



Mountain Ear

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS
OF WESTERN MONTANA

MAY 1984
Volume 22, No. 8

MAY MEETING: Wednesday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m.
Montana Power Building, 1903 Russell, Missoula

Paul Oliver will present a program about a family hike taken over the Pacific Crest Trail six years ago. He and his family (including two children, 8 and 9 years old) covered 2400 of the entire 2700 miles of the trail at a rate of approximately 15 miles a day.

The Mountain Ear
P.O. Box 4262
Missoula, MT 59806



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dave Line
1135 Whitaker Drive
Missoula, MT 59803

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New member: Dave Pengelly
339 Mount
Missoula, MT 59801
728-6512

Renewals: Arnold Finklin
Jim Burns
Clint Hansen
Ralph Klawitter (family)

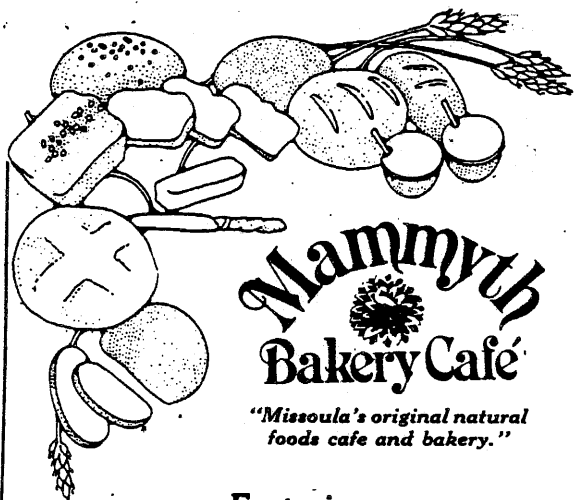
Address change: Dan Weinstein
c/o Spring Creek School
Noxon, MT 59853
827-3833

The above address change is of more than "just-change-the-address-label" importance. If you wonder what Dan is doing in the new location, read the May 6 (Sunday) Missoulian. We understand Dan is teaching survival skills at the school.

Moreover, Dan's address change makes it impossible for him to serve as president of the Rocky Mountaineers, an office to which he was elected at the April meeting, with other officers (per your April newsletter) as follows:

Vice-president - Cindy Anderson (549-2152)
Secretary - Mary Jane Robinson (721-3832)
Treasurer - Arnold Finklin (543-8705)
Social - Mary Ambrose (543-7566)
Mountain Ear: Ethel MacDonald (549-9722) and
Lois Crepeau (728-5321)

Out-going president Ilona Hruska met with Dan, Art Gidel, and some of the other officers, and thanks to Art's willingness to accept the office, the Mountaineers have recovered in good form and are prepared to offer a nomination of Art Gidel as president for the 1984-85 year. Be sure to attend the meeting and exercise your voting privilege!



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Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. evening 'til 8 p.m.
131 West Main
549-5542

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION
FROM
THE BUSH WACKER
HAMILTON, MONTANA

Tall pink spires
of blooms
grow in dense
patches turning
hills aflame in
FIREWEED



HOODOO PASS - April 21-22

Beverly Chin, Art Gidel, Dan Weinstein, and Wayne Hecker left Missoula at 8 a.m. Saturday and arrived at the Heart Lake Trailhead at 10 a.m. for the ski trip to Hoodoo Pass, about 25 miles south of Superior, Montana on the Idaho-Montana border.

The road to the pass from Superior is graveled and was in good shape except that it was in the process of being plowed. We were able to drive to the Heart Lake trailhead but had some difficulty with the last mile due to snow and ice.

We left the trailhead at 10 a.m. and skied up the trail on the left side of the creek. We crossed several tributary streams on snowbridges. The trail to the lake is 3 miles and there is some difficulty in following it in the winter as it is not well marked.

We arrived at Heart Lake at noon and set up camp at the outlet of the lake and ate lunch. We watched several snowslides come down off the rock wall at the head of the lake. The day was quite warm and the top four inches of snow were very soft. Snow depth at the lake was about six feet.

After lunch we skied up to Pearl Lake and then above it to the top of the ridge that separates Montana and Idaho. The view from there was excellent. We didn't stay on the ridge as long as we wanted to as there were some clouds and snow moving in from the west. We skied back down the same way we went up and had some excellent tele-marking in the soft snow. Almost the whole ridge had a gigantic cornice so we were only able to get on and off it from the one route.

Back at camp we ate dinner and went for another short tour before dark. It started raining after dark and turned to snow by morning. We awoke to a spring blizzard which became intermittent with periods of sun the rest of the morning. We were surprised the tent stood, considering the strong gusts of wind during the night.

After breakfast we went for a short tour and got in some good turns. We then broke camp and had an excellent run back to the car which took about one hour.

Skiing at Hoodoo Pass should be good for at least another month.

--Wayne Hecker



Lloyd's

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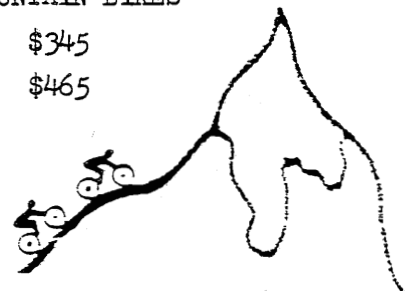
2100 South Ave. W.
Missoula, Montana 59801

Sam, Shiri, Bart & Dait Braxton
Phone (406) 549-2513

NOW IN STOCK: MOUNTAIN BIKES

BIGFOOT Model \$345

SASQUATCH Model \$465



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TRIP REPORTS (Cont.)

