

# Island Bushwhacker

Volume 50 | Issue 1 | Spring 2022



*Introduction to Backcountry Skiing. To see the trip report on ACCVI's Discussion Forum, click on [Introduction to Backcountry Skiing in January 2022](#).*

*Photo by Chris Neate*

## ACC VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION

### Social Events

The club hosts monthly slide shows at the Swan Lake nature sanctuary in Victoria, when health guidelines allow. We aim to continue to offer a streamed in-person event, so that members further afield or who prefer to watch from home can also be involved.

### Web Information

Web site: [www.accvi.ca](http://www.accvi.ca)

Webmaster: [webmaster@accvi.ca](mailto: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](http://www.alpineclubofcanada.ca)

Email: [info@alpineclubofcanada.ca](mailto: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:** Allison Caughey

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](mailto: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

The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour is again live at the Farquhar Auditorium at UVic, April 3rd, 2022! [Learn more here](#).

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### Reminder to Members:

Keep your membership up-to-date, so 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 Discussion Forum at <https://discourse.accvi.ca/>





## Upcoming Trips

*Full information for all trips is located online on the ACCVI [Trip Schedule](#).*

*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](mailto:leadership@accvi.ca).

Dates	Trip
4-7 March	<a href="#">Hišimýawił work party</a>
4-7 March	<a href="#">Skiing/Boarding with Kids and Youth at Mt. Cain</a>
5 March	<a href="#">Mount Becher Ski Tour (B2)</a>
5 March	<a href="#">Mt. Arrowsmith Main Gully (B3)</a>
10 March	<a href="#">Adventures above and within the Moyeha Valley</a>
18-20 March	<a href="#">Carey ridge ski mountaineering trip, C3</a>
19 March	<a href="#">Peden Bluffs and Three Bears (B2)</a>
20-27 March	<a href="#">Amiskwi Lodge ski week</a>
9-16 April	<a href="#">Backcountry ski traverse in Esplanades</a>
1 May	<a href="#">El Capitan Mountain (C3)</a>
28 May - 12 June	<a href="#">Kluane ski camp</a>
2-5 June	<a href="#">Skaha Bluffs Climbing Tour</a>
10-13 June	<a href="#">Mt. Rainier via Disappointment Cleaver</a>

Thank you for contributing to our community in this important way!  
Keep an eye on the [trip schedule](#) for information about upcoming trips!

## 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](mailto:education@accvi.ca).

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

## Executive Episodes:

A quick update of ACC life from the past chair's chair - Catrin Brown

### Annual General Meeting 11 February 2021

Our plans to make our AGM into a 'Volunteer appreciation' evening at Swan Lake in Victoria had to be shelved due to the restrictions on indoor gatherings at the time. So it was again back to a virtual meeting on Zoom. Nonetheless, the meeting gave us a chance to celebrate many activities over the past year, as the executive committee gave updates about their roles. The take-away message is that our section is in fine form despite the disappointments and limitations of the past two years, and there is an abundance of good energy that flows amongst us. A new executive committee was duly elected, as shown on page 45. As I step down from six years as Chair, I want to thank everyone for helping to make this a positive experience. It has been a real privilege.

### Capital Regional District parks focus group

On 'twosday' (22/02/2022) I attended a two hour focus group run by CRD parks to consider the vision, goals and objectives for an updated Regional Parks Strategic Plan that will take effect from July 2022. The meeting brought together a number of stake-holders representing diverse user groups. Although the focus was evidently on parks in the south Island, so many of the issues discussed resonate with concerns and challenges expressed elsewhere. These include demographic changes and the need for increased capacity of accessible wild spaces with growing populations. The tension between nature conservation and some forms of recreation was explored, with reference to the classification of regional parks into wilderness, conservation, recreation and natural areas. There was also discussion of updates to the climate action strategy and a focus on First Nations reconciliation. It was good to hear that the Land Acquisition Fund is in place until 2029 (at a rate of \$20 per average residential household) with the purpose of additional land being purchased to add to the regional parks and trails.



2021 ACCVI Executive Committee

More information is available here: <https://getinvolved.crd.bc.ca/regional-parks-strategic-plan-update>



## Executive Episodes:

A quick update of ACC life from the incoming chair's chair - David Lemon

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As new chair of the section executive, I have very big shoes to fill. I am grateful to Catrin for the superb job she has done in guiding the section through the past very difficult two years. We have come through them in a good position, with strong membership and resources, and with pandemic restrictions beginning to lift I think we can look forward to an active and fulfilling year, with many great activities in store. In-person slide shows with full attendance are once again under way, and the Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival coming up April 3rd will also be an in-person event. We have a new, expanded access agreement with Mosaic which will open more trip possibilities via the Ash River valley in addition to the Comox Lake access. Organizing trips will be easier as restrictions are lifted, so I hope to see a schedule packed with enticing opportunities to get into the alpine. We can also look forward to the summer camp, social activities like the annual barbecue as well as workshops and courses in the education program, all of which will be able to take place more easily. We have a great team on the executive and a strong and active membership, so 2022 should be a memorable year.



*Amethyst Lakes and Ramparts. Photo by David Lemon submitted to the ACCVI Photo Competition - Mountain Scenery category*

## Robie W. Macdonald 1947 – 2022

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*The following message was sent to the membership on 14 February.*

With profound sadness, I must share with the membership the news that Robie Macdonald passed away yesterday, Sunday 13 February, after a long illness.

With his passing we lose a legend of Island mountaineering and an active member of the section still serving on the executive committee. Robie was also a renowned international scientist, his research as a marine geochemist in the Arctic earning him the Order of Canada in 2020. Beyond all this, Rob was a loving family man and a cherished and loyal friend and colleague. He will be deeply missed.

It was Rob who officially cut the tape and was the last speaker at the opening ceremony at Hišim'awił in October 2018. His remarks were pitched perfectly to make the connection between his pioneering exploits in the area, and his hopes and dreams for generations to come. Rob was in all ways a natural mentor, generously sharing and encouraging others to pursue their passions. As long-term editor of the Island Bushwhacker Annual, Rob shared his extensive knowledge of the Island mountains with contributing authors, delighting in the opportunity to connect and inspire newer members.

Any group was privileged to have Rob as a member and we must all share a deep gratitude that he was one of us for five decades. I know that his passing is difficult news for very many of us, and I share deep condolences with you.



An official obituary for Rob is here, where there is also the opportunity to send messages to the family.

<https://www.pacificcoastcremation.com/robie-w-macdonald/>

In due course we will prepare a full tribute to Rob's life and contribution, and consider ways to honour his memory.

In peace and sadness,  
Catrin

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## An ACCVI project for 2022 as a tribute to Rob

As editor of the Island Bushwhacker Annual during some of its early years, and again more recently (2018 - 2020 editions), Rob was focused on the fact that the 2022 edition will be Volume 50. It is indeed remarkable that we have been in continuous production since 1973.

Rob gave thought to how we could celebrate this milestone, and was happy that his idea was developed and presented at the AGM on 11 February.

The 2022 edition (to be published in 2023) of the Island Bushwhacker Annual will be **VOLUME 50**



We have been in continuous production every year since 1973!

To celebrate this milestone, here is an idea for this year – a project to be published in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition

**“Vancouver Island Mountains – Now and Then”**



**A collaborative project – everyone can take part**

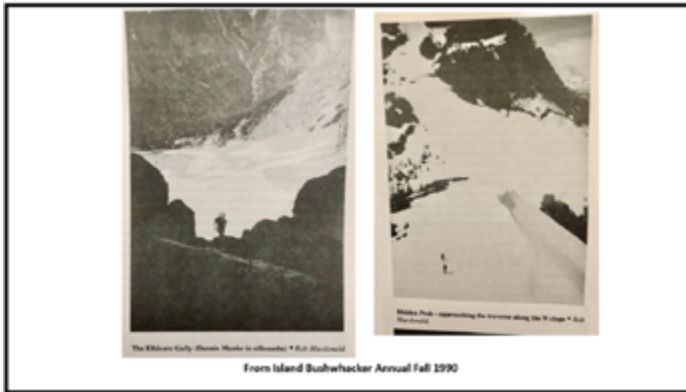
The goal is to collect a set of repeat photos, let's see if we can span 50 or more years of members' images of our island mountains

- CHOOSE A PHOTO THAT WAS TAKEN WAY BACK WHEN, WITH OR WITHOUT PEOPLE
- TAKE A REPEAT PHOTO RECENTLY
- REPEAT

**SOURCES OF OLD PHOTOS**

1. Island Bushwhacker Annual all editions are online
2. Island Bushwhacker Newsletters available online
3. Individual's photos from earlier times  
We can ask for these and arrange for them to be posted to share





And a few ideas from Rob Macdonald:

especially interesting would be points of change:

- people's apparel
- generational – e.g. grandfather/granddaughter
- glacier/no glacier
- no trees/trees
- no trails/trails

submissions can point out the comparisons

**Let's get started!**

Watch this space for how to submit your paired submissions over the next year

Thank you for taking part in  
"Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then"

We have almost a year from now until Volume 50 of the Island Bushwhacker Annual is compiled to record our activity in 2022. The goal will be to publish the duplicate photos in this edition.

We will have a very loose interpretation of 'way back when' and 'more recent' with respect to the paired photos - whatever you think is a point of interest changing over time is worthy.

Please start thinking and planning your contribution to our "Vancouver Island Mountains Now and Then" project. One more wonderful reason to get out there and explore. Thank you.





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# Vancouver Island Mountains – Now and Then: How to participate in the ACCVI repeat photography project

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By Mary Sanseverino: [msanseve@gmail.com](mailto:msanseve@gmail.com)

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Catrin has laid out the background to the Vancouver Island – Now and Then project earlier in this newsletter. It now falls to me to talk about some of the “how-to” details. As some of you may know repeat mountain photography is something of a passion of mine ([mountainlegacy.ca](http://mountainlegacy.ca)). Over the past few years a number of us have discussed with Rob Macdonald how interesting (and fun!) it would be to do some mountain rephotography on Vancouver Island. I’m sad I didn’t get the chance to get out and do repeats with him, but am honoured to be helping his idea come to life. In fact, we can all help bring Rob’s vision to life! Read on to find out how.

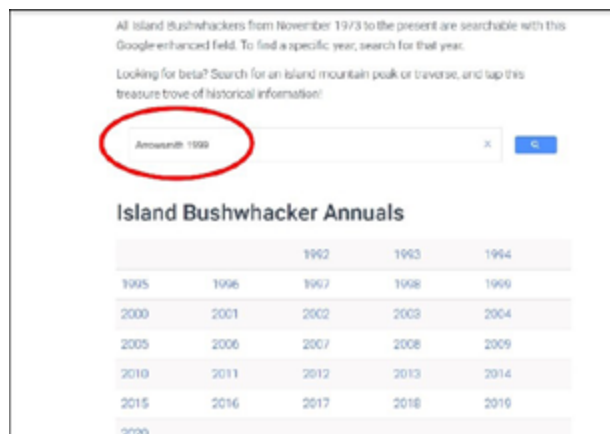
## The Basics:

- Find an old(er) photo taken in a Vancouver Island mountain setting that “speaks” to you or somehow grabs your attention. Island Bushwhackers Annuals are a great place to start: [IBA Archive](#).
- Make a copy of it.
- Get yourself and the copy out to the same(ish) location.
- Set up the modern photo as best you can to match the old/historic photo.
- Take the photo.
- Get home safely and upload the historic and modern photo pair (and a few words about the images) to the [Vancouver Island Mountains: Now and Then](#)

Event on the ACCVI Discussion Forum.

**Filling in the “How-to” Details** (this is where the fun – some might say devilish fun – takes place!):

1). Find an old(er) photo taken in a Vancouver Island mountain setting. You could use any photo you like – one of your own, or something from friends/family – but we are suggesting you might like to start with the archival treasure trove of *Island Bushwhacker Annuals* and *Island Bushwhacker Newsletters* available on the ACCVI website.



Turn your browser to [accvi.ca/programs/island-bushwhacker-archives](http://accvi.ca/programs/island-bushwhacker-archives). You’ll see links to past *Island Bushwhacker*

*Annuals* (1992 – present day), and you can access older editions going back all the way to 1973 by putting the year in the Google-enhanced search bar. Click the search icon or just tap the Enter key and Google will throw up a results screen.

If you’d like to refine your search – say look for a mountain name, a year, and/or a person – simply add a few more terms and try again.

For example, entering 1999 and Arrowsmith in the search bar will give 18 results.



2). Make a copy of the “historic” photo. There are lots of ways to do this. Here are a few tips.

- If working in the Windows world – check out [how-to-screenshot-on-windows](#). I like the “Snip and Sketch” tool (**Windows Key + Shift + S**).
- In the Mac world – check out [how to grab a copy of the screen](#) – I like capturing a portion of the screen with **Shift + Command + 4**.
- On your mobile device – [Android How-To-Screenshot](#). iPhone [How-To-Screenshot](#).
- Screen shot – what the heck is that? Keen to participate but stymied by how to get the historic photo from the *Island Bushwhacker Annual* (or newsletter) to your computer/mobile device/sheet of paper? Drop me an email – [msanseve@gmail.com](mailto:msanseve@gmail.com) – and I’ll help out as best I can. It would be great if you could include info about the historic photo you are interested in (e.g. year, page number, and description of photo in the *Island Bushwhacker Annual*; web page with photo on it; etc.) but don’t let a lack of detail stop you from getting in touch!

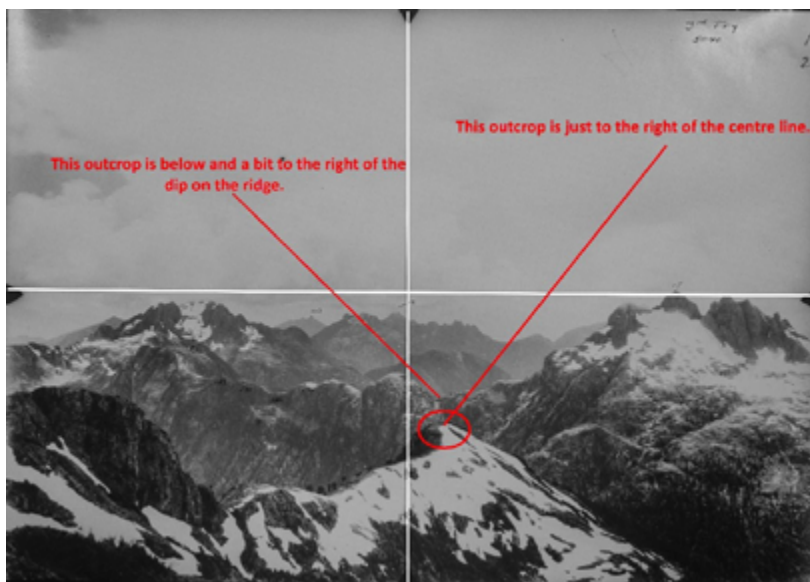
3). Out you go to repeat the photo! I find it helpful to have the photo as a hard copy, but having it on a mobile device works too. I often like to put a crosshair on the image – like I’ve done with this 1941 image taken from 5040 Peak by surveyor George Jackson.

