



WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

# *The Rambler*

Vol. 56, No. 12. December, 1979

# Wasatch Mountain Club

Persons wishing to become members of the Wasatch Mountain Club should request, either by telephone or in writing, an application form from the Club's Membership Director. Upon such notification, prospective members will receive free two consecutive issues of the Club's Schedule of Activities and a full application form with instructions for joining. Dues are as follows: \$10.00 Regular (single), \$15.00 Spouse (double) and a \$5.00 initiation fee.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                  |                |          |
|------------------|----------------|----------|
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## ***The Rambler*** (USPS 053-410)

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

This publication is not forwarded by the Post Office. Changes of address, and other direct correspondence regarding the mailing of THE RAMBLER should be directed to the Membership Director.

Deadline for THE RAMBLER is the 15th of each month.

TYPE (double space) your articles and schedules, indicate your name and phone number on your articles, prints, etc., and mail to (or drop by):

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB  
ATTENTION--RAMBLER EDITOR  
3155 Highland Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT 84106

JOHN MASON, Managing Editor

THANKS....to Lois Shipway, Dale Green, and Alexis Kelner.

# Club Activities—December 1979

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## Ski Touring, General Comments

- Call 942-4059 for avalanche information.
  - Club equipment--probes, may be borrowed from John Riley, 3639 Palisades Dr., 485-2567. Also, a portable toboggan is available.
  - Tour leaders may request you bring shovels, avalanche chords, and pieps as they deem necessary.
- 

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| December 1<br>Saturday  | NTD - MOD--ALBION HUT. Excellent get-back-into-the-swing tour. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Leader Oscar Robison, 943-8500.                   |
| December 2<br>Sunday    | NTD--SCOTTS PASS. Snowshoe and Nordic tour. Fine tour through the woods. Meet at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:00 a.m. Leader Elmer Boyd, 969-7814.             |
| December 2<br>Sunday    | NTD--ONTARIO CANYON SKI TOUR. How about some touring around Park City? Meet in front of the Park City Golf Course Club House at 9:00 a.m. Leader Lyman Lewis, 1/549-9632. |
| December 8<br>Saturday  | MOD--WHITE PINE LAKE SKI TOUR. Excellent powder last year, so why shouldn't there be some this year? Super terrain. Leader Greg Janiec, 272-5488.                         |
| December 8<br>Saturday  | NTD--SNAKE CREEK PASS. Excellent terrain with a super view of Timpanogos at the pass. Snowshoes welcome. Leader Wick Miller, 467-3943.                                    |
| December 9<br>Sunday    | NTD--DESOLATION LAKE. Snowshoe and Nordic ski tour. Meander to the lake with Trudy. Leader Trudy Healy, 583-3411.   |
| December 15<br>Saturday | DOG LAKE VIA MILL D NORTH. Rating 2,2, NTD. Meet Leader Joe Hall, 561-4029, at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:00 a.m.  |
| December 16<br>Sunday   | HONEYCOMB FROM BRIGHTON. Rating 1,3, MsD. Meet Leader Yukio Kachi, 583-6054, at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:00 a.m.   |
| December 16<br>Sunday   | SNAKE CREEK PASS. Rating 2,2, NTD. Snowshoe trip. Register with Leader John Dawson, 262-7061.   |
| December 22<br>Saturday | LEADER'S CHOICE IN PARK CITY. Register with the Leader John Riley, 485-2567, for this easy intermediate trip.   |

