



MAY 1995

A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc.  
Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Volume 38 Issue 05



## MAY MEETING

Wednesday

May 17th, 7:30

Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets  
Downtown Anchorage

*Slide Show:* Local climbs in the *South Fork* of Eagle  
River will be shown by Mark Fouts.



### HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

- May 20-21 Bird Peak  
Western Chugach. Need ice axe, cram  
pons. Class C.  
Leader: Jonathan Rose 278-3189
- 27 Indianhouse Mt.  
Western Chugach. Class C.  
Leader: Steve Gruhn 344-1219
- Jun 3-4 Gold Mint Trail Clearing  
Come for a day or overnight. Bring  
brush saw, loppers. Most of the work  
will be on the last half of this eight mile

trail. (Not staying at the Mint Hut.)  
Leaders: Willy Hersman, Maxine  
Franklin 373-4734

- 10 Harp Mt.  
Wester Chugach. Class B.  
Leader: Mindy Baum 338-6396

- 17-18 Flattop Sleepout  
Watch the days start to get shorter from  
this vantage point. Annual event. Class  
C. No leader.

- 24-25 Koktoya and Tanaina  
Western Chugach. Class C.  
Leader: Dennis Morford 522-1179



Jun 25-Jul 1 Sargeant Icefield  
Kenai Mountains. Charter boat Seward to Day Harbor. Access via Ellsworth Glacier. Establish base camp on icefield for exploring. Those interested should be prepared for possible rain, fog, snow, or high wind. Each person responsible for his own food (12 days worth). Dress warmly and be prepared to treat blisters. Do not bring cotton or down clothing or sleeping bags. Skis will be used for travel.  
Leader: Dan O'Haire  
Local contact: Tom Grenier 345-1084

Jul 8 Goat Mt.  
Western Chugach. Class D. Need ice axe, crampons.  
Leader: James Larabee 522-3854

22 Denali State Park Anniversary  
Byers Lake Campground, Mile 147 Parks Hwy. 10:00 A.M. Byers Lake loop 5-mile hike. Class A. 12:00 picnic and live music. 1:00 P.M. rededication ceremony.  
Contact: Diane Saltee, Mat-Su Parks Office, 745-3975

Jul 22-Aug 5 Katmai Traverse  
Shelikof Straits to Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. Trip limited to 12 people. Already full, unless someone drops out.  
Leader: Don Hansen 243-7184

## TRIP REPORTS

### Crevasse Rescue Workshop

Dave Hart

**W**hile reading the March issue of Scree, I saw Mike Miller's crevasse rescue workshop being offered at the Matanuska Glacier. In preparation for the upcoming summer climbing season, I decided to take his course and brush up on my skills. So many other people had this same thought that several would-be participants, including myself, were recruited to help instruct.

We gathered Saturday, April 8th under mostly sunny skies that always seem to bless the Matanuska Glacier. After dividing into groups of four to six, we headed out onto the glacier to practice proper roped

glacier travel techniques. Learning self rescue techniques and pulley systems kept the groups busy the rest of Saturday.

Saturday night found many of us continuing the tradition of dinner at the Long Rifle, although the Alaska Health Department's posted warning of fecal contamination in their water supply did cause trepidation for some.

After dinner we had hoped to play a few hands of hearts before returning to the campground. Unfortunately, we were summarily ejected from the Inn when we tried. They were "a restaurant and did not allow card playing!" Their lack of hospitality, even while serving contaminated water, will certainly make me reconsider patronizing them in the future.

We still wanted to play some cards before bed so we retired to the Matanuska Glacier Lodge and found a much friendlier atmosphere. Midway through our game, the owners came rushing in saying that one of their mares just gave birth to a colt. Being the city folks we were, we asked if we could come see the new baby horse. When we got there, they asked us if we would help carry the newborn to the barn. How hard can that be? We soon found out. Imagine trying to carry a 100-pound water balloon dipped in Vaseline for a distance of 200 yards. Terry, displaying extraordinary chivalry, was finally able to hoist the slippery colt around his neck and carry it to the barn. We made it, but I think Terry was planning to burn his shirt.

Sunday found all groups again out on the glacier practicing pulley systems, self rescue ascending systems, and even a bit of ice climbing. We were all headed back to Anchorage by 6:00 P.M. As was hoped, all participants came away with more knowledge and experience than when they arrived. More importantly, at least for the instructors, no one was injured. I, for one, am looking forward to next year's workshop already. An extra ice axe was found after the course; call Mike Miller to identify it and claim it if you lost one.

