



FEBRUARY 2004 A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska Vol 47 Issue 2

Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

FEBRUARY MEETING
Wednesday
February 18th , 7:30 pm
First United Methodist Church
9th & G Streets
Next to the Phillips Building
(you may use marked parking after hours...)
Downtown Anchorage

SLIDE SHOW: Rafting the Firth, YT with Matt Nedom

HIKING AND CLIMBING

Feb 14-15 **Advanced Ice Climbing in Valdez**
Keystone Canyon has formed very nice ice. Come this weekend for advanced ice climbing. Required equipment: Boots, Crampons, Harness, Helmet.
Trip Leader: Steve Frisch, 566-4492

Feb 25 **Arctic to Indian Recon**
24 miles of breaking trail on skis. Possible open water crossing. A 12 hour trip. Good physical condition, winter survival skills, avalanche gear, and your trusty headlamp. Class D
Trip Leaders: Tom Dolan & Stu Grenier, 337-5127

Feb 29 **Annual MCA Indian to Arctic Ski Tour**
24 miles of fun over possible unbroken trail and open river crossings. Skis, good physical condition, winter survival skills, avi gear. Don't forget your head lamp, 12 hour trip. Class D
Trip Leaders, Stu Grenier & Tom Dolan, 337-5127

Mar 6-15 **Pico de Orizaba**
Mexican volcano (18,405 feet). A non-expeditionary sample of high altitude climbing. A good ice axe arrest, helmet and crampons are required. There may be some roped travel. There will be time for acclimatization. Moderately paced.
Class D and Basic Mountaineering skills
Limit 8 Trip Leader: John Recktenwald, 336-2675

March 10 **The Gorge Ski Trip**
Ski or skijor up the Knik River to check out the Gorge.
20miles RT
Possible thin ice or open water.
Class C
Leader: Stu Grenier 337.5127

HIKING AND CLIMBING

March 10 **Hunter Creek Ice Exploration**

Come join a few week day ice warriors to climb some well formed icicles back in the Hunter Creek Drainage, grades II-IV available. You must have some ice experience already or a partner that is a competent lead. Sign-ups in pairs is preferred. We will do the approach on skis/snowshoes or by foot depending on the snow conditions. We will meet at the Starbuck's coffee stand in the Carrs Eagle River grocery store at 8AM. Contact Richard Baranow for more information at 694-1500.

March 13 **Echo Bend Ice Climbing**

Come ski/snowshoe back three miles behind the Eagle River Nature Center to climb the ice at Echo Bend. There is plenty of ice to be climbed for all levels of abilities, grades II-IV available. Spend the day doing laps on the ice and then celebrate a good day of climbing, back at the trip leaders house with some good drink and food. BYOB and bring some food to share. We will meet at 9AM at the trip leader's house. Sign-up with a partner is preferred. Call Trip Leader: Richard Baranow at 694-1500.

March 14 **Ice Climbing in the Eklutna Glacier Area**

This trip is geared for the ice climber who wants to see some of the biggest and fattest ice in the greater Anchorage area. We will get an early start and use snowmachines to access these challenging icicles. Most of these climbs are multi-pitch and vary in difficulty, grades II-IV. You must have previous ice climbing experience, be able to lead competently or be able to climb as a second comfortably. This is a long full-day of climbing and riding, so bring a headlamp, food, water and lots of energy. Sign-up with a partner and a snow machine. Contact Richard Baranow for more information at 694-1500.

