

DECEMBER MEETING: Potluck supper 6:00 PM, Monday Dec 20th, Willow Park Community Center, 9th & Fairbanks. Bring your own plate, knife, fork and spoon. The regular business meeting and program will be at 8:00 PM. Wayne Merry of Mount McKinley National Park will present a slide show "The Ascent of El Capitan". These slides were taken mainly during the final 11-day push on the 3'000 foot south wall during November 1958. These slides show direct-aid climbing on sound vertical and overhanging granite.

CLIMBING & HIKING SCHEDULE

272 6588

- DEC 18-19 SNOWBIRD MINE CABIN, Skies or snowshoes. Call Leo Hannan for further information 277-4748
- DEC 25-26 Leo Hannan will be at his cabin on Kenai Lake, if anyone is interested in ski touring in the Juneau Lake area over this weekend please call Leo.
- DEC 28-29-30 ? Peaks in the North Fork of Campbell Creek region. Call Ron Linder at AMU for further information.
- JAN 8/9 Climb and Ski tour O'Malley Peak and power line valley. Gayle Nienhauser
- JAN 15 Watershed ski tour or snowshoes. Marge Prescott 277-2002
- JAN 22/23 Johnson Pass Ski tour.

Interest sheets will be available at the next meeting. Please indicate your desires. For further information on the trips please contact the leader or Leo Hannan. If you wish to lead a trip that isn't listed please tell Leo and make up an interest sheet.

A REMINDER

Tents are available to MCA members at 50¢ a night per person, paid in advance. The tents include one new three-man high altitude tent and one 1960 Four man Logan Tent. All MCA tents should be thoroughly dried immediately following the trip. Any damage to MCA equipment that is loaned to members will be repaired at the expense of the borrower.

ARCTIC SURVIVAL SCHOOL, Six places have been allotted to ARQ/MCA for the Air Force Winter Survival School at Eilson AFB. The school lasts for four days, not counting travel time to Fairbanks, participants must provide their own outdoor winter clothing. The sessions will be held during Feb and March, and it is for men only. For further information call Bill Davis 279-3868.

The Skagit Mountain Rescue Unit is making available to interested individuals and organizations a pamphlet on Mountaineering Medicine of suitable size that it can be included in a pack. This has recently been published in Summit, and with minor revisions will represent the chapter on Mountaineering Medicine in the new issues of the mountaineer's book on climbing, Freedom of the Hills.

Copies may be ordered from Skagit Mountain Rescue Unit, Inc., P.O. Box 2, Mount Vernon, Washington 98273 at \$1.00 a copy. Please enclose a check or money order with your application.

Only 500 copies are available--first, come, first served.

Hiking:

Average pace, measured from heel to heel is 30". If you take 60 of these paces a minute, which is average you'll put 6,360 steps an hour behind you. That's about 3 MPH, because 2,000 average paces will cover a mile. You can figure that every 35 paces per minute means 1 MPH. 3 MPH is good walking speed on level ground. You'll cut this speed by half climbing a steep grade. If you're climbing a good

mountain trail without a pack, you can figure on climbing at a rate of 1,000' to 1,200' of elevation per hour. A moderately heavy pack or rough trail will cut it to 800 or 900 feet per hour.

SOUTH FORK OF EAGLE RIVER IN WINTER

Sat Dec 4th

John Wolfe

The day was clear and cold and began very poorly when our old four-wheel-drive truck wouldn't start in the inky blackness of early morning. The day was saved by the timely arrival of Leo Hannan who kindly offered the use of his car as far as it would get us. Plans were to go up into the South Fork of Eagle River on choice of skis, snowshoes, or foot by way of the new extension of Hiland Drive.

Because of our late start, we missed connections with Gayle Nienhueser but Helen, Leo, and I picked up Dave DeVoe on the way out giving us a total of four in the party - two with snowshoes and two with cross-country skis.

On the way up Hiland Drive, we sidetracked briefly to have morning coffee with Cliff and Lavon Ellis at their scenic homestead and enjoy the view of pink sunrise striking distant McKinley.

Leo was easily able to drive into the top of the new grade just before the road drops down to cross the South Fork on the new "Throgs Neck Bridge" - a considerable improvement over the sagging, cracked, and rotting South Fork bridge on the older, lower road. The roadway beyond our parking spot was tracked by prior cars so Helen and I walked on foot while Leo and Dave used their skis. The road joins the old road climbing up higher into the South Fork valley until we reached the Moon's homestead where we took refuge in a grove of spruce, built up a warming fire, and had some lunch. We had left the Ellis's at about ten AM and had lunch from about noon to 1:30 when we quit because we had used up the squaw wood we had collected. We were pleased to meet Ken Moon and his son, Barney who were also out for the short day.

We headed back to the car after this and reached it just at three o'clock dusk and returned to town without incident. The trip is a nice one in any season; we could have done more with a longer day, but this new access into the South Fork of Eagle River means that we can enjoy this area even in the short winter days since the driving time to and from town is so greatly reduced from what it is on the older, Tower Road. There are splendid views of McKinley back out the mouth of the valley all the way along and the little valley itself is a very pretty one. The access road is high enough so that the ridges on both sides are invitingly close and not at all difficult to reach. I'd say this was an area to be strongly recommended for some trips possibly later in the winter after the days are somewhat longer, and definitely in the coming summer months.

Following is a list of paid-up members for 1965-66. If your name is not on this list it will be deleted from the membership roll this month.

Aase, John & Barbara; Angell Mr & Mrs; Bockstahler, Tony & Betty; Burns Kathleen; Davis, Bill & Nancy; Crosby, Roger & family; DeVoe, Mr & Mrs; Duncan, Dave & Mary; Erickson, Gregg; Ellis, Clifford; Erhart, Betty; Genet, Raymond; Gabbard, Jay; Hagen, Dale; Hannan, Leo & Kay; Hansen, Gary; Hart, Donald P.; Hoeman, Vin; Hague, Bill & Sally; Hollis, Tom; Ireton, John A.; Kiester, Tom & Harriet; Krob, Jim; Lewis, Carrie; Linder, Ronald; Lundstrom, Marie; Mead, Dr. P.A.; Merrick, Joanne; Merry, Wayne; Meyers, Albert & family; Nienhueser, Gayle; Overfield, Teresa; Parker, Nick; Pettersen, Kerstin; Prescott, Marjorie; Ridley, Lorna; Sanders, Larry K; Schmermer, Robert; Schmidt, Ruth; Shohl, Ted & Rosalie; Stefun, Francis; Stockard, Don; Walker, John B.; Wilson, Rod & Gwynneth; Wharrit, Margaret; Wolfe, John & Helen; Patchen, Gail; Hauser, William E.;

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