



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

December, 1980.

Volume 23, Issue #12

December Meeting

The meeting will be held Wednesday December 17th at 8:00pm in room 114 of the Municipal Gymnasium, located at 6th Ave. and "G" street, Anchorage. The Pioneer Schoolhouse is closed in December. After the business meeting, Lowell Thomas Jr. will show his films of early climbs in Alaska. After the show, there will be an equipment swap/ sale; so bring your excess equipment and your checkbook!

NOVEMBER MINUTES

Wednesday, November 19, 1980, Pioneer Schoolhouse, Anchorage.
The meeting was called to order at 8:10 pm by President John Lohf. The minutes of the October meeting were not read, after President Lohf motioned they be deleted in view of the fact that they are published in the SCREE. His motion was seconded and passed. Paula Quering read the Treasurer's Report: checking: \$538.00, petty cash: \$50.00, money marker: \$2,081.00. The annual report was also read and will be published in the SCREE. One guest was introduced.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Equipment: No report was given, John Dillman was absent due to surgery.

OLD BUSINESS

President Lohf advised the general membership of the items discussed at the meeting of the Board. The Board proposes to create a new position on the Board, specifically to be filled by the outgoing President each year. This position will create opportunity to maintain continuity and the Board feels will be of great benefit to the club by providing new officers with the advice and knowledge of the outgoing President. A change in By-Laws to allow the creation of this new Board position will be voted on at the December meeting.

Other old business related to the Native Land withdrawals around the Chickaloon-Simpson Cabin areas. At a special meeting October 29, attended by Board and general members, it was determined that the withdrawals affecting the trail would not be of consequence to the Club's use; however, we were too late to give our opinion

on the specific portion known as Simpson Cabin and it has been selected by the Native Corporation.

PROGRAM

There were two programs given at the November meeting. The first was a presentation given by the Park Service regarding two issues. The first issue was the highway construction on the Potter South portion of New Seward Highway. Garnet Rehm, Park Ranger, and Al Minork Park Planner, presented maps of the Highway and the impact of the planned construction. They have determined that most rock climbing areas will actually be improved, i.e., pull-outs for parking of vehicles; however, there will be one climbing spot completely obliterated. This will be the spot known as "Jam Crack or Slab" at Beluga Point. Also discussed was upgrading of some of the hiking trails, including Johnson Trail, and a problem spot at Windy Corner is being cared for. The second issue was presented by Chip Dennerin, Director of the Park Service. Mr. Dennerin gave a very informative presentation regarding the Eklutna Native Corporation Land Selections in Ekluta, Peters Creek, and Eagle River and their impact on the Public Use of those lands. It would be nice to have a tape recording of his talk; as there were topics far too numerous to elaborate on here. The summary of his presentation was that Chugach State Park is definitely threatened by not only the Eklutna withdrawals, but by 8 major land management agencies. His position with our Park Service has become one of "Real Estate Broker" as well as Park Director. We should all consider his recommendation to contact our legislative representatives in Juneau as well as our local Assemblyperson to request their diligent attention to the problems occurring with these types of land withdrawals.

After Mr. Dennerin gave his presentation, a most spectacular slide show was given by a special guest from Kodiak, Dick Tero. The show included a complete journey up the Chilkoot Trail from Skagway, and of a trip through the Valley of 10,000 Smokes, as well as other areas of Alaska. We do wish to thank Mr. Tero for sharing his excellent program with us.

NEW BUSINESS

Our Treasurer, Paula Quering, has tendered her resignation. President Lohf asked to the meeting if anyone would be interested to volunteer to take over the job. There were no volunteers. If anyone knows of a likely candidate, they are urged to contact the person and have them talk to Paula about the duties.

If anyone desires more information about the talk given by Jim Dennerin of the Park Service, I do have more complete notes. Just give me a call at 265-3815 during the day.
Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Madeline Jones, Secretary

EQUIPMENT SWAP

After the regular MCA meeting on December 17th, an equipment swap is set. Tables in the rear of room 114 of the Municipal Gym on 6th and G sts., will be set up for display of equipment. Anyone interested in selling that spare piece of gear or perhaps getting a good deal in gear should find time to be at the December meeting. Don't miss the great program either.

