

# SCREE

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA BOX 2037 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

FEBRUARY 1974

VOL. 17, No. 2

**FEBRUARY MEETING...** Wednesday, February 20, 1974... 8:00 PM... Pioneer Schoolhouse--3rd & Eagle Streets... **MINIMOVIE:** On avalanches--if it can be obtained from the University... **Business Meeting...** Refreshments **MAXISLIDE** presentation by Charles Ricci on the Chilkoot Trail.

**BOARD MEETING:** Wednesday, March 6, 1974, at 7:30 PM at Bill Barnes, Jr.'s, 4304 Forest Road.

**JOHN PINAMONT IS THE NEW CLIMBING CHAIRMAN.** HIS PH NO IS 279-7862.

**RON LAUTARET IS THE MCA REPRESENTATIVE TO PARC (Parks & Recreation Council) AS WELL AS THE EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN.** HIS ADDRESS IS 550 W. 21st HIS PH NO IS 277-9030.

## MCA WINTER TRIPPING

**Requirements:** During the summer months MCA climbs are directed towards just about everyone; complete novices are normally welcomed on Club climbs in the Chugach. The situation is not the same in the winter and the complete novice is only welcome on one-day ski tours. The specification of required equipment for an MCA winter climb should shed some light on this matter.

In addition to normal winter climbing clothing, the following items are required for one-day climbs: ice axe, crampons with boots to fit, two carabiners of unspecified type, ten to twenty feet of one-inch webbing, heavy lunch, at least one quart of water, day pack, skis and wax.

**Recommended items:** I recommend the Justrite battery headlamp (cannot be obtained in Anchorage buy from the Co-op), double boots or bunny boots for extreme cold, a rope if you have one and would prefer not to use the Club's and last but not least, a big down parka. Overnight trips demand even more and a person who doesn't know what to bring, shouldn't contemplate making the trip.

YOU OWE THE LEADER OF A TRIP THE COURTESY OF INFORMING HIM THAT YOU ARE GOING TO BE IN HIS PARTY A DAY OR TWO AHEAD OF TIME.

## THE ILLEGAL USE OF RECREATIONAL DRUGS IS PROHIBITED ON CLUB CLIMBS!

Car pools have been standard with Club climbs for years. For trips which require more than fifteen or twenty miles of driving, the Club asks its members to share vehicle operating expenses with the people who drive.

Saturday, MARCH 9 -- GENERAL CREVASSE RESCUE PRACTICE. This is a practice session for Club members of all skill levels, including those who have had only the experience gained in a basic mountaineering school. This is not a formal school offered by the Club, only a practice for one and all. The anticipated emphasis will be on individual rope team self-rescue. Bring your own equipment and learn its limitations. Recommended items of equipment: Crampons, ice axe, one or two ice screws, four or five carabiners, at least one rescue pulley, harness or diaper sling, chest sling, jumars or prussiks. Bring a pack loaded with something and five feet of sling material to tie to it. The Club ropes will be available, but bring your own if you can. Last, but not least, bring your skis or snowshoes rigged up to be hauled up separately. Meet at Valu-Mart at 6:00 AM to drive to the Matanuska Glacier.

Sunday, MARCH 17 -- BYRON PEAK. Via the icefall. Some interesting leads. Leader: Bob Spurr - 333-7157. Meet at Valu-Mart at 6:00 AM.

Sunday, MARCH 3 -- BIRDSEYE RIDGE. Hiking and listening to break-up. Leader John Pinamont. 279-7862. Valu-Mart at 7:00 AM.

#### CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MCA MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 1974

Bill Barnes, Jr. called the meeting to order and read a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wipperman thanking MCA for sending them a copy of SCREE in which there appeared a memorial to their son, Mark Rainery. They also extended thanks to all who helped in the rescue operation.

Tom Meacham explained the proposed amendment to the By-Laws which would clarify the subject of MCA's taking a stand on certain public issues directly affecting the Club. One new member, newly arrived from Idaho, expressed concern that the Club might get too involved in environmental issues, ala Sierra Club, et al, and not focus on the recreational aspects of mountaineering. Tom Meacham responded by saying that this was a valid concern, and that in the past, MCA had tried to limit itself to public positions on matters of direct concern such as formation of Chugach State Park, snowmachines in the Park, the Kenai Moose Range, etc. Two other members, one long-time member, Dale Hagen, spoke for the amendment. Motion to amend the By-Laws as set forth in the December and January issues of SCREE was made by Leo Hannan, seconded by Ron Lautaret and passed with two dissentiences.

