

THE PACKRAT

ROCKY
MOUNTIAN



RAMBLERS
ASSOC.

DECEMBER/96 - JANUARY/97

Hiking, Backpacking, Skiing, Cycling, Snow Shoeing,
(occasionally Climbing, Canoeing, and Mountain-Biking),
Educational and Awareness Programs, Social Functions.

MEETINGS: Weekly, Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m. (starting Jan. 1/97)
Rosemont Community Hall, 2807 - 10 Street N.W.

MAIL: Rocky Mountain Ramblers Association
c/o Calgary Area Outdoor Countil (CAOC)
1111 Memorial Drive N. W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2N 3E4

TRIP INFO: 282-6308 RMRA Hotline and at meetings.

RMRA EXECUTIVE 1996 - 1997

President	Bob St. John
Vice President	Barb McInnis
Past President	Reg Fryling
Trip Co-Ordinator	Ron Hunter
Treasurer	Chris Saunders
Secretary	Linda Eastwood
Social Director	Shirley Tajcna
Program Director	Dorothy-Ann Reimer
Newsletter Editor	Carol Perkins

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This issue marks my first attempt as your PackRat Editor. I hope you will find it as informative and enjoyable to read as I did in preparing it.

This particular issue is much larger than previous ones due to the fact it contains the minutes and reports from the Annual General Meeting held October 23, 1996, as well as other administrative minutes and reports.

Articles have been submitted by fellow Ramblers for publication. These are worthy of reading! They include a very special reunion which brought tears to my eyes, a travelogue on Newfoundland which prompts me to book my flight and a profile of a fellow Rambler which pays a deserving tribute to a valuable club member. I give a special thanks to these people for spending the time and effort to prepare a story and the willingness to share it with fellow members.

I am open to any and all suggestions on the newsletter format or contents and appreciate all articles and information submitted and thank all those who provided information for this issue. This is really your newsletter, I am merely the one who puts it together.

I will endeavour to find all typos and errors. My apologies to those whose articles where I may have missed some.

Please: "Be patient, God isn't finished with me yet" (even at my age!).

Sincerely,

Carol Perkins

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Administrative:

1996 Annual General Meeting	
1995 AGA Minutes.....	Page 4
1996 Financial Statements.....	Page 6
President's Report.....	Page 8
Trip Co-Ordinator's Report.....	Page 10
Trip Statistics.....	Page 12
President's Message.....	Page 3
Minutes Co-Ordinaotr's Council.....	Page 18
Executive Meeting Minutes.....	Page 21

Articles:

The Reunion.....	Page 14
Return Visit to Newfoundland.....	Page 16
Profile of a Rambler.....	Page 23

Other:

Program Questionnaire.....	Page 5
Avalanche Equipment List.....	Page 15

Upcoming:

Social Events.....	Page 17
Assiniboine Trip.....	Page 13
Cross Country Clinic & Outing.....	Page 3

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, like it or not, you're stuck with me for another year! I am looking forward to working with our new Executive, a blend of new and old (I mean familiar) faces. They are all conscientious people and will be a good group to work with. I personally look forward to a somewhat easier pace than the last year and a half. I believe that RMRA now has in place policies that satisfactorily address the need for increased safety awareness. This winter I look forward to taking advantage of the already plentiful snowfall; and just having fun.

There are a few changes that are noteworthy:

- This is the first issue of the PackRat to be mailed out to members. Hopefully more people will become aware of club functions through this newsletter.
- Meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays starting January 1, 1997.
- A revised Members Manual is now available to new members, and an update is available to those who already have a manual. The most noteworthy change is Chapter 7, which details the new winter trip rating system and contains a comprehensive list of pre-rated trips. Chapter 6 shows adjustments to the Avalanche Safety Table, and includes new avalanche course requirements for co-ordinators. If you don't have a manual or an update please see our Treasurer, Chris Saunders, for a free copy.

A number of members wish to purchase an avalanche transceiver. If you would also like to purchase one, please let me know asap. If I can get enough people from our club (and perhaps others) then a bulk purchase can be made at a discounted price. I plan to do the purchase by the first week of January.

Happy Skiing (and Snow Shoeing)!!!

NEXT PackRat issue.....
January 29, 1997
Deadline for Submissions
January 22, 1997

A Cross Country Clinic and Outing For Beginners or Refreshers Class Size limit is 8 participants

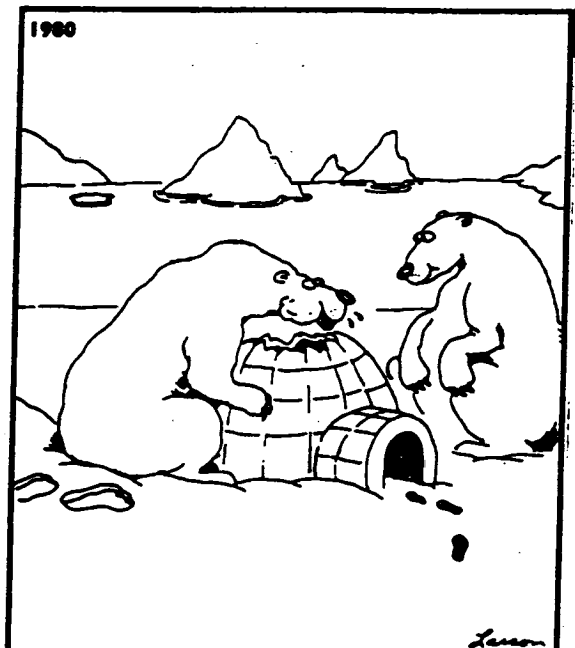
Clinic and outing are free for RMR members
A charge of \$50 is for non-members
(payable at the clinic)

Clinic Date is Nov. 29 from 7-9 pm
to be held at Crescent Rd. NW
Phone to confirm

Topics covered are:
equipment to buy
waxing
dressing for the outing
preparing your body
xc ski etiquette
survival tips
and more

The Outing is December 7
Meeting at Shouldice Arena parking lot
Departure time is: 9 am
Length of the outing is approx 3 hours
Details given in the clinic

The Clinic and Outing are to be repeated
on
January 10 - clinic
January 18th - outing



"Oh hey! I just love these things! ... Crunchy on the outside and a chewy center!"

submitted by Ken Park

**MINUTES OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 18, 1995
AT THE ROSEMONT COMMUNITY CENTRE, CALGARY, ALBERTA**

Minutes from the 1994 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 1994 Annual General Meeting were approved as corrected.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

President's Report

President, Bob St. John read out his annual report (copy on file). Bob remembered the loss of Ron Folkins on a club trip and paid special tribute to Dave Reid and the role he played both during and after the tragedy. He also thanked the other members of the executive who served on committees, social events and programs.

Financial Statement & Treasurer's Report

John Schleinich presented the treasurer's report (copy on file) and answered questions about the report. John pointed out that we had a slight deficit for the first time in our history. This was due to losses at some of our social activities and the coffee shop. John said that we usually have between six and seven hundred dollars to spend above our normal operating costs. He felt this money should be spent on outdoor activities and that social activities should be self supporting. John also said that we have a G.I.C. purchased out of savings that will yield us \$120 in interest which is not included in this report.

