

TO: Dansk Polarcentrum, Attention: Poul Henrik Sørensen

Report from the "G4 - Bergen Fjellsport to Watkins Bjerge" sport expedition to Greenland.

DPC Journal number 532-546

FROM: Petter Bjørstad, expedition leader.

**General:** The expedition landed (by Twin Otter from Iceland) near Gunnbjørn Fjeld according to plan on May 15. 2004. We immediately reported our arrival to the Greenland authorities via satellite phone. The expedition successfully carried out all objectives over the next 16 days (details below) and left by Twin Otter on May 31. 2004. Upon arrival back in Iceland, we again notified the Greenland authorities about our successful completion of the expedition. All garbage and other material brought to Greenland were also carried with us upon our return to Iceland. Human waste was left behind, but always at least 2 meter below the surface of the glacier and properly filled back with snow before any departure.

**Thanks:** We would like to thank Dansk Polar Centrum and, in particular, Poul Henrik Sørensen for helpful assistance when preparing and planning this expedition.

We would also extend warm thanks to various companies that helped sponsoring this trip by providing their fine products to us with deep discounts: TORO and Bergen Turlag with expedition food, Gass Service AS with fuel for cooking, Acapulka with two fine pulks, Nera, NSI and Telenor for communication equipment and services, Fritid-Sport As with mountaineering equipment, Freia with chocolate.

**Participants:**

As described in the application to DPC:

Jan Frode Myklebust, age 29

Arnt Flatmo, age 40

Torstein Skage, age 31

Per Ove Oppedal, age 31

Ståle Grimen, age 35

Petter Bjørstad, age 53

Ståle is a certified medical "nurse" and also served as the radio operator for the expedition. Petter was expedition leader.

**Weather:**

Upon arrival there was a surprisingly deep layer of cold, new, powder snow. The temperature stayed unseasonably cold in the first week, with temperatures ranging from minus 10 Celcius around mid-day down to minus 25-30 Celcius at night. The second week was a complete reversal with warm air and temperature above 0 throughout the day and only dropping slightly below zero at night. We had generally stable weather with blue sky and few clouds the entire period with the exception of two 12 hour periods with wind, clouds and some new snow.

**Wildlife:**

The only wildlife observed were a few birds. We saw both relatively small birds as well as somewhat larger "sea-gull like" birds that often circled on updraft wind near steeper cliffs.

**Camps:**

Date(s)	Location	Elevation
15,16,17,18	N68:55.511, W029:44.219	2229 m
19,20	N68:51.616, W029:53.875	2818 m
21,22,23,24	N68:55.511, W029:44.219	2229 m
25	N69:00.244, W029:32.226	1841 m
26	N69:00.603, W029:26.777	2081 m
27,28,29	N68:59.509, W029:10.782	2191 m
30	N68:59.534, W029:18.913	1857 m

**Mountaineering:**

We reached the summit of Gunnbjørn Fjeld May 17 (on the Norwegian National Day). We reached the summit of Dome on May 20th and the summit of Cone on May 21st. All 6 members of the group reached the three summits, and two in the group (Torstein Skage and Per Ove Oppedal) were the first in the world to:

- a) Ski down (Telemark) from the very summit of Gunnbjørn Fjeld,
- b) Ski down (Telemark) the Gunnbjørn Fjeld southwest ridge,
- c) Ski down (Telemark) from the very summit of Dome and
- d) Ski down (Telemark) all the three highest mountains on Greenland.

We skied down from the very summit of Cone the day after a team lead by Espen Nordahl had made a first ski descent from that summit. It should be noted that a 3-person team from Denmark \*almost\* skied down the entire Gunnbjørn Fjeld northwest ridge in May 2001. A short pitch of blue ice prevented a complete run down on skis (private communication).

We left the Gunnbjørn Fjeld area May 25th after having ascended another four peaks above 3000 meter. One of these, Styggehorn, 3503m, may be among the highest unclimbed peaks in Greenland. In the period May 26 to May 30, the group skied and climbed 11 additional mountains. Only one of these mountains had a cairn.

