

The Mountain Ear

April 2018

President's Message

Greetings!

My standard method of writing these monthly newsletters is to compose all the information that follows, then prepare the President's Message last. So, in essence, for me this message is a finish- rather than a start, as it may appear here. Why do I mention this? Well, I THINK I have covered most of the pertinent news and notes in the short sections below that need covering, and since, as I write this, its late and I'm tired I hope you will forgive me for being brief with this month's Presidents Message!!

We have lots of great events coming up: Trips (of course), another Roundtable event, an outdoor skills practice event, another fascinating Presentation, and an Annual Meeting and Elections and Picnic event (with free stuff!). Read on for all the details!

In the next couple weeks we will have our Articles of Incorporation ready to submit. Additionally, we hope to have a revised Club Bylaws ready for the membership to review real soon. Our website shall soon undergo a major change. And we are in the process of revising our liability waiver. While this may not seem like exciting stuff to many of you, we officers believe these are the key elements and cornerstones of making a solid foundation for this club to thrive in the coming years and decades. It is a fair bit of work and it all takes longer than we want it to. We appreciate your patience as we try to move these things forward!

Thanks for being a member! We hope you will continue your membership. More importantly, we hope you will be involved in the club activities. Our club is only as strong as its participation. Please get out with us!

Sincerely,
Forest Dean

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.

What are the benefits of membership?

- Ability to participate in any of our Trips!
- Ability to participate in our educational events or clinics
- 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) to renew. Questions? Contact our Treasurer- Susanna Phillips (susannagirolamo@gmail.com)

April Presentation

Tuesday, April 10 -Imagine Nation Brewing Company- doors open at 6:00pm.

Synthetic Wilderness: How the History of Outdoor Clothing and Gear Shapes Outdoor Recreation Today

Why do we go shopping on our way to the wilderness? Since the Civil War, millions of men and women have gone to the woods imagining they were escaping modern life. But the equipment and clothing they take with them could hardly be more modern. The evolution of the American outdoor industry from buckskin to Gore-Tex shows how companies and outdoorspeople alike worked to make consumer culture a central part of the outdoor experience.

This talk will focus on iconic gear from different eras of outdoor recreation—from bloomers to army surplus to Gore-Tex—to show the tremendous impact the outdoor industry has had on American life.

Dr. Rachel Gross is a historian of the outdoor industry in the United States. She is completing a book manuscript on the history of outdoor clothing and equipment "from buckskin to Gore-Tex." Gross is a Postdoctoral Teaching, Research, and Mentoring Fellow at the Davidson Honors College of the University of Montana, where she teaches U.S. environmental and consumer culture history. She is currently organizing a museum exhibit on "Outdoor Recreation in Montana" that explores how equipment ranging from backpacks to hiking boots help bring meaning to consumers' outdoor experiences. The exhibit, at the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula and other venues around Missoula, will feature oral history interviews from residents as well as artifacts that trace the evolution of technology in outdoor recreation from World War II to the present.

TRM Annual Meeting and Picnic

On SATURDAY, MAY 5th, we will have our Annual Membership Meeting and Club Elections. This will be held in conjunction with a picnic outing and 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. This is an idea the Officers very recently decided to move forward with, so please bear with us as we work out the final details. Our tentative plan:

- Several trips to choose from during the day (Saturday, May 5)
- Lolo Peak Ski Tour; Rock Climbing @ Kootenai; Local Hike; More!
- 6:00pm- Picnic in Missoula (local park)- Free Food, Beer, Drinks, Raffle Prizes!!
- Membership Meeting
- Election of Officers

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!

Education

Snow Climbing and Glacier Travel Basics- Monday, April 9- 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 21-22
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 options, steep snow and ice, crampon technique, self-arrest, rope management, efficient pacing, snow anchors, route finding, glacier travel, crevasse rescue, Mammut RESCYOU use

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.

Upcoming Trips and Activities

Rock Climbing- **Kootenai Creek**- Sat, April 7
BC Alpine Skiing- **Gash Point**- Sat, April 7
Alpine Climb- **Mink Peak/Spires**- Sun, April 15
Hiking- **Woodman School area**- Sun, April 15
BC Alpine Skiing- **Sweeney Peak**- Sun, April 22
BC Alpine Skiing- **Trapper Peak**- Sat, April 28
Snow Climb- **Trapper Peak (NE Couloir)**- Sat, April 28
BC Alpine Skiing- **Lolo Peak**- Sat, May 5
Hiking- **Nemote Creek**- Sun, May 20
Bike/Ski/Climb- **Logan Pass- Glacier NP**- Fri-Sun, June 1-3
Rock Climbing- **Stone Hill**- Fri-Sun, June 8-10
Hiking- **Wild Horse Island**- Sat, June 16
Scramble- **Castle Reef**- Sat, June 23
Alpine Climb- **Ojibway Peak**- Sat-Sun, June 30-July 1
Alpine Climb- **Mt. Forbes**- Sat-Weds, June 30-July 4

Please visit our website for all the details on these trips and educational events!!
www.rockymountaineers.com

The 14th 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 Johnson's Campground in St. Mary on the weekend of August 17-19. A complete list of the planned activities are still being put together; preliminary list includes the following options (more to come):

- Mt. Brown
- Going-to-the-Sun Mountain (East Face)
- Mt. Wilbur
- Yellow Mountain

There will likely be a trip option or two for 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).

Its 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.