

BC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2002

VOL. 80 NO. 10



Skiing on the Phelix-McGillivray divide.

EVENING SOCIALS

Evening socials are usually held in the ANZA club, upstairs room (corner of 8th Ave. and Ontario, Vancouver) starting at 7:30 p.m. Cookies, tea, and coffee are provided

Tuesday, 10 December - Entertainment will be a slide show by Marcus Dell on a recent mountaineering trip to Denali, North America's highest mountain.

Tuesday, 14 January - Entertainment will be a slide show by Dave and Dave (Hughes and Scanlon) who will present last year's summer camps to the Ape Lake and Bendor Range areas.



Denali.



HONORARY PRESIDENTS - Esther and Martin Kafer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT -	KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462		
PAST-PRESIDENT -	DAVE HUGHES	604-980-6484	CABIN / TRAILS -	BRIAN STEEVES 604-408-4889
VICE-PRESIDENT -	MONIKA BITTEL	604-983-3097	CONSERVATION -	BRIAN WOOD 604-222-1541
SECRETARY -	CAROLINE HART	778-882-6297		MONIKA BITTEL 604-983-3097
TREASURER -	TODD PONZINI	604-983-2612	SUMMER CAMP -	DAVID SCANLON 604-464-3730
MEMBERSHIP/MAILING -		604-268-9502	WEBMASTER -	MICHAEL McCRAE 604-326-0156
	TAMMIE SIBBALD	604-877-0344	EDITOR -	MICHAEL FELLER 604-270-4050
	MIRELLA LIOCE	604-736-5079		
SOCIALS -	DONNA BAILIE	604-572-5051	EQUIPMENT -	PAUL KUBIK 604-876-0764
	PAM KRANNITZ	604-946-9942	SAFETY EQUIPMENT -	
CLIMBING -	PETER GUMPLINGER	604-733-8264		KIT GRIFFIN 604-736-8462
	ANDERS OUROM	604-228-1798	LIBRARY -	JOAN FORD 604-876-4255

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The **BC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER** is an official publication of the B.C. Mountaineering Club and is published 10 times per year (every month except July and September).

Submissions - of any written, drawn, or photographic material relevant to the B.C. Mountaineering Club are welcome. If possible, submissions should be sent to the editor by email or on a diskette. Deadline for submissions is the first Tuesday of the month preceding the publication month. Send submissions to Michael Feller (email - feller@interchg.ubc.ca, ph. 604-270-4050).

Editorial policy - All submitted written material relevant to the B.C. Mountaineering Club will be published unless the club executive decides otherwise. Submitted material may be edited for clarity or brevity, or for consistency with club policies.

Opinions and comments expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the B.C. Mountaineering Club.

SCHEDULED TRIPS

Participation on club trips is open to any person with adequate skills and experience, subject to the approval of the trip organizer. All non-member participants must sign a disclosure and waiver form relieving the club and all other participants on the trip from any liability. A trip organizer is not a certified guide. The function of the organizer is to organize the trip, ensure that it gets underway, know the access to the area, and know a route or routes on the climb.

It is expected that each person on a club trip has the necessary skills, experience, fitness, and equipment. The organizer may specify certain equipment mandatory for participation in a trip. Any person who attempts to participate in a club trip without such mandatory equipment, may be requested to withdraw from the trip. The club has avalanche transceivers and snow shovels available for hire. These may be obtained by contacting Kit Griffin at 604-736-8462 prior to the Thursday before the weekend the equipment is wanted. Each person on a club trip is responsible for his or her own safety and for checking the equipment used. Please be considerate and call the trip organizer by Thursday evening for weekend trips, and by Friday for Sunday trips. If you are given a ride, please remember to pay the driver your portion of the car costs. If you decide not to go on a trip for which you have previously registered, please be courteous and inform the trip organizer.

All scheduled trips are ski trips unless otherwise indicated.

