

“achievements in climbing, leadership, techniques, and contributions to the Club.” John also was co-author with Ruth of a climbing instruction book for beginners, which was published in its third (revised) edition in 1983 under the title *The Challenge of Rock and Mountain Climbing*.

John continued to be active in the mountains following their move to the Pacific Northwest. His ascents during those years included Mount Olympus and a solo ascent of Glacier Peak (1979), the West Peak of Mount Stuart (1980), Mount Index solo (1981), and the West Ridge of Forbidden Peak (1982). An AAC member from 1966, he served as Cascade Section Chairman in 1980 and was Chairman of the Nominating Committee in 1982. He was posthumously awarded the Club's Angelo Heilprin Citation at the 1983 Annual Meeting. He was also a member of The Mountaineers.

Few climbers have equalled John's combination of distinguished ascents and dedicated club service. That he never lost the desire to meet new friends and help others find joy in the mountains was a great gift to us all.

JOHN G. RIPLEY

### HERMAN HOERLIN 1903-1983

Dr. Hoerlin was one of the leading European climbers during the late 1920s and 1930s. With Erwin Schneider, he made many notable first winter ascents in the Alps, for example that of the Peuterey Ridge of Mount Blanc. In those days even a straightforward ascent, as of Monte Rosa, might require starting with skis from near Visp, a fitting task for hard men with little vacation time. In 1930 Hoerlin was chief photographer for The International Himalayan Expedition to Kanchenjunga and made the first ascent of Jonsang Peak, at that time the highest climbed summit. In 1932 he made first ascents of Chopicalqui, Copa and other summits in the Cordillera Blanca, Peru as a member of an Alpenverein expedition.

Hoerlin studied at the Institutes of Technology in Berlin and Stuttgart and took his Ph.D. degree at Stuttgart in 1936. For his doctoral research he made cosmic ray measurements over distances extending from Spitsbergen to the Straits of Magellan. During this work he established the highest earthbound cosmic ray observatory station at the summit of Nevado Copa in the Cordillera Blanca staying there for weeks by himself and subsequently making periodic solo ascents of the peak to collect data.

In 1938 he came to the U.S. as manager of the physics laboratory at General Aniline and Film Corporation in Binghamton, New York. Hoerlin joined the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory in 1953 where he became leader of an outstanding group of scientists studying the phenomenology of nuclear explosions, especially those at high altitude.

Thus, professionally, as in climbing, Hoerlin achieved distinction in solving problems arising at high altitude. It is ironic that during the last year of his life he was handicapped by deteriorating lung function which forced him to move from Santa Fe, NM (7000 feet) to Massachusetts.

Hoerlin is survived by his wife, Kate, three daughters, 17 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. He was a member of the American Alpine Club for many years.

GEORGE I. BELL

FRANK E. GAEBELEIN  
1899-1983

Frank Gaebelin, a long time member of both the American and Canadian Alpine Clubs, died in January 1983 ending a distinguished career in education. After graduating from New York University he received his master's degree from Harvard and was ordained by the Episcopal church, then becoming the founding headmaster of Stony Brook School on Long Island. He held that post for 41 years, finding time nevertheless to write fourteen books and many articles, receive three honorary doctorates, and maintain his talents as a concert pianist. His life was dedicated to church and school, and he spoke in many parts of the world on the Bible, social justice, and relationships between the arts and the church.

Frank climbed modestly but extensively in the United States, Canada and the Alps and was a frequent visitor to Club functions and library. He was dedicated to the young, always encouraging the spirit of Christianity though never proselytizing, and he will be long remembered by his students scattered throughout the world.

CHARLES S. HOUSTON M.D.

JOHN FRANCIS BRETT  
1893-1982

John Brett, a member of both the American Alpine Club and the Alpine Club of Canada, died in October 1982 in Montreux, Switzerland. His death was preceded by that of his wife Elizabeth in September of the same year. John spent his youth in Geneva and began his climbing in the Alps before coming to Canada in 1913. He was trained as an engineer, worked in Montréal for the Canadian