

Island Bushwhacker

Volume 46 | Issue 4 | June-August, 2018



Triple Peak in the last rays of the sun
Photo by Natasha Salway

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, June 14. The Geology of Vancouver Island. Join Melissa Dinsdale for a look at Vancouver Island's dynamic geologic history: volcanic eruptions, tectonic uplift, earthquakes, glacier erosion, submarine landslides -- and that's just the beginning! Bring along anyone interested in geology.

Contents

- 3 Upcoming Slideshows and Events
- 4 Upcoming Trips
- 6 Mountain Education
- 8 Executive Episodes: Catrin Brown
- 10 State of the Mountains Report
- 11 5040 Hut Fund Raising Thank You to Donors
- 13 The Kellerhals family
- 16 Trip Report: Mt. Arrowsmith Main Gully
- 17 National Club Report
- 18 Trip Report: Liberty Bell
- 19 The Island in My Backyard
- 20 ACC-VI Photo Competition: Van Isle
- 21 eTrails
- 22 Executive Listing
- 23 Photo Feature: From the Cover
- 23 Contributors

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, June 14, 2018. Melissa Dinsdale presents

[The Geology of Vancouver Island](#)

Vancouver Island's geologic setting comprises a dynamic history with volcanic eruptions, tectonic uplift, earthquakes, glacier erosion and submarine landslides. In addition, Vancouver Island has some of the densest karst networks in all of Canada! Come out and learn from Melissa about the geologic history that makes up our island. Melissa will also briefly discuss the types of rock you might expect to see on your adventures, so bring your favourite rock along and learn all about the interesting stories it can tell!

Do bring friends and family and anyone interested in Geology 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. Everyone is welcome!

ACC-VI summer barbecue: Thursday 30 August. The BBQ will be held at the home of Mike Hubbard and Colleen Kasting. Details will be sent nearer the time via membership email.



May 6th, 2018: North and east slopes of 5040 Peak. The image is taken from the ridge to the NNE.

Photo by Martin Hofmann.

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>
June 02, 2018	<p>Mt. Arrowsmith via the SnowNose (C4)</p> <p>We will be going up Mt. Arrowsmith via the Snownose. We will hike up to the Cokely\ Arrowsmith saddle and make our way up the Snownose to the summit, there is a small section of 4th/5th class scrambling (50 metres), this may require a belay. On the way down we may rappel approx 2 pitches. Max of 8 climbers.</p> <p>Contact: Tim Turay tim.turay@nanaimo.ca</p>
Jun 03 - 18, 2018	<p>Corsica –the GR 20</p> <p>Updated Details: Meet in Calvi, Corsica on June 8th; Trek to Bavella: June 10th-June 22nd Long rugged day hikes; luggage transfer; stay in ‘gites’ or refuges; some diversion to local hotels/culture. Maximum 6.</p> <p>Contact: Liz Williams at seahorse@pacificcoast.net</p>
June 05, 2018	<p>Fleming Beach Climbing (A5)</p> <p>Climbing practice at Fleming Beach in Esquimalt – open to everyone regardless of skill. Please see website for info on climbing permit.</p> <p>Contact: Walter Moar, walter@waltermoar.com</p>
June 08 - 09, 2018	<p>Triple Peak Main Summit (B5) ** WAIT LIST**</p> <p>Meet at Triple Peak trailhead on Friday night and camp there. At 6:30am, begin ascent to Triple Peak via North Ridge or South East Ridge depending on group preference.</p> <p>Leaders: Chris Sandl, csandl@hotmail.com</p>
June 10 - 17, 2018	<p>City of Rocks Idaho</p> <p>Last year, 16 ACC members made the trip down to City of Rocks reserve in Idaho for a fantastic week of climbing in the sun. Back by popular demand, another trip is being organized this year! A number of participants in 2017 were not climbers and enjoyed a week of hiking in the area, enjoying beautiful trails and scenic views. This included the opportunity to summit a few nearby non-technical mountains.</p> <p>Contact Alois Schonenberger at alois.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>
June 15 - 17, 2018	<p>Kings Peak: North Glacier</p> <p>Camp at Buttle Lake Campground Friday June 15, leave early Saturday morning for trailhead. Hike to the Meadow Camp and set up camp with a quick break for food and rest, then attempt to summit, heading back to camp to spend the night. On Sunday pack, up camp and hike back to cars, with a possible summit attempt if unsuccessful the day before. Drive home on Sunday.</p> <p>Contact: Colin Mann colin.mann.accvi.trips@gmail.com, Natasha Salway natasha.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>

