

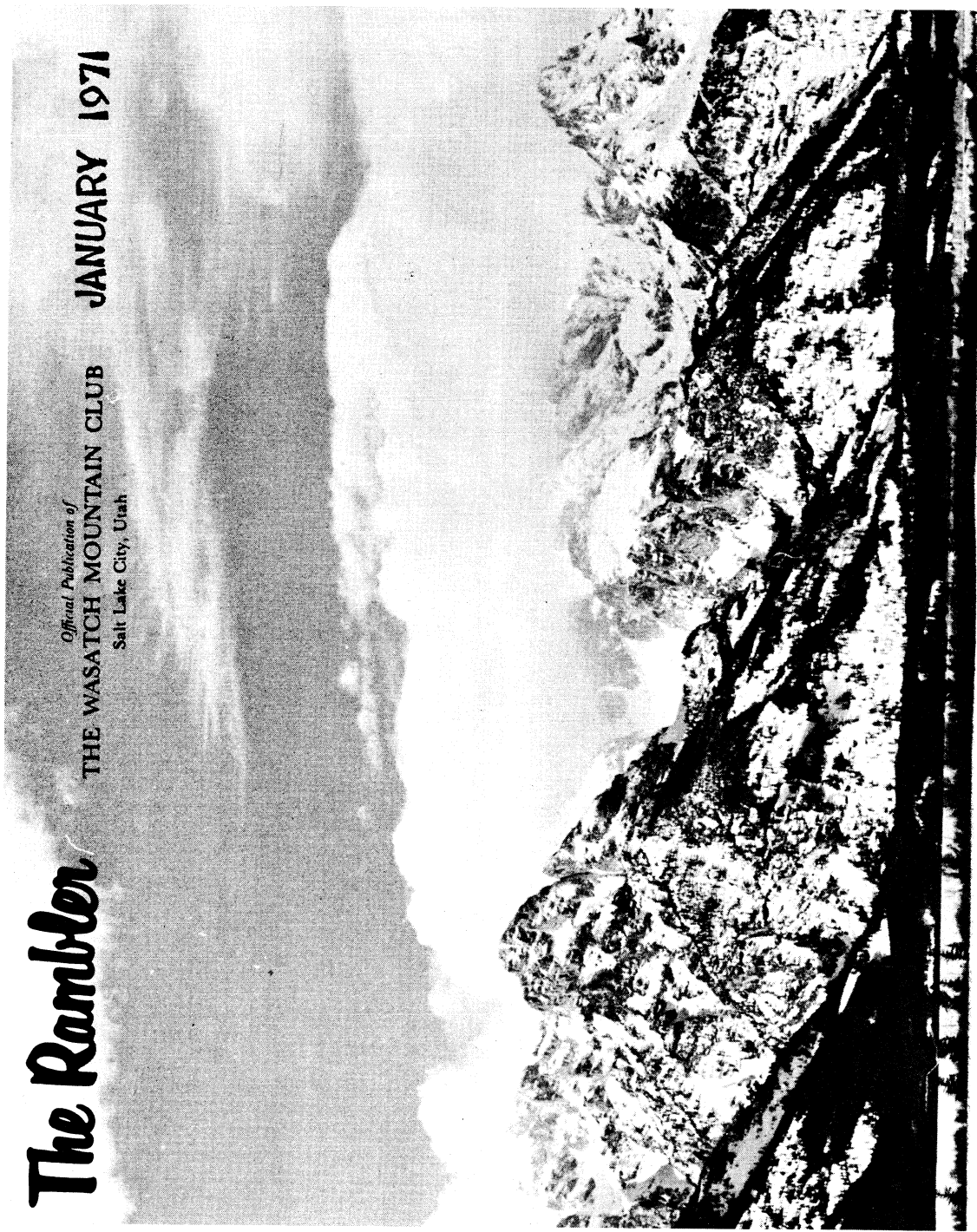
The Rambler

Official Publication of

THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

Salt Lake City, Utah

JANUARY 1971



CLUB ACTIVITIES FOR JANUARY 1971

REGISTRATION WITH TRIP LEADERS for ski tours is even more important than for hiking, weather and snow conditions frequently cause cancelation or changing to a tour more fitting to conditions prevailing on that day, registration is also helpful in resolving car shuttling problems. Register by some reasonable hour the day before the scheduled tour, by calling the leader.

January 2
Sat

DAYS FORK --- Advanced ski tour. The climbing route is along the shoulder that leads up, just East of the Alta Guard Station, to Flagstaff Mountain. The headwall into Days Fork presents a challenging run into the cirque bottom, the remainder of the tour can be done on a long abandoned mining road or in the drainage. Car shuttling will be required. Meet at the bottom of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 7:30 a.m. Leader: Dave George, 364-7025.

January 3
Sun

ALBION HUT FROM ALTA via CATHERINE PASS. This is a novice ski tour if the Albion Lift is utilized. The wind sculptured snow and the rime on the trees above Catherine Pass is usually very spectacular. Albion Hut lies nestled in a grove of trees and has not been as heavily marked by the unfeeling. The down hill back to Alta is a mixture of open and medium wooded slopes. Meet at the Mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 9 a.m. Leader: Jack Keuffel, 277-5733

January 8
Fri

DOG LAKE MOONLIGHT TOUR --- Intermediate (2,3). Our last moonlight tour was quite successful with a turnout of about a dozen people, both skiers and snowshoers. This tour goes up Mill D North to Dog Lake with the option of returning via Butler Fork. No passes or ridges are to be encountered, so wind harrassment should be minimal. The terrain is lightly forested and quite pleasant. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 6:30 p.m. Leader: Dick Bell, 254-4555.

January 8
Fri

FRIDAY EVENING MOVIE NIGHT. Here is your chance to see a show at a price that will suit those overspent December budgets. The title is: "Places seldom visited." It will include such memorable places as the Grand Canyon off the beaten path and the back country of Zion National Park. The cost is only 75 cents. (50 cents lodge fee and 25 cents for snacks.) Please park in front of the Mt. Majestic Manor (Restaurant) and Not in the Motel area. Show time is 7:30 p.m. at the lodge.

