

# AVALANCHE ECHOES

## **TRAVELS IN PERU** + John Scurlock's slide show

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO GO TO PERU? WELL...  
SO DID OUR VERY OWN ACC'ER, JAY MACARTHUR

**TUESDAY, MAY 24TH  
7:30 PM**

JOHN SCURLOCK: MOUNTAIN AERIAL  
PHOTOGRAPHY

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28TH  
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.

[www.accvancouver.ca](http://www.accvancouver.ca)  
[info@accvancouver.ca](mailto:info@accvancouver.ca)

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

### 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](http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca)  
[info@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto:info@alpineclubofcanada.ca)  
403-678-3200, 403-678-3224 (fax)  
P.O. Box 8040 Canmore, AB, T1W 2T8

### THE AVALANCHE ECHOES is the official publication of the Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Section.

**Volume 89 • Issue no. 4 • Nov. 2010**  
Editor: Brad Badelt, 604 742 1711  
[echoes@accvancouver.org](mailto:echoes@accvancouver.org)

### 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 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.

### executive

#### CHAIR

**Rob Brusse** 604 732 7730

#### SECRETARY

**Caroline Clapham** 604 351 7149

#### TREASURER

**Dave Henwood** 604 874 3377

#### ACTIVITIES CHAIR

**Cam Miller** 778 389 1519

#### CAMPS COORDINATOR

**Lynn Erickson** 604 224 4883

#### COURSES COORDINATOR

**Martin Siegert** 604 939 1838

#### ACCESS & ENVIRONMENT

**Patrick Lloyd** 604 929 7496

#### QUARTER MASTER

**Bill Sims** 604 734 8870

#### PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Susan Higginbottom** 604 925 3742

#### MEMBERSHIP

**Tony Knight** 604 873 2276

#### WEB ADMINISTRATOR

**Kayla Stevenson** 604 619 7978

#### ALPIN-E-R EDITOR

**Steve Burgess** 778 229 3448

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Brad Badelt** 604 742 1711

#### NATIONAL CLUB REP (2 YEAR POSITION)

**Rob Brusse** 604 732 7730

#### FMCBC REP

**Antje Wahl**

#### GRAPHIC DESIGNER

**Iwona Erskine-Kellie** 604 351 4891

### committees + special projects

#### BEST OF BANFF COMMITTEE

**Rob Brusse** 604 732 7730

#### CAMPS COMMITTEE

**Mike Thompson** 604 534 8863

**Lynn Erickson** 604 224 4883

**Don Serl** 604 872 4244

**Rob Brusse** 604 224 0747

#### TANTALUS AND HABERL HUT BOOKING

**Ron Royston** 604 687 2711

#### HABERL HUT COMMITTEE

**Liz Scremin** (acting) 604 921 2651

**Peter Taylor, Chris Kiely,**

**Blair Mitten**

#### ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

**Liz Scremin** 604 921 2651

**Irene Goldstone** 604 689 8737

#### SOCIALS

**Olga Turok** 604 228 0628

#### PROMOTIONS

**Jay MacArthur** 604 987 1232

#### ENDOWMENT FUND

**Rob Brusse** 604 224 0747

**Dave Henwood** 604 874 3377

#### WEBSITE COMMITTEE

**Richard Keltie** 604 738 4583

**Tony Knight, Kayla Stevenson**

*"I've learned that everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it."*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### No More Parking Fees in BC Parks!

As you may have heard, parking fees in all BC Parks have been eliminated. If you purchased an annual parking pass after September 1, 2010 and would like a refund, go to the BC Parks website to download a refund form and mail it with your parking pass to BC Parks in Victoria. Note that parking fees have not been waived in local and federal parks.

#### Sign up For Athelny Pass Summer Camp!

Helicopter into this amazing area that offers something for everyone - easy hiking/scrambling to classic alpine ice and rock. Three one-week camps are being shared with Vancouver Island section members, with room for 14 people each week. The dates are July 23 - 30, July 30 - August 6, and August 6 - 13. If there is significant demand, there may be a fourth week.

Athelny Pass is a remote site east of the Lillooet Icefield, at the head of Salal Creek. On the east side of the Coast Range, it enjoys a dry climate. At 1,800m, it is surrounded on the north side by rolling glaciated peaks like Mt Ochre (2,500m) that are easy scrambling. On the south side of the valley, a line of peaks (Ethelweard (2,700m), Guthrum and Icemaker) are surrounded by crevassed glaciers that offer classic alpine snow approaches and long dry ridges on granite-like rock.

