



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

September, 1980

Volume 23, Issue #9

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, September 17th, at 8:00 PM on the top floor of the Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle, Anchorage. After the business meeting, Tim Neale will present a special program, the contents of which cannot be revealed at this time. (Tim's got his reputation on the line this time, he says it will be an unusually good show.)

CLUB TRIPS & EVENTS

Sep. 13: Wolverine Peak hike. Meet at the U of A Sports Complex at 9 AM. Leader: Pat Murray. (243-1836).

Sep. 20, Saturday: Club Picnic at the Eklutna Lake Recreation area. Those who are interested in hiking the Twin Pks will meet at the end of Eklutna Road at 9 AM. The picnic activities will begin after 4 PM. Anyone having any recreational equipment that might be used, please bring it along. A potluck picnic is planned and the club will provide the hot dogs and buns. The dish you need to bring is according to your last name:

A-I appetizers, chips, dips, etc.

J-R salad or bean dish

S-Z desserts

You are responsible for everything else your family will need for the meal. Each of you is encouraged to bring a log for the bon fire and musical instruments that you would like to play. Please sign up at the September meeting or let Tim Neale (274-4952) or Lavonia James (349-4748) know before the picnic that you are coming so that we can buy enough hot dogs.

Sep. 24, 27-28: Annual Ice-climbing Class. The 1st day is a classroom theoretical session; the following days will be practical experience on one of the local glaciers. Contact Tim Neale or sign up at the Sep. meeting.

AUGUST GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order on August 20th at 8:07 PM by President Neale. Minutes of the July meeting were read by the Secretary & approved. John Lohff gave the Treasurer's report for Paula Quering, who was absent, as follows: Cash \$48; Checking \$308; Money Market Fund \$2028; Total \$2,348.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Equipment: The borrowed Club ropes have been returned.

Programs: The movies originally scheduled for July will be shown probably in November. Another slide show is scheduled for September. Any members having ideas for monthly programs should see Tim Neale.

Library: An alternate location is being sought for the Library because Tom Meacham and family will be moving later this year.

SCREE: Greg Higgins has redone the August issue since the original was unreadable. He will also supervise the September issue since Marty will be away.

Trips: Lost Lake, Aug 30 - Sept 1; Berry-picking in the Glen Alps, Sept 7; Powerline Pass to Indian, Sept 6-7; Wolverine Pk, Sept 13.

Announcements:

A sample of one of the new summit registers was shown. It contains two pencils, a pencil sharpener, and information sheets on climbers and their comments. John Lohff reported on a suggested route to Bold Peak. He provided copies of a recent report on the proposed Susitna Dam. The Club has received a copy of Brad Washburn's new map of the climbing route from Wonder Lake to McGonagall Pass via the Muldrow Glacier on Denali. Suggestions are needed for any possible revisions to access or routes on any of the trips in "55 Ways" for the next printing. Copies were distributed of an American Alpine Club questionnaire which is seeking information on individual climber's and hiker's opinions on possible rules and regulations by Federal agencies in Alaska. President Neale reported that he told the National Park Service that the MCA has not taken an official position, but that Club individuals can express their own opinions. Additional copies of the questionnaire will be available at the next meeting.

The annual election is scheduled for the October meeting, when the four officers and two Board members will be elected. Any volunteers for these positions are welcome to make themselves known to the present Executive Committee.

Greg Higgins reported that the Geographic Names Committee is being revived.

