

The Rambler

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Official Publication of
THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB
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TRIPS AND OUTINGS FOR MARCH 1965

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

March 1 PAY YOUR DUES!
Mon.

March 6 Ice Climbing. Meet at the mouth of Little Cottonwood
Saturday Canyon at 7:30 a.m. Bring ice axe, crampons, and warm
clothes. At this exercise the step cutting and other ice
techniques required in the Mountaineer test may be examined.
Register by 6 p.m. March 5 at headquarters.

March 7 Alta-Lake Blanche. This is one of the Club's favorite
Sunday springtime tours. Advanced and intermediate skiers are
welcome. Bring climbers and several lunches. Register by
6 p.m. Friday.

March 8 Rescue Group Meeting. Techniques and policies will be
Monday discussed. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Karl Dunn
at 322 South 1100 East. Seriously interested persons are
also invited.

March 10 Benefit Slide Show. The WMC is sponsoring a benefit (WMC
Wednesday benefits from the proceeds) slide show of the first ascent
of the North Face of Mt. McKinley. Tom Spencer, who was
a member of the expedition led by Hans Gmoser, will
narrate the slides. Bring your friends. The show will
start at 8:30 p.m. Wed., March 10 at Utah Power & Light
Auditorium (6th South & 7th East). A donation of \$1.00
will be requested.

March 14 American Fork Twins-White Pine. We will proceed to the
Sunday summit of American Fork Twins via the top of Mary Ellen
Gulch. The descent down White Pine Canyon is among the
finest and longest in the entire Wasatch. Bring climbers
and enough food for several lunch stops along the way.
This is NOT a beginners tour so unless you have good en-
durance and are somewhat proficient on skis do not attempt
to register. Register by 6 p.m. Saturday.

March 14 After Ski Social. "Good Old Annie" is hostessing this
Sunday evening. She'll be waiting for us with warm food and cold
beer at 5344 Cottonwood Lane. Call her (Ann McDonald) for
directions. 277-0816.

- March 18-24 Wind River Trip. This is a winter climbing trip into Thursday to the Gannett Peak region where several peaks including Wednesday the Sphinx and Gannett will be climbed. Direct inquiries should be made to Dennis Caldwell or Tom Stevenson.
- March 20 Rock Climbing. Meet at Pete's Rock at 10 a.m. for a Saturday Saturday morning of exercise. Register by 6 p.m. March 19 at headquarters.
- March 21 Maybird-Pfifferhorn, Alpine. This trip is for the experienced skiers only. 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.
- March 28 Mineral Fork from Alta. Join us in exploring a here-to-Sunday fore untoured area. This is a tour for intermediate and advanced skiers only. Register by 5 p.m. Saturday.
- March 28 After Ski Social. Winding up a long ski-social season, Sunday the last scheduled social of the 1964-65 winter season will be hosted by the DeMint's. This has been a wonderful year for skiing and we've had some very pleasant after ski socials. Thanks again to all those who opened their homes to the ski bums (et al). Come to 1623 Lone Peak Drive, 277-5056.
- March 30 Conservation Meeting. Those interested in conservation Tuesday are invited to meet at 8 p.m. at 510 M St. See article.
- April 4 Rescue Group Practice. Meet at Pete's Rock at 10 a.m. Sunday for physical practice in techniques. There will be rock climbing after. Register by 6 p.m. April 2 at headquarters. Bring a lunch and all of your equipment.
- April 4 Brighton-Neff's Canyon. This is a new trip that has not Sunday been attempted previously by any Club members. Only advanced skiers should register for it. Register by 6 p.m. Friday.

AMERICAN FORK CANYON FROM ALTA writer - Clint and Ann Barker
JANUARY 10

We arrived bright and not too early (10:00 a.m.) on a beautiful sunny day to meet at the bottom of the Collins Lift. After some haggling as to whose ticket paid for whom, we got on the lift. After more rearranging people with tickets we continued up the Germania Lift. We climbed the ridge leading to the Abion Basin, where it seemed as though everyone wanted to take his own

way to the Germania Hut. The indefatigable John MacDuff arriving first and the Barkers being last to straggle up.

