

Aug 64

SC 122

Editors: Helga Eading  
& Marge Prescott, Box 2037  
Anchorage, Alaska

Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
Box 2037  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Vol. 6, No. 10

August 1964

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, August 17 at 8 p.m. We will meet at Room 212 of AMU to see the excellent mountain movie "Mountains Don't Care". This color film deals with the Do's and Don'ts while climbing and travelling in the mountains and we recommend our new members who have just completed the climbing school to try to be there.

**EKLUTNA CABIN PROJECT:** The heavy lumber and beams of the cabin have been cauled down to the cabin site ( it had been dropped 500 ft. too high) in two successive weekends. On July 18/9 Paul Crews Sr., Paul Crews, Jr. Peter Crews, Dave DeVoe, Kim Deegenhardt, Teresa Overfield and two Californians, Jim Phelps and John Fisher did most of the heavy work. They lowered and belayed the heavy bundles down the steep rock and had quite a time when one of them got away.

On July 25/25 Joan Samuelson, Helga Eading, Marie Lundstrom and George McGuinness finished the job of taking the lumber to the platform. As there was a pile time, John and Helga climbed White Lice Mountain from the cabin site via a small dead glacier. This 'west spur' of the mountain is extremely loose rock and being quite steep and in parts exposed cannot be recommended for larger parties... too much danger of falling rock ( or bodies).

**ROCK CLIMBING SCHOOL August 8/9 Eklutna River**

This certainly was a wonderful weekend. 27 enthusiastic students learned the basic techniques of climbing from seven MCA instructors. Good weather, good rock, good companionship - it couldn't have been better. Students have expressed the desire to continue practising their newly learned skills on the "rocks" on Thursday night ( or nights) and at the MCA meeting coming Monday we will schedule some trips for the weekends.

Students were: Doris Behm, Ross Clement, Ray Genet, Frank Godfrey, Leo Hannan, Norman Kudec, Frank Imwalle, Ted Ireton, Mike Judd, Caroline Lewis, Ron Linder, Marie Lundstrom, Jerry Mayberry, David Meyers, Gayle Nienhueser, Frank Nosek, Nick Parker, Elizabeth Pierson, Ted Rust, Rainy Rust, Frank Spada, Jr. Tammy Thielsen, Dan Zantek, Kay Ridenour, John Wolfe, Ray Lawson, Elaine Oetting. Instructing were: Dave DeVoe, Paul Crews Jr., John Samuelson, Joe Pichler, Helga Eading, Kim Deegenhardt, Gary Hanson. Spectators: Carol DeVoe with Sharon & Jeannie; Helen Wolfe with Johnnie and David.

**KULUK PEAK (7535') and Mt. SOGGY (7190') - July 13-17 by John Cousman**

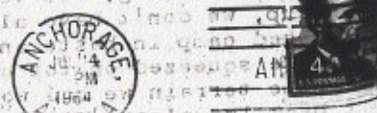
Art Davidson and I decided to climb these two peaks from Kuluk Glacier north of Eagle River. Monday, July 13 we drove up Eagle River to the homestead about halfway up the road where we left the car. From there we had almost 3 miles of pleasant trail down to the bend, thence brush and moose trails taking us to the foot of our ravine. Due to the usual late start we camped there for the night.

The following day was grueling as we made only 2 1/2 miles in 10 hours! (3/4 mile in the first 6 hrs.) We were in alderbrush on the north side of the ravine, finally arriving exhausted at the 3500' level on the glacier that evening. The weather remained fine.

The ice fall on the upper part of the glacier was interesting and we rapidly moved our camp up to 5400' where we left it at 1520 hrs. to try Kuluk Peak - a good route was the east face from we traversed right on scree to the NE ridge - most of which was steep soft snow. This led nicely to the summit where we enjoyed the view in the late afternoon sun - then back to camp.

On the following day (June 16) we climbed Mt. Soggy by its SW ridge on snow all the way, spending 2 hours on top drying our socks ( apt name for the peak) and again luxuriating in good weather. Gregg flew over about 1 o'clock and must have seen us - he wobbled a good deal. On the descent we picked up camp and moved it down to 3000' or so.

Friday was still nice. During breakfast we watched a goat which appeared to be nibbling on a boulder of several tons weight. We then packed camp and down through our alder and out that evening.



Betty Bockstah  
Rte  
Aska



SNOWBIRD CABIN CLEAN-UP

June 13

by David Meyers

Seven people, Marie Lundstrom, Joan Groom, Francis Stephan, Thor Bergh, Ralph Palacios, Helen Wilson and I arrived about 1-1/2 miles from the cabin by car. In case any of you don't know how to get there, you drive for about 3/4 mile past the Little Susitna Lodge, then turn right on a road which might be hard to see. After about 2 miles you come to a fork take the right one and drive as far as you care to take your car. The road leads right to the cabin.

The clean-up involved ridding ourselves of several bottles of potent smelling stuff, sweeping many beer bottles out of the "house", fixing a step and throwing 4 buckets of water on the floor. We gathered the rubbish from around the exterior and made a garbage dump. While rummaging through the adjoining buildings we found two income tax refund checks, one for 40¢ and one for 4¢. (Any claims?).

After the operation was accomplished, Marie, Thor, Ralph, Joan and I hiked up to one of the nearby peaks. We had chosen the wrong one - it was the only one which later clouded in completely. Soon all but Thor and myself turned back. We had a few tense moments... I stepped on a boulder in a talus slope and created a rock slide -- while Thor slipped on the snow and started downhill ( no ice axe) --- but all went well in the end. It'll be the last time I'll go climbing in snow without an axe.

