

the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

November 2010
Volume 53 Number 11

Give me a fast ship,
For I intend to go in harm's way.
~ John Paul Jones



Monthly Meeting
Wed, November 17th @ 6:30 PM
Program: Ralph Tingey presents rock climbing and
canyoneering in the Southwest with some
of climbing's famous personalities

Peters Peak
Peak Bagging in Prince William Sound
Rubbletop Redux
Mists of Montana (Peak)
POM – Table Mountain

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

www.mcak.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 3rd Wednesday of the month at the BP Energy Center, 900 East Benson Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska

www.akpeac.org/conference/BPEC_map_06-04-03.pdf

Cover Photo: Vicky Lytle on Peters Peak. Tom Dolan Photo

Article Submission:

Text/video/photography submissions for the Scree can be sent as attachments to mcascree@gmail.com. Do not submit material in the body of the email. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. If you have a blog or website, send us the link. Cover photo selections are based on portraits of human endeavor in the outdoors.

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

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Hiking and Climbing Schedule

November 12, Backcountry ski trip to Williwaw Lakes
10 to 12 miles round trip, Glen Alps Trailhead at 9 AM
Leader: Tom Dolan, let him know by Thursday Night if you are planning to come. 223-1308, paradox@gci.net

November 20, Technical ice climbing trip in the North Fork of the Eagle River

Valley, Echo Bend - Sprucepitch and Hollow Icicle depending on conditions. Check out www.alaskaiceclimbing.com for specific route information. Distance: 6 miles round trip. Skiing is encouraged if conditions permit. Prior climbing experience is required and you must bring your own climbing partner. Trip is limited to 12 participants. BYOB and a snack as there will be a post-ice-climbing party at Richard's. Contact trip leader a minimum of 24 hours in advance for more information. Trip Leader: Richard Baranow at 907-694-1500 or eralpineguides@mtaonline.net (he doesn't check e-mail daily).

Snowbird Hut Fundraiser

Climbers Angie Payne and Jason Kehl will host a multimedia presentation featuring their bouldering and climbing at the Bear Tooth Theater Pub on Wednesday, December 1st 8:00 pm. Tickets \$10.00 with proceeds going toward the Snowbird Hut. Contact Alaska Rock Gym with any questions. 562-7265

Geographic Names

At its July 8, 2010, meeting, the Domestic Names Committee of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names made official the descriptive name Slope Mountain for a 4010-foot peak in the Sagavanirktok River and Toolik River drainages of the Endicott Mountains in the North Slope Borough. - Steve Gruhn

Peters Peak

by Vicky Lytle, Tom Dolan, and Lee Whitten

Taking advantage of a good weather forecast, Tom Dolan, Lee Whitten, and I set out for a four-day trip in early May. We headed up through Ram Valley, over Bombardment Pass, and camped a short distance above Peters Creek. The weather was warm for that time of year, and there were still lots of snow patches down low. Although originally planning to climb Bellicose Peak, we could see Peters Peak – our eventual destination. The next day we climbed up and set up camp on top of Rumble Pass. We arrived early afternoon, and had a spectacular view of The Shroud, and the north ridge heading toward Bellicose.

We studied what we could see of the route up Bellicose. It was a nice sunny day and we planned an early dinner and early start the next day. Soon we heard an avalanche, and looked up to see it coming down the face, with the debris falling off the cliffs above the Wall Street Glacier. Soon, another slide followed, then another and another. By mid



afternoon the slides were almost continuous, not only coming off Bellicose, but also many of the surrounding peaks. The warm, sunny spring weather had triggered a multitude of wet snow slides. Our planned departure time for the next day shifted earlier and earlier, and we started discussing alternative climbs. Clearly this was not a good time for our chosen climb.

By the next morning we had shifted our goal to Peters Peak. Right next to Rumble

Pass, we had seen a route that had little to no snow to slide on us. We headed downhill slightly, and tried to head up a couple of steep, loose, icy gullies before finding one that that allowed us to gain the ridge heading southeast towards the summit. Crampons helped edge on the loose rocks, and we gingerly climbed up a narrow gully, tending to the right. We reached the ridge and followed it toward the summit. The final 60 meters was a knife blade snowy ridge. While not technical, the steep drop on both sides made us pause and rope up. A single 4th-class pitch led to a tiny single-person point. Pickets and slings around large boulders were the only protection available.



