



# BCMC

BC Mountaineering Club  
Newsletter

### **UPCOMING BCMC SOCIAL**

At the ANZA Club 7:30 pm

Tuesday, Sept 11 - Simon Whitehead presents on his adventures cycling solo and unsupported through South America for six months.

**September 2012, Vol 90, No. 7**

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

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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: Simon Whitehead biking in South America

Photo Courtesy S Whitehead

Back Page Photos: Top: Summit of Mt Welsh  
 Right: Mt Foley in the distance of Mt Welsh scrambling  
 Mt Welsh photographer A Fuerth

Left: Sky Pilot and Ledge from camping spot  
 Photo: G Zenger

**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.

## TRIP SCHEDULE ~ Sign up, updates and details at [www.bcmc.ca](http://www.bcmc.ca)

### Sept 2012 Trips

1	West Lion - C3	Serguei Okountsev	
1-3	Weart, Parkhurst, Rethel - C3	Erhan Pekmen	778-668-3563
1-3	Mount Sedgwick via Foulger Creek-C3	Brad Percival	CANCELLED
1-3	Rock Climbing Mt Slesse NE Buttress	Adrian Lazar	CANCELLED
1-3	Matier/Joffre Technical Routes - C5	Stanislav Liarsky	604-983-4476
3	Found Peak - North Face - D4	Serguei Okountsev	
8	Tricouni Peak - B2/3	Geoffrey Zenger	
8-9	Wedgemount Glacier Survey - B3	Karl Ricker	1-604-938-1107
8-9	Copilot and Habrich - C3	Jeff Ross	604-736-1667
8-9	Longspur Pk - D3	Alastair Ferries	604-329-1637
15-16	Coquihalla Scrambling Weekend - B4	Margaret Hanson	604-873-2276
22-23	Whitecap Mtn - D2	Alastair Ferries	604-329-1637
29-30	Mt. Sutter - C3	Karl Ricker	1-604-938-1107
29-14	Paria Canyon and Grand Gulch, USA - B2	Brian J. Wood	604-222-1541

### Sept 2012 Programs and Instructional Days

22	Intro to Ice Climbing - Mt. Baker Seracs: WI2,3	Werner Grzimek	
22-23	Systems for Mountaineering - Anchoring Basics - A5	Justin Bennett	604-813-4666

## NEWS AND NOTICES

### New Members

The club welcomes the following new members: Jean-Michel Blanchet, Clayton Dunham, Rory Gill, Robin Houston, Jessie Lafleur, Elisa Mapelli, Tome Milin, Robert Moser, Clive Mullins, Donal Nolan, Robbie Priestley and Matthew Stockinger.

### 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](mailto:francis_stpierre@telus.net) or 604-224-0502.

### Spearhead Hut Site and Trail Exploration - Sept 14-17

Rob Brusse of the ACC Vancouver Section has extended an open invitation to BCMC members to join a hiking trip to explore planned hut sites and potential summer trail locations between the proposed Spearhead Huts. Interested individuals can contact Rob Brusse at [rbrusse1@telus.net](mailto:rbrusse1@telus.net) or home 604-224-0747 or office 604-732-7730.

## **Sigurd Creek Trail - New Bridge Installed**

*Report by Andrew Wong*



A new Sigurd Creek footbridge was constructed this past weekend. An overhead pulley and handline was also installed as a means to steady yourself while crossing the bridge, especially useful since the new span is slightly narrower than the old one.

The old footbridge (which can be seen on the left right in the picture) was removed. The short span on the south side of the creek boulder was also replaced. Above the crossing, all but one blowdown was cleared and the trail was brushed out. Below the crossing, most of the blowdowns were removed (maybe 5 or 6 left).

The last two avalanche swaths were brushed out and the other patches were clipped back a little so the trailbed can actually be seen.

This work was funded by the BCMC and the FMCBC, with support from BC Parks and the

Wandering Outdoor Recreation Society. BCMC volunteer crew: P. Gumplinger, S. Gumplinger, P. Kubik, P. Malacarne, E. Porra. Non-BCMC volunteer: A. Wong. BC Parks: K. Chambers. Additional assistance of equipment and materials from W. Pirang and C. Veenstra.

## **In Memoriam - Marilyn Dutton 1922 - 2012**

*By Joan Ford*

Marilyn joined the BCMC in 1953, later becoming a Life member. She was active in the club in the club from the 1950 - 1970 period, later she enjoyed keeping in touch with the club and its members. She participated in ski and climbing trips on the local mountains.

When the club had the Seymour cabin, she would often be up there on the weekends. At that time there was lots of skiing on Mt Seymour, involving hiking up on skins and then in the evening, socialisation.

