

The Rambler



Official Publication of

THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

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Lodge: Brighton, Utah

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TRIPS AND OUTINGS FOR JANUARY 1964

Register for all trips at club headquarters, EM 3-7150

- January 9 Ski Upper Peruvian Gulch. This is a half day ski tour
Saturday so only advanced and good intermediate skiers are welcome.
Meet at the top terminal of the Germania lift at Alta
at 1:00 pm. Register by 6 pm Friday. Leader:
- January 10 American Fork Canyon from Alta. The descent to American
Sunday Fork Canyon will take place via Mary Ellen Gulch or
Mineral Basin; depending on the conditions and leader's
preference. Due to the necessity of shuttling automobiles
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED -- Unregistered skiers will
absolutely not be allowed to come. This is a good
beginner to intermediate tour. Register by 3:00 pm
Saturday. Leader:
- January 10 After Ski Social. After a day spent on the slopes
Sunday skiing or touring, it's always fun to join with friends
for an evening of socializing and partaking of refreshments.
Clare and Mel Davis will host our first get together of
the new year. They live at 4647 Idlewild Road, telephone
278-3174. They'll be waiting with toasty fire and warm
atmosphere. See you there!
- January 16 Ice climbing. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon
Saturday at 8 am for practice on the best available ice. Bring
warm clothes, crampons, ice axe and ice screws if you
have them. Everyone is welcome. There will be rock
climbing after. Leader, Tom Stevenson.
- January 16 Rank Beginner's Ski Tour to view the remains of the
Saturday Snake Creek Hut. Meet at the Majestic Manor in Brighton
by 10:00 am. Register by 6 pm Friday.
- January 17 Alta-Lake Blanche. This is one of the Club's favorite
Sunday springtime tours, but this year we will try to do it in
powder snow. Advanced and Intermediate skiers are welcome.
Bring climbers and several lunches and meet at 7:15 am
at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Register by 6 pm
Friday. Leader:
- January 19 Night skiing at Solitude. Ladies free on Tuesday nights.
Tuesday The lift runs from 6 to 12 p.m. It's beautiful on the
hill at night and fun to get together for refreshments
later. We'll be looking for familiar WMC faces on the
lift and on the hill!

January 23 Alta-Gad Valley. There was much "Whimpering" about the
Saturday previously scheduled half-day tour into this basin so
now we are planning a full day trip instead. Meet at
the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 am and
bring climbers. The terrain to be covered is steep so
only advanced and intermediate tourers are welcome.
Register by 6 pm Friday. Leader:

January 24 Solitude-Honey Comb Cliffs. For those who are sick of
Saturday Gad Valley by now we are scheduling an Exciting and
Novel ski tour in the vicinity of Solitude's Honeycomb
Cliffs. If snow conditions and terrain allow it a
descent to Alta will be attempted. Only advanced skiers
should attempt this trip. Again Registration is
absolutely necessary. Register by Saturday Evening.
Leader:

Note: If by any chance the Dec. 27 Alta-White Pine tour should
not be completed it will be attempted on this day in leu
of the honeycomb trip.

January 24 After Ski Social. You won't have far to go after coming
Saturday off the hill--unless you ski at Park City--to stop in at
Barbara Evans' for a bit of relaxation for the evening.
You'll find warm food, hot coffee and cold beer. The
welcome mat is out! 7652 South 2325 East, CR 8-1495.

January 29 Nomination Dinner Dance! At the Organ Loft, 3331 Edison
Friday Street. The social hour will begin at 7:00 pm with dinner
served at 8:00 pm. The dinner menu will include a
fruit cup appetizer, tossed green salad, an entree of
stuffed loin pork chops w/apple rings, peas, au gratin
potatoes and apple pie. The famous console-organ, one
of the five largest theatre type organs in the world, will
be played by Scott Gillespie, both as background music
and for dancing. The Loft is ours for the evening! During
the entire evening a bar will be open featuring a variety
of soft drinks and mixers. (BYOL, of course.) A brief
business meeting will be held following dinner for the
annual presentation of special awards and the nomination
of names for the 1965-66 board of directors. It is not
necessary to have a date as there are always stag men
and women members at this special event. Register at
Club headquarters by 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 27.
Please register ON TIME and for EVERYONE in your party
ot it will involve an expense for the club. Price,

including dinner, dancing, bar charge, tax and tips is \$3.75 per person. (Members and their dates or spouses only.) See you there at 7:00 p.m.!

