

The Rambler

February 2006

The Monthly Publication of the Wasatch Mountain Club



Volume 85, Number 2

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CLUB GOVERNING BOARD
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS/Missing Rambler: Please call the WMC office or send your new address to the Membership Director. **This publication is not forwarded by the Post Office.** Allow 45 days for address changes. Replacement copies are available, while they last, at the WMC office during office hours.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Rambler, Membership Director, 1390 South 1100 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84105-2443.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING: The Rambler encourages and supports your products and services through pre-paid, commercial advertisements. Contact Heidi Schubert (792-7765) or email to wmc@xmission.com for information or to place an ad.

Prepayment is necessary for single month advertisements and invoicing and net 30 for repeat advertisements.

Full Page: \$95/month

Half Page: \$50/month

Quarter Page: \$30/month

Business Card: \$15/month

The right is reserved to edit all contributions and advertisements, and to reject those that may harm the sensibilities of WMC members or defame the WMC.

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Cover Photos :

Brian Taylor telemark turns in Meadow Chutes.

Photo by Greg Libecchi

<http://www.wasatchmountainclub.org>

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Check www.wasatchmountainclub.org for information on:

- > Hike and Ski Listings and Ratings
- > How to rent the Lodge
- > Online Activities Listing
- > Liability Release Forms
- > Membership Applications
- > How to join email lists

From the President by Michael Budig

The Avalanche training course in December was a big success. About 90 people attended –most of these were Wasatch Mountain Club members, but five non-members elected to join that night. And 17 attendee bought the avalanche beacons which Dudley McIlhenny arranged to order at a discounted rate. The new beacons were evident at the well-attended outdoor beacon practice session a few days later. It is reassuring to see so much more avalanche awareness in the club these days, especially in light of the highly publicized avalanche fatalities in Utah in recent years.... Be careful out there.

As I write this, the problem continues with the frozen water supply line at the lodge. And many rentals have been cancelled. And there is no solution in sight. Corrections will be made at the lodge in the hope that this does not happen again.

Speaking of the lodge, at the January 4 meeting, the Board of directors raised the non-member rental fees by \$50/night. Please submit any feedback on this and

any other subjects of interests- to me or any other board member.

On a personal note, I received a note recently from (new lifetime member) Janet Friend- now living in Pennsylvania. She now agrees that Utah has the greatest snow on earth, but says she is continuing to get out on skis, but “cornfields are not mountains” and “you don’t glide on it”. She also wrote: “I have enjoyed being a part of that club for many years. Met many great people and was able to go on many wonderful trips.”

Anyone who ever went on a trip with Janet will agree that she helped make the trips enjoyable and we do miss her in Utah.

Alexis Kelner is recovering from a recent bypass surgery- I am happy to report that he is doing well. We missed him at the January board meeting and hope he is able to return soon.

WMC Purpose:

(Article II of the WMC Constitution)

The purpose shall be to promote the physical and spiritual well being of its members and others by outdoor activities; to unite the energy, interests, and knowledge of students, explorers, and lovers of the mountains, deserts, and rivers of Utah; to collect and disseminate information regarding the Rocky Mountains in behalf of science, literature and art; to explore and picture the scenic wonders of this and surrounding states; and to foster awareness of our natural areas including their plant, animal, and bird life.

2006 General Elections Wasatch Mountain Club

**General Meeting February 15th
Mount Olympus Presbyterian Church
3280 East 3900 South
6:30pm**

**Special Presentation by Carol Masheter on
her recent summit of Cho Oyu.**

Wasatch Mountain Club Proposed Constitutional Change

In the next few months, hopefully sometime in April, the WMC website will be upgraded. One new feature will be the ability to apply for membership, and renew your current membership, on-line with a credit-card. It would be convenient if new applicants could instantly be welcomed as new members once their application form was filled out and their credit card billed. This requires a minor change in the WMC constitution since currently a board vote approves new members once a month. The new (on-line) member would be probationary and remain unable to vote in general elections, lead activities or serve on the WMC board until voted in as a full member at the next board meeting. These votes are necessary to protect the club from outside takeover of groups not aligned with our conservation and wilderness policies - as has almost happened to wilderness clubs in other states.

A current copy of the WMC constitution, policies and by-laws can be obtained on our website at <http://www.wasatchmountainclub.org/information/>

To change the constitution the proposed changes must be presented (printed in the Rambler) to the club 10 days prior to a general membership meeting. The board voted at the December board meeting to support this proposed change and present it to the club at the General Membership Meeting on February 15th.

The following represents as replacement for Article III section 2 of the constitution:

Section 2. Rights and Privileges. As outlined in the Bylaws, any person meeting the admission requirements for a specific membership, whose fees and annual dues are paid, shall be a member of the Club. To receive full rights and privileges, a member shall obtain a favorable majority vote from the Governing Board. Full rights and privileges of members shall include but not be limited to: voting, holding office, attending Club functions at member rates, and examining Club books and records at reasonable times. The Bylaws shall specify what abridged rights and privileges are granted to members who have not yet received a favorable vote by the Governing Board.



Provisional Ballot for review prior to Feb 15th elections.

The WMC Governing Board consists of a set of directors and four trustees; all are volunteers who serve for a specified period of time. This is a working board, not just a policy setting body, and they have a GOOD time! Please show your support of the directors, both by volunteering to help them, and by voting them into office. Nominations for candidates ended at the Awards Dinner in January and write-in candidates are not allowed by WMC policy.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>
President	_____Michael Budig	Lodge	_____Dave Rabiger (co-director) OPEN as of 1/06(co-director)
Secretary	_____Patti O'Keefe	Climbing	_____Peter Campbell
Treasurer	_____Robert Janzen	Publications	_____Vivien Lee (co-director) _____Jennifer Drake (co-director)
Membership	_____Dudley McIlhenny	Winter Sports	_____Greg Libeccci
Hiking	_____Mark Bloomenthal (co-director) _____Steve Duncan (co-director)	Biking	_____Audrey Rindfleisch
Boating	_____Larry Gwin	Information	_____David Rumbellow
Conservation	_____Will McCarvill (co-director) _____Gretchen Siegler (co-director)	Trustee	_____Donn Seeley
Entertainment	_____Beverly Emrick (co-director) _____Vicky McDaniel (co-director)	Historian	_____Mike Treshow
		<u>CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE</u> I vote to accept the constitutional change _____yes _____no	

Many thanks to the Nominations Committee:
Liz Cordova (486-0909, Elizabeth.cordova@granite.k12.ut.us)
Mike Berry (583-4721, mberryxc@earthlink.net)
Mary Ann Losee (278-2423, marlos@xmission.com)

Conservation Notes

February 2006

Will McCarvill

The Tribune recently had a cover story that listed headlines we were unlikely to see in 2006. One that was not there was “Utah gets 100,000 acres of BLM Wilderness”. President Bush has signed into law the Defense Authorization Act which contains the Cedar Mountains Wilderness Provision. The Cedar Mountains west of Salt Lake City are now designated wilderness. The UWC worked with Representative Bishop early in the process to develop legislation that had acceptable language and included deserving lands. In the last year, this legislation gained bipartisan support of the entire Utah delegation as well as Governor Jon Huntsman. I never thought I would live long enough to see this happen, nor to ask all Wasatch Mountain Club members to write a thank you letter to your Senators and Representatives. This shows that if the legislation is right, the environmental community is willing to work with our congressional delegation and do all it can to help passage. The Cedar Mountains Wilderness provision will block transport of nuclear waste to Skull Valley and extend the life of the Utah Test and Training Range.

One can hope that this seminal act represents the turning of the tides in Utah and that additional designations will follow its path. A wonderful precedent has been set where all parties worked together honestly and honored their commitments.

So much for the good news: unfortunately most of the lands in the UWC proposal for wilderness in Utah are under siege. Off-road vehicle use continues to soar and many new and illegal routes are being cut into fragile desert terrain. Resource damage continues due to a lack of any strategy to cope and a lack of funding to enforce existing regulations. About 90% of the total BLM land area in the US is open to cross-country travel. Lands are also being opened for oil and gas exploration and leasing.

“Help Monitor Raptor Nests, Learn about birds, and have fun in the Wilderness”

Raptor Inventory-Nest Survey (RINS) is a non-profit organization associated with the BLM to monitor the activity and success of raptors nesting on BLM land. This info is used by the BLM to make wise, informed land-use decisions on Federal land. Please volunteer to help visit these nests during the spring and summer. We get assigned a plot of land, and make visits to known nests, explore for new ones, and record nesting activity. It is so satisfying to watch the same nests throughout the season, and get to know the birds, watch them choose their mates, select their nest sites, raise their young, and watch them fly away when the time is right. It adds a whole new dimension to your wilderness ramblings. Don't just get out and hike just for the heck of it, get out and hike with a purpose, and help an important cause. The RINS project is one of a kind and the information we collect and record is vitally important to the birds of prey and their habitats. Studies such as this make contributions well into the future, and in particular studies that are conducted over long periods of time make a greater impact on the value of the data collected.

For more info visit. www.RINS.org

Or call Kyle Williams (801)486-2261

From the Winter Sports Director and Ski Coordinator

Greetings. I hope your season is going as well as mine is. Not once but twice I've had the chance to get out into the backcountry with Bob Athey, a.k.a. Wizard of the Wasatch (WOW). No one knows the Wasatch like Bob. He gets out over 150 days each season and has been doing so since the 70s and he currently works for Friends of the Utah Avalanche Center, reporting his findings daily. If you get the chance, and think you can keep up with him as he breaks trail all day long, register for one of his "Heli-Free Mondays" tours. You're likely not to be disappointed! Check the Rambler listings.

Since mid-December there have been a number of outings and clinics I would like to talk about. First, on December 14th nearly 100 people attended the WMC's Annual Avalanche Talk presented by Bruce Tremper, Director of the Utah Avalanche Center. Special guest speaker Andrew McLean, author of *The Chuting Gallery*, showed slides and shared harrowing stories of personal experiences with avalanches. It was an educational and entertaining event. 17 people were inspired to purchase new PIEPS transceivers, which were offered at a 35% discount (thanks to Dudley McIlhenny). 10 autographed copies of Bruce Tremper's book, *Staying Alive in Avalanche Terrain*, were either given away as door prizes or purchased. Andrew McLean also signed and donated a few of his books. Other door prizes included passes to The Utah Olympic Park and The Canyons ski resort, while other items included an avalanche shovel (Recreation Outlet), light weight head lamp (Black Diamond) and a copy of Lori Lee's, *Wild Weekends in Utah* (Thanks Lori Lee;~).

Refreshments were available throughout the evening and a representative from Save Our Canyons was set up at a table offering information. Club member volunteers who helped out at the talk included: Tim Bardsley, Cheryl Krusko, John Petren, Holly Sherwood, Hardy Sherwood, Sharon Vinick and Mindy Wheeler. Thanks for the help!