March 17 **Eklutna Lake Ski**

Ski twenty six miles round trip to the Serenity Falls hut and back, often across the frozen lake. Skate skiers and skijorers will have to wait for the rest of us slow folks.. When conditions are right, this is a very flat and pleasant ski trip. About 8hrs of skiing.
Class B
Leader: Stu Grenier 337.5127

April 14 - 20 **Annual MCA Eklutna Gl. Ski Traverse**

Good skiing ability, glacier travel experience, and avalanche training needed. You also must be able to ski on a rope team while carrying 50+ pounds on your back. Stay overnight in the MCA huts.
Class D
Leader, again this year, Stu Grenier 337.5127

TRAINING

February 12 - February 22 **MCA Mountaineering School**

Mountaineering School is a series of classes, intended to prepare the novice mountaineer for expeditions and extended trips. The school is taught by MCA volunteer instructors who have expertise in different aspects of mountaineering. The manuals typically used for this school are the 7th edition of Freedom of the Hills (a classic bible of mountaineering), Snow Sense, The Avalanche Handbook, and Glacier Travel & Crevasse Rescue.

The cost is **\$75** per student for all of the classes in the series. This covers classroom rental time, glacier access fees and monies to cover the cost of purchasing equipment to provide to the students.

Meet for one evening classroom session (sometimes 2 in the case of avalanche awareness) and then a weekend session in the field. MCA can provide some of the gear for the school but students will be primarily responsible for their own gear.

Locations and meeting times may be changed at any time.

Schedule:

Snow Climbing Feb. 12, 14-15

Glacier Travel & Crevasse Rescue Feb. 19, 21-22

To sign-up attend the February general meeting or call Steve Parry (the training coordinator) at 248-8710. All participants must be current MCA members.

Note: All qualified MCA leaders are invited to help instruct. If interested please contact Steve Parry at 248-8710

TRIP REPORTS

HAYES GLACIER, TORDRILLO MOUNTAINS

by Guenter Zimmermann

Three German friends of mine (Guenter Zimmermann, Uwe Nootbaar and Thomas Speck) spent two weeks climbing in the upper Hayes Glacier area of the Tordrillo Mountains Spring 2003. This is an area of large, difficult, unclimbed peaks, and has attracted the interest of Alaskan mountaineers for many years, including Vin Hoeman and Rod Wilson. Rod discusses this area at length in his book **Tordrillo**, which he coauthored with Lowell Thomas Jr. and Paul Crews. The area where these peaks are found is shown on the USGS Tyonek C-7 map.

My friends are not new-comers to Alaska. Thomas has been here eighteen times climbing in all parts of the state, while Guenter has been here seven times, and Uwe five. They are excellent mountaineers and have climbed throughout the world. They loved the Tordrillos and compared the upper Hayes Glacier area to some of the best climbing areas in the Alps, but with rotten rock.

From what I can tell, they made three first ascents on difficult peaks, and climbed Mt. Gerdine (fifth ascent) by a partly new route (in April 1986 and May 1987 two parties climbed parts of the SW ridge, G5 and G6 in the book Tordrillo). Fortunately, there are plenty of peaks left for you and me. Here is their account.

Kneeland Taylor, Anchorage

On April 30, 2003 we flew into the upper Hayes Glacier at the 6000 ft level of the main branch. There we established our base camp. The next day we attempted to climb a spur on the west ridge of Mt. Gerdine (11,258 ft), which has an altitude of 9670 ft (1.6 mi W of Mt. Gerdine). This peak lay immediately above us, to the E of our base camp. We skied up a small tributary glacier which is situated on the NW side of Peak 9670 to a bergschrund at 7500 ft. There we left our skis and began climbing up the NW face of Peak 9670. We climbed up a 1800 ft snow couloir (40°, 45°, 50°) to the left of a significant huge rock tower located in the middle of the NW face to a smaller but also significant rock tower at about 9300 ft on the north ridge of Peak 9670. The sharp north ridge of Peak 9670 was partly blue ice and covered with cornices on both sides. Running out of time this day we returned to the base camp without climbing to the summit.

On May 2 we skied SE up the upper Hayes Glacier, then turned east until we reached a bergschrund at 7400 ft. From there we climbed up a snow slope (1000 ft, 40°) to a plateau at the 8500 ft level at the top of the north branch of the Triumvirate Glacier. There we turned NE and followed a snow ridge up to a point at about 9600 ft which we named Hayes Point (1.7 mi S of Mt. Gerdine on the Matanuska-Susitna Borough / Kenai Peninsula Borough, located in the C-7 map between the both letters B of the two adjacent words Borough; not a true peak as being part of a ridge, the high point of which is Peak 10,510 ft) for its location at the end of the Hayes Glacier.

