

SCREE

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA BOX 2037 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

April 1981 Volume 24 Issue 4

April Meeting

The meeting will be held on Wednesday April 15 at 8 pm on the top floor of the Pioneer Schoolhouse, Third and Eagle, Anchorage Alaska. After the business meeting, MCA vice president Jim Eason will present a slide show on his early summer 1980 climb of Mt. Kennedy and Mt. Hubbard and glacier ski touring on the Cathedral, Lowell and Kaskawulsh glaciers in the St. Elias mountains. For music fans the program will be presented with dual dissolving projectors and accompanying taped music. Along with Jim on this were Tim Neale, Linda Clmstead, Peter Hoose, Tracy Shear (Fairbanks) and John Murphy (San Francisco).

March 18 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm by President John Lohff. The reading of the minutes of the Rebruary general meeting was waived due to them having been published in the Scree.

John then read the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held the previous week. Items discussed were:

Ice Climbing Class was a success

Compass Reading Class to be held April 8 at Central Jr. High, at 8 pm in room 68, interested folks should bring an A-8 Anchorage map which can be obtained at USGS, and a compass.

The Power Authority Proposals for recreation usage of the Susitna Dam Project areas. A meeting to be held March 19 was announced.

The Summer Hiking Schedule program to be headed by Lavonia James will be set after the April meeting, probably around April 22.

We need group leaders and people interested in programing new hikes for this summer. All interested are encouraged to attend the April meeting of the Club, and to contact Lavonia.

Along with our summer hiking program the Board will draw up a Climbing Rating scale to enable people to determine their level of ability and help them select climbs and/or areas which are suited to their ability. This will be published in the Scree and posted at various locations in Anchorage.

The treasurer's report stated: \$1,080.55 in checking, \$500.00 to be deposited into our Money Market Fund. Money market currently at \$2,192.13 Royalty of \$55 pays to the Wilderness \$476.21, after paying the Editors and Brooks Range Fund we netted \$47.62.

A combined sight and sound program will be presented at the next meeting by Jim Eason and Tim Neale, on their climb in the

St. Elias Range? Mt. Hubbard.

Notices: The Ship Creek Helicopter Skiing Proposal was denied.

Artique, and Art Gallery at 4 and D streets has extended an invitation to the Club to attend an opening of work by John Swenson Free wine and cheese, April 20 from 5 to 7 pm.

John announced that thanks to the diligent work and dedication of a very valued member, Greg Higgins, we now have a Bound Edition of the Scree newsletters. Greg has also compiled an index of climbs for those who want to do research on routes, cards on Ben Holman's notes of climbs, and has also been reorganizing our scrapbooks of clippings. Greg deserves a great deal of our thanks and praise for the work he continues to do in our behalf. Thanks!

Our program was a slide presentation and film "Abyss" presented by Tom Choate. Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Madeline Jones

Summer Hiking Meeting

There will be a meeting of those folks who may be willing to lead hikes this summer. Those of you familiar with the trails we need your ideas and suggestions. Please come and lend your support on April 22 at 8 pm at Clark Jr. High School room 104

Note: Our new ice axes have arrived and are available for checkout by current MCA members at Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking, 2633 Spenard Rd.

History Corner

Rumor was in 1959 that the highest peak in the Chugach west of Lake George was Mt. Bashful nestled above the Eklutna valley. It was thought to be over 8000' high which proved to be correct when it was finally surveyed 8005'. The name was reportedly coined by Jerry Nelson because of its shy position behind towering Bold Peak.

Five intrepid MCA's (no road) to the south end of Eklutna Lake on July 17 hoping to eliminate Bashful's untrodden status. Paul Crews, Johnny Johnston, Rod Wilson, Greg Erickson, and Helga Dading camped the night in the forest below the dramatic twin waterfalls that drain the bowl north of the peak. In the morning they moved up the steep aldered hill to the bowl thus entering Bashful's inner sanctum. The climb up the west ridge was initially done in criffing clouds with Bold Peak peering through on the left. To their right they could descry a huge monolith capped in cloud that they hoped was lower than the mountain they were on. Rod Wilson Dubbed it "Baleful". When it was finally surveyed it topped out just below 8000'.

When they neared the summit, the cloud cover lifted and they were treated to tremendous views towards Marcus Baker and Wither spoon. Eyeballing "Old Baleful" they were convinced (correctly) that it was lower. Helga said that they had to be careful not to knock one another off the top while building a summit cairn. They left a bright red register can with writing materials.

The 2 ascent did not occur until July of 1965 when Art Davidson and a Mr. Nakamura put up a new route on the North Face. Interestingly enough Art was also involved in the 1st ascent of sinister Mt. Baleful that year. He and Vin Hoeman successfully traversed Baleful's SW ridge in August to pick off what was then the highest and most impressive of the untouched near range summits

Greg Higgins

Advertisements

New yellowsea Dart kayak for sale. Included are the paddle and spray skirt. \$450.00 phone 345-3279.

Note: MCA members should send their advertisements to Marty Bassett, Sr Box 9204, Eagle River, Ak. 99577. Ads should be received by the 25 of the month to be included in the following month's issue.

Index to Peaks

The following index to mountains mentioned in Scree has been compiled by Greg Higgins. MCA members can obtain information on any of the listed peaks by referring to the appropriate issue of Scree as indicated by the volume and issue numbers shown. All past issues are available at the MCA library located at 1410 H st. Telephone 277-2129. If possible, call before visiting to make certain that someone is home.