Marilyn served as chairman of the Social Committee for several years, at that time the big event was the Turkey dinner in the Grouse Mountain cabin. All the food had to be carried in, quite a hike as there was usually snow. Later she was also the Treasurer.

She enjoyed some unofficial ski trips to Sunshine Village, and Jasper. Unfortunately she broke

her leg and it left her with a deformity so that ended her skiing. Marilyn was a librarian at UBC, and a few years ago she and Mary McAree spent many hours sorting out the BCMC library, which was much needed. Marilyn was happy that she achieved her 90th birthday.

## **Another Kick At The Can - Mt Welsh**

Trip Date: August 11, 2012

Present: Bernie Brandt, Corey Aurala, Adrian Fuerth, Ben Vanderlei, Dave Southgate, Steven Meurrens, Clayton Dunham, Stephanie Li (Organizer) and Gordon Esplin (Reporter)

Last year 20 of us attempted Welch Mountain on July 24, 2011, but none made it to the summit. There was still a lot of snow at that time. This steep, slippery stuff made skirting around the gendarmes, which populate the South Ridge, a bit scary. Most people opted to call it a day. Stephanie Li and I almost made it to the final summit peak but were stopped by a 4 PM turn-around time. Stephanie badly wanted another “kick at the can” and so this year she organized a joint BCMC/ACC trip scheduled for a later time in the year.



Photo: Steep scrambling on Mt Welsh  
Photographer: Adrian Fuerth

Nine of us had an early start and arrived at the trailhead at around 9AM on a beautiful, blue-bird day. There was a profusion of flowers in the meadows and the air smelt like heaven. Took a bit over an hour for us to mosey up to Williamson Lake, which was still frozen over except for around the edges. Adrian, Bob and I opted to do the entire South Ridge so we headed straight up from the lake in order to gain the tail end of this ridge, while the others took a “short-cut” route. We all more or less met together, but with the short-cut group somewhat in the lead.

The ridge scramble was a lot easier this year as the lack of snow made it straight-forward to avoid the worst of the gendarmes. But loose scree covering the slopes below the gendarmes is still scary stuff to deal with. Give me good solid rock – preferably Squamish granite – any day! Anyways, 8 out of 9 made it to the summit, which is a super good success-ratio and was largely the result of the climbers helping each other with the Class-4 bits.

On the way back down there were a couple of incidents: Adrian dropped his super-expensive digital SLR over a cliff and had to down-climb to retrieve it, Bob had a rock dropped onto one of his pinkies, and one guy lost his brain-bucket (thank God the helmet was empty when it dropped into the void!).

Over all, it was an extremely good trip and a lot of fun. Thank you Stephanie!

## **Sky Pilot 2012 a.k.a. Sky Pilot Again?**

Trip Date: July 14-16, 2012

Present: Brittany Zenger, David Overall, Eric Ashworth, Geoff Zenger, Henry deJong, Jaine Hnik, Michele Cohen, Mike Gudaiti, Peter Malacarne, David Scanlon (organizer & reporter)

There was the usual wining about the early 7AM start from St David's church. Early? How about a 3AM alpine start? Now that is early you guys! So the usual blah, blah, blah, parking lot chatter with each other and others we knew who were hanging about waiting for their rides to go going on their trips and away we go.

There has been recent logging in the Furry creek valley this past year and if you weren't aware of the proper way to go, with new roads going in all directions, one could get disoriented and take the wrong way and not find the trail head. Having put in the trail those many years ago your leader knew where to go. And as well he was there a week ago doing some trail work, so it was in good shape.

6 ½ hours later we arrived at our camping spot, on a snowy ridge. The route in at this time of year is, from end of the old deactivated logging road, on snow, making the way in easy walking. The camp view had Sky Pilot and Ledge in your face. A grand view.

In past years after arriving at camp, some of us more fit / adventurous ones went on and climbed the Ledgeling, When last I did this we went without any gear. We just climbed it. Being a bit older, and a little tired, I decided to not go this year and gave those who wanted to go instructions on the route. As mentioned earlier we went up the Ledgling before without any gear and the route was rated to be a class 2 / 3 and that is what I told those wanting to go and try it. I said they wouldn't need any gear. [ rope ]. I should have gone with them as it was somewhat daunting for them and they didn't get up. I do apologize to them and am going to reschedule again next year fwith them to give them another chance to try it.

That took care of Saturday day. Then came Saturday night and the rain. [ which was not called for by our Environment Canada gurus ]. Next morning the weather was closed in and still showery and the troops started grumbling. It turned out that 3 decided to head out home. The rest of us hung in there and the clouds lifted and the rain stopped, and off we went to Sky Pilot leaving about 1:30PM.

