



DESCENDANT

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Volume 23: No. 2

Alaska Alpine Club

December 1993

University of Alaska
Fairbanks

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History of the Alaska Alpine Club

by Franz Müter

In 1952, a group of students and faculty from the Geophysical Institute and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, founded what is now the Alaska Alpine Club. The first officers were Phillip Bettler (President), Elton S. Thayer* (Vice President), Charles R. Wilson (Secretary-Treasurer), Alston Paige, Paul Livingston, Chester Errett, and Terris Moore* (Councilors). Other persons thought to be charter members were Keith Hart, George Argus, Les and Teri Viereck, Gordon Herried, John McCall*, Edward Little*, Bill Attwood, and "Moose" Gonnason (* deceased).

The purpose of the club was described in the first journal published by the club, shortly after it was founded:

The Alaskan Alpine Club was formed to

Quote:

The natural world is the closest thing I have to religion. If I look for answers about who I am or my relation to the rest of the world, I look to the natural world....When I go into the mountains, it feels right.

Galen Rowell, mountaineer, photographer, writer

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Officers

President	Bill Cole 457-5877 (h) 451-5361 (w)
Vice President	Bob Arnold 474-6666-3543
Secretary/Treasurer	Brenin Humphreys 474-7207
Councilor	Roger Siglin 457-6612
Editor	Franz Müter 479-8815

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President's Message

I never expected to get elected as President. During nominations, everybody tried to hide in their seats, but my good friend, Doug Permenter (last year's president) knew I was there, so I couldn't duck out. Thanks a lot, Doug! Although I was dreading it then, I am now actually looking forward to serving as the club's President! For all you club members out there that want to get elected in, yet fear competition, fear not, for there may be no other nominees and you can even nominate yourself! Other officers elected were: Bob Arnold, Vice President; Brenin Humphreys, Secretary/ Treasurer; Roger Siglin, Counselor; Jürgen Kienle, Advisor; John Keller, Advisor; Franz Müter, Editor. I'm sure I'll get a lot of support from my fellow officers and veteran club members.

Club meetings are normally scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month from November through May, excluding January. We will convene at 7:30 P.M. at the Schaible Auditorium in the Bunnell Building on the UAF Campus. Club members will be notified by mail, so please keep current. To ease the hassle of keeping records of who is or isn't current we will be issuing club membership cards at the February club meeting. The annual membership dues will remain the same as last year: Individual \$10.00, Student \$5.00, Family \$15.00. Dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the Treasurer at the AAC address: P.O. Box 81174, Fairbanks, AK 99708. A club waiver will be found on the reverse side of the new 1994 membership forms. Your signature and dues will be needed to receive your card. The card will allow you to participate in all the club functions planned for the upcoming winter and spring seasons.

The officers and myself have been brainstorming ideas for club activities for the upcoming 1994 season. We have corresponded with outside groups and laid out some groundwork to turn these ideas into reality.

The AAC will be sponsoring an avalanche awareness presentation and workshop conducted by

the Alaska Mountain Safety Center, Inc. You will be notified by mail about schedule and format of the course. The AAC will also arrange a club day for all members to ski along and have fun at one of the local hills near Fairbanks. Afterwards, we will fill our bellies with burgers and brews, or vegetarian pizzas and fruit juice for you vegetarians. Finally we will have a map and compass workshop at some point in the spring, preferably in fog or white out conditions.

Several AAC members have expressed interest in forming a hut building committee. Those interested in participating please contact any of the officers or charter members Bucky Wilson (479-2419) and Clem Rawert (456-6314). We will discuss plans for location, pre-fab site, construction materials, and transportation of materials. The potential is there as long as we can form a healthy sized group of volunteers.

The club needs volunteers for slide show presentations for 1994. Please gather up and organize your slides of a recent adventures. It doesn't have to be an epic journey or 5th class alpine ascent.