January 30 Sat. Brighton-Wolverine. Meet at noon at the bottom of the Milliscent Ski Lift for a delightful tour that ends at the Club's Lodge. This is a good beginner's trip. Register by 6 pm Friday. Leader:

January 31 Sunday Brighton-Neff's Canyon. This is a New trip that has not been attempted previously by any club members. Only advanced skiers should register for it. Those who register should meet at the Finlandia Restaurant parking lot by 6:30. Register by 6 pm Friday. Leader: J. McDuff.

February 2 Tuesday Rock Climbing-Brrrrr! For those hardy persons who should know better meet at Storm Mountain picnic ground at 10a.m. Leader, Tom Stevenson.

February 7 Sunday Maybird-Alpine. This is a variation of a trip that is very popular among the clubs touring enthusiasts. Registration and climbers are necessary. Those who register should meet at the bottom of Little Cottonwood Canyon by 6:30. Register by 3:00 p.m. Saturday. Leader: A. Kelner.

SECOND ASCENT OF THE EAST TEMPLE - ZION PARK October 4, 1964
by Forrest Hatch

Comments:

1. Ropes of 150 foot length should be used.
2. Plenty of water should be carried.
3. The East Temple is highly recommended for people who wish to get a feel for the challenges of sandstone.
4. For those interested in sandstone climbing, Zion has many peaks that have not been climbed and some that haven't even been named. This area is also excellent for winter climbing and the park service is very considerate, but they must be notified prior to any climbing attempts.
5. The East Temple was first climbed in 1935. An attempt for a second ascent was made in the spring of 1964 but was turned back. The rock is a formidable challenge and is waiting for a third ascent.

The Climb:

At 0700 the party left the Great Arch parking lot and took the

Arch trail to the slabs on the South Side of the Temple. Upon arriving at the rock base at about 0830, Tom took the first lead which put him in position to give Forrest a shoulder over a touchy slab. The second lead led to a wide shelf of trees from which it was a moderate scramble to a natural crack South of the East Face.

The third lead went up the crack and over a tricky slab onto friction which put us above one great face and at the base of a large steep cut running North across the East Face.

The fourth lead ended in a bush from where the belay for the fifth lead was made. This lead went around the monster bush (named on a previous attempt because of its impossible entanglement of rock, bush, and dirt) and up to the "vanishing hold." The "vanishing hold" is probably the most difficult technical move of the climb because it requires digging into loose sand for a hand hold and then doing a semi-mantel over a knob. (As other climbers came up and the dirt was loosened, this hold became impossible and required tension.) At this point we were at the highest point of the previous attempt. It was here that we thought the special bolts we had developed for sandstone would be used, but after some sober contemplation a short reconnoiter was tried. A series of toe holds led to near nothing but it was now too late to return, except by the fast route.

Pitons were placed in pairs because the big sandpile had few trusty cracks. It was touch-and-go for a while, but after about 120 feet, eight pitons and a fatigued lead, the false summit was reached.

The rest of the party were belayed up and a short jaunt just north of the false summit ended on the true summit where we built a cairn and deposited the appropriate credentials in a film can.

The route down was the same as the route up -- a series of four, 150-foot rapels and some down climbing ended at the base of the rock from where we packed up and headed for the car and home.

PARTICIPANTS: Rope 1

Forrest Hatch, Lead
Tom Stevensen, 2nd
Bob Sears, 3rd

Rope 2

Karl Dunn, Lead
Mark McQuarrie, 2nd
Rob Sears, 3rd

MT. OLYMPUS CLIMB - November 1
by Harold Goodro

Although the Mt. Olympus hike, scheduled for Nov. 1, was listed as a "split" affair, with part going up the North Face and part going up the trail, I was the only leader available, so I elected to take the group up the North face. With the exception of Frank Steinhaus and my son Jerry, these people at the meeting place were all strangers to me, and I wondered at their capabilities as we started up the steep trail. As we reached our first bushwacking stretch, Grace Ormsby and her small daughter turned back, but the rest kept doggedly on my heels. The weather was cool and cloudy with a wind and threatening sky. Soon we began to hit patches of snow on the ground which made it tough for the two girls wearing sneakers. There was much slipping and sliding as we struggled through more brush on a very steep pitch. There was some easy rock climbing next, (the first experience for some), then we reached the gully which crosses the face of the Mountain, and leads to the summit ridge. By now the snow was four or five inches deep, and steps were kicked for surer footing. On reaching the ridge a very strong wind tried to blow us off at each step of the way, but we soon reached the top. We decided that it was too cold there to eat lunch, so we descended down the main South West gully some 200 yards and found a sheltered spot to eat in. After lunch we picked a new way down over some ledges, one of which involved use of the rope for safety. With the sky still threatening, we finally arrived at the creek crossing, where the regular trail starts and from there on it was pleasant walking and looking at the scenic view below us. A short cut down to Pete's Rock put us at the Highway, where Don hitched a ride back to get his car, so that we could all get back to our cars in Olympus Park. Next Phil got a ride and went after his car. The rest of us started walking along the road till we were "rescued" by our hitchhikers. Those who made the top and apparently enjoyed the trip were:

