

the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

December 2014

Volume 57 Number 12



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If you are faced with a mountain, you have several options. You can climb it and cross to the other side. You can go around it. You can dig under it. You can fly over it. You can blow it up. You can ignore it and pretend it's not there. You can turn around and go back the way you came. Or you can stay on the mountain and make it your home.

-Vera Nazarian



The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

www.mtnclubak.org

"To maintain, promote, and perpetuate the association of persons who are interested in promoting, sponsoring, improving, stimulating, and contributing to the exercise of skill and safety in the Art and Science of Mountaineering."

Join us for our club meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, at the BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage, Alaska.

<http://www.alaskageology.org/graphics/meetingmap.gif>

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Cover Photo

Sam Zmolek on Guru Rock. Photo by Melanie Lettau.

Article Submission: Text and photography submissions for *the Scree* can be sent as attachments to mcascree@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the 24th of each month to appear in the next issue of *the Scree*. Do not submit material in the body of the email. Do not submit photos embedded in the text file. Send the photo files separately. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. If you have a blog, website, video, or photo links, send us the link. Cover photo selections are based on portraits of human endeavor in the outdoors. Please submit at least one vertically oriented photo for consideration for the cover. Please submit captions with photos.

Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, December 16, at 6:30 p.m.

Program: MCA Green Holiday Pizza Party! Come celebrate at the BP Energy Center. Pizza will be provided but bring food to share (see list below). For those who wish to share slides bring 10 digital slides (disk or flash drive) with a good story to tell. Be GREEN and bring your own table setting, though paper plates and plastic cutlery will be provided.

Side dishes based on your last name: A-I: salad, J-S: side dish, T-Z: dessert

Happy Holidays!

Hiking and Climbing Schedule

- ⇒ **Ship Creek Maintenance Weekend.** December 20-21. Join Stu Grenier and Greg Bragiel for the annual MCA Ship Creek trail clearing. We will work the northern five miles of the Arctic Valley to Indian Trail. Sign on at the December meeting.
- ⇒ **Flattop Sleepout.** December 20-21 No leader.
- ⇒ **Hope to Seward Ski Tour.** February 21-March 1. Contact Greg Bragiel at unknowhiker@alaska.net.
- ⇒ **Eklutna Traverse.** April 12-19. Mandatory traverse training days March 21-22. Contact Greg Bragiel at unknowhiker@alaska.net.

2015 MCA Calendars for sale!

The 2015 MCA Calendars will be for sale at the December Meeting, and are for sale at Alaska Mountaineering & Hiking. One calendar costs \$13. The Calendar Committee Chair thanks everyone that submitted photos and made this calendar happen, especially Nora Gecan, Eric Teela, and Steve Gruhn. The 2016 calendar will be horizontal.

Online? Click me!

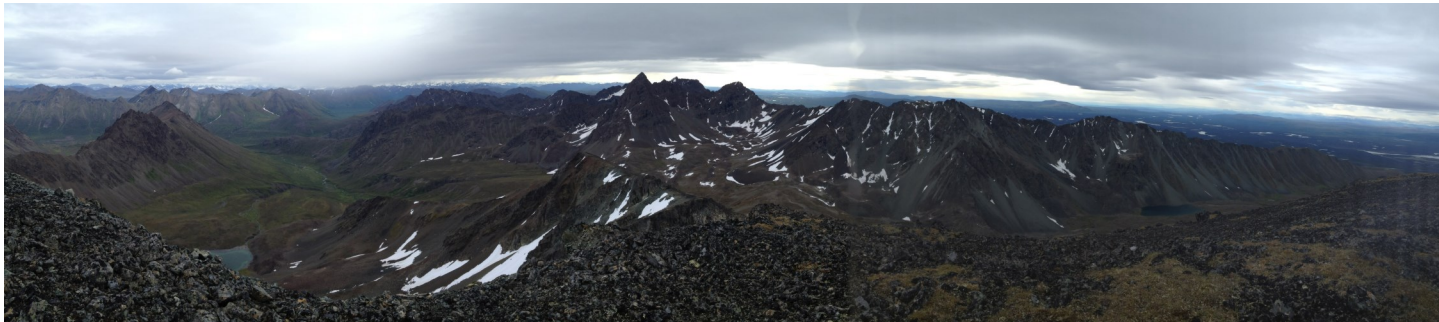


Check the Meetup site and Facebook for last minute trips and activities. Or, schedule one that you want to organize.

Peak 6150

(Alaska Range; Hayes Range; Clearwater Mountains; Alpine Creek and Windy Creek)

By Steve Gruhn



View to the east from the summit of Peak 6150. Photo by Dave Hart.

Dave Hart and I were excited to explore the Clearwater Mountains. Neither of us had spent much time in the area and, after hearing Carl Battreall's report of fantastic vistas and relatively easy traveling, we decided to take a look. On the afternoon of August 8, Dave Hart and I drove north from Anchorage to Cantwell and headed east on the Denali Highway. After about 68 miles on the Denali Highway, we crossed Alpine Creek and parked at a pullout on the south side of the highway a short distance east of the creek at an elevation of about 3100 feet.

We dove into the willows and made our way upstream on the southeast side of Alpine Creek, pausing to devour handfuls of plump, ripe blueberries. After a short distance, we stumbled across some game trails, which we followed upstream. After about a mile, the slope lessened and we were able to view the headwaters of the Alpine Creek valley. We passed a pretty lake with some evidence of beaver habitation.

After about three miles we were past the brush. We crossed Alpine Creek below a second lake and continued past a third lake to the 4650-foot pass to the Windy Creek drainage. Descending the north side of the pass, we placed our camp at about 4400 feet on the east side of an unnamed tributary of Windy Creek.

I didn't sleep very well that night; a rainstorm kept me awake. After the skies cleared in the morning, I lazed around camp, trying to nap. Dave was energetic, however. He crossed the creek and began to ascend the east side of the north ridge of Peak 6150, which loomed above camp. I watched him as he started the hike, but soon succumbed to heavy eyelids.

I awoke to an extremely intrepid marmot at the tent. I tried to scare it away, but it wouldn't budge. I eventually chased it away with rocks. Five minutes later it had returned. I chased it to a burrow in the rocks, even stepping on its tail. Satisfied that I had prevented any varmint damage to the tent, I returned to resume my napping. Five minutes later, the rodent had returned. I again chased it from the tent, crossing the creek and raining rocks down on its burrow. I decided that we should move camp because I suspected that the marmot remained undaunted. I found a flat and dry spot a couple hundred yards to the east at roughly the same elevation as our first camp.

Dave returned from the summit and we moved camp to the new marmot-free (we hoped) location. I decided to follow in Dave's footsteps and hiked across the stream and ascended the east side of the north ridge of Peak 6150, attaining the ridge at about 5100 feet. I saw a scenic, small lake on the valley floor to the west of the ridge. The ridge was easy to follow, although a little bit scrambly near a 5800-foot point overlooking the pass we had crossed the previous day. From that point, though, easy hiking and boulder-hopping led to the 6150-foot summit. I noted some caribou trails lower on the ridge, but didn't see any sign of previous human presence other than the small cairn that Dave had left earlier that day.

I retraced my steps on the descent and met Dave at camp. We explored the headwaters of our drainage and found several odd 50-foot-high mounds of rocks. We concluded that they might have been the result of avalanches that fell onto a glacier that had since disappeared. We hiked up to a saddle overlooking Waterfall Creek to the south. Peak 6215 to the north looked enticing, but we opted to be lazy instead of climbing it. I think that was the peak to which Dave Logan (who recently passed away) had planned a trip in May 1994. I didn't participate on that trip, but I'd be interested to hear a report of how it went.