On the descent we reversed the 4th-class ridge, and then descended down the southwest face. After climbing down a slightly loose, rocky slope for about 50 feet, we continued down a steep snow-covered slope, where we continued downclimbing and traversing to the east. As the angle eased we continued to plunge step or glissade until we were able to wrap easily back toward the west to the route we had climbed the day before, and back up to our camp in Rumble Pass.

That evening the good weather deteriorated, and we were awake much of the night wondering if our pyramid tent would stand up to the wind. Early the next morning we decided to forego a hot breakfast due to the weather and broke camp quickly. We hiked out, retracing our steps, stopping briefly at Peters Creek for our morning coffee. The weather improved considerably during the day, and by the time we walked down Ram Valley, we had stripped off our Gore-Tex and were once again enjoying a partly sunny day. Little did we know this would be one of the best weather weekends of the entire summer!

The Downfall of the Flies

An odd thing happened during the weekend; we noticed that the snow around Rumble Pass became covered with dead fly-like creatures (see photo). These weren't there when we first arrived, and appeared within a few hours. We suspect that this massive demise was somehow related to the fire that started around Eklutna during the



weekend. Perhaps the warm air transported these insects up and toward us (we could smell the fire). They died and fell as they go to the higher elevations – either due to cooling, or asphyxiation.



Hail Mary Peak Bagging in Prince William Sound

by Tim Kelley



Tim Kelley on the Summit. Looking Northeast toward Saddle and Eshamy Peaks.

In the game of football, a Hail Mary pass is a risky and desperate attempt to score a touchdown. The quarterback throws the ball as high and as far as possible and prays that it will be caught in the end zone by a teammate.

I never thought that the Hail Mary football concept would apply to peak bagging in Prince William Sound. But the endless, record-setting rains of summer 2010 changed my views. This summer a record was set of 31 days of continuous rain. And the weather on either side of this wet block was nothing to be impressed with either. Basically, if you wanted to climb in clear weather in Prince William Sound this summer you had to align your trip with the

very few days of partial clearing that came through the area. In other words, you had to anticipate the arrival of the Hail Mary weather pass and be ready in the end zone to catch it.

Such was the case on July 22nd. The National Weather Service was predicting a rare 12-hour stretch of “zero-percent chance” of precipitation the next day. There was a remote peak down by Jackpot Bay that I wanted to get up, so I convinced my wife, Tammy Thiele, to come with me

and we’d give it a try. Apparently a clear weather pass was going to be thrown by the weather quarterback. It was time to get in position and try to catch it!

Tammy Thiele heading up Peak 3050, Saddle Peak in the Distance.



Tammy Thiele on the Summit. Jackpot Bay and Chenega, Knight and Montague Islands in the distance.

In a steady rain we boated out of Whittier, off on a 60-mile trip to Jackpot Bay, near the east side of the Sargent Icefield. Travel was quite slow as we end-ran some rain squalls that were blocking our route and had to rely on radar to crawl through patches of heavy fog and rain. We finally made it to Jackpot Bay, anchored in driving rain in the northwest cove and went to sleep hoping the morning would bring the predicted clear weather. But by now we were having our doubts about the next day’s weather forecast. Around 5 a.m. I awoke and looked out the boat window. It was here! The clear weather window had arrived. It was time to take advantage of this gift before it was gone.



Pausing before the Summit. Tammy Thiele with the Princeton Glacier in the Background.

We got our gear together and headed off toward Peak 3050 (lat.: 60.39491° North, long.: 148.28976° West), about 4 ½ miles to the northwest. Peak 3050 does not rise up quickly from the shore, so we knew we were in for a doubling or so of the average amount of bushwhacking in this area.

By linking bear trails, bogs and steep spruce stands we got up to the cliff zone. It seems like a lot of peaks in this area of Prince William Sound have a crux cliff zone just before the alpine tundra line. And the thing with these cliff zones is that you never know if you are going to make it through them or not until you get there and try. We got a break at the bottom of the cliff zone and were able to work our way up some strange, switch-backed, bog ramps for a while. Then it was time to scramble. We followed a few gullies that became cliffed-out, dead ends. Eventually we found a steep route along the

base of a large cliff that popped us out above tree-line.