The Business meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

After refreshments, there were two mini-slide shows. John Nevin showed slides of an earlier Lost Lake trip, some taken from the air. Emile McIntosh and Rich Hall showed slides of their hike in the White Mountains area northwest of Fairbanks, off the Elliot Highway. The main slide show was given by Nick Parker on the numerous peaks in the Ruth Glacier and Little Switzerland. Many of these offer excellent granite climbing.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Al Robinson, Secretary

TRIP REPORTS

POWERLINE PASS TO WOLVERINE (nearly)

The Powerline Pass to Indian hike had to be cancelled due to bad weather. The group convened the next day instead to try for Wolverine Pk. The beginning of the trail near the Parking Lot was a little muddy, but once we got out of the flats & started up the hill the trail was dry. The bridge over Campbell Crk slumped a little, but is still safe. Once we got into the open alpine area the wind was blowing rather fiercely. We climbed to the top of what looked to be the highest peak in between gusts of wind only to look over to find a higher peak to the south. While hanging on thru the next gust of wind, we decided to get our bodies down & save that peak for another day. Along with me were John Nevin, Mary Mitchell, & Bernadette Burzynska-Mason.

Lavonia James

MT. Eklutna - 4110 ft.

Tony Bockstahler

Despite discouraging early-morning weather Sat., Aug. 9, thirteen hardy
(cont. page 3)

hikers assembled near Peters Creek Chapel in Peters Crk and assaulted Mt Eklutna from Peters Crk Road. They were: Esther George, Margaret Moore, Janet Cullen, Mary Putnam, Mary Ellis, Fred Oetzman, John Nevin, Lavonia James, Mary Mitchell, Lois & Jerry Sudkamp, Bernadette Burzynska-Mason, and Tony Bockstahler. The weather turned fine and we enjoyed a wonderful view from the 4110 ft. top or the 3300 ft. saddle. This is a relatively easy climb for gaining that much altitude - a trail to start with no bushwhacking leading to a steep tundra slope, no altitude losses going up, and no false summits. Trail head to summit takes the average hiker two to three hrs and half that time coming down.

Here are detailed instructions on finding the trailhead (the hardest part):

Drive north on the freeway to Eagle River. Eight miles beyond the bridge over Eagle River, you cross the bridge over Peters Crk. Then 0.4 miles further, turn right off the freeway, across the paved frontage road, and then right on the gravel road to Peters Crk Chapel. At 0.2 miles (all mileages are past the chapel) turn left; at 0.8 miles turn left across the gully; at 0.9 miles turn right up the hill; at 1.6 miles turn left and then right and go up the hill and hairpins; at 2.3 miles turn right on Malcolm Drive; at 2.5 miles park and proceed by foot about a mile on the dirt road, across a small stream, up a hill and past an abandoned cattle guard, to a 4-wheel drive trail on the left, marked by two large boulders (the trailhead). This last mile is probably passable to two-wheel drive cars and certainly to 4-wheel drive, but we chose not to chance it and walked.

Hike up this 4-wheel drive trail until it peters out in a half mile or so. Cross a stream channel and take the foot path along the left bank of this channel. Follow this trail to the tundra slope and head toward the saddle. At the saddle, or before, proceed right up the ridge to the summit.

For variety, you can descend by the south ridge and then southeast by a 4-wheel drive trail to the Peters Crk Valley Road. Turn right (west) and hike about a mile to the trailhead.

WHITE MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Pierce McIntosh

Date: July 20 - 27, 1980

USGS Quads: Livengood A2, A3, B2, & B3

The White Mountain Summer Trail offers access to Beaver Crk and the White Mtns. The areas attractions are many; alpine ridge-tops offer views of the White Mtns and the Alaska Range, there are also birds, berries and caves. Beaver Crk offers excellent grayling fishing. US Fish & Wildlife has a cabin at the junction of the trail and Beaver Crk. Reservations (free) must be made with them in Fairbanks.

Richard Hall, John Foster, Sara Forbes, Emile & I left the trailhead at milepost 28, Elliot Hwy on Saturday morning, Aug 20. The trail is well marked and proceeds across Wickersham Dome (3207') and follows the ridgeline through moderate ups and downs accross Pt Sham (3218') and on for an additional 2-3 miles and then generally down the ridgeline to the junction with the White Mtns' Winter Trail, approximately 19 miles from the trailhead.

