

the SCREE

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

January 2013

Volume 56 Number 1



Contents

Golgotha and The Angel

Split Thumb

Peak of the Month: Belay Peak

"One does not climb to attain enlightenment, rather one climbs because he is enlightened."

Monthly Meeting:

Wednesday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Program:

Kathy Still and Eric Opland on Winter Fun 2012: Peaks and Powder! Kathy and Eric will show slides of their epic backcountry ski season of 2011-2012.

REMINDER: Renew Your Membership!



The Mountaineering Club of Alaska

www.mtnclubak.org

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

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

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

Contents

Golgotha and The Angel
Split Thumb
Peak of the Month: Belay Peak
Proposed 2013 MCA Budget
MCA Membership Application and Liability Waiver

Cover Photo

Frances Still climbing up the final bit of Split Thumb.
Photo by Ben Still.

Membership Renewal

Annual memberships expire at the end of December. Renew your membership at an MCA meeting or go online to download a membership application. <http://www.mtnclubak.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=members.form>

Article Submission

Text and photography submissions for the *Scree* can be sent as attachments to mcascree@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the 25th of each month to appear in the next issue of the *Scree*. Do not submit material in the body of the email. We prefer articles that are under 1,000 words. If you have a blog, website, video or photo links, send us the link. Cover photo selections are based on portraits of human endeavor in the outdoors. Please submit captions with photos.

On behalf of the MCA, I wish to extend my deepest appreciation to Amy Murphy for her past 22 months of service to the membership and the Alaskan mountaineering community as Assistant *Scree* Editor. Also, please welcome Liz Russo as the new Assistant *Scree* Editor. -Steve Gruhn

Greg Bragiel and the Great Alaska Boy Scout Council extend their sincere appreciation to members of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska for sharing their time and talents at BSA Great Alaska Council OKPIK 2012 December 1st. One hundred thirty adults and scouts participated in this annual cold-weather training event. Thanks to Matt Beckage, Richard Baranow, Mary Beth Bragiel, Anthony Lutes, Stu Grenier, and Carol Akerson.

Belmore Browne Presentation

On Tuesday, February 12, 2013, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Brian Okonek will give a Denali history presentation for the National Parks Conservation Association at the Z.J. Loussac Library in the Wilda Marston Theatre. The early exploration of the Denali region and attempts to climb Denali culminating in Belmore Browne's 1912 expedition will be discussed. Historical photos will be shown to illustrate the remarkable journeys undertaken by explorers of that region 100 years ago.

Hiking and Climbing Schedule

- ⇒ **February 9-10, 2013, Resurrection River Reconnaissance.** Backcountry Ski Touring. Round trip about 24 miles with approximately 1,600 feet of elevation gain. Possible open river crossings. Trip leader Greg Bragiel, email unknownhiker@alaska.net
- ⇒ **February 23-27, 2013, Seward to Cooper Landing.** Backcountry Ski Touring. Avalanche terrain. Distance of about 37 miles with 5,201 feet of elevation gain. Possible open river crossings. Cabin rental fees apply. Trip leader Greg Bragiel, email unknownhiker@alaska.net
- ⇒ **February 27 - March 3, 2013, Cooper Landing to Hope.** Backcountry Ski Touring. Avalanche terrain. Distance of about 41 miles with approximately 3,700 feet of elevation gain. Cabin rental fees apply. Trip leader Greg Bragiel, email unknownhiker@alaska.net

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

Online? Click me!



Golgotha and The Angel

Clint Helander

Violent gusts tear down the Revelation Glacier and flatten our four-season tent. Snow-packed walls sag against our faces and bend rigid tent poles. Crystalline ice feathers rain from the ceiling with every vibration and sting our wind-lashed faces. The storm brooded up from the Gulf of Alaska and has not let up in three days. There's no telling how long it will last. Nestled deep within my down sleeping bag, I hold my dying iPod and immerse myself in hours of music.

Several days earlier, I buried my head into the slope. Numb hands forcefully gripped my tools as a gale of wind blasted me with a howling, guttural moan. It roared like some tempestuous, feral creature. It bit and snapped in valiant attempts to throw me off my precarious balance. Rime enveloped my clothing, forming an icy exoskeleton that wore like a suit of armor. Ben Trocki and I were only several hundred feet below the summit of Golgotha, a mountain called "one of Alaska's most beautiful unclimbed peaks" by one of the few who have seen it. My eyes were welded shut and I pried them open with deadened fingers. Locking carabiners were frozen closed and even the camera lens did not want to open. Scanning the rocky ground above, I searched in vain for my partner. Finally I honed in on a blue speck of movement and the rope pulled taut.