Once again, Stan Justice will coordinate the upcoming Ski Mountaineering course. This course is great for enthusiastic beginners, as well as intermediate backcountry skiers and mountaineers. Stan would appreciate support from club members who would like to volunteer as assistant leaders and helpers for his class since the number of participants is continually growing.

The AAC has been steadily growing in membership year after year and the sky is the limit for future success. To realize this potential for a solid club we need your support so get involved! We need ideas for fund raising activities to help support our demands for continued success. I am looking forward to serving as President and hope to see you all at the next club meeting.

promote the exploration and enjoyment of Alaskan mountain areas - areas which are unrivaled.

The eventual goal of the Club is to bring together as many climbers, both in the Territory and in the States, as is possible. Through this informal co-operative the Club will be able to collect and compile information on all of the major climbs; to provide information to interested climbers; and lastly, to publish in the Journal accounts of the major climbs and other articles of interest.

This first Journal is, we believe, a big step toward that goal."

In the beginning informal meetings were held to talk about possible climbs, plan trips, and chat about the mountains. Slide shows or movies were organized 3-4 times every semester to promote mountaineering and recruit new members. At that time not many students were interested in mountaineering and endless possibilities for first ascents awaited those inspired to make climbing history.

Most of the small number of early Club members were experienced mountaineers and some of the notable climbs during the first years of the Club included the first ascent of 17,000-foot King Peak, two new routes on Denali (see inset), the first ascent of 15,000-foot University Peak, the first ascent of Mt. Drum, and first ascents of Silvertip, Black Cap, Old Snowy, Aurora, Meteor, Icefall Peak, and Institute Peak in the eastern Alaska Range, among others. The first ascent of Mt. Hess in 1951 predated the Club's existence, but included in the party of five were two students from UAF who helped found the Alaska Alpine Club: Elton Thayer and Alston Paige.

Informal meetings, during which new trips were planned, and slide shows continued to be the main activities of the club until the early 60's when the "hut-building decade" began. In 1962, club members carried heavy loads up the Castner glacier and erected a shelter at the foot of Mary's Rock. The Thayer hut, named in honor of Elton Thayer who died on the first ascent of Denali's Southwest Buttress, was followed by two huts on the Cantwell glacier in the next years. The Thayer hut land was leased from BLM and the Club had to become incorporated to do so.

After the first Journal published in 1952 there seemed to be little written accounts of climbs and other club activities. A bulletin had been planned in the late 50's, but didn't materialize until the

Conquering Denali

During the club's informal meetings at Hess Lounge, students and faculty a UAF considered two new routes on Denali during the 1954 season. Both were inspired by Bradford Washburn's illustrated proposals, after he had carefully mapped the mountain. Donald McLean, Charles ("Bucky") Wilson, William Hackett, and Henry Meybohm teamed up to attempt the Northwest Buttress. Fred Beckey, an acquaintance of Hackett, was a late addition to the team. After flying in to a lake at the foot of Straightway Glacier on May 2, 1952, the team reached the North Peak on May 27 from their high camp at 18,500 feet. An attempt at the South Peak was thwarted by high winds and the team was forced to withdraw. A long and slow descent was followed by a 50 mile hike to Wonder Lake, ending the successful first ascent of Denali's Northwest Buttress.

Even before the Northwest Buttress team had left Fairbanks, another party, consisting of Elton Thayer, Norton Wood, George Argus, and Les Viereck, had already reached Ruth Glacier. The team had carried in heavy loads for 50 miles from Curry on the Alaska Railroad, negotiating rivers, grizzly bears, and tangled alder growth on the way. The team had planned on traversing the mountain from south to north via the South Buttress. They reached the South Peak on May 15 from their high camp at just over 17,000 feet on the Karstens Ridge. On their descent down Karstens Ridge a tragic accident led to the death of team leader Elton Thayer. After spending 6 days in a tent and hoping for a plane to fly by, Viereck and Wood improvised a sled to get the injured Argus downslope over exposed terrain. Leaving Argus behind at 11,000 feet, they descended Muldrow glacier, reached Kantishna in record time, and organized a helicopter rescue for Argus.

