



FEBRUARY 2001 *A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska* **Volume 44 Issue 02**
Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

FEBRUARY MEETING
Wednesday
February 21, 7:30 pm
Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets
Downtown Anchorage

Program: Paul Twardock (of the APU Outdoor Program)
will show slides of *Explorations in the Talkeetnas.*

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

Feb 11 Eklutna Lake

Class B. Start at the Eklutna Lake parking lot and ski up to Chief Alex's cabin and or to the New Eklutna Hut. The lake may still not be frozen so may have to take the road. Touring skis with metal edges. A rather flat 26 miles round trip to the new Eklutna Hut.

Leader: Stu Grenier 337-5127

18 Ship Creek

Class A. Drop down into Ship Creek Valley from the Ski Bowl Road on the Arctic to Indian trail and ski up the valley, turn around and come back out on our tracks. Touring skis with metal edges and skins. Good skiing ability.

Leader: Stu Grenier 337-5127

Mar 4 Indian-Arctic Ski Tour

Class C. A marathon length tour over uncleared trails, Indian Creek Pass, and probable open Creek crossings. Experienced strong skiers with avalanche gear, neoprene socks, skins, and a good head lamp. Meet at 4:30 AM !

Leaders: Matt Nedom 278-3648, Stu Grenier 337-5127

Mar 16-20 Resurrection Pass Ski Tour

Class D. We will stay in Forest Service cabins, and spend five days (four nights) on the trail, with a day layover at Devil's Pass for telemark/ranonnee skiing. Plan to divide costs for the cabins plus other incidentals. Required equipment: backcountry skis with climbing skins; avalanche beacon, probe, and shovel; clothing, food, and equipment for five days. Participants should have intermediate level skiing ability, and be able to ski with a full pack. To sign up please call.

Leader: Tom McDermott 263-7258 w, 277-0774 h, or tmcdermott@bhb.com

24-25 Caribou Creek Ice Climb

(See Page 7 for this last minute addition)

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Mar - Apr Glacier Travel & Crevasse Rescue

Glaciology, gear, route selection, roped travel, ascending, hauling systems, rescue techniques. Orientation / Coordination - Feb 20, 6 -7 pm at Kaladi Bros. 6921 Brayton. Will require 3 weeknights (lecture), 1 weekend outdoor ascending practice & 3 day weekend (Easter) Apr 13 -15 at Matanuska Glacier.

Facilitator: Gary Runa 275-3613 msg.

Muldoon Update

Stu Grenier

The Northeast Community Council voted 36-0-1 in favor of updating the Chugach State Park Master Plan to include the area between Muldoon and the 1000-foot level of the Chugach Mountains. This area is excluded from the current master plan and therefore may be subject to development. Sorry that I said the vote would be at 7:00 P.M. but in fact wasn't until 8:30.

AAC Alaska Section

Steve Davis

The American Alpine Club, Alaska Section, is being activated again. The latest newsletter is available at <http://mcak.org/AACNewsLetter.htm>. The Board of the American Alpine Club will come to Alaska for the first time in April. They will meet in Talkeetna for the day on Friday, April 6 with the NPS climbing ranger staff to discuss the DMP and the Rescue Fee Study. On Saturday, April 7, the Board will meet at the NPS conference room in downtown Anchorage from 9am to 5pm. Following the Board meeting the Alaska Section will host a party in Anchorage for all climbers. Contact Steve Davis at 271-3523.

Boy Scouts Freez-a-ree 2001

Bill Romberg

The Boy Scouts of Alaska have requested the assistance of the MCA with their upcoming Freez-a-ree 2001 (a Council-wide winter camping class focusing on SAR and survival). Specifically, they have asked whether the MCA can put together a 20-25 minute presentation on pre-trip planning for a winter camping trip—focusing on potential trip hazards, setting reasonable distance goals given the strengths and weaknesses of all members going on the trip, appropriate clothing and equipment for anticipated conditions, likely first aid situations such as hypothermia and frostbite, and other issues we might consider important. The presentation would be given to a series of groups from approximately 9-12:00 A.M. on Saturday, February 24th. One MCA member has volunteered to help, but I'm looking for at least 2 or 3 people to assist with this effort. MCA members who would be willing to assist, please contact Bill Romberg at 677-3993 or wromberg@gci.net by February 15th.

