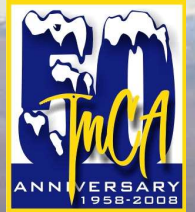


the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

December 2008
Volume 51 Number 12



We can never have enough of nature.
We must be refreshed by the sight of
inexhaustible vigor,
vast and titanic features.

~John Muir

Monthly Meeting

Wed, December 17 @ 7:30 PM

Christmas Potluck

Slides by members (see inside)

Gates of the Arctic
Peak 6090, Landmark Gap
Dumpling Mountain, POM
Tim Kelley, Hoeman Award
Scree, December 1958
Mount Reid

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 Avenue and G Streets next to the ConocoPhillips 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: Looking North past Landmark Gap into the Alaska Range, Sam Pepper on Peak 6090. Photo by John Recktenwald

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.

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Hiking and Climbing Schedule

December 5-16 (flexible dates), 12 days - Mexico
Volcano Climbing. Pico de Orizaba (18,400'), Ixta (17,100'), Nevado de Toluca (15,300'), Sierra Negra (15,200'), La Malinche (14,600'). A moderately paced, non-expeditionary sample of high-altitude day-trip climbing. Competent ice-axe arrest and crampon skills are required. Roped travel required on Orizaba only. Class D and Basic Mountaineering skills. Local outfitter will be hired to provide all transport, lodging, food, and local guide at cost. ~\$1000 per person covers all in-country costs. Airfare/Alaska Airlines miles to Mexico City excluded. Limit 5 team members. \$500 non-refundable deposit holds your spot. Leader: Dave Hart 244-1722 or david.hart@pxd.com

December 13 – Annual Williwaw Lakes Ski and Christmas Tree Decorating Trip
Ski or snowshoe toward Williwaw Lakes, decorating a tree with Christmas decorations along the way. Bring holiday wear, snacks and appropriate gear for the current snow and

weather conditions and a non-fragile ornament for the tree. If you don't have an ornament, I have ornaments from previous years' trips. I always retrieve the ornaments after New Year's Eve. Meet at the Glen Alps parking lot at 10:15 a.m. Leader: Amy Murphy at 338-3979 or e-mail: hayduchesslives@yahoo.com.

December 20-21, Ship Creek Trail Clearing
Overnight from the Arctic Valley end, Go as far as we can and do as much as we can. Stu Grenier at oinkmenow@hotmail.com 337-5127

January 01 – Ski Toward Symphony Lake
New Year's Day Class B Ski toward Symphony Lake. Venezuelans believe wearing yellow underwear on New Year's Eve and Day brings good luck so wear something yellow. Not enough snow to ski? Bring snowshoes. Out for about 2 hours and head back. Meet at the South Fork trailhead at 11 on the 1st. Bring snacks and water. No dogs. Leader: Amy Murphy at 338-3979 or e-mail: hayduchesslives@yahoo.com.

December Meeting / Christmas Dinner / Slide Show

Annual Christmas Potluck: the club will provide ham, turkey, and/or roasts as well as drinks and paper products. Please bring a dish to share:

A-I: salad
J-S: side dish

T-Z: dessert

Members please bring 5 to 10 slides or digital photos of your adventures (previous years allowed, too).

Gates of the Arctic National Park, Foley Lake to Natat Lake Traverse July 19th to August 2nd 2008

by Don Hansen

The five of us – Randy Plant, Yukiko Hayano, Jim Szender, Sandra Estenson and I - drove to Fairbanks on July 18th in the rain. We stayed overnight at Pike's Lodge and caught a commuter flight with Wright Air to Bettles Saturday morning. The weather was marginal in Bettles and we were not able to fly a charter to Foley Lake in Gates of the Arctic National Park. We were told by Brooks Range Aviation that we needed to check in with the Park Service headquarters in Bettles. They told us we needed to carry all food and things that smell in bear-proof containers. They said that it was mandatory. We each checked out one of the canisters that were available from the Park Service and reluctantly carried them in our packs. But there's no way you can carry two weeks of food in one canister. In order to fully comply with this park service policy you'd have to carry at least two of these canisters and have no room for the rest of your gear in your pack! The Park Service didn't put much thought into that policy.



The following day, Sunday, July 20th, we managed to get flown to Foley Lake in the afternoon with just enough ceiling below the clouds to get to the lake and get dropped off before the weather came down. Monday, it rained all day and snowed that evening. We remained hunkered down in camp.

Tuesday, July 22nd, snow flurries and cold winds out of the north continued in the morning. We broke camp at noon and headed out of Kutuk Pass, down the Kutuk River drainage and set up Camp Two about 3 miles down the valley and across the Kutuk River. Wednesday the 23rd we broke camp about 11 am, crossed a drainage of the Kutuk River and, hiking above the river, started a long bushwhack and trudge through endless tussock meadows and swamps. We camped along Passless Creek after 3 hard miles of brush, tussocks, and swamps. Thursday, July 24th, we continued trudging through tussocks and swamps above the Kutuk River.

We setup our next camp along a stream that flows into July Creek. The next day we headed down the drainage that flows into July Creek and followed the creek upstream to July Lake. We set up camp on a beach near the outlet stream from the lake and spent July 26th at the lake. While we were there a herd of about a few thousand or more caribou moved into the lake area. They spent most of the day grazing on the tundra as more and more caribou moved into the area from the west. We went on short hikes around the lake trying to avoid swampy areas.



