

OCTOBER 1996

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

Volume 39 Issue 10

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday

October 16th, 7:30

Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets
Downtown Anchorage

John Lapkass will show slides
of Pumori and Annapurna South

Election Nominations:

President - need nomination
Vice President - Richard Baranow
Secretary - need nomination
Treasurer - Kirk Towner, Gary Runa
Directors - Wendy Sanem, Dave Storkel, Dawn Groth

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

Nov 10 Ram Valley Climb

Non-technical winter route. Maybe Mt. Raina, Mt. Significant or others, depending on snow and weather conditions. Ice axe required. Snowshoes and/or crampons may be needed. Class D.

Leaders: Peter Clifford 564-5688
Dennis Morford 522-1179

Jan 9-29 Hawaiian Hikes

Classes A, B & C. Several hikes on Kauai and Hawaii (big island). We will be flying to Kauai on Thursday, January 9 and returning from Hawaii on January 29. MCA members may join us for any or all of the activities. Hikes range from a few hours to a few days in length.

On Kauai, we plan to backpack the Na Pali coast, hike along Milolii Ridge, explore areas in and around Waimea Canyon and climb Nonou Mt.

On Hawaii, we plan to climb Mauna Kea, backpack from Waipio Valley with its 1000-foot waterfall, to Waimanu, hike to the Green Sands Beach, see what the volcano is doing, explore the Puna coast, and check out some thermal pools and lava tube caves.

Leader: Curvin Metzler 333-8766

TRIP REPORTS

Hiking McGonagall Pass

by David Hart



McGonagall Pass (elevation 5750 feet) is located in Denali National Park, twenty miles south of Wonder Lake. The first expeditions to Denali used this pass to access the Muldrow Glacier, and the upper mountain. Even today, some hearty souls either begin or end their ascent of Denali on this route.

On July 6th, Jacques Boutet, Jim Renkert and I biked eight miles from our camp in Kantishna, just outside the Park boundary, to the McKinley River Bar Trailhead near Wonder Lake. We started hiking at 8:15 AM, our day packs filled with extra clothes, water and 5000 calories worth of food.

The first three miles of the trail down to the McKinley River Bar (elevation 2000 feet) are well defined, although a bit swampy and buggy in spots. The McKinley River Bar itself is over a mile wide, and the river splits into many channels across the gravel bar. From our reconnaissance the day before, we decided to head upstream to find a suitable place to ford the river. An hour later, we struggled across the final leg-numbing channel, our shoes packed full of gravel and silt. Fortunately, we had managed to find a route that was no deeper than our thighs. We only hoped that when we made our return trip twelve hours later, the water would be no deeper.

We knew the trail to Turtle Hill and McGonagall Pass continued somewhere on the south side of the bar. Fortunately, we only spent fifteen minutes finding it, as some thoughtful person had marked it with a set of caribou antlers. Forty-five minutes later we were on top of Turtle Hill, a popular day hike destination for those hoping for spectacular views of Denali. Not surprisingly, the clouds obscured our summit view this morning. According to the map, we had traveled seven miles in less than three hours. We still had thirteen miles remaining to the Pass. At our current pace, we expected to arrive at our turn-around point by 4:00 PM.

A well worn trail led through the taiga and tundra until we arrived at the ford site of Clearwater Creek, three miles further. After the ford, the trail wound its way up Cache Creek for the remaining ten

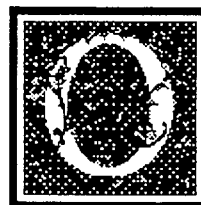
miles to the Pass. Occasionally we would glance over our shoulders, only to see Turtle Hill shrinking in size until it was barely perceptible on the horizon. As we started climbing up to McGonagall Pass, we could once again see Wonder Lake, almost twenty miles behind us. It was sobering to remind ourselves that Kantishna was another eight miles beyond that. We were a long way from home.

