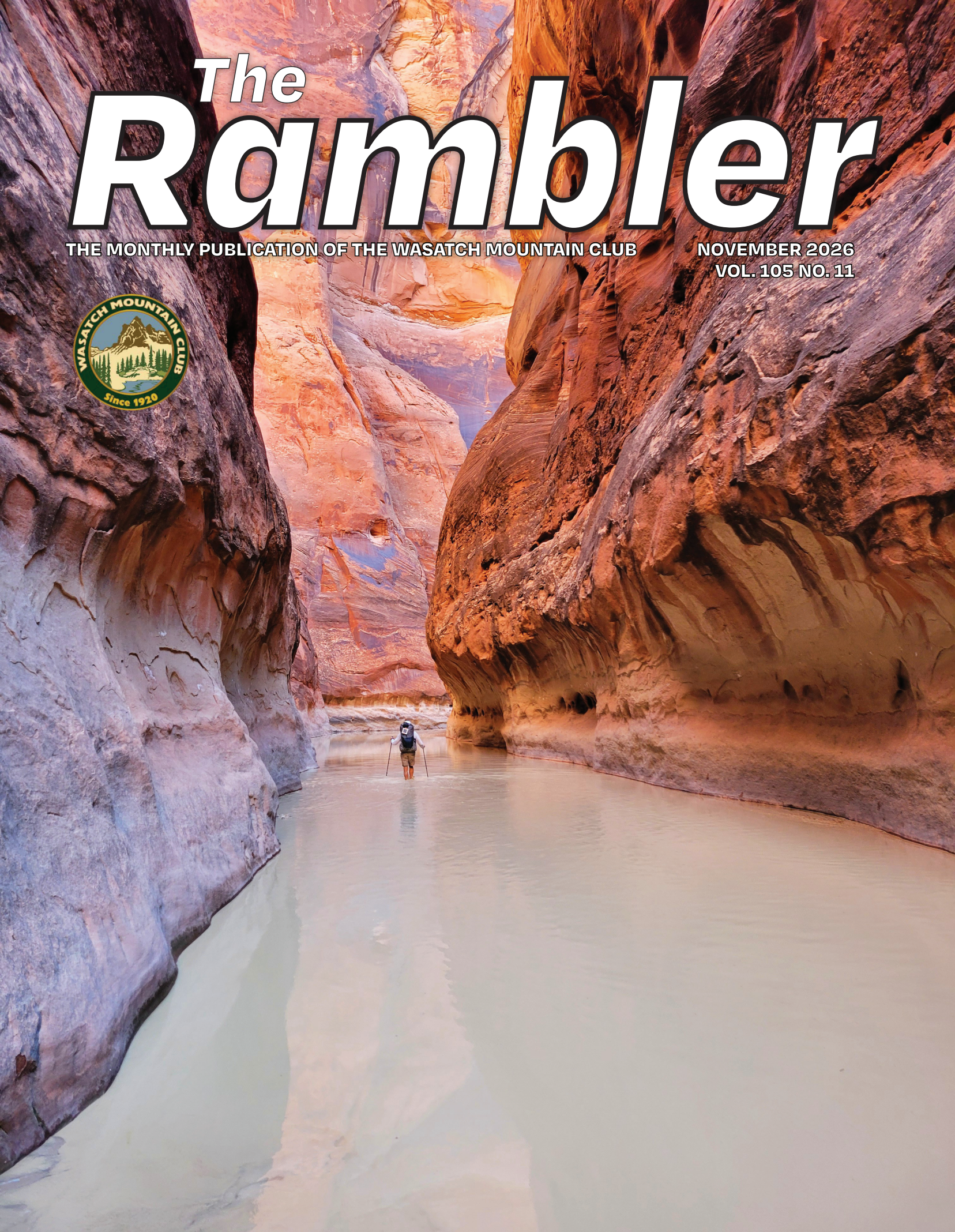
The Rambler

THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB

NOVEMBER 2026
VOL. 105 NO. 11



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IN THIS ISSUE

4 Historian's Message
6 In Memoriam: Charles Chauncy Hall, Jr.
8 Welcome New & Returning Members
8 Thank You September Activity Organizers
9 Activity Reports
30 Activity Calendar
37 USPS Form 2526 for 2025-2026
39 50 Years Ago in the Rambler



ON OUR BACK COVER:
What goes on at the Cirque stays at the Cirque. Check out page 9 for the full report on why everyone is smiling.

ON OUR COVER:
Chris Koch "sweeping" for quicksand in Paria Canyon so no one dies. (There were some close calls!) See page 25 for details.



The Wasatch Mountain Club is an outdoor recreation club for adults dedicated to fostering awareness of the scenic beauty of the Wasatch and encouraging preservation of our natural areas. Club activities include hiking, backcountry skiing/snowboarding, backpacking, camping, conservation, trail maintenance, canoeing, climbing, canyoneering, kayaking, mountaineering, mountain biking, road biking, river rafting, socializing, snowshoeing and multi-day adventures.

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Historian's Message

by Debra Frank

Alexis Kelner: December 14, 1938 – September 23, 2026



By now you may have heard the sad news that we lost Alexis Kelner in September. The December Rambler will honor him with remembrances collected from club members. This is your chance to add to his enduring legacy! Please submit your memories directly to the Rambler team at rambler@wasatchmountainclub.org. Or contact me if you'd like some help editing or organizing your thoughts.

I'll save my own reflections for the December issue, but for now I'd like to note that it's impossible to overstate Alexis's importance to the club. Like O'Dell Petersen before him, he was an extraordinarily active seven-decade member. Did you know that O'Dell fudged Alexis's membership application in 1956 because Alexis was too young to join? And O'Dell even paid Alexis's dues. I'd say that was a good investment, because if anyone could succeed "Pete" in importance to the club, it was Alexis. The club is fortunate to have benefitted from this remarkably talented, principled, brilliant, and creative man whose achievements leave a legacy that we might all aspire to measure up to. To see what I mean, please check out his obituary at: https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/saltlaketribune/name/alexis-kelner-obituary?id=62653692

In researching and writing the centennial history book, Alexis was one of the first clubbers I interviewed and the one I most often consulted, second only to Phyllis Anderson. As with everyone I wrote about, I found myself very much invested and attached to Alexis. Losing people from the book is a hazard of the job; always a gut punch. This year has been rough, since we've lost several members who figure prominently in Faint Heart Never Climbed a Mountain, including Robert Myers, Linda Desimone, Vickie Ashby, and Ann McDonald. I'll always be grateful that Alexis lived to see the book's publication and attended both book launch parties. As an outstanding writer, and a long-time historian for the club—he could have been a tough customer. Instead, he made a point of singing the book's praises. That's something I'll always treasure.

Weller Book Works

In a previous column, I mentioned taking my book to The King's English to see if they wanted to carry it. (They did, and they do.) The employee at the cash register flipped through the book and stopped at a picture of Steve & Larry Swanson, declaring, "Oh look! It's Abby's grandpa!" That was a pretty cool moment for me. Then when I stopped into Weller Books at Trolley Square recently, I found another surprising connection. When I told Kat, the store buyer, that the book was the centennial history of the WMC, she said, "Oh the Wasatch Mountain Club! My mother (Ann Cheves) was the first woman president!"

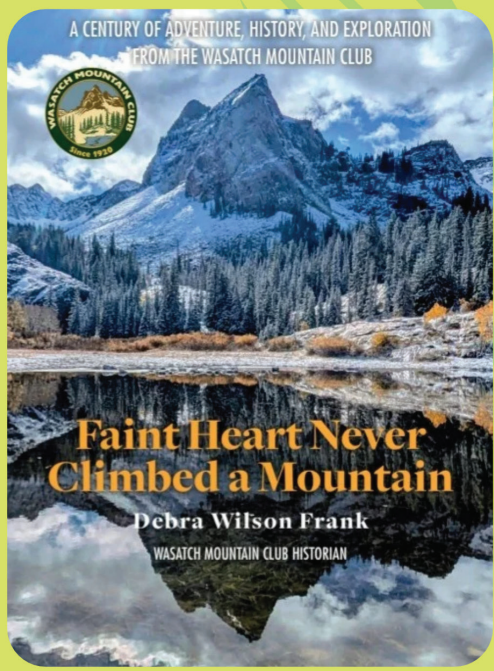
Not quite true as it turns out, since that distinction belonged to Edith "Cookie" Green, who took the helm in 1933. Kat's mother was actually the third woman president. (Judy Thomas served as president in 1976.)

I'm honored to now have shelf space at Weller Book Works, a very fine independent bookstore with roots in the community going back to 1929—almost as long as the WMC!

“A STRIKING AND COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT OF A CENTURY-OLD INSTITUTION.” ~KIRKUS REVIEWS

Faint Heart Never Climbed a Mountain

THE CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAIN CLUB



To pick up locally, order at wasatchmountainclub.org. (Under the Announcements tab.) If you require shipping, order from debrawilsonfrank.com. Also available at Weller Book Works, Natural Resources Map & Bookstore, Kings English, and REI

From Kirkus Reviews:

Frank's work proves to be a labor of love in the best sense of the term. she documents the historical impact of the wmc in as thorough and thoughtful a manner as readers could imagine. it's also a beautifully illustrated work, with plenty of archival color and black-and-white photos taken over the course of a century, which effectively tell a story on their own while still complementing the text.



Some of the club members featured in the book at the Oldtimers’ gathering at the lodge in July 2026

In Memoriam: Charles Chauncey Hall, Jr., 1923 - 2026



After an amazing run of 103 years, Charles Chauncey Hall, Jr., finally reached the end of his trail on July 2, 2026, dying peacefully in his favorite chair at home in Salt Lake City. Outliving many of his friends and relatives, as well as his own heartthrob and life companion of 76 years, Emily Hobart Hall (1925-2022), Chauncey left a very large wake in his path, having touched the lives of countless admirers with his generosity, sage advice, deadpan jokes, and healing powers as an orthopedic surgeon. Trained at Yale and then Harvard Medical School during World War II, followed by a medical internship at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, two years as the medical officer of a POW camp on Jeju-do, South Korea (1950-52), and then a residency at Columbia Medical Center in New York, he and Emily then followed their passions by moving out West with their four children to Salt Lake City in 1956, finally adding another child and putting down roots in Holladay, Utah, at the foot of their beloved Wasatch Mountains. Chauncey is survived by five children (Helen Kolff, David Hall, Lucy Leaver, Janet Hall, and Marcus Hall), twelve grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and many spouses who helped make it all happen.

Born April 9, 1923, to Charles C. Hall and Mary P. Platt Hall in Baltimore, Chauncey would be orphaned at age 14 (along with his younger sister Mary "Polly" Hall), to then be raised by his grandmother who decided he was better off surrounded by people his own age, sending him to boarding school at Phillips Academy, Mass. When not training for his career, a few of the events he spoke longingly about as a youth were summer camps in New England and a bicycle trip across Britain with his high school teacher and friend. After marrying Emily at the Hobart Farm in Wisconsin, he served a stint as ship doctor in an oceanographic expedition along the shores of Labrador, where he had to retrieve a row boat that was drifting away with the tide. Adventures with Emily included a bicycle tour from Scandinavia to Italy, canoeing the lakes of Minnesota and Wisconsin (especially Waupaca's Chain O'Lakes), and skiing in the mountains of New Hampshire and once at Aspen in the days when it only had one ski lift. Always the rugged individualist, Chauncey built up a busy medical practice as a newcomer to Utah, while moonlighting on weekends in such clinics as the Evanston State Hospital and the U.S. Army base in Dugway. His specialty inevitably led him to the nearby ski slopes, such as at Alta where he became an honorary ski patrolman, and eventually at Park City, where he established the first medical clinic at the base of Treasure Mountain gondola from 1980 until his retirement in 1988. He also served as a clinical faculty member at the University of Utah School of Medicine by helping train resident orthopedists. Years later, he still received gratitude in Christmas cards and other acknowledgments, reminding him of the many tib-fibs he had set straight, or the slipped vertebral discs and dislocated shoulders that he had made right again.

Chauncey (alias Charles, Chuck, Dad, Granddad, Gramp) was also a community man

with deep commitments to helping others. Beyond his private practice, he volunteered his medical expertise on several occasions, as when he traveled overseas to work in clinics for weeks or months at a time. In the 1960s, he operated on the twisted bones of polio patients in Tunisia; in the 1970s, he joined the Hope Ship to help train young orthopedists in Peru; in the 1980s, he worked for a summer in a hospital in the Dominican Republic; and some years later joined a clinic in Malawi to operate on grateful patients there. In appreciation of his service, Salt Lake City's Rotary Club had him named a Paul Harris Fellow. Through Rotary, Chauncey also spearheaded a successful youth exchange program, which over several years saw dozens of international students come to Utah for a year abroad, with as many Utah high schoolers in turn traveling overseas for their extended stays. He was also an active member of various conservation, cultural, and athletic organizations, including the Audubon Society, Wasatch Mountain Club, Save Our Canyons, Utah Wilderness Association, Utah Symphony, KUER, Cottonwood Club, and several other clubs, where he eventually switched from tennis to pickleball at age 85. Hotly interested in politics and world affairs, Chauncey was nonetheless often reticent about discussing them, believing good policies were largely self-evident.

As a skillful mountaineer, ski-tourer, and kayaker, Chauncey believed in doing everything once, and the good things many times. He loved fishing (strictly with fly rods), hunting (mostly for ducks and pheasants), and venturing further and further afield, from the streams draining the nearby mountains, to the Tetons and Wind Rivers of Wyoming, and then into Canada and Alaska and beyond, which are still captured in his fabulous slide and movie collection. His grandchildren finally gifted him a large world map, where to help them keep track of his journeys he was asked to place a star on every country he visited - with such stars soon marking all continents to highlight exotic rivers and mountain ranges across them. Chauncey, accompanied by Emily, floated down the Omo River in Ethiopia, climbed an 18,000-foot ridge facing Everest, toured holy shrines in Saint Petersburg and Shanghai, observed hummingbirds and quetzals in the Mindo Cloud Forest and kookaburras in Australia, caught total eclipses around the world, and accidentally tipped backwards off a Zodiac when landing on the beach in Antarctica. Also a fine craftsman with wood, he built a log cabin on the New Fork River in Wyoming, and then constructed a fleet of boats to float down it, to include five kayaks, four wooden canoes (two cedarstripped), three sailboats (one from a kit, two from scratch), two Adirondack guide boats, an acorn skiff, a nutshell pram, and a few duck decoys just for fun.

Near the end, and often asked what contributed to his stunning longevity, Chauncey typically answered that it was his daily walks, the company of a few close friends, and the remarkable advances of medical science, or perhaps his daily Wordle - but with a casual onlooker suggesting that it was really his consumption each evening of 2/3 a bottle of Corona beer. Surely the best gift that Chauncey and Emily ever received at one of their anniversaries was the matching his-and-her gray t-shirts emblazoned with the words "Been There" on the front, and "Done That" on the back.

We are grateful to all his good friends and extended family who visited him often at his family home until the end. A celebration of his life will be held at Alta, Utah, this fall. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donating in Chauncey's memory to Doctors Without Borders or The Natural Resources Defense Council.

"When I rise up, let me rise up joyful like a bird; when I fall, let me fall without regret like a leaf." --Wendell Berry

WELCOME

New & Returning Members

Adam Woffinden
Alyse Rogers
Amandine Veyret & Mattia Palmieri
Amy Hensiek
Carrie Driscoll
Carson Buck
Crystal Spainhower
Daniel Creegan & Karen Chin
Dillon Poole
Divyam Garg
Eric Hossfield
Eric Swanson
Gabriel Krivian
Geena Littel
Jeannie Rollo & Mark Sarfati
Justin & Marsha Slocum
Kat Pardue
Katie Felt
Kenyon Eastin
Maria Carmona
Michael Newland
Michael Summa
Nathaly Calderon
Rachel Heiman
Rex Zamponi
Rob Lyon
Samuel Kennard
Scott Guinn
Scott Williams
Sebastian Begg
Thurop Van Orman
Tyler Smithson
Whitney Winsor
Yvonne & Jonas D'Andrea

Thank You September Activity Organizers!

