



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 2037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

January 1971

Vol. 14, No. 1

PLEASE NOTE NEW MEETING PLACE

JANUARY MEETING . . . Thursday, January 21 . . . 8:00 P.M. . . . CENTRAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL Multipurpose room . . . 15th and E . . . use E St. parking lot and entrance . . PROGRAM: Short MCA slide show . . . business meeting . . . break . . . then take a trek through exotic Nepal with Gayle and Helen Mienhueser . . they will show slides of their November 1969 trip.

BOARD MEETING . . . Thursday, February 4th . . 8:00 P.M. . . . Community Center, Room 101 . . . 6th and G . . . and the same place on the first Thursday of each month.

CLIMBING AND HIKING SCHEDULE

JANUARY 16-17 (Saturday & Sunday) Nordic Ski Club trip to Palmer Creek. See Tour #3 in "Ski Touring in the Anchorage Area" for a complete description. Leader: Leo Hannan - 277-4748.

JANUARY 21 (Thursday) MCA January meeting. Don't forget it's at a new place tonight!

JANUARY 23 (Saturday) Winter Mountaineering School trip to a local peak. Meet at Sears parking lot (N.W. corner) at 7 A.M. Leader: Barry Kircher - 333-5871.

January 23-24 (Saturday and Sunday) Nordic Ski Club trip from Arctic Valley to Indian. For intermediate or advanced skiers. Tour starts on Arctic Valley Ski Bowl road and then follows Ship Creek to its headwaters and then continues on up to Indian Pass and ends at Portage House in Indian. Beginners and those who don't wish to go for 2 days may go part way and then return. Leader: Bill Stivers - 277-2869.

February 4 (Thursday) MCA Board meeting. See above.

FEBRUARY 18 (Thursday) MCA Regular meeting.

APRIL 30 - MAY 2 Ski traverse from Girdwood to Eklutna. Leader: Randy Renner.

MCA BUSINESS

MINUTES OF MEETING - DECEMBER 17, 1970

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by President Steve Hackett. He announced that as of this meeting we would be favored with a 15-minute program of slides taken on MCA trips by various members. He encouraged everyone to be on time as this session will begin promptly at 8:00 P.M. Art Ward followed up with photos taken on the July 4th Montana Peak climb.

Once again, Chuck Pease solicited ideas for Christmas & New Year's Weekend trips. He reported that beginning with the January issue of SCREE, a schedule of joint MCA-Nordic Ski Club trips will be printed.

So far we have had no reports of access problems to any of the "50 Hikes" routes. Nancy Zimmerman laid out a preview of photos to be in "50 Hikes" and asked that anyone willing to submit black & whites of East Twin Pass & Willaw Lakes areas, please contact her.

Our membership has grown such that we will soon have to move our meeting place to a larger facility. Central Junior High School was suggested. Steve will look into that possibility. (Since our December meeting, you will note, we now have access to the multipurpose room there.)

Thanks go to Liska Snyder, Doris Curtis, Carol DeVoe, Margaret Wolfe, Joanne Merrick and Baji for delicious homebaked goodies served during our break.

The meeting adjourned to Bob Smith's beautiful slides & film of the first ascent of Mt. Dall.

Baji Ivanoff ... MCA Secretary

COMMITTEES

MCA committees and chairmen are listed below. Become a vital member of the club and offer your services to one or more of them.

<u>CONSERVATION</u>	Hans Van der Laan	277-7525 (work)
<u>ACTIVITIES</u>	Chuck Pease	333-0509 (home)
<u>SCHOOLS AND INSTRUCTION</u>	Dave DeVoe	333-5492 (home)
	Barry Kircher	333-5871 (home)
<u>PUBLICITY</u>	Randy Renner	277-6686 (work)
<u>PROGRAMS</u>	Bob Smith	333-8852 (home)
<u>GEOGRAPHIC NAMES</u>	Grace Hoeman	277-7871 (home)
	Red Wilson	344-1984 (home)
<u>MCA LOAN EQUIPMENT</u>	Joanne Merrick	272-5243 (home)
<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	Carol DeVoe	333-5492 (home)
<u>CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS</u>	Eivin Brudie	344-2261 (home)
<u>PEAKS, TRAILS AND REGISTERS</u>	Grace Hoeman	277-7871 (home)
<u>RAFTS AND CABINS</u>	Has committee members, but needs a chairman!	

