



MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

BOX 102037

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510

NOVEMBER 1989

Volume 32, Issue 11

NOVEMBER MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the MCA will be held Wednesday, November 15th, 7:30 pm, at the Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd and Eagle Sts., downtown Anchorage. After the business meeting there will be a slide show presented by Bill Wakeland on the summer MCA trip to Katmai National Park.

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

November 23-26 THANKSGIVING AT MINT GLACIER

Ski trip for the holiday to the Mint Hut and glacier. 9 miles in on Thursday, stay at the hut until Sunday. No special glacier gear needed, but skis and skins are recommended; be prepared for cold. Bring extra fuel for the lanterns and stove. Call leader about meeting time and whether food will be coordinated or not.

Class C.

Leader: Neil O'Donnell 274-5069

December 8-10 MANITOBA MT.

First annual MCA trip to Manitoba Cabin, near Summit Lakes. The cabin has been reserved for Friday and Saturday night. Each person using the cabin needs to contribute \$5.00 to the Nordic Ski Club via the leader (others can use tents.) Great skiing and a sauna. Contact leader, please. Class A.

Leader: Neil O'Donnell 274-5069h 276-1700w

16-17 ICE CLIMB AT EKLUTNA

Many waterfalls, from easy grade II to hard grade V. Access around Eklutna Lake by snowmobile and skis. Go in early Sat., come out late Sun. Pick your own partners before going.

FIFTH CLASS. Not a school.

Leader: Mike Miller 345-5718

23-24 ANNUAL FLATTOP SLEEPOUT

Help maintain a club tradition. Come see the Northern Lights, listen to the wind, peer into the fog, jump in the sack.

Be prepared for cold and wind. No leader. Class B.

23 NORTH FORK CAMPBELL CR.

Ski up North Fork, cross pass and down Middle Fork, from Prospect Hts. Skins and metal edges recommended. Headlamp required.

About 8-9 hours. Class C.

Leader: Alan Julliard 243-3816

TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS

The classifications below do not consider 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 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 hike 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 per day for an overnight trip. Peaks in this classification may require minimal climbing skills.

CLASS E: Hazardous climbing 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, ice axe and crampon skills are required. Basic understanding of ice and snow anchors may be required.

FIFTH CLASS: Trips which may 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, March 1987

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 showing competence in the opinion of the leaders of those hikes, or equivalent experience acceptable to the Hiking and Climbing Committee.

LEADER GUIDELINES:

1. Follow the general rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips.
2. Must have a sign-up sheet with all participants' names on it and turn it in to the Hiking and Climbing Committee at the end of the trip.
3. Must select a meeting time and place and disclose this information 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.
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, March 1987

TRIP REPORTS

Denali National Park, Off-Road

Kathy Burke

I'll bet the last time most of you were at the Park was when friends or relatives were visiting and you all took a bus into the park. I have nothing against the buses, at least they save some of the plants and animals from some of the humans. Denali can be a most magical place, so one Friday afternoon I drove up to the park to meet Linda White. About 5:00 pm, she found me in the gift shop (let no souvenir shop go unfavished by KB!) We headed for the ranger program in the hotel auditorium and Linda filled me in on the highlights of her previous two days. She had hiked up Stony Hill one afternoon and on a hike up to Mt. Wright, when she stopped for lunch, a band of six Dall sheep rams came to within thirty feet fo her and layed down.

After the hotel ranger program we headed for the Riley Creek Campground, where we planned out the next day. Planning was limited because much of the park

was closed to hiking due to a campsite-marauding bear. We caught an early bus to Eielson, and saw caribou, Dall sheep, golden eagles, and Mt. McKinley, but the people on the bus were more fun to watch than the wildlife. We hiked up the ridge across the road from the Visitor Center and then followed the ridgetop west, taking in views of the Kantishna Hills and Moose Cr.

Heading down to the road, we had to scout out several routes. The road was cut into the side of the mountain and there were many places you would hike down and then there would be a 15-foot drop down to the road. We finally got down to the road only to discover we were several miles from the Visitor Center, and had to hurry back to catch a bus that would get us back in time to play ranger program roulette. On the bus ride we saw three grizzlies, one asleep in a dry riverbed.

