



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

DECEMBER 1987

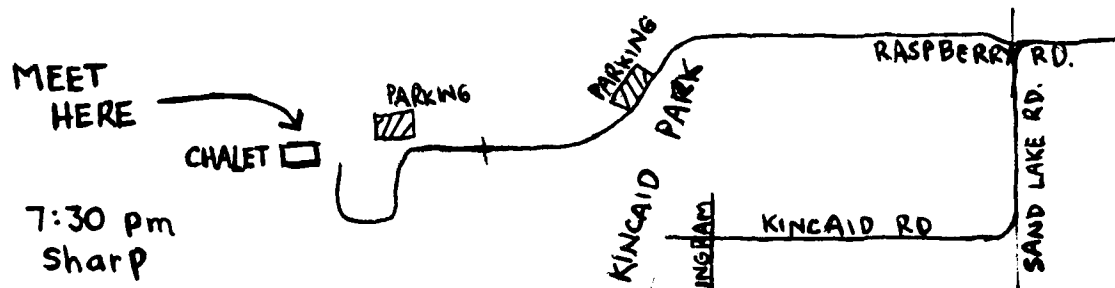
Volume 30, Issue 12

### DECEMBER MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, December 16th at KINCAID/PT. CAMPBELL OUTDOOR CENTER. After the business meeting a potluck party will be held. The club will provide turkey, ham, drinks and paper plates, etc. Members are requested to bring something in addition to round out the menu. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Please use the following scheme to decide what to bring:

Last name begins with:	Bring:
A-C	Bread
D-H	Desert
I-N	Vegetables
O-Z	Salad

The slide show will be potluck as well. We provide the screen and projector, you bring the slides. Bring slides from your favorite trip to share with others, about 10-15 slides per person. FUN to be had! Bring your skis! DOOR PRIZES! Here is a map to Kincaid:



### MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER MEETING

The meeting was held November 18th at the Pioneer Schoolhouse and called to order by Vice-President John Baker at 7:40 pm. The reading of the Oct. minutes did not happen.

### I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### A. Equipment

John Baker announced that avalanche beacons are not to be kept for the whole season, but that one should be courteous enough to return them after each use and that other gear is also available for loan, with the exception of ropes, which are for class use only.

## II. OLD BUSINESS

None.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

- A. The recent board meeting was mentioned and the fact that an interest had been expressed by potential advertisers to place ads in the SCREE. John explained an annual gain of \$720 could be made.

#### IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. New members and guest welcomed. New members this month are:  
Robert Ashton Ken and Maria Cobb  
Chris Maack Carl Benson  
Hank Phode
- B. Rick Maron announced the arrival of the map order.
- C. Thanks to Pat Murphy, cameraman for Channel 2, the MCA mountaineering class on Byron Glacier was in his feature "North Country" on TV.
- D. Someone is needed to volunteer for our monthly refreshments. The club pays for the purchases. Call Willy Hersman, 276-0925.
- E. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT THE KINCAID SKI CHALET, December 16th. Bring your skis.
- F. The following trips were announced by various members:
1. Don Hansen has two trips in the works: One to Arrigetch Peaks from July 23 to Aug. 6, and another to Lake Clark, July 2 - July 10. Contact him if interested, number on back page.
  2. John Baker reminded us not to forget the Winter Solstice sleepout on Flattop, Dec. 19.
  3. Tim Neale is planning another fly-in trip to either the Talkeetnas or the Chugach. See Upcoming Trips.
  4. Nigel Young invited folks to fly to his cabin at Skwentna from where he'd take them into the Toderillo Mountains.
  5. Mark Sickles is looking for 2-3 more to ski from Eureka Lodge to Valdez. Call him for facts, 345-1935.
  6. Mark Findlay and Rick Maron announced an avalanche beacon practice (Nov 24). Rick has a trip to North Fork Campbell Cr. (Nov 21).
  7. Ron Van Bergeyk has a trip to the Godwin Glacier on Thanksgiving while John Baker has one to the Mint Glacier same time.
- G. The Avalanche Workshop with Doug Fesler will take place on January 2-3. Sign-up forms are in the October SCREE.

