



Island Bushwhacker

Volume 49 | Issue 1 | Spring 2021

Spelling ACCVI out for you at the Cruickshank Canyon Lookout

Photo by Tami Gwilt

ACC VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

Social Events

The club is now hosting virtual slide shows on the Zoom platform. These presentations can be viewed by people from up-Island and the Gulf Islands, so we may continue to offer virtual slide shows even when in-person slide shows resume.

Web Information

Web site: www.accvi.ca

Webmaster: webmaster@accvi.ca

Executive Meeting Minutes

Available on our meeting archives which are [here](#).

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

Email: info@alpineclubofcanada.ca; Tel: (403)-678-3200; Address: P.O. Box 8040, Canmore, AB, T1W 2T8

Annual Membership Dues

Single \$53 Family \$75 Youth (19 and under) \$38

The Island Bushwhacker Newsletter is published in March, June, September, and December. In other months, the **High Points Bulletin** summarizes events and key announcements for the section.

Newsletter Editor: Janelle Curtis

High Points Editor: Anya Reid

We encourage submissions of items of interest to our membership, including articles and photos in months when the newsletter is published. Please email your submissions to newsletter@accvi.ca 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

COME BACK ALIVE
COME BACK FRIENDS
RESPECT THE LAND
HAVE FUN
GET TO THE TOP
(IN THAT ORDER!)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Slideshow, 8 April. [Stories of Ice: Adventure, Commerce and Creativity on Canada's glaciers](#). Join author Lynn Martel as she shares entertaining and captivating stories from her new book.

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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 email addresses for mailouts.

Join or visit the ACCVI's [Facebook group](#). You don't have to be a Facebook member to see this page. And visit ACCVI's Discourse page at <https://discourse.accvi.ca/>



Upcoming Slideshows, Presentations, Meetings and Get-togethers

Slideshow, Thursday 8 April, 7-9 pm.

Lynn Martel, [Stories of Ice: Adventure, Commerce and Creativity on Canada's Glaciers](#)

Canada has more glacier ice than anywhere except Greenland and Antarctica. While much of that ice is in the country's Arctic region, hundreds of glaciers and icefields are found in the mountain ranges of Alberta and British Columbia. And while they are melting, those glaciers are also fascinating, dynamic places where people pursue adventures, run businesses, conduct scientific studies and create art, photography, films and even books, all year round.

Join author Lynn Martel as she shares entertaining and captivating stories from her new book, *Stories of Ice: Adventure, Commerce and Creativity on Canada's Glaciers*. With dozens of stunning photographs, learn about adventurers who ski for weeks across icefields carrying their tents and food, scientists discovering biofilms living deep inside glacier caverns, protesters camping for weeks to protect their beloved local glacier and more!

Slideshow, Thursday 6 May, 7-9 pm.

Barry Hansen, [Summit Traverse: Exhilarating and Exhausting](#)

Join ACCVI and IMR member Barry Hansen on a superb Island mountaineering adventure.

On August 14, 2020, Barry Hansen and Rich Priebe set out to attempt the Mount Colonel Foster summit traverse. They both had a good dose of nervous energy leading up to this trip, knowing it would push their technical, mental, and physical abilities to the limit. But the Colonel's presence on the list of Island Qualifiers and its sheer status as an island classic made it a must objective. The mountain did not disappoint as they traversed its summit in perfect weather. It wasn't an excursion without stories though, and these will be shared along with photos providing a first-person perspective of this Island classic.

This will be a joint presentation with the Island Mountain Ramblers. Login details for the Zoom presentation will be sent by membership email a week ahead.



Mark the dates and times. Zoom login details will be sent by email nearer the time.

We look forward to "seeing" you there!

Upcoming Trips

Full information for all trips is located online on the ACCVI [Trip Schedule](#). We anticipate changes to our events as the situation with the coronavirus pandemic develops. Keep your eye on the [Trip Schedule](#) often!

Event Schedule

Our trip and event schedule depends on members volunteering to lead a trip or organize an event. There are no specific requirements, other than confidence to lead a small group on your chosen route. For extra information please check the 'Information for leaders' section of our website (<https://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/>) or email a question to leadership@accvi.ca.

Thank you for contributing to our community in this important way!

Mountain Education

ACCVI offers a wide variety of workshops and courses aimed at giving our members the technical and safety skills to get out there in the mountains safely.

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 ACCVI's courses.

Education and Courses: <http://accvi.ca/programs/education/>.

Is there something you would like to see? Contact education@accvi.ca.

Please see the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming education events.



Executive Episodes:

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

Maybe a little premature by the calendar, but the signs are all there in the rapidly lengthening days, so welcome to spring everyone.

Of course, winter activities in the mountains are still in full swing, and Mike Hubbard tells me that he's doing a roaring business with the avi club rental gear. Good to know folk are getting out and enjoying the Island mountains. We are of course following the provincial health updates closely, waiting for the time when guidelines enable us to schedule club trips again. For sure, the best of the ski touring season is yet to come.

Annual General Meeting 3 February 2021

This year was the first break in our eight year run of making the annual AGM into a full weekend of activities up in the mountains. And we missed that certainly. However, the online format did make it easier for some members to attend, and it was great to have a good crowd gathered to hear the executive reports on 2020. Despite the obvious disappointments of the Covid cancellations, we did have lots of good things to share and more to look forward to.

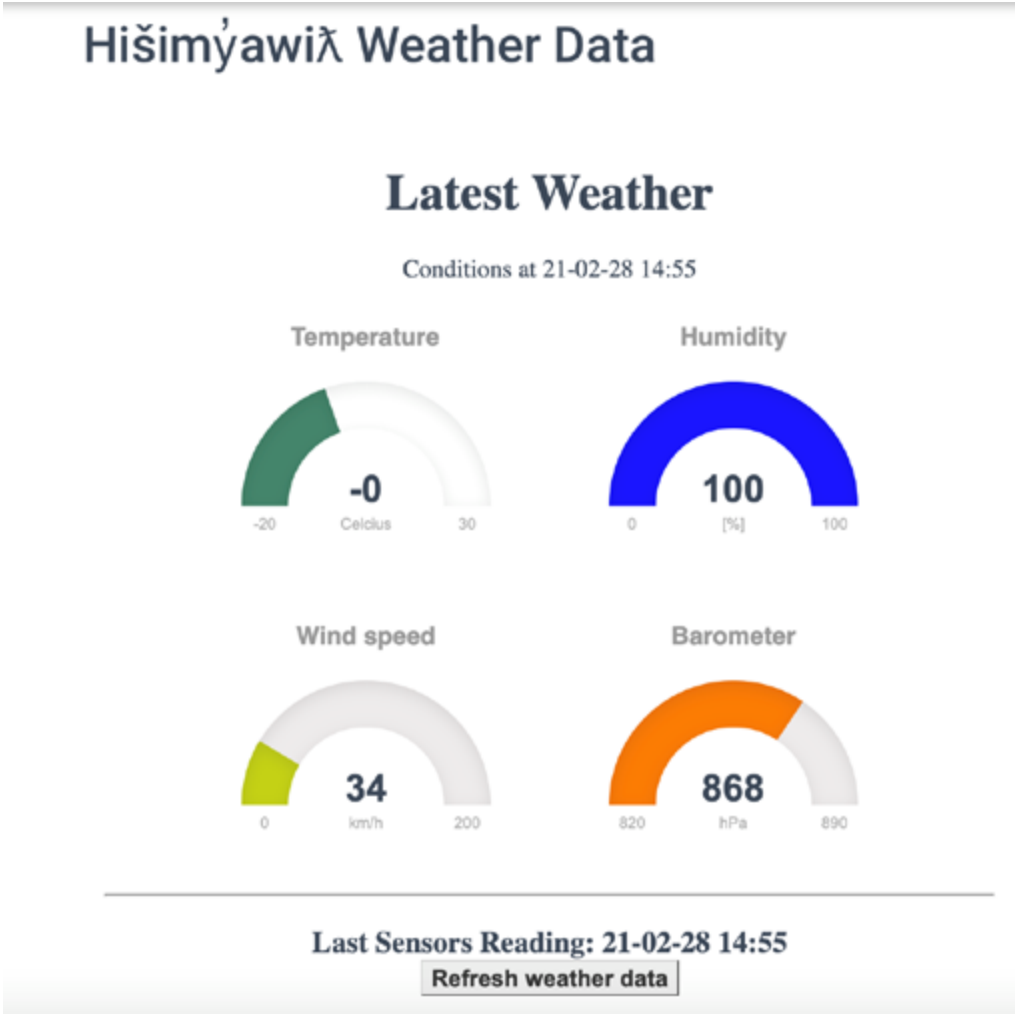
One task of the AGM is to review the financials and approve the budget for 2021. Looking at the numbers makes it clear that we rely on membership fees more than ever, now that we have lost the big injection of cash from the in-person Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF). So please do keep your membership up to date to help us continue to offer our full slate of activities. You can also contribute by buying tickets for the online BCMFF festival through our affiliate link - please see page 18 for details from Laura.

At the AGM, a new executive committee was elected. Thanks were given to Brianna Coates, Chris Jensen, Natasha Salway, Alois Schonenberger and Jes Scott for all their contributions as they step down from their roles. And we welcome new members of the committee: Evan Devault, Jane Maduke, KT Shum, and Graham Smith. We look forward to working with them. Contact details for the executive are given on page 46 and on our website, along with the minutes of meetings.

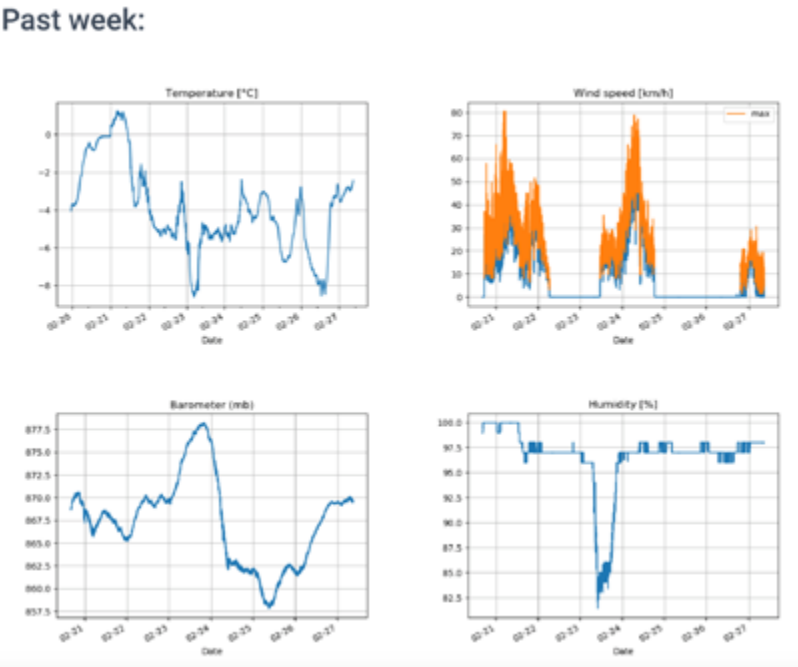
Hišimýawił weather station

Our techno guru and new hut manager, Martin Hofmann, has achieved something remarkable with the weather station at Hišimýawił. You can access it at [accvi.ca > Hišimýawił > Hut conditions](https://accvi.ca/5040-peak-hut/hut-conditions/) or <https://accvi.ca/5040-peak-hut/hut-conditions/>

I strongly recommend you check it out live as there is a wealth of data and imagery to enjoy. Here is a screen shot of conditions up there as I write:



And here, just as an example of what is there, is a summary of the 5040 Peak area weather over the past week:



At the end of the AGM, Martin gave us a fun one-photo-per-day tour through 2020 from the hut deck. Seen like that, the seasonal changes up there are extraordinary. It probably goes without saying that these data have great potential to support avalanche forecasts, climate studies etc.

Online slide shows

In January we enjoyed a slideshow with Ken Wylie on “Mindfulness for Adventure Risk Management: La Traviata Fatal Avalanche Case Study.” Several participants commented afterwards that they would be interested in some follow-up learning with Ken, and workshops on ‘Risk Management’ by Ken’s company Archetypal have been planned by our education coordinators. These offerings are currently on hold due to restrictions on gatherings, but we hope to reschedule them as soon as we can resume in-person events.

Our upcoming slide shows are as follows:

- Thursday 4 March: “**Return of the Whistle-pigs**” with Adam Taylor and Cheyney Jackson, Vancouver Island Marmot Recovery Foundation.

This is an opportunity to learn more about the work being done in recovering this endemic mammal from near extinction, as well as a chance to gain some tips for spotting these animals in the backcountry.
- Thursday 8 April: “[Stories of Ice: Adventure, Commerce and Creativity on Canada’s glaciers](#)” with Lynn Martel.

Lynn will share stories and photographs from her new book of this title, introducing us to adventurers, researchers, conservationists, and artists who share an interest in glaciers.
- Thursday 6 May: “[Colonel Foster Summit Traverse: Exhilarating and Exhausting](#)” with Barry Hansen.

This is a chance to hear the first-hand stories from Barry and Rich Priebe of their excellent adventures on our Island’s famous peak in perfect weather last summer.

The slide shows in March, April and May will be shared with our friends from the Island Mountain Ramblers. Maybe we’ll get close to the maximum Zoom audience of 100!

We do not yet have a confirmed speaker for June, so I would love to hear from you if you would like to present a session, or maybe part of a session. We can help with all the technical sides of the online format, so please don’t be shy if you have a story to share.

Photo trophies

I feel like I’ve been mentioning these for a long time, so I promise this is the last word on this from me. We have now recorded all the information on all six trophies over the last 30 years, in tabulated form by Peggy Taylor, and photographically by Robie Macdonald. Many thanks to them both. Their work will be featured in the Island Bushwhacker Annual 2020, and later on our website.

Here is a taster of Robie's handiwork with one of the trophies:



Yes, this is the humour trophy. Spot the climber ☺ For the full set of beautiful pictures Rob has produced see: <https://discourse.accvi.ca/t/photo-contest-trophies/17>

They are so good, I'm thinking maybe we should have a trophy for the best photo contest trophy photo? So the trophies are now officially terminal and waiting their final resting place. I've had one request for one, and am open to requests and offers for any and all six. Please speak now or miss out forever.

Discourse - new category 'gear swap'

We've set up a new category 'Gear Swap' on our discussion forum Discourse for members to post information about gear they would like to pass on, or requests for what they are looking for.

<https://discourse.accvi.ca/t/about-the-gear-swap-category/178>

It would be great especially if people could share gear for youth and kids to help families who are trying to deal with changing sizes every year.

A reminder that anyone can read the Discourse postings, but you need to login and create a username (once only) before you can make a posting. Also note, if you want to receive email alerts for new postings in any category, click the little bell in the top right of the category title page and select your option from the drop-down menu.

Executive events

The ACC-VI executive will meet again on Monday 22 March 2021. Please send me any items you would like the committee to discuss. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the website at <https://accvi.ca/about/meeting-agendas-and-minutes/>

Happy trails,

Catrin

Catrin Brown chair@accvi.ca

LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION CONTEST RESULTS 2020

<http://accvi.ca/trip-leaders/leader-recognition-program/>

A big ACCVI THANK YOU to all trip leaders for our 2020 trips and events. “Hats off “for outdoing yourselves, even with many months of Covid restrictions, you provided 100 trip and events days! Compare that number to a “pandemic-less” 2019, where 254 trip and event days were enjoyed.

