



The Rambler

Official Publication of
THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB
Salt Lake City, Utah

may 1969

CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR MAY, 69

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Registration is not required for local, one day outings unless otherwise mentioned. However, by registering with the leader, you will be notified if the trip is cancelled. All outings generally leave the meeting place within 15 minutes of the scheduled meeting time. Register for bus-boat trips with the leader only by sending a deposit to the address listed. Leaders cannot register anyone without a deposit.

Month
of
May

ESCALANTE CANYON COUNTRY EXHIBIT. The Escalante Canyon Country exhibit will be displayed in the Main Library, downtown, on the 2nd and 3rd floors. The exhibit will consist of over 50 photographs, maps, and information displays, prepared by Jack McLellan. Many of the display items were used as part of the Escalante exhibit shown at the 11th Biennial Wilderness Conference in San Francisco last April. Photographs have been contributed by several of the area's most talented photographers, including Alexis Kelner, Pat King, Chauncy Powis, Nick Strickland, and Nelson Wadsworth.

May 1
Thursday

SECOND SESSION: HIKERS' CLIMBING COURSE. Learning of knots basic to mountaineering, and discussion of belay techniques. Upper Pete's Rock at 6:30 p.m.

May 3-4
Saturday-Sunday

SAN JUAN FLOAT TRIP (BEGINNER). This year we will put in at Mexican Hat, for a change, run through the Goosenecks, and get out at Piute Farms. Leader: Dave Cook, 833 Fourth Avenue, SLC, Utah 84103. Phone: 355-4086. A fee of \$22.00 will cover your use of the boats and bus.

May 4
Sunday

MOUNT OLYMPUS, Elevation 9026, rating 8.0. A WMC favorite; enjoy this southerly exposed trail before the heat of summer arrives. Meet at Pete's Rock, 5600 Wasatch Blvd. at 7:00 a.m. Leader Harold Goodro, 277-1247.

May 6
Tuesday

CONSERVATION MEETING. Information to be presented at the road hearings concerning the highway from Bullfrog Basin to Hole-in-the-Rock road will be stressed. Might be a bit crowded, but everyone interested please come. (Somebody please bring an extra six pack!) Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Jack McLellan's, 2459 E. 6600 S, phone 277-7214.

May 8
Thursday

THIRD SESSION: HIKERS' CLIMBING COURSE. In this last session we shall practice the basic techniques of roped climbing and learn about rappelling.

May 10-11
Saturday-Sunday

ESCALANTE AREA EXPLORATORY BACKPACK TRIP. Older children (10 or over) who have had backpacking experience are welcome. We will either go down Muley Twist Canyon, see the Double Arch, and up Nick's Trail to the Hall Creek Overlook; or go down Deer Creek to Boulder Creek to the Escalante River and go upriver to the low-water bridge. If enough people register, we'll break into two groups and do both. One trip involves walking in water; the other carrying all your water. Call the trip leader for details. Registration CLOSSES May 8. Each group limited to 12. Leader: June Viavant, 364-9684.

May 10
Saturday

FAMILY PICNIC OUTING TO LYNDEL SAND DUNES. This is a new type of club picnic outing, which we hope the families will enjoy. We will take the club bus, leave SLC about 9:00 a.m., spend several hours frolicking at the dunes and return about 5:00 p.m. Fare is \$2.00, which is cheaper than driving your car unless there are seven people in it. Leader: Gale Dick (359-5764). Please phone your reservation to him by May 8.

May 10
Saturday

REYNOLDS PEAK, elevation 9422, rating 4.5. A pleasant short hike up Mill D North and past Dog Lake. Meet at mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:00 a.m. Leader: LeRoy Kuehl. 363-6890.

May 11
Sunday

NORTH PEAK OF THUNDER MOUNTAIN. An advanced hike on good (?) snow up Colpits Gulch. Approximate rating 12. The view of Little Cottonwood Canyon is terrific from this seldom-visited peak. Meet at mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 6:00 a.m. Leader: Dale Green, 277-6417.

May 14
Wednesday

CONSERVATION LETTER WRITING PARTY. Come write thousands of letters to oppose the road from Bullfrog Basin to Hole-in-the-Rock road, and support the Escalante Wilderness and Canyon Country Parkway. Meet at Nick Strickland's, 2151 East 900 South at 7:30 p.m., 364-1568.

May 15
Thursday

ROAD HEARINGS ON HIGHWAY FROM BULLFROG BASIN TO HOLE-IN-THE-ROCK. Hearings will be held at 1:00 p.m. in the State Office Building Auditorium. (See schedule of hearings and more information elsewhere in this issue.)

May 15
Thursday

EVENING CLIMBING SESSION at Storm Mountain, Big Cottonwood Canyon.

May 17-18
Saturday-Sunday

DOLORES RIVER FLOAT TRIP. From Gateway, Colo. to its confluence with the Colorado River at Dewey Bridge above Moab. This is probably best rated at intermediate, if in doubt about qualifications, call the trip leaders. The Dolores through upper Gateway Canyon is a small but testy river, and there are a number of rapids with high ratings beginning at the point of departure just below Gateway. The run is not a long one but the beginning should provide significant thrills. We will plan to camp early, perhaps by noon, so there should be ample time for hiking in the interesting side canyons Saturday afternoon. We should be out by early afternoon Sunday, and (believe it or not) home by a reasonable hour. The Boating Director claims no work party is needed, so we will see you at departure time, 7:00 p.m. at the Ice Plant, 430 W. 2nd N. on Friday, May 16. Register with the leaders by paying the trip fee of \$19.00. First come, first served (7 people are already registered at this writing, April 13). Trip leaders: Del and Carol Wiens, 487-2584, 2967 Warr Road, SLC, Utah 84109.

May 17
Saturday

MT. AIRE, elevation 8620, rating 3.0. A short, easy hike from Mill Creek Canyon. Meet at 4000 South Wasatch Boulevard at 7:00 a.m. Leader Dick Bell 254-4555.

May 17-18
Saturday-Sunday

HAYSTACK PEAK, elevation 12101, rating 13.5. An easy, but long hike to a summit with a spectacular view in all directions. Meet at 425 South 8th West (Pete's shop) at 2:00 p.m. Saturday. From there we will drive to base of peak, camp Sat. night and then climb the peak on Sunday, returning to SLC that night. There may be no water, so bring sufficient supply for Sat. night and Sunday. Register with the leader so transportation can be arranged. Leader: Dale Green, 277-6417.

