

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a young child in a forest. The child is wearing a striped dress and holding a stick, looking towards the camera. The background is a dense forest with many trees. A black rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the title and publication information in white text.

# The Rambler

*Official Publication of*  
THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

Salt Lake City, Utah

March 1969

# CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR

## MARCH 1969

- Mar. 1  
Sat. DESERET PEAK (INTERMEDIATE - ADVANCED) -- A change of pace: the Wasatch Mountain Club ventures out of the the Wasatch into the Stansburys to 11,000 +-foot Deseret Peak. The terrain is not too difficult but the trek is long, so be in good condition. The summit affords a fine view of the Wasatch from Ogden to Nephi. Meet at Club Headquarters at 6:00 a.m. It will be necessary to register with the leader, Dennis Caldwell (278-2100).
- Mar. 1  
Sat. BRIGHTON TO ALTA BY MOONLIGHT (INTERMEDIATE) -- The route will be over Catherine Pass. The lighting will be courtesy of our nearest celestial body. The drinking will be at Alta. The leader will be Dennis Caldwell. Tentatively, we will leave from 4822 Fortuna Way at 6:00 p.m. It will be advisable to register with the leader (278-2100).
- Mar. 2  
Sun. WINTER SOCIAL -- Come to the home of Mel and Clare Davis, 4647 Idlewild Road (4647 South and about 3300 East). Turn east off Wasatch onto 4430 South and go to Fortuna Way. Turn south and go to Bernada (or Brockbank), turn west, and go one block to Idlewild. Call Mel and Clare for further help (278-3174).
- Mar. 8  
Sat. LAKE BLANCHE (ADVANCED) -- This is a rescheduling of the trip canceled in January. From Alta the climb up to Cardiff Pass is made by continuing along the ridge toward Mt. Superior. We then proceed onto the north slopes and finally to the top of the North Ridge of Superior. The run down to the S curve in Big Cottonwood Canyon is one of the finest in the Wasatch. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Leader: Alexis Kelner (359-5387).
- Mar. 8, 9  
Sat., Sun. FAMILY SKI WEEKEND AT PINE BASIN, IDAHO -- This ski area (west of Jackson) is run by Jim Jacobson's parents, and they have graciously offered us free lodging for this weekend. Bring sleeping bags and air mattresses. We will have community cooking for breakfasts and dinner, but plan to buy your own lunches at the ski lodge cafeteria. The area has two

Mar. 8, 9 - Cont. poma lifts, all-day tickets are \$2.05 (second day is free with USSA membership). We will take the bus, leaving Salt Lake City at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 7. Cost for the bus is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Make your reservations with Wilma and Lyman Lewis (277-6816). For more information about the ski area, call Ann and Jim Jacobson (322-2232).

Mar. 9  
Sun. GOURMET TOUR (BEGINNING SKIERS - ADVANCED CHEFS)  
ALBION BASIN -- Most tours implicitly involve a certain amount of one-up-manship in skiing equipment and technique. Now is the time for the epicurean set to turn the tables on the grim outdoor types. Bring your finest culinary creations. A judgment will be rendered. Prizes available on request. Leader: Fred Bruenger (485-2639).

Mar. 13  
Thurs ICE SKATING PARTY -- Meet at the Hygeia Ice Co, 1224 East 21st South, 8:00 p.m. We will get a group rate of 75¢ per person plus 50¢ for skates. (To get the rate, you must say that you are with the WMC group.) Join us afterwards at the Hacienda (2651 Parleys Way) for the usual Thursday night beer and socializing.

Mar. 15  
Sat. BRIGHTON - ALTA - BRIGHTON (INTERMEDIATE) -- This tour will take maximum advantage of ski lifts in order to facilitate this interesting circuit of the area between the two canyons. If one arranges his own transportation from Alta, just the morning half of the tour may be done. Meet at 8:45 a.m. at the base of the Mt. Millicent lift in Brighton. Leader: (277-6817).

Mar. 16  
Sun. MARY ELLEN GULCH - AMERICAN FORK CANYON (INTERMEDIATE) -- This is in effect a new tour, which combines the good points of the tours and avoids the ordeal of car spotting provided one is prepared for the ensuing installment plan of ski now - climb later (Grand Canyon Syndrome). From the top of the Sugar Loaf lift we traverse south across the basin to the top of Mary Ellen Gulch and ski down to the junction with American Fork Canyon. The climb back to Alta begins. The terrain is easily negotiated and quite scenic. Meet at 9:00 at the bottom Albion lift at Alta. Leader: George Swanson (364-8857).

