
** THE PACK RAT **

Volume 14

No. 13

April 1971

NEWSLETTER OF THE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

EDITORS: ART DAVIS and
JOHN WOODHATCH

PUBLISHER: SANDY VAIR

MEETINGS:- Every Wednesday evening at 8.00 p.m.

Place:- Basement, First Lutheran Church, 1001, 7th Avenue S.W.
(opposite O'Neil Towers), on corner of 9th Street
and 7th Avenue S.W.

Phone for Club Information - 282-1330 (Mon-Sat, 9-5p.m.) Bob's Bookstore

Summer Activities: Include hiking, climbing, swimming,
backpack trips.

Winter Activities: Include skiing, ski-touring, skating,
snow-shoeing, hiking.

In addition to our outdoor activities, an active Social
and Program Committee organizes many social functions and
Wednesday evening programs throughout the year.

The objects of the Rocky Mountain Ramblers Association are:
"To protect the interests of Ramblers, and to maintain their
rights and privileges, to foster a greater love, use and knowledge
of the countryside, to assist in the preservation of countryside
amenities, to secure travel facilities for members, to function
as a Bureau of Information, to organise social functions".

The "Pack Rat" is published a minimum of six times a year. Its
aim is to keep Rambler members informed of club activities,
and to stimulate interest and concern in subject areas in which
the club is now involved and perhaps should become involved.

EDITORIAL

Time soon passes and here we are again writing our second Pack Rat. April marks a major event in the club's history, for on, and after the 7th of April we will be meeting in our new location in the basement of the Lutheran Church, at the corner of 7th Avenue and 9th Street, S.W. Meeting times will not alter in any way.

The club will, I'm sure, miss meeting at Bob's Bookstore, and we would like to thank Bob Baxter sincerely on behalf of the members, both old and new, for the great interest he has shown in the club. Without him many of the club's activities would not have taken place. He has also given so freely of his time to promote the club, to sell our memberships and answer queries. The club has grown and developed largely through his efforts and all of us owe a great deal to him and his work for the club. Bob will be with us still, but we shall miss looking at the books whilst waiting for the meetings to get underway.

Queries about the club can still be made to Bob's Bookstore during normal hours 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Monday - Saturday, at 282-1330.

This second issue for 1971 is mainly devoted to new members and those who will be trying hiking for the first time this Summer. An article on equipment highlights what we feel are the basic requirements to make the outdoors more pleasant. But let us stress that all outdoor activities, especially in the Rockies, need to be looked at from a commonsense approach - above all do not take chances - that way you will survive longer to enjoy the Mountains.

Our apologies for no cover - Sandy Vair has mislaid the stencil - matters will be rectified by the next edition.

John Woodhatch

Art Davis

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

With an impressive title such as this, a newcomer to the club must wonder just what the club's activities are. In a summation - one can state that the aims of our club are to enjoy the outdoors through hiking, climbing, camping, ski-ing and snowshoeing. Weather permitting of course!

The area of the Alberta Foothills and Rockies, as any of the long standing members will tell you, is one of the most beautiful regions on Earth. This region contains lakes, river valleys, alpine meadows and majestic peaks, all of which are worth seeing even if only once. The club takes you to such places through organized trips ranging from simple day hikes just around Calgary, to week-long trips where you tramp for days in virtually unknown terrain. If you want to see this beauty for yourself, come along, all one needs is a good pair of legs, a pair of strong lungs coupled with an open mind to absorb all of the beauty. But don't go rushing away just yet! Try a few simple hikes first, to break in your new boots and to get a little experience in walking over rough ground. This way the more strenuous hikes will be made easier.

The club's trips are all led by people who have had a lot of experience in hiking, and they will not allow you to go beyond your capabilities if they see you are having difficulty. Our trip leaders are also taught to respect everyone's wishes. And if you find you have any problems they will help you in any way they can. All carry a first aid kit to deal with small emergencies. Hopefully in these small ways the club will make your hiking safe and enjoyable. Now that you know a little about the club I am sure you will want to come along on some of our trips, but I will leave that decision up to you - Good hiking anyway.

John Woodhatch

He who travels with open eyes and a broad mind
Becomes aware of all the beauty of God's creation

CRUDE OIL SPILLS - THEIR EFFECT ON THE OCEANS

Up to 10 million tons of Oil are spilled every year into the World's oceans and there is no effective way to either clean up the Oil or reduce the effect it has on poisoning all forms of ocean life.