Treasurer John Sammelson requested that people who have paid their dues but have not yet filled out an application blank with the release form, should do so immediately old members especially! Blanks were included in the November's SCREE. You can get one at the January meeting or from John (Box 2222, Anchorage 99501) or SCREE editors (see last page for address).

The Alaska Rescue Group Present . . .

* FOOD FOR THOUGHT *

MAN IN THE COLD ENVIRONMENT: PART I

Introduction

Man's survival anywhere in the world depends upon his knowledge of life's necessities and what can harm his body, his mind, and his equipment. His ability to combat these enemies or improvise his necessities may be his greatest challenge.

Experienced outdoorsmen recognize that a man on foot in rugged terrain can be in or pass through desert type heat and arctic type cold in the same day — or even at the same time. It is not uncommon for men to get frostbite and sunburn at the same time, or experience dehydration and windchill simultaneously. Heat exhaustion can occur on the same trip with hypothermia (dangerous lowering of the body temperature). It just depends on the clothing worn (or not worn) and the weather elements prevalent in the area.

If the traveler is to be able to survive anywhere his feet carry him, he should have knowledge of all the terrain and weather environments, under all the conditions, with all the stresses, that could or might prevail. But it would require volumes to cover all the variables of survival anywhere on earth.

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When we analyze the real problem of man staying alive anywhere on earth, we find that man must first control the mind, for the mind controls all physical movement as well as judgement. Loss of control may allow man's determination to drive him on & on to exhaustion of his limited available energy.

Second, it has been established that too much heat or cold have a detrimental effect on the mind and even on muscle movement, and can upset the delicate heat balance required within the body. So man should learn how to stay warm for survival in the cold, and how to stay cool for survival in the heat. With such knowledge man at least would be better able to cope with these insidious enemies.

Physical requirements for man's survival, basically, are simple, and if one is aware of the consequences of being without them, he may be able to improvise his needs from what surrounds him -- such as providing protective body shelter.

(to be continued next month)

... Information from: Outdoor Living, Problem, Solutions, Guidelines - MRA

WINTER MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL

December 19, 1970

Mo Mathews

FLATTOP

The second class of the Winter Mountaineering School met in Sears parking lot at 7:30 A.M. on December 19 & immediately drove up right beside Flatton thanks to the 4 wheel drive cars of Bob Smith and Jack Buckner, Mike Hunt, Dorica Rockwell, Jim Miller, Mo Mathews, and Dave Hawley. We were ably instructed by Dave DeVoe, Barry Kircher, and Bob Smith. After a bit of a search we found a suitable area of moderately steep snow on the foreslope of Flatton & began the day's work with self-arrests. When we had all practiced enough with snow we switched to belays, both hip types and some using Bob Smith's new-fangled aluminum toys the "dead-boy" and the "dead-man". We then climbed to the top by kicking steps in the snow fields. We felt pretty sorry for those of our group who, because they were joining the overnight group, were carrying up several logs each in their packs. After lunch we worked on rope arrests, but soon found that glissading down a several-hundred foot stretch of the snow field was such fun that we abandoned the drill & made several runs up and down. By then the sun was sinking. Saying "good-by" to those joining the overnight group we left the mountain at 2:30 P.M. It had been a great day!

MT. FUJI, Japan (12,388')

July 18-19, 1970

Don DeVoe

At 8:00 A.M. the USS Shangri-La Mt. Fuji expedition assembled at the bus beside the drydock in Yokosuka, Japan. There were 32 persons in the group: six officers, seven marines, 18 "airdales", and one "blackshoe"--- me.

By 2:30 P.M. we were at station number five on the mountain. It is the end of the road and as high as the tour buses go. Our guide sold octagonal wooden walking sticks to us for 150 yen (about 42 cents) apiece. The walking sticks could be branded at most of the stations on the way up for 20 yen per brand.