If you’ve got a hard copy to take with you just use a straight edge and draw the lines right on it. Or, you can simply eye-ball the historic image and try to get as close as possible to where you think the original photographer stood. A handy thing about getting images from the *Island Bushwhacker Annual* – the accompanying story often gives very good clues as to photograph location.



4). To get as close a repeat as I can I often start with lining up things in mid or far distance relative to where I am standing. I look at where peaks, outcrops, etc. are in relationship to each other and adjust my position accordingly. For example, when I repeated the 1941 shot from 5040 I used the bump at the end of the ridge over Cobalt Lake as a key “line-them-up” component.

After I’ve gotten pretty close using just the historic photo, up comes the camera and I look through it glancing back and forth between the camera view and the historic photo. That’s one reason why I like having a printed copy of the historic shot – it’s a bit harder to get repeats when your phone does double duty as camera and historic photo display. The other reason – I don’t cry too much if I drop the paper!



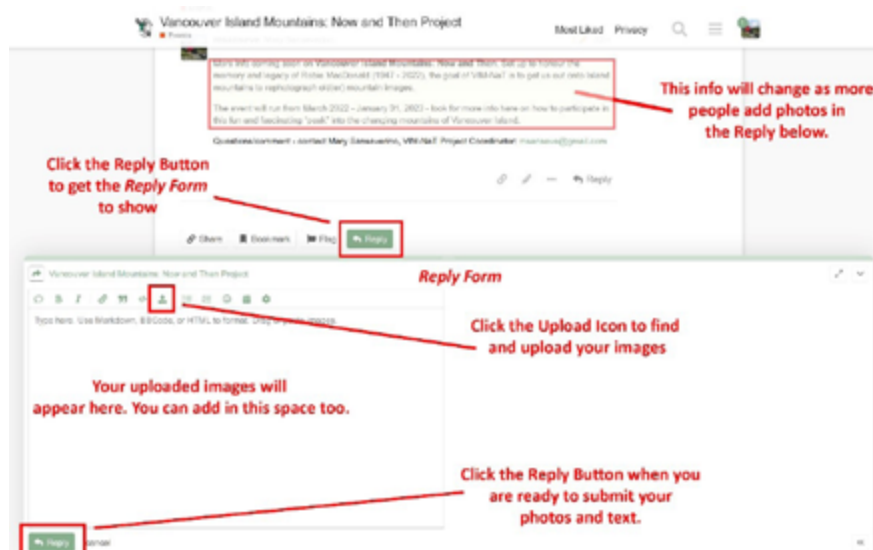
5). Click the shutter and get the repeat. Don’t feel you have to use a “real” camera – anything you have available will do the trick. A shot from a phone or point-and-shoot camera, especially if well aligned, will be grand. Long story short – don’t let gear, or lack thereof, hold you back from participating. This is about telling Now and Then stories – the photos are only one portion.



It's not a show-stopper if you can't get it, but it would be great to have a photo location. Perhaps those of you using a GPS can drop a waypoint when taking the photo. Those shooting via a phone can enable GPS (if possible) and have the location recorded automatically with the shot. Again, don't worry if you don't have these things – jotting down a few notes down about the general location will work just as well.

6). When you've safely made it back home point your browser to the **ACCVI Discussion Forum Events** page [Vancouver Island Mountains: Now and Then](#). From here you can LOGIN and click the REPLY below the VIM-NaT Event. No account on the Discussion Forum – no worries – you can create your own account for free by clicking the SIGN UP button on the top right.

Now you are ready to upload your historic/modern image pair(s) along with some written comments on the photos. Check out the handy how-to screenshot to get a feel for the up load basics.



There are so many things you could write about for a given historic/modern pair. For example, what drew you to repeat the photo you did? Are there people in the photo – if yes, who are they? Are there any changes evident between Now and Then? And so much more.

At the very least please consider telling us where, approximately, the image was taken (see point 5 above), when the images were taken – although the historic shot might be an approximation – and who was involved. But, don't let lack of words stop you from uploading – get the photos in place and we can deal with the who, where, and why at a later date!

7). Okay – you want to participate – in fact you've done everything just like it says here but the darn uploader isn't working for you (or, maybe you've said to yourself "I've got enough accounts already! I can hardly remember my own name let alone another password"). No problem – just pop the photos into an email and send it along to me. I'll take care of getting them uploaded: Mary Sanseverino, [msanseve@gmail.com](mailto:msanseve@gmail.com).

I think that's all for now – don't let all this blah-blah scare you away – just think of it as yet another (as if we needed more!) excuse to get out and explore our amazing Vancouver Island Mountains. We'll keep everyone updated with an ever-growing interactive map linking your photos and stories to our VanIsle mountain home.

*Mary Sanseverino*

*Questions/comments/ideas? Feel free to get in touch with either Catrin Brown ([catrinbluesky@gmail.com](mailto:catrinbluesky@gmail.com)) or me ([msanseve@gmail.com](mailto:msanseve@gmail.com)). We hope this is the start of an outstanding project that will honour the memory and legacy of Robie Macdonald – an outstanding mountaineer, friend, colleague, and person. Climb on!*

# ***Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (BCMFF) Update (March 2021)***

*By Laura Darling*

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Time for a new set of adventure goals for 2022?

**Find inspiration in the upcoming screening of the 2021/22 Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour at the University of Victoria's Farquhar Auditorium, 7pm on April 3rd.**

We have great videos lined up for our screening – check out the exciting clips on our BCMFF promo page on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/accvancouverisland>

Please support this major fundraising event for our club and help us get the word out. Buy your tickets today. Buy tickets for friends and family. Tell everyone about the screening. Share, like and follow our Facebook promo page. Buy more tickets. Tell more people.

Tickets are \$30 - buy them through the UVic Ticket Office at: <https://tickets.uvic.ca/TheatreManager/1/tmEvent/tmEvent2986.html>

Email questions to: [bmff@accvi.ca](mailto:bmff@accvi.ca)



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## News from ACC National

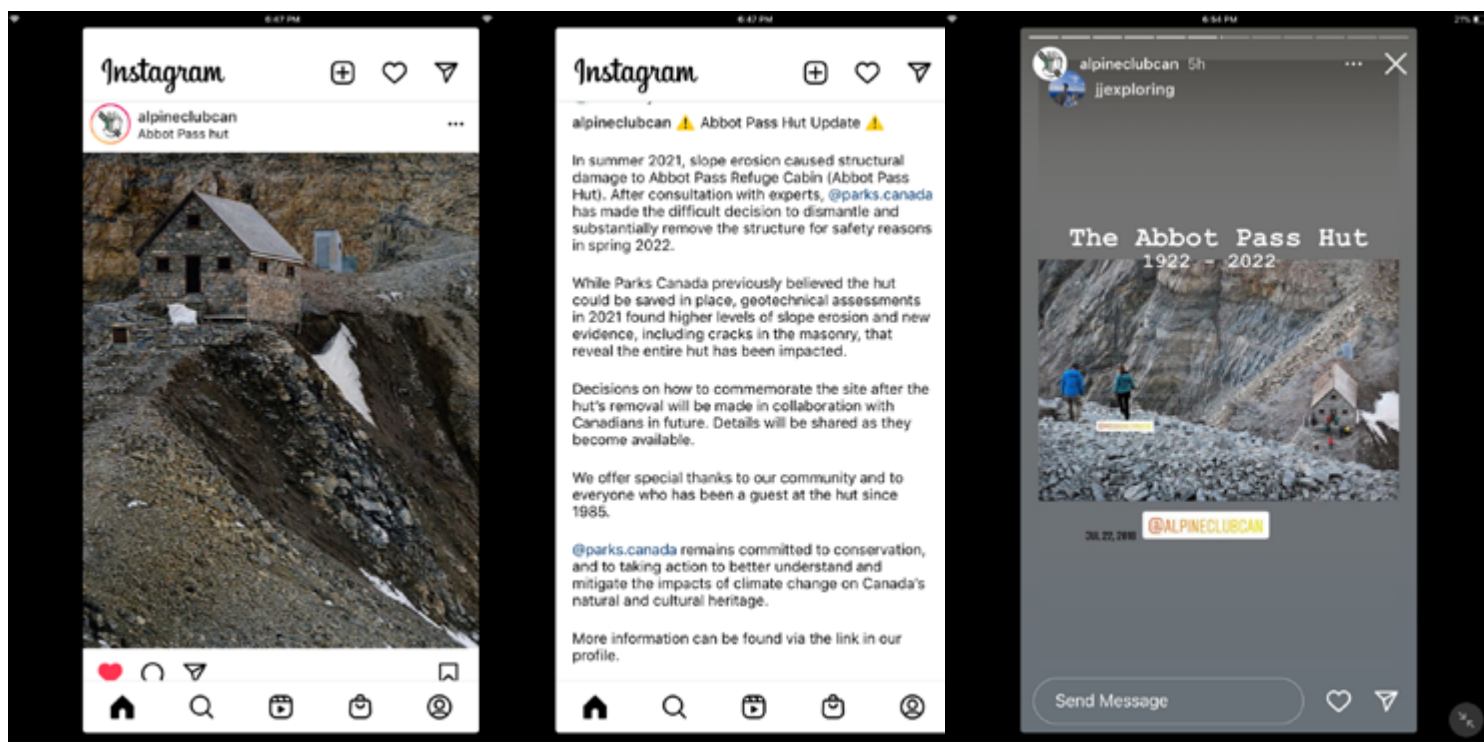
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### OPPORTUNITY - The North Face SUMMER LEADERSHIP CAMP 2022

Applications are now being accepted for ACC's flagship training program for aspiring leaders, July 30 - August 6 at International Basin. check it out [here](#) .

If applying, be sure to have a request for section endorsement from [chair@accvi.ca](mailto:chair@accvi.ca) before March 15, to allow time for it to be processed.

**And for those who haven't heard the news about Abbot Pass Hut...**



You can read more about it here: <https://mailchi.mp/alpineclubofcanada/acc-dispatch-june-19-83345?e=54b4dda99a>





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# ACCVI Winter 2022 ACCESS and ENVIRONMENT REPORT

By Barb Baker

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**MOSAIC ACCESS AGREEMENT:** ACCVI signed an access agreement with Mosaic Forest Management in Sep 2020 as a 1-year pilot experiment which was graciously extended to the end of 2021. And it should be noted, the permit allowed us to enter Mosaic lands during fire closure.

We have renegotiated for a **larger permitted area** for the new access permit. It includes the Ash Valley as well, a large valley continuous with the Comox Lake Valley, also accessed through Port Alberni so giving access to the southeast corner and south entrances to Strathcona Park at Oshinow and Great Central Lakes. At the Comox Main 7 km gate, Cumberland the permit gives road access to many destinations between Comox Lake and the east border of Strathcona Park. Use [alltrails.com](https://www.alltrails.com) to see the lie of the land; zoom in a bit and all the roads are obvious leading from Comox Lake into the Ash Valley, west to Oshinow access to Red Pillar, etc, south to Great Central Lake and out thru Port Alberni.

Anyone wanting further map information may contact me at [access@accvi.ca](mailto:access@accvi.ca).

For information on using this access go to our web page and click on **Information for Leaders** and go to [Access to Comox Lake Main](#). Once posted, an information package is delivered with the contacts, regulations, maps, waivers, etc. Access is 24/7. All vehicles must carry documentation, etc, keys and radios.

**MOSAIC GATE ACCESS:** Go to <https://www.mosaicforests.com/access> to find the link to Mosaic gate map which updates each Friday. For those who are interested there is a brief explanation of these gates, their locations & some of the factors influencing the same on ACCVI's Discussion Forum [here](#).

Gates all over the Island and particularly to the most inviting regional parks Arrowsmith Ski Park on Mt. Cokely and Mt. Arrowsmith Massif Park have been **CLOSED** for most of this winter to recreation but not to harvesting. These gates according to the company will be open soon.

Because we are a club reliant on road access for recreation, I am planning to send letters to the parks directors at Alberni-Clayoquot and Nanaimo Regional Districts outlining the persistent closures. **Public access to public spaces** has always been our goal.

Most Crown land road access is ungated.

**MT. ADDER:** Alberni Valley Community Forest worked on road access at least twice this past year. They are asking that care be taken to use 4WD and that there be no reworking of their drainages.

**MT. KLITSA** is accessible from Nahmint Valley Br. 600 (a branch of Nahmint Main), but the north approach road has a rockfall, so there is a road walk (several kilometres) to that trail head. There would be snow load at this time on these approaches.

**AVALANCHE CANADA** <https://www.avalanche.ca> Vancouver Island (see <https://www.avalanche.ca/map/forecasts/vancouver-island>) has been added to this extensive national reporting. At the site under Resourc-

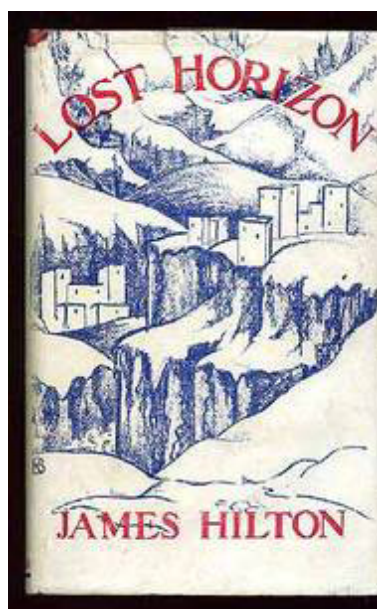
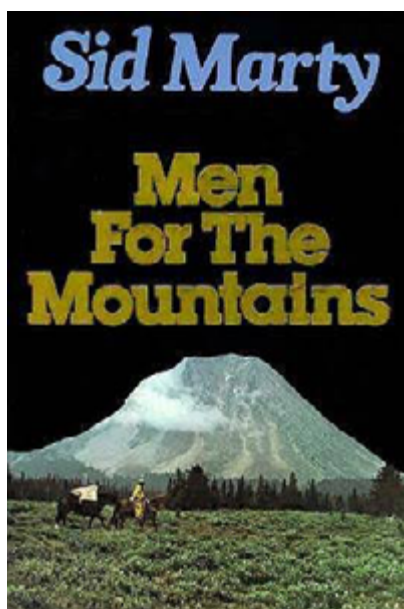
es, one can find an interactive map with report icons, snow and weather reports, education links, phone apps, etc ...extensive. According to Colin Garritty, who presented a webinar to ACCVI on 10 February this year, the team analyses 4 days/sites weekly. He emphasized that snowpack reports be augmented by user observations. His main emphasis was encouraging the use of **MIN MOUNTAIN INFORMATION NETWORK** by which anyone is able to find and make/edit their own reports. Snow conditions, pack analysis, even photographs are all encouraged and incorporated in the daily avalanche hazard report.

