



THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA, VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

ISLAND BUSHWHACKER

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Lunch time at the Campbell Icefield Ski Week

Photo: Patrick Daigle

VI Section Messages

Section Application for Centennial Funding Approved by National!

Judith Holm

You may remember the note in the November 2004 Bushwhacker welcoming ideas for how to celebrate the ACC Centennial on Vancouver Island and inviting interested members to become involved.

Two proposals emerged:

1. **To work for park protection status for Mt. Arrowsmith**

(contacts: Peter Rothermel prother@telus.net and Don Cameron dcameron@cameronsoftware.com)

Peter and Don are working hard on many fronts regarding the Arrowsmith initiative. If you are on the listserv, you'll have been reading their progress reports. The Regional District of Nanaimo (which includes Mt. Arrowsmith) Board has passed a resolution to partner with the ACC/FMCBC to approach the BC Government to create a park.



VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION
OF THE
ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA



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2005

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www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/vi

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**NOTE: Deadline for the next issue is:
Wed. Sept 1, 2005. Send all submissions
to : holm@telus.net**

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2. To hold a "Centennial Week in the Mountains" July 23-30, 2006, trips based around the Elk River Valley, with a main goal being one or more traverses to climb the Golden Hinde.

(contact: Judith Holm holm@telus.net)

Our Section has been climbing from the Elk River Valley since 1912. As Lindsay Elms noted, this area offers a wonderful variety of interesting climbs, traverses and hikes, with a full range of lengths and levels of difficulty. For example: Puzzle Mtn, Elkhorn, King's Peak, Colonel Foster SE & SW, Rambler and Junior, Mt El Piveto and Mt Colwell (Elkhorn South). As well, several traverses can be incorporated into the climbs: up the mountaineers' trail to Elkhorn, down into the basin and up Kings Peak; Mt Colwell from the gravel flats to Elkhorn and down the mountaineers' trail; up to Elk Pass and over to the South Col of Foster and back down to Landslide Lake; Puzzle Mtn. to Wolf Mtn. A traverse to climb the Golden Hinde can begin or end here. The Elk River Valley has good hiking opportunities, such as the trail to Landslide Lake and on to Iceberg Lake, the approach to Elk Pass, etc. Crest Creek Crag is enroute to/from the trailhead, and could also be done as a day trip from a camp in the ER.

Members are invited to think about what trips you would like to do or lead that would begin, end or pass through the Elk River Valley at some point during the last week of July/06. As each scheduled trip will be independent, run in the normal way, with leaders free to organize their trips as they see fit, logistics can be minimal. With the focus in this area between 23-30 July, groups are likely to spontaneously meet up in passing, and a small base will be set up on the Elk River gravel flats. Our goal is to provide a simple, flexible framework which will enable us to really enjoy this week.

All interested ACC VI members are of course welcome to participate. We shall be inviting ACC section members across Canada to an 8 day wilderness traverse with goal of climbing the Golden Hinde, maximum 8 participants and 2 leaders, to be run in the usual style of an ACC VI trip (The number is limited so that we can host our guests well.) We would like to extend a welcome to other Island mountaineering clubs (subject to trip leaders' decisions as to what is practical for their trips.)

The Centennial funding application approved by National is for \$625. It is mainly for equipment which will be a lasting legacy for our Section - a new climbing rope and a pair of radios to support the Golden Hinde traverse invitation, a guide's tarp and small amount for making an historical display at the base camp; and as an outreach, money to print Centennial poster to increase Island awareness of the ACC, with VI Section contact info attached.

Report of the ACC National Board Meeting, May 14th/05

Gerta Smythe

Section Rep.

It's always great to meet with all representatives of our 18 sections on the eve before the meeting at a local pub and then listen and learn on the next day, as they give their reports. Just a few interesting facts: Whistler now has 165 members and is growing! Vancouver has 4 summer camps and is building the Jim Haberl Hut in the Tantalus Range this summer for sure. Ottawa is sending out WEEKLY electronic news letters. All Alberta sections have generously donated towards the rebuilding of the Fay Hut, which is happening this summer. Volunteers can sign up on the website to help out for a week.

My report was last. Everyone was interested in Peter's Arrowsmith project and the national office is looking into his ACC logo recommendation. The Bushwhacker Annual copies went like Hot Cakes and I could have given out more!

There were several items to be voted on; always minor things and unanimously passed. For example, the renaming of the Leader Award to the Eric Brooks Leader Award, a famous climber and past president who was active in the 40's, 50's and even 60's.

