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MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

Anchorage

Alaska

S C R I B

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Why don't you who could not attend the last Mountaineering Club of Alaska meeting really missed a first rate program. Helga Bading showed the slides which she and her husband, Peter, had taken during the year they spent 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle. "Breathes there man with soul so dead who never to himself has said" - I should like to go out into the wilderness and be a pioneer! Only the Badings did it and recorded the experience handsomely. The Club is really fortunate to have as members so many who have made and photographed impressive climbs or experiences.

MEETING, JANUARY 8, 1959, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

There will be two interesting items on the next program. Larry Straley will talk on "Winter Survival", and the film, "Mountains Don't Care", will be shown. Larry's training lecture should be of worth even to the 'walkers'. One can never be sure in this north country when know-how about living in the cold outdoors will come in handy. Too much can never be said about the indifference of mountains to the fate of climbers. So by all means come and avail yourselves of useful information.

MEETING, JANUARY 8, 1959, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

Membership Roster: We're going to print a list of members with addresses in the January issue. Better be sure your address (and incidentally the spelling of your name) is listed correctly with Helga.

Climbing Schedule:

LEADERS -- VOLUNTEER!!!

JAN - Girdwood Area
FEB - Indian Creek - Old Mail Trail -Overnight trip.
MAR - Twenty-mile
APR - One of the following: Burns Glacier, Portage
Glacier or Thompson Pass.
MAY - To be announced.

Of course, all these trips will depend upon weather and snow conditions. If you want to go on a trip, please contact the leader. He will specify date, time, equipment, qualifications required, etc. During winter months, trips will be made on skis or snowshoes. Because of possible dangerous snow conditions and extreme cold at the higher elevations, difficult climbing will not be scheduled until spring.

Mountain operations - FM 70-10, the field manual written for the U.S. Army Mountain Troops is available for 50¢ from the Adjutant General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D.C.

According to the American Alpine Club News, The Mountain World 1958-59 edited by Malcolm Barnes was published on November 25th. It is available, probable cost of \$6.- at Dawson's Book Shop, 5505 Figueroa Street, Los Angeles 17, California. Since the Anchor Bookstore has the 1957-58 edition on hand, undoubtedly it will have the latest one eventually also.

MEETING, JANUARY 8, 1959, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

EXECUTIVE MEETING: December 30, 1958 - Call Helga for place.

The American Alpine News gave a nice paragraph to the NCA as follows:

"Mountaineering Club of Alaska" has been founded to encourage mountain climbing interest, to instruct on climbing, encourage exploration and form mountain rescue teams. The club states its readiness to aid outside parties climbing in Alaska. All correspondence should be directed to Mrs. Helga Bading, Secretary, c/o Jonas Bros., 528 "C" Street, Anchorage, Alaska."

Perhaps this notice is responsible for the correspondence the Club received from John I. Shonle of the Sierra Club. Mr. Shonle is planning to climb Mount McKinley this coming summer. Because he understands that the McKinley Park Service requires a support party for a group undertaking to climb the challenging Denali, he has written Helga Bading to ask if the NCA could provide such a group. Since he also anticipates difficulty in filling out a party of six for the assault, he is interested in finding persons from NCA to go along with his party should vacancies exist. Johnnie Johnston is acting as Liaison. Anyone capable and interested in being a member of the group or of the supporting party, should contact him. Mr. Shonle is planning to climb via the Muldrow Glacier if this is feasible. (This route is alleged to be impassable now A.D.)

MEETING, JANUARY 8, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

The Appalachian Mountain Club of Boston acknowledged our formation and would like to trade publications with us. Will do.

At press time, we have nothing new to add concerning the Club patches. Perhaps society makes the time seem so long. Let's hope we have the dope by Meeting time.

From Jerry Nelson:

Just as our November issue went to press, a note from Jerry Nelson arrived. Jerry suggested that we run a regular series of articles giving information and advice to climbers. This is a good show. All of us have opinions concerning outfits, equipment, technique. Starting with the article, THINK, we'll have something each month. Come on now, let's have words from you experts on your favorite subject or theory.

THINK: During the month of November, the newspapers carried the stories of those poor Flyboy-Types who jumped into a mountain area during a storm. If memory is correct, 50% didn't make it.

Our mother nature operates by a set of natural laws - a system of checks and balance. Violate one of her laws, upset the balance without the proper stop-measure, and she reacts. Sometimes these reactions are severe; sometimes gentle.

Perhaps the kindest of all is the fact that she usually kills fools. In this persons's humble opinion, those people who perished by storm violated the first rule of survival in bad weather. "If you're caught in a storm and can't get out within an hour ---- Hole Up!" Once the body becomes exhausted, it's hard to keep warm and harder to think rationally. Cold can kill rapidly when you're pooped.

Although most of our trips do not penetrate isolated country, many which would be considered as a picnic in the south 48 fall into the semi-expedition category for us. Even though we're going out for just a day, it's wise to prepare for the unexpected. One way to help is a kit which will contain repair and field items. Each of us will have his own ideas, but my kit contains thread, needle, safety pins, candle stub, extra matches, extra compass, extra sun goggles, extra sox, extra gloves, pencil stub, 500 lb nylon line, cigarettes, candy bar and friction tape. All this is in one package thrown into whatever pack is used.

Boiled down to a 1-2-3- situation, we suggest that all follow these rules for trips:

1. Never go alone.
2. Tell one of our Members when, where and how you're going with an E.T.R.
3. Take a little more food than you think you'll need.
4. All equipment to be in first-class chape --- Patricularly Boots.
5. Take an extra sweater.
6. Know exactly what you're doing at all times.
7. Don't let yourself become exhausted.
8. If you can't get back shortly and easily in a storm ---- Hole Up.
9. Check out with your friend when you get back.

Thanks,

Johnnie