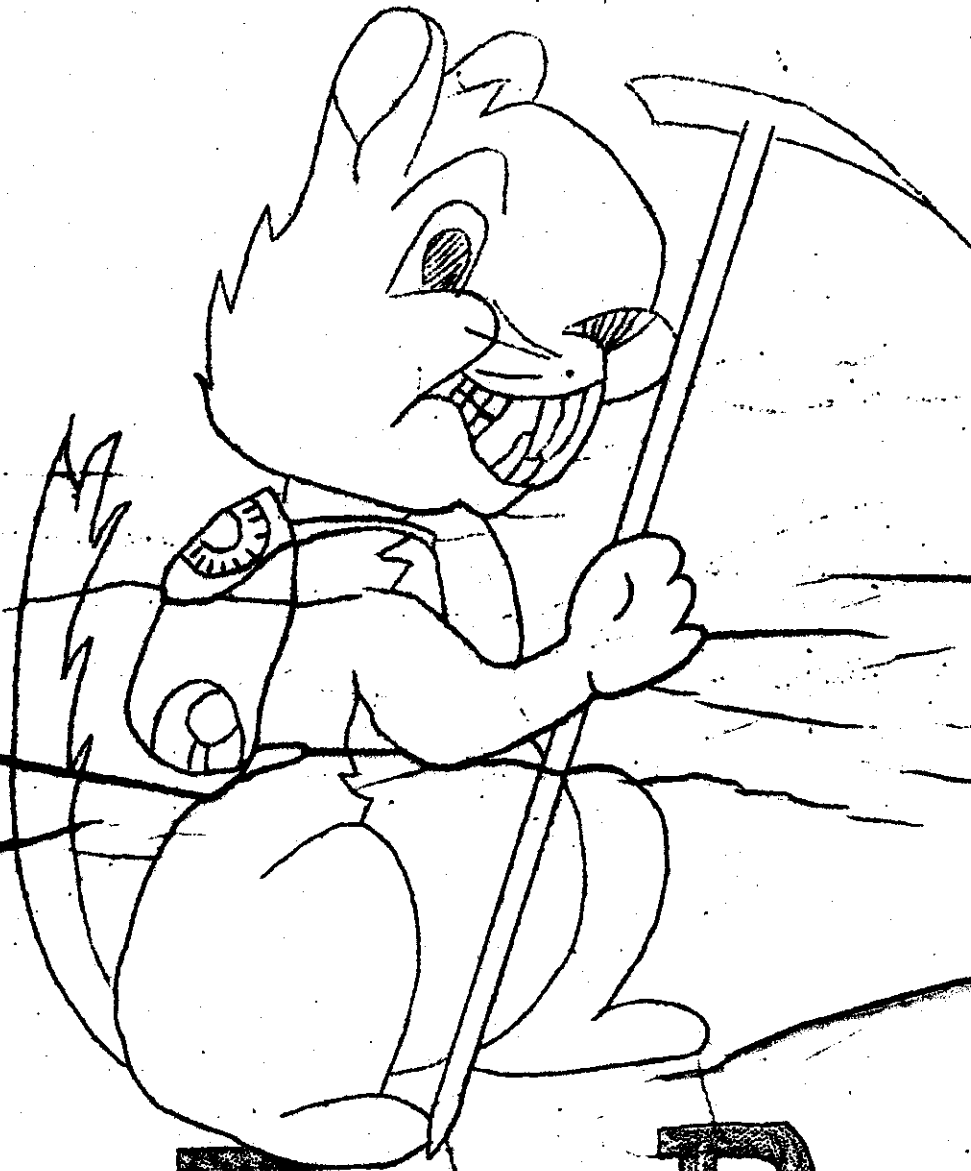


JLY 15/81



THE PACK RAT

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

The objectives 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 and knowledge of the countryside; to assist in the preservation of countryside amenities; to function as a bureau of information; to facilitate public access to the mountains and woodlands; to organize social functions for the members."

The Ramblers meet every Wednesday evening at 8:15 p.m. in the basement of the First Lutheran Church, 1001 - 7th Ave. S.W., Calgary, T2P 1A8. There they organize hikes, backpacking and canoeing trips. There are programs on two of every three Wednesdays. The Ramblers also hold social functions throughout the year.