Sunday, July 27th, we broke camp at the lake and continued eastward through tussock meadows. We stopped at creek drainages to rest where there was a short break in the tussocks and camped along one of these drainages. Monday, July 28th, we continued traveling through tussocks and headed down to a stream that follows out of the pass leading to Natat Lake and a drainage coming from the south. It was easy going for the rest of the day as we traveled along gravel bars along the stream. We set up our next camp at a fork in the creek where a major drainage coming from the south meets the small stream coming from the pass that leads to Natat Lake. Tuesday, July 29th, we broke camp and followed the small stream coming from the pass until it became very brushy and headed up the tussocks meadows and swamps to the pass and the lake. Before the rain came again, we set up camp on small patches of dry tundra surrounded by tussocks and swamps.

We spotted tents of a camp located on a beach between the two lakes that make up Natat Lake. The campers broke camp after the rain and came by our camp on their way through Kutuk Pass and down the Alatna River to their pickup at Takahula Lake. They were a YMCA group, five teens and two adults on a 45-day backpack trip from Wiseman to Takahula Lake.

The following day, July 30th, we moved our camp to where they had located their camp which was the best campsite on the lake. Randy, Yukiko, and Sandra went for a day hike up a ridge north above the lake. Jim and I stayed around camp to rest from the grueling tussock trudge. The next day, July 31st, we all went for a hike up the ridge south of the lake. We had about a mile of swamp and tussocks to navigate through before we got to higher elevation and tundra slopes leading up the ridge. Randy, Yukiko, and Sandra got an early start and followed the ridge all the way to Natat Mountain (1563 meters). It was a cold and windy hike with overcast skies. Shortly after our return to camp, a Brooks Range Aviation Beaver aircraft landed on the western Natat Lake to drop off passengers and their gear. Randy and

Jim ran over to the drop off location to ask if the pilot could pick us up a day early from our scheduled pickup on August 1st. He said he would, but we had to hurry getting our gear together. We made it back to Bettles before the weather came down there. We spent the night in the "Bettles Hilton" (free rooms in a shed-like cabin owned by the charter company) and in the Brooks Range Aviation hanger. The next day we caught the Wright Air flight back to Fairbanks and we stayed at Pike's Lodge that evening. We met Tom Choate who was also staying at Pikes with the tour group that he works for during the summer. We had a great meal together and drove back to Anchorage on Sunday, August 3rd.



Peak 6090, Landmark Gap

by John Recktenwald

Marcy and I need a 'Tangle Lakes' fix about once a year for a few days. The high, open, low-brush, terrain with the rugged Alaska Range protruding on the northern side is visually stunning. A visit usually comes with blueberry picking (or watching blueberries get picked). Extra stuff like a canoe, or this year, bikes, is involved. Labor Day is a great time to go for nature's colors and possibly seeing some caribou, swans, and busy beavers. This year, the crisp clear air and sunshine was a wonderful change from the record-setting damp, dark summer in Anchorage.

Amy Maclean and Sam Pepper joined us Friday for the trip up to the BLM campground at Milepost 21 of the Denali Highway. Amy Murphy showed up on her motorcycle the next morning. Saturday was spent ambling about enjoying the surroundings.

Sunday, Sam and I biked down the Denali Highway to the Landmark Gap road/trail and up to Landmark Gap Lake where the bikes stayed as we headed up to Peak 6090. We headed cross country for a while to get to the southwest slope to gain the summit. The south side is mostly talus. The few areas of steeper rock look like you could take all of the holds home with you and are easily bypassed.

On the lower slopes we met one very curious caribou. Usually oblivious in groups and skittish when solo, this caribou seemed to be looking for company. He altered course to travel with us for a while studying us intently, occasionally trotting ahead or behind and then rejoining us. After 15 minutes or so he resumed his original course toward the lake.

