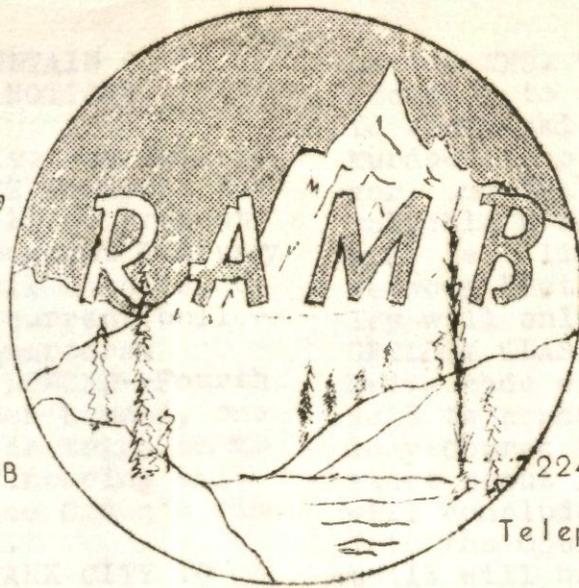


# THE RAMBLER

1940 SPRING ISSUE

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB  
of  
Salt Lake City, Utah



CLUB HEADQUARTERS:

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## PREXY'S PRE-RAMBLE

By Bill Kamp

It would be rather undignified to begin this publication with a few Yippees! Eureka! Jerichos! & other expressions of joy and exhalation; but those expressions would fit the picture much better than a lot of words. The causes for this exuberance are the wonderful times we are having on all of the Club Trips this ski season.

A happy, friendly atmosphere prevails from the time the roomy busses leave the depot until they arrive at their destination. The only things which suffer are the songs that are "moldered" by the Mountaineers, who like to make up in volume what they lack in tone quality. It is so much fun to sing on those busses that even the drivers chime in.

In behalf of the Club, I wish to welcome all of those swell people who have joined the Organization this season. I sincerely hope that they enjoy our company as much as we enjoy theirs.

Some of you may wonder why we haven't used the Lodge more often this season. There are several reasons. The gang, right now, is more interested in learning how to ski than in loafing at the Lodge. Some of our skiers like to ski in Alta; and it is only fair to them that we do run a trip to Alta once in a while to give them a chance at skiing there. If we ran a trip to Brighton every weekend, we pro-

bably split up the crowd; which is not desirable on account of everything in general and ski instructions in particular. Our ski instructions are helping very much to make skiers out of the Club members. Let's keep having these enjoyable times. Let's keep the Club going "forward and upward" the way we have been this year and every year.

## NATIONAL SKI PATROL WEEK

By George Van House

February 19-24 is National Ski Patrol week. Every Mountain Club member should be proud to wear the button, indicating his support of ski safety work. The Ski Patrol is still new; and many skiers are probably unfamiliar with its purposes and its work. The Ski Patrolman is not a policeman. He is a little better than average skier, who has volunteered to aid in working for safety and to assist injured skiers. He has given much time to the study of First Aid and stands ready to give his skiing time to assist you in case of accident.

Of your donations, 70% goes to the Salt Lake Ski Patrol, and will be used for furtherance of safety and First Aid in Salt Lake. And the other 30% goes to the National Ski Patrol.

The WMC, always among the first to assist in any project benefiting the average skier, is better represented in the Salt Lake Ski Patrol than any other Club.

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB  
OFFICIAL NOTICES

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This is a tentative schedule of trips from Feb. 22 to April 7. The Instructor will be present on all trips throughout February and March. For full details, be sure to read the current bulletin at Club Headquarters.

FEBRUARY 22--BEN LOMOND--Fourth annual jaunt to Ben Lomond, one of the most popular trips on the Club's ski-mountaineering calendar. Come and see Ogden's fine winter wonderland.

FEBRUARY 24-25--PARK CITY TO BRIGHTON--Traditional winter entry into Brighton via Scott's Pass. The full moon should be shining. If you are unable to go Saturday, take the bus to Brighton Sunday morning.

MARCH 3--ALTA--By this time, you should all be able to ride the big lift and come down--on your skis. Falls don't count against you this time.

MARCH 10--BRIGHTON--Langlauf Race and Ski Carnival. State & Intermountain Ski Races will be held, together with Open House at the WMC Lodge. The races are open to everyone; but the Parry Trophy will be awarded to the Mountain Club man who is first to finish. Awards will be given to all first, second, and third place winners.

MARCH 17--BRIGHTON TO ALTA--This should be a comparatively easy trip and well worth the effort. Those not wishing to ski over the pass can go to Alta in the bus and meet those who do make the trip over the pass. The bus will stay in Brighton until about 3:00 P.M., making it possible to ski in both canyons without going over the pass.

