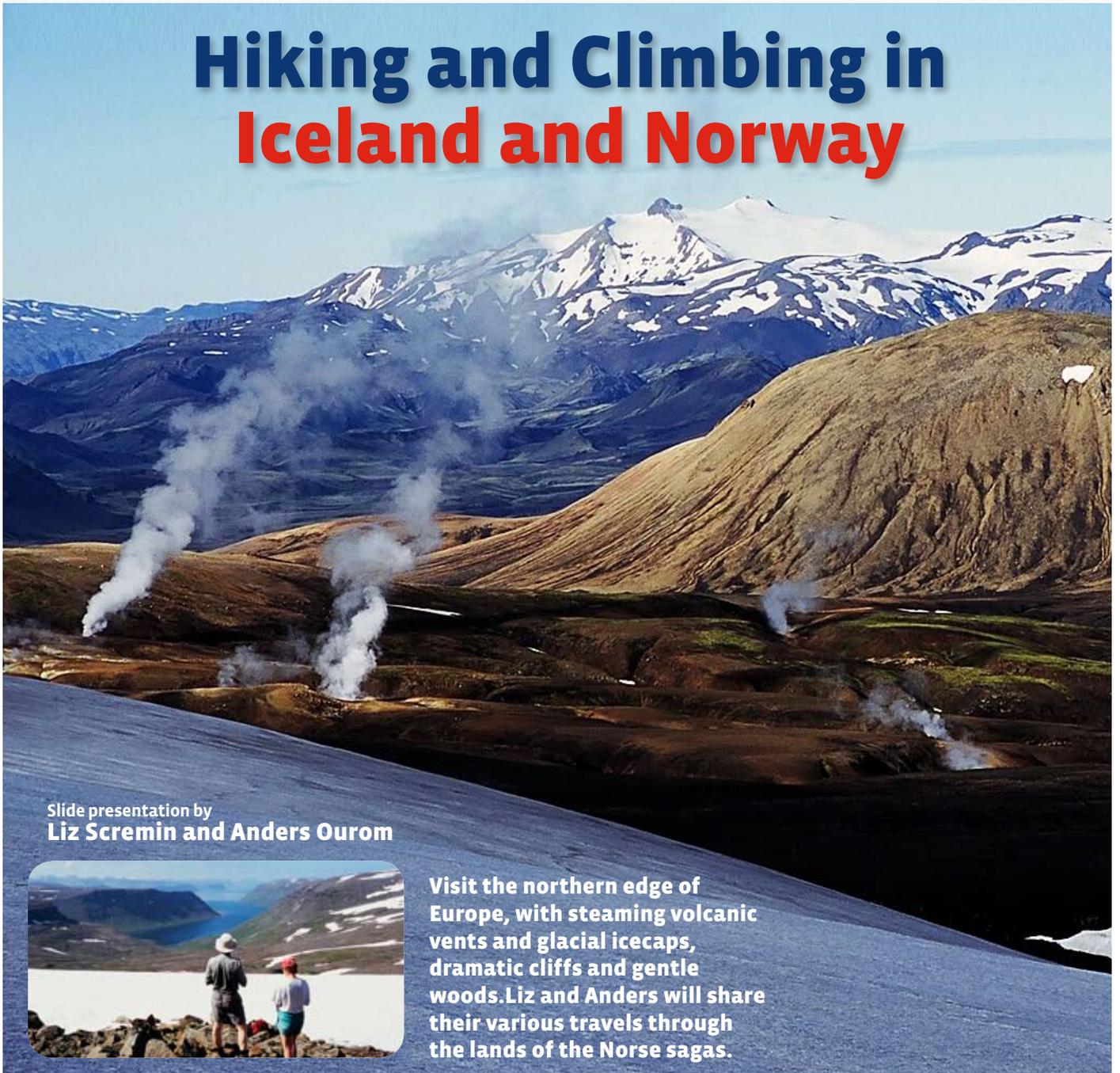


AVALANCHE ECHOES

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, February 27 at 7:30 p.m.**

FLORAL HALL, VANDUSEN GARDENS, WEST 37TH AND OAK ST, VANCOUVER

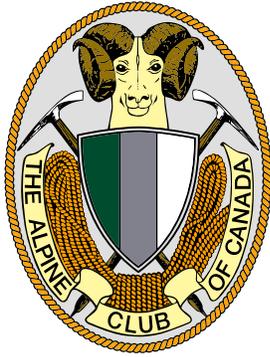
Hiking and Climbing in Iceland and Norway



Slide presentation by
Liz Scremin and Anders Ourom

Visit the northern edge of Europe, with steaming volcanic vents and glacial icecaps, dramatic cliffs and gentle woods. Liz and Anders will share their various travels through the lands of the Norse sagas.

COMING UP IN MARCH: Rob Brusse and Co. will present a slideshow on their experiences climbing in the Bugaboos



THE AVALANCHE ECHOES is published nine times per year by the Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section.

EDITOR: Anita Leonhard
604-988-6486 • bubinga@telus.net

DESIGN: Martin Naroznik

This newsletter is the official publication of the Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section. It keeps members informed on topics of interest to mountaineers including activities within the club, equipment, techniques, access, and environmental issues.

The club meets monthly, usually for a slide presentation, at the Floral Hall in VanDusen Gardens, W 37th and Oak St., at 7:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month, except in July, August and December.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Vancouver Section:
Single \$61.00
Family \$81.00
Junior \$34.00 (under 18)

NATIONAL ACC OFFICE

For new memberships and renewals, changes of address or other details, and booking huts, contact the ACC National office directly:
P.O. Box 8040 Canmore, AB, T1W 2T8,
Fax: 403-678-3224, Tel: 403-678-3200, or
e-mail: info@alpineclubofcanada.ca, or visit
www.alpineclubofcanada.ca

ACC VANCOUVER SECTION

For information on Vancouver Section activities and events see:

www.accvancouver.ca, or e-mail:
accvanem@telus.net, or
Tel: 604-878-5272 (Section Info-line).

Mailing address:

ACC Vancouver Section,
c/o Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
130 W Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P3

SUBMISSIONS

We encourage submissions of writing, photography, drawings, etc.. If possible, articles should be submitted by e-mail (about 500 words). Photos and slides are always needed (JPG format is preferable). Deadline for submissions is the last day of the previous month.

ADVERTISING

Advertising in the Avalanche Echoes shall be accepted at the discretion of the Editor. All advertising shall be for products or services of direct interest to our membership.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Suitability for publication is at the editor's discretion within the guidelines of the Section Executive. Articles may be edited for clarity or to fit the available space.

