



THE B.C. MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER



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SCHEDULED TRIPS:

LEADER

June 4-5 Baby Munday Pk. Distance - 16 km, elevation gain 1520 m, estimated time - 3+6 hrs., guide - Culbert, p. 102, Beckey (red), p. 120, map - Chilliwack 92H/4 (1:50,000). Approach via Airplane Ck. Summit will be ascended from the south.	B3/2195 m	Margaret Wyborn	462-9204
June 4-5 Early Winter Spires/ Liberty Bell Distance - 6 km, elevation gain - 730+680 m, estimated time - 5+5 hrs., guide - Beckey (red), p. 245, 260, map - Green Trails Washington Pass (No. 50). Car camping to climb South Early Winter Spire one day and Beckey route on Liberty Bell the second day. Rock climbing to 5.6	B5/2380 m	Randy Enomoto	224-6184
June 5 Pinecone Lake Distance - 13 km; elevation gain - 850 m, estimated time - 7 hrs., guide - Culbert p. 259, map - Pitt River 92 G/10 (1:50,000). Access via the logging road near Crawford Creek.	B1/1480 m	Hugo Stead	734-3664

June 11-12

Mt. Hozameen (ski?) B3/2460 m Jane Weller 732-0947
Distance - 10 km, elevation gain - 1520 m, estimated time - 3+4 hrs., guide - Culbert, p. 142, map - Green Trails Ross Lake (no. 16).
Approach via camp at Hozameen Lake, skiing if possible to just below the ridge. Ice axes required. Suitable for alpine or strong x-country skiers.

June 11-12

Frosty Mountain B1/2590 m Peter Waddington 266-4709
Distance - 24 km, elevation gain - 1190 m, estimated time - 10 hrs., guide - Culbert p. 158, 103 Hikes p. 204, map - Hope 92 H/2 (1:50,000).
Access probably via the Lightning lakes trail with a car camp near the lakes on Saturday night.

June 12

Hanging Lake A1/1370 m Günter Hörnig 688-9301
Distance - 8 km, elevation gain - 750 m, estimated time - 7 hrs., guide - Culbert, p. 120, Beckey (red), p. 122, map - Skagit River 92/H3 (1:50,000).
Approach via trail from south end of Chilliwack Lake to this lake just below Mt. Lindeman.

June 18

Twin Sisters C5/?100 m John Gudaitis 435-7083
Distance - 8 km, elevation gain - 1200 m, estimated time - 10 hrs., guide - Beckey (red) p. 39, map - Green Trails no. 45 (Hamilton).
Access from the North Cascades Highway. Routes will depend on the party.

June 18-19

Crescent Lake Peaks B2-3/2135 m Peter Durnford 731-4888
Distance - 8 km, elevation gain - 1740 m, estimated time - 5+9 hrs, guide - Culbert p. 126, 131, 103 Hikes, p. 164, map - Skagit River 92H/3 (1:50,000).
Access from the Silverhope-Skagit Road. Either the North Peak (B2) or the South Peak (B3) will be attempted.

June 25

Lady Peak B2/2170 m Lisa Baile 732-1628
Distance - 10 km, elevation gain - 1160 m, estimated time - 7 hrs., guide Culbert p. 102, map - Chilliwack 92 H/4 (1:50,000).
Access via Chipmunk Creek.

June 25-26

Sloan Peak B3/2390 m Ross Wyborn 462-9204
Distance - 22 km, elevation gain - 1830 m, estimated time - 6 + 10 hrs., guide - Beckey (green) p. 77, map - Green Trails No. 111 (Sloan Peak).
Access via trail up Cougar Creek. Summit will be attempted via the Corkscrew (standard) route.

July 1-3

Strathcona Park A2/1650 m Alfred Menninga 112-752-3576 (Parksville)
Distance - 35 km, elevation gain - 1500 m, estimated time - 5+8+8 hrs., guide - Culbert, p. 313, Hiking Trails, Central and North Vancouver Island, maps-92F/5+6+11+12
From Buttle Lake, to Della Falls area. Transportation from Nanaimo ferry terminal will be provided. Contact Murray Lashmar (668-9206) or the leader for further details.

July 1-3

Mt. Rainier C4/4390 m Albert Souza 251-1679
Distance - 20 km, elevation gain - 2750 m, estimated time - 4+12 hrs., guide - Beckey (brown) p. 85, map - Mt. Rainier National Park (1:50,000).
Access by skiing to Camp Muir then climbing to the summit via the standard route.
Participants should be in good physical condition and should phone Albert before Wednesday.

July 1-3

Meslilloet Mountain C2/2000 m Steve Grant 736-9672
Distance - 100 km, elevation gain 2000 m, estimated time - 10+10+10 hrs., guide - Culbert
p. 83, map - Vancouver 92G (1:250,000).

This is a combination biking/hiking/climbing trip. Approach on ferry to head of Indian Arm then cycle to the base of Meslilloet which will be climbed on Sunday. Cycle out to Squamish on Monday.

July 1-3

Cathedral Lakes B1/2610 m Murray Lashmar 688-9206
Distance 40 km, elevation gain - 1500 m, estimated time - 7+8+7 hrs., guide - Culbert p.
154, Beckey (red) p. 181, map - 92 H/1.
Access via trail up Wall Creek. From camp at lakes many attractive hiking routes are
feasible.