On May 3, we climbed Mt. Gerdine (11,258 ft) via the SW ridge. We started from the base camp on skis, travelling SE and after about a mile gained a snow plateau at 7455 ft (marked on the

map). From there we climbed up a snow slope (40° - 45°) to a little peak at 8600 ft (nice view point). We followed a short horizontal snow and rock ridge to a saddle and the next snow slopes (30° - 40°) to the right of a rock ridge up to 9300 ft below a big serac. Over the serac (short passage 70°) we reached a flat snow plateau and crossed the plateau to the SW ridge of Peak 10,270. Then we climbed up the ridge to Peak 10,270 and finally the last steep ridge (50°) to the summit of Mt. Gerdine. At 6 p.m. after nine hours of climbing, two of us, Thomas and Guenter, reached the summit. The weather turned bad, dark clouds and a storm were coming up; so we descended as fast as possible and after three hours we reached the base camp at 9 p.m. The route is excellent, varied and safe.

The following days the weather was bad. On May 6 the weather turned good but due to avalanche conditions we only checked the next climb to Peak 10,030 (3.7 mi SW of Mt. Gerdine and SW of upper Hayes Glacier). On May 7, we started the climb via the north slope and the north ridge to Peak 10,030. After depositing the skis at the bergschrund (8000 ft) we climbed up a snow slope (40°) to reach the north ridge at 8500 ft. We followed the initially sharp ridge with several steep slopes (up to 45°) in 1 foot of new snow. At the end of the ridge we crossed a bergschrund just below the summit plateau by a steep snow bridge. On the flat plateau we had to cross a very long and wide crevasse just 300 feet in horizontal direction before the summit. At 4 p.m. after seven hours of climbing, two of us, Thomas and Guenter, reached the summit of Peak 10,030 which we named Surprise Peak because of the surprising existence of the big crevasse near the summit. As on Mt. Gerdine, four days earlier, the weather turned bad again and the wind deposited amounts of new snow on the north ridge. So when descending the ridge we triggered two avalanches but luckily without consequence.

The weather was bad the next days and on May 9, a snow storm roared. On May 11, we walked up the small tributary glacier on the NW side of Peak 9670 again which we named Argentièrè Glacier for its similarity to a glacial bowl near Argentièrè, Chamonix, France and climbed up the south couloir (1600 ft, 45°) of Peak 9620 (2.1 mi W of Mt. Gerdine and 1.0 mi N of P 9670) which we named Argentièrè Peak for its similarity to the Aiguille Argentièrè near Chamonix, France. Two of us, Thomas and Guenter, reached the summit at 5 p.m. after five hours from the base camp.

Another period of bad weather started, but on May 14 we climbed up the plateau of the north branch of Triumvirate Glacier with skis to the 8500 ft level, passed Hayes Point south and climbed a snow point (about 10,300 ft, 1.4 mi S of Mt. Gerdine and 0.3 mi S of P 10,510, this point was probably climbed by the Japanese party in 1967, G4 in the book Tordrillo) via its easy and short south ridge.

In best weather we flew out to Talkeetna on May 15.

Dr. Guenter Zimmermann, Deutscher Alpenverein
(German Alpine Club)

TRIP REPORTS

Exploring the Bird Country Continued

(Western Chugach Mountains)

by Steve Gruhn

I have long been interested in exploring areas of the Western Chugach Mountains, in particular the Bird Creek drainage. Many of my trips in this area have previously been reported in *Scree*, including trips to The Beak, Bird Peak, Bird Ridge Overlook, Bird Ridge Point, Bird's Eye Peak, California Peak, Esbay Peak, Gentoo Peak, Nest Peak, and The Wing. Tom Choate had been my frequent climbing partner for many of these trips, but he was unavailable on July 20, 2002, so I turned to Jon Evenson for some company and continued exploration of this intriguing area.

