

the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

September 2012

Volume 55 Number 9



Monthly Meeting:

Wednesday, September 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Program:

Ross Noffsinger will show video of ascents of Bounty and Baleful Peaks.

Contents:

Getting Squared away on Triangle Peak

The Hills are Alive...with the Sound of Music

Hiking in Kachemak Bay State Park:
Grace Ridge

Of Love and Glaciers

The Sound of Sunrise

Peak of the Month: Peak 3390

"It is not the view from the summit that matters as much as overcoming the challenges of the mountain and receiving the blessings it confers on the soul."

--Tom Choate

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

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 meetings the third Wednesday of the month at the BP Energy Center, 900 East Benson Boulevard, Anchorage, Alaska
www.akpeac.org/conference/BPEC_map_06-04-03.pdf

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Cover Photo: Jill Hodges and Julie Perilla on Grace Ridge with Peak 4050 in the left background and Peak 3450 on the right. Photo by Ben Still.

September Program

September 19 (6:30 p.m.): MCA member Ross Noffsinger will show video of ascents of Bounty and Baleful Peaks. Located near the remote eastern border of Chugach State Park, Bounty and Baleful have seen few ascents. Having climbed over 140 peaks in southcentral Alaska, Ross considers Baleful to be the most challenging peak in the park. For a preview see <http://youtu.be/MQRs8CJol5c> or search "Baleful 2012 YouTube HD."

Article Submission

Text and photography submissions for the *Scree* can be sent as attachments to mcascree@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the 25th of the month to appear in the following month's *Scree*. Do not submit material in the body of the email. 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 captions with photos.

Scree Newsletter Editor Needed

Do you have graphic design skills? If so - the MCA needs you! We're looking for an assistant newsletter editor to do the layout of the monthly newsletter. The current layout assistant is retiring in early 2013. Contact Steve Gruhn at 344-1219 or via e-mail at mcascree@gmail.com. This is a great opportunity to build up your artistic portfolio.

Club Elections in October – Nominations Needed

It is that time of year again. We are looking for nominations for Officers and Directors for the MCA. Elections will be at the October Meeting. There are two board positions open, and all the

officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) are up for election. Officer terms are for one year; Board members are two-year positions. Several of the officers are not planning to run for re-election. Volunteering as a club Officer or Director is a great way to give back to the MCA and to influence the direction of the club. If you would like to run for one of these prestigious positions (or if you would like to nominate someone else), please contact Vicky Lytle (victoria.lytle@gmail.com). It is a great way to help out the club, and get to know other members.

Hiking and Climbing Schedule

Ice Climbing Festival: September 28 through 30, 2012. Contact Jayme Mack at jaymelynnemack@gmail.com.

Winter Solstice Flattop Mountain Sleepout: December 21, 2012. No leader.

Don't forget to check the Meetup site and the Facebook page for last minute trips and activities. Or, schedule one that you want to organize.

Interesting Blogsites

Billy Finley recommends this blogsite, saying it's "good recent stuff from a pretty young kid:"

<http://verticaladdictions.blogspot.com/>

Billy Finley also has an interesting blogsite:

<http://www.peakaweek.com>

On-line? – click me



For best viewing of the *Scree* on a monitor using Adobe Reader, click on 'View' and 'Full Screen.'



Frank Baker on the summit of Triangle Peak.
Photos by Frank Baker.

Getting Squared away on Triangle Peak

by Frank E. Baker

The three words that kept rattling around in my head July 25 as I left the shores of Symphony Lake and angled up-slope toward Triangle Peak were, “how we forget.”

The last time I’d hiked up this 5,495-foot (1,675-meter) peak in the South Fork of Eagle River was in 2001, and back then it seemed a lot easier. In fact, my logbook noted that I made it to the top from the parking lot in 3-1/2 hours. On this day it would take me about twice as long.

One of the reasons I wanted to venture up Triangle again was to get a good look at the south side of 6,391-foot (1,948-meter) Cantata Peak, which one has to traverse for a ways to get back up to the summit ridge. The other reason was that I was in the mood for a long, gradual hike rather than a steep scramble. I’d forgotten how long the approach to Triangle is -- about 8-1/2 miles from the trailhead.

