



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

FEBRUARY 1983

Volume 26, Issue #2

February Meeting

The meeting will be held Wednesday, February 23rd at 8:00 PM in the multipurpose room of Central Junior High School, 15th & C Streets, Anchorage, Alaska. After the business meeting John Fritz and Robert Frank will present a slide show on their recent winter attempt on Mount Hayes, which was described in the November 1982 issue of SCREE.

Minutes for MCA January General Meeting

The January meeting of MCA was held on 19 January, at Central Junior High School, multipurpose room, at 15th & C Streets, Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 8:13 PM by President Rick Severn. The reading of the December general meeting was approved as published in SCREE. Treasurer Reggie Buchanan reported:

\$ 279.21	Petty Cash
674.33	Bank Account
<u>4,932.17</u>	Money Rate Plus Account
\$5,885.71	Total (Fat City!)

New members were: John & Marilyn Balcerak, Kathleen Bird, Wayne Bledsoe, Keith & Nance Hull, Elly Hult, Steve Jones, Bruce Larson, Markus Lee, Julia Moor, James Schieve, Michael Sirofchuck, Dave Stachelt, James Stammen, Pamela Torbico.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hiking: Dona Agosti 243-0039

Thirty eight persons have signed up for the Gates of the Arctic trip July 23 to August 2-3. Reservations are now closed for the Gates of the Arctic trip in July. Three groups have been formed and will depart on different dates. If your name is on the list, you will be notified by mail as to which group you are in. Other instructions are included in that letter. Remember that you must be a member of MCA. We urge those who have signed, but already know they do not expect to go, to notify Dona immediately so the eight on the waiting list may be able to make plans. Reference materials for this trip include Bob Marshall's "Alaska Wilderness" (formerly Arctic Wilderness); Two in the Far North, by Margaret Murie: Alaska Geographic The Brooks Range-Environmental Watershed, Volume 4, No. 2, 1977: and Arctic Village by Bob Marshall. MCA Library does not have any of these books, but the Spenard Library does. Other branches will order it for you. There are numerous articles in Alaska Magazine, as well. Check the subject index for Alaska Magazine.

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For those who are also interested in the Brooks Range, Ludwig Ferche will lead a hike in the Arrigetch Peaks area from August 13 to 27. Ludwig is out of town until February, but may be reached then at 344-9881. If you had planned to participate in the Gates of the Arctic hike but were too late, this is an excellent alternative. Ludwig will follow the general route of the last MCA trip, i.e., via Takahula Lake, Takahula River, then over several drainages into the Three Lakes area near the Arrigetch Valley. (Most climbers land at Circle Lake, and hike up Arrigetch Creek, so this will be more hiking and more sightseeing.)

The Memorial Weekend hike will be different this year. Rather than hike the Chickaloon-Knik-Nelchina trail to Boulder Creek, we will start at King River, hike up Young Creek, thence to Sheep Valley and back via another route. We are quite certain there will still be snow in the upper regions, and the leader promises that this will not be a cut and dried trip. Therefore, if you are a trail hiker who likes no surprises, don't sign up for this one.

The 1983 summer hiking schedule is being prepared; anyone who has ideas for a hike, or wishes to lead one, please call Dona at 248-0089.

Anyone interested in cross-country skiing on Tuesdays, call Dona. Our informal group usually skis close to Anchorage, but occasionally makes a longer day of it elsewhere.

Leaders are needed for the following hikes:

Near Point, June 4

Squaw Creek Trail via Gunsight Mountain, June 11, 12.

Need suggestions for June 25-26

Ideas for July 4th holiday

Permanente Castle Mountain Road to Castle Mountain (Mile 71.8 Glenn),
July 16-17

Reed Lakes or Mint Glacier, July 30-31

Chitna Pass (in at Hicks Creek, out at Boulder Creek), August 13-17

Surprise Creek (Across Kenai River near Jim's Landing), August 20, 21

Please call Dona if you can lead any of the above.

OLD BUSINESS

Club T-shirt-still in the works.

NALA Support-Once again, please send in letters to the legislature regarding the North Anchorage Land Agreement. The NALA provides that 27,000 acres of native selected land within Chugach State Park (including land around Eklutna Lake) are returned for public use and management. If and when any land on the Ft. Richardson and Elmendorf bases is considered excess to the U.S. Government needs, the Eklutna Inc. land in Chugach State Park will be exchanged for military land.

