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A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and the Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions and address changes to Dove Menkes, 2530 Coventry Circle, Fullerton 92633. \$4 per year due in October.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

C. Y. ROCKSOFF MEMORIAL AWARD (AMONG OTHER THINGS)

We announce the institution of the annual C. Y. Rocksoff Memorial Award. This award is dedicated to that enthusiastic member of the somewhat obscure Transylvanian branch of the RCS. Although C. Y. is known to have backed off from every climb he ever attempted, we celebrate his grandiose dreams and desires by establishing this award for the RCS member who makes the most noteworthy rock climb during the year.

Also on this auspicious occasion we present two more awards for those dedicated and hard core rock jocks (male and female) who inhabit the RCS. First, in honor of those climbers who amass large numbers of climbs with the RCS by always managing to appear in time to sign in and out of a climb with the same stroke of the pen, we present the "Hell on High Mountain" Award for that member who attends the most RCS climbs during the year. And last, for the most humorous climbing experience we present the E. B. Twinkletoes Award, dedicated to the lasting chagrin of whomever receives it.

The nature of these awards has not been completely established as yet, and will depend upon the state of the RCS treasury after each year of carousing. All incidents, though, must have been presented in the Mugelnoos and will be voted on by those attending the RCS Annual Business meeting in October.

VS

EXPLORING MONO COUNTY ON SKIS

The annual mid-January Mammoth tours always have some uncertainty about them. Even when you get there it is never clear whether you have too much snow or not enough. This year we had just had a healthy blizzard, which cancelled a plan to climb peaks north of Mammoth (the roads were closed). And of course the snow conditions varied, as usual, from powder to breakable crust in the space of a few meters. This was supposed to be a checkout tour, but as usual nobody inexperienced came. Probably we should not list it that way again. The only thing certain about the conditions is that they will be tricky, and tough for newcomers.

After a contretemps on Saturday (the assistant and leader did not get their act together and started at different times) the group skied into McGee creek from Route 395. After some imaginative route-finding, everyone eventually came together, having penetrated about half the way to McGee Pass. This is essentially a pure Nordic tour with great scenery. Most of us were on Alpine skis, but the snow conditions did not tempt anyone to go off-road and ski the slopes. Another Sierra Club section did it on Nordic skis three days later, and it was even more wind-blown and tricky. It's a good overnighiter for Nordie snow camp types, or a good spring tour to climb Red Slate or Morgan. By starting earlier than we did, one could climb to the saddle on the Mt. Aggie ridge, and have a good run down either to McGee Creek or Convict Lake. Maybe we'll try that on the Mar 20-21 tour.

Sunday we had had enough of flat skiing on skis not designed for it and climbed up under the Sierra crest cliffs above the Duck Pass trail. There we found some wind-packed crust above the trees, and quite reasonable powder (Mammoth powder, similar to an unsuccessful sauce Bernaise) in the trees. Thanks to Mike Layland for recommending the route.

On Monday, the leader and former SMS/RCS chairman, Sy Ossofsky, committed an unpardonable climbing error by (continued on page 2)

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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NEXT ISSUE: April 20, 1982
DEADLINE: Wednesday, April 14

C A L E N D A R

- Mar 20-21 - Convict lake; Maloy
- Mar 20-21 - Fossil Falls; Fried/
Russ
- Mar 28 - Big Rock; Yount/Wing
- Apr 3-4 - Southern Sierran snow
camp; Fried/Gygax
- Apr 3-4 - Joshua Tree (Indian
Cove); Lindgren/Mundwiler
- Apr 9-11 - White Mountain 3 day
tour; Maloy/Yamagata
- Apr 17-18 - Mineral King snow
camp; J. Van Dalsem/Goebel
- Apr 17-18 - Owens Ridge(See RCS
Notices); Shields/Crandall
- Apr 20 - Mugelnoos meeting; SMS
- Apr 24 - Big Rock; Lees/Yount
- Apr 24-26 - Pear Lake 3 day tour
at Hut. \$6 fee plus gas fee at
hut(already full, remainder
camp outdoors); Wilts/Yamagata

IMPORTANT MUGELNOOS NOTICE

Costs have gone up so much that it's in doubt that the subscriptions will cover Mugelnoos costs for 1982. There are many things that increase our costs. Late subscriptions result in additional effort and costs. Are you getting your Mugelnoon but have not sent \$4? There are probably some who are. If the Post Office returns your Mugelnoos no more will be mailed. It's your responsibility to let the MUGELMAILER know directly of changes of address. Don't ask the Mugelmailer for back issues. He only has the current issue. John Ripley can possibly send back issues if its important. Send him a SASE with adequate postage. DM

RCS ADDRESS CHANGES

George Holland, 629 S. College Av.
Claremont, CA 91711, (714)626-4450
Fred Wing, New zip code-- 90077

