

Descent

Volume XIII: Number 1

January, Feb. 1981

Contributors to this "DESCENT"

Robert Gerhard (for the National Park Service)

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FEBRUARY MEETING:

On Tuesday, February 10, at 7:30 PM in Schaible Auditorium on the Univ. of Alaska Campus, Chris Casati and M. Crelli presented, Some Life and Times in the Deltas (an Alaskan Situation). A musical slide presentation which was first rate!!! Watch for more from this pair!

MARCH MEETING:

On Tuesday, March 3, at 7:30 PM in Schaible Auditorium on the Univ. of Alaska Campus, Andrew Embick will present a slide show entitled: The Northwest Face of Kichatna Spire. This climb was a first ascent completed by Jim Birdwell and Andy Embick in 1979. This show was presented at the 1980 American Alpine Club Annual Meeting.

On Thursday, March 5, at 7:30 PM in Schaible Auditorium on the Univ. of Alaska Campus, Andy Embick will present a second slide show entitled: Climbing in the Logan Mountains of the Northwest Territory.

Want to buy a KAYAK!!!

Andy Embick is not only an expert on kayaking in the Prince William Sound area, but a dealer for PERCEPTION Kayaks as well. Persons should contact him at the March 3rd or 5th meetings or at 479-3079 or 479-6042 during the week of March 2nd thru March 7. Good prices!

PARTIAL CALENDAR FOR 1981:

February 1981: Spring Ski Mountaineering Course (contact John Keller)

March 14, 1981: Annual meeting on Saturday, at 7:30 PM in Room 317 Duckering. This has been changed from the previously announced date to allow Spring ski mountaineering students participate in the Skiathon. A less formal meeting will follow off-campus at a location to be announced.

April 11-12, 1981: Canwell Stampede.

INFORMATION ABOUT NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

One may obtain information about regulations, the feasibility of a proposed trip or answers to any other questions you may have about any National Park or Monument in Alaska by contacting the Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service, 540 West 5th Ave., Anchorage, Alaska 99501(phone: 907-271-4196). Answers to questions should be sent out 2 or 3 days after they are received in Anchorage providing you are not asking for something that would require the xeroxing of 200 pages etc. And of course, one always has the option of phoning the headquarter of the particular park or monument o interest. Persons interested in climbing in McKinley National Park would do best to write to: Bob Gerhard, Mountaineering Ranger, Mount McKinley National Park, PO Box 9, McKinley Park, Alaska 99755.

The NPS is currently negotiating to have an information office in Fairbanks, and sometime this summer we ought to be able to go to this office and do as lengthy and involved research as we desire.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS AND WILDLIFE REFUGES:

The National Park Service is distributing proposed regulations for National Parks and Monuments in the January 19, 1981 Federal Register. Regulations for Wildlife Refuges are being distributed in the same Federal Register by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Interested individuals can get copies of the part dealing with National Parks and Monuments from the Alaska Regional Director, National Park Service, 540 West 5th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501(phone: 907-271-4196). Copies dealing with the Wildlife Refuges can be obtained from Red Shelton, Manager of the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Monument, Room 266, Federal Building, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701(phone 452-1951, Ext. 250. Comments on both sets of regulations must be received by March 5.

DENALI NATIONAL PARK REGULATIONS:

Denali National Park refers to the extended boundaries of the National Park containing Mt. McKinley as defined by the d-2 legislation; McKinley Park refers to the pre-d-2 McKinley Park boundaries. Apparently there are some differences in the regulations for the expanded boundaries and those for the old McKinley Park. Regulations in the new Denali National Park tend to be more liberal.

On Feb. 12, the Alaskan Alpine Club(the other club)met with Bob Cunningham, Denali National Park Superintendent, to discuss park regulations as they impinged climbing. The issues discussed included the requirement that climbers register for Mt. McKinley and Mt. Foraker(one is not required to register for any other peaks), the requirement that climbers carry backcountry permits specifying the dates and areas of the park they will be allowed to camp when going to the mountains, and the criteria for selecting the people who would run the guiding concessions. Mr. Cunningham seems willing to allow climbers to pass through areas requiring backcountry permits without these permits if they are travelling to camp spots outside the permit areas. Mr. Cunningham seems very willing to consider the views of climbers concerning these issues. Persons can forward their views to him at: Mount McKinley National Park, PO Box 9, McKinley Park, Alaska 99755.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FOR THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Article III (Membership) 1st paragraph

"Family membership fees shall be ten dollars per year, from date of payment." to "paid by 1 September of each year".

