

SEPTEMBER 1973
VOE. 16 , NO. 9
SEPTEMBER MEFTING....Thursday, Seotember 2n, 1973...8:00 PM...Central Junior High Multinurdose Room... MINISLIDE SHON: MCA Flatton Midsummer Sleed-In and slides of South Fork, Eagle Rivery by Tom Meacham... Busiñes meeting...Refreshments... AAIN PROGRAM: MCA 1973 Mt. Drum Txpeतition, a slide show of members' slides, coordinated by Terry Muhlenhach.

BOADD MFFTING...Monday, nctober 1, 1973...7:30 PM...Tom Meacham's... 1410 H Street.

## EQUIP:AFNT CORNER

rA member aike Richardson has an ingenious solution to the oroblem of using small camostoves such as the Svea 123 and the notimus 8R in the winter or at altitude. As many know from exnerience, these stoves, being unpressurized, denend unon heat from an outside source to vanoriz the fuel before the stove can be lighted. This is a real problem under winter conditions. Some beonle prime the stem with lighted fuel, some breathe on the stem and tank (and hurn their eyebrows off:) and some merely pray.

Mike has solved this nroblem by pressurizing the tank of his ontimus $3 R$ in a simple but effective tay. He soldered a tire valve stem (available at any tire store) to the tank, after drilling a hole in the tank to fit. He weakened the spring in the stem valve by stretching it slightly. Then he purchased a complete numn assembly made for the large ootimus llle (expedition model). This numo is normally installed inside the tank of the lllB.

Mike soldered a tire valve extension onto the end of the pumb. He carries the oump detached from the stove, but when he wants to light up, he simply screws the pumn onto the tank and pumps two or three strokes, enough to get the fuel flaming for lighting. After the stove is lit, the oump may be given 10 to 15 strokes to get a roaring flame, then unscrewed. The tire valve will hold the tank nressure until it is dissinated through burning.

The result is a two-man stove with the convenience and nearly the nower of a large lllB. I have modified a primus 7ll (Ontimus 30 ) in the same manner, and have reduced the time required to boil two pints of water from 13 minutes to $9 \mathrm{l} / 2$ minutes. It should work squally well on a Svea 123 or other small "unright" stove. The nump is about 7" long and weighs several ounces, but for winter use it anpears to have definite advantages over an unorossurized system. Contact Mike for further details if you are interested in trying this solution yourself.

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SEPTEMABER 1973
Homefully, an "Equioment Corner" can become a regular feature of SCREE. Do you have comments on an item of ecruinment vou tried and liked (or hated)? Do you have an interesting mofification of a common item to make it more suitable for use in Alaska? Send your comments to SCREE for publication for the enlightenment of fellow club members, Future items here will hovefully include a rexiort on fiber-fill bags for rain-broof summer use and an item on custom-made bunny boot crampons.

MT. SILVERTHRONE 13,220
June, 1973
Keith Anderson
I belatedly report a climb my friend Ken Kleine and I made at the end of this last June.

The climb was Mt. Silverthrone, at 13,220 the third highest pea $\overleftarrow{\bar{k}}$ in McKinley park. Fe mare the $30-\mathrm{mile}$ hike into our $7,000^{\circ}$ hase camn over McGonagall pass and un the Traleika Glacier in two davs. The third day we rested in camp and took off that night un the final 6,000' of steen snow and ice that somarated us from the summit. Ry 8:00 AM the next morning, we were on the summit looking down into the Ruth ampitheater and across to Denali in beautiful weather excent for the clouds that had closed in over our return route. But we managed to get back down, exhausted but safely by noon. He later learned that it had been climbed only twice before. $n_{n}$ the wav out we were rewarded hy finding a nair of skis with Silvetta bindings, two nerlon rones and assortec goonies.

CONDENSED MINUTES OF THF AUGUST 17, 1973, MEETING
There was no official new or old business. Treasurer Gil Todd was acting president. He asked for volunteers for the nositions of Chairman of the Yuts and Cabins Comittee andewo be the Club's representative at the parks and Recreation Council which meets on Tuesday noon twice a month.
"lext morning we headed up and over the sumpit of Black ToD. On the east side of Black Too we found a cave, followed the ridge rfohth 'til reaching the rifge between Round Ton and vista. Set camp there and climbed Round Ton.

