

THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA  
VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION



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Chairman	Gil Parker	3869132	Victoria Dist. Rep.
Past Chairman	John Gibson	7432867	
Secretary	Doug Wylie	3833253	
Membership/Treasurer	Dave Tansley	3828574	
Editor	Cynthia Tansley	3828574	
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	Roger Neave	7546707	Nanaimo, North, Rep.
	Sharon Harshaw	5926394	

VOL. 3 NO. 1

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 1975

Annual Dinner

Date: 14th March 1975, a Friday.

Time: 6:30 social hour, 7:30 for supper.

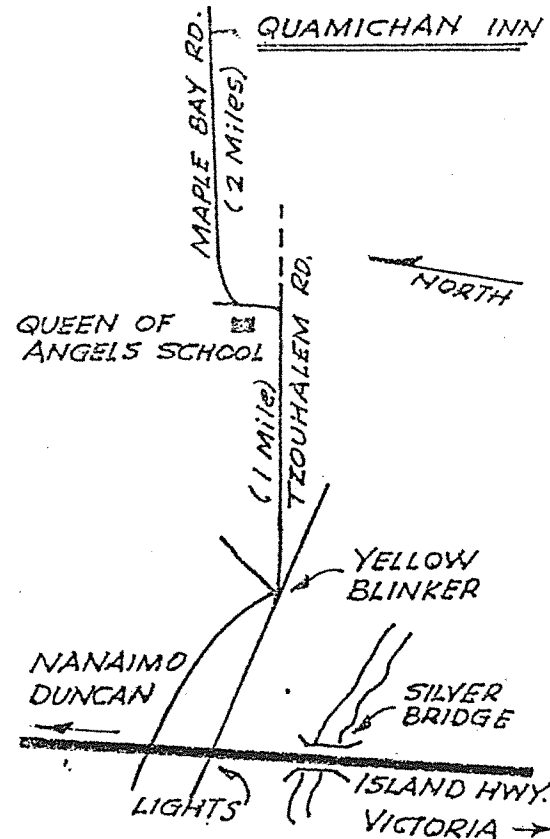
Place: The Quamichan Inn, 1478 Maple Bay Road, Duncan.

For our Entertainment: Walter Latter will show his slides of his recent Nepal trek.

Cost: \$5.00 per head.

Notify: District Representatives as soon as possible.

How to we get there? (see map opposite) Coming from Victoria, cross the Silver Bridge and turn right at the first set of traffic lights in Duncan. Bear left at the next intersection (yellow blinker), and follow Tzouhalem Road to Queen of Angels School on left. Turn sharp left here, onto Maple Bay Road, then sharp right (still Maple Bay Road) and keep going until you see Quamichan Inn standing back from the road on the right. (About 2 miles from Queen of Angels) There are no prizes for getting lost, so if you have not visited the Inn before, please take map and directions with you! The food, we hear, is delicious, Walter's slides are great and our Western Vice President Dave Blair and his wife Joyce have been invited to join us, so please all come and make it another Vancouver Island Section success.



"Summits and Secrets"

Kurt Diemberger

Newcombe Auditorium, 8:00 pm, Friday, April 11th, 1975. Doors open 7:00 pm

Admission \$2.50

Students & O.A.P. \$2.00

The Section is organizing another evening of films and slides at the Newcombe Auditorium. This time our guest is to be Kurt Diemberger, mountaineer and author, whose programme is to be as follows:

Lecture illustrated with slides on the Great Faces of the Alps, Greenland, and the Karakoram.

Intermission

Film of the First Ascent of Tirich West IV and Dhaulagiri.

Again our objective is to fill the Auditorium so we hope you will attend and bring your friends. Anyone who can sell some tickets or help in any way, please contact Doug Wylie 383-3253 who is looking after ticket sales, publicity, etc.

### Annual Dues

Section Fees for 1975 are now due. These are \$4.00 for Section Members, and \$3.00 for Life Members.

Please note that if you are also a member of the main Club, Section Membership may be retained by paying your Club dues to the Section.

Dues should be mailed to the treasurer, Dave Tansley, 3919 Winton Street, Victoria, as soon as possible.

### New Members

The Section welcomes the following new members:

Greg Bull, 19-1465 Fort Street, Victoria.	595-1960
Gary Gratton, " " " "	" "
Bodo De Lange Boom, 1803 Fairhurst Ave., Victoria	656-4267
Michael R. Sampson, 911 Forshaw Rd., Victoria	383-3561
Jane Hardie, Cumberland, B. C. VOR 150	

### Newsletter Names

Suggestions for naming the Newsletter will be voted on at the Annual Dinner. The following are the suggestions so far received:

Crag 'n' Crevasse	West Coast Reflections
Pacific Peaks	Island Mountain Yodeller
Pacific View	No Comment (Editor)
Island Abseils	

### A. C. C. Board Meeting

As your member of the Advisory Committee, I attended the Vancouver Meeting of the Board of Directors of the A. C. C. on February 1st and 2nd. I was most impressed by the effort put forth on our behalf by the Club staff, the Board, and many other volunteers who attended and those who were represented only by their work.