January 9
Sat

CATHERINE PASS FROM ALTA ---Beginner (2,2) In view of the popularity of shorter tours we will be running several quite frequently in order to spread out the participation. One may do the tour this Saturday or the previous Sunday. For a modest effort a pleasant outing is in the offing with views of Mt. Wolverine and

Devil's Castle. In order to find parking at Alta it is advisable to meet a little on the early side: 8:00 a.m. at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon. Leader: Oscar Robison, 322-2310.

January 10
Sun

ALEXANDER BASIN --- Advanced (3,5). This is a new and exciting tour which samples the terrain between Big Cottonwood and Mill Creek Canyons. Starting from Big Cottonwood Canyon the route winds its way up Butler Fork affording a fine view of Kessler Peak and contours up the south slopes of Gobblers Knob to the divide between the canyons. The view of the Twin Peaks ridge to the south is quite spectacular. The downhill run into Mill Creek is one of the finest in the Wasatch with one reservation: the management assumes no responsibility for the last few hundred feet, which are highlighted by a steep and challenging gully, but all of us who did this tour in December agreed it was a small price to pay for such a treat. Meet at the parking lot for The Movie at 39th South and Wasatch Boulevard at 8:00 a.m. Leaders: Karin and Dennis Caldwell, 278-2100.

January 9-10
Sat - Sun

ASPEN SKI TRIP. Early January is a slack time for Aspen so the lift lines should be short. If we can interest 20 people we will take the bus (now called "Old Reliable") and we can party or sleep both ways. How can you beat \$16 for two nights in a traveling motel? Bring your teenagers for half price. Register with \$5 by January 5th with Jim Byrne, 359-5631 (or with Dennis Caldwell between Dec. 23 and Jan. 2. 278-2100)

January 10
Sun

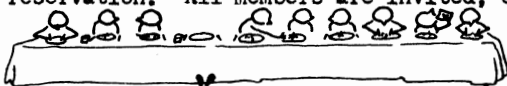
AFTER-SKI SOCIAL. The first ski social for the season will start off at the Bergers' at 6-ish. (1355 Butler Ave. is 1400 East, between E. S. Temple and 1st South at the University). Tacos are on the menu and for \$1 you are promised a delicious Mexican treat. Beer, wine and soft drinks will also be available for a nominal cost, this is really a great way to renew acquaintances or make new ones, especially you new members this is a great way to get together, whether you ski or not you are welcome. Call Kay for further details, 322-1873.

January 16
Sat

MT. RAYMOND --- Intermediate (3,4) ski and snowshoe tour. The route will be up Butler Fork to the saddle between Gobblers Knob and Mt. Raymond. From here the climb to the summit is not too long with a rewarding view of the Twin Peaks Ridge, the Salt Lake Valley and the Oquirrhys to the west. Those not wishing to make so long a tour may wait at the saddle. Descent may be along the ascent route or Mill A Gulch. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Fred Bruenger, 485-2639.

January 16
Sat

NOMINATION BANQUET This year the Nomination Banquet will be at the World Motel (1900 South State Street). Happy Hour will begin at 7:00 p.m. with dinner served at 8:00 sharp. B.Y.O.B. Set-ups are covered in the \$5.00 per person charge. Reservations are a must by January 12th (Tues.). Call Kay Berger, 322-1873 for your reservation. All members are invited, especially new members.



January 17
Sun

AVALANCHE SAFETY COURSE. This will consist of two parts:
1) A morning presentation of the principles of avalanche hazards and how to avoid them. Included will be a slide show illustrating many of the tours in the Wasatch and how to conduct them. Movies will also be on hand for additional perspective. 2) An afternoon field problem at Alta in which rescue and probing operations will be demonstrated and practiced. Since we have so limited a supply of probes, those who plan to tour regularly are strongly urged to acquire their own. Bring a lunch and climbers (snowshoers are most certainly invited to participate). Meet at Alexis Kelner's 1201 1st Ave. at 8:00 a.m. More information may be obtained by calling Dennis Caldwell, 278-2100.

January 23
Sat

MINERAL FORK --- Beginner snowshoe tour. This outing is particularly suited to snowshoeing. The route proceeds up the jeep road into the canyon and eventually opens out into the basin above timberline. The effort is not unduly taxing and the scenery is interesting. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Fred Bruenger, 485-2639.

January 23
Sat

AMERICAN FORK TWINS - MAJOR EVANS GULCH --- Advanced (3,5)
A climb of about 2000 feet puts one on top of American Fork Twins, one of the most centrally located peaks on the Wasatch. The terrain is rugged in all directions and the tour is a bit challenging. From the summit the party will descend the south slopes to Major Evans Gulch and then into American Fork Canyon. In view of car-spotting logistics, registration is mandatory. If this task has not been accomplished the night before, meeting time will be around 7:30 a.m. at the mouth of Little Cottonwood. Leader: Charlie Lesley, 355-5779.

January 24
Sun

PARK CITY WEST TO MILL CREEK --- Intermediate (2,3) As we have seen, there are many fine tours to be done from this ski area. A new one will gain the ridge, a relatively short climb from the lift, and proceed a short way to a suitable descent into Mill Creek Canyon. There are many different routes affording fine skiing down to the road. Since the road is steep and well packed, exposure to the chronic habitues of the area should be brief. Register with leader, Milt Hollander, 277-1416, for car spotting arrangements. One should think in terms of meeting behind "The Movie" on 39th and Wasatch Blvd. at 7:30 a.m.

January 24
Sun

AFTER SKI SOCIAL. This week's good food and drink are to be found at the home of Marion Nelson, 4033 Parkview Drive, phone 277-9038. Go east on 3800 South toward Millcreek Canyon. Turn right through two stone pillars that say Mount Olympus Park. Turn left at the top of the hill; stay on that road to #4033. See you starting around 6:00 p.m.