July 9-10

Wedge Mountain, training climb B3-4/2910 m Michael Feller 277-1444
Distance - 25 km, elevation gain - 2200 m, estimated time - 9 + 9 hrs., guide - Culbert p.
251, 276, 103 Hikes p. 124, map - Alta Lake 92J/2 (1:50,000).

Practise snow, ice, and glacier technique with possibly some rock. A training climb of
Wedge is planned.

July 9-10

Overseer Mountain B3/2740 m Mark Force 521-1375
Estimated time - 4 + 8 hrs.
Access from Meager Creek Hot Springs to camp in valley west of Overseer. Both Overseer and
Spidery are possible objectives.

July 9-10

Forbidden Peak - NW Face D5/2690 m Phil Kubik 922-3407
Estimated time - 6 + 12 hrs., guide - Beckey (green) p. 284. Mixed ice and rock climbing
up to 5.7 Bivouac required near the N ridge. Descent via the W ridge, carrying gear all
the way. Limited to 6 experienced climbers.

~~July 16-17~~

~~Mt. Bishop B1/1510 m Joyce Davies 988-8079~~
~~Distance - 26 km by water, 10 km on foot, elevation gain-1510 m, estimated time - 9 + 9~~
~~hrs., guide - Culbert p. 35, map - Coquitlam 92G/7 (1:50,000).~~
~~Approach via canoe or kayak up Indian Arm to Bishop Creek. Then by logging road and trail.~~

July 16-17

Silver Bluffs/Silvertip B3-5/1800 m Jack Bryceland 112-858-6601
(Chilliwack)

Exploratory trip east of Silver Lake. Guide - Culbert p. 131.

July 23-24

Slesse Peak - NW Face B5/2380 m Anders Ourom 224-9007
Rock climbing to 5.4. Trip limited to 6 people. Estimated time - 6+9 hrs.

July 24

Price Lake A2/1220 m Murray Lashmar 688-9206
Distance - 8 km, elevation gain - 400 m, estimated time - 5 hrs., guide - 101 Hikes in
North Cascades, map - Green Trails No. 14 (Mount Shuksan)
Approach via fording Nooksack River than ascending steep slopes below the lake.

July 30-31

Fisher Peak C5/2450 m Peter Ravensbergen 876-1035

Estimated time - 4 + 10 hrs., guide - Beckey (green) p. 319.

Ascent of this peak near the North Cascades Highway will be via the southeast ridge. Climbing to 5.5

July 30 - August 1

Enchantment Lakes B1/2070 m Theo Mosterman 224-3933

Distance - 30 km, elevation gain - 1680 m, estimated time - 6+8+7 hrs., guide - Beckey (brown) p. 259, 290, 333.

Approach to this area near Leavenworth is via the Snow Creek Trail off Icicle Creek Road. Several hiking alternatives are possible. Contact leader for further details.

August 6-7

Trail clearing - Lions Trail A Paul Binkert 263-4360

Do your bit to help maintain the trails that you rely on for access. If you can't make it on this or the following weekend, Paul can supply you with tools and perhaps assistance at any other time, and perhaps also for another trail. Call Paul for further details.

August 6-7

Mt. Spickard B4/2710 m Peter Parrotta 255-0161

Distance - 20 km, elevation gain - 1520 m, estimated time - 4 + 8 hrs., guide - Beckey (red) p. 109, Culbert p. 136, map - Beckey's recreational map of the North Cascades.

Approach from end of Maselpanik Creek logging road to Maselpanik glacier traversing around Mt. Custer to ascend summit via the north face route.

August 13-14

Trail clearing - Lions Trail A Paul Binkert 263-4360

Another opportunity for you to do your bit.

August 13-14

Mt. Torment B5/2475 m Paul Kubik 876-0764

Distance - 19 km, elevation gain - 1500 m, estimated time - 4 + 8 hrs., guide - Beckey (green) p. 290, map - U.S. Geological Survey Forbidden Peak and Cascade Pass. (7.5 minute series).

Approach via trail to Boston Basin and campsite. From here the route to the summit will depend on conditions, but will probably be the S.E. face (mainly rock).