Mar. 16  
Sun. WINTER SOCIAL -- We will meet this time at the home of Joan Keller, 2801 East 5140 South (278-9706). Go west on Casto Lane to Wander Lane, turn south and go two blocks.

Mar. 22  
Sat.

ALTA - WHITE PINE - AMERICAN FORK TWINS (ADVANCED) -- This tour affords fine views of Mt. Timpanogos and the alpine terrain south and west of Alta. Much of the climbing is done via the lifts and the run down into White Pine is enjoyable. Meet at the bottom of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Pete Hovingh (register at Club Headquarters).

Mar. 23  
Sun.

MAJOR EVANS GULCH (ADVANCED) -- This weekend you have your choice of descents from American Fork Twins. If White Pine doesn't meet your fancy, try the interesting run down Major Evans Gulch into American Fork Canyon for some good crud skiing. Meet at the bottom of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 6:00 a.m. for car spotting. Leader: Bruce Christenson (278-9308).

Mar. 29  
Sat.

TIMPANOGOS LOOP - ROCK CANYON (BEGINNER) -- This provides the opportunity to see the spectacular country south of Alta. The tour starts at the northern end of the Timpanogos Loop road and proceeds to the Timpanooke Guard Station. From here we head west around the base of the north peak with fine views of the summit and end up at a scenic lunch stop on the west side of the mountain overlooking the Provo valley. The terrain is ideal for beginners. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Prudential Plaza on 33 South and State Street. Be sure to register with the leader, Carl Bauer, for this one (355-6036).

Mar. 30  
Sun.

WHITE PINE (BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE) -- Most of the club's trips into this canyon are done the hard way from Alta. This time we will do it the easy way by starting along the road from Little Cottonwood Canyon and try to get up into the area of the lake. Things take on quite a different appearance when you go up the canyon rather than down it. Meet at the bottom of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 8:30 a.m. Leader: Pat King (486-9705).

Mar. 30  
Sun.

WINTER SOCIAL -- Don't miss this last social of the season. The Lyman Lewises and John Rileys will be the hosts at the Lewis home, 4205 Neptune Drive (277-6816). Turn off Wasatch onto Apollo (first street south of 39th South), go straight uphill on Adonis to Neptune.

Cover by Sally Nelson



# on climbing popocatepetl and iztaccihuatl 1969

by Richard Nielsen

Popocatepetl (17,887 ft.) and Iztaccihuatl (17,343 ft.), the fifth and sixth highest peaks in North America, form the east rim of the great Valley of Mexico. Between these two mountains is Paso de Cortes (11,025 ft.),

a rolling grassy upland dotted with wildflowers and sparse pine trees. Hernan Cortes crossed the pass on his march from Veracruz into the valley of Mexico in 1520. This small army conquered and destroyed the



Popocatepetl From Paso de Cortes.

Aztec civilization which, at that time, flourished in the valley. Subsequently, the vital lake which filled the valley was drained, and the flat lake bottom was converted into corn fields and into Mexico City. Today Paso de Cortes may be reached by good auto road. It is the center of a national park, a favorite picnic area for increasingly affluent Mexicans, and the starting point for climbs to the summits of both mountains.

