Among the Clouds

Published on Saturdays at Porky Gulch - 2032 Feet Above the Sea

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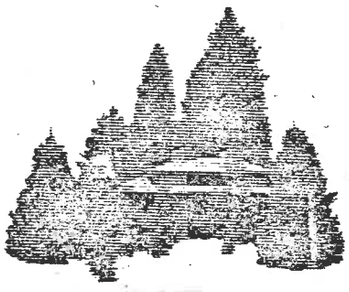

GUNFIRE IN GUNSIGHT GAP

To those familiar with the AMC Hut System, Carter Notch is synonimous with tranquil beauty. Located Northeast of Mt. Washington, Carter escapes most of the madness of that tourist mecca by hiding behind Wildcat. When people consider working in the huts, Carter gets those interested in low-key, personal summers, wandering through the Ramparts, exploring the Wildcat Cliffs, or the Wild River Valley.

But Friday, July 30th, the quiet mystique of Carter was broken by a balaclava-masked robber, armed with a collapsible .22 caliber AR 7 survival rifle, demanding cash and not to be deterred. At 7:45 p.m., the guests had retired to their bunkhouse porches, and the crew remained behind, putting the final touches to dinner clean-up. A man, later identified as Rickey Allen Nelson, from Princeville, Illinois, alledgedly appeared at the kitchen screen door, holding a rifle and stating, in effect "This is a holdup." When Geoff Burke, a friend of the crew's came over from the dish sinks and asked him to put the gun down, the man refused and said "Give me the money." The robber then shot Geoff in the right calf, allowed John Dunn to administer first aid, and continued to demand money, adding a demand for the radio. Geoff, lying on the ground, intoned "We have no radio," and the man accepted this, acquiring the cash box (which contained $98.00) and fleeing toward the Lakes. He warned that no one should follow.

The crew waited 15 minutes to assure he would not return, and then notified Pinkham. Two Fish & Game officers spent the night at Carter and a crew of AMC and Fish & Game employees littered Geoff out by headlamp. They arrived at the Glen House Aquaduct at 4:30 Saturday morning, riding a Fish &

(See page 5)

EXTRA: WHA POWERS LAKES

Western Press International (WPI)

With still more news from the western front; Rebecca Oreskes and Bill Blaiklock successfully power raided Lakes of the Clouds Hut on July 30th. Not only was the assault a tremendous boost to WHA morale (which was unfairly rumored to be shaky after the last hutmasters' meeting), but the first time that two people have power raided Lakes of the Clouds, without themselves being beaten to a bloody pulp.

The WHA shuttle met at the Gale River Trail on the morning of the attack and discussed tactics enroute to the Cog Base Station. Admittedly, the first order of business was in regard to whether or not Lonesome Lake Hut should be expelled from the WHA for failing to participate in this glorious mission to liberate the WHA flag. We decided to put aside that question until a summit meeting (probably at the pizza pub) could be held at some

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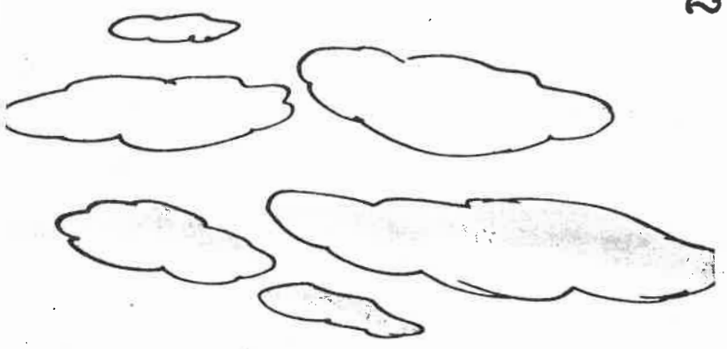


EDITORIAL:

Two missed deadlines in a row, it's 10:30 and the trucks have all left, and I have the most extreme case of writer's block I've ever experienced. Maybe spending a whole day at the WHA tourist mecca, listening to Roger French, Jim Severan, Dennis and Mike W. debate solutions to the hydro problem flooded my brain with technical jargon. Installing Greenleaf's high band antennae might have focused some harmful energy in my direction. Or maybe there really isn't life after Augustfest, at least until your brain cells recover. By the way, Cap'n Bill is very enthused about the new radio. Barely able to contain himself this A.M., he triumphantly made his first relay to the west. Might this tool be added to the WHA arsenal, and threats of communication breakdown reverberate through the empty office late some night, the low-band alarm silent and unaware? Their solar water heater is working again, and the photovoltaic cell is charging the high-band radio, so Greenleaf is back in the electricity business. Radio communications are improved as well.

The Zealand crew, with the help of Dave Wemett , George Holt's dad and others, put the hydro back on line, staying up until after midnight patching a couple breaks. The propane back-up system was turned on, and turned right back off, and all involved did a great job. The crew has handled all aspects of the first full summer's operation with patience and concern, a necessity with a system so new and untested. The Hydro Walk and Talk, although oft-repeated, remains a frequent, if not nightly, program. People are hearing about and seeing a unique alternative energy project in the backcountry, displays are being designed, and the AMC is benefitting tremendously from the crew's willing cooperation and effort.

Another crew that deserves praise is the research contingent, consisting of Bob Champeaux, Linda Jacobs, Laura McGrath, and Kathie Weathers. I've heard many a thankful hutperson exclaim how good it is to have researchers around, because they help out not only with the dinner talks and evening programs, but with kitchen chores and day business, and are always cheerful (except maybe Bob "Monosyllabic" Champeaux, whose morning face remains asleep well into crew chow), and their efforts on behalf of the environment represent the AMC's conservation field program in the White Mountains. They gather the information that makes solar composting possible, and count Vibram soles on the Crawford path to protect an endangered plant, measure pH in rainwater and clouds to provide data to a movement dedicated to improving the quality of the air we breathe, and contact the public to answer their questions and make them more aware of environmental concerns. They are extremely valuable, and I, for one, recognize the unsung quality of the job they do.

While I'm thinking of it, my apologies for neglecting to put John Dunn's name under his article "Carterella" in last issue of "Crowds." It received the most comments of anything written this summer, and I regret the error.

