



Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Box 2037, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
December 1970 - Vol. 13, No. 12

DECEMBER MEETING . . . THURSDAY, December 17 . . . 8:00 P.M. . . . Ben Crawford Memorial Park (rear entrance) . . . 3rd and Eagle. Bob Smith will show slides and movies of the first ascent of Mt. Dall in the Alaska Range .. see page 5 of SCREE for a description of the climb.

BOARD MEETING . . . Wednesday, December 9 7:30 P.M. . . . Community Center, Room 201 . . . corner of 6th and G. . Starting in January 1971, the Board will meet regularly on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00, at this same meeting place.

CLIMBING AND HIKING SCHEDULE

December 12-13 (Saturday & Sunday) We still need a volunteer or two to lead a ski-touring trip this weekend.

December 19 (Saturday) The annual winter sleep-in on FLATTOP. Meet at Sears parking lot (NE corner) at 9:00 A.M. on the 19th. Remember everyone needs to bring up at least one good size log to keep the fires burning. We'd also suggest you bring along something to warm your insides.

December 19 (Saturday) There will also be a one day mountaineering school held on the 19th. This will be held in the Flattop vicinity so that those wishing to may attend both the school and the sleep-in. Self-arrest techniques will be demonstrated by Dave D.Voe and Barry Kircher. Additional instructor assistance is needed; anyone wishing to help please call Dave (333-5492) or Barry (333-5871).

December 25-27 and January 1-3 (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) How many people are really INTERESTED IN EITHER ONE, TWO OR THREE DAY TRIPS OVER THE HOLIDAYS? There will be sign up sheets at the meeting and if enough are interested we will schedule some trips.

MCA BUSINESS

MINUTES OF MEETING - NOVEMBER 19, 1970

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. by President Steve Hackett. One hundred people were in attendance. MCA Treasury Report:

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Assets | \$799.40 |
| Income | 76.43 |
| Expenses | 50.79 |
| Balance | 825.04 |

Committee heads report:

Chuck Pease announced that anyone willing to help in planning trips, contact him at 756-1153 days or 753-6468 nights.

Barry Kircher presented a display of mountaineering essentials stressing the importance of proper equipment on any outings. He outlined a plan of five mountaineering schools beginning with the basics and continuing with more advanced mountaineering. Participants in these schools will attempt: Ptarmigan in December, Byron Peak in January,

Kickstep in February and Bold Peak in March (3 days).

Bob Smith reports that a showing of Chouinard films, Fitzroy and Sentinel, would be impractical at this time considering the expense to the club.

Steve presented a list of committees asking for those interested people with ideas to serve on them. The committees are: Trips, Feature Programs, Schools and Instructors, Huts and Cabins, (Peaks, Trails & Registers), Conservation, MCA Equipment, and Social Activities.

Helen Nienhueser asked that anyone having evaluation sheets or any other description data for "50 Hikes", please turn them in to her as soon as possible. She also expressed an immediate need for typists to complete a rough draft of "50 Hikes" due December 15.

Under new business the subject of advertisements published in SCREE was discussed. Should personal/commercial advertising be defined? And should we ask a publishing fee? Randy Renner moved that any persons advertising guided climbs or commercial ventures be charged 10¢ per word. The motion was seconded, discussed and then defeated.

Following the business meeting and a short break, Dave & Sally Johnston presented a beautiful slideshow of their world travels. Thank you, Dave & Sally for sharing your experiences with us.

... Betty M Ivanoff ... MCA Secretary

The Alaska Rescue Group Presents . . .

* FOOD FOR THOUGHT *

LEADERSHIP AND PARTY ORGANIZATION: PART II

Before Leaving the Car

Pinpoint your location on the map. Make notes of landmarks and establish a baseline to help your return trip. Do this with several members of the party.

Check with local authority as to trail changes or area restrictions.

Sign out with local authorities (Ranger, Forest Service). Leave a schedule in the car window if no authority is near.

Remind the party of trail rules (smoking, use of alcohol, littering, trail etiquette) and rescue procedures.

Park cars clear of roads & trails and be sure they can get out in case of emergency. Do not block the way for snow removal equipment.

Leaders' Responsibilities on the Trail

Appoint a person to be rear guard.