At 4:15 PM, after eight hours and twenty miles of hiking, we topped out on the historic McGonagall Pass. We were presented with an amazing view of the Muldrow Glacier, Mounts Brooks, Carpe and Koven, Karstens Ridge and the Pioneer Ridge. Unfortunately, Denali was still shrouded in clouds. To our surprise, we could see two bright yellow tents set up on the glacial moraine, only ten minutes away. When the occupants saw us, they hiked up for a visit, while we rested our weary legs. They were in the middle of a 600-mile, 75-day trek from Tok to Rainy Pass, traversing the Alaska Range from East to West. And we thought we were on a big trip. One of their four-person group got sick three days earlier, so two of them had hiked out to Kantishna two days prior to recover. They were expected to hike back into McGonagall Pass the following afternoon. Apparently, we will be able to read all about their adventures in a future issue of Climbing Magazine.

After an hour rest, we were ready to head back to Kantishna. At 5:15, we put on our daypacks and headed back from whence we came. Six hours later, we crossed the last channel of the McKinley River and finished off our remaining food. Just after midnight, sixteen hours after leaving our bikes, we hopped back on them for the grueling bike ride back to Kantishna. During our eighteen hour absence from camp we had hiked 40 miles, gained over 5000 vertical feet of elevation and biked 16 miles. We were very much ready for a quick snack, and a good night's sleep.

Sunset Pass to Hulahula River Traverse

by Don Hansen



On July 20th five hiker/trekkers: Fred Kampfer, Michelle Potkin, Charles Lane, Tom Green, and Don Hansen were flown via Yukon Air Charter by pilot Don Ross from Arctic Village into the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Because the weather was bad and

the mountain passes were below the clouds we were

dropped off at Red Sheep Creek landing strip on the south side on the range on Saturday hoping to be flown across the mountains the following day to the Schrader Lake area. We set up camp and Tom Green caught some grayling.

Next day Don Ross landed at Red Sheep to fly us to Schrader Lake, north of the Lake to Sunset Pass area or to the Sheenjek River on the south side of the Range if he couldn't get through the mountain passes. We were successful in getting through to the north but could not be dropped off at the Schrader Lake/Sadlerochit River landing strip due to strong west winds, but were dropped off about 15 miles northwest of Schrader Lake, five miles north of Sunset Pass in the Sadlerochit Mountains with a view of the coastal plain and Arctic pack ice from our camp. This change in drop off point resulted in a change of our hiking route with no plans to camp at Schrader & Peter Lakes.

The mosquitoes appeared immediately upon our landing in swarms thicker than any I've ever seen before. Nearly everybody wore headnets while camping and hiking. Michelle and I spent the afternoon and the next day hiking up the ridges near camp and up Weller Creek Valley. We had great views of the coastal plain, Beaufort Sea/Camden Bay and the Arctic pack ice in the distance and spotted a nesting pair of gyrfalcons up Weller Creek Valley. The following day we broke camp and hiked south up through Sunset Pass on dry tundra slopes and gravel bars of the headwaters of Itkilyariak Creek that flows north into the Sadlerochit River. The going was easy, except for the last mile to the Pass where we got our first taste of tussocks and swamp grass meadows. We spotted a young moose heading through an adjacent pass ahead of us.

From the pass we hiked down through heavy patches of tussocks and swamp to the Sadlerochit River which we had to ford. Don Ross warned us not to cross the Sadlerochit above its confluence with the Kekiktuk River which flows out of Schrader Lake due to the speed, and large volume of water coming out of the lakes and the narrow channel of the latter river. However, we did exactly what he warned us not to do. We could not find a safe crossing point below the confluence of these two raging torrents. We successfully crossed the Sadlerochit above the confluence with the Kekiktuk in calm but fast moving water nearly up to our waists. But, as Ross warned us we could not find a safe point to cross the Kekiktuk River. Tired and disappointed we set up camp along this river. The next day was a long one, hiking up mountain slopes through endless meadows of tussocks and swamp grass and near constant harassment by hordes