We returned to camp and, after additional sightseeing, we packed up camp and hiked up the valley, through the pass we had initially crossed, and down Alpine Creek. On our exit on August 11 we came across a group of three National Outdoor Leadership School instructors downstream of the second lake. They were quite personable and offered us some of their fresh-baked scones. These three NOLS instructors were the only other people we saw during our trip. Below the lower lake we found several caribou trails that eventually led us to a short all-terrain vehicle trail that crossed Alpine Creek a few yards north of the highway and then intersected the highway just west of the creek. This ATV trail would make a better starting point than our initial route that weaved through the willows east of the creek.

It was a pleasant trip and both Dave and I commented that we'd love to return for some more exploration.

The Fortress and Hicks Peak

By Ben Still



Jill Still with the Matanuska Glacier behind, near the summit of The Fortress. Photo by Ben Still.

The afternoon of May 16th, 2014, my wife, Jill, and I drive north out of Anchorage to climb up Mount Monarch. We begin our hike up the Pinochle Creek Trail, a muddy four-wheeler trail that ultimately ends at Hicks Lake. We follow the trail through some rather large mud bogs, but the very dry weather has left a lot of the trail in great condition. We hike up to the 3150-foot pass, admiring the awesome views of the Chugach Mountains and especially the “A” peaks. We planned on camping in the pass, but all the water is quite brown and murky here. We continue on, hoping one of the small streams coming down from The Fortress (5540) is better for drinking. We pass one small stream that looks great, but decide that a camp down by Hicks Creek will be better for our hike tomorrow. Ultimately we wish we had stopped at the first clear stream, as Hicks Creek and the creek coming down from The Fortress are very full of sediment, not to mention that Hicks Creek is a raging torrent that might be a little

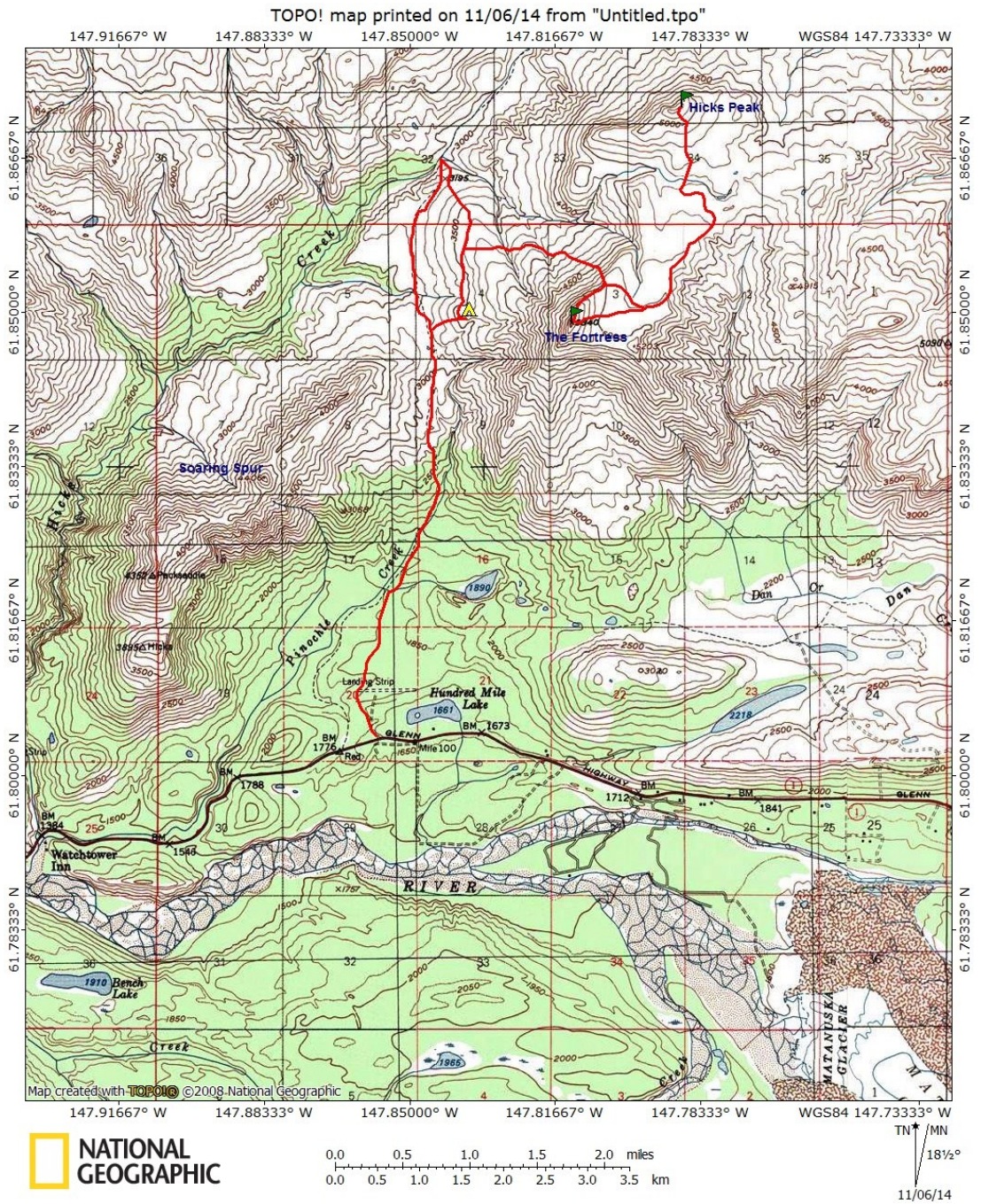
unsafe to cross. Luckily we have not been up here before and quickly set our sights on The Fortress and possibly an unnamed Peak 5250 to avoid the stream crossing. We head up the mountain from here and make an arcing traverse back to the clear stream 500 vertical feet above the pass. We find a nice camping spot with amazing views of the Chugach Mountains and Talkeetna Mountains.

We arise early in hopes the snow would be firm and easy to climb up. After a nice breakfast, croissants and coffee for me and oatmeal and tea for Jill, we begin the trek around to the northwest side of the mountain, crossing several large gullies. We arrive at the base of the snow gully having avoided touching any snow, we are eager to find out what the snow is like. Several steps in I realize the snow did not fully freeze last night. There is a nice breakable crust and in places I am sinking up to

my waist. Hmm, maybe we should not be on this slope. I will just go a few more steps and voila, the crust is hard enough to stand atop. We cruise up the remainder of the gully, which steepens significantly near the top and Jill gets to practice snow climbing with her ice axe. At the top of the gully, the mountain opens up into a broad plateau, which is mostly covered by several feet of snow. We follow the steepening ridge line, avoiding the snow to the summit where we are greeted by amazing views in all directions. We can see the high Wrangell Mountains to the east; the many-layered Chugach Mountains to the south and west along with the Talkeetna Mountains to the north and west.

After a brief rest and snack, my eyes glance over to Peak 5250. There are a couple of miles of relatively flat ground between us and the peak, which is covered in snow. I am optimistic and think the snow will be like the upper three-quarters of the gully and have a nice unbreakable crust. We drop down to the flats to find out. Along the way we notice that very-melted-out snowmachine tracks crisscross the plateau along with an assortment of garbage that has been strewn about, including cooler lids, candy-bar wrappers, etc. We pick up what we can.

