

Club Activities

EDITED BY FREDERICK O. JOHNSON

A.A.C., Cascade Section. Membership in the Section increased to over 100 members with the addition of several new climbers to the roster. Most members were active throughout the summer both within the United States and elsewhere. Trips were made to Alaska, Canada, Europe, and South America, and several noteworthy climbs were made which are detailed elsewhere in this *Journal*. Seven meetings were held during the year. These included such programs as Bill Bridges' illustrated talk on the national parks of New Zealand; Al Randall's slides of Pinnacle Peak in the St. Elias Range; Mike Rees' and Vic Josendal's slides of Huascarán in Peru; Dee Molenaar's and George Senner's slides of the ascent of Mount Kennedy in Alaska; Paul Williams', Gene Mason's, and Ralph Mackey's slides of Aconcagua; and Tom Hornbein's story of the West Ridge of Mount Everest. The year's activities culminated with the section's being honored to host the Club's annual dinner on the West Coast for the first time. The attendance numbered 343 persons.

WESLEY GRANDE, *Chairman*

A.A.C., Oregon Section. One of the highlights of the year for the Northwest was the first American Alpine Club annual meeting to be held in this area. It was hosted by the Cascade Section, but had several members from the Oregon Section assisting in the arrangements. We completed the first phase of the ice-screw testing program. This program will be continued and expanded by the Section with additional testing and data to follow during 1966. Climbing found Bob Lee leading an expedition of Northwesterners to the jungles of the Yucatan peninsula in search of ruins. Bill Hackett and Charles Dotter headed an expedition into northern Canada. Guido Rahr spent two weeks in British Columbia on numerous climbs. Ray Conkling spent a week on a photographic-climbing trip in Yosemite in May. Willi Unsoeld is again spending time for the U. S. government in Nepal, where he continues to climb and pursue his photographic interests.

RAY CONKLING, *Chairman*

A.A.C., Sierra Nevada Section. The Section met five times during the year. Programs included illustrated talks on climbs of Nevado Copa,

Palcaraju, Huandoy, and Chacaraju in Peru by Leigh Ortenburger; ascents of Mount Hooker in the Wind Rivers and Proboscis in the Logan Mountains by Dick McCracken; and the ascent of the South Ridge of Mount Logan by Al Steck and Dick Long. There was a reception for Gaston Rébuffat in conjunction with the Berkeley showing of his new film, *Entre Terre et Ciel*. In October a mountain meeting was held at Jules Eichorn's cabin at Echo Lake near Lake Tahoe. Several of our members attended the Club's annual meeting in Seattle and felt it was highly successful. Section members are now 60 in number, and we have been pleased to welcome to the Club several of the younger, active technical climbers in this area.

GILBERT ROBERTS, JR., *Secretary*

The Alpine Club of Canada. The 1965 summer camp was held at Glacier Lake in Banff National Park with 159 members and friends in attendance. This is a beautiful area with the Lyell Glacier dominating the scene to the west and Mount Murchison to the east. The trips from the main campsite at 4700 feet were very long, which required establishing a high camp at 7700 feet so that the Lyells could be climbed more readily. Excellent weather coupled with the new trail cut by the Parks Department from the Saskatchewan River Crossing to Glacier Lake and along its north shore, made the 12-mile trip to camp most enjoyable. Ascents were made of Arctomys, Division, Forbes, Lyells 1,2,3,4, and 5, F 1,2,3, and 4, Messines, Mons, and Sullivan. A smaller group climbed in Baffin Island under the leadership of P. D. Baird and were successful in making a number of first ascents. Particulars of this expedition will be recorded in the 1966 issue of the *Canadian Alpine Journal*. The 1965 Ski Camp was held at the Columbia Icefields in Jasper National Park.

W. C. LEDINGHAM, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Alpenbock Climbing Club. The year 1965 was the most active one in the club's history for both climbing and skiing. On May 21-22, 10 members attempted a ski ascent of the Grand Teton, but were stopped by bad weather within 600 feet of the summit. Skis were used in descending from the "Headwall" to the valley floor of Jackson Hole. Members continued to climb in the Tetons throughout the summer, starting with the year's first ascent of the Grand Teton on June 22 via the Petzoldt Ridge. Rick Reese and Bob Irvine were climbing rangers, headquartered at Jenny Lake. Several members climbed in Europe making ascents in the Dolomites and the French Alps. The club was saddened by the death of its member Mark McQuerrie, who was killed in a climbing accident

on the granite near Salt Lake on September 19. The club continued to work closely with the sheriff's department of Salt Lake County on all searches and rescues in the mountains, and conducted several rescue clinics during the year.

