



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

DECEMBER 1974

Vol. 15 No.12

DECEMBER MEETING.....Wednesday, December 18, 1974.....8:00PM  
Pioneer School House....3rd and Eagle. Bjarne Holme will present  
a slide show of climbing in the Eastern Alaska Range. The show  
will consist of week-end to week-long climbs of peaks in the area.  
Three huts are owned and maintained by the Alaska Alpine Club in  
this part of the Alaska Range.

BOARD MEETING....Time and place to be announced.

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CLIMBING SCHEDULE....Bill Barnes, Jr. and Bob Spurr have volunteered  
to co-chair the climbing committee and will be meeting December 12th  
to make up a climbing schedule for 1975. Information on upcoming  
climbs will be available at the next meeting.

HIKING SCHEDULE....The 1975 Hiking Schedule will be sent in the  
January SCREE....we have all but a few dates filled.

NORDIC SKI CLUB CROSS COUNTRY TOURS....The Nordic Ski Club reports  
the following tours for December:

DEC. 14th....GOOSE LAKE AND AMU Leaders. Leslie and Jeff Patrick  
Meet at the Goose Lake Parking lot at 10 AM. an easy tour for the  
whole family.

DEC. 15th....,CAMPELL AIRSTRIP Leader, Pete Martin. Meet at the  
spot where Campbell Air Strip road (Stuckagain Heights Road or  
Basher Road) crossed the North Fork of Campbell Creek at 11 AM.  
An easy tour for all

DEC. 21st....SERVICE HANSHEW Leader, Charles Cranston. Meet at th  
hockey rink at Service Hanshew school at 11 AM. This tour is for t  
more advanced,

DEC.28th....20 MILE RIVER VALLEY GLACIER TRIP....call Dona Agosti  
for details, 279-2901.

JAN. 4th....ALYESKA TO CABIN TOUR....call Dona Agosti for details,  
279-2901

The Nordic Newsletter reminds all tourers to carry dried fruit, raisins and candy for energy and oranges for liquid. Also water, if you can find a way to keep it liquid.

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING, November 20, 1974, 8:00 PM.  
Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd and Eagle, Anchorage, Alaska.

Meeting was called to order by Acting President, Tom Meacham, since President-Elect Al Worland had been transferred by the Army immediately after his election. Tom explained that elections may be held in January or Vice-President Raj Bhargava would preside after his return from India in March.

Minutes of the last meeting as they appeared in the November SCREE were approved.

Treasurer's report: Total Expenses \$349.72, Income \$58.00, Checking account \$412.68, Savings \$382.83, Cash \$81.00, for a total cash of \$876.51. Approved

Dona Agosti, Hiking Chairman, listed the Nordic Ski Tours for November and December, and referred potential skiers and hikers to the rough draft of next year's hiking schedule posted on the wall. Members were urged to volunteer as leaders and were asked for suggestions for good hikes. The major hikes for next year will be in the Katmai Monument (airfare roundtrip \$108.00) and one to the Arctic Wildlife Range (fare from Fairbanks to Barter Island \$127.00 and from there to the range \$60.00).

Tom Meacham, Conservation Chairman reported that he had attended the Land Use Planning Commission meeting last week and it looked as though hikers and climbers were in better shape than fishermen with respect to easements for public trails. The original law provided for trail easements, whereas fishermen want 10 foot stream easements on either side of the streams. However, policies are not yet final. Tom did think however, that the Commission had made its final recommendations on easements in the Eklutna area.

Marie Lundstrom notified the Club in writing that she would like to have the Vin Hoeman Library (perhaps 100 books) removed from her home due to space considerations. Various repositories were suggested including AMU "A" section, Consortium Reserve Library and private homes. The Executive Board will discuss it at the next meeting. Final disposition must be approved by Mrs. Hoeman's daughter, Mrs. Kneffel.

