



the **SCREE**

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

December 2006
Volume 49 Number 12

First Ascent - Sunray Peak
Eklutna Traverse
Climbing at Knight
Hut Maintenance Trips
Emerald Peak
Peters Creek
November full moon hike

'It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare,
it is because we do not dare that they are difficult.'

-- Seneca

Monthly Meeting: Wednesday, December 20th @ 7:30 PM
Program: Christmas Dinner and Slides (see inside).

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

"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 First United Methodist Church, 9th and G Streets next to the Philips Building (you may use marked parking after hours)

Contact information is provided on the back page or visit us on the web at www.mcak.org

Cover photo: Natalia Aulenbacher won a Meekins Grant for the first ascent of Sunray Peak (née Peak 8947) in the Chugach Mountains. Here She, Matt Lee and Dan Gunn descend towards the Marcus Baker Glacier. Photo by Richard Baranow.

Article Submission: Articles and photos are best submitted on the web at MCAK.org. You can also attach a word processing document to an email. Due to formatting problems please do not submit material in the body of an email. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. To get on the cover a photo should convey the feeling of mountaineering and show human endeavor.

Contents

Hiking and Climbing Schedule

Miscellany

First Ascent of Sunray Peak

November Full Moon Hike

Eklutna Traverse

Climbing at Knight

Hut Maintenance Trips

Emerald Peak

Peters Creek

2007 Proposed Budget

Hiking and Climbing Schedule

December 02 Full Moon Hike to Wolverine

The December (pre) full moon hike is a Class C trip to Wolverine Peak, about 12 miles roundtrip. Bring appropriate gear and clothing for the weather and snow conditions, including snowshoes, crampons and ice axe if necessary. Contact trip leader Amy Murphy at 338-3979, 248-2067 or via e-mail: hayduchesslives@yahoo.com.

December 14 Geminid watch

A do it yourself night trip. Refer to the article on Geminids in the next section. Depends on a clear sky.

December 16 Ski and Tree Decorating Trip

Mark your calendars to attend the festive and frivolity-filled annual backcountry ski trip to Williwaw Lakes with a stop along the trail to decorate a tree with Christmas ornaments! Please bring ornaments that are not fragile to hang on the tree. (I remove them after New Year's Eve.) This is a Class B trip that requires backcountry skiing skills on a fairly easy trail. Bring lunch, water, smiles, a cheerful willingness to sing

Christmas carols and appropriate clothing for the weather. Meet at the Glen Alps parking lot at 10:15 a.m. Contact Amy Murphy at 338-3979, 248-2067 or via e-mail: hayduchesslives@yahoo.com

December 16 End-of-Month Traverse:

Middle Fork Canyon Loop Class B. 9 miles. Ski from Prospect Hts. past Middle Fork trail to Glen Alps and then back down to Prospect Hts. If there is not enough snow, we will do an alternate trip. Leader: Willy Hersman, mcak@gci.net

January 27-28 Lane hut or Powder hut

Class C, elevation gain 2,100 feet, 12+ miles.

Leader: Greg Bragiel Contact at 569-3008

February 16 - 18

Women's Ice Climbing Retreat, Women Only Event!! Come explore the ice at Echo Bend while climbing with other women. All abilities welcome. Will spend the evenings around the wood stove in the Rapids Camp Yurt swapping stories, and hike to the climbs. Some camping available. Limited to

6 students. Contact Jayme Dixon, jaymelmack@hotmail.com, or Carlene Van Tol, cvantol_1@hotmail.com

February 24 – 25 Indian to Arctic
Class D, elevation gain 1,800 ft, 21 miles.
Leader: Greg Bragiel Contact at 569-3008

March 1 – 5 Resurrection Trail
Class D, elevation gain 3,100 feet.
Leader: Greg Bragiel Contact at 569-3008

March 25 – 31 Bomber Traverse
Glacier travel, Elevation gain 6,100 feet
Leader: Greg Bragiel Contact at 569-3008

April 14 – 15 Eklutna Traverse training weekend
Leader: Greg Bragiel Contact at 569-3008

April 29 – May 5 Eklutna Traverse
Glacier Travel, elevation gain 6,000, 30+ miles.
Leader: Greg Bragiel Contact at 569-3008

Miscellany

December Club meeting (Christmas party)

The Monthly meeting will be the clubs annual Christmas Dinner and slide show. The MCA will provide the turkey, condiments, and refreshments. Members provide the rest.

Use the following "last name" guide:

A-C Dessert
D-H Veggie dish
I-M Pasta, rice, potatoes, etc.
N-R Salad, Fruit Salad
S-Z Chips, appetizers

Membership slide show, Members are welcome to bring 10 to 15 slides to present to the club. We can accommodate digital pictures and slides.

Club members will also be voting on the proposed budget included in this issue of the Scree.

Calendars

The 2007 MCA Calendars are for sale at AMH and the Alaska Rock Gym.

T Shirts

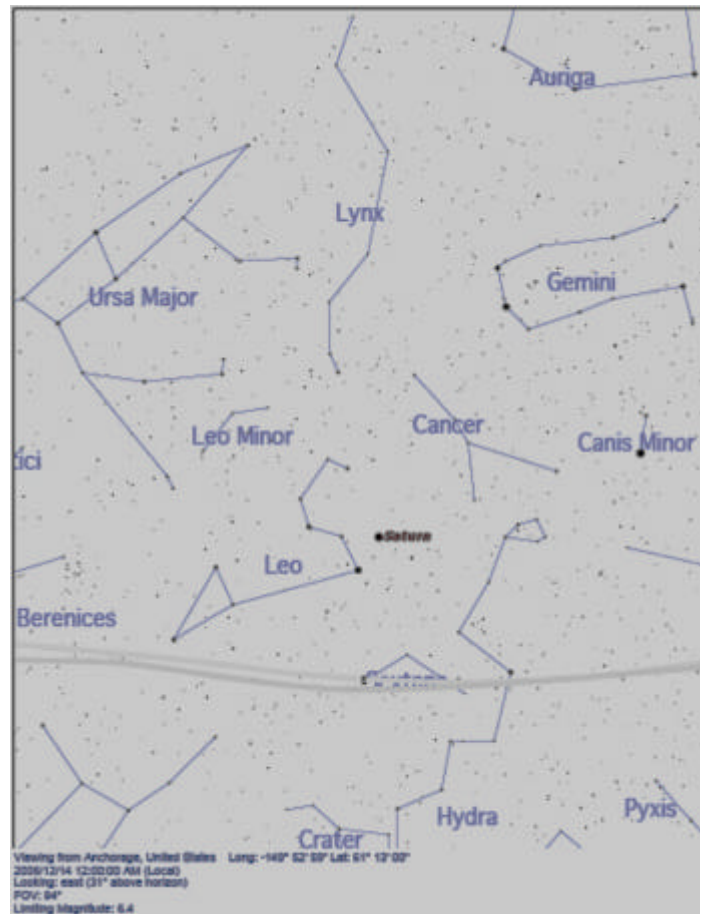
The club has long sleeve polyester T Shirts for sale. They have the classic MCA Mountaineering Axe logo on the front. Come by the Club meeting.

Geminids, December 14th

Geminids Meteor Shower. Considered by many to be the best meteor shower in the heavens, the Geminids are known for producing up to 60 multicolored meteors per hour at their peak. Some meteors should be visible from December 6 - 19. The radiant point for this shower will

be in the constellation of Gemini. Best viewing is usually to the east after midnight. (from the web).