2020 Winners

Top Trip Leader in 2020 – Martin Hofmann – ARCTERYX SOFT SHELL JACKET – 10.5 points



2nd - Peter Morgan 8.5 points - \$100 Valhalla Gift Card

3rd - Janelle Curtis 8 points - \$100 Gift Card

4th Tie- Alois Schonenberger 6.5 points - \$50 Gift Card

4th Tie - Catrin Brown 6.5 points - \$50 Gift Card

5th - Scott Collins 6 points - \$50 Gift Card

6th - Peter Gilbert 6 points - \$50 Gift Card

“Goal Points Badges” Trip Point badges earned by:

Martin Hofmann – 50; Brianna Coates – 35; Nadja Steiner – 25; Scott Collins – 25; Janelle Curtis – 10; Brian Parsons – 10; Peter Morgan – 10

Trip Leader Badges (note 2 events also equals 1 trip point):

Kelsie Warmer; Gary Croome; Erica Ellefsen; Robie Macdonald; Laura Darling; Mike Knippel

Waiver Draw - a “Quadra Island Rock Climbs Guidebook” – Josh Slatkoff

Waivers (sent to the librarian@accvi.ca) are to validate ACC insurance, and entered into an annual draw. The more waivers, the better the chances! 9



Access and Environment

By Barb Baker

MOSAIC GATE ACCESS: Go to Discourse on the ACCVI webpage to find the link to Mosaic gate map <https://www.mosaicforests.com/access> which changes each Friday. For those who are interested there is a brief explanation of these gates, their locations & some of the factors influencing them. These gates have been closed for the past few weeks and are now open. There is no opportunity for discussion with the company on closing access to two public alpine destinations to which in the past we had year-round access. Frustrating. Most Crown land road access is ungated.

ACCESS AGREEMENT: ACCVI signed an access agreement with Mosaic Forest Management in Sep 2020 as a 1-year pilot experiment. Go to Info For Trip Leaders at <https://accvi.ca/access-agreement-with-mosaic-for-comox-lake-main/> for more information.

NEW PUBLIC ACCESS AGREEMENT! Mosaic Forest Management, ACRD Alberni Clayoquot Regional District & FLYN-ROD Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development entered into an agreement March 2, 2021 *“to work together to prioritize and explore public access opportunities to areas within or adjacent to Mosaic-manage private forest lands in the Alberni-Clayoquot region”*. Scout Beach and Lowry Lake on Great Central Lake – two provincially managed Recreation Sites accessed via Mosaic’s privately-owned roads are the sites of the initial pilot expected to launch later this year. *“The working group will proceed to evaluate access solutions for other areas of Mosaic’s privately owned managed forest in the ACRD, such as access to Mount Arrowsmith Regional Park”*. See the full text: <https://www.mosaicforests.com/news-views/working-group-to-identify-and-support-public-access-to-priority-areas-on-private-forest-lands-in-alberni-clayoquot>

MARION FSR: Recent Upgrades on this industrial road have improved access to Hišim̓yawił on 5040. It remains a **4WD** road where 2W travel is definitely discouraged. No doubt it’s snowed over now.

COBALT LAKE: ACCVI is in talks with RSTBC Recreation Sites & Trails BC (recreation agency on Crown lands) on measures to help assess & mitigate the human waste situation.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO (RDN): Mount Arrowsmith & part of Mount Cokely make up Arrowsmith Massif Regional Park to which we have had *limited access this year to date*. ACCVI is a partner with RDN for maintenance of this park. RDN is in early stages of construction of a trail from Horne Lake to Port Alberni which would recreate a precontact trail.

VANCOUVER ISLAND TRAIL: <https://vi-trail.ca/map/> Very detailed maps are now available for download on their web page.

BR 552 NORTH ACCESS TO MT. KLITSA: A rockslide is blocking this road. The forest companies with interests there have NO plans to remove it in the foreseeable future.

SAN JUAN RIDGE/KLUDAHK: Very supportive land manager for that territory Jordan River to Port Renfrew.

Memorial fund Youth Grants

By Geoff Bennett

At the recent virtual AGM, Catrin Brown paid tribute to Jamie Duncan and Laurence Phillipsen, who lost their lives in the mountains last year. George Butcher and Ken Wong have written a fine piece on Jamie, which can be found on the Memorial Fund page. A life story of Laurence is in preparation. Friends and family of these and many other mountaineers have donated to the Memorial Fund in their memories. The fund balance now stands at \$22,423. The yield on this fund is sufficient to allow the Section to offer \$1,000 grants to youth applicants every year.

In the 12 years since inception, the fund has awarded \$8,875 to 11 youth projects. In 2016 a grant to the Warrior Youth of the Ucluelet First Nation began a rewarding relationship which culminated in the 2019 naming of Hišimýawił. In one memorable year – 2018 – the Section supported first winter ascents of Tom Taylor and Mariner, a solo trek of the entire VI Spine Trail, a ski tour of Liberty Bell and a Nanaimo Scout expedition to climb the highest peaks in the UK.

In 2020 the Section awarded grants for two projects: 1) a trek of the VI Trail by a diabetic (to show that it can be done and to record the accomplishment on video) and 2) a food foraging expedition followed by a gourmet meal for six. Unfortunately the pandemic has caused a postponement of these projects. We hope they can be restarted this year or the next.

Another unfortunate effect of the pandemic has been a lack of applications in 2021. These difficult years will soon pass into history. We look forward to a surge of alpine expeditions in 2022, many of them undertaken by our more youthful members. Jamie and Laurence would be delighted.

You can learn more about the Memorial Fund Youth Grant at:

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



\$600 to Isobel Glover for a S-N trek of the entire VI Spine Trail. [link to the Island Bushwhacker Annual 2018, see article on page 97](#)

Historical Photos of ACCVI Members

By Sandy Briggs

I arrived on Vancouver Island for grad school at UVic in the fall of 1977. During grad school my climbing was mostly with the UVic Mountaineering Club (as it soon became). We had heard of the ACC but I guess we thought we didn't have the necessary experience or background to join, and we had lots to do anyway, and I didn't get around to joining till 1985. In 1978 John Pratt arrived at UVic as a post-doc and his "mainland bias" motivated us to try numerous objectives which otherwise might not have come to our attention. One such was Mt. Cayley on the Squamish-Cheakamus divide. We caught the ferry on a Friday, made the approach on the Saturday, and made the climb early on Sunday morning May 18, 1980. The summit block is a bit technical and we were there in thick cloud for a fair while. About 8:30 a.m. we heard a distinct low rumbling noise and dismissed it as an avalanche on nearby Pyroclastic Peak, which we could not see. Left to right in the photo are Steve Robinson, Kevin Taylor, Don Berryman (later a President of the ACCVI), Scott ? (in Grade 11), and John Pratt (later a Pres. of the ACCVI). We descended and made the 10 p.m. ferry at Horseshoe Bay and I got dropped off at my basement suite at 2:30 a.m. Soon we learned that the rumbling noise we had heard was the eruption of Mt. St. Helens.



Twelve of us (including Don Berryman and John Pratt, both later ACCVI Presidents) went to climb Wedge Mountain in Garibaldi Park via the normal south slope route on the Thanksgiving long weekend in 1979. After a pint at the White Gold Inn at Whistler we car-camped in the gravel pit at the start of the rough road up to the Wedgemount Lake trailhead. This was, alas, rather too close to an active railway line, as we were reminded by the nocturnal disturbances. On the Sunday morning some in the party were fit and ambitious and accomplished several objectives, but four of us were slow and set off only at 8:30 a.m. for Wedge. The glacier, which then extended to the lake, was bare and dry, and we went up to the west saddle unroped. Being very slow, we did not reach the summit till 4:30 p.m. However, as the photo attests, this was likely the First Academic Ascent of Wedge Mt. (Summit wearing an academic gown.) Needless to say, the sun set before we reached the bottom of the talus slope. We descended the icy slopes with crampons of course, but in trying to cut and pry steps in the hard ice I broke my (yes, wooden handled) ice-axe in two. As it was dark no one else saw this, and I held the two bits together with one hand in an attempt to keep this misfortune from demoralizing the others in our party. One of the party was having knee problems, but at least it was a clear windless night and only two

days past the full moon, which was so bright we proceeded mostly without headlamps. Folk got suspicious when, upon going ahead a little to check the route among the crevasses, I lay my ice-axe carefully down on the glacier instead of taking it with me. At one little crevasse bridge I had to reveal the state of my ice-axe. Midnight passed. We flashed light signals to our friends near the hut to let them know we were not in danger. Two of them came to the glacier snout to help us get back. We reached the hut at 1:45 a.m. and hit the sack about 3 a.m., after our friends had supplied us with solid food and hot soup. (In the background of the photo is Mt. James Turner, which is another story.)

In 1990 I led an ACCVI trip to the Comox Glacier and ... We were 12 people, including Don B. and John P. (now after both their terms as President of the ACCVI), taking what we called a 'synthetic long weekend', perhaps planned to coincide with the full moon. On Sunday July 8 we set off from the Frog Pond at 5:50 a.m. Craig Hollinger (later an editor for the VOCJ at UBC) and I, who had carried skis up, skied quickly across to tag the summit cairn of Comox Glacier and then joined the other eight



en route to Argus. (Two had turned back.) Ten of us tagged the summit of Mt. Argus, and Craig and I posed for photos there even though there was nowhere to ski down. (See the photo, with Rees Ridge in the background.) Then down the west ridge of Argus and over to Mt. Harmston, where John and I toasted the summit at noon. Soon the other eight arrived. We descended back to the Cliffe Glacier, and while the remaining six scrambled back up Argus, John P., Craig H., Dennis M. and I went over and climbed the Red Pillar. We caught up to the others on the summit of Argus. We all returned to our camp at the Frog Pond a bit after 9:30 p.m., for about a 16 hour day. We all got home safely on Monday the 9th. Four days later Craig and I left for the Caucasus Mountains in Georgia as part of Gil Parker's great ACC month of adventure there.

It's early August 1979 and John Pratt (later a President of the ACCVI) walks into my lab and asks if I want to join him on an 'epic' trip to Mt. James Turner in the depths of Garibaldi Park. What's the catch? Well, at the time neither of us had a car, or at least not a car worth taking, so we planned to do it by a mixture of public transport and hitchhiking, and by taking a synthetic long weekend. (The term megalomania came up a lot in those early years.) We got up early on Saturday Aug 4th and got a bus to the ferry, and then a bus into Vancouver, and then a bus to Horseshoe Bay, where we began hitchhiking (with packs and ice axes of course). Two rides got us to Garibaldi Park, but one of the rides was a young couple who soon opened a bottle of hard liquor and began to pass it back and forth. They generously asked us if we would like a drink too, and with a view to self-preservation John and I both took impolitely large glugs of same. That afternoon we hiked up onto the lower north ridge of Wedge Mt. and bivied in some rock pile at about 8300 ft (2500 m). (Of course Joe Bajan has been heard to comment that if one has a sleeping bag it's not a bivy.) See photo. The full moon was beautiful. On Sunday we made good progress toward our objective, but our logistics, the clock, and our food supply conspired against us, so we turned back having scrambled up a dramatic wee pinnacle that we labelled 'Back Turner'. (I guess we could not get ourselves into overdrive.) We slept out under the stars at the

Wedgemount Lake cabin where a friendly party provided us with a welcome cheesy meal about 8:30 p.m., as we were pretty much out of food. On Monday we started hitchhiking at noon. The traffic was all pick-up trucks and big RVs, and they don't stop. Or maybe it was the two grubby guys with ice axes. Eventually two rides got us to Whistler and then one to Vancouver. The one to Vancouver was three UBC students in an Austin Mini, so things were friendly but crowded coming down Hwy 99. Bus at 6. Ferry at 7. Home at 10. In 1980 we returned with Kevin Taylor and successfully climbed Mt. James Turner.



Recommendations on books and films about nature, wildlife, or mountaineering

Summarized by Janelle Curtis

Members have a list of recommended films and books. Here is what they suggested, and why...

Lynn Martel shares entertaining and captivating stories from her third book, *Stories of Ice: Adventure, Commerce and Creativity on Canada's Glaciers*. With dozens of stunning photographs, learn about adventurers who ski for weeks across icefields carrying their tents and food, scientists discovering biofilms living deep inside glacier caverns, protesters camping for weeks to protect their beloved local glacier and more! A Canadian Rockies resident for four decades, Lynn Martel has written about the people and places of western Canada's mountain community for 25+ years. You can learn more about Lynn and her book at <https://lynnmartel.ca/>



Lynn is also giving an ACCVI Zoom slide show on 8 April 2021. See the ACCVI schedule for more details at <https://accvi.ca/events/online-slide-show-lynn-martel/>

Barb Baker recommends two videos:

Video on snow artwork (2 minutes)

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/arts/2021/02/12/snow-artwork-finland-lon-orig-ep.cnn>

The Mystery Mountain Project is a documentary re-enactment of Don and Phyllis Munday's expedition to Mount Waddington. You can watch this on Vimeo, Amazon Prime, Adventure Sports TV, and Real House. To learn more about it, watch this 4 minute interview with the director at <https://globalnews.ca/video/7640543/documentary-explores-historic-b-c-expedition>

She also recommends a few articles:

Canadian Geographic Featured Fellow profile of Emily Choy

<https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/featured-fellow-emily-choy>

Climbers to Know About: Legendary Brit Doug Scott Gripped Feb 19, 2021

<https://gripped.com/profiles/climbers-to-know-about-legendary-brit-doug-scott/>

Two Mega All-Canadian Alpine Climbs Planned for 2021 Gripped Feb 14, 2021

<https://gripped.com/news/two-mega-all-canadian-alpine-climbs-planned-for-2021/>

The Himalayan peak off limits to climbers BBC Travel February 17, 2021

<http://www.bbc.com/travel/story/20210216-the-himalayan-peak-off-limits-to-climbers>

And a coffee table book:

Mount Assiniboine – The Story. A coffee table book by Chic Scott that you can purchase online from Assiniboine Lodge <https://assiniboinelodge.com>

Portrait View: Kids and Youth Program Coordinator

By Derek Sou

Editor's note: We have a column in our ACCVI Island Bushwhacker Newsletter called "Portrait View." The intent of this column is to focus on the contributions of folks on the ACCVI Executive Committee who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities.

The Kids and Youth Program Coordinator is an ACCVI executive position. The Program Coordinator has the pleasure of leading and planning trips for kids and youth and their parents/guardians.

Past

The Kids and Youth Program began on August 31, 2007, when 8 adults and 9 kids ventured up Mount Albert Edward, led by two newcomers to Canada that had much stronger German accents than they do now. These leaders were Harry and Nadja Steiner, and one or both of them led a mind-boggling 47 trips for kids and youth, which ranged from a climbing/juggling camp to a full-week camp near Sutton Peak.