As most everyone knows, the designation Winter-trail means wet feet, tussocks and mosquitoes in Summer. The last two miles of this trail offers those ingredients in abundant measure. The chance to wade Wichersham and Beaver Crks is most welcome after traversing the sloping swamp. In years past BLM & YCC crews have constructed board walks over many low areas of the trail. I just wish they would have included the last two miles.

On our way in we met two people coming out who advised Beaver Crk was too high to cross. When we arrived at the edge of the creek, we met two German hikers (from Berlin) who had spent two days unsuccessfully trying to rig a Tyrolean bridge across the water. They also thought it was too deep to cross.

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Within 15 minutes, Rich and John had scouted the area and found a place to cross where the water was only mid-thigh. Beaver Crk has a good rock bottom and is not too swift, so there really was no problem.

The cabin is in good shape, except for a few extra doors made by the resident red squirrel, and the lack of a few window screens. Good tent sites are scarce in the vicinity of the cabin, but there are abundant sandbar sites in the general area.

We spent the next 2½ days using the cabin as a base of operations for fishing, berrypicking, and two sorties into the westernmost of the White Mtn Range exploring for caves. One cave worthy of the name was examined, sketched and photographed by Richard. Other caves were visible, but not reachable without technical rock climbing on the rather friable limestone faces.

The trip out retraces the same route, and the swampy area is no easier on the way out, going uphill, even with a lighter pack. We chose to do this portion late in the evening and dry camp about 5 miles from the cabin. It seemed to be a wise move to avoid daytime heat in the swamp.

This trail offers something for just about everyone, from berrypickers and scenery buffs to fisherman, birders, climbers, and cavers. We saw the usual wildlife, including squirrels, marmots, beavers, and moose (a little closer than I prefer) and numerous birds, including several varieties of hawks, owls, and possibly a peregrine falcon. We were blessed with gorgeous interior Summer weather except for the last night of rain and wind, which we spent in a sheltered campsite.

The only word of caution to be offered to anyone contemplating this trip concerns the availability of potable water on the trail. There are no streams until Wickersham and Beaver Crks so for 20 miles water must be taken from springs. The availability and color is not always convenient or conducive to enthusiastic use. It's possible that no water would be available during a very dry year. The first spring is approximately 7 miles from the trailhead and the second one is about 13 miles in. Carrying plenty of water from the trailhead is definitely recommended.

BALEFUL PEAK EPIC

Jack Duggan

The renowned "poet-ranger of the Chugach", Garnett Roehm, organized a 4th of July week-end attempt on obscure Baleful Peak, which is located behind Bold and Bashful Peaks in the Eklutna Lake area. It was first climbed by Vin Hoeman and Art Davidson in the sixties, and probably hasn't been repeated by anyone since.

Heeding the lessons learned from last year's soggy 3 day debacle attempt, Garnett artfully arranged a last minute conflict and left Gunnar, Jeff, Al, and I to "go it alone" in the 5 AM downpour which greeted us at the Eklutna Lk parking lot. Luckily, a closed donut shop had opened their back door for us or we might not have found solace to continue.

It was still raining Thursday evening when we reached the top of a long scree slope, after marching the length of the Eklutna Lk Road and the East Fork Trail, so all five of us piled into my two-man tent for a quick supper and sleep.

Friday, the 4th, dawned cloudy but dry and we made good time up more scree and snow to the "Horseshoe Ridge" that had been our undoing last year. This time, with better visibility, we quickly found a gully (the wrong one as it turned out) and descended into the Baleful Peak "inner sanctuary" of soft wet snow and cruddy rock.

After the de rigueur route-finding argument we climbed an avalanche-tracked

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(cont. from page 4)

snowslope on the far side of the basin to regain the ridge nearer the twin summits poised at the far end of the "Horseshoe".

Higher up we traversed several snowfields finally entering a narrow gully which three times forced us to share space with wet sluff avalanches; one of which surprised Al in an exposed spot where he could not jump aside and nearly took him on a speedy ride downhill.