Former MCAer Lawrence Armendarez in Hawaii, adds this information, along with a star map of the eastern sky for Anchorage on 12/14: 'Better predictions will come out nearer the date. The peak time of the shower is supposed to be around 1:45 AM Anchorage time but that is with a large uncertainty of plus or minus 2.3 hrs. The waning crescent moon rises at 3:02 am so it will not be a factor.'



First Ascent of Sunray Peak (8947)

By Natalia Aulenbacher



The ridge for the first attempt on Sunray is to the right, Marcus Baker is in the back - Photo by Richard Baranow

Last spring, I applied for the Mike Meekins grant and was awarded 250 dollars. The proposed climbing trip was for the Northwestern Chugach. Our main goal was to climb peak 8947. Researching MCA Scree, AAJ, and speaking with locals indicated that peak 8947 had not been climbed. We also wanted to potentially explore as far north as Mt. Sergeant Robinson, and as far south as the north peak of Marcus Baker.

The area, as seen from extensive photos, has a full range of possibilities for the alpinist; long couloirs, sweeping ridgelines, ski-touring, potential ice climbs, summit attempts off the northwest side of Marcus Baker, other subsidiary peaks ranging from 8000' to 10000', and Mt. Sergeant Robinson. After climbing, we then wanted to ski thirty-five miles out the Marcus Baker glacier, down through Grasshopper valley, across the Knik drainage over to Hunter creek, where our car was parked. Originally, we had eleven days total. But we were not able to fly in until the 2nd of March due to poor weather. But with ten days at our disposal, we still planned to climb/explore for the first six days, leaving four days to ski out.

So there we were, Matt Lee, Dan Gunn, Richard Baranow, and myself, sitting at the Palmer Aviation Services Center, waiting for Mike Meekins to show up. It is 8am on Thursday the 2nd of March, and I am excited for this trip. Again, the weather was not the best and we each had to fly in singly in Mike's Supercub. So Dan, a former NOLS instructor flew in first. Then Matt Lee, an APU graduate flew in and got a little sick from the bumpy ride. I was next, followed by Richard. Originally, we wanted to be dropped off at the 6,000 ft mark on the Marcus Baker Glacier, but again due to poor weather Mike flew only to the 5,000 ft mark. Once Dan, Matt, and I had flown in, and Matt had finished puking from the bumpy flight, we decided to set up base camp just off the left of the glacier in the moraine and snow. Just as we had finished building the tent platforms Mike flew in with Richard.

Once Mike landed, we unloaded the plane and said our goodbyes to Mike. His last words to me were to make sure I kept the three guys in line. Seeing Mike take off was when it really sank in that this was it. Climbing for 6 days and a 35-mile ski out to get back home with packs and sleds in tow!

Base Camp, Sunray on the left



Richard Baranow photo

Now back to the present moment. It was about 3pm when Mike flew out. We finished putting up the tents, built a side wind wall and finished the outhouse and kitchen when dusk came upon us. I was so glad to have a plush kitchen where we all could fit in, stand up and move around. There was a lot of counter space and plenty of room to sit on snow benches and store food. We even had a mini fridge to store the Heinekens and Guinness we had brought! We dug down rather than build up and then raised the Megamid that Richard brought over the kitchen hole for wind protection and warmth. So after a ton of snow shoveling, it was dinnertime. We discussed the next day's climbing and went to bed to get an early start.

At nine am we were up and moving out of camp. Dan and Matt lead out on one rope team and Richard and I on another. We headed out to attempt the northeast ridge of peak 8947. With approximately 3000' elevation gain, I was glad to have blue skies above. As we began up the ridge, we soon realized that even though the weather was great the snow conditions were not so great. It was the type of bottomless snow that made you feel that with every step you lost four. Once Richard and I were on the ridge, we caught up to Dan and Matt who had started about 20 minutes ahead of us to help create some fluidity while climbing.

We took a break on the ridge, and while Dan busted out his jet boil and made a hot drink that we all shared, we looked at the ridgeline ahead. Now that we had a better angle of our route, it was obvious this was going to be more than just a day climb. Looking at the technicality of the ridgeline and the culmination of our group's experience, we decided to ascend from a different route. Since it was mid-afternoon, we decided to continue along the ridgeline anyway to explore. After descending that night, we decided over dinner that we would

ascend a small couloir to help gain the south aspect to hike up the backside of Peak 8947.

The following morning was our second day of great weather. The sun was so brilliant; we were all itching to go. We skied across the glacier on the same rope teams and ascended the couloir. Traversing down and across the backside to a large gully that opened up at the top, we stashed our skies at the bottom of the gully under a large outcropping and traversed from the rock island up to a small saddle. Once we stopped and revived our hungry stomachs, Richard suggested dropping some of our load. The terrain ahead seemed pretty safe traveling, so we stashed one of the two ropes, some pro, and continued.

Richard and Natalia, proposed MCA hut site is center across the glacier, last ridge and peak climbed is left center



Dan Gunn photo

Stop and go was how the rest of the day went. Great views and good snow pack made for some wonderful traveling. At one of our small breaks, I turned to look down valley and there were snow crystals moving with the breeze. And as the sun peaked through the clouds, large sunrays made the snow shimmer ever so brightly. And like in a light bulb moment, the peak's name was created. Sunray peak is what we named it. Once at the summit, we took some photos and jettied back down the mountain, back to camp and celebrated with a Heineken. Cheers!

The next few days were spent attempting other peaks within 3 miles of our camp. Exploring the Mt. Sergeant Robinson area never happened because we just did not have enough time. We did attempt though, the East Ridge of peak 10150 up the southeast flank, but halfway up got cliffed out. Our last day of climbing was fun, scrambling up the southeast face of peak 8120, just up glacier from

our camp. It was especially interesting climbing it, with 30 to 40 mph gusts of wind. Before I knew it though, we were packing up camp and heading down glacier. By day two we were off the Marcus Baker glacier and cruising down grasshopper valley. We skied until dusk, where we did a small creek crossing and camped to wait for morning.



Richard Baranow photo

None of us had expected the river to be open in the beginning of March. But the next day was filled with skiing for a fourth of a mile and crossing a river braid, only to go another fourth of a mile to cross

again. By mid-afternoon, we had finally gotten away from the river and were doing our best to skirt the Knik glacier without gaining a lot of elevation. Our hope was to get off the glacier and to hunter creek by nightfall; as we continued skirting the Knik glacier though, our hope to get off that day diminished rather quickly. We ended up having to crampon across the ice, drop our backs and return to where we started to carry our sleds on our backs. So after double hauling for about three hours we were caught by darkness and spent the night on the moraine.

That night Dan called his girlfriend on the SAT phone Mike Meekins let us use, to let her know that we would be one more day out, and to let our town contact know not to call the state troopers!! With a bit more double hauling in the morning, we finally got off the Kink glacier. With not a lot of snow in the Knik drainage we managed to play connect the snow patches until we hit the Knik riverside where we cruised all the way to hunter creek. We got to the road right at dark and were home and in bed by 12am. So thanks again to the Mike Meekins grant and to MCA, for helping me get out in the mountains. It was another good adventure right in my own backyard.