August 13-14

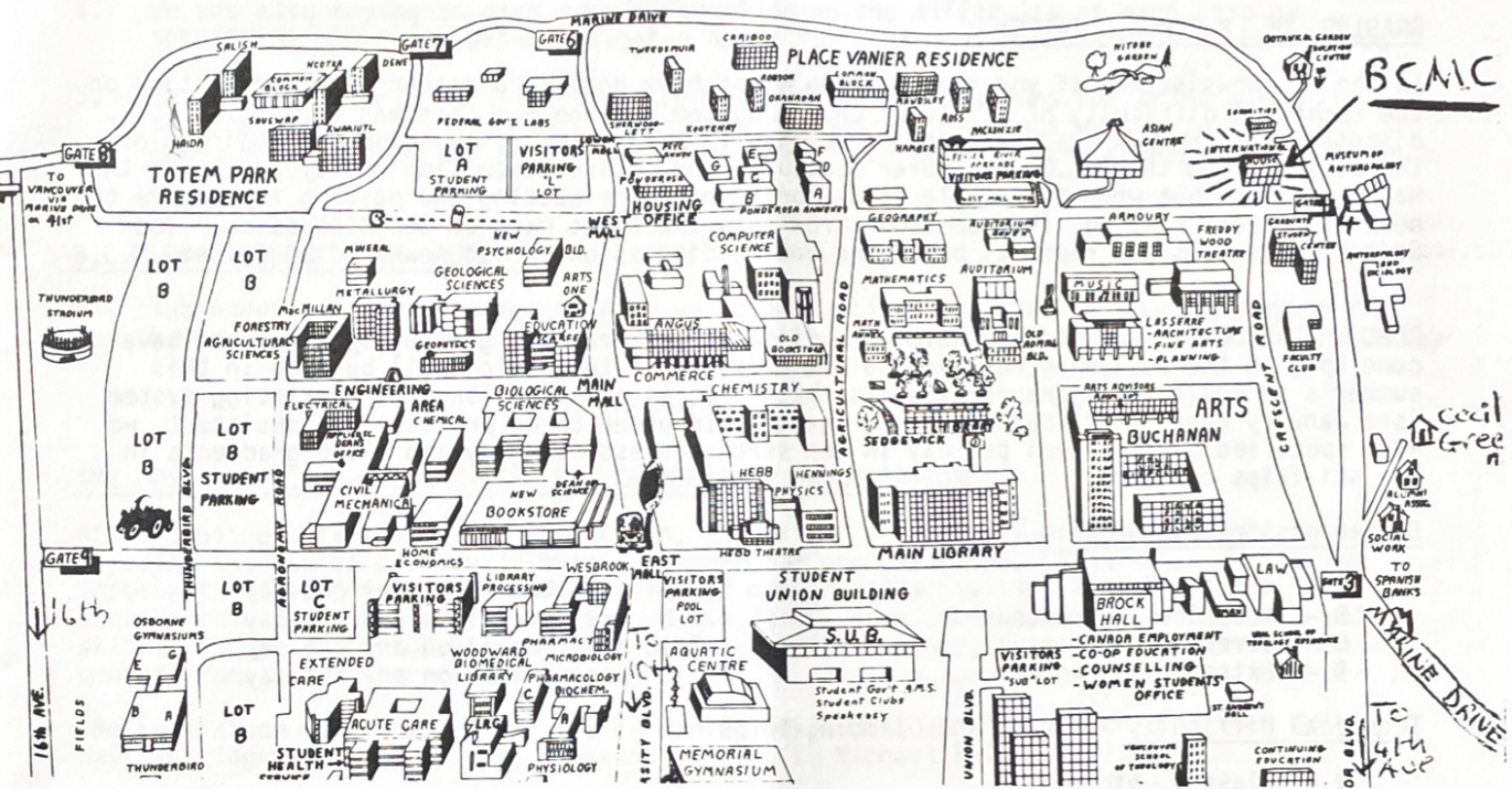
Mt. Job B3/2490 m Ross Wyborn 462-9204

Distance - 18 km, elevation gain - 1730 m, estimated time - 4 + 7 hrs., map - Mt. Dalgleish 92J/12 (1:50,000).

Approach from Lilloet River Road via a creek valley to the glacier north of Mt. Job. An exploratory trip, but the summit will probably be approached from the northwest.

SOCIALS/SLIDE NIGHTS:

- Tuesday, 21st June at 7:30 p.m. in International House, University of B.C. (see map below). An illustrated talk on "What Makes a Summitter" given by Bob Schoene, a doctor and member of the 1981 American Medical Research expedition to Mt. Everest. This is a joint social with the A.C.C. Vancouver Section and replaces the previously scheduled Cecil Green social. It promises to be a very interesting evening, particularly if you have aspirations to climb high.



VENUE FOR SOCIALS:

In recent years, we have used Cecil Green Park at U.B.C. for our spring and fall socials. Recently, the cost of renting Cecil Green has increased by 50% and food and drink can no longer be supplied by organizations renting it -- they must be supplied at much greater cost, by catering services at U.B.C. Consequently, we are trying International House as an alternative (Cecil Green is also too small to cope with the numbers expected from a combined BCMC - ACC social). This has been organized by Ehleen Hinze (phone: 874-8923) who would appreciate your comments about International House or any other possible place as a venue for future socials.

MEMBERSHIP:

New Members:

Irene Goldstone
 406 - 5775 Toronto Road
 Vancouver, B.C.
 V6T 1X4
 PH: 228-8737

Stephen Grant
 2150 MacDonald Street
 Vancouver, B.C.
 V6K 3Y4
 PH: 732-7098

Ian Smith
 5391 Spruce Street
 Burnaby, B.C.
 V5G 1Y7
 PH: 299-5969

WHAT CLUB MEMBERS ARE DOING:

Don Wilson writes that he was coordinating DND support to EMR's Canadian Expedition to study the Alpha Ridge, which was conducted on the Arctic Ocean. He considered that the base camp was rather a challenge to establish and promised a trip report if he got there himself.

GRADING OF B.C.M.C. TRIPS:

In the May newsletter, if you read it, you might have noticed a rather puzzling section on the technical difficulty of ski trips on the bottom of page 5. This was part of a discussion of the new grading system developed for our trips by the climbing chairmen of the B.C.M.C. and the A.C.C. Vancouver Section. The entire discussion was typed up for the May newsletter but when the people in the printshop were cutting and pasting to prepare the newsletter for printing, they somehow threw away the first half of the discussion. The Editor apologizes and reprints below the entire discussion of our new grading system.

