



THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA, VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

ISLAND BUSHWHACKER

VOLUME 30 * ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER, 2002



*Ken Denman telemarking at the Dave Henry Lodge
Spring 2002, Photo: Rob MacDonald,
The season is almost upon us!!*

Main Club News & Reports

ACC Board Meeting, Lake Louise, October 2002 Gerta Smythe

Once more I represented our section at the board meeting held at Lake Louise. Meeting with ACC members from across Canada is a great privilege and being in the Rockies and finding time to climb with these new friends is a true bonus. Since there were no momentous decisions to be

made, we finished the agenda in one day and had 2 days to explore the hills. This gave me an opportunity to listen to other sections' problems and ideas, and I realized that Canada truly is a bilingual country when hearing the happy French chatter of the Whistler section from the West and the new Outaouais section from the East.

To bring you the highlights of the meeting, I would like to point out that the club is financially solvent, the huts are well maintained, the courses offered very popular and the GMC usually fully booked by January.

Keeping abreast with the International scene, we had a guest speaker from the UIAA who talked of training standards and promoting mountaineering as a way to further World Peace. We followed the United Nations by celebrating the "Year of the Mountain" this year and will focus on the "Wonder of Water" for the next year.

Of course the preparations for the ACC's Centennial Celebrations are stepping up. There is still talk of building a Centennial Hut somewhere. So far, no site has been decided on: Would we like to see one built on the Island?

ACC Insurance

Bruce Keith, ACC Executive Director

At the recent Board meeting, we discussed the situation in which our current insurance provider had decided not to renew our liability insurance, and that we were seeking an alternate provider. Since our insurance policy was due to expire Oct 31, 2002, there was obvious urgency. I am happy to inform you that our current provider has now decided to renew our liability insurance policy with no changes. The equally good news is that the policy premium is within the \$ amount included in 2003 budget approved by the Board.

As a result, it will be "business as usual" for all national and section activities from an insurance point of view. I should mention that our current insurance provider "saw the light" as a result of re-reviewing several factors, including the high standards we set through our leadership development program and our waiver signing program. With regard to the latter, please ensure that your section does all that's necessary to adhere to our waiver signing policy and practices - future renewals of our insurance policy may well depend on it!

VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION
OF THE
ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA



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2002

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<http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca>

ACC VI website: www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/vi

The Island Bushwhacker is published 4 times a year by the Vancouver Island Section of the Alpine Club of Canada.

NOTE: Deadlines for the next issues:

- Annual - Fri. Jan. 31, 2003
- Bushwhacker - Fri. Feb. 15, 2003.

Please send all submissions to :
accbushwhacker@hotmail.com

ISSN 0822 - 9473

Up-Island News Spring/ Summer 2002

Lindsay Elms

With lots of snow around late into the spring this year, people were continuing to ski into Mt. Albert Edward and Jutland well into May and enjoying some fast trip times. On May 11, Peter Ravensbergen and Lindsay Elms day tripped Alexandra Peak and then Mt. Mitchell on May 26, both from near Pearl Lake in the Upper Oyster River. Mt. Mitchell was climbed via a steep/narrow couloir that dissects the huge rock band on the northern aspect. Continuing to explore the peaks of northern Vancouver Island, Lindsay Elms day tripped Mt. Nora and Mt. Adams from the Upper Adams Main on June 1 & 2, and then on June 22, again with Peter Ravensbergen, they climbed the REAL Queen Peak. This was Elms' second attempt in 2 weeks. Sandy Briggs later led an ACC trip into Queen Peak in Sept. and attempted to follow the route party description I e-mailed him but the got bluffed out. Later he returned with several others and climbed the peak from Stewart Lake on the south side. This peak had been on Sandy's to-do list, and the ACC trip schedule, for a number of years but he had always had to resort to Plan B. Mount Hall received its first recorded ascent by Sandy Briggs, Hinrich Schaefer and Rick Johnson via logging roads from Toquart Bay. Again this peak's first ascent had been on a number of people's wish list. Now that it has been climbed they'll have to be content with a second ascent. Tak Ogasawara and Peter Rothermel attempted Bonanza Peak but ran out of time and made several attempts to return later in the summer but ... oh well, next year!