TRIP REPORTS

Borah and King's Peak

by Steve Gruhn



I had been planning a trip Outside to try some peak bagging in mountain ranges other than the Chugach and the Kenai Mountains. On June 10, 2000, when the appointed time came, Alaska Airlines had great difficulty honoring my "ticketless travel." For nearly an hour it seemed like it would be a "traveless ticket." Eventually, though, I made it to the gate – the last person on the flight. My carry-on bag with my camera and maps didn't make it, though.

Thinking my troubles were behind me, I looked forward to my flight to Spokane to visit relatives and to try some climbing in Idaho and Utah. Upon arriving in Spokane, I found that my pack with all my climbing gear wasn't there. However, a similar-looking pack kept going around the baggage claim and I figured that someone had claimed mine by mistake. Several hours later I was on my way to stay with family in northern Idaho. What else could possibly go wrong?

The next evening found me camped at the base of Borah Peak (12662) in the Lost River Range of Idaho. This arid part of the state is quite interesting. Some of the rivers simply dry up before flowing to any other water body.

I started out around 10 a.m. with four others to hike the steep trail up the ridge. The lack of undergrowth was welcome after having spent time hiking in alders and devil's club in Alaska. Soon we reached the ridge and the wind picked up. For the most part, the ridge was pretty easy mixed snow and rock, but there were a couple places on Chicken-Out Ridge where we placed a rope across some hairy parts to help the less experienced. We used slings and a picket for anchors.

The wind was approaching 45 miles per hour, the temperature hovered in the low 30s, and sleet pelted our faces. Upon reaching the summit, we didn't sit around for long, but retraced our steps, returning to the cars at 5 p.m. During the entire trip, we saw one other party, including a man from Bethel, Alaska.

History Corner

Tim Kelley

The next morning we drove through Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and back into Utah to the Henrys Fork Trailhead in the Uintah Mountains. We hiked in about six miles and camped for the night after missing our turn across a footbridge and seeing two moose (the Lower 48 variety sure are small) and several deer.

The next morning we got going around 8:00 and hiked up a wet trail through Gunsight Pass, bearing right at the base of the steep rock slope. We hiked along the base of the ridge until climbing into a high valley. The route was straightforward, and soon we were hiking up the boulders to the summit of Kings Peak (13528). The rock was not difficult, but I was moving quite slowly because of the altitude. At the summit, the views of the idyllic alpine lakes glittering in the valleys below on this cloudless day were spectacular — every bit as gorgeous as my beloved Chugach. To return to the valley floor and one member of our party who did not make the summit, we glissaded down a steep snow patch. Soon, we were back in camp, seeing more deer as we turned in for the night.

The weather had been tremendous for this portion of the trip. The temperature had stayed in the mid 60s, the skies were clear, and the amount of snow on the trail was minimal. What a pleasant second half of the trip. The way things had started; I thought this vacation would be one disaster after another.

The next morning we hiked out to the car and drove back to Idaho. The entire trip in the Uintahs we saw one other person.

In my “Kenai Mountain Ridge Fest” trip report that appeared in the October 2000 issue of Scree I mentioned that I found a register that seemed misplaced based on mountain naming information in the MCA/ AMH library. Steve Gruhn initiated contact with the climbers, Dub and Harry Bludworth, that did the first recorded ascents of these peaks and named them. Dub pointed out that these mountain names were never recorded correctly. The names of these peaks should be (all peaks are on the Seward C-7 map):

- The Engine (4950) T5N, R1W, S10
- The Tender (4760) T5N, R1W, S2
- The Caboose (5050) T6N, R1W, S25 (Note: Dub and Harry Bludworth placed the ‘Caboose’ register on the prominent sharp pointed summit (Peak 5010) on southern end of The Caboose ridge)
- Unnamed (5450) T6N, R1W, S25

Dub and Harry Bludworth climbed all of these peaks in July, 1969.



WEB CHAT



rec.climbing:
I’m tired of ripped pants after glissading. I’ve heard of glissading shorts but can’t find any. Any ideas of coming down the mountain on the butt without ruining my shell? Thanks.

Yates Glissade Shorts:
<http://www.yatesgear.com/climbing/ice/glissade.htm>

David Kreindler

ADZE



For Sale
Dana Designs Terraplane, XL, Green, Almost mint, \$300- Dana Designs TerraFrame, L, Green, Never used, \$250.
Kevin 694-3977,
ksiegrist@alaska.com

Found
October Mat Glacier Ice Climbing Instructors! One of you loaned me mountain pants, which I have not yet returned. Please call me. I’d like to return them to you!
Matt 278-3648

For Sale
1992 Subaru Loyale, 4WD, new tires, new brakes, 6 CD changer, extra wheels. \$4900.
Pete 696-3178



sunday-times.co.uk:

World's highest hotel to be built on Everest

Climbers attempting Mount Everest may soon be able to contemplate the challenge ahead with a meal of pan-fried yak, washed down with goat's milk, and a long soak in the bath. Planning permission has been granted for the world's highest hotel among the tents of the Northern Base Camp on Everest's Tibetan side.