In a paper delivered to an International Conference on Oil Pollution, Max Blumer of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, estimates that Oil Pollution of the ocean involves anywhere from one to ten million tons of Crude Oil products a year. In the U.S., Oil accounts for three quarters of the 10,000 pollution incidents reported each year in the Country's water supply.

Blumer says that counter measures are effective only if all of the Oil is recovered immediately after the spill, but the technology to do this does not exist, and all proposals to clean away the Oil, such as dispersing it or sinking it to the bottom are inefficient, since the Oil continues to poison the Marine Life in one form or another. The use of detergents and dispersants harm, in various degrees, the environment even when they are supposed to be non-toxic.

"All Crude Oils are poisons for all Marine Organisms" Blumer says. "Long term toxicity (poisoning) may harm Marine Life that is not immediately killed by spills, and Oil can be incorporated into the meat of Marine animals making it unfit for human consumption. Crude Oil and Oil products may cause Cancer in Marine organisms. Even at very low concentrations Oil may interfere with processes which are vital for the propagation of Marine Species".

Most toxic Oil compounds are water soluble, making recovery of Oil slicks futile except for aesthetic improvement; Blumer says "Treatment with detergents, even the non-toxic ones, is dangerous because it exposes Marine Life to concentrations of soluble and toxic hydro-carbons and because it disperses Oil into droplets that can be ingested and retained by organisms".

Natural bacterial action eventually decomposes spilled Oil, but the most toxic Oils disappear much more slowly than the less harmful ones, the possibility exists that the products of bacterial Oil-degradation may be more toxic than the Oil itself.

Blumer denied that Marine animals will avoid Oil spills. Lobsters, for one, are attracted to Crude Oil, which leads to severe contamination.

Speaking of damage done to Lake Erie by industry in the U.S.A. and Canada, Blumer said that the same would happen to the Ocean but it would take longer.

"A polluted small lake can be reclaimed within a few years. Lake Erie may or may not be restored within 50 years, but a polluted Ocean will remain irreversibly damaged for many generations" he said.

- Reprinted from The Gauntlet. February 1971.

TIPS FOR SUMMER HIKING

by Art Davis

With the hiking season fast approaching, the following suggestions are offered, particularly to beginners:

Footwear: Hiking or climbing boots with Vibram lug soles are best, otherwise select good strong ankle-height boots with corrugated rubber soles. A good fit is necessary to prevent chafing or blisters. Woolen socks are warm and will also absorb moisture well. Some prefer to wear one pair of nylon or cotton socks with heavier socks over these.

Clothing: Loose fitting slacks to allow for freedom of movement particularly when climbing. Undershirts of the "Fishnet" type are valuable in maintaining a layer of air between the body and clothing. Warm shirt or sweater plus a light windproof, waterproof jacket or poncho.

Pack: On day hikes a small pack or haversack is all you need. Items that should be carried on a hike are: extra socks, gloves, band-aids or moleskin, waterproof matches and a knife, as well as your lunch.

Food: Prior to leaving on a day hike, a good breakfast is recommended - lunch to be eaten on the hike. It should be nourishing and in addition to the lunch it is advisable to bring along some fast energy food such as chocolate, Dextrose tablets, etc. For those who prefer a hot drink, a thermos should be brought along as in many areas open fires are prohibited. Water bottles also should be carried as in some areas water is scarce, especially on climbs.

Lightweight Binoculars: These are useful for those who have them. Often Wildlife can be observed at distance, but cannot be approached for closer inspection and in some cases it proves dangerous to do so.

Sunglasses: Besides affording eye protection against the strong light they should be worn whilst going through bush as a sharp branch can cause serious eye injury.

Whistle: Should be carried in pocket. NOT in bottom of pack. Signals are: 1 blast = Go, 2 blasts = Stop, 3 blasts = Emergency or Stop, 4 blasts = Call back Leader.

For those starting hiking a check with a Trip Leader should be made to ascertain the difficulty of the terrain to be hiked in and if possible any special items that should be brought along.

The main item is boots; for without proper footwear, nothing spoils a day quicker than sore feet. Remember if your feet are sore when you arrive at your destination you still have to return on them!

With proper equipment a hike can be enjoyable and the Leaders are looking forward to another enjoyable season ahead, not only for hiking and climbing, but for camping as well.

