



BCMC

BC Mountaineering Club

Newsletter

April 2015, Vol 94, No. 4

BCMC SOCIAL: THE OTHER IRAN

Tuesday, April 14th at the ANZA Club 7:30 pm
Vancouver-based explorer Alex Hudson presents on his 5-month journey from the Persian Gulf's desert islands to Iran's northern mountains

NEW MEMBERS

The **BCMC welcomes** the following new members: Nathan Sundevic, Chris Arnold, James Vautour, Daniel Robinson, Jaime Adams, Chris Horte, Caryne Torkia, Laura Jones, Geoffrey Swannell, Martin Schwarze, Shawn Jones, Carey Hoffman, Esther Frei, Thomas Huntington, Ethan Browne, Kim Herrick, Brad Hayes, Arash Salimi, Sarah Clay, John Lemond, Gleb Ganeline, Ben Cases, Andrew Wong, Manouane Deschenes, and Nicolas Lopez,

APRIL 2015 TRIP SCHEDULE - Sign up, updates and details at www.bcmc.ca

01	Wed Evening Indoor Climbing - Cliffhanger	Indoor Climbing	Paul Olynek
02-06	Red Rock Easter Climbing Camp	Rock Climbing	Tom Appleby
02	Alpine Practice	Belay Practice	Serguei Okountsev
03-05	Dalton Dome	Backcountry Skiing	Craig Speirs
03-05	Mamquam Mt. and Delusion Peak. - South Approach	Mountaineering	Stanislav Liarsky
07	Executive Meeting	Volunteer Meeting	BCMC Executive
11	Mt. Jimmy Jimmy	Mountaineering	Michelle Hyun
11	Saturday Squamish Rock Climbing	Rock Climbing	Werner Grzimek
12	Squamish Single-Pitch Rock Climbing	Rock Climbing	Paul Olynek
15	Wed Evening Indoor Climbing - Cliffhanger	Indoor Climbing	Paul Olynek
16-20	Seneca Rocks Rock Climbing	Rock Climbing	Adrian Burke
18-26	Lillooet Icefields Ski Camp	Backcountry Skiing	Deon Molloy
19	Squamish Single-Pitch Rock Climbing	Rock Climbing	Paul Olynek
21	MEC Spring Club Night	Discount Shopping	Cynthia Montemay
or			
22	Wed Evening Indoor Climbing - Cliffhanger	Indoor Climbing	Paul Olynek
23	Crown Mountain Day Trip	Mountaineering	Brian Shannon
24-27	Spearhead Traverse	Backcountry Skiing	Angus Robb
24-26	A rack of Prime Ribs	Rock Climbing	Adrian Lazar
25-26	Wilderness First Aid + CPR (April)	Instructional Program	Club Courses (Rob Simzer)
25-26	Mt Rexford West Ridge	Mountaineering	Mauro Perizzolo
25	Priory Pks	Snowshoeing	Alastair Ferries
26	Squamish Single-Pitch Rock Climbing	Rock Climbing	Paul Olynek
29	Wed Evening Indoor Climbing - Cliffhanger	Indoor Climbing	Paul Olynek
28-01	Snow-Shelter Workshop	Instructional Program	Brian J Wood

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.

Cover Photo: *Sigurd Lake from southeast on the way down from Sigurd W1* by Paul Kubik



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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.

Please contact editor@bcmc.ca to submit material

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.



LIKE: www.facebook.com/BCMmountaineeringClub

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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.

SOCIAL PRESENTATION: APRIL 14th, 2015
ALEX HUDSON: THE OTHER IRAN

Join us as Lower Mainland based hiker, climber and mountaineer Alex Hudson introduces us to the Iran that is seldom talked about in the press. Over a five month period beginning in August 2014, Alex travelled from islands in the Persian Gulf in the south of Iran to the remote, snow covered peaks in northern Iran. Along the way, Alex passed through many historical sites, deserts, river filled canyons, rugged alpine pastures and the high peaks that ring Tehran.

Alex Hudson began hiking in the mountains around Tehran when he was 14 years old and eventually came to climb more than a dozen of Iran's highest mountains (13,000ft to over 18,000ft). Since moving to Canada, Alex has continued to hike, scramble and climb. He has ascended a vast number of mountains in BC, the Rockies and Washington State..

Everyone is welcome* ... visitors, members and guests. The meeting will take place at the Vancouver ANZA Club main floor (corner of 8th Ave and Ontario) on Tuesday April 14th 2015. The entrance door opens shortly after 7pm and the meeting begins at 7:30pm.

