

Descent

Volume XIII: Number 2

Oct., Nov. Dec., 1981

Contributors to this "DESCENT"

Andrew Embick, MD
Joanne Groves

NOVEMBER MEETING:

On Saturday, November 28, at 7:30 PM in Schiabile Auditorium on the Univ. of Alaska campus, Joe Wilcox will give a slide show on the 1967 Wilcox Expedition to Denali. Mr. Wilcox has written a book entitled: White Winds, on this climb. \$1.50 donation.

DECEMBER MEETING:

On Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 7:30 PM in Schaible Auditorium, Steve Hackett will give a slide show: Touring the Bagley Ice Field. This describes a ski tour from Yakutat to Cordova. FREE!!

The Peter MacKeith Expedition Fund

Background

Peter MacKeith, graduate student in glaciology at the Geophysical Institute and President of the AAC for the year 1979-80, died in a tragic mountaineering accident on Old Snowy in April 1980.

It is the express wish of Peter's surviving family, Elizabeth, his mother, Carolyn and Pipa, his sisters, and Andrew, his brother that a portion of Peter's estate be dedicated to advancement of climbing activities.

The Peter MacKeith Expedition Fund is established for the primary purpose of financially supporting climbing ventures in Alaska or elsewhere in the world. Awards would be made from the earnings of the endowment through the Alaska Alpine Club under the provisions listed below. Earnings from the endowment may also be used to promote climbing safety and to purchase rescue equipment.

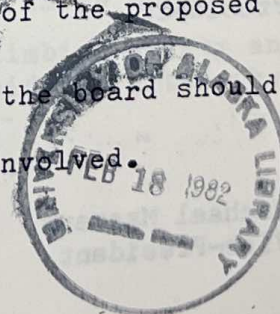
1) A board be established to oversee the management and expenditures of the fund which should be composed of a minimum of three individuals. Any and all expenditures will require the approval of a majority of the board.

2) Only the investment earnings will be spent.

3) Climbers seeking a grant from the endowment fund for a climbing venture should submit to the board a brief description of the proposed climb along with a statement of financial needs.

4) In reviewing applications for climbing grants the board should take into consideration:

- a) the financial situation of the climbers involved.
- b) the difficulty of the proposed climb.
- c) the potential for a successful climb.

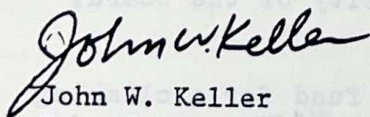



The general objectives of this endowment and the guidelines for its management were discussed with the MacKeith Family and found to be acceptable. The endowment is to be funded by a \$6,000 donation from Peter's estate. The agreement below was derived from the suggestions above by consultation with the AAC and Executor, Roman Motyka, and it was signed on April 3, 1981.

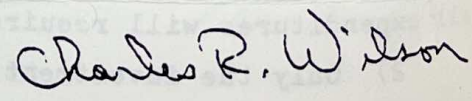
The Peter MacKeith Expedition Fund
Alaska Alpine Club

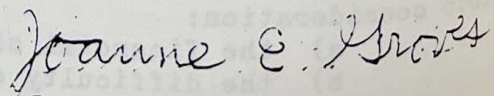
Administrative Description

1. Name of Fund: The Peter MacKeith Expedition Fund
2. Correspondence concerning this fund should be directed to:
The Alaska Alpine Club
Box 81200
College, AK 99708
3. Date established: April 1981
4. Effective date: Commencing when the fund has reached sufficient amount to issue an award.
5. Purpose: To support mountain expeditions of a challenging or otherwise worthwhile nature by members of the Alaska Alpine Club.
6. Amount available: Varies, depending upon interest available from the fund.
7. Understanding pertaining to the administration of this fund:
 - A. The investment manager of the fund will be Charles R. ("Buck") Wilson, registered agent of the Alaska Alpine Club.
 - B. Disbursements of interest from the fund shall be made by a board composed of the Alaska Alpine Club officers (president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer), the two councilors, and Charles R. ("Buck") Wilson.
 - C. The fund is to be accounted for as an endowment fund. That is, the principle of the fund is to remain inviolate in perpetuity. Only income earned on the principle is available for expenditure.
 - D. There is no restriction as to the investment of the fund.


John W. Keller
President


Michael Masters
Vice-President


Charles R. ("Buck") Wilson
Registered Agent


Joanne Groves
Secretary-Treasurer

CLIMBING GRANT

The first grant from the Peter MacKeith Endowment Fund will be considered for announcement at the March 1983 Annual Meeting of the Alpine Club. By March 1983 the accumulated interest and the maximum award will be approximately \$1500 (if the interest rate remains as it is now.).

