

the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

February 2009

Volume 52 Number 2



Never does nature say one thing
and wisdom another.

~Juvenal

Monthly Meeting
Wed. February 18 @ 6:30 PM
Richard Baranow with new climbs in the
Western Chugach and Revelation Mountains.

NOTE NEW MEETING TIME.

Scrambles on Knight Island
Beckey's "True" Snowcap Mountain
Peak 6250, Kenai Mountains, POM
Chugach Park Access at Nearpoint

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

"To maintain, promote and perpetuate the association of persons who are interested in promoting, sponsoring, improving, stimulating and contributing to the exercise of skill and safety in the Art and Science of Mountaineering"

Join us for our club meetings the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 9th Avenue and G Streets next to the ConocoPhillips Building (you may use marked parking after hours).

Contact information is provided on the back page or visit us on the web at www.mcak.org.

Cover photo: Albrecht Bosch near the top of Peak 1930 on Knight Island

Article Submission: Articles and photos are best submitted on the web at MCAK.org. You can also attach a word processing document to an email. Due to formatting problems please do not submit material in the body of an email. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. To get on the cover, a photo should convey the feeling of mountaineering and show human endeavor.

Contents

Chugach Park Access at Nearpoint

Scrambles on Knight Island

Beckey's "True" Snowcap Mountain

Peak 6250, Kenai Mountains, POM

Letter to Editor – ADZE - Calendar

Gear Swap

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska will have a Gear Swap at the February monthly meeting, You can come early for setup and the swap will be during the break. Please respect the presentation during the second half of the meeting.

**NOTE NEW MCA MONTHLY MEETING TIME
6:30**

Hiking and Climbing Schedule

February 7 – Ship Lake Pass to Indian ski tour
Class C, 15 miles, 2000 feet elevation gain,
Backcountry skis with skins, Avalanche gear and
headlamp
Tom Dolan, 223-1308, paradoxx@gci.net

February 7 – Hurdygurdy Ice Climbing
Come check out the ice in Eagle River Valley, 6
miles round trip. Hard hiking with 2,000 feet
elevation gain. Must have previous ice climbing
experience, WI3 and WI4. Meet at 9 AM. BYOB
and/or bring a snack for the potluck afterward.
Please call leader 24 hours in advance.
Leader: Richard Baranow, 694-1500

February 19 to 24 – Mt. Susitna
Class E, Ski in, snowshoe up through alders to
high camp, ice axe, crampons, avalanche gear
to summit. Extreme cold weather gear required.
Snowmachine assistance needed for folks who
want to do it in two or three days, meet at high
camp on evening of the 21st.
Stu Grenier oinkmenow@hotmail.com

February 21 – Ram Valley to Peters Creek ski tour
Class C, 15 miles, 1500 feet elevation gain, Up
the north end of Ram Valley to the saddle
between Mt. Significant and Peeking Mtn. then
down the big gully to Peters Creek, Backcountry
skis with skins, Avalanche gear, ice axe,
crampons, and headlamp
Tom Dolan, 223-1308, paradoxx@gci.net

February 22 to March 1 – Cooper Lake to Hope ski tour
Class D, 65+ miles, Limited to 6 strong skiers
Greg Bragiel, sign up at January MCA meeting

February 28 – Arctic Valley to Indian ski tour
Class D, 24 miles, 2000 feet elevation gain,
Backcountry skis with skins, Avalanche gear,
and headlamp
Tom Dolan, 223-1308, paradoxx@gci.net

March 1 – Indian to Arctic Valley ski tour
Class D, 7 AM start, usually about a 9 hour trip,
Looking for someone going Arctic to Indian to do
car key switch, will delay for good weather,

Backcountry skis with skins, Avalanche gear, and headlamp
Stu Grenier oinkmenow@hotmail.com

Olsen, sign up at the MCA meeting, questions to chowellr@gci.net

March 14 – Arctic Valley to Bird ski tour
Class D, 25 miles, 2000 feet elevation gain, Backcountry skis with skins, Avalanche gear, and headlamp
Tom Dolan, 223-1308, paradoxx@gci.net

March 28 – South Fork to North Fork Eagle River ski
Class C, 15 miles, 2000 feet elevation gain, South Fork of Eagle River trailhead up over Hanging Valley and down North Fork of Eagle River to Logan Circle Road, Backcountry skis with skins, Ice Ax, crampons, Avalanche gear, and headlamp
Tom Dolan, 223-1308, paradoxx@gci.net

