

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

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MEETING, MONDAY, MAY 1

The regular monthly meeting of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska will be on the usual Monday - May 1st. Although it was voted by a majority (19-18) to change the day of the meeting from the first Monday to the fourth Tuesday, the Willow Park Recreation Hall had been booked for the fourth Tuesday in the interim of the voting.

The program for May Day will be the slides from the "Body Building" Eagle River-Raven Creek- Crow Pass to Aleyska Trip, January 14-17.

ROCK CLIMBING SCHOOL: will begin on Thursday, April 27th at 7:30 p.m. at the Alaska Rescue Group building, 1111 East 5th Avenue. This is the old Territorial Police Headquarters and is just beyond Medfra St. on the left as one drives toward Merrill Field. Hans Metz will conduct the School which will begin with two indoor meetings (April 27 and May 4) and will then, weather permitting, continue outdoors at the Rocks which are located approximately 22 miles toward Girdwood on the Seward Highway. The Rock Climbing School is open to members of the MCA and ARG only. However, the MCA welcomes any new members joining for the purpose of attending the Rock Climbing School.

CLIMBING SCHEDULE:

- May 7: Ptarmigan Lake - a long drive on the Kenai peninsula but an easy hike - 6 miles round trip. All interested persons must contact Gwyn Wilson (BR 4-7833) by 8 p.m. on Friday, May 5th.
- May 27: Flattop - This mountain behind the Clark homestead looks steep but is an easy climb. Contact Howard Schuck (duty: 114- SK 32115 or home: 114 - SK 29448).
- June 11: Goat Mountain - This is the Goat Mountain at Lake Eklutna. It is a more demanding climb than Flattop. Howard Schuck and Wayne Rhoades did it two years ago and found it worthwhile.

COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB:

Gene B. Kennon, Secretary of the CMC, has written: "It is interesting how many CMC members are active in your Club. Bill Davis is promoting the idea of a Mt. McKinley Outing in the summer of 1962, so maybe your Club can cooperate with CMC at that time."

INDEPENDENCE MINE OUTINGS

by Dave Duncan

The people who went to Independence for the Outing on February 17-18 were: Irma and Dave Duncan, Lois Willard, Kathy Bielefeld, Joan Harrison (now Mrs. Bridgewater), Billy Bridgewater, Ruth Schmidt, Harj Prescott, Marv and Ohna Fisher, Gene and Jackie Horning, Tony and Betty Bockstahler, and Howard and Elinore Schuck.

We left Anchorage and drove to Palmer; then about 30 miles from Palmer up the Fishhook Road past Little Susitna Lodge and up a "1½ car room road" through snow, up a valley between peaks to Independence. The area reminds one of a small Tyrolean ski valley: a group of old mine buildings nestled in the snow. One of the old dormitories has been reconditioned for skiers. Independence has a rope tow and a good beginner's slope. It was lots of fun for more advanced skiers too.

The scenery was beautiful. The peaks at the head of Matanuska Valley could be seen with majestic Pioneer Peak in the center.

The food was good. We played a very fascinating game of black jack for matches. Nobody was a big winner but enough matches were obtained to keep cigarettes going. During the night, there was a track meet in the halls. It is not certain who was competing but many people were accused. Sam, the singing dog, was by far the main attraction. He harmonized with an accordion.

The next morning everyone was up except Lois Willard who was suffering from "The Altitude". There was Sunday Skiing and Howard Schuck lead a group snowshoeing.

There was a second Independence Outing on March 17-18. Everyone had a good time again. However, there was not so large a crowd as in February. Andy Brauchli appeared to join the bunch. Alvin Swerts and Chris Biedel.