



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

November 1983

Volume 26, Issue #11

#### NOVEMBER MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, November 16th, at 7:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of Central Junior High School, 15th and C Streets, Anchorage, Alaska. After the business meeting Paul Denkwalter will present a display and demonstration of winter climbing and ski touring clothes.

#### MINUTES FOR MCA OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

The October meeting of MCA was held on October 19th, at the Central Junior High School multi-purpose room, at 15th and C Streets, Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 7:47 p.m. by Rick Severn, President. The reading of the September general meeting was approved as published in SCREE. Treasurer Reggie Buchanan reported:

\$	279.24	-	Petty Cash
	446.39	-	Bank Account
	3,532.22	-	Money Market
	\$4,257.85	-	Total

Income for Fiscal Year 82-83: \$3,482.80  
Expenses: \$3,642.93

Deficit was due to extensive repairs to the Mint Glacier Hut.

All dues will come due December 31, 1983. All memberships expire and must be renewed. To expedite collection of dues, please send your \$7.50 individual membership or \$10.00 family membership fees to the MCA mailbox. They will then be picked up at the following meeting.

Welcome to all new members and guests.

#### I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Hiking: Dona Agosti, 248-0089  
Nothing to report.

B. Library: Mike Frank, 243-7645  
Nothing to report.

C. November program will be a slide show on the west buttress ascent of Denali.

D. Nothing to report.

E. MCA Equipment at Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking AMH on Spenard Road has club equipment for use by members upon presentation of a current membership card. There are crampons, helmets, ice-axes, shovels, and pieps. Use is on a first come, first serve basis, although first preference for equipment goes to those involved in any club trip.

F. Executive Report  
Nothing to report.

G. Special Committees  
Nothing to report.

#### II. OLD BUSINESS

None

#### III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Anyone interested in proposed changes in game management, i.e., opening the Chugach State Park to hunting, both PRO or CON, should contact Tim Neale, 274-4952.

#### B. Election of New Officers

President: Mark Skok  
Vice-President: Tim Neale  
Secretary: Eileen Cavanaugh  
Treasurer: Bernie Helms  
Board Members: Reggie Buchanan  
Willy Hersman

#### C. Announcements

1. November meeting will be held at Central Junior High School, 7:30 p.m. at 15th and C Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bernie Helms

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP

In the six years that I have been associated with the MCA, 1983 stands out in one particular way. That was the degree to which individual club members and small groups of club members organized schools, manned an informational center at an outdoor symposium, printed, collated, and mailed out SCREE, and gave generous amounts of their time to teach at the established schools.

To list any of these people would only do injustice to those omitted in error.

To all the new members who took the plunge and got involved and to all the old members who continue to give large quantities of their free time, thank you, my association with all of you has been a special and enriching experience that I will long

Rick Severn

LET'S GET OUTDOORS

Since Rick has passed the gavel on, I've been considering some plans for the club. So, let me pass along an idea or two.

I've noticed that, during the winter, the club draws a fair crowd at meetings (as does Simon's afterward). Still, the idea is to get outdoors...I think.

I'd like to see more Mountaineering Club activities during the winter. I'm sure many members are interested in the idea of weekend-long winter outings. But there's that intimidation factor regarding the cold, gear, and trip logistics, etc. If people could join scheduled outings led by competent individuals, they should feel more comfortable taking the plunge.

At the same time, it's important to get information to people as to what's necessary (and unnecessary) in the way of winter gear. Paul Denkwalter of Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking will address the topic of winter clothing at the November meeting.

Those of you qualified to lead climbs and other backcountry trips might consider posting your plans at the November meeting.

One idea that has drawn interest is a club climb of Denali in May or early June. Participants would be required to take part in three or four training outings during the winter and spring. Those outings, and consequent classroom sessions, would provide training and information for other club members not interested in climbing the mountain.

Tim Neale got the winter off to a good start with his pre-Halloween climb and winter snow-climbing techniques class.

These are ideas I'm presenting. Speaking for the newly elected officers and board, we'd like to hear from you. It's your club.

Mark Skok

## ICE SCHOOL REPORT

In spite of a lot of snow, icy roads, jack-knifed trucks, and one car in the ditch, 39 students and all the instructors made it to the Mat Glacier on September 24-25 for the annual ice school and Bacchanal. As promised there was no rain, just sunshine and cool temperatures which made this year's school a huge success. Special thanks must go to Gary Bocarde of Mountain Trip for the use of his ropes, Pete Panarese of A.R.G. for the loan of a litter (which was not needed), Christy Hale and Gail Ito of the Book Cache for all the typing I needed, and especially to all those who had signed up but were unable to go and had the courtesy to call and cancel, making room for all the alternates.