One final note, Ramblers do not litter, carry out with you anything you take in, lunch bag and wrappings made of plastic, tin cans and

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TRIP REPORTS

SNOWSHOE TRIP - January 31, 1971

by Basil Pogue

On Sunday, January 31, 15 snowshoers left the Louise Bridge fire hall at 9 a.m. The weather was cool and grey with the temperature hovering near 5° above.

After a coffee stop at the Black Diamond Hilton where a rapid course in assembly of snowshoe bindings was held, we continued on south to Longview and west to the Stampede Ranch. Along the road the trees were thick with hoar frost and here and there the all-pervasive smell of gas hung in the still air.

We reached our objective about 11 a.m., and, once the necessary footgear had been assembled, a start was made up the nearest ridge. The snow proved to be of varying depths, depending on terrain and wind exposure and it was powdery, though in places a crust had formed.

Having initially followed the trail made earlier in the week by Quita and Wally we swung away to the north after about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to be greeted a few steps later with the sight of three Moose making for cover. This they did quite successfully and although Art Davis made an attempt to head them off that was the last we saw of them. Their trail was plain to see, however, and we followed it for some time through deep snow. Breaking trail here was difficult since there was no crust and we tended to sink in about 8 inches.

Our trail took us onto gently rising ground where patches of trees and open spaces seemed to alternate. Eventually a fence line was reached from which we got a view of a hill which seemed to be quite near. So we made for it only to find that there was a deep valley in our road, but we went on. The fence eventually petered out near the bottom of the valley and this seemed to be a good spot to have lunch. The abundant kindling and other wood lying around soon became a glowing fire, while the larger logs provided seating for the company. During lunch Art's thermometer recorded a balmy 9° above, but it seemed warmer.

The hill was too far away to be attempted in the remaining hours of daylight and so it was left for a later expedition and we returned in our tracks to the cars, reaching Calgary about 5 p.m.

Our thanks to Quita Mills for leading a most enjoyable snowshoe trip.

BRAZEAU LAKE AND POBOKTAN PASS

JULY 1970 (BACKPACK TRIP) - LEADER, JACK CARTER

A trip of nine days was undertaken by thirteen people into this remote area of Southern Jasper National Park. Tom Thurston, Tony Moran, Madeleine Le Seur, Daphne Smith, Vicky Bernhart, Fred De Vries, Wally and Quita Mills, Ted Prince, Marge Sharpe, Helga Dauer, Francis Walcott (a member of the Sierra Club) and myself.

On July 20th, 11 of us left Calgary at 6.30 p.m., and drove to Cirrus Mountain Campground, where we met Wally and Quita, who had preceded us only by a few hours. We were told by them that the Warden at Sunwapta would not issue a fire permit due to a fire hazard.

July 21st dawned a wet day, so rather than lose the trip that had been a year in planning, myself with Madeleine, Tom and Francis drove to Jasper and there purchased about 40 Butane tanks together with 2 small stoves. With the success of the trip now a possibility we returned to Cirrus Mountain and the rest of the party, who had by this time, packed a mountainous supply of food into their packs.

With these heavy loads, nine of the party started out for Nigel Pass, while Tom, Francis, Tony and I arranged the cars so that there were two at Sunwapta Warden Station, where we were to come out nine days later. I learned later, in talking to the Warden, that the nine did not see the bridge over Nigel Creek and all nine crossed the raging torrent with the water up to "Their you know whats", much to Bob Barker's (the Warden) amusement.

Tony, Tom, Francis and I caught up with the rest on Nigel Pass which is four miles from the Banff-Jasper Highway. It was getting late, so we decided to camp over the Pass on the banks of the Brazeau River.

Next morning was lovely and clear and whilst we were eating breakfast, Warden Bob Barker rode up on his horse and talked with us for a couple of hours. After this breakfast talk we got everything packed and spent the day following the Brazeau River, crossing over the numerous creeks that flowed into the main river, hiking on past the Four Point Warden Cabin with Clive Pass to the south east. We camped the night of July 22nd at an old campsite that outfitters had used years before.

The next day we crossed the main Brazeau River on logs, doing lots of wading and reached the Warden's cabin near the Brazeau Lake around noon. After eating our lunch there, we set up camp as fast as possible, for the clouds were becoming dark and rain threateningly appeared over the Le Grande Brazeau Mountains. Some of us went climbing the mountains to the north of the camp, whilst others just took it easy.