We appreciate you for your leadership, energy, and time for organizing amazing activities for our members

Akiko Kamimura
Anja Wadman
Anthony Hellman
Brad Porter
Brad Yates
Bryan Mason
Caroline Pickett
Charity Wardle
Chase Tharp
Christine Hartnett
Claire Ashcraft
Craig Williams
Daisy DeMarco
Dave Perkins
Dea Nelson
Dianne Budig
Donn Seeley
Eve Kovacs
Frank Bouchard
Frank Ryburn
Gail Newbold
Geoff Bodwin
Giulia Roselli
Greg Libecci
Irene Yuen
Jack Cook
Jim Kucera
Joe Adamson
Joergen Pilz
John Knoblock
John Veranth
Jorge Torres
Joslin Heyward
Julie Kilgore
Katherine Thom
Kathleen Waller
Katie Morrow
Kerry Regan
Kiki Mackaman-Lofland
Mac Brubaker
Mack Tawa
Marcia Andriano-Pilz
Marcia Hansen
Martha Veranth
Michael Berry
Michael Budig
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Petr Sedukhin
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Steph Stamm
Steven Duncan
Tali Brenner
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Activity Reports

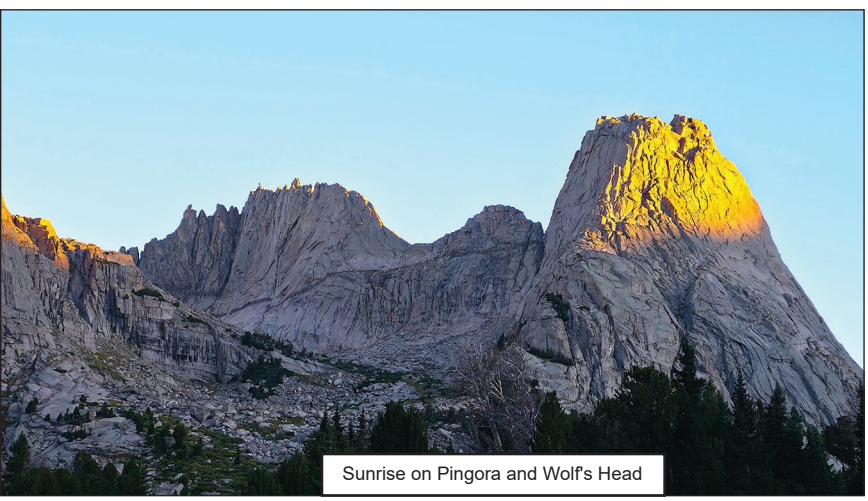
Climbing Cirque of the Towers - Sep. 2-6, 2026

Organized and report by Nathan C.

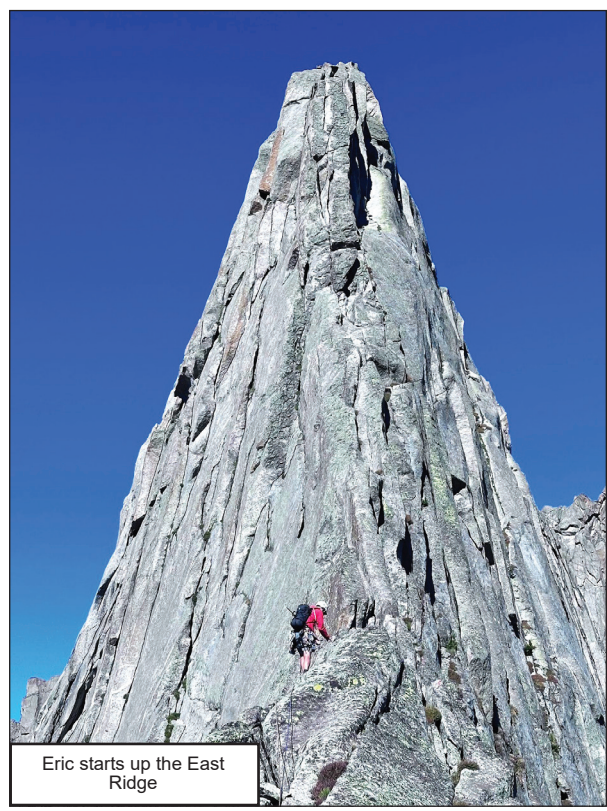
This trip had originally been planned for Titcomb Basin, a bit further North in the Winds, with several of the club's ice climbers eyeing up the Tower 1 Gully on Mt. Helen and a few others signed on for a late season attempt of Gannett Peak. Sadly, between a few untimely injuries and a historically dry year, we chose to pivot to the Cirque instead.The Cirque of the Towers is host to dozens of world-class granite multipitch climbs, including several of the 50 classic climbs of North America. These are long and committing routes which demand efficient multipitch climbing. It's a long backpack into the cirque requiring any challengers to be both physically and mentally prepared for consecutive big days in the backcountry. Weather this time of year is unpredictable - afternoon storms are a possibility, as-is an early season snowstorm. If we're really lucky, we'll get both.

Wednesday - Eric, Shuang, and Nathan drove up Wednesday evening for an early start from the Big Sandy trailhead.

Thursday - We arrived at the Towers with plenty of time to spare, and made an afternoon run on the K-Cracks variation of the Southern Buttress of Pingora (5.8+, 4p, II). This proved to be a great introduction to the cirque, and allowed us to eye up the trail and approach ledges to the East Ridge of Wolf's Head. We pulled back into camp with just enough light to enjoy the sunset over a freeze-dried meal. We would occasionally stir from our tents to watch a party having quite the epic on the East Face of Pingora, climbing through the night and rappelling down around 4AM.



Sunrise on Pingora and Wolf's Head



Eric starts up the East Ridge



Shuang and Eric follow the "Sidewalk". Pingora and Mitchell Peak behind

Friday - The next morning we got an early start on the East Ridge of Wolf's head (5.6, 10p, IV). We pitched out the Grassy Ledges approach, given it felt quite "Scottish" for its easy 5th class rating, and soon found ourselves on the East Ridge proper. The East Ridge earns its Fifty Classic Climbs status for obvious reasons. A short section of easy scrambling over massive double exposure yields to moderate 5.6 climbing up the "Sidewalk". From there, several traverses weave through granite towers with incredible exposure and thoughtful challenges in route-finding and protection. Each of us agreed this was some of the finest rock climbing we'd ever done. Back at camp, the full team finally rendezvoused as we were joined by Paul, Steph, and Gail. Thoroughly exhausted by heavy packs and long climbs, we turned in early, only to be awakened by a strong storm that passed through overnight.



Eric, stepping around



Steph leads the classic "La Vaca Peligrosa" at Wild Iris



Nathan putting up "Kamp Krusty"



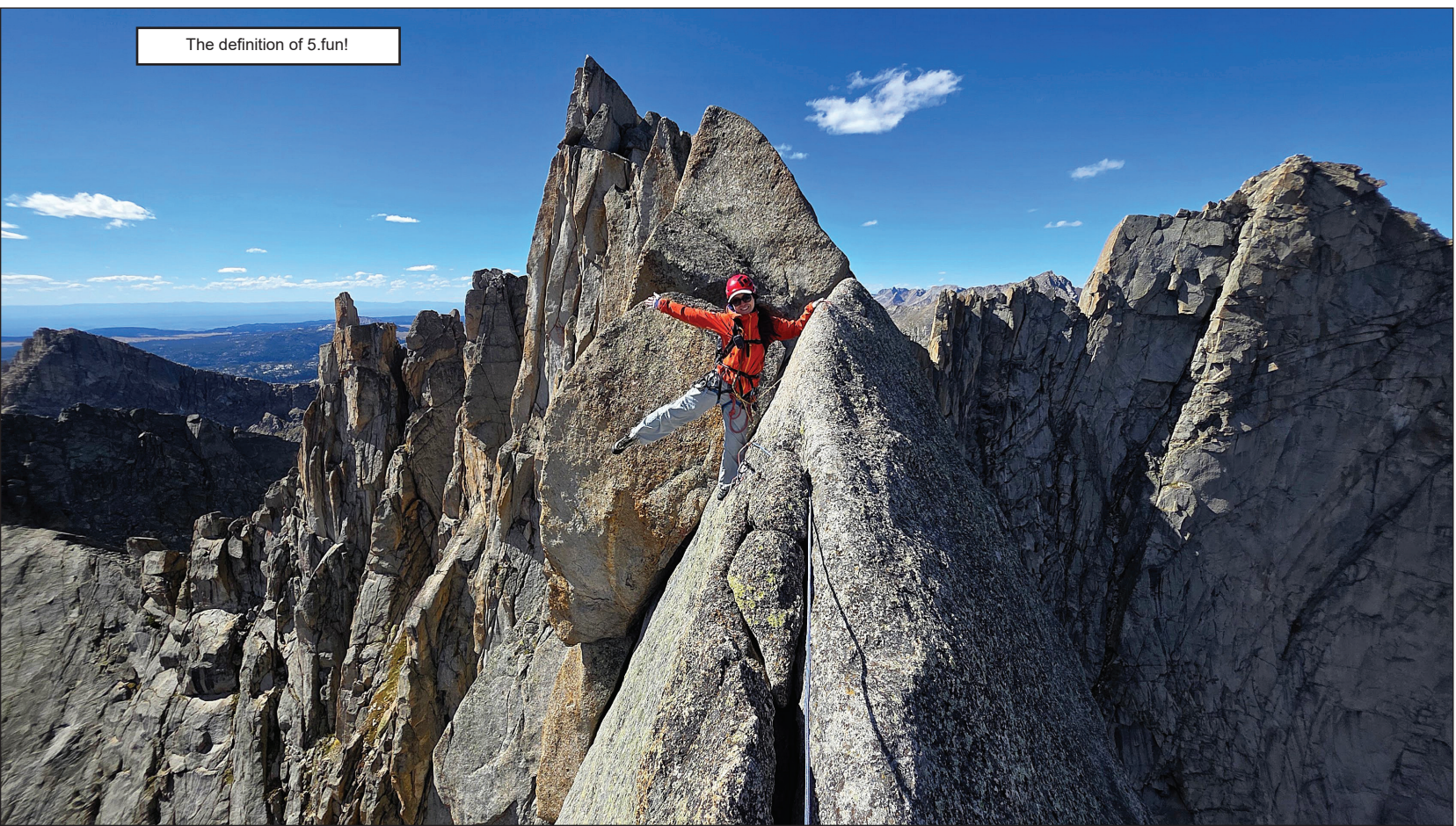
Steph in the crux of "Spiderpig"



Shuang looking "Badass"

Saturday held big aspirations - Paul and Steph were making their own run on Wolf's Head while Eric and Nathan were eyeing up one of the long routes on Pingora. With uncertainty in the forecast and ominous AM skies, neither party would leave the ground. We opted instead to explore around camp and found a few enjoyable single pitch routes that may or may not have been previously climbed. We've saved this as the "Springfield Gully" on Mountain Project.

Sunday - With the forecast rapidly degrading, the decision was made to hike out. Though the hike was seemingly endless, we exited with enough time for a quick stop at Wild Iris before overnighting in Lander. We found ourselves back at Wild Iris for a blustery AM sport climbing session and finally a well-deserved stop in Farson for a Big Cone.



The definition of 5.fun!

Hiking Stairs Gulch - Sep. 5-6, 2026

Organized and report by Ray Daurelle
"Do the Book; Live the Legacy" Reflection by Deb Frank

Ten of us showed up for a day in Stairs. Stairs Gulch has no trail, except in the bottom. Knowing a good route up made it challenging for some, yet continuously reasonable. It has a variety of spiciness available, along with a good line of fairly calm and consistent scrambling, with just a few tricky moves. Think of the scramble on the main south trail of Mount Olympus, extended for several hours. We quickly split into 2 groups, with a faster set of 6 heading all the way up to the Broads Fork Twin Peaks, then back down through the Robison Route. The more casual group did





lunch on a shoulder of the ridge between Stairs Gulch and Broads Fork, then down through Broads Fork. Because Stairs Gulch is north facing and consistently so very steep, it kept us in the shade until nearly the top of our route. But by then the air is much cooler than down below.

The speedsters were Brandon Callahan, Michael Marine, Jimmy Sharma, Katie Felt, Thomas Fu and Erik Nielson, who got in 5500 feet of vertical gain and loss. The casual group had Ray Daurelle, Keith Markley, Brennan Apilungo and Lise Crawford, who got in 4200 feet of gain and loss.

We didn't get in nearly as much unexpected adventure and intrigue as the story indicates in Deb Frank's recently released book, but it was a great day in a beautiful, shaded place with lots of good company. I'd repeat it at the drop of a hat.

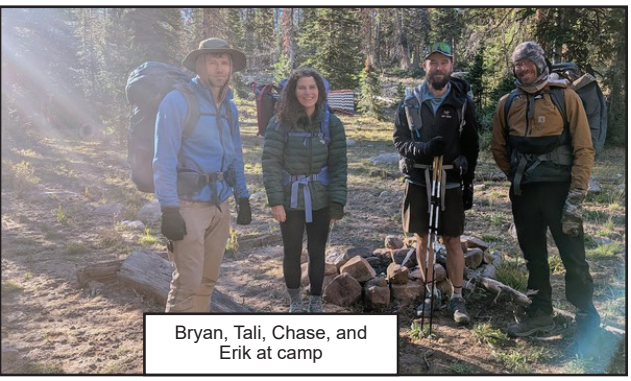


A "Do the Book; Live the Legacy" Note by Deb Frank

There was drama a-plenty back in April 1994 when the WMC held a winter safety session at Stairs Gulch and scrambled to safety just in time to witness a thundering avalanche of snow boulders pass so close they could touch it. (That's probably the most ironic story in the book!) There's much more to the story. A team of rescue dogs became involved in backpack rescue, one member of the group was missing during the avalanche, and you'll certainly want to learn the fate of the egg salad sandwich! Check out the Avalanche chapter in Faint Heart Never Climbed a Mountain for all the juicy details.

Backpacking to Cuberant Lakes - Sep. 5, 2026

Organized and report by Reid Gardner



Bryan, Tali, Chase, and Erik at camp

I had originally organized a Labor Day weekend backpack into Garfield Basin to climb several peaks, but the forecast became questionable as the weekend approached. With a three-hour drive and an 11-mile backpack into a remote basin, I decided to change plans. Saturday still looked good and Sunday morning looked workable, so everyone agreed to a more relaxed one-night trip to the Cuberant Lakes. I wanted to revisit this area, as it was where my dad took me on my first backpacking trip about 16 years ago. We hiked roughly three miles in Saturday morning and set up camp near Cuberant Lake #4. Afterward, we walked back to #3 to fish and hopefully meet my friends Joe and Cindy, who were hiking in later. Erik and I fished while Chase, Bryan, and Tali hung out with us, which made it surprisingly social. Whenever one of us caught something, everyone came over to see it and take pictures. Cuberant #3 was slow, producing only one cutthroat for me, so we eventually returned to #4, where Erik and I both caught a bunch of fish. We spent the afternoon fishing, talking, and hanging around the lake. After a summer full of more demanding backpacking trips, it was nice to have no objective, and I even managed to pack in a couple of cans of Guinness!



Bryan hanging out with Erik while he fishes



Bryan giving fishing a try

Joe and Cindy never found us, and my inReach refused to send messages. As it turned out, they were happily camped at another lake only about half a mile away. (Sorry, Joe and Cindy!) That evening after dinner, Bryan facilitated a fun game of Jeopardy, and everyone turned in fairly early.