Keep the party together and have a head count often. Be alert for the wanderer.

Call short rest stops for equipment adjustment, water and energy intake, and nature calls.

While stopped, verify your position on the map.

Choose the best route for the party. Never take the group beyond the capabilities of the individuals - mental or physical. Problem areas may require a change of route.

Be alert for physical condition changes of individuals, such as fatigue, injuries, sunburn, blisters, etc. Here you must be both doctor and psychologist.

Watch the weather. If it turns bad, camp; turn back; get to shelter. With lightning get off the ridges.

Teach as you travel (map, compass, woodsmanship, conservation, survival).

Instill confidence in the party members by doing the right things and making good decisions (not always alone).

Leaders' Responsibilities at Camp

Camp organization

Latrines

Pure water

Safe fire

Safe food protection (sun, animals, weather)

Enforce proper use of axes, guns, saws, boats
 Safe shelters (watch for flash flood, avalanche or rockfall areas, dead snags, fire, lightning, wind, rain).
 Good outdoor ethics (moral obligation to the young to set a good example)
 Keep the party together (no evening hiking alone).
 Always use proper hiking techniques, good judgement in decisions, proper language in instructing the young.
 Teach others about safe outdoor travel and the wonders of nature that abound around them during their journey.

Leaders' Responsibilities Back at the Car

Tally members of the party; are you still all together?
 Stowage of all equipment used.
 Sign back in with proper authorities that you have returned; give them reports on trail conditions, camp conditions, and potential dangers noticed.

Leaders' Responsibilities to the Organization

Report to parents any injuries, equipment loss, merits(or demerits?) of younger members of the party.
 Report to the organization's authorities on the completion of the trip, problems encountered, recommendations for future trips, number of persons in the party, and conduct.
 In addition to all of the above, the leader may wish to tutor 1 of the party to be the leader of the next outing.

Responsibilities of Individual Members of the Hiking Party

When a person joins a group, he relinquishes his individual preferences for the good of the party.
 Many hikers have been subjected to unpleasant experiences by using poor or ill-fitting equipment. Worse yet, many a trip has been spoiled for a whole group or even cancelled because of one person's failure to provide himself with adequate gear.
 To safely enjoy the outdoors, one must start with good boots that fit properly and warm clothing that serves all his needs.
 See below for a list of recommended personal equipment.

INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP ESSENTIALS

Recommended Trail Essentials

Individual Personal Equipment:

Clothing - warm, layers, loose fitting (wool preferred), with rain clothes.
 Boots - well fitting (lug soles for firm footing preferred)
 Extra socks - wool for warmth and cushioning
 Eye protection - reflected or direct sun
 Head protection - Body heat loss, sunburn, mosquitos.

Small Pack to carry the trail essentials:

Extra clothes - complete change
 Extra food - emergency (2 meals)
 First aid kit (see next page)
 Knife) Fire
 Candle) Starting
 Matches, waterproofed)
 Flashlight)
 Map, up-to-date) Direction
 Compass)
 Plastic tarp or tent
 Water canteen

Extras

Female problems
 Special medicine
 Extra prescription eyeglasses
 30' shroud line
 Insect repellent
 Toilet paper
 High energy nibble foods
 Soap and towel
 Toothbrush

Plus special equipment needed for specific environment or activity, such as hunting, skiing, boating, camping, special equipment.

Recommended Group Equipment (Leader's Responsibility)

Large cook pots
Gasoline stove - lantern - fuel
Large metal storage cans (to protect supplies from animals)
Ropes, pitons, carabiners, rescue gear.
Water containers - and purification supplies.
Signal equipment.

Recommended Group Shelter (Leader's Responsibility)

Tents and extra guy ropes
Ground cloths
Shovel, saw axe
Plus any seasonal equipment.

Recommended Group First Aid Supplement Kit (Leader's Responsibility)

2 Triangle bandages
2 Ace bandages
4 Large compresses
Snake bite kit (if needed)
Burn ointment
Eye wash
Green soap
Scissors
Tweezers
Air splint
2" adhesive tape

Plus all essentials of the individual First Aid Kit.

