

Denali First Ascents and Interesting Statistics (Revised 5/06)

- *First Ascent South Peak:* Stuck, Harper, Karstens, and Tatum; 6/7/13
- *First Ascent North Peak:* Anderson and Taylor; 4/3/10
- *First Solo Ascent:* Naomi Uemura; 1970, West Buttress
- *First Winter Solo Ascent:* Naomi Uemura; 2/84, West Buttress (died on the descent)
- *First Successful Winter Solo Ascent:* Vern Tejas; 3/88, West Buttress
- *First Circumnavigation:* Cook Expedition; 5/03 - 9/03
- *First Winter Circumnavigation:* Mark Stasik and Daryl Miller; 2/95 - 4/95
- *First Night On Top:* Meiji University Team, 4 members; 5/4/60
- *First Woman:* Barbara Washburn; 6/6/47
- *First Woman Solo:* Dr. Miri Ercolani; 7/21/82
- *Oldest Male:* Sadao Hoshiko, age 74 and 1 month (Date of Birth 05/21/31); 6/05
- *Youngest Male:* Galen Johnston, age 11 (Date of Birth 1/30/90); 6/17/01
- *Oldest Female:* Toshiko Uchida, age 70; (Date of Birth 4/12/31); 6/16/01
- *Youngest Female:* Merrick Johnston, age 12 (Date of Birth 1/18/83); 6/24/95
- *Oldest Husband & Wife Team:* Norm & Kip Smith, ages 64 & 62; 7/92
- *Greatest Summit Success Rate:* 27 Ascents in 27 Attempts by Ray Genet (guide)
- *Most Ascents:* Scott Woolums (guide), 31 ascents as of 6/10/01
- *First Male Native American:* Walter Harper; 1913
- *First Female Native American:* Betty Menard; 1971
- *First Dog Team Ascent:* Susan Butcher, Joe Reddington, Rob Stapleton, Ray Genet, Brian Okonek; 5/28/79

Fastest Ascents

- *West Buttress:* Chad Kellogg, 14 hours 22 minutes (from 7,200 ft. to 20,320 ft.); 06/17/2003
- *West Buttress:* Yamada Noboro, 5 1/2 hours (from 14,200 ft. to 20,320 ft.); 6/10/88
- *West Rib:* Alex Lowe, Marc Twight, Scott Backes, Colin Grissom, 5 hours (from 14,200 to 20,320); 6/95
- *West Buttress Traverse To Wonder Lake:* French Military Expedition - Sachetet, Mailly, Renard, 5 days; 6/84
- *Cassin Ridge:* Mugs Stump, 15 hours; 6/91

Physically-Challenged Ascents

- *First ascent by a full leg amputee:* Sarah Doherty; 5/85 (no artificial limb)
- *First ascent by a double hand amputee:* Kim Hong Bin; 5/31/98
- *Ascent by a party of 3 leg amputees:* Durieux, Arnaud, Buttay; 6/18/88 (using artificial limbs)
- *Ascent by a double leg amputee:* Ed Hommer; 6/3/99
- *First ascent with Muscular Dystrophy (CMT):* Michael Rilenge, 6/16/97
- *First blind ascent:* Joan Phelps; 5/30/93
- *First ascent by a climber with an organ transplant (kidney):* Roger Robinson, 6/97

Notable Descents

Ski Descents - Firsts

- Metz Party: Removed skis for West Buttress Ridge Crest - 1962
- Sudan: Messner Couloir: 19,500 feet to 7,000 feet - 1972
- Dawson and Party: Muldrow Glacier route - 1974
- Sylvester and Party: West Buttress/Muldrow Traverse - 1977
- Rhoades: XC (3 pins): Summit to 16,000 feet on Harpers Glacier - 1983
- Gerrard Perrot: Complete West Buttress via Rescue Gully (with one ski pole) - 1986
- Yoshimasa Wada: 19,000 ft to 17,200 ft next to the rocks, then Rescue Gully -1988
- Jim Zellers & Tom Burt: Snowboard descent on Orient Express from 19,500'-1991
- Adrian Popovici: West Buttress from Summit; Messner; Orient Express (All three descents in 1993)
- Adrian Nature (Popovici): Wickersham Wall, continuous and complete, in a single day - 1998

Other Descents

- *First Hang Glider Descent:* Wade, Kvalvic, Burns, and Hudson; 6/76
- *First Parapente Descent:* Vern Tejas; 6/89 (South Peak) Bertrand Doligez and Serge Tuaz; 5/89 (North Peak)

