

THE MOUNTAIN DOGS

No. 511 - July 16, 1975

A newssheet published by the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Address changes to Tim Ryan, 2400 $\frac{1}{2}$ Alma Ave., Manhattan Beach, 90266. This is a 4 page issue.

MINARETS MINIMA

Snowfields, dazzling skies, enjoyable climbing, and frustrations rewarded six ambitious types in the Minarets July 4,5,6.

Tim Ryan and John Mendenhall tried the apparently unclimbed east arete of Banner. Despite Tim's fine leading (including nuts for aid), the pair had to rappel down icy rocks to the east glacier.

Leroy Russ and Andy Fried tackled the Clinch Rt. on Ritter's east face. They were slowed by the complex route, and eventually had to rope down.

Jeff Lash and Larry Wiseman tried an ambitious new route on Waller's east face, but were finally stopped by smooth rock.

All troubles were forgotten when Tim produced cheese cake mit huge cherries for everyone both nights!

(JDM)

SHOULD-a QUIT WHILE AHEAD

Although the official SMS touring schedule ended on June 7-8 with the highly successful Parker Canyon trip, two real die-hard Ski Mountaineers headed for Tioga Pass on June 14. As Mt. Dana had only snow patches, Mt. Conness was climbed instead. The road to Saddlebag Lake was closed, adding 2 miles. Snow was continuous for 2500', from the Carnegie research station to the summit plateau. However, it was so badly suncupped that only a few ski turns were possible on the descent; at least it was faster than walking! All streams were carefully crossed on snow bridges at their headwaters. After this 10 hour day, they passed up the still-inviting snow slopes in Parker Canyon and for \$5 enjoyed 5 hours of surprisingly good spring skiing at Mammoth Mtn. on Sunday.

Thus ended the ski season of "the year with no spring." Altho the SMS spring touring season was delayed a month, the revised scheduled tours were all successful; none were cancelled due to weather and all provided at least some good skiing. Three good snow years in a row—any predictions for 1975-76?

BJL

RCS TRAINING PROGRAM - A REPORT

The RCS has made a number of important advances in our Training Program this year. The following report will not go into the details of training/organization which is constantly evolving, but will outline some of the more fundamental gains.

1. We now have an adequate number of climbing ropes to conduct efficient training (22). This was a very worrisome problem in the beginning, and credit for solving it goes to RCS Chairman Emory Yount, and Phil Bruce. Emory authorized expenditure of the needed moneys from our meager treasury, and activated Phil who located 10 new ropes for one-half the present wholesale price. Three members also donated used ropes, allowing us to cut several into convenient 15 ft. lengths for knot-tying instruction.

2. We were able to maintain a consistently low student/instructor ratio (average for 1974 climbs 3.17, high 4.46, low 3.0) and we knew in advance of each practice that this would be the case. With each passing practice climb I grew more confident of our ability to staff each climb adequately, a very comfortable feeling I assure you! It turned out that 38 different RCS members served as instructors for one or more practices, donating a total of 85 instructor-days to our students.

3. With enough ropes and instructors assured, we were able to institute the 'station' concept for Proficiency Card signoff categories, similar to the way it's done at the RCS Safety Test. This method of organization allows a higher degree of control over the minimum standards of student performance required for signoff. This is especially so where the site location itself is the main determinant of difficulty for the exercise.

4. For the first time, all our students were required to hold gut-wrenching bucket-of-cement falls for signoff in 'leader belay'. This year the Training Committee developed the capability for setting up this apparatus at Stony Point, and this was done at 3 practice climbs, giving all serious students ample opportunity to do this exercise.

5. The student dropout rate was lower, I believe, than in the past. 135 students attended our practice climbs, of which 60 (45%) dropped out after attending only one of our practices. Student turnout varied from a low of 38 (rain) to a high of 68. Thirty-seven students attended 3 or more practice climbs, and are officially eligible to climb with the RCS at Tahquitz this year if their proficiency cards have been fully signed off.

- Cont on page 3.

MUGELNOOS STAFF
 EDITORS.....Schuppe's
 MUGELMAILER..... Tim Ryan
 MUGELGRAPHERS... Mary Ferguson, G. Shinno
 CONTRIBUTORS: Braeme Gigas, B. Lilley,
 J. Mendenhall, R. Mendenhall, L. Russ,
 T. Jeter, D. Sykes, J. Wedberg.

