

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA  
MAY 1990

BOX 102037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510  
Volume 33, Issue 5

MAY MEETING

May 16 7:30 pm Wednesday, top floor of the Pioneer Schoolhouse, Third and Eagle Sts., downtown Anchorage.

SLIDE SHOW Ron Rickman will show slides of a recent climb of Jogin I, which is a 21,000-foot peak located in Garwahl, India.

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

- May 26-28 PICHLER'S PERCH  
Eklutna Glacier. Ride mountain bikes around Eklutna Lake to the end of the road (about 12 miles) and hike 5 miles to the hut, Pichler's Perch, on Saturday. 3,000-foot elevation gain. On Sunday catch rays, pound nails or ski tour. Return on Monday. Leader intends to work on hut on Sunday. Class: Glacier Travel. Need glacier travel skills and gear.  
Leader: Neil O'Donnell 276-1700 w, 274-5069 h
- 26-28 BOULDER CREEK  
Talkeetna Mountains. 6 miles in, 8 out. 600 feet elevation gain. Middle day optional climb/hike, etc. Call for car-pooling, time and place to meet. Max group size: 12. Class: B.  
Leader: Bill Wakeland 563-6246
- June 2 BIRD CREEK RIDGE  
Turnagain Arm. Master Gardners trip led by Beth Blitz, who has graciously opened this to MCA members. Pace will be slow and flowers will be the main event. Class A.  
Leader: Beth Blitz 349-8226 h, 279-5582 w
- 2-3 CANTATA PEAK  
South Fork Eagle River. Overnight trip to Symphony Lake and climb of Cantata Peak, a challenging scramble. Class E.  
Leader: Tom Choate 333-5309
- 6 MAP AND COMPASS CLASS  
Russian Jack Park Chalet. Meet at 6:30 pm and bring compass, pencil and a penlight or small flashlight. Learn how to find yourself on a map and travel in a fog.  
Leader: Mark Findlay 337-8666

- June
- 9 WOLVERINE PEAK  
Near Chugach. Alan is taking a trip with kids up this easy peak.  
Class B.  
Leader: Alan Julliard 243-3816
- 9 MAP AND COMPASS CLASS  
Glen Alps. Second day of the class. Spend half a day  
practicing orienteering skills. Group will meet at  
Huffman Carrs at 3:00 pm. Bring Anchorage-A7 and A8 topo sheets  
and compass, if you have them. Hope for foul weather, ha!  
Leader: Mark Findlay 337-8666
- 10 SHEEP MOUNTAIN  
Kenai Mountains. Leave town early for this long day climb.  
Class D. Elevation gain, nearly 6000 feet. Some brush at start.  
Leader: Willy Hersman 338-5132
- 16-17 MYSTERY MOUNTAIN  
A different destination each year, always a rarely-climbed peak.  
In the past it has included first and second ascents. If the  
weather is good, we go to Portage and if it is poor, there are  
alternatives in the Matanuska Valley. Long days and unusual  
approaches are to be expected, but wild and rare country are  
guaranteed. Join us. Class D.  
Leader: Tom Choate 333-5309
- 23 FLATTOP SOLSTICE  
Annual club event on top of Flattop. Spend the night on the  
summit and watch the days get shorter. Be prepared for windy  
conditions. Class B. No leader.
- 30 CAMPBELL CREEK  
Long day hike up North Fork Campbell Creek, past Williwaw Lakes  
and out Middle Fork Campbell Creek. Option to spend the night  
at the lakes and climb Williwaw, if the group wishes. Class C.  
Leader: Kathy Burke 346-2841
- July
- 6-8 MONARCH PEAK  
Leave Friday night. More details next time.  
Leader: Don Hansen
- 13-15 CROW CREEK - BIRD CREEK
- 15 THE WEDGE
- 20-Aug 5 ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
Explore the peaks and valleys of the headwaters of the Kongakut  
River drainage to the upper Sheenjek River. Backpacking and  
peak-scrubbling with lots of stream-crossings. Group size  
limited to 9. Cost will be around \$600 for charter flights.  
Leader: Don Hansen 243-7184 h, 271-4565 w
- 21 GLEN ALPS - INDIAN
- 22 EAST TWIN PEAK

