

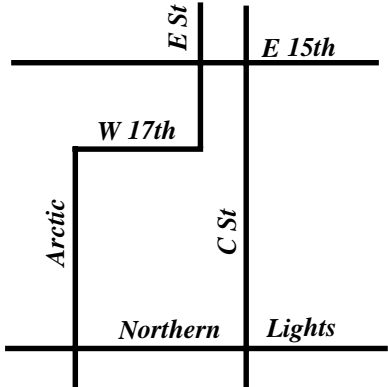
JULY 2003 A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska **vol 46 Issue 07**
Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

JULY MEETING
Wednesday
July 16, 7:30 pm
Valley of the Moon Park
 Corner of Arctic Blvd & 17th Ave
Eleventeenth Annual July Picnic!!

Come celebrate summer and friends at the Valley of the Moon Picnic Pavillion. The club is providing hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments and refreshments. You bring the real food.

If your LAST NAME begins with -

- please bring:*
- A-C - Veggie Dish*
- D-H - Pasta, Rice or Potatoes*
- I-M - Salads or Fruits*
- N-R - Appetizers*
- S-Z - Desserts*
- See You There!!*



HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

July 11 - 13 Rock Climb the Snowbird Glacier area
 Come check out the backcountry rock climbing, or come and enjoy some hiking and exploring around the Snowbird Glacier.

If you want to climb, sign up as groups of two, each with experience, each with gear.
 If you are not climbing, you can sign up as a sole participant.
 Cost is \$5/person/night for the hut.
 Contact Cory Hinds for more info. 248.6606
 Dates are as permitted by the weather.

July 15 Arctic Valley to Snow Hawk Cabins

Meet at 5:30 pm at Arctic Valley Golf Course
 Elevation gain - 2,300 ft.
 Mileage - 11 miles
 Estimated hiking time - 5 hr.
 Class C

Leader: Deb Luper 345-3543 or dahabo@yahoo.com
 Contact leader at least 24-hours before hike for information and/or signup.

July 17 - 20 Pinnell Mountain Trail

27 mile ridge walk northeast of Fairbanks at the south edge of the White Mountains off of the Steese Highway. Nice change of scenery from southcentral hikes. Leave the evening of the 17th, return the 20th.
<http://aurora.ak.blm.gov/Steese/PMT.html>
 Leader: John Recktenwald, 336-2675

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

July 22 Falls Creek to Windy Gap

Meet at 5:30 pm at Falls Creek Trailhead (Mile 105.6)
Elevation gain – 4,000 ft.
Mileage – about 8 miles
Estimated hiking time – 5 hr.
Class C
Leader: Deb Luper 345-3543 or dahabo@yahoo.com
Contact leader at least 24-hours before hike for information and/or signup.

July 31 Rabbit Lake and/or McHugh Lake

Meet at 5:30 pm at Carrs Huffman in front of the Coffee Shop.
Elevation gain – 1,000 ft.
Mileage – about 8 –10 miles
Estimated hiking time – 5 hr.
Class C
Leader: Deb Luper 345-3543 or dahabo@yahoo.com
Contact leader at least 24-hours before hike for information and/or signup.

August 7 Bird Creek toward Bird Pass

Meet at 5:30 pm at Bird Creek
Elevation gain – 1,000 ft.
Mileage – about 12 miles
Estimated hiking time – 5 hr.
Class C
Leader: Deb Luper 345-3543 or dahabo@yahoo.com
Contact leader at least 24-hours before hike for information and/or signup.

August 8 - 10 EAGLE/SYMPHONY LAKES & TRIANGLE PEAK

More information to come!!! If interested call Jayme Mack @ 694-1500.

August 14 Blacktail Rocks

Meet at 5:30 pm at West Skyline Drive Trailhead, Eagle River
Elevation gain – 2,750 ft.
Mileage – about 10 miles
Estimated hiking time – 4.5 hr.
Class C
Leader: Deb Luper 345-3543 or dahabo@yahoo.com
Contact leader at least 24-hours before hike for information and/or signup.

ADZE

WANTED:

Kodak 140 slide trays 522-6354 or 564-2671

For Sale

North Face Kichatna 3-ply Gore-Tex Bibs & Jacket, Men's Medium Red, Good Condition \$150 each
North Face Chogolisa Polarguard 3-D Parka, Men's Lg Red w/ Detachable Hood, Excellent Condition \$250
Mark Miraglia, 244-0682

For Sale

Black Diamond Black Prophet Ice Tool. Hammer head, straight (aluminum) shaft. Only used 4-5 times - \$95 obo.
Great alpine/water ice tool or use as back-up 3rd.

Dave @ 264-0763 (wk) or 258-0763 (hm)

FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Again!