Thunderstorms were forecast around noon Sunday, so we packed up and hiked out that morning. Bryan and Tali headed home separately, but while driving down the Mirror Lake Highway with Chase and Erik, I started complaining that we were going home before noon without a cloud in the sky. They agreed. Erik suggested fishing Star Lake. Despite growing up visiting many of the lakes along Mirror Lake Highway, I had somehow never been there. Trial Lake was packed, but after bushwhacking roughly half a mile to Star Lake, we found only a handful of people. Erik headed to a spot on the far side while Chase and I stayed near the dam, where I had plenty of room to fly cast. There was very little fish activity, and after a while I had mostly stopped trying. While talking with Chase, I left my fly sitting nearly motionless in the water and suddenly felt a tug. Somehow, my least attentive fishing of the weekend produced the best fish: a large tiger trout by Uinta lake standards.We spent a couple hours relaxing at the lake before bushwhacking back out and heading home.



Erik with a nice brook trout



Reid with a nice tiger trout

It was not the peakbagging trip I had originally planned, and in hindsight the weather ended up being good. Still, given the forecast we had when the decision needed to be made, changing plans was reasonable, and the alternative turned into a great weekend. I got to revisit the site of my first backpacking trip, fish, visit a new lake, spend time with good company, and apparently learn that I am capable of a little backpacking whimsy after all.Thanks to Bryan, Tali, Chase, and Erik for rolling with the change of plans and making it such a fun trip.

Backpacking Yellowstone (Bechler area) - Sep. 5-15, 2026

Organized and report by Michael Berry

Six of us decided to take on the challenge. We drove east of Ashton, Idaho for about 30 miles for a night spent at the fairly empty Cave Falls Campground (bears?!) in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest (reservations not required). We picked up our backcountry permit at the Bechler Ranger Station, which would also act as our exit trailhead on this point-to-point backpack trip. We left 2 vehicles at the Ranger Station, piled into a Ford F-150, and double-backed on the entry (gravel) road to the potato farms and open fields. At that point, we took a short cut on a dirt road heading north past a swimming hole on the Bear Creek bridge, and onto the very neglected asphalt of the old Fish Creek Road. The road generally parallels the west boundary of Yellowstone.

After another 15 miles we arrived at a remote turn-off, parked our shuttle vehicle and did some last minute packing. Lightweight backpacking gear, bear spray in holsters, and trekking poles completed our outfits. We were finally ready to start the trek. We negotiated a route on an abandoned Idaho logging road to reach the remote Buffalo Lake Trailhead on the Park boundary. We then made it to Buffalo Lake camp in about 5 miles. After a very windy afternoon and evening, we started a long, chilly day, hiking about 13 miles south through lodgepole forests, meadows, thermal areas, stream crossings, and side trips to Silver Scarf and Dunanda Falls. Dunanda Falls has some legal 'hotpots' for soaking right at the base of the Falls. After a 90 minute break there, we were back on the trail heading to camp 9B1 at the south end of the Bechler Meadows. Hiking the expansive meadows is a sublime experience with the Teton Range in the distance!



The next day, a ford of the Bechler River got us to campsite 9U3 and a "zero day" (a day without wearing fully-loaded backpacks). The day was used to day hike and explore the upper Mountain Ash Creek area and the spectacular Union Falls and an un-named falls. The Ranger at the Bechler station had been very vague on what the second waterfall was about. When I asked, he basically said "Nah, nothing to see there. It is not worth the effort to keep exploring around there due to little used trails. A Search & Rescue in that remote country would be difficult." So, what was he really getting at?! We were explicitly seeking out "little used trails!" He could clearly see that from our backcountry permit itinerary! As it turned out, we got lucky and met a couple on the trail who gave us the directions to the mysterious "Surprise" Falls. It was a beautiful waterfall with the water pouring into a deep, warm pool! The trail was a dead end at that point, so there was nothing for us to do--except to jump off the smooth rocks into the frothing waters for an exhilarating soak.The following day, it was time to say goodbye to the meadows, forests, hot spring pools, waterfalls, and the backcountry of the Bechler. So, did we see bears? No. But they were there.







Running the Wasatch 100 - Sep. 11, 2026

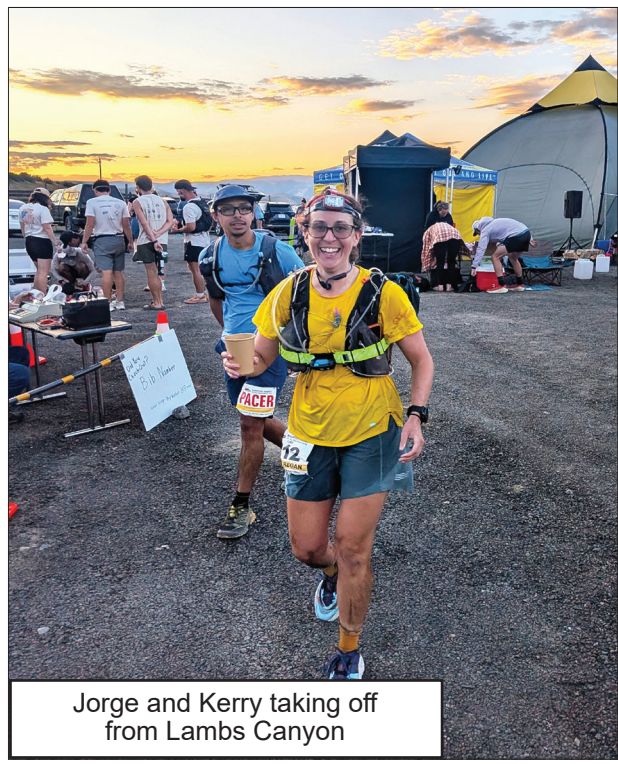
Report by Frank Bouchard

The Wasatch 100 stands as one of the most brutal ultramarathons in the world. Although it wasn't officially on the WMC calendar, the club was certainly present. The run is held in Utah the first Friday and Saturday after Labor Day each year. The run stretches from the East Mountain Wilderness Park near Kaysville to Soldier Hollow and covers some of the most beautiful scenery the Wasatch Mountains have to offer. There is a cumulative gain of approximately 24,000 feet, as well as a cumulative loss of approximately 23,300 feet throughout the course. This is a premier run that will test the endurance of any runner.



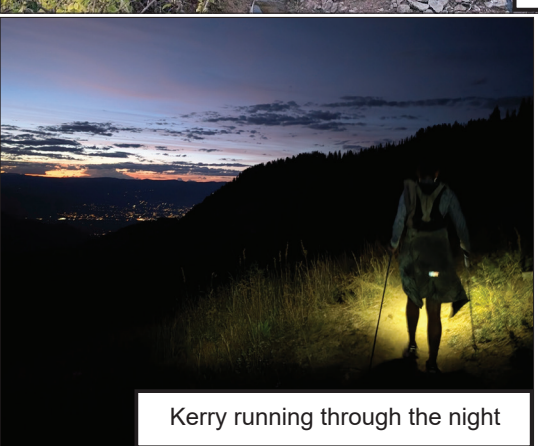
Joe

Huge congratulations to WMC Running Coordinator Kerry Regan and member Joe Clark for conquering the epic route from Kaysville to Soldier Summit! A dedicated team of WMC pacers assisted them in this monumental feat. Kiki M, Jorge T, Matt M, Caroline P, Frank B, Chris P, Mack T, and Reid G alongside others who stepped up as crew and race volunteers.



Jorge and Kerry taking off from Lambs Canyon

This accomplishment is a testament to the thriving, supportive running community we've built together. Beyond the race-day crew, the dozens of WMC calendar runs over the past year served as vital training opportunities that made Kerry and Joe's success possible. Bravo to Kerry, Joe, and everyone who helped them cross the finish line!



Kerry running through the night



MJ, Chris, Joe, and Tsokyi at the Alexander Aid Station



Kerry and Caroline descending Deer Creek



Frank and Kerry in the last 8 miles

Kerry crossing the finish line



Hike Desolation Trail to SLC Overlook - Sep. 13, 2026

Organized and report by Frank Bouchard

Five WMC members met at the Desolation Trailhead on a clear morning for a steady climb up the switchbacks to the Salt Lake Overlook. The trail was in great condition. The trees were just starting to show early hints of fall color. We took a breather at the overlook and then headed back down.





Hike to Desolation Lake - Sep. 27, 2026

Organized and report by Eve Kovacs



On this hike, we were expecting to see fall colors in full swing, and indeed, they were nothing short of spectacular. A group of 7 (Kristy, Stephen, Max, Paul, Brannon, Cameron and Eve) started at the Mill D North trailhead, where the maples were already showing their bright red colors and the aspens were starting to turn. The higher and further along the trail we went, the more the aspens turned a bright yellow. As the trail wound its way up through the trees, we were rewarded with views of hillsides covered with dark green evergreens interspersed with pockets of yellow aspen groves and the occasional red maple. After a brief refueling stop at the lake, we ascended the trail to the Wasatch Crest to look down on the Park City side.





Three of us made the short ascent to the summit of Desolation Peak while the others continued to take in the views from the Wasatch Crest. The hike back down to the trailhead was equally spectacular. Could the trees possibly have developed more color in the few hours we were on the trail? This hike is very pleasant and a highly recommended option for seeing fall colors.



Backpack Yellowstone via Electric Peak - Sep. 14-19, 2026

Organized and report by Michael & Dianne Budig
"Do the Book; Live the Legacy" Reflection by Deb Frank



Backpackers: Michael Budig, John Gould, Dianne Budig, Laurel Harris, Barbara Boehme, Larry Hall, Zig Sondelsky, Mark Bloomenthal

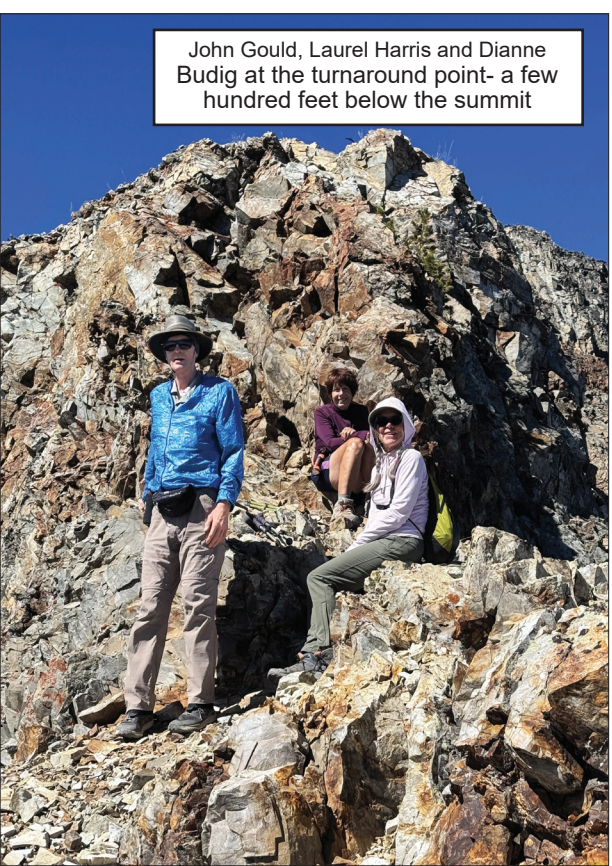
September in Yellowstone is a wonderful time to enjoy the colors and fall weather. On this trip, we backpacked about 25 miles over six days and did a 10-mile dayhike to near the summit of Electric Peak. The scenery and the company were both great. This was another "Do the Book" activity, a repeat of a trip done in 1994--but in the opposite direction.

On day one we began at the Snow Pass Trailhead, just southwest of Mammoth and headed west towards Electric Peak, A relatively short hike.

On the second day, we hiked up towards Electric Peak (about a 10-mile roundtrip with 2700 feet of elevation gain), starting a bit later than planned due to frost and a low of 26F. We moved quickly up the ridge and enjoyed great views in all directions and ideal weather. But, with a 2:00 turnaround time, we stopped a few hundred feet short of the actual peak at the "Geezer turnaround point," deciding not to deal with the very exposed class 3+ scramble required to summit. The hike down



Electric Peak



John Gould, Laurel Harris and Dianne Budig at the turnaround point- a few hundred feet below the summit



Hiking down from Electric Peak



Hiking over Electric Pass



Laurel Harris, Dianne Budig, Larry Hall, Mark Bloomenthal



Fan Creek Crossing



Dianne Budig trying to stay warm



Hiking out along Fan Creek

was long and steep with sweeping views. The last of us reached camp by around 6:00.

The third day required about 7 miles of backpacking, including crossing over Electric Pass on trails that were less than ideal. But we all reached camp looking forward to a rest day at Sportman Lake, which turned out to be wet and rainy. A lot of horses were camped in the nearby meadow with an outfitter camp which had some nice people we interacted with.

On the fifth day, we hiked to our last camp, near Fan Creek, where we camped one last night before heading out.

The final day required a nearly 4-hour shuttle before we were once again on the road home. We all enjoyed dinner in Ashton, Idaho at a pizza restaurant that we had also patronized on the drive up. A great way to end our trip!

A "Do the Book; Live the Legacy" Note by Deb Frank

Back in 1994, when Michael's group backpacked Yellowstone National Park's Fan Creek Trail, the impact of the 1988 fires was very much in evidence, and the Geezer Turnaround was not yet in play. It was 32 years ago after all, and Michael and two of his companions handily summited Electric Peak. I haven't been there, but if I had, it would be the Wimp Turnaround for me. If you decide to tackle it, here's a paragraph from Faint Heart to whet your appetite:

I was curious about the exposure on Electric Peak and checked reviews on AllTrails. A pair of thirty-year-old ultrarunners warned that it was too much for them—steep slopes on loose rocks meant shaky or nonexistent hand- and footholds. Other reviews noted the disappearing trail, false summits, vicious wind, heat, and bears. Sounds like a WMC hike!

Climbing City of Rocks - Sep. 18-20, 2026

Organized and report by Steph Stamm

We arrived in City of Rocks just as the clouds began closing in, racing to get tents pitched before the skies opened up. We hammered in the final stakes as rain began to pelt us, then retreated to our cars for a front-row seat to the lightning show streaking across the sky. A dramatic welcome to the weekend, to say the least.



Janna finishing what Ethan started on the iconic Tribal Boundaries (5.10b)

Friday dawned gray and threatening, but a little questionable weather has never stopped a determined crew of climbers. A group headed to Window Rock, home to some excellent routes for newer trad leaders. After warming up on a few mellow classics, the gusting wind and increasingly ominous skies sent us retreating to camp. But the storm blew through, leaving the wind behind as a parting gift, so we relocated to lower ground at Flaming Rock. There, the WMC Whipper Snappers made a strong showing on Tribal Boundaries (10b), an iconic sport route, while others explored the routes at Radicella Rock. Everyone reconvened in time for our date with Rock City, the best - and only - pizza for miles.



Casey, David and Laura seeking dry refuge during Saturday's rainy weather

Friday's threatening skies had mostly been for show. **Saturday**, on the other hand, delivered. A group of us trekked into Sinocranium, a six-pitch, 5.8 sport route, and waited for the rain to ease enough to give climbing a go. Thankfully, damp granite still offers a surprising amount of stick, so we started up with the skies looking decidedly uncertain. By the time we reached the top, the sun was shining on our faces, even as puffy gray clouds continued building behind us. We scampered down the descent and emerged to find an absolutely gorgeous, clear day. Elsewhere, fellow climbers climbed similarly damp routes like Strawberry Fields (5.9 sport). That evening, the weather finally gave us a break. Under calm skies, we gathered for the potluck, sharing excellent food, plenty of laughs, and a herpetology quiz that we managed to ace. Because what's a climbing weekend without a little reptile trivia?