Russell Brice, 49, a New Zealand-born climber who is behind the scheme, says the 52-bed hotel, in the Rongbuk Valley, 17,000ft above sea level, will be "a flagship of green construction techniques". But the scheme has appalled mountaineers and environmentalists, who fear it will make the area around Everest a virtual theme park. Brice has been climbing and running expeditions on Everest for more than 20 years. He had the idea a decade ago after being impressed by a temporary camp set up by Swedish climbers.

"It made sense that it would be very good to have this sort of set-up permanently, to serve not only other climbers, but also the majority of tourists who visit the base camp for a short time," Brice said.

The hotel, which has yet to be named, will cover 22,000sq ft of base camp. Rooms will start at around £70 a night, and there will be a bar and restaurant offering local cuisine. The six-bed, dormitory-style chalets, with basic washing facilities, will be aimed at budget travellers. The designers have ensured that the complex will be run with the aid of solar power. Waste will be recycled into energy, using highly pressurised tanks.

The hotel is expected to cost £2.3m to build. Brice, who has already invested £85,000 of his own money into the project, is confident of raising the remainder in time to start digging in April 2002. The scheme angered many climbers. Every year, some 20,000 tourists travel along the nearest main road from Lhasa to Kathmandu and it is feared the hotel will attract even more visitors.

Sir Chris Bonington, who led the first expedition up Everest's southwest face in 1975, called the plans regrettable but inevitable. "There is a huge rubbish problem there already, which needs to be solved," he said.

Will Iredale

outdoorsmagic.com:

Web Coverage Swamps Scottish Mountain

It was Creag Meagaidh mayhem last Saturday as more than 60 vehicles, including several mini-buses descended on the remote Scottish mountain to take advantage of excellent climbing conditions on classic ice routes. However the large number of climbers also caused numerous minor and one major injury due to ice falling down crowded routes.

The extraordinary flood of climbers was almost certainly down to the rapid dissemination of information on the internet. In particular the Scottish Avalanche Information Service, which carries avalanche forecasts and climbing condition reports for five main Scottish climbing areas, and which was reporting excellent climbing conditions on the mountain.

As a result there was queueing on routes of all standards often with three or four teams following each other up, a situation that would have been unthinkable just a few years ago. An inevitable result of the overcrowding was a number of injuries caused by ice dislodged from climbers striking people lower down the mountain.

'It was mad. I've never seen so many people on a Scottish winter crag, there were people queueing, even for grade V routes and ice flying all over the place. I copped a chunk just below my eye and a climber on one of the Post Face routes had to be helicoptered off after a big block hit him and smashed his helmet.'

BOARD MEETING

Five members attended the January 9, 2001 board meeting at Barnes and Nobles: Bill Romberg, John Hess, Tom McDermott, Tom Choate, and Patty McPherson.

Board Election

The Board voted to take nominations and have the membership elect a new Board member at the January General Meeting to fill the seat being vacated by Wendy Sanem. According to the bylaws, the Board may appoint a new member, but several felt that it would be more appropriate to elect a new member given the number of candidates that were nominated for the Board in October.

Officers & Directors Insurance

Tom McDermott proposed that the club investigate the cost of obtaining officers and directors insurance. Such insur-



ance is designed to protect the property of persons serving on the Executive Committee and provide the club with legal counsel in the event that someone were to bring a suit against the club. Tom provided the Board with information from the insurer of the Appalachian Mountain Club for Board review. The Board voted to have Bill Romberg write a letter containing information on the club and its activities to attach to the application from Brewer & Lord LLC. Tom McDermott would attempt to identify at least two other companies that provide this type of policy so that quotes could be obtained and compared. The issue of club liability and whether the club should purchase such insurance was discussed for some time. However, a decision on how to proceed on the issue was postponed until a later meeting when more officers might be in attendance and when Tom had more information on the coverages and costs of different policies.