Sam on the Lower South Slopes of Peak 6090



Curious Caribou

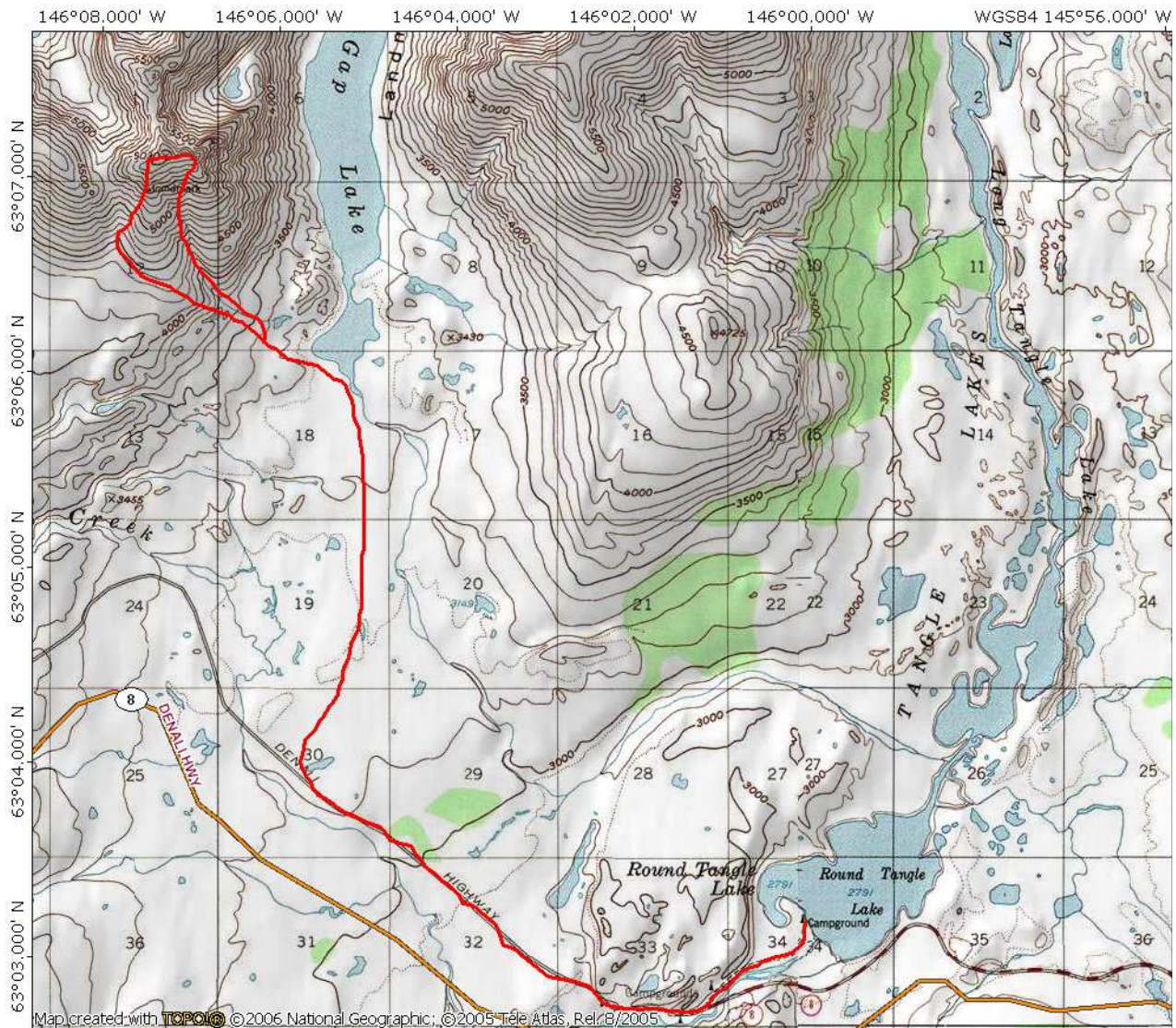


We crossed at the top to the summit on the eastern side of the peak and stopped at both ends to take in the view, Alaska Range to the north contrasting strongly with glistening lakes to the south. We descended the south aspect of the peak. It funneled into a large gully and out onto the flatter terrain at the gap. The brush at lower elevations is not bad for traveling.

The view from the summit hints at some interesting hiking, scrambling, and ridge-walking loops to the north to be explored on future visits. There are also many

mountain bike trails off of the Denali Highway. A geographic divide runs through this area as the Tangle lakes drain north into the Delta River, a worthwhile two-day float to the Richardson Highway. The lakes a stone's throw south of the Tangle Lakes drain south into the Gulkana River. The Landmark Gap Lake outlet deceptively flows south initially before joining the Tangle River and heading north. The 'National Geographic Topo!' software (2006 edition) shows two Denali Highways. I believe the yellow one is the imaginary one.

Approximate Route, Biking and Hiking



Peak of the Month: Dumpling Mountain

by Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Aleutian Range
Borough: Lake and Peninsula Borough
Drainage: Naknek Lake
Latitude/Longitude: 58° 34' 54" North, 155° 51' 29" West
Elevation: 2550 feet
Prominence: 2362 feet from Peak 2920 near
Headwaters Creek
Adjacent Peak: Peak 2024 near Lake Brooks
Distinctness: 2362 feet from Peak 2024
USGS Map: Mount Katmai (C-6)
First Recorded Ascent: 1918, by Paul Hagelbarger and
Jasper Sayre
Route of First Recorded Ascent: Unknown
Access Point: Brooks Camp on Naknek Lake

In the summer of 1918, Jasper D. Sayre and Paul R. Hagelbarger, journeyed from Seward to Naknek via the steamship *Dora* and then up the Naknek River to the eastern end of Naknek Lake. Sayre and Hagelbarger built a rock cairn at or near the summit of Dumpling Mountain for subsequent use as a survey reference.

There is now a 4-mile-long maintained hiking trail from Brooks Camp to the summit of Dumpling Mountain. This trail gains approximately 2,500 feet of elevation.

The first mention of a climb of Dumpling Mountain in the *Scree* was Marge Prescott's trip report in the September 1963 *Scree* that mentioned an aborted attempt to climb it. George Rektenwald's trip report in the October 1971 *Scree* mentioned that he hiked to the summit.



Sayre's photograph of the cairn near the summit of Dumpling Mountain is available in the archived photographs of the National Geographic Society Katmai Expedition 1918 collection at the Consortium Library at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.



Tim Kelley Receives MCA Hoeman Award

By Bill Romberg

Tim Kelley Looking for Someplace to Ski



Cory Smith Photo

Tim Kelley, a prolific hiker, climber, and skier, known for exploring and reporting on many of Alaska's numerous lesser-known and visited peaks in the Chugach, Talkeetna, and Kenai Mountains over the past two decades was honored as the recipient of the MCA's Hoeman Award during a brief ceremony at the November 2008 general meeting.