The WMC Whipper Snappers (Ethan, Janna, Chris and Sid) feeling victorious



Steph and Ambrose enjoying a rare dry summit on Steinfell's Dome after sending Sinocranium (5.8, 6 pitches)

Sunday delivered the fall climbing weather we'd been hoping for all weekend. Some climbers headed to Stripe Rock to check out a newer multipitch route, while others squeezed in a few final pitches at Parking Lot Rock, the perfect low-commitment, roadside crag for one last taste of the City before heading home. In the end, the forecast may have looked questionable, but the climbing was excellent, the pizza was plentiful, and the company was even better. The bravest (or perhaps most weather-optimistic) among us showed up, adapted, and got after it--logging some excellent sends along the way. Mother Nature kept us guessing, but she couldn't keep the WMC crew off the rock for long.



Gail and Paul victorious after slogging through rain and wet rock to arrive at the top of Steinfell's Dome



Matt and Jorge basking in the brief spray of sunshine at the top of Sinocranium (5.8, 6 pitches)

Climbing the La Sal Mountains - Sep. 19-20, 2026

Organized and report by Akiko Kamimura

Saturday - Reid, Robert and Akiko camped out near Gold Basin in the La Sal mountains located to the east of Moab. Although thunderstorms had passed, it was still very windy and cold. Robert made a camp fire. All the fall colors had just started and were beautiful. Stars were bright on the sky during the night.

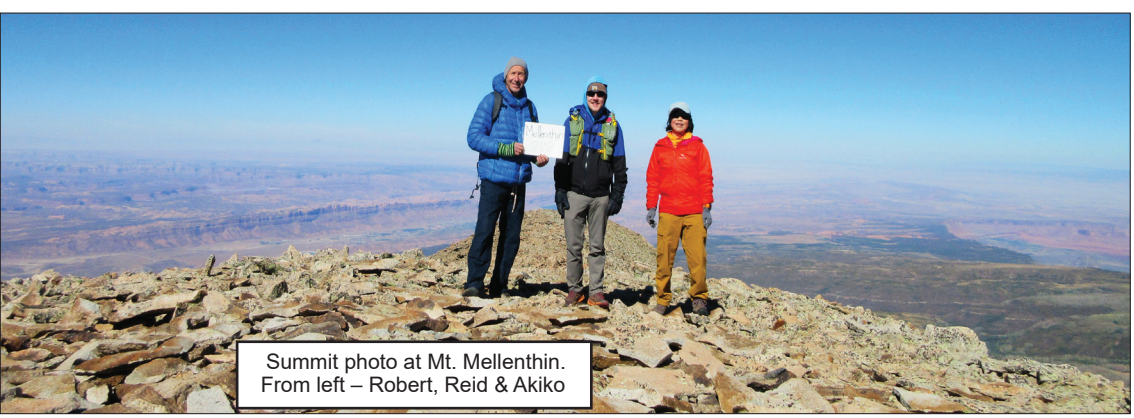


Robert making the campfire

On **Sunday** we hiked to Mt. Laurel (12,279 ft) and Mt. Mellenthin (12,652 ft) as well as Peak 11720. We followed the winter route that is a maintained trail at the beginning and left the trail once we got to the ridgeline. We passed Peak 11720 with a weather station on the way to Mt. Laurel. After we stood at the top of Mt. Laurel, we continued to Mt. Mellenthin. At the summit of Mt. Mellenthin, we had a great conversation with two local hikers who came from the other side of the mountain. We learned a lot about the La Sal mountains from them. Reid bagged one more peak called Talking Laurel Peak (12,209 ft). We saw a very small number of other hikers/campers there and had nice weather. Akiko went back home after the hike while Reid and Robert stayed one more night for more adventures.



Robert on the way to Peak 11720. Tuk and Little Tuk on the back



Summit photo at Mt. Mellenthin.
From left – Robert, Reid & Akiko



4 small bucks and 3 does



Reid descending from Mt. Mellenthin

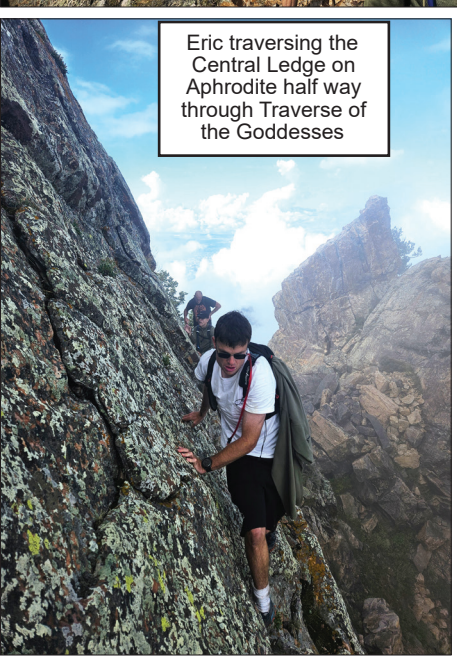
Climbing Wildcat Ridge - Sep. 19, 2026

Organized and report by Ray Daurelle
"Do the Book; Live the Legacy" Reflection by Deb Frank

The club's longest, toughest one-day hike in the Wasatch mountains is Wildcat Ridge. It's the ridge running eastward from the top of Mount Olympus all the way to Mount Raymond, about half-way up Big Cottonwood Canyon. It has long stretches where you could fall off the ridge on either side. It's a 12 mile hike with about 7,000 to 8,000 feet of cumulative elevation gain. It's got more serious scrambling than the Beat Out hike. The original eight people on the list dwindled to four due to weather concerns. Our group of four was Ray Daurelle, Brandon Callahan, Eric Hossfield and Michael Marine. We chose to do Wildcat in reverse (west to east) compared to the original event so we could throw in some extras. First was to add in the West Slabs of Olympus, and then north peak to the main south peak is the Traverse of the Goddesses, with a total of 6 peaks (or peaklets). But rain hit the day before, continuing into the wee hours just before the hike. So the West Slabs seemed like they could be (even more) dangerous if the occasional moss and/or lichen was still wet. So we dropped the West Slabs from our plan and hiked up a steep gully through the middle of the north face in thick, low clouds. By the time we got to the north summit, the low clouds had opened up into a fabulous cloud show. The rock was dry, so the tricky "Traverse of the Goddesses" was just fun, and even more beautiful than usual, nestled in among low bits of clouds. Getting up the final face to the main south summit, the occasional gullies had dirt that was now mildly muddy, so we stayed on the rock, which was dry, and made a very nice class III or IV pleasant scramble.

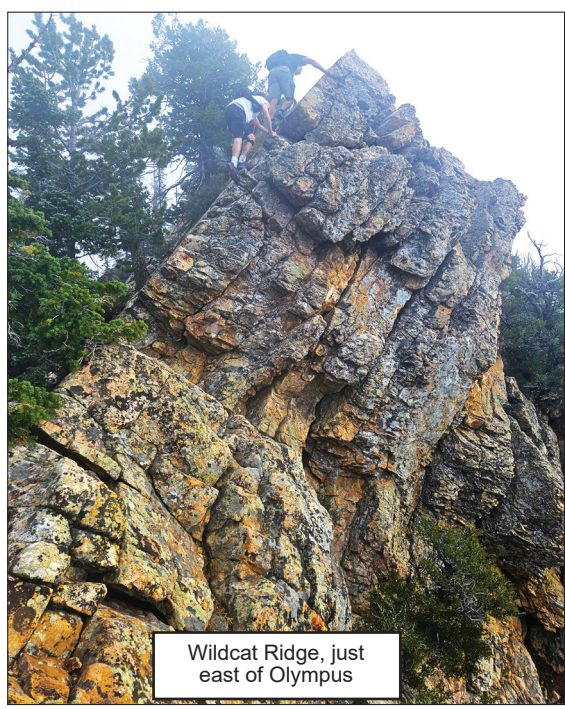


Ridgeline along the top of the north face of Olympus



Eric traversing the Central Ledge on Aphrodite half way through Traverse of the Goddesses

All along the way, the clouds danced around and between us, occasionally closing in to shorten visibility. So the temperature was cool, yet the rock was still dry. Best conditions you could ask for. When we reached Hobbs/Triangle Peak and sat a while for lunch, the clouds darkened around us, cutting off all visibility and we heard a rumble that we couldn't quite attribute to anything man-made. So we bailed out down the first chute along the east side of Hobbs (AKA Triangle) Peak into Neff's Canyon. On the long descent through Neff's Canyon we felt a few raindrops at one point, but never got visibly wet. Still among the best conditions you could ask for.



Wildcat Ridge, just east of Olympus

A "Do the Book; Live the Legacy" Note by Deb Frank

In the Hazardous Hikes chapter of *Faint Heart Never Climbed a Mountain*, I open the rattlesnake story with this paragraph: "It was Larry Swanson's idea to do the Wildcat Ridge backwards, because why not make the hardest WMC hike harder? And, since Harold Goodro dreamed up the hike many years back, what could be more fun than beating the legendary mountaineer at his own game?"

So, I love that Ray chose to do Wildcat Ridge backwards in honor of that harrowing and nearly-fatal hike. But I'm even more glad that everyone stayed safe--no rattlesnake bites were incurred! The Wildcat Ridge hike appears twice more in Faint Heart; both times organized by Ray. It's always a challenging hike (so I'm told), but snow and ice rather than poisonous snakes can (and did) add to the difficulty.

Rope Training - Sep. 19, 2026

Organized and report by Frank Bouchard





To help members sharpen their vertical skills, I hosted a backyard rope practice session focused on specialized caving gear and techniques for dropping into vertical caves like Neffs. The rope event was immediately followed by an epic neighborhood block party, which included grilling, live music, and dancing.



Hike Lewis Peak - Sep. 19, 2026

Organized and report by Katie Morrow

After almost 2 years of at staring at Lewis Peak from my couch, I've decided it's time to finally hike it! The stars aligned on this hike to have heavenly weather, the first colors of Fall, and 9 well-paced hikers with positive attitudes. It's a treat to have some people come up to Ogden for trips. This was maximum type 1 fun!



There is a fork close to the peak where you turn left instead of right with no signage - some of our group had made this mistake multiple times.

We were passed by several dirt bikes but only saw a few other hikers.







Hike Alta Point Supreme - Sep.13, 2026

Organized and report by Eve Kovacks

Although the day was cloudy, the rain held off and our group of 9 (Kristy, Stephen, Paul, Max, Dea, Yijia, Keith, Eve and Geoff) was rewarded with great views on this scenic loop hike along the eastern boundary of Alta. We started from Albion Basin, hiked up to the campground and followed the road to the top of Supreme lift. From there, we made a short detour to bag Patrol Peak and check out the East Castle views. Then it was back down for the short hop up to Point Supreme and more expansive views of the area including Dry Fork and Sunset Peak. We then followed the ridgeline to Catherine Pass where we could look down into Brighton ski area. We returned to Albion Basin via the Catherine Pass trail. This was a great day in the mountains with a lot of varied terrain for relatively moderate effort. We highly recommend this hike.





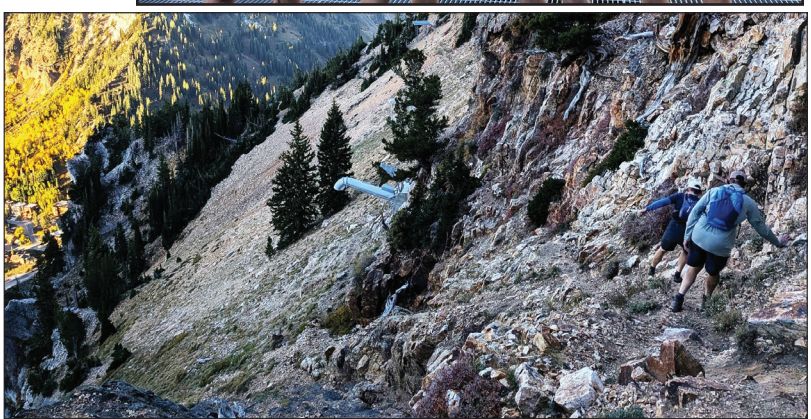
Running Mt. Superior - Oct.1, 2026

Organized and report by Haydon Christiansen

Participants: Chase T., Haydon C., Christoph H., Sergei K., Reid G. The five of us met after work on Oct. 1st to get a quick Mt. Superior lap in! The route isn't particularly runnable, but we made quick work of the climb, and there was some enjoyable scrambling as well. This was a great outing to kick off Vert-Tober!









Hike Dry Canyon - Sep. 24, 2026

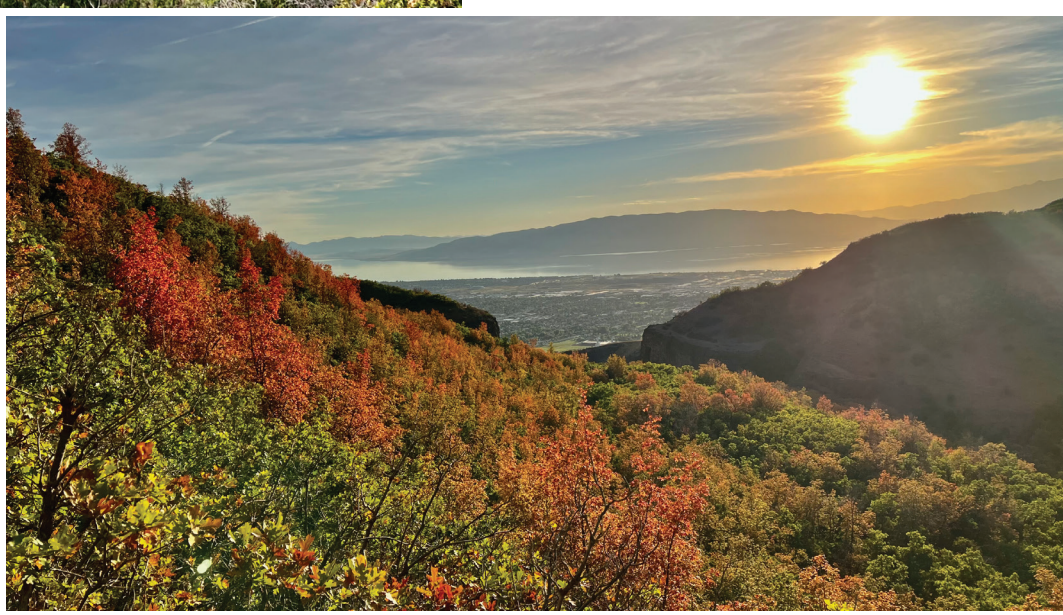
Organized and report by Clair Ashcroft

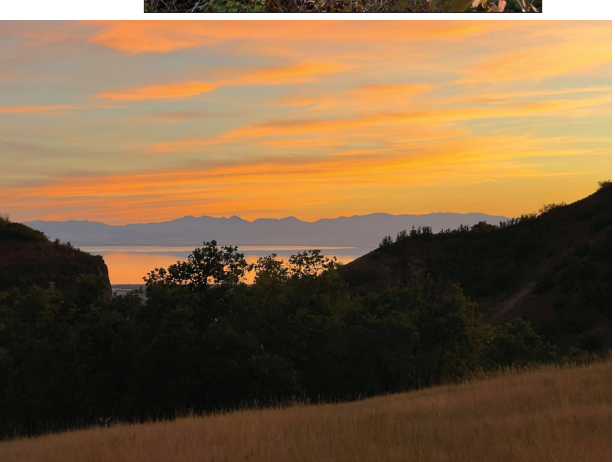
As someone living in Utah Valley, it's hard for me to make it to the many WMC evening hikes in Salt Lake Valley. I've never organized an event before but I decided to see if I could lure anyone down south for a sunset hike up Dry Canyon. We ended up with a nice group of four and had a great time appreciating vistas of Timpanogos with its intense fall colors. Can you believe we get to live in a place like this? We managed to make the most of the Golden Hour and sunset light while getting back to the trailhead with just enough twilight left to see by. Thanks to Allison for the great photos and thanks to everyone who came!