MCA Awards

Bill Romberg proposed that the club establish two additional MCA awards. The first would recognize club members who make substantial contributions of time and effort to the club and its activities over the course of a year. Called the President's Award, it would be awarded annually to one or more members and consist of a \$50 gift certificate to AMH. The second award would recognize persons who have made a significant contribution to the exploration, documentation, and promotion of hiking and climbing opportunities in Alaska's mountain ranges and be called the Vin Hoeman Award. Nominations would be solicited and approved by an Awards Committee, and a recipient selected by vote of the membership. Final criteria and approval of these awards will be developed after discussion at the January general meeting and the next Board meeting.

AAJ Report

Bill Romberg will prepare the MCA club report for submission to the AAJ for 2001. Officers with information on major climbs and activities of club members should provide it to Bill no later than Thursday, Jan 11.

Membership Policy

At the request of a club member and the President, the Board reviewed a recent decision it made to require all family members to sign the club's release of liability. Significant discussion took place regarding the issue of family memberships and the need to better document family members who sign the club release of liability. It was noted that signing the MCA release is not a condition of membership per the by-laws but is required for all persons wishing to participate in club trips. It was also noted that this issue has been discussed by previous Boards and that membership cards were issued as a way of indicating who had signed a club release. It was also noted that the membership card is used to check out club gear/books but could not necessarily be relied upon as "proof of membership" at the trailhead if

it was retained at AMH for gear/book checkout. Also, the issue was raised that the club has probably been inconsistent in the issuance of cards to individual family members. Several members felt that all individual and family members should sign the club release to become members. The Board also discussed whether a change in the by-laws would be required. A motion was made to have the Board pursue a change to the by-laws that would require that all persons applying for membership complete the entire membership application including the release of liability. However, action on this motion was not taken and will be re-addressed at the February Board meeting. The Board did pass a motion to have Bill R. draft a "membership policy" which would clarify the membership approval and documentation process. The draft membership policy would include the following tenets: 1) any individual named on a family membership application must read and sign the club's release of liability (or have it signed by a parent or guardian if individual is under 18, and each will receive their own membership card upon signing the release of liability, 2) Multiple paragraph initials and signatures will be recommended on the release of liability form for family memberships, 3) any new members or renewals occurring Oct 1-Dec 30 will be for the following membership year, 4) any current officer can sign and date the membership cards, 5) members must complete a new membership application (including release) each year to renew their membership, 6) the club will maintain in its membership database the names of all club members, including the names of family members who have signed a release and the year in which each person signed an MCA release.

Scree

At the request of Willy Hersman, the Board discussed whether to continue including the club's membership application in each issue of the *Scree*. The Board decided that the membership application was an important component of the *Scree* since most members use it for renewal of membership and there have been a number of revisions to the application in the past 6 months. Most felt that the need for documentation and membership renewal outweighed the extra paper at this time. The Board will review this issue in 2002 when procedures to deliver the *Scree* electronically have been worked out and when more members may be using the web site to obtain the membership application.

Equipment

The Board addressed a request by the Equipment Committee to have the Board decide what to do with five helmets and a number of club ropes that were retired from service. Tom Choate made a motion that the club mark the helmets with "not for climbing" and then donate them to the Scouts program for use by persons operating around the organization's rope course. The motion passed. A second motion was made to ask the Equipment Committee to have the retired ropes woven into floor mats and sell them to club



members if possible.

Board Meetings/Administration

The Board voted to move the monthly Board meeting to the Wednesday prior to the General Membership Meeting to accommodate the schedule of some officers. The next meeting will be February 14th, 7:30 p.m. at AMH. The Board approved Bill's request to obtain a new President's briefcase for the club as the current one was falling apart and to purchase four 3-ring binders for use in developing new committee handbooks in 2001. Bill Romberg noted that he was committed to keeping the business portion of the monthly general membership meeting to 45 minutes or less, and called upon other officers to help facilitate this process at each meeting.

MINUTES

JANUARY MEETING

About 90 people were in attendance and 10 new people and visitors introduced themselves.

TREASURER

The club has \$15,000 in revenue, \$16,000 in expenses, a deficit of \$1,000 and \$1,100 in savings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hiking and Climbing

Matt Nedom asked that members contact him or the other climbing chair if they would like to lead a trip for the club. He also asked that if you are signed up for a trip and can't go that you please call the leader, since some trips are limited in size. The committee will be the caretakers of the new AOEE Venue guide provided to the club by UAA and is available for leaders to look at. The committee has many trips to offer members, most of the trips are listed in the *Scree*. A few trips not listed in the *Scree* are a Hatcher Pass Ski trip over Super Bowl weekend to take the place of the Matanuska Peak climb, since conditions were marginal. Please contact John Hess or Tom McDermott for further information. There will also be a trip over Devil's Pass and Resurrection Pass over March 16-20.