It should be noted that it proved very difficult to obtain information before the departure of our expedition regarding which peaks had been climbed and which peaks in the area remained unclimbed.

Even a visit to the DPC library in Copenhagen provided very limited information. This situation would improve greatly if DPC asked each sports expedition to report on their climbing activities upon return. It was discovered that, in particular, the commercial tour operators to the area, like Tangent, considers this information a business asset that should be kept confidential. It is hard to understand how one can advertise first ascent opportunities and then subsequently try to keep such information as a business secret. DPC could change this by setting a requirement that each expedition should report on their mountaineering activities, in particular, to report the coordinates and elevations of any peaks climbed.

More extensive information and many pictures are available on:

**<http://impact.ii.uib.no/arnt/Peaks/G4.html>**

and on

**<http://www.ii.uib.no/petter/mountains/east-greenland.html>**

#### **Ascents of the G4 expedition, May 2004.**

A total of 18 mountains on Greenland were climbed by the G4 expedition in the period May 15. to May 31. 2004.

We first present a table with a summary, additional information regarding each peak is then given below.

Mountain	Location	Elevation	Primary Factor	Date	Climber(s)
Hvitserk	N68:55.170, W029:53.912	3694 m	3694 m	17/5 - 2004	JF, SG, TS, PO, AF
Dome	N68:50.372, W029:55.418	3683 m	645 m	20/5 - 2004	JF, SG, TS, PO, AF
Cone	N68:52.283, W029:57.009	3669 m	331 m	21/5 - 2004	JF, SG, TS, PO, AF
Point 3535	N68:53.541, W029:54.465	3535 m	172 m	23/5 - 2004	AF
Styggehorn	N68:52.077, W030:00.000	3503 m	140 m	23/5 - 2004	SG, PB
Bergen	N68:53.871, W029:49.091	3288 m	125 m	23/5 - 2004	TS, PO
Point 3266	N68:52.456, W029:36.684	3266 m	103 m	18/5 - 2004	TS, PO, AF, PB
Brekruna	N68:58.186, W029:26.830	2824 m	211 m	26/5 - 2004	AF, PB, 27/5: SG,
Istind	N68:58.513, W029:05.029	2667 m	429 m	30/5 - 2004	JF, PO
Snefjeld	N68:59.899, W029:06.459	2650 m	323 m	29/5 - 2004	JF, PB
Ebeth	N68:59.086, W029:02.879	2628 m	219 m	28/5 - 2004	TS, PO
Lille Snefjeld	N68:59.488, W029:04.705	2511 m	118 m	28/5 - 2004	JF, SG, TS, PO, AF
Anita Fjeld	N68:59.342, W029:24.435	2466 m	178 m	27/5 - 2004	TS, PO
Kristine Fjeld	N69:00.202, W029:09.040	2449 m	141 m	29/5 - 2004	JF, SG, TS, PO, AF
Rabben	N68:58.597, W029:09.285	2378 m	108 m	29/5 - 2004	SG, TS, PO, AF, 3
Skorsteinseggi	N68:59.228, W029:14.921	2275 m	160 m	30/5 - 2004	TS, AF, PB
Point 2263	N69:01.739, W029:25.618	2263 m	100 m	27/5 - 2004	JF, AF, PB
Skjærseggi	N68:59.585, W029:16.451	2232 m	119 m	30/5 - 2004	AF

**Climbers:**

**PB** Petter Erling Bjørstad

**AF** Arnt Flatmo

**SG** Ståle Grimen

**JF** Jan-Frode Myklebust

**PO** Per Ove Oppedal

**TS** Torstein Skage

More detailed (or additional) information about each peak:

1. Hvitserk

**Name:** Gunnbjørnfjeld

**Alternate name(s):** Hvitserk

**Elevation (map):** 3694 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 3695 m

**Location:** N68:55.170, W029:53.912

**Primary factor:** 3694 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** Greenland HP

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** NA

**Saddle coordinates:** NA

**Descent:** The first ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis)  
by Per Ove Oppedal and Torstein Skage on May 17. 2004.

