

Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

ANNUAL MEETING Wednesday October 20, 7:30 pm Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets

Business Meeting: Annual Elections.

Slide Show: Harry Hunt and Peter Haeussler will show slides of a new route on The Moose's Tooth.

Downtown Anchorage

HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

Oct 23 Bird Ridge Overlook and Peak 4730 Chugach Mountains. A ridgeline winter foray of two peaks involving 13 miles of travel and 6500 feet elevation gain. Should be in good shape. Required equipment: Helmet, ice axe, crampons, headlamp, clothes and footwear for winter travel including gaitors. Equipment requirements may change with conditions. Class D. Sign up at the October meeting or contact leader.

Leader: Wayne Todd 564-2671 w, 522-6354 h

23 Early Season Ice Recon Chugach Mountains. Accompany Cory Hinds and Richard Baranow on this early season search for frozen waterfalls in the local mountains. Limited to 10 people. Sign up in pairs. Must have all appropriate technical skills and gear, including headlamp. Call for more info.

Leaders: Cory Hinds 248-6606, Richard Baranow 694-1500

Note from new Hiking and Climbing Chair, Matt Nedom:

All of you interested in helping plan, organize, and even leading more club trips and functions, please call me at 278-3648, even if you already signed on the list in August. We will get together after the October meeting to hear ideas. Other meetings will be scheduled, which you will hear of if I have your name and number. This way, the club will have more trips. Remember to call the hotline for club information. Thank you! Matt

TRIP REPORTS

Jago River, ANWR MCA Trip

by Don Hansen



ive MCA members: Fred Kampfer, Ernie Kriese, Tom Choate, Pam Bell, and Don Hansen flew charter with Wright Air out of Fairbanks to the Jago River in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Saturday morning on July 24th. As

we approached the Brooks Range we could see fresh snow in the mountains and on the glaciers of many 8000-foot peaks of the Jago drainage. The two Helio Courier aircraft we flew in landed in half the length of the airstrip on a tundra bench along the clear water of the Jago River. The cool breeze coming out of the north kept the hoards of mosquitoes at bay during our gear packing and easy crossing of the Jago River. We set up camp across the river because most of the valleys and mountains we wanted to see and explore were on the opposite side of the river from the airstrip. We would be re-crossing the river upstream where it forks into several tributaries. Our first day hike the following day took us up the Hubley Creek drainage with views of the Hubley Glacier and Schwanda Peak. After scrambling up several talus slopes we reached the high lake at the base of Mount Deliverance, 7910. Tom Choate hiked part way up the mountain while the rest of us started back down the talus slopes to the river and he joined us shortly there after. The next day was spent near camp. Tom and Pam organized their gear for the backpack up the river. They brought along ice axes, crampons, and an 8mm rope for glacier climbing. On Monday the 26th we backpacked about five miles up stream and setup camp on a flat bench along the river. The next day and a half the weather turned to snow and freezing rain on our tents with temperatures below freezing. The cold winds from the north brought the snow, fog, and rain but relief from the hoards of mosquitoes. When the weather cleared on Wednesday the 28th we went for a hike up the ridge above camp. The next morning we broke camp and hiked another 5-6 miles up river to Isto Creek that drains the twin glaciers of Isto Mountain the highest peak in the Brooks Range at 9050 feet. We encountered a small herd of 10 muskoxen on a tussock meadow along the river. We got a good look at the herd that included two young calves.

Friday the 30th we hiked up the ridge above camp to reconnoiter possible routes up Isto Mountain that Tom and Pam planned to climb the following day weather permitting.