The two days were jammed to the hilt by business meetings conducted by Stan Rosenbaum. Many routine matters were reviewed, such as the operation of the Club office in Banff, budgets for ski and climbing camps, publishing of the Gazette, Journal and guide books. Even these provided many questions of policy for discussion and decision, including the Club's publishing priorities. The camps for 1975 are more varied than ever before, and as you will note in the Brochure shortly to be mailed to A. C. C. members, the climbing camps range from the General Mountaineering Camp at Farnham Creek and the Wates Gibson hut through an Alpine Climbing Camp at Mt. Alberta, to a leadership week at the Canmore Clubhouse.

Much of the time was spent on the delicate question of the support for expeditions, and on the submission to the National Parks for the renewal of our leases. I now have this detailed and impressive submission on file for anyone's review. The general feeling of Board Members was that the Club may be able to get consideration for renewal on some of the huts at least.

Support was promised for several expeditions;

A traverse of Ellesmere Island on skis.

Canadian Karakoram Expedition.

Canadian Nepal Expedition. (Ama Dablam etc. as proposed by John Amatt, Banff Section Chairman)

Canadian and International Expedition to the South Face of Mt. Logan.

(Includes Dougal Haston, Kurt Diemberger, Chic Scott and Lloyd MacKay to date.)

Apart from the business meeting, dinner was held at the Station Restaurant on the Saturday night followed by a reception at the home of Joyce and Dave Blair.

In summary, I left the Board Meeting with a genuine feeling of being part of a significant mountaineering Club.

Gil Parker, Section Chairman

### Hut for Strathcona Park?

Late in 1974, our Section was advised that donated funds might be available to finance a hut for Vancouver Island. John Gibson, then Chairman, made enquiries regarding sites in the Schoen-Sutton area, and in Strathcona Park including Cream Lake at the south end of Buttle Lake.

Discussion about a hut has come up from year to year in our Section and the pro's and con's debated. It would appear that ski mountaineering or cross country skiing would give rise to the greatest use of a hut, when tent camping is uncomfortable for extended periods. At the same time, a cabin would be a base for summer climbing and hiking. Any site would have to be far enough to permit winter access.

The Executive felt that these requirements were fulfilled by a Cream Lake site, and accordingly the 1975 Executive pursued this site in negotiations with the Parks Branch. Mining claims blanket the area, but it was felt that the focus of recreation activity which a cabin would bring would help balance the mining value of the area and perhaps swing the ultimate land use to wilderness recreation.

After several meetings, the Parks Branch agreed to the hut and specified dismantlable, panel construction in case any need to move it developed. Moreover, they agreed to pay for helicopter movement of materials to the site, a substantial part of the project cost. In the same week we received the sad news that the donated funds were not available. Since this occurred the week before the Board Meeting in Vancouver, I submitted the problem to the Board. While no design or cost had been worked out, the reception by the Board was enthusiastic and I was requested to make a proposal including all facets. While it was not possible for the Board to grant an Approval in Principle, I feel that they would consider a contribution from the Hut Fund. This will depend upon our projected budget and our assessment of the environmental factors and expected uses. While these ideas will require exploration in depth, the considerations now appear as follows:

#### Disadvantages:

1. Possible concentration of people causing environmental damage.
2. Ownership by Parks Branch and control of use by them. (it is probable that we would make a trip in the fall to ready the hut for winter use)
3. The labour involved in constructing the hut.

#### Advantages:

1. Use by Club members and others especially for winter activities.
2. Establish the "recreational use claim" on this beautiful and remote area, midway between Buttle Lake and the Drinkwater Valley (Della Falls and Great Central Lake)

Considering all of these factors, I feel that we should proceed with the planning and a proposal to the Board. A site reconnaissance, planning to the proposal, and the actual construction of the hut will require a lot of work. If you have any opinions whether or not we should take this on, (and are willing to back up a yes vote with a lot of work), we want to hear from you at the Annual Dinner Meeting.

Gil Parker, Section Chairman

### Conference on Recreational Uses of Wildland

A series of regional conferences on the recreational uses of wildland is being sponsored by the Federation of Mountain Clubs of B. C. in cooperation with B.C.I.T. Industry Services and the B. C. Sports Federation to enable the public to have more say in the planning of future uses of B. C.'s wildland. The conference for the Victoria area was originally to be held March 1st but owing to the C.U.P.E. strike it has been put back to March 22nd; location is Camosun College. Conference coordinator is Alan Carter, phone 942-0830 (Vancouver).

