



APRIL 1996

*A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc.*  
Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Volume 39 Issue 04

### APRIL MEETING

Wednesday

April 17th, 7:30

Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets  
Downtown Anchorage

Slide Show: Deb Geeseman will show slides  
of her recent climb of Mera Peak in Nepal.

### HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

- |               |  |           |  |
|---------------|--|-----------|--|
| Apr 20        | <u>March-for-Parks, Hatcher Pass</u><br>Freindship Pass. Class B. 1500 feet elevation gain. Donations or pledges accepted to upgrade structures at Independence Mine State Historic Park. Meet at Palmer Carrs 10:00 A.M.<br>Leader: Diane Sallee 746-5286 | May 5     | <u>Gull Rock Hike</u><br>See 55 Ways, trip 17. Class B.<br>Leader: Curvin Metzler 333-8766   |
| Apr 20- May 5 | <u>Grand Canyon &amp; Havasupai</u><br>Leader: Bill Wakeland 563-6246  | May 11-12 | <u>Gold Mint Trail</u><br>Trail maintenance trip. Ok, you complained about it, so do something. Last year nobody signed up. Bring brush saw, loppers. Loppers most useful on this trail. Class B. Overnight or come out for one of the days.<br>Leader: Willy Hersman 265-6405                     |
| Apr 27        | <u>Map &amp; Compass Class</u><br>Instructors: Brian Carey and Steve Gruhn<br>344-1219 563-8102 w  | May 25-27 | <u>Bomber Hut</u><br>Talkeetnas. Hike and possible climb of nearby peak. Sixteen miles roundtrip. Class D.<br>Leader: Aze Azegami 266-9249   |
| May 4         | <u>Turnagain Trail Hike</u><br>See 55 Ways, trip 29. Class B.<br>Leader: Curvin Metzler 333-8766   | June 1    | <u>Trails Day</u><br>Mile High Pass, Eagle River. Junk car removal! Meet 8:30 A.M. at Carrs Eagle River. Carpool to site. Need two other 4WD vehicles to carry 4 adults and some gear. Leather gloves, safety glasses, water, snacks, sturdy work boots needed. An extra come-along and 50 feet of |
| May 4-5       | <u>Glacier Travel/Rescue Class</u><br>Mat Glacier. Need harness, crampons, ice axe, helmet, prussiks or ascenders. Camping/entry fee.<br>Leader: James Larabee 522-3854  |           |  |

Your MCA card shows you signed the waiver. If you can't find it, or don't have one, remove the back page of Scree and fill out the waiver for the trip leader. Thanks.

goldline would be helpful. Picnic afterwards in Eagle River.  
Leader: Scott Bailey 696-7250, 269-7572

June 22-23 Temptation Peak  
Western Chugach. Class D.  
Leader: Dennis Morford 522-1179

July 20 - Aug 3 Arctic National Wildlife Refuge  
Peter Schrader Lakes to Hula-Hula River.  
Mostly backpacking, with possible climb of Mt. Chamberlin if enough climber-types show up. Class C. \$400-450 air charter cost per person. Limit 6 or 9.  
Leader: Don Hansen 243-7184, 271-6656

Aug 9-13 Talkeetna Hut and Glacier Traverse  
Visit Snowbird, Bomber, Mint, Moose Huts. Loop starts at Archangel, ends at Buffalo Mine. We'll spot cars. Light crampons needed on the glaciers. Last day is the only long one. You can go out earlier. Limit 8, Class D.  
Leader: Willy Hersman 373-4734

## BOARD MEETING

March 18

Six board members and the chair of the Guidebook Committee were present. Club President, James Larabee started the meeting by announcing that this board meeting was dedicated to setting club priorities for the remainder of the year. After two hours of discussion, the board developed the following priorities.

### Primary Efforts for 1996

1. Full hiking and climbing schedule (Mark Fouts)
2. Full training schedule (James Larabee)
3. Hut maintenance (Mark Miraglia)
4. Guidebook (Mark Flannum)
5. Community Service (James Larabee, Wayne Todd)
6. Plan for training 1997 officers & documenting club processes (Mark Fouts)
7. Gear inventory (Dave Hart, Bill Romberg)
8. Financial planning (Aze Azizama)
9. Vin Hoeman library (Joe Kurtak, Bill Romberg)
10. AAC liaison (Julia Moore)
11. Club History (Mark Fouts)

### Other efforts, depending on volunteers

- Club publicity
- More Scree articles
- Improve MCA meetings
- Awards
- Review club liabilities

### Priorities - Discussion

Efforts to provide a full hiking and climbing schedule and full training schedule are well underway.

Hut Committee Chair Mark Miraglia set a date for the Bomber hut repairs May 25-27. Installation of the new Mint and Dnigi Hut out-houses will be scheduled later.

Guidebook Chair Mark Flannum reported that a draft guidebook with descriptions, photos and topography maps of 15 local peaks should be completed this spring. 13 peaks have been written-up, but Mark is looking for great photos of Byron, Bashful, Calliope, Carpathian, Eagle, Hurdy-Gurdy, Montana, Mount Rumble, north face of O'Malley, Peril, Pinnacle, Polar Bear, Spearmint and Yukla. The first draft of the guidebook will be provided to MCA Trip Leaders to critique and consider as a reference (access and route) for club trips. A date for completion of the guidebook and general club distribution has not been set.