2 a. Year A 4 - Page Issue

NEXT EDITOR: Carl Lundquist
 2134 Midvale Ave.
 LA 90025
 (213) 474-0869

NEXT ISSUE: 20 August 1975
 Deadline: Mon. NOON, 18 Aug.

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: 3rd Wed. each month,
 8 p.m. Lemon Grove Rec. Center, 4959 Lemon
 Str. Av., LA, just off H'wd Fwy near Melrose
 exit. Trip news, program, food, laughs;
 climbers, skiers, guests, etc. welcome.

C A L E N D A R

July 26 & 27 - Tanquitz (T), C. Wilts
 August 9 & 10 - Mt. Humphries (T),
 E. Yount, J. Erb.
 August 17 - Safety Test, H. Lees.
 August 20 - Mugelnoos meeting, 8 p.m.
 (Climbing Mt. Mopah)

NEW ADDRESS: George & Elinor Blundell
 455 - 26th St.,
 Santa Monica, CA 0-402
 451-9971

Ski Mountaineer Change of Address:
 Eleanor Graff
 1614 Ramona Ave.
 Glendale, Calif. 91208
 Ph: 246-3724

CORRECTION on Ski Mt. Membership List:
 Clark, Nate and Joan
 225-6283 (NOT 255-etc.)

KEEP TRACK OF THIS: Oldtime Ski Mt. Bob
 MacConaghy holds the world's record for
 his age group (over 65) in several
 track events.

RCS MEMBER STORES *****

The following RCS'ers operate Mountain-
climbing shops:

JIM DUFZI

Jim's Ski & Mountaineering
 3131 E. Yorba Linda Blvd.
 Fullerton, Calif.
 (714) 996-2610

DAN EATON

Dan's Ski & Mountain Shop
 844 W. Lancaster Blvd.
 Lancaster, Ca. 93534
 (805) 942-0804

DON LAURIA

Westridge Sports
 11930 W. Olympic Blvd.
 Los Angeles, Calif.
 (213) 820-5686

EXPEDITIONS: Don Lauria and Dennis Hennek
 are presently on a climbing expedition
 in Pakistan. No status has been received
 to date, but reports should start coming
 in late July.

MOUNTAIN MEDICINE SYMPOSIUM

A four day symposium on mountain medicine
 will be conducted by the Yosemite Institute
 in the Valley on October 29th through Nov 1
 Sessions are planned for Hiker, Climber, &
 health professional. The cost is \$50 for
 the entire session or 15\$ per day.

Mtn. Medicine Symposium cont.

Contact: Mountain Medicine
 Yosemite Institute
 Yosemite, Calif. 95389

MOUNTAIN TRAVEL

The trip Agenda for 1975-76 has been
published and reservations are being taken.

MOUNTAIN TRAVEL

1398 Solano Avenue
 Albany, Calif. 94706

HILLARY'S WIFE KILLED

On March 31, a Royal Nepal Airlines
 single-engine Pilatus Porter plane crash-
 ed shortly after take-off in Kathmandu,
 killing the wife and daughter of Sir Edmund
 Hillary. Lady Louise Hillary and Belinda
 Hillary were en route to Phaplu, Nepal, to
 meet Sir Edmund when the crash occurred.

Also killed were a Nepali, Ang Gali Lama,
 and his American wife Barbara, of Ojai,
 California, and the plane's pilot, a nat-
 ive of New Zealand. The plane was head-
 ing eastward out of Kathmandu when it
 plunged to the ground not far from the
 end of the runway. According to a Swiss
 pilot who flew out of Lukla airfield (near
 Namche Bazaar) in another Porter of the
 Hillary plane neglected to unlock the rud-
 ders controlling the right and left turns-
 a mistake which had also claimed the life
 of an earlier Pilatus test pilot.

Sir Edmund is in the midst of spending
 a year in Nepal, primarily Phaplu, over-
 seeing construction and maintenance of
 several hospitals and clinics he is spon-
 soring. The plane crash is a cruel irony
 for Hillary, Mt. Everest's first conquer-
 or, a man who has done so much to help the
 people and the country of Nepal.

