

# the SCREE

## Mountaineering Club of Alaska

April 2014

Volume 57 Number 4



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Cecil Rhode Mountain, Stetson Benchmark, and Beyond

Alaska Range: April-May 2013

Northwest Ridge of Mount Williwaw

Peak of the Month: Mount John Bryan

Monthly meeting: 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 15

Program: MCA Secretary Matt Hickey will present "A Match made in the mountains: the military and mountaineering."

*May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view. May your mountains ride into and above the clouds.*

*-Edward Abbey*

# The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

[www.mtnclubak.org](http://www.mtnclubak.org)

*"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 meeting at 6:30 p.m. on April 15 at the BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage, Alaska.

<http://www.alaskageology.org/graphics/meetingmap.gif>

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## Cover Photo

Sam Hennessey on an ice runnel partway up "Gangster's Paradise" on Peak 7400 southwest of Cavity Gap in the Alaska Range. Photo by Eitan Green.

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**Article Submission:** Text and photography submissions for the *Scree* can be sent as attachments to [mcascree@gmail.com](mailto:mcascree@gmail.com). Articles should be submitted by the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month to appear in the next issue of the *Scree*. Do not submit material in the body of the email. Do not submit photos embedded in the text file. Send the photo files separately. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. If you have a blog, website, video, or photo links, send us the link. Cover photo selections are based on portraits of human endeavor in the outdoors. Please submit at least one vertically oriented photo for consideration for the cover. Please submit captions with photos.

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**Did you know the Mountaineering Club of Alaska maintains a listserv on YahooGroups?** Use the listserv to post gear for sale, last-minute trips, or other news pertinent to club members (not everyone belongs to Facebook)! To subscribe, simply put your first and last name in the subject line of a blank email and send to [mcak-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:mcak-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to get approved. Once our Listserv Moderator approves your request, you will receive a "Welcome to the MCAK listserv" email with instructions on how to post and unsubscribe.

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## Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m.

Program: MCA Secretary Matt Hickey will present "A match made in the mountains: the military and mountaineering."

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## Hiking and Climbing Schedule

- ⇒ **Flatly Flyer Touring Ski:** Join us for an evening ski from Flattop (Glen Alps) Parking Lot to Service High School. This is a fast, fun, but challenging, ski. There are some steep narrow sections, flat stretches, and sharp corners in the dark. Must be an intermediate skier and be able to snowplow with the best of them! Total one-way distance is about 8+ miles and requires a four-wheel drive carpool. Limited to six participants. Participants with four-wheel drive vehicles will have preference if we are short vehicles. Hosted by Travis Taylor; 382-4823, [alaskantrav@hotmail.com](mailto:alaskantrav@hotmail.com).
  - Date: April 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Timing: 5:45 p.m. meet at Service High parking lot to carpool, 6:00 p.m. start vehicle shuttle – carpool with four-wheel drive vehicles begins, 6:15 p.m. start skiing at Glen Alps, 8:30 p.m. finish at Service High (alternate is Hilltop), 9:00 p.m. complete carpool.
  - Things to bring: Headlamp, warm clothes, water bottle, snacks, waxless skis/poles – three-pin touring skis with metal edges work best. Randonee skis work, too, but it will be a bit slower and you will have trouble on the flats. No skinny skis!
- ⇒ **April 5, Rainbow Peak.** Contact Steve Gruhn at [scgruhn@gmail.com](mailto:scgruhn@gmail.com) or 344-1219 by April 3 to sign up.
- ⇒ **April 5-13, Bomber Traverse.** We will do this classic ski-mountaineering traverse. Email Greg Bragiel at [unknownhiker@alaska.net](mailto:unknownhiker@alaska.net). Mandatory trip preparation day March 29.
- ⇒ **July 5-13 Summer Mountaineering Instructional Trip.** Glacier Travel, Technical. Lots of elevation gain and loss. About 31 miles distance. Trip leaders: Greg Bragiel and Tom Choate. Learn the basics of mountaineering, including: food preparation, navigation, route finding, snow travel, knots, ice climbing, glacier travel, crevasse rescue, bouldering, rock climbing, leadership, and much more. Participants will share expenses. \$50 deposit required to sign up. Sign up at the April MCA meeting.

Online? Click me!



