

# the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

July 2008

Volume 51 Number 7



*50 years*

**Monthly Meeting**  
**Wed, July 16 @ 7:30 PM**  
**Program: Club Picnic**  
**Details Inside**

**Greg's Trip Reports: Mint Hut  
Lost Lake, Lane Hut, Grant  
Lake, Clemens Cabin,  
Lane/Bomber Traverse  
and more**

**Everything should be as simple as possible  
but no simpler.**  
~Albert Einstein

**Callisto Peak  
Greenland Peak - POM**

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the First United Methodist Church, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and G Streets next to the ConocoPhillips Building (you may use marked parking after hours).  
**But not this month; see the Picnic note below.**

Contact information is provided on the back page or visit us on the web at [www.mcak.org](http://www.mcak.org).

**Cover photo:** John Recktenwald on the pass between Lane Hut and Snowbird Hut in the Talkeetna Mountains. (*even the editor gets out once in a while*). Photo by Bud Chard.

**Article Submission:** Articles and photos are best submitted on the web at [MCAK.org](http://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.

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### Greenland Peak – Peak of the Month

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### Club 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party coming...

### Change to Meeting Time?

## Hiking and Climbing Schedule

July 1, Raven Glacier

After work hike up Crow Pass, contact Tim Harper for details: [silvers@gmail.com](mailto:silvers@gmail.com)

July 18 to Aug 3, Survey Pass and Shivering Mountain Gates of the Arctic National Park, Class C, \$200 air charter deposit per person due by May 1. Costs: \$320/person Fairbanks to Bettles and return, estimated air charter \$610/person Foley Lake drop off from Bettles & Natak Lake pickup Party limit 5. Leader Don Hansen 243-7184, [donjoehansen@msn.com](mailto:donjoehansen@msn.com)

Friday, July 25th - Sunday, July 26th

Women's Crow Pass Traverse, Class: D-E. Elevation Gain: 2,000'. Distance: 26 miles Come join other women in MCA for this classic Chugach traverse. Will hike to Crow Pass after work Friday, camp at Thunder Gorge on Saturday and hike out Eagle River Sunday. Good fitness required. No dogs allowed. Leader: Jayme Dixon, 907-382-0212 or [jaymelmack@hotmail.com](mailto:jaymelmack@hotmail.com)

## Annual Club Picnic

Where? Valley of the Moon Park at 7:30, Wednesday July 16, The Park is along the Chester Creek Trail and is accessible from E Street, which turns into Arctic Boulevard.

What? Hotdogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, fixings, drinks, linens, fine china and silverware are provided. Please bring something to share as indicated below:

A-H: Side dish  
I-R: Dessert  
S-Z: Salad



# Mint Hut, Lost Lake, Lane Hut, Grant Lake, Clemens Cabin, Resurrection, and More

by Greg Bragiel

**A really long MCA trip report(s) July 2007- April 2008 by Greg Bragiel**

**Hut Maintenance, July 15-22, 2007.** Randy Howell and Mark Miraglia met me at the Mint Hut on Sunday July 15. They installed a 36X24 slider window in rear wall of the upper floor while I busied myself repairing the toilet, cleaning and preparing to paint. They then left to climb Troublemint Spire while I stayed behind continuing the work. I had to take it easy and be careful not to re-injure my ankle. Mary Beth arrived on Tuesday to help with the cleaning and painting of the interior first floor and outside. The exterior painting was a completion of the project that was started the prior summer by UAA student Obedia and a friend. Upon completion of the work at the Mint Hut, Mary Beth and I had a wonderful Bomber traverse hike. We accomplished additional maintenance work at the Bomber hut including painting the floor, making some shelving and drawers for the cabinet, and completion of the painting of the exterior trim. This painting had also been started the prior summer by the UAA students.

Participating: Randy Howell, Mark Miraglia, Mary Beth Bragiel and Greg Bragiel.