Rather than hiking past the old shelter between Eagle and Symphony Lakes and heading up the valley of Symphony Creek to catch the trail on the other side, I just crossed the boulder field on the north side of the lake and made a long, gradual approach that took me between two tarns that lie at about 3,500 feet. The preferred trail would have taken me in the same direction, only more steeply and directly.

Once above the tarns I picked up a small trail that led me to a pass, and from there it was a gradual approach to Triangle Peak -- which rises only about 1,000 feet from the broad plateau of the pass. From that point it only took 30 minutes to reach the summit.

At the summit I found a small, informal register cached in a pile of rocks and added my entry. Cantata Peak, Calliope Mountain, and Concerto Peak didn’t look quite as imposing from the summit of Triangle Peak, yet I know they’re all longer and tougher climbs. The bird’s eye view whetted my appetite to someday take on some of these bigger peaks. The nagging voice chimed, “If you do, build in lots of time. You’re slower than you used to be!”

It was sunny and warm, about 60 degrees, with a light breeze. Looking down into Ewe Valley, I regretted not bringing my tent and staying overnight. The weather forecast was good and it would have been nice to spend a second day exploring that three-mile-long valley.

On this outing I was surprised not to see any Dall sheep, but I did get a nice look at a bald eagle and a large hawk that circled closer to perhaps check me out.

One of the most striking things you see from the summit of Triangle Peak is the difference in water color between Symphony and Eagle Lakes. Symphony Lake is a deep blue because its source is melting snow several miles away, while Eagle Lake’s cloudiness is a result of suspended solids, or till, from Flute Glacier’s runoff. On this late-July day, Eagle Lake’s color was almost milky.

Most of the natural features in and around South Fork Valley, including lakes, mountains and glaciers, are named after musical instruments. There are the Flute and Organ Glaciers, Symphony Lake, and several mountains: Organ, Harp, Cantata, Calliope, Hurdygurdy, Triangle, and Concerto. Legendary mountaineer Vin Hoeman began naming these features back in the 1960s when he was chairman of the MCA’s Geographic Names Committee. Other mountaineers, including Bill Hauser, Hans van der Laan, Grace Hoeman, Tim Kelley, Richard Baranow, Wendy Sanem, and Tom Choate, also



South Fork of the Eagle River Valley.

contributed to naming the peaks and other nearby geographic features.

The deep, glacier-carved valleys behind Symphony and Eagle Lakes and the small alpine lakes, called tarns, set like blue-green jewels in the alpine tundra, create a mood of calm and reverence as one would experience while listening to a beautiful piece of music.

Before leaving the summit I glassed the North Fork of Sheep Creek with binoculars to see if any wildlife was about, but came up blank. One thing I've learned over the years is that if you don't see anything, look again, again, and even again. If you look long enough, it seems, you'll spot something. But that requires patience, and I'd already been out about seven hours.

I should have taken the direct trail down to Symphony Creek and gone out that way, but instead I backtracked the way I came. On the back half of a long day, the boulder field north of Symphony Lake and Eagle Lake seemed endless.

On the way out I saw about 20 people, including a group of about 12 Asians equipped with camping gear and fishing poles-- apparently going after Symphony Lake's grayling. I

finally got back to my truck at 10 p.m., bone tired and hungry.

The day had been tiring, but enjoyable. Mostly, I think the 17-mile trek had humbled me and "gotten my mind right," to paraphrase prison superintendent Strother Martin's admonishment to prisoner Paul Newman in the movie "Cool Hand Luke." In a sense Triangle had "squared me away" in preparation for other climbs in the area. Eagle Peak at 6,909 feet (2,106 meters) is the biggest one I have climbed in the area--but that was also several years ago... and those same three words kept rambling around in my head: "How we forget."