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## ***Recommendations: books and films about nature, wildlife, or mountaineering***

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



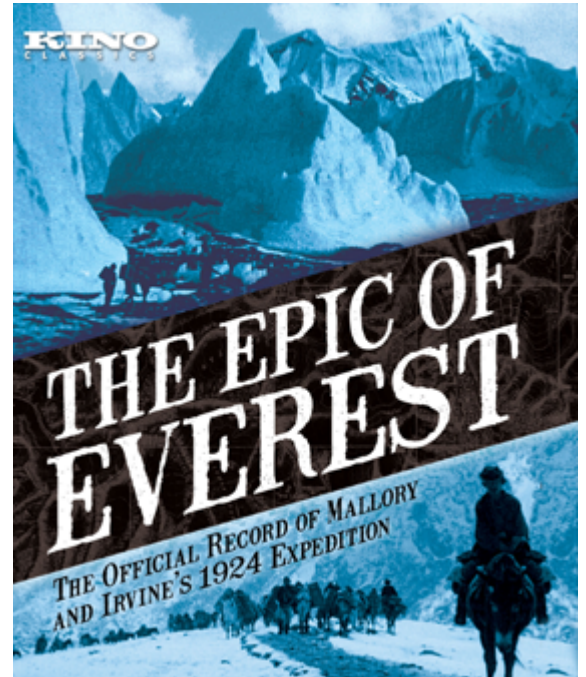
**Mark Rankin writes:** “My recommendation is “*Men for the Mountains*” by Sid Marty. It is about a National Park warden and the experiences he had while working in Canada's National Parks. I loved it! It included stories about wildlife, mountaineering and nature. Here is a link to the book: [https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2518259.Men for the Mountains](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2518259.Men_for_the_Mountains)”

**Geoff Bennett writes:** “I would definitely recommend the one I've just finished, “*The Wild Silence*” by Raynor Winn. It follows her best seller “*The Salt Path*” in which she describes how she and her partner embarked on a 630-mile hike along the South West Coast Path in England. According to a friend, that first book is even better. Homeless and penniless, they learn that her partner has a neurodegenerative disease and only two years left to live. So, they went on that long hike and, surprisingly, his condition improved dramatically after months on the trail, sleeping rough. Then it deteriorated again when they returned to “civilization.” Which is where the “*The Wild Silence*” begins. It covers many themes and she writes well about nature, landscapes, rewilding, hiking and, most importantly, her fierce love and determination as she pushes her partner to get back outdoors and do strenuous work. They rent a disastrously abused farm and bring it back to life. He gets better. At the end of the book, they go on a brutal trek in Iceland, at the end of which his condition improves even more. The book is heartwarming, inspiring and she writes well.

**Liz Williams writes:** “I recommend the 1933 novel “*Lost Horizon*” by James Hilton. The book is about a magical and mysterious journey to the Himalayas, and is the original source of the name Shangri-La. It’s an enchanting read!”

**Ken Wong writes:** “The official documentary by John Baptist Lucius Noel of the 1924 Qomolangma expedition. We all have seen the photos of this epic but this silent film will add a third dimension to your experience. I saw the same view from Rongbuk Monastery in 1995 of the jetstream blasting the summit while the shadow crept up the north face. I could almost smell that yak dung smoke and thin air. Breathtaking.

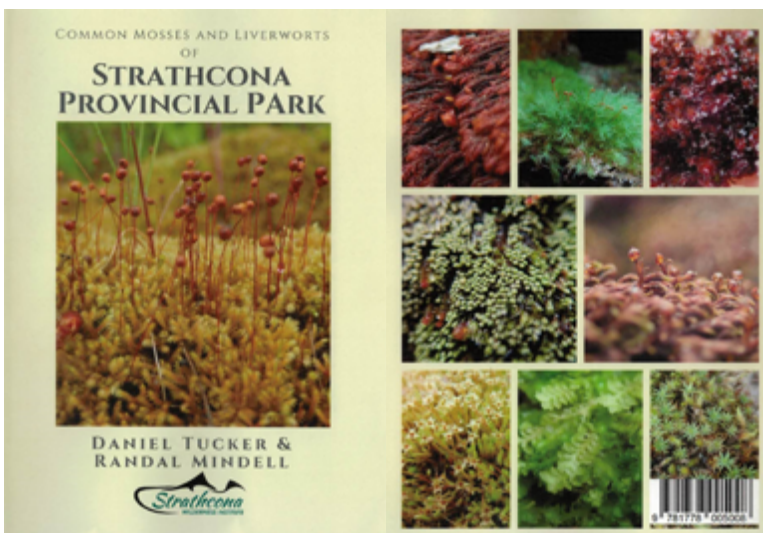
The Epic of Everest in Blu-ray, DVD or digital video is available at the Greater Victoria Public Library and on-line at the British Film Institute web site [here](#)”



**Also recommended is...**

### COMMON MOSSES AND LIVERWORTS OF STRATHCONA PROVINCIAL PARK

This enlarged and updated edition, by Dan Tucker and Randal Mindell, includes full colour photos of 44 of the commonest species, along with detailed notes, an introductory section on identification and a list at the end of the 251 species of Mosses and 109 species of Liverworts recorded by the authors in Strathcona Provincial Park.



Price: \$20

Dimensions: 7.5 x 5.5 inches

Paperback: 62 pages, on 100 lb gloss paper

Year: 2021

To purchase a copy of the book you can email [strathconawilderness@gmail.com](mailto:strathconawilderness@gmail.com) or visit <https://strathconapark.org/support-us-2/publications/> for more information.

Additionally, during the summer season it will be available for purchase from the Strathcona Wilderness Institute Centre at Paradise



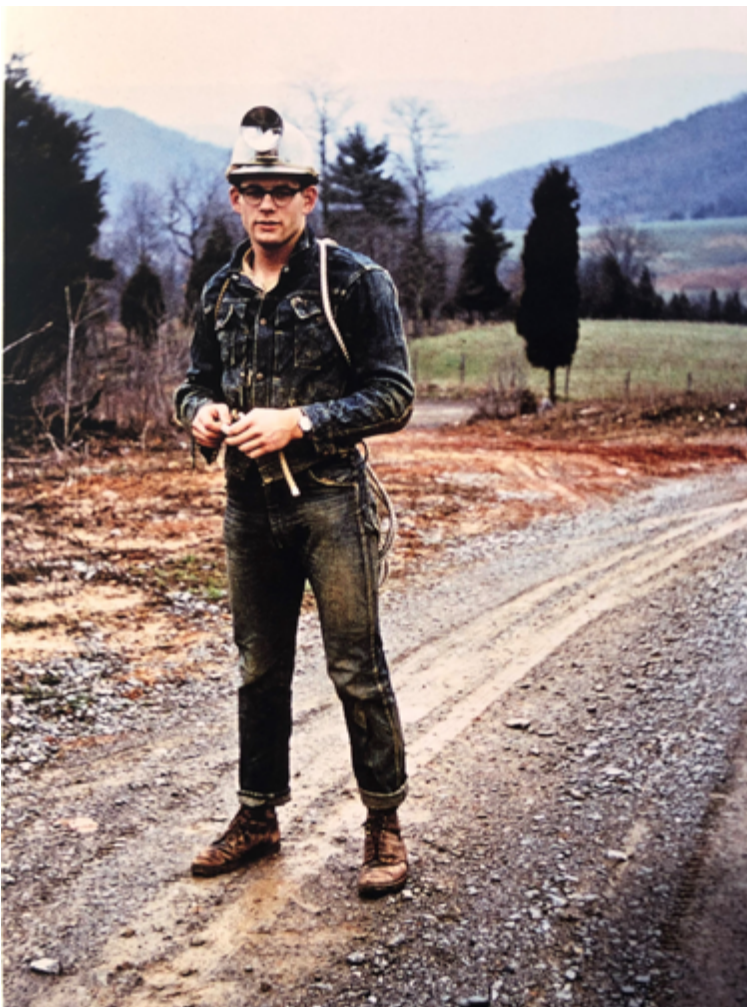
# ***Historical Photos of ACCVI Members: STARTING LOW, ENDING HIGH ..... FROM CAVING TO MOUNTAINEERING***

***By Tom Hall***

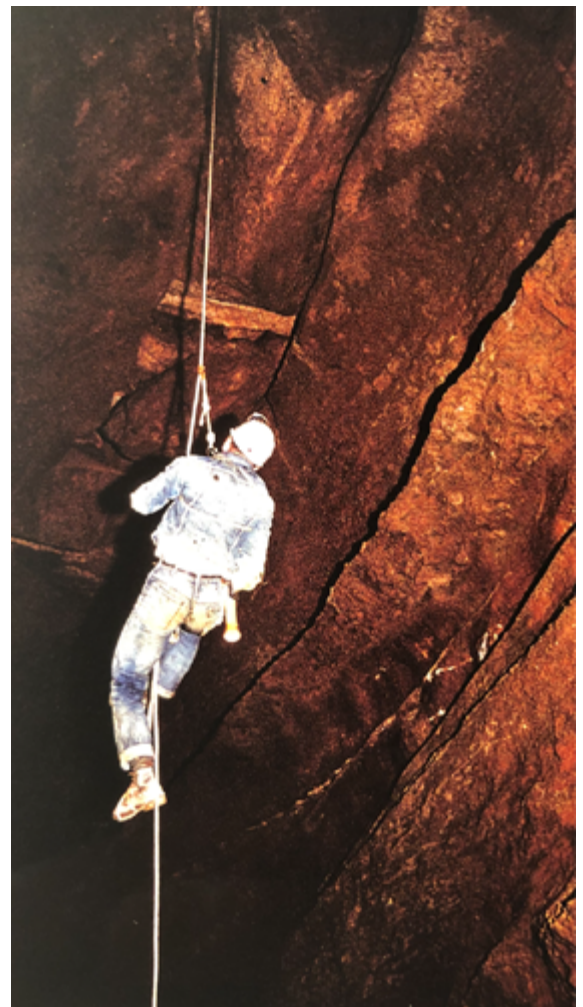
*Editor's note: You can read more about Tom's climb of Mount Logan in an article called The West Ridge to Logan by Boyd N. Everett Jr that was published by the American Alpine Club Journal in 1967: <https://publications.americanalpineclub.org/articles/12196725800>. You can also read about Tom's climb of Mount Waddington in an article called Traffic Jam on Mount Waddington by Dick Culbert, published by the Canadian Alpine Journal in 1969: see page 37 here: <http://library.alpineclubofcanada.ca:8009/book-acc.php?id=CAJ052-1-1969#page/37/mode/1up>*

## **1) CAVING (early 1960's)**

I was hiking and scrambling in the mountains pretty much from day one, thanks to my father who loved the outdoors and brought me along. But my first go at climbing (ropes and all) wasn't until my graduate student days at Indiana University where caving was the only game in town. We explored and mapped the horizontal caves in the local area that went for miles and also ventured to the Appalachian Mountains in search of the vertical pits and deeper caves.



***Tom, in the hills in search of the deep ones.  
Photo by Art Palmer.***



***Tom, prussiking out of a pit in Schoolhouse Cave in West Virginia.  
Photo by Art Palmer.***

## 2) SEATTLE (1965)

I spent the summer of 1965 in Seattle, climbing in the Cascades and Olympics. It changed my life! After that, I knew that I had to relocate from the Mid West to the Pacific Northwest. The most memorable trip that summer was Mount Olympus which, with a friend and travelling light, we did as a day trip (a 26-hour day!). As was often the case back then, we didn't meet or see a soul the whole time.



*Tom, on Mount Olympus signing the summit register.  
Photo by George Puziak.*

## 3) MOUNT LOGAN (1966)

A chance encounter while exploring in Crystal Cave in Kentucky in the winter of 1965, led to an invitation to join a team planning to climb Mount Logan and King Peak in the St. Elias Mountains the following summer. Led by Boyd Everett (who, with this trip, became the first to climb “the big three” (McKinley (Denali), Logan and St. Elias), we were a party of ten, drawing from New York City, Ohio, Indiana, and Alaska. Helped by unusually good weather, all ten reached the summit of Logan and all but two the summit of King Peak. Being long before today's world of electronics, for the month we were there, our only contact with the outside was a foot-locker-size radio left at base camp and an agreed upon return date with our bush pilot Jack Wilson. And, again, as was often the case back then, we had the mountain to ourselves.



*base camp, at about 8000 feet on the Sella Glacier near the Alaskan border. Photo by Tom Hall.*



*Mount Logan (far right) from the summit of King Peak. In the foreground is Art Davidson, who, the following winter with two others, made the first winter ascent of Mt. McKinley (Denali). Photo by Tom Hall.*





*King Peak, from on Mt. Logan above King Col. Two team members in the foreground. Photo by Tom Hall.*



*Summit of Mt. Logan. Tom in front center. Off to the left (unless I'm mistaken), is the Centennial Range where, the following year, the ACC held its Centennial Expedition. Photo by one of the team members.*

#### **4) MOUNT WADDINGTON (1968)**

In the summer of 1968, the BCMC held its summer camp in the Mt. Waddington area. Landing on melt water at the snout of the Tellot Glacier, one group headed up the Tellot Glacier to areas beyond, while our party of twelve went up the Tiedemann Glacier to climb Mt. Waddington. Led by Dick Culbert and forming into three teams of four each, all twelve climbed the main summit and some others also climbed the Northwest Summit and/or the Tooth.