May 19 or 21
Monday or Wednesday

BEGINNERS' CLIMBING COURSE. Evening introductory session. Register for the course at either one. Place and time: 6:30 p.m. either day at Dave Allen's place, 3848 South 2215 East, SLC.

May 22
Thursday

EVENING CLIMBING SESSION at Storm Mountain, Big Cottonwood Canyon.

May 24
Saturday

SECOND SESSION: BEGINNERS' CLIMBING COURSE. Meet at the "Y" in the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m.

May 24
Saturday

DESERET PEAK, elevation 11,031, rating 8.0. Highest peak in the Stansbury Range. A very scenic and fun hike. Bring food and water. Meet at Pete's shop, 425 S. 8th W. at 6:00 a.m. Leader: Mike King, 468-9705.

May 25
Sunday

GRANDEUR PEAK, elevation 8299, rating 4.5. Up the west side of the moderate peak then down Church Fork and to the Log Haven for breakfast. (Bring money). Meet at Motor-Vu Drive-in entrance at 3300 E. and 3000 S. at 8:00 a.m. Leader John MacDuff, 484-1634.

May 28
Wednesday

NEW ESCALANTE CANYON COUNTRY SLIDE PRESENTATION. Bring your friends and relatives; round up all the conservationists and anti-conservationists around and come see the New Escalante Canyon Country Slide Presentation prepared and narrated by Jack McLellan, chairman of the Escalante Wilderness Committee. The beautiful slides will be complemented by an informative commentary. The presentation will be given in the Main Library, downtown, third floor, in the lecture hall at 7:30 p.m.

May 29
Thursday

EVENING CLIMBING at Storm Mountain.

May 30, 31 and June 1
Friday-Sunday

YAMPA RIVER TRIP (BEGINNER-INTERMEDIATE). We will probably put in at Lilly Park, depending on road and weather conditions. (People wishing to take their own cars check with MacDuff.) We will run the Yampa to the confluence of the Green, exploring hermitages and Indian ruins if time permits. We then retrace Powell's route around Echo Park and through Split Mountain. A good three-day trip for \$19.00. Work party will be on Saturday, May 24 at the Ice Plant, 430 W 2nd North, at 1:00 p.m. From there we will depart for the Yampa on Thursday, May 29th at 7:00 p.m. Leader: John MacDuff, 3119 S. 2800 East, SLC, Utah 84109, 484-1634. Fee: \$19.00.

May 30, 31 and June 1
Friday-Sunday

WMC MEMBERS are invited to join a Sierra Club family backpack down Coyote Creek to the Escalante River. Fast hikers will camp near the river and spend the middle day exploring up or down river; more leisurely hikers can find no more beautiful campsite than under Jacob Hamblin Arch. This trip requires walking in shallow water about half the time; sneakers recommended if your feet can take it, otherwise grease up your boots and splash in. Bring stoves for cooking at the cars the first morning, otherwise wood available. Plan on carrying a half-day supply of water. Meet at Hurricane Wash sign Friday morning at 8:00 a.m. Call June Viavant, 364-9684, for details.

May 31
Saturday

WILDCAT RIDGE, rating 12.0 plus. This is our annual Idiot's hike from Butler's Fork to Pete's Rock via Mt. Olympus and Mt. Raymond, plus a few points in between. If you are in condition and otherwise qualify, come join us for one of our better hikes. Meet at Pete's Rock, 5600 S. Wasatch Blvd. at 6:00 a.m. Bring plenty of food and

water. This one is for those wanting a real workout.
Leader: Dale Green, 277-6417.

June 1
Sunday

STORM MOUNTAIN, elevation 9524, rating 9.0. Up Ferguson Canyon to the top of Storm Mountain. Get a bird's eye view of wild Stair Gulch. Meet at mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 7:00 a.m. Leader: Dick Bell, 254-4555.

June 7
Saturday

BIG BLACK MOUNTAIN(North side of City Creek Canyon), elevation 8958, rating 6.5. Have you ever looked north across the canyon from Little Black and wondered how Big Black would be? Here's your chance to find out. Meet at 425 S. 8th W. (Pete's shop) at 7:30 a.m. Leader: Dale Green, 277-6417.

June 7
Saturday

THIRD SESSION: BEGINNERS' CLIMBING COURSE.
Meet at the "Y" in the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 5:30 a.m. for snow practice.

June 8
Sunday

LONE PEAK, elevation 11253, rating 12.0. Leaders: Harold Goodro , 277-1247 and Dick Bell, 254-4555.

June 14
Saturday

FOURTH SESSION: BEGINNERS' CLIMBING COURSE.
Meet at Storm Mountain reservoirs at 8:00 a.m.

June 21-22
Saturday-Sunday

WESTWATER (Colorado). Leader Al Mathews, 570 N. 1st W., SLC, Utah 84103, 363-2378, fee: \$18.00.

July 4, 5, 6
Friday-Sunday

FLAMING GORGE TO JENSEN (Green River). (INTERMEDIATE-ADVANCED). Leader Gerry Powelson, 590 N. 3rd E., American Fork, Utah, 84003, 1-756-3004. Fee: \$19.

July 19-26
Saturday-Saturday

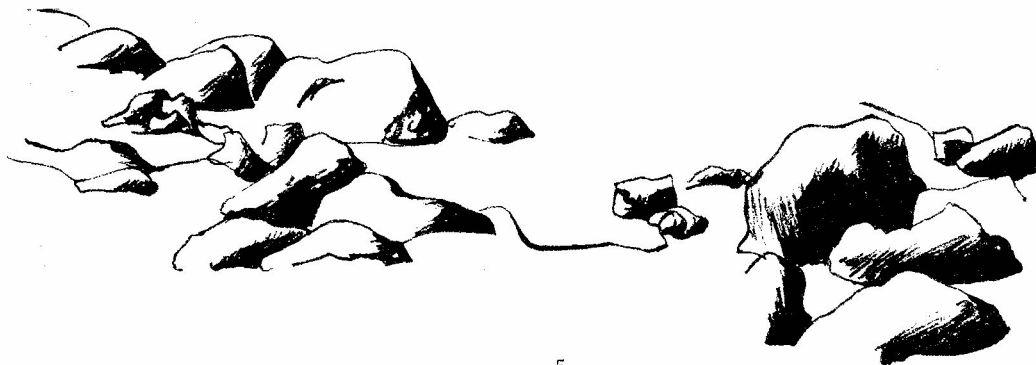
SALMON (Main) (INTERMEDIATE). Leader: Dick Snyder, 1231 E. 4620 S., SLC, Utah 84117, 266-3493, fee: \$44.00.

