

September 10, 2011

Twelve Swan Rangers hiked a loop up Peters Ridge, south on historic Alpine Trail #7, and down Strawberry Lake Trail Saturday. It was a sunny day and there were thimbleberries, a few huckleberries, and lots of ripe elderberries (pucker up!) to be had!

Though the sky was smoky, it was still possible to see into Glacier National Park and across the Salish Range, though not as far as the Cabinet Mountains that can be seen on a clear day. The wildflowers are still fresh along Alpine 7, where snow has just recently melted and bees of many varieties are hard at work!

The Swan Rangers meet every Saturday at the Echo Lake Cafe for **breakfast at 7:30, leaving at 8:30** 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.

When hiking in bear country, remember to carry bear spray and avoid the 3-D's: dawn, dusk, and darkness.

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



All smiles atop the Swan Crest!



A lightning struck tree with flamed-out top on the Swan Crest!



A bee visits blossoms of common groundsel along Alpine 7.



A motorcycle visits bear scat on Alpine 7.



Snow and avalanche debris in upper Krause Basin and a hazy view of Flathead Valley.



Talk about carpooling!