Hike the Sheeprock Mtns - Sep. 27, 2026

Organized and report by Akiko Kamimura

The Sheeprock Mountains are located to the west of Eureka and have unique geological features. We hiked to three rarely visited peaks – Cherry Creek Peak (7649 ft), Buck Hollow Baldy (7762 ft) and Scotia Peak (7260 ft). This hike was originally scheduled in June but was rescheduled to September due to the Maple and Cherry Creek wildfires. We expected that this hike would be entirely on backcountry. We were surprised to find well-maintained trails that were not on the map at some sections. We saw burned trees as well as plants growing on the burned land. This area usually has lots of livestock, but we did not see any, probably because of lack of food. We enjoyed this 10-mile loop hike that offered very different mountain scenery compared to the Wasatch or the Uintas.



Summit photo at Cherry Creek Peak. From left – Akiko, Erik and John

Mix of burned trees, unburned trees and newly growing plants after the wildfires



Summit photo at Scotia Peak. From left – Erik, John and Akiko



Hike the Grandview Trail - Oct. 10, 2026

Organized and report by Akiko Kamimura

Mary, Alessandro, Ed and Akiko started from the North Canyon TH in Bountiful to bag Grandview Peak (9409 ft). There were lots of half-marathon runners on the trail until we got to Rudy's Flat. We saw multiple lightning strikes on the way to Rudy's Flat. The weather gradually improved but remained very windy. The hike to the peak is 6 miles one way. We were about one mile away from the summit when we decided to turn around due to concerns about the weather. The weather was fine while descending, but it was a good call, Right after we were back to the TH, the thunderstorms started. Although we did not make the summit, it was a great hike.



Alessandro, Mary and Ed on the ridgeline



Blue sky again on the way back to the TH

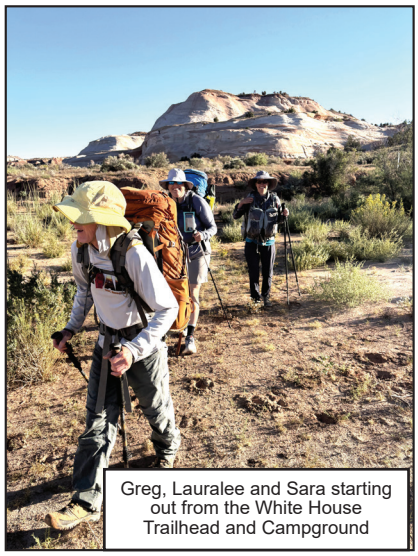
Group photo at the place where we turned around. From left – Alessandro, Mary, Ed and Akiko



Hike the Paria River - Sep. 30, 2026

Organized and report by Katherine Thom

Participants: Lauralee Broschinsky, Greg Clark, Sara Feltz, Chris Koch, and Katherine Thom

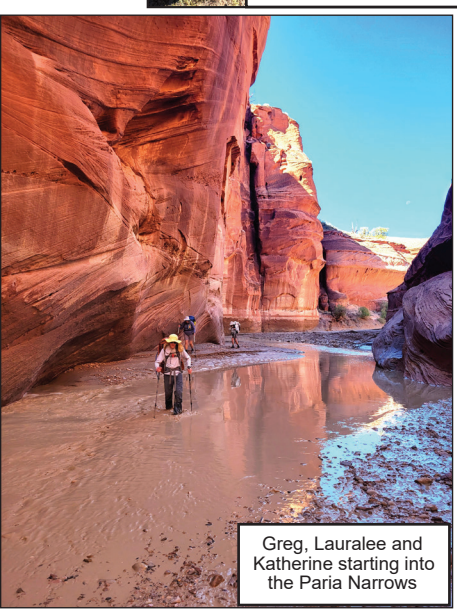


Greg, Lauralee and Sara starting out from the White House Trailhead and Campground

The monsoons held steady for weeks past their usual mid-September timeframe on the Colorado Plateau. The finale was a large flash flood that hit the Kanab side of the Paria just 31 hours before we were planning to start hiking. The flow went from 3.5 CFS just before the flood to 3300 CFS at the peak from that location. As we drove from Kanab to Lees Ferry, we could see the cleanup efforts underway where Kanab Creek and the Paria overtook the roadway, leaving piles of silt behind. We were having regular conversations at this point with Yermo, a local guide and our shuttle driver, about how best to approach what would be a very wet canyon. We ultimately decided to push back our start by 24 hours so we could take advantage of receding river conditions. We spent our bonus night at the White House trailhead campground, but not before Yermo supplied us with trash compactor bags, rubber bands, and rubber tips for our hiking poles. We had brought a large water jug so we wouldn't have to dip into our day 1 water since White House campground had no water. It leaked on the floor of Yermo's car thanks to being punctured way too easily.

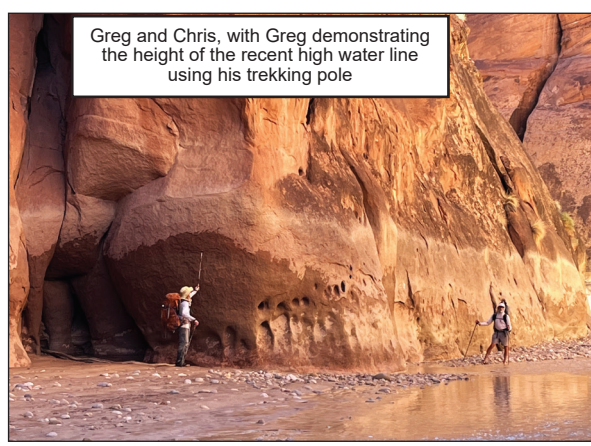


Sara, Chris, Greg, Katherine and Lauralee - not too wet and still smiling

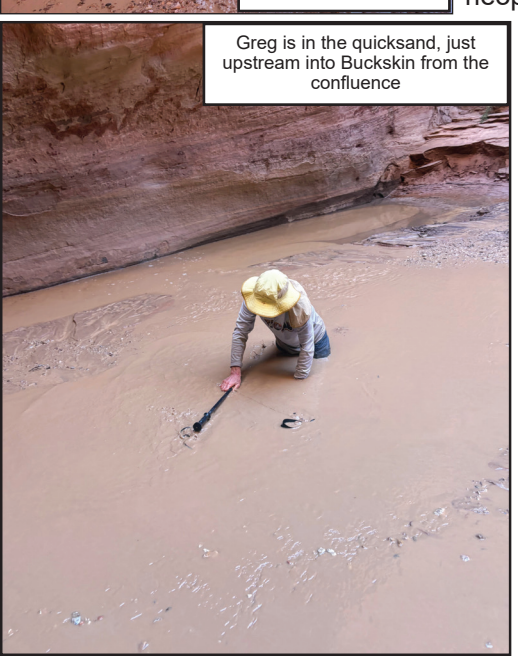


Greg, Lauralee and Katherine starting into the Paria Narrows

The hiking was easy at the start and as we reached the Paria narrows about 4 miles in, we were walking in water pretty consistently. There were sand bars that kept us from the chest-deep water, but progress was slow going as we tested depths and felt for quicksand with our poles. The views were epic in this part of the canyon with alcoves and fins plus Slide Rock which was caused by a large section of canyon wall sliding into the middle of the canyon. Air and water temperatures were comfortable (somewhat thanks to neoprene socks) and we enjoyed being out of direct sun for the rest of the day. The mud was plentiful and coated what would normally be dry patches of softball-sized river rocks. The shoes and feet would be coated regularly but would wash off again within minutes as we ventured back into the knee-deep water. A few of us ventured a very short distance into Buckskin Gulch which was much deeper and Greg found himself caught in waist deep quicksand. His phone got rescued first and he was able to get out with help from Sara and Chris. We camped for the night a short distance from there at Wall Spring. Chris left a bottle perched under the spring and had maybe a cup or two after a few hours. Thankfully we started the day with a large supply of 4.5 or more liters each. We stopped with enough time to relax at



Greg and Chris, with Greg demonstrating the height of the recent high water line using his trekking pole



Greg is in the quicksand, just upstream into Buckskin from the confluence



Chris, Greg, Katherine and Lauralee



Relaxing in night 1 camp. Left to right: Lauralee, Katherine, Greg, Sara and Chris

camp and we enjoyed the melodies coming from a canyon wren nearby.

We started early for Arizona time but late for Utah time the next morning and soon made our way to Big Spring where we met up again with the only other large party in the canyon. They were planning to spend one day more than us, so we didn't see them again after this. We took our time filling up our bags, bladders and bottles so we would be in good shape for the next stretch. What a stretch it was! Once we were out of the tight slot canyon, benches of land covered in dense tamarisk were the only way to shortcut bends in the river which were often laden with deep quicksand. We learned you could sometimes cross the jello-like spongy quicksand patches if you moved your feet quickly. If a previous walker set the sand in motion, however, it was hard to escape the collapsing sand. Lauralee was the second quicksand victim and her only escape was to roll onto her stomach and then onto her back into the water to break free. Katherine was also thigh deep in the stuff while trying to help but was able to lie back onto her pack to free her legs. We took some time to wash off the coated mud and just had to embrace how dirty we were. Thankfully the dry air meant that we weren't wet for very long. The river had also done quite a bit of erosion damage to these land benches, which we called "islands." Trails which might have existed before, were hidden in deep tamarisk at the banks and sometimes weren't worth the steep climb on crumbling sand to get up to the tops. Descending from these benches could also be challenging as they were often straight drops of 6+ feet. We could sit and scoot down or even use tamarisk branches to belay a sideways or backwards leg slide. The travel was slow and we had done another 8 hour day before we reached our day 2 camp on top of a bench. We had only gone a little past river mile 18 so we were feeling like we were going to have a lot of ground to make up in the coming days (the total distance is 38 miles divided over 4 days). We camped on a large bench below Judd Hollow viewpoint and had lots of room to spread out. Another beautiful night of clear skies and plentiful stars fell upon us.

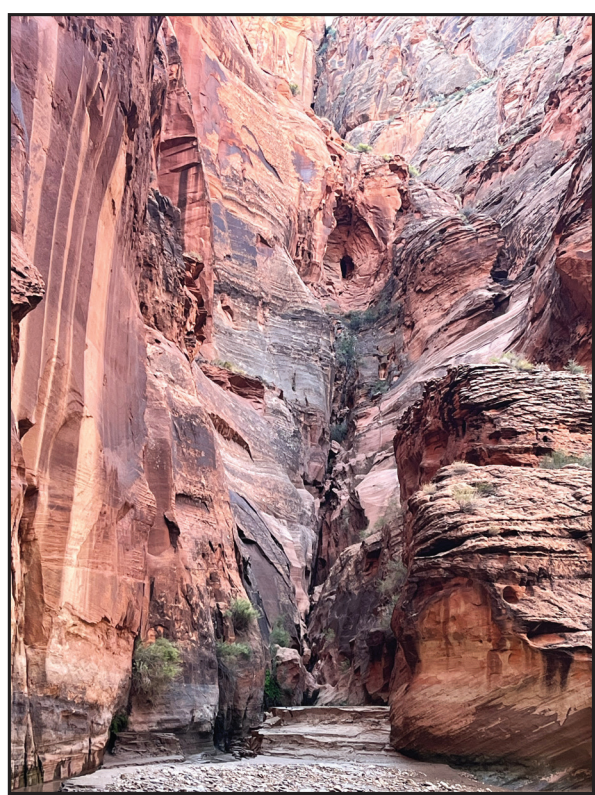


Our travel method on days 2 and 3. Lauralee, Sara and Chris busting through the tamarisk to slide down into the river. Sometimes, one would climb down the bank backwards

Alarms were set to get us moving before dawn as we now had ground to make up and daytime temps were getting warmer without as much shade from the canyon walls. In fact the canyons were getting so big that if we didn't all take the same route (through water, through brush, or up over the benches) we would get separated for a bit, not knowing which group was ahead. Our trusty pack whistles made this just a short term problem. We still had some water left from dry camping the night before, but were relieved to get to Shower Spring where there was enough fresh water to fill up and to rinse off. Wrather arch was a short detour on the way but only Greg was feeling much up to it. It was funny because he probably had also been there before when he hiked down Buckskin Gulch on a prior trip. Being the first ones to do the route after the



Sara in between some quite tall rocks not too far from the confluence

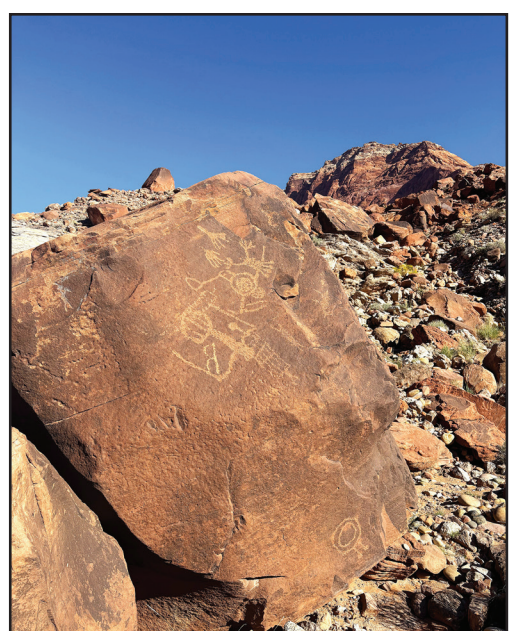


flood, all of the footprints below the high water mark were ours. This meant that Greg could see where we went to get to the hidden spring. Sara thoughtfully left her hat and pole for him to spot so he wouldn't miss the small passage buried in the brush. We were feeling good because the morning pace had been faster than what we had been able to accomplish on the last two days despite continuing deep pools and quicksand to avoid. Our packs were also a tad lighter knowing we still had the opportunity to get water at Last Reliable Spring before we chose our campsite. Once we got there, it was a challenge finding the spring because the marker we had on our maps showed the spring on the other side of the river. There WAS a spring on that side, but it was a small trickle and not THE Last Reliable. In developing our GPX file for the trip, Katherine used CalTopo's shared maps feature. This would allow us to build our own route and populate it with markers for items found by others. This included springs, campsites, petroglyphs, and significant route details. Last Reliable was shown on both sides of the river, but she mistakenly picked the trickle on the south side. Sara having done the route one time before was extremely helpful on many occasions, but especially this time since she discovered the real spring! It was another long day, so we got camp set up under the cottonwoods at Bush Head. Shortly after, a young man walked through camp asking if the remaining 11 miles could be done by headlamp. We knew the trail was straight, but that was all we knew about the conditions. He pressed on and we didn't see him after that. We found some tracks in the mud that looked more like cat than canine and because they were small, might have been left by a bobcat or ringtail. We had the running joke about bedtime on this trip. It was dark by 7 pm Utah time and each night as darkness fell, we would say, "is it 8 yet?" because that was the time that felt reasonable to retire to our tents. Before that would be "too early." On this night we knew a good night sleep would be important because the plan was to be walking as soon as there was enough light to not require headlamps.



Departing early afforded us beautiful morning views of the river

The last stretch is notoriously brutal as there are miles of completely shadeless sections. We had finally gotten out of monsoon season before starting this trip, but a high pressure period had settled in, which would push temperatures into the high 80s, well above what we had previously been enjoying. The first few miles out of camp were tough, steep, uphill and downhill sections with large boulders and loose footing. Doing this part before the sun had reached us made it very manageable despite our fourth day of tired legs. The petroglyph panels marked on our map came into view but we didn't linger at them. Eventually we got back down to the river where we found each crossing getting slower and slower as we let the cool water soothe our hot skin. Various bits of clothing ended up in the water too, to be enjoyed for evaporative cooling as we pressed on. We were following trail this whole last day but because we couldn't easily get down every river bank, we often lost the trail and had to find it again. Some of us would apologize to the cryptobiotic soil we had to walk on in order to get through. We had a short lunch under one of the last big trees and pressed on through the harsh desert ahead. Remnants of ranches and a few mountain bike tracks appeared as we approached the final stretch. The pavement was extremely hot, but thankfully it was the very end of a 6-hour day.