MARCH 24--RED PINE TO ALPINE--- Entirely new ski country to most of us; but something we certainly should not miss. Bus will stay in Little Cottonwood until 2:00.

MARCH 31--ALTA--If the F.I.S. race is run on this day, the cooperation of the Club will be given.

APRIL 7--BRIGHTON--Downhill and Slalom Races for Men and Women

in the WMC. The purpose of these races is to classify members as to their skiing ability. Stanley Murdock, Captain George M. Ottlinger, and "Pa" Parry have donated valuable prizes. Novelty races as well as a little Kandahar contest between "Pete" and Francis Bromley will enliven the day.

GEOLOGY CLASSES--Arrangements are being made with Dr. Ray E. Marsell to conduct a six-weeks Geology Course for WMC members, to start about April 1. The course will conclude with a field trip into the Oquirrh Range. Full details will be given later.

YOUR STATION IS WMC  
AND--

Realizing that our biggest need right now is a Ski Song of our very own, the Publications department announces a contest, open to all WMC Members, to encourage the writing of such a song. A valuable prize will be awarded to the person who submits the song judged to be the best. The contest ends April 6, 1940; and the song will be introduced at the Lodge as a feature of our Open House program on April 7. Do not send stamps, coins, box tops labels, or reasonable facsimiles thereof. Originality and "Singability" of the song will be determining factors.

Send all entries to Club Headquarters. The decision of the judges will be final. No entries will be returned; and they all become the property of the Wasatch Mountain Club.

LISTEN IN

Jacke Wolfe's "Ski News and Views," on KUTA every Thursday at 7:15 PM is a radio program that is tailor-made for us. Bunty Fabian gives ski news, snow depths, road conditions, skiing gossip. Also some prominent Salt Laker, active in the world of snow and ice, is interviewed each week. Make it a habit to turn your radio dial to KUTA each Thursday evening at 7:15.

## NEW MEMBERS

In anticipation of a great deal of mutual pleasure and benefit, the Club welcomes the following new members:

Joy Biggs	Elsie Traeger
James Cottrell	Mildred Wood
Klea Christensen	Ray G Willie
Gwen Christensen	Renee Henderson
Bob Cunningham	Wenonah McGhan
Lawrence Davenport	Mildred Meyer
Woodrow Dutcher	Dorothea Lee
Vern Lee Davis	John D Hanson
Elaine J. Davis	Dorothy Davies
Irene Guerts	Evelyn Millard
Seldon Heidel	Stanley A Murdock
John Robertson	Donald M Jensen
Jo Ann Ross	Marjorie Taylor
Susie Stringham	
Dr. B L Sampson	

## RESIGNS

It was with regret that the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Fern Jorgensen as Secretary of the Club, a position which she has filled efficiently for several years. Helen Miller, former Membership Director, is her successor.

## A PLUG FOR SALT LAKE SKIING

Don Brooks, the Tribune scribe, deserves a pat on the back for his work in the interest of Salt Lake skiing. Though Don frankly admits preference for the fireside type of skiing himself, (and he's always welcome around our Lodge fireplace), his "Around The Fireplace" column, and other features are important aids to the ski sport here.

We especially liked his appeal to boost all Salt Lake skiing, rather than just Brighton or just Alta. His support of safe skiing practices, and also his support of the Ski Patrol is going to be helpful in promoting safer skiing.

Loretta Bartlett's letter (reprinted in Don's column), condem-

ing "chussbooming" through crowded slopes where classes are in session, deserves favorable comment.

## NEVER BE LATE!

It's up to Club members, individually and collectively, whether or not we'll ever be punctual in leaving on trips. The Leader can't start a trip on time alone. It takes the cooperation of everyone. Merely "griping" about "Why don't we leave on time?" will not solve the problem. Let's all be five minutes early and we can all leave on time. Some of those people who find it so hard to get up in time Sunday morning to dash out to the corner and meet the bus could profit by the example Julia Mikals sets. Every Sunday, she walks all the way down to the bus depot from 11th Avenue--and she is never late.

## MORE PHILIPPINE TREASURES

Many people have admired the fine collection of cones placed above the Lodge fireplace by Frank Duncan, WMC pioneer.

Latest addition to the decorations for the Lodge is an Igorot pipe sent us by Edythe Iverson from the Philippine Islands. It's a fascinating thing made of brass with a stem about six inches long and a bowl fashioned in the shape of a human head, complete even to earrings, which are Job's Tears.

We are more than slightly hesitant to take it to the Lodge until the current fad for gadget jewelry has passed, lest some chic Club girl decide it would be just the thing to complement her Spring outfit. We do appreciate your remembering us, Bennie, and assure you that we will be glad to see you and Hank if you ever get back to civilization.