GUINEA NIGHTS

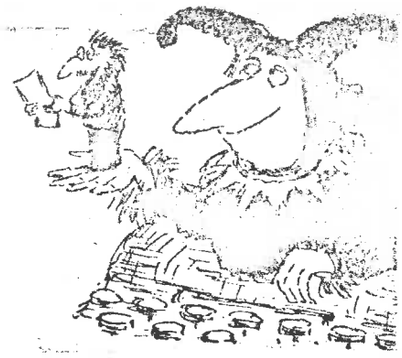
The annual year-end celebration for AMC employees will be held at the OH cabin on Aug. 24 and 25. Food and drink will be provided, but bring your own costume, and accept the AMC's thanks for a lot of hard work.

Still afflicted by the block, I will attempt to end this literal wandering by announcing that the next and final issue of "Among the Crowds" will be printed, polished and published on Saturday, Sept. 4. Please try to get your articles to me before Sept. 1st , so that Yvonne can spread the typing out over several days. The earlier the better, but it's just good to have anything, no matter when it arrives, so I encourage you to write your best piece for the last issue. I guess having it printed legitimizes our claim to literacy , and makes us more than a summertime fun publication. Who knows? This thing has grown pretty large over just a couple of months. Is there a place for a year-round North Country newsletter, published once a month , twice monthly in the summer ? Certainly, if it were well done, people interested in day to day occurances would at least be updated once a month with just North Country concerns. A more concentrated view would be available to staff and volunteers , and the people who work in the field would have an outlet for their ideas, ravings and comic talents. Only the future will tell. I'd like to hear any and all suggestions and criticisms, ideas and opinions on the subject of a newsletter.

It's now twelve-thirty, two hours of strained thinking behind me. Kibby has the right idea for Sat. mornings. I saw him across the road from Pinkham, pitching golf balls out of the rather substantial rough the State of N.H. maintains along side Route 16. Remembering back to Augustfest a week ago, I was struck by the vision of Kib blasting a plastic drive into the Madison Col wind. Oh for a round of tundra golf, followed by a visit to the Nineteenth Hole, visions of the Moon Rock tee, and that massive water hazard known as Star Lake imprinted on my memory. It was, indeed, a great party.

Mike Torrey

Letters to the Editors... (and others)



RFD Box 25-1-B
Center Conway, NH 03813
August 3, 1982

Greetings Friends:

I would like to extend to all the AMC crew(s) of Pinkham Notch and Carter Notch warmest regards and a most heartfelt thank you for the help provided on the night of July 30-31 littering me out of Carter Notch.

Some people would say that the events that transpired that night (Carter getting robbed and myself getting shot) while unfortunate are a sign of the times. This may be true, but I would like to add that there is no better way to counter these troubles of our times then through the love, concern, and selfless action that was shown to me that night.

I am healing well and although it will be a few weeks before I'll be back on my feet, I was certainly very lucky - the gun was pointed at my chest just a moment before I was shot.

I would like to also add that I clearly thought that it was a hut raid or (poor) joke.

Thank you again Friends!
Most gratefully.
Jeffrey Burke

Research

If you have seen Laura, Bob, Linda and Kathie running about muttering ambient temperatures and relating the price of coffee to the pH of rainwater, then you are aware that the Research Department is at full throttle. Dijit and Burnham, less visible working from their Admin. basement office, have been coordinating the White Mountain field programs as well as holding up the valley end of the Potentilla project, working with the AMC's Financial Resources Department to develop a proposal to assist the Palisades IPC in designing a management plan for their "backcountry" lands in NJ and NY, meeting with the AMC Research Advisory Group Executive Committee to prioritize 1983 research projects, and continuing to monitor the Connecticut AT hiker registration program. Our opinion is that a healthy research program means a healthy forest, and all indications are that Research remains a strong AMC commitment.

As for the seasonal employees and their particular pet projects, all are on target. Kathie Weathers is looking for

(See next page)

Trails

TRAIL TALES

There has been much happening in the multi-faceted AMC Trails Program and there are numerous upcoming events. Locally the field operations have been going very well. The four Trail Crews have been putting in rock steps, waterbars, and other items in the Airline, Avalon Trail, Webster-Jackson Trail, Caribou Trail, Davis Path, and several other trails at a blistering pace. Trail-master Whitney King and the handful of senior TC have been cracking the whip with the many rookies (12 first year crew out of 19!) The Osseo Trail is being relocated (3 miles+). It'll start about one mile up the Wilderness Trail and follow a really nice line up toward Mt. Flume. It should be open at the end of the month. The shelter scene has been on par with last year according to Shelter Master Chip Miller in terms of use. Composting is going very well at all sites with people really getting into it (literally!). It's the one time they can do a shitty job and be proud of it.

Camp Dodge and the volunteers are going great guns also, putting in lots of good work all over the Forest. We have been averaging 20-25 people per week on the volunteer crew. The Weekend Projects have been slower, with 3-5 people average (hoped for 8-10) but have

(See next page)

Research (cont.)

existing information about the immediate Pinkham environment. She's met with AMC volunteers who did a similar survey at Three Mile Island and will be working with volunteers to inventory Pinkham's special use permit area during the third week of August. All crews are welcome to participate. During the fall, Kathie will write a manual for volunteers who wish to inventory other AMC facilities.

On the acid precipitation scene, cloudwater collection is going smoothly. A round of pond samples was collected on August 4th and were sent to Hubbard Brook for analysis.

Bob Champoux is working on a shelter survey, and questionnaires will reach users during August and early September. Also, Bob has permission from UNH to survey stream flow at Zealand, Tucks, Crawford, and Madison. This survey will let us know in greater detail what constraints we will face in operating small hydroelectric plants at these sites.