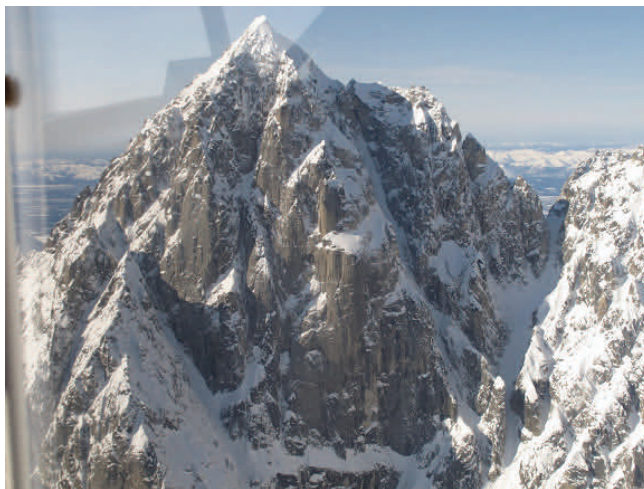
We should have turned around long before, but prudence was trumped by the electrifying zeal of success within our grasp. My body ached and shivered, but inside I beamed with frenzied elation. Swirling torrents of

gray mist cracked and whipped between distant summits to the north. Our footprints were etched away before our eyes. I wondered how we would find our way down. In a momentary respite between blasts I saw Ben sitting on the summit. As he belayed me in, the rope shot out over the cornice like a slingshot to a lifeless void.

For five years, I had held Golgotha to an ideal. In my mind it was one of Alaska's perfect mountains; a rare challenge that would almost promise failure. The hours I'd spent gazing at it from distant vantages gave no hint of weakness. From the east, it was a bastion of vertical granite and slashing streaks of snow and ice. Against carmine sunsets, Golgotha's pyramidal outline appeared to have been cut by a blade from heaven. On the north side, a monumental glacier hung like a sickle over a shadowed, polished wall.

Earlier in the day, we had started up a claustrophobic, vertical ice shaft that coursed for almost 1,000 meters to the summit. The constricting gash was never more than two meters wide. It was "the" line on Golgotha, a route I had looked at for years. It hung over a massive void and morbid cliffs. For that reason, I referred to it as the "Shaft of the Abyss." The trudge back to camp was anguishing under tired muscles.

After four days of storm, a blinding brightness burned my eyes as I opened the tent door. Wind-cut sastrugi patterned the narrow glacier. Directly west of Golgotha, The Angel crowned the southern profile of the Revelation Mountains. I stared at my highpoint from two years earlier. Other than an ascent of the



The monumental east face of Golgotha (8940 feet) on the flight in. The team attempted a direct line that begins at the crescent snowfield, but retreated after two pitches. They eventually summited via the couloir on the left that exits to the southeast face on left.



Ben Trocki on the summit of Golgotha. The peaks in the background are The Apocalypse, Pyramid Peak, and Four Horsemen.

southeast buttress by Greg Collins and Tom Walters in 1985 (ed. note: and a rumored ascent the following year), The Angel had not been touched since its first attempt in 1967.

In the biting chill of the night, a waning crescent moon paled an infinite scape of constellations. Eerie blue light radiated off the glacier and illuminated the surrounding peaks. It was a sight as beautiful as anything lit by the sun. Ben and I skied toward The Angel and deeply inhaled cold air as we began climbing the south ridge. As we torqued sharp picks up steep cracks and tediously moved over exposed snow traverses, I found myself immersed in a realm that surpassed my expectations. The sun rose in the east and I stared at a jagged horizon of my past, to myriad peaks where mine was the only history. The subtle taste of the wind came alive on my tongue as the distant clouds slowly moved our way and engulfed lower mountains. The smell of metal scraping over granite lingered in my nostrils. Rapid breaths and heartbeats synched in steady rhythm like an inner metronome. As I belayed Ben toward me, I felt only peace and joy.