The Mackenzie Range saw some activity by Chris Barner, Paul Rydeen, Alana Theoret, and Sandy Briggs. Over four days all the spires were climbed as well as

Canoe Peak. Tracks were found on Canoe Peak that indicated another party had climbed the mountain but who it was and from which direction is unknown. Paul, Chris, Alana and Darren Wellman went on to climb Mt. Donner from the Pamela Creek and an all-female party consisting of Christine Partmann, Alana Theoret and Heidi Mulbacher climbed Rugged Mountain in August.

The Heathens began their Mountaineering Camp at Crest Creek Craggs on the evening of July 5 with a number of projects in mind. Five new routes were established at Crest Craggs, some of the

older routes were re-scrubbed and some bolts underwent maintenance. There were three days of trail work completed and a new boardwalk was built at the craggs. By the end of summer there were another 15 new routes climbed at Crest Creek Craggs ranging from 5.4 - 5.12, and 13 days of trail work were completed. Crest Creek Craggs popularity is evident from the groups from all over the island climbing on any given day during the summer. Chris then worked with a number of people on lead climbing, rock rescue, aid soloing and an intro aid course. On the alpine front the following peaks were climbed during the camp: Kings Peak by four parties via the normal route and the North Ridge, Elkhorn via the West Ridge twice, Malaspina Peak was climbed by Paul Rydeen, Jim Tansky and Kerry Daniels and later by Alana Theoret and Darren Wellman. Mounts Shoen, Albert Edward, Augerpoint, Mitchell, Adam, El Piveto, Cervus and Victoria Peak were ascend by a number of people. Mt. Colonel Foster's Southeast summit was also ascended twice by parties as a day trip from the camp at Crest Craggs making the two week camp very successful as usual.

The Heathens Youth Development Group led by Mike Preston had a number of eager young climbers who visited Big Interior Mountain, Mt. Tom Taylor and Kings Peak during the summer and also spent some time developing their skills at Crest Creek Craggs. Chris Barner would also like to

thank the ACC Endowment Fund for lending some gear to the Youth Development Group.

BC-Day weekend saw the campsite at the Frog Ponds (and other campsites on the ridge) on the way into the Comox Glacier full, but rain and thick mist forced everyone to spend the summit (Sunday) day tent bound. However, for those who went in on Friday to the Frog Ponds they had a good day Saturday on the summit. Peter Rothermel's party reached Lone Tree Pass on the Saturday and were hoping to climb Mt. Harmston but after a short foray they too returned to their tents. Pete will have to try again next year to complete his IQ. Peter didn't have a good summit year as he also attempted Rambler Peak but will again have to return next year.

Peak 5040 saw two ascents this summer. First John Pratt and George Urban summited and attempted to traverse across to Nahmint but ran out of time. Secondly, Sandy Briggs, Don Berryman and Lindsay Elms climbed it on July 13.

Mt. Colonel Foster's Southeast summit saw several more ascents throughout the summer including an ascent by a 13 and two 16 year olds led by Anja Taylor and Lindsay Elms. John and Mike Waters were also busy and added a direct start to Cataract Ridge on the mountain's East Face. Their round-trip time for this climb (from the trailhead) was 14 hours.

And, finally, the Comox District Mountaineering Club also had a busy summer with a wide variety of trips. Of interest for climbers is the trail work in the Beaufort Range. Ken Rodonets organized several work parties that continued clearing the trails up to Mt. Joan and Mt. Curran as well as Rosemary Lake from the Alberni/Comox Logging road. A route description for these trails will appear in the new up-dated Hiking Trails III book due out shortly.

For inclusion in the next Up-Island News in the Bushwhacker please e-mail trip info to: beyondnootka@shaw.ca

Coming this Winter - The Ice Box, Mt. Arrowsmith

Peter Rothermel

Keep an eye out for this *introduction to ice climbing* in this winter's schedule.

