

*Tongass National Forest, Field Glacier.* The U.S. Board on Geographic Names, at its June 13, 1996, meeting, approved the name *Field Glacier* in Haines Borough and the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska. This name has been entered into the Nation's official automated geographic names repository and will be published in Decision List 1996. The entry will read as follows:

*Field Glacier:* glacier, 31 km (19 mi) long by 3.2 km (2 mi) wide, in Tongass National Forest, heads 6.4 km (4 mi) SE of Mount Hislop at 59°04'55"N, 134°30'05"W, flows S from Meade Glacier, between Ogive Glacier and Bucher Glacier, in a southwesterly direction towards an unnamed stream that flows into the Lace River; named for glaciologist Dr. William Osgood Field\* (1904–1994); Haines Borough and City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska; T32,33&34S, R64&65E, Copper River Mer.; 58°55'58"N, 134°47'05"W; USGS map Juneau (D3) 1:63,360 mouth of feature.

ROGER PAYNE, *Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names*

\*An Honorary Member of the American Alpine Club, Dr. William Osgood Field (1904–1994) was one of the world's foremost glaciologists. Though his work took him around the globe, his most enduring commitment was to south and southeastern Alaska, where, over the course of 61 years, he made 25 scientific trips, leaving a rich record of glacial movements that is both unique and comprehensive.

*Mount Bona and P11,920.* On May 30, Paul Claus of Ultima Thule Outfitters landed Ruedi Homberger and Stefan Wyss of Switzerland and myself at approximately 10,300 feet on the upper Hawkins Glacier under the immense south face of Mount Bona (16,421'). We were exploring a route up Bona and possibly a route on the north ridge of University Peak (14,470'). We immediately skied up to 12,400 feet at the crest of the ridge that runs from the summit of Bona due south to P. 12,980 and University Peak. Just under the ridge crest, we were forced to remove skis and climb up a short steep section of snow and ice to get around a large bergschrund. We skied back down, set up camp and planned to make an early morning attempt on Bona.

I was having some trouble with the quick ascent to over 10,000 feet and decided against going higher immediately. Ruedi and Steffi left camp after midnight and skied back up to our previous high point, then continued up the ridge on skis to just below the summit cone, where they removed their skis and continued to the summit. They skied back down the ridge and were back in camp by 2:30 p.m.—a remarkable ascent, and I believe the second ascent of the south side of the mountain. The first ascent of this side of the mountain was in 1955 by the party that made the first ascent of University Peak and P. 12,980. This basin is ringed with hanging seracs and icefalls and is not recommended for everyone. The seracs are quite active and at least two per day would break off.

On June 1, we climbed P. 11,920 by skiing and climbing up to the col at 11,400 feet to the northeast of the summit, then following the ridge to the narrow corniced summit. A huge bergschrund of maybe 200 feet blocks a direct route up to the col and we were forced to go around this to the right, then traverse back across above the bergschrund to reach the col. We had to remove our skis for the steep, icy traverse and I was forced to chop steps for several hundred feet since we had left our crampons back in camp. While we made this traverse, a large serac broke off on the left-hand side of our route and several ice blocks rolled into our ascent path.

This peak offers a tremendous view of not only the Bona-University Peak basin, but the Twaharpies Basin to the west, and opening up to the Chugach Mountains and peaks of the

Bagley Icefield to the south. The ridgeline to the north continues up to the plateau at over 14,000 feet between Aello Peak and Mount Bona. The exposure of over 6,000 feet to the Hawkins glacier to the south and west, combined with the cornices and snow mushrooms, made this climb to the summit more than worthwhile. For future visitors to this basin, this peak is highly recommended for the inspirational views from the summit.

DANNY KOST

*Mount Natazhat, Northeast Ridge.* On April 9, Paul Barry, Harry Hunt, Dave Lucey and myself made the second ascent of Mount Natazhat (13,435 feet) by a new route. The first ascent was made from the south in 1913 by Canadian members of the International Boundary Survey while they were surveying the US-Canada border. Our new route was via the northeast ridge, which we rated Alaska Grade IV-. We spent six days round trip climbing alpine style from our 7,600-foot Base Camp.

Camps I and II were located in prominent cols along the ridge at 8,800 feet and 9,300 feet respectively. Our high camp was in a crevasse at 10,600 feet, only one-and-a-half miles from the summit.

The crux of the route was between Camps II and III, where knife-edge terrain and tremendous exposure required our full attention. Our high camp was located just above these twelve pitches of delicate snow and ice climbing.

Summit day presented continuous 30- to 50-degree snow and ice slopes as well as some more knife-edge traversing. We enjoyed beautifully clear and calm weather during our entire 11-hour summit day. Our view from the top seemed limitless. We could see all the way from Mounts Saint Elias and Logan to Mounts Blackburn and Sanford, a distance of 200 miles.

We descended our route back to Base Camp during two more days of careful downclimbing. We left no fixed gear on the mountain.

DAVID HART, *Mountaineering Club of Alaska*

*Mount Bear, Ascent, and South to North Traverse.* Our superb pilot, Paul Claus, of Ultima Thule Outfitters, dropped the three of us (Ruedi Homberger, Hansueli Brunner and I) off May 12, 1995, on the glacier system that drains the south side of Mount Bear (approx. 10,700'). We skied up a nearby 11,000-foot-plus peak in the afternoon sun near the landing site. That evening we prepared our gear for an early morning start up the long and gentle glaciers that lead up into the south-facing cirque formed by Mount Bear's horseshoe-shaped summit ridge. We began the next day by descending about 1,000 feet down and west along the subsidiary glacier we had landed on. Where it joined the main Mount Bear glacier (approx. 9,500') we turned right (north) and began the ascent toward the peak. After two days of perfect weather and straight-forward ascending on skis, we were camped at 14,000 feet at the entrance of the small cirque below and to the east of the main summit. We elected to make a late afternoon acclimatization excursion that same day up the 35-degree headwall on the right side of the cirque to the rounded and easy-angled ridge crest. Very strong winds blew from the south as soon as we topped the ridge. After taking a quick look at the layout of glaciers on the north side of the mountain, we tried to calculate our next day's descent over terrain unknown to us. Ruedi and Hans decided to descend to our tents since we would be coming up early again the next morning. Doubtful of the next day's weather, I used the remaining light to sprint to the summit of Bear (on the opposite side of the horseshoe-shaped ridge) alone. (I wanted to take no chances with the conditions the next day!) It was about an hour away. I reached the top around 6 p.m. in winds gusting to about 50-60 m.p.h. By 7:30