August 31-Sept. 1 (?)
Sunday-Monday

SNAKE FIVER FAMILY TRIP (BEGINNER). Jackson Lake to Alpine.

Sept. 11-14
Thursday-Sunday

CATARACT CANYON RIVER TRIP (ADVANCED).
Leader: Del Weins and Gerry Powelson.



H I K I N G

The following list contains most of the local hikes that we take. Our rating system is designed to give some idea of the effort involved on each hike. The WMC rating system is based on a third of a point for each round-trip mile, a point for each thousand feet of elevation change below 10,000 feet, one-and-a-half points above 10,000 feet, plus appropriate factors for specific difficulties for the hike.

The practice of indicating hiking time has been discontinued, since listing the round trip hiking time, not including rest or lunch stops, seemed to badly confuse the beginning hiker. On level ground, the average hiker in good condition can travel 3 to 4 miles per hour, or a mile in 15 or 20 minutes. However, most of our trails are not on level ground. In many places in the Wasatch, trails ascend at the rate of over 1000 feet per mile. The average hiker requires at least an hour to cover one mile of trail with 1000 feet change in elevation. Of course, energetic hikers in prime condition can hike much faster. Inexperienced hikers and those not in condition will travel slower.

Once a person has made the easier

hikes, up to a rating of about 5.0, he can then decide whether to advance to a more strenuous hike, based on his own experience. Very generally, for energetic hikers in good condition, hikes rated less than 5.0 are easy, 5.0 to 8.5 are intermediate in difficulty, 9.0 through 11.5 are long, and anything over 12.0 is quite difficult. Again, very generally, since so many factors are involved, inexperienced hikers should allow at least the same number of hours for a round trip as the number of points in the rating for the hike. Almost all children are able to make a hike rated at 4.5 or less. Parents should contact the leader for information on hikes rated over 5.0 if their children have not attempted anything of this rating before.

Quadrangle references refer to maps available from the U.S. Geological Survey, Federal Building, 125 S. State Street, at 30 cents each. Many of the higher peaks have registers on their summits, placed there by the Wasatch Mountain Club, Ute Alpine Club, and the Sierra Club. Look for them as you attain the "heights of exhilaration."

wmc trail guide & ratings

<u>RATING</u>	<u>QUADRANGLE*</u>	<u>HIKE</u>	<u>ELEVATION</u>
0.5	E	Donut Falls	7,900
1.0	A	Lake Solitude from Silver Lake	9,070
1.5	A	Lake Mary from Lodge	9,560
2.0	A	Lake Solitude via Twin Lakes Res.	9,600
2.5	A	Lake Catherine from Lodge	9,920

2.5	C	Silver Lake (American Fork Cyn.)	9,000
3.0	-	Bald Mountain (Mirror Lake)	11,497
3.0	D	Big Beacon	7,143
3.0	A	Catherine Pass from Lodge	10,220
3.0	E	Mt. Aire via Elbow Fork	8,620
3.5	A	Devil's Castle (exposure)	10,920
3.5	A	Point Supreme from Lodge	10,445
3.5	G, A	Mt. Baldy from Albion Basin	11,068
3.5	A	Sugar Loaf from Albion Basin	11,051
3.5	A	Mt. Millicent from Lodge	10,452
4.5	G	Grandeur Peak via Church Fork	8,299
4.5	A	Mt. Majestic (Clayton Peak) from Lodge	10,721
4.5	A	Mt. Wolverine from Lodge	10,795
4.5	E, G	Mule Hollow from Storm Mt. Res.	8,400
4.5	E	Reynolds Peak via Dog Lake Mill D North	9,422
4.5	E	Kessler Peak from Mill D South	10,403
4.5	C	Red Pine Lake	9,600
5.0	-	Hayden Peak (Mirror Lake)	12,475
5.0	G	Grandeur Peak from west side	8,299
5.0	C	Mt. Superior from Alta	11,132
5.0	E, C	Lake Blanche	8,900
5.0	A, F	Lake Desolation from Brighton	9,200
5.0	E	"Thayne " Peak	8,656
6.0	-	Notch Peak via Sawtooth Cyn.	9,655
6.0	G, E	Neff's Canyon to Thayne Cyn.	8,600
6.5	D	Little Black Mountain	8,062
6.5	D	Big Black Mountain	8,958
6.5	E	Mt. Raymond via Butler Fork	10,241
7.0	E	Gobbler's Knob via Butler Fork	10,246
7.5	C	Red Baldy via Silver Lake, Ameri- can Fork	11,171
7.5	C	White Baldy via Silver Lake, American Fork	11,321
7.5	A, C	American Fork Twin Peak via Albion Basin	11,483
8.0	G	Mt. Olympus, any route (North Peak 8,959)	9,026
8.0	-	Lewiston Peak Oquirrh Range via Mercur	10,031
8.0	-	Deseret Peak via South Willow Cyn.	11,031
8.5	E	Mt. Raymond via Hidden Falls	10,241
8.5	C, E	Sundial via Lake Blanche	10,120
9.0	H	Box Elder Peak from east side	11,101
9.0	-	Mt. Nebo North Peak from road	11,928
9.0	B, C	Storm Mt. via Ferguson Canyon	9,524

9.0	I	Mill Canyon Peak	10,349
9.5	E	Gobbler's Knob via Hidden Falls	10,246
10.0	C	Pfifferhorn via Red Pine Lake	11,326
10.0	-	Pilot Peak (Nevada) from west side	10,704
10.0	C	North Peak Thunder Mt. via Coal Pit Gulch	11,150
10.5	E, C	Twin Peak via Broad's Fork	11,330
10.5	E, C	Dromedary Peak via Lake Blanche	11,107
10.5	H, I	Mt. Timpanogos via Aspen Grove	11,750
10.5	D	Grandview Peak via Mueller Park	9,410
11.0	E, C	Mt. Superior via Lake Blanche	11,132
11.0	E, C	Wildcat Ridge via Mt. Raymond	10,242
11.0	H	Mt. Timpanogos via Timpoooneke Trail	11,750
11.5	B	Lone Peak via Corner Canyon	11,253
13.0		Tokewanna Peak	13,175
13.5		Haystack Peak via Granite Creek	12,101
15.0	B	Lone Peak via Bell's Canyon	11,253
17.0	B, C	Red Pine, Pfifferhorn, Bell's Cyn.	11,326

* A Brighton C Dromedary Peak E Mount Aire G Sugar House
 B Draner D Fort Douglas F Park City, W. H Timpanogos Cave

