



Chicago Mountaineering Club

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, January 9th, at 8:00 PM at the Goose Island Brewery, 1800 N Clybourn Ave., Chicago IL (312) 915-0071. The CMC Board will hold its annual transition meeting on another date so there will not be a Board Meeting preceding the General Meeting.

General Meetings are open to the public and held on the second Monday of each month, September through May. Everyone is welcome.

CMC Board Meeting Minutes are available to members on the club website. Everyone is encouraged to stay informed and get involved. If you do not know how to log in, please contact the webmaster at cmcwebmaster@cmcwebsite.org.

General Meeting Schedule

January 10th, 8:00 PM: Two for the price of one. Jamie Norris and Jim Considine will present a short program on their climb of Gannet Peak last summer. Gannet is Wyoming's highest peak. It's remoteness and inaccessibility make it an exciting alpine mountaineering challenge.

Also, Jim Considine will present a short program on his climb of Aconcagua last year. Aconcagua is a 22,842 ft peak in Argentina, the highest point in the world outside of Asia. (For more on a recent CMC ascent of Aconcagua, see the Announcement section later in the newsletter.)

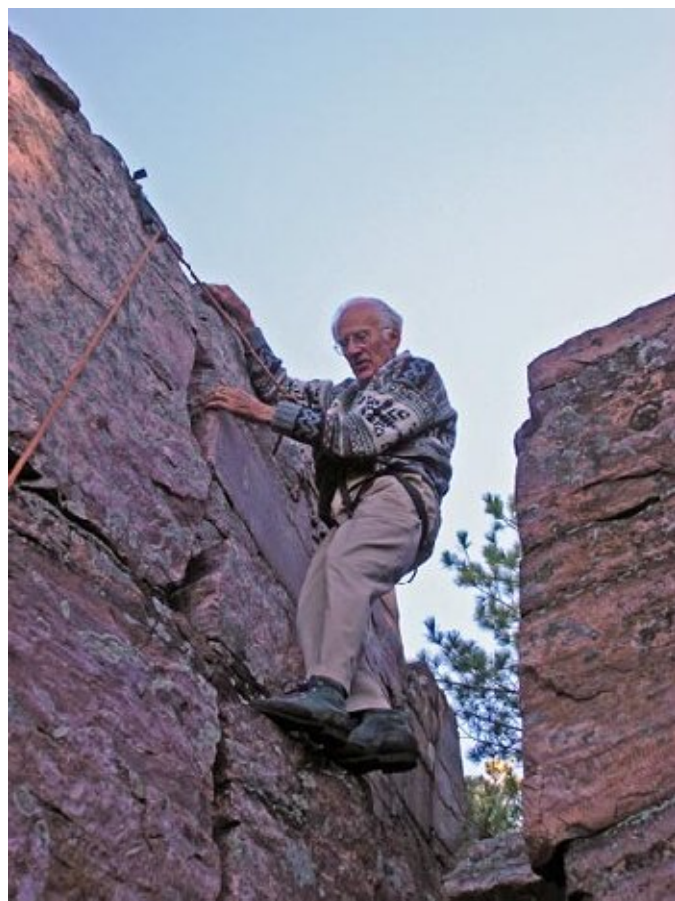
February 13th, 8:00 PM: Iwona Korzeniowska will present a program of her trek in Nepal including an ascent of Mera Peak, the highest non-technical climb in the Nepal Himalaya.

Thanks to Paul Szymanski for his presentation in December. If you have ideas for presentations or would like to give one of your own, please contact Donna Martino at cmcprograms@cmcwebsite.org.

Mountain Skills Day

Also to be known as "How to be safer traveling and climbing in the mountains with just a short rope and maybe a carabineer...."

Long time club member (49 years to be precise) Charley Pierce has graciously offered to spend part of a day on a May 2006 Outing weekend to share his hard won mountaineering experience with interested CMCers. Charley will work with us to demonstrate and practice basic skills for safer travel in the mountains with minimal gear.



Charley Pierce on the rarely visited Devil's Lake South Bluff, October 16, 2005. Photo by Steph Hoffman.

He wants to make sure that all of us at least know what to do when climbing in the mountains after we have lost or damaged our rappel and belay devices, or just need to throw on a quick belay to help a lesser skilled or timid soul past a difficult spot. Charley will just be using a short rope and maybe a carabineer or two, and going over setting up body belays, rappelling (yes, with just the rope and a 'biner or two) and other useful techniques. Keep your eyes open in upcoming newsletters for the exact May date this will be held!