June 19 - 21, 2018	<p><u>Mount Septimus via X-Gully (C4)</u></p> <p>Early summer ascent on Septimus via X-gully. Three days to allow for ascent to camp at Cream Lake, summit day with alpine start, and possibly rest day to enjoy the area. Days posted are flexible to accommodate schedules and weather.</p> <p>Contact: Charles, charles.tofino@yahoo.com</p>
June 29 - Jul 02, 2018	<p><u>Quadra Island Cragging</u></p> <p>Come hit the crags of Quadra Island and avoid the crowds at other popular climbing destinations on the long weekend. (It was SO quiet last year!). Make sure to contact Nicole to register.</p> <p>Contact: Nicole at lamb.nicole.lynn@gmail.com.</p>
June 30, 2018	<p><u>Wild Women* Ascent of Mount Arrowsmith via the West Ridge (C3)</u></p> <p>Mt. Arrowsmith, via the West Ridge, a “Top 40” route in Island Alpine Select! Arrowsmith Climber’s Trail to the west ridge - then a scramble up excellent rock, interspersed with bushy sections followed by a traverse over to the Judge’s Route. Descend by rappelling the Nose and a snow descent down the North Cirque to connect with the Climber’s Trail. Estimate about 10 hours from car to car.</p> <p>Contact Brianna Coates, brianna.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>
Jul 22 - 29 Jul 29 - Aug 05 Aug 05 - 12 Aug 12 - 19	<p><u>ACC-VI Summer Camp</u> <u>2018 ***All camps are full***</u></p> <p>Incredible alpine hiking terrain (lakes, flowers, marmots, etc; grizzlies optional), easy glacier traverses, many summits of varying difficulty. Fly up to a broad saddle in the Coast Mountains at the head of the Pemberton Valley, located at 1,750m elevation between Dugong and Polychrome Peaks (<u>Lat: 50° 35’ 52”N, Long: 123° 39’ 20”W</u>).</p> <p>Contact: summercamps@accvi.ca</p>
Aug 17 - 19, 2018	<p><u>Youth Hike up Kings Peak Via Hiker Trail</u></p> <p>This will be a family-oriented trip, participants under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Meet on August 17, hike in to the meadows and set up camp. August 18 - attempt to hike to the Kings Peak, then head back to camp and stay one more night at the meadows. Finally, on August 19 pack up camp hike back down to the trail head. 15km round trip from trail head to trail head.</p> <p>Contact: Colin Mann, and Natasha Salway, colin.mann.accvi.trips@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.

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

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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Course</i>
Jun 01 - 03: Crest Creek Crag	<p>Intro to Rock Climbing Course and Workshop</p> <p>Intended to introduce beginners to outdoor rock climbing. Course participants will learn the basic skills needed for a day of top roping at the crags including belaying, rappelling, and anchor building. The May 15 session is mandatory in order to prepare for the Jun 1 - 3 weekend. \$149/person paid to Island Alpine Guides to pay for the day of instruction on June 1.</p> <p>Contact: Alois, alois.accvi.trips@gmail.com for more info</p>
June 23, 2018	<p>Steep Snow: Intro to Mountaineering – Crag Day and Alpine Weekend</p> <p>***WAITLIST***</p>
June 30 - July 02, 2018	<p>This ACC-led workshop is intended to introduce beginners to elements of non-glaciated mountaineering. Trip participants will practice the basic skills needed to climb and descend the occasional pitch of steep spring/summer snow, and to practice rappelling in mountain terrain. This workshop will consist of two separate trips.</p> <p>June 23rd - Crag and Classroom. A day to get to know each other, to discuss ropes, gear, knots, and to practice rappelling at the crag. This day long session will be mandatory in order to prepare for the following long weekend.</p> <p>June 30 - July 2 - Weekend in the mountains. Learning how to climb steep snow using a combination of mountaineering boots, crampons, ice axes and rope & protection systems, with a chance to put it all together by climbing Mt. Arrowsmith's Main Gully and descending via The Nose.</p> <p>Cost: \$75.00</p> <p>Contact: Eric Swanson eric.accvi.trips@gmail.com</p>
July 14, 2018: Crest Creek Crag	<p>Mountain Improv</p> <p>A course featuring all kinds of techniques to manage tricky situations in the mountains. Curriculum will include principals of anchor building with an emphasis on improvised anchors using trees, boulders, jammed knots, threads and much else. Rappelling safety including various back-up methods, multiple rappel techniques and rope options. We also look at all your lightweight gear options and things you may want to have on your island-specific "mini rack. Email education for the link if you are interested in this course.</p> <p>Cost: \$148.00</p> <p>Contact: Colin Mann accvi.education@gmail.com</p>



Executive Episodes:

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

Recognition of outstanding service

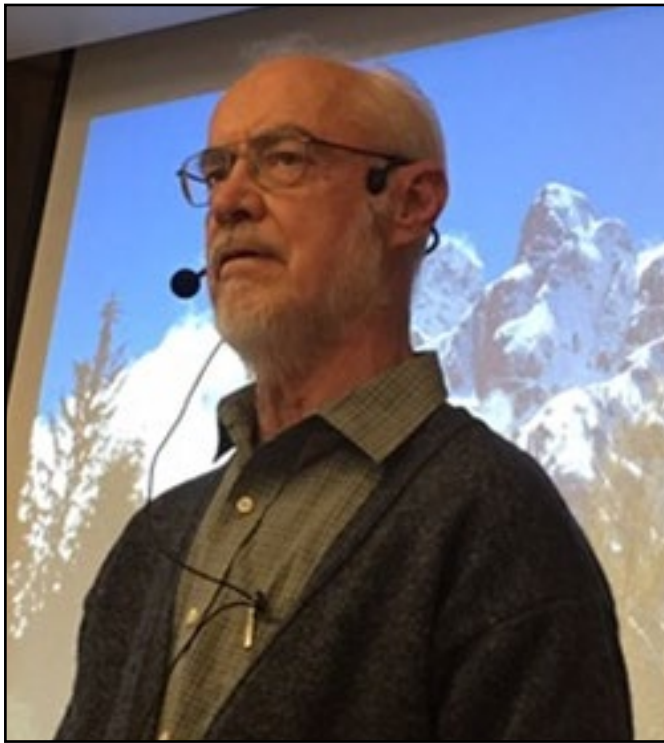
It is a matter of pride to our section that long-standing member Gil Parker was recently awarded “*Honorary Membership in the ACC*”. This is the highest recognition given by the national club, and is granted to individuals with a strong and sustained commitment to the Canadian mountain environment and Canadian mountaineering. In this way Gil joins a very select group of ACC members who have been presented with this award since 1906.



Gil Parker is told of the successful nomination for his award. With Paul Erickson.

