

In the area of conservation, the club was extremely active at the state and federal levels in the areas of wilderness preservation, national park expansion, national forest management, wild and scenic rivers legislation, and clean air and visibility regulations. The club also sponsored a number of work trips in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service to repair and maintain trails in the Colorado mountains.

Finally, the club had the distinction of having four of its members reach the summits of 8000-meter peaks. Gary Neptune climbed Mount Everest via the South Col route during the pre-monsoon season, while in the post-monsoon George Lowe ascended Everest by the difficult, previously unclimbed East Face. On September 30 Chris Pizzo and I became the first Americans to reach the summit of Shisha Pangma, the only 8000-meter peak located entirely within Tibet.

GLENN E. PORZAK, *President*

*Explorers Club of Pittsburgh.* Our club does not have sections devoted to special activities such as mountaineering, rock climbing, or caving. The typical member is a generalist who participates in several Earth Sports depending on Pittsburgh's flip-flop weather. During the year seminars were held in caving, climbing, and rescue work. A memorial plaque was installed at Seneca Rocks, West Virginia, dedicated to Sneza Kelly, a climber who died there in 1982.

Hard-core boaters led by Tommy Ordons and Paul Chada kayaked the upper Youghiogheny and Gauley Rivers on a regular basis. The gruelling six-mile underground traverse in the Friars Hole Cave system was made. Most memorable was the 1000-yard stretch of thigh-deep mud affectionately called "Dung-Ho Way."

A successful ski-mountaineering ascent was made of Mount McKinley via the West Buttress. This included a ski descent from the top of the headwall by Stu "Conan" Kuperstock, who was gravity-boosted by a 102-pound pack. Finally, Cal Swoager made the first ascent of The Bell, one of the great lines at Seneca Rocks. Rated at 5.11 +, this unprotected climb has turned back waves of climbers over the last six years.

JOHN IACOVINO

*Iowa Mountaineers.* The club completed another active year in 1983, with membership remaining about 700. Nearly 300 members participated in one of the courses, the mountain camps, or the foreign expeditions, which were from one to four weeks long. The courses and the mountain camps were offered for University of Iowa credit if desired. Under the instruction of John and Jim Ebert, 44 members completed the concentrated one-week basic rock-climbing courses held at Devils Lake State Park, Wisconsin, with an average attendance of 60 members.