Alpine Club Executive

Chair	Tony Knight	604-873-2276
Secretary	Richard Keltie	604-738-4583
Treasurer	Rob Brusse	604-224-0747
Membership	Marilynn Hunter	604-929-9549
Trip & Climbing Schedule	Jay MacArthur Lynn Erickson	604-987-1232 604-224-4883
Camps Coordinator	Mike Thompson	604-534-8863
Skills Development	Susan Baldwin	604-732-4562
National ACC Rep	Rob Brusse	604-224-0747
FMCBC Rep	David Toole	604-608-6848
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Programs	Susan Higginbottom	604-925-3742
Socials	Olga Turok	604-228-0628
Access & Environment	Antje Wahl	604-988-6486
Promotion (acting)	Jay MacArthur	604-987-1232

Special Project and Committee Volunteers

Tantalus Lake Lovelywater and Jim Haberl Huts

Hut Bookings Coordinator	Ron Royston	work 604-687-2711	home 604-921-8164
Hut Operations and Maintenance Committee	Liz Scremin (604-921-2651), Ron Royston, Peter Taylor, Colin Boyd, Dustin Hines, Chris Kiely and Blair Mitten		

Service Committees and Special Projects

Quartermaster	Bill Sims	604-224-0747
Website Committee	Richard Keltie (604-738-4583), Tony Knight, Martin Naroznik	
VOC Liaison	Antje Wahl	604-988-6486
Archives Committee	Liz Scremin (604-921-2651), Irene Goldstone (604-689-8737) Liz Wright	

Announcements

Share Your Adventure at the June ACC Social

The ACC June Social will be Open Projection night. This is your chance to show everyone your digital images of all the wonderful places you've seen. Twenty images or so is all you need to bring - the intent is not for you to give a full presentation, but just a taste of where you've been.

If you're interested in contributing, please contact Susan Higginbottom at susan-h@telus.net. Bring your digital pictures on a CD-ROM in JPG format. The best size is 1024 x 768 (our projector size) but other sizes are okay. The Club will provide the laptop PC and digital projector.

Section Fee Options Now Available

The ACC National Website has now been updated to accommodate the Vancouver Section fee options. When you renew your membership, you will now have further choices about you get and how much you pay.

Back Issues of the ACC Newsletter are on the Web

Back issues of Avalanche Echoes will now be available to the general public on the our website www.accvancouver.ca. The current month's issue will remain in the members' only area until the next issue has been published.

We will still send out the e-mail notification to everyone who has selected the e-mail option for newsletter delivery so that they can download the current issue immediately.

Returning Waivers has its Rewards!

Congrats to Paul Baker and Roger Bean, who each won a gift card to MEC in a draw at the January social, for returning their trip waivers from last year. We had a total of 27 trip waivers returned for trips led in the past year. Each trip counts as one entry, so organizing more trips and returning the waivers increases your chances to win! Completed trip waivers can be returned to any Exec member at the social or mailed to the Section's mailing address on the masthead.

ACC National Camps

Rockies Ice Camp

- ◊ Guides: Rob Owens, Sean Isaac
- ◊ Date: February 3–9, 2007
- ◊ Cost: \$ 1,595 + GST

Marmot Women's Ski Camp

- ◊ Guide: Sylvia Forest
- ◊ Date: February 26–March 3, 2007
- ◊ Cost: \$ 995 + GST

Dogtooth Range Ski Traverse

- ◊ Guide: Jim Gudjonson
- ◊ Date: March 17–24, 2007
- ◊ Cost: \$ 1,495 + GST

55+ Winter Ski Camp

- ◊ March 31–April 7, 2007
- ◊ Cost: \$ 1,595 + GST

For more information on these camps, please call Jon at the number listed below, or visit our website at: <http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/activities/index.html>

Spots Available on Vancouver Island Section Trip

Two spots have come open on the ACC - Vancouver Island Section's trip to Fairy Meadows Feb.17-24

The cost is \$700 per seat including lodge fee and helicopter in/out. This is an unguided and uncatered trip, hence the low cost. Our group includes seasoned backcountry skiers who have skied here before and we have avie training, glacier travel experience and medical expertise. We do group suppers, so you will be expected to participate in putting on one meal for the whole group. We are a welcoming and fun bunch so no need to be shy.

First two to commit get the spots!

Contact: George Butcher george.butcher@gov.bc.ca
H (250) 642-5388 • W (250) 387-9515 • Cel (250) 213-1219

Wells Grey Skiing (non-ACC)

Come and join us at Discovery Cabin in Wells Grey Park, where you can find BC's most reliable powder.

- ◊ Dates: March 10-16 2007
- ◊ Location: Discovery Cabin, Wells Grey Park
- ◊ Contact: leonieknaus@hotmail.com or 604-723-0366

The costs will depend on numbers. (Maximum group size is 10) To give you an idea: Hostel \$ 20 pp including Tax; Heli \$ 150 pp each way plus GST, Cabin \$ 43 per person per night plus GST, Guide \$ 250 plus GST divided by up to 10 people.

For more information on the hut and area, please see www.skihike.com

The Discovery cabin which has a propane sauna, propane heating, a full propane kitchen including oven, and solar lighting. Blankets and indoor footwear is provided. We will be self catering in the hut. Sleeping is in a loft upstairs, with a wall separating each 2 sleepers. There is a composting toilet out the back.

The surrounding terrain has all aspects and is intermediate difficulty with long runs. This trip would be ideal for a fit, blue run Teli or AT skier, who will appreciate the comfortable hut. A sauna after a hard day of skiing is a magical on this trip, guaranteed to heal all stiff muscles, and you feel as fresh as if you had showered every evening.

Goddard Glacier Section Spring Camp

- ◊ Date: April 21 – 29, 2007
- ◊ Location: Goddard Glacier
- ◊ Cost: \$ 540 (including helicopter access)
- ◊ Max camp size: 16 people. As of Feb 7, 2007 ten people signed up. A \$ 100 deposit is required to reserve a spot on the camp.
- ◊ Contact: Mike Thompson, 604-534-8863, thompson_foundry@telus.net

This is an intermediate to expert ski area. We will fly into and out from this camp with the proposed fixed base camp on the Goddard Glacier. Mail the deposit to: Mike Thompson 6846—197B Street, Langley, BC V2Y 2W7 Attention: ACC Goddard Glacier Camp

Bugaboos Summer Climbing Camp

- ◊ Date: July 29 – Aug 3 inclusive
- ◊ Location: Conrad Kain Hut, Bugaboos – 10 spaces
- ◊ Contact: Jay MacArthur, 604-987-1232

The trip has been planned assuming full day drive up (14 hours drive on Saturday July 28th, sleep in parking lot, full day drive home Saturday August 4th) This camp is for climbers with some experience. We could possibly hire a guide if there is interest from the group, but would prefer to get some experienced rope leaders. The plan is to stay in the hut at about \$20 per night, but you could also stay in the campground.

Workshops

Telemark Skiing Clinic (Joint ACC/BCMC)

- ◊ Date: Feb 21, 2007 (Note: Date has changed)
- ◊ Location: Cypress Bowl
- ◊ Contact: Isabel Budke, ibudke@sfu.ca

This is the second of Isabel's clinics for club members who wish to improve their telemark ski technique. The session will be held at the Cypress ski hill. Meet at the ticket booth at 6:30. If you wish to join, please email Isabel to let her know that you are coming.