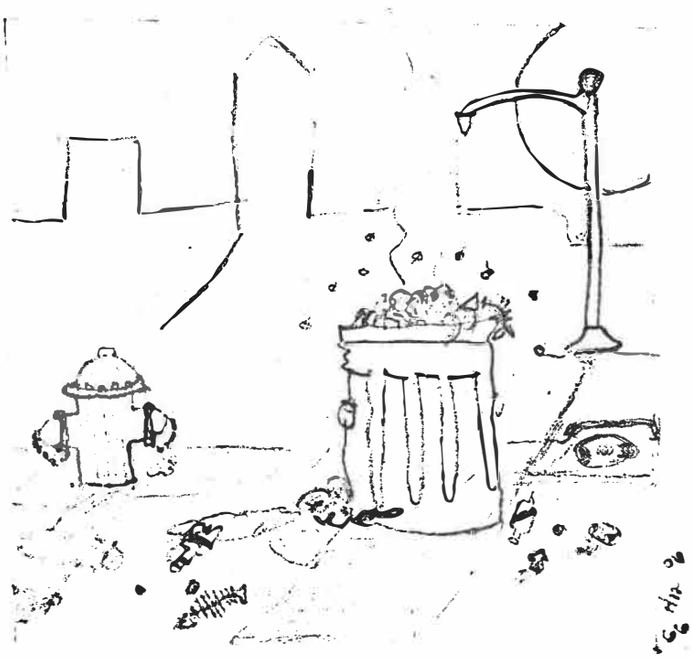
Laura McGrath's first round of water samples have been tested, and she is preparing for round two, to be conducted August 11 and 14.

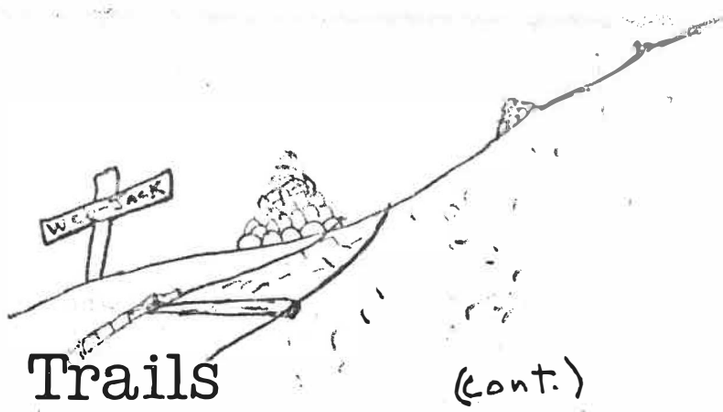
Linda Jacobs has been to all goat-composting huts to offer advice and to turn a forkful or two, and reports all is well on the pathogen destruction scene. A couple years of experience has helped the AMC achieve a higher success rate than in past years.

As the last, unofficial research team, the Zealand Crew has a number of new meters, each attached to an electrical appliance, to monitor the daily consumption of electricity.

The data base for future alternative energy projects, virtually non-existant a few years ago, grows with each max-min temperature recorded at a hut. Working together, the information we gather will make proposals for forest management and energy-efficiency easier to quantify and, therefore, easier to implement.

Mike Torrey





Trails (cont.)

been offset by work with the Wonalancet Outdoor Club, Outward Bound, Alford Lake Camp, and several Boy Scout Troops. The Adopt-A-Trail Program continues to grow, with about 90 miles of our 300± miles in the Whites adopted - over 150 people involved.

Saturday, August 14, 3-5 p.m. at the Mt. Washington Auto Road--be there, or at least tell your guests, friends, and relatives to be there for the White Mountain Singers Concert. They are a good folk group with guitar, 12 string guitar, and 5 string banjo. Tickets $5, $12 family in advance, $6, $14 family at the gate. Special limited edition Snoopy T-shirts to commemorate the event are here - $6 each. Proceeds benefit the Club's public service Trails Program.

Trails Booster money helps offset the costs of work we do, a public service we donate to the USFS and others as well as the hiking public. We don't receive enough funds from membership dues alone, nor from USFS cooperative agreement funds (80% reimbursement for some reconstruction work) which have been cut back. "Boosters" is yet another way for the hiking public to help out. They could become a member but many don't. They could volunteer but many don't. Hopefully they'll at least become a Booster and eventually they might do more.

Lastly, a two-week trail project was recently completed in the Tetons, with John McIntosh and John Ninninger as leaders for six volunteers. Don Hunger joined them for awhile. With an interest in helping the NPS out, giving some volunteers a chance to work elsewhere and for us to provide outreach as well as to learn ourselves, we set the project up and hope to do 2-3 such trips in the west next year. It was a great experience and definitely different than the Whites--mules carried all the gear in--it was the first time for many to go in for 2 weeks carrying in only 5 lbs. of gear on their backs. We've ordered two dozen mules! The group saw much wildlife. Black and grizzly bears weren't seen but were always watched for. Related to this we did have two special groups working with us in the Whites: one from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and one from the American Hiking Society. They'll be back next year and we may have a Sierra Club Service Group here from the West.

Mark Bromley and I hope to catch you on the trails.

Reuben Rajala

Gunfire (from page 1)

Game truck from there to Route 16.

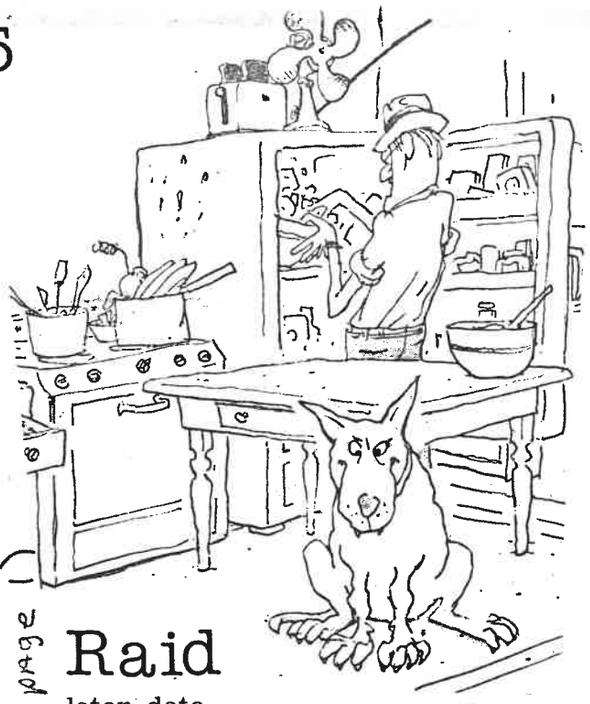
Saturday morning was both the end of a long night and the beginning of a long day. The shock and anger that had been relatively restrained all night, as the task of getting Geoff to a hospital was dispatched, released itself as a determined effort to put the perpetrator behind bars. Thanks to the new F & G radio at our disposal, communications with State Police and Fish & Game were never better, and Dave Warren used phone and radio to get armed searchers at all possible escape-route trailheads. The man's description obtained from several sources, including Don Feeney, the Evans Notch Forest Ranger who had given him a fire permit a week before, was circulated to the Maine State Police as well as local grocery stores.

