't see them, though some saw two deer further down. Also through the rest of our adventure we would see tracks and today's scat from Elk, there is a big herd that lives in the area of Elk Creek below us. The road was dropping just as it should and after 1/4 mile or so we came to the remains of yet another road junction one with a log I sat on to find it was a -like 20 foot- teeter-totter log. David K. had come up to me perplexed because his GPS was showing that we were in Section 4, I checked mine and it said Section 33 - if true we were way west and north of where we wanted to be. We realized now that the old GMAR map was useless, no wonder the racers had complained about it. Sitting down with the GPS I began to trace out the roads on it. It seemed the road we were on would continue north to come down to the Blackfoot River east of the Nine Mile Prairie Fishing Access (on the other side of the river), Steve had surmised, correctly, that we were looking down on Ninemile Prairie earlier. Tracing the right hand road from the starting junction where we parked, in the new software, found it stopped short of some private land to the east of us. Where we were on the ground, the trace of an old road went off to the right from this junction, and we all thought logically if we just kept taking right hand turns at road junctions we'd end up where we wanted. Through this next part of the trip we had old stumps everywhere, indicating that there had once been roads there. David C. got out his smart phone on which he had a map app that used actual photographs of the area and in the canopy and the few open areas we could see traces of roads. We followed the road until it ended, around 4200 feet, then David C. lead the way with his phone. We got kind of spread out as some followed David C. and others of us went down hill, as we could occasionally see



Something you don't want to meet in the dark
Photo David Chapman



Mushrooms
Left and Opposite -don't know what they are
Right Shaggymane
Photo David Chapman



a road track below us. When we eventually got close enough to see it, it was right where the road ended, it came in from the north a short ways. Going out to the roads down Elk Creek wouldn't have been helpful as it would have been like a three mile walk just to get back to Hwy 200, about 3 miles up from where we were parked. We need to find our way out, where we were.

Now we considered following the contour lines around to the right hand road once again David C. leading, but we were encountering several little drainages and it was easier to go up the hill above them where the walking was easier, it wasn't bad, because the forest had been cut and cleaned up, there was little dead-fall or small trees, a nice tall tree canopy over head making for an otherwise nice stroll through the woods. We could see on our GPS that we were now paralleling the road we had come in on, about 500 feet below it, but still well north of our lunch spot. After a bit we second guessed the wisdom of following the contour lines, as the little gullies had us ever going up hill to stay out of the steep. We had now regained a lot of the elevation we had lost, lots of stumps but no obvious roads. We regrouped, conferenced and took a short break and the decision was made to just keep going along the "hill" and gradually go up, until we came to the road we had come in on. Just as we set out again Lois did something that amazed us, she said someone's phone was ringing. I knew it wasn't mine, mine makes loud music. She asked if we could hear it and the sound I heard sounded like birds way off in the canopy, but she kept insisting it was someone's phone. Then Albert reached in his pocket and his phone was ringing as his wife called him, he walked and talked with her as we started out again. Tromping up to a higher area where it was more level we finally encountered the remains of a road, it went up a little more and we could see an open spot above, figuring it was our road. It turned out to be an old decking area, another light spot above, we were sure was our road. We could see the trace of this road continuing along the slope at the same level, probably one that in another mile or so came back to the main road at the Divided Road Junction. David K.'s GPS showed the road we had come in on 113 feet above us. We decided to just climb up to it and David C. wisely advised we do that on a knoll instead of the steepness of a gully. We came up on the bottom of two big slash piles, which had a "low spot" between them where we could pick our way through on dirt rock and logs. We took a snack break on the road, still north of our lunch spot, and then wandered back down the 3 miles, visiting. It was fully cloudy now, even spitting a little rain now and again, and windy. We got back to the vehicles around 6:PM, the GPS's said we had gone around 10 miles. Even at that, everyone agreed it had been a good day, it was nice to walk through the woods like that. And, that now we had to come back and see where the right hand road actually went. Julie Kahl



