



# The Rambler

*Official Publication of*  
THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

San Lake City, Utah

June 1967

CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE 1967

Register for all trips at Club Headquarters, 363-7150

- Jun 3 Sat. M T. SUPERIOR FROM LAKE BLANCHE -- El. 11,132. Rating 11.0. (Rating 5.0 to Lake Blanche). Two destinations will be combined to provide a choice of easy or difficult hiking. The area surrounding L. Blanche is beautiful as is the view from Mt. Superior's summit. Carry lunch and water and meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m. Register by 5:00 p.m. Fri., Jun 2.
- Jun 4 Sun. SUNDIAL EXPERIENCE CLIMB -- Above Lake Blanche. If enough interest is shown, this could be expanded to include the whole weekend. Register with Dave Allen (278-0230) by Thurs. Jun 1.
- Jun 4 Sun. KESSLER PEAK -- El. 10,403, rating 4.5. A hike from Mill "D" South that is short and not difficult, but very steep. It has been felt by some groups in the past that this hike should be rated a little higher because the beginning of the trail is difficult to find. Leader, Jerry Daurelle. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m. Register by 5:00 p.m. Sat., Jun 3.
- Jun 4 Sun. BIKE TRIP -- Interested in an early summer cycling trip? Call Ellen Catmull (359-6505) and suggest where to go. One possibility is a bike ride to Antelope Island on the Great Salt Lake, 40 miles round trip.
- Jun 8 Thurs. CLIMBING AT STORM MOUNTAIN -- "bergers and drinks" after climbing and hiking and whatever.
- Jun 10 - 11 Sat. & Sun. LONE PEAK VIA CORNER CANYON -- Climbing and hiking. Climbers will leave early Sat. morning and establish a high camp in the great Corner Canyon Cirque. The rest of Sat. and Sun. will be spent on the marvelous granite of this cirque. Climbers contact Dave Allen (278-0230) for directions, climbing details, time, etc. The hike to Lone Peak can be made either Sat. or Sun. Some may wish to go up Sat., camp over, and return Sun. For the advanced hiker, this will be an enjoyable experience. The trail is rugged or nonexistent, but the panoramic view from the top includes most of the favorite summits in the Wasatch. Hikers plan to leave about 7:00 a.m. either day. Contact Mike King (486-9705) for details. Register before 5:00 p.m. Fri. Jun 9. Bring plenty of water and lunch.
- Jun 11 Sun. DONUT FALLS -- Rating 0.5. A very easy hike recommended for beginners and young families, with an outstanding creation of nature at the end of a short and pleasant path. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:30 a.m. No registration required.
- Jun 15 Thurs. CLIMBING AT GATE ROCKS -- Come join the group in Little Cottonwood Canyon for climbing on solid granite, bouldering, socializing, or just plain watching. Tail gate liquids, but no food.

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COVER PHOTO: Nature's Sandstone Patterns in the Canyon Country, by A. Kelner

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- Jun 17 & 18  
Sat. & Sun. CLIMBING WEEKEND AT THE LODGE -- Lodge opens at 1:00 p.m. Sat. and remains so overnight. Bring sleeping bags. Your host, Tom Stevenson, will acquaint climbers with the rocks in the area (granite, and as tough as you want it.) Also included will be a short review of climbing fundamentals at 3:00 p.m. Sat. Register for the review with Tom (486-8612) - no registration needed for the rest. New members are cordially invited. Come out and get acquainted!
- Jun 17 - 20  
Sat. - Tues. DESOLATION CANYON (GREEN RIVER) FLOAT TRIP -- From Ouray to Green river, Utah. Intermediate to advanced. This run takes us through 100 miles of country. The scenery from the river is in places comparable to the Grand Canyon and there are enough rapids to make it challenging. This a strenuous trip, particularly if the winds are unfavorable, so be prepared to do a lot of paddling. This section of the Green is now scheduled to be dammed (damned?) but there might still be a possibility of saving the area if pressure can be exerted. The dam, like so many other Bureau of Reclamation make-work projects, would be only for producing electricity. Work party will meet at the Ice Plant (430 W. 2nd N.) at 2:00 p.m. Sun, Jun 11th. Register by paying trip fee of \$25 at Club Hq. by 5:00 p.m. Tues, Jun 13. Departure time is Fri. Jun 16, at 7:00 p.m. sharp. For information contact Dick Snyder, trip leader (322-6558).
- Jun 17  
Sat. MT. AIRE VIA ELBOW FORK -- El. 8,620, rating 3.0. Snow storms in April made it impossible to take this hike at that time. Another good hike for the beginner and as a first conditioner. Leader, Bill Ohlsen. Meet at the Red Carpet Inn at 3928 S. Wasatch Blvd. at 8:30 a.m. Register before 5:00 p.m. Fri., 16 Jun.
- Jun 18  
Sun. GRANDEUR PEAK -- El. 8,299, rating 6.0. Leader, Leroy Kuehl. Meet at Red Carpet Inn at 8:00 a.m. Register by 5:00 p.m Sat. Jun 17. Repeat of hike taken earlier this year for those who were not able to get away on Sat.
- Jun 18  
Sun. RED PINE, PFIFFERHORN, BELL'S CANYON -- El. 11,326, rating 17.0. One of the most difficult and yet most beautiful and rewarding hikes in the Wasatch. For experienced hikers who desire a real workout. Club members taking this route in the past know where Lightning Ridge got its name. If ambition is high, some may summit Thunder Mountain before dropping into Bell's Canyon, a miniature Yosemite Valley. Leader, Harold Goodro. Meet at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 5:00 a.m. Register by 5:00 p.m. Sat. Jun 17.
- Jun 22  
Thurs. CLIMBING AT STORM MOUNTAIN -- Piton craft seminar. For those who desire to learn more about piton craft, this should be a most valuable session. Multi-pitch climbing and socializing also offered. Refreshments after.
- Jun 24 & 25  
Sat. & Sun. TETON HIGH CAMP -- Camp will be located in Garnet Canyon. The actual climbs will be selected later. However, such peaks as Nez Perce, South Teton, Middle Teton, etc, are readily available. Hikers may wish to come along just to view the scenery from the various cols. Register with Dave Allen (278-0230) by Thurs. evening, June 22. We will meet at the Jenny Lake Guard Station at 8:00 a.m. Sat.

