The Rambler



Official Publication of

THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

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TRIPS AND OUTINGS FOR FEBRUARY 1965

Register for all trips at club headquarters EM 3-7150

- Feb. 2 Climbing. This is an error, see Feb. 7
- Feb. 7 Rock Climbing—Brrr! For those hardy persons who should know better, meet at Storm Mountain picnic ground at 10:00 a.m. Leader is Tom Stevenson; registration required by Feb. 6 at 6:00 p.m. at club hq. for everyone.
- Feb. 7
 Sunday

 Maybird-Alpine. This trip is for the experienced skiers only. It will start at 7:00 on Sunday morning from the base of White Pine Canyon. The group should meet by 6:30 at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon. Bring several lunches as the trip is rather long. REGISTRATION BEFORE NOON SATURDAY IS ESSENTIAL SINCE AUTOMOBILES MUST BE TRANSPORTED TO ALPINE SATURDAY NIGHT. The cost will be \$2.00 to defray transportation costs. Leader: Alexis Kelner
- Feb. 7 After Ski Social. Our "Prex" is hosting this social evening. The usual warm hospitality present at these functions will again be awaiting weary skiers. Join us at Dale Green's, 4230 Sovereign Way, 277-6417.
- Feb. 11 <u>Ice Skating.</u> Register by 6:00 p.m., Wed. Feb. 10. Meet at 8:00 p.m. at Hygeia Iceland, 1224 E. 21st So. Leader: Mel Davis
- Feb. 11 First Aid Class. This is the first of 5 meetings to teach useful first aid for outdoor activities. See the article.
- Feb. 13
 Saturday

 Park City Brighton Park City. This is a good beginners trip. We will ride the gondola to the Summit House, tour to Scott Pass, return down Thaynes Canyon and up the new chair lift to the Summit House. Meet at the ticket booth at Treasure Mountain at 9:00 a.m. Bring lunch, climbers, \$1.80 for lift tickets, and money for partying after. Register by 6:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12.

 Leader: Dale Green

Feb. 14 Sunday Alta to American Fork Canyon via Major Evans Gulch. This is one of the most interesting and enjoyable ski runs into American Fork Canyon. This is a long trip so only skiers who are in good physical condition should register. REGISTRATION BEFORE NOON SATURDAY IS REQUIRED. Cost, \$2.00. Leader: Cal Giddings

Feb. 18 Thursday Election and Membership Meeting. Be sure to come and help elect your Board of Directors for this year. The meeting will be held at the Utah Power and Light Co. Auditorium (7th East and 6th South) starting at 8:30 p.m. A special program of slides of Canada is being prepared by Dennis Caldwell (see his article on the 1965 Canada trip).

Feb. 21 Sunday Alta to Days Fork. Call the leader Gale Dick for details.

Feb. 27-28 Winter Mountaineering! Here's your chance to really sat.—Sun. get out and know your mountains in the winter. Everyone is welcome. The winter camp location will be Lake Blanche where moderate climbing can be done as well as ski touring. Snow shoes or skis & skins are the mode of transportation, with snow shoes or skis and skins recommended for beginners during the descent. Winter camping gear and approval of the leader, Tom Stevenson, are required. Deadline for registration is Monday, Feb. 22. See also Mountaineering Ramblings.

Feb. 27 Saturday

Sugarloaf Peak. This is a half day tour to the summit of the peak at the head of Albion Basin. Skiers with all degrees of touring and downhill experience are welcome—the group will split up into several parties for the run down. Registration is not necessary. Meet at the top of Germania Lift at 1:00 p.m.

Feb. 28 Sunday A look at the East Face of Timpanogos. Although this trip sounds rather forbidding it is not—at least not for skiers who can handle something like Lake Blanche or Gad Valley. The trip will start at the resort of Timp Haven and end in the same place. Register by 6:00 p.m. Saturday. Leader: Carl Bauer

Feb. 28 After Ski Social. Time to get together again—this time at Sunday

Joy and Gayle Greetham's. Possibly some of you will have some pleasant experiences to relate after skiing in other areas over the weekend of Washington's Birthday. We'll be at 4121 Olympic Way, 277-7526.

