

The Mountain Ear

October 2021

President's Message

Hello Fellow Rocky Mountaineers!

It was so nice to see so many of you at our "Welcome Back Party" a couple weeks ago. We were lucky enough to see many new faces, as well! We have lots of offerings continuing this Fall including TRM trips, monthly presentations, roundtable events, and "Winter Conditioning Wednesday" hikes up Sentinel to name a few. I urge you to check out our event calendar and join us for some of our upcoming events.

Happy Fall!

Elizabeth

October Feature Presentation

This month we FINALLY resume feature presentations- it's been a long time (March 2020 was the last)! Not only that, but we will also be trying out a new location:

Spirit of Peace Community Building- 506 Toole Avenue. This is located on the north side of the downtown area- very close to the pedestrian bridge over the train tracks.

This month October 12:

Long distance hiking in the American West: a presentation by Leland Earls

A discussion about the long-distance trails in the American West. For several years, Leland organized his life around long-distance hikes - dreaming, plotting, and (sometimes) planning the next great walk. Beginning with an ill-fated attempt on the Pacific Crest Trail in 2010 (Chronicled in a humiliating episode of the 'Outside' podcast), he successfully thru-hiked The Pacific Crest Trail, The Continental Divide Trail, The Arizona Trail, and the Florida Trail. From desert floor to deep snow in the high alpine, we'll discuss different techniques of packing, hiking, and planning.

The 'Hike your own hike' mantra is cliché, but the heart of any meaningful adventure. In a world of opinionated outdoor enthusiasts and gearheads, Leland

tries to cut through the rhetoric of the million 'experts,' and approach the heart of the thru-hike - How is thru-hiking different than week-long trips? What gear and planning are essential? What separates an unhappy thru-hiker from an ecstatic one?

Join us to talk about the many aspects of thru-hiking and dirtbagging. Ask, give advice, and start dreaming up your next long trip into the wilderness.

Doors open at **6:00PM**. Open to everyone!

NOTE: You are more than welcome to bring food and beverages (including adult beverages) for this event!

TRM Cabin Workday- October 2

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 Larry Creek Group Camp Shelter. (Bring your own food and drink for this one- and a small grill if desired). 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 9:30am.

Email Forest at: mtnear1@gmail.com

Achievement Awards

At our September Welcome Back Party, we presented certificate of achievement awards to three individuals for completing one of the peak lists on our website. All three were awarded for the MISSOULA HORIZON PEAKS. Congratulations to the following:

Sarah Halvorsen
Mike Young
Bryan Kercher

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! Or you are close? Get after it- next round of awards will be given out next September!

Winter Conditioning Wednesdays

Join us for our weekly climb of Mount Sentinel! Hikes start at 6PM- bring your headlamp, traction crampons and/or poles. Start or continue conditioning for your favorite winter sports & activities or come along just to get some fresh air midweek. All abilities welcome. Meet at 6pm at ASUM Gardens Parking Lot / M Parking Lot (will alternate every week). Leaders alternate each week- see website calendar for more details.

Roundtable Education Event- Backcountry Navigation

Do a search for navigation apps on your phone these days and you will find a multitude of options. How do you know which ones are best for doing the type of backcountry travel that you like to do? Or maybe you are using one and you feel there is a better option out there? Well, we decided to host a roundtable event to try and make sense of the options! Please join us to share with everyone what you use and why AND to learn what others are using and why. Additionally, we will discuss the Garmin Inreach (and other satellite communication devices) and good old-fashioned Map and Compass! Walk in, grab a beer (if desired) and head up to the second floor conference room. Bring your Inreach/Spot if you have one.

Thursday, October 21- 6:30-8:00pm

Contact Forest Dean (mtnear1@gmail.com) for more info

Upcoming Trips and Activities

Workday- TRM Cabin Workday- Sat, Oct 2

Scramble- Hidden Lake Peak (Bitterroots)- Sun, Oct 3

Hike/Scramble- Ch-Paa-Qn (Reservation Divide)- Sat, Oct 9

Alpine Climb- Blackfoot Mtn/Mt. Logan (Glacier)- Fri-Sun, Oct 15-17

Hike- Clearwater Crossing (Great Burn area)- Sun, Oct 17

Roundtable- Backcountry Navigation - Thurs, Oct 21

Scramble- **Peak 8650' (Missions)**- Sat, Oct 23
Hike/Scramble- **Eagle Pass/Post Creek Loop (Missions)**- Sun, Oct 24
Hike/Soak- **Jerry Johnson Hot Springs (Lolo Pass area)**- Sun, Oct 24
Hike/Bike- **Blue Mountain (Blue Mtn Rec Area)**- Sat, Oct 30
Roundtable- **All About Ice Climbing**- Thurs, Nov 18
Ice Climb- **Hyalite Canyon**- Fri-Sun, Nov 26-28
XC Skiing- **Lolo Pass**- Sat, Dec 4

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

www.rockymountaineers.com

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.

<http://rockymountaineers.com/tripreports/>

Club Officers

President- Elizabeth Moore

Vice President- Casey Lammers

Secretary- Tom Statz

Treasurer- Chris Soriano

Website- Alden Wright

Archivist- Julie Kahl

Newsletter- Forest Dean