



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 102037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

MARCH 1988

Volume 31, Issue 03

MARCH MEETING

The meeting will be held Wednesday, February 17th at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, top floor, 3rd and Eagle Sts., downtown Anchorage. After the business meeting, slides will be shown by Mark Findlay, who recently went trekking in Nepal.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting was held at the Pioneer Schoolhouse on February 17th and called to order by President Willy Hersman at 7:45 pm. A motion was passed to waive reading the January minutes. New members were welcomed.

Willy announced that there was no board meeting last month, but there would be one in February, any interested member is invited to attend.

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Training

1. A snow shelter class will be held on February 27th, Rick Maron leader. Tim Neale gave some details. A sign-up sheet and handout were available.
2. The MCA avalanche workshop was a success with 30 participants.

B. Equipment

1. Marcy Baker announced the arrival of three new avalanche beacons, bringing the number of available functioning beacons to six. This happened just in time for the aforementioned workshop and some members got to try them out. If you check one of them out be aware that you must supply your own batteries.
2. Rick Maron will hold a beacon class on Wednesday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm at the East High Parking Lot.

C. Hiking and Climbing

1. The first committee meeting of the year will be March 22. Kathy Burke is the chairperson of this committee. The club needs several people to help on this. The first meeting will set the schedule for this year. K. Burke - 346-2841.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Mark Findlay was presented an ice axe for his service as President the past two years. Thanks for your effort, Mark.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Petty Cash	-	97.42
Checking	-	199.49
Money Market	-	<u>4873.57</u>
Total Monies	-	\$4770.48

III. NEW BUSINESS - none.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Slide shows

1. Ama Dablam North Ridge - Steve Davis. April 14, 7:30 pm, UAA Campus Center. \$3.00. All proceeds benefit the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group.
2. Marcy Baker announced an Ice Climbing slide show by Chuck Sweeney at AMH, Friday Feb. 19th, 7:00 pm.
3. John Baker asked people interested to provide slide shows for club meetings. Contact John.

B. Avalanche Schools

1. Doug Fesler has several openings for his four-day workshop on March 25 to 28, cost is \$175.00.
2. There is a Backcountry Medicine Symposium on March 12-13 at UAA Library, cost is \$50.00.

C. Hot Line

1. Mark Findlay mentioned that Crystal Jeeter at the Loussac Library is looking for a mountaineering display in their display case for March. Contact Mark for details.
2. Mark encouraged members to use the club hot line (number on back page).

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm. Thanks to Tim Neale for providing refreshments for the meeting. Thanks to Michael Rees for an excellent show.

Board Meeting Minutes 2-22-88

- Tax exempt status discussed.
- Less than 150 members have paid their dues to date, approx. 200 notices will be sent out to get the tardy rascals motivated.
- The board decided it is time to order more patches. These will be handed out to members who give special effort towards the club, i.e. trip leaders, instructors, etc.
- It was generally agreed that it may be a good idea to add more huts to our existing system. Membetrs of the club are instrumental to making this come true, for this is only feasible if costs for new huts can stay within a reasonable frame. We need input on:
Location, cost, size, type of materials, access, benefit to members, maintenance, safety from avalanches, donations of fly-in time, materials etc. Gerry Minick, Hut Committee Chairman, will collect the input.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pete Sennhauser

ADZE

13-foot Whitewater Kayak w/spray skirt, paddle, helmet. \$300. 346-2841.

Print of Chugach Mts. (from Anchorage), w/names and elevations of peaks \$9.95 ea. (\$2.00 goes to the MCA if you mention this ad). 346-2841.

Day Pack. Wilderness Experience, Ice 9. \$45. 276-0925.

Ski Mountaineering Bindings. Silverettas, Model 402. \$135. 345-5577.

IN MEMORY OF SYLVIA LANE

Perhaps I should have come forward at the MCA meeting last week and volunteered to write something about Sylvia Lane, but others knew her better. Now I find that I have a few memories to share.

One of Sylvia's enduring qualities was enthusiasm. She never lost it, not even after a week spent in a tent, pinned down by storm on Mt. Gerdine. She generally carried a large pack with all sorts of extra items, but this did not seem to slow her down. She got energy just from being in the mountains.

On a traverse of the Harding Icefield she had at least two books; one of them was One Man's Mountain by Tom Patey, a rather large and heavy volume. She wanted to read it, so she carried it in her pack along with the changes of clothes, expedition overmitts, and what-not. On this same trip, to save weight, she left the key to her truck in someone else's vehicle at Tustamena Lake. Her truck was the vehicle we left at the Exit Glacier, so we had to hot-wire it at the end of the trip. As I recall, Sylvia realized about halfway across the traverse that there would be a problem, but she never said a word until the end of the trip.

I turned down Sylvia's invitation to join her on the winter ascent of Mt. Marcus Baker, her last trip. I would be just back from two months in Nepal. I have no doubts that she enjoyed her last days, as she enjoyed all her time spent in the mountains. I will miss her enthusiasm.

