

AVALANCHE ECHOES

JOSEPH BLACKBURN: Everst'88 + Seven Summits Solo Documented

SONNIE TROTTER: HIGH AND WILD PLACES
(FLORAL HALL, VAN DUSEN GARDENS)

TUESDAY, MARCH 27TH
7:30 PM

WILL GADD: 30 TRIPS IN 60 MINUTES
(BCIT, TELUS THEATRE)

TUESDAY, APRIL 24TH
7:30 PM



ACC VANCOUVER SECTION

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.

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Single \$ 41 / \$ 51 *
Family \$ 61 / \$ 71 *
Junior (under 18) \$ 31 / \$ 41 *
*Includes postal delivery of the
Avalanche Echoes

NATIONAL ACC OFFICE

For new memberships and renewals,
changes of address or other details,
and booking huts, contact the ACC
National office directly.

www.alpineclubofcanada.ca
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SUBMISSIONS

We encourage submissions of
writing (txt, rtf and doc formats),
photography and drawings (jpg, tif,
png). Email your submission or call
the editor. Deadline is the 20th day
of the previous month.

ADVERTISING

Advertising shall be accepted at the
discretion of the editor. All advertis-
ing 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.

executive

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*"The best climber in the world is the one who's
having the most fun."*

Alex Lowe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BC Parks seeks input on proposed Spearhead Huts

The Vancouver and Whistler Sections of the ACC are members of the Spearhead Hut Project - a group seeking to install huts along the famous west coast Spearhead Traverse. BC Parks will be accepting comments from the public on this and other proposals until **March 15**. Find out what the Spearhead Hut Project is all about at www.spearheadhuts.org. Send your comments to BC Parks at www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks

New Avalanche Beacon Policy

The ACC has a new avalanche beacon policy, applicable to all ACC Section and National trips as of November 1, 2011. Single antenna analogue beacons will no longer be allowed on any ACC trip. ACC members are encouraged to upgrade avalanche transceivers to digital, three-antenna models, however two-antenna beacons are still acceptable.

Avalanche Transceiver Special Offer

ACC Vancouver Section members are now eligible for a tremendous deal on an ARVA EVO3+ Transceiver. The club has reached an agreement with ARVA, a well known European supplier of high quality safety equipment, to make their EVO3+ transceiver available to ACC Vancouver Section members at a price so hot we're prohibited from publishing it on the web. These are digital 3 pole beacons.

Check the ACC Vancouver Section web site for details on how to order your beacon.

Mammut Pulse 3.2 firmware update

The VOC has recently purchased a Mammut W-Link avalanche beacon firmware update machine. The Club is now the only location in the lower mainland where Mammut, Barryvox Pulse and Element users can update their firmware. Price is \$15 for non-VOC members and will be available Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 pm in the VOC clubroom.

For more information contact: phil.tomlinson@gmail.com

UBC Nordic - fundraiser race

UBC Nordic in collaboration with Different Bikes is organizing a fundraiser race at Cypress Mountain on March 10th, 10km freestyle mass start with a 5km short course option. Please see <http://ubcnordic.blogspot.com/> for more detailed information about the race. For any question, please contact Alexis Guigue at alexis.guigue@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Movie Screening: Long Road North, March 6th

Seen from the handlebars of a bicycle, the world is a lot smaller than they ever thought. Leaving behind his office with no windows, a young Canadian dreams up an adventure to travel halfway across the planet at a human pace and experience the story of the road. From the mountains of Patagonia, through Latin American mega-cities and small-town America, to the sparse reaches of the Canadian arctic, the people and places he comes to know will forever change his perspectives about the world and the choices he decides to make. Location: Norm Theatre, located in the Student Union Building on UBC, doors at 6:30pm, screening at 7pm. Tickets can be bought at the door for \$5 - the proceeds to be donated to the VACC (Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition). The filmmakers will be in attendance and there will be a Q&A session following the film.