Harold Goodro, Leader
Ralph Hathaway
Pat Caywood
Phil Stillman
Frank Steinhaus

Don Clinenbeard
Faye Hathaway
Clarice Caywood
Geraldine Price
Jerry Goodro

ALBION BASIN SKI TOUR - November 29, 1964
by Dave Sundstom

An overcast sky observed 10 ski-touring enthusiasts at the top

of the Neversweat Lift clustered around their leader, John MacDuff. While our stalwart leader informed us of recommended ski-touring gear, such as climbers, flashlight, nylon cord, stubby candle, waterproof matches, compass and small first aid kit, everyone was busily engaged in preparations such as installing climbers, adjusting cables, removing cables from rear guides, adjusting sunglasses and the like.

Heading up through untracked snow, the line of skiers meandered through trees, along sidehills, up slopes, with its interim destination of Catherine Pass, only occasionally visible ahead. Several rest stops, welcomed by the unconditioned, were utilized once while the leader lent his climbers to one who was trying to use cloths for climbers, and later by the leader adapting nylon line to use as improvised climbers.

At the top of Catherine Pass, while resting and looking down at snow-covered Lake Catherine, our leader presented a short discussion on avalanches, particularly the powder avalanches that occasionally occur at this time of the year and how to avoid being buried if caught, the wet-snow avalanches that occur in spring and are difficult to escape interment if caught in a big one, and the close calls sustained by other WMC members.

Proceeding on toward the Albion Hut, we started to traverse a slope, but hearing a sharp "whump" on a slope nearby, we were led to a safer position on the ridge. At a point where the route led downhill, climbers were removed to facilitate ease of movement. Further on, leader MacDuff pointed to a group of trees, which proved to be the sheltering windbreak containing the Hut. Here, skies were removed and lunch was consumed on the inside.

Donning skis again, we started the downhill run. Steep, deep-powder slopes were easily down-traversed by most, but proved to be a mite rough for one novice skier, who found himself in the snow oftener than riding through it. Slopes gentled, enabling exhilarating and joyous downhill runs. A creek-crossing presented some problems to the uninitiated, but was negotiated without incident. The remainder of the tour was made down the Green Trail and finally the Neversweat slope.

Superb snow conditions and a skilled, informed leader combined to make this first official WMC ski tour, a very enjoyable and successful activity. Participants included the following:

John MacDuff, Glorious Leader
Carl Bauer
Helen Bessey

Charles Keller
Jack McLellan

(Cont.)

Albion Basin Ski Tour Participants (Cont.)

Don Bode
Betty Bottcher
Ernie Katten

Dale Rose
Tom Stevenson
Dave Sunstrom

CANADA TRIP - Part III - Mt. Sir Donald, July 24 by Dennis Caldwell

Mt. Sir Donald's unassuming 10,818 foot elevation above sea level belies its spectacular 7,000 foot rise above the Trans-Canada Highway in (Canadian) Glacier National Park. Its classic pyramidal form brings it into favorable comparison with the Matterhorn.

after an extraordinary set of circumstances wherein some 17 out of 13 people were registered for a staggering series of climbs through out the park it developed that three of us were to attempt the northwest ridge of Sir Donald. The next morning with only an hour late start we hurried up the dew-laden trail with orders to climb anything that looked like the Matterhorn. Unfortunately the morning mists, which persisted throughout the day, allowed us only a hint of the local geography and we were greatly relieved to run across Tom Stevenson, Dale Ogden, and Scotty Imber on their way to the Illicit (or whatever its name is) Glacier. Tom at once showed us the lay of the land and we were off for the high country. We made good time on the scree and snow and reached the col between Sir Donald and Uto a little before 9 a.m. There we could see a full thousand feet of ridge rising above us, low angle at first, then steepening as it became enveloped in the swirling mists. On the left is the Verissimo school's hideous north face with the Uto Glacier below; on the right is a somewhat imsumpathetic section of the west face. It must be hastily added that the ridge itself is not at all difficult, though it is long. At this juncture a few words of encouragement from the warden who happened to be on hand for the gala opening of the 1964 Sir Donald season, were well received and we started up.

The details of the ascent need not concern us; rock climbing is rock climbing, and there was plenty of it. The ample holds and secure footing on this excellent rock induced us to make ample use of the floating belay, which in no small way contributed to the success of the climb. As we proceeded the mists occasionally parted to give awesome views down the arete and the steep faces on either side.