**Mary Beth Bragiel at the Mint Hut**



**Lost Lake, August 25-26, 2007.** After staging a vehicle at the south end of the trail and cheering on the last of the Lost Lake runners, five berry pickers hiked from the Primrose trailhead to the lake under beautiful blue skies in shirt-sleeve warmth. Camp was set up on the far side of the lake and we immediately began picking highbush blueberries that afternoon and much of the next day. It was rather surprising to not find any ground blueberries this trip. Later on Sunday afternoon here comes Sally Balchin running the trail. What an athlete!! Atta girl Sally!! Stan Olsen and Sally had bicycled from Anchorage to Seward the day prior. Since Marcy Custer brought the mother lode of blueberries home this trip, the 'Purple Finger-Blueberry Queen Picker' crown is now firmly in her possession.

Participating: Wayne Todd, Carrie Wang, John Recktenwald, Marcy Custer, Mary Beth Bragiel and Greg Bragiel.

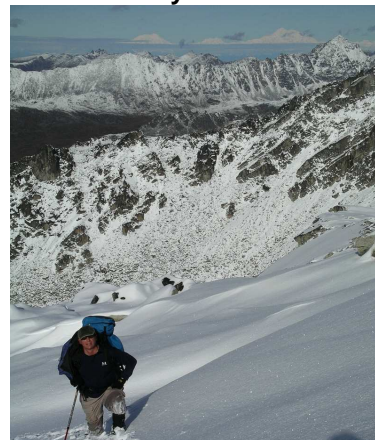
**The crew at Lost Lake**



**Lane Hut, September 21-22, 2007.** This hike started out with intentions of a traverse over the pass between the Lane Glacier and the Snowbird Glacier and a descent out the Snowbird Glacier drainage. On Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> we climbed Didilkama Peak and then traversed the ridge to a pass between Lane Glacier and Snowbird Glacier. A group of early season snowboarders followed our track up Didilkama Peak and we were a bit jealous at the ease of their descent. Since we had such a difficult time with the unexpected deep snow and postholing, we elected to return down the Archangel Creek drainage and headed home.

Participating: Trevor Scott, Tom Choate, Eric Holloway and Greg Bragiel.

**Eric Holloway**



**Grant Lake, September 29 - October 7, 2007.** This was a wonderful, colorful, sunny and warm fall backpack/climbing trip. Tom Choate had visited Grant Lake years before and wanted to give it a go again. We were extremely pleased to see that the old trail/ road had been recently cleared and widened. At the lake we

discovered an old mining camp, Forest Service cabin and other abandoned buildings. An attempt was made on Lark Mountain; however, we were turned around 2/3 of the way up while climbing on freshly fallen snow and extremely slick conditions. Returning to the cabin, we spent the next few days doing cabin repairs (more like resurrection), exploring the surrounding area, and canoeing the opalescent waters in a canoe left there. Mary Beth and I returned the following weekend to enjoy the area, cabin and do a little more cabin maintenance. Participating: Tom Choate and Greg Bragiel.

**Tom Choate and Remnants of a Cabin**



**Lane Hut, November 23-25, 2007.** For the Thanksgiving Holiday weekend a group of six skied in from the Archangel Trailhead. Beautiful snow conditions were found in the Archangel valley although we were a bit nervous about the avalanche conditions. On Saturday the group started up the slope behind the hut; however, all but Rob, Chad and I turned around mid-way up. We climbed to the pass between the Lane Glacier and the Snowbird Glacier under beautiful blue skies. To the northeast, the Bartholf Creek drainage was totally socked in and we wondered how Sean's Bomber Traverse group was managing at navigating under these conditions. Upon returning to the hut we found that everyone had headed out.

**Rob Kaye at the Pass, November. Compare with the Cover Shot taken in March**



Participating; Donna Klecka, Jennifer DuFord, Wayne Marquis, Rick Hagen, Robert Kaye, Chad Bierbich and Greg Bragiel.

**Lost Lake/Clemens Cabin, December 29, 2007-January 1, 2008.** There was plenty of snow for ski touring of the area surrounding the cabin; however, it was difficult to find a slope that the snowmachiners had not rutted out and chewed up. Jennifer Duford and Mark Kimerer stopped to say hello on their day trip to the cabin. We enjoyed each others company in the hut and did not find even one drunk lying on the floor New Year's Day morning.