NEW SMS MEMBER

Paul Harris(Nordic), 1115½ Maple St
Santa Monica, CA 90405,
(213) 396-6236

FOR SALE

Interalp 165' 11mm rope, 6 biners,
10 assorted nuts-all unused. Plus
3 biners used once. \$150 or best
offer. Mike Hough, days (213)
616-3504, eves (213)

MISC RCS NOTICES

Owens Ridge; climb will be on the north side of the ridge up Grapevine Canyon. Much easier approach than from south side. Also better climbing(800'-granite). Turn left on dirt road 2.2 miles past the 14-395 road junction. The road crosses private land so contact leader re trip. Reservations Req'd. VS

SNOWPACK SURVEY

The first snowpack survey of 1982 indicates conditions above normal for this time of year in areas of the Eastern Sierra watershed. The snowpack conditions are an average of 125% of normal for Feb 1, ranging from 100% of normal in the Cottonwood watershed to 140% in the Mammoth Pass area. The L.A. Dept. of Water and Power reports an average of 110% as of March 1. This percentage of normal refers to the water content of the Eastern Sierra snowpack. RJS

(EXPLORING, contd from page 1) untying his belay rope while up in a tree he was helping cut down. The result was a 40 ft fall into a woodpile, a dislocated elbow, a mild concussion, some bruised or cracked ribs, a spectacular medical bill, and a good excuse to be waited on hand and foot. When seen four days later he was mounted on his tractor, one arm in a cast, issuing instructions to the usual bemused helpers for moving the usual defunct vehicle. You see, technique is not enough, skiers and climbers; being indestructible and plain lucky helps a bunch. The other moral is, never make mistakes when climbing during the ski season. Break your bones in the summer when there's nothing worthwhile to do. (Ed.:This reporter was obviously confused due to his inactivity during the other three quarters of the year and meant the converse; when there's nothing better you can do then you ski!) OM

BALDY SKI RACES, MARCH 6-7

High winds and cold temperatures prevented any serious attempt at skiing on Saturday. That afternoon the participants hiked up the western slope of the Baldy Bowl and measured its angle. It varied between 28° and 32° with an average slope of 30°. On Sunday warm weather returned and some fine ski runs were made from the summit of Baldy down to the airplane wreck and down the west slope. Don Pies and Larry Bigler finished first in alpine and nordic categories, respectively. RJS

WEATHER RADIO

For those unable to watch UHF TV at 5:45 in the (contd page 4)

JOSHUA TREE

FEB 13-14

This outing epitomized both the payoffs and ripoffs in rock climbing. Saturday was a fine winter day in which 39 climbers fanned out from Intersection Rock. Assistant leader Yount was a crowd pleaser with his resurrected engineer's cap. The leaders also experienced some joy when a Lost Horse Wall junket, headed by Mundwiler and Russ, finally returned after dark.

On Sunday, 32 people signed in on what was to be a fateful day for Bob Caswell. Bob took a leader fall near the top of Overhang Bypass, striking a ledge near his belayer, LeRoy Russ. A Park Service team, headed by Tom Patterson, had Bob on the ground in one hour (thanks also to John Bachar who soloed to the site to help out!-Ed.) He was then taken to High Desert Hospital in Joshua Tree, and in turn helicoptered to Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda. He suffered a complete and compound fracture of the right ankle, plus abrasions, and underwent successful surgery at 1900 hours that evening. Many members and others pitched in with help and encouragement throughout the afternoon. Special thanks go to Theresa Rutherford who accompanied Bob up to the time of surgery, including the ambulance and helicopter rides.

JE

ATTENTION SKI MOUNTAINEERS --- ELECTIONS!Re: Ballot and Roster

The ballot for the Ski Mountaineers Central Committee Election is enclosed in this edition, March Mugelnoos. Vote for not more than 6 of the nominees. To be valid and counted, your ballot must reach the Elections Committee by the April 5th deadline and your signature and address must be on the outside of the envelope. Prompt action may allow you to vote. If you did not receive a copy of the Ski Mt Roster in Feb or your S.M. election ballot in this issue, then you are probably no longer listed as a member of the Ski Mts. Call or preferably write R.J. Secor immediately and ask to be reinstated and relisted. When reinstated, you will receive a ballot, if time allows. Contact R.J. Seco, 2366 Las Lunas, Pasadena, Ca. 91107, (213) 795-5520. Please send a SASE for quick processing.

If you are presently a Mugelnoos subscriber and are listed on the S. M. Roster and did not receive your ballot, immediately notify R.J. Secor listed above, or the Elections Committee by way of Ellen and Chuck Wilts, 1431 Brixton Rd., Pasadena, Ca 91105, (213) 255-9521.

NOTE-- All Ski Mountaineers must subscribe to Mugelnoos and belong to the Sierra Club- SMS Bylaws.