Established by the Board in 2001 in honor of pioneer club members and climbers Vin and Grace Hoeman, the Hoeman Award recognizes current and former club members who have made a significant contribution to the exploration, documentation, and promotion of hiking and climbing opportunities in Alaska's mountain ranges.

Mr. Kelley was selected to receive the award by the MCA Awards Committee because of his significant contributions to the exploration of remote and previously unnamed peaks in the Chugach, Talkeetna, and Kenai Mountains, as well as other areas of Alaska, and for sharing his many exploits and discoveries with the hiking and climbing community through numerous trip reports in the MCA newsletter, *Scree*.

According to MCA records, Tim has climbed 91 peaks in Alaska that do not have records of prior ascents, more than any other known person, and he continues to add more every year. It is probably safe to say that no person since Vin Hoeman has climbed and named as many peaks in Alaska. More importantly, Tim has

documented his climbs for future generations by submitting at least 45 articles to the *Scree* describing these climbs and associated adventures. A listing of Tim's climbs of peaks without records of prior ascents appears below.

Tim served on the MCA Board for one two-year term in the early 1990s, but is probably best known for his entertaining articles in the *Scree* and several presentations given to the club on his explorations. In recent years, he has been focusing on boat-based explorations and adventures out of Prince William Sound and continues to pursue long-distance, lightweight crust-skiing excursions in the mountains of southcentral Alaska.

For his accomplishments, Mr. Kelley received an engraved plaque and honorary MCA membership status which was presented by the MCA Awards Committee (Bill Romberg, Cory Hinds, and Don Hansen). His name was also engraved on the permanent Hoeman Award plaque that is housed in the Vin Hoeman Library at Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking (AMH), joining Tom Choate, Willy Hersman, and Greg Higgins as Hoeman Award recipients.

The Awards Committee once again thanks Steve Gruhn for submitting a comprehensive nomination documenting Mr. Kelley's accomplishments in Alaska. The Awards Committee is currently considering several other nominations for 2009.

Nominations for the Hoeman Award are accepted year round and should be sent to Bill Romberg, MCA Awards Committee Chair, wromberg@gci.net, 3530 Tanglewood Place, Anchorage, AK 99517. Nominations should include the name of the candidate(s), the name(s) of the person(s) nominating the candidate(s), a written description of the contributions the candidate(s) has made to the exploration, documentation, and promotion of hiking and climbing opportunities in Alaska, and the name(s) and contact information of club members or other persons who might be able to provide more information to the Awards Committee regarding the candidate's contributions.

Tim Kelley - First Recorded Ascents

Synthesizer Peak in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1991 (July 1991 *Scree*)

Bleak Peak in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1991 (November 1991 *Scree*)

Bright Peak in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1991 (November 1991 *Scree*)

Peak 5285 near Goat Creek and Yuditnu Creek in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1991 (November 1991 *Scree*)

Peak 5450 near Goat Creek and Yuditnu Creek in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1991 (November 1991 *Scree*)

Yudikench Peak in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1991 (November 1991 Scree)
The Gatekeeper in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1992 (August 1992 Scree)
Peak 5505 near Four Mile Creek, Nine Mile Creek, and Thunder Bird Creek in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1992 (August 1992 Scree)
Bidarka Peak in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1992 (January 1993 Scree)
Spirit Walker in the Kenai Mountains in 1992 (April 2007 Scree)
A1 in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Hover Peak in the Chugach Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Peak 4350 near Falls Creek and Seattle Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Peak 4350 near Gulch Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Peak 4450 near Falls Creek and Seattle Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Peak 4450 near Gulch Creek, Seattle Creek, and Walker Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Peak 4578 near the East Fork of the Twentymile River and the West Fork of the Twentymile River in the Chugach Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Shaman Dome in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Tail Feather Peak in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1993 (October 1993 Scree)
Mount Besh in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1993 (November 1993 Scree)
Kinnikinnick Mountain in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1993 (November 1993 Scree)
Nantina Point in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1993 (November 1993 Scree)
Dewlap Peak in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Eska la Tor in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
The Gorgemeister in the Western Chugach Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Hummer Peak in the Chugach Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Mismapped Mountain in the Chugach Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Peak 6150 near the East Fork of Young Creek and Granite Creek in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Peak 6250 near the Kings River in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Peak 6350 near the East Fork of Young Creek and Granite Creek in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Peak 6450 near Doone Creek and the Kings River in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Tyrant's Tor in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1994 (November 1994 Scree)
Peak 4150 near Falls Creek and Walker Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1995 (December 1995 Scree)
Vegetarian Peak in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1995 (December 1995 Scree)
Vigesimal Peak in the Chugach Mountains in 1995 (December 1995 Scree)
Peak 7350 near Boulder Creek and the Chickaloon River in the Talkeetna Mountains in 1996 (December 1996 Scree)
Carmen Cone in the Chugach Mountains in 1997 (January 1998 Scree)
Peak 3950 near Hungry Creek and the Chickaloon River in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 3966 near Cripple Creek, Johnson Creek, and Little Indian Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4045 near Bedrock Creek and Big Indian Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4140 near Big Indian Creek and Cannonball Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4250 near Big Indian Creek and Gold Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4330 near Big Indian Creek and White Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4355 near Big Indian Creek and Cannonball Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4450 near Abernathy Creek and Swan Lake in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4450 near Big Indian Creek and Wolf Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Peak 4550 near Bedrock Creek and Big Indian Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 1998 (January 1999 Scree)
Shrike Mountain in the Grant Lake Peaks of the Kenai Mountains in 1999 (December 2000 Scree)
Peak 4850 near Groundhog Creek and Timberline Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (October 2000 Scree)
Peak 4850 near Groundhog Creek, Timberline Creek, and Bench Lake in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (October 2000 Scree)
Peak 4950 near Johnson Creek Summit in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (October 2000 Scree)
Peak 5250 near Johnson Creek and Stormy Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (October 2000 Scree)
Bystander Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (November 2000 Scree)
Learnard Peak in the Chugach Mountains in 2000 (November 2000 Scree)
Peak 4650 near Lynx Creek and Silvertip Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (November 2000 Scree)
Peak 5450 near Johnson Creek and Trail Creek in the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (November 2000 Scree)
Harrier Mountain in the Grant Lake Peaks of the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (December 2000 Scree)
Merlin Mountain in the Grant Lake Peaks of the Kenai Mountains in 2000 (December 2000 Scree)
Peak 5250 in Section 29 near Falls Creek Pass in the Kenai Mountains in 2001 (September 2001 Scree)