"DESCENT" first appeared on the scene in January 1969 as a bimonthly newsletter. It continued to be published six times a year until 1974, and has been issued on a hit and miss basis 1-4 times a year since then. For anybody interested, the Rasmuson Library has a copy of every issue published in its Alaska Periodicals section. The club continued to meet every

Tuesday at noon in the Hess Hall Lounge to organize trips and other club activities. These included the "Ice School" (crevasse rescue, prussicking, belaying practice) led by Dan Osborne, an Alpine First Aid class, Ice Ax belay practice, and rock climbing trips to Grapefruit Rocks. The first full-blown climbing class was organized in the fall of '69 by Kathleen Davies. Although the format has changed over the years, the climbing class has been taught every year since then and is now one of the most important functions of the Club. Dan Osborne, Ben West, Fred Pratt, Mike Masters, and John Keller have been in charge of the climbing class at one time or another. Since 1989, Stan Justice has spend a lot of time and energy to coordinate what is now taught as a two-part Ski Mountaineering course for beginners and intermediate climbers. With the event of the climbing class, membership rose steadily from 20-40 in the late 60's to around 120 in the late 70's/early 80's and to over 200 currently. However, many of the members are students that sign up for the class, go to the

lectures, and maybe on one or two of the trips, and are never heard of again.

In the spring of 1969 the Club started another great tradition to introduce members of the Fairbanks community to the mountain environment. This was the Great Cantwell Glacier Stampede which drew an unexpected 101 people between 7 and 57 years of age to the lower Cantwell hut in its first year. Participants, who had to carry their own food and camping equipment, skied to the hut at their leisure or entered into a ski race. The winning time in the first year was just over 2 hours, set by Eddie Denbow. The fastest time on record was set in 1972 by then 12-year old Jim Lokken, who arrived at the hut after only one hour and 42 min. Participation rose from 101 in 1969 to 243 in 1971 and supposedly reached close to 300 people in some years thereafter. In its haydays, the Stampede drew people not only from Fairbanks, but from Anchorage, Valdez and other communities as well. To deal with the masses of skiers, many of them new to the mountains and to winter camping, the Alpine Club worked together with the Nordic Ski Club of Fairbanks for several years to coordinate logistics for this annual event.

In 1983, due to concerns over sanitation and clean-up, the Glacier Stampede was discontinued. It was replaced by a scaled-down version for club members and their guests, the Glacier Rendezvous. The Rendezvous was held every spring at different glaciers in the eastern Alaska Range until at least 1987.

Apart from promoting mountaineering, educating prospective mountaineers, and entertaining the public with slide shows, the Club has been active in a number of public policy issues over the years. In the early 70's the club was instrumental in preserving the Grapefruit Rocks area, which was threatened by a proposed pipeline pump station. Due to the efforts of club officers, an alternative site was agreed upon between BLM, Alyeska, and the AAC.

Other issues of concern related to National Park Service policy, in particular the expansion of McKinley Park in 1975, the name change from McKinley to Denali in 1977, and Park Service rescue operations. Club members encouraged withdrawal of the Park Service from its rescue function in the Park, because it was felt that rescue operations of ill-prepared climbers encouraged inexperienced climbers to attempt performances beyond their ability, and that they divert already scarce agency resources from management and user education. Doug Buchanan let efforts in 1976 to establish an alternative to Park

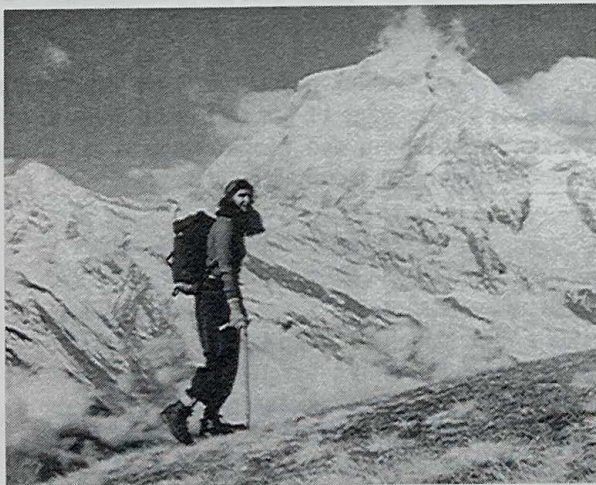
Presidents of the Alaska Alpine Club since 1968:

1968/69	Jim Miller
1969/70	Jim Miller
1970/71	Doug Bingham
1971/72	John Davies
1972/73	Don Lokken
1973/74	Dan Osborne
1974/75	Fred Pratt
1975/76	Joanne Groves
1976/77	Len Coursey
1977/78	James Brady
1978/79	Cliff Moore
1979/80	Cliff Moore
1980/81	Doug Buchanan/Peter McKeith
1981/82	John Keller
1982/83	Ken Green
1983/84	Mike Masters
1984/85	Mike Masters
1985/86	Stan Justice
1986/87	John Keller
1987/88	Dave Gehrke
1988/89	Bob Groseclose
1989/90	John Keller
1990/91	Tad Fullerton
1991/92	Doug Permenter
1992/93	Doug Permenter
1993/94	Bill Cole

The DESCENT reported on a number of first ascents in the years from 1969 to 1976. Most of these took place in the eastern Alaska Range, the traditional "playgrounds" of the club. Some of the "Firsts" were: *Snow White* in March 1968 (John Boyd, Hans Nielson, Doug Bingham); *Double Exposure* in July 1969 (Dan Osborne, Tom Kensler); *M'Ladies* in August 1969 (Dick Nelson and party(?)); *Mt. Gakona* in March 1970 (Dan Osborne, Toby Wheeler, Mark Hottman, Steve O'Brien); *Mt. Hajdukovich* (North Peak) in March 1970 (Doug Bingham, Don Wallace, Sid Whaley); *Monument Peak* in July 1970 (Bob Spurr, Royce Purinton, Bob Pelz); North Ridge of *Mt. Hess* in May 1976 (Steve Hackett, Thomas Hillis, Dan Osborne).

Service rescue operations and founded the Alaska Alpine Rescue Group, that is still in existence to this day.

Profile



Arlene Blum

Born: March 1, 1954, Davenport, Iowa

Hometown: Berkeley, California

Occupation: Writer, lecturer

In 1979 a heated discussion ensued within the club, relating again to National Park Service regulations. A faction within the club, led by Doug Buchanan, was vehemently opposed to mandatory registration of climbers within Denali Park (or any other park). Differences in opinion eventually led to a split in the club and as a result two Alpine Clubs (Alaska and Alaskan) populate Interior Alaska today.

Comments on several management plans, including the Gates of the Arctic proposed management plan and the Tanana Basin Area Management plan, were compiled and sent to the appropriate agencies in the early 80's. Few other public policy issues have been addressed since then. In recent years the club has become very active in establishing an indoor climbing wall at the University and there are renewed efforts to build another hut, but the main function was and remains to be the Ski Mountaineering course.

Climbing Highlights: McKinley, Annapurna (leader of first American ascent), Everest (1976 American Bicentennial expedition), Noshag (Afghanistan), Bringupanth (first ascent), and peaks in Peru, Tanzania, and Kashmir (three first ascents). Also a six-week trek across the Alps, and a ten-month trek across the Himalayas.

For every expedition that goes to climb a mountain, someone must plan and organize. Arlene Blum has, more often than not, found herself with that responsibility.

"I like organizing things," she said. "I get a great deal of satisfaction from having a dream and then making it happen."

Blum, who holds a Ph.D. in biophysical chemistry, began climbing in a physical education class at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. After she had climbed extensively in the Northwest, she ran into a problem.

"I had done a number of expeditions with my friends from Reed. But when I first applied to go on Himalayan expeditions, women just weren't invited.

So finally I decided to organize my own. I have also mixed expeditions, but the all-women ones are the best known."