Persons who wish to apply for the award should submit the following to:

Alaska Alpine Club
P. O. Box 81174
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708-1174

by December 31, 1982 to be considered for a grant in March 1983.

- a) A description of the climb
- b) A statement of financial needs
- c) A description of the qualifications of individual members in the party.

Requirements on receiving a grant are:

- a) Acknowledgment that the climb is partially/wholly funded by the Peter MacKeith Fund.
- b) An article with pictures is to be submitted to the Alaska Alpine Club publication, "Descent", on completion of the climb.
- c) A slide show on the completed climb is to be given for the Alaska Alpine Club membership.
- d) All climbers must be Alaska Alpine Club members at the time of the climb.

Criteria to be used by the Alaska Alpine Club for selecting recipients of a grant are:

- a) Financial need of the party
- b) Difficulty of the proposed climb
- c) The potential for a successful climb

The proposals will be evaluated by the Executive Committee, Registered Agent, and two Club members of three years standing. The Executive Committee consists of John Keller, Pres.; Mike Masters, Vice-Pres., Joanne Groves, Sec.-Tres.; and Dan Osborne and Buck Wilson, Counsellors. Buck Wilson's term expires in March 1983; all others are up for re-election in March 1982. Buck Wilson is Registered Agent. The two Club members of three years standing will be selected after the Sept. 1982 membership year starts.

General Information:

The AAC is not required to award all or any of the MacKeith Fund in any given year. The AAC may award many small grants or one large one.

Proposals may be submitted for funds to promote climbing safety and to purchase rescue equipment. However, these will be considered after the climbing grants.

Actions of the Alaska Alpine Club:

At the March 1981 Annual Meeting, the members voted to write the National Park Service in support of acceptance of the Interim Regulations for Conservation Units created through the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of Dec. 2, 1980.

At the Nov. 4, 1981 General Meeting, the membership agreed to sign a letter to Mr. Dick Ring, Superintendent, regarding management of Gates of the Arctic National Park. This letter was first introduced to us by Roger Kaye; Carol Kasza made the presentation at the Nov. 4 meeting.

Key paragraphs are:

"We support the concept of the National Park System as a system of units intended to provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities. This concept recognizes the existence and legitimacy of a broad spectrum of recreational motivations, needs and preferences. No one Park can provide for all types of use, or provide the satisfactions all recreationists seek. The Park system provides a continuum, with some units developed to provide a maximum of convenience and others managed as wilderness, and providing a more nature-dependent experience."

"We propose that the Gates of the Arctic be recognized as the Park on the farthest end of the "paved to pristine" spectrum. Management of the Gates should be most protective of natural values and provide meaningful, challenging and undiluted encounters with nature. Management actions should essentially be limited to protection of resources. Actions intended to promote visitation, feature attractions or accommodate convenience-oriented use, (i.e., facilities, signs, brochures, trail maps and interpretive services) are out of place in the Gates."

"The Gates should be one place where the individual, not the government, interprets what he or she sees."

"Visitor safety should be considered. But it must be recognized that the possibility of danger, the chance of risk are an integral part of the area. Without them, some of the wild would be taken out of the wilderness."

The last paragraph was rewritten to emphasize the individual's responsibility for his own, safety, rescue, etc.

The Alaska Alpine Club donated the proceeds (\$35.00) from our November program, the movie "Free Climb", to be used for the air rescue fund of the Alaska Alpine Rescue Group which is administered by the Alaskan Alpine Club. AAC members who wish to support the Alaska Alpine Rescue may send contributions (tax deductible) to the Alaska Alpine Rescue Group, c/o Dick Flaharty, 3641 Sandvik, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

VALDEZ ICE, ALASKA

Since the first twenty-nine ice climbs reported in CLIMBING 63, thirty more routes were established during the four month 1980-81 season. Conditions of little snow, but cold temperatures in December permitted climbing several long but low-angle routes, TIDAL WAVE(II, 850'), CROOKED CREEK(III, 800'), and ICE WORM(III, 1100'). Another area was discovered, also right next to the highway at 19 Mile, yielding OOSIK(IV, 300'), MATINEE(IV, 250'), and SEVENTH HEAVEN(IV, 250'), the last resulting in several near falls. Later in the season, standards began to rise with the ascents of FLYING CLOUD(V⁺, 320') by Valdez climbers Andrew Embick and Bill Lorch (a thin and discontinuous, though solid curtain); MARGINAL DESPERATION(V⁺ OR VI⁻, 220', shown as "unclimbed" on page 21, CLIMBING, # 63) by Carl Tobin of Fairbanks and Dana Hollister of Phoenix; and the extreme WOWIE ZOWIE(VI⁻, 400', shown as "unclimbed", on page 18 of CLIMBING, #63), by Andrew Embick and Carl Tobin. The latter route involved very poorly protected 95° friable ice for distances of up to one hundred feet without a break, and was accomplished only after several tries. At one point Tobin climbed behind the free hanging pillar forming the climb and emerged on the other side after chopping an exit hole out through the curtain. Wet suits were used in the rain on a previous try. The surface has barely been scratched in Valdez and another good season for ice is expected in 1981-82. Climbers considering coming up should contact me at Box 1889, Valdez, Alaska, 99686. A guidebook in preparation, and it will be available before Christmas.