MOVED by Dave Reid and seconded by Frank Stanley that we accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Passed.

Report of Co-Ordinators' Chairperson

Reg Fryling gave a summary of the past year's trip activities. Dave Reid took out the most people (268) and Alastair Sinclair took out the most trips (26). He congratulated Francisco Gali, Ron Hunter, David Ladoucer, Eric Stopford and Marianne Wolters who are now full co-ordinators. Sheila Quigley and Linda Voycey are new assistant co-ordinators.

Marianne Wolters is the new Co-Ordinators' Chairperson.

New Business

1. Change in the By-laws

MOVED by Bob St. John and seconded by Reg Fryling that the following be added to Section 11: "(e) All participants of Association trips are subject to the requirements of the Avalanche Safety Policy as determined by the Co-Ordinators' Council."

Amendment #1

MOVED by Darlene Weger and seconded by Alistair DesMoulins that the motion be amended to "(e) All participants of the Association trips are subject to the requirements of the safety policies as determined by the Co-Ordinators' Council".

Amendment #2

MOVED by Peter Fisher, seconded by Barbara Fisher that the motion be amended to: "(e) All participants of Association trips are subject to the requirements of the safety policy as determined from time to time by the Co-Ordinators' Council."

Amendment #2 was defeated.

Amendment #1 was passed.

2. Thank you

Wally thanked all the outgoing executive, especially our president, Bob St. John who did an outstanding job in leading our club through this year's tragedy and who put a lot of work into the Avalanche Policy.

Bob presented Reg with a personalized card thanking him for his service to the club first as the president and then as Chairperson of the Co-Ordinators' Council.

3. Winter Rates

Moved by Reg Fryling and seconded by Barbara Mitchell that we adopt the rate of four cents a kilometer as approved by the Co-Ordinators' Council. Approved.

continued on next page.....

4. Rambler Pins

As approved by the Co-Ordinators' Council, Dave Mulligan was presented with a silver pin. The gold pin will be awarded at the dinner and dance.

Election of the 1995-1996 Committee

Wally Drew was the Nominating Committee. Wally conducted the election of the new executive. The following were nominated and elected by acclamation.

- President: Bob St. John
- Vice President: Ron Hunter
- Secretary: Darlene Weger
- Treasurer: Anita O'Reilly
- Packrat Editor: Linda Eastwood
- Program Chairperson: Carol Perkins
- Social Chairperson: Sheila Quigley

Safety Committee

The Safety Committee was started last spring. Standing members of the committee are: the President, the Vice President, Program Chairperson and Co-ordinators' Chairperson. Bob asked for eight more volunteers to serve on the committee. The following people volunteered to serve on the Safety Committee. Wally Drew, Reg Fryling, Alister DesMoulins, Barbara Fisher, Dick Lowndes, Alice Laughton, Bernie Fritz.

Coffee Shop

John Mitchi moved we elect Frank Stanley to continue to manage the coffee shop. All in favour.

Adjournment

MOVED by Steve Logos and seconded by Ken Watson that the meeting be adjourned. All in favour.

**PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE
TO PROGRAM OR NOT TO PROGRAM - THAT IS THE QUESTION?**

We'd like to plan programs that you will enjoy. Please help by filling in this form and returning it to Dorothy-Ann Reimer. If you want to fax it send it to 265-1870 Attn: D. Reimer. Or leave a few (polite?) comments on my answering machine at 225-2499.

- 1) Do you want programs? _____
- 2) How often? One per month? _____ Twice per month? _____
Weekly? _____ Other? _____
- 3) What would you like to see?
Talks on -
Nature (bears, migratory birds, etc)? _____
Environment Protection? _____ Recycling? _____
Clinics/demonstrations such as -
Ski care/ waxing? _____ First Aid (simple)? _____
Predicting and avoiding hazards? (e.g. lightning storms, whiteouts, bears, avalanches, rock/scree, hypothermia)? _____
Slide shows by members?
Adventure trips? _____ Holiday trips? _____
Memorable Rambler Trips? _____
Other ideas? _____
- 4) How long a program? _____
- 5) Other suggestions? _____
- 6) Your favourites - what was your favourite program last year and what did you like about it? _____

THANKS A BUNCH FOR YOUR HELP!!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES for the year ended September 30, 1996

INCOME	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Memberships	✓ \$3240.00	\$3110.00
Annual Dinner and Dance	1560.00	1733.07
Social Events	126.06	82.60
Coffee	41.43	74.00
Sale - Crest, Decals, Books	73.00	35.00
PackRat Advertising	✓ 90.00	77.00
Seminars	840.00	442.50
Miscellaneous	0.00	43.00
G.I.C. Interest	✓ <u>120.00</u>	<u>10.03</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$6090.49</u>	<u>\$5607.20</u>
EXPENSES		
Hall Rental	↓ \$1600.00	\$1600.00
Annual Dinner and Dance	1466.78	1592.78
Social Functions	0.00	402.87
Coffee Supplies	164.75	111.28
Purchases - crests, decals, etc.	158.90	0.00
PackRat Costs	✓ 86.10	94.64
Education - seminars and courses	884.25	582.50
Copying/Stationery/Postage	297.89	126.47
Telephone	✓ 496.53	439.37
Association Memberships	107.00	136.22
Post Office Box Rental	10.70	5.00
Bank Charges	6.93	16.77
Miscellaneous (answering machine)	<u>267.51</u>	<u>521.74</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$5547.34</u>	<u>\$5629.64</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 543.15</u>	<u>\$ -22.44</u>

Respectfully submitted,

A. O'Reilly
Treasurer

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET as at September 30, 1996

ASSETS	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Cash	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
G.I.C.	2000.00	2000.00
Chequing Account	<u>2931.50</u>	<u>2438.35</u>
	\$4931.50	\$4438.35
Prepayments:		
Hall Rental	266.70	266.70
Prepaid Award Dinner	<u>250.00</u>	<u>200.00</u>
	516.70	466.70
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$5448.20</u>	<u>\$4905.05</u>

LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY

Current Liabilities and Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00
Capital Account, Opening Balance	4905.05	4927.49
Excess Income over Expenses	<u>543.15</u>	<u>-22.44</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY	<u>\$5448.20</u>	<u>\$4905.05</u>

Respectfully submitted,

A. O'Reilly
Treasurer

We have examined the accounts of the Rocky Mountain Ramblers Association for the year ended September 30, 1996, and in our opinion the financial statements express fully the financial position of the Association as of September 30, 1996 and are on the basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

B. Westcott

C. Saunders

RMRA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1996 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Greetings from Nepal to all present here tonight at the 1996 AGM. I am truly sorry to have missed this meeting as it promises to be a lively one. I may be doubly sorry as there is a distinct possibility that at this very moment I am on the potty in misery, much to the delight of some of you I suppose. I will get even when I return by presenting countless non-descript slides at an excruciatingly slow pace. You are warned!