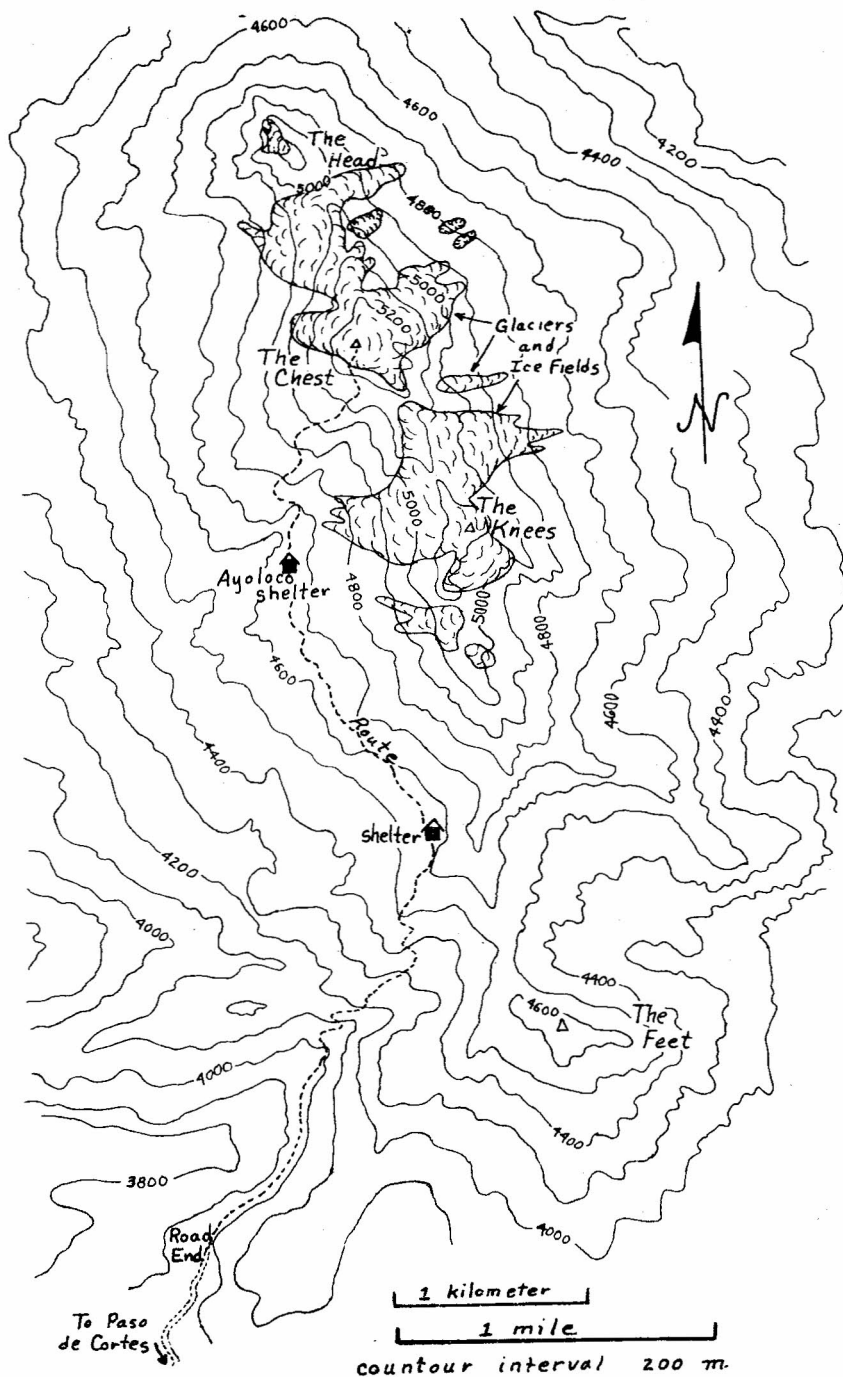
Popocatepetl and Iztaccihuatl are volcanos. Together with more famous volcanos such as Citlaltepētāl (18,696 ft.), the highest peak in Mexico, and Parícutín, which erupted in 1943, they are part of an east-west mountainous belt extending across the country containing virtually thousands of volcanos. All of these erupted along the landward extension of the great Clarion fracture, which may be traced for more than 1,000 miles into the eastern Pacific ocean.

"Popo," a beautifully symmetrical volcanic cone, rests upon a plateau of lava flows and is composed of steeply inclined andesite flows inter-layered with ash and rubble. The last eruption was in 1920-1921, during which time a thick veneer of soft sandy ash was deposited over the mountain slope. It is now considered dormant. However, fumaroles and hot springs are active in the summit crater, producing white sulfurous fumes which may be seen rising from the crater. Very little alpine vegetation now grows on the slope, and the bleak gray terrain is interrupted only by the white of glacier ice on the north slope above 15,000 feet.

"Izta," which lies several miles north of Popo, is actually composed of at least four separate cones of andesite lava, rubble, and ash resting upon a high lava plateau and aligned along a north-south fracture. From the valley of Mexico, the elongate profile of the mountain resembles a sleeping woman and the peak is so nicknamed. The four principal volcanic cones, the "head," the "breast" (the true summit), and the "knees," and "toes" have been modified extensively by glacial action and stream erosion. Small alpine glaciers are present along the summit ridge. No eruption has occurred in historic times and the volcano is considered extinct. No doubt both mountains were climbed and even worshipped by pre-Columbian Indians. Today the remains of Indian shrines may be seen on the slopes of both peaks.