- December 22  
Saturday CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE LODGE. Come One, Come All!! Share in the holiday spirit and bring your favorite dish (4/4). Last year's culinary creativity offered an amazingly varied array. Remember the lodge will be open all weekend, so the canyon won't require negotiating late at night. Stay and sleep in. Dancing - Carousing - Carolling. Time: 7:30 p.m. Cover: \$1.50. Instigator: Ilka Allers, 581-1798.
- December 23  
Sunday CLAYTON PEAK. Rating 2,2, MoD. Register with the Leader George Westbrook, 969-7756.
- December 23  
Sunday SILVER FORK. Shoeshoe or Nordic Tour. Rating 2,2, NTD. Meet the Leader Betty Botcher, 484-6692 at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:00 a.m.
- December 29  
Saturday WHITE PINE, LITTLE COTTONWOOD. Rating 3,2, MoD. Register with the Leader Dwight Nicholson, 583-6054.
- Dec. 26-30  
Wed.-Sun. RED CASTLE LAKE. This will be a three-night trip. The dates are presently uncertain. Call Leader Greg Janiec to register. Home: 272-5488, or work:268-7291.
- January 1  
Monday SNAKE CREEK PASS. Rating 2,2, NTD. Snowshoe and Nordic tour. Meet Leader Ann McDonald, 277-5433, at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 10:00 a.m. New Year's cheer will be served at the leader's home following the tour.
- January 5  
Saturday CARDIFF FORK FROM BIG COTTONWOOD. Rating 2,2, NTD. Meet Leader Mel Davis, 278-3174 at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:30 a.m.
- January 5  
Saturday MILL D NORTH TO MILLCREEK. Rating 2,3 MoD. Meet Leader Greg Janiec, 272-5488, at Olympus Hills Shopping Center at 8:30 a.m.
- January 5  
Saturday ICE CLIMBING SEMINAR. John Gottman will once again conduct the annual ice climbing course. The course will consist of an indoor session in the morning with a field session later in the day. For further information, call John Gottman at 359-4693.
- January 6  
Sunday DESOLATION LAKE SNOWSHOE TRIP. Meet Leader Elmer Boyd, 969-7814, at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon at 9:00 a.m.
- January 6  
Sunday MAYBIRD. Rating 3,4, MsD\*. Register with Leader Alexis Kelner, 359-5387.
- January 12  
Saturday WOLVERINE PEAK. Rating 2,2, McD. Register with Leader George Westbrook, 969-7756.
- January 12  
Saturday JAMES PEAK NEAR POWDER MOUNTAIN. Rating 2,3, MsD. Register with Leader Harold Hafterson, 1/479-5739.

January 12  
Saturday  
6:30 p.m.

NOMINATIONS DINNER. Join us for this annual dress-up event to solemnize the choice of those intrepid enough to run for the Board of Directors.

Place: Andy's Smorgasboard  
3350 Highland Drive  
Time: Social Hour 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner 7:30 p.m.  
Price: \$8.50 per person, includes setups (BYOB)

Your check for the appropriate amount will constitute your registration. Please contact Phyllis Haas (534-1262, keep trying), then promptly send a check made out to the Wasatch Mountain Club. REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT BY SATURDAY, JANUARY 5 IS MANDATORY!! Send checks to: Phyllis Haas, 717 Ninth Avenue, Salt Lake City, UT 84103.

January 13  
Sunday

DAYS FORK. Rating 4,4, MsD. Register with Leader Rolf Doebbling, 467-6636.

January 13  
Sunday

MINERAL FORK FROM BIG COTTONWOOD. Rating 2,2, MoD. Register with the Leader Mike Treshow, 467-1022.

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### Conservation Comments

# The Great Sagebrush Rebellion

By Walter Haas

As you are no doubt aware, there is a move afoot by the Western states to seize federally owned lands in Utah and neighboring states and place them under state control. This effort is apparently motivated by a desire to run the currently federal lands in a manner catering more to local, and less to national, interests. Outside California, this will almost certainly mean managing the lands to generate more revenue by eliminating the multiple-use principal and most environmental laws. This would probably be done in most cases by selling the lands to the highest bidder.

This would drastically affect our lifestyle. All of the RARE II proposed Wilderness Areas would be sacrificed to local interests, probably opening them to logging and off-road vehicle use. Any land which could be subdivided would probably become the site of a cabin. Every good slope would acquire a ski lift. Hiking and cross-country skiing, which do not generate large amounts of money for local interests, would be relegated to bottom priority. Most forms of recreation would become possible only upon payment of an appropriate fee to the landowner.

In the forthcoming budget session of the Utah legislature, Senator Ivan Matheson will introduce a bill demanding local control of the federal lands in Utah. We need to show as much strength in opposition to this bill as possible. It is important that you contact your elected representatives and let them know that you are a user of federal lands, and do not wish to see them sold to the highest bidder.

# Guide to Ski Touring in the Wasatch

By Dwight Nicholson and Lori Webb

The difficulty of a ski tour is not easy to define. It depends to a large extent upon the condition of the snow, which varies from one day to the next (and even from one hour to the next) due to snowfall, wind velocity, air temperature and the location of the route relative to exposure to wind and sun.

It also depends upon the weather, physical condition of the tourer, particular route chosen, and equipment.

For Nordic skiers, correct touring technique and ability to choose the proper wax makes all the difference in the world. The only parameters that are constant on a ski tour are the vertical rise and the horizontal distance.

