

January 31, 2009

Ten Swan Rangers skied and snowshoed a loop up the old Krause Basin Road and down Peters Ridge Road Saturday, under partly sunny skies and with blustery winds at times. The several inches of snow from earlier in the week remained soft in all but the sunniest of spots.

While just the last day of January, there are already hints of late-winter and spring in the woods. Snow bridges across the creeks are collapsing as more open water appears and the trees are at least temporarily free of snow. February can often be our month of the most snowfall, however, so be prepared for more winter!

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!

Hope to see you soon,



Keith

Keith Hammer photos on following page:



Skis or snowshoes? Take your pick!



The old road climbing toward Peters Ridge, up the North Fork of Krause Creek.



Several stops along the Peters Ridge Road offer great views of Flathead Lake and down the Swan Valley!



Sun and gusty winds light up spindrift on Broken Leg Mountain!