Up at 5:30 the next day, we drove to Savage River Bridge and parked there and then rode a bus to where we saw two caribou bulls sparring with their antlers. Off the bus, we hiked up the Mt. Margaret end of Primrose Ridge. We hiked uphill in a heavy sprinkle that made beautiful rain-music on our packs, and there were lots of blueberries and rocks with beautiful multi-colored bands. Near the top the clouds started rolling in and out so we took a compass reading towards the road, sure would hate to go down the wrong side of the mountain! The top is huge and flat, and the rain was trying to turn into snow as we hiked around looking for Dall sheep rams. There were about twenty in Savage River Canyon. While hiking towards the other end of the ridge, the clouds lifted and we had a great view of the rolling hills north of the park.

We explored beautiful rock outcroppings and saw ten rams resting and munching. We hiked closer and sat down to do a little resting and munching ourselves. The clouds moved in and the wind and rain picked up so we headed down. Anyway, I guess the point of the story is - get off the bus and explore those areas not seen from the road and get a whole new, more magical feeling for Denali National Park.

ADZE

Classic Mountain Bike For Sale :

Novara Outback II

18" Frame

Double-buttet chrome moly frame

15 speed

Suntour package

Cantilever brakes, rear rack, nylon toe clips, water bottle, pump

Silver

Good condition

\$200

Bike roof rack: La Prealpina

Holds 3 bikes, must have rain gutters

\$75.00

John or Marcy Baker 274-0105h 272-1811w

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was held on at the Pioneer School House on the 18th. V.P. Jerry Minick ran the meeting in lieu of President John Baker, who was on vacation with his in-laws, Jim and Tammy. They toured Jim's new home, the jail. Elections took place and there was a modest gear swap.

Treasurer's Report:

Petty cash	- \$ 52.10
Checking	- 1524.96
Money market	- <u>3797.41</u>
Total	- \$5347.47

Committees :

Training - The climbing wall has slipped back a few steps to liability. Three subcommittees are actively involved in the wall. Todd Miner asked the club for a resolution to ask the University of Alaska to locate the wall there. A motion regarding this was passed. Liability was explained to some curious members.

Huts - Gretchen Staeheli encouraged folks who might use the Mint Hut to be so kind as to take some dearly needed materials for future repairs. The t-shirt sale has netted over \$300 so far, and the mugs did well too. Applause from the members. Dave Staeheli will have a fundraiser in November by showing slides of his Winter ascent of the West Rib on Denali. The \$4.00 cost will go to the MCA. Folks were encouraged to attend the Hut Committee meetings.

Old Business :

none.

New Business :

The Primrose Trail , access to Lost Lake, is in danger of getting bulldozed by a miner, who has jurisdiction rights to build a road to his claim. People were asked to voice their opinions against such development in order to preserve the trail. Contact the Seward Ranger Station. Oddly enough, the right of way to the claim has been in existence for years before the present trail became popular. At present there is a question if the yield would be enough to justify destruction of the trail. Please make your comment. (Editor's note: Access to Lost Lake at the south end was closed by property owners in 1987. If the Primrose Trail goes we may have to rename Lost Lake to Lost Access). Bill Wakeland discussed the state of Ship Creek Trail . Members of the Scottish Ladies Climbing Club sent us a small donation for use of the Mint Hut, which they visited this summer.

Announcements :

Mike Miller tried to drum up interest in conducting a winter mountaineering class, anyone interested should contact him. Willy reminded members of available avalanche beacons. John Baker left a letter thanking those who helped the club during the past year. The American Alpine Club meeting will be delayed.

