



JULY 2000

*A Publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska*

Volume 43 Issue 07

Box 102037, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

### JULY MEETING

Wednesday

July 19, 7:30 pm

Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd & Eagle Streets  
Downtown Anchorage

**Program:** *The club picnic.* The club will have burgers, hot dogs, drinks, plates, etc. You bring the rest: potato salad, bean dishes, chips, watermelon, fruit, whatever makes sense for summer.

### HIKING AND CLIMBING SCHEDULE

#### Jul 22 Souvenir Peak

Class E. Talkeetna Mountains. This will be a one day climb that will leave from the Little Susitna trailhead near Hatcher Pass. Participants will be required to bring ice axe, helmet, climbing harness, crampons, 2 locking carabiners, and appropriate clothing for being outside all day in foul weather. Two stream crossings will be required. Participants must have belay/rappel, snow travel, and stream crossing experience. Maximum group size: 10 persons.

Leaders: Kirk Towner 344-5424,  
Bill Romberg 677-3993

#### 22 - Aug 5 Gates of the Arctic

Two weeks, Reed River to Pingo Lake-Noatak River. Backpack trip up Reed River drainage through Angiaak Pass to Pingo Lake along the Noatak. Day trips Igikpak Mountain and other areas in the Schwatka Mountains. Class C trip

3,500 ft elevation gain. (Already full.)

Leader: Don Hansen (907) 243-7184

#### Jul 28-30 Snowbird Glacier Rock Climbing

Hike in from either Archangel Trail or Reed Lakes (depending on conditions). Stay at the Snowbird Hut (\$10/pp) or tent out. Lots of potential for new rock routes in this Talkeetna Mt. hide-away. Equipment and experience are required for glacier travel and technical rock climbing. Class: Glacier Travel, Fifth Class.

Leaders: Cory Hinds 248-6606,  
Paul Templeton 688-2551

#### Aug 11 – 13 Talkeetna Backpacking/Climbing Trip

We will pack in and set up a camp. From there we will climb nearby mountains, explore the valleys, and enjoy the scenery. The destination will be announced at the July meeting. Class B- backpacking, Class D- climbing.

Leaders: Matt Nedom 278-3648,  
John Hess 348-7363

### Aug 13 Mounts Magnificent and Significant

Scenic trek high over Eagle River Valley. Good physical condition required, 15 miles and 4000 feet elevation gain. Bring rain gear, gaiters, food / water. Class D.

Leader: David Peters 696-8070

### 27 Mountain Meadow Trek

Start on the maintained trail at E.R.Visitor Center and explore the high mountain meadows overlooking Eagle River Valley. Bushwacking, scree, loose rock, and bears. Class D.

Leader: David Peters 696-8070

## TRAINING SCHEDULE

### Jul 19 Leader Orientation Course

6:30 PM, Pioneer Schoolhouse. Intended for all MCA trip leaders, but particularly for club members who are interested in becoming trip leaders. MCA bylaws and policies regarding minimum qualifications for trip leaders and procedures for leading club-sanctioned trips will be covered, as well as tips and suggestions for leading safe and fun club outings. Training courses and trip leader packets will be distributed.

Contact: Bill Romberg 677-3993

## Web Chat



rec.climbing:

A dog was spotted at the North Col of Everest during the spring climbing season. No one knew how the dog got there. People believe it was from the Rongbuk Monastery (at about 5200m) and had climbed up by itself. It rested and played around at camp, climbed quite a bit higher above the North Col, but was turned back "because of lack of proper equipment."

maohai huang



### Tuesday Night Hikes

MCA member John Hess will lead various evening trips throughout the summer in and around Anchorage. This is a great opportunity to meet new hiking and climbing partners. Call John: 348-7363

ADZE



### Wanted

One energetic person to oversee the fabrication and installation of a new outhouse at the Scandinavian Hut. Contact Mark: 338-0705

### Conference

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Wilderness Risk Management Conference. September 21-23. Held in Anchorage at the Marriott Downtown, hosted by UAA and sponsored by the Wilderness Risk Managers Committee. Keynote speaker will be astronaut, Dr. Shannon Lucid, veteran of six space flights. The conference activities include:

- Wilderness First Responder Recertification by the Wilderness Medicine Institute
- Instructor training by Outward Bound
- Sea Kayak Rescue by NOLS
- Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue by NOLS
- Ice climbing, and backpacking by UAA

Conference topics include everything from Legal Liability to Safety Audits to Risk Assessment. There will be discussions about managing risks in many areas of outdoor activities, working with the media, analyzing accidents, medical emergencies, etc., etc. Registration \$275 by August 15, or \$375 at the door.