Corporal Ray Landry of the NH State Police, with the help of Coos County Sheriff John Morton, discovered that Nelson, the alledged robber, had worked at the Wildcat Flea Market about a week before, and subsequently learned Nelson had made contact with a local man, who called the Sheriff. He said his friend was scared, had not intended to hurt anyone, and was considering turning himself in. It must have been a shock to find that overnight, authorities had an excellent description, a name and address, and had issued press releases to radio stations and newspapers, all before 10:00 a.m.

Wildcat was staked out, with a plain clothed Fish & Game officer manning the parking lot. Road blocks were ready North and South on Route 16, and men with binoculars were positioned at strategic vantage points on the mountain, watching for the man's appearance. The informant agreed to cooperate and arranged to meet the suspect at the parking lot. The rendezvous took place at 6:00 p.m., at which time Nelson decided to turn himself in. The arrest was made at a turnout North on Route 16. Nelson was charged with aggravated assault and armed robbery, bail was set at $20,000 and a probably cause hearing scheduled for August 10.

In the aftermath, AMC employees have asked themselves many questions. Awareness has risen as to our vulnerability, and steps are being taken to minimize the threat that such an abominable act will recur. Strangely enough, the Carter crew seems to have returned to routine as easily as they were taken from it, and questions about the robbery are passe to them. Their coolness under fire, from the first aid given to Geoff Burke to the gathering of the evidence (the shell casing was lifted by pencil point and placed in a plastic bag) to their statements, is phenomenal and worthy of great praise. So is their quick return to normalcy, regarding this aberration of decency as an isolated spurt of violence in the mountains not bound to be repeated soon. Carter Notch is peaceful once again.

Mike Torrey



Raid (from page 1)

later date.

Hogan's General Store of Twin Mountain supplied us with a hearty (not to mention nutritious) breakfast of yodels and funny bones, washed down by coke and lemonade. At 10:30 a.m. we began the march up the Ammi.

10:40 - complained of indigestion but did not turn back.

At 11:30 a.m. two unidentified punks stormed the Lakes kitchen, one of them held Laura McGrath and Rick Boyce at bay with a water pistol while the WHA flag was safely liberated from the dining room wall.

Things looked dismal only for a moment when I returned to the kitchen to find Bill cowering beneath a packboard crying, "Uncle! Uncle!" I, of course, came to his rescue, pleading intelligently, "Bill! Bill!" we then used our last resort, secret weapon to keep them from hurting us (the hiking was painful enough): Beer and chocolate chip ice cream.

When Dave and Helen returned from their packtrip with a combined killer load of no more than 60 pounds (come west, we naturally say, for a real packing experience) some unfortunate blood was spilled when Dave dove head-first into the tundra, trembling at the sight of a WHA power raid. (Have you ever wondered by Dave always gets hurt during power raids?)

The WHA troops then demanded lunch and helped devour the beer and ice cream before heading off with their treasure (which they had been carefully sitting on all this time. WHA motto #2: "Trust No One"...we know that you're all familiar with our #1 motto...) Having decided that only crazy hut boys, over-zealous Pinkham crews, and mentally ill people (you find your own connections) would want to go through all the effort of night raiding, the WHA fully endorsed western-style power raids, carried off with true style or taste we leave for you to decide.

Feeling content to have made history and, moreover, to have returned the flag to the Western Front where it belongs, the hike home didn't even feel too bad. (WHA motto #3: "What, us hike?")

Long live, or die, the WHA.

Rebecca Oreskes

NOXIOUS ODORS

Tales in the wind from Tuckerman Ravine

Bill Kelly

-Bits, Pieces, and Tidbits-

On Food Additives

Lots of information appearing in Among the Crowds has by now passed you by, been riffled through, memorized, or ignored - articles to be read on those cold rainy days when no one is around and reading material is scarce. There have been articles of historical nature, scandalous articles, recipies, threats, counter-threats, and editorials. The fray in print has grown as rapidly as mirthful mosquitos in a stagnant pond. Since we are already neck deep in the swirling swamp water (some would contend that that refers to Joe's death juice espresso rather than a stagnant pond, but that is another matter) of slander and tall tales, we feel it is time to hold our position, retreat a little perhaps, and douse our column with some useful information this week. Columns and articles may be riffled through, but now a few words on things that have been riffling through you: spices, food additives, and chemicals - good or otherwise.

First, some abbreviations.

GRAS - generally recognized as safe. FDA term often used.

NKT - no known toxicity

For the last fifty years or so, the Food and Drug Administration has been collecting information, experimental results, and reviews of substances added to food as flavors, colors, preservatives, or large-scale processing controls such as dough stabilizers, conditioners, or emulsifiers. As of 1977 the FDA was halfway through a complete review of all substances listed on the GRAS list ordered by President Nixon and currently being conducted at the FDA's experimental labs in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. They have turned up some interesting things...

Celery seed: widely used, but may cause sensitivity to light. GRAS

dill: can cause sensitivity to light; GRAS

garlic: oil extract used medicinally to treat intestinal worms; GRAS

horseradish: contains vitamin C, used, or useful as a urinary antiseptic. GRAS. Allyl isothiocyanate, a naturally occuring compound in horseradish, mustard, and onion is responsible for the pungent odor and taste. Purified and in high concentration it is toxic, can cause blisters, and was used in the manufacture of war gas.