- Jun 24 - 25 RUBY MOUNTAINS WEEKEND -- Hiking, packing, fishing, partying. This area provides the opportunity for the most casual nature hike or the roughest backpack with a short drive into Elko for an evening of entertainment, if desired. Members may want to leave home early Friday, but everyone will meet at the head of Lamoille Canyon Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Plans include a Basque dinner in Elko before returning home. Co-leaders, Dick Nielsen and Jerry Horton. Register by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, June 22.
- Jun 24 Sat. TWIN PEAKS -- El. 11,330, rating 10.5. Another favorite. Leader Bob Wright suggests that those planning to go should call him to see if an ice axe will be needed for the climb to the summit. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Bring water and lunch. Register by 5:00 p.m. Friday, June 23. Check with Bob, or Mike King, for meeting time.
- Jun 25 Sun. L. DESOLATION FROM BRIGHTON, rating 5.0. A leisurely hike enjoyed by everyone. Take a lunch to eat at this cool, refreshing lake. Leader, Roger Jackson. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m. Register by 5:00 p.m. Saturday, June 24.
- Jun 29 Thur. CLIMBING AT STORM MOUNTAIN -- Enjoy an evening of multipitch climbing on good quartzite. As with all these sessions, climbing starts about 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome. At dusk, gourmet 'burgers and quality beer and pop are served at a modest price.
- Jul 1 - 2 Sat. & Sun. TETON HIGH CAMP -- Destination is the Grand Teton. Leaders are Harold Goodro and Gary Larson. The Grand, highest peak of the Tetons, offers a commanding view of the range. Although not insurmountable, it does require good conditioning. Contact the leaders or Dave Allen for details.
- Jul 1 - 4 S A W T O O T H S -- Leader is Dennis Caldwell. The primary purpose of this trip is climbing of peaks such as Warbonnet. However, people who desire not to climb vertiginous granite walks, but instead desire to hike and wander through the lovely cirques and valleys are also welcome. Contact Dave Allen (278-0230) for details. (Note - this supersedes the Wind River trip of same date).
- Jul 1 - 4 MOUNT SNEFFELS -- El. 14150 ft - Mt. Sneffels is located in one of the most beautiful areas of Colorado, offering a wide variety of hikes and climbs. We will leave Salt Lake Friday night or Saturday morning (drivers choice) for Ouray Colorado (290 miles). Camp will be in a high alpine meadow not far from the cars. Mt. Sneffels can be climbed on Sunday. Other peaks in the area that can be climbed on the 3rd and 4th include Teapot, Potosi, Mt. Wilson, and El Diente. Bring warm clothing and food. Please register by 27 June so that transportation can be arranged. Pat and Clarice Caywood (364-1717).
- Jul 2 Sun. MT. MILLICENT FROM THE LODGE -- El. 10,452, rating 3.5. If you are staying home to avoid the crowded highways, meet at the Club Lodge at Brighton at 8:00 a.m. Bring a friend and share a delightful day passing through the colorful wild flowers in the fresh canyon



air. No registration is required, but leaders are needed for this hike and the one on the 4th.

- Jul 1 - 8  
Sat. & Sun.     MIDDLE FORK FLOAT TRIP (SALMON RIVER) --  
From Dagger Falls (near Stanley, Ida.) to confluence with the Main Fork. For advanced river runners. This is perhaps the finest wilderness, whitewater trip in the country. No roads touch this clear-water stream for over 100 miles (fishing is good!). The upper section is wooded, but later the canyon narrows and deepens to form Impassable Canyon, which is accessible only by raft. The more interesting rapids (rated 8 plus) occur here. This is perhaps the most difficult float trip attempted by the WMC to date and registration will be limited, so register early. Work party will meet at the Ice Plant (430 W. 2nd N.), 2:00 p.m., Sunday, June 25. Departure time is 7:00 p.m. Friday, June 30, from the Ice Plant. For information contact the trip leader, Del Wiens 487-2584. Register by paying trip fee of \$38.00 at Club headquarters by Tuesday, June 27 at 5:00 p.m.
- Jul 4  
Tues.     P F I F F E R H O R N V I A R E D P I N E L A K E -- El. 11,326, rating 10.0. Probably the most popular trip for the greatest number of members. The hike can be very leisurely for those who walk only to this beautiful alpine lake, but much steeper and more demanding for those who climb to the summit. Register by 5:00 p.m. Monday, July 3.
- Jul 6  
Thur.     C L I M B I N G A T G A T E R O C K S -- Come enjoy some solid granite for climbing or bouldering. Liquids after (no 'burgers).
- Jul 8  
Sat.     G E N E R A L M E M B E R S H I P M E E T I N G A N D K E G P A R T Y  
A T L O D G E -- Details in July Rambler.
- Jul 8 - 9  
Sat. & Sun.     T E T O N H I G H C A M P -- In Hanging Canyon. This beautiful, rugged cirque offers wonderful ridge running, some face climbs, and marvelous scenery. Register with Dave Allen (278-0230).
- Jul 22 - 24     C I R Q U E O F T H E T O W E R S
- Jul 29 -  
Aug 13     C A N A D A '6 7

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MATERIAL FOR MATTRESS COVERS NEEDED

During the lodge cleanup party, we noticed that many of our mattresses are badly in need of new covers. We need tough material of any kind, new or used, that can be made into covers. Helen Bander and Elfreda Snyder have offered their time and effort to sew covers from the material donated. Contact Helen (295-3200) or Elfreda (266-1374).