Peak 5850 near Falls Creek and Grant Lake in the Grant Lake Peaks of the Kenai Mountains in 2001 (September 2001 Scree)
Peak 3609 near the Whittier Glacier and Blackstone Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2001 (December 2001 Scree)
Cochrane Thumb in the Kenai Mountains in 2002 (December 2002 Scree)
Peak 2650 near Cochrane Bay and Kings Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2002 (December 2002 Scree)
Peak 2850 near Cochrane Bay and Kings Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2002 (December 2002 Scree)
Mount Luther Kelly in the Chugach Mountains in 2003 (January 2004 Scree)
Peak 2153 near the Nellie Juan Glacier in the Kenai Mountains in 2003 (January 2004 Scree)
Peak 2650 near Blue Fiord and Derickson Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2003 (January 2004 Scree)
Peak 2950 near the Ultramarine Glacier and Derickson Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2003 (January 2004 Scree)
Peak 3050 near Contact Creek and Greystone Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2003 (January 2004 Scree)
East Seawolf Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2004 (November 2004 Scree)
East Groundhog Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2004 (April 2005 Scree)
Peak 4950 near Purches Creek in the Talkeetna Mountains in 2004 (April 2005 Scree)
Snovis Peak in the Grant Lake Peaks of the Kenai Mountains in 2004 (April 2005 Scree)
War Baby Peak in the Talkeetna Mountains in 2004 (April 2005 Scree)
West Groundhog Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2004 (April 2005 Scree)
Herring Peak on Knight Island in 2005 (January 2006 Scree)
Solf Peak on Knight Island in 2005 (January 2006 Scree)
Peak 2790 near Wells Bay in the Chugach Mountains in 2005 (February 2006 Scree)
Juniper Pluton in the Chugach Mountains in 2005 (February 2006 Scree)
Jokulhlaup Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2005 (March 2006 Scree)
Mile Pile Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2005 (March 2006 Scree)
Peak 1850 near the South Arm of the Bay of Isles and Port Audrey on Knight Island in 2005 (December 2006 Scree)
Peak 1870 near the South Arm of the Bay of Isles on Knight Island in 2005 (December 2006 Scree)
Peak 2125 near Johnson Bay on Knight Island in 2005 (December 2006 Scree)
Peak 2750 near Jackpot Creek, Eshamy Lake, and McClure Bay in the Kenai Mountains in 2006 (December 2006 Scree)
Peak 2950 near Northeast Cove on Knight Island in 2006 (December 2006 Scree)
Peak 2950 near the Tebenkof Glacier in the Kenai Mountains in 2006 (January 2007 Scree)
Peak 2650 near the Tebenkof Glacier in the Kenai Mountains in 2006 (January 2007 Scree)
Little Mount Susitna in the Tordrillo Mountains of the Alaska Range in 2007 (June 2007 Scree)
High Roller Mountain in the Kenai Mountains in 2007 (February 2008 Scree)
Roll of the Ice Peak in the Kenai Mountains in 2007 (February 2008 Scree)



Parting Shot

This is December, the last month of 2008 and the end of our 50th Anniversary year.

Reproduced on the following pages is the December 1958 Scree, the whole thing. It is only three pages long and opens with a note about a slide show given at a club meeting in 1958 by the Secretary of the Club, Helga Bading (now Byhre). Holy smokes, she gave a slide show at the 50th Anniversary party in September 2008. Awesome.

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

Anchorage

Alaska

S C R I P T

No. 3, Vol. 1

December, 1958

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Why don't you who could not attend the last Mountaineering Club of Alaska meeting really missed a first rate program. Helga Bading showed the slides which she and her husband, Peter, had taken during the year they spent 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle. "Breathes there man with soul so dead who never to himself has said" - I should like to go out into the wilderness and be a pioneer! Only the Badings did it and recorded the experience handsomely. The Club is really fortunate to have as members so many who have made and photographed impressive climbs or experiences.