RICH REAM

Appalachian Mountain Club. Participation in all phases of the club's activities was never greater than in 1965. It has occasioned increased leadership training for all of our outdoor programming in all seasons during recent years. Highlighting this stress in 1965 was the formation of coordinating interclub-interchapter committees in mountaineering and outings to augment a similar unit for canoeing established a few years back. More effective leadership training and more imaginative programming are already known by-products of this change. A number of challenging firsts were scored during the past year: the dedication of our first new hut system unit in 33 years at Mizpah Springs on the Presidential Range of the White Mountains in July; the release of the first edition of the *A.M.C. New England Canoeing Guide*, at the same time, the arrival of a new textbook, *A White Water Handbook for Canoeing and Kayaking*, in the fall; and the election of our 10,000th member in December. These and many other signs during 1965 point to greater public and member acceptance of and response to the Appalachian Mountain Club's broadening program for a better outdoor world in the East. Future reports will continue to bear out this trend.

C. F. BELCHER, *Executive Director*

British Columbia Mountaineering Club. With the club's having finally completed the *Guidebook to the Coastal Ranges of British Columbia*, members went a long way toward making it obsolete by putting up a variety of new routes and ascending some 40 new peaks. Batzer Hut, the first in a series of mountain shelters of a special parabolic design, was erected in the Lucky Four Group. Two club camps were held successfully and were open to non-members. "Expedition Camp" accounted for 13 first ascents on the northern fringe of Monarch Icecap. Next year the camp will be held in the Pantheon Group north of the Waddington area. Members also participated in expeditions to Mount Kennedy, the Monarch massif, Lillooet Icecap, Hurley River country, and a long exploration of the little known ranges of the Terrace and Douglas Channel map sheets. Sixty-two week-end trips were scheduled, and a 15% increase in attendance was recorded. Provision has been made for compiling corrections and additions to the new guidebook and for supplying current infor-

mation on the Coastal Ranges. Correspondence in this regard is invited and should be sent to the club at Box 2674, Vancouver, B.C.

DICK CULBERT, *Climbing Committee Chairman*

Chicago Mountaineering Club. The club celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1965. We now have over 200 members, and with an increase in mountaineering interest, the club is enjoying continued growth. In addition to the usual year-round training at Devils Lake, Wisconsin, and at Savanna, Illinois, the club sponsored another western outing with Olle Swartling leader. The campsite was at the east end of Clear Lake in the southern Wind Rivers in Wyoming. The outing was well attended with 81 people, the weather was fine, and most of the area's major peaks were climbed. Besides these activities, international travel took several members to more remote mountain areas. Don and Gwen Simpson climbed in Europe, attending the Matterhorn centenary at Zermatt. Luthar Kolbig journeyed to Afghanistan. Bill Primak and Ed Gibson airlifted deep into the Canadian Rockies for first ascents. Our president, Frances Mullen, hiked to the shadow of Mount Everest on a hiking expedition to Thyangboche, Nepal, conducted by Colonel James Roberts. Other club activities included a splendid group of monthly programs featuring mountaineering subjects. Olle Swartling conducted a one-week safety seminar for the Wisconsin Conservation Department. The club has issued a preliminary edition of Bill Primak's *Guidebook to the Local Practice Climbing Areas, Devils Lake Section*. Full editing is expected to require another year before publication.

GEORGE POKORNY, *Vice-president*

The Colorado College Mountain Club. The year 1965 marked the 20th anniversary for the club. Following the custom established over the past years, we continued to hold our weekly meetings and week-end climbs in the Colorado Rockies. The Pikes Peak area particularly was used for snow and ice climbing and cross-country skiing. During the summer two members traveled to Peru for some Andean climbing. We were very sorry to learn of the death of our school doctor, Roger Whitney, who was killed while climbing in Peru. The club resumed in the fall with increased membership. The activities included ascending some of the state's "fourteeners" and conducting rock-climbing schools. The club also devoted some energy to its plans for hosting Mountaineers' Week-end, an outing for campus climbing groups in the Rocky Mountain area to be held in the spring of 1966.

