



B.C. Mountaineering Club Newsletter



January, 2007. Vol. 85, No. 1

Skiing in Kokanee park.

EVENING SOCIAL MEETINGS

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, 9 January - Entertainment will be a presentation by Brian Jones of the Canada West Mountain School, on avalanche awareness in the backcountry and ski touring in the Pantheons - Waddington area.

Tuesday, 13 February - Entertainment will be a North Creek extravaganza, featuring several speakers presenting the history of the club's activities in the area.



Skiing in the N Pantheons. Photo - M. Feller.

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Esther and Martin Kafer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT -	DAVE HUGHES	604-980-6484
PAST-PRESIDENT -	KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462
VICE-PRESIDENT -	TODD PONZINI	604-340-9653
SECRETARY -	ALICE PURDEY	604-293-2951
	JANE WELLER	604-988-3618
TREASURER -	TODD PONZINI	604-340-9653
MEMBERSHIP/MAILING -		
	DERRICK JOHNSTONE	604-505-6250
	PAUL HAWMAN	604-924-1235
SOCIALS -	DONNA SCANLON	604-572-5051
	ROBERT WOODHOUSE	604-730-0371
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	EMANUELE PORRA	604-533-7723
CABIN/TRAILS -	DAVID SCANLON	604-572-5051
	PETER WOODSWORTH	604-254-7076
CONSERVATION -	MONIKA BITTEL	604-983-3097
SUMMER CAMP -		
	PETER WOODSWORTH	604-254-7076
FMCBC REP -	BRIAN WOOD	604-222-1541
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CLUB EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

Avalanche transceivers - First day - \$5 per day for members, \$7 for non-members then \$3 per subsequent day .

Snow shovels - \$3 per day.

Avalanche probes - \$3 per day.

VHF radios - \$8 per day, \$40 per week

Satellite phone - \$60 per week or \$10 per day plus \$300 refundable deposit, all payable in advance, then \$2 per minute use.

If the phone is returned damaged, the renter will be responsible for repair costs. If the phone is lost or damaged beyond repair, the renter will be responsible for reimbursing the club the \$2000 cost of the phone. Trip organizers should request a deposit from trip participants to cover this cost.

First priority for equipment rental is club camps and trips.

Equipment is rented from Kit Griffin at 604-736-8462, who should be contacted at least 2 days prior to the day the equipment is wanted, except for the satellite phone, which should be arranged at least 2 weeks prior to the day it is wanted.

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). All material within this newsletter is copyright © British Columbia Mountaineering Club.

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. Please note that images should be at least 60 pixels/cm (150 pixels/inch) for successful printing. Images with a lesser resolution will probably not be printed. Deadline for submissions is the first Tuesday of the month preceding the publication month.

Send submissions to Michael Feller (ph. 604-270-4050, email - feller@interchg.ubc.ca).

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. 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 more than 1 day prior to the trip.

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
2 courteous and inform the trip organizer.

Trip Schedule

All trips are ski trips unless indicated otherwise

January

6: Organizer's choice (snowshoe) B2-3

Fred Douglas 604-293-2951

Contact the organizer for further details.

6-7: Salmon Stakes (Ice climbing) B5

Justin Bennett 604-813-4666

Ice climbing in the Lillooet area.

13: Transceiver practice A2

Peter Woodsworth 604-254-7076

Avalanche transceiver practice on Mt. Seymour in Vancouver's North Shore mtns.

13: Cowboy Ridge - ski touring introduction B2

Peter Norris 604-240-6087

Introductory ski touring trip using the Whistler lifts for access.

13: Zoa Pk. (ski/snowshoe) B2-3/1872 m

Peter Oostlander 604-451-4585

Skiing in the Coquihalla area.

13: Flora Pk. B2-3/1952 m

Peter Gumplinger 604-733-8264

Skiing in the Chilliwack valley area.

13-14: The Rambles (Ice climbing) A5

Justin Bennett 604-813-4666

More ice climbing in the Lillooet area.

14: Needle Pk. B3/2090 m

Carol MacMillan 604-879-2947

Skiing and scrambling in the Coquihalla area.

20-21: Introduction to snow camping A2

Peter Woodsworth 604-254-7076

Introductory trip to winter camping. This will be preceded by an evening seminar on Monday, 15th. Contact the organizer for further details.

20-21: Whistler/Blackcomb backcountry B3

Ilze Rupners 604-222-3720

Backcountry skiing near Whistler.

21: Howe Sound Crest trail (snowshoe) B-C2

Neil Beattie 604-669-7847

Snowshoeing above Howe Sound.

27: Decker Glacier B3

Margaret Hanson 604-873-2276

Skiing beyond the Blackcomb ski area.

27: Needle Pk. B3/2090 m

Randy Enomoto 604-224-6184

Skiing and scrambling in the Coquihalla area again.

28-29: Saxifrage Mtn. B3/2501 m

Ian Hopper 604-983-9044

Skiing east of Pemberton

February

3: Mystery trip B2/3

Anders Ourom 604-228-1798

Skiing somewhere. Contact the organizer for further details.

3: Ben Lomond and Red Mtn. B31654 m

Jos van der Burg 604-463-7582

Skiing above Howe Sound.

4: Hollyburn Mtn. B2/1326 m

Peter Parrotta 604-552-1423

Skiing in the North Shore mountains.

10-11: Caspar Pk./Mt. Duke B-C3/2410 m

Erich Hinze 604-224-5646

Skiing off the Duffey Lake road.

10-11: Mt. Seymour-De Pencier Bluffs A4

Justin Bennett 604-813-4666

Training climb, suitable for those wanting to go on Justin's spring trips. Trip will practise traverses, rescue systems, and ice climbing if conditions permit.

10-12: Mt. Robie Reid C3-4/2095 m

Emanuele Porra 604-533-7723

Climbing via the SE ridge/E face. Maximum 5 participants - restricted to club members only. Participants will have winter camping and mountaineering experience. Please don't contact the organizer more than 3 weeks prior to the trip.

11-12: Tszil Mtn. C2/2377 m

Mike Peel 604-444-4068

Skiing off the Duffey Lake road.

Introduction to Backcountry Skiing Program

Program Objectives:

To develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence required to safely participate in overnight backcountry ski trips. The program will include 1 evening seminar and 2 weekends spent on

overnight ski trips in the mountains. The seminar will be held on the evening of January 18 and the program will run on the weekends of February 3 & 4 and 10 & 11.

Program topics:

Clothing and equipment, trip planning, winter camping, route and snowpack evaluation, avalanche awareness, transceiver use and self-rescue, winter mountain travel and weather evaluation.

Program does not cover glacier travel or first aid. Cost for the program is \$175.

For whom:

Strong downhill skiers with previous summer or winter backcountry camping experience, and/or: Experienced backcountry day skiers who want to gain experience on overnight winter trips.

Prerequisites:

Open to all BCMC members (new and current) in good physical health and fitness who are able to confidently ski "blue" intermediate) runs with an overnight (20kg) pack.

Note that this is not a program on how to ski – the entire group will be relying on you to be at least a confident intermediate skier! If your skiing ability is not adequate, you will be asked to withdraw from the program before the second weekend trip, and there will be no refund of your program fee.

Equipment Required:

Backcountry ski equipment (skis, boots, poles & skins), shovel, avalanche transceiver, and

overnightcamping gear. Group gear such as tents and stoves will be organized at the pre-trip evening seminar.

For further information check the "Programs and Camps: section on the BCMC Web Site: www.bcmc.ca

For more information and to book one of the twelve available spots, please call Todd Ponzini at 604-408-9617.

Got Old Equipment for a Club Centennial Museum Display?

The Club is working with the North Vancouver Museum & Archives on a centennial display which will run from September to December, 2007, at the North Vancouver Museum. This is an opportunity to share with the public some of the Club's history and activities in mountaineering, exploration and conservation. While we have the Club's photo archive for the display, the Museum would like to feature some of your hidden treasures, such as old equipment - skis, ice axes, clothing, etc. If you have something you'd like to lend, contact Hugh Kellas at 604-209-4744 or hugh.kellas@gvrd.bc.ca.

Membership

New Members - The club welcomes the following new associate members: Rosalind Barrington Craggs, Erin Buckoll, Stuart Clark, Heather Colter, Jerry Cyr, Nina di Pietro, Alena Dzujkova, Paul Geddes, Willa Geddes, Mike

Goluboff, Melinda Hatch, Soren Jensen, Deb Kovacs, Suzie Lavallee, Duane Lawrence, Alexander Luchin, Jean Medley, Peter Medley, Ian Miles, Jill Miners, James Newby, Karen Newby, Erhan Pekmen, Philip Rueben, Karsten Ruf

More Reports from the 2006 Annual General Meeting

Climbing report - by Jos van der Burg and Emanuele Porra.

This year we had somewhat of a resurgence in the number of trips listed on the schedule. Especially the summer and fall schedule, which saw a major improvement over 2005 with more, and a greater variety, of trips. The greater number of trips also increased participation by members and non-members. There was no significant

difference between the ratio of members to non-members compared to previous years. A good snow year, and a sunny and warm summer allowed a larger number of trips to proceed and many of them to successfully reach their goals. As always we can use more trip organizers. There are several members who continually organize a relatively larger number of trips. Some new trip organizers would be most welcome to relieve

those members from doing more than their share. We would like to thank all the trip organizers for their hard work and helping to put together a good schedule with a large variety of trips. The club can't do it without you. Let's keep up the good work.

We would also like to thank our camp organizers. Two multi-day spring ski camps and one summer climbing / hut repair camp went ahead in 2006. We could use some more spring ski- and summer camps. Please consider organizing one for 2007, which is the club's centennial year. What better way to celebrate the club's centennial, than by having several well-attended camps? There were also several trail clearing trips organized which were well attended with one having over 50 participants turn out. We would like to thank all of our trail clearing organizers including the ones who work on their own – some members work quietly in the background and go Oostlander, Jack Pals and Yaniv Tal - for their

Winter and spring schedule

Total Number of trips scheduled: 81 trips

Day Trips:

<u>Total # of Trips</u>	<u># of Participants</u>
44 (43 in 2005)	231 (167 in 2005)
<u>Went Successful Cancelled</u>	<u>Member Non-mbr</u>
25 15 (17 in 2005) 19	137 94

Cancelled due to weather (8), personal (9), or no interest (2).

Weekend trips:

<u>Total # of Trips</u>	<u># of Participants</u>
35 (37 in 2005)	106(88 in 2005)
<u>Went Successful Cancelled</u>	<u>Member Non-mbr</u>
20 12 12 (3?)	74 32

Cancelled due to weather (3), personal (3), or no interest (6).

Ski camps:

2 camps went out of 2 scheduled, with 13 participants.

“Successful” means the trip reached the intended objective.

unrecognized. Thank you all for your dedication and effort.

Also we would like to thank our phone volunteers namely - Kate Blomfield, Evelyn Feller, Jim Fraser, Ken Gallant, Nancy Henderson, Marian Jans, Leonie Knaus, Larry Kost, Tracy Langham, Peter

dedication and persistence. Without them, getting trips for the trip schedule would be an impossible task,

Last and definitely not least, we would like to also thank those who helped make the club's instructional climbing programs a success. These programs play a key role in the club's growth and existence, and would not be possible without the tremendous amount of dedication, time and effort of all those involved – Monica Durigon, Ramsey Dyer, Kit Griffin, Derrick Johnstone, Nicholas Ranicar, Paul Talbot and the many others who we may have not met or missed. And now for the most exciting part of the report (not really), here are the numbers for 2006:

Summer and fall schedule

Number of trips scheduled: 83

Day Trips:

<u>Total # of Trips</u>	<u># of Participants</u>
41 (35 in 2005)	254 (212 in 2005)
<u>Went Successful Cancelled</u>	<u>Member Non-mbr</u>
30 127 6 (5 ?)	176 78

Cancelled due to weather (2), personal (3), or no interest (1)

Weekend Trips:

<u>Total # of Trips</u>	<u># of Participants</u>
41 (29 in 2005)	106 (88 in 2005)
<u>Went Successful Cancelled</u>	<u>Member Non-mbr</u>
29 23 9 (3 ?)	152 58

Cancelled due to weather (3), personal (2), or no interest (4)

Climbing Camps:

1 camp went out of 1 scheduled, with 10 participants.

Editor's Report – by Michael Feller

During the year we produced our usual 10 newsletters containing 112 pages, up slightly from the previous year and close to the recent average (see table). The space devoted to club news and activities (75%) was down slightly from last year's high, due to less space taken up by trip reports and club news. Space devoted to advertisements (for meetings, special events, and relevant charities) and letters/reports of meetings (mainly associated with the FMCBC)

was up significantly.

All contributors to the newsletter deserve thanks, particularly Ron Dart, David Scanlon, Greg Stoltmann, and Jos van der Burg. Thanks are also again due to Susan Rootman for typing, Evelyn Feller for assistance with stuffing newsletters into envelopes, and Kit Griffin for printing the envelopes for stuffing.

We also produced the biennial B.C. Mountaineer

this year, very similar in size to the 2004 issue. All contributors of both articles and excellent photos to the Mountaineer should also be thanked, particularly Julia Borchardt, Jason Brawn, Jack Bryceland, Ron Dart, David Hughes, Todd Ponzini, Alice Purdey, Karl Ricker, David Scanlon, and Brian Wood.

Your editor has also been working slowly on the second volume of the index to club publications. This will be finished this winter.

Newsletter Total Number of pages (%)

	<u>2005/06</u>	<u>2004/05</u>	<u>2003/04</u>	<u>2002/03</u>	<u>2001/02</u>	<u>2000/01</u>	<u>1999/00</u>	<u>1998/99</u>	<u>1997/98</u>
Trip ads	14 (13)	7.5 (7)	9 (8)	10.5 (10)	10.5 (9)	11.5 (10)	15 (14)	11.5 (10)	12.5 (15)
Trip reports	26.5 (24)	30 (29)	28.5 (26)	30 (28)	22 (19)	30.5 (27)	28.5 (28)	24 (10)	17.5 (20)
Club news	42 (38)	47 (46)	46 (43)	43 (40)	43.5 (38)	40 (36)	26 (25)	41 (34)	33 (38)
Other news	16 (14)	17.5 (17)	17 (16)	12 (11)	24.5 (21)	24 (22)	28.5 (28)	39 (33)	19 (22)
Features	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	11.5 (11)	11 (9)	0 (0)	3.5 (3)	0 (0)	2.5 (3)
Equipment/ Technique	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.5 (0)	2 (2)	4 (3)	0 (0)
Letters/Reports	7 (6)	0.5 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.5 (3)	5.5 (5)	0 (0)	0.5 (0)	0.5 (1)
Book reviews	1.5 (1)	0.5 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)
Ads	4.5 (4)	1(1)	2.5 (2)	0 (0)	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Total no. of pages	112	104	108	108	116	112	103.5	120	86

Camps Report - by Peter Woodsworth

Thanks to the following for their efforts in running a club camp in 2006:

Peter Oostlander - Mt. Lake Cabin - Family Camp

Dave Scanlon - N. Ck. Cabin - ski camp

Alice Purdey - Edziza Park - trekking camp

Todd Ponzini - Prospector Pks - miniski camp

- Mt. Tantalus - mini mountaineering camp

Peter Woodsworth/Dave Scanlon - N. Ck. cabin mountaineering and work camp.

Cabins and Trails Report - by David

Scanlon and Peter Woodsworth

Seems that most effort went into cabins once again this year. Trail clearing was done on the Mountain Lake hut trail. The big push there was done by a club friend – Brian Moorehead – on a trip led and organized by our own Emanuele Porra. As I heard it the weather was terrible and all got a real soaking, but the job was done and the trail is now very open and should last for a while.

The other trail clearing job was organized by club member Jerry Kollmuss. I've not seen this but by all accounts you can now land a small aircraft on the Center Creek road. Jerry had by all accounts 60(!) people attend and the trail now goes all the way to the alpine. The army corp of engineers would be proud.

Four chainsaw days were put in on the North Creek trail as it was in very bad shape. With help from Peter Woodsworth the trail now is clear all the way to the cabin. With the trail being clear the hiking time into the cabin is 3½ hours. A problem though is that the log at the river crossing will be gone next spring so next year we will try to put in a permanent crossing. Peter and I have picked out a place that will work. Look for this project in next year's newsletter.

The big job this year was the 10 day hiking/work camp from Aug 26th to Sept 4th. All told 45(!) work days were put in by those attending. A completely new foundation was put in using concrete pads and all pressure treated lumber; the old porch was taken down easily, as it was in

really bad shape and a new one installed; the area was cleaned up, new shelves were installed upstairs and down; a new window was installed; a new stove pipe was put in, braced, and was extended more than a meter higher than the old one and should now be above the highest snowpack and won't have to be shoveled out each time the cabin is used; the stove was turned 180 degrees making more room around the tables – it was raised a bit to have the stovepipes join better. It is now very securely attached to the floor.

Three new trails were put in. We didn't work all the time (just seemed like it)! A flagged trail now leads northeast towards peak 2597 m, or the Boomerang Glacier area. This route is very well flagged and for the most part follows the winter route.

A flagged route now exists northwards towards "Gunbarrel Gap". Following this route will take one north towards the Pebble Glacier area with many scrambling peaks to be had to the east and west.

Going west from the cabin you will now find a cleared trail. This trail is compliments of Claire Oldham and Monika Bittel. I'd done some work the previous day and didn't think there was much left to do. These two ladies left early morning and didn't get back until early evening, a very tired pair. There apparently was a lot more to do than I'd thought. They both worked so hard. This trail now gives access to Sugus, and Blockhead Mtns. You can also curl around to the east then north to Peak 2600 m - a very worthwhile mountaineering hike according to Peter and Monika who did it. More people should go to this area in the summer months, as there is much to do.

This year the North Creek Cabin, last year the Plummer Hut, next year the Mountain Lake Hut needs a lot of fixing up to be done. Next year may also see a permanent river crossing for the North Creek trail. Many thanks to all for their hard work this past year.

Socials Report - by Paul Hawman

This was another great year for the BCMC monthly social events. Each and every month a strong turnout of both members and guests was treated to some spectacular shows. We were fortunate that Donna Scanlon agreed to join the social

executive and as such you have enjoyed an improved and varied selection of treats and snacks, with Christmas themes etc.

Shows, of which 7 were digital, 3 were slides, were given by – Linda Bily (Mt. Logan climb & North Shore rescue), Brian Wood (climbing in the Dolomites), Marcus Dell (climbing Ama Dablam), Ravil Chamgoulov (climbing solo – Mount Vinson Massif), Karl Ricker (early 60's Antarctica Expedition), Todd Ponzini (climbing in Garibaldi Park), Dave Way (climbing in Cuba), Chris Cooper (high Arctic Adventure), Stuart Coleman (Siberian Ski Mountaineering Expedition), and Ravil Chamgoulov (climbing solo – Aconcagua, Mt. Elbrus)

I would like to thank all of the speakers for the wonderful photos as well as Brian Jones of Canada West Mountain School for his presentation on Avalanche Awareness. I would also like to thank the Lion's Bay Search & Rescue team for the gear sale, in which we were able to support a great cause at the same time as finding some bargains for ourselves.

If you have any ideas for future shows or would like to take the opportunity to do your own slide show, please approach one of the social chairs with your ideas.

And as you enjoy this year's line-up of slide shows, I ask that you lend a hand to the social committee by taking back your pint glasses to the bar and taking a chair back upstairs at the end of the meeting. Thanks for supporting the club for the past year and many more years to come.

Centennial Committee Report - by David Scanlon.

The centennial committee met 5 times this past year. Much has been done. The calendar is done and the guys have done themselves proud – they put in SO much work on this. Hugh Kellas is setting up a joint BCMC/City of North Van museum/archival display. (North Vancouver will be 100 next year also). The video so far has donations totalling around \$24,000, but still a long way to go to the \$50,000 budgeted. Donations are most welcome. The video has fallen a little behind schedule but it is coming along very well. The centennial logo contest winner was Claire Oldham (see p.1 of this newsletter). Banners and flags were designed by the flag group and co-ordinated by

Alice Purdey. We are going to try to have postage stamps made with the club's centennial logo on them. The centennial cabin project has stopped. The government says we need First Nations approval first, so we are waiting - 18 months as of today. There will be a special centennial edition of the mountaineer to be edited by Michael Feller. A committee is being formed to help him with the work. Does ANYONE have ideas, articles, pictures, they think would—should be included??? Call Michael or Dave Scanlon for submissions.

Anyone want to lead/organize a camp or trip to a special place the BCMC visited or ascended first for our next centennial year? So far we have Ralph Hutchinson's trip to Mt Arrowsmith next summer on the day of the year the Mundays first spotted Mt Waddington and began the start of their many

trips there. We also have Todd Ponzini's re-enactment of the BCMC's first ascent of Garibaldi – in period dress and equipment (!) as well as Dave Hughes' trip to Mt Fairweather, 50 years after the club's first ascent there.

The North Shore News is very interested in covering some of our centennial events. What I think is most exciting for the club is that Grouse Mountain has come onside BIG time to join us in our centennial plans. They have made a substantial donation and reserved their banquet facilities for the club. The banquet committee is to be thanked for this. A personal thanks from myself to all the centennial committee members and helpers. Without everyone's help all this couldn't have been accomplished. Hang in there guys. More to come. More helpers are always welcome.

BC Mountaineering Club Calendars



The BCMC is proud to present its 2007 Calendar!

This beautiful, full colour calendar is 8.5" x 11" in size (11" wide and 17" high when open).

Featured are photos from the Club archives to more recent trips, with every decade represented from 1910 to 2006, and quotes from the Club's old publications.

The calendar includes statutory holidays, phases of the moon and a reminder for each of the Club's monthly socials. Anniversaries of significant first ascents and of the creation of provincial mountain parks celebrate BC's mountaineering history and culture.

The calendars are available at the Club's socials and will be available at the Mountain Equipment



Co-op in Vancouver and North Vancouver. For those unable to purchase in person at these locations, we are offering the calendars for online purchase (visit our website: www.bmc.ca). Online payment is handled through PayPal, in a completely secure transaction. Any major credit card can be used when making an online purchase.

The purchase price is \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. The member's price of \$12 is only available when purchasing from the Club. The Centennial Calendar Committee, which consists of Alice Purdey, Carol MacMillan, Peter Stange

and Monika Bittel, thanks everyone who submitted photos for use in the calendar. We especially

appreciate the efforts of our older members, who sorted through hundreds of photos in their private collections to submit photos from earlier decades. This project was an opportunity to learn about the Club, its history and the exploits of Club members, past and present. This is the essence and spirit of the BC Mountaineering Club, which is worth celebrating and which is captured in the centennial calendar.

The Committee acknowledges the guidance and professional services provided by Club member, Peter Oostlander, who works for Hemlock Printers Ltd., which printed the 2007 calendars.

The Committee also acknowledges Julia Borchardt and Jason Brawn, who worked on the 2006 calendar with Alice and Monika. The 2006

calendar provided some valuable lessons and the ground work for the centennial calendar. Lastly, on behalf of the Club executive and the Club, I thank Peter Stange, Carol MacMillan and Alice Purdey for all the time and effort each of them contributed to creating and producing the 2007 calendar.

Monika Bittel

More Apologies

All the photographs in the 2006 B.C. Mountaineer accompanying the North Ck. trip were attributed to Brian Wood. Brian took the photos of the inside and outside of the cabin while the rest were taken by Peter Oostlander

News

Federal Government to continue printing topographic maps

In our last November newsletter, it was reported that, as of January 2007, Natural Resources Canada would discontinue the printing of paper topographic maps and would close the Canada Map Office. A wave of protest to the government has caused them to reverse this decision and in November the Minister of Natural Resources announced that map printing would continue.

Regional District of Nanaimo supports creation of a new park around Mt. Arrowsmith

The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) issued the following press release late in 2006:

“The Regional District of Nanaimo has joined with the Alpine Club of Canada and the Federation of Mountain Clubs of British Columbia to pursue the creation of a new 1,300 hectare park incorporating the mountain peaks and ridges of Mount Arrowsmith and Mount Cokely, as well as the lakes and lands surrounding the mountain. The Mount Arrowsmith massif is a designated UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, and is identified as a site of significant interest in the RDN Regional Parks and Trails Plan.

“The community is asking us to keep this area as a park for recreation and environmental protection purposes,” said RDN Chairperson Joe Stanhope. “With ongoing development in the

Regional District, there is a need for conservation and a need to support recreational opportunities. It is the intent of the RDN Board to continue to preserve space for this purpose.”

The alpine area of the massif contains many popular trails and routes, many of which are documented in hiking and climbing guidebooks. In addition, there are three known Red-listed and six known Blue-listed species that have been sighted in or very near the proposed park area, and there is historical evidence of the Vancouver Island Marmot having inhabited the area. The Vancouver White-tailed Ptarmigan can be found in the Arrowsmith alpine areas, and the health of two important salmon rivers, the Englishman and the Little Qualicum, relies upon the Arrowsmith snow pack.

The area is currently Crown forest, administered by the Ministry of Forests.

“It is our hope that Minister Penner will view this park as a priority,” said Stanhope, who recently hiked Mount Arrowsmith with project partners. “Preserving this area is extremely important to the RDN Board, and to the residents of our community.”

Roofed accomodation in parks - the controversy continues

The October and November 2006 BCMC newsletters contained several articles and club member's comments on the B.C. government's

attempt to commercialize and privatize provincial parks by encouraging developments of lodges within them. Further developments in this saga are -

1) Union of BC Municipalities Rejects Resorts in Parks.

In late October, according to a press release from the campaign for BC Parks, "in a strong and nearly universal show of opposition, mayors, councilors and electoral area representatives from across British Columbia voted against the BC government's controversial initiative to allow resorts and hotels in provincial parks. The vote, on the last day of the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Annual General Meeting held in Victoria, saw over 95 percent of municipalities and regional authorities reject plans for the proposal. Before the vote, Whistler, Victoria, Kelowna, Comox, the District of North Vancouver, Nelson and the Central Coast Regional District took the floor and spoke against the BC government's Roofed Accommodation Strategy. The speakers cited concerns about negative impacts on existing tourism businesses, erosion of wilderness values within parks and lack of public consultation.

"It's amazing and gratifying that rural and urban municipalities, towns from the north and cities from the south all overwhelmingly rejected the notion of putting hotels and resorts in our provincial parks. This vote cut right across socio-economic and political boundaries," commented Gwen Barlee, policy director with the Western Canada Wilderness Committee.

"It's clear the majority of citizens and communities are opposed to the initiative to privatize and develop our world class parks system" said Vicky Husband, spokesperson for the *Campaign for BC Parks*, a coalition of environmental groups across the province who are opposed to the BC government's Roofed Accommodation Strategy.

"Lodges and resorts should be appropriately situated in gateway communities where they will benefit local residents and stimulate local economies," said Barlee. "Let's focus our attention on protecting our parks. The people of BC want an adequately funded park system. They want safe trails, parking meters removed, rangers back in our parks and a return of interpretive programs."

Groups who oppose the Roofed Accommodation Strategy include the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - BC Chapter, World Wildlife Fund Canada, the David Suzuki Foundation, BC Nature (formerly Federation of BC Naturalists), EarthCare Society, Wildsight, Sierra Club of Canada - BC Chapter, Valhalla Wilderness Society, Transboundary Watershed Alliance, West Kootenay Eco Society, and West Coast Environmental Law.

The resolution that was Sponsored by the District of North Vancouver and approved by over 500 municipal mayors and councillors at the recent UBCM in Victoria, reads as follows:

"WHEREAS the provincial government recently issued a Request for Proposals without public consultation for new fixed roofed accommodations of up to 100 beds or more, including resorts and lodges, in 12 provincial parks,

AND WHEREAS this privatization initiative lacks tools to limit future facility expansion, encourages helicopter and float plane traffic, permits foreign multinational financing ownership, requires parking lots, staff housing, logging for fire breaks, sewage and electricity - all at a time when preservation of wilderness is considered BC Parks' most important asset;

AND WHEREAS these facilities would best benefit local municipalities if they were appropriately situated in our communities where tourists and visitors would most actively support and enrich local economies, and where they would not unfairly compete with our existing tourism, hotel and restaurant services:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities advise the provincial government that it supports environmentally sustainable eco-tourism resort/lodge/motel accommodation outside provincial park boundaries and opposes new private, for-profit roofed accommodations inside provincial parks."

2) BC Government Receives Proposals to Develop Lodges in Provincial Parks

According to another press release from the Campaign for BC Parks in late November -

"the British Columbia government acknowledged they have accepted a proposal from a private

developer to build a fly-in fishing lodge in picturesque Maxhamish Lake Provincial Park. The 27,000 hectare park, located 125 kilometers north of Fort Nelson, is known for its tremendous fishing opportunities including lake whitefish, walleye and northern pike.

"Exclusive fly-in lodges should be situated outside of BC Parks - after all, 86% of the province is already open for development," commented Gwen Barlee, spokesperson for the Campaign for BC Parks.

Maxhamish Lake Provincial Park is one of 12 provincial parks slated for development under the BC Government's Roofed Accommodation Strategy. The Strategy, announced July 27, is controversial because it allows private for-profit development within public park boundaries, has proceeded without public consultation, lacks tools to limit expansion of private facilities, promotes helicopter traffic, and allows foreign multinational corporations to develop in BC parks.

"The environmental community has been very clear on this issue: private lodges and resorts belong outside of parks, not within," commented Barlee. "We are pleased to work with prospective developers to ensure operations are appropriately situated in gateway communities outside of parks, but if developers choose to build

within park boundaries we will take a targeted message to their marketplace expressing our concern."

The BC government bundled the 12 parks into two bid processes. In the previous bid process, which ended November 2, just two parks received expressions of interest, both from the Alpine Club of Canada. In the second bid process, which ended November 27, just one park, Maxhamish, received a bid.

"Thankfully, most developers realize that the public, environmental organizations and local communities are opposed to these types of developments - so they did the right thing and stayed out of our parks," said Barlee."

So, one of our sister clubs in the FMCBC has submitted no less than 2 proposals for lodges. Until the full details and ramifications of these proposals are available, we should reserve judgement.

The FMCBC has not joined the Campaign for BC Parks because it is a complicated issue for them. Club member, Peter Stange, stated in a brief letter to the editor - "if that is too complicated an issue for the FMCBC then I think I/we should cancel our membership. This is too important an issue to allow the FMCBC to sit on the fence."

Trip Reports

Saxifrage Mtn., 29-30 April, 2006

On the Friday evening prior to the weekend for this trip I had actually written the trip off due to a complete lack of phone calls. Then at about 7 pm on the Friday I received a phone call from Edward Bron asking if I was doing the trip and after a very brief hesitation I said yes. So we met on the Saturday morning at St. David's church at 7 am under gloomy skies.

During the drive we experienced rain showers and I became convinced that it would be raining to treeline. At about 10 we hit undrivable snow on the Spetch Ck. road and the intensity of the rain increased from moderate to heavy. By 10:30 we were off and skiing up in the gloom. It was impossible to use the trail in the logging slash so we had to work our way between small trees in the slash, which was reasonably efficient.

Once in the old growth forest, the efficiency began

to decline due to crisscrossing logs and a slight lack of snow. The trail was only marginally followable. All these factors made for surprisingly slow progress, especially when compared to the ease of summer travel via this route.

On we plodded in the unrelenting rain, crossing a creek which might have been the one coming out of the side valley that we wished to ascend. But in the murk it was hard to get one's bearings, so we continued a fair way past it. High up through a break in the clouds I spotted what appeared to be a north facing forested slope merging around a corner into a west facing forested slope and I had a strong hunch that our side valley entrance was upslope to our right. Also, when looking upslope on a slight back angle there appeared to be a lighter more open area in the forest. So we stopped traversing and started heading up and slightly back to that light and pretty soon

things began to open up. At the same time the rain eased off considerably until it was just a light drizzle. It was around 1:30 pm and Edward was developing a blister so it seemed like a good place for lunch.

After lunch the going became much easier as we were going into a gladed forest. At 3:30 we found a good campsite right by the valley's main creek. Much my surprise it was snowing very lightly. After the tent was up Edward went into his sleeping bag and slept until the morning.

On Sunday morning we were up at 6. The weather looked dull but with no precipitation. The day's "promise" of some sun had spurred us on the previous day. By about 7:30 we were off and skiing on firm snow. After ten minutes I had to turn around and go back to camp to pick up a forgotten item. After I caught up with Edward who had reached an impasse, we continued for another hour to the lake at 1750 m. At the point we were at the base of Saxifrage's highly skiable south face with a 2000 m cloud ceiling above us. After digging a snow pit with good results we started up the slope with the cloud ceiling appearing to rise with us. The snow was reasonably firm and would be nice for skiing. Higher up prior to the summit ridge the sun began to come out. On the summit ridge it was sunny and it remained so until I reached the top. But Edward was a bit behind and when he summited it was totally socked in.

The ski descent (which could have been great) was of course compromised by the lack of visibility. After a track following grope along the summit ridge we found ourselves being affected by the flat light when skiing down the south slope. Luckily it didn't last and we reached good visibility while still above the treeline. But the best snow was higher up in the clouds, so we then found ourselves hopping around in the turns. Below the lake the skiing was just an easy coast back to camp.

Camp was broken at 3:30 and I made the mistake of not following Edward's ski route out. Beyond a certain point I walked, convinced that there wasn't enough snow. I arrived back at the vehicle at 6:15 with Edward being 15 minutes faster. A very successful trip despite the ominous beginnings. Participants: Edward Bron and Greg Stoltmann (Organizer and reporter).

Mt. Noel area, 1-3 July, 2006

After a 6 am meet at St. David's church in West Van eight of us headed to the Hurley Rd. beyond Pemberton to meet a 9th close to the point we would leave cars. After crossing over Railroad Pass we regrouped at the Hope Creek Rd. turnoff, with our 9th participant nowhere to be seen. Assuming that he'd decided not to show, we drove east up the Hope Creek road and after crossing the creek past a junction reached 4x4 terrain with many crossditches. Imagine our surprise when we came upon a blue dodge mini van and its' owner well within the crossditch zone. That Mark had got his van this far was truly amazing and he was the 9th participant we were looking for. We could only drive a little further before the road became impassable.

With everyone ready to go, we managed an 11:15 start, hiking initially up a clearcut and then into natural forest. The going was steady and the bush wasn't too bad. The slope was south facing and lead up to the south edge of a broad plateau-like area. Our lunch spot was a 2200 m knob which was reached around 1 after ascending 600 m. From here we could see a long way to the north across very walkable country.

After lunch we headed for our first peak which was a 2350 m ridge-like summit which we could traverse over from south to north. It was an easy walk up from the south to a pleasant summit with views in all directions, particularly to the north and east. On the north side of this peak we found a series of snowfields which led us onto a brief ridge and then into open country to the north. From here we descended gently, mostly on snow, until we could see one of the lakes at 14EW, 07NS where we wished to camp. Some people however, disagreed with this camping plan and preferred a higher camp by a shallow tarn and stream, so the group was split. This was probably due to the knowledge that it would lessen Monday's uphill travel with overnight packs but for those in the high camp the next day's uphill finish would be much longer.

So it was Alistair, Greg, Clemence and Martina in the low lakes camp and Tony, Andrew, John, Jenny and Mark in the high camp with an agreement to meet on the summit of a 2400 m peak to the east at 7 am the next day. This was the southernmost peak of a ridge system that can be followed all the way to Mt. Noel.

On Sunday morning it was up at 5 and moving around 6:30. As we headed up the 2400 m peak, figures could be seen well up on the mountain. At the summit we lingered for awhile soaking up the early morning view and allowing people to catch up. From here northwards the ridge looked good except for one gap about a third of the way to the next peak. Greg decided to descend about 150 m via a steep snowslope and then reascend up a talus gully to avoid this gap. The others all negotiated the gap which had some exposure. From here it was over a 2350 m peak and then onto the next summit which was also at 2400 m with about 100 m of elevation gain to ascend it. Despite this modest elevation gain the peak had a very distinct look with hoodoos on its south side and a somewhat pyramid like shape.

It was after this peak that the mountain goats appeared. Mark was seen crouched behind some large rocks motioning for people to approach very slowly. Apparently he had seen a fair number of mountain goats. From this point for quite a long distance along the ridge system we unintentionally kept forcing the goats along the ridge. If we got too close they would always run to the cliff side for shelter.

Mt. Noel was reached at about 12:30 and we lingered there for quite awhile eating lunch and enjoying views in the sun. From Noel we walked NW across a high alpine plain towards 2 peaks, of which the further one was a walk-up. Tony and Alistair went up the 1st peak which had some stiff class 3 at the top. Several people headed up the walk-up peak, which became the most northerly point walked to on this trip.

To return to camp we were able to completely bypass the ridge system by walking over expansive gentle terrain with a bit of steeper stuff near the end. Those at the higher camp had longer distances to travel and more elevation to gain at day's end.

On the last day it was up at 6:30 in the lower camp with an 8:30 departure to meet people in the high camp. The group split up NE of peak 2350 m over which we had travelled on the way in. Some opted to go over again while others descended into the basin to the east and exited up the other side. Lunch was at the same spot as one the way in at around noon. We relaxed for close to an hour before heading down to the

trees. Vehicles were reached at 2:15, which somehow felt too early. Mother grizzly and 3 cubs were spotted on the drive out! Most of the group went to the lake at Pemberton for a swim – nice and warm in the top 60 cm of water but like ice underneath. Dinner was at the Wildwood afterwards. If you're into very walkable expansive rambling country this is a great area to visit.

Participants: Tony Tacone, Alistair Ferries, Martina Metzler, Clemence, John Sapac, Jenny Faulkner, Mark Burgoyne, Andrew, and Greg Stoltmann (Organizer and reporter).

Mamquam Mtn. from the south, 12-13 August, 2006

"The longest hiking day I have ever done" Yuko Abeyama, Alastair Ferries, Greg Stoltmann, Michael Tsirounilkov

I had long wanted to do Mamquam — I wasn't expecting it to be so nice. Eighteen of us assembled at the Shell station south of Squamish at 10 am on Saturday. Day one was to be a relatively short backpack to a knoll 4 km south-east of the summit. Day two would be the unreconnaissanced summit bid via the glacier or ridge south of the summit.

The first hour and a half of hiking on a good logging road went smoothly but when we started the 5 km bushwhack to the proposed campsite things slowed down considerably. A couple from the States had never bushwhacked before, found it astounding and were frightened of getting lost. Others hadn't realized just how substantial the hike was going to be. (Ed's comment – a trail was constructed in the 1990's from the logging road to the valley below the glacier. See the BCMC Newsletter Aug - Sep 1996, p. 16). The bush wasn't bad, but there were moss covered unstable boulder fields to cross; an occasional slide alder banked creek to follow; and two valleys, 150 and 350 m deep, to cross. After one hour it was obvious that not everyone was going to make it to the summit. Furthermore, no one would make the summit at the pace we were going. At 2 km it was suggested to four that they not try to make the summit. They graciously decided to only continue on to the ridge before the second valley. By the time everyone arrived on this ridge it was nearly 6 pm. We could now see Mamquam, and that Sunday was going to be a big day.

Six more decided to pass on the summit attempt. The remaining eight of us set off rapidly hoping to make the proposed camp site before dark. After descending 350 m to a furious creek that needed crossing, two more opted out of the trip. We made it across the creek without a fatality and managed to make the knoll by 8 pm. It was a very nice spot to camp with tiny subalpine lakes around and a beautiful sunset behind Garibaldi.

Up at 5 am it looked likely to be a beautiful day (and was) and we were off by 6 am. By 6:45 am we got to a hidden valley - another gorgeous place to camp. We then went up the valley to the base of the South Ridge. We were now above the treeline and progress was rapid to the base of the glacier extending south of Mamquam. The views were superb. There are some un-named mountains just south of Mamquam with small glaciers and beautifully colored alpine lakes that ache to be climbed. (Stas?) The lower part of the glacier was heavily crevassed but fortunately the ridge to the west of it was easy scrambling and took us to where the glacier leveled off.

Back at the campsite by 4:30 we packed up in record time and set off trying to make the logging road before dark. Unfortunately we failed and at 9 pm we were inching through those perilous boulder fields by headlight. At 11 pm we arrived at the road and we were back to the vehicles at 12:30 am. This was one of the best hikes I have ever done – really rugged wild scenery with a summit surrounded by sharp granite sub summits.

Summit Participants: Yuko Abeyama, Francis St. Pierre, Greg Stoltmann, Michael Tsiroulnikov, Stas Liarsky (Organizer), and Alastair Ferries (Reporter).

Russet Lake - Afghanistan, 20 August and 5 September, 2006

Gary Bauman, Bryan Ward and I left Abbotsford at 6 am on Sunday August 20th, and we wound our way up the Sea to Sky and arrived at Whistler by 8:30. The lift did not open until 9:30, so we waited, swapped tales and anticipated the hike under the blue canopy and the heat of day star. We were, by 10:30, off the peak chair and on the wide dirt roadway. We dipped down into the valley, and it took us little time to bid adieu to the heights of Whistler and be on the trail. The older path took us up and over the Musical Bumps (Piccolo, Flute

and Oboe), then down into Singing Pass. Many a pleasant ski run has been down in the powder of the Flute bowl.

The hike up again from Singing Pass to Russet Lake (and the cabin) was a delight. We were charmed and lured by the sheer beauty of the white tipped Spearhead and Fitzsimmons Ranges. The white robed snowfield and blue lipped glacier of Castle Towers held our attention for many a moment. We had a splendid lunch by the gurgling stream that curled its way out of Russet Lake. The well built rock shelters protected a few tents, and the hut was empty. We left the lake by about 2:30 and hastened back over the Musical Bumps to the Roundhouse Lodge for the final gondola descent at 5:30. We headed into the Fraser Valley as an alpenglow lit up Baker in a bright orange last gasp of the day.

My son had just returned from a 7 month tour in Afghanistan. He had spent much of the time in Forward Operational Bases (FOBs) in the barren mountains outside Kandahar near Pashmul, Panjwai and Gumbad. Many a time he carried a 35 kg pack up steep and treacherous slopes. Needless to say, it is good to have him back safe with us again. We have had many a restless and sleepless night.

My wife (Karin) and I, and our son (Nathan) and his wife (Rita) headed up to the Musical Bumps and Russet Lake area Tuesday September 5th. The terrain was lush than the raw and forbidding peaks of Afghanistan. There were no Taliban, also, to ambush him as had been done many times in the last few months. Our conversation, naturally, turned to the war in Afghanistan (and his experience there) as we followed the contours of the trail. Different perspectives were pondered and left behind just as each of the Musical Bumps rises and falls, falls and rises. Should Canada be in Afghanistan, who is the real terrorist, why is Canada in Afghanistan and what is it like to live daily with bombs and bullets going off in all directions?

We crested a lower rock peak, looked up to the snow and ice fields above us, and down to the valley. Much can be seen from the heights that is often missed in the hurly burly and skirmishes in the lowlands. We pondered those who made decisions from the heights but know little of those

who fought as infantry in the dust thick desert and mountain caves.

The afternoon waxed and waned, the music of Oboe, Piccolo and Flute was silent. Russet offered an early autumn beauty the surreal experience in Afghanistan lacked – such a stark contrast in mountains and political reality.

What would the mountains say if they could speak?

We had a late afternoon drink outside on the spacious balcony of Roundhouse Lodge. Nathan was wearing a shirt that made it obvious he had been in Afghanistan. A naïve but well meaning Canadian patriot came up and thanked Nathan for the work the Canadian troops were doing in Afghanistan, then he left. Nathan turned to me, and said, 'if only he knew the real story from both peak and valley'. I put my arm around the broad, tanned and steel like shoulder of our son, we looked toward Russet and headed down the mountain again.

Ron Dart (Reporter)

Mount Whitworth, 9 September, 2006

The first bad weather day on a weekend in a couple of months had to happen on this Saturday. About 9 people had expressed interest but as it became clear that the forecast was coming true people started to cancel. When 3 people cancelled Saturday morning I decided to phone Christine to tell her the trip was cancelled. I told her the trip was off but she wouldn't take no for an answer. She had taken this day off out of her busy schedule and was determined to get out. She was to pick up Esther who was also keen to get out. I was hoping for the best because of the route's steepness and off trail travel. When wet it can become treacherous.

After meeting at 7 am in Abbotsford we were on our way to Hope. The weather looked like it might improve so we were not in a rush to get going, hoping that by the time we started the weather would be on our side. A stop at Tim Hortons was a good way to waste some time. After our fix we were on our way to the Silver Skagit where, after kilometre 35, we turned up the Maselpanik. We drove it for about 8 km when we took the left fork to the east side of the drainage. Another 1 to 2 km and we were at the end of the spur in a clear-cut. We parked and headed straight up from there

through the clearcut at first and open forest thereafter. The clearcut was surprisingly easy to hike and the forest had little to no undergrowth. I flagged the route on the way up and we removed the flagging on the way out. On previous trips we ended up in the wrong area on the way down.

When you lose close to 900 m, a slightly different line can put you way off course by the time you get down. The route up is unrelentingly steep. After you gain close to 900 m you end up on a prominent knoll from which you have to drop down on the other side for about 50 m. From the pass you make the final rise to a beautiful ridge system. This is the bushiest section and again steep. It is also very slippery when wet. We had been lucky so far that no rain had fallen in this area and everything was still dry. But it looked threatening and the odd drop fell. Also we had some sunny breaks and the peak was clearly visible. We started following the wide, grassy ridge system to where it gets steeper. If you were to carry on you would end up on Finlayson. We turned left and started following a goat trail which took us to the only suitable place through a cliff band into the basin below Whitworth and Finlayson. We startled mama bear and her 2 cubs. They stopped several times to have a look at us before they disappeared on the other side of the ridge. We were alone again although there are signs of wildlife everywhere. When we reached the base of Whitworth we donned out helmets because of the class 3 rubble we had to climb. But it seemed so much worse this time. Maybe it was because of the fact that I was organizing this trip that I was more aware. Normally you are with friends and you know that they are capable and cautious in their climbing. It is different when you are with people you don't know as well. The climbing wasn't a lot of fun and at one point near the beginning Esther and I were ready to turn around. Again Christine wouldn't have it. The summit was close and she wanted it badly.

It was another 30 to 45 minutes later when we reached the summit at around 3 pm. As luck would have it the cloud ceiling lowered and we were engulfed in fog. No more views to make the crappy climb worthwhile. However, we did a lot better than we thought considering the weather forecast. But now it had deteriorated to the point that it

started raining steadily. The rock was getting wet and the fog was thick enough to make our route finding difficult. When we left the summit I left the ridge too soon and started heading down the wrong side. Esther said that she felt I went off the ridge too early. I wasn't sure and decided to carry on. We must have lost nearly



150 m before I had to agree that we were not in the right place. Nothing looked familiar. We had to climb back up. Then we had to find the right gully. I was also concerned about Christine because even though she didn't complain she told me that this trip was more than she had counted on. Now she had to do this extra work. But she hung in there. Back on the ridge everything looked out of place but again Esther came to the rescue as she picked out the right gully. A big relief spilled over all of us. At least we were back on track. Now we just had to get out before dark. We were getting wet and muddy from the now soaking wet rock, soil and shrubs. It was foggy all the way down to the ridge which sometimes made it hard to follow the goat trail. Sometimes we were too low or too high. Finally it cleared where we had to go down to the pass. A short break for some snacks and we were on our way down and back up to the knoll. It was a race against time. We were very happy we had the flagging to follow but if it got too dark it wouldn't be of much help anymore. As it turned out we made it back to the car just at nightfall. Christine survived and hopefully it will not deter her from joining me on a trip again. A stop at the Wildcat near Bridal Falls completed a successful day. And wouldn't you know it – the next day it was sunny again.



Mt. Whitworth with the approach basin beneath it (top), Christina and Esther on the approach (middle), and meadowy approach ridge (below). Photos - J. van der Burg.



Participants: Christina Williams, Esther Lehman, and Jos van der Burg (Organizer and reporter).