**Check the Meetup site and Facebook for last minute trips and activities. Or, schedule one that you want to organize.**

# Cecil Rhode Mountain, Stetson Benchmark, and Beyond

Text and photos by Ben Still

After a month of wet weather and warm temperatures for October, a sunny day was in the forecast for the greater Anchorage area and I needed to get into the mountains. Dave Hart, Danielle Pratt, Kathy Still, Bean the dog, and I all piled into my car for a drive down to Cooper Landing to try to climb Cecil Rhode Mountain (4576 feet with a prominence of 3,326 feet) on October 26, 2013. The night before we learned about



Dave Hart, Kathy Still, and Danielle Pratt hiking up the ridge of Cecil Rhode Mountain.

a trail up Cecil Rhode Mountain, so what we had planned on as a bushwhack, was turning into a nice sunny day hike. The unofficial trailhead starts on the road up to Cooper Lake Dam at about 1400 feet in elevation. In the crisp morning air we followed the trail, which became icy and then snowy above the trees. At 2500 feet we started following the northwest ridgeline, which was mostly clear of snow, looking down possible future ski lines off the northern aspects of the mountain.

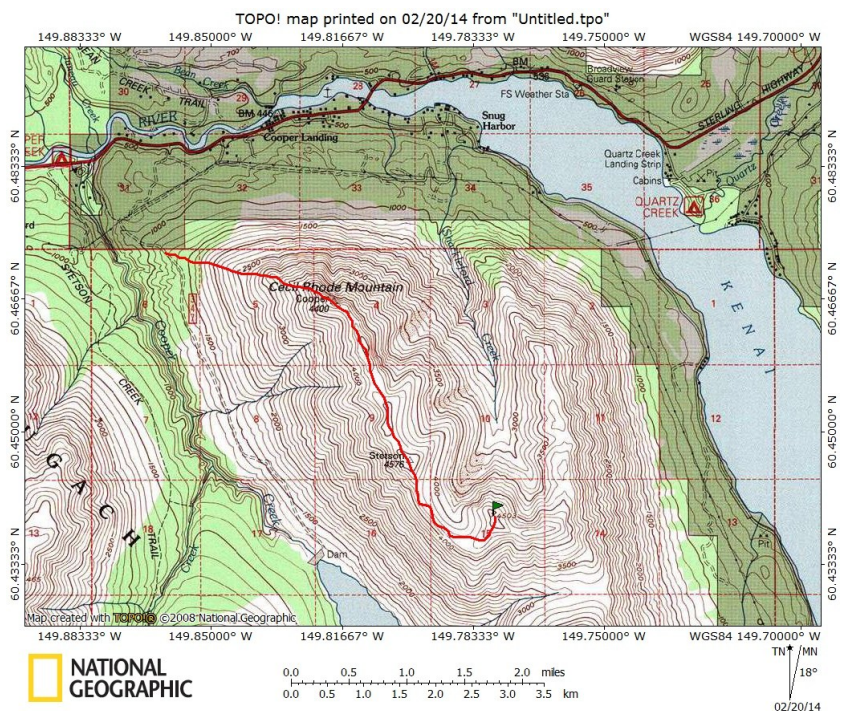
We took a break at the top of Cooper Benchmark at 4400 feet. After a couple of minutes of relaxing and snacking we realized there was a mountain goat chillin' on the ridge 100 feet below us. The goat slowly got up and watched us for a while, looking like he was not ready to leave his nice perch; in fact, he didn't move until we started down the ridge. We cruised along the ridge passing the first 4500-foot closed contour, which has a small building and assortment of antennas, and continued along, noticing the farther Point 4503 was sticking out above Stetson Benchmark, which is supposedly 4576 feet.

Arriving on the top of Stetson Benchmark, it became clear Point 4503 was, in fact, higher and we would need to continue along the ridge to get the true summit. I did a quick water-bottle-leveling check

and it appeared Point 4503 was 15 to 30 feet higher by my estimation. We dropped the 300 or so vertical feet and followed the crunchy snow to the top of Point 4503. We took a nice summit break, basking in the warm late-October sun and taking in the views of all the fun peaks in the area. I began working out possible routes up many of the surrounding

mountains as I hoped to return to climb several. We were all in agreement that the map elevations are off and the summit is Point 4503.

We retraced our steps back along the ridge enjoying the company and the views. Another great trip up a fun peak!