BCMC and AAC climbing chairmen have met, discussed alternative grading systems, and have come up with the following revision to our existing system, which will be used in this summer's schedule. Bill Maurer reports that - "It is an expansion on the existing system (see January newsletter) rather than a change. In order to be precise and consistent, we have specified hours travel per day in the strenuousness category and slope gradients in the ski trips category.

Degree of Strenuousness

A - not strenuous	<4 hrs. travel on any one day
B - moderately strenuous	4-8 hrs. travel on any one day
C - strenuous	8-12 hrs. travel on any one day
D - extremely strenuous	>12 hrs. travel on any one day

Technical Difficulty - Hiking and Climbing Trips

- 1 - Class 1 hiking
- 2 - Class 2 scrambling - occasional use of hands required
- 3 - Class 3 easy climbing - beginners may rope up if exposed
- 4 - Class 4 climbing, continual belaying required to the average party
- 5 - Class 5 climbing, artificial aids required for protection
- 6 - Class 6 climbing, artificial aids for direct assistance

Technical Difficulty - Ski Trips

- 1 - gentle slopes, ($<10^{\circ}$) no demanding turns
- 2 - moderate slopes (10° - 20°) intermediate skiing
- 3 - steep slopes, (20° - 35°) tree and/or difficult glacier skiing possible, advanced skiing
- 4 - very steep slopes (35° - 50°) and advanced skiing
- 5 - extreme skiing, high angle ($>50^{\circ}$) and high exposure. A fall would result in a long slide and injury.

Comments

1. The D rating of strenuousness will still be used proportionately less of the time than the A, B & C ratings. We see this as desirable as it increases the significance of the rating and would therefore more effectively give the impression of a serious trip.
2. The strenuousness rating reflects the longest day of an overnight trip which is consistent with the technical difficulty rating where a climb is rated by its most difficult pitch.
3. For ski trips the rating reflects the steepest angle of the trip sustained for at least 50 m.

4. We are also trying to give more information on the difficulty of each trip by specifying elevation gain, estimated hours for each day, and distance to be covered."
5. (From the Editor): Many of the strenuousness classifications for trips advertised in this Newsletter are incorrect, using the new system. Perhaps we should use 5 and 10 hours instead of 4 and 8? In addition, 5 hours of bush is more strenuous than 8 hours of easy trail.

B.C.M.C. REQUIRES AN AUDITOR:

The club needs someone (not necessarily an accountant) to audit our financial statements for the current fiscal year. If you are interested, please contact Albert Souza (251-1679).

THE USE OF CLUB-BUILT HUTS BY COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS:

After considerable debate and discussion, the executive passed a motion by a 5/3 majority opposing the use of club built huts by commercial organizations. This issue has become important in view of the recent expansion of commercial activities in the Cheakanus Valley area; particularly the use of the new VOC built Mt. Brew cabin by a commercial snow-cat skiing venture. The VOC has recently taken a similar stance, opposing "commercial use and profit from a volunteer effort."

The Federation of Mountain Clubs is currently developing a policy on this issue. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please give them to Michael Feller (277-1444).

B.C.M.C. CONSERVATION NEWS:

The B.C.M.C. Conservation Committee met in April and drafted out a submission to the National Parks Service concerning the proposed new management plans for the 4 Rocky Mountain National Parks. Joanne Johannson put considerable effort into this submission, based on the numerous discussion papers recently released by the National Parks Service.

With the re-election of the Bennett government, we can expect considerably escalated battles over land use and other conservation issues in B.C. If you would like to help in efforts to save the Stein, Southern Moresby, Chilko Lake, etc., please contact John Halliday (530-2571) for further information.

FIRST AID KITS:

Theo Mosterman has recently put together a list of recommended items for a trip leader's first aid kit. If you are leading a trip you should have these items. If you have any comments about the list, pass them on to Theo (224-3933).

RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR A LEADER'S FIRST AID KIT

List of group phone numbers and medical numbers.
R.C.M.P. phone number.
Pencil and paper.
Two quarters.

One pair of tweezers
One pair of scissors (Jesco recommended)
One roll of 5 cm sticky tape (hockey tape is good and cheap)
Antiseptic wipes (Zephiran Chloride)
Assorted bandaids or bandaid strip (cloth type)
Butterfly bandages or stery strips
Package of kleenex
Gauze pads 10 x 10 cm and 5 x 5 cm, 5 of each
Five telfa pads 7.5 x 10 cm
Two triangular bandages (precompressed)
One crepe bandage 7.5 cm x 4.5 m
Two metallic splints (x-ray transparent), roll up for easy packing
One tube of water soluble burn ointment (Polyethylene Glycol)
Five safety pins
Mild pain killers such as 222's or 292's

Pack all items in waterproof packages and label for easy recognition. Know how to use this material! If you don't, take a basic first aid course with St. Johns Ambulance or Capilano College. It may save someone's life someday. First aid kits are available at St. Johns Ambulance on Cambie Street at Oakridge. Add or delete to your own requirements. If you like to put your own kit together, then the best suppliers are: Columbia Safety Products, 37 Braid Street, New Westminster, and Safety Supply, 240 East 10th, near Main Street.