March 19 to 27 – Mt. Marcus Baker expedition
Class E, Climb the tallest mountain in the Chugach expedition style. glacier travel and crevasse rescue experience are required. R/T airfare is \$350. Leaders: Randy Howell and Stan

April 4 – Center Ridge, Turnagain Pass ski tour
Class B, 10 miles, 1200 feet elevation gain, Backcountry skis with skins, and a headlamp
Tom Dolan, 223-1308, paradoxx@gci.net

MCA Library

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska library needs a new location (presently it is upstairs at AMH-thanks Paul). We need about 7 feet x 12 feet of wall space in an accessible and secure location. If you have any ideas or suggestions contact a current officer or board member.

Thanks, Wayne L. Todd



Chugach Park Access at Nearpoint

by Brad Meiklejohn

Please Support Chugach Park Access at Nearpoint.

The Conservation Fund, a national non-profit conservation group, recently purchased a strategic 149-acre property in Chugach State Park. The property is located in the Stuckagain Heights area, and has provided traditional access to Nearpoint Knoll, the Dome, and the North Fork of Campbell Creek. The Nearpoint property was the site of a proposed antenna farm, but this controversial project was shut down by broad public opposition.

The Conservation Fund purchased the property for \$1.6 million and needs to raise the funds to allow the transfer of the property to Chugach State Park. Alaska State Parks has begun working with the Stuckagain Heights community to plan appropriate public access facilities.

The Conservation Fund has been working for several years with the Great Land Trust and the Chugach Park Access Coalition to secure public access to Chugach

State Park. In 2007 the partners were successful in acquiring 320 acres in the Rabbit Creek Valley to resolve a long-standing public access problem. The Conservation Fund has also made substantial progress on resolving public access to Ram Valley in Eagle River.

To support the effort to protect the Nearpoint property, checks can be sent to:

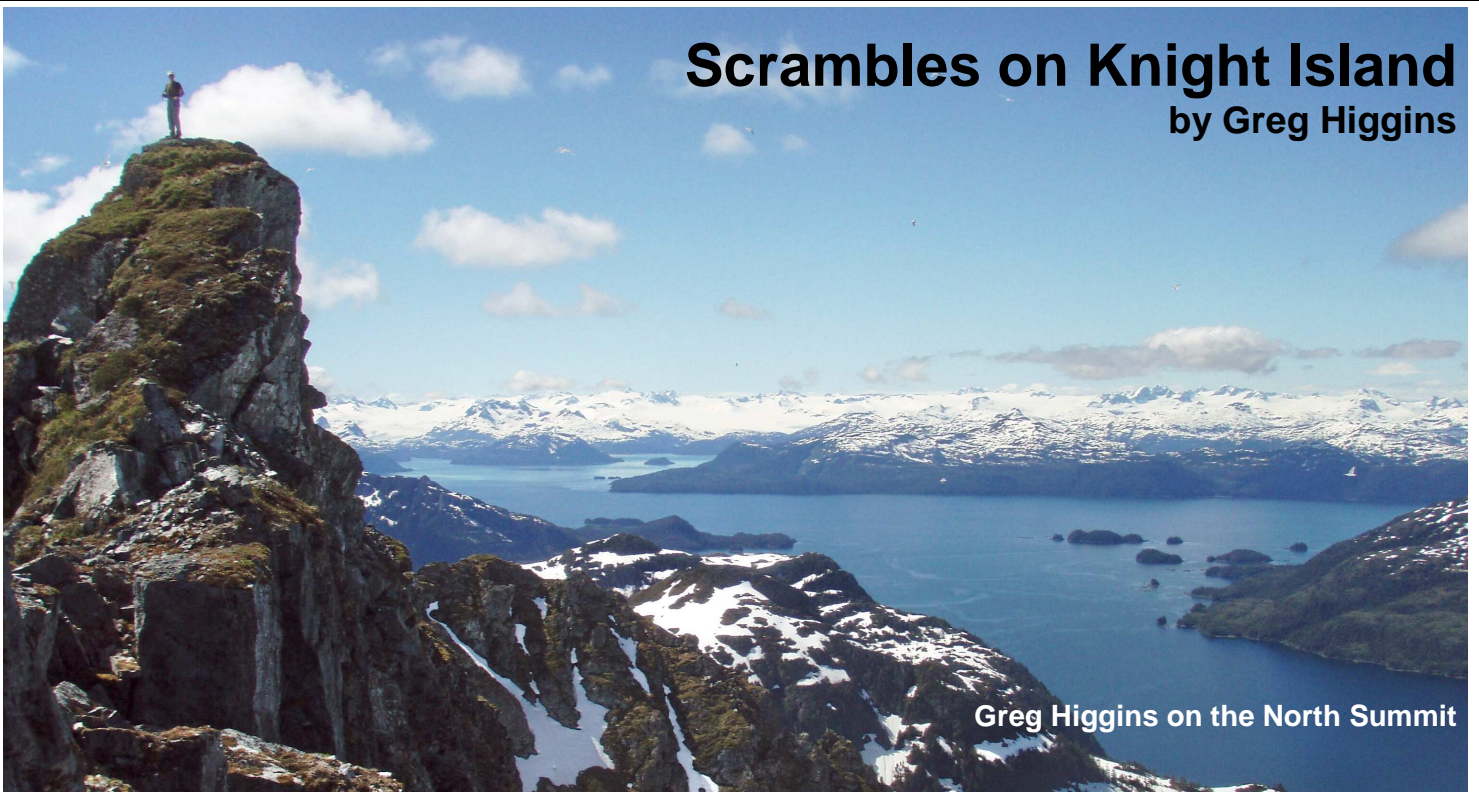
The Conservation Fund
2727 Hiland Road
Eagle River, Alaska 99577