VOC Spring Gearswap, March 7th

The VOC Gearswap is an outdoor gear buy and sell event. If you have some extra gear that you no longer need, come sell it. If you are looking to buy used/new outdoor gear for reasonable prices, come on out. Actual swapping of gear is encouraged as well. There will also be a "free table" - if you have items that could still be used by others but are not fit for selling, or you'd just like to give them away, please consider putting them in the free pile (no junk please). This event is open to non-VOC members and is absolutely free. Location: Irving K Barber Learning Centre (IBLC) on UBC campus, room 261., 6pm-7:30pm

Radical Reels Tour Vancouver, March 15

Faster, steeper, higher, deeper! The most outrageous mountain sport films from the 35th annual Banff Mountain Film Festival will thrill and inspire you with big-screen adventures when RADICAL REELS comes to the Denman. Tickets available online for \$12.



UPCOMING SOCIALS

28 FEBRUARY 2012

Joseph Blackburn: Everst'88 and Seven Summits Solo Documented

Join us as Joseph recounts his expeditions with Robert Mads Anderson. Joseph puts eye to lens to document this incredible quest. Travel through China, Tibet and on to Mount Everest. Visit the frozen Antarctica continent as they make a first ascent. Then move on to Russia and Argentina- even to the summit of Mount McKinley. The photographs capture the breath taking reality of mountaineering.

27 MARCH 2012

Sonnie Trotter: High and Wild Places

Mark you calendars! Evening with Sonnie Trotter, where he will share his passion for high and wild places. Trotter will talk about his background, how he got started, where some of his favorite places to climb are and what he's been up to most recently. With recent first ascent in Squamish, the Canadian Rockies and a first repeat of the notorious Prophet on El Cap, it should be quite a thrilling night.

24 APRIL 2012

Will Gadd: 30 trips in 60 minutes

Join us as Will Gadd recounts his top 30s - 30 trips in 60 minutes! Sit down, hang on, try to keep up with some of the wildest adventures on the planet. Rated R for occasional profanity, mild nudity and all-out good times.

LITTLE DIAMOND HEAD • 17-18 DEC 2011



A gun metal grey Saturday ski to the Elfin Lakes hut ended with strategic napping, cooking and many rounds of an engaging card game called Asshole; incidentally my feelings about whomever was responsible for the day's weather.

We woke up to a very different day, clouds lifting fast to reveal blue sky and freshly dusted slopes. Quick breakfast and we were off skinning up to the pass between Gargoyles. There we decided to go all the way to the summit —if one can call it a summit—of the Little Diamond Head. A fast dust-on-crust ski back to the cabin and a sunlit afternoon ski-out over Paul's Ridge completed another fun weekend in the mountains.

Participants: Guillaume Colley & Amelie Juarez, Esther Lehmann, Kaston Leung, Travis McClinchey, Jasmine McEachern, Martin Naroznik, Gillian Palejko, Mircea Stef



PHELIX CREEK • 19-22 JAN 2012

Four day weekend search for dry powder. Lots of finds and awesome skiing in somewhat challenging conditions. Arctic air outflow brought the thermometer to -21°C on Thursday evening and we struggled to raise the temperature inside the stove-less (or should we say stove-free?) Brian Waddington Hut.

A broken pole brought out my inner handyman. Few games of Milkshake kept us up until almost 8:30 PM. Long sleep resulted in everyone keen on being out of the door by 8:30 AM. We managed to ski 4,250 vertical metres of mostly grin-on-your-face powder.

No injuries except for a short washing machine tumble on the last run that resulted in bruised back and a lost pole. A great finish at The Pony in Pemberton. What ends with food ends well.

More photos at goo.gl/lwugr



Participants: Mandana Amiri & Carl Douglas, Glenn Friesen, Paul Geddes, David Haslam, Kevin Heyries, Aaron Kramer, Scott Merriman, Martin Naroznik, Mircea Stef



Text & photos by Martin Naroznik





The ACC North Face Winter Leadership Course 2012

Mistaya Lodge, Golden - 4-22 January 2012

Story by: Alexis Guigue

I am just coming back from one week at the Mistaya Lodge in the Golden area, where I attended the ACC North Face (TNF) Winter Leadership Course. The objective of this course is, I cite,

'to provide a national forum for club leaders to improve their own personal hard and soft leadership skills for leading groups, in winter mountain terrain, in the context of the Alpine Club of Canada activities at a local Section level.'