This skill carried her beyond climbing to science and community events. Each year she helps organize an event that combines her interest in planning and the high mountains.

"I organize a big Himalayan fair in Berkeley which is really satisfying. We have arts and crafts, entertainment, food, Himalayan people, and lots of fun. I was amazed, after I dreamed it up, that 6,000 people came the first year and have continued to attend each year since.

In fact, it may have been the combination of skills that attracted Blum to climbing in the first place.

"It's an ultimate challenge. You get to use all of your skills-physical, mental, and spiritual-and focus on one goal. When you reach the summit, you know you're there. It's a very discreet, defined goal, unlike most activities in life where, after you reach one summit, there's always more to do.

"Now that I have a young child, I don't want to do anything that is life-threatening. I enjoy trips like the Bringupanth expedition, which was a first ascent of a 22,000-foot peak and relatively free of objective danger. I prefer exploration to climbing high peaks. Twenty-thousand-foot peaks are fine.

"There are lots of unclimbed peaks in areas that are still restricted, so westerners can't go. They will open up eventually. I have friends over there who might tell me when, so I can get a permit when they open."

She paused in thought, then continued, "Having a child can be an adventure. It doesn't have to be climbing mountains. I do like to dream something up and make it happen."

The aspect of climbing that Blum finds most interesting is probing the unknown.

"I like exploration. I like doing first ascents. I'm not a great technical climber, but I enjoy going to an area that has not been visited, or is hardly explored, and picking out routes and climbing unclimbed peaks.

"I spent ten months walking 2,200 miles up and down and across the Himalayas. We figured on the altimeter that we averaged about 3,000 feet elevation change a day for ten months. You would go from a river at 1,000 feet up to a pass at 19,000 feet, down to a river at 2,000 feet and over a pass at 15,000. Good exercise!"

Through her work on a book detailing the history of women in mountaineering, Blum has had the

chance to talk with many people about climbing.

' People like Lynn Hill use a whole new vocabulary associated with the rock climbing competitions. You can't do first ascents so easily anymore and people are turning to sport climbing as opposed to adventure climbing. The potential for really new adventure is diminished. Areas that are restricted politically are where there are still adventures left., with new routes and exploration.

In *Annapurna: A Women's Place*, her book about the all-woman-ascent, Blum wrote, "The greatest rewards come only from the greatest commitment."

"I believe that," she said, "I believe that one of the lessons in climbing is perseverance, having a vision and continuing in spite of obstacles, putting one foot in front of another steadily until you get to your goal. Learning that lesson in mountaineering helps you apply it to all other activities."

But Blum has also seen how quickly a small mistake can lead to tragedy in mountaineering. On the Annapurna climb, the two members of the second summit team, Alison Chadwick-Onyszkiewicz and Vera Watson fell to their deaths on the descent.

Blum wrote, "I sat numbly in the snow, unaware of what was happening around me as disconnected images of Vera and Alison ran through my mind. I thought of Vera in her sunny kitchen, preparing a wonderful meal for us, or dancing up a rock face, every move made with style and grace. And Alison-I saw her at Noshaq base camp arm in arm with Janusz, or playing with the children on the trail to Annapurna."

She said, "I think people that have experiences that are on the edge of life and death want to tell people about them and people want to read about them. Climbing is a real ultimate activity.

from *Why I Climb* by Steve Gardiner,
Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA 1990

Climbing Notes

by Jon Miller

Southeast Buttress of Mt. Hayes, April- May 1993.

Party: Rich Chappel, Steve Lewis, Jon Miller, Mike Sterling, and Kent Swanson.

Last spring boasted one of the longest periods of warm, clear weather I've seen in Interior Alaska, giving rise to high hopes for an extended climb in the Alaska Range. That fine weather ended on the first day of our three week trip into the south side of Mt. Hayes, and we never saw more than two consecutive days of clear weather, until we turned our skis homeward at the end of the trip. Nevertheless, we made good use of sporadic sunshine and warm temperatures, and had a pleasant climb on the South East Buttress of Hayes.

