

A mountain biker wearing a green jacket and a white helmet is riding down a rocky, brownish trail. The background features a vast mountain range with rolling hills and peaks under a clear blue sky. The foreground is a steep, rocky slope.

BCMC

BC Mountaineering Club
Newsletter

UPCOMING BCMC SOCIAL

At the ANZA Club 7:30 pm
Tuesday, May 14 - Max Bitel shares tales
of multi-day backcountry mountain biking
traverses in the Southern Chilcotins.

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British Columbia Mountaineering Club
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2674
Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3W8
EMAIL: info@bcmc.ca; NET: www.bcmc.ca

HONOURARY PRESIDENTS
Esther and Martin Kafer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	FRANCIS ST PIERRE	604-224-0502
PAST-PRESIDENT:	DAVE SCANLON	604-531-5025
VICE-PRESIDENT:	LEE PURVIS	604-308-4993
SECRETARY:	GEOFF ZENGER	778-228-7017
TREASURER:	JEFF ROSS	604-736-1667
MEMBERSHIP	VACANT	
SOCIALS:	VACANT	
CLIMBING:	DON MONTRICHARD	604 732 8431
CABIN/TRAILS:	EMANUELE PORRA	604-533-7723
CONSERVATION:	LISA QUATTROCCHI	778-580-5546
PROGRAMS & CAMPS:	VACANT	
FMCBC REP:	FRANCIS ST PIERRE	604-224-0502
WEBMASTER:	PAUL OLYNEK	604-687-3355
EDITOR - NEWSLETTER:	BRITTANY ZENGER	778-228-2392
EDITOR - ARCHIVIST:	MICHAEL FELLER	604-270-4050
SAFETY EQUIPMENT:	KIT GRIFFIN	604-736-8462
SATELLITE PHONE:	PETER GUMPLINGER	604-733-8264
LIBRARY:	WALDEMAR JONSSON	604-876-4255

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: South Chilcotins
 Photo by Justin Caughlin

Back Page

Upper: River Crossing Photo: Joe Crawford

Lower: Max in front of Mt Sheba Photo: Robin Munshaw

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

May 2013

3-5	Mount Garibaldi - East Face - PD+, ice - FULL! - C4-C5	Don Montrichard
4	Enchantment Peak - B3	Todd Ponzini
4	Basic Outdoor Top-Roping *FULL*	Kit Griffin
4	Saturday Rock Climbing Squamish - A5	Werner Grzimek
7	Mountain Equipment Co-op Spring Club Night	Cynthia Montemayor
11	Ski Withdrawl - Mt. Baker - (Heliotrope Ridge) - B2	Mike Hamata
11-12	Mount Baker - North Ridge - AD, ice - C5-D5	Don Montrichard
11-12	Skiing To Summit Mt. Baker, WA - C3 -	Stanislav Liarsky
11	Squamish Rock Climbing - A5	Paul Ng
14	BCMC Social: Scrambling and Mountain Biking in Chilcotins	
17-20	North Face of Mount James Turner - TD ice, 5.7	Don Montrichard
18-20	Mt. Rainier - Backcountry Skiing - C3	Stanislav Liarsky
25-26	Skypilot Mountain - F/PD, 4th - C4	Don Montrichard
25-26	Essential Rockclimbing *FULL* - B5	Kit Griffin
31-2	Slesse North Face Couloir - D+, 5.8, ice - D5	Don Montrichard
31	Rock Mentorship Program - Deadline - B-C 5	Instructional Program

NEWS AND NOTICES

New Members

The club welcomes the following new members: Kari-Jean McKenzie, Julio Velandia, Oriana Graber, Angus Robb, Lane Henderson, Philippe Lapointe, Alison Coolican.

'Zipcar' offer BCMC members discounts up to 32% via their 'Business Plan'

Submitted by Werner Grzimek - BCMC Marketing Coordinator

BCMC members qualify to sign up for Zip car's 'Business Plan' which runs from Monday to Friday.

You will save \$75 one time as they waived the set-up fee.

You will save \$35 annually as they reduced their annual fee from \$65 to \$30.

The 'Business Plan' daily rates are 12 % to 32 % cheaper than their 'Everything Plan' which is available for the general public.

Saturday and Sunday BCMC Members will be charged according to Zipcar's 'Everything Plan' (available for the general public).

Your main savings will come from their one time setup fee and their annual fees - and if you use their daily rate during the week - especially Fridays where you can save 32%!

Let me know if you have any comments or problems.

It pays to be a member of the BCMC.