Of greater importance was the acceptance of the Competition Climbing Association as a new section. This should prove quite interesting and surely generate some young blood. They presently have 100 registered members, 70 in the Youth Category.

Centennial Planning is well on its way and final funding deadline will be September 30th.

The meeting was adjourned in good time for the change in location for the afternoon AGM.

During the AGM, which was held at the impressive new

Civic Centre, the Vice-Presidents gave their reports and the new Executive was introduced: Cam Roe as President, Peter Muir as Secretary, Roger Laurilla as Vice president of Activities and Isabelle Daignault as Vice president for Access and Environment. All the other positions were unchanged.

After all the different reports were presented 21 awards were handed out and we received 3 for Vancouver Island. We hope to present them at our annual BBQ in August.

Treasurer's Report

Geoff Bennett

The 2005 budget was presented to the AGM in December and was approved, with several revisions, by the new Executive on January 19, 2005. Thanks in part to Mike Hubbard's stewardship of the Banff Film Festival – and his suggestion to increase the admission fee – the VI Section is in good financial shape. Here are some points which affect every member.

Membership dues: Despite a recent increase in ACC National dues and FMCBC dues, we see no need to increase VI Section dues at this time.

GST Rebate: At the end of each fiscal year the Treasurer applies to the federal government for a refund of 50% of the GST charged to the Section. This is a significant source of "income" and is the main reason we require receipts (with GST) for all purchases. It is also an important reason for charging the expenses of major ski trips and climbing weeks to the Section.

Equipment Rental Income: All money earned – and more – from equipment rentals is used to purchase new equipment.

Section Trips and Camps: Organizers of future trips please take note. All expenses and participants' fees for major Section trips should be routed through the Treasurer. Set a fee which will ensure a small profit. This serves three purposes – the Section gets a GST refund; the trip accounts are audited; and the Section makes a small profit. For example, the 2004 Lake O'Hara camp resulted in a profit of \$373 (including GST refund) to the Section and the 2005 Campbell Icefield trip resulted in a GST refund of \$443.

Bank Interest: Most of the interest is earned on a cashable term deposit at Coast Capital. The current balance is \$7036. Besides earning interest, this term deposit gives the Section a financial cushion in case the Banff Film Festival fails to generate a profit.

Publications: The Bushwhacker Annual is the main expense

in the Section budget. Viggo Holm and others have done an admirable job in keeping costs down while producing a quality publication. Cost savings have also been achieved by hand-to-hand distribution and, in the case of newsletters and trip schedules, dissemination via the section website. Everyone can help to reduce postage expenses in this way.

Purchase of New Equipment: Increased funds have been allocated to this budget item. Two pairs of GMRS two-way radios have already been purchased. A satellite phone and avalanche transceivers are also being considered. Please suggest ideas for new equipment to members of the executive.

Courses for Members and Camps for Youth: The Section will reimburse half the cost of certain leadership courses and youth camps. In return the Section expects members to lead future trips and hopes that youths will eventually become full ACC members. If you have a course or camp in mind and you think you may be eligible, contact the chair or another member of the executive.

Reimbursements to Members and Leaders: Trip leaders sometimes incur costs which should be borne by the Section membership, for example the cost of fixed anchors on popular climbing routes. Present your claim for reimbursement to the executive.

Slide Shows: The Section encourages slide shows and other presentations but will no longer subsidize them.

Section Meetings and Banquet: The organizers have kept net costs to a minimum so that these popular events – which are open to all members – actually cost the Section very little.

Donations to Other Groups: The Section donates funds to the Climber's Access Society and to the Canadian Avalanche Association. (Our FMCBC contribution is different – we pay annual dues of \$15 per member out of Section dues.) Members

The Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Island Section

2005 budget (approved 19 Jan . 2005)