Of the several possible routes up these mountains, some require the use of ropes, crampons and various other bits of hardware. However, the routes described here are relatively easy in order to accommodate the thick-waisted and somewhat sedentary tourist-businessman who wishes to take a couple of days off from the wild rush of social life in Mexico City or Acapulco to become refreshed in spectacular alpine scenery.

Spring is a dry season and is the best time to climb these peaks, for then the thick snows which fall during the summer rainy season have largely melted and daytime cloud cover is at a minimum. The parking area at the north base of Popo is about 60 miles from Mexico City. A well marked



trail extends diagonally southeast to the snowline which crosses several large spectacular ravines or barrancas which have been carved into soft gray ash by periodic floods of glacial meltwaters. A shelter along the trail at 15,000 feet is a good spot for an overnight camp, which provides an

pons are unnecessary. An ice axe would be useful; two pairs of sunglasses and plenty of sea-and-ski are essential. The entire round-trip climb should be about 8 miles.

The climb to the summit of Iztaccihuatl is about 10 miles round trip



Iztaccihuatl Viewed From the Road End.

Hiking route is up grassy slope in center of picture to top of lava cliffs, then along contour. The summit "chest" is peak on left.

opportunity to acclimate to the altitude. A 2,000-foot climb up the slope of the cone to the east rim of the crater is a long, steep grind. The remaining 800-foot vertical climb to the summit is a traverse along the crater rim.

In springtime, the snow softens during midday, penitentes or snow-cups cover the snowfields, and cram-

from La Joya, a picturesque parking lot at roads end, perched high on a ridge at the southwest corner of her "toes." Izta may be climbed by many routes; the recommended one for the elderly and infirm passes by several mountain huts which may be used for overnight camps, and besides, one never knows when Montezuma's revenge may strike. Leaving the parking area, a well marked trail trav-

erses around the head of Tlaltipiongo valley. Tell-tale signs of glacial action may be seen in the form of small but spectacular waterfalls which tumble over sheer 400-foot andesite cliffs, and the rounded shapes of grass-covered moraines on the floor of the U-shaped valley. Cairns and dabs of red paint on rocks mark the route up the ridge separating Tlaltipiongo and Milpulco valleys to a shelter at 4,500 meters. Next is a 2-mile traverse along contour paralleling a rock shelf on the surface of a huge lava flow to the Ayoloco refuge. From here the route leads up to the lower end of the Ayoloco glacier, and from here the preferred trail leads out of the glacial valley and onto the ridge leading up to the "breast." This route eliminates much climbing or hiking on snow or ice, although an ice axe and good waterproof hiking boots no doubt would be appreciated by the climber. The round trip of Izta could be made in 10 or 12 hours, but it would be more interesting to take time and spend a night in a mountain shelter; but expect subfreezing night-time temperatures.

Round-trip excursion air fare from Salt Lake City to Mexico on Western Airlines is \$226. An auto may be rented for as low as \$32 per week plus mileage (\$0.04 per km.). The trip could be made in 1 week for about \$300, and this would include time to visit the Aztec pyramids, attend a bullfight, and explore the outstanding new museum of anthropology. Is anyone interested in assembling a small group to make such a trip in late April?

## **Timberline Sports** Inc.

### **FOR SKIING**

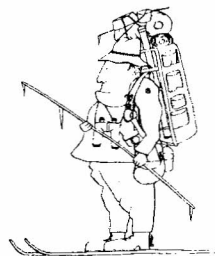
**Ski parkas — Down  
Dacron  
Shells  
Knickers & Socks  
Accessories**

### **-- TOURING**

**Climbing skins  
Snowshoes & Packs  
Down clothing**

### **-- AFTER**

**Down booties  
After ski shoes**



**2959 HIGHLAND DR  
M-F 12-6, SAT 10-6**

# club officers

New Club officers for 1969-1970  
are:

President: Dale Green

Vice President: Leroy Kuehl

Secretary: Barbie Quinn

Treasurer: Evelyn Bruenger

Boating: Jerry Powelson

Conservation: June Viavant

Entertainment and Recreation: Noel  
de Nevers

Hiking: Dick Bell

Lodge: Lyman Lewis

Membership: Carol Wiens


Mountaineering: Max Townsend

Publications: Sally Nelson

Ski Mountaineering: Dennis Caldwell

Transportation: Ralph Hathaway

Trustee: Robert J. Wright



Quote of the month - thanks to John  
McComb of the Southern Arizona Hiking  
Club:

Yonder they go. I must hasten  
after them, for I am their leader.