Saturday morning Tom was up early preparing for his climb up an 8625-foot peak that was on the same ridge as Isto Mountain, which we couldn't see in the clouds on Friday. Pam decided not to go. I let Tom go and solo up the peak while the rest of us moved camp up the river just past the forks and ¼ mile up the west fork of the Jago River. Late that morning winds out of the north brought low clouds up the river valley and we thought that Tom wouldn't make the summit. But, he didn't make it to our new camp that evening. The next day Ernie, Pam and I went for a hike up the west fork valley with views of glaciers and 8000-foot peaks. Tom hadn't arrived at camp by 2:00 P.M. that afternoon and I began to worry. But, he showed up about 3-4:00 P.M. and went for a hike up the west fork valley. He not only summited the 8625-foot peak but also reached the summit of Isto Mountain. See Tom's account of his climb in the Scree.

The next day we crossed the Jago at the forks where the river was braided into 7 channels and almost shallow enough to cross without getting boots wet even though the river was getting turbid from the snow melt on the mountains and glaciers. We went for a hike up the narrow valley of the east fork of the Jago River. We reached the point where the river forked again into deep valleys with glacial moraines and hiked part way up a ridge for views of the glaciers and 8000-foot peaks to the south and west of the Jago and the Continental Divide. That afternoon and the rest of the trip the weather turned warm and sunny as we backpacked down stream along the eastside of the river. But, smoke from fires in the Interior Alaska was blowing in from the south reducing our view of the mountains. We encountered the muskoxen herd grazing along the tundra bench on the east side of the river and on the morning at our last camp before returning to the airstrip we saw the muskoxen for the last time when they bedded down within 50 yards of our camp. A pleasant surprise that morning. At the airstrip a day before our pickup by Wright Air Tom, Pam, and a alone adventurer, John Dunn a photo journalist camping at the air strip for two weeks went for a hike up the ridge above camp while Ernie and I went for a hike up the creek valley east of the airstrip. It turned out to be a beautiful little valley and creek with waterfalls and nice views across the Jago and surrounding

Oct 99 2

mountains. We saw a grizzly bear come down to the river and bathe to cool off in the river. The next morning before Wright Air arrived, Ernie spotted a black wolf across the river. Rain showers preceded Wright Air's arrival at the strip and continued on the flight back to Fairbanks. But, we had some good views of the glaciers and peaks of the Jago drainage between the clouds. The glaciers were now barren of snow and partially covered with dirt-scree streaks over the blue ice.	

