

Island Bushwhacker

Volume 46 | Issue 5 | Fall, 2018



*Views from ACC-VI Summer Camp
Photo by Carol Doering*

ACC VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

Social Events

The club has a monthly slide-show presentation at the Swan Lake Nature House, 3873 Swan Lake Road, Victoria, BC on the second Thursday of each month, except in July and August. The doors open at 7:00pm, and the show starts at 7:30pm.

Web Information

Web site: accvi.ca

Webmaster: webmaster@accvi.ca

Executive Meeting Minutes

Available on our meeting archives.

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

info@alpineclubofcanada.ca

403 678 3200, or P.O. Box 8040

Canmore, AB, T1W 2T8

Annual Membership Dues

Single \$53 Family \$75

Youth (19 and under) \$38

The Island Bushwhacker Newsletter

A monthly (except July and August) publication of the Vancouver Island Section.

Newsletter Editor: Mary Sanseverino, 250 592 4677,

newsletter@accvi.ca

We encourage submissions of items of interest to our membership, including news items, announcements, and short articles, along with photos. Email your submission by the 25th day of the previous month.

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

Our Motto

1. COME BACK ALIVE
2. COME BACK FRIENDS
3. RESPECT THE LAND
4. HAVE FUN
5. GET TO THE TOP
(IN THAT ORDER!)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Slideshow, Thur, Sept 13. Highs and Lows of the Horn of Africa. Join Liz Williams for a look at more of her amazing travels. From the highest peak in Ethiopia to the lowest fiery volcano in the world; from the headwaters of the Blue Nile to the tribal lowlands of the Omo River; from a spiritual mountain in Sudan to the dunes of the Great Sand Sea ... and so much more!

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Reminder to Members:

Keep your [membership](#) up-to-date, so to as to be covered by the ACC's liability insurance. Keep your [contact information](#) current on ACC National's site, as it's from this master list that we download our email addresses for mailouts.

Join the ACC-VI's [Facebook group](#).

You don't have to be a Facebook member to see this page.



Upcoming Slideshows, Presentations, Meetings and Get-togethers

Slideshow, Thu, Sept 13, 2018. Liz Williams presents

Highs and Lows of the Horn of Africa

Come join Liz on more of her amazing travels....From the highest peak in Ethiopia to the lowest fiery volcano in the world; from the headwaters of the Blue Nile to the tribal lowlands of the Omo River; from a spiritual mountain in Sudan to the dunes of the Great Sand Sea; plus some man-made heights, ancient and modern, of Egypt: come and explore the highs and lows of a three-month journey through the Horn of Africa, with a bit of culture and wildlife thrown in.

Do bring friends, family, and anyone interested in Africa and adventure along - all are welcome!

Victoria Slideshows are at Swan Lake Nature House. Doors open at 7:00 pm, the show starts at 7:30 pm. Tea and goodies by donation. New members, friends and family are always most welcome! We look forward to seeing you there.!

Grand opening of the 5040 Hut: Saturday, Oct 20. Yes!! The long-awaited day is almost here. More information on pg 12-13 in this edition of the Bushwhacker.

Slideshow / Lecture Tour - Doug Scott and Rob Wood: Monday 22 October at UVic.

ACC-VI annual photo competition: Thursday 25 October at Swan Lake. More info on this celebrated event coming soon!

The Banff Mountain Film Festival in Victoria: Sunday 25 November at UVic.

Email inquiries to: bmff@accvi.ca Tickets available at [UVic Ticket Centre](#) by mid-September. More info coming soon.

Christmas Party Get-Togethers: Victoria party - Friday 14 December.

Up-Island party - Saturday 24 November. More info on both coming soon via email and on the [ACC-VI Schedule](#).



Upcoming Trips

Full information for all trips is located online at [ACC-VI Trip Schedule](#). Each trip listed here links to the [Trip Schedule](#). Click trip titles for links to full info.

Check the [Trip Schedule](#) often for new offerings!

<i>Date</i>	<i>Trip</i>
Sep 14 -16, 2018	<p>Squamish Climbing</p> <p>Squamish smoke bluffs and possibly other crags. Mostly trad and top rope. Some sport climbing in places. Grades start at 5.6. and go to 5.12 Contact: Serena Polt Serena.polt@gmail.com</p>
Sept 15 - 16 2018	<p>Kids and Youth – 5040 hut construction work weekend</p> <p>Kids and Youth – 5040 hut construction work weekend, September 15-16 (leave Friday evening after school/work) Trip objective: camp support and/or construction projects as required Contact: stefangessinger@gmail.com</p>
Sept 15, 2018	<p>Social Hike up Mount Prevost</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to enjoy a wonderful day hike up Mount Prevost in the beautiful Cowichan Valley. Beginners and experienced hikers, members and non-members are welcome. This is an LGBTQ friendly event. Contact: Colin Mann colin.mann.accvi.trips@gmail.com, Natasha Salway natasha.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>
Sept 29, 2018	<p>Social Hike up Mount Benson</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to enjoy a wonderful day hike up Mount Benson over looking the city of Nanaimo. Beginners and experienced hikers, members and non-members are welcome. This is an LGBTQ friendly event. Contact: Colin Mann colin.mann.accvi.trips@gmail.com, Natasha Salway natasha.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>
Oct 13, 2018	<p>Social Hike up Maple Mountain</p> <p>Everyone is welcome to enjoy a wonderful day hike up Maple Mountain in the beautiful Cowichan Valley. Beginners and experienced hikers, members and non-members are welcome. This is an LGBTQ friendly event. Contact: Colin Mann colin.mann.accvi.trips@gmail.com, Natasha Salway natasha.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>
Oct 28, 2018	<p>Halloween Hike, Mount Finlayson</p> <p>Come out and join our 3rd annual Halloween Hike! Come dressed up in your best Halloween costumes and hike with us up Mount Finlayson. Halloween candy prizes for best costumes! Beginners and experienced hikers, members and non-members are welcome. This is an LGBTQ friendly event. Contact: Colin Mann colin.mann.accvi.trips@gmail.com, Jes Scott jessica.scott@gmail.com</p>

Mountain Education

ACC-VI offers a wide variety of courses aimed at giving our members the technical and safety skills to get out there in the mountains. Courses are open to ACC members in good standing only. You are welcome to join the section if you would like to enroll in one or more of these courses.