Monday morning we headed across the ridge and traversed around the buttress of Vista to the summit. After signing the register, we de$\cdots=s c e n d e d$ to the ridge between Vista and Significant and traversed along wet talus slopes to significant. The dog had no mroblems orossing the slowe but we had a heck of a time slipoing on the wat moss-qovered rocks. The next group should carry a pencil and something toirenlace the beer can ragistor.
"annting to get out of the rain and tha sind, wa pitchad camo below Significant across on tho next ridge which Magnilicont is located on. Gotting a lat start Tuesday afternoon, we climbod Kaqnificent and startod down to Headow Croek. Hoading down to the oreok, I heard Dirk shouting at me, onlv until the dog ran nast ma growling and barking I understood that thero mas a bear in front of me ( 100 ft. ). We both (the bear and I) headod in onnosite directions. Ma camped down by Wadow Creck and hat Erosh vater for tha Eirst Eimo in threc fays. No more bear problams for the rest of the trip. Madnesday we broke cams and hoaded back to Magle River.

CIILKOOT TRAII--1973 July 15-19, 1973
Mancy Simmerman
With the trio up tha Alaska Righoay tho usmal long grind, I docidad on the sour of tha moment to strotch my logs on the Chilkoot Trail. Backnacking-tyoe food in the Yukon Indian villago of Teslin is nonoxistont, tho stora boing stockod yith tons of canned food. So armad with ten days suooly of granola, salami, chease, nuts, dried fruits and powdered milk, I haaded for Carcross. Although the hike ovor the pass normally takes 3-5 days, I was fetormined to wait for good ohotographic voather.

The day was warm and sunny, but the sign on the window of the train station at Carcross said, "No tickets available for July 15th." Drat! The train yas due in a half hour, so I got my pack just in case.
"Absolutely no chance to get to Skagway until tomorrow," the oharming voman at the tickot office said.

The day was so sunny, a photogranher's paradisa with fluffy white clouds. "Bonnett? I could hike the trail backwards."
"No." I stood thero looking lost and forlorn--on puroose, and didn't say anything more. Far un the track the train whistle sounded.
"I might get you on if you don't mind standing.
"Good heavens, no!" I reolied. She made a call, I paid my money
down as the train cane to a halt, and climbed aboard.
Three fine log cabins are available on the 33 -mile trail, one on the Canadian side, two on the American, but I fount it far more pleasant to nitch ny tent each night for undisturbed sleev. In the

American cabins, the bunks are narrow stretchers suboorted by a framework, and allowing no knee room for a person who likes to sleen on his side. One must olan to carry a tent anyvay--furing the sumor months the cabins are genorally full-un and it's first come, etc.

For instance, at Sheen Cano (an 8 -bunk cabin), thare were 32 fellow and mo one night. The situation was not as ifyllic as it sounds, since the assambly contained only 5 adult malos. The rest were boys age 11-14, in two grouns, one a $\mathrm{M}^{\prime \prime}$ groun from vormont, the other a Boy Scout group from Pimonton, Nlberta. And it noured rain,

But that's getting ahoad of my story. I did go ovor the pass the socond day out. Naking at 5,00 AM at Lake Lindoman, 8 miles from the railroad, to a clear windless fay, I instantlu revised my olan of anst intermodiate camp nedr the nass, to one of photographing the 13 milos in ond long day. Such days are fav and far hetwon in that country. Hot pausing to fix ovan granola, I munched nuts and pilot biscuits as I valked from Lake Lindeqan through an oven, glacior-scarred, heathor-covered naradise. Polics of the days of '99 littered the landscabe. (Yhen doos an abandoned $t$ in can coaso to be litter and bocome history?) Tha last four miles to the pass vore over residual ; snowfields, and all the way the climb was gradual.