"Wow, the snow could not be much better," I think to myself as I sink up to my hips. Several sinking steps later I find out the snow does get better as I feel water pouring over the top of my hiking boots. We take a more meandering route, linking patches of ground between the awful snow, and eventually find ourselves hiking up the nice snow-free southern slopes of Peak



5250. Gorgeous views in all directions again. We dub the peak Hicks Peak, as there are too many Peak 5250s in Alaska and why not give it a name? While on the summit, there is a slight sinking feeling, realizing we have to backtrack through the wondrous water-filled snow trough we just made. We backtrack to the top of the gully, down-climb, and traverse back to camp without much trouble. We are both excited to dry our feet out at camp! A little overnight rain pitter-patters on the tent while we sleep. The next morning is cloudy and we make quick work of the hike back down to the car.

Two Weeks in Alaska: Mount Sanford 2014

By John Stevens

June 20th-27th, 2014

The Mount Sanford expedition began as an idea when I flew the Alaska Highway in 2006. While there were many spectacular mountain and cloud formations along the way, all I could remember was a particularly large and imposing looking cloud towering over the rest. This “cloud” was, in fact, Mount Sanford's summit cone, clad in perpetual snow and rising over three vertical miles into the thin Alaskan air. While I only had a few minutes to marvel at this relatively unknown peak, my thoughts would frequently drift back to it.

After spending a few seasons gaining experience on climbs of the Grand Teton and Mount Rainier, I wondered if climbing in Alaska would be the logical next step. I kept telling myself that I wasn't ready for this; Alaska was too remote and too difficult. Yet I couldn't help imagining what it would

be like to climb this remote and massive peak. With a good dose of moral support from my family and fellow New England mountaineers, I decided to go for it in the summer of 2014.

The plan was to ferry Pat Murphy and me in one at a time using a Super Cub, flown by Jake Combs from Forty Mile Air. By mid-morning on the 20th of June, we had finished three ferry flights and were ready to head out. During our carries to the Sheep Glacier, one of the bear spray canisters was punctured. After reaching Sheep Creek I opened the bag and discovered the contents were drenched. Despite our best efforts to clean off the gear, bear spray burned our eyes and plagued us for an entire week. After two more carries, we arrived on the Sheep Glacier and made Camp 1 at 5,700 feet.

The next day began with heavy rain that changed to snow. On our ascent we were surprised to find parking-lot-sized pools of water covering the surface of the ice. We climb for what seemed like hours and the terrain looked exactly the same. At times we were challenged by dicey fractures that ran both parallel and perpendicular to the route. Navigating these features while pulling a sled was truly frustrating. Shortly before Camp 2 we performed belays through an eerie crevasse zone, but ended the day on a high note in blazing sunshine at 7,600 feet.

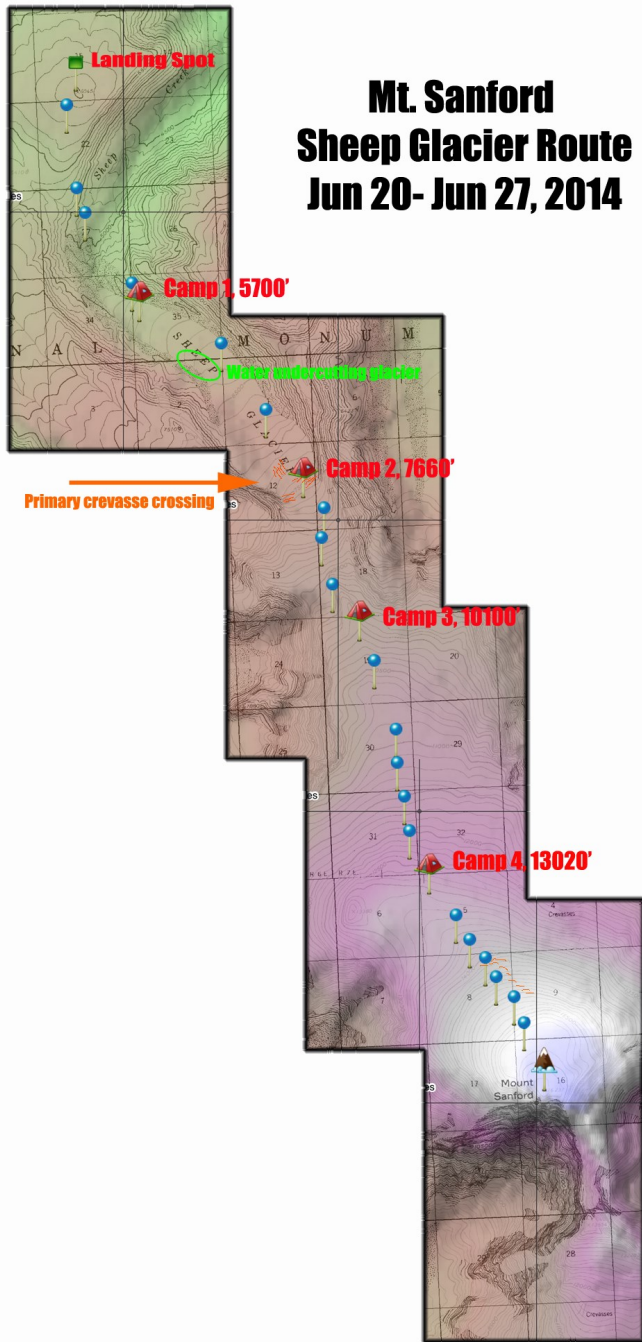


Pat Murphy (left), John Stevens, a Super Cub, and mighty Mount Sanford beyond. Photo by Jake Combs.

Continuing on the 22nd, we were surprised by the sun and clear skies. The sunlight reflecting off of the glacier and ice wall off to our left was intense. Pat checked his thermometer and told me it read over 90 degrees! By noon we were absolutely

sweltering. Anyone who has been in these conditions can relate to just how bizarre it is. The heat ended up being our biggest obstacle and we set camp at just over 10,000 feet as foul weather moved in.

By our fourth day, both Pat and I were developing an appreciation for “weather windows.” As always, within a couple hours, snow showers moved in. I was frequently disturbed to encounter crevasses that had stealthy cornices on their uphill aspects. These enormous crevasses would be nearly invisible if approached from above. Foul thoughts aside, we broke into the sun again toward the end of the day and established Camp 4 at 13,000 feet.



Mt. Sanford Sheep Glacier Route Jun 20- Jun 27, 2014

and we lost the trail. I tried to stay on heading, but without fail I would veer off; there simply was no way to gauge our direction in the murk.

Our long summit day was starting to wear us down. Patrick was out of water and very tired. His hands were so cold he could not remove his crampons to switch back to skis. After some frustrated shouting back and forth, I had Pat climb down to me and I managed to switch him back. A last check of the GPS confirmed our proximity to the tent. The closer I got, the more sure I was that the tent was straight in front of me ... until it wasn't. Still 100 feet away, I stared at the remains of the tent in the mouth of a huge crevasse!

Patrick and I were convinced that all the heavy snow had caused a crevasse to open up precisely where we had placed our tent. The thought of a belay into a crevasse to recover our gear was simply unfathomable, so with some squinting I was able to guess where our tent actually was, albeit covered in 15 inches of new snow. Immensely relieved, we began digging it out and collapsed into a dreamless slumber.

