

SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
May, 1965  
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MAY MEETING: Willow Park Community Center, 9th & Fairbanks, May 17. Ron Linder and Shiro Nishimae will show slides of the Eklutna - Girdwood traverse.

#### CLIMBING & HIKING SCHEDULE

- MAY 23: Traditional spring hike up Bodenburg Butte. Leave 1:00 PM from the Safeway parking lot 9th & Gambell. For further info call Carrie Lewis. BR 8-0922
- MAY 28-29-30-31: Girdwood to Eagle River: Leave Friday night for Crows Nest. This is a 2-3 day hike and it will be necessary to cross Raven Creek and Eagle River. Sturdy shoes, food for 3 days, tent, sleeping bag and a will to walk for 3 days is necessary. For further information call John Wolfe BR2-4501 or BR 4-9363.
- MAY 31: Eagle River Valley: For those that do not want to do the traverse; Hike into the Valley Monday and meet the party coming out. Meet Safeway Parking lot, 9th & Gambell, 7:30 AM. Call Marge Prescott for further information
- JUNE 5/6 Peters Creek, Ptarmigan Ski area, exploration trip of this area. one or two days.
- JUNE 12/13 South fork of Eagle River. Hiland drive to Ellis' and Janke's Homestead
- JUNE 19/20 O'Malley Peak for the climbers - power line to Indian for hikers
- JUNE 26-27 CLIMBING SCHOOL Eklutna area, call Gregg Erickson FA 2-1378.
- JULY 3-4-5 Snowbird Cabin. This would make a nice place for a 3 day weekend.
- JULY 10/11 Crows nest
- JULY 17/18 Pioneer Peak climbers--- hikers or less ambitious explore valley and ridges to the left of the road going into Lake Eklutna
- JULY 24/25 Wolverine Peak in the Chugach Mtns near Anchorage, one day
- JULY 31/AUG 1 McHugh Peak
- AUG 7-8 Byron Peak- climb by the glacier - experienced climbers.
- AUG 14/15 Goat Mountain - Eklutna area - climbers  
*Twin Peaks*  
Juneau & Swan Lake - Kenai Peninsula
- AUG 21/22 SHEEP Mountain - good blueberry country  
*Ptarmigan (?)*
- AUG 28/29 Third Mtn behind Flattop, would be climbing 3 different peaks.  
This is a suggested list of hikes and climbs. There will be interest sheets available at the next meeting

O'Malley Peak

April 16 - 18

By Dave Meyers

Leaving Anchorage at 6:00 AM, Nick Parker, Mike Judd, and I set out for a three day climbing trip to attempt O'Malley and the unclimbed (I believe) 5445' Mt. Williaw (see SCREE Dec 1963).

We left the bottom of the road, Nick with sixty pounds, I with fifty seven plus, and Mike with forty plus, (without the skis).

After struggling up the snow-free lower part of the road, we donned skis and skins about three-fourths mile from the top of the road. About 100 yards from where we crossed the creek, we cached our skis, skins, boots and poles.

While climbing the plateau below and to the north of the peak, Nick lagged far behind. After we had nicked a campsite, I went back and found him quite sick. I took his pack, and we strolled the rest of the distance to camp.



NATIONAL  
SALVATION ARMY  
FOURTH WEEK

After we had pitched the tent, we decided to go practice some rock climbing. Nick's mysterious ailment had disappeared as soon as he had acquired some rest. That evening we decided that the eight hours of carrying a pack, lack of sleep, and little to eat for breakfast had been the cause.

From the results of a reconnaissance, which I took, we decided to cancel our attempt at Mt Williwaw the next day and go up O'Malley instead.

After a windy night, I got up at 6:30AM and cooked breakfast in the shelter of a nearby boulder. We had no sooner finished eating and packing for our climb, than a strong gust of wind broke one of the tent poles. We calmly took all the guys down, piled rocks on the tent, and left for O'Malley.

While climbing the right hand gulley to the west ridge, we were often stopped by forty mile gusts of wind. When the ridge and sunshine were attained, we were pleased to discover that the wind was absent on the south side of the ridge. We took our time, pausing for many pictures, pinnacle climbs (OK, gendarmes), rest stops, etc. On the summit, the wind made standing up to have your picture taken quite hazardous. We read over the summit register, expressed doubts about a climb "via the north face" by two Eastside Seniors, which was done in three hours. On the way down I gave a large boulder the shove, and much to our surprise, it went two-thirds of the way down the back side of O'Malley before coming to a stop in a snow field. This brought about a hot contest to see who could roll a rock the farthest.

A quick belly slide down the snow in the gulley put us back in camp. We decided to move the tent behind the rock that had sheltered our breakfast site. Before supper we did a very short stirrup climb on another of the boulder in the area.

Sunday we slept late and broke camp by 10:30 AM. We had to be out by 4:00 PM so we decided to do a little rock climbing. After a quick trip up a prominent spire on O'Malley's lower west ridge, we left for home; Nick and Mike by the high route, traversing part of the ridge. Since I had left my pack down lower I took the low route along the plateau. I had easier going and was the first to reach the place where we crossed over the ridge. As Mike and Nick came down, I greeted them with "You take the High road and I'll take the low road...." combined with a cup of tang.

After a belly slide down the snow, a walk across alternate hard and hip deep snow, we picked up our skis, Mike and I carried them a while; Nick wore his. I stopped to change boots a little later, and when I had finished Nick showed up and we completed our trip with a ski run in very slushy snow.

FLATTOP

April 24

By John Wolfe

A very nice Spring trip. Five participated: Gayle Nienhueser, John and Helen Wolfe, Dr. Bill Hague and wife, Sally. Interesting trip for most since only one among us had made the trip before. We found the going good, with some hard snow remaining but mainly in only one moderate patch approaching the slide chute and in the chute itself. Cars were left at the first turn on Glen Alps Road about 9:30 AM and we reached the top for lunch at 12:30. It was cool on top because of the overcast and slight breeze, but there was none of the usual hard wind and the top was entirely free of snow. On descending, some discovered the advantages of sliding down the hard snowpatches, but it never <sup>was</sup> ascertained whether that was altogether intentional. Back at the cars by 4:00 PM with everyone looking forward to other trips.

Staff: Marge Prescott, Carrie Lewis, Leona Wilerson  
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