

# AVALANCHE ECHOES

Next Meeting: **Tuesday June 27rd at 7:30 p.m.**

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

*Light snacks and appetizers will be provided*

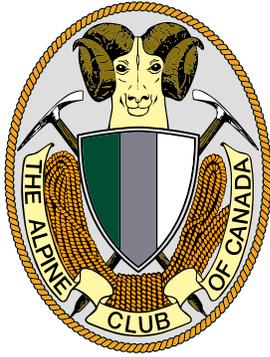


Katy Holm presents the story of her trip with Katherine Fraser and Aidan Oloman to the Four Girls Mountain Reserve in China, where they climbed 3 first ascents of granite peaks.

## Three Girls in the Four Girls Mountains

Slide presentation by  
**Katy Holm**





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

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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
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	Martin Naroznik	778-892-2167
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	Mike Thompson	604-534-8863
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Socials	—	—
Programs	Susan Higginbottom	604-925-3742
Access & Environment	Antje Wahl	604-988-6486
National Rep.	Andrea Morgan	—
Promotions	Jay MacArthur	604-987-1232
FMBC Rep	Richard Keltie	604-738-4583

#### Special Project Volunteers:

Program Assistant	Linda Bily	604-222-1577
Skills Assistant	Zoran Vasic	604-438-9066
Jim Haberl Hut	Liz Scremin	604-921-2651
Sea to Sky Forums	Mary Henderson	604-905-9151
VOC	Antje Wahl	604-988-6486
Archivist	Irene Goldstone	604-689-8737
Quartermaster	Rob Brusse	604-224-0747
Tantalus Hut	Ron Royston	604-687-2711
Webmaster	—	—
Email Administrator	Richard Keltie	604-738-4583
	accvanem@telus.net	

#### Announcements

#### Website Changes

Vancouver Section Secretary, Richard Keltie, has volunteered to take on the task of redesigning our website to make it more useful and maintainable. Among the changes being considered is to make past issues of the Avalanche Echoes newsletter freely available on-line to everyone, similar to some other ACC Sections (e.g. the Calgary Section Chinook at <http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/calgary/>). If you have any comments on this, or have any suggestions, please contact Richard at 604-738-4583, or Tony Knight 604-873-2276, or e-mail them to accvanem@telus.net.

#### Socials Coordinator needed

The section still needs a volunteer to look after the snacks, coffee, tea, and refreshments at the monthly socials at Van Dusen Gardens. If you think you might be interested, please contact Tony Knight at 604-873-2276.

#### Update to the ACC Waiver Form

ACC National Office has issued a new version of the Waiver of Liability form. Trip organizers are asked to use the new form for all trips and Section activities, and return it to the Climbing Coordinator Mike Thompson.

It is available on the Section website at: <http://www.aebc.com/acc/forms/Waiver.pdf>

For more information on waivers, see the National website at:

<http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca/activities/waivers.html>

#### House-sitters Available for Summer 2006

Are you away on an adventure this summer? Do you need someone to feed your dog or cat and water your plants during your absence? We are a family of four in need of temporary housing in the Greater Vancouver area for periods between late June and late September while our new home is being constructed. We are outdoor enthusiasts like yourself and would take the utmost care of your home. To discuss possibilities, please contact Karen at [kpalmer@mtwest.net](mailto:kpalmer@mtwest.net).

## Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC Annual General Meeting

- ◊ Date: Saturday/Sunday June 10 & 11, 2006
- ◊ Where: Vancouver
- ◊ Contact: Richard Keltie, tel: 604-738-4583

The ACC Vancouver Section will be hosting the annual general meeting of the FMCBC in Vancouver on the weekend of June 10 & 11.

The Vancouver Section will be host to the FMCBC Executive and about 20 club representatives from member clubs across BC. This year's AGM will highlight the Squamish Smoke Bluffs land held by the FMCBC, which is being considered for part of a proposed municipal park by the District of Squamish. The formal meeting will be followed by dinner and a slide show on Saturday June 10.

On Sunday June 11, activities include a hike up the Squamish Chief and rock climbing at the Smoke Bluffs. Margaret Hanson and Tony Knight will lead the Smoke Bluffs climbing. Richard Keltie will lead the Squamish Chief Hike. If you are interested in the climb, please give Margaret and Tony a call at 604-873-2276. If you would rather hike, please give Richard a call at 604-738-4583.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with organizing other events for the AGM. If you can help out, please contact Richard Keltie at 604-738-4583 or Tony Knight at 604-873-2276.

### Workshops

#### Rock Rescue Course

- ◊ Date: Saturday June 17, 2006
- ◊ Location: Squamish Area
- ◊ Cost: \$120 (ACC members only)
- ◊ Contact: Sue Baldwin, Tel: 604-732-4562

This is a course for those with some rock climbing experience. Instruction will be provided by West Coast Mountain Guides. The course includes the essential skills for carrying out a rescue when multi-pitch climbing.

Topics will include:

- tying off and escaping the belay
- rescue raises with the Z pulley system
- rescue lowers
- tandem rappels
- counterbalance rappels
- knot passes through the belay
- rope ascending

To sign up send your cheque for the full amount (\$120) made out to "The Alpine Club of Canada: Vancouver Section" to Susan Baldwin, #222-2680 West 4th Ave., Vancouver, BC V5K 4S3. Attendance is limited to 6 participants.

#### Fifth Annual ACC Lake Lovely Water Photo Workshop

- ◊ Dates: July 21 – 23 (Friday – Sunday), 2006
- ◊ Cost: \$495 for ACC members, \$575 for non-members.  
Includes hut fees and helicopter in and out.  
Does not include food or transportation to Squamish.

This is a three day workshop that will allow you to immerse yourself in outdoor photography. Topics include: light control, composition, shooting infrared film, abstracts, equipment, night shooting, macro, portraits. There are about 24 hours of instruction, practice and a critique after the weekend. See the slide show on the Section's web site.

For more info and to register, contact Doug Williams at 604-736-5799 or [dphoto@shaw.ca](mailto:dphoto@shaw.ca). Payment should be by cheque payable to the Alpine Club of Canada Vancouver Section, and mailed to Rob Brusse, ACC Treasurer, 1787 Drummond Drive, Vancouver, BC V6T 1B7.

## Annual ACC-Vancouver Section Watercolour Painting En Plein Air with Velvet Bailes

- ◊ Dates: Friday – Sunday, September 8 – 10, 2006
- ◊ Location: Mount Baker Lodge at the Mount Baker Ski Area Washington, USA
- ◊ Participants: Min 6 – max 12 enthusiastic people
- ◊ Cost: Approx. \$225 for ACC members and \$250 for non-members (Fees to be confirmed depending on number of participants. The fee includes all accommodation, meals & instruction. A deposit of \$100 will hold your spot.)

Join us for this fun-filled workshop amidst mountains and meadows. Accomplished artist Velvet Bailes will be our guide once again to the fabulous scenery of the Mount Baker area. The focus will be on capturing the essence of our surroundings in sketches for further development at home. The primary medium will be watercolour but ink with watercolour washes will also be explored. Weather permitting, we will be outdoors each day exploring both the local trails and artistic subjects such as composition, colour and texture. Tables beneath big picture windows are available for work indoors on cool days. All skill levels are welcome. Accommodation and meals will be provided at the Mount Baker Ski Lodge, a woodsy dorm-style facility operated by the Seattle Mountaineers.

For more information and to register, contact Liz Scremin at 604-921-2651 or [liz@pensiamo.com](mailto:liz@pensiamo.com).

### Section Camps

#### Bugaboos Summer Camp (8th Annual Rogers Pass Camp)

Join us for a great week of climbing and scrambling on the superb granite of the Bugaboos. Camp costs include food, portering, and two options:

- ◊ Dates: Jul 8 – 15, 2006  
(July 8 drive up to Invermere – July 15 drive home)
- ◊ Option 1: Accommodations at the Conrad Kain Hut (10 people) and a climbing guide. Approximate cost: \$650
- ◊ Option 2: Tenting (12 people) without a guide.  
Approximate cost: \$350
- ◊ Deposit: \$100 (\$50 refundable if replacement found). Please make cheques payable to Rogers Pass Camps and mail to: c/o Rob Brusse, 1787 Drummond Drive, Vancouver BC V6T 1B7.

For details, contact Rob Brusse at 604-224-0747 or at [robasbeekbrusse@aol.com](mailto:robasbeekbrusse@aol.com). **Note: camp is nearly full, contact Rob for waiting list status.**

#### 2006 ACC Vancouver Section Centennial Camp Tantalus Range Climbing Camp

- ◊ Dates: Saturday August 5 to Saturday August 12, 2006
- ◊ Location: Lake Lovelywater Cabin, Tantalus Range
- ◊ Cost: \$400 (est., depending on helicopter costs), includes hut fees and helicopter in/out
- ◊ Camp Coordinator: Ron Royston

In celebration of the ACC Centennial this year, the Vancouver Section is hosting a summer climbing camp open to ACC members across the country. The camp will be based out of the Lake Lovelywater cabin in

For further information, and to register, contact Ron Royston at 604-687-2711 or [rroyston@grantthornton.ca](mailto:rroyston@grantthornton.ca)

Note: We are still seeking a leader for the week, preferably someone familiar with the area. Please contact Ron for more details. Space is still available for this camp.

# Manatee Group

By Tony Knight



This year the mostly-annual spring ski camp in the Coast range returned to a familiar area from years past. The Manatee group has been the location of several spring ski camps. It offers a great range of skiing and ski mountaineering possibilities, and even tree-line skiing when the weather is bad. Mike last led a Vancouver Section camp to the Manatee in 1998, and had been to the area several times previously. This year the camp proved as popular as ever, with 17 people signed up to go weeks in advance.

After all the planning, organizing of gear and purchasing of food, our group met at the Pemberton Airport at 0900 on Saturday April 22. We had the mandatory helicopter safety briefing, and then four of us, including myself, flew directly from Pemberton into the Manatee. The rest headed up the Pemberton valley to a staging area near Meager Creek.

We lifted off with Pemberton Helicopters in clear conditions and set a course straight for our camp spot in the Manatee, heading west across the northern part of the Pemberton Icefield. Passing over the ridge-tops on the way, strong northerly winds aloft buffeted us. Soon we were approaching Polychrome Ridge and zeroing in on the camp spot. We set down at the familiar knoll near the bottom of the Manatee and Remora Glaciers, around 5500 feet. Three more helicopter loads deposited the whole group of 17 and gear. In short order, we had the tent spots picked out, 10 tents erected, and were digging out the kitchen. The keenest ones soon had their skis on to test the spring snow conditions.

Sunday dawned clear, and the whole group was ready for the first full day. We skied up the Remora Glacier, with most in the group making it to the top of Remora Peak. The ski down on the northerly aspect was sweet with good light snow up in the shade, but changing to wet and crusty lower down the glacier.

Monday, with clear skies still holding, the group headed up the Remora Glacier again, this time aiming for the ridge between Manatee and Dugong peak. All made it to the col, and 10 of us continued across a warming south aspect and up the south arête to Manatee Peak (9380'), giving us great views all around to prominent peaks in the distance including Elaho, Ashlu, Tinniswood, Raleigh, Gilbert, and Denman. The snow was still dry near the uppermost shady aspects, but soon became crud and schmoo lower down the glacier back to camp.

Tuesday started off clear and warm, but a few high-scattered clouds were suggesting a change coming in the weather. Everyone set off for a tour up the west branch of the Manatee Glacier, and then back down the east branch of the glacier. On the way, a friend of Mike's flew by in his light plane,

and over the radio gave Mike an update on the weather. The forecast was not great for the next couple days; a storm was coming followed by rising freezing levels.

Wednesday we woke to blowing snow and poor visibility for most the day, with occasional bright patches in the swirling fog. Everyone stayed in camp and worked on fortifying the cook areas with tarps. By lunch, we had two large tarps plus multiple smaller ones defending our kitchen area from the elements. Thursday morning, the barometer was on the rise and the visibility had improved. Most of us did an easier day, skiing up Polychrome Ridge, and then back down in soft, wet snow. A few keen ones (Ron, Ilze and others) continued on in variable visibility to a point close to the summit of Polychrome. They turned around (prudently) when solid surface, fog, and cornice drop-offs were indistinguishable from one another.

Friday morning we woke to sunny breaks and mild temperatures. We decided to head off in a northwest direction towards the col between Oluk and Obelia Peak. As we skied up the ceiling dropped slowly but inexorably. As the mountains disappeared, the weather steadily deteriorated and turned to wet snow.

As we neared the ridge, a huge granite stone perhaps 10-15 metres high loomed in the mist. Although we didn't believe this obelisk had any significance with respect to the evolution of apes or humans, we stopped and huddled there for lunch, and a couple people bravely explored the top of this strange feature. After this encounter, we retreated down the glacier, while trying not to lose everyone in the fog and increasingly rain-soaked snowpack.

Friday night was wet and rainy in camp. We woke Saturday morning to a few breaks. After some discussion, we decided to call the helicopter and try flying out at the next break in the weather. Mid-morning our pilot tried to get in, but couldn't make it up through the layers of cloud to reach us. By mid-afternoon, the weather was improving, and we called again. Within an hour, the chopper was there to take the first load out to the staging area, and returned for 3 more loads, the last of our group flying back to Pemberton, where we soon reconvened for a deserved dinner in town.

Thanks go to Mike for all the organization, and to everyone else for coming and making this an enjoyable camp in the Coast Range.

*Participants: Mike Thompson (Leader & organizer), Tony Webb, Erich Hinze, Ilene Hinze, Leonie Knaus, Carol McMillan, Marilyn Cram, Helen Habgood, Ilze Rupners, Ron Caves, Christina Williams, Liz Ball, Lorrie Lech, Nancy Henderson, Trisha Daum, , Margaret Hanson & Tony Knight (R).*



**Helen on Manatee ascent**



**Christina after enjoying some turns**



**Tony on Manatee (steps from the top)**

## Vista Lodge in the Esplanade Range

Story by Liz Scremin • Photos by Marilyn Cox

Seven days before our departure, dismay and disbelief shook the group. Through some miscommunication, we were bumped out of the Campbell Icefield Chalet! But luck was with us. Somehow right at the height of ski season, Golden Alpine Holidays had a vacancy at Vista Lodge and -yes- they could pull together a cook and full catering in just a few days. We were saved!

After days of frenzied preparation, the gang met informally on Friday night at the Best Western at Rogers Pass. The weather looked good for the flights the following morning. Three hops and we were all in by noon, dragging our gear, claiming our bunks, and surveying our surroundings.

**The Facts** • Vista Lodge is well located at 2150m in an alpine bowl on the edge of treeline. The area is not as rugged as nearby Fairy Meadows. There are no glaciers but there is a lot of skiable terrain with extensive bowls, ridgelines, faces and fall lines to explore. There are also numerous peaks that can be ascended on ski.

The lodge itself is a simple 2-storey structure that functions well. Upon entry, there is a large vestibule/storage/drying room. Beyond is a comfortable sitting area and full kitchen. A ship's ladder leads up to six 2-person bunkrooms. Aimee, our cook, was very welcoming and full of stories. Her food was plentiful and tasty.

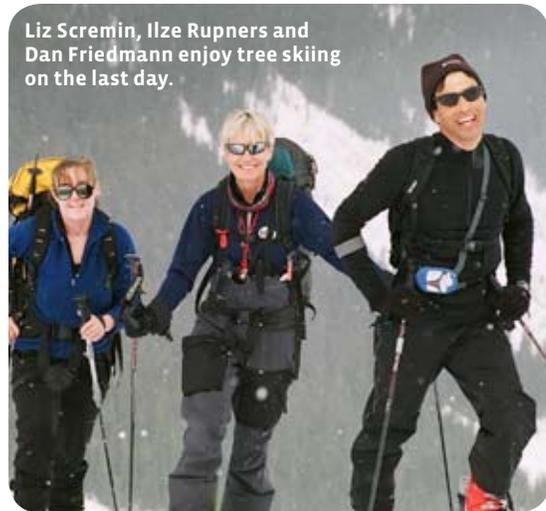
We were generally blessed with fair weather, sunshine and high overcast, but only dustings of new snow. That meant easy trail breaking but also lots

of breakable crust. We were surprised to find that the conditions were not entirely stable. The east and northeast facing slopes had the only real powder but were quick to release about 20cm down. We chose our aspects carefully.

**The Fun** • Over the course of the week, everyone ascended to Vista Col. Most folks got up Vista Peak to the west and the rocky ridge to the north. Many traversed into Colpitti Basin. A few completed a loop over Sundome Peak. Others explored south to ascend Cupola Peak. The views were wonderful all around... east to the Campbell Icefield, south to Rogers Pass and Mount Sir Donald, north to the terrain around Sentry Lodge. Determined to get the most turns in, Dan and Marilyn spent entire afternoons skiing particular slopes... always on the hunt for the perfect line! Ilze did the most trail breaking and urged us all onwards with her enthusiasm. At the end of a typical day, the Swedish contingent, Ove and Gunnar, fired up the sauna for everyone and showed us how to roll in the snow. They also led the singing of Swedish drinking songs. In true form, Jay led all the political discussions. Yes! The evenings were fun too. On the last day everyone explored the skiing below the lodge and found the best powder there, hidden amongst the trees.

**The Future** • Our camp was a success, so we can certainly recommend Vista Lodge. However, Campbell Icefields has kept a portion of our money as a deposit towards a week in January, so that's where we're headed next year. Interested in joining? Some spots will be available. Check the Echoes next fall for an ad from Jay. Looks like he's organizing another winter ski camp. Thanks, Jay!

Participants: Jay Straith (organizer), Lorrie Mann, Rick Mann, Dan Friedmann, Marilyn Cox, Ilze Rupners, Ove Albinsson, Lynn Erickson, Gunnar Olovsson, Ferdinand Reinstadler, Irene Goldstone, Manrico Scremin and Liz Scremin



Liz Scremin, Ilze Rupners and Dan Friedmann enjoy tree skiing on the last day.



The best skiing could be found on eastern aspects.



Manrico Scremin, Irene Goldstone and Ferdinand Reinstadler pause in the sunshine.

## In Memoriam Lois Nordstrom

ACC member Lois Nordstrom passed away as the result of a climbing accident at the Chek climbing area north of Squamish on Sunday, May 14. A funeral service was held for Lois in her childhood home town of Mission on May 23 and was attended by more than a dozen members of the local climbing and mountaineering community. Lois had been a club member for over 10 years and was an avid mountaineer, rock climber, ice climber and hiker. She participated in club events as much as her work schedule allowed and frequently attended the monthly meetings and slideshows. Along with climbing many peaks in southwestern BC, Lois made two attempts on the East Ridge of Logan and one on Denali. In addition to being a climber, Lois supported efforts to preserve wilderness areas, volunteered for St. John Ambulance and supported the Wildlife Rescue Association of BC. She was also a devoted mother to her son Jasen, whom she raised on her own as single mother. Lois will be greatly missed by Jasen, her brother Ward and Jasen's partner Michelle. She will also be greatly missed by her many climbing partners, who remember her for her willingness to go anywhere and try anything, her quiet, unassuming manner and her sense of humour.



## Squamish Rock Refresher

by Tom Holloway

In mid May, nine ACC members with diverse adventurism backgrounds met at the Smoke Bluffs park in Squamish with three benevolent climbers for a two-day tutorial on ropemanship, anchoring, and rappelling. The weekend served as an introduction to the area, as a re-enforcement of safety protocol, and as an opportunity to meet other newish climbers.

Naturally, in addition to securing and understanding the protective measures, the climbers set about challenging and improving their climbing skills. The bare granite slabs and hungry cracks offered much entertainment and the eager participants spared neither blood nor sweat.

It is always a pleasure for me to watch the way a group of strangers coalesce over a short period. It has been my experience that easygoing attitudes, fresh air, and imminent danger aid considerably to that end. Such was the case at Smoke Bluffs this month. Obviously alcohol helps too, and they did have that at the Howe Sound Brew Pub where we confirmed that it would be a weekend of soft-adventurism by choosing burger-and-beer over Whisperlite lentils.

Importantly, it befalls me to heap great thanks upon Margaret, Tony, and Gary for their organization of the weekend and for their superior teaching skills. Recognition is also due to the weather, which was very kind to us: we avoided learning how to clean-and-rap-for-fear-of-lightning.

[ Note from Tony: There was no lightning either day. ]

Participants: Mayo Landicho, Gilles Jouin, Jane Weller, Natasha Gellatly, Sandy & Tom Wards, Jennifer Walker, Ferdinand Reinstadler, Paul Wagner  
Instructors: Margaret Hanson, Gary Shorthouse, Tony Knight



## Progress Report as of May 28, 2006

by Liz Scremin



It was mid September 2005 when the final work crew stowed away their tools, closed the hut door, and helicoptered out with clouds and snowflakes descending. Everyone prayed that the hut was weathertight and that it would fare well through the fall rains and winter snows. Come March, word arrived from pilots flying overhead that "it looked in one piece". An aerial photo showed the hut in the middle of a wind cirque of its own making. Within the circle, rocks were showing; beyond, the snow was deep. As predicted,



a pyramid of snow had formed touching the eave on the eastern leeward side. Fortunately shutters had been installed to protect the windows there.

Hut committee meetings began again in April to plan this spring's work.

The goal was to complete the interior

through May and June, in preparation for an opening date of July 1st this year. The first task was to assess the hut's performance over the winter. The first crew in found the outhouse completely buried – roof and all. (Based on the aerial photo, only the bottom half was buried in March, so 10 feet of snow must have fallen in April!) Otherwise the outhouse was sound. For the most part, the hut was fine. The only real damage was missing or bent metal flashing along the edge of the roof. This was most unfortunate, but not too expensive to replace. We learned the hard way that, for the wind conditions in the col, the flashing would need to be screwed down on the outer visible face and not just on the roof as is normally done.



Over 50 people volunteered at the hut in 2005.

As of May 28th 2006, three fresh crews have done stints: Peter Taylor, Olivier Lardin and Doug Swanston roughed in the wiring for future lighting, installed the propane heater and the ceiling insulation. Immediately following, Chris Kiely, Britt Beach and Bob Woodhouse installed the vapour barrier, interior doors, pine tongue and groove ceiling, and wall plywood, plus trimmed out all the windows and doors. Milton McCrystall, Ted Ingham and John Lawless followed up by trimming exterior windows, assembling the furniture, building the bunks and installing the kitchen cabinets. We are so grateful for the energy, skill and enthusiasm of all the volunteers!



We are also grateful to numerous companies for donations to the hut. Most recently, Norbert Grillmair of Angles and Curves Architectural Millwork donated shop time to construct the hut millwork and Shaun Kahn of Wolseley Mechanical arranged for a free stainless steel sink.

More volunteers will work through June to install cubbies, shelving, the stainless steel countertop and sink, the finished plywood floor, drainage system and water collection system. Hands will be busy staining and painting. There are more miscellaneous tasks to do, but the transformation from rough framing to finished space is wonderful to see. We are confident that the hut will be ready for use come July 1. An official grand opening complete with ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for late June. Many hut committee members and Jim's family will be there to unveil the hut sign and step inside for the first time.

Personally I would like to thank all the hut committee members who have stuck with it and worked so hard. They are Sue Oakey (co-chair), Bill Haberl (treasurer), Alastair Foreman (webmaster and volunteer coordinator), Peter Taylor (engineer and jack of all trades), Colin Boyd (advisor of construction

materials and details), Kevin Haberl (Squamish base coordinator), Blair Mitlen (permits and trails), Manrico Scremin, Ian MacGillivray, Patrick Haberl and Alan Greer.

After years of commitment, it is so exciting to see the hut almost finished. It will indeed be a comfortable and welcoming place and a fitting memorial to Jim Haberl. The hut is a wonderful accomplishment for the Vancouver Section in the Club's centennial year. The ACC and Jim's family and friends should be proud, knowing that members and the public will enjoy Jim's Hut for years to come.



### Additional information and photos at [www.jimhaberlfund.org](http://www.jimhaberlfund.org)

PRESS RELEASE • May 28, 2006

The Alpine Club of Canada and the family and friends of Jim Haberl are pleased to announce the opening of the Jim Haberl Hut. Grand opening celebrations are being planned for summer 2006. Bookings can be made now for anytime after July 1, 2006. Many years of effort and love have gone into making this hut a welcoming and comfortable base for mountaineering and a fine memorial to Jim Haberl.

#### LOCATION

The Jim Haberl Hut is located in the Tantalus Range, just northwest of Squamish, BC. It is located at 6800' elevation in the Serratus-Dione Col, about a 6-hour hike above Lake Lovely Water and the Tantalus Hut or a full 14 hours (usually done over two days) from the Squamish River. The site is located on the edge of Tantalus Provincial Park at 551600 northerly/477800 easterly on map 92G/14 (Cheakamus River).

#### ACCESS & APPROACH

- ♦ **Access On Foot:** Cross the Squamish River and take the trail to Lake Lovelywater. Carry on past Lambda Lake to the "Russian Army Camp", then follow a mountaineering route up steep scree & snow to the Ionia-Serratus Col. Cross a small glacier northwards to the Serratus-Dione Col and the hut. For jetboat service across the Squamish River, call Jay Bricknell at 604-898-3356. Cost for Summer 2006 is \$40 per person. Typically leaves Brackendale at 9 am & returns 4-5 pm.
- ♦ **Access by Helicopter:** Squamish Airport direct to hut. Contact Omega Aviation 604-898-1067 or Black Tusk Helicopters 604-898-4800. Cost for Summer 2006 is about \$200 per person return.

#### BOOKINGS

- ♦ **Open:** Year round, beginning July 1, 2006.
- ♦ **Reservations:** Required as the hut is kept locked. To book your stay, please contact the hut custodian to arrange access and pay the overnight fees.

- ♦ **Hut Custodian:** Ron Royston, call him at work (604) 687-2711 (preferred) or at home (604) 921-8164. Fax (604) 685-6569

#### FEES

- ♦ **ACC members:** \$15 per person per night (Please send Ron a photocopy of your membership card.)
- ♦ **Non-members:** \$25 per person per night
- ♦ **Day-users:** \$10 per person is requested.
- ♦ **Commercial Guides with Clients:** \$20 per person per night with the guide going free

#### FACILITIES

The Jim Haberl Hut is a single storey wood frame structure with metal roofing and cladding. There is a large kitchen and sitting room with wonderful views to the north, south and west. There are also two sleeping rooms with bunks for 6 people each. While the hut is kept locked, there is an unlocked vestibule for emergency use.

- ♦ **Cooking:** The kitchen is fully equipped with 2 propane cooktops and full cooking and eating utensils.
- ♦ **Fresh Water:** Snow must be melted in winter and spring. In early summer, water can be collected where it runs in rivulets across rocks. A fairly major 'creek' forms on the glacier to the north about 10 minutes away. A water collection system off the roof is installed to store water in a tank in the crawlspace. This water must be filtered and/or boiled for drinking.
- ♦ **Garbage:** Please take all garbage out with you.
- ♦ **Heating:** A propane heater keeps the hut cozy on cool days.
- ♦ **Lighting:** Wiring has been roughed in for future lighting. A wind or solar power system is being considered. For now, visitors are advised to bring headlamps. Candles and other open flames are not permitted in the hut.

#### OPPORTUNITIES

The terrain around the hut is dramatic and most suitable for intermediate and advanced climbers. There is a wide variety of mixed snow and rock routes of various grades on peaks such as: Tantalus 2603m (8540'); Dione 2590m (8500'); Alpha 2305m (7562'); Serratus 2326m (7632')

and others. The hut is conveniently located for climbers doing the full traverse of the Tantalus Range. Climbing in the area is covered in Climbing and Hiking in Southwestern B.C. by Bruce Fairley, and in Alpine Select by Kevin McLane.

The terrain is not suitable for general ski touring due to the avalanche hazard, however steep skiing and snowboarding is possible by experienced parties during spring months. Several paragliders have enjoyed flights from the Serratus-Dione Col to the Squamish Valley.

#### HISTORY

In 2001, the Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Section began work to replace the aging F.J. Green Shelter (better known as the Red Tit Hut) in the Serratus-Dione Col in the Tantalus Range. Also in 2001, the family and friends of Jim Haberl were considering a location for a new hut in memory of Jim. The two groups met to discuss their common goals and a new partnership was soon formed to build the Jim Haberl Hut. The years 2002 and 2003 were dedicated to setting a vision, studying the site, obtaining permits, developing the design, and fund-raising. During the summer of 2004, the hut framing was pre-fabricated by members of the 192nd Airfield Engineers at their base in Abbotsford, BC. Construction began on site in May of 2005 and the hut was deemed weather-tight by September. Over 100 volunteers from the mountain community participated. Finally during May and June of 2006, the hut interior was completed and all the fittings were installed. See [www.jimhaberlfund.org](http://www.jimhaberlfund.org) for photos of the construction.

Bookings for the hut can be made now for dates starting July 1, 2006. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony is planned for late June 2006 with Jim's family and hut committee members present. A larger celebration is also planned in town for late summer 2006 to thank all the volunteers, supporters, donors and sponsors.

Trip schedule – Please see [www.accvancouver.ca](http://www.accvancouver.ca) for the latest updates

Date	Trip Description	Grade	Contact	Phone
<b>JUNE</b>				
4	<b>Mt. Varley</b>	B2	John Sopic	604-873-6740
10 - 11	<b>Mt. Shuksan via Sulphide Glacier (ski)</b>	C3/4	Grant McCormack	604-535-7501
17	<b>Rock Rescue Course</b>		Sue Baldwin	604-732-4562
<b>JULY</b>				
1-3	<b>Mt. Dickson North Ridge (Joint BCMC)</b>	C5	Margaret Hanson / Tony Knight	604-873-2276
16	<b>Golden Ears</b>	B3	Richard Keltie	604-738-4583
21-23	<b>Fifth Annual ACC Lake Lovely Water Photo Workshop</b>	A2	Doug Williams	604-736-5799
29	<b>Tszil/Taylor</b>	B3	Ilse Rupners	604-222-3720
29-Aug 4	<b>Bugaboos climbing trip</b>	C5	Jane Weller	604-988-3618
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
2-4	<b>Leaders Choice Mountaineering Trip</b>	C4/5	Margaret Hanson / Tony Knight	604-873-2276

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, Aug, Dec).

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](http://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  
604-878-5272

CLIMBING SCHEDULE  
Ian McGillivray 604-988-3618  
Mike Thompson 604-534-8863 - [vanacctrips@hotmail.com](mailto:vanacctrips@hotmail.com)

**Wanted:** Your stories and slides/digital images for our monthly meeting presentations. Susan Higginbottom, Program Coordinator, is now looking to begin scheduling for September. If you have a story to tell with photos to show, whether local or international, or a topic that you think would be of interest to our members, we want to hear from you. Please contact Susan at [susan-h@telus.net](mailto:susan-h@telus.net).



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