November Full Moon Hike

By Amy Murphy

The first (nearly) full moon hike of the winter featured crystal clear skies, crisp temperatures, no wind, and light, untracked, powdery snow to hike through. We could not have asked for more perfect conditions! Neil Murphy, Karen Matthias and Lis Gallagher joined me for this delightful evening hike with incredible views of the Chugach Mountains bathed in the silvery glow of the moon. We started out at the Mt. Baldy trailhead and hiked up the trail that goes through the old homestead area. Once we got above tree line the packed trail petered out and we were greeted with the sight of a huge expanse of virgin snow, glittering under the moon's bright glow. I headed up towards the ridgeline that leads to the base of Black Tail Rocks. I was surprised to see that there had been very little wind and consequently there were very few snowdrifts. It was easy breaking trail without snowshoes, except for a few times when we had to go through a couple of deep drifts. We got up to the ridgeline and admired the scenery, including the different

ridgelines, valleys and peaks and the numerous twinkling lights of Eagle River and Anchorage. We went up to the big knob right before the base of Black Tail Rocks, which some people say is the actual true summit of Mt. Baldy. There was consensus that this was a good turnaround point and since it was too cold to stand around long, we turned and headed back to the trailhead. We stayed on top of the ridgeline and there was a slight breeze that encouraged us to speed up our return. The descent down Mt. Baldy was a little bit slippery in places, hiking down through powdery snow on top of slick rocks, and it got our adrenaline flowing. We arrived back at the trailhead around 9:40, marveling at the moon's reflection on the windows of our vehicles. The December nearly full moon hike is up Wolverine Peak and hopefully we will enjoy the same great weather conditions.

These night hikes are highly recommended – Ed.

PASS THE TABASCO!--Eklutna Traverse 2006

by Greg Braigel



The Raven Headwall, Photo by Greg Braigel

April 9: Steve Lord and friends dropped off the team at end of the Eklutna Lake trail. We began skiing toward Pichler's at 10:30 AM, practicing running belays while climbing and arrived at Pichler's about 5:30 PM. The weather was partly sunny with increasing clouds and light snow. Temp. ~ 25 F. Our team was excited about arrival but somewhat tired from the ski in.

April 10: The morning weather was clear and sunny with good visibility. We left Pichler's at 10:00 AM skiing south. Glacier level clouds began rolling in from the West around noon and it was completely socked in by 2 PM. We navigated by compass to Whiteout pass and Hans' hut with heavy snow falling the rest of the day and accumulating 18-20" through the evening. This was a bit spooky and disorienting for the lead skier. We arrived at Hans' at 6:30 PM. The team was very tired but thrilled about getting to Hans'.



Photo by Yukiko Hayano

April 11: This was a planned rest/ski day with absolutely beautiful, sunny and mostly clear weather. The team left the hut at 1PM for an easy ski to Blackout Pass and an attempt on Hut Peak. We had great views of Eagle valley and Rosie's Roost. The Hut Peak climb was abandoned as we encountered thick snow over scree. High thin clouds started rolling in at 3PM and by 5 PM it was completely clouded over. We received our Guinness Stout airdrop at 4 PM and everyone was thrilled with the air show and spirits were high. Winds picked up about 6 PM and blew 35-40 mph steady for the next 24 hours or so. Gusts were estimated to 60 mph at times.

Annette and Travis at Blackout Pass



April 12: Storm day at Hans'. Wind continued. We built a $\frac{3}{4}$ igloo for a crapper. My teams typically have one person cook the evening meal for everyone with one rule, **NO FREEZE DRIED FOOD**. This evening Bruce Greer presented an MRE to each of us. Initially we groaned, but much fun ensued as we enjoyed an amazing variety of surprisingly good food, **Tabasco included!** Randy and Yukiko announced their upcoming wedding, June 10th. We also established a new trip rule this day – “No burping, farting or cussing in the huts.”

April 13: The morning skies started with high thin clouds but calm. We left Hans' about 10 AM. The team was happy to be able to move this day. A few clouds pushed in from Eagle valley but cleared out in the afternoon. It was quite hot crossing the Eagle Glacier. The team arrived at Rosie's ~ 4PM. It took more than the reported “15 minutes” to get to the hut from initial sighting. I saw excellent teamwork and communication through the day!

April 14: We Left Rosie's at 8:10 AM. The weather was clear, calm and cold. Skied to the pass and observed a Cessna 206 circling over the West

Branch Glacier, which turned out to be Matt Nedom looking for us. Winds aloft were ~ 20 mph from the north at Raven Pass. Everyone immediately put on more clothes. I was belayed over the lip to assess conditions and reported a snow pillow for the first 50' vertical that thinned out lower down. Despite cross cutting, no cracks, sloughs or slides could be produced. The team was advised that an avalanche was unlikely but **NO** guarantees. Everyone agreed with the assessment. We descended in a straight line downhill with a belay from up top and running belay to below the bergshrund. This went slowly but was safe and uneventful. We had no wind after down climbing 20' from the lip and it was quite hot. Everyone gathered at a safe spot on the Raven Glacier, lunched and headed to the Crow pass cabin. Below Crow Pass, the team walked down the steepest sections as well as where icy conditions combined with significant exposure of a slip into the creek below required it. Two minor slips were stopped by alders. We completed skiing down to Glacier Gulch bridge by 7 PM. Dwight Iverson met us with ice cream at the trailhead. Thanks Dwight!

Eagle Glacier from Rosie's



I observed **EVERYONE** working together for a team effort and observed tremendous growth in each team member. Well done! I also enjoyed experiencing their personal successes and was pleased to work with and teach mountaineering skills to this group. During next years trip I plan on practicing running belays, both up and down slopes, during training sessions to make its use go smoother and faster and also taking two days at each hut to climb some peaks. C'mon, let's ski!

Participating: Annette Iverson, Travis Taylor, Randy Plant, Yukiko Hayano, Greg Encelewski, Bruce Greer and Greg Bragiel



Greg Jacobson on the summit of 2950, Knight Island – Panorama by Tim Kelley

Climbing at Knight by Tim Kelley

Lust at first sight, we all know about that, don't we? Whoa, get your mind out of the gutter! I'm not talking about sexual attractions. I'm talking about seeing a mountain for the first time, and feeling an immediate desire to climb it.

I remember the first time I saw the high peaks of Knight Island in Prince William Sound. My eyes widened in disbelief. My jaw dropped. I began to drool. Then I started scheming on how to climb them. Actually, I targeted one summit in particular - Peak 2950 (60.30136, 147.7176), the second highest peak on the island and the striking northernmost crag of the Knight Island high peaks.

An ancient ice warrior, this peak is a survivor. Jim Lethcoe mentions this fact on page 79 in his book: "An Observer's Guide to the Geology of Prince William Sound, Alaska". He writes, "Although peaks on the northern end of Knight Island group were overridden and rounded off by ice, several jagged peaks over 3000 feet high on the southern end must have thrust above the ice sheet as lonely nunataks."

On July 1st of this year, I made a recon trip to this former nunatak. After looking at this peak in previous years, I knew there was a snow gully that, for most of the summer, offered a route from the high western snowfields to the summit area. I wanted to see how to get to this gully and what it looked like up close.

From an anchorage in Drier Bay, I paddled to the end of Northeast Cove and bushwhacked east to reach brush line. I climbed snowfields heading south up to the col west of Peak 2950. Putting on crampons and helmet, I worked my way up to the base of the gully. It did not take me long to realize I could not safely climb this gully alone. It was a 55-degree pitch with an "S" above a big drop-off. If you slipped up high and did not self-arrest in time ... you would be toast. An interesting discovery for me here was the fact that the high peaks of Knight Islands are gull rookeries. Most every ledge has a

nesting gull, with its mate making grocery runs almost 3000 feet down to the water and back.

When I got back to Anchorage, I quickly made a call to my climbing pal Greg Jacobson, a veteran Cascades climber, who lives in Seattle. Greg was planning on coming to Anchorage for his work. So on the evening of July 11th we boated back to Drier Bay, camped out and then headed for the peak the next day.