March 7 Lake Blanche. The Lake Blanche trip in January proved to be so enjoyable that it is being rescheduled at this time. Details same as in the January Rambler

CANADA TRIP - Part V - July 29

by Scotty Imber

"A Bad Word Around WMC"

Mt. Athabasca, that is. Skipping our usual Canada routine of up at the crack of dawn, leisurely breakfast of bacon and eggs, late start-we scrambled out around six, gulped cold cereal-and had a late start. Larry and Dennis wanted to be back down by two o'clock so we briefly debated the snow route versus going up the back side on a scree trail. Scree being another bad word, we quickly decided on the snow route.

Now I must here admit that though I have read this route in the guidebook I still have not been able to recognize it in the guidebook. This does not seem to be an uncommon problem in Canada and, as Tom says, adds greatly to the sense of exploration. So-we parked the car and angled up some scree and talus so as to hit the snow from the right hand side as you face the mountain from the road, then traversed left and upwards, keeping below the bergschrund so we could cross on the left side where the snow looked to be very good. We roped up here, in case the snow was not very good, climbed straight up and then traversed back to the right above the bergschrund to the saddle. Here we passed a party of 3 who were making this as one of their first climbs of the season. We angled around the saddle and then up an easy rock ridge. By the time we hit this ridge I was getting pretty tired. So I unroped and Larry and Dennis went bounding upward to catch some pictures while I went tottering upward hoping I'd catch my breath. I remember Larry commenting as we started up the ridge-"It's all over but the shouting"!

Little did we know. A short time later it started to drizzle but that's usual in Canada. I finally achieved a rock summit with a nice rock cairn on it-Larry and Dennis had gone ahead along a snow ridge to the actual summit several hundred feet away. They called for me to follow but instead I sank down damply by the cairn to munch some Yukon biscuits and get a little rest. It was not one of those days when we would linger on the summit I knew-the drizzle had changed to rain and the whole atmosphere felt kind of unfriendly somehow. Suddenly I felt my left eyebrow raise slightly, the only indication of electricity any of us had, and I thought that if I was going to wait I could wait just as well part way down the ridge. I stood up to call to them that I was going back the way we had all come up---

Next thing I knew I was trying to figure out how come I was lying head downwards some 10 or 15 feet below the summit on a bunch of rocks. I tried to find my hat and glasses, couldn't, staggered up to the cairm calling Larry and Dennis; no answer. This was getting rather scary. Then I looked down and thought I saw my hat, so I went down after it and found my cracked and cockeyed but still serviceable glasses nearby. That helped. Back up again. Dennis appeared dragging Larry. To put it mildly I was certainly glad to see them both! Dennis said, "you both got hit-we have to get out of here". Larry had temporary amnesia and was limping badly as he had hurt his ankle in falling when he got knocked out. And here I want to present Dennis with six dozen thornless roses or something-because how the heck he managed to drag or carry or whatever he did Larry along those several hundred feet of steep, exposed, snow ridge in just a couple of minutes-I don't know how he did it. But he did.

Larry and Dennis had been standing together when the lightning hit and Larry apparently had acted as lightning rod. Dennis was knocked down, twice, but not knocked out, which was darn lucky for all of us.

We started to descend the ridge as fast as possible. That was not too fast-I was feeling rocky and could not see too well while Larry was having a real rough time with his ankle. His "where am I"-"What are we doing in Canada"-"well how did we get here" did nothing to cheer the situation. Things started to clear for him after about half an hour for which we were all thankful.

