

THE MOUNTAIN DOGS

No. 646 - February, 1987

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter since 1938. Send subscriptions and address changes to Pat Holleman, 1638 6th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 98226. \$7.00 per year (cheap!) due in October.

SMS TRAINING CAMP - Jan 31-Feb 1, 1987

For some at Keller Hut, the noisy snowmaking guns at the Snow Valley Ski Area may have prevented sleep, but those machines were really singing sweet music. The snow they produce may be bullet-proof, but it is white and slippery. As a result, 28 enthusiastic participants received ski instruction and a chance to practice new techniques in preparation for the backcountry.

SMS veterans, Paul Harris, Pat and Gerry Holleman, and Mark Goebel provided instruction from the basics to advanced downhill techniques. Some of the skiers were returning students from previous SMS training sessions including the one day outing at Mt. Pinos earlier in January. In just a few weeks, some have shown marked improvement as a result of continued practice at local areas. While the "backcountry purist" may disdain ski areas for their crowds, lift skiing does accelerate the learning process by providing more downhill time on groomed slopes. However, those slopes are not without hazard, which may be useful for backcountry training in avoiding the unexpected. For example, there's the "Rocket Skier." Found at local areas, usually a young male, goes too fast and doesn't know how to turn, and frequently crashes. Nancy Gordon knows about these types. She stopped a speeding 8-year-old and in the resulting pile-up, he received a bloody nose. Nancy says she didn't punch him, but it's one for our side.

Lessons continued until closing time, whereupon everyone returned to "camp" and readied for dinner. That project was ably handled by Rose Lynch in a most efficient manner, along with her team of helpers. Thank you Rose, you are an angel.

Following dinner, demonstrations and discussions on ski tuning, waxing, repair kits, and avalanche safety gear were given. Sunday was a time for practice, with some returning to Snow Valley while others tried Goldmine.

MG

BUD HALLEY FOUND!

Last year I ran a few stanzas from the SONG OF THE SKI MOUNTAINEERS, written by Bud Halley. I said that I didn't know who Bud Halley was, or when the song was written. It turns out, as many readers were quick to tell me, that Bud is one of our very own and wrote the song shortly after he joined the SMS in the late 30's. He's still a member and lives in Whittier. Bob Frampton, another long-time member, wrote to me about Bud, and I thought I would include an excerpt:

"My first recollection of him was his boundless enthusiasm! Everything he did was done with an exclamation point after it! I remember one weekend at the Baldy Hut when we were running some races in the Bowl. It was icy, but the good skiers were out playing around (Bud was a very good skier), when I heard a yell and saw Bud coming down end over end. It seemed he would never stop. He did, before reaching the bottom, and when he walked into our watching group, his face and hands like bloody hamburger. He greeted us with the enthusiastic yell, 'Boy oh boy, what a ride!'"

Bob also told me that Bud hosted a party for the Ski Mountaineers "old-time..." a few years ago.

Thanks for writing and filling us in, Bob.

Ed.

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NEXT EDITOR: Dick Smith
 2200 Manzanita Ln
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 NEXT ISSUE: March 11, 1987
 DEADLINE: March 4, 1987

MUGELNOOS MEETINGS: Second Wednes-
 day each month, 7:30 p.m., Griffith
 Park Ranger Station Auditorium,
 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, L.A.
 Free parking. Program, conversa-
 tion. Skiers and guests welcome.

CALENDAR

14 Feb Local intro tour
 Jenkins/Fried
 14-16 Feb Pear Lake Hut
 Duryea/Gygax
 21-22 Feb Wilderness Race
 Pies, Holleman, Goebel
 27 Feb-1 Mar SMS Downhill Races
 Crandall, Goebel
 7-8 Mar San Gorgonio
 Matulavich, Goebel
 14-15 Mar Dana and Gibbs
 Jamison/Danta

BOB FRAMPTON included the following
 note with his Mugelnoos renewal
 check:

"Please continue my subscription
 to the Mugelnoos even tho I am
 now tied to an oxygen tank,
 can't go out in the cold, get
 wet, or go above 5,000 ft."

It turns out that Bob, who has
 never smoked a day in his life,
 is suffering from emphysema. We
 wish him well.

RCS EASTER CAMPSITE

For anyone intending to climb in
 Joshua Tree Easter weekend (there
 is no scheduled RCS trip that
 weekend), I have reserved a group
 site at Sheep Pass.

AKW

RCS: 14-15 March

Group Site 2 at Sheep Pass has
 been reserved from Friday night
 through Sunday morning for this
 RCS climb.