Election results (all by acclamation):

President: Neil O'Donnell
Vice President: Alan Julliard
Secretary: Dan O'Haire
Treasurer: Vicki Jorgensen
Directors: Mike Miller
Tom Brigham
Todd Miner (one year)

The new President announced that an informal meeting would take place after the regular meeting at Simon and Seafort's, I beleive he is a stockholder there.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pete Sennhauser

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

November 1 at Neil's house:

1. Review of duties of the new officers.
2. Suggestions for MCA trips.
3. Hut Committee reported \$750 profit so far on t-shirts and mugs. There was a request for more material donations.
4. \$1200 authorized for more shirts, which will have a different design.
5. \$50 authorized for an MCA display to be placed at REI through November, then used at future functions.
6. Christmas party discussed.
7. Mike Miller volunteered to chair the Training Committee. Tom Brigham volunteered for chairman of the Hiking and Climbing Committee.
8. Hot Line discussed and usefulness questioned. Presently paying \$21/month.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan O'Haire

HUT MATERIALS WISH LIST

The following is a list of materials needed to build the Mat. Glacier and Bomber huts. Contact Gretchen Staeheli 344-3986, if you can donate anything.

lumber:

1/2" plywood	visqueen
1/4" plywood	metal roofing
1x4a	caulking
1x6s	lantern
2x6s	stove
2x4s	
4 windows - thermopane, various sizes	fire extinguisher
insulation	flat-blade shovel
door and jam	broom and dust pan
door knob	dish pan
door hinges	benches
hammer	saw
screw driver	tin snips

The following have been donated by:

2x4s - Paul Berryhill
nails and screws - Mike King and Claire Lowber
windows and insulation - Dave and Gretchen Staeheli
Paint - Gretchen Staeheli
siding - Neil O'Donnell
insulation - Willy Hersman

CLIMBING WALL

Todd Miner

The Climbing Wall Committee met before the October MCA meeting to discuss latest developments. Parks and Rec yanked us from the Parks Advisory Board agenda so we were not able to get the Board's approval. After approval in the Department at two levels, we are forced to start over. We expect to hear more from them later.

Meanwhile, a new possibility for locating the wall at the University (the Committee's first choice) has opened. It will take some time to ascertain whether permission will be granted.

While all this is going on, the Committee is proceeding areas where action is possible. Three sub-committees will divide the work. Design, led by Grant Walker (561-5535) will do what it can in preliminary design. Operations, led by Paul Denkwalter (272-1811), will formulate use, safety, and scheduling plans. And Access, led by Patrick Rhinehart (563-2658) and myself will concentrate on finding a home for the wall. We are looking for any and all help on the wall.

Next meeting will be just before the November MCA meeting at the Pioneer Schoolhouse at 6:00. Please join us.

YOUR DUES ARE COMING DUE SOON

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The December meeting is very close to Christmas this year and the board decided it would be nice to have another potluck event. The meeting will be held at Russian Jack, at the Sports Chalet, Wednesday night as usual, but at 7:00 pm instead of 7:30. There will be a slide show consisting of members' slides of their favorite recent trips and Alan Julliard has promised a film. There will be some food provided by the club as in the past but the majority will be brought by you. We'll use the first letter of your last name to sort of prevent duplication (more about that in the December issue).

Bring your skis for the lighted trails and sleds for the toboggan hill. This may be one of the last chances to use the chalet for a while, since the city budget threatens to close it down.

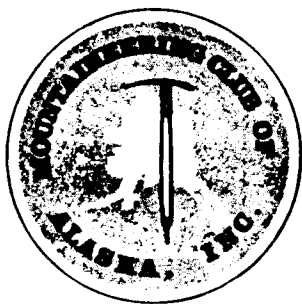
WINTER MOUNTAINEERING CLASS

Mike Miller is coordinating a one-day seminar for December 2nd, a Saturday. The class will go to O'Malley Peak and work on snow-climbing techniques, i.e. self-arrest, snow anchors, belays, step-kicking, slope stability evaluation, etc. This is for beginners, who are asked to bring an ice axe, a harness or sufficient webbing (25-30'), a carabiner or two, stiff boots (preferably plastic), and warm clothes and thermos. Mike is the Training Committee Chairman, and expects to work out some kind of regular training schedule for 1990. If you have any ideas for classes, or want to volunteer to teach, give him a call. 345-5718.

.....

Men and women climb mountains for the same reason that they blast off in rockets to the moon, launch poems and prayers at the stars, send symphonies of thought, music, mathematics, and fiction into the deepest reaches of the human soul. Because...it's something to do. Because there's nothing better to do. Because of all our terrors none is more terrible than boredom. Anything, anything rather than that!