Towards the bottom of the ridge we met the other party starting up from the saddle. They decided they were heading in the wrong direction and became our rescue party. We descended the back side, belaying down a rather steep rocky couloir-slippery when wet. And was it wet! I know I was relieved when we came out onto the gently snow slope at the bottom of the couloir. From there on we had good going-skating and glissading down the snow and then Dennis miraculously hit the trail down the scree right smack on the nose.

We arrived, promptly at two o'clock (!), at the little cafe from which the snowmobiles leave for the glacier tour. Being kind of bedraggled looking, we received a few stares. Dennis ran ahead to get the car (thanks again, Dennis) and we drove back to camp and a most welcome cup of hot coffee.

Note to future climbers of Mt. Athabasca—it is recommended that you pick a sunny day!

Climbers:

Dennis Caldwell Larry Swanson Scotty Imber

PROPOSED 1965 CANADA TRIP

By Dennis Caldwell

Spurred on by the success of last year's venture we are scheduling another trip to Canada this summer. It is perhaps too early to commit ourselves to a rigorous schedule, but the various possibilities can be outlined. We would probably be using the first two weeks of August, since weather and climbing conditions are most favorable then, Sperry notwithstanding.

Last summer everyone seemed to enjoy himself at the Abbot Pass hut between Mounts Victoria and Lefroy in spite of dismal weather. This year we would consider going up the glacier from Lake Louise rather than the tedious scree route from Lake O'Hara. If the weather is favorable, both Victoria and Lefroy could be climbed on successive days.

In any Canadian trip it is hard to get out of visiting the Columbia Ice Fields, for the simple reason that they are magnificent. However, there is a new area that has captivated several of our members—the Bugaboos. This wild and primitive area contains some of the most spectacular peaks in Canada and provides all types of climbing, from scrambling to direct aid.

Unfortunately for the hikers the impetus for these trips has always come from the climbers, and the activities are geared accordingly. Plans are quite flexible and can easily be modified to suit the interests of the group. Don't dismay if you have no interest in climbing; some of the greatest panoramas were beheld by hikers last year.

Other possibilities are Mt. Temple and Mt. Hungabee near Lake Louise, and Mt. Edith Cavell near Jasper, all of which are one-day climbs from the car. The Selkirks in Glacier Park are also worthy revisiting.

Needless to say, regardless of the success or failure of these plans, a generous ration of grog (or reasonable facsimile thereof) in Banff and Jasper will be on the agenda. Tentatively, there will be a slide showing of last year's trip at the next general meeting.

TRIP WRITE-UPS

Sorry, we have not received any trip write-ups of any club trips for this months Rambler.

MOUNTAINEERING RAMBLINGS

By Tom (T.Q.) Stevenson

Mount Moran

The Mt. Moran expedition (see Jan. Rambler) was unfortunately unsuccessful due to several factors which though each by itself was not critical added up to a poor situation. The party gained an altitude of 10,500 ft. on the 12,596 foot peak on the third day when the prudent decision was made to return.

Winter enterprises such as this entail many magnitudes more planning, equipment and experience than do summer trips. Only

those with appropriate experience are able to go. To gain experience, participation in our ski tours and winter climbing is a must.

Winter Camping

Winter camping and climbing of course requires warm clothes and sleeping bags, efficient cooking apparatus and tents. Down clothes are of course best but not everyone has these expensive items. Sufficient for our camp of 1 night with possible zero degree temperatures, will be ski clothes with an extra set of long handles, if you get cold easily. An extra heavy sweater (this makes a total of two) is a must along with your ski parka which must have a hood.

You should have 2 extra pair of gloves; one to be used as a liner for ski mits or gloves and one for use when the others get wet. A hat is recommended. Ski boots or climbing boots (no klettershoes) will suffice. It is preferred that the boots be loose fitting and if possible an overboot is used with them.

In the sleeping department a 2 lb. down or a 4 lb. dacron bag is minimum but each must be accompanied by a warm blanket for needed extra protection. Another essential item is something to sleep on since the snow becomes very cold in 8 hours. An air mattress or a sleeping pad work well.