		ORGANIZER	
December 1-6: Mexico. Hiking and/or climbing far to the sunny south. Contact the organizer for more details.	?	Marsha Ablowitz	604-261-8953
December 7: Dam Mtn. Skiing or hiking in the Grouse Mtn. area, in Vancouver's North Shore mountains.	B2-3/1341 m	Peter Gumplinger	604-733-8264
December 8: Zoa Pk. Easy early season skiing in the Coquihalla area.	A2/1860 m	Susan D'Aloisio	604-434-9605
December 14-15: Three Brothers area Skiing in Manning Park.	B2-3	Jos van der Burg	604-463-7582
December 15: Diamond Head Early winter skiing in Garibaldi park.	A2	Anders Ourom	604-228-1798
January 11: Howe Sound Crest Trail Skiing from Cypress park above Howe Sound.	B3	Jos van der Burg	604-463-7582
January 12: Mt. Sproatt Skiing near Whistler	B2-3/1844 m	Monika Bittel	604-983-3097
January 12: Zoa Pk. More easy skiing in the Coquihalla area.	A2/1860 m	Brian Gavin	604-929-0675

MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees for 2002/2003 are now due.

Membership fees for 2002/2003 are now due. If you do not pay your dues, THIS NEWSLETTER WILL BE THE LAST ONE YOU WILL RECEIVE. You should fill out the yellow renewal form accompanying the November newsletter, indicate if you would like to receive the newsletter by email, read and sign the

waiver on the reverse side, then send the form with the appropriate dues to the club. Membership dues were increased at the October monthly meeting, and are now -

Single	\$45	Junior	\$20
Couples	\$68	Life	\$800

Marguerite Marie Himmelsbach 1920-2002. In memoriam

A longtime member of the club, Marie Himmelsbach, passed away September 30. Her enthusiasm towards the outdoors was shared with all of her friends and family. Moving to the lower mainland from Saskatchewan, it was natural that she turned her energy towards our many peaks. Marie and her future husband, Werner joined the club in the mid-fifties. During the hut building years of the late sixties - early seventies, she helped procure the building supplies. Her organizational skills enabled her to raise two children while the pre-fab huts went up in her yard. When she could no longer go on climbs, she still enjoyed the company of her fellow mountaineers - and the inevitable slide shows. Marie was very grateful to all the club members who visited her during her final hospital stay.

The club thanks Werner for this note and sends it's condolences to him, family, and friends.

BCMC CENTENNIAL FUND OUTDOOR RECREATION GEAR AND LITERATURE SWAP, AT MONTHLY MEETING - 14 JANUARY 2003

This will be your chance to DONATE (yes, give not sell) your old outdoor recreation gear, books and magazines, to the Club, which will then try to sell them to those at the meeting to raise funds for the Club's Centennial celebrations in 2007. This benevolent act will enable you to practise the noble art of recycling, while simultaneously providing more room at home to store all those new goodies you received for Christmas.

The "outdoor recreation" limitation applies to the literature too. Because many of you do other outdoor activities, "outdoor recreation" should include cycling,

kayaking etc., and not just mountaineering stuff.

Please bring your gear/literature donations to that meeting, marked with a price that you feel is fair, and your name if you wish the item to be returned to you if it does not sell. Otherwise, stuff that does not sell will be donated to a worthwhile cause. I feel that it is probably better to sell something for a little less than you think it is worth, because the Club Centennial Fund is not in good shape yet, and we have only 4 more years.

If you have any queries, suggestions, or would like to help, please contact Brian Wood at 604-222-1541, or email: bjwood@axion.net

REPORTS FROM THE 2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2002 AGM was held on 12 November. More than 120 people were present, with a quorum of approximately 50 voting members. A new executive (see front page) was appointed; members were again partly entertained by reports from members of the previous executive, but primarily by Kathryn Bridge who gave

an absolutely excellent and moving slide show on Phyllis Munday. Kathryn's biography of Phyllis Munday sold extremely well after the talk. Some reports presented at the AGM follow. Further reports will be in the January newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – by David Hughes

I am reporting to you for the last time as your President. I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure over the last four years. I have been fortunate to have an Executive and a keen group of members who have worked hard to make the Club work better and more effectively for you.

The last few years has seen the Club's membership grow to over 500. More importantly, member participation in Club activities including weekend trips, camps, club courses and attendance at monthly socials has increased. Thanks to our enthusiastic membership leaders Mike Peel, Tammie Sibbald and Mirella Lioce. Two important member events need to be reported again. First, Mary Willis was elected to honorary membership this last winter. Mary's long period of contribution was discovered, as a result of our three year archive project. Unfortunately Mary re-

cently passed away and we are sorry she was not recognized sooner. Second, we would like to again thank Hugh Aikens, who bequeathed a sizable donation to the Club this last year.

