

JANUARY MEETING: Monday, January 17, 1966, 8:00 p.m., Willow Park Community Center, 9th and Fairbanks streets. This month's program will be a double feature. Barney Seiler of the Nordic Ski Club will discuss waxes, and Bill Hague will show slides from the Girdwood--Eagle River traverse last Memorial Day weekend.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

If no one is listed as trip leader call Leo Hannan, 277-4748, for any information.

Jan. 16 WATERSHED Ski (or Snow shoe) Tour. Call Marge Prescott at Sunrise 8:57 277-2001 or meet at her apartment, 1800 Arctic Blvd., between Sunset 3:22 10 and 11 a.m. Sunday.

Jan. 22/23 JOHNSON PASS-- 2 days--explore area. If you can't make it for two days come down for a day's skiing--meet the campers on the way out

or

SNOWBLIND HINE with Nordic Ski Club. Overnight. This is a nice "short day" trip. The cabin is comfortable and those desiring to be introduced to ski touring should find this an excellent trip.

Jan. 29/30 INDEPENDENCE HINE Call Marge Prescott at 277-2001. Hotel Accomodations. Nordic Ski Club will be there too. Lots of skiing for everyone. Give those going on the following week's trip a chance to climb up to Hatcher Pass and look over the area

Feb. 5/6 (Rise INDEPENDENCE HINE TO WILLOW with Nordic. Indicate your inter- 8:10, Set 4:19) est early so transportation arrangements can be made.

Feb. 12/13 ARCTIC VALLEY TO HILAND ROAD--EAGLE RIVER Dave DeVoe 333-5492 (Rise 7:51, Set 4:38) or HOPE (Resurrection Creek) to FOREST SERVICE CABIN. Overnight with Nordic Ski Club. Indicate your choice.

Feb. 19/20 FUR RENDEZVOUS--Ski out trail--view dog sled races Rise 7:31, Set 4:58; or Johnson Pass with Nordic--Day's Skiing

Feb. 26/27 JOHNSON PASS TO MOOSE PASS with Nordic Rise 7:10, Set 5:17

Mar. 5/6 CROW PASS TO EAGLE RIVER or SHIP CREEK RAIL TRAIL. Indicate choice. Rise 6:49, Set 5:35

Mar. 19 "TRAIL OF '88" Tentative Trip with Nordic Ski Club, about 5 days this would provide for any weather delay and assure a leisurely pace. Fly from Anchorage to Skagway. Cost approx \$100/rd trip. From Dyea over Chilkoot Pass to Lake Bennett by skis. Return flight from Lake Bennett to Skagway will cost approx \$20. Some previous ski touring experience is required.

Mar (AMU Spring Vacation) Glacier trek to the site of camp 2 on Eklutna Glacier (5 days). Open to anyone with proper equipment and some glacier and skiing experience. Ron Linder

Open Date JUNEAU LAKE TRAIL - trek in 8 miles to a cabin. This trip and the Hope to Forest Service Cabin trip should give us a good idea of what to expect when we go from Hope to Cooper Landing later in the year.

Personal: John Bousman, William Bousman, Earl Hamilton, William May, Ham Murray.

All of us being in one way or another (some victimized, others victimizing) associated with MIT and its outing club, and having climbed together with no less than our fair share of fiascos, the decision was made last winter to do a bit of climbing in the Brooks and Traleika Glacier regions this summer. Until the last minute the makeup of the party was somewhat in doubt, however the wayward one (JHB) eventually convinced his employers that a six week vacation would be good for him- and for them, the latter tipping the balance. With this immediate steps were taken to contact the McKinley Park Superintendent to seek permission for our project and after considerable correspondence this was granted, subject to the usual reservations about final equipment check.

31 July - JHB flew from Boston to Anchorage having seen the last of the others in June. However numerous accounts of their climbing in the Cascades and Bugaboos had reached him, causing his envy to know no limits. They were established, on this date in Morino Campground, entertaining the red squirrels (being well aware, of course, of park policy concerning molesting and frightening small animals) and packing food.

1 August - John spent the day searching for someone who knew the status of our party with the ARG, turned out that the agreement had been sent to the park, a normal state of confusion.

2 August - Word came to the rest that Berle Mercer was hunting for the expedition so the members present ably filled in for Berle's absent correspondent giving him more than enough material to load his horses - an expedition in its own right including Berle and two children, Ginny Wood (guide), Wayne Merry (ranger) and Bill May (our representative - sole purpose, to molest ravens and protect the cache). This got off in the midafternoon reaching Clearwater creek in the evening.

