

**DECEMBER MEETING**

**Wednesday**

**December 16, 7:30 pm**

**Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets**

**Downtown Anchorage**

**Dinner Potluck: The club provides turkey, stuffing, drinks. You bring the following items (enough for about 6-8 people).**

**A-D Appetizers, relish, chips**

**E-I Dessert**

**J-M "Starch", i.e. pasta, rice, potatoes, casseroles**

**N-R Veggies**

**S-Z Salads**

**Slide Show: Your chance to show what you did this year. Bring 10-15 slides and some humor to share.**

**Preview of next month:**

**Climing, hiking and whitewater in Lake Clark National Park by Derek Nelson**

**HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE**

- Dec 13 Williwaw Lakes Ski Trip  
MCA class B. 11 miles roundtrip. (according to '55 Ways'). A non-technical day ski trip to the Williwaw lakes for lunch and a good time skiing. Hopefully we'll have snow by then! If not, we can snowshoe. Bring a lunch and your camera.  
Leader: Matt Nedom 278-3648

## TRAINING SCHEDULE

- Jan - Feb      Basic Mountaineering Skills  
Weekends.  
Prerequisites: Alaska Winter Camping / Backpacking Skills & Gear and Basic Mountaineering Gear  
Where: Chugach or Talkeetna Mts.  
Coordinator: Gary Runa 275-3613 msg.
- Mar - Apr      Expedition Mountaineering Training  
Weekends.  
Prerequisites: Alaska Winter Camping / Backpacking Skills & Gear and Basic Mountaineering Skills & Gear.  
Where: Chugach or Talkeetna Mts.  
Coordinator: Gary Runa 275-3613 msg.
- May - June      Glacier Travel & Crevasse Rescue Training  
One weekend and one week.  
Prerequisites: Alaska Winter Camping / Backpacking Skills & Gear and Basic Mountaineering Skills & Gear. (Air Transport Cost approx. \$250)  
Where: Alaska Range or Wrangell Mts.  
Coordinator: Gary Runa 275-3613 msg.

## TRIP REPORTS

### Yudikench Peak

by Steve Gruhn



The rain pounding my window and the water spewing from the gutter kept me awake much of the night, so after hitting the snooze on my alarm clock five or six times, I tumbled out of bed at 6:30 Saturday morning, already an hour late. I hurriedly dressed, packed, ate, and sped to the Eklutna Lake trailhead amid pouring rain. I wondered if I was doing the right thing by heading out in a downpour. I also thought the rest of my party might have had the sense to spend the rainy day inside. Upon turning onto the Eklutna Lake Road, however, the rain stopped.

I had arranged to meet with Tom Choate and an unnamed friend of his at the Bold Ridge Overlook Trail approximately 5 miles from the Eklutna Lake parking lot at about 9:15. I was going to hike in because I don't own a mountain bike. Tom and his friend would get an hour extra sleep and would enjoy

the speedy approach to the start of the climb.

I set out along the Eklutna Lakeside Trail on foot, enjoying patches of blue sky. At 9:40 I arrived at the Bold Ridge Overlook Trail just past Bold Creek, but did not see any sign of other people that day. I waited until shortly after 10, then proceeded alone up the trail to climb Yudikench Peak (elev. 5732, T15N, R3E, Sec. 4). I had seen the name Yudikench Peak assigned to this peak at the local USGS office. I had also seen the same peak named Bleak Peak on maps at the Vin Hoeman Library at Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking. I have called the feature Yudikench Peak in deference to the governmental authority. Tom had told me a month earlier that "Yudikench" meant "golden eagle's nest" in the D'naina dialect. It seemed a fitting name because I saw a golden eagle soaring overhead throughout the day.