With these facts in mind, an attempt has been made to rate the ski tours in the Wasatch. The rating system is in the form (X,Y) where X describes the difficulty of the climb, and Y indicates the skiing proficiency required to get down. Both are rated from 1 to 6, in order of increasing difficulty. For example, Day's Fork is rated (2,4); it involves a relatively short climb of 1,900 feet in 1.5 miles from Alta, but the descent includes an extremely steep bowl where avalanche danger can be quite high. These numbers are necessarily relative, and are meant only to give the tourer a general idea of the required ability level necessary under good skiing conditions. The higher-rated tours are for advanced skiers who can manage any snow conditions; sometimes the survival instinct helps, too.

Data on 37 of the most popular tours in the Wasatch are tabulated in approximate order of difficulty to assist your go/no go decision.

The not-too-difficult (NTD) tours are for the person who has only been on Nordic skis a few times. If you have never been on Nordic skis, or only a few times, it is suggested that you attend the numerous clinics sponsored by Brighton Ski Touring or Timberline until you can kick turn and wax your own skis.

Intermediate ratings would refer to those people who have been out a number of times and can do a good stop and kick turn, or an adequate stem turn. The advanced tours are for those who can handle most everything their equipment given decent snow conditions.

Nothing is more unfair to the more experienced, nor more dangerous to the individual, than to have a person who has proved himself on an Alta to Brighton tour come out for a Mineral Fork or Lake Blanche trip. These comments are certainly not made to discourage your going on a trip, but only to make you more aware of the problems.

It is suggested that you not go on a tour that is much farther down the list than the most difficult one that you have taken in the past. If in doubt, the tour leader or ski touring director will be happy to advise you.

| Description  | Lift      | ASCENT |       | DESCENT |       | Rating | Nordic Rating |
|--|-----------|--------|-------|---------|-------|--------|---------------|
|  |           | Dist.  | Vert. | Dist.   | Vert. |        |               |
| Wolverine Cirque from Brighton                                 |           | 1.6    | 1330  | 1.6     | 1330  | 2,2    | MoD           |
| Lake Solitude  |           | 1.4    | 300   | 1.4     | 300   | 1,2    | NTD           |
| Snake Creek Pass from Brighton                                 |           | 1.4    | 1240  | 1.4     | 1240  | 2,2    | NTD           |
| Catherine Pass from Alta                                       |           | 2.3    | 1640  | 2.3     | 1680  | 2,2    | NTD           |
| Alta from Brighton via Twin Lakes Pass                         |           | 2.0    | 1030  | 1.1     | 1430  | 1,2    | MoD           |
| Dog Lake Via Mill D North                                      |           | 2.3    | 1460  | 2.3     | 1460  | 2,2    | NTD           |
| Mill F   |           | 2.2    | 1000  | 2.2     | 1000  | 2,2    | MoD           |
| Desolation Lake via Mill D-North                               |           | 3.3    | 1960  | 3.3     | 1960  | 2,2    | NTD           |
| Catherine Pass from Brighton                                   |           | 1.9    | 1440  | 1.8     | 1440  | 2,2    | MoD           |
| Mill Creek from Park West (to Log Haven)                       |           | .5     | 150   | 7.7     | 3300  | 1,2    | MoD           |
| Park City from Brighton via Scott's Pass                       |           | 2.0    | 700   | 3.8     | 2500  | 2,2    | MoD           |
| Honeycomb from Solitude (to cirque)                            |           | 3.0    | 1400  | 3.0     | 1400  | 2,2    | MoD           |
| Mineral Fork   |           | 2.9    | 1890  | 2.9     | 1890  | 2,2    | MoD           |
| White Pine Lake or Red Pine Lake                               |           | 2.7    | 2400  | 2.7     | 2400  | 3,2    | MoD           |
| Honeycomb from Brighton  |           | 1.1    | 1000  | 3.5     | 2140  | 1,3    | MsD           |
| Mt. Wolverine from Alta  |           | 1.8    | 2035  | 1.8     | 2035  | 2,3    | MsD           |
| Silver Fork from Brighton via Twin Lakes Pass                  |           | 2.3    | 1410  | 2.8     | 2460  | 2,3    | MsD           |
| Mill Creek from Mill D via Dog Lake (to Log Haven)             |           | 2.3    | 1460  | 6.4     | 2900  | 2,3    | MoD           |
| Cardiff Fork from Alta   |           | 1.0    | 1360  | 5.9     | 2750  | 2,3    | MsD           |
| Silver Fork from Alta  |           | 1.8    | 1610  | 2.8     | 2510  | 2,3    | MsD           |
| American Fork from Alta (to Tibble Fork)                       | Sugarloaf | .3     | 169   | 9.9     | 4100  | 1,3    | MoD           |
| Mary Ellen Gulch from Alta (to Tibble Fork)                    | Sugarloaf | .3     | 160   | 8.5     | 4100  | 1,3    | MsD*          |
| Neff Canyon  |           | 3.2    | 3960  | 3.2     | 3960  | 4,3    | MsD*          |
| Days Fork from Alta  |           | 1.5    | 1890  | 3.5     | 3140  | 2,4    | MsD*          |
| Major Evans Gulch from Alta (to Tibble Fork)                   | Sugarloaf | 2.9    | 480   | 6.4     | 4500  | 2,4    | MsD*          |
| White Pine from Alta   | Sugarloaf | 3.4    | 330   | 3.0     | 3140  | 3,4    | MsD*          |
| Mt. Raymond via Butler Fork                                    |           | 3.5    | 3140  | 3.5     | 3140  | 4,4    | MsD           |
| American Fork from White Pine via Silver Lake (to Tibble Fork) |           | 3.4    | 3030  | 6.3     | 4300  | 4,4    | MsD*          |

