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What is this, anyway??!?

"KEM574 base to all units. The newsletter will be published every Saturday by Pinky Press, Inc. a non-profit, non-sensical institution dedicated to the propagation of sordid and marginally true information. If you got any dirt, send it down."

No, no, not the right approach. How about ..."Dear crews, please send us something, anything, that pertains to your hut's operation, and we'll be eternally in your debt."

Definitely not the right approach! Perhaps an old Waddell "tone" would work ..."Listen, scumbags, write something about your hut NOW or I'll get my chain saw."

Hmm. Close.

Maybe they're at a loss as to what to write about. I wonder if I can remember back to when I was a hairless young hut boy flipping cakers at Lakes and come up with some suggestions. Might the gears begin to mesh then?

1) Recipe or meal of the week.
2) Crew member of the week.
   A.(perhaps for some bonzo reason, dropping a tray, pummeling a zealous zealot, breaking a case of eggs, etc.)
   B. (or maybe even something she/he did right!)
3) New evening program ideas, or even old evening program ideas.
4) Categories one might venture a creative fling with:
   A). opinion on a hut and/or AMC related topic.
   B). humor (you mean, there are funny people in the Hut System?)
   C). cartoons
   D). raid reports
   E). first person rescue summaries.
5) Astrological and/or astronimical curios:
   A). full moons
   B). meteor showers
   C). morning and evening stars
   D). strange sightings (Mr. D., what was that you saw at Carter 2 winters ago?)
6) History of all kinds, about all places and occurances.
7) Operational lightbulbs (ideas) for general dissemination.
8) personal experiences
9) personal profiles of mountain characters
10) The hydro from the crew's perspective.
11) Composting from the crew's perspective.
12) Caretaking experiences -all seasons.
13) BFD's
14) and on and on and on and on..

So, I guess what we want to say is, let's do it up big, challenge ourselves to alleviate that age-old complaint about the hut system, that there's a void of communication between huts. It's up to us here at Pinkham to put the zeroxx machine's motor to test, but you must turn your creative and introspective motor on high to get the kind of results we're aiming for. Now that the first week's organizing and box-emptying is complete, it's time to put the axe to the grindstone (notice the reference to trail crew. They are invited to contribute, too). This season, 1982, could be the best year ever and only you can make it work. Communicate with fervor and you're three quarters of the way there.

MT

Official Stuffing
a.k.a memorandum

1) All fly-out huts must use the heavy plastic liners in their barrels. A shipment has arrived and more liners will be distributed.

2) We have 60 plastic food containers that can be distributed to the huts. If you want some, req. them, but be conscious that there are 8 huts (really? Ah, c'mon!) and we have to be fair.

memo...

3) The timetable for submitting articles for the newsletter is as follows:
Wednesday truck trip
The organization of the letter, and the printing will take place on Thursdays, every week throughout the summer. If you don't send anything down, the staff will be forced to write it all.

4) Burnham would like to know if your hut has a max-min thermometer and magnet (for resetting temperature markers). You have recording sheets in your operations notebooks.

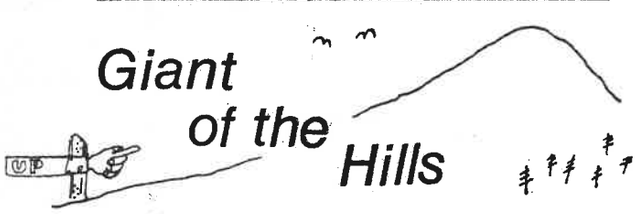
5) Req. peanuts for OTC sales. The price is 35¢.

6) Effective immediately, base will call Unit 1 Mizpah at 7:55 AM for all requests for Shuttle reservations from Galehead, Greenleaf, Lonesome or any shelter. Mizpah should also send down requests at this time. Zealand will be handled via the high band.

These requests will be checked out and replies sent back through Mizpah with weather and counts. Simple enough? It will all change once Flea gets a b high band.

7) Included in your pile of mail (huts and Crawford's only) are two informational handouts promised at Gala: A Proposal for Corporate Sponsorship, and Description and Cost of 1982 Public Service Objectives.

8) The Mount Washington Auto Road is only 7 1/2 miles long. Brad Washburn has confirmed by measuring wheel what odometers have been indicating for years.