NAME CATEGORY TITLE TOTAL Percent Hiking Climbing Scenery Bonus People 2 109 111 Kirk Towner Crow Creek Color 32% Hiking 117 Wayne Todd 66 67 20% Hiking On a Lark 112 47 47 14% A Stroll in the Wrangells David Hart 111 Hiking 2 23 6% Golden Cathedral 21 Hiking 104 Stan Aarsund 20 6% 20 109 Josh Sonkiss Hiking Talkeetna Sunset 5% Alpenglow Descent 16 16 Josh Brekken Hiking 108 15 4% 14 Marisa Grebe Reed Lakes Hiking 114 3% **Greg Grebe** Hiking Ridge Running 10 113 2% 106 Hiking Talkeetna Ridge Hike Matt Nedom 2% Curvin Metzler Rocky Road 105 Hiking 2% Don Hansen Hiking Lunch in the Rain 115 1% Hiking 107 Chris Tomsen Boulder for Youth 1% Ryan Cross Hiking 110 Up the Golden Stairs 1% Chitistone Goat Trail 103 Hiking Dona Agosti 2 1% John Hess Ice Climber's Nightmare 116 Hiking 83 85 25% Climbing Snow Arete, Cassin Ridge Harry Hunt 218 Reaching the Summit of Moose's Tooth 60 62 18% 213 Climbing David Hart 41 41 12% Climbing Climber on Blackcap 217 **Bryan Carey** 38 38 Wayne Todd 11% 214 Climbing A Day in the Wrangells 31 31 9% Climbing 208 Matt Nedom Matanuska Glacier 8% 28 28 Fun in the Winter Sun 220 Kirk Towner Climbing 5% 18 20 210 Josh Sonkiss Climbing Am I On Belay Yet? 15 4% 15 Brian Reagan Climbing Blue Sky on Denali 209 3% 215 **Greg Grebe** Climbing Summit of North Suicide Peak 1% 216 Don Hansen Climbing Blacknose Mountain 1% 3 **Brian Palmatier** Climbing 211 **Hatcher Pass** 1% 219 Climbing John Hess Flying Weather? 0% 212 Seward Highway Jay Rowe Climbing 48 14% Cubicles in the Wilderness 48 Don Hansen People 323 45 47 13% Dawn Groth 319 People Nunatak on the Nabesna 43 13% Niles Woods Seven on the Summit of Kiliak 44 327 People 28 29 8% Kirk Towner Hangin' Out at MCA Ice School 328 People 27 29 8% Wayne Todd 2 322 People Sibling Success 27 28 8% Plucking Hairs on the Knik Glacier 320 David Hart People 26 28 8% Climbers on Blackcap 324 **Bryan Carey** People 2 19 21 6% 325 Harry Hunt Queen of Spades, Hunter Creek People 5% Signs of Life 18 19 People 326 John Hess Mountain Man on Begich Peak 11 11 3% Kathy Still People 321 10 10 3% Chris Tomsen Young Mountaineers People 315 3% 10 People Summit Down Under 312 Mark Miraglia 2% Getting Her Feet Wet Josh Sonkiss 317 People 2% Matt Nedom Helmet Test Crew 313 People 1% People 311 Curvin Metzler Viewing the Knik River 1% 316 Lyle Haugsven Her First Summit People 1% Ryan Cross People On the Chilkoot 318 0% Dona Agosti People Hiker on the Chitistone Goat Trail 314 77 74 22% John Hess The Mint Peaks 427 Scenery 40 43 12% 423 **Greg Grebe** Ptarmigan Peak Scenery Charles Kennedy Sunrise in Harris Wash, Utah 40 41 12% 417 Scenery 32 9% Harry Hunt Mt. Huntington 30 426 Scenery 23 21 6% Curvin Metzler Hole-in-the-Wall Glacier 411 Scenery 21 22 6% **David Hart** Denali from the Summit of Moose's Tooth 419 Scenery 20 21 6% 428 Kirk Towner Walking the Plank Scenery Kathy Still 18 5% Mistress and Moon 16 421 Scenery 5% 16 16 420 **Brad Gessner** Scenery Sunset on Marcus Baker 13 15 Wayne Todd To the Pass 4% 422 Scenery 14 4% 14 Columbia Glacier 425 Bryan Carey Scenery 4% 12 12 412 Matt Nedom Mint Hut Scenery 12 12 4% Don Hansen 424 Chop Rock Canyon Scenery Jay Rowe Prince William Sound Base Camp 1% 418 Scenery By the Lethe 1% Julie Sprott 410 Scenery Prayer Flags and Foraker 1% Brian Reagan 414 Scenery 0% Chris Tomsen Young Explorers 413 Scenery 0% Ryan Cross Chugach Mountains in June 416 Scenery 0% Josh Sonkiss In a Lonely Place 415 Scenery

335

338

341

48

1,400

338

100%

TOTAL POINTS VOTED

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 non-technical 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 <u>qualified</u> 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 by MCA Board, Februrary 1995

General Rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips

- 1. Proper equipment is on the reverse side of this list.
- 2. No dogs. (Among the reasons are bear problems.)
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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.
- 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.
- 6. When carpools are arranged, please plan to pay the driver your share without his (her) asking you. Generally \$5 - short trips, \$10 or more for longer.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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 trailless areas or State and National Parks

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 by MCA Board, Februrary 1995

Equipment Additional for Glaciers Summer Raingear that works Ice axe Ace bandage Gaitors Windgear Surgical tape Wool or fleece pants Climbing boots Aspirin Shorts Slings, carabiners Light longjohns Rappel device Anti-bacterial ointment Belay device Wool shirt 4" x 4" pads, band-aids Jacket Wire Rope Baseball cap Wands Vice grips or pliers Gloves Mittens Utility cord Crampons Extra socks Sewing kit Wool or pile hat Seat Harness Tent Hiking boots Ice screw(s) Sleeping pad Stream-crossing footwear Pulleys Sleeping bag