Think snow

On December 17th approximately 40 people showed up at Reynolds Flat for Transceiver Field Practice. Groups were formed and single and multiple burial searches were conducted. Scene evaluation and group dynamics were part of the group discussions. Some went on short tours afterwards, digging snow pits and doing other safety awareness activities. The comments I have received were all in praise of the volunteers. "Know Before You Go" starts with understanding how your equipment works and your transceiver is a critical component of your backcountry gear. Volunteers at the Transceiver Field Practice were: Tim Bardsley, who loaned the club 5 transceivers for the day, Ron Fischer, Walt Haas, Carol Masheter, Heidi Schubert and Gerrish Willis. These individuals really deserve to be recognized. They spent the better part of their day sharing their knowledge and helping other club members learn about safety in the backcountry. Thanks again for helping out and showing up to learn. This is what the Wasatch Mountain Club is all about!

On January 8th, Hokulani and Steve Pritchett organized the first ever "Break Into The Backcountry" ski session. It was well attended and from what I've heard all were satisfied with the agenda and learning experience. If you are interested in hooking up with people who are of like mind and want to start skiing in the backcountry this is the way to do it. Check the activity listings for February and March and register now! The pace is NTD+ and the focus is on sharing knowledge and practicing techniques with a mentor (one of our own seasoned backcountry WMC members).

Greg Libecci, Director Winter Sports, 435-645-9699, glibecci@yahoo.com

Safe Backcountry Ski Travel Techniques: **(Copied from the Utah Avalanche Center web site: www.avalanche.org)**

One at a time. There always needs to be someone left in a safe spot to do the rescue. Never put everyone on the slope at once. With large groups, split them in half and stay in visual and voice contact.

Have an escape route planned. Always think avalanche. What will you do if you trigger an avalanche? Have a plan first.

Use slope cuts. Keep your speed up and cut across the starting zone, so that if you do trigger an avalanche, your momentum can carry you off the moving slab into safer terrain. You can do this on skis, snowboards or on snowmobiles.

Watch out for cornices. They always break farther back than you think. Always give them a wide berth. NEVER, NEVER walk out to the edge of a drop-off without first checking it out. Many people have needlessly died this way.

What are the alternatives? Use terrain to your advantage. Follow ridges, thick trees and slopes with safer consequences. You can almost always go back the way you came. The route got you there, it will most likely get you back as well.

If there's no other choice, go underground. You can almost always weather out a bad storm or bad avalanche conditions by digging a snow cave in a protected area. You may be uncomfortable but you will be alive.

Suggested Backcountry Gear

**Equipment for backcountry skiing or snowboarding that you should have
and know how to use.**

- Randonee skis, telemark skis or split snowboard and appropriate boots (or snowshoes)
- Skins
- Poles
- Transceiver (avalanche beacon)
- Collapsible Shovel
- Probe
- Fleece or liner glove for skinning
- 2 Pairs of waterproof snow gloves or mittens
- Wool (and liner) socks
- Waterproof/windproof top and bottom outer shell
- Fleece insulation layer
- Get cold easy? layer over light/medium weight with expedition weight layer
- Day backpack (sternum and waist strap recommended)
- Non-cotton top & bottom layers (capilene or polypro)
- Fleece or wool hat and headband (baseball cap for climbing)
- 2 liters of water
- Lunch, snacks and extra food
- Sunglasses & goggles
- Sunscreen
- Ibuprofen and additional items for emergency kit, Emergency Bag, hand warmers, whistle, etc.
- Scraper for snow removal from bottom of skis or skins
- Ski wax (+ glop for warm weather conditions)
- Replacement parts for your gear and repair tools, Binding, buckle, duct tape, pole kit, leatherman, etc.
- Helmet to protect the goods!
- Map and Compass/Clinometer combo (measure slope angle)

Introductory Avalanche Classes

Friends of the Utah Avalanche Center

(801) 365-5522

February 18-20, 2006 (Presidents Day weekend)

Sign-up at the Black Diamond Store - 2092 East 3900 South, SLC, UT (call 801-278-02330. Cost is \$200 cash or check only for payment please.

Content includes avalanche rescue, terrain management and safe travel, snow pack stability evaluation, and the human factor. The course is based out of the Wasatch Mountain Clubs Lodge at Brighton, and lodging is included in the cost. Instructors include Utah Avalanche Center forecasters. Students can spend the night at the lodge; bring a sleeping bag and a sleeping pad, earplugs, along with your own pots, pans, dishes and silverware. For further details call Colleen at 801-365-5522

Exum Utah Mountain Adventures

(801) 550-EXUM (3986)

February 10-11, 2006: Basic Avalanche Awareness as above.

March 10-11, 2006: Basic Avalanche Awareness as above.

Please contact Exum Utah Mountain Adventures for more information at 550-EXUM (3986). Or visit our website at <http://www.exum.ofutah.com>. REI Salt Lake City <http://www.rei.com> (801) 486-2100



**Photo was taken at Reynolds Flat during the Transceiver Field Practice session.
Photo taken by Debbie Doughty**



The 16 WMC members visiting New Zealand experienced the highlights of both North and South islands. Aotearoa, the land of the long white cloud, provided spectacular natural beauty and fascinating cultural exposure. We learned to eat whitebait, meat pies, fish and chips and other Kiwi food. We met friendly and interesting citizens New Zealand throughout our travels.

Auckland was cosmopolitan offering extensive park, museum, aquarium and waterfront opportunities to visit. The drive to the Bay of Islands in the north was through small towns, open countryside, and a Kauri tree forest. Some took day boat cruises, some hiked and all visited the Maori cultural/historical center.

Rotorua, the thermal region in the center of the island provided hiking, mountain biking, “zorbing,” and a visit to a traditional Maori “hangi” feast and celebration.

In Tongariro National Park 12 hiked the spectacular 13-mile Tongariro crossing over a dormant volcanic crater while the others took hikes to waterfalls and scenic areas in the Park.



The volcano is Mount Tongariro 6,423 ft. Photo by Valerie.

Napier provided a pleasant visit to a seaside town in wine country, and in the capital, Wellington, the government center and Te Papa National Museum held our interest. A ferry then took us across the straight to the top of the south island. We spent a wonderful day at the Abel Tasman National Park either hiking the coastal trails or sea kayaking along beautiful beaches.

Moving south we stopped at the Franz Joseph Glacier and then to spend the night at Fox Glacier. All hiked to the base of the glacier and some took a hike on the glacier itself.

On the way to Queenstown Dudley and Kathy bungee jumped from a circa 1900 bridge (the original bungee jumping bridge) as the rest cheered them on. The three days in Queenstown were filled with hiking, a visit to a sheep station across the lake, mountain biking and enjoying the mountain scenery in this “adrenaline capital of NZ”.

On to Fiordland where we stayed in the lovely little town of Te Anau and took local hikes or day trips to Milford Sound, a glow worm grotto and Doubtful Sound.



Bark Bay, at Abel Tasman N.P. Photo By Valerie

A long drive took us past views of Mount Cook and on to Christchurch, a delightful city having the character of an old English town. Activities included punting on the Avon River, horseback riding and visits the Antarctic Center, to the gorgeous botanic gardens, the wonderful art center and museums.

While we covered a great deal of territory and got a good overview of this scenic country, there were many treasures that of necessity had to be left for another time. We returned home with appreciation not only for New Zealand but also for the compatibility, flexibility and good humor of the group, which enhanced our adventures and explorations.

Participants were Christine Allred, Earl & Edmonda Cook, Vince and Linda Desimone, Kermit Earle, Barbara Green, Eric Johnson, Kathleen Loring, Sue McHugh, Dudley McIlhenny, Floyd Meads, Valerie Merges, Mike Roundy, Catherine Smith and Bonnie Walsh.

MARKETPLACE

This area is free for members placing ads for used, recreational gear or for private and non-commercial and not-for-profit activities. To submit an add to the Marketplace email ads to wmc@xmission.com by the 10th of the month before publication. Non WMC members \$5.00 up to 20 words, \$.20 per additional word.

New MSR snowshoes \$95. vincedesimone@yahoo.com or call 435 649 6805.

ALPINE SKIS FOR SALE: Atomic C:9. Length 180cm. (106/64/96) Atomic Device:412 bindings. Mint Condition. Used less than 10 days. Price: \$274. No need to remount bindings. Skis can be seen at <http://www.freewebs.com/slipre/>. Call Ira at 944-5946 or email oursblanc7@yahoo.com.

COLEMAN LANTERN : 2 mantle, fuel type. Excellent conditon. \$15. New price was \$45. Roger Upwall 466-0219

Ski gear:

\$250 - K2 Impulse, 158 cm, excellent condition with full tune, with Marker Logic 123 bindings, used total 10 days (shaped skis, intermediate to advanced)

\$50 - 7.8 K2 Kevlar Performance, 170 cm, with TwinCam M38 Marker bindings, slightly shaped skis. Very good condition.

Colt 120 alpine ski poles - \$5

Scarpa T1 Telemark Boots, Black, Mens size 6-7, for Resort use/backcountry; used only 3 times, \$250 or best offer (I also have Diamond Resolution 160 cm shaped skis and cable bindings, if interested in buying package). Almost new.

Camping gear:

\$20 – Thermo-rest, dark orange, self-inflating, dimensions 6 feet x 21 inches

Sleeping bags:

\$25 – Down bag, Green Nylon outside, yellow cotton inside; mummy with full plastic zipper (zipper missing two teeth)

\$20 – Down, Gray cotton inside and outside; half-way metal zipper

\$15 – Nylon yellow bag, best for car camping

I will bring to SLC if interested: Jaynee Levy, 435-636-3620, 435=637-1049, jlevy@blm.gov or jarole@sisna.com)

The WMC Lodge

The WMC club lodge is located at the top of Big Cottonwood Canyon. The lodge is used for a variety of WMC social functions, but can also be rented out for personal use (Full or half-day basis). Recent renovation to the lodge include the installation of flush toilets and shower. The two dormitory-style rooms on the second floor provide sleeping accommodation for about 20 people. The kitchen contains a stove and refrigerator, but is not stocked with utensils or culinary items. **All** users of the lodge are expected clean up the lodge after use. Contact Julie Mason at 278-2535 for reservations.

WMC Club Member Rates

October 1 - May 31 = \$250/24 hour period

June 1 - September 30 = \$300/24 hour period

Non WMC Member Rates

October 1 - May 31 = \$300/24 hour period

June 1 - September 30 = \$350/24 hour period

Weddings and/or Wedding Receptions

WMC members \$400/24 hour period

Non-WMC members \$500/24 hour period

Notice: Non-member rates will rise by \$50/day for reservations after June 1st.



It's winter again - Look for emails asking for help shoveling snow off the lodge roof.



**The
WMC
Wants
you!**

**Look for emails regarding Lodge Work Parties -
We need your help with the Lodge so we all can use it in the future..**

The Lodge needs constant care and WMC members have come to the rescue since 1929. Do you share to keep this club tradition in working condition. Come use your carpentry skills, or just help clean. Call Clayton Rand at 288-0251 or David Rabiger 964-8190 or send email caretakerwmc@yahoo.com to volunteer. Ask for a list of very specific items that need your help and attention and the hand tools and equipment needed to get the job done. We look forward to seeing you at the Lodge!

Club members can earn a \$50 voucher by participating in lodge service projects.

Directions to The Lodge

Go up Big Cottonwood canyon, (up 7200 S) to Brighton, drive to the back of the BIG parking lot (near the Brighton Manor Motel). Walk up the hill past the boulders, bear left across the stream and up the trail through the trees (100 yards). Wear walking shoes, carry a flashlight for the hike down,

Lodge Email list.