Geographic Names

Tom Choate made note that there is a proposal out there to rename a peak in the Thoroughfare Pass Area. The proposed name is "Benson." If anyone is interested in this proposal please contact Tom directly.

Training

Steve Parry was pleased to report that 11 students attended the snow caving class at Hatcher Pass and that another 17 students signed up for the snow climbing class and Steve needs a few more instructors for that course. An avalanche course will be offered on Feb. 3, there will be a fee of \$25 for this class and Steve is in need of more instructors for this one too.

Tom McDermott announced a few first aid classes that are being offered at UAA that would meet the First Aid requirements of all potential leaders.

Huts

Mark Miraglia asked for any members heading in to the MCA huts to report any damage or repairs that are needed. He is still continuing to compile a database of hut measurements for future repairs, particularly the measurements for windows, doorways, and outhouse facilities and roofing samples at the Scandinavia Peaks Hut, Bock's Den and Pichler's Perch.

Equipment

Todd Steele will be donating the old club helmets to the Boy Scouts and he is still looking for ideas on what to do with old club ropes that need to be retired.

Scree

The club is looking for more people to volunteer with the folding of the *Screes* and labeling. Please contact Richard Baranow to volunteer.

The *Scree* can be delivered electronically to all members who express interest. You can ask for this service over the web site or can designate this on the revised MCA applications, when renewing your address.

OLD BUSINESS

The proposed 2001 draft **budget** as published in the *Scree* in December was approved by the club membership.

The club is still offering and encouraging the membership to join on the **MCA Listserv**. Listserv members would be able to contact other members in the club to make announcements that would go to all the members signed up for this service, 42 members are currently signed up.

Kirk reminded members that only **100 calendars** were printed this year and that 40 were left for purchase.

NEW BUSINESS

Karen Herzenberg volunteered to help do the **refreshments**.

Board member Wendy Sanem put in her letter of **resigna-**



tion and the **MCA Board** opened the general meeting for nominations. Kirk Towner was voted in by the membership and will fill the position.

Prizes were drawn for trip leaders for the months of July to December, Tom Choate was named the winner of a \$50 gift certificate from AMH. Tom also was named the winner of a \$25 gift certificate for his submissions to the *Scree*.

The Board announced two new awards that would be offered to the membership. The **President's Award** is an award given to an individual in the membership who makes a significant contributions to the club and it's services. The club would award this person with a \$50 gift certificate to AMH. The **Vin Hoeman Award** will be given to an individual that makes major contibutions in the area of exploration and hiking through club services. This award would be given every other year and nominations would be accepted by the Board.

Steve Gruhn volunteered to take over **peak register** maintenance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board wanted to remind members that **memberships should be renewed** if they haven't been already. *Scree*s are mailed out to lax members through February.

The club still has **t-shirts** for sale. Synthetic t's are \$20, long sleeve cotton t's are \$15 and short sleeve cotton t's are \$10.

AMRG is having their **annual raffle**, tickets are \$5. Prizes include a \$1000 gift certificate to Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking, GPS, \$300 gift kayak or raft rental, an avalanche course and a gift certificate to the Bike Shop.

Richard Baranow's winter **slide show** series finishes off with Bashful and Baleful peaks on Thursday, February 7th, upstairs at AMH at 7:30 P.M. The show is free to the public and seating is limited so arrive early.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayme Mack

17th annual Valdez Ice Climbing Festival

March 2 - 4th, 2001

Schedule of Events:

Friday, March 2nd

Opening Ceremonies Barbecue Bonfire and Bouldering at the small boat harbor spit.

Saturday, March 3rd

7-9am : Breakfast Buffet TBA

10am-3pm : Climbing Comps and Tecnica Demos in Keystone Canyon.

6-8pm : Traditional Spaghetti Feed Location TBA

Slide Show 8pm at the Commons, PWS Community College, Lowe Street

Sunday, March 4th

10am : Speed Climbing Comp and Tecnia Demos with Icecraft Exhibition in Keystone Canyon Bridalveil Falls area.

6 pm : Awards and Banquet at the Tsaina Lodge.

Contact: Brian Teale 835-5182

TRIP SCHEDULE ADDENDUM

Mar 24-25 Caribou Creek Ice Climb

Overnight ice climbing trip to Caribou Creek. Not a training trip, you need to be a competent ice climber. Partner teams encouraged. Walk, ski, dog-mush, whatever to get up the river. Class: Technical, fifth class. Bring your own tools, tent, ropes, etc.

