

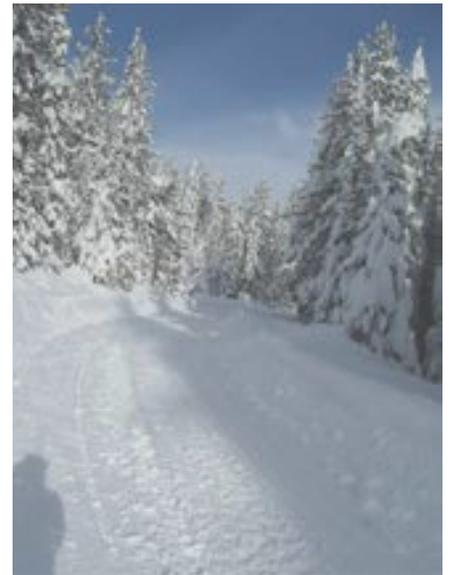
The Mountain Ear

January 2017

Monthly Newsletter of
The Rocky Mountaineers



Cover Photo: Snowshoeing at Lolo Pass
Photo: Steve Schombel



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

Club Contacts

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The Rocky Mountaineers

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rocky@wrightmontana.net

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 a location in downtown Missoula, before the general membership meeting at 7:PM at the Trail Head, with a featured presentation or speaker. General meetings are free and open to the public, business meetings are 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: Should 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

JAN. 10TH, 2017 MONTHLY MEETING

Jonatahn Beardsley, a Math professor at UM, enjoys hiking and biking just about anywhere
His multiple adventures will be the topic of his presentation



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 back-country 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



MAR. 14TH, 2017 MONTHLY MEETING -Paul Jensen

APRIL 11TH, 2017 MONTHLY MEETING -Bryan Kercher, Dues paid in April

MAY 9TH, 2017 MONTHLY MEETING Club Picnic and election of Officers, dues paid in April



Trip Notes

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

Mileage 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

Message from the president:

This newsletter signals the start of a new year. It was great that our monthly meetings were mostly well attended, at least compared to several years ago. This shows interest in the club, and will, alone, be enough to keep us going into the future. We have also had several trips of various difficulties the last several months. Attendance on these has been mixed, but we are making progress.

The big thing to keep in mind the next few months is that the officers, except for the treasurer, will have reached the end of their terms, and we need new people to step forward. Ask yourself if you want to get more involved with the Rocky Mountaineers. Talk to one of the current officers. Come to a business meeting at the Brooks and Brown Restaurant in the Holiday Inn an hour before the regular meeting. We need to have some candidates by the April meeting, when we will also take nominations from the floor. The election will be at the picnic in May.

At our next meeting, on January 10th, we have invited John Bardsley, the speaker, to join us. John has been on some adventures to exotic places, and he is also, like Dan Saxton, an explorer of nearby places in Montana. We don't know what he will focus on in his show, but this will be an opportunity for people to come down and exchange ideas with a featured speaker. In light of this, we are starting this business meeting at 5:30. It will be at the Brooks and Brown Restaurant in the Holiday Inn Parkside. We will have the same table setup that we had before Christmas. This should be fun!

After this I think we should return to having business meetings starting at 6 PM. I have one loose end I think we need to discuss at length, plus the fact we need to find some new officers.

Most of all, come and enjoy the next several meetings. We have a fun and entertaining lineup. See you there, Steve

Rocky Mountaineers' Meeting Minutes 12-2016, we didn't have a business meeting,
but a Christmas gathering at The Holiday Inn Parkside

UP COMING TRIPS AND ADVENTURES

ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS' CABIN, PAUL JENSEN, DATE NOT SET

LEE CREEK, LOLO PASS SUN. JAN. 8TH, 2017

CLASS 1 This is a seven mile point to point ski from Lolo Pass down Lee Creek, to the Lee Creek Campground, on the Montana side. The trail rises 200 ft. from the Pass to the Lee Creek saddle, then drops to 1,200 ft., on logging roads, if it's icy this part of the route can be fast. Julie Kahl jawkal@rockymountaineers.com

SNOWSHOE WALK JANUARY 14TH, 2017 I'm going to co-lead a snowshoe walk with Dave Robertson for the Montana Wilderness Association Winter Walks Program. There are some differences if you want to sign up. You have to go to their website, wildmontana.org/walks to participate. There are some questions and a liability waiver. There may be other restrictions such as group size. They will get back to you with the information. Here is the walk description Dave put on their website: Shining Mountains Chapter, Western Region 36. Sawmill Gulch

Date: Saturday, January 14, Nearest Town: Missoula, Public Land Management: Lolo National Forest

Miles (round trip): 3 miles, Difficulty: Moderate, Elevation Gain: 500 ft

Leaders: Dave Robertson and Stephen Schombel

From the Sawmill Gulch trailhead we'll snowshoe up onto the high ridge between Sawmill Gulch and Curry Gulch. From there we'll have great views of that portion of the Rattlesnake Recreation Area. We will return by a different route, making a three mile loop.