*Left: Danielle Pratt and Kathy Still approaching the top of Point 4503.*

*Below: Mountain goat just off the summit of Cecil Rhode Mountain.*

*Below left: Dave Hart (left) taking a summit nap on Point 4503 with Danielle Pratt, Kathy Still, and Ben Still (left to right).*



## Alaska Range – April-May 2013

*Text and photos by Eitan Green*

On April 25 Sam Hennessey and I flew into the Ruth Gorge in the Alaska Range. We had both guided Denali multiple times, but had never had the opportunity to check out its smaller technical neighbors. Eager to cut our teeth on some classic alpine terrain after establishing our camp, the next day we set out for the Root Canal Glacier where we bivied before climbing “Shaken, Not Stirred” and “Ham and Eggs” in back to back days to the west and main summits of The Mooses Tooth, respectively. After a brief refuel at our camp, we packed up and headed back down to the Ruth and our base camp at the foot of Mount Dickey. After a couple of rest days, we headed for a quick romp up the Japanese Couloir on Mount Barrille.

While on The Mooses Tooth, we spied some cool ice runnels streaking the face of Peak 7400. While we were aware of a route up the west face of the feature, to the best of our knowledge, the North Face was unclimbed. After a few days of

weather delay and reconnaissance, during which we picked up a couple of feet of snow, we launched up into an exciting vertical maze.

The compact rock and unconsolidated snow made anchors difficult to find, so we quickly became committed to topping out. Climbing through steep snow and cool névé runnels, we found the initial streaks we spied were a combination of steep unprotectable névé and a thin veneer of snow over granite slab. Still, we managed to link together runnels and snow fields until we came to a funky mushroom that was the start of the serious business.

Employing some aid shenanigans, we pendulumed from the snow mushroom into a really cool rock corner that offered steep mixed climbing to M6 and some more pin-bashing aid excitement. We climbed what was the hardest climbing on the route



*Route of “Gangster’s Paradise” on Peak 7400.*

into the night, employing full contact, no-holds-barred tactics – pick torquing, shoveling, aiding, and scratching our way to the base of the final pitch. Sam expertly led the way up a final pitch, which consisted of an overhanging rock corner and some aiding on pickets through a network of snow mushrooms to the summit ridge.

We topped out on the ridge soon after sunrise and, exhausted from our 24-hour trip up the wall, opted to descend to the Coffee Glacier, over Cavity Gap down to our skis and back to camp. All in all, it was an exciting and gratifying 30-hour round trip through new terrain.

The next day Talkeetna Air Taxi picked us up and bumped us over to the Thunder Glacier beneath the North Face of Thunder Peak. It was incredible to set up camp in this isolated, rarely-visited cirque with no satellite phone or any other form of communication with the outside world. If we wanted out, the pilot – legendary Paul Roderick – told us, just stomp out in 30-foot tall letters in the snow.

After a couple of days of recon and watching the cirque’s many hanging seracs calve repeatedly (hence the Thunder Glacier). We launched up what appeared to be one of the area’s few safe lines on the North Face of Thunder Peak. We climbed an enjoyable ice face to some moderate mixed climbing (M5), which

gave us access to more pleasant ice. The ice face topped out on the shoulder of Thunder Peak where we bivied.

The next morning after a long traverse from our bivy, we climbed 45- to 60-degree snow couloirs to the summit of Thunder Peak. We down climbed to our bivy and made roughly 15 rappels back down the ice face, mostly off a few V threads, though we left a couple of pin anchors.

Back at camp we were tired, but psyched on an incredible trip in the range. We stomped “OUT” in the snow in giant letters and sat around on our duffels, daydreaming about all the food we would eat in Talkeetna. A couple of days later, we were picked up and managed to fly out of the range before a storm delayed flights for the next three days.

Many thanks for the support from the team at Talkeetna Air Taxi, the American Alpine Club’s Mountaineering Fellowship Grant, and Alpine Ascents International’s JRG Climbing Grant.