You can also help by contacting your state legislators and encouraging them to provide public funding for this project.

For further information, contact Brad Meiklejohn at (907) 694-9060.

Scrambles on Knight Island

by Greg Higgins



Greg Higgins on the North Summit

Between June 19 and July 7 this summer, John Suddock, Albrecht Bosch, George Ferry and I circumnavigated Knight Island in kayaks. Taking advantage of some unusually good weather, we scrambled to the top of several points and reconnoitered possible routes to the 3,000+ foot ridge above Mummy Bay that I believe holds the island's highest point.

On June 30 we found an avalanche track at the far eastern end of Drier Bay that gave us access to chutes to the south. George, Albrecht and I kick-stepped our way to a col that would give access to a large lake below. From here we went east to the north summit of the 2,800+ peak following a bear's track to the top. Presumably the bear was up there looking for glaucous winged gull eggs. We then visited the summit to the south before rejoining John in camp below.

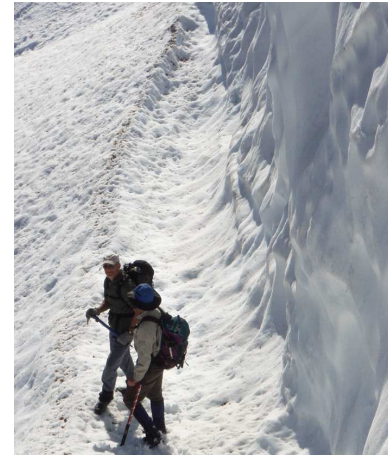
N 2886 from Drier Bay



Greg approaching the South Summit



July 2nd in Mummy Bay's northernmost cove we gingerly picked our way through the steep alders along a waterfall to gain the snow slopes due east of the massive ridge with multiple 3,000-foot points. A col to the north gave us views of a still-frozen lake below and Snug Harbor on the island's east side. We went east from here to reach Peak 1930 up some very steep terrain. The eastern face of the 3,000-foot ridge is flawed with several steep gully systems that might give access to the attractive ridgeline above.



George and Greg near the top of Peak 1930



Beckey's "True" Snowcap Mountain

By Richard Baranow

Snowcap Mountain (8350' +/-) Revelation Mountains/ Western Alaska Range



An extremely wet and serendipitous spring presented itself to Southcentral Alaska this past year. Initially, at the request of a local friend, I was to be the "logistics man" for an expedition organized by the notorious Fred Beckey, i.e. the "shuttle service". He was here to make his fourth attempt on Snowcap Mountain; another peak from his list of potential first ascents in the Last Frontier. Upon arrival in Anchorage, I ferried Fred and his two younger partners from the Seattle area to Talkeetna for a flight out to the Southern Revelations. The trio repacked in the parking lot of Talkeetna Air Taxi with the hope of flying out that day. Paul Roderick wanted for better light on the hypothesized virgin 5000' glacier

landing and thought it best to wait until later in the day. A leisurely burger and beer(s) over nefarious conversation at the West Rib grill and pub, under sunny skies, farewell handshakes, 'thank yous' and wishes of 'good luck'... and I was off. A great privilege to hang with such a climbing legend...and still going strong at 84!