There is a new club email list, wmc-lodge, for use of the lodge committee and anyone interested in supporting the WMC lodge. To join this list, send an email to: majordomo@haas.dsl.xmission.com containing the text subscribe wmc-lodge You will receive a message asking for confirmation, which you must reply to before you are on the list.

WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB ACTIVITIES

Only activities approved by the appropriate WMC director. can be listed in The Rambler. Direct submissions to the Editor are NOT accepted. To submit my activity to the club, send your proposed activity for approval to the appropriate director for inclusion in their activity schedule. The deadline is 6:00 p.m. on the 10th of the month.

Rules and regulations:

1. **Dogs and children** are not allowed on WMC activities, except when specifically stated in the activity description.
2. **Car pool rates:** Gas plus \$0.15/mile, shared by everyone in the vehicle (including the driver) on 2WD roads, OR gas plus \$0.25/mile on 4WD roads.

Notice to Non-Members: Most WMC activities are open to prospective members except when specifically stated in the activity description.

Find out about unofficial activities on our email lists.

A lot of activities are planned on the spur of the moment because of a good dump of snow! Don't be left out of the cold! Get on a list! NOTE: Activities formed with these lists are for members only. Lists are to be used **only** for the scheduling of outdoor activities. Any use of this service for any other purpose, such as advertising, SPAM, jokes, etc, will result in the loss of privilege.

To subscribe : WMC club email lists: Send an email to: majordomo@wasatchmountainclub.org with the text (not in the header section):

Subscribe wmc-bike
Subscribe wmc-hike
Subscribe wmc-climb
Subscribe wmc-ski

Subscribe wmc-snowshoe
Subscribe wmc-lodge
Subscribe wmc-social

LIMITS ON GROUP SIZES IN WILDERNESS

Some National Forest ranger districts have policies limiting the sizes of groups hiking in wilderness areas. For hikes where we understand that there are wilderness group size limits, we have appended the hike listing with a 'Limit' note indicating the maximum number of participants (not including the organizer). Please help out our organizers on hikes with group size limits by arriving promptly and behaving nicely if you can't be accommodated on the hike because of a limit.

*****Participation in any WMC activity can be dangerous. It is your responsibility to evaluate your own preparedness and ability to safely participate in any activity. Please be sure to read and re-read the release forms in the back of this publication, as well as on the sign-up sheets at the beginning of each activity!!!!**

Rating Difficulty Range:

0.1-4.0 > **Not Too Difficult** (NTD)= lightly strenuous
4.1-8.0 > **Moderate** (MOD)= Moderate to very strenuous
8.1-11.0 > **Most Difficult** (MSD) > Very strenuous, difficult
11.1+ > **Extreme** (EXT) > Very strong, well-seasoned hikers.

B > Boulder fields or extensive bushwhacking
E > Elevation change in excess of 5,000 feet
M > Round trip mileage in excess of 15 mi.
R > Ridgeline hiking or extensive route finding
S > Scrambling
X > Exposure
W= Wilderness area, limit 14



WHAT ARE 10Es?

The 10 Essentials are: :Map/compass, flashlight, pocketknife, matches/ firestarter, sunscreen/bugspray, sunglasses, candle, first aid kit ,extra clothes, food and water.

TRIP TALK: KANAB CANYON

By Richard Jirik



Kanab Canyon Near Showerbath Spring

Four intrepid members of the Wasatch Mountain Club: Russell Patterson (trip leader), Walter Haas, Ward Wagstaff, and Richard Jirik, accompanied by Richard's brother—Chuck from Chicago, ventured into the depths of the Kanab Creek Canyon on a six-day backpack during the Thanksgiving week (November 21st thru 27th). Kanab Creek is the largest drainage on the north side of the Grand Canyon. It enters the Colorado River at mile 143 on the river, well downstream from Phantom Ranch, and about 35 miles northwest of the North Rim Visitors Center. Because of its remote location, Kanab Canyon and the surrounding area sees very few visitors.

The five of us left Salt Lake Monday afternoon, November 21st. Russell's party made it to Kanab by about 10 PM, found a dirt road leading off Highway 89 about a mile or two north of town, and followed it down a side canyon, just far enough so that the noise of the occasional vehicle on the highway was muffled. It was already quite chilly when we threw out our ground cloths, blew up our thermal rests, and quickly snuggled into our sleeping bags. The temperature plummeted into the 20's during the night, and we struggled just to stay warm. Trying to sleep was just wishful thinking.

The next morning we accidentally ran into Walt and Ward at the Rainbow Café, possibly the best place in Kanab to chow down. After a stop at the BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument headquarters in Kanab to pick up some detailed topo maps, we hit the road, headed for Hack Canyon and the trailhead. It was a beautiful day, with barely a cloud in the sky as the temperature climbed into the low 60's. About seven miles west of Fredonia, Arizona we said goodbye to the pavement and began a 25-mile journey on a series of gravel and dirt roads that would eventually, after only a few wrong turns, lead us to an overlook above Hack Canyon. From that vantage point along the canyon rim we could gaze out on a wide expanse of canyons cut into the Kanab Plateau. Hack Canyon is over a mile wide at this point and approaches a thousand feet deep. On the

internet□

down to Willow Springs at the bottom of the canyon. We reconnoitered the area where the trail was shown on the map and found the trailhead near an old horse corral. The trail was steep with numerous switchbacks. And while it was a far cry from the superhighway trails, such as Bright Angel, in Grand Canyon National Park, some individuals had put considerable time and effort into constructing it.

After reaching the bottom of the cliffs we set off cross-country toward Hack Creek, possibly a half-mile away, and then headed towards its juncture with Kanab Creek, some six miles downstream. As we anticipated, the creek was dry. After a mile or two the canyon narrowed, as it began to cut through the Permian Esplanade Sandstone. As we progressed downstream the canyon walls began to rise, at first

seve□
to 1500 feet above us one could see the rim of the Kanab Plateau. Just inside the Kaibab National Forest Wilderness Boundary we made camp for the night, along the base of a shallow alcove cut into a sandstone cliff.

Wednesday morning we continued down Hack Creek and after an hour or so reached the confluence with Kanab Creek. Although we had seen no cattle thus far, there were plenty of signs, and fortunately for us several well trodden cattle paths through what seemed an endless array of flats thick with Russian thistle, a.k.a., the infamous tumbleweed. About a mile or so upstream from where Chamberlain Canyon enters Kanab Creek we encountered our first water of the trip, as a series of shallow interconnected spring-fed pools with a barely perceptible flow.

B□

Limestone, a prominent cliff-former that towers over the Tonto Platform farther east in the Grand Canyon. The groves of prickly pear (beavertail) cactus and thorny honey mesquite trees became more numerous, and the cattle trails more discontinuous. Although the creek bed was still largely dry, and despite the abundant cacti, we still found the going easier across the flats adjacent to the creek. But woe to those who wound up losing a cattle trail and had to fight through the cacti and mesquite, as Walt can attest. By mid-afternoon on the second day he sported numerous cuts and lacerations from encounters with the native vegetation. The other danger was running into so□

bovines faced off from 60 ft apart, before the latter bolted.

The flowing water in Kanab Creek again disappeared not too far below its confluence with Chamberlain Canyon. We pressed on and the canyon meanders became more pronounced. At the confluence with Jumpup Canyon we ate lunch and entered Grand Canyon National Park. By now the canyon walls were only a few hundred feet apart or less and at least several hundred feet tall. The sweeping vistas

expe□

Limestone in all directions. Numerous caves and alcoves formed from dissolution of the limestone punctuated the cliffs.

Several miles below the confluence with Jumpup Canyon we again encountered the first of several spring-fed pools providing a trickle of water into Kanab Creek, that gradually increased as we continued downstream. The water was slightly warm with a weak sulfur odor to i□
stone's throw of water in the creek.

On Thursday we continued on to Showerbath Springs, some four mile downstream. This delightful spring is aptly named, consisting of

a hanging garden some 20 to 30 ft long of ferns and monkey flowers near the top of an overhang above a stream meander. Copious quantities of water drip from the vegetation year-round. Unfortunately, in the winter Showerbath Springs rarely sees direct sunlight. With the air temperature probably in the mid-to upper 50's, no one was brave or ripe enough to take a shower.

Sign□

to themselves. Near Showerbath Springs Russell and Ward confirmed their presence, spotting a group of six Desert Bighorn Sheep near the base of the canyon walls.

Not quite a mile downstream from Showerbath Spring, Walt found the best campsite of the trip on a flat sandy bench well above the creek within a large alcove at a prominent bend in the canyon. By this time Russell had reluctantly concluded that we didn't have sufficient time left to continue on to the Colorado River, our ultimate objective, which was at least another seven miles off. A poll of the group revealed a consensus for the exploration of some of the side canyons entering Kanab Canyon..

So we pitched camp, and after gladly jettisoning our backpacks, resumed our trek downstream. Our destination was Scotty's Hollow, a prominent□

description of the Hollow given in Todd's Desert Hiking Guide (@ www.toddshikingguide.com). Initially we tried to keep our feet dry but repeated crossings of Kanab Creek, now flowing at 50 to 75 cfs, quickly soaked our footwear. Unfortunately, we were compelled to hike largely in the creek bed, as the canyon had become so narrow that the vegetated overbank areas were limited, and often overgrown with inhospitable cacti and mesquite. About one-half mile downstream from our new campsite we reached Scotty's Castle, a prominent spire almost 800 ft tall situated in a tight meander bend. Here the inner gorge of Kanab Canyon, formed by the incision of Kanab Creek primarily within the Redwall Limestone, was approaching if not over a thousand feet deep. The rim of the Kanab Plateau could scarcely be seen. At this point we left the main canyon and started up Scotty's Hollow. We spent over 90 minutes going up this delightful sidecanyon, and found it to be as enchanting as Todd had described. The creek had abundant water. We encountered several water falls, pour offs, and picturesque pools in its lower part, which has cut down to bedrock in places. However, circumventing the pools was challenging. Our luck ran out perhaps a mile upstream, at a rather large pool of water marked by a pour off on the upstream side. We initially thought we could negotiate the pool by wading along its edge. However, one slip would likely have resulted in complete submergence. We concluded that the risk of getting soaked wasn't that appealing, and reluctantly headed back toward Kanab Canyon.

After leaving Scotty's Hollow we continued downstream about another two miles. The going was tough, and our progress was slowed by frequent landslide blocks as big as small houses, and a number of deep pools. Moreover, this part of Kanab Creek is a continuous succession of tight meander bends. Hence, while it might have been four or five miles as the crow flies to the Colorado River, the actual distance on foot may have been close to twice that. At about 3:30 PM we turned around and hiked back to camp.

□

the east. Travel up that drainage was slowed by a jumbled maze of landslide blocks, again some as large as small houses, that had come crashing down from the cliffs above. At the mouth of Jumpup Canyon we dropped our packs and took a few hours to explore its lower-most two or three miles. By the time we returned to the confluence with Kanab Creek it was already dusk. Luckily we found an area with several nice campsites just upstream a short distance, within a grove of sparse mesquite and even fewer cacti. We built a campfire that night, the first of the trip, since we were now outside the National Park. However, water was absent in Kanab Creek at this location, so we had to make judicious use of our remaining aqua, conserving some for the trek the next morning.