- H. Ed Bovy has Alaskan prints for sale, which members can get for a discount.  
Part of the earnings go back into the club treasury.
- I. Nancy Pfiefer has some info on her telemark classes at Hatcher Pass.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Petty Cash	-	48.63
Checking	-	612.26
Money Market	-	<u>5423.69</u>
Total Monies	-	\$6084.68

After a brief break Dan O'Haire showed slides of glaciers in South Central Alaska and how they shaped the land over the millenia, thanks again Dan.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pete Sennhauser

#### BOARD MEETING MINUTES

##### NOVEMBER 4

1. Officers briefed concerning their duties.  
Purchase of extension cord for coffee maker approved. Logistics of refreshment supply discussed. All articles for SCREE must reach Marty Bassett by the 25th and shall make up no more than 25% of the newsletter.
2. Tax exempt status.  
John Baker is in the process of checking how this can be attained.
3. Binding of SCREE.  
Every five years the SCREE gets bound, done in the Lower 48. This being our 30th year is one of those, money for this purpose needs to be approved.
4. Reminders for dues.  
Dues reminders to tardy members in the form of postcards found reasonable appeal.
5. Advertising in SCREE.  
An interest has been expressed by some firms and in turn by some board members to consider ads on a page in SCREE to offset costs of publication and mailing.
6. Amendments to the By Laws.  
By-Laws were explained, clarified and amendments were proposed by the President.
7. Honorary Memberships.  
The MCA is in its thirtieth year and the board feels that a number of folks deserve this elevated status in our club. To be discussed further.
8. Treasurer's Annual Report.

## 9. Guest book and awards.

John Baker initiated that the club may want to present a guest book at meetings and events, as a means to keep in touch with our visitors. Awards can be a pleasant way to show appreciation to those who tirelessly help with

## 10. Liability waivers.

The board is encouraging a one-time signing of the liability waiver as the membership card is issued.

## DECEMBER 3

### 1. Paid Ads in SCREE.

The board approved a policy for paid advertising in the SCREE:

- a. Paid ads are limited to one page near the end of the newsletter.
- b. All ads must be "camera-ready" and conform to a format to be devised by Mark Findlay. An ad can be no smaller than one-sixth of a page.
- c. All ads submitted must conform to the guidelines expressed in the club's purpose as stated in the By-Laws. Any questionable ad must be reviewed by the board first.
- d. The rate for ads shall be: \$60 for a full page, \$15 a quarter-page, \$10 for the smallest size, a sixth of a page, etc.
- e. Members may continue to advertise for free for selling their gear, looking for trip partners, etc. (under the ADZE section).

### 2. Tax exempt status.

John Baker has sent for the forms from the IRS; should take 6 weeks.

### 3. \$150 was appropriated for the December meeting for food and prizes.

### 4. Waivers and Membership Cards.

The board has decided that members of the MCA shall sign the liability waiver to receive their membership card. This should help trip leaders and class instructors in the future. It was noted that outdoor groups, in general, require a waiver for membership, including the Nordic Ski Club, Arctic Bicycle Club, Knik Kayakers and Kanoers and the Alaska Alpine Club. What this means is that a waiver will not be required for membership in the MCA, but it will be required to receive a card. So BRING YOUR CARD TO TRIPS to avoid signing waivers all the time. It will be needed for checking out gear as well.

A waiver is included with this newsletter and will be in future SCREES. Please include it with your dues to receive your card.

Submitted by,  
Pete Sennhauser  
Secretary

### CLIMBING INSTRUCTION SUPPORTED BY REI GRANT

(The MCA should consider this offer.)

As part of its 50th anniversary, REI is offering a \$5,000 grant through its Expedition Committee to encourage development of new and innovative climbing instruction courses. The grant's purpose is to encourage development of courses that teach people how to safely participate in the sport. Requests must include clear objectives, an action plan, estimated number of students and a budget. REI supplies approximately 30% of all the technical climbing gear sold in the country.

Written requests for grant funding should be submitted to Kathleen Beamer, Public Affairs Manager, Climbing Instruction Grant, Box 88126, Seattle, WA 98138. Support may be requested in the form of equipment or funding. Grant requests will be reviewed on a first-come-first-served basis. For more information, call the public affairs office at 206-433-0771.

Michael Collins  
Public Relations Coordinator

### MAP ORDER

The bulk map order organized by the club this fall proved to be more popular than anticipated. The final order consisted of over 800 maps (over 50 lbs.). Thanks to Jerry and Robin Minnick, Steve Shivers and Dorothy Willworth for their help compiling and sorting orders.

There are a handful of orders which have not been picked up yet; I will be bringing these to the December Meeting, or I can be contacted at 349-3064.  
Rick Maron

### AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

The following proposed amendments were discussed at the November Board Meeting. Amendments are required to be printed in the newsletter two months prior to their consideration by the general membership. At the January general meeting these amendments will be voted on. Please review them prior to that. Two-thirds vote is required to pass. If there is considerable discussion at the January meeting then a special meeting may have to be called by the President (in the interest of keeping the general meetings from becoming too boring, a common complaint in the past).

Willy Hersman

## PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

### I. PURPOSES

Delete the sentence:

Maintenance of a trained group to be available for technical assistance to mountain rescue.

### IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Secretary: (e) To arrange for a meeting place for all regular meetings and the annual meeting.

#### C. Vacancy.

Add this provision: In the case where the President is re-elected, an election shall be held for an additional Director for a one year term.

#### D. Nomination and Election.

Add the following voting procedure:

Voting at the annual meeting shall be done by a count of hands to be confirmed by at least two members present. If a candidate runs unopposed he/she shall be elected by acclamation for the particular office. Each nominee shall be given the option of two (2) minutes for any statements they may have prior to the voting. If there are no nominations made for any particular office then the office shall remain vacant until it is filled by appointment by the new Executive Committee. Any member may vote for an absent member provided the voting member has written authority from the absent member. Officers shall assume their duties upon adjournment of the annual meeting.

F. Trip Officers. All trip leaders of any sanctioned trip organized and advertised by the club shall be given the position of Trip Officer. This designation as an officer of the organization shall be for the duration of the advertised trip and does not carry with it any power to vote at Executive Committee meetings.

### VII. FINANCES

D. Checks. All checks must bear the signature of the President or the Treasurer. Checks over the amount of \$200.00 must bear the signatures of both the President and the Treasurer.

E. Expenditures. A majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting is required for any expenditures of the club, with the following exceptions:

1. Normal operating expenses, such as, publication and mailing of the club newsletter, fees for meeting places for the regular meeting, refreshments for regular meetings, postage for club correspondence, and annual fees incurred by the club for normal club business.

2. The Executive Committee may appropriate for small expenditures, not to exceed \$50.00 per month, by a majority vote at any Executive Committee meeting. All such expenditures must be reported at the next regular meeting.

## IX. COMMITTEES

- A. 8. Training - Give the following purpose:  
Provide classes of instruction to teach mountain climbing skills and techniques, backcountry travel, and mountain safety.

## XI. SANCTIONED TRIPS

- A. Definition. A sanctioned club trip shall be one which is approved by the Hiking and Climbing Committee and advertised in the club publication in the Hiking and Climbing Schedule. Such advertisement shall contain a description of the trip as to its difficulty and special requirements and designated leader(s).
- B. Classifications. A sanctioned trip shall be classified as to its difficulty according to a classification scheme approved by the Executive Committee.
- C. Leaders. Leaders of any sanctioned trip must be approved by the Hiking and Climbing Committee (A simple majority.) prior to the trip date. He/she must be a member of the MCA and must have participated in a trip of the same or higher classification than the one being advertised. A set of guidelines and qualifications approved by the Executive Committee shall determine current club policy as to procedures to be followed by the leader(s).
- D. Rules. A list of club rules for sanctioned trips, formulated by the Hiking and Climbing Committee and approved by the Executive Committee shall be made available to prospective trip participants. Among the rules must be a requirement for all participants to sign a liability release prior to trip departure.

## TRIP REPORTS

### Beacon Practice

Mark Findlay conducted an avalanche beacon training session on the night of Nov. 24th (assisted by Rick Maron). Initially the "theory of beacon use was discussed followed by numerous drills and exercises. Five folks turned out for the session. The club will conduct a similar session in late January.

Rick Maron

## TRIP REPORTS

### Ski Tour

Nov. 21, 1987

Mark Steward, Mike Miller and I participated in this club trip, which was basically a loop around Wolverine Peak in Chugach State Park. Our route was: Prospect Heights trailhead to Near Point to the North Fork of Campbell Cr. to Long Lake, then over to Willowaw Lakes and out the Middle Fork of Campbell Cr. to Prospect Heights. We found blatant evidence of the high winds which have scoured the Chugach in the last week, particularly in the North Fork. We were skiing on hard windslab, and bare spots.

Rick Maron

### The Hidden Valley of Mt. Cockedhat Brooks Range

July 29-August 15, 1987

Karen Forsyth

(continued from last month)

August 6

Camp is awakened at 1:30 am with news that Pam and Andrew are not here. Fog fills the valley and some fear the worst. We decided to give them an hour before we begin a search. Within a few minutes steps outside reveal their return. Words of "Do you know who scared us?" and "I'm sorry." echo through the camp.

The steady rain of the last two days continues through the night, but stops by the time our late-rising campers emerge from their warm, downy cocoons. High clouds and blue patches of sky tease us with hopes of better weather. Fog filters up the valley and out again. Groups of day-hikers head for the waterfall and peaks at the far end of the valley.

I stay in camp with my company of shampoo and campsuds. We merge in the cool stream water splashing and scrubbing over and over with pure delight. Peak 1 offers warm water for the hair and an all-over body shower. Feelings of joy glow from within at the new clean feeling and smell.