Photo by Robie Macdonald

In presenting Gil with the award at the Swan Lake slide show on 10 May, tribute was paid to Gil's track-record of turning vision to action in many different areas. Gil's work in encouraging club members and activities at both the section and national levels, his contributions to mountain literature, and his initiative in fostering international relationships across the political divide of the cold war, were all noted. Of particular local interest is Gil's remarkable work in founding the Vancouver Island Spine Trail Association (VISTA) and his ongoing commitment to establish this long-distance trail across Vancouver Island.



*Gil Parker accepting the award at Swan Lake
Photo by Albert van Citters*

Gil responded graciously to the receipt of the award, sharing some interesting section history with the following notes:

"I would like to offer my thanks to those who did the hard work of research for this award. From my point of view, the events described have not been all hard work.

This award is really for persons in the Alpine Club of Canada, and the Vancouver Island Section of ACC, as many of the activities that are named in the nomination relate to the Island or Islanders. Some of these are:

- *The Basic Mountaineering courses offered by the YM-YWCA in the '70s were taught jointly by Dave Tansley and me, with help from ACC'ers from Vancouver Section and Roger Neave from Nanaimo. (And Dave's wife, Cynthia, produced the VI Newsletter before we had the "Bushwhacker".);*
- *In the days before the Banff Mountain Festival, our Section raised funds by presenting speakers at various venues. I had the pleasure to host several, including Dougal Haston, Kurt Deimberger (who stayed with us 4 days; in a small boat we photographed Stellar sea lions at Race Rocks), and Doug Scott (for several visits) who reciprocated later, inviting Bill Feyrer, and my partner, Joan Randall and me to his home in North England (while hiking in Yorkshire) and to a meeting of the "original" Alpine Club that evening with such luminaries as Sir Chris Bonington;*
- *I was on ACC's National board for 4 years. One exceptional experience I had was to travel with Roger Neave and Phyllis Munday by car to Edmonton for a Board meeting. I absorbed a lot of history on that trip. Another historical experience for me was to be on the Expeditions Committee while the Everest '82 climb was being planned;*
- *I was invited by Lado Gurchiani of Soviet Georgia to visit the Caucasus for 3 weeks in 1990. Most of our 11 member team climbed Kazbek, and Sandy Briggs led a smaller group to the summit of Elbrus. In 1997, I made a visit to Kamchatka Peninsula of Soviet Russia to climb some semiactive (and some rather active) volcanoes;*
- *Starting in 2007, the concept and development work on the VI Spine Trail from Victoria to Cape Scott was implemented by a local board of directors, financially supported by individuals from the Island and significantly by the ACC-VI Section.*

Fortunately, honors presented from ACC result from activities of those who love the mountains, in other words 'we were doing exactly what we wanted to do anyway.' "

Gil Parker 10 May 2018

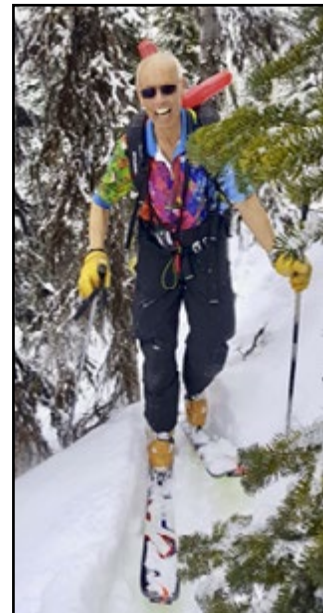
Congratulations, Gil!

A cause to support

For over a decade now, we have enjoyed renting the premises at Swan Lake Nature Centre in Victoria for our monthly slide shows and other events. There seems to be a natural synergy between the mission of the centre and our club's focus. Swan Lake is a non-profit organisation, dependent on member support, and it occurs to me that some of our members might be interested in supporting their work in various ways. Details can be found at: www.swanlake.bc.ca

Member news

I know that many of us have found creative ways to celebrate our birthdays in the mountains over the years. But this one may be a first: Albert van Citters chose to wake up on his 80th birthday in a beautiful snow cave that he had carefully built over the preceding days. The big smiles say it all. Happy birthday and many happy (re)turns Albert!



*Albert celebrates his 80th birthday in his snowcave and on skis: 6 April 2018.
Photos by Catrin Brown and Kathy Kutzer.*

Dates for your diary 2018

- Our Swan Lake slideshow evenings will be taking a break for the summer following the scheduled event on Thursday 14 June, and will resume on Thursday 13 September.
- ACC-VI summer barbecue: Thursday 30 August at the home of Mike Hubbard and Colleen Kasting. Details will be sent nearer the time via membership email.
- ACC-VI annual photo contest: Thursday 25 October at Swan Lake Nature Centre
- Victoria showing of Banff Mountain Film Festival: Sunday 25 November at UVic theatre
- Victoria Christmas party: Friday 14 December

And for those who really like to plan ahead, the ACC-VI AGM will be held at the Vancouver Island Mountain Centre in Mt Washington 1–3 February 2019.

Executive events

Minutes of executive meetings and AGMs are posted on our website [here](#). Our most recent executive meeting was held on 14 May.

Wishing you all many wonderful summer adventures and see you back here on 1 September.

Happy trails
Catrin Brown

Catrin@shaw.ca | chair@accvi.ca



State of the Mountains

AN ANNUAL MOUNTAIN REPORT HIGHLIGHTING THE
CHANGE IN CANADA'S ALPINE LANDSCAPES

Download and read the full publication!

In 2011, The Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) published the first State of the Mountains Report, which highlighted the startling impacts of climate change on the alpine environment of Alberta and British Columbia. As Canada's national mountaineering organization, the ACC has a responsibility to act as a steward of our mountains, and the 2011 report was motivated by a commitment to summarize and better communicate an understanding of the environmental and cultural forces affecting these high places.