January 29
Fri

SLIDE EVENING AT THE LODGE. The evening is intended as a pictorial review of the 1970 hiking season. Most of you have taken some slides. You are asked to bring about 5 of your best ones (or more if they are really good) taken on club hikes during the last season. Let everybody see how much fun you had and how beautiful

our mountain and desert country can be. There will be a charge of 75 cents (50 cents lodge fee and 25 cents for snacks). Where else can you spend an evening on that little money? Time: 7:30 pm

January 30
Sat

WHITE PINE --- Beginner (2,2) Here is a good chance to enjoy some alpine scenery while traversing relatively easy terrain. The road may be followed most of the way up until the urge to return is felt. The view of Twin Peaks is overwhelming. The tour is quite suitable for beginning snowshoers. Meet at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 8:30 a.m. Leader: Dick Leining, 364-8982.

January 30-31
Sat - Sun

LODGE OPEN * from noon Sat. till noon Sunday. Sylvia and Ron Weber, 467-3187 are hosts this weekend. Bring your sleeping bags and get an early start skiing. (As the Rambler goes to press, there are no lift lines at the Evergreen Lift!)

January 31
Sun

ALTA - LAKE BLANCHE ---Advanced (3,5) This is it -- D-day for all the adventuresome powder hogs -- the club's most popular alpine tour. The highlights are in succession: Cardiff Pass, East Ridge of Superior, Cardiac (Superior North) Ridge, West Face of Monte Cristo, East Slopes of Sundial, Lake Blanche, after which one gets to try his luck on the trail down to Big Cottonwood Canyon. Although there is no telling what conditions will be like on this particular day, the successful completion of this tour last month with stable snow conditions is quite encouraging. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 7:00 a.m. Leader: Dave Smith, 278-0348. Registration is required.

*

Lodge fees for members are 50¢ per day or 75¢ for overnights (overnight is from 6 p.m. till noon the following day), 50¢ for children day or night and free for kids under 10. Overnights please park in front of the Majestic Manor Restaurant and not anywhere near the motel. This is urgent for p.r. and to spare your car's being plowed under.

February 6
Sat

MOUNT WOLVERINE --- Intermediate (2,3) From Brighton the tour proceeds past Lake Mary onto the Northeast slopes of the mountain. As elevation is gained, the distant panorama of the Uintas comes into view. From the summit there is a commanding view of the Alta- Brighton area. The run back to Brighton is enjoyable and the skiing just off the summit can be quite good. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 8:15 a.m. Leader: Burt Janis, 278-7291.

Feb 6
Sat

SOLITUDE TO BRIGHTON via BIG COTTONWOOD CREEK --- Beginner Snowshoe Tour. Here is an easy outing ideal for families. From Solitude there is a route paralleling but removed from the road up to Brighton. Here one may eat lunch at the store and thereby remove the need for carrying one. Afterwards the group will return to Solitude the same way. The round trip distance is under three miles. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:30 a.m. Leader: Liz Choules, 355-0383.

Feb 6
Sat

MT. MAJESTIC MOONLIGHT TOUR --- Intermediate (2,3) The route proceeds up to Snake Creek Pass, from which a not unduly taxing effort will bring a person to the summit of Mt. Majestic. The downhill skiing includes all ranges of ability depending on the route. For those wishing only to go to the pass an easy intermediate tour is in the offing. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 6:30 p.m. Leader: Bob Wright, 272-1177.

Feb 7
Sun

REDPINE - MAYBIRD --- Advanced (3,5) This tour excites many passions, from the ecstasy of the proficient skier who is first down to the invective of the wood skier who brings up the rear (A wood skier is either a person who uses wood skis or skies in a wooden fashion). We have just the leader for this tour, Alexis Kelner, 359-5387. Meet at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon at 7:00 a.m.

Feb 7
Sun

AFTER SKI SOCIAL. This week we all plan to swing at the home of Dennis and Karin Caldwell. Come after 6:30 p.m. to 2501 Walker Lane, phone: 278-2100.

Feb 20-22
Sat - Mon

JACKSON SKI TRIP. It is time for the annual fling in Jackson. There will be many activities this year including one day at the Grand Targhee ski area on the west side of the Tetons (the view from here is spectacular) and ski touring. An extremely scenic and relatively short tour is planned from Togwotee Pass, which affords a panorama of the entire Teton range. If there is sufficient participation, we will take the bus (\$11.00 per person). More details in the February Rambler. Lyman Lewis will handle the social and lodging details and Dennis Caldwell the ski touring.

Feb 21
Sun

AFTER SKI SOCIAL for the stay-at-homes at the home of Bob and Denna Wright, 3033 East 5800 South in Holladay. Phone: 272-1177.

March 7
Sun

AFTER SKI SOCIAL at Gale and Ann Dick's, 1377 Butler Ave., phone: 359-5764.

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Note on ski-touring: The ratings on ski tours are based on numbering the uphill effort (first number) and the downhill proficiency (second number) from 1 to 6 in increasing order of difficulty. Typical tours with their ratings are: Albion Basin (1,1), Gad Valley (2,4), Alta-Lake Blanche (3,5), Cardiff Pass (2,2). For example the (3,5) rating on Lake Blanche means that 2000 feet of elevation on rugged terrain is to be gained with a descent route requiring considerable skill. Only advanced skiers should consider this tour. A more detailed discussion appeared in the December 1969 and 1970 Ramblers.

NEWS AND NOTICES

HATCHED

Alan Scott Pearson on Nov. 23, 1970
by Linda and Ross.

Kerry Lynn Quinn on Nov. 26, 1970
(Thanksgiving) by Barry and Barbv.

PARKING AT THE LODGE

new rules, but VERY IMPORTANT.
When parking overnight (while you stay
at the lodge), park in front of Majestic
Manor. Do not park anywhere near the
motel, not even on the west perimeter.
Please note; this is very important.

RECOVERING

from back surgery, Charley Swift.
from back surgery also, Chauncy Hall.
from an appendectomy, Jackie Thomas.