**An old-fashioned hurdy-gurdy.
Photo provided by Brent Voorhees.**

The Hills are Alive...with the Sound of Music

By Frank E. Baker

If you venture into Eagle River's South Fork Valley far enough, and often enough, you might think you hear the sound of music echoing off the mountains, perhaps a Symphony or Concerto, accompanied by the gentle strings of a Harp and the wind-like tones of a Calliope. At the very least, you'll be in the company of peaks and other

natural features named after musical instruments and themes.

If you've ever wondered how the mountains and other natural features of South Fork Valley and the surrounding area got their names, many of them came from MCA members who were among the first to climb the area's peaks and explore its deep canyons.

Thanks to the MCA's Steve Gruhn, here is a summary of how the features were named:

A Cappella Point (5,686 feet/1,733 meters) – Named in the mid-1990s by Richard Baranow and Wendy Sanem, Eagle River climbers and MCA members.

Allegro (5,876 feet/1,791 meters) – Named in the mid-1990s by Richard Baranow and Wendy Sanem.

Calliope Mountain (6,821 feet/2,079 meters) – Originally this was called Icy Peak in the July 1967 *Scree* by Bob Hansen after he made the first recorded ascent with William "Bill" Hauser on June 24, 1967. Hans van der Laan published a map in the March 1969 *Scree* with the present name and it became official through the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in 1969. Other names for the peak before the present name becoming official include Vibrant Mountain, Fugal Peak, La Musica Peak, Sinata, and Syncopation. A calliope is a musical instrument consisting of steam whistles and a keyboard.

Cantata Peak (6,391 feet/1,948 meters) – After making the first recorded ascent with Karen Courtright on August 26, 1967, David Johnston published an article in the December 1967 *Scree* with the name. The BGN made the name official named in 1968. A cantata is a musical composition for singers.

Concerto Peak (5,505 feet) – First named Forgotten Peak by local mountaineer Timothy

Kelley in a register he placed on the summit on June 22, 1991, but the name went unpublished for years. The current name was applied by MCA veteran Thomas Choate in 2000 when he added the name to Imus Geographics' Chugach State Park Map.

Flute Glacier – The name was published on a map prepared by Hans van der Laan and in an article in the March 1969 *Scree*. The name reportedly reflects the music that abounded in the area during the summer of 1968 as both members of the research team headed by Dr. William Long were flutists. That issue of the *Scree* also mentions that the State Geographic Board had already approved the name. The BGN made the name official in 1969.

Flute Peak (6,634 feet/2,022 meters) – Originally called The Little Matterhorn by Bill Hauser in the November 1966 *Scree*, this peak was first climbed by Hans van der Laan and Roelf van der Laan in July 1968. Hans van der Laan gave the peak its present name in an article and accompanying map in the March 1969 *Scree*. The present name reportedly reflects the music that abounded in the area during the summer of 1968 as both members of the research team headed by Dr. William Long were flutists.

Harp Mountain (5,001 feet) – Following the musical theme started in 1932, legendary Alaska mountaineers John V. "Vin" Hoeman and Grace Hoeman named this peak after its shape after they made the first recorded ascent on October 16, 1968. The name was published in the December 1968 *Scree*. The BGN made the name official in 1969.

Hurdygurdy Mountain (5,994 feet/1,827 meters) – The name was published on a map prepared by Hans van der Laan in the March 1969 *Scree* and the same issue of *Scree* indicated that the State Geographic Board had already approved the name. The BGN approved the name later that year. Other variations of the name include Hurdy

Gurdy and Hurdy-Gurdy, which is a stringed musical instrument.

Organ Glacier – Named around 1981, probably after Organ Mountain.

Organ Creek – Probably named after the Organ Glacier.

Organ Mountain (6,980 feet) – Named in 1932 by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) because a line of several high pinnacles on the mountain gave it the appearance from below of an organ.

Piano Point (6295 feet) – Named in the 1990s by Richard Baranow and Wendy Sanem.

Piccolo Point (6,453 feet/1,967 meters) – Named in the 1990s by Richard Baranow and Wendy Sanem.

Staccato Peaks – Named in the mid-1990s by Richard Baranow and Wendy Sanem, Eagle River climbers and MCA members.