The 2018 report continues this tradition and is the beginning of an annual State of the Mountains Report, produced by the ACC in collaboration with mountain researchers, community members, and partner organizations.

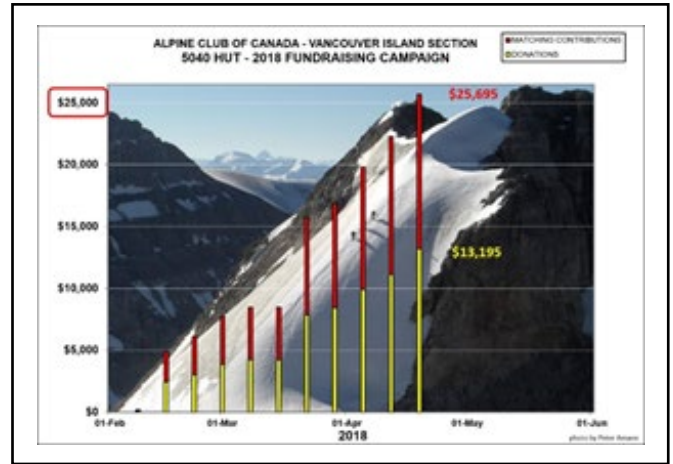
The State of the Mountains Report gives Canadians, and all readers alike, the opportunity to hear the voices of people who have spent countless hours researching our alpine environment. The contributors in the report have, in one way or another, dedicated their lives to the alpine and have offered their first hand experiences, expertise and photographs to tell the stories of how change in Canadian mountain environments is affecting people and ecosystems.

Download or read online at the [Alpine Club of Canada's website](#).



Images from the 2018 report

Success on the 5040 Hut Fundraising Campaign: A letter of thanks to the donors!



We would like to thank you sincerely for your donation to the 5040 Hut Fund. The recent 2018 campaign, including matching contributions from the ACC-VI Section, surpassed its \$25,000 objective. Overall during the last twelve months, 147 ACC members and friends donated more than \$106,000. We're delighted that you have invested in this project. This strong show of grass-roots support has been critical to attracting additional investment from the wider community.

Your donation has gone directly towards the purchase of materials. Work will start up again in July. We expect that the hut will be ready for occupancy by October. We hope that you'll come up some day, as a worker or a visitor, to see how your investment has paid off. Thank you!

Your friends on the ACC-VI Executive and the Hut Committee,

Keep up with 5040 Hut news online at these locations:

www.huts.accvi.ca

[5040 Hut progress on FaceBook](#) (you don't need to be a FB member to read the page)

5040 Hut Fundraising Campaign:

The 2017-2018 donor list

David Anderson
Ron Andreychuk
Lauren Attorp
Barbara Baker
Michael Bamford
Roy Barker
John Barron
Jim Basnett
Jeff Beddoes
Geoff Bennett
Graham Bennett
Paul Berkenbosch
Dunnery Best
Peter Blencowe
Charlie Breakey
Sandy Briggs
Barbara Brooks
Catherine Brower
Catrin Brown
Sarah Burger
Christopher Burns
George Butcher
Carrie Cameron
Don Campbell
Brett Classen
Joyce Clearihue
Scott Collins
Chris Considine
Gary Croome
Sarah Carolyn Davies
Timothy Deutscher
Paul Doherty
Dan Duerden
Ramsay Dyer
Claire Ebendinger
Roanne English
Paul Erickson
Leona Etmanski
Carys Evans
Sharon Fisher
David Fishwick
Derek Fletcher
Dawn Fowler
Stacey Fraser
Lise Gagnon

James Gardner
James & Donna Gilbert
Joan Gilbert
Avery Gottfried
Clarke Gourlay
Lilija Gulbis
Tom & Pam Hall
Neil Han
Bruce Harding
Alison Hart
Gerald Hartwig
Ian Heath
Shawn Hedges
Albert Hestler
Eric Higgs
Stephen Hindrichs
Martin Hofmann
Stephen Howey
Mike Hubbard
Michael Hudson
Phee Hudson
Rick Hudson
Deon Human
Matt Husslage
Reinhard Illner
Joel Jackson
Lorne James
Mathew Janzen
Allen Jensen
Shayla Johnson
Colleen Kasting
Heather Kellerhals
Markus Kellerhals
Matt Kellow
Rob Kelly
Mike Knippel
Christopher Konczyk
Max Kruger
Kathy Kutzer
David Lemon
John Leslie
Maple Leung
Ken Little
Robie Macdonald

Graham Maddocks
Sean McIntyre
Alison Melville
Cheryl Milne
Brian Money
Shelagh Montgomery
Shane Moore
Suzanne Morphet
Don Morton
Dallin Moxley
Dave Myers
Michael Nesbitt
Tak Ogasawara
Gil Parker
Christine Parsons
Shaun Peck
Trevor Peddle
Michel Pinault
Serena Polt
Lynn Porteous
Tom Roozendaal
Jaden Rowley
Chris Ruttan
Michelle Samosinski
Erich Schellhammer
Chris Schmidt
Marian Scholz
Jes Scott
Nic Scott
Kyle Sedola
Gail Smith
Milah Smith
Neil Smith
Oriana Smy
Anabela Spick
Bill Spiller
Brian Spurling
Nadja Steiner
Garth Stewart
Sandy Stewart
Petra Strougal
Robin Suttmoller
David Suttill
Tim Taddy
Alison Talarico

Mike Taylor
Peggy Taylor
Quentin Thomas
George Urban
Albert van Citters
Nick van der Westhuizen
Tony Vaughn
Anne Webster
Michael Whitney
Richard Williams
Mike Winstone
Ken Wong
John Young
Cedric Zala

Thank you all!



