



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 102037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

JUNE 1991

Volume 34, Issue 06

### JUNE MEETING

June 19 7:30 pm Wednesday, Pioneer Schoolhouse, basement level, 3rd and Eagle Sts., downtown Anchorage.

SLIDE SHOW Scott Bailey will show slides of exploring the Arrigetch area in the Brooks Range.

### HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

- June 15 MT. EKLUTNA  
Fun, easy scramble in the Peter's Creek valley. CLASS B.  
Leader: Neil O'Donnell 274-5069
- 21 FLATTOP SOLSTICE  
Traditional sleepout, Friday night.  
Leader: Karen Cafmeyer
- 22 CROW PASS - EAGLE RIVER  
One day hike on good trail. 27 miles, approximately 11 hours.  
CLASS D.  
Leader: Allan Shayer 338-0341
- 26 WEDNESDAY EVENING ROCK CLIMB  
Rock climbing along Turnagain Arm. Meet at Huffman Carrs 5:30 pm. Call Wednesday afternoon if weather looks questionable. No instructions given, you need to have your own gear. TECHNICAL: FIFTH CLASS.  
Leader: Pam Kirk 274-2233
- 29 WILLIWAW LAKES  
One-day hike to the lakes. See 55 Ways #33. CLASS C. 15 miles round-trip.  
Leader: Marty Bassett 276-1363 w, 694-3917 h
- July 4-7 CROW PASS TO BIRD CREEK  
Three-day hike, one day rest at headwaters of North Fork Ship Creek to explore or climb. CLASS C.  
Leader: Bill Wakeland 563-6246
- 4-7 SCANDINAVIAN PEAKS AND HUT  
Fly in to new hut location. Do a few climbs. Enjoy the fabulous scenery. Fly out on Sunday. GLACIER TRAVEL and FIFTH CLASS for the climbs, otherwise CLASS A. Flight is \$100 each way.  
Leader: Willy Hersman 338-5132

- July 14      ELLIOT PEAK  
 Follow the ridge from Wolverine to Williwaw Lakes. CLASS D.  
 Leader: Willy Hersman 338-5132
- 20            SYMPHONY AND EAGLE LAKES  
 One-day hike, 11 miles round-trip. 55 Ways #37. CLASS B.  
 Leader: Marty Bassett 276-1363 w, 694-3917 h

The Hiking and Climbing Committee is always looking for leaders. If you have an idea for a trip, whether an afternoon or several weeks, give Rex Pickett a call at 272-2851. H and C Committee: Rex Pickett, Chairperson, B. Wakeland, T. Choate, A. Shayer, N. O'Donnell, P. Kirk, C. Metzler, W. Hersman, K. Zafren, D. O'Haire, M. Bassett, K. Cafmeyer.

### TRIP REPORTS

#### Mt. Augustine

Dan O'Haire

The story of our trip to Augustine Volcano reads like an account of the weather, which dominated the trip.

Our advance party of four flew over on Thursday, May 23, under a cloudless sky, the sun in the west, in our eyes, silhouetting the volcano. A haze lay on the still waters of Cook Inlet. We landed in the lagoon on the west side of the volcano, and set up camp by the geologist's shed, helping ourselves to the lawn chairs. As we drank beer in the evening sun ghosts of steam danced on the summit.

Friday morning we set out for the volcano, and found and flagged the one and only route through the alders, but at the price of bushwacking for two hours. We then slogged up an easy snow route to the crater rim.

As we neared the rim, there were holes where the snow had melted off. Farther up, we passed our first fumarole, complete with rotten-egg smell and delicate yellow, bladed sulphur crystals.

We gazed over the inlet from the rim, jet tracks being the only imperfection in an otherwise blue sky. To the south, we could see Douglas and Denison, to the north, Iliamna.

The crater is awesome. Vertical and overhanging cliffs made of steaming lava and ash, plastered in places with thick rime, form the crater. A great steaming lava dome plugs the vent and sits high in the crater. A moat rings the lava dome, at the base of the cliffs, collecting snow. Steam billows out of caverns leading down into Hades. The only rule on this trip was: "No falling into the crater."

Our descent was delightful as we plunge-stepped and glissaded off the slopes of the mountain. Back in camp eight more had arrived, and would all climb the volcano on Saturday. On that day, while we waited for low fog to burn off so the final thirteen could land, we explored the west side of the island.



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An attempt was made to climb the mountain on Sunday, even though the weather was not good. Huge clouds swathed the upper mountain. We fought a steady thirty mile-per-hour headwind. Our numbers dwindled as people turned back. Down to four, we made an effort to continue, but the wind increased to fifty and we were driven off by a ground blizzard, ice and pumice pelting our faces.

The next twenty-four hours were miserable. We got 6-8 inches of rain. The winds were consistently 30-50 mph. Tents were smashed. A refugee camp formed in the shelter of the trees. Finally, the storm was over and we flew out.

### Rainbow Peak

Bill Wakeland

On Saturday, May 11, under marginal weather conditions, three hardy souls joined me to do this springtime traditional hike. Up the traditional ridge route, across the scree slope, up the ball-bearing gully to the wind-packed snow ridge and an easy scramble to the top. The register was buried in snow, also traditional.

Not so traditional, we got cold, with extra socks serving as mittens for one hiker, and all our clothing on. The wind fairly howled, we had to stop and crouch at times to stay on our feet. Needless to say, rest stops were few and short. We even had some horizontal snow, and Kodak didn't do too well.

The big thrill was seeing a band of about 20 sheep, most or all were rams - sort of a birthing time bachelor party. Hikers were Don Hansen, Jackie Warren, Brian Bannon and myself.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

1. Eric Teela volunteered for refreshment person for the meetings.
2. Rex Pickett volunteered for Hiking and Climbing Committee Chairperson. His number is 272-2851. Call him to advise of new trips to be done.
3. Rick Allen, Victoria Cronin, Paul Berryhill and Dr. Rod Wilson volunteered to help with the membership directory.
4. A new order of t-shirts will be printed up and brought to the next meeting for sale...both designs, carabiner and yuppy art. Bright, bold colors

## ADZE

### Looking for Partners:

Eastern Brooks Range hike and climb. July 19 - 30.  
Mt. Michelson 9239' and Mt. Chamberlin 9020'.

Climbing will require basic mountaineering skills, including glacier travel and low 5th-class rock.

Contact.... Scott Bailey 696-7250

## MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING

The meeting opened with the introduction of new members, and there were many new faces.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Money Market	-	\$3217.68
Checking Acct	-	1288.39
Petty Cash	-	52.10
Total		\$4558.17

Tony B Memorial Fund - \$905.00

### COMMITTEES:

**Hiking and Climbing.** Upcoming trips were discussed. We still need more trips for July and August. Remember we need both leaders and participants for the outings! Let us know if you have an idea for a trip or for club training sessions. Karen is still looking for someone to fill the position of Committee Chairperson for this committee, perhaps the most important one in the club.

**Equipment.** Marcy Baker brought in the club's crampons for members to help put on new straps.

**Library.** Alan Julliard is still looking for someone to replace him as club librarian.

**Huts.** Marcy Baker announced that she has a spare stove generator for the Mint Hut. Please call her if you plan to go there.

## OLD BUSINESS

Karen is looking for volunteers for:

Librarian - as mentioned above, requires little time. Take care of incoming additions to the Vin Hoeman Library, located at AMH.

Refreshments - bring refreshments to the meetings (reimbursed, of course)  
Hiking and Climbing Chairperson - as mentioned above. Consists mainly of coordinating, convincing and coercing people to lead club trips.

Membership Directory Helper - a one-shot deal. Type information for the club directory.

Members discussed more recent car break-ins at trailheads. The perpetrators are extremely fast and well-organized. If you see anything suspicious, contact the police or State Troopers. It would be a good idea to leave nothing in your car that would reward criminals for their efforts, and to park where you are more visible to the highway.

## NEW BUSINESS

None.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Neale is organizer for the annual Bird Ridge Race. There is a \$5.00 fee. It will be held on June 19, at 5:30 pm. It was not listed in the Runner's Calendar. Best part is that the race ends at the top, no running down!

APU is hiring an outdoor program coordinator and climbing-wall manager.

Marcy was sad to announce the death of former member Ellen Abramson, who died while skiing in Switzerland. If you are interested in attending a memorial potluck or finding out about a memorial fund, contact Joan Beatty 248-8122 h, 257-2645 w.

Tim Neale announced that Rick Maron is recovering at the Mayo Clinic from a recent operation. Members signed a home-made card at the meeting.

Slide shows: Bill Wakeland showed his slides of last year's ANWR trip.  
Chris Zafren showed slides of construction of the Bomber and Scandinavian Peaks Huts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mindy Baum

June 1991