John arrived at McKinley Park Station at 1700 by train to find his brother on the platform. The Expedition, minus Bill May (on extended special duty) gratefully accepted the hospitality of Charley Travers and his small cabin.

3 August - Overcast and intermittent rain - an uneventful crossing of the McKinley river was enjoyed by all. Shortly after we managed to get lost (John is known in Boston as "Jungle" - reference Rumdoodle) striking too far to the east and starting up the headwaters of Clearwater Creek rather than Cache Creek. This error was noticed after a mile of easy walking, by this very fact, it was too pleasant - John and William well remembered the miserable swamps and small lakes encountered two years ago while walking out this way. We rectified our error and established a starvation camp two miles south of Clearwater creek this night. Wolfishly we divided a salami.

The Mercer-May-Merry-Wood Expedition made Castler Pass at 1600 leaving Bill in possession and completely missing us on their return to Clearwater Creek, an understandable situation considering we had no Ginny Wood to lead us in the paths of Washburn.

4 August - 45° Rain - We groaningly made the rest of the trip to Castler Pass. Bill May appeared as a welcome wraith out of the fog to ply us with hot food and adventure stories in a comfortable camp located 100 ± feet below the pass. He had climbed the east summit of Castler Peak this morning and had horrified all ravens seen.

5 August - Gloaming weather, rain and clouds this evening, 24° low this morning. Rest day - established a cache (we hoped raven and squirrel proof) about 100 feet out on the Muldrow. The snowshoes proved useful to hold it down and acted in the capacity of cache protection for the rest of the trip.

6 August - 40° Cloudy, light rain this evening. The ambitious five started out for Brooks with five days of food and three quarts of gas, but were stymied by a horrid river which we followed for two miles upstream before we could cross. At this point we decided to go up the Traleika and climb Carpe considering we were so far in that direction already. Traleika Base camp was established at 6500 feet at the confluence of the glacier draining the Tatum-Carpe col and the Traleika.

7 August - cloudy most of the day, some clearing higher, 38°. With a blind faith in God we decided on a 6000 foot climbing day and set forth up our side glacier, destined for Carpe. With a late start dictated by sloth and selfconfidence we reached the 9500 foot level (on Tatum) near the col in the midafternoon. A hasty retreat was beaten in a minor whiteout and 200 feet of fixed rope was left in the icefall to facilitate our return - this turned out to be of no use at all.

8 August - 36° high clouds and rain. We declared a rest day. Bill Bousman and Ham wanted a route up our icefall while John explored a couple of miles of the Traleika (to investigate possible East Puttress routes, the icefall looks rather like bad news).

9 August - 40° wind and driving rain. Abandoned (were routed from) Traleika Base to pick up more supplies. Found least weasel, Canada jay, and robin skeletons at 6000 feet on the Traleika, about seven miles from more reasonable habitats. Reoccupied our cache camp at Oastler Pass. We had snow buntings for company on our walk out today.

10 August - 30° Snow. Holed up to sit out the storm. We started a cribbage tournament with the following results: Earl 4-1, William B 2-0, John 1-6. Our self proclaimed expert swore revenge.

11 August - 32° Snow. Tournament continues - scores: -----edited JHB

12 August - 26° Clearing, break in the weather at 0300. Packing loads over the pass did not appeal due to much loose slippery snow so loafed the day away chasing Rock Ptarmagin getting some fair photographs.

13 August - 30° Clear. We found Lynx tracks by our cache and followed Coyote tracks all the way up to Traleika Base. Five more days of food and two quarts of gas moved up for our reoccupation. Found a Mill's Expedition parachute drop enroute.

14 August - 35° mediocre weather clearing later. We were up at 0330, packed camp and were off up our side glacier at 0530, reaching the top of the icefall in three hours dumping our loads there at 8100 feet at the toe of the 10,700 foot sub-summit of Tatum. We then continued up a snow couloir to the glacier cirque between Tatum and its subsidiary, then up the South ridge of Tatum - on top by 1400 - after a pleasant climb. The British route on the SW ridge looked inviting so we descended it to our col of the 7th, finding frozen snow to be much better walking than the slip we had suffered through on that day. Upon arrival at the packs we set up camp with the last dregs of energy then collapsed in exhaustion, determined not to move on the morrow.

15 August - 29° Clear. Slept.

16 August - 35° Snowing at 0315, off for the North buttress of the NE face of Carpe at 0535 in a white out. We reached 10,200 feet then were turned back by three feet of fresh powder on the slope. 1030 found us back in camp to sleep for the rest of the day.