| Description   | Lift      | ASCENT |       | ASCENT |       | Rating | Nordic Rating |
|---|-----------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|---------------|
|   |           | Dist.  | Vert. | Dist.  | Vert. |        |               |
| Maybird from White Pine                                     |           | 3.4    | 2240  | 2.0    | 3175  | 3,5    | MsD*          |
| Alpine from White Pine via Dry Creek                        |           | 3.7    | 3000  | 6.5    | 5560  | 4,4    | MsD*          |
| Hogum from White Pine                                       |           | 3.6    | 2700  | 3.1    | 3660  | 3,5    | MsD*          |
| Alexander Basin from Butler Fork (to Log Haven)             |           | 3.6    | 3145  | 5.4    | 4140  | 3,5    | MsD*          |
| White Pine from Alta via Twin Peaks                         | Sugarloaf | 2.4    | 1075  | 4.0    | 3875  | 3,5    | MsD*          |
| Major Evans Gulch from Alta via Twin Peaks (to Tibble Fork) | Sugarloaf | 2.4    | 1075  | 6.4    | 5100  | 3,5    | MsD*          |
| Mineral Fork from Alta                                      |           | 2.3    | 2180  | 3.1    | 4160  | 3,5    | MsD*          |
| Lake Blanche from Alta                                      |           | 1.9    | 2060  | 4.3    | 4500  | 3,5    | MsD*          |

\*Tour may not be advisable for Nordic equipment.

## Utah Non-Game Wildlife Needs

By Rick Van Wagenen

You can help Utah nongame wildlife in a big way during the next two months. State Representative William Barton will be introducing a Nongame Wildlife funding bill during the January 1980 budget session of the Utah State Legislature. The bill will be almost identical to the 1977 Colorado Nongame Funding bill which created a voluntary Income Tax Refund fund for the Colorado Division of Wildlife Resources to be used for the protection and management of nongame wildlife and endangered species. The Colorado program was more successful than anyone envisioned, raising more than \$350,000 in 1978 and over \$500,000 in 1979. Each case fund dollar is eligible for \$2-3 federal matching dollars. As a result, Colorado now has the best Nongame Management Program in the nation.

We hope to get such a program started in Utah, but the Division of Wildlife Resources needs some help. There are several things which need to be done. First, it is essential that you begin writing your state legislators to support the bill. Secondly, we need lobbyists! Any individuals who have a real concern for wildlife in Utah could perform a valuable service by helping us lobby on the Hill this January. The budget session is only 20 days long, and we hope to have at least one person there each day. An informal citizens committee has been formed and anyone who is interested is invited to participate.

The governor is enthusiastic about the funding idea and we have the support of several representatives and senators, but there certainly is no guarantee of success. There are problems and we need your participation and input if Utah nongame wildlife is to get a fair chance in the years ahead.

If you have any questions or want to help, please call Stellanie Ure (278-3466), Rick Van Wagenen (467-5758), or Jana McKinney (278-5215).



## SKI TOURERS

Holubar has two excellent quality ski package specials which will be of interest to you whether you're up grading your existing equipment or just getting started.