Thanks to Stephanie Hoffman for this, and of course to Charley for his willingness to pass on some of his mountaineering wisdom and knowledge.

Winter Climbing Practice

When: Check the website for updates. If the weather miraculously changes, January 6-7. If not, possibly the 13-4th, depending on proper conditions. We're holding out hope.

Where: Indiana Dunes National Seashore & a Chicago location for the Friday night lecture.

Who: Open to CMC members and your accompanied guests (prior approval required.)

How to sign up: Chris Young chryoung@cisco.com or Jamie Norris climb4953@yahoo.com. Please see the October newsletter for additional details.

Wilderness First Aid Course

When: Sat-Sun, March 4-5th, 2006

See the November and December newsletter for additional details. Assuming no one cancels, we have one or possibly two spots still open. If you plan to take this, please contact me asap: Rob White at RW15@ntrs.com or by phone 312-420-8305. If you already confirmed your spot with me, I will be sending out additional details soon via email.

Announcements

CMCER summits Anconcogua.
Breaking news here. We received word from George Naxera in Mendoza, Argentina, last week. He made it to the summit of Anconcogua on December 15th. The highest point in the Western Hemisphere. He said it was the hardest thing he's ever done. Congratulations George. We hope to hear more about it, and see more of your great photography, in a General Meeting presentation in the near future.

CMCers on Denali.
For the first time in many years, a CMCer successfully reached the summit of Denali this past summer. Long time member Phil Patz climbed the mountain via the West Buttress route, self-guided of course. Nice going Phil. We'd like to hear more about your trip.

How many of you out there have stories of climbing Denali? This spring I'd like to highlight CMCers on Denali, the highest peak in North America. If you've climbed the peak (or attempted to) and have stories, anecdotes, or information to share, please contact me at cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org, by phone at 312-420-8305, by mail (address on the label), or in person. If you've climbed Denali but don't like to write, give me a call and I can try to translate for you. (This goes for Mt. McKinley as well for all you in the Old School...) Rob White

CMC Membership Renewals. Folks, don't forget to send in your renewal notices. You should have received your own personal form with the last newsletter, but it seems some were lost or mangled in the mail. Don't make Mike B chase after you. Do the right thing. Send it in early. Please see the December edition of the newsletter for detailed information.

February Follies. To the Batchawana Bay area in Ontario, CA. (30 miles N of Sault St. Marie). President's Day weekend, Feb 18-20, 2006. More info in the next newsletter. If you're interested contact one of the board members planning the trip: Chris Young or Jamie Norris.

'Being Caribou' Documentary

When: Tuesday, January 24, 7:30pm

Where: Patagonia Store
1800 N. Clybourn
Chicago, IL 60614

What: Being Caribou: An Evening of Arctic Adventure and Conservation with O.A.R.S.

Filmmaker Leanne Allison and wildlife biologist Karsten Heuer trekked a thousand miles with the 120,000-member Porcupine Caribou Herd as it migrated to and from its calving grounds in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 2003. Being Caribou documents their five-month journey on foot across three mountain ranges, icy rivers, and past wolves and hungry grizzlies emerging from their dens to witness the 10-day calving season that occurs in the exact place that oil companies are proposing to drill.

Join fellow outdoors people at Patagonia for an insightful and entertaining evening of Arctic adventure and conservation with veteran river outfitter, O.A.R.S. (Outdoor Adventure River Specialists). Along with award-winning Being Caribou, you'll enjoy a brief slide show, receive an update on proposed oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and find out how you can get involved in this issue.

This event is free. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, phone Patagonia at 312-951-0518.

Arlene Blum Presentation

When: Wednesday, January 25, 7:30pm
Where: Vertical Endeavors
28141 Diehl Road
Warrenville, Illinois 60555
Info: Scott @ VE, 847.942.6032

Come out to Vertical Endeavors for a presentation by Arlene Blum who is promoting her new book *Breaking Trail: A Climbing Life*. This dramatic memoir follows Blum, a pioneering mountaineer and scientist, from her over-protected childhood in Chicago to the summits of some of the world's most challenging peaks. Best known for leading the first American—and all-women's—ascend of Annapurna, Blum also led the first women's team up Mt. McKinley; was the first American woman to attempt Mt. Everest; and has played a leading role in more than twenty mountain expeditions worldwide.

She's expected to speak around 8pm so bring your harness and shoes and get in a few routes before or after her presentation. They're open until 10pm. Remember to bring your CMC membership card to receive discount to climb.

A new feature from Donna Martino...