**Additional comments:** This is the highest peak north of the Arctic Circle.

2. Dome

**Name:** Qaqqaq Kershaw

**Alternate name(s):** Dome

**Elevation (map):** 3683 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 3686 m

**Location:** N68:50.372, W029:55.418

**Primary factor:** 645 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (3025-3050) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:51.075, W029:56.061

**Descent:** The first ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis)  
by Per Ove Oppedal and Torstein Skage on May 20. 2004.

**Additional comments:** This is the second highest peak north of the Arctic Circle.

3. Cone

**Name:** Qaqqaq Johnson

**Alternate name(s):** Cone

**Elevation (map):** 3669 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 3663 m

**Location:** N68:52.283, W029:57.009

**Primary factor:** 331 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (3325-3350) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:54.194, W029:55.303

**Descent:** The second ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis)  
by Per Ove Oppedal and Torstein Skage on May 20. 2004.

The first ski descent took place the day before on May 19. 2004.

**Additional comments:** This is the third highest peak north of the Arctic Circle.

4. Point 3535

**Name:** Unknown

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 3535 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 3533 m

**Location:** N68:53.541, W029:54.465

**Primary factor:** 172 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (3350-3375) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:53.065, W029:55.300

**Additional comments:** Climbing history is not yet known, but the peak has been climbed. This is the sixth highest peak on Greenland.

5. Styggehorn

**Name:** Styggehorn

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 3503 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** Not measured

**Location:** N68:52.077, W030:00.000

**Primary factor:** 140 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (3350-3375) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:52.077, W029:59.394

**Additional comments:** This climb was a first ascent. The summit has two horns pointing slightly outwards above a very large vertical wall, the peak is named after this very characteristic feature.

6. Point 3266

**Name:** Unknown

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 3266 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** Not measured

**Location:** N68:52.456, W029:36.684

**Primary factor:** 103 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (3150-3175) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:51.828, W029:36.212

**Additional comments:** First ascent by Hans Christian Florian, our climb was the 3rd. ascent.  
The second ascent took place on May 14. by a team from Tromsø lead by Espen Nordahl.

#### 7. Bergen

**Name:** Peak Ostereike

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** (3275-3300) m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** Not measured

**Location:** N68:53.871, W029:49.091

**Primary factor:** 125 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (3150-3175) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:53.710, W029:49.848

**Ascent:** First climbed by an Austrian team.

#### 8. Brekruna

**Name:** Unknown

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 2824 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2815 m

**Location:** N68:58.186, W029:26.830

**Primary factor:** 331 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2600-2625) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2605 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:58.425, W029:27.514

**Ascent:** First ascent by a Tangent team in 2002. The second ascent by Arnt Flatmo and Petter Bjørstad on May 26. 2004, the 3rd. ascent the next day by Per Ove Oppedal, Ståle Grimen and Torstein Skage on May 27.

**Descent:** This was a first ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis) by Per Ove Oppedal, Ståle Grimen and Torstein Skage on May 27. 2004.

#### 9. Istind

**Name:** Istind

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 2667 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2675 m

**Location:** N68:58.513, W029:05.029

**Primary factor:** 429 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2225-2250) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N69:00.538, W029:09.848

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by

Per Ove Oppedal and Jan-Frode Myklebust on May 30. 2004.

**Additional comments:** A cairn was built near the (snow) summit.

#### 10. Snefjeld

**Name:** Snefjeld

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 3650 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2648 m

**Location:** N68:59.899, W029:06.459

**Primary factor:** 323 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2325-2350) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2327 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:59.557, W029:06.312

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by

Jan-Frode Myklebust and Petter Bjørstad on May 29. 2004.

#### 11. Ebeth

**Name:** Ebeth

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 2628 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2641 m

**Location:** N68:59.086, W029:02.879

**Primary factor:** 228 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2375-2400) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2409 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:58.739, W029:04.458

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by

Torstein Skage and Per Ove Oppedal on May 28. 2004.