One of the of petroglyph panels on the final day

At our cars we quickly got out of the stinky clothes we had been wearing for four days and enjoyed drinks which stayed surprisingly cool despite the heat and direct sun. We said our goodbyes. Chris and Sara were returning through Page. Lauralee and Katherine, meanwhile, planned to have burgers in Kanab to enjoy the energy boost of a high calorie meal. In the end it was far tougher than we expected, but maybe we felt that much more accomplished because of it. We did a hands-in team cheer to the Paria and celebrated a successful trip.

Postscript: The club formerly did annual trips to the Zion Narrows from the mid 1950s through at least the 1970s. Here's an excerpt from a trip report published in the Rambler in 1957. "A*dding to the despair of aspiring photographers were fleeting vistas of more remote rock masses rising sheer in pastel splendor to the forested plateau several thousand feet above. The nostalgia felt with leaving these enthralling preludes to the famed canyon was tempered in part by the finite and commonplace - dry shoes, reclining seats, and pangs of hunger which could not be endured beyond Panguitch*." We understand!

Fall Colors Hike to Butler Fork - Oct. 4, 2026

Organized and report by Eve Kovacs



Spectacular colors were visible all along our loop hike starting and ending at Butler Fork Trailhead and following the ridge from Soldier Peak to Gobbler's Knob. A moose sighting in Butler Fork was an added bonus! Five of us (Josh R., Marsha S., Justin S., Ri Anna B. and Eve K.) gathered at Butler Fork Trailhead on Sunday





morning, where, judging by the lack of parking, it seemed most of Salt Lake City had chosen to hike that day. Fortunately, we headed up the much less crowded east fork and were delighted to see two moose munching on foliage not far from the trail. The colors were already good in the basin and kept improving all the way up to the ridgeline where we turned west briefly to follow the Desolation Trail. After a very short bushwack we gained the grassy slopes on Soldier Peak and soon topped out to see amazing views



in all directions. After a brief refuel we headed down, then up the quite steep goat trail to gain our next objective of Wilson Peak. More refueling and more views prepared us for the next leg down the east ridge of Wilson Peak and up





another short steep climb to gain the summit of Gobbler's Knob. Here we enjoyed another snack and headed down through some amazing aspen groves to Baker Pass and back to the Desolation Trail. The colors in Mill A blended fiery reds and yellows with dark green pines. The snapped off aspen trunks in the slide paths off the south side of Gobbler's were also quite impressive. We finished off the day by tagging Circle Awl peak and returning to our cars via the more popular west Butler Fork trail.

This was a spectacular hike and a great way to enjoy the Fall colors. Everyone agreed that it would be worth making this one an annual event!











Activity Calendar

Organizers can opt for a group size they are comfortable with, except for the group size limit of 10 in wilderness areas.

Nov 1 Sun	Day Hike - Peak 9365, Keysville – msd- – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We attempted this peak via Bair Canyon as a snowshoe activity in winter. But we did not make it because lots of snow slowed down our pace. We will try to make this peak without snow this time. On maintained trail all the way except the last short section to the summit. Approximately 10+ miles RT with 4700+ ft gain. Please bring 10 essentials. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, Oct 30, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.
Nov 1 Sun	Dia De Los Muertos 5k Run – 3.1 mi *Meet:* 10:00 am at Tracy Aviary's Nature Center at Pia Okwai: https://maps.app.goo.gl/HTNheWvtbEBrUqB38 *Organizer:* Kiki Mackaman-Lofland 206-819-1709 cmackamanlofland@gmail.com Come out and support our friends at the Wasatch Trail Collective for their Dia de los muertos 5k! This is a super fun event (last year a high school mariachi group sent us off) supporting a fantastic local organization. Let me know if you are planning to go so we can meet. Note that this is NOT a timed race but a community 5k. Sign up is $20 (plus tax and processing fees) here: https://runsignup.com/Race/UT/SouthSaltLake/DiaDeLosMuertos5kRunAndWalk More information about the event, taken from their website: The Wasatch Trails Collective (WTC) invites you to our third annual Da de los Muertos 5K Run & Walk on November 1st at the Tracy Aviary's Nature Center at Pia Okwai. The 5K starts at 10 A.M. with post-race festivities happening until 2 P.M. This vibrant event celebrates culture and community while raising funds for the Salt Lake Community Bail Fund (SLCBF). SLCBF posts bail for individuals in need in Salt Lake County. They work against the unjust money bail system that criminalizes poverty and disproportionately harms communities of color. Since December 2025, SLCBF has expanded their support to include posting immigration bonds for detained individuals and providing support for court and immigration hearings & appointments. We believe that SLCBF's mission and work are crucial for supporting our immigrant community and are honored to partner with them this year! 100% of all race proceeds will go directly to SLCBF, as well as any additional donations made on this platform. This family-friendly event is open to all whether you sign up as a participant, come cheer on your loved ones, or join for the post-race festivities. The route is accessible for all abilities, including those who use wheels (e.g., strollers, wheelchairs, walkers). If you have any specific accessibility needs or questions, please feel free to reach out. We look forward to seeing you there!
Nov 2 Mon	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 2 Mon	9AM Sandy Momentum Indoor Rock Climb – ntd – 36' ascent *Meet:* 9:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Sandy (220 W 10600 S, Sandy, UT) *Organizer:* John Butler 801-654-8424 johnbwmc@gmail.com We will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing in Sandy starting at 9am. If you are not a member, WMC members get a discount on day passes. Top rope, bouldering, lead climbing and/or socializing.
Nov 2 Mon	Drytool Scratchpad Session – ntd *Meet:* 5:30 pm at The Scratch Pad (450 S 400 E, Bountiful, UT) *Carpool:* 5:00 pm at Wasatch Adaptive Sports in Murray *Organizer:* Wesley Warne 740-680-2070 wesley.warne@gmail.com It's about that time! Getting these on the calendar for those who are trying to get back into shape for ice season or are ice-curious. The scratchpad is a great place to try out drytooling for those who want to get on the ice this winter! Come out to hang, literally and figure 4-atively (real ones will get that joke), with fellow WMCer's and work on technique and strength. It's a great spot to meet fellow dry/mixed/ice climbers if you want the pulse on what's in and potential partners. Day passes can be purchased ahead of time or at the pad; rental gear is available, and a waiver must be signed: https://www.climbthescratchpad.com/ Also happy to carpool from Murray/Sandy area. Holler if you have any questions! Wes Warne 740.680.2070
Nov 3 Tue	Rock Climb - Evening Momentum Climbing *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Paul Gettings 801-599-7311 p.gettings@gmail.com Indoor climbing in the gym to get strong for next spring. WMC members get a discount on a day pass. We will be climbing top rope and lead routes, so bring your gym lead rope if you have one.
Nov 4 Wed	Trail Running - Popperton Loop – 6.0 mi Loop – 1600' ascent – Fast pace *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Popperton Park (1400 Popperton Park Way, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Kerry Regan 954-895-8627 kerrylregan@gmail.com The weather is cooling off, so we are back to one of the crew's favorite foothills trailhead! This will be a no drop run, no runner is left behind. All levels of fitness are welcome. Bring a headlamp. It's a great run for anyone who is looking for running partners or is new to trail running. Let me know if you want to join this run or others in the future. Message me if you want to arrange carpool.
Nov 4 Wed	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 6 Fri	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.

Nov 6 Fri	Rock Climb Social - Crack Club Indoors Momentum Millcreek + Dinner *Meet:* 6:00 pm at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Tali Brenner 312-405-9930 tbrenn12@gmail.com Crack climbing at Momentum! This will be a great way to get some crack climbing in before the Indian Creek trip. WMC members without a membership to Momentum can get a reduced priced day pass. You may be asked to prove your membership in the club. All skill levels welcome. We will grab dinner afterwards.
Nov 7 Sat	Social: Organizers And Volunteers Appreciation Dinner *Meet:* 6:00 pm at Wasatch Presbitarien Church (1626 S 1700 E, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Giulia Roselli 801-604-6635 socialdirector@wasatchmountainclub.org Sat November 7, 2026 Annual Trip Organizers and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. This is an invitation only event, our way of saying thank you to all those who organized 2 activities or 1 multi-day activity, or volunteered in another capacity within the last 12 months. Most of the invitations will be going out via email, so if you think you qualify and you don't see that invite, check your spam, then follow up with your respective activity director. Social hour 6:00 pm, Dinner/Awards at 7:00 pm. Raffle prizes will be given away. You don't want to miss this event. Organizer:Giulia Roselli, co-organizer TBA Email:socialdirector@wasatchmountainclub.org Date:Sat Nov 7, 2026 @ 6 pm to 9 pm, Meeting Place:Location address will be on your invitation email
Nov 7 Sat	Organizer Appreciation After Party *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Frank Bouchard 352-246-5304 fabouchard@gmail.com The Organizer Appreciation Dinner is always a blast and I recommend everybody post two things on the calendar to get an invite. My only gripe is that it wraps up at 9 PM when I'm still wired and ready to keep going. To keep the energy alive, I'm hosting an after-party at my place starting right at 9! Feel free to bring drinks or snacks, but nothing is required. You must be invited to the organizer appreciation party to be invited to this (see other event for specific requirements). There will be karaoke!
Nov 7 Sat	Hike/Snowshoe/Ski - Alta Or Brighton – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We will see if we have enough snow for snowshoeing/skiing or hiking. I will update the description based on snow conditions when it gets closer to the date.
Nov 7 Sat	Road Bike To The Organizer Appreciation Dinner – ntd – 7.0 mi Out & Back – Slow pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Frank Bouchard 352-246-5304 fabouchard@gmail.com I'm organizing a bike ride from my house to the organizer appreciation dinner event and then back afterwards. This will be a convenient way to have your vehicle waiting for you at the after party (see other calendar event). The distance is 3.5 mile each way mostly on Parley's Trail. We will be biking at a social pace (slow). We will gather at my place at 5 and get on the trail at 5:15. You must be invited to the organizer dinner to attend (just organize 2 activities by the end of October!) Bring a bike, helmet, and a backpack to carry your raffle prize. Let me know if you plan to come!
Nov 7 Sat	Day Hike - Malans Peak (Ogden) – mod – 5.4 mi Out & Back – 2150' ascent – Slow pace *Meet:* 8:00 am at https://maps.app.goo.gl/82dDWTvEkakKjDTMA 41.210915, -111.931928 29th Street Trailhead *Organizer:* Jim Eichler 214-704-0697 jim.eichler49@gmail.com Located on the east side of Ogden, the summit of Malans Peak offers dramatic views out over the community, the Great Salt Lake and the surrounding mountains. Text me if you are planning to go. Bring 10 essentials and microspikes if it has snowed.
Nov 8 Sun	Day Hike - Black Mt. Via Emigration Canyon – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu It is possible to hike to Black Mt (8255 ft) from the Avenue side or the Emigration Canyon side. But we plan to go there from the Emigration Canyon side. I have hiked this route solo close to the summit but did not go to the summit. Approximately 9 miles RT with 2000 ft gain. There are steep sections. There is no trail for the last one mile. Please bring 10 essentials. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, Nov 6, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.
Nov 9 Mon	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 9 Mon	9AM Sandy Momentum Indoor Rock Climb – ntd – 36' ascent *Meet:* 9:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Sandy (220 W 10600 S, Sandy, UT) *Organizer:* John Butler 801-654-8424 johnbwmc@gmail.com We will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing in Sandy starting at 9am. If you are not a member, WMC members get a discount on day passes. Top rope, bouldering, lead climbing and/or socializing.
Nov 9 Mon	Drytool Scratchpad Session – ntd *Meet:* 5:30 pm at The Scratch Pad (450 S 400 E, Bountiful, UT) *Carpool:* 5:00 pm at Wasatch Adaptive Sports in Murray *Organizer:* Wesley Warne 740-680-2070 wesley.warne@gmail.com It's about that time! Getting these on the calendar for those who are trying to get back into shape for ice season or are ice-curious. The scratchpad is a great place to try out drytooling for those who want to get on the ice this winter! Come out to hang, literally and figure 4-atively (real ones will get that joke), with fellow WMCer's and work on technique and strength. It's a great spot to meet fellow dry/mixed/ice climbers if you want the pulse on what's in and potential partners. Day passes can be purchased ahead of time or at the pad; rental gear is available, and a waiver must be signed: https://www.climbthescratchpad.com/ Also happy to carpool from Murray/Sandy area. Holler if you have any questions! Wes Warne 740.680.2070
Nov 10 Tue	Rock Climb - Evening Momentum Climbing *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Momentum Indoor Climbing Fort Union (7210 Union Park Ave, Midvale, UT) *Organizer:* Paul Gettings 801-599-7311 p.gettings@gmail.com Indoor climbing in the gym to get strong for next spring. WMC members get a discount on a day pass. We will be climbing top rope and lead routes, so bring your gym lead rope if you have one.
Nov 11 Wed	WMC Monthly Board Meeting *Meet:* 7:00 pm at See the Agenda link below for Zoom details, or attend in person at the WMC Office (1390 S 1100 E, Salt Lake City, UT) *Carpool:* 5:40 pm at Pre meeting appetizers at Fiddler's (1059 E 2100 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Jack Cook secretary@wasatchmountainclub.org Members are welcome to attend. Members wishing to bring topics to the Board's attention should email the President and Secretary no later than 7 days prior to the meeting. See the link below to access the Board Meeting Agenda. Note you must be signed into the WMC website to access the Agenda.