of mosquitoes and the worry over whether we could find a place to safely cross the Kekiktuk river before it pours out of Schrader Lake. If not, we would have to hike all the way round both Schrader and Peter Lakes adding an extra 20 to 30 miles on to our route to the Hulahula. The going through the tussocks was very slow and we were averaging about five miles per day. At that rate we would never make it in time to our pickup point on the upper Hulahula River. On the bright side, the weather was beautiful, sunny and hot, in the high 70's, with great views of Mounts Chamberlin and Michelson in the distance. After several hours of hard hiking under 60 to 80-pound loads we were all dehydrated and tired and we headed down to the river for water and camp in spite of losing elevation which we had worked so hard for. This descent turned out to be very fortuitous. Our camp site overlooked where the still ragging Kekiktuk River braided into at least six channels that we successfully crossed the following morning.

That crossing was a great relief to me after much worry about having to do a "forced march" around the lakes with no time to enjoy the scenery. After crossing the Kekiktuk River we crossed the adjacent ridge and hiked up the next drainage to the southeast contouring our way along Karen Creek and camping along its bank and in the shadow of Kikiktat Mountain, with views of Chamberlin to the south. Tom had further good luck in catching grayling in this stream. The mosquitoes continued to be a source of harassment and slight nourishment as the hordes swarmed around us while we were cooking and eating. We must have eaten hundreds of them in our food and drinks as they died in the hot water and flew into our food. Relieving one self was best done early in the morning when the temperatures were cooler and the bugs less active.

From Karen Creek we hiked up to a small lake on the ridge overlooking the Hulahula River to the east. Michelle spotted muskoxen grazing along the slopes of Kikiktat Mountain. We took a rest day at the lake and Michelle and Tom went for a hike up Kikiktat Mountain in hopes of seeing the muskoxen and were not disappointed when they counted 25 to 30 oxen below the summit. Under very low clouds and cooler temperatures we hiked down to the Hulahula and crossed Katak Creek, another torrent where it braided into several channels. The next day we began our hike up the Hulahula under very low clouds, rain, wind, and cooler temperatures giving us great insect relief. During the evening after setting up camp one day away from the airstrip on the Hulahula the light rain turned to snow and the following morning we awoke with at least 6 inches of snow on the ground and on our tents converting the landscape into a winter

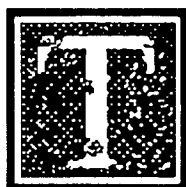


wonderland. The sun kept trying to poke through the low lying and fog of cold air coming off the Arctic pack ice from the north. It was very beautiful as we broke camp after getting into very cold and wet boots and socks for our five to six mile trek to the airstrip. Before reaching the airstrip the snow melted along the river and most of it melted in the adjacent mountain slopes as the sun burned its way through the fog and the clouds lifted and the skies cleared. The winter wonderland of our camp the day before was replaced with the sunny and warm gravel bar along the upper waters of the Hulahula.

The last day before our scheduled pickup was spent drying out gear, short hikes, fishing, warming by a fire built by Fred, and bear and sheep watching. Several sheep were seen on the mountain slopes across the river as well as a pair of frolicking grizzly bears. We also spotted a young grizzly rolling on its back 100 feet from our tents next to Charles' and Tom's cooking site. But this bear was no "camp bear" and it ran off when it spotted us after it stood upright, looking us over and scenting our two-week unwashed bodies. Another larger grizzly came through camp the following morning without so much as a glance our way as it proceeded up the river valley. Don Ross came in Friday evening August as planned so that we could make our connections with Wright Air in Arctic Village for the flight to Fairbanks. It was a more "trying" trip than I expected, but all of us got along very well and had fun experiencing the extremes in weather and bore the insects as best we could. Thanks very much to Fred, Charles Tom, and Michelle, for their senses of humor and support on this great trip.