Participating: Mary Beth Bragiel, Randy Howell, Cathy Howell, Stan Olsen, Sally Balchin, Marie Kartsounes and Greg Bragiel.

**Randy and Cathy at Clemens Cabin**



**Grant Lake, January 12-13, 2008.** Wanting to see Grant Lake in the winter fueled my desire to return. Our group ski toured/snowshoed to the cabin under beautiful blue skies and sub-zero temperatures. Everyone participated in wood gathering to fuel the stove and have a warm place to spend the evening. Wayne Todd and Carrie Wang elected to do some gear testing outside in their tent and Amy Maclean preferred sleeping outside under the sky. There was a report that Wayne had to work hard to stay warm in his skimpy +40 degree F sleeping bag in the -15F temperature that night and icicles were seen hanging from his beard in the morning. A few of us ski toured on the lake Sunday before departing.

Participating: Wayne Todd, Carrie Wang, Amy Maclean, John Recktenwald, Marcy Custer, Mary Beth Bragiel and Greg Bragiel

**The Grant Lake Crew**





**Resurrection Pass, February 24-29, 2008.** I skied in from the Hope Trailhead to an area just north of Resurrection Pass and stayed in this area for the next few days. I explored, skied and laid down helices in the surrounding drainages including Afanasa Creek, Abernathy Creek, American Creek and the connecting passes. Near the Hope end of the trail I stopped to explore the old mining camp ruins on the way out.

Participating: This was a solo trip. Those of you that cancelled----You missed a fantastic outing!!!!!!!

**Greg by Greg (check the reflection.)**



**Arctic to Bird Valley, March 7-9, 2008.** Sam Pepper and I staged a vehicle at the home of Gordon Scott in Indian on Thursday. As we drove away we wondered if the pouring rain would alter our plans. Gordon, chief avalanche expert for Alyeska Resort, warned us of heavy snowfall and natural releases at the ski area. The weather remained warm and rainy so we elected to cease and desist. It was a bit disappointing to cancel after all the reconnaissance work done by Sam, Tom Dolan, John McCormick and myself the past few months. However, one important thing that I have learned about backcountry travel in Alaska is that there is no shame in turning around, cancelling a trip or just staying home when the conditions look bad. Don't let your ambitions allow you to become a fatality statistic. You can always attempt the trip some other time under better conditions.

**Lane/Bomber Traverse, March 23-30, 2008.** I had ventured to the pass connecting the Lane and Snowbird Glaciers a few times in the last year and the desire to traverse it drew me back. Additionally, I felt that this would make a fine addition to the well known Bomber Traverse. Our team enjoyed clear sky vistas from the Lane-Snowbird pass. However, it felt a bit anticlimactic and intimidating as we observed two snowmachines with passengers that made their way up the Lane Glacier and to within 50 vertical feet of the summit of Didilkama Peak. Wow, it looked so easy to twist the throttle and head uphill compared to the sweating, grunting and cussing we did. The four of us enjoyed wonderful weather and ski conditions at the Snowbird, Bomber and Mint huts. While at the Bomber we installed the slider window that had been flown in the summer prior. We

also took time to explore the ice cave at the toe of the Mint Glacier.

Participating: Bud Chard, John Recktenwald, Travis Taylor and Greg Bragiel



**Travis**

**Resurrection Pass, April 28-May 1, 2008.** This week's time slot had originally been scheduled for a group to do the Eklutna Traverse. However, due to the significant snowfall on April 25-26 it was decided that the route onto and off of the route would be VERY avalanche prone and, therefore, the decision was made not to go. The report from a friend that went to the Serenity Falls Hut on April 27 was '... many natural releases coming down in the area...' Instead, a group of five headed south to the Kenai Peninsula in hopes of finding some of that snow with safer conditions. From the Bean Creek trailhead, we walked about a mile and a half and then skied into the area north of Resurrection Pass. The storm a few days prior left plenty of snowflakes for us to smash here. We enjoyed touring and telemarking on the surrounding hills, did some exploration to the pass between Afanasa Creek and the creek that drains toward the Swan Lake cabin. As we exited through Resurrection Pass, I remarked to Stan Olsen and Sally Balchin that '...we might regret not staying and enjoying the beautiful snow and weather conditions...' And, yes, we found that spring had arrived in the low country and had melted off quite a lot of snow, making it necessary to walk a bit further on the way out.