Once at the base of the gully, Greg led a running belay, with snow pickets for protection, to a notch in the summit ridge. We then turned south and Greg led up a crack that we protected with a cam. Shortly after Greg disappeared out of sight, he let out a "yee-haw"! As I was climbing this pitch, I found out what the excitement was all about – a large exposed flake we had to "horsie-ride" to get across. Yee-haw!!

Kayaking Drier Bay with 2950 in the back

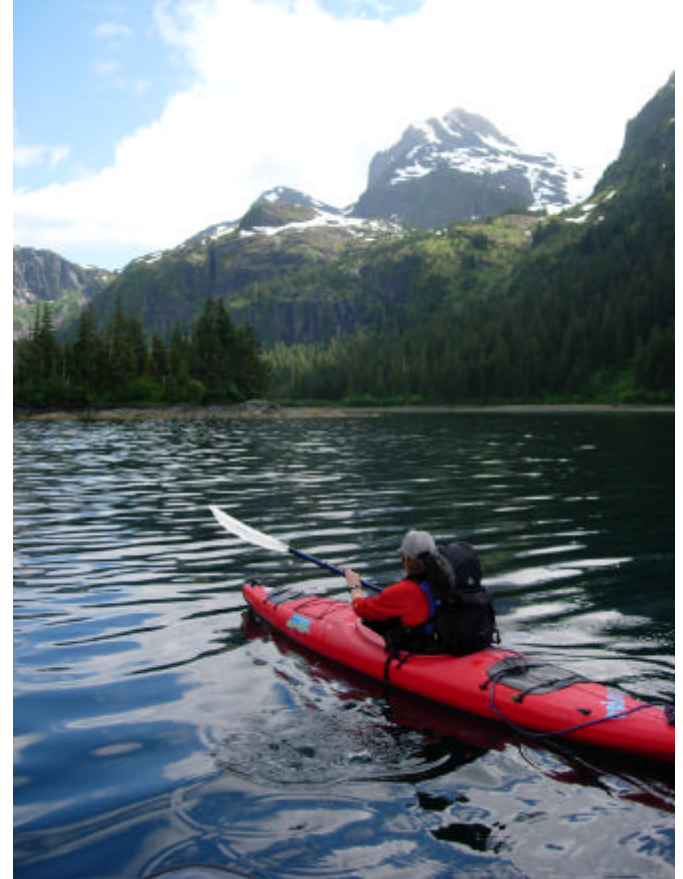


Photo by Tammy Thiele

We were pumped when we made the summit. But not for long. Soon we realized we were not on the true summit! The north summit was higher. And looking at the mossy-choss covered cliff leading up to the true summit, we had a few reservations about the route. But we decided to give it a try anyway.

Running belay up the Ascent gully



Photo by Tim Kelley

Back at the notch, I took a turn leading. There did not seem to be much in the way of cracks to place pro in. But after a few moves, I felt a thin crack under the moss. I cleaned it out with an ice axe and was able to get a tiny cam in it. A little higher up I found a larger crack and the route got easy after that. Soon we were on the true summit.

Being a clear day, the views from the summit were typical Prince William Sound splendor. It was particularly neat to see the all the eastern faces of the high Knight Island peaks. The bottom line here is that one had better like the color green if you want to rock climb these routes!

We did not find a cairn on top, so I built a small one and we rapped down to the notch. We then, again with picket protection, carefully down-climbed the gully. Back at the col, we packed up our climbing gear and made our way back to the boat. Greg and I have been climbing together off and on for about 20 years. We were happy to chalk up another good adventure together on a very cool peak.

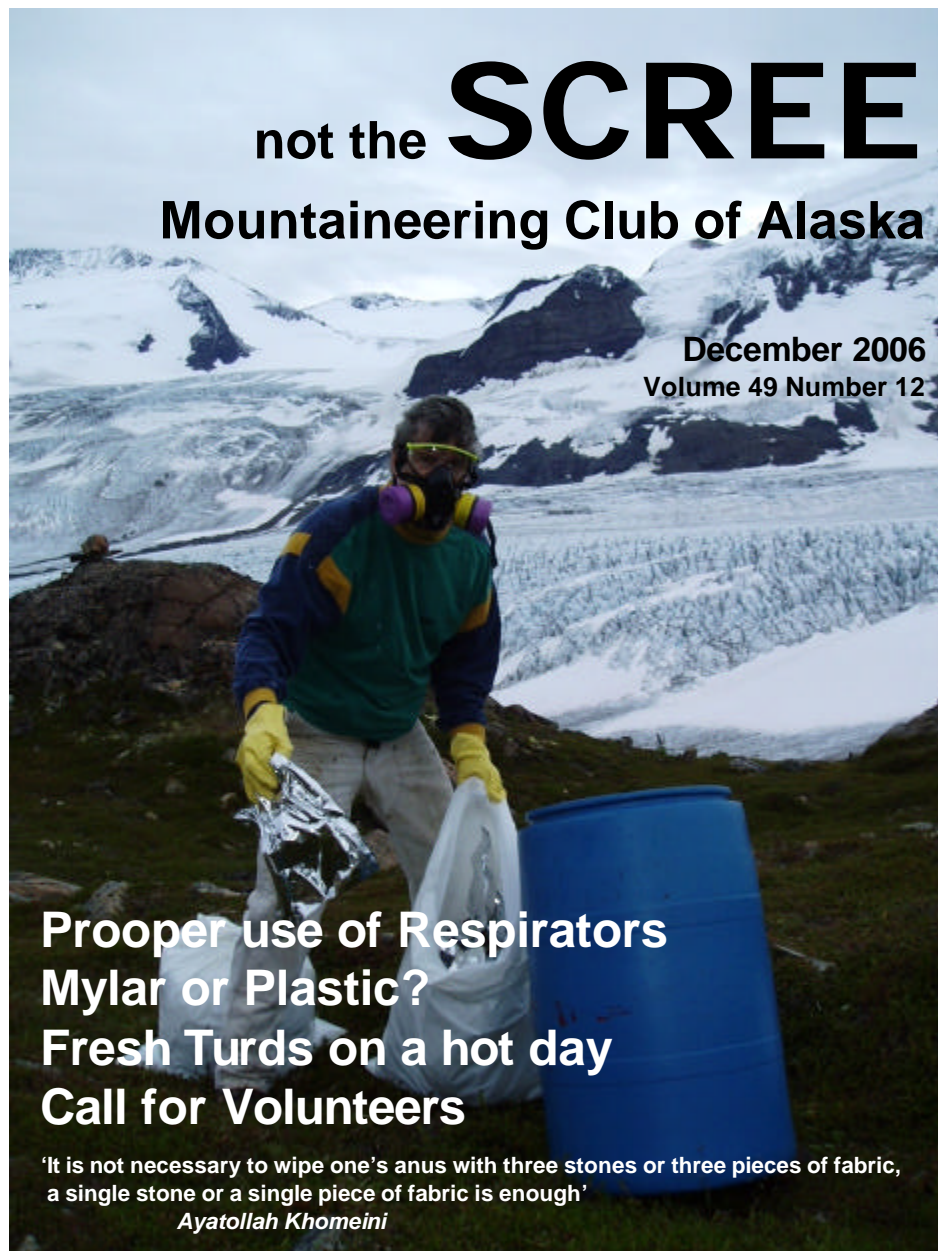
This was the fifth of six trips I have made to Knight Island. It has become my summer hangout of recent. It is such a cool place that I am still scheming more trips to do there. I have scrambled up a number of peaks on the island so far. I previously wrote a Scree trip report about climbing peaks around Solf Lake. During the last couple of years, I have scrambled a bunch of the peaks near the head of Drier Bay. In particular, from west to east: Peaks 2125 (S18), 1870 (S8), 1850 (S16), 1950 (S27) and 1890 (S34). I also climbed Peak 2700+ (60.46604, 148.15752) to the south of McClure Bay on the mainland.