Symphony Creek – Probably named after Symphony Lake.

Symphony Lake – Bill Hauser suggested the name in 1967. The BGN made it official in 1968.

Symphony Tarns – Named for their proximity to Symphony Lake.

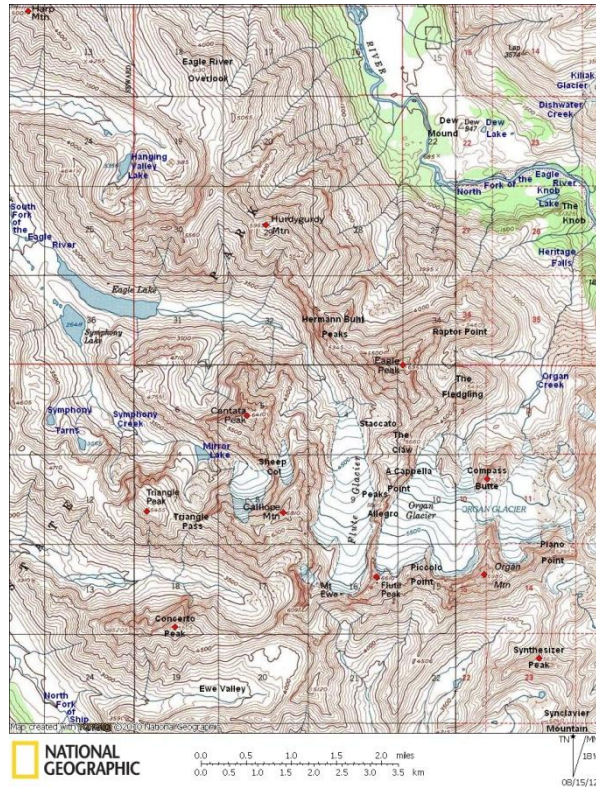
Synclavier Mountain (5,240 feet) – Named by local mountaineer Tim Kelley in an article published in the October 1991 *Scree* after he and Timothy Miller made the first recorded ascent on June 29, 1991.

Synthesizer Peak (5,638 feet) – Named by Tim Kelley in an article published in the October 1991 *Scree* after he and Tim Miller made the first recorded ascent on June 29, 1991. The name was given because it is near to, but smaller than, Organ Mountain.

Triangle Pass – Named after nearby Triangle Peak.

Triangle Peak (5,495 feet/1,675 meters) – The MCA's William Hersman reported in the July 1988 Scree that he had learned in 1986 that locals called it Triangle Peak, after yet another symphonic instrument.

Many folks who frequent the outdoors will agree that in many ways the mountains can weave a unique spell; and sometimes, if you listen hard enough, you might actually hear that magic manifested in the form of music.



Near the top of Grace Ridge, Ben Still reads a map, trying to identify nearby peaks. Photo by Jill Hodges.

Hiking in Kachemak Bay State Park: Grace Ridge

By Ben Still

The morning of August 11, 2012, we wake up from a late night camping on the spit in Homer to find low clouds. Not the ideal time to be heading out across Kachemak Bay to hike around in the mountains, but the forecast is okay, partly sunny with a chance of showers. The three of us meet the water taxi at 10:30 a.m. for a ride to Kayak Beach at the northwest end of Grace Ridge (3136 feet; 956 meters). and before we know it we are jumping off the bow of the boat onto the beach with the sun shining down. Jill Hodges, Julie Perilla, and I are planning on hiking up into the

alpine and spending the night watching the meteor shower, which peaks tonight, and finish hiking down the ridge to Tutka Bay tomorrow.

Hiking this trail through the forest of Sitka spruce, devil's club, and blueberry bushes with the blue ocean below us is reminding me how much I enjoy climbing mountains in southeast Alaska. We pick some blueberries along the way, which really need another week or two before they are all ripe, and watch the views get better and better.