AKW

TO THE EDITOR

Our friend Madeleine Frishman is
 moving into a retirement home and
 trying to relieve herself of her
 worldly possessions. She gave me
 a pair of old ski boots which some
 SMS skier would probably love. If
 I am able to sell them I will for-
 ward the money to Madeleine as she
 is now over 70 and (I guess) on a
 fixed income. If possible, please
 run this ad in the next Mugelnoos:

For Sale

1 pair women Tyrolia leather
 ski boots. Size approx 7-7½.
 Steel reinforced toe; inner
 and outer laces. Excellent
 condition. These are the
 "genuine article" and we would
 like to pass them on to some
 ski mountaineer rather than
 discard them. Price \$25.
 CONTACT: Bill & Agatha Davies
 (213) 664-5223
 (Silverlake area)

BD

The Sierra Club Mountaineering
 Committee has available the Dover
 3-pin binding, model "telemark
 215". This sturdy binding that
 became popular among Wasatch and
 Rockies Tele racers at the '86
 NorAms at Snowbird and Steamboat,
 retails for \$32 - the SCMC makes
 it available for \$20 postpaid.
 Send check to SCMC, Box 262, La
 Canada, CA 91011. Allow 2 weeks.

MT. WATERMAN TOUR

We finally had enough snow locally to conduct a check-out tour
 on Sunday, January 11. Walt Boge and Ed Unge led a group of eight up
 to the East Ridge to the top of Mt. Waterman where lunch was had under
 beautiful blue skies. It was a very clear day and we could see to
 Catalina and beyond.

We had great powder snow in the morning but warm weather made
 snow conditions difficult nearer the top. The snow depth was gen-
 erally adequate, but more snow is needed in order to enjoy later trips
 in this area.

The descent was somewhat slow due to variable snow conditions but
 all eight arrived at the cars in good shape by 4 p.m. Qualifiers for
 two-day trips were Ben Curtis, Steve Pauly, Bryan McQueeney, Gene
 Serabyn and Bob Steward. SMS member Bob Wright came along for the
 outing.

WB

ALONG THE BLUE RIDGE

A total of eleven skiers showed up for the Jan 25, Blue Ridge ski tour outside of Wrightwood. Among them were co-leader Dick Smith, George Holland, Paul Kenworthy and recent sign-off Ben Curtis.

The conditions that Super Bowl Sunday are best described as remarkably not so awful, considering it hadn't snowed for nearly three weeks. I was surprised with the amount of snow that still remained on the Blue Ridge road which our tour followed. Nearby slopes and bowls, however, were pretty thin.

Our intent was to follow the road about five or six miles to its end near Wright Mountain. Along the way we would cross the upper runs of the Mountain High ski area. We agreed early on that if snow conditions didn't improve enough to do some yo-yo-ing, we would cut the tour short and spend the rest of the day on Mountain High's groomed slopes.

This tour is a real bargain. I can't think of any other that offers such dramatic scenery for so little output. The road is gradual and provides stunning views of Baldy, Iron and Baden-Powell most of the way. Rounding one bend, seeing Baldy's north face framed beautifully in the distance, many of us were reminded of the High Sierra.

At mid-day we stopped for lunch near Guffy Camp about four miles into the tour. The distant slopes of Wright Mountain, our last hope for some downhill, didn't look too inviting so we decided to backtrack a few miles to Mountain High.

When we got there, Dick Smith remembered that he had a current rate card for Mountain High. Full-day lift tickets are now \$25, and half-days a boggling \$19! None of us wanted to spend that much, so we decided we'd ski down but once, taking our sweet time about it.

Several participants wanted check-offs, but only one, Laurie Lawrence, who has skied previously with the SMS, demonstrated the necessary skills to please Dick "Hawkeye" Smith. (Personally, I would've been much more lenient, but Dick would hear none of it.) The other aspirants said they didn't begrudge Dick and promised to brush up on their turns before trying again.

We had to hike back the last mile-and-a-half along state two to get to our cars. Along the way, we passed an accident scene. A woman, out for a day of snow play with her children, had taken a nasty tumble down a hard, steep slope. The medics were already on the scene and the report we got from an "unofficial" bystander was that the woman was still alive but had probably broken her neck.

Back at the cars, we packed up quickly in the hopes of catching much of the Super Bowl. In his haste, Dick Smith pulls away with his water bottle still atop his car. We hear a few hollow thumps as the bottle falls to the ground behind us. Catching his mistake instantly, Dick slams on his breaks and throws his car into reverse, his eyes peeled to his rear-view mirror. Defying all odds, the errant bottle is squashed before it stops rolling.