*Education and Courses: <http://accvi.ca/programs/education/>
Is there something you would like to see? Contact education@accvi.ca*



*Rock School at Camp Dugong Family Week: Aug 5-12, 2018
Photo from [Stefan Gessinger's post on the ACC-VI Facebook Page](#)
(you don't have to be a Facebook member to see Stefan's post)*

Executive Episodes:

A quick update of ACC life from the chair's chair.

Summer days drifting away.....

I suspect like most of us, I haven't actually spent much time in any chair over the last few months. But things have been busy out there and there is plenty to report. Lots has been happening. And when I say lots

A few highlights from the summer months:

- **Food, fun and friendship**

Starting at the end, we enjoyed the annual barbecue last Thursday evening at the forest home of Mike Hubbard and Colleen Kasting in Central Saanich. This event seems to get more popular every year we topped 100+ guests who came to enjoy connecting with friends new and old. Big appreciation to Mike and Colleen for your generous hospitality – and for having such great cooks and servers in your kids and grandkids.

- **Climbing camps across the border**

Two renowned climbing destinations in the States – Leavenworth WA, and City of Rocks ID, saw happy visits from our island rock hounds in June. Thanks to Alois Schonenberg who organised both trips “of sunshine and granite”. I think the photos say it all.

*Sunset summit of Cruel Shoes, City of Rocks
Photo Evan Devault*



*Bernard climbing
Apple Fritters,
Leavenworth.
Photo Evan Devault.*



*Evan climbing
Later Day Saints on Building
Blocks, City of Rocks.
Photo Madeleine MacDougal.*



- **Closer to home**, Walter Moar has done a fine job keeping the climbers on their toes with regular evening meets at Fleming Beach. Watch the [Schedule](#) and FB for details.

- **Summer camp Dugong Peak**

This, the ninth year of our tented summer camps, set the bar high for several reasons. A record 65 members attended spread over 4 weeks, including 10 youth on our first ever 'Family Week'. This group scored the bragging rights of having the most summiteers, ice climbers and multi-pitch climbers of all groups. And they were the only group who summited Dugong Peak itself – impressive stuff! The camp, sited in a flower-strewn basin between an accessible glacier and a swimming lake, was a stunning location for staging the many adventures and explorations. All that was missing were the bugs. The whole operation ran so smoothly - 'volcanic landslide' road closures and smoke delays notwithstanding - thanks to the efficient work of Liz Williams and Jeff Beddoes, our summer camp committee. Sincere thanks to them both, and also to Cedric Zala who once more generously loaned us his trailer.



*Photo
Matthias Hoefle*



*Photo
Zoë Minnaard*



*Photo
Doug Scratcherd*

- **A family tri - umph**

Without stealing their thunder, here's a quick preview of an upcoming slide show in January. Congratulations to Clarke Gourlay and sons John and Kevin for their successful climb of Denali in June.



Clarke Gourlay, and his sons John and Kevin on the summit of Denali 6190 m. 1 June 2018.

- **Mission complete**

Isobel Glover set out to walk the length of the island from Victoria to Cape Scott. And that she did, completing the 877 km trip in two months. Isobel's route was effectively the Vancouver Island Spine Trail, which means she experienced everything from well-developed track to arduous bushwhack and challenging navigation. Isobel's adventure will certainly contribute to the work of [VISTA \(Vancouver Island Spine Trail Association\)](https://www.vista-trail.org/) as they continue to find ways to develop the through-route.

Her successful trek also got the attention of local media:

<https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/jack-knox-intrepid-soul-shows-how-to-step-up-to-nature-1.23412939>

Congratulations Isobel!

Isobel's expedition was one of four projects that we were able to support this year from our Memorial Fund – see Geoff Bennett's report on page 20.

Peak 5040 hut update

Construction work on the hut started up again in early summer. Thanks to the generosity of skilled volunteers, there is now a functioning kitchen, sleeping quarters and outhouse – it's looking good!

There is still lots to be done, so if you are able to offer to help for a full weekend, please contact huts@accvi.ca and sign up for where/how you can contribute. Check out the [ACC-VI schedule](#) for more info on volunteering.

The final push for the hut construction will culminate in the official Hut Opening, scheduled for 20 October 2018. This will be a landmark occasion for the section as we celebrate our new hut and the many people who have made it happen. Please see the separate notice about this (pg 12), and plan to be there. This will only happen once!



Loo with a view. Chris Ruttan working on the new outhouse. It had a roof by the end of the weekend.

Photo Catrin Brown

The North Face Leadership course - apply now!

As you will gather from the report on pages 14-16, Natasha Salway and Jes Scott had a wonderful time on the North Face Leadership course this summer. Sounds appealing? Well, if you are already involved in leading some trips for our section and would like to develop your winter leadership skills, now is the time to consider applying for the winter course which will run from 8 – 16 February 2019. Information and application form can be found here: <https://form.jotform.com/2702135922>. The application deadline is October 15th. More information online at the [Alpine Club of Canada](#).

Summit registers

Signing a summit register and combing through the notes of previous summiteers is somewhat of a rite of passage that we enjoy on each peak. It has particular significance on some of the Island peaks which see so few ascents each year. So we are keen to keep that tradition going, and have noted several reports that summit registers are full or missing. Martin Hofmann has agreed to be the new 'summit register keeper' and is able to supply the books and waterproof tubes to anyone who can place them on a summit. Please contact Martin mhofmannskis@gmail.com to collect the goods, before heading out to an Island peak. These books are an interesting part of the history of each peak, and should be left in place even when full. We want to thank Peter Rothermel for the work he did supplying these registers over many years.

50 years and counting

Congratulations to Mike Hubbard who was presented at the barbecue with a plaque to mark 50 years of ACC membership. Mike shared tales of his early exploits with the club, including a harrowing tale of mishap on Mt Garibaldi in 1964. As he said “my first trip was nearly my last”. We’re glad it wasn’t Mike! We appreciate all that you continue to do as mentor, companion, leader, volunteer and friend.