Golden granite cracks gleamed upward, cutting otherwise blank faces with a natural passage. Rearing gendarmes, the biggest obstacles on the ridge, were steadily navigated. The hours drifted by in tedious, but manageable climbing that promoted speed and progress. I could not believe we were nearing the summit of The Angel only five days after having climbed Golgotha. By mid-afternoon we were standing on the highest point of The Angel. Ben and I embraced on the summit, looking down the ridge and trying to convince ourselves that we weren't merely dreaming. Such fine mountain fellowship is seldom found.

Twenty-one hours after leaving, we returned to our base camp and collapsed in our tent, too tired to even make food. The next morning as we made coffee and dried out our gear, we reveled in the notion that two of the Revelations' most iconic mountains will forever bear our names.

After two first ascents in a little over a week, Ben's and my appetites for more climbing remain insatiable. We made two more serious attempts on massive unclimbed routes, but were stopped by adverse snow conditions. Another attempt on Golgotha's prize line ended several pitches up. After 17 days, our time and food was running out. A final afternoon jaunt up a two-pitch rock tower called the Vanishing Pinnacle was a great close to a wonderful stint in the mountains. Atop the spire, we



Ben Trocki leading one of the more technical pitches on The Angel's south ridge. This was just above Helander's 2010 high point.

found a three-piton anchor left 45 years earlier by David Roberts and Ned Fetcher. I plucked a ringed-angle and a Swiss-made blade from the crack to keep as souvenirs.

In early April as we skied out of the Revelation Mountains toward a remote hunting lodge, my mind was at ease for the first time in months. On the long flight back to Anchorage, I strained my neck to get one last look at the Revelation Mountains. Almost immediately after returning, I was giving a slideshow at the April MCA meeting. I was ecstatic to

see that Art Davidson was in attendance. He was perhaps Alaska's most adorned climber of the 1960s and was part of the first team to attempt The Angel in 1967. Eventually, I returned one of the pitons from the Vanishing Pinnacle to David Roberts. He called me several weeks later to say that it is now framed and hanging on his wall.

Months later, I find myself still beaming from our adventures in the Revelation Mountains. More than the ascents and climbing, I feel a pure fortune to be able to explore such a tremendously vast and unknown region in a day where everything is known. Little has changed in the 45 years between Roberts' and Davidson's expedition and mine. I wish everyone had such an opportunity to travel to such wild realms, for they have been the best experiences of my life.



Ben Trocki starting the snow traverse on the upper south ridge of The Angel. This is near David Roberts' and Matt Hale's high point from 1967. Golgotha dominates the background and Mount Mausolus is visible in the upper left.

Split Thumb

Ben Still

Split Thumb is a granite tower that rises out of the Juneau Icefield near the Lemon Creek Glacier. The 5523-foot-high peak can be viewed from Egan Drive heading south near the Sunny Point area. The first recorded ascent was in 1954 by Konrad Buettner, Robert Goodwin, Richard Hubley, Ed LaChapelle, and G. Carlton Ray. Access is

via either the Blackerby Ridge Trail or the Lemon Creek Trail to Camp 17 and then over the Lemon Creek Glacier to the standard southeast ridge.

I first climbed this peak on August 28 and 29, 1993, with my sister Kathy Still, Mike Miller, Peter Van Tamlen, and Rob from New Zealand. The weather was not looking very promising, but we left early and hiked up Blackerby Ridge, getting very wet from the night's rains on the overgrown trail. Once along the ridge crest we could see Split Thumb was in and out of the thick overcast sky. Winds were blowing moderately out of the southeast, meaning rain was very likely. We continued along the ridge to the base of Cairn Peak, where Rob made us some tea and we realized he was carrying fresh fruits and vegetables, including a whole head of lettuce, but he had no trouble keeping up.

After tea and a brief discussion about the weather we continued on up and over Cairn Peak and down to Camp 17, one of several Juneau Icefield Research Program camps. There we dropped our overnight gear and continued across the Lemon Creek Glacier, aiming toward the low point in the ridge just north of Scorpion Peak. Many crevasses lurked there, especially traversing up to the low pass. We followed the ridge top to the base of the south face of Split Thumb and scrambled up some rotten Class 3 to gain the southeast ridge proper.



View northeast from the summit of Split Thumb. Devils Paw looms on the horizon to the right.