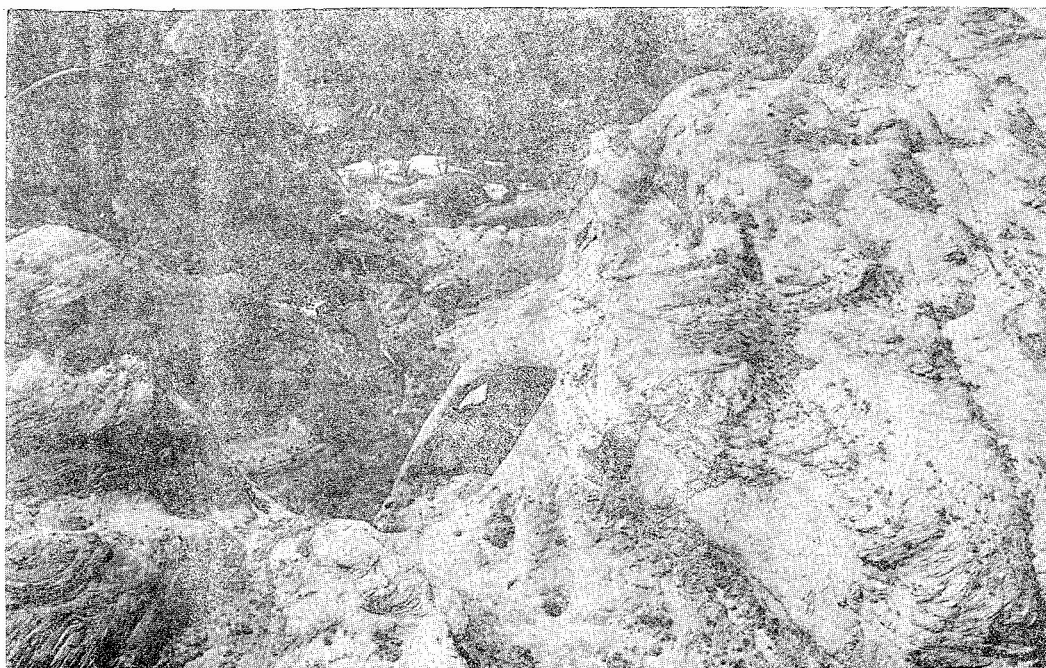


photo of Jug Handle Arch, Coyote Gulch, Escalante by Mel Davis,
 U. S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, SLC

1969 HIKING SCHEDULE

This season we will include some hikes new to the club along with the familiar favorites. Following is the present schedule of hikes for the 1969 season.

June 21	Saturday	Lake Blanche
June 22	Sunday	Red Pine - Bell's Canyon
June 28	Saturday	Butterfield Peak (moonlight hike)
June 29	Sunday	Twin Peaks
July 4	Friday	Kessler Peak
July 5	Saturday	Devil's Castle
July 6	Sunday	Mt. Majestic
July 12	Saturday	Lake Solitude
July 13	Sunday	Mt. Timpanogos (North and South Peaks)
July 19	Saturday	Hayden Peak
July 20	Sunday	American Fork Twins
July 25	Friday	Grandeur Peak (moonlight hike)
July 27	Sunday	Mt. Nebo
August 2	Saturday	Mt. Superior from Alta
August 3	Sunday	Red Pine Lake (picnic)
August 9	Saturday	Brighton Ridge Run
August 10	Sunday	Mt. Raymond via Porter Fork
August 16	Saturday	Catherine Pass from Alta
August 16 - 17	Saturday - Sunday	King's Peak
August 17	Sunday	Provo Peak
August 23	Saturday	Mt. Majestic from lodge (moonlight hike)
August 24	Sunday	Stairs Gulch to Broads Fork
August 30 - 31,	Saturday, Sunday,	
September 1	and Monday	Parnuweep
August 31	Sunday	Mill Canyon Peak
September 6	Saturday	Tokowanna
September 7	Sunday	Alexander Basin to Bowman Fork
September 13	Saturday	Bell's Canyon to Thunder Mt. Cirque
September 14	Sunday	Lake Desolation
September 20	Saturday	Wolverine Cirque from Lodge
September 21	Sunday	Pfeifferhorn
September 27	Saturday	Thayne Peak
September 28	Sunday	Dog Lake via Butler Fork
October 4	Saturday	White Baldy from Silver Lake
October 4 - 5	Saturday - Sunday	Zion Narrows
October 11 - 12	Saturday - Sunday	Kolob Fingers
October 12	Sunday	Mt. Olympus, North Face
October 18 - 19	Saturday - Sunday	Notch peak
October 26	Sunday	Logan Cave

mountaineering

beginners' climbing course:

by Dave Allen

WHO: Any person who desires to learn about climbing and mountaineering.

WHAT: A course that emphasizes the fundamentals of mountaineering and rock climbing. We stress mastery of basic elements such as footwork, rope-work, belaying, rappelling. We emphasize the joy of mountaineering. We teach about pitons, "crabs," boots, etc.

WHEN and WHERE: Late May and early June. Specifically:

May 19 or 21. Evening introduction session. Register for the course at either one. Place and time: 6:30 p.m. either day at Allen's, 3848 S. 2215 E., SLC.

May 24. Meet at the "Y" in the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 8 a.m.

June 7. Meet at the same "Y" at 5:30 a.m. for snow practice.

June 14. Meet at Storm Mountain Reservoir at 8 a.m.

The above schedule is still tentative, because snow conditions are so unpredictable. However, the meetings on

May 19 and 21 are fixed. At that time we will decide on the final schedule. However, the dates are firm--only the location and starting time will vary.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE:

A pittance of a fee is required in order to pay for ropes and other club climbing gear. The fee is \$5 for all four sessions. We do expect more than just this, though. First, a good attitude, a desire to learn. Second, some equipment, including:

Boots	3 or 4 pitons
Hard Hat	3 or 4 carabiners
Piton hammer	1/4" sling rope or
and holster	1" nylon webbing,
	20 ft.

Equipment and gear required for the course will be explained in detail at the introductory session. However, if you want to buy early, either the Mountaineer or Timberline Sports can assist you.

For further information on this exciting and informative course, call either the Mountaineering Director, Max Townsend, or myself, Dave Allen, the course director, 278-0230.



REPORTS REVIEW

by June Viavant

In spite of the usual snafus (new padlock at the Ice Plant, movie projector out on loan, people arriving before June had a chance to comb her hair) the usual enthusiastic crowd arrived (estimated at 75), and the problems were solved by a phone call from John Davis and by the efficient Boating Committee members who were present--Del and Carol Wiens, Bud and Fern Reid, Gerry Powelson, Al Mathews, and June Viavant (she combed her hair).

