

# The Rambler

PROPERTY OF

Ute Alpine Club

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*Official Publication of*

## THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

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Lodge: Brighton, Utah

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## TRIP SCHEDULE

February, 1963

Note concerning schedule: due to highly unstable snow conditions and resulting avalanche danger, it is unlikely that we will be able to go on our spectacular "high country" tours this month. We have scheduled a few in case conditions improve (Feb. 3, 17, March 3.) Between these we have scheduled tours which, though not quite so scenic, should be fairly avalanche-proof (Feb. 10, 16, 24.) In this way we should get some ski touring accomplished. If a ski tour must be cancelled, leaders will be encouraged to choose an alternate tour.

- February 3 - - - - - Major Evans Gulch. See January Rambler. Leader, Cal Giddings.
- February 3 - - - - - After Ski Social. Meet at Dale Green's. 4230 Sovereign Way. No registration necessary.
- February 5 - - - - - Night Skiing at Solitude. Our experiment with this last month worked out very well. Come join the fun, every Tuesday night. (Lift open from 6 to 12 p.m." As a bonus, there is no charge for lift tickets for the ladies. Around 9:30 each Tuesday Tuesday evening we will stop for a coffee break. (Meet at the Solitude lodge, just a few hundred feet beyond the top of the lift." No registration necessary.
- February 8 - - - - - Ice Skating at Hygeia. This will begin about 8 p.m. Leader, John MacDuff. No registration necessary.
- February 9 - - - - - Wasatch Mountain Club 40th Anniversary Party. At the Lodge in Brighton. A very special event. Dinner and refreshments will be served. Register by 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8. EM 3-7150. \$1.50 for members, \$2.00 for guests. No charge for life members who are our guests, and we hope everyone of them will come. See special write up in this issue by Dale Green.
- February 10 - - - - - White Pine Canyon. This tour will start at the bottom of White Pine, and thus avoid the avalanche danger of the upper valleys. Descent will also be through White Pine. The tour is not of fixed length, but will depend on the group going. Leader, Alexis Kelner. Register by 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9. EM 3-7150.

- February 10 - - - - - Ski at Alta. After skiing, meet at a social gathering in Jim Shane's new Lodge, the Gold Miner's Daughter.
- February 12 - - - - - Night Skiing at Solitude.
- February 16 - - - - - Albion Basin Beginner's Tour. A Saturday ski excursion for beginners or for anyone else who wants an easy-going trip into the back country around Alta. Register by 6 p.m., Friday, Feb. 15. EM 3-7150. Meet at the bottom of Wildcat Lift at 9:15 a.m. Leader, John MacDuff.
- February 17 - - - - - Gad Valley. Another crack at this long time favorite. Register by 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16. EM 3-7150. Meet at the Wildcat lift at 9:15 a.m. Leader, Gale Dick.
- February 17 - - - - - After Ski Social. at Dale Green's. 4230 Sovereign Way.
- February 19 - - - - - Night Skiing at Solitude.
- February 21 - 24 or 22 - 24. Ski Trip to Jackson, Wyoming. Get in touch with Bob Wright, EL 5-2453, if you want to go to Jackson over Washington's Birthday.
- February 24 - - - - - Snake Creek Pass. We have rescheduled this due to avalanche danger in other places. Meet at the bottom of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:30 a.m. Register by 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23. Leader, to be announced.
- February 24 - - - - - Ski at Alta. Meet at the Gold Miner's Daughter after skiing.
- February 26 - - - - - Night Skiing at Solitude.
- March 3 - - - - - Red-Pine-Alpine. We hope the avalanche situation has improved enough to make this rather longish (rating: 10.0) tour possible. Leader: Alexis Kelner. Register by noon, Saturday, March 2. (Early registration is a must since special transportation must be arranged at the end of the trip.)
- March 3 - - - - - After Ski Social. Dale Green's. 4230 Sovereign Way.

#### TRIPS AND OUTINGS

Ice Skating - -January 11  
by John MacDuff

The weatherman promised us temperatures of 10 to 15 below zero for the evening. Coextensive with our planned ice skating party. Apparently

the temperature prevented some people from enjoying a brisk evening of skating. Those who braved the cold to skate were: Connie Clemens, Annette Odegard, Willadean Jefferies, Court Richards, Tom Rees, Dick and Anita Feltis, Bob and Kathy Wright, Ann McDonald, June Pitkanen, and yours truly. June and Tom spiced up the evening with a twist exhibition on skates. At the stroke of ten, the above dozen joined another dozen or more for pizza and goodies at Shakey's. Those who appeared at Shakey's were: John Mildon, Arleen West, Karl-Dunn, Sheila Matyes, Dan (the (cripple) Lynch, Pat Dow, Diana Benson, Jan Karr, Dale Green, Stephen Cole, Steve McDermat, Lee Sutton, Mary Brown, Rudy Riet, Robyn Bird, and Ellen Latmull.

