

participate in a club trip (although one must sign a club waiver form). The club does not charge for participation in club trips.

Over the past year, for example, the club has organized climbs of numerous peaks in the Anchorage area, numerous day and weekend hikes requiring no mountaineering skill, numerous day and weekend backcountry ski trips, a traverse of the Harding Icefield, a two-week traverse of the Aleutian Range from Shelikof Straits over Mount Katmai to the Valley of the 10,000 Smokes, a mountain-bike trip to the Kennecott Mine, a two-week hike in the Arrigetch Peaks area of the Brooks Range, and fly-in expeditions to the Tazlina and Matanuska Glaciers.

Noteworthy accomplishments of our members include a winter solo ascent of Denali's West Rib by Dave Staeheli in March, an attempt on Mount Everest in April by George Rooney, and the first ascent of Nagishlamina Peak (11,068 feet) in the Tordrillos, one of the highest unclimbed peaks in North America, by Tom Meacham et al. Members also made first ascents of Hearth Mountain in the Kenai Range and of Greenland Peak, Devil's Club Peak and Mountaineer's Peak in the Chugach Range, and completed a glacier traverse of the Isthmus Icefield from Kenai Lake to Whittier. Three of our members also ascended Mount Foraker via the Sultana Ridge.

The M.C.A. membership fee is \$10 annually. The club's address is Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc., P.O. Box 102037, Anchorage, AK 99510.

NEIL T. O'DONNELL, *President* and WILLY HERSMAN, *Newsletter Editor*

*Potomac Appalachian Trail Club.* Our Mountaineering Section topped off another good year in 1989. Membership growth continued as the sport becomes more popular, activities keep expanding and members have even found time to go climbing!

The Second Annual Washington Mountain Film Festival drew over 500 viewers. Attendance at the PATC-MS instruction courses was at an all-time high. Many club members participated in the local climbing competition, *Springstone*. Perhaps the best indication that climbing is alive and well in Washington comes from the list of places the Mountaineering Section members went. They were active in the Alps and on French limestone, in the Tetons and on California granite. The icy summits of the Canadian Rockies were visited as well as desert sandstone. Many members experienced new forms of climbing. Some began their first mountaineering trips and others started leading on rock. Ice proved elusive in January, but the record cold of December made up for that.

As the Mountaineering Section moves into 1990, plans are continuing for trips to New England, the Tetons and some are making noises about Denali, the Pamirs and Pakistan. Hard rock as always is a constant pursuit. The Film Festival promises to be bigger and better than before. An indoor climbing wall group has been formed. As the 1990s take shape, the PATC-MS plans to be on top.

STUART PREGNALL, *Chairman*