After resting, we took two full days to retreat off the mountain. The prevailing weather was mostly gloomy. Using a compass and elevation contours, we were able to make good progress with several detours around large icefalls. Feeling overconfident as we got lower, we inadvertently skinned onto a dangerously undercut area. My first hint was when a three-foot-wide crevasse opened up behind the tail of my skis. The hair stood up on the back of my neck as the sound of rushing water roared from underneath me in every direction. I could hear the sound of ice giving way from below my position and I knew I was in deep trouble. In a strained shout I said to Patrick, "PUT ME ON BELAY, NOW!" Patrick expertly reeled me in as I gingerly backtracked across the eroding crevasse opening and I breathed a sigh of relief once clear of this hidden underground cavern.

With a large bullet dodged, we were quickly clear of the Sheep Glacier, exhausted, but excited to accomplish what we came to do. Our extraction from Mount Sanford went smoothly the next day and we were back in Chistochina by lunchtime. Overall I cannot overstate what an amazing challenge and wonderful climbing we had on Mount Sanford. The level of difficulty in simply reaching the Wrangell Mountains is why they are so infrequently climbed, that and the weather; we did not see an entire soul during our expedition. I will be back to Alaska, a truly spectacular wilderness to behold.

For a video of the trip, click on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQ3fPvH5bHM>.

For additional details and photos of the trip, click on <http://www.summitpost.org/two-weeks-in-alaska-mount-sanford-2014/904584>.

On summit day we awoke to moderate snow. The forecast was supposed to deteriorate over the next several days and we weren't sure we'd get another chance, so after a break in the clouds, we made the decision to go for the summit. Progress was slow and steady out of high camp until 14,000 feet. It was not possible to skin directly up or to get an edge into the hard and icy terrain. Patrick was forced to abandon his skis and he switched to crampons the rest of the way up.

The thin air on the summit plateau kept our pace in check as we covered the last few tenths, but at 9:15 p.m. we reached the summit! Visibility was a quarter mile in blowing snow and a thickening snow crystal haze. I had hoped for a quick descent to Camp 4, but within a 20-minute period, heavy snow moved in

Priestess Peak and Outen Mountain on the Northeast Peninsula Traverse

By Sam Zmolek



Sam Zmolek on Priestess Peak. Photo by Melanie Lettau.

The northeast peninsula of Unalaska Island is an isolated place, miles from the end of the meager road system that only minimally extends from the Dutch Harbor area. Jutting out between Unalaska Bay and Kalekta Bay into the Bering Sea and ending at the impressive sea stack of Priest Rock, this peninsula at first glance appears to have three summits spaced around a mile apart, though the middle summit doesn't quite achieve 500 feet of prominence from its neighbors. While the elevations of the peaks are all below 2000 feet, the overall isolation and long approach make for a rather sizeable commitment.

I had the privilege of summiting the first peak last year, dubbing it Priestess Peak, as the mountain sits squarely above Princess Head at 1729 feet of elevation on the way out to Priest Rock. But on that day, the weather came in from the sea and turned me back shortly after climbing to the top of Priestess. As another summer began, I vowed to make it back and get all the way out to the end of the three peaks.

I had a looming weekend, the forecast was for calm and low fog clearing to sun, and it just so happened that Saturday was the

longest day of the year. As a bonus, as I was planning what I hoped would be a single all-day assault, my good friend Melanie Lettau happened to be in town and ready for some abuse. We planned to meet up before dawn at 5 a.m. and head out to make the most of the long daylight.

The morning came on cool, crisp, and still as we made our way to the end of the road to start the slog. We started up over the 600-foot pass from the start at Morris Cove along an extremely faint old trail to get to Constantine Bay. Luckily the vegetation wasn't quite as thick as it would be later in the summer, though it was thick enough to slow us a little bit in spots, and coat our legs with dew.

As we came down the pass into the Constantine Bay drainage, we stopped to look for an old wild horse carcass that I had spotted a couple years previous when it was fresh. After some searching, we located a scattered skeleton, and I found the skull and jawbones downslope in rather pristine condition. We set them aside to take back with us on the return, as we knew our adventurous day was just beginning.



Constantine Bay fog. Photo by Sam Zmolek.

After skirting the lagoon, we reached the rocky shore of the bay itself, and proceeded along a narrow stretch I call “the washing machine” after a previous bad traverse spent dodging threatening surf on the narrow path between the waves and the cliffs of Melodia Mountain above. Luckily, we had planned in advance, and managed to hike through at low tide without incident. As we continued along the shoreline, the fog rolled in rather thick. I thought I heard voices, and then for a moment thought I saw a figure in the distance.

“Nah,” I told myself, “who would be out here this far from town?” I’ve been hiking Unalaska for years, and have never run into anyone except for on the trails near town, a short distance from the roads. We drew closer, and sure enough, there were two women there to our great surprise, on that fog-covered rocky shore. The unknown women seemed just as shocked to see us, and for a moment I wondered if we would all just pretend we hadn’t see each other so as not to intrude. But we had to talk with these strangers, and so we stopped briefly. It turns out that one of the women was Sarah Outen, a British adventurer who was on her way around the world under her own power. She had already rowed a boat out to the Aleutian

Islands from Japan the previous summer, and she was about to pull her kayak into the water with her companion and paddle to the next island over as she worked her way northeast to finish the Pacific leg of her travels before getting on a bike in Homer.

We finished chatting, and continued in the fog around the freshwater lake that sits at sea level between Constantine Bay and Kalekta Bay before we turned uphill again. At this point, there was no sign of trail, and we were dead-reckoning through foggy mist around gullies and through salmonberry patches as we soaked our legs thoroughly. Finally, we punched out of the clouds around 800 feet up, and entered the blue sky, which we enjoyed for most of the day.

After ascending and then crossing the most formidable gully along the route, we continued into the alpine tundra until the middle summit came into view, which had a large rock jutting out near the summit like some stone guru beckoning us to join him. The final climb up the horn was a little steep and rocky, but not a technical scramble by any means. We stopped on the summit and soaked in the height of the summer solstice, looking down on the clouds and looking across Unalaska Bay at the full glory of Makushin Volcano. The warm sun was as nice as it ever

gets in the Aleutians, and we both just wanted to lay there, nap, and revel in our accomplishment.

After 30 minutes or so of scarfing food, taking pictures, and enjoying the dry, spongy tundra under bare feet, I couldn't take it anymore as I felt compelled to make a dash to the third and final summit on the peninsula. Mel had suffered enough, and was content to lay on the balmy summit of Guru Rock, so I got my gear together, set a timer, and made a dash for the tip. It took about a half an hour to trudge to the summit at 1599 feet of elevation, along a ridge that had some stunning drops all the way down to Unalaska Bay and about a 500-foot saddle between the peaks. I let out a triumphant yell, enjoyed the view of Akutan and all the clouds beneath me, clouds that obscured Sarah Outen's party as they paddled across the pass to reach Akutan later that afternoon. I decided I had to dub this peak "Outen Mountain," in honor of such an adventurous endeavor, and such a surprising twist of fate that brought us together in the middle of nowhere on the same day. I didn't see any signs of previous climbs of this peak (or Priestess Peak, for that matter), but it's hard to imagine that no one has ever been out here before. Interestingly enough, the Dutch Harbor hiking map that is put out by the Ounalashka Corporation shows a trail that passes near the summit on the way to Priest Rock, but I never saw even a faint sign of a trail in this area, and was left to wonder if that trail was just a suggested route, or if it really had become completely grown over. In any case, I would guess that this route goes years between visitors at times.