Product Reviews

Have you tried a new product recently and thought the rest of the club should know about it? Submit your climbing, mountaineering, or outdoor gear or apparel review and a photo, if available, to Donna at cmcprograms@cmcwebsite.org. Photos should have a resolution of at least 150 dpi.

This month, we invited Steve Koellner from The North Face to write about a new product he thought our members would like the inside scoop on. (North Face has been a generous supporter of our CMC Annual Dinner.) Hope you enjoy his review.

Steve Koellner writes...

New for Spring 2006 - The North Face DIAD Jacket (Done In A Day.) This is a great peak bagger jacket. Why you ask? Because it is a fully functional waterproof breathable jacket that weighs only 7oz.

What do you get for seven ounces?

- * 3-point fully adjustable hood
- * reflective logos
- * Mini-pit zips
- * Napoleon pocket
- * Hem cinch cord
- * Velcro(r) adjustable cuffs



The jacket uses The North Face's Magic Seam(tm) Technology. Magic Seam(tm) is a procedure where the fabric is hot cut, and the seams are welded together using a state-of-the-art rotary sonic and line-bonding machine, then backed with a 10mm seam tape. What does that mean? No needle punch holes make the seams softer, lighter, and less bulky. It saves on weight and is more compressible. The only needle punch holes are in the Velcro(r) cinch cuffs. The jacket is light because of the sonic welding and 10mm taping. The jacket has more breathable space because of the smaller tape. Regular tape is 13mm wide. Take all the seams over the whole jacket and reduce by about 1/3rd and that's a lot more breathable space.

The DIAD was developed in conjunction with our 30-plus member athletes' team including Conrad Anker, Jimmy Chin, Pete Athens and more. Our athletes asked for a lighter jacket without all of the features of a normal jacket. Our answer was the DIAD.

Why do we like the jacket?

It is so lightweight without giving up any comfort. The fabric does not feel clammy against your skin, and you can compress and hide it in the smallest nook and crannies of your pack.

Where can you purchase the DIAD?

The jacket can be found in Chicago at Uncle Dan's, Erewhon, and The North Face store in the spring of 2006.

From:
Chicago Mountaineering Club
c/o Robert White
1845 N. Orleans, Apt. 2R
Chicago, IL 60614

TO:

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NEWSLETTER: Please submit your comments, announcements, outings or personal climbing reports, items of interest, ephemera, or questions to the Editor: Robert White at 1845 N. Orleans Street, Apt. 2R, Chicago, IL 60614 or e-mail: cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org. Also, please contact me if your newsletter was damaged in the mail and you would like a fresh copy sent.

Winter Indoor Outing Schedule

January 8 th :	Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville
January 22 nd :	January Jollies! Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville 10am-4pm followed by pizza after from 4-6pm.
February 5 th :	Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville
February 19 th :	Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville
March 5 th :	Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville
March 19 th :	Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville
March ?? th :	Elk Grove Climbing Gym Annual Self-Rescue Workshop (This will likely replace one of the other March outings but specifics will have to wait until we talk to T.J. Pierce...)
April 2 nd :	Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville

2006 Board Members

In the November meeting, the Nomination Committee (of Chris Young, Mark Mummer, and Rob White), represented by Rob, nominated the following members for the 2006 Chicago Mountaineering Club Board of Directors. The names should not be a surprise to you as this is the exact slate of elected positions from the 2005 Board of Directors. There were no additional nominations from the floor, so President Matt Mead

declared the new positions by acclamation (per the CMC Bylaws.)

Directors:

Pieter Fockens, Chris Young, Ron Rolnicki
cmcdirectors@cmcwebsite.org
President: Matt Mead
cmcpresident@cmcwebsite.org
Vice President: Mike Burian
cmcvicepres@cmcwebsite.org
Secretary: Robert White
cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org
Treasurer: Steve Broadie
cmctreasurer@cmcwebsite.org
Sergeant-At-Arms: Jim Considine
cmcsergeant@cmcwebsite.org
Outings Chair: Jamie Norris
cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org
Expedition Chair: Dave Kenealy
cmcexpedition@cmcwebsite.org
Program Chair: Donna Martino
cmcprograms@cmcwebsite.org
Publications Chair: David Harrison
cmcpublications@cmcwebsite.org
Safety Chair: Jack Fletcher
cmcsafety@cmcwebsite.org
Grounds Chair: Bill Dietrich
cmcgrounds@cmcwebsite.org
Conservation Chair: Donna Martino
cmconconservation@cmcwebsite.org