Mountain Equipment Co-op Spring Club Night - May 7

Submitted by Cynthia Montemayor

The event will take place at the MEC Vancouver store location, at 1130 West Broadway, on May 7th, 2013 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

BCMC Members will receive 10% off on all regularly priced items purchased that evening - including bikes and boats! Please note that all items must be in stock and purchased through the tills in order to be eligible for the discount. This means the club night discount will not apply to items ordered or purchased on line. Also note this discount does not extend to items that are on clearance or are a part of a packaged discount.

All participants must be members of Mountain Equipment Co-op. If you are not yet an MEC member, you are welcome to sign up and purchase a membership (\$5.00) that evening. You also must be a current BCMC member to attend the event. For members planning to take part, please login to the BCMC website, visit the MEC Spring Club Night event page, and RVSP to the list using the "Join" button.

See you there and happy shopping!

Rock Climbing Mentorship Program - 2013

Application Deadline Friday May 31st

What? A unique opportunity for less experienced members (Participants) to climb more challenging multi-pitch rock routes with a more experienced member (Mentor) for 2 days.

Mentors? A small group of experienced rock climbers, each willing to donate 2 days of their time through July, August, or September, has agreed to participate as Mentors. A Mentor will be assigned one Participant to coach on suitable climbs. Check the mentor profiles on the Trip Listing for more details. 2013 Rock Climbing Mentors: Adrian Burke, Stas Liarsky, Valery Milner, Anders Ourom, Lee Purvis, Francis St-Pierre

Participants? The program is ideally suited for participants who can lead 5.8 to 5.9 (or lower) trad routes and follow up to 5.10's (there may be an opportunity for one 5.10/11 Participant). As a Participant, you will establish specific goals for the 2 days with your Mentor, but the general goals are to have fun, climb safely, and expand your multi-pitch rock climbing skills and speed.

Routes? Harder routes that are a stretch for you to follow, or slightly easier routes that are a stretch for you to lead. You will discuss and select the route with your Mentor. Multi-pitch routes on the Apron, the Chief, North Walls, South gully, as well as longer alpine rock routes are all good candidates. Example: Rock On and Ultimate Everything in one day in July, then Angel's Crest (or Yak Check) in one day in August.

Apply? BCMC members can apply to be one of approximately 6 Participants in the Rock

Mentorship Program. You must apply on-line by May 31, 2013. In early June, Mentors will select Participants based on the answers to the 4 questions and fit with Mentors. Results will be announced at the June 11 BCMC Social and by email to Applicants.

\$\$\$ The cost for each Participant is \$125 upon being selected. Participants will also pay for their Mentor's transportation.

View Point School, Pokhara, Nepal is seeking volunteers

- Submitted by Amanda Johnstone

If you are coming to trek in Nepal, please take some extra time and lend a hand at View Point school. This government school is located 10 kms from Pokhara city, Nepal.

80 children, aged 3 years to 13 years attend this school. These are children of poor subsistence farmers who make approximately \$2 per day working in the rice fields.

There are many ways volunteers can help out at the school. You can bring stationary for the children, paint a classroom, teach English, teach one to one computer skills, run an art or craft class or other activities. The school is also seeking teachers who can provide professional development to this school's teachers, particularly in teaching methodology.

You may also want to consider doing a fundraiser before coming to Nepal and buying the children a school jumper, a pair of shoes, bringing educational supplies or contributing to the food program.

The Principal, Mr Matrika Baral would be happy to answer any questions you have. Matrika can be contacted on matrikabaral2003@yahoo.com or I can be contacted on amandajohnstone@yahoo.com

Management of Off Road Vehicles continues to get nowhere due to inaction by the BC government - *Comment by Michael Feller*

The Outdoor Recreation Council of BC (ORC), supported by the FMCBC, has devoted considerable time to trying to get the BC government to implement responsible management of snowmobiles and ATVs and other off road vehicles on crown land in the province. In keeping with the government's lack of interest in outdoor recreation management in general, ORC's attempts to get proper ORV management continue to go nowhere in a hurry. A news update on this issue by ORC on April 9, 2013, stated the following:

"The Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Management Framework has been promised by the BC Government since 2010. That promise follows years of research and advocacy by the ORV Coalition which began its work in 2002 and delivered its 47 recommendations to the BC Government in December 2005.

In spite of the incredible efforts of the ORV Coalition, in which ORC was one of many NGOs to play a part, the promised Management Framework will deal with the following:

- Registration of ORVs at the time of sale or resale (but not annual licensing)
- Visible decals or registration plates on ORVs
- Require the wearing of safety equipment, primarily helmets
- Improved ability of ORVs to cross roads
- Education and improved measures for compliance and enforcement

Nevertheless these are important first steps and to the best of our knowledge they are supported by all NGOs having an interest in the Framework.