A public opinion message of 50 words or less may be sent to your legislator can be sent to:

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Name of Legislator
Pouch V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

NEW BUSINESS

On February 15th the School Board will meet to discuss proposed budget cuts, which would include cut down of school building use after 8 PM at night. In case of such action, the Pioneer School House, third floor, has been reserved to hold the MCA meetings. Since our February meeting would be Feb. 16th, there would not be enough time to post notice of the meeting place. Therefore, the February MCA meeting has been scheduled for the fourth Wednesday, Feb. 23rd ONLY. The meeting will be the fourth Wednesday due to the school being used for the Fur Rendezvous. After the School Board meeting on Feb. 15th, the place for the followings will be printed in SCREE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trip: Dave Pahlke

Dave Pahlke will be holding an overnight snow cave and igloo building class January 29th and 30th. The participants will be meeting at 10:00 AM in the U.A.A. Sports Complex parking lot. This will be an overnight trip, so come prepared.

The film "No Room for Men" scheduled for the December meeting, but not seen due to mailing problems, will be made available to the MCA for rescheduling at no cost to us.

MCA Patches are available for sale from Treasurer Reggie Buchanan for \$2.50.

Greg Higgins, diligent contributor to the SCREE's History Corner, has moved to California and would like to stay in touch with members of the club. Greg's address is available from Reggie Buchanan.

Tom Murphy from the Hatcher Pass Touring Center, located 1 mile below the Independence Mine State Historical Park, is now offering a groomed trail system for all ability levels, as well as a variety of other skiing. The trail fee is \$3.00, on an honor system, and lodging is available. The Touring Center is located at Mile 49½ Glenn Highway to Mile 17 Fishhook-Willow Road.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February

Sat. 5-3 Pin Telemark Race: Head-to-head slalom competition.
Sat. 12-Ski Movie

March

Sat. 5-Evening Slide Show: Climbing Mt. Everest from the Tibetan side.
Sat. 12-3 Pin Telemark Race: Downhill with no gates competition.
Sat. 19-Ski Movie: Beer Tasting Party with Brewmeister Tom Murphy.
Sat. 26-1st Annual Citizens' X-C Race: Distance 6 km.

April

Sat. 9-Wine Tasting Party with Winemiester Don Susia.
Sat 16-Spring Bar-B-Que.

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Schedule is subject to change due to weather and snow conditions. Confirm in advance by calling, 745-5897 or 272-5041.

Thank you Tim Neale for your slide presentation on the Eklutna Glacier to Eagle River traverse.

Refreshments provided by Bernie Helms.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernie Helms

MCA MEETING REFRESHMENTS

According to the letter of your last name all members are requested to bring edible refreshments of their choice (cookies, cake, sweet rools, chips, etc.) to the MCA meeting for the month designated. Liquid refreshments will be provided by the club.

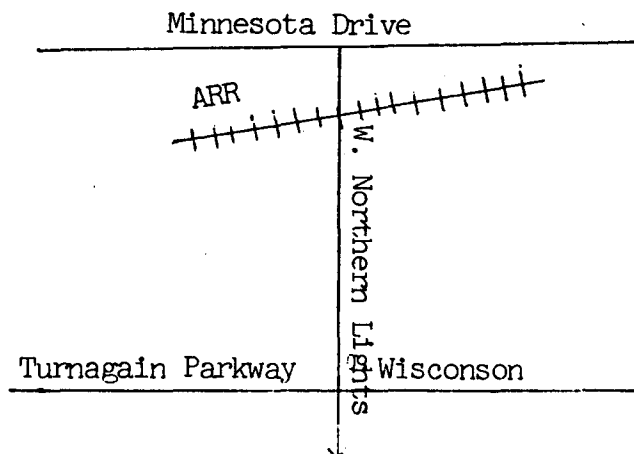
Jan	A B	May	I J	Sept	Q R
Feb	C D	Jun	K L	Oct	S T
Mar	E F	Jul	M N	Nov	U V
Apr	G H	Aud	O P	Dec	W X Y Z

And thank you to all!

LIBRARY

The new library committee consists of Dona Agosti, Jim Morrison, and Mike Frank.