## NOTE ON CLUB POLICY

In order to make things a little  
easier on our glorious leaders, we  
thought the following statement seemed  
apropos:

If you arrive at the meeting place  
of a trip on time or before, the leader  
will definitely be waiting.

If you arrive up to 15 minutes late,  
the leader will probably be waiting,  
especially if you have registered.

If you arrive more than 15 minutes  
late, the leader will probably not be  
waiting.



## Rocky Mountain National Park Seminars

The eighth season of Rocky Mountain  
National Park Seminars will begin  
June 16, 1969. Courses of study offered  
include Mountain Geology, Mountain  
Ecology, Alpine Ecology, Animal  
Ecology, Plant Identification, and  
Advanced Plant Identification. New  
this year are Bird Ecology and Behavior  
and a Conservation Ecology  
Workshop. The workshop will be held  
July 28 to August 8 and winds up the  
session.

Professors from Colorado State  
University and Principia College,  
Elsah, Illinois, will conduct the seminars.

Anyone wishing further information  
is asked to write Tom C. Thomas,  
Rocky Mountain Nature Association,  
Box 147, Estes Park, Colorado 80517.



# ALTA BRIGHTON ALTA

by Karin Dahlgren

There were 13 brave persons gathered at the bottom of the Albion lift on the windy and cloudy morning of December 14th. The general opinion of those in the line waiting for the lift to start moving was that this was going to be a rough day. The participants of the courageous Wasatch group had decided to fight weather and wind in an attempt to make Alta-Brighton-Alta in just a couple of hours. There was, of course, some avalanche risk in the Twin Lake pass but, equipped with probes, we were pretty sure to make the tour according to schedule. Skies on, direction upwards! Groupleader Bob Frohboese soon characterized the snow-conditions as "packed cement with crust on top," which did not sound very optimistic, at least to someone not too familiar with the English language. During the climb, we were fortunately not exposed to the wind. Arriving at the top, however, we were completely overwhelmed by a cold and snowy wind that hit our faces all of a sudden. Hands grew stiff and faces grew red and swollen. That was when the leader, with a sad look on his face, announced the breakage of one of his ski poles. An effort to tape the pieces together was without notable success. Downwards! The packed cement proved elusive and all sincere efforts to steer eventually

resulted in some crawling and creeping downhill. The group, up to the top so well unified, became completely scattered, and the regathering was a time-consuming procedure. There came a moment when we had to decide which way to approach Lake Catherine. There was no unity to be obtained and one faction went downhill immediately, whereas the other preferred not to lose altitude. Belonging to this latter faction, I can assure that we didn't lose much of it; on the contrary, we concentrated it all on one slope, which completed the disintegration of the group. However, all of us, including the "altitude-losing" people, miraculously appeared on one and the same spot from out of the foggy invisibility. It was then one o'clock and we were indeed behind schedule but tried not to worry much about it and had our lunch in a relaxed mood at the bottom of the Millicent lift. All Brighton was upset; not only was the place struck with bad weather on a Saturday, but a fur tree had most unfortunately fallen down on an electrical cable and cut off part of the power supply.

After lunch we were almost sure we would not be able to make the trip as originally planned, but before making the explicit decision, everybody hurried so as not to lose time in case we should go after all. The ski patrol strongly recommended that we stay in Brighton, as a snowstorm was expected within the next 45 minutes.

If we still insisted on making it back to Alta, they definitely prohibited our using the avalanche-exposed Twin Lakes pass. Should we return via Lake Catherine, the way we had come? With the decision still unmade, lift tickets were bought and the 13 of us joined the immense and slowly moving line leading to Mary's lift. It eventually became clear to all of us that the cut in electricity was to be the ruin of our going-back-to-Alta plan. In order not to overcharge the lift, three chairs out of four were left empty, which made the line proceed at a ridiculous rate. The announced snowstorm had already reached us, and it was with a sigh of resignation that we finally left the line and packed up our skis. With all our cars at Alta, we now had to hitch-hike down one canyon and up the other. Once again the group dispersed, and singly or in pairs we pro-

ceeded toward different cars in the parking lot to ask for help in our awkward situation. The Brighton skiers were amazingly kind hearted, and all of us arrived at the Canyon Inn within the same 5-minute period. The car owners grouped themselves together and called wives and husbands for assistance, as the stream of cars up to Alta was negligible at that time of the day (3:30 p.m.) and hitch-hiking, by consequence, impossible. It so turned out that the only event in the day occurring on schedule was our arrival back in Salt Lake City.