SUSAN KILHAM, *President*

Dartmouth Mountaineering Club. During 1965 the Dartmouth Mountaineering Club continued its basic activities of running trips and providing instruction in rock and ice climbing. This year saw an improvement in the caliber of the club's climbing as evidenced by its spring vacation trip to Seneca Rock and many successful climbs in Franconia Notch. During the summer, members climbed throughout the West, including Alaska and the Yukon, where two succeeded in climbing the difficult north-west ridge of Mount St. Elias. Much of the climbing on this expedition was first led by last year's president, Dennis Eberl. In Hanover the climbing course continued its evolution with the introduction of hard-hats and an improved method of practicing dynamic belaying. A demonstration of technical rock climbing this fall was well attended. After the usual worries, a very successful issue of the *Dartmouth Mountaineering Club Journal* for 1965 was published in May. Copies are available at \$.50 per copy from the club at 23 Robinson Hall, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755. The next issue will be published in 1967. Activities for the coming year include another spring trip and a climbing camp late this summer in the Selkirks.

WILLIAM VAN DE GRAAFF

Harvard Mountaineering Club. The year 1965 was an outstanding one for the H.M.C., with members taking part in significant ascents on at least three continents. It was also a tragic year, with Ed Bernd, vice-president elect, and Craig Merrihue, a former president, being killed in climbing accidents. The first ascent of the west face of Mount Huntington in Alaska's McKinley Range ended tragically when Bernd's rappel failed on the descent. Matt Hale, Don Jensen, and Dave Roberts also participated in the climb. Boyd Everett, leader, Jim Alt, Gus Benner, Ed Bernbaum, Dave Redmond, and Lee Story made the first ascent of the northwest ridge of Mount St. Elias. Everett also led the expedition which made the first ascent of Mount King George in the St. Elias Range in April. Robin Hartshorne, Bob Jahn, Steve and Ruth Jervis, Sandy Merrihue, and Mike Wortis attempted 22,450-foot Bandako in Afghanistan's Hindu Kush. Adams Carter joined in the first ascent of Yahuaraju and Rurec in Peru's Cordillera Blanca. Hank Abrons, Charlie Bickel, Ernie and Pete Carman, and Rick Millikan in a two-day climb made the first ascent of the north ridge of North Twin near Mount Alberta in the Canadian Rockies. As usual the club maintained a full schedule of local climbing. Each of Huntington Ravine's five ice gullies was ascended several times on club trips, and rock climbs were held nearly every week-

end in the spring and fall to the Shawangunks or to New Hampshire. Members were prominent in the unsuccessful effort to save the lives of Dan Doody and Craig Merrihue, who had fallen from high in Pinnacle Gully on Mount Washington. The club has established a fund in memory of Craig, and proceeds from it will be used to buy books for our library.

The 17th issue of our biennial journal, *Harvard Mountaineering*, issued in May. Thanks to editor Burt Redmayne and the financial support of alumni members, the journal lives up to the high standards set by its predecessors. The wide scope of its contents — from McKinley to Chacra-
raju — provides as good proof as could be demanded that the long tradition of Harvard mountaineering is still vital.

MATTHEW HALE, JR., *President*

Idaho Alpine Club. A late and short season severely curtailed the outings and activities of the club in 1965. Ski tours into early July were held in the Teton Pass, Beartooth Pass, and Galena Summit areas. In the early part of the season climbing outings were limited to the lower Teton peaks. An outing to Big Horn Crags scheduled for July 4 was canceled owing to the access roads' being closed by snow. The summer's major outing, held in the Wind Rivers in Wyoming, was postponed from the middle of July to early August because of the late snowpack. Despite scheduling difficulties, the outing proved a success with one group based in the Titcomb Valley region making over a dozen ascents and a second group making a loop backpack through the central part of the range. The two contingents met in the Titcomb Lakes and Island Lake region for some combined climbs. The Executive Council members for 1966 are: Richard Wilde, president; Cyril Slansky, vice-president; John Echo, secretary; James Kemper, treasurer; and Joe Gale, Dean Millsap, and Barbara Brown, members-at-large.

BARBARA B. BROWN

Iowa Mountaineers. The club was unusually active in 1965. Fourteen week-end climbing outings were sponsored to the Mississippi Palisades in Illinois and to Devils Lake in Wisconsin. The annual banquet attracted 130 members from five states to hear featured speakers Don Simpson from Chicago and Fred Beckey from Seattle. A 176-page journal was published containing over 100 photographs. Nineteen professional adventure film-lectures were sponsored with an average attendance of 595 persons.