These smaller peaks on Knight Island are all easy scrambles once you get past the first 1000 feet of bushwhacking and steep gully navigation. Geologists and prospectors in the early 1900's likely rambled over these smaller peaks looking for copper deposits. I found a cairn on 1950 (S27) which is probably a boundary marker for the Alaska Copper Company claim. I also found and visited the Alaska Copper Company mine, which was neat. In the shaft, there was still an old rusted-out ore cart on narrow gauge tracks. Later I would read that this 700 foot long mineshaft had a winze. A winze is a vertical shaft that workers would be lowered down. I am sure glad I did not venture further into the mineshaft than I did. Being by myself and falling into a winze would have been very un-fun!



THAT'S THE WAY TO GET TO THE HUT!!

by Greg Bragiel



not the **SCREE**

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

December 2006
Volume 49 Number 12

**Prooper use of Respirators
Mylar or Plastic?
Fresh Turds on a hot day
Call for Volunteers**

*'It is not necessary to wipe one's anus with three stones or three pieces of fabric, a single stone or a single piece of fabric is enough'
Ayatollah Khomeini*

The mission for 2006 was to complete the painting project that was started in 2005. On Wednesday August 2nd, Hans Neidig and the Air National Guard 212th visited all three huts on the Eklutna Traverse. Maintenance supplies were delivered to Hans' and Rosie's and the crapper barrels were emptied at all huts. Hans later describe the barrel job as quite exciting. I was very surprised and happy that this mission was accomplished since Anchorage was completely clouded over that day and our trip depended on the supplies being delivered via copter. Thank you, 212th, for flying in difficult conditions and for your support!!

After a 24-hour delay due to windy conditions, Alpine Air flew the maintenance team to the huts on August 5th. We received permission for these landings from Chugach State Park Superintendent Tom Harrison. SWEEEEEEEEEEEEETTTT!!!! This allowed us to get to work on the huts immediately and be extremely productive.

Ray Nabinger and I arrived at Hans' amidst fresh snow above 5000' over the entire range. We did a general clean up, repairs, inventoried all supplies and tools, installed eyelets to hang an American flag on the front of the hut, caulked leaks and seams and moved most everything out of hut. The ground floor and walls received two coats of white paint and the floor two coats of a sand color. Ray and I left some soft drinks and cervesa in the hut. So, get up to the hut and drink 'em!

We also did some exploring of Blackout pass(es), climbed Hut peak and about 1 ½ miles of the ridge to the south. This route might make an interesting traverse to Rosie's. We also discovered the legendary grave of Hans' just downhill and east of the hut. (see photo). The weather was generally cloudy with periods of showers and on Aug.7th we experienced thunder and heavy rain

as we retreated to the hut from Blackout pass.

Sam and Jenny used the helicopter arrival to chase black bears away from Rosie's. However, the bears returned a number of times over the next few days. This is definitely getting to be a problem and I am surprised that a bear has not entered the hut yet. Sam immediately got to work emptying the crapper barrel and Alpine Air VERY RELUCTANTLY agreed to fly out two compactor bags full. Sam is quoted saying "...the most disgusting job I have ever done." Sam and Jenny fixed a broken shovel, repaired the door and cooking table top, added additional door jamb insulation, placed eyelets above the escape door to hang an American flag,

painted inside hut main floor walls, ceiling and table white. They also painted the floor a sand color, caulked exterior windows, eaves and seams to fix leaks, replaced popped out nails of roof flashing with screws, cleaned and organized the cabin, washed dishes, inventoried hut supplies, tools, etc, and made suggestions for needed supplies.

Hans' final resting place and Hans' hut



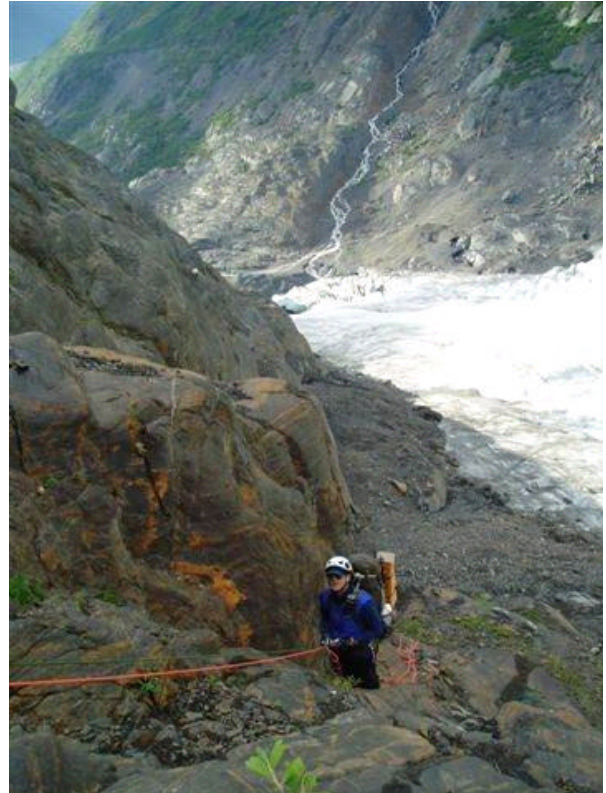
Greg Bragiel photo

Jenny and Sam reported generally sunny and clear weather, which was very different from what Ray, and I experienced at Hans'. As viewed from Rosie's, Blackout pass and Hut peak were in the clouds most of the time.

Ray and I left August 8th via Blackout pass (southern most). Just after getting over the shrund and onto the glacier, we were treated to a tremendous rock avalanche in the EXACT spot we had been only 5 minutes earlier. This was quite unnerving and made us realize that our guardian angels were truly watching over us. We crossed Blackout Glacier, stopped for lunch to watched Sam and Jenny doing some EASY rappelling down from Sagala point (not the gully). We worked benches down to the toe of Eagle Glacier Ray and I crossed Emerald Creek and headed down the north side of the gorge, found a newly flagged and cut trail around Glacier Lake, camped at Twin falls campground and hiked out to the Nature Center the next morning. Sam and Jenny left Rosie's the same day as us, made their way to Sagala Point,

rappelled down to the Eagle Glacier and exited off the toe of the glacier. They camped on the gravel bar at the upper end of Glacier Lake and ended up meeting us near the Echo Bend yurt. We hiked to the ERNC together.

Sam on a good day



Jenny magee photo

As a result of this trip, I realized the MCA should seriously consider a more sustainable system to dispose of human waste at ALL of our huts. I have been looking into composting toilets.

Hut maintenance crew August 5-9, 2006: Sam Pepper, Ray Nabinger, Jenny Magee and Greg Bragiel.



Emerald Peak, Western Chugach – Bears and Bivy

By Steve Gruhn



Devil's Mistress, Photo by Steve Gruhn

My alarm went off at 3:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2006. Even that close to the summer solstice it was still only twilight. What was I thinking?

I arrived at Richard Baranow's home near the Eagle River Nature Center at 4:30 a.m. to find that Richard had not finished packing. At 7:00 a.m. Richard drove us a mile or so up the valley from his home near the Eagle River Nature Center and parked near the driveway of some friends. We started hiking up the road and within a couple hundred yards ran into a black bear. It was to be the first of several bear encounters on that trip for me. Together we tried to scare it off by shouting at it and banging our trekking poles together. The bear would move ahead a few yards, but would not leave the roadbed. Finally, we scared him off into the brush. But it was the same patch of brush that we were planning to enter to reach the Dew Mound Trail. We made a racket and entered the brush 20 yards north of the place where the bear entered the brush. I was relieved when we got to the more open area of the trail – until I saw the same bear ahead of us on the trail. With some more shouting, arm waving, and clapping, though, we were able to chase the bear off to the west and we scooted by.