Every climber, skier or backpacker should have his or her personal first aid kit. It should contain as a minimum:

- Band aids
- Moleskin
- Lip cream
- Sun cream
- Safety pins

Any small items for personal use such as medicines.

DO YOU WANT TO SPEND 2 WEEKS ON A VANCOUVER ISLAND HOMESTEAD THIS SUMMER?

Anyone interested in spending 2 weeks living in and caretaking a homestead near Qualicum Beach on Vancouver Island this summer, should contact club member Alfred Menninga at (112)752-3576.

ACCESS:

U.S. Forest Service is changing their road numbering system throughout all national forests.

The new system will make identification of existing roads more consistent with new roads added to the system. It should also make it easier to locate secondary roads in relation to the major arterial roads. This summer, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest will begin a transition phase of changing from the old numbering system to the new, which could take several years.

Main roads, (Arterials), will be signed with two digits such as '16'. A moderate use branch road, (Collector), off the main road will be signed with four digits such as '1610'. Low use project roads, (Locals), which branch off these roads will be signed with seven digits such as '1610/001'. Each main road and the network of roads off it will be identifiable by the two digit number.

As an example, for the Glacier Ranger District (near Mt. Baker - north side), the following changes will occur:

<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
398	3071
398A	3071017
400	31
401	3065
401B	3066
<hr/>	
402	32
402A	3200022
403	33
403A	3310
404	34
<hr/>	
407	3035
408	3140
3806	36
3807 ¹	38
3903 ¹	

<u>OLD</u>	<u>NEW</u>
3904	39
3905	3910
3907	37
3917	3620
3920	3075
<hr/>	
3941	3070
4007	3120
4008	3130
4015	3040
4021	3060

¹ County Road

Details of all the changes are given in a pamphlet available at U.S. Forest Service offices. You should be aware that all the road access information given in Beckey's guide books will soon be inaccurate as all the roads will now have new numbers.

MT. ROBIE REID:

Bob Harris has recently drawn our attention to a mistake made in the December 1982 Newsletter, when we printed a trip report of a climb of Mt. Robbie Reid". The mountain is correctly called Mt. Robie Reid.

The mountain was named after Robie Lewis Reid who was born in Nova Scotia in 1866. After studying to become a teacher, he travelled with his Uncle to Spokane, Washington, then travelled on to Victoria, B.C. in 1885. There, he was just in time to write the examinations for a Grade A Teacher's Certificate. He found only one other candidate present -- Frederic W. Howay -- who later became his friend for life. Both Howay and Reid travelled east to study law at Dalhousie in 1887. Eventually, in 1893, Howay and Reid established a law firm of that name in New Westminster. The firm was dissolved in 1905. Howay later became a judge and Reid formed another successful law firm.

Reid assembled an excellent collection of books on Canada, which he later presented to U.B.C. He also served U.B.C. as its solicitor for 29 years, and was on the University's Board of Governors for 22 years.

Mt. Judge Howay was named in the fall of 1943, shortly after Judge Howay's death. Mt. Robie Reid was named in honour of Reid in July, 1944. Reid died in 1945. More details about Reid are available from an article in the B.C. Historical Quarterly (Vol. 9, 1945, p. 79), a copy of which is now in the club library.

BEARS AND YOU:

As we head into summer, our chances of meeting bears will increase. Bears are beautiful animals, but should be treated with caution. The following comments are taken from the pamphlet, "You Are In Bear Country", published by Parks Canada.

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It's been their home for thousands of years. You're the visitor. Remember that and act accordingly.

The bear is an animal that demands your respect. Its seemingly amusing antics belie its great strength and agility. But it will defend itself, its young and its territory if it feels threatened.

Knowledge and alertness can help you avoid an encounter with a bear that could be hazardous.

All Bears Are Potentially Dangerous

They are unpredictable and can inflict serious injury. Because of this, **NEVER** feed or approach a bear. It is unlawful to feed bears in national parks -- this is to protect both you and the animal.

Every bear has individual behaviour characteristics. Not even the experts can be sure how one will react in a particular situation.

Black and Grizzly Bears

Since black bears adapt readily to human environments, they are seen more frequently than grizzlies. The black bear prefers heavily-wooded areas and dense bushland year-round. But the grizzly is migratory. In summer, it is the elusive inhabitant of high alpine country while in spring and fall, it descends to the valley bottoms. It is often lured into areas occupied by humans by the promise of easily-obtained food, and now, more and more people are using the backcountry -- invading the grizzly's traditional domain.

A Few Hints To Avoid A Bear Encounter

Stay alert and think ahead.

Always hike in a group.

Carry a noisemaker, such as bells, or cans containing stones. Most bears will leave the vicinity if they are aware of your presence. **BUT REMEMBER**, in dense bush and near rushing water, your noisemaker may not be effective.

Be especially alert when travelling into the wind. The bear may not get your scent and be unaware of your approach. This is especially true in a strong, rushing wind.

Keep in the open and avoid food sources such as berry patches and carcass remains. Bears feel threatened if surprised. So watch for bear signs -- fresh tracks, digging and scats (droppings).