## W I L D E R N E S S

We have precious little real wilderness left in America. The true roadless areas represent only about two percent of our public lands. And the invasion of that small portion by every-lengthening roads is a constant threat. The ideal of many is to pave the trails, make alpine meadows accessible to cars, and perhaps put escalators on the peaks. When that is done, the wildness that is part of our great heritage will be gone forever.

We need ridges and basins that can only be reached on foot, cliffs and peaks that can only be conquered by daring. The passion to bring "civilization" to the remnants of our backwoods is one sign that we as Americans are getting soft and flabby. We want everything made easy. We forget that only when success comes through great effort, daring, and hazardous exertion is it worth having. We need the rest of the wildness of America as testing grounds for unborn generations where they can come to grips with elemental forces and, testing themselves against the mountains, get to know their strength and weakness. We need the woods not as a place to park a car but as a sanctuary untouched, where nature is in full play, where man finds his place among all the creatures of the earth. No better place for building character can be designed. Not all the steel, concrete and asphalt, no degree of ingenuity with electronics and the atom, no man-made inventions can duplicate the wonders of the wilderness.

We must unite to save the tiny islands of true wildness that we have left. If we destroy them, we will have lost forever some of the true glory that was America.

William O. Douglas  
Justice, Supreme Court of the U.S.

## MOUNTAINEERING RAMBLINGS

by Dave Allen

Canada '67 - July 28-Aug 13.

As mentioned in prior issues, the W.M.C. is going on a hiking and mountaineering trip to Canada this summer. The basic itinerary is to spend five days (Mon. - Fri.) in the Selkirks, have two layover or free days for sightseeing (say, Banff, Lake Louise), then five days in Yoho N.P. for climbing and hiking in the Resident Group. In both areas, base camp will be in public campgrounds, readily accessible by automobile. In the Selkirks, we shall camp at Glacier campground which is at Rogers Pass, Glacier N.P., and in Yoho N.P. we shall camp near Yoho Bungalow camp, which is near Field. High camps will then be set up as the climbs and the people dictate. The itinerary is flexible, of course, and can be changed as the majority rules.

As is readily apparent by the itinerary, the camping will not be strenuous. Everybody is welcome on this trip - wives, girlfriends, children, dogs, cats, etc - whether they be hikers or climbers. Daily activities will be what individuals or small groups desire; the old hands will be available for advice.

Some equipment is necessary. Since it can rain (how else can the forests be so green or the glaciers so white), a rain proof tent should be brought as well as rain gear, such as a poncho. Also, sleeping bags should be comfortable to somewhat below 40° F. - it occasionally gets chilly at night. Down gear is advisable for high camps. Boots are mandatory except for the shortest strolls. Also, since much walking will be on snow, an ice axe is highly recommended. Day packs will be needed, and pack frames if high camps are attempted. Food need not be dehydrated except for high camps. Dehydrated food

should be purchased in the states; regular food can be purchased locally.

Actual trip cost will be quite low, depending on individual taste. It is estimated that gas and oil will cost \$40-50 round trip per car, while food and drink can be done as low as \$20 per person per week and still be quite comfortable. Actual food budget should be no higher than our normal home food budget.

Below is a list of maps, available at \$0.50 each from:

Map Distribution Office  
Department of Mines and Technical  
Surveys  
615 Booth Street  
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Checks should be payable to:

Receiver General of Canada

Maps are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location No.</u>	<u>No. of Maps</u>
Lake Louise	82 N 8 E & W	2
Hector Lake	82 N 9 E & W	2
Golden	82 N 7 E	1
Illecillewaet	N 4 E	1
Glacier	N 5 E	1
Mt. Wheeler	N 3 W	1
Blaeberry	N 6 W	1

Travel into Canada is simple. Customs will check for identification (drivers license plus proof of U.S. citizenship, such as a birth certificate). No passport is necessary. Also, auto insurance of 50, 100, 20 is required (I believe) - your insurance agent will supply the necessary voucher card and will sell a short term policy covering it.

Plans are constantly being formulated for hikes and climbs. To get in on the planning, either come out to the Thursday evening sessions or contact Dave Allen, Tom Stevenson, or Jack McLellan.

# ESCALANTE-WATERPOCKET FOLD WILD AREA THREATENED BY UNNECESSARY ROADS

by C. L. Keller

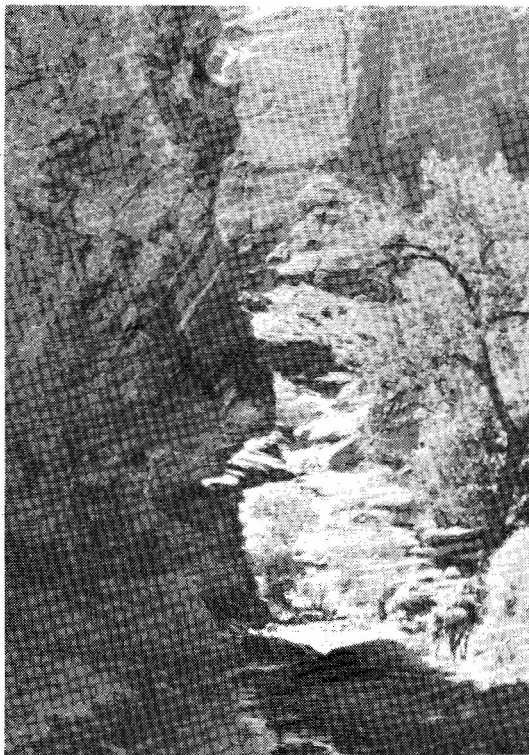
(Photos by the Author)

Those club members who know me know that I have a special love for the Escalante River and its canyons. I have spent many days and nights along the Escalante, and have a strong suspicion that God moved there after he was chased out of Glen Canyon. The few of you who have shared the Escalante's beauties with me know very well what I mean. This past month the Escalante has been very much in mind, since it is threatened by roads to be constructed as part of the Golden Circle. Although no one seems to know very much about the roads, I'll pass on what little bit I have learned.