Equipment was displayed and explained (with Gerry and Del contradicting each other regularly on what worked BEST), the boat finally arrived and was pumped up (and two monstrous holes discovered), the Viavant movies of club trips were shown (interpersed with equipment adjustments and finally a plea for "anyone who knows anything about a movie projector"), 25 registrations for the SanJuan trip were taken, membership applications were liberally dispensed and some checks received, Dick Nielsen's movies of Grand Canyon trip (with Georgie White) were shown, and--we hope--a good time was had by all.

See you next time on a river!

Contributions to The Rambler are welcome: photographs, drawings and typed (or otherwise legible) articles, notes, and poems. Mail them to Sally Nelson, 1677 Yale Ave., SLC 84105, before the 15th of the month preceding the issue in which you desire publication. Next deadline: May 15.

Escalante work party

by June Viavant

Tuesday, April 14, saw some old and prospective members gathered around the Viavant dining table, with typewriters clacking, envelopes being addressed, cards being filed, letters written (I'm sorry we cannot fill your request for 100 Escalante brochures until we do another printing, Thank you for your contribution of \$-- to help preserve the Escalante Wilderness.--", beer being consumed, and more talking being done than anything else. Prospective members Grace and Frank Harris pitched right in, along with oldtimers Nick Strickland, Dick Snyder, and June Viavant, and brand-new-member Karen Crook. Thirty thank-you notes were dispatched, 42 brochures mailed, and other book-keeping brought up-to-date.



URGENT

ESCALANTE CANYON COUNTRY

ATTENTION CONSERVATIONISTS INTERESTED IN THE PROPOSED ESCALANTE WILDERNESS AND THE CANYON COUNTRY PARKWAY SYSTEM:

PUBLIC ROAD HEARING SCHEDULED ON THE HOLE-IN-THE-ROCK ROAD TO BULLFROG BASIN HIGHWAY (THE "TRANS-ESCALANTE" HIGHWAY) AS PROPOSED BY THE UTAH STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

THIS UNNECESSARY NEW ROAD PASSES THROUGH THE HEART OF THE PROPOSED ESCALANTE WILDERNESS. We, as conservationists and taxpayers, must make an impressive showing and speak and write some convincing words for the record at the hearings to have any chance for stopping the Trans-Escalante Road and gaining support for our Escalante Wilderness and Canyon Country Parkway

HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

Tuesday, May 13, 1969 at 9:00 a.m. in the Kane County Courthouse, Kanab, Utah

Tuesday, May 13, 1969 at 3:00 p.m. in the Garfield County Couthouse, Panguitch, Utah

Wednesday, May 14, 1969 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sevier County Courthouse, Richfield, Utah

Thursday, May 15, 1969 at 1:00 p.m. in the State Office Building Auditorium, Salt Lake City, Utah

READ DETAILS CONCERNING THE ROAD HEARINGS and more information about the Escalante Wilderness and Canyon Country Parkway in the article: "Escalante Canyons: Wilderness or . . . ?" in this issue of The Rambler.

TESTIFY AT THE HEARINGS IF YOU POSSIBLY CAN. WRITE A SHORT STATEMENT FOR THE HEARINGS RECORD. COME TO THE HEARINGS AND LISTEN, REPRESENTING THE "INTERESTED CONSERVATIONIST" FACTION

WE ESPECIALLY NEED people to represent the conservation viewpoint at the hearings in Kanab, Panguitch, and Richfield. Contact Jack McLellan if you can attend any, one, or all of the out-of-town hearings.

PLEASE NOTE: CONSERVATION MEETING AT JACK McLELLAN'S, 2459 East 6600 South on MAY 6TH at 7:30 p.m.

LETTER WRITING PARTY AT NICK STRICKLAND'S, 2151 East 9th South on MAY 14TH at 7:30 p.m. Testimony and written statements for presentation to the road commission hearings record will be stressed at both the conservation meeting and letter writing party.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL JACK McLELLAN, 277-7214 (or at work 297-5911, ext. 2294); NICK STRICKLAND, 364-1568; or JUNE VIAVANT, 364-9684.

ELEVENTH BIENNIAL WILDERNESS CONFERENCE

by Eva Jane McLellan

The Eleventh Biennial Wilderness Conference sponsored by the Sierra Club was held March 14, 15, and 16 at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco, California. Jack McLellan, chairman of the Escalante Wilderness Committee, represented the Wasatch Mountain Club and the Uinta Group of the Sierra Club at the conference. He was also responsible for the preparation of the Escalante Wilderness exhibit displayed there. Through this exhibit actually all of Utah was being advertised. Those who viewed it were enthusiastic about the area, concerned about its problems, and intrigued by all the unique country we have here in Utah. From the highest-ranking conservation leaders on down to the inquiring teen-agers special questions, comments, and compliments were received. This did indeed make us feel our time, efforts, and expense had been worthwhile.

I can't begin to tell you all that I personally gained from having attended this wilderness conference, but I can say that it was the reason I have changed from a somewhat passive to an active conservationist. I had no idea that the entire United States, North America, and the world in general are in such danger. This danger goes beyond fighting for a special relationship of man to his total environment. What it all boils down to is that the continuance of life of all forms is threatened due to man's ignorance, inhumanity, and lust for wealth and power.

By the continual urbanization, industrialization, construction of highways, removal of the earth's natural resources, destruction of plant and animal life, pollution of air and water from unending sources, and continual increase in population, the complete ecological balance of nature is being destroyed. When one vital segment of the balance is gone, it brings all kinds

of changes in the remaining life on down the line. In the end, this process is irreversible and extinction is the result. This is actually possible for the entire planet within a relatively short period of time unless enough people can be educated and in turn become a strong enough influence on government and other agencies to start a change. I would like to hope there will still be a good earth for my grandchildren to live upon, but by then it will be on a dead-end street or people will have changed. I am not too confident that the latter will happen.

In addition to emphasis on the total environment problem, special problems were discussed by qualified and authoritative speakers. One of the special discussion topics at the conference was Alaska and her increasing conservation problems. Despite all their open space, Alaskans have problems too, the most recent being invasion by oil companies. Oil is one of the most serious pollutants, and activities associated with oil production damage the earth, plant life, and animal life. This is just one of the threats that is responsible for the people's cry for legal protection for their waters, unique wildlife, and vast wilderness areas; but it may well be cut up and developed until one day the Alaskans, too, will speak of things that "used to be."

