

BCMC

BC Mountaineering Club
Newsletter



UPCOMING BCMC SOCIAL

At the ANZA Club 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Feb 12 - Tim Blair and Ben
Singleton-Polster present their ski traverse
of the Juneau Icefield.

February 2013, Vol 91, No. 2

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: Tim Blair: Ski traverse

Back Page: Photos from Tim Blair and Ben Singleton-Polster

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

Jan 2013 Trips

1-3	Systems for Mountaineering: Avalanche OAR	Justin Bennett
2-4	Ice Climbing near Lilloett - WI 3-5	Werner Grzimek
2-3	AST-1 Avalanche Skills Training for Skiers & Boarders	Waldemar Jonsson
2-3	AST-1 Avalanche Skills Training for Snowshoers	Waldemar Jonsson
2	Three Brothers Mtn - FULL - B2-C2	Don Montrichard
2	Mount Hanover - Mountaineering - C4	Serguei Okountsev
2	Thar Peak North Face Couloir-B5	Adrian Lazar
2	Cayoosh Mt- FULL - C3	Stanislav Liarsky
3	Markhor ski-C3	Bruce Cassels
7,12,14	Hive Bouldering 6pm (Beginner's friendly)	Joseph Wong
21,26,28	Hive Bouldering 6pm (Beginner's friendly)	Joseph Wong
9-11	Burton Hut-C3	Alexis Guigue
9	Metal Dome-C2	Jeff Ross
9	Gen Y Skiing on Paul Ridge (Beginners Welcome) - B2	Brittany Zenger
9	De Pencier Couloir - Mountaineering - C5	Serguei Okountsev
16	Markhor-Needle Traverse-Mountaineering C4	Serguei Okountsev
16	Box Canyon Ice Climbing - FULL- B5	Don Montrichard
16-24	Canmore and the Icefields Parkway WI2-3 -	Margaret Hanson
16	Mt Sproatt & Tonic Peak - C2	Geoff Zenger
23	Fraser Canyon Ice Climbing - FULL - B5	Don Montrichard
23	Rainbow Mountain - C2	Jeff Ross
23-25	Edge Peak - North Face - Mountaineering - C5	Serguei Okountsev
23	Needles, North Shore - D2	Alastair Ferries
23	Cayoosh Ski - C3	Craig Speirs
23-24	Watersprite Lake B2	David Scanlon
28	Snow Shelter Workshop	Brian J Wood
Mar 2013		
1-3	Garibaldi Neve Traverse - C3	Don Montrichard
2	Mt Price - C3	Bill Maurer

NEWS AND NOTICES

New Members

The club welcomes the following new members: Colin Cameron, James Pedersen, Wayne Pattern, Alexis Salinas, Josh Adam, Joeung re Ahn, Makoto Tanaka, Amber McMinn, Karin Hung, Raz Peel, Albert Chau, Sandy Bucifal, Juan Martinezguerra, Madalene Earp, Irene Schmid, Sean Pander, Wade Lander, Jeremy Thom, Leigh Sully, Allegra Cairns, Doris Blanchet, Keith Russell, Brenda Cuggy, Michael Deacon, James Humble, Shane Janssens, Philippe Benoit, Spartak Kirov, Catherine Gabor, JP Caputa, Anna Choumakova, Dominik Schaefer, David Ferrante, Polly Law, George Oulton, Levi Snider, Robert Kao, Tyler Warkentine, Mederic Fermi, Chris Power, Ian Harris, Greg Matthews, Iwona Erskine-Kellie, Jana Steingass, Al Abbot, Bogdan Krakowski, Matti Schroderus, Joe Syme, Romà Llorens, Richard Macdonald, Jake Verschuyt, Matthieu

Luchilo, Ursula Paleczek, Matt Steinhilber, Mira Bota, Kevin Davenport, Albert Argemi, Daniel Croll, Christine Grossen, Basil Stumborg, Steve Pollak, Jeff Van Mulligen, Maria Pajerska, Robert Bourgaize, Dale Detzler, and Jill Kennedy.

It's awesome out there!

There're tons of fun trips on the schedule: skiing, snowshoeing, and climbing. Come out with the club today and meet some new people and some old friends. If there's a type of trip you'd be interested in seeing on the schedule, why not consider adding it yourself? Trip sign-up and trip organization are easier than ever, thanks to the tireless work of the BCMC volunteer webmasters.

BCMC Joins Facebook

The BC Mountaineering club has a Facebook page! Help us spread the word by liking our page. If you're a Facebook guru and are interesting in helping out, we're also looking for additional page admins. Check us out at <http://www.facebook.com/BCMmountaineeringClub>

Volunteers Needed For VIMFF

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to talk to the public at the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival, February 8 - 17th. Tell the world about the BCMC prior to and after the show, and check out the show itself for free! Two volunteers are needed each night.