For the exact course outline and other relevant information, I invite you to consult:

<http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/activities/trips2012/winter/tnf.html>

I would just like to mention that the Canadian Avalanche Association AST 2 (Avalanche Skills Training Level 2) is a fundamental part of the curriculum of the TNF course. Participants from the Yukon, Prince Georges, Ottawa, Laurentides, Edmonton, Rocky Mountain, Vancouver Island, and Okanagan Section were present. I myself was representing the Vancouver Section.

I have spent enough time, or potentially too much time, in school that I consider myself somewhat of an expert in evaluating a course. Well, this was an easy evaluation. The course was simply excellent in all of its aspects. The instructors, Cyril Schokoples (main instructor) and Dave Birnie, are at the top of their game and are exceptionally nice guys. The content was very interesting and the pacing and timing were perfect: always enough material, but never too much at the same time. Even though the days were quite long, I never had that agonizing feeling, which I'm sure everyone has experienced at some point during a lengthy lecture. The accommodation, Mistaya Lodge, is very comfortable. I would go back there anytime. The food was above all expectations. Thanks Grant—too bad, you are already taken! What about the location? Well, judge the photos yourself.

So, was it paradise? Sure it was, but it was a cold paradise. I guess that was the price we paid to be there. For the first four days the temperature hovered around -30°C. We did go out every day though. Good spirit, isn't it? The temperature warmed towards the end of the week, but the winds in the alpine were sharp and harsh. When we made it to the summit of West Peyto Peak on Friday, we could barely stand up. It was still

quite cold, as my half-frostbitten nose could testify.

A typical day would start at 7AM with a trek outdoors to record the current weather. There was no need for coffee after that. Transitioning from +30 under your blanket to -30 outside is enough of a wake up call. After a solid breakfast, we would discuss the snow stability forecast for the day, listen to a short lecture, and then prepare for the ski trip of the day.

Fueled by some homemade cookies, most of the daylight was dedicated to ski touring in the surroundings of the lodge with different objectives from day to day: full snow profile, compression test, Rutschblock test, route finding, use of the Avaluator, track setting, terrain analysis, beacon practice, avalanche rescue practice, etc. Every day was very instructive. I particularly enjoyed the avalanche rescue practice. The scenario was so real: 4 beacons buried up to 2 meters deep on a terrain that looked just seriously avalanched with none of the steps in the snow that usually guide us more surely than our beacons (David and Grant, you should work for Hollywood).

Before becoming ice cubes, we would head back to the lodge. Once we arrived at the lodge, we would do a short debriefing as well as another recording of the weather. The yummy, much anticipated, dinner would soon follow. We would finally end the day at around 10PM after doing the snow stability evaluation and listening to some more lectures.

All and all, I would recommend the TNF course to anybody. There is plenty to learn, and as bonus, you will become a shovel master. If you think that you already know everything, well, then, you can at least go there to enjoy the snow. It is just unreal. That is true powder! I am truly ready to move there. It's a skier's paradise.

I cannot finish without again thanking Cyril, Dave, and Grant. Guys, vous êtes vraiment super!! And also, a big thanks to my Section for giving me this opportunity.

Alexis Guigue, a lucky and more informed skier



UPCOMING SOCIALS & COURSES

Kootenay Coldsmoke Powder Fest

Friday, February 24-Sunday February 26 (Nelson, BC)

Coldsmoke 2012 is shaping up to be a truly homegrown Kootenay event. Three days of clinics, competitions and social evenings will provide both experienced and debutant backcountry skiers and snowboarders with fantastic learning opportunities and tons of fun. Now in its 6th year it offers a concentrated curriculum of powder enlightenment that is difficult to find anywhere else.

Joseph Blackburn: Everst'88 & Seven Summits Solo Documented

Tuesday, February 28 (Floral Hall, Van Dusen Gardens)

Join us as Joseph recounts his expeditions with Robert Mads Anderson. Joseph puts eye to lens to document this incredible quest. Travel through China, Tibet and on to Mount Everest. Visit the frozen Antarctica continent as they make a first ascent. Then move on to Russia and Argentina- even to the summit of Mount McKinley. The photographs capture the breath taking reality of mountaineering.

Crevasse Rescue Dry School

Tuesday, March 6 (BCIT climbing wall, Burnaby Campus)

This is a training session for crevasse rescue techniques including prusik training and various pulley arrangements (mainly drop loop and Z pulley). Until Feb 15, preference will be given to those people who have signed up for Ben Waller's Sunday Mar 11 course on Crevasse rescue.

ATS1-Plus Course

Thursday March 8, Saturday March 10 and Sunday March 11 or Thursday March 15, Saturday March 17, and Sunday March 18 (Mt. Seymour area and/or Whistler area)

Canada West Mountain School is offering a custom ATS1-Plus course to ACC-Vancouver members. The course cost is \$195 and requires 8 people to run. The course includes a Thursday evening theory session held in Vancouver and two weekend field days to be held in either Mount Seymour area and/or Whistler back-country.

Avalanche Gear Orientation & Practice for Beginners

Wednesday, March 14 or Wednesday, April 11 (MEC Broadway Store, Mount Seymour)

Conduct gear familiarization & practice; team safety, signal search, victim location (probe practice), victim extraction (shovel techniques), evacuation.

Radical Reels Spearhead Huts Fundraiser

Thursday, March 15 (Rio Theatre or Denman Cinemas, TBD)

Every year, the Banff Mountain Film Festival presents the wildly popular Radical Reels night – a program made up of short, action-packed climbing, paddling, mountain biking, BASE jumping, skiing, snowboarding, and other adrenaline sport films.

Volunteer Help Wanted: We're seeking volunteers to help distribute Radical Reels Posters at climbing gyms and post secondary institutions in the two weeks immediately before the show. We will need some folks to help set up and man displays, as well as a few ushers and ticket takers for the night of the event. Volunteers will also be needed to clean up after the event

Coquihalla Snow Jam Bonfire

Saturday, March 24 (Coquihalla Lakes Lodge, Bonfire Pit)

The entire Coquihalla Lakes Cabin system has been reserved for only ACC members. There are seven different cabins and each of them can hold from four to eight people. Required items to bring: drinks, laughter, and fun stories! Be sure to pack your marshmallows and hot chocolate.

Sonnie Trotter: High and wild places

Tuesday, March 27 (Floral Hall, Van Dusen Gardens)

Join us for an evening with Sonnie Trotter, where he will share his passion for high and wild places. Trotter will talk about his background, how he got started, where some of his favorite places to climb are and what he's been up to most recently. With recent first ascent in Squamish, the Canadian Rockies and a first repeat of the notorious Prophet on El Cap, it should be quite a thrilling night.

Will Gadd: 30 trips in 60 minutes

Tuesday, April 24 (BCIT, Telus Theatre)

Join us as Will Gadd recounts his top 30s - 30 trips in 60 minutes! Sit down, hang on, try to keep up with some of the wildest adventures on the planet. Rated R for occasional profanity, mild nudity and all-out good times.

Distinguish Alpinist Series Presents Mark and Janelle Smiley

Thursday, May 17 (Laura C Muir Theater at Douglas College)

Enjoy an evening with Mark and Janelle Smiley as they share stories from their quest to climb all 50 routes in the iconic book *Fifty Classic Climbs of North America* by Roper and Steck.

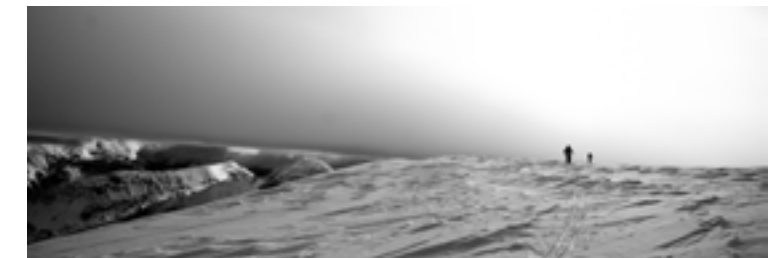
2011 - ACC PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Bryce Leigh - 'People'



Iwona Erskine-Kellie - 'Scenery'



Brad Badelt - 'Adventure'



Martin Cook - 'Humour in the Mountains'



Amber McMinn - 'Fauna & Flora'

UPCOMING TRIPS & SOCIALS

WED, FEB 15 2012 - SKIING - EVENING SKI TECHNIQUE PRACTICE - SESSION FIVE (D1: EASY)

FRI, FEB 17 2012 - SKIING - MARKHOR PEAK - SKI TOUR (D3: DIFFICULT)

SAT, FEB 18 2012 - SKIING - MARKHOR PEAK - SKI TOUR (D3: DIFFICULT)

SUN, FEB 19 2012 - SKIING - INTRODUCTION TO SKI TOURING YOUTH TRIP FOR AGES 13 TO 18 (D1: EASY)

MON, FEB 20 2012 - SKIING - BREW LAKE CABIN RECCE (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, FEB 21 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

WED, FEB 22 2012 - SKIING - EVENING SKI TECHNIQUE PRACTICE - SECOND SET - SESSION ONE (D1: EASY)

FRI, FEB 24 2012 - TRAINING - KOOTENAY COLDSMOKE POWDER FEST, NELSON, BC (D1: EASY)

SAT, FEB 25 2012 - SNOWSHOEING - HOPE MTN. (D3: DIFFICULT)

SAT, FEB 25 2012 - SKIING - SPLITBOARD NAK PEAK (SKIERS WELCOME) (D2: MODERATE)

SAT, FEB 25 2012 - SKIING - SKIING IN THE UPPER CALLAGHAN VALLEY (D3: DIFFICULT)

SAT, FEB 25 2012 - SKIING - CERISE CREEK TO ANNIVERSARY GLACIER (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, FEB 28 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, FEB 28 2012 - MEETING - JOSEPH BLACKBURN: EVERST'88 AND SEVEN SUMMITS SOLO DOCUMENTED (D1: EASY)

TUE, FEB 28 2012 - SKIING - RUSSETT LAKE (D2: MODERATE)

WED, FEB 29 2012 - SKIING - EVENING SKI TECHNIQUE PRACTICE - SECOND SET - SESSION TWO (D1: EASY)

FRI, MAR 2 2012 - SKIING - GARIBALDI NEVE TRAVERSE (D3: DIFFICULT)

TUE, MAR 6 2012 - TRAINING - CREVASSE RESCUE- DRY SCHOOL (D1: EASY)

TUE, MAR 6 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

WED, MAR 7 2012 - SKIING - EVENING SKI TECHNIQUE PRACTICE - SECOND SET - SESSION THREE (D1: EASY)

WED, MAR 7 2012 - SKIING - MANNING PARK LODGE YO-YO/WINDY JOE/MOUNT FROSTY (D2: MODERATE)

THU, MAR 8 2012 - TRAINING - ATSI-PLUS COURSE (D1: EASY)

SAT, MAR 10 2012 - SKIING - LAGO PEAK - SKI TOUR (D2: MODERATE)

SAT, MAR 10 2012 - SKIING - MCGILLVRAY PASS SKI CAMP - MAR. 10-17, 2012 (D3: DIFFICULT)

SUN, MAR 11 2012 - SKIING - CREVASSE RESCUE FOR SKI MOUNTAINEERING (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, MAR 13 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

WED, MAR 14 2012 - SKIING - EVENING SKI TECHNIQUE PRACTICE - SECOND SET - SESSION FOUR (D1: EASY)

WED, MAR 14 2012 - TRAINING - AVALANCHE GEAR ORIENTATION & PRACTICE FOR BEGINNERS (D1: EASY)

THU, MAR 15 2012 - SOCIAL - VOLUNTEER HELPERS - RADICAL REELS SPEARHEAD HUTS FUNDRAISER (D1: EASY)

THU, MAR 15 2012 - TRAINING - ATSI-PLUS COURSE (ADDITIONAL OFFERING) (D1: EASY)

FRI, MAR 16 2012 - SKIING - GARIBALDI NEVE TRAVERSE (D3: DIFFICULT)

TUE, MAR 20 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

WED, MAR 21 2012 - SKIING - EVENING SKI TECHNIQUE PRACTICE - SECOND SET - SESSION FIVE (D1: EASY)

FRI, MAR 23 2012 - SNOWSHOEING - SNOW JAM - SNOWSHOEING UP IAGO/GREAT BEAR PEAK (D2: MODERATE)

FRI, MAR 23 2012 - SKIING - COQUIHALLA SNOW JAM (D1: EASY)

FRI, MAR 23 2012 - SKIING - SNOW JAM - COQUIHALLA LAKES RIDGE (D2: MODERATE)

SAT, MAR 24 2012 - SOCIAL - COQUIHALLA SNOW JAM - BONFIRE (D1: EASY)

SAT, MAR 24 2012 - SKIING - SNOW JAM - BOMBTRAM (D3: DIFFICULT)

SAT, MAR 24 2012 - SKIING - SNOW JAM - IAGO PEAK - SKI TOUR (D2: MODERATE)

SAT, MAR 24 2012 - SKIING - SNOW JAM - ZOA RIDGE (D1: EASY)

SAT, MAR 24 2012 - SNOWSHOEING - SNOW JAM - SNOWSHOEING TO NEEDLE/FLAT-IRON (D2: MODERATE)

SUN, MAR 25 2012 - SNOWSHOEING - SNOW JAM - SNOWSHOEING TO ZUPJOK/LLAMA PEAK (D2: MODERATE)

SUN, MAR 25 2012 - SKIING - SNOW JAM - THAR PEAK - SKI TOUR (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, MAR 27 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, MAR 27 2012 - MEETING - SONNIE TROTTER: HIGH AND WILD PLACES (D1: EASY)

SAT, MAR 31 2012 - SNOWSHOEING - MARTIN PK. (D3: DIFFICULT)

SUN, APR 1 2012 - SKIING - BOMBTRAM MOUNTAIN (D3: DIFFICULT)

TUE, APR 3 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

FRI, APR 6 2012 - SKIING - MT BAKER LODGE - LK ANN / TABLE MTN DAY TRIPS (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, APR 10 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

WED, APR 11 2012 - TRAINING - AVALANCHE GEAR ORIENTATION & PRACTICE FOR BEGINNERS (D1: EASY)

TUE, APR 17 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, APR 24 2012 - MEETING - WILL GADD: 30 TRIPS IN 60 MINUTES (D1: EASY)

TUE, APR 24 2012 - HIKE - GROUSE TRAILS HIKE (D2: MODERATE)

SAT, APR 28 2012 - SNOWSHOEING - SUGARLOAF MTN. (D3: DIFFICULT)

SAT, MAY 5 2012 - ROCK CLIMBING - YOSEMITE ROADTRIP (D2: MODERATE)

TUE, MAY 8 2012 - MEETING - ACC VANCOUVER MEMBERS' 10% DISCOUNT NIGHT @ MEC (D1: EASY)

FRI, MAY 11 2012 - SKIING - MT BAKER 3,286 M (D4: VERY DIFFICULT)

THU, MAY 17 2012 - SOCIAL - DISTINGUISH ALPINIST SERIES PRESENTS MARK AND JANELLE SMILEY (D1: EASY)

FRI, MAY 18 2012 - SKIING - GLACIER PEAK 3,231 M (D4: VERY DIFFICULT)



Return undeliverable Canadian address to:
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