



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, 99510

JULY MEETING.....Wednesday, July 17th.....PICNIC AT GOOSE LAKE.....Remember

to bring your own plates, silverware, food, drink, and mosquito dope.

BOARD MEETINGWednesday, August 7th, 7:30 PM, at Dona Agosti's, 2324
Loussac Drive

CLIMBING SCHEDULE

See Page 5 for details concerning climbs.

HIKING SCHEDULE

SATURDAY SUNDAY JULY 13-14, CRAIGIE CREEK (HATCHER PASS), Leader Marie
Lundstrom, 272-0858. Meet Valu-Mart 8:00 am.

SATURDAY SUNDAY JULY 20-21, WILLIAMS LAKES & NORTH FORK (NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)
Leader Chuck Evans, 344-5084. Meet Valu-Mart 7:00 am.

FRIDAY, JULY 19 THROUGH SUNDAY JULY 28, CHILKOOT TRAIL, Leader Dona Agosti,
279-2901. Depart Valu-Mart 6:00 am, but all transportation to be arranged
ahead of time and equipment checked out in advance.

SATURDAY SUNDAY AUGUST 3-4, PETERS HILLS, Leaders Gayle & Helen Nienhueser,
277-9330. PLEASE CALL Nienhuesers ahead of time. If anyone has a four-wheel
drive vehicle available, please let Gayle and Helen know; otherwise, the
hike may have to be cancelled and a substitute made. Also, if
anyone has recent information about the condition of the Petersville road,
Helen & Gayle would like to know about it. (See Hike No. 47, "55 WAYS TO
THE WILDERNESS IN SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA")

FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY AUGUST 9-11, SURPRISE CREEK MT., Leader Cathy & Ray
Causton. Leave Friday evening or meet at Jim's Landing, Kenai River 8:00
am, Saturday August 10. (near intersection Skilak Rd. & Sterling Hwy.)

SATURDAY SUNDAY AUGUST 17-18, BOLD PEAK (CAMP AT 3500), Leader Bill Stivers,
277-2869. Leave Valu-Mart 6:00 am.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mel Langdon and Ann Thomas (MCA members) who came in 3rd
and 4th in Senior Women's Division of Mt. Marathon Race, July 4, in Seward.

SCREE

Minutes of General Meeting, Mountaineering Club of Alaska, 8:00 PM, June 19, 1974, Pioneer School House, 3rd & Eagle, Anchorage, Alaska.

Meeting was called to order by Tom Neacham, presiding for Bill Barnes Jr. who was recuperating from the Mt. Spurr rescue attempt.

The movie, "Solo", was shown. Motion made, seconded and approved that minutes appearing in June SCREE be approved. Treasurer's report from Kit Kenney, Acting Treasurer, as follows: Expenses \$19.98; Income \$65.00; Checking account \$425.24; Savings \$379.50; Cash on hand \$50.00. Total \$894.74.

New members were welcomed. Hiking reports included explanation by Rod Wilson concerning upcoming Emerald Lake hike. It was suggested that Tikishla climbers coordinate with Emerald Lake hikers if they wished. Crow Pass and Craigie Creek hikes will go as scheduled. Transportation still needed for Chilkoot Trail hike, with each riding paying \$12.00 for gas. Tom Neacham reported for Conservation Committee that he had heard from Eklutna Native Assn. and they acknowledged most of the trails as set forth in our letter with the exception of Goat Rock. Correspondence is continuing.

The film, "Americans on Everest", was shown. Meeting adjourned.

Secretary

FLATTOP SLEEP-IN

June 22

Ulrich Luscher

On the second longest night of the year, the Club had its traditional sleep-in on Flattop Mountain. At various times during the day and well into the short night, the campers arrived with their two camp fire logs on the peak. The fire made a central gathering place for the 50 or so people, around which the news of the day could be circulated. The weather did its part- both Saturday and Sunday were beautiful, and the views of the sunset and sunrise (for those who saw it) were inspiring to see from our high vantage point. The night was slightly chilly and the mosquitoes were after those sleeping in the open air- but never mind. The long list of those signing the log at the top included: Brian G. Smith, Danny Oxford, Sean Sinnet, Mary Jo, Jackie, Maribeth, Chris and Robert J. Cadieux, Tam Agosti, Lilla Abegg, Mark McKinnon, Patty Cavanagh, Agnes Ely, Greg and Loretta Higgins, Barry Donnellan, Tim Lott, Leonard Gonjala, Rod and Gwynneth Wilson, John Pinamont, John Hucha, Vaughan Hoefler, Ed Coleman, Robyn Denton, Pamela Albright, Bob Marshall, Elden R. Johnson, Kim Dale, Lodi Payne, Ulrich Luscher, Mike, Sally and Mike Richardson, Sue Zimbrick, Bettie Clancy, Mike Heinz, Peggy Heinz, Wayne Rens, Shaun Oxford, Mel Langdon, Richard Ulrich, Barb Trow, Suzi Albright, Dianne Gudgel, and Paul Carnicelli. Finally, some personal notes: John Pinamont, reputedly with the aid of sherpas, brought four huge logs weighing about 90 lbs. total on one of his 50-minute training hikes up the mountain, and followed it up with giant watermelons. The weather on Flattop was so inviting for loafing that only three were energetic enough to hike the crest to the north-east of Flattop: Brian Smith got all the way to Ptarmigan Peak on Saturday; Ulrich Luscher and an unnamed climber got to Hope Peak on Sunday.