President Barnes deferred action on new purchases until an accurate equipment inventory and a proposal could be written.

Minutes of the December meeting were corrected as follows: Leo Hannan said that the statement attributed to him in the condensed minutes in the January SCREE relative to establishing food caches at MCA huts was no longer valid. He said caches had been rifled and used without benefit of emergency and he felt this practice should be discontinued.

Tom Meacham discussed MCA membership in PARC (Parks & Recreation Council). Motion made and unanimously passed that MCA pay its \$10.00 annual membership fee in PARC.

Respectfully submitted, Dona Agosti, Secretary

P R E S I D E N T ' S   P E N

One problem which continually plagues the Club is the failure of many members who borrow equipment to return the equipment in a reasonable length of time. The Executive Board at my suggestion has adopted what is felt will prove to be a workable solution to this problem. Most members are probably aware that fining has not worked well in the past, both because of the accounting and collection problem and because fining does not seem to motivate the return of the gear. Therefore, my suggestion involves removal of borrowing privileges for a period of one year from a member who is delinquent twice in one year in returning equipment. As of the first of March, a one-week loan period will be introduced and members who have equipment checked out at that time will have seven days to return it. Equipment which is kept out for three weeks or more will be considered twice delinquent. The only exception which will be made is equipment which is loaned for the duration of a climbing trip.

At the last Board meeting, the Executive Board proposed that our three remaining unnamed cabins be named after some of our deceased members for whom our Club was close at heart. The Board, therefore, recommends to the general membership that the cabin located adjacent to the Whiteout Glacier be named after Grace & Vin Hoeman, that the cabin located near the Eagle Glacier be named after Hans van der Laan and that the cabin at Mint Glacier be named after Mark Rainery. Discussion and voting on this proposal will take place at the next general meeting.

- Bill Barnes, Jr. -

January 16, 1974

Dear MCA Members:

We received the January copy of SCREE with its memorial message about our son, Mark Rainery, and were very touched and proud that Mark was well thought of by the Club. We thank you for your kindness in sending this to us, for we will most certainly treasure it always.

We know how very pleased Mark was to be appointed chairman of the Huts and Cabins Committee, for it proved to him that he really could be considered responsible and able to undertake the tasks of an adult. But as most parents of teenagers know, household chore responsibilities don't hold the excitement and motivation that such an appointment as this must have held for Mark! I am sure he meant to follow through his committee chairmanship with all his heart.

His loss has been shattering, and it is still hard for us to realize that he will not come trudging along the pathway bearing his pack, ice axe and other sundry equipment, but perhaps, as Mrs. Agosti put it so eloquently, he is enjoying his ultimate summit, and this was his goal, of course, to climb as high someday as he possibly could.



There is one small request I would like to make. Although we have several SCREEs with little articles written by Mark about some of his climbs, we think there might have been something by him in the August, 1973, issue. If someone has a copy and would lend it to us, we would like to check this out and make a copy of it to keep.

Our heartfelt thanks to the many members of the Club and the rescue group who helped us and offered their sympathy and condolences.

Our very warmest regards,

The Wippermans & Dick Rainery

### THE ALASKA RESCUE GROUP

The Alaska Rescue Group (ARG) is desirous of obtaining new members. For those who may not be familiar with the ARG, it is a volunteer organization recognized and affiliated with the National Mountain Rescue Association. The group is made up of local individuals-- both men and women who are interested in mountain rescue activities. The ARG has one business meeting and one work session each month. The meeting is held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM in Room 101 of the old Central Junior High School, corner of 6th and G Streets. The practice session is usually a one-day affair and is held regardless of weather on the second Sunday of each month. During the practice sessions technical aspects of mountain rescue such as crevasse rescue, evacuation of a victim from a vertical face, transportation of a victim over rough, difficult terrain and avalanche search and rescue techniques are practiced.

Membership is not restricted to only "expert mountaineers." Members of all levels of experience are needed since for each team sent on a rescue mission there has to be numerous backup people who remain behind. Membership is primarily restricted to those 19 years of age or older, however, anyone under 19 who may be interested should contact the group since exceptions may be made if the individual is qualified.