- August 4-5 SOUTH FORK EAGLE RIVER  
Leader: Karen Cafmeyer
- 11 PIONEER PEAK  
Leader: Neil O'Donnell
- 12 SHIP LAKE PASS
- 18 HOMICIDE PEAK  
Leader: Don Hansen
- 25 PESTLE PEAK  
Leader: Tom Choate
- Sept 1-3 LOST LAKE  
Leader: Karen Cafmeyer
- 8-9 BIRD PEAK

The Hiking and Climbing Committee is always looking for leaders. If you have an idea for a trip, whether an afternoon or several weeks, give Tom Brigham a call at 279-4444. H and C Committee: Tom Brigham, Chairman, B. Wakeland, D. Hansen, K. Cafmeyer, T. Choate, N. O'Donnell, W. Hersman.

#### TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by MCA Board, March 1987

#### LEADER QUALIFICATIONS

1. Must be a member of the MCA.
2. Must have approval of the Hiking and Climbing Committee (A simple majority.)
3. Must have participated in trips of the same or higher classification than the one being led, showing competence in the opinion of the leaders of those trips; or equivalent experience acceptable to the Hiking and Climbing Committee.

Approved by MCA Board, March 1987

MORE HUT-RAISING!

Schedule for Hut Construction:

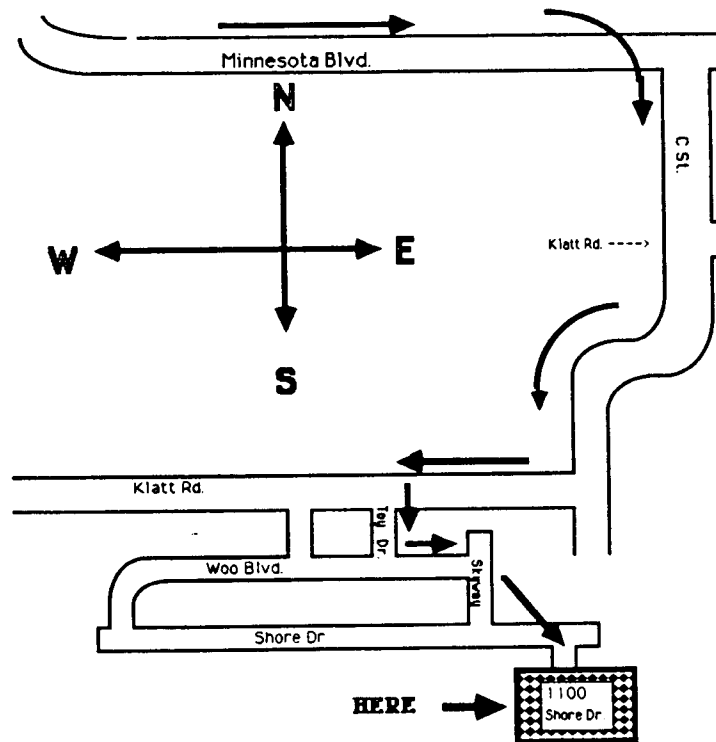
May 19, 20            Matanuska Hut    9:00 am until ?

Tentative schedule for on site construction:

July 14                Matanuska Glacier  
August 4               Bomber Glacier

All pre-fabrication will be done at Gretchen and David Staeheli's (see Map). We need people to help with the pre-fabbing. Please come and be sure to bring hammer, gloves and screw drivers.

**Gretchen and Dave's House**  
**344-3986**  
**1100 Shore Drive**



It will be potluck for lunch, so bring a food item that can be shared. If you are unable to help with the construction perhaps you can bring by some food instead.

## LEADER GUIDELINES

1. Follow the general rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips.
2. Must have a sign-up sheet with all participants' names on it and turn it in to the Hiking and Climbing Committee at the end of the trip.
3. Select a meeting time and place disclosed only to those persons on the sign-up sheet, unless call-ins are acceptable to the leader.
4. Must verify that each participant has signed a valid waiver and that it is on file.
5. Can require special equipment and refuse participation to any person that is ill-equipped (including clothing).
6. Has the authority to split the group (fast and slow), but must select a co-leader to help.
7. Must report any injuries to the MCA President.
8. Must report any personnel problems to the Hiking and Climbing Committee.

