

THE MUGELNOOS

No. 588 -- December 15, 1981

A newsheet published by & for the Ski Mountaineers & Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Send subscriptions & address changes to Dove Menkes, 1550 S Highland Ave #D, Fullerton, Ca 92632. Subscriptions are \$4 per year. This is a 4 page issue. Our 45th year!

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF MUGELNOOS . . .
. . . you will receive, unless four bucks is forthcoming toot-sweet! Send the dough post haste (no cash please) to Dove Menkes at the address above. Make checks to "Mugelnoos".

LA HOSTS AAC CONVENTION

Fri-Sat-Sun, Dec 4-5-6 the Bonaventure Hotel was the site of the American Alpine Club's Annual Meeting. Seen strolling about during the gala weekend were such standouts in the field of mountaineering as Galen Rowell, Yvon Choinard, Norman Dwyrenfurth, Rick Ridgeway, and Lou Reichardt. Reporting and showing pictures from recently returned expeditions were: George Lowe, Everest East Face; John Evans, Medical Research Expedition to Everest; Anyemaqen, by Harold Knutson; California Free Climbing by John Long; North Face of Siguniang by Jim Donini; and Mountaineering in the People's Republic of China by Shi Chan-Chun, Chairman of the Chinese Mountaineering Assn. The various programs commenced Fri evening and ran thru Sat morning and afternoon, climaxing with the Annual Banquet Sat evening. Sun morning AAC Southern Calif Section Chairman Pete White, together with Rick Ridgeway showed a selection of mountaineering films, including an early classic from the late 1920's from Germany. Exhibits of mountaineering equipment and publications rounded out the weekends activities. The 1982 event will be held in Boston.

BALDY SKI HUT REOPENS ! !

Jim Powers and Steve Wilkie, together with a helping hand from Randy Bernard, completed the final construction on the San Antonio Ski Hut outhouse, barely hours ahead of the first storm of the season. The late Nov front moved thru and dumped two feet of snow on Baldy, virtually as the paint was drying on our new biffy. It sports a beautiful new seat, and an eye-level window thru which one may contemplate the surroundings while attending to ones tasks. A gala wine tasting, with five different varieties available for sampling (brand: San Antonio, of course!) was attended on Sun Dec 6 by those wishing to celebrate the official reopening formalities. About 30 trudged up the trail for the party, on a beautiful sunny, calm day. The scenery was punctuated by liberal amounts of snow from the previous storm.

The March Angeles Chapter Schedule will include weekend hosts for the Baldy Hut. For those wishing to stay the weekend before then, contact these members-in-charge:

JAN 1-2-3	Jim Powers	355-7462
JAN 9-10	Rodney Schaerer	437-5213
JAN 16-17	Randy Bernard	865-8989
JAN 23-24	John Wedberg	472-6768
JAN 30-31	Joan Jones	443-0706
FEB 6-7	Betsy Chambers	(714) 622-7242
FEB 13-14	John Wedberg	472-6768
FEB 20-21	Tom Ross	396-3090
FEB 27-28	Walt Davie	390-3938

FINALLY -- A DECENT TV WEATHER PROGRAM

Every weekday, 5:45 AM, UHF Chan 28, KCET: "A.M. Weather"
Concise, complete, no nonsense weather reports.

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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NEXT ISSUE: Jan 19, 1982
DEADLINE : Thurs NOON, Jan 14

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: 3rd Tues of ea month, LA Dept Wtr & Pwr Auditor, 111 N Hope, downtown LA. 7:30 PM. 1/2-hr early for Ski Mtnrs equipmt demo. Climbers, skiers, guests, all welcome. Free parking. Eats!

C A L E N D A R

Jan 9 Local checkout ski tour
Jan 10 Rock climb, Stony Point
Jan 10 Local checkout ski tour
Jan 16-17 Rock climb, Joshua Tree
Jan 16-17 Ski tour, Bishop area
Jan 19 MUGELNOOS MEETING

NEW RCS MEMBER

Bob Landry 3445 Glenalbyn Dr (MK)
Los Angeles 90065 223-3820

STONY POINT CLIMBING GUIDE

Just published by La Siesta Press (Walt Wheelock) is the "Stony Point Guide", by Paul Hellweg and Don Fisher. It contains sections on the geology, natural history and climbing history of the area, as well as a listing of top-roped climbs, boulder problems beginner thru advanced, etc. Photos of such climbers as R.R., Choinard, Glen Dawson and Bob Kamps appear, dating back to 1937. (DAF)

CHARLIE RUGG DIES

A good friend and companion on many ski mountaineering trips dating to the 1960's was apparently drowned in a diving accident over the Thanksgiving weekend. Charlie Rugg had gotten interested in boating, and finally took up scuba diving. Although his body has not been found, he is presumed dead from drowning in the Monterey Bay area near his home. Services were held at Highland Park, Ben Lomand, Dec 12. (JM)