Those interested can obtain further information by contacting Norm Stadem, Business PH: 279-5641 or home PH: 277-2338, or by attending the next meeting--February 27, 1974.

- Gil Todd -

### CHIGNIT SKI TRAVERSE-REDOUBT VOLCANO TO DOUBLE PEAK DANNY JONES

Following a six day delay, due to weather, Al Curtis of Alyeska Air Service, landed our party in a low pass northwest of Redoubt (3500') on May 7. Party leader was Steve Hackett, Girdwood, Alaska; John Samuelson, Anchorage; Helmut Tschaffert, Anchorage; Toby Wheeler Fairbanks; Daniel Hurd, Estes Park, Colorado; and myself, Danny Jones Girdwood, Alaska.

An afternoon ski jaunt enabled us to establish Camp I at about 4900 feet, good weather and snow conditions proved invaluable.

May 8 opened clear and sunny with a light breeze. Our route led us southeasterly up a ridge toward the western summit of Redoubt. We pitched Camp II(6880) on a protected depression in the ridge.

Starting early May 9, we reached the western summit of Redoubt (9300) by midmorning, thus descending about 1000 feet down the northern exposure of the caldera to the col dividing the \*north-south and western summits. At this time the weather soured forcing a retreat back to camp II.

A hasty retreat also followed on the 11th of May to a small food cache left at Camp I to accommodate a day's travel toward Double Glacier; all plans for Redoubt's main northern summit (10,197') were aborted. In the evening as we pitched Camp III at the headwaters of the Drift River, just north of Redoubt, mother nature blessed our party with clearing skies.

Seven miles and 4,000 verticle feet later found Camp IV established on Double Glacier. Our weary party had reached the cache set by Hackett and Eric Barnes, a bush pilot from Kenai, Alaska.

On a clear but windy May 13, roped by threes, we climbed three peaks: Hackett, Hurd, and Wheeler, 60 39'N 152 51 1/4'W 6721', and 60 37 3/4'N 152 51 1/4' W 6200' plus. Tschaffert, Samuelson and Jones, 60 39 1/2'N 152 50'W 6650' and, 60 39' N 152 51 1/4W 6720'. (Different Route)

Continuing high winds accompanied with snow on May 14th made it necessary to dig in. Protected from the storm within our igloo, we waited for four days. We emerged from our "hole" at noon May 18th and began trekking northeasterly setting camp V just south of Double Peak.

"Hackett and Company" reached the summit of Double Peak (60 43 3/4N 152 35' W 6818') on May 19th. Again with sour weather closing in we returned to Camp V. Early the next day, in another storm, we descended to the last patch of snow at the glacial base of the Big River Lobe.

A long hike across glacial moraine and swamp ended our journey at the Mobil Oil-Drift River camp on May 21st. We flew, from their airstrip, the following day to Kenai.

#### MONTANI SEMPER LIBERI--Mountaineers Are Always Free

DANIEL G. HURD was attracted to the mountains. He experienced their tranquility and freedom; their challenge and their never ending sense of being---earth, rock, snow, wind, sky, and man being an indivisible and divine whole.

The beginning was among the mountains. The end was near the mountains. Between was the life of a mountain man: Between are the places, faces and the voices. Between is his conflict with the conventional world his passion for a goal he cannot possess, his dream of conquering the world around him. Even now, at the end there seems to be a voice rising---"MADE WEAK BY TIME AND FATE, BUT STRONG IN WILL TO STRIVE, TO SEEK, TO FIND, AND NOT TO YIELD"...

Tennyson: Ulysses

In Memorial by Steve W. Hackett  
10-7-73

Dan Hurd was born on Feb. 16th, 1948 in Estes Park, Colorado, he died in the early morning on Oct. 4th, 1973.

GOAT MOUNTAIN 6380

October 20-21, 1973

Gil Todd

Goat Mountain, located near Mt. Alyeska, is a very pleasant two-day climb. Fourteen members of the Mountaineering Club recently succeeded in a mass assault of this peak and the mountain will probably never recover.

On Saturday, October 20th, starting from the usual place, we drove to Glacier Creek Bridge on the Crow Creek Road approximately two miles above Erick's Goldmine. We walked approximately a quarter of a mile up the road towards Crow Creek Pass and then started up the ridge immediately in front of us traversing diagonally across to the right to the ridgetop. We anticipated being on the ridge approximately two hours where a camp would be made and preliminary exploration towards the summit would be undertaken by the younger members.