--Edward Abbey



NEW OR RENEWAL
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIPS
EXPIRE IN
DECEMBER -
RENEW FOR
1990
NOW!

Box 102037 Anchorage, Alaska 9

Annual membership dues are \$10 for an individual, \$15 for a family. Check should be made payable to the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc. Any individuals who intend to participate in MCA outings must complete the release on the back side of this form.

NAME: _____

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS (must also complete release form):

YOUR MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

INTERESTS (check appropriate box or boxes):

- day hikes
- ski trips
- overnight backcountry trips
- technical climbs (requires basic mountaineering skills including proficiency with ice axe and rope)
- instructional classes, including for rock climbing, ice climbing and glacier travel
- others, please list:

NUMBER OF MCA OUTINGS YOU PARTICIPATED IN DURING 1989: _____

Please send the completed form (front and back !!!) and check to the MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA, BOX 102037 ANCHORAGE ALASKA 99510. Membership cards can be picked up at the monthly meeting. If you wish to receive your card in the mail, please include a stamped, self-addressed, envelope.

REMEMBER TO ATTEND THE MONTHLY MEETING AND SLIDE SHOW, THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH !!!

Release of Liability Agreement

I, _____, am aware that mountaineering sports (including rock, snow and ice climbing, mountaineering 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 have full knowledge of the dangers involved, and agree to accept any and all risks of injury or death that may occur.

_____ (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, certain legal rights which I may have in the event I become injured or killed while participating or receiving instructions in mountaineering sports with MCA. I am giving up my legal rights against MCA and my fellow participants in MCA activities. As used in this Agreement, the word MCA shall mean the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc., and all of its leaders, instructors, guides, assistant guides, officers, and directors.

_____ (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 MCA or my fellow participants in MCA activities for injury, death or damage to me or my property 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 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 damage to me 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 costs and expenses, including attorney's fees and court costs, that MCA may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of injury, death or damage to me or to 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 MCA. I also understand and agree 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 understand that the MCA requires that I execute this Agreement as a condition of participating in mountaineering sports with MCA. I also understand that all the terms of this agreement are binding upon me, my relatives, heirs, dependents, and/or personal representatives.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A BINDING, LEGAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ME AND MCA AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