For information phone 282-1330 (Bob Baxter at Bob's Bookstore, hours: Mon. to Sat. 10 to 12, 1 to 5) or any of the following in the evenings:

1980-81 EXECUTIVE

President	Ordell Steen	282-5156
Vice-President	Tony Forster	247-2612
Secretary	Key Kittle	247-4511
Treasurer	Tony Moran	286-7547
Leaders' Chairman	Dick Jull	265-3665
Programs	Ann Bloomberg	263-5652
Social	Pat Evans	282-7884
Packrat	Art Davis	233-7229
Equipment	Wilf Twelker	255-5852

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ABOUT LEADERS, COORDINATORS AND FOLLOWERS

When I first started out on trips with the Ramblers we had LEADERS (we now name them coordinators). This name change is fine, really in practical sense nothing has changed. Because, besides the leaders we have also FOLLOWERS, and in the way of a good follower we went wherever the leader went, or just tagged along, uphill or downhill, through creeks, in creeks, over mountains and on and on. Together they provided many fine arduous and adventurous weekend trips in true RAMBLER fashion. But after these long and hard weekends comes Wednesday and somehow there they were at the meeting and all must have found their way back in the city again either Sunday evening or sometimes Monday mornings.

For the sake of future Ramblers may I hope the FOLLOWERS give our COORDINATORS the same good support on outgoing trips and the suffering be done in silence to the greater glory of a follower.

Herman Zoetsier

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Note: At the next Annual General Meeting it is expected that our constitution will be amended to change the name "Leader" to "Coordinator", we will use the term "Coordinator" in the meantime.

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A GOOD DAYPACK - A GOOD BUY!

Currently available at K-Mart for \$15.97. I consider the "ECOLOGY NYLON RUCKSACK" despite its ridiculous name a great daypack. Far superior to many brand name daypacks at three times the price. It is identical to the daypack I have used for hiking and skiing from 1973 to 1980, when I replaced it with my present pack (\$105.95). I always found this lightweight pack very comfortable to carry, and I especially appreciated its roominess and those three outside pockets. It features an adjustable shoulder harness with foam padding and a lightweight tubular frame. Other stores may carry the same pack under a different name.

Heino Best

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NEWS FOR BACKPACKERS

From Japan comes the welcome news that, at last, somebody has developed a formula for dehydrated booze. The Sato Food Company is going into production of dehydrated whiskey and brandy, aside from sake. The freeze-dried hangovers may be available in Canada as soon as October of this year, unless the Liquor Control Board vetoes the idea. Taste and potency are reported to be unaffected by the treatment. Therefore, flavouring your cornflakes with these powders is not advisable.

And from California, the ultimate in backpackers' supplies: DEHYDRATED WATER! You just add water, and you've got water!

Heino Best

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TRIP REPORTS

Because of the nature of the information which I am about to impart to you my fellow Ramblers and because of the fear which I have for my own safety I cannot reveal my identity.

It is with great haste I am preparing the information which you are hopefully now reading.

As I sit here along in my living room at dusk I feel the urgency with which I must convey this warning to you all.

There exists within the Ramblers a small but rapidly growing group of sick minded people whose sole aim is the abolishment of those wonderful trip reports which club members so willingly give each week.

These people have organized themselves into a secret society called FORCE AGAINST REPORTING TRIPS - or - F.A.R.T. They will stop at nothing to achieve their goal. (How strange, I could have sworn that I heard the front door open and close, but upon inspection I found nothing untoward)

F.A.R.T. spreads its pernicious propoganda by trying to persuade other members of the Ramblers that trip reports are grudgingly given by the chosen members, last far too long, contain irrelevant information and waste time which could otherwise be devoted to the preparation of forthcoming trips.

MT. YAMNUSKA

The trip lead by Art Davis on Sunday, May 31st, started out as one of your ordinary hikes up to the back of Mt. Yamnuske.

We were to meet my Dad (Wilf), Heiner, Klaus and Ordell at the top as they were climbing the Grillmair Chimney.

We attacked the foot of Yamnuske with undaunted determination, but when we reached the base of the cliff face I for one know my pride was more than a little dented because I was in worse shape than I thought.

