



BCMC

BC Mountaineering Club
Newsletter

UPCOMING BCMC SOCIAL

At the ANZA Club 7:30 pm

Tuesday, Oct 9 - BCMC and CPAWS-BC member Jenn Burt presents "Forever Wild", a presentation on parks and parks planning.

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British Columbia Mountaineering Club
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CLUB EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

The club maintains a satellite phone and ice tools, which are available for rental by members only.

Ice Tool - \$5 per day per tool
 Satellite Phone - \$60/week; \$10 per day + \$2 per minute used

Fees are non-refundable and payable in advance and a refundable deposit may be required, at the equipment custodian's discretion. Instructional Programs are exempt from rental fees, all other uses are subject to the rental fees.

The satellite phone is rented from Peter Gumplinger (604-733-8264), who should be contacted at least 3 weeks prior to the day it is wanted.

Ice climbing axes are rented from Werner Grzimek.

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.

Cover Photo: October Presenter Jenn Burt
 Photo Courtesy J Burt

Submit Your Content:
editor@bcmc.ca

Submissions: We want you to write for us! Any submitted news, events, trip reports, letters relevant to the BCMC will be published unless the club executive decides otherwise.

About Submissions: For photos, high resolution is much appreciated. 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 BCMC.

Scheduled trips: How they work

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.

October is Renewal Time! :) Please see the enclosed application form.

TRIP SCHEDULE ~ Sign up, updates and details at www.bcmc.ca

Oct 2012 Trips

6	Mt. Elsay - B2	Geoffrey Zenger	
6	Ice Climbing (Beginner Friendly)- Mt. Baker Seracs - WI 2-3	Werner Grzimek	
13	Mt. Baker Seracs - Off Season Moderate Practice - B5	Don Montrichard	
20	Hanging Lake Ski Trail Building - B2	Scott Nelson	604-736-7477
20	Lost Pk - C3	Alastair Ferries	604-329-1637
21	Gideon Pk. - D3	Alastair Ferries	604-329-1637
21	Beverly Creek Ski Trail Building - B2	Scott Nelson	604-736-7477

Dec 2012 Trips

2	Alpine Practice - B4	Serguei Okountsev	
7-16	Ice Climbing Camp In The Rockies - WI3-4	Werner Grzimek	
9	Crown Couloir - C4	Serguei Okountsev	

Oct 2012 Programs and Instructional Days

6-7	Systems for Mountaineering – Rescue Intermediate - A5	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666
27-28	SJA Wilderness First Aid Course	SJA	604-990-1290

NEWS AND NOTICES

New Members

The club welcomes the following new member: Pavel Sorkin.

Great weather for fall trips!

As the days grow shorter and we prepare for the first snowflakes of the year, we're looking for volunteers to lead fall and winter trips for the BCMC. Every pursuit is welcome: easy hikes, scrambles, rock climbing in Squamish, snowshoeing, backcountry skiing, ice climbing, or big mountaineering objectives. Please see the trip schedule on the website for details on how to add a trip.

BCMC Executive Needs You!

As the BCMC executive gears up for the 2012/2013 year, we'd like to extend an open invitation to BCMC members to get involved in the executive. In particular, we're looking for volunteers for the positions of Climbing Chair, Socials Chair, and Programs Chair. The executive meets once a month in the evening, in the week preceding the social. We're always looking for volunteers to help out in addition to executive positions as well. If you're curious as to what's involved and would like to learn more, just ask. If you are interested in helping out in some way or have any questions, please contact Francis St Pierre at francis_stpierre@telus.net or 604-224-0502.

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St Johns Ambulance Wilderness First Aid Course - Oct 25, 27-28

Offered directly by North Shore / Sea to Sky branch of St John's Ambulance, who has been a past provider of wilderness first aid courses for the BCMC, this specialized dual certification course is designed for people who work or play outdoors. It is taught using videos, work and text books, and supervised outdoor practical sessions. The course is designed for those who enjoy the outdoors, learning emergency preparedness, and making the right decisions to ensure their own safety and that of others. (Age 14+)

When and Where:

First session (Oct 25) held at the North Shore Branch from 5:30-10pm

Weekend session (Oct 27-28) held in Lighthouse Park, West Vancouver, from 8am-5pm

Cost: \$230 (including books and certificates)

Students receive: First Aid Reference Guide and the Official Wilderness First Aid Guide. Pre-reading takes approx. 5-6 hours.

