

continues to run the cabin in Huntington Ravine on Mount Washington. The club will be publishing a guidebook to central Connecticut rock climbing in conjunction with Ken Nichols. This should be available in August.

During the last four years, the Harvard Mountaineering Club has established an impressive list of failures on large climbs. In our eagerness to apply techniques learned in New England's rock and ice to more sustained challenges, members have failed (twice) on Mount Robson's north face, Mount Silverthrone in the Alaska Range, Mont Blanc (although the climbers did accomplish the Brenva Spur, but were not able to walk to the summit), and Mount Deborah's north face (which convinced the climbers to ascend Mount Hess). Occasionally members put their desire for personal gratification over their loyalty to the club policy of failure and succeeded in an ascent. Gus Brillembourg, Nancy Kerrebrock, and others accomplished the first ascent of the southwest face of Nevado Chinchey in 1976. Also that year, David Coombs, John Imbrie, and George West climbed the Carpe ridge of Mount Fairweather in Alaska; Carl, Michael and Peter Lehner made several early ascents in McKinley Park and in the Arrigetch Valley. Andrew Embick, Alan Long, and others made several trips to the Kichatna Spires from 1976-79. A few of their climbs include Middle Triple Peak, Citadel, and Kichatna Spire. Alan Rubin and others climbed in the Cirque of the Unclimbables in the Northwest Territory. Also far north, William Graham and others accomplished ascents on Ellesmere Island during the spring of 1979. Last summer, Carl, Michael and Peter Lehner, Karen Messer, James Wuest, and Brinton Young made the first ascent of the west face of Nevado Huantsán in Peru (see elsewhere in this journal for details of this climb).

JOHN IMBRIE *and* PETER LEHNER

*The Mazamas.* The Climbing Committee took a very positive stand on educating and upgrading its climbing leaders and members this year. The Basic Climbing School enrolled 270 people and graduated 163 in a course consisting of four lectures, three field practices, and a graduation climb of Mount Hood or Mount St. Helens. Group leaders carried through with groups of 15 students and three-to-five sub-leaders, starting with an indoor knots-and-belay practice, and continuing with a snow practice above Timberline Lodge at Mount Hood and a rock practice on the basaltic cliffs of Horsethief Butte up river from The Dalles.

The Intermediate School enrolled 42 students and the Advanced School 21. Instruction included six lectures, an accident management session, and a mountain first-aid weekend at Mazama Lodge at Mount Hood. Advanced students had sessions at Smith Rocks on the Crooked River, Beacon Rock, French's Dome, Leavenworth in Washington, three

weekends on snow and ice, and two full weeks on that wonderful granite in Yosemite National Park.

Ninety leaders scheduled 259 climbs for the year, many of them midweek. Accent was placed on climbing lesser known peaks of the Northwest rather than on the 16 major peaks to which Mazamas give so much attention. Of the 259 climbs schedules, 175 survived the capricious Northwest weather to put more than 2000 successful ascents on the club records.

The club lost one climber, young John Savage, in an accident not involving a club climb. At the suggestion of his parents, a memorial fund has been established, to be administered by the Climbing Committee.

The Mazamas' banquet at Portland State University's Smith Hall featured Arlene Blum with a slide show and lecture of her all-women's expedition which climbed Annapurna I in 1978. Arlene's appearance was most appropriate. As one of America's foremost women mountaineers, her presence was heightened by the fact that in October Lois Gibbons succeeded Paul Herner as Mazamas president. Lois is the second woman to hold the post.

JACK GRAUER

*The Mountaineers.* The Mountaineers have grown to over 10,000 members in 1979, with the attendant problems of meeting the needs and desires of so many. As the club has grown, new interests have developed. A few years ago we instituted additional winter activities, which have now grown to the same proportions as the summer ones. Besides the club's four ski lodges in the Washington Cascades, we now have courses in snowshoeing, Nordic skiing, and ski mountaineering, which begin at first snowfall and continue through to spring.

The climbing courses continue as popular as ever, so popular that in all fairness to those who want to take the courses, we have established eligibility based on length of membership in the club. A few years ago we developed an "Alpine Scramblers" course, which takes the student up to the use of the rope. We begin these courses with 250 students. This past season we graduated 126 basic climbing students, 93 alpine scramblers, and another 17 from the Intermediate (advanced) course, which requires a minimum of two years and a maximum of five for graduation. In addition, we offer courses in camping and backpacking, which take the absolute novice into competence in the mountains.

We also offer outings for the members, from a week or more in the United States for climbers and backpackers to a month in a foreign outing. In 1979 we had five backpacking outings, three climbers' outings, and three foreign outings to Austria, Iceland, and New Zealand.

HOWARD STANSBURY