Five hours later, much out of breath, we made it to the top of the ridge. By the time all of the tents were set up and Mike Richardson dug his snow trench, it was time to eat.

Mike slept in his trench after making disparaging remarks about the tents. We in the tents hoped Mike would spend a very cold night and he, in his trench, hoped the wind would blow our tents away. However, after a spectacular sunset, the night passed in its usual manner and dawn arrived almost as spectacular as the sunset.

A warm breakfast was made and by the time we slowly gathered our gear together for the summit attempt, we were joined by three members who, feeling particularly energetic, had started out early that morning from Girdwood and arrived on the ridgetop at approximately 9:00 AM.

The route to the summit was straightforward and no technical climbing was experienced.

From the summit one could see Marcus Baker, Mt. McKinley, Mt. Foraker, Mt. Spurr, Mt. Redoubt and Mt. Iliamna. The view was one of the most spectacular I have seen and the weather was perfect. Goat Mountain is one of the mountains that are in the upper Eagle Glacier and one could vision the excellent powder snow skiing that would be available on the Glacier in the spring.

A note of warning! Although the climb was made in October and there was very little snow on the side of the ridge we traversed, an avalanche did occur. While descending, I, being lazy and trying to save steps, decided to glissade across a broad bowl-shaped depression rather than traverse across the top and walk down the opposite side. During the glissade, I triggered an avalanche which caught me and carried me an estimated 1500 vertical feet down the ridge.

In view of the recent avalanche accidents, during which a Club member, Mark Rainery, lost his life, the danger avalanches pose has been dramatically demonstrated. I only mention "my avalanche" to point out avalanches can occur early in the winter and it does not take a great buildup of snow before avalanche danger exists. Please be careful!

The following beside myself spent the night on the ridge: John Pinamont, Mike Richardson, Terry Muchlenbach, Paul Carnicelli, Steve Tandy, Mike Heinz, Larry Tedrick, Bill Brickley, Scott Mueller, and Tom Meacham. Peter Sennhauser, Wayne Cates and Gary Tandy joined us the following morning. All made the summit.

B I T S & P I E C E S

AN EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU AND PAT ON THE BACK for Terry Mullenbach and Ray Causton. They were the men working hard behind the scenes of the production of the January SCREE. Terry, we appreciate your good work and your generous donation of time and energy. A lot of time was also spent by Ray in cleaning up the Club's mimeograph machine--indeed, a downright dirty job! The machine is performing so much better now that it has the right type of ink in it. Thank you Terry and Ray!!!

Ptarmigan Peak--Steve Jones and John Pinamont ascended the north ridge on December 15th, 1973. Their original intentions were to try the gully but some very formidable settling sounds from the snow slopes persuaded them to try the north ridge, which they thought must be the standard route at the time. They found out that it wasn't.

Flattop Sleep-in--About ten people put in an appearance at our annual sleep-in. The night was fairly mild and was brightened by a considerable quantity of wood which was very laboriously hauled up the mountain.

## GENET EXPEDITIONS:

The following members reached the south summit of Mt. McKinley by the West Buttress approach during the '73 season: Leimbacher, Stachelin, Brown, Hallstrom, Reiner, Garrett, Emrick, P. Gendel, M. Gendel, Gollnick, Jaroslaw, Craig, Jellin, Espenlaub, Martin, Taylor Hantsch and Genet (2).

The following members reached the south summit of Mt. McKinley and completed the Kahiltna-Muldrow traverse: Ross, V. Sherwood, L. Sherwood, Carlson, Estler and Genet. M. Titus, assistant leader, also completed the traverse.

If anyone is interested in climbing McKinley in '74 and reaching its 20,320' summit, write GENET EXPEDITIONS, Talkeetna, AK 99676

Dale Leslie has several climbs planned in the near future. If you are interested in joining him, please contact him--home ph: 279-7162 and work phone 756-1258. He is planning on an overnight at the perch on Eklutna Glacier sometime in February, a winter ascent of East and West Twin Peaks from the west side sometime in March and a climb of Mt. McKinley via the West Buttress approach around May 18, 1974. Dale's address is 3350 E. 40th, Anchorage, AK 99504.

The ARG is always short of manpower and is looking for volunteers of all skill levels. Meetings are the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the City Gymn Room 101. Training sessions are usually the first Sunday of each month. Contact Norm Stadem at 277-3338.