The Steiners also began the youth leader training program which developed about 5 youth leaders that led and assisted in leading trips. They had a knack of fostering community, which developed into a group of "regulars" over the years. Najda and Harry also helped develop adult leaders with very little mountain experience at the time, such as yours truly, and welcomed experienced leaders like Stefan Gessinger to lead trips.



Mount Albert Edward in 2007. Photo by Nadja Steiner

Present

In 2016, I took over the Kids and Youth Program wary of having such big shoes to fill and led trip number 57 for the program. The most recent trip, a day climbing camp last September with lots of hand sanitizer and distance between parties, was trip number 85. Until about a year-and-a-half ago when the Alpine Club of Canada Columbia Mountains Section started a similar program, we were the only ACC section with such a program.

FUN! If I had to summarize the Kids and Youth it would be FUN! A midst the tears, songs, yodeling, cheers, constantly erupt (some fueled by gummy bears). Needless to say, I rarely see wildlife when we're on trips. The fun seems to last as many kids have made steadfast friends in the program.



Air Quotes on Contemplation on 4 August 2018.
Photo by Tina Lynch

My role as coordinator is much like any trip leader, except that my bag has more gummies and hand warmers, I usually scout out the route prior to the trip, expect to take more time, and am constantly amazed at what young bodies can do. I am fortunate to lead many of these trips with Stefan and my son, Iain, as well as having the assistance of youth leaders.

Highlights

In the last two years alone (2018 and 2019), Stefan and/or I put on 19 trips (7 ski trips, 7 mountaineering trips, 2 climbing camps, 2 hut work parties, and the hut naming weekend). Thirty-five families (40 adults and 48 kids) came on these trips, most of whom came on more than trip.

Over the last years, there have been several highlights:

- Family Week, a week dove-tailed between weeks of our Section Camp – Stefan and I have had wondrous adventures wading rivers, climbing slab, and ice climbing seracs with the Kids and Youth. Thank you Stefan and Shanda, members of the camp, and Catrin who came up with the idea of Family Week, as well as the Summer Camp Committee for its organization of the Section Camp.
- Youth Leader Training – Every time my son, Iain, or other prior youth leaders help me lead a trip or I approach a kid to see if they would like to be trained as a leader, I am immensely satisfied.
- Snow Camp – At 3:00 am on February 18, 2018 we packed up our camp due to a dump of snow that wasn't in the forecast, so that we had a hope of getting out on the unplowed logging roads. The trip lasted less than 24 hours parking lot to parking lot.
- Liberty Bell – Stefan and Shanda were in Mazama, Washington exploring the Washington Pass peaks and heard that in spring dry rock could be approached on skis. In May 2018, we embarked on an amazing trip where we climbed the South Arete on South Early Winters Spire with its fabulous au cheval.



*Roping up under Lindisfarne North Ridge, 7 August 2019
Photo by Gary Croome*



*Pajero plowing logging roads Near Arrowsmith,
18 February 2018. Photo by: Iain Sou*



Our Camp below South Early Winters Spire to the right, 18 May 2018. Photo by Derek Sou

Future

My time is coming to an end as my daughter will turn 18 next year and no longer be a kid or youth. I will likely be involved at some level and would be happy to continue managing Family Week. I have had some interest from volunteers to take over the program on a part-time basis, but no one in a lead role. It is my hope that a key person can be mentored in the next year or two to coordinate the part-time leaders. Volunteers, anyone?



*Heading out from a Ski Camp at Paradise Meadows, 7 February 2017
Photo by Derek Sou*

Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF) - so many choices!

By Laura Darling

What are you looking for this March? Exciting stories, inspiration, knowledge? Entertainment for a cold winter night?

The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour offers two choices to get you just what you need:

- 1) FOUR video programs, **AMBER, ONYX, RUBY and SAPPHIRE**, for online viewing, available as individual programs (\$15USD/3 day rental period) or in a 2-program bundle (\$28USD/14 day rental period) or as an “Epic Bundle” , including all 4 of the online programs.
- 2) The **Award Winners: Monthly Film Series** program, which features film festival award winners from the last three years, also available for online viewing (\$15USD) for 10 days at the end of each month as a recurring monthly series. Catch up on missed films or re-live some of the best that Banff has to offer. The February program, which can be viewed Feb 26 to March 7th, includes:

Confessions of a Runner (USA, 28 mins) – Best Film Mountain Sports – 2020

The Last Mountain (Poland, 83 min) – Best Film Climbing – 2019

The Ridge of Dreams (USA, 24 min) – Best Film Snow Sports – 2019

Purchase all these film programs through this ACCVI unique affiliate link:

<https://filmfest.banffcentre.ca/?campaign=WT-151882>

Please share our affiliate link with friends who would be interested in these films.

For more info on the tour, see previous FB post at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/accvi/permalink/3776301372414855/>

Any further questions to ACCVI? Email: bmff@accvi.ca

Landscape View: The Comox District Mountaineering Club (CDMC)

By the CDMC Executive

Photos by Juanita Wells and Ken Rodonets

Editor's note: We have a column in our newsletter called "Landscape View." The intent of this column is to focus on the roles of folks outside ACCVI who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities.

The Comox District Mountaineering Club was formed in 1927 by a few people interested in exploring Forbidden Plateau. These pioneers were the original route finders and trail builders in this area and as the years went by club members extended their trails further into Strathcona Park and most of these trails are still in use today. A more detailed account of early club history can be explored here: <https://comoxhiking.com/about-history/>

The CDMC became a non – profit in the fall of 1999 and in keeping with the thoughts and ideas of the club's founding members the CDMC has moved forward since then with a purpose to promote conservation, the appropriate use of parks and wilderness areas, and to organize a program of hikes, expeditions and leadership skills.

Local conservation efforts continue to be supported by members through donations and volunteer time provided by members. The club has supported such projects locally for many years with the most recent being the Morrison Creek watershed and the Cumberland Community Forest.

The Comox Valley Ground Search and Rescue organization is supported annually by collecting small donations from members during membership renewal and \$1000 was raised in 2020 for this worthy cause. To further the efforts of the early club pioneers to blaze trails, the club has a purpose to undertake projects that will provide access to and aid in the development, improvement, and maintenance of trails and other amenities where feasible in partnership with BC Parks and private landholders. Having maintained a volunteer agreement with BC Parks for several years and thanks to some extra funding from BC Parks, there have been several larger projects and new equipment purchased to support the efforts of members to maintain, improve, or repair many kilometers of trails in the back country.

Records of club activities are continually being updated and while not all records are complete some of the many projects are included below.

In 1970, in conjunction with the Island Mountain Ramblers, the five-year Marble Meadows trail project was completed.

In the summer of 2000, the Helen Mackenzie millennium project was undertaken over two one-week sessions by club members to provide tent platforms and board walk to help protect the fragile vegetation in this campsite area.



The approximately 30 km Forbidden Plateau traverse trail is an ongoing project that needs maintenance almost every year due to overgrowth and extreme weather events that happen in the area of this trail every spring, fall, and winter.



Using windfall logs cleared off the trail and rolling them into place for a new bridge across a creek on the Forbidden Plateau traverse trail which travels from Wood Mt along Forbidden Plateau into the core area of Strathcona park all the way to Murray Meadows.

With the help of members from the Island Mountain Ramblers, a host tent pad and deck for the yurt at the Croteau Lake group campsite was constructed in the fall of 2018.



Replacing three worn out and missing bridges in Murray Meadows in the fall of 2020.



Mostly the CDMC organizes single day and multi day trips throughout the year. Trips are generally in the Comox Valley/Strathcona Park area but trips to other locations on Vancouver Island as well as a few off of the island have been organized. Learning opportunities (First Aid, avalanche, navigation, outdoor skills, etc) are offered whenever possible. Those interested in becoming a trip leader will mentor with an experienced leader to advance their skills until they are ready to lead on their own.

Trip leaders lead every club trip, which range in difficulty from easy to challenging and can be day trips or multi-day backpacking. Weekly during the spring, summer and fall the options range from a day hike to Rosewall Creek to a three-day trip up the Comox Glacier. In the winter, there are opportunities for snowshoeing and an occasional cross country ski day. Members have also participated in the annual Comox Valley Snow to Surf race.

All club activities are member supported including the club website which is an ongoing project. The club newsletter is also supported by members who generously volunteer their own time to improve these resources for all members.

The CDMC is always accepting new members and membership goes to cover insurance and to support member activities. In 2017, the CDMC had an opportunity to move to the current website and trip sign up platform on Meetup. To explore past trips, check out the photo gallery and trip catalogue as well as the trip archive that currently has been updated as far back as 2009.



On top of the Comox Glacier.

ACCVI's All women beginner friendly trips

By Janelle Curtis

There were few trips on the schedule this year, in part because of the pandemic. That and the window of opportunity for trips was very short because of health and safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. So, I was keen to post trips during the short time the health restrictions were eased enough for small groups to gather outdoors. I also wanted to create some more opportunities for women to connect in the backcountry.



*On our way to Cruickshank Canyon Lookout.
Photo by Vivian Addison*

Lenka Visnovska and I have organized several all women beginner-friendly trips during the past decade. There were two women who had never hiked in the backcountry before when we co-led one of our first ACCVI trips along the Augerpoint Traverse in 2014. One of the women was experiencing considerable pain until we worked together as a team to adjust the way she was wearing her backpack and encouraged her to use her hiking poles, which I always described as being “mandatory” on the trips I’ve led over the years. We realized that our trips were a great way for women to meet other like-minded women while learning or practicing skills, including packing, navigating, setting up camp, hanging food, and staying safe.

We have organized a few pre-trip planning meetings over the years and always circulate detailed emails to review the basics of preparing for an overnight hiking trip into the backcountry. During those meetings and in our emails, we reviewed how to plan a hike, which footwear, clothes, and gear would be needed for the anticipated conditions, how to prepare food and water, and how best to be ready for the unexpected. This year, we used Zoom for one of our planning meetings and I think these could work very well for many types of ACCVI trips in the future. Participants can meet ahead of time regardless of where they live, re-view various skills, and agree on some of the logistics, including carpooling and how best to share gear.

Lenka and I have led all women trips to Mount Albert Edward, along the Elk River Valley, and more recently, the Forbidden Plateau Traverse with Christine Rivers from the Island Mountain Ramblers. This year, however, Lenka was unable to join any ACCVI hikes because she was getting ready for the unexpected herself – she had twins!

In 2020, I was happy to lead trips to Crest Mountain in August, Kwai Lake and Cruickshank Canyon in early October, and Drabble Lakes a few weeks later. I had planned to hike along the Elk River Trail to Landslide



Just about to start our hike. Photo by an anonymous hiker

and Iceberg Lakes during the Thanksgiving long weekend but decided to cancel that trip because of strong winds and rain. Despite the pandemic, these trips generated a lot of interest from our community, with 11-18 women contacting me about joining each hike. This year, we followed provincial health guidelines to reduce the risk of transmitting the coronavirus, including sleeping in our own tents. We also limited our group sizes to six. In the end, 14 women participated in these three hiking trips.

One of the questions I asked in my introductory emails was whether participants wanted to learn something specific during our hike. The responses were varied. Some wanted to learn about how to hang food bags or set up a tarp or emergency shelter. Others wanted to learn about navigation, setting up camp in the back-country, or how to use their inReach emergency satellite device. Others expressed an interest in learning how to lead trips and about the local fauna and flora. One person wrote that she wanted to learn “everything!” Quite a few women noted that they wanted to learn how to be more self-sufficient during overnight trips because their partners usually made all the decisions before or during a hike, including those related to selecting and packing gear, meals, hydration, and navigation. Many women also expressed wanting to meet other women who hike.



*Enjoying a glassy tarn on the way back to camp.
Photo by Janelle Curtis*



*Feeling grateful to be there!
Photo by Janelle Curtis*



*Getting organized for dinner.
Photo by Janelle Curtis*



*Not getting too close to the edge at
Cruikshank Canyon lookout.
Photo by Janelle Curtis*

At the trailhead on all three hikes, participants introduced themselves and signed waivers. Then I showed them where I keep maps, route descriptions, my inReach device, and the group's emergency contact details. I also showed everyone how to use the inReach in case of an emergency. We all agreed to assess conditions and hazards along the way, stay together during our hike, and ensure we all came back safely.

I really enjoyed these trips and resolving some unanticipated challenges that came our way with these thoughtful and dynamic women. There was a range of experiences and interests in all three groups and we learned much from each other and worked together as a team. For instance, the trees on Crest Mountain were not very suitable for hanging food bags, but we worked together to hang them off a cliff away from our camp and out of reach of hungry wildlife. On the way home from that trip, we also discussed the contents of a good first aid kit over drinks and some food.



*Hanging food and other consumables from a cliff.
Photo by Elizabeth Robertson*



*Sitting comfortably for dinner out of the rain.
Photo by Janelle Curtis*

During the hike to Drabble lakes, our group was grateful that we had decided to bring a large tarp, given that it was raining that weekend. Together, we figured out how to set it up so we would have a dry and comfortable spot to enjoy our meals and a misty view of the lake.

Apart from learning from each other in the backcountry, we laughed a lot and shared many stories. These were great trips to connect with other like-minded women who enjoy hiking. I'm looking forward to more adventures with them!



*On our way to Drabble Lakes.
Photo by Jamieson Gordon-Mason*

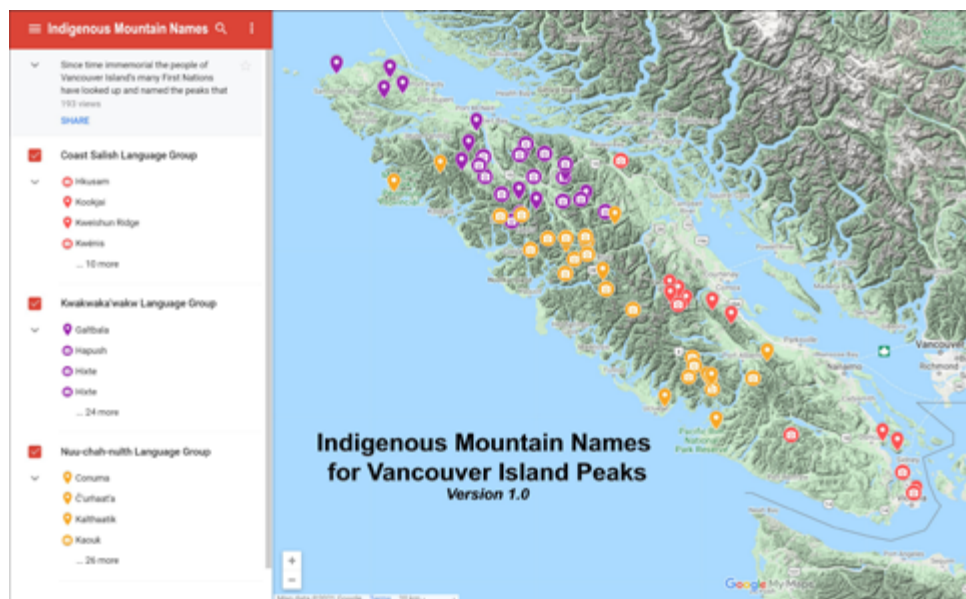
First Nations Names for Vancouver Island Mountains

By Geoff Bennett

At the end of December, a teacher from Ecole Victor Brodeur (the French school in Esquimalt) approached Alois Schonenberger for assistance with a special project. Her third-grade students are researching First Nation (FN) names for Vancouver Island (VI) mountains. Alois contacted Catrin Brown, who then got in touch with Lindsay Elms and me.