The view from the pass was the most impressive we encountered. John and Carl Bauer pointed out the ridge at the head of Gad Valley and Mt. Timpanogos and the American Fork Twin Peaks. These two veterans showed the novices the planned traverse around the head of Mineral Basin leading to the pass of the Mary Ellen Gulch. Then according to the unwritten Standard W.M.C. Procedure, everyone took off on their own course.

The wise head of John MacDuff prevailed again with his riding the upper slopes, and as result, doing very little climbing. Carl and Dick Nelson tried to find an easy way near the cliffs, and as result had to do some extra climbing.

The West side of Mineral Basin was crossed with a great deal of hesitation by the writers due to the steep slopes and obvious slide areas; and where on several occasions he assisted his wife with her Cubco bindings.

We lunched at the Mary Ellen Pass around two o'clock. As the day was beautiful, we wanted to sit on the warm rocks and bathe in the sun, but worrying about the finishing time continued on. However at this point, the tour became all downhill. (Oh, Happy Days Are Here Again)

The snow conditions were not quite ideal; there was a snow crust causing a little less than expert parallel turns by most of us. After crossing the first snowfield at the top of the gulch leading to the road, we played tag with the creek and follow the leader through the Aspen, across gullies and then down the road when possible.

Due to the early scheduling of this trip, we didn't have to carry our skis for miles, but only a couple of hundred yards to where the cars were parked. John MacDuff avoided the walking entirely by taking a more direct route.

Participants: Leader Carl Bauer, John MacDuff, Jack McLellan, Dennis Norton, Dick Nelson, Milton Hollander, Clint and Ann Barker.

ICE CLIMBING January 16

by Tom Stevenson

After much looking for ice in Big Cottonwood Canyon we gave up and journeyed to the large icicle in Little Cottonwood Canyon. After following Jungle Jim (Steve) Ellsworth through the forest of oak we had a delightful few hours of step cutting and crampon practice. Several ice screws were placed on the two routes made up the first 25 foot section. It is recommended that short screws be taken since

the ice is often quite thin and it is not comforting to tie off longer ones. The icicle is steep enough to make good use of 12 point crampons and provides the best ice practice of a somewhat advanced nature in the area.

Those present were:

Tom and Mimi Stevenson

Steve Ellsworth

Jack McLellan

Bill Conrod

Robb Russon

LAKE BLANCHE SKI TOUR

By Emile Hall

January 17, 1965

Nineteen (or did someone say twenty?) escapists, among them five members of the U.S. Forest Service, left the Deep Powder House at 8:30 heading for Cardiff Pass and Cardiac Ridge over to Lake Blanche. It was almost as quick to walk up the first part, (but who wants to carry skis?) so we slipped and sweated up it on skins. Weather was just like late spring except for those smothering in the valley fog. After regrouping on Cardiac Pass, eating breakfast, and planning the best approach for the next ridge, further progress was made with some people still insisting on carrying their skis..

Instead of climbing high on the shoulder of Mt. Superior (it's a long slide down to the highway), the leader chose to drop over the north side of the ridge - perhaps the safest approach but losing valuable altitude. Strengthened by sawdust-tasting chocolate bars (we missed Carl Bauer's lifesavers), the final ridge was reached at about 12:30. Luckily there was still more mountain above us for some of the more eager members of the party to explore. The rest dined on smoked oysters, chile (and on down to jelly sandwiches) while exchanging views on avalanche conditions in other ski areas of the U.S. It seems they never climb slopes as steep as these in Colorado because of continuous avalanche danger due to factors such as high winds, less snow, and colder temperatures. The Wasatch are ideal for touring though they offer plenty of dangers.

Next, the powder hunting began and I must say the Forest Service contingent were pretty good at it. A new and better route was taken down from Lake Blanche at the extreme west end of the outlet, and it is highly recommended for future trips.

The last two miles through the aspen wasn't helped by the presence of snow shoe tracks, making the trail much deeper and narrower. But the last two miles are best forgotten anyway. To show our thanks to the leader (Alexis Kelner) lets take up a collection and buy him a new orange parka.