We continued up the Dew Mound Trail and cut across to the Iditarod Trail. We made pretty good time and, even with stopping to photograph some grebes in the Eagle River, we were able to meet Kneely Taylor at 10:00 a.m. at a stream just northwest of the large beaver pond before Twin Falls Creek exactly as planned. Our timing had been perfect. Kneely had hiked in the night before and got considerably more rest than either of us and had just left the Iditarod Trail as we met him. Together the three of us hiked up a side trail through the alders into a high basin in the Twin Falls Creek drainage. Once above the brush, we stopped at the large boulder and had lunch. There I found an old, rusted spotting scope. We then headed up the valley to a low spot (at about 5150 feet) on a ridge overlooking snow-covered Blue-Eyed Lake and Devil's Mistress (elev. 6750 feet; Sec. 26, T13N, R2E, S.M.). We descended quickly down to the lake and traversed clockwise around it to its outlet stream. We descended the valley to a snow-free spot at about 3500 feet. Here we grabbed a bite to eat and parted company. Kneely and Richard had planned to head up Thunder Creek and cross over to meet some friends near Hans' Hut for a multi-day trip. I had to be at work on Monday morning, so I could not join them for their extended trip. I had my sights set on Emerald Peak

(Sec. 11, T12N, R2E, S.M.), a 5185-foot peak that overlooked Thunder Creek and Emerald Creek a couple miles to the south. Kneely's parting comment to me was to watch out for the bears. Boy, was he right!

I descended to Thunder Creek, waded it at about 2650 feet, and began hiking southward up a spur that connected to the ridge. I turned around to look for Kneely and Richard and saw that a black bear had moved upstream to the place where I had just crossed. I tried yelling to let it know that I was there, but I suspect that my voice was drowned by the sound of the stream. Figuring that I would deal with it later, I continued up the ridge until I reached a sheep trail. I followed this sheep trail to the southwest and came across a very startled group of rams. They watched me for a few seconds then ran up the hill and around a corner. I continued around the corner and saw them again as they were heading over the spur ridge. They had traveled in about five minutes what would take me a half hour to hike.

I followed their path to the spur ridge and then southward to a 4750-foot point on the ridge. I initially tried to continue up the ridge toward Point 5085 to the southeast, but decided that it would be too time consuming, so I backtracked and descended into the basin north of Emerald Peak. I hiked up the pleasant valley and scrambled up the scree and snow to the north ridge of Emerald Peak. From here, a short and easy walk led to the summit where a cairn concealed a register. I opened the register to see a surprising number of entries. The earliest entry was by Richard Baranow and Wendy Sanem on July 4, 1996.

As it was 9:00 p.m., I added my name to the register, re-constructed the cairn, and departed quickly. I considered descending to the Eagle Glacier below me, but ultimately decided that I could encounter some unforeseen problems on the cliffs above the glacier, so I headed north on the ridge, over Point 5085, and descended to the 4650-foot saddle. From here, I descended steep, wet snow in a cold glissade to the snow-filled floor of a basin above Thunder Creek. I postholed across the upper basin and descended to my earlier crossing point on Thunder Creek, every mindful of the bear in the area. Fortunately, I did not see it and waded the creek without incident.

I began the trudge through willows to the tundra above Thunder Creek. By now I was soaked, chilled, and tired. I was now in the shade on a clear evening and the heat had long since radiated from

the land. So, at 11:30 p.m. near the last bit of tundra below Blue-Eyed Lake, I stopped for the evening. I put on every piece of extra clothing that I had, inflated my thermarest, crawled into my bivy sack, and put my legs, shrouded in the bivy sack, into my daypack for added insulation. It wasn't enough.

I shivered all night and listened to the white-tailed ptarmigan shriek every few minutes. At 3:00 a.m. I started hearing raindrops. At 4:00 a.m. my alarm went off. It was still raining. I pretended that the rock under my head was comfortable and I curled up, waiting for the sunshine to hit my bivy sack. Instead, it started to snow. The rock began to seem more comfortable. Finally, I began to do some math in my head and figure how many hours it would take me to get out and realized that I had to start moving or else I wouldn't be able to get out by 3:30, the time I needed to be back.

So, I roused myself from my blissful state of shivering stiffness, packed my gear amid snow flurries, and began trudging uphill. In short order I began to see fresh wolverine tracks that followed our tracks from the day before in the snow. I hiked back around Blue-Eyed Lake and up the slope to the 5150-foot low spot on the ridge where the wolverine tracks had joined our earlier tracks. I followed our tracks down the slope to the big boulder and picked up the spotting scope to bring it out. As I sat down to put it in my pack, I noticed a black bear a couple hundred yards from me in precisely the place where I had intended to travel. By now, the snow had turned to rain showers.

I shouted and waved my arms, but it did not move. I began to run toward it with my pack over my head and it bolted downhill – in the same direction I was headed. Why didn't it go uphill, away from me? I followed it around a ravine and saw the answer – another black bear in the upper reaches of the ravine. I hollered to let it know that I was there and it luckily ran away from me. As I continued to descend, I encountered the first bear again and scared it across Twin Falls Creek. As I reached the trail and began my descent into the brush, I saw yet another black bear in a clearing about a quarter mile below me. I shouted and it moved downhill into the brush.

I hiked down the trail and past the clearing without incident. Home free, I thought. I was wrong. A few minutes later I rounded a corner adjacent to another clearing and saw still another black bear foraging along the side of the trail about 75 yards

ahead of me. I abruptly stopped and shouted. The bear kept foraging. I clanged my trekking poles, providing some nice dinner music for the foraging bear. I raised my pack over my head and took some quick steps toward the bear as I shouted at the top of my lungs. The bear kept foraging. I loudly clapped my hands and hollered. The bear continued to forage. By now I had approached to within about 20 feet of the bear. I didn't want to venture into the thick brush where I feared I might stumble across another bear at close range and I didn't want to sit and wait while the bear grew accustomed to my presence, so I whipped my trekking pole over my head and hit the ground in front of me as hard as possible as I took a lunging step forward. The bear looked up at me – and then continued to forage. I did the same thing twice

more with similar results. Finally, I was close enough to hit the bear's snout with the tip of my trekking pole. After a couple doses of that, the bear ran off downhill, perpendicular to the trail. I moved off as quickly as my shaky legs would take me. Once down at the main trail I had to sit and calm down so that my pulse rate would drop below 200 beats a minute. Thankfully, the rest of the trip was uneventful; I don't think I could have handled any more excitement. I reached the truck in a rainstorm at 3:30 p.m.

Emerald Peak, with its views overlooking the Eagle River Valley, is a jewel worthy of a weekend jaunt. But I would have preferred it to be unbearable.



Connecting the Dots, Peter's Creek

by Greg Bragiel

Peter's Creek Trip October 10-14, 2006: Sam Pepper and Greg Bragiel

Hiking the entire length of Peter's Creek has been on my list of 'to dos' for some time. Stu Grenier led a hut maintenance trip to Pichler's in 2004 that started in Ram Valley and entered the Peter's Creek drainage via Bombardment Pass. I had also day tripped into Peter's to within a mile of Peeking Peak in October 2005. So the idea of connecting the dots and checking out the ruins atop Peak 4735 seemed appealing.

