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The Mountain Ear

November 2023

President's Message

Greetings Members,

Well, a rather nice stretch of weather finally gave way to winter here. It was sort of interesting to be running around in the high country in t-shirts and shorts as hunting season opened a couple weeks ago. As it usually does though, things change quickly in the mountains and now a lot of us are getting excited for those snow and ice sports. Bring it on!

In the spirit of snow and cold, our November presenter will be someone who dealt with a whole lot of that while becoming the first to climb the north face of Granite Peak in the winter. Dougal McCarty will relate that experience along with many more as he talks about some of the earlier days of the Montana alpine, rock and ice climbing scene at our monthly presentation on November 14th . Don't miss it!

We have some more fun educational events in the next few weeks to get you ready for your winter sports as well. An Ice Climbing Roundtable on the 20th , Avalanche Skills Practice Field Day on December 2 and a "Skin and Wax" Party on December 5. Details below and on our website calendar.

Interested in getting more involved in this Club? We are looking for folks who are interested in leading some trips for us. If you have interest and would like to learn more, please reach out as we would love to see more trips on our calendar. Its really not very difficult and can be a fun way to meet some

new partners!

I hope to see you all in the mountains or during one of our indoor events real soon!

Cheers,
Forest Dean

Presentations

All of our monthly presentations are held in The Spirit of Peace Community Center, located at 506 Toole Avenue, near downtown Missoula.. Presentations are held on the second Tuesday of each month from October - May. These Presentations are free and open to the public and they take place from 6-8 pm. We have snacks and beverages on hand (donation suggested), and you are also more than welcome to bring your own.

Dougal McCarty - Tuesday, November 14, 6-8pm

After flunking out of college his first semester at Montana State University, Dougal eventually received a geology BA and MS from the University of Montana, and a PhD in geology from Dartmouth in 1993 with a specialty in clay mineralogy. He received The Clay Minerals Society mid-career scientist award for scholarly research in 2011 and was the Society's president in 2017-2018. In between, Dougal worked as a ski patrolman and avalanche forecaster in the Rocky Mountain west and Alaska, and always kept a hand and foot in the climbing world. Dougal grew

up in Bozeman and tied in with Montana legends Gray Thompson and Pat Callis while he was still in high school. The day after graduating from Bozeman High in 1972, he and fellow Bozemanite Brian Leo hitched hiked and hopped a freight train to Seattle where they met up with Fred Beckey to spend the summer driving and climbing from the Cascades to the Canadian Rockies. This was the first of many Beckey adventures. His show intends to reveal some of Montana's early modern climbing culture, and related travels.

Coming Up...

Chris Gibisch - Tuesday, December 12, 6-8pm

Duncan Lennon - Tuesday, January 9, 6-8pm

Darcy Chenoweth - Tuesday, February 13, 6-8pm

Aerie Medicine - Tuesday, March 12, 6-8pm

TBD - Tuesday, April 9, 6-8pm

TBD - Tuesday, May 14, 6-8pm

Weekday Winter Conditioning

Come out and join us for a weekday evening hike to get in shape for the winter ski (etc) season! Each week we have been hosting an evening hike at one of the local mountains (Sentinel, Jumbo, Blue). All are welcome to participate. You can hike/run at your own pace, or stick with the "pack". Dress appropriately and bring a headlamp, especially as the season progresses. Check the TRM [calendar](#) as well as our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) pages each week for meetup time and location.

Upcoming Educational Events

All About Ice Climbing - Monday, November 20 - 6:30-8

Do you have interest in the sport of Ice Climbing but not sure where to start? New to the area, and not sure where to go? Wondering what kind of gear you need to get started? Well then this is an event for you! This will be an informal "round table" discussion on some of these topics and more. We will look at gear, cover basic climbing techniques, talk about great places to go in western Montana and discuss the upcoming Bozeman Ice Festival. Experienced climbers are encouraged to attend to share what they know!

Event will run from 6:30-8:00pm. Big Sky Brewing Company, Second Floor conference room. Walk in, grab a beverage (if desired) and head on up the stairs.

Avalanche Skills Practice Day

Before the ski season really kicks into high gear, why not get out and practice those rusty Avalanche skills? Bring along your beacon, probe and shovel (and hopefully ski's/splitboard) for a day of practice. Will need to wait until the time gets closer to determine the best location. Hopefully we can dig some pits. We'll bury a transceiver and take turns doing beacon searches. And, perhaps if we are lucky, even ski a lap or two.

Bring your gear and plenty of warm layers along with food and drink. Leader: Forest Dean- mtnear1@gmail.com

Skin and Wax Party

Get ready for ski season by getting your skins re-glued and waxing your ski's. AT ski's or XC ski's are welcome to participate. Bring your ski wax, skins, skin glue, an iron and extension cord, and parchment paper. There will be folks on hand to help with instruction. Bring something to drink; we'll provide some snacks. Location: Tom Statz's house (lower Rattlesnake-contact for directions-tom.statz@gmail.com). Time: 6:30pm

Winterfest 2024!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 6th for our fourth annual "Winterfest!" at the Lolo Pass area! We will offer a slew of trips that day: backcountry and XC skiing, snowshoeing, beacon park practice, hot springing. In the evening we will gather at Lolo Hot Springs. We will have a party with a bonfire and food, drink and SPECIAL GIFT!