NEVER go near a bear cub. You could end up tangling with several hundred kilos of angry mother.

Take photographs with a telephoto lens. Bears have a tolerance range which, when encroached upon, may bring on an attack. Keep your distance at all times.

Some Suggestions For Safe Camping

Bears will eat almost anything. Don't encourage a bear by leaving food or garbage around. Garbage-trained bears associate food with humans and soon lose their fear of man. Because of this loss of fear, the bear might become a danger to campers and have to be destroyed.

Don't Let Your Carelessness Cause The Unnecessary Death Of A Bear

In established campgrounds:

Keep your campsite clean.
Lock food in the trunk of your vehicle.
Don't leave dirty utensils around the campsite.
Don't cook or eat in your tent. The lingering odors are an open invitation.
After eating, put garbage in any containers provided.

In the backcountry:

Camp off animal or walking trails and near large sparsely-branched trees you can climb, should it become necessary.
If you notice fresh bear signs, choose another area.
Cache your food away from your tent, preferably suspended from a tree.
Don't store food or eat in your tent.
Cook away from your tent. Food smells can permeate the tent and attract a bear.
Freeze-dried foods are lightweight and relatively odor-free.
Pack out all non-combustible garbage to the nearest container. Burying it is useless and dangerous. Bears can easily smell it and dig it up. The attracted bear may then become a danger to the next group of hikers.

Bear Confrontations

You can still encounter a bear, despite taking precautions. But this does not necessarily mean it will attack. To reduce the hazard:

- * If you see a black bear at a distance, make a wide detour;
- * If you see a grizzly, leave the area at once;
- * Keep upwind if possible, so the bear will get your scent and know you're there;
- * If you cannot detour or retreat, wait until the bear moves away from your path -- always leave him an escape route;
- * Never harass a bear -- it may incite him to attack.

Attacks

Most grizzly attacks result from surprising a bear, coming between a sow and her cubs or coming too close to carrion.

Black bears are not as aggressive as grizzlies. The majority of encounters between humans and black bears have resulted from feeding the bear or coming between a sow and her cubs.

Keep Calm And Try To Assess The Situation

There is no guaranteed life-saving method of handling an aggressive bear. But some behaviour patterns have proved more successful than others.

Running is not a good solution. Most bears can run as fast as a racehorse and quick, jerky movements can trigger an attack.

Don't take your dog into the backcountry. The sight and smell of a dog often infuriates a bear and may bring on an attack. Your dog would be no match for him. And when in trouble, your pet may come running back to you with the bear in pursuit!

A bear rearing on its hind legs is not always aggressive. If it moves its head from side to side, it may only be trying to get your scent and focus its weak eyes. Remain still and speak in low tones. This may indicate to the animal you mean no harm.

Think about your surroundings before you act.

If you meet an aggressive grizzly in a wooded area, speak softly and back slowly toward a tree. At the same time, slowly remove your pack and set it on the ground to distract the bear.

Climb a good distance up the tree. Adult grizzlies can't climb as a rule, but large ones can easily stretch up to three meters.

Black bears are agile climbers, so a tree may not offer an escape.

If you have no escape route you may, as a last resort, have to "play dead". Drop to the ground face down, lift your legs up to your chest and clasp your hands over the back of your neck. Wearing your pack will shield your body. Bears have been known to inflict only minor injuries under these circumstances. It takes courage to lie still, but resistance would be useless.

Bears Will Bluff

Sometimes bears will bluff their way out of a threatening situation by charging and then veering away at the last second.

BLACK BEAR (*Ursus americanus* Pallas)

Colour: varies from pure black to cinnamon or blond, most are black with brownish muzzle; often a white patch below throat or across chest.

Height: about 90 cm at the shoulder.

Length: about 1.5 m

Weight: ranges from 57 kg to more than 270 kg. Females are generally smaller than males.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Smallest member of the North American bear family. Usually straight facial profile and tapered nose with long nostrils. Feet are flat-soled with short, curved claws. Smaller than the grizzly and has a higher head carriage and straighter shoulder-rump line. Agile climber.

GRIZZLY BEAR (*Ursus arctus horribilis* Ord)

Colour: varies from black to blond; frequently with white-tipped fur, giving a grizzled appearance.

Height: a little over 1 m at the shoulder; reaches 1.8 to 2 m when standing on hind legs.

Weight: averages about 200 kg; some weigh up to 450 kg. Females are generally smaller than males.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Prominent humps over the shoulders, formed by the muscles of massive forelegs. Sloping back line. Dished or concave face. Long curved claws.

A small grizzly is often difficult to distinguish from a large black bear. Treat all bears with extreme caution.

BLACK BEAR



Right Hind

Right Front



GRIZZLY BEAR



Right Hind



TRIP REPORTS

Cancelled Trips

- Baker Area, 27 March
- Owl Lakes area, 9 - 10 April
- Mt. Lindeman, 9 - 10 April
- Blackwall Peak, 16 - 17 April
- Pemberton Icecap area, 23 - 24 April

Little Diamond Head, 5 - 6 February

After a late start from Vancouver, (we won't mention who slept in, but it wasn't the leader!), the three of us careered down the Squamish Highway to try to make up lost time, arriving at the Diamond Head parking lot around 9:30 in the crystal-clear warm weather. We made good time skiing into the Elfin Hut where we grabbed a bite of lunch, leaving Peter P. to snooze away the afternoon (he claimed to have worked late the night before). Peter C and I skinned up toward the col between the Gargoyles and Columnar Peak for a few telemarks in just about the best conditions I've skied in for some time. There, we finally caught up with Paul and Rosanne. Peter C., a relative novice to telemarking, made up for what he lacked in finesse with determination. The superb day ended with dinner in the overflowing cabin, which must have attracted every skier (and some snowshoers) between Vancouver and Seattle. Paul and Rosanne chose to avoid the hordes by digging a snow cave.