*Route of “Welcome to Thunder Dome” on Thunder Peak.*

Notes:

“Shaken, Not Stirred” WI5

“Ham and Eggs” 5.9 WI4+

Peak 7400 “Gangster’s Paradise” AI4 A2 M6

Thunder Peak “Welcome to Thunder Dome” AI4 M5

# Northwest Ridge of Mount Williwaw

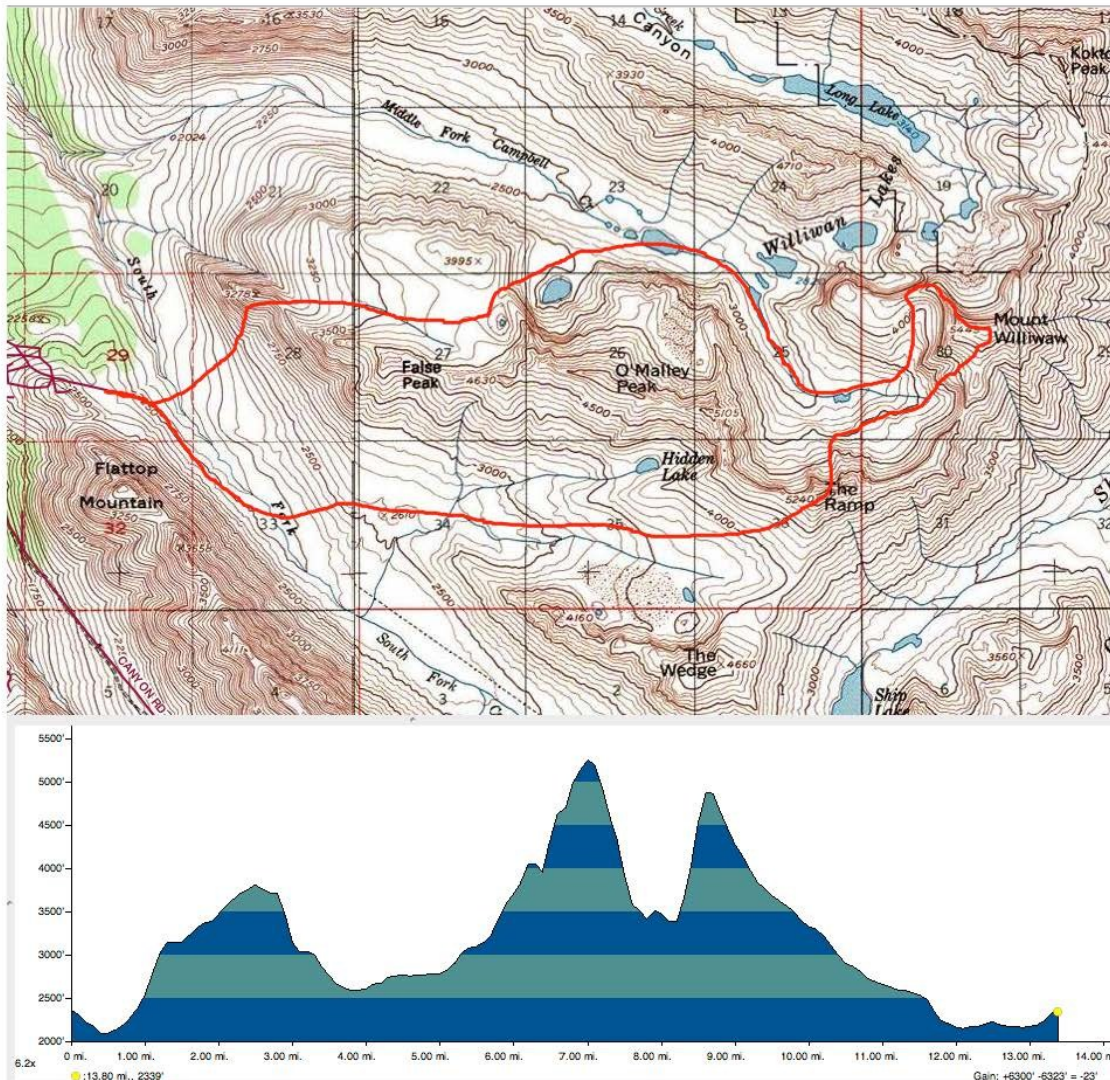
By Cory Hinds

Mount Williwaw is a beautiful triangular-shaped mountain at the head of the Middle Fork of Campbell Creek. Melting snow from its slopes feeds the Williwaw Lakes. It sits a couple miles behind the closest Front Range Chugach peaks, and at 5445 feet it is the highest. The northwest ridge of Williwaw is a challenging mountaineering objective in summer and winter, with exciting, but well protectable, ridge climbing in relatively competent rock. On Saturday, March 22, Mark Betts and I had a go at it.