### Albion Ski Tour - - - January 12

By John MacDuff

A ski tour in Albion basin was planned, there was very little of the white stuff. You may remember it was very cold that morning. The temperature was about 20 below zero at Alta. Because of car trouble I was an hour late, which caused us to lose one member - Al Wickham. Don Bettinger, John MacDuff and Annette Odegard put on climbers and started up. That's all brother! It just wasn't touring type weather so we skied at Alta for the day. We had a lot of fun, no lift lines, and pretty good snow. We met Nick Treseder at Alta, and the four of us had a ball. Sorry you let the cold keep you home.

### Snake Creek Tour - - - January 20

by Ann McDonald

A few of us decided to spend the night at the Lodge prior to our first tour of the season. Words cannot describe the feeling as we approached Brighton at about 3:30 and saw that something was on fire. The nearer we came, the more obvious it was that it was very close to our Lodge, in fact we were sure it must be the Lodge. Words cannot describe the relief when it was at last certain that it was not. We spent the rest of the afternoon watching the MIA Lodge burn to the ground, and felt the helplessness of the firemen and everyone else at being unable to do anything about it.

Sunday dawned cloudless, the temperature low, and the sun bright. Some met at the bottom of the canyon, and after waiting awhile for those in the Lodge - who had forgotten to tell anyone where they were, they proceeded to the Lodge. After a quick inspection trip of the fire, the tour started at about 10:30 a.m. We rode the Majestic lift to the top, and set off through the deep snow to Snake Creek Pass. A little wind came up every once in a while, knocking the snow off the trees down our backs. Our intrepid leader John MacDuff, broke trail, and we made slow but steady progress.

Even those without climbers, while finding the going a little tougher, made it without much trouble. We had lunch, shared by those who had not, looking down Snake Creek into Heber Valley.

Going down proved to be a lot more difficult for some of us who had never skied in extremely deep powder snow. In fact, one who brought up the rear, was unable to stop or turn, and consequently wrapped herself around a tree or two and was buried alive several times. However, as on most club trips, there always seems to be at least one person who stays behind and rescues those in trouble. (Thanks, John!) We all reached the Lodge by about 3:30 p.m. and were very glad we had been away from it all, as the lift line by this time was halfway up Mt. Majestic. Those enjoying this beautiful tour were: Connee Clemens, John MacDuff, Ann McDonald, Charlie McDonald, Dale Green, Mal MacDuff, Ann Barker, John Mildon, Al Wickham, Dail Ogden, Dave Gitten, Chick Henley, Phil Penney, Don Bettinger.

#### OUR 40th ANNIVERSARY

by Dale Green, President

Yell: We are the Shepards of Wasatch  
A regular gang are we:  
We play with vim, our opponents to trim  
With ease and alacrity.  
Baa-a-a-a-a Baa-a-a-a-a-a

As part of our fortieth anniversary celebration this month, I thought it would be interesting to publish excerpts from a 1923 Rambler. As I glanced through the small booklet, the above yell caught my eye and, to me, seemed to epitomize in a sense the tone of the publication and the enthusiasm of the Club's members.

The Wasatch Mountain Club was informally organized in the early 1910's and gradually grew in stature and membership. On February 16, 1923, forty years ago, the Club incorporated as a non-profit organization in the State of Utah. The Lodge at Brighton was started two to three years later. We are the oldest outdoor organization in Utah.

In 1923, the Rambler was issued yearly. The trips were announced on schedule cards mailed to the membership. The Rambler was about the page size of a National Geographic and had 72 pages. The Cover is imprinted with gold letters "The Wasatch Rambler," and "Onward and Upward." The frontspiece is a picture of "Castle Rock" (now called the Sundial) and Lake Blanche, then as now, the Club's Emblem.

Einter Tignell was President. C.R. (Pa) Parry, now a life member, was on the Board of Directors. Another Familiar name in this Rambler is that of Ray E. Marsell who just retired from the University as Prof. Emeritus of Geology. He wrote many of the articles. Other articles were written by Claude Stoney, also now a life member, and WMC member and Mayor of Salt Lake City C. Clarence Neslen. The articles describe Club trips and the natural wonders of Utah.