A cornerstone of the Club's programs and initiatives has been the expansion of our trip schedules and our winter and summer course offerings. It is the Executive's objective to offer a wide variety of trips that appeal to all aspects of mountaineering from easy short hikes to the more challenging and technical multi-day day climbs and ski trips. We always need more volunteers.

This past year the Club was able to offer wilderness first aid and winter and summer mountaineering courses including: ski mountaineering, introduction to ski touring, winter leaders training, beginner rock,

rock refresher, intermediate climbing and general mountaineering. I would like to particularly thank Dave Morriss, our Climbing Chair, and our course leaders - Kit Griffin, Ian Hopper, Greg Hamilton, Anders Ourom, Miles Quesnel, Darryl Malby and Carol Kucel and the many others - for helping out. These courses and the enthusiastic support by members have gone a long way to increasing our membership and helping people to partake safely in mountaineering activities.

We were able to hold three summer camps again this year. Peter Woodsworth organized the Tantalus climbing camp and David Scanlon repeated the popular Bendor range camp. I was able to arrange a second climbing camp to the Ape Lake area with a successful side excursion to Mt. Talchako. Many thanks to the organizers and the great participants.

Significant improvements were made to the Club's website this year. Through the hard work of Michael McCrae and the strong support of Robin Tivy at Bluesoft, the Club's website "bcmc.ca" has been continually upgraded throughout the year. We are in the process of making the website's members list an effective working document. Members, and members only, can access the list to ensure that their address and other information is kept up to date. We have started the process to make the website an interactive tool for the Executive and the members. We are planning to make the web data base our primary membership data base which will allow us to:

- e-mail the newsletter to a majority of the members
- streamline the selection and finding of trip leaders for our summer and winter trips and our courses
- assist the members in accessing our library and newly updated archives

The Club's social committee has again been one of our most enthusiastic committees. Besides organizing our great monthly entertainment, the Social committee has successfully continued our Club T-shirts program and they have other goodies in store for the future. Out thanks to Donna Bailie and Darryl Malby. The Club has also had several trail clearing trips this year as a result of the work of Ian Hopper and Paul Kubik.

We have been able to keep our operations self-sustaining since 1996 through our growth in membership, contributions from our courses and our royalty income from guide books. At the last meeting the membership voted overwhelmingly to raise dues to fund increasing operating costs and to provide an additional \$3 per full member to the FMCBC. The small operating surplus and the Hugh Aiken donation should enable us to continue investing in new initiatives such as the website and archives projects. We also have funds available for cabin sites and guide books.

The Conservation Committee, lead by Monika Bittel and Brian Wood, has participated actively with the FMCBC in representing our interest on a large number of access and conservation issues. The committee has put considerable time and effort into our ongoing negotiations in the Sea to Sky Corridor backcountry forum. The BCMC and FMCBC are making progress in securing areas for non-motorized recreation in the Sea to Sky Corridor and the Lillooet to Spruce Lake region.

We must continue to encourage new members and greater member participation. A number of committees including: climbing, web, trails, social and membership could use your help. Why not get more active and participate on one of these committees? Please encourage your friends to join and help support new and less experienced members.

A number of your Executive is stepping down this year including Marcia, who has one of the most important and least appreciated tasks as Treasurer and accountant. I would like to acknowledge and thank these Executive members who are now stepping down: Marcia Collier - Treasurer, Ian Hopper - Cabin and Trails, Dave Morriss - Climbing, and Darryl Malby - Social

I would like to especially thank the following Executive members for their tremendous support and unending effort to make this a better Club. Kit Griffin for his work with our courses and his enthusiasm and support; Michael Feller who continues working countless

hours for the Club, produces the Club publications and single handedly is recording the Club history; Monika Bittel for her counsel and being an excellent conservation spokesperson; Anders Ourom for remaining active as your Past Presi-

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – by Kit Griffin

I'm very pleased to report that a number of activities went well for the club this year.