FOR SALE

Ladies' lace Ski Boots with
Speed lace padded inner boot.
Size 9½ narrow-medium width. Like
new. \$15.00. Helen Chindgren.
Phone: 467-0922.

THANKS

to Linda and George Rathbun for
mailing the December Rambler.
to Catherine Sundeen for typing
much of the January issue.

DEADLINE

for the February Rambler is Jan. 15th.
Please deliver to Sally Nelson by then:
1218 Harvard Ave., SLC, UT 84105. 485-
0237. Please TYPE.

nominations

It won't be long before the Nomina-
tion Banquet is upon us (January 16th).
By then we hope that all nominees for our
1971 Board of Directors will be selected.
If any of you have some ideas you'd like
to see enacted under your prospective
directorship, or have suggestions for
other candidates, please call a member
of this year's nominating committee.

Noel de Nevers 363-1307
Charles Keller 278-2578
Sally Nelson (chairman) 485-0237



by Tom Dickman

Sunday morning in the city turned
out to be pretty murky, by Alta's atmos-
phere was a different story. The people
who showed up for the tour at the bottom
of Neversweat found a blue sky that is

hardly ever seen in the valley nowadays,
no wind, and a temperature just right
for skiing.

We regrouped after the lift rides
at the Germania hut, above Sugarloaf,
to put on our climbers, and to laugh

at the skiers below who were tied to the lifts for what they naively call "skiing". So with one more sneering look, we turned away to find our more genuine kicks elsewhere.

The first place we found them was in climbing Baldy. Some obscure forest ranger had told Gale that going below Baldy and skirting the mountain would be inviting a slide, so Gale led off--straight up the mountain. Actually, it wasn't all that bad, if you enjoy climbing over icy rock ledges, and through hip-deep snow, on a 25° grade, with your skis on your shoulders.

After making it up Baldy and down another slightly less steep ridge, the party started to wend its way up one more mountain. In doing so, we got to sample what surely must be one of the most strikingly beautiful views in the Wasatch, or anyplace, for that matter. American Fork Canyon, Timpanogas, and mountains almost to the Uintahs were laid out in one huge panorama. Above this was that same sky, penetratingly blue, cloudless, and totally still.

Lost in this scene we almost didn't hear the "chop-chop bzzwang, chop-chop bzzwang" until the monster producing the noise landed on the mountain we were climbing. Once there, it disgorged a number of all-too-human skiers

who promptly roared down the hill. This was repeated 3 or 4 times while we made a few hundred yards progress. Everyone came up with a different scheme to sabotage the contraption. "Tie it down with nets." "Ice up its runners." "Hold it down, drag out the pilot, take off his shoes, and make him walk back." "He would at least have a fighting chance that way."

From then on it was all downhill, through fresh Alta powder. I could try to describe what that was like, but there is simply no way to communicate it with words. It is something which has to be experienced to be known.

At the bottom we crossed the stream (no easy thing in ski boots!) and were on our way home. Some left rather sadly though, knowing that this might be their last chance to ski Gad before the hum of ski lifts and the crunch of snow packers from Snowbird drown out the chattering and chirping of the squirrels and birds.

Powder freaks and wilderness buffs on the trip were: George Swanson, Del and Carol Wiens, Kingsley Walton, Oscar Robison, Dick Voight, Bob and Sharmy Wright, June and Steve Viavant, Jack Keuffel, Franz Rosenberger, Diana Schoenberg, Charlie, Emily, and Mark Hall, Bill Marden, Steve Daurelle, Gale and Ann Dick, Al Wickham, Sherm and Tom Dickman.



by Mike and Ginny Ross

Fifteen people turned out on a gray Saturday morning to ski or snowshoe to Lake Solitude. It was an equipment-shake-down trip for many, with some of the snowshoers puzzling over those ever-stretching leather thongs, two of the skiers deciding that Norwegian skis are for Norwegians, and one skier learning the

pleasures of free-heel bindings (on top of seal skins now starting their 20th season!).

The canine participant attempted free rides on the backs of snow shoes and skis alike; this was probably least appreciated by Phyllis Robison, who was carrying extra weight already (7 months pregnant).

After some discussion, we decided we had arrived at the lake, and everyone had an early lunch. The urge to get moving or otherwise generate heat hit most of us as soon as the food disappeared. Those with downhill skis cashed in on their uphill efforts -- though the "descent" was rather difficult to distinguish from the ascent at times.

It was a peaceful morning with a

LETTERS

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE LODGE COMMITTEE

Thanks for all of the improvements made this summer, which made the lodge more comfortable and enjoyable, and thanks too for making the lodge available to the membership.

Last weekend our family spent one of the most delightful weekends together that we have had for many months, because we spent it frolicking in the snow, and staying at the Wasatch Mountain Club Lodge.

I don't know what my children expected (after spending some of their summers in cabins in Idaho) but when we opened the door and they saw the inside of the lodge they exclaimed, "THIS IS WONDERFUL!"

Our party consisted of six adults, thirteen children (not all mine, each of mine brought a friend or two) ages eleven to twenty-three, and three toddler-types. I think the success of the weekend can be confirmed by the statement the kids made as soon as we got home--"Call and make a reservation for another weekend."

I certainly hope that other members of the club will take advantage of the facilities that the lodge offers. Much fun can be had, and an old-time togetherness felt that seems to be missing in our hectic city world these days.

by Jayne James and Family

very light snow fall, a good reminder of how pleasant it is to get out into quiet white places.

Participants: **Leader** John Riley; Lee Steorts; Steve Viant; Tom Bresenham; Tom and Susan Healey; Ruth Hensen; Mike and Ginny Ross and dog; Tom Dickin-son; Elmer Boyd; Herb Rosenstock; Dixon Smith; Oscar and Phyllis Robison.

To Wasatch Mountain Club

Dear Members!

We had a drawing for an Odyssey House - to obtain a rehabilitation centre and prevent drug abuse.