Certification: St. John Ambulance Standard First Aid for Wilderness certificate, valid for 3 years; and a CPR-B certificate.

To register or for more information please call: 604-990-1290 or email NShore@bc.sja.ca

Avalanche Skills Training 2 - January 2013 Course now scheduled

The AST-2 Course is delivered over two weekends, January 19-20 and 26-27, and one theory session in the evening of Jan. 17th. This course expands upon the fundamentals learned standard AST-1 course offerings.

The Advanced AST-2 course is conducted using a variety of different terrain locations - typically in the Duffy Lake Road, Whistler/Blackcomb and the Coquihalla areas. Students will have exposure to a variety of snow packs, terrain and weather patterns, to enhance the learning opportunities involved in winter decision-making.

The Advanced AST-2 course includes:

- 40 hours of instruction by a CAA Level 2 Professional member

- CAA approved curriculum for AST-2 course

- Avalanche manual

- Practice using of beacon, shovel and probe (bring your own gear)

- CAA Industry-recognized Certificate of completion

Cost: \$475 per person, tax included. Minimum number of participants is 6; maximum 8.

Discount for trip leaders: If you had 2 trips on the BCMC schedule in the past 12 months, and at least one trip on the current schedule, the cost is \$375

Registration deadline: January 3

Note: Cost does not include transportation to/from course areas; lift access fees (if applicable); food; accomodation; or personal equipment except as noted. This course is for BCMC members only.

My Oddest Hiking Experience

By Alastair Ferries

My strangest hiking experience was a joint BCMC/NSH attempt of Ashlu led by Gordon Esplin in July 2004. A couple of days before the trip Gordon had to drop out but one of the BCMC members volunteered to lead it. The night before the trip, he told me I couldn't come because the person driving couldn't take more than 4 passengers. I was disappointed and I decided to see how far I could drive in my 2wd, and then hopefully the BCMC group could squeeze me in for the remaining few km. My back up plan was Mt. Jimmy Jimmy.

I left Vancouver early Sat morning. The weather was absolutely perfect. About 10k down the Ashlu road I became confused by the road system. While pulled over and looking at my maps a SUV drove up. I waved it down for directions. It was the BCMC group. There was clearly space in the vehicle and I introduced myself and asked if I could join them. Silence. The sole woman asked if I had crampons and an ice axe. I said yes. More silence. Obviously they didn't want my company so I wished them well and told them that I would attempt Jimmy Jimmy.

I drove back to the Pokosha turn off and drove to a gate blocking the road. I was surprised to see an old mine sign – I hadn't realized that there had been mining here. After hiking a couple of kilometres I started to see signs of recent human activity. I came around a corner and there were a couple of guys and some rotweillers about 100m ahead. I am scared of dogs so I climbed up on an adjacent tractor. The dogs noticed, and came bounding towards me. There were two full sized ones and 4 half sized ones. Fortunately they were all obviously very friendly. I climbed down as one of the men approached. When close he asked me something like, "What the f... are you doing here, you f... ing moron? Didn't you see the signs, you f...ing clown? He went on like this. Whenever I had the chance, I apologized and said that I was going for a hike and hadn't seen any signs saying private property or keep out. The insults continued. "We own all the property in all directions for 10 miles you f...ing idiot!" After a while he calmed down. The other man approached. He was shirtless and he had a samurai sword in a sheath hanging from his neck. He was even ruder and more belligerent. I remained polite and said that I meant no harm and that I was just hoping to climb Jimmy Jimmy. After about 3 minutes of insults he also calmed down. They both became fairly friendly and wished me well on my hike.

Where I had first seen the guys there was some sort of rough dwelling (trailer? one story building? -- I can't remember). There was another guy and a woman loading or unloading a vehicle. The guys who had addressed me weren't big. They seemed to have some sort of American accents, and they looked like they could well have dodgy pasts.

I continued and summited but it took longer than I expected. It was getting dark when coming

back I approached the place I had met the strange people earlier. Shortly before the dwelling it almost looked like there was a person kneeling behind a bush with a rifle pointed at me. It was. The person rose and with the rifle continuously aimed at me walked into the middle of the road. He was dressed completely in black with a black balaclava covering his head and face. I had a sense that the rifle was very modern and powerful. I wondered if I was about to get shot and considered my options. I was in the exact middle of the road about 5 feet from a bushy steep bank on my left. Then behind the man and to his right another man completely dressed in black and with a rifle descended from behind a bush to the road. Then a third man similarly attired and armed started to descend from a bit further back. There was a white cloth on his clothes with the word 'POLICE' on it. 'Thank goodness' I thought.

