

# the SCREE

## Mountaineering Club of Alaska

October 2009

Volume 52 Number 10



### Monthly Meeting

Wed. October 21 @ 6:30 PM

Program: Brian Okonek presents  
30 years of Mountaineering.  
From the Chugach State Park  
to the Alaska Range.

Ham and Eggs for Breakfast

Peaks 6325, 5690, 5250

Boggs at Last

POM, Kindling Mountain

It is not every question  
that deserves an answer  
~ Publilius Syrus

# 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 third Wednesday of the month. The July meeting is the annual picnic, which will be held at the Bayshore Clubhouse. See below for details.

Contact information is provided on the back page or visit us on the web at [www.mcak.org](http://www.mcak.org).

**Cover Photo: Marcin Ksok on Mount Barrille with Mount Huntington in the back. Photo by Greg Encelewski**

**Article Submission:** Articles and photos can be sent to [johnrecktenwald@gmail.com](mailto:johnrecktenwald@gmail.com). Due to formatting problems please do not submit material in the body of an email, instead, attach a word processing document to the email. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. You can also submit an article on the web at [MCAK.org](http://MCAK.org). To get on the cover, a photo should convey the feeling of mountaineering and show human endeavor.

## Contents

**MCA 2010 Calendar Notes**

**Ham And Eggs for Breakfast**

**Peaks 6325, 5690, 5250, Troublesome Gl.**

**Boggs at Last**

**POM, Kindling Mountain**

**Letters – Travel Insurance**

**Adze**

**Parting Shot**

## Hiking and Climbing Schedule

Nov. 1 - Full Moon Hike – the Ballfield

This is a Class B hike up to the Ballfield during the full moon on Sunday, November 1. If conditions are good we can hike over to the ridgeline that overlooks the Williwaw Lakes trail and either turn around and go back the way we came or drop down and hike out via the Williwaw Lakes (Middle Fork) trail. Bring whatever gear is appropriate for the weather and snow conditions. Meet at the Glenalps parking lot at 5:30 p.m. For more info contact trip leader Amy Murphy, 338-3979 or e-mail: [hayduchesslives@yahoo.com](mailto:hayduchesslives@yahoo.com).

Nov. 11 – Evening Hike or Ski Trip

This is a Class A hike, snowshoe or ski trip, depending on the snow conditions. Hopefully we can ski! Bring a headlamp and whatever gear is appropriate for the weather and snow

conditions. Plan on being out 1-1/2 to 2 hours. Meet at the North Bivouac trailhead on the Campbell Airstrip Road at 6:00 p.m. For more info contact trip leader Amy Murphy, 338-3979 or e-mail: [hayduchesslives@yahoo.com](mailto:hayduchesslives@yahoo.com).

Nov. 14 – Hike to Roundtop via Ptarmigan Valley Trail

This is a Class C hike or snowshoe trip to Roundtop Peak via the Ptarmigan Valley trail, depending on the snow conditions. If participants want, we could arrange a shuttle and do a traverse from Mt. Baldy over to Roundtop and hike out the Ptarmigan Valley trail. Dress warmly and in layers and bring whatever gear is appropriate for the weather and snow conditions. To sign up or get more information, contact trip leader Amy Murphy, 338-3979 or e-mail:

[hayduchesslives@yahoo.com](mailto:hayduchesslives@yahoo.com).

## MCA 2010 Calendar Notes

The calendar is horizontal this year. Stu Grenier will be collecting photos at the MCA meeting. Try to bring your photos in early; Stu will be there 30 minutes before the meeting. If all goes well we will vote at the meeting. Please have your name, contact information and a short write-up on the back of every photo. You can have a plastic cover on your photos if you do not want them handled. 8 by 10s and 8 by 12s can be made at Costco for \$3. The categories are climbing, hiking, scenery, and people. We may also need a photo expert who can make digital photos look their best since Eric Teela now lives in Canada. All photographs must be taken in Alaska and either the subject or the photographer needs to be a member of the MCA by the voting date.



# Ham and Eggs for Breakfast

by Marcin Ksok



I felt slightly empty and hollow by the time May 2009 came around; a trip to Little Switzerland fell through, leaving behind a chasm once filled with the hopes of challenging climbing. A failed MCA Marcus Baker attempt, short on at least a good struggle to reach the summit did not provide a fulfilling mountain experience either. No plans for any summer trips were present at the time to lift the spirit. What I needed was a redemption trip, successful or not, a trip where I could enjoy the best part of climbing – the hard work and struggle that it offered. Being just a speck on a mountain's slope or ridgeline, I justify my presence there by the amount of energy and tenacity I exert along the way in. It feels right to earn one's summit or a view; with larger difficulties come larger rewards.