### Basic Package

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rossignol Apache Ski          | \$69.95         |
| Norski Telemark Boot          | \$42.00         |
| Trak Pinso Binding            | \$ 7.00         |
| Exel Polaris Pole             | \$11.00         |
| Mounting and Base Preparation | \$ 7.50         |
| Total                         | <u>\$137.50</u> |

Special Package Price \$100.00

Save \$37.50

### Mountain Package

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fischer 99 Ski                | \$140.00        |
| Vasque Tour Boot(78/79 model) | \$ 59.95        |
| Exel Artic Pole               | \$ 27.50        |
| Normark Pin Binding           | \$ 8.95         |
| Mounting and Base Preparation | \$ 7.50         |
| Total                         | <u>\$243.90</u> |

Special Package Price \$200.00

Save \$43.90

In addition to the above, Holubar has one of the area's best selections of mountain touring skis and boots. Drop by at your convenience and our staff will be happy to talk with you about your touring equipment needs.

Note our extended hours for your Christmas shopping convenience:

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| Mon.-Fri. | 10:00-9:00 |
| Sat.      | 9:00-6:00  |
| Sun.      | 12:00-4:00 |

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# From the Board

By Dennis Caldwell

**ELECTIONS:** This is the time of year to be thinking of next year's board. More than half of the positions will again be open this year. As is common with a group such as ours, there is a widespread reluctance to catapult oneself into the limelight. Nonetheless the secret of maintaining a dynamic organization which can survive the ravages of a rapidly growing and changing society will ultimately rest with a body of individuals who will spontaneously translate their inspirations on how its affairs should be managed into such a commitment.

Just on the off chance that there will not be a flood of eager aspirants to fill the various positions, we have formed a nominating committee, whose names are listed below. They will be contacting a cross section of the membership to form a slate of candidates which will be published in the January Rambler.

Nominations will be open until the annual dinner in January. Up until this time any qualified member (the exact definition being an individual who has survived eight WMC trips) may be nominated with his or her permission.

The people to contact are:

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Ilka Allers     | 581-1798   |
| John Gottman    | 359-4693   |
| Dorothy Holland | 943-7231   |
| Lyman Lewis     | 1/649-9632 |
| Larry Peterson  | 255-5245   |

**LODGE:** We are putting the lodge to bed for the winter after a very active season of repair work. The kitchen is now 90% complete with a concrete floor (ultimately to be tiled) and an exquisite set of cabinets.

There are still a number of pressing structural matters to be resolved such as the Annex, which is still wandering off from the main building. With your continued support we will prevail. Let's plan to see some new faces next summer.

Tentatively a raffle is in the offing for March as part of our ongoing fund raising project. Ticket sellers will be needed!

**MEMBERSHIP:** Thanks to our new computerized membership list it will be possible to provide members with current information twice a year.

## Found

One shirt, red Woolrich, left behind  
the night of the Halloween party.  
If it is yours contact Bob Myers,  
1/479-5831.

# Letters

Dear Editor and Conservation Director:

The most significant issue in decades would appear to be taken lightly or even ignored by many who should be most concerned. The issue sounds so absurd that there's a tendency to ignore it. We can't ignore it. The developers aren't, the ranchers aren't and neither are the governor or our legislators. I'm talking about the "Sagebrush Rebellion." If we ignore it and the pending legislation, the state of Utah may assert jurisdiction over much of our federal lands, especially, to begin with, those now administered by the BLM. If Orrin Hatch's bill is passed, Utah could obtain title to all or part of the federal public lands. The obvious implication is more mining, more cows, more subdivisions, and less access to lands we now take for granted. This attempt to turn public lands into private property must be stopped! Learn more about this issue and let our legislators and governor know what you think.

Mike Treshow

Dear WMC:

This is a voice of appreciation for the evening of chamber music at the lodge. It was an outstanding event. There are few instances where there could be such a blending of talent and atmosphere.

Thanks to all whose efforts produced such a unique experience.

Clare Davis

Friends in the Club:

Had we not been in London we'd like to have been at the lodge with you, and if we'd not ferried to Le Havre we'd like to have rafted with you. Were we not enjoying French wines and going to

Spanish wines we'd like to be in Salt Lake with you. Were we not crossing the Mediterranean on Monday we'd like to be on Utah Lake with you. And if we'd not then be on the Sahara we'd love to motor the West Desert with you. And when we're floating the Niger we'll pretend we are on the Green. When slicing through the Serengeti we'll think of the Hogle Zoo, and our heels on Kilmanjaro will remember Mt. Olympus' slopes. At our safari end's party in Nairobi we'll recall drinking in Jackson with you, and later in Johannesburg we'll dream of the Zion Narrows. As we're sucked up the Nile we're going down the Salmon with you and as Khartoum calls we might hear an Odin yell. In sum, in our travels we miss you.