A Primus stove or equivalent with 4 pots should be adequate but enough fuel must be brought to melt snow if necessary. Tents must be checked prior to use to insure that they are in good repair. A small hole in the wrong place can let in an amazing amount of snow if the wind blows. Winter camping can be enjoyable. Why not come along over the 27th and 28th.

Rescue Plans

Plans are being made to form a club mountain rescue unit. The first elements will fully be in effect in February. It is the opinion of the Board of Directors that the Salt Lake and adjoining counties' rescue units are lacking proficiency in several fields and therefore to promote the best possible rescue organization for us we are adopting the policy outlined below. It will insure that help will reach our injured or lost party as fast as possible through the use of our intimate knowledge of trails, our variety of skills and talents in connection with the well equipped and motorized county sheriff rescue organizations.

It is the policy of the Wasatch Mountain Club that in the event of an over due return, lost person or an accident on any club trip that a phone call for information, help, first aid or rescue be made to one of the following persons in the order listed.

 O'Dell Peterson
 Work---363-7150

 or Pinky
 Home---355-7216

 Cal Giddings
 Home---359-2588

 or Jen
 Work---322-6683

 Tom Stevenson
 Home---364-5268

 or Mimi

The person will then call our emergency group and then the appropriate county sheriff or other group.

The sensible thing to do if an injury occurs close to the road (and the members in the party cannot effect a safe or adequate rescue) is to notify the appropriate sheriff's department. Conversely in the case of lost or over due persons, the Sheriff should not be contacted until there is proof of an injury. It is urged that this policy carry over into private trips by club members.

Registration

To insure one's own safety and to insure one's attendance on a club trip it is required that everyone register for each club trip or private trip at club headquarters. This has been stressed in the past but now if we want to have an effective rescue unit and aid in the other rescues in our area we must let club headquarters know what is going on and who is doing it. There are other good reasons for our doing this each time without fail. Ski tours especially are subject to last minute changes; the leader has to know who is going so he may inform them of the changes. In the case of a rescue it is essential that exact knowledge be available of who is on the ill fated trip; this is needed to determine how many should be probed for in the case of an avalanche or who else to look for in the case of lost persons. Also it is essential to know where our climbers, hikers, ski tourers etc. are in case they are needed in the community or at the site of an accident.

Clearly we all must make a special effort to let Pete & Pinky at club headquarters know what we are doing, where and for how long. This is a job they are very happy to do and it is our insurance of returning safely from any trouble. We have been very lucky for many years; let's all make this little extra effort to add to our good record. PLEASE REGISTER at club headquarters for all trips whether club sponsored or private.

Climbing

Plans are under way for something new in the instruction climbing program; watch for them in the March or April Rambler.

Basic First Aid Course

A short course in basic first aid with the emphasis on mountaineering type problems will be given by Dr. Ed Schmeider. The course will start at 7:30 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 11 and will last 5 weeks. The book Red Cross First Aid is the required text and is available at the Red Cross Building for \$.75. Register by 6:00 p.m. Sat., Feb. 6. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at 4618 Highland Drive.

Folk Dancing

Folk dancing every Tuesday evening at Marwedel Dance Studio, 255 E. 3rd So., from 7:30 to 11:00 p.m., stag or couples, \$.75 per person.

Folk dancing every Wednesday evening at Filanders Mountain Meadow Ranch from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. Come up for dinner and dance (no charge for dancing). Drinking permitted (BYOL). Located on Parleys Canyon Road about 1 mile past cutoff to Park City.

Folk dancing every Friday evening at the Union Bldg. of U of U. See Dec. Rambler. No charge but donation for records is requested.

For more details call Celia Rockholt, 322-2018.

Baby Sitting

Celia Rockholt would like to trade baby sitting with a skiing family so that she can ski tour. She has 3 active children. Phone 322-2018.