The Board of Directors had a total of nine members, each director the head of a committee. The posts were similar to the present arrangement except for Committees on Science, Photography, Dramatics, Orchestra, and Athletics. The Constitution contains some interesting articles. No more than two females were to serve on the Board at once (There was one that year.) To qualify for the Board, you had to make one climb to 11,000 feet. The dues were \$3.00. A few by-laws have been preserved intact to this day, but the only part of the Constitution that reads similarly is the preamble. The Constitution could be amended any time by unanimous vote of the Board.

The rules and regulations make more interesting reading. Under the heading of "moral" we find that little difficulty was experienced with young people on trips because "the winds of the mountains seem to blow their minds clean." Just in case, the following rules were published: "No one will leave the party on strolls, moonlight hikes, etc. Everybody must retire at the same time; The Club will not at any time tolerate the so called petty parties; and the so called petty parties; and the members of the Club shall refrain from all unnecessary noise when congregating for trips, especially on Sunday when passing Churches or other public gatherings." (And I thought we had problems!)

The Club Headquarters was in the Rocky Mountain Photo Company, address not given. Apparently the most popular meeting place for trips was in front of the Salt Lake Theater. Most of the transportation was in "big, powerful busses, with comfortable, padded leather seats."

Continued Next Month.

### The History of Skis

Interesting excerpts from a article donated by Jim Kenney

The ski is originally brother to the snowshoe. Both came into being somewhere in central Asia at least five to six thousand years ago. The granddaddy of the ski was constructed of plank-shaped piece of wood and attached to the foot with thongs. The snowshoe was carried Eastward through Siberia and Alaska and eventually became a true characteristic

of our North American Indian Culture. The ski, on the other hand, began a far different development in Scandinavia, Europe and northern Russia.

The oldest known pictorial representation of skiing is a carving on a rock found in Northern Norway, dating from about 2000 B.C. Skis were probably used for warfare as early as they were for ordinary travel. One of the earliest types was found near Hoting, Sweden and was in use about 2000 B.C. It was planed smooth with a raised footrest indented from the edge, and attached with thongs. Like modern skis, it had a pointed toe and squared heel. Our modern type ski dates from 1500 A.D. and is narrower in comparison to the more ancient skis. It was scored with grooves on the underside to give track as do our modern day skis.

Skiing as a sport, rather than just for transportation, has very recent appearance. As a competitive sport it had its beginnings in Norway as recently as 1867 and was taken up in California in 1870. The first ski club in the United States was formed in 1900 in Michigan. As the sport spread, it varied to meet local conditions. The Arlberg system was produced in Austria because the terrain was too steep for the erect stance of Norway. The latest Austrian Contribution has been the wedeln turn.

Modern skis are not extremely different from basic ancient styles. Only changes have been made in this basic pattern, such as length, width, shape of tip ends, etc. And we use two poles instead of one.

#### RAMBLINGS

By Dale Green, President

Does anyone have a 12 Volt car radio they will donate to the Club? It will be installed in the bus for a P.A. System.

Because of low funds, the Board has been unable to refund all the money due some people from the first San Juan River trip. Please be patient, we haven't forgotten you.

Due to no fault of our own, the ski touring this year has fallen flat. As far as I know, only one scheduled tour has taken place. The avalanche conditions are now so hazardous that our newly scheduled trips may also be cancelled. These trips may be changed at the last minute to other areas to escape the avalanches, so be sure to register so we can notify you of changes. Remember, when Julian Thomas says over the radio "Ski touring is closed" that does not mean a WMC ski tour is cancelled.



There are still many places we can tour with Forest Service sanction on these days but there is no way you will know unless you register.

Someone put a 5/8 - 3/4 Craftsman box end wrench in my tool box by mistake the last time we worked on the bus. Is it yours?

As most of you know by now, the MIA Girls Home, our next door neighbor at Brighton, was burned to the ground. The fire is believed to have been set by vandals, who may have been living there for as much as a week. The loss will probably be around \$100,000. How this will affect us is a matter for conjecture. The MIA people have already inquired about leasing our Lodge during weekdays to house their staff. In view of the circumstances (and some fine print in our Forest Service Lease) I don't feel we can reject the request. Perhaps we will get a new, paved road because of the construction work. The Board is also seriously thinking of paying a considerable sum of money to have the Lodge patrolled during week days. In the meantime, the membership can help by keeping an eye on the Lodge whenever they go to Brighton.