Hydrolyzed vegetable protein: used as a flavor enhancer in soups, beef, etc., GRAS, but still being studied for the effects of trace compounds (dicarboxylic acids - which are precursors of a protein affecting growth) formed as a consequence of the hydrolysis process.

licorice: on the FDA list for further study. GRAS

lemon extract and lemon oil: used widely in confection, though it is suspected as a carcinogen. GRAS

mace: obtained by steam distillation of dried nutmeg seeds. Nutmeg is a potentially toxic substance when used in great quantity. Ingestion of as little as 3 whole seeds, or 5-15 grams of the powdered spice can cause skin flushing, irregular heart rhythms, central nervous system excitation, including euphoria and hallucinations. Currently on the FDA list for further study of short-term mutagenic, subacute, teratogenic, and reproductive effects. GRAS.

methylcellulose (sodium carboxymethyl cellulose): widely used as a thickening agent and stabilizer in many foods. Has been shown to cause cancer in animals, though currently listed as GRAS

mustard: black, brown, red, yellow, and white - used widely as a spice; currently on the FDA list of substances needing further study for possible mutagenic, teratogenic, subacute, and reproductive effects. GRAS.

MSG - monosodium glutamate. Listed as GRAS. We won't even talk about it. Don't use it. As an aside, a large can of it exists in the Tinkham kitchen.

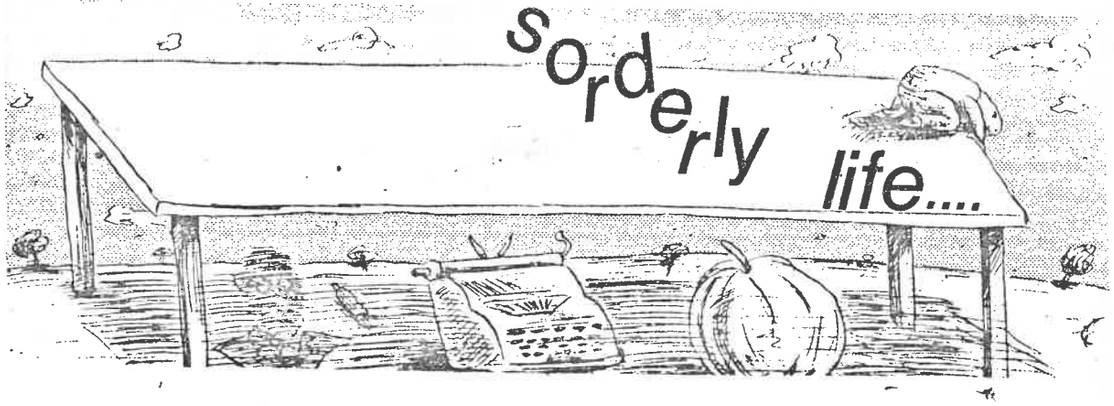
rosemary: GRAS, though a teaspoon ingested may cause illness, an ounce (a hell of a lot of rosemary death.

BHA, BHT: butylated hydroxy anisole butylated hydroxytoluene. Widely used preservatives and antioxidant may affect liver and kidney functions where it is detoxified. Lot of literature available on its effects, but currently recommended for further study by the FDA. Both GRAS. Incidentally, BHT is prohibited as a food additive in Great Britain.

(See page 7)

the manual of a disorderly life....

from: by dr. rick boyce



August 3, 1982

Recent contributions to this illustrious rag have concerned themselves with the subject of packing. Now, a lot in fact, too much, has been said about packing. Let's face it, it hurts no matter how or where you do it, so you might as well shut up and get it over with. However, a recent letter to the editor by a member of the Madison Croo (who will remain nameless because everyone knows who he is, Phil) cast aspersions on and generally belittled the Lakes pack trail. Therefore, I feel compelled to lift my pen in anger and answer these spurious allegations.

While the Crawford Path may appear to be a sleasy trail to the uninitiated, those who have experienced it have another tale to tell. Packing downhill is rather hard on the knees. A Lakes hut person may be identified by ear alone at 50 paces, for his knees sound like popcorn everytime he bends them more than 90°. Or you may notice the way he winces everytime he's confronted by a descending flight of stairs.

The first time that you pack down from the summit, you may spend the time marveling at just how poorly designed the human ankle is for descending steep slopes. This wonderous joint will continually amaze you as it attempts to bend in unexpected and heretofore impossible ways. In addition, if the rocks are wet, as they often are, you may well find out what it is like to slalom with a heavy overbalanced load.

But the fun doesn't stop here. One advantage of packing above treeline is the absence of low-hanging branches that at lower huts, are a leading cause of the flat-on-the-back crump. This lack of woody foliage, however, also means that nothing breaks that 80 mph wind except you and your trusty packboard. Not only do you learn how to take seven-league steps when the wind is at your back, but you develop a continually renewed bruise on the back of your skull from the many times you've watched your packboard and its contents go blowing over your head.

However, all is not pain at Lakes, for we get the pleasure of packing empty propane bombs up to the summit. We find that the weight is no problem, for our minds are busy realizing that if we were to drop the bombs we might end up seeing the Big One from a new perspective, e.g. from 10,000 feet. Bombing is especially fun when thumpers are approaching, for then you can reflect on the chances of the tallest object on the landscape (yourself) getting hit by lightning.

While it is true that we may not sweat as much as certain other hut croos (especially on those days when we have to wear wool pants!) we at Lakes emphatically deny that we have a wimpy pack trail. And those of you doubting Thomases who remained unconvinced can find out for yourselves--Wednesdays and Saturdays are best.

Rick Boyce

STAFF
mike torrey
yvonne jenkins

Odors (from page 6)

Other spices currently GRAS, or with listing of no known toxicity: oregano, thyme, fennel, basil, bay leaves, sage, ginger, paprika, allspice, pepper, tarragon, marjoram, tumeric, cumin, gelatin, parsley, vanilla, chives, malt extract, hops (damn good thing), lime oil, caraway seeds, poppy seeds; oils: safflower seasame, peanut, cocnut, sunflower.

Cinnamon and red pepper, though also listed as GRAS have some peculiarities. Cinnamon, or the active ingredient, cinnamaldehyde, is an irritant in undiluted pure form. It can cause gastrointestinal inflammation, or erosion of the GI tract in great quantity (use that is, not great quantity of the GI tract, though possible). Red, or cayenne pepper was reported in a study by Wajkin Nopanitaya at the University of North Carolina in 1971 to cause stunted growth in Mexicans, South Americans, and Spanish who eat a great deal of the peppers. Doesn't seem harmful in more reasonable quantities.