So there we were, Greg Encelewski and I again, setting up camp on the Root Canal Glacier, working up the courage to face The Mooses Tooth Ham and Eggs Couloir. Just a few days ago the idea popped into my head and now we had this thin snow and ice line splitting the enormous rock face right in front of us. On the flight in, I was amazed by the enormous walls of the Ruth Gorge, things were big here, really big. The couloir looked steep from the airplane, but now standing underneath it, I was less apprehensive. It was going to be our longest,

steepest, hardest route, but we both felt like we needed it; we both felt ready and well prepared. We talked with Adrian Bender and Brian Fredricks who had already completed the climb and now were resting in camp, they offered advice about thin, rotting ice and a tale of a rescue that happened two days prior. They also spoke of a Baranow/Beckey party that we missed.

Before sunrise we stood below the first pitch, I was both eager and apprehensive at the same time. It is difficult to describe the feeling of heading up an unknown route, of course we studied the description, photos, and reports, but research only goes so far. I led up the rock pitch; holds were covered by ice from the previous day's melt and last night's freeze. Scraping with front points on the rock, I made fairly quick progress. I began to relax slowly as the difficulty was low and the initial anxiety dwindled. In no time the first pitch was over; Greg led up the second and put us below the first ice pitch. Ice - rotten, thin, with an overhung bulge below the top-out and icicles hanging below it. There was one positive aspect, it was short, all the ice pitches turned out to be short, just a bit unnerving and technical to pull over the bulges, especially the third pitch, which ended in steep, soft snow capping the ice streak and made for a long run-

out. The snow sections offered lower angles and made for quick simul-climbing. We opted for climbing the ice variation on the official crux pitch, which went well. The col was reached after a long step-kicking slog up the higher part of the couloir, all led by Greg, as our arrangement stated. I had the rock and ice; he did the snow, which worked out well. After a break Greg headed toward the ridge, avoiding few crevasses. We reached the corniced ridge, which made me feel uneasy; I am more comfortable on steeper, but protectable terrain. To our advantage the weather was cloudy and the temperature stayed cool. Actually the whole climb was done in fog until the col, where clouds opened up intermittently and offered amazing views. After the summit and return to the couloir we started rappelling, at first in light snowfall, which grew progressively heavier. By the lower pitches the snow would funnel down, at one point Greg had the misfortune of becoming completely holed by a mini-avalanche. Because of the darkness and snow I never found the last rap anchors; we were forced to retrace our approach and down-climb the initial snow slope above a large bergschrund. After safely getting back to camp 18 hours later, I realized what had happened, we were done, finished with a great route, and it proved less demanding than I had imagined. I felt content and pleased we did everything right, safely, and efficiently.



The following day snow-covered walls greeted us, thin clouds hung around until afternoon, finally opening up and letting us escape the canal aboard a plane headed for the main gorge. The weather looked promising, so a decision was reached to try the Japanese Couloir on

Mount Barrille. We woke up a bit late, skied to the base of the route, and kicked steps for hours and hours. Unfortunately, it was warm again and the snow got soft, making progress slow and tiresome. The summit offered awesome views of the Tooth Range and Denali. The climb went well, although a bit boring, lacking steep sections, ice or rock; we descended the route and by the end I was very tired of plunging in the deep snow, but at the same time glad to get another peak. The next day our quick stunt ended; back at the Talkeetna Airport it felt strange to be back just a few days after heading out. Who knew that climbing could be so simple and easy, without strenuous approaches, bushwhacking, rain and sleet? Hopping around aboard an airplane, I think we were getting spoiled.



I guess we graduated, but to what? Climbing is a never-ending pursuit, full of brief moments of exhilaration and excitement, but they end so quickly, leaving only snapshot memories of the feeling. The process has to be repeated to achieve the experience again. In the end this climb provided us with a realization of new possibilities and stimulated the need for others like it. And above all, I now share two more routes with a great friend and companion.