As luck would have it, three days later, another call and request for a *return* shuttle; inclement weather having prevented yet *another* attempt on the mountain. They never even got out of Talkeetna! Fred was in a foul mood. Regrouping back at my home base in the Eagle River valley, I took his two partners out for a quick three day adventure. Fred stayed at my place perusing my library and flirting with the neighborhood women. Having come all this way north, his two partners were anxious to get on *something* in Alaska. Out my back door, we made an attempt on the NW ridge of Mount West Kiliak and, eventually, a bit

of ephemeral ice climbing on May 17th; then back to drop the two off for a return flight to the lower 48. Fred stayed. We decided to make another attempt on his initially proposed climb, the elusive Snowcap mountain; 130 air miles due west of Anchorage. Needing a third, we convinced Zach Shlosar to accompany us. Having just returned from a traverse of Denali up the Muldrow, and having been the first to summit that season, Zach was feeling strong and rounded out our team perfectly. We repacked gear, convincing Fred to leave behind some foul looking food he must have had stored for a number of years, and headed to Lake Hood for an expensive Beaver flight with Alaska Air Taxi on the 20th of May.

An initial Super Cub flight under the expert piloting of local fly boy Rob Jones scouted out an appropriate landing spot for the Beaver close to our objective. Rob would later shuttle the three of us individually 1500' higher to a small cub glacier landing closer to the actual peak at 5000'. Fred must have confirmed with Rob a dozen times that we were headed for the "True" Snowcap mountain; not to be confused with the "False" Snowcap Mtn. Apparently, when USGS geologist, Stephan Capps, first explored the Stony River drainage in 1928, he made note of a "snowcapped mountain", visible from this drainage looking northeast. Unfortunately, the mountain marked as Snowcap Mtn. on modern maps cannot be seen from the drainage proper, and it doesn't have a snowy summit year-round. Fred somehow figured this out with a tip from a friend while studying the original USGS trip report. Searching available documentation, Fred determined that no one had yet recorded a climb of the "True" Snowcap Mountain. Another potential first ascent to add to Fred's little black book! On the Beaver flight west from Anchorage, Fred had his nose pressed up tight to the concave Plexiglas window. Intense observations en route of the milieu of peaks, passes and glaciers down below, yet to explore, were carefully being recorded. Fred was making mental notes and planning future adventures.

Fred Becky at base camp

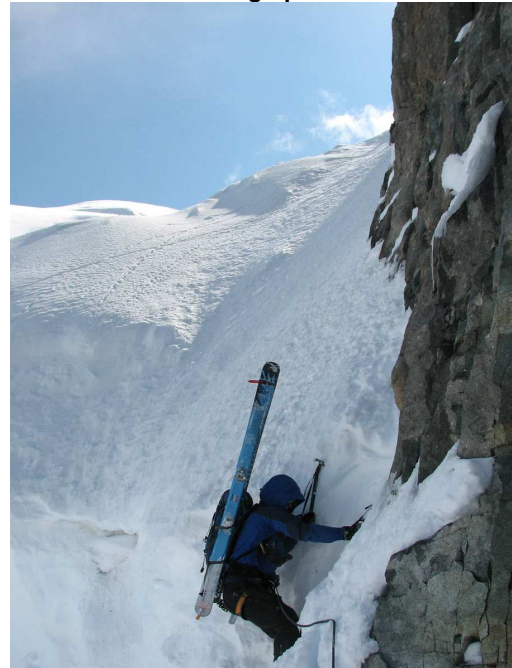


After four previous attempts, Fred was primed to get as far as possible towards his seemingly ephemeral objective. Our flights went smoothly up to the 5000' glacier base camp, north of "True" Snowcap. From the air, it appeared that a line was possible up the right side of the glacier that pours off from the summit to the NW. Being a bit much for Fred to tackle the summit in a day from this elevation, we decided to move the following day 1000' higher to an upper bivy camp, and make the

bid for the summit from there. The weather was superb. Fred was in great spirits that evening over burritos and hot chocolate; a never ending source of information about climbs worldwide. Never a braggart, Fred was constantly downplaying his mountaineering achievements and just wanted to be "One of the Boys!" Zach and I jumped in our bags that evening with big smiles. Fred Beckey was snoring in the tent *right next door!* We couldn't believe our luck!