NO PRECEDENT

Sorry, but Ron Master/Mastrianni's move is not unprecedented: I set the precedent back in 1974 when I moved from Thompson to Malone. Some folks have never gotten used to this, and when (seldom) Lois Malone is mentioned, people -- even people I used to climb with -- say, "Lois who..?" Oh well, sic transit gloria ascendorum. (LM)

One of the reasons promoting this by-law change (election by mail) was "to return the SMS to the control of all its members". Has it really

SPECIAL RATES FOR DAVE BECK'S AVALANCHE CRSE

Susan Beck announced she will grant 10% discount to Sierrans on the 5-day avalanche course set for June 16-19. Normal cost is \$225, discounted to \$202.50, lodging & all meals included. Instructors: Ed La Chappelle, Carl Martin, Dave Crockett Doug Powell, Dave Beck. Send reservations to Sierra Ski Touring, PO Box C-9, Mammoth Lakes 93546. (NK)

PRECEDENTS

The formation of more specialized "spin-off" activity groups within the Angeles Chapter is not without precedent. Those who do not agree with or approve of the methods and policies of those currently in power can choose the option of establishing a new activity group. And as mentioned before, the simplified structure of a committee is the most efficient way for any activity to be operated safely & enjoyably by those few actually willing to do the necessary work. (The Snow Touring Committee has remained a committee for eight years!) At the same time, it is not without precedent to be involved in or concerned about more than one activity group; thus it is appropriate to bring the following to the attention of SMS members:

The SMS by-laws (Sect V-B) require that: "The condensed Minutes of Central Committee meetings shall be published in the Mugelnoos." Yet, no such minutes have appeared in any issue of Mugelnoos since Sept 1980. We were not even told which Central Committee members were selected to fill the various offices! This was not learned until the winter Angeles Chapter schedule arrived -- some 7 months after the election. This information used to be included as part of the SMS Membership Directory but in spite of the fact that the by-laws (Sect IV-C-2) require the "publishing of an annual Membership Directory", none has appeared since Sept 1980.

The SMS by-laws (Sect IV-A) require at least 3 members who are neither officers or candidates to be appointed to an Elections Committee to nominate candidates for SMS elections "prior to the Ski Mountaineers meeting in February." But for the Mar 1981 election no names of any such Committee members were made known until after the ballots were mailed out. Those who voted for the new by-laws which made the SMS even more cumbersome & bureaucratic to operate should at least be willing to comply with them!

Reading the front page of the Oct Mugelnoos indicates to me that the "mandate" of the voting members in the 1981 election was not honored.

turned out that way? (cont'd)

THE CLINCH LETTER

As reported in November Mugelnoos, voting on delinquent members at the annual RCS business meeting is traditionally the highlight of the evening. This is because of the Roman Circus atmosphere, allowing those assembled to give a thumbs up or thumbs down to the delinquent, based largely on the quality of letter (or oration) he or she submits, begging forgiveness. To this observer, perhaps the best letter was Mindy Bagdon's; which admirably fulfilled its purpose of 'grovel in the dust' obsequiousness while at the same time sounding somewhat plausible, and with enough humor to cause the audience to feel jolly and warmly disposed toward the petitioner. Mindy passed the thumbs up vote with flying colors!

The next case was that of Nick Clinch, a perennial delinquent. For newer members who have not yet met him, Nick is a man whose heart and soul are in the mountains, but whose body now finds itself encased in a three piece suit and chained to an overstuffed leather chair in his office in San Francisco. Nick's modus operandi has been to procrastinate fulfilling his four climb obligation to the last possible climb of the year. Something always comes up, and he writes his annual letter to the RCS Secretary. This year Nick must have sensed a restlessness in the membership; the same old excuses might not work again (e.g. leading an expedition to Masherbrum in the Karakorum; a trek to Everest Base Camp, etc., etc., preempting his RCS scheduled climb). Accordingly, Nick came up with something different, catching us all by surprise; the letter is reprinted below.

"Sir: It was my intention to complete my four RCS climbs at Yosemite Valley on October 10-12, after returning from vacation at my brother's farm in Cobblers Rock Arkansas. On Oct. 6, my brother's barn burned down all except the brick silo which was damaged at the top by the bolt of lightning which started the fire. On Oct. 7 he decided to repair the silo right away because he had to get his corn in it; I was going to help him. I rigged a barrel hoist to the top of the silo so that the necessary bricks could be hoisted to the top where the repair work was going on. Then we hauled up several hundred bricks, this later turned out to be too many bricks. After my brother got the brick work repaired there was still a lot of brick at the top of the silo on a working platform we had built. I said I would take it all down below so I climbed down the ladder and hauled the barrel all the way up. Then I secured the line with sort of a slip knot so I could undo it easier later. Then I climbed back up the ladder and piled bricks into the barrel until it was full. I climbed back down the ladder and untied the line to let the brick roll down. However, I found the barrel of brick heavier than I was and when the barrel started down, I started up. I thought of letting go, but at that time I was so far up I thought it would be safer to hang on. Half-way up, the barrel hit me on the shoulder pretty hard but I still hung on. I was going pretty fast at the top and bumped my head. My fingers also got pinched in the pulley block. However, at the same time the barrel hit the ground and the bottom fell out of it, letting all the brick out. I was then heavier than the barrel and started down again. I got burned on the leg by the other rope as I went down until I met the barrel again which went by faster than before and took the skin off my shins. I guess I landed pretty hard on the pile of bricks because at that time I lost my presence of mind and let go of the line and the barrel came down and hit me squarely on the head. The doctor wouldn't let me start back to California until October 11, which is why I missed the climb at Yosemite. Please let the RCS members know that I won't let this happen again if they see fit to retain me as a member for another year."