But then a "Hike for Help" was planned, and I decided to march. Called upon some of your members to sponsor me, and efforts were not in vain. Many of you responded: a sum at once, or sponsoring for - so much a mile.

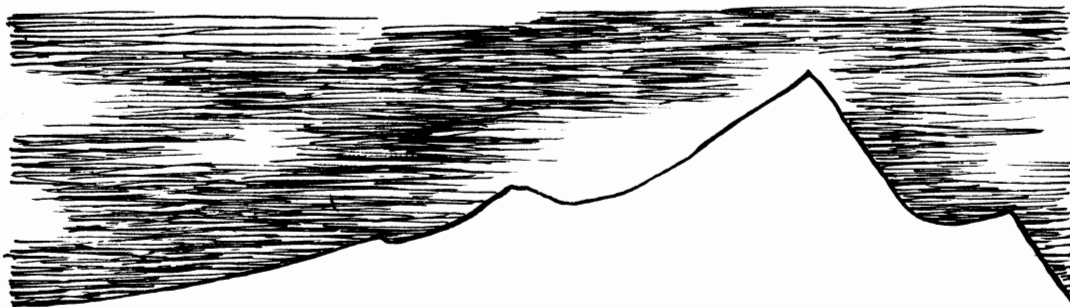
Am a grandma - but promised myself to do what I could in behalf of mankind and -as a member of WMC not to disappoint you members and sponsors.

Twenty-five miles on concrete is a long way - but \$250.00 my goal - if I did it, was something worthwhile. 276 of us started out \pm 8:20 a.m. on 12-5-70 and a 120 "did it." If I do count now all the money that came in - can contribute about \$300. \$\$.

Marching was great - beautiful weather - lovely, sincere, Great people we met. A day unforgettable for its unity, solidarity, perseverance.

Purpose: willing to Help, helped us to keep going and a very sincere beautiful thanks to all of you members of WMC who made it possible that in unity we could attribute this for them, which we want so badly, to be returned to society as great, useful citizens, in behalf of a Happy, Healthy Nation.

Arie Hindbo



UNSCHEDULED LAKE BLANCHE SNOW SHOE TOUR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1970

by Shelley Hyde

By 9:30 A.M. the three of us, Ruth Henson, Elmer Boyd and myself gingerly crossed the volatile foot bridge a short distance up Mill B South Fork and "shoed-up" for the trek ascending the long glaciated gulch.

Following some minutes of altitude gain and pleasant chatter we were want to stop and gaze in amazement at a sight I have never before encountered. Far to the left front and high above us the sun was confronting the opposite side of a husky ridge. The rays were forcing themselves through dense snow-covered firs on the spine of the ridge in a glorious splash of dazzling brilliant silver and gold against a stark deep bluish purple sky. This vision literally took our breath away. The three of us stood in reverent silence drinking in this unbelievable cosmic portrait. Seconds later the shadows began to descend the high ridge above our right shoulder revealing a proud mass of lofty terrain raising its head in regal splendor. This vast shadow crossed our path exposing us to a most welcome sun and made the crystals shimmer in a crazy frenzy.

we continued up the trail for a considerable time, talking and discussing the various tracks left by the creatures of the forest. Deer and bob cat tracks were in great abun-

dance as were many miniature varmints leaving numerous and long scattered delicate staccato evidences of having been there.

The snow was just deep enough to cause some question as to the location of the trail but not deep enough for us to make a "bee-line" for the next point of destination. This gave rise to some calculated doubts and speculation as to which hump and rise to pursue and finally landed us on a very steep and slippery side of a high exposed elevation. The sun was causing the snow to set up and become sticky, so step kicking with snowshoes was the practical procedure. Eventually this failed to serve our purpose as the snow was creeping and sliding, and it was decided that we had best head for lower snow and forfeit some precious elevation which we had so painfully earned by a series of serpentine switch-backs. Further frustration was compounded by the fact that we were at an equal elevation to and a thousand crow-flight yards from, Sundial Basin.

Just as we had decided that back tracking was impossible, the distaff member of the party suggested that this might be an appropriate place to have lunch and regain some composure. Meanwhile the uphill leg was putting

forth painful protest to the turn of events, and with this we decided to give some snow with more than considerable reluctance and mutterings about the bloody bindings which were acting up under the inordinate stress.

There, but for the grace of ice axe, ski poles and some sparse undergrowth, go we to the bottom of the couloir. I personally was harboring some veiled reservation concerning the outcome of this trek. With some compromise and trudging we reached the basin just as a well endowed head wind registered complaint to our intrusion. With this arrival we found ourselves in the presence of one of God's

great cathedrals--a veritable Valhalla with Dromedary, Sunrise, and Twin compromising this colossal fortress in the sky.

The heavens, the sun, the colors and the obliging weather were all divine and made for an unforgettable day in our cherished legacy of the hills. The only blight on the whole tour was the saddening view through the Col into our Promised Valley choked with smog. This sight was accompanied by some uncomplimentary mumbling by all of us.

Accolades are due to Elmer for his yeoman service as trail breaker. Bravo, Elmer.

DIVERTISSEMENT

by Dennis Caldwell

As of the middle of December this looks like a superb skiing and touring season. Experts are now rather optimistic on the overall stability of the snow, although one should never let his guard down. Further encouraging features are the successes of a number of alpine tours already. We plan to make the Avalanche Safety Course a yearly event, whereby people may profit from our past folly as well as our wisdom. One of the most important byproducts of this activity is the recruitment of potential touring leaders. The increasing numbers of people on tours at times indicates the need for scheduling two or more similar events on the same day; but there are not enough leaders at present to do this. One way to increase their ranks is through this symposium on hazards and route-finding in the Wasatch.