The morning of the 21st dawned bright and beautiful. Up early to make breakfast and preparations to move camp, Zach and I were confronted with a wheezing and dreary-eyed partner. Fred had had a terrible night, with little or no *real* sleep, due to his having difficulty breathing. Apparently he had not taken his usual prophylactic antibiotics and was suffering the consequences. Fred felt so poorly that he couldn't even rally for breakfast in the kitchen tent. We delivered his cereal and tea to him in the tent that was to be his primary home for the remainder of the trip. Zach and I were greatly concerned. Much to our dismay, after Fred decided not to go and rest instead, he insisted that we make an attempt without him *that day*. There was no use arguing with the notoriously cantankerous Fred Beckey! Leaving him with the Sat Phone, a two-way handheld radio and plans to make contact at regular intervals, Zach and I headed out at 10:00am on skis with light packs. With only about 3300' of vertical gain to the summit, we determined that establishing an upper camp wasn't necessary without Fred along. We planned on being back before dark.

Zach Shlosar cruising up "snice" schrund



The ski ascent up the right side of the glacier went well. Bright morning sun elevated our spirits. A few steep slopes requiring kick steps *sans* skis, one short 15' section of near vertical "snice" requiring ice tools and crampons (later to be jumped on the ski descent!), a

couple of screws for safety while simul-skiing around intimidating schrunds...and we were at the top by 4:30pm! And, indeed, the summit of Snowcap is snowcapped! The views of the Neocolas to the southeast, The Revelations to the northwest and the Tordrillos to the east were awe-inspiring. So many unclimbed peaks to explore. It really is too bad that it is so expensive to get over to this part of Alaska. It ended up costing us \$6,000 for the three of us, roundtrip. Not the usual amount of petty cash that most climbers have in their back pockets.

After a couple of days of windy, non-flyable weather, Rob Jones finally came in with his Super-Cub and shuttled us down to a friend's lodge in the Stony River drainage. Here, we waited for the weather to clear in Merrill Pass; drinking good beer, eating tasty morsels and generally partying it up. Thanks to Tom and Terry for their wonderful hospitality! Eventually, we were able to make the flight back east to Anchorage and warm, green spring conditions. Once again, even though his health was failing him, Fred was all "nose to the window" on this return flight...taking photos, staring out at the expanse below, and planning his next Western Alaskan adventure.



Tracks on descent route

After making another radio contact with Fred and thanking him for making it all happen, we took the requisite summit photos and headed back down. The unroped ski descent was a bit intimidating, with huge serac bands below us down the fall line and a nasty crust that had developed after the sun had swung around to the west, leaving the lower part of our route in the shade. One incredible high-speed face-plant by Zach, a very near miss by me partially falling into a crevasse that resulted in a complete summersault and self-arrest on a 45 degree slope, a couple of schrund jumps...and we were back by 6:30pm! The summit of Snowcap Mountain had finally been reached! Fred was graciously happy for us upon our arrival. At 84 years of age, I believe that he is simply happy to be *along* on these types of adventures. Although he wasn't able to make it all the way to the summit *this time* around, his spirit and desire to do so is still as strong as when he made the first ascents of Mts. Hunter and Deborah back in 1954. I hope to follow this example as the years progress and my physical self continues to mature. Always a kind word of encouragement. Always another peak and adventure on his horizon. Certainly a privilege to explore Alaska with the guy who probably has more first ascents in North America than any other. Thanks Fred for making it all happen!

With a tight schedule to keep, we rushed out to Eagle River immediately to retrieve Fred's personal belongings, repacked, and brought him directly back to the airport. No time for a shower and a change of clothes. Before we knew it, the infamous Fred Beckey was standing at the departure gate, flirting with the ticket lady, making calls for other friends to pick

him up in Seattle...and emanating that wonderful post-trip 'Alaskan Mountaineer's Glow'. What a wonderful serendipitous surprise it must have been for some unsuspecting passenger on that flight!

Richard, Fred and Zach at the airport



Happy Travels!

(Fred Beckey is "unofficially recognized as the all-time world-record holder for the number of first ascents credited to one man" -- Mountaineers Press, Ed.)