I took my time getting back to Mel on Guru Rock, as the ridge was just too enjoyable not to savor. I could hear the breakers 1,800 feet below me, crashing into the rocks under the sea of clouds that stretched in all directions only to be pierced by the

mountains and volcanoes in the distance. It made me smile a little to imagine the few thousand people in town under that blanket of clouds, disappointed in another overcast day that was anything but for us.

Shortly after Mel and I reunited, we packed up our bags and started back. But it was too pretty to rush down, so we decided to stay on the ridge and climb to the top of Priestess Peak before descending a direct route to Constantine Bay from there. It was a straightforward, easy ridge walk, with particularly dramatic drops to the Unalaska Bay side, but no tricky scrambling required. After gaining the summit of Priestess, it was just a sad slog on tired legs for the remaining miles back to the car, especially once we dropped below the fog again. We stopped to collect the horse skull and lash it to our packs, and trugged back to the car, making it back around 6 p.m., with just enough energy to remind each other what an incredible day it had been.

I don't know when, or if, I'll ever go back to that area in the future, but maybe that's just because I can't imagine having a more magical experience out there again. It was just one of those days in the wilds of Unalaska where everything was beyond picture perfect, and definitely the best way I could imagine to celebrate a solstice.



Mel Lettau on the summit of Priestess Peak. Photo by Sam Zmolek.

“Jumping Jack Flash” on Mount Frances

Text and photos by Daizo Watanabe

In the spring of 2013, Takeshi Tani, who is a guide with Yamnuska Mountain Tours in Canmore, Alberta, and I went to the Alaska Range to climb the Moonflower Buttress on the North Face of Mount Hunter. First, we landed on the Root Canal Glacier on April 26th, and did a couple of routes on The Mooses Tooth as a warm-up. We moved our camp to the Kahiltna Glacier on May 1st. While we were checking out the condition of the North Face of Hunter, we found an unclimbed route on the South Face of Mount Frances inviting us.

On the 4th of May, we were awake to find the nice clear sky, contrary to what the forecast had said. We were headed to the unclimbed route on the South Face of Mount Frances. At 7:30 a.m., an hour after we left our camp, we were on the wall. We went over the bergschrund with extreme caution, and the first three pitches on the precipitous gully were done quickly. We used knifeblade pitons on the wall on our right as a belay point.

1st Pitch: AI4, verglas. My lead. Cams worked perfectly in the crack running on our side. I enjoyed it.

2nd Pitch: AI4, verglas. Takeshi's lead.

3rd Pitch: AI4, verglas. My lead.

4th Pitch: Snow wall and slab rock under the wall. Takeshi's lead.

5th Pitch: M5. My lead. Climbing up the lip wasn't straightforward. I crawled around, looking for anything I could use to climb over it.

From here, we hiked up to a false summit, staying roped up. “Crack on the slope!” Takeshi alerted. There were a lot of hidden crevasses. After two hours of hiking, we stood on the false peak at 1:00 p.m. Another two-plus hours of hiking led us to the true summit, right about when we started feeling the altitude at nearly 10,500 feet. We could see Denali and Hunter from the summit. The slope above the wall on the North Face of Hunter looked full of crevasses.

On the East Ridge descent, we got tense, thinking the cornice could fall off at any time. At the last part of the descent just above the plateau, we decided to take a route on the right, which looked relatively safe. We got to the bottom of the East Ridge at 7:30 p.m. and back to our base camp at 8:40 p.m.

Although it was a day trip, I'm happy that we were able to open up a new route. We named this route “Jumping Jack Flash” (AI4 M5). And, we'd like to make it a memorial route of my climber friends who passed on Mount Frances in 2011 – Junya (J) Shiraishi and Jiro (J) Kurihara.

A couple of days later, we climbed the West Ridge of Hunter to check the condition of a descent route for

the Moonflower Buttress. We summited Hunter on the 8th; we found out later that we were the first party of the season to summit. Keeping the route we took on the ascent in mind as an alternative way, we successfully accomplished our mission to ensure a better route on the West Ridge on our way down. After a couple of rest days, we were on our main target of our trip, the Moonflower Buttress. Our climb went smoothly until Tani's crampon broke at the beginning of the tenth pitch. We went back to our base camp, telling ourselves that it's not done yet. But the weather condition was bad for a couple days. We had to turn away halfway up the wall. We flew out on the 18th.

Climbing is so much fun. We have had many failed attempts, so many. But we keep climbing, because it's our life. I believe failure is a stepping-stone to success.

Thanks to Meg Inokuma for translating from the original Japanese.



Route of "Jumping Jack Flash" on Mount Frances.

Full Curl Traverse

By Jennifer DuFord

“If you want to turn back, just say so,” I told my boyfriend. The day was predicted to be bluebird, but instead, we were on a ridge fighting biting winds and whiteout fog.

Nothing is quite as

disheartening as when you expect warm, fall sunshine with amazing views, only to find yourself blasted by cold air in zero visibility. Despite summit attempts on Denali and Mount Rainier, my dude is really a fair-weather, half-day hiker; while I have a peak list with an agenda, and enjoy back-to-back marathon days. This weekend was about him, though. He had just lost his mother, and a weekend getaway to visit a mutual friend temporarily assigned to the Kenai Peninsula seemed a great escape. He bravely opted to go on with our hike. His determination was rewarded by an opening view a couple miles later.

Our route was the Full Curl Traverse of Cecil Rhode Mountain. According to the September 8, 2009, issue of *The Redoubt Reporter*, “[t]his peak was formerly called “Cooper Mountain,” after Joseph Cooper, the founder of Cooper Landing, but the name was changed to honor the outdoor photographer, Cecil Rhode, who, along with his photographer wife, Helen Rhode, chronicled life and wildlife on the Kenai Peninsula, and spent considerable time on the mountain that came to bear his name. Rhode died in 1979, and Cooper got a nearby mountain named after him, instead.”

It’s no wonder that a couple of photographers would spend their time on this mountain. It’s home to a ridiculous number of mountain goats. Seeing as many as 20 on a hike is not a rarity. The ridge looks down at the highly scenic, turquoise waters of Kenai Lake, Cooper Lake, and the Kenai River. The mountain is “u” shaped (resembling a ram’s horn), thus the name “Full Curl Traverse” of a through-hike along the bumpy ridge. The final remnants of glaciers can be seen just below the ridge, possibly the source of a stream that cuts through the inside of the curl.



Jennifer DuFord above Cooper Lake. Photo by Meg Inokuma.

The route is popular with locals, and there is a definite trail...good luck finding it, though. This is a local’s secret. An internet search of “Kenai Peninsula hikes” will not lead you to this residential favorite; which is why I had my insider friend

gain beta from her co-workers, and share that data with us. Since ticking this peak off my list, folks have asked me for directions to the trailhead. All I can say is, go down the Snug Harbor Road and look for the dirt road that doesn’t have a house at the end of it.

As most ridges, Cecil Rhode Mountain has several false summits to gain before hitting the high point, which is shortly before dropping off the far shoulder. Just prior to that is a peak with a communications dish atop. A blue cable (containing fiberoptics?), trails from the communications center to the downhill climb.

The trail comes out on the temporarily closed road leading to the dam on Cooper Lake. A large de-construction effort of the dam is underway, and the road is closed to all vehicles except those with a permit. Just before hitting the road, we viewed a construction vehicle driving past. Worried we might get in trouble, but knowing it was too late in the day for them to make us hike all the way back over the ridge to our starting point, we hid long enough for the truck to pass, and then ran the remaining miles to our second car, staged on the Sterling Highway.

