

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

EDITOR
Gwynneth Wilson
1215 8th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska
Tel 4-7833
Vol. 4, No. 3

SCREE

SECRETARY
Marjorie Prescott
Box 1119, Anchorage
Office: SK 3-2211
Home: SK 3-3119
January 1962

MEETING, TUESDAY, JANUARY 23rd

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska will begin the New Year with a change in meeting night to the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on January 23rd at the Willow Park Recreation Hall (9th and Fairbanks) at 8 p.m. Jon Gardey will show the slides of the Mt. Russell Exploration. Having seen Jon's excellent pictures of other climbs before, this promises to be a very good program.

CLIMBING SCHEDULE:

January 13-14: Overnight snowshoe trip, south fork of Campbell Creek. Gene Horning, leading. BR 8-9395.

January 20-21: Ski Tour to Independence Mine. Bring skis or snowshoes, as preferred. Sunday an attempt will be made to climb Government Peak. Contact Jon Gardey - FA 2-1658.

January 27-28: Rescue Group overnight with MCA. This will probably be an Arctic Survival School - building snow caves, etc.

In February: Tentatively, though no date has been set, a Ski Tour over Johnson Pass to Moose Pass a distance of 20 miles.

February 10, 11, 12: Mail Trail snowshoe trip. This will be a repeat of the most successful Ski Bowl to Indian trip of 2 years ago. Gene Horning, leading. BR 8-9395.

ROPES FOR SALE: The Club owns some climbing rope which it would like to sell. If interested, please contact Joe Pichler - FE 3-2101.

Needed ONE FILE BOX by the Secretary. Marjorie Prescott would like a metal file box approximately 11 3/4 x 13 x 10 with a lock for the Club records. If you have such an item and would like to donate it to the Club, would you let Marjorie know.

FRIGID FLIGHT FROM FESTIVITIES - An Overnight Outing, December 23-24.

Above is an illustration of how the world looked from inside the MCA's new frost-lined Logan Tent on the morning of December 24th as seen by John Dillman, Gregg Erickson and Ed Fisher. It is the hope of the Editor that the text which goes with this vivid illustration will arrive by the next number of Scree.

SNOWSHOE TRAINING CLASS January 7 by Rod Wilson

On January 7, 1962 Joe Pichler conducted a training session for beginners on snowshoes. There was only one trouble -- only one "student" showed up. He was a guest of Rod Wilson, a newcomer to town Dr. Tom Kiester. He took to the shoes very readily and together with Joe, Rod, Jim Messick, and John Dillman, all of whom had been on the clumsy things before, we all plodded off into the woods near the foot of Clark's Road off Rabbit Creek Road about 2 miles south of the east end of O'Malley Road. We followed an old trail to the right of Clark's Road, then as we gained altitude we returned to the road and soon reached Clark's house standing 2300 ft above fog-bound Anchorage. The Aleutian Range and Alaska Range could be seen in fine detail sparkling in the sun. After coffee with the Clark's (who are always pleasant to Mountaineering Club members, but who say they tire of predatory and destructive visitors) we made our way up on to the ridge behind the Clark's. We decided not to try to climb Flattop since we did not have a rope (there-by having already broken a club rule which requires a rope on any outing more pretentious than a picnic) or ice axes which would be useful on the steep few feet near the top of Flattop. Led by John Dillman, we then came off the ridge to the South heading for the road which leads up into Rabbit Creek Valley. Joe Pichler took a shot with his gun at some Ptarmigan without success. Soon we reached the road which led back to the cars. We were gone about 6 hours and covered 4 or 5 miles in all.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

by Howard A. Schuck

I was gratified that so many showed up for the December 28 meeting in spite of the 30 to 40 below zero temperatures prevailing in the area that night.

One change of policy was voted: The Club will reimburse members for costs of film, developing and producing any black and white prints which are used in publicity write-ups of any MCA climb or trip. This is to encourage members to take more black and white photos, which can generally be reproduced much better than color slides.

According to the Constitution, January 1 is the deadline for payment of dues by established members. We have extended this deadline to the January 23 meeting. The list of members as of January 23 with their addresses and phone numbers will be published in February.

This is the final notice that beginning in February SCREE will be mailed only to members who are paid-up (plus prospective members, and non-members receiving complimentary copies, such as other Mountaineering Clubs on a reciprocal basis).

There has apparently been a misunderstanding as to when the MCA year begins and ends. For instance, some who paid for the first time in June or July were under the impression that this paid them up for all of 1962. However, the new MCA year begins in October according to the Constitution (which many members may not have seen). The Constitution and By-laws state:

1. "Dues shall be due and payable prior to the Annual Meeting,
2. "An Annual meeting shall be called during the month of October . ."

I believe this is a rather awkward arrangement. I suggest that we consider changing the Constitution so that the MCA year will more closely conform to a calendar year. As a temporary alleviation, we have decided that all those who paid dues in August or September shall be considered paid-up for the year beginning October 1961.

Journals of the Appalachian Mountain Club, Sierra Club, Alaska Alpine Club, American Alpine Club, Colorado Mountain Club, and the Explorers Club of Pittsburgh are received by MCA. Heretofore they have not been readily accessible to individual members. Beginning with the January meeting these journals will be brought by the Secretary to each general meeting for perusal by anyone interested.

Also available at each meeting will be the Club's official set of all issues of Scree. I feel that prospective members could become familiar with the Club's activities rather quickly by thumbing through these back issues of SCREE.

ABOUT THE BACK ISSUES OF SCREE:

Would members owning back issues of Scree but willing to part with them in order to bring the Club's set to completeness please bring these issues to future meetings.