Participating: Tom Choate, Stan Olsen, Sally Balchin, Neil Murphy and Greg Bragiel.

**Neil, Sally and Stan**



# Callisto Peak (3,657 feet)

by Dano Michaud



## Dano and Round Island

During the spring and fall one of my favorite trails to run is between the Lowell Point State Recreation Site (Caines Head Trailhead) and the South Fork of Tonsina Creek this 3-mile round trip provides a source of trial I like for a good work out; narrow trail, rocky terrain, small creek crossing, inclines and a descent with numerous switchbacks, all this combined with a very scenic backdrop. On the trail's descent into the Tonsina Creek drainage I couldn't but help notice a notch on the left side of the far valley that appeared to provide a possible access to the high county. Knowing the type of foliage that is in that area during the warmer seasons, this was definitely something we would want to utilize during the colder season when snow would provide the source of transportation along with a good pair of snowshoes. I shared this idea with Harold Faust and he, too, has noticed that notch and considered the possibilities that this natural access point could provide. We talked it over and finalized it by a cooperative, "Okay, let's do it."

Our sight and directive was to access the upper valley above tree line, enter onto the Callisto Ice Field and then make a direct shot at the peak that bears the same name. Callisto Peak is the highest point on the Caines Head land area at 3,657 feet. Although it's mass is not that of the most picturesque peak from the town of Seward, it sure does provide one of the most glory-filled views from its height.

We fired up the inner engines early for this one and for this time of year 8 degrees seemed brisk. Harold & I started up the Tonsina Trailhead on March 18th, 2007, at 8 in the morning and kept our walking to a fast pace to maintain some of the heat from breakfast. At the second bridge that crosses Tonsina Creek we headed southwest into the creek's upper drainage. I did a reconnaissance trip up this way a few weeks prior to our trip as to get a better lay of the land. I found a sweet-looking waterfall lodge neatly tucked away in a box canyon just a few miles past our stairway access to the snow covered

wonderland. This waterfall will need a visit again when conditions prove prudent. Sure enough, the notch or small valley proved to be the ticket to an access up to one of the most beautiful valleys I have yet to explore this winter.

As we entered the notch we started to gain altitude into a Hemlock haven, with deep snow covering the rolling valley and stream beds. As we left the "Stairway to Heaven" the Hemlock thinned out and we began to enter the upper alpine slopes. We turn south as we slogged our way up the Icefield picking our way to the summit ahead. The high alpine slope rolled on with valley and stream beds covered with a thick blanket of runnel covered snow. The spring sun was high and beating down on us like a cold heat and we enjoyed the sound as our snowshoes crunched under the progressing steps to the summit. Our snowshoes proved their worth as we climbed from the Tonsina valley up the "Stairway to Heaven", but now that we were in the higher alpine, the thought of a pair of skis sure kept creeping continuously into my thoughts.



## Geo, Dano and Harold

The transition from snow to the small icefield was without indication but I still had my doubts and suspicions of the possibilities of small cracks or crevasses. The icefield proved that it was ballistic proof and as we gained access to the last steep slope before the summit proper, we could not help but surrender our thoughts to the prehistoric sounds our crampons made as we kicked steps on our final ascent. The screech reminded me of Hollywood's imitation of what they thought a Tyrannosaurus Rex might have sounded like.

At the summit we could hardly contain our emotions of the beauty and awe as we gazed at nature's art before us. To the south lay the Chiswell Islands, the west was the mighty Bear Glacier, east was the Resurrection Peninsula and the rugged saw-toothed peaks that grace its shores. And to the North...lay the return home.