... information from: Outdoor Living, Problems, Solutions, Guidelines - MRA

MT. PALMER (6940')*

October 3 - 4, 1970

Grace Hoeman

Are we going to land in water or mud? I cover my eyes as we make the approach, expecting any moment to be covered with silt. But no it is water, all that is left of once large Upper Lake George (not Inner Lake George, Chuck, that one is a tub full of icebergs !!), and deep enough to accommodate Dr. George Hale's fine super-cub float plane. My anxiety dissipates as we settle elegantly into the water. George taxis to a silt flat, unloads me and 50 lbs. of gear, I snap a picture or two, there's the turning of the plane, noise, the floats lift out of the shallow water, and then I am alone.

The peaks surrounding Hunter Creek Glacier - one of the few remaining unexplored glaciers in the vicinity of Anchorage - had been trip objects for Vin and me dating back to 1967. We had tried to walk into the Hunter Creek canyon, we had tried to snowmobile up in wintertime. Last year I tried both snowmobile and foot-approach alone and with others; four weeks ago I advance to two miles below the glacier snout before I acknowledged defeat by alders and weather. This weekend I planned to do the mountain via the East Ridge. The weather seems to be with me - alders are yet to come.

I shoulder my pack, pick up shotgun and iceaxe and before setting out on the ascent curiosity drives me to inspect a Forest Service cabin on Troublesome Creek. It looks tidy, obviously not very much used, however the rusty cans all around the cabin are an eyesore. I disturb willow ptarmigan as I probe the thickets for a suitable route up to my ridge. A creek southwest of Low Ridge allows me short altitude gains on boulders along its bed, but then cliffs interrupt this boulder path and the ascent is mostly a fierce brush battle. One hand tries to clear a path, the other holds axe and gun, the Kelty pack gets constantly pulled back down by the alder branches. At times I am on hands and knees; it is steep too. Luckily the torture is below me when night falls, and I camp at 3800'. The creek here is

*George Palmer was a trader in the Knik Arm area from 1875 to 1919.

underground and I have to melt snow. It is bitter cold.

In the morning members of the Dall sheep family practically trample through my tent and wake me. I overslept!! Quick, put those clothes and boots on, eat a poptart, a sip or two from the thermos bottle, pack warm clothes, lunch, crampons, rope, hardware, and out into the cold (it is zero degrees), up that east ridge. As I labor up, I find only one moderately difficult spot; I shouldn't have carried all that hardware but who can anticipate such need correctly without any detailed pictures of the route? The higher I get the stronger the wind blows; showers of fine snow get down my neck, the white stuff settles on the inside of my sunglasses five rams are ahead of me and if they had aspirations for the summit they change their mind when they spot me and turn north. All those lovely full curls would make a hunter's mouth water, but fortunately most hunters don't climb this high. At 11:00 A.M. I'm on the summit - it is still clear and very windy, much colder than when we were atop Denali this summer. Beautiful Hunter Creek Glacier is below me, across the glacier is the highpoint of the area which Steve Hackett & his brother Jim climbed later in the week from Eklutna Glacier; to the east are Upper Inner & Lower Lake George, pooling meltwater of the Knik, Colony and Lake George Glaciers, as well as smaller ones. Beyond is Marcus Baker, a truly magnificent sight.

Only five hours left before plane pick-up time. Arranging a rock weighted plastic bag and a miniature cairn freezes my hands; I'm too cold to eat and hurry down and out of the chilling storm. Break camp in record time & descend the steep rocky slope to meet my enemies, the alder bushes. They seem determined to strangle me. I try to escape to the boulders along the creek, but overnight they have become covered with verglas and I'm driven back into the alders. Black-cap chickadees raise my spirits when at one point I'm close to tears. Lower on the slope I spot some not so overgrown ribs and I can descend easier over those ribs. It's pick-up time now and I speed south along the Lake Fork of the Knik River. I haven't heard the plane land, what if I miss it? Then I see the silhouette of Dr. Hale appear on a morainal ridge and all is well.

MT DALL (8756') & Peaks 7102, 6068 & 5920 July 24 - Aug 4, 1970

Bob Smith

Leader: Bob Smith; Members: Patrick Freeny, Wendel Oderkirk, Art Ward - Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Charles "Skooter" Hildebolt, John Bridge - Canadian Alpine Club.