Saturday we continued upstream, stopping at the mouth of Chamberlain Canyon to replenish our water bottles and hydration packs from the spring-feed pools, and take a leisurely lunch while waiting for Walt to catch up with us. Entering Hack Canyon, we passed our campsite of Tuesday night and pushed onward, hoping to put at least a few more miles behind us before calling it a day. But the weather was beginning to change. We encountered a strong northwest wind as we began to enter the wider part of Hack Canyon, and felt the temperature dropping. I was puzzled, as I recollected the last weather report we had received on Monday predicted nice weather until about December 2nd. About that time we ran into a cowboy on horseback looking for stray cattle in the canyon. After about another mile, with dusk having arrived, we found partial shelter out of the wind behind some rocks at the base of Esplanade Sandstone cliffs. As we pitched tents two other cowboys on horseback came up to briefly chat. The cold front that moved in that night brought temperatures down to about freezing, and although the rocks dampened the effects of the wind, our tents were still buffeted by occasional strong gusts. We were fortunate not to have any precipitation. In contrast, temperatures during the four proceeding nights, three of them in Kanab Canyon, had been very mild.

Sunday morning dawned partly cloudy and still somewhat windy. We broke camp early and hiked without incident the last three miles or so out of Hack Canyon and back to the vehicles parked on the canyon rim. North of Kanab we began to notice patches of wind-blown snow along the U.S. Route 89, and snow blanketing the higher elevations. When we finally reached Salt Lake after a long drive back up I-15, we saw the effects of the snowstorm that had come through the previous day, and were grateful it hadn't moved any farther south than Kanab. We were also thankful for the four and one-half days of nice weather warm weather we did have, with daytime highs around or exceeding 60 degrees.



Waterfall in Scotty's Hollow

We backpacked a total of about 48 miles and day hiked about another 10 miles during our five day adventure. For Russell Patterson, it was his 19th backpack in the Grand Canyon region dating back to his first trip in 1965. Way to go, Russell !

Activities Listings :

Is Iceland in your future? Only 4 degrees of separation from the Arctic circle, moderated by the Gulf stream and midsummer nights of only a few hours. Dudley wants to go this summer and check out the thermals, sea kayaking, hiking and people. Early indications are that this will run in the range of \$3,000 for 8 days plus airfare and ??? for extra time in Reykjavik. And, as in the past, if we round up enough to qualify for a tour leader's discount, he'll fold this back to reduce costs for all but if you're counting pennies, don't count on him. Next step would be to get together and review options, then commit and do it. Call **Dudley** at 733-7740 if you are interested.



ICELAND - 6/23-7/4/06
Come and join me on another adventure, this time to Iceland. We will be hiking from Mount Hekla to the Ocean with an extension to the Westman Islands. Total price for a 10 day land package is \$2115.00.

Space is very limited.
Please call **Christel** if you are interested at 801-943-0316 or 801-277-9988.



Peter skinning up Mill D Fork Jared Hargrave

FEB 1 WED SKI
BACKCOUNTRY: WEDNESDAY
NOONER SKI TOURS (NTD – MOD). Call Brian Barkey @ (801) 394-6047 or email (brian_barkey@juno.com) for a relatively laid back tour. Destination and length of tour to be dependent on snow conditions and participant expertise. We'll shoot for a start time of noon. Transceivers, shovels, skins required.

"KNOW BEFORE YOU GO" and make sure to bring your 10 Es! (Page 13) Check with the Utah Avalanche center web site for snow conditions and weather forecast <http://www.avalanche.org/~uac/> and review the WMC Winter Sports Policy, Backcountry Travel Techniques and Backcountry Ski & Snowshoe Route Ratings listed on the Wasatch Mountain Club website under Winter Sports www.wasatchmountainclub.org. Organizers are expected to keep their groups together and use proper backcountry etiquette.

FEB 2 THU SKI TOUR: MILLCREEK CANYON ROAD NIGHT SKI (NTD to MOD). Meet Jen Heineman for a 6 PM start at the winter closure gate, which is approx. 4 miles up Millcreek Canyon. We will turn-around at or before the Big Water summer parking. Almost any cross country or backcountry ski can be used. And don't forget your headlamps, skins or wax and dry change of clothes. Join Jennifer for an NTD pace or ski ahead if you are after a faster (MOD) pace. Dogs are welcome with owners that adhere to the Millcreek leash laws and clean-up requirements. Email Jen at JHeineman28@yahoo.com with any questions.

FEB 2 THU SNOWSHOE: THE COTTONWOODS (NTD - MOD). Norm Pobanz (266-3703) will organize a "Thursday Group" this year, leaving at 9:30 AM. They go to places in the Cottonwood Canyons area where snowshoeing is an adventure. Join the "over the hill" bunch and expect a pace suitable to all

and a destination determined at the time of departure. To confirm the outing (i.e. In case of bad weather and possible road restrictions), discuss equipment, or to suggest a destination, call Norm ahead of time. Meet at the Fort Union Lot #4 (just west of the 'Porcupine' and across the street on the north side of the road) at 9:15 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

*****Participation in any WMC activity can be dangerous. It is your responsibility to evaluate your own preparedness and ability to safely participate in any activity. Please be sure to read and re-read the release forms in the back of this publication, as well as on the sign-up sheets at the beginning of each activity!!!!**

FEB 4 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: SILVER FORK LCC TO BCC (MOD+). Join Steve Pritchett for a full day of skiing with a cross canyon route, mountain and weather conditions allowing. Bring your transceiver, shovel, 10 Es, probe and avalanche skills. Plan on 1 or 2 bus fares (\$3 each) and an early start to catch the bus to Alta. Registration required so call or e-mail Steve at 415-9857 or Friday by mid-day at spritchett@moxtek.com

FEB 4 SAT SNOWSHOE: ALBION BASIN (NTD+). Doug Stark (801-277-8538) will be going to Albion Basin "at a leisurely pace". We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, meet AT 9:00 AM.

FEB 4 SAT SNOWSHOE: MAYBIRD (MOD). Cassie Badowsky (278-5153) organizes today's moderate snowshoe. Meet high energy Cassie and head up to Maybird Lake, conditions permitting. Meet at 9:00AM Butler Elementary School 2700 E 7000 S. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 5 SUN SOCIAL: 19TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER Vincenzo and Linda DeSimone invite you to an evening of Italian cuisine and fellowship. Cost \$5 for food and hot drinks (bring other drinks of choice). Time: 6 pm (no early arrivals please). Directions: I-80 to Park City exit Hwy 224 toward Park City, turn left on Meadows Drive just past the large white barn on the right. Turn left on Mountain Top Lane; go up to Mountain Top Drive at the "T" intersection on top and turn right to the sounds of fun. No pets or children please. The Super Bowl will not be on. Questions: 435 649 6805 vincedesimone@yahoo.com RSVP not required.

FEB 5 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: DESOPOWDER LOOP (MOD-). We will go up Mill D North Fork to Lake Desolation, climb up through the trees to the ridge, run north along the ridge to the Powder Park drainage, then descend back to the car. Bring your avalanche beacon. Contact Bob Cady (274-0250 or rcady@xmission.com) for more info. Otherwise, meet at Butler school at 10:00 am.

FEB 5 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: BEAR TRAP OR ALT. (MOD). Call Carol Masheter to register and arrange meeting location. Carol plans to do primarily yo-yo skiing. If you have any questions call Carol at 801-466-5729. Don't forget your 10 Es, transceiver, shovel, lunch and a good understanding of safe backcountry travel.

FEB 5 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: PFEIFFERHORN (MSD). Join Walt Haas for a classic tour to the magnificent Wasatch jewel, The Pfeifferhorn. Call or e-mail Walt Haas to register (534-1262) (haas@xmission.com) for an organizers choice tour.

Bring your 10 E's, transceiver and shovel. Be ready for a long day.

FEB 5 SUN SNOWSHOE: GREEN'S BASIN OR DAYS FORK (NTD TURTLE). Ellen Jenkins (801-293-9198) is organizing a TURTLE snowshoe this morning. So, what's a TURTLE hike? Slow and steady, and we will go the distance, often times a greater distance than regular NTD trips. Ellen will decide location depending on conditions. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:30 AM.



Greg on Beartrap.

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McDONALD GROUP **GMAC**
Real Estate

FEB 5 SUN SNOWSHOE: WHITE FIR PASS (NTD). Chris Lyons (435-649-8811) will meet you at Skyline High school parking lot at 9:00 AM. Come prepared for a fun day.

FEB 5 SUN SNOWSHOE: ORGANIZERS CHOICE ABOVE BOUNTIFUL (MOD+). Join Zig Sondelski and enjoy some new trails and scenery in the Wasatch. Ever been up North Canyon, Sessions Ridge, Mueller Canyon, Grandview Ridge,



Here are pics of our Victor group over Xmas. It was warm in Victor and we still managed to have a great time. Snow shoeing and down hill skiing during the day, world class games of Scrabble in the evening. Even our President was smiling at the smouche he received at Grand Targhee Ski Resort.

Photos By Chris Winter

City Creek West Ridge, Holbrook Ridge or Parrish Creek to name a few? Expect great views of the valley and lake, all points west and frequently moose. Most trails connect with the Great Western Trail with views to the east as well. Bring the appropriate 10-E's for snowshoeing. Departure time will be at 9:00 AM and the meeting location will depend on the trail chosen so contact Zig for more details at 292-8332 (H), 299-6623 (W) or zig.sondelski@hollycorp.com. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 6 MON SKI BACKCOUNTRY: HELI-FREE MONDAYS (MSD+). Join Robert Athey, the legendary 'Wizard of the Wasatch', as he explores multiple drainages in the tri-canyons without interference from helicopters. Tour is dependant on mountain and weather conditions. Plan on a long day with an early start. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear including transceiver and prior avalanche search training required. Group size will be limited and pre-registration is required. Contact Robert at wizowash@yahoo.com.

FEB 6 MON SKI BACKCOUNTRY: MONDAY BLUES SKI

"KNOW BEFORE YOU GO" and make sure to bring your 10 Es! (Page 13) Check with the Utah Avalanche center web site for snow conditions and weather forecast <http://www.avalanche.org/~uac/> and review the WMC Winter Sports Policy, Backcountry Travel Techniques and Backcountry Ski & Snowshoe Route Ratings listed on the Wasatch Mountain Club website under Winter Sports www.wasatchmountainclub.org. Organizers are expected to keep their groups together and use proper backcountry etiquette.

TOURS (NTD – MOD). Start the workweek right! Call Brian for a relatively laid back tour. Destination and length of tour to be dependent on snow conditions and participant expertise. As most people will be worn out from the weekend, we'll shoot for a start time of noon. Transceivers, shovels, skins required. Call Brian Barkey @ (801) 394-6047

FEB 7 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail

Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.