Sunscreen Backpack cover Prussiks/ascenders
Mosquito repellent Cook pot Glacier glasses/cream

Whistle Stove (fires not allowed)

Large plastic bag Fuel bottle If snow on glacier:

Lighter, matches Walking stick or ice axe Picket

Map, compass Water bottles (not canteens) Skis or snowshoes

Aerosol bear repellent FOOD

Moleskin/Spenco 2nd skin

Winter

Windgear First aid kit Wool/fleece pants Repair kit

Wool/fleece shirt Tent (or snow shelters)

Longjohns Sleeping bag
Down jacket Sleeping pad
Wool/fleece hat Large cook pot
Face mask Stove

Mittens Windscreen for stove

 Double boots
 Fuel bottle

 Avalanche beacon
 Thermos

 Shovel
 Gaitors

 Lighter
 Thermometer

 Headlamp
 Skis or snowshoes

Approved by MCA Board, Februrary 1995

Leader Qualifications

- 1. Must be a member of the MCA.
- 2. Must have approval of the Hiking and Climbing Committee (A simple majority.)
- 3. Must have participated in trips of the same or higher classification than the one being led, showing competence in the opinion of the leaders of those trips; or equivalent experience acceptable to the Hiking and Climbing Committee.
- Leaders on trips which may involve any avalanche-prone terrain must have passed formal avalanche training approved by the Hiking and Climbing Committee.
- 5. Leaders on trips which involve any hazardous stream crossings must have either formal training in safe stream crossing methods or have extensive experience crossing streams.

Leader Guidelines

- 1. Must follow the general rules for MCA Sanctioned Trips.
- 2. Must have a sign-up sheet with all participants' names on it.
- Select a meeting time and place disclosed only to those persons on the sign-up sheet, unless call-ins are acceptable to the leader.
- 4. Must verify that each participant has signed a valid waiver and that it is on file.
- 5. Can require special equipment and refuse participation to any person that is ill-equipped (including clothing).
- 6. Has the authority to split the group (fast and slow), but must select a co-leader to help.
- 7. Must report any injuries to the MCA President.
- 8. Must report any personnel problems to the Hiking and Climbing Committee.

Approved by MCA Board, Februrary 1995



Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc.

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 anyone who wishes to become a member.

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 eight mountain huts in the nearby Chugach and Talkeetna Mountains. The MCA/Vin Hoeman Library, located upstairs in Alaska Mountaineering and Hiking on Spenard Road, contains hundreds of books, periodicals, bound volumes of Scree, and a 'peak file' with information on local climbs. The club also loans climbing gear to members, including ice axes, helmets, crampons, snowshoes and avalanche beacons.

Stay Informed The MCA publishes a monthly newsletter, Scree, and sends it to all members. The Scree contains the minutes of general meetings, announcements of upcoming events, the trip schedule and trip reports written by club members. A monthly meeting and presentation is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the basement of the Pioneer Schoolhouse (corner of 3rd and Eagle Streets, downtown Anchorage). Special events or changes to the meeting will be noted in *Scree*.

- Complete <u>both</u> parts of this form if you intend to participate in club-sponsored trips, or visit an MCA hut.
- Please make checks payable to Mountaineering Club of Alaska.
- Dues are \$10.00 for an individual or \$15.00 for a family (one Scree per family).
- Membership is for one calendar year, through the 31st of December. Memberships paid after October 1st are good through the following year.
- If applying by mail, please include a self-addressed envelope for your membership card which is required to participate on club trips and training. Or you may pick it up at any monthly meeting.