NNE Ridge of Beelzebub

by Dave Hart



Typhoon Oscar hammered south central Alaska last September, destroying many popular local hiking and biking trails. The Eklutna Lake trail was not spared. The bridges over Bold Creek and both the East and West Forks of the Eklutna River are now gone. In addition, much of the old trail paralleling the Eklutna River flowing from the Eklutna Glacier was destroyed. And finally, the toe of the glacier has changed dramatically since my last visit two years ago. The glacier is in full retreat and access to the ice is literally two or three hundred feet back from where it was two years ago. As a result of these changes, access to peaks on the Eklutna Glacier is now slightly more difficult and time consuming than in past years.

Jacques Boutet, Kirk Towner and I biked around Eklutna Lake on Thursday evening, July 25. Our goal that night was the MCA's Eklutna Glacier hut, Pichler's Perch. Before Typhoon Oscar, one could hustle from the Eklutna Lake parking lot to Pichler's Perch in just under 5 hours. However, the current trail conditions added two hours to our travel time, and we didn't arrive at the hut until 1:30 AM.

"Knock, knock. Is anyone awake in there?" The door was locked from the inside, meaning we were not the only ones seeking shelter this evening.

The loft door opened above our heads. "Dave, is that you? It's me, Evan. And Bethan, too. I thought I was dreaming that someone was at the door. Just a second, and I'll let you guys in." An hour later, we were all sound asleep, hoping for good weather the next day for our attempt on Beelzebub.

By 9:00 AM, the five of us were sharing a hot breakfast, and gearing up for our day's activities. While we ate, Evan and Bethan told us of their past five days on the Eklutna Glacier. Today they hoped to hike up White Lice Mountain while we were on Beelzebub.

Jacques, Kirk and I left Pichler's at 11:00 AM. We made good time hiking up the bare ice of the West Fork of the Eklutna Glacier. At 1:00 PM we had traveled four miles up the glacier, to 4800 feet between Peril Peak and Beelzebub. We roped up here, as the bare ice was now covered by snow, and our intended route passed among some large crevasses. We tip-toed across occasional crevasse bridges and hiked up the glacier towards Beelzebub's NE face, keeping the NNE ridge immediately to our right. At 6200 feet, we reached the bottom of a 300-foot scree gully on our right which we would use to access the upper NNE Ridge.

We unroped, took off our crampons and started up the scree gully at 2:30 PM. Twenty minutes later we were on the NNE ridge proper in a saddle at 6450 feet. Two years ago I had been at this same location, but turned back because the route above looked improbable. This time, we persevered and headed up the notoriously rotten rock. Five or six major gendarmes and gullies were all by-passed on the left (east) side of the ridge. The hardest of these obstacles were the first two gendarmes. After questioning both our sanity and route selection through a particularly loose and steep 100-foot section of the second gendarme, we noticed a rappel station off to our right. Ahh, we were on route. Wendy Sanem and Richard Baranow had descended this route three weeks earlier and described this rappel anchor to us.

It was reassuring that the hardest part of the ridge was now below us.

From here, it was indeed easier, although still very loose. We topped out at 4:30 PM, five and a half hours from Pichler's Perch. We were only the seventh party to sign in to the small metal film canister buried in the summit cairn. Before Richard and Wendy's ascent just three weeks before ours, the last group to sign in was in 1988.

We left the summit at 5:00 PM, and arrived back at Pichler's four hours later. The only notable event of our descent was a minor crevasse fall just before we reached the safety of the bare ice. Jacques had just hopped across what we thought was the last crevasse. All of a sudden he was up to his arm pits in snow. Fortunately, he was able to wiggle out on his own.

A relaxing dinner in the hut was a welcome treat. The next morning we left Pichler's at 11:00 AM, and were back at the Eklutna Lake parking lot by 4:00 PM. Hopefully Chugach State Park will receive some funding to replace the three major bridges along the lake trail. Until then, expect a slightly longer approach to Pichler's Perch and the peaks of the Eklutna Glacier.

Avalanche and Homicide Peaks

by Mark Miraglia



Avalanche Peak lies northeast of Powerline Pass at an elevation of just over 5000 feet. Homicide Peak lies southeast of Powerline Pass at an elevation of 4660 feet. On the 24th of August, Joe Aders, Tom Choate, Kirk Towner, Dave Storkel and I biked out of Glen Alps

parking lot to climb these two peaks.