### Vancouver Island Section Trips 1975

March	15th - 16th	Mt. Moriarty	Overnight ski mountaineering trip.
April	5th - 6th	Forbidden Plateau	Two days downhill or cross country skiing.
April	26th - 27th	Mt. Garibaldi	Overnight ski mountaineering via Brohm Ridge.
May	4th	Whymper	Day trip.
May	17th - 19th	unnamed peak	6000' peak north of Ink Lake, from Ralph River campsite by the ridge above Delight Lake.
June	14th - 15th	McBride	By south-east face, take boat down Buttle Lake to mouth of Wolf River. Backpack to 4000' and camp at alpine level.
June	28th -	Victoria Peak area	Possibly unnamed and unclimbed peak in the Sutton range.
July	1st		
July	19th - 20th	Shepherd Creek Ridge.	
August	2nd - 4th	Mt. Mitchell and Augerpoint	Up Jack Shark's trail, camp on alpine meadow above Buttle Lake.
August	2nd - 4th	Mt. Olympus	44 miles of hiking. Glacier travel.
August	10th - 16th	Rugged or Nimpkish Valley	Lots to keep you happy for a week. Rugged if the weather is good, but if bad on the west coast, we try something on the eastside of Nimpkish Valley.
August	30th -	Malaspina	Interesting looking glaciated peak between Gold River and Tahsis. We have not been there before so do not know what is in store!
	Sept 1st		
Sept.	20th - 21st	Mt. Myra	
Oct.	11th - 13th	Comox Glacier	

### Climbing Courses

#### Basic Mountaineering

The Vancouver Island Section and the Victoria "Y" are collaborating in presenting a Basic Mountaineering Course in April-May 1975. Rock climbing and snow and ice techniques will be taught in theoretical and practical sessions. A climb of Arrow-smith and a visit to Baker are expected to be part of the practical content. Registration will be with the "Y" in Victoria.

#### Rock and Snow Climbing

Anyone interested in a rock and snow climbing course with Mountain Crafts during the last week in June, contact Walter Latter, 746-7284 or R.R. #2, Duncan, B. C.

## Trip Reports

Mt. Myra October 12th-14th 1974

Despite the weatherman's warning for an end to our three month's of sunshine, the storm went to the south and eight of us enjoyed a perfect weekend in Strathcona Park under cloudless skies. Five members from Duncan camped at Ralph River on Saturday at noon and spent the afternoon canoeing at Buttle Lake. After supper, three joined us from Courtenay. We were up by dawn's first light to be away by seven-thirty, however it was eight-thirty by the time we left Western Mines power house at the point where Tenant Creek and Myra join.

The route up the cat track along the power generator water line was steep but got us up to the lake without going through the north slope bush. We stopped by the lake, elevation 3400', for a bite to eat and to enjoy the quiet of the beautiful autumn morning. From here the route followed an alpine ridge on the east side of the lake going to the left at the one steep spot up a fault. Above this point the route followed the <sup>ridge</sup> south-east past the outlet of the little lake and on to the main west ridge. Fall colours, reds, golds, and browns were at their best and we enjoyed a long lunch break, soaking up sunshine and admiring the views one has from here of the glaciers on Big Interior, Tom Taylor and Mariner. A short hike after lunch soon put us on top of Myra with its fine views of park peaks and Buttle Lake. As it was getting late we only stayed about thirty minutes and then headed down making good time, and arriving back at the cars just before dark. (This is a good mountain; for short days as it is easy to get to by car.) A pleasant evening by the campfire ended the day, three from Courtenay going home early. Monday was a do as you like day. Alan, Joan and Robert hiked a short way up the Marble Meadows Trail. Emily and I went over to see how the Elk trail was standing up and if many elk were using it. Parts of the trail are in good condition, but not the elk herd. Very little sign of them on the trail except one skeleton, a sad reminder of the damage done by logging and flooding the winter range area. Syd Watts.

Whistler Ski Weekend February 22nd-23rd 1975

Excellent turn out, thirteen, from the Island and good skiing on Saturday made a good ski weekend even though rain on Sunday forced most of the members to return home. The A.C.C. Cabin is now finished and decorated making it an excellent place to stay. With these very comfortable and inexpensive lodgings and kitchen facilities (members \$1.50, guests \$3.00 per night), Whistler has got to be the most desirable place to go for a ski weekend, especially when one considers the scope of the ski runs available at the resort. Mike Siska.

### Climbing Boots

A rare occurrence but it happened. A pair of Raichle boots purchase from Old Country Shoes in Victoria shrunk by about one size and could no longer be used. Old country Shoes, through the Raichle Factory replaced the boots at no cost. This confirms the excellent reputation of the Raichle Company and that they will stand behind their product. Thanks to Old Country Shoes and Raichle, my toe nail is now almost fully grown again. Mike Siska.