On a long day-climb like this, you either start early or you are coming back late – or both. It was an alpine 9 a.m. start when we left the Glen Alps parking lot, so we signed up the late return from the beginning. The recent snow hadn't amounted to much, so we opted to take snowshoes. We joked recently about who uses snowshoes: people who can't ski! But the snowshoes do have a place and they were our lot on this day. Boot hiking to the base of the Skier's Gully, we put on the snowshoes with

heel lift and were soon at O'Malley Saddle. Setting a quick pace, we crossed the Ballfield and dropped down to Black Lake behind O'Malley Peak. The Wishbone Couloir looked in good condition and there is a thin ribbon of water ice on the left side of the lower rock band. We admired the probable ascent route that Mike Miller took to the summit left of the couloir earlier this season.

The shallow edges of the Williwaw Lakes were frozen to the ground, but there was a deeper channel in there somewhere because the stream running in had to go somewhere. In a month or so the gulls would arrive to feed and raise their young on the rocks. We stopped to refuel beneath the O'Malley Waterfall, in nice fat grade III conditions. I mentioned the nice trip I did some years back of ascending the waterfall then continuing up the broad gully to the summit of O'Malley. Crossing fresh wolverine tracks and older ski tracks, we headed to climber's right into the valley below Hidden Peak, The Ramp, and Williwaw. Immediately I noticed a snow couloir leading up to the



right side of The Ramp and I wondered out loud how that exit would be (up the couloir and out the Hidden Lake Trail and the Powerline Trail). As we moved into the shadow, we saw that the ski tracks came from that couloir! Well now, if they can ski down it, we can certainly climb up it... Anyway, first we needed to get to our objective.

Wary of ascending too early, we stayed low till we got to the small hanging valley draining the west face of Williwaw. Some low-angle blue ice marked the entrance to the valley and we ascended just left, and then refueled again, now in the sun. The final snow slope to the ridge was a steep slog, with snow getting warmed by the sun. We got to the base of the ridge at about 4,400 feet at about 2 p.m. Wow, I thought, we have a lot of country to cover and the day is wearing on; better get moving! What an awesome view down into Walrus Lake and over into the upper part of the North Fork of Campbell Creek. But what an approach! We were *worked* and the climbing hadn't even started! We put the ski poles and snowshoes away and put on crampons, harnesses, helmets, took our axes, and kept the rope handy. The initial portion of ridge is mild and curves gently to the southeast. The snow was ankle- to calf-deep in places, very soft on the south side. We kicked steps until the difficulties started, then tied into the rope. The 75-foot, 9.0-millimeter rope was a good choice; long enough, but not too heavy. I brought a selection of rock protection; cams, nuts, long slings, and a couple pitons, but perhaps the best protection was to simply wind the rope back and forth around the rocks as we went along. I would climb until the rope was tight, then we would simul-climb until I was out of gear or at a good belay stance. The difficulties were in the middle of the ridge. There were many knife edges that we could boot across, or "au cheval" if needed. Gendarmes could be climbed or bypassed on one side or the other. The crux was a gendarme where I first started left, then tried right, then backed down and went low left. The north side had deep sugar snow in some sections that had to be excavated to get purchase on rock underneath. That one gendarme took at least 30 minutes alone! Patiently, we worked it out and by 6 p.m. or so we were at the top of the ridge; so happy to have the difficulties behind us.



Northwest ridge of Mount Williwaw. Photo by Eddie Phay.

We quickly unroped and stripped the harnesses and walked to the summit. What views! All "our" mountains were out; Denali, Mount Hunter, Mount Foraker, the Tordrillo Mountains with Mount Spurr, Redoubt Volcano, Iliamna Volcano, Carpathian Peak, Byron Peak, Isthmus Peak, Mount Gannett, all the Eagle River peaks. A thin ski trail was visible winding its way from Arctic Valley to Indian.

By 6:30 p.m., we were down-climbing the southwest descent gully and the snow was getting very sticky. The gully was steep enough to command proper respect. It would have been dangerous to plunge step in these conditions when snow balled on our crampons, so we faced the slope and walked down backward. Even in that position the snow balling was a problem, so we were forced to kick our heels to dislodge the snow at each step. Soon we were in the shade again.