FEB 7 TUE SNOWSHOE: PARK

CITY ENVIRONS (MOD – MSD). Vince DeSimone will organize a "Tuesday Group" again this year, leaving at 10:00 AM. They go to places in the Park City area where snowshoes are the best means of travel. Expect a normal (healthy) pace with great conversation. For meeting location and last minute details, join the WMC Snowshoe email list for automatic notices and updates for all Tuesday Snowshoe trips throughout the winter. You will feel welcome and comfortable. Vince prefers cyberspace at vincecesimone@yahoo.com or you can call him at (435) 649-6805. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 8 WED SKI BACKCOUNTRY: WEDNESDAY NOONER SKI TOURS (NTD – MOD). Call Brian Barkey @ (801) 394-6047 or email (brian_barkey@juno.com) for a relatively laid back tour. Destination and length of tour to be dependent on snow conditions and participant expertise. We'll shoot for a start time of noon. Transceivers, shovels, skins required.

FEB 9 FRI - 13 MON BIKE ROAD/MOUNTAIN: DEATH VALLEY. If you would like to escape from the wintertime chills, smog, and have a great time too, come on the Death Valley bike ride with the old ranger, Bob Wright. There will be biking, hiking, swimming, and just hanging with your friends. We will stay at the Furnace Creek campground as before, and do day rides from there. It is comfortably warm during the day and not too cold at night. Precipitation is usually minimal except for last year when the desert bloomed like never before. We can visit many of the local attractions such as Scotty's Castle, Ubehebe Crater, Titus Canyon, Badwater, Stovepipe Wells, and surrounding canyons. We will car pool as much as possible. It is a 545-mile drive each way via Las Vegas. We will do group cooking, estimated cost is \$45.00 per person for camping and food. Transportation and park entry is not included. We will have a planning meeting on Thursday, Jan. 26 at Bob and Denna Wright's house, 1832 Meadow Moor Rd. (5000 South) at 7:00 PM. Call Bob to register at 801-274-0756 or E-mail at bobanddenna@msn.com.

FEB 9 THU SKI TOUR: MILLCREEK CANYON ROAD NIGHT SKI (NTD to MOD). Meet Jen Heineman for a 6 PM start at the winter closure gate, which is approx. 4 miles up Millcreek Canyon. We will turn-around at or before the Big Water summer parking. Almost any cross country or backcountry ski can be used. And don't forget your headlamps, skins or wax and dry change of clothes. Join Jennifer for an NTD pace or ski ahead if you are after a faster (MOD) pace. Dogs are welcome with owners that adhere to the Millcreek leash laws and clean-up requirements. Email Jen at JHeineman28@yahoo.com with any questions.

FEB 9 THU SNOWSHOE: THE COTTONWOODS (NTD – MOD). Norm Pobanz (266-3703) will organize a "Thursday Group" this year, leaving at 9:30 AM. They go to places in the Cottonwood Canyons area where snowshoeing is an adventure. Join the "over the hill" bunch and expect a pace suitable to all and a destination determined at the time of departure. To confirm the outing (i.e. In case of bad weather and possible road restrictions), discuss equipment, or to suggest a destination, call Norm ahead of time. Meet at the Fort Union Lot #4 (just west of the 'Porcupine' and across the street on the north side of the road) at 9:15 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.



Holly Biking Outside of Las Vegas on Thanksgiving.
Photo By Hardy

FEB 9 THU SNOWSHOE DEADLINE FOR MARCH RAMBLER. For March Rambler, we are scheduling snowshoe activities for March 13 thru April 9, 2006, the end of the Snowshoe season. All proposed snowshoe activities must be sent to Cheryl Soshnik (csoshnik@yahoo.com) (435-649-9008, 801-641-4512) by this date. This is the LAST call for snowshoes for the season, if you've been waiting all season, saying "I'll do one later on in the season", well buddies, this is that time. Call early and sign up for a trip to save me the last minute frenzy of calling!!!!

FEB 10 FRI SING A LONG at Frank Bernard's home. 7 PM to 10:30 PM. BYOB and a snack to share. Bring your acoustic instruments to help provide the noise - words and guitar chords are provided. Address is 417 N. Center St, approximately 130 W 400 N on Capitol Hill, about two blocks west of the Capitol. For questions call 533-9219 or frankbernard@undalumni.org.

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FEB 11 SAT LODGE WORK PARTY: We need your help with painting and shoveling at the lodge. Please bring your skills, work gloves and your great positive attitude. For

all of that Dave will have lunch for you if you RSP Dave by Feb 10 at 964-8190 or drabiger@utah.gov. Time is from 9AM to 1PM. See you at the lodge.

FEB 11 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: CROSS CANYON TRIP (MOD+). Join Tim Bardsley for a fun long day of yoyo'ing and cross canyon travel, mountain and weather conditions allowing. Bring your transceiver, 10 Es, probe and avalanche skills. Registration required so call or e-mail Tim at 557-3783 or Tim.Bardsley@ut.usda.gov.

FEB 11 SAT SKI TOUR: ALBION BASIN FULL MOON (NEARLY) TOUR (NTD). Albion Basin is a nice open area to go and ski under a full moon. Some people have been known to snowshoe up and board down so they can say they have ridden at Alta. Meet Bob Cady at the Little Cottonwood Park and Ride at 8:00 pm. For more info contact Bob at (274-0250) or rcady@xmission.com. Trip will only occur if the weather is clear.

FEB 11 SAT SNOWSHOE: SALT LAKE OVERLOOK (NTD). Carol Anderson (801-485-0877) will take a "slow and easy pace" to the overlook. Meet at Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at slightly later time of 9:30 AM.

FEB 11 SAT SNOWSHOE: POWDERPARK #1 (MOD). Make a good trail with Cassie Badowsky (278-5153). Meet at 9:00 AM - Butler Elementary School located at 2700 E 7000 S. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 11 SAT SNOWSHOE: BOUNTIFUL PEAK VIA FORD CANYON NORTH RIDGE (MSD). Gene Dennis (higene27090@yahoo.com) is organizing this 11+mi with 4000+ elevation change Wasatch Front excursion. Participants will meet at 8:30 am at the trailhead at 1825N east end in Centerville. We will ascend the seldom-used north ridge of Ford Canyon trail to where it meets Skyline Drive below Bountiful Peak. Weather permitting; we will make the short climb to the top, look over. Then proceed S on Skyline Drive to the Parrish Ridge trail, which we will descend to its Bountiful trailhead, and take a shuttle vehicle back to the Centerville trailhead. We can expect to walk the first .5 mi, and possibly encounter strong winds and cold on Bountiful Peak. On the way we will pass thru scrub oak, aspen, pine forests and we may encounter deer, moose, and eagles. There is no avalanche danger or exposure here, but expect a long day! The



**Mohamed Abdullah up a tree without a paddle :-)
Photo By Cheryl**

club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 12 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: UINTA WALL PEAK / BIG ELK PASS (MSD). Dmitry Pruss plans to expand on last year's exploratory Erickson Pass - Big Elk Pass loop, circling the entire Wall Peak massif clockwise on high benches, and ascending the peak along its SW ridge. This moderate-terrain trip is rated MSD due to its 15+mi length. Headlamps as well as beacons / shovels are mandatory, climbing skins and lighter metal-edged skis recommended. Early start from Parleys Kmart, call / email Dmitry at 944-7755 / pruss@online.ru <<mailto:pruss@online.ru>> to register and for details.

FEB 12 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: BREAK INTO THE BACKCOUNTRY- MILL D (NTD+). Try out this 'backcountry entry level' ski trip with veteran Pete Mimick. Skiing powder in the backcountry is different than skiing at the resorts. You will practice transitioning from climbing to skiing and skiing to climbing. Working the layers of clothing and skinning up. The pace will be NTD+. Plan to have standard backcountry gear with some knowledge of use - skins, shovel, beacon, probe (optional) along with your typical skis/ splitboard, food, water, clothing etc. E-mail Pete to pre-register at pmimmack@googlemail.com. Act now, spots will go fast!

FEB 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: DOG LAKE (NTD). Chrystel Syzak (943-0316) will meet you at Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:30 AM.

FEB 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: WHITE FIR PASS (NTD). Robert Turner (547-0420 rturner@uofu.net) invites you to



meet him at Skyline High school at 1 PM. After enjoying the morning come out and play in the snow.

FEB 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: ORGANIZER'S CHOICE (MOD). Leslie Woods (274-2670) will choose a destination appropriate for conditions. The club recommends you wear a transceiver and bring a shovel. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: RED PINE (MOD). Join Knick Knickerbocker (272-2485) for this snowshoe tour today, weather and avalanche conditions permitting. Knick plans on a pleasant (not a race) pace to this great destination in Little Cottonwood Canyon. Come prepared and we'll relax by the lake before returning. Meet at Butler Elementary, which is located on 2700 East about 7000 South, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 13 MON SKI BACKCOUNTRY: HELI-FREE MONDAYS (MSD+). Join Robert Athey, the legendary 'Wizard of the Wasatch', as he explores multiple drainages in the tri-canyons without interference from helicopters. Tour is dependant on mountain and weather conditions. Plan on a long day with an early start. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear including transceiver and prior avalanche search training required. Group size will be limited and pre-registration is required. Contact Robert at wizowash@yahoo.com.

FEB 14 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgrtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

FEB 14 TUE SNOWSHOE: PARK CITY ENVIRONS (MOD – MSD). Vince DeSimone will organize a "Tuesday Group" again this year, leaving at 10:00 AM. They go to places in the Park City area where snowshoes are the best means of travel. Expect a normal (healthy) pace with great conversation. For meeting location and last minute details, join the WMC Snowshoe email list for automatic notices and updates for all Tuesday Snowshoe trips throughout the winter. You will feel welcome and comfortable. Vince prefers cyberspace at vincedesimone@yahoo.com or you can call him at (435) 649-6805. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 15 WED SKI BACKCOUNTRY: WEDNESDAY NOONER SKI TOURS (NTD – MOD). Call Brian Barkey @ (801) 394-6047 or email (brian_barkey@juno.com) for a relatively laid back tour. Destination and length of tour to be

dependent on snow conditions and participant expertise. We'll shoot for a start time of noon. Transceivers, shovels, skins required.

FEB 15 WED MEETING/SOCIAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP. Starts at 6:30PM. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for the next General Membership meeting at the Mt. Olympus Presbyterian Church – 3280 East 3900 South. Following the meeting we will be wowed by Carol Masheter's slides of her climb of Cho Oyu in the Himalayas last fall. She was part of an international expedition. They flew to Katmandu, Nepal, then Lhasa, Tibet, then approached Cho Oyu (elevation 26,906 feet) from the Tibetan side. After most of September at elevation 18,300 feet and higher, four of their seven climbers, plus two New Zealand guides and five high altitude climbing Sherpas, summited on September 25, 2005, at approximately 7:15 AM. For further questions please call: Beverly Emrick – 599-8744 or (bemrick@networld.com) or Vicky McDaniel - 576-0160 or (mcdaniel@xmission.com)

FEB 16 THU SKI TOUR: MILLCREEK CANYON ROAD NIGHT SKI (NTD to MOD). Meet Jen Heineman for a 6 PM start at the winter closure gate, which is approx. 4 miles up Millcreek Canyon. We will turn-around at or before the Big Water summer parking. Almost any cross country or backcountry ski can be used. And don't forget your headlamps, skins or wax and dry change of clothes. Join Jennifer for an NTD pace or ski ahead if you are after a faster (MOD) pace. Dogs are welcome with owners that adhere to the Millcreek leash laws and clean-up requirements. Email Jen at JHeineman28@yahoo.com with any questions.