After three days of rainy weather obscuring the mountains, we stuffed our gear into Bob Smith's station wagon and drove to Talkeetna to find the weather clear over the Alaska Range. On July 24, Cliff Hudson landed our group of six climbers at 5500' on the northeast glacier of Mt. Dall (8756'), one of the last named, unclimbed peaks in the Alaska Range. The next morning was cloudy, but we decided to start the route on the southeast ridge. As we climbed, the weather improved, so we put on crampons and Charles "Skooter" Hildebolt led the first rope of Patrick Freeny and Art Ward up a steep snow face below the ridge. We were carrying about 25 lbs. of rock equipment, which we intended to use on the rock ridge route. When we reached the rock, we found a crumbling conglomerate that would never hold a piton: "Portable Handholds," Art noted. The only choice was the partially snow-covered west face. Skooter led across the ridge and onto the face. About 1000' placed us below a short ice gully and just at the upper ceiling of the clouds. Skooter led up the gully & belayed the rest. Scrambling out of the gully on front points, we had climbed above the clouds and could now look across the Alaska Range at Russell, Foraker, and McKinley. Art led the next 1000', putting us in a snow notch about 75 ft. below the summit. Reaching the summit required traversing three knife ridges separated by two gendarmes. The east ridge fell over 2000 feet & the west ridge almost 4000 feet to glaciers below. Belayed from the gendarmes, Art gingerly balanced his way across the ridges & onto the summit at 1:30 P.M. The rest

of our rope took individual turns standing on the small snow summit, then returned to the notch to allow the second rope (Bob Smith, John Bridge, Wendell Oderkirk) the pleasure of the ridge traverse and summit view. The weather had cleared completely so we waited for shadows to cover the east face and diminish the avalanche danger. Using ice pickets, we fixed 600' of polypropylene and 540' of climbing rope and rappelled to just below the ice gully, pulling the rope after us through a pulley. Two more pickets were placed in shallow, rotten snow for another 1000' of handline. We were back in camp by 10:00P.M., hovering over our cooking stoves. During the highs of the next three clear days, ascents were made of peaks 7102, 6068, and 5920, all bordering the northeast glacier of Dall. Typical of the 1970 summer, the clear weather was short-lived, and the next six days were spent in a persistent snow storm. Bob and Wendell stayed in the new Bishop tent, but the rest retreated to the cool comfort of a large two-vaulted snow cave. Cliff arrived at 8:00A.M., six days after the storm had started. We were all in Talkeetna by noon, enjoying a hot lunch at the roadhouse.

50 WILDERNESS ROUTES IN SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA: ARE THERE ANY ACCESS PROBLEMS???

50 Wilderness Routes is nearing its finish deadline & the time for last minute corrections and bits of information is at hand. A list of the trips is being published below so that all MCA members may have a chance to look it over and let us know if there are any problems with access on any of these trips. As far as we know there are no problems though on one or two trips we need to do a little more checking. But please share with us anything you might know.

Other questions: Has anyone climbed Gunsight Mountain in summer? If so, please call Helen Nienhueser at 277-9330 so I can ask you about it. If anyone has climbed either Knoya or Tikishla please call and tell me how long it took you in hours. Winter information on any trips not specifically listed as a winter trip might still be included.

We've got 54 trips and will either have to change the title to 54 Wilderness... or scratch some so this is not quite the final list. Some trips that were included in Thirty Hikes have been dropped because of access problems or because we considered them too difficult or technical for the average hiker. A few other good trips just couldn't be included because we already had data on too many - and if we are to get this book out by next summer we have to keep to our original goal.