* Free ticket available to table volunteers each night

* We need 2 volunteers per day for Friday Feb. 8, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday Feb.17 to cover our new promotion table at the VIMFF usually from 6pm to 9-10 pm.

* If you are interested in helping out the BCMC and checking out some awesome shows then please let Werner know on what night(s) you are available. E: wernergr@shaw.ca

* Sign-up and more details are available via a Google Docs spreadsheet link on the website

Upcoming Community Events

Telemark BC Hosts Festival Days

Whistler Telemark Festival - Sunday February 10

Cypress Telemark Festival - Saturday March 2

Telemark clinics, races, apres ski party, and great prizes.

Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival - Feb 8-17

Check out www.vimff.org for more details and for tickets

Opening Night - Fri Feb 8 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre

Ski-Mountaineering Show - Sat Feb 9 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre

Matinee 1 - Adventures in the Southern Hemisphere - Sat Feb 9 @ 3:00pm - Rio Theatre

Big Air Show - Sat Feb 9 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre

Trail Running Show - Sun Feb 10 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre

Mountaineering Show - Sun Feb 10 @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm) - Pacific Cinematheque

Sea Kayaking Show - Mon Feb 11 @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm) - Pacific Cinematheque

Matinee 2 - Afternoon of Adrenaline - Mon Feb 11 @ 3:00pm - Rio Theatre

Night With The Sherpas - Mon Feb 11 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre
Environmental Show - Tue Feb 12 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre
Polish Mountain Show - Tue Feb 12 @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm) - Pacific Cinematheque
Mountain Bike Show - Tue Feb 12 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre
Mountain Bike: Freeride Exploration - Wed Feb 13 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre
Himalayan Show - Wed Feb 13 @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm) - Pacific Cinematheque
Climbing Show - Wed Feb 13 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre
Ski Show 1 - Thu Feb 14 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre
Wolves Show - Thu Feb 14 @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm) - Pacific Cinematheque
Swiss Climbing Show - Fri Feb 15 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre
WhiteWater Show - Fri Feb 15 @ 7:30pm (doors 7:00pm) - Pacific Cinematheque
Great Traverses - Fri Feb 15 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre
Finale featuring Will Stanhope - Sat Feb 16 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Centennial Theatre
Matinee 3 - Stories of Snow and Ice - Sat Feb 16 @ 3:00pm - Rio Theatre
Ski Show 2 - Sat Feb 16 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre
Reel Rock 7 Matinee - Sun Feb 17 @ 3:00pm - Rio Theatre
Fundraiser/Wrap Party - Sun Feb 17 @ 7:30pm (doors 6:30pm) - Rio Theatre

Used Ropes and Pickets For Sale

Looking for that extra rope to finish off your rope rug? Looking for cheap pickets?

There are 5 ropes, all 50m in length and of varying diameter available, \$50.00 o.b.o., also there are five pickets @ \$10.00 each. These items are to be sold as-is with no history or recourse to the B.C.M.C.

Please contact Larry Kost (lpkost at gmail or 604-594-3130) for inquiries and purchases.

Whistler Olympic Park Reduces Backcountry Trail Fees

Whistler Olympic Park is reducing fees for backcountry users for winter 2012/2013. Day tickets for backcountry users have been eliminated and replaced with a \$10 per car parking fee. Backcountry skiers will still be permitted to use the XC trails to access backcountry destinations. Like last year, overnight parking will be available, but not in the main parking lots.

Callaghan Country has also discontinued their discounted trail ticket, but is insisting that backcountry users purchase a full price XC ticket (\$22) to use any of their groomed trails. Access to Telemagique Ridge (at 3km on Callaghan FSR) and Callaghan Lake (At 8.5km on Callaghan FSR) is affected. Callaghan Country operates Friday - Tuesday through the winter.

A joint VOC/BCMC trail building trip in October 2012 made improvements on the lower portions of the Hanging Lake and Beverley Creek winter access trails. The trails were cleared to a width of 3-4m and several bridges were built over small streams. These improvements will make the trails easier to ski, especially in early and late season when snow cover is thinner.

2012 Journal Editor AGM Report - Michael Feller

During the year we produced the 2012 BC Mountaineer, at 166 pages, the largest regular BC Mountaineer the club has produced. Thanks must go to all the contributors of articles and photos, but particularly to Peter Gumlinger, Brian Wood, and Karl Ricker, who contributed the most. Peter's contribution was exceptional as he was responsible, directly and indirectly, for 8 articles. It is unfortunate that many organizers of interesting and challenging trips do not arrange to submit a report of their trips to the BC Mountaineer. It is my firm belief that, for the distant future, printed material will provide the only record we have of our current club activity. Current electronic records will be transitory, so you are encouraged to record your trips for posterity by writing reports for the Mountaineer or newsletter.

