

The Mountain Ear

September 2020

President's Report

Autumn is just around the corner and the leaves have started showing their changing colors. Happy Equinox everyone! We are excited to move forward and announce a few new outdoor events for this Fall and Winter, keeping in mind that we are still in a pandemic and still encourage social distancing and small gatherings. Please don't forget to check the calendar!

With that said we also have had a change of our officers. Our current president stepped down and I have taken the position of the president of the TRM Club until the end of this term. I'm thrilled and can't wait to get outside and share some mountain time with you!

Susanna G Phillips

President/Treasurer of The Rocky Mountaineers

Last newsletter for non-members

This will be the last newsletter that is sent to non-members. If you haven't joined for the 2020-2021 year, please do so at <https://rockymountaineers.com>. A membership will enable you to participate in the events listed below.

Come try Orienteering on Sunday, October 4

Orienteering is the sport of navigating with map and compass. The object is to find a series of points shown on a map, choosing routes — both on and off trail — that will help you find all the points and get back to the finish in the shortest amount of time. The points on the course are marked with orange and white flags typically accompanied by electronic or mechanical punches, which provide proof that the point was visited. Each "control" marker is located on a distinct feature, such as a stream junction or the top of a hill.

Orienteering is a sport for everyone, regardless of age or experience. The competitive athlete can experience the exhilaration of moving through the woods at top speed, while a contemplative orienteer can enjoy the forest at a more leisurely pace. Most events provide courses for all levels — from beginner to advanced.

If you love maps, exploring, and the great outdoors, try orienteering. You'll be hooked for life!

Former U.S. Orienteering Team member Boris Granovskiy will be hosting an orienteering event with beginner instruction for Rocky Mountaineers members at Pattee Canyon on Sunday, October 4. The event will feature beginner and intermediate-level courses and will be free of charge. This event is appropriate for any ages. People can participate as individuals or in groups. No special equipment or prior experience is necessary. Bring a cell phone for electronic timekeeping. The event will be run from the Pattee Canyon parking lot between 10am-1pm on Sunday, October 4. In order to maintain safe social distancing, we may assign specific time windows to participants ahead of time to avoid crowding. **Please pre-register** by emailing orienteering@rockymountaineers.com by Friday, October 2 and provide the names and ages of all those planning to participate.

60th Anniversary Party- October 10th

It has been a very crazy year to try and ring in our 60th Anniversary. We've attempted to plan a celebration more than once this year, but the COVID situation continues to interfere. But, just like a mountain summit that keeps eluding us, we remain determined to try! SO, following our TRM Cabin Workday event on this Saturday, we will be having a "casual" party to celebrate our 60 years! (Cabin workday participation is by no means required)

We will be holding this event at the Charles Waters Campground by the Bass Creek Trailhead. It will start around 3:00pm- feel free to arrive whenever. The day of the event, we will post exactly where in the campground we will be (what campsite numbers); or, look for a gathering of people and our TRM banner. Members and their guests are welcome to attend--- (not a member? Please join us now!)

We will provide burgers, sausages, chips, and hot chocolate. Bring a dish to pass or a dessert to share if you feel so inclined. BYO drinks (beer, etc). If you don't feel like driving home after, consider staying and sitting around the fire and camping for the night!

Please bring a mask too. We will do our very best to follow COVID safe practices.

Contact Susanna for more info and to let us know you are coming...it would be great to see everyone again! susannagirolamo@gmail.com

Cabin Workday- October 10th

Join us as we prepare our club cabin for winter use! We will clean up the inside, make repairs as needed, cut and stack firewood and get the facility ready for the upcoming season. We really encourage you frequent users of the cabin to come and give us a hand! Afterwards we will have a BBQ at the trailhead. Distance to cabin is about 1.5 miles and gains about 1200'. If you'd like to help out, please contact Forest Dean with your availability and any resources (tools) you may have access to. We could certainly use a couple of chainsaws and splitting mauls. We'll plan on carpooling (for those interested). Plan will be to be at the Bass Creek Overlook trailhead by 10:00am. Party afterwards (see above)!

Email Forest at: mtnear1@gmail.com

Upcoming Trips and Events

Alpine Climb- **Hyndman Peak/Devil's Bedstead (Pioneers, Idaho)**- Sept 25-27

Hike- **Sheep Mountain (Rattlesnake)**- Sat, Oct 3

Introduction to **Orienteering**- Sun, Oct 4

Workday- **TRM Cabin**- Sat, Oct 10

Party- **60th Anniversary Celebration**- Sat, Oct 10

Alpine Climb- **Canyon Peak (Bitterroots)**- Sun, Oct 11

Hike- **Black Cat Gulch**- Sun, Oct 18

Roundtable- **All About Ice Climbing**- Tues, Nov 17

Ice Climb- **Hyalite Ice Climbing**- Thurs-Sun, Dec 10-13

Please visit our website for all the details on these trips and more! Also scan further ahead in the online calendar to see some future listed trips.

www.rockymountaineers.com

TRM Path to 501c3 Status- Help?