Lindsay is a fountain of local knowledge so with his guidance I cobbled together a spreadsheet. Mary Sanseverino quickly and expertly generated a map. Gerry Graham is helping us communicate in French. To the best of our knowledge, this research has never been done for the whole island. Here is the link to the map: [Indigenous Names of Vancouver Island Mountains](#)

The students are busily working with this data but we don't expect to see their report until the end of the school year. They have approached two FN groups in the Victoria area but have so far received no reply.



I've approached Ricardo Manmohan, who sounds keen to help. He is discussing the project with the Yuułu?it?ath (Ucluelet) FN Warrior Youth and some of the elders. This was the group that named Hišimýawił. I have also contacted MLAs Murray Rankin and Adam Olsen, and the BC Toponymy Branch, all of whom have given us some assistance.

We would like to start expanding and improving this list by reaching out to the entire ACCVI membership and from there to the various First Nations on the island.

The next step is to find photos for which we have permission to publish and for which we have the name of the photographer and date. You'll see from the map icons which mountains are lacking photos. Please send photos to Mary if you have any (msanseve@gmail.com).

We are also looking for more FN names. We think we have found most, if not all, of the official "gazetted" names but there are hundreds of other mountains and hills that probably have ancient, local names - perhaps even the big well-known peaks. If you know of any names, note any errors, or have comments please contact me (geoff.bennett@shaw.ca).

Approaching local FN groups across the island will be a respectful, gradual process. If you have any good personal contacts with First Nations, please let me know and we'll discuss how to approach them. If you can help me assemble a contact list, based on existing FN maps and websites, I would be most appreciative.

This is an original and exciting project, and we thank Ecole Victor Brodeur for initiating it. Our intention in the Section is to pursue this project indefinitely. A website page will be devoted to the map. As Mary wrote in a recent article for State of the Mountains, "Names are important." Just to be aware of Indigenous names is a step in the right direction, even if the official names continue to be used. However, some of our peaks are named after obscure naval officers and colonists who spent little time in the area. Many have no official names at all. In some cases, there may be enough popular support from the public and First Nations to name or rename a peak. Alaskans were able to reclaim Denali. Perhaps we can do the same.

Woman in the Wild

Some highlights from a decade with the Mountain Legacy Project

By Mary Sanseverino

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Mary Sanseverino and ever since taking my first alpine photo over 50 years ago in my hometown of Revelstoke BC I've been mountain mad and camera crazy. Lucky for me more than a decade ago, as I was phasing out of my career as a UVic computer scientist, I discovered the [Mountain Legacy Project \(MLP\)](#).

Eric Higgs, MLP's lead investigator, welcomed me and gave me space where I could hone both my photography and mountaineering skills. MLP gave me the opportunity to chase mountain light captured in photographs taken by surveyors working over a century ago. And, when historic photo locations were found, to go out and repeat those photos as accurately as possible.

For over 20 years the Mountain Legacy Project, based at the University of Victoria in the School of Environmental Studies, has been using this type of repeat photography method to explore change in Canada's mountain landscapes. The historic photographs are remarkably detailed. The rephotography process is painstaking. And the resulting historic/modern photo pairs reveal both rapidly changing and timeless landscapes – often in the same image!



Example of an historic/modern image pair. These images taken from above the Kaskawulsh Glacier in today's Kluane National Park and Reserve, Yukon: Ä'äyChù (Slim's River) on the right of the images to the Kaskawulsh River on the left. Historic photo by James McArthur, 1900. Modern photo by the Mountain Legacy Project, 2012. [Click to view on a map.](#)

The historic/modern pairs are aligned, analyzed, used by MLP for research, and made available to scientists, students, government agencies, the public at large – in fact, anyone interested in exploring Canada’s mountain heights.

Working with long-running partner Library and Archives Canada / Bibliothèque et Archives Canada (LAC/BAC), UVic Libraries, the Canadian Mountain Network, and other agencies and organizations, MLP researchers endeavour to understand how and why mountain ecosystems, landscapes, and human communities change over time.

As you can imagine, this type of research doesn’t come cheaply. Key project funding and engagement comes from many sources. Over the past decade the Alberta Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council have played key roles. A lot of time is spent writing grant applications, and I’ve been closely involved over the past five years with successful grants from BC Parks. With approximately 120,000 historic photos, almost all of which are glass plate negatives, Canada is home to the world’s largest collection of systematic historic mountain imagery. Most of the ranges in BC, Alberta, and the Yukon have extensive coverage. The earliest photographs date back to 1861 and are from the Canada/USA International Boundary Commission survey along the 49th parallel. But the vast majority come from topographic mapping efforts carried out between 1888 and the 1950s. Most of the images are held at LAC/BAC in Gatineau, Quebec, the BC Archives in Victoria, and the Whyte Museum in Banff. As of 2020 MLP teams have repeated over 9,000 of these photographs. The image pairs, along with thousands of as yet unrepeated historic photos, are published in searchable format online at explore.mountainlegacy.ca. Since its inception MLP researchers have developed and improved techniques for acquiring the modern retakes, for curating and analyzing the image pairs, and for publishing the results.

Developing custom software to assist in analyzing the images is also a research area of interest for MLP. It’s where I, and my husband Mike Whitney, spend a lot of our time. Even though the “glory” work is getting into the mountains to repeat the historic photos, the truth of the matter is that much more time is spent in front of computers. According to my rough calculations MLP researchers spend five or more hours in the office for every hour in the hills! It was the same with the historic surveyors – June to September/October in the field, and the rest of the year in the office creating topographic maps with that summer’s photos and measurements.

Highlights and Take-aways

MLP researchers – me included – are always learning. We do regular mountaineering courses, undertake and keep upgraded with wilderness first aid, take Canadian Radio Operators training, and practice wilderness navigation skills. We are always honing our camera skills and adjusting our in-the-field processes.

A favourite experience of mine is the start-of-season helicopter hover exit/entrance training and certification. There’s nothing like getting yourself, your teammates, and gear into a helicopter on top of a mountain with the machine overhead at full power a metre or more off the ground. It especially concentrates the mind when a thunderstorm is on the way.

For an example of a day out with Mountain Legacy researchers (including a classic hover entry at the end) take a few moments to watch this video from 2017: [Mountain Legacy celebrates International Mountain Day](#).

On the scientific front, MLP has informed many research projects over the years, which means there are lots of highlight landscape change themes to choose from. Here are a few that have resonated with me:

1). Loss of glaciation. Figure 1 shows the Athabasca Glacier. The loss of ice between A.O. Wheeler’s 1917 and MLP’s 2011 image is startling. Figure 2 is based on the same images but demonstrates an analysis with MLP’s Image Analysis Toolkit (IAT), which was developed to help researchers better visualize and quantify change between and within image pairs. IAT was developed by Mike Whitney with assistance from me. It has been used by a growing number of mountain study / ecosystem restoration researchers and students. We continue to work on it today.

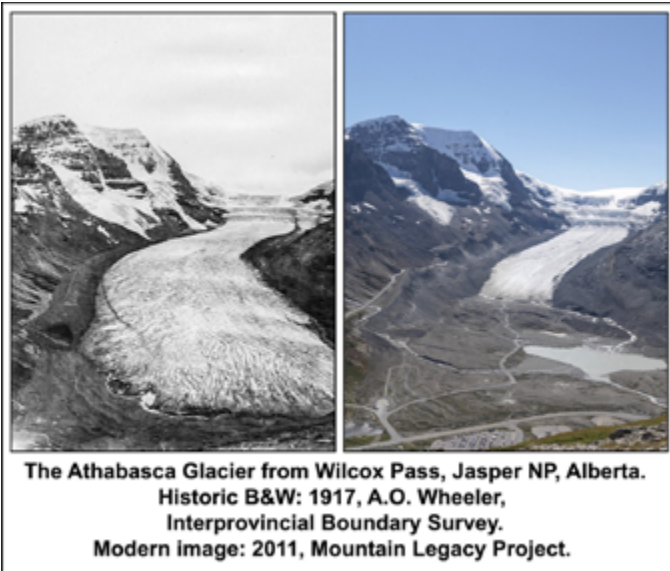
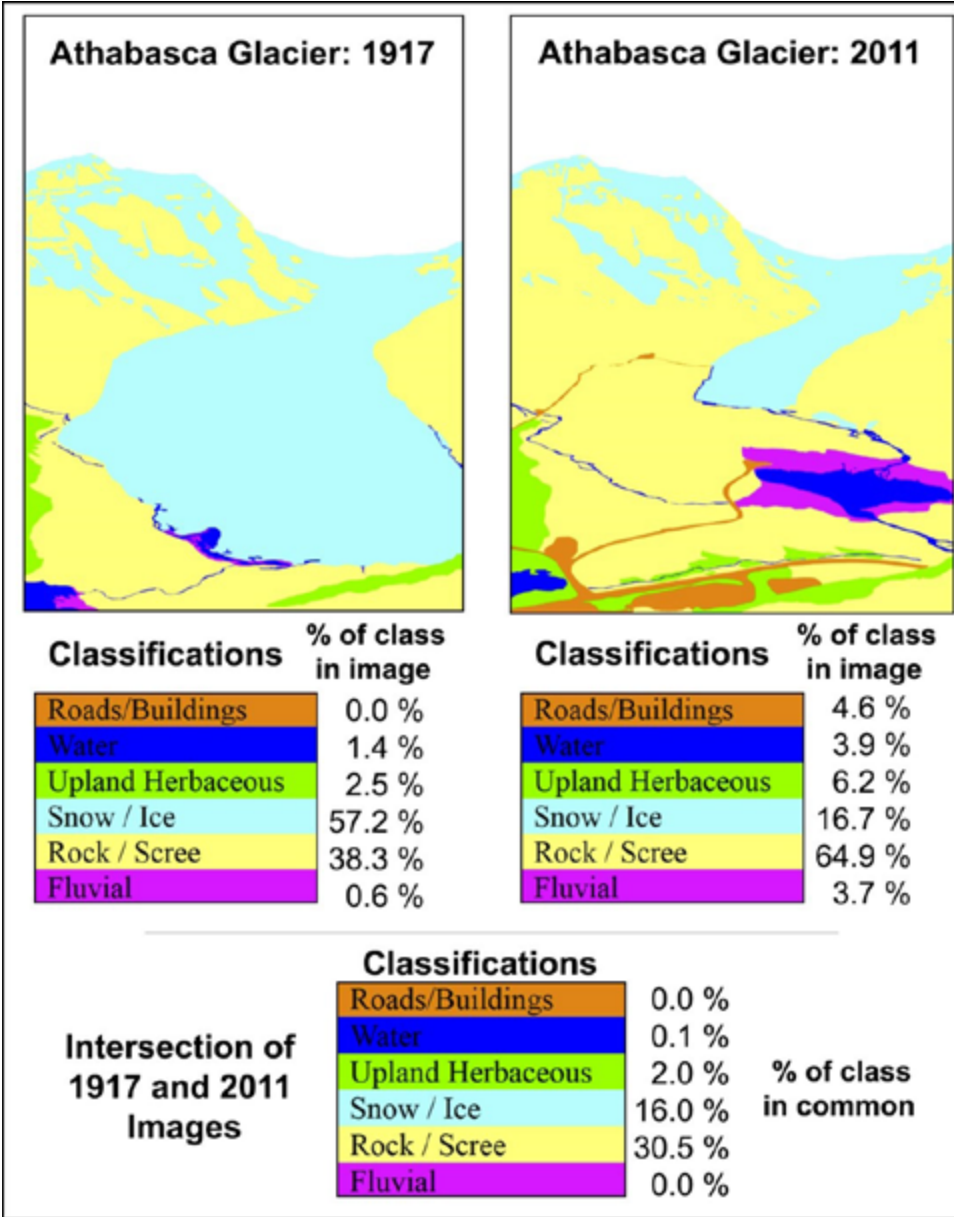


Figure 2. Dramatic loss of glacial ice.



2). Alpine Treeline Ecotone (ATE) advance. Figure 3 from east of the Highwood Ranges in southern Alberta shows trees infilling and the treeline moving upslope. As past MLP research has shown, there are many questions around both the mechanisms driving ATE advance and the changes it brings to alpine ecosystems. Climate change is thought to be one of the key drivers, but not the only one. For more information on this fascinating phenomenon, a recent paper by Andrew Trant et al. (2020) is well worth a look (he uses MLP images pairs and IAT software!): [A century of high elevation ecosystem change in the Canadian Rocky Mountains](#)

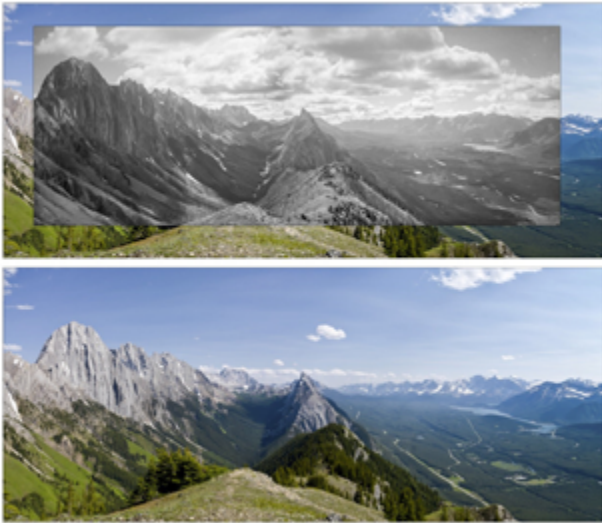
Figure 3. Historic and modern images segmented into classification categories. Each category is shown as a percentage in a given image. The intersection of categories between images indicates what has remained the same in the intervening 94 years. For example 16% of the snow and ice category is in the same place in the 2011 image as it is in the 1917 photo.

3). Infilling and encroachment of vegetation – especially conifers. The forest in Figure 4 surrounds Magog Lake and the Mt. Assiniboine massif. As well as showing significant loss of glacial ice, the 2017 image shows a much denser forest – a possible wildfire concern in a warming world. The 2017 image was repeated as part of an Alpine Club of Canada – Vancouver Island section summer camp to Assiniboine Provincial Park.



Looking west from Mt. Cautley shoulder over the Mt. Assiniboine massif. Mt. Assiniboine Provincial Park. British Columbia.

Figure 4. Notice how the density of trees has increased in the modern image.



Looking south from King Creek Ridge, Kananaskis Country, Alberta.
Historic B&W: 1916, D. Nichols, surveyor.
Modern image: 2012, Mountain Legacy Project.

Figure 5: Notice how the fire burned both the west and east slopes (right and left) in the centre of the image, but jumped the top of the ridge. modern image.

4). Evidence of wildfire on the landscape. Figure 5 from King Creek Ridge in Kananaskis Country, Alberta, shows how fire – possibly from the big 1910 fire season – has moved on the ridge. Wildland fire scientists are starting to use images like this to help deepen their understanding of where, when, and how wildfires have shaped our mountain landscapes. A fascinating research collaboration – the [Landscapes In Motion project](#) – is a good example of this type of work.