Topping the ridge in bright sunlight we were treated to a panoramic view in all directions except the one we were headed in which was obstructed by a rotten rock gendarme none of us were eager to try. Eventually, Gunnar put up a very good lead and we passed this obstacle without incident excepting the large rock which, when dislodged, chopped my 9 mm rope into two nearly equal pieces.

We continued along the rotten rock ridge until 9 PM when we stopped at the only flat spot wide enough to pitch the tent, ate and crawled in for a few hours sleep until 1 AM on Saturday morning. The wind had risen considerably when we awoke and we fiddled around until almost 3 AM before moving up the ridge to the nearer of the two high points which are separated by a steep knife-edged gap. The farther high spot beckoned to no one but Gunnar because of the threatening weather. Dave sighted along his water bottle (?) and announced that the other spot looked to be a few feet higher. After a mutinous exchange we roped up and descended...., and descended...., and descended, until - blistered and wizened, we finally limped back into the parking lot at 11 PM.

Special credit for our safe return goes to Dave who was the only one of the five of us to remain awake during the long drive back to Anchorage. Fortunately for us all, Dave was behind the wheel at the time.

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2nd Ascent of the N. Summit of Baleful

G Higgins

I had talked to Jack briefly about the July 4th attempt on Baleful and I was hoping for more promising weather than his party had. The original climb as noted above was in 1965 by Vin & Art (see SCREE: Vol. 7, No. 11, page 6). The mountain was reportedly named by Rod Wilson during the 1959 1st ascent of nearby Mt Bashful.

Jim Sprott and I bicycled up the Eklutna Road on Aug. 5th to stash our bikes at the E Fork Trail. By coincidence we ran into Tony Parker whom I had last seen 9 days earlier at the same place going up to try his luck on Bold Pk. Although John Lohff is in the running, Tony probably holds the seige record for Bold having taken 7 days to reach the top via the valley E of Stiver's Gully. As an afterthought, he did the 1st solo ascent of the W Ridge of Bashful before meeting us on his way out.

Our trip took us up the outflow just beyond the twin falls drainage. Steep hill below became deep brush above, and we spent many dismal hours in the alders looking for daylight and water. Low down involved some interesting 5th class dirt moves in full pack. Eventually the bushes spat us out, and we camped on a moraine tongue around 3000 ft.

We started early the next morning going straight up the Red-spot Glacier (so dubbed for the prominent red rock oval to its immediate S), to gain the notch SW of Baleful at 6200'. This rotten ridge put us on the S Peak around 10:30 AM. This summit is a huge snow field running W to E, and is substantially lower than the N Peak according to my level. We built a cairn immediately S of the approximate center of the top, and left a register.

The descent to the notch towards the N Peak was very treacherous, but we were able to pick out a possible line on the far side enroute. The crux turned out to be a low 5th class off-width crack above the rotten black face and scree chute seen from the S Peak. Jim elected to wait here while I slowly picked my

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(continued from page 5)

way along the exposed ridge above to finally pass the "Fist: to gain the summit just beyond. On opening Art & Vin's coffee jar, the paper tended to crumble like some ancient papyrus.

Our weather had meanwhile been changing to drifting whiteout, so after re-joining Jim, we quickly returned to the S Peak, where the weather again cleared. On our way back to camp, we enjoyed views of the huge chute to the S of Bashful (I call it Cataract Couloir because it has 4 long free-falling waterfalls emptying into it up high).

The rain began in earnest in the night so we spent the entire 7th in the tent waiting for better days. The weather remained threatening on the 8th so we packed out of our Rockheap Valley and attempted to traverse to the N to gain Stiver's Gully and avoid the brush. We were unable to gain the Gully, but found fairly easy going down the steep ridge to its E. While up high we were impressed by two thundering avalanches pouring down Bashful's N Face.

Both Jim & I were amazed at the beauty and starkness of this area. Steep angle faces with magnificent hanging blue glaciers abound, and everywhere you look are tumbling free-falling cataracts. The approach is well protected by steep alder covered hills, and I suspect that it will remain fairly pristine for many years to come.