FIRST WINTER ASCENT, CANTATA PEAK (6410')
 POST WINTER ASCENT, EAGLE PEAK (6955')

Will Cottrell

This is a belated summary of a couple of neat climbs on January 12, 1974. Paul Burton, Knox Criste, and I skied six miles to mid-Eagle Lake and climbed the rocky wind-blown slopes to point 4710' and continued to the west ridge (on Cantata) which offered interesting knife-edge tight-roping and one very exposed slab. The short daylight caught us at a nifty 50 ft.-wide saddle where we igloored and hot-rummed warm and cozy. The next day revealed few surprises for good route-finders. We had a few surprises when we could not believe the sheep track we were following. So with heavy duty scrambling, a few belays, and no iron, we had hot-mocha-chocolate (lukewarm from a thermos) on the summit. Sure enough, we saw that bodacious sheep right on top. Well, the trip down at -20 degrees in the snow-dark of Alaska night was the hard part. Always allow 2½ days for climbs in this area or get good at skiing in the dark.

After two winter attempts to climb Eagle Peak, we finally got the right weather and ascended easily via a huge couloir on the south west face that paralleled the south ridge and took us right to the summit. (By the calendar, one week after winter's official end.) The most dangerous part of the entire trip is getting past the waterfall but you'll learn about that when you go back there to climb. My tribute to the beauty and grace of Eagle found expression in an unusual poem about people I have loved. Hope you enjoy it.

EAGLE

While praying up a precariously slabby couloir
 on Eagle Peak's South Face,
 The thought of a three thousand foot fall
 to the crumbled base sharpened.
 The 9:00 AM April sun primed avalanche potential
 contained in the multi-layered snow-filled crease.

Then my consciousness actively ressurected
 all the beautiful images that lay resting
 in various frontal convolutions,
 forced there by the moment's danger.
 As if their forceful interjection
 insured themselves from disastrous loss.

The images competed for importance
 and then,
 collectively agreed:

One beauty is not better than another

.....only different.

You were there.

- Will Cottrell

EMERALD LAKE (Anchorage A-7)

June 29-30, 1974

Rod Wilson

In 70+ degree high-summer sunny weather, we penetrated the "remote" yet near-to-Anchorage valley of the last major tributary of Ship Creek. You have gazed into the valley many times looking south from about half way up Arctic Valley Ski Bowl Road, but it is hard to get into unless you know the way. I do (SCREE Vol. 15, #10 Oct. 1972).

Twenty three (Cadieux family of 5 and friend Valerie Poole, Greg Wolf, Sue Zimbrick, Pat and sons Dave & Tom Kampf, Dona and daughter Tam Agosti, Tony and Betty Bochstahler, Rob and Ron Francisco, John Nevins, Jim Rolf, newcomers Tom Breeze and Larry Crawford, and Gwynneth and Rod Wilson) lined up at Glenn Highway and Oil Well Road at 2:30 pm, Saturday June 29 and drove 3.3 miles along the dirt military road at the foot of the Chugach east of Anchorage, parking at a birch with 3 blazes. (Altitude 500') We wended our sweaty way along carefully preselected animal routes about 2 miles and 1200 feet up to tree line in upper Chester Creek Valley. Some say that the considerable creek there goes underground in Muldoon muskegs before emerging as Chester Creek again in town. I have not traced it between Oil Well Road and Boniface, but maps show discontinuity. Nonetheless, the drainage into which we came I call Upper Chester Creek Valley. It is a small and lovely watershed beneath Kanchee Peak- no roads, no trash, and marred only by a trail bike route that blasts over from North Fork across the valley tundra about a half mile above our camp on lovely knolls at 1700'. We were all in camp by 6 pm, into 11 colorful tents and up and off at 7:00 am, Sunday June 30.