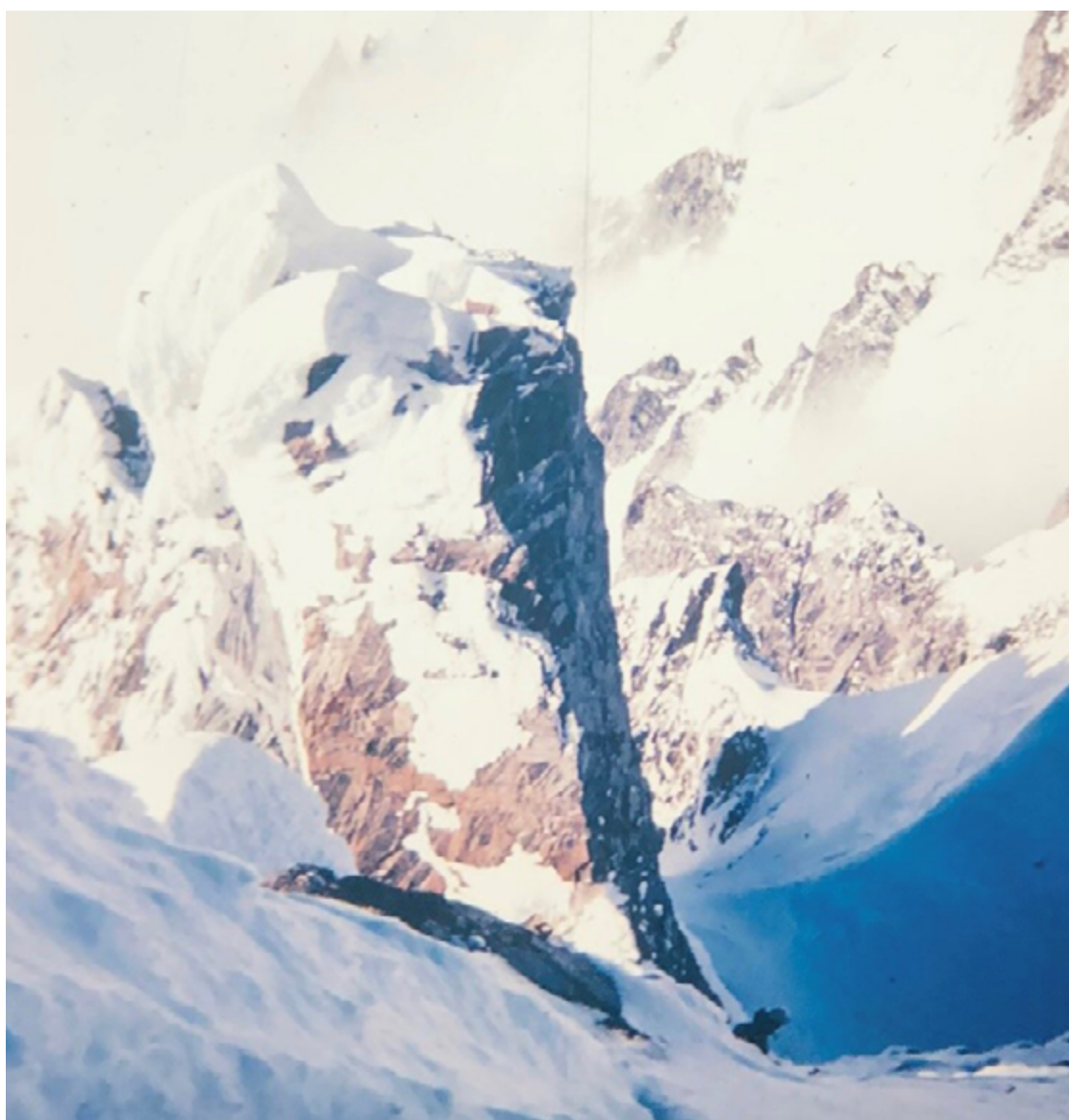


*Dick Culbert, at Nabob Pass looking at Mt. Waddington (with, left to right, the Tooth, the main summit and the Northwest Summit). Dick, with five others the following winter, made the first winter ascent of Mt. Waddington. Photo by Tom Hall.*





*Tom, en route to climbing the Tooth. Photo by Tony Clayton.*



*Ascending the main summit. Hans Peter Munger lower right. The Tooth behind. Photo by Tom Hall.*



## 5) HAVING FUN (Vancouver 1967 – 1973)

My eventual relocation to the Pacific Northwest landed me in Vancouver in 1967 where, for the next six years until moving on, I had fun climbing in the North Cascades and Southwest Coast Mountains when, compared to today, they were undisturbed, empty and quiet. I climbed mostly with very small groups or, as many times as not, with my constant companion Colin Oloman.



*Colin Oloman, pausing in a little patch of meadow before we headed up Cloudcap Peak (left out of the photo) in the North Cascades. Mt. Shuksan is in the background. Photo by Tom Hall.*

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*Rick Eppler and Rob Macdonald in 1983. Place and photographer unknown.*

# VANCOUVER ISLAND TRAIL – ITS STATUS IN EARLY 2022

By Steve Stirling & Terry Lewis

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*Editor's note: The "Landscape View" column in our ACCVI Island Bushwhacker Newsletter focuses on contributions of folks outside of ACCVI who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities.*

Great progress continues to be made on the Vancouver Island (VI) Trail despite winter snows and summer fire closures. The entire route is now sufficiently defined on the ground and/or via gps tracks to be followed all the way to Cape Scott. In 2021, we know of at least 12 through-hikers. Others hike the trail in sections – via seven logical 4-7 day hikes outlined as follows:

1. Anderson Hill (Victoria) to Lake Cowichan: The VI Trail initially follows urban-style trails to the Humpback Reservoir and then the Sooke Hills Wilderness Trail to the west of the Malahat. From the south end of Shawnigan Lake, the well-graded former railway grade from Victoria to Lake Cowichan, a part of the Trans-Canada Trail, is very popular with cyclists. Highlights include the Kinsol Trestle and scenic sections above the Malahat and along the Cowichan River.
2. Cowichan Lake to Port Alberni: The route mostly follows roads along the north side of Lake Cowichan. West of Cowichan Lake much of the trail follows the route of the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway (CNPR aka the “Galloping Goose”) which was well on its way to completion to Port Alberni until the outbreak of WW1 halted construction. The trail from Kissinger Lake to Port Alberni comprises the Tuck Lake Trail, the Runners Trail and Stages 1, 2 and 3 of the Alberni Inlet Trail. Although one continuous trail, different names refer to each section for ease of identification. Trail work here is largely maintenance as each new rainstorm, snow fall, and windstorm brings down windfalls or washes out bridges so that it takes the continual efforts of dedicated volunteers to keep the trail in shape. This part of the trail passes through active logging areas, but Teal Jones, Western Forest Products, Mosaic Forest Management and their contractors have been diligent in working to avoid incursions on the trail as much as possible. Stage 3 of the Alberni Inlet Trail includes a recently repaired bridge over Chesnucknuw Creek. It follows a portion of the CNPR grade that was repurposed as a logging railway in the 1930s and 1940s. Unfortunately, 8 high trestles have rotted away making steep descents and ascents necessary to cross creeks and gullies. Large concrete culverts with cast-in “1913” dates are still functioning on both Stage 2 and Stage 3. There is no longer a bridge over the Franklin River which divides Stage 2 and 3 and it can be waded only in the summer. Construction of a bridge or cable crossing would make all sections of the trail accessible twelve months of the year. Stage 2 is the shortest and easiest of the three stages and is very popular with day-hikers. Railway construction ended before a grade was blasted out on Stage 1 and as a result there are a number of significant ups and downs along Stage 1 that make for a workout. From the Stage 1 trailhead, City trails through the City of Port Alberni connect to the Log Train Trail on the northeast edge of Alberni. Many volunteer hours have been put into maintenance of the Log Train Trail and the Alberni Inlet Trail over the winter and they are all in good shape. Since most of the Inlet Trail is close to sea level, it is usable year-round except for periods of heavy rain when a couple of creeks cannot be crossed.
3. Port Alberni to Cumberland: The first 7 km of the Log Train leads to the McLean Mill historic site and the entry point to the long climb up to the Beaufort Crest section of the VI Trail. A lot of progress has been made over the last two years in locating and marking the route along the Beaufort Crest from just north of Mt. Irwin to Mt. Clifton near Cumberland. This is a challenging route over 10 summits starting with a long





*Mount Apps work crew. Photo by Terry Lewis.*

walk/climb from a low level to the crest near Mt. Irwin. More work will be done to upgrade route marking in some sections with the objective of keeping hikers on the same path and guiding them on steep sections or when the infamous Beaufort cloud cap renders visibility poor and navigation very difficult. The Beaufort Range looks modest from below but the combination of multiple summits with extensive heather highways, numerous lakes and ponds, meadows, and wildflower displays make for a beautiful but challenging hike. The entire hike would have been plotted and marked last year had it not been for the fire closure that was imposed shortly after

snow disappeared from the summits. Although hikers have recently been com

pleting the entire Beauforts section, one small gap remains unmarked between the summits of Mount Henry Spencer and Tsable Mountain, soon to be completed and marked as the snow disappears this coming June. A route from Tsable Mountain to the Katlum Valley was established last fall and it connects to a trail to the beautiful Three-Heather Lake on Mount Clifton, then past Tsable Lake and via the extensive Trent watershed trail system down into Cumberland.



*Mount Apps work crew with pruners from left to right are Judy Carlson, Harold Carlson, Wendy Friberg, Paul Friberg, Steve Stirling and Ivan Whitticase. Photo by Terry Lewis.*

4. Cumberland to Strathcona Dam: From Cumberland the route follows existing hiking and mountain bike trails up to Forbidden Plateau and Strathcona Park. Existing Park trails are followed past Kwai and Circlet lakes and most of the way up Albert Edward. The route leaves the Albert Edward Trail to head north over Mt. Jutland to the north boundary of the Park. Again back into private forest lands, the route is defined and roughly cleared all the way to Strathcona Dam except for a few km between Pearl Lake and Mt. Adrian. Highlights in this section are the extensive subalpine meadows around Mt. Adrian, along Rogers Ridge and Lupin Mountain/Ridge down to Upper Quinsam Lake with endless expansive views to mountains to the west of Buttle Lake and north over the lowlands to Quadra Island. Although mountainous, the VI Trail is located so as to avoid technical, alpine terrain (but it's close by for any interested ACC members!). Northwards from Upper Quinsam Lake the route is a mix of light, single-track trails and logging roads to/ across the Gold River Highway to the Strathcona Dam that impounds Upper Campbell and Buttle Lakes.



*Terry Lewis and Chris Winkelaar on their way to establishing a route around Mt. Adrian. Photo by Kat Millar.*

5. Strathcona Dam to Woss: North of the Dam, the VI Trail is located largely through managed forest lands (Crown lands, Tree-farm Licences) and is comprised of a mix of light trails and logging roads – a few are active and most are inactive and growing-in. This section is characterized by valley bottom trails apart from the 900-metre Kokummi Pass between the White and Schoen drainages – including the Salmon River, Grilse Creek, John Fraser Lake, Consort Creek, White River and its Kokummi tributary, Schoen Creek and Lake, and the Davie River down to near Woss. Most hikers remark on the beautiful White River Trail and its combination of exceptionally clear river waters, impressive old-growth and Roosevelt elk.
6. Woss to Port McNeill: This section is the least developed. Indeed, an acceptable route to the ‘Namgis First Nation and Western Forest Products is still in question. A high-elevation route along the Bonanza Range has now been dropped in favor of following the old Englewood Railway grade (tracks and associated infrastructure recently removed), which recent through-hikers have been using.
7. Port McNeill to Cape Scott: A good route around Port McNeill and its associated private lands and industrial uses remains to be determined. In the short-term, a few kilometres of the highway must be followed – as far as the Cluxewe River. North of the mouth of the Cluxewe and its extensive saltmarshes, through Kwakiutl traditional territory, the VI Trail becomes a ‘mini-West Coast Trail’ – depending on the tide either a beach/rockshelf walk or a trail just into the forest along the shoreline of Queen Charlotte Strait. From Port Hardy, hikers can either follow logging roads to Shushartie Bay (most do this) or take the North Coast Trail water-taxi to the Bay (or water-taxi to Cape Scott and hike back). The final leg of the

VI Trail follows the North Coast Trail to Cape Scott within the Provincial Park. From the Cape, most hikers take the Cape Scott Trail south to the San Josef River where a shuttle back to Port Hardy is available.

### **So, What Remains to Be Done?**

As you have read above, only 10-12 km of the nearly 800 km route requires new trail and/or marking. And, a permanent crossing of the Franklin River near Port Alberni is critical to year-round use from Victoria.

However, a multitude of administrative arrangements must be completed before the VI Trail is officially open – including permissions, support and involvement of several First Nations, land use agreements on private lands, and Section 57 approvals on Crown lands.

Volunteer trail work effort has already shifted largely to maintenance, invariably including some trail improvements. Organizing this on-going work will be challenging – the Vancouver Island Trail Association (VITA) will be looking for associated outdoor clubs/groups for assistance, perhaps by adopting certain sections of the Trail.



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## ***2022 Memorial Fund Youth Grants***

### ***by Geoff Bennett***

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Two youth groups have recently been awarded a total of \$1,500 from the ACCVI Memorial Fund to undertake challenging alpine expeditions.

A group including Kyle Bourquin, Casey Matsuda and John Relyea-Voss will attempt in August to climb the Campbell River Divide in one push. This will involve circumnavigating 45 summits from Mount Lupin to Mount Evelyn along the largest watershed on Vancouver Island.

Astra Lincoln will lead two other women in April on a bicycle-powered ski expedition into the Olympics.

The ACCVI executive would like to congratulate Kyle and Astra on their successful applications. We wish each of them a safe and rewarding trip and we look forward to hearing of their adventures in future ACCVI publications.



# Portrait View: ACCVI Schedule

By Karun Thanjuvar

*Editor's note: The Portrait View column in our ACCVI Island Bushwhacker Newsletter focuses on the many and varied contributions of folks on the ACCVI Executive Committee who contribute to our mountaineering community's activities*

Enjoying the vistas of our great outdoors while also sharing that experience with other club members is what epitomizes the outdoors culture of the Alpine Club. As a natural corollary therefore, a healthy trip schedule is a good indicator of the vibrancy and health of the club. What drives the pace of this pulse is, of course, the number and variety of the trips contributed by all of you, our members, eager to lead other club members on backcountry adventures, be it a day hike along well trodden trails, or a multi-day epic into totally uncharted, cliff-hanging territory.


My role in all this, as the trip scheduler, is to offer support to you, the trip leaders, if and as needed, with posting and promoting your trips via the trip schedule, figuring out any small details about trip logistics and so on. Given this focus on trip support, you are welcome to call on me at [schedule@accvi.ca](mailto:schedule@accvi.ca) as one more of the many resources our section provides to plan and realize your backcountry dreams. On my side, this gives me the opportunity to meet and greet trip leaders, both seasoned and new, which is always a pleasure.

I have been in this role as trip scheduler for well over a decade in the twenty years I have been a member in ACCVI (but for a brief, 3-year interlude as a beach bum in Hawaii, star gazing from the summit of Mauna Kea). In my early days in this volunteer position, I was drawn into just helping out the actual trip scheduler with IT stuff, be it either with word processing software or with the internet, since both were a bit beyond the technical capabilities of those old salts, more adept at setting up bomb-proof belays or leading a rope team safely across a crevasse-riddled glacier. This occasional 'help' slowly morphed entirely into the scheduler role, as other members got busy with their climbing plans and just told me where they were headed to post on the schedule.

Over this fairly long period as a trip scheduler, I have also had the opportunity to witness the slow evolution of the trip schedule itself, from being a 'written-in-stone' printed hardcopy mailed twice a year to the members to put up on their fridges, to a totally online version that could be revised entirely with a few keystrokes for other members to look up on their mobile devices, perhaps even while still in the back country on some other adventure.

Date	Event
Nov 24, 2021 to Apr 03, 2022	The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival IN-PERSON World Tour
Nov 25, 2021 to Oct 23, 2022	The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival VIRTUAL World Tour
Mar 04, 2022 to Mar 07, 2022	*FULL* Skiing/Boarding with Kids and Youth at Mt. Cain
Mar 04, 2022 to Mar 07, 2022	Hišimýawik work party

Screenshot of ACCVI's Schedule at <https://accvi.ca/events/>



Calendar view

You are welcome to try out one or two day trips before [joining the club](#).

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival VIRTUAL world Tour								
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival IN-PERSON world Tour								
BAM Mount Mo						Hilmyavi work party 12AM *FULL* Skiing/boarding > more ... more ...		
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival VIRTUAL world Tour								
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival IN-PERSON world Tour								
Hilmyavi work party					7:30PM Slides			
*FULL* Skiing/E more ...								
more ...								
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival VIRTUAL world Tour								
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival IN-PERSON world Tour								
						12AM Carey ridge ski mountain more ...		
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival VIRTUAL world Tour								
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival IN-PERSON world Tour								
12AM Amiskwi Lodge ski week								
more ...								
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	
The Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival VIRTUAL world Tour								

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1033-1036.

