



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

November 1978

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NOVEMBER MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 1978, Pioneer School House, Third and Eagle, Anchorage, Alaska.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING, MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

Wednesday, October 18, 1978

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by President LeDue.

Business Meeting: It was announced that the Secretary will have available at each MCA monthly meeting copies of Hulson Stuck's "Ascent of Denali" (price \$6.25 to members) and Bradford Washburn's color map of Mt. McKinley (price \$3.60 to members). These prices are 10 percent off the retail. Jean Comer, Operations Manager, State Division of Parks, described areas scheduled for improvement and rehabilitation if Bonding Proposition No. 2 on the November 7 ballot is approved for parks, waysides, trails, footpaths, and other recreational facilities. She gave detailed answers to several questions on specific areas. Henry Santeford announced the Alaska Avalanche School to be held January 12-14, 1979 at a cost of \$25, including a closing banquet. Registration must be made by November 15. Dona Agosti, Hiking Chairman, announced that hikes would be on all Saturdays in October and November preceding the climbs as listed in the climbing schedule in the October issue of SCRAM. Larry Tedrick, the winter climbing leader, announced the climbing schedule and had available basic gear needed for winter climbs. MCA equipment, including beeps, shovels, and crampons, can be checked out from Terry Becker at AHI. Hours used are to be logged. Annual dues are now payable for 1979. Craig Kenkert announced that he is planning some climbing in Mexico at Christmas time and is interested in some companions. There was discussion of MCA affiliating with UAA as proposed in the UAA letter printed in the October SCRAM. It was agreed that before making a decision, the President would check the proposal out further with UAA and IAA.

Elections were then held for officers and Board members for the 1978-1979 year. These were conducted by former President Tom Beacham. As required by the by-laws, nominations had been made at the previous monthly meeting. The following officers were elected:

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|----------------|--------------------------------|
| President | Valerie LeDue by acclamation |
| Vice-President | Craig Kenkert |
| Secretary | Al Robinson by acclamation |
| Treasurer | Pierce Mcintosh by acclamation |

(October Minutes Cont.)

The following were elected for two-year terms to the Board of Directors:

Meg Leonard

Tim Neale

A slide show was then presented on the MCA Wrangell Mountains Outing in July 1978 led by Dona Agosti. Liz Cuadra, Meg Leonard, and other members of the Outing narrated. All survived despite considerable rain.

There were two final announcements. Liz Cuadra mentioned the public hearing on the Municipality's trails plan scheduled for Tuesday, October 24. Dave Klinger mentioned a meeting of the National Speleological Society on Thursday, October 26.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

/Al Robinson, Secretary/

MORE WINTER CLIMBING!

This is the schedule for winter climbing. Any questions should be directed to Larry Tedrick or Dick Thayer (244-6033).

DEC 2-3: Winter "Climbing Class", between "O'halley Pk." and "The Wedge". Ski in four miles and camp. (Skis, ax, crampons, headlamp, tent, rope, cold weather gear, ((for standing in the cold and wind.)) food and fuel is individual gear.)

DEC 9: South Suicide, 5,065' upper rabbit ck. elevation gain 3,000' U.S.G.S Anchorage A-6, 17 miles round trip. (Day climb, skis, wind and cold weather gear, ice ax, headlamp.)

DEC 16-17: Annual winter Flattop climb, 3,400', (Skis, ax, wind and cold weather gear, tent, rope, head lamp.) *Food and fuel is individual gear.

DEC 30: West Twin, 5,400' lower end of Eklutna Lake, elevation gain 4,400' round trip 8 miles. (Day climb, ax, wind gear, headlamp, crampons)

NOTE: ALL TRIPS WILL MEET ON THE PARKSTRIP AT 10th AND I STREET AT 7:00 AM.

EQUIPMENT CHAIRMAN RESIGNS

Terry Becker has resigned from the position of equipment chairman as of now. Anyone interested in the job of keeping and check gear out or just helping should contact Valerie Latue or Tim Neale.

GREENPEACE FAIR

Letter to MCA from the Alaskan office of Greenpeace:

Dear Friends:

October 12, 1978

Greenpeace is an international organization concerned with the cessation of the commercial whaling operations now being conducted by the Russian government and Japanese fleets against decimated whale populations.

(Greenpeace Fair cont:)

An Alaskan office has recently been opened in Anchorage. It's first fund-raising activity is sponsoring a festival on December 2nd at Central Junior High School. Along with an auction, movies, children's events, vegetarian delights and live music, there will be limited numbers of spaces for artists interested in selling their work. Your help in spreading the word among the local artistic community is appreciated.

Artists interested in booth space, please contact the Greenpeace office at 277-5922 or myself at 279-7049. Thanks for your time and cooperation.