Leader: Richard Baranow 694-1500



February MCA discount*

gear

	retail	MCA member
Wild Country Tents		
mountain tent.....	\$450.....	\$290
expedition.....	\$595.....	\$385
base camp.....	\$650.....	\$425

Marmot Gore-Tex (men's and women's specific)		
climbing jacket.....	\$395.....	\$296
alpinist lightweight.....	\$395.....	\$296

Patagonia		
m's stretch triolet jacket...	\$345.....	\$255
direct-x jacket.....	\$355.....	\$260
store stock only/quantities limited		

*Ten-percent off of climbing hardware and mountain boots...always.



Customer Service is our bottom line.

See back for MCA activities in February.



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 or stream-crossing 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 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: MCA Board, February 15, 2000

General Rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips

1. Proper equipment is on the reverse side of this list.
2. No dogs. (Among the reasons are bear problems.)
3. The trip leader can require special equipment and refuse participation to any person that is ill-prepared (e.g. inappropriate clothing/gear).
4. The leader's suggestions are to be followed. Do not go off alone, return or rush ahead without his (her) permission, and don't ford a stream before the leader assesses the situation. Remember, this is a club trip and the leader must know where all participants are. Anyone separating from the group without the leader's approval is no longer considered a participant the MCA Sanctioned trip.
5. The trip leader has the authority to split the group (fast and slow), dependent upon current conditions. However, he/she must appoint a qualified co-leader to lead the second group using the guidelines specified in the current Trip Leader Responsibilities.
6. Trip participants who, in the leader's opinion, put themselves or other members of the group in danger by disregarding the leader's suggestions, shall be subject to sanction by the club. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, reprimand at general meeting, exclusion from future trips, termination of annual membership, or lifetime exclusion from the club.
7. You must sign up on a trip roster (club meetings) or contact the leader, and you must have signed the club waiver to be on a club trip.
8. If you find you cannot participate after signing up on the roster, please let the leader know, both for transportation and gear-planning and so someone else can go. If you are the leader, help find a replacement.
9. Total number of people on club trips:
Minimum: 4 (for safety reasons)
Maximum: Leader option, depends upon the trail and campsite conditions, but generally limited to 12 in trail-less areas or State/National Parks
10. Firearms are not encouraged, and please let the leader know if you want to carry one - it will be leader's option. Aerosol bear repellent is preferred.

Approved: MCA Board, February 15, 2000

Equipment

Summer

Rain gear that works	Mosquito repellent
Wind gear	Whistle
Wool or fleece pants	Large plastic bag
Shorts	Lighter, matches
Light long johns	Map, compass
Wool shirt	Aerosol bear repellent (if desired)
Jacket	Moleskin/Spenco 2nd skin
Baseball cap	Ace bandage
Gloves	Surgical tape
Extra socks	Aspirin
Wool or pile hat	Gauze
Hiking boots	Anti-bacterial ointment
Stream-crossing footwear	4" x 4" pads, Band-Aids
Sunscreen	Wire



Vice grips or pliers	If snow on glacier:
Utility cord	Picket
Sewing kit	Skis or snowshoes
Tent	
Sleeping pad and bag	<u>Winter</u>
Backpack cover	Wind gear
Cook pot	Wool/fleece pants, shift
Stove (fires not allowed)	Long johns
Fuel bottle	Down jacket
Walking stick or ice axe	Wool/fleece hat
Water bottles (not canteens)	Face mask
FOOD	Mittens
	Double boots
<u>Additional for Glaciers</u>	Avalanche beacon
Ice axe	Shovel
Gaitors	Lighter
Climbing boots	Headlamp
Slings, carabiners	First aid kit
Rappel device	Repair kit
Rope	Tent (or snow shelters)
Wands	Sleeping bag and pad
Mittens	Large cook pot
Crampons	Stove
Seat Harness	Windscreen for stove
Ice screw(s)	Fuel bottle
Pulleys	Thermos
Prussiks/ascenders	Gaitors
Glacier glasses/cream	Skis or snowshoes