Since it is rather difficult at times to characterize ski tours, mainly due to an incomplete knowledge of the terrain and the shortness of space in the schedule, we shall attempt to broaden the

scope of this experience through a musical comparison. First of all, most tours can be put into one of two broad categories: Mozartian or Wagnerian. The former has an almost universal appeal in the effortless manner in which the by no means trivial subject matter is treated. The aesthetic (scenic) standards are high, interest is always maintained, and it is finished all too soon. The Wagnerian tour, on the other hand, is more in the epic mold. It is long, demanding, replete with scene changes, and at times almost bombastic. This is not for a moment meant to imply its inferiority to the Mozartian. Aesthetic standards are also very high, but the emphasis and methods are quite different. Even Wagnerian tours can be a strenuous delight, such as the Meistersinger tours of the Lake Blanche variety. While these tours never approach the sheer delight of the Mozartian, they provide a broader and more intense experience. Just as with their musical counterparts, they require more training and conditioning. Unlike the opera it is not always easy to bow out after the first or second act, as one might be tempted to do in Hogum

Fork en route to the Thunder Mountain denouement. One must put himself in the proper frame of mind and plan accordingly.

As one mulls over the local terrain, a certain pattern seems to emerge pointing the way to a more thorough analysis. For example, what are the tours we crave and repeat most often? These surely must be the Beethoven and Schubert tours: Alta to Brighton, Silver Fork, Gad Valley, White Pine, Honeycomb Fork -- good substantial fare in a classical vein, universally enjoyed with few exceptions. One must not be contemptuous of something merely because it is simple; in point of fact, the Rossini tours to Snake Creek Pass and Albion Hut have much to recommend themselves in the way of unbridled pleasure and invention. Aesthetic standards are deceptively high, and one has to start somewhere.

There are a number of tours where people seem to be waltzing down the

slopes, such as Cardiff Fork, which gives them a Straussian flavor. This effect also occurs momentarily in Maybird Gulch, though the final result can only be compared with passages like the haunting waltz melody in Nielsen's 6th Symphony, which is interrupted by a most dissonant outburst from the brass. Just as Bach was a universal many-sided composer, we are almost tempted to say that there is a little of Bach in everything; but this cliché must be tempered by confining ourselves to a few specific remarks. Behind a certain symmetry there is a waltz of artful diversity in these tours which is quite fluid in nature, and when they are finished one feels certain that little improvement was to be had by adding or detracting from the material. There are variations on themes by Beethoven, Brahms, Haydn, Handel, but on none by Bach. Very little is left unsaid, although the Lake Blanche tour has sometimes been compared with the Saint Matthew Passion in which all→

NEW HOURS

MON-THURS Noon-8:00 pm

FRI Noon-9:00 pm

SAT 10:00-5:00 pm

SAME GREAT SERVICE



*if you can't make it in during
regular hours, phone for a
special appointment-
466-2101*



2959 Highland Dr

the recitatives are performed at the end.

With the guidelines for this diversion firmly in our grasp, let us test our imagination on two popular tours, American Fork Twins and Pfeifferhorn. From its bold, daring, and at times almost bombastic approach there can be no doubt that the spectacular American Fork Twins tour is cast in the Berlioz mold, just as the similarly breathtaking and more romantic Pfeifferhorn with its intricately molded approaches and descents can be compared only with the music of Richard Strauss.

Before concluding this outrage, it is fitting that we turn briefly to Bruckner and Mahler. Since these composers so often convey the impression of an austere, if not repelling formidability, one should attempt to associate their names with tours such as Maybird Gulch, Thunder Mountain, and Lone Peak. In fact, some dissidents are inclined to call these Wagner at his worst. But one must give the devils their due and not condemn out of hand. In considering the Alta to Bells Canyon tour, which is as spectacular as it is long, indescribable emotions are invoked, beginning with the powerful opening bars of Bruckner's 7th Symphony as the sun rises (or sets, however you prefer). As one makes the traverse over into White Pine the facile first movement of Mahler's 4th Symphony fills our ears. After crossing the White Pine -Red Pine divide to the cacophonous scherzo of Mahler's 5th Symphony, we return to the majesty of Bruckner and the adagio to the 8th Symphony as we humbly commune with nature en route to Bells Canyon and more Mahler, the burlesque from the 9th Symphony.

There is no end to this sort of nonsense, nor need it be limited to composers. You may feel perfectly free to link this activity or any other with Poets, Painters, Sculptors, Actors, or even Politicians. One composer, however, has been conspicuous by his absence.

Since his music partakes so much of the hills, lakes, and forests, in a sense all tours are Sibelius.