Ken Zafren

Forest Service Cabins

The National Forest Service will hold annual drawings for its most popular cabins during high-use hunting and fishing seasons. These used to be first-come-first-served, but the drawings are considered more of an equal opportunity system. If you plan to use one of the following cabins between July 29 and September 26 then pay attention: Nellie Martin River, Martin Lake, Romig, Swan, West Swan, Trout and Juneau Lake.

The drawing for these will be held May 6th, and you may apply by mail or in person at Chugach Nat. For., 201 E. 9th Av., Suite 100, Anchorage, Ak 99501 between March 29 and April 22. Send no money.

Forest Service Trails

The Seward District is seeking your comments on trail construction and relocation projects at three Kenai Peninsula areas in 1989-90:

- 1) relocation of the Carter Lake Trail to accomodate cross-country skiers; 2) new construction connecting Carter Lake Trail with Crescent Creek Trail; 3) trail relocation in Summit Creek valley

You may make comments on these projects by telephoning Duane Harp or Mike Gryson before March 25, 1988 at 224-3374.

Alaska Wilderness Medicine Symposium

March 12-13, 8am-5pm
UAA, Library Bldg., Room 118
\$50

Speakers: Peter Hackett, Lee Schussman, Frank Hollingshead, Don Hudson,
Dave Decker, Frank Nolan, Mark Bond, Nic Parker.

Call 345-3566 to pre-register.

New Members

We welcome the following new members this year:

Paul Berryhill, Kristine Brzezinski, Gary Field, Neal Fried, Roz Goodman, Nola Howard, Doug Helvy, Allan Julliard, Gary Kean, Jamie Kalak, Kathlene Lum, Leslie McDaniel, Marlena Mooring, John Mitchell, Donald Rubino, Larry Rundquist, Lynne Salerno, Jean Tam and George and Glenda Westfall.

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

March 25-27 PICHLER'S PERCH

Supplies are to be flown in for hut repairs this summer. Ski up to Eklutna Glacier, meet the plane and sled the stuff over to the hut. Glacier experience necessary. NOTICE: if you plan to do the Eklutna-Girdwood Traverse any time this year and want us to take some fuel up there for you on this flight, now is the time to buy it and give Gerry a call.

Hut Chairman and Leader: Gerry Minick 274-7389

Mar/Apr 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, or early April. Cost will depend on the number of participants, limit 8 people. Leader: Tim Neale 274-4952

Climbing Notes

Karl Swanson makes mention of what is probably the First Winter Ascent of Mt. Seargent Robinson during the first week of January this year. Karl said his climb was via the "wildly-corniced, knife-edged" North Ridge.

Two new ice climbs were done near Eklutna Lake in February. "Blue None", 250', Grade II (M. Miller, W. Hersman), which is between Bashful and Bold Peaks. And "Short Straw", 50', Grade II (D. Whitelaw, W. Hersman, M. Miller), above Camp C. One other attempt was abandoned after the climbers watched an avalanche sweep an adjacent gully.

Tips...Ideas...Techniques

Mike King

Do you slip your ensolite pad or therma-rest inside your bivy sack to keep from sliding off of it during the night? Good idea! Also, pads need to be rolled up and tied with a strap during the day, why not use a long crampon strap? Makes for a good spare if you ever need it.

Do you label your gear? Ever wonder what the colored tape on peoples' carabiners, pickets, water bottles, etc. is for? Have you ever reached into the pool of gear on the tent floor and asked, "Whose water bottle is this?", or "Is this my cup and spoon?" Pick a couple of colors and get a waterproof dry marker and express yourself!

An old wool sock makes a good, inexpensive water bottle insulator on cold winter trips.

On those winter overnights, if you prepare a pot full of water before going to sleep for use in the morning, bury it right outside your tent door in the snow with 2-4 inches of snow covering the lid. It won't freeze, and only a very thin layer of ice will form on the top. The pot must be nearly full...half potfuls tend to freeze more. This has worked down as low as -30 degrees.

DANGER !!! ADDITION TO BOOK REVIEW PLEASE READ !!!

Additional information pertaining to last month's review of *Alaska's Wilderness Medicines* by Eleanor Vierick.

A closer examination of this book by ANPS prospective member, Heidi of Hope, Alaska, prompted her to call and alert us of an error which has the potential of causing very serious injury or even death to readers.

Verna has contacted Alaska Northwest Publishing. They seemed to be genuinely concerned and they are presently pondering what they do about the problem. Hopefully they will recall all books in distribution channels and make a correction. If you have purchased this book or know anyone that has, please make the following correction on page 8. The text material is correct; however, the titles for the drawings of Angelica and Poison Hemlock are reversed! This is indeed a terrible error, as Angelica is edible, while Hemlock is deadly poisonous. An author's nightmare come true!

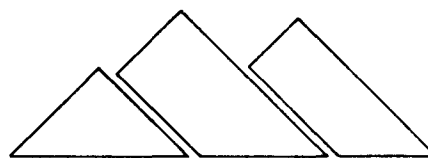
by Old Doc

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Climbing In The Alaska Range This Year?

Drop by Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking in Anchorage on your way to Talkeetna and the mountains. A.M.H. has all the expedition equipment that you might need — from plastic sleds to neoprene overboots, from balaclavas to VB socks. At Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking.



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