"Those who are ignorant of the past are condemned to repeat it." You hear these words pretty often, and when you stop to think about it, they express a rather pessimistic view of man's (and woman's) accomplishments. But the past has both good and bad examples to offer us, whether on an international or on a local scale.

One of the finest examples the history of the White Mountains can offer us, as hutmen and hutwomen, is "the Giant of the Hills", Ethan Allen Crawford. Ethan was a hell of a guy to start with, and a worthy character to emulate whatever one's walk of life. He was, as William Oakes inscribed on his gravestone. "of great native talent and sagacity, (noble, kind, and benevolent disposition, a beloved husband and father and an honest and good man"; if we can follow him in those respects, we are already ahead of the game. Like Ethan, we have also taken it upon ourselves to be of service to White Mountain travellers, to offer them food, shelter, advice (whether requested or required), and that combination of qualities that we all take for granted as "Mountain Hospitality".

What was the Crawford notion of "Mountain Hospitality"? The many tales and legends of Ethan, and indeed of the whole Crawford family, give us a good composite picture of their kindness and concern for their guests and visitors. But to find a succinct summary of Ethan's thoughts on the subject we can find no better source than his wife's "History of the White Mountains". In that volume we find the following passage which, I feel, gives much food for thought for Ethan's followers in the White Mountains, the hut croos of today; while penned almost hundred and forty years ago, its words still touch home:

"This summer I had no great business on hand. I spent my time mostly with my visitors at the house, and ascending the mountains whenever they decidedly requested it. But as I had been so many times up there, I was tired and worn out. I did not go when I could help it, but I always kept good and faithful guides, and every other accommodation that was in my power. The fame of this mountain scenery beginning to spread, and it becoming fashionable, many came to view these wonders of nature, and they were generally, if not always, satisfied, and considered themselves well paid for their time and trouble, and likewise they were satisfied with their fare while they staid with us. We used to tell them that whatever was lacking in substance we would try to make up in good will, and do the best we could to make them happy and their situation as pleasant as possible, and this never failed of having the desired effect of convincing them they were as much as possible at home."

"As much as possible at home": a tough task to tackle, but if we can honestly set this goal for ourselves, to make our guests and visitors feel at home in the mountains, we can surely consider ourselves worthy successors of the Giant of the Hills.

- Peter Crane

editors:

mike torrey - dalai lama

yvonne jenkins - IBM consultant

stroker - sawmill scrivener

n bazilchuk - chief lion tamer

"wrestling with the rhino"

THE C.C. REVIEW

by Stroker

Things we've done

To bring you up to date on the work the Construction Crew has accomplished during the fall and spring, here's a partial list, in no particular order:

Four benches for the porches at CATA; new antena cables for LAKES; two windows, two sills, and two screens for CATA foyer; floor grate for CATA foyer; new floor in MIZ kitchen and dining room; new floor in CATA dining room; new floors in MAD kitchen, dining room, and crew room; new oak doors prefabbed for LAKES refugee room; poop ladder for MAD; OTC counter and shelves for MAD; rat proof for MAD; kitchen cabinets, shelves, and maple counter tops for MAD and MIZ; new reefer connected at MAD; all new gas and water lines plumbed at MAD; propane modifications made at MIZ; drank beer; plumbing renovated at MIZ; drank more beer; improvements made on MIZ septic system; drank lots more beer; gas bombs, shit barrels, food, blankets, construction materials and tools airlifted to all huts; new oarlocks for rowboats at LONE; new screen door at MIZ; kitchen and crew room completely panelled with matched pine at MAD; wall of womens' bunkroom panelled at MAD; new water lines at CATA, FLEA, GALE; cabinets in MIZ dining room; in MAD crew room, a new desk with maple top, coatrack, and bunks with shelves; new threshold between CATA kitchen and dining room; excavated MAD septic line, repaired broken pipe, and covered line again; drank whiskey; reroofed MAD crew room; new kitchen sinks for MAD and MIZ; shovelled out MAD filter field, relaid the pipes, filled field back in; drank some more beer; bomb platform built and stained at MIZ; removed old shower platform at MAD, reconnected drain and rebuilt shower basin; started and fine tuned ZOOL hydro; painted exterior trim at MAD; prefabbed door jamb for CATA; filter field at MAD covered with Filon roof; new shutters cut for select windows and doors at MAD; emptied, by hand, 24 cu. yds. of stone and earth from the MAD basement; lumber racks built at MIZ and MAD; two water toilets repaired at MAD; milled replacement sills for LAKES bunkroom window; MIZ broken window replaced; replaced 9 broken windows at MAD; rear panels repaired on MAD stoves; made trail sign for MIZ hut; rebuilt rock retaining walls on trails around MAD hut; ice hole chopper for CATA; slate panel for CATA woodstove; distribution boxes welded for ZOOL, FLEA, and MIZ; new siphon box welded for MIZ; all hut water pumps rebuilt, as necessary; six ash display cases for CRAW historical exhibit; six packboards repaired; interior of MAD foundation completely repointed; MAD chimney completely repointed; all huts opened for full service.