Skiers:

Don Bode
Chic Hendel
Pete Hovingh
Ed Schneider
Mike Treshow
Gale Dick
Alexis Kelner
Emile Hall
Dave Hall

Chan Welin, Vale Ski Patrol
Roland Emataz, Vancouver, Wash.
Dale Gallagher, Forest Service, Denver
Lynn Buchanann, Yakima, Wash.
Ann Dick
Dennis Caldwell
Charles Hall
Bruce Cristensen

ROCK CLIMBING--BRRRRRRRRRRR!
February 7

by Denis Norton

A group of six potential rock climbers assembled at Storm Mountain picnic ground to learn of some available ice climbing that our leader, Tom Stevenson, knew about. We drove farther up Big Cottonwood Canyon to practice some techniques of ice climbing. Tom demonstrated the effective use of the ice axe for chopping steps and maintaining balance. With ice axes in hand we then assaulted the smooth ice walls left by recent snow slides. At first, a number of poorly shaped, poorly located steps of the wrong size were cut in off-balance positions at an effective speed of a snow snail travelling up-glacier. Thanks to Tom's patient coaching, the steps soon began to assume the proper size, shape and location and were made with a minimum number of swings.

In an hour or so, the ice wall had been reduced to a maze of steps. We then moved on to another slide area to continue practice. A demonstration of slope traversing with crampons was presented by Tom and Jack. A barrage of hand packed snow spheres signaled a momentary diversion from step-cutting to another snow craft. The bright afternoon sun warming prominent snow cornices on the ridge above signaled our retreat to the highway. The hardy group who chopped without Brrrr! included:

Tom Stevenson, Leader
Bob & Sarah Nestor
Marv Wharton

Jack McLellan
Phil Krooe
Denis Norton

ICE SKATING

February 11

by Clare Davis

Hardy souls met together at the Hygeia Ice Rink in mighty low temperatures to cut figure eights on a rink which for once offered plenty of elbow room. Other people stayed home where it was warm. It was jolly good fun, however, and everyone stayed until closing time, alternating turns about the rink with rapid dashes inside to warm up. The group looked pretty good - not much crawling around on knees or clutching at supports. Cups of hot chocolate and coffee at the Hot Shoppes afterward provided warmth and stimulation for some hearty conversation. Skaters: Ann Ruhmann, Mel Davis, Ron Stenerson, Milt Hollander, Roger Jackson, Lucy Hershley, Watcher: Clare Davis.

CANADA TRIP - Part VI

ABBOTT PASS, July 21-23

by Tom Stevenson

After a short acquaintance period with Banff we set out for Lake O'Hara and Abbott Pass hut from which Mt. Lefroy and Mt. Victoria were to be climbed. At 10:00 a.m. after weighing our rough mountain clothed bodies and bulging packs on the scales located in the lobby of the plush Lake Louise Chateau, we worriedly watched the bus driver load our crampon protruding packs into the bus. We were soon on our way to Lake O'Hara by the only public conveyance allowed to this very picturesque glenn in the heart of the Canadian Rockies. As the middle-sized bus ground up the sometimes steep, narrow road and dashed across even narrower bridges, the true splendor of the Rockies opened up for us - towering, snow-capped and glacier carved mountains set on a green velvet mat of breeze rustled pines with crashing water falls and bubbling brooks feeding to and from tranquil glacier blue lakes.

After registering with the Warden at his log cabin on the shore of exquisite Lake O'Hara we set off up the good trail towards our hut some 2500 feet above in the threatening clouds. Soon we were at Lake Oesa and from this last stronghold of vegetation we had a rather long and not too enthralling trudge up 1800 feet of talus in squally weather. By early afternoon the first group reached the windswept col and hut. Strong man Larry Swanson twice came part way back down that slope to help the slower hikers.

That night feasts were prepared by all; Ron and Patti prepared enough rice dinner to delight about half of the population of China but we all being mountaineers of true spirit managed to devour it all. The girls braved the snowy wintery July weather to determine if the cliff hanging outhouse was still there before retiring for

the evening.

At 4:00 a.m. the next morning a few disgruntled souls stumbled out of their sacks to build a fire and get things going. Soon food was brewing and warm clothes were donned to protect us from the gale blowing outside.