We developed a one-day ski program for BCMC members who were relatively good skiers and who wanted to experience backcountry skiing in a controlled environment. This was an opportunity for them to learn the basics of beacon searching and easy terrain travelling - with active trip organizers - without committing to a multi-day ski mountaineering program; which could be too advanced.

I'd like to thank Darryl Malby, Dave Morriss and Carol Kucel for running and assisting with these programs. The feedback we received was excellent and I hope we can arrange them again this coming season.

About the same time in the year we organized a ski-leadership program - as we do every year. This was a great opportunity for BCMC trip organizers to ski with a professional ski guide for two days covering the logistics of coordinating a backcountry ski trip.

In April and May we arranged a one-day Introduction to top-roping and a two-day advanced top roping program. My sincere thanks to all who participated and

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT – by Anders Ourom

It has been another successful year for our club. Membership in the BCMC has grown, as have club activity and skill levels. There have been some minor growing pains, but the executive has worked hard, and thought and debated a lot, over the last year, to help make it a success.

As Dave Hughes is stepping down as president, I will cease being past-president at the Annual General

Meeting and being undaunting in his support for the Club; I look forward to a new President and Executive to bring fresh ideas and a continuation of our initiatives with enthusiasm and leadership. I have made many new friends and received great support. Thank you!

Meeting, particularly: Paul Miller, Jack Pals, Robert Kellington, Caroline Hart, Todd Belcher, Elena Ouliankina and Fern Webb. I'd also like to thank Anders Ourom, Jeff Rabinovitch and Nana Zalbrod for helping put together the new format of club top roping.

Several of the members who attended the top roping program went on to the Mountaineering Program - my thanks to Miles Quesnel and his volunteers for arranging that.

After the programs the newer members of the BCMC are encouraged to contact Active Members so the club Trip List can be created for Summer and Winter - this to me is the perfect opportunity to accept from the club and return the favour.

Next year I hope to see the newer members contributing where they can and upgrading their skill whenever possible. Canada West Mountain School and the local guides run excellent programs and I'd encourage all to consider taking advanced courses with them.

In closing I'd like to say, "Thank you" to the membership and Executive. It's a pleasure working with you.

Meeting. In my four years as past-president, the position has evolved into an informal ambassador at large for the BCMC. I have remained active in the club, particularly with programs, but have also been involved in organizations in which the club has an interest, particularly the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival and the Climbers' Access Society of B.C. Both groups have grown considerably, and are quite busy and effective.

Modernizing the constitution and bylaws is a remaining challenge. Some work was done on this a few years ago, and again very recently by Monika Bittel. There will likely yet be further debate and consideration of this subject. We can put patches on what is already a rather patched garment - the constitution and bylaws date to the 1920s, with some later changes. Sadly, the requirements of the Society Act and the Registrar have changed considerably in the last 70 years, and tinkering probably won't do the job. The proposed constitution and bylaws won't run on the new operating system (Act). It would be like trying to maintain Windows 3.1 on your old 386 -neither is supported by the manufacturers, and you have to modernize.

CLIMBING REPORT – by Dave Morriss

Once again, over the past year a large selection of trips and activities were made available to club members.

Mountaineering, rock climbing and skiing courses were again offered to members who wished to increase their skill level and enjoyment of the great outdoors. Without the commitment and hard work of our band of volunteers none of these activities could take place, so we would like to thank those concerned: Kit Griffin for Rock Beginners, Anders Ourom for Rock Intermediate, Miles Quesnel for Mountaineering, Greg Hamilton for Winter Mountaineering and in turn their band of volunteer helpers who gave their time and energy for the benefit of the membership.

A new course was also introduced this year, which proved very successful and well attended. An introduction to backcountry skiing was aimed at downhill skiers who wanted to venture beyond the lifts. A big thanks to Darryl Malby and Carol Kucel for taking on

Winter-spring 2001/2002 trip statistics

	1 day	2 day	3+ day	totals
Go	27	17	10	54
No Go	8	19	1	28
Number Uncertain	6	6	1	13
Average Number of club members per trip	5.9	6.4	6.4	6.2
Average no. of non club members	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2
Average no. of participants per trip	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.5

In my view, it is important to change the constitution to emphasize that the BCMC's main object is low-impact recreation in the mountains of B.C. Climbing, hiking, mountaineering, ice climbing, rock climbing, expeditions, and backcountry skiing, snowshoeing and snowboarding. Tangential interests, such as mountain access and conservation, are of secondary importance. If we do not do this we risk the fate of the Sierra Club. 40 years ago it was one of the U.S.'s leading mountaineering clubs, and its chiefs, such as John Muir and David Brower, were in their time leading mountaineers. It has now become solely an environmental organization, and one that at times is anti-mountaineering.

these new courses and hopefully they will be offered again.

The forthcoming Winter/Spring schedule is nearing completion and our team of volunteers is still in the process of calling members to elicit trips for the coming season. I would like to ask members to assist our phone volunteers by replying to any phone messages or emails. Even if you cannot offer a trip this time, an acknowledgement would save you and our volunteers' further calls. I cannot thank our phone team enough for their efforts so far. A huge rise in telemarketing and junk email has made collecting trips a difficult task. Thanks to our phone team consisting of Jack Pals, Murray Lashmar, Tammie Sibbald, Darryl Malby, Mike McCrae, Peter Gumplinger, Liam "The Outdoorsman", Theresa Tham, Steve Tate, Alice Obermajer, Jack Bryceland, Niki Vanker, Wendy Holmes and J.P. Also to the members who emailed directly, saving these good folks additional calls.

TREASURER'S REPORT – by Marcia Collier

Revenue and Expenses from the General Fund for the year ending 30 September 2002, with comparative figures for previous years.

	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
REVENUE								
Membership dues	15,917	16,919	16,168	13,252	11,390	12,390	11,720	8,300
Interest income	2,723	4,195	3,049	3,347	933	1,592	2,955	3,070
Equipment rental, cabin fees	375	285	583	705	460	322	1,315	766
Smoke Bluffs project/T-shirt sales	218	111	—	425	1,115	(94)	—	—
Instruction courses (net) - ski	1,385	1,112	1,814	843	1,576	1,710	1,248	1,458
- summer	4,410	2,313	2,809	3,284	—	—	—	—
Ski mntg. course revenue used for Pieps purchase	—	—	—	—	400	—	803	—
Centennial fund contributions	80	—	75	670	80	144	70	157
Publication sales/advertising	17	994	—	474	36	260	42	250
Camps (net)	230	758	409	665	219	0	9	—
Other	—	86	300	—	45	80	—	0
Bequests	9000	—	—	1933	39,312	—	—	—
Total Revenue (after bequests)	25,275	26,773	25,207	23,665	16,254	16,404	18,162	14,000
EXPENSES								
Publications								
Mountaineer	4,004	4,574	3,016	3,175	5,344	0	4,876	61
Brochures, constitution, etc.	—	—	—	570	—	—	—	—
Newsletter	7,627	6,396	5,338	4,463	4,585	4,669	4,415	4,364
Total publications	11,631	10,970	8,354	8,208	9,929	4,669	9,291	4,425
Website	1,268	978	1,400	—	—	—	—	—
Social activities (net)	1,530	1,478	1,240	1,363	1,680	1,658	735	1,240
Postage and stationary	3,003	2,190	2,346	1,970	189	1,498	2,601	1,494
Amortization of assets	1,052	1,081	1,055	508	890	943	1,001	1,197
Insurance + tax (cabin)	19	584	516	516	515	515	500	460
FMCBC and other memberships	4,040	4,284	4,334	4,944	3,580	3,317	3,516	3,654
Radio licence	124	151	219	178	184	146	156	148
Cabin	43	27	50	50	121	65	64	328
Equipment repair/replacement	—	—	82	—	93	34	—	—
Conservation	500	—	—	—	—	550	194	351
Voice mail	252	59	291	198	193	192	179	141
Miscellaneous	295	253	61	25	40	337	531	385
Donations	719	1,946	2,250	464	200	—	—	—
Courses	48	—	—	485	—	—	—	—
Archives	1005	2,023	7,123	—	—	—	—	—
Total expenses	24,524	25,988	29,322	18,909	17,614	13,924	18,769	13,683
Surplus (deficit) of Revenue over Expenses (after bequests and archives expenses)								
	751	785	3,009	4,756	(1,360)	2,480	(607)	318
MEMBER'S EQUITY FOR ALL CLUB FUNDS								
General Fund (excl. Cent.)	64,504	66,040	56,794	61,188	57,181	18,582	9,445	7,929
Literary and Reserve Fund	37,530	37,236	35,564	34,687	32,981	39,390	36,493	38,622
Life Membership Fund	8,650	8,650	8,750	8,750	8,650	7,850	7,850	7,850
Senior and Honorary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Membership Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,571	9,571
Centennial Fund	7,122	6,737	4,365	3,994	3,162	2,914	2,626	2,267
Total	117,806	118,663	105,473	108,619	101,974	68,736	63,359	66,238

EDITOR'S REPORT – by Michael Feller

During the last year we produced our usual 10 newsletters containing 116 pages. (See table below). After several years of increasing space devoted to trip reports, a major decline occurred this year, to the lowest level in 4 years. This was offset by a slight increase in space devoted to club news and a large increase in space devoted to features. The features were the articles on threats to the mountains and wilderness as well as club history. The newsletter is now placed on the club website and newsletters suitable for emailing have finally been produced. All contributors to the newsletter deserve thanks, particularly Kit Griffin, Paul Kubik, Anders Ourom, Greg Stoltmann, Jos van der Burg, and Brian Wood.

Thanks are also due to Susan Ratson for typing, Evelyn Feller and members of the BCMC executive for assistance in stuffing newsletters into envelopes, and particularly to Mike Peel for producing vast quantities of envelopes for stuffing.

We also produced a B.C. Mountaineer which was notable for our first colour cover and a relatively late publication date. (the two are not related). Jason Brawn must be thanked for designing the cover and assisting with its production. Thanks are also due to Patsy Quay and Susan Ratson for typing, and to all contributors, but particularly Jack Bryceland, Brad Hansen, Dave Hughes, Mark Sanctuary, and Karl Ricker.

During the year your editor coordinated the shift in the club library from George Hamilton's to Joan Ford's house. George must be thanked for his long custodianship of the library and Joan must be thanked for volunteering to take it on. It is intended to produce a computerized searchable catalog of the contents of the library during the coming year.

Carrie Stevenson must again be thanked for continued work on the club archives, particularly in scanning and organizing the photographs of Charles Chapman, kindly lent to the club by Hugh Kellas.

Newsletter Total Number of pages (%)

	<u>2001/02</u>	<u>2000/01</u>	<u>1999/00</u>	<u>1998/99</u>	<u>1997/98</u>	<u>1996/97</u>	<u>1995/96</u>	<u>1994/95</u>	<u>1993/94</u>
Trip ads	10.5 (9)	11.5 (10)	15 (14)	11.5 (10)	12.5 (15)	12.5 (10)	16.5 (15)	11.5 (10)	16.5 (12)
Trip reports	22 (19)	30.5 (27)	28.5 (28)	24 (10)	17.5 (20)	16.5 (13)	17 (16)	15.5 (14)	27 (20)
Club news	43.5 (38)	40 (36)	26 (25)	41 (34)	33 (38)	36 (28)	39.5 (37)	41 (37)	50 (37)
Other news	24.5 (21)	24 (22)	28.5 (28)	39 (33)	19 (22)	35.5 (28)	19.5 (18)	25.5 (23)	29 (22)
Features	11 (9)	0 (0)	3.5 (3)	0 (0)	2.5 (3)	15.5 (12)	10.5 (10)	0 (0)	3 (2)
Equipment/ Technique	0 (0)	.5 (0)	2 (2)	4 (3)	0 (0)	4 (3)	1 (1)	0 (0)	1.5 (1)
Letters/ Reports	3.5 (3)	5.5 (5)	0 (0)	0.5 (0)	0.5 (1)	7.5 (6)	3.5 (3)	14 (13)	4 (3)
Book reviews	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)	3 (2)
Ads	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	2.5 (2)	0 (0)
Cartoons	0(0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.5 (0)
Total Pages	116	112	103.5	120	86	127.5	107.5	111	134.5

BCMC CLUB NEWS

One volume of club newsletters missing from library

A set of BCMC newsletters from 1995 to 1998, bound in a black cover, is missing from the club library. If you have this volume could please let your editor know.

Interested in cataloguing the contents of the club library?



If you are interested in cataloguing the contents of our club library, please contact your editor.

Addition to the 2002 B.C. Mountaineer

On P. 103 of the latest B.C. Mountaineer is a photo-mosaic of the S face of Mt. Sloan. The photographer was not acknowledged. It should be Karl Ricker, to whom your editor apologizes.

THREATS TO MOUNTAINS AND WILDERNESS 2002 - MOTORIZED TOURISM

The final comment in this newsletter in the 2002 International Year of Mountains is a comment on the threat of motorized tourism, specifically to B.C.'s mountains, given by none other than Reinhold Messner, at the recent Banff International Mountain Book Festival.

“Uncontrolled recreational activities in the mountains are causing serious threats to the wilderness of the mountains,” warned Messner, A European parliamentarian and a leader in the mountain wilderness movement. Messner is an advocate for the importance and protection of mountain ecosystems throughout the world. “In most European countries neither heli-skiing nor heli-hiking are allowed in the mountains because of the negative effects on the environment, noise, pollution of watersheds and safety issues. The opportunities to preserve mountain ecosystems throughout the world are diminishing. In mountains of British Columbia you still have the ability to be proactive, so why would you throw this possibility away?” he stated.

Messner has serious concerns about the impacts of unregulated wilderness recreation and tourism activities — such as heli-skiing, heli-hiking and snowmobiling — on sensitive mountain ecosystems and the wildlife they support. He recently discussed these issues, and the worsening situation in British Columbia, with Kat Hartwig, East Kootenay Environmental Society spokesperson on wilderness tourism issues.

The East Kootenay Environmental Society and the Global Nature Fund of Germany are working to inform the public of the serious threat unregulated wilderness tourism and recreation have on the ecological and wilderness values of British Columbia's mountain environments. The organizations are grateful for Reinhold Messner's voice in this effort.

For more information please contact Kat Hartwig 250-346-3036.

NEWS

Replacement of the 'Red Tit' shelter in the Tantalus group - update

"This writer determined that the leaky hut was a blight in a beautiful setting and wrote as much to the president of the ACC, Vancouver Section, suggesting that those responsible for the structure make it scarce or make it beautiful. I was summarily put in charge of a committee that after a couple of meetings chose the latter option. Our plan was enthusiastically endorsed and the action joined by the friends and family of Jim Haberl. They had been looking for a suitable memorial for this fine person and mountaineer who had perished in Alaska.

My original concept of a small stone hut standing in the Serratus-Dionne col was replaced with a slightly grander vision of a shelter for fourteen. Our design has a large and a smaller sleeping room, a kitchen, a sitting area, and storage for club and mountain resource equipment. These areas would be locked, with access to the public available with a reservation. An unlocked vestibule suitable to shelter up to four visitors who may not have reserved space but need protection from the elements is provided. There will be a fly out waste arrangement.

This will be a true mountaineering hut, not backcountry ski facility. The difficulty of access will naturally limit overuse of the surrounding environment while providing an excellent resource for introducing people to the mountains, honing skills in mountaineering, mountain rescue and ethos. The hut location, while supporting unique and challenging ski mountaineering projects, (emphasize mountaineering), will be removed from the blight of snowmobies by geography and park boundary.

Jim, who I first met in the early eighties, was a dedicated and compassionate human being. A mountain guide and skier, Jim was dedicated to bearing and sharing the spirit of a mountaineer. This hut in design and location will be a testament and a bequest of that spirit for future generations.

For more information on the hut, to comment, or if you want to participate in the project, I suggest you hook up to www.jimhaberlfund.org or call me at 604-922-0470."

Blair Mitten.

TRIP REPORTS

Summer Mountaineering Course 2002

This year's course started out with your typical tedious lecture on equipment. If not for the locks on the doors, bars on the windows, and all sharp objects in my possession, I am sure we would have had a revolt.

The next week's lecture needed more stimulation than I was prepared to supply, and class participation in the crevasse rescue demo was necessitated.

The first outing was a soggy weekend on Mount Seymour. Training went very well and we more than accomplished our goals early Sunday afternoon. Naturally, as all good instructors do, we had a follow up debriefing at the local watering hole.

The third and final lecture came with heavy anticipa-

tion about our first real overnight camping experience, near the Coleman Glacier at Mount Baker. The weather was perfect as we loaded the vehicles with gear, people, and favorite beverages. We nearly reached the trailhead parking lot via the road freshly plowed by Nick. We started up the trail and in no time had camp set. Training started right away with lowering people into crevasses and letting them prussik out. Then it was a brisk walk through the ice fields avoiding falling blocks and having an exceptional good time walking the maze of ice. The second day we intently spent going over crevasse rescue techniques. We all made the trek out just fine and raced back to the cars for the few cold beers that were being offered by the Aussie guru.

It was predetermined (we flipped a coin) that Matier and Joffre would be our mountains of choice for the

participant led final weekend. We arrived in the parking area under very slight snowfall and overcast skies.

The well-traveled trail is easy to follow, and in short time we had reached the cabin. After assembling tents and eating lunch, it was decided to attempt Joffre and return late evening. Two rope teams gathered to set the pro for the rest of the group. The winter ski route directed us towards the East face of Joffre. As the teams approached they stopped far below a rock face and decided to rope up on moderate ground. The next few minutes are a little scary and adult supervision is strongly advised!

At this point there were 6 course participants, 1 volunteer instructor and 2 independent climbers, (B.C.M.C. Members). There was a sound of rock fall and all eyes focused on the rock bluffs in the distance above. Seconds went by and they could not see anything. Just as they turned away a call came from someone approaching, "Avalanche ". The next few moments were spent in survival mode as the wave of snow barreled down and collected all 9.

Bringing up the rear I received a call on the radio that an avalanche had occurred but everyone was standing up. I confirmed that they were all on their feet and passed it off as a small wet point release. When I arrived above the ridge it was brought to my attention that it had been a slab release (cat2). At this point it hit me that I could have lost several people in this and was considerably upset by the reality of the situation. My emotions were running high, some frustrations were taken out on a volunteer instructor who was trying to get everyone to safety, for that I am sorry! It was apparent that the people involved were shaken and it was time to turn back for the safety of camp. A few of us made a pass over the debris field to look for lost gear (none was found this day but we were rewarded 1 week later when nearly all items were recovered) Heading back down, the stories of partial burials fogged my mind and I started to consider the significance of the event. It was quiet as I reached camp, there was a sterile field set up and a hand being sutured by a qualified participant—Thank You! An ice axe had made its mark on Marielle during the avalanche.

As we settled in for the evening my thoughts turned towards the emotions of all the people in the course. "The Karma gods were looking out for us today." A comment written by Mirissa, who was a source of inspiration throughout the course. Spirits were high that evening as we celebrated Nick's birthday. The group came together as a unit and decided to celebrate with vitality, and all the alcohol stored in their packs.

After the previous day's events it we decided to have some fun and go for a lower angle peak — Vantage. We set off and cautiously made our way up the snow slopes. After some scrambling and climbing we reached the summit in a few hours. Rewarded by the stunning view and balmy temperatures we ate lunch and lounged on top for an hour. Following the ridgeline to the bottom of the moraine was a pleasant descent.

Packing up back at camp became a boisterous affair with a very large snowball fight encompassing the whole group. As the group walked away with their heavy packs on I personally made sure to get the last volley away and managed to scare a few into fits of laughter. The walk out was uneventful, and after some discussion at the parking area it was decided we would meet in Whistler for dinner.

The follow up party was held at Mirissa's home 2 weeks later. Tom supplied the keg of beer, which kept many in high spirits throughout the night. The evening was filled with positive memories of the course and plans for all participants to climb favored mountains in the near future.

Special Thanks to all course participants and volunteers who made this adventure an enjoyable experience.

Participants: Ondre Mecl, Carl Van Maarseveen, Tom Marvan, Dan Lord, Robert Livingstone, Kelly Zibrik, Mirissa Marining, Daniel Provencher, Marielle Chabot, Lani Gibson, Flavio Wasniewski, Ryan Bougie, Michael Dorotich, Jason Stauffer, Nikki Ducharme.

Volunteers: Mirella Lioce, Daryl Malby, Paul Morton, Nick Ranicar, and Miles Quesnel (Reporter).