/Ed Brewer/

ADVENTURE AWAITS!!!

Two exciting climbing possibilities have been brought to the attention of the MCA. If your looking for adventure, winter or summer, look no further than SCREE.

Mexican Volcanos and Beaches

Climb the Mexican Volcanos this Christmas and/or sit on the beach:

I am leading a group to Mexico to climb the three volcanos, all over 17,000'. After the climb we can travel to the Yucatan and relax on the beach. Climbers must have previous glacier experience and high altitude experience is helpful. Hikers are welcome to base camp and to the beach. The climb will take 6-10 days; we'll stay on the beach until well sunburned or we get bored. Call Craig Renkert, 277-9783 evenings or leave name and number at meeting. We will have an organizational meeting before Thanksgiving. Thanks.

Climbing in the U.S.S.R.

The American Alpine Club has sent a letter to the MCA detailing the summer climbing camps in the U.S.S.R. which are available to American Climbers. A short summary is shown here and more information can be obtained by contacting Ken Blue at 337-3164 from 10:00 AM till 2:30 PM or by looking over the information at the November meeting.

PAMIR - 79

Program I. 31 days include ascent of Lenin Peak (7134m). DATES: July 15-August 14 or July 17-August 16. COST: \$1200. (Airfare not included)

Program II. 31 days includes ascent of Communism Peak (7495) DATES: July 17-August 16 or July 19-August 18. COST: \$1300. (Airfare not included)

Program III. 31 days includes three difficult ascents of 6000 + m peaks. DATES: July 13-August 12. COST: \$1400 (airfare not included)

CAUCASUS - 79 : Two 25-day programs are offered as well as two sets of dates, either July 3-July 27 or July 23-August 21.

Program I. Includes ascent of Mt Elbrus (5642m) COST. \$600 (not including airfare.)

(Climbing in U.S.S.R. cont.)

Program II. Includes access to six 5000m peaks of varying difficulty.
 COST: \$300 (excluding airfare)

BOOKS

It is still possible to purchase Ascent of Denali and Washburn's Mt. McKinley Map at 10% off. Contact Al Robinson.

The Ascent Of Anotherdam Peak El Rojohombre

Dum dum Peak had been conquered. What, of significance, remained to be done after that bold climb? Then rumors of a massive peak of snow-encrusted granite hiding its awesome bastions in the cloud-choked depths of the Coast Range. Anotherdam Peak, rising 4900 feet above the iceberg-strewn Tracy Arm Fjord, began to lure climbers forth.

The ferocious leader of the Dum dum Expedition, returned from social climbing, began organizing an expedition to this foreboding massif. The rest of the team was composed of three. Two were fine rock climbers who had climbed in that great country of America. No rock face had yet been able to withstand their crazed assaults. The last member of this potent team had scaled many horrendous snow peaks. For this climb he borrowed a hammer.

Base camp was set on the intimidating west ridge of our chosen peak. A morning dawned and a climb began. The sun, seldom seen in this massed-draped country, sneaked into the sky. Packs were slung amid nervous farewells as the four were off to a fine alpine start at 9:00 AM.

Great cornices, grimly promising the ultimate journey to the unwary, hung out two or three feet from the ridge. Sweeping snow slopes, reaching 20 or 30 degrees were crossed with constant care and belays. This led us to the first rock band.

Our rock experts huddled--5.11, A-6, Grade 7 was the consensus. Being the ethical purists that we were, we attacked that gruesome six to eight foot pitches without a single cowardly piton, chock, or runner. On to the top of the first gendarme. Our knees weakened as we searched for the route to the col. The route would go, but we would first have to push some rock obstacles over the sheer north face.

Down and yet up again to the next exhausting gendarme. The technical difficulties were immense but we persevered and crawled, finally, over the final treacherous moss slope and 15° rock precipices. Our limits had well been passed but a roast beef sandwich and a beer put us back on our feet and stomping doggedly onward. Our ridge was sharply knife-edged-only fifteen or twenty feet wide. And it seemed endless since we were all suffering from knife-edge ridge lassitude.

(Anotherdam Peak cont.)

The first ascent of Anotherdam Peak was almost accomplished, but first, a final sweeping face soaring up a full thirty feet at an impossible angle of 50°. We attacked that face with visions of that imposing first ascent and forced its crest. And there was the summit upon which our reputations would soar. But a shriek and a sobbing climber in the snow. Beside us....TRACKS! Tracks in the snow. We were not first but second! Grizz bear had attained our hard fought summit only that morning making our ascent the...THIRD! We were utterly crushed at the sight of tracks left by yet another summit climb. The two goats, local climbers, had blitzed the east face making our epic climb nothing more than an abysmal third ascent. The two rock climbers flung themselves over the north face in anguish and I would have followed suite had I not stopped to look at the view.