Community Service projects may include an outing with youths from the Boys and Girls club and trail clearing.

Plan for training 1997 officers & documenting club processes is on-schedule.

Dave Hart and Bill Romberg are planning to recommend equipment purchases to update club gear.

Board member Aze Azegami is taking the lead to develop a budget for the balance of 1996. He will also be trying to establish a cash management policy.

Joe Kurtak, with assistance from Bill Romberg, plan to improve the Vin Hoeman library and establish better policies for library use.

Julia Moore, acting on behalf of the MCA president, will be the club's liaison with the American Alpine Club.

Mark Fouts reported that the History Committee's initial efforts will be to compile important data from the past 37 years of Scree. This effort should be completed by May 15, 1996.

Other efforts that the board considered for 1996 included club publicity, which generated nearly an hour of discussion. The core issue was how "To promote the enjoyment, hiking, climbing and exploration of the mountain.", a major purpose of the club. Questions arose about membership levels, the club's primary audience (local, national or international), the value of a homepage on the internet, the ultimate purpose of a club guidebook and on and on. No action was taken by the board, but it was a worthwhile discussion.

The other possible club efforts — more Scree articles, improve MCA meetings, awards and review club liabilities — are dependent on volunteers to pursue.

Overall, the board meeting addressed a lot of topics and seems to have set the stage for a productive year.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Fouts



## MARCH MEETING

Five visitors/new members introduced themselves, two from Anchorage, one from Maryland, and two others from Outside. Total attendance was about 40.

### TREASURY REPORT

Money Market:	3894.51
Checking:	2659.79
Petty cash:	<u>62.00</u>
Total in treasury:	\$6616.30

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### *Hiking and Climbing.*

Dennis Morford standing in for Mark Fouts announced that 15-20 club members have agreed to lead at least one trip this season. During the past week each of these trip leaders were mailed a "leader packet" which contained revised versions of the trip leader responsibilities and trip leader checklist, as well as blank sign up sheets and a letter containing information which will help the committee coordinate these trips. The goal of the committee is to provide at least one club-sponsored trip every weekend from May through September, and "trip-calendar will be posted at monthly meeting to provide notice of upcoming trips and which dates are available for additional trips. Trip leaders for upcoming trips and training gave brief descriptions of activities.

#### *Huts.*

Chairperson Mark Miraglia announced that the committee plans to construct a new outhouse at the Mint Glacier Hut and an outhouse at the new Moose Creek Hut sometime in June or July. Those looking to volunteer to help with these projects this summer should contact Mark at 338-0705.

#### *History.*

Steve Gruhn announced that the MCA Board of Directors had approved an initiative to document the club's history. The committee is looking for club members to assist with the review of past issues of Scree and have developed a form which one can use to provide information on a particular period/event in club history. The tentative deadline for completing this phase of the project is May 15, 1996. Those wishing to assist in this effort can obtain forms and additional information from Mark Fouts at 248-0048.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mark Flannum gave an update on the effort to publish a guidebook to peaks in the Southcentral area. To date he has received written descriptions for 15 peaks but is still looking for additional submissions. He also put out a

request for good quality photos of the fifteen peaks collected so far which would be included in the book. The current list of mountains includes: Byron, Bashful, Calliope, Hurdy Gurdy, O'Malley (north face), Carpathian, Eagle, Montana, Mount Rumble, Peril, Pinnacle, Polar Bear, Yukla, and Spearmint.

James Larabee announced that Julia Moore has been selected as the club's new liaison with the American Alpine Club. She will work with AAC to keep MCA informed on issues which may be of mutual concern to the two clubs.

### NEW BUSINESS

Dave Hart proposed that the club purchase a new laser pointer to replace the ancient one currently used for slide show presentations—cost: \$50-90. The motion was seconded and approved by a majority of the club members present by a show of hands. Dave also announced that the club had received a free copy of Jeff Lowe's new ice climbing manual/guidebook. It will be placed in the club's library at Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A representative from the Alaska Center for the Environment gave an update on U.S. Forest Service logging plans for the Turnagain Arm and north Kenai Peninsula, and requested those wishing to comment on the final plan to send comments to USFS as soon as possible.

Julia Moore announced that the Alaska Mountain Safety Center was concerned over the use of now obsolete "American frequency" avalanche beacons. As a result, AMSC is currently willing to offer MCA members a discount on new (international frequency) beacons if five or more individuals were interested in a group purchase. Beacon cost with this group discount = \$205. Contact Julia Moore for more details.

MCA member Diane Sallee invited the MCA to join in her efforts to develop a guidebook for the Talkeetnas. The matter was referred to the guidebook committee.

Tom Evans, provided an excellent slide show in which he shared some of his best shots including extreme skiing in Valdez and the Chugach, climbing in the Wrangells and miscellaneous wildlife photos. Thanks, Tom!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Fouts