The day started out with a cloud layer at about 4000 feet at the pass but a high, thin cloud ceiling over Anchorage. The forecast called for clearing in the afternoon. The day was pleasant with no wind and warm temperatures making for a nice bike ride up to the pass.

As we neared the pass the clouds lifted, giving us a view of Homicide Peak. It was decided to climb this first to take advantage of the weather and allow Dave and Kirk to scope out a route up North Suicide. Their

plan was to spend the night at the tarn near the pass and climb North Suicide on Sunday.

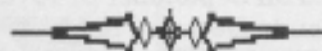
We stashed the bikes just below the pass. Hiking up to there we stopped to grab a snack before heading up further, sheltering ourselves out of the light wind blowing from Indian. Heading onward, we traversed the slope leading to the col at the northwest ridge. The ridge route was straightforward and we traversed around the southwest side of the false summit.

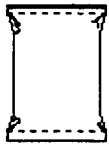
On the summit we had a good view of the sheep trail across the scree slope below the pass just north of North Suicide. The clouds had lifted further, giving good views all around.

We started descending the north face of Homicide behind Tom in an attempt to find the top of an interesting gully route which would make a nice snow climb in late May or early June. Once the top of the gully was found we crossed over to our ascent route and descended from the col straight down to the trail.

Joe had to be back before the rest, so we said good-bye to him and headed up the south face of Avalanche Peak. We gained the ridge about in its middle which made for a short ridge walk to the summit. We arrived there at about 6:00 P.M. There was a light breeze and the temperature had dropped making our stay on the summit long enough to read the register and grab a bite to eat. We descended the ridge and dropped down onto the trail at the pass.

Once back to where we stashed the bikes Tom and I said good-bye to Dave and Kirk, wishing them luck. We headed down the trail on the best part of the bike ride, the descent. We arrived at Glen Alps eleven hours since leaving it. It had been a good day. Good weather, good partners and good peaks. That's what climbing is all about.





Freeze-Dry Order

Once again, the MCA will get out a bulk order to Mountain House for freeze-dry items, well ahead of expedition season. You can save 40% through this one-time offer, not open to individuals. The only catch is that you must order a case at a time of any one item (12 in a case).

I would like to send off the order after the December meeting, so you have two months to decide on your order. Copies of the price list will be at the October meeting. Mark what you want, make out a check to the Mountaineering Club of Alaska (at the case cost), bring both to the November or December meeting and I will distribute the goods at the January meeting. To make this easier for me, I only want to do this at the meetings.

Willy Hersman

Devi Revisited

When I returned to Anchorage and learned about Pia's tragic death, I had a strange feeling of *deja vu*, for I remembered how special Byron peak was for Paul, and how many MCA members have been led there by him. So I did a little research and share this especially for younger members:

Willi Unsoeld, who climbed Everest with the first Americans, was so taken by the Himalayan peak Nanda Devi in 1949 that he resolved to name his daughter after it. In 1976, when Devi was in College, she joined her father in an expedition to climb Nanda Devi. She wrote, shortly before leaving, "I feel a very close relationship with Nanda Devi. I can't describe it, but there is something within me about this mountain since I was born."

Devi died on September 8, 1976, at 24,000 ft. on Nanda Devi and her body was "left with the mountain she loved." Her family sent out a memorial to Devi which contained this poem which Devi had written in 1971:

In the end, it is the land that counts -
be it dry or flooded, fertile or desert,
sandy mountains or blue lake.

The cricks of small-mouthed bass,
the green seas, the red earth,
these are the things that matter.

For I have been given a love of this land,
an insatiable thirst that can never be
slaked.

I wander among the foothills,
across the marbled plains.

I stand upon a wind-swept ridge
at night with the stars bright above
an I am no longer alone

but I waver and merge with all
the shadows that surround me.

I am part of the whole
and am content.