The first man screamed at me, "Arms out by your sides!" Then, "Drop your ski poles!" Then, "Advance towards me!" Not wanting to get shot I complied as accurately as I could. After a few steps the man screamed at me with all the force, authority, and contempt that he could muster, "Faster! I almost stopped – (f... him.) When I was about 2m away I was ordered to stop. The other two men came up. I was ordered to take my pack off and sit on the ground and then I was handcuffed. The second man questioned me for more than 30 min. He was big and polite. By coincidence he had rented a house two away from my parent's house and we both knew the owner of the house in between. I was astonished by how distrustful they were of my story. Then I was then left sitting there.

After over an hour one of the policemen removed my handcuffs and told me that I could go. About 1/3k down the road I came across the first strange man from the morning sitting handcuffed on the ground with a policeman guarding him. He asked me how my hike had been. I told him "great", and wished him well.

Driving back, the bridge over the Squamish River was blocked and there was a native officer. I asked what had happened. (The police at the mine site wouldn't tell me.) He said a person had gone up to the mine on a dirtbike and got in an altercation with some people there. One of them had cut him with a samurai sword but he managed to escape and drive to the hospital in Squamish. There was blood everywhere. A special ERT squad had been called in from Vancouver.

During the next couple of days I was curious – did the strange guys have a grow-op? Had they found gold? I phoned the police in Squamish and explained that I had been there and asked for information. They seemed annoyed with me, and wouldn't tell me anything. I fabricated and said that I was planning to do a hike in the area next weekend, and asked if that was ok. They said that didn't advise it and that someone had got hurt going on private property there recently. It sounded like they blamed the person for going on private property. Weeks later I stopped at the library in Squamish to see if there had been anything in the paper. There was a brief downplayed account of one person getting hurt in an altercation while dirt biking near the mine.

I found out later that none of the BCMC party summited Ashlu (one excuse was that someone was missing crampons and/or an ice axe). Of course I knew that there can be a few rotten apples in any barrel but for vengeance I decided to try to hold a club race. The mountain (Mt. Payne) I chose to race up was complicated and recces weren't permitted. I advertised in the BCMC, ACC

and NSH newsletters. Only 3 signed up (an ACC and two NSHs) and I cancelled the race. Later I regretted cancelling the race because what I could have done is posted the 3 top finishers in the BCMC newsletter (without saying how many club members had participated) with the headline 'BCMC skunked in first annual BC hiking club race.

Tricouni Mountain - September 8

Participants: Andrzej Jarzabek, Paul Ng, Arnold Witzig, Will ?, Brittany Zenger, Geoff Zenger (reporter)

Difficulty: 2/3. Easy scrambling, some mild exposure on route

This trip was scheduled for the same day as the Vancouver-Whistler GranFondo bike race, but a bit of investigation revealed that the first road closures would be at 7:15 in Porteau Cove, and so by leaving Vancouver early enough, I determined that we would be able to stay ahead of the road closures and make it up the Squamish Valley to High Falls Creek.

We met at the Chevron station at Boundary & Dominion at 6:15, and quickly head off for Squamish, reaching Squamish at around 7:30, and made our way up the Squamish valley, and then up the High Falls Creek road network. There is one nasty section of road about 2.5km from the Tricouni Meadows parking area, but after this the road is in fairly good shape until less than 1 km from the landing at the end of the road. This last section of road is in really rough shape, but we pressed on to the end, and were able to set off on the trail a bit past 9 o'clock. At this point, the weather was cool and sunny, but it would soon warm up rapidly.

The Tricouni Meadow trail is easy to follow, but ridiculously muddy until near the first lake. From the first lake, we quickly ascended to the second and third lakes, and from there on up the standard route towards the summit of Tricouni. The lakes are clear and turquoise, and the flowers in the meadows above the third lake were in full bloom.