After 2 ½ hours of brush fighting, we had gained only 1,400 feet. Our clothes and boots were soaking wet from contact with rain-drenched underbrush. Oh well, welcome to Prince William Sound! Despite being soaked, our spirits were high. It was indeed a beautiful day just like the weather folks had predicted. We figured that the crux of our trip was likely over and we now had several hours to savor some glorious ridge rambling on tundra, snow and rock.

On the way up the ridge we passed above a large cirque lake that was set deeply into the mountain, with only a small opening for its drainage out to the east. Quite stunning, it looked like a crater. It seemed like this cirque lake deserved to be in a physical geography or glacial geology text book. Even though it was July 23rd, the lake was still covered in deep snow and showing little sign of melting out.

Enjoyable ridge trekking got us up to the glacier and snowfields zone where we turned and headed northeast. Getting up the true summit knob took a bit of careful scrambling. On top there were great views in all directions, and we were relieved to see that the front of the next storm was still a long way to the southwest. We didn't find any sign of previous ascent, so we left a small cairn.

The weather quarterback had thrown a clear weather pass, and we had

eluded the rainy weather defense and had caught the pass in the end zone. But being peak baggers, there would be no football-like celebration. We quietly checked out the country that surrounded us, took a few pictures and reflected on how lucky we are to have such great outdoor adventure opportunities like this. This reflection and sense of gratitude is something that I figure everyone reading this article knows well.

Besides an impromptu "underwear waistband belay" I had to give to my wife as we down-climbed from the summit and a surprise meeting with a black bear, the hike out was uneventful. When we got back to the shoreline we looked up to see the front of the next storm approaching. Soon the rains returned, 12 hours after they had stopped. The Hail Mary clear weather pass was now history.

Tammy Thiele "Burning and Churning" up a Glacially Scoured Ridge.



Rubbletop Redux

by Wayne L Todd

We scare a black bear, with magpies about, off something of interest. A mountain goat – impressive. Wonder if he was already dead or injured when the bear got him. We are across Crow Creek from the Crow Pass trail at the first major gully on the north side (about a mile up the trail). This is a good route to avoid brush if you're headed for Magpie Peak and such. Until late summer a snow bridge arcs over Crow Creek, but now it's just snow piles on either side.



This is Carrie's and my third trip in this way, all after the elusive Rubbletop Mountain. The first turnaround was due to weather and the second due to knee issues compounded by poor route selection. By now we have the route fairly dialed in. Today Kevin Downie, Josh Mulkey, and Cima Pillsbury join us.

Nibbling serviceberries along the way, we note the ablation of wild flowers, but the abundance of red flies. The bugs harass us all the way up the east rib to the south Magpie ridge. The weather is magical today (especially considering the wet summer), with sun beaming down and clouds blanketing the lower elevations.

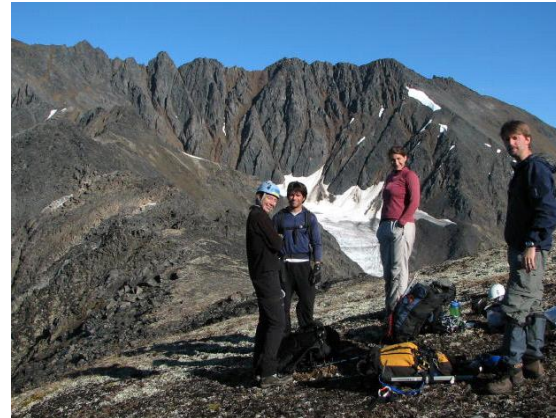
After scrambling down the west side of the ridge, some on rock, some on snow, we hike west for Rubbletop, passing two distinctly different, but nonetheless scenic, lakes. More serious work ensues as we hike up the 45° east rib of the south ridge. As usual, Josh is way ahead.