5). Resetting our perception of change. Returning to Mt Assiniboine Provincial Park, Figure 6 shows an example of further software development using land cover classifications and an [historic/modern image pair](#). The camera station where the photos are taken from is below Nub Peak in the central part of the Park. The tool is still in development by Mike, me, and a number of MLP grad students. In Figure 6 we don't just calculate landscape cover percentages as per Figure 2. We project these land cover classes onto maps and measure actual area.

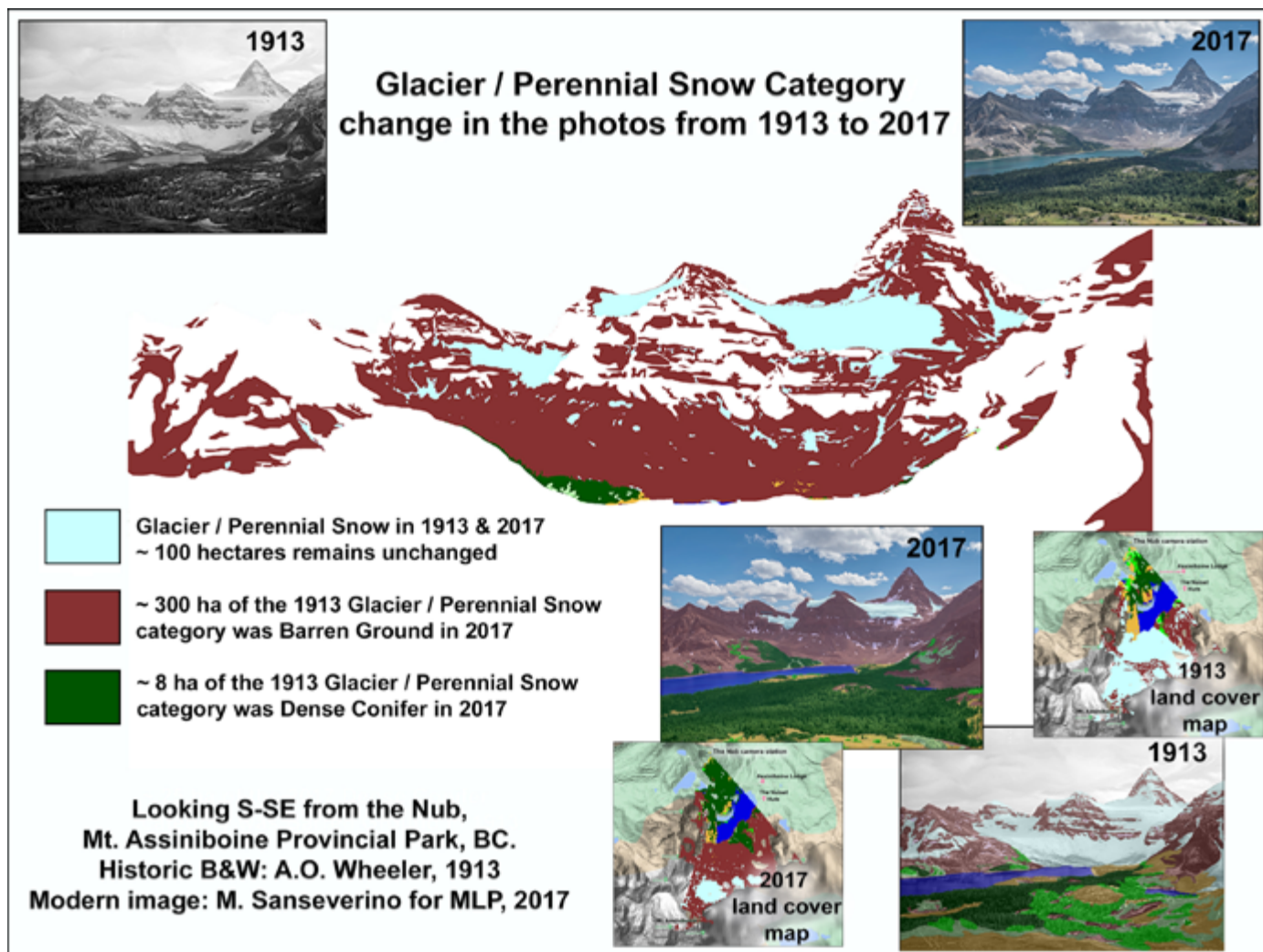


Figure 6: An example of MLP's new photo georeferencing tool used here to create land cover maps representing the landscape as it existed over a century ago. The example here focuses on glacial ice and perennial snow – the images show the differences between 1913 and 2017, the maps show areal extent.

This new software allows those interested in land management, ecosystem restoration, wildland fire studies, glacial change, etc. to generate accurate and detailed landscape cover maps from over a century ago. Sometimes known as “shifting baselines”, there can be a loss of perception of change that occurs when succeeding generations redefine what is “timeless” in our mountain landscapes. This methodology lets us reset those perceptions.

Keep on exploring Want to know more about the Mountain Legacy Project? Here are a few resources to help you continue exploring.

News and articles from MLP: mountainlegacy.ca/news

Map-based MLP exploration website: Mountain Legacy Explorer

MLP Facebook Page (you don't have to be a FB member): [@mountainlegacyproject](https://www.facebook.com/mountainlegacyproject)

Mary Sanseverino / MLP on Twitter: [@msanseve](https://twitter.com/msanseve)

Selected repeat and historic photos: [On Flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/mountainlegacy/)

Mountain Legacy main website: mountainlegacy.ca

If you have questions/comments, feel free to get in touch. I can be reached at msanseve@gmail.com

As I always say “If you're lucky enough to be in the mountains – you're lucky enough!”

Happy trails and stay safe everyone.

ACCVI History 1929

By Lindsay Elms



1929

ACCVI Executive: Chairman – Arthur Wheeler; Vice-chairman – William Dougan; Secretary – Kenneth Chadwick; Treasurer – Gordon Cameron; Outings Committee – Claude Harrison; Committee – Irene Bastow Hudson, Robert McCaw, Mrs. Postgate.

February 16 – Club trip to Mt. Newton.
February 24 – Club trip to Red Flag Hill.
March 9 – Club trip to Cattle Hill.
March 24 – Club trip to Mt. Braden.
April 1 – Club trip to Sooke Canyon.
April 1 – Club's 23rd annual banquet held at the Belvedere Hotel, Sooke. Talks and lantern slides by Arthur Wheeler on "Roger's Pass" and Alan Campbell on "Garibaldi."
April 14 – Club trip to Mt. Skirt.
April 27 – Club trip to Jocelyn Hill and Lone Tree Hill.
May 5 – Club trip to Mt. Jeffrey.
May 18 – Annual club picnic at Mr. and Mrs. James White's Lake Killarney.
May 24-26 – Club trip to Leech Falls.
June 16 – Club meeting at Sara Spencer's Moss Street home.
July 1-7 – Annual camp at Shield's Lake.
September 16-18 – Camp at Forbidden Plateau.
October 12 – Half-day club trip to Mt. Finlayson.
October 26 – Club trip to Ragged Mountain.
November 9-11 – Club camp at Lake of the Seven Hills.
November 22 – Club talk at the Chamber of Commerce Auditorium on the camps at Forbidden Plateau and the Lake of the Seven Hills.
November 30 – Half-day club trip to Mt. Macdonald.

Section members who attended the ACC general summer at Glacier: Arthur Wheeler, William Foster, Lindley Crease, Henry Gale, Frederick Longstaff.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday January 31, 1929, p. 4.

ALPINE CLUB PLAN SPRING ACTIVITIES

Outings committee Yesterday Drew Up Programme for February, March, April and May

With abundant faith in Victoria's Winter climate, the outings committee of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada met yesterday afternoon at the office of the convenor, Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, and drew up the Spring programme. This will begin on Saturday, February 16, with an excursion up Mount Newton, leaving the city at 1:30 p.m. The plan of alternating half-day with whole day trips was adopted as far as possible, although the following

sequence shows a succession of exceptions. Members will be expected to appraise the secretary, *Mr. K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick**, 1827 Chestnut Street, at least two days in advance of each trip which they intend to join. The following is the schedule as completed to date: February 16 – Half-day trip to Mount Newton, leaving the city at 1:30; February 24 – whole day, leaving city at 9:30 a.m., Red Flag Hill; March 9, Cattle Hill, half-day trip leaving city at 1:30 p.m.; March 24, Mount Braden, full-day trip leaving city at 9:30 a.m.; April 1, Sooke Canyon full-day trip leaving city at 9:30 a.m.; April 14, Mount Skirt, full-day, leaving city at 9:30 a.m.; April 27, two expeditions first Jocelyn Hill, full-day trip leaving city at 9:30 a.m.; second, half-day trip to Lone Tree Hill, leaving city at 1:30 p.m.; May 5, Mount Jeffrey, full-day trip leaving city at 9:30 a.m.; May 18, annual club picnic as guests of Mr. and Mrs. James White at Lake Killarney; May 24-26, two-day trip to Leech Falls. There will probably be two excursions during June, particulars of which will be published later. Club activities will be suspended during July and August.

*Kenneth Murray Chadwick (1878 – 1934) was born on August 11, 1878, in Leeds, England. Educated as a civil engineer, he came to Canada in 1907 and lived in Penticton for five years before settling in Victoria in 1914. He was an energetic and prominent member of the Vancouver Island section, having filled the post of secretary for eight or nine years before his sudden death and attended many camps and outings. He was also the secretary of the Victoria branch of the Canadian Institute of Civil Engineers and the Rosicrucian Society, and a member of the Men's Guild of St. Mary's Church and the Radio Club. A fortnight before his unexpected passing he and several others were at the Alpine Club hut at the Lake of the Seven Hills completing some of the details of the new building. He passed away after surgery complications on October 21, 1934, leaving a widow and one daughter Muriel. (Obituary in *The Daily Colonist* October 23, 1934, p. 5.)

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday February 6, 1929, p. 8.

In spite of cold weather, a party of hikers, some of them on snowshoes and skis, went up Mount Beecher [Becher] on Sunday [February 3]. Staggering through the deep snow proved to be very hard work, and Mrs. V. Hall, her son Keith, together with Angus and Margaret Galloway, decided to spend the night in the cabin. A good supply of fuel was procured and the party made itself comfortable for the night. Very early on Monday morning, Jack Gregson and Sid Williams returned to the cabin with food and escorted the erstwhile fatigued climbers back to town.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday March 2, 1929, p. 17.

FORBIDDEN PLATEAU UP TO STANDARD

Dominion Official Expresses Opinion as to Suitability for National Park Purposes.

Courtenay. March 1. – A packed house greeted Mr. J.C. Campbell, director of the publicity of the national parks branch of the Dominion Government. Before showing excellent pictures of both scenic beauty and animal life in its native condition, covering the national parks of the Dominion, Mr. Campbell expressed himself as being convinced that the area here known as the "Forbidden Plateau" is quite up to national park standard. The plateau, however, should be joined up with Strathcona Park, when the time arrives to make these two areas a national playground. There was, he said, justification for requesting that this area be set aside as a park, seeing that British Columbia has only 1,600 square miles of park area, whereas Alberta has 9,000 square miles. Mr. Wallace McPhee introduced the speaker. Mr. Clinton Wood, president of the Courtenay Mountaineering club, told those present of the excellent tobogganing, skiing and snow-shoeing that at present was being enjoyed on the slopes of Mount Beecher [Becher] by a number of people. An effort is being made to increase membership of the club in order to provide funds for better accommodation at the cabin on Mount Beecher. A hearty vote of thanks was moved to Mr. Campbell for a most enjoyable entertainment.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday April 2, 1929, p. 2.

FOSSILS DONATED

Mr. Claude L. Harrison and Miss R. [Rena] C. Jones, of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, donated a collection of fossils, secured during a visit to the 'Forbidden Plateau,' of Comox District.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday April 2, 1929, p.11.

SOOKE CANYON IS VISITED BY CLUB

Hard Day's Foot Slogging Winds Up with Annual Dinner at Belvedere Hotel and Dance After

The expedition made by the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada yesterday [April 1] proved a great

success. The party which left Bastion Street at 9 a.m., was twenty-four strong and drove some three miles up the course of Sooke River, when they shouldered their packs and began the hike to Sooke Canyon. The first view of the canyon was obtained from a ledge 150 feet above the bed of the river. In order to reach this the members were let down a sheer drop by means of a 105-foot rope. Later the members were lowered to the bottom of the canyon and succeeded in getting below the falls by means of the full length of rope brought on the expedition. At this point half the party crossed the river and worked their way down the west bank as far as the suspension bridge, where they were joined by the remainder. The members then climbed to an altitude of 1,100 feet, from which they had a wonderful view of Port Angeles, Sooke Harbor and Mount Empress. The party repaired to the Belvedere Hotel at Sooke Harbor, where the annual dinner of the club was held, in the course of which addresses were given by Mr. A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, Mr. A. Ford, Dr. F. [Fred] C. Bell of Vancouver, and Mr. Claude Harrison. After dinner the party adjourned to the rotunda of the hotel, where they were addressed by Mr. Wheeler on "Rogers Pass," and by Mr. A. [Alan] C. Campbell, whose lecture was accompanied by lantern slides on "Garibaldi." The evening was concluded with an informal dance.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday May 29, 1929, p. 11.

ALPINE CLUB CAMP ON HISTORIC LEECH

Party of Fourteen Spend Four Days in Open—Beautiful Leech Falls Explored

Emulating the successful experiment of last May, the Victoria section of the Alpine Club of Canada again this year held an Empire week-end camp at Leech River. The fourteen members who constituted the party returned to the city on Monday evening after a four days' outing which was declared by all to have been even more enjoyable than that of 1928 owing to the cooler temperature. Organized by Mr. Claude Harrison, convenor of the outings committee, the party left early on Friday, May 24, by the C.N.R. coach. On arrival at Leechtown, the site of the historic mining town of the sixties, they were officially welcomed by the mayor [John Craig], with robes and chains of office and address of welcome complete. A visit to the "City Hall" and presentation of the keys of the city was a humorous little ceremony which had, nevertheless, great sincerity of meaning, for the party as a consequence were allowed to cache the bulk of their supplies in the home of the City father. From the beginning the weather proved kind, the occasional little showers keeping the temperature comfortable for climbing. The North Forks and Martin's Gulch were reached about 2 o'clock in the afternoon and after lunch camp was pitched. The evening was spent around the bonfire. On Saturday an early start was made for the Falls, reached about 11:30. Greater care was taken this year in surveying the ground, and barometric readings showed that there is 500 feet difference between the altitude of the top and bottom of the falls. The rope was used in several places in descending the mountain. Camp reached again about 5:30, and a swim and dinner preceded the Saturday night bonfire. Sunday morning camp was broken about 9 o'clock, and Leechtown reached by 11:30. Camp was pitched immediately in the junction between the Sooke and the Leech, although the fine weather made it possible to dispense with tents. Much spirit was given to the evening entertainment by the appearance of a historic ghost belonging to the old mining town. Two of the campers started back to Victoria at dawn next morning. The remainder, however, walked over to Sooke Lake, and after seeing over the waterworks under Mr. Campbell's guidance, lunched and caught the train back to Victoria. The party comprised, in addition to Mr. C.L. Harrison, Mrs. [Charlotte] Hadow*, Miss [Audrey] Hadow, Miss Hamilton, Miss R. [Rena] C. Jones, Miss Bird, Captain [William] and Miss [Eleanor] Everall, and Messrs. [William] Dougan, [Kenneth] Chadwick, [Reginald] Chave* and Dickson.