*Mike Hubbard on the summit of
Mt Oluk July 2018.*

Photo Catrin Brown



Island climbing Award recipients

- Congratulations to Clarke Gourlay and Roxanne Stedman, who completed their final ‘IQ peak’ with an ascent of Mt Colonel Foster in August. They were both presented with their “Rick Eppler Island Qualifiers Awards” at the barbecue.



*Clarke Gourlay,
Roxanne Stedman,
Robert Ramsay
summit of Mt Colonel Foster
August 2018*

Photo Clarke Gourlay

- Congratulations also to Tak Ogasawara who has completed all 53 Island summits over 6000' and was presented with the "Charles Turner Vancouver Island 6000' ers Award". Tak is only the third recipient of this award, a true hall of fame of Island mountaineering.

Member news

Sandy Briggs sends the following update from 'back east' :

"I have returned to my home province after a nearly 43 year absence and am slowly renewing and expanding my familiarity with my old stomping grounds.

Since that long ago time new and unimagined resources have become available: A Hiking Guide to NB (4th edition!), an ice climbing guide, a rock climbing guide, a waterfall guide, and numerous associated web sites with a mixture of too much and not enough information. I have never been to either of the National Parks here, so there is much to see and do. And friends have described great hiking in the Cape Breton Highlands too. I am not yet connected to any outdoor community here as I am on Vancouver Island, but I guess that will come in time. It has been more of a focus on family so far. More and more it feels like a whole new phase of life, and one that I am still getting used to. I have rooms for guests, as well as access to several canoes and kayaks. Give me a 'heads up' to ensure I'll be here, and come visit. The swimming is great in summer. In winter I can ski out my door."

We were sorry to hear that Mela Brown was struck by a van while riding her bike in early June. She had surgery for a broken hip, and spent the summer recovering at home. She is now walking without crutches and hopes to return to the woods as soon as she can. All the best for a fast and full recovery Mela – we look forward to having you back in action.

Dates for your diary 2018

- Our Swan Lake slideshow evenings will resume on Thursday 13 September and will take place on the second Thursday of each month (except for December because of our Christmas party). Please see the schedule for updates and details.
- 5040 Peak hut official opening: Saturday 20 October
- Slide show/lecture tour Doug Scott and Rob Wood at UVic: Monday 22 October
- ACC-VI annual photo contest: Thursday 25 October at Swan Lake Nature Centre
- Victoria screening of the Banff Mountain Film Festival: Sunday 25 November at UVic
- Victoria Christmas party: Friday 14 December
Up-Island Christmas party: Saturday 24 November
- AGM weekend in Mt Washington 1 – 3 February 2019

Executive events

The most recent meeting of the ACC-VI executive was held on Monday 27 August 2018. The minutes will be posted on our website shortly.

Wishing you all happy falls days in the season of 'mellow fruitfulness'. Let it rain.

See you back here on 1 December 2018.



**Happy trails
Catrin Brown**

Catrin@shaw.ca | chair@accvi.ca

The 5040 Hut Grand Opening - Saturday, Oct 20, 2018: You are Invited!!



It's official -- Opening Day will be Saturday, Oct 20, 2018 and you are invited to come up and join in the celebrations!!

The Day

October is late in the year, and if there has been significant snow in the prior week, or rain is forecast for the Saturday, the event will be postponed until the following spring.

The Weekend

Getting to the trailhead is a long drive from either Campbell River or Victoria - 5 hours. Most people will spend Friday night either in Port Alberni or camped at Sproat Lake Provincial Park, or at the trailhead (not very comfortable).

Plan to start up the Cobalt Lake trail around 9:00 AM, to arrive at the hut 11:00 - noon. The official opening is scheduled for about 1:00. Celebrations until 3:00. If you are planning to overnight up there, it is best to bring a tent so as to not over-fill the hut. Most people will probably descend in the afternoon (3:30 - 5:30) with official dusk at 6:50 PM.

Finding the trailhead

Highway 4 runs from Port Alberni over Sutton Pass to Tofino & Ucluelet. Sutton Pass is the highest point (230m) and is 40km west of Port Alberni. At the pass there's a large paved pull-off with washrooms on the right (out of sight from the road). From the pull-off, drive 10.5km west on the highway and look for an unmarked forest road on the left (south) side. This is Marion Main.

We have been advised that Marion Main will be upgraded before October 20. It is currently 4WD. We hope it will be much better on the day. However, parking at the trailhead is severely limited. We are encouraging car-pooling and ride-sharing.

The trail

The Cobalt Lake trail is the easier trail. The trail is easy, safe but continuously steep for at least two hours to the lake. Just before the lake you leave the forest and enter alpine terrain, and will see the hut on a ridge above - another 30 - 60 minutes to go!

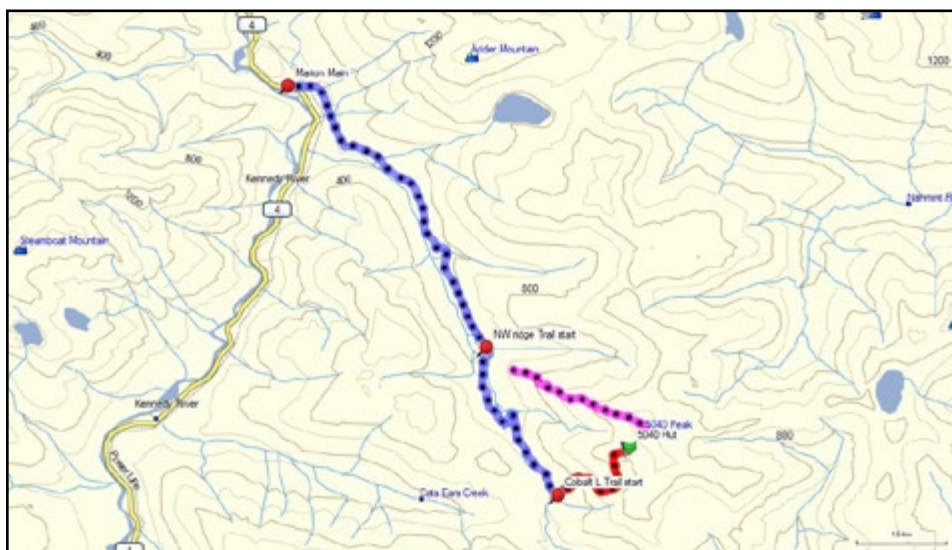
Gear

Bring adequate gear for a big mountain, and lunch. If you're planning on overnighiting, expect to use the kitchen and biffy, but beds will be unavailable - bring a tent, foamy & sleeping bag. You'll get more sleep outside anyway! There's plenty of flat tenting space.

