



# THE MUGELNOOS

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A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions & address changes to Pat Holleman, 1638 6th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. \$7 per year due in December.

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## WELCOME HOME, ROCK CLIMBERS!

Now that the "3 & up" climbing ban has lifted, word is that the RCS will reaffiliate. The prestigious RCS Training Course has been rescheduled, and orientation began on December 3. The first training climbs begin December 14 at Stony Point. All ex-, former, and current RCS members are invited to come out and instruct the 60 or so new student climbers.

This year's Training Course will place more emphasis on climbing technique - less on demo's - the aim is to put students right onto rock, in a secure top-roped situation with an instructor for every 3 to 4 students.

At this writing, the Board of the Southern California Mountaineering Association is meeting and formulating plans on how to recommend "re-entry" to its membership. There are numerous problems involved: maintaining SCMA's corporate entity, finances (do they remain separate or join the RCS?), will all SCMA members be granted automatic RCS membership, or must there be separate categories? Can an SCMA-certified leader act as an RCS leader? And on, and on.

It's said a number of new SCMA members refuse to join the Sierra Club. Some ex-Sierrans also talk of "never coming back". But, the majority of RCS'ers will come back, reorganize, and continue their affiliation. We're told that it won't be long before "the family" is back together again. Let's hope we can reunite, and overcome the many administrative hurdles that block the way. Hopefully, we'll also find a way to bring the RCS back into "Mugelnoos".

The key SCMA meeting will be held in January. At that time, the SCMA Board presents its recommendations to the membership, and we'll learn more of the scheduled "re-entry". Until then, we'll keep our fingers crossed. Hopefully it won't be too much longer until we see all those familiar, friendly, faces at Mugelnoos meetings.

## NATIONAL MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE RESUMES MEETINGS

Hard-hit by the unanticipated climbing ban, the Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee found itself in a position where it aided and abetted formation of non-Sierran climbing entities. The Committee also brought together talented individuals that formulated what was hoped to be "bomb-proof" waiver-release forms that would enable non-Club entities to climb in litigation-safe environments.

With climbing bans lifted, the SCMC went back into business and held its first meeting in over a year on November 8. Delegates from climbing and skiing sections, also rescue groups, from Bay Area, Loma Prieta, San Diego and Angeles met to review tactics and discuss how to be of service to the rekindled climbing community.

The most noteworthy news out of the meeting came when it was learned that most Chapter's sections simply continued climbing on "private" basis. Only Angeles and Dallas set up separate "outside" corporate entities. The others publicized upcoming climbs in Sierra Club publications, noting simply these were "non-Sierra Club" outings of a "private" nature.

When queried about possible dangers from such casual arrangements, a northern California delegate replied, "You Angeles Chapter types are too concerned with following the letter of the law; we try to work around restrictions, or simply ignore them."





## "PRO" SKI DEAL OFFERED SMS

Åsnes of Norway, one of the oldest cross-country ski makers in the world, respected in the industry for their reliable, durable product performance is re-entering the USA and Canadian markets. Through their importing distributor, Liberty Sports, Åsnes offers a one-time, one-shot Pro-deal to ski instructors - with Liberty consenting to include Mugelnoos readers and SMS-members. Two performance-durability cross-country ski models are offered to Professionals at a promotional price in order to give Åsnes visibility:

- T-60 Designed for deep, dry snow, incredible flotation, no metal edge, waxable base, normal sidecut, wrapped polyurethane core, 195 to 210 cm length. Regularly priced \$80.00 - Mugelnoos special below-wholesale, \$30.50 pair
- LT-48 Designed for the experienced Nordic skier who needs maximum performance, but minimal weight. No metal edges, waxable base, wrapped polyurethane core. Width 52-48-50, length 195 to 215 cm. Regularly priced \$85.00 - Mugelnoos below-wholesale \$36.00

Freight charge per set of skis is \$15, which add to order. Prepayment or C.O.D. only. To order, call Ed Bannister at 1-800-232-2377 or (818)248-0618

## MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE OFFERS LIFE-LINK

The Sierra Club Mountaineering Committee is offering the following "Life-Link" products to Sierra Club sections and individual members, at wholesale cost:

SNOW-PIT DATA CARD; a necessity for profiling the snowpack's grain type, hardness, etc. Printed on a 3" x 5" plastic card are both 1mm and 2mm grids for identifying grains. List \$4.00 - SCMC price \$2.50

SNOW CRYSTAL CARD; a useful reference for learning more about differing snowpack and snow properties. One side has 1mm and 2mm grids, lists examples of 10 basic snow types. Other side lists rules of thumb for avalanche forecasting. 3" x 5" plastic card. List \$4.00 - SCMC price \$2.50

SLOPEMETER; skiers talk about slope steepness, without a means for measuring the actual angle. With the Life-Link Slopemeter, you can accurately determine any angle quickly and easily. Sturdy 3" x 5" plastic card with dial knob and meter slide. List \$15.00 - SCMC price \$8.50

DIAL STEM THERMOMETER; accurate, reliable 5" thermometer ideal for checking snow temperature, for snow study, for ski waxing. Highly legible 1" diameter dial features a zero adjustment for resetting it to 0°C. Available in -40° to 120°F, in 2° increments. Weight: 17 gr., List \$15.00 - SCMC price \$9.00

See these items illustrated in the Great Pacific "Backcountry Skiing" catalog Winter '87; pages 42-43. Send orders to SCMC, Box 262, La Canada CA 91011, include \$1.75 for postage. Group orders: add \$3.00 for UPS charges and include a street (not P O Box) address. Allow four weeks delivery.

## VADASZ MOVIE BOFFO AT SPORT CHALET

Before a capacity audience numbering only a few SMS members, super-skiers Bela and Mimi Vadasz premiered their new color movie. After the screening, many viewers agreed that it was the best ski film they had seen - and left the "show" highly "charged" and eager to learn to ski better.

The film accompanies the Vadasz team on a European Haute Route tour, on climbs of Cathedral Peak and other rock climbs - and on varying Sierra ski tours. The highlight was Bela's wild descent on Nordic skis down the U and V Notch in the Palisades. The screening was on a "dry" Saturday evening, Nov. 22.

MALOY SHATTERS BUREAUCRACY

A combination of diligent research, deliberate lobbying, and well-reasoned argument by SMS-Council rep Owen Maloy, led Angeles Chapter toward greater liberalization.

A Maloy-sponsored initiative sought to modify procedures by which the Chapter Council's By-Laws sub-committee operates. In effect, Maloy's motion denied that sub-committee the right to arbitrarily reject Chapter entity's By-Laws, or to demand changes, etc.

Maloy backed his motion with a well-thought out procedure to ensure no misunderstandings about what constitutes acceptable By-Laws crop up. His goal was to allow any group or section to submit a reasonable set of By-Laws and "be in business". Current practice mandates groups and sections follow narrow, legalistic, conformist dictates that capriciously change every six months.

Maloy submitted his motion, and arguments, in front of a heavily attended Council meeting. Roughly thirty (plus) delegates attended - and the resultant vote proved the Maloy-motion an overwhelming winner. The only dissenting vote came from the person responsible for the past inequities.

The historic meeting ended with numerous delegates congratulating the Ski Mountaineer's representative.

"YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS" DEPARTMENT

Your editor received a telex from a friend in Vancouver, B.C. - Randy Hooper, former Canadian Nat'l Telemark champ, owner of Coast Mountain Sports telexed Nov. 26th: "Hi Norman, greetings from the tropical North"

Whistler washed out!



LATE NEWS FLASH! Barbara Lilley Hangs It Up! She writes: "Farewell SMS, to those few SMSers still left from the "good old days", I am pleased to announce my retirement from Hughes Aircraft (in July). Now, my favorite activities - Alpine ski touring, downhill skiing, peak bagging, desert hiking - are no longer limited to weekends and scheduled vacations. But, the reasons for not renewing my membership in the SMS (after 33 years) have nothing to do with retirement or the cost of the Mugelnoos. Barbara Lilley (So long, Bobbie - see you in Mammoth (the ed.)

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RCS-P

Renew for '87