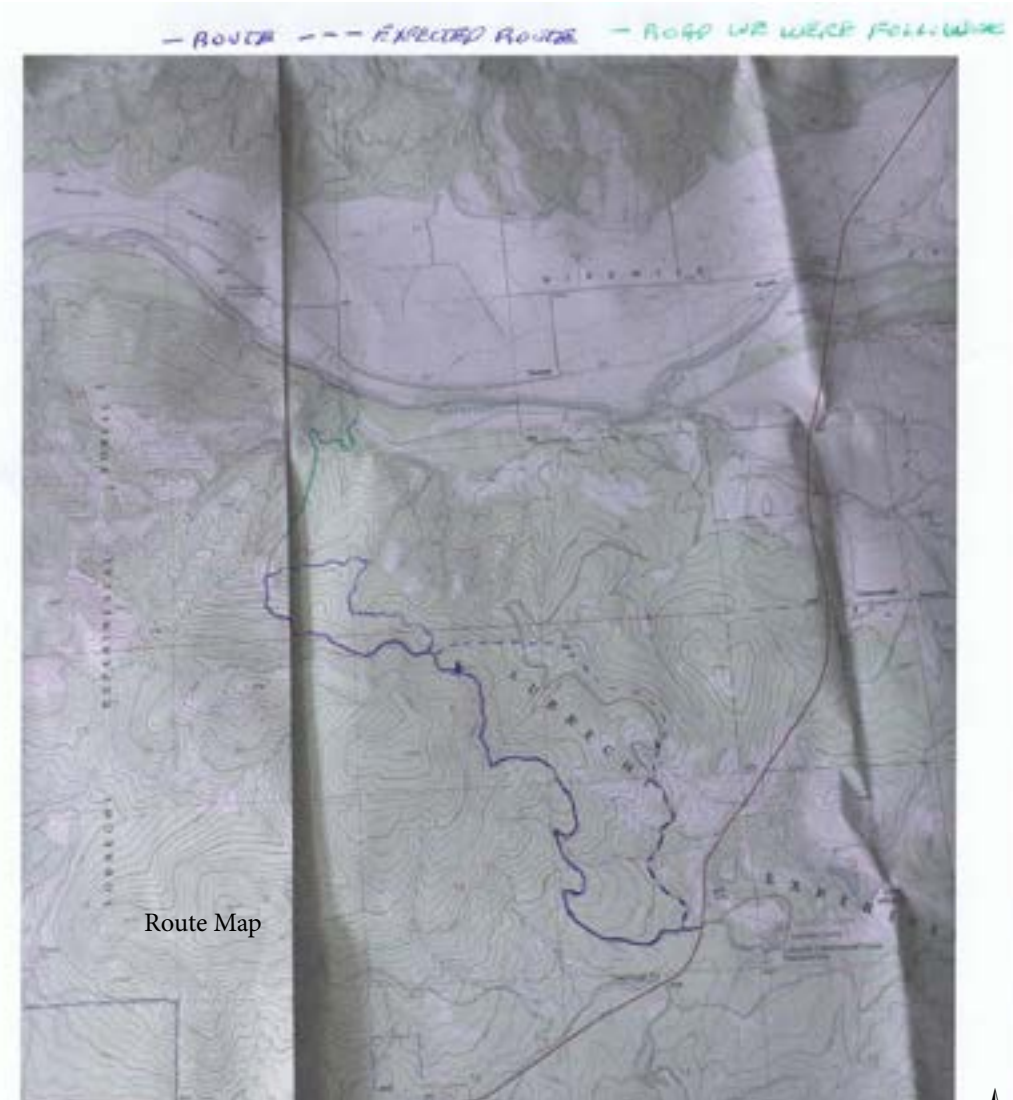
A Walk In The Woods
Photo David Chapman



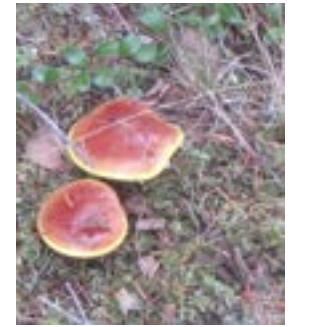
Up The Log Pile



Looking Across Nine Mile
Prairie Towards The Swan Range



Route Map



Mission Mts. Photo Steve Schombel





Flathead River Downstream

and willows need spring floods to propagate, so there were only Junipers along the banks. I do not have an answer for question two. We continued up the road and reached a place where we dropped down to the rapids. I'm not sure if these lowest rapids are "the" Buffalo Rapids, but they were loud and impressive. While we were there one raft went by, and almost tipped. The woman fell out, but the man picked her up just downstream, and they cheered at us so they were OK. There are many places to stand on shore and look at rapids, but what made this hike special was that most of the participants had never been to this part of the reservation before. We saw almost no one else, one came up on an ATV while we were hiking back, but he went off a different road to check on some cattle. Almost on cue, while we were hiking back the clouds lifted, and we got the hoped for view of the snow capped mountains. While driving toward Pablo we could see the whole range. Then we drove home and parted ways, hoping to get together again. I thank the participants, two who have joined relatively



Flathead River Upstream From The View Point

recently and two old friends, Dave R., Maria C., Lois C., and Julie K. Julie got the distance on the GPS as six miles, just like I estimated. The elevation gain was minimal. There are other places on the Reservation to hike besides the Mission Mountains, so buy a permit and check them out for yourselves. Steve Schombel