# Peaks 6325, 5690 and 5250, Troublesome Glacier

by Ross Noffsinger



**Ross and Dave Hart on the summit of Peak 5250 with the Troublesome Glacier in the background, Peak 6325 is located above Ross' right shoulder. All Photographs by David Stchyrba**

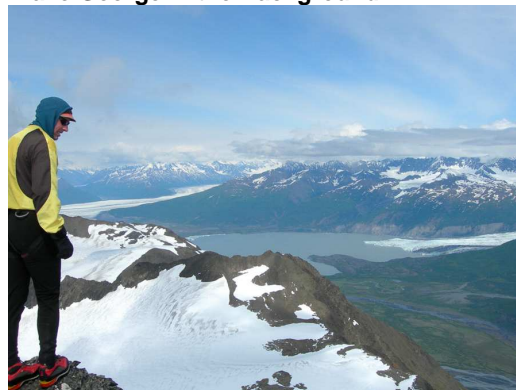
Attempting to climb Baleful Peak's northeast ridge, David Stchyrba, Dave Hart and I charted a helicopter flight on June 26 with Pollux Aviation (Wasilla) to Blissful Lake. The spectacular flight up the Hunter Creek Drainage revealed the upper mountain had recently received unconsolidated "summer" snow and was in poor condition for climbing. As a contingency, the pilot landed us on a broad pass northeast of Brittle Peak. My altimeter read 5,600 feet and it was cold and windy, so in an attempt to get warm we followed the ridge northeast for roughly a mile to the summit of peak 6,325. There was no cairn or evidence of a previous ascent; however this peak has probably been climbed. Since we had big plans for the day, we quickly left the summit without constructing a cairn.

We descended back to the pass and continued down to the Troublesome Glacier where we headed due east towards a 5,250 foot peak with twin summits and no reported ascents. A few hours of travel on semi-firm snow followed by a scree scramble up the south face brought us to the summit. Of the twin summits, the eastern one is clearly higher. There was no evidence of a previous ascent so we built a small cairn but left no register. The altimeter confirmed that this peak rises

more than 500 feet above the saddle between it and peak 5,690. In keeping with the theme for the area, we propose the name Toilsome Peak.

We descended back to the glacier, worked our way around a rock rib, and then ascended moderately steep snow on the north side of Peak 5,690. On the summit we found the cairn built by Richard Baranow and Sam Pepper in 2005. Their climb was the first reported ascent, and they have proposed the name Worrisome Peak.

**Dave Hart on the Summit of Peak 5690 with Lake George in the Background**



We descended the southwest aspect of the peak, crossed the glacier and ascended back to the pass

where we had left most of our gear. While eating dinner we contemplated our plans. We decided to attempt Baleful (regardless of what we had observed that morning) so we descended into the West Fork of the Hunter Creek drainage. We arrived at Blissful Lake at 11:30 p.m.

**Dave Hart on Baleful, down-climbing off the ridge**



Fatigued from the previous day's 15-hour effort (which involved 5,700 feet of elevation gain and extensive travel on snow covered glaciers) we did not leave camp until 10:30 a.m. We zigzagged up the north face snow fields through cliff bands to 5,400 feet where the snow ended. Gaining the northeast ridge from the top of the snow is a

sustained Class 4 pucker. The route Dave Hart and I took involved one Class 5 move. David Stchyrba found a considerably harder route on the east side of the ridge that he does not recommend. We crested the ridge at 5,600 feet. The ridge between 6,000 and 7,000 feet is sustained Class 4 with short sections of Class 5 climbing. The new snow encountered at 6,300 feet reduced the margin of safety to a level we were not willing to accept, so we bailed. Two short rappels, some down-climbing on rock and lots of snow down-climbing brought us back to camp by 8 p.m.

The following day we hiked over the pass into the Baleful Creek drainage, using a sheep trail to descend the crumbling cliff on the Baleful Creek side. Since David Stchyrba had to be back at work, he continued down the East Fork of the Eklutna River. Unsuccessful in his attempt to hitch an ATV ride, David slogged the entire 10 miles around the lake on sore feet, arriving at his car near midnight. Dave Hart and I camped another night in anticipation of more peak bagging, but heavy rain during the night followed by cloud-covered peaks in the early morning changed our attitudes and consequently our plans, so we hiked out. Unlike Stchyrba, we luckily scored an ATV ride for the entire 10 miles.