KOBUK NATIONAL MONUMENT

July 26 - Aug 3, 1980

(Including visits to Kotzebue, Kiana, Ambler, Sand Dunes and Jade Mtn)

by Dona Agosti

This trip had a little bit of everything - tussocks, and tarns, mountain streams and ambling rivers, desert sands and jade mountains, grizzlies and caribou, sunshine and drizzle, gnats and mosquitoes, fish camps and bustling Kotzebue.

We were: Dona Agosti, Betty & Tony Bockstahler, Lisa Kendall, Fredi Gisler (visiting from Switzerland), Betty Thielsen, and Marilyn & Bill Wakeland.

Alaska Airlines delivered us to Kotzebue where we joined Betty Thielsen. Shallabarger Air Service zipped us right out to Kiana in two of their Stationair 811's. The thirty minute flight gave us a look at Kotzebue Sound, the Kobuk River and miles and miles of empty tundra. Lorry Schuerch met us at the airstrip and freighted our packs to his riverboat landing. We did a whirlwind tour of Kiana village which commands a lovely view of the Baird Mtns and the winding Kobuk. I've visited 9 Arctic villages and Kiana is the neatest and cleanest I've seen. Their homes sit on steel braces rather than the refrigerated pilings. The Schuerch's home boasted flush plumbing, a microwave oven and live TV from L.A. They get their shows 2 weeks before Anchorage and the color picture was outstanding.

Lorry put us into two river boats, one driven by his son and we started up the Kobuk under cloudy skies. Lorry identified cabins along the river and we learned that most of them belonged to his relatives. He is of Swiss, German, Italian, & Eskimo descent and was a former state trooper who came back to Kiana to live. Seventy five miles later, we arrived at Navet Crk; it was beginning to drizzle, so we elected to camp on the sandy beach. Next morning under cloudy but dry skies, we started the 2 - 3 mile trek into the Kobuk Sand Dunes. We had not expected a half mile or so of brush and swamp before reaching the dry, lichen covered birch and spruce forests, but that's what we got. We had about decided we were lost, when the sand wall appeared through the trees. Climbing the 20 foot wall, we were dramatically transported to the Sahara Desert. Since

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(continued from page 6)

none of us had ever flown over the dunes, the effect was quite startling and worth all of the bushwacking. After several hours of inspection and picture taking, we returned to the Kobuk beach - with a bag or so of blueberries in possession.

Dave Rue, a pilot from Ambler, picked us up Monday morning, in his 207 float plane. We were still undecided about our destination, but after flying over the tundra, we elected for a much closer lake and shorter trip, thank heavens. It would have taken two weeks to do the longer trip from the headwaters of Miluet Crk. We landed on a lake near lower Miluet Crk, then beat our way through dwarf birch, willows, spruce, swamp and bugs to 1st night camp. We found an ideal high-ground birch ridge near a tributary creek, dry and breezy, but it took us 3 hours to cover one mile. The next day's trip was equally trying, but by midafternoon we were above timberline and encamped in an excellent location - a bench near the creek and pass. The evening temperature dropped to 40 dgs but the sun was bright and hot already by 7 AM. Forgot to mention that we crossed Miluet Crk the day before. It was wide, but shallow except for a few holes, and very little current. We did remove our boots. The camp location was at about 1750 feet.

Day 3: Under sunny, blue skies, we reached the pass in about 1½ hours. We could see the Little Kobuk Sand Dunes. The pass was wide and flat, but sans water. About a ½ mile later, we reached a valley with stream (Section 23) which would make a lovely campsite for someone on a faster or slower schedule than ours. Most of the day involved moving up and over boulder fields, and down into ravines and out - it was not possible to "get above it" because the ridge did not run east and west. By early afternoon, we reached a ridge above our intended campsite from which we could see "all the world" including the jade green coloring of Jade Mtn. (Our 1st thought was that it might be caribou lichen, but we later learned it is serpentine - a lesser form of jade). All of us except Bill and Fredi moved down to the valley floor, only to find a dry creek. We were saved by a snowfield high up the mountainside and an energetic water carrier named Tony. Bill & Fredi walked the entire ridge back to Redstone Pk - and in the process scared up a bull caribou. Bill thought he'd entered the eye of a tornado when the scared bull threw up rock and scree taking off down the mountain. This is the traditional pass through which the annual migration takes place - but most of the band was high in the Baird Mtns until about the middle of September. They winter near Onion Portage on the Kobuk.