*Charlotte Jessie Bird (Marshall) Hadow (1888 - 1935) was born in Mussoorie, India on October 18, 1888, and came to BC with her parents while a young girl. At the age of 26 she married Erland Godfrey Hadow on December 26, 1914 in Revelstoke, British Columbia a month after he enlisted at Vancouver. Erland had initially volunteered with the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders, but later joined the 15th Alberta Light Horse. Upon reaching England he obtained a commission in the British Army. Charlotte joined him. She was booked for passage on the Lusitania but had to cancel out. Fortuitous for her as the Lusitania was sunk off the coast of Britain on that occasion. He was eventually promoted to captain and reached France in early 1916. He was awarded the Military Cross "for conspicuous gallantry on many occasions, especially when a covering party having been sent forward came under heavy machine gun fire and wavered. He controlled these men and reorganized the position. His coolness and determination have been an example to all ranks." Sadly, he was killed in France in 1917. He was a captain in the 17th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment. Charlotte, or "Birdie" as she was affectionately known, moved back to Revelstoke with her young daughter Audrey and then to Oak Bay in Victoria. She was a popular member of the ACCVI, to which she gave enthusiastic and loyal support. She was one of the most active members, attending many outings and camps and took great interest in promoting the clubhouse and camp projects. She had a special interest in photography and her work was singled out for special

mention in The Colonist snapshot competitions. In 1935, Charlotte and her daughter traveled in France, Germany and Switzerland taking many photos, some taken while climbing, which she intended to present to the ACC on her return. Unfortunately, while back in Scotland and England visiting family, she had a stroke and passed away on October 21, 1935. (Obituary in The Daily Colonist October 23, 1935, p. 2.)

*Reginald Thomas Chave (1888 - 1957) was born in Woodstock, Ontario in 1888. The family moved to Victoria in 1909. Reginald started working for his father in the grocery business, Wm. J. Chave & Son, on the corner of Douglas Street and Boleskine Road, and later went to work in life insurance. He met Bernice Scowcroft (Obituary in The Vancouver Sun Feb. 18, 1950, p.35.) in the church choir where they were both vocalists. They had two children – Cyril Scowcroft (1914) and Muriel Winifred (1916). Reginald passed away in 1957.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday June 11, 1929, p. 10.

ALPINE CLUB PLANS CAMP AT SHIELD'S LAKE

At a special meeting of the outing committee of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada it was decided to hold a weeks' camp at the new site, Shield's Lake, from Monday, July 1, to Sunday July 7. Fuller particulars will be issued in the next few days, but in the meantime notice is given in order that members and others who are planning to join may notify the convenor, Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, or the secretary, Mr. K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick, as transportation and commissariat arrangements will be extended or qualified according to the number attending.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday June 19, 1929, p. 2.

ALPINE CLUB TO HAVE JULY CAMP

Recently Purchased Shield's Lake Site to Be used for First Time

Shield's Lake, the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club's recently purchased park, is to be used for the first time as a Summer camp. A circular issued by the club to members announces that a camp will be held from Monday, July 1, to Sunday, July 7, inclusive. Work in preparation to the camp is already being done by Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, convenor of outings, and Messrs. K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick and [William] Dougan having already spent two or three days in the park clearing the site for tents, etc. They found the trail greatly improved, particularly the last mile or so, thanks to the work of Government engineers during the last few months, so that the route in from the end of the Sooke River motor road to the lake will be much easier than hitherto. The camp site is at the left side of Shield's lake, which is almost entirely surrounded by the property of the Alpine Club, the remaining part being within the Sooke Mountain Park. The elevation is about 1,500 feet. Those using their own cars for transportation can get within about three and a half miles of the camp, but the circular advises the C.N.R. gas car as the best form of travel, as this crosses the trail some distance up the mountainside, shortening the distance. Details as to time, necessary equipment, etc., will be sent to members who notify the secretary of their intentions to attend the camp. Tomorrow is the final day for giving notice. The secretary will be pleased to receive names up to 7 o'clock.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday June 22. 1929, p. 5.

CAMP VIEWS SHOWN TO ALPINE MEMBERS

Exceptionally fine lantern slide scenes of the three days' camp held at Leech River in May 24 week, as well as pictures of the Easter-week camp and the Forbidden Plateau and Mount Beecher [Becher] country, were shown by Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison at a meeting of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club, held on Sunday evening [June 16] at the home of Miss Sara Spencer, Moss Street. Mr. Lindley Crease, chairman of the section, presided and expressed the thanks for the members to Mr. Harrison at the conclusion of the interesting talk. The opportunity was taken to discuss the forthcoming camp at Shields Lake, the recently-purchased Alpine Club property in the Sooke country. This camp is to be held from Monday, July 1, to July 7, inclusive. Registration of intending campers was made last night, the total roster of full-time and part-time members being about twenty-five. The camp committee was struck, with Mr. C.L. Harrison as chairman and Miss [Nancy] Wollaston and Mr. W. [William] H. Dougan. This committee has power to appoint other committees required for carrying out the camp. New members received last night are Miss Marjorie Haynes and Mr. H. Dickson. Mr. Harrison issued a general request for anything in the way of camp equipment, such as basins, cooking utensils, empty coal oil tins, canvas or supplies of canned goods.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday July 4, 1929, p. 12.

COUGAR SIGHTED NEAR ALPINE CLUB'S CAMP

An additional touch of adventure was given to the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club's first Shield's Lake camp by the sighting of a cougar at the top of the second pass last Saturday. The pack-train was just finishing the climb up the pass when the big cat was seen resting among the rocks. The horses snorted and showed the usual signs of nervousness, but the packer succeeded in keeping them under control. Several of the advance party were already in camp, and the main party has since joined them, but no report is given of any second appearance of the cougar. The camp is getting along splendidly with the programme drawn up for the week. The addition of several more members to the party today will bring the total under canvas to about thirty. A dispatch sent out early in the week reported "excellent weather and everyone in fine spirits."

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday July 5, 1929, p. 5.

ALPINISTS TO GO UNDER CANVAS

Shield's Lake Camp, Sooke Range, Is Splendidly Organized to Accommodate Thirty-Six

ALPINE CLUB CAMP, Shield's Lake, B.C., July 4. – The first camp ever held by the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada went under canvas on Monday, the camp formally opening with the arrival of the first detachment who reached the trail by C.N.R. gas car and motor during the morning. The weather was blazing hot, and the newcomers found the tea awaiting them most refreshing. The location of the camp is at the West end of Shield's Lake, on the property of the club, which surrounds the lake with the exception of a small corner in the Sooke Mountain (Government) Park. A beautiful shady point extends into the lake in front of the camp. All underbrush has been removed, and only enough trees allowed to remain for shade and to preserve the beauty of the spot. Facing the lake is the huge dining fly, which protects two long tables, adapted to thirty-six persons. It has rustic tables and two stoves, one of the latter the collapsible type, the other built in Hudson's Bay style. The notice board and flagstaff are in an open clearing, surrounded by the manager's tent and a group of other tents. The ladies' tents are a little distance off, in a clearing backed by shady pines, and opposite them are the men's tents. Rustic wash-basins and other conveniences complete the essential camp equipment in the way of furnishings, etc. In the way of luxuries, the camp boasts two hammocks, slung under the shade, and a rubber boat, which proved useful at the Forbidden Plateau camp. By dint of a tremendous effort on the part of the campers who went in as an advanced party and those who came in later, a heavily timbered thicket has been converted to one of the most beautiful camp sites imaginable. The first day was spent chiefly in settling in, members constructing their beds of boughs and looking after other details which will make for their comfort when in camp. Bathing has been permitted, but at a considerable distance across the lake. A place on the lake's edge which offers a rocky beach, was selected for the evening camp fire, and the first day closed with the usual Alpine Club reunion round the bonfire, with singing and story telling. The second day, unfortunately, opened with a heavy rain storm and high wind, but although the rain fell heavily for hours in the early morning, all went well, the canvas set up for just such an eventuality withstanding the test perfectly.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday July 28, 1929, p. 40.

ISLAND ALPINISTS MEET AMONG BEAUTIFUL HILLS

Local Section of the Alpine Club of Canada Holds First Camp at Recently Acquired Shield's lake Property at Sooke — Many Hilltops Scaled

In rapid succession neatly lashed bundles of exactly forty pounds each, came from the C.N.R. car, until about half a ton lay piled by the railway line. It was a new stopping place for the railway on its Vancouver Island line, a place where the recently finished trail from the Sooke River Road to the location of the property of the club in the rough hills of Sooke crosses the railway line. Here the packer stood with his trusty and sure-footed pack horse ready to receive the loads and convey them up the mountain trail to the site of the camp. Several members were also on hand as an advance party to set up camp to be opened two days later.

AN "OLD-TIMER"

Our packer was S.W. Batten, now of Sooke. It was he who packed the first piano into Dawson City in the Yukon—with two mules— in those good old days of romance. Bristling with tales of the early days when he packed into the Yukon in '97 and '98, and later in the Cariboo country he was indeed interesting. Still bright and alert, and ever easy with his well-earned skill, he set about his task and before long his pack train moved eastward on the trail with the first load of the club's equipment.

UP THE TRAIL

Up over rolling country the pack train went, now over open ridges, now through beautiful avenues of fir, now up through alder groves to the base of Long Mountain. Here the route led up the steep sides of the mountain, following every natural foothold of advantage until the top was gained at what is known as the First Pass. From this point a last look was taken of the Sooke River Valley, for from now on the valley would no longer be visible. What a splendid view lay before us. The valley of the Sooke stretched for miles with its wealth of green. Brown patches in every direction on the higher reaches clearly indicated the general rough, rocky nature of the valley sides. To the south Whiffin Spit and the outer harbor of Sooke were plainly visible, also Port Angeles across the strait, with the majestic Olympic Mountains with their snow tops in the background. From the First Pass the trail pressed further eastward, soon sinking into a valley of giant firs and cedar, where a dried creek left still enough moisture to retain a cool grove of alder. Rising again from the little valley the route followed close to the foot of a high vertical wall of rock, covered with lichens and moss, and thence up a couple of steep grades to the top of Second Pass. Here the general nature of the country seemed to change a little. The large cedar and fir changed into the jack pine, and here and there the white pine with its long cone and shapely contour made us realize we were surely reaching further into the hills. Here and there a glimpse of Ragged Mountain could be seen—a mountain to be climbed later by the present camp—while Mount Shepherd, lying further to the south and west of Ragged Mountain, could be seen at almost every point of vantage. The Third pass was reached with an easy grade after following a stretch of more broken type of country, with clumps of jack pine and small alder groves. Here the trail again descended among giant firs and cedars once more, thence to the lake's edge. Following the westerly end of the lake the pack train came to a stop at the camp site. Here the advance party, which had reached the place ahead of the packer, were already at work, clearing and laying out the plan of the camp.

OPENING DAY, JULY 1

Monday, July 1, saw the main party arriving, reinforced from time to time during the week with further groups of mountaineers, members of the club, anxious to explore the rough mountains surrounding their recently-acquired lake and future hut site. The advance guard's hard work of the three preceding days had perfected the camp complete in every detail, and it was with admiration that the arrivals inspected the rendezvous and its site, after the cook had served the noonday meal. Facing the lake stood the huge dining fly, with its two long tables; to the right and rear stood the cookhouse with two stoves, one the large built-in type lined with stone, and the other the collapsible kind. Behind the cookhouse was the store house, with provisions lining the "shake" shelves. To the rear and toward the left of the dining fly was an open space, around which stood the manager's tent, with ladies', gentlemen's and visitors' tents tucked in the shade of the pines. To one side of the open space stood a stone fireplace with cans of hot water above the slow-burning fire for general use of the camp, with the wash racks close by. In the centre and close to camp signboard the Union Jack floated from a tall flagstaff. Proceeding toward the lake the members followed a neatly-made path bearing the words "Hadow Trail," in acknowledgement of the hours spent by Mrs. [Charlotte] Hadow in making it. The trail leads out and around the point, which had been cleared of its underbrush with only the most picturesque trees remaining. From the point a clear view of almost the entire lake was visible. To the west, two islands in front of a considerable area of green reeds, through which the waters of the lake flow westward to Grass Lake; to the east for a distance of about one-half mile, a larger island surrounded by waterlilies; to the north and closer to shore, a range of seven hilltops clearly outlined against the sky; and the south terminating in a long and deep arm one-third of a mile or better. The rest of the day was spent in adjusting bough beds and personal equipment.

SECOND DAY

The second day opened with a heavy downpour of rain and high wind that had persisted from late the previous night. No inconvenience was caused from the sudden change, and it left a beautiful clear day. A full day's rest (with bathing off rocks across the main arm of the lake made more enjoyable by the rubber boat which proved to be so popular and useful at last year's camp at the Forbidden Plateau) was generally observed.

THIRD DAY—MOUNT EMPRESS

The camp was aroused early by Mr. Claude Harrison, the guide and the leader of the expedition organized for Mount Empress. This mountain is very prominent on the skyline of the Sooke Hills as seen from Victoria. From Victoria it is easily recognized as the highest summit in the Sooke Range with a bald top. The party of fourteen was soon underway. Taking a course back over the trail to the top of the First Pass, a compass bearing was taken for Grass Lake. This

lake was soon reached, and the stream at its outlet crossed. The lake is a fine stretch of water with several acres of marsh and weeds at its southerly end, and incidentally devoid of fish. From Grass Lake a northerly route was followed for some distance until Bert's Lake was reached at an elevation of about seventeen hundred feet. Bert's Lake is a beautiful little sheet of water, the highest in the Sooke Range. At each end there are many lilies, and on this date were bright with flower. Still following a northerly course from this lake, the party proceeded through quantities of jack pine on up until Mount Empress suddenly came into view. It did not take long to cross the ravine and wind up the hot side of Empress Mountain to the top. The party now stood on the highest point in the rough hills of Sooke, with a wonderful view at their feet. For miles in every direction stood vast areas of virgin timber. To the north, miles away, were Sooke Lake, Goldstream Lake, Loon Lake, and then Victoria. Well-known places were readily visible, and some time was spent picking out familiar landmarks. Perhaps the most striking thing about the view of Victoria was the wealth of trees. It presented a very pleasing appearance. To the south appeared the tops of Ragged Mountain and Mount Shepherd, and far in the distance the other part of Sooke Harbor, with the shining Straits and the magnificent snow range of the Olympics as a picturesque background. On the west lay the valley of the Leech stretching for miles towards the West Coast with Surrey Mountain, and far beyond on the skyline what appeared to be Mount Hoops [Hooper] at the head of Shaw Creek on Cowichan Lake, a mountain of 5,100 feet. Lunch was eaten on the summit, water for tea being found in a pond on the very crest. This small pond, although shallow, generally holds water throughout the entire year, and the water from it is quite good. After lunch bearings were taken for the range lying to the north of the lake, in order that the new country might be explored. A last look at the splendor of the surroundings after a cairn had been erected and a record placed in the base, and the party struck off on the new route. Across the ravine at the foot of Empress Mountain over an intervening hill and thence up through quantities of jack pine, the party reached the summit of a hill which they named Hill Five at 2,000 feet. From the top a fine view of the lake was obtained, with the smoke lazily curling up from the camp. A cairn was erected as before, and after signalling the camp the party struck off to the west. Traversing the other two tops named Hill Six and Hill Seven, a chimney was descended which was an easy and short route to the camp where the party arrived at 4:30 p.m. after covering a commendable area of new ground. As evening fell and the bonfire was lighted a clear reflection of the seven hills appeared in the glassy surface of the lake, and by common accord the name, "Lake of the Seven Hills," was created. The usual bonfire entertainment brought to a close a day thoroughly enjoyed by all.

