



Stuffsack...

Surprise! A winter with snow is upon us, hopefully figuratively. There's been an avalanche injury already on the Island this year; a patroller at Mt Washington was swept into nasty trees. Recent studies show that mountaineers and backcountry skiers continue to get caught and that the avalanches are catching 'experienced' people the most. Unfortunately, it seems their experience is in the form of 'negative event feedback' ("We skied this slope last year, don't worry..."); a psychological concept which no doubt affects other safety attitudes in mountaineering. See Ray Smutek's article in SUMMIT (Nov-Dec.81; Box 1889 Big Bear L. CA 92315) on this. Meanwhile please study the Outdoor Recreation Council's pamphlet on 'Avalanches' and learn to use your own judgement while enjoying this, a 'real' winter! *W*

Section Notebook

by KAREL HARTMAN

At this time of year most of us are looking back and looking forward, while armchair mountaineering with our Christmas gifts.

November was an active club month with a successful showing of the award-winning films from the Banff Festival of Mountain Films, our annual general meeting with a fine presentation on the Brooks Peninsula by Richard Hebda, the publication of another Trips Issue of the Bushwhacker, and the assembly of the winter program. We also met with Ted Whalley, the A.C.C. president, December 6th in Victoria.

At the AGM on November 26 it was decided by a practically unanimous vote, that the section would like to carry on with the present executive for '82; to support the hiring of a coordinator by the Federation of Mountain Clubs of B.C. (see Vol. 9:5 p.2); and to raise section dues a little to offset increased postage and printing costs in 1982.

The financial report by Albert Hestler showed that we were healthy and the membership report

by Chris Schreiber indicated considerable growth. Greg Cousens was the only executive member who could not continue but we feel fortunate in having found Geoff Freer willing to take his place. Geoff is the senior avalanche specialist with the provincial government highways ministry.

Having looked back let us now look forward. Upcoming events are noted in this issue. For the executive, active, participative mountaineering by section members is presently a prime topic of our attention. It is my most sincere hope that we will get a regular training program going in spring, perhaps a series of weekend workshops with some designed for complete newcomers to climbing, and others as pre-season refreshers open to members with prior roped climbing experience. We have the impression that many members would come on more outings but hesitate due to inexperience or concern that they're not up to date on techniques. A series of workshops could focus on specific skills such as belaying or crevasse rescue systems.

Discussions with Ted Whalley also brought out that the main club Board is willing to study a hut proposal for the Island, as was approved in principle last spring, especially one which would not have so high a land cost as the Mt. Washington area. There have been suggestions from many of you to locate something at Buttle Lake, in Strathcona Park, which would be more central to various trails than the Mt. Washington site, and would be on a good paved road or nearby. What do you, as a section member, feel would be most useful to us, if any facility at all? Either way, I welcome your comments!

Just the other day I received a nice mountain scenery postcard with a saying by James Allen: "Follow your dreams, for as you dream so shall you become." With these wise words let me finish and wish all of you on behalf of the executive, a rewarding club year in 1982. *KH*

Prelude to Everest The Ascent of MUZTAGATA

CLIMBING AND SKIING IN THE WILD
WEST OF CHINA

A presentation by
STEPHEN BEZRUCHKA
*Physician for the Canadian Mount
Everest Expedition in 1982, with
photos by team members and
Patrick Morrow*

Muztagata at 24,757 feet lies at the extreme west of China. Join us on a training climb beginning at Peking and culminating in the highest ascent ever made on nordic skis!

The NEWCOMBE Thur. Jan. 26	
Alpine Club members	\$3
OAP, FOPM, Students	7:30
Children 12 & under:	\$1
	\$4

DUES NEWS

To support the work of the FMCBC we agreed at the AGM to an extra \$2 each for section dues for both affiliates and main club members. To cover 1982 postal rates and an expected 15% increase in printing costs, another \$2 was approved to bring the total to \$10. If you sent in \$6 since September 1st, please send along the extra \$4 to Chris now (3216 Aldridge St, Victoria V8P 4L4). The Banff office will be notifying main club members about section affiliation & handling all related fees. All sections across Canada are anticipated to have the same dues by 1982. Here's our new schedule: Junior Section Affiliates (age 21 and under): \$8
Section Affiliates: \$10. *Couple: \$16*
Main Club Affiliates: Fees to be sent to Banff on receipt of note.
Life Members: \$8.