During the year many more materials, including several hundred photos, were catalogued and added to our club archives in the North Vancouver Museum and Archives. In addition, the club library was moved from Joan Ford's house to Waldemar Jonsson's house. During the move, books were sorted, the catalogue was revised and will soon be placed on the club website, and a number of less important journals and newsletters were removed.

2012 Newsletter Editor AGM Report - Brittany Zenger

We had 100 pages of content over 10 newsletters, including some great original artwork by Ye Chu and interesting trip reports submitted by various BCMC members. The overall printed distribution of the newsletter continues to fall as more members opt for electronic delivery, currently about 110 copies are printed, about 80 going to members, 15 going to organizations and libraries, the remainder being used for archival and promotional purposes.

The newsletter went under a facelift, using a larger photo on the front cover to maximize the usage of color and give it a cleaner magazine like feel. Part of the facelift is the usage of the new club logo, which was produced as the result of a design competition run by Werner Grimzek.

The greatest remaining challenge for our news publications involves the pending new website and the delivery of content to users via email, currently this is called the 'eNews' and has been done for several years by the tireless behind-the-scenes effort of Mary Hearnden. The new website brings several new channels for users to receive updates into play, including a renewed forum and a new news section. The next year should be exciting on the electronic front as we look at ways to automate the bulletins and produce better publications for our members.

Paul has put in an amazing amount of work on the new website which will fundamentally change the way in which members receive information from the club. There is a need for volunteers who have a finger on the pulse of the outdoor community to help contribute content, this is a low-commitment volunteer position that will help make the new website thrive. If you're interested in helping in this manner, please let me know.

Many thanks to all those who have submitted content to the newsletter, offered feedback, and have helped in other ways. A special thanks to Mary Hearnden for her hard work on the eNews.

Watersprite Lake

Trip Date: Jan 27, 2013

Participants: Lisa Quattrocchi, Dave Scanlon, Ed Zenger, Brittany Zenger, Geoff Zenger (Reporter)

Difficulty: 2

The provincial government granted the BCMC (BC Mountaineering Club) a tenure to construct a hut at Watersprite Lake 3-4 years ago, but no hut has been constructed yet. There are numerous reasons for this, including that much energy towards hut construction has been focussed lately on the Spearhead Huts project, that it requires a lot of volunteer time and energy to build a hut, and also that the Watersprite Lake area simply isn't familiar to most outdoors enthusiasts in south west BC. It is this last point that Dave is trying to remedy by leading numerous trips this winter into the area.

We began our day by meeting at St. David's just before 6:30, from where we headed up towards Squamish, where we turned onto the Mamquam FSR just past the apron parking lot and headed up the nicely plowed road up to the construction site for the Skookum Power Project. Until construction is finished, it is important to call ahead to the power project to let them know that you're coming, and when you arrive, somebody will come down, sign you in, and escort you from the security checkpoint up to the top of the construction area (~3-4km distance), where you can park and start up the road system towards Watersprite Lake (note: 4x4 required to negotiate mud through the construction site).

We departed the cars at 8:30, and made our way up the road system. Not far from the cars we encountered snowshoe tracks from a party that had headed up the lake a day or two before us, and these greatly eased the need to break trail for much of the ascent. To get to the lake, you head straight up the road until reaching a flagged branch road to the left (30-40 mins from car), which is followed north as it contours around a ridge. Once in the valley and above some obvious meadows on the flat bottom, you descend from the road to the meadows, and follow along the north side of the creek on the meadow bottom until reaching the slope at the east end of the area. From here, instead of ascending up the steep creek bed directly to Watersprite Lake, ascend the obvious lightly-treed avalanche path just to the south (right) of the forest that the creek ascends through, and then traverse through open terrain above the trees back towards the creek. The proposed hut location is right where you first hit the lake, near its outflow into the creek. In all, including breaks it took us 3.5 hours to the lake.

At the lake we stopped for lunch, and then, as we had informed the crew at the power project that we wouldn't be back at the cars until 4:30, we crossed the lake and ascended up to the next basin (to the left of the impressive Watersprite Tower) in order to get in some more exploration and some more skiing. The lighting was a bit flat, which made for difficult skiing near our turnaround point, but we shortly encountered better visibility and had fantastic powder for our ski back down past the lake to the meadows below.

From reaching the meadows, it was quick and uneventful to cross them, make the short ascent back to the road, and then contour back around the ridge to the main road, which is sufficiently steep to make for a fun descent. In all, I was impressed by the area and think it would make a great location for a hut. It is close to Vancouver, easily accessible, and with no fewer than 6 peaks to climb as short day trips from the lake, there is plenty of terrain that could be easily enjoyed in winter or summer.

For those interested in checking out the area, David Scanlon is organizing overnight trips into the area again for February 23-24 and March 23-24, 2013. More info at bcmc.ca.