FOURTH DAY

The fourth day, Thursday, saw further arrivals to the camp. A trip into the Seven Hills, under Mr. [William] Dougan—that veteran and enthusiastic mountaineer—engaged a large body of the camp. Three more of the Seven Hills were traversed and cairns erected.

FIFTH DAY

An early start under Mr. Harrison as guide was made to Ragged Mountain. That mountain, with its two tops, is also a prominent feature in the skyline from Victoria. It appears a few miles south of Mount Empress on the skyline, although in reality it lies in a southeasterly direction from it. The southerly summit appears to have a cut-off end. This is more or less the case. The route from the lake was a long one, through a heavily-timbered valley of considerable width to the thick rough sides as it rises from the valley. The ascent was made up the northwesterly end of the southerly top. The day was hot and the climb consequently warm. From the summit a good view of Victoria was obtained. Race Rocks with its lighthouse was plainly visible, as was also Sooke Harbor. Below shone the waters of Glints Lake; to the west and north the wide valley with the Seven Hills and Mount Empress shut off all further view in that direction; to the northeast and about three-quarters of a mile away showed the second top of Ragged Mountain. In the dip there was a small pond but the water was not at all inviting. At the top the names were placed in the cairn, and after lunch and a rest, a new bearing was taken and the party returned across the valley and up again into the hills to the lake, arriving about 4 p.m. A second party (under Dr. Irene Hudson) of almost the entire remainder of the camp went into the Seven Hills and returned shortly after midday. A late bonfire with the usual songs, recitations and stories, brought a long and strenuous day to a close.

A STRANGE FIND

Starting later than usual, a party under Mr. Harrison made a trip on the sixth day into the surrounding hills for the purpose of making certain observations for future reference. While on this trip an unusual variation of the compass was discovered, so pronounced that the needle of the compass completely reversed itself. A note of the location was made, and a very interested party returned to camp in time for dinner. At the close of the bonfire that night — the last

of the camp — Capt. [William] Everall* addressed the gathering. He eulogized at length the arrangements and the enjoyable time the whole camp had had. He expressed the hope that the hut would soon be an accomplished fact, in order that the members might be able at all times to come and enjoy the delightful place now opened by the club. Mrs. Mackenzie in apt words seconded the vote of thanks proposed by Captain Everall. The evening closed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

CLOSE OF CAMP

Sunday was spent in several short trips in the vicinity of the lake and bathing. After lunch the main body of the camp moved out leaving a party of nine to pack the equipment on the following day. Monday the entire camp was again reduced to bundles. The packer arrived toward 2 o'clock, and once more the packing began. By 2 o'clock the remaining party took to the trail and by 4 o'clock were all waiting for the C.N.R. at the crossing. Thus, the second annual camp of the club ended, unanimously voted a camp long to be remembered.



On the Southerly Summit of Ragged Mountain, One of the Mountains Which Fits Into the Skyline Group Visible From Victoria.



THE rubber boat, one of the most popular bits of equipment carried in to the Shields Lake camp of the Alpine Club. The lake, recently stocked with fish, is almost entirely enclosed by the camp park and rimmed with a beautiful group of seven hills.

*William Montgomery Everall (1873 – 1942) was born in Guatemala City, Guatemala, on November 29, 1873. His father was a coffee planter and British Consul, and his mother a Scotswoman. William was educated in England as an electrical engineer with the P. & O. Company and in 1902 became chief electrical engineer for Hong Kong Power Co. in China. In 1908, he came to Canada as a construction engineer with the Canadian National Railway. He was appointed to the Dominion Government Works Dept. at Port Arthur and was such until 1914 when he was commissioned a captain in the Canadian Cyclist Corps, a bicycle-mounted army bat-

talion, and almost immediately went to France from which in 1917 he was invalided back to Port Arthur. Next year he was transferred to Victoria where he remained with the Dominion Public Works Dept. until his retirement in 1934. At the outbreak of W.W.II he tried to enlist and in October 1941 was appointed to a position in the naval service in Esquimalt. In 1910, he married Ellen (Nellie) Macoun, Arthur Wheeler's sister-in-law, and they had one daughter Eleanor. Nellie passed away in August 1923. William was a member of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada and the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada where he took an active role on the executive committee. William Everall died in Victoria on June 18, 1942. (Obituary in *The Daily Colonist* June 19, 1942, p.14.)

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday August 10, 1929, p. 8.

ALPINE CAMPERS ENJOY PICTURES

Members of Recent Camps at Shield's Lake and Upper Sooke River Are Guests

Members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada who attended the camps at Shield's Lake, Leech River and Forbidden Plateau, in the course of the last year were entertained on Thursday [August 15] evening at a cinema and bridge party, at which Mrs. Hugh Mackenzie and Mrs. Claude Harrison were the hostesses, the affair taking place at the home of the former, 1039 Richardson Street. The varied and novel character of the entertainment proved highly popular; the "movie" pictures taken by Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison at each of these camps being a particularly happy feature of the occasion. The lantern was operated by Mr. Harrison himself, who was heartily applauded at the conclusion of his talk. Supplementary to the camp pictures was a splendid little film showing some of the incidents connected with the recent opening by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the Dove Creek Road leading into Forbidden Plateau; and a film of a two days' trip down the Cowichan River at its high-water period in the late spring. Mr. Harrison and some of the young members of the Alpine Club composing the party. Because they had never previously been shown, the major interest centred in the pictures of the recent Shield's Lake camp, held during the early part of July. These gave a graphic suggestion of the little-explored beauties which lie hidden in the hills just beyond Victoria's western skyline. In showing them Mr. Harrison, who acted as camp organizer and leader, expressed the conviction that the holding of such camps would surely eventually result in a great increase in the club membership, for not only would it make outdoor lovers anxious to reap the advantages of visiting such a delightful playground right at Victoria's doors, but it would appeal as a very fine training ground for the more strenuous terrain of the parent Alpine Club camps held annually in the Rockies. Anyone who had attended the Shield's Lake camp and joined the expedition up Ragged Mountain would, he thought, admit value of such work in hardening the muscles for more arduous exercise. The pictures of Shield's Lake camp showed the advance and main parties debarking from the train and starting up the trail; also their entry to the Alpine Club park. In the first instance the camp site is shown in its original state, heavily timbered; but later pictures discovered the results of hard labor with axe and saw, with a small village of tents and flies, ranged round two or three simple stone cairns which served as cooking ranges and hot-water tanks. Many amusingly intimate pictures of the actual camp life, meal times, washing-up time, swimming, boating and wash-day furnished a lighter touch in the entertainment. The audience heartily applauded an excellent picture of Mrs. Harrison hoisting the flag the day the camp opened. The photography in all the films was excellent, and the fine scenic features in all the country explored by the three camps was pictured to great advantage. The latter part of the evening was given up to bridge, the serving of refreshments and dancing, and at its close the hostesses were accorded a rousing cheer by way of thanks.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday August 20, 1929, p. 4.

In Letters to the Editor

PIONEER NAMES

Sir — Having read an interesting account lately in *The Colonist* about the "hike" of members of the Alpine Club to their camp at Shield's Lake, amidst the Sooke Hill, I have been waiting for some abler pen to enter a

protest against consigning the names of old pioneers to oblivion. This practice is becoming far too common and attention should be drawn to it before it goes any further. These members of the Alpine Club camp at a beauty spot, and unmindful of those who first blazed a trail to it between forty and fifty years ago, decided that Shield's Lake is not a good enough name for it and calmly rename it The Lake of the Seven Hills because it shows the reflection of them. Suppose that someone took away their names and renamed them "The Gentleman With the Long Nose" or "The Lady With the Prominent Chin," or other prominent features. Captain Ed Shields (this is the way the family spell it I believe), as a young man hunted in the Sooke Hills and discovered this lake. He built a cabin there for his headquarters, and may have pre-empted a ranch there too, (but of that I am not positive). He married Miss Louise Charters, one of the old Sooke pioneers, and their family are well-known residents of Sooke and Colwood. He was Captain of various sealing schooners sailing out of Victoria, and was drowned at sea when his boat went down in the early nineties. I think it was the Maggie Mac. Why should not his name remain. It has been held in remembrance for forty years by his friends and neighbors and it is fitting that the place he loved should be kept. To strangers it may not mean much, but the name brings back memories to those who knew him, of a ready smile and a hearty hand clasp. I remember one remark of an old man when news came of the tragedy, "If they ever find Ed, he'll have a smile on his face, for he gloried in a gale at sea." But the sea kept its dead. They had tablets to spare for each of the Seven Hills. Haven't they one to spare on which to inscribe the name of him who gave his name to Shield's Lake?

Jean Stewart, R.R. No. 2, Victoria, B.C., Aug. 17, 1929.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday September 21, 1929, p. 5.

EXPEDITION HAS TRIED NEW TRAIL

Several Victorians Return From Forbidden Plateau, Visited With Comox Organized Party

Six Victorians have just returned to the city after an interesting trip into Forbidden Plateau [September 16-18] with an expedition organized by the Courtenay Board of Trade and led by Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, Messrs. C. [Clinton] S. Wood and B. [Ben] Hughes of the Comox Mountaineering Club and Mr. P.L. [Leo] Anderson, of the Courtenay Board of Trade. The expedition is probably one of the last big parties to go into the Forbidden Plateau this season, although they report that the opening of the new trail into the district last June has resulted in hundreds of tourists and Island residents visiting the former little-known country. The expedition numbered twenty-four men, including several of the Courtenay aldermen and other prominent residents of the Comox district, and Messrs. W. [William] H. Dougan, K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick, James and William Gibson and G. Brown Cave [high school boys], of Victoria. Sixteen ponies were taken in for pack and saddle purposes, and helped to speed up the excursion over the new trail. This was found to be in remarkably good condition, and to those who had only visited the Plateau by last year's trail, the route via Isabella Lake proved very interesting, for while it lies at a lower altitude for the grades are easier, and interesting stretches of forest are traversed. The site of last year's pioneer Alpine Club camp at Lake Beautiful, was the objective of the expedition, and from this the return route lay over the old trail of 1928, opening up vistas of some of the finest scenery on the Island. At Lake Beautiful a flock of Canada wild geese were found in possession of a pond where last Summer's tents were pitched, but the fowl were so unaccustomed to visitors that they showed no signs of fear. An enterprising caterer was found at Isabella Lake, where he has done a successful business during the season providing savory hot meals for footsore tourists, with two comfortable tents forming a welcome station for those inclined to tarry overnight. This week's expedition went in early on Tuesday morning returning to Courtenay on Wednesday. The new trail, it is reported, opens up seven new lakes. In addition to their previous Mount Beecher [Becher] hut the Comox Mountaineering Club has now established an excellent camp at Goss Lake for use of its members. One of the most beautiful lakes in the whole plateau country is Moat Lake, the waters of which possess the brilliant transparent greenish-blue coloring found in some of the more renowned lakes of the Rockies. Tuesday's expedition broke into three detachments on the return journey, one of these detachments coming out via Moat Lake. Others on the trip included: *Geoffrey B. Capes**, Frank McPherson,

Felix Thomas, R.U. Hurford, John Inglis, A.T. Searle. Mr. Harlan Smith, Dominion Government archaeologist, Captain Carey and F.W. Galloway followed. Bill Douglas who cheerfully assumed the onerous duties of last man on the trail with J.H. Macintyre. H.E. Wallis, brought in the pack horses accompanied by A.B. Hall and Captain Fairbairn with J.A. Warren assisting with the horses. Jim Skittles was camp cook.

*Geoffrey Bernard Capes (1889 - 1961) was born in England on November 13, 1889, and emigrated to Vancouver in 1911. He met a fellow émigré, Helen Cooke, affectionately known as Nell and the two were married on December 26, 1912. Capes found employment with the British North American Bank (BNA) in Vancouver which eventually merged to become part of the Bank of Commerce (CIBC.). Following overseas service with the Canadian Army, Capes brought his family to the valley in 1920, where he worked as an accountant at the Soldiers Settlement Board office in Merville. Two years later in 1922 was the big Merville fire which changed the life of many. After the fire Capes and Captain George Halley (who was in charge of the Merville settlement office) purchased the Courtenay Builders Supply Company on 5th Street. A few years later Halley sold his share to Capes. On November 24, 1930, the building was razed by fire and Capes relocated the business to the corner of England Avenue and 6th Street. In 1956, the Bank of Montreal purchased the property when Capes retired. On November 4, 1927, Capes was present at the founding meeting of the Courtenay/Comox Mountaineering Club, nowadays called the Comox District Mountaineering Club, and became a director serving for many years. One of Capes' early trips into the local mountains was an attempt to reach the Comox Glacier in August 1925 with Adrian Paul. He also made regular trips onto Mount Becher in both summer and winter. In 1929, he travelled from Forbidden Plateau up Mount Albert Edward and then down to Ralph Lake and out to Buttle Lake with Barty Harvey, the local Game Warden. Also, in that year he finally reached the summit of the Comox Glacier with Ben Hughes, Adrian Paul, Arthur Leighton, Cyril Berkeley and his daughter Alfreda via Kookjai Mountain. Then in July 1936, Capes joined Sid Williams and Roger Schjelderup on a trip to the Roosters Comb (Golden Hinde) the islands highest mountain. As they reached the base camp on the mountain, they met the surveyor Norman Stewart and his assistant Dan Harris who had made the ascent earlier that day. However, at the time neither party knew of the ascent by W.W. Urquhart, W.R. Kent and Einar Anderson in 1913 or 1914 during their survey of Strathcona Park. Capes went on to make the second ascent of Elkhorn in 1949 with Bill Lash and his son Mallory, and Charley Nash. Capes loved the mountains of Forbidden Plateau and Strathcona Park and kept detailed diaries of his trips some of which were printed in the Canadian Alpine Journals. Geoffrey Capes was meticulous at keeping a day-to-day diary which has recorded daily life in the valley. On February 25, 1961, Geoffrey Capes passed away a few months after his beloved wife "Nell" passed away, however, he has not been forgotten. Halfway between Courtenay and Cumberland near Arden Road is a "little treasure" that very few people are aware exists called Capes Park. In August 1968, the Arden Improvement district purchased the five- and three-quarter acres of wooded area from the Capes family to reflect the unique beauty of the Arden area. Capes had acquired this property through the Soldier Settlement Board "salvage" properties after he had lost everything in the 1922 fire.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday September 21, 1929, p. 5.

