

November 5, 2011

Nine Swan Rangers saw the sun Nine times for Nine seconds as they hiked up Mt. Aeneas on the Switchback Trail Saturday! They turned around at the microwave shack on the ridge after taking in a good dose of invigorating fog and cloud!

The wonderful snowy day brought out our fair-weather friends and it was nice to be reminded of the quiet white of winter! The snow is about 3" deep and, from Alpine 7 Trail on up, on a slippery layer of ice! One of the nine Rangers thought to bring his ice cleats (it wasn't me) and a few left sitzmarks on the way down!

NEXT SATURDAY MARKS THE 6TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SWAN RANGER OUTING ON NOV 12, 2005, and will be the 311th outing!

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.

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

Everyone is welcome!



Keith

PS - Big game rifle season is Oct 22 - Nov 27, so it's a good idea to wear bright orange while hiking out there!

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer:



Switchback #70-something of 79 switchbacks.



An untracked and quiet Alpine Trail #7.



A quick snack at Malfunction Junction, where Switchback Trail meets with Alpine #7, Mt. Aeneas Trail, and the dozer track to the microwave station.



Still trying to think of a word that rhymes with rime!



Low-flying witch that didn't quite clear Mt. Aeneas on Halloween!



A magical view of Mud Lake on the hike back down!