Leader Qualifications

1. Must be a member of the MCA.
2. Must have approval of the Hiking and Climbing Committee (A simple majority.)
3. Must, at a minimum, be currently certified in Standard First Aid and Adult CPR/Basic Life Support (BLS).
4. Must attend an MCA Trip Leader Orientation course once every five years.
5. Must have participated in trips of the same or higher classification than the one being led, showing competence in the opinion of the leaders of those trips; or equivalent experience acceptable to the Hiking and Climbing Committee.
6. Leaders on trips of Class E or higher must have served as a co-leader with an approved MCA trip leader on at least one trip of the same classification or higher, or have equivalent experience acceptable to the Hiking and Climbing Committee. Persons with technical climbing experience wishing to waive this requirement must provide a letter to the Hiking and Climbing Committee outlining their climbing/guiding experience, training, and at least one personal reference.
7. Leaders on trips that may involve any avalanche-prone terrain must have completed formal training in avalanche hazard recognition and victim search as approved by the Hiking and Climbing Committee.
8. Leaders on trips that involve any hazardous stream crossings must have either formal training in safe stream crossing methods or have extensive experience crossing streams.

Approved: MCA Board, February 15, 2000

Trip Leader Responsibilities

1. The leader must get approval of the proposed trip from the H&C Committee prior to advertising the trip.
2. Per MCA by-laws, club trips must be advertised in a club publication. In other words, the MCA membership must be informed of the trip. The H&C committee must approve the club trip about 35 days before the trip so that the H&C chair can forward the approved trip list to the editor of the Scree.
3. Important: If a H&CC approved trip cannot be planned a month in advance, the organizer may announce the trip as a personal trip at the next club meeting when the MCA president asks for announcements. Anyone may advertise a personal trip at the general membership meeting, which is an important service the club offers to all members - to help bring hikers and climbers together. The value of a club sanctioned trip is it offers the membership a trip leader that has been approved by the H&CC as a qualified leader.
4. The leader is responsible for providing and maintaining the trip sign-up sheets at monthly meetings. Coordinate with the H&CC Chair if unable to make the monthly meeting prior to the trip.
5. The leader should describe their proposed trip at club meetings.
6. The leader should contact members that have signed up for the trip to discuss the details of the trip, including proposed route, required gear, hazards, and meeting arrangements.
7. The leader must leave a trip roster containing a brief description of the proposed route and the names and telephone numbers of participants with a responsible person that will be able to contact a H&C Committee member (names and telephone numbers are on the sign-up sheet) in case of an emergency or delayed return.
8. The leader should brief trip members on the general rules for MCA sanctioned trips using the Trip Leader Checklist. If members already know each other and have been on previous trips, not much may need to be said. If new members are on the trip, use the checklist.
9. For safety and liability reasons, the leader must follow the general rules for MCA sanctioned trips as published in the MCA policies.
10. After the trip, the leader is encouraged to provide a trip report (over the phone or in writing) to the H&CC This is just "how did the trip go" and who participated. It also serves as a means to let the H&C Committee know the trip members returned safely.

Other documents trip leaders should consult:

1. MCA Club Sanctioned Trips policy, sections on: trip classifications, general rules, leader qualifications, and recommended gear).
2. Trip Leader Checklist

Approved: MCA Board, February 15, 2000



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) was formed in 1958 to promote the enjoyment of hiking and climbing in Alaska and the exploration of its mountains. We welcome anyone who wishes to become a member.

Participate & Learn The MCA conducts scheduled hikes and climbs led by experienced club members, technical mountaineering and climbing courses, and other instruction throughout the year. The club maintains 8 mountain huts in the nearby Chugach and Talkeetna mountains. The MCA / Vin Hoeman Library, located upstairs in Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking on Spenard Road, contains hundreds of books, numerous periodicals, bound volumes of the *SCREE*, and a 'Peak File' with information on local climbs. The club also loans climbing gear to members, including ice axes, helmets, crampons, snowshoes, and avalanche beacons.

Stay Informed The MCA publishes a monthly newsletter, *SCREE*, and sends it to all members. The *SCREE* contains the minutes of the previous meeting, announcements of upcoming events, the hiking and climbing trip schedule, and trip reports written by club members. A monthly meeting and slide show is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in the basement of the Pioneer Schoolhouse (corner of 3rd & Eagle Streets, downtown Anchorage). Special events or changes to the meeting will be noted in the *SCREE*. Be sure to visit our website at: www.mcak.org

.. **Complete both sides of this form.** To participate in club-sponsored trips, every member must read and complete the Release of Liability Agreement on the back of this application.

.. Please make checks payable to **Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc.**

.. Dues are \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a family (one SCREE per family).

.. Membership is for one calendar year, through the 31st of December. Memberships paid after October 1st are good through the following year.

.. If applying by mail, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for your membership card. Otherwise, you may pick it up at the next monthly meeting.