Water

Don't bring lots of water. There's water at Cobalt Lake, and by October the tarn above the hut should be full again.

Let us know you are coming - RSVP instructions online at [The 5040 Hut](#) Grand Opening event.



Marion Main to trailhead

*Cobalt Lake trail to the 5040 Hut -
the recommended route*



North Face Leadership at the ACC's General Mountaineering Camp

Story and photos by Natasha Salway

[Click to see more TNF photos from Natasha](#)

This August, I was lucky enough to be chosen to represent the ACC-VI section at The North Face Summer Leadership Course, along with Jes Scott. TNF course is held during the ACC's summer General Mountaineering Camp and this year it was located in the stunning Northern Monashee mountain range. I have attended the GMC three times prior to this year. My first camp was in 2014 and it was my first real introduction to the ACC community. It is always such an amazing atmosphere for climbing and learning.

This year ten ACC leaders from all over Canada flew into the camp to work closely with three extremely knowledgeable and supportive instructors. We had the pleasure of working with ACMG guides Cyril Shokoples and Matt Reynolds, as well as experienced amateur leader Nick Buda. We spent time going back to the basics on a number of the technical skills such as navigating and short roping on moderate ice and snow, crevasse rescue systems, anchors in snow, ice and rock, gear placements and rock rescue. I really appreciated the clear, easy to follow methods of teaching that Cyril, Matt and Nick were able to present to us. We also had a number of classroom days where we were able to discuss the various styles of leadership, trip planning and safety.



TNF Summer Leadership course 2018.

*Back row L to R. Carly Geary, Cyril Shokoples, Nick Buda, Sean Prockter, Matt Reynolds, Larry Forsyth, Clifford Shepherd, Henry Czenczek, George Ormerod.
Front row L to R. Natasha Salway, Linda Berube, Jackie Pearce, Jes Scott.*

Once our solid foundations for these technical skills were established, we had two opportunities to put our skills into a practical setting. Our first mountain objective we undertook as a whole group was “Cardhu”. We had a great variety of terrains to work with on this day including a rock step, traveling on bare glacier, roped glacier travel, short roping on snow and general route finding through the rocky terrain. Our instructors were great at giving each of us a chance to lead the whole group so we could be out front to practice. I felt like I was given the space to see and learn on my own, but they were always there to provide support and guidance when I needed it.



Matt Reynolds demonstrating a padded lip as he works to rescue Cyril Shokoples from a crevasse.

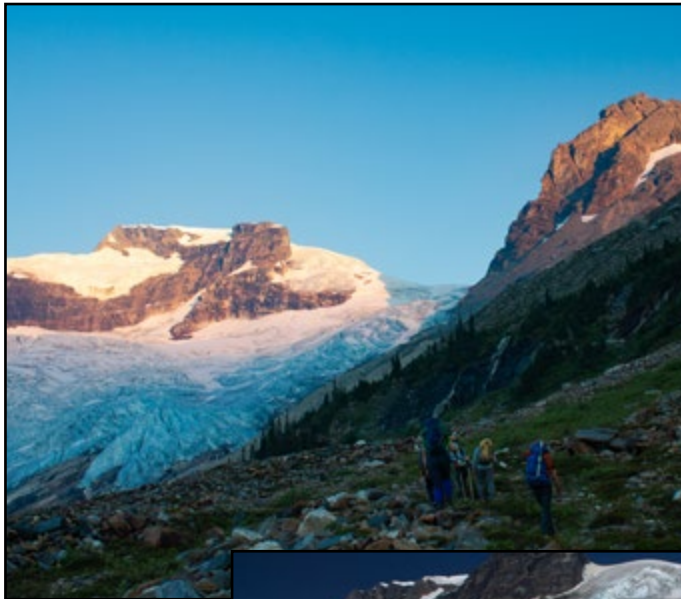


Cyril Shokoples showing us a pulley system for raising an injured climber up to you.



Practising snow anchors.

The highlight for my personal journey with TNF was our second climbing day when our group got to tackle the “Riddle” glacier. As the name suggests, this was a formidable challenge for navigation through winding snow and ice bridges. The glacier itself was terrifying and magnificent in its formations. I was very pleased that we got the chance, as new leaders, to lead Matt and Nick through this maze of ice.



Views of the "Riddle" glacier - a southeastern tongue of the Hallam glacier

I was lucky enough to lead the descent down the glacier and practice navigating the bridges, probing for stability and safety, setting protective snow and ice anchors, all while keeping my awareness for everyone following in my footsteps. I truly appreciated the calm support and trust from Matt as I led the group down.

For me, the greatest thing I have taken away from this course is more self-confidence as a leader. I am inspired to keep learning and working on myself and my technical skillset. I look forward to continuing to lead for the ACC and our section, and I hope that I will inspire others to take on a leadership role. I am truly grateful to The North Face for continuing to provide support for this course, as well as our club at National level and the ACC-VI for their help in subsidizing the costs of attending. This course is extremely valuable to our dedicated leaders who are looking to gain more experience and skills in a leadership role. Lastly, a huge thank you to Cyril, Matt and Nick for all of the years developing and refining this course. It was a true pleasure to work with and learn from them.