Starting from the basin between Hayes and The Whale's Tail (Peak 12,360'), we spent four days climbing and waiting out weather, and one day descending. We dug two snow caves en route, the first in a 'schrund at ~9,200' and then beneath a serac at 12,000'. Our route threaded a short icefall at about 10,000' and proceeded up the broad east buttress to the summit of the south peak, with spectacular views of the Trident Glacier and the eastern Hayes Range.

We post-holed across the plateau between the South and North summits, and were rewarded on the final short portion of the East Ridge with dramatic views of cloud-enshrouded peaks, soaring ridges, and moraine-stripped glaciers flowing north.

Most of the climbing consisted of moderate snow with occasional short ice pitches to 65 degrees. This is the shortest route on the south side of the mountain, thanks to the high starting point, and appeared to involve the least exposure to falling ice (although an avalanche from the icefall scoured the lower part of our route, leaving bare ice on the descent where we had waded laboriously through thigh-deep snow on the way up). Descending the Turkey Glacier on skis, we strayed from our faint trail in a whiteout and were abruptly reprimanded when a large bridge collapsed, leaving my ski tips poised over the edge of a 20 by 60' crevasse. This close-up view of the dynamics of bridge-failure reminded me that even careful roped travel doesn't grant impunity: after the thin center fell in, the sides continued to collapse for several seconds or longer, eventually involving many tons of snow, and roof sections that were four feet thick along the sides.

Odds & Ends

New Book

Renowned climber and mountain historian Fred Beckey just finished another book in which he explores the history of North America's tallest mountain - Mt. McKinley. Beginning with a short review of the geological forces that helped shape McKinley and the surrounding regions he moves on to explore its mountaineering history. In chronological order Beckey provides a detailed account of the ground-breaking efforts of those who first challenged the mountain and of the most notable summit achievements that followed, including those of the author himself. The book also features chapters with practical advice on the logistics of climbing McKinley, route descriptions, and an account of

serious accidents.

Excellent style, a wealth of photographs and illustrations, innumerable personal anecdotes, and well researched facts make this book enjoyable armchair reading as well as a valuable reference for climbers interested in "North America's Icy Crown". -Franz (*Mount McKinley - Icy Crown of North America*, published by The Mountaineers, 1011 SW Klickitat Way, Seattle, Washington 98134, \$29.95)

Beware of Avalanches!

The AAC is sponsoring a presentation/workshop on Avalanche Awareness by Jill A. Fredston from Alaska Mountain Safety Center. The course consists

of an Avalanche Awareness Presentation on Friday, February 25, and is followed by an all-day workshop on Saturday, February 26.

A tentative schedule for Saturday is as follows:

- 9:00-9:25 Pre-Registration Check-in
- 9:30-10:20 Introduction / Overview of the problem
The nature of the beast: Avalanche characteristics
- 10:20-10:30 Break
- 10:30-11:15 Where they lurk: Terrain analysis
- 11:15-11:25 Break
- 11:25-12:15 The formation & failure of avalanches
- 12:15-1:20 Lunch
- 1:20-2:10 Snow stability evaluation: Seeking clues
- 2:10-2:20 Break
- 2:20-3:10 Safe travel in avalanche terrain
- 3:10-3:20 Break
- 3:20-4:10 Avalanche rescue response: What do you do if you get caught?
- 4:10-4:20 Break
- 4:20-5:00 Putting it all together / Wrap-up / critique

For more information call Bill Cole at 457-5877 (h) or 451-5361 (w).

A new hut?

The idea of building a new hut has been kicked around by our new officers - and promptly resulted in a Hut Committee Meeting, attended by Bill Cole, Brenin Humphreys, Jürgen Kienle, Mike Litzow, Mike Masters, Clem Rawert, and Bucky Wilson. Potential hut locations were discussed, including Rainbow mountain, Castner Glacier, Slime Creek, Cantwell Glacier drainage, Black Rapids Glacier, and O'Brien Icefall.