New Routes and First Ascents

Muldrow Glacier via Karsten's Ridge (Named after Harry Karstens of the 1913 first ascent group)

First Ascent of North Peak: Sourdough Expedition (Anderson, Taylor) - 1910
Second Ascent of Ridge: Parker, Browne - 1912
First Ascent of South Peak: Stuck, Karstens, Harper, Tatum - 1913
Ascents of North & South Peak: Lindley, Leik, Strom, Pearson - 1932
Karsten's Ridge to Denali Pass: Washburn Expedition - 1947
(see The Pioneer Climbs; Terris Moore)

Pioneer Ridge (Name refers to the early attempts by this ridge and Wickersham Wall)

First Ascent: Heiberg, Baur, Haumann, Fowler, Lyon - 1961 (see AAJ 1962)
First Ascent of Entire Ridge from Gunsight Pass - Laver, Waitman, Cancroft, Maffei - 1988 (see AAJ 1989)

Wickersham Wall (Named for Judge Wickersham who made an attempt on the wall in 1903)

Canadian Route (West Edge/Jeffrey Glacier Route to North Peak): Gmoser, Prinz, Schwartz - 6/13/63 (see AAJ 1964)
Harvard Route (North and South Peaks): Abrons, Goetze, Roberts, Jensen, Graham, Carman, Millikan - 7/19/63 (see AAJ 1964)

West Buttress

First Ascent: Washburn, Gale, Hackett, Ambler, Bishop, Buchtel, Griffiths - 1951 (see AAJ 1952)
Winter Ascent: Genet, Davidson, Johnston - 03/01/67 (see AAJ 1968)
Messner Couloir: Messner, Oelz - 6/76
Thunder Ridge: First Ascent: Covington - 1982 (see AAJ 1983)
From 14,200' on West Buttress: Dennen - 1982 (see AAJ 1983)
West Buttress Direct (North): Muetzel, Graff, Beidleman, Banks - 6/80
West Buttress Direct (South): Hickox, Von Glinski - 5/82

West Rib

First Ascent: Breitenbach, Buckingham, Corbet, Sinclair - 06/19/59
(See AAJ 1960)
Wickwire Variation: Bertulis, Patterson, Raymond, Schaller, Stewart, Wickwire - 06/25/72 (see AAJ 1973)
Winter Ascent: Sassara, Frank - 03/83 (Frank died on descent)
First Solo: Ruprecht Kammerlander - 1977

West Rim

First Ascent: Ehmann, Morrow, 6/9/77

Cassin Ridge (Central rib of south face named for leader of first ascent team)

First Ascent: Cassin, Perego, Canali, Alippi, Zucchi, Arroldi - 7/16/61

First Winter Ascent: Mear, Young - 3/7/82

First Solo: Porter, 1976

American Direct

First Ascent: Eberl, Thompson, Laba, Seidman - 8/4/67

Haston-Scott Variation: Haston, Scott - 5/12/76

First Solo (Haston-Scott variation): Hesse - 5/19/82

Northwest Buttress

First Ascent: McLean, Beckey, Hackett, Meybohm, Wilson - 1954 (AAJ 1955)

Southern Couloir Variation: Rehmer, Snyder - 1982 (see AAJ 1984)

South Buttress

1954 Route (via W Fork Ruth): Thayer (died on descent), Argus, Viereck, Wood
(first traverse of McKinley) - 1954 (see AAJ 1955)

South Buttress Ramp: Kajiura, Nakamura, Nishumae - 1965 (see AAJ 1966 &
1976)

Southeast Spur (via NW Fork Ruth): Everett, Cochrane - 1962 (AAJ 1963)

Reality Ridge: Thuermer - 1975 (AAJ 1976)

Isis Face: Tackle, Stutzman (No Summit) - 1982

Ridge of No Return: Solo - Casarotto - 1984 (No Summit, to Pt. 15,000 feet)

Complete South Buttress (1994?) Mike Vanderbeek, ?

Traleika Glacier (Named for the Cook Inlet native name for Denali)

Attempt of W. Fork Traleika Glacier to 16,700' - 1971

First Ascent Traleika Spur: Jacober, Johnson, Pettigrew, Ruth, Schmidt, Steward
05/25/72 (see AAJ 1973)

East Buttress

First Ascent: Read, Newcomb, Lev - 1963 (see Summit 8/65;
AAJ 1964)

Catacomb Ridge (East Ridge): Davidson, Jones, Anderson, Benner, Fries, Given,
Reagan - 1969 (see AAJ 1970)