*Cardhu views.
Left: Below the
summit.
Right: On the
summit.
Bottom: Working
our way back.*

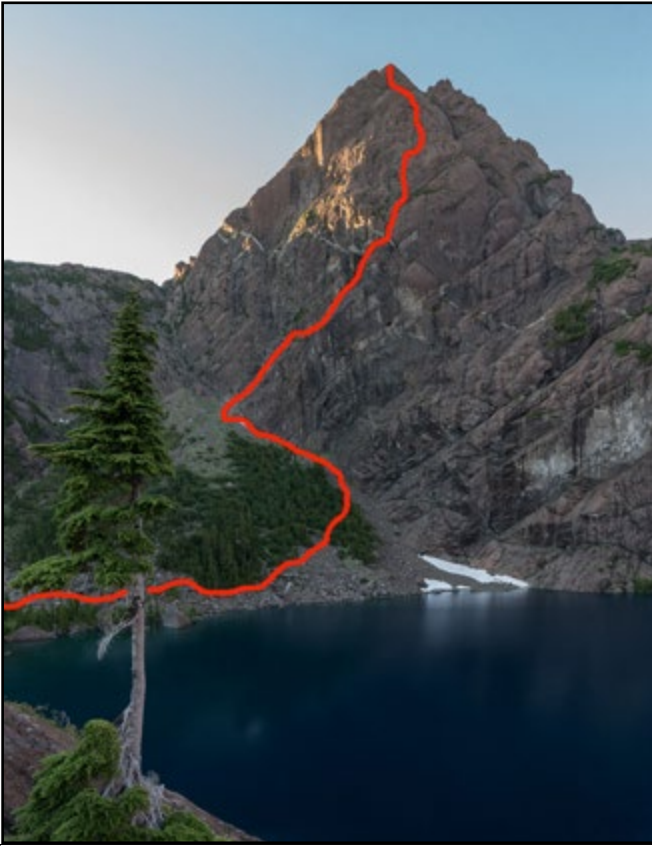


Trip report: Mt. Grattan - South Face Route

Party: Hunter Lee and Ryan Van Horne

Photos and story by Hunter Lee

July 16-18, 2018



Mt. Grattan and its south face as seen from a bluff just above the outflow of Peter lake

It's fortunate that the highs we experience in the mountains far outweigh the struggles or any low that it takes to stand atop their lofty summits. Every now and then, however, a trip reminds us that sometimes the struggle is real and not to be forgotten about. The approach Ryan and I had to gaze upon the South Face of Mt. Grattan was one of those intense experiences, something that'll be stored in the long term memory banks. Looking back on past experiences I can say it is once again fortunate that these epic experiences are few and far between; if you go out and play in the mountains enough it's gonna happen. Those experiences that force us out of our comfort zone are often the good life lessons we appreciate years down the road, though we may not be so stoked on experiencing them at the time they occurred!

Not fully grasping the intensity of the new heat wave blanketing the Island Ryan and I drew Mt. Grattan out of the "to climb list" and set off to climb its unclimbed (and imposing) South Face. Having only climbed once in the summer we were stoked to get out into the Island alpine. The options for approach are few; both involve bushwhacking and some effort. The Perry Main line which leads to Peter Lake sound-

ed like the sensible option as it would deposit us at a beautiful camp looking up at the face. I had been down the valley with Chris Jensen a couple years prior so navigation wasn't going to be an issue. Having forgotten how epic the bushwhack was I opted to wear shorts, as the temps that day were scorching; Gold River was forecasted to be 30 plus degrees. The approach to Peter Lake in mild temps is acceptable, in a heat wave the approach dips into epic territory.

A few hours in and slogging our way up dense old growth near the end of the valley we were honestly questioning whether we'd be able to climb at all the following day. Feeling completely noodled our pace slowed drastically; after 15 minutes moving in the sun, on multiple occasions we immediately dumped our packs and hid in whatever shade we could find. Eventually we found the oasis that is the outflow of Alava Lake, drank several litres of water, and feeling somewhat better about the situation crossed the outflow and headed towards Peter Lake.

Upon seeing Grattan's dramatic south face we were questioning whether we should climb it at all and started looking for easier options on Mt. Alava's north face. If the heat we were experiencing on the approach was repeated the following day we knew we'd need to be finished early or on an easy route. Under normal conditions there would have been no hesitating about climbing the face, but this day wasn't any usual day in the backcountry. Still feeling trepidation about what we should do the following day we ar-

rived at Peter Lake and were greeted with cooler temps, thankfully. Only after a good look at the face and the realization that we would be able to scramble a significant chunk of it did we commit to climbing it. With genuine fears of heat exhaustion in our minds we set our alarms for an early departure.



Here's Ryan Van Horne toping out of pitch 3 with the Thupana range behind him - Mt. Bate (left), Mt. Alava (centre), and Malaspina Peak (distance on right).

found himself climbing through another 5.9 sequence on the 4th pitch. We climbed another two pitches with difficulties of 5.7 and 5.8 and to fuel worries about heat found ourselves in the open and exposed to the sun. With concerns about sun exposure influencing our path we veered left and climbed a classic Island chimney connecting us to the upper mountain.

Once out of the gully we were stoked to see a large corner system with another chimney that looked like grade "A" fun. With it being my lead I set off and quickly found that the body squeeze chimney was loaded with bomber jugs. Above the chimney and back on the face the climbing steepened up. With the previous day's approach and the heat of the day now fully influencing me I backed off a sequence that had a 5.10 feel to it. Earlier in the day I would have pulled the roof but not on pitch 9 this day.

Fortunately a 5.8 sequence up an exposed buttress allowed me to continue upwards and not hand the rack off early. With our anchor at a large ledge we quickly de-rope, hid in the shade and had lunch. After charging up in the shade Ryan set off and quickly dealt with the finishing pitch of the route. Ten pitches of climbing below and now fully exposed to the sun and mid-day heat we quickly dropped the ropes and gear and soloed up to the summit.