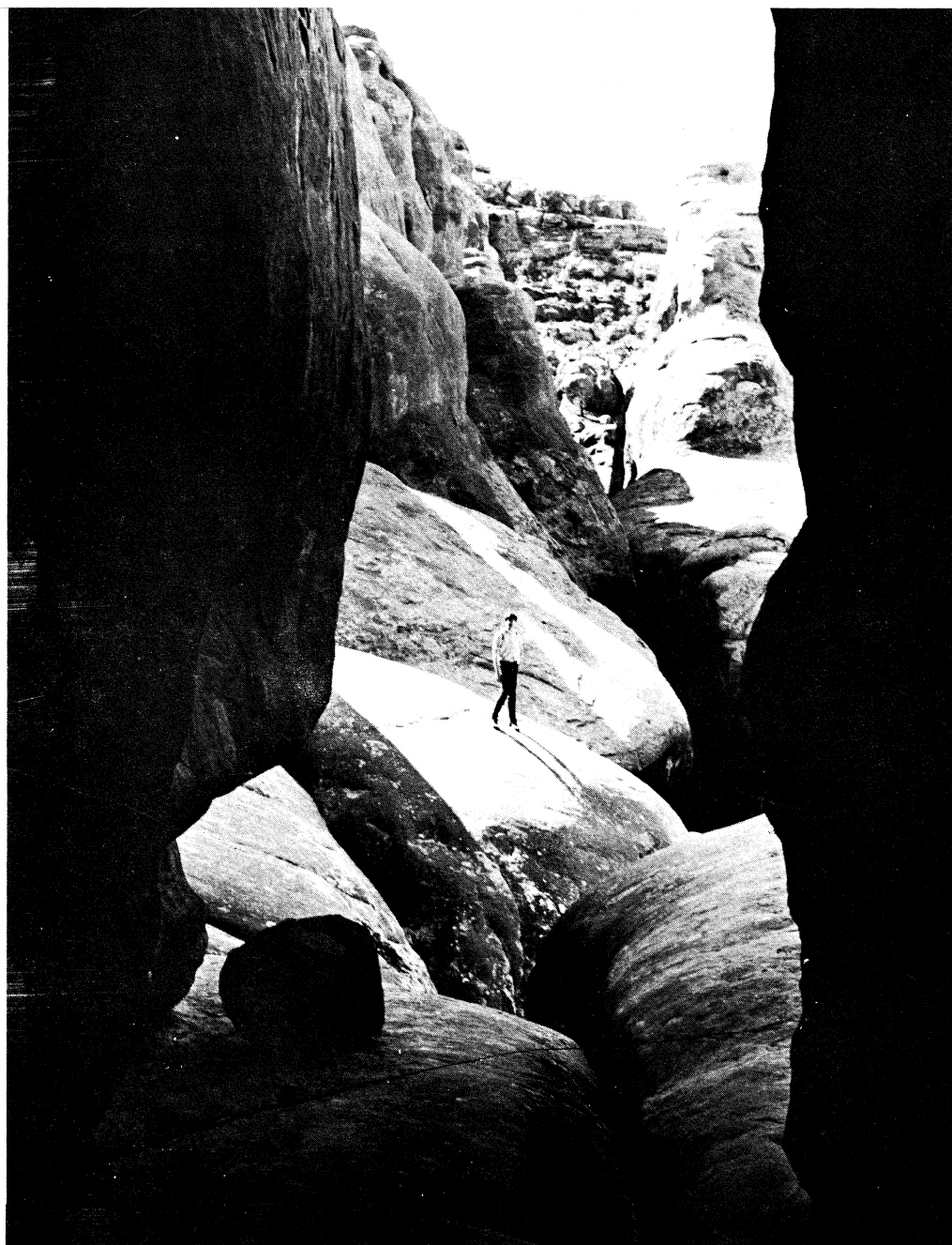
And so, in order that we may continue to enjoy these areas in the manner to which we have become accustomed, it is necessary to encourage local and federal agencies to form and hold a reasonable line between the concert hall and the dance hall. At the present time the Wasatch and Uinta National Forests are considering a proposal to restrict motor travel of all types in the area bounded approximately by Little Cottonwood Canyon Canyon on the north, American Fork Canyon on the south, and a line running between Red Pine and White Pine Canyons near American Fork Twins eventually down the American Fork Canyon in the vicinity of Mary Ellen Gulch. If acted upon, this proposal would protect some of the finest alpine terrain in the Wasatch. Accordingly we should commend the Forest Service for their efforts along these lines and strongly urge them to bring their plans to completion. Those who are interested in implementing such protection would be advised to voice their opinions to:

C. P. St. John
Supervisor, Wasatch National Forest
4438 Federal Building
125 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

C. S. Thornock
Supervisor, Uinta National Forest
Federal Building
88 West 100 North
Box 1428
Provo, Utah 84601

Since this proposal involves liaison between the two forests, one might also wish to send his remarks to the regional supervisor:

Vere Hamre
Regional Forester,
Intermountain Region
324 25th Street
Ogden, Utah 84401



TONTO TRAIL

by Don Carlton

A change in plans for the Thanksgiving hike was necessary when rain made the road to the trail head at Salt Trail Canyon impassable. An alternate route from the South Rim of the Grand Canyon was selected.

As the weather Thursday was definitely unsettled, it was decided to go down the Bright Angle trail which, while aromatically disagreeable, offered a quick escape in the event of a real storm. We discussed the virtues and vices of mules with the ranger at Indian Springs and learned that the Park Service is considering restricting mules to the Kaibab Trail--encouraging news for the hikers.

Anticipating a dry camp we took on water at Indian Springs and headed west along the Tonto Trail around Horn Canyon to Salt Creek, our first night's camp. Although normally dry, Salt Creek did offer a trickle of good water but very limited tent space.

A very tasty Thanksgiving dinner was prepared and enjoyed as dusk fell in the Inferno (apparently named for the brilliant red walls which surrounded us here). After dark, high priest Jerry conducted a very impressive sacrifice to Odin. One should be cautious with these potent ceremonies for while it was effective in stopping the rain for all of 15 minutes, Odin did manage to give Jerry a wet sleeping bag before the night was over. We had alternating showers and strong wind gusts until nearly dawn--a truly character-building night.

Friday morning we struck camp quickly, delaying breakfast until reaching Monument Creek where the sun shone through scattered clouds and the world looked much brighter. Monument

Creek is a good camp site, offering a dependable water supply and shelter of overhanging ledges on the south side of the creek.

After breakfast a very rewarding side trip was made down Monument Canyon to the Colorado River, a distance of about two miles. Access to the canyon can be safely gained down the west side of the monument and the rest of the canyon is passable without aid.

For the remainder of the day we were rewarded with partly sunny skies, ideal hiking temperatures and some sections of reasonably good trail enabling us to arrive at Hermit Camp in the early afternoon. Travel along the Tonto plateau gives one a real sense of intimate contact with the canyon environment and offers many impressive views of the river and rock formations.

At Hermit Camp we were confronted with disastrous overcrowding of the camping area, groups of Explorer Scouts, Girl Scouts, Sierra Club, and several other small groups to a total of well over 60--many more than can reasonably be accommodated without some form of facility improvement.

After selecting a camp site near the Hermit Trail Junction (well away from the crowd) we all went down to the creek for water and a stroll through the main camp area--quite an experience.

Friday evening and night were free of rain and we enjoyed a cozy fire, good conversation and a welcome night's sleep.

Saturday morning we tackled the Hermit Trail up through the Red Wall on the Cathedral Stairs.

The Hermit Trail has seen better days, slides have taken out the trail in numerous places requiring considerable travel over talus. The traverses seemed quite short and infrequent compared with the steep sections which are often of a 30 percent slope or more.

