



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

MARCH 1975

VOLUME XVII, No. 3

I M P O R T A N T!! Please note change in meeting DATE and PLACE!

Date: Wednesday, March 12 at 8:00 PM Sharp.

Place: East High School Auditorium

Program: THE 1973 AMERICAN DHAULAGIRI EXPEDITION

Slide Presentation by Andrew Harvard, a member of the expedition and co-author of Mountain of Storms, the recently published account of the expedition. This book may possibly be available at the meeting at a small discount to members.

Note: No admission will be charged, but the hat will be passed for donations to cover expenses of the program.

BOARD MEETING: Monday, April 7, 1975 at 8:00 PM. 2106 W. Northern Lights.

New Service! CLIMBING COORDINATORS are now available for information about climbs and hikes (scheduled or unscheduled) or to help you look for companions for a trip you are planning. Call:

DAYS Bill Barnes, Sr. 277-9915 or

EVES Fritz Rieger 277-8979.

C L I M B I N G S C H E D U L E

Sunday
March 16 BYRON PEAK. The classic local snow and ice climb. Requires skis and winter mountaineering gear. Leader: Ned Lewis, 277-4672. Meet at 6 AM at Valu Mart parking lot. Sign up sheet at meeting.

Saturday
March 23 PASTORALE. Another chance at this peak in the Turnagain Pass area. Requires skis and winter equipment. An ideal club climb, or a short tour for skiers. Leader: Fritz Rieger, 277-8979. Meet 6 AM at Valu-Mart parking lot.

Sunday
March 30 ALPENGLOW. The prominent peak across Turnagain Arm, east of Hope. A strenuous snow climb. Bring ice ax and crampons. Involves crossing a frozen creek which, if open, cancels the climb. Leader needed.

Cont'd. next page.

CLIMBING SCHEDULE (Cont.)

Saturday
April 5 GUNSIGHT. 100 miles up the Glenn Highway. Ski or snowshoe almost to the summit. Offers fantastic views of N.E. Chugach, Wrangells and Eastern Alaska Range. Bring ice axe. Meet 6 AM at Mt. View Pay & Save. Leader needed.

Sunday
April 12 SOUTH SUICIDE PEAK. Ski up Rabbit Creek to Rabbit Lake. Climbers continue up to saddle and follow ridge to peak. Meet 6:30 AM at Valu Mart.

SAT - SUN
April 18-19 CANWELL GLACIER STAMPEDE. Annual Weekend ski trip/outing sponsored by ALASKA ALPINE CLUB (U of A Fairbanks). Ski 8 miles up Canwell Glacier in Isabel Pass area of Eastern Alaska Range, and camp overnight. Some climbers try a dash early Sunday morning for Institute Peak (8050'), a challenging snow and ice climb above camping area. SPECTACULAR AREA. Bring tent and overnight gear. For information, contact Bob Spurr, 333-7157. No MCA climb is planned and no leader is required.

Note: Due to variable avalanche danger, all March and April climbs are subject to rescheduling or cancellation.

SKIING SCHEDULE

For details on all ski tours, contact Dona Agosti, 279-2901.

SAT - SUN
March 22-23 Fern Mine Ski Tour. Sponsored by Nordic Ski Club.

SAT - WED
MARCH 29-
April 2 Arctic Valley to Girdwood. Leader: Bill Stivers, 277-2869

Saturday
April 5 Plamer Creek Valley Ski Tour. Leader: Gil Todd, 279-7794.

Sunday
April 13 Lynx Creel Ski Tour. Leader: Tom Meachem, 277-2129.

(Further details on ski tours not available at press time.)

P R E S I D E N T ' S P E N

The MCA is again faced with its perennial challenges (in ascending order of difficulty):

- (1) Recruiting leaders for club climbs;
- (2) Organizing climbing schools and recruiting instructors;
- (3) Maintenance of Club Huts,

PRESIDENT'S PEN (Cont.)

LEADERS: We'll try a simple plea for leaders to come forth from the eaves of the sport shops and bowling alleys where they've been wintering. Potential leaders shouldn't be deterred because a climb is new to them. A wealth of information is available, from "semi-retired" members concerning routes done in past years, access, etc.