### Hut Raising Event

The pre-fabrication of the new MCA hut will take place on the weekend of May 20-21. The location will be at the home of Max Franklin and Willy Hersman at the end of Elderberry Drive in Wasilla. Work will begin at 10:00 A.M. each day. Directions are on the map below. A list of needed materials is on the following page. If you can donate something on the list, contact Mike Miller 243-6521.

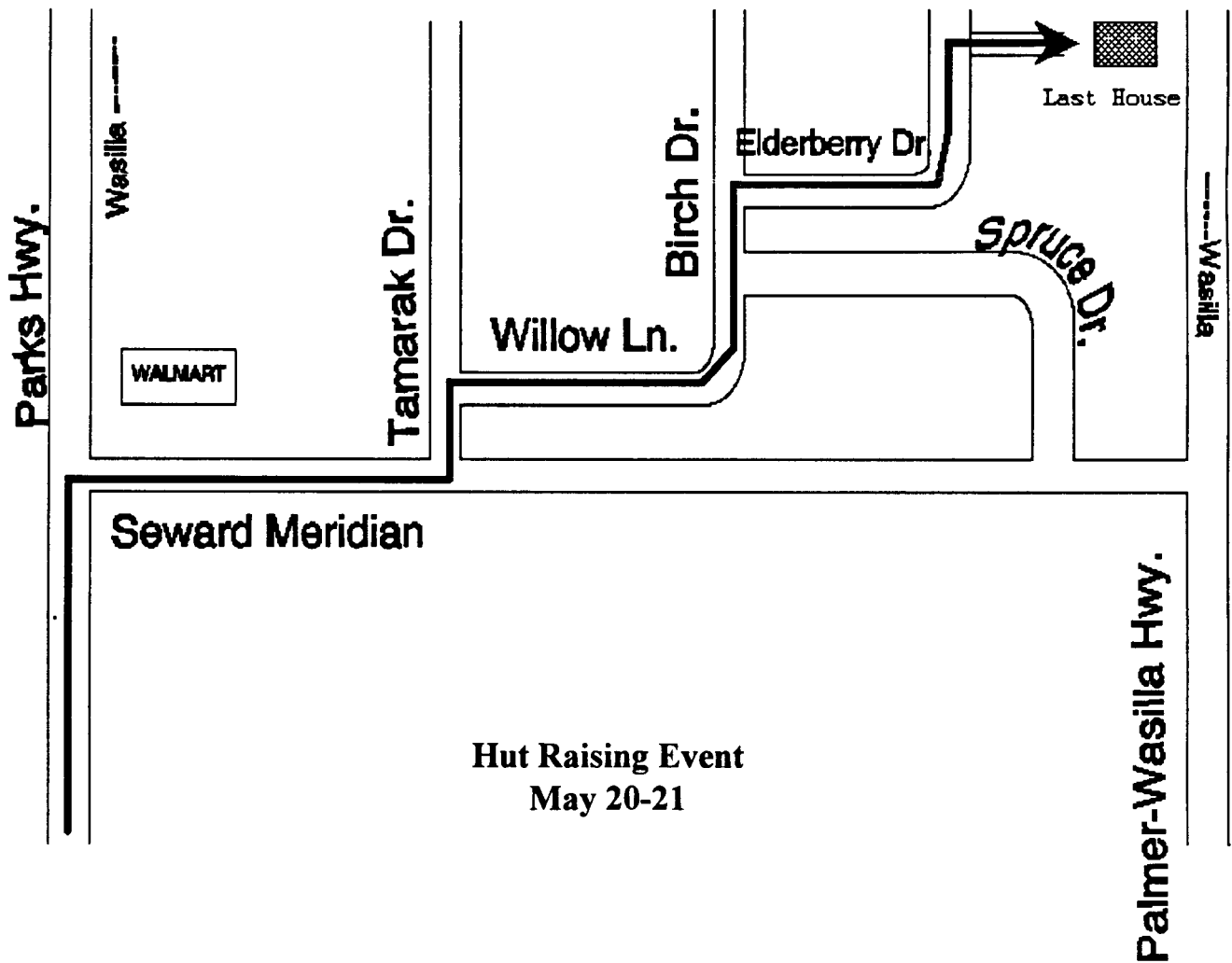
The hut will be built, painted and subsequently dismantled and marked for reconstruction at the site, near the head of Moose Creek, in July or August.

Please come out and help, there is a lot to do.

### Call for Stories

Anchorage writer Bill Sherwonit is working on an Alaska mountaineering anthology, which will include historical and contemporary stories from around the state. The book will have a couple of Denali "classics," but the focus will be beyond Denali and he'd like to have all the major ranges represented, if possible. Of special interest are climbing stories from Southeast Alaska and the Wrangell-St. Elias, Chugach, and Brooks ranges.