FEB 16 THU SNOWSHOE: THE COTTONWOODS (NTD – MOD). Norm Pobanz (266-3703) will organize a "Thursday Group" this year, leaving at 9:30 AM. They go to places in the Cottonwood Canyons area where snowshoeing is an adventure. Join the "over the hill" bunch and expect a pace suitable to all and a destination determined at the time of departure. To confirm the outing (i.e. In case of bad weather and possible road restrictions), discuss equipment, or to suggest a destination, call Norm ahead of time. Meet at the Fort Union Lot #4 (just west of the 'Porcupine' and across the street on the north side of the road) at 9:15 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 17 FRI - 20 MON BACKPACK: TICABOO CREEK. Russell Patterson (973-6427) is planning a 22-mile backpack plus 20 miles of day hiking in this area near Hite. We will shuttle cars and hike down the North Fork to Lake Powell and up the South Fork. Call Russell to register and get details.

FEB 18 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: ORGANIZERS CHOICE (MOD). Call or e-mail Walt Haas to register (534-1262) (haas@xmission.com) for an organizers choice tour. Otherwise

meet at Butler Elementary for a 9 AM departure. You must have an avalanche beacon with a working knowledge of its use, a shovel, skins and 10 E's.

FEB 18 SAT SNOWSHOE: RATTLESNAKE PASS – MILL CREEK CANYON (NTD-TURTLE). Joan Proctor (474-0275) is leading today's NTD trip. "Turtle" means that the pace WILL be nice and slow, but slow doesn't mean short distance. Often turtle hikes go farther up the trail than a normal NTD trips. Meet at Skyline High Parking lot at 9:30 AM.

FEB 18 SAT SNOWSHOE: WHITE PINE LITTLE COTTONWOOD (MOD). Cassie Badowsky (278-5153) intends to snowshoe as far up the canyon as conditions

Jan8th NTD Intro into the Backcountry. Photos By Huko



Probing for the packs.

Millcreek. Bring \$3 for bus fare from the park and ride to Spruces and Millcreek pass or \$2.25 (shared). For info contact Bob Cady (274-0250 or rcady@xmission.com). The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 19 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: BREAK INTO THE BACK COUNTRY BCC AREA (NTD+). Come and ski with Holy Sherwood on another of the Break into the Backcountry ski tours. The pace will be NTD and the focus will be on developing technique and basic backcountry awareness. The plan is to get in more ski time compared to the previous instruction focused days and all at an NTD pace. A veteran club member who will act as a "mentor" will join you. Bring transceiver, 2-way radio (if you have one), shovel, skins and 10 E's as required for backcountry travel. Registration is required so call or email Holly @ 278-5638 or hrordame@networld.com.



Way to go Steve Fischer!

safely permit today. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 18 SAT SNOWSHOE: WILLOW LAKE TO BEARTRAP (MOD). Larry Nielssen. (572-3964) "In at Willow Lake, up the ridge to "Silver VABM 10006, and out Beartrap Fork. No whiners allowed ("This is hard" "I'm cold" "Are we lost again?" "My nose is running"). We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 19 SUN SKI TOUR: MILL D BASIN LOOP (MOD+). We will go up Mill D to Lake Desolation, climb through the trees to the ridge, then traverse north along the ridge to the northeast corner of Millcreek basin. We will then descend Millcreek back to car(s) at the end of the road. Please have sturdy reliable gear for this distance and be aware early exits are very limited. This is not a bad way to start preparing for the Kings Peak trip at the end of March. Show up at the 39th south park and ride at 7:30 am to spot cars at the top of

FEB 19 SUN SNOWSHOE: WHITE FIR PASS (NTD). Mark R. Jones (486-5354) invites you to join him for a fun morning in Mill Creek Canyon. We'll leave from Skyline High School at 9:00 AM.

FEB 19 SUN SNOWSHOE: DESOLATION LAKE (MOD). Jim Piani (733-0627) organizes today's snowshoe that is moderate in length but easy in the pace snowshoe in Big Cottonwood Canyon. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 20 MON SNOWSHOE: PRESIDENT'S DAY ORGANIZER'S CHOICE (MOD). Rick Kirkland (486-0909) will select an appropriate location for today's holiday snowshoe. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 21 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-

1543) (Proctorgtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

FEB 21 TUE SNOWSHOE: PARK CITY ENVIRONS (MOD – MSD). Vince DeSimone will organize a “Tuesday Group” again this year, leaving at 10:00 AM. They go to places in



Mount Powell ski descent, Mike Berry and Rob Rogalski. Photo by Mike

the Park City area where snowshoes are the best means of travel. Expect a normal (healthy) pace with great conversation. For meeting location and last minute details, join the WMC Snowshoe email list for automatic notices and updates for all Tuesday Snowshoe trips throughout the winter. You will feel welcome and comfortable. Vince prefers cyberspace at vincedesimone@yahoo.com or you can call him at (435) 649-6805. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 22 WED SKI BACKCOUNTRY: WEDNESDAY NOONER SKI TOURS (NTD – MOD). Call Brian Barkey @ (801) 394-6047 or email (brian_barkey@juno.com) for a relatively laid back tour. Destination and length of tour to be dependent on snow conditions and participant expertise. We'll shoot for a start time of noon. Transceivers, shovels, skins required.

“KNOW BEFORE YOU GO” and make sure to bring your 10 Es! (Page 12) Check with the Utah Avalanche center web site for snow conditions and weather forecast <http://www.avalanche.org/~uac/> and review the WMC Winter Sports Policy, Backcountry Travel Techniques and Backcountry Ski & Snowshoe Route Ratings listed on the Wasatch Mountain Club website under Winter Sports www.wasatchmountainclub.org. Organizers are expected to keep their groups together and use proper backcountry etiquette.

FEB 23 THU SKI TOUR: MILLCREEK CANYON ROAD NIGHT SKI (NTD to MOD). Meet Jen Heineman for a 6 PM start at the winter closure gate, which is approx. 4 miles up Millcreek Canyon. We will turn-around at or before the Big Water summer parking. Almost any cross country or backcountry ski can be used. And don't forget your headlamps, skins or wax and dry change of clothes. Join Jennifer for an NTD pace or ski ahead if you are after a faster (MOD) pace. Dogs are welcome with owners that adhere to the Millcreek leash laws and clean-up requirements. Email Jen at JHeineman28@yahoo.com with any questions.

FEB 23 THU SNOWSHOE: THE COTTONWOODS (NTD – MOD). Norm Pobanz (266-3703) will organize a “Thursday Group” this year, leaving at 9:30 AM. They go to places in the Cottonwood Canyons area where snowshoeing is an adventure. Join the “over the hill” bunch and expect a pace suitable to all and a destination determined at the time of departure. To confirm the outing (i.e. In case of bad weather and possible road restrictions), discuss equipment, or to suggest a destination, call Norm ahead of time. Meet at the Fort Union Lot #4 (just west of the ‘Porcupine’ and across the street on the north side of the road) at 9:15 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 25 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: GOBBLER’S KNOB VIA BUTLER (MOD+). Join Mark Borges for a fun day rip’n the greatest snow on earth. Bring your transceiver, probe, shovel and know how to use them. The route crosses avalanche paths; so the trip is dependent upon conditions. Otherwise we will hit Beartrap or Reynolds, or Bills. Plan to leave at 8:00 am and registration is required. Email or call Mark at mborges@aros.net 801-363-4504

FEB 25 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: ORGANIZER’S CHOICE (NTD/MOD). Join Heidi (heidi@biochem.utah.edu) for a backcountry ski tour at a destination to be decided. The pace will be NTD/MOD but the expectations for skiing ability are not high! This is a chance for the beginner/intermediate skier to get out and practice in the powder. You must have an avalanche beacon with a working knowledge of its use, a shovel, skins and 10 Es. We'll meet at Butler Elementary School, 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM.

FEB 25 SAT SNOWSHOE: ORGANIZERS CHOICE (NTD+). Join Knick Knickerbocker (272-2485) for this

pleasant snowshoe tour in the Wasatch today, weather and avalanche conditions permitting. Knick plans on a relaxed, pleasant pace (not a race) to a nice destination in Big Cottonwood Canyon. Come prepared. Meet at Butler Elementary, which is located on 2700 East about 7000 South, at 9:00 AM.

FEB 25 SAT SNOWSHOE: BIG COTTONWOOD BROADS FORK (MOD). Join Sharon Vinick (865-4614 or sharon.vinick@slc.k12.ut.us) for a hike up Broad's Fork for a good view of Dromedary and the Twin Peaks. Bring a beacon and 10 E for safety. This trip will be managed appropriately for the outdoors. This means we will get into small groups if the group size is too large. I will assign a co-leader to pick up the rear. All members will follow avalanche procedures for safety. No one will be allowed to explore or veer from the group so we are all accountable. Anyone not willing to follow winter safety procedure should be discouraged from joining. Meet at 9:00 at Butler Elementary. Call or email Sharon to confirm. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 25 SAT SNOWSHOE: ORANIZER'S CHOICE (MOD). Mohamed Abdallah (466-9310) will lead this energetic and brisk-paced activity today, choosing a destination appropriate for the conditions and weather. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 26 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: ORGANIZERS CHOICE (MOD). Call or e-mail Walt Haas to register (534-1262) (haas@xmission.com) for an organizers choice tour. Otherwise meet at Butler Elementary for a 9 AM departure. You must have an avalanche beacon with a working knowledge of its use, a shovel, skins and 10 E's.

FEB 26 SUN SNOWSHOE: LOWER WHITE PINE (NTD). Tony Barron (272-8927) is organizing today's easy paced, 'nobody left behind' trip in Little Cottonwood Canyon. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM.

FEB 26 SUN SNOWSHOE: ORGANIZER'S CHOICE COTTONWOODS (NTD+). Tom Walsh (487-1336) will choose a location for today's slow 'n easy snow hike. Tom says "Everybody has to bring licorice for me, the black and strong kind (or not....). We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 26 SUN SNOWSHOE: BROADSFORK TO THE MEADOW (MOD). Holly Smith (272-5358) is going to go at a CASUAL pace today, although if enough gazelles show up she will break the group into two trips and send the fast ones out on

their own. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

FEB 27 MON SKI BACKCOUNTRY: HELI-FREE MONDAYS (MSD+). Join Robert Athey, the legendary 'Wizard of the Wasatch', as he explores multiple drainages in the tri-canyons without interference from helicopters. Tour is dependant on mountain and weather conditions. Plan on a long day with an early start. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear including transceiver and prior avalanche search training required. Group size will be limited and pre-registration is required. Contact Robert at wizowash@yahoo.com.

FEB 28 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours,

usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

FEB 28 TUE SNOWSHOE: PARK CITY ENVIRONS (MOD – MSD). Vince DeSimone will

"KNOW BEFORE YOU GO" and make sure to bring your 10 Es! (Page 13) Check with the Utah Avalanche center web site for snow conditions and weather forecast <http://www.avalanche.org/~uac/> and review the WMC Winter Sports Policy, Backcountry Travel Techniques and Backcountry Ski & Snowshoe Route Ratings listed on the Wasatch Mountain Club website under Winter Sports www.wasatchmountainclub.org. Organizers are expected to keep their groups together and use proper backcountry etiquette.