Normally, if it is a first time leader, I may ask for a climbing resume just to ensure their experience matches the level of difficulty of the proposed trip. I also encourage first-time leaders to partner with a more experienced member as a co-leader, to help with learning the ropes, so to speak. However, as a leader builds up experience over two or three trips, they are granted access to the webpage (which is password protected) for posting on the trip schedule. These leaders may then directly post their trips without having to contact the trip scheduler. This also facilitates easier management of the posting since they can quickly make changes to their trip on the trip schedule, necessitated perhaps by uncertain weather or access conditions, or something else unforeseen coming up.

In addition, as a mark of recognition of the vital role the trip leaders play in maintaining the vibrancy of the club, the trip leaders points program has been set up by our club. Points are awarded based on the number of participants, duration of the trip and level of difficulty. Trip leaders at the top of the leader board at the end of the year are presented a variety of enticing awards during the ACCVI annual general meeting.

In closing, I wish to thank not only all the trip leaders who have kept me happily busy in my role as trip scheduler, but also express my sincere appreciation to the many club members who have encouraged others to consider leading trips, often doing so by their own examples. So, onwards and upwards we go!





# ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA VANCOUVER ISLAND SECTION



Spring - Summer - Early Fall 2007



A - Not strenuous  
B - Moderately strenuous  
C - Strenuous  
D - Very strenuous  
Trips are shown below  
with grading indicated

1. Hiking  
2. Scrambling  
3. Easy climbing, rope if required  
4. Continual belaying, easy holds  
5. Leader protection, hardware required  
6. Direct aid climbing

Call trip coordinator well in advance to assist in planning. Confirm or cancel by Wednesday before the trip. Vehicle and ferry costs are shared. Please read the "Suggestions for All Trip Participants" on the back of this sheet before joining a trip. Club trips cover a wide range of activities - come and join us on some of them!

Please send any corrections or changes to [Karun@uvic.ca](mailto:Karun@uvic.ca)

## April

**19, 7 pm, 'Weather Evening'.** Raincoast Adventure Sports, Knut von Salzen, [knut.vonsalzen@ec.gc.ca](mailto:knut.vonsalzen@ec.gc.ca)  
**21, Ice Axe Workshop.** Mt. Arrowsmith, Snow travel, self arrests, Sandy Briggs, 380-3829, [briggsag@uvic.ca](mailto:briggsag@uvic.ca)  
**22, 'Over the Hills', A1.** Enjoy spring flowers on local hills, 3-5h, Gerta Smythe, 478-7369, [smythe@telus.net](mailto:smythe@telus.net)  
**20-27, Mystery Creek - Blackcomb (Guided) Mountain Ski Tour.** Details at Cliff Umpleby, [cliff@tlheli.com](mailto:cliff@tlheli.com)  
**27-30, Glacier Ski Technique, Spearhead Traverse,** with Cliff Umpleby (ACMG). Course fees and info, contact Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529, [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)  
**28, Trail Rider Hike with the Disabled.** Mt. Finlayson, Gerry Graham, 480-5580  
**Apr. 30-May 7, Bridge Glacier - Pebble Creek (Guided) Mountain Ski Tour.** [www.alpinendeavors.com](http://www.alpinendeavors.com), Cliff Umpleby, [cliff@tlheli.com](mailto:cliff@tlheli.com)

## May

**6, Peden Ridge, A1.** Day hike in Sooke Hills, Cedric Zala, 652-5841, [czala@shaw.ca](mailto:czala@shaw.ca)  
**12, Crevasse Rescue,** with Cliff Umpleby (ACMG). Course fees and info, contact Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529, [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)  
**19-22, Cream Lake, C4.** Approaching by ski to Cream Lake; if conditions permit, climb Mt. Rosseau or The Mithorns. Max. 6, Tak Ogasawara, 923-1859, [otak@telus.net](mailto:otak@telus.net)  
**19-21, The Wedge, D3.** Glacier travel/ crevasse rescue exp. req.; max. 5 if second rope leader available, Shawn Hedges, 386-2611, [shawn.hedges@gmail.com](mailto:shawn.hedges@gmail.com)  
**20, Mt. Arrowsmith, The Snow Nose route, C3.** Ascent of Nose on mixed snow and rock; includes Hourglass and Brugger's gullies; steep snow experience essential; max. 6, Tom Carter, [carter@islandnet.com](mailto:carter@islandnet.com)  
**20, (or 27th if conditions warrant change), Klitsa N Ridge B3/4.** Steep snow gully/classy open ridge; crampons/axe skills req., max 6, Russ Moir, [rmoir@telus.net](mailto:rmoir@telus.net)  
**24 (evening), Top roping Fleming beach,** some experience helpful, Selena Swets, [sswets@islandnet.com](mailto:sswets@islandnet.com)  
**26, Classic Salt Spring Island Bike**

7369, [smythe@telus.net](mailto:smythe@telus.net)  
**26, Un-Judges Route, Mt. Arrowsmith, C3.** Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529 [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)  
**26-27, Volcano Peak C3.** Seldom climbed peak from the Elk River Valley; steep snow ridge, small group only, Sasha Kubicek, [s\\_kubicek@hotmail.com](mailto:s_kubicek@hotmail.com)

## June

**2-3, MacKenzies, C3-4.** Climbing in snow covered bush, max. 5 if second rope leader available, Torge Schuermann, [ts@uvic.ca](mailto:ts@uvic.ca)  
**2-3, Big Interior, B/C3.** ski trip, optional Nine Peaks, experienced only, Selena Swets, [sswets@islandnet.com](mailto:sswets@islandnet.com)  
**3, Mt. Arrowsmith, The West Ridge, B3.** Up west ridge, down Nose, much scrambling. Tom Carter, [carter@islandnet.com](mailto:carter@islandnet.com)  
**9, Old Arrowsmith Trail from Cameron Lake, B2.** Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529, [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)  
**9-10, Mt. Baker, C3.** Glacier travel/crevasse rescue exp req., Shawn Hedges, 386-2611, [shawn.hedges@gmail.com](mailto:shawn.hedges@gmail.com)  
**9-10, Big Interior B3/4.** Ski/snow shoe if good snowpack, great slopes above Bedwell Lake, Russ Moir, [rmoir@telus.net](mailto:rmoir@telus.net)  
**9-10, Mount Regan C3.** Seldom climbed peak near Oyster River headwaters. Steep exposed snow ridge, small group only, Sasha Kubicek, [s\\_kubicek@hotmail.com](mailto:s_kubicek@hotmail.com)  
**17, 'Over the hills',** Jocelyn Hill-Elbow Point, 5-7h, Gerta Smythe, 478-7369, [smythe@telus.net](mailto:smythe@telus.net)  
**17, Kludahk hike, A1.** Noyse Lake, Claire Ebendinger, 652-1509, [marieclaireben@yahoo.com](mailto:marieclaireben@yahoo.com)  
**22-24, Kings Peak.** Up snow gully, (optional) climb up Queen's face, Reinhard Illner, [rillner@math.uvic.ca](mailto:rillner@math.uvic.ca)  
**23-24 (dep. 22 ave), MacKenzies, Centaur, C4.** Max 3, with rock shoes & rope, insect repellent, Jules Thomson, [julesthomson@shaw.ca](mailto:julesthomson@shaw.ca)  
**30-1, Victoria Peak.** Torge Schuermann, [ts@uvic.ca](mailto:ts@uvic.ca)

## July

**1, Canada Day Triathlon.** Usual route or longer bike/hike/swim in Peden Lake, Gerta Smythe, 478-7369, [smythe@telus.net](mailto:smythe@telus.net)  
**3, Mt. Baker, B3.** Seldom

**15, Mt. Whympier, B2.** Claire Ebendinger, 652-1509, [marieclaireben@yahoo.com](mailto:marieclaireben@yahoo.com)  
**20-22, Mt. Warden, C3.** Charles Turner, [charlesturner2@hotmail.com](mailto:charlesturner2@hotmail.com)  
**21-22, Tom Taylor, B3.** Jain Alcock-White, [janealcockwhite@shaw.ca](mailto:janealcockwhite@shaw.ca)  
**July 28 - Aug 5/6, VI Section Summer Camp.** Stanley Mitchell Hut, Yoho Park, a week in the Rockies. Cedric Zala, 652-5841, [czala@shaw.ca](mailto:czala@shaw.ca)

## August

**3-10, Golden Hinde/ BeHinde/ Rooster's Comb, C3-4.** Via Westmin Mines, Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529 [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)  
**12, Mts. Cokely and Arrowsmith from Cameron Lake, C2/3.** Over Cokely to Arrowsmith last bump, nose and summit, for solo climbers only, no tech support. Tom Carter, [carter@islandnet.com](mailto:carter@islandnet.com)  
**12, Mt Angeles.** Bike 'n' hike, easy scramble, Mike Hubbard, 370-1096 [mhubbard@provinciacourt.bc.ca](mailto:mhubbard@provinciacourt.bc.ca)  
**17-19, Mt. Harmston, C3/4.** Jain Alcock-White, [janealcockwhite@shaw.ca](mailto:janealcockwhite@shaw.ca)  
**18, Mt Moriarty, via Labour Day Lake, B/2.** Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529, [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)  
**25-26, Comox Glacier.** Moderately strenuous pack in but no glacier gear required, Mike Hubbard, 370-1096, [mhubbard@provinciacourt.bc.ca](mailto:mhubbard@provinciacourt.bc.ca)

## September

**1-3, Nine Peaks (over Big Interior) B3/4.** Russ Moir, [rmoir@telus.net](mailto:rmoir@telus.net)  
**1-3, Hidden Peak, C3/4.** Find the treasure in the west coast bush, max. 8, Rick Johnson, [rick@totemtravel.ca](mailto:rick@totemtravel.ca)  
**8, Mt. Albert Edward, C2.** Shawn Hedges, 386-2611, [shawn.hedges@gmail.com](mailto:shawn.hedges@gmail.com)  
**8-9 (dep. 7 eve), MacKenzies, Wiccan's hat & counting, C4.** Max. 3 with rock shoes, rope, bug repellent, Jules Thomson, [julesthomson@shaw.ca](mailto:julesthomson@shaw.ca)  
**9, Sooke Potholes.** By bike from Victoria - great swimming and a good work out, Mike Hubbard 370-1096, [mhubbard@provinciacourt.bc.ca](mailto:mhubbard@provinciacourt.bc.ca)  
**15, Mt. Arrowsmith via Judges Route, B/2.** Peter Rothermel, 250-752-2529 [prother@telus.net](mailto:prother@telus.net)



# 2021 Leadership Points

By KT Shum

Despite the pandemic disruption and bad weather leading to nine cancelled trips, 45 of our dedicated leaders managed to conduct 28 outdoor trips totaling 54 days in the second half of 2021. This is in addition to the four wonderful weeks of summer camp in the Chilcotin and nine (mostly online) slide shows. Just as impressive, 10 first-time leaders join the rank and one of them, John Relyea-Voss, roared to the front and won the Leader of the Year award after leading 7 day and overnight trips spanning 15 days.

The table below shows the final tally for leadership points in 2021. New in 2021, swag is awarded to all leaders earning five or more points but are not otherwise getting a prize. The swag is from Show Case Awards and the winners have a choice of a light grey cap, a rib knit acrylic neck warmer (black), or a winter ear band fleece (black), all embroidered with the ACCVI logo.

## Final 2021 Point Counts

Trip Leader	Point	Prize
John Relyea-Voss	15.5	Arc'teryx Hoody
Derek Sou	9	\$100 Valhalla Gift Card
Peggy Taylor	6.5	\$50 Valhalla Gift Card
Iain Sou	6	\$50 Valhalla Gift Card
Mike Hubbard	6	\$50 Valhalla Gift Card
Phee Hudson	5.5	swag
Rick Hudson	5.5	swag
Jeff Beddoes	5.5	swag
Catrin Brown	5	swag
Gordon Kyle	5	swag
Cal Veenstra	5	swag
Shaun Peck	5	swag
Janelle Curtis	4	
Mark Benson	4	
Roger Taylor	3.5	
Casey Matsuda	3	
Dave Fishwick	3	
Louise Chabot	3	
Laura Darling	2.5	
Christine Fordham	2	
Caroline Tansley	1.5	
Mary Sanseverino	1.5	
Martin Hofmann	1	



John Relyea-Voss with his new Arc'teryx Hoody.



ACCVI trip leader swag.

# **ACCVI History 1933**

*By Lindsay Elms*

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**1932 ACCVI Executive:** Chairman - Arthur Wheeler; Vice-chairman - William Dougan; Secretary - Mrs. R.W. Healey-Kerr; Assistant Secretary - Thomas Goodlake; Treasurer - Gordon Cameron; Outings Committee - Claude Harrison; Executive Committee - Janet Bell, Robert McCaw, Claude Harrison.

## **Events:**

February 28 - Illustrated lecture by J.C. Campbell on "Wild Animal Life."  
March 4 - Club trip to Bluff Mtn. and a half-day trip to Mt. Shepherd.  
March 25 - Club trip to Red Flag Mtn.  
April 2 - Full-day trip to Signal Hill and half-day trip to Garibaldi Hill.  
April 3 - Club's 27th annual banquet held at the Empress Hotel.  
April 14 to 17 - Club Easter week-end camp to the Lake of the Seven Hills.  
April 19 - Half-day trip to Buck Hill.  
April 30 - Club trip to Mt. Scafe.  
May 13/14 - Club trip to Saltspring Island to climb Mt. Belcher and Erskine.  
May 20/21 - Club overnight trip to Mt. Braden.  
May 24 - Club trip to Mt. Tzouhalem.  
June 2/3/4 - Club trip to Mts. Bluff and Trapp.  
June 17/18 - Club trip to Lake Cowichan Mountain.  
June 24 - Full-day trip to Mt. McGuire and half-day trip to Broom Hill. Dinner at Sooke Hotel.  
July 1 to 31 - Club camp at the Lake of the Seven Hills.  
September 2/3/4 - Club trip the Leach River and across divide.  
September 9 - Half-day trip to Mt. Newton and beach fire.  
September 23 - Half-day trip to Mt. Skirt.  
September 24 - Full-day trip to Durrance and Langford via Mt. Skirt.  
October 8 - Half-day trip to Mt. Finlayson.  
October 22 - Full-day trip to Shawnigan Lake.  
October 31 - Halloween trip to be arranged.  
November 11/12 - Club trip to the Lake of the Seven Hills.  
November 25 - Half-day trip to Bear Mtn. and dinner at Hamsterley.  
December 25 - Club Christmas reunion at Sooke Harbour House.

Section members who attended the ACC annual summer camp at Paradise Valley: Lindley Crease, Claude Harrison (graduated to active membership), Frederick Longstaff, Irene Bastow Hudson, Arthur Wheeler, Edward Wheeler.

## **ILLUSTRATED LECTURE**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday February 23, 1933, p. 6.

J.C. Campbell, publicity director of National Parks of Canada, will give an illustrated lecture on wild animal life next Tuesday [February 28] in the Chamber of Commerce auditorium at 8 o'clock under the joint auspices of the Publicity Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce and the Vancouver Island branch of the Alpine Club of Canada. Seven or eight new moving pictures will be shown.