About two months ago the State Highway Department extended an invitation to the Wasatch Mountain Club to send a representative along on a four day Waterpocket Fold Tour. The purpose of the trip was to show conservationists where the proposed road from Bullfrog Basin to Hole in the Rock is to run, and to try to convince them that the road actually is needed. George H. Smith, former Board member, represented the club on this trip; his report appears in this issue of the Rambler.

The road in question actually begins at Trachyte Junction on State Highway 95, south of Hanksville, and follows the route of the old existing road south between Mount Hillers and Mount Holmes of the Henry Mountains, and then on down to Bullfrog Basin. Before the advent of Lake Powell the road went to Hall's Crossing. This portion of the road is being improved now. There is little, if any controversy over this section; it is not a new road and it does grant access to the very large marina being built at Bullfrog. However, from this point west, the entire proposal takes on a different color and, perhaps, odor.

From the marina, the road will skirt the northern extremities of Bullfrog Basin, cross Hall's Creek, climb the Waterpocket Fold, and then head southwest to cross the Escalante River and desert to reach the southern end of the Kaiparowits Plateau. The plan is to round the plateau at Navajo Point, head northwest to skirt the Rock Creek canyons, and finally turn southwest again, crossing Last Chance and Warm Creeks before arriving at US Highway 89 near Wahweap. The general route is shown in the map of Lake Powell and Environs printed in this Rambler.



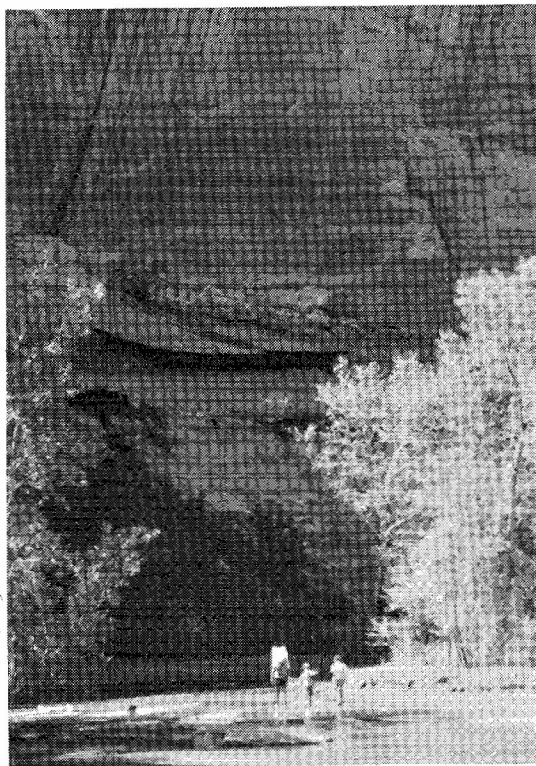
Coyote Creek, Escalante Tributary

Although there are many arguments both for and against the road, when one reviews them he finds the arguments for the road are not very convincing. Most of the pro arguments have been included in the Highway Department's very elaborate booklet, "The Golden Circle", where a very selective choice of facts are used to show how necessary this highway is. It is shown, for instance, that America's favorite pasttime is driving for pleasure, hence the apparant need for highways. Yet the same data show that Americans are only one-fourth as interested in sightseeing as they are in driving. Another chart shows that most vacation trips are between one hundred and five hundred miles long, with the median being somewhat shorter than two hundred and fifty miles. This

would delete the proposed Golden Circle route for most people in Utah's population centers.

In order to show that the Lake Powell area is worthy of this highway program, another chart shows that in 1964 and 1965 Glen Canyon was the most popular of all the selected scenic attractions in Utah. However, it was compared with Arches, Capitol Reef, Cedar Breaks and Natural Bridges National Monuments, and Canyonlands National Park. The inclusion of such little known scenic wonders as Big Cottonwood Canyon would have seriously distorted the conclusions that might be drawn from this chart.