TRM Membership is required for this event and for the trips. Not a member? [Join now!](#)

Some food and snacks will be provided. Feel free to bring your own and/or something to share as well. Beer will be provided courtesy of Big Sky Brewing Company.

Check our [website](#) for trip listings and event details. Some of our trips so far include: Lolo Pass beacon park practice, Lolo Pass XC ski trips, Lolo Pass Crystal Amp BC ski tours, Lolo Hot Springs snowshoe trip.

Accommodations are available at

Lolo Hot Springs, call 406-273-2297

For RV And Cabins 406-273-2294

(Winter Tent and RV hookups)

Lochsa Lodge in Idaho 208-942-3405

OR, Camp in your vehicle or tent!

To let us know you are coming, contact Elizabeth

Moore: heyartemisoutside@gmail.com

Bozeman Ice Festival

Every year a contingent of club members heads over to Bozeman for this amazing ice climbing festival. Whether you go every year, or have never touched an ice tool, there is something for everyone. The clinics are top notch and led by some of the “who’s who” in the mountaineering world. (Clinic registration opened on October 1- most clinics sold out within a few minutes but there are a few spots still available if interested). The camaraderie is perhaps even better- swinging tools in the magnificent “House of Hyalite” during the day, warm drinks around a campfire at the trailhead after, and then gathering at the Emerson downtown in the evening for craft beer, gear rentals, swag raffles and great movies and presentations in the auditorium.

If you would like to join in on the fun, let us know! There will be a group of us climbing each day. Would be happy to help facilitate carpooling and lodging options as well.

Contact: Forest Dean- mtnear1@gmail.com

BIF link: www.bozemanicefest.com

New Cabin Reservation Calendar

In the past we have listed cabin reservations on our main Activities Calendar on our website. We have now moved the cabin reservations to their own separate calendar: [Cabin Reservation Calendar](#) . If you would like to reserve a night or nights at the TRM Cabin, email Forest Dean at mtnear1@gmail.com.

Upcoming Trips and Activities

Roundtable- **All About Ice Climbing**- Mon, Nov. 20

Ice Climbing- **Hyalite Canyon**- Fri-Sun, Nov 24-26

Hike/XC Ski- **Lolo Pass**- Sun., Nov. 26

Field Day- **Avalanche Skills Practice Day**- Sat, Dec. 2

Ice Climbing- **Bozeman Ice Festival**- Thur-Sun, Dec 7-10

Hike/XC Ski- **Lolo Pass**- Sun, Dec 10

BC Ski- **Ward Mountain**- Fri, Dec 22

Various- **Winterfest!**- Sat, Jan 6

Please visit our website for details on these trips!!

TRM Merchandise

We have merchandise for sale and available for purchase at our presentations, quarterly business meetings, the Spring picnic, etc. Please contact Elizabeth Moore if you'd like to purchase something for a local pickup.

Error!Error! Filename not specified.

Beanie \$25

T-Shirt \$20

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Pint Glass \$10

Baseball Cap \$20

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Keychain \$5

Buff \$10

Trip Reports

All reports from club trips can be found on our [website](#). Check it out. Reports are now easier to locate thanks to the diligent work of Alden Wright.

TRM Gear Closet

The first items for the TRM GEAR CLOSET have arrived!! For years we have had a dream of building and maintaining a TRM GEAR CLOSET so that TRM members new to mountaineering, ice climbing, rock climbing or other activities can participate in a trip without a big initial investment. Some of the items we will start the gear closet with are: ice axes, crampons, helmets, harnesses, tents, snowshoes, avalanche equipment kits, personal locator devices, ski poles and expedition stoves.

The startup costs for the TRM GEAR CLOSET are estimated at roughly \$3,000. We were able to raise \$2050 of this goal! Thank you for these donations, we really appreciate it! Check our website for more details as they unfold about our new gear closet. The Gear Closet is one of the many perks of being a member of The Rocky Mountaineers.

This is the time of year that many folks donate to local non-profits on Giving Tuesday and for the end of the year. If you feel so inclined to get us closer to our \$3,000 goal for the Gear Closet, please use the link below to [donate](#). Thank you in advance!

Donate to the TRM Gear Closet

Wear Your TRM Gear!

Please send in photos of you doing your thing while sporting the logo of your favorite Mountaineering Club!! heyartemisoutside@gmail.com

Ongoing Call for Photos and Videos

It's fun to see what fun our members are getting up to! There is always a need for new photos and videos for our presentation and sponsor videos and for our newsletter. Email Elizabeth at heyartemisoutside@gmail.com or upload to this google photo/video link: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/qDyWdiRwdixKZvNcA>

Club Officers

President- Forest Dean

Vice President – Mark Albrecht

Secretary- Candy Hartman

Treasurer- Tom Statz

Website- Alden Wright

Archivist- Julie Kahl

At-Large Board Member – Laurel Vielle

Newsletter Editor / Social Media – Elizabeth Smith Moore