## **Boggs at Last**

**by Wayne L. Todd with Carrie Wang**  
**August 1&2, 2009**  
**All photos by Wayne Todd**

Carrie and I cross streams and bogs up the middle of Bear Valley. Having traveled here before, this route is efficient, or at least known. This route also has the benefit of having no concerns about brush or wet feet, as you get a fine sampling of both. The brush seems thicker than years past, could be time of year or the steady growth of nature. Also, as we wear only shorts to expedite the numerous water crossings, the bare legs are more vulnerable. The valley moose give us four 'ears up' as we pass by.

An hour later we are at the ascent gully which bypasses a couple thousand feet of brush. Water flows this day in the gully but poses no major problems. Two other differences on this attempt of Boggs are; we have excellent weather (and forecast) and pack rafts.

From experience I know the Southwest ridge does not go and assume the south glacier route will be easy and direct. We traverse there but the upper glacier tapers into steep junk rock. OK then, how about the SE ridge? We ascend partway up this ridge from our 3000 foot

bench and then drop slightly north to access easy talus slopes on the ESE side. Soon we're on top, after two and half previous attempts, enjoying the glaciated Chugach mountain vista. We leave a register in the cairn.

**Boggs Peak, Southeast Ridge**



We head for Peak 4210, skirting bump 3550 to the south, and drop our packs on the saddle at a stellar site (with searching, there are numerous campsites on glacial-scoured rock with private glacier fed streams



windowed to the south by calving seracs over rock). Unfortunately, the calving is due to quickly receding glacier.

**The Ridge on Peak 4210**



Thinking the ridge will be a walk-up we take only our whippets. Where the ridge steepens, a cleft stops us. Firm, steep snow 10 yards to our left looks like a reasonable route (with proper snow hardware). From our rock stance, we don't see what lurks on the snow.

We retire to our uneven paddle-poled canopy, guyed with rocks, for a dreamy night on our glacial rock perch.

Up at 5:30 and after a Jetboil breakfast, we bypass the cleft with ice axe, whippet and crampons. Hundreds, nay thousands, of skinny little sticks catch my attention on the snow. They are moving! The ice worms distract me for a bit.

Sunrise greets us at the summit of 4210, with views of our past, Bear valley and of our future, Carmen River and Lake (and a bit of Prince William Sound). The register has only one entry, Tim Kelley and party from 1997? (We do not explore the East Ridge to see if this is a viable descent route as camp still awaits at the saddle).

**Peak 4210 with Begich and Boggs Peaks in back**



We descend north on glacier a healthy distance apart appreciating the scale of the crevasses, exiting about 3,000 feet just above steeper blue ice. I am glad to be off the glacier despite minor scrambling ahead. Traversing to a scenic point overlooking Carmen Valley, we decide to zag back toward the glacier for less steep terrain as we can not see foliage between us and the valley floor. Some bushwhacking ensues, first traversing down, then along the class IV glacier stream. A token black bear briefly appears.

On the flats we decide to put in directly on Carmen River (a wise choice) but a bit more brush ensues. Looking up at our earlier vantage point, descent routes look reasonable (Lesson 1). Oh well, we only burned a couple extra hours.

**Carmen River**



In the warm glorious sunshine we put in at 1:30 pm wearing only pants (and upper body stuff like PFDs). Every small wave pours cold water pour down my back and thighs as I don't have a spray skirt (Lesson 2). Floating through the cottonwood cemetery, we occasionally portage. I put-in above a cottonwood butt thinking there is room to ferry, against Carrie's advice. The boat pins on the butt, I'm dumped out but luckily am able to stand in the thigh deep water to unpin my boat from the pack end (no deflation necessary, Lessons 3 & 4).

The float across Carmen Lake is peaceful with various mountain and snow gully reflections, and no wind. Glacier River (Carmen Lake outlet) moves briskly along with a dash of splashiness, until the intersection with the Twenty-mile River. Even the Twenty-mile moves along after previous days of rain, and our paddling. With no head wind we make highwayland after 5:30 PM. I enjoy the bike ride to Portage Lake to warm up.

This is a great little adventure in the near Chugach which would be a relaxing three day trip or a focused one day with proper conditions, route knowledge and skipping the summits.



# Peak of the Month: Kindling Mountain

by Steve Gruhn

Kindling Mountain



Photo by Matt Faust

The Fausts attempted the fin from a camp at the 4350-foot pass between the Godwin Glacier and the Kindling Glacier a few hours after making the first recorded ascent of Mount Godwin (see the November 2007 Scree).