TJ

NOTE: Nick is to be the featured speaker at the 66th annual Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter Banquet, Saturday, February 27 (see November Southern Sierran). Everyone is welcome at the Luminarias restaurant, tickets are \$12.50 each and include dinner, tip, and free parking. To order tickets mail check (payable to Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter) with haste to Simone de Miguel, Angeles Chapter Banquet, 17951 Tiara St., Encino 91315.

TJ

PRECEDENTS -- Cont'd from P. 2

SMSCC member Jackie Van Dalsem has indicated a willingness to receive input from SMS members concerned about the operation of their section. Her address is 4147 Via Marina #1120, Marina del Rey, Ca 90291.

(BJL)

THE SKI MOUNTAINEERS - 1982

With the start of the 1981-82 winter season only a few days away, as your current chairman I would like to say a few words about our Section. The SMS is starting its 48th year, and this will be my 10th with the Section. How times fly when you're having a good time, and I sincerely believe this winter will be a better time than ever for the Ski Mountaineers. After all these years, the SMS is still for the purpose of banding together members of the Sierra Club in order to enjoy skiing in mountain wilderness with the comradship & safety of a group.

The other members of this years Management Committee include Kathy Crandall, R.J. Secor, Jackie Van Dalsem, Mary Omberg, and Andy Fried. If you should have any ideas or suggestions for the SMS, or you want to become more involved please let us know.

Meeting at the recent potluck dinner, our leaders have submitted their outing plans to many new areas, as well as to old favorite slopes. The resulting schedule includes about 43 days of skiing this coming winter and spring. Remembering that our purpose also includes safety, please be sure that your body as well as ski gear is in shape and working smoothly. Besides our 1-day local tours, we will again schedule a week-end training camp to work on ski techniques and other snowy topics. If you haven't skied with the Section recently, I invite you to pick a trip and come along. I am sure you will enjoy the friendly company and we will certainly enjoy yours.

Our purpose also states that we will "promote interest and ability in ski mountaineering and to schedule and lead alpine ski tours." One need only look at our schedule below, and its alpine flavor will be evident. At least 9 peak climbs are there. So, if you were wondering, our skis still travel up & down the mountains and ridges, and best of all, in the SMS you are the judge of how that is best accomplished (subject to leader approval).

As I said earlier, this winter will be better than ever for skiing (the Sierra are already well coated) and all systems are "go" for the 48th running of the SMS. I hope you will all join the race! (MG)

SKI MOUNTAINEERS 1982 SCHEDULE

Jan 9	Local ski tour	Goebel	Mar 20-21	Morrison Cyn	Maloy
Jan 10	Local ski tour	Boge	Apr 3-4	Sou Sierra cp	Fried
Jan 16-17	Mammoth area	Maloy	Apr 9-11	White Mtn explr	Maloy
Jan 23	Blue Ridge area	Crandall	Apr 17-18	Minrl King	VanDalsem
Jan 24	Local checkou	Secor	Apr 24-26	Pear Lk Hut	Wilts
Jan 31	Sugarloaf Mtn	VanDalsem	May 1-2	Glass Mtn	Crandall
Feb 6-7	Pear Lake Hut	Crandall	May 8-9	SanJuaqn Pk	VanDism
Feb 20-21	Butler Lookout	Wilkie	May 15-16	Lamark Col	Goebel
Mar 6-7	Baldy Races	Secor	May 22-23	Mt Powell	Ossofsky
Mar 13-14	Baldy alpine	Wedberg	May 29-30	Mt Ritter	Goebel
Mar 13-14	Local snow camp	Crandall	June 5-6	Rock Creek	VanDalsem

LITTERS PLACED ! !

Sat 26 Sept 3 litters were placed at Tahquitz: at the top of the descent route, at Lunch Rock, & over toward base of the North Buttress. Two litters were also placed at Suicide: at South Crack & Weeping Wall. Special thanks to Phil Thomas, Paul Morrill and Bob Harvey for their work in this task. 35 climbers Sat and 31 on Sun spread out on the various routes, including Fool's Rush, Fingertip, the Maiden, and Angel's Fright. Mark Pomerantz took a fall*injuring his foot, but managed to hobble out to the car. (AKW)

(The above writeup was condensed to about 1/10th its size. Sorry!

--Ed.)