

No. 567 -- March 18, 1980

MT. WATERMAN SKI TOUR
February 24, 1980

Three more Sierra Club members qualified for SMS membership and for Alpine ski tours by skiing down Waterman's steep slopes after climbing up the hard way-- on the NE ridge, without the benefit of the road.

After the downpours of the previous few weeks, snow conditions in the local mtns. were unusual. Even at Waterman, with the highest base elevation of any Southern California ski area, the creeks were washed out and open--which meant that one had to ski into the gullies with care, since they were full of rocks and the flowing water. But there was plenty of excellent snow in between--several feet of it, just fine for ski touring.

We skied up the draw just east of the Buckhorn ranger station, passing an enthusiastic group of Basic Mountaineering Training Course (BMTC) students attacking the slope with ice axes. After making use of a section of the Waterman trail (too gradual!) we skied up the ridge to the minor peak on the east (Peak 7901). Removing our climbers, we skied down into the flat between the two main ridges and over to the lift-served slope, part of which we enjoyed before plunging off the edge and down the 30-degree tree-covered slopes. We eventually encountered the road, and skied down that, with a few shortcuts, popping out of the woods across from the ranger station.

This tour proved again the value of the uphill (and downhill!!!) kick turn, as well as the weight-on-the-outside-ski concept.

The three qualifiers were Bob Brown (Newport Beach), Nancy Heaney (Tustin), and Bill Spina (Canoga Park). Welcome to the Ski Mountaineers! (OW)

GREAT BALDY BOWL SKI RACE
March 1-2

For the first time since the forties, the Ski Mountaineers held ski races in the Baldy Bowl. This event was a great success, in spite of marginal weather, even though the great crowds of the forties were missing.

The plan was to hold an Alpine and a Skinny (Nordic) Slalom on Saturday, followed by a giant slalom off the top on Sunday. Skiers who explored the top of the mtn. early Saturday encountered blue ice and high winds, so that both days were devoted to slalom racing until we were snowed off the mountain by noon on Sun.

Although a few people showed up with Nordic skis, there were not enough at one time willing to go for it, so all races were Alpine.

Scoring was based on the best of two runs on each day (not everybody got two). The times were as follows (in seconds):

Racer	March 1	March 2
Mary Omberg (WD)	No Run	50.86
Oran Charlson (MD)	20.73	23.78 Note 1
Mark Goebel (MD)	23.19	23.97
Owen Maloy (MD)	23.87	No Run
JR Secor (MD)	25.27	26.81 Note 2
George Solovieff (MD)	32.19	No Run
Steve Wilkie	65.23	No Run
WD-Women's Division		MD-Men's Division

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Next Issue: April 15
 DEADLINE: April 11

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 pm. (7:00 pm. for Ski Mountaineer equipment talk), LA Dept of Water and Power, 111 N. Hope St., Downtown LA - Program, refreshments, skiers, and climbers, and their guests are welcome.

CALENDAR

March 22-23 Suicide Rock -Perkins, Tidball
 March 22-23 High Sierra: Palisades-
 M. Goebel, S. Robers
 March 29-30 San Gorgonia-Feldmann, Shinno
 April 5-6 White Mtn.-RJ.Secor, O.Maloy
 April 5-6 Pinnacles-M.Bagdon, E.Nissen*
 *Contact F.Wing or E. Nissen)
 April 12-13 Onion Valley-Feldmann, Lilley
 April 19-20 Morrison Canyon-Ossofsky,
 O. Maloy
 April 19-20 Tahquitz-E. Yount, K.Crandall

LOST AND FOUND

From Fossil Falls trip: 1 liter plastic water bottle with sticker "I may be slow..." wrapped around bottle. Contact Jim Sharpsteen.

TAHQUITZ CLIMB-APR 19-20

Reservations have been made for Fri & Sat. nights at San Jacinto State Park. The fee will be shared among all those who take advantage of this. It has been suggested that all students that plan on climbing with club do so only one one of the two days so call E. Yount to make reservations.

MAGAZINES UP FOR BID

The issues of the following magazines are available to the highest bidder:
 Summit - Issue No. 2 thru 1975
 Backpacker - Issue No. 1 thru No. 34
 Sierra Club Bulletins - Annual
 Issues 1946 thru 1963
 Monthly Issues 1959 thru 1978
 Ascent Magazine - 1967 thru 1971

EXPEDITION TO ALASKA

June 16-August 19: Climb Lituya Mtn., Mt. Katmai Caldera & Mt. Chamberlin Looking for experienced climbers. Contact Scott Bailey (213) 832-6131

ATTENTION STUDENTS

Send address or phone no. changes to Jim Sharpsteen
 1916 Bluebird Rd.
 Glendora, Calif. 91740.

If you do not receive a copy of the Mugelnoos by the Saturday following the monthly meeting (3rd Tue.) contact Dove Menkes, 1550 S. Highland Ave. #D, Fullerton 92632.

