

M. R. Hyker's Latest Adventure



10-25-27-2008: I was joined by Hardcore, Skywalker, Jess, The Mad Hatter, Treebeard-I am, Trlhiker and Waterbug,. After driving through heavy rains and a one hour traffic backup because of an accident we arrived at the trailhead. The plan was to hike in 2.0 to 2.5 miles and set up a base camp at Cow Camp Gap and then do a 12 mile figure 8 day hike combining the [Cold Mt Loop](#) and the [Mt Pleasant Loop](#).

About half way there we ran into a large group of teens and adults who were heading to the same shelter. We arrived at about the same time. After a brief discussion we opted to take [the large tent site](#) above the shelter. Despite high winds and wet wood Skywalker managed to create nice fires both nights.

The next day we ate breakfast, re-hung the food and set off on our day hike. It began with a long climb up the Hotel trail to the AT and then some switchbacks to the summit of Cold Mountain. Along the way we visited 2 [teaser vistas](#). I let everyone go before me as we broke out onto the [highest bald](#). The [views](#) were just as fantastic as last year. We could clearly see [Pompey Mt and Mt Pleasant](#) which we would be visiting in a couple of hours.

The climb up Pompey Mt was a tad difficult. We were basically repeating the same elevation gain as we did on Cold Mt. Near the top of Mt Pleasant the group got separated. After about 30 minutes of shouting and blowing whistles we found each other. (I must prevent that from happening again.) The [views](#) were equally impressive here. After checking out both east and west vistas we descended to the parking area and then back up the Hotel Tr to camp. We were finished by 4:15. After dinner we played fireside word and trivia games. I went to bed early but took part in the games while in a horizontal position. Actually I believe I think better in the prone position.

We awoke the next morning to howling winds and threatening skies. We

ate a quick breakfast and broke camp. We were back at the cars by about 10:30 and heading home in the rain. It was another great trip. (One more to go!)