The chosen route for the road goes through some of the roughest terrain in

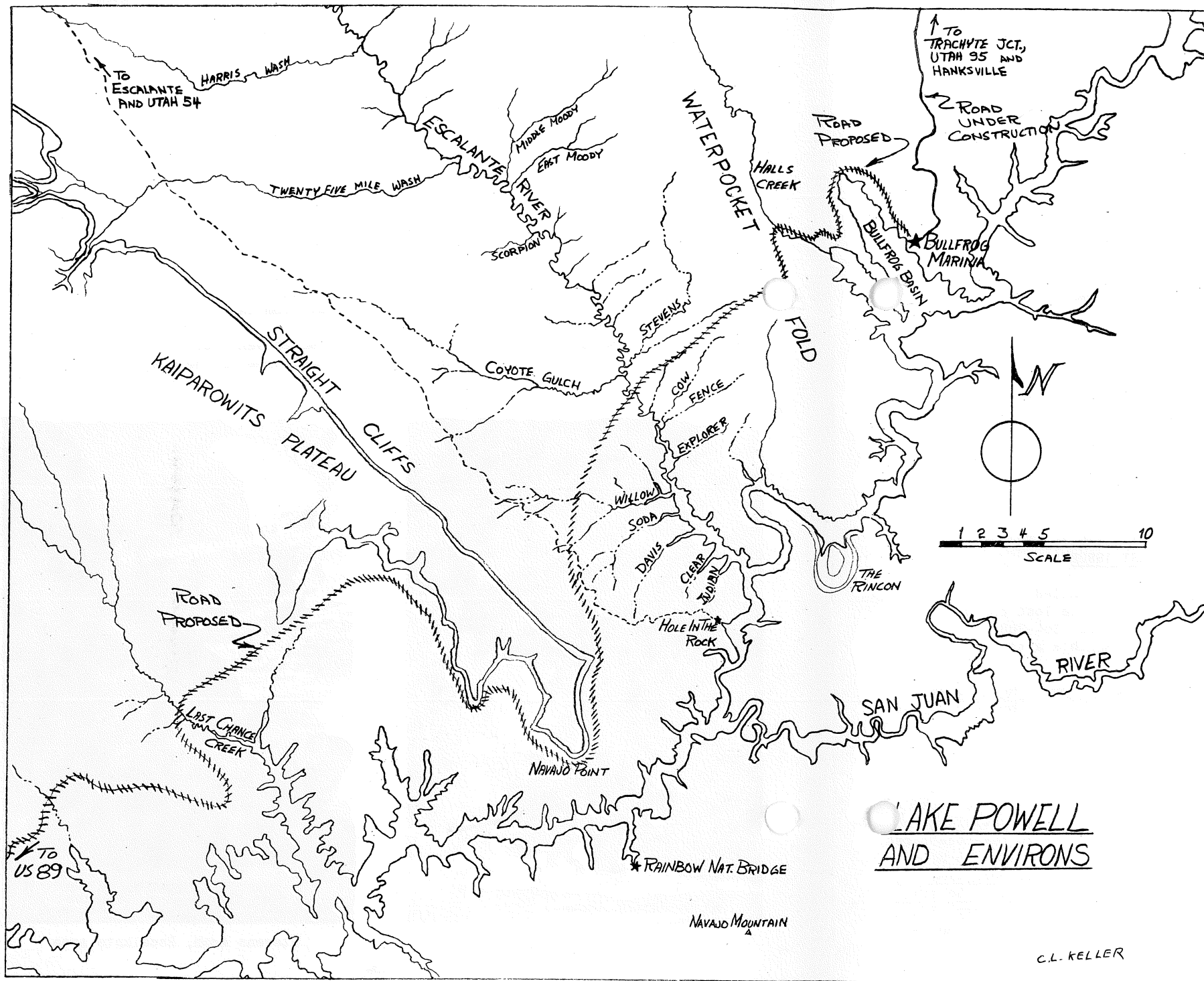


Coyote Creek



Stevens Arch, Escalante Area





the United States. The cost for the thirty miles from Bullfrog Basin to the Escalante desert is estimated at four and a half million dollars. That's \$150,000 per mile. The next seventy three miles to US 89 will cost only 8.8 million dollars, or a little over \$100,000 per mile. But a good percentage of that will be spent going around Navajo Point, where the extraordinarily deep canyons slice back from Glen Canyon into the face of the Kaiparowits Plateau, and crossing the Rock Creek canyons. Much of the expense is expected to be borne by the Federal Government through the provisions of the Economic Opportunities Act. You've read an interesting discussion of this matter in the March Rambler. It is true that while amounts of four to six million dollars are being asked for Garfield County under the Economic Opportunities Act., the road described above will not go closer than about fifty miles to the nearest Garfield County community. However, there can be no doubt that once this road is built, the existing road from Escalante to Hole in the Rock will be improved, another link in the never ending chain of roads that will eventually strangle all remaining undeveloped areas. Garfield County won't suffer any more than the rest of the state though, for the new road will provide a very convenient and scenic route for the eastbound traveler to cross Utah, and only go through two Utah towns - Hanksville and Green River - in the process.

The strongest argument for the road, or at least the western two-thirds of it, is the highway department's contention that people will not use the Trachyte Junction to Bullfrog road if they have to return home by the same route. This surely doesn't apply to the boating public using the Bullfrog marina, and it hardly justifies the expenditure of over thirteen million dollars to build the alternate route. If a loop is required, it could be completed by improving and extending the road that now runs south from Notom along the

eastern edge of the Waterpocket Fold. The circle provided by that route would be much more sensible for the pleasure motorists, since it would return them to the near vicinity of their starting point, inasmuch as Notom is only thirty or forty miles from Hanksville.

The big objection of the conservationists is the route the proposed road follows across the Fold and the Escalante. This area, extending from Hall's Creek on the east, the Escalante to Hole in the Rock road on the west, Lake Powell on the south, and a line between the Burr Trail and the town of Boulder on the north, is not only prime wilderness, but is probably disturbed less than any existing or proposed Wilderness Area in the State of Utah. It contains natural beauties and treasures that match and surpass anything that can be found in Utah's national parks. The Escalante River, for instance, offers some of the finest desert canyons to be found since Glen Canyon was destroyed. There are many people in such agencies as the BLM and the park service who now realize this, and with a combined, concerted effort, this area could eventually be designated as a Wilderness Area, or even a National Park. Meanwhile, its wilderness character should not be compromised by needless roads.

In spite of the pessimistic nature of these remarks, we have to face the fact that the very existence of Lake Powell not only justifies, but demands access roads. Regardless of our feelings, such roads will be built in years to come. With this thought in mind, the highway department's decision to take conservationists into the area and discuss their plans must be given the highest praise, for it shows a new and healthy trend. Through this type of on-site communication, both sides will get a better appreciation for the other's views, and it does give the conservationists an opportunity to influence the location of the roads so they will do a minimum of harm.