Although at certain points I felt my brain to be at the saturation point and my seat a dead weight, I tried to listen to most of the speakers for the two days that were devoted to this type of activity. Some were more stimulating than others, of course, but it was an impressive list of speakers throughout. The most significant would include: Paul R. Ehrlich, professor and author, one of the foremost authorities on the entire problem of environmental balance; Elvis J. Stahr, former Secretary of the Army under President Kennedy

and now president of the National Audubon Society; New York Congressman Richard L. Ottinger, and California Congressmen Jeffery Cohelan, both active in conservation legislation; and Senator Henry M. Jackson, chairman of the Senate Interior and Insular Committee. Senator Jackson was presented the Sierra Club's highest commendation, the John Muir Award, because of his aid in getting several pieces of conservation legislation passed, including Redwoods National Park, North Cascades National Park, and the rejection of building dams in the Grand Canyon.

As you can see, this conference was participated in by important people as well as less significant individuals such as ourselves--but not just a few "militant" conservationists. It was a large, important event, and the total result as far as I was concerned was a complete awakening to our conservation problems. I feel sorry more people cannot attend such an event; if they did, there would surely be a revolution in people's thinking and actions. Since it is a relative few, however, who can benefit firsthand from such a meeting, we then must double our efforts in publishing the facts.

Concern over the dead whales that washed ashore at San Francisco, another tribute to the oil leak in Santa Barbara Channel, added an extra incentive to conservationists at the conference. This great mammal is already at low number due to whaling (still carried on by Russia and Japan) and does not need extra enemies like oil leaks. The balance of bird and marine life in Santa Barbara Channel has been completely wiped out, and it will take years for it to come back. Recently there was a similar oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico. Huge tankers have broken up also, spilling hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil into the water. Pollution from oil, pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals that do not break down in water are killing the plankton and other marine plants and animals. This marine pollution will

ultimately affect human life too, since marine plants are responsible for about 70 percent of the oxygen we breathe --just one example how man is not-so-slowly killing himself.

One observation I made from simply being in San Francisco has merit for conservationists. Just viewing the people and the city and all the flurry should make one grateful that he does not live there. This congestion stresses the importance of conservation policies. I wondered just how many more people could be stacked on top of the ones already stacked into that small area, into apartment houses and "little boxes all the same." With all this increasing congestion, of course, lies the threat to San Francisco Bay. The Bay is being filled in more and more all the time, mostly from dumping of garbage, and is in imminent danger as current legal restrictions are expiring. We can only hope the conservationists can save it. Yes, I would have to say that the best place for a wilderness conference is in the heart of a large city. The atmosphere alone will do much for conservation.

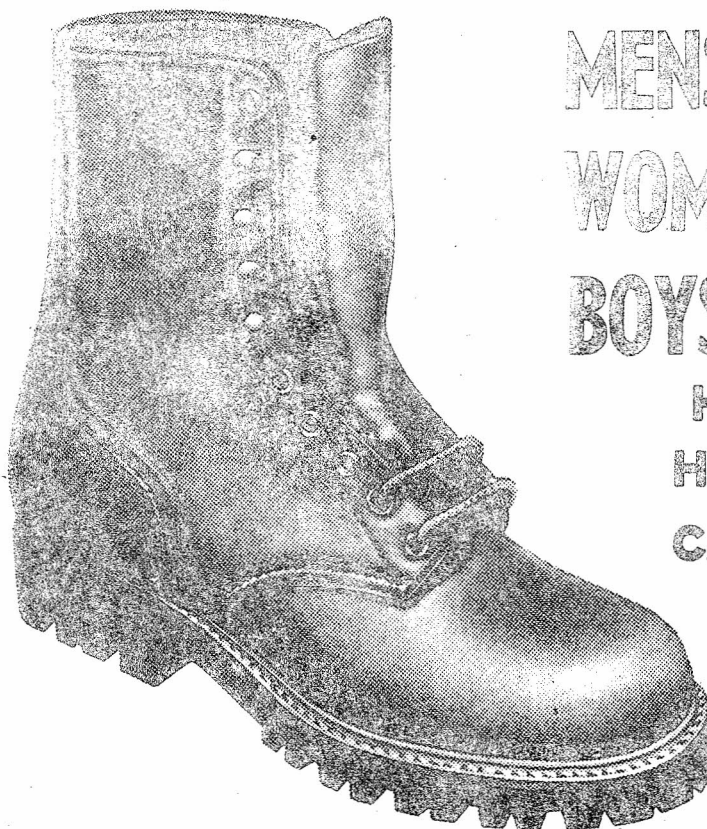
It seemed fitting upon our return home that the first program we was on TV was the ABC special, "Three Young Americans: In Search of Survival." This fine program dealt with the same theme the Wilderness Conference stressed: one basic to our survival--that of the necessity for an ecological balance of nature. Will man realize his folly in time?



I am only one,
But still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
But still I can do something;
And because I cannot do everything
I will not refuse to do the something
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Escalante canyons: wilderness or . . . ?

by Jack McLellan

The road hearings on the highway from Bullfrog Basin to the Hole-in-the-Rock road on May 13, 14, and 15 will mark the first major encounter between Escalante Wilderness proponents and the Utah Highway opponents. If we as conservationists and taxpayers don't make an impressive showing and speak and write some convincing words, we might as well forget about having an Escalante Wilderness.

Henry C. Helland, Director of Highways, State Road Commission of Utah, states in his NOTICE TO PUBLIC:

The location of the improvement is as follows: "Beginning at approximately 15 miles northwest of Hole-in-the-Rock on the Escalante to Hole-in-the-Rock road, proceeding northeasterly 37 miles to a point on the Bullfrog Recreation Area to Trachyte Junction Road located approximately 5 miles north of Bullfrog Basin.

"---To advise the citizens of the reasons for such location and to hear matters pertaining to the social, economic and environmental effects of such proposed highway improvements, four (4) consecutive public hearings have been scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, May 13, 1969, at 9:00 a.m. in the Kane County Courthouse, Kanab, Utah.

Tuesday, May 13, 1969, at 3:00 p.m. in the Garfield County Courthouse, Panguitch, Utah.

Wednesday, May 14, 1969, at 10:00 a.m. in the Sevier County Courthouse, Richfield, Utah.

Thursday, May 15, 1969, at 1:00 p.m. in the State Office Building Auditorium, Salt Lake City, Utah."

Anyone wishing to testify at the hearings should contact the chairman of each session as soon as possible when arriving at the particular hearing. Presentations will be limited to approximately three (3) minutes. Written testimony must accompany an oral presentation to be accepted as part of the record. Other written statements will be accepted at the hearings and for a period of 10 days afterward. Send written statements to: Utah Dept. of Highways, Information Office, Room 612, State Office Bldg., SLC, Utah. Indicate in the first paragraph that you want the letter included in the hearings record.