The Sawtooth Outing in Idaho led by Wilbur Davis attracted a group of 52. Thirteen major peaks in the area were ascended including Mounts

Hancher, Heyburn, and Thompson, Peak "X", Grand and Lower Aiguilles, Grand Mogul, Elephant Perch, Chockstone, Eagle's Perch, Warbonnet, Pack Rat, and Hannibal's Spire. Dick Irvin directed a rock climbing school on the outing. The Peruvian Expedition led by John Ebert visited the Quebrada Ishinca in the Cordillera Blanca. Forty-four mountaineers and eight porters composed the group which included 11 A.A.C. members. Details of ascents are listed under *Climbs and Expeditions*. The club will sponsor two major outings in 1966. A group of 70 will visit the Beartooth Range in Montana August 8-19, and a dozen members will climb in one of the Alaskan ranges the last two weeks in July and the first week in August.

JOHN EBERT

Mazamas. Unusually good weather gave The Mazamas of Portland, Oregon, the opportunity to start 140 climbs during the 1965 season, with 1902 individual ascents resulting. New summits to the club were Mounts Garfield and Washington, Wilmon Peak, Kloochman Rock, Leaning Spire, Spire Peak, The Fin, The Horn, and Slippery Slab Tower, all in Washington. The various outings also brought success on many peaks new to the club. A base camp was held at the upper end of Redfish Lake in the Sawtooth Range of Idaho. This outstanding area has a great number of routes on granite, most of them seldom climbed. The high spots of the outing were ascents of Mount Heyburn and Chockstone Peak by a new route. In late summer another outing by backpack probed the Picket Range in northern Washington, climbing Luna and Whatcom Peaks. This outing, led by John Neal, entailed walking 15 miles to Whatcom Pass. Then several more miles of steep heather slopes and glacier climbing placed the party on Challenger Arm. A climb of Mount Challenger failed because of difficult crevasse problems and bad weather.

The club's basic climbing school enrolled 324 people; 247 wrote a final exam, and 99 graduated. One of the requirements for graduation was a climb of Mount Hood. Thirteen graduates emerged from the intermediate climbing school. The evolution of good leaders and the development of competent climbers depends greatly on the concept of schooling for them. Without doubt climbing school has reduced the number of uncomfortable or dangerous situations which normally develop in a club's climbing program. Climbers and hikers who exhibit an atrocious lack of technique and are poorly equipped are usually unaffiliated with any climbing club. Here is *prima facie* evidence that clubs can teach technique and use discipline laid down by good leaders. Even the untrained, unaffiliated

individuals are aided when they come in contact with club groups. Their interest is piqued, and some of them eventually join a club.

A small but enthusiastic effort has begun within the club in winter mountaineering. Requirements in ability and the type of equipment are much more strict owing to the more severe conditions of winter climbing. It will never reach the popularity of summer climbing. Much of the time it is not a "pleasant" undertaking, and many summertime climbers are addicted to skiing in winter.

JACK GRAUER

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Club members made several first ascents during the past climbing season. In June junior members Dave Meyers, Nick Parker, and Mike Judd climbed Mount Williwaw (5445 feet) after several previous attempts. Alex Bittenbinder, Don Stockard, and Vin Hoeman climbed and named three peaks in the Wrangell Mountains. Two of these were named "Atna Peaks" (13,860 feet and 13,650 feet), and the third they named "Kime Peak" (12,741 feet). Pete Robinson and Dave Johnston climbed Mount Case in Glacier Bay National Monument. Art Davidson, Nick Parker, Dave Meyers, and Mike Judd climbed Peak 7280 feet in the Eklutna area of the Chugach Mountains, naming it "Beelzebub." Also in this area Peak 7900 was climbed and named "Baleful," and Peak 5665 was climbed and named "Pellet Peak." There were two first ascents in the Snowbird Mine area of the Talkeetnas. Davidson and Meyers climbed Peak 6100, calling it "Didilkama." Art and Vin Hoeman climbed Peak 6135, naming it "Higher Spire." Art Davidson also made a first ascent of "Korohusk" (7030 feet) in the Eagle River area of the Chugach. The club has an active hiking, ski touring, and snowshoeing program. Membership continues at about 100. A successful rock climbing school was again held in June. Plans for additional shelters beyond our present three are in the making, as are plans for improved instruction in rock and ice techniques.

RONALD L. LINDER, *President*

The Mountaineers. Interest in The Mountaineer Climbing Course continued high during 1965, with 274 students in the Basic Course and 61 new enrollees in the Intermediate Course. A record 106 climbers graduated from the Basic Course, while 12 received Intermediate certificates. Eight training field trips and four seminars on advanced techniques were given. In keeping with the policy of offering an expanded climbing program to reduce party size, a total of 101 climbs was scheduled. Aided by good weather, an unprecedented 75 of these climbs were successful,

highlighted by an ascent of Mount Rainier via Liberty Ridge. In all, an estimated 1200 signatures were inscribed in summit registers. The summer outing was held in Lake O'Hara Meadows at Yoho National Park, with over 80 people in attendance both weeks. Ascents were made of about 10 peaks, including Mount Victoria and North Oderay. Sixteen climbers also attended a 10-day outing in the Blue Glacier region of Olympic National Park.