We walked along a road just below the tree line for about a mile, then started up the switch-back trail. We were supposed to stay behind the guide, "Charlie" a bent-over, very small Japanese, very tough and always with a big grin --- but one other guy and I were feeling pretty frisky (fresh cold air for a change) so we took off a little early at one of the rest stops. We reached the 8th level, where we all were to sleep, almost an hour before anyone else in our party. We climbed with a Japanese guy and he gave us fresh lemons to quench our thirst, and gum and some local cheese---all very good. We couldn't communicate very well, but we shared our stuff with him too.

At station 8 water was quite valuable---50 yen for one cup. Most of us drank Japanese tea, ate our "C" rations (which tasted pretty good by then) and were in bed by 7:00 P.M. There are "hotels" such as we stayed in all along the trail. The beds are big shelves along the walls; the guests sleep in rows with their feet toward the outside wall and each blanket is shared by two.

The weather was very good the first day, clear and cool, and the best air I've smelled since I was in Alaska last fall.

(continued on page 5)

THE ALASKA RESCUE GROUP PRESENTS---

EDUCATION
OR
REGULATION
WE STILL HAVE A CHOICE



"CARELESS EV."

SHORT FOR CARELESS EVERYBODY

CARTOON - IDENTITY
WITH

HUMORUS - REMEMBERED
MEANINGFUL INFORMATION



MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION
SAFETY EDUCATION COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 696 - TACOMA, WA

GENE FEAR - CHAIRMAN
DICK PARGETER - ARTIST
EV LASHER - PRINTER-EDITOR

The idea behind going to bed so early is to get up at 2:30 A.M., hike the rest of the way to the top, and watch the sunrise. Some of us were up and walking (hobbling) by 2:30. The trail was filled with a solid mass of people--hundreds! The sky was dark, the wind was blowing in strong gusts, and the clouds were so thick I drank lots of cloud-water out of my mustache (slightly tainted with volcanic dust). There were such strong gusts of wind we sometimes had to dive for the inside edge of the trail and hold on to big boulders to keep from being blown away. The higher we went, the harder the wind blew. The temperature was in the low 40's, but after weeks in the Tonkin gulf with its 90° heat and high humidity, 40° felt good.

At about 3:30 A.M. we noticed that dozens of people were turning around and going down. We wondered what they knew we didn't. We found out later that the trail had been closed for a time due to high winds. No one told us!

Twelve of us made it to the top---three marines, four officers, four "airdales", and I. The clouds were so thick we couldn't even see into the crater.

All of the Japanese we talked to were friendly---even the ones we couldn't talk to were friendly.

I took the fast route down --- heel-stepping on soft dirt and volcanic dust. The slide down lasted about an hour.

Old Japanese saying: "One who has climbed Mt. Fuji once is a wise man, but one who has climbed Mt. Fuji more than once is a fool."

WHAT "CARELESS EV" IS ALL ABOUT . . .

This month SCHKE presents the first of a series of 12 humorous cartoons, sponsored by the Mountain Rescue Association - Alaska Rescue Group, as a contribution to safety education. Each month hereafter, Careless Ev (everybody) will be seen in a perilous situation, from which he barely manages to escape, only to turn up the next month in an equally hair-raising predicament. Make sure to watch for next month's exciting episode of "The Adventures of Careless Ev."

AN ANCHORAGE ROCK CLIMBING AREA

Fred Cady

Katie's chocolate chip cookies, from which I had been temporarily banned, smelled so good that I decided to remove myself from their tempting presence. Buddy Jaidinger wasn't busy so we decided to have a look at the possibilities for some rock climbing on the north side of Ptarmigan Peak. Grace, Katie and I had taken the register back up Ptarmigan the previous Saturday and had noticed some interesting looking slabs above the tarn west of the summit. We drove up the Powerline Pass road to below the col and, clanking in our hardware, walked up to look at the small buttresses as the clouds began to spit snow.

"Hey, Buddy, it's snowing!"

"You don't miss a trick, do you Fred?"