Jon and I met at the Bird Creek trailhead early that morning and I drove him to the California Creek trailhead. Jon and I hiked up the trail and turned right on the side trail leading up the California Creek drainage (oddly, the one *after* the side trail labeled California Creek Trail). This was a pleasant trail that brought us to timberline overlooking California Creek. From there we found an alder-free slope and hiked up to Penguin Ridge, attaining the ridge at about 3,800 feet. We continued on until we reached the top of Gentoo Peak (el. 4196, Sec.1, T10N, R1E, S.M.) where we stopped for a lunch break. Tom Choate and I had visited this peak in July 2000, but we had not ventured further to the south or west. The exploration was about to begin!

The winds were calm, but we were enveloped frequently in fog. Knowing that the fog might cause route-finding difficulties and knowing we already had a long day ahead of us, we didn't dally very long. Jon left a register and soon we were descending Gentoo Peak via the south ridge and admiring the views of the unnamed lake to the west. We saw several mountain goats as we traveled along the ridge, but they quickly retreated into the fog. The travel was quite easy on this gentle, rolling portion of Penguin Ridge.

Soon we stood atop Chinstrap Peak (el. 3619, Sec.12, T10N, R1E, S.M.). In the fog without a map, compass, or GPS unit, we became turned around at this point and had to investigate which way to descend. The traffic noise from the Seward Highway below us turned out to be a reasonable guide and eventually we found the southwest ridge and we were once again on our way.

We hiked to the top of Crested Peak (el. 3530, Sec. 14, T10N, R1E, S.M.) and again had to poke around to determine which way to descend. For some reason I kept wanting to travel north instead of west. After realizing the error of our ways, we continued west over several hills to Bird Hill (Sec. 15, T10N, R1E, S.M.). Bird Hill is not a true peak in the sense that it does not have 500 feet of rise above the saddle connecting it to Crested Peak. But I had never been to this point before and I enjoyed seeing some new (to me) territory. We continued west on the ridge, soon arriving at Emperor Point (el. 3576, Sec. 20, T10N, R1E, S.M.). Emperor Point, also not a true peak, marked the point of this trip where I returned to *terra cognita*. I had previously climbed this point in May 1999.

Most of the points on Penguin Ridge were named after species of penguins by Vin Hoeman and Tom Choate. Of the 17 species of penguins I know of, 7 have their names on this ridge. I found the records of Vin's names (Penguin Peak, King Point, Rockhopper Point, Adelie Point, and Emperor Point) in a register left by Willy Hersman atop Penguin Peak (el. 4334, Sec. 12, T10N, R1W, S.M.) in June 1991. However, Hoeman's names were not assigned

to specific points, but merely specified in order along the ridge, so I could be incorrect in the exact placement of each name. It is likely that Emperor is a misspelling of Emperor, the largest penguin species.

Descending from Emperor Point, Jon and I encountered quite a bit of debris on the ridge, including remnants of an old weather station and shrapnel from mortars used by the highway crews to release avalanches. We continued west to Adelie Point (el. 3825, Sec.17, T10N, R1E, S.M.). Despite its name, Adelie Point is a true peak, rising more than 500 feet above the saddle connecting it to Penguin Peak. From Adelie Point, it was a short walk to Rockhopper Point (el. 3812, Sec. 18, T10N, R1E, S.M.). Descending from Rockhopper Point to the west and northwest, we left the tundra and began to navigate across rocks and scree to King Point (el. 4150, Sec. 18, T10N, R1E, S.M.). Neither Rockhopper Point nor King Point is a true peak. But the image of King Point, complete with a large billy on its northeast ridge certainly had all the flavor of a real mountain.

Penguin Lake, north of King Point, still had ice in it, but was gorgeous enough to make me contemplate leading a MCA trip there this summer. This lake is more than 1,500 feet below the summit of King Point and probably sees very few visitors and would make a nice destination some Sunday afternoon.