MEETING, JANUARY 8, 1959, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

There will be two interesting items on the next program. Larry Straley will talk on "Winter Survival", and the film, "Mountains Don't Care", will be shown. Larry's training lecture should be of worth even to the 'walkers'. One can never be sure in this north country when know-how about living in the cold outdoors will come in handy. Too much can never be said about the indifference of mountains to the fate of climbers. So by all means come and avail yourselves of useful information.

MEETING, JANUARY 8, 1959, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

Membership Roster: We're going to print a list of members with addresses in the January issue. Better be sure your address (and incidentally the spelling of your name) is listed correctly with Helga.

Climbing Schedule:

LEADERS -- VOLUNTEER!!!

JAN - Girdwood Area
FEB - Indian Creek - Old Nail Trail -Overnight trip.
MAR - Twenty-mile
APR - One of the following: Burns Glacier, Portage
Glacier or Thompson Pass.
MAY - To be announced.

Of course, all these trips will depend upon weather and snow conditions. If you want to go on a trip, please contact the leader. He will specify date, time, equipment, qualifications required, etc. During winter months, trips will be made on skis or snowshoes. Because of possible dangerous snow conditions and extreme cold at the higher elevations, difficult climbing will not be scheduled until spring.

2

Mountain operations - FM 70-10, the field manual written for the U.S. Army Mountain Troops is available for 50¢ from the Adjutant General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D.C.

According to the American Alpine Club News, The Mountain World 1958-59 edited by Malcolm Barnes was published on November 25th. It is available, probable cost of \$6.- at Dawson's Book Shop, 5505 Figueroa Street, Los Angeles 17, California. Since the Anchor Bookstore has the 1957-58 edition on hand, undoubtedly it will have the latest one eventually also.

MEETING, JANUARY 8, 1959, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

EXECUTIVE MEETING: December 30, 1958 - Call Helga for place.

The American Alpine News gave a nice paragraph to the NCA as follows:

"Mountaineering Club of Alaska" has been founded to encourage mountain climbing interest, to instruct on climbing, encourage exploration and form mountain rescue teams. The club states its readiness to aid outside parties climbing in Alaska. All correspondence should be directed to Mrs. Helga Bading, Secretary, c/o Jonas Bros., 526 "C" Street, Anchorage, Alaska."

Perhaps this notice is responsible for the correspondence the Club received from John I. Shonle of the Sierra Club. Mr. Shonle is planning to climb Mount McKinley this coming summer. Because he understands that the McKinley Park Service requires a support party for a group undertaking to climb the challenging Denali, he has written Helga Bading to ask if the NCA could provide such a group. Since he also anticipates difficulty in filling out a party of six for the assault, he is interested in finding persons from NCA to go along with his party should vacancies exist. Johnnie Johnston is acting as Liaison. Anyone capable and interested in being a member of the group or of the supporting party, should contact him. Mr. Shonle is planning to climb via the Haldrow Glacier if this is feasible. (This route is alleged to be impassable now S.D.)

MEETING, JANUARY 8, KENI AUDITORIUM, 8 p.m.

The Appalachian Mountain Club of Boston acknowledged our formation and would like to trade publications with us. Will do.

At press time, we have nothing new to add concerning the Club patches. Perhaps society makes the time seem so long. Let's hope we have the dope by Meeting time.

From Jerry Nelson:

Just as our November issue went to press, a note from Jerry Nelson arrived. Jerry suggested that we run a regular series of articles giving information and advice to climbers. This is a good show. All of us have opinions concerning outfits, equipment, technique. Starting with the article, THINK, we'll have something each month. Come on now, let's have words from you experts on your favorite subject or theory.

THINK: During the month of November, the newspapers carried the stories of those poor Flyboy-Types who jumped into a mountain area during a storm. If memory is correct, 50% didn't make it.

Old mother nature operates by a set of natural laws - a system of checks and balance. Violate one of her laws, upset the balance without the proper stop-measure, and she reacts. Sometimes these reactions are severe; sometimes gentle.

Perhaps the kindest of all is the fact that she usually kills fools. In this persons' humble opinion, those people who perished by storm violated the first rule of survival in bad weather. "If you're caught in a storm and can't get out within an hour ---- Hole Up!" Once the body becomes exhausted, it's hard to keep warm and harder to think rationally. Cold can kill rapidly when you're pooped.

Although most of our trips do not penetrate isolated country, many which would be considered as a picnic in the south 48 fall into the semi-expedition category for us. Even though we're going out for just a day, it's wise to prepare for the unexpected. One way to help is a kit which will contain repair and field items. Each of us will have his own ideas, but my kit contains thread, needle, safety pins, candle stub, extra matches, extra compass, extra sun goggles, extra sox, extra gloves, pencil stub, 500 lb nylon line, cigarettes, candy bar and friction tape. All this is in one package thrown into whatever pack is used.

Boiled down to a 1-2-3- situation, we suggest that all follow these rules for trips:

1. Never go alone.
2. Tell one of our Members when, where and how you're going with an E.T.R.
3. Take a little more food than you think you'll need.
4. All equipment to be in first-class chape --- Patricularly Boots.
5. Take an extra sweater.
6. Know exactly what you're doing at all times.
7. Don't let yourself become exhausted.
8. If you can't get back shortly and easily in a storm ---- Hole Up.
9. Check out with your friend when you get back.

Thanks,

Johnnie

Mount Reid, Ketchikan Gateway Borough

by Bob Packard

Dates: July 12-16, 1999

My companion was Marcel LaPerriere, a big, strong, bear of a man with full beard. At home in the bush, his friends call him Sasquatch.