The following morning, the weather socked in, but undaunted, Peter C. and I again decided to brave the elements for one last run up toward Columnar Peak. Peter P. claimed he needed more sleep (or was it that young lady from the Seattle Mountaineers that deterred him?). Our last run completed, we headed down, leaving behind by this time, a virtually empty Elfin Hut.

Party -- Peter Parrotta, Peter Crawford, Paul Kubik, Rosanne Konrad, Murray Lashmar (Leader and Reporter).

Rainbow Mountain, 20 March

No one contacted me prior to the trip so I talked a non-mountaineering friend into going, on a one day trip. My friend, Dave, made it to about 1900 m where there is a prominent bump above the tree line. The eastern summit was gained by the leader 1 1/4 hours past this point. Conditions were good for the ascent -- frozen and windblown, but poor for the descent -- ice and breakable crust. Dave tore the sole from his boot just above the logging slash and had to walk out. The best skiing was on the slash, where it was moveable slush.

Party -- Dave Swann and Paul Krainer (Leader and Reporter).

Singing Pass, 1 - 4 April

The Easter trip to Sir Richard was scheduled to approach via the upper Cheakamus Valley. However, the lack of snow and an unfrozen Cheakamus Lake caused the approach to be changed to Singing Pass. Thus, the party left the Whistler Village parking lot at 8 a.m. and headed up the trail under overcast skies. Higher up the clouds and snow descended and the wind strengthened. A genuine blizzard. Steve managed to navigate straight to the Russet Lake Cabin, whereas the rest of the party made an impromptu visit to Adit Lakes en route to the hut. Brian claimed that he had always wanted to visit the lakes anyway.

The blizzard continued during the night, abating somewhat the next day. However, the morning was still stormy, and there appeared to be a unanimous decision not to continue on to Sir Richard, but rather to ski around the cabin. So, we set off up Whirlwind, reaching the summit in a whiteout. This was followed by a magnificent ski back to the cabin for lunch.

Just as we were about to set off again after lunch, a helicopter landed right beside the cabin depositing 4 people. This provoked an intense reaction on our part. Fists were shaken at the chopper, snowballs were thrown, the occupants were told that they weren't welcome and that they should go elsewhere. They just barged in and established themselves, causing Brian to go outside and pitch his tent. A fierce verbal argument followed, during which it became obvious that the chopper group were completely insensitive to wilderness values, or to the rights of other parties such as ours in the mountains. In anger and frustration, we set off for another ascent and descent of Whirlwind with an occasional patch of sun making the powder skiing a delight, in spite of the other group. We noted with some pleasure, that none of them could ski very well.

After a tense night, the following day dawned clear and sunny, so we decided to ski up Overlord and adjacent peaks. From the Whirlwind - Fissile col, we traversed down to the base of Refuse Pinnacle. The Pinnacle offered a shorter route to Overlord, so we began skiing up. However, the steep cauliflower-like snow soon caused us to strap skis to our packs and continue up on foot. Refuse Pinnacle might be a bit of a rubble heap in summer, but in winter, it takes on the appearance of an impressive Andean peak. As usual, Brian was leading. Just beyond the summit of the Pinnacle, he set off a cornice and plummeted with it down the almost vertical face to the Overlord Glacier. When he hit the steep snow below the face, a huge slab avalanche was set off with Brian, fortunately, on top. Steve set off to ski around Overlord to reach him, while the rest of us made a couple of attempts to get to the top of the face to see if Brian was all right. A belay was necessary. The view down the face was horrific, but Brian returned a shout, saying that he was okay, apart from an injured arm. He had fallen about 150 - 200 m and was fortunate to have had so much soft snow around.

The rest of us then skied up and around Overlord, causing a couple of slopes to settle in a very disconcerting fashion. By the time we reached the Overlord Glacier, Brian and Steve were well on their way back to the cabin. At the cabin, we packed up, distributed Brian's gear, put his arm in a sling, then skied back to Singing Pass and down the trail, passing about 10 people who had come to the cabin. It is unfortunate that one now has to pray for bad weather if one wishes to avoid people at the cabin.

The ski down was uneventful. The usual post trip dinner was replaced with a visit to the Squamish Hospital, where Brian was found to have a relatively minor injury of a broken arm. Thus ended an overly eventful trip. However, the completely unrestricted use of helicopters in Garibaldi Park must be stopped soon if we want to enjoy the area in winter as we once used to enjoy it.

Party -- Maria Burda, Tom Moskven, Steve Grant, Brian Vezina, Evelyn Feller, and Michael Feller (Leader and Reporter).

Callaghan - Tricouni, 9 - 10 April

After changing the trip destination from Manning Park to Mt. Callaghan, the party found that the road up the Squamish was closed since the Bailey Bridge at Cheekye was being moved.