Nov 11 Wed	Trail Running - Popperton Loop – 6.0 mi Loop – 1600’ ascent – Fast pace *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Popperton Park (1400 Popperton Park Way, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Kerry Regan 954-895-8627 kerrylregan@gmail.com The weather is cooling off, so we are back to one of the crew’s favorite foothills trailhead! This will be a no drop run, no runner is left behind. All levels of fitness are welcome. Bring a headlamp. It’s a great run for anyone who is looking for running partners or is new to trail running. Let me know if you want to join this run or others in the future. Message me if you want to arrange carpool.
Nov 11 Wed – Nov 15 Sun	*full* - Indian Creek Rock Climb *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Bryan Mason flymason13@gmail.com Join us for our annual club trip to Indian Creek, one of the world’s premier crack-climbing destinations! If you haven’t climbed cracks before, this is a great opportunity to learn and gain experience on some of the best cracks around. Routes start at 5.9, but there are limited options at the lower grades, so participants should be comfortable with 5.9-5.10 face climbing. Leaders will set up top ropes, so you don’t need to be a trad leader to participate. I’ll head down Wednesday evening to secure campsites at Creek Pasture Campground. Limit: 12 participants
Nov 11 Wed	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren’t many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 13 Fri – Nov 15 Sun	Trail Running - Dead Horse Ultra (15k, 30k, 50k, 50 Mile) Race *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Kerry Regan 954-895-8627 kerrylregan@gmail.com Let’s get out and do a race! The Dead Horse Ultras offers multiple distances depending on what fits your goals! This is the second event in the Triple Crown of Moab series. The course goes through beautiful terrain near the Gemini Bridges Area and features some challenging single track and sandy sections of trail. We will go down on Friday evening to camp and be up bright and early for the race on Saturday. On Sunday, we will either do a short run or hike before going home in the early afternoon. Please let me know if you are interested and we can plan to head down there together!
Nov 13 Fri	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren’t many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 14 Sat	Day Hike - Greeley Benchmark & More – msd- – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to hike to Greeley Benchmark (6855 ft) as well as Wanlass Hill (5680 ft) and Peak 6706 located in the west of Utah Lake. Mix of road hike, class 2 scrambling and bushwhacking. Approximately 11 miles RT with 3262 ft gain. Exploratory. Please bring 10 essentials and microspikes. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, Nov 13, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.
Nov 15 Sun	Day Hike - Reynolds Peak (& Tom’s Hill), BCC – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to bag Reynolds Peak in BCC, weather, conditions and situation permitting. We may also go to Tom’s Hill. If we do Reynolds Peak only and out and back, the distance will be 6.6 miles RT with 2103 feet gain. Going to Tom’s Hill and making a loop add slight distance but not a lot. Please bring 10 Essentials as well as micro-spikes. If there is lots of snow, we may also need to use snowshoes. Avalanche rescue gear (beacon, probe & shovel) is recommended but not required. I have an extra set of avalanche safety gear - if you want to use it, please let me know. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, November 13, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.
Nov 15 Sun	Climbing Meeting/Social - Reel Rock 20 (Movie) *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Reel Rock The North Face presents Reel Rock 20 November 15th, 2026 at 7pm. Celebrating two decades since its founding, the world’s greatest climbing film festival returns to theaters this fall with a blood-pumping lineup of four world premiere films. Visit Salt Lake County Arts for details and tickets.
Nov 16 Mon	Evening Hike- Escape The Noise- Ogden Coldwater Canyon – 2.5 mi Out & Back – 1170’ ascent – Moderate pace *Meet:* 4:00 pm at Meet at the 2750 Trail head in North Ogden, UT. Email me to let me know you are coming. *Organizer:* Anja Wadman anjawadman@gmail.com November. Nice Fall hike. The Major Flag is a 150-by 78 ft American Flag that will be in Coldwater Canyon for Veterans Week starting approximately Nov. 7. The flag typically flies for approximately 2 weeks surrounding Veteran’s Day to honor former North Ogden Mayor Major Brent Taylor who was killed in 2018. This is a busy hike with lots of people hiking to see the flag. Monday, Nov 16 at 4 pm. (Weather dependent). Meet at the 2750 Trail head in North Ogden. This is one of Ogden’s most iconic November hikes. It is approximately 3 miles. Takes about 2 hours to do the whole loop. 1,170 ft elevation gain. If the weather is warm, we can make ice cream on our hike. Dog friendly. Yes. Keep Dogs on the leash as we expect a lot of hikers. Kid Friendly. Yes. Paved parking and restrooms at the parking lot. Slow to moderate pace.
Nov 16 Mon	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren’t many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 16 Mon	9AM Sandy Momentum Indoor Rock Climb – ntd – 36’ ascent *Meet:* 9:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Sandy (220 W 10600 S, Sandy, UT) *Organizer:* John Butler 801-654-8424 johnbwmc@gmail.com We will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing in Sandy starting at 9am. If you are not a member, WMC members get a discount on day passes. Top rope, bouldering, lead climbing and/or socializing.

Nov 16 Mon	Drytool Scratchpad Session – ntd *Meet:* 5:30 pm at The Scratch Pad (450 S 400 E, Bountiful, UT) *Carpool:* 5:00 pm at Wasatch Adaptive Sports in Murray *Organizer:* Wesley Warne 740-680-2070 wesley.warne@gmail.com It's about that time! Getting these on the calendar for those who are trying to get back into shape for ice season or are ice-curious. The scratchpad is a great place to try out drytooling for those who want to get on the ice this winter! Come out to hang, literally and figure 4-atively (real ones will get that joke), with fellow WMCer's and work on technique and strength. It's a great spot to meet fellow dry/mixed/ice climbers if you want the pulse on what's in and potential partners. Day passes can be purchased ahead of time or at the pad; rental gear is available, and a waiver must be signed: https://www.climbthescratchpad.com/ Also happy to carpool from Murray/Sandy area. Holler if you have any questions! Wes Warne 740.680.2070
Nov 17 Tue	Rock Climb - Evening Momentum Climbing *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Paul Gettings 801-599-7311 p.gettings@gmail.com Indoor climbing in the gym to get strong for next spring. WMC members get a discount on a day pass. We will be climbing top rope and lead routes, so bring your gym lead rope if you have one.
Nov 18 Wed	Trail Running - Popperton Loop – 6.0 mi Loop – 1600' ascent – Fast pace *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Popperton Park (1400 Popperton Park Way, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Kerry Regan 954-895-8627 kerrylregan@gmail.com The weather is cooling off, so we are back to one of the crew's favorite foothills trailhead! This will be a no drop run, no runner is left behind. All levels of fitness are welcome. Bring a headlamp. It's a great run for anyone who is looking for running partners or is new to trail running. Let me know if you want to join this run or others in the future. Message me if you want to arrange carpool.
Nov 18 Wed	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 20 Fri	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 20 Fri	Rock Climb - Evening Momentum Climbing *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Momentum Indoor Climbing Fort Union (7210 Union Park Ave, Midvale, UT) *Organizer:* Paul Gettings 801-599-7311 p.gettings@gmail.com Indoor climbing in the gym to get strong for next spring. WMC members get a discount on a day pass. We will be climbing top rope and lead routes, so bring your gym lead rope if you have one.
Nov 21 Sat	Mixed & Alpine Climb Training For Mountaineering *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We will have IFMGA certified instructors from the School for International Expedition Training (nonprofit organization) to learn about mixed climbing skills for mountaineering. This training would be beneficial for those who are interested in, for example, Cascade mountains, Bolivian volcanoes, and/or Mexican volcanoes. The topics that will be covered include, but not limited to, safety and strategies in climbing and scrambling with snow and rocks, snow climbing, rock scrambling, rope work in mixed slopes, etc - more topics will be added depending on participants' interests. The training location will be selected when it gets closer. Registration is required. $133.33 per person. No tax. WMC members only. Limit 6 per group (Depending on the availability of instructors, we will have one to three groups). If we have more than one groups, each group will have a specific focus (e.g. a Cascade group, Bolivia/Mexico group, beginner - group, etc.). The first priority will be given to those who have registered for the 2027 Bolivia Expedition. Registrants will receive more detailed info including gear list.
Nov 21 Sat	Kerry's 40th Birthday Bash *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Frank Bouchard 352-246-5304 fabouchard@gmail.com Come celebrate the WMC's running queen at our house. There will be food, drinks, dancing, and of course running. 6 PM - Party Run. Starting at our house, throw on some colorful clothing, a silly hat, and any portable colorful lights you can strap to yourself. The run through Sugar House will be short (3 miles) at a beginner-friendly pace, and will have a killer soundtrack. 7 PM - Dinner. Back at our house, we'll order some pizza. Chip in $10 if you want a share or feel free to bring your own food. 8 PM - Dance. Get funky in our garage. 9 PM - Party Run II. We'll do a second round of running around the neighborhood. Once again, crazy flashing lights are highly encouraged. Everybody is welcome. Running is not required. Let me know if you want to be included in the pizza order. Hope you can all make it!
Nov 21 Sat – Nov 22 Sun	Ice Climb Uintas – mod *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Wesley Warne 740-680-2070 wesley.warne@gmail.com TBD based on ice/road conditions and interest level, but wanted to get something on the calendar for November. Goal would be to shake the dust off the tools on some fun and easy stuff. Great area for beginners (and beginner leaders). Plan would be to drive up early Saturday morning and head to the Mosquito (November) wall for the day. Camp at a dispersed spot that night. Climb Cobblerest and hard to find on the way out Sunday morning. Stop at that one diner in Kamas (you know which one I mean). As we all know, it all depends on the weather and if the highway is still open. So, it could get cancelled. Could get moved to a different spot. It's ice climbing in Utah... tough to plan for. If you're interested, let me know, and we can plan accordingly as we get closer to! wesley.warne@gmail.com | 7406802070.
Nov 22 Sun	Snowshoe/Ski/Hike - Location TBA – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to snowshoe in BCC/LCC, Provo, Farmington, American Fork, the West Uintas or somewhere, weather, conditions and situation permitting. The specific location will be posted when it gets closer to the date. Please bring 10 Essentials, microspikes, and snowshoes. In addition, bring poles and gaiters if there is sufficient snow for snowshoeing. Avalanche rescue gear (beacon, probe & shovel) is recommended but not required. If this changes, I will update the information. I have an extra set of avalanche safety gear - if you want to use it, please let me know. Depending on a location, we can have skiers too. Skiers must carry avalanche rescue gear. If there is not enough snow, we will hike. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, Nov 20, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.

Nov 23 Mon	Early Morning Rock Climb: Momentum Millcreek *Meet:* 6:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek (3173 E 3300 S, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu I will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing Millcreek approximately from 6 am to 7:30 am. You are welcome to join me. There aren't many people there early morning. So it should be easy to find me. *I have three free day passes in addition to a buddy pass per month. Please let me know if you want to use it.
Nov 23 Mon	9AM Sandy Momentum Indoor Rock Climb – ntd – 36' ascent *Meet:* 9:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Sandy (220 W 10600 S, Sandy, UT) *Organizer:* John Butler 801-654-8424 johnbwmc@gmail.com We will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing in Sandy starting at 9am. If you are not a member, WMC members get a discount on day passes. Top rope, bouldering, lead climbing and/or socializing.
Nov 23 Mon	Drytool Scratchpad Session – ntd *Meet:* 5:30 pm at The Scratch Pad (450 S 400 E, Bountiful, UT) *Carpool:* 5:00 pm at Wasatch Adaptive Sports in Murray *Organizer:* Wesley Warne 740-680-2070 wesley.warne@gmail.com It's about that time! Getting these on the calendar for those who are trying to get back into shape for ice season or are ice-curious. The scratchpad is a great place to try out drytooling for those who want to get on the ice this winter! Come out to hang, literally and figure 4-atively (real ones will get that joke), with fellow WMCer's and work on technique and strength. It's a great spot to meet fellow dry/mixed/ice climbers if you want the pulse on what's in and potential partners. Day passes can be purchased ahead of time or at the pad; rental gear is available, and a waiver must be signed: https://www.climbthescratchpad.com/ Also happy to carpool from Murray/Sandy area. Holler if you have any questions! Wes Warne 740.680.2070
Nov 25 Wed	Trail Running - Popperton Loop – 6.0 mi Out & Back – 1600' ascent – Fast pace *Meet:* 6:30 pm at Popperton Park (1400 Popperton Park Way, Salt Lake City, UT) *Organizer:* Kerry Regan 954-895-8627 kerrylregan@gmail.com The weather is cooling off, so we are back to one of the crew's favorite foothills trailhead! This will be a no drop run, no runner is left behind. All levels of fitness are welcome. Bring a headlamp. It's a great run for anyone who is looking for running partners or is new to trail running. Let me know if you want to join this run or others in the future. Message me if you want to arrange carpool.
Nov 27 Fri	Snowshoe NTD-Fun Out And Back, NTD, 3.5 Rt Mi Out & Back, 1074' Ascent – 3.5 mi – 1074' ascent *Meet:* 9:00 am at Butler Elementary (7080 S 2700 E, Cottonwood Heights, UT) *Organizer:* Mark* Jones, Teri Jenkins 801-410-4163, 801-661-4452 hikermrj@aol.com, teridawnjen@gmail.com Bring your leftovers to share for an out and back slow pace from the Spruces Campground TH, with social at the basin. This will be on my birthday and it's the big 80, so please help me celebrate. Posting this in October, it's hard to know the conditions, so watch the weather and be prepared snow or not and winter conditions, and so we will possibly need spikes or snowshoes. Parking permit required at Spruces Campground. No avalanche gear required.
Nov 28 Sat	Snowshoe/Ski/Hike - Location TBA – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to snowshoe in BCC/LCC, Provo, Farmington, American Fork, the West Uintas or somewhere, weather, conditions and situation permitting. The specific location will be posted when it gets closer to the date. Please bring 10 Essentials, microspikes, and snowshoes. In addition, bring poles and gaiters if there is sufficient snow for snowshoeing. Avalanche rescue gear (beacon, probe & shovel) is recommended but not required. If this changes, I will update the information. I have an extra set of avalanche safety gear - if you want to use it, please let me know. Depending on a location, we can have skiers too. Skiers must carry avalanche rescue gear. If there is not enough snow, we will hike. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, Nov 27, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.
Nov 29 Sun	Snowshoe/Ski/Hike - Location TBA – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to snowshoe in BCC/LCC, Provo, Farmington, American Fork, the West Uintas or somewhere, weather, conditions and situation permitting. The specific location will be posted when it gets closer to the date. Please bring 10 Essentials, microspikes, and snowshoes. In addition, bring poles and gaiters if there is sufficient snow for snowshoeing. Avalanche rescue gear (beacon, probe & shovel) is recommended but not required. If this changes, I will update the information. I have an extra set of avalanche safety gear - if you want to use it, please let me know. Depending on a location, we can have skiers too. Skiers must carry avalanche rescue gear. If there is not enough snow, we will hike. Please email before Friday, 6 pm, Nov 27, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Limit 8.
Nov 30 Mon	9AM Sandy Momentum Indoor Rock Climb – ntd – 36' ascent *Meet:* 9:00 am at Momentum Indoor Climbing Sandy (220 W 10600 S, Sandy, UT) *Organizer:* John Butler 801-654-8424 johnbwmc@gmail.com We will be at Momentum Indoor Climbing in Sandy starting at 9am. If you are not a member, WMC members get a discount on day passes. Top rope, bouldering, lead climbing and/or socializing.
Nov 30 Mon	Drytool Scratchpad Session – ntd *Meet:* 5:30 pm at The Scratch Pad (450 S 400 E, Bountiful, UT) *Carpool:* 5:00 pm at Wasatch Adaptive Sports in Murray *Organizer:* Wesley Warne 740-680-2070 wesley.warne@gmail.com It's about that time! Getting these on the calendar for those who are trying to get back into shape for ice season or are ice-curious. The scratchpad is a great place to try out drytooling for those who want to get on the ice this winter! Come out to hang, literally and figure 4-atively (real ones will get that joke), with fellow WMCer's and work on technique and strength. It's a great spot to meet fellow dry/mixed/ice climbers if you want the pulse on what's in and potential partners. Day passes can be purchased ahead of time or at the pad; rental gear is available, and a waiver must be signed: https://www.climbthescratchpad.com/ Also happy to carpool from Murray/Sandy area. Holler if you have any questions! Wes Warne 740.680.2070
Jan 15 Fri – Jan 17 Sun	Avalanche Education: Aiare2 With Inspired Summit (Yurt Based W/ Snowmobiles) *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Kathleen Waller 801-859-6689 kathwaller79@gmail.com Want to take your backcountry skills to the next level? This AIARE2 yurt based all inclusive course will help give you the skills to become a leader in your group. AIARE2 is a three-day course for those who have taken an AIARE1 and Avalanche Rescue and have had at least a year of backcountry travel experience. AIARE2 provides backcountry leaders the opportunity to advance their avalanche knowledge and decision making skills. I have signed up for AIARE2 with Inspired Summit Adventure. This three day course will be yurt based hopefully using the yurt at Smith and Morehouse in the Uintas (alternative location is the Castle Peak yurt). This course also includes the use of Inspired Summit's snowmobiles. All meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner, and apps) are included. Maximum class size is 7 participants with a 4:1 student/instructor ratio. Cost is $1500 before taxes. Please contact me via email if you are interested in joining me for this wonderful learning opportunity so I can connect you with the owner of Inspired Summit Adventure.