The yet unorganized library is now located at Mike Frank's house which is at 2224 Turnagain Parkway, phone 243-7645. Take West Northern Lights towards Earthquake Park. At the traffic light about two blocks beyond the ARR crossing turn right on Turnagain Parkway. The Franks are home most weekday evenings, some weekends, and usually every Sunday evening after 7:00 PM. Feel free to come over anytime, but it is advisable to call in advance to make sure someone's home.



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TRIP REPORTS

Winter Solstice Sleepout-Flattop

At 1:15 PM on December 18th, 2 MCA members, Hal Christensen and Jim Morrison, left the parking lot at Glen Alps and headed for the Flattop summit. We anticipated a night out with other MCA members to celebrate the winter solstice. Several hours later, after observing a tremendous sunset over Cook Inlet, we arrived at the top & were greeted by a moderate easterly breeze, barren rocks, very little snow, but no other MCA members: Our tent went up on the eastern border of the summit after coming to the conclusion that enough snow did not exist for any sort of a snow cave. Dinner was prepared in the darkness at 4:30 PM, a reminder of the short December days.

After appreciating the lights of Anchorage, we retired to the tent around 7:00 PM. The wind throughout the night reminded us that we were indeed on Flattop. In the morning, we emerged from the tent and found no other campers so we packed up and left the summit. Our descent was interrupted by a short practice session of self arrests and glissodes on a slope of snow, and we finally reached the parking lot around 12:30. So concluded the winter solstice sleepout. (where was our morning paper?)

Hal Christensen

Mint Glacier/Thanksgiving Day Trip

Like most people on Thanksgiving Day, a hearty group of MCA members were dreaming of their big meal for this day. Only instead of their dining rooms this group was heading for the Mint Glacier hut.

With skiing abilities ranging from our well known pro's on down to our new Arizona member, we all made it to the hut with plenty of time for the meal preparations.

Once we were all in the hut the gourmet delicacies were placed upon the table. The menu consisted of: Turkey, dressing and gravy for the main course followed up with waldorf salad, crisply sauteed vegies, yams, stir fried wild rice, two varieties of cranberry sauce and date nut bread. Only to be topped off with two and a half home made pumpkin pies with real whip cream. There was also a fine selection of red and white boxed wines, plus red and white champagne.

This crew had everything beyond ones most elaborate imagination. From the wok for the stir-fry to the snow chilled beaters for the whip cream. They surely didn't allow the back pack to hamper their Thanksgiving meal.

The remainder of the four days were far from boring. Mornings were usually bustling with energy as they arose to find beautiful clear skies.

Afternoons were spent ski touring on the Mint Glacier. This was linked in with the practice and elegance of the Telemark turns.

Evenings were then left to group meals, brilliant shadowy night skiing and story telling.

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There was some reluctance when Sunday morning rolled around. The realization of having to leave this mountain paradise wasn't easily taken for to journey back down that "damb hill" getting from the cabin to the valley was not an easy one. The bombers bombed it and the not so daring sewed up the rear.

Thanks to all who participated: Doug VanEtten, Karen Rosene, Mike Richardson, Dave Paulke, Pat McManus, Skip King, John Kerr, Joy Hornberger, Trisha Herminhaus, Mimi Henley, Susan Havens, John Dillman, Denis Dewane, Cliff Belleau, our Thanksgiving/Mint Glacier excursion was an unforgettable success. A special thanks to John Dillman for organizing the dinner, giving special skiing tips (besides his own) and for traversing "The Hill" twice going in and twice coming out.

Joy Hornberger

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOME PHONE</u>	<u>WORK PHONE</u>
President	Rick Severn	344-7269	279-6522
Vice-President	Ernie Borjon	344-8661	---
Secretary	Bernie Helms	243-3124	248-2758
Treasurer	Reggie Buchanan	333-7649	272-0504

BOARD MEMBERS

John Dillman	279-1246	274-8601
Jim Eason	337-3515	276-2653
Mark Findlay	337-8666	-
Graham Macdonald	345-5791	---
Tim Neale	274-4953	---

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.

EDITOR: Marty Bassett, 694-3917
TYPING: Kathy Foxworth
DUPLICATION: Mark Findlay
MAILING: Pauline Dickey and Bartlett High School Mobile Production Team