Traveling northwest from King Point, the ridge became quite exposed in places and our pace slowed so that we could be cautious in this area. But, within the hour, we were atop Penguin Peak, the highest point along Penguin Ridge. We signed in the register and quickly hiked to Jon's car at the Bird Creek trailhead, having climbed and descended a total of about 9,300 feet of elevation in about 10 hours.

Thank You

For making a donation to the
Mountaineering Club of Alaska
on behalf of

Rodman Wilson

a founding member and former president of the club

Donald & Joy DeLee Burr
John & Maxine Rader
Orlo & Gloria Park
Micheal Davidson
Kris Hutchin & Scott Bailey

TRIP REPORTS

Peaks & Paddles, Continued

by *Tim Kelley*

Bard Peak (3800+), East of Portage Lake

When it comes to paddle-climbs it seems that Bard Peak rarely, if ever, makes anyone's radar. That's too bad, because this peak is a convenient and great mountain to paddle to and climb up.

Before I go on, I imagine some readers will say what others have said when I told them I paddled across Portage Lake to climb Bard Peak. "Oh! You're not supposed to do that! There are rules against paddling on Portage Lake!"

If there are rules against paddling on Portage Lake, they are outdated and arbitrary. I once saw a "No Canoeing" sign back in the 80's near the visitors' center. That seemed like a good idea then. Back then Portage Glacier came way out in the lake and dumped huge amounts of icebergs in the water. Plus canoes can be dangerously tippy. Especially when manned by the clueless amidst rolling house-sized blocks of ice.

But I'm not canoeing on Portage Lake. I'm kayaking. And the icebergs on Portage Lake are becoming few and far between. Portage Lake is a safer place than many popular kayak destinations, such as: Blackstone Bay, Derickson Bay, College Fiord and Harriman Fiord. At these remote locations there is much more floating ice, more ice hanging above you, there are tidal currents and the weather and wind can be just as bad as the Portage area. So it makes no sense to ban kayaking on Portage Lake when it's not banned at more remote and dangerous locations in Prince William Sound.

'Nuff said. I kayak on Portage Lake frequently, and will continue to do so. It's a good paddle. The north shore has many nooks and shelves that you can reach should you swamp. And the gravel tilled east end of the lake is great for pullouts, camping and starts of hikes and climbs. This area is where I started my climb up Bard Peak on September 6th.

As people that travel to Portage Pass in the summer can attest, bushwhacking in this area can be deceptively tough. Such is the case starting up the west ridge of Bard Peak. I found it best to hike the boulders of the streambeds up through the willows and alders. Once past the brush line there is some steep and slick rock and veggie scrambling to get to the nice heather-tundra zone. From here it is easy cruising to the unnamed glacier on the west side of Bard Peak (this glacier is not attached to the Shakespeare Glacier). Skirting around the south side of this snow covered ice, with recent bear tracks on top, I side-hilled up and to the east. I then climbed a ridge that leads directly to the summit of Bard Peak.

On top I found the cairn that Bill Spencer and I left a few years ago when we climbed this peak from the Whittier side. I figured that I would go to the lower, western sub-summit of Bard Peak, where Grace Hoeman left the original summit register. There I wanted to get a panoramic picture of the lake and surrounding peaks. Soon I realized this was not to be. There is a section of the ridge where gendarmes push you into a gully on the south face. During my previous trip with Bill we had quickly traversed a snow ramp on top of this gully.

But this year there was much less snowfall. And the snow ramp was gone. What snow was left now had a gaping vertical cavern underneath it. Loose scree covered ledges funneling towards the hole. As several curious goats watched I tossed a couple of rocks into the hole to test the depth. The rocks rattled down into oblivion. Deciding that slipping into a black void un-roped, and by myself, was not the way I wanted to go - I turned back.

Now the group of five big goats on the Hoeman point of Bard Peak seemed even more interested in me. They kept shifting position so they could watch my every move while I descended.