Kindling Mountain



Photo by Harold Faust

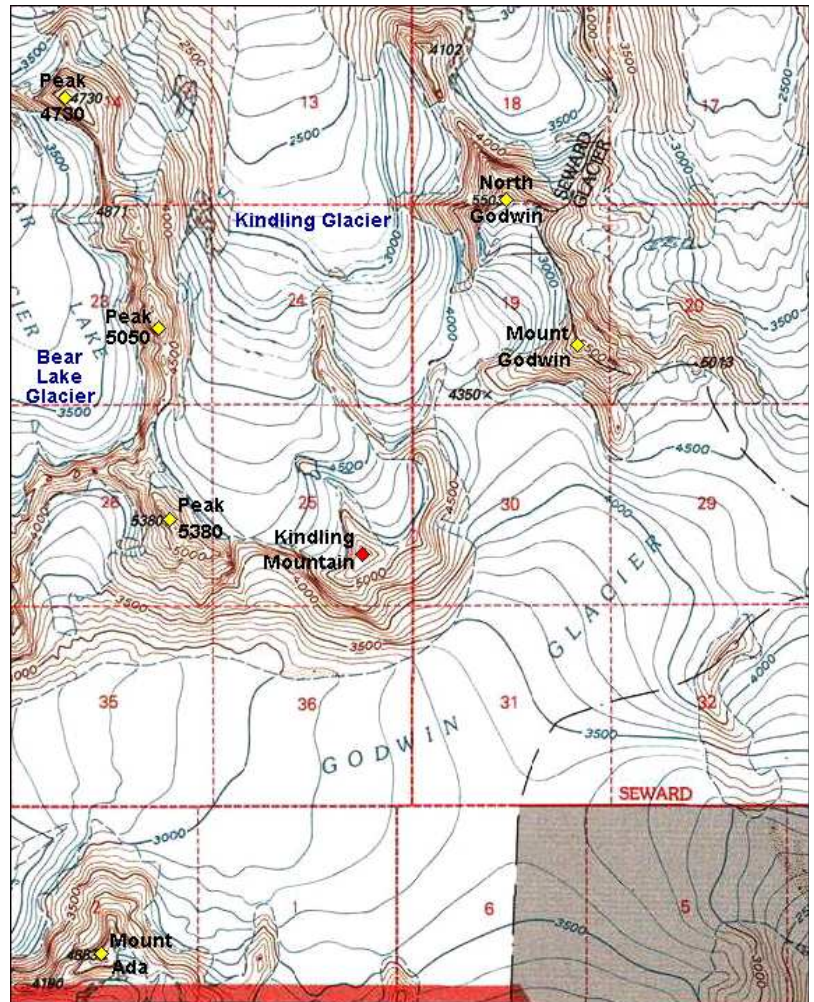
Mountain Range: Kenai Mountains  
Borough: Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Drainages: Godwin Glacier and Kindling Glacier  
Latitude/Longitude: 60° 8' 40" North, 149° 11' 35" West  
Elevation: 5550 feet  
Prominence: 1200 feet from Mount Godwin (5860)  
Adjacent Peaks: Mount Godwin and Peak 5380 near the Godwin Glacier and the Kindling Glacier  
Distinctness: 1200 feet from either Mount Godwin or Peak 5380  
USGS Map: Seward (A-6)  
First Recorded Ascent: There are no records of an ascent; this peak might be unclimbed.  
Access Point: The Seward Highway at the South Fork of the Snow River

In the 1960s Vin Hoeman and the MCA's Geographic Names Committee frequently proposed geographic names in line with a common regional theme. Kindling Glacier and Kindling Mountain were two of the many proposed geographic names with the fireplace theme in the Snow River area. Other "fireplace" geographic names include North Andiron, Fireside Glacier, Hearth Glacier, and Hearth Mountain. In the April 1989 *Scree* Willy Hersman published a map of many of the names in the Snow River area.

The first mention of Kindling Mountain in the *Scree* was in Todd Miner's report of his trip up the South Fork of the Snow River, which appeared in the March 1989 issue.

I know of no reports of ascents of Kindling Mountain; your upcoming ascent could be the first.

In early April 2009 Harold Faust and son Matt Faust attempted to climb a fin on the northeast ridge of Kindling Mountain. Although their attempt was unsuccessful, no other climbers have reported getting closer to the summit of Kindling Mountain.