* Note that due to BC Liquor Laws you must be 19+ years old to attend and will be asked to sign-in at the door to ensure that we don't exceed the limit of 135 people.

IMPORTANT: SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 9, 2015 AT THE ANZA CLUB

Two very important pieces of BCMC business are coming up to a vote at the June 2015 SGM:

1) BCMC CONSTITUTION SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

In keeping with his goal to update the Club's Constitution and Policy Manual, BCMC President Dave Scanlon has asked Club members Glenn Woodsworth, Anders Oorum, Brian Wood and Doug Lonsbrough to help with revisions and updating language which reflect what the BCMC is currently.

The BCMC Executive was able to review and comment on the working draft of the Constitution changes at the March 3rd Executive meeting. A copy of the finalized draft will be available to BCMC members to review on the BCMC website before the SGM vote.

2) WATERSPRITE LAKE HUT CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

The Watersprite Lake Hut Building Committee will give a formal proposal to the membership for the funds to proceed with hut construction.

For updates regarding the Watersprite Lake Hut Construction, you can find minutes from the meetings on the BCMC Online Forum. BCMC President Dave Scanlon and construction team provide update presentations at the monthly Social events.



MEC CLUB NIGHT: APRIL 21st 2015
MEC Vancouver, 130 West Broadway 7:00-9:00pm

Have a laundry list of gear you need to replace? Have you been eyeing up that kayak in the window? Don't miss out on this great semi-annual event! 10% off all regular priced items purchased that evening – including bikes and boats!

You must be a member of Mountain Equipment Co-op in order to make a purchase; if you are not a member, you may purchase a \$5.00 membership that evening. On sale merchandise is limited to in-stock items at the Vancouver MEC location only.

BCMC members wanting to attend the event will need to sign up on the Trip List by April 14th so MEC staff can assemble a guest list.



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- Some of their regular prices are cheaper than their Vancouver competition. See pt. 3
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To setup an online account with Monod Sports, email your **full name** and **contact email address** (that is registered with the BCMC) to bcmc.marketing@gmail.com

It's FREE - When you need your gear, your account is ready to work for you.

WILDERNESS FIRST AID & CPR: APRIL 25-26, & 30th, 2015 - STILL SPACES AVAILABLE!!!

Nobody **PLANS** to have a medical emergency in the backcountry, so why not be prepared for an unforeseen crisis? It could save a life - maybe your own! Think of it as the 11th "Essential" to bring with you for backcountry recreation.

Wilderness First Aid: Sat & Sun April 25-26: The Introductory Wilderness First Aid course is a dedicated BCMC course offered through the Canada West Mountain School [CWMS] -- this course is offered to BCMC Members outside of the normal CWMS schedule. The course is taught by instructors who are active outdoor enthusiasts and consists of an evening session for CPR certification plus 2 full weekend days of theory and real-life simulations in an outdoor environment. . This course is a must for anyone active in the outdoor.

CPR Level 3 & AED: Thursday April 30 6:30-9:30PM: This specialized course is designed for people who work or play outdoors; it 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.

Course Fees: BCMC Members: \$225 +GST (including the CPR Level C certification, regularly 300+GST)

For sign up and further details go to the **BCMC Website Trip List**

PLANNING SOMETHING BIG? THE BCMC WANTS TO HELP YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN

With the newly created **Expedition Subsidy Program** you, as a BCMC member, can now apply for a subsidy **up to \$1000** for an upcoming BCMC expedition.

Criteria

The Trip must be posted on the BCMC Trip List; for BCMC Members only; mountain and/or outdoor related; remote and/or difficult and/or unique in nature; primarily self-propelled (motorized access is ok); expeditions (typically long in duration by nature, and require participants to be extensively prepared in their training and logistics).

Guided trips, organized events or races, and charity events do not qualify.

Application

To apply for the Expedition Subsidy, submit the following information as your application package to **bcmc.trips@gmail.com**:

An introduction to the expedition organizer and/or participants including their relevant background, qualifications, and experience

- 1) A trip summary (one paragraph) including the trip title, an overview of the objective, the expected start and end dates, and location
- 2) A detailed trip description including more detail on each of the trip summary items, an overview of your itinerary, and an explanation of why your trip is interesting or unique
- 3) A description of known risks and how your team is committed to a safe expedition
- 4) Your anticipated budget for the expedition
- 5) Your plans to present your trip to the club upon your return; it is expected, at a minimum, that this will include a photo essay-style trip report or video blog and a presentation at an upcoming social event; however, if you have another creative medium to communicate with and inspire the club membership then please feel free to suggest. Your creativity on this item could win some major "points" with the selection committee.