This day hike is now on my top favorite outings of the Kenai Peninsula list. The day was so successful my boyfriend was even game to hike the ridge to Langille Mountain on the other side of the Kenai River the following day. A photo from our hike is in the 2015 MCA calendar.

South to North Resurrection: 5 Years, 2 Months, 21 Days

By Wayne L. Todd with Josh Mulkey, Cima Pillsbury, and Carrie Wang

August 31, 2014



Cima Pillsbury and Carrie Wang hike toward the clouds. Photo by Wayne Todd.

I'm working to keep up with Josh, who is just idling along. Much of that work is to stay upright and on my bike as we ascend the Lost Lake Trail from the south. Behind us somewhere, Cima and Carrie are also paired and working upvalley. It seems fitting they're joining us on North Resurrection Peak as we climbed South Resurrection Peak with them.

At a steep section, Carrie falls off the trail below her bike, but manages to grab a tree and arrest her fall. Meanwhile, I hit a rock with my pedal and fall up-slope. No injuries, but I sport a muddy arse, arm, pack, and bike. A female hiker we'd passed earlier now passes me.

Later, as I start ahead, crashing brush from behind reveals Josh the pro-biker, climbing up steep salmonberry with his bike in tow. We thought mountaineering was the dangerous part. The female hiker passes us again. (Eventually we take the lead.)

Near the pass, we stash bikes off-trail and head west. After a few-hundred-foot drop, we begin our foot ascent, initially through minor brush, then contour southwest on alpine. This

roundabout route was chosen to avoid major brush and elevation loss.

Josh parlays with a black bear that he describes as having very poor "situational awareness." With the fall air and colors amidst verdant greenery in the broad valley, expanding views, and good conversation, I lament this isn't a camping trip. After an easy stream crossing, we traverse up (southwesterly) until a major scree gully, then ascend the sliding medium almost to its terminus (west), and then exit left onto the east ridge. Now with views of rugged easterly Seward peaks, Lost Lake, forest-embraced Bear Lake, and Resurrection Bay, I'm reminded why I love climbing down here (in good weather of course).

At a natural bench, Cima takes an extended break as Josh, Carrie, and I hike the short minor scramble to the very broad and flat summit. Yet-to-be-visited peaks and glaciers beckon to the west as the more familiar South Resurrection Peak and Mount Ascension border south and north. Back at the bench, Josh deploys his wing (paraglider) and after some effort, leaves



Josh Mulkey sails up (literally) and away. Photo by Wayne Todd.

us behind on terra firma. We watch his ascent to the east then hasten down. Dropping into the scree gully, we make great descension (fun and fast).

Angling back into our high valley crossing, I'm lured into brief "why do we need to leave" and photography mode, perhaps noting the change of seasons. The bursting white cotton grass, deep-red fireweed and still light-green ferns bouquet nicely. After a steep brush descent and re-ascent to the bikes, we find a very relaxed Josh, who's been back for over an hour. The wind has crept up to a now blustery state, and Josh is glad for the earlier calm.

We bike out and down with our own methods, though slightly more cautious, mindful of our ascent. We look forward to the next Seward-area outing.



Right: Cima Pillsbury leaps the creek as Josh Mulkey assists. Photo by Wayne Todd.

Peak of the Month: Peak 4405

By Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Saint Elias Mountains; Brabazon Range

Borough: City and Borough of Yakutat

Drainages: Canyon Glacier and Alsek River

Latitude/Longitude: 59° 17' 20" North, 138° 22' 32" West

Elevation: 4405 feet

Prominence: 955 feet from Peak 4980 in the Fasset Glacier and Alsek River drainages

Adjacent Peaks: Peak 4370 in the Canyon Glacier and Martin Glacier drainages, Peak 4510 in the Split Creek drainage, and Peak 4980

Distinctness: 555 feet from Peak 4370

USGS Map: Yakutat (B-1)

First Recorded Ascent: May 10, 2001, by Glen Hearn, Laurent Mingo, and David E. Williams

Route of First Recorded Ascent: Northwestern slopes via the Fasset Glacier

Access Point: Slims River Trailhead

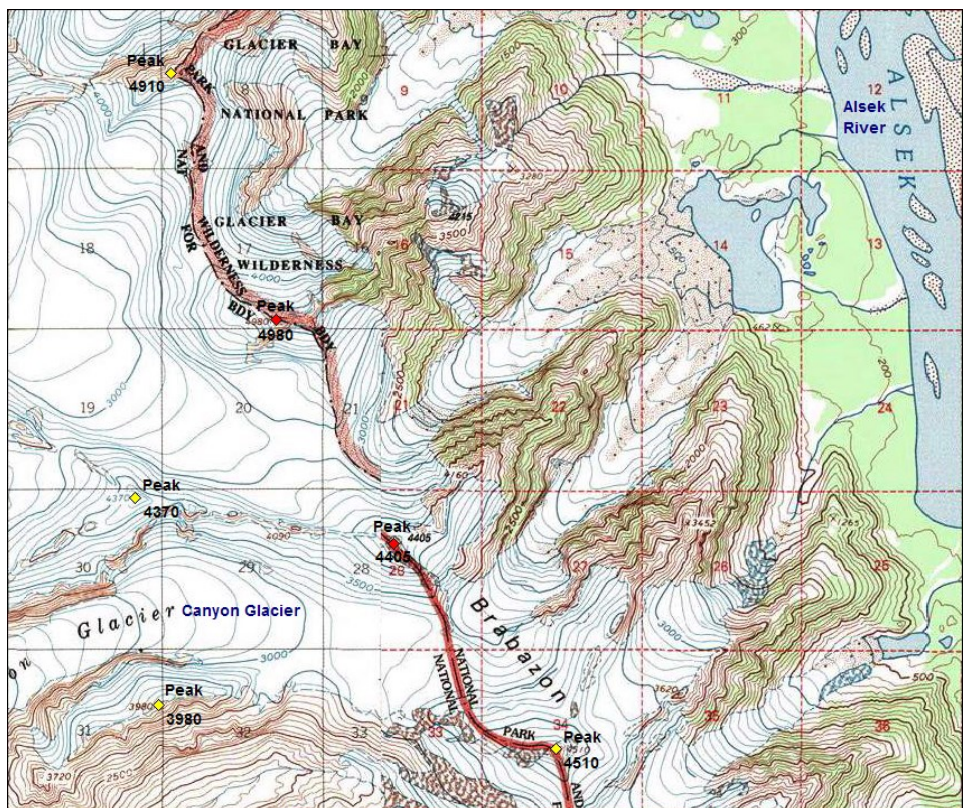
affected the avalanche-prone slopes above. Having successfully descended the icefall, they plodded up the eastern fork of the Fasset Glacier to its head. In a fierce wind, they ascended the northwestern slopes of Peak 4405, managing to get tremendous views northeast up the Alsek River, east over the Fairweather Range, and southwest to Dry Bay. After taking in the views during a brief weather window, they dropped onto the upper Canyon Glacier where they camped after their long day.

The next morning, amid a drizzle, the party managed to scramble up the west-northwest ridge of Peak 4510, but then retreated to their camp from the previous evening. Then on May 12 they snowplowed down the Canyon Glacier and got off onto the west side of Split Creek. From there, they crashed through willows, salmonberry bushes, and spruce stands to the Tanis Mesa Airstrip and a U.S. Forest Service cabin. The next day a Gulf Air Taxi Cessna flew from Yakutat to retrieve the three men and deliver them to Whitehorse.