Gaining the south ridge requires two sections of Class-III scrambling. The section adjacent to the ridge cannot be avoided. The south ridge enforces the name of the peak but already the views are wonderful with 360° panoramas of Chugach State Park wilderness, including teal pocket lakes below us and at a distance, the Tordrillo Mountains, the Alaska Range, and the high glaciated peaks of the deep Chugach Mountains. The hour-plus break on the summit is relaxing and recuperative.

The west ridge of Magpie Peak, which has a glacier up high, presents a nice route, but the approach would be quite a walkabout.

We descend partway on a semi-scrree-and-talus slope east off the east rib for efficiency and fun. Hiking the gradual slopes back up to Two Lakes shows the encroaching fatigue



as folks now hike dispersed. We've already gained about 6,000 feet and have a few thousand more to go. We utilize snow as far as possible for the re-ascent of the Magpie Ridge (crampons, ice axe, and Whippets all around). Two black bears are spotted in this valley.

Back on the Crow Pass side, a black bear runs into brush below us. As we approach the gully, a black animal races toward hikers



on the Crow Pass trail. Carrie yells, "BEAR, BEAR!" Oh, wait, that's their dog. Peering down the gully we now see a larger black bear and a smaller one are now at the goat. Much noisemaking ensues to relinquish the goat from the bears.

Back on the Crow Pass Trail, we watch the goat carcass and within five minutes, one of the bears returns.

Wayne L. Todd, Kevin Downie, Josh Mulkey, Cima Pillsbury, and Carrie Wang
September 6, 2010



Mists of Montana

by Marcin Ksok



Greg near the Mint Hut

On August 21, 2010, Greg Encelewski and I were sitting in a car at the Gold Mint Trailhead parking lot and watching dark clouds roll into the Mint Valley. Being stubborn we waited 45 minutes and, to our

Reaching the Mint Glacier



great surprise, the rain stopped and rays of sun shot through the clouds. Having done the approach to Mint Hut on multiple previous occasions we opted for speed and efficiency, mounted the aluminum horses, and pedaled up the valley. In just about 5.5 miles the going got too tough, forcing us to hike the final stretch to the hut. Arriving at 11:30 p.m., wet as always on this trail, we interrupted the deep sleep of two other occupants, made dinner and went to bed.

Our hut mates got an alpine start at 5:30 in the morning, a thing unheard of in this state in August, leaving us to continue sleeping until normal hours. The strategy proved excellent since clouds filled the mountains again and contributed to a heavy drizzle.

Once again patience was rewarded with rays of sun and at 10:30 we were heading up toward the Mint Glacier. Finding the proper gully over the ridgeline to the glacier below Montana Peak's west face (I am unaware of that glacier having an official name; *ed. note: it's known unofficially as the Wintergreen Glacier*) proved problematic in the past; therefore, I had it marked with a GPS (N 61° 52.618' W 149° 03.443'),

which exhausted its batteries as soon as we reached the gully. I suppose it did its job and decided that was enough. Misting fog kept coming in and out as we headed up the scree, never allowing for a scenic view; at most it opened just enough to see our route. Such was the case at the top of the ridge, so we just sat there patiently, hoping for another

Marcin in the Access Gully above Mint Glacier



break. In 30 minutes or so the fog descended downglacier, revealing the west face of the peak. Not wasting time, we roped up, got down to the glacier after downclimbing a short rock section and crossing a bergschrund, and approached the face. The final climb to the top was less than impressive, we ascended an ice tongue

Greg on His Way to the Ridge between the Mint and Wintergreen Glaciers



extending up the face, scrambled up some crumbly rock, which hurt both of us and drew blood, and carefully gained the slopes on loose granite embedded in looser dirt and sand. Midway up we traversed left following a bench, then up a rock chimney to the northwest ridge. In 50 feet of exposed moves on slippery, moss-covered granite (the black kind) we gained the summit. No views again (normal by now). Unfortunately the register canister was not securely tightened; the paper was wet, unrecognizable and largely unreadable. For the descent we left a nice rappel anchor on the summit (black webbing, the other one seemed quite old), and backed up another one above the chimney. There was also an anchor above the ice tongue consisting of a single, questionable piece, but the fall run-out was quite mellow, so I used it anyway (it held). The return trip was rather quick, the scree gully and the glacier allowing for fast travel. We spent one more night at the hut and enjoyed a fast ride back to the trailhead on the following day.