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



## Letter to the Editor

### Travel Insurance

While finalizing some details for our Nepal trek, the adventure travel agent requested we purchase travel insurance, mainly to cover medical evacuation costs in case we needed emergency evacuation. Well, travel insurance is pretty expensive and the cheapest I could find was around \$200 (for our trip, and costs vary depending on where you go and how much your overall trip costs). That's a lot of money so I asked the travel agent for another "cheap" alternative.

He said he personally goes through the Divers Alert Network, so I checked that out. For a \$35 membership you can get FREE emergency evacuation services up to \$100,000 for diving AND non-diving accidents and

coverage automatically begins once you are 50 miles or more from your home. This means that DAN members who go on mountaineering or backpacking trips in the Alaska wilderness could be covered. I thought this would be useful information for MCA members so I'm informing you. Below is a link to the Divers Alert Network.

<http://www.diversalertnetwork.org/membership/benefits.asp>

Katie Hahn and I are now proud members of the Divers Alert Network and plan on bringing flippers and a snorkel on our Himalayan journey for humorous photographic purposes. :-)

Amy Murphy

## Adze

### For Sale

I am selling two 60 meter Sterling Duetto 8.4 mm 'half' ropes. I bought these ropes two ice climbing seasons ago. I ended up getting a single rope instead as I mostly do easy top rope climbing. The ropes have never been used, outside or wet. I paid just over \$300 for them. Asking \$225 for both.  
Mark at 360-5935

### For Sale

Dynafit Zzero boots size 25 (mens 7) bought last season, hardly used, liners in good shape, special deal on reconditioning  
kathystill@alaska.net or 522-2468

## Getting Involved

Last month we ran a piece on the Hatcher Pass Management Plan. Why should you spend your time on issues like this? You might,

If you don't want this



to look like this.



## 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



**RELEASE OF LIABILITY—READ CAREFULLY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), am aware that mountaineering sports (including hiking; backpacking; rock, snow, and ice climbing; mountaineering; skiing; and ski mountaineering) are hazardous activities. I wish to participate and/or receive instruction in these activities with the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc. ("MCA") I recognize that these activities involve numerous risks, which include, by way of example only, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; 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. I further recognize that risk of injury or death may be caused or enhanced by mistakes or negligence on the part of either my fellow participants or MCA officers, directors, guides, instructors, or trip leaders. 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.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**GIVING UP MY LEGAL RIGHTS**

By signing this Agreement, I agree to give up for myself and for my heirs all legal rights I may have against the MCA and my fellow participants in MCA activities (except to the extent that insurance coverage for any claim is provided by an automobile insurance policy or related excess insurance policies). **I give up these legal rights regardless of whether the injury, death, or property damage results from mistakes or negligence on the part of either my fellow participants or the MCA.** (As used in this agreement, MCA means the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc., and all of its officers, directors, guides, instructors and trip leaders.) I understand this agreement shall remain in effect until such time as I provide signed written notice of its revocation to the MCA.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY PROMISE NOT TO SUE**

I agree that I will not sue, or otherwise make any claim against, the MCA or my fellow participants in MCA activities for injury, death, or property damage which occurs in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering sports. Any lawsuit relating to MCA activities or this release shall only be filed in the Superior Court for the State of Alaska, Third Judicial District., Anchorage, Alaska. The provisions of this release are severable and if any part of this release is found unenforcible, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY RELEASE OF LIABILITY**

I also agree to release and discharge the MCA and my fellow participants in MCA activities 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 sports.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY**

I agree to pay all expenses, including attorney's fees and court costs, that the MCA or my fellow participants in MCA activities may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of injury, death, or property damage suffered by me.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**MY CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT**

I consent to any hospital care or medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment which may be necessary as a result of my participation in activities with the MCA. I also understand and agree that I am solely responsible for all applicable charges for such medical treatment, including evacuation and/or rescue cost.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

**I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A BINDING, LEGAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ME AND THE MCA.**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 19): \_\_\_\_\_

# Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President Wayne Todd 522-6354  
Vice-President Ross Noffsinger 336-2233  
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](http://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: Jayme Dixon - 382-0212, Richard Baranow - 694-1500  
Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008  
Calendar: Stuart Grenier - 337-5127  
Scree Editor: John Recktenwald - 346-2589  
Web: [www.mcak.org](http://www.mcak.org) (change your address here)  
Mailing list service: [MCAK@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MCAK@yahoogroups.com)

Mountaineering Club of Alaska  
Box 102037  
Anchorage AK 99510