Our address is: MCA

☐ Cash *or* Check Number: __

Box 102037

Anchorage, Ak 99510

	<u> </u>
NEW RENEWAL	DATE NAME
INDIVIDUAL(\$10) FAMILY(\$15)	FAMILY MEMBERS
	MAILING ADDRESS FOR SCREE
STREET or PO BOX	MAILING ADDRESS FOR SCILL
CITY/STATE/ZIP	
TELEPHONE	
Join a committee? Lead a trip? COMMENTS	Hiking & Climbing, Parks, Equipment, Training, Library, Other Location: Date
Paid: □ \$10 □ \$15 or	n Date:/ Membership Card Issued for Year: □

Address added to Mailing List \square

RELEASE OF LIABILITY—READ CAREFULLY

I,	(print name), am aware that mountaineerin g sports (including hiking; backpack-
receive instruction in these activit numerous risks, which include, by being struck by falling rock, ice or attack by insects or animals. I fur recognize that risk of injury or de- or MCA officers, directors, guide	mountaineering; skiing; and ski mountaineering) are hazardous activities. I wish to participate and/or ies with the Mountaineering Club of Alaska, Inc. ("MCA") I recognize that these activities involve way of example and not limitation, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; snow; avalanches; lightning; fire; hypothermia; frostbite; defective or malfunctioning equipment; and ther recognize that the remoteness of the activities may preclude prompt medical care. I further ath may be caused or enhanced by mistakes or negligence on the part of either my fellow participants s, instructors, or trip leaders. I nevertheless agree to accept any and all risks of injury, death, or n connection with any MCA activity, including use of MCA furnished equipment and use of MCA
	(initial that you have read this paragraph)
	GIVING UP MY LEGAL RIGHTS
participants in MCA activities. I from mistakes or negligence on the Mountaineering Club of Alash	e to give up for myself and for my heirs all legal rights I may have against the MCA or my fellow give up these legal rights regardless of whether the injury, death, or property damage results the part of either my fellow participants or the MCA. (As used in this agreement, MCA means a, Inc., and all of its officers, directors, guides, instructors and trip leaders.) I understand this ntil 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
	wise make any claim against, the MCA or my fellow participants in MCA activities for injury, occurs in the course of my participation or instruction in mountaineering sports.
	(initial that you have read this paragraph)
	MY RELEASE OF LIABILITY ge the MCA and my fellow participants in MCA activities from all actions, claims, or demands, both indents, and/or personal representative, for injury, death, or property damage occurring in the course in mountaineering sports.
	(initial that you have read this paragraph)
	MY PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY
	ing attorney's fees and court costs, that the MCA may incur as a consequence of any legal action perty damage suffered by me, or suffered by someone else as a result of my conduct.
	(initial that you have read this paragraph)
	MY CONSENT TO MEDICAL TREATMENT
	nedical or surgical diagnosis or treatment which may be necessary as a result of my participation in inderstand and agree that I am solely responsible for all applicable charges for such medical treatment,
	(initial that you have read this paragraph)
	HIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS EMENT BETWEEN ME AND THE MCA AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.
Dated:	Signature:
Signature of Parent of	or Guardian (if under 19):

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

Officers Board

Matt Nedom 278-3648 **President** Richard Baranow 694-1500 Dawn Groth 338-0554 Vice-President Tom Choate 333-5309 Kathy Zukor 344-6121 **Corv Hinds** 277-2412 Secretary Nick Parker 248-7993 Treasurer Kirk Towner 344-5424 Mark Miraglia 338-0705

Annual membership dues: Single \$10.00 Family \$15.00 (one *Scree* per family)

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 the club application found on the previous page 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.

SCREE is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles and notes submitted for publication and other communication related to the newsletter should be mailed to Box 102037, Anchorage, Ak 99510. Articles should be received by the 25th of the month for the following month's issue. Computer diskettes are accepted, or e-mail to mca@alaska.net.

Paid ads may be submitted to the attention of the Vice-President at the club address and should be "camera ready" and pre-paid. Your cooperation will be appreciated...
Willy Hersman, Editor, 269-8828

MAILING: richard baranow

HIKING & CLIMBING CHAIR: wendy sanem, 694-0825

Web Page: http://www.alaska.net/~mca

Hot Line: 566-4MCA

BP EXPLORATION

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