We took our time on the ascent and descent, stopping frequently to enjoy the views and the warm atmosphere, but nonetheless were on the summit about 4 hours 15 minutes from when we started. The route is primarily a hike, but there is a short scrambling section about 30 minutes below the summit, and the last 10 minutes up the summit ridge itself are over enjoyable scrambling terrain, with mild exposure. The summit of Tricouni itself is fantastic, with nice places to sit, and views all around.

We lounged about on the summit for nearly an hour, and departed just past 2. The descent was quick and easy, and we had the time to stop at the first lake for a while, where Arnold and Andrzej summoned the courage to go for a quick swim. From the first lake it was back to the mud below, and finally back to the cars. Including the swim stop, the descent took just a few minutes over 3 hours, completing a great trip to cap the summer.

Tiara Towers - A Second Ascent

Participants: Alexis Guigue (reporter) and Gerry Kollmuss

Gerry and I successfully climbed Tiara Tower by its South Ridge as a 3 day trip in mid September 2012. It is likely a second ascent of this mountain, having first been climbed in 1971.

Before starting this TR, my first thought will go to Gerry. I would like to give him most of the credit for this success. He has really been the architect of this trip: he got the idea for the route, planned it, attempted it solo during the summer, and ended up bailing 150m below the summit. During this trip, he also led most of the way. I feel quite lucky that he asked me to be his partner. Thanks Gerry!

Every story starts somewhere and this one started back early September. Earlier in Summer, we agreed to try to climb Slesse together. When I phoned Gerry back the second week of September, he did not seem to be enthusiastic about it anymore. He just wanted to climb Tiara Tower. He seemed that he could not talk nor think about anything else. I had actually never heard about this mountain and to be honest, I felt a bit annoyed. But it was quite a done deal from my part. I just started to work at a new place, and I was not going to ask for a day off for my first week! I promised him though that I would inform myself about this mountain, and we could talk about an attempt two weeks later, weather permitting.

So we ended climbing Slesse with our epic 19H hike back. It was good though. We never did anything together before, and it turned out that we were getting along quite well. This Slesse trip was a good test.

Fast forward 2 weeks. In the middle of unpacking two boxes, I called Gerry. I had my Friday off (Thanks Boss!), weather looked good. It was a go. Departure was fixed for Thursday. I was personally quite excited. I had never been in the area, and Tiara Tower looked very very impressive. It was certainly an ambitious objective!

It was quite a rough start. We agreed to meet at Gerry's house in Richmond. Probably not the smartest choice as I work next to the Lions Gate bridge. It took me forever to get to his place. But when I showed up there, he was still not arrived. He had quite a long day at work. Anyway, we left his house quite later than we were hoping for, and we still had some grocery shopping to do. The night would be short!

The drive was quite long. We got to Boston Bar, crossed the Fraser River, drove on the East side of the Fraser River, took the Kwoiek Creek Road, which was quite in a good shape. We drove the Kwoiek Creek Road as far as we could, i.e., just where the Kwoiek Creek Road leaves John George Lake and crosses the road. There, the bridge has been pulled off and it was overgrown anyway on the other side of the creek.

We got to sleep shortly after 1AM. We managed to get up earlyish and we were moving at 8AM. The plan was to get to the base of Tiara Tower at the end of the day.

As in lot of BC trips, it started by a walk on a logging road. For this trip, it would be a 9K long walk with a creek crossing a third of the way. From the start to the creek crossing, the road was a bit overgrown but still quite easily walkable. The water level was quite low and the creek crossing, which worried us a bit, was very easy. From there, the road was barely overgrown, and we could really move. We got to the end of the logging road in 2 hours.

The next part of the route was to get on the West ridge over Stukolait Lake. To get to this ridge, it was a steep forest with some bluffs here and there, but overall route finding was quite easy, and the bush was not too bad. The only difficulty was the temperature. It was hot and we were sweating like buckets! Soon, the forest became gentler, and we were walking on the ridge at 2000m elevation. The sky was blue, and we had fantastic views, over Skihist Mountain, Kwoiek Peak, Kwoiek Glacier, Stukolait Lake, etc.. WOW!

Suddenly, the ridge dropped before going up again. It was a good time to have lunch. It was 4H since we started to walk. Strangely, it was noon, but I felt like it was 4PM. I had felt sluggish since we started, as I was jet lagged, probably a consequence of our short night. It must have been ever worse for Gerry who had the burden to drive all the way!