Call UAA: 786-4068

## MCA Web Page Tips

### Getting a Password

The MCA web page is located at <http://mcak.org>. All MCA members are entered in the club database in order to generate mailing labels. You do not need to be a member to access the site, but you do need to be a member to change your address or download Screens on-line. To accomplish this, the site will ask for your name and password. Initially you do not have a password, so you must be issued one. To get a password:

1. Click on the Scree icon, or the link to 'Scree downloads.'
2. Find and click the Password icon.
3. Click the link "I can't remember my password."
4. At this page, enter your e-mail address, and the system will e-mail you a password. It takes 2-5 minutes.
5. The initial random password is an unfriendly, easy-to-forget combination of characters, so you will want to change it right away. To do so, go back to the Password page and change it to something you can remember.

If you get a message that you are not in the database, remember that you must enter your first and last name just as it appears on your Scree label. If your label says 'Fred & Wilma,' you will need both names, including the ampersand. Passwords are case-sensitive, and must be entered that way.

Good luck.

webmaster@mcak.org

# Give Us Your Best Shot

For the Mountaineering Club of Alaska's

## 2001 Photo Calendar

We're looking for *every* MCA member's favorite photos for the **2001 MCA Calendar**. Packed with information on local peaks, club events, and the very best of *your* photos, the 2001 MCA Calendar will be better than ever!

So be sure to grab your camera as you head for the hills, because it's time for our **Photo Contest**.

### Photo Contest Rules:

- ◆ Any current (2000) club member is eligible to enter.
- ◆ Photos should be hiking- or climbing-related.
- ◆ A club member may enter **one photo in each of the four categories:**

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**Hiking ~ on-the-trail, off-the-trail, ridge-running, stream-crossing, bushwhacking, or scree-scrambling travel**

**Climbing ~ your wildest action or most aesthetic scene while climbing on rock, ice, snow, or glacier**

**People ~ your half-crazed, half-dazed, or half-amazed friends — go ahead and *shoot* your fellow club members!**

**Scenery ~ your best photo of a choice campsite, stunning sunrise or sunset, or majestic mountain scene**

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- ◆ You may submit any size print (5x7 recommended, no larger than 8x10), but **it must be received by the August meeting**.  
Either drop it off at a meeting or mail it to: MCA Photo Contest / PO Box 102037 / Anchorage AK 99510-2037
  - ◆ All entries remain the property of the photographer; MCA is authorized to publish the photo for use in the calendar only.  
After judging, you may pick up your photo entries at any meeting.
  - ◆ Attach a note card to the back with the following information:

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Your name, address, and telephone

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Category and title of the photograph

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Any interesting details about the photo that might be published in the calendar

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(was it a club trip, local area, club members, when and where was it taken, etc.)

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- ◆ Be prepared to provide a paragraph or two describing the photo if your picture is selected to appear in the calendar.

### Judging Procedure:

- ◆ Photographers' names will be kept confidential throughout the judging process, we will cover up the information on the back and issue each photo a sticker with a judging number, the category, and the title that you provide.
- ◆ If necessary, the Club Officers and Directors will narrow down the entries to the top 10-15 photos in each category. This will only be done if necessary to make the final judging process possible within the September meeting time constraints. Our criteria will be a combination of photo quality, content, scenery, composition, humor, unique situations or events, adventure, being in the right place at the right time, and being just plain 'fun to look at' (not necessarily in that order).
- ◆ **Final judging will take place during the September meeting.** All members in attendance will be issued a ballot to select their top three choices from each category, plus one "Bonus" selection. Results will be announced in the October



## 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 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 by MCA Board, February 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.
5. 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
9. 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, February 1995