Smart kid, I'll show him. We roped up for fun and practiced and climbed a low fifth class buttress which has a distinctively split rock on its top. Amazingly, the rock seemed quite solid. (Could it have been frozen together?) Good protection and various routes involving layback, jam crack, face climbing and chimney techniques could be seen. Likely looking nut placements were abundant and fifty percent of our two pin placements were good.

It seems to me that this area is worth some more investigation for use as a practice rock climbing area. Accessible, with a beautiful tarn for water and picnicking, and with reasonably sound rock, it would give Anchorage climbers a needed practice area.

WHAT - SCREE - SAID - WAY - BACK - THEN - DEPT.10 years ago ... January 1961

Joe Pichler led John Dillman, Gwyn Wilson, John Gardey, Bob Bailey, Tony Bockstahler, Howard and Elinor Schuck up the Eagle River Mail Trail to Girdwood in mid-January. The planned 3-day trip lasted 4 days when the group encountered endless bush-whacking in the desolate, icy wilderness. On the Crow Pass side avalanche danger was imminent ... the group was forced to camp below steep snow walls ... and the weather got warmer and warmer ... truly an Alaskan adventure!

5 years ago ... January 1966

At the January meeting Barney Seiler discussed ski waxes and Bill Hague showed slides of the Memorial Day weekend Girdwood - Eagle River traverse. A lot of joint trips were planned with the Nordic Ski Club.

* * *

BITS AND PIECES

Important Message for SCREE Contributors

It has been brought to our attention that the exact location of many of the hikes and climbs described in SCREE are vague. From now on, please indicate the USGS quad map which shows the area in question, giving the longitude and latitude if possible. Or, give clear instructions on how to find the site on a quad map. USGS maps may be obtained from their Public Inquires Office, corner of 2nd and E Streets, Anchorage.

SCREE's new heading was designed by Bob Gilmore, illustrator for the U. S. Geological Survey, Water Resources Division. Thanks, Bob!

POEM

If you have not paid your dues yet
This is the last SCREE you will get!

(Please remit dues to MCA, Box 2037, Anchorage, 99501

Family \$7.50; Senior \$5.00; Junior \$2.50; Out-of-Town \$2.50

If possible please use the printed form that appeared in the November SCREE because we need those release forms signed!)

A new membership list will be included in February SCREE. If you have or anticipate any phone or address changes please notify Carol DeVoe immediately: 243 South Park, Anchorage, 99504, (333-5492).

* * *

And now, two very Vital Statistics!

Chuck Pease is no longer on MCA's bachelor list. He and Wanda Wright exchanged wedding vows on January 4, 1971 in a Civil ceremony here in Anchorage. They still plan to go back to Bloomfield, Conn. for a full church wedding on February 13. The change in plans was occasioned in part by Chuck's receiving orders to report to U Tanao, Thailand on April 25 (alone!). Their new address is 101 Davis St. Apt #1 and phone 333-0509.

Nick and Judy Parker became parents of their second daughter on December 16. Tanya Marie Parker was apparently in a hurry to join the world - Judy was in labor for only a scant 20 minutes!

* * *

Steve Hackett had a belated Christmas present ...last week someone returned the majority of his climbing equipment stolen from his VW last August around Snowbird Mine ... Thanks Conscience!

* * *

Anyone considering buying a copy of "Dictionary of Alaska Place Names" had better hurry. Published by the U.S.G.S. in 1967 this book of over one thousand pages went out of print in November 1970 and is no longer available in Alaska. It seems the government underestimated how many Alaskans would be interested in a book like this and a limited amount were printed. However, for those interested; as of 8 January copies were still available from the Los Angeles, San Francisco and Spokane U.S.G.S. Offices. Price is \$8.50 postpaid.

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It's nice to know that SCREE gets around a lot. The January 1971 issue of Alaska Magazine contains a quote from SCREE on page 56.

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SCREE is published monthly by the Mountaineering Club of Alaska which is affiliated with the Anchorage Dept. of Parks & Recreation. Editor: Lisa Snyder. Ass't Editor: Chuck Fease. Staff: Carol DeVoe, Joanne Harrick, Doria Curtis, Betty Ivanoff. Please send material for the February SCREE to Lisa Snyder, 2806 Alder Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99504, by Friday, January 29, 1971.