After taking some photos and signing in the seldom signed book we set up shop and rested for 90 minutes in a

After a rather disruptive sleep (as the bugs won the battle on night one) we set off before sunrise. The first third of the route was an easy scramble - once the terrain steepened, the rope came out. After leading an easy pitch I handed the rack to Ryan who lead off towards the white dyke that slices across Grattan's face. With some 5.8 moves below us our confidence seemed to increase, the temperature was still acceptable as our position on the western side of the face had us shaded from the powerful sun. Just past the belay we had a tricky 5.9 move atop the dyke; once above that sequence the 3rd pitch eased off and I quickly found myself out 40 metres dealing with ridiculous rope drag and anchored off earlier than usual.

Now dealing with the business section of the route the angle steepened and Ryan quickly



*Ryan Van Horne eyeing up the climbing above, with Peter lake below.
High up on pitch 7*

cool gully just down from the summit. Not worried about time and liking the cooler temps high on the mountain we found a couple of nice heather beds deep within the shaded gully and slept for an hour. Eventually the day wore on and we mustered up some motivation to head on down. The descent down the west ridge was straight forward and a few hours after leaving the comforts of the upper mountain we were back at our camp on the shore of Peter Lake.

This may be the first Summer trip that dipped too far into the minimalist camp for me. We opted to not bring a tent or bivy sacks and simply had an open air sleep with our sleeping bags on our mats and bug nets draped over us. The small weight savings didn't make much of a difference on my back, but the closeness of 30 bugs buzzing for hours attempting to be Dracula on my shoulder did make a huge difference in sleep quality and quantity! The second night at the lake was much more comfortable for both of us, the bugs did not win this night! I rigged up the mesh net Ryan lent me by creating a horseshoe of rocks around my upper body and securing the net over the rocks. Ryan got some entertainment out of my rock creation, but it worked!

With a decent night's sleep we packed up and headed back down the valley- this time I opted to wear my climbing pants as the approach had left my lower legs looking as though Freddy Krueger had attempted to cut me up. Lesson number 2 of the trip, when entering one of the Island's top bushwhacks -- always wear pants! The Tlupana range is definitely a gem of Vancouver Island, hopefully this trip and others will encourage more people to explore the range. I know Ryan I and have a couple more climbs on the never ending list spurred by what we saw on this trip!

Mt. Grattan South Face: 10 Pitch, 5.9, D+, III, 500 Meters

P1- 5.5 45 Metres (Pull on tree branches to start)

P2- 5.8 50 Metres (Angle towards Dyke)

P3- 5.9 40 Metres (Climb the White Dyke)

P4- 5.9 55 Metres (Straight Up)

P5- 5.7 50 Metres

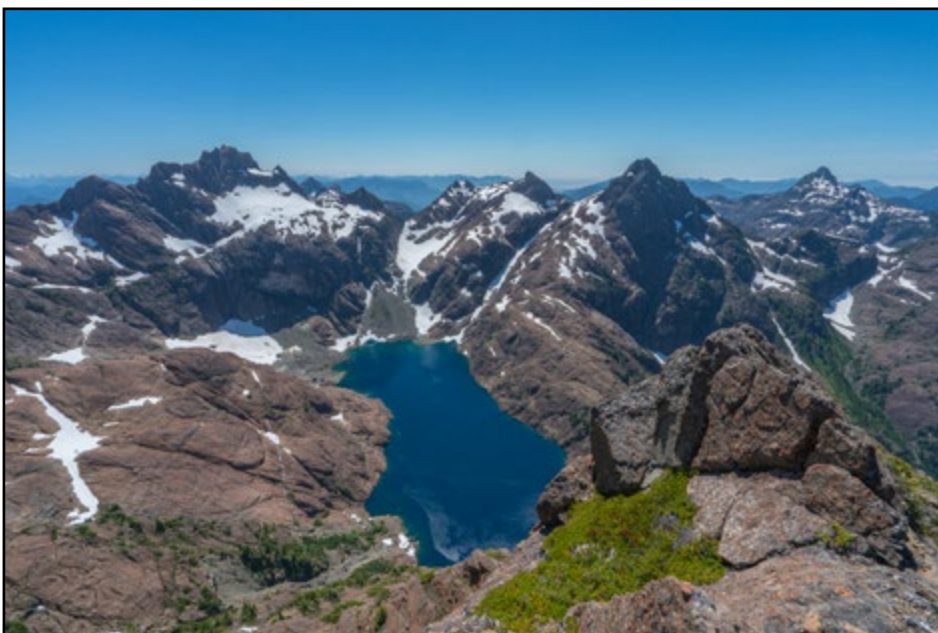
P6- 5.8 45 Metres

P7- 5.5 60 Metres (Long Gully)

P8- 5.6 40 Metres (Out of Gully, Anchor at Chimney Start)

P9- 5.8 45 Metres (Chimney Squeeze, left onto face)

P10- 5.7 40 Metres (Flat Bench, scramble to summit after)