Participants: leader Bob Frohboese, Lyman Lewis, Bob Irvine, Ronn Carpenter, Dick Leining, John Riley, Phyllis Snyder, Diana and Andy Schoenberg, George Swanson, Steve Daurelle, Lynn Wheeler, and Karin Dahlgren.



# Silverfork Ski Tour

by Jim Byrne

The beautiful weather of Sunday, February 9, stirred the ski touring bones of those WMCers who couldn't face the lift lines the sunny skies would bring. As we rode up Big Cottonwood Canyon in the Viavant Vehicle, June entertained us with the story of the avalanche-crossed 13 who took the Silver Fork trip 2 years ago. A lengthy nose count produced an ominous 13 for this trip, thrilling the speculators of our group.

Leader Del Wiens wisely changed the starting point for this tour from Alta to Brighton to minimize car shuttling problems and to allow Utah Power and Light to carry us to 9600 feet. From the top of Millicent lift we got our first taste of the day's beautiful snow conditions in the short run down to the Wolverine Cirque.

After the usual cold finger cursing, our skies were skinned, and we started up to Twin Lakes pass. The snow seemed quite stable, and avalanche fears waned as we climbed with typical unity. Three or four tracks in the smooth snow helped to break up the leader's cries of "One Track!" Our arrival at the pass brought us to one of the most beautiful views in the Wasatch, or anywhere, for that matter. The east face of Superior reflected the bright morning sun with almost perfect whiteness.

Our close knit group continued on the traverse along the ridge above Grizzly Gulch. Some skinned, some un-, some high, some low, but all managed to converge on the pass into the east side of Silver Fork and view the beautiful run ahead.

After a lunch stop at the pass, joyous whoops broke the mountain stillness, and the Silver Fork powder was rapidly skied out. Those who could ski the powder were watched enviously by those of us who could only make the attempt.

Leaving the open slopes behind we poled our way through the trees enjoying the snow and the silence. All too soon the raucous noise of the snow machines (#\*&#!) in the Silver Fork flats guided us down to the Silver Fork lodge.

The Lucky 13 were Del and Carol Wiens, John Riley, Charles and Emily Hall, George Swanson, Bob and Karil Frohboese, Bill and June Viavant, Bob Bucher, and Jim and Dorothy Byrne.



Mountain cameramen often take hero shots. If Jane Daurelle posed for such a picture would it be a heroin shot?

# THE TAILBAG

by Roy Keir

Publications schedules being governed by Murphy's Law, February Lick 'em night unintentionally coincided with an After Ski Social. (Look that up in your Handbook of Standard Abbreviations.) Hope you others had as nice a time as we did. Sally Nelson was hostess, and Know Ye All that a pancake supper at the Nelsons' is a treat. Phil masterminded the updating of the mailing list (over 100 items), while Gerry Powelson stapled stupendously. Pat Dow and Benita Jackson joined us for the fastest labeling job yet recorded.

The long corrections list came about because the November changes were pasted onto Ramblers instead of being copied into the zip-sorted lists. My apologies to all the nice people who

were dropped, especially the many new members who graduated from the Membership Director's Prospective Member List into Oblivion. If you know of anyone who didn't get back onto the February list, please pass the word (and address) along.

And by the way, we've lost track of a couple of old hands who have moved back to Slick City. Good Bob, where are you? Your Ramblers are in Arizona.

Volunteers? We need at least six smart, beautiful, friendly typists to help prepare multigraph stencils. Access to electric typewriters can be arranged. If you are willing to share in this important task, please contact the new Publications Director.

DUES ARE DUE

DUES ARE DUE

If you want to continue to receive  
the Rambler, pay your dues.

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

425 South 8th West, Salt Lake City, Utah 84104 Phone: 363-7150

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Board of Directors:

I hereby apply for membership in the Wasatch Mountain Club.  
I enclose the \$2.00 entrance fee and \$6.00 dues (spouse, \$3.00).  
The club event I have attended is \_\_\_\_\_  
on \_\_\_\_\_ (date). I agree to abide by all rules and reg-  
ulations of the club as specified in the constitution and by-laws  
and as determined by the Board of Directors.

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_

(If spouse membership, please include name  
of spouse (printed) \_\_\_\_\_  
and signature \_\_\_\_\_

Director: \_\_\_\_\_

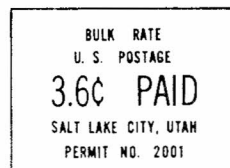
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(Effective 1 Jan.  
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WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB, INC.  
425 South 8th West  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104



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