I don't know of a second ascent of Peak 4405. The information for this column came from Williams' article titled "A Piece of the Puzzle," which appeared on pages 86 and 87 of the 2002 *Canadian Alpine Journal*, and from my correspondence with Mingo and Williams.

On April 21, 2001, Hearn, Mingo, and Williams were dropped off at the Slims River Trailhead on the southwest side of the Alaska Highway at Kluane Lake in the Yukon Territory. For the next 18 days, the party skied southward, up the Slims River to the Kaskawulsh Glacier, up the South Arm of the Kaskawulsh Glacier and down the Dusty Glacier to the Lowell Glacier, up the Lowell Glacier and down the Tweedsmuir Glacier and down the Vern Ritchie Glacier to the Battle Glacier and the Alaska border. They continued up the Battle Glacier, down the Novatak Glacier, and up the Chamberlain Glacier.

On May 10, starting from a camp at the head of the Chamberlain Glacier, they descended the terrifically steep terrain to the upper western fork of the Fasset Glacier. They descended the eastern edge of the icefall before the sun's rays



Map created with TOPO!® ©2003 National Geographic (www.nationalgeographic.com/topo)

MCA joint board meeting: 10/27/14

Meeting Convened at 6:45 pm

Attendees: Aaron Gallagher, Rachad Rayess, Jayme Mack, Carlene Van Tol, Josh Clark, Liz Bennett, Cory Hinds, Greg Encelewski.

Agenda was approved with the addition of incoming president comments to be added under Discussion.

Committee/Guest business:

1. None.

Old business:

1. Pichler's Perch renovation-

Hut has shredded sheet metal & needs rain proofing. Proposed \$15,000 for 2015 budget (same as Hans' Hut). Put proposed budget in Nov/Dec Scree and vote in Jan 2015.

2. Give Dinigi Hut to snowmachiners? More discussion needed.

3. Excluding the \$15,000 one-time expense for Pichlers, the budget for the rest of the huts for 2015 would be reduced from \$4,000 to \$2,000. Greg Bragiel is okay with this reduction.

4. Bomber Traverse/glacier travel requirements for MCA trips. The decision was made at an earlier board meeting to exempt the Bomber Traverse from required roped travel. No other glacier travel was exempt from rope travel.

5. Possibly consolidating storage and moving gear to Best Storage-

A. Arctic Storage is not heated, concerns of sweating walls & this effecting the gear stored there.

B. Possibly move everything to Best Storage as it may be heated. Cory would like to see storage units prior to a decision. Tim Silvers will have storage info.

New Business:

Basic Mountaineering school-

1. Generally held Last week of Jan-first week in March. Five weekends.

2. BMS offerings: into to winter camping, avalanche awareness, snow travel, glacier travel, ice climbing.

Josh Clark will contact AK-Avi school to obtain info on level one or intro classes...group rates, discounted rates, minimum number if participants. (This info will be in the Scree ASAP)

3. Did not have a full BMS last year.

4. Difficult to recruit volunteers & seems easier to solicit volunteers using the "a-la-carte" idea.

5. Hire companies to help instruct? AK-Avi-school, ascending path, Vertical Edge (Valdez based). Worth further discussion.

6. Pay instructors or gift cards? No, because of liability issues.

7. Instructors abilities & resumes should be evaluated by Jayme Mack first. Instructors often found word of mouth.

8. Suggestion for snow cave competitions (instructional & social event) at Hatcher Pass. Should this be tied into BMS or be independent? Could be part of the winter camping course.

9. The December solstice sleep out could also be part of the winter camping course.

10. Scree, December deadline for BMS instructors and course offerings/schedule. Info will be published in Jan Scree.

11. Cory and Jayme to meet to discuss staffing various courses for the BMS.

Christmas dinner planning-

1. Dinner party is usually the week prior to Christmas. This year it will be on December 16th.

2. Contact BP for December opening of the Birch Room.

[Following the meeting, Carlene successfully reserved the Birch room at BP Energy Center for the Christmas Party on December 16]

3. Non-profit pizza donation from Moose's Tooth?

4. Members assigned to bring a dish according to the first letter of their last name.

Preliminary 2015 budget discussion-

1. Budget due by Nov for Dec Scree.

2. Main expenses are calendar, training and huts.

MCA calendar "rules"-

1. Calendar contest was very successful this year. Member was concerned that submitted photos were not laid out for others to see. This was due to a misunderstanding. Next year, the rules for the calendar competition will be clearly stated so there are no misunderstandings.

Topics for Discussion

Incoming president focus for 2015:

1. Continue the efficient business of the club. Ensure a thorough turnover of officers.

2. Resolve what to do about Dinigi Hut. Conduct repairs on Pichler's similar to Hans'.

3. Review MCA goals & purposes with board

4. Reinvigorate by sharing club history-

A. Restarting awards committee (Steve Gruhn)

5. Clear succession plan- each board member will be responsible for recruiting at least one member for nominations. Board members have 1 year to speak to other members who would like their position.

6. Expectations: Always arrange a back up to cover your position if you are unable to attend a meeting. Delegate if need be. Be an active participant at meetings.

Other general comments:

1. Uniting "old-timers" (mentors) with young beginner climbers.

2. Restarting Dean Carmen's Base Camp idea.

3. Occasional group outings instead of sit down monthly meetings with pictures only... members can share tips and tricks.

4. Cory's Solstice Sleep-Out 12/20/14 will be in Scree.

5. Next meeting: CH2M Hill office at 949 east 36th ave. Nov 17th at 6:00 pm (meet in lobby)

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

2015 PROPOSED BUDGET

	Proposed for 2015	Budget Change	Approved for 2014	Current for 2014
REVENUE				
Membership Dues	\$9,000	\$500	\$8,500	\$7,405
Scree subscriptions	\$350	\$150	\$200	\$405
Training	\$7,000	(\$2,000)	\$9,000	\$7,045
Photo Calendar	\$2,500	(\$500)	\$3,000	\$2,393
MCA Products: T-Shirts, Patches, Etc.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interest on Accounts	\$75	(\$25)	\$100	\$64
Other - Donations, etc	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$115
TOTAL REVENUE	\$18,925	(\$1,875)	\$20,800	\$17,427
EXPENSE				
Training	\$4,200	(\$1,800)	\$6,000	\$2,907
Scree	\$2,400	\$100	\$2,300	\$2,306
General Meeting	\$1,700	\$0	\$1,700	\$1,002
Administrative	\$800	(\$100)	\$900	\$548
Hut Construction & Maint.	\$17,000	\$13,000	\$4,000	\$1,883
Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Club Equipment	\$700	\$200	\$500	\$961
Library	\$250	\$150	\$100	\$240
Other:				
Photo Calendar	\$2,600	\$0	\$2,600	\$1,800
MCA Products: T-Shirts, Patches, Etc.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other - Awards	\$600	\$0	\$600	\$0
Other -	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$30,250	\$11,550	\$18,700	\$11,646
DUE TO (FROM) RESERVE	(\$11,325)		\$2,100	\$5,781
CASH BALANCE - All Accounts				
Beginning Balance - January 1, 2014				\$31,559
Increase (decrease) during 2014				\$4,931
Current Balance for 2014				\$36,489
Checking - Credit Union 1				\$14,217
Money Mkt and CDs - Credit Union 1				\$20,640
Savings - Credit Union 1				\$415
18-month CD - in trust for hut lease - Northrim Bank				\$1,168
Petty Cash				\$50
Ending Balance - Revised 11/14/14				\$36,489

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Mountaineering Club of Alaska (MCA) was formed in 1958 to promote the enjoyment of hiking and climbing in Alaska and the exploration of its mountains. We welcome all who wish to become members.