Peak of the Month: Peak 6250, Kenai Mountains

by Steve Gruhn

Peak 6250 at Far Left Skyline



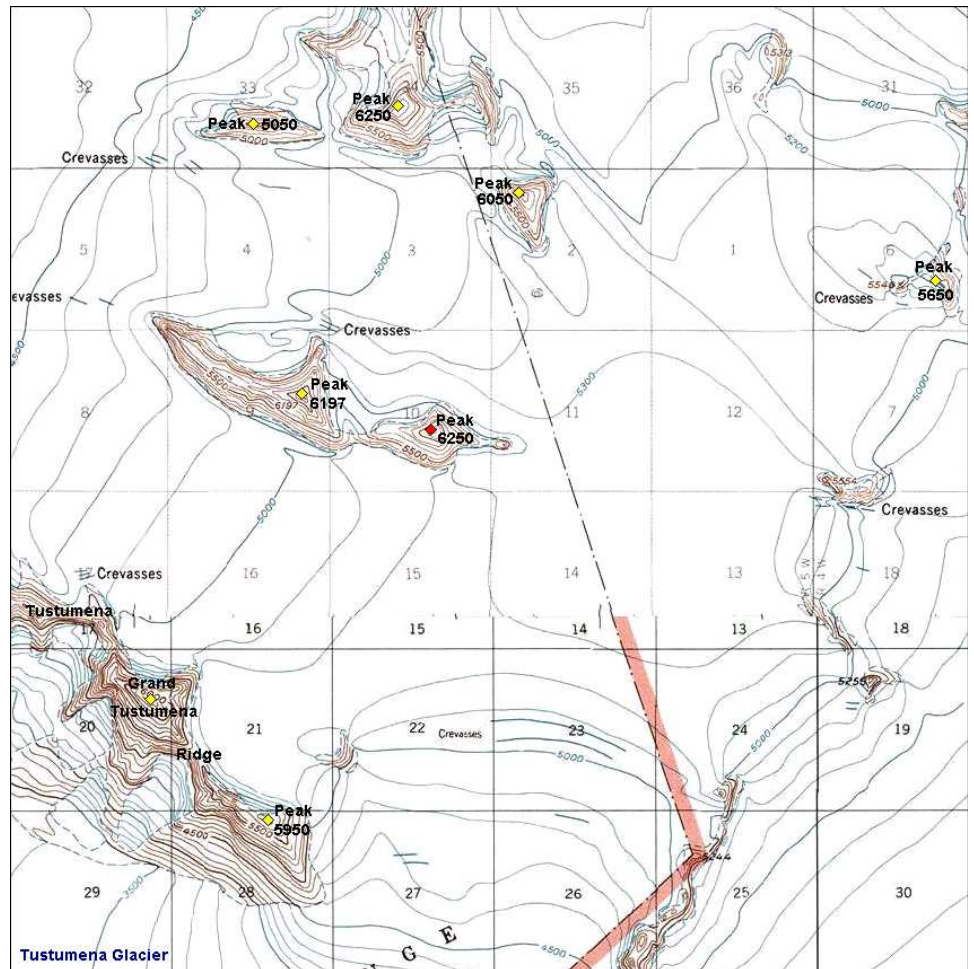
Photo by Bill Briggs

Mountain Range: Kenai Mountains
Borough: Kenai Peninsula Borough
Drainage: Tustumena Glacier
Latitude/Longitude: 60° 0' 58" N, 150° 6' 55" W
Elevation: 6250 feet
Prominence: 1000 feet from either Peak 6250 near the Skilak Glacier and the Tustumena Glacier or Grand Tustumena (6350)
Adjacent Peaks: Peak 6197 near the Tustumena Glacier, Peak 6050 near the Skilak Glacier and the Tustumena Glacier, and Peak 5950 near the Tustumena Glacier
Distinctness: 700 feet from Peak 6197
USGS Map: Kenai (A-1)
First Recorded Ascent: July 25, 1970, by William Briggs and Dick Webster
Route of First Recorded Ascent: Southwest face
Access Point: Tustumena Lake