Attendance is open to both the Vancouver and Vancouver Island section members of the ACC. This is a self-catered, unguided one-week camp for \$500 (no HST) covering 2-way helicopter flights and camp gear. Places can be reserved by emailing Martin Smith and making a cheque out to Alpine Club of Canada - Vancouver Island Section and sent to Martin Smith, 738 Lands End Road, North Saanich, BC V8L 5K9. Money talks. The sooner you send it, the sooner you are sure of a place. On the back of the cheque, write the preferred week, your phone number and your email address so your place can be confirmed promptly.

The refund policy is simple: if we/you can find a replacement, you get your money back. So, cancel early and you'll have a good chance of a refund. Cancel late and you're likely out of luck. Sorry, no exceptions. Check the ACC Vancouver web site for more details.

## REMEMBERING MARTHA VON ZUBEN (1918-2011)



Martha Von Zuben was a life member of the ACC, having joined in 1944 shortly after her older brother Len became involved with the club. Martha and her brother grew up in West Vancouver in the house her father built on Mathers Street in 1924. They learned to swim off the pier at Dundarave and quite naturally went up the hill to explore Hollyburn and other North Shore mountains. Through the 1950s, both Len and Martha attended many National ACC climbing camps and ski camps in the Rockies and the Selkirks.

Locally, Martha was a very active and lively member of the Vancouver Section. She was a very artistic person and used that skill to help with the editing of the Avalanche Echoes newsletter. When not in the mountains, Martha worked at Curtis Lumber in North Burnaby. Martha never married. She continued to live in the house on Mathers Street well into her 80s. She loved the property and feeding the raccoons out her back door.

Martha is well remembered by many of our older Vancouver Section members:

Norma Chatwin... "My late husband Len and I were fortunate to know Martha as a fellow member of the Alpine Club. We attended many of the same glorious ACC summer camps. I remember Martha as a strong individual... a direct person consistently true to herself, with not a pretentious bone in her body. She was always kind and helpful and highly devoted to the worthy causes in her own value system. Unique and memorable, Martha enriched our lives."

Elizabeth Walker... "I remember Martha as a very cheerful person. She was extremely artistic. I still enjoy owning two of her watercolours and wood block prints. Martha was very involved with the club and often helped with the design and printing of the programs for our annual banquets."

Howard Rode... "Martha was well-liked in the club. I remember her leading a trip to Church one Sunday. (That's Mt. Church in Washington State.) I was part of that group. I also remember her on trips to the Mt. Seymour cabin. Dinkey Peak was a common outing from the cabin. It's a small bump on Seymour and a good place to practice climbing. Martha had me on belay, and when I dropped onto a ledge, she cracked a rib. Several people had done the same thing with no ill effects... to give people the sense of what it was like to hold a fall."

The Vancouver Section executive are very sad to hear of Martha's death and send their condolences to her family and friends.

### UPCOMING SOCIALS

24 MAY 2011

#### Jay MacArthur: Travels In Peru

Presenting Jay MacArthur and his adventures in Peru on Tuesday, May 24. Jay has been a member since 1973. He has climbed countless mountains, skied just as many in BC, Washington and abroad. Jay has worn a number of hats as he's volunteer his time to clubs and causes around mountaineering and conversancy. He a strong ACC promoter and leads courses and not to mention trips. Come join us, as Jay spins the story of his adventure in Peru.

28 JUNE 2011

#### John Scurlock: Mountain Aerial Photography

Have you ever seen inspirational pictures from the mountains and glaciers of the western US and Canada. They may well have been photographed by John Scurlock. A past member of the ACC and friend to a range of folks like Don Serl, Drew Brayshaw, John Baldwin, Paul Geddes, and Paul Berndtson, he's sure to have riveting stories to impart. When he climbed on the Columbia Icefield and in the Ten Peak Ranges years ago, he never dreamed then that someday he'd be photographing that region from the air!



# SLOW TRIP AROUND THE SPEARHEAD

*Dan Friedmann, Marilyn Cox, Ilze Rupners, and Liz and Manrico Scremin did the Spearhead ski traverse on the Easter weekend in April, 2011.*

The Spearhead traverse is the long way to go from Blackcomb to Whistler Mountain, with the short way being the Peak-to-Peak gondola. We started by taking the ski lifts up Blackcomb Mountain. We then traversed through the Spearhead Range to the headwaters of Fitzsimmons Creek. From there we skied over the “Musical Bumps” to Whistler Mountain.

**ABOVE:** Panorama view including Tremor to Russet from Pattison shoulder. One likely hut site is on the broad Tremor-Pattison col in the middle of the picture.

