

BC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2002

VOL. 80 NO. 5



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. Please bring your own cups to socials if you wish to drink the free tea or coffee provided.

Tuesday, 14 May - Entertainment will be a slide show by John Sapac and Jenny Faulkner on Baffin Island scrambles.

Tuesday, 11 June - Entertainment will be a slide show by Monika Bittel on an expedition to Shishapangma in Tibet.

Spring skiing beneath Mt. Tait on the Lord Glacier



Baffin Island fjord.



HONORARY PRESIDENTS - Esther and Martin Kafer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT -	DAVE HUGHES	604-980-6484	CABIN / TRAILS -	IAN HOPPER	604-929-3720
PAST-PRESIDENT -	ANDERS OUROM	604-228-1798	CONSERVATION -	BRIAN WOOD	604-222-1541
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	TAMMIE SIBBALD	604-877-0344			
SOCIALS -	DARRYL MALBY	604-709-0051	EQUIPMENT -	PAUL KUBIK	604-876-0764
	DONNA BAILIE	604-572-5051	SAFETY EQUIPMENT -		
CLIMBING -	MARGARET HANSON	604-736-6397		KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462
	KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462	LIBRARY -	GEORGE HAMILTON	604-988-1888
	DAVE MORRISS	604-732-9896			

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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. 270-4050).

Editorial policy - All submitted 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 transceivers are 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.

		ORGANIZER	
May 4-5: Three Bears Mtn. Extended skiing to the Snowcap Lake area, deep in Garibaldi Park.	C-D3/2345 m	Todd Ponzini	604-983-2612
May 5: Stawamus Chief/Smoke Bluffs Hiking the Chief and rock climbing near Squamish.	A2-5	Mirella Lioce	604-736-5079
May 11: Brunswick Mtn. Skiing above Howe Sound.	C3/1785 m	Aki Nagai	604-986-2756
May 11-12: Cerise Ck. Skiing off the Duffey Lake road.	B3	Murray Lashmar	604-221-4183
May 18-20: Rock climbing Contact the organizer for more details.	A5	Dave Morriss	604-732-9896
May 18-20: Mts. Adams and St. Helens Classic extended volcano skiing in southern Washington.	C3/3742 m	Peter Gumplinger	604-733-8264
May 18-20: Mt. Garibaldi Ascending this prominent peak in Garibaldi park near Squamish, via Brohm Ridge.	B3(4)/2678 m	Rhys Gibb	604-294-3792
May 25: Sky Pilot Mtn. Skiing and rock climbing above Howe Sound.	C3/2025 m	Marsha Ablowitz	604-261-8953
May 26: Petgill Lake (hike) Hiking above Howe Sound.	B2	John Kho	604-733-7897
May 26: Blanshard Pk. Skiing and rock climbing in Golden Ears park in the Lower Fraser valley.	C4/1560 m	Emanuele Porra	604-533-7723
June 2: Mt. Gardner (hike) Hiking on Bowen Island.	B2/719 m	Pam Krannitz	604-946-9942
June 2: Blanshard Pk. More skiing and rock climbing in Golden Ears park.	C4/1560 m	Reinhard Fabische	604-462-9638
June 8: Anvil Island (hike) Hiking on another island, with access by water taxi.	B2	Mike Peel	604-444-4068
June 8-9: Mt. Baker Ice/steep snow ascent by the N Ridge. Contact the organizer by phone no later than the preceding Wednesday night.	C5/3286 m	Anders Ourom	604-228-1798
June 8-9: Silvertip Mtn. Scrambling south of Hope.	C3/2610 m	Emanuele Porra	604-533-7723
June 9: Cypress park (hike) Easy family hike (children age 3+) above West Vancouver.	A1	Peter Oostlander	604-451-4585

BCMC SUMMER CAMPS, 2002

**1. 5th Annual Lake Lovely Water Summer Camp:
13-21 July.**

Seven days of mountaineering in the glorious Tantalus Range (map ref. 92G/14) with routes to charm the beginner to the advanced. Accommodation is in the luxurious A.C.C. cabin with swimming and boating at the doorstep. This is a self-guided cam for club members. \$275 covers helicopter in and out and hut rental. For information and registration call Peter Woodsworth at 604-254-7076.

2. Bendor Range-Mt. Truax area, 11-19 August

Following last year's highly successful camp in the Bendor Range, Dave is offering a repeat - This is a minimal cost, hike in and out camp offering a variety of hiking and climbing possibilities, with lots for everyone. Participants must be club members at the time of application and must be physically fit. For information and registration, contact David Scanlon at 464-3730.

3. Climbing Camp to northern end of the Monarch Icecap, 3-11 August

If you missed last year's climbing camp to Ape Lake you have a second chance. David Hughes is planning a trip to climb Mt. Talchako which is east of

Ape Lake. The trip could be combined with a climbing camp to the Ape Lake area which has lots of moderate to difficult climbing available. For further information contact David Hughes at 604-980-6484.

SUMMER MOUNTAINEERING AND CLIMBING PROGRAM

This summer the club will offer several experience-based instructional programs, particularly for members who want to upgrade their skills. The programs are economical, and are taught by club volunteers (they are not professional guides). The emphasis of the programs is skills, self-reliance, and individual responsibility and initiative.

Prerequisites:

- ◆ Current membership in the BCMC (i.e. 2001-2002).
 - ◆ Robust physical and mental health.
 - ◆ Payment of program fees, which cover only BCMC and instructor's expenses (surpluses are used to buy club equipment). You must provide most equipment, transport (car pooling encouraged), food.
 - ◆ Read and sign a comprehensive waiver, and complete a health information form. The focus of the programs is on safety and skills. However, mountaineering and climbing by nature involve significant risks, and you must be prepared to assume them.
 - ◆ Commitment - all sessions are mandatory.
 - ◆ Participants will be carefully screened for ability, fitness, equipment. The longer you have been a member of the BCMC, and the earlier your application is received, the higher priority you will have.
1. Programs are open to members in good standing of the Varsity Outdoors Club.
 2. Programs tend to be fully subscribed, so we cannot guarantee that there will be space. Each program has its own limit. Your application must include the application, supplementary waiver, medical form, and fees. Applications which are not complete in all respects (membership, fees enclosed, forms fully filled out) will

be recycled.

3. Dates may be altered due to bad weather or conflicts.
4. Do not phone organizers or instructors after 10 PM unless asked to do so.
5. The information/application package will not be available until the April social; soon after, it will be posted to the BCMC website. Call the organizer(s) of each program you are interested in for information on returning an application.
6. Complete a separate form for each program you are interested in.

Basic Outdoor Toproping

(Completed in April)

Essential Rockclimbing

\$70 (full-time students \$50). Limit 12 participants. Prerequisite Basic Outdoor Toproping or equivalent. This consists of an evening lecture/practice, and a weekend at Squamish. If demand warrants, it may be offered twice. At the end, you should be able to set up and use a simple top-rope, including rappelling, basic anchors, and belaying from above. You must provide rock shoes, a sit harness, a helmet, two locking carabiners (one large), a belay device (no figure 8s!), and two slings of 7mm perlon (1.5 and 5 m). Instructors and the BCMC provide other needed equipment, and a copy of a rock climbing textbook for each participant to keep.

Rock 2 11/12 May (lecture 8 May, evening)

This program (or equivalent) is a prerequisite for the mountaineering program. Fees and schedule do not include Basic Outdoor Toproping.

Contacts:

Kit Griffin (604-736-8462 or kitgriffin@telus.net)
Paul Miller (604-657-7285 or pmiller@argus.ca)
Jack Pals (604-463-7552 or palsj@telus.net)
Dave Morriss (604-732-9896 or welsh@dowco.com)

Mountaineering

\$200 (full-time students \$170). Limit 12 participants. This includes three evening lectures/practices and three weekends. (Essential Rockclimbing or equivalent is a prerequisite.) Covers mountain travel and navigation, safety and environmental issues, snow travel, glacier travel, crevasse rescue, self arrest, and ascent of a moderate peak. You must be an experienced backpacker, and by the end of the program you should be able safely to undertake most club trips up to the B4 level. Participants must provide all backpacking and camping equipment, sit harness, ice axe, helmet, crampons. The BCMC provides needed technical equipment (ropes etc), and each participant with a copy of Mountaineering - Freedom of the Hills (6th edition) and two prussiks.

Mountaineering: 25&26 May, 1&2 and 8&9 June (foul weather fallback 15/16 June). Evenings: Thursday evenings of 22 May, 29 May, 5 June. Fees and schedule do not include Essential Rockclimbing.

Contact:

Miles Quesnel (604-460-1466 or mquesnel@uniserve.com)

Contact:

"Mirella Lioce" (604-736-5079 mirella@telus.net)

Lead Climbing

\$100 (full-time students \$80). Limit 6 participants. This will be offered once, for those who have solid

outdoor top roping skills plus a season's experience. (Participants will be required to set up and use a basic top rope on the first day.) You must also have experience in overnight mountain travel. Participants will be screened for fitness, skills, equipment and aptitude. The program will include three weekends and several evenings, with an additional optional alpine rock climb weekend. Participants must help with Essential Rockclimbing, and are expected to climb regularly together on evenings and free weekends. By the end of the program, participants should be comfortable leading 5.7 rock climbs, and moderately technical mountain routes. Covers placing and using anchors, equipment selection and use, safety and environmental issues, leading, training, and related issues. Participants must have all basic climbing equipment, and must be prepared to invest in all equipment needed for leading, likely several hundred dollars. The BCMC provides participants with two books about climbing, and instructors' equipment is used.

Rock II: 4/5 May, 11/12 May (help with Essential Rockclimbing), 25/26 May, 15/16 June, TBA (alpine weekend). Evenings: the Wednesday or Thursday evening before each weekend, at participant's homes.

Contact: Anders Ourom (604-228-1798 or aiourom@telus.net).

You must fill out completely a separate application for each program you are interested in.

Mail applications to:

Monica Durigon
B.C. Mountaineering Club
#206 - 5450 University Boulevard
Vancouver, B.C., V6T 1K4

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

The club welcomes the following new associate members:

Carl Michael Anderson, Brenda Argue, Mark Aussem, Susan Baldwin, Christine Hoffman, Jeanette Inglis, Anita Leonhard, Mirissa Marining, Laura Scull, and Hans Jakob Selde.

What Club members are doing - the Ruck-sack

The club wishes **Jack Apps** and **John Clarke** speedy recoveries following their recent health problems. The club also sends its condolences to **Dave Scanlon** following the recent death of his mother. On a more cheery note, **Virginia Brynjolfson**, the

daughter of Mary Willis, and a club member in the 1950's and 60's, wrote the following to your editor after hearing that her mother, currently in a home, had been made an honorary member:
"I wish to thank you on behalf of my mother Mary Willis for making her an Honorary Life Member. Also I want to thank you for the lovely article about my mother. I did try to convey this to her and she did remember the BCMC with a smile!

My parents often reminisced about the many trips they did and the wonderful lifetime friends that they made in the BCMC. They were very proud of this club". She also pointed out that her parents actually married in September, 1938.
Anders Ourom has recently made a generous donation of mountaineering books to the club library, which is about to be moved.

BCMC NEWS

Executive passes two new policies at their April meeting

Club policies are passed by the executive to provide rules, procedures and guidelines to assist the workings of the Club and to clarify the Club's positions on matters of importance. Two new policies were passed unanimously at the April Executive meeting.

David Hughes

Editor Guidelines:

1. The editor should strive to have the (monthly) newsletter and B.C. Mountaineer contain a majority of articles on club activities and members and these articles should normally support the objectives of the club as expressed in our Constitution.
2. The Editor should not unduly alter articles submitted by club members. The Editor should encourage articles by club members and accept them as presented as long as they are in good taste and do not conflict with club policies. If such

articles are deemed by the Editor to be in conflict with the club's policies or Constitution, the Editor should seek guidance from the Executive.

3. All submissions to the BCMC newsletter and B.C. Mountaineer which express personal opinions, including those by the Editor, must be signed by their authors.

Policy on Pets on club trips:

Taking pets on official club trips will be up to the leader/organizer's discretion and approval. The following guidelines will normally apply:

1. Trip participants should follow any local area regulations and pets should not be taken into areas where they are not legally allowed.
2. Trip participants who wish to bring a pet should check with the leader in advance.
3. Trip participants should ensure that any animal on a trip is under control and is capable of meeting the physical demands of the trip.
4. Trip leaders should notify other participants that a pet may be on the trip.

NEWS

Banff mountain photography competition call for entries

Captured that perfect mountain image on film? Got a great shot of a mountain sport or landscape? Enter the Banff Mountain Photography Competition for a chance to win some great prizes and the opportunity to have your photo exhibited in locations across North America and as far away as Italy. Mountain Culture at The Banff Centre is seeking entries for its 7th annual Banff Mountain Photography Competition. Over \$8000 in cash and prizes

will be awarded. Amateur and professional photographers alike are invited to submit 35mm slides and/or prints (minimum size 20 x 25 cm, maximum size of 28 x 36 cm). Entries must be received at the competition office in Banff no later than May 31, 2002. Complete contest rules and entry forms for this year's competition are available:

1. For download from www.banffcentre.ca/mountainculture
2. On request by mail/fax/e-mail:

Banff Mountain Photography Competition
Box 1020, 107 Tunnel Mountain Drive
Banff, Alberta, Canada T1L 1H5
fax: (403) 762-6277
e-mail: mountainculture@banffcentre.ca

Winning photographs from the 2001 competition will tour to the following locations during the next six months: Denver, San Francisco, Santiago and Portillo Chile, Buenos Aires and Bariloche, Argentina, and the Museo Nazionale della Montagna in Torino, Italy.

ACCESS NOTES

Cypress Park Winter Access and Trails update by Alex Wallace, FMCBC Trails Committee

Currently there is no winter access issue, as such, in Cypress Provincial Park. West Vancouver is currently negotiating Winter-Season public access rights on 'Grand National' ski trail which actually is partly within West Vancouver owned forest lands: i.e. not within the provincial park, but just south of it; this would possibly allow hiking in on the Baden-Powell trail from the south 12 months of the year. They are at the stage of working out an extremely detailed annual occupancy permit with the ski operator. Free winter access is available on two trails in the Nordic (Hollyburn) area, three access corridors in the Alpine (Downhill) area in Cypress bowl and a trail from Cypress Bowl down to West Vancouver - 6 in total.

Hollyburn Hikers Access – After the public access cut-off of Hollyburn by CBRL and the subsequent ski-in protest and arrest (of John Beltz of BCMC) in 1985, BCMC negotiated a free winter access trail to Hollyburn with BC Parks (6 m wide - Hwy to peak) This was cut by BC Parks staff and is set out in a legal document, part of the Park Use permit. The ski operator surrendered the 'Five Lakes' trail, which is now bisected by the Hikers Access, and the 'Triangle Lake' ski trail was supposed to be surrendered, but CBRL refused to shut it down or surrender half (width) despite BC Parks repeated requests – eventually half of the Triangle lake trail was surrendered to the Hiker's Access in 1998 (the southern half !...) BC Parks staff mark the Hiker's Access Trail. CBRL has also (the last few years) recently surrendered the 'Powerline Hill' to descending or ascending non-payers, and CBRL now currently restricts its X-C operation to the east side, allowing telemarking on the hill. The Hollyburn Hikers' Access trail starts right at the

Hollyburn Park's kiosk.

Trail to Hollyburn lodge – This free, unencumbered, hiking-only trail starts at the south end of the Nordic parking lot - actually this is just within West Vancouver forest lands, and is therefore outside the park and the CRA. The trail passes through the cabin area as it joins the fire access road to Hollyburn Lodge. Only the last 20 m of this trail are within the park (i.e. when Hollyburn Lodge is in sight), however hikers are allowed to walk in to the lodge and get a hot chocolate. (But currently can't go any further until the 'Grand National' issue is clarified.)

Black Mountain Backcountry Access Corridor – As part of the Master Plan, the public is allowed to cross the Cypress Alpine CRA from the Cypress Bowl road end, provided that they obtain a free day or season Backcountry Access pass, which is actually a waiver of liability, and follow the access corridors. The pass/waiver frees the ski operator from any liability, negligence, etc... The Black Mountain (Baden-Powell) trailhead is now beside the temporary building on the partly-excavated future (Olympic?) parking lot / base area. CBRL now stations a staff person at this point most days handing out free day backcountry access passes to hikers, snowshoers and backcountry skiers, so that you don't have to line up at the ticket office to get through the CRA. From the Black Mountain trailhead it is also possible to proceed to the Yew Lake area, which is outside the commercial ski area, and then to cross the final part of the CRA and go on to the Howe Sound Crest trail. The corridors are flagged and maintained by BC Parks rangers, who also post trail advisories.

Trans Canada Trail – it is also possible to follow the Trans Canada Trail section on the fire access road through the Cypress Creek area and across the bridges from the Vi-Ski (snowmobile) parking lot, and do a nice loop, using two vehicles.

Black Mountain fire road access – There are reports of a hiking trail to the Black Mountain plateau from the fire access road on the west side of Cypress Creek, for those wishing to avoid the

ski operation completely in late spring/summer. However, using the conventional Black Mountain winter access gets you to the Black Mountain plateau with minimal discomfort.

TRIP REPORTS

Traverse of the Tetrahedron Plateau from west to east, 16-17 February, 2002

The weather was absolutely gorgeous. Clear, crisp days with deep fluffy snow - something that dreams are made of. Such were the conditions from Monday to Friday, but of course it was not to last. On Saturday morning Dave's jeep and my two wheel drive truck with snow chains ferried the group to the parking lot well above the snow line. Rain had turned to snow as we began the ascent up the deactivated logging road on skins. Although the snow was soft and deep we progressed at a fair clip. The windblown crest was about as refreshing as an arctic squall and all parkas were diligently put on in a hurry.

Our first stop was the Edwards Lake cabin about two hours distance from the cars. What a delight it was to step into a heated cabin. There, a small contingent from the Tetrahedron Ski Club was sitting out the wicked weather huddled around the stove. Lunch was followed by a prolonged drying, foot taping and relaxation session. We all had to muster some willpower to get going again. After all, the McNair cabin was our ultimate destination, a few hours away yet.

In February it gets dark early, giving the second leg of the journey a sense of urgency.

A two km downhill run brought us to Chapman Creek which we crossed on a narrow bridge. Sixty cm wide with 2 m of snow on it made for a precarious crossing. Some two weeks earlier a hapless skier lost his balance and landed in the creek, not an experience any of us wanted to emulate.

Once past the creek, the trail markers vanished and we had to navigate to the best of our ability.

After a few unnecessary detours we reached Chapman Lake which we crossed in really good time. A couple more km uphill and a wonderful apparition became visible among a copse of trees.

The seldom visited McNair cabin was in excellent condition and stocked with dry firewood. While we busied ourselves getting heat into the place and melting snow for tea and supper, Dave, the good samaritan, spent time and energy shovelling the heavy snow load off the steep metal roof. With a groaning rumble it all came careering down, causing the insiders considerable anxiety. "Where is Dave" was everyone's concern. He was wise to jump to the side when the deluge started.

It snowed nonstop. The party soon petered out after our storytelling session and one by one we withdrew to the upper chamber.

The morning dawned mild, heavily saturated with snowflakes and visibility was reduced to almost nil in the whiteout. This dashed our hopes of paying a visit to the Mt. Steele cabin and doing some telemark turns up there.

After a leisurely breakfast, the cabin fee was collected and we left the cabin in an impeccably clean state with a good supply of firewood for the next party.

The return trip was somewhat marred by the sticky and heavy snow conditions. Anti-glob wax was used by some, although Malcolm welcomed the sticky snow under his skis. His toothpick skis with fishscale bases performed marvellously on steep inclines. Adrienne's bindings gave trouble in the beginning. It was only after Dave inserted spacers (dimes) to increase tension on the release binding that they functioned properly. Something new - a coin-operated binding.

We retreated from the Plateau thoroughly drenched. After it was all over we got our just rewards. We treated ourselves to good coffee and latte and peach streudel cake.

An enjoyable trip in adverse conditions. The seven jolly participants were: Anne Laverne, Mike McCrae, Mark McLennan, Adrienne and David Hughes, Malcolm and Alfred Menninga (Organizer and reporter).