Selection

The successful expedition will be made based on the information presented in the Application package with a focus on the nature of the trip and what you can provide to the club upon your return.

Deadlines

There are two deadlines per year: December 31st and May 31st. Subsidies will be awarded following the January and June Executive Meetings, respectively (first non-holiday Tuesday of the month).

ANDERS OUROM RECEIVES YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK'S "2014 FACELIFT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR" AWARD

Each year Yosemite National Park and the Yosemite Climbing Association invite the public to participate in the Facelift, an event held to clean up trash and debris from around the park after the busy summer season. Volunteers help pick up litter at various locations in the park, including roadways, in the river corridor, on trails, near climbing routes, and in parking, camping, and lodging areas. Anders has been part of the core group of Yosemite Climbing Association volunteers who help to organize and manage the annual Yosemite Facelift. During the event, Anders served as the Facelift camp host in Camp 4

Congratulations Anders on all your hard work and generous volunteer time; its clear that Yosemite values you just as much as we do here at the BCMC!

SOUTHWEST BC BACKCOUNTRY ON FACEBOOK

BCMC member Kevin Tilley has created a Facebook Group to discuss all things concerning backcountry adventures in southwest BC: beta, trip reports, road conditions, snow conditions, trail conditions, gear reviews and trip planning. Hiking, climbing, mountaineering, skiing, biking and all manner of backcountry activities are welcome. Join the group and help build a great resource!

BLOOD TEST CERTIFICATE

Members are reminded of the necessity for carrying a blood test certificate when above the intakes on Capilano, Lynn, and Seymour watersheds. In view of the generous arrangements existing in connection with the securing of the blood test certificate, there is no excuse for any member failing to have one. Failure to have one when it is demanded might result in loss of the privileges the Club now enjoys with regard to the watersheds, and only obtained by dint of much hard work on the part of the Executive in the course of the past year. To those not familiar with the procedure of taking the blood test, it may be said that the whole thing does not amount to a pinprick, in fact, is disappointingly simple after the bold mountaineer has mustered his courage for the unknown ordeal. As the requirements are reasonable and by no means difficult to comply with, loyalty to the Club ought to make everyone live up to what is expected of them in this respect.

APRIL FOOLS! - Excerpted from BCMC Newsletter No. 1, Vol. 1, March 1923

MARC-ANDRE LECLERC RECEIVES 2015 GUY LACELLE "PURE SPIRIT" AWARD

Capping off what by anyone's account would be an amazing season, Squamish's Marc-Andre Leclerc has been awarded the 2015 Guy Lacelle "Pure Spirit" Award; the award is named for the late Canadian ice climber, who fell to his death in 2009 at the Bozeman Ice Festival. The award's organisers bestow the honor to a climber who "embodies the spirit of integrity, humility and joy that Guy brought to his climbs."

Some of Leclerc's notable ascents this season in Patagonia:

January 18 - 22, (with Colin Haley):	first ascent of La Travesia del Oso Buda, aka the "Reverse Torre Traverse," a route linking Cerro Torre, Torre Egger, Punta Herron and Aguja Standhardt.
February 2 - 3, (with Haley):	first integral ascent of Cerro Torre's north face
February 21:	first solo ascent (self-belayed, in spots) Cerro Torre's Corkscrew (5.10d A1 90 degrees, 4,000').

Check out an interview with Leclerc in *Alpinist* online at <http://www.alpinist.com/doc/web15w/newswire-marc-andre-leclerc-wins-guy-lacelle-award>

NEW DARLING LAKE (MAMQUAM) TRAIL CONSTRUCTION (Phase III): APRIL 25, 2015

Paul Ludwig and other dedicated B.C.M.C. volunteers have been actively constructing a new hiking, skiing and snowshoe trail from the recently installed Skookum Dam with the aim of providing a long-term vastly improved, quicker and easier access to Darling Lake and the Mamquam Icefield. It also has the potential to connect/be extended to the existing trail network starting at Mamquam Lake in Garibaldi Park in the future.

This trip will be the third instalment in this year's ongoing B.C.M.C. effort to tame Mamquam Mountain by constructing a quality trail to Darling Lake. This trip will focus on building a 250 meter connector trail from the end of the now cleared lower road system (see pink arrow on the map below) to the upper logging road (known as the S Line). We will continue to clear the upper road following the purple line on the map below (time permitting).

Work begins after an easy 1 KM / 25 minute hike from the parking area near the dam. The road to the dam is permanently maintained, but 4x4/awd is preferred.

For sign up and further details go to the [BCMC Website Trip List](#)

APPLICATION FOR HELI-SKI TENURE BORDERING KOKANEE GLACIER PARK SUBMITTED

Kootenay Valley Helicopters submitted a management plan with the application to the Ministry of Forest, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations on March 5.