Prepared by Geoff Bennett, Treasurer

ITEM	DEBIT	CREDIT	NET
Bank Assets on 1 Dec. 2004			\$15,422.62
NET REVENUE ITEMS			
Banff Festival of Mountain Films			\$5,600.00
November 2004 carryover			
November 2005	\$12,100.00	\$17,700.00	
Section Membership Dues			\$1,933.00
Monthly remittance from ACC Canmore			
FMCBC dues (157 memberships in fiscal 2004 @ \$15)		\$4,288.00	
GST Rebate		\$840.00	\$840.00
Equipment Rental		\$575.00	\$575.00
Section Trips and Camps	\$8,200	\$9,000.00	\$800.00
Bank Interest		\$75.00	\$75.00
NET EXPENSE ITEMS			
Publications			-\$4,005.00
Bushwhacker Annual	\$3,350.00	\$165.00	
Newsletters (4) and Trip Schedules (2)	\$820.00		
Purchase of New Equipment	\$1,500.00		-\$1,500.00
Subsidies and Reimbursements for Section Members			-\$3,000.00
Courses for Members and Camps for Youth	\$2,500.00		
Reimbursements to Members and Leaders	\$500.00		
Section Meetings			-\$340.00
December 2005 AGM	\$100.00	\$160.00	
January Volunteer Party	\$300.00		
October Meeting and Slide Contest	\$100.00		
Slide Shows	\$0.00		\$0.00
Website Fees	\$150.00		-\$150.00
Section Banquet	\$1,100.00	\$1,150.00	-250.00
Speaker's Fees and Expenses	\$300.00		
Donations of dues to other groups	\$100.00		-\$100.00
Administration, Library, Travel			-\$270.00
Stationery, copying, plaques	\$50.00		
Library	\$100.00		
Delegate travel to ACC meetings	\$120.00		
TOTALS	\$33,745.00	\$33,953.00	\$208.00
Estimated Bank Assets on 1 Dec. 2005			\$15,630.62

Logging On Arrowsmith

Peter Rothermel

The Judge's Route, the shortest, easiest and most popular route to the summit of Mt. Arrowsmith is slated to be logged in the near future. We (ACC & FMCBC) have been working with the Weyerhaeuser forester, engineer and management on how best to protect the trails all over the massif.

Weyerhaeuser have said they will leave a buffer of 40 to 80 metres on the Judge's trail, so as to protect it. As well, the traverse between the Judge's and Un-Judge's Routes will get some protection with retention blocks and single stem harvesting.

We are pushing to have the small valley that the Main Gully Route runs up protected as ungulate winter range and have been flagging this and other obscure routes with yellow flagging that has TRAIL printed on it, so the company foresters can see where the routes are that we've mapped out for them. Some people may find this flagging objectionable, but it is necessary, to protect

these areas important to us.

The cut blocks proposed by Weyerhaeuser on Arrowsmith are entirely on their private lands and having industry consult recreation, before harvesting in popular areas, is hopefully, a sign of the future. While I have personally recommended that harvesting not to go any higher than 1,000 metres, it will and I think we've brokered the best deal we can expect.

Weyerhaeuser's coastal operations have recently been sold to a company called Brascan, but I expect that the Arrowsmith issues will remain as they are.

Logging in the Judge's area may begin in spring or early summer and there will be temporary closures while the cut is happening. We are trying to keep weekends open and finding the times of closure that are most compatible for recreation. We will be posting this news on the ACC list-serve as we find out more.

Arrowsmith, The Un-Judge's Route, A Rite Of Spring.

Peter Rothermel

The Un-Judge's is one of the first trips of the spring/summer season that we can leave the plastic boots, crampons and extra warm layers behind. No rope, harness or climbing gear is needed other than an ice axe for the odd spot. For the first time in what seems like forever winter, you can go LIGHT! Often by May, all the snow is gone from the south facing solid rock and the route comes into being, while every other route on the massif is still snowed up. I think of it as a "Rite Of Spring".

This is a route much like the Judge's Route, yet less travelled and with a bit of exposed scrambling now and again. Starting from the end of the third spur up Pass Main, you hike up into the forest, then bear right and follow down and through an avalanche debris gully. Up again, through first growth forest, it parallels the Judge's Route on an adjacent south facing ridge, but it is not the Judge's, hence the name, Un-Judge's or Non-Judge's. Many people find the name Un-Judge's kind of confusing, and some would prefer to rename it something different, such as the Jury Route. Well, the jury is still out on that one. I just wish it had a moniker that made it stand out more as the classic spring/summer route that it is.

I've led trips up this way for over five years now and each time I like the route more and more. Above the forest, the original route pretty much goes up in a straight line, up through bluff, exposed sections. The route we have developed over the years is a little different and has evolved into a mixed bag of a bit of everything.

My first time up this route was with my pal Dean Williams several years ago. Dean had broken his collar bone some weeks before and was still on the mend. When we came out above the forest and started to scramble on rock and use our hands, Dean's collar bone started to hurt and he said, "Pete, we have got to stop... I should have let it mend longer. As we rested a bit, I noticed a ledge traversing off to the left and said, I am going to

go see where that leads... I will be back in a minute. The usual route goes pretty much straight up to the right and becomes an exposed scramble, so these ledges piqued my interest.