DAY 1: Michelle Marsden flew us from Ketchikan a few miles up Portage Cove in her Cessna 185. Portage Cove is west of Behm Canal, which separates Revillagigedo Island from the mainland. See the Ketchikan (D-4) USGS quadrangle. We worked our way along grass tidal flats (crossed over logs, a beaver dam, a river, saw bear tracks) and got into the west part of Section 2, northeast part of the Ketchikan (C-4) quadrangle. We then headed up the ungodly-steep, heavily-vegetated cliffs to the south with hemlock, spruce, cedar, alder, devil's club on cliffs as steep as 80 degrees. We were hanging onto vegetation a lot of the time. We were wearing extra toughs (big rubber boots) and I used my crampons some of the time to get purchase on the steep slippery terrain. We had hoped to get to the flat area above the cliffs that night, but this was not to be. At about 1500 feet we found a small shelf where we could put up the tent held in place with ice axes, half on ground, and half hanging out over a cliff. There was water trickling nearby. Not the best night either of us had ever had in tent. For the day - 7.5 hours, 3 miles, 1500 feet of gain.

DAY 2: We found a bear trail, which helped us get up to the top of the ridge. Now we used snowshoes and ski poles a lot. We saw a ptarmigan, which walked in front of us for 10 minutes. We saw a black bear before we summited Peak 3596 (Section 22), which we were approaching on its north ridge. Then it was down ridge to the west-northwest, then southwest very steeply (crampons for grip on earth again) to camp in snow at about 1600 feet in a pristine basin in the center of Section 20. Again, we hung onto vegetation, in one place letting ourselves slide down the branch of a tree then letting go and jumping to a ledge below. We were plagued with mosquitoes and black flies. Marcel lost his glasses and my flashlight stopped functioning. For the day - 10 hours, 5 miles, 2400 feet of gain, Fair and warm.

DAY 3: Up to an 1800-foot saddle, then up Point 4016 (in the southwest corner of Section 30). We encountered piles of snow with big cornices and had to use our crampons and ice ax. Soon we were onto the top of Mount Reid (4,592 ft), the highpoint of the Ketchikan

Gateway Borough, via a ridge with considerable exposure. There was a cairn of stacked rocks at the summit and two or three mountain goats just below. We had wonderful weather with superior views in all directions. The west ridge was too dangerous, so we went back down 400 feet and camped on soft vegetation. For the day - 11 hours, 5.5 miles, 3600 feet of gain.

DAY 4: We contoured below the southwest face of Mount Reid on snow, sometimes steep; crampons and ax were needed. We saw a black bear, quite close, which took off like lightning bounding down the snow field and out of sight. We worked the west and southwest ridge of Mount Reid back into intense bushwhacking through forest cover, sometimes steep. At times we had to lower ourselves facing the cliff and feel with our feet for footing below. We came across the P Line (a ribboned route), crossed a stream (the east branch of Carroll Creek, in Section 20 of the Ketchikan (C-5) quadrangle) on a huge log and picked up the P Line again. We followed it off and on to camp in a muskeg area. We had beautiful fair weather and black flies. For the day - 10.5 hours, 5 miles, 400 feet of gain.

DAY 5: We followed the P Line again until we were sick of it. It was very hard bushwhacking with thick vegetation, including devil's club (don't want to touch that stuff) and windfall. After climbing over one huge fallen log, I discovered I'd lost my watch. We followed a streambed for a while (more brush, devil's club, and countless fallen trees to climb over or under), then went into the side forest again, then finally reached Carroll Creek, which we waded for a mile downstream to tidal grass and mud flats then back into brush again following a bear track after the tidal flats got too hard with the incoming tide (chest-deep sloughs). We then hit the logging road, which we took to the LTF (log-transfer facility in Section 17 of the Ketchikan (C-5) quadrangle) where we found Alan (a friend of Marcel's) and his skiff waiting to take us down Carroll Inlet and back to Ketchikan. For the day - 8.5 hours, 4.5 miles, 100 feet of gain.

This was a very tough hike. We had heavy packs and crampons, ice axes, ski poles, and snowshoes with us and we used them all – a lot. The bushwhacking was intense and sustained, some of the hardest I've ever experienced and I've experienced a lot. The terrain was difficult a lot of the time.

November 19 Member Meeting Minutes

MCA Minutes
General Meeting
November 19, 2008

7:32 Call to Order

- I. We welcomed five new folks to the club meeting.
- II. Treasurer's Report: The club has just over \$20,000 in assets. We've got two different shirts for sale as well as patches. Please fill out a meeting time change survey. To date we've received about 30 surveys, which is too few to give the board any conclusive feedback.
- III. Trips – please see the Scree and the website for current trip information.
- IV. Bill Romberg, of the Awards Committee, presented the Hoeman Award to Tim Kelley. See the upcoming Scree article for more information on the Hoeman Award and Tim Kelley's accomplishments.
- V. Elections: The following Club Officers ran unopposed and were approved by unanimous consent:

- President – Wayne Todd
- Vice President – Ross Noffsinger
- Secretary – Anmei Goldsmith
- Treasurer – Travis Taylor

Wayne is interested in increasing the number of trips offered for club members and Ross sees increased website accessibility as a high priority. The following Board Members were elected and will join Jayme Dixon and Sean Bolender on the board:

- Mark Kimerer (two-year term)
 - Tim Harper (two-year term)
 - Richard Baranow (one-year term)
- VI. A volunteer position is open for Listserv Manager. If you're interested in overseeing the Club's Yahoo Groups account, please let a Board member know.
 - VII. Presenter: Dave Johnston showed some of his winter mountaineering adventures.