Decision time! Should we try to continue along the ridge and hope that the ridge would yield us to Kwoiek Glacier, or drop down, contour the ridge, and get to the toe of the glacier. Gerry was convinced that the first option would work, but the second one was the safest. It had to work! So, we chose the second option, keeping in mind the second option for the way back. The traverse along the ridge was not so pleasant. It was steep boulder/bush slopes with avalanche gullies, which required quite some route finding and going up and down, but it worked out and we got to the West side of the toe of the Kwoiek Glacier.

Usual routine, rope up and go. It was not an heavily crevassed glacier (I have seen worse during my Wahoo trip), but it was crevassed enough that it took a bit of route finding to make our way through. We were aiming at the ridge between Kwoiek Glacier and Rutledge Glacier close to Kwoiek Peak. We got very close to Kwoiek Peak at 2500m a bit after 4PM. Here, we stopped for a break and a short discussion. Gerry announced me that the plan would be to go right and around Kwoiek Peak, bag it, then drop down to the col between Kwoiek Peak and Mehatl Peak, attempt Mehatl Peak if possible, and then go to camp at the base of Tiara Tower, just a little bit below 1800m! Hohoho, I thought, did he get too much sun? I was ok with the idea of bagging Kwoiek Peak, which was very close, but not Mehatl Peak. From the col, climbing Mehatl Peak still involved 400m of elevation, and we had not seen the mountain yet! Maybe, it would be hard. Moreover, going to the left of Kwoiek Peak was a more direct route to our objective of the day, and only involved snow slopes/boulder fields rather than a glacier (which we had not seen yet)/boulder fields. I won the discussion. We went up Kwoiek Peak and got our first sight of Tiara Tower! As impressive as in the pictures, even more I would say. Other lessons: Rutledge Glacier did not look bad at all, the ridge that we thought about travelling on looked doable (good to know for the way back), and Mehatl Peak looked harder than a simple walk (I was right, hehehe). Anyway, all our attention was focused on Tiara Tower now. This is the most impressive mountain I have seen since I am in BC (but maybe I did not get out enough). Going down Kwoiek Peak was uneventful and we got to the meadows below Tiara Tower just a dusk, around 7H30PM, after an intense 11H30 hike day. Very nice campsite, just below the

East Ridge.

The East Ridge, the only reported route on bivouac and from our knowledge. Not a class 3/4 in my book, but I do not qualify really myself as a mountaineer nor as a climber so ... Anyway, I was quite happy that Gerry found this other route!! Surely could not be harder than that.

We had a superb sleep and we woke up all pumped, ready to eat the mountain :). We were moving at 8AM. Gerry's route was to climb the South ridge, so we contoured the East ridge, which was looking more and more impressive. To get to the South ridge, it was an easy walk through snow fields/boulder fields. We got to the South Ridge proper 1H40 after we started. We were already quite high, maybe around 2400m, but the crux was in these last 150m. Soon, we got to where Gerry bailed during his last trip. The first crux was an exposed 40m ish smooth slab. On its left, huge smooth blocks, on its right, well, nothing :). The exposure came from the fact that the slab was slightly bent towards the nothing, and quite little, at least at the beginning, to hold on. It was ... hum ... interesting. But, first, we were even not sure to be able to get to this slab. The only way to get there was downclimb one very exposed step to a quite narrow notch. From we were, we could not see what was beyond this notch. It was dropping, for sure, but was it leading to the slab? We got the answer quickly. It was a yes, but the drop was maybe a vertical smooth drop of 3m with a small horizontal crack in the middle and a big crack on the left side. All smooth all around! At the bottom of this drop, a small exposed (nothing on our right) ledge was slowly widening up and yielding to the slab. That was the first belay of the day. For sure, going back up this drop would be a bit challenging, and certainly involve some cliffhanger style move.

After a short discussion, we decided that I would lead the slab. It was quite easy to get onto it. As I described above, it was quite smooth at the beginning, leaning towards the nothing, with a big smooth block on the left. Between the block, and the slab, there was a big crack that I used to climb. Soon, there was a vertical crack on the block on my left, and I was quite relieved to stick a cam in it. From there, the slab started to be more featured, less steep, less inclined towards the nothing, and the climb became quite easy. I finally got to the top of the slab, and belayed up Gerry. We were so close now. We were hoping for an easy walk. And it was, a walk among big boulders with some occasional a bit harder moves. But the rest was short. Suddenly, we arrived at this large platform, to which the East Ridge was also connecting. We were 10m ish below the summit. I had a good laugh. I felt that I was at the Burger and Fries in Squamish, except that we were above 2550m. We had in front of us a smooth face, one crack on the left, some sort of chimney in the middle, and another crack on the right. That was it! The right crack looked harder than the left one. I thought the chimney would be doable but hard to protect. OK then, we would do the left crack. We independently evaluated it at 5.7. It was ok. It was only noon, and nothing would stop us. We would pull on gear, build stairs with rocks, if needed, but we would make it! 10m only!