We are continuing to (very) slowly pursue a path to a non-profit 501c3 designation. Slowly, because all of us that have been leading the charge the last few years either haven't had the time, or more importantly, the knowledge to head down this path. We would like to thank member Kris Cahoon for helping us get part of the way this past year. Reaching out here to see if anyone with experience in such matters would be interested in helping us get to this "promised land"? Please let us know!

Avalanche Course

We will once again be working with the West Central Montana Avalanche Center to offer a Level One Avalanche Course. Dates, location and cost are still to be determined. Likely to take place in January or February. Standard format is two evenings of classroom learning (Thursday/Friday) on UM Campus, followed by two full days in the field (Lost Trail or Lolo Pass, most likely). A must for anyone looking to venture into the mountains in winter! Let us know if you are interested.

Winter Fest

Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 9th for "Winter Fest" 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 plan to gather (place TBD) and have a party with food, drink and RAFFLE PRIZES! More information will be coming on this.

Trip Reports

All reports from club trips can be found at:

<http://rockymountaineers.com/trip-reports/>

All future Trip Reports will be posted and archived on this site as well.

Club Officers

President- Susanna Phillips

Vice President- Fintan Maguire

Secretary- Elizabeth Moore

Treasurer- Susanna Phillips

Website- Alden Wright

Archivist- Julie Kahl

Newsletter - Forest Dean

**The Rocky Mountaineers - Quarterly Meeting
September 15th, 2020**

Pineview Park Shelter- Rattlesnake

6:10 pm - Call to order

Members Present:

Susanna Phillips (Treasurer), Fintan Maguire (Vice President), Alden Wright, Elizabeth Moore (Secretary), Laurel Vielle & Lee Thornton, Sam Hathcock, Julie & David Kahl, Forest Dean (Presiding)

Treasurer's report:

TRM Account \$4268.55

Grizzly Man Account \$2,228.80

A question came up about what to do with this Grizzly Man account. It was discussed that perhaps we could find out what Joshua Phillips, Steve Niday and Alden Wright (the race organizers) would like to do with these funds.

Old Business Items:

A. Website Updates and Trip Listings/Offerings:

Question came up with who to send trip offerings to (Laurel asked): it would be sent to Forest or Alden to update the calendar.

1. Who is performing website updates: Alden Wright
2. Who is posting trip reports: Alden Wright

B. Membership Status

1. We need an effort to get folks to renew.

It was discussed that when our next newsletter comes out with our new offerings maybe it would promote more membership signup.

2. Where and how is our current roster of members being maintained and who has access? Alden has it and he will share with any trip leader.

C. New Ideas:

1. Winter Conditioning Wednesdays on Mount Sentinel:

Susanna and Elizabeth have made a plan to do a Sentinel Hill Climbs Starting Weds Oct 7th at 6pm each week. They will alternate between meeting at ASUM Garden Parking Lot and the M Parking Lot. All members welcome.

2. WINTER FEST:

Discussion about a fun event called Winter Fest. January 9th - Lolo Hot Springs - possibly stay in the cabins. Julie will check with Lolo Hot Springs and also with the

Visitors center. We will offer several trips and then congregate at as bonfire at the end of the day and we will offer merchandise, a raffle, and spiked hot cocoa.

D. Cabin Update-

1. Workday on October 3rd. Paul Jensen has raised the idea of replacing floor at some point, but likely too big of a project for a workday. Need to cut firewood. Need to create signage. Possible additions would led light panels, a lantern. Charles Waters Campground 60th Anniversary Party that evening.
2. We are paying \$48/month for liability insurance,

E. Path for 501c3 status update.

Discussed asking in the next newsletter if there are any lawyers (or others) who would like to come forward and help with the process.

New Business Items:

A. Resignation and replacement of TRM President

There was a motion to make Susanna the interim President and it was seconded. Motion was approved unanimously. Susanna will fill out the remainder of term (till April 30th).

B . Education

1. Roundtables at BSBC - any ideas for new things. Winter Camping and Snowshoeing (Laurel and Susanna). Ice Climbing is on the calendar.
2. Field Days- Beacon Park training days once it is open at BSBC
3. Other Ideas (Snowshoeing and winter camping basics)

C. Presentations

Discussed where to host Presentations once they are possible to do again: INBC? Use of entire facility? Will this be enough for each of the speakers? Welcoma Social Club? - This venue was mentioned as an alternative for INBC because it would provide more space. Somewhere on UM Campus?

D. Trips and Events

1. Never-ending need for filling calendar
2. Need for Trips and Leaders
3. Events:
 - a. 60th Anniversary Party/Social- October 3rd, following Cabin Workday
 - b. Glacier Classic wrap-up- only two trips and three attendees
 - c. Hyalite Ice Climbing -Dec 10th - 13th - Missoula TRM passing the torch
 - d. Level One Avy Clinic - Forest will connect with them and find a date- possibly for both a Level One and Level Two this year.

e. Holiday Party - It was decided that we wouldn't have one this year based on COVID situation. In lieu, we will plan a "Winter Fest" (see above)

E. Set Quarterly Meeting dates for Dec. March, May
December 1st, March 2nd, May 4th

Adjourn (8:30pm)