## Equipment

### Summer

Raingear that works  
Windgear  
Wool or fleece pants  
Shorts  
Light longjohns  
Wool shirt  
Jacket  
Baseball cap  
Gloves  
Extra socks  
Wool or pile hat  
Hiking boots  
Stream-crossing footwear  
Sunscreen  
Mosquito repellent  
Whistle  
Large plastic bag  
Lighter, matches  
Map, compass  
Aerosol bear repellent  
Moleskin/Spenco 2nd skin

Ace bandage  
Surgical tape  
Aspirin  
Gauze  
Anti-bacterial ointment  
4" x 4" pads, band-aids  
Wire  
Vice grips or pliers  
Utility cord  
Sewing kit  
Tent  
Sleeping pad  
Sleeping bag  
Backpack cover  
Cook pot  
Stove (fires not allowed)  
Fuel bottle  
Walking stick or ice axe  
Water bottles (not canteens)  
FOOD

### Additional for Glaciers

Ice axe  
Gaitors  
Climbing boots  
Slings, carabiners  
Rappel device  
Belay device  
Rope  
Wands  
Mittens  
Crampons  
Seat Harness  
Ice screw(s)  
Pulleys  
Prussiks/ascenders  
Glacier glasses/cream  
If snow on glacier:  
Picket  
Skis or snowshoes

### Winter

Windgear  
Wool/fleece pants  
Wool/fleece shirt  
Longjohns  
Down jacket  
Wool/fleece hat  
Face mask  
Mittens  
Double boots  
Avalanche beacon  
Shovel  
Lighter  
Headlamp

First aid kit  
Repair kit  
Tent (or snow shelters)  
Sleeping bag  
Sleeping pad  
Large cook pot  
Stove  
Windscreen for stove  
Fuel bottle  
Thermos  
Gaitors  
Thermometer  
Skis or snowshoes

Approved by MCA Board, February 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.
4. 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.
3. 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, February 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 both 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  
Box 102037  
Anchorage, Ak 99510

NEW	<input type="checkbox"/>	DATE	
RENEWAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	NAME	
INDIVIDUAL(\$10)	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAMILY	
FAMILY(\$15)	<input type="checkbox"/>	MEMBERS	
MAILING ADDRESS FOR SCREE			
STREET or PO BOX			
CITY/STATE/ZIP			
TELEPHONE			
Join a committee?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hiking & Climbing, Parks, Equipment, Training, Library, Other	
Lead a trip?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Location: _____ Date _____	
COMMENTS	_____		

Paid: ☐ \$10 ☐ \$15 on Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
☐ Cash or Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Card Issued for Year: \_\_\_\_\_. ☐  
Address added to Mailing List ☐

**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 and not limitation, falling while hiking, climbing, skiing or crossing rivers or glaciers; being struck by 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 any and all risks of injury, death, or property damage that may occur in connection with any MCA activity, including use of MCA furnished equipment and use of 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 or my fellow participants in MCA activities. **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.

\_\_\_\_\_ (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 may incur as a consequence of any legal action arising out of injury, death, or property 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**

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 CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A BINDING, LEGAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ME AND THE MCA AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.**

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

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

# Mountaineering Club of Alaska

## *Officers*

President Richard Baranow 694-1500  
Vice-President Tom Choate 333-5309  
Secretary Cory Hinds 277-2412  
Treasurer Patty McPherson 563-4806

## *Board*

Kirk Towner 344-5424  
Shawn O'Donnell 333-9176  
Dolly Lefever 243-7027  
Wendy Sanem 694-6867  
Bill Romberg 677-3993

**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. The post office does not forward the newsletter.

**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 my address: 1106 W. 54th Ave., Anchorage, AK 99518, or e-mailed to [willy@mcak.org](mailto:willy@mcak.org). Articles should be received by July 28th to be included in the August issue.

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, 561-7900.

MAILING: richard baranow, bill romberg  
HIKING/CLIMBING CHAIRS: matt nedom, 278-3648, paul templeton, 688-2551  
Web Page: <http://www.mcak.org> (go here to change your address)  
Hot Line: 566-4MCA (kristen schultz, 694-5788 to make updates)



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