# Peak of the Month: Greenland Peak

by Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Chugach Mountains; Scandinavian Peaks

Borough: Matanuska-Susitna Borough

Drainage: Iceland Glacier and Nordic Glacier

Latitude/Longitude: 61°36'58" North, 147°27'51" West

Elevation: 8445 feet

Prominence: 795 feet from Iceland Peak (8870)

Adjacent Peak: Iceland Peak

Distinctness: 795 feet from Iceland Peak

USGS Map: Anchorage (C-2)

First Recorded Ascent: July 11, 1990, by Tom Choate and Willy Hersman

Route of First Recorded Ascent: East ridge from Iceland Peak

Access Point: Airstrip at about 4450 feet on the east side of the Matanuska Glacier

Many of the Scandinavian Peaks bear names associated with northwestern Europe. Greenland Peak continues this theme because Greenland, despite being in North America, is a home-rule region of Denmark, which is commonly linked with the Scandinavian countries of Norway and Sweden.

Mike Meekin flew Tom, Willy, and Neil O'Donnell to an airstrip at about 4450 feet on the east side of the Matanuska Glacier in early July 1990. After evaluating potential hut sites for the yet-to-be-constructed

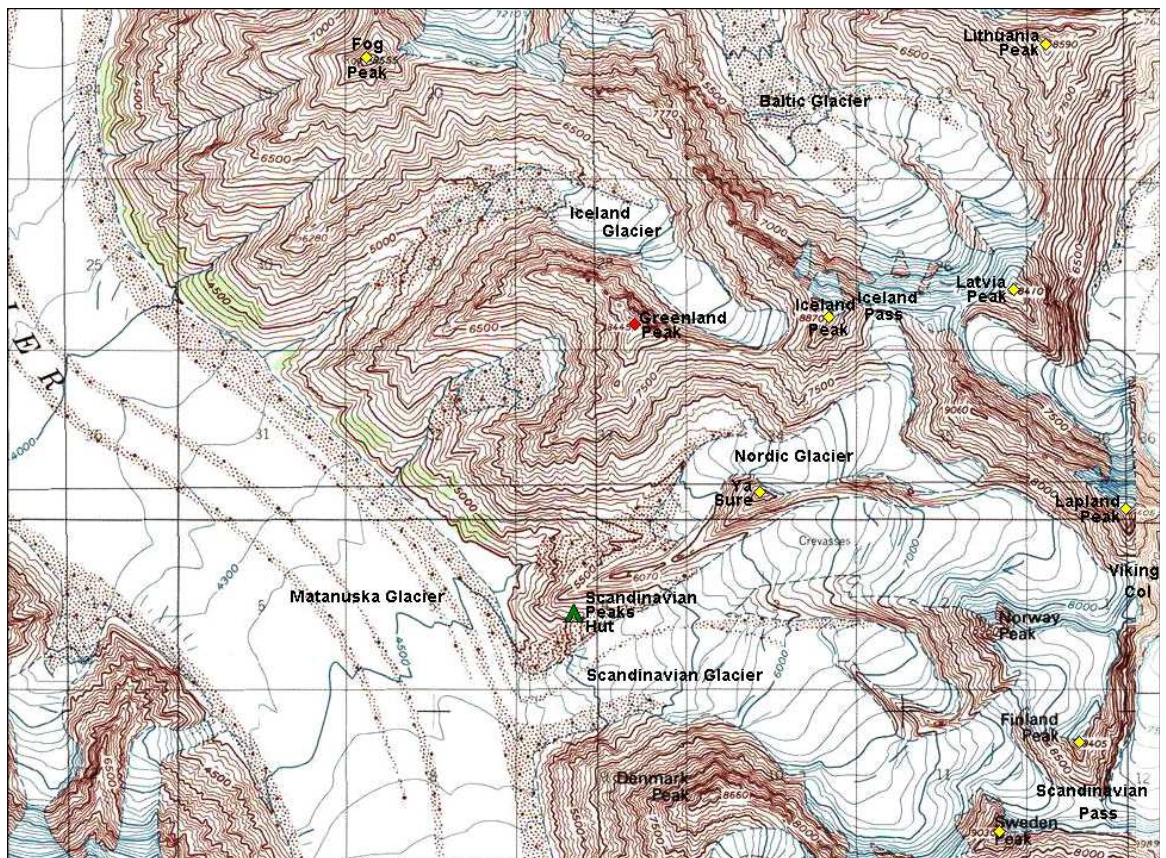
Scandinavian Peaks Hut, Mike flew Neil out and Tom and Willy climbed Greenland Peak via its east ridge after having climbed to the summits of both Iceland Peak and Latvia Peak (8410). All three climbs were the first recorded ascents of the peaks. They had started their day from the future site of the Scandinavian Peaks Hut. Their descent was down the south ridge and the southeast face of Greenland Peak.