The Kellerhals family of Quadra Island

By Geoff Bennett

Rolf Kellerhals was a keen mountaineer who settled on Quadra Island in 1977 with his wife Heather and their children Erika and Markus. He climbed with many members of the ACC-VI Section, including Mike Hubbard, Gerta Smythe, Syd Watts and Rick Eppler. His life story and a photo can be viewed on the [Section website](#) and is reprinted below.

Heather and Markus have donated generously to the 5040 Peak Hut Fund in memory of Rolf, who passed away on August 25, 2016.

Rolf Kellerhals (1934 - 2016)

Not long after he was born in Switzerland in 1934, Rolf's parents took him into the mountains. And so began his lifelong passion for the hills. Teenage rock climbing forays followed and then membership in the university alpine club - the Akademischer Alpenclub Bern. That same group organized an expedition to an unvisited area of Spitzbergen and Rolf was lucky enough to take part. Shortly thereafter, during the International Geophysical Year, Rolf was invited to join a group of scientists working on the Salmon Glacier near Stewart, BC. As he often said with a laugh, "my job was mainly to prevent people and machines from falling into crevasses."



The following winter was spent in Toronto where he worked in the university geophysical department under J. Tuzo Wilson, one of the originators of the plate tectonics theory. Sadly, no mountains in the vicinity, but while there he helped found the University of Toronto Outing Club and joined the Toronto Section of the ACC, which at the time had so few members that they were meeting in private homes.

Eventually BC called out loud and clear to him, and with Heather, whom he had met while rock climbing near Toronto, already in Vancouver, he soon immigrated to Canada. The economy was in poor shape and jobs were scarce at that time. Heather had to promise that she would support the prospective immigrant before he was allowed to come! However, within a week of arriving he had a job as a civil engineer with what is now BC Hydro.

No time was wasted on the mountaineering front - he joined the Vancouver Section of the ACC and was for many years the climbing chair and organized the first section climbing camp. That first camp was held

at Chilko Lake, where club members made several first ascents and also experienced some epic bushwhacks. Climbing wasn't the only activity at this camp, there is a great photo of Mike Hubbard and Rolf proudly holding up the two fish they had finally managed to snag. Another highlight during Rolf's time as chair, was persuading author and explorer Raymond Patterson who was living in Victoria then, to give a talk about his book, "The Dangerous River," and his adventures on the Nahanni River.

After several moves between Vancouver and Edmonton Rolf finally finished his PhD in Civil Engineering. After a short stint as a professor, Rolf started his own engineering firm. Then, bitten by the fanciful back to the land bug, the family now with two children, Erika and Markus, moved in 1977 to Quadra Island. Their new home, one of the original and much neglected old homesteads, was more work than fancy. Consequently, not quite so much time for climbing, especially when the Highland cattle were running amok.

As if this wasn't work enough Rolf and his friend Grant Hayden acquired a provincial woodlot on Quadra Island. But Rolf and family, often accompanied by ACC friends, notably the ever-enthusiastic Norm Pursell, continued to make more ascents in the Chilko Lake area. Erika and Markus built a small log cabin there that became the focus of many wonderful trips. During this time Rolf found time for climbing some out of the way peaks on Northern Vancouver Island and on the mainland near Toba and Bute Inlets. And there always seemed time for Rolf's passion/obsession for trail building and for organizing trips for the local naturalist group - the Mitlenatch Field Naturalists. As its chair for many years Rolf also became the group's delegate to the Campbell River Environmental Council.

Rolf had a long career as a civil engineer specializing in rivers, bridges and dams and protection from natural hazards such as flooding and mudslides. As time went on his river engineering work became more oriented towards environmental concerns. His research uncovered impacts to the Peace-Athabasca Delta caused by the damming of the Peace River, an area important to First Nations People living nearby. He also took part in several Federal Environmental Review Panels.

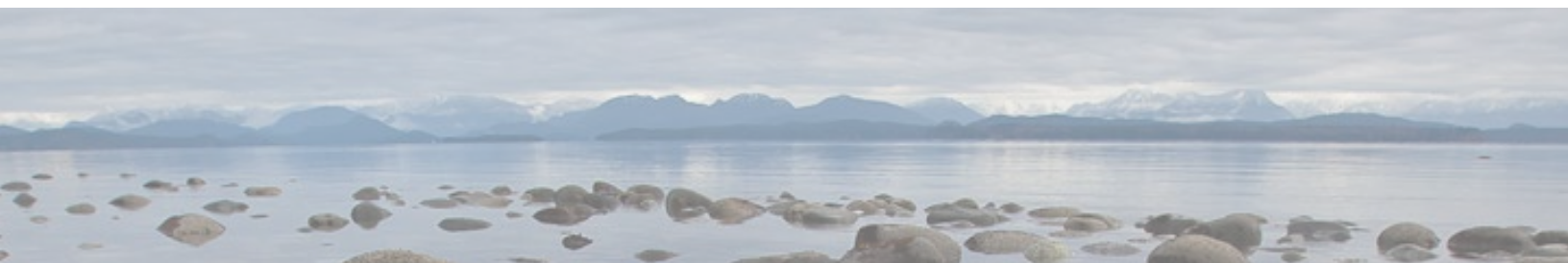
There were two special places on Vancouver Island that captured Rolf's heart. One was the Nimpkish River area on Northern Vancouver Island. Through his involvement with the Mitlenatch Field Naturalists, an affiliate with what is now BC Nature, he became a volunteer warden for the Nimpkish Island Ecological Reserve which contained one of the last and best examples of lowland, old growth forest in that valley. Many trips were made to the area, including one in dicey winter conditions that left some ever vigilante park bureaucrats wagging their collective fingers. Poor logging practices threatened Nimpkish Island with erosion, but Rolf used his professional knowledge to suggest low impact protective measures, basically taking advantage of some of the massive fallen trees to protect the banks of the island.