A motion was made to increase MCA dues as set forth in the Nov. issue of SCREE, with a provision that all persons who paid before January 1st would receive the old rates. Motion was approved. Dues will now be \$10.00 for family, \$7.50 for individual and \$5.00 for junior and out-of-town.

Tom Meacham showed his breathtaking slides of the Arrigetch Peaks (Brooks Range) trip this past August.

Meeting adjourned.

Dona Agosti, Acting Secretary

## GOAT ROCK-WEST TWIN-EAST TWIN TRAVERSE

August 12, 1974

BRIAN OKONEK

On August 12, 1974 J.R. Patee and I awoke at 3:30 a.m. on the shores of Eklutna Lake in the dark and drizzle of a clouded over rainy day. We quickly ate breakfast, packed our gear, and jumped in the car and drove back toward Anchorage to the beginning of our climb. We walked through relatively open brush to tundra ridges then finally to the west ridge of Goat Rock. By now we were going completely by feel and luck for we were in the clouds and could see nothing. We climbed up the wet, slippery rock that was much easier than we had expected to the summit of Goat Rock. It was now 9:30 and had started to rain a little harder, but no problem for we had already climbed the hardest of the three we thought; so on we went. One rappel and some careful down climbing got us down Goat Rocks east ridge and onto West Twin's west ridge. Here we sat awhile hoping the clouds would break just enough to get a look at the route before us, it did but only a pitch at a time. We roped up for four and a half pitches on the middle part of the ridge which was knifey, exposed and wetter and slimmer than the rock on Goat Rock. It made the whole climb much more interesting anyway. We were rewarded at the top of West Twin for being all wet and cold by clearing sky's and a spectacular view. The west ridge of East Twin started looking a little longer than we were up to by this time, so we diverted off the sky line and traversed along the south face of East Twin to the easy south gully. Half way up, we began to feel guilty about getting off the ridge so we diagonaled out of the gully and across the south face to the west ridge then onto the summit up the final part of the west ridge. By now the weather was splendid. We finished all the food we had, then headed back to the road. We ran down scree slopes at the foot of East Twin through a large herd of sheep and into the lush flower covered meadows below them. For those interested in alpine flowers there are many.. We found 36 different kinds during our traverse. 14 hours after leaving the car we reached the road and hitched a ride with a fine looking girl back to our car.

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a brief visit to Icefall  
A BRIEF VISIT TO ICE FALL

EARL REDMAN

The summit of Icefall Peak was a fine spot for a few cashews, some sausage, and a wee bit of brandy, though it was a mite draughty. The day and a half that brought Bjarne Holm, Ola Royrvik, Doug Buchanan (who insists he wasn't there) and me to that spot began on September 27 with a little nine hour stroll up the Gulkana Glacier. Interest in the route was enhanced by an overabundance of crevasses and a brief tour through the ice-walled canyons of the Moore Icefall. Camp was put up at 6650 feet in the upper basin below the peak. Doug thoughtfully dug a latrine and announced its upwind position through his liberal use of the facility.

Saturday was a fine day for climbing. We wandered up an easy icefall to the right of a big rock wall. The west ridge of Icefall Peak turned out to be a pleasant climb with only one rock gendarme, which necessitated a bit of delicate front pointing to complicate things. Our views from the summit stretched from Mt. McKinley to Mt. Blackburn and drew the usual superlatives.

On the way down we paused only long enough to stuff the camp into our packs and scurried down the glacier. Our descent became an ungainly dance as we crossed the thinly-veiled corrugations of the summer worn glacier surface. A probable first for the climb was the transport of two bottles of fine liebfraumilch to the high basin of Icefall and their return, untouched, back to road's end.

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#### ASCENTS AND ATTEMPTS IN MCKINLEY PARK, SUMMER 1973

STEVE HACKETT

During the 1973 summer while working as a Seasonal Park Ranger, I participated in the following climbs during what proved to be a wet, damp summer. The few cherished days off seemed to progressively become wetter as September approached too quickly.