FOOTNOTES

Much of this article was prepared from a book by Ruth Winter, entitled: A Consumer's Dictionary of Food Additives, (New York: Crown Publishers, Inc, 1978.

Crawford's

By Barbara Wagner, Peter Crane, Mike Torrey

CRAWFORD AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETS

The Crawford's Ad Hoc Committee met on July 29 to discuss the future of the AMC's 26-acre property. Three years ago, Wright-Pierce, the same architectural firm involved in the Pinkham Plan, drew up the Crawford Plan, a long range study complete with recommendations for the use of this property. The first recommendation called for serious evaluation of the long term space needs of Pinkham Notch Camp. At that time it was felt that some of the functions then housed at Pinkham could possibly be shifted to Crawfords. Recently the decision was made to increase and improve Pinkham facilities and consequently Crawfords will not be called upon to house Administrative offices, storehouse operations, or additional crew quarters. In Wright-Pierce's introduction to "The Crawford Notch Study" the following assumptions were made:

1. The Appalachian Mountain Club must be responsible for seeing that the Crawford House site is used to benefit all White Mountain users.

2. Toward this end, all conceivable use options ranging from resale to reforesting to intensive hardened site development should be considered.

The Ad Hoc committee's charge is to evaluate the whole of Crawford's future, using three years of experience and study to lend credence to decisions about where we want to be. The scope of alternatives has been narrowed and neither extreme, site-wide development or reforesting, seems the likely policy. In its recent meeting, the Ad Hoc committee took several steps toward defining what the goals and policies of the Club will be as it walks the fine line between protective stewardship and public service development of the Crawford House site.

One of the major considerations is whether the AMC should offer overnight accommodations at Crawfords. The committee agreed that a hostel-type operation is important. It should be simple, low-cost and year round, and would serve to compliment existing facilities like huts and Pinkham. The original plan called for the present hostel's demolition after three years, and construction of a new one. Although the existing facility is far from ideal, it will be maintained so that continuous service can be provided until a new hostel can be built.

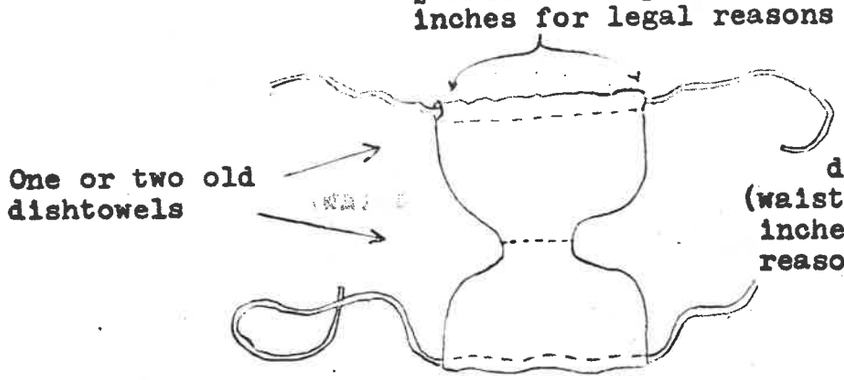
The second major decision made established the high priority of maintaining the "historic open space" at the Crawford House site. The Crawford Plan called for the eventual re-seeding of the hotel site, and the markings of the hotel foundation, and these goals, which recognize the rich historical aspect of the site, were seconded by the ad hoc committee.

Other issues were discussed without final decisions being reached. The parking issue is a major concern of the committee. Four parking areas presently exist and a consensus appears to be that parking should be consolidated. Whether this should be on AMC property, or perhaps at the site of the old state road camp is the question. Interwined with the parking issue is the Depot's function as an I & E contact station. If in an effort to preserve the open space at Crawfords trailhead parking is developed at the site of the old state road camp and if the trails in the area are relocated to it, the role of the Depot as an I & E center would be eliminated, and the opportunity to actively manage the site would be decreased. If however, the Club chose to sacrifice a part of the historical open space and developed policy on the site, the opportunity for public contact at the site would be greatly expanded. The committee intends to pursue the second option with the assistance of Wright Pierce.

Issues that haven't been addressed include the futures of the Carriage House (which is actually a garage) and the so-called Caretaker's Cottage (which was first Frank Shapleigh's art studio and later the Manager's House). The Carriage House needs a new roof in order to prevent further deterioration, regardless of future plans. This was estimated to cost $6,000 a few year ago and $10,000 has been targeted for it in the present Capital Campaign. The pro side of the Carriage House discussion is that it is a great place to store things like lumber, refrigerators, mattresses, and initials, and it is aesthetically pleasing. The con side is economic, a cost-benefit analysis that begs to be done, and initial expectations lean heavily on the cost side. Salvage might yield healthy dividends were the building dismantled.

As to the Caretaker's Cottage, Peter and Jeff will be painting the exterior to keep the weather at bay until decisions have been made.

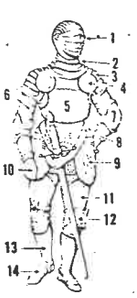
To implement all the recommendations in the original plan, about $600,000 would be needed. The Capital Campaign has $200,000 earmarked for Crawfords, $55,000 slated to complete payment of the mortgage, and $23,000 of it for moving the Depot out of Central Maine Railroad's right-of-way, and possibley rotating it. It now appears, however, this might not be necessary, and the $23,00 would be available for other purposes. Given this amount of capital, the committee must fashion a comprehensive plan in the next month for presentation to the AMC Council. With an early fund-raising goal "to protect the last undeveloped Notch", and Bretton Woods on the development track, the committee has the last undeveloped notch in its control, and must bring an environmental consciousness to its meetings, along with a good business sense and a feel for public opinion and needs.