ALPINISTS PLAN AUTUMN OUTINGS

Four More Only in Present Year. Programme Committee Decides at Meeting Yesterday

Four outings to be held between now and the end of November were planned at a meeting of the programme committee of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, held yesterday afternoon. The first of these will be on Saturday, October 12, a half-day trip to Mount Finlayson, leaving the city at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The second will be on Saturday, October 26, a whole-day excursion to Ragged Mountain, leaving the city early in the morning and returning to the Sooke Hotel in the evening for dinner after the climb. On November 9, 10 and 11 the Alpine Club camp at Lake of the Seven Hills will be visited, when climbers who wish to remain the three days will find a programme to occupy their full time over the Thanksgiving holiday week-end. Those who cannot remain for the entire three days may go in and enjoy the camp for any shorter period. On November 30 the last outing of the present year will take place. This will be

a half-day trip to Mount Macdonald, leaving the city at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Those intending to join any of these outings should notify the secretary, Mr. K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick, in good time in order that transportation arrangements may be affected. There will probably be no further outings after November 30 until February or March. Only members in good standing and their guests will be entitled to attend the outings, and the treasurer, Mr. Gordon Cameron, is revising the membership list in this connection. Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, chairman of the outings committee, presided at yesterday's meeting.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday October 31, 1929, p. 4.

COURTENAY LAKE PUT ON B.C. MAP

Courtenay appears likely to be denied the opportunity to call any of the lakes in the Forbidden Plateau after the city which has given such a warm support to mountaineering interests in that section of Vancouver Island, as the Geographic Board of Canada has allocated the name of "Courtenay" to a lake draining into Quilchena Creek in the Kamloops district.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday October 31, 1929, p. 7.

ALPINE CLUB TO GIVE SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT

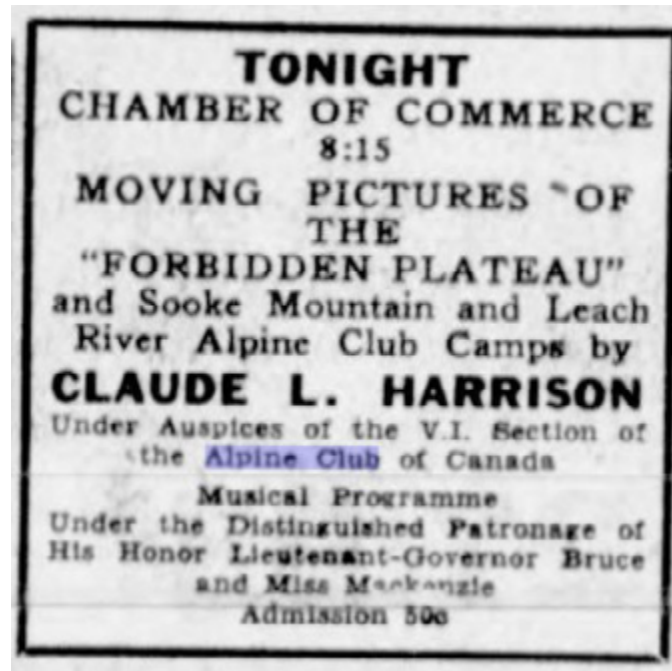
A campfire scene which will reproduce a typical group of mountain climbers gathered for the evening sing-song and entertainment after a day's hike over the hills, will be one of the features of the entertainment to be given to the Chamber of Commerce Auditorium on Friday, November 22, by the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada. The campers will be seen in their hiking dress and their programme of choruses and speeches will be typical of a scene at the Forbidden Plateau and the Lake of the Seven Hills camp. During the evening there will also be lantern slides, colored, showing actual photographs of the country around these two camps, with some of the Alpine Club members. Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison is also introducing some motion pictures taken during the Leech River expedition and the last camp at the lake of the Seven Hills. There will be special music items. The programme starts at 8:15 and admission is 50c.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday November 13, 1929, p. 20.

ALPINE CLUB CAMP IS GREAT SUCCESS

Splendid testimony to the fine climate of Vancouver Island was given by the success of the Alpine Club's Thanksgiving holiday camp at the lake of the Seven Hills, Sooke. Two nights were spent under canvas in the beautiful little valley which, within the next year or so, will have the club hut as a permanent nucleus of what is already a very popular resort with the club members. This week-end's camp was under Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison's direction, and fifteen members in all joined the expedition and spent two nights under the stars. The party went out on Saturday, with five pack horses to help in transporting the equipment demanded by the cooler weather, so there was an ample supply of blankets. Despite the high altitude of the camp and the touch of frost, the usual bonfire gathering in the evening was immensely popular. Sunday was spent in hiking, the whole camp turning out and ranging over the Seven Hills, in fine clear weather permitting an uninterrupted view over the whole southern portion of the Island. Every member assembled for the evening campfire again. Although up to midnight summery temperatures continued, a sharp frost developed in the later hours of the night, and in the morning the lake was found fringed with ice, while stiff little cakes of ice had formed in basins and drinking cups in which water had been left. Camp broke about 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon, up to which time the weather had remained perfect, and the first rain was encountered only a few minutes before the homeward trail was finished. This was the last major outing of the club for the season, but there is still a half-day outing on the programme, viz., to Mount Macdonald on Saturday, November 30.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday November 20, 1929, p. 12.



Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday November 23, 1929, p. 6.

ISLAND BEAUTY IS DEPICTED IN LANTERN VIEWS

Audience of 400 at Chamber of Commerce Auditorium Present at Alpine Club Entertainment — Camp-Fire Scene Clever Novelty

The joys of mountaineering on Vancouver Island were presented in a novel and entertaining fashion at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium last evening [November 22], when an audience of more than four hundred people expressed its pleasure in the programme provided under the auspices of the local branch of the Alpine Club of Canada. Among those present was Hon. R. Randolph Bruce, one of the first to traverse the road recently opened into the Forbidden Plateau country, which was portrayed in two of the groups of pictures shown on the screen last evening. Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, outings convenor for the Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, acted as chairman and his comments on the still and moving pictures of the Forbidden Plateau, the Lake of the Seven Hills camps, and various minor excursions up the Sooke and Leech Rivers, were lucidly descriptive. The photographic slides were remarkably fine, being hand tinted by Mrs. [Charlotte] Hadow, an active member of the club, who has been able to give an absolutely truthful representation of the colors of the different lakes, rocky buttresses and trees. The second series of movies, finished by some special process by Mr. Young, was exceptionally clear, and with color lantern views proved a splendid advertisement of the beauty of the Sooke country, where the Alpine Club's permanent house is to be erected within a few months at the Lake of the Seven Hills. In addition to these graphic representations of the mountains there were some other delightful and original features, the most novel being the staging of the actual camp-fire scene on the Forbidden Plateau. This was wonderfully realistic. As the curtain was drawn aside, the jolly gathering of bronzed mountaineers was disclosed lounging in typically unconventional attitudes about a blazing pyramid of logs, clad in their serviceable climbing clothes, khaki shirts and breeches, and heavily-nailed boots, and with alpenstock or ice-axe close at hand. A background of firs and shadowy shoulders of mountain added further realism to the picture.

CAMP-FIRE PROGRAMME

With a clever fidelity of detail typical camp-fire programme, such as any member of the Alpine Club has experienced, was reproduced, even to the unembarrassed drying of a shirt by one of the members, Mr. Gordon Cameron, who pushed his way through the circle of fire-gazers and proceeded to make the article fit for

wearing on the next mornings expedition. In this cheerful atmosphere of genial comradeship, the company was called up one by one for song, recitation, or story, with choruses and a continuous flow of unconventional repartee between. The whole thing was so natural that the audience was hardly conscious that it was being acted. The opening choruses were all familiar climbing songs: 'We've Been Tramping on the Mountains,' 'The More We Are Together,' and 'Climbing, Climbing.' Mr. Claude Harrison's 'Orders of the Day, a necessary observance in any camp, were delivered in a matter-of-fact businesslike way, informed the members that two climbs would take place the following morning, and asked for registration of those intending to join either. The company clamored, then, for a song from Mr. [Robert] McCaw, and he gave 'When I Climb Upon the Rocks,' the others joining the refrain, 'Haul! Haul!' Mrs. Hadow's humorous recitation, 'The Man With a Single Hair,' followed, and after that Mrs. McCaw, manipulating her powder-puff expertly, sang 'My Complexion Lies Up in the Mountains' (to the tune of 'My Bonnie'). Breezy little stories by Captain [William] Everall and Mr. Norman D'Arcy, and a duet by Mr. Gordon Cameron and Mrs. [Emily] D.B. McConnan*, which cleverly parodied 'Madam Will You Walk,' concluded the realistic camp-fire programme. One of its happy features was the presence of Mrs. [Bernice] Chave with her banjo, which made a good accompaniment for the singing. Other musical features during the evening were greatly enjoyed: two solos by Mrs. McConnan, 'My Lover Comes on a Ski,' and 'The Waters of Minnetonka'; and two numbers by a string quartet composed of Miss Adele Bucklin* and Miss Neva Stewart. Their playing of Henry's 'Amarylis' and 'On Wings of Song' (Mendelson) was most artistic.

THE PICTURES

The audience applauded enthusiastically when a picture of Mr. A. [Arthur] O. Wheeler, founder and for many years' director of the Alpine Club of Canada, and who was present in the auditorium, was thrown on screen. Mr. Harrison introduced him as "the backbone of the Alpine Club, the grand old man of the mountain." The pictures which followed were colored lantern slides of the Forbidden Plateau country, showing the beautiful sweep of park lands and serrated, snow-covered skyline, open glades with deer grazing undisturbed (the plateau being a game preserve), great rocky buttresses, typical lake scenes in a country which has hundreds of unnamed lakes, several beautiful pictures of Lake Beautiful where the first Forbidden Plateau camp was pitched last year, magnificent views of Mount Albert Edward and Castle [Castlecrag] Mountain, with the jade-colored waters of Moat Lake at its base, and some of the snow scenes, including one at Beecher Pass which was described as one of the longest toboggan slides in the world. A movie of some of the Alpine Club movements in the same area was both interesting and amusing, beginning with the crossing of the suspension bridge at Mount Beecher Pass, the arrival in camp, ascent of Mount Albert Edward and Castle Mountain, traversing some of the snow plains, the building of a cairn at the summit, and the less strenuous happenings about the camp. On the return journey to Comox the party was shown digging for fossils on the Puntledge, some of the results of which have been exhibited in the city since.

SOOKE COUNTRY

Beautiful slides of the Sooke country also were shown, interest centering especially on the club campsite at the Lake of the Seven Hills. Seen from several angles, looking across the lake, or down from some of the surrounding ridge of hills, it is always beautiful, the pictures illustrated episodes in the several expeditions which have been made by the club, including the last "Winter" camp held over the Thanksgiving week-end. Even so late in the season the two days and nights in the open were obviously enjoyed, and pictures disclosed the members of the expedition ranging over the hills or canoeing on the lake. A further interest was given to this series by the pictures of the stocking of the lake with fish brought from the Cowichan River hatcheries. Some of the difficulties attached to this undertaking became obvious. Among the really amusing pictures were those showing the recipient of the Leech River expedition by the "Mayor of Leechtown," Mr. John Craig, who gave mock solemnity to the occasion by appearing at the little station in the wilderness in a silk hat and frock coats, and armed with a four-foot-long key which he presented with "the freedom of the city" to Mr. C.L. Harrison and the members of the party. Mr. Craig was present in the audience to enjoy the

laughter which this episode provoked. On this expedition the party visited the Leech falls, some very fine pictures of which were shown. Another series illustrated the expedition to the top of Mount Maxwell, Salt Spring Island, last Summer. The two weeks' Summer camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills furnished a reel of splendid pictures, beginning with Mrs. Harrison hoisting the flag and concluding with the descent to the railway once more.

*Emily Mary (nee Locke) McConnan (1883 – 1974) was born in Belgium in 1883 and came to Canada in 1892 with her father Capt. Leonard Pye Locke. Emily was involved in music and drama, starring in many Red Cross charity concerts during WWI, and later helping organize the Victoria Operatic Society. She sang professionally for many years in Seattle and by 1935 was studying in London, England. After her husband Douglas McConnan's death, she went to Hollywood to pursue a stage and film career, then moved to Toronto several years before her death in 1974. Douglas Blamey McConnan was born in St. Johns, Newfoundland in 1870 and moved to Victoria in the 1880's. He was a clerk for the Dominion Post Office, the Dominion Savings Bank by 1892, and Assistant Receiver General of Victoria when he married in 1908. He was an avid gardener, raced sculls with the James Bay Athletic Association and secretary of the Victoria Riding Club. During WWI, he was drill-leader for the Fifth Regiment, Canadian Artillery Home Guard unit, retiring with the rank of Major. He passed away in 1940.

*Adele Bucklin (sisters Verma, Margaret, Mary and brother Irwin). Parents Emeline Wood (nee Porter) and George Augustus Bucklin Jr. (1875 – 1954). George was born in West Hartford, Missouri and became the US Deputy Consul in Glauchau (Germany) 1906-7; Trieste (Italy) 1907-8; US Consul-General in San Luis Potosi (Bolivia) 1908-10; Guatemala City (Guatemala) 1910-14; Bordeaux (France) 1914-19; Acapulco (Mexico) 1922-24; Victoria (British Columbia) 1924-32. Adele and Neva Stewart went to high school together. Adele married Edwy Luker from Porterville, California.

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday December 1, 1929, p. 6.

ALPINE CLUB ENDS SEASON WITH CLIMB

Mr. C.L. Harrison Leads Members on Expedition up Mount Macdonald

Fourteen members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada enjoyed the expedition up Mount Macdonald yesterday, under the leadership of Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, outings overseer. Leaving the city at 1 o'clock, the cars reached their destination off the Humpback Road shortly after 2 o'clock, and the climb was commenced immediately. The summit was made by 3 o'clock and a little time was spent exploring the terrain and enjoying the view. On returning to the foot of the mountain, instead of starting for home at once two flies were pitched, an enormous log fire built, and an al fresco supper prepared. A sing-song concluded the days' programme. This constituted the final outing of the season. No more climbs will take place until February. In the meantime, attention is concentrated on the building of the club hut. Mr. Harrison announced last evening that the work on this had commenced, the contract for the first part having been let to Mr. S.W. Batten, who is now engaged in the construction at the Lake of the Seven Hills of the main portion of the building. This is being constructed of logs set in upright position, the main room measuring twenty by thirty. Members attending yesterday's outing were Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Harrison, Mrs. [Charlotte] Hadow, Miss Bobbie [Audrey] Hadow, Miss Janet Bell, Miss Arabella Haynes, Mr. Arthur Haynes, Messrs. Norman and J. Darcy, Captain [William] Everall, Mr. K. [Kenneth] M. Chadwick, Mr. W. [William] H. Dougan and Mr. S. Robinson.



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From the Front Cover:

Spelling ACCVI out for you at the Cruickshank Canyon Lookout.

Photo by Tami Gwilt

Thank you to this month's authors:

*Barb Baker, Geoff Bennett, Sandy Briggs, Catrin Brown,
Janelle Curtis, Laura Darling, Lindsay Elms, Christine Fordham,
Mary Sanseverino, Derek Sou*

Well done everyone!