TRAPPER PEAK - April 28

Bill Morgan, Cindy Anderson, Wayne Hecker, Art Gidel, Dave Pengelly, and Bill Thomas began hiking at 7 a.m. from the 5,500 foot level on the Trapper Peak road. Although sufficient snow for skiing was available above the trailhead, most members of the group hiked on the firm snow to about 8,500 feet. Even with no-wax skis, ropes or climbing skins were essential due to the icy conditions.

After eating lunch at the saddle just below the summit, we skied to the highest point in the Bitterroots, 10,157 feet. The weather was unsettled, but cleared partially several times to allow a fairly good view of the surrounding peaks.

We started down about noon on exciting snow and ice, yielding to sun-softened snow farther down. We arrived back at the car at about 3:30 p.m. An excellent trip!

--Art Gidel

MAY-JUNE TRIP SCHEDULE

- May 13 - Sunday - St. Mary's Peak in the Bitterroots. This 9,300-foot peak is a good spring trip. The trailhead is at 7,000 feet. Call Bill Morgan at (1)-363-5339 if interested.
- June 10 - Saturday - Bear Lake. A moderate, 16-mile, 2,000-ft. elev. gain hike. Call Charles Hamma, 549-0463.
- June 17 - Saturday - Bear Creek Overlook. An easy 6-mile, 800-ft. elev. gain hike. Call Charles Hamma, 549-0463.
- June-23-24 - Curly Lake. An overnight hike into a beautiful area from which Saturday-Sunday we can climb to Lonesome Bachelor or El Capitan. Call Wayne Hecker, 251-4853.
- July 1 - Sunday - Burnt Fork Lake east of Corvallis. Meet at K-Mart parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Call Nancy Schrader at 728-3334.

Note: We can add to this schedule. The new officers decided to publish the Mountain Ear during June and July (and possibly August) rather than try to get people to commit themselves to leading hikes so far ahead. The May calendar is pretty skimpy since hiking/skiing can both be questionable. If you have some ideas for either hiking or skiing trips in May, we can always run an announcement in the Around Missoula column in the newspaper. Call Cindy Anderson, 549-2152.

Also, I (Ethel, 549-9722) am interested in taking a hike into Blodgett Canyon in June. June 3 is one possibility, but it may be too early. June 30 is another possibility. Please call me if interested.

Charles Hamma generously prepared a list of good summer hikes which you potential leaders might consult and consider leading this summer. (Thanks, Charles!)

Join the ROCKY MOUNTAINEERS at any time: Dues \$5.00 per person, \$7.00 family. Mail to Arnold Finklin, Treasurer, Box 4262, Missoula, 59806. Renewal notices are included with each Mountain Ear; members are dropped from the mailing list after two notices.

To insert material in the Mountain Ear, call Ethel at 549-9722 or mail material to Ethel MacDonald, 316 West Central, Missoula 59801. Thanks, Art and Wayne, for your trip reports!

AT TIMES ONE CANNOT THINK OF A PLACE TO LEAD A HIKE SO I HAVE LISTED A FEW SUGGESTIONS OR REMINDERS WHICH MAY HELP. THESE HIKES HAVE BEEN DONE BEFORE. SOME HAVE BEEN DONE MANY TIMES, BUT TRAVELING OLD TRAILS CAN STILL BE VERY PLEASANT.

ONE DAY HIKES	RD. TRIP	EL. GAIN	QUALITY
BEAR LAKE	16 MI.	2,000'	MODERATE
BEAR CREEK OVERLOOK	6	800	EASY
BOULDER PEAK	12	3,000	STRENUOUS
BRYAN LAKE	23	3,600	MOD-STREN
COQUINA LAKE	10	2,500	EASY - SIDE TRIP
GASH POINT	9	3,700	MOD-STREN
GLEN LAKE	7	1,000	EASY
HOLLAND PEAK - BLACKFOOT	11	5,000	STREN
LAPPI LAKE	4	3,200	MOD-STREN
LOLO PEAK	9	3,300	MOD-STREN
MOSQUITO PK. - RATTLESNAKE	26	5,650	STREN
PYRAMID PK. - BLACKFOOT	8		
SQUAW PEAK - WEST OF MSLA	7	1,500	EASY
ST. MARY PEAK	7	2,500	MOD.
STUART PK. - RATTLESNAKE	19	4,400	MOD-STREN
SWEENEY PEAK	10	3,300	MOD.
TRAPPER PEAK	9	3,800	MOD-STREN
TURQUOISE LAKE - MISSIONS	12	2,200	MOD
WARREN PASS - PINTLARS	12		MOD

2 DAY HIKES

BRYAN LAKE, SKY PILOT PK.	27	4,800	MOD.
GREY WOLF LAKE - MISSIONS	14-20	2,250	MOD
HEART LAKE - BLACKFOOT	12	1,200	MOD - SIDE TRIP RED MTN.
HEMLOCK LAKES - MISSIONS	16		EASY
N. FORK CABIN - BLACKFOOT	14	1,000	EASY - SIDE TRIP
WARREN PEAK - PINTLARS	16	4,500	MOD-STREN

3 DAY HIKES

EL CAPITAN	28	5,600	MOD-STREN
BIG CREEK, S. FORK LAKE	30	4,800	MOD-STREN

⊕ SKY PILOT PEAK

ALL HIKES ARE IN THE BITTERROOT WILDERNESS EXCEPT AS NOTED.

E. G. HAMMA

SUMMER HIKES