As we travelled left along the cliff base past the Grillmair route we saw Dad and company up along the climb.

We got around to the west col just before you start going up steeply again. There we stopped and had lunch.

Just after we started up again it hailed on us for a while. We were almost on top when the hail transformed into rain and lightning. We decided it best to evacuate the top to safety. We all half ran down the scree into the valley on the other side where we tried to wait out the storm under some trees. After a while we realized it wasn't going to let up, so we made a run for it down the valley, around the mountain and up onto the Yamnuske east shoulder.

When we got to the cars everyone was thoroughly soaked and chilled.

I think ~~that's~~ one of the more memorable ways to celebrate my birthday.

Suzie Twelker

.....AND UP THE GRILLMAIR CHIMNEY ON YAMNUSKA

While Art and his 22(00) followers were skirting the base of Yamnuske, Klaus, Ordell, Heiner and myself were trying a more direct way to the summit via the Grillmair Chimney, basically an easy climb with a rope, up a wide crack in the face of Mt. Yamnuske. We were about one third of the way up in the climb when Art and his followers appeared on the slope below the cliff face. We were still within communication distance and a few words were exchanged, then each continued his own way.

At about 1:00 p.m. a thunderstorm moved in. By this time we were about two thirds of the way up, some 150 metres below the exit onto the ridge of Yamnuske. All four of us were on a little scree slope under slightly overhanging rock, just right to have lunch and wait out the thunderstorm.

The rain came which turned to hail and then to wet snow. About one hour later most of the thunderstorm had passed, and with only a bit of lightning left we felt safe to carry on climbing. By this time we were joined by another rope from below, a man and a woman. We had been climbing for some twenty minutes when the second last bolt of lightning left in the sky had to come right down our crack. All of us felt a highly unpleasant jolt between our fingers and legs. Fortunately none of us was in a critical climbing position. It took us a few seconds to get over that shocking surprise and then we carried on climbing, through rock and snow and up that dripping wet chimney to the top. We were out of the climb by 4:30 p.m., wet and

cold, but, safe. We made a dash for the car. We still enjoyed a bottle of cold beer, then we were off to the coffee shop at Fort Chiniquay for warmth and food.

Not a bad day after all. But watch that lightning. Whatever is left in the sky has to come down and it may come down your way.

Wilf Twelker

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VACATION PLANS:

Quite and Heino have booked the Mountain Travel "Grand Canyon Exploration" trip, a 225 mile rafting trip through the Grand Canyon, shooting ALL the rapids, combined with lots of hiking, including one backpacking trip. The tour will be October 5th to October 22nd (18 days) and is limited to twelve participants. Presently, there are still a couple of openings, if anyone else might be interested. Experienced hikers/backpackers only! A physician's medical certificate is required as to physical fitness. Better shape up, Heino!

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READY FOR ANOTHER SING-ALONG?

The sets of song-sheets have been printed and are ready for distribution to those who ordered sets for their own use. Price is still only one buck per set, just slightly under cost. The sets for the club will be available for Rambler Sing-Alongs - ask Pat Evans or Heino Best. At the time of writing we are still checking into the cost of Duo-Tang Covers - lowest quote so far has been 31¢ per cover. Heino will have some extra ones available, at cost, for those of you who prefer them to the more expensive versions.

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A DYMOND IS A GIRLS BEST FRIEND:

More than a friend it appears as our Dymond in the rough", namely Matt has presented one of the gems of our association, Vivien Budgen with a diamond ring. Congratulations on your engagement and best wishes to you both.

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All members wish Heiner Uebelecker a speedy recovery from the injury he sustained on July 12th while on a climb of the North Face of Chinamen's Peak with Wilf Twelker and Ordell Steen. (Natural rockfall). Hope to see you fully recovered and back in action in the near future Heiner, after you get a new climbing helmet of course.

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With reference to the article on page 2 "A Good Daypack - A Good Buy!". Heino would like anyone interested in this pack to see him before getting one as there may be some slight differences as to the description given.

If you have been on an interesting backpack, hike, climb or whatever, write it up for the next Packrat. As you can see this issue is rather short on trip reports.