As we gained the Supi Sandstone, threatening clouds kept us on our steady

pace with few stops for pictures or rest. And so the 1970 hiking program drew to a successful close with rhythmic footsteps up the cobblestones of the last mile to the south rim.

Trip members were: Fred and Eveline Bruenger (leader), John Riley, Jerry Powelson, Dick Fast, and Don Carlton.

Hiking 1970

by Fred Bruenger

With the Grand Canyon trip over the Thanksgiving Holidays the 1970 hiking season found its official end, and it seems timely to look back critically so that we can correct mistakes that we made, improve where there were shortcomings, and continue or expand on activities that were successful.

As you know, for the first time the schedule and general policy was set by a committee composed of experienced members from all hiking levels rather than by one person--that is the hiking director--alone. The introduction of committees into the planning work of the various club activities is the merit of your president Del Wiens who experienced a great deal of success during his term as boating director, and this success was at least partly due to a very active boating committee which he had organized.

After some very successful spring hikes, the weather interfered with quite a number of activities and late snowfalls made some hikes impossible or at least very difficult and we should think of the possibility of making either impromptu substitutions as was done on one early season Lone Peak hike or we should include alternate activities in our original plans. During most of the summer, things seemed

to be going quite well. Since a greater number of activities was planned, groups were generally--though not always--of moderate size and this facilitated the job of the leader and resulted in more fun for the group. Early bad weather interfered again with a number of fall activities, but there were bright spots too, like the trip through Parunuweap Canyon, the only trip during the Labor Day weekend which did not have to be cancelled because of bad weather and will be remembered by all participants as a great trip.

You may have noticed that throughout the season more than the usual number of activities was scheduled, a much greater number of family hikes were planned and participation of younger people was encouraged. This gave youngsters an opportunity to be together with their parents and will hopefully help to plant the seed of true conservationism in their hearts and help them to enjoy and appreciate our nature. Then there were some hikes (easy and intermediate) which were restricted to certain groups, like ladies hikes or "no youngster" hikes. This received some criticism but I can assure you that discrimination against

certain groups was not the criterion for doing so. We wanted to give others--especially the adult who wanted a few hours of leisure and recreation away from his own family--an opportunity to find what he was looking for. You may have noticed that the same activity was usually scheduled without any restriction a short time thereafter.

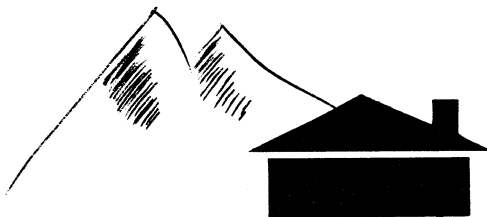
A number of club members (and nonmembers) felt that on more advanced hikes we might have been more restrictive than necessary and this may be true. There are, however, a few items that speak in favor of this policy. People of the same or similar strength stay together, they can easily cope with the difficulties with relative ease and get more enjoyment out of it. As a result, it is easier to find leaders for these trips because the leader does not have to worry about his group and can have fun too and the group does not have to make frequent stops to accommodate those who are not equipped. After all, most hikers can easily prove their proficiency or obtain the necessary ability for harder activities and build up their strength and endurance by going regularly.

By the way, this policy is by no means new. If you look through your older Ramblers, you will find that a great deal has been said about this subject at earlier times.

All in all, we the hiking committee feel that in spite of the mistakes that have been made and for which your hiking director gladly accepts responsibility, we had a very active, successful and most enjoyable season. We thank all of you who contributed to this success by leading trips, clearing trails, carrying out garbage, writing about trips, criticizing our shortcomings or just by coming along and having fun. My own special thanks go to all the members of the hiking committee, who have contributed so much to the success of the season.

I would like to close this chapter with a short and most appropriate quotation from a write-up by Harold Goodro: "As I look back on these ... hikes, I can't help but realize that although the scenery and the weather play a big part in the enjoyment of a hike, it is really members who band together with a spirit of friendship and team effort that make the occasion memorable."

snowmobiles, trail bikes, off-road
The State Division of Parks and Recreation held a hearing on the proposed recreation vehicle registration bill on December 16th. Most of the opposition to the bill came from four-wheelers. Support will be needed to get a bill that will register all off-rovers. Registration is the first step to control of snowmobiles and trail bikes. Send your comments on registration, noise and emission control, land closures, and special areas for off-rovers to the State Division of Parks and Recreation
1596 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116



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FIRST DUES NOTICE

In order to meet increased costs of printing and mailing the Rambler, the board decided recently to raise the out-of-state dues to equal those of the in-state members. Sorry we had to do this, but we're affected by inflation, too, and cannot afford to continue operating at a loss.

You (everyone) may now pay your 1971 dues: \$6.00, plus another \$3.00 for spice.



Cover photo by Alexis Kelner

Wasatch Mountain Club business is conducted only on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. At that time, and only at that time, is the mail opened, new membership applications voted on, dues payments recorded, address changes made, lodge rentals approved, and all other business requiring board action conducted. All board members cannot attend all board meetings and although an effort is made to fill in during a member's absence, some business is held for action until the next meeting.

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB
2959 Highland Drive, Salt Lake City, Utah 84106 Phone: 363-7150

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Board of Directors:

I hereby apply apply for membership in the Wasatch Mountain Club. I enclose the \$4.00 entrance fee and \$6.00 dues (spouse \$3.00). I agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of the Club as specified in the Constitution and By-Laws and as determined by the Board of Directors.

Name (printed)_____

Signature_____

(If spouse membership please print
name of spouse)_____

and signature_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

Zip_____ Phone_____

Event attended:_____

_____ on (date)_____

Recommended by (please obtain signatures
of a member and a director):

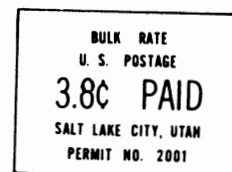
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Director_____

(effective Jan. 1 through Aug. 31, 1971)

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