This past week, 6/11 through 6/18, we rebuilt frame for Franconia Info Booth caretaker's tent; set up two Franconia caretaker's tents and installed propane appliances; fixed doorknob at GALE; installed bulletin board cum brochure rack cum coffee service at CRAW depot; repaired two packboards; installed MIZ hut trail sign; tours given to all crews on hut physical plants; three wall displays for CRAW historical exhibit; bookcase moved in Depot at CRAW; Depot sign hung; signs routed for CRAW Depot showing new hours; repaired Indian pump handle; installed coatracks at ZOOL and GALE; shelves built and installed under MAD water heater in kitchen; shelves built and installed in bathrooms at GALE and ZOOL; shelves everywhere; and on the twelfth day, we rested and drank beer.

Things we haven't done, but have been accused of

Outfitting our women with solid oak chastity belts, locked with Corbin Grand Master padlocks.

Buggering the spruce trolls.

Dragging the Old Man of the Mountain along on a valley night to Burlington, VT, for chocolate chip ice cream (supra-ultra-mega cone, with jimmies) and hot-tubbing at 1 AM.

Though we admire the creativity at play here, the Construction Crew feels compelled to note that these allegations are, after all, fallacious fabrications and nothing more.

(PS- To order your solid oak chastity belt, send waist-size and $35 to Mr. Mike's Hi-Kinques of Gorham, Gorham, NH, 03581. No checks or money orders please.)

Figure 1. Unidentified Construction Crew member with biffing mallet.

Racy Recipes...
or, what to do when not playing...

All of us here at Madison thought that the rest of you goons suffering along in old, worn-out kitchens might like to know what life is like in our all new, re-designed-from-the-bottom-up cooking salon, the place where everyday Suzie Homemaker and Polly Urethane come together in culinary bliss and hardwood harmony.

These days we spend hours just looking at the beautiful hardwood counters. Sometime in the future, when the back-ordered plastic cutting boards arrive, we may be able to do some chopping, slicing, and dough handling on them too. The kitchen is truly befitting of the "high hut" in which it sits. Shelves start at 5 feet and climb the walls halfway to Mt. Adams. Bring your jumar ascenders, 50' of good ever-dry rope, and try our 5.9 route to the maple syrup and molasses.

Although our piano has been eliminated, there is still plenty of music to be heard as we bravely try to fit the 223 utensils and 57 boxes of stale spices that it used to hold onto one shelf and 15 overworked hooks. Even Fannie Farmer has been evicted from her former glory; she now sulks in a dark corner behind the grill, collecting atomized kaola and an occasional splash of stray egg albumen.

Now to end this drivel, here is Don Hunger's infamous bagel recipe which has been entrusted to us. If you time it right, it is possible to shoot a quick 4 holes of golf during the 1st rising.

BAGELS Don Hunger (Makes 30)

Combine: 4.5 cups water (90-110°)
1/3 cup honey
1/5 cup yeast
Let stand until yeast starts to go wild, then add: 7.5 cups flour

Beat up this sponge a bit, then let rise about 40 minutes. Stir down dough, add:
1.5 teaspoons salt, about
7.5 cups more flour (and maybe some onions). Knead dough, but it should be fairly sticky. Do not rise again.

Preheat oven to 4.25. Get one or 2 dutch ovens going with about 2" of boiling water. Form dough into even sized spheres slightly bigger than (gulp) golf balls. One by one form into bagels and put in boiling water. Boil about 1-2 minutes. Remove with slotted spoon onto greased navy trays. Wipe the haola off your trusty pastry brush and use it to massage bagels with slightly beaten whole eggs. Sprinkle poppy or sesame seeds. Bake at 425° until well-browned, about 20 minutes. Enchant your guests and enhance your waistline!