We break out of the trees and follow the trail up to the 1752-foot (534-meter) knob. Here we eat lunch and bask in the amazing sunshine while admiring the four volcanoes of Augustine Volcano, Iliamna Volcano, Redoubt Volcano, and Mount Spurr. Jill spots a black spot moving across the tundra; we zoom in on it with Jill's new super-zoom camera and snap a couple of photos. Of course, we initially think a bear, but upon further review a raven shows up on the camera screen. I thought it looked a little small.



Jill Hodges and Julie Perilla on Grace Ridge with Tutka Bay ahead. Photo by Ben Still.

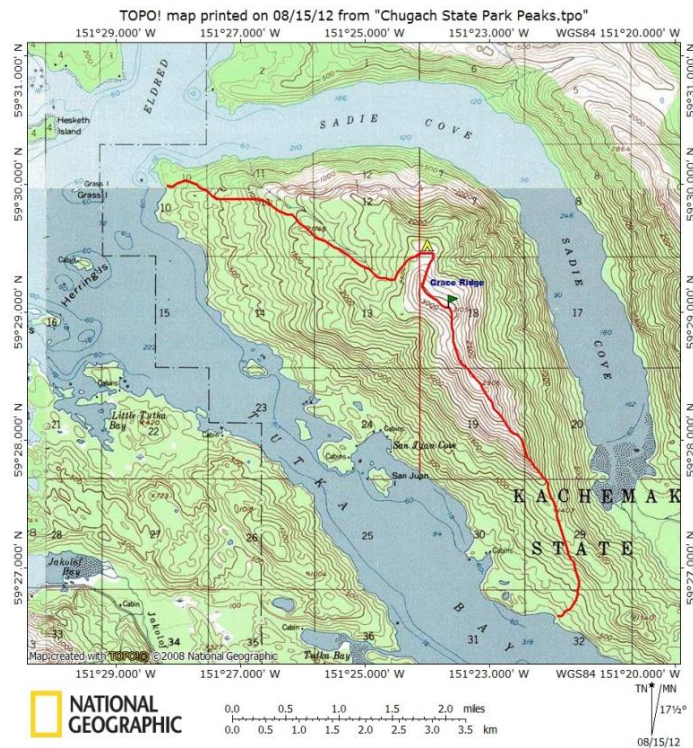
up until 1:30 a.m. while enjoying an amazing sunset and an underwhelming meteor shower – five meteors over the course of three hours.

Morning treats us to another spectacular day of sunshine and warmth. We eat breakfast and break camp and are on our way by 10 a.m. The hike along the narrow ridge is amazing and offers up some spectacular views with Sadie Cove to our east, Tutka Bay to the southwest, and mountains all around. We hike down into the cooler forest where we find some more blueberries to pick and eat.

We arrive at the beach around 3 p.m. with a half hour to spare before our pick-up. We are picked up on time and make it back for a wonderful dinner at a friend's house. This nine-mile ridge hike is an excellent choice if you find yourself heading across Kachemak Bay for the day or as an overnight trip.

We continue up through fields of alpine flowers to 2,600 feet where we decide to make camp for the night. Our campsite looks down on the Homer Spit and out across Cook Inlet toward the volcanoes. While setting up our tents a coyote runs across the slope above us, stopping briefly to gander our way. Since the weather is perfect, we begin the short hike up to the top of Grace Ridge to take in the views in case the weather changes tomorrow. We follow large rock cairns marking the way up to the top. The summit views are amazing with a sea of peaks to the south. Sadie Peak (4320 feet), Broken Knife (3886±15 feet; 1184±5 meters), and Iceworm Peak are a few of the mountains I am able to pick out. We linger here until our stomachs are growling and ready for some freeze-dried greatness.

I fall asleep around 8 p.m. in the tent, figuring I will wake up later for sunset and the meteor shower while Jill and Julie bring sleeping bags outside for the evening. The latter proves to be the better option as I sleep through everything and the gals stay



Ben Still with Grace Ridge in the background. Photo by Jill Hodges.



Jill Hodges and Julie Perilla on Grace Ridge with Iliamna Volcano in the background. Photo by Ben Still.



Grace Ridge as seen while crossing Kachemak Bay. Photo by Ben Still.