*The Tlupana range as seen from
Mt. Grattan's summit.*

2018 Memorial Fund Youth Grants

Four Successful Expeditions

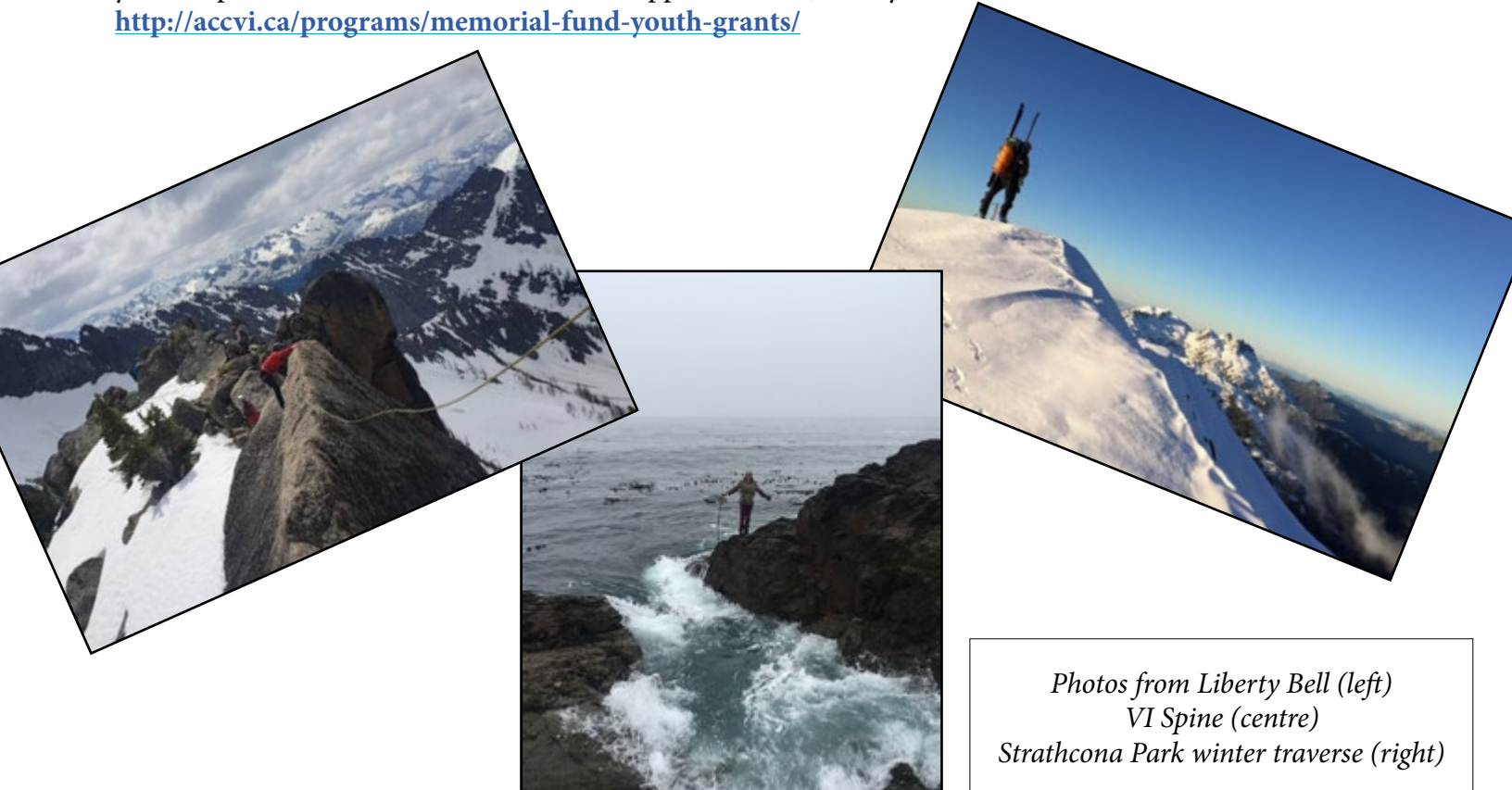
By Geoff Bennett

We were delighted to announce last February that the ACC-VI Section would be supporting four expeditions for youth in 2018. The club executive agreed to double the budget to \$2,000 so that each of these worthwhile trips would receive a decent level of funding. With Isobel Glover's recent transit of Vancouver Island, we can now announce that all four expeditions were safe and successful. Bushwhacker articles and slide shows are in the works.

- **Strathcona Park winter traverse (Evan Devault and Stefan Gessinger)**
Completed in early February, including the first winter ascents of Tom Taylor and Mariner.
- **Ski Tour of Liberty Bell, Washington (Derek Sou and ACC-VI youth members)**
Completed in May. They even made it to the top of the South Early Winter Spire.
- **Peak-bagging and camping in the UK (Andy Chapman-Coombs and the Nanaimo Scouts)**
Completed in July, including climbs of Snowdon, Ben Nevis and other notable peaks.
- **Hike of the entire Vancouver Island Spine Trail from Victoria to Cape Scott (Isobel Glover)**
Completed the two-month 900 km trek on August 23rd, becoming the first person known to have hiked the entire VI Spine Trail.

Congratulations to all the applicants and participants!. We look forward to welcoming and supporting more youth expeditions in 2019. The deadline for applications is January 31st, 2019:

<http://accvi.ca/programs/memorial-fund-youth-grants/>



*Photos from Liberty Bell (left)
VI Spine (centre)
Strathcona Park winter traverse (right)*

Camp Dugong Family Week: Aug 5 - 12, 2018

From [Stefan Gessinger's post on the ACC-VI Facebook Page](#)

(you don't have to be a Facebook member to see Stefan's post - more photos online)



*Group on the glacier
Photo by Sandy Stewart*

The family week was a huge success and its location was perfect for us with the large variety of terrain and the recreational features of the lake and river. On behalf of the Youth Group I would like to thank the ACC-VI for its support in making the family week happen.

To paraphrase our youngest participant (Silas, 8) "I am so grateful to be here - it's like paradise. There is so much to do and it is so beautiful. And most people don't even know about this place."

More notes from a young participant:

"Getting a ride to base camp in the helicopter was really fun and the view was amazing. I saw a big river and lots of trees. We arrived at camp and went swimming. All the kids played tag and jumped off of rocks into glimmer lake beside camp. There was also lots of mud to play in and a cold river so Julia and I were jumping in the mud and numbing our feet in the cold water.

Aila, Evelyn and Sage were doing mud masks with the cold river mud. We crossed the cold river to go rock climbing on the other side where we found slabs to climb.

Part of our group hiked up to a small tarn. There were a lot of horseflies and Shanda was covered in them! The other part of our group went up to the snow and hiked down the glacier.

Almost everybody summited that week, those who didn't did chores at camp. We were almost at the summit when I sat down and refused to keep going, but then Shanda pulled me up and I ended up being the first one on the summit. On the summit the views were amazing. Coming back down was fun you could jump over crevasses and look down into them. We found these ice cones covered in crystal pebbles and we called this area the Dragons Back.