The pic was taken on Christmas Day, skiing at Grand Targhee Resort with the Tetons in the background. It is Knick Knickerbocker and Constance Modrow. Photo by Cheryl Soshnik



**This was taken snowshoeing on Jan 8th.
It's Jim Piani falling down. Snowshoeing in the
Park City area. Photo by Cheryl Soshnik**

organize a "Tuesday Group" again this year, leaving at 10:00 AM. They go to places in the Park City area where snowshoes are the best means of travel. Expect a normal (healthy) pace with great conversation. For meeting location and last minute details, join the WMC Snowshoe email list for automatic notices and updates for all Tuesday Snowshoe trips throughout the winter. You will feel welcome and comfortable. Vince prefers cyberspace at vincedesimone@yahoo.com or you can call him at (435) 649-6805. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 2 THU SNOWSHOE: THE COTTONWOODS (NTD – MOD). Norm Pobanz (266-3703) will organize a "Thursday Group" this year, leaving at 9:30 AM. They go to places in the Cottonwood Canyons area where snowshoeing is an adventure. Join the "over the hill" bunch and expect a pace suitable to all and a destination determined at the time of departure. To confirm the outing (i.e. In case of bad weather and possible road restrictions), discuss equipment, or to suggest a destination, call Norm ahead of time. Meet at the Fort Union Lot #4 (just west of the 'Porcupine' and across the street on the north side of the road) at 9:15 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 4 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: GRIZZLY GLUTCH (NTD+). Come and ski with Leslie on a continuation of the "Break into the Backcountry" ski tours. The plan is to get in more ski time (mostly yo-yo) and put the previous instruction to use. All at an NTD pace. An advanced "mentor" will join the group for support as needed. Bring transceiver, shovel, skins, 10 E's as required for backcountry travel. Call or email Leslie Masters @ 424-2079 or mountaintandem@juno.com to register.

MAR 4 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: (MOD). Feel free to e-mail Steve or Greg with a trip description and we can get it out

via the ski e-mail distribution. E-mail glibecchi@yahoo.com or spritchett@moxtek.com or call Steve at 801-859-8670.

MAR 4 SAT SNOWSHOE: MILL CREEK CANYON (NTD-TURTLE). Joan Proctor (474-0275) is leading today's NTD trip. "Turtle" means that the pace WILL be nice and slow, but slow doesn't mean short distance. Often turtle hikes go farther up the trail than a normal NTD trips. Meet at Skyline High Parking lot at 9:30 AM.

MAR 4 SAT SNOWSHOE: LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON ORGANIZER'S CHOICE (MOD). Judy Elizondo and Andy Beard (824-9440) will do an 'organizer's choice' in Little Cottonwood Canyon today, depending on the snow conditions and weather. They are hoping for Grizzly Gulch if the conditions permit. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 4 SAT SNOWSHOE: RIDGE RUN FROM SCOTTS PASS TO WILLOW (MOD+). Mohamed Abdallah (466-9310) organizes this brisk paced activity today. Come prepared for a full day of fun. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 5 SUN SKI BACKCOUNTRY: (MOD). Feel free to e-mail Steve or Greg with a trip description and we can get it out via the ski e-mail distribution. E-mail glibecchi@yahoo.com or spritchett@moxtek.com or call Steve at 801-859-8670.

MAR 5 SUN SNOWSHOE: PIPELINE TRAIL MILLCREEK CANYON (NTD-TURTLE). Carol Anderson (485-0877) is organizing today's slow and easy trip this morning. All members and prospective members are invited to join us today on this 'nobody left behind' activity. We'll leave from Skyline High School at 9:30 AM.

MAR 5 SUN SNOWSHOE: NEFF'S CANYON TO THE MEADOW (MOD). Barb Hanson (485-0132) is repeating the new tour she began last year that gains almost 2,500' in 3 miles. This is one of her favorite trips, to a bowl of jagged limestone cliffs with a great view of the Salt Lake Valley below. This trip begins at lower elevations, so hopefully there will be enough snow. This tour is in the Mt. Olympus Wilderness Area, so there is a limit of 10 in a group. Above 10, we would need to split out a second group and ask for a volunteer to be an organizer on another trip. Arrive early to assure you don't get bumped from the tour. Meet Barb at the Skyline High School parking lot at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 5 SUN SNOWSHOE: COTTONWOODS ORGANIZER'S CHOICE (MOD). Join Roger Young (943-6673), a first-time snowshoe organizer, on today's trip in the Cottonwood Canyons. Roger will choose a location and destination appropriate for today's conditions. We'll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 7 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING

Chris approach to south summit of Olympus, on New Years day. Photo by Dave Armitage



BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

MAR 7 TUE BOATING: SCHEDULING PARTY. The Scheduling Party will be held at the Mt Olympus Church, (3280 East 3900 South) at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Mar. 7, 2006. We need your attendance. This is a bring a dish to share and your own beverage, no booze. Larry Gwin 435-647-3642 ljpgpenuel@yahoo.com

MAR 7 TUE SNOWSHOE: PARK CITY ENVIRONS (MOD – MSD). Vince DeSimone will organize a “Tuesday Group” again this year, leaving at 10:00 AM. They go to places in the Park City area where snowshoes are the best means of travel. Expect a normal (healthy) pace with great conversation. For meeting location and last minute details, join the WMC Snowshoe email list for automatic notices and updates for all Tuesday Snowshoe trips throughout the winter. You will feel welcome and comfortable. Vince prefers cyberspace at vincedesimone@yahoo.com or you can call him at (435) 649-6805. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 9 THU SNOWSHOE: THE COTTONWOODS (NTD – MOD). Norm Pobanz (266-3703) will organize a “Thursday Group” this year, leaving at 9:30 AM. They go to places in the Cottonwood Canyons area where snowshoeing is an adventure. Join the “over the hill” bunch and expect a pace suitable to all and a destination determined at the time of departure. To confirm the outing (i.e. In case of bad weather

and possible road restrictions), discuss equipment, or to suggest a destination, call Norm ahead of time. Meet at the Fort Union Lot #4 (just west of the ‘Porcupine’ and across the street on the north side of the road) at 9:15 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 9 THU - MAR 12 SUN WINTER CAMPING: SNAKE RIVER HOT SPRINGS IN YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK. Celebrate the spring month by skiing into a backcountry site for 2 nights near the remote Snake River Hot Springs group. The hot springs soaking will take the chill out of the crisp winter air. The plan is to drive up to Jackson on Thursday morning, stay at a motel that night, and get a hearty breakfast and then pick up the permit the next

morning, and start the ski from the Flagg Ranch Bridge to cross the Snake River. Contact Mike Berry (mberryxc@earthlink.net, 583-4721) to register and for more information.

MAR 11 SUN SNOWSHOE: DAYS FORK (NTD). Tony Barron (272-8927) is celebrating his birthday in style today, with one of his famous ‘stop to smell the snowflakes’ trips. He says this is birthday #39 (déjà vu all over again!) Meet the birthday boy at Butler Elementary School, which is

located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM.

MAR 11 SAT SNOWSHOE: ORGANIZER’S CHOICE (MOD). Join Gloria Watson (942-0365) today as she selects an appropriate location in the Cottonwood Canyons for a moderate paced snowshoe today. We’ll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 11 SAT SNOWSHOE: COTTONWOOD CANYONS (MOD). Larry Nielssen. (572-3964) Destination to be decided. We’ll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM. The club strongly recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: DOG LAKE (NTD). Jim Piani (733-0627) organizes today’s easy paced activity in Big Cottonwood Canyon. We’ll leave from Butler Elementary School, which is located at 2700 E 7000 S, at 9:00 AM.

MAR 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: NORTH OR SOUTH WILLOW LAKE, STANSBURY RANGE (MOD+). Join Cathy Hunn (435-882-6529) today for a long but not too steep snowshoe tour in the Stansbury Mountains. She will go to either North or South Willow Lake. This will be a long day, as we’ll have to hike the extra 3 miles from the locked gate. Bring plenty of food and water and be prepared! Meet at 8:30 AM at the Maverick Store on Hwy 36 in Stansbury Park. The club recommends you wear a transceiver.

MAR 12 SUN SNOWSHOE: ORGANIZERS CHOICE (MOD). Join Knick Knickerbocker (272-2485) for this pleasant snowshoe tour in the Wasatch today, weather and avalanche conditions permitting. Knick plans on a pleasant relaxed pace (not a race) to a nice destination in Big Cottonwood Canyon. Come prepared, avalanche beacon recommended. Meet at Butler Elementary, which is located on 2700 East about 7000 South, at 9:00 AM.



Greg Libecchi skiing into Alexander Basin from Gobblers. Steve Pritchett watches Like-a-Hawk from above. Photo by Robert Athey

MAR 14 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

MAR 21 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgtr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

MAR 24 FRI -25 SAT SKI BACKCOUNTRY: KING'S PEAK (MSD). The historic Kings Peak ski tour, hosted by Steve and Larry Swanson, will convene on Friday night (March 24th) at the Henry's Fork Snow-Parking area and get under way very early on Saturday morning. We meet for car pooling (optional) at the K-Mart parking area on Parleys Way about 5:30 PM and leave for Evanston and the old standby, Lotty's Caf , at 6:00 PM. Avalanche transceivers, shovels, and registration are not required. Headlamps are mandatory (double check that they work and that the batteries are fresh). Lots of water (2-3 liters)

and protection from facing directly into the sun for most of the day are also important. Standard backcountry touring gear is best but every possible combination has been used in the past. Climbing skins are often handy but not essential. We generally leave the skis at Gunsight Pass and climb the peak on foot so Vibram-type soles on your boots are usually helpful if the snow is hard. Snowshoers are welcome but they need to remember that since they cannot just kick and glide back to the car they

have a much earlier turn-around time. 1:00pm is the usual turn around time for snowshoers.

It will be a long day, we start before dawn and usually end after dark. It's not at all necessary to climb the peak, however, to enjoy the ski touring in this lovely, gentle drainage and normally more than half of the participants turn around short of the peak. Elkhorn crossing is a good scenic NTD destination used by many. Gunsight Pass, 5 miles farther, is MOD and gives wonderful views. Gunsight Pass is the standard turn around place for most and for ALL those that arrive after 1:00pm. The summit is MSD chiefly because of the length of the day and the climb of the peak at the end. Mandatory turnaround is 3:00



Mug shot of the Wizard of the Wasatch, Robert Athey. Photo by Greg Libecchi

pm no matter where you are on the route. We carry out ALL waste paper so carry a plastic bag and plan for it. For additional information call Steve at 272-5750 or Larry at 583-4043. We will start out no matter what the weather and assess the summit from the basin or Gunsight. The trip to the basin is sheltered and makes a nice ski tour even in stormy weather. We prefer the creek route as it is safer but that decision will be made on the morning of the tour. We want everyone to go up and back down on the same route for safety reasons so check with Larry or Steve on the route of choice if you plan to leave extra early

MAR 25 SAT SNOWSHOE: GOURMET POTLUCK WILLOW LAKE (NTD=FUN!). This is it, the annual gourmet snowshoe trip. It's time to dig out your favorite gourmet recipes as well as your most festive and creative costumes to celebrate nearing the end of the snowshoe season and welcome the advent of SPRING! Wine tasting included – bring your reds and whites. Skiers are welcome also. Holly Smith (272-5358) organizes this annual event. Stay tuned for the March Rambler for final details.