All Ramblers should be proud of what our club has accomplished this past year. We have gained significant respect in the Calgary outdoor community for our innovative policies and our willingness to share them with other clubs. Our Avalanche Policy is now part of both the Norseman Ski Club and the Calgary Ski Club winter programs. Over the last year the Ramblers have played a pivotal role in developing a common system for rating backcountry ski trips. Three clubs; the Ramblers, the Norseman Ski Club and the Calgary Ski Club are currently implementing these ratings. The Calgary Section of the Alpine Club is reviewing this system and may consider it for next year. The new ratings are more descriptive and more concise than our current system. We should all benefit, but hopefully new members to our club will gain the most by our implementation. In the future a common system will allow collaboration with other clubs for exchange of information, exchange of members, and promotion of joint activities. The Ramblers, the Norseman Ski Club, the Calgary Ski Club and the Alpine Club are in the forefront of recreational skiing in Calgary. We are the smallest of the four in terms of members and budget, yet I believe ours is the best club to belong to. We offer a greater range of activities, we offer greater flexibility to current conditions, and we are more responsive to our members. All these benefits are for you, and are the result of our most important members, our volunteers.

Who volunteers in our club? There are the obvious ones, and I will credit them later. All co-ordinators are volunteers, and perhaps Marianne will mention some of them. To take out just one trip a year, to risk waiting alone at Shouldice in the rain, to risk getting your group lost, or to risk not pleasing someone, takes courage. All co-ordinators have been there, and the club thanks you all. You can thank them individually by cheerfully volunteering to give the trip report. Many lend support to the club by quietly doing the tasks necessary for the club to run

effectively. Some come early to set up the hall, some stay late to clean up after. Our Social and Safety Committees would not function without members giving their time. Anyone who gives a slide presentation, or presents a program, or opens their home to functions, or provides entertainment, or writes an article for The PackRat is a valuable volunteer. The Ramblers are grateful to all of you.

There are some members who I wish to mention by name. Our Executive this year was a strong one and made my job a breeze. Our Vice President, Ron Hunter, capably took over in my absence, like I hope he does tonight. To all you lawyers out there; don't try to railroad anything by him! Ron put in a lot of time organizing the Safety Committee and ensured it's successful program this last year. Our Treasurer, Anita O'Reilly, has kept our vaults full and even sold some Histories and pins! Darlene Weger was present at all Executive and Co-ordinators meetings', and even made some sense of the verbals in note form. Marianne Wolters has made improvements to the Co-ordinators' Council and has worked hard with others to formulate plans for the coming year. Our only suggestion is that next time you leave, get a better looking replacement! Carol Perkins kept the programs entertaining and varied. Carol is a super volunteer and donates a lot of her time to this club. She can also bake the strangest cakes! Shirley Tajcnar stepped in as Social Director when Sheila Quigley could not continue. Shirley is another super volunteer who does not like the limelight, but deserves it. She did a great job this year organizing our social events. Linda Eastwood continued to keep The Packrat in its spiffy new format, and our next Editor will have to be innovative to top Linda's work. Reg Fryling is our dapper Past President. He did not actually do anything, but he is one "way cool dude". Wally Drew, our longest serving active member, is also one of our most visible volunteers. Even with his shoulder injury last year he still made it to most meetings. Year after year he gives weather reports, is one of the most active co-ordinators, and shows continual concern for the good of the club. Dawn Jones has introduced many of our members to cross country skiing, and has a program in place for new skiers this winter. I have heard nothing but compliments from her past students. Our coffee

continued on next page.....

shop underwent a few changes this year, but one thing was left unchanged, and that was Frank Stanley running it. Frank went through a few changes himself at home, but The Ramblers is a fixture in his life, and we thank him for the job he does for us. Alistair DesMoulins spent a great deal of this time representing the RMRA on the Roundtable of the Banff Bow Valley Study, an arduous task. He also provided valuable insight into Safety Committee policies.

I want to thank all Ramblers for allowing me to serve as your President this year. I did put in considerable time, perhaps more than I initially planned, in club affairs (no, not that kind). I did not mind doing this as long as I felt I had the support of the club, and as long as I felt I was making progress. I appreciate all those who helped in a positive, constructive manner, even if I may have disagreed with some of their ideas. In the year to come I encourage all members to support the club by volunteering, and to speak out when you feel something needs to be improved. Also do not lose sight of what we are here for, to have fun and to enjoy the outdoors in a responsible manner.

Thank you,

Bob St. John
RMRA President

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

Thursday, December 5, 6:30 p.m.

Co-ordinators Workshop on Group Management with a focus on winter activities, led by Keith Morton. **Contact Marianne Wolters for more information.**

Avalanche Awareness Course similar to last year's course by Keith Morton, there will be an evening lecture/discussion on either Thursday, January 9 or Friday January 10 to cover theory (snow structure, types of terrain, transceivers, etc.). This will be followed by a practical day on the snow (Saturday or Sunday), probably at Fortress Mountain. The terrain will be easy and could be done on snowshoes. The cost will be about \$55 if 20 people sign up. Co-ordinators will receive priority.

We will be looking at opening the course to other ski clubs if it doesn't appear the Ramblers will fill it, so sign up early! Note: You can be a novice skier. **Contact Barb McInnis or Ron Hunter for more information.**

KEN'S QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain — and most do."

— DALE CARNEGIE

"Life does not begin at the moment of conception or the moment of birth. Life begins when the kids leave home."

— ANONYMOUS

"Consider how hard it is to change yourself and you'll understand what little chance you have of trying to change others."

— JACOB M. BRAUDE

"Standing in the middle of the road is very dangerous: you get knocked down by the traffic from both sides."

— MARGARET THATCHER

"Somewhere on this globe, every ten seconds, there is a woman giving birth to a child. She must be found and stopped."

— SAM LEVENSON

"The reason I know my youth is all spent? My get up and go has got up and went."

— LEN INGEBRIGSTEN



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TRIP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

My job is about trips, which is what this club is all about. This past year our activity was slightly higher than the previous year. We had a total of 236 trips, 264 trip days, and 1909 person days: 5 coordinators each had more than 100 person days of activity. Alistair DesMoullins, Wally Drew Dave Reid, Alastair Sinclair, and Bob St. John. Gert Noer took out 20 trips and Dave Reid led with 31 trips. Full statistics will be available in the next PackRat.

We made a few changes this year:

- We have a more flexible answering machine. The added features enabled us to all last minute trips, which were used frequently.
- The requirement to take out 1 trip a year in order to retain full co-ordinator status was removed, and past co-ordinators were reinstated. It is hoped that this will encourage more members to become co-ordinators and will result in a greater variety of trips.
- Course requirements for co-ordinators were reviewed by the Safety Committee and recommendations were brought to the Co-ordinators' Council both in the spring and again in the fall. The latest proposal is subject to review by the new Executive.
- We will be having a group management evening for coordinators early this winter, followed by two practical days - one of shelter building and the other one on route finding. Some evening programs will also result from the work done on co-ordinators' workshops.
- A budget for co-ordinator workshops and for course subsidies for co-ordinators was approved by the Safety Committee and the Co-ordinators' Council, and will be brought to the new Executive.
- Several Calgary ski clubs got together and developed a new rating system that we will be implementing this upcoming season.