Two books were published by the club during 1965: *Guide to Leavenworth Rock-Climbing Areas* by Fred Beckey and Eric Bjornstad, and *Routes and Rocks, Hiker's Guide to the North Cascades* by Dwight Crowder and Rowland Tabor.

MAX HOLLENBECK, *Climbing Chairman*

Spokane Mountaineers. Earlier success in 1960 prompted our return to the Tetons in 1965 for another summer outing. Fifty-eight people swarmed over standard routes and trails. The highlight of the outing was an ascent of Mount Moran by the C.M.C. route. Three visits to Whitewater Basin produced another first ascent in the Selkirks, Mount Dryden (9100 feet). We followed a rough A.C.C. trail up Mulvey Creek to the high Valhallas, but Gadsheim is still waiting. A reconnaissance near Mount Templeman excited exploring instincts. In the Cascades we broadened our horizons by loop tours and traverses. From a new highway in the North Cascades we found Mount Silver Star (8901 feet) easily accessible. Only an hour from the end of construction is Liberty Bell (*A.A.J.* 1951, p. 173). Shuksan in 1965 was an extended traverse via Sulphide Glacier, owing to the regular route's being closed. Kaleetan became a real challenge for a one-day climb—up the Cascade Crest Trail to Snow Lake and back down Denny Creek. Mount Fernow (9249 feet) was the highest of three peaks reached from the lush Leroy Creek meadows. In the winter and spring we broadened instruction in ski mountaineering and ski touring. The year's best ski tour started at Lookout Pass, proceeded through St. Regis Basin and over the top of Stevens Creek, finishing with a 10-mile descent to the backyards of Mullan, Idaho. No other member could top Terry Bech's January tour. Leaving his Peace Corps home in Chainpur, Nepal, he trekked 300 miles through Namche Bazar to Kathmandu. Above Pangboche officials turned him away. As consolation for losing a closer view of Everest, he hurried to a 17,000-foot sub-peak of Taweche at his regular pace of 1000 feet per hour. Most of his three-week jaunt was with 50-pound pack, one Sherpa, and tennis shoes.

WILLIAM C. FIX

Stanford Alpine Club. During 1965 the Stanford Alpine Club sponsored its usual weekly practice climbs to local rocks. Safety was emphasized in all climbing activities. Dynamic belay practices were held, and club members received special instruction in mountain rescue, rappelling techniques, and other aspects of climbing safety. The club organized numerous climbing trips to Yosemite Valley, the Sierra, and other nearby areas. Several ski mountaineering trips were taken during the winter. Although the club is not officially active in July and August, individual members climbed in different parts of North America, Europe, and Asia during the summer. In addition to climbing activities the S.A.C. and the Sierra Club co-sponsored a film by Gaston Rébuffat, *Entre Terre et Ciel*. The club presented several other mountaineering programs which were open to the general public.

DEVENS GUST, *President*

Wisconsin Hooper Mountaineers. This year saw considerable activity in the club, both in rock climbing and mountaineering generally. Although official outings were limited in the spring, members individually spent much time at Devils Lake and other local practice areas within easy reach of the University of Wisconsin. Once again June brought our annual trek to the Tetons. A large number of early season climbs were completed in very favorable weather. The 22 climbers present represented one of the largest groups to attend a Hooper mountain trip. While some of the group had to return to summer school, several remained in the Tetons to accomplish several of the more difficult rock climbs there. Others visited various mountain regions in the West, the Bugaboos and Selkirks in Canada, and in Europe. Fall brought a return to school, and to the club many new members, several with good climbing experience already behind them. This infusion of new blood increased the Hooper's strength and activity to an all-time high. With Devils Lake always the focus of our attention, longer trips were taken from Madison to other midwestern climbing areas. In October five members climbed Devils Tower in Wyoming, and several climbed on the Needles in South Dakota. A small group visited Seneca Rock in West Virginia during Thanksgiving. A Christmas trip to Mexico climaxed the year with an ascent of Popocateptl and an attempt on Orizaba. Plans for the summer of 1966 include Mount McKinley, an expedition to a seldom visited section of the Selkirks, Yosemite Park, and, of course, the Tetons.

ALAN RUBIN, *Vice-Chairman*