Although the final scramble to the summit was neither aesthetic nor pleasant, the rest

of the trip made for a great outing. A bike ride, glacier, boulders, roped travel, and, of course, a dry hut kept things interesting and comfortable. It would be possible to climb the peak in two days, but starting out on Friday afternoon makes for a more relaxed trip. Not having to carry much gear since the hut is fully stocked contributes to an overall easy climb.



Greg on the Summit of Montana Peak



Peak of the Month: Table Mountain

by Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Brooks Range

Borough: Unorganized Borough

Drainages: East Fork of the Sheenjek River and West Fork of the Sheenjek River

Latitude/Longitude: 68° 20' 41" North, 143° 39' 46" West

Elevation: 5042 feet

Prominence: Either 1492 feet from Peak 5042 in the East Fork of the Sheenjek River drainage or 1992 feet from Peak 5414 in the East Fork of the Sheenjek River and West Fork of the Sheenjek River drainages

Adjacent Peaks: Peak 4872 in the East Fork of the Sheenjek River and West Fork of the Sheenjek River drainages, Peak 3578 in the East Fork of the Sheenjek River drainage, and Peak 3352 in the West Fork of the Sheenjek River drainage

Distinctness: 1092 feet from Peak 4872

USGS Map: Table Mountain (B-5)

First Recorded Ascent: June 4, 1956, by George Beals Schaller

Access Point: Kuirzinjik Lake

The descriptive name Table Mountain was first reported by John Beaver Mertie, Jr., of the USGS in 1926. Some 30 years later George Schaller joined Olaus and Margaret "Mardy" Murie as part of the Murie Brooks Range Expedition to explore the flora and fauna of the Sheenjek River region. Schaller reached the summit of Table Mountain and the expedition's exploration set in motion the creation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

On May 31, 1956, Keith Herrington flew George Schaller and Bob Krear from Fort Yukon to still-frozen Kuirzinjik Lake in his Cessna 180 on skis. The rest of the Murie Brooks Range Expedition – Olaus and Mardy Murie and Brina Kessel – joined them the following day. After seeing a wolf near the lake (and not knowing of the existing Kutchin name Kuirzinjik Lake), the group unofficially named the lake "Lobo Lake." As part of his exploration of the Sheenjek River area, Schaller climbed up the stark, gray limestone cliffs of Table Mountain to document pipit and



golden plover occurrences, finding over 100 of the former from 2,500 to 3,500 feet and one of the latter at 4,800 feet.

On June 20, while searching for a gyrfalcon nest a couple weeks after his ascent of Table Mountain, Schaller climbed a 3810-foot peak, which he called "First Mountain." In 1960 the official name of this peak became Little Brushman. On June 26, Herrington flew the expedition members from Kuirzinjik Lake to Ambresvajun Lake (which they unofficially called "Last Lake"), some 15 miles north-northeast, thus ending their exploration of the Table Mountain area of the Sheenjek River drainage.

While Schaller's ascent of Table Mountain was not notable as a significant mountaineering feat, his participation in the Murie Brooks Range Expedition was part of a growing environmental movement. U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Douglas visited the Murie Brooks Range Expedition that summer of 1956 and used his influence to ultimately cause President Eisenhower to set aside some 8 million acres as a preserve known as the William O. Douglas Arctic National Wildlife Range in 1960. In 1980 this preserve was enlarged to 19 million acres and renamed the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Schaller, who now lives in Connecticut, went on to become one of the world's pre-eminent field biologists. He has conducted wildlife studies in Africa, Asia, North America, and South America, but it all started in the West Fork of the Sheenjek River drainage that spring and summer of 1956.

Information for this article came from Schaller's 1957 "Arctic Valley: A Report on the 1956 Murie Brooks Range, Alaska Expedition."



ADZE

For Sale
La Sportiva Karakorums
Excellent Condition (like new), Crampon Compatible
\$150 or best offer
Size 42 (approximately men's 8 or women's 9.5)
Kristen 907-360-7975

MCA General Membership Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2010

Note: Tasks to be completed in ***bold italics***.