Approved by the MCA Board, March 1987

## GENERAL RULES FOR MCA SANCTIONED TRIPS

1. Proper equipment is required as follows:

| <u>Day Hikes</u>            | <u>Additional for Overnight or<br/>Special Situations</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Map, compass, whistle       |   |
| Raingear that works         | Down or synthetic equivalent                              |
| Warm clothing (not cotton)  | sleeping bag  |
| Hiking boots                | Tent (or prearranged sharing)                             |
| Sunscreen and dark glasses  | Sleeping pad  |
| Mosquito repellent          | Stove (fires are usually prohibited)                      |
| Water Adequate food         |   |
| Fire starter                | Dry clothes, socks, headgear, gloves                      |
| First aid kit with moleskin | Stream crossing footwear                                  |
| Pocket knife                |   |

(Obviously this is a minimum list, it does not include equipment for climbs or winter.)

2. No dogs. (Among the reasons are bear problems.)
3. 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 in the MCA Sanctioned trip.

4. You must have signed up on a trip roster (club meetings) or otherwise contacted the leader, and have signed the club waiver to be on a club trip.
5. When carpools are arranged, please plan to pay the driver your share without his (her) asking you. Generally \$5 - short trips, \$10 or more for longer.
6. If at the last minute you find you can't go, please let the leader know, both for transportation planning and so someone else can go. If you are the leader, help find a replacement.
7. 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 trailless areas or State and National Parks
8. Firearms are not encouraged, and please let the leader know if you want to carry one - it will be leader's option.

Formulated January 1987 by Hiking and Climbing Committee

CHUGACH STATE PARK VOLUNTEER NEWS

- June 2 - Tour North End of the Park  
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 meet at ER Visitor Center, bring lunch
- 3 - Tour South End of the Park  
 9:00 am  
 meet at Sears Mall, bring lunch
- 5 - Natural History  
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 at ER Visitor Center, bring lunch
- 6 - Eagle River Visitor Center Operations  
 9:00 am
- 14 - Volunteer Banquet  
 7:00 pm  
 ER Visitor Center, bring a dish

The Eagle River Visitor Center opens for visitation on May 18th. You can then contact the center staff, M-F, 9-5. Friends of Chugach State Park also has several summer programs going, including informative nature walks. Contact Pat Joyner, 762-2451 or Allan Shayer, 343-6184.

## MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING

The April meeting was held on the 18th and called to order by President Neil O'Donnell. Members and visitors introduced themselves and were welcomed. One notable visitor was Paul Crews, the club's first president.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

|               |   |              |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Money Market  | - | \$3893.36    |
| Checking Acct | - | 1338.14      |
| Hut Fund      | - | 1299.74      |
| Petty Cash    | - | <u>52.10</u> |
| Total         |   | \$6583.34    |

### COMMITTEES:

Hut Committee. Gretchen encouraged volunteers to help with the hut construction. Pre-fabrication dates were set for the two huts, and more details can be found later in this issue about when and where to meet for the big bash. New t-shirts were available at the meeting, with new designs and colors. Sales in the past have been very successful and support of everyone is needed to continue to raise needed funds for the huts.

Hiking and Climbing. Members of the committee will meet next week to consider the summer hiking and climbing schedule.

Training. Mike Miller announced a trip to Byron Glacier to teach a one-day class in glacier travel. Todd Miner talked about progress with the climbing wall at A.P.U.

### OLD BUSINESS:

None.

### NEW BUSINESS:

None.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Willy Hersman announced the order for club members of freeze-dried food at discount. Order forms were available at the meeting.

Dan O'Haire announced an upcoming attempt by club members to cross the Sargeant Icefield.

Alan Julliard announced a Turnagain Arm clean-up day for April 21. Volunteers can meet at 8am at Fred Meyers.

Prior to the slide show, Paul Crews gave a short talk about the construction of Pichler's Perch in 1964. Neil O'Donnell thanked Paul and the other members of the MCA who worked on that hut back then, for after 25 years it still provides a wonderful shelter appreciated by many.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dan O'Haire*

April 1990