As the Bold Ridge Overlook Trail emerged from the alders, I left the now snowy trail to head northeast, crossing Bold Creek and circling around a ridge on a very wet willow-studded bench above Sdaylent Creek (I had also obtained the name Sdaylent from USGS, although I am ignorant as to its meaning, if any). I crossed the stream and headed north up a southeast-facing slope. After attaining the ridge, I followed it over Point 5420, where I noticed a cairn, to Yudikench Peak at the head of the Yuditna Creek drainage (again, the name came from USGS. Apparently it means "golden eagle creek." Chugach State Park has erected a sign on the Eklutna Lakeside Trail naming the stream Yuditnu Creek, probably a misspelling of Yuditna.) The hiking was relatively easy for most of the way. A sheep trail followed most of the ridge, but at times was covered with snow. I found a cairn on the summit, but no register. A storm was heading down the Hunter Creek drainage, so I returned on the same route, finding an old, wet tent without poles in a green and white 5-gallon bucket. I made a mistake crossing Sdaylent Creek below its confluence with a side stream in Section 17. The water was much higher and faster downstream of the confluence.

As I headed down the wet willow-studded bench, I began to see fresh tracks heading out. I followed them until I could see Tom Choate and another man ahead of me. I crossed Bold Creek below them, beat some alders for a short distance, and arrived at the Bold Ridge Overlook Trail at about the same time as Tom. With him was James Larabee. Apparently they had a late start and I had missed them by about 5 or 10 minutes. They had headed up Point 5430 and enjoyed a nice glissade down. We had a pleasant walk down to the Eklutna Lakeside trail together. Once at the Eklutna Lakeside Trail, though, I found the real benefit of having a mountain bike. Tom

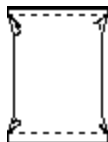
and James zipped by me as I plodded down the trail. It took me 50 minutes longer to hike out than it took for them to ride. Nonetheless, they waited for me so we could gorge on ice cream and pizza. Once down on the Glenn Highway, the rain resumed. What had been a rainy day in the Anchorage Bowl had been pretty decent (albeit windy) at Eklutna Lake.

#### Trivia Fun

1. Which of the following Alaska islands have peaks over 1 mile (5,280 feet) high?  
A) Adak, B) Admiralty, C) Akutan, D) Atka, E) Annette, F) Baranof, G) Barter, H) Chenega, I) Chichagof, J) Chuginadak, K) Great Sitkin, L) Kodiak, M) Kupreanof, N) Mitkof, O) Nelson, P) Nunivak, Q) Popof, R) Prince of Wales, S) Revillagigedo, T) Sarichef, U) Saint George, V) Saint Lawrence, W) Saint Paul, X) Shemya, Y) Spruce, Z) Tanaga, AA) Umnak, AB) Unalaska, AC) Unimak, AD) Wrangell
2. Which island comes closest, but doesn't reach a mile high?
3. Which of the above-named peaks have been mentioned in the Scree?

Answers hidden elsewhere in **SCREE**.

#### Mountain House Freeze Dried Food



- 40% Discount by Mail Order to MCA members
- Whole cases only - 6 meals per case.
- Order forms available at December MCA meeting or contact Dave Hart.
- Pre-paid orders due to Dave Hart by 1/1/99 for February delivery.
- Questions? Dave Hart 338-0554 or e-mail me at [houdini@alaska.net](mailto:houdini@alaska.net).

## MINUTES

### NOVEMBER MEETING

Called to order at 19:47. Introduction of Board Members present, beginning with Richard Baranow, new President, then Tom Choate, new VP, Kirk Towner, still Treasurer and doing a fine job, and Matt Nedom, acting Secretary. Twelve new members introduced themselves.

#### TREASURER'S REPORTS

**Kirk Towner** reported revenues and expenses. If you wish a detailed report, please call Kirk.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### *Hiking and Climbing*

The schedule of planned trips and changes was announced. The King Mountain trip planned for 21 November is a no-go, as the water in the Matanuska River is still wet. **Wendy Sanem** will lead a trip climbing the mountain later this winter. Instead, a hike up Peter's Creek to climb Eklutna Mountain will be led on Sunday, 11/22. **Richard Baranow** announced two hikes the first two Saturdays in December, and **Matt Nedom** will lead a Nordic ski trip Sunday, 13 December.