Dan Hurd, a cousin from Colorado, and I attempted the north ridge of Peak 8620' which is due east of Anderson Pass during the first weekend of June. Continual rain and wet snow turned us around at approximately 7000'. Two weeks later I scrambled up Double Mountain (5899') via the west face from Igloo Ranger Station. The descent took me down the north-west side over 4280' and finally to Teklanika Campground...a nice day in dall sheep country.

In late June, John Bryant and myself climbed the west face of Fang Mountain (6736') in marginal weather. We approached the mountain from the north up the Savage River, camped at 5200' on morainal debris below Fang's NW face. We walked out and down the Sanctuary River the following day, just in time to catch the last shuttle bus to headquarters.

In mid-July, in what seemed a break in the weather, John Bryant and I left Eielson Visitor Center in late evening. We anticipated an alpine attempt on the NE ridge of Mt Tatum 911,037'). One and a half days with heavy packs to McGonagal Pass along the foothills proved to be disappointing.....low clouds were down to the deck of the Muldrow Glacier! We camped below Oastler Pass at the end of the second day hoping for a break in the weather. Next morning we started walking out in thick fog along the north side of the Muldrow to the big bend across from Anderson Pass. We then worked our way across to Glacier Creek and continued walking to Eielson that evening.....it seemed to be an extremely long trek with a pack of unused mountaineering gear.

During a late July week-end, I walked up the west tributary of the East Fork of the Toklat River in misty weather. A sudden break in the cloud cover early the following morning spurred me to leave camp and climb peak 7840' and 7850' and the west glacier that straddled them. I continued traversing over to Mt. Pendleton (7810') along its NW ridge. The weather socked in as I continued climbing and finally descended from point 7382' to the East Fork Toklat Glacier. Three started full curl rams led the way down in thick mist to my tent at 4500' which I previously left at 2:00 a.m. Strong wind and dust provided resistance as I trekked down the east side of the Toklat River arriving at the Muir Cabin around 6:00 p.m.

During the next two weeks National Park and rescue parties searched all accessible gullies, ridges and peaks in and adjacent to Red Mountain (7103'). looking for the lost solo climber, David Allen. A thorough and intensive search produced no definite signs of his whereabouts.

In late August Dick Stenmark and myself spent 5 days trekking in continual rain from Cantwell to Anderson Pass via Foggy and Easy Pass along the Denali Fault Trough. We had hoped to attempt Scott Peak (8828') and adjacent mountains but weather and time dictated our decisions to walk over Anderson Pass and on to Eielson.

The summer of 1973 seemed to be the "year of the rains" in McKinley Park.

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VIN HOWMAN LIBRARY....at the last meeting the Club received word from Marie Lundstrom that she no longer has room in her house to store the Vin Hoeman Library. Two Club members, Gayle Nienhueser and Brian Okonek, have volunteered to house the collection in their homes. Previous suggestions to place the books in the AMU reserve of consortium libraries seem remote, now that the future of AMU is in doubt. Since the MCA Board did not meet this month, some decision will probably be reached at the Jan. board meeting. If any members have other suggestions about the library, please contact a board member or bring your ideas to the December meeting.

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MCA DUES...the general membership voted at the November meeting to raise the MCA dues. Those paying before Jan. 1, 1975 can still join or renew their membership at the old rates. After Jan.1,1975 the rates will be \$10 for family, \$7.50 for individual and \$5.00 for junior and out of town.

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Corection to the November. minutes. - The name of Margaret Murie as it appeared in the November minutes was spelled incorrectly.... our apologies.

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For Sale: Wooden mountaineering skis with steel edges, 205, silvretta bindings - \$50.00; Backpack-Universal expedition - \$30.00; Size 10½ Reiker downhill ski boots - \$80.00 or best offer . David Wallace-2773992 or 349-1707.

For Sale: Iowa "Everest" Double Boots, size 9½, excellent condition, \$60.00. The cheapest winter climbing footgear you can find in today's market! Tom Meacham 277-2129

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