All for now,  
Audrey, Sue,  
Bill and Rod

Dear WMC:

The Cancer Control Program, sponsored by the Utah State Department of Health, the National Cancer Institute, and the Utah Division of the American Cancer Society, will hold a Cervical Cancer Screening Clinic December 6, 1979, from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. in the Unitarian Church, located at 569 South 1300 East.

Appointments are required. Women who wish to attend the clinic should phone the Cancer Control Program at 533-6712. The clinics will include a Pap Test; Pelvic and Breast examination; Blood Pressure check and Health Education Information on risk factors, signs and symptoms of cancer and referral for appropriate medical follow-up. Specially trained Registered Nurses will do the examinations for which a minimal fee based upon Annual Family Income will be charged. All sexually active women or those 20 years of age and older who have not had a Pap Test during the past year are encouraged to do so.

Sincerely,  
Jean Osborne, R.N.,  
M.S., Director  
Cancer Control Program

# TRIP Talk talk talk ta

## The Maze

By Earl Cook

The trip for half the party began by leaving on Thursday night October 18 in the rain. The wind increased but the rain lessened as we reached Green River. We spent the night in the ditch at the turnoff road to the Maze, under the stars, as the sand was too hard for tent pegs. The other half of the party with the FWD drove down Friday morning and met us for the drive to the Ranger Station. Here the car was abandoned and six people and two packs were carried inside and four packs were carried on the roof rack of the Land Cruiser over the 35 miles of jolting "road" to Maze overlook. The three miles of the Flint Trail had been considerably improved since the last Club trip. We ate lunch on the rim overlook trying to keep our packs from preceeding us down due to the strong wind.

The descent consisted of traversing around the "Toad Stools" capped with rim rock, then dropping down shelves, squeezing through narrow passages, passing the packs through a "keyhole" and finally sliding down the slickrock with the aid of a few "Moki Steps". The floor of the canyon contained cottonwoods in their fall colors, junipers covered with shiny berries and dried brush. We followed the stream bed to the main canyon and then followed this upstream to the spring. We made our camp facing the spring, with our backs to the Chocolate Drops.

Saturday morning, Chuck led us up to the Chocolate Drops by scrambling up the short canyon to the rear of our camp. The ridge was quite windy with the storm moving in. From the Drops we had a good view of the rock monuments to the south and into the spectacular canyons of the Maze itself. We followed the ridge as best we could against the strong wind and reached Lizard Rock as the rain began. After finding the trail down into the canyon in our rain gear, we descended over boulders and slickrock and finally down a tree "ladder" into the bottom. Here we had lunch in a large cavern.

We then followed the main stream bed back to camp past many side canyons with multiple dry falls and one wash with Indian petroglyphs. The rain, which had been intermittent during the hike began again as we prepared supper. The temperature began dropping rapidly and all but two tented up listening to the hooting of the Maze's resident owl.

Sunday morning dawned cold and clear. The party broke up into individual interests, with Chuck and Jim attempting to reach Pete's Mesa via Chimney Rock, Bill attempting to reach the big falls downstream, Ilka, Peter and Earl exploring the canyons around the camp and enjoying the sun and solitude. Peter did reach Pete's Mesa from the ridge above the spring. Everyone was back in time for happy hour and supper.

Monday morning everyone packed up and after a quick climb to the ridge above the spring by Chuck and Earl led by Peter, we made the climb out of the Maze along the descent route.

Since the Land Cruiser's roof rack had broken on the way in, six people and five packs were jammed inside for the trip out (with the sixth pack strapped on the hood). After 35 jolting, cursing, cramped miles, with three uncramping stops, we arrived back at the ranger station. We were bruised, battered and stiff but glad to have been in the Maze.

Trip members: Chuck Ranney (leader), Jim Sweeney (driver), Ilka Allers, Bill Yates, Peter Hansen and Earl Cook.

# A Solitary Hike in the Grand Canyon

By Clint Lewis

Wednesday, October 17 found me scouting out the trailhead to the Old Bright Angel Trail from the North Rim. As it turned out, the trailhead to this nonmaintained trail was about a fast hour's walk from the established trailhead of the Kaibab Trail and would not be too difficult to find the next morning. Thursday I got a late start and didn't reach the Old Bright Angel Trailhead until about 10:30. I felt the need to make up some of this lost time and so attacked this wilderness trail like a runner would at a sprint--Fool! By 1 p.m. I was exhausted by some of the rougher parts of this little-used trail and had not taken the time to enjoy the spectacular views.