Once again Arrowsmith has shown that it's the "little mountain that can"... can have a bit of everything! While on a hike up the route to the Main Snowgully on Arrowsmith we spied ice down below in a small box canyon along the creek. From where you park your vehicle it's just a bit over an hour's hike through slopes forested in first growth. There are frozen waterfalls at both ends of the canyon, fifteen to twenty five metres high, and its sides form sheets of frozen water up to about twelve metres high produced by melting snow from the slopes above. There are about seven or eight climbs good for leading or top roping from the easily accessible trees above. While climbing the waterfalls one may hear the water rushing beneath, sounding eerily far, far away.



Denise Hook on Ice at Mt. Arrowsmith, Winter 2001-2002

Photo: Peter Rothermel

These trips, which I put on last winter's trip schedule, were so popular that I've decided to put on two days in the upcoming January and two days in February hopefully providing a chance to climb for anyone who's interested. Please sign up for one or the other day on either given weekend. If there's room on the second day for first-day participants, they can do both days.

In good conditions this location can provide space for up to six or seven ropes climbing at the same time. Top ropes are easy to rig making this spot perfect for introducing ice

climbing. Participants need to have basic belaying and climbing skills and must provide their own harnesses, helmets and crampons. This is an introduction to ice climbing and previous ice climbing experience isn't needed. I can muster half a dozen pairs of technical axes and ropes, but if participants have their own they're welcome to bring them. We will cover such topics as how to use axes and crampons, general versus specialized gear, axe & crampon technique on water ice, protection and anchors on ice, leading on ice and how to relax so you won't burn out and you will have fun.

A FRIENDLY MESSAGE FROM THE BUSHWHACKER EDITORS

Receiving your Bushwhacker Update newsletter from our Website is one way to substantially reduce our printing and mailing costs, thus freeing up funds for education and new equipment.

If you have a computer with an internet account and a printer it is easy to print out your copy.

The procedure is:

1. Send an e-mail to < accbushwhacker@hotmail.com > and we will notify you by e-mail as soon as the current issue is posted on the Website.
2. Log onto our Website at www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/vi and click on the first "Bushwhacker" in the list on the left side of the screen. A list of the recent issues will come up.
3. If you have the Adobe Acrobat Reader program click on the latest issue in the list and it will come up in PDF format on your screen. You can then print the issue as you would any other document.
4. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed click on "Download Adobe Acrobat" just above the list of Bushwhacker issues and follow the instructions to install it on your computer. The program is free and very useful to have on your computer.
5. After Adobe Acrobat is installed go back to step 3 to print a colour edition of your newsletter.

Notice to all trip leaders who wish to have their climbs, trips and expeditions recorded in the "2002 BUSHWHACKER ANNUAL". The deadline for submissions is Friday, January 31, 2003. Articles about Section scheduled events will have preference if we have too many submissions. Please trust the judgement of the editors as to what is included.

We can accept your submission in several ways:

1. e-mail your text to : <accbushwhacker@hotmail.com > ,
2. Typewritten (we can scan clean copy),
3. Saved on a cd in MS Word or Text format.

Mail typewritten copy or cd to Chris Pepler, 1676 Hampshire Rd, Victoria B.C., V8R 5T6.

Either mail your photos or slides to Viggo Holm, at 1991 Casa Marcia Cresc. Victoria B.C. V8N 2X5 for scanning OR have them scanned (min. 300dpi) and e-mailed as tif file (not jpeg) to <holm@telus.net>. Photos and slides will be returned after they are scanned.

Thursday, December 5, AGM

UVIC Faculty Club, 7:30 pm

Selection of next year's executive

The closing business of each AGM is the handing over of the meeting to the Nominating Committee to oversee the selection of the executive for the coming year. This ushering in of the new section executive is a time of:

- **appreciation** - of those who have served on the current year's executive;
- **opportunity** - for those who may want to seek out a new experience and conquer a different kind of peak;
- **encouragement** - to new blood and younger members to step forward; and
- **importance** - as this will set the tone and determine the leadership of the section for another year.

Please attend and show your support.