Buffalo Rapids



Rocky Mountaineers' Meeting Minutes 9/13/2016

- I. Call To Order: 6:15, MacKenzie River Pizza
- II. Attendees: Steve Schombel, Julie Kahl, Alden Wright, Lois Crepeau
- III. Treasurer's Report: \$951.28 -Includes \$130 from Glacier Classic
- IV. Discussions:
 - A. Family Memberships
 - 1. They were in old bylaws but not new bylaws
 - 2. Changes number of official account of membership
 - 3. Continue Practice anyway -probably
 - 4. Does this mean each family only has one vote?
 - 5. Difference between FaceBook members and dues paying members troubling
 - 6. Honorary Members
 - a. Vera Myers only one left
 - b. Suggestion to make Brett Duchette an honorary member
 - B. No one's heard anything more from the Outdoor alliance
 - C. Lois wanted to discontinue doing cookies and refreshments, said we would discontinue and see if anyone commented
 - D. Some signed a wedding card for Dan Saxton
 - E. Cabin Workday
 - 1. Lindsey said at Glacier Classic she had been up there and there was plenty of fire wood, just a small party
 - 2. Paul wants to do floor and lower the one bunk, he suggested Oct. 1st and will take the lead in organizing it
 - 3. Alden suggested rebuilding the toilet
 - 4. Pot luck dinner afterwards as usual
 - F. Back up person for the Website
 - 1. Alden -two processes, website and e-mail list maintenance
 - 2. There is no other person for the website and he is in the process of making some changes, so wait awhile
 - 3. There is a Google Docs shared spread sheet that Forest Dean owns so we need to ask him to add and remove people.
 - 4. Steve Niday has an e-mail list also
 - G. Speakers
 - 1. Jim Ullrich in Oct. "Denali in the days of cotton and wool" 1976
 - 2. Alden will do an Africa show in Nov. and line up a bike show for later
 - 3. Julie had a copy of the *The Grand Rescue* Video about the 1974 rescue on the Grand Teton that we can show if we end up without a speaker
 - H. Trips:
 - 1. Julie: 3 trips, Deer Peak, Lubrecht, and Lolo Pass winter Outing
 - 2. Steve Schombel: Mudd Lake or Flathead River on Res. during hunting season
- V. Adjourn 6:46 PM

Rocky Mountaineers' Meeting Minutes 10/11/2016 - we did not have a business Meeting in Oct.
Tres. report -\$821.28

- 1. By E-mail we discussed that the Feb. 2017 meeting would be on Valentine's Day and during the Trail Head's Gambler Sale - we opted to move it to Feb. 21st
- 2. Steve Schombel suggested getting a clip on mic for our speakers. Nice idea, but not that easy. Julie Kahl looked into all our options and it was suggested we use a karaoke machine, she has purchased one that will remain her possession, that she will let TRM use. Upgrades to it will follow, it should be in place for the Nov. meeting.



Steve Niday giving instructions at the Paws Up Lodge

**RETRO PHOTOS ESSAY
2009 GRIZZLY MAN
ADVENTURE RACE**

**RACE INVOLVED RUN TO
WATER COURSE,
RUN BACK TO TRANSITION AREA
FOR BICYCLES,
RIDE BACK TO TRANSITION AREA FOR
RUN TO FINISH LINE**

**ALSO A BLACK BEAR RACE WITH JUST
RUNNING AND BICYCLES**

Rest of the photos from the River Camp, Transition area
all Photos Julie Kahl



The Supervisor



Support Organizations Below- Bicycle transition area



Top -Some of the Black Bear Runners
Middle -Going to the water course put-in
Bottom -There were some casualties

**SCORING WAS BASED ON
TIME AND NUMBER OF CHECKPOINTS
REACHED, EACH CHECKPOINT HAD A
UNIQUE HOLE PUNCH SHAPE**



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

GARY'S MULLIGAN STEW

Boil 2 qts. water and add boullion to taste.
About half of this boullion water may be used
as a hot drink while cooking the stew.
To 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of boullion water add 2 oz. of Veg.
Stew Blend(dehydrated veg. mix from the Co-op)
and simmer for 15 min.
Add 3 pre-cooked hamberger patties and cook until
hot.
Add 1 tbsp. butter & $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt. Then remove from
fire and whip in a packet Betty Crocker Instant
Potatoes.(they require no milk)

Makes 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 qts. stew. Serves 2 people well.

Note: Maggi's Boullion Cubes seem to be much softer than other brands and
dissolve very readily. Obtainable at Safeway Stores.

The Mountaineer 3-4/1962