We face stiff opposition from the road builders, local Escalante people, and the oil interests. A road plan dies hard in Utah. Highway construction is a major industry, and new roads are viewed by small towns as the sure way to pull the tourist dollar in. If the road department says that a road should be built across the Escalante drainage, then by darn it ought to be built--no matter what the alternates are, no matter how much damage would be done, no matter how much it would cost.

Recreation can be provided in quantity on Lake Powell and on our proposed Canyon Country Parkway, and at the same time wilderness and its incomparable values can always be provided

within this great remnant of the wild Glen Canyon region. Highways that open up the wilderness also tend to assure its rapid destruction. At pavement's end, motorists seeking nature find only other motorists, all searching futilely for what was pushed out of the way so they could get there.

In our opinion, this Bullfrog to Hole-in-the-Rock road would add little or nothing to the economy of local communities. Existing roads must be improved first, before any new roads are even considered. It seems unwise to open up areas where roads have never been, when present roads are being neglected. The road across the Escalante Canyons would be very costly, and it would use federal economic development funds that are needed elsewhere. The road is touted as a tourist road--but roads that already exist will do the job of serving tourists much better. Jeff Ingram has written, "It would be an economically destructive road, since it would divert traffic away from settled areas that desire visitors. It would be a senseless road, since southern Utah is an area that needs careful overall planning, and this is a road 'from nowhere to nowhere, in the middle of nowhere.' And most important, that 'nowhere' is the Escalante, an unmatched piece of slickrock wilderness, unique in a rugged arid-land area for its possibilities of gentle, easy, family recreation."

The long-range plan is to extend the Bullfrog to Hole-in-the-Rock road north around Canyonlands National Park into Colorado, and south to Page, Arizona. This Colorado to Arizona Parkway (Senator Moss's "Canyon Country National Parkway," Senate Bill S. 306) would go through only one town. We call it the Colorado to Arizona Parkway because tourists using that road would be fun-

neled from Colorado right down through Utah and into Arizona, without even going near the Utah communities most in need of financial aid! Instead of bringing tourists and money into Utah, we would be providing them with a trap door through, right into Arizona.

Chief Justice William O. Douglas once said, "Highway construction must be managed by the same values as every other project that affects wild country uses. Before a sacrifice of any of the last remaining natural lands is made to the Great God Highway, all other alternatives must be considered and weighed." As General Omar Bradley has said, "If we are not careful, we shall leave our children a legacy of billion-dollar roads leading nowhere except to other congested places like those they left behind. We are building ourselves an asphalt treadmill and allowing the last few wild areas of our nation to disappear."

The Canyon Country Parkway System is our alternative, and modestly speaking it's an extremely logical plan. Unlike the Bullfrog to Hole-in-the-Rock road, or its extension, the Colorado to Arizona Parkway, our parkway system would provide recreation access, give local communities a needed boost, and avoid destruction of unique wilderness values, at one heck of a lot less money--

The Canyon Country Parkway would encourage a diversity of recreational uses of the land, and provide improved roads for the local traffic. Because of the many loop drive possibilities, and the variety of scenic interests, tourists would spend more time and money traveling the Canyon Country Parkway, and they would find incomparable scenic variety. In comparison, the Bullfrog to Hole-in-the-Rock road and the Colorado to Arizona Parkway have little variety to offer. These new roads

would overdevelop backcountry that is now accessible and being used more and more each year.

The Department of Transportation Act, as amended in 1968, says that the Secretary shall not approve any program or project which requires the use of any land from a park, recreation area, wildlife and waterfowl or historic site, unless there is no feasible alternative. We maintain that our routes are not only feasible alternatives, but that instead of alternatives they should be first choice.

Feelings run high among the local Escalante people, particularly on the Chamber of Commerce level. What can we do convince them that we are not really the "terrible militant conservation snobs and wilderness fanatics preaching sterile conservationism"? Not much, I'm afraid. About all we can do is keep hammering away at the same old statements, assure them we do not want to destroy their grazing, condemn their farms, or stop all entry into the wild country by "locking it up;" and that we do not want to prevent them from having necessary roads. We must avoid becoming involved in heated, pointless arguments. We must make them realize that we are interested in their needs, but that they must also recognize our needs. We differ in our means, but we are both after the same thing in the end--a better life for us, a better life for our children and grandchildren. The following excerpts from letters written by Escalante residents will give some idea of the hostility of these people toward the Escalante Wilderness, and conservation in general:

"The attempted land grab of 7.5 million acres of public domain, state land, and private land in the holy name of conservation shows the dangers of this obsession that seems to

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grip many Washington officials and private citizens. ---An even more ominous threat to the well-being of this area is the proposal by the Wasatch Mountain Club, an affiliate of the powerful Sierra Club of which J. B. Roberts is the national president, to have 500,000 acres of the Escalante River Basin set aside as a wilderness area, reserved for the sole use of those who can afford guided tours into the canyons and have the time and physical strength and inclination for sight-seeing on horseback and afoot. ---"

"We object strenuously to your use of the name, 'The Escalante Wilderness Commission.' We do not want the people of this state or any other state to think that the community of Escalante has any part in your diabolical plot to lock up this natural resource into a Wilderness Area to which only a few people would have access. ---Your land-grabbing atsmaks of Wasatch Front indifference to our Southern Utah welfare. Why don't you try setting aside as Wilderness some of your closer recreation areas, Antelope Island or Alta for instance? Please disassociate the name Escalante from your group, or we will seek a legal injunction against you. ---"

"Dear Mr. McLellan: As I promised, I brought the matter of your proposed visit to us before a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce last evening. The vote was unanimously against asking you to come. ---"

"---Just what, besides blocking the proposed new road, to you have in mind in urging the creation of the vast Wilderness Area shown on the map in your brochure? ---As you perhaps know, the Circle Cliffs area

is on the verge of great oil production. Our people are committed to the principle of Multiple use for these public lands. ---What better do you have to offer? We would prefer written answers to these questions to a visit from you. We do not want your propaganda, just hard facts. ---"

(These letters were all answered and statements made to the best of our ability.)