The decision was made to try The Ramp couloir exit, so without

delay we put the 'shoes back on and headed up. Soon we found the snow deepening to 12 inches or more and the slope steepened, and our progress slowed. As we entered the couloir, it was too steep to snowshoe, so I pulled them off and booted. The skiers had indeed descended the couloir in good style. The couloir took at least 90 minutes; we were at the top by 8:30 p.m. and stood in awe of the golden sunset over Cook Inlet. Soon we were headed

down The Ramp; as it turns out, heading downhill in snowshoes puts a lot of pressure on toes! Reaching the base of The Ramp, we picked up a well-marked trail of footsteps and followed them out. We ate and drank our remaining food and water then marched down to the Powerline. Eagerly, we stripped off the snowshoes and marched back to the parking lot, with much discussion about food and drink to be eaten when back in town.

#### Summary:

Long approach, classic Chugach ridge climb with a good friend on a beautiful Alaskan spring day; life is good.

#### Epilogue:

- McDonald's at 11:59 p.m.
- Two toenails lanced to reduce pressure from bruising!



# Peak of the Month: Mount John Bryan

By Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Alaska Range; Kichatna Mountains; Cathedral Spires

Borough: Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Drainages: Shadows Glacier and Trident Glacier

Latitude/Longitude: 62° 27' 37" North, 152° 40' 2" West

Elevation: 6975 feet

Prominence: 525 feet from Peak 7050 in the Shadows Glacier drainage

Adjacent Peaks: Peak 7050, Steeple Spire (6650), and Peak 6710 in the Trident Glacier drainage

Distinctness: 525 feet from Peak 7050

USGS Map: Talkeetna (B-6)

First Recorded Ascent: 1978 by John Arts, Scott Flavelle, and Richard Mitten

Route of First Recorded Ascent: Western aspect to the south col and southwest ridge

Access Point: Shadows Glacier

On June 29, 1978, Canadians Arts, Flavelle, and Mitten were flown from Talkeetna in a wheel-ski-equipped airplane to the Shadows Glacier. During the next month they encountered the bad weather typical of the Cathedral Spires. However, they managed to make the first recorded ascents of a couple peaks. The first peak they climbed was Mount John Bryan, which they approached from the cirque on its western flank. They ascended to the south col and climbed the southwest ridge. The round trip took them 16 hours from the Shadows Glacier. Dick Mitten rated the mixed snow-and-ice route as National Climbing Classification System F7, indicating a free climb of approximately 5.7 on the now-familiar Yosemite Decimal System. Mitten also stated that the summit elevation was about 6975 feet, although I'm not certain as to how he arrived at that figure; the USGS map indicates only that the summit is between 6900 and 7000 feet.

Later in July, the party made the first recorded ascent of Potlatch Peak (7650), attempted Kichatna Spire, attempted Gurney Peak, and, on the last day of that month, was flown from the Shadows Glacier to Talkeetna.

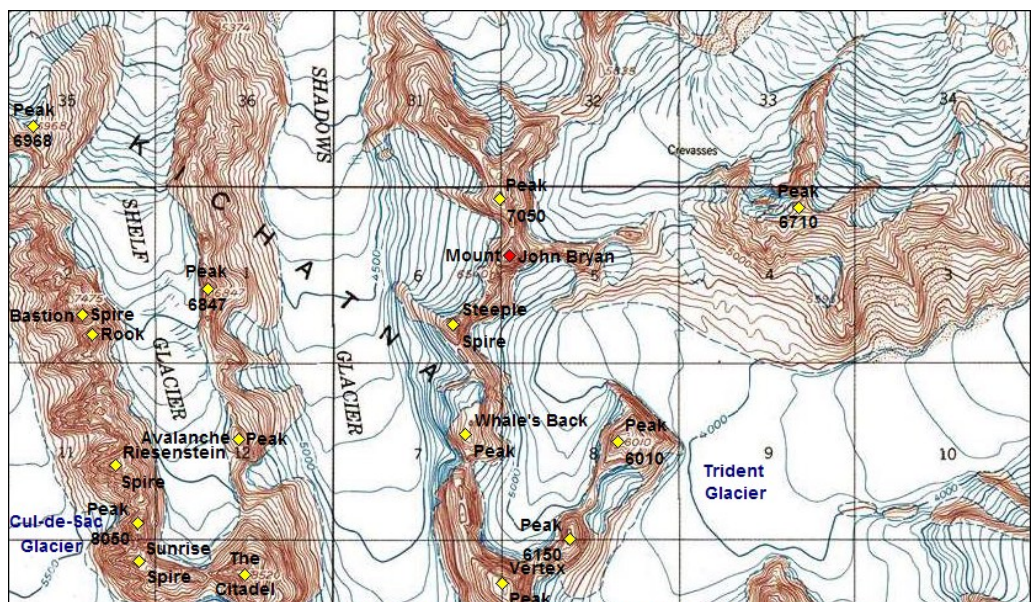
In the spring of 1981, George Beilstein and Scott Woolums, along with Larry Coxen and Steve Eck, made a ski trav-