Something interesting happened. For everything so far, we discussed with Gerry who would do what. But this time, it was just his his his right at the beginning :) He was really primed. I was keen on trying but I did not say anything and let it take the rack. No problem with me. Gerry did quite well, put 4 cams and 2 nuts in the crack, and made it to the top of the face. Not done yet though! He belayed me up. We were exactly now 3 moves away from the cairn. First, a big step over a notch. Second, an exposed mantle over the summit block and finally a step over a horn. I thought

it was fair that Gerry would go there first, so he did! Tiara Tower was bagged! Wahoooooo! The cairn was quite small, maybe just 5 rocks. No register, nothing. He came back down, and it was my turn. Wahoooooo! DONE! We felt quite overwhelmed.

Not much to say about the descent. We rappelled from the horn, so literally from the summit, which was quite funny. The drop before the slab, as expected, turned out to be a bit brutal. We found nowhere any sign of a previous climb. At camp at 4H30. Why not use some day light to start going back? This time, the plan was to go up to the other side of Kwoiek Peak by the Rutledge Glacier. We decided to only make it to the toe of the glacier which coincided with the col between Kwoiek Peak and Mahatl Peak. We were feeling quite energetic, we got there after 550m elevation gain in just 1H. We set up our bivies on big boulders, and spent the rest of the day admiring Tiara Tower and Mahatl Peak.

What would be next? We were keen on going back home early, but we had this little demon that was tempting us to go bag Mahatl Peak, just 400m elevation away. Maybe, we could do that in the morning, quickly.....But after careful evaluation, it was sure it would not be a simple walk. We would probably do it but it would take some time. We had completed our main objective, the vase was almost full. So we decided not to attempt it and go home.

As we saw two days before, the Rutledge Glacier was way less crevassed than the Kwoiek glacier and we could almost travel straight up it. We got to the top in 1H, and dropped onto the Kwoiek glacier. Our objective was to get on the ridge directly from the glacier in order to avoid doing the nasty traverse we did two days ago. We were on this ridge 1H after getting onto the Kwoiek glacier. We were quite lucky. It worked out quite well with a little bit of route finding and at noon, we were having lunch exactly where we had lunch two days ago. We had only left camp 4H ago! From there, we traced back our route. It was no problem and we arrived at the truck at 3H30PM, A good seven and a half hour push.

Arriving that early allowed me to see all the scenery of the Fraser Canyon, which I had never seen before. We stopped in Chilliwack for a celebration meal and arrived in Vancouver at 9H30PM, tired but super happy. It was really a superb adventure. I cannot thank again Gerry enough to have invited me.

Addedum by Gerry

My first attempt was in 08 when in a group of three, I made an attempt of a week long traverse of the area starting in log creek. We had planned on making an attempt on Tiara Tower but got pinned down by a storm for several days within view of the mountain and eventually had to bail due to time constraints. My second attempt was four weeks ago when I went solo for four days following a longer route that would avoid more serious glacier travel. I eventually had to bail on this attempt about 150m from the summit as the route that I was hoping would be a scramble looked to be much harder and very exposed. And once again on this trip the weather turned on me and I returned in snow and a whiteout.

Having been spanked twice by this mountain it wasn't a surprise that I would be spanked again. But

this time it was just the loss of my camera. Yes, stupid and careless but a small price to pay for the reward of climbing a remote technical mountain that has seen few ascents. And quite possibly we may have been the second party to summit this peak. There was no summit register, no rap slings on the mountain and to my and Drew's knowledge no other recorded ascents since the first in 1971.

Overall this was my most challenging and rewarding mountaineering trip ever ! Thanks Alexis for coming with me, sharing my passion for the mountains and carrying the extra weight.



Left: Tiara Tower
Photo: G. Kollmuss

Below: Tricouni Mountain
Photo: G. Zenger