The other special area for Rolf was the west coast of Nootka Island which saw few visitors after the old trapper's trail fell into disuse. However, logging was creeping ever closer to the coast. So again with Norm Pursell and Heather as companions he planned a trip there, not really knowing if it would be possible to make it around to the finish at Friendly Cove. There were a few old blazes and remnants of a trail where the route left the beach. Some years later after more hikes and more trail clearing by Rolf and others, family and friends helped publish a pamphlet describing the route of what is now called the "Nootka Trail".

Though Rolf was not very active with the Vancouver Island ACC, he did get to meet and climb with some of the members - amazing people like Gerta Smythe, Syd Watts and Rick Eppler. He would have loved to climb up to the new cabin being built by members. Rolf's last major trip into mountain country was with BC Nature in September 2015 to Tatlayoko Lake where he climbed to the plateau overlooking Chilko Lake and the small log cabin where he and the family had spent so many fun days.

Heather Kellerhals would like to invite ACC-VI members to visit Quadra Island. In her words, “our family farm is probably the prettiest little valley on the island, tucked below some hills that have become popular for rock climbing. There are also enough trails on Quadra, both bike and walking to keep one busy for some days.” She can put you in touch with the local mountain bikers and rock climbers. There are many places to stay.

The photo shows Heather and Rolf in 2009 above their farm on Quadra. Mounts Arrowsmith, Washington and Albert Edward can be seen on the skyline. To contact Heather, please email geoff.bennett@shaw.ca.



Trip report: Arrowsmith Main Gully, April 21, 2018

Photos and story by Natasha Salway - Video by Karthikeya Nadendla

Our spring warm up trip to Mount Arrowsmith Main Gully proved to be a great success this year. In early April, we trekked up the Climber's Trail twice, once with friends and the second time as an ACC club trip. The route was in great shape both times, providing a short but fun ascent up to the summit.

April 21, the day we did the ACC-VI club trip, did not provide many views from the top but instead the mountain gave us teasing glimpses of the surrounding area for most of the day. Our band of climbers had a great time with very high spirits that could not be dampened by the blustery summit. We were even lucky enough to be serenaded twice. First of all by a Slovakian mountain guide, with songs from his country, and then by Karthik Nadendla, singing a folk song from southern India in Telugu. Check out Karthik's video link below to see and hear for yourself. We hope to be able to put this trip on again next spring.



[Video from Karthikeya Nadendla](#) -
including singing in Slovak and Telugu!

NEWS FLASHS ~ from our National Club!

By Christine Fordham, ACC-VI National Rep

STATE OF THE MOUNTAINS REPORTJUST RELEASED.

Our mountains need stewards more than ever! The Alpine Club of Canada has just released the annual STATE OF THE MOUNTAINS REPORT, in very readable format, highlighting the startling impacts of climate change on our alpine environments. The articles feature Canada's mountains as watchtowers and critical climate-change sentinels.

The reports is a collaboration between the Alpine Club of Canada, the Royal Canadian Geographic Society, and Canadian Geographic magazine. For an overview and a look at a specially commissioned ACC/Canadian Geographic map of mountains across Canada check out [Canadian Geographic online](#). Or, see "On the Map" page 28 May-June in *Canadian Geographic*. There will be a writer and photographer from Canadian Geographic at week 6 of GMC this summer.

Download free English or French versions of the [State of the Mountains at the ACC National website](#).

ACC LEADER MANUALS

Did you know the ACC Leadership and Technical Training Development Program is working to support amateur recreational leaders and standardize leader training with Leader Handbooks? Top Rope Leader Manual and the Winter Mountaineering Manual are available now and the Summer Mountaineering Manual will be released shortly. These manuals can be ordered online through the [National ACC website](#).

CANADIAN ALPINE JOURNAL ... NOW SEARCHABLE ONLINE

The archive of 110 years of Canadian mountain stories is now searchable online: [Canadian Alpine Journal](#)



Ivvavik National Park

ENDLESS HIKING AT YOUR OWN PACE

INDEPENDANT BASE CAMP TRIPS

Explore Ivvavik National Park on your own schedule from the comfort of Imnnavik Base Camp. Spend your days hiking at your own leisure, come back to base camp and cook your meals to your liking and enjoy the comforts of basecamp with our Parks Canada and Inuvialuit Hosts. This is a trip to make your own!

July 6—July 12, 2018

Space is still available!
Ask us about youth rates.

Contact Parks Canada at 867-777-8600 or ivvik.info@pc.gc.ca
parksCanada.gc.ca/ivvik

Cost \$ 2,700

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Orientation session to Ivvavik National Park.
- Transportation between the Parks Canada Office to the airport.
- Chartered flight to and from the base camp.
- Use of the base camp kitchen and dining area.
- Use of the backcountry washroom facilities (toilets and shower).
- Backcountry use fees.

Photo: © 2018 Alberta Parks Canada

*Ivvavik National Park offers independent trips into the base camp in the heart of the park.
There are still seats available.*

Trip report: Youth trip to Liberty Bell in Washington State, May 19-21, 2018

By Stefan Gessinger

Party: Derek, Iain, and Evelyn Sou; Shanda Lembcke; Sydney, Aila, and Stefan Gessinger

One of my best trips ever: Skied from car to camp to base of climb (climb on 2nd day). Pitched out approximately 10 pitches of 3rd, 4th and low 5th rock climbing in T-shirts and skied back to car. Continuous snow cover was starting to melt out on our descent.