**BELOW:** Our first ascent after riding the ski lifts up Blackcomb.



The Spearhead Traverse is a very popular trip that is normally done in three days, although many people do it in a long day in good conditions. We were surprised at how many people were doing it in a day during the Easter weekend (several dozen).

There are no huts on the route so participants have to bring tents. Liz is actively involved in a project to build a series of



huts along the traverse. The ACC-Vancouver section is one of the partner organizations involved in this project. Visit the Spearhead Huts Project (<http://www.spearheadhuts.org>) website for more information.

We took four days to do the trip. This allowed time for Dan and Ilze to do some yo-yo skiing on the north facing slopes which still had powder snow. It also gave enough time for Liz and Manrico to check out potential hut sites along the route.

You can see a more pictures and videos of this trip, along with several others, at Manrico and Liz’s personal website: <http://www.pensiamo.com>.



**ABOVE:** Marilyn, Dan, Ilze, and Liz enjoying dinner al fresco on the high Overlord-Benvolio col. Tremor, Platform Glacier, and Macbeth are behind them.

**LEFT:** Ascending the Iago Glacier. Another possible, although unlikely hut site is the flat area on the ridge just below Manrico.

**BELOW:** Liz on the Macbeth summit with the McBride range in the background.



# Crossing the Garibaldi Neve

Story by Brad Badelt

Sometimes car pool logistics can be the most challenging part of a ski traverse. For the nine of us ACC'ers heading up to Squamish for the Garibaldi Neve Traverse, it meant dropping a car off in the Garibaldi Highlands neighbourhood and parking three more vehicles at the Elfin Lakes trailhead, then booking a van taxi to pick us up near Garibaldi Lake two days later. Whew! Luckily the ski into the Elfin Lakes hut was more straightforward, with a well-packed skin track to follow the whole way in.

The Elfin hut was buried in snow up to the second floor and – surprisingly – there were only a handful of people staying there (on a Friday night!). We woke up early on Saturday morning and stumbled out of the hut with our headlamps on. Snowflakes were falling even then, but the sky looked clear. We were the only ones leaving that morning for the popular Neve traverse but luckily another group had broken trail the day before. We set out through the trees north of the hut just as the sun was coming over the horizon.

By late Saturday morning, as we traversed across the steep slope above Ring Creek, the snow flakes were getting bigger and the sky was completely clouded over. Benham led the way, breaking trail and navigating across the steep chutes and open slopes before we dropped down to the creek and began climbing up the Neve.

There were now ten of us on the trip –



Scott joined us at the hut – and about half of us had done the Neve Traverse before. We had maps and compasses and a couple of GPS's between us but still, the route finding was becoming tricky with only a white landscape and a white sky in front of us. The weekend forecast had called for flurries, but not a whiteout.

We swapped leaders for a while before Benham took the lead again and broke trail. The faint skin track we'd been following eventually faded away, so Guy and Jeff became the navigators using waypoints on their GPS's. We slogged away in the whiteout for what seemed like hours when Benham suddenly disappeared on the horizon. A minute later he pulled himself back over the snowdrift he'd just skied off, his toque covered in snow.

It wasn't long after when he skied off another snow drift. This time, after kicking steps back up to where the rest of were waiting, he came up with a better approach. Using a ten-foot piece of cordellete tied to his ski pole, Benham flicked the rope out like a fly fisherman and used the line to see the topography ahead of him.

That worked well for a little while, but eventually the poor visibility brought us to a halt. We knew we were on the Neve, but it wasn't clear whereabouts on the Neve we were or whether we were even on route. It was time to either retreat or set up camp. After taking a straw poll of the group, we decided to pitch our tents (or in the case of Scott, dig a snow cave)

and wait out the weather.

As often happens, once we set up our tents and built our snow walls, the weather let up. By evening, the sky had cleared and few of us managed to get a few good turns in above camp. We were even treated to a nice sunset over Mount Garibaldi.

We woke up early Sunday and the weather was perfect. Woohoo! The rest of the ski across the Neve was spectacular, with great snow conditions. Everyone had a smile after getting some great turns on the way down to Garibaldi Lake. After slogging across the lake, we navigated the treacherous, icy switchbacks down to the Rubble Creek parking lot (it turned out to be faster to carry our skis on our backs rather than ski down the trail!)

An hour later, our van taxis picked us up and brought us back to the trailhead (\$100 for a van tax for five people – not a bad deal) and by 9:00 pm we were enjoying cold drinks and delicious Greek food at Yianni's Taverna in downtown Squamish. A big thanks to Benham for organizing such a great trip (and breaking trail through a snowstorm!)