About a thousand feet from the summit the snow took on a pronounced nuisance value and ordinary scrambling had to be gingerly negotiated. After some five hours we reached the summit at last.

Sir Donald does not let its clientele off as easily as the Grand Teton and we were faced with 3,000 feet of down climbing on the southeast ridge. Although it is billed as somewhat easier than the northeast ridge, its present condition caused us to wonder. It was thoroughly saturated with new fallen snow, which once again had its nuisance value and slowed matters somewhat. We cautiously threaded our way down a series of ledges and gradually emerged from the mist to find ourselves still high above the valley. Two rappels were required to negotiate the rock section of the descent, the last of which ended in a snow coloir leading down to the Vaux Glacier. The final obstacle was your friendly neighborhood bergschrund, which naturally was not bridged. Our parting cavil was to jump over the abyss and ten feet down onto the glacier, this jovially being presided over by Mr. Swanson. The landing was soft and without mishap; we had at last escaped from Sir Donald. We returned to camp at sunset after 14 hours of climbing. By the way, Who the hell was Sir Donald?

Climbers were - Larry Swanson, Bill Isherwood, and Dennis Caldwell.

Foot Note: Dennis stated that on this climb he had witnessed nearly all elevation zones beginning with the snow line, brush line, tree line, moss and rain forrest line and finally the tourist line.

CANADA TRIP - Part IV - Mt. Edith Cavell, July 27-29 by Dave Allen

After the blizzard at Abbot Pass, four of us (Patty Parmalee, Ron Perla, Judy Allen and I) decided that snow climbing was too cold. Therefore, while the rest of the group were working on the ice fields and climbing Mt. Columbia, we would climb Mt. Edith Cavell, a rock climb.

Monday was our travel and reconnaissance day. After dropping Bill Isherwood off in Banff (so he could go back to Salt Lake by shanks mare) we headed for Jasper. We stopped at Poboktin Creek Warden Station for informatiinn on Edith Cavell, at the Tea House for a visual reconnaissance of the east ridge route, and we attempted to look up Hans Swarg and Harvey Rowed in Jasper. The last stop was, of course, the ale house.

Tuesday dawned bright and beautiful, and found us at the base of the climb. During the quiet predawn hours we had hiked from the Tea House to the pass on the east ridge, in progress scaring up a mountain goat. We immediately attacked the 1000 ft. buttress that had appeared so formidable on Monday. By 8 am we were at its top, having gone up it unroped. It was so easy that we speculated about reaching the summit by 10 am or perhaps looking for difficulties.

We didn't have to look for difficulties - they found us. After three interesting high angle leads, the climb degenerated into 40 ft. pitches and 60 ft. of cornice walking. This went on and on for 2000 ft., with the hazard and exposure just great enough to keep us roped up. Finally at 3:30 pm we reached the summit and its magnificent view of fantastic mountains, alpine valleys, snow fields and glaciers. To the southwest we could see the snowy pyramid of Mt. Columbia, and to the northwest the awesome massif of Robson. And everywhere in between were mountains - a sea of mountains.

Our descent route was down the west ridge and out through a beautiful alpine valley. It was dark by the time the four of us reached the cars, and raining gently. A quick stout was consumed in way of celebration, but so tired were we that serious celebration was out of the question. It was a long day (15 hours) but well worth it.

MOUNTAINEERING RAMBLINGS

by Tome Stevenson

Harold Goodro was honored this summer by Bob Goodwin and Rich reame when they sponsored him as a prospective member for the American Alpine Club. He was accepted in this, the most influential organization in American mountaineering. Some of the requirements for membership are a fine climbing history and a character which will add to the betterment of mountaineering. Harold certainly has these. The club congratulates him.

There was a group of climbers who made an intense attempt to make the first winter ascent of Mt. Moran in the Tetons by the NE ridge. The climbers represented all three climbing clubs in the Salt Lake Valley; Ours, the Ute Alpine Club, and the Alenbock Club. Those on the climb were Ron Perla, Dennis Caldwell, Tom Rees, Bill Isherwood, Steve Ellsworth, Court Richards, George Lowe, Bill Conrod, Mark McQuarrie and Tom Stevenson. See Feb. Rambler for the results of the trip.

There will be first aid instruction offered to all interested persons beginning in the first portion of February. It will begin with the basics as applicable to our activities and progress up through more detailed applications. Dr. Ed Schneider will provide the excellent instruction. See the Feb. Rambler for complete details.

NOTE: This issue of the Rambler might be a little late getting to you. Gail Durst and your Rambler editor are getting married on Dec. 30.