Rather than building another remote hut, the group felt it made more sense to build a "base hut" that is easily accessible, yet somewhat hidden. The hut could be used for club activities, day hikes in the area (summer and winter), and by families with children. A pre-fab frame hut, approximately 16' x 20' with bunk beds and a barrel stove was felt to be an adequate and realistic option. The availability of land (lease options etc.) and funds for building the hut are issues that have to be resolved next. To come up with an estimated \$8,000 to \$10,000 the club may have to start massive fund raising efforts and/or tap into the Peter McKeith fund (a portion of which may also be used for completion of the climbing wall). If you have questions or comments please contact any of

the officers or Hut Committee members. *-Franz*

Do you speak ASL?

A hearing impaired person has expressed interest in the Ski Mountaineering Class. Is there anybody out there who knows ASL and is willing to act as an interpreter during the class sessions?? Please call Stan Justice at 479-5017.

Climber's Market

- Selling LOWA Denalis. Size 10 1/2, used once! Asking \$250 OBO. Call Dave Gehrke @ 457-3039.
- Looking to buy a large Expedition Down Parka (North Face or similar) Call Bill Cole @ 457-5877.

Do you have anything to sell (Well, not anything, but anything that may be useful in the mountains!)? Are you looking for a used item to buy? Send description, size, name, and phone # to *Franz Müter, 3047 Ester Dome Rd. Fairbanks, Alaska, 99709*

We also encourage anybody interested to bring used equipment to Schaible Auditorium before or after class sessions (see schedule on page 11). There is always a large number of poor, underequipped students looking for a bargain.

Slides needed

If anybody has slides of avalanches, ice ax arrests, crevasse rescue, or anything else that may be useful for instructors of the climbing class, please call Stan Justice @ 479-5017.

Coming soon!

The next DESCENT will (hopefully) include a discussion on the ethics of bolting vs. not bolting as there has been a dramatic increase in the number of bolts placed in our local rock climbing areas over the last few years. Where do you stand on this issue? Jot down your thoughts and send to the editor.

Need contributions!

Do you enjoy reading the DESCENT? Would you like to receive more than just one issue per year - with more up-to-date information? Please help us by contributing your stories: alpine experiences, poems, book reviews, equipment reviews, drawings of any kind, photos, letters to the editor, cartoons, your favorite recipe for a good mountain dinner - ANYTHING!!!! *(continued on p. 10)*

SKI MOUNTAINEERING

Once again the Alaska Alpine Club will be offering instruction in ski mountaineering and climbing this spring. Two sessions will be offered.

Introduction to Ski Mountaineering For persons with cross-country skiing and cold weather camping experience. Will teach the basics of camping and ski travel in Alaskan mountains, including introductory crevasse rescue and safety topics. Tuition \$35.

Intermediate Ski Mountaineering and Climbing For persons having successfully completed the introductory course or with equivalent experience. Tuition \$25.

Additional expenses include \$23 for text, gas money, food, restaurant meals on field trips. Anyone in the Fairbanks community with appropriate experience is invited to participate. Students must also join the club: Individual - \$10, Family - \$15, Student - \$5.

Format The course consists of weekly lectures/discussion sessions held Wednesdays at 7:30 P.M. in Schaible Auditorium on the UAF campus and weekend field trips some of which are long day trips and others are overnight excursions. All instructors and trip leaders are volunteers. These courses are a great way to get into the mountains and meet other mountaineers! Safety is everyone's individual responsibility.

TEXT "Mountaineering - The Freedom of the Hills" 5th Edition By The Mountaineers of Seattle (available at Beaver Sports, UAF Bookstore, and REI)

CREDIT Available for UAF PE credits as independent study. Contact Tom Wells 474-7205 of the PE Dept for details.