A newspaper advertisement was published by the Escalante Chamber of Commerce. At the bottom, in small print, was the following:

"---MUST WE ALSO HAVE A WILDERNESS? Not content with the "land grab" connected with the enlargement of Capitol Reef Monument by six times, the Protectionists of the Wasatch Mountain Club and the Sierra Club are proposing an even larger Wilderness Area. Their map shows that they would take in all Boulder ranges spared by the new Capitol Reef and much of the grazing lands of Escalante stockmen. It would even include the Boulder ranches. ---These Protectionists are total unrealistic, unjust, and ruthless. They would kill the economy of a country to gratify their passion for exclusive use of territory that has scenic values. ---"

Pretty strong words, aren't they? Words that indicate that they know little or nothing about wilderness or its value. Can we convince them that we are right and that they are mistaken? Pretty tough job... Can we make them realize we plan to place no private land in the wilderness? That grazing is allowed in wilderness? That we are not totally unrealistic, unjust and ruthless.

Oil and mining interests want multiple use of public lands. Unfortunately most of the time multiple use to them seems to mean mining and oil development first and other uses last, if there is anything left. Their real position, understandable but indefensible, is simply that no area should be closed to mineral exploitation. From this view it follows that they must oppose all national parks, monuments, recreation areas, wilderness areas, or any other area where their bulldozers and trucks cannot go. We disagree with that position, especially concerning areas with low grade, scattered deposits such as those within the proposed Escalante Wilderness.

Some rather exorbitant statements regarding oil have been made about the area. There are tar sands under these lands, but the oil cannot be pumped out of tar sands. These sands have to be dug out and processed. Dr. Noel de Nevers indicates that there are other such deposits in Utah. A large one is within 10 miles of Vernal, right on Highway 40. This deposit has been well mapped and tested since 1911; yet there is no commercial production in the U. S. because no one knows how to do it at a profit. Such sands are exploited in Alberta, Canada, where they are soft, close to the surface, in an area where strip mining is allowed, and close to unlimited water supplies. These conditions are not prevalent in any of the Utah deposits, least of all in the Circle Cliffs deposits.

There are also some 11,000 mining claims in the area, according to Dr. de Nevers. Sounds impressive, but remember that most of these claims were made during the uranium boom, when nearly all of southern Utah was covered two or three layers deep with mining claims, based on hope rather than geology.

When prices were high, a few of these claims could be worked at a profit--at current prices, only one can be worked, and that only occasionally.

All this land is Federal land, public land. We believe that the interests of the 200 million people who own this land, and their right to enjoy it to the fullest, deserves priority over the interests of the few who might benefit from the small amount of mining and oil production.

"A few pockets of dedicated wilderness, a few resources left in the ground," says Dr. Cal Giddings, "will not affect Utah's economy. It is a small act of thrift and moderation in our headlong plunge to technological nowhere."

WE MAINTAIN THAT WILDERNESS HAS VALUES--VALUES MUCH MORE IMPORTANT AND NECESSARY THAN ANY MINERALS WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES, MORE BENEFICIAL THAN ANY UNNATURAL INDUSTRIAL TOURISM THAT MAY RESULT FROM THE ENCROACHMENT OF ROADS UPON OR THROUGH THE WILDERNESS.

Conservationists have been called selfish by the exploiters. Well, listen to this: Less than two percent of the total public lands in the United States is of wilderness character. Who are really the selfish ones--those who want to exploit that last two percent, or those who want to save it as God created it?

If I were selfish, I would be out enjoying the last remaining small bits of wild country with the attitude, "It's all doomed anyway, let's enjoy it now and to heck with those that follow." Instead, old selfish me and thousands of other conservationists all over the world are buried in letters, meetings, and hearings; spending so much time on conservation problems that some of us are jeopardiz-

ing marriages, jobs, savings, and even health; and why? Just to keep some wild areas around for my offspring, and ironically enough, the children of those who are most against our efforts--perhaps their children will enjoy wilderness and plead for its preservation even if their folks don't yet realize its importance...

We need to take stock of where we are with respect to our resources in this country. Are we really so badly off that we need to use the last two percent of our land for exploitation? Does every tree have to be cut down? Does every stream have to be dammed and dredged? Do asphalt and concrete have to criss-cross every bit of our country to keep the road builders busy? If we are in such a sad state of affairs, then we had better take a look at ourselves and I am afraid that this last two percent isn't going to do us much good anyway---

We must remember that no matter what we set aside as wilderness or national parks today, another generation can open up if they really need the small resources it contains. But we will not have discharged our duties as the temporary tenants of this earth if we leave these last few wild areas open for mining, timber cutting, dam building, strip mining of tar sands, and the unnecessary building of new roads that literally go nowhere, and connect nothing not already accessible. We must not destroy a priceless heritage to make a few dollars and save a little driving time.

The wilderness is not for everyone. If enough is preserved, however, and the boundaries are not pushed back into the wild country beyond all reason, the old timers, the very young, the incapacitated can also easily enjoy it. Parks and wilderness are for the sole use of those who have the gumption and desire

to see the country as God created it. Those who don't should stay home in their plastic, steel, and asphalt little world. They can see massive parking lots, roads, and man-made exhibits elsewhere. The Escalante is an exhibit--but one made by God, not man. Let none of us think that we can do better than He. Let's just enjoy one of the few places left as He created it.

WILL THE ESCALANTE CANYON COUNTRY REMAIN A LIVING WILDERNESS--OR JUST A FOND MEMORY? That's pretty much up to you. How you and people all over the world feel about wilderness, and how you react to your feelings and beliefs will determine more than the future of the Escalante. Your beliefs and your actions, if applied constructively, will ultimately mean the creation of more wilderness areas and national parks and the protection of those we now have---

One of the world's shortest poems admirably covers the situation: The Affluent Society:

"Compare the present to what is past--
Ever had it so good, or lost it so
fast?"



gratis:

... to Roy Keir who continues so efficiently to head the Rambler mailing committee, which last month included Margaret Strickland and Linda Rathbun.

...to Linda Rathbun and Susan Mickelson (and me) for typing this month's Rambler.

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Has your address changed? Are you (or a friend) not getting your Rambler? If so, please send your name and old ZIP, plus new address and new ZIP to Barbie Quinn, 1991 Creek Road, Sandy, Utah 84070. Merci!



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cover photo of Broken Bow Arch, Willow Gulch, Escalante by Nelson Wadsworth

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

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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). Out of state membership dues are \$3.00 (spouse, \$1.50). The club event I have attended is _____ on _____ (date). I agree to abide by all rules and regulations of the club as specified in the constitution and by-laws and as determined by the Board of Directors.

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and signature _____

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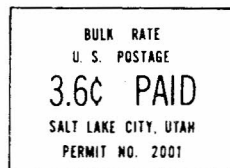
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