

December 20, 2008

Five Swan Rangers skied and snowshoed in "minus 5" Saturday, a beautifully crisp, clear, sunny day. They skied the wonderful hemlock forests of Krause Basin and came upon wolverine tracks made earlier that morning!

It is definitely a winter wonderland out there and "sun dogs" graced the clear blue sky, as if to place the Winter Solstice sun in quotation marks! Enjoy the shortest day of the year tomorrow!

As a token of appreciation for the fuel these Swan Rangers saved by car pooling and choosing non-motorized recreation, Swan View Coalition is donating \$20 to Energy Share Montana to help folks with fixed or low incomes heat their homes - something we hope to repeat each Saturday throughout the winter.

The Swan Rangers meet every Saturday at the Echo Lake Cafe for breakfast at 8:30, leaving at 9:30 for a partial day outing in the northern Swan Mountains and foothills.

They carpool from the Swan River School parking lot next to the Cafe.

Everyone is welcome!

Happy Solstice and Merry Christmas!

Hope to see you soon,



Keith

Keith Hammer photos on following pages:



A sunny Swan Range beckons as Rangers ski and snowshoe the gentle approach.



Minus 5 is well worth it when it brings out the sunshine and the sunglasses!



Snow-cloaked hemlocks back-lit by a Winter Solstice Sun.



Mountain ash berries in winter storage, waiting for a flock of cedar waxwings!