## **ALPINE CLUB TO RESUME OUTINGS**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday February 26, 1933, p.7.

The Alpine Club (Vancouver Island section) is resuming its outings on Saturday, March 4, with a whole-day expedition to Bluff Mountain, leaving the city at 9 a.m.; and a half-day expedition to Mt. Shepherd, leaving the city at 1 p.m. Both parties will start at Bastion Square at the times named, and will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Belvedere Hotel for dinner.

Under the auspices of the club, J.C. Campbell will give an illustrated address on animals and birds at the Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, at 8 o'clock.

### **KNEE-DEEP SNOW ENCOUNTERED BY ALPINE OUTING**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday March 5, 1933, p. 11.

The availability of winter sports in Victoria for those who enjoy this form of recreation was demonstrated by the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, yesterday, the party of eight that formed an all-day expedition to Bluff Mountain and Mount Trapp encountering knee-deep snow on the first summit of the latter. The weather was ideal, and twenty-eight members in all joined the outing. In addition to the eight who took the major climb, under Claude L. Harrison's leadership, was a party of twenty, who joined the afternoon outing. This also was in two sections, one, conducted by Miss Kathleen Martin, ascending the small mountain southwest of Mount Shepherd, and the other, led by Stanley Holmes, forming an expedition up the Sooke River to the canyons. All the hikers gathered at the Belvedere Hotel, Sooke, for dinner. This revived the old-time Alpine Club spirit, with community singing between the courses, and impromptu speeches from the guests gathered around the U-shaped table. After dinner, the outings convener read the programme of outings for the planned season. Two reels of movies of the last Summer camp of the Alpine Club in the Rockies followed, with running comment, this concluded an enjoyable evening.

### **MANY OUTINGS ARE PLANNED**

#### **Island Section Of The Alpine Club To Hold Twenty-Two Expeditions During Year**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday March 24, 1933, p. 5.

Already away to a good start with three successful outings chalked off the calendar, the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada now announces the complete schedule of expeditions for 1933, this includes thirteen before August (a month during which the club cancels all activities) and nine during the Autumn. In addition, three or four social "get-togethers" are announced, the most important being the annual dinner, scheduled to take place on Monday, April 3, at the Empress Hotel, an event which is usually honored by the presence of the distinguished founder of the Alpine Club of Canada, Arthur O. Wheeler, who is now also president of the Vancouver Island section. As many members are feeling the effects of the world-wide conditions financially, outings have been kept as modest a scale as possible, in order to make it possible for everyone to attend. The next climb is to be tomorrow, Saturday, March 25, to Red Flag Mountain, the party leaving Bastion Square at 1:35 p.m.

### **Other Events**

Other events during the season are to be as follows: April 2 (Sunday), full-day outing to Signal Hill, and half-day outing to Garibaldi Hill; Easter camp at Lake of the Seven Hills, April 14 to April 17, inclusive; April 29, half-day expedition to Buck Hill; April 30, full-day outing to Mount Scafe. May—Week-end outing, May 13 and 14, to Saltspring Island, camping overnight, Mounts Belcher and Erskine to be climbed; May 20 and 21, Mount Braden, camp one night; May 24, one-day outing to Mount Tzouhalem. June—June 2, 3 and 4, two-night camping outing, climbing Mounts Trapp and Bluff; June 17 and 18, one-night camp, Cowichan Lake Mountain; June 24, full-day expedition to Mount McGuire; half-day outing Broom Hill; dinner at Sooke Hotel. July—July 1 to 31, camp at Lake of the Seven Hills.

### **Autumn Outings**

September—Labor Day week-end, two-night camp, September 2, 3 and 4, Leach River and across Divide; September 9, half-day trip to Mount Newton and beach fire afterwards for clam bake; September 23, half-day to Mount Skirt and back; September 24, full-day to Durrance and Langford, via Mount Skirt. October—October 8, half-day expedition to Mount Finlayson; October 22, full-day trip to Shawnigan Lake; October 31, Halloween (to be arranged); and Thanksgiving Day, camp at Lake of the Seven Hills. November—November 11 and 12, camp at Lake of the Seven Hills; November 25, half-day to Bear Mountain and dinner at Hamsterley.





## ANNUAL CLUB BANQUET ENJOYABLE GATHERING

### Twenty-Seventh Annual Celebration Held At Empress Hotel Last Evening—President A.O. Wheeler Addresses Gathering

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday April 4, 1933, p. 5.

Celebrating the twenty-seventh anniversary of the founding of the Alpine Club of Canada, the Vancouver Island section last night met in time-honored manner at a banquet at the Empress Hotel. Covers were laid for forty-two guests at the big T-shaped table set in the Princess Louise private dining room, daffodils, wild plum and wild currants forming the decorative motif, and after dinner and the delightful programme of speeches and music, the guests repaired to the adjacent Princess Charlotte dining-room to play military whist. The feature of the proceedings was, as usual, the address by the venerable president of the section, Arthur O. Wheeler, who is also honorary president and founder of the parent society. Mr. Wheeler recalled the history of the club's activities since the first camp, held at the summit of Yoho pass in 1906, noting that he had been present at each of the annual camps since then, with the exception of two, and hoped to maintain his close association with the organization until the end of his life. The club has made a name for itself through many accomplishments, perhaps the finest of which was the conquest of Mount Logan, the highest Canadian mountain, by a joint party of Canadian and American members, under the leadership of Albert McCarthy, Fred Lambert, and Colonel William W. Foster, the last a former president of the Vancouver Island section. Mr. Wheeler also, on behalf of the section, expressed sympathy to the honorary secretary of the parent society, Stanley H. Mitchell, who has been ill for some time, paying tribute to his loyal interest in the club.

### Study Glaciers

Among the more recent undertaking of the Alpine Club of Canada had been the appointment, at last year's annual camp, of a standing committee to promote the study of glaciers and glacial action in Canada, of which Mr. Wheeler himself is chairman. Reference was made to the forthcoming attempts on Mount Everest. Needless to say, all Alpine Club sections would follow the results with deep interest. "Camp this coming Summer is rumoured for Eremite Valley, a part of the famous Tonquin Valley system," added the president, in his concluding remarks. During the evening Mr. Wheeler exhibited several large pieces of crystalized salt gathered in Death Valley, California, during a recent visit there, and at the same time he gave a graphic description of the strange and interesting geologic formation of the country, particularly mentioning Telescope Peak, which rises sheer 11,350 feet from the valley at its feet, in this respect being the highest mountain in the world. Other details on the programme were the interesting five-minute talks by Major Edward O. Wheeler, now home on furlough from India; J.P. Forde, and Dr. Irene Bastow Hudson; the enjoyable vocal contributions of Mrs. R.D. McCaw, who sang "Happy Song" (Teresa del Riego) and "Bird Lullaby" (Sanderson); and the brief addresses by Claude L. Harrison and Gordon Cameron in proposing and replying to the toast of "The Alpine Club." The secretary, Mrs. Healey-Kerr, announced that messages of greetings had been sent to the New York, Edmonton and Vancouver sections of the club in response to recent greeting received from these groups. The guest were as follows: Mr. and Mrs. A.O. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox, H.B. Jones, Mr. Hudson and Dr. Irene Bastow Hudson, Sholto Douglas, Mr. and Mrs. J.G. Hazelwood, William H. Dougan, J.P. Forde, Major and Mrs. Edward O. Wheeler (Quetta, India), Colonel and Mrs. *Henry W. Laws*\*, Colin Rutherford, Thomas Goodlake, Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. McCaw, Mr. Charles Whitney-Griffiths, Captain and Mrs. C.M.C. Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. George Deane, Mr. and Mrs. C.L. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Cameron, Miss Betty Tuckey, *Francis Tuckey*\*, Miss Kathleen Martin, Miss Erminie Bass, Mrs. R.W. Healey-Kerr, Mrs. E.C. Posgate, Miss Janet Bell, Mrs. Sylvia Holland, Mrs. Charlotte J.B. Hadow, and Miss Audrey Hadow.

\*Henry William Laws (1876 – 1954) was born in London, England in 1876. In 1902-03, as Chief Mining Manager and Engineer of the Niger Company, he discovered alluvial tin deposits in Nigeria which became an important part of the country's economy. He led three prospecting expeditions into Bauchai Province and succeeded in locating the rich tin area in the Garra Mountains of the Badiko District. At the outbreak of WWI in August 1914, he joined the Royal Naval Division and took part in the ill-fated Antwerp Expedition. Later, in Gallipoli, he raised a tunneling company called the 8th Corps Mining Company for underground defence of the trenches. He later commanded similar forces in France. Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Laws received the C.M.G. (1919) and D.S.O. (1915) for his services. He and his wife Margaret returned to Saanich where he partnered in the Queenswood Land Company that attempted to develop the Queenswood area in the late 1920's, but the syndicate ran into financial difficulties and unsold lots reverted to Saanich for unpaid taxes. He remained in Saanich until his death on 19 December 1954 (obituary in *The Daily Colonist* December 21, 1954, p. 22.)

\*Francis Edward Tuckey was born in Tientsin, China in 1897 and came to Victoria with his family (and sister Betty) in 1900. He was a fruit farmer in Saanich for many years, and was a member of the Alpine Club of Canada. He passed away suddenly on 6 September 1959 while visiting Olympic Hot Springs near Port Angeles, Washington (obituary in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday September 10, 1959, p. 28.). He was survived by his wife Kathleen (nee Martin), a son and three daughters.

## **RE-BLAZE TRAIL OF SOOKE PARK OVER WEEK-END**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday April 18, 1933, p. 6.

The resurveying and reblazing of the Sooke Mountain Park boundary, previously blazed about thirty-five years ago, constituted the principal activity of the Easter Week-end camping party of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada that returned to the city last evening after four days in the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills district. Eight members joined the holiday expedition that went up on Friday morning to join the advanced party comprising Claude L. Harrison and Kenneth M. Chadwick, the outings convener and secretary, respectively. Despite the frequent flurries of snow throughout Saturday, the survey and reblazing work was proceeded with, and a considerable distance was covered. Easter Day was appropriately observed, and the menu was extended with hot-cross buns and Easter eggs. When members returned last evening, they were already planning for the next outing, which will be on Saturday, April 29, to Buck Hill, Sooke.

## **ALPINE CLUB VISITS SALTSRING ISLAND**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Tuesday May 16, 1933, p. 8.

Saltspring Island was visited last week-end by the local section of the Alpine Club. As in previous years, members of the party, who reached the island by ferry, passed the night under the maples at Burgoyne Bay. This cove, bordered on either side by Mount Maxwell and Mount Bruce, is one of the beauty spots of the Gulf Islands. The phosphorescence on this evening was particularly bright. Sunday morning broke with a steady downpour of rain. At 8:30 o'clock the party motored to Cranberry to climb the 1400-foot ridge comprising Mount Belcher and Mount Erskine. The route was not difficult as the road climbs to 800 feet and the summit consists of a long succession of mossy slopes. Unfortunately, the view was to a great extent obscured by clouds, although Sansum Narrows and part of Maple Bay could be discerned. The party returned to Burgoyne Bay soon after 2 p.m. and returned to Victoria by the afternoon ferry, after an enjoyable trip.

## **FORBIDDEN PLATEAU**

### **Eulogy By One Who Knows It Well**

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday July 13, 1933, p. 5.

By C.L. Harrison

(Mr. C. [Claude] L. Harrison has written a short article on the Forbidden Plateau for the *Comox Argus*. Mr. Harrison has done more to bring the beauties of the Plateau to the notice of the outside world than anyone else with the exception of Mr. Clinton S. Wood — The Editor of the *Comox Argus*.)

Do you want to get away this year—get away from civilization just a bit? Get into a high altitude, where the air is light and invigorating, where you will find miles of heather, purple, white and quaint little trees, beautiful lakes, creatures of the wild that are not afraid of you, and yet not the unpleasant familiar kind, taught by man to insist on begging food from your larder. A place where there are no pests—for the mosquito's amount to nothing—and there's not even a garter snake. And, oh yes!, close by, mighty mountains, canyons and all that. Something new for you and get-at-able. And now how about it, you ask. Give me the side information—all detail—put it shortly—put it clearly—put it in a few words—let me know. Very well, here you are.

### **The Long Trail**

The Island Highway will take you by car to Courtenay and from there you will see sign posts "To the Forbidden Plateau". Follow on and in a few minutes you will leave just a few miles behind and find yourself at a convenient turn-

around-and-parking place with a little stream of ever-running water, too. Here the trail faces you. You will have decided before this, however, whether you are going to have your own camp, or if you will be going in without and stay at the charming little log hotel of the genial; Eugene Croteau. If you should have already decided to make your own camp, you would have brought your equipment, but would have beforehand written or phoned “long distance” to Mr. C. [Clinton] S. Wood of Courtenay. Just ‘phone long distance’ and ask her, and she will get him without delay for you. From Mr. Wood you would have found out when the pack horses go in to the Plateau. It is very frequent and the rates are reasonable. You may also, if you wish, arrange for one or more saddle horses, but that’s a matter of choice.

### **Get Jack Mitchell**

If you are having your own camp, take my advice, try to get Jack Mitchell to run it all for you. There is only one Jack Mitchell. He can arrange everything—see that your baggage gets in—have your camp all set up at a choice spot—arrange your food supplies, and say! make the best pancakes that you ever ate. The address “Courtenay, B.C.” will get him. Try to get him, he is simply great. But if you have decided not to have your own camp and the bother of it, just get from your car at the trail, put on your nailed boots and your ruck-sack (keep it light, or send in by pack-train), and start off for Croteau’s Camp. It’s quite a journey, that’s what saves it from ruination, so take your time. The trail is easy to follow, you can’t miss it; there are no branch trails, but the miles will wind out—that is the only part that may try you a bit. Leave early in the morning, and you will be there that day. And you will be well repaid when you suddenly burst upon Croteau’s Camp on the edge of the Plateau.

### **At Croteau’s Camp**

It is Comfort throughout and the food is excellent. Here tent houses with real spring beds exist, and you have to buy the hotel either—it’s reasonable, very reasonable—and everything is exactly the way you want it. Mr. Croteau is a refined French gentleman and you at once find an air of refinement and culture that will be remembered. He will tell you all you want to know and will send a guide with you, if you like, to any part of the Plateau or in the mountains. Before you lies the Plateau—now—that charming spot in Vancouver island with but little sign of Man except ‘blazed’ trails. Here you may roam in a new land at an average elevation of 4000 feet, with miles of unexplored mountains beyond. There is lots more to tell you—the red snow—the ptarmigan—the strata on Strata Mountain—the good trout fishing—but I’ll leave that to you now. It is a surprise for you now. It is a surprise for you—it is something you will enjoy, try it.