PM

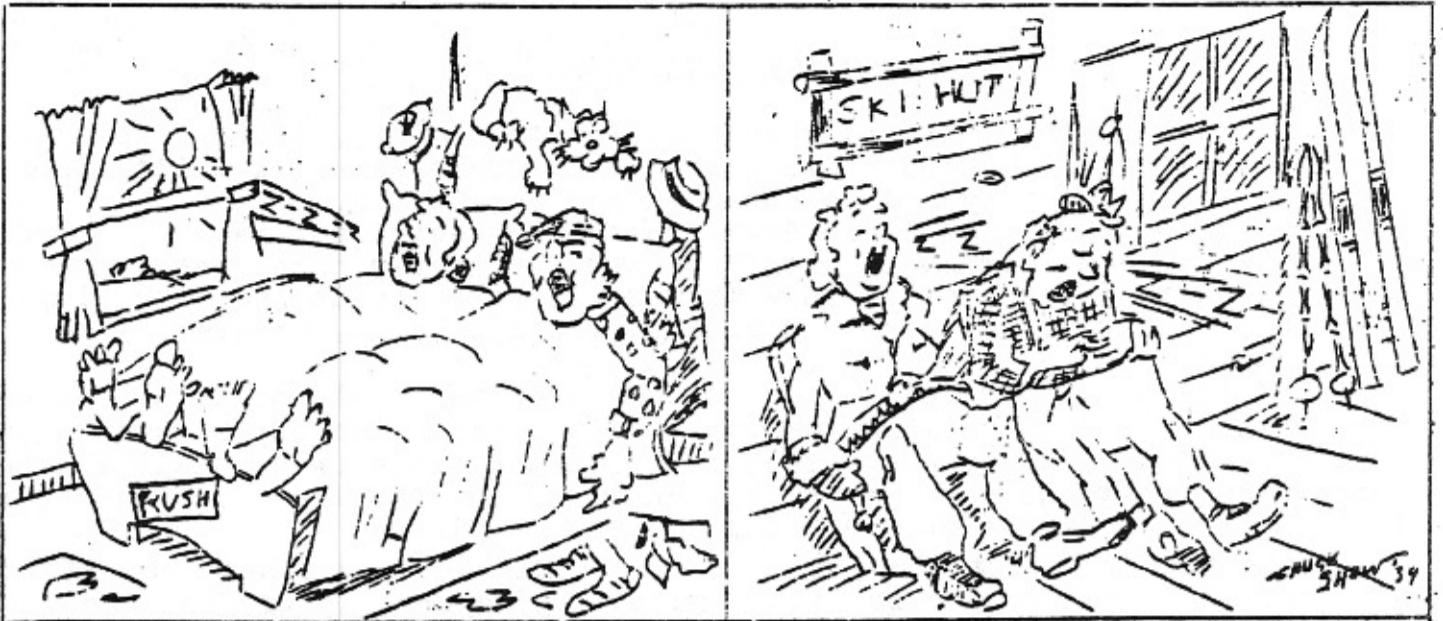
FROM THE ARCHIVES

The cartoons on the next two pages have been reprinted from early Mugelnoos issues, specifically from the late 30's. Enjoy.

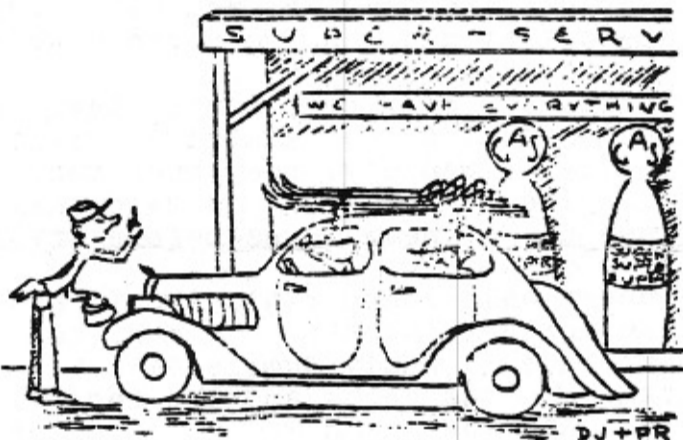
Ed.



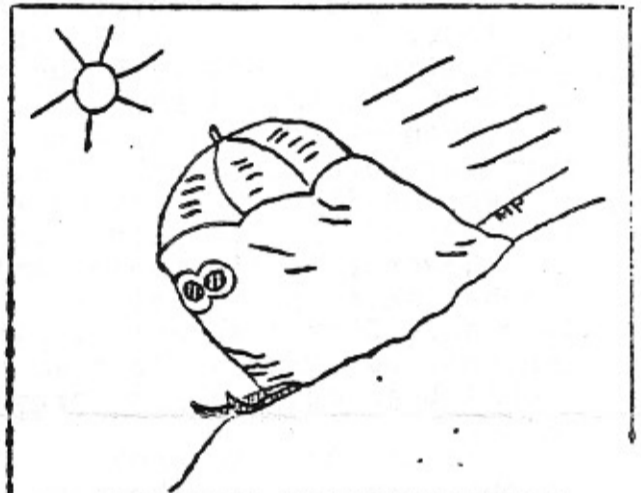
FAMILIAR FORMS OF SNOW
LIFE NO. III -- THE
SNOW - BALLERS



And then they took up skiing!!!



"Check your oil and wax your skis, Sir?"



LITTLE GEM SUNBURN PREVENTER

Just the thing for late spring skiing. It is the only sure way to prevent sunburn, other than to stay at home. All goozles are unreliable.

Unfortunately this device is not adaptable to the use of the rock climber. -- May Pridham

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