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

Accepted for MCA by: _____ Dated: _____

SLIDE SHOW
of
**THE FIRST SOLO WINTER ASCENT OF
MCKINLEY'S WEST RIB**

DAVID STAEHELI: *World class climber and chief guide for Genet*

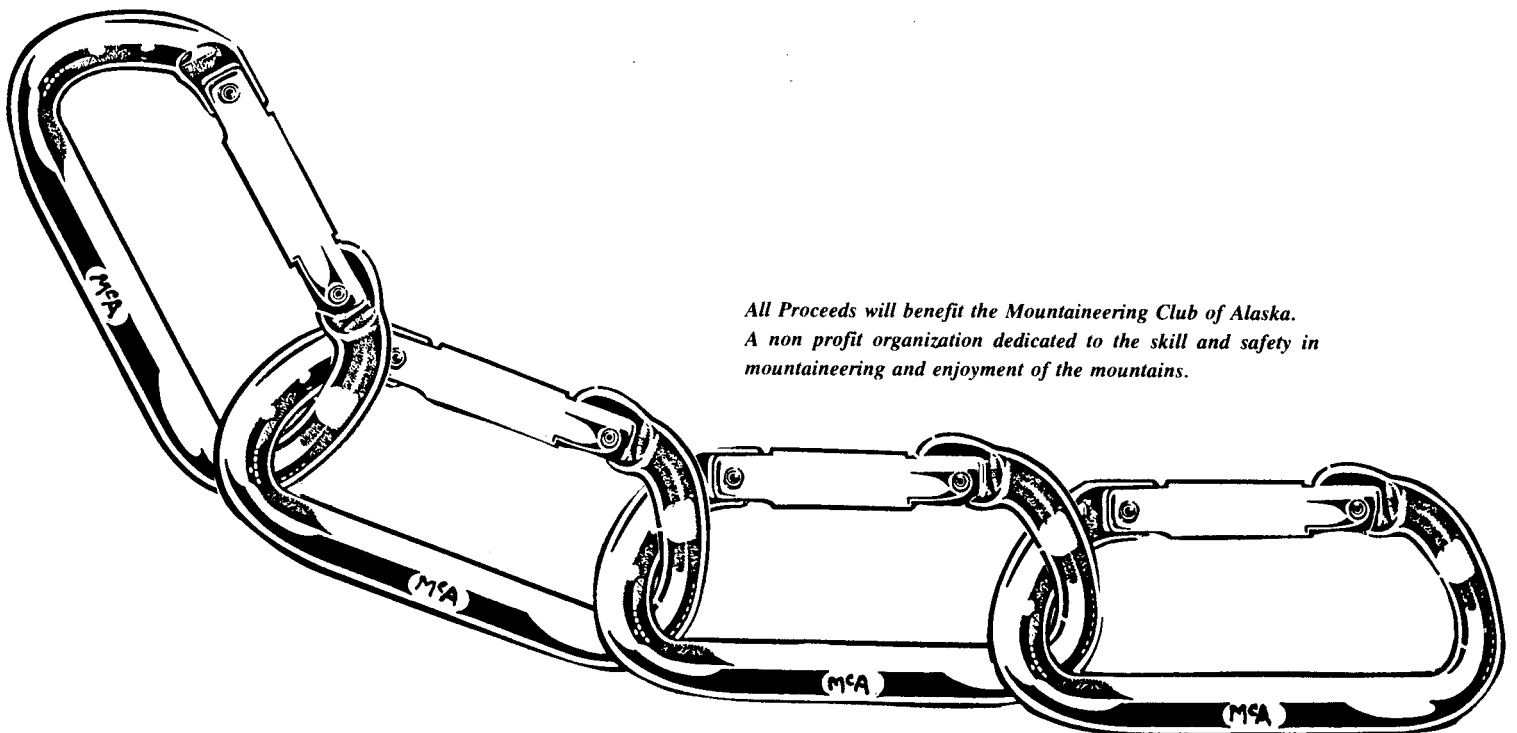
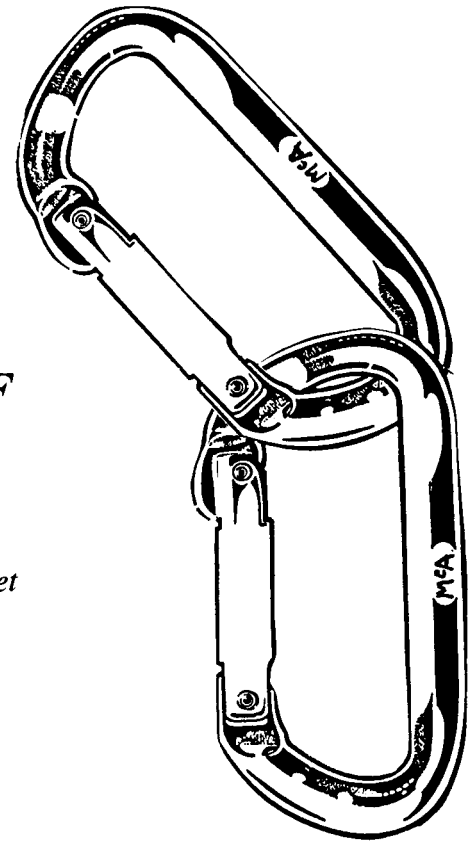
*Expeditions will narrate a slide presentation of
his 1989 solo winter ascent of Denali's West Rib.*

*This is the first solo winter ascent of a technical
route on the McKinley massif, and only the 3rd.
successful solo winter ascent of the mountain.*

November 30, 1989 7:30 p.m. Providence Hospital Auditorium

Admission: \$4.00

(Lower level)



*All Proceeds will benefit the Mountaineering Club of Alaska.
A non profit organization dedicated to the skill and safety in
mountaineering and enjoyment of the mountains.*