### **NOTED CLIMBERS MAY VISIT CITY**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday August 16, 1933, p. 4.

Two distinguished climbers, both of whom have been in Victoria on more than one occasion before, expect to visit here some time during September. They are Dr. and Mrs. Ivor A. Richards, who have been climbing with the Alpine Club of Canada in Paradise Valley and have been spending the last two weeks climbing without a guide in the Yoho Valley. Dr. Richards who is at Magdalene College, Cambridge, published his “Mencius on the Mind,” last year, which explains his presence as a British delegate at the Pacific Relations Institute conference at Banff at the present time. Mrs. Richards is better known under her maiden name of Dorothy Pilley, under which she writes in the English papers, and by which she is best remembered in Victoria, where she spent some time during a two years’ residence in Canada.

### **VICTORIANS WIN RECORD TO PLATEAU**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday August 20, 1933, p. 3.

During the past week, E.W. Izard of Yarrow’s Ltd., and his two boys Theodore and Arthur, all of Victoria, created something in the nature of a record in a trip they made to the Forbidden Plateau. They left Victoria at 8 a.m. on Wednesday [August 12] morning, by motor car, arriving at the end of the road into the plateau’s foothill at 3 p.m. When they sat down to supper in the Croteau Chalet at 8:30 o’clock that night, they were just twelve and a half hours from Victoria. The next morning, they climbed Mount Albert Edward, returning the same day to camp after what they declared to be a most enjoyable day, and the following afternoon started out.



## August Registrants

Weather in the plateau at the present is reported as ideal, and among the August registrants at the Croteau Chalet were the following Victorians: Mr. and Mrs. H.C. Layard (Deep Cove), Robert J. Higgins, E.M. Yarwood, Miss Margaret Rennie, Miss Clare Ashdown Green, Miss Mary P. Leith, Mrs. Agnes Pryce Pollock, Dr. W.W. Bryce, Miss Maude, S. Christie, Mrs. Olga Stavrakov, Cecil Clague, J.E. Pugh, R. Lendrum, W.P. Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Frank, Miss Jean Gillespie, Miss Maisie Swan, Alex Gillespie, T.N. Woolison, R. Mathews, Ian Ross, Mrs. W. Wingfields, Miss M. Dunsmuir, Miss J. Humphrey, J. Humphrey, Mrs. Milton White, Fred G.P. Maurice, W.I. Morgan Jr., Charles Barker, Mrs. W.C. Warren, Mrs. Mildred Margison, Miss Dorothy Warren, W.H. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. E. Posgate, E.W. Izard, Theodore W. Izard, Arthur Izard, Miss Audrey S. Hooper, N.F. Pullen, and Prince and Princess Chirinsky Chihmatoff.

## Other Island Visitors

Other Island visitors have included J. Murray (Sandwick), Miss D. Christian (Hillbank), S.A. Ashell (Sandwick), F.R. Hall (Hillbank), Miss Ella Gait and Ernest Gait (Royal Oak), *Ethne Gale\** (Saanichton), Miss Katherine Milne (Metchosin), R. Mathews (Metchosin), Billy Parfitt, Jack Hardy, *Frank Giolma\**, and Jack Giolma (Sandwick), Mrs. M.M. White, M. Galloway, A.F. Galloway, and Miss Hume Galloway (Duncan) and Miss Elizabeth Rigby (Duncan).

\**Ethne Evelyn Mary Gale-Gibson* (1912 – 1997) was born on April 4, 1912 to Brigadier General Henry and Kathleen Gale and lived in Bardsea Hall near the Lake District of England where she grew up with her two sisters: Kathleen Myrtle and Lois Margaret. (Lois married Ronald Scott-Moncreiff and their son Nigel Scott-Moncrieff was with Rex Gibson and Mark Mitchell on the 1953 ACCVI trip to Big Interior Mountain.) The family emigrated to Victoria in 1919. When she was ten [1922] she participated in an ACCVI trip to Mt. Arrowsmith with her father and other notable Victoria climbers. In the 1930's Ethne began exploring the Sooke Hills which led her to bigger mountains. In 1936, she attended the annual summer camp of the ACC in the Fryatt Valley and graduated to active membership by climbing a 10,000-foot peak. Through the ACC camps Ethne met Evelyn "Rex" Gibson and they began sharing the rope. During WWII she returned to England and by the end of the war was running the women's half of a mixed army ambulance unit in the northwest of England. After the war Ethne and Rex returned to Canada and continued climbing together including ascents of Mt. Andromeda, Biddle, Athabasca, Brazeau, Resplendent, Howser Spire and the President. However, it was her climb of Bugaboo Spire in 1946 with Rex and Bob Hind that she considered the best climb she ever did. She often said "With Rex, you always knew you would be back in camp in time for dinner." On 12 June 1948 they were married. They lived at first in Edmonton but moved to "Bardsey," the Gale family's neo-tudor manor near Saanichton in 1948. She lived there until 1957 when Rex died in a mountaineering accident. Ethne moved to a house in Victoria where she resided with her daughter Kathleen Ethne Violet Gibson.



*Ethne and Rex Gibson on the summit of Mt. Whympers 1949*

Although her trips to the mountains decreased her love for them and the flora and fauna remained as strong as ever. Ethne Gibson passed away on 11 May 1997 (a remembrance in the Canadian Alpine Journal Vol. 87, 2004, p. 144-145.) On a plaque in her memory at the ACC Wares-Gibson hut in the Tonquin Valley there is a line from Tennyson's Ulysses: "All experience is an arch wherethro' gleams that untravelled worlds."

\*Francis "Frank" Vivian Burland Giolma (1910 – 2005) was born 9 February 1910 in Victoria, to Francis and Ione Marie Giolma. In 1931, Frank drove across the US on his Indian motorcycle to attend Carnegie Tech. A Westinghouse scholar, an avid tennis player, captain of the track team, member of Tau Beta Pi, and voted 'most promising engineer', he graduated as an electrical engineer in 1935. He married Catherine P. Gunnell on August 20, 1938. Frank earned his law degree while working for Westinghouse and was admitted to practice before the Pennsylvania and US supreme courts. In 1957, he left Westinghouse to work as a patent attorney with IBM in Endicott N.Y. Frank retired from IBM in 1975 and at the age of 90, he and Catherine moved to San Antonio to be near their sons. He passed away on 1 July 2005.

## **ALPINE CLUB CAMP ATTRACTS MEMBERS TO CHARMING SPOT**

### **Lovely Lake-Of-The-Seven-Hills, Sooke, Now Scene Of Annual Summer Rally—Day's Programme Includes Hikes, Swimming, Boating And Evening Bonfire Parties.**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday August 20, 1933, p. 5.

By J.E.M. Bruce

It was the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills, Sooke, that first discovered me the essential difference between a lake and the sea, to wit, that the former is essentially feminine, the latter masculine. Of course, lakes have just the same wide diversity of temperament as women. There are little coquettish, dimpling lakes; artificial, self-conscious lakes that exploit their charms; gloomy, puritanical lakes of repellant expression; shallow, insipid lakes that get disturbed easily; deep, quiet lakes that rest one; lakes that seem to hide secrets; others that are boisterous; lakes that are domestic or maternal, and various types of greater lakes that, like tremendously efficient women, understand the meaning of commerce and play their part well in the world of business. But all have some essential quality that stamps them as feminine rather than masculine. The Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills is pagan. She has a primeval quality. She is entirely unconscious of her beauty. Set high among the hills few knew even of her existence until three or four years ago the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada purchased about 200 acres of Sooke Hills parkland embracing the lake. Everyone who has visited the place has fallen in love with it, and the annual club camp, which is now under way, is attracting the usual number of nature lovers.



## Water Lilies

At this season the lake is particularly attractive, decked out with water lilies, fringed with reeds, framed in coppery-stemmed arbutus, feathery scented spiraea, birch and spruce and fir, and overhung by the seven rocky summits that have given her her name. She is beautiful, but she can be utilitarian also. The site of the camp was determined by the lake, for it has to furnish the water supply, and also affords delightful bathing. Regulations were framed at an early date, and posted where everyone could read them, that swimming would be allowed only on the side of the lake opposite camp, this preserving a pure drinking water supply right at the door. Even the deer seem to respect this rule, and have never been seen drinking anywhere on the camp side of the water.

## Hut Completed

The building of the stone fireplace, now just receiving the finishing touches, completes the big hut which is the focal point of all club activities. It is a fine structure, as the accompanying picture shows. Built of upright cedar logs the main portion of the building consists of a dining or assembly hall measuring twenty by thirty feet, with an eight-foot-wide veranda along the entire front, and an upstairs loft which is used the year round as a storeroom for bedding and other supplies left at camp, and also serves as sleeping quarters for any who visit the camp during the cold-weather. Opening off the dining-room is a lean-to kitchen, twelve feet square, fitted with a big French range which does the cooking for forty or fifty people when required. Off that is the pantry. The establishment also boasts a roofed-over outdoor dining-room, fifteen by twenty-two feet, capable of seating forty persons, and an outdoor kitchen, also roofed





over. These are used in the warmer weather, or by members who visit camp in smaller groups during the year. One of the principal joys of camping is sleeping out of door. While the hut is the rendezvous of members at meal times and at other times when the weather is inclement, people prefer to spend their time outside, either lounging about under the trees, boating or climbing some of the many neighboring hills. Guests also sleep outside. Tents are pitched to the right and left of the hut, the ladies' quarters on one side, the men on the other. Some prefer to sleep right under the stars. Nearly everyone arrives at camp in heavy nailed alpine boots. These would soon play havoc with the floors of the dining-room and veranda, so there is a rule boots may not be worn inside. Consequently, an array of running shoes always flanks the steps. As the Vancouver Island section is, in the main, a training ground for those who wish to attend the Alpine Club's annual camps in the Rockies, something of the same routine is observed in the local camp. The day's climbs are posted, and member wishing to join any special climb are asked to sign their names thereunder.

Meals are served at fixed hours, breakfast at 7:30, luncheon at 12:30, tea at 4 and dinner at 6:30. This year the camp has an exceptionally fine chef, an old sailor, and the blowing of the horn is the signal for a rapid gathering of hungry folk. The camp is four and a half miles from the end of the road, over a steep mountain trail that even the pack horses find some difficulty in some places. Yet here is a sample day's menu during the present camp: Breakfast—Porridge, toast, bacon and eggs, flapjacks and syrup. Luncheon—Soup, lamb chops and two vegetables, boiled roly-poly pudding. Afternoon tea—Toast and tea. Dinner—Oxtail soup, roast beef and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, and coffee.

### **Empress Mountain**

There are many more climbs in the neighborhood to keep the members active and busy during the Summer camps. One of the major climbs is to the top of Mount Empress, from which, if the weather is clear, there is a wonderful of Victoria. Every annual camp includes several expeditions to Mount Empress, which means that a group of five or six leave the main camp late in the day, carrying blankets or sleeping bag and some food, making the ascent by night and sleeping near the summit after an hour or two beside a big bonfire which can be easily seen from Victoria by those who are on the lookout. The descent is made in the early morning, in time to bring the climbers back for breakfast in the main camp. Swimming parties in the lake are very popular. There is a slim green canoe, which, like twelve big windows in the hut, found way up to the lake miraculously on the back of pack horses. The canoe is constantly in use for boating and swimming parties, and has given the finishing touch to some moonlight romances.

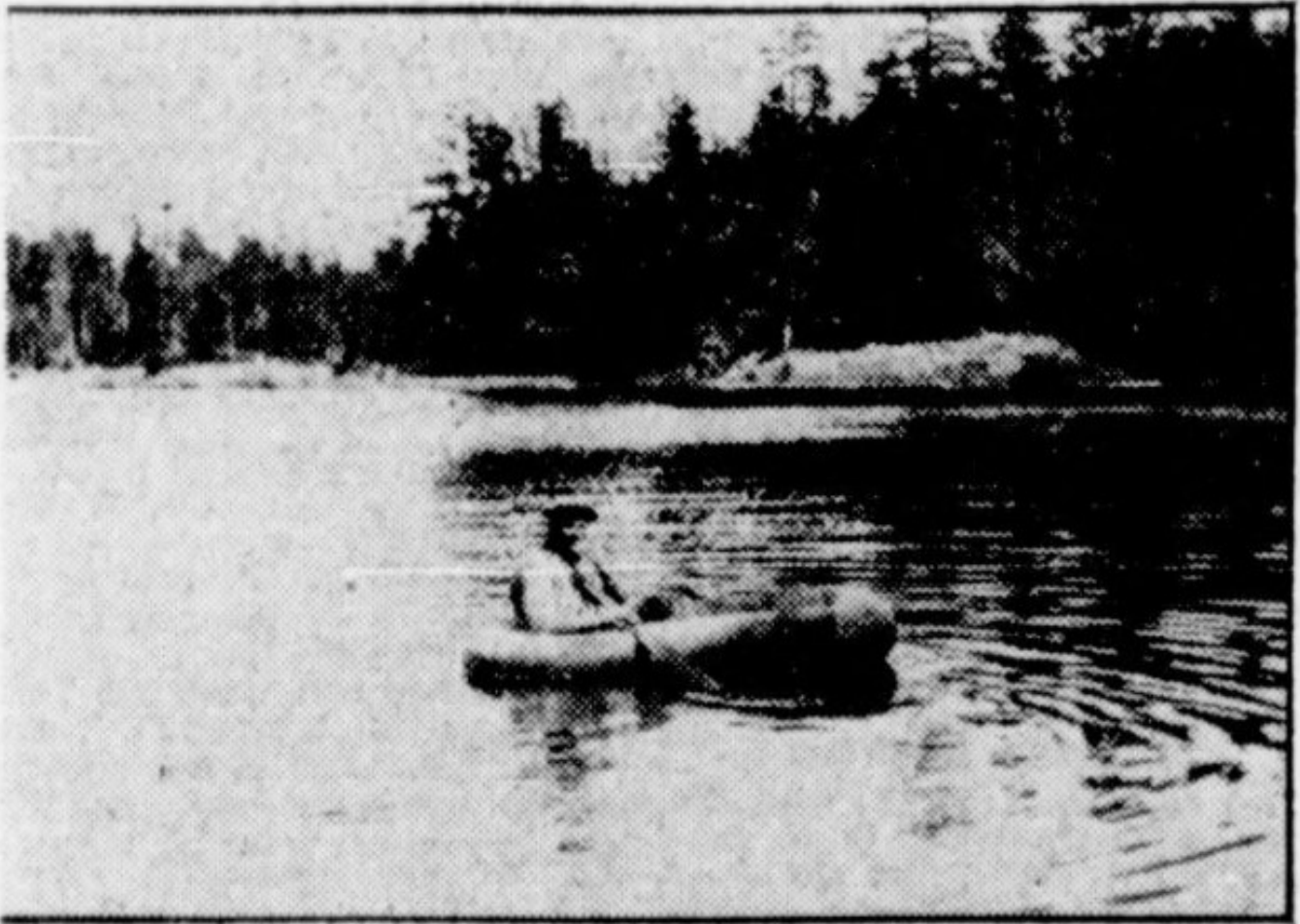
### **Numerous Islands**

The lake has several little islands. The most popular, from the camp life point of view, is Bonfire Island. Connected from the mainland by a rustic bridge, it is the scene of nightly bonfires where everyone gathers for story-telling, sing-song, and general merrymaking. The leaping sparks and crackling fire-light have magic power in loosening tongues and nimbly the wit, and some merry tales and jests enliven these evenings. Other points, the names of which are almost self-explanatory, are Batchelor Island, Sirens' Island and Peeping Rock.

