



MCSA
News

Newsletter of the
Johannesburg Section



Newsletter March 2011

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG SECTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2011 AT 20H15 AT THE WAVERLEY GIRL GUIDE HALL, SCOTT & STIRLING STREETS, WAVERLEY

OUR 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Members and friends : we will be celebrating this occasion on the 15 May 2011 (Sunday) at Glenburn Lodge. It was at Swartkops (now the farm Glenburn Lodge) that the section has its first meet on 14 May 1931. 'To mark, their first conquest, the Transvaal Mountaineering Club built a cairn on the summit of Swartkop yesterday about noon. The club was formed on Tuesday when quite a large number of members were enrolled with Mr J Idelson as leader. 'Daily Mail 15 May 1931 pg 10.

The committee decided to have a somewhat different celebration. We will walk to the summit of Swartkop starting from Glenburn Lodge (out on the Muldersdrift Road, to Kromdraai Road, Muldersdrift - exact directions will follow)

At: +- 9am on Sunday 15 May and will be lead by Dobek Pater

Walk +- 2 - 3 hours

Return to Glenburn Lodge at 12h30

Buffet Lunch @ 13h00

Cash Bar

Cost R125.00 pp . Children welcome; under 6 years are free; 6 – 12years 50% of R125.00; over 12 full price.

Further enquiries Uschi 011 807 1310 or email admin@jhb.mcsa.org.za or Jenny 083 702 6241 (afternoons only).

Please book asap with the above.

THANK YOU:

To the Committee 2010/2011 for their hard work running the section. To Chris Ziranek, the Chairman, who has to step down, having been on the committee for four years. Jenny Paterson, the Secretary, who is stepping down and who has been nominated as Secretary of Central Committee. A further thank you to all meet leaders, members who have patrolled, members who have been at the club evenings doing bar duty, members who have given talks and slide shows, those who have helped with alien plant eradication and those who just help.

A further thank you to members for their generous donations , especially donations to the Kgawane Lodge appeal (illegal structure in the Magaliesberg Protected Area)

SUBS 2011: these were due in January. Thank you to members who have paid. Those who have not, please do so.

MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome new members: Sonja Thomas (trf from KZN), Christy van der Merwe, Adam Griffiths, Keith Norris, Vaughn Cleminson, Elisma Olivier, Lauren Lewthwaite, Rodney Wilkinson, Stephen Marais, Lucy Allais, Denzil Young and Tim Dunnett; and family member Ilan Ginsberg.

Resigned/ Transferred: Dawie & Divan Swan (to CT), Paul Snook (to KZN) Peter de Wet resigned.

With deep regret we advise the tragic death of our member Heiko Tillwick who was struck by lightning at Boven in January. Our deepest condolences to his wife Eirini, family and friends.

ROTARY AWARD TO PAUL FATTI

Rustenburg Rotary Club named Paul Fatti a Paul Harris Fellow at a function held in Rustenburg last week for his services to the Magaliesberg. The Paul Harris Fellowship is Rotary's most prestigious award and we congratulate Paul on this very well deserved honour.

INJURIES IN THE MOUNTAINS

We are hoping to have presentations at our club evenings on injuries, happenings, lightning strikes, snake bites , hypothermia - what to do if.... when out in the mountains. If you have experiences that you wish to share with us on these important subjects please let us know. The Search & Rescue have been asked to co-ordinate these lectures/ presentations.

EASTER and the many holidays: i.e. from 22 April to 25, 27 April, May 2 - patrolling at Tonquani/Cedarberg and Mhlabatini. As it is difficult to arrange patrollers for this period, we would appreciate if members going to the areas we administer to do a patrol. In other words Volunteers are needed.

CLUB EVENINGS as club evenings are often not well attended, the committee has decided to only have a club evening on the first Wednesday of a month (also a talk to prospective members) and the third Wednesday of a month. This will commence in April for a trial period of 3 months. If you have any ideas how to improve attendance at club evenings, we would like to hear from you.

2009 JOURNAL: If possible please collect yours at a club evening. Towards the end of March, those not collected will be posted. If you receive a reminder from the Post Office to collect an item too large for your postbox, please claim it at your post office. Each year we have numerous journals returned 'unclaimed'.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MEETS

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CLIMBING CAMP, Ariege, South of France, 7 - 12 July 2011: Young people from 16 to 22 years old are invited to attend a youth climbing camp in France from 7-12 July. Participants should lead climb at a minimum of 5b French grade. Participants younger than 18 year old must be accompanied by an adult climber/coach, who is able to look after them during this meet. Climbing equipment required is a climbing harness, climbing shoes, chalk bag, climbing helmet, belay device and 10 quick draws (UIAA standard/CEN). Participants should be insured for accident, rescue, third party liability and travel and it should be valid for participation in climbing and trekking. Proof of insurance must be presented to the organisers on arrival. The cost will be 12 EUR per participant/per night, payable on arrival to the organiser, and will include accommodation on a full board basis, leading and organisational costs.

Further information: Jenny Paterson (jpaterson@iburst.co.za) (Registration through MCSA before 20 June 2011. Please note that visa processing is a very lengthy process.).

UIAA (International Mountaineering and Climbing Federation)

The UIAA, with 80 member organisations in 57 countries, represents more than

1 million people worldwide. It's the International Olympic Committee's recognised international federation for mountaineering and natural surface climbing. Their latest news on their web site (<http://www.theuiaa.org>) includes advice by their Medical Commission on climbing Denali and Mera Peak, issues on visual loss unique to a high-altitude setting and those that require treatment to protect vision when standard ophthalmological care is unavailable as well as practical advice targeted at operators of mountain huts to prevent Legionella infections.

The UK's Alpine Club Antarctic Expedition, led by Phil Wickens, has made the first ascents of 6 Antarctic Peaks. And more...

UIAA MEMBERSHIP BY THE MOUNTAIN CLUB -Some Feed Back from MCSA members: In a previous issue of eNews (2010/12-1), background information was given on membership by the Mountain Club of the UIAA and of the potentially key role the Club plays as the only member federation in Africa. However, conscious of the cost of belonging to such an international body, the MCSA President, Dave Jones, listed 10 potential advantages of belonging for the average MCSA member. This list generated some response and interesting inquiries from individual members: not all of it in support, but all of it useful. See <http://cen.mcsa.org.za/home/uiaa/uiaa-pros-and-cons>

MAGALIESBERG BIOSPHERE: Please give your support to the project and join.

Membership gives support for the project – which we need – and it costs nothing! Just go to the website: <http://www.magaliesbergbiosphere.co.za> and click on the membership application on the bottom right-hand corner and join on-line. Only give the info that is relevant to you – also, you don't have to join as a user of the website, unless you want to.

This is a brief newsletter. The Events and Meets schedule is not completed yet . It will be forwarded to you asap.

The Mountain Club of South Africa Johannesburg Section (1931 – 2011)

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE CLUB CONTACT:

Uschi Magg (Administrator) Tel 011 807 1310 weekdays 8am – 10am. Email admin@jhb.mcsa.org.za www.jhb.mcsa.org.za

Postal Address: MCSA Johannesburg Section, P.O. Box 1641 Killarney 2041

Clubhouse: Waverley Girl Guide Hall, cnr Scott & Stirling Str. Waverley.

Club evenings: Wednesdays from 19h30

REMOTE AREAS SEARCH & RESCUE (old Transvaal areas) 074 125 1385 or 074 163 3952