Nearly Final List as of 12/1/70:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Homer Beach Walk | 21. Alyeska Glacier View |
| 2. Swan Lake- Swanson River Canoe Routes | 22. Winner Creek |
| 3. Skilak Lake Trail | 23. Glacier Creek |
| 4. Skilak Lake Lookout Trail | 24. Crow Pass |
| 5. Fuller Lake | 25. Bird Creek Ridge |
| 6. Kenai River Canoe Route | 26. Indian Valley |
| 7. Russian River--Cooper Lake | 27. Table Rock |
| 8. Crescent Lake--Carter Lake | 28. McHugh Peak |
| 9. Race Point | 29. Rabbit Lakes |
| 10. Lost Lake | 30. Flattop |
| 11. Ptarmigan Lake | 31. Ramp |
| 12. Johnson Pass | 32. Williwaw Lakes |
| 13. Resurrection Pass System | 33. Wolverine Peak |
| 14. Palmer Creek | 34. Knoya-Tikishla |
| 15. Hope Point | 35. Rendezvous Peak |
| 16. Gull Rock | 36. Eagle Lake |
| 17. Turnagain Pass Ski Tour | 37. Dew Mound |
| 18. Byron Glacier View | 38. Round Top |
| 19. Portage Lake Ski Tour | 39. Thunderbird Falls |
| 20. Portage Pass | 40. East Twin Pass |

- 41. Bold Peak Valley
- 42. Lazy Mountain
- 43. Reed Lakes
- 44. Hatcher Pass Ski Tour
- 45. Craigie Creek
- 46. Peters Hills
- 47. Hicks Creek--Chitina Pass

- 48. Squaw Creek--Belanger Pass
- 49. Gunsight Mountain (in winter)
- 50. Slide Mountain
- 51. Gulkana River Canoe Trip
- 52. Chitina Railroad Bed
- 53. Worthington Glacier Overlook
- 54. Mineral Creek

WINTER MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL--FERN MINE

November 28-29, 1970

George Rektenwald

Instructors: Dave DeVoe, Barry KircherStudents: Dona Agosti, Jack Buckner, Gary Hasbrouck, Mike Hunt, Mike McGoodwin, Mo Mathews, Bill Merritt, George Rektenwald, Bob Shanks, Bill Stivers, & Chris Tomsen

Sat. Nov. 28, 8:35 A.M. - First group of six students left cars on Willow Creek Road and Fern Mine Road and started for Fern Mine. One hour later we were joined by the rest of the party. Wind was blowing but not very strong. By the time everybody had reached the Hiltoro Mine cabin for lunch, the wind had picked up to about 20 - 25 knots. Gusts and blowing snow! Going was slow on skis and snowshoes. Second leg of the trip into Fern Mine saw gusts to 35 knots and temperature at 16°. Fern Mine reached at 1:30 P.M. by everybody but Dona Agosti who was lured into an abandoned cabin about 1/2 mile back by tiredness. All the party members agreed the wind was blowing too hard to practice any mountaineering. Camp was set up between Bill Stivers' four-man tent and the mine shaft tunnel. Supper was cooked and eaten by all, & everybody retired by 7:00 P.M., hoping the wind would die down by morning.

Sun. Nov. 29, 8:30 A.M. - Everybody up and getting ready to eat. Temperature outside, 0°, inside tunnel, 10°. No wind anywhere. A class in self arresting was held on a nearby snow slope. All participated and did well. It was decided we would leave the mine by 2:00 P.M. to get back to the cars by dark. It was real easy going back and everybody made good time, including one member who said she thought she flew like the wind on the return trip. Not divulging any secrets, Dona?

WHAT - SCREE - SAID - THEN - DEPT.SCREE ... 10 years ago ... December 1960

On the day after Christmas Tom & Gwyn Wilson, Louise Voelker, Joe Pichler, Howard & Elinor Schuck made a preliminary exploration of the Eagle River end of the Girdwood to Eagle River Mail Trail. (This was done in preparation for a scheduled MCA Eagle River to Girdwood trip in January.) Almost all the snow had melted and the party encountered a solid sheet of ice for most of the hike (crampons had been left in Anchorage, of course?).

SCREE ... 5 years ago ... December 1965

"Average pace, measured from heel to toe 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 your' climbing a good mountain trail without a pack, you can figure on climbing at a rate of 1000' to 1200' of elevation per hour. A moderately heavy pack or rough trail will cut it to 800' or 900' per hour."

MCA PROFILE: Vice President Eivin Brudie

Born and raised in Scobey, Montana.. graduated from Montana State University in 1950... now a self-employed CPA... moved to Alaska 9 years ago, tempted by a job offer ... is a family hiker... became interested in the outdoors after moving to Alaska.. joined MCA to learn how to hike and climb safely in the company of people with similar interests... he and his wife have 6 children... hobbies are skiing... hiking... carpentry.