Tom Choate on Greenland Peak

As a result of the exploratory efforts of Tom, Willy, and Neil, the current location for the Scandinavian Peaks Hut was selected and the hut was placed later that year. With the construction of the Scandinavian Peaks Hut, access to Greenland Peak has improved from what Tom and Willy encountered in 1990, yet the peak has seen very little mountaineering activity since then, although Kathy Still has reported climbing the peak from the hut via the south ridge.

Willy's trip report appeared in the August 1990 Scream.



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

## Correction

The Peak of the Month column in the June 2008 *Scree* mentioned that Bread Loaf Peak was first climbed from the west. In fact it was first climbed from the east. Thanks to Tom Choate for pointing out the error.

Steve Gruhn

## Letter to the Editor

*Alpinist* reported that Nils Nielsen and Eiliv Ruud made the first ascent of a route on Peak 7550 south of 747 Pass in the Alaska Range on April 28, 2008. Although

not claimed as such, this may be the first recorded ascent of that peak. The two Norwegians named the peak Littlefjellet, which means "rarity" in Norwegian.

Their route was on the east face of the peak and they rated it M3+, AI5 with 20 to 30 meters of vertical snow tunneling on the first pitch. The length of the route was reportedly about 800 meters.

<http://www.alpinist.com/doc/web08x/newswire-nielsen-ruth-kuriositeten>

Steve Gruhn

# MCA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party Pencil it in!

**When: September 14**

**Where: Alpenglow Lodge at Arctic Valley**

**Time: Noon – 10 pm**

**Events: Potluck meal, hiking, evening slide show, fun mountaineering games, etc.**

Games like follow the leader



Jacuzzi on the back deck



Helibus tours in the parking lot



Send us your suggestions and we will post them in the *Scree*, within reason of course.



# MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

## MEETING TIME PREFERENCE SURVEY

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska is conducting a survey of its members concerning the starting time of our monthly meetings. Your input is requested.

Currently, the Mountaineering Club of Alaska conducts our monthly meetings, the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church at 725 West Ninth Avenue (corner of Ninth & G Streets, downtown Anchorage).

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska is conducting a survey. We are accepting written comments and votes. Please vote on the following meeting time preference. (1 vote per active membership) The MCA Board will review all written comments and votes. Thank you for your input.

(Please check one)

6:30 pm

7pm

7:30 pm (Current Time)

No Preference; (Please explain why below.)

**Membership Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

*Last,                      First*

**Additional Comments:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Ballots may be submitted:

In person: at the next monthly meeting.

By Mail: **P.O. Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510-2037**

Online: [www.mcak.org](http://www.mcak.org)

## 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 unenforcible, 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 Sean Bolender 830-5102  
Vice-President Annette Iverson 222-0581  
Secretary Bridget Paule 230-9903  
Treasurer Travis Taylor 382-4823

Board member Don Hansen 243-7184  
Board member Andy Rembert 688-3230  
Board member Jayme Dixon 382-0212  
Board member Steve Parry 248-8710  
Board member Tom Devine 529-0618

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](http://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  
Calendar: Stuart Grenier - 337-5127  
Scree Editor: John Recktenwald - 346-2589  
Web: [www.mcak.org](http://www.mcak.org) (change your address here)  
Mailing list service: [MCAK@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MCAK@yahoogroups.com)

Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
Box 102037  
Anchorage AK 99510