CLIMBING SCHOOLS: We plan to provide some sort of climbing instruction this year. Current thinking is that, at minimum, a short introduction to mountaineering will be held in the spring to be followed by progressive "experience" climbs through the summer. One potential instructor is interested in teaching a rock-climbing school this summer. The schools are in their organizational phase right now, and we solicit your input concerning the type of schools you would like.

We are always faced with the problem of getting qualified instructors. However, for a "basic" school, the problem shouldn't be so acute since there are many experienced climbers among our members. Sign up sheets for instructors and interested students will be available at the March meeting. ALSO NEEDED is a Climbing School Coordinator.

HUTS: MCA built and "owns" four cabins, located in fairly inaccessible areas --at least for most maintenance parties. All are on glaciers: three in the Chugach Range, on Eklutna, Whiteout and Eagle Glaciers, and one in the Talkeetnas on Mint Glacier. Latest reports are that the Whiteout Cabin is filled with snow in the loft and has a door which needs to be re-hung; the Mint Cabin still needs anchoring, etc., etc., etc.

In terms of maintenance, we have all but abandoned the cabins, and a formidable task lies before us. Simply surveying the cabins and assessing the problems will be a big job. Club funds will be made available for materials and possibly for transportation to the cabins. TIME IS RUNNING OUT! We need a committee chairman (or chairwoman) capable of organizing this critically important project.

If you have the time and energy to give to any of these above suggestions, please contact me at the meeting, at work at 274-2525, ext. 273, or at my home at 277-8979.

Fritz Rieger

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING, MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

8:00 PM, February 18, 1975, Pioneer School House, 3rd and Eagle, Anchorage, Alaska.

The meeting was called to order by acting chairman Tom Meacham.

The treasurer's report showed: Expenses \$19.24, Income \$139.00, Checking \$739.78, Savings \$382.83, Cash \$67.01, for a total of \$1189.62.

There were no committee reports.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY MEETING (Cont.)

The March meeting will be a week early because the slide show of the 1973 American Ascent of Dhaulagiri was available a week prior to the normal MCA meeting date.

Tom Meacham received a reply to our resolution and letter concerning the use of helicopters for skiing in Ship Creek. The Division of Parks feels that the helicopter use is a non-harmful encroachment and penetration is limited to only 3 miles of a 16 mile wilderness valley. Tom has the letter if anyone would like to read it.

American Alpine Club plans to publish a climbing Gazetteer, a guide of where to climb and how to get there. MCA executive board had replied that they felt the club would be against submitting information because it might be detrimental to climbing in Alaska. A motion was made that MCA should not contribute information to the gazetteer. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Fritz Rieger was unanimously elected, unopposed, as president of MCA. Congratulations, Fritz!

Meeting adjourned.

Nina Faust, Secretary

LETTER FROM TERRIS MOORE

January 13, 1975

Dear Dona Agosti,

What a very kind letter you have sent me! By no means bother to have the Treasurer reimburse me - I'm glad to make the extra contribution for the benefit of the Club.

I think what happened was that I didn't realize I was an Honorary Member. It seems I have been getting all the issues of SCREE - and I glance over them with interest. If any issues were returned from this address there must have been some error; for we have been receiving mail continuously here since 1959. Honorary Members are supposed to do something for their club! If you think there would be any appreciable interest I will be glad on my next visit to Anchorage to bring along my slides from the 1932 MINYA KONKA Expedition along the Chinese-Tibetan border and give the talk (no charge) to our Mountaineering Club of Alaska for pleasure. Could bring along some slides of the 1951 West Buttress flight you mention and/or the 1942 McKinley expedition also, if desired.

All good wishes.

Sincerely,

Terris Moore

BITS AND PIECES

Jean Maakestad, Scott Mueller, Trent Swanson and Bill Quirk climbed Kickstep Mountain on March 1, 1975, enjoying magnificent weather en route. They left the Turnagain Pass parking lot at the incredible hour of 9:30 a.m. and still made the summit by 3:45.

The Alaska Alpine Club advises that persons climbing in the Eastern Alaska Range could find no better pilot than Pappy Moss who operates a bush flying service out of Big Delta.

IN MEMORIAM

Just prior to publication we were saddened to hear of the death of two formerly active MCA members.

Betty Hunter Ireton died March 3, 1975

Steffen Maagoie died March 4, 1975

Donations to the Kidney Foundation may be made in memory of Mrs. Ireton.

Marge Prescott Maagoie, Steffen's wife, can be reached at:

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