Avalanche Awareness Course with Canada West Mountain School

- ◊ Thursday February 15, 7–10 pm, 47 West Broadway
- ◊ Saturday February 17, all day, Seymour (to be confirmed)
- ◊ Sunday February 18, all day, Whistler (to be confirmed)

CWMS is holding this course for a group of 8 ACC-Vancouver section members at their special rate of \$180 + tax per person. Participants should be backcountry skiers or boarders. The course now includes new information on the Canadian Avalanche Centre "Avaluator".

If you wish to attend please send your name, contact information and a cheque for \$190.80 made out to "Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section" to: Susan Baldwin, 222 2680 West 4th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6K 4S3 • Note: Backcountry lift tickets at Whistler on the Sunday will be extra (\$37).

Evening Leadership Workshop

- ◊ Date: March 29, 2007 from 6:30 to 9:30pm
- ◊ Location: Canada Room MEC Head office 149 West 4th Avenue

Rick Davies will be running a leadership evening workshop to enhance the safety and enjoyment of our trips. We have run this workshop in previous years and the ideas learned have been extremely useful in field applications, both in normal running of our trips and in emergency situations. During the evening you will have the opportunity to identify and build on your own natural leadership style.

This workshop is directed to those leaders and potential leaders of

hikes, backpacking and mountaineering trips. It focuses on people-skills and group management and will give you the best in practical procedures built up over years of Alpine Club experience.

This workshop is especially aimed at members who would like to lead a trip but who feel they need to gain a little more confidence and competence before they try. To register, please send a cheque for \$ 15, made out to The Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section, to Susan Baldwin, 222 2680 West 4th Ave, Vancouver BC V6K4S3

2007 The North Face – Alpine Club of Canada Summer Leadership Course

- ◊ Location: 2007 GMC site – Mt. Alexandra, South Rice Brook
- ◊ Date: July 28 – August 4 (8 days)
- ◊ Guides: Cyril Shokoples, Helen Sovdat
- ◊ Amateur Leader: Roger Marchand
- ◊ Participants: 10
- ◊ Cost: \$695 + GST
- ◊ Trip Cancellation/Trip Interruption Insurance: \$88 (includes GST)

The focus of this course will be to identify and exercise key skill sets for summer mountain leadership situations. This course is set in the midst of one of the most demanding places amateur leaders can find themselves – the ACC's General Mountaineering Camp. Eight days of adventure, planning, and practice will develop each individual's capabilities in the following areas: rope handling skills; glacier travel; route selection and evaluation; navigation; multi-pitch climbing; rescue systems; group management, personal interaction and enjoyment; and emergency situation response. All this will be presented in a beautiful alpine location, with the added bonus of seeing the Club's flagship program in action.

The Vancouver Section is offering a bursary from our Endowment Fund of \$250 to anyone from the Section who completes the course. You can obtain registration forms and further information from <http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/activities/leadership.html>. Please send a copy of your application to Tony Knight at knightta@telus.net for Section Endorsement and indicate if you wish to apply for the bursary. **Deadline for Applications: May 1, 2007**

Access and Environment News

Good News from the FMCBC about the Cadwallader/Phelix Creek Area

Evan Loveless, Executive Director of the Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC (FMCBC), reports that there was an initiative to put in a road that would go through the Cadwallader/Phelix Creek drainages. The intent was to use the road as part of a circuit tour for snow-mobiles. This would of course have had a very negative impact for the non-motorized backcountry users of this area. However, when he discussed this issue with MTSA staff last week, Evan was informed that a briefing note was given to Minister Hagan and senior ILMB staff to uphold and "formally" establish the non-motorized area, which was approved. And subsequently the application for the through road was rejected. Apparently Minister Hagan commented that one constituency can't go against a consensus decision (e.g. The Backcountry Forum) just because they do not like the outcome. Further to this, as the area will be "formally" dedicated non-motorized, it can now be enforced by a Section 58 of FRPA.

Meager Creek to be Bridged once more

Evan also reports that the Meager Creek bridge will be replaced this spring. A combination of funding from MOF and PEP made this happen.

Personalities

Happy Holiday

Margaret Hanson and Tony Knight had a wonderful month last November touring in Australia, which included some climbing at Mt. Arapiles and getting engaged in the Blue Mountains. **Congratulations to Margaret and Tony, and our best wishes for long and happy life together!**

Longtime ACC Member Honoured

Congratulations to Doug Dean for over 25 years of membership in the Alpine Club of Canada.

Doug now lives in Switzerland, and has this to say about his new life in the old world: "Well... they say that people only immigrate to Switzerland for love or for money—not me, I came for the mountains. Left Canada in 1989 heading for Northern England in order to be close to the Lake District and Scottish ice. After two years, headed to Munich for the Julian Alps, the Stubai Alps, and the Kaisergebirge (yes, ok, also for the Munich beer and a Fraulein or two). After two years in 1993 headed to Switzerland for the Bernese Oberland, the Chamonix Alps, and the Dauphiné Alps. The climbing and mountaineering is superb here and I've been in Switzerland ever since. Managed to pick up a wife as well. Now living in Basel but working in Neuchâtel. On a clear day I can see the Eiger, Mönch and Jungfrau from my office window!"

If you're interested in the cultural differences between Canadians and the Swiss, consider this: "The local Swiss Alpine Club section to which I belong line up their speakers programme 12 months in advance(!). They publish it all in a tidy little book (along with all the trips planned for the coming year—12 months in advance) which members receive at the beginning of each year. "

Equipment Notes

Avalanche Probe Failure

Peter Rothermel of the Alpine Club had a sobering experience with an avalanche probe failure. Fortunately it occurred during an instructional session, rather than during a real emergency. Below you can read his original email to the Alpine Club of Canada listserv, as well as Black Diamond's response to his experience. G3 had not responded at time of printing.

Peter Rothermel's email :

Yesterday, while assisting on an Alpine Club of Canada back-country ski intro, I went to use my probe and when I pulled the tensioning cord, it just fell apart and I was left with a bunch of tubes laying on the snow. It left me with the sobering thought, that if this had been a real avalanche rescue and not just a demonstration, I would have lost maybe 50% of my search capability. With transceiver flux lines and false maximums coming into play, I might dig forever and never find a victim, with out the use of a probe. I hate to think how the scenario would play out if I were the only one left on the surface.

This is a Black Diamond Quick Draw Tour 235 probe that I bought about three or four years ago. As I am involved with my Alpine Club Section's educational offerings, I have used this probe a lot in demonstrations and in assessing the snow pack. A year or so ago I upgraded to a G3, 320, as I realized the need for longer probes on the coast. Still, the BD probe saw about a dozen days of use by avalanche course participants in this past year alone. That said, the tubing and point are barely scratched and it has not been abused.