About 10:30 PM, Fredi called us out of our tents and pointed out a grizzly about 250 yards away on the hillside. We watched him-her eat blueberries and loaf for some minutes. I warned that if he-she took one step towards us we were going to blow our whistles. He-she did and we did. Not a sign that it had even heard us, to which I remarked, "just our luck to get a deaf griz." Finally, I began to get a bit apprehensive. I dug out my new teflon frying pan and banged it against another pan. That did it! He-she took off for bluer blueberry patches. Now all my friends are going to report that whistles don't work. They sure don't - for deaf bears.

Next day in 50 degree weather, we ambled down the mountain, through a burn area and on to what looked like the L A Freeway - a graded road between an air strip and the Jade Mtn Mine. We were welcomed most cordially by the manager, Art Douglas, and his wife, Dora. Not only did he spend several hours relating the history of the mine, but he used his CB to call Ambler Air Service to see if we could get a 207 into the mine strip. Dave was reluctant to land on the short strip, but agreed to pick us up at Onion Portage on the Kobuk the next day. This meant 9 miles of trail before 4 PM. Dora also served us a sheefish dinner - quite a surprise on top of a mountain, but she had flown in the day before from Ambler. We also had whipped cream with blueberries - and you know the feeling after six days of gorp and freeze-dried.

(cont. page 8)

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Jade Mtn Mine is now owned by NANA and its outlet is in Kotzebue. They produce the valuable Nephrite jade and own some 22 claims. They are now cutting the boulders at Jade Crk because of the high cost of sledding it to the Kobuk barges or flying it out in 207's. By cutting, they can determine the better pieces.

Art's cabin sits about 1400 feet up Jade Mtn. They are in residence during the Summer months only. Last Winter, a griz visited, ate up all the staples, then punctured a can of green paint. High on the 8 foot walls and on the cabin floor, are huge paw prints - the most interesting decor I've seen. Art is looking for a green griz.

That night, we followed the cat trail about 3½ miles to a knoll near Jade Crk. Good, dry walking. Bill brightened our evening with a catch of 8 grayling from Jade Crk. The next day, a mile or so down the trail, the cat gave up and turned around and we wished we could. Every hike has its low point, but this was lower than low. The tussocks, swamps, gnats, and heat had us all invoking the Deity for deliverance. We barely made the river by 4 PM, our designated pickup time. You should have seen how fast assorted bodies jumped into the River Jordan. Moses soon arrived to deliver us to Ambler. I took a little side trip back to Miluet to find a lost camera, but managed to do some village shopping with the girls when I got back. We got some terrific bargains in yoyos and birch baskets. The local pickup took us and our packs to the airstrip for a fee of \$5.00 and we were tented down in short order. Wien's otter arrived an hour late next day, but it was fun flying low over all the area we's covered on foot.

We hoisted our packs with much groaning upon arriving at the Wien terminal, and walked the mile or so to the new Nul Luk Vik Hotel. It is NANA's pride and joy and the only house of lodging in the village. Cost \$75.00 per night. However, since the rooms contain 2 double beds, & additional persons may occupy the room for \$17.00, the 2 married couples munificently agreed to share. What a thrill to indulge in a hot bath and soft beds. Thus fortified, we saw the town, which included: NANA's Madison Ave. show at the new NANA museum - a diorama which leaves the visitors in the dark while a recorded voice dramatically describes each of the animals of the region as the spotlight moves around the room. The corporation has outdone itself - they have collected about 50 animals for this show, all beautifully displayed. Then, up the stairs we all go to look down through the windows on the Jade Products factory where various sized huge saws cut the jade boulders. This is the outlet for the jade mine we had just visited. Back to the museum where 90-year old Chester Sevek, the original raindeer herder, still holds forth with his drums and commentary. A delightful addition is a youngster around 7 or 8 who dances with enthusiasm and authenticity. Chester lives in Fairbanks, but he and his wife, Helen, come to Kotzebue each Summer for the tourist season. His is some kind of record - two shows a day at age 90. Let Broadway beat that.