If you have any equipment painted green or stamped RCS, please contact Andy Fried or LeRoy Russ. (LR)

NEED LEADERS

The RCS would like to see more new leaders. The same people end up taking the responsibility for leading or co-leading climbs. On April 26-27 (See SC Schedule) the LTC's lecture session is taking place. Attending this weekend would qualify you to lead "0" trips. (Most of our climbs are "0" rated.) Please consider this as we are short on leaders. It gets to be a real drag constantly asking the same people all the time to do all the work which we all have benefited from at some point in time. (FC)

NEW SKI MOUNTAINEERS

Paul Parsons AT
 2133 Countryman
 La Canada, CA 91011
 (213) 459-4275

Gisela Kluwin AT
 100 Hurlburst #12
 Pasadena, Calif. 91105
 (213) 799-0994

John Hodgman AT
 Phyllis Hodgman AT
 5005 New York Ave
 La Crescenta, CA 91214
 (213) 248-0729

Oran Charlson AT
 Box 1554
 Costa Mesa, CA 92626
 (714) 585-7106 or (714) 526-7540

Kevin O. Carpenter NM
 649 Purdue
 Claremont, CA 91711 (714) 626-6085

Dick Hawthorne passed the 4th Clar test on Nordic Mountaineering Eq.

Bill Spina AT
 20431 Rodax Street
 Canoga Park, CA 91306 (213) 341-76

Henry R. (Bob) Brown AT
 341 La Jolla Drive
 Newport Beach, CA (714) 548-5308

Nancy Tipton Heavey AT
 15500 Tustin Village Way
 Tustin, CA 92680 (714) 542-5766

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GREAT BALDY BOWL SKI RACE

Notes:

1. Watch did not stop, but reading was less than 24 seconds at finish. Applying correction of -0.22 seconds (see Note 2), time is less than 23.78 seconds.
2. Last runs were made in a near whiteout and starting was by voice instead of by eye. A correction of -0.22 seconds has been applied for the time required for the starter's call to propagate from the starting gate to the finish.

The winners were: Mary Omberg, in the Women's Division, and Oran Charlson, in the Men's. Each winner received a Valuable Prize, namely, a free night in the San Antonio Ski Hut.

Unfortunately the weekend was marred by a painful injury. Chuck Wilts was hit in the ribs by a falling ice block while standing at the starting gate, shortly after posting an unofficial time of 27 seconds for the course. We were lucky to have a Mountain Rescue Emergency Medical Technician in the hut, Delores Holladay; she taped Chuck up so that he could sleep and get out under his own power. The injury turned out to be a cracked rib, and bruised kidney.

Considering Baldy's tendency to drop rocks and ice on people standing in the bowl, safety net seems like a good idea. It will have to be rather substantial to be of any use. (RJ S, OM)

RCS ROSTER CORRECTION

Only one wrong listing found so far, but it is really bad! Wrong name, spelling, wrong address, wrong phone no. Here is how it should read:

Korbut-Weberg, Andre (12/79)
761 W. Starlight Heights Dr.
La Canada, CA. 91011
(213) 790-4842

What a shabby way to treat a new member. Your red-faced secretary/treasurer apologizes, both to Andre, and to Don Pies, who may have received some of Andre's calls, since his number was shown by mistake. Anyone know of other errors? (My address and phone number are shown correctly elsewhere in this issue.) (JS)

ELECTION PROCEDURES

This letter is written to protest the current illegal election procedures being followed by the Ski Mountaineers Section.

In his haste to implement his new Ski Mountaineers Section by-laws, their author has neglected to submit a copy to the Angeles Chapter Council for their approval, which is required before any new by-laws can be implemented. Until this official approval is received, the previous SMS by-laws are still in effect and any "election by mailed ballot" is illegal and the results are invalid. In addition, even if the new by-laws had been approved by the Council, that portion of the previous by-laws that require that "Ski Mountaineers Section Meeting dates shall be published at least one week in advance in the Mugelnoos or in the Chapter Schedule" was still retained. The new by-laws require that a Ski Mtn. Section Meeting be held in February to permit nominations from the floor. Although apparently such a meeting was held (and a "Ski Mountaineers Section Meeting" is NOT the same as a Mugelnoos meeting), there was no advance notice in Mugelnoos nor was the membership even notified by mail (An acceptable equivalent), even though there was plenty of time for either. Therefore, until these two matters are resolved, no legal election can be held under the new by-laws-- a far different situation than simply being unable to hold a scheduled election due to lack of attendance and candidates willing to run.

However, an alternative to further delay is available; whether by accident or design, an announcement of SMS elections following the April Mugelnoos meeting appears in the current Angeles Chapter Schedule just as it did last year. Therefore, if there are indeed six or more candidates willing to run, a legal election can still be held at that time under the present by-laws.

Members should contact Chairperson Cliff Cameron regarding his decision in this matter. It would certainly provide an opportunity for members to demonstrate that their support for the SMS to continue as a Section, with a take-over by Nordic Skiers, isn't just on paper by forming car pools and attending such an election meeting. (BL)

COULD THIS BE ONE OF OUR MEMBER?