Jan 17 Sun – Jan 24 Sun	Alpine Ski Tour Lodge Week In British Columbia *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Katherine Thom 801-804-9201 kpthom9990@icloud.com Is this the year you try backcountry lodge-based ski or splitboard touring? This is a fully guided and catered week. This lodge is located high in the Selkirk range at 7,250 feet and is accessible via a 5 minute helicopter ride from Burton, BC. From the lodge, there are a mix of terrain types (bowls, trees), aspects and steepness with options for longer or shorter days (no glaciated terrain). The cost for the guided and catered lodge week is around $3000 US not including transportation or a hotel room in Nakusp. See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Feb 4 Thu – Feb 7 Sun	Ice Climb - Ouray Ice Park *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Nathan C 307-371-6356 nac787.home@gmail.com Lace up your boots and sharpen your front points for a trip to the Uncompahgre Gorge, home of the world-famous Ouray Ice Park and it's 200+ ice routes - all within walking distance of the cozy town of Ouray, CO. The Park is a great place for novice ice climbers to get mileage, and for folks to experience ice climbing for the first time. For experienced ice climbers seeking more adventure, there's plenty of WI4+ and comp-level mixed climbing in the park as well as wild ice options up Camp Bird Rd. and the surrounding areas. Participants will need to arrange their lodging independently, but I will share a spreadsheet to help us coordinate. Ouray is a very small and walkable town so most places will be close to one another. Plan for early starts and full days on the ice, followed by evening socials at restaurants in town and glorious soaks at the city hot springs. Please register with the organizer via email and note your level of ice climbing experience. Rental equipment, if needed, can be sourced from The Scratch Pad, the University of Utah Outdoor Program, or thru local shops in Ouray. I also have a few sets of extra tools, boots, and crampons. Membership to the Ouray Ice Park is highly encouraged for all participants. The park is a free resource, volunteer managed, and most importantly - membership gets you into the park and onto the good routes 30 minutes early :) Click here to see photos from last year!
Feb 5 Fri – Feb 6 Sat	Avalanche Education: Backcountry 101 For Snowshoers With Uac *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Utah Avalanche Center Taking your first steps into the backcountry can feel intimidating, but an on-snow avalanche course is one of the best ways to reduce your risk. The Utah Avalanche Center's Snowshoe Backcountry 101 is designed to teach the fundamentals of avalanche safety through hands-on learning and real-world application. Cost: $290.00. See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Feb 17 Wed – Feb 18 Thu	Snowbowl Flagstaff: Resort Ski And Backcountry Alpine Ski Tour *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Kathleen Waller 801-859-6689 kathwaller79@gmail.com Join WMC for two days of skiing at and around Snowbowl resort in Flagstaff Arizona with the goal of bagging backcountry peaks Agassiz and Humphreys (high point of Arizona). Super early season purchase price can be as low as $9.00 per day (with $10 resort credit) but goes up during the season and with demand. $10 resort credit only applies to online advanced purchases. For resort skiing, I prefer blacks and double blacks (expert runs). Resort skiing will also be used to access the backcountry gate from the upper gondola. Backcountry skiing requires avalanche rescue gear (beacon, shovel, and probe) and knowledge of use. Travel into the backcountry will depend on weather, snow, and avalanche conditions (https://kachinapeaks.org/). Participants need to have knowledge and experience in assessing hazards and risks of backcountry skiing. If I have not backcountry skied with you, please include details such as uphill ability, downhill ability, and avalanche and emergency education. Driving to and from Flagstaff will likely be in either my RV (travel with amenities but costly in gas) or my Honda EV (save on gas expenses) and we may arrange to spend more than one day driving with a stop halfway to enjoy other amenities of southern Utah and northern Arizona. Where we stay in Flagstaff will depend on the group and may include a hotel in Flagstaff or look for free RV parking in or near town. Please tell me your preferences.
Feb 27 Sat – Mar 5 Fri	Death Valley Winter Escape - Car Camp - Hike - Bike - Relax *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Cheryl* Soshnik, Angie Vincent 435-649-9008, 801-792-5515 csoshnik@yahoo.com, avince182@yahoo.com Escape to Death Valley Furnace Creek Campground the first week of March 2027. Reserve a campsite or RV site at Furnace Creek, rent a cabin or motel...whatever you are most comfortable doing. The WMC has been escaping to Death Valley for 30 years! It used to be a big group event, complete with "cooking pods" and fully organized activities, and over the years has morphed into a week of just coming down to camp together, make last minute plans for road bike rides or hikes, or ranger led tours, or just sitting out by the pool relaxing. We no longer have the large group cooking set up, so everyone will be on your own for meals, although we may have some group breakfasts, to be announced. The one thing that's guaranteed is a daily afternoon 'happy hour' in Furnace Creek, where folks share stories of their daily adventures, and plan hikes, bikes, or other activities for the next day. Very casual nowadays, no stress, no major planning. However, if you would like to join us, and you would like to camp at the Furnace Creek Campground or in the nearby cabins or motel, you do need to plan in advance, as sites and rooms fill up fast, this is the prime time for Death Valley visitation...can you say Super-Bloom? Please contact Angie or Matt or Cheryl for more information on this winter escape week. Cheryl and Angie's contact info are below, and Matt's is davidson801@comcast.net (801) 706-0608
Apr 9 Fri – Apr 16 Fri	Burnie Glacier Chalet Alpine Ski Touring Trip – mod+ – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Eve Kovacs 630-985-1419 evevkovacs@gmail.com A week of ski touring at Burnie Glacier Chalet near Smithers B. C. Canada from April 9-16, 2027 offers longer days (for some epic tours) and good weather. We will likely have powder on north aspects, and realistically, may have some crust on south facing aspects at that time of year (although the guides do their best to avoid less optimal conditions if possible). Please checkout the website listed below for more details. The cost is about $3750 for the lodge, guiding, and helicopter transport to and from Smithers. We have 6 people signed up so far, with 6 more spaces available. See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Apr 20 Tue – Apr 28 Wed	Hike Across Romania *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Frank Bouchard 352-246-5304 fabouchard@gmail.com I'm organizing a 7-day hiking trip in Romania. Our style of travel for this will be unique so read this carefully. We will fly into Bucharest, take local transit to a quieter rural town, and from there travel entirely by foot from town to town with no planned route. Expect 10 - 20 miles of hiking per day mostly on rural roads or trails. We are "backpacking" in the sense that we will travel on foot with ultra-light packs, but we will not be camping or spending much time in the wilderness. See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Apr 30 Fri – May 2 Sun	Mountaineering - Mt. Tukuhnikivatz (Tuk), La Sals – msd *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to make Mt Tukuhnikivatz (Tuk) (12,485 ft) and Little Tuk (12,056 ft). The TH elevation is approximately 9,013 ft. Distance is approximately 7.5 miles RT. I have not done those peaks yet but scouted the route in May 2026. We will take the ridgeline route. We can have a non-ski group and a ski group if someone can co-organize for a ski group. Tuk is a great expert skiing destination. Trip schedule: Apr 30 Fri: road trip (approximately 4 hours from SLC) & set up a dispersed camp site near the TH. May 1 Sat; climb. May 2 Sun: Road trip. The schedule may be adjusted depending on the conditions. Some participants may go home on Saturday. This is non-technical mountaineering. But participants must: 1) have excellent stamina; 2) be willing to buy/rent/lend required individual gear if necessary; 3) know how to use crampons & ice axe; 4: feel comfortable to climb up and down on steep snow/ice covered slopes; and 4) no history of altitude problems above 12,000 ft. Camping experience strongly desired. For more details, please contact the organizer (please include your current fitness level and mountaineering experience). Limit 10. WMC members only.

May 19 Wed – Jun 3 Thu	Mountaineering - Chearoco & Chachacomani, Bolivia – ext *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to climb two 6,000m peaks in Bolivia - Chearoco (6,176m/ 2,0263 ft) and Chachacomani (6,090m/ 19,980ft). In addition, we plan to climb two 5000m peaks - Paco Q'iuta (5,570m/ 18,274ft) and Wila Lluxi (5,395 m/ 17,700 ft). Chearoco and Chachacomani were recently opened for climbing and have not been climbed by many climbers yet. The estimated cost for the local company is approximately $2,400-2,800 including ground local transportation, mountain meals, internationally certified guides (ratio depending on a mountain), camps in the mountains, camping gear, full base camp infrastructure and services including Satellite Wi-Fi connection, donkeys/porters, and hotels in La Paz. The additional cost will be for international flights, compulsory travel insurance, personal expenses, personal equipment, gratuity and meals in La Paz. See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Jun 16 Wed – Jun 24 Thu	Trek- Napali Coast, Kalalau Trail, Kauai, Hi. *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Anja Wadman anjawadman@gmail.com 11 miles one way. Beach camping for 2 nights. There is a waterfall for the water source and outhouses. Permits open up 90 days in advance. Cost is $35 per person/per night. Additional costs of traveling to Kauai, food, rental gear, and rental vehicle. We will try to get permits for Hanakapi'ai Beach. The Kalalau trailhead is located in Ha'ena State Park at the end of HWY 52. 22 miles total. See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Jul 1 Thu – Jul 10 Sat	Kayaking- Ocean Kayaking Along The Na Pali Coast Line. Kauai – class III+ *Meet:* 8:00 am at Kauai Hawaii *Organizer:* Anja Wadman anjawadman@gmail.com This trip will be expensive and strenuous. Kayaking to Miloli'i Beach on Kauai is a premier, challenging adventure along the Na Pali coast, typically accessible only by boat or kayak during summer months (May 15-Sept 7). See event listing on WMC website for more details.
Jul 2 Fri – Jul 5 Mon	Payette White Water Rafting – class III *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Parker Winkel 330-941-0502 paw123321@gmail.com Bringing back an old tradition 4th of July weekend on the Payette. This location is unique because there are 5 high quality day runs all within a half hour drive of camp. Difficulty ranges from Class II to IV. You should be comfortable on Class III for this trip. The runs are appropriate for most whitewater craft from kayaks, IKs, paddle rafts and small oar boats. I have reserved a group campsite within walking distance to hot springs! You are on your own for all food and camping gear. BYOV (bring your own vessel) preferred but there might be room on a paddle raft. To attend please email me. Include the vessel you plan to bring or if you want a spot on a paddle boat. If I don't know you please let me know what your skill level is and how much rafting you've done in the last couple years. We will try to organize some carpool logistics as we get closer. Life jackets required and helmets required for Class IV runs. The air will likely be hot but the water will be cold. Depending on your craft and tolerance for cold splash gear to dry suit could be appropriate.
Sep 17 Fri – Sep 19 Sun	Car Camp & Hikes - Mt. Belknap & Mt. Baldy (& More), Tushar Mts – msd- – Moderate pace *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to hike to Mt Belknap (12,143 ft), Mt Baldy (12,084 ft) and maybe other peaks in the Tushar Mountains, weather, conditions and situation permitting. I have hiked in the Tushar Mountains but not to those peaks. Exploratory. Expect class 2+ scrambles. We will leave on Friday and come back on Sunday. The main hike to Belknap and Baldy will be on Saturday. We may do a short hike on Friday and/or Sunday. Approximately 3.5-4-hour drive from SLC. We plan to camp at a dispersed/primitive campsite. Please email before Thursday, noon, Sep 16, for the meeting place and time. Registration is required. Registration priority will be given to WMC members. Registrants will receive more detailed info. Note (7/6/2026): This is a tentative schedule. It will be finalized later.
May 24 Wed – Jun 8 Thu	Mountaineering - Acohuma & Illampu, Bolivia – ext *Meet:* Register with the Organizer *Organizer:* Akiko Kamimura kamimura@umich.edu We plan to climb two 6,000m peaks in Bolivia - Acohuma (6,427m/ 21,086 ft) and Illampu (6,331m/ 20,771ft). We will do acclimatization hikes before climbing those peaks. Illampu is known as "The King of the Mountains" which is one of the hardest climbs in the Andes. We may set a different easier peak for those who do not feel comfortable to climb Illampu. The estimated cost for the local company is approximately $2,600 including ground local transportation, meals, certified guides (ratio depending on a mountain), lodging/camps in the mountains and towns, camping gear, full base camp infrastructure and services, donkeys/porters, and hotels in La Paz. The additional cost will be for international flights, compulsory travel insurance, personal expenses, personal equipment, and gratuity. See event listing on WMC website for more details.

More activities are in the online calendar. Check https://www.wasatchmountainclub.org/calendar for updates. And subscribe to one or more activity email lists for short notice postings. Go to https://www.wasatchmountainclub.org/email-lists to subscribe (you'll have to log in)

Do you spend time on Utah's lakes, rivers, or reservoirs? Your experience could help improve water safety across the state! The University of Utah School of Public Affairs and the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation are conducting a Life Jacket Behavior Study to learn more about how Utahns use life jackets and what they know about proper fit, types, and safety.

If you are 18 or older, living in Utah, and often on the water, we encourage you to take about 15 minutes to complete the survey. Your feedback will help guide future education, outreach, and policies designed to keep people safer on Utah waters.

Go to https://recreation.utah.gov/life-jacket-survey/ or scan the QR code

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

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g. Copies not Distributed *(See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))* ▶			2	2
h. Total *(Sum of 15f and g)*			584	584
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a) ▶	582	582
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17. Publication of Statement of Ownership

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18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner	Date
Adam Marcus, Editor	09/29/2026

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

50 Years Ago in The Rambler

Transcribed by Donn Seeley

Club activities for November 1976 [...]

NOVEMBER 25-28 Thursday-Sunday	GRAND GULCH BACKPACK. The Grand Gulch Primitive Area lies just south of Natural Bridges National Monument. The gulch itself is not as spectacular as Escalante or Canyonlands but contains extensive areas of colorful Anasazi ruins and petroglyphs. The gulch sits on Cedar Mesa at elevations ranging from 5700 to 5200 feet. With the hope for good weather, we plan to follow this exciting canyon from Bullet Canyon to Collins Gulch and explore the ruins along the way. The backpack of approximately 25 miles will involve about 6 miles of hiking per day. Call Mike Hendrickson [...] for details and meeting place.
NOVEMBER 25 Thursday	THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE LODGE. Bring your family, table service, skis, snowshoes, toboggans and THANKS to the Lodge again this year. Dinner will be around 4:30 p.m. This is a planned potluck so call John or Grace Burton [...] to discuss your contribution(s). Capacity of the Lodge is limited to about 90 people. Reservations will not be accepted after Sunday night, November 21. Be prepared to reimburse the turkey providers. The Lodge is open overnight and through the weekend.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: ALEXIS KELNER & DAVE HANSCOM

NAME: WASATCH TOURS (THE LONG AWAITED SKI TOURING GUIDE)

SIZE: 5½ by 8½, 224 PAGES, 140 PHOTOS (MOSTLY AERIALS)

BORN: NOVEMBER 15, 1976, 3:47 a.m. (Kelner's usual delivery time)

AT: WASATCH PUBLISHERS [...]

IN SPITE OF A TWO YEAR (ABNORMAL) PREGNANCY, AND AN EXTREMELY PAINFUL (BREACH) DELIVERY, THE PROUD (AND WEARY) PARENTS ARE EXPECTED TO RECOVER IN TIME FOR THE COMING SKI TOURING SEASON

MIDWIFE: BILL ROSQVIST

(WMC members may get a copy at a special pre-published price of $3.95 postpaid by mail from the publisher.)

SUNDIAL September 26 by Martin Knaphus

After an invigorating hike up the Lake Blanche trail, eight of us completed the annual Fall ascent of Sundial. What started out as a clear morning turned into a cold, overcast afternoon with rain threatening intermittently.

John Gottman should receive an award for the most precarious belay perch. Using two questionable anchor nuts, a rusty piton, a loose foothold, and three fingers on an overhead ledge, he belayed Penny on the first pitch.

To avoid the usual traffic jam on the last pitch, four of us took the "Mason Variation" – trusting loose foot- and handholds and making a short but breathtaking traverse.

Danny Horton and Rob Snyder, hardcore mountaineers, hiked to the summit. The rest of us were satisfied to eat our smashed sandwiches and unrecognizable Hostess Cupcakes at the top of the climb.

On the way down the trail, the bright Autumn colors were appreciated by all.

Leader: John Gottman. Participants: Bonnie Baty, Danny Horton, Martin Knaphus, John Mason, Dave Oliver, Penny Russell, and Rob Snyder.

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