Having taken a floatplane to the southeast end of Tustumena Lake, Bill Briggs and Dick Webster, along with partners Bobbie Day and Woody Stark, attempted to ascend the Tustumena Glacier. However, they found the lower portion of the glacier to be a morass of crevasses. After retreating to the lake to spend the night at a cabin, their second attempt led them on a two-day bushwhack through alders until they reached a point where they could cross from the south side of the Tustumena Glacier to a tributary glacier that flows into the main glacier from the northeast. They traveled up the tributary glacier and eventually found their supplies that

had been previously airdropped some three miles down the glacier from their intended location. Upon reaching their supplies, they promptly set up base camp and rested for a day. The following day, they began alternating climbing with rest days, some of which were weather-induced. They climbed Kidjakatsik (6025), Peak 6250 (in the Indian Glacier drainage), and Peak 6250 (in the Skilak Glacier and the Tustumena Glacier drainages). After reaching the summit of the latter peak, the party traveled two miles south and attempted to climb the north side of Peak 6250 (our Peak of the Month), but after encountering an enormous cornice and unconsolidated snow late in the day, they turned back and rested at base camp for a day. The following day Briggs, Stark, and Webster climbed and named Grand Tustumena (6350) at the east end of the ridge north of the Tustumena Glacier. From the summit of Grand Tustumena they spied a possible route up the peak that they had unsuccessfully attempted. The next day, July 25, Briggs and Webster achieved success by climbing up the course of a slab avalanche on the southwest face to the summit.

Briggs' account of the expedition appeared on pages 336 and 337 of the 1971 *American Alpine Journal*.



Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

Adze

For Sale

Resurrection Trail cabin space available to buy:
Devils Pass: June 30, July 1 & 2, \$35/night

Juneau Lake; June 30, July 1 & 4, \$45/night
Romig: July 2, \$45/night

Contact katmaien@gci.net for information.

Letter to the Editor

Geographic Names

At its December 11, 2008, monthly meeting, the U.S. Geological Survey's Board on Geographic Names voted to change the spelling of Thibodeaux Mountain to Thibedeau Mountain. The 7539-foot peak is the second highest point in the Brooks Range's Endicott Mountains (October's Peak of the Month, Mount Kiev, is the highest) and is the highest peak in the Inikaklik Creek drainage west of Oolah Valley. The spelling change was requested to honor pilot Jules Thibedeau for whom the mountain was named in 1969. Thibedeau and a passenger died in a plane crash near the peak in 1965.

At the same meeting the BGN voted to name a 2105-foot point on Afognak Island as Godfrey Mountain to commemorate Glenn Godfrey, the former Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Public Safety who was murdered in 2002. The feature is north of Raspberry Strait and south of Upper Malina Lake.

http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/monthly_minutes.htm

Steve Gruhn

Calendar Update

The 2009 calendars are sold out. Thanks to everyone for contributing pictures and buying them. I'll have pictures to return to their owners at the next meeting. The Calendars made \$319 for the club after a lot of effort from Mark Kimerer, Eric Teela, and Steve Gruhn. We also need to recognize Pat Foster at A.T. Publishing for believing in this project and giving the MCA a wonderful deal that could not be found anywhere else. A.T. Publishing has been giving us great deals for the last few years. We also need to thank Robin Carlson for hooking us up to Pat.

The 2010 MCA Calendar will be horizontal.

Stu Grenier

Parting Shot



Orchis Aristata, beautiful and uncommon orchid found on Knight Island. Photo by Greg Higgins

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 nontechnical 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 available from the trip leader.
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

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): _____

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President Wayne Todd 522-6354
Vice-President Ross Noffsinger 222-0581
Secretary Annei Goldsmith 301-7055
Treasurer Travis Taylor 382-4823

Board member Jayme Dixon 382-0212
Board member Sean Bolender 830-5102
Board member Mark Kimerer 360-5935
Board member Tim Harper 240-1506
Board member Richard Baranow 694-1500

Annual membership dues: Single \$15, Family \$20

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 will not forward the newsletter.

The 'Scree' is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles, notes and letters submitted for publication in the newsletter should be submitted on the web at www.mcak.org or e-mailed to the Scree Editor. Articles should be received by the monthly club meeting (third Wednesday of the month) to be in the next month's Scree.

Paid ads may be submitted to the attention of the Vice-President at the club address and should be in electronic format and pre-paid.

Missing your MCA membership card? Stop by our monthly meeting to pick it up or send a self-addressed stamped envelope and we'll mail it to you.

Mailing list/database entry: Yukiko Hayano and Randy Plant - 243-1438
Hiking and Climbing Committee: Randy Howell - 346-4608, Jayme Dixon - 382-0212
Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008
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