ROUTE TO MT. DIMOND (TACU)

VALDEZ A-5 VALDEZ A-4



TSINA RIVER

THOMPSON PASS

MT. DIMOND

PLUTONIC DG

24 MILE LANE

THOMPSON PASS

ROUTE THRU BY FIDEL

ROUTE TO VALDEZ 12 MI

LOWE L

X

7400

X

6044

X

6527

X

5040

MT. DIMOND (7202')-first ascent June 21, 1970
(Valdez A 4-5 quads; T8S, R1W, Sec.19. Peak labeled
on small scale 200' contour Valdez map)

Charles A Kibler

This summer I was working for the State of Alaska, Department of Highways at 27 Mile Camp (Thompson Pass), Valdez, Alaska. One fair Sunday (June 21, 1970), I decided to climb Mt. Dimond- or the 6513' Peak 3 miles to the west of it if Dimond proved impractical.

Leaving at 10:47A.M. after breakfast, I hiked the mile to Thompson Pass(2700'). Instead of following the highway further which goes downhill, I took off on a shelf of constant elevation to the east. When the shelf ran out 2 miles later(near the upper end of a canyon- which is avoided by having an elevation of at least 2800'), I gradually climbed 1500 feet in the next 5 miles(with breathtaking scenery across the Lowe River all the way)so that I would be at 4000'when I reached the 3-square-mile Plateau of Ridges and Lakes (2:30 P.M.). This 4000' plateau is 8 miles east of Thompson Pass, and contains about 30 lakes and ponds separated by ridges like those at Thompson Pass, running east and west. The prominent peak to the north is Mt. Dimond(7202'). On either side of it is a pass, both leading to the Richardson Highway in the Tsina River Valley behind Mt. Dimond. To the west is Peak 6513' (which I will probably climb this summer). From the south sharp-peaked snowcovered mountains separated by glaciers. From the plateau this view is much more breathtaking than that of the same mountains across the Lowe River from Thompson Pass. Now most of the lakes on this plateau were still frozen over; but this plateau would be an excellent place to be on a clear day a month later when the lakes would be thawed and the blueberries along the way are ripe.

From the Valdez A-4 Quadrangle it is seen that the easiest route up Mt. Dimond is to head for the 4900' pass to the right of it (northeast); and hike up the mountains east face. This done, I was on the peak at 6:30 P.M. If there is a cairn there, it must be buried under a 3-foot snowdrift on the peak, which proved to be too-time-consuming to dig with an ice-axe, so I built a cairn about 10 feet south and 3 feet below the peak, and left a cocoa can with a sheet of paper in it. Query: Is this a first ascent? (Ed. Note: Grace Hoeman says "yes, it is!"). When I left (6:50 P.M.), spectacular scenery was visible in any direction (this is the highest peak in a radius of 7 miles). I was above clouds that were rolling over some other peaks.

The only other likely routes down were a steep snowchute shooting down onto the glacier to the northwest which I decided was too steep, or slide down to the glacier edge to the northwest- after hiking north along the summit ridge I found a 20' cornice with icicles on it overlooking this glacier, with crevasses visible. So back to the 4900' pass about the same way I had came.

For a change of scenery, exit was made by continuing northeast down the other side of the pass. Before I got to the brush line, I climbed over the west ridge of the canyon and proceeded about 2 miles west before descending through a mile and a half of brush to the highway, to be sure to hit the highway west of the bridge over the Tsina River. (Incidentally, the glacier has receded off the floor of the pass, leaving a glacier on either side.)

Walking was easy for the whole trip except for the mile and a half of brush at the end. From the highway to highway, total hiking distance was 19 miles, time taken was about 13 hours. Elevation gain from 27 Mile Camp was 4800'. elevation loss to Tsina River was 5600'.