When I paddle on the Portage Lake I usually try to avoid the USS Ptarmigan tour boat. But while paddling out I came around a corner and saw the ship steaming towards me. As the boat passed I could hear the woman tour guide on a public address speaker saying: "Now see that kayaker by the shore ... that's how the natives traveled on Portage Lake hundreds of years ago."

I chuckled when I heard this and thought: "Hey lady, time to read some South Central Alaska natural history books. 100 years ago there was no Portage Lake. Portage Glacier covered the entire area where the lake is now. And I don't think native Alaskans spent much time kayaking across glaciers!"



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MCA meeting Minutes

01-21-04

Introductions of new members

Treasurer's Report - \$ not provided

Committee Reports:

Hiking and Climbing – Trip leaders wanted. Submit trip ideas to Matt Nedom or Richard Baranow. Upcoming trips listed on the web www.mcak.org.

Training – General mountaineering training course January 24 to February 23. Thursday evenings and weekends. Instructors and students needed. \$75 fee. Contact Steve Parry.

Huts - a new hut brainstorming committee will be formed. Contact Huts chairperson Hans Neidig or President Jayme Mack to participate.

Library – Vin Hoeman collection moved to Bill Romberg's house. Contact Bill or board member to gain access.

Equipment - New equipment has been purchased for the upcoming mountaineering school. Ropes, helmets, alpine axes, crampons. Available for class use only. Other equipment available for membership use – snowshoes, beacons. Contact Vice President Carl Battreall for access.

Parks Advisory – Alaska National Park Service soliciting input for park management plans. Contact www.nps.org. Also Chugach Park Access Coalition (CPAC) is developing land use policy to protect public access to Chugach State Park from subdivision encroachment. Contact Cory Hinds.

Old Business:

2004 Budget approved

Club discussed and approved increasing 2005 dues from individual \$10/ family \$15 by \$5 to individual \$15/ family \$20. Paper Scree delivery fees still \$10 annually, electronic version is free.

Trip leader awards and Scree author awards picked for first half 2003 and second half 2003.

New Business:

Ice climbing festival equipment replacement issue – Board created a position whereby personal instructor equipment damaged during official Instruction Courses (Matanuska Glacier Ice Festival and Spring Mountaineering School) may be replaced by the MCA if the leader petitions the board. This is a last resort. The person damaging the equipment

should be asked to replace the gear first by the instructor. Richard Baranow was granted replacement of a damaged rope, as the first claimant on this new policy.

Wayne Todd showed “The 50 US State High Points”. It was a great show.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Hart

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board minutes

01-20-2004

Committee/Guest Business:

- 1) Huts – a new hut brainstorming committee will be formed. Contact Huts chairperson Hans Neidig or President Jayme Mack to participate.
- 2) Hiking and Climbing – Leader trip awards will be held at the next membership meeting January 21.
- 3) Training – New equipment has been purchased for the upcoming mountaineering school. Ropes, helmets, alpine axes, crampons. Available for class only.

Old Business:

- 1) 2004 budget approved by the board – Jayme will outline increased funding in certain areas to the membership at the next meeting. Budget will be discussed with the membership at the next meeting and voted on.
- 2) Membership dues increase – Board discussed and approved increasing 2005 dues from individual \$10/ family \$15 by \$5 to individual \$15/ family \$20. Paper Scree delivery fees still \$10 annually, electronic version is free.
- 3) Training curriculum – Developing goals and objectives for the technical classes (snow climbing, ice climbing, glacier travel, avalanche). Instructors approved by the Board.

New Business:

- 1) Ice climbing festival equipment replacement issue – Board created a position whereby personal instructor equipment damaged during official Instruction Courses (Matanuska Glacier Ice Festival and Spring Mountaineering School) may be replaced by the MCA if the leader petitions the board. This is a last resort. The person damaging the equipment should be asked to replace the gear first by the instructor. Richard Baranow was granted replacement of a damaged rope, as the first claimant on this new policy.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Hart

CALENDAR

The 2004 MCA Alaskan Mountain Culture calendars doubled the sales of last years (which had doubled the sales from the year before that).