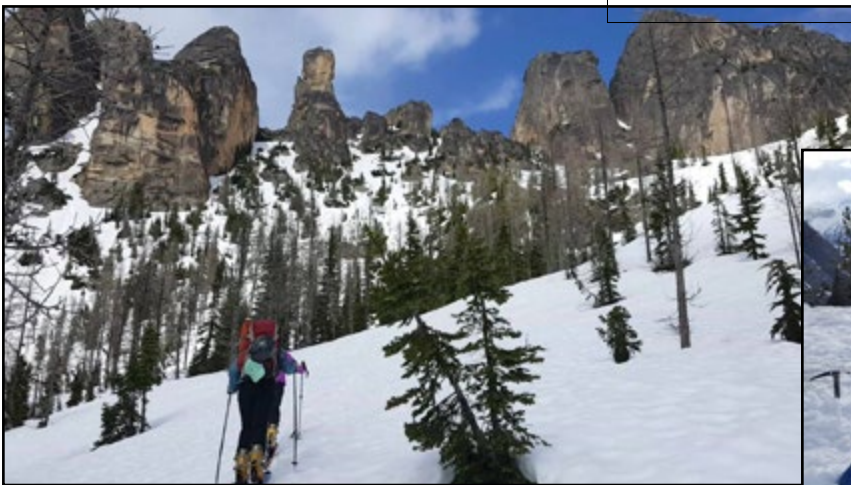
Made it for the short window of time when the road opens after being closed for the Winter and before the continuous snow cover melts out. This all aligned with great weather for the long weekend.

Great company, beautiful Spring ski touring conditions, stunning camp site, climbing a classic Becky ridge to the summit of South Early Winter Spire and skiing back to the car.

Our youth team did so well in applying their Winter camping, ski touring and climbing skills. ACC youth team graduate Iain Sou cruised the entire route on the sharp end - well done!

Thank you ACC-VI for your support!

South Early Winter Spire on right



Kitchen and dining room



Whale back pitch



A goat named Wasabi followed us for the day

The Island in My Backyard

By Isobel Glover

This summer I plan to be the first person ever to complete the Vancouver Island Trail, a 770-km yet-unfinished wilderness trail that runs the length of Vancouver Island from Victoria to Cape Scott. When complete, the Vancouver Island Trail, formerly known as the Vancouver Island Spine Trail, will be the longest trail in BC, and one of the ten longest trails in Canada. Parts of it are well established, other parts are cut but not bootied in, and still others are only planned.

Through this expedition, dubbed “**The Island in My Backyard**,” I aim to promote sustainable travel, and the idea that getting into the wilderness is not expensive or complex -- it's for everyone. I am speaking with local Victoria groups before I leave and plan to connect with other groups as I walk the Island.

My route is broken into a number of stages, and I welcome people to join me for sections of the hike. I begin on June 21st when I walk out of my backyard in James Bay and set out towards Vancouver Island's Easternmost point, Ten Mile Point in Saanich. I then join the Great Trail (Trans-Canada Trail) for the first part of the hike, heading Port Alberni via Lake Cowichan. The Vancouver Island Trail route will take me through the Beaufort Range, Strathcona Park, the Bonanza range, and ultimately follows the North Coast Trail to Cape Scott, the western-most point on the Island, where I will arrive on August 25th.

I am generously supported by grants for the Alpine Club of Canada Vancouver Island Section Youth Memorial Fund, and the Alpine Club of Canada Jen Higgins Fund. I have also benefited greatly from encouragement and information from the [Vancouver Island Trail Association \(VISTA\)](#), who are working hard to make the Vancouver Island Trail a reality. I am also grateful to the many individuals who have been important in my preparation.

Get involved! You can hike with me for one or more sections of the trip. Anybody is welcome, and at this point I am especially looking for experienced hikers to join me on the more challenging parts of the route.

Check out my Facebook page [@islandinmybackyard](#) to follow the trip and see my full itinerary, and contact me through Facebook or by email at islandinmybackyard@gmail.com



More images from the ACC-VI 2017 photo competition



Honourable mentions in the Vancouver Island Category:

Jes Scott -Triple Peak (top)

Chris George - History in the making with the 5040 Hut (bottom)

[All images are online at the ACC-VI website.](#)

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

Our own **Jes Scott** has an active blog that is always full of interesting content featuring outdoor adventures. Her latest post is a reflection at the half-way point on her first long term solo trip: [Getting over the fear of travelling solo.](#)



Getting ready for ACC-VI Summer Camp -- setting up, checking out, and taking down the Mountain Hardwear expedition tents.

Photos by Rick Hudson

EXECUTIVE

Chair: Catrin Brown, chair@accvi.ca

Secretary: David Lemon, info@accvi.ca

Treasurer: Clarke Gourlay, treasurer@accvi.ca

Members-at-Large:

Brianna Coates, Lise Gagnon, Martin Hofmann

Access and Environment

*Barb Baker, access@accvi.ca

BMFF Coordinator

Anna-Lena Steiner, bmff@accvi.ca

Bushwhacker Annual

Editor: Sean McIntyre.