Congratulations to this year's new co-ordinators: Ken Park as Full Co[ordinator, and Rita Polt, Chris Saunders, Anita O'Reilly, Tom Flanagan, and Peter Papisideris as Assistant Co-ordinators. We've already enjoyed their first trips and are looking forward to many more.

On a recent stay at the Hilda Creek Hostel, we Ramblers were the only local, and the visitors from Europe and elsewhere in Canada made us realize how lucky we are to have the Rockies as our

backyard. We sometimes take our surroundings for granted, and newcomers make us more aware and appreciative. As co-ordinators, we sometimes have the pleasure of introducing others to our glorious playground.

While some people say that we have become less adventuresome and too regimented by our new safety policies, I feel that we still do have a spirit of adventure. We had two moonlight hikes this past summer - one intentionally and one not (or was it?). There were also two ski trips where we had to settle for headlamps in the absence of moonlight.

We had countless blisters, cuts, bruises, and sore muscles. On a more serious note, we had two serious injuries on one ski trip, resulting in pain and suffering for two of our long-time coordinators. This stresses the need for be prepared, and to look out for each other.

Equipment failures on ski trips forced come changed plans and raised some concerns. An evening program on equipment repair should help us cope better this year.

Some highlights of the year's trips include:

- A number of Ramblers tried out telemark skis and grew addicted to untracked powder. We stayed at the Wheeler Hut and Roger's Pass and did what may be the first official Ramblers' ascent of Young's Peak.
- We skied and flew in to Assiniboine where we stayed at primitive cabins and dined under a canopy of drying socks, mitts, and gaiters.
- We took advantage of our hostel membership and were able to spend more time skiing, hiking, and socializing, and less time driving.
- Probably the coldest trip of the year was one in to Lake O'Hara in January where water bottles turned into ice bottles and one car engine refused to turn over.
- This year, Ramblers ventured into mountain biking. One such trip saw a participant somersault off his bike when surprised by a log. Another trip was so windy that the rider was blown from his bike. Fortunately, in both cases, there was minimal damage to riders and bikes
- There was so much snow in the spring that breaking trail one hike consisted of wading

continued on next page.....

TRIP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

continued

- through chest high snow amidst exclamations of "I've never seen this much snow before!"
We spent a lot of time hiking in mud - even in the badlands the mud (or was it quicksand?) was boot deep in places.
- On one hike, the group climbed the wrong mountain, found it to be a very enjoyable climb, then proceeded to climb the advertised peak. Two for the price of one!
- We had a bicycle rally where everyone discovered a part of the city new to them.
- 9 Ramblers stood on the summit of Mt. Temple - third highest peak in the southern Rockies.
- We are also very hardy. Recently one Rambler stood at the summit of Fortress in -5 deg. (before the wind chill factor) in his shorts!!

Many people have contributed to the past year's success. I would like to give a special thanks:

- to John Schleinich for covering for me when I was away.
- to Darlene Weger for struggling through reworded and amended motions and jumping from one item to the next while she tried to record minutes of the Co-ordinator's' meetings.
- to Reg Fryling and Dave Reid for offering advice on how to do my job when I needed it.
- to Dave Reid for hosting the new co-ordinators workshop in the spring.
- to Darlene Weger, John Schleinich, Reg Fryling, and Dave Reid for all of their efforts in planning the co-ordinators' workshops, and to all of the co-ordinators who took the time to respond.
- to Dawn Jones for the beginners ski lessons.
- to Bob St. John for all his work on trip ratings.
- to Ken Park for suggesting that we purchase a Hostel membership.
- to Run Hunter for hosting the Co-ordinators' Council meetings.
- to Gert Noer for breaking trail most of the year, starting with Blueberry Hill in November and continuing on through to barrier Lookout in May.
- And a special thank you to all of the co-ordinators who took out trips this past year. They are the backbone of this club, because without them we would have no trips. I think we all owe a special thank you to our co-ordinators.

In closing, I'd like to say that I have enjoyed the past year, and regret having to step down. I'm sure that

Ron will do an admirable job, and I'll still see you all on the trails.

1995-96 Trips Summary

The club's activity for 1995-96 was marginally higher than for 1994-95. In 1994-95 we had 213 trips with 1891 person days. This was broken down into 141 hikes, 15 cycle trips, 8 backpacks, 1 work party, 46 cross-country ski trips, 10 downhill ski trips, 4 snowshoe trips, 3 car camps and 3 skating trips. (For details, see page 12 of this newsletter).

RMRA ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held on November 8 at the Calgary Winter Club. 51 'twinkle-toed' Ramblers enjoyed an evening of good food, dancing and visiting.

Many thanks to Marianne and Tom Flanagan for heading up the enthusiastic contingent of line dancers. Thanks also to the following stores that donated the door and spot dance prizes:

Abominable Ski & Sportwear
Dynamic Cycle
Hostel Shop
Lifesport
Mountain Equipment Co-op
Norseman
Ski Cellar
Sport Chek

Winners of the special awards went to the following Ramblers:

- Best or most creative hiking/XC skiing outfit:
Tom Flanagan
- Most improved hiker or XC skier:
Bernie Fritz
- Congeniality Award:
Darlene Weger and Roger Woodgate
- Most interesting item found in a pack:
Gert Noer
- Most interesting thing someone said:
Larry Taylor

TRIP STATISTICS

1995-96 Trips Oct. 1/95 - Sept. 29/96	Total Trips	Total Days	Person Days	Hike	Cycle	TRIPS		
						X-C Ski	Downhill Ski	Snowshoe
Angus, Brieta	4	4	17	2			2	
Campbell, Doug	4	4	40	4				
Davis, Art	11	12	90	12				
DesMoulins, Alistair	9	25	120	9				
Drew, Wally	11	11	165	11				
Peter Fischer	1	1	8	1				
Tom Flanagan	1	1	1	1				
Fryling, Reg	10	9	26	3	5		2	
Gali, Fransisco	3	3	12	3				
Hunter, Ron	9	10	67	9				
Jones, Dawn	6	6	44				6	
Jull, Dick	1	2	4	1				
Kittle, Kay	2	2	34	2				
Ladouceur, Dave	1	1	1		1			
Lavallee, Del	2	2	13	2				
Logos, Steve	2	2	24	2				
McInnis, Barb	3	3	14	2			1	
Moran, Tony	2	2	16	1				1
Mulligan, Dave	13	17	61	2	2		8	1
Noer, Gert	20	20	85	8	5		7	
O'Reilly, Anita	1	1	9	1				
Park, Ken	5	10	69	2	1		2	
Pattison, Helga	1	1	8	1				
Pott, Rita	3	3	28	3				
Reid, Dave	31	31	272	22			9	
Saunders, Chris	3	3	25	3				
Schleinich, John	15	15	94	9			6	
Scott, Ken	5	5	78	5				
Sinclair, Alastair	19	19	164	16			3	
St. John, Bob	16	18	136	9			6	1
Stopford, Eric	1	1	13	1				
Taylor, Mary	1	1	23	1				
Watson, Ken	1	1	10	1				
Weger, Darlene	1	1	20		1			
Westcott, Brian	1	1	24	1				
Wolters, Marianne	16	16	94	9			7	
TOTAL	236	264	1909	159	15	59	2	1
Hikes	159	179	1493					
Cycle	15	15	54					
X-C Ski	59	68	360					
Downhill Ski	2	2	4					
Snowshoe	1	1	6					