Of Love and Glaciers

Some thoughts by Tom Choate, 1992

Throughout human history, there have been two special things: Love and glaciers. Both are all-powerful, and can change the world.

Glaciers are an ongoing force, able to make great changes to the environment. They transform the landscape to one of great variety and ever-changing beauty; Just as love transforms the face of mankind and makes each person it touches into a thing of beauty.

A glacier is ever-young and ever-renewing, as snow falls in the mountains and layer after layer, evolves into new ice. Love is likewise ever-renewing, as young couples discover the most profound of human relationships, and develop the bonds of a lifetime.

As the ice melts, it becomes water, which the glacier yields to the sky and to the rivers. Thus rain and meltwater form and nourish the plants and animals that populate the mountains and valleys nearby. Similarly, the effects of love nourish all living things and bring peace to the earth, not just to the lovers themselves.

Rejoice in the wind-driven rain, for it is not only the life-blood of God's creatures, but it brings wildness to the mountains, and up high its snow feeds and rejuvenates the glaciers.

Bond with the glacier, so enduring and profound, like love itself. May you too be rejuvenated by the wildness, and by love.

Right: Mist rises from Salmon Lake, north of Nome, during an early July sunrise. A nearly full moon lingers over the scene. Photo by Amy Murphy.

The Sound of Sunrise

By Tom Choate, 1999

Resting by the lakeside,
Observing the dusky dawn,
Don't just look, but listen
And feel the shoreline scene.

White mists of morning rise
Out from the waking waters,
Spreading near and far away
To hulking, shadowed hills.

Little waves, rolling ripples,
Whisper to the glistening shore:
Wish, wish, wish, wishing
For the coming sun of day.

The tiny waves are talking,
To the pebbles on the beach,
Asking for some silence
Beneath the brightening sky.

Shh, shh, shh, they say,
The warrior king is coming;
Marching onward to destroy
Our dark and peaceful place.

The legion forests, silhouetted,
Stand ready for the battle,
Their lances clearly showing
Against the glow up high.

The lake is quiet, expectant,
Awaiting the beams of sunlight
That blind the silent armies
And commence the daybreak war.



This photo was taken from the southeast ridge Peak 3390, viewing to the southeast. Will is visible on Willoughby Island. The photo was obtained from the 2004 Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve Vascular Plant Inventory; Final Technical Report (Figure 14; on Page 23).

Peak of the Month: Peak 3390

By Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Saint Elias Mountains;
Fairweather Range
Borough: Unorganized Borough
Drainages: Shag Cove and Whidbey Passage
Latitude/Longitude: 58° 37' 44" North, 136° 17' 10" West
Elevation: 3390 feet
Prominence: 3140 feet from either Blackthorn Peak (4150±50) or Serrated Peak (3757)
Adjacent Peaks: Marble Mountain (3365) and Peak 3128 in the Fingers Bay and Shag Cove drainages
Distinctness: 640 feet from Marble Mountain
USGS Map: Mount Fairweather (C-1)
First Recorded Ascent: 1907 by Fremont Morse

Route of First Recorded Ascent: Eastern aspect
Access Point: Whidbey Passage

Peak 3390 is the 95th-most-prominent mountain in southeastern Alaska.

In 1904 the United States and Canada set out to survey the boundary between Alaska and Canada. In southeastern Alaska the process involved establishing points at intervals some distance from the coast boundary. The line between the points would be the boundary. Several survey parties were sent out to various regions along the boundary. Representatives from both nations were on each survey team of the Alaskan Boundary Survey. Due to the length of the border, the rugged country it crossed, and the short field seasons, the survey teams would take over a decade to complete their work.