SCHEDULE

Date	Class Topic	Weekend Trip
Introduction to Ski Mountaineering		
Jan 19	Register, Frostbite, Hypothermia	none
Jan 26	Skis, Boots, Tents, Winter Camp	Jan 30 Survival Ski Workshop @ Wain'rt
Feb 2	Knots, Snow Caves, Ice Axe, Crmpns	Feb 5,6 Wickersham Dome Overnight
Feb 9	Prusik, Rappel, Z-pulley, Anchors	Feb 13 Skills Workshop on Campus
Feb 16	Avalanche Safety	Feb 19,20 Fels Glacier Cracks
Feb 23	Glacier Travel, Crevasse Rescue	Feb 27 Panorama Slopes
Mar 2	First Aid, High Altitude, Rescue	Mar 5,6 Item Peak
Intermediate Ski Mountaineering and Climbing		
Apr 6	Snow Climbing, Igloos, Fly ins	Apr 9,10 Peak 7708
Apr 13	Ice Climbing	Apr 17 Fox & Dragon Fly
Apr 20	Leadership, Expeditions	Apr 23,24 Silvertip Peak
Apr 27	Rock Climbing	May 1 Grapefruit Rocks
For further information contact Stan Justice 479-5017, Bill Cole 457-5877, Brenin Humphreys 474-7207, Franz Müter 479-8815		

Obituary

Terris Moore, bush pilot, pioneering mountaineer, former president of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, writer, and charter member of the Alaska Alpine Club, passed away recently at his home in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Moore was part of mountaineering teams that made first attempts of major peaks like 16,500-foot mount Bona, 15,300-foot Mount Fairweather, and 16,237-foot Mount Sanford. He climbed Mt McKinley in 1942 in a party with Bradford Washburn, at a time when only eight others had reached the summit. Later he wrote the classic reference book: *Mount McKinley: The Pioneer Climbs*.

In 1952 he helped found the Alaska Alpine Club and was instrumental in providing logistical support for many of the early climbs. He is as well known for his aviation exploits as for his climbs and landed his Super Cub 150 and other ski-equipped planes in places where no (wo)man had set his (her) airplane before. He is remembered by those who knew him as a bold and charming man, and is likely to become another mountaineering legend.

-Franz

AMSC/AAS classes

1993-94 schedules for the Alaska Mountain Safety Center, Inc. and the Alaska Avalanche School will be posted at every meeting of the Alaska Alpine Club. Sign up soon, since classes are filling up VERY fast! For information write to or call

The Alaska Mountain Safety Center, Inc.
9140 Brewsters Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516
Phone/Fax: (907) 345-3566

Alaska Alpine Club
P.O. Box 81174
Fairbanks, Ak 99708

Climbing Wall

The new indoor climbing wall will be on the south side of the Student Rec Center (SRC), which is scheduled to open on February 7, 1994. The wall is 30 feet tall (It's tall!) and 60 feet wide. The wall foundation is cinder blocks filled with concrete. In the first phase of the climbing wall, there will be 500 holes drilled into the concrete wall for modular holds and cracks on 40 feet of the 60-foot wide wall. This part of the wall is dead vertical. Three to four climbers using ropes will be allowed on the wall at the same time. Bouldering will be allowed for the first 12 vertical feet of the wall. We have ordered plenty of jug holds for the beginner and old climbers trying to save their finger tendons, and tiny crimpers and slopers for the masochist. Routes will be marked on the wall by leaving colored tapes on the holds. For example, if a climber wanted to climb a 5.4 route, the climber can only use holds that have red tape on them, for the 5.12 route, only the holds with yellow tape on them can be used. By having plenty of holes to put holds on, and having a wide variety of holds, beginning climbers can feel confident and rock jocks can hang dog to their delight on this wall.

In the second phase of the climbing wall, we will be adding slabs, overhangs, and roofs. Volunteers will be needed for this phase of the wall.

Tentatively, the daily fee to use the SRC and Patty Gymnasium if you are not a UAF student will be \$5/day. For UAF students, the SRC fee is covered by the additional \$75 in activity fees per semester. We are working with Tom Wells to allow volunteer climbing wall supervisors free use of the wall. Many management issues remain to be resolved, such as requiring helmets, supervision, etc.

-Carol

