



Newsletter Nov/Dec 2007



Expeditionsleitung:

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What happened so far ...



It has been almost 2 years now that the idea for the *Arctic Summits Expedition* was born. And actually we should already be presenting our slide shows. But it all came different...

For 16 months we had been panning every detail to be the first German team to reach Greenland's highest four. We found partners and sponsors for our ambitious goal, trained hard, prepared equipment and stocks and ordered all necessary permits for the expedition. All of our equipment had already been shipped to Greenland when in April 2007 - one week before we intended to start our trip - Dominik got into a plane crash and was severely injured. A fracture of his right ankle spoiled our plans. Until he would be able to walk again, temperatures in Greenland would have been too warm to achieve our expedition goals. So we had to postpone the expedition exactly by one year, to April 2008.



In August 2007 however, we completed a reconnaissance trip to our starting point in Greenland.

Successful Recce-Expedition in August

The delay faced us with new problems to be solved. What was supposed to happen with our equipment being already in Greenland? Several things we would need for our next winter training in the Alps. Which stocks would still be good next year? What storage possibilities would we have in Greenland?

We decided to go on a pre-expedition trip to East Greenland in summer, as soon as Dominik would be able to walk again, so that we could sort out everything on site.

In Constable Point we found our previously shipped freight boxes in an aircraft hangar next to the small gravel runway. For three days we unpacked and inspected equipment and provisions. We sorted, restocked and repacked and finally loaded our pulks to be ready to go for next year.



Apart from packing, we spent two weeks trekking on rocks and ice discovering the nearby Roscoe Bjerge and climbing some unnamed peaks on Greenland's east coast.

The remote scenery with its sawtooth peaks above the huge glaciers offered us far more than just a replacement trip. Sometimes the spectacular landscape appeared quite surreal, most of all since we never had planned to be there during summer time. Dominik's healing foot got along well. Though the never ending moraine gravel fields at the foot of the glaciers – often up to 10km long – used to be a nightmare for his ankle.



After this mountain adventure we reached the settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit (Scoresbysund). We stayed for 4 days as guests in the little town counting 550 people and learned a lot about local life in Greenland.



Ready to go

To sum it up, our pre-expedition to Greenland was a big success. Our heavy pulks are now readily packed, waiting for us inside the hangar at Constable Point. By the time we will see them again it will be bitter cold there, but we can't wait to be back in Greenland and finally start our ski expedition.



Wintertraining



Now there are 4 months left until the start of *Arctic Summits Expedition*. We hope for a better winter and more snow than last year, to enable extensive training in the Alps. Next to ski mountaineering, snowkite training on skis will be an essential part of our preparations.

Homepage News

Our homepage notes a continuous increase of visitors. Especially the new photo galleries on preparations and our recce-expedition (see *Pictures*) attracts many hits. Information on our complete media presence up till now can be found in the category *Media*.

Arctic Summits Expedition says thank you

We explicitly like to thank our sponsors and partners who support us without exceptions even after the delay of the expedition.

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