We have been advised that introduction of these measures will require the following:

1. Introduction of a new ORV Act in the BC Legislature followed by proclamation of the Act. This Act is essentially ready to go.
2. A system upgrade at ICBC, believed to be scheduled for 2014. There would be no point in introducing ORV registration with the present manual system as is now the case for snowmobiles.
3. Development of Regulations for the ORV Act.

Reasons for ORC's concern

ORC is extremely concerned that no definitive timetable has yet been established by the BC Government for the introduction of the legislation and the accompanying measures described above. ORC is also concerned that, even if such a timetable were to be announced, introduction of the legislation could be as implementation issues. These could be issues related to registration procedures, such as the payment of sales tax, or the affixing of plates or decals.

ORC's approach to the May election – your action is requested

We believe that the Framework is an initiative which can readily be supported by all parties in the legislature. We know it enjoys broadly based support in the NGO community. So ORC proposes to write to the leaders of all parties to urge them to commit to a timetable for the introduction of legislation for the ORV Management Framework.”

ORC also asks its members (each BCMC member is a member of ORC as we are members of the FMCBC, which is a member of ORC) to seek such a commitment from their MLA candidates during the campaign.

Middle Peak – July 28 & 29, 2012

Report by Todd Ponzini

My presence around the BCMC has been pretty sparse of late, due to having 2 lovely daughters arrive within 17 months of each other. But you can't keep an old bushwhacker down forever, so last summer I decided to come out of retirement and lead a trip....but what kind of trip? As I read through the schedule I was surprised at all the C4 (and similar) trips – where were the easier trips? I decided to do Middle Peak as a weekend trip, a modest scrambling peak just over the US border in the Chilliwack Valley area that I had been thinking about for a while.

With the friendly grading of B3 and promises of a relaxed pace, I wound up with 13 participants. We had enough 4x4s to get almost to the end of the Nesakwatch Creek road, where old avalanche debris blocked the way. We geared up, walked a bit of road, and promptly got crossed up in all kinds of the kind of thick that you can only find in 25 year old clearcuts. But this only went on for about 200 metres, and we broke out into steep but very open forest.

Not needing to rush things we had a relaxed pace and after a while the forest thinned but blueberry bushes kept the travel a bit tricky. We reached our planned camping spot at a small lake at about 2:30pm – time for a siesta! The weather was great and the bugs were sparse, so everyone had a nice rest after setting up the tents. Slesse was especially impressive from this angle, and Baker popped its head over a ridge. It was a great cross section of people on the trip, from old-time experienced climbers to folks who had hardly done any off-trail hiking.

I had asked everyone to bring an ice axe, but six or so people had not used one before. We grabbed some long pants and gloves and I took the keen mountaineers-to-be up to a friendly snow patch for some self-arrest tutorials. We did all the maneuvers, even head first on one's back, and learned other tricks of the trade such as not chopping off your thumb on the adze when enthusiastically dropping into position.

Our ice axe skills were needed almost immediately the next morning as overnight cooling had significantly hardened the snowfield above camp, but not impossibly so. We got up on the ridge between Centre Creek and Nesakwatch Creek and headed south, crossing the border and passing by a border monument. The first hiccup in the trip came when we had to descend about 200 metres of loose, grotty scree with a lot of rockfall. Everyone took it slow and steady and no problems were had, but for some the trip suddenly seemed a bit more serious! Some easy snow took us to the final ridge up Middle Peak, where hiccup #2 occurred with a bunch of us getting into some loose and exposed class 3 terrain in order to avoid a gap in the ridge (which turned out to be nothing). This was also overcome without problems and again the seriousness of the trip went up a notch for some of the participants.

The views were perfect at the top and the weather was as clear as a bell. We tried to spot Rainier, and I subsequently figured out that we should have, except for Mt. Blum being in the way. Nobody wanted to go back up the dung heap of scree that we had come down, so once back down to the snowfield at the base of Middle Peak we did a long and clever traverse across and below the ridge on the Centre Creek side. This cut off significant distance and elevation change, and had us back in camp by about 4pm. Given we left camp at about 8am, the “B” grading of the trip was obviously not going to be met. Everyone packed up in no time and we headed down into the shrubbery.

The trip down was smooth as we reversed our route with some minor deviations thrown in for laughs. It was fairly slow descent, as we'd had a long day with lots of excitement, and we took it easy hiking down with the big packs. After crashing through the bush at the edge of the clearcut I don't think some of the participants had ever been happier to see a logging road! We reached the trucks at about 8pm, capping off a great day with some great people. Thanks to everyone for joining the trip, I'm slow in writing this report and I can't remember all your names but hopefully we'll meet in the mountains again sometime soon.

