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Trip Report

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Croteau Lake (snowshoeing) [return to Reports list](#)

Wed Dec 30, 2015

 Leader: **Tim Penney**

 Co-Leader: **Susan Osso**

Nine of us met at Harmston Avenue for a 9:00AM start with one person from the signup list MIA.

We had a slow drive up to the Raven Lodge stuck behind a line of traffic stuck behind a Mount Washington bus. Eventually, though, we did arrive and found a good parking spot quite near our snowshoe trailhead. There were lots of vehicles already in the parking area indicating that they were in for a busy day on the nordic trails.

The temperature at the Raven Lodge was -5, just about the same as it was at Harmston Avenue. It was even colder as we dropped down into the meadows. We followed a good, but rather convoluted trail across the meadows to the start of the climb up to Battleship Lake. We stopped at the North end of the lake for a quick tea break in the brilliant sunshine. Some mist still prevailing across the lake added to the scenery. Progressing further across the lake was actually rather disappointing because of some ignorant and inconsiderate snowmobilers who had basically covered the lake with their ugly tracks. Fortunately they hadn't continued on to Lady or Croteau Lakes, but the tracks on Battleship Lake will remain a scar on the beautiful landscape until several cm of fresh snow has them covered.

At the saddle above Battleship and Lady lakes we had to start breaking our own trail all the way to Croteau. Several of us shared in the fun gaining a bonus of more exercise as we worked our way to our destination. Rather than continuing on to one of the higher viewpoints we decided to stop for lunch at the north end of the lake. We stopped for about 30 minutes for lunch in the cold and sunny conditions before starting back to the lodge. After an easy trip back we all stopped in at the Raven for hot drinks before making our way back to town.

This was another excellent snowshoe trek with a great bunch of experienced snowshoers who were a pleasure to be stomping the snow with. I think that we all really enjoyed the deep snow, especially when compared to the previous two winters.



Approaching Battleship Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



Snowmobile tracks across Battleship Lake

[Tim Penney photo]



Lunch group at Croteau Lake
[Tim Penney photo]



*Looking down to Lady Lake on
the way home*
[Tim Penney photo]



*Snowmobile tracks covering the
south end of Battleship Lake*
[Tim Penney photo]



Winter Wonderland
[Susan Osso photo]



Snow Fiddleheads
[Susan Osso photo]



Cunning Little Fellow
[Susan Osso photo]





Castlecrag in the Distance
[Susan Osso photo]

Smiles Abound
[Susan Osso photo]

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