Our address is:
MCA
PO Box 102037
Anchorage AK 99510-2037

NEW DATE
RENEWAL NAME

INDIVIDUAL (\$10) FAMILY MEMBERS
FAMILY (\$15)

ELECTRONIC How do you want your **SCREE** delivered? (check one or both)
PAPER Fastest! Direct to your email address specified below
Postal Service – please include \$5 extra if outside US

STREET or PO BOX
CITY / STATE / ZIP
TELEPHONE
E-MAIL ADDRESS

COMMENTS

RELEASE OF LIABILITY—READ CAREFULLY

I, _____ (print name), am aware that mountaineering sports (including hiking; backpacking; rock, snow, and ice climbing; mountaineering; skiing; and ski mountaineering) are hazardous activities. I wish to participate and/or receive instruction in these activities with the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc. (“MCA”) I recognize that these activities involve numerous risks, which include, by way of example only, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; failure of a belay; being struck by climbing equipment or falling rock, ice or snow; avalanches; lightning; fire; hypothermia; frostbite; defective or malfunctioning equipment; and attack by insects or animals. I further recognize that the remoteness of the activities may preclude prompt medical care. I further recognize that risk of injury or death may be caused or enhanced by mistakes or negligence on the part of either my fellow participants or MCA officers, directors, guides, instructors, or trip leaders. I nevertheless agree to accept all risks of injury, death, or property damage that may occur in connection with any MCA activity, including use of MCA furnished equipment and MCA backcountry huts.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

GIVING UP MY LEGAL RIGHTS

By signing this Agreement, I agree to give up for myself and for my heirs all legal rights I may have against the MCA and my fellow participants in MCA activities (except to the extent that insurance coverage for any claim is provided by an automobile insurance policy or related excess insurance policies). **I give up these legal rights regardless of whether the injury, death, or property damage results from mistakes or negligence on the part of either my fellow participants or the MCA.** (As used in this agreement, MCA means the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc., and all of its officers, directors, guides, instructors and trip leaders.) I understand this agreement shall remain in effect until such time as I provide signed written notice of its revocation to the MCA.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY PROMISE NOT TO SUE

I agree that I will not sue, or otherwise make any claim against, the MCA or my fellow participants in MCA activities for injury, death, or property damage which occurs in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering sports. Any lawsuit relating to MCA activities or this release shall only be filed in the Superior Court for the State of Alaska, Third Judicial District., Anchorage, Alaska. The provisions of this release are severable and if any part of this release is found unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I also agree to release and discharge the MCA and my fellow participants in MCA activities from all actions, claims, or demands, both for myself and for my heirs, dependents, and/or personal representative, for injury, death, or property damage occurring in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering sports.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY

I agree to pay all expenses, including attorney’s fees and court costs, that the MCA or my fellow participants in MCA activities may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of injury, death, or property damage suffered by me.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT

I consent to any hospital care or medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment which may be necessary as a result of my participation in activities with the MCA. I also understand and agree that I am solely responsible for all applicable charges for such medical treatment, including evacuation and/or rescue cost.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A BINDING, LEGAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ME AND THE MCA.

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 19): _____

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PLEASE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Officers

President Bill Romberg 677-3993
Vice-President Tom Choate 333-5309
Secretary Jayme Mack 258-7571
Treasurer Patty McPherson 563-4806

Board

Kirk Towner 344-5424
Dolly Lefever 243-7027
John Hess 348-7363
Tom McDermott 277-0774
Richard Baranow 694-1500

Annual membership dues: Single \$10.00 Family \$15.00 (one *Scree* per family)

Dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the treasurer at the MCA address below. If you want a membership card, please fill out the club waiver found on the previous page and mail it with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If you fail to receive the newsletter, or have questions about your membership, contact the club treasurer. The post office does not forward the newsletter.

SCREE is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles and notes submitted for publication and other communication related to the newsletter should be mailed to my address: 1106 W. 54th Ave., Anchorage, AK 99518, or e-mailed to willy@mcak.org Articles should be received by March 2nd to be included in the March issue.

Paid ads may be submitted to the attention of the Vice-President at the club address and should be "camera ready" and pre-paid. Your cooperation will be appreciated... Willy Hersman, Editor, 561-7900.

MAILING: richard baranow, bill romberg, jayme mack
HIKING/CLIMBING CHAIRS: matt nedom, 278-3648, richard baranow, 694-1500
HUTS: mark miraglia, 338-0705
WEB: www.mcak.org (go here to change your address)
MAILING LIST SERVICE: mcak@yahoogroups.com



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