I reached the heavily used Kaibab Trail below Roaring Springs about 2:30 and for some crazy reason still felt pushed to reach the Phantom Ranch by 5 p.m. The insanity of all this racing finally dawned, and I settled into a much more leisurely pace as the trail descended into the ancient rocks near the Colorado River. The age of these rocks is at least 2 billion years, and the mystery of so vast a time began to shape my thoughts. The trail was now in the gorge of Bright Angel Creek and the wind blew cool.

The Phantom Ranch beer hall (open 7-10 p.m.) was packed, with about a quarter of the crowd German tourists. Only a small fraction of these people had ridden the mules down, the rest having hiked down from the South Rim. I was the only hiker from the North Rim. One of the mule guides started to play his banjo, and quickly engaged in a verbal battle with some kids who had hiked up from the Bright Angel Campground and were smoking. The kids were singing something about, "Where The Hell Is Butte?" while the banjo player was more interested in songs about mules. When the German also made known their preference for Butte over mules the banjo player finally gave up. A young German couple were laughing about how their Marks had bought a "modestly priced" San Francisco vacation (at \$80 per night for a hotel room).

Friday I stopped for lunch at Cottonwood Camp and noticed the amount of effort the summer ranger had spent in replanting desert vegetation in this heavily used camp. The campers seem to have respected the "Replanted Area--Please Keep To The Path" signs, and the result is much like a camp in a botanical garden. At Roaring Springs I passed the point where I had joined the Kaibab Trail the day before, and I gladly stayed on the marked trail. My relatively light pack seemed several hundred pounds as the 6,000-foot vertical began to take its toll.

I met a man about 65 years old from Juneau, Alaska, who was studying animal life in the canyon. He and I chatted on and off the rest of the trip up about what he had learned during his two-week stay at the North Rim. The weather was now turning quite nasty, and he stayed behind to watch some squirrels in the very different evening light of an early winter storm. When I reached the parking area I found his aging VW Beetle and left him a can of beer as a token of friendship. He had been out all week as the North Rim stores had been closed for some time.

KSL was broadcasting warnings of snow to 6,000 feet, and that was all the excuse I needed to escape to a warm Kanab motel. I hoped my friend from Alaska managed to stay warm in the cold rain.

## Island in the Sky

By Trudy Healy

The Island In The Sky section of Canyonlands is closer to Salt Lake City than most national parks. As far as I know, this was the first club trip to this area. We camped at the primitive little campground (recently enlarged to ten spaces) near Green River Overlook, a most pleasant spot. We were the only customers. No water there, and you bring your own firewood - or rob other campsites.

Saturday dawned with a chilly 20 degrees F, and by 8 a.m. the six of us were on the way to Upheaval Dome. The eight-mile circuit of the "Dome" turned out to be an interesting, beautiful, and at times challenging hike. We decided to give it the rating "8", because of the difficulty of terrain. I especially liked the big block talus scramble, and a 20-foot wall, where ropes proved helpful for some of the group. A 50-foot length (9 mm) is recommended because the belay point is a little distance from the "climb." As the very helpful rangers had suggested, the circuit was done clockwise, which indeed seemed the more prudent way. There were some permanent sources of potable water at the lower end of Syncline Valley.

The rather leisurely round trip took seven hours under cloudless skies and pleasant temperatures. At the end of it the more ambitious ones hiked along the scenic slickrock rim of Upheaval Dome as far as the going was good, while the rest of the party enjoyed refreshments in the Healy "Happy Face" bus. Along the rim Chris and Valerie were met. In the dark of night they had missed the turn-off to Island In The Sky and had camped at fancy Dead Horse Point State Park instead. On Sunday they joined us for short hikes off the scenic tourist points - we met one tourist! We liked the view from Murphy Point especially, to which we walked along a jeep trail. We had lunch at Mesa Arch before returning to the city.

The Club should make more use of this area, fairly close to Salt Lake, uncrowded, and with many more possibilities for hiking and backpacking.

Participants: John Riley, Chuck Ranney, Joy Ray, Steve Negler, Chris Ingalls, Valerie Plettenberg, and George and Trudy Healy, leaders.