Four intrepid climbers - D. Caldwell, L. Swanson, D. Allen and myself - soon set out into the blowing snow-covered landscape with a visibility of about 100-200 feet. By much luck and recollection from past years I located the proper couloir and we proceeded up through the knee deep snow. Soon we were just below an icy shoulder and after some step cutting in a none too well protected situation we were on the summit ridge. We pressed on to a snow plastered knob looking for the summit. From the top we could just make out through the 11,230 foot high fog and snow another knob. We did this for two additional times before, considering the conditions, deciding that we had summited. The route down was the same but with considerably more snow.

Once at the hut we warmed ourselves and talked a second party to going up the 1800 foot snow climb. Ron lead the group and the strongman Larry decided to go also to point the way. The second party consisted of R. Perla, L. Swanson, B. Isherwood, S. Imber, P. Parmalee and J. Allen. Their climb was snowy and blowy also but very quick and they were enthused when they returned. A few of us ventured out later in the afternoon to look at the huge lateral crevasses at the head of the Victoria Glacier when the weather cleared up to a point about level with the top of the outhouse.

The following morning again at 4:00 a.m. the weather was behaving no better than the day before and due to the large snow accumulation we postponed the Mt. Victoria climb until another time.

The journey down from the pass was delightful as we glissaded down through the 12 inch deep new snow.

Those present: Tom & Mimi Stevenson, Ron Perla, Bill Isherwood, Larry Swanson, Scotti Imber, Dave & Judy Allen, Patti Parmalee, Dennis Caldwell, Ernie Katten, Larry Fisher.

MOUNTAINEERING RAMBLINGS

BY Tom (T.Q.) Stevenson

Climbing Classes

Our climbing classes this year will involve several new procedures; a member of a class must be a member of the club so don't let your dues lapse; there will be a small fee to cover costs of various items pertaining to the mountaineering section of the club; and we shall have fewer class sessions on Thursdays and make more use of the weekends. There shall be recognition for completion of classes.

We shall have a rigid registration and shall require certain equipment before allowing registration in classes. The minimum for the beginning class is:

- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Hard hat | 3. Pitons | 5. Sling rope |
| 2. Carabiners | 4. Piton hammer | 10' x 1/4" |

The minimum for the intermediate class is:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Beginner equip. | 4. Several pitons | 7. Climbing shoes |
| 2. Crampons & ice axe | 5. Summit pack | 8. Parka |
| 3. Several carabiners | 6. First Aid kit | 9. Additional Sling mat. |

This equipment should be bought or borrowed prior to the middle of April when registration for the beginners and intermediate classes takes place. The beginners equipment may be purchased for a minimum cost of \$12.75 plus tax. The mountaineering stores in the Sale Lake area are:

Brighton Store, Ray Watrus
Brighton Phone Brighton
The Mountain Shop, Karl Dunn
322 So. 1100 East Phone 364-8595
The Mountaineer, Steve Ellsworth
208 So. 1300 East Phone 364-0616

Full details of the classes will be published in the April Rambler.

Resistration

Everyone please reread in your February Rambler on pages 8 & 9 the discussion on REGISTRATION for the club and private trips. Please, everyone, register for all trips.

First Aid

The first aid course given by Dr. Ed Schneider is a very excellent one. The class is being conducted under the auspices of the Red Cross and the attendees will be awarded the basic Red Cross certification upon completion of the requirements. There are about 24 Wasatchers participating.

Canada '65

All persons interested in the Canada '65 trip should contact Dennis Caldwell; his phone number is 466-6578. For all those who missed the general meeting of Feb. 18 you got what you deserved in not seeing what the Canadian Rockies are like or enjoying the beautiful scenery you've hiked and climbed before.

Rescue

Again, in case of accident or other problem the numbers and people to call for help or information are:

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	

See page 7 in your February Rambler for a discussion of club policies concerning accidents or other situations needing assistance.