The Vezelay Pack Trou

Skirts, gym shorts, aprons, fig leaves, dresses, boxer shorts, kilts, and loin cloths are just a few examples of AMC "pack trou", an expression coming from the Aztec word "trousil", which means literally "silly trousers". The French have a proverb "L'habit fait le moine" (The robes make the monk) which is undoubtedly an adaptation of an earlier expression found on a cave wall near Vezelay, which has been translated loosely by French archeologists as "Le pack trou fait le/la hutcroo." In fact, in this very same cave the first prehistoric drawing was found, by two lost spelunkers, Francois LaCoste and Pierr Cardin. Fortunately for hut croos around the world, a reproduction of this drawing depicting the world's first pack trou has been imported to this country thanks to a special grant from the AMCPTA (Appalachian Mountain Club Pack Trou Association), and is on display in the Robert Service Memorial Cave in Carter Notch. For those of you unable to attend the gala dedication of this exposition (also to be shown are several prehistoric stone pack boards used in the building of the pyramids and some petrified crump logs) the Carter Notch croo is proud to reveal to you the coveted prize of the neanderthal packer, the Vezelay pack trou.

John Dunn



armor 1: *1* helmet, *2* gorget, *3* shoulder piece, *4* pallette, *5* breastplate, *6* brassard, *7* elbow piece, *8* skirt of tasses, *9* tuille, *10* gauntlet, *11* cuisse, *12* knee piece, *13* jambeau, *14* sollieret

bloomer 1

male and female pack-trou

On Language

ON LANGUAGE: Spelling White Mountain Slang and Vernacular - A Primer
by William Strokefire

There seems to be confusion in these hills about the proper spelling of some everyday words. One man's crump is another man's krump, or so it would appear. To be fair, in a language where "inflammable" and "flammable" mean the same thing, and "minute" describes both "something very small" and the time it takes to write this column, it's not too hard to see how two or more spellings could evolve for the same word.

But Lo!, beware the devils of phonetic spelling! For each of us minds his Ps and Qs differently. If we all started spelling the way we spoke, before too long the only written words we'd share would be "yes", "no", and "ice cream". What is to be done?

Out of this anarchy, known to the brave as "The Rules of English", we must standardize spellings - if not solely for consistency and ease of communications, then for the simple joy of being pigheaded about the thing.

Now that we see where we stand and why, let us procede apace.

Pack-trou, As good a word to start with, as without it we'd be left with something prosaic and chubby, like "packing garb". "Pack-trou" is actually an abbreviated contraction of "packing trousers", and in the interests and convenience and cadence, the abbreviated form makes perfect sense. "Pack-trough" however does not. I can only surmise this is something you fall into after hauling 100 pounds up the V-Way.

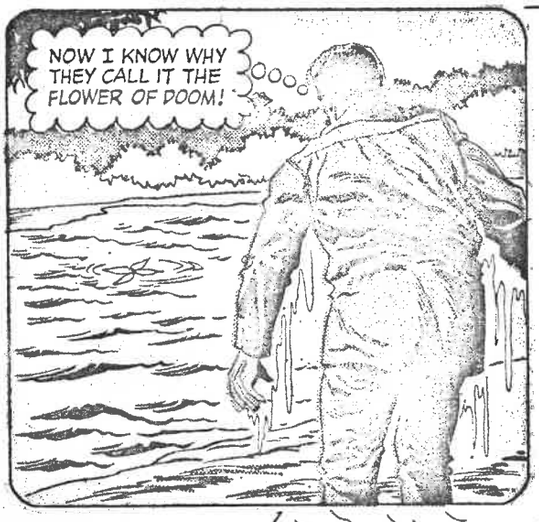
Now what of "croo"? The correct english spelling is of course "crew", but this is generally taken to mean a bunch of guys in a narrow boat trying to stay dry. Thus, for hut people, "croo" brings with it a useful distinction.

"Crump" is another loose canon of the deck. It appeared as "krump" in both the 1979 and 1981 printings of "Every Hutman's Guide to White Mountain Slang and Vernacular", a misguided attempt by the editor to preserve what he thought to be the original german spelling (who ever heard of "crumholts"?. The word is, however, a direct descendant of our own Anglo-Saxon "crumple", meaning to collapse.

Readers are invited to submit other slippery words to this column, care of Among the Krowds, Gorham, NH.

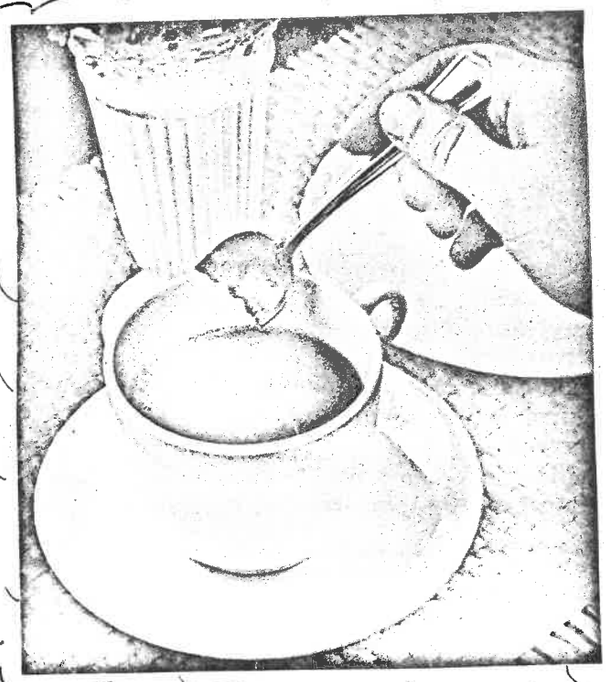
Waddell's Believe It or Else!

TRUE WEIRD STORIES



ON JULY 5th 1973 THE AMC TRAIL CREW BATHED WITH SOAP, WENT OUT TO DINE AT THE SCOTTISH LION, ORDERED $25 DINNERS, WERE POLITE TO THE HELP, PAID FOR THE DINNERS, LEFT A GENEROUS TIP, AND DEPARTED... *without stealing the flag!!* TRUE...OR FALSE?

TRUE OR FALSE... THE ARCHITECT WHO DESIGNED PINKHAM DOES NOT HAVE A ROOM TEMPERATURE I.Q. ACTUALLY, HE JUST LOOKS THAT WAY! BELIEVE IT...OR ELSE!



WORLD'S STRONGEST CUP OF COFFEE— BREWED BY SCOTT MACOMBER, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO DISTILL KEROSENE CHEAPLY FROM DWARF CINQUEFOIL.