For those club members who are interested in the Waterpocket Fold - Escalante region, the club will attempt to run field trips into the areas surrounding the proposed road later this year, both to see the scenery while it is still in its natural state, and to study the possible alternates that could be entertained by the highway planners. It is very likely that not all of these trips will be announced, so if you are interested in taking part, please make such thoughts known to the Conservation or Hiking Directors, or myself.

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#### REMEMBER THAT ACTIVITY AND TALENT CARD IN THE LAST ISSUE?

If you haven't mailed it to June Viavant, please do. If you've lost the card, call her for another one (364-9684). Here's a repeat of last month's article on subject card:

#### Your Club Needs You -- Members Arise by June Viavant

The amount of work done by the dedicated few in the club is simply phenomenal; but if we are to keep up our tremendous program of activities, we need more people to pitch in with the work. We know some of you are very willing to help but don't know how to take the first step toward getting involved. So here is that first step! Evaluate your time and talents on the card, stick on a 5¢ stamp and mail it as a postcard. (Post Office says card size is legal if 5¢ stamp is used.) We need a return from every member. Thanks!

by George Smith

(Photos by the Author)

The purpose of this article is to present as factually and objectively as possible a report of the controversial Utah State Highway Department's proposed road in the Waterpocket Fold area. The proposed road would extend from near the lower end of Halls Creek, from Bullfrog Basin (upper end of Lake Powell), over the Waterpocket Fold, across the Escalante River, around the southern tip of the Kaiparowits Plateau, then southwest to Highway 89.

The four day, 200 mile jeep trip was sponsored by the Utah State Highway Dept. to "---inspect at first hand, access road possibilities near the bottom of Halls Creek---". This trip was ostensibly made to permit an exchange of ideas on the subject road by interested federal and state agencies as well as several conservation groups. The following organizations participated: Wilderness Society, Deseret Protective Council, Western River Guides Association, Sierra Club, Wasatch Mountain Club, Deseret News, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forrest Service, Utah Park and Recreation Comm., and Utah State Dept of Highways.

We left Green River, Utah on Tues. morning, April 25th, and drove through Hanksville to a point east of Capitol Reef National Monument, near Notom. We followed a county road from Notom south across the Notom Bench and Sandy Creek Benches through an area known as the Narrows, down the Bitter Creek Divide, and along the Oyster Shell Reef that borders the foothills of the Waterpocket Fold to the Burr Trail. The Burr Trail is an existing road presently undergoing improvement that permits limited access to the Hall Creek area from the west. We made a short side trip up the Burr Trail to see this Waterpocket Fold crossing. We then continued on south past The Post to the top of Big Thompson Mesa, which provided a spectacular view of the Halls Creek drainage and the expansive, 60-mile stretch of the Waterpocket Fold.

The next day we went down Halls Creek, essentially sans water at this time of year, to Halls Divide. Here Halls Creek makes a rather unusual excursion away from the fault line that follows the Waterpocket Fold and flows right into the Fold through a narrow, deep, twisting canyon, somewhat like the Zion Narrows, for a distance of about four miles. Some of us walked and waded through waist-deep water through this exciting, seldom explored canyon.

Abundant wildlife exists in the area. Deer stood in the creek drinking while we walked surprisingly close by.

Back in our jeeps, we continued on down Halls Creek past many fascinating rock formations such as the one shown in Figure 1, to the old Baker Ranch.

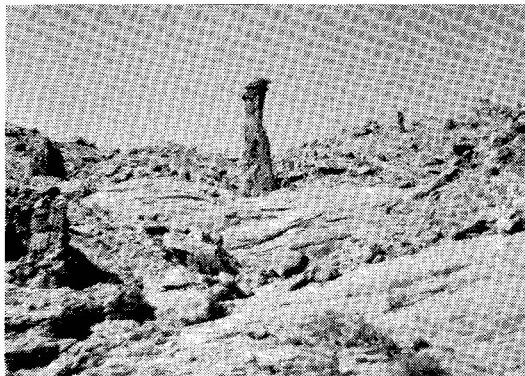


Fig. 1. Halls Creek Scenery

The Baker Ranch (Figure 2) was established in the early 1800's by some hardy pioneers, who, amazingly enough, were so far-sighted that they brought along, of all things, a sorghum press. The press is still intact outside one of the ranch cabins.

Thursday the 27th we devoted to exploration of the Fold area just west of Baker's Ranch, where the State Highway Dept. plans to build the road in question. Hikes to the top of the Fold and into several small canyons were made. Excellent examples of the numerous "pockets" containing water were observed (Figure 3) from which this geological wonder derives its name.

