



JANUARY 1995

A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc.  
Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

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## JANUARY MEETING

Wednesday

January 18th, 7:30

Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets

Downtown Anchorage

*Program: "Avalanches from a Mountaineer's  
Perspective" by Nick Parker.*

### HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

- Feb 4      Ice Axe Training  
Self-arrest, boot-axe belay, safe  
glissading, etc. Bring your ice axe or  
get one from the club (at A.M.H.)  
Wear weather-proof clothes.  
Leader: James Larabee 522-3854
- Apr 13-27      Grand Canyon  
Backpack in the canyon. At this time, the  
group is already full, but standbys are  
being taken.  
Leader: Bill Wakeland 563-6246

### DECEMBER MINUTES

James Larabee called the meeting to order, and welcomed new members.

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

Money Market.	\$7557.64
Checking.	1864.73
Petty Cash.	<u>90.00</u>
Total	\$9512.37

### COMMITTEE REPORTS.

#### *Huts.*

Jonathan Rose gave summary of December 7th meeting. Volunteers have been assigned tasks for the proposed new hut. Construction will begin this spring; more volunteers will be needed. All things going on schedule, the hut will go onto the location this summer; once again, volunteers will be needed. A winter assessment of a proposed site will be done in the next few months. For more information, call Mike Miller.

#### *Training.*

Chr. James Larabee needs volunteers to teach mountaineering skills to members. Jonathan Rose announced a leadership training workshop which will be hosted by the



MCA and Alaska Pacific University on the last week of February and the first weekend of March. Eight slots are available, with a cost of between 25 and 30 dollars. Interested people should contact Jonathan.

#### *Hiking and Climbing.*

A report of the solstice sleepout was given. Five folks braved the cold and carried the tradition forward.

#### OLD BUSINESS.

It was time once again for the AMH gift certificate drawing for club members who led trips or wrote Scee articles. Dr. Rod Wilson won a \$50 certificate for his article, and Don Hansen won a \$50 certificate for leading a club trip. Thanks!

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS.

None.

Submitted by

Ron Rickman

### Mountain Leadership Training

The MCA is offering a Mountain Leadership Training workshop in conjunction with A.P.U. The purpose of the workshop is to:

1. Promote safety.
2. Encourage new leaders
3. Improve skills of experienced leaders
4. Have fun

It will focus on the softer skills associated with leading a group in the mountains, and will apply to hiking and backpacking as well as technical climbs.

There will be two evening sessions at A.P.U. and a day trip. The evening sessions will cover safety, liability, trip planning, situation analysis and expedition behaviour and the day trip will give the opportunity to put the classroom exercises into practice (leaders as well as lead.)

There will be eight places and the cost is expected to be \$20-\$30 depending on how many people sign up. The timing has been tentatively arranged for the week beginning February 27th with the day trip on the weekend 4th/5th March.

Contact Jonathan Rose (278-3189) if you are interested.

### MCA Trip Classifications

The classifications below do not take into account individual trip hazards such as river crossings, scree slopes, snow fields, bears, etc. Trip leaders are required to inform the trip participants of any such hazards either verbally, on the sign-up sheet, or in the trip description. Leader approval is required for participation on all trips.

**NON-TECHNICAL:** Following are a few standards used to classify non-technical trips. The classification is made in terms of hiking distance and altitude gain. Many trips are not on established trails.

**CLASS A:** Easy hikes with a maximum distance of 8 miles for day trips or 4 miles per day for overnight trips. Altitude gain up to 1200 feet.

**CLASS B:** Trips involving a maximum distance of up to 12 miles for a day trip or 6 miles per day for an overnight trip. Altitude gain of 1200 to 2500 feet.

**CLASS C:** Trips up to 15 miles for a day hike or 8 miles per day for an overnight trip. Altitude gain up to 3500 feet. Scree, steep grass or other rough terrain problems may be encountered.

**CLASS D:** Hikes and climbs with an altitude gain of over 3500 feet or a distance of greater than 15 miles for a day-hike or greater than 8 miles a day for an overnight trip. Peaks in this classification may require minimal climbing skills.

**CLASS E:** Hazardous climbing conditions may be encountered. A basic mountaineering course may be required.

**TECHNICAL:** Technical trips are open to all qualified climbers. However, the registration on any particular trip must be restricted to a safe and manageable number of climbers. Registration is made directly with the leader, who determines the qualifications needed for the trip.

**GLACIER TRAVEL:** Trips requiring roped travel over glaciers. Knowledge of crevasse rescue, and ice axe and crampon skills are required. Basic understanding of ice and snow anchors is also required.

**FIFTH CLASS:** Trips which involve fifth class climbing. A Basic Mountaineering course or equivalent is required. Knowledge of belay and rappel techniques and placing anchors is required. Climbing difficulty varies widely with each trip.

**TRIP PARTICIPANTS** have the obligation to acquaint themselves with the nature of the trip and to verify that it is within their capability and experience. Anyone wishing to participate in any trip above CLASS A must have completed one or more trips of the next lower classification, or the equivalent.

Approved by MCA Board, March 1987

## Trip Report Corrections

Tim Kelley

Nothing slips by map sleuth Steve Gruhn! Steve caught me on two elevation errors in my trip reports. When you pen "X's" on the peaks shown on a topo map, you can hide small circular contours just below the summit. Such was the case with Peak 6450 (Anchorage D-6, T21N, R2E, S23) Peak 4650 (Seward D-5 T10N, R4E, S14). Each of these I had reported as being 100 feet shorter than they should be. Thanks Steve.

ADZE



Wanted: We are looking for information about climbing Marcus Baker and Mt. Goode.  
John 522-4246  
Tom 248-6516

Wanted: Roundtrip transportation for two from Anchorage to Valdez Ice Climbing Festival.  
John 522-4246

Wanted: Two more people to join a group planning a climb of Mt. Sanford, in the Wrangell Mountains, in late April or early May. The normal (northwest glacier) route up 16,200-foot Mt. Sanford is not considered technical, and in good conditions may be one of the easier high Alaskan summits, but it does involve crevasse, altitude and probably weather hazards. We are planning on a one-week expedition, with a fly-in from the Gulkana area. If you have sufficient experience or training in Alaskan spring mountaineering, and are interested in this trip, please contact Dennis Morford (522-1179) or Peter Clifford (338-1729 or 564-5688)

## Outdoor Photographers' Meeting

Get together with other MCA members who have an interest in outdoor photography. Discuss cameras, exposures, film, composition. Bring your favorite slides/prints to share.

James Larabee  
522-3854