ASSINIBOINE SKI TRIP

February 19 - 23, 1997

"Fly In - Ski Out"



COST: \$85.00 - \$100.00 + GST (Helicopter - 1 way)
\$40.00 Naiset Cabins (\$10.00/night)

TOTAL: Approximately \$150.00 4 nights, 5 days

If this trip is as good as the last time I went it should be fantastic. Enjoy one of Canada's most beautiful places while staying in the rustic, cosy Naiset Cabins. Bring everything you need (maximum 40-50 lb.). We'll even be bringing in our own firewood!! Beautiful touring and telemarking abounds so plan to come on this once in a lifetime (for some) experience. We need a minimum of 4 people to make this trip fly (bad pun intended). Maximum 12 people. Everyone from lower intermediate to expert skiers can enjoy this trip. Avalanche transceivers will probably be required.

We'll be able to have our gear flown out (approximately \$2.00/lb.) so we can ski out with only a day pack.

If you can only go from Friday to Sunday it might possibly be arranged.

PAYMENT DEADLINE: Full payment due no later than Friday, January 17th.



Contact Ken Park: 244-6809

P.S. If Mother Nature co-operates, we'll be able to go for a moonlight ski during our stay. The Full Moon is Feb. 22nd.

REMEMBER!!

There will not be a RMRA meeting on Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day. However, Tom and Marianne Flanagan will be hosting a Christmas Day Potluck. Details to follow later. Contact either Tom or Marianne at

Effective January 1, 1997 RMRA meetings will start at 7:30 pm. Meetings continue to be held at the Rosemont Community Centre.

THE REUNION

by Del Trewinnard

On Friday, September 13, 1942 the ship Ottawa H 60 (Ottawa I) was sunk in the North Atlantic after being hit by 2 German torpedoes. Fortunately this occurred in the Gulf Stream as the survivors were in the water 5 hours before being rescued. 76 officers and men survived plus 1 of 23 British Merchant seamen who had been rescued by the Ottawa when their ship was sunk a few days earlier. 113 officers and men plus 22 British Merchant seamen were lost.

Of the 76 survivors, 15 are still alive and on September 28, 1996, 11 attended the commissioning (in Cornwall, Ontario) of the HMCS Ottawa (FFH341), the 4th ship to bear the Ottawa name. One of the survivors in attendance was Steve Logos.

When Steve learned of the commissioning and knew former Ottawa men were to be invited he decided this was a once in a life-time opportunity to get the survivors together for a last reunion. For 3 months he wrote letters, made phone calls and communicated with the Department of National Defence in Ottawa. He spent a great deal of time and effort and finally located 15 survivors plus 42 former members of HMCS Ottawa who were not aboard when she was torpedoed. He contact each by phone, followed by several letters to inform them of the reunion to be held at the time of the commissioning. In the end, there were the 11 survivors plus 16 of the 42 former members able to be in attendance for the reunion and commissioning.

It was heart warming to see these 11 "old fellows" reunited. It was as if the clock had been turned back 54 years. After the men were rescued they were taken to Halifax, then sent home on leave. From

there they were all assigned to different ships and served their time until the war ended in 1945. Many of the men had not seen or contacted their buddies since they parted in Halifax in September 1942.

We all stayed at the same hotel in Cornwall, Ontario. The Cornwall Naval Club provided us with buses, drivers, meals at their club, plus super hospitality. Some of us went up to Montreal and sailed down the St. Lawrence Seaway on the New Ottawa. We were taken into Ottawa by bus twice. Once to go Parliament and the second time to receive the key to the city at an official ceremony.

We had an interesting guest at our banquet held at the Cornwall Naval Club. A woman whose father had been one of the unfortunate men lost at the sinking. She was only 3 years old at the time so never knew her Dad. She learned of the reunion and phoned Steve to see if she could meet some of the men. Steve suggested she come to the banquet. She was able to talk to men who had known her father well and spend the evening hearing stories that she will treasure the rest of her life.

Another guest came all the way from Nottingham, England. Eric was the 1 British Merchant seaman who had survived the sinking of his ship a few days earlier, then survived again when the Ottawa was torpedoed. He's not Irish, but certainly lives under a lucky star.

The male camaraderie which is so evident when men are thrown together as in a wartime situation, quickly surfaced when these old salts came together again as "young sailors" oblivious of the past 54 years.

Safety Committee members wanted:

phone Barb McInnis for more information.

AVALANCHE INFORMATION

Call the Calgary Herald Talkies, 243-7253 and enter SNOW (7669).

As of November 1996, Rockies is 1, Banff is 3, Kananaskis is 4 and Yoho is 5.

AVALANCHE EQUIPMENT
(COMPILED BY KEN PARK)

Please note: these are last year's rates

	MAKER	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	PRICES				
					CAMPERS VILLAGE	HOSTEL SHOP	WITH EQUIP. CO-OP	TOTAL OUTFITTING	VALMULLA
TRANSCEVERS	PEPS	487	70 metre range. Has external speaker with earphone capability.	Lightest weight: 215 grams	1265	—	1265	1255	—
	PEPS	487 OPT. FINDER	Same as 487 but has light to indicate signal strength.	Weight: 220 grams	1280	—	1280	1280	—
	ORTOVOX	F1 FOCUS	80 metre range. Has arrow indicator with green, yellow, red lights. Motor proof on/off switch. Earphone capability.	Weight: 230 grams	—	1330	1330	—	—
	ORTOVOX	F1 PLUS	Same as F1 Focus but has single light indicator	Weight: 230 grams	—	1330	1330	—	—
	ORTOVOX	F1 CLASSIC	Same as F1 Focus but no visual light indicator	Weight: 230 grams	—	1315	1305	—	—
	ORTOVOX	F2	80 metre range. Picks up 487 or 2.275 signal	Weight: 300 grams	—	1255	1255	—	—
SHOVELS	VOILE	TELEPRO	Telescoping shaft "D" grip alum. blade (28 X 25.6 cm)	Weight: 810 grams	—	148.95	148	145.95	—
	VOILE	PRO	Same as Telepro but with fixed shaft. Weight: 700 grams		—	—	137	—	—
	VOILE	TELEPACK	Telescoping shaft (13 cm shorter) "T" handle, alum. blade		—	—	—	144.95	—
	VOILE	MINI	Telescoping shaft shortest of all similar blades, "T" grip, alum blade.	Smallest Weight: 600 grams	—	—	139	—	—
	VOILE	EXTREME PRO	Fixed length shaft, "D" grip, alum blade		—	—	—	154.95	—
	LIFELINK		Lexan blade (synthetic)	Lightest Weight: 688 grams	143.95	—	—	—	145.95
	LIFELINK	III DX	Lexan blade, telescoping shaft, 30.5 X 23 cm blade		—	—	140	—	—
SHOVELS (continued)	LIFELINK	HMX	Telescoping shaft, "T" grip alum blade		—	—	142	—	—
	ORTOVOX		Telescoping shaft, "L" grip left or right hand, polycarbon blade.	Multipurpose: has function, deadman anchor, emergency sled function. Weight: 800 grams	—	148.95	—	—	—
	SURVIVAL ON SNOW		Telescoping shaft, "T" grip.	Weight: 875 grams	149.95	—	—	—	—
	SURVIVAL ON SNOW		Telescoping shaft, "T" grip, alum shaft.	Has snow saw in shaft. Weight: 925 grams	149.95	—	—	—	—
PROBES	LIFELINK		3 metres, cable assembly.	Weight: 368 grams	—	—	—	1120	1105
	LIFELINK		2 metres, screws together		—	—	—	1100	—
	ORTOVOX		3.2 metres, cable assembly.	Weight: 320 grams	—	1101	1101	—	—
	ORTOVOX		2.4 metres, cable assembly.	Weight: 260 grams	—	102	—	—	—
	SURVIVAL ON SNOW		2.8 metres, cable assembly.	Weight: 360 grams	180	—	182	—	—
	M.E.C.		3.0 metres, screws together.	Weight: 368 grams	—	—	178	—	—
PROBE POLES	M.E.C.	7075	Fixed length shaft, choose Alpine or Nordic grip and type of basket.	Nordic grip eval. probe length 7-8 ft	—	—	182	—	—
	M.E.C.	ALPINE	Adjustable length pole, carbide tip.	Alpine grip	—	—	183	—	—
	BLACK DIAMOND		Telescoping pole, great-ermy wrist strap, pole extender required.	Alpine grip	—	—	1125 - 124.95	—	—
	BLACK DIAMOND		Converts to 6 ft probe, telescoping shaft	Alpine grip	—	—	1133	—	1118
	KOMPERDELL		Fixed length shaft. Removable grips and baskets.	Alpine grip	—	—	159.95	—	—