All of the instructors this year were great dispensing knowledge with enthusiasm and deserve our gratitude. They were: Paul Farmer, Graham MacDonald, Tim Neale, Dave Pahlke, Ned Lewis, Ernie Borjon, Steve Wolper, Sue Havens, Perry Salmonson, Jack Duggan, Pat McManus, Rick Severn, Reggie Buchanan, Trish Herminghaus.

The students were: Marcia Bandy, Joyce Barnett, Detrich Bertschi, Brian Britt, Chris Cassidy, Hal Christensen, Marilee Clack, Merilee Engelke, Cliff Hansen, Don Hansen, Bernie Helms, David Henning, Lois Holle, Nancy Hull, Alan Johnson, Barb Kaehler, Jim Lasche, Priscilla Lukens, Sandi MacDonald, Tom Macchia, Bonnie Makinson, Peter Meberg, Bruch Melzer, Mike Miller, Julia Moor, Brant McGee, Michael Rees, Dave Richenbacher, Denise Saigh, Wes Sutterlin, Mark Stefanich, Mike Thompson, Bill Vre, Ron VanBergeyk, Mark Worcester.

Terry Becker

## CLIMB-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19th

Last chance before Thanksgiving to burn off a few calories. Meet at ACC/UAA sports facility (west side) at 7 a.m. Need ice axe, crampons, swami belt, warm clothes, and lunch. One day moderate climb, about 4000 ft. elevation gain, moderate non-technical.

Tim Neale, 274-4952

## WEST TWIN PEAK - OCTOBER 29th

Nine folks made the Saturday climb. Snow conditions were less than ideal. Just enough snow on the exposed rock sections to make everything very slippery. The snow in the gullies was deeper but not consolidated enough to afford a good foothold. The view from the summit would have been much better without the clouds and fog.

The nine folks on the climb were Liz Carey, Mark Findlay, Ron VanBergeyk, Anne Leggett, Mike Miller, Michael Rees, Marilyn Swanson, Tim Neale, Marcia Bandy.

Tim Neale

### HISTORY CORNER

Greg Higgins did an excellent job of keeping this section of the SCREE filled. Since Greg moved to California there have not been many articles in this section that might be informative to some or give others a moment to reminisce. The following article is one that probably best fits in the History Corner.

#### Bomber Glacier, Talkeetna Mountains

This past summer there was interest in building a new hut in an area just north of the Bomber Glacier. Folks also began trekking into and out of the Mir Glacier hut by way of the Reed Lakes, which would take them over the Bomber Glacier.

The Bomber Glacier was so named because of the four engine wrecked airplane that now rests on the glacier. Many folks visited the relic, poked around the wreckage, crawled into the fuselage, took a few pictures, and wondered what ever happened.

The purpose of this article is to answer some of the questions. The plane laying on the glacier, about one mile northeast of upper Reed Lake, is a B-29 Superfortress. The B-29 was designed in 1937, first flown in Seattle in 1942, and out of production in 1946. The B-29 Superfortress is best remembered as the aircraft that dropped two atomic bombs on Japan in 1945.

This particular plane was set up strictly for radar use, and was on a routine radar calibrating flight when it crashed. The plane had taken off from Elmendorf AFB about 7 a.m. About 6 p.m. it flew over Talkeetna, on the way back to Elmendorf. A routine radio report was given with no unusual problems reported. The plane was not heard from again. The date was November 15, 1957. A crew of ten were on board; four survived the crash and were found the following day. The impact of hitting the glacier tore the cockpit section completely off. The cockpit slid 500 feet further up the glacier. None of the cockpit section is visible today.

Weather was marginal at the time of the crash with the ceiling between 1,500 and 2,00 feet in the area. There was speculation that the plane was off course due to a snow storm between Talkeetna and Elmendorf. Possibly the crew was trying to fly around the storm. The plane was scheduled to land at Elmendorf about 7 p.m. but had enough fuel for another 5 hours of flying.

Today the faded red and silver plane sits on the glacier as a quiet memorial to the past and the six men that died in the crash twenty-six years ago.

Tim Neale

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>WORK PHONE</u>
President	Mark Skok	274-3934	258-1300
Vice-President	Tim Neale	274-4952	
Secretary	Eileen Cavanaugh	337-1394	
Treasurer	Bernie Helms	243-3124	

BOARD MEMBERS

Rick Severn	344-7269	276-2070
Mark Findlay	337-8666	
Graham MacDonald	345-5791	
Willy Hersman	278-9829	
Reggie Buchanan	333-7649	272-0504

Note from the Editor

SCREE is the monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. I would like to remind you that all items for publication must be submitted at the monthly meeting or mailed to my home at Star Route Box 9204, Eagle River, Alaska 99577. Articles should be received by the 25th of the month for the following month's issue. Your cooperation will be appreciated. Marty Bassett, Editor.

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