erse from Mentasta Lake near the Tok Cutoff, across the Alaska Range, crossing the Richardson and Parks Highways to the Kichatna Mountains in about 45 days. During their two weeks at a base camp on the Trident Glacier below Gurney Peak, Beilstein and Woolums attempted an obvious gully system on the 1,500-foot granite wall on the southeast face of Mount John Bryan. They aborted that climb after encountering what Woolums described as "really rotten rock." The next day they returned to the southeast face and started up an unprotected snow slab to an obvious line up the center of the face. On the third pitch, they had to do make several aid moves to skirt a chimney coated in verglas. From that point Woolums rated the free climbing as F7 to F9 (comparable to 5.7 to 5.9) to the summit. They made the second recorded ascent of Mount John Bryan in a 20-hour push. Woolums rated the climb as NCCS V, F9 (comparable to V 5.9) and called it one of the finest climbs he had done. After spending two weeks on the Trident Glacier, the entire party returned to Talkeetna by the end of May.

Woolums trip report and Andrew Embick's summary of climbs in the Kichatna Mountains appeared in the 1982 *American Alpine Journal*. Both Woolums and Embick called the peak Mount John Bryan. Theirs were the first known uses of the name.

I don't know of a third ascent of Mount John Bryan.

The information for this article came from Dick Mitten's trip report titled "Three First Ascents, Cathedral Spires, Kichatna Mountains," which appeared on pages 173 and 174 of the 1979 *AAJ*, from Scott Flavelle's report titled "The Kichatna's," which appeared on page 173 of the 1979 *Canadian Alpine Journal*; from Andy Embick's summary article titled "Kichatna Spires," which appeared on pages 15 through 20 of the 1982 *AAJ*; from Larry Coxen's trip report titled "Ski Traverse of the Whole Alaska Range," which appeared on pages 137 and 138 of the 1982 *AAJ*; and from Scott Woolums' trip report titled "Cathedral Spires," which appeared on page 138 of the 1982 *AAJ*.



# 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 all who wish to become members.

**Participate and 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 seven mountain huts in the nearby Chugach and Talkeetna mountains. The MCA's Vin Hoeman Library contains hundreds of books, numerous periodicals, bound volumes of the **SCREE**, and a 'Peak File' with information on local climbs. The club has climbing gear for trips and training, including ice axes, helmets, crampons, snowshoes, and avalanche beacons.

**Stay Informed:** The MCA publishes a monthly newsletter, **SCREE**, and emails it to all members. The **SCREE** contains announcements of upcoming events, the hiking and climbing trip schedule, and trip reports written by club members.

**Monthly meetings:** The third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the BP Energy Center at 1014 Energy Court (in Midtown Anchorage just south of the main BP building). Special events or changes to the meeting will be noted in the **SCREE** and on our website at: [www.mtnclubak.org](http://www.mtnclubak.org).

