

The Mountain Ear

August 2018

President's Message

Greetings Everyone,

I hope you all are having a great summer! So many adventures to be had, but so little time. In less than a month now, it will be Labor Day Weekend and the unofficial beginning of autumn. Our summer is so short it seems- blink and you miss it. Don't miss it! Skip work! Get out every chance you get!

We are only a couple weeks away from our 14th Annual Glacier Classic. Its hard to believe we've been organizing this event for so many years. I was one of several of us who came up with the idea back in 2005. For our first event, we camped along the shores of the Flathead River by Blankenship Bridge. There were only about 8-10 of us in attendance that year. I recall climbing Going-to-the-Sun Mountain with a group of four of us and having an absolute blast! We grilled food, drank beer and had a great time in camp at night. The foundation had been laid. 13 years later, we have had many great times, climbed many mountains, hiked many trails, told numerous stories (some that were even true!), eaten lots of Tom Hanou's burritos, and mostly, made many great friends. It is truly a fun event, and I would encourage you to join if you can!

Also on the radar again is the resumption of our Presentation series. These take place the second Tuesday of every month- September through May. More details below!

Please continue to be involved on some level with this club! We love your input, suggestions, comments, etc. I have made so many great friendships through this club over the years just by simply being involved. And I have learned so much from others simply by participating in some of the club trip offerings.

Hope to see you all soon at the Classic, at our September "Welcome Back Party" or, best of all, in the mountains!

Forest Dean

Upcoming Trips and Activities

Hiking- **Turquoise Lake (Missions)**- Sat, August 4

Alpine Climb/Overnight- **Mink Peak Spires (Bitterroots)**- Sat-Sun, August 4-5

Kid Friendly Hike- **Woody Mountain (Rattlesnakes)**- Sat, August 4

Hiking- **Seigel Pass (Nine Mile Valley)**- Sun, August 5

Various- **GLACIER CLASSIC**- Fri-Sun, August 17-19
Alpine Climb- **Mt. Sir Donald (Selkirks)**- Thur-Sun, August 23-26
Alpine Climb- **Grand/Middle Tetons (Tetons)**- Fri-Mon, Aug 31- Sept 3
Hiking- **Spotted Dog WMA**- Sun, Sept 16

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

www.rockymountaineers.com

The 14th Annual Glacier Classic

Friday, August 17- Sunday, August 19

This year will mark the 14th anniversary of The Rocky Mountaineers signature event- The Glacier Classic! This year we will again be basing our activities out of Johnson's Campground, a private campground in St. Mary. We have a number of good climbs and hikes planned (see below). While the trips are the focal point of the weekend, the camaraderie enjoyed at the camp in the evenings is often just as fun and memorable.

Whether it's your first time or your 14th, it's certain to be a blast!

We have six sites reserved at Johnson's for the event. Each site should hold 6-8 campers. We would like to accommodate all who wish to attend, so please register NOW to ensure we have a spot for you. Feel free to bring anyone interested- just let us know so we can get them on the roster. Alternatively, you are certainly free to get your own campsite (or stay elsewhere) but still join us for the activities and socializing.

Itinerary:

Friday- We currently have two trip offerings for those wishing to arrive early. Most folks will likely head up to St. Mary and arrive sometime Friday afternoon or evening. Eat, drink, be social. Bring your own food and drink. Around 8:00 we will have the Saturday trip leaders announce their plans for the following day.

Saturday- Climbs and hikes during the day. In the evening we'll gather in camp for the infamous **Hanou Burrito** dinner! (bring your own drinks)

Sunday- More hikes and climbs for those interested, or head home whenever you desire.

Trips:

Friday

MT. BROWN- Hike the trail from Lake McDonald Lodge area to the Mt. Brown Lookout, then scramble and climb to the summit. Class 3-4. Leader: John Bardsley

REYNOLDS MTN. - Southwest Slope Route. Hike to Hidden Lake Overlook then south on mountaineers trail to SW corner of mountain. Scramble up talus slopes and then through easy class 3 cliffs to summit. Leader: Susanna Phillips

Saturday

SKYLINE TRAVERSE- Beginning at Many Glacier, hiking toward Cracker Lake then climb Mt. Wynn. Follow the ridgeline south to Mt. Siyeh. Descent options vary. Long day in high spectacular terrain. Class 3. Leader: Forest Dean

MT. WILBUR- Climb one of the iconic Glacier "technical peaks". The climb will ascend the Thin Man's Pleasure Route. Class 5. Leader: Joshua Phillips

YELLOW MOUNTAIN- A hike to Poia Lake then scramble up to the varied summits of Yellow Mtn. Long day at a sustained pace. Class 3-4. Leader: Laurel Vielle

GRINNELL LAKE AND GLACIER- Trail hike to one of the most spectacular lakes in the Rockies. Class 1. Leader: Tom Hanou

Sunday

CLEMENTS MOUNTAIN- Depending on interest level, will climb this one of two ways: either directly up the east facing gully (Class 5), or hike around to the west saddle between Clements and Cannon, then a scramble to the summit (Class 3). Leader: Forest Dean

PIEGAN MOUNTAIN- This trip will start just east of Logan Pass. Scramble up the Lunch Creek drainage to the saddle between Piegan and Pollock then an easy scramble to the summit. Class 2. Leader: Susanna Phillips.

For more details on all these trips, please visit: www.rockymountaineers.com and select the Glacier Classic tab.

For more information or to register please email: Forest Dean - mtnear1@gmail.com

September "Welcome Back" Party

Our monthly club presentations will resume on **Tuesday, September 11th at 6:00 PM.** We will continue to hold these presentations on the second Tuesday of every month (September through May) at IMAGINE NATION BREWING COMPANY (1151 West Broadway Street) in their room called The Center. We welcome you to show up for these monthly presentations at 6:00PM. Enjoy an Imagine Nation beer and socialize a bit prior to the actual presentation which will probably begin about 6:20.

In lieu of an actual presentation our September event will be a "**Welcome Back Party**". We invite anyone and everyone to come spend a couple of hours with us as we kick off our monthly Presentation series! We'll be presenting a brief overview of who The Rocky Mountaineers are and more of our plans for the future. A few achievement awards will be handed out. Media presentations of some of this past summer's trips will be shown. But primarily, we'll enjoy a few great INBC beers while we meet, greet, answer questions and socialize. INBC may have a food truck parked outside so you can purchase dinner if you so desire (or feel free to bring something from home or elsewhere). Please attend...and bring a friend or two!

Achievement Awards

The Rocky Mountaineers annually recognize any current club member who has completed one or more of the several peak lists listed on our website: (www.rockymountaineers.com/index.php/achievement-awards). Perhaps you have finished one of these lists and don't even know it! We'd love to present a few folks with a certificate of accomplishment at our September "Welcome Back Party". So, take a look at the lists, then get busy...you have one month to go!

Business Meetings

Per our new club bylaws, we will now be holding quarterly business meetings. In the past we have done short, informal meetings prior to the monthly presentations. We felt that this presented too many distractions and did not provide for a good, fair and efficient way of managing this club's business. The meetings will now take place on the following dates:

- September 17
- December 3
- March 4
- May 6

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. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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.