*NOTE: (1) This is not a complete list of all equipment at all shops.
(2) The Hostel shop will give Ramblers a 10% discount on transceivers and other gear if a minimum of 5 transceivers is ordered as a group.

CAMPERS VILLAGE DISCOUNT: To Ramblers only on a group purchase 5 or more units, 10% on Peps, transceivers, 5% on shovels.

Anyone wishing to be involved in a group purchase contact Ken Park at 244-8808.

RETURN VISIT TO NEWFOUNDLAND

by Ken Scott

Saturday evening enroute to Halifax, potentially on a collision course with Hurricane Hortense, we noticed that our arrival time of 6:20 p.m. didn't align with the Deer Lake 4:00 p.m. departure time. We would have to overnight in Halifax and see the Hurricane close up. Just as well, the landing was pretty interesting and the take off would have been worse.

Garth Brooks was also in town for a Saturday night gig so it took the airline a while to find us a room. We headed for a window seat at the restaurant wanting a good view of the storm, its incredible wind and wild rain. An interesting meal with power outages and frequent fire alarms. With each alarm came the fire department and readiness to evacuate. Very sympathetic and somewhat amusing watching the bride, groom and guests at their wedding in the ballroom --- surely a memorable day for them.

We chose Deer Lake to position us for a tour of Western Newfoundland, having enjoyed the eastern part of the province a few years ago. We picked up our rental car, and although we hadn't seen a moose on our previous trip we were both on constant alert having been warned many times of the frequent vehicle/moose encounters. No, there aren't more moose than Newfoundlanders, but current estimates indicate 150,000 or so from the 3 pair that were introduced near Howley in 1904. Apparently one pair had been introduced near Gander Bay in 1878 but neither animal survived. Both efforts were government sponsored programs to provide a game animal that would stay near the fishing villages as the resident caribou tended to stray inland. We did hear the "spruce moose" stories that grow from gene pool theories/bar room tales, but apparently one of the moose pair was from Nova Scotia and the other two from New Brunswick (or vice versa) so there was some gene diversity in the beginning. Potentially a new sub species could evolve in the very long term future.

As we travelled the 3400 kilometers we learned of a very rich history. At L'Anse Amour in Labrador there is the grave of a Maritime Archaic Indian who died about 7500 years ago --- the oldest known funeral monument in North America. The Maritime Archaic Indians were hunters and gatherers and lived along the eastern seaboard from Labrador to Main from 3200 to 8000 years ago. At Port au

Choix, half way up the west coast of Newfoundland, an active research program investigates the area where the remains of 100 Archaic Indians were buried about 4500 years ago. It is not known where these Indians actually lived, but Professor Priscilla Renouf from Memorial University returns there in 1997 to explore areas east of Port au Choix. Also at Port au Choix, near the ocean is the discovery of the site where 2 waves of Paleo Eskimos (Arctic people who inhabited the area from 1100 to 2800 year ago) lived; the Groswater Paleoeskimos about 2800 years ago and the Dorset Paleoeskimos about 1400 to 1900 years ago.

L'Anse aux Meadows, at the northern tip of the province, is the site where Vikings lived about 1000 years ago. The Vikings, perhaps Leif Eriksson himself, established the base and used it as a base to explore at least as far south as the St. Lawrence for several years. The Vikings apparently left after one or more serious battles with local Indians. Today the site, one of two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in western Newfoundland is a fascinating place to visit providing an excellent interpretation centre and reconstructed sod huts.

Of course 1497 brings John Cabot to the area (note the 500th anniversary next year --- a good year to travel to Newfoundland if interested in history) and Jacques Cartier followed in 1534. Red Bay's Saddle Island at the north end of the coastal road in Labrador was a major outpost for Spanish and French Basques. It became the work's largest 16th century whaling port hosting over 20 ships a year. From 1550 to 1560, Red Bay's Basque whalers efficiently decimated the right and bowhead whale populations to the extent that Red Bay was abandoned by the early 1600's. The site at Saddle Island, first identified with the discovery of whale bones and Basque red-wood tiles, includes the cemetery where 140 Basque whalers were buried and a Spanish galleon, believed to be the *San Juan*.

The west coast of Newfoundland also has a rich history of tension between French and English, with France having fishing rights until 1904. The French could land to salt their cod, but could not reside. The English could reside but needed to share the fishing

continued on next page.....

NEWFOUNDLAND VISIT

continued....

rights. There were all kinds of squabbles over whether the French could use local trees for repairs, whether a lobster is a fish, etc.

Beyond history, we enjoyed some of the Newfoundland uniqueness. As on the earlier trip, we chuckled at gravel pit camping. With the thousands of pristine lakes ("ponds" is what an inland fresh body of water is called by Newfoundlanders; over there a "lake" is a hole in your rubber boot! As a matter of interest, the province doesn't have "rivers" or "streams", regardless of size, flowing fresh water is a "brook"), the locals prefer to park their weekend trailers in groups of 15 to 20 in abandoned gravel pits.

We also found it interesting to see many homes with no steps or porch leading to the front door. In some cases there was even a 3 or 4 foot jump to the front lawn. Newfoundlanders use the back door, but all homes need a second exit to get approval for a mortgage. They all have the second door, but many of these are never used.