A walk through Kotzebue, along Front Str (facing the Sound) and through the residential areas provides the usual modern day contrast: A balloon-tired get-around parked outside a log cabin; a pickup truck near a fish-drying rack; sled dogs chained outside a modern, barged-in house; a 90-year old ivory carver sitting on the Front Str beach not far from the modern Nul-Luk-Vik. Progress is apparent everywhere but one thing remains the same - the clutter and junk still abound.

Back to Anchorage Sunday, some on an earlier flight others on the late afternoon. Ours were the supersaver fares of \$232. round trip, but the treatment was first class on Alaska Airlines. So were Shallabarger's charter service to Kiana, Lorry Scheurich's riverboat service and Dave Rue's floatplane service. Now if they could just do something about those swamps.....

BIT & PIECES

Good luck to Gary Bocarde who just left to take part in the American Expedition to China which plans to attempt Minya Konka by a difficult route. This peak was 1st climbed by an American team in the 1930's that included Terris Moore of early Mt. McKinley fame.

Jim Wickwire was in town in Early September and gave a presentation to the Anchorage Women's Club on his successful 1978 climb of K-2. He plans a trip to Everest next year and hopes to become the 1st person to climb the two highest peaks in the world.

The register from Point Knoya was removed last year by Mark Fouts who planned to type it and return it to the top this year. Mark do you still have it? See me at the Sept. meeting or give me a call. Greg Higgins 278-1384

Rick O'Kelley, Pat Sorsby, Pauline Chase, Loretta and Greg Higgins replaced the registers on Powerline Pass Peak and Homicide on the Club Glen Alps to Indian hike Sept. 6 & 7. On Homicide an old water soaked slip was found that recorded two trips to the top in 1974 (Brian Okonek, Mark Fouts, & Greg Durocher as well as John "the Canuck" _____(?)) which were the 3rd and 4th recorded ascents respectively.

Greg & Loretta Higgins are moving to Seward in October and can be reached at the Hospital or Clinic there if anyone is down in that area. The kettle is always on.

The Geographic Names Committee now has a Club copy of the Alaska Dictionary of Placenames as well as a set of update circulars since its publishing, and will begin the process of reviewing what has been accepted and rejected in the way of names that were previously submitted by the Club. Anyone interested in this should see me at the next general meeting. G Higgins

WHAT SCREE SAID WAY BACK THEN:

20 years ago:

Helga Bading wrote about the Club's 1st successful ascent of Mt Spurr. On the trip were Bob Bailey, Chuck Metzger, Erik Barnes, Greg Erickson, Burt Puchler, and Helga.

10 years ago:

Bill Stivers reports on a route up the back side of Bold Peak via the Gully that now bears his name. Buddy Jaidinger wrote of a humorous climb of Wolverine amongst the green bugs. (Buddy was a very active club member who tragically died on McKinley August 19, 1971). The formation of the Chugach State Park was noted (Aug. 9, 1970), and a number of the MCA'ers who had worked hard to make it a reality were lauded. The successful "Denali Damsels" expedition was reported. Quote: 'T'was the first time McKinley was successfully challenged by a party of "broad's".

MCA Library

The Library is currently located at Tom Meacham's house, 1410 'H' Str.. Tel. 277-2129. Call, if possible, before visiting to make certain that someone is home.

Coming next month: Successful trip to Mt Drum by 3 MCA'ers.