-------THE MADISON CREW------

...golf!!!

"Flash in the Can"

- Mike Torrey

The AMC Finance Committee has approved a proposal by Dave Warren to install and test the new Soltran composting toilet at Crawford's. A prototype was built in Albany, NY, where 160 campers and 20 staff people used a four-hole unit for two months on a daily basis. The final result was a fine loam-like substance, and after testing, it's been proven that pathogen kill was complete with no amount of fecal and/or total coliform bacteria recorded. Trace metals were within acceptable standards, moisture content recorded 3 percent by volume.

Almost $15,000 has been funneled into the project, accelerating the Club's long-term waste treatment goals by several years. The high and rising costs of existing septic systems, as well as rapidly climbing airlift expenses (helicopter time has risen to $375/hour, resulting in a per barrel fly-out cost of $37.50) have contributed to an increase sense of urgency for this project. Mike Pratt will again be soiling his hands fo. the good of all. His objectives, as stated in Dave's proposal to the Finance Committee, are as follows:

- evaluate construction requirements with regard to the installation of composting systems at a remote backcountry hut.
- monitor compost cycle with respect to use levels, moisture content, temperature of compost pile, solar insolation, and evaporation capacity.
- sample and test finished compost.
- monitor and evaluate site conditions at Zealand Falls Hut.

The testing will take place between July 1 and September 30, 1982.

GOOD LUCK, Mike!

The proceeding article describes the toilet, and was published in the scintillating Biocycle: Journal of Waste Recycling. Subscriptions are available on demand.

New Compost Toil t on Trial in Albany

SOLTRAN design uses solar assist to speed up composting, help evaporate liquids.

BY COMBINING the attributes of solar energy and biological decomposition, the composting toilet can provide an environmentally sound and economical solution to sanitation problems in remote sites such as parks, recreation areas, islands and camps where conditions demand a pollution-free facility with minimal servicing requirements.

One of the early entries in the field of composting toilet design was a unit developed by ECOS, of Concord, Massachusetts, under contract with the Appalachian Mountain Club (A.M.C.). The objective of this first installation was to deliver a sanitary system which would be in harmony with the fragile environment of the White Mountain National Forest in New

more ⇨

"flash"...

Hampshire, an area which annually attracts hundreds of thousands of hikers and campers.

In the summer of 1977, the A.M.C. installed two SOLTRAN units in New Hampshire. Following a one-year evaluation of these facilities, a third was installed on the Haleakala Crater in Volcano National Park on the island of Maui.

Various refinements were made to the SOLTRAN design based on the performance of these prototype units. In 1980, work was begun on a new design incorporating a fiberglass tank which could be removed for maintenance. A four-toilet SOLTRAN of this design, using modified Carousel™ tanks, was installed in the spring of 1981 in the Lawson Lake Park in Albany, New York.

The Albany SOLTRAN was used daily by 160 day-campers plus 20 staff during the months of July and August. During this time each carousel was rotated once (only two of the four chambers in each tank received excrett). Upon examination of the facility in October of 1981, it was found that all liquids had been completely evaporated, and that the volume of solids had been reduced by 80-85 percent. The solids were dry, odorless and composted.

The design of the Albany system incorporates the following features:

