

Mountaineers' News



May 2010

May 12th, 2010 - 7:00 PM at the Central Oregon Environmental Center (Lava & Kansas).

Guest Speaker: Marv Lang, the Wilderness & Trails Coordinator for the Deschutes National Forest will be giving a brief talk on management of alpine environments.

Member story sharing and members slide show: Bring a short story to share of a humorous or memorable event that you can relate to all of us. If you would be willing to share your pictures, bring them on a flash drive or CD. Please contact Steve Huffman at wildlife88@gmail.com or 541-728-8567.

Knots practice II: With the balance of the evening, we will be reviewing the knots we learned in February. Bring a short section (or your whole rope) for practicing good basic knots such as the double fisherman's, butterfly, and the Munter hitch that you learned and practiced at the February meeting. Can you now tie them blindfolded?



Upcoming Meetings:

- June 9th, 2010 - [Summer Picnic & Toprope Mini-Outing \(member-only event\)](#). - from 4:30pm to 9pm at the Meadow Picnic Area (near Bend) This member-only meeting/program event is to work up an appetite top roping together, followed by a get-to-know-each-other-better picnic/social at ~ 7pm.

Upcoming Climb Schedule - if you are interested, please email the appropriate person. Note: you must be a member to participate on club climbs.

Possible outings in the works:

- Class & climb of Mt. Hood May 15th & 16th with TMG – see the website for details
- Mt. Jefferson in July - contact Rod Jacobson if interested rodj@bendbroadband.com
- Mt. Adams – South Spur Route in June - contact Rod Jacobson if interested rodj@bendbroadband.com
- Whitney in August - contact Rod Jacobson if interested

Notes:

- *We are still looking for an additional board member - if you are interested, please contact Rod Jacobson at rodj@bendbroadband.com*
 - *There is a Mountaineering II class coming up next fall at COCC. If you are interested, you need to get signed up now to ensure you get into the class and the class has enough interest to stay on the schedule.*
 - **18th Annual "Spring Thing". Saturday, May 8th, 2010** - Registration is from 8-10 AM by the main fee station at Smith Rock State Park.
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Trip Report:

Crater Lake Circumnavigation Trip Report

Submitted by: Dave Slavensky

4/26/2010

This was our second attempt to make this trip – the first time we arrived to the park entrance and found 18" of fresh snow! We decided that with only two people, breaking trail would slow us down too much to make the trip in the three days planned.

Mike Caccavano, Robert Savarese and I left Bend around 6:30 am on Friday morning, 4/16/10 and headed down to Crater Lake. We arrived about 9:30 at the visitor center where you have to check in and get a backcountry permit. The permits are free, but you have to review your plans with them prior to heading out. We ran into several other groups getting permits and heading out right behind us.

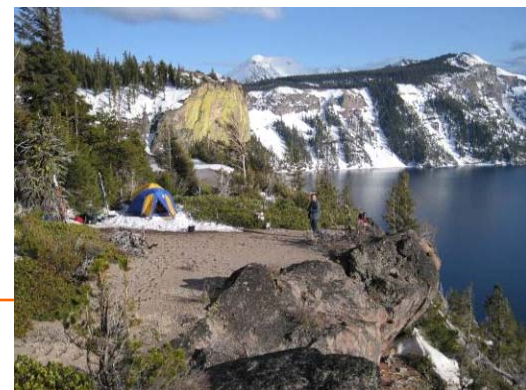
We got our permit and headed up to the parking area on the rim. We chose to do the route in the clockwise fashion and end up back at the visitor center. This saves about 700 feet of climbing back up to the rim – we planned to catch a ride at the end of the trip.

The weather was perfect in that we had low wind, few clouds and firm snow. As the day went along, it became quite warm and soon the snow was more like mashed potatoes. We were caught by a couple of German guys just before we stopped for lunch on the edge of the crater. After lunch we continued on the trail and could see that someone was ahead of us due to the fresh tracks. Soon, we passed where they had camped the night before.

We made 13 miles before deciding to stop for the evening. The camp was in the Rount Top area and we found a perch on the edge of the crater with fantastic views! There was even some dry ground and dead limbs for a campfire. We set up the tent and proceeded to re-hydrate and chow down. We watched the sun set over the rim and a beautiful crescent of a moon rise in the sky.