**Trip participants:** Benham Giwi, Paul Cannin, Jeff Witter, Guy Trotter, Ilze Rupners, Melanie Vaughan, Glen Friesen, Ian MacNab, Scott MacPherson, Brad Badelt



## UPCOMING COURSES & CAMPS

### Upcoming Courses

The ACC Vancouver section offers training for beginners who want to learn how to get out into the backcountry, but don't know how to get started. There are no prerequisites. Some of these training sessions are open to guests, such as the Crevasse Rescue: Prusik & Z Pulley training on May 17. We hope that guests who attend these will consider membership in the club.

**Basic Mountaineering I on May 27-29, June 4/5 & June 11/12** (This annual course is for members only. Course is full with a waiting list)

### THE NORTH FACE - ACC SUMMER LEADERSHIP COURSE

The North Face - Alpine Club of Canada (TNF-ACC) leadership course runs from July 30 - August 6, which is week five of the General Mountaineering Camp. The deadline for course applications this year has been extended to Sunday, May 15th. If you are an ACC member and an aspiring leader with good mountaineering skills, this course is for you. If you are interested in being one of the applicants submitted by the Vancouver Section, email section president Rob Brusse.

### UPCOMING SOCIALS

#### Travels in Peru – Tues, May 24, 2011 (Van Dusen Gardens)

Have you always wanted to go to Peru? Well...so did our very own ACC'er, Jay MacArthur. Jay has been a member since 1973. He has climbed countless mountains, skied just as many in BC, Washington and abroad. Jay has worn a number of hats as he's volunteer his time to clubs and causes around mountaineering and conversancy. He a strong ACC promoter and leads courses and not to mention trips. Come join us, as Jay spins the story of his adventure in Peru.

#### John Scurlock: Mountain Aerial Photography

Have you ever seen inspirational pictures from the mountains and glaciers of the western US and Canada? They may well have been photographed by John Scurlock. A past member of the ACC and friend to a range of folks like Don Serl, Drew Brayshaw, John Baldwin, Paul Geddes, and Paul Berndtson, he's sure to have riveting stories to impart. When he climbed on the Columbia Icefield and in the Ten Peak Ranges years ago, he never dreamed then that someday he'd be photographing that region from the air!

John will present images from the great icefields of the Coast

Mountains of British Columbia, from the Lillooet to the Stikine and many points in between, not to mention the Canadian Rockies, Kakwa Provincial Park, and also a few photos from the Columbia Mountains and the Purcells. He's presently working on a book entitled "Snow & Spire: Flights To Winter In The North Cascade Range". John also has short video clips taken during aerial photography flights and he promises to give you a taste of what it is like to build an airplane! And, to prove he's a world traveler, he'll cap it all off but giving us a taste of what it is to travel in travels in western China, one of his many projects from last year. Please join us for this rare photographic treat!

## UPCOMING TRIPS & SOCIALS

- Fri, May 13 2011 - Skiing - Mt. St. Helen & Mt. Hood
- Sat, May 14 2011 - Skiing - Mt. Baker - Boulder Glacier
- Sat, May 14 2011 - Rock Climbing - Spring Climbing in Squamish
- Sat, May 14 2011 - Training - Introduction to Trad Climbing
- Tue, May 17 2011 - Hike - Grouse Trails Hike
- Tue, May 17 2011 - Training - Prusik Training - Crevasse rescue pulley systems
- Sat, May 21 2011 - Skiing - Mt. Baker - Park Glacier
- Tue, May 24 2011 - Hike - Grouse Trails Hike
- Tue, May 24 2011 - Meeting - Jay MacArthur: Peru
- Fri, May 27 2011 - Training - Basic Mountaineering I
- Tue, May 31 2011 - Hike - Grouse Trails Hike
- Sat, Jun 4 2011 - Scramble - Mt. Urquhart
- Sun, Jun 5 2011 - Skiing - Goat Mountain
- Tue, Jun 28 2011 - Meeting - John Scurlock: Mountain Aerial Photography
- Sat, Jul 16 2011 - Scramble - Mt. Nraiteskel
- Sun, Jul 17 2011 - Mountaineering - Mt. Elusive
- Sat, Jul 23 2011 - Mountaineering - Athelney Pass Summer Mountaineering Camp Week 1
- Sat, Jul 30 2011 - Mountaineering - Athelney Pass Summer Mountaineering Camp Week 2
- Sat, Aug 6 2011 - Mountaineering - Athelney Pass Summer Mountaineering Camp Week 3
- Sat, Aug 20 2011 - Mountaineering - Sampson, Delilah, Sessel



Return undeliverable Canadian address to:  
ACC Vancouver Section  
c/o Federation of Mountain Clubs of BC  
130 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1P3