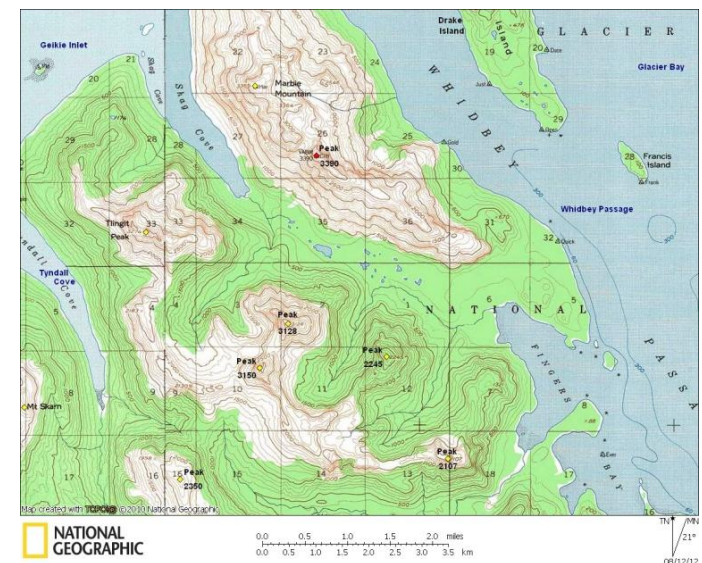
On May 6, 1907, the United States Party at Glacier Bay set out on the steamship *Georgia* from Juneau to Bartlett Cove in Glacier Bay. Fremont Morse (1857-1936) of the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey was the engineer in charge. He led a crew of 17 men, including assistants Lars Netland (1869-1934) and E. R. Martin, and Canadian representative Douglas Henry Nelles (1881-1960) of the Dominion Land Survey. When the party arrived at Bartlett Cove two days later it found several feet of snow at sea level. They started work on establishing survey triangulation stations at lower elevations near tidewater near the southern shores of Glacier Bay. But by the middle of June the party was able to establish a base camp at Hugh Miller Inlet. This base camp was used for the remainder of their field season. North of Willoughby Island, the shores of the bay and islands were found to be bare of vegetation, so wood had to be brought to this base camp from the timbered country to the south.

The summit of Peak 3390 was reached by ascending the east-facing slope west of Drake Island to a succession of small cliffs and then continuing 1.5 miles to the top of the ridge, crossing a ravine where a rope was necessary

to get up the cliff. At the summit triangulation station Cliff was established and was marked with a drill hole in the rock and a 5-foot-high cairn. The peak was selected as a triangulation station for its unobstructed views to Will (1622) on Willoughby Island; Point (3206) north of Glacier Bay; Mount Turner (8730); Mount Fairweather (15300); Mount Root (12860); Mount Lodge (10530); Late (1050±50) in the Klotz Hills; and triangulation stations on Strawberry Island, on South Marble Island, south of Berg Bay, south of Hugh Miller Mountain (2765), and west-northwest of Mount Wright (5139).

Fieldwork for the season ended on September 14 and the party subsequently returned to San Francisco, California.

Information for this article came from pages 302 through 305 and 342 of the International Boundary Commission's Joint Report upon the Survey and Demarcation of the Boundary between Canada and the United States from Tongass Passage to Mount St. Elias, published in 1952 and from E. R. Martin's photographic essay entitled "Marking the Alaskan Boundary," which was published on pages 180 through 189 of the March 1908 *National Geographic*.



**MCA General Meeting Minutes:
August 15, 2012**

Equipment: Contact Tim Silvers to help inspect MCA ropes.

Calendar: Start bringing horizontal photos in September. We'll vote at the October meeting.