##### *Huts*

**Mark Miraglia** introduced a new, updated flyer has been published on each hut. The flyers are available through AMH for 25c each. The club has eight huts in the Talkeetna and Chugach Mountains, three along the Eklutna to Girdwood traverse, three in the Talkeetna mountains, and two along the Matanuska drainage. Also, if anyone is planning on visiting the Mint Hut, please contact Mark at 338-0705.

##### *Training*

**Gary Runa** gave a spiel about his Basic Mountaineering Skills trip over the long Thanksgiving weekend. More training will be offered through the year, so keep your eyes open to the Scree, and come to the meetings!

##### *Library*

**Ron**, the club librarian, explained the club library, located upstairs at AMH, procedures. The instructions for checking out books are written on a placard hanging on the wall in the library. The library is to be reorganized for accessibility, with books placed in order by region. The library is named after Vin Hoeman, a prominent, local climber killed in an avalanche in the Himalayas. His widow donated the money and some of his books to make the library possible. A reminder: materials marked with a white band are not to leave the library. And, please return what you borrow!



*Parks Advisory*

**Scott Bailey** mentioned the meeting scheduled 11/25 at the Egan Center to renew the policy keeping snowmachines out of Denali National Park. Attendance at these meetings by club members helps show our support of the ban. The ban on fixed anchors is in effect on a trial basis in the Sawtooth Wilderness only. A one-year moratorium is in effect for the rest of the U.S.F.S. wilderness areas while a review panel is formed to study the issue.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

We're in the process of getting a new **cabin** in the Eklutna area. More information is coming up!

The 1999 MCA Photo **Calendars** are in! They cost \$18each, or for \$20, you get a calendar and a patch! Get yours quick before we run out! Patches are sold separately at \$5each.

The **1999 budget**, planned by the board, is available to see. It will be voted on at the January meeting.

Denise Saigh is selling Alaska Mountain Rescue Group **raffle tickets** for \$5each. The prize is a \$750 gift certificate at AMH. AMRG, an all volunteer group trained in technical and vertical rescue, is raising money to buy a cell phone.

A **Breast Cancer Awareness** documentary film has been made. A climb of Wolverine peak in June is planned to raise money for breast cancer support.

A photo of Vin and Grace Hoeman and his wife, standing atop Kiliak was presented to Grace's daughter, Helga for thanks for her support as secretary.

A **memorial fund** for Kim Shupe, the young woman killed in a fall and a close friend of some of our members, has been set up to cover funeral expenses and to provide tuition assistance scholarships for please send donations to: c/o Eric Peterson, 2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd, Suite 106, Anchorage, AK 99508

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matt Nedom

**ADZE**



For Sale

- ♦ Alico Corniche Buckle/Leather Tele Boots. Size 10.5. Excellent shape - too small. \$100 (\$300+ new)
  - ♦ Sportiva Makalu leather hiking boots. Size 10.5. Good shape - too small. Make an offer!
  - ♦ REI Baffled Goretex Down Parka - Large, super warm, like new. Perfect Denali parka. \$125 (\$300+ new)
  - ♦ Patagonia Gridman 1-piece goretex suit - Large. Never used - original wrapping. \$325 (\$725 new)
  - ♦ North Face Westwind 2-person expedition tent. Bombproof. 5 years old, 3 expeditions. \$200 (\$375 new)
- Dave, 338-0554

For Sale

- ♦ Lowe Expedition Pack, old but serviceable. \$35
  - ♦ Kelty Frame Pack, nearly new. \$55
  - ♦ North Face Down Sleeping Bag, summer weight. \$25
  - ♦ North Face Polarguard Sleeping Bag, 3-season. \$25
  - ♦ Early Winters 2-person tent, very stable in wind. \$45
  - ♦ Headlamp, lithium or 4 AA. \$25
  - ♦ Duffel bag, large, unused. \$15
  - ♦ Bicycle speedometer. \$5
- Call Willy, 561-7900

Lost

If you are traveling to the Bomber Hut, please pick up and bring back the orange coffee funnel and fairly new Z Rest sleeping pad. These items were accidentally left there.  
Call Matt 278 3648

Wanted

Projector screen, 7' x 7'.  
Call Wayne 522-6354

