

March 24, 2012

Fourteen Swan Rangers had a go at Infinity Ridge Saturday, though it was wholly hidden in clouds. It was a lesson in faith as folks turned around at various spots, with the Faithful Five making it through the top of the cloud ceiling to bask in the sun and admire the Swan Crest!

Though they didn't quite get to the peak of Infinity Ridge, they did make it to the last false summit (Infinity Ridge takes its name from its long series of false summits) before heading back down into the clouds! There were tracks galore of snowshoe hare and the Rangers also crossed tracks of pine marten higher up!

It was the usual slushy slog back down 2.5 miles of Strawberry Lake Road, but any day spent climbing through the wonderful fir and hemlock forests on the shoulders of Infinity Ridge is a good day - a sure, steep cure for flat-lander cabin fever!

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!



Keith

Photos on following pages by Keith Hammer, Bob Muth and Kevin Feist:



Infinity Ridge hidden in clouds from Strawberry Lake Road . . .



. . . but a hearty crew is willing to head uphill anyway!



The trees get thinner and the fog gets thicker, until . . .



. . . the Faithful Five break through the clouds as they gain the main ridge!



Guess this was worth the climb after all!



The Swan Crest above the clouds, with Mt. Aeneas at distant right!