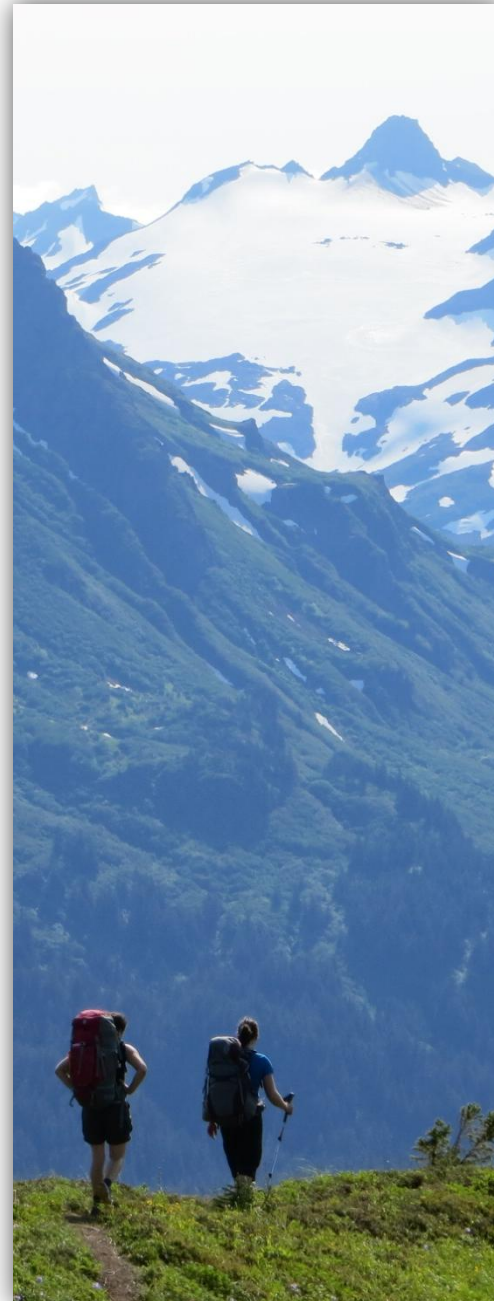
Parks Advisory: The Long-Range Planning Section of the Community Development Department is seeking comments on the Chugach Access Plan Public Hearing Draft and the accompanying suite of amendments. The deadline is August 31, 2012. This is a last chance for public comments. Access points not in the Plan now are unlikely to become one in the future.

Library: Part of MCA's book collection is at REI in a conference room. The room is usually locked unless during a class, but REI staff will open the room upon request if they're available. Three or four volunteers are needed to help inspect, tidy, and rotate the books.

Huts: Need hut maestros. Adopt a hut. One person can't do it all. If you are at a hut and see a repair need, please fix it if your able. Huts are the responsibility of all MCA members. Check website for huts needs inventory. Thanks Vicky Lytle for painting at the Mint hut tomorrow.

Training: Jayme announced the MCA Ice Festival is September 28 through 30. Novices welcome. People will be grouped by ability/experience. Registration starts September 1-2012. Cost is \$75, a bargain. A signup sheet for student and instructor interest is up front. Greg Bragiel announced the summer mountaineering school was a success and again thanked Will Burton and Austin Hess for their help. He also said the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group is starting a training cycle in September.

Slide Show Presentation: Dick Griffith shared stories of his early and more recent rafting adventures. Dick and author Kaylene Johnson signed copies of his biography, "Canyons and Ice."



Jill Hodges and Julie Perilla on Grace Ridge looking toward Peak 4233. Photo by Ben Still.

“Mike Hamill’s consummate coverage of the Seven Summits is far more studied and detailed than anything I could have ever written.”

-Dick Bass, 1st person to climb the Seven Summits



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Mike Hamill

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**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	Tim Silvers	250-3374	Board member	Greg Encelewski	360-0274
Vice-President	Galen Flint	650-207-0810	Board member	Brian Aho	360-4671
Secretary	Mark Smith	868-3155	Board member	Vicky Lytle	351-8246
Treasurer	Randy Plant	243-1438	Board member	John Recktenwald	346-2589
			Board member	Jim Sellers	360-2560

Annual membership dues: Single \$15, Family \$20

Dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the Treasurer at the MCA address at right. 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@mtnclubak.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. Articles should be submitted by the 25th 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@mtnclubak.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.

Mailing list/database entry: Yukiko Hayano and Randy Plant - 243-1438
Hiking and Climbing Committee: Vicky Lytle - hcc@mtnclubak.org
Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008
Calendar: Stuart Grenier - 337-5127
Scree Editor: MCAScree@gmail.com Steve Gruhn (344-1219) assisted by Amy Murphy (338-3979)
Web: www.mtnclubak.org (change your address here)

Mailing list service: MCAK@yahoogroups.com

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