Back at camp we sat in the group tent playing cards and listening to German heavy metal. For the last night all the kids slept in the big tent and had a sleep over and the next day the helicopter came and I sat in the front for the first time". (Sydney, 11)



*Cees Dirks rappelling
Dugong Peak at Family
Week*

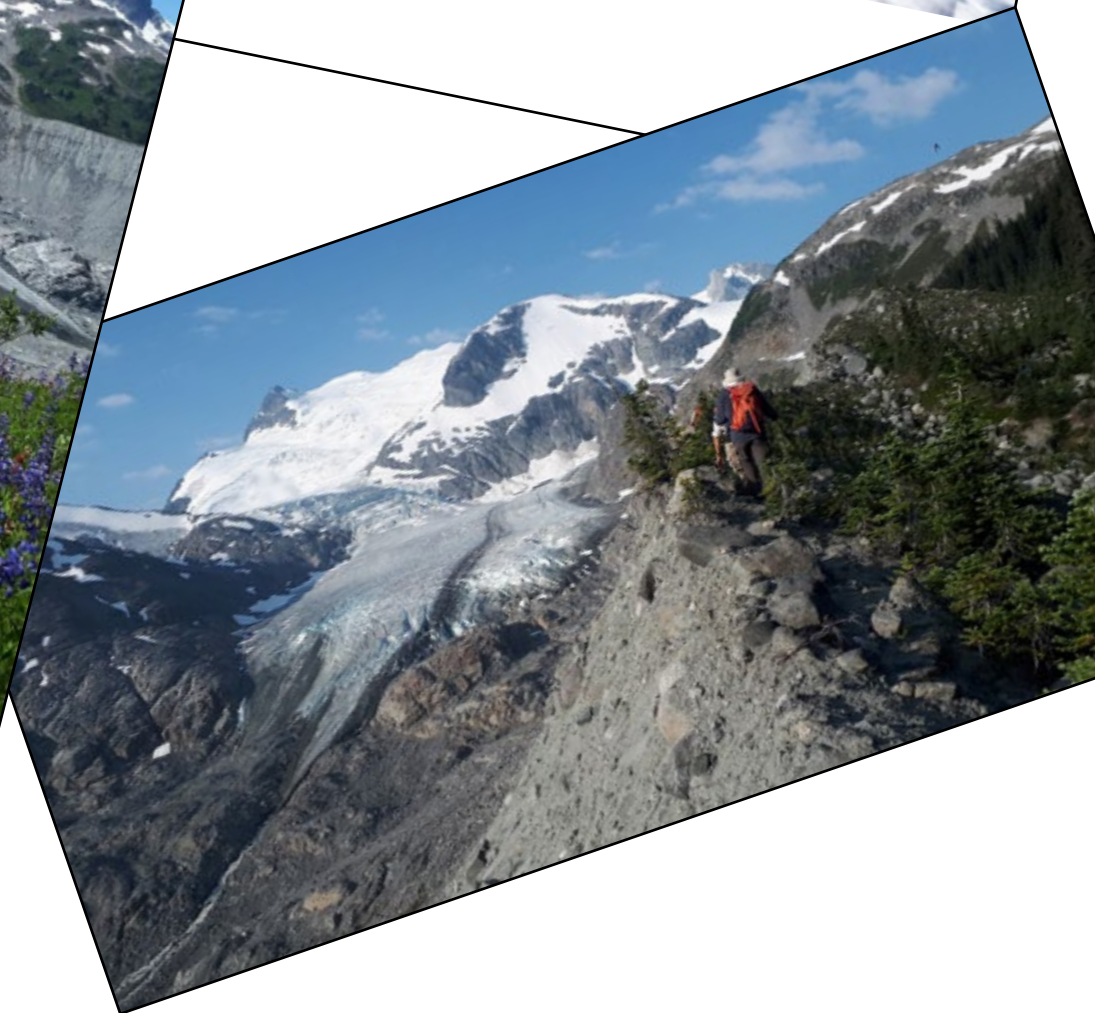
Photo by Laurits B.



*Family Week 2018 Group shot
Photo by Laurits B.*

**More images from the
ACC-VI Summer Camp**

Photos by Carol Doering



e-Trails: Mountain News and Stories

Search the Canadian Alpine Journal -- yes, all of it -- from 1907 until 2016!! Check out this amazing resource at <http://library.alpineclubofcanada.ca/>

ACC's Aspects - the ACC Blog - is featuring stories of adventure, community, and environment - check it out at blog.alpineclubofcanada.ca

The International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation (UIAA) has an article on [emergency field management of ACS \(Acute mountain sickness\), HAPE \(high altitude pulmonary edema\) and HACE \(high altitude cerebral edema\)](#). ACC-VI member Shaun Peck forwarded this site as an excellent overview of these common altitude-related diseases. Useful info for trekkers, hikers, and climbers.

Gear donations. Many thanks to the following members for gifts of gear to the ACC-VI stash: **Geoff Bennett:** 2 sets of crampons, 1 helmet, 1 ice axe, 1 pack. **Tak Ogasawara:** 1 ice axe.

Our own **Jes Scott** has an active blog that is always full of interesting content featuring outdoor adventures. A recent post is about her experiences at the [North Face Leadership Course](#).



Dusk comes over the ACC General Mountaineering Camp at the base of the southeast tongue of the Hallam Glacier. The welcome golden glow from the kitchen tent is matched by the pink glow in the west from the setting sun. Photo by Mary Sanseverino

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*North Face Leadership course at the ACC's General Mountaineering Camp - time to rise and shine!
Photo by Natasha Salway*



***From the Front Cover:
Week 1 of ACC-VI's Summer Camp at Dugong Glacier
Carol says " Many of the group climbed Olek Peak, the one with the snowy glacier most
of the way to the top, top centre of the photo".***

***Thank you to this month's contributors: Geoff Bennett, Catrin Brown, Carol Doering, Evan Devault, Christine Fordham, Chris George, Stefan Gessinger, Clarke Gourlay, Isobel Glover, Matthias Hoefle, Mike Hubbard, Rick Hudson, Hunter Lee, Madeleine MacDougall, Zoë Minnaard, Shaun Peck, Natasha Salway, Doug Scratcherd, Jes Scott, and Sandy Stewart. Special thanks to Silas, Sydney, and Laurits from the Family Week at Camp Dugong.
Well done everyone!***