-MOUNTAIN GAZETTE, June, 1975

ALPINE SKI TOURING BOOTS

The Ski Hut in Berkeley no longer lists
 the "Minaret Ski Mountaineering Boot" in
 their catalog because the German manufact-
 urer went bankrupt. They have no substit-
 ute available as of now. However, they
 do have a few pair of Minarets left in
 small sizes. Anyone with small feet might
 really pick up a bargain at 40\$. To in-
 quire if they have your size, write to:

The Ski Hut
 1615 University Ave.
 Berkeley, Cal. 94703

ICE SCHOOL

This year Yvon Chouinard will conduct
 one or two intermediate or advanced ice
 climbing seminars. Contact:

The Great Pacific Iron Works
 P.O. Box 150
 Ventura, Cal. 93001

HELP THE LEADERS

Climbers should attempt climbs that will
 enable them to return by 3:00 p.m., on the
 last climbing day of the trip, unless ad-
 vised by the leader.

FOR SALE

One hammer
 SMC wired nuts (asst. sizes)
 Contact Leroy Russ 213-295-9703

RCS Training Report. (cont. from Page 1)

This was the second year of existence for the RCS Training Committee, and I believe this committee contributed a great deal to the overall success of our program. We developed a communication system whereby the entire RCS membership could be quickly contacted, and solicited to come out as instructors for each practice climb. Our members responded in the needed numbers to this personal contact. Secondly, by having the same people overseeing each practice climb, we were able to spot troublesome areas, and experiment with possible remedies at subsequent practices. Thus I believe our Training Program is steadily evolving and getting stronger, and I'd like to thank all the members of the Training Committee for their efforts.

There are still several unresolved problems that I would like to mention. The first is money. Despite our best efforts, voluntary contributions to the "Rope Fund" did not cover our training expenses this year. Contributions totaled \$164 by my calculations, averaging 54¢ per student per climb. We wanted twice that amount and told our students so. Many of them responded, but there are too many freeloaders who contribute nothing. In the future, I hope we can charge our students a flat fee for training in advance of their first practice climb.

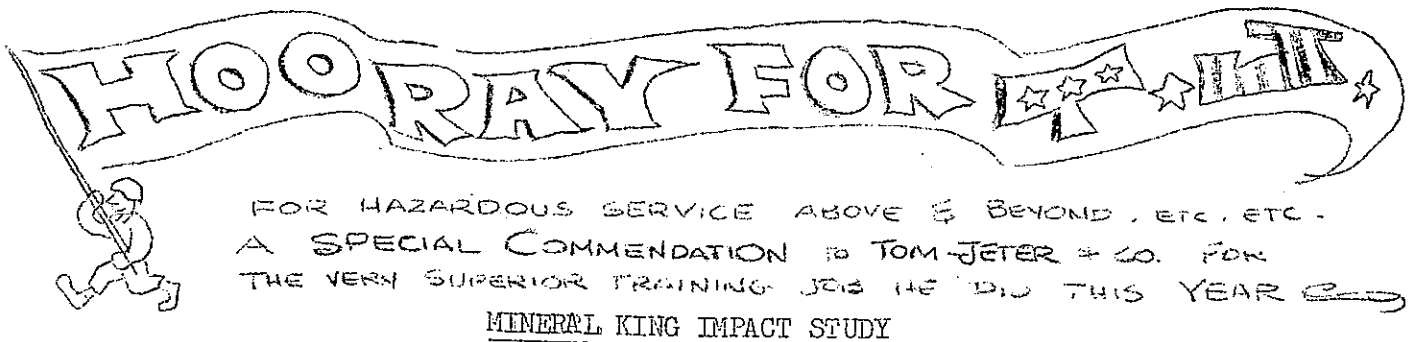
There is another problem also; with few exceptions all of our official members (91) were asked to come and staff our Practice Climbs. Half did not come, throwing the entire training burden of the other half. Simple arithmetic shows we needed one Practice Climb from each and every RCS member to staff our training this year, the slack was taken up by those willing to come to 2 or more. Many of us enjoy training, but few would rather train than climb. I hope those members who did not help staff climbs are contributing to the RCS in some other tangible way, such as membership in the RCS Safety Committee, or are leading scheduled RCS Climbs, etc.

Members who staffed our Practice Climbs this year are listed below. I would like to personally thank them all for their help in training our students!