When I had a chance to have a closer look at the failure point, it

turned out to be the loop in the wire, inside the tubing, where it attached to the point tip. It had rusted through. It appears that the wire is galvanized steel, swaged with a copper crimp and that the loop had no plastic sheath. That coupled with it being housed in an aluminium tube and connected to an aluminium point, created prime conditions for galvanic action. Still I thought it odd that it would rust out, given that it was always stored in a warm dry place, when not in use. Then I noted that my probes are stored standing up, point down. When I turned my G3 probe upside down, a few drops of water, from the previous day's practice, ran out. Zinc- steel- copper- aluminium- water- warm temperature... It's surprising that it didn't rot out long ago. Mixing these metals for use in a damp environment is just plain bad engineering. This kind of poor design in a safety related product needs to be addressed immediately.

I have sent this information on to Mountain Equipment Co-op, where I bought the probe and to Black Diamond, the manufacture of the probe, asking them to do a recall as well. The word of warning is... if you have a probe, store it point up, to insure moisture drains out from the vulnerable point connection, inspect any visible part of the tensioning cable and if there is a break showing rust, don't trust your life or any others on it, then contact the store you bought it from or the company that manufactured it and ask them to correct the problem.

If you are looking to buy a probe, research just how they are manufactured and with what materials. Some newer probes are made with aluminium tubes and stainless steel tensioning cords and some others with carbon fibre tubes and kevlar tensioning cords, with very little metal in the makeup. Although, note that carbon fibre won't withstand gross cross abrasion very well and is not perfect in it self... nothing is. Aluminium tubing is strong, light and abrasion resistant, yet mixed with dissimilar metals, can set up galvanic action, that will degrade less noble metals and regard them near useless for the strength application that they were meant for.

Peter Rothermel

Black Diamond's response:

Dear Peter,
Thanks for the email, albeit not under ideal circumstances.

You are absolutely correct in your analysis of the materials used on your Quickdraw Tour 235 probe: galvanized steel cable with no plastic coating at the tip loop, copper swage, aluminum tip and aluminum tubing.

As I'm sure you are aware Black Diamond prides itself at being 'state of the art', and the reality was that at the time that probe was manufactured and sold (Winter 2002), those methods and materials were state of the art, and industry standard (as you pointed out by referencing the construction of your G3 probe). And as I'm sure you can also appreciate we are always striving to make the best product available - and in 2003 our production methods evolved to utilize stainless steel cable with a plastic coating around the tip loop area and zinc plated copper swages. We continue to use this process today.

We have received only one other probe back from the same generation as yours, and therefore based on that, Black Diamond does not feel this is an epidemic [sic] and in no way warrants the necessity for a product recall.

The reality is that no gear will last forever, and every climber and skier is responsible for the care of their gear. Along those lines, our Probe instructions read: Check all avalanche equipment to ensure that it is functioning before heading into the backcountry and our instructions state: We warrant for one year from purchase date. These two warnings, we believe, properly communicate the need to be vigilant with your life dependent gear.

I am by no means excusing the fact that your probe has broken, rather I am explaining to you the limitations one must contend with and how we engage in constant improvement while warning our customers of potential concerns. By the way we are most willing to replace your probe for you. Because, we no longer manufacture that exact probe, our current probe lineup is as follows - pick one that you would like, send your mailing address and we'll have it off in the mail asap: [A list of potential replacements is omitted here for the sake of brevity - Ed.]

Thanks Peter, I apologize for any inconvenience and hope that your trust and faith in BD gear remains.

Sincerely,

Kolin Powick

Quality Assurance Manager, Black Diamond Equipment, Ltd.

10th vancouver international mountain film festival
february 16 - 24, 2007

guest speakers

- beth rodden & tommy caldwell
- dan mazur & andrew brash
- colin angus & julie wafaei
- josune bereziartu
- robbin mckinney
- geoff powter
- kelly cordes
- john dunn

major events

- multi-media presentations
- climbing and mountaineering evenings
- mountain biking evening
- paddle sports festival
- films films films

venues

- centennial theatre
- pacific cinémathèque
- north vancouver district public library
- anza club

great raffle prizes

- two-week guided trip in northern pakistan with nazir sabir expeditions
- kettle valley cycling trip with great explorations
- norco bush pilot mountain bike
- mt. seymour season pass

tickets

- online: www.vimff.org
- foot: centennial theatre, mec
- phone: (604) 984-4484

info
(604) 984-4484

www.vimff.org

Campbell Icefields Camp

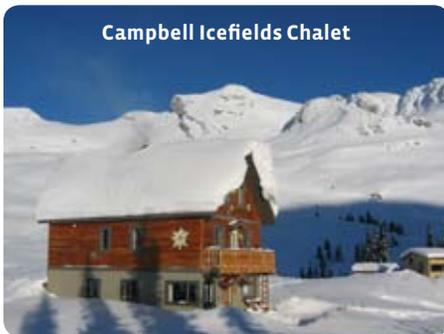
by Tony Knight



Good turns off the Dome

Jay Straith is convinced the Campbell Icefields camp is jinxed. Well, not the camp per se, but perhaps his involvement in it. Perhaps he wasn't humming the proper mantra while blowing up and sinking old navy ships for dive enthusiasts.

As many will recall, the Vancouver Section originally planned a ski week to the Campbell Icefields Chalet (www.skigolden.com) last year at the end of March. But through some confusion in booking dates, the lodge



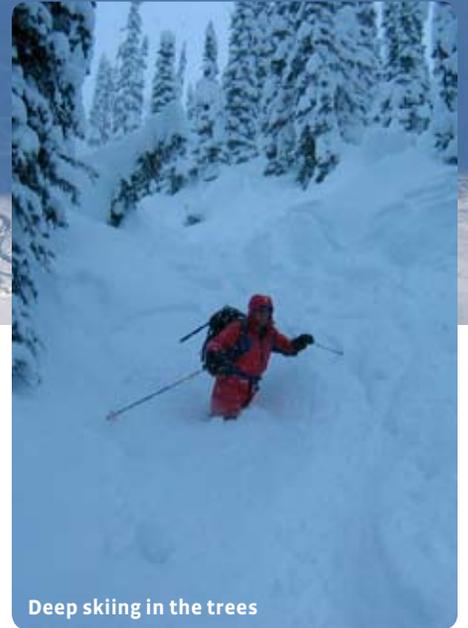
Campbell Icefields Chalet

had us booked for the preceding week. As a result, we didn't get to go. The only options they could offer were a make-up week this year in January or late April. We elected for the January week, and hoped for the best. By late fall, a couple of new people had registered to join the camp. Then over Christmas, just a couple of weeks before we were scheduled to depart, Jay called to say that an illness in the family meant that he might not be able to go. A week later, Jay said things were under control and he

could go. Then just a couple of days before we planned to go, Jay called again to say he wouldn't be going after all -- a partner in his law firm needed him to cover a hearing. With just a couple of days to go, the rest of the group organized car-pooling and final arrangements to get to Golden, and to be at the staging area on the fly-in day.