Easy scrambling led us up to a 100-foot head-wall where a ledge traversed out over the south face of Split Thumb. Halfway out the ledge, a nice crack system led up toward the summit. Peter led up the 5.6 crack system and belayed us all up, which ended up being a substantial chore as the winds were whipping across the



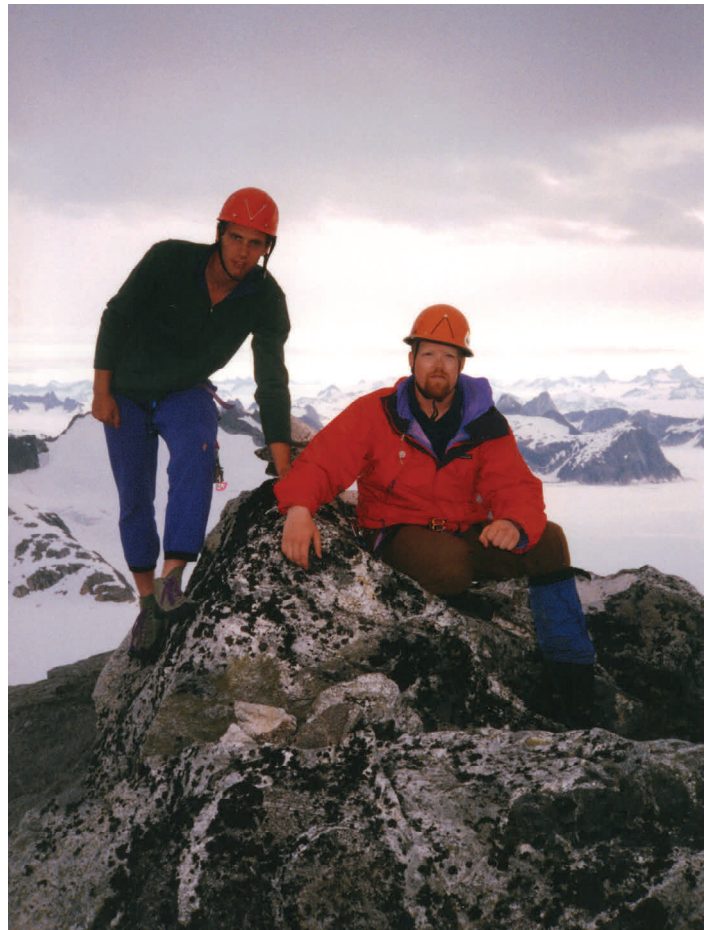
Ben at the base of the rock pitch getting geared up.

ridge and we couldn't hear anything. A short, Class-2-3 scramble brought us to a nice summit where we could partially make out some other peaks as the clouds blew around us.

We rappelled back down the headwall and scrambled down the ridge. As we continued along the ridge, we slowly separated into a long chain of individuals. This was probably not the best idea as darkness was slowly creeping up on us. I made it back to Camp 17 at dark and it was a couple hours later that the last of our group made it to camp. We all settled into the musty and damp hut, cooking dinner in darkness.

The next morning we woke up to strong winds, fog, and rain. We hiked back up and over Cairn Peak and down Blackerby Ridge in the thick fog and rain. We followed the faint intermittent trail down the ridge. After losing the trail for a short while, we broke out of the clouds and quickly realized we had turned down a spur ridge toward the north and needed to backtrack half a mile up the ridge to avoid a terrible bushwhack. We were more careful the rest of the way and made it back to the trailhead later in the afternoon.