Dear Sirs,

I am 16, I climb, and backpack. In all of my climbing life I have never felt that the use of pitons could be so dangerous. I was climbing at Stoney Point when a couple of your members came just in time to see me using one (1) piton. They started yelling and screaming at me. I told them that it was nessacary (sp) (without it a fall could have been fatal). But they laughed and chucked racks at me. One hit me in the head and I fell 25 feet it was pure luck that the copper head below me held. If this happens again I am going to put my hammer in someone's brain! So could you tell your members to leave people alone. I would also, like to let you know that you guys aren't to take the place of GOD!

Editor's note: I read this letter and thought to myself---it couldn't have been one of our members. But what if it was? I am sending him a letter refuting his accusation that it was a RCS member. He does not accuse the RCS, specifically but guess who the Chapter Headquarters sent this letter to? Need it be said that no matter what a jerk someone is, anywhere, gives no one the right to endanger someone else's life--even if you are a Sierra Club member. (FC)

SUPER SIERRA SNOWPACK LIKELY

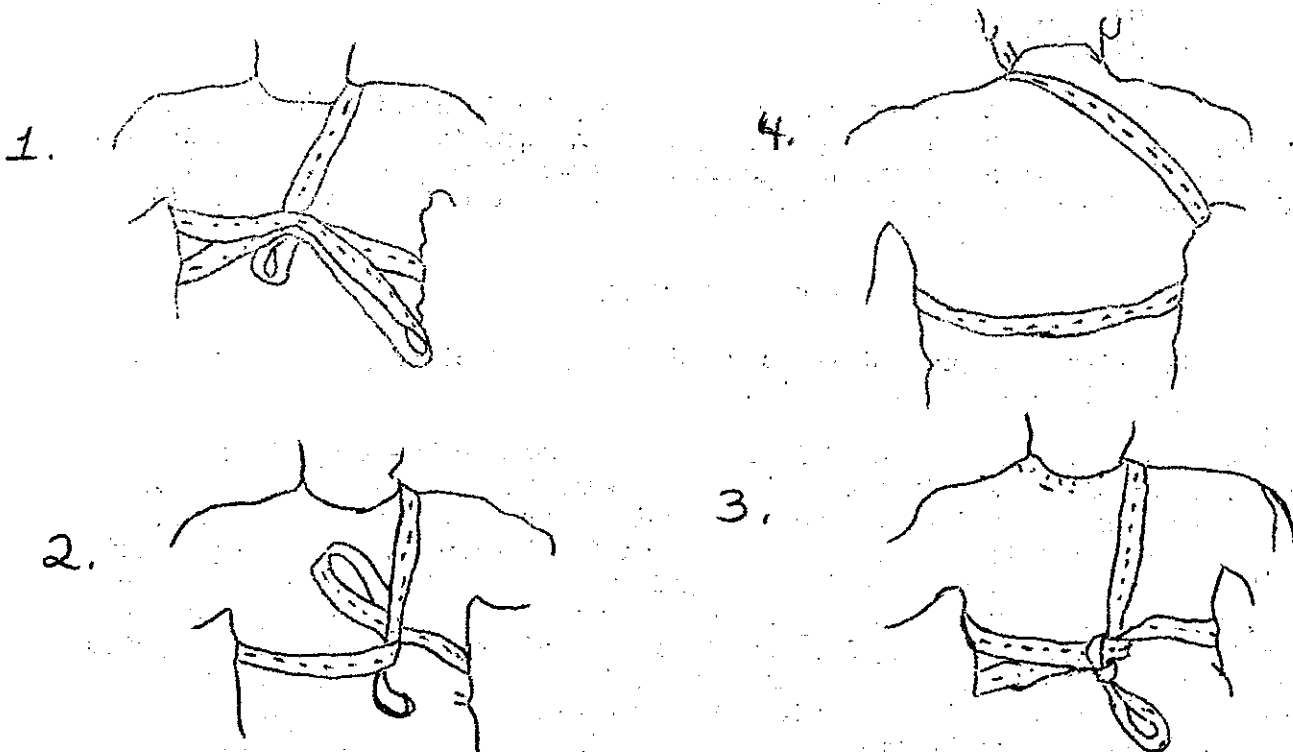
A preliminary sample survey showed snowpack at Rock Creek (west of Tom's place) to be 170% of normal. Final report should be available for publication in the April "Mugelnoos". (BL)

PARISIAM BAUDRIER CHEST HARNESS

(Requires about 10 ft. of webbing)

Tying the harness

Back View



INYO NATIONAL FOREST
WHITE MOUNTAIN RAGE DISTRICT

We would like to inform you that all John Muir Wilderness trailheads within our jurisdiction will be under a quota system, beginning with the 1980 hiking season (June 16 thru Sept. 15). Limits on wilderness use are necessary to protect wilderness values, such as opportunity for solitude and prevention of damage to plants, animals, and waterways.

The quotas apply only to overnight travel. No more than one-third of the daily quota for a trailhead may be reserved by a group of one or more. Although advance reservations are strongly recommended, some permits will be available on a first-come/first-serve basis up to 24 hours in advance of departure.