Board and Executive Committee members present: Wayne Todd, Ross Noffsinger, Tim Silvers, Brian Aho, Mark Smith, Cory Hinds, Greg Bragiel, Travis Taylor, Randy Plant.

(1) Vicky Lytle is new Hiking and Climbing Committee Chairperson. Carlene Van Tol will be assisting her. ***Still looking for one more person interested in joining the H+C Committee.***

(2) Training Committee: Had another successful Ice Fest last month. Basic Mountaineering School 2011 coming up early next year.

(3) Huts Committee, Parks Advisory Committee, Library: no updates.

(4) Geographic Names: Mt. Stevens in the Alaska Range and Stevens Icefield in the Chugach Mountains are being added to the map (Anchorage Daily News, October 18, 2010).

(5) Motion to decide whether to exceed the Awards budget by approximately \$500 to pay for volunteer recognition awards. Motion approved by 2/3 majority vote (all present members in favor but one).

(6) Scree Editor: John Recktenwald will resign in February 2011. ***Need new Scree Editor ASAP.***

(7) MCA Calendar: Voting for 2011 calendar during break. 2012 Calendar will have vertical format. ***Please use sign-up sheet if you want a copy of the 2011 calendar so we can determine how many need to be printed.***

(8) **MCA Board elections:**

New President: Tim Silvers (no other candidates nominated)
New Vice President: Jayme Mack (accepted nomination in writing prior to meeting. No other candidates nominated)
New Treasurer: Randy Plant (one other candidate nominated)
Secretary (reelected): Brian Aho (one other candidate nominated)
New Board of Directors (2 year term): Vicky Lytle, John Recktenwald, Jim Sellers
Existing Board of Directors (1 year term): Mark Smith, Wayne Todd (former president)

(9) Announcements:

- New MCA Website: Beta site is online, possibly going live for public by December.

- **Saturday, November 13, 2010:** The Alaska Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) is celebrating their 50th Anniversary! Anyone is welcome to attend the event in the Susitna Room (West) at the Kincaid Park Chalet from 4 PM to 9 PM. Please consider a

\$10 donation (individual) / \$15 (family) if you come to the potluck.

- The Chugach State Park Citizens Advisory Board announces upcoming vacancies and solicits applications for two (2) board positions. The purposes of the Advisory Board are to promote conservation and protect Chugach State Park, as well as facilitate communication between the public and Park managers. Applications must be received by **November 30, 2010** (<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/asp/curevnts.htm>). Brian Aho, secretary



50TH Anniversary of
Alaska Mountain Rescue Group

The Alaska Mountain Rescue Group is celebrating 50 years of search and rescue service to the State of Alaska. We will be hosting a family friendly potluck, showing video presentations, and other activities on Sat, Nov 13. Current and former members of AMRG (formerly ARG), local SAR teams, and friends of AMRG are invited to attend.

Saturday, November 13, 2010

4pm – 9pm

Susitna Room (West) at the Kincaid Park Chalet
Anchorage, Alaska

- Bring a dish to share. Some food and beverages will be provided by AMRG
- To defray some costs, we are asking for a donation of \$10 per person, \$15 per family.
- Are you a past member of AMRG/ARG with a memorable mission story or photos? Contact us at the address below.
- **PLEASE RSVP TO KEVIN DOWNIE AT kevin_downie@hotmail.com**

AMRG, PO BOX 241102, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99524

UPDATES TO BE POSTED TO WWW.AMRG.ORG

General Rules for Participation on MCA Sanctioned Trips

1. Participants shall familiarize themselves with the *physical demands*, *anticipated terrain* and *potential hazards* associated with the proposed trip. Examples include, but are not limited to:

Physical Demands: Estimated elevation gain, distance and duration.

Anticipated Terrain: Trail hiking; bushwhacking; off-trail hiking on tundra, snow, ice, scree, talus or boulders; exposed hiking on steep slopes covered with snow, ice, slick vegetation, scree, talus or boulders; scrambling on loose rock; exposed scrambling on loose rock; technical snow, ice, rock and/or mixed climbing; stream crossing; glacier travel on snow, ice and/or scree.