Another month has slipped passed: I hope that your summer is proceeding well. Deb Luper is leading lots of hikes Tuesday and Thursday evenings. I have heard a rumor that Annette Smith also has something lined out in August... more on that later. Jayme Mack and crew had a decent hike over Resurrection Trail, with only a little rain. For something off our regular track, John Reckenwald is offering to lead a hike on the Pinnel Mountain Trail.

If *YOU* have a trip that you are interested in leading, don't be shy! Share the outdoors with a few friends, old and new; explore a new trail or crunch out an old chestnut... Submit trips at club meetings, or on the MCAK website at www.mcak.org. Or send them to me, along with a trip report from one of your adventures to mtndamsel@alaska.net. Speaking of trip reports, next month we'll read about a misadventure that Wayne Todd and friends managed to make through.

Don't forget to cook up something tasty for the summer picnic. I hope to see everyone there.

Until then...

Blue Skies... Amsl

Notes...

IN MEMORIAM

In Remembrance of Climber Andrew Embick

- Steve Davis

May 29, 2003 was a sad day for Alaska climbers. It was on that day that well known climber and long time Valdez resident Andrew Embick took his own life. He leaves a wife and two daughters. Most climbers remember Andy for organizing the Annual Valdez Ice Climbing Festival (the first so-called ice climbers' rendezvous in North America). Beginning in 1982, climbers would travel to Valdez during the President's Day weekend for three-filled days of climbing the "big ice" and would stay at his home which became a defacto climber's refuge with up to 45 people sleeping in the basement. By 1984 the Embick home was the center for all route information and evening parties and slide shows. Climbers from around the world started coming to the festival to experience the great climbing. Who can forget the evening slide shows where we would re-live some of Valdez's greatest ascents with the latest Dire Straits album at full volume! The "gear room" where the smell of damp ropes, sweaty gore-tex and drying boot liners permeated the house. The evening swapping of tales and the sounds of resharpening ice tools and dull crampons. What a lot of climbers don't know were his other accomplishments.

Andy came to Alaska in the late 1970's after college and medical school. He was already familiar with Alaska, having traveled to the state and with others made the first ascent of the East Buttress of Middle Triple Peak in the Kitchatna Spires (a route that was profiled in Roper and Steck's Fifty Classic Climbs and still regarded as one of the most difficult routes in the United States).

Andy will be remembered as an energetic and colorful fellow. He was a pioneer during the golden-era of Valdez ice climbing, making numerous first ascents with many partners, most notably Roman Dial, Carl Tobin, Brian Teale, and Chuck Comstock. His 3 x 5 index cards with all

the route information eventually led to his writing of "Blue Ice and Black Gold", a ice climber's guidebook to Valdez ice climbs. This book documented more than 400 routes. A number of these early ascents were made by MCA members. It was during this period that Andy took an interest in white water paddling. He soon began to pursue "first descents" with the same enthusiasm as his climbing. He made the first descent of Devil's Canyon on the Talkeetna River, and soon had a long list of paddling accomplishments. A white-water paddlers' guidebook soon followed.

Later in the 1980's Andy made an early ascent of Yosemite's Astroman with Ron Kauk, followed by an expedition to Braldu/Biafo region of Pakistan's Karakoram range where he made a first ascent with Galen Rowell of a spectacular rock tower followed by a first descent of the raging Braldu River gorge by kayak.

Andy was active in the local social scene and served on the American Alpine Club's national Board of Directors and was elected Vice-President. He was also a founder of the Valdez Alpine Club.

Andy had recently returned from a 6 month sabbatical in Pakistan where he volunteered as a physician in a remote refugee camp. His proudest achievement though was helping his wife Kathy raise two daughters in Valdez and instill upon them his values for the outdoors and adventure. We will never know or understand the reasons why he took his own life. What we do understand is that he is gone and that he will be sorely missed by all climbers who remember the golden-era of Valdez ice climbing. There aren't many Valdez routes that Andy hadn't personally climbed over the last 25 years. He has touched us all, whether we realize it or not. Think of him the next time you are in Valdez ice climbing and pushing your limits. An Anchorage memorial service will be scheduled later this summer. Details will be provided to the club as they become known.



Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Officers

President Jayme Mack 694-1500
Vice-President Karen Herzenberg 223-0351
Secretary Sean Bolender 274-4457
Treasurer

Board

Stuart Grenier 337-5127
Dave Hart 227-9584
Richard Baranow 694-1500
Matt Nedom 278-3648
Bill Romberg 677-3993

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 August 4th to be included in the August 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 vattreal, 258-0075 or carlvattreal@yahoo.com

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

MAILING LIST SERVICE: mcak@yahoogroups.com

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