ON THE EVENING OF MAY 24th, 1982, MARK "THE SHARK" HITCHCOCK WAS ARRESTED FOR FELONIOUS ASSAULT UPON 25 GALLONS OF STRAWBERRY ROYAL ICE CREAM. FOLLOWING AN ELOQUENT DEFENSE PRESENTED BY HIS ATTORNEY, MR. CLINTON "THE KIB" GLOVER, ESQ., MR. HITCHCOCK, HIS BEARD STILL DRIPPING, WAS ACQUITED AFTER ENTERING A PLEA OF TEMPORARY INSANITY WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A RING DING. KANGAROO COURT JUDGE DAVID P. WARREN WAS HEARD TO MUMBLE "HANG EM!" MR. HITCHCOCK WAS SENTENCED TO THIRTY MINUTES IN THE WALK-IN, WITHOUT A SPOON!

Once again,
It's time to bring you
The history not fit to fit in the Depot . . .

LUCY CRAWFORD"S GALLERY OF CHARACTER ASSISSINATION, VOL. II

CRAWFORD NOTCH

Social History Exhibit: an Addendum

by Lucille Crawford, IV

Figure 1. Before treatment with miracle drug "Kaola 409": a listless Don Hunger, Hohokus, NJ.

Figure 2. After treatment with miracle drug "Kaola 409": a spry, rejuvenated Dave Warren, with an unidentified sixth grader, downtown Manhattan.

Again, in the interests of fairness and financial gain, those people slated for demolition in this column may avoid unnecessary chagrin by slipping $50, in a plain white envelope, under the editor's door. Care will be taken to notify all marked parties in advance. However, this author reserves the right to snipe indescriminately at whatever wanders into my glazed sights.

Next Issue: Joe Gill and Jon Martinson top-off a motorcyle descent of the Sherburne with une Grande Wipe-Out. Plus more. Don't miss it!

THE RITEGERD SCALE OF SUNRISES (MT. WASHINGTON OBSERVATORY)
(Also applicable to sunsets.)

Origin of the Ritegerd scale is unknown, however, legend has it it was written by a group of Australian monks seeking political asylum in a cave on one of the higher Himalayan Mounts and delivered to Katmandu by a Yeti named Frank. We surmise it was then carried across the Bering Straights to Bigfoot and eventually here to be published for the world to see.

No. 1 Sunrise not visible due to weather conditions which were hazardous to human life, as we know it.
No. 2 Nothing to write home about.
No. 3 Adequate
No. 4 A nice sunrise, some colors visible.
No. 5 Good color, with clouds setting the stage for thoughts of good times and beer.
No. 6 Color through all bands of the spectrum; generally with a full undercast and a partial overcast. Observer may experience slight dizziness.
No. 7 Full spectrum of color, and then some. Clouds form cryptic shapes and images. A faint, distant sound of music is audible. Observers eyes appear glazed; has difficulty speaking and keeping his feet. This condition may last from one hour to a few days after the No. 7 sunrise.
No. 8 Only seen a few times this century. Colors are unimaginable. Definite sounds of harps and horns; clouds move to the sounds, and observer may suffer a temporary loss of ability to spell his own name.
No. 9 Colors, WHAT COLORS! Lyres, trumpets, violins, multitudes of heavenly voices. Clouds seem to form a tunnel leading to the infinite cosmos. Only two No. 9's on record, and after witnessing them the observers suffered permanent brain damage.
No. 10 Never actually witnessed, but in theory, modern day physicists say possible.

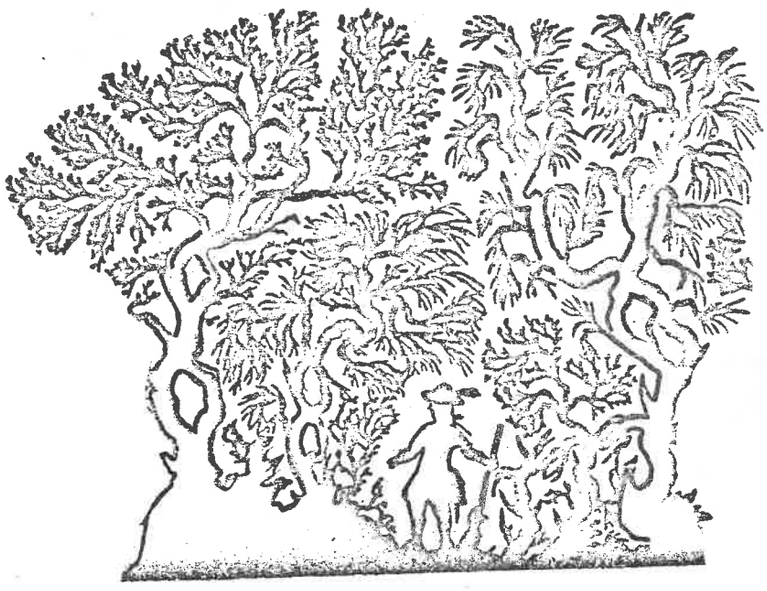
NOTE: A number "0" sunrise is one that doesn't happen. Observer should either go back to bed or start worrying. Any sunrise you can walk away from is a good sunrise.

M.W.O.

Red-Haired Woman

A naked hunter
circles within my brain
stepping to the beat of my heart.
He wakes me early, before the zebras,
before water splashes glint like diamonds.
Together we stalk shadows
and when I tire, he snatches up
my thoughts and races through
the jungle, leaping bushes and ducking
banana leaves. I find him beneath
an ivory cliff where the red-haired
woman lived alone, the smiles,
and sheepishly gives me back my
thoughts, of a moment when she and
I touched, before the tiger came.

John Dunn



July 17, 1899 (AMC visits Lost River)

"The party were all numbered & each lady was put in charge of some experienced gentleman climber, since fortunately there were more than enough men to go round. Then as some difficult passage or some dark cavern was entered, each was obliged to take his assigned turn. The ladies were very obedient to directions and with one exception never asked the question "why"..."

Among the Clouds - "the daily newspaper established in 1877 - published on the summit every summer except for 2 years until 1917."

Republished in Appalachia - June 1948.