Standing at the nass, howevor, I gasoed at tho view. Bohind mo ware milos of onen alning tundra, ahoad a deen v -Bhaped valley, black with dense forests, and at my feet, the steepest snow and rock slons I've evar had to descont alone. And alone I was--no one was nlanning to loave Lake Lindeman bohind me, and the only two hikors of the day going to Lindeman had oassod mo a mile back. No more traffic would bo through until tonorrov noon. Swaying unfar a 40-plus-nound nack of salani and camora goar, my descent was leisurely, oautious and without incident. A flat rock at tho botton of the famous nass becane a sunbathing porch, and I found ny thoughts with thoss hardv ailventurers of 75 years ago. Around mo were cast iron stoves, bottonless buckats, high button shoes and nullays. Three miles furthor and twalve hours after leaving Lindeman, I vas in Sheed Cano.

I had felt no more than the usual backoacking Aiscomfort while desconding the nass, but the following dav was a different story. The descent from the pass to Shoen Camn is almost continual downhill boulder hopning. The continuod shock of 40 additional pounds activato an old knee injury and qreatly strained the other knee. Given a choic tho hiker would be well-advised to consider taking the trail in the traditional directionestarting at the Skaqway ond for this varea roason. It's just as woll I'd nlanned to lay over a day to photograph around Sheen Camp.

The Chilkoot Pass aroa is under consideration for a foint CanadianAnarican national nark, and hoth qovernments havo oorsonnel stationed to assint the public and to protect the rolice. Min U, S. Park enrvic pangors at sheep Camn altornatod quiding hikers ovor the oass, which can be particularly hazardous for the incxooriencod in foul or foggy ap woather. Their company and knowlodge of the area was greatly aopreciatod by all of us. TMo thousand hikors crossod the oass last year, and the same fiqure is protected for ' 73.

The next day, I vandorod in tho rain down to the Canyon City cabin, and found that a groun of combatible souls had qotten to the cabin before the next band of littlo boys arrived (those from Klondike Safaris) Wa had a fine evening of banjo music--two banjo playors and their instrumonts, crossing the nass in annosite diractions, chanced to overnight tognther--and fresh baked bread made bv one of tho banjo olayors.

The latter was a fine diversion from my routine of cold salami and cheese for lunch, roasted salami and cheese for supner.

The following dav, arriving at the trail head at Dyea. I found the second compelling reason for starting at Skagway. Dyea is 8 long miles by road from skagway and traffic may be almost nil, making for noor hitchhiking. Klindike Safaris (Skagway) will take you to the trail for $\$ 2$ a head (minimum 4 peonle), but there is no way of contacting them for Dickun at Dyea.

Should you be considering hiking the scenic Chilkoot, here are a fev more suggestions:
--There's some fine country accessible from both the trail and the Thite Pass Railroad, well worth extensive sidetrinping for hiking or climbing.
--A 36-page trail guide with mans is nublished by the State of Alaska, Dent. of Natural Resources, Juneau, and is available in a trail-sidew box north of Canyon City or, I'm told, in rmitehorse. No guides are available at the Lake Lindeman trail head. --Check customs regulations when you buy your train ticket. --If you're hiking from Skagway to Bennett, buy your total train ticke at the start of the train trin. "o tickets are available at Bennett. --The price of the ticket includes an all-you-can-eat roast beef dinner at Bennett. It's not fancy, but it's filling, and a real treat after five days of salami and cheese.

## BITS \& PIECES

MCA member Bill Barnes, Sr . is the latest mountaineer to throw his hat into the political ring. Bill is running for fayor of Anchorage, if the court rules in his favor on the invalifity of the oresent City residence requirement.

Dona Agosti Dlans to hike the Chilkoot Trail next summer and is interested in coordinating an "CA trin over the historic route. Anyone interested in joining her should call her at 279-2901.

FOR SALE. One nair of Lowa Civettas, size 10M. Hardly worn 'cuase they're ton small for two nair of sox. $\$ 35.00$ They can be seen by calling 344-7906.

FOR SALE: $\mathrm{n}_{\mathrm{n}}$ D Dair of Lowa Alpsoitz in fair contition. Size 6. Make offer. Call 277-7952 before Sedt. 15 and after Sent. 15 call 277-2737. Call after 5:00 DM. Mike Sawada.