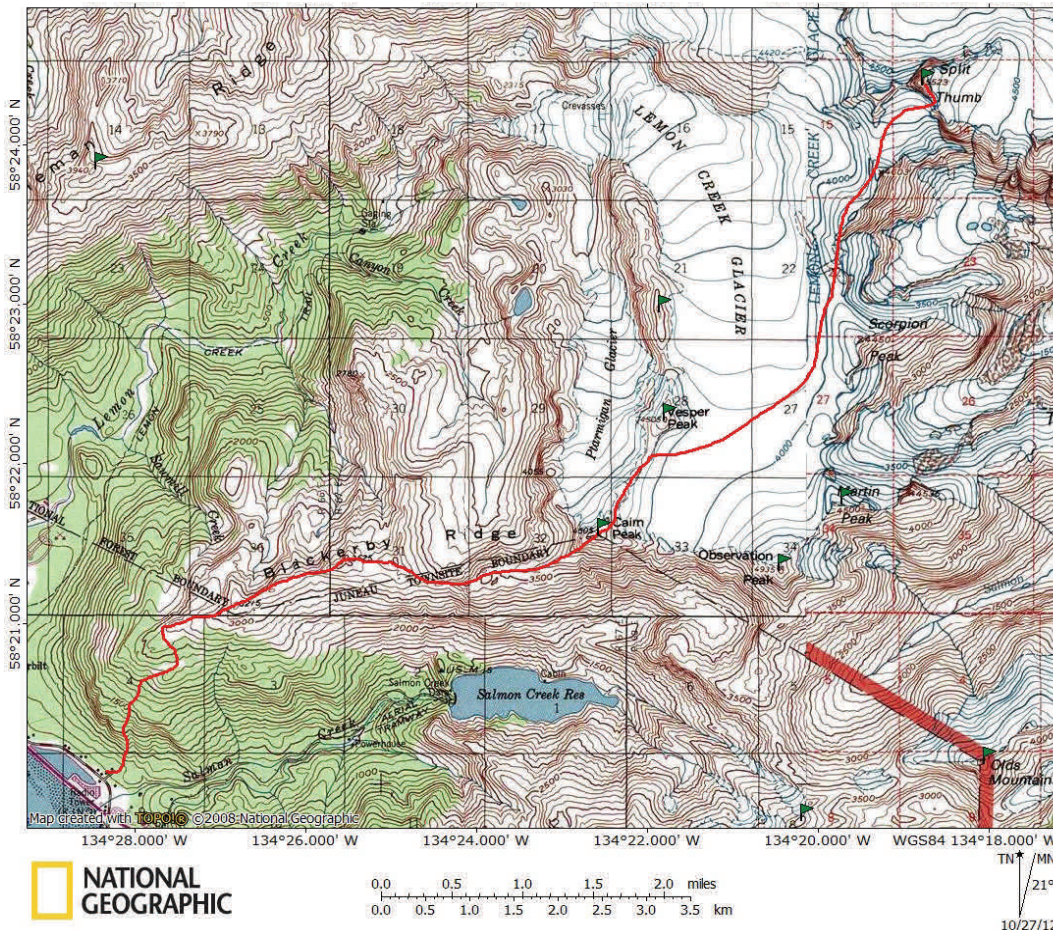
I visited Split Thumb again on July 4 and 5, 1997, with my friends Dan and Jared and was able to lead the fun rock



Ben and Jared on the summit of Split Thumb.

pitch. We had amazing weather clear and calm the whole time with excellent views of the many peaks of the Juneau Icefield.

The last time I visited this peak was September 7, 2005, as a day trip with my mom, Frances Still. We took a helicopter to the base of the southeast ridge and made a short day of it and flew back home that afternoon.