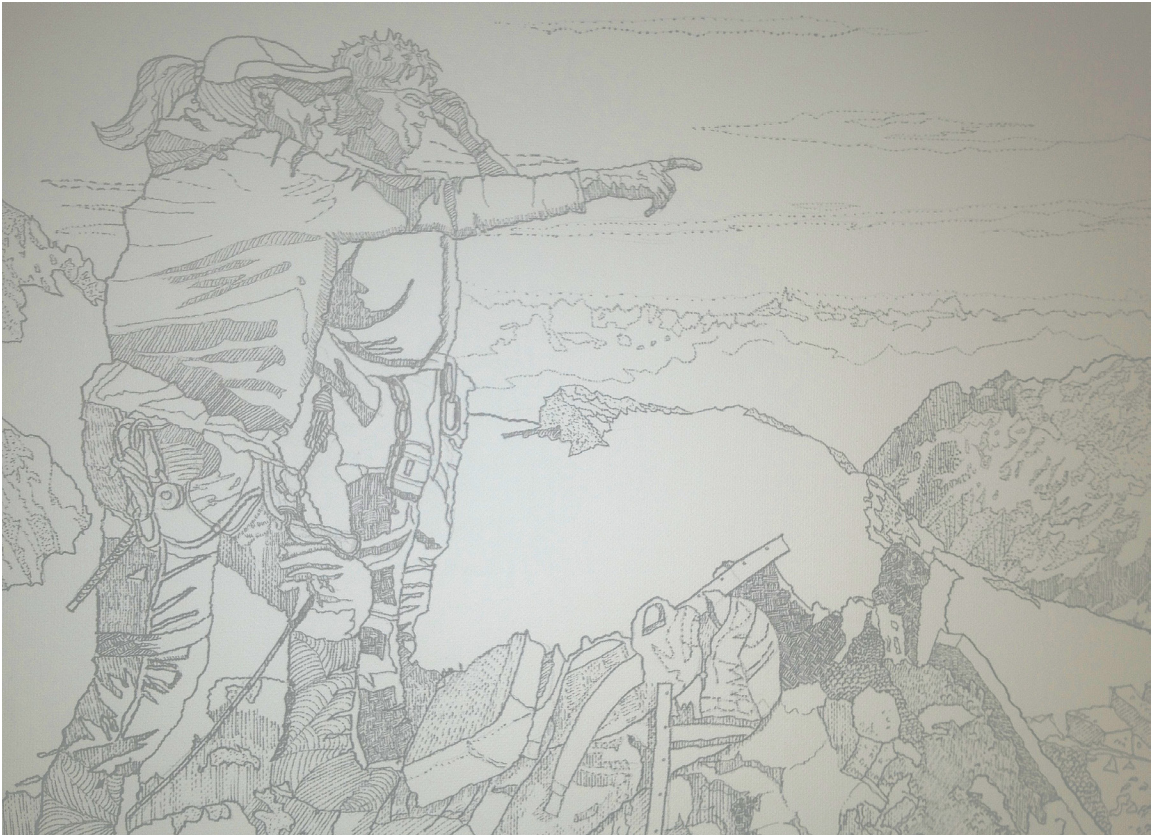
One can talk and try to explain til the cows come home about a route to someone, to try to give them some idea of how it is going to be but until they actually get there it mostly doesn't work. The Sky Pilot south ridge route is in my humble opinion a classic class 3 / 4. The rock is sound with many hand and footholds, steep sections, exposed sections. Places to set up an anchor if needed. A real fun route. And if you are fairly new to this sport we call mountaineering, and trust in yourself, and the leader, you will really enjoy this route and surprise yourself by suddenly arriving at the summit if a very popular local peak. Fun? Oh yeah!

The 6 of us who made summit had a good day with fantastic views all around. On our way out the next day Monday, we were right at the start of the Mt Shear route so we climbed Mt sheer as well. A fine hike and a bonus after Sky Pilot.

The route and the weather. I did some trail clearing the week prior so the brush wasn't a problem on the lower sections. There was much snow left over at the time of our trip and the trail through the short forest section was, shall we say, steep and dicey. Much kick stepping was done on the steep slopes but with everyone being careful there were no mishaps.

The day we came out was very hot and with the trail facing due south we were exposed to the full exposure from the sun. One person did get a bit of heat stroke on the hike out and stopped at a small creek for some time to cool down. After his break he was all well again.

So. Here is to old friends and new alike. It was fun to have been with you all and lets next year try to get up Ledgling and Ledge as the same group. Okay!



View from the summit of Delusion Peak  
Drawing by Ye Chu