Assistant Ed: Robie Macdonald

bushwhacker@accvi.ca

Education

Colin Mann & Alois Schonenberger,

education@accvi.ca

Equipment

Mike Hubbard (lower Island),

250 888 8370, jmhubbard@telus.net

Clarke Gourlay (upper Island) avi gear rental,

treasurer@accvi.ca

Summer Camp

Liz Williams, summercamps@accvi.ca

FMCBC Rep

Anyia Reid

fmcbc@accvi.ca

Hut

Chris Jensen, huts@accvi.ca

Communications Team:

Karun Thanjuvar , Jes Scott,

Kathy Kutzer

Library/Archives/History

Tom Hall (Library/Archives),

250 592 2518, hall.pnw@shaw.ca

*Lindsay Elms (History), 250 792 3384,

lindsayjelms@gmail.com

National Rep

Christine Fordham, natrep@accvi.ca

Safety Committee

safety@accvi.ca

Schedule

Karun Thanjavur, schedule@accvi.ca

Evening Events Coordinator

*Peggy Taylor, events@accvi.ca

Website

Jes Scott, webmaster@accvi.ca

Memorial Fund

*Geoff Bennett, 250 853 7515,

geoff.bennett@shaw.ca

Trailrider Program Coordinator

*Caroline Tansley,

250 886 8038 trailrider@accvi.ca

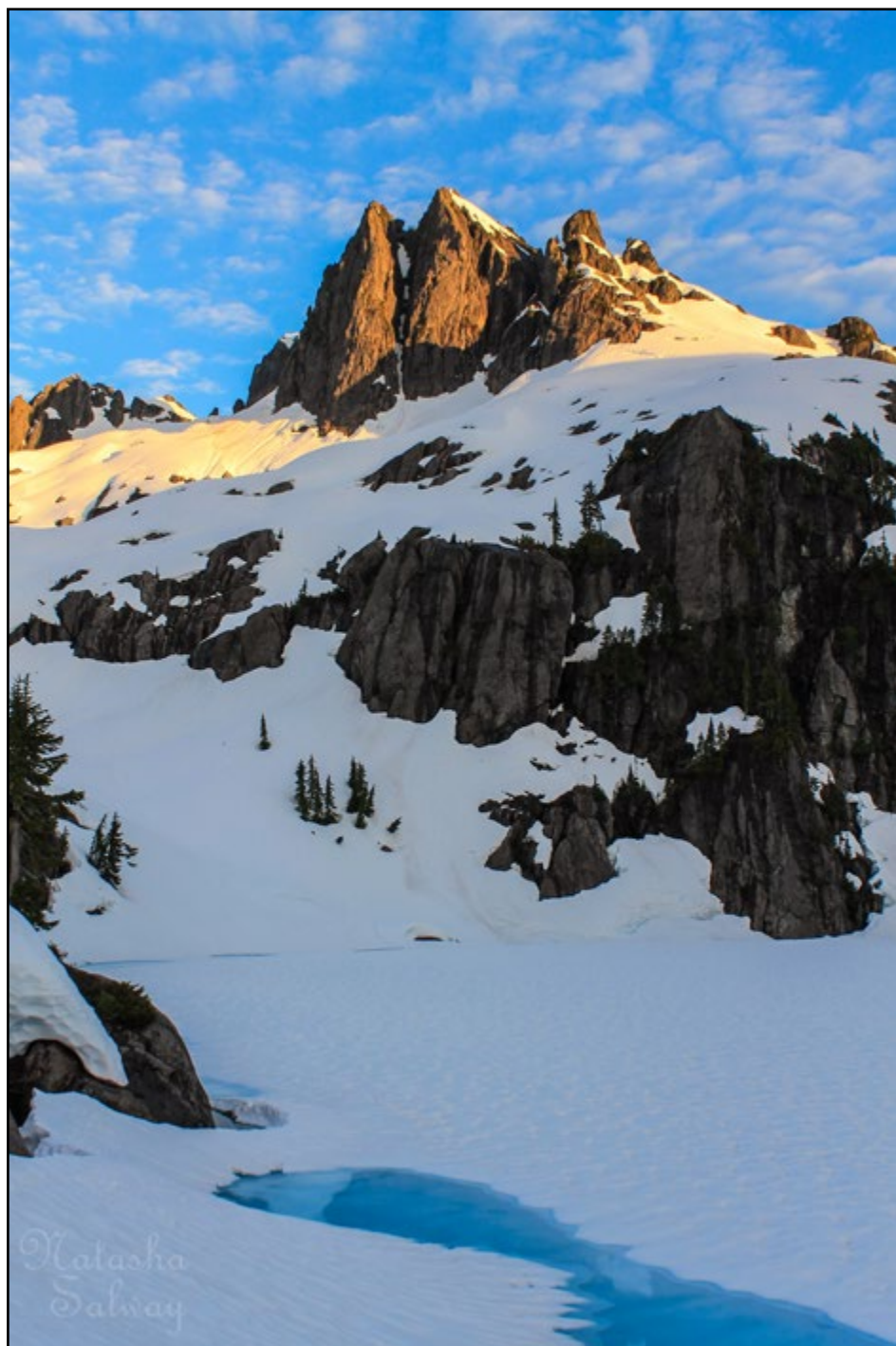
Kids and Youth Program Coordinator

*Derek Sou

* Non Executive Coordinators



Catrin Brown, Erich Schellhammer, Josh Slatkoff, Barb Brooks, Martin Hofmann, Keith Battersby on the Glacier des Poilus en route from the Guy hut to the Stanley Mitchell hut. This photo was taken during some of the better light conditions we enjoyed!



From the Front Cover

First place from the ACC-VI 2017
Photo Competition in the Vancouver
Island Category

Natasha Salway: Triple Reflection

Natasha says " On a weekend in early June last year, our party of seven ACC members started the journey up the waterfall trail.

We decided to extend our trip over two days so we could enjoy a night at the lake. We were not disappointed by the views that emerged from the mist later that evening. Across the valley, we had a beautiful view of 5040 and the soon-to-be hut location. Triple Peak was basking in the last rays of the setting sun, fuelling our energy for our summit attempt the following morning. This mountain never fails to take my breath away. "

Thank you to this month's contributors: *Geoff Bennett, Catrin Brown, Christine Fordham, Chris George, Stefan Gessinger, Isobel Glover, Martin Hofmann, Rick Hudson, Robie Macdonald, Karthikeya Nadendla, Natasha Salway, and Peggy Taylor.*
Well done everyone!