July 24th was an easy day for some of us, Madelaine, Tom, Tony, Marge, Francis and I went down to Brazeau Lake and took photos, but we were still plagued by high clouds. The others in the party made some enjoyable hikes on the mountains to the north of the Lake.

For July 25th the day was as follows. The day began with a ring of clouds in the sky. Tom Thurston, Tony and I were not dismayed however, and after breakfast left the lake and hiked around the North Shore. Then we made our way up the Upper River in the hope of finding a natural arch, but we had started too late and had to start back to the camp at 3.30 p.m. in order to reach it before dark. We arrived back at 7.30 p.m., to find the rest of the group had had an enjoyable day down stream from the camp visiting some falls. The last evening at the camp was very enjoyable. Bob Barker paid us one of his many visits and helped keep us entertained with his stories.

Sunday, July 26th. We all left Brazeau around 11.00 a.m., said our farewells to Bob and proceeded past the South Shore of Brazeau Lake, and headed up the creek that drains Poboktan Meadows, to the Lake. We established a camp site 8 miles from our last, at another site that Bob Barker had equipped with outfitters stoves, as he had the other sites. The next day we crossed the vast uplands of Poboktan Pass. It was a showery day with the clouds moving among the Peaks. We camped at an old camp on the Headwaters of the Poboktan Creek then built a fire and dried out.

Tuesday, July 28th. Rain and thunder during the night, but after breakfast the weather showed signs of improvement. Unfortunately for them, Wally and Quita decided to go out to the Jasper Highway ahead of us as Quita was feeling ill. It was too bad, for they missed the highlight of the whole trip, and the best weather!

The remaining 11 of us set out to climb the Jonas Shoulder. We were not climbing long, when we sighted 3 Woodland Caribou which are known to frequent this part of Jasper Park. This being the furthest penetration south known. Francis was able to get some excellent photos with telephoto lenses. We later reached the summit of Jonas's Shoulder that separates the headwaters of Jonas and Poboktan Creeks. The view from the Shoulder is so wonderful that I find it hard to express it in words. All the Alplands of Jonas, Poboktan and Indian Passes lay at our feet. Beyond and above lay a sea of mountains in every direction. One could only stand and admire, taking pictures, trying to remember it as it was and we hoped that it would not be destroyed by the stupidity of greedy men.

We saw two Grizzly Bears in Jonas Valley and later on in the afternoon some of us got very close to a lone Caribou, getting some excellent photos. That evening was ended by one of the loveliest sunsets I have ever witnessed in the Rockies, but the angry sky brought with it snow. Next morning under about 4" of wt, white stuff, Tom's tent collapsed. The sun came out quickly though and the snow soon melted; we had experienced yet another of Nature's changing moods.

HAWAII 1970 - CHRISTMAS

My impressions of Hawaii are that of a very relaxed and refreshing environment. The air is beautiful and this alone helps shed all city tensions. Your skin acquires a healthy glow and a tan, and you don't need bright clothes to compliment the atmosphere. For two weeks one lives a very carefree life among people of mixed races who are able to enjoy a harmonious existence.

Prior to our departure with our "Destination Hawaii" group, we were told that this is the winter season of wind and rain, but that the temperature never drops too low - in between 65° and 80° F.

The slogan that "C.P. Air will jet you there" proved to be the case and we boarded a "stretch" jet at Vancouver along with other sun seekers. Unfortunately the plane was late in arriving at Vancouver from Germany and so we were not able to see the Hawaiian Islands in daylight before landing. We never did see this glorious array of tropical islands as we were scheduled to depart at night.

One hears of a perfumed atmosphere and so I was anticipating that when I alighted from the plane I would be intoxicated by the fragrance of tropical flora - this was not the case at this time of year. Instead, I was greeted by a fine drizzle but the air was warm. No sooner had we set foot on Hawaiian soil we were greeted in the traditional Hawaiian style - a lei and a kiss. I was practically overpowered from the romantic fragrance of the plumeria blooms and the delicate white ginger flowers which made up the lei. Quick pictures were taken for the record and we were escorted by bus to our hotel - the Ala Moana.