We sold over 500 calendars this year and gave another 25 away to key businesses and other groups that have helped the MCA in the past. It seems that we have found a good product that people want. Because the club is advertised all over the calendar, it should result in increased membership and participation.

It was announced before that the 2005 calendar will be a vertical calendar. This is incorrect. The 2005 calendar will be another horizontal one. In the past, vertical shots have only made up about 30% of the calendar contest photos, so every third year we'll try to do a vertical one. If we try to have one too early the number of good vertical shots, or the lack of them, will result in a not so good calendar.

Keep your camera ready for that one sure winning shot. Who knows, maybe next year we will double our sales again.

Thanks,

Stu Greneir
Calendar Chair

SLIDE SERIES

The American Alpine Club continues to host a monthly series of **free slide shows**. Programs are at 6:30 in the evening, in the BP Energy Community Center, off the New Seward Highway.

Tuesday, February 17th
Mt. Huntington
by Kristian Seiling

Alpamayo
by Harry Hunt

Tuesday, March 9th
Alaska Range
by Roger Robinson

Tuesday, April 13th
TBA

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well, winter has actually arrived and even stuck around for a while this year. It's nice to finally have some options for winter recreation, unlike last year. Although, this winter is awesome for skiing and hiking I have been drawn to the land of the sun, sand and surf. Richard Baranow and myself will be leaving for Maui this Sunday, February 15th and we will be gone through Sunday, March 7th. I have to admit it is rare for us to travel much outside of Alaska and we will sorely miss the mountains. We do have plans to do a fair amount of hiking while we are visiting Maui, one on our list is the Haleakela Volcano and crater; it actually measures in around 10,000'. We will also spend time touring on our bikes and camping out on the beaches. The bug of the tropics seems to have struck a few other MCA'ers, Tom Dolan, Dave Hart and Anne Gore to name just a few. We wish everyone the best and encourage anyone with questions about the club functions to refer them to Carl Battreall, our Vice President, at 258-0075.

On another note, I am pleased to announce that the club's Basic Mountaineering School has been quite a success so far. The budget for 2004-2005 was approved by the membership at the last meeting and a dues increase for 2005-2006 memberships was approved, see the general meeting minutes for more details. The club has also purchased more equipment; crampons, helmets, ice axes, and ropes for the membership to use during training opportunities. Although I will miss you all at the February General Meeting on the 18th, I look forward to seeing you all in March. Aloha!

Jayne Mack
MCA President

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Officers

President	Jayne Mack	694-1500
Vice-President	Carl Battreall	258-0075
Secretary	Dave Hart	868-2673
Treasurer	Joe Klumberton	751-7001

Board Directors

Richard Baranow	694-1500
Matt Nedom	278-3648
Hans Neidig	357-2026
Randy Howell	346-4608
Sean Bolender	333-0213

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 a club waiver 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 Scree Editor Box 102037 Anchorage, AK 99510, or e-mailed to mtndamsel@alaska.net. Articles should be received by March 8th to be included in the March issue. Sorry, no exceptions.

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... Amsl Apflauer, Editor.

Missing your MCA membership card? If so, stop by one of our monthly meetings to pick it up or send us a self-addressed stamped envelope and we'll mail it to you.

MAILING LIST/DATABASE ENTRY: don smith

HIKING/CLIMBING CHAIR: richard baranow, 694-1500, matt nedom, 278-3648,

HUTS: hans neidig, 357-2026 or hansn@mtaonline.net

EQUIPMENT CHAIR: carl battreall, 258-0075 or carlbattreall@yahoo.com

CALENDAR CHAIR: stu grenier, 337-5127 or oinkmenow@hotmail.com

WEB: www.mcak.org (go here to change your address)

MAILING LIST SERVICE: mcak@yahoogroups.com

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Box 102037

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