17 August - 26° Snowing at 0300 - went back to sleep - at 0730 looked again and could detect sun through the haze so set forth, this time for the east buttress of Carpe's NE face (hoping for better snow). Broke out of the clouds at 9800 feet and had an increasingly more beautiful day as we climbed higher. On top at 1745 after plowing through two feet of powder all the way from 11,500 on the NE ridge. A beautiful evening, which we enjoyed to the utmost on our descent, watching a glorious sunset over a sea of clouds and a steadily richening alpine glow around us. The North buttress which had turned us back yesterday proved to be a 15 minute plow down an e'bow deep trough with our delight increased by thoughts of toiling up through it. Sauntered down late very content in our day and with this pleasant evening.

18 August - 16° Clear. Broke camp and enjoyed lunch at Traleika Base, then out to a camp site on the Muldrow.

19 August - 30° Clear. Watched McKinley run the gamut between lavender to the pinks and finally full day. Moved camp to a comfortable site at 5500 feet on the Brooks glacier (hereinafter called Brooks Base) seeing a Wilson's warbler here and an astonishing variety of flowers on the north ridge of Brooks (bettercups and saxifrages). Four of us went over to our main cache to pick up eleven days food and two gallons of gas while Bill May constructed camp, putting the tents on platforms of moraine gravel carefully leveled with a water filled cooking pot - the result was luxurious. The rest of us found a burst duffle bag of old army rations in the middle of the Muldrow; egg yolk and pork, bacon and nescafe were salvagable, were rescued and consumed. We suspect it was a Washburn drop, vintage '42 or '47. The corned beef most did not trust although Charlie and Bill M. ate it with relish surviving both the experience and our vivid descriptions of people succumbing to polio poisoning and associated disorders.

20 August - 28° Beautiful day. Cashed seven days of food at Brooks Base then moved up Brooks Glacier to its tributary off the south side of Deception. Camp was set up at 7800 feet on this tributary.

21 August - 22° Clear. Off at 0545 for Deception, up the glacier to 10,900 then the rest of the way on the south ridge. On top at 1045 (temperature 24°), got back to camp early and slept for the rest of the day.

22 August - 25° windy and clear. Moved camp over to the glacier between Brooks and East Pyramid. Bill B., Hal and Earl dropping their loads here and going back to the Brooks cache for the rest of the food and gas, while Bill May and John double tripped the loads up to 8200 where they set up camp and put a pot of tea on. The evil three reported on their return that ravens (a foul word) had visited and eaten the better part of one days food - be it know: Ravens prefer freeze-dry meat, lunch meat, cheese,

sugar, candybars, they despise mashed potatoes, oatmeal, tea, ice pitons, willow wands and James Bond. Bad weather coming in.

23 August - 19° Snow

24 August - 17° Snow

25 August - 17° Snow

26 August - 16° Clearing 18-24 inches of fresh snow. Set out for East Pyramid in a whiteout and light snow, finding improving conditions at the col between East Pyramid and Brooks, the footing was also getting better. Climbed the north ridge which was a devious yet pleasant route. 10° this evening.

27 August - 13° Clear. Hal, William and John were off for a mark up the tracks of yesterday, watching avalanches come down across the route as each gully contributed its bit, then racing across with loud protestations to Zeus to desist. Shirtsleeves were the order of the day in the ovenlike bowl until arriving at the col—an instantaneous shift to every bit of clothes carried was mandatory. Stopped up the beautifully frozen south ridge of Brooks avoiding cornices and other pitfalls. At 11,000 feet we found a frozen water pipit carcass - Hal and John sympathized feeling much that way themselves. We were on top after a delightful climb by 1330 whence we went home rapidly, all convinced that winter mountaineering is an odious sport to be rigorously avoided in the future.

28 August - 10° Clear. Having averaged a quart of gas per day for the last eight we found ourselves running somewhat short so retreated to Brooks Base through our snow of the last few days (12" accumulation at 5500). Found a deceased sled abandoned at 6000 on the Brooks Glacier.

29 August - 22° Peaks to the south clear, cloudy to the north. Packed over to Oastler Pass arriving in a snowstorm (we are convinced it can be clear everywhere but still snow at Oastler Pass - It has its own personal cloud), pulled out our cache, recaching some stuff of little value on the north side, then continuing down to Cache Creek to camp in luxurious grass four miles short of Clearwater.

30 August - 31° Clear. Moved on out to Wonder Lake appreciating good weather. The McKinley river was almost nonexistent due to the cold.

31 August - Computed finances then drove to Camp Denali for a promised and appreciated cup of coffee—also an outhouse relocation project, we were more than amply repaid by the hospitality shown. Left the park for points south with cries of "Its time for the letons where its warm".

Aftermath: It rained in the letons when it wasn't snowing but we hardy souls were use to that kind of stuff, we went home.

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