Andrew Embick, MD

The above is a summary of three articles which appeared in Climbing, # 63, Nov.-Dec. 1980. Andy advises us the ice is a month early this year, so come to Valdez NOW!

AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB ALASKA REPRESENTATIVE:

Andrew Embick has been elected Alaska representative for the American Alpine Club. If anyone has issues to take up with the AAC, one may write him at: Andrew Embick, MD, Box 1889, Valdez, Alaska 99686. The AAC Annual Meeting is on Dec. 4-6 in LA.

SOFT PRETZELS

2 pkg, yeast, active dry or
compressed
1/4 cup warm water (lukewarm for
compressed yeast)
1 quart milk
3/4 cup soft shortening
1/4 cup sugar

12 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
flour
1-1/2 T. salt
1-1/2 tsp. baking powder
2 Tbl. household lye
2 quarts water
3 Tbl. coarse salt

Soften yeast in water. Scald milk; stir in shortening and sugar until shortening is melted. Pour milk mixture into a large bowl and cool until lukewarm. Add softened yeast with 6 cups of the flour and stir until smooth. Cover and let rise in warm place until light and bubbly, about 30 minutes. Sift remaining flour with baking powder and the 1-1/2 Tbl. salt. Stir down risen dough; gradually beat in flour mixture until dough is blended. Let rise covered, in a greased large bowl until doubled, about 1.5 hr. Punch dough down, divide into 6 equal pieces, and let rise 10 minutes. Divide each piece into 10 portions of equal size. Using palms of hands, roll each into a strand 1/2 in. in diameter and 18 in. long. Twist into a pretzel shape, tucking ends under. Cover shaped pretzels lightly. When all the dough is shaped, the first pretzels will have risen. Add lye to cold water in a large pan (do not use an aluminum pan); heat until solution is steaming but not boiling. Place pretzels 1 at a time, right-side down, on a wide slotted turner. Lower pretzel into lye solution for 1 to 2 seconds; remove and drain. Place right-side-up on waxed baking sheets; sprinkle with coarse salt. Bake in hot oven (400°) for 15 minutes or until well browned. Makes 5 dozen 5 inch pretzels.

ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF MOUNTAIN AND WILDERNESS GUIDES

The Alaska Association of Mountain and Wilderness Guides (AAMWG) will sponsor a series of seminars on guiding on Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6 in the Wood Center Ballroom on the University of Alaska campus. The schedule is:

Saturday

9 Am AAMWG business meeting
10 AM Use of Map, Compass, and Altimeter
11 AM Minimum Impact Guiding
1-5 PM Emergency Medicine
7-9 PM Slide show by various outfitters

Sunday

12-1 PM Business Meeting

EMERGENCY TRAUMA TRAINING COURSE:

There are still a few openings for an Emergency Trauma Training Course running Mon-Sat, November 30-December 5. This course is a 40 hour intensive course concentrating on wilderness conditions. The fee is \$50.00 which includes the purchase of a text. Call Art Frizerra at 456-3978.

Interested in the above course in the spring? If at least 12 people sign up in time to give Mr. Frizerra a month's lead time, the course will be scheduled again then. Call Carol Kasza at 455-6502.

DESCENT IS COMING !!

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FOR NEW AND OR OVERDUE CLUB MEMBERS:

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

Alaska Alpine Club
PO Box 81174
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708-1174

Members are encouraged to become members for 2 or more years!

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ LOCAL ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

If (when) you move, please use this form to send us your new address. Make checks payable to: Alaska Alpine Club.

Interested in an AAC spring '82 ski mountaineering course??

as: student , instructor , class help , trip co-leader

How many weekend trips would you expect to go on? _____

Skiing experience? _____

Winter camping experience? _____

Need transport to the mountains? _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Additional information available from 479-3079 and/or 479-6042.

Mail this to: Alaska Alpine Club, PO Box 81174, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708-1174

It is not necessary to be an Alpine Club member to participate in this course, but we wouldn't object. How about 5 years!

ALASKA ALPINE CLUB
P.O. Box 81174
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708-1174

Kardes

Rasmuson Library
~~University~~ Mountaineering Library
intercampus mail