**Descent:** A first ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis)

by Per Ove Oppedal on May 28. 2004.

**Additional comments:** A (small) cairn was built on the summit.

#### 12. Lille Snefjeld

**Name:** Lille Snefjeld

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** (2500-2525) m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2511 m

**Location:** N68:59.488, W029:04.705

**Primary factor:** 118 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2375-2400) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2393 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:59.247, W029:04.362

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by Torstein Skage, Arnt Flatmo, Ståle Grimen,  
Per Ove Oppedal, Jan-Frode Myklebust og Petter Bjørstad, on May 28. 2004.

**Descent:** A first ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis)  
down the steep west side by Per Ove Oppedal on May 28. 2004.

### 13. Anita Fjeld

**Name:** Anita Fjeld

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 2466 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2467 m

**Location:** N68:59.342, W029:24.435

**Primary factor:** 178 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2275-2300) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:59:086, W029:24.697

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by  
Per Ove Oppedal and Torstein Skage on May 27. 2004.

### 14. Kristine Fjeld

**Name:** Kristine Fjeld

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** (2400-2425) m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2449 m

**Location:** N69:00.202, W029:09.040

**Primary factor:** 141 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2300-2325) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2308 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N69:00.108, W029:08.343

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by Torstein Skage, Arnt Flatmo, Ståle Grimen,  
Per Ove Oppedal, Jan-Frode Myklebust og Petter Bjørstad, on May 29. 2004.

**Additional comments:** A cairn was built on the summit.

### 15. Rabben

**Name:** Rabben

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** (2350-2375) m



**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2378 m

**Location:** N68:58.597, W029:09.285

**Primary factor:** 108 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2250-2275) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2270 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:58.748, W029:08.742

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by

Arnt Flatmo, Ståle Grimen, Torstein Skage and Per Ove Oppedal, on May 29. 2004. The second ascent by Petter Bjørstad on May 30. 2004.

**Descent:** The first ski descent from the summit (Telemark skis)

by Per Ove Oppedal on May 29. 2004.

**Additional comments:** A cairn was built on the summit.

16. Skorsteinseggi

**Name:** Skorsteinseggi

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** 2275 m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2270 m

**Location:** N68:59.228, W029:14.921

**Primary factor:** 160 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2100-2125) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** 2115 m

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:59.213, W029:12.914

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by Arnt Flatmo, Torstein Skage and Petter Bjørstad, on May 30. 2004.

17. Point 2263

**Name:** Unknown

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** (2250-2275) m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2263 m

**Location:** N69:01.739, W029:25.618

**Primary factor:** 100 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2150-2175)

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N69:02.043, W029:25.000

**Ascent:** First ascent by Hans Christian Florian, the 2nd. ascent by Petter Bjørstad, Arnt Flatmo and Jan-Frode Myklebust, May 27. 2004.

**Additional comments:** This (snow) summit had a cairn on a nearby rock.

18. Skjærseggi

**Name:** Skjærseggi

**Alternate name(s):** None

**Elevation (map):** (2225-2250) m

**Elevation measured by GPS:** 2232 m

**Location:** N68:59.585, W029:16.451

**Primary factor:** 119 m

**Saddle elevation (map):** (2100-2125) m

**Saddle elevation (GPS):** Not measured

**Saddle coordinates:** N68:59.301, W029:15.606

**Ascent:** This was a first ascent by Arnt Flatmo on May 30. 2004.

Additionally, we propose to name the glacier that terminates near Ebeth and Istind for Bergen Gletcher. The South-East end of Ebeth has a smaller, separate peak, elevation 2595 meter, with primary factor less than 100 meter (but more than 50 meter), we therefore do not list this as an independent peak. However, it is a very nice view-point, well separated from Ebeth. This point was visited by Arnt Flatmo and Ståle Grimen on May 28. 2004. The location of this subsidiary peak is North 68:58.590, West 029:02.339.