Light rain comes and goes while playing tag with the fog. By mid-afternoon the rain chases the fog away letting us hear its victory sound with its heavy pounding on our tents.

August 7

A threatening early morning sky fails to produce anything except a false warning and we are left with our first dry day in three days. High billowy clouds part at various times throughout the day so we can smile our greetings to the sun.



We leave our marshy valley sloshing through overgrown streams and wetlands. The going is slow down the steep rocky path that led us to the valley. The towering waterfall crashes down from above bringing with it enormous amounts of churning swirling water that dash over the rocks in the streambed that we must cross.

Still our boots have not seen the end to the wetness and we head over a tussock field and a marshy grassland.

Boots are removed and socks wrung out on the next hillside. The traveling becomes easy and the ground is finally dry. We look down into a gorge with its swollen stream--another we must cross on downvalley.

Lunch as usual is a quick stop with only enough time to eat, the last bite being swallowed as we begin the trail again.

The traveling is faster with Jackie far in the lead. Walking is generally easy and we have gained strength and endurance from the first week. We cross the stream downvalley where it spreads its deep massive body in sprawling fingers of crossable water.

We camp above the Itkillik River. Crossing hopefully will be easier in the morning. Our camp rests in the sun and wind where we dry out anything wet that comes from our packs.

The country is wide and open. The ground is dry. For me this is the best camp we've had.

#### August 8

Heavy clouds lay over our camp waiting to release their moisture just after we leave. We head toward the river for our seemingly endless ritual of freezing our feet and soaking our boots in the icy waters of this land.

We follow the Itkillik upvalley sometimes over easy walking grasses, but also through tussocks, brush, stream beds, gullies, and always uphill. Blueberries are crunched under our boots as we think how we would rather partake of this sweet juicy treat. But time and effort leave the tender berries for creatures like the grizzly who have more time and no packs to carry.

Mountains of massive rock watch over our rainclad party. Valleys of photogenic beauty appear for seconds now and then through the confines of our rain hoods as our valley march continues.

The sun appears at 2:00 to play its game of here, then there with the rain.

Camp is a small semi-flat space near the headwaters of the Itkillik. The pass to Oolah Lake lies behind. Mountains and valleys surround us creating a beautiful temporary home in the arctic.

#### August 9

The sky clears to a beautiful blue as we remain tucked away in our sleeping bags. Fresh snow tops the mountains as the landscape begins dressing in golds and reds for fall. The wind blows at the tents delaying our rising even further. Today is the rest day and we enjoy the late start.

A temperature of 36 degrees and a good wind empties our packs of clothes as we layer them on one by one until none remain at all.

Hikers start off in small groups throughout the day. Most head to the waterfall behind our camp and to the near-by hillside where six to seven sheep were spotted yesterday. Reports of fourteen ewes and lambs come back today.

Caribou antlers that were collected the day before become decorated with wet socks left to dry in the sun. Other various types of clothing are washed in the stream and then add patches of color to the tops of tents and packs until the wind tumbles them to the ground.

The sky remains clear as we say good-night. Darkness will remain a

(to be continued)

## UPCOMING TRIPS

Dec. 19

### SOLSTICE SLEEPOUT

Flattop sleepout held every solstice. Be prepared for foul weather, including high winds, and be very careful of possible avalanches; beacons can be checked out from the MCA at AMH. No leader. Class A.

Jan. 24

### PORTAGE PASS

Cross Portage Lake, ski up to the pass and down to Whittier. We will make an attempt to climb Shakespeare Shoulder (3517') along the way. This will require some minimal glacier travel, and those who do not wish to climb may continue on to Whittier. Six miles to town, take train back. Pass is at 550'. Beacons and shovels required. Class A for the ski. TECHNICAL for the climb (glacier gear).  
Leader: Willy Hersman 276-0925

March

### TAZLINA GLACIER

Glacier skiing and possible easy climbing. Fly-in trip to Tazlina Glacier in the Chugach Range. Glacier experience not required. Practice and training will take place prior to the trip. Date is not set yet, but will be late March. Cost will depend on the number of participants, limit 8 people. Contact leader early, preferably by January 1.  
Leader: Tim Neale 274-4952

## ADZE

For sale: Children's racing skis - Landsem 175 cm - \$20; Rossignol 180s - \$50 (Adidas bindings). Also ski boots for Adidas bindings...womens's 5-6 \$15; men's 6-7 \$25. 276-0925.

Typist's note: sorry not to include more trip reports, but space was tight this time.

## BOOT - AXE BELAY

Downhill hand on rope, uphill hand on axe.  
Belayer faces across slope toward side of climber. Arrest is made by wrapping the rope behind boot, increasing friction.

WH

