

MAY 2013 CAMPING IDEAS

Location: Tony Grove Lake

Tony Grove Lake is located in Logan Canyon, about 20 miles east of Logan on Highway 89. It's a little farther than most suggestions we've given but well worth the trip. The campsites at Tony Grove are well suited as a base camp for a multi-day outing and Tony Grove's location puts you within 30 minutes of either Bear Lake or Logan for day trips. It's a gorgeous Alpine setting around a beautiful lake. The lake was very popular with the high society crowd in Logan in the 1920s and 1930s, which is how it earned the name Tony Grove, "tony" meaning elegant. Loganites often partied there in tuxedos and evening gowns. It's easy to find; just look for the sign marking the turnoff on the left side of the road as you drive from Logan.

Food: Black Beans and Rice

1 Kielbasa sausage, sliced	2 green peppers, chopped
2 C diced ham	1 large onion, diced
2 cans (16 oz) black beans, drained and rinsed	2 C uncooked white rice
1 tsp. cumin	1 tsp. oregano
½ tsp. red pepper flakes	2 Tbs. cooking oil
Chicken broth	

Heat oil in a Dutch oven. Sautee onion and peppers about 5 min. Add meat, cumin, and oregano, cook 5 min., stirring occasionally. Add chicken broth instead of water according to directions for rice, add rice and simmer until rice is done, about 20-30 minutes. Add black beans and red pepper flakes. Mix well and serve. Makes about 8 servings.

Game: Visit to Old Ephraim's Grave

No Scout outing to Logan Canyon is complete without a visit to Old Ephraim's Grave. Old Ephraim was the last Grizzly bear known to be in Utah and is the namesake of the Logan High Grizzlies. At 9'11" tall and 1100 lbs. Old Ephraim terrorized sheep and cattle ranchers from 1914 until 1923. He was clever enough to avoid every trap set by hunters until August 22, 1923, when he finally was caught in a trap set by Frank Clark, who had hunted the bear for years. Clark reported that he heard Ephraim yell, a sound that was the most frightening sound he had heard in his life. Clark grabbed his gun, called for his dogs and set off without even putting on his pants. Even with the 23-lb. trap clamped to one hind leg and a 14-foot log chain wrapped around a foreleg, the bear came at Clark. Clark let it get within six feet of him before he fired seven shots to bring the bear down. Scouts from Troop 1, Cache Valley Council, later recovered the bear's skull, carrying it back on a long pole "because it stunk like mad." The skull was on display at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., and now is on permanent display at Utah State University.

The trail can be hiked from the Willow Creek Trailhead. Take the Right Hand Fork in Logan Canyon (back toward Logan from Tony Grove, near mile marker 383, GPS N41 deg. 46'656" W111 deg. 37'164"). Watch for a sign marked "Ephraim Cutoff Trail." The hike is about 12 miles round trip. For those who don't want to hike, the grave is accessible by vehicle (four wheel drive or high clearance recommended) on a dirt/gravel road from the Temple Fork turnoff in Logan Canyon, about 15 miles from the mouth of Logan Canyon.

The story of Old Ephraim makes a great, true campfire story to be told on a dark night.