SOUVENIR PEAK
(Anchorage D-6 quad)

June 12-14, 1970

Norman Allen

On a sunny Friday evening, Art Ward, Bob Smith, Steve Jones and I drove in Bob's Toyota up the jeep road into the Little Susitna River Valley. We parked and got our packs out and hiked a couple of miles to the base of what is known as

Souvenir Peak. At the time we didn't even know it was named and hoped it hadn't already been climbed. We all slept that night in the MCA Jap tent & it was really a crowd. We started out the next morning quite early and the weather was still pretty good. Up we went to a plateau that led to the southwest ridge (this is a steep ridge & is really part of the west face as viewed from down in the valley). Hiking and scrambling up the scree and talus slope to rope up & start the serious climbing. We tied Bob's and my ropes together so we could all tie into the same rope and speed things up. Art led and while he was climbing I belayed him. When Art had gone as far as the rope allowed, he stopped, found a good solid stance and belayed me as I climbed up. The rest followed suit. The climb dragged on until about half way up the mountain where we came to a stretch of rock that formed a corner. This wouldn't have been a problem except there was a 90° smooth wall on both sides of the corner. The walls were about 14 feet high from where we were

There was only one suitable crack on the right wall. Art placed a piton there and while I kept pressure on he walked around the corner and found a neat little ledge that led to the top of the pitch. It was still slow going the rest of the way but we slowly gained on the summit. On the end of the ridge we came to the summit block and would have had to climb an overhang but found an easier route by traversing around the summit and scrambling up the other side. It was a good thing as it was snowing lightly and it was about 10:00 P.M. It had taken us 13 straight hours of climbing and we had now discovered the peak was climbed but the register was in a can full of water so it wasn't legible. A long uneventful trudge down and we arrived back at camp just about in time to pack up and go that morning.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Baxandall, John & Peggy, 4200 E. 4th, A-12, Anchorage, Ak. 99504, Phone 272-7559
Best, Alma, Gen. Delivery, Anchorage, Ak. 99501, Phone 272-1853
Buckner, Jack, 4201-1 6th, Fort Richardson, Ak. 99505, Res. Phone 862-5142,
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DeVoe, Louise, 4036 Balchen Dr., Anchorage, Ak. 99503, Res. Phone 277-9108
 Business Phone 279-2581
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Ulmer, Brent, 4004 Cope Apt. 2, Anchorage, Ak. 99503 Res. Phone 279-0376
 Business Phone 344-6731
Wasserman, Molly, 1011 W. 25th Apt. 1, Anchorage, Ak. 99503

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BITS AND PIECES

Is there raw sewage floating down your formerly clear stream? Does every breath of air make you want to choke? Did someone dump an unsightly load of trash by your favorite picnic spot? Do you have any other pollution problems? At last there is a central complaint center: The Greater Anchorage Area Borough's ENVIRONMENTAL HOT

LINE. Here is how it works (from a GAAB information folder): "It handles complaints ranging from dusty roads to dirty water. Every call is logged. The appropriate agency is alerted and an inspector dispatched. If a violation exists, a citation is issued. The caller then is advised at the disposition of his case either by letter or a phone call." THE NUMBER IS 279-1811. USE IT, AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS!!

* * *

Charles Kibler reports:

"Once we hiked up the aerial tramway (abandoned), across the bay from Valdez. The trail shown on the map in Solomon Gulch actually extends at least down to an abandoned cabin between the lake and bay well equipped with rusted saw, axe, shovel, sleeping bag, stove, etc. left there when abandoned. All of the trail is overgrown with alder, and is practically non-existent. The part south of the lake could not even be found. The trusses that held the tramway are rotting, falling, and being washed away."

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One of the MCA's eligible bachelors has been bitten by the romantic bug; Chuck Pease is engaged to Wanda Wright. They plan to get married on March 13th in Bloomfield, Connecticut.

* * *

Wedding bells will be ringing this month for April Allen and Don Stockard, who met on a MCA climb of Mt. Rainier in December 1969. The wedding will be in Leadville, Colorado. Fred and Katie Cady (New Zealand bound MCA'ers) are presently skiing in Colorado and plan to attend the wedding.

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Remember, if your dues are not paid up by January, you will no longer get SCREE!!

Family: \$7.50, Senior: \$5.00, Junior (14-17): \$2.50, Out-of-town (50 mi from Anch): \$2.50. Send to MCA, Box 2037, Anchorage, Alaska 99501.

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The next issue of SCREE will include some surprises - changes that we think will enhance SCREE's image - so you'd better make sure to pay up & keep getting this indispensable newsletter!!!

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