The next morning, the fire was still warm and we threw some limbs on it to warm up our boots and hands. We broke camp after breakfast and hit the trail. We started off having to walk across some dry areas that had been wind scoured – amazing what the wind can do. There were also many 10' tall ridges we crossed that were formed by the wind.

We worked our way uphill for about 5 miles until a short run down to Cloudcap overlook area. The weather continued to be perfect with light winds and firm snow. We stopped for lunch and discussed how far we wanted to go today. We had passed on skier the day before going the opposite direction as us and he recommended taking the Dutton Cliff bypass. Since the snow was soft, we decided to shoot for getting to the other side of Dutton Cliffs before the end of the day.



So off we went and up and over another ridge and down to Kerr Notch. We stopped for a break and as we did, we ran into another group of skiers. There were four of them and they were out of Santa Cruz on their third trip around the crater. They had left on Thursday and they had left the tracks we had been following.

After a short break and great views of Phantom Ship, we hit the trail to cross the avalanche path at Dutton Cliffs. You could see where there were recent slides that had covered up the tracks from the day before. But they were all pretty thin and we decided to go for it. We all crossed safely and once across, we all realized how much adrenaline was flowing as we were all sweating!

After a short uphill, we had a smooth ride down to Sun Notch where we planned to spend the night. We did about another 12 miles today and it seem much easier than the day before. We found another great campsite on the edge of the crater with great views of Wizard Island and just above Phantom Ship. We once again, hydrated and set up camp. There was plenty of time for shooting photos, drying laundry and cooking up a great dinner.

We woke up to another fine day of sunshine. After fixing breakfast, we broke camp and prepared for the last day on the trail. We had a short uphill and then a fast ride downhill to the visitor center. The last day was about 5 miles and we were finished by 10:00 for a total of 30 miles. As we walked up to the visitor center, Dave was able to catch a ride to the rim to pick up the car. When we turned in our permit, we asked about the two Germans as we never saw them again. One of them fell and ended up with internal injuries and ended up driving to the hospital. We were all back in Bend by 2:00 with plenty of time to unpack and enjoy the rest of the day.



The Cascades Mountaineers is a Central Oregon mountaineering club that sponsors outings and informational programs throughout the year. Our activities range from alpine ascents and winter mountaineering to rock climbing.

Cascades Mountaineers is pleased to invite all those who might be interested to attend their open meeting and monthly program at the Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas Street in Bend. Meetings are generally held the second Wednesday of each month. After informal socializing that begins around 6:45 pm, the meetings start at 7:00 pm, and are usually over by 9:00 pm, allowing time for questions, socializing and the planning of new adventures.
info@cascadesmountaineers.org

Board Members:

Rod Jacobson, President
 Mike Casey, Vice President/Treasurer
 Chris Rhoads, Secretary
 Liam Myers, Membership
 Steve Huffman, Programs
 Paul McClellan, Website
www.cascadesmountaineers.org

Tech Tips: What do you have in that pack?

Have you ever been on a climbing trip with a group of people and everyone is stretched to the limit? Often times on trips, we are all working hard just to keep up and don't have a lot of reserve. Let's say, you arrive at where you are planning to camp for the night and your climbing partners start unloading their packs and you watch in awe as someone pulls out a 12" steel frying pan, some cheese and a steak; or maybe it is an extra sleeping mat and three times more clothes than one could wear.

It may also be that there are three GPS units, each of you has extra stove fuel and everyone is carrying a rack of nuts. At first you may think - wow, that person is strong. Then you mind starts to wonder - if we did not have so many duplicate items, could we move faster? Does that person have enough reserve in case we really get in a pinch?

When one person (or several) carry more than they should, this risks the entire group. This can slow you all down or one person may not be strong enough to keep going. It could put you in the danger zone much longer than needed.

So, how to deal with this?

- Start with a clear gear list before the trip and get clear on who is carrying what.
- Before the trip, review each persons gear to make sure there are no duplicates (or you are missing that critical piece of gear). Pare it down to what is needed and not too much more
- Weigh your packs to make sure the weight is shared evenly.
- Talk about the pace that you are planning. (1500 ft/hour of gain; 3 miles/hour of trail, etc)
- Talk about the risks of carrying too much stuff.

It is nice to be really comfortable and safe by carrying more than you need. But at the same time, you don't want to carry more than is needed and unduly risk the entire team.

Quote of the month:

"If in normal conditions it is skill, which counts, in such extreme situations, it is the spirit, which saves." Walter Bonatti