The Ala Moana Hotel is the biggest, 1400 rooms, and the newest in Honolulu. We were told that 18 more hotels are being constructed and that one will have 1800 rooms. This hotel is near the famous Ala Moana Shopping Centre, the biggest in the world. The hotel lobby took our breath away when we first entered it. From its ceiling hung several huge chandeliers and in the centre stood an enormous Christmas tree beautifully decorated. For the next two weeks we lived in the lap of luxury. The hotel was about a mile from the famous Waikiki Beach but a shuttle bus was provided with a grass roof to take guests there.

Our room overlooked the hills north of the city which were covered in lush green vegetation. The rain would move in sheets across the hills with the sun shining at the same time. I have never seen such glorious displays of rainbows - we were just fascinated, seeing them move along with the passing storm. The mountains on the island rise from 1000 ft. to 4000 ft.

Down-town Honolulu can be classed as a concrete jungle. Some of the streets are narrow and so traffic can be a problem - it is the third worst city in north America for congestion. The resident population of this city is around 650,000. The population of Hawaii consists of roughly 26% Japanese, 1.2% pure blooded Hawaiian, racial mixtures make up 23.8%, 8% Filipino and 41% Caucasian. Oahu is the third largest of the Hawaiian chain of islands and has the largest population. The main industry of Hawaii is tourism, followed by sugar cane and pineapple.

Honolulu, which never seems to sleep, is commercialized like any other major city in North America, and expensive, and so one has to shop around for cheaper eating establishments, clothes and souvenirs. But it is a clean place, practically free of flies and bugs much to our relief, and even the beaches are clean. There are some beautiful hotels bordering Waikiki with night clubs and lively evening entertainment for all tastes. Waikiki however is only one of about 50 delightful beaches to be found on the island of Oahu.

Most people rent cars and this is a thriving industry in itself, and we were able to tour the island ourselves. We visited some lovely, waving palm tree beaches with not too many people around. We visited a rain forest in Paradise Park where we saw a collection of tropical birds and had colourful Macaws land on our shoulders. The Polynesian Culture centre was very interesting where we learned of the old native ways of living from various ethnic groups which came to populate the Hawaiian Islands - Polynesian means many races. We drove through sugar cane plantations and pineapple fields, sampling the cut up pineapple at the Dole Pineapple Pavilion - no cheaper than here! As sugar cane requires a tremendous amount of moisture, Oahu uses more water in a year than does the City of New York.

We went to a traditional luau, an Hawaiian Feast which consists of a pig cooked in an imu, an underground oven. Hot porous volcanic rocks are placed inside the pig which is then wrapped in banana leaves, chicken wire and sacking and then placed in this oven for several hours. It looks pretty messy by the time it is ready to be served, but it has a good flavour. Sweet potatoes are served with it along with a fish salad, and cocoanut. After sampling all this and drinking the famous Mai-Tai punch, we were entertained by a group of Polynesian Dancers. They were just terrific, so very colourful.

The Kodak Camera Company puts on a free Polynesian Show in Honolulu which is also very spectacular. Some of the performers are not very slim and the bigger you are the more beautiful you are in the eyes of an Hawaiian. One performer was 300 lbs. and she was proud of every pound of it!

We also visited the Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbour where 1177 men are entombed in the sunken battleship. The memorial spans the sunken hull which rests in 38 feet of water.

The Punchbowl Military Cemetery is a fitting memorial to who gave their lives for freedom in the Pacific. It is a volcanic crater overlooking Honolulu and the famous Diamond Head. It is very sad to see new graves of those from Vietnam. By the chapel there is depicted in mosaic work the various battles of the Pacific.

As we were there over Christmas we went to a Christmas Eve Service at the Westminster Abbey of Hawaii - Kawaiahao Church. This proved to be a very impressive service as some of the carols were sung in Hawaiian and the end of the service was climaxed by each person holding a lighted candle.

One leaves Hawaii with lasting impressions of lush green mountains and valleys, a race of friendly people who certainly know the secret of living, fantastic rainbows, relaxing music and the friendly greeting of ALOHA.

MISCELLANEA - DISA AND DATA

The Club is going to lose a few familiar faces during the next few weeks. Bob Farrell, Tony Forster and Frank Reed will be taking off for Mexico May 24th. I hope we will see them again soon. Good Luck on your trip and don't forget to keep in touch! Another familiar couple to you all are Gay McCrindle and Jay Jarrett. They are taking off to Europe after travelling across Canada on May 1st. I understand they will be away for a long time, if not permanently. Our best to you also.

