

# B.C. Mountaineering Club Newsletter



December 2009. Vol. 87, No. 12

Skiing off Cambria Pk., Bear Glacier, Stewart, BC. Photo: John Baldwin

## 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, 8 December** - The Great White North: Trips in the Northern Coast Mountains. John Baldwin will show photos from a mid-winter ski mountaineering road trip to the Smithers, Terrace and Stewart areas and a spring ski traverse between the Stikine and Iskut Rivers.

**Tuesday, 12 January** - Chris Cooper on *Spirit Dancer* in the UK and Brian Jones with an avalanche refresher.



Backcountry access from Shames Mtn. ski area, Terrace, BC. Photo: John Baldwin

## British Columbia Mountaineering Club

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**EMAIL ADDRESS: [info@bcmc.ca](mailto:info@bcmc.ca)**

**INTERNET SITE: [www.bcmc.ca](http://www.bcmc.ca)**

### HONORARY PRESIDENTS

Esther and Martin Kafer

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

<b>PRESIDENT -</b>	TODD PONZINI	604-936-9369
<b>PAST-PRESIDENT -</b>	DAVID HUGHES	604-980-6484
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT -</b>	DAVID SCANLON	604-572-5051
<b>SECRETARY -</b>	ALICE PURDEY	604-293-2951
	JANE WELLER	604-988-3618
<b>TREASURER -</b>	CRAIG KALNIN	604-787-5396
<b>MEMBERSHIP/MAILING</b>	SILVIA BAKOVIC	778-230-7528
<b>SOCIALS -</b>	DONNA SCANLON	604-572-5051
	ROBERT WOODHOUSE	604-730-0371
<b>CLIMBING -</b>	ROBERT WOODHOUSE	604-730-0371
	RADMILA JAKSIC	604-602-0468
<b>CABIN/TRAILS -</b>	DAVID SCANLON	604-572-5051
<b>CONSERVATION -</b>	MONIKA BITTEL	604-983-3097
<b>CAMPS -</b>	ALENA DZUJKOVA	604-708-5385
<b>FMCBC REP -</b>	BRIAN WOOD	604-222-1541
<b>WEBMASTER -</b>	KEVIN SWANSON	604-943-4364
<b>EDITOR - NEWSLETTER</b>	ALICE PURDEY	604-293-2951
<b>EDITOR - OTHER</b>	MICHAEL FELLER	604-270-4050

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<b>SAFETY EQUIPMENT -</b>	KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462
<b>SATELLITE PHONE</b>	PETER GUMPLINGER	604-733-8264
<b>LIBRARY -</b>	JOAN FORD	604-876-4255

### 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 (604-736-8462) or Peter Gumplinger (604-733-8264), 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 August). 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 **Alice Purdey**

(ph. 604-293-2951, email - [alicep.fred@gmail.com](mailto:alicep.fred@gmail.com)).

**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 courteous and inform the trip organizer.

## Trip Schedule

Please check the website for final updates.

### December

<b>5: Zupjok Pk.</b>	<b>B2</b>
Evelyn Feller	604.270.4050
<b>5: Diamond Head - beginners welcome</b>	<b>A1</b>
Darlene Anderson	604.789.8020
<b>5: Squeah Mtn. snowshoe</b>	<b>C3</b>
Alastair Ferries	604.329.1637
<b>5: "Santa" rock climbing Squamish - date may change with weather</b>	<b>A5/W13?</b>
Werner Grzimek	604.737.1091
<b>5-6: Coquihalla ice climbing</b>	<b>A5</b>
Justin Bennett	604.813.4666
<b>12: Heliotrope Ridge (FULL)</b>	<b>C2/3</b>
Thomas Schroeder	604.315.3515
<b>19: Zoa Ridge</b>	<b>B2</b>
Justin Bennett	604.813.4666
<b>19: Needle Pk. snowshoe</b>	<b>B2</b>
Jeff Han	604.616.4593
<b>19: Coquihalla area</b>	<b>B3</b>
Jane Weller	604.988.3618
<b>20: Cayoosh Mtn.</b>	<b>C3</b>
Dan Friedmann	604.737.0840
<b>24: Christmas Eve North Shore ski - beginners welcome</b>	<b>B2</b>
Jane Weller	604.988.3618
<b>26-27: Rainbow Mtn.</b>	<b>B2</b>
John Duffy	604.980.1239
<b>31-3: Black Tusk Meadows</b>	<b>B2</b>
John Duffy	604.980.1239

### January 2010

<b>2-4: Ice climbing Lillooet area</b>	<b>W12-4</b>
Werner Grzimek	604.737.1091
<b>7: Cypress - tele-clinic</b>	<b>A2</b>
Isabel Budke	604.224.5737
<b>9-10: Rambles ice climbing</b>	<b>A5</b>
Justin Bennett	604.813.4666
<b>10: Needle Pk.</b>	<b>B2</b>
Carol MacMillan	604.879.2947

## Courses and Instructional Practice

### December

<b>5: Mt. Seymour - transceiver practice, beginners welcome</b>	<b>A2</b>
Dan Carey	604.731.4048

<b>12-13: Mt. Seymour transceiver practice</b>	<b>A1</b>
Justin Bennett	604.813.4666

### January

<b>9: Ice climbing intro (FULL)</b>	<b>C5</b>
Jason Wheeler	604.761.7367
<b>9: Snow anchors - descending and belaying techniques practice</b>	<b>A2/3</b>
Stanislav Liarsky	604.983.4476
<b>9-10: AST -1 (Basic Avalanche Safety)</b>	<b>B2</b>
BCMC Programs and Camps	778.866.3460
<b>16-17: AST-2 (Advanced Avalanche Safety) 1st weekend</b>	<b>B2</b>
BCMC Programs and Camps	778.866.3460
<b>16-17: Organized aval. response practice</b>	<b>A1</b>
Justin Bennett	604.813.4666
<b>23: Snow anchors - descending and belaying techniques practice</b>	<b>A3/4</b>
Stanislav Liarsky	604.983.4476
<b>23-24: AST-2 2nd weekend</b>	<b>B2</b>
BCMC Programs and Camps	778.866.3460
<b>23-24: Advanced ice climbing</b>	<b>C5</b>
Jason Wheeler	604.761.7367
<b>30-31: Intro to backcountry skiing -1st wkend</b>	<b>B2</b>
BCMC Programs and Camps	778.866.3460

Please check the website for further information.

### Wednesday nights at Cliffhanger

<b>Vancouver: Dec. 2, 9, 16</b>	<b>A5</b>
Waldemar Jonsson	604.780.0296
<b>Coquitlam: Dec. 2, 9</b>	<b>A5</b>
Adrian Lazar	—

## Member News

The club welcomes the following new members: Michael Kane, Tareq Lafi, Isabelle Desmarais, Marius Grecu, Damien Nee, Marek Labecki, Michael Van Kuyk, Linda Neshevich-Lloyd, Shirry Insole, Daniel Butler, Desiree Henderson, Dave Henderson, Jeff Ross, Paul Russell, Patrick Lloyd, Jake Popiez, Ian Boyle, Cordula Thielke, Holly Parsons, Jocelyn Hemond, Sylvain Martel, Joe Collins, Charrier Xavier

## BCMC Executive 2010

The BCMC Annual General Meeting was held at the social on November 10. A warm welcome to new executive members Francis St. Pierre and Dan Carey,

and welcome back to Emanuele Porra! The following are the members of the BCMC Executive for 2010:  
President - David Scanlon  
Past-President - Todd Ponzini  
Vice-President - Robert Woodhouse  
Treasurer - Craig Kalnin  
Secretary - Alice Purdey  
Editor (Newsletter) - Alice Purdey  
Editor(Journal) - Michael Feller  
Membership - Silvia Bakovic and Francis St. Pierre  
Socials - Robert Woodhouse and Donna Scanlon  
Climbing - Radmila Jaksic and Dan Carey  
Cabin/Trails - Emanuele Porra  
Camps - Alena Dzujkova  
Conservation - Monika Bittel and Brian Wood  
FMCBC Rep - Brian Wood

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## **Writing Opportunity**

Greystone Books, publishers of Mary and David Macaree's popular 109 Walks in B.C.'s Lower Mainland, is ready to begin preparing the next edition for release in 2012. Royalties from this book have been bequeathed to BCMC in perpetuity. Greystone would prefer that a volunteer from the BCMC take on the task of updating; the alternative is to hire an outsider, thus reducing the royalties. The writer/author must be able to write clearly, create rough maps, be good with details, be GPS-knowledgeable and meet deadlines. Much of the current product would remain the same, but it requires verification. The person would work with an assigned editor. If you are interested, please contact David Scanlon, BCMC president.

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## **Mountain Access During Olympics**

The Olympics are almost upon us and we will all be affected by area closures. Following are some closures relevant to club members.

### **North Shore Mountains:**

**Hollyburn Hikers Access Trail** to Hollyburn Peak will remain open until February 1, 2010. Between February 1, 2010 and March 8, 2010 access will be closed to the public.

**Black Mountain Winter Access corridor** will remain open until December 1, 2009.

**Howe Sound Crest Winter Access corridor**

including Yew Lake Trail and Bowen Lookout will remain open until December 1, 2009.

**Note:** Trail users are advised that security personnel may be encountered on any of these trails prior to closure dates.

The Hollyburn Access Trail was to have been closed from Dec. 1st like the others, but loud protests from the public and a letter offering an alternative from the FMCBC resulted in a two-month reprieve to the Feb. 1st date.

### **Sea to Sky Corridor:**

During the month of February 2010 public parking in Whistler will be significantly reduced and Whistler's population is expected to increase from 10,000 to 55,000. To manage traffic volumes going into or through the Resort and the resultant need for parking, permits will be issued for travel north of Squamish during the peak hours of 6 am to 6 pm between February 11 and 28, 2010. A traffic checkpoint will be in place at Alice Lake to verify vehicles going into or through Whistler have the required checkpoint permit.

**Garibaldi Park:** The access road to Cheakamus Lake and the access road to the Black Tusk microwave tower will be closed to the public due to their proximity to the athletes' village. However, if you skied from Whistler Mtn. to Cheakamus Lake and came out the road you would most likely be stopped by security and then let out to the highway. Rubble Ck. and Diamond Head access will be as usual.

For more information on these and other road closures, visit [www.for.gov.bc.ca/dsq](http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/dsq) and do a search.

**Whistler Olympic Park's Core Venue** is closed to public access until summer 2010. About 30 kms of the WOP trail system and all of Callaghan Country's 42 km of trails will be open. Access will be via the Callaghan Country base, located right beside the Madeley Creek Loop.

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**Shades of Security:** War Regulations now in effect issued by the Water Board prohibit all persons from using the Seymour Valley road and areas adjacent to the Seymour pipeline. This means that no one is allowed to ascend Mount Seymour from the Lynn Valley carline terminus. The logging road from Keith Road to the old camp at 2000' is still open. *BCMC Mountaineer. Sept. 1939*

**British Columbia Mountaineering Club**  
**Income Statements for the years ended September 30, 2009**  
**Unaudited, see Advisory to Reader**

	2009		2008
	<i>Total</i>	<i>General</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Fund</i>	<i>Funds</i>
OPERATING REVENUE			
Membership dues	15,921	15,921	14,832
Summer Mtn & Rock Programs (Net of expenses)	5,939	5,939	4,296
Winter Ski Program (Net of expenses)	3,255	3,255	3,000
Sat phone rental	210	210	658
Mountaineer & Index sales	210	210	288
Cabin user fees	210	210	200
Other Equipment rental	120	120	232
Banquet Revenue	-	-	9,720
Raffle Ticket Revenue	-	-	4,700
DVD Sales	89	89	202
Stamps sales	265	265	165
Calenders (Net of expenses)	-	-	(195)
Bandana sales	-	-	575
Crests sales	50	50	472
	26,269	26,269	39,145
OTHER REVENUE			
Interest revenue	2,103	2,103	2,504
Member donations	237	237	795
Royalty revenue	-	-	110
	2,340	2,340	3,409
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>28,609</b>	<b>28,609</b>	<b>42,554</b>
EXPENSES			
FMCBC dues	6,240	6,240	5,775
FMCBC Insurance	813	813	1,466
Newsletter	3,237	3,237	4,758
Depreciation expense	1,330	1,330	1,580
Social activities	1,703	1,703	1,523
Postage & stationery	2,147	2,147	1,905
Cabins	1,100	1,100	383
Mountaineer	4,000	4,000	4,000
Donations & gifts	1,145	1,145	1,377
Sat phone fees	337	337	330
Website	412	412	97
Voicemail	150	150	176
Accounting, legal & office supplies	283	283	135
Interest and Bank charges	84	84	-
Centennial Year (Banquet) Expenses	-	-	9,006
Centennial Journal	1,205	1,205	4,000
Archive Expenses	68	68	-
VIMFF fee and food	202	202	202
<b>Total General &amp; Operating Expenses</b>	<b>24,456</b>	<b>24,456</b>	<b>36,713</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>4,153</b>	<b>4,153</b>	<b>5,841</b>

Note > There was no activity in the Literary & Reserve and Life Membership funds for the year

## **AGM REPORTS - 2009**

### **Treasurer - Craig Kalnin**

This year's financial activity in the club was expected to be "back to normal"; the Centennial and Video Funds were closed out in the prior year and there were no raffles or banquet's to account for. Apart from a few odd-ball things along the way, it was, for the most part, business as usual.

In previous years, activity relating to the Centennial fund was tracked in a separate fund. However, as these funds were closed out last year, any residual sales of leftover stamps or crests etc. were simply attributed to the general fund. The Centennial journal final printing expenses came in a little higher than we'd accrued for, as can be seen in the income statement; this was covered by the general fund.

In our general fund, membership revenue was up slightly, rebounding a bit from last year's "post Centennial year" hang-over, and membership numbers remained healthy. At the beginning of the year we'd budgeted for a loss in 2009 with planned expenditures for website redevelopment, however, these were not fully incurred, and we found some cost savings on newsletter typing and printing as more people are taking electronic copies, saving printing costs. The rest of our expenses were kept within budget, but as a result, the general fund recorded a somewhat unexpected gain.

We have continued to earn significant revenue from our summer and winter instructional programs. Our exec team did a great job of putting together and promoting even more summer rock and navigation courses than last year, which allowed us to earn a few more dollars to go towards covering the club's expenses this year. Aside from membership, they continue to be a key source of funds to keep our club vibrant and financially healthy and even after such a good year, we even have one or two new exciting course ideas ready for the upcoming year! An enormous "Thank you!" to all our volunteers for donating their time to run these courses, we couldn't do them without you. Another "Thank you" to those current and new members who enjoyed them and make everyone's efforts so worthwhile!

Now two year's into my role as Treasurer, I thank you again for your patience as I continue to

improve and learn how to best manage the club's finances. I look forward to another good year with the club, the challenges of dealing with our new PayPal abilities, and supporting the exec's financial decision making process for another year.

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### **Past President - David Hughes**

The Club has continued to make progress on a number of fronts. After many years of hard work of searching and obtaining approvals for a new cabin, David Scanlon now has received authorization for a cabin next to Watersprite Lake near the southwest corner of Garibaldi Park. Pending approval of the membership, we may be in a position to build next summer. The cabin and trails' volunteers have continued to maintain our trails and cabins, with the Mountain Lake receiving refurbishing this year. This cabin is now experiencing a large increase in visitor numbers.

Through the hard work of our Climbing chairs, Radmilla Jasic and Bob Woodhouse, our Camps/ Programs chair, Alena Dzukova, and their volunteers we are able to offer an expanding selection of courses and training sessions. The BCMC continues to be a leader in helping people to become active in mountaineering.

We have made good progress on our electronic communications and website. When I came on the Executive in 1997, we were only beginning to plan/ dream about having good Internet communication. Thanks to Kevin Swanson for his hard work. Further expansion and development of our website is being planned.

I would like to thank Todd for his leadership over the last two years. I also would like to acknowledge Michael Feller for producing an outstanding Centennial Journal and the Executive as a whole for their enthusiasm and stewardship. It has been great working with you.

I see several challenges and opportunities for the Club in the near future. The baby boomers are becoming far more serious about taking up activities in the mountains. Generation X and Y'ers are taking "in-bound" outdoor activities into the backcountry or "out-of-bounds". The BCMC has a role to play in helping the community at large participate in outdoor adventures in a responsible and safe way. The Club has throughout its history been a leader in exploring,

recreating and preserving our mountain wilderness. We have promoted and encouraged the spread of information to meet these objectives.

- The BCMC should embrace a leadership role by:
- Presenting education and training
  - Offering a wide range of trips on our winter and summer schedules
  - Maintaining and expanding our facilities
  - Obtaining access for the general public
  - Preserving areas for non-motorized recreation

With Todd stepping into the Past President's position, I will be leaving the Executive. Thank you for your help and participation in making the Club better. It has been fun!

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## **Cabins and Trails** – David Scanlon

Another year has come and is almost gone leaving behind the memories of things accomplished.

June is a good month to get trail work done as the snow is just gone and all of the shrubbery is still flattened, making travel easy. I do like getting out by myself now and again and I'd flagged a new route in the North Creek area. So a trail clearing trip was held on June 6-7 to once again work on the new trail into the club's North Creek cabin. This new trail on the east bank eliminates the original North Creek river crossing and joins the old trail at about the half way point. At the cabin though a tree may have to be felled to cross the river because the other tree crossings are now very difficult to access. The river keeps moving them around and changing course. We worked hard and the new trail is almost finished; excepting one section where the mother of all avalanches was still blocking about 200 metres of the bank. Next year?

Anyone who has been to the mountain Lake cabin in recent times has seen that there were things in need of repair. The cabin was built in 1979 and has held up extremely well. With exceptions. So money was set aside in the club budget for replacement items and materials. A work party was scheduled and the work was done in quick order. All things that were needed were flown in by Black Tusk helicopters from Squamish. There was an incentive for those coming to work - a climb of Sky Pilot. A club newcomer wanted to climb it so badly that she worked very hard. So, for the reward, Bob Woodhouse, Suzanne and myself left

for Sky Pilot. It was a fun day for us all. That south west route is exciting with lots of just plain fun, lots of scrambling, with bunches of exposure. So check out the schedule for a trail clearing trip next summer for the club. We reinforced the foundations, replaced the front porch, rehung the door, repaired the shutters, made a screen door, installed shelving and coat hangers, put new foam sleeping pads put in the cabin, (I think the old ones were from 1979 and smelled like it too!) and painted the cabin and outhouse.

The highlight of the year was securing a tenure from the Integrated Land Management Bureau, ILMB, to build a cabin at Watersprite Lake. Watersprite Lake is 23 km east of Squamish, at 5100', just south of Garibaldi Park. The staff in the ILMB were knowledgeable and helpful (thank you!). The process from application to receipt of tenure took about nine months. We are hoping to build a cabin at Watersprite Lake next year; this will be presented to the membership for a vote in due course. Volunteers have already come forward to help with the building and even a volunteer to oversee the project. Other help will be needed, so when you see me coming don't run away. I know where you all live!

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## **Editors**

### **Newsletter** – Alice Purdey

I took on the position of Newsletter Editor as of January 2009 with a certain degree of temerity, well aware that it would be difficult to follow in the footsteps and shadow of Michael Feller, who admirably served as editor for 20 years. Bravo, Michael, and on behalf of the club, thank you for your excellent work and your ability to stir up just the right amount of controversy. I was also timorous because I had no experience in desktop publishing; I have survived because of the wonderful technical support of Peter Stange, Michael's willingness to produce two newsletters when I was away, Kit Griffin's timely and cheerful printing of envelopes, and all you folks who submitted trip reports, photographs, book reviews and other types of articles. Thank you all. Remember that your input is important; this is how we share experiences with each other and keep memories for posterity.

Another change was the splitting of the editor's position so that the newsletter and the journal are now handled separately.

A few people are now receiving their newsletters online and the executive is currently shifting to actively encouraging more members to do the same. This is in the interest of cost savings both financially and of our natural resources. Paper copies of the newsletter are still very much an option, however.

Ten issues of the newsletter were published this past year at a considerable saving of about \$1500.00 over past years. We now use a different printer, more conveniently located to myself for pick-up, and we no longer hire a typist. In total the newsletters comprised 120 pages of articles and photos, etc. and 20 pages of inserts such as schedules and forms.

Thank you for your support and please keep the articles coming.

### **Journal** - Michael Feller

The journal editor devoted considerable time to finishing and producing the special centennial journal, the largest publication the club has ever undertaken. In addition, work was begun to catalogue and incorporate into the club archives large quantities of material received for our centennial year. We received a particularly large quantity of material associated with 103 Hikes and 109 Walks from Mary Macaree's estate, and large numbers of photos and glass slides, particularly those taken by Brick Spouse, from Joan McGiveron, Chas Townsend from Gayle Sullivan, George Rose from Betty Gilbert, Neal Carter from Don Steele via Margaret Waddington, and George Warren from David Munns. We are extremely grateful for these donations.

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### **FMCBC** - Brian Wood

The FMCBC Trails Committee and Jodi, our Administration Manager, were successful in securing \$150,000 of Federal Government Economic Stimulus funding which, with matching funds from VANOC, are being used to upgrade a portion of the badly neglected Howe Sound Crest Trail. We also obtained a smaller amount of funding for a backcountry access trail in the Callaghan Valley which is necessary due to the Olympic ski facilities.

Unfortunately, our application for Provincial Government "Gaming" Funds was rejected, which we believe is a common occurrence in the present

economic climate. In the past, when we (sometimes) obtained a Gaming Grant these funds they were used mainly to print and mail Cloudburst, but now that we are cut off from these funds we have to reduce our expenses in that area. Many of our members would like to receive only electronic versions of Cloudburst, whereas others prefer to have printed copies mailed to them. To cater to both of these options we are asking those who wish to receive paper copies in the mail to make a specific request on the BCMC Membership Form when they renew their membership or join the club for the first time. In this way we expect a considerable reduction in our printing and mailing costs, but this will NOT reduce membership dues for either the FMCBC or the BCMC.

To help our member clubs attract new members we are preparing an eye-catching publicity poster which will stress the companionship, safety and educational aspects of joining outdoor recreation clubs and participating in their trips. This poster will list our member clubs in their specific regions and give their website addresses so the public can contact the member clubs in their region. The poster will also publicize the FMCBC, its goals etc. and its website, and in this way we are hoping that existing outdoor clubs will consider joining the FMCBC. We are asking members to display these posters at appropriate locations frequented by the public, such as outdoor goods stores, public libraries, community centres, colleges etc. In addition, if space permits at the display locations, it would be good to display the poster with paper copies of Cloudburst so that they can be easily identified for free distribution. Even without the posters, in the past we have circulated left-over Cloudburst copies to these locations and we hope this gets the word out. In this way, Cloudburst is to be used more as an "outreach" to the public than in the past, and so we feel each issue should have at least a couple of articles which address education issues such as safety, wilderness travel tips, emergency preparedness etc. in a non-technical manner directed to beginners. As Cloudburst is published every six months, you could start your article now!

We also have a MS Powerpoint presentation which outlines the FMCBC's mandate and activities which can be shown at meetings of non-member clubs to introduce them to the FMCBC. This presentation could also be shown at meetings of existing members clubs to help answer the all-too-common query: "What does

the FMCBC do for me?” This is a chance for club members to become more involved with the FMCBC while practicing their public speaking skills, so please let us know if you would like to try this.

The FMCBC Resolution for advocacy funding proposed at the MEC AGM was passed and we are starting negotiations with MEC. We are hoping to obtain some type of long term funding which can be used to promote the interests of self-propelled or non-motorised backcountry recreationists. We are seeking a skilled person for dealing with government agencies on a regular basis to build up a professional working relationship, which might help settle disputes over conflicting uses of land and recreational trails. At the moment some of us feel that motorised recreationists, ie snowmobilers, ATV or quad riders etc, receive funding from the manufacturers and dealers of their “toys”, and thus have an advantage when dealing with government. We are hoping that this proposal might help to have our voice heard in the corridors of power. Do you know anyone with good negotiation skills, backcountry experience, and a knowledge of how government agencies operate?

In an attempt to increase social contacts between FMCBC member clubs, some of us have been reviving the idea of organizing extended joint club trips in different areas of the province between two or more member clubs. Sometimes there is a good turnout from one or both clubs, and other times not, but this is also a means of increasing numbers of participants for the trip if there is not much interest shown by members in the organiser’s own club. If you are lucky, it works this way. A member of a “host” club who is familiar with a particular local area invites members of one or more “guest” clubs to participate in an extended trip, perhaps a week’s traverse or base camp in the host’s area. As the host is familiar with access to the area, good objectives in the area, and any access or car shuttle requirements, this simplifies the planning logistics for the guests. The next year the guest club becomes the host club and vice versa. How about more members of the BCMC volunteering to organize this sort of trip?

While BC Parks will be celebrating its centenary in 2011, funding for BC Parks is being drastically reduced so that there are now far fewer staff and resources than there used to be. As a result of these funding reductions, recreational infrastructure and facilities such as trails, bridges, buildings, visitor programs,

etc are suffering from severe neglect. Similar neglect to recreational facilities is also occurring in recreation sites of the old BC Forest Service. The Outdoor Recreation Council of BC (ORC) and the FMCBC wants members of clubs and the general public to help document specific examples of neglect/deterioration of recreational facilities so that we can bring these examples to the Government’s attention in a report. This means that those folks who visit the parks and backcountry should record the place and date, and preferably take photographs and make notes of examples of this type of neglect. There is now a convenient website for the general public to report examples of these types of problems found with BC Parks, BC Forest Service Recreational sites and trails, access roads and backcountry trails. Visit the BC website: [www.bivouac.com](http://www.bivouac.com), and from the home page, click on:- “#3.Campaigns”. From here go to “Trails.- 1. Road and Trail Fixup-Proposal Database” and review some of the early reports. Some of the reports posted are too vague, preferably they should be in sufficient detail to enable a reasonable understanding of the extent of the problem. This database is on the same page as the databases for snowmobile zoning infractions and ATV Damage, the reasons and uses of which were discussed by Mike Feller on Page 4 of the May 2009 BCMC Newsletter. Reports can be posted on this site by anyone, including non-members of Bivouac, by following the instructions to set up a free account. You click “Log in” on the Campaigns menu page, and follow instructions to log in on a free membership. If you have problems, you can click “Contact Us” on the home page and email the site administrator, Robin Tivy.

The FMCBC is continuing with organization restructuring, and we need more volunteers to help spread the work load, which seems to be getting bigger as our parks and wilderness come under more threats. If you are interested in helping the FMCBC achieve its goals by participating in one of our committees, by writing letters to government agencies, writing articles for Cloudburst, and/or helping to distribute copies of paper copies of Cloudburst or our new publicity posters, please contact:-

Brian Wood, BCMC Director, at [bjwood@telus.net](mailto:bjwood@telus.net) or (604) 222-1541 , or  
Jodi Appleton, Admin. Manager, at [FMCBC@mountainclubs.org](mailto:FMCBC@mountainclubs.org) or (604) 873-6096

## **Membership** - Silvia Bakovic

The 2009 membership year has ended with a member count of 486.

These numbers are slightly higher than the two previous years, including the Centennial year. Thanks to the effort of the people in the climbing and camp committees, a large number of programs, courses and training sessions were available to members and non-members throughout 2009. These high quality activities did attract new members to the Club. It was noticed, however, that by the end of 2008 the number of existing members was still dropping.

Some actions were taken early this year by the Club Development Committee to avoid losing long time members and to increase their awareness on how valuable their input and presence is to the Club. A reminder e-mail was sent out by Francis St Pierre in January which led to a good wave of membership renewals.

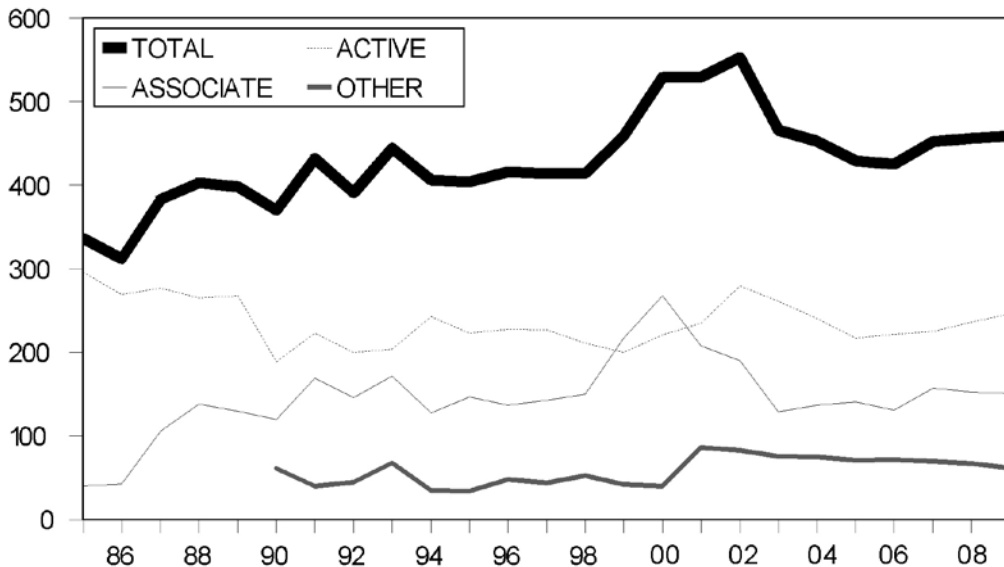
There are efforts underway to make programs available to long time members in order for the Club to be a source of education not only for beginners but also for people that would like to bring their skills to a higher level.

We are now well into the membership renewal season. Thanks to those members who have already renewed for 2010. For those who have not yet renewed, please do so soon! Our work is made much easier when we don't have to hunt folks down. As a reminder, the December newsletter will be the last sent to members who have not renewed.

I would like to thank Steve Tate who has been a great help as part of the Membership committee. He has been active in processing membership applications and also in assisting at the Membership Desk during the Socials. Your help, Steve, is greatly appreciated.

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## **Membership Profile 1986 - 2009** - Graph by Michael Feller



## Trip Report

### Liberty Bell area - September 4-7, 2009

Organizers: Dave Morriss and Wendy Holmes

The potential participants for this Labour Day weekend trip to Washington Pass began dropping out by the hour in the preceding week, with everyone checking the various weather forecast sites and coming up with rain, rain and more rain. Even snow. And despite Wendy's optimistic denial of the forecast, it turned out that Mr. Madryga was pretty accurate. However, six stalwart members of BCMC decided to brave the elements and we were all very glad that we did. Four of us arrived late on the Friday night at the Lone Fir campground and set up camp with rain threatening, and indeed materializing overnight. Breakfast was quick and potentially soggy, but when Paul and Amy arrived nice and dry from their bed at the Mazama Inn they were able to report that the sun was shining in Mazama. So even though this was intended as a potential alpine climbing weekend, off we set for the crags of Mazama where there was plenty to keep us busy.

The first day we checked out the various crags, including driving some way from Mazama to find a newly opened area on sandstone. This area is in the new Mazama guidebook and we also found some wild camping nearby, useful for future trips. We ended up climbing on several single pitch routes that day, dodging showers and with thunder rolling around in the background. Darlene (a.k.a. The Rope Rocket) excelled at everything she attempted, Paul was his usual inspiring self with Amy following suit, Dave got his climbing legs and head back with a vengeance, and Mike found his balance and strength coming back in leaps and bounds. When we were suitably hungry, off we headed for Winthrop to find a pub. Said pub was full so we ate at a small restaurant with good food and a warm and cosy atmosphere, allowing us to chat and plan for the next day. If the weather co-operated we thought we would try for an alpine route on the Sunday, and if not we would do one of the multi-pitch routes on Goat Wall at Mazama.

Sunday morning dawned damp and chilly so we decamped from Lone Fir and set up camp again in the much drier and warmer valley at Early Winters campground. We met Paul and Amy again at the Mazama Store for coffee and decided the weather

forecast was not reliable enough to do either an alpine or a multi-pitch route, so we spent the day on more single pitch crags, all excellent climbing and some under roofs and out of potential wet weather. While there we met some climbers who had tried the 11 pitch route the day before and had to bail off the 3rd pitch when the rain started, so our decision to stick with single pitch proved to have been the right one.

On Sunday evening we gathered around a campfire at our new campground and were entertained by Mike who gave a very strenuous demonstration of how to coil a climbing rope. We hadn't laughed so much for years and would like to thank Mike for bringing so much fun to the evening.

On the Monday, Paul and Amy turned into tourists because Paul was suffering from a sore arm, so the rest of us did a few more pitches and then called it a day in the early afternoon. Mike and Darlene drove back to Vancouver while Dave and I continued with our holiday plans, heading south to City of Rocks in southern Idaho where the sun shone all day and every day.

Participants: Dave Morriss (organizer/leader), Wendy Holmes (organizer/reporter), Paul and Amy Miller (photographers), Darlene Anderson (rope rocket) and Mike Barkusky (entertainer)



Ain't life tough!  
Photo: Amy Miller



Your BCMC executive wishes you all a very happy holiday season and lots of deep powder snow.