Incidentally, if any of you philatelists want some Philippine stamps, get in touch with Barty, Edythe Iverson has sent quite a number of them for anyone in the Club.

PICTURES--  
FUTURE RECORDS OF 1940 FUN

TELL-EMARKS  
By George Van House

HELP! HELP! Isn't anyone going to bring the ol' camera on trips this year--and take pictures? The good pictures you get of your fun with the Wasatch Mountain Club are going to make beautiful additions to your album. We would like to have copies of them to place in the 1940 Club Album.

If you have any good pictures of Club activities, George Van House would appreciate use of the negatives for the Mountain Club Album, which will be placed in the Lodge soon.

COOPERATION--THE POSITIVE  
ATTITUDE

The Wasatch Mountain Club has such a variety of activities and interests that any normal person should profit by belonging to it. This great variety of interests is probably the main reason why it is so hard to get a greater co-operative spirit within the organization. Some of us are chiefly interested in skiing, some in hiking, others in social activities and contacts, and some enjoy mostly leisure at the Lodge. The limited time available to most of us prevents extensive participation in all of the activities, were we versatile enough to do so.

Let's go ahead as we have been doing with a diversified schedule to interest all; but let's all try to create more interest in each event whether it be our specialty or not. We can talk about a trip or party, encourage other people to be interested, even though we are unable to go. We can do everything to help the Board put over its program, and offer no criticism unaccompanied by some helpful action or suggestion.

Let's all do our part or more  
More than we have heretofore

Let's all co-operate

Be it ski trip, hike, or fete

Split in factions, we shall fall  
But united, conquer all.

Maybe there's something to the old Leap Year business. Dan Cupid still seems to get around despite his lack of proper ski clothing, what with all the marriages and engagements of late. Chief victim of his darts is President Bill Kamp, no less, whose engagement to Cleo Conover was recently announced. Leone "Susie" Chambers and Bob Bonar will walk that "last mile" to the Altar on March 6. Harry and Alta Duerkop, Pete and Edith Pinky Peterson and Emer and Ila Nelson were all in double harness long before 1940 arrived. We know of at least four other engagements still in the "dark secret" stage.

John Hanson, late of New York, seems to like our Western Skiing. And Western women too, eh John? Mary Bennett is a real Westerner from Oakland, California.

Our Gobe-trotting Lodge man, E. N. Ebbe, has remained within the borders of the good old U.S.A. this winter and is now in Las Vegas Nevada. He writes interestingly of hikes and meetings with the Sierra Club in Los Angeles:

"The regular Friday night dinners of the Club are a fine social get-together idea. Here pictures are shown and scheduled events discussed." He made a moonlight hike with the club, back of Hollywood & took movies of the Sierra Madre hike to bring back so that we can see what the Sierra Club does on such occasions.

The Las Vegas ski country hasn't much snow, so Mr. Ebbe is trying to get some Las Vegas ski Club members to come up here for a week end at Brighton.

If there's a real Ski Mountaineer in the Club this year, it's Lloyd White. He's the genial, blond boy who has been living in Brighton since Christmas, coming downtown only occasionally for supplies. He is operating the machinery at the top of the ski tow. It is he we have to thank for a warm Lodge, on Sundays.

OUT OF THE SNOWDRIFTS COME THE  
FOLLOWING BITS--

We believe Eleanor "Pinky" Lindsay must certainly have been the first skier to appear on the slope in shorts this year. Some of our newest skiers, who have had little experience with the mountains' "summer sun" were more than a little surprised.

With a great deal of satisfaction, we announce the capitulation of Bill Bancroft. To what? Skiing of course. Now all we have to do is convert Harry Fardellos, who is our most active non-ski enthusiast.

When a man bites a dog, it is no more unusual than to find Janet Christensen and Grace Peterson separated. It happened several Sundays ago, when Grace was co-leader on a trip; but it took lots of force to keep Janet out of the same bus. We notice they got together on the homeward trip. Incidentally, Grace and Janet are two of our most improved skiers this year.

One new member who is certainly no novice at skiing is Irene Guerts. Perhaps she'll give Kay Beck an interesting argument when the intra-club races are held in April. She is a good skier and also a swell sport.

Two Mountaineers who don't mind getting close to nature--very close--are Bob Fugal and the new member with the infectious grin, Bob Cunningham. Their spills certainly are not due to timidity. Guy Anderson was with them in the snowman brigade several weeks ago, when he first tried out his metal edges, but he's getting the hang of the tricky things now. Have you noticed what a help Guy turned out to be to beginners? Especially the gals?

