

RJH
Feb 89

THE MUGELNOOS

No. 671 - Our 51st Year-February, 1989

A 4-Page Issue

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 90266. \$7 per year due in October. **SUBSCRIPTION PAYMENTS ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE** as charitable contributions.

SOUTH POLE CONQUERED

SMSer Ron Milnarik successfully skied to the South Pole! He arrived there on January 17, 1989 at 2215 GMT. He was with the Mountain Travel group and the party consisted of 6 clients and 5 staff.

Only four parties have successfully skied to the South Pole: Scott, Amundsen, the 1986 British group "In the footsteps of Scott" and now our own Ron Milnarik.

I received a post card from Ron today. The postcard is postmarked "South Pole Station" and reads: "Hi RJ -- Flew by Aconcagua on the way down here and thought about you. Thanks for your encouragement when most others thought this trip was a crazy dream. It came true for all 6 of us + 5 staff. Skied 742 miles in 51 days, making 45 camps along the white--white route. Beautiful mountain ranges Ellsworths, Thiel Mountains passed by. Climed 3 nunataks. Will call you soon."

When I visited with Ron last spring in Anaheim, He modestly told me that he didn't think that he had enough experience to join this expedition. He is a modest sort of guy. In the late 1960's, he spent a year at Thule Air Base in Greenland. (He is a dentist in the US Air Force). He spent his weekends cross-country skiing with the native Eskimos (including descendants of Peary and Henson) and learning about igloos, and other facets of arctic travel. He used this knowledge to the best use possible in his latest accomplishment. He taught me a lot of this stuff on our trans-Sierra ski tour in 1985. All Ski Mountaineers should be proud of Ron.

(Let's hope Ron will send a write-up to the Mugelnoos! Ed.)

RJS



WATERMAN CONQUERED

An astounding sixteen skiers showed up for the January 7th introductory tour to Mt. Waterman. Among them were SMSers Mark Goebel, Reiner Stenzel and Anna Zordan. Leading the assault were Paul Harris and Pete Matulavich.

The weather was cold and cloudy with occasional snow flurries, just what you might expect for New England, and we even had the snow to match -- mostly breakable crust. Still, it was an enjoyable affair and we were successful in bagging the 8,000-foot peak.

Eleven skiers wanted check-offs, so we were lucky to have Mark along to assist in the surveillance. We packed down a small slope about half-way down the ridge and yo-yoed for an hour or so. Five skiers qualified for future SMS outings, three couldn't quite make muster, and three didn't even come close. Among those checked out were Martin Hardy, Dana Pearce and Edna Rey.

Before the day was over, Reiner Stenzel and Pete Matulavich put on an awesome ski jumping exhibition, dazzling the crowd with six-inch high jumps over a submerged log.

PM

MUGELNOOS STAFF

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**NEXT EDITOR**

Pat Holleman
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NEXT ISSUE

March 21, 1989

Copy Deadline: March 14, 1989
 Photo Deadline: March 7, 1989

MEETINGS

Third Tuesday each month. 7:30 P.M.,
 Griffith Park Ranger Station Auditorium,
 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, L.A.
 Climbers, skiers, ne'r do wells welcome.

SMS SCHEDULE

March 4-5 Yosemite Races (Fried/
 Holleman)
 March 11 Local Tour (Crandall/Goebel)
 Mar 25-26 San Jacinto Race (Crandall/
 Smith)

Quick! Where does Baldy rank among the
 highest mountains in Southern California?
 Third? Not even close. Eleventh.

NOTICE

SCHEDULE CHANGE: The March 11 local tour,
 above, was previously scheduled March 12.

The March 25-26 Wilderness Race, above,
 was previously scheduled March 18-19.

CALLING ALL TREKKIES

Rich Henke is leading a 19 day Nepal Trek
 to the Rolwaling area in October, 1989. If
 interested, contact him at (213) 545-6491.

FLASH!!!

Last year I joked about George "the Bard"
 Holland getting his piece on Montana Ski
 Areas published in Pork Belly Digest. It
 turns out George was actually published
 in the Des Moines Register. Not bad,
 George. Next to Pork Belly Digest, the
 Des Moines Register is the most widely
 read periodical in Iowa.

**BRIANHEAD VISITED**

Skiers looking for a telemark utopia
 will find it in Brianhead, Utah. Miles of
 intermediate and upper immediate runs,
 a small town atmosphere, and \$22 lift
 tickets, make Brianhead one of the West's
 best kept secrets. Just north of Cedar City
 at an elevation of 9,600 feet, Brianhead is
 only an 8-hour freeway drive from L.A.

FILLER QUIZ

Who can recall the former name of the
 San Gabriel Mountains?

Ans: The Sierra Madre, of course. It was
 still being referred to as such by the early
 Ski Mountaineers in the late 30's, even
 though the name change came some years
 before.

MORE FILLER

The L.A. basin is filled with 30,000 feet
 of sediment (honest!), deposited over
 millions of years of mountain building and
 erosion. If this sediment could be removed,
 Mt. Baldy would rise higher over its
 surroundings, than any other mountain in
 the world.