- **Complete both pages of this form. Write neatly!** 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.**
- Mailed **SCREE** subscriptions are \$15 additional per year & are non-refundable. (1 **SCREE**/ family).
- Annual membership is through the 31st of December.
- Memberships paid after November 1st are good through December 31 of the following year.
- If applying by mail, please include a self-addressed, **stamped** envelope for your membership card.  
OR you may pick it up at the next monthly meeting.  
Our address is: **PO BOX 243561, Anchorage, AK 99524-3561**
- **Note: Mailed applications may take up to 6 weeks to process.** Thank you for your patience.
- **To join right now, sign up online at [www.mtnclubak.org](http://www.mtnclubak.org)**

New		Date	
Renewal		Name	
1 YR. Individual \$15		Family Members	
1 YR. Family \$20			
2 YR. Individual \$30			
2 YR. Family \$40			
How do you want your <b>SCREE</b> delivered? (check one or both)			
Electronic (free)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Email delivery	
Paper (add \$15/YR.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Postal Service (not available outside the United States)	
Street or PO Box			
City/State/Zip			
Telephone			
Email Address			

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in joining a committee (Circle which ones: Programs, Hiking & Climbing, Huts, Geographic Names, Peak Registers, Parks Advisory, Equipment, Awards, Membership, Training, or ad hoc committees).

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in leading a trip.

Do not write below this line:

Pd: \$15 \$20 \$30 \$40 \$15 for paper **SCREE** \$30 for 2 years of paper **SCREE**  
on Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_, Cash or Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Card Issued for Yr: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address Added to Mailing List

Revised 1/10/11

**SIGN AND INITIAL THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY— READ IT CAREFULLY**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) am aware that mountaineering and wilderness activities (including hiking; backpacking; rock, snow, and ice climbing; mountaineering; skiing; ski mountaineering; rafting and packrafting, kayaking, and use of remote backcountry huts) are hazardous activities. I wish to participate and/or receive instruction in these activities with the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc. ("MCA"). I recognize these activities involve numerous risks, which include, by way of example only, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; falling into a crevasse or over a cliff; drowning; 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 or rescue. I also recognize that risk of **injury or death** may be caused or enhanced by **mistakes, negligence or reckless conduct** on the part of either my fellow participants; MCA officers, directors, instructors, or trip leaders; and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding MCA backcountry huts. 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. **(As used in this agreement, MCA includes its officers, directors, instructors and trip leaders.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**GIVING UP MY LEGAL RIGHTS** I agree to give up for myself and for my heirs all legal rights I may have against the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities (except to the extent that insurance coverage is provided by automobile insurance policies) and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding MCA backcountry huts. **I give up these legal rights regardless of whether the injury, death, or property damage results from mistakes, negligence or reckless conduct of others.** I understand this agreement shall remain in effect until I provide a signed, dated, written notice of its revocation to the MCA.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY PROMISE NOT TO SUE** I will not sue or otherwise make a claim against the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities (except as noted above for automobile accidents); and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding use of MCA backcountry huts, for **injury, death, or property damage** which occurs in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering and wilderness activities. Any lawsuit relating to MCA activities or this release shall only be filed in Anchorage, Alaska. The provisions of this release are severable and if any part is found unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY RELEASE OF LIABILITY** I agree to release and discharge the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities; and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding use of MCA backcountry huts, 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 and wilderness activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY** I will pay all expenses, including attorney fees and court costs, that the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities; and the State of Alaska and its employees may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of **injury, death, or property damage** suffered by me in connection with any MCA activity or the use of any MCA backcountry hut.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT** I consent to any hospital or medical care that may be necessary as a result of my participation in MCA activities. I understand and agree that I am solely responsible for all charges for such medical treatment, including evacuation and/or rescue costs.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT, AND RECOGNIZE IT IS A BINDING LEGAL AGREEMENT**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

Revised 2/19/09

## Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President	Greg Encelewski	360-0274	Board member (term expires in 2014)	Andy Mamrol	717-6893
Vice-President	Carlene Van Tol	748-5270	Board member (term expires in 2014)	Elizabeth Bennett	830-9656
Secretary	Matt Hickey	651-270-4492	Board member (term expires in 2015)	Rachad Rayess	617-309-6566
Treasurer	Stacy Pritts	538-7546	Board member (term expires in 2015)	Joshua Clark	887-1888
Past President	Jayne Mack	382-0212			

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 Membership Committee at [membership@mtclubak.org](mailto:membership@mtclubak.org).

The *Scree* is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles, notes, and letters submitted for publication in the newsletter should be emailed to [MCAScree@gmail.com](mailto:MCAScree@gmail.com). Articles should be submitted by the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month to appear 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. Ads can be emailed to [vicepresident@mtclubak.org](mailto:vicepresident@mtclubak.org).

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

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Find MCAK listserv at <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MCAK/info>.

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