Friday we departed Vancouver in wet snow flurries and took the whole day to drive to Golden on slippery and treacherous highways. By evening we had accounted for only five of nine of our group in Golden. One vehicle had made it as far as Revelstoke, and two were stuck in Sicamous -- Highway 1 was closed east of Three Valley Gap.

On Saturday morning, we headed to the staging area at Donald. The two people in Revelstoke were able to get there in time; however, the highway wasn't open from Sicamous, so the other two were not going to make it. With now seven of us, Don McTighe in the Bell 212 choppered us and our gear to



Deep skiing in the trees

the chalet in a single load.

On arrival we were greeted by co-owners Bernie Schiesser and Dorle Lomas, plus custodian Mark and his friends Dave and Stephanie. Dorle was staying to cook for us, while Bernie was struggling to fix a frozen intake line to the micro-hydro plant and planned to fly out when the weather improved. We immediately got to business doing an avalanche rescue refresher, and Bernie had us dig a pit to ground to check snow conditions. Bernie said the 2.6-metre snowpack was more than they had for the entire season last year. This is turning into a big snow year. Despite a reputation for buried instabilities in the Rockies, we only found a couple layers with moderate to hard compression test results. The forecast was for more snow.

Sunday we woke to snow and poor visibility so we skied the trees to get a better feel for things. With all the new snow, the slopes were virtually bottomless; uphill trail breaking was tough, and skiing was only possible on the steeper pitches. The weather didn't improve enough that day for any flying, so



Heading uphill against frosty sunlight



Smiling snow tree



our two missing group members remained stuck in the valley for another night.

By Monday, we awoke to clear skies and the weather had improved enough for flying. The last two of our group arrived early morning in the helicopter and we were soon off breaking trail higher onto some open ter-

By late Wednesday a strong cold front blew through, with gale force winds and the temperature dropping rapidly. We woke on Thursday morning to a chilly -24 degrees C, but fortunately winds were calming. Suiing up in our warmest clothes, we went out to find the snow had been hammered into 30

chalet with lovely views into the Campbell Icefield and the Barnard-Dent Group. With high temps of only -18 C or so, it was still very chilly in the shade or wind. For 'Coasties like me, chemical hand and foot warmers were essential.

Our last day remained cold and clear, but with the snow settling in a bit more, the skiing was getting sweeter on the open slopes. We skied the Dome again and found there were some sluffs on steeper terrain but we weren't triggering slabs on the skiable terrain. It was a case where we just were not sure there were time-bombs above us but one remained wary of any large slopes.

By Saturday it was time to pack up, tidy the cabin and wait for the helicopter to fly us out. For the season, it was a bit of everything in the Rockies, lots of snow, lots of wind, lots of cold, but overall it was a good week enjoyed by the whole group. Thanks go to Dorle, who cooked us great meals always on time, Bernie for the first couple evenings of stories and entertainment and to Mark, Dave and Stephanie for the trail setting. Also thanks to Mark for starting the sauna, which was especially welcome after a chilly day. Even the Red Eye of Sauron was pleased to see the ACC Vancouver Section finally make it to a camp at the Campbell Icefields Chalet.

The Group: Lorrie Mann, Rick Mann, Liz Scremin, Manrico Scremin, Guy Heywood, Elisa Kreller, Ab van Poortvliet, Margaret Hanson and Tony Knight (R).



Wallowing

rain above the chalet, still wary of the snow pack. Soon we were overtaken by the young and fit Dave, Mark and Stephanie, with Dave breaking trail on a more direct line faster than any of us going uphill. After two runs, the clouds were building again and the light was going flat, so we returned to the trees and by evening it was snowing again.

Tuesday it continued to snow and by Wednesday afternoon nearly one-half of a metre of new snow had fallen. Skiing became a wallowfest among the trees. Falling over and becoming stuck was a serious hazard, one to be avoided if possible, otherwise one was forced to learn new skills to get back up in the bottomless snow.

to 40 cm of hard wind slab in some exposed places. It was tree-skiing again, but finally trail-breaker Dave set an up-track to a spot known as the Dome, a couple km's from the



The Red Eye of Sauron
(Lord of the Sauna-Keeper of Warmth)

Learning to Ski-Tour

by Jay MacArthur

A group of seven newbies enjoyed learning about ski-mountaineering in great early season conditions. We started with a lecture at MEC to learn what to bring along. I can email that information to you if you are interested. Thanks to MEC for showing us some different types of new equipment. I filled my pack with my mostly old gear and pulled out what I bring along.

We went to Diamond Head the last Saturday in November, and had quite an epic. My four wheel drive van got up the road fine, but one fellow's old Volvo broke a chain and got stuck. After waiting for them for a half hour, I put my chains on and drove down and picked up the rest of the group. We re-grouped at the Red Heather lodge, but a couple were missing so I skied down to find them. We split up in two groups, and headed up to try skiing in the heavy powder. When my group got back to Red Heather, someone I knew said that the other group had gone down. Well, it turned out that they had not, so we waited 30 minutes for them in the parking lot.

Then the real fun started. We quickly heard that someone had slid off the road. We went down to explore and found a line-up just before the big hill. We soon discovered that one four wheel drive had slid into a snow-bank, and another station wagon had gotten stuck on one side in an attempt to avoid the four wheel drive. One of our members had a party to go to, so they decided to walk down to the Volvo below the worst of the ice. We dug a path beside someone else who had parked in the middle of the road and continued down past the two stuck vehicles—only to find two more vehicles stuck another 200 m lower. We spent about two more hours digging, towing and pushing those vehicles out of the way. We finally made it to Squamish at about 9 pm. Thanks to the Squamish Mountain Rescue and the RCMP who came up to help the people who didn't have chains. Two of our group ended up staying in Squamish overnight and buying new chains for the Volvo on Sunday morning.

Three morals:

- *Try to keep your group together. It is a real challenge when you have people of different abilities and fitness levels. Throw in stuck cars, some rental gear that causes blisters and other problems, and the challenge becomes even greater.*
- *Always take chains on the Diamond Head road November to March unless it is raining at the Roundhouse at Whistler. (You probably don't want to go in that case anyway.) I learned this the hard way two years ago when my four wheel drive tried to slide off the Diamond Head road. It cost \$ 300 to be towed out. Chains are cheaper!*
- *Take your cell phone into the restaurant with you. Someone might need a ride home from Squamish.*

The next Saturday at Hollyburn worked out better. • The newbies: Kathy Reesor, Bill Sims, Graham Maxon, Ian MacNab, Dustin Hines, Rochelle Hines, John Lawless • **Thanks to Lynn Erickson for helping!**



Stem Christies are easier

Rocky Mountain Poems by Ralph Gustafson

published by Klanak Press in Vancouver in 1960

This must be the first book of poetry devoted to high mountains; certainly it is the first substantially to put the Canadian Rockies into the geography of Canadian poetry. They are a large subject; overwhelming and silencing. Great mountains do that. How, in symbology or cartography, put eleven-thousand foot peaks of ice and rock and grandeur and challenge into a dozen or two lines? Ralph Gustafson, we believe, has done this, and without pretension.

Foreword

Rocky Mountain Poems

There has been a historic tendency, when reflecting upon the literary life of the West Coast, to assume that BC culture, never truly matured and only came into its creative best until the Beat and Counter Culture tradition of the 1960s arrived. Surely, there was no real West Coast and authentic Canadian literary tradition until the Americans taught us about such things.

The fact that Klanak Press was begun on the West Coast in the 1950s by a lively and thoughtful Canadian artistic community does need to be noted. It is equally important to recognize that Klanak Press published one of the earliest books of poetry on mountains by one of the best Canadian poets of the time: Ralph Gustafson.

Rocky Mountain Poems, by Ralph Gustafson, is dedicated to Bett, and in many of the poems, set in the Rockies, the tenderness and gentleness, between Gustafson and Bett, shines through with much light and candor.

There are 18 poems in this collection, and the opening poem, 'Into the Tonquin Valley' eases the reader into Gustafson's meditative reflections on mountains, hiking and the relationship between the 'The crests snowpeaked above us' and the dense forested floor beneath his feet.

Gustafson gazes to the white spires, and says, 'We went on, knowing There was no end to the majesty'.

The poetic path hiked brings into being such fine and exquisite poems as 'On the Columbia Icefield', 'In the Valley of the Ten Peaks', 'At Moraine Lake', 'The Walk in Yoho Valley', 'On Yoho Pass', 'On Mountain Summit' and 'On Mount Revelstoke'. Each poem has an evocative appeal and allure that welcomes many a re-read. Rocky Mountain Poems concludes with Gustafson and Bett taking to the Yukon, and 'On the Yukon Run' and 'In the Yukon' tell such a graphic tale well.

There is no doubt that Rocky Mountain Poems is a must read for those interested in the mountains in more than a literal and rock-jockish sort of way. This is not a technical manual on how to bag peaks or first ascents. Rocky Mountain Poems is a sensitive, delicate and nuanced contemplative missive on how to see the self in a deeper way and the meaning of mountains in a more reflective way. Poets have a way of doing this, and Gustafson has done this in an appealing manner.

We should be grateful to Klanak Press, on the West Coast, for bringing to us one of the earliest collections of mountain poetry. May other presses in BC build on the pioneering work of Klanak Press, Gustafson and mountain poetry that speaks so well across the decades since its publication.

To the Members, Alpine Club of Canada – Vancouver Section Summary report on the Centennial – Fall 2006 Meeting of the Board of Directors? Held in Canmore/Banff October 12-13-14 2006

As for past Board meetings, a binder containing all reports, documents, and proceedings of the Fall 2006 meeting has been assembled and is available to interested members for review at our regular meetings, or can be obtained by contacting Rob Brusse directly by phone (604-732-7730) or by e-mail (rbrusse1@telus.net). For those few die-hard and inveterate club newshounds, additional commentary is available on request.

Canmore/Banff Centenary Meeting and Celebrations.

An impressive number of events and activities were scheduled prior to and during the fall Board Reps assembly. There was the Climate Change conference, the UIAA annual meeting, a seminar on "Women who have made a Difference", a Board social recognizing the retirement of longtime and valued Facilities Maintenance Manager Danny Verrall, the official opening of the club's Heritage room and the Pat Boswell Cabin, the ACC Centennial "Art Reflections" Show at the Whyte Museum, not to mention all of the events that were part of the ACC Centennial Dinner and Celebration. Over the four days that most delegates were there, the Board met on Saturday morning and early afternoon to cover an extensive agenda.

SECTION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS, EXECUTIVE REPORTS, COMMITTEE UPDATES, AND OTHER REPORTS

Cam Roe as President of the Club presided Here are a couple of matters of particular note and interest:

- A section reps list server be established to deal with primarily section related issues.
- Section reps only meeting to be included as part of future Board meetings

(A) SECTION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

As has been the case for many years, the semi-annual meeting began with the reports of the Section representatives. In most cases, these reports have been submitted in sufficient time to form part of the circulated Board Package, (and therefore will have been reviewed in advance by attendees) normally delegates will note only highlights or elaborate on items of particular significance. All of the section reports are available in the above referenced binder.

Some observations that might be of particular interest to local members are that some sections have an evening party (a pizza party, etc) to construct their seasons activity schedule, and east of the Rockies it is not uncommon to have a close (financial) relationship with climbing gyms in order to foster club membership. In addition many sections report actively working to enhance their ability to communicate with existing and potential members electronically (read upgrading website). The Toronto sections' membership survey provided useful insights.

(B) EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Secretary • Peter Muir *pmuir@ladco.com*

Draft Section By-laws Peter referred to some of the matters outstanding from his report of the spring 2006 and said that the proposed section by-laws would be posted on the National website in the very near future.

Safety Committee & Chair David McCormick has developed a proposed policy (Kids on Camps) and suggested practices so the club can continue to encourage the participation of minors on trips. The proposed policy (appended) after considerable discussion was adopted.

Section Report Template a draft of the proposed template was provided to the delegates.

Treasurer • Gord Currie *gordoncurrie@shaw.ca*

Gord reviewed a number of items in his report. While reminding us that the figures for the year 2006 were preliminary because we were only ¾ of the way through the year, he nevertheless alerted delegates to the possibility of a

significant deficit for the year. His report also highlighted a tendency for the National office to charge to operations costs that might in other circumstances be allocable to capital account items. He noted that the club's attempt to participate in a Fund Development program offered by the former Calgary Centre for Non-Profit Management had been turned down for lack of a strategic plan. Gord seemed to express disappointment "that having devoted considerable time and expense to upgrading its financial systems and technical capability the club is still not in a position of providing simplified conventional financial statements and monthly reports...."

Immediately prior to the Board meeting Gord provided an update to his previously submitted report.

The Board considered and defeated a proposed fee increase as a means to balance the Treasurers proposed Budget for 2007 and requested that a new one without the fee increase be submitted for passage.

Activities • Roger Laurilla (Nancy Hansen presenting)

rwlba@telus.net

Summer Camps some difficulties & camp cancellations, however 30 more participants than last year. GMC 23 more participants than previous & wait list of 49 A total of 9 camps went this year.

Centennial Camps Trips to Yukon (summitting Mt Walsh) and Climb of the Vice President by several former Presidents and invited dignitaries. Marmot Women's Camp and North Face Leadership camp were both filled and successful.

Access and Environment • Isabelle Daigneault

isadaigneault@sympatico.ca

In her report, Isabelle grappled with the ongoing need to redefine the role of the committee. Access issues to most A & E section reps are matters of local interest. She provided examples of several such initiatives in her report, Gooseneck clear cut (Manitoba) FQME (Quebec) access to climbing sites, Skaha (Okanagan & Vancouver), and in Toronto, in order to appeal to a broader spectrum of interested parties, the club has reconstituted its committee as the Ontario Access Coalition. The thrust of her report is to recommend that there be a separation of the Access and Environment duties into 2 separate committees.

Facilities • Carl Hannigan *hannigans@shaw.ca*

Consists of several sub-committees:

Huts a new, simplified, easy to understand flat fee structure for overnight hut stays is being introduced. The Grassi hut is being decommissioned due to structural deterioration, no replacement planned presently.

Club House Heritage room completed, and Boswell cabin ready for opening ceremonies on Oct 12

Energy Water and Waste Management a non-profit collaborative initiative between the ACC, Parks Canada and the U of C has been established work on defining roles, responsibilities, etc is ongoing.

Other Huts Putnam hut - roof replaced, job much larger than anticipated but almost complete. Fay hut - final touches completed, Solar panels installed.

Trails Committee work done on trail to Fairy Meadows, planned for Abbott pass early next year.

Mountain Culture • Bob Sandford *sandford@telusplanet.net*

Bob Sandford pointed out that all of the duties of this committee had been subsumed under the direction of the Centennial committee. The reader is gently directed towards Mr Mortimer's missive.

Services • Dave Zemrau *vpervices@AlpineClubofCanada.ca*

Plans for a membership survey are on schedule and on budget. Leadership development continues to be supported through the North Face Leadership course held in the last week of the GMC. Competition Ski Mountaineering is preparing for 4 possible races in the coming season.

Safety Committee a National "Ropes Policy" developed, available on Safety page of National website.

(C) OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Centennial Report • Mike Mortimer *mmortimer@telus.net*

The report in bold type and 3 parts lists events and projects of the committee over the last 3 months and does so on a single page. Dear reader, further info is available in the binder. A small surplus is predicted.

Planning and Development • David Toole

dgttoole@AlpineClubofCanada.ca

Strategic Planning club facilitated session planned for March of 2007

Centennial Hut a process to facilitate the development of a hut in Mount Robson Park is underway.

Information Technology upgrading of the system continues

Membership Committee met several times during the year, developed some proposals, presented suggestions to executive committee for consideration, and which were rejected. See Membership committee report.

Executive Directors Report • Bruce Keith

bkeith@AlpineClubofCanada.ca

Bruce noted the significant demand on office staff during this year, not only has there been the ongoing work associated with the IT system upgrade, but there were also demands on staff arising out of the multiplicity of Centennial Year events and projects and the completion of both the Fay and Boswell Huts. He was pleased to report that staff currently in place was one of the strongest teams he has worked with in his 11 years as Executive Director. Shortly after the fall meeting Bruce announced his retirement.

Respectfully submitted

Rob Brusse, Vancouver Section Rep

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting • Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section

Tuesday, November 28, 2006

Floral Hall at VanDusen Gardens
West 37th and Oak Street Vancouver

The meeting was brought to order at 7:30 pm by
Tony Knight, Vancouver Section Chair

Minutes of the November 2005 annual general
meeting were approved.

POSITION REPORTS

Treasurer–Rob Brusse

Rob briefly summarized that the Section finances are in good shape and on budget. This year the first revenue was recorded from summer use at the new Haberl hut. Construction was substantially completed and the hut construction funds officially have phased over into operations. A full financial report will be published in an upcoming issue of the Echoes.

Membership–Marilynn Hunter

Membership in the Vancouver Section appears to have stabilized at just over 300. The ACC membership report from National showed a low of 315 memberships in February, to a high of 336 in June, and currently 328 memberships (singles and families).

Climbing/Camps Schedule–Ian McGilivray and Mike Thompson

There were about 60 trips on the 2006 schedule, mostly skiing, hikes, climbing, a couple of rock and ice trips, and one snowshoe trip. Statistics for trips that actually did go are uncertain; only 15 trip waivers were returned, but more trips went. The Section held several very successful camps including a spring ski camp in the Manatee, and two summer climbing camps in the Bugaboos.

Skills Development–Susan Baldwin

Several outdoors courses went during 2006 including avalanche awareness, rock refresher weekend, rock rescue course. One person each attended the North Face/ACC Winter and Summer Leadership Courses organized by ACC National.

FMCBC Rep–Richard Keltie

During 2006, the FMCBC was involved in a couple significant projects including (i) finalizing agreement for sale of Smoke Bluffs property to the District of Squamish for inclusion in the new Smoke Bluffs regional park, (ii) planning and maintaining continued access to trailheads during the Sea-to-Sky highway reconstruction and improvements, (iii) promotion of Mt. Arrowsmith on Vancouver Island as a regional park, and (iv) response to the BC Government policy on Roofed Accommodation within Provincial Parks. The ACC Vancouver Section hosted the FMCBC Annual General Meeting at BCIT in June.

National Club Representative / ACC Centennial–Rob Brusse

Rob represented the Section at the ACC Board meetings in the spring and fall. ACC National activities were focused this year on the Centennial celebrations. The Vancouver Section celebrated the ACC centennial with several events including a hike up the Grouse Grind in May, a summer centennial camp at the Tantalus Lake Lovelywater cabin, and a special presentation by Kathryn Bridge in September on the life and mountaineering of Phyllis Munday, with some of our older and former section members in attendance.

Avalanche Echoes newsletter–Anita Leonhard and Martin Naroznik

Anita and Martin took on the newsletter editing duties from Helen Habgood and Gerard Cheong. The Section acquired a copy of Adobe InDesign so both editors can now work in the same desktop publishing software. The Section looked into printing the newsletter in colour, but costs were too prohibitive. The newsletter continues to be published electronically in colour on the website in PDF files and printed and mailed out in black & white. Trip reports and photos are always welcome – contact either of our editors with any stories you have, or if you need help putting something together.

Programs–Susan Higginbottom

Another year of interesting speakers, from the gripping account of a rescue on Mt. Logan by Linda

Bily at last year's November social/AGM, to trips and adventures of some of our Section members.

Promotions and Events–Jay MacArthur

The Section again supported the Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival (VIMFF) Award of \$500 for Best Film on Mountaineering and assisted at the Best of Banff films in late fall.

Jim Haberl Hut update–Liz Scremin

The cabin was finished on schedule in the spring of this year, and officially opened for operation on July 1. A dedication was held at the cabin a few days before with many of the volunteers and family members of the Haberl family in attendance.

Section Chair–Tony Knight

Tony thanked all the executive members and volunteers for their time and dedication to the Section.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2006

Former Chair, Liz Scremin conducted election of the new executive for 2007. The following were proposed and approved unanimously by the membership:

Section Chair: Tony Knight

Secretary: Richard Keltie

Treasurer: Rob Brusse

Membership: Marilyn Hunter

Climbing Co-Chairs: Jay MacArthur & Lynn Erickson

Camps Coordinator: Mike Thompson

Skills Development: Susan Baldwin

National ACC Rep: Rob Brusse

FMCBC Rep: David Toole

Echoes Editors: Anita Leonhard & Martin Naroznik

Program: Susan Higginbottom

Socials: Olga Turok

Access and Environment: Antje Wabl

Promotions: Jay MacArthur (acting)

The formal meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. This was followed by a slide presentation by Vancouver Section member Dave Henwood on a climb of Denali via the West Buttress.

2006 Financial Statements • Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section

Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Section General Fund Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Surplus For the Year Ended 31 October 2006 (unaudited)

	2006	2005	2004
	\$	\$	\$
Receipts			
Membership Fees	8,131	8,542	9,583
Interest Income	1,384	1,319	1,321
Main Club (flow throughs net)	0	0	-400
Sales/Rentals (net)	138	-193	-22
Miscellaneous / Bequests	0	72	0
Direct Operating Receipts	9,653	9,740	10,482
Disbursements			
Echoes	5,608	5,107	5,764
FMCBC	4,020	5,283	4,698
Hall Rental	2,166	1,932	1,755
Telephone & Website	596	568	536
Main Club Support (Journal)	0	250	250
Miscellaneous	185	122	10
Office Supplies	0	450	800
Contributions	313	500	500
Promotion			
Direct Operating Disbursements	12,888	14,215	14,313
Net Before Other Items	-3,235	-4,475	-3,831
Other Items			
Activities			
Ski Camps Net	844	734	380
Summer Camps Net	365	1,176	811
Tantalus Cabin Net	2,836	3,201	1,114
Haberl Hut Net	-550		
Special Camps & Workshops Net	247	87	-274
NAT - AGM	-100	0	
Asset Acquisitions			
Annual Surplus (Deficit)	407	723	-1,800

Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Section Statement of Financial Position As at 31 October 2006 (unaudited)

	2006	2005	2004
	\$	\$	\$
Assets			
Current			
Section Bank	5,470	6,605	4,635
Prepaid deposits	0	234	500
	5,470	6,839	5,135
Haberl Hut Project	99,354	99,354	96,280
Long Term			
Section Endowment Investment	150,973	144,052	143,455
Total Assets	255,797	250,245	244,870
Liabilities and member equity			
Current			
Deposits and Accounts Payable	373	0	0
Deferred Revenue	2,494	2,494	2,494
	2,867	2,494	2,494
Members Equity			
Haberl Hut Fund	99,354	99,354	96,280
Endowment Fund	124,891	120,119	118,541
General Fund	28,685	28,278	27,555
	252,930	247,751	242,376
Total Liabilities and Members Equity	255,797	250,245	244,870

Statement of Changes in Members Equity by Fund For the Year Ended 31 October 2006 (unaudited)

Haberl Hut Fund			
Receipts	0	3,074	19,078
Disbursements	0	0	588
net change	0	3,074	18,490
Opening Balance	99,354	96,280	77,790
Closing Balance	99,354	99,354	96,280
Endowment Fund			
Interest Earned	5,537	5,278	5,277
Bequest Winram	2,685		
Allocations Made	3,450	3,700	3,500
Net Change	4,772	1,578	1,777
Opening Balance	120,119	118,541	116,764
Closing Balance	124,891	120,119	118,541
General Fund			
Receipts	65,447	57,404	37,172
Disbursements	65,040	56,681	38,972
Net Change	407	723	-1,800
Opening Balance	28,278	27,555	29,355
Closing Balance	28,685	28,278	27,555

Trip schedule – Please see www.accvancouver.ca for the latest updates

Date	Trip Description	Grade	Contact	Phone / email
FEBRUARY				
10	Decker Mountain	B3	Margaret Hanson	604-873-2276
11	Hollyburn (ski)	A2	Melinda Straight	604-980-9921
15	Avalanche Course by Canada West Mountain School	A1	Susan Baldwin	604-732-4562
17	Cloudburst	C3	Ron Caves	604-970-7322
17-18	Fat Dog Creek - Manning Park	B2	Roger Bean	604-421-0165
17-24	Pebble Creek Cabin (ski; fly-in, fly-out)	B3	Bryce Leigh	604-905-0080
21	Telemark Clinic	A1	Isabel Budke	ibudke@sfu.ca
MARCH				
3-4	Cloudburst Yo-Yo	B2	Manrico Scremin	604-921-2651
10-11	Mount Duke (joint BCMC ski trip)	B3	Helen Habgood	604-357-3094
17-18	Cayoosh	B3	Tony Knight	604-873-2276
24-25	Phelix Creek hut and ridges (ski)	C2	Rob Brusse	604-224-0747
24-25	Roe Creek to Mt. Fee (ski)	B3	Bryce Leigh	604-905-0080
29	Evening Leadership Workshop		Sue Baldwin	604-732-4562
APRIL				
21-29	Goddard Glacier Camp		Mike Thompson	604-534-8863

THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA GRADING GUIDELINES

- | | |
|---|--|
| A - Less than 6 hrs travel/day (not strenuous) | 1 - Gentle slopes. Travel on trails over fairly level terrain. |
| B - 6 to 8 hrs travel/day (moderately strenuous) | 2 - Moderate slopes. Travel may be off trail. Intermediate skiing ability recommended. Easy climbing. |
| C - 8 to 12 hrs travel/day (strenuous) | 3 - Travel in mountainous terrain. Steep forest and glaciers probable. Backcountry equipment and intermediate skiing experience required. Moderate climbing. |
| D - More than 12 hrs travel/day (extremely strenuous) | 4 - Travel over difficult mountain terrain. Advanced backcountry and mountaineering experience, ability and equipment required. Advanced ski mountaineering or moderate to difficult ice or mixed climbing. Ropes and belays required. |
| S - Slower-paced trip, (suitable for seniors) | 5 - Technical ice or mixed climbing. Advanced climbing experience required. |

Please contact trip organizers by the Wednesday prior to the trip or earlier to express your interest. Non-members are welcome to participate once or twice before joining, and are accepted on a space available basis.

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings at 7:30pm in the Floral Hall of Van Dusen Botanical Gardens, W. 37th Ave. & Oak St in Vancouver on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except July, August and December).

Trip organizers are required to have participants sign the ACC waiver which can be obtained from the climbing schedule organizer, or from: www.aebc.com/acc.

Completed waivers can be mailed to: Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section, c/o The Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C. 130 W Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P3 or given to any member of the executive.

CHAIRPERSON
Tony Knight • 604-873-2276

MEMBERSHIP
604-929-9549

TRIP & CLIMBING SCHEDULE
Jay MacArthur • 604-987-1232
Lynn Erickson • 604-224-4883



Return undeliverable Canadian address to:
The Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section,
c/o Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC
130 W Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P3