Every year as dues collecting time approaches, the Board of Directors discuss the need of more money to run the Club. This is quite natural. This past year, for instance, your dues fell \$400 short of supplying our direct operating costs (exclusive of expenses on trips, parties, bus purchase and repairs). The money situation is actually worse than this because the \$400 does not include the expenses which we should have spent or set aside for maintenance and improvements to the Lodge and replacement of our boats. Our expenses are broken down as follows:

Printing and Mailing Cost of Rambler, Etc. - - -	\$625
Lodge - - - - -	560
Telephone- - - - -	67
Flowers- - - - -	12
Refreshments for meetings- - - - -	30
Trail Equipment- - - - -	20
Climbing Ropes- - - - -	36
FWOC dues- - - - -	15
Treasurer's bond- - - - -	7
Trophies- - - - -	8
Total	\$1,380

Dues have brought in - - - - - \$970

I would like to further break down the Rambler and Lodge expenses. It costs, per person, 82 cents for envelopes and postage a year (6 cents a



month plus an extra stamp twice a year) and an average of 13 cents apiece for the Rambler itself. This amounts to \$2.38 per year. Also, about 15% of the members quite each year, but the Rambler continues to them for two to three months in hopes they will rejoin. This is an additional 50 cents for these people. Our out of state members now pay only \$2.00, which means they do not pay their way. As President, I feel justified in asking the Board to increase out-of-state fees to \$3.00. We have investigated methods of reducing the Rambler costs, but all ways found so far also mean a definite reduction in quality and delivery.

The Lodge expenses are as follows: Forest Service lease \$50; Liability Insurance \$72; Fire Insurance \$55; Coal \$100; Light bill \$100 (mostly from continuous operation of the toilet air compressor); county property tax \$81; Repair equipment and commissary \$90; Lodge work parties \$100; with a total of \$560. I see no practical way of reducing these costs. In fact, we should be spending another \$200 to \$300 a year on the Lodge. The roof leaks and needs painting, the porch must be recovered, the kitchen needs a new floor, neither the electric stove or refrigerator work properly, the toilets need about \$75 worth of equipment to keep them operating. The Logs need oiling, some log walls are starting to bow, the floor sags, a few new electrical circuits are needed and the Forest Service requires us to finish the stone facing around "Goodro's Annex", repair the outside toilets and install spark shields on the chimneys. We would also like to finish the foyer. We also need to save at least \$100 a year for boat replacement and repair.

Our income is derived from three sources: Lodge, Dues, and Outings. The Lodge income is extremely variable because it comes mainly from outside rentals. This year it was nearly \$350, but this is high compared to other years. Raising the dues appears, at first glance, to be the easiest and most logical way to raise money. This would be true if we did not have a number of inactive members. Nearly 40 people in the Club, one fourth of the membership, don't attend our functions. If the dues were raised, many of these people will drop out. If a raise of \$1.00 causes 22 people to drop out (From the estimated 150 local members who will be in Salt Lake next May) we will lose money, not gain. We also lose because some of these people, who will not pay \$7 dues, won't hesitate to pay \$30 to \$40 for a river trip which brings \$10 to the Club's Treasury, if they are still in the Club. A much better way is to increase the membership because our costs are not very dependent on the number of members. Each additional member only raises our expenditures by \$1.00. In the nine months this Board

has been in office, we have voted in 67 new members, roughly four times as many as any Board in the past 10 years. This is without the slightest decrease in the quality of the membership, too. There is no reason why we cannot continue to increase next year.

Our profits from outings last year was nearly double the amount of all other income combined and it is from this source we must support the Club. I realized this a few weeks ago when I went over the books. We spent over \$3500 on the bus, all paid for from trip fees. Next year, I calculate our bus costs to be around \$1300, about \$2200 less. Our parties have also been very successful, raising nearly \$200 thus far. Next year we also expect considerable income from unusual sources of which you will be informed.

To sum up, I am recommending to the Board that (1) Out of State dues be raised to \$3.00 per year, (2) Local dues remain as they are, (3) trip fees remain as they are, (4) We continue to increase our membership, and (5) The membership be reminded why we must make a substantial profit on trips to stay in business.

#### Club Notes

The General Membership meeting on January 23, at the Hi-Land Dairy Auditorium was well attended. Everyone enjoyed Bob Goodwin's outstanding pictures of a winter's climbing expedition in Alaska with a group of Italian climbers. Refreshments were donated by the Hi-Land Dairy Co.

#### New members:

Marieluise Mayer  
332 Herbert Avenue  
Salt Lake City 355-4310

Don Cox  
1997 Sigard Drive.  
Salt Lake City IN 6-8337

#### Membership reinstatement:

Marian Styles  
53 South 3rd East  
Salt Lake City EM 4-8342

Paul Fredricksen  
2785 South 13th East  
Salt Lake City IN 7-6435

If you move, please notify the Club immediately. It is difficult to keep up with our fast moving members, and we don't want you to miss out on Ramblers if at all possible.