Submitted 11/20/08
Bridget Paule, Secretary

Your trip report or article could be here, with pictures, too. It's simple - just write up one of your trips, from day hikes to expeditions. People really do want to see all the great places to go and things to do. If you have some stand-alone hi-resolution pictures that you would not mind seeing in the Scree when there is space to fill, send them along, too. You can email attachments to the editor: johnrecktenwald@gmail.com

MCA Trip Classifications

The classifications below do not take into account individual trip hazards such as river crossings, scree slopes, snow fields, bears, etc. Trip leaders are required to inform the trip participants of any such hazards either verbally, on the sign-up sheet, or in the trip description. Leader approval is required for participation on all trips. **NON-TECHNICAL:** Following are a few standards used to classify nontechnical trips. The classification is made in terms of hiking distance and altitude gain. Many trips are not on established trails.

CLASS A: Easy hikes with a maximum distance of 8 miles for day trips or 4 miles per day for overnight trips. Altitude gain up to 1200 feet.

CLASS B: Trips involving a maximum distance of up to 12 miles for a day trip or 6 miles per day for an overnight trip. Altitude gain of 1200 to 2500 feet.

CLASS C: Trips up to 15 miles for a day hike or 8 miles per day for an overnight trip. Altitude gain up to 3500 feet. Scree, steep grass or other rough terrain problems may be encountered.

CLASS D: Hikes and climbs with an altitude gain of over 3500 feet or a distance of greater than 15 miles for a day-hike or greater than 8 miles a day for an overnight trip. Peaks in this classification may require minimal climbing skills.

CLASS E: Hazardous climbing conditions or stream-crossing conditions may be encountered. A basic mountaineering course may be required.

TECHNICAL: Technical trips are open to all qualified climbers. However, the registration on any particular trip must be restricted to a safe and manageable number of climbers. Registration is made directly with the leader, who determines the qualifications needed for the trip.

GLACIER TRAVEL: Trips requiring roped travel over glaciers. Knowledge of crevasse rescue, and ice axe and crampon skills are required. Basic understanding of ice and snow anchors also required.

FIFTH CLASS: Trips which involve fifth class climbing. A Basic Mountaineering course or equivalent is required. Knowledge of belay and rappel techniques and placing anchors is required. Climbing difficulty varies widely with each trip.

TRIP PARTICIPANTS have the obligation to acquaint themselves with the nature of the trip and to verify that it is within their capability and experience. Anyone wishing to participate in any trip above CLASS A must have completed one or more trips of the next lower classification, or the equivalent.

Approved: MCA Board, February 15, 2000

General Rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips

1. Proper equipment is available from the trip leader.
2. No dogs. (Among the reasons are bear problems).
3. The trip leader can require special equipment and refuse participation to any person that is ill-prepared (e.g. inappropriate clothing/gear).
4. The leader's suggestions are to be followed. Do not go off alone, return or rush ahead without his (her) permission, and don't ford a stream before the leader assesses the situation. Remember, this is a club trip and the leader must know where all participants are. Anyone separating from the group without the leader's approval is no longer considered a participant the MCA Sanctioned trip.
5. The trip leader has the authority to split the group (fast and slow), dependent upon current conditions. However, he/she must appoint a qualified co-leader to lead the second group using the guidelines specified in the current Trip Leader Responsibilities.
6. Trip participants who, in the leader's opinion, put themselves or other members of the group in danger by disregarding the leader's suggestions, shall be subject to sanction by the club. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, reprimand at general meeting, exclusion from future trips, termination of annual membership, or lifetime exclusion from the club.
7. You must sign up on a trip roster (club meetings) or contact the leader, and you must have signed the club waiver to be on a club trip.
8. If you find you cannot participate after signing up on the roster, please let the leader know, both for transportation and gear-planning and so someone else can go. If you are the leader, help find a replacement.
9. Total number of people on club trips:
Minimum: 4 (for safety reasons)
Maximum: Leader option, depends upon the trail and campsite conditions, but generally limited to 12 in trail-less areas or State/ National Parks
10. Firearms are not encouraged, and please let the leader know if you want to carry one - it will be leader's option. Aerosol bear repellent is preferred.

Approved: MCA Board, February 15, 2000

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President Wayne Todd 522-6354
Vice-President Ross Noffsinger 222-0581
Secretary Annei Goldsmith 301-7055
Treasurer Travis Taylor 382-4823

Board member Jayme Dixon 382-0212
Board member Sean Bolender 830-5102
Board member Mark Kimerer 360-5935
Board member Tim Harper 240-1506
Board member Richard Baranow 694-1500

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, notes and letters submitted for publication in the newsletter should be submitted on the web at www.mcak.org or e-mailed to the Scree Editor. Articles should be received by the monthly club meeting (third Wednesday of the month) to be in the next month's Scree.

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 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
Scree Editor: John Recktenwald - 346-2589
Web: www.mcak.org (change your address here)
Mailing list service: MCAK@yahoogroups.com

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