Peak of the Month: Belay Peak

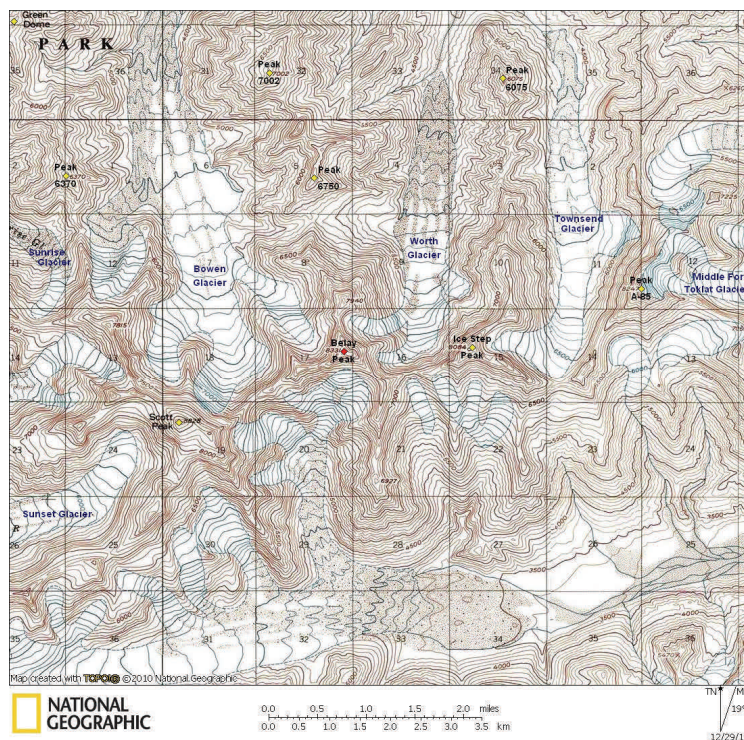
Steve Gruhn

Mountain Range: Alaska Range
Borough: Denali Borough
Drainages: Bowen Glacier, Worth Glacier, and West Fork of the Chulitna River
Latitude/Longitude: 63° 21' 20" North, 150° 4' 14" West
Elevation: 8331 feet
Prominence: 1181 feet from Scott Peak (8828)
Adjacent Peaks: Scott Peak, Ice Step Peak (8084), and Peak 6750 in the Bowen Glacier and Worth Glacier drainages
Distinctness: 1181 feet from Scott Peak
USGS Map: Mount McKinley (B-1)
First Recorded Ascent: July 13, 1968, by Steven Lee Bowen, Eric Townsend, and Doug Worth
Route of First Recorded Ascent: North ridge
Access Point: Eielson Visitor Center

The late J. Vin Hoeman originally denoted Belay Peak as Peak A-83 in his unpublished manuscript on Alaska's mountains. Bradford Washburn and Hoeman encouraged Bowen, Townsend, and Worth to climb this mountain. Some nine months before Hoeman's death, the trio reached the summit and informally dubbed it Belay Peak after the ropework necessary to ascend its north ridge.

Starting a two-week backpacking trip from the Eielson Visitor Center, the party hiked up the Thorofare River to the Sunset Glacier. Once on the glacier, they headed up the north-east arm of the glacier to an ice-fall. From there they headed north up a snow gully to a plateau that led them to the west ridge of Point 7815 northwest of Scott Peak. After following the ridge eastward to Point 7815, they descended a ridge to the northeast to the 5300-foot level of the Bowen Glacier where they camped.

From their camp, the party ascended the northwest ridge of Point 7940 north of Belay Peak, describing it as a "catwalk." From there, they descended southward to a col where they roped up and



ascended the airy ridge with 30-degree snow and ice to the summit of Belay Peak.

Three days later the party ascended and named Ice Step Peak east of Belay Peak. They departed by descending the Worth Glacier to its outlet stream. They continued downstream through a canyon to the West



Steve Bowen on the summit of Belay Peak. Doug Worth photo.



At left: Eric Townsend and Doug Worth on the north ridge of Belay Peak. Steve Bowen photo.

Below: Eric Townsend on the north ridge of Belay Peak. Steve Bowen photo.



Fork of the Toklat River and on to the McKinley Park Road (now known as the Denali Park Road). Bowen did not recommend the descent route due to a dangerous stream crossing.

The information for this article was obtained from Bowen's trip report entitled "Peaks near Scott Peak, Alaska Range," which was published on page 373 of the 1969 *American Alpine Journal*, from my correspondence with Steve Bowen, and from correspondence between Bowen and Hoeman, which is archived, along with Hoeman's unpublished manuscript, in the Grace and John Vincent Hoeman Collection at the University of Alaska, Anchorage Consortium Library.



Negotiating the icefall on the northeast arm of the Sunset Glacier.

Steve Bowen photo.