Exactly 20 years later I again revisit these profound words.

Tom Choate

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

Sept 25, 1996

Club members present included James Larabee, Dave Hart, Mark Fouts, Mark Miraglia, Wayne Todd, Aze Azegami, Mike Miller, Julia Moore, Wendy Sanem and Richard Baranow.

Elections

The executive committee nominated several members for office (see front page).

Donation

The executive committee agreed to propose to the Club at the general membership meeting on October 16 that the club should contribute to a memorial at Kincaid Park for Pia Denkwalter.

Club Finances

Aze Azegami presented a profit and loss statement for the Club for 1994, 1995 and 1996 year-to-date. It shows 64% of the club's revenue comes from membership, 25% from the events (e.g., Ice Climbing School) and the remainder from miscellaneous sources. Postage and events accounts for over 50% of the Club's expenses, with a dozen other miscellaneous items making up the balance. The Executive Committee plans to develop a budget for the Club for 1997 that will improve use of resources.

Transition to Newly Elected Executive Committee

Mark Fouts will provide the newly elected Executive Committee with a document that explains club processes so



the new officers and directors can better understand how they can help keep the club progressing.

Bulk Freeze-dried Purchases

A bulk order for freeze-dried food will be offered in the near future. Details will be in Scree.

Honorary Membership Committee

The Executive Committee would like the Honorary Membership Committee to provide the Executive Committee a current list of the honorary members and provide a list of possible candidates.

Ice Climbing School - Instructor Fees

Some members felt the instructors should pay the camping fee to help raise money for the Club. After much discussion, it was decided that the instructors are already providing a couple days of their time and should not have to pay the camping fee. Furthermore, the Committee felt that the primary purpose of the Ice Climbing School is to provide training — not to raise funds.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Fouts

SEPTEMBER MEETING

There were more than a dozen visitors, and total attendance was more than 70.

TREASURY REPORT

Money Market:	3951.58
Checking:	1986.22
Petty cash:	<u>62.00</u>
Total in treasury:	\$5999.80

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hiking & Climbing

Mark Fouts announced that the summer trips have been successful and if members are interested in winter trips, to let him know.

Huts

Chairperson Mark Miraglia requested members visiting huts to record the model number of the stoves and lanterns (other than the Dnigi, Mint and Bomber). The Mint Hut also needs a 3-pound fire extinguisher.

Parks Advisory

Scott Bailey announced that a Federal tax on recreational equipment is being proposed to fund trails and back country programs.

History

All but 1 of 38 years of Screens have been reviewed and a draft database of Scree data should be completed by November.

Training

Nick Parker described the September 28 Ice Climbing School. The fee is \$25, and a meeting will be held September 26 to prepare for the school.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

In preparation for club elections next meeting, Mark Fouts described the responsibilities of each office and accepted nominations. Wendy Sanem and Dave Storkel were nominated for Directors. There were no nominations for the officers. Members interested in running for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or Director should contact the current officers and discuss the responsibilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Flanum announced the draft guidebook should be available this winter.

How many Chugach Mountains can you climb in a summer? Ask Wendy Sanem and Richard Baranow. For the 30 MCA members who watched the full 2-hour slide show, Wendy and Richard detailed route after route on some of the more challenging western Chugach Mountains: Beelzebub, Kiliak, How many Chugach Mountains can you climb in a summer? Ask Wendy Sanem and Richard Baranow. For the 30 MCAMembers who watched the full 2-hour slide show, Wendy and Richard detailed route after route on some of the more challenging western Chugach Mountains: Beelzebub, Kiliak, Old Soggy, Organ, Eagle, Flute, Ewe, Calliope, Cantata, Pioneer, Hurdygurdy, Yukla, and more. Thanks a lot for sharing the summer some of us wished we had!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark Fouts

ADZE



Slide Show
Lynn Hill will be giving a slide show at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium,, UAA, on October 22 at 7:30 PM.