On the sad side of life, Kathie Shires and Gerry Aston, both old standing members, had health problems. Kathleen after a stay in hospital is now recovered and wishes to pass her thanks for all your visits and comforting words. Gerry Aston hurt his leg very badly and spent many weeks in casts, I understand he is much better now and is over the worst. "Thank you for the sympathy shown" he says.

Our Vice-President and his wife - Judy and Roger Woodgate, have just returned from Hawaii - lucky people! They had a good time and now have to return to work.

The club would like to extend Congratulations to Betty and Albert Kaiser on the adoption of a 9 month old boy.

NEW MEMBERS AND PACK RAT SUBSCRIPTIONS

NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS - PLEASE AMEND YOUR LIST

Bob Brade	2031-1st Avenue N.W. 42	283-4042
Fred De Vries	6615-Law Drive S.W. 10	249-4097
Edward Forester	1019-8th Avenue S.E.	265-1105
John Marshall	1510-1330-8th Street S.W. 3	266-2656
Henck Oliemans	2607-2nd Avenue N.W. 42	283-1051
Warner Plangg	Sub P.O. 58 Calgary	288-1552
Edith Sandy	1439-5th Street N.W. 41	289-6057
Mrs. Eva Soos	616-333-17th Avenue S.W. 3	266-9372
Sandy Vair & Family	46 Rosery Drive N.W. 43	289-0475

SLIDE CONTEST

Art and myself have implemented a slide contest for all you budding photographers. The contest will end September 29th, 1971, and there will be an entry fee of 25¢ per slide. The contest will include 3 categories:- 1) Natural Scenes. This is to include Flowers, Animals, Views of Mountains, etc. 2) Rambler activities - this pertains to the club - shots of us on our hikes, or the members and the general activities that we partake in. 3) Human shots - includes all pictures relating to human beings - can include your favourite party pictures! Or your girl friend or boy friend! The prize will be \$10. per category - so you've got the chance to win yourself \$30. I hope we get the chance to see your favourite slides.

PACK RAT COVER CONTEST

This contest is for you budding artists! What we want is a new design for the cover of your magazine. Prize is to be a free membership for 1972 or if you have not paid 1971's, this year's membership. If you are married this membership prize will include your family as well. The club will judge the prizewinner. Final date for submission July 29th, 1971. If you have doubts see Art Davis or John Woodhatch.

EXECUTIVE:- President: Robin Smith
 Vice President: Roger Woodgate
 Treasurer: Kathie Shires
 Secretary: Pat Rosettis
 Members At Large
 Social Functions - Judy Woodgate
 Programmes and Pack - John Woodhatch and
 Rat Editors Art Davis

Thought for the month - If you love the Mountains and their beauty, do not forget to show your appreciation by leaving this beauty unspoiled. This is all Nature asks of you.

Our thanks to Jenny Tomlin for making this edition possible.

The editors do not know about the inclusion of this section of the Pack Rat, so it is best if I remain anonymous.

This is the brief that was given to the Federal Government on the master plan for the four Western parks.

We would like to thank the author and his assistants, plus all the other people who contributed their ideas to the authors.

the brief was created by Laszlo Jamnicky, Sidney Lee and Robin Smith.

PREAMBLE

This brief has been prepared by the Rocky Mountain Ramblers Association of Calgary to express their views regarding the proposed National Parks Policy and to present what they consider to be constructive ideas concerning the National Parks. The issues of Parks Policy are of paramount importance not only to the present generation of Canadians but to all future generations as well.

1. Purpose of a National Park

- 1.1 The primary purpose of a National Park is to preserve examples of Canada's natural habitat and wildlife in an untarnished and self-perpetuating state. To this end, National Parks should be large enough to allow the preservation of viable communities of nature, rather than become inflated zoological or botanical gardens.
- 1.2 The second purpose of a National Park is to provide people with the opportunity to observe nature and to pursue activities such as hiking, climbing, ski-touring, camping, photography or painting. And more, while engaged in such doings, one should be allowed fresh air and silence, if desired. These activities are largely dependent upon the existence of undeveloped landscape. To this end, the Parks Policy should emphasize natural recreation, as listed above, and discourage forms of recreation which are artificial and not dependent on the presence of undeveloped wilderness.
- 1.3 The National Parks Act should be revamped to reflect the above view of the purpose of a National Park.