The literature on Chugach mountaineering - at least the sort that would appeal to a general audience - seems especially limited. Any MCA members who know of accounts in Scree or elsewhere, are asked to contact Sherwonit at 345-1882, or write to him at 7601 Soldotna Dr., Anchorage 99516. Chugach stories are of special interest, but good, readable stories from anywhere in the state will be considered.



**Hut Raising Event  
May 20-21**



If you have any materials to donate, please contact:

Takashi "Aze" Azegami  
 Tel 266-9249

Mark Flannum

Tel 258-6993

Material Description	Quantity	Unit
3 X 8 Zinclaum Roofing	27	Each
10' - 6" Univer Ridge Zincaume (Ridge Metal)	2	Each
10' - 6' Gable Trim Zinc (Coner)	4	Each
3/8" CDX Plywood	35	Each
3/4" CDX Plywood	4	Each
3/4" CDX Plywood (Good One for Table)	1	Each
5/8" CDX Plywood	3	Each
4 X 6 12 FT . S4S LP22	3	Each
2 X 4 8FT KD Standard and Better	45	Each
2 X 4 10FT KD Standard and Better	6	Each
2 X 4 14FT KD Standard and Better	4	Each
2 X 4 12FT KD Standard and Better	2	Each
2 X 6 8FT KD #2 and better	14	Each
2 X 6 10FT KD #2 and better	9	Each
2 X 6 12FT KD #2 and better	4	Each
1 X 4 12FT KD S4S Common Pine	12	Each
H25 5-7/16" Hurricane Tie Bowman # BTA6	14	Each
R13 3-1/2 X 15 Stud Thick 137 B319	5	Pack
8D Galvanized Box 2-1/2 " Nails	20	Lb
16D Galvanized Box 3-1/2 " Nails	20	Lb
Hardware Cloth 1/4 X 1/4 X 24	70	LF
4 5/8 NO W/S Single Rab Side	1	Each
8D Brite Duplex 2-1/2" Nails	5	Lb
Chain-Link Fencing	40	FT
Doors	2	Each
Paint	Lot	
Formica	Lot	
Cauliking	Lot	
Roofing Nails	20	Lb

## MINUTES

### MARCH MEETING

**Mike Miller** called the meeting to order and had new members introduce themselves.

**Ron Rickman** gave the treasurer's report as follows:

Money Market:	\$7622.45
Checking Acct.	\$2889.90
Petty Cash	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Total:	\$10,562.35

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS.

##### *Training.*

**Jonathan Rose** announced there will be another leadership class to be held on April 4, 6, & 8, 1995. The last class was very enjoyable and everybody learned a lot.

**Mike Miller** announced he will leading a glacier travel / crevasse rescue class at the Matanuska glacier on the weekend of April 8 -9, 1995. Participants will be meeting at 10:00 am each day at the glacier and should bring all of the mandatory glacier gear, sunny weather and firewood.

##### *Hiking & Climbing.*

**Don Hansen** announced that he is continuing to look for potential trip leaders. If you are interested in leading a trip, please contact Don.

**Mike Miller** announced that there are two lists at Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking which club members might find interesting. The first is a list of trips which people would like to lead. The second is a list of trips which people would like to go on. So next time you are thinking of going on or leading a trip, stop by AMH to see if someone has a similar idea.

**Mike Miller** also announced that he has received a rather cryptic note and map from past MCA president, **Dan O'Haire**. Mike interprets the note to mean that Dan will be leading a trip across the Sargent Icefield in June. There will be a sign up list at the April general membership meeting.

##### *Parks Advisory*

An update on last month's announcement regarding a Chugach Park Board member who is upset with the fact that MCA has constructed 3 parks in the park. Mike Miller

announced that **Tom Meacham** has sent a letter to Al Miner of the Chugach Parks Board regarding the cost of building and maintaining the huts.

##### *Huts*

**Mike Miller** announced that MCA is still planning on putting two huts in this summer. Volunteers and materials are still needed for this project. Contact Mike if you have any materials to donate.

##### *Library*

**Joe Kurtak** announced that the MCA library is in good shape. However, he would like to locate a good lockable bookcase for some of the more valuable books which the library has acquired. Please contact Joe if you known of one.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS

None.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A **gear swap** is planned for the April meeting. Members are encouraged to bring any gear which they would like to sell or swap. Additionally, the April slide show will be an accumulation of slides from all of you. Please bring a few slides (10-20) to share with the group.

**Mike Miller** announced the University of Alaska - Anchorage / Alaska Wilderness Studies program will be conducting a **First Responder Course** in May, 1995. Please contact the AWS program at 786-4066 if you would like more information.

**Ron Rickman** provided an excellent slide show on his 1985 climbing trip to the country of Bhutan. Thanks Ron!

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Flanum