Hikers Climbing Class

We shall have a Hikers Climbing Class beginning at the end of April. This class is specifically designed for those hikers who want to know:

1. How to hike better and more easily
2. How to cope with a short rock scramble
 - a. Use of balance on rock
 - b. Use of hands and feet
3. The simplest of fundamentals of roped climbing including the following:
 - a. 1 or 2 knots
 - b. Simple belays
 - c. Several calls
 - d. A rappel

All hikers, everyone from 6 to 60, are urged to come out and enjoy this short 2 session class. It will be taught by qualified leaders and there shall be no fees. I hope to see all of you trail stompers there. Registration details will be in the April Rambler.

Mountaineering Leaders

The Senior Committee on Mountaineering is happy to report that Dave Allen and Dennis Caldwell have qualified as Mountaineering Leaders.

CONSERVATION RAMBLINGS

by Paul Schettler

Do you care whether or not Red Butte Canyon is made into a trailer camp? Do you believe that a road up the south side of Little Cottonwood is necessary? Do you think that the waters of Colorado River dams should be allowed to back up into Grand Canyon National Park, even though the economics of such a dam is questionable?

In the belief that other members are also interested in these matters we invite you to come to our next conservation meeting, 8:00 p.m., March 30 at 510 M Street. We have a real need for more people. If interested call Paul Schettler, DA 2-3010.

BOARD AND RELATED RAMBLINGS

NEW BOARD

The new board of directors elected at the Feb. 18 election meeting is listed below. The (*) indicates a member of the last board.

Betty Boettcher
*Dave Cook
*Barbara Evans
Roger Jackson
Jack McClelland
*Paul Schettler
*Tom Stevenson

*Dennis Caldwell
*Bob Demint
*Dale Green
*Allexis Kelner
*Ann McDonald
*George Smith
Sarah Weller

NEW (OLD) TRUSTEE

Robert J. Wright was elected to a full four year term. Bob was elected last year to a one year term to fill a vacancy.

BY-LAW CHANGES

In addition to a new board people-wise the board has been changed functionally. We now have a Ski Mountaineering Director and a Hiking and Trails Director in place of Trips and Outings Director and Trails Director.

By-law I-N SKI MOUNTAINEERING

The director of this department shall be responsible for the planning and supervision of all cross country skiing. He shall maintain a leadership and safety program for these activities.

By-law I-P HIKING AND TRAILS

The director of this department shall supervise the maintenance of existing trails and the blazing of new ones in liason with the Forest Service and shall establish and maintain summit registers on major peaks in this area. It shall also be his duty to draw up the hiking schedules and maintain a leadership and safety program.

By-law I-R The President shall assign the responsibility for coordinating all club activities to one of the directors.

ADVERTISEMENT

"Getting there is half the fun," says a travel ad for a steamship line. For Mountain Club Members, getting there is the fun---and half of it consists of the beforehand planning and dreaming. Reading about proposed trips heightens anticipation, sharpens memories of past ones.

For river runners, "The Exploration of the Colorado River" by John Wesley Powell (available in inexpensive paperback at the Cottonwood Books, Lower Cottonwood Mall) is a wonderful beforehand tool. Here is the original account of one of the great adventures of the opening of the American West, told by Major Powell who led the first expedition down the Colorado in 1869. Powell's party of ten men in four boats traveled 1500 miles through treacherous rapids and canyons a mile deep---with excitement all the way.

If you're a river runner (or a would-be R.R.), "The Exploration of the Colorado River" should be part of your book collection. Mountain Clubbers can relive the memories of sand in their hair, feet in the water, and sand in the food through the graphic descriptions of Major Powell's memorable voyage, since parts of his trip have been covered in Club expeditions. Desolation Canyon and Glen Canyon were both Club trips, as was the trip down to Flaming Gorge and the running of the Green through Split Mountain. La Dore and Cataract Canyon have been run by such experienced members as Gayle Dick and Bruce Christensen.

Ann McDonald and Leon Edwards, proprietors of Cottonwood Books, are on hand in the Lower Level of the Cottonwood Mall to greet their fellow club members and help them find books that are related to Mountain Club Activities. If they don't have it, they'll get it. So stop in and say hello....and buy some books. Help Ann and Leon pay their club dues.

Note: The Rambler is now taking paid ads at the rate of \$5.00 per page.