MG

CLIMBER EXCHANGE

This summer, from 4 to 6 young climbers will arrive here from the German Alpine Club, to initiate a "youth exchange program" the Sierra Club's Mountaineering Committee arranged with the the G.A.C. It marks the first such exchange ever. Next year, it will be our turn to send 4 to 6 Sierrans between ages 18-24 to Germany, where they'll be hosted by the G.A.C. and taken on climbs into the Swiss, German, and Austrian Alps.

For our part, it's expected that these Germans, ranging in age 18-24 will be taken on RCS, SPS, and non-skeddo outings. These people have been active in the G.A.C.'s youth section since age 10, and are tough, experienced climbers on rock, snow, and ice. They've gotten extensive background in their mountains, in an environment similar to Brit. Columbia. We are hopeful of integrating them into sufficient trips originating within the Angeles Chapter, as well as the Bay and Loma Prieta Chapters. Numerous Bay and Loma Prieta members have offered to allow the visitors to room/crash with them; but as yet no one in the L.A. area has made such offers. Will someone come forward? Also, let's begin looking at our 18-24 year olds to see if they're ready for the trip to the Alps in '83. Maybe Fred Wing could go, if he had a face lift? Or Fried's, or Jeter's sons could be prematurely aged? As for this year's opener: R.J. Secor offered to take the visitors on a weeks Sierra peak-bag. Are there any RCS'ers or SMS'ers able to offer similar trips during early or mid-July? If so, contact Norman Kingsley, the Sierra Club's Nat'l Mountaineering Comm Chair(address is in Angeles Chapt Sched)

NK

SUGARLOAF SKI TOUR

JAN 31

It snowed locally that Thursday and Friday, and Sugarloaf had a consolidated base with two to three inches of fresh snow -- ideal! We had four meeting places to insure that all participants arrived on time. Don Pies and Larry Bigler jumped into my truck at the Ma-

(Contd page 4)

(SUGARLOAF, contd. from page 4) rina; Jean Franceois and James Kuivenen met us at Towne Ave.; and Bakers Coffee Shop, Owen Maloy showed up to make the group complete. Armed with loads of info from Mike Layland who skied the ridge the previous weekend, we did a car shuttle at Green Spot Cyn., then skied up Bally Horse Cyn., hit a road for a short distance, and then up the gentle ridge to the summit. It was a warm, clear day. We all took off our skins, nordic and alpine alike, waxed our skis, and made a smoother ascent up the east ridge. (The waxless grooved skis simply don't work up a slope more than 10°).

Jean Franceois and Don Pies took the lead until we hit a nice warm rocky spot for lunch. Then a contour around the north side of the ridge where the terrain opened up into a wide pinyon-pined plateau. Then on to the summit by 2pm where we had another lunch. Down the north slope where the skiing was carefree. Larry Bigler showed off his graceful telemarks with Owen close behind. Jean Franceois was again the undisputed Alpine parallelist with Don Pies in close pursuit. Back to the cars, on to Big Bear to gas up, eat pizza, and talk about the next outing. JD

SKI MOUNTAINEERS TRAINING CAMP FEB 20-21

Kathy Crandall and I held the Training Camp in Tamarack Valley, a lovely meadow 1800 feet below the summit of Mt San Jacinto. Access was via the Palm Springs Tram, and the 10 lucky students were treated to skiing conditions at their best. Subjects covered included downhill and touring techniques, enjoyable snow camping, plus discussions on equipment and avalanche avoidance. Igloo construction was demonstrated by Tom Jeter and Larry Tidball. Student skills initially ranged from beginner to intermediate and everyone definitely upgraded their skills during the 2 day practice. Besides being a worthwhile learning experience for the students and instructors, the fees collected will net the SMS treasury about \$120. Hopefully we can continue this project in the future. MG

(WEATHER, contd from page 2) morning for the excellent "AM Weather" (and don't have a video recorder) and/or want more local and updated weather forecasts, the national "NOAA Weather Radio" network broadcasts 24-hour, continually updated weather information directly to special home radio receivers which have the weather radio system megahertz capability (165.40, 162.475, 162.55) which can be purchased from outlets such as Radio Shack for as little as \$15 and are well worth the investment for the information they provide. (The more expensive ones provide a "Weather Alert" button useful for tornado or hurricane warnings but until earthquake prediction becomes more accurate, this feature is probably not needed for use in California!) Transmitters cover southern and western California fairly well but unfortunately not the eastern side. Although information broadcast from the L.A. transmitter does include the Owens Valley and is adequate for summer use, listeners are urged to write to the NOAA Weather Radio, 11000 Wilshire Blvd., L.A., and urge that information on Northern California and the Sierra Nevada be included as well! BL

PEAR LAKE TRIP NOTICE

Regarding the Spring trip, Apr 24-26, our reservation has been confirmed, and if you want to go, send \$6.00 (nonrefundable) without delay to Chuck Wilts. The propane tax will be about \$1.00 more. MG



DON PIES
4619 W 130TH ST
HAWTHORNE CA

90250

B