The homes we saw tended to be new, or newly painted/newly sided. Many had new 4x4 trucks parked outside. The cod moratorium provided 2 waves of retirement packages that could pay 100 to 150 thousand to stop fishing. Those with boats could sell them for further cash liquidity. Also, the homes tended to be colorfully painted — whatever paint was used for the boat was also used for the home, so combinations like yellow and purple were common.

Gros.Morne, the second UNESCO World Heritage Site, was fabulous. A National Park since 1973 and in 1987 named as a UNESCO World Heritage Site; largely for its exceptional geological features and natural beauty — a sort of Galapagos of geology. The Park is split by Bonne Bay and the Woody Point/Trout River area is south of this Bay, often overlooked by travellers who follow the main highway that bypasses this beautiful desert-like tableland. Holding our breath for perfect weather, we missed the super view from the summit of Gros Morne itself (second highest peak in Newfoundland), but did many of the other fabulous hikes and walks, including Green Garden, the Lookout, the Battery in Labrador, and the unique Western Brook boat trip (Backpackers interested in Newfoundland should definitely plan on doing the wilderness trip from this boat trip back to Gros Morne.)

Icebergs? About ten, mostly from Hawke's Bay to St. Barbe and through the Wesleyville area. Definitely a highlight of the trip. They appear to be huge and do glow from within, as Lawren Harris painted them.

Whales? Lots, especially on the St. Barbe/Blanc Sablon ferry trip across the 25 kilometer Strait of Belle Isle.

Moose? None, at least no live ones. Locals talk about seeing 32 or 56 on the 35 km stretch of Gros Morne from Wiltondale to Rocky Harbour, yet we saw none even though we were on that stretch of highway many times. We did see 3 road kills and 6 or 8 more in the back of pickup trucks, so they're around.

Birds? A zillion gulls, crows and ravens. Spring would be a better bet for a good selection of pelagic birds. The one new addition to our list was a long, clear study of a very cooperative Northern Hawk Owl.

Best B &B? Confidently the Tickle Inn at Cape Onion. Character and charm befitting of any Rambler, on a remote beach with excellent rambling from the doorstep.

So there you have it. A rich history and beautiful setting overlaying gravel pit camping, icebergs, and elusive moose. Try it for their 500th anniversary. You'll like it.

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

December 11, 1996 Winter Open House
8:00 p.m. Rosemont Community Centre

December 18, 1996 Christmas Potluck and Carol Singing
6:00 p.m. Rosemont Community Centre
Please bring a food item enough for about 6 people, \$1.00 and a foodbank donation. If you could volunteer to help with setting up, cleaning up or playing the piano for the carols, please contact Suzanne Costachuk

January, 1997 Cards Evening: Tony and Ann Moran have kindly offered to have an evening of cards at their home, early in the New Year. More details later on the Social Events Hotline.

**MINUTES OF THE CO-ORDINATORS' MEETING
OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION
HELD ON OCTOBER 7, 1996**

The meeting was called to order by Marianne Wolters, at 7:40 p.m.
There were 19 Co-ordinators present.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the May and August, 1996 meetings were read. The minutes were approved with the following corrections to the May, 1996 minutes:

1. Under Co-ordinators course requirements: Motion #2 should read, "Moved by Marianne, seconded by Ken, that in order to become a Full Co-ordinator, an Assistant Co-ordinator must have a current Basic First Aid Certificate

2. Motion #3 should read. "Moved by Marianne, seconded by John, that any Co-ordinator, (Assistant or Full) taking a back country ski trip....".

2. Changes to the Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda: pins, winter car rates, and the Banff/Bow Valley Study.

3. Old Business:

a) Review of the Avalanche Ratings.

The revised RMRA Avalanche Safety Policy was proposed to add that avalanche equipment would be required on yellow trips under High regional danger, to orange terrain when danger was rated considerable, and for red terrain when danger was rated as being low to moderate. Orange terrain, under high rating was changed to trip cancelled.

MOTION. Moved by Marianne, seconded by Alister DesMounlins that we accept the proposed changes to the Avalanche Safety Policy. Motion was carried.

b) Co-ordinator course requirements.

Marianne explained the revised requirements developed by the Safety Committee and these were discussed.

MOTION. Moved by Wally, seconded by Peter, that the Avalanche Course requirements for co-ordinators be changed to the following: All existing

co-ordinators of cross country, ski touring and snow shoeing trips, other than on green terrain, must have taken an avalanche awareness course. All new co-ordinators of cross country, ski touring and snow shoeing trips, other than on green terrain, must have taken an avalanche awareness course within the past three years. All co-ordinators of trips where avalanche equipment is required, must keep their skills current by attending, once every three years, a course or seminar approved by the Safety Committee.

c) Co-ordinator Workshops.

Marianne presented the results of the survey taken of the co-ordinators regarding workshops for the co-ordinators. The winter courses were discussed and approved, the summer courses will be discussed at the spring meeting. The following will take place this winter:

1. Emergency equipment repair at the weekly meeting. This would be a program for all members.

2. Hypothermia/frost bite at a weekly meeting.

3. A map and compass course for all, with some spots being reserved for co-ordinators for a specific time period.

4. An evening workshop on Group Management. There was much discussion as to whether this should be led by current co-ordinators or that we bring in an outside person to lead this discussion.

5. A one day practical on emergency shelter building.

6. A one day practical to include transceiver practice, and route finding - both general as they relate to avalanche terrain.. This would consist of a ski trip where all participants would discuss route-finding options and the more experienced co-ordinators would share

continued on next page.....

CO-ORINDATORS' MEETING MINUTES

continued

their knowledge. The workshop would be open first to co-ordinators, then the general membership. We may wish to consider inviting representatives from other ski clubs.

MOTION. Moved by Marianne, seconded by Reg, that we arrange an evening Group Management workshop at a cost not to exceed \$200.00. All in favour.

MOTION. Moved by Brian, seconded by Marianne, that the Safety Committee arrange an avalanche awareness course that meets the co-ordinators course requirements. All in favour.

d) Costs for the Co-ordinators Workshops and Training Courses.

Marianne presented the estimated costs for these courses, approved by the Safety Committee. The cost came to an estimated total of \$740.00.

MOTION. Moved by Brian, seconded by Ken Park, that the committee ask the executive to give them the \$740 for training co-ordinators. All were in favour.

e) Winter Trip Sheet

Ron presented the Winter trip sheet developed by the Safety Committee. There will be other sheets developed for summer use and for extended trips.

MOTION. Moved by Brian, seconded by Alister Sinclair, that we adopt the Winter trip sheet with the addition of a column to add your telephone number and more space at the top. All were in favour.

f) Ski Trip Ratings

At the spring meeting we had agreed in principal to adopt the rating scale. Next Tuesday a few co-ordinators will meet to finalize the ratings. The goal is to have it ready by November 01, 1996. Other clubs are moving towards a common rating system, but some clubs are not ready yet. The sheets will include one line for comments. Marianne will use an extra box on the phone system to explain the new rating scale.