On October 10th, Sam Pepper and I parked at the trailhead, hiked in about 7 miles and camped near the creek. The weather was absolutely beautiful!!

The next day we continued up valley and hiked to within 2 miles of Raisin Glacier. and stopped about 6:30 pm on a gravel bar. Just as we dropped our packs at the prospective tent site we observed a LARGE grizzly making his way up the creek only 50 yards away. What now?? We talked it over. Should we retreat? Stay right here? Climb up? After searched the north side of the drainage we found a SMALL site to set up the tent. It required some excavating but was the best available and provided a vantage point of the valley floor. It started snowing as we crawled into the tent. Not wanting to create smells that would attract the bear, we had

Are you sure Ed Viesturs started this way?



a no cook dinner. Knowing there was a griz in the area was a bit unnerving for me particularly knowing that Stu had recently shot one from inside his tent while camping in the Drift River drainage of Mount Redoubt during a September outing.

There was no sign of the bear on the morning of October 12th so we headed east, picking our way carefully over snow covered moraine. Sam and I hiked to the Raisin Gl., took some photos of Transcendence Pass and the large ice cave where

Ice cave at Transcendence Pass



the glacier meets the Transcendence Pass slope. We climbed peak 4735 and photographed the piles of very old lumber scattered about the summit area. I am still speculating on who hauled the lumber up there? Was this a mining camp? When was this area occupied? It is amazing to think that someone had the ambition to connect the dots all the way from Anchorage, probably a 40-50 mile journey.

The next two days we retraced our route out of the valley while enjoying beautiful fall weather, speculated more on the Peak 4735 ruins, located surrounding peaks and passes, enjoyed a wonderful river bed campfire the last evening and listened to coyotes passing our camp in the night.



Peak 4735 ruins

Sam and I have future trip plans for the Peter's Creek area and will continue to CONNECT THE DOTS. HOW ABOUT YOU?



Board Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2006
Transition Team Meeting

I. Call to Order 6:16 pm

Attendance:

Travis Taylor, Treas.	Andy Rembert Board
Deb Arens, Past Treas.	Randy Howell, Board
Julie Perilla, Past Sec.	Annette Iverson, VP
Steve Parry, Past Board	Eric Teela, past board
Don Hansen, Board	Steve Gruhn, Past Pres
Bridget Paule, Sec.	Sean Bolendar

II. Agenda Items:

- A. Introductions. New people, meet old people. The Club will pay for meals at this meeting, up to \$15, not including alcohol. Meetings must have a 5-person quorum to do business. Sean will email meeting agendas about 4 days prior to board meetings. Board

members should arrive at general meetings around 7:00 to assist with setup. This meeting will be a general run-down on the duties of each position with a transfer of information and records from old to new officers.

- B. Officer Roles and Duties. Current officers briefly described their roles and duties to the newly elected officers. Full descriptions can be found in Officer Handbooks. Highlights: The Treasurer needs to develop a budget to present at the next Board Meeting, Nov. 1st, will work w/Pres.; the VP needs to arrange a presenter for the Nov. General Meeting; the Secretary should reserve the meeting room for Nov. 1st, check on the Officer Handbook updates and update the Board Directory.
- C. Intro to Hot Topics for 2007:
1. Calendar—an ongoing discussion about increasing the quantity & quality of calendars by going to offset printing vs.

Board Meeting Minutes

November 1st, 2006

I. Call to Order 5:59 pm

Attendance:

Bridget Paule, Sec.	Sara Ellen Hutchison, Board
Steve Gruhn, Past Pres.	Randy Howell, Board
Travis Taylor, Treas.	Andy Rembert, Board
Sean Bolender, Pres.	Don Hansen, Board
Randy Howell, Board	Stu Grenier, Calendar Comm

II. Agenda items

A. 2007 Budget. The board reviewed budgets from 2003-2006 and the following projections of revenue and expenses were unanimously approved to present to the membership at the Nov. 15th General Membership meeting:

Revenue:

Membership dues	\$ 7,200
Scree subscriptions	\$ 300
Training	\$ 6,000
Calendar	\$ 3,500
MCA products	\$ 500
Interest on accounts	\$ 200
Revenue Total:	\$17,700

Expense:

Training	\$ 4,800
Scree	\$ 2,000
General Mtgs	\$ 2,700
Administrative	\$ 500
Huts	\$ 6,000
Equipment	\$ 500
Library	\$ 300
Calendar	\$ 3,000
Meekin Grant	\$ 250
Awards	\$ 300
Summit Registers	\$ 50
Expense Total:	\$20,400
Due from reserve:	(\$ 2,700)

B. Meekin Grant. We awarded one \$250 grant this year and have \$270 remaining in this fund with one current applicant. After extended, inconclusive discussion on the history, intent, amount and future of this award, the item was tabled until the January Board Meeting.

C. Powder House Hut update. Located above Winner Creek outside Girdwood, the hut was under the care of Chugach Powder Guides when it became known that the hut was built on Heritage Land Trust land. They are not interested in maintaining the Powder House and approached the MCA about taking over responsibility and maintenance for the facility. If we don't take it, they plan to burn it down. The Land Trust estimates an annual cost of \$1500 for maintenance, which includes propane, materials transport and perhaps paid labor. The Land Trust hired a structural engineer to assess the condition of the hut; a report is due around Nov. 10th. The hut is still used for commercial trips by

- keeping the current format and local printing of a small number.
- Huts—We're looking at building a new hut, obtaining new leases for existing huts, upkeep of existing huts, moving the hut Tom Choate recently built, assign specific duties to the Huts Comm. Chair. Annette and Sean went on a trip to Scandinavian Hut to do some maintenance and a recon trip to Bock's Den to assess the potential of moving it to W. Fork of Powell, a special priority of the new President. We'll also be looking for an update on the Powder House Hut.
 - Training and Trips—will be discussed continuously.
 - Dec. General Meeting—The Board needs to decide on food we supply by the Dec. 8th Board Meeting.
 - Long-term Organizational Improvements—Make sure the most current Bylaws are posted on the website and are available; consider a move to electronic Officer Handbooks for easier updating, perhaps switching over in 2008; Verify committee members and chairs.
- D. Intro to Committees.
- Hiking and Climbing Comm.—Randy and Jayme, Co-Chairs, Carlene helps with the website and e-mails. We discussed the membership and role of the committee as well as developing a seasonal trip calendar instead of month-to-month. Interest in a string of ice-climbing classes/outings is high, leaders for ice climbing trips are needed and Andy will work with the Training Comm. to develop this.
 - Training Comm.—Steve Parry, Chair, with Andy Rembert, Sarah Ellen Hutchison and Carol Jewell. They have a monthly meeting and are working on the spring Mountaineering Course.
 - Calendar Comm.—Stu Grenier collects the photos and will be bringing the finished products to a general meeting soon.
 - Membership Comm.—Yukiko and Randy Plant. One issue is a delay in processing memberships and Sean has some ideas on this.
 - Huts—Chaired by Greg Bragiel.
 - Awards—Don Hansen will put together a summary of recently given awards to help inform people and promote our programs, due by January Board Mtg. The Board should help by providing guidelines to evaluate each award proposal.
 - Geographic Names—Tom Choate, Chair.
 - Parks Advisory Comm.—Cory Hines, Chair. A big issue is maintaining Chugach access.