Potential Hazards: Avalanche; falling while skiing, hiking or climbing; falling into a crevasse; being struck by falling rock, snow or ice; attack by a bear, moose or insects (bees, wasps, mosquitoes, biting flies, etc); lightning; fire; carbon monoxide poisoning; suffocation; frostbite; hypothermia; drowning from falling through snow, crossing a stream, packrafting or kayaking; injury from use/ misuse of equipment. Note that it is impossible to predict all potential hazards that may be encountered while participating on MCA sanctioned trips.

2. Participants may be required to demonstrate the skills and experience necessary to participate on any given trip.

3. Participants shall sign-up on the club sanctioned trip sign-up sheet.

4. Participants shall read, initial and sign the Release of Liability Agreement prior to departing on the trip.

5. The trip leader may refuse participation to any member for any reason. If someone feels that they have been discriminated against or treated unfairly, they may present their case to the Hiking and Climbing Committee and/or the Executive Committee.

6. Proper clothing and equipment is required to participate on club sanctioned trips. The trip leader can require special equipment and refuse participation to any person that is ill-prepared (e.g. inappropriate clothing, footwear or gear). See recommended equipment list at the end of this policy.

7. Participants shall follow the leader's instructions. Participants shall not go off alone, return or rush ahead without permission from the leader. Participants shall not 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 intentionally separating from the group without the leader's

approval shall no longer be considered a participant on the club sanctioned trip.

8. The trip leader has the authority to split the group (fast and slow), dependent upon current conditions and experience level of the participants. The leader must appoint a qualified co-leader to lead the second group using the guidelines specified under Trip Leader Responsibilities.

9. **Glacier Travel:** For trips requiring roped travel over glaciers, knowledge of crevasse rescue, and ice axe and crampon skills are required. A basic understanding of ice and snow anchors is also required.

10. Participants who in the leader's opinion, put themselves or other members of the group in danger, shall be subject to sanction by the club. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, reprimand at the general meeting, exclusion from future trips, termination of annual membership, or lifetime exclusion from the club. The Executive Committee, and only the Executive Committee, shall have the authority to issue sanctions.

11. Number of people on club trips:

Minimum: For safety reasons, three people minimum. Trips undertaken with fewer than the minimum required participants shall not be considered club sanctioned trips.

Maximum: Registration on any particular trip must be restricted to a safe and manageable number of members. The Leader and/or Hiking and Climbing Committee shall determine the maximum number of participants. In trail-less areas or State and National Parks the maximum number depends upon the trail and campsite conditions, but will generally be limited to 12 people.

12. In general dogs are not allowed. Among the reasons are bear problems. Well behaved, bear savvy dogs may be approved at the discretion of the trip leader and all trip participants. Approval must be unanimous and must occur prior to meeting for the trip.

13. Firearms are not allowed on club sanctioned trips, unless approved by the trip leader and all participants. Approval must be unanimous. Aerosol bear repellent is preferred in lieu of firearms.

14. If you find you cannot participate after signing up on the roster, please let the leader know as soon as possible, for transportation and gear-planning and so someone else can go. If you are the leader, help find a replacement.

Revised 6/18/10

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President	Tim Silvers	250-3374	Board member	Wayne Todd	522-6354
Vice-President	Jayme Mack	382-0212	Board member	Mark Smith	868-3155
Secretary	Brian Aho	223-4758	Board member	Vicky Lytle	351-8246
Treasurer	Randy Plant	243-1438	Board member	John Recktenwald	317-2564
			Board member	Jim Sellers	

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 Treasurer. The Post Office will not forward the newsletter.

The 'Scree' is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles, notes and letters submitted for publication in the newsletter should be e-mailed to MCAScree@gmail.com. Articles can be submitted anytime.

Paid ads may be submitted to the attention of the Vice-President at the club address and should be in electronic format and pre-paid.

Missing your MCA membership card? Stop by 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: victoria.lytle@gmail.com

Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008

Calendar: Stuart Grenier - 337-5127

Scree Editor: John Recktenwald - 346-2589

Web: www.mcak.org (change your address here)

Mailing list service: MCAK@yahoogroups.com

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