## Freezing Feet and Desolation

By Melissa Harris

On Saturday, November 3, good-humored Bill Swander led our small group of six from Mill D North to somewhere near Desolation Lake. Our destination was to be the ridge above Desolation Lake, but walking through foot-deep snow changed our plans. Our ten-year-old member was wearing only keds, and developing freezing feet; he had to be carried by Bill Swander through most of the snow. Desolation Lake kept eluding us, so due to the freezing feet we stopped and had our lunch. Warm, dry socks were provided by one of the nurses for the cold feet and a woolen shirt was then wrapped around them. Bill Swander showed us his little survival kit which among other things contained a little tent. Could that help us somehow? Bill kept us entertained, and I'm sure the laughter helped us forget cold feet and our failure to reach our destination.

Participants: Bill Swander, Chris Larson, Sue Eking, Ken Kraus, Melissa Harris and Robb Radley (age 10).

## Mount Olympus

By John Dawson

The weather man was threatening snow, and it looked as if he could be right. Everyone hurried toward the top, taking all available shortcuts, and encountering treacherous snow and mud along the way. Most made it to the peak, only to discover that a frigid wind and an occasional snowflake flying by made it hard to enjoy the view.

After a hasty lunch, everyone headed down the hill, finding the downhill going even more treacherous. However, by this time the sun was shining to provide a happy ending.

Hikers: Ilka Allers, Dave Morris, John Rehmer, Denis Deck, Robert Myers, Janet Friend, Jim Sweeney, Carl Lagerberg, George Swanson, Fred Zoerner and John Dawson.

## Capitol Reef Car Camp

By Anonymous

Arriving in the campgrounds about dusk, a unanimous vote of early arrivals was cast in favor of Mexican food in Cainsville, a booming desert metropolis. Soon we were filled with contentment and fiery breath.

Next morning, after a good breakfast, we went up Cohab Canyon to Frying Pan Trail, lunching at the summit, 6,440 feet, then to Cassidy Arch (Fantastic) and through the Narrows of Grand Wash.

Our leader planned a community dinner and a long happy hour. We were not allowed to start happy hour before the apples were picked in the nearby orchard.

Special spaghetti sauce was prepared and spilled in the cooler. Salad and various breads were brought forth. The Portland gourmet prepared an exquisite apple glob for dessert. A truly great dinner.

While floating in limbo around our camp fire, ten ROTC bucks from Logan were invited to join us by our young and capable leader. (Does interested in bucks missed a good one.)

Next morning was a scavenger's delight: cups, plates, spoons, one empty gallon wine jug, one tennis shoe, one khaki T-shirt, one empty liter of "Blackberry Mash" or "Mississippi Black Bottom Moccasin Juice" and a lot of smiling bodies.

What was up and moving headed for Capital Gorge and the Golden Throne (not an outhouse).

At lunch, back at the campground, three hikers rolled over backwards, all sitting on one side of an unsteady picnic table. One holding a quick emptying can of beer and an apple in his crotch, a surprised damsel catching various lunch items on her body, one lucky fellow holding a bucket of cold spaghetti sauce above his prostrate form.

We headed home early for fear of not being able to reach the cars, due to stomach pains from laughter.

Participants: Joy Ray, brave and unshaken (on the surface) leader, and followers Elmer Boyd, Larry Hoskins, Leo Fontaine, and Steve Baum.

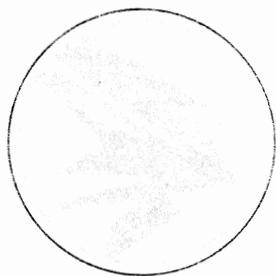
## Canyonlands—Squaw Flat Car Camp

By Mike Treshow

We'd no more than finished the eight-mile Squaw Creek loop hike, including for some a miscellany of arches, when a darkening sky became a drenching one. Most everyone was snug in their tents by then, but the leader, having missed two turnoffs from the trail, was still a mile from sanctuary. The deluge persisted unabated well through "Happy Hour" so a good night's sleep was had by all, save those camped beside a radio blasting "Rock" until 2 a.m.

Dawn treated us to a blue sky framed by red pillars and backdropped by the white mantle of the snowy La Sals. All was mirrored in fresh pools of water in the slickrock. Most of us headed up Elephant Canyon to Druid Arch from where we explored possible direct routes to Virginia Park. A stimulating and rewarding challenge, but in the interests of preservation, the details will remain unpublished.

Trip leader: Mike Treshow.  
Participants: Steve Bowm, Kate Flannerty, Steve Negler, Barbara Nuss, Russ Olson, Barbara Pollyea, Joy Ray, Bob Stevenson, Don Thorne, Marilyn Tueller and Lori Webb.



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