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

PROPOSED 2013 MCA BUDGET

		Proposed for 2013	Current for 2012	Approved for 2012	Percent of Budget
REVENUE					
Membership Dues	<i>received during calendar year</i>	\$8,000.00	\$6,859.07	\$8,000.00	86%
Scree subscriptions		\$250.00	\$271.38	\$250.00	109%
Training	<i>BMS, ice climbing, rock climbing, other</i>	\$8,000.00	\$7,706.24	\$10,500.00	73%
Photo Calendar	<i>(2012 calendar sold late 2011)</i>	\$3,000.00	\$1,383.00	\$3,000.00	46%
MCA Products: T-Shirts, Patches, Etc.		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-
Other - Interest on Accounts		\$150.00	\$84.89	\$150.00	57%
Other - Donations, etc.		\$0.00	\$55.00	\$0.00	-
TOTAL REVENUE		\$19,400.00	\$16,359.58	\$21,900.00	75%
EXPENSE					
Training	<i>campsite, access fees, instructors, trip leaders</i>	\$5,000.00	\$3,289.06	\$7,000.00	47%
Scree	<i>postage, mailing, printing</i>	\$2,300.00	\$2,000.09	\$2,300.00	87%
General Meeting	<i>rent, refreshments, entertainment</i>	\$2,000.00	\$1,560.97	\$2,000.00	78%
Administrative	<i>supplies, PO box, web site, ads, travel, misc.</i>	\$2,200.00	\$1,100.24	\$2,200.00	50%
Hut Construction & Maint.	<i>materials, supplies, hut equipment, lease fees</i>	\$10,000.00	\$2,083.89	\$4,000.00	52%
Insurance	<i>reincorporation fees, insurance</i>	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	-
Club Equipment	<i>climbing gear, misc equipment</i>	\$500.00	\$970.29	\$500.00	194%
Library	<i>new books, periodicals, Scree binding</i>	\$1,000.00	\$522.86	\$1,000.00	52%
Other:	<i>miscellaneous expenses</i>				
Photo Calendar		\$2,600.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,600.00	69%
MCA Products: T-Shirts, Patches, Etc.		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other - Awards		\$400.00	\$415.68	\$400.00	104%
Other -		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$27,500.00	\$13,743.08	\$23,500.00	58%
DUE TO (FROM) RESERVE		(\$8,100.00)	\$2,616.50	(\$1,600.00)	(164%)
CASH BALANCE - All Accounts					
Beginning Balance - January 1, 2012			\$32,609.86		
Increase (decrease) during 2012			\$2,616.50		
Current Balance for 2012			\$35,226.36		
Checking - Credit Union 1			\$13,134.99		
Money Mkt and CDs - Credit Union 1 (.75 - 1.89%)			\$20,464.69		
Savings - Credit Union 1 (.7%)			\$414.47		
18-month CD - in trust for hut lease - Northrim Bank (1.25%)			\$1,162.21		
Petty Cash			\$50.00		
Ending Balance -	Revised 01/01/13		\$35,226.36		

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF ALASKA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

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

Monthly meetings: The third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the BP Energy Center at 900 E. Benson Blvd (in Midtown Anchorage just south of the main BP building). Special events or changes to the meeting will be noted in the **SCREE** and on our website at: www.mtnclubak.org.

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

New		Date	
Renewal		Name	
1 YR. Individual \$15		Family Members	
1 YR. Family \$20			
2 YR. Individual \$30			
2 YR. Family \$40			
How do you want your SCREE delivered? (check one or both)			
Electronic (free)		Email delivery	
Paper (add \$15/YR.)		Postal Service (not available outside the United States)	
Street or PO Box			
City/State/Zip			
Telephone			
Email Address			

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

_____ I am interested in leading a trip.

Do not write below this line:

Pd: ☐\$15 ☐\$20 ☐\$30 ☐\$40 ☐\$15 for paper **SCREE** ☐\$30 for 2 years of paper **SCREE**
on Date: ___/___/___ ☐ Cash or Check Number: _____

Membership Card Issued for Yr: _____
Address Added to Mailing List ☐

Revised 1/10/11

SIGN AND INITIAL THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY— READ IT CAREFULLY

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

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

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

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

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

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

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

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

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

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

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

_____ (initial that you have read this paragraph)

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

Dated: _____ Signature: _____

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

Revised 2/19/09

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

President	Jayne Mack	382-0212	Board member	Greg Encelewski	360-0274
Vice-President	Galen Flint	650-207-0810	Board member	Charlie Sink	258-8770
Secretary	Kelley Williams	310-2003	Board member	Andy Mamrol	717-6893
Treasurer	Seth Weingarten	360-9128	Board member	Elizabeth Bennett	952-9661
Past President	Tim Silvers	250-3374			

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 Membership Committee at membership@mtnclubak.org.

The 'Scree' is a monthly publication of the Mountaineering Club of Alaska. Articles, notes and letters submitted for publication in the newsletter should be emailed to MCAScree@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the 25th of the month to appear in the next month's *Scree*.

Paid ads may be submitted to the attention of the Vice-President at the club address and should be in electronic format and pre-paid. Ads can be emailed to vicepresident@mtnclubak.org.

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

Mailing list/database entry: Seth Weingarten – membership@mtnclubak.org

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

Huts: Greg Bragiel - 569-3008

Calendar: Stuart Grenier - 337-5127

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

Web: www.mtnclubak.org

Mailing list service: MCAK@yahoogroups.com

Mountaineering Club of Alaska
Box 243561
Anchorage, AK 99524-3561