We miss some of our old members who have left Salt Lake, including Vern Haugland, the popular newsman, Senta Valtinke, winner of last year's Murdock handicap trophy; and soft-spoken Ray McGuire. There are others right here in Salt Lake whom

we would like to see come out once in a while and find out what a nice bunch we have this year. Incidentally, Emer Nelson thinks those reports that he has moved to Chicago are greatly exaggerated, unless South Salt Lake is a Chicago suburb.

Irma "Cannonball" Haws is back from the Pacific Coast and was seen trying out Alta's slopes last week. Irma had the distinction of unintentionally lending her name to part of Brighton's scenery. The dip on Pfeiffer trail is still known among Mountain Clubbers as "Haws Bump," because of an unorthodox jump Irma tried there when the trail was first finished last year. However, Irma has had plenty of company. We've seen even the redoubtable Mr. Mike O'Neill, who laid out the trail, pick himself out of the snow at that point.

Vern Haugland seems to be doing all right in Los Angeles. We have noticed his familiar "Byline" on several sparkling stories from Los Angeles and Hollywood this year. One of them described the skiing abilities and enthusiasms of the different movie stars; and Vern has turned out some very interesting stories of the doings of the movie folk, including a dinner he had with Ann Sheridan.

Ray McGuire, genial newsman, finds that New England skiing does not compare with the Wasatch Brand. Ray is studying at Columbia University School of Journalism and says of his skiing activities:

"There is very little snow out here in the New England skiing area. I've been skiing twice and each time we skied on icy crust, lightly dusted with powder snow and generously dotted with exposed rocks, roots and brush. The trips necessitated round trips of 250 and 340 miles respectively, so you should take whatever skiing you find in the Wasatches and feel very happy about it..."

Skiing at Alta on Sunday February 18 turned out to be one long session of something which didn't even faintly resemble the sport; but what could a man do in a blizzard like that one?

BEGINNERS,  
THEIR TRIALS AND TERRORS

By K. Christensen

In the first place, there is that everpresent worry about buying equipment at the beginning of the season, because if there is anything you hate to do, it is buy outfits, anything but complete outfits. So you are glad in spite of yourself, that when you wake up each morning it hasn't snowed yet.

Later, you talk to a veteran skier, who complains about no snow and says something about guessing that he doesn't live right or there would be snow by now. Directly, you begin to feel guilty about all the days you were glad that it didn't snow.

Finally, the day before you are going skiing, you go down and buy your equipment. The best--or so they tell you at the shop; where they sell you everything from skis to ear muffs, including six kinds of wax, which you know nothing about using. You go out on the hill for the first time, and decide to take some lessons your first day out. (That is if you can manage to get over to where lessons are being given--and I should say something besides "given" but let's get on to the skiing). At long last you arrive at the hill; what with the aid of everybody from 5 to 50 along the way. You line up with the class; and when your turn comes to try the intricate tricks of a common stem, your skis go out from under you so fast you wonder what happened.

Somebody complains about bathtubs and sitzmarks, but happily, you don't know what they are talking about, or that the remarks were made for your benefit. You continue to unwind until skis are parallel, etc. in the accepted manner. The instructor is very firm about this, which is something new which you can't understand because getting up has always been just getting up as far as you were concerned.

You go back and try it several times more with practically the same results each time, whereupon the instructor looks at your skis

and says, "You had better take off that hard wax and get some you can handle." Immediately you know that you definitely should not have used the wax that smelled the best AND anyway I ask you, "How is one to know?" At this point you begin to wonder what value practically new ski equipment has to best or one of the best "Hawk shops" in town.

But, here is where you make your mistake, you go back to the hill the second day; and everything goes better. You believe that it really was the wax and not your own inability to stay perpendicular. You begin to get the idea little by little. With each day out, you become more "sold." In other words, you become a ski enthusiast.

The moral to this story being, "Don't go skiing the first time, if you don't want to get exposed to the fever." And to all beginners I might ask, "Which would you rather do--nothing, or fall down?"

RE: INSTRUCTORS

The Mountain Club is rather hard on ski instructors: First we had Glen Jones, who took us for an hour or so and we haven't seen him since--in his official capacity that is. The next, Art Johansen, met with a refractory ski pole; and Bob Blade, incumbent has been suffering with an attack of infected sinus. We almost lost him when he took the trip to Sun Valley; but he says he likes Salt Lake skiing better. We are glad of this because we would hate to lose one of the best instructors on the hill.

We've got our fingers crossed; but have you noticed that the Club, with largest turnouts in its skiing history, hasn't suffered a broken bone this season.

Publications Department wishes to thank the following people for their work on this issue of the Rambler: Bill Kamp, Bill Bancroft, George Van House, Loretta Bartlett, and Eugene Moench.