After a brief conference, we decided to try Tricouni via the Garibaldi Station access roads and drove to 2 km short of the road end. After 2 hours, we pitched camp in the meadow and skied on toward Tricouni. Avalanche debris, deteriorating weather, and poor skiing potential made the skiing less than desirable, so we returned to break camp, returning to the cars the same evening.

Party -- Jim Sibley, Peter Gumplinger, Randy Enomoto, Murray Lashmar, Charles Alton, Bruce Landels, and Paul Kubik (Leader and Reporter).

Mt. Shuksan, 16 - 17 April

We met at 10 a.m. in Concrete, everyone being early since the leader was pessimistic about the driving time. Roads around Baker Lake and up to the first minor washout on the road into the Shannon Creek drainage were in good shape and passable for about another 1 km from there by Tom's 4WD.

A half hour's walking to the first switchback, just above the east fork of Shannon Creek got us to continuous snow, and a steady climb soon placed us on top of this ridge at 1400 m. We decided to ascend the open slopes into a notch at a little over 1500 m, and camped there as the route from there traversed a steep slope, which had already spawned a sizeable slab avalanche that morning. Much excavating and wall building created a comfortable home for the night.

At 6:30 a.m. next morning, we safely crossed the now well-frozen slope. Superb views unfolded as we steadily ascended to the base of the summit pyramid, where it was warm and sheltered. Big bucket steps were easily kicked up the gully to the top, where the gale blowing persuaded us to descend quickly to lunch and a sunbathe at the base! A great ski down on the gentle glacier (ideal for telemarking) soon saw us back in camp, and apart from one very soggy logged patch, the ski back from there was also good.

Party -- Ray Norman, Bob Koen, Karl Ricker, Scott Hagarty, Maria Burda, Tom Moskven, Peter Gumplinger, Randy Enomoto, and John Gray (Leader and Reporter).

Mt. Davidson, 16 - 17 April

We left the cars at 10 a.m. under bright sunny skies. We had lunch near the lookout and then made our way to Garibaldi Lake. Tim, John, and Robin decided to be enterprising and followed the creek to the Lake. This involved climbing over boulder and traversing the steep gully above the creek. Not recommended. The rest of us followed the trail. We arrived at Sphinx Hut around 4 p.m.

On Sunday, we got an early 6 a.m. start. It took 3 hours to get to the notch beside Phyllis Engine. Davidson did not look very impressive and quite distant from this vantage point. A mutiny was instigated by Chris and carried out by Cathy and Robin. There were mutterings of insignificant bumps and too few points. Steve, Tim, and I headed off for the summit to ensure success. After crossing the Cheakamus Glacier, we started up the ridge. Steve remarked, "I don't like this!" (A comment on the exposure.) We continued on for another few minutes when Steve commented, "This is dangerous!" (A déjà vu flashback to the Sir Richard trip.) We proceeded until just below the summit where we encountered snow covered gendarmes. At this point, Steve packed it in and became a spectator. I gave Tim a belay, but conditions were too poor. The snow on the rock and lack of more hardware and time suggested a hasty retreat. We returned over Mt. Carr which the others had already climbed and then skied back to camp. The ski run was fantastic. We came back to camp to find Robin lying under his black sleeping bag, Cathy suntanning, and Chris relaxing in the tent. When Chris found out that Castle Towers was higher than Carr, he became quite agitated, all the time yelling, "Robin, Robin! We've been ripped off! Ripped off!" The leader had misinformed him as to the true relationship of the summits so that maximum points could not be achieved.

On the ski out, a great race was held pitting cross country and downhill skier in neck and neck competition. Every time a corner was missed, the lead was taken over. After 5 minutes, half the trail had been descended and the snow was getting very thin. A tie was finally declared when the patches with no snow were longer than the patches with snow. The trip ended with a fine meal at Mykonos.

Party -- Chris Kubinsky, Steve Grant, Robin Tivy, Tim Ryan, John Stinson, Cathy Baxendale, Bill Maurer (Leader and Reporter).

Mt. Meager, 30 April - 1 May

The budding "Meagerites" all met at the Pemberton Hotel Cafe. As usual, the leader's most difficult task was to relocate the charges away from French toast and pancakes and into cars pointed in the correct direction. The approach to camp was short and uneventful. By 5 p.m., camp was set up at the treeline, with the usual complaints of dropping property values and desreputable neighbours (sounds like the "barrio"-ed).

Amid amazingly little grumbling, people were woken at 5 a.m. By 6:15, everyone was away with the weather looking as promising as Saturday's had been. Everyone except Ross and Erich carried their skis to the top of Devastation Glacier. Here, the party split into 2 with both Capricornites and Meagerites being successful in their summit bids. Deteriorating weather resulted in everyone returning to camp by mid afternoon. Everyone reached the cars by 5 p.m. Most of the party freshened up in the hot springs prior to departure. The drive home led once again to the most nerve-wracking decision of the weekend -- what to eat!

Party -- Murray Lashmar, Evelyn Feller, Irene Goldstone, Ross Wyborn, John Halliday, Wayne Saunders, Jane Weller, Peter Ravensbergen, Erich and Ehleen Hinze (Leader and Reporter).