MAR 28 TUE SKI BACKCOUNTRY: TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB (MOD+ to MSD). Call or e-mail Chris Proctor to verify conditions and for details (485-1543) (Proctorgr@aol.com). Moderate to long/hard ski tours, usually but not always in the tri-canyons, with 8 AM starts. Good conditioning, appropriate and dependable gear, snow safety and avalanche search training, and safe winter travel skills are essential. Transceivers are required for this trip.

APR 1 SAT CLIMBER'S PARTY AT THE LODGE All mountaineers, climbers, and anyone who wants to become one are invited to the beginning of the climbing season party to be held at the WMC lodge. It will start at 7:00 pm and go till 11:00 pm. Bring your slides, pictures, and stories for us all to enjoy (or endure). BYOB and a potluck dish to share. Lodge use fees are \$3 per person for WMC members and \$5 per person for others. Call Peter Campbell @ 733-0313 or Email wmc-alpinist@hotmail.com if you have questions. Rating: Approach to lodge could be AI-1 to AI-3 depending on snow conditions and route taken.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

APR 15 SAT SKI TOUR: DRY LAKE FORK (STANSBURY MOUNTAINS)(MOD). Mike Berry (mberryxc@earthlink.net) organizes this trip to the Stansbury Range. This outing will climb approximately 2,800 feet over 4.5 miles to listen and watch (from a safe distance) for the annual spring snow slides releasing from the east cliffs of Deseret Peak. This tour follows the drainage and does not stay on the summer trail to the peak. Sturdy touring or backcountry skis are suggested. Skins may be useful. Beacon and shovel required. Contact Mike Berry (mberryxc@earthlink.net, 583-4721) by Thursday, April 13 to register and for meeting time/place & information.

NON-WMC EVENTS

JAN 30 – FEB 5 BACKCOUNTRY AWARENESS WEEK: In order to bring the safety, fun, exercise, and beauty of Utah's Backcountry to everyone the Friends of the Utah Avalanche Center in conjunction with Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort will be hosting a "Backcountry Awareness Week" January 30th to February 5th, 2006. The purpose of this event is to encourage families to become educated about the safe and efficient ways to travel on snow utilizing snowshoes, skis, and split boards. Check out the web site www.backcountryawareness.com or call 801-933-2147. Check out the calendar of events and sign up early.

FEB 3 FRIENDS OF UTAH AVALANCHE CENTER FUNDRAISER: Join in the fun and excitement at one of the season's best events. The Snowbird Cliff Lodge will host this gala event. Last year these tickets sold out quickly. Check out the "calendar" under this web site www.backcountryawareness.com or call (801) 933-2147

FEB 11 SAT-18 SAT SKI/BOARD SELKIRKS: Two slots are open for the infamous Fairy Meadows hut in the Selkirks (Adamant Range). The lottery permit is for 10, which will consist of 6 of us, 2 of you, one guide and one guide assistant. We will be flown in and flown out and we will be hiking/skiing/

boarding every day in a large steep glaciated basin with lots of crevasses. At night we will be sharing a huge cabin with another group of 10. The other group of 10 is from Banff/Canmore. The cabin has a sauna. The cost will be 1300/person and this does not include food. Email or call Mark at mborges@aros.net 801-363-4504.

REI COMMUNITY CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY

SANDY CITY
BREAKING TRAIL; A CLIMBING LIFE
Thursday, February 2nd, 7pm

HIKING, TREKKING & MOUNTAINEERING IN PERU
Thursday, February 9th, 7pm

GPS 101
Thursday, February 16th, 7pm

INTRODUCTION TO AVALANCHE AWARENESS
Thursday, February 23rd, 7pm

SALT LAKE CITY
HIKING, TREKKING & MOUNTAINEERING IN PERU
Tuesday, February 7th, 7pm

GPS 101
Tuesday, February 14th, 7pm
longitude, programming routes, and recording travel.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: INTRODUCTION TO AVALANCHE AWARENESS
Tuesday, February 21st, 7pm

INTRODUCTION TO NORDIC SKI WAXING
Tuesday, February 28th, 7pm

2006 BANFF FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR
February 21st & 22, 7pm
The 30th annual Banff Mountain Film Festival, presented by National Geographic and Dunham Bootmakers, brings you the world's best mountain films, videos and speakers. Experience the adventure of climbing, mountain expeditions, remote cultures, and the world's last great wild places — all brought to life on the big screen. Different films will be screened each night. There will be a nice mix of culture, adrenaline, and environment films based on what the Tour Host is touring with. Tickets are \$7.00 each night, and are available now for the 2006 Salt Lake City shows at the Kingsbury Hall Box Office, Art-Tix locations, The University of Utah Outdoor Recreation Program and at REI locations in Salt Lake City and Sandy. Call 581-8516 for more information.

Valerie Merges
on Ben Lomand



WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please read carefully and fill out all three (3) pages completely.

I am applying for a

☐ New Membership
☐ Single ☐ Couple

☐ Reinstatement (please do not use this form for yearly membership renewal)

Name of applicant (1) _____ Birth date _____

Name of applicant (2) _____ Birth date _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Rambler Phone (1) _____ Work Phone(1) _____ Email(1): _____

Rambler Phone (2) _____ Work Phone(2) _____ Email(2): _____

How did you learn about the WMC? _____

Privacy Information: The WMC publishes member's names, address and phone numbers in the The Rambler, twice a year to facilitate membership communication. We also occasionally release our address list to WMC-board approved wilderness and/or conservation organizations for one-off mailings under the stipulation that they do not continue to use the list or provide it to others. Please select from the following:

- ☐ Please publish my address in The Rambler and provide to board approved organizations.
☐ Please publish my address in The Rambler but do not provide to other organizations.
☐ Please do not publish my address in The Rambler, and do not provide to other organizations.

Do you wish to receive The Rambler (club publication) ☐ yes ☐ no.

Membership dues:

\$40.00 for single membership (\$35.00 dues, plus \$5.00 application fee)

\$55.00 for couple membership (\$50.00 dues, plus \$5.00 application fee)

\$25.00 for student membership (\$20.00 dues, plus \$5.00 application fee; must be full-time student, age 30 and under)

Enclosed is \$ _____ for application fee and first year's dues. Check and money orders only. Make checks payable to Wasatch Mountain Club.

Mail completed application to:

Membership Director

Wasatch Mountain Club

1390 South, 1100 East

Salt Lake City, UT 84105-2443

Leave blank for office use:

Receipt/Check # _____ Amount Received _____ Date _____ By _____

Board Approval Date _____

Membership application (Page 1 of 3)

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE?

The Wasatch Mountain Club is a volunteer run organization. Events are published monthly in the Rambler, providing contact details, meeting times and places as well as a guide to the difficulties of the activity. Members can join other in a variety of activities, or lead an activity of their own by contacting the director in charge of the particular kind of event. Directors' contact information can be found in the front of the Rambler. Members can also subscribe to a series of email lists found on our web page, www.wasatchmountainclub.org. These lists provide more spontaneous communication between members heading into the backcountry.

What kinds of activities are you interested in?

Hiking: ☐ easy hike, ☐ moderate hike, ☐ challenging hike, ☐ car camp, ☐ backpack, ☐ family hikes

Boating: ☐ rafting, ☐ kayaking, ☐ canoeing,
☐ trip leader, ☐ instruction, ☐ equipment, ☐ sailing

Biking: ☐ mountain biking, ☐ road biking, ☐ camping tour

Winter Sports: Snowshoeing: ☐ easy tour, ☐ moderate tour, ☐ challenging tour

 Skiing: ☐ easy, ☐ moderate, or ☐ challenging x-country ski

☐ easy, ☐ moderate or ☐ challenging backcountry ski

☐ yurt trips

Climbing: ☐ wasatch Climb, ☐ out-of-town trip, ☐ winter mountaineering

Other: ☐ caving, ☐ rollerblading, ☐ scuba, ☐ canyoneering, ☐ other: _____

The Wasatch Mountain Club needs you!

In addition to the outdoor ☐

President, V.P., secretary and four trustees are elected to the board on a yearly basis at the annual membership meeting in February. In addition, committees are often formed to share the work load. It's easy to get involved.

Conservation: ☐ Air & Water Issues, ☐ Telephone tree, ☐ Trail clearing,
☐ Trailhead access, ☐ Wilderness

WMC Lodge @ Brighton: ☐ General Repair, ☐ Skilled Labor

Information: ☐ Public relations, ☐ Instruction, ☐ Web site

Social: ☐ Social host, ☐ Party assistance, ☐ Lodge host

Rambler: ☐ Word processing, ☐ Mailing, ☐ Advertising, ☐ Computer support

Membership: ☐ Help, ☐ Recruiting

Would you like to participate on an activities committee? Which one? _____

Is there a special trip you would like to lead? _____

Wasatch Mountain Club (WMC)

Applicant Agreement, Acknowledge of Risk and Release from Liability

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION: I acknowledge that my participation in and WMC activity is voluntary. No one is forcing me to participate.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I am aware the WMC activities involve risks, and could result in injury, illness, death and damage or loss of property.

These dangers include

nature, the inherent dangers

of the WMC. The WMC is not, nor does it provide a professional guiding service. In order to partake in the enjoyment and excitement of WMC activities, I am willing to accept the risk and uncertainty involved as being an integral part of the activity. I acknowledge this risk and assume full responsibilities for any and all risks of injury, illness, death, or damage and loss to my property.

I verify this statement by placing my initials here _____.

PREPARATION: I understand that it is my responsibility to evaluate the difficulties of any activity I participate in, and decide whether I am prepared by having the experience, skill, knowledge and the physical and emotional stamina to safely participate.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE: I agree that I, my heirs, and personal and legal representatives hereby do release and hold harmless from all liability, and promise not to bring any suit or claim against the Wasatch Mountain Club, its leaders or directors, agents or representatives for any injury, illness, death or damage and loss of property resulting from my participation in any WMC activity even if they negligently caused the injury or damage.

LEGAL FEES: Should it become necessary for the WMC, or someone on their behalf, to incur attorney fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to pay the WMC reasonable costs and fees thereby expended, or for which liability is incurred.

INSURANCE: I certify that I have sufficient insurance to cover and bodily injury or property damage that I may incur while participating in any WMC activity. If I have no such insurance, I certify that I am capable of paying for all such expenses and liabilities.

My signature below indicates I have read this entire document, understand it completely, understand it affects my legal rights, and agree to be bound by its terms. I am at least 18 years old.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

Witness:

I certify that _____ has alleged to me that he/she has read and understands this document.

Signature: _____ Print Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Date: _____

**Check the Web at
www.wasatchmountainclub.org**

**Utah Avalanche Forecast Center
801-364-1581
<http://www.avalanche.org/~uac/>**

**February 15th
General Membership Meeting
Annual Board Elections
7pm @ Mount Olympus
Presbyterian**

**PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
SALT LAKE CITY,
UT**

**WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB
1390 SOUTH 1100 EAST
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84105**