- (6) Tom Jeter - (5) Le Roy Russ - (4) Dean Hinegardner, Leonard Bayless, Leonard Hall, Don Rappolee, John Moore*, Jim Erb - (3) Jack Turunen, Andy Fried, Horton Johnson, Dick Mundweiler, Fred Wing, Phil Bruce - (2) Dale Stein*, Ray Grabiec, Herb Null*, Dick DeRusha, Norm Rohn, Dale Knutsen, John Genest, Emory Yount* - (1) Jim Campbell, Jeff Lash, Jim McPherson, Karin Sundquist, John Mendenhall, Bob Lindgren*, Maynard Brandsma, George Fowles, Dave Burdett, Tim Ryan, Mike Dent, Craig Williams, Al Fowler, Mel Vague*, Frank Meyers, Bob Bowen, Freeman Allen.

* Practice Climb Leader

Tom Jeter
Chairman, RCS Training Committee



The Forest Service announced completion of its analysis of comments on the Mineral King Draft Environmental Impact Statement. It breaks down as follows: of the 2150 letters submitted (representing some 4400 signatures), fifty-six percent favored development, while forty-two percent indicated opposition to it. The remainder of the response either favored development with modifications or did not indicate a preference. Over half the response came from southern California; ten percent came from outside California and represented forty-two states. Local response was about evenly divided for and against the development, while the majority of the comments received from outside the state opposed construction of the resort. Many of the comments pointed out shortcomings in the draft EIS or suggested revisions in various sections of the statement. These comments are being studied as the Forest Service begins preparation of the final EIS for Mineral King.

-MOUNTAIN GAZETTE, JUNE 1975

LETS TAKE A LOOK AT SOCKS

Wool is far better than cotton for mountaineering socks, but does it have any shortcomings? Yes, wool can be abrasive to the skin of the foot which has been moist for hours due to perspiration. This abrasion can cause blisters. This shortcoming can be avoided by wearing a very thin nylon stretch dress sock under the wool sock. This nylon stretch sock provides a slippery surface between the nylon and the wool, so that direct abrasion on the skin does not occur. A further shortcoming of wool is that it shrinks. Curiously, many persons do not know where to apply tape and padding to the blisters. The proper technique is to apply a moleskin-foam pad around the place where the blister is forming, cutting out a hole where the blister is. This will relieve the pressure on the blister area. If the moleskin is applied on the blister, the pressure will become even worse.

-continued

Adhesive tape placed on an abrasion spot in advance is a big help. Don't wait until a blister has already started to form.....

The standard method of keeping the socks dry is to have two pair and change every two hours. The spare pair is hung on your belt and is dried by body heat and wind.

Socks With Elastic Tops

When socks are being used for warmth, the last thing one needs is a restriction of circulation. Yet, many of the boot socks being offered have elastic bands at the top. These bands tend to restrict venous return of the blood, and hence decrease the heat brought in by normal blood flow.

In many socks, the elastic is provided by tiny rubber cords which are woven into the top. These cords can be cut and pulled out. However, 3 turns of this rubber cord should be left in the very top of the sock to keep the knitting from unravelling.

Socks With Seam over Toes

Most socks are made with a closing seam over the toes. This seam is made by sewing the two parts together by edge sewing and then stretching the seam to make a butt-joint. If this stretching the seam is not done, it will probably cause toe blisters.

One advantage of tube socks is that the seam can be turned so that it is on the underside, away from the toes.

- MSR Newsletter, March 1974 -

IN SEARCH OF THE ARK

An American climbing team, headed by a Texas minister, will scale Mount Ararat this summer in an attempt to recover Noah's Ark, according to an article in the special-edition centennial newspaper Bald Eagle, published in Boulder, Colorado. The Reverend Tom Croster of Dallas says his climbing party has received permission from the Turkish government for the venture, and that his party knows exactly where the 7000-year-old ark is located. For nearly a century now, a number of climbers have returned from Mount Ararat in Turkey and reported seeing a large, ark-like structure protruding from a glacier at an altitude of nearly 17,000 feet.

One French team actually brought back chunks of wood which it recovered from the rotting ark, but tests on the wood indicated that it was not nearly old enough to be the original Noah's ark. The Bible claims the historic ark came to rest after the flood on the top of Mount Ararat about 5000 B.C. The Turkish government admits that it has been puzzled by aerial photos which appear to show an ark-like structure near the top of the Turkish mountain.

-MOUNTAIN GAZETTE, JUNE 1975

STRANGER TH AN FICTION: Would you believe this issue was typed (with much help) by a one-handed typist? (Hand in cast, due to collision on bicycle with rear end of PARKED TRUCK!!)



SHARPEY DOG

STORY