III. Adjourn, 7:29 pm.

the Powder Guides, who we have not talked to yet. Rick Hagen, a club member and carpenter was reported to have volunteered to take over maintenance on the hut if we do acquire it. The hut is not located in an area with access to climbing/ mountaineering, being mainly a ski and "party" hut. The question of the club's purpose came up—should we be the ones to take over everyone else's dilapidated huts? The Board leaned toward evaluating hut acquisition on a case-by-case basis, with a preference for quality facilities that support climbing and mountaineering trips. Developing guidelines for evaluating potential new huts would be helpful.

- D. Online membership renewal service. A new online Paypal account is being tested for membership renewals only. Steve Gruhn tested the service and there are a few bugs still to work out. An update expected at the Dec. board meeting.
- E. Winter Trip Schedule. A new effort to initiate more trips involves creating a seasonal schedule of trips, without setting trip leaders right now. Trip leaders can be recruited at meetings. Greg Bragiel has submitted a list of trips he plans to lead and Sean wants to offer at least 2 more per month, establishing a schedule for January-March. An idea to hook trips up with holidays to make use of long weekends seems reasonable.

These are the dates of some existing trips and proposed dates—board members are asked to help come up with possible locations:

- Dec. 30-Jan. 1, New Year's Trip
- Jan. 13-15, Martin Luther King Jr. Trip (weekend prior to general mtg.)
- Jan. 20-21 (weekend after general mtg.)
- Jan. 27-28, Lane Hut OR Powder Hut, Greg
- Feb. 17-19, President's Day
- Feb. 24-25, Indian to Arctic, Greg
- Mar. 1-5, Resurrection Trail, Greg
- Sat., Mar. 3, Stu's Arctic to Indian Ski day trip
- Sun., Mar. 11, Daylight Saving's Trip
- Mar. 24 or 31, Steve Gruhn's trip...where?
- Mar. 25-31, Bomber Traverse, Greg
- Apr. 14-15, Eklutna Traverse training weekend, Greg
- Apr. 29-May 5, Eklutna Traverse, Greg

- F. Winter Potluck Organization. We need to purchase food and supplies for the annual December potluck and should check with Annette about leftover items from last year. A message to members: don't bring treasured serving items because we will donate everything left after the dinner to a charitable organization! It's too much work to track down owners and return lost items. We will be soliciting volunteers to help with setup, cleanup and other tasks. Especially the cleanup. Board members should arrive at 6:30 for potluck setup on Dec. 20th. Three areas need planning: 1) Food—main dishes, i.e. turkey, ham, etc., 2) Serving Items, and 3) Chips & Drinks. Bridget volunteered to arrange the main meat dishes and Travis will go to Costco for the last two items.
- G. Next Board Meeting. Dec. 6th. Issues: Food for potluck, Powderhouse update, Willie's online Paypal service.

III. New business

- A. Steve Gruhn expressed dismay over the scheduling of the American Alpine Club's slide show during our elections night meeting. This has happened three times now, even though our meeting times are posted well in advance. Our liason should approach the Alpine Club's leadership about considering our meeting in the future—especially because we'd like to go to their slide shows, too.
- B. Stu Grenier made a note of Don's long and extensive history as a trip leader and asked if it would be appropriate to mention this in the calendar, where Don has a photo. This led into a protracted discussion of who has led the most trips and potential nominations for various awards, and Stu's question was left unresolved.

IV. Adjourn 8:13 pm

Submitted 11/15/06
Bridget Paule

Adze

Looking for

Need House sitter to stay at my house the entire time from Dec 16 to Dec 30. 3 dogs and 1 cat

Denise 338-2238

MCA 2007 PROPOSED BUDGET

	Proposed for 2007	Current for 2006	Approved for 2006
REVENUE			
Membership Dues <i>received during calendar year</i>	\$7,200.00	\$5,359.00	\$7,200.00
Scree subscriptions	\$300.00	\$170.00	\$300.00
Training <i>ice climbing, crevasse rescue, other</i>	\$6,000.00	\$3,728.00	\$6,000.00
Photo Calendar	\$3,500.00	\$150.00	\$4,000.00
MCA Products: T-Shirts, Patches, Etc.	\$500.00	\$55.00	\$2,700.00
Donations	\$0.00	\$235.00	\$0.00
Other--Interest on Accounts	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Grant - REI/AAC Road Sign Project			
Bulk Purchase - AMH Avalanche Gear			
Bulk Purchase - Chugach State Park Maps			
Bulk Purchase - Alaskana Book Sales			
Bulk Purchase - Mountain House			
Other - TRAAK			
Grant			
TOTAL REVENUE	\$17,700.00	\$9,697.00	\$20,300.00
	<i>Check Revenue Totals</i>		
EXPENSE			
Training <i>campsite and access fees, instructors</i>	\$4,800.00	\$4,695.00	\$4,800.00
Scree <i>postage, mailing, printing</i>	\$2,000.00	\$1,391.29	\$2,000.00
General Meeting <i>rent, refreshments, entertainment</i>	\$2,700.00	\$1,193.14	\$2,400.00
Administrative <i>supplies, forms, PO box, bank fees, rewards, phone</i>	\$500.00	\$396.18	\$500.00
Hut Construction & Maint. <i>materials, supplies, hut equipment, lease fees*</i>	\$6,000.00	\$3,603.20	\$3,000.00
Club Equipment <i>climbing gear, misc equipment</i>	\$500.00	\$349.98	\$1,800.00
Library <i>new books, periodicals, Scree binding</i>	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Other: <i>miscellaneous expenses</i>		\$506.18	
Photo Calendar	\$3,000.00	\$150.00	\$3,000.00
MCA Products: T-Shirts, Patches, Etc.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Donations - MCA donations to others			
Grant - REI/AAC Road Sign Project			
Bulk Purchase - AMH Avalanche Gear			
Bulk Purchase - Chugach State Park Maps			
Bulk Purchase - Alaskana Book Sales			
Bulk Purchase - Mountain House			
Other- Meekins			
Grant	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$520.00
Other - TRAAK			
Grant			
Other - Awards	\$300.00	\$250.00	\$300.00
Other - Summit Registers	\$50.00		\$50.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$20,400.00	\$12,784.97	\$21,670.00
	<i>Check Expense Totals</i>		
DUE TO (FROM) RESERVE		(\$3,087.97)	
CASH BALANCE - All Accounts			
Beginning Balance - January 1, 2006		\$25,629.24	
Increase (decrease) during 2006		(\$3,087.97)	
Current Balance for 2006		\$22,541.27	
Checking - Credit Union 1		\$4,345.93	
Money Market - Credit Union 1		\$17,842.32	
18-month CD - in trust for hut lease - Northrim Bank		\$1,024.49	
Petty Cash		\$50.00	
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS - for 2006		\$23,262.74	
Ending Balance - December 31, 2006		Not Finished	

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President Sean Bolender 333-0213
Vice-President Annette Iverson 222-0581
Secretary Bridget Paule 337-8163
Treasurer Travis Taylor (979)571-2459

Board member Steve Gruhn 344-1219
Board member Don Hansen 243-7184
Board member Randy Howell 346-4608
Board member Andy Rembert 688-3230
Board member Sara Ellen Hutchison 382-7097

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

Dues can be paid at any meeting or mailed to the Treasurer at the MCA address below. 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 and notes submitted for publication and other communication related to the newsletter should be submitted on the web at www.mcak.org or mailed to Scree Editor Box 102037 Anchorage Alaska 99510. Articles should be received by December 20th to be in the January Issue.

Paid Ads may be submitted to the attention of the Vice-President at the club address and should be 'camera ready' and pre-paid.

Missing your MCA membership card? Stop by our monthly meeting to pick it 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: Randy Howell – 346-4608, Jayme Dixon – 382-0212
Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008
Calendar: Stuart Grenier 337-5127
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