Article V (Officers and Administration)

Keep or drop the third paragraph:

"With the purpose of maintaining the safety margin necessary for mountaineering in the remoteness and severe climate of Alaskan mountain areas, the Executive Committee shall review and approve the itinerary of each proposed climb and the qualifications of the leader and members of the party."

Write in a method for making the ex-President into a Counsellor.

Create paragraph 11

Version 1:

The Expedition Fund shall be established to permit the awarding of climbing grants. The monies of this Fund can be appropriated from the General Fund or donations may be added to it. Only the interest or the gains of the Expedition Fund shall be awarded; the capital will not be distributed, but will be managed by the Executive Committee so as to produce an income. The Executive Committee plus two Club members of 3 years standing shall disperse the Climbing Grants. If surplus money remains after awarding Climbing grants, the Expedition Committee may award funds for mountain rescue.

Version 2:

The Expedition Fund shall be established to permit the awarding of climbing grants. The monies for this Fund can be appropriated from the General Fund or donations may be added to it. The Executive Committee plus two Club members of 3 years standing shall disperse the Climbing Grants. If surplus money remains after awarding climbing grants, the Expedition Committee may use part or all of the remainder to award funds for mountain rescue..

COMING EVENTS(??)

An exhibit, "The Mapping of Denali", is now being shown at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Museum until the end of April. Museum personnel are attempting to arrange to have Art Davidson, author of Minus 148 (an account of the 1967 winter climb of Denali), come to Fairbanks to talk on the exhibit. Keep a watch out for this.

All-woman Annapurna Climb. The ASUA has tentatively arranged to have Christy Tews, member of the 1979 Annapurna climb, give a slide show on the 12th of April at 8 PM in the Concert Hall on the U of A campus. They anticipate charging \$2.00. Remember this is tentative, so one should check later in the spring.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mount McKinley National Park

Post Office Box 9

McKinley Park, Alaska 99755

IN REPLY REFER TO:

W42
xL3423
MOMC

November 28, 1980

Alaska Alpine Club
Box 81200
College, Alaska 99708

Dear Sir or Madam:

On November 25, 1980, revised regulations for mountaineering within Mount McKinley National Park were printed in the Federal Register. The revised regulations will continue to require registration with the Mountaineering Ranger for all persons climbing on Mount McKinley and Mount Foraker. However, the revision deletes two other sections of the regulations which were in effect before this date.

The requirement that all climbers submit a signed physician's certificate is no longer in effect. The requirement of this statement has not shown to be of benefit in reducing or eliminating accidents on Mount McKinley or Mount Foraker. As in the past, the importance of excellent physical condition will be stressed to all climbers, and expeditions will be urged to obtain medical advice during the planning of their trips.

The second portion of the regulations to be deleted is the requirement that all climbing parties on Mount McKinley and Mount Foraker carry a two-way radio. While radio communications are still an advisable precaution for any climbing party, the presence of a greater number of climbers and ready availability of Citizens' Band radios makes a regulated precaution requiring radio communications unnecessary. Most climbing parties now carry Citizens' Band radios which provide communications between expeditions, and communications with the Kahiltna Base Camp radio provided and staffed by the Talkeetna glacier pilots. Citizens' Band radios also provide communications with the glacier pilots' aircraft as they fly around the peaks.

Expeditions on Mount McKinley and Mount Foraker must register in advance by contacting the Mountaineering Ranger who will provide registration forms and helpful information. Expeditions can check in and check out with the Climbing Rangers at McKinley Park or Talkeetna (by phone or in person). These procedures are recommended for all other climbs within the Park.

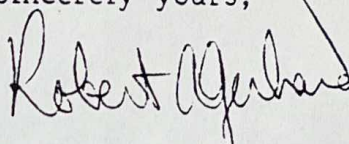
The revised regulation as printed in the Federal Register states:

36 CFR 7.44(d) Mountain Climbing. Registration is required in advance on a form provided by the Superintendent for climbing Mount McKinley and Mount Foraker.

For more information, contact:

Mountaineering Ranger
Mount McKinley National Park
PO Box 9
McKinley Park, Alaska 99755

Sincerely yours,



Robert A. Gerhard
Mountaineering Ranger

FOR NEW AND/OR OVERDUE CLUB MEMBERS:

Send \$6.00(\$10.00 family membership) and this form, completed to:

ALASKA ALPINE CLUB
P.O. Box 81200
College, Alaska 99708

to insure your membership for the coming year. Membership includes "Descent".

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS* _____ LOCAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

*STUDENTS!!! Please include a summer address, so you will not miss your summer "Descents".

Please make checks payable to: Alaska Alpine Club

Cut along dotted line