### **Flora And Fauna**

The camp has visitors other than members. First of the birds to discover the arrival of members are the whiskey-jacks, impudent and amusing visitors as they dart in and out among the trees snatching scraps from the table, the cook-stove, the refuse dump. There are also woodpeckers and plenty of wild water fowl. During the night one is sometimes startled by the padding of feet and an inquisitive sniffing outside one's tent. It is probably a racoon, although it maybe a deer, for deer steal into camp. Two or three squirrels are always to be seen leaping from branch to branch or sitting perched on a tree top tearing a pine cone asunder much as an epicure does an artichoke. At night-time the hooting of an owl can be heard above the merriment of the campfire. At night-time, too, the busy muskrat does his work, and if one has patience, and a flashlight, one can observe them building their lodges. One evening after dinner we slipped across the lake in the canoe. The last glow of sunset was in the sky, and the waning light brought a new magic to the woods and shadows. Suddenly the paddle stopped, and the boatman in a subdued voice called attention to a stag drinking at the water's edge. The boat drifted silently to within fifteen or twenty feet before the antlered head was raised. For a full half minute, the beautiful velvety eyes stared in our direction. Then the nuzzle dipped once more to the water, and for conscious seconds the stag continued to drink. He had evidently not seen us. When his thirst was slaked, he quietly turned and sauntered off majestically into the forest. It was a beautiful sight, one of those memorable moments that give the perfect artistic touch. For the lake is pagan, and with a wild thing like a stag mirrored at the twilight in her waters, one can imagine quite easily that Pan sits piping on the hilltops.

# Bathing Popular Pastime



During the Annual Summer Camps of the Alpine Club at Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills, Swimming Parties Are Vastly Enjoyed, and a Rubber Boat in Past Seasons Has Added Much to the Jollity of Such Outings.

## AT ALPINE CLUB CAMP

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday August 20, 1933, p.8.

Among the members and visitors who have registered at the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada camp at the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills, Sooke, during the annual Summer camp that closes tomorrow are Mr. Claude L. Harrison (outings convener) and Mrs. Harrison, Mr. William H. Dougan, Miss Edith Willcox, Mr. and Mrs. Guy M. Shaw, Mr. Richard Shaw, Mr. H.B. Jones, Miss Kathleen Martin, Miss Janet Bell, Mrs. Sylvia Holland, Mrs. C.M.C. Fleming, Miss Verity Mackenzie, Mr. Charles Whitney-Griffiths, Mr. Basil Shaw, Mr. Thomas Goodlake, Captain O. Cox, Mr. C.H. Rutherford, Miss Daniels (London, England), Mr. Francis Tuckey, Miss Betty Tuckey, Miss Marjorie G. Hadley, Miss Ritchie, Mr. D. Ritchie, Miss Stephanie Jones, Miss Hillary Purdy, Miss J. Ethel M. Bruce and Mr. M. Ready.

## **ENTERTAIN ALPINE CLUB**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday August 27, 1933, p. 8.

At the charming home in the Uplands, Mr. and Mrs. C. [Claude] L. Harrison, on Friday afternoon, entertained a delightful garden tea for members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada, who returned a week ago from the annual Summer camp at the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills, Sooke. A number of interesting photographic souvenirs of the camp were passed around while tea was being served by Mrs. Harrison, assisted by Mrs. C.M.C. Fleming, Miss Janet Bell and Miss Verity Mackenzie. The invited guests included Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Rutherford, Mrs. O. Bass and Miss Erminie Bass, Mr. H.B. Jones, Mrs. Martin and Misses Kathleen and Vivian Martin, Capt. O. Cox, Mrs. Ketley (Vancouver), Miss Janet Bell, Miss Stephanie Jones, Miss Ethel Bruce, Mr. Thomas Goodlake, Miss Mary Mackenzie Grieve, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Shaw, Mr. Richard Shaw, Miss Marjorie Hadley, Miss Eleanor Everall, Miss Verity Mackenzie, Miss Betty Tuckey, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Dougan, Mr. Francis Tuckey, Miss Edith Willcox, Mr. Charles Whitney-Griffiths, and Miss Daniels (London, England).

## **CLIMB MOUNT NEWTON**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Thursday September 14, 1933, p. 6.

The annual climb of Mt. Newton, followed by a beach picnic and clam bake, was enjoyed, recently by fourteen members of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada. The party made the ascent of the hill from the East Saanich Road, at the summit finding a good clear view eastward, but bad visibility south and west. Telegraph Bay Beach was the picnic rendezvous, and with an enormous bonfire, the evening passed pleasantly.

## **MOUNTAINEERING THRILL DESCRIBED BY ALPINIST**

### **Many Attributes Go Towards Making Of A Good Woman Mountaineer—Much To Learn About Art Of Being A Competent Climber**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Sunday September 17, 1933, p.10.

BY DOROTHY PILLEY, PINNACLE CLUB (Miss Pilley is, in private life, Mrs. I.A. Richards, and has made climbs all over the world and many first ascents)

Mountaineering in the Canadian Rockies is becoming very much more a woman's sport than it was. Old-timers in Canadian mountaineering give interesting accounts of the early days of women's climbing, which after all were not so very long ago. In 1909 a woman climber was a rare and curious creature. A former president of the English Ladies' Alpine Club recently told me how crowds used to rush up at lake Louise to gaze at the super woman who had braved the icy heights of Victoria or Lefroy. Women can now lead up Victoria without any sense they are doing anything especially audacious. After all, Victoria is a thoroughly manageable and charming mountain with a pleasant stretch of easy rock climbing and a fine aerial snow ridge, which in good condition, is a fascinating walk. At every few yards along the undulating crest, the scene changes, new vistas of the rich gulfs to right and left are unfolded, new crests ahead rise into salience, and when at last one comes to the summit one has the sense of a reward far beyond the measure of the toil that has gone to win it.

### **Climbing Victoria**

Tourists at Chateau Lake Louise, looking up at Victoria's gleaming northeast slopes, have been known to ask whether the bergshrund running right across them is a horse trail! Victoria is not quite so easy as this conception suggests. But it is not, by Alpine standards, a peak which any strong woman under proper guidance need hesitate to tackle. One starts among the yellow poppies of Lake Louise and goes easily through the forest by a zig-zag path to the perfectly-situated Plain of the Six Glaciers, where Edward Fuez's Chalet will give any European mountaineer a delicious shock of Alpine heimweh [homesick]. Glaciers from Mitre and Abbott Passes sweep down to meet under Lefroy's terrific rock walls and you sit down to lunch and then loaf away the afternoon in the shade of the pines in a leisured ease, which is rare in the Alpine mountaineer's experience. You have, in fact, time to spare, and time to spare is an unusual thing in great mountains. The explanation is simple. On the way up to Abbott's Pass, where the hut stands in which you spend the night, there is a passage which is best crossed just after sunset. Here the ice walls of the glacier, which crowns a flanking cliff, have a way of crumbling off and thundering down in nerve-shattering cascades of flying ice. The shock of their fall pulverises them. From a distance you would take this white cloud of ice-dust for the spray of a waterfall



were it not for the roar of the impact. After sunset, with the last light steeping Lefroy high above you on your left, you can walk up the final snow slopes, crossing one or two interesting crevices in tranquility of mind, for at that hour the impending ice wall is frozen into stillness.

### **Luxurious Hut**

The hut is extremely comfortable and even has arm-chairs. A woman's dormitory boasts the luxury of woolen sheets besides a store of fleecy, scarlet blankets; and springy beds invite to a night of cozy slumber. No one expects all the comforts of a bungalow camp at 10,000 feet but measured by Alpine standards, this is a very first-rate hut indeed, and one of which Canadian mountaineers may well be proud. After breakfast, interest begins at once. Height is gained very rapidly and advantages from a woman's point of view of starting the day at a great elevation are quickly felt. You are fresh, ready to enjoy every step, and the toil of the early forest-path hours, is cut out. So when you reach the summit and perch on the snow-cone for lunch and to gaze down at Lake Louise, there is none of the fatigue which sometimes dulls the sharpest edge of vision. Women have gained the freedom of the mountains during the last twenty years. There is no need for them to feel that they are mountaineers by masculine sufferance. The skirt which used to be carried in the rucksack and only taken off at the rocks, can now be left in the hotel. The severe navy blue or black and the neat white blouse with high collar and tie, have given place to styles as varied as the temperaments who wear them. Practical considerations, however, for the woman who is having a serious mountain holiday recommend strong, close-woven, wind-proof fabrics. These will not show the marks which are bound to come from wrestling with the rocks. Musical comedy mountaineering costumes are sometimes seen, but the sun rays reverberating from the glacier discourage bare arms and necks and Tyrolean shorts. So do the cutting edges of the rocks. Handsome high boots, worn for riding, though useful on the trail and still more useful when "bush whacking," cramp the leg and have to give place to graceless hobnailed climbing boots. The aim is to get the maximum of protection from wind and heat alike, and the minimum of incumbrances.

### **A Great Adventure**

To many women who climb only with guides miss the best of the whole adventure and the opportunity to lead their party on interesting ground within their powers. In England this has been felt so strongly that a woman's mountaineering club, open only to those who can lead "moderately difficult" climbs in safety and good style, has been formed. No one who has tried leading can realize the added pleasure which the responsibility of being first on the rope gives to an ascent. It is also the only way to realize what an arduous duty devolves on the guide and how magnificently, yet unobtrusively, he performs it. Of course, I do not mean that the best woman climber can equal a good guide and above all in securing safety of the whole party. In fact, it is doubtful whether any woman should lead any but a fully competent party—she has not the reserves of strength to safeguard the clumsy novice on a big, "loose" mountain. What I do advocate is that she should be given a chance to find out what her capacity is in this position. Only so can she gain a true appreciation of the finer points of mountain technique.

### **Much To Learn**

The Alpine Club of Canada gives the girl novice a grand chance of coming into camp and finding her mountain legs, especially if she does not rush off to climb the loftiest and hardest peak on the list. Her aim should be to learn all that makes a safe and trustworthy mountaineer. How to handle a rope, use "a belay," how not to upset loose debris, how to come down as lightly and freely as she goes up—even how to cut steps in an ice slope and judge the condition of the snow ridge. There is little real credit to be gained from having been somehow up a big mountain on a rope. That has been done by too many, who would not have survived for a thousand feet if they had been unaided. But there is a real permanent gain in each development towards the capacity to travel over hard ground not as a liability to the party but as a source of additional strength to it. This seems to me the aim of responsible mountaineering, an aim which gives it its standing among the great sports of the world and one which every woman climber can reasonably aspire.

### **FINLAYSON OBJECT OF OUTING**

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Wednesday September 27, 1933, p. 4.

Mount Finlayson and Skirt Mountain in the southwestern part of the Highland district were visited on Sunday [September 24] by a group of members of the Alpine Club of Canada, Vancouver Island section. Leaving Bastion Square at

9:15 a.m., the expedition started to climb from a point on Millstream Road about two miles from Langford, reaching the summit of Mount Finlayson in time for luncheon. The summit, 1,200 feet altitude, commands an excellent view of the surrounding country, with the Goldstream Flats and Finlayson Arm on the west, and the E. & N. Railway track visible for miles. The return to Victoria was made about 5 o'clock. The next outing will be the two-night Thanksgiving Camp at the Lake-of-the-Seven-Hills.

## **BATTLE OF WINDS ON FORBIDDEN PLATEAU**

### **Graphic Story Of Spectacle By Mr. Eugene Croteau**

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday October 12, 1933. p.4.

Mr. Eugene Croteau has descended from the Forbidden Plateau to his home in Comox. The heavy rains of September made the trail to his encampment so swampy that he was practically marooned. Now he has made all snug for the winter and left the Forbidden Plateau to its winter silence. He was probably the only witness of the great equinoctial storms in the high hills and he tells of the battle of the winds very graphically in an article he has written to the *Argus*. The south-easter came roaring up the Cruikshank Canyon to meet the north and west winds at Croteau Lake, and there was a battle of the elements over Mount Elma, very awe-inspiring. Now let Mr. Croteau tell the tale.

### **Quebec On The Plateau**

"For anyone who has not seen a real snowstorm like they have in Quebec Province or on the Canadian Prairies, it would have opened their eyes if they had been on the Plateau on Sept. 21st, at 8 a.m. Pacific Standard Time, when the storm began. It had been raining for two weeks and at times in torrents. The night before the snowstorm, the rain came down faster than ever, when suddenly the rain turned to snow. What made the storm real was the wind. With a great furore it would come from the south and then it would come from the south-east and hit Mt. Elma square in the fact; then a terrible blow was delivered from the north and another blow from the north-west—so that Mt. Elma was being hit on all sides. By 10 o'clock Pacific Standard Time the ground was covered with four inches of wet snow. Then something happened. I heard a crash—one of my bell tents had gone down. The snow had put such pressure on the tent that the cap supporting the post in the centre blew off—nothing could be done and while I was contemplating the extend of the damage—Band! I heard another crash. It was another of my big tents blown down by the force of the snow and wind. Poor tent! Only a short time ago, four beautiful girls from Nanaimo had made their home there for a week, and now it was lying flat; it had lost the battle! I don't remember having any lunch that day and when 6 o'clock came I was very hungry and tired from shovelling snow off the tents. What saved my other tents was the flies over them. At 6 o'clock there was 8 inches of snow and the next morning, 10 inches. So more shovelling was necessary.

### **Real Quebec!**

It snowed all day Friday and Saturday but the wind had gone down. Saturday morning the thermometer registered 22° above zero—it was fairly cold, and getting real Quebec. The sun rose Sunday morning, Sept. 24th. bright and warm; the sky very clear. What a beautiful day! But there was a good foot of snow on the ground, and this was the first time in four years, during which time I have been running a camp on the Plateau, that I have seen snow in September. I hope God forgives me, but Sunday I did work very hard storing all my camp equipment in the cabin, and to my great regret, was forced to disconnect my radio to make sufficient room. I have missed it very much, particularly in the evening when the Sun news and the Province News come on the air. A battery set on the Plateau works very well, the reception is very clear, no static. Monday was also a beautiful day, warm at noon. Thermometer was 50 in the shade, inclined to be cloudy towards the evening. I have all my beds and bedding, and all the flies in the cabin. Was able to dry some tents on the roof of the cabin in the hot sun.

**Tuesday Morning:** It is raining, foggy and misty—not cold. At 7 a.m. it was 35°. It is a bad day. The snow is down to six inches.

**Wednesday, Sept. 27th:** Not very bright—foggy, misty, raining at times and blowing.

## A Horrible Night

**Thursday, Sept. 28th:** What a horrible night of wind and rain! Not a tent would have stood up. It was a real genuine hurricane coming mostly from the south-east, and this morning the storm has increased in intensity—it is wonderful! The snow is very nearly all gone and that is a blessing. At 11 o'clock Pacific Standard Time an opening has been made by a piece of strