

# B.C. Mountaineering Club Newsletter



Photo: Steep skiing  
Alex Gibbs

February 2012. Vol. 90, No. 2

## EVENING SOCIAL MEETINGS

Evening socials are held in the ANZA club, upstairs room (corner of 8th Ave. and Ontario St., Vancouver) from 7:30 pm. Cookies, tea and coffee are provided.

## PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN MUG

**Tues. 14 Feb** - BCMC member Alex Gibbs will showcase some recent steep & deep trips in the Sea to Sky, all of which are skiable in a weekend from Vancouver.

**Tues. 13 Mar** - Spring ski traverse from Blackcomb to Pitt Lake by the Misty Icefield

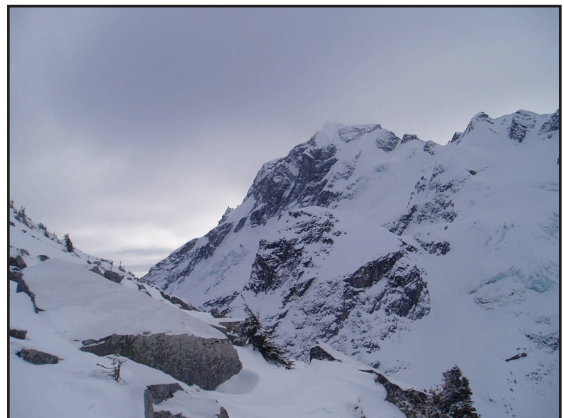


Photo: NE Face of Joffre from Mt Chief Pascal  
Photo: Ed Zenger

**British Columbia Mountaineering Club**  
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**HONOURARY PRESIDENTS**  
*Esther and Martin Kafer*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS**

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<b>VICE-PRESIDENT:</b>	FRANCIS ST PIERRE	604-224-0502
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<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. For rentals, email info@bcmc.ca or contact Kit Griffin (604-313-7282) or Peter Gumpfinger (604-733-8264). At least 2 days notice should be given prior to the day the equipment is wanted, except for the satellite phone, which should be arranged at least 2 weeks in advance.

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. 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: [editor@bcmc.ca](mailto:editor@bcmc.ca)

Members may upload articles, photos etc. for the editor at: <http://bcmc.ca/members/EditorUpload.asp>

**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. 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 ~ Check for updates and details at [www.bcmc.ca](http://www.bcmc.ca)

All trips are skiing unless otherwise noted

### February 2011 Trips

3-6	Ice climbing in the Rockies - A5	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
4	Mt. Tszil (beginner friendly) - C3	Don Montrichard	
4	Mount Rohr - B2-C2/3	Jim Vercammen	604 733-8914
3-6	Ice climbing in the Rockies - A5	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
4	Mt. Tszil (beginner friendly) - C3	Don Montrichard	
4	Mount Rohr - B2-C2/3	Jim Vercammen	604 733-8914
4-6	Ice Climbing Lilloett- WI 3-5	Werner Grzimek	
4-11	Discovery Cabin Ski Camp (FULL)	Dan Friedmann	604-737-0840
11-12	Thompson/Lytton Ice Climbing - B5	Don Montrichard	
11-12	Taylor Meadows (FULL) - B2/3	Martin Cook	604-733-5452
11-12	Mountain Lake Hut - B2	Magnus Byne	604 771-5305
12-19	Rogers Pass (FULL) - B3	Francis St Pierre	604-224-0502
18	Vantage Peak - C3	Craig Speirs	604-925-3675
18-19	Marble Canyon ice - A5	Dean Neumann	604-309-5502
18-19	Brew Hut - B2/3	Ian Stotesbury	
18-19	Zupjok & Iago - B2	Jeff Ross	604-736-1667
19	Bombtram Mountain - B3-C3	Bruce Cassels	604-617-6774
25	Thar Peak - B3	Denis Lalonde	604-793-9675
25	Mount Price - C2	Bill Maurer	
25	Hope Mtn Snowshoe - D2	Alastair Ferries	604-329-1637
25-26	Cayoosh to Marriot crossover - C3	Darlene Anderson	604-789-8020
25-26	Coquihalla Ice Climbing - B5	Don Montrichard	
28-29	Russet Lake - B2/3	Martin Cook	604-733-5452

### February 2011 Programs and Instructional Days

2	Intermediate - Advanced tele-clinic Cypress - B2	Isabel Budke
4-5	AST-2 - Weekend 1 of 2	BCMC Programs
4-5	Overnight Backcountry Ski Touring (weekend 1 of 2)	BCMC Programs
11-12	AST-2 - Weekend 2 of 2	BCMC Programs
11-12	Overnight Backcountry Ski Touring (weekend 2 of 2)	BCMC Programs
18-19	Organized Avalanche Response	Justin Bennett
25-26	Snow Shelter Instruction	Brian J. Wood

## NEWS AND NOTICES

### New Members

The club welcomes the following new members: Arif Bandali, Maoz Bouskila, Mary Brennan, Peter Bruckmann, Francois-Xavier De Ruydts, Carol Evenchick, Mark Finn, Mary Gillespie, Alexandra Girard, Holly Hendrigan, Andrew Ibey, Denali Jones, Aleksandar Kocmaruk, Myles Lamont, Alex Le, Jaques Lemaire, Ronaldo Martins, Tammy McIntyre, Sarah Nau, Khang Nguyen, Denise North, Michael Rascher, Roy Smyth, Jason Thorne, Robert Tomich, Paul Wilson, and Miroslav Zimen.

Check out North Vancouver Museum's online exhibit **Climbing to the Clouds: A People's History of BC Mountaineering**, if you haven't seen it before, it's a great multimedia collection.

## **BCMC Logo Design Contest Winner**

The BCMC executive has been busy running a contest for a new BCMC logo. The new logo is intended to be used in the upcoming new club website as well as future promotional materials. The logo does not replace the club crest, but rather complements it. The logo contest was organized by Werner Grzimek, on behalf of the BCMC, using 99designs.com. In total, nearly 400 individual logos were submitted in more than 20 distinct design themes. Out of those, we short listed six designs. A survey was conducted at the end of January and the designer *barcelona* was selected as the winner. A preliminary version of the logo is included below, this design might still be tweaked as it is finalized.



## **Volunteer strategy for BC Provincial Parks - Workshop Schedule**

*Lori Halls, Assistant Deputy Minister, submitted by Brian Wood*

BC Parks is developing a volunteer strategy to improve the volunteer experience for our existing and future volunteers. Our goal is to develop a strategy over the next few months and launch it in the upcoming summer season. The workshops will provide you with an opportunity to:

Share the work you or your organization has done in support of BC Parks;  
Contribute to a discussion about how BC Parks can improve the volunteer experience;  
Provide input on future volunteer opportunities you would like to see; and,  
Network with BC Parks staff and other volunteer groups.  
Workshops will be held in February and March in nine locations across the province.

Please RSVP to Erick Pay, Project Assistant (Erick.Pay@gov.bc.ca) based on RSVP dates listed below. If you are unable to participate in any of the workshops, please submit written comments to Becs.Hoskins@gov.bc.ca by March 16, 2012.

If you have any questions about the volunteer strategy, please contact Becs Hoskins, BC Parks Project Manager (Becs.Hoskins@gov.bc.ca).

Please join us at one of the following workshops:

Victoria - February 6, 9 am – 12 pm; RSVP by January 27  
Prince George - February 10, 9 am -12 pm; RSVP by January 27  
Smithers - February 13, 9 am -12 pm; RSVP by February 3  
Vancouver - February 16, 1-4 pm; RSVP by February 3  
Penticton - February 20, 1-4 pm; RSVP by February 10  
Williams Lake - February 24, 9 am - 12 pm; RSVP by February 10  
Miracle Beach - February 28, 1-4 pm; RSVP by February 17  
Nelson - March 5, 1-4 pm; RSVP by February 24  
Cranbrook - March 7, 9 am – 12 pm; RSVP by February 24  
Kamloops - March 12, 9 am – 12 pm; RSVP by February 24

## **Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival - February 10-18**

*David Scanlon*

The program is now up on the VIMFF web site and BCMC members are allowed to volunteer, 2 a night, to man the clubs display at the Centennial Theatre in North Vancouver. As a volunteer you would be asked to arrive at or before the doors open at 6:30PM and man the clubs display in the lobby. You would then answer any questions about the club, hand out brochures as required, mention the newsletter, journal, enews, cabins, monthly socials, trips, courses, and tell people how they can join, in other words, be a BCMC club representative. When the show starts you just go on in with everyone else. Afterwards, just hang around for 5 minutes in case anyone asks anything else. For further information, email me, david.hiker@gmail.com or call me at 604-531-5025.

## **Whistler Telemark Festival - February 4**

Join BCTSA for a day of telemark skiing with many like minded free heelers from around BC. The day will be run by experienced CANSI Tele instructors who will organise:

- Lessons for all levels and ages
- Steeps and Backcountry sessions
- Freeski Competition
- Race Practice
- Merlins Bar Apres

\$10 participation fee includes:

BCTSA membership, coaching, prizes for knee droppin performances, sponsor give aways.

Participants receive 50% off lift tickets and discounted rentals available.

Free parking available at Base 2 car park.

For more information, please see <http://www.bctelemark.com> or talk to Ben Biswell, BCTSA Education Director at 604-902-4184

## **Mt Chief Pascall**

*Geoff Zenger*

Trip Date: December 11, 2011

Participants: Alexis Guigue, Steve Bell-Irving, David Haslam, Rob Kay, Travis McClinchey, Andrzej Jarzabek, Ed Zenger, Geoff Zenger (organizer, reporter)

Difficulty: 3. Easy rock scrambling, slopes to 30-35 degrees, dense forest low down

Elevation Gain: 920m

The trip began by meeting up at the Mt. Currie Coffee Company in Pemberton just before 8am, making all of the necessary introductions, and setting off to the weather station pullout right at Cayoosh Pass. We set off from the cars at about 9:30, with 7 of us on skis, and 1 on snowshoes.

The first 10 minutes or so of the trip were easy going, and then we hit the logging road. When I went up towards Mt. Chief Pascall in February 2011, the logging road was completely covered, and we took it to the clearcut a couple hundred metres to the east, which was then easily descended. This time, however, with no appreciable snowfall in 2 weeks, the logging road was a brutal alder bash, which we had to take all the way to the east side of the clearcut as from below the clearcut did not appear to be skiable.

From the east end of the clearcut, we had little difficulty ascending the forest, slowly traversing around to the east side of the ridge to avoid the bluffs high up, and soon entered the gentle basin at treeline to the north west of the summit. From here, it was an easy skin up to the west ridge of Chief Pascall. After a quick snack break (and to give our valiant snowshoer a chance to catch his breath!) we skinned up the narrowing ridge (with some difficulty in places due to the low snow level) up to the top of the large gully descending from the summit (~100m below the summit) and left our skis behind to scramble the remainder of the ridge.

The final ridge was an easy scramble, although the going was slow with many of the rocks covered with only a few inches of snow and ice. We all reached the summit around 1:30 and took our time to eat, drink, and gaze at the north/east faces of Joffre.



Group summit shot on Mt Chief Pascall  
Photo: Ed Zenger

Leaving the summit, we made quick time down to our skis (despite one of my legs post-holing into a gap between two boulders approximately 3m deep!), and began our descent by skiing the top couple hundred metres of the wide snowslope labelled “Equinox” on Baldwin’s Duffey Lake map. With a bit of foresight, we could have left a vehicle at the Marriot basin trailhead and had a fall line descent most of the way down, but alas, that hadn’t crossed any of our minds and we quickly had to begin our traverse to the west in order to reach our vehicles. Around treeline we found some fantastic powder, but the traversing was not steep enough for our snowboarder to properly ride and I think he found much of the descent quite tedious.

Back down at the clearcut, we started to bash through the alder on the logging road, but Alexis smartly decided to take a peek through the bushes to see if he could scout a clear line through the clearcut, and as it turned out, he could! Although not phenomenal by any means, we had a nice run through the clearcut back down to the logging road, and from there it was a quick ski down through the trees to the vehicles, where we arrived around 4:30pm. The route taken is definitely much more suitable for skiing than snowboarding, and so I learned something for next time. Nonetheless, everyone made it down before dark, and fun was had by all.

## Ipsoot Mountain in a day on skis

*Paul Kubik*

Trip Date: May 9, 2009

Participants: Greg Stoltmann, Ramsay Dyer, Jane Weller, Maxim Aleksandrov, Ryan Alderman, Paul Kubik, dog Linus

I led a last minute BCBC trip to Ipsoot on a Saturday. I believe this is a new route up Ipsoot, previously never skied before. We were going to try for the SE approach from Rutherford Creek FSR by either the Km 5 or 8 approach but the snowline was way too high. Bivouac (bivouac.com) Greg Jones



Exiting the avalanche gully  
Photo: Paul Kubik

had some excellent info on a brand new road to the SW, which was the backup plan. That road is Branch 550 at Km 15.5 on Rutherford Main. A sledhead on TAY (Turns-all-year.com) had a road report from the previous weekend that said the road open to Km 13. It turned out he must have consumed too much beer while snowmobiling - the road was clear and plowed beyond Km 15.

On the Saturday, we regrouped at the start of Rutherford FSR and drove up together to Km 15.5 or thereabouts. We parked at the start of south-facing Branch 550 and started hiking. The road was free of snow and heavily modified with tank traps. At the top of the road in the clearcut we were able to put on skis. A couple of hundred meters up valley we ran into mega alder and veered off right to go up a steep avalanche slope. It turned out we'd have been better off in the forest, which is the way we came down. The picture from Ray Mason, a denizen of avalanche.ca shows the way we approached the mountain.

thin crust. Hard work! We then gained a nice bowl near 5000 feet with still a long way to go and already 12:15 PM.

We climbed steeply up the avalanche gully for 300 meters through shattered trees and isothermal sugar snow with a crust. I found crawling on all fours was the only way to remain on top of the

After a wee break with everyone together, we steadily plodded up to 7600 feet where we intersected the sprawling summit glacier. The party started spreading out over one km. We marched for about another 2 km to Ipsoot, reaching the peak at 3:15 PM. There was great light for photos.



Above: Rhododendron Mountain as viewed from Ipsoot Mountain

Right: Max, Greg and Jane on Summit

Photos: Paul Kubik