KAINA MOUNTAIN (9489') (Glacier NP) THU-SUN, JANUARY 12-15

Rating: Class 3; Distance: 30 miles round trip; Elevation Gain: 7000'

Description: Kaina Mtn lies in the NE part of Glacier, up the Belly River drainage. Will head up to Glacier on Thursday afternoon, get a permit, then up to the Chief Mtn Highway. This is supposed to be plowed to the Park Boundary. Hopefully it is- will camp at that spot Thursday night. Friday the goal will be to get to the Cosley Lake area. Saturday would be the day of the summit attempt (approx.. 4600' above Cosley Lake). Sunday ski out and return home. If conditions are challenging and travel is slow, I am going to plan on using an extra day (Monday).

Equipment: Ski's, winter camp gear.

Leader: Forest Dean, mtnear1@gmail.com

PUT IN FOR SMITH RIVER PERMITS, JAN. 3RD-FEB. 16, 2017

PACK CREEK, LOLO PASS SUN. FEB. 5TH, 2017

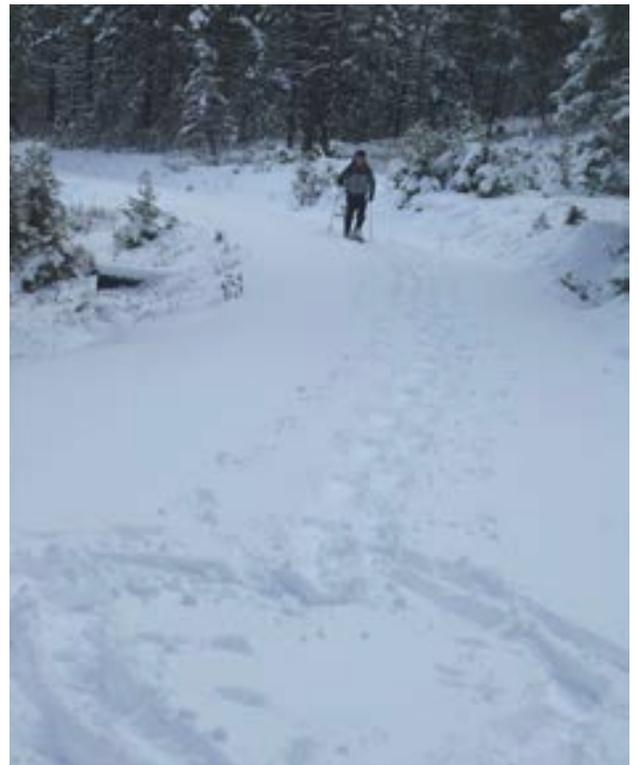
CLASS 1 This is an eight mile point to point ski from Lolo Pass down Pack Creek Road, to the Crooked Fork Bridge, on the Idaho side. It is all down hill from the Pass to the Hwy 12, with a drop of 1,200 ft. The route is on logging roads with some exposure in places, intermediate level ski experience is suggested. Julie Kahl jawkal@rockymountaineers.com

MARCH 2017 -Dates not decided yet -looking for input :
CHIEF JOSEPH SKI WEEKEND, FREEZEOUT LAKE -BIRD WATCHING

TRIP REPORTS



On my snowshoe hike on Dec. 11th only my good friends Dave and Julie Kahl joined me. The few others who were interests either felt sick or had something come up. After a little discussion in the parking lot we decided to go up to Lubrecht and take a road across the highway from the entrance. This time we took the right fork from the first junction. This one climbed gently and stayed on the hillside, paralleling the one we took earlier in the fall. There were a few places we could see off in the distance, but it was mostly through a forest. There was only about 4” of snow so we didn’t really need snowshoes, but it was a good place to get used to them again. The temperature was probably high twenties with hardly any wind, which made for a very pleasant day. The GPS said we did about 3.2 miles as I remember. Next time I hope to do something longer and steeper. Steve Schombel



**THE LOLO PASS WINTER OUTING SUN. DEC. 18TH
WAS CANCELED DUE TO COLD TEMPERATURES -Julie Kahl**





Rattlesnake Ski 12/20/2016 Photos Julie kahl





Lolo Pass Snowshoe 12/29/2016 Photos Steve Schombel



RETRO PHOTOS ESSAY

**2011 GRIZZLY MAN
ADVENTURE RACE**

**RACE INVOLVED A WATER COURSE,
RUNNING, BIKING & ORIENTEERING,
ALSO A BLACK BEAR RACE WITH JUST
RUNNING AND BICYCLES**

Most photos from an aid station
across the road from the Lubrecht Entrance
all Photos Julie Kahl





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



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