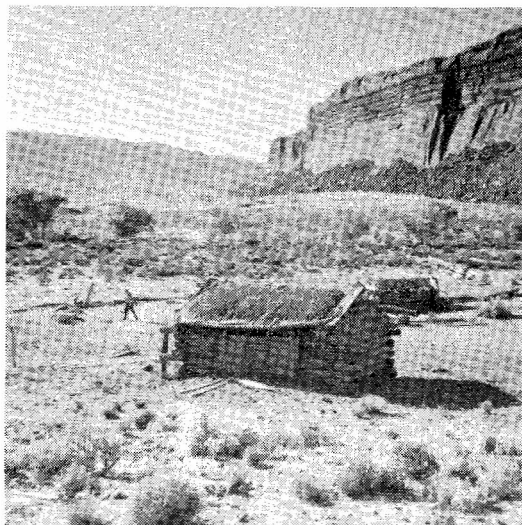


Fig. 2. The Baker Ranch

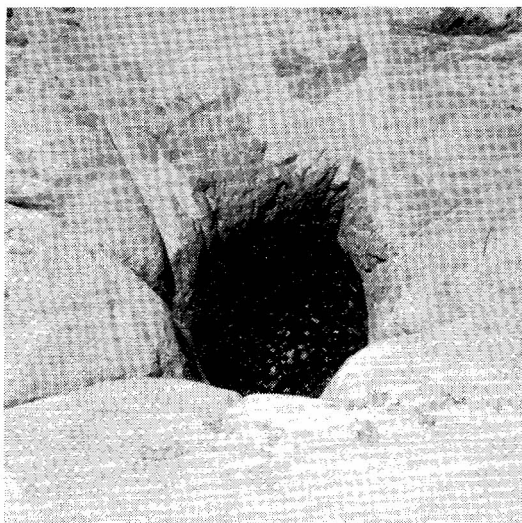


Fig. 3. "Water Pockets"

Almost all the canyons explored contained natural arches or bridges of spectacular beauty, such as shown in Figure 4. It would be a shame to have the tourist's beer cans and napkins scattered over an area as beautiful as this.

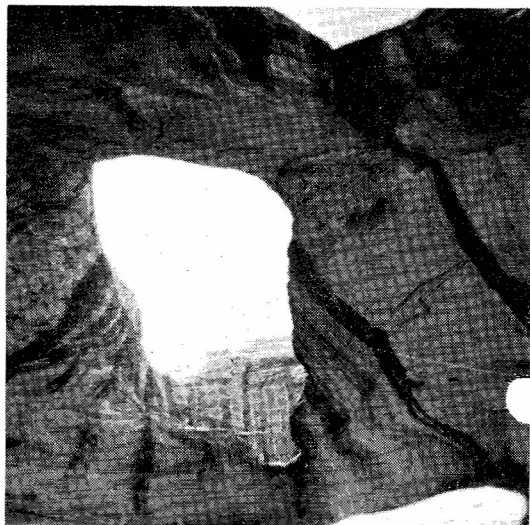


Fig. 4. Natural Arch

The next day we jeeped to the northernmost tip of Lake Powell at Bullfrog Basin to view roadside tourist facilities being completed, and to look at a privately owned marina being constructed. The marina consisted of \$140,000 worth of styrofoam floating docks accomodating some 40 boats. We then returned to Green River, stopping at the Star Spring Ranch on the southeast foothills of Mount Hillers, one of the Henry Mountains.

The construction of the road from Bullfrog Basin over the Waterpocket Fold was discussed quite thoroughly (and pointedly) by all of the participants during this trip. Mr. Chauncey Powis, Information Director for the Utah State Highway Dept, gave an accounting of the Department's objectives and reasoning for building this road. In summary, his reasoning boiled down to this: A return route from the Bullfrog Basin area is needed for the tourist/boating enthusiast that will n require driving home over the same road, a road which now exists from Hanksville to Trackyte Junction to Bullfrog Basin, which is now undergoing improvement.

The Highway Dept. has obtained statistics over the years indicating that the tourist will seldom take the time to drive

down a dead-end road to visit a recreational area -- hence their feeling that a new road from Bullfrog Basin over the Waterpocket Fold to Highway 89 is required. The Highway Dept. further substantiates their position on the need for this road through more statistics showing significantly high percentages for "Driving for Pleasure", "Walking for Pleasure", and "Combined Water Sports", as compared to "Camping", "Hiking", and "Mountain Climbing". Mr. Powis explained that a road system into this wilderness-type area will obviously make it available to those not accustomed to the physical endurance requirements placed on the individuals now using this area via back-packing trips, etc.

I feel that a certain amount of desecration of the uniquely beautiful, fascinating Waterpocket Fold and Escalante River areas will take place if such a road is built. The Park Service could not possibly monitor the area, based on present and future manpower forecasts, to the degree required to prevent the beer can, paper throwing public from defacing nature's wonderful creations to some extent. But I also feel that attempting to prevent construction of this road may be analogous to closing the barn door after the horses have gotten out, i.e., Lake Powell now exists and commercial interests are going to develop the Bullfrog Basin area and insist on roads to their establishments. These commercial interests contribute to the state tax dollar, and their demands exert considerable political "pull".

As a suggestion, perhaps a more prudent approach for conservation clubs such as ours to take would be to work closely with the Highway Dept. in selecting a route for this particular road that will be the least offensive in terms of contrasting concrete and asphalt with arches, unique rock formations, and exposing them to the souvenir hunters and common littering tourists. The Highway Dept. District Engineers in charge of road construction in the areas of concern (areas 3 and 4) impressed me as being capable engineers,

with a better-than-average appreciation and knowledge of the wilderness aspects of their districts. With this goal in mind, and these men in charge of the construction work, the subject road can quite possibly be installed with a minimum of destruction of nature's works of art. It is my opinion that the conservation goals of the WMC might best be served if such a course of action is followed.



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by Ann McDonald

Only the very adventurous (or very stupid) would get up at 6 am in spite of weather warnings of snow and rain to climb Mt. Olympus in the beginning of April. Why such an early start? Mike King couldn't remember who told him that this would be necessary - but we found out when we got down. The weather was fine at 7 am but by 2 pm it was rotten. He must have had advance information.

Last time I meandered up Mt. Olympus stopping at each switchback for a cigarette, it took from 7 am to 6 pm. But this time with Dale Green putting one foot in front of the other, and no pauses allowed, we made the summit by 10:30. The clouds were all around us, but never were we in them, and we had a spectacular view from the top. Dor Cummings carried up a new register in which we were the first registrants.