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PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE

Editor's note: As discussed at the November general meeting, the following proposed by-law change is designed to provide the club additional continuity after the election of a new president. The change will be voted upon at the December meeting.

The Executive Committee of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Ind., shall after the date of adoption of this change, be changed to include the immediate past president of the club. The duties of the immediate past president are (a) to advise the Executive Committee on matters of policy, (b) to provide some year to year continuity of information to the Executive Committee from the person best informed about such matters, (c) all other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.

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HISTORY CORNER

The Club's traditional slow down of activity in Winter was established in 1958-59. Besides the Rendezvous Peak trip in December, only three other trips were planned through March, and these were primarily ski and snow shoe outings. During this time however, suggestions were being solicited for Club climbs later in the year. The February SCREE requested every member to send in their ideas excluding Denali because, "We're all going to climb that anyway."

Designs for a Club patch were sought in October, '58. An insignia was decided upon at the November meeting, and plans made to have patches produced. The Club received its first piece of equipment when the winning designers elected to donate the prize ice axe to the Club.

The patch project was slow to blossom however. Each month's SCREE carried another expectant note declaring the imminent arrival of the new patches. Finally a committee chaired by Rod Wilson was formed in February, '59 to nudge the project along. Nine months later the long awaited patches arrival is heralded in the Nov. SCREE. Leona Wilkerson was credited with the original patch design.

The 1st summit registers bought for the Club were 30 caliber machine gun ammo canisters in January, '59. This project was organized by Oren Wilson who originally purchased four. Where these cans ended up is something of a mystery, and I'd appreciate hearing from anyone who knows. I assume that the one recently replaced on the East Twin was one of the four.

The idea of making durable summit registers was part of a greater plan to maintain accurate data on climbing in Alaska.

January, '59 SCREE: "MCA should establish a uniform file of reports of climbs in our area. These could be compiled eventually into a guide to Alaska mountains. None such exists at the present. Who will volunteer to head up this project?" This was another project that would take time to bloom ultimately coming to fruit in the personage of Vin Hoeman years later, but unfortunately being cut short by his untimely death in 1969.

Greg Higgins

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BITS AND PIECES

SUMMER RIVER TOURING- For the Club's river touring enthusiasts we are considering a week long trip down the Fortymile River in eastern Alaska and western Yukon Territory. The trip would probably continue along the most scenic stretches of the Yukon River until reaching the town of Eagle, 60 river miles from the mouth of the Fortymile. This is an area rich in both scenic beauty and historical significance. The route has road access at both ends, so costs could be kept to a minimum. If you are interested in this trip or have other suggestions call Marty Bassett at 694-3917.

NEW MCA TREASURER Reggie Buchanan has agreed to take over Paula Quering's duties as club treasurer effective immediately. We appreciate the contribution that Paula has made to the club over the past year and welcome Reggie's willingness to take over these duties.

UPCOMING MCA PROGRAMS John Ireton has agreed to show slides of his 1967 climb of McKinley during which his party was involved in the rescue attempt of another group of climbers. Seven climbers were killed in the episode which was recounted in the book "Hall of the Mountain King." This presentation will be made at either the January or February meetings. We are attempting to have Gary Bocarde present slides of his recent climbs in China. Also, Jeff Babcock will be presenting a program on his recent climbs on Trelika glacier and McKinley.

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EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Backpacks for sale: (1) Northface "Pack & Frame", large green frame, new \$105.00, for \$60.00.
 (2) Wilderness Experience "Backpacker" medium blue frameless, new \$82.50, for \$48.00.
 (3) Kelty "tour Pack II", medium blue frameless new \$110.00, for \$66.00.
 (4) REI "Summiteer Rucksack", teardrop shape, orange, leather bottom, new \$25.95, for \$15.00.

All in very good condition. Mike or Diane after 7 PM. weekdays, all weekends at 243-7645.