4. New Business:

a) The Calgary Ski Club Co-ordinator Workshop

- two co-ordinators from our club invited to attend
- Darlene to attend the track set workshop, off trail workshop to be determined.

b) New Co-ordinators Chairperson

Ron Hunter volunteered to be the new Co-ordinators Chairperson and will not run for Vice President.

c) Assistant Co-ordinators

Ken Park was moved from assistant co-ordinator to a full co-ordinator. Peter Papisideris was accepted as a new Assistant Co-ordinator.

d) Trip Stats

Marianne reviewed her report but pointed out that it would have to be revised to include stats for October, 1995.

e) Pins

Marianne Wolters and Ron Hunter will receive silver pins.

f) Winter Car Rates

MOTION. Moved by Peter, seconded by Art, that the winter rates be increased to five cents per kilometer. Motion passed.

g) Banff/Bow Valley Report

Alister DesMoulins was a member of the task force looking at the Bow Valley corridor. He gave a brief report on the report that was released this week in which there were five hundred recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2310.

Recording Secretary,

Darlene Weger

Interested in advertising your business in the PackRat?

Call Carol to inquire about reasonable rates.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS

Presents

WINTER SEASON OPEN HOUSE

December 11, 1996

Doors open at 8:00 p.m.

Rosemont Community Hall

2807 - 10 Street NW

The RAMBLERS is an excellent club for Novice and Intermediate:

- Cross Country Skiing
- Downhill Skiing
- Snow Shoeing
- Winter Hiking



Come out for FOOD and FUN

**EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 6, 1996**

PRESENT:

- Bob St. John, President
- Reg Fryling, Past President
- Ron Hunter, Co-ordinators Chair
- Chris Saunders, Treasurer
- Carol Perkins, Newsletter Editor
- Dorothy Ann Reimer, Program Director
- Shirley Tajcna, Social Director
- Linda Eastwood, Secretary

ABSENT:

- Barb McGinnis, Vice President

Minutes of Last Meeting
Not read.

President

Bob will update the Members Manual (Trip lists, by-laws). This will be available at meetings. Discussion re: Winter Open House. Executive decided on December 11, 1996 at 8:00 p.m., Dorothy Ann and Reg will be in charge of setting up equipment tables. Bob will be showing slides. Linda will be making up posters. There will be no baking contest. Christmas Pot Luck will be on December 18. There will be no meeting on December 25, but there will be one on January 1, 1997. Executive agreed to start the Wednesday night meetings at 7:30 p.m. as of January 1, 1997. Executive meetings will be held on Mondays. All approved.

Treasurer

Chris will print up a new list of paid up members for the PackRat mailout in the next couple of weeks. Will also look into ads to put on radio and TV.

MOTION. President, Treasurer, Secretary and Trips Co-ordinator to have signing approval on cheques. Reg seconded. Passed.

Co-Ordinators Chair

\$740 budget for Co-ordinators Workshops have been approved by the Safety Committee and the Co-ordinators Council. Workshop for Co-ordinators then open up to members.

MOTION. To approve an expenditure of \$740.00 to be applied to this year's general education fund. Money left over - reimburse for courses/subsidize. All in favour. Passed.

A motion was passed that co-ordinators must take an avalanche course for trips that require equipment.

What would be eligible for funding? Acceptable courses? Executive should oversee expenditures. Bob - Co-ordinators Council should handle this, Executive should approve funding.

5 cents Winter Rate. The Co-ordinators Council suggested the winter rate be set at 5 cents. 7 for, 1 opposed.

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To laugh is to risk appearing the fool.
To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.
To reach out is to risk involvement.
To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self.
To place your ideas, your dreams,
before the crowd is to risk their loss.
To love is to risk not being loved in return.
To live is to risk dying.
To hope is to risk despair.
To try is to risk failure.
But risks must be taken, because the
greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing.
The person who risks nothing,
does nothing, has nothing, and is nothing.
He may avoid suffering and sorrow,
But he simply cannot learn, feel, change,
grow, love, and live.
Chained by his certitudes, he is a slave.
He has forfeited his freedom.
Only a person who risks....is free!

author unknown



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PROFILE OF A RAMBLER

by John Schleinich

He is a quiet fellow. A little on the shy side. He came from Denmark in the sixties or late fifties and joined the Ramblers at the turn of the last decade. He started slowly but his great love for the outdoors and his background from a hardy people, made a good and strong mountaineer out of Gert. In time his outings became longer and more difficult, until today, he reached a level to which few of our members can comfortably follow. Some of us not even in discomfort.

Gert Noer's extraordinary strength and proficiency complement each other, making him an excellent climber and skier. His trips are mostly very long and arduous, and many times last into the night. Perhaps when many of us get exhausted he begins to tire.

Occasionally I had the pleasure of hiking with him. If he is not leading, often he rambles off on his own and later shows up on the top, waiting for the others. I remember a funny case on our climb up Three Point Mountain. It must have been too easy for Gert, and going though the woods in a south westerly direction toward the ridge leading to the top, he went ahead. Minutes later he was gone, out of sight. We figured to catch up with him at the top. We reached the ridge and started climbing envying Gert, who by now was probably sitting on the top eating his lunch. Then we spotted him. Very far away going up the wrong mountain. He took a ridge east of ours, leading up an unnamed hill. Between us was an enormous gap, at least eight to nine hundred feet deep, and many kilometers wide. We figured he would give up and proceed to his unintended goal. He did not. Before we reached the top, the third

peak of the three, he caught up with us. I often wondered where does he get all his energy from.

If however, he is the co-ordinator, he will patiently wait for strugglers and help the weaker (-sex), as well as anybody in need. Once, however, I remember Gert making an exception. Perhaps because the scramble was too difficult, or perhaps we looked of fragile for such an enterprise, he told us at the beginning and several times during the rip, that he is not responsible for anyone. Everybody was on his/her own. It was on Mt. Indefatigable - Mt. Invincible traverse. We made it safely. Later, after some mishaps of my own, I began to appreciate his concern.

There are too many mountains to name, which Gert climbed in the Kananaskis, Banff and Jasper region as well as in BC. Mt Baker and Mt. Rainier, south of the border are also on the list of his achievements. I asked Gert about his most difficult climb, but he was lost for an answer. Well he hasn't tried K-2 yet. In the last year or two he became very active in bicycling, naturally not in an easy ordinary fashion. It too, is vigorous and lengthy.

Gert is a great asset to our club. He is adding a spicy variety to our large repertoire of his, climbs and cross country ski trips. We sincerely hope he spends more time and energy with us than with the Alpine Club, of which he is also a member.

Thank you Gert for your camaraderie and participation.

CARE FOR KANANASKIS RALLY

- * November 28, 1996
- * 6:30 pm - Reception and Silent Auction
- * 7:30 pm - Speakers and Visual Presentations
- * Jubilee Auditorium
- * Tickets \$10.00 - see coupon below
- * Sponsored by Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- * Speakers include AWA and CPAWS representatives; local expert on grizzlies and wolves (Carolyn Callaghan) and on eagles (Peter Sherrington), as well as other guest speakers.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER/96 - JANUARY/97

Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down.

- Charles F. Kettering

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Calgary, Alberta
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