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Moonlight Snowshoe - Battleship Lake (snowshoeing) Sat Dec 29, 2012 Leader: Carol Hunter Co-Leader: Bob St.John

In a reversal of the order with which trips typically progress we began our evening with dinner at the Atlas. Fourteen club members squeezed around our table for 10 and our evening began in good spirits; people keeping their faith that the moon would make an appearance later in the evening, undeterred by earlier reports of flurries on the mountain.

We rose above the clouds as we drove up the mountain, with only a thin shroud of fog shimmering in the lights of the ski hill remaining once we reached the top. There we met one more member, who having put in a full day of work on the mountain, had patiently waited while we were feasting and carousing in town, for us to make an appearance so she could join us on our foray into the dark.

The magic of night captivated us immediately as we crossed the meadows, with snow draped trees and certain silver mittens glowing in the reflected lights of the mountain. The trail through the trees was somewhat darker, and although headlamps were used by many to help navigate the way, the surrounding landscape was still remarkably visible.

All this time the moon was slowly rising from behind the mountain and by the time we reached Battleship Lake it hung like a well placed lantern draped with a veil of mist, giving everything an ethereal quality.

With all headlamps turned off we made our way down the moonlit lake. All too soon it was time to head back, but the light cloud was dissipating and we were treated to a sky full of stars and moonlight on trees, the brightness of which can only be matched by the rising sun.

Although most made the return trip without headlamps, making it harder to keep track of each other as at the group became strung out, with people getting lost in the magic of the moment and making futile attempts to take pictures of the amazing sights, we all made it safely back to our vehicles and with a stop at Tim Hortons for hot chocolate, the evening was over.

Tim's comment:

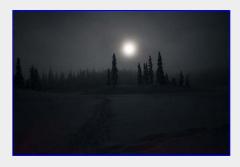
I didn't take a tripod so most of my shots were taken at f2.8 and 6400 ISO with a shutter speed of about 1/6 second



Group shot at the Raven Lodge parking area at the start of our trek [Tim Penney photo]



Still in the meadows [Tim Penney photo]



Foggy moonlight on Battleship Lake [Tim Penney photo]



Lights on the lake [Tim Penney photo]



Heading through the meadows -Lots of light from the ski hill [Tim Penney photo]



Headlight illumination on the trail above the meadows [Tim Penney photo]



The moon was still diffused behind a veil of fog [Tim Penney photo]



Just above the meadows and looking at the ski hill [Tim Penney photo]



Moonlight and stars as we head back to the Raven Lodge [Tim Penney photo]



Light from the ski hill illuminating the trees [Tim Penney photo]

Report contributors: Carol H, Tim P, Bob S,

**Participant list (15 of 15):** Denise A, Sharon B, Geoff B, Sandra C, Carol H, rosilyn k, Glenn O, Sheila O, Harold O, Judy O, Tim P, Bob S, Juanita W, Julianna W, Glenny W,

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