2. Zones

2.1 Land within a National Park should be zoned and the zones rigorously enforced. Four valid zones within a National Park are recognized:

2.1. 1 Absolute Wilderness

Absolute wilderness areas should be chosen to protect threatened ecological areas or species. Access to such wilderness zones should be denied to all except park wardens and research groups directly concerned with the study of the threatened species or areas. The boundaries of such zones should be defined based on results derived from ecological studies so as to create areas which will serve their purpose, rather than establish the boundaries simply by geographic criteria.

2.1. 2 Recreational Wilderness

Recreational wilderness should be accessible but undeveloped. The only evidence of man-kind within these areas should be the trails used by him and certain areas designated as camping sites, in order to localize the damage inevitably caused by camping activity.

2.1. 3 Highway Corridors

These corridors are the areas alongside existing highways, where all campgrounds, service centres and other visitor facilities should be placed.

2.1. 4 Intensive Use

This zone would cover areas of high population density and intensive use such as present townsites and lift-skiing resorts.

3. Access to Parks and Regions Thereof

- 3.1 The necessity of such national arteries as the Trans-Canada Highway and the Railways passing through the Western Parks is undisputable.
- 3.2 Highways such as the Trans-Canada, Jasper, Windermere, should be maintained as high quality, high speed arteries. Other roads within the Parks should be maintained at a standard allowing safety and ease of travel but discouraging high speed traffic. Such roads should be clearly designated as scenic park roads, typically the 1A alternate.
- 3.3 No new roads should be developed or planned. Particularly the proposed opening of the Cascade Fire road should be abandoned. Under no circumstances should roads be built to access regions of fragile ecology such as Egypt Lake and Lake O'Hara. This concept is in keeping with the purpose of the parks outlined in section 1 herein, in that travel into such areas should not be made easier for those people who are not interested enough to generate the enthusiasm required to reach these places.
- 3.4 Because of the delicacy of high-alpine ecology, no roads should be allowed to pass above the 6500 foot contour.
- 3.5 Off road motorized vehicles such as snowmobiles, trail bikes, aircrafts, helicopters, motorboats or bush vehicles should be used only by park officials for administrative purposes, certain back-country lodge operators and rescue personnel.

4. Camping and Trails

- 4.1 Park Trails should be well maintained and properly marked.
- 4.2 Horse Trails should be separated from hiking trails, if at all possible. Pollution by the horses of streams serving camping areas should not be permitted. It is extremely sad when high altitude creeks such

as cross the alpine meadow in Lake O'Hara become unfit for drinking because of horses.

- 4.3 Park policy should provide for the eventual development of an integrated network of trails allowing foot travel for considerable distances. Such trails should be located from roads whenever possible. However, strategically placed foot access routes are desirable to permit loop travel. In line with this proposal, the Rocky Mountain Ramblers Association stands ready to render whatever assistance it can in the design, development construction and maintenance of park trails.
- 4.4 Certain areas along trails should be designated as camping sites to prevent indiscriminate camping. No facilities should be provided unless warranted by heavy usage. Areas which demonstrate intensive use should have supervisory staff to enforce park rules.
- 4.5 Primitive campgrounds consisting of tent or trail spaces, shelters, latrines and garbage disposal facilities should be spotted along the highway corridors.
- 4.6 Ideally, developed and fully serviced campgrounds have no place in a National Park. These should be operated as commercial enterprises and located outside park boundaries, since they require considerable investment and maintenance.
- 4.7 Before new campgrounds are established to meet the rising need, those recently closed such as Olive Lake, Dolly Warden and Bon Lake should be reopened. This will minimize damage to the natural environment by making full use of areas already developed.

5. Commercial Development

- 5.1 Natural features within parks should not be exploited for private gain. By definition, the parks are held in trust by the Government for the enjoyment of all Canadians.

- 5.2 Ideally, townsites are not in keeping with the purpose of a National Park. It is recognized that large parks may require facilities for parks staff, and provide visitor services for the public such as accommodation, restaurants and gas stations. However, townsites should be designed so as to avoid becoming tourist attractions in their own right. It is not the purpose of the parks to encourage towns or villages which offer exceptional golf courses, swimming pools, curling rinks or similar activities, thus adding to visitor influx. These types of artificial recreation are best located outside the National Parks. The feasibility of phasing out some of the existing townsites and private holdings should be carefully considered.

- 5.3 All development in the parks should be closely scrutinized in the planning and operating stages as to guarantee its scenic harmony with the surroundings and to protect the Park's image in the minds of the users.