Three fire-eaters, Greg Wolf, Tom Breeze, and Larry Crawford elected to climb Kanchee (4310'), Knoyo (4600'), and Tikishla (5150'), all points along the skyline ridge, while 20 proceeded toward a col (straight above Tudor Road in the middle distance) on the ridge north of Kanchee at 2400'- a delectable spot only $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from camp from which Anchorage Ski Bowl Road and our valley goal could be viewed. Temptation Peak (5300') lay in full view due east. Behind it out of sight lay the main stream of Ship Creek.

From the col, 17 of us side-hilled down 300 feet (it looked like 900' but map says no) into the Ship Creek tributary and walked a leisurely 4 miles south-east on easy tundra or beside the more vegetated stream up to Emerald Lake (3500'). This lake is a 30-40 acre spread in a frowning cirque 1800' Below the scoured north wall of Tanaina Peak (5250') and more or less the east wall of Tikishla (5150'). Ice remained on inner(southern) end of the lake hard up against the wall.

After lunch, a look at snow buntings, a chilly dip in a nearby smaller lake by Gwynneth, clean-up of a fly-in military hunting camp, and a wait for stragglers, we returned as we came down the easy valley, up the 300' (no, not 900'), over the col and foot-weary into camp all by 3:30 pm, eleven miles round trip. The successful fire-eaters returned a short time later.

Then a nap in the sun, supper, and down through the trees- this time only $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. All were out by 7:30 pm.

FOR SALE: Raichle Palu - Delux, $9\frac{1}{2}$ M. Worn only a couple times.
Too small. \$50.00. Contact Ron Felde 279-8686, ex. 359 days.

Galibier Super RD's - Size 10. Worn only a few times. Too small. \$65.00. Bill Barns Jr. 277-0915 or 272-2205.

SCREE

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JULY 1974

PTARMIGAN VALLEY
ROUND TOP (4755')
BLACK TAIL ROCKS (4446')

June 15, 1974

Dave DeVoe

We were a group of eleven plus two dogs: Alex Sisson, son Blaine and daughter Cindy and "Raven"; Dave and Carol DeVoe and daughters Sharon, Jeannette and Donna and "TD"; Pat Young; Wanda Fritz, and John Nevin. After a little exploring to find the Little Peters Creek Road amongst the several new (to Dave) subdivision roads, we bounced and twisted the van and Al's Toyota sedan to the wide spot in the road just before the creek crossing. There were fresh tire tracks beyond that point and the vehicle damage to the tundra above the ski area was distressingly more evident than it was about five years ago on our last visit. There were several "State Park Boundary" and "Respect Private Property" signs beyond the stream crossing and the ski chalet, but no "No Trespassing" signs, although it appeared someone had been living in the building recently. We climbed into the bowl on the right side of the creek beneath Black Tail. From there we split: Carol, Jeannette and Pat to Black Tail; John and Blaine up the creek to Round Top; Dave, Sharon, Donna, Al and Cindy to the high point on the ridge between the two peaks then to Round Top. Wanda stayed in the bowl, deciding she'd gone far enough on her first outing of the season. There was just enough snow in the gullies we crossed to fill boot tops and for fun glissades. The flowers showed what a good start they'd had with the long, warm spring. It was interesting to read all the familiar names in the register on Round Top. (Carol found no obvious register on Black Tail.) On the ridges, it was 48 degrees and windy, gusting over 20 mph. We had sun earlier in the day, but the peaks, from Polar Bear east, were socking in when we dropped back into the valley. One of the highlights of the day was solving the problem of how to get the car keys out of the locked trunk of the Toyota with all the doors and windows locked too!

SUICIDE PEAKS (5005' & 5065')

June 1, 1974

Bill Barnes Jr.

Twelve MCA climbers reached the summits of both North and South Suicide Peaks on the afternoon of June 1. We left our cars at the entrance of the park from where we had an exceptionally pleasant walk to Rabbit Lake. Here we ascended the west ridge of the South Suicide and traversed via the saddle over to the north peak. From the north peak the bulk of the party descended via the saddle, while three of the party further traversed over to Ptarmigan and Hope Peaks.

We removed the registers from both Suicides for typing, so if anyone is going that way in the near future please call Bill Barnes Jr. or Dona Agosti.

CLIMBING SCHEDULE

SUNDAY JULY 28, PINNACLE, Leader John Pinamont, 279-7862. Depart Valu-Mart 8:00 am. For people with some rock climbing experience.

SUNDAY AUGUST 11, BYRON PEAK, Leader needed. Meet at Valu-Mart at 7:00 am. For people with glacier experience.