Partners Wanted
Looking for people to ice and rock climb, hike, and ski
Call Denise 338-2238

For Sale
Silvretta 404 AT bindings on Fischer 195 cm skis. \$225
North Face Westwind 2-Man Expedition Tent. \$225
Titanium ice screws (brand new). 5 for \$45
Call Dave 338-0554



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 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 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 by MCA Board, February 1995

General Rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips

1. Proper equipment follows this list.
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 the MCA Sanctioned trip.
4. 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.
5. 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. Bring your MCA membership card to show the trip leader that you have signed.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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
9. 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 by MCA Board, February 1995

Equipment

<u>Summer</u>		<u>Additional for Glaciers</u>
Raingear that works	Ace bandage	Ice axe
Windgear	Surgical tape	Gaitors
Wool or fleece pants	Aspirin	Climbing boots
Shorts	Gauze	Slings, carabiners
Light longjohns	Anti-bacterial ointment	Rappel device
Wool shirt	4" x 4" pads, band-aids	Belay device
Jacket	Wire	Rope
Baseball cap	Vice grips or pliers	Wands
Gloves	Utility cord	Mittens
Extra socks	Sewing kit	Crampons
Wool or pile hat	Tent	Seat Harness
Hiking boots	Sleeping pad	Ice screw(s)
Stream-crossing footwear	Sleeping bag	Pulleys
Sunscreen	Backpack cover	Prussiks/ascenders
Mosquito repellent	Cook pot	Glacier glasses/cream
Whistle	Stove (fires not allowed)	
Large plastic bag	Fuel bottle	If snow on glacier:
Lighter, matches	Walking stick or ice axe	Picket
Map, compass	Water bottles (not	Skis or snowshoes
Aerosol bear repellent	canteens)	
Moleskin	FOOD	

Winter

Windgear	Repair kit
Wool/fleece pants	Tent (or snow shelters)
Wool/fleece shirt	Sleeping bag
Longjohns	Sleeping pad
Down jacket	Large cook pot
Wool/fleece hat	Stove
Face mask	Windscreen for stove
Mittens	Fuel bottle
Double boots	Thermos
Avalanche beacon	Gaitors
Shovel	Thermometer
Lighter	Skis or snowshoes
Headlamp	
First aid kit	

Approved by MCA Board, February 1995

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.
4. Leaders on trips which may involve any avalanche-prone terrain must have passed formal avalanche training approved by the Hiking and Climbing Committee.
5. Leaders on trips which involve any hazardous stream crossings must have either formal training in safe stream crossing methods or have extensive experience crossing streams.

Approved by MCA Board, February 1995

Leader Guidelines

1. Must follow the general rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips.
2. Must have a sign-up sheet with all participants' names on it.
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 MCA Board, February 1995



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 and not limitation, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; being struck by 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 any and all risks of injury, death, or property damage that may occur in connection with any MCA activity, including use of MCA furnished equipment and use of 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 or my fellow participants in MCA activities. 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.

_____ (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 may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of injury, death, or property damage suffered by me, or suffered by someone else as a result of my conduct.

_____ (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 CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A BINDING, LEGAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ME AND THE MCA AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 19): _____

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

OFFICERS

President	James Larabee	522-3854
Vice-President	Dave Hart	338-0554
Secretary	Mark Fouts	248-0048
Treasurer	Wendy Sanem	345-1500

BOARD

Julia Moore	243-6521
Mark Miraglia	338-0705
Aze Azegami	266-9249
Wayne Todd	522-6354
Mike Miller	243-6521

Annual membership dues: Single \$10.00 Family \$15.00

Dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the treasurer at the MCA address. Please sign and mail the club waiver found on the reverse side of this page and include it and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to receive your card.

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 my address at 3051 Elderberry Dr., Wasilla, Alaska 99654. Articles should be received by the 25th of the month for the following month's issue. Computer diskettes are encouraged; they save typing time (DOS or Mac).

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...
Willy Hersman, Editor, 373-4734.

MAILING: Sheila Sasek

HIKING & CLIMBING CHAIR: Mark Fouts, 248-0048



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