Participate and Learn: The MCA conducts scheduled hikes and climbs led by experienced club members, technical mountaineering and climbing courses, and other instruction throughout the year. The club maintains seven mountain huts in the nearby Chugach and Talkeetna mountains. The MCA's Vin Hoeman Library contains hundreds of books, numerous periodicals, bound volumes of the *SCREE*, and a 'Peak File' with information on local climbs. The club has climbing gear for trips and training, including ice axes, helmets, crampons, and avalanche beacons.

Stay Informed: The MCA publishes a monthly newsletter, *SCREE*, and emails it to all members. The *SCREE* contains announcements of upcoming events, the hiking and climbing trip schedule, and trip reports written by club members.

Monthly meetings: Generally held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the BP Energy Center at 1014 Energy Court (in Midtown Anchorage just south of the main BP building). Special events or changes to the meeting will be noted in the *SCREE* and on our website at: www.mtnclubak.org.

- ◆ **Complete both pages of this form. Write neatly!** To participate in club-sponsored trips, **EVERY MEMBER** must read and complete the Release of Liability Agreement on the back of this application.
- ◆ Please make checks payable to **Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc.**
- ◆ Mailed *SCREE* subscriptions are \$15 additional per year & are non-refundable. (1 *SCREE*/ family).
- ◆ Annual membership is through the 31st of December.
- ◆ Memberships paid after November 1st are good through December 31 of the following year.
- ◆ If applying by mail, please include a self-addressed, **stamped** envelope for your membership card.
OR you may pick it up at the next monthly meeting.
Our address is: **PO BOX 243561, Anchorage, AK 99524-3561**
- ◆ **Note: Mailed applications may take up to 6 weeks to process.** Thank you for your patience.
- ◆ **To join right now, sign up online at www.mtnclubak.org**

NEW <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/>	NAME <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
1 YR. INDIVIDUAL \$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	FAMILY MEMBERS <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
1 YR. FAMILY \$25 <input type="checkbox"/>	
2 YR. INDIVIDUAL \$40 <input type="checkbox"/>	
2 YR. FAMILY \$50 <input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you want your SCREE delivered? (check one or both)	
ELECTRONIC (Free) <input type="checkbox"/>	E-mail delivery
PAPER (add \$15/yr.) <input type="checkbox"/>	Postal Service (not available outside the United States)
STREET or P.O. BOX <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
CITY / STATE / ZIP <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
TELEPHONE <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
E-MAIL ADDRESS <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	

_____ I am interested in joining a committee (Circle which ones: Programs, Hiking & Climbing, Huts, Geographic Names, Peak Registers, Parks Advisory, Equipment, Awards, Membership, Training, or ad hoc committees).

_____ I am interested in leading a trip.

Administrative use only below this line: _____

Dues Paid: \$20 \$25 \$40 \$50 Paper **SCREE** Paid: \$15 for 1 year \$30 for 2 years Membership Card Issued for Yr: _____
on Date: ___/___/___ Cash or Check Number: _____ Address Added to Mailing List

Revised 11/26/14

SIGN AND INITIAL THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY— READ IT CAREFULLY

I _____ (print name) am aware that mountaineering and wilderness activities (including hiking; backpacking; rock, snow, and ice climbing; mountaineering; skiing; ski mountaineering; rafting and packrafting, kayaking, and use of remote backcountry huts) are hazardous activities. I wish to participate and/or receive instruction in these activities with the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc. ("MCA"). I recognize these activities involve numerous risks, which include, by way of example only, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; falling into a crevasse or over a cliff; drowning; failure of a belay; being struck by climbing equipment or falling rock, ice or snow; avalanches; lightning; fire; hypothermia; frostbite; defective or malfunctioning equipment; and attack by insects or animals. I further recognize that the remoteness of the activities may preclude prompt medical care or rescue. I also recognize that risk of **injury or death** may be caused or enhanced by **mistakes, negligence or reckless conduct** on the part of either my fellow participants; MCA officers, directors, instructors, or trip leaders; and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding MCA backcountry huts. I nevertheless agree to accept all risks of **injury, death, or property damage** that may occur in connection with any MCA activity, including use of MCA furnished equipment and MCA backcountry huts. **(As used in this agreement, MCA includes its officers, directors, instructors and trip leaders.)**

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

GIVING UP MY LEGAL RIGHTS I agree to give up for myself and for my heirs all legal rights I may have against the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities (except to the extent that insurance coverage is provided by automobile insurance policies) and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding MCA backcountry huts. **I give up these legal rights regardless of whether the injury, death, or property damage results from mistakes, negligence or reckless conduct of others.** I understand this agreement shall remain in effect until I provide a signed, dated, written notice of its revocation to the MCA.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY PROMISE NOT TO SUE I will not sue or otherwise make a claim against the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities (except as noted above for automobile accidents); and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding use of MCA backcountry huts, for **injury, death, or property damage** which occurs in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering and wilderness activities. Any lawsuit relating to MCA activities or this release shall only be filed in Anchorage, Alaska. The provisions of this release are severable and if any part is found unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY RELEASE OF LIABILITY I agree to release and discharge the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities; and the State of Alaska and its employees regarding use of MCA backcountry huts, from all actions, claims, or demands, both for myself and for my heirs, dependents, and/or personal representative, for **injury, death, or property damage** occurring in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering and wilderness activities.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY I will pay all expenses, including attorney fees and court costs, that the MCA; my fellow participants in MCA activities; and the State of Alaska and its employees may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of **injury, death, or property damage** suffered by me in connection with any MCA activity or the use of any MCA backcountry hut.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

MY CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT I consent to any hospital or medical care that may be necessary as a result of my participation in MCA activities. I understand and agree that I am solely responsible for all charges for such medical treatment, including evacuation and/or rescue costs.

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT, AND RECOGNIZE IT IS A BINDING LEGAL AGREEMENT

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18): _____

Revised 2/19/09

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President	Cory Hinds	229-6809	Board member (term expires in 2015)	Rachad Rayess	617-309-6566
Vice-President	Galen Flint	650-207-0810	Board member (term expires in 2015)	Joshua Clark	887-1888
Secretary	Liz Bennett	830-9656	Board member (term expires in 2016)	Jayne Mack	382-0212
Treasurer	Aaron Gallagher	250-9555	Board member (term expires in 2016)	Carlene Van Tol	748-5270
Past President	Greg Encelewski	360-0274			

Annual membership dues: Single \$20, Family \$25

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 Membership Committee at membership@mtclubak.org.

The Scree is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles, notes, and letters submitted for publication in the newsletter should be emailed to MCAScree@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the 24th of the month to appear 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. Ads can be emailed to vicepresident@mtclubak.org.

Missing your MCA membership card? Stop by the monthly meeting to pick one up or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and we'll mail it to you.

Mailing list/database entry: Aaron Gallagher - membership@mtclubak.org

Hiking and Climbing Committee: Vicky Lytle - hcc@mtclubak.org

Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008 or huts@mtclubak.org

Calendar: Stuart Grenier - 337-5127 or stugrenier@gmail.com

Scree Editor: MCAScree@gmail.com Steve Gruhn (344-1219) assisted by Elizabeth Ellis (elizabeth.anne.russo@gmail.com)

Web: www.mtclubak.org

Find MCAK listserv at <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/MCAK/info>.

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