On the way down the snow was a little sticky for glissading but we managed to have a good time running and falling. Someone said that the last man down was a something or other - I didn't hear what because I was last.

Participants: Dale Green, Dorsey Cummings, Ann McDonald, Mike, Pat, and Mary-Gail King, Bob Mealiff, Al and June Wickham, and leader, Boone Newsome

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TYPIST (S) NEEDED TO TYPE MATERIAL  
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---

by Ruth Holland

The Little Black Mountain hike April 16th was small and slow to get started following the snow storm that left 11" of new powder at Alta. This year we were able to drive part way up the first hill behind Schriners Hospital due to a new housing development. The route took us up and around a few small muddy hills before we arrived at ridges and snow. The weather was cloudy, snowy, windy, and cold all morning where we were, altho we could watch the sun gradually cover more city and lake as the clouds were pushed into the mountains and over the horizon.

Lunch time found us on the top ridge, in full sun, leaning on a snow bank where the cornices curled playfully over our heads. It was peaceful and clear so we could see many snowy peaks to the south (Lone, Thunder Mountain, Olympus, Twin) while there were still clouds to the north.

The hike back was relatively uneventful - much snow had melted, a few jets passed quickly, and a couple of jeeps were attempting the ridges. A hawk cruised by on air currents, and yellow glacier lillies poked up through the snow. Our able leader avoided most of the oak brush, and brought us back sunburned, a little tired, but thoroughly satisfied with our day among the quiet mountains.

Participants included Dick Bell our leader, Gerhard Hentschel a prospective member recently from Germany, and your reporter Ruth Holland.

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"If two friends ask you to judge a dispute, don't accept, for you will lose a friend. If two strangers ask you to judge a dispute, accept - and you will gain a friend." - The Uplift

by Mike King

Many club members have commented that they have been unable to attend a certain hike because it was not on Sunday (or Saturday). Also some people do not like to go on the easier hikes, and others cannot possibly make the longer and very strenuous hikes.

In order to overcome these and other problems, it is hoped that our trips can be made more versatile to meet anyone's abilities and desires.

To do this, hikes of varying difficulty will be scheduled that have a common beginning point or destination with overlapping or different routes. In addition, in some cases backpacking can be included for those who want it and the corresponding hike may be scheduled for both Saturday and Sunday.

It is hoped that persons wanting to do a favorite variation of a scheduled hike, will call the leader so that the route can be included. Everyone likes a new hike and it would be interesting to provide two or three simultaneous routes to a summit.

While discussing the expanding program of the Club, a little more should be said about backpacking. Several weekend trips have already been scheduled this year and many more are planned. The possibilities for very good packing trips in Utah alone are overwhelming and the variety of scenery far exceeds the somewhat limited range of local one-day hikes. If you have never been on an over-night trip, this summer is time to start.

Always remember that the experienced members will be more than happy to discuss equipment and answer any questions.

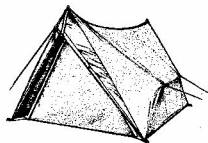
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## MILL B, BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON, SKI TOUR

by Dave Allen

Bob Bryan wanted to do Lake Blanche. He called and found out that I also did. So I called a few more people - Ron Perla, Dennis Caldwell, Roff Dobberling, Milt Hollander, and Max Townsend said yes. And so on Sunday, May 14, we were off. We put on skins at the Alta guard station and strolled up, under the glaring sun, to Cardiff. A short pause, then up the ridge. Beautiful glorious day. Blue sky and crystal white snow meet at the soaring peaks. The ochre rocks, bathed with melted snow, gleam in the sun. The heights are emphasized by the derretissima lines of the sluffs and slide. It is too wild. Cardiac ridge is out of the question.

The Kraut and the Doctor go back. The rest prepare for Mill B. Off with the skins. On with the avalanche cord. On to spot positions. Then Perla tests the slope - small sluffs, but safe for one at a time. The snow is wet and dense - demanding, but when the challenge is met, delightful. Esses down the bowl, esses down the chute, a straight run, the wiggles through the trees.

Lunch stop at the upper mine under the glaring sky. Sluffs come off the cliffs. A swish of moving snow, an arc through the air, and crash. One after another, steadily, like an anvil chorus. Four others - Jack Bown, Dave George, Bruce Rosenlund and Tom Stevens - join us in our struggle out. This grand and glorious day is finished with cold beer, water beading the frosty bottle sides, slacking our parched throats.

Post Script: Superior face slide on Monday and covered the road. We were correct in not doing Cardiac.

## LODGE INFO

by Bob Bucher

In the past the lodge has been open for members on the weekends so that they might wander in at their convenience. However, very few have taken advantage of this opportunity. Therefore, if you wish to use the lodge make reservations with the lodge director or at club headquarters. A few weekends will have official club functions as noted in the Rambler. At any other time we encourage club members or non-members to plan their own functions and use the lodge on a first come, first serve basis. Rates are a very reasonable 75¢/day for members and \$1.25/day for non-members. Please feel free to make any inquiries you may have regarding the lodge and its use. Call Bob Bucher (363-9805) or Pete at Club Hdq (363-7150).

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## RIVER VOICES

You have a voice, oh river,  
That seems to speak to me  
Of something strange and wonderful,  
An ancient mystery.  
Your secret, mountain river,  
Shut out from human mind,  
Is old, mysterious, wild and strange  
Yet comforting and kind.  
I listen, still I hear it,  
Your mystic undertone,  
Oh river, you're a living thing,  
Not waterfall and stone....

-- Elizabeth Crawford Yates

(From Howdy's Happenings, Good  
Outdoor Manners Association.)

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I hereby apply for membership in the Wasatch Mountain Club.  
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The club event I have attended is \_\_\_\_\_  
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