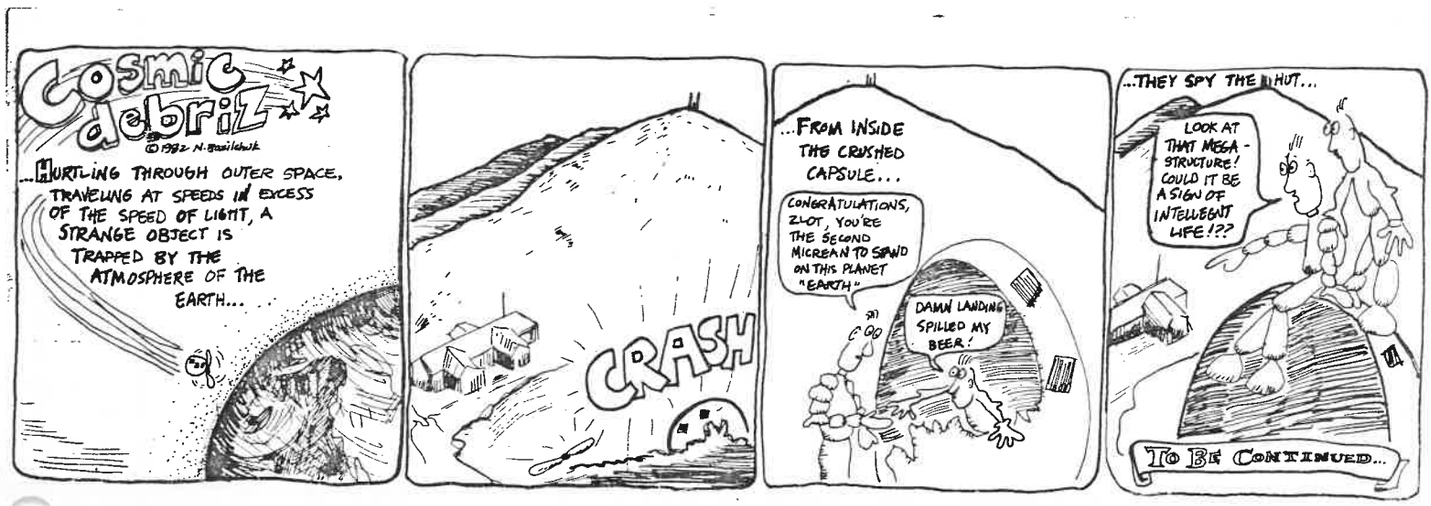
1. An efficient, passive solar collection system with a tough polycarbonate outer cover.
2. An integrated liquid and thermal storage and evaporation system.
3. A solar heat assisted passive ventilation system to improve air flow.
4. Saturated vapor recycling to enhance the composting process by maintaining a proper moisture balance and transferring heat.
5. Air-tight, insulated construction and automatically controlled air flow minimize heat loss and help maintain optimum temperatures for high-rate composting.
6. Quality construction with attention to operating and maintenance details (e.g. smooth, easy-to-clean fiberglass interior).

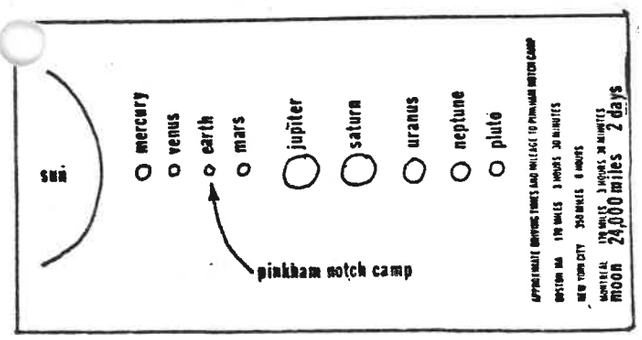
In the SOLTRAN design, unlike earlier sloping-bottom type compost tanks, the composting waste pile is separated from the excess liquid (derived either from the pile itself or from the men's urinal). Once segregated, the liquid fraction is transformed from a liability into an asset. It can be:

1. Maintained at a specific level to provide thermal mass for heat storage, and to insure that the atmosphere beneath the composting pile is always saturated with water vapor. This use of the liquid eliminates the need for the rocks used for thermal mass in earlier models.
2. Recycled directly to dry areas of the pile.
3. Ultimately, completely evaporated by solar heating when input falls below evaporative capacity.
4. Easily removed if unanticipated usage exceeds the capacity of the system. A clear plastic flexible tube is used to indicate liquid level, and this can be connected to a pump is necessary.

The water vapor beneath the pile, as well as that from the solar assisted evaporation of any excess liquid, is directed through the composting pile in order to prevent dehydration and to transfer latent and sensible heat. Movement of air and water vapor the pile is facilitated by the support system, an "aerobic staircase" fabricated from steel and polypropylene. The "risers" of this staircase are empty, and spaced to promote rapid exchange of gases as the composting mass slowly slides by.

The Lawson Lake prototype is the first of a planned 16 SOLTRAN units scheduled for installation in the Albany park system. ■



Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, New Hampshire 03581

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