The ledge continued for quite a ways so I hollered to Dean to come along as he wouldn't need to use his arms. At the end of this ledge we scrambled up a couple of steps and Dean's wishbone started to ache again.

I continued on saying, "I just want to see what's around the corner" and there were yet more ledges going for quite a distance and loaded with deer droppings, so I figured this must be the easiest way to somewhere. Deer and elk are smart creatures that always manage to find the path of least resistance... unlike us dimwitted humans who seem to think straight up is the only way. I went back for Dean and we eventually followed the deer ledges to a flattish area of hanging forest. Past this we reconnected with the old route, that scrambles over easy, but exposed rock and eventually tops out onto the South Summit.

The South Summit is my most favorite place on the whole mountain, because when you reach it, you have just been up one or another of Arrowsmith's classic routes: Un-Judge's, Rudy's or Lost Gully.

The traverse from the South Summit to the Main Summit is easy with a few scrambly spots and is a joy in itself. Descending via the familiar Judge's Route is the usual nontechnical way off the mountain.

Near the bottom of Judge's is a traverse that will take you through first growth forest and gently deposit you back to your vehicle at the end of Pass Main's third spur. This makes for an all day circuitous route, that has become one of Arrowsmith's classics.

Most of the forested slopes on the flanks of this mountain are under the threat of the fallers axe. With negotiating and lobbying, maybe the routes will be spared.

F M C B C

FMCBC Annual General Meeting - We are the hosts.

Sasha Kubicek

Our Vancouver Island Section of the Alpine Club of Canada is hosting this year's FMCBC AGM in Victoria. This year the AGM is structured so that club members can participate in various parts of the AGM.

Everything starts off on **Friday, June 10** with a public event at the Princess Mary Restaurant and Conference Centre

7:00 - 8:00pm Opening Session: meet and greet reception. No host bar

8:00 - 10:00 Presentation: "Mt. Arrowsmith a park for all" by Peter Rothermel. A public event.

The AGM then moves over to the Dunsmuir Lodge Executive Training and Conference Centre on **Saturday, June 11th**. After the business part of the AGM in the morning, club members are encouraged to participate in the following concurrent event workshops:

1:00 - 1:30 **Break Out Session Membership/Club Issues.** This is a chance for club delegates and or members to voice concerns and share ideas. eg: club promotion and membership retention, club representation by the FMCBC

Concurrent Workshops:

1:30 - 2:30 **Vancouver Island Section of the National Hiking Trail.** This workshop will look at possible route options for the Vancouver Island Section of the National Hiking Trail, in particular the section from Port Alberni South to Victoria.

1:30 - 2:30 **Roofed Accommodation in BC Parks FMCBC strategy and policy.** This workshop will evaluate the Provincial legislation and policy for Roofed Accommodation in BC Parks and recommend/update the FMCBC policy on this issue.

2:30 - 3:30 **Trails, Trail Building and the FMCBC.** Trails have been a mainstay of the FMCBC since inception. This workshop will look at a future FMCBC strategy for trails and access, trail building projects, and trail building tools and concepts.

2:30 - 3:30 **Access Issues.** Access will most likely become the dominant issue for the FMCBC. This workshop will deal with the myriad of access issues including private land access, LWBC tenures and the state of FS roads. Perhaps a new committee might emerge.

3:30 - 5:00 **Panel Session - FMCBC Strategy for 2005/2006 and beyond.** This will be your chance to set the direction and priorities for the FMCBC in 2005/2006. It is hoped that the outcomes of the workshops will help set the tone for this strategy.

After all the hard work in the afternoon, club members are also welcome to participate in:

6:00 - 7:00 Reception, No host bar Peninsula Lounge

7:00 - 11:00 **Evening Banquet with keynote presentation by Lindsay Elms, "Mountaineering on Vancouver Island".**

To wrap things up on **Sunday June 12th** Peter Rothermel will be leading the Judge's Route (3rd Class) on Mt Arrowsmith. Depart Victoria 6:00am, finish by 4:00pm. Other local hikes will be offered by the Outdoor Club of Victoria.

If you are interested in participating in any aspect of the AGM please fill out the enclosed registration form and follow its submission requirements.

As clubs from all over BC will be participating at the AGM, our club will be offering billets to out of town participants. If you can offer billeting on either June 10th or 11th please contact me as soon as possible at s_kubicek@hotmail.com or 478-0487.

I hope everyone can participate in at least one aspect of this year's AGM and show the clubs of BC how great hosts we can be.