WATERMAN CONQUERED AGAIN

January 15th dawned bright and clear and cold to the delight of eleven skiers meeting in La Canada for a tour in the local mountains. We proceeded to the lower Buckhorn parking area which proved to be full. Fortunately we were able to find parking off the road.

The tour started at the bottom of the original Waterman downhill area and proceeded up the access road and the East Ridge of Waterman. Halfway up we were joined by the Kingsleys and had the pleasure of their company all the way to the top. There we were rewarded with a great view of the surrounding mountains including Mt. Baldy.

Going back we found some powder and packed powder on the top slope. However, the steep part of the descent was a mixed bag of powder, breakable crust and crud. We decided to take the road down and found some enjoyable skiing on powder here and there. Everybody arrived safely at the cars about 4:00 PM.

Eight skiers passed the test for SMS Section membership. They were George Ferreiro, Jim Farkas, Mike Bratkowski, Jasper Colebank, Kris Hutchin, Ken Deemer, Millie Bloombaum and Gerry Dunie.

WB

SMS PATCHES



If you've been thinking about ordering an SMS patch, now is a good time. The patch is 3" across and depicts the 50-year-old SMS logo in four wintry colors: avalanche white, two shades of hypothermic blue, and, of course, good ol' urine gold. It's a real beauty and is generally regarded as the most attractive of all Angeles Chapter section patches. It looks great on packs and parkas. You might want to order several for different packs. The cost? You won't believe how cheap. Only \$4.50, and that includes handling and shipping.

If you order now, you avoid the pending price hike. They'll be \$99 next month. You not only save \$94.50, but you help support the SMS as well. Incidentally, there are precious few pins left--their beautifully enameled on brass, and look terrific on ski caps. They cost \$5.50. They'll be going up to \$6,000 soon, so order now. Seriously, if you've always wanted a pin, this may be your last chance to get one.

Send your check (made out to S.M.S.) to Pete Matulavich, 1414 Paseo Manzana, San Dimas, CA 91773.

PM

LEADER NOTICE

SMS leaders are reminded to please forward your trip sign-up sheets to Outings Chair, Paul Kenworthy, P.O. Box 49581, LA 90049. No one is precisely certain what is done with these lists, but that's the way we've been doing things for fifty years and we're not about to change now.

PM



Nepal Trek Rolwaling Himal

27 days - 19 October to 14 November 1989

Trip Cost (including airfare) - \$2650

(\$2550 if deposit received before 1 May)

Trek Description: This trip involves a trek of 19 days in the remote Rolwaling Himal, located west of Mt. Everest and a few miles south of the Tibetan border. The trek starts at Barabise (2686 feet) on the road from Kathmandu to Tibet. The Rolwaling Valley is one of the most remote and beautiful areas in Nepal and is located just below Gauri Shankar, an imposing peak reaching 23,440 feet. The area is seldom visited by Westerners. The last permanent settlement is at Beding (12,100 feet) and we hope to reach Tsho Rolpa, a large glacial lake at an elevation of almost 15,000 feet. The trek will end in Jiri. Several nights will be spent in a hotel in Kathmandu both before and after the trek allowing time for sightseeing.

Travel Details: The cost includes departure from anywhere on the West Coast. Individual trip extensions beyond 27 days are available. A free stopover is available in Bangkok and additional stops in Tokyo, Taipei, Hong Kong, and Seoul are \$50 each. Travelers can return from Delhi for an additional \$25.

Trek Philosophy: Adventure Plus treks are designed for people who wish to travel in areas infrequently visited by other tourists. Mountaineering skills are not required and the treks will concentrate on experiencing the Nepali culture. The environmental consequences of large trekking groups are recognized and efforts are made to reduce disruptive effects such as using kerosene rather than wood where possible and taking care to leave the areas as we find them.

Included: Full time leader, all transportation (including airfare), all hotels, all meals except in Kathmandu and Bangkok, complete trekking arrangements (English speaking Sherpa guides, porters, cooks, tents, toilet tent, sleeping pads, trekking permits, and food).

Not included: Tourist visas, passports, airport departure tax, meals in Kathmandu and Bangkok, sleeping bags, medical insurance, inoculations, excess baggage charges, items of a personal nature.

Trek Leader: Rich Henke has traveled extensively in Nepal, China, Asia, South America, Europe, Mexico, Canada, and the US. He is involved in a wide variety of outdoor activities and has organized numerous Nepal treks, ski tours, and mountaineering trips. He is also an avid photographer.

Trek Preparations: Prior to the trip Rich will conduct a slide show and presentation on Nepal for all participants. This will include factual data about Nepal and trekking including: equipment lists, information on culture, photo tips and ideas, what to do in Kathmandu, where and what to eat, local currency, health information, time zones, water purification, what to expect during travel to and from Nepal, and a brief Nepali language primer. A trip preparation booklet on Nepal will be provided in advance to each participant.

For information/application contact: Rich Henke (213) 545-6491

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