CARPATHIAN PEAK (second ascent), 6020' - July 25 - 27 by Kim Degenhardt

At eight o'clock Saturday morning Paul Crews, Jr., Jim Phelps, John Fisher and myself left town for another attempt at Carpathian. This was Crews's fourth and my third. After a short delay on the highway we arrived at Portage at 11:00 a.m. and shortly thereafter proceeded down the earthquake damaged rail tracks. Ate lunch at the creek and leisurely waded upstream for 9 more miles to the glacier. There we changed from wet river shoes to climbing boots and climbed another 3 or 4 miles up the glacier which was snowcovered most of the way. Camp was made at the ice fall.

In the morning it was cloudy and raining lightly. We reached the top of the ice fall after 5 hours of climbing. From there over some rock pitches to the ridge ... by then the weather was wonderfully clear and warm. It was a long 5 hour climb up the ridge. This steep ridge, rising about 1000 ft. in a distance of 3/4 mile, has many small saddles and long pitches. On the left it falls 4000 ft. down to the Skookum Glacier, on the right one looks down about 1000 ft. to a rock ledge with another 50 ft. below that to the top of the ice fall. We reached the top of the ridge to see a magnificent view of Prince William Sound and many miles of untouched snowfields. It was a short walk from the lowest peak to the summit itself where we spent about 45 minutes. The descent was made over the same route - a long 17 hour day.

After a good night's rest we walked out. We ate at the foot of the glacier and saw the mountain smile at us - as it had before. But this time we felt wonderful ... the west ridge had been climbed for the first time and we had made the second ascent of the mountain.

Editors' plea: Deadline for Scree is 10 days before the regular scheduled meeting every month. Scree is the official record of club activities and mountains climbed in this area. Please co-operate! Information to be published should be mailed or taken to the Editor ... and not have to be picked up.

MOUNT RAINIER AND MT. WHITNEY

Gary Hanson

The opportunity to travel 'outside' for 2 weeks formed an attractive occasion for climbing two major peaks in the "lower 48". -

MOUNT RAINIER, 14,410' - July 25/26 - As a member of the Seattle Mountain Club I joined a party under the leadership of Cecil Bailey to climb Rainier. Four of us set out from Paradise the evening of the 24th - 24 hours in advance of the main party, to make camp at Camp Muir (elev. 10000') and to establish the route beyond. We climbed Spring snowfield just north of the Nisqually Glacier to elev. 9,600' where we slept out under the stars. The main group joined us the following evening for a short rest before roping up and breaking camp at midnight under a full moon.



I took second place on the lead rope as we wound around a small glaciated bowl under the shadow of Gibraltar Rock, up a steep rock slide to reach Cathedral Ridge and onto the Ingraham Glacier. I experienced some crampon difficulty and unclipped to adjust and then take the lead on another rope. We had intended to go straight up the Ingraham but found it badly broken higher up, so traversed under impressive looking seracs to the Emmons Glacier and then directly to the crater rim where we arrived at 8:10 a.m.

The high point, Columbia Crest, where a register is maintained, is on the opposite side of the crater, and we traversed directly across. It was interesting to note that although this volcano is dormant, just below the crest numerous steam jets issue forth through cracks in the lava rocks to the considerable discomfort of unsuspecting weary climbers who throw themselves prostrate on the rocks, gasping for breath. Our descent by the same route was uneventful through very exhausting 80 deg. midday heat.

I cannot rave enough about the warmth of the hospitality extended to me as a visitor from Alaska by Cecil Bailey, Al Randall (recent conqueror of Mt. McKinley) and other members of the Mountaineers who share a very high regard for those M.C.A. members who they met on their excursions to our State.

MOUNT WHITNEY, California 14,496'

From basking by a pool in the Mojave Desert at 115 deg. temperature to the summit of the "Lower 48" in 24 hours ... that's an experience any hillwalker would enjoy. Alone this time, I started from Lone Pine, a pretty little town 80 miles north of Injukern. Armed with a map and friendly advice from the Ranger I hitched a ride to Whitney Portal just 12 miles from the peak at elev. 8,000', at 5:45 p.m. on Thursday, July 30th. I started on a well defined trail winding up a spectacular gorge through lush redwoods and passing several beautiful little lakes. The tree line runs abruptly at about 11,000' where there are specimens still over 2 ft. in diameter. I reached 12,000' at 9:30 overlooking Consultation Lake and sacked out again under the stars. The temperature dropped to perhaps 40 deg. during the night and I arose at 6 a.m. to take advantage of the cool conditions. Above this point the trail disappears until elev. 13,777', approached up a steep rock slide for 1700 ft. to trail crest where the efforts are richly rewarded by a superb view west across the Sequoia National Forest. The trail from here climbs gently, the remaining 750 ft. in 2½ hours, but presenting spectacular vistas through chutes on the almost vertical 3,000 ft. east face. I arrived at the summit at 11:30 where a small stone shelter stands. The return trip takes about 6 hours down to Whitney Portal concluding the whole hike in comfort in 24 hours.

Note: please give some thought to the idea of M.C.A. co-sponsoring a visit to Anchorage of Everest giant Jim Whitaker and Everest film. We will discuss this at the meeting ..... so be there on August 17th at the Alaska Methodist University.