Treasurer's Report for 1981:
To conserve printing costs we are not reproducing the report here. Please contact Albert Hestler if you wish to have a copy sent to you: 477-1373/Office:382-2141.

Directions for '82

A brief survey was circulated at our AGM Nov. 26th, to help the executive plan our efforts for '82. Here is a summary of the results:

1. Potential Objectives of the Section, ranked from 1st to least important: 1:Organizing trips on the Island and area, 2:Conducting free/low-cost training sessions, 3:Publishing information about climbing activity and opportunities, 4:Bringing in guest speakers/slides AND developing alpine access trails on Vancouver Island, 5:Supporting alpine environmental studies through main ACC, 6:Developing alpine shelters on Van. Is.

2. How many Sundays during summer & fall would you join a trailwork party? Total: 40 (this was rather inconsistent with the vote for developing trails—we seem to want the trails if someone else will build them; several hundred man-days would be necessary).

3. Guest speakers: members felt we should operate as follows: 39% at substantial profit to enable donations to main club funds, 33% at break-even [our current level] 22% at 20% profit (savings value) 6% at a loss if necessary.

4. Senior Membership Category: We included questions here due to a lot of member enquiries (and confusion in interpreting the present wording in constitution). "Do you think that a "Senior" member should possess certain basic climbing skills, and that his/her basic competence in these skills should be formally reviewed by a Section or main club committee of Seniors?" NO:6% YES:94% of which 50% thought this should apply to new applicants only.

"Do you think Senior membership should be available in three areas of interest: Rockclimbing, Alpine Climbing, Wilderness Skiing?" NO:12% YES:78%.

5. What areas of skill development should the Section organize?

1: Basic ropework/belays, AND general mtn. skills (camping etc). 2: Glacier travel/rescue, 3:Rock-climbing, 4: X-C Skiing, 5: Mtn. tour skiing (downhill).

Thanks to everyone for taking the time to return the questionnaire!

The Next Pitch...

JANUARY 9-10: Arrowsmith Snow-camp postponed. Call Jim Weston if you want to be notified of a new date: 387-5046.

JANUARY 13: Members are welcome to come to the executive meeting, 7:30 pm & discuss training ideas; call Karel for details.

JANUARY 17: Arrowsmith Ice Climbing workshop. Bob Milko will coordinate this opportunity to develop skill with your crampons and other ice tools. Give him a call at 477-7896.

JANUARY 24: Little Hooper Mtn; a ski up Shaw Creek near Cowichan Lake on easy logging roads. Alan Philip has details: 598-2553.

JANUARY 31: Heather Mtn, at the west end of Cowichan Lake. Come along for views of the Island's central, southern mtns. Rob MacDonald: 479-5787 (Ski trip).

FEBRUARY 6-7: Forbidden Plateau/Mt Washington visit; bring your favourite skis! Mike Sampson: 598-7741.

FEBRUARY 14: Cottonwood Creek area, skiing log. roads north of Cowichan L. Walt Latter:746-7284.

FEBRUARY 17: Executive meeting, place unknown! Call Karel Hartman.

FEBRUARY 21: Ski up easy roads on Butler Peak. Rick Eppler:595-6126.

Next Bushwhacker will be sent late February with details for the ACC classic BANQUET on March 26!

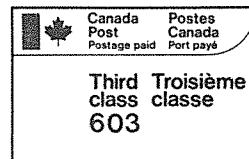


ISLAND BUSHWHACKER

THE ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA

Vancouver Island Section

9:6



402-710 Vancouver St, Victoria, BC V8V 4P9

SECTION EXECUTIVE 1981

Chairman: Karel Hartman, 479-7680/721-7194 bus.
Secretary: Mike Ounsted, 477-0015
Treasurer: Albert Hestler, 477-1373/382-2141 bus.
Publications: Jim Weston, 387-5046 day
Membership: Chris Schreiber, 592-9477*
Climbing: Rick Eppler, 595-6126/387-3339 bus.
Programs: Greg Foweraker, 592-7026
FMCBC Rep: Rob MacDonald, 479-5787/656-8409 bus.
Skiing: Geoff Freer: 383-6610
Member-at-Large: Gary Allen, 478-8004/388-8411 bus.

Local 672

*Please send 1982 dues (\$10) or enquiries to 3216 Aldridge St, Victoria, BC V8P 4L4

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