The plan outlines intentions to be operating by the 2015-16 season with more than 70 proposed helicopter landing sites to access ski and snowboard runs over 14,666 hectares, with flight paths mapped out to travel around the provincial park air space. The application can be viewed at <http://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/viewpost.jsp?PostID=48586>

Public comments can be made here <http://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/comment.jsp?ret=%2FApplicationPosting%2F&id=48586> until May 2, 2015. No decisions have been made for this application at this time.

TRIP REPORT: BACKCOUNTRY SKIING PELION MOUNTAIN (TANTALUS RANGE)

Saturday, February 21, 2015

Participants: Paul Kubik, Roger Barany, Steve Pollack, Mark Tremblay, and Linus (dog).

Some pictures from Pokosha posted by Simon Chesterton the previous week made the snowfields on Pelion look pretty smooth. It seemed a good opportunity to check out Pelion. I put a trip at short notice on the schedule and got a couple of members from a Duffey trip that was cancelled.

I wasn't much concerned about the snow level. There hasn't been any at low elevations all winter. I warned people in advance that it would be a long hike carrying skis. On Friday night Mark phoned to say he would join us and go partway. He had just lost his dog of 15 years so I thought he might need some 'Linus' time.

We met Saturday morning and drove up to the trail. Mark parked his van on Ashlu Main and the Xterra took the rest of the party up the washed out A200 road to the trailhead. The hike up was pretty enjoyable. The benefit of having sunshine and no snow for weeks on end is that the trail was dry and mud free. That allowed us to make good time with the heavy packs. Despite that, it is still a lot faster to ski the trail. It felt more like an early July trip except it was a bit colder and there were no bugs and bears.

We eventually arrived at the snowline at 1 PM, right where the trail bursts out of the trees onto the moraine. I did say it is faster on skis. Mark had turned around shortly after the footbridge crossing. Roger was feeling the exertion and urged Steve and I to make haste for the summit. He would follow us higher as his energy level permitted.

After lunch, Steve and I started up continuous snow next to the moraine and then up the NW ridge of Pelion. Snow conditions were thin, hardly a meter in depth. The snow was hard frozen and streaked with water runnels. Near 1700 meters we were compelled to mount the ski crampons. The views were opening up and I could see that what had appeared to be smooth snow from afar was a misconception. The north face direct route was sheer rather than a snow ramp. The other ramp off the NW ridge onto the upper snowfield sported an ice cliff and lines of thinly bridged crevasses. That narrowed the choice to the bypass route from the high col.

The bypass route is counterintuitive since it heads away from the summit ridge to the col east of an imposing tower that frames the east end of the summit ridge. The bypass route climbs a glacier to the col at 2100 meters. There was a cold NE wind of about 25 km/hour so there was no warming of the snow surface. About 100 meters below the col even the crampons were barely biting into the ice that covered the glacier. Steve and I and the dog gained the col at 3 PM. It was looking like that would be our high point. The bypass swings around to the south side of the summit ridge and goes up another col 50 meters higher to gain the upper snowfield from the south. It's a marvelous route when snow filled. In this year, there was a line of exposed rock at the crest of the col.

The year prior I was in the col with Nicolas Jimenez and two dogs on a spring trip. Another low snow year and the snow had retreated leaving a short Class 5 climb on rock with a deep moat. I had no hesitation for myself but the deep moat was a problem for the dogs. This year's trip looked a lot better snow-wise but the ice conditions were unfavorable. It was looking fairly involved and there was no promise it would be any better on top. Regretfully, it seemed wise to call it a day.

I cooled off rapidly once the sun dipped behind Pelion's summit ridge. The ski down was interesting - very icy rain furrows and sun cups. A few jump turns were employed descending several of the steep steps as we retraced our route down the NW ridge. Skiing the north face direct was out of the question in these conditions. We reunited with Roger halfway down. The conditions never really approached corn snow until 1200 meters where the skis came back off.

Then began the mighty slog to get back down the trail. It's kind of a downer carrying skis through all that great ski terrain. Not much you can do about it. There's no snow. The headlamps came on about an hour down the trail and we got back to the trailhead at 10 PM.

Paul Kubik

Clockwise from right:
Mount Tantalus from the high col on Pelion by Paul Kubik.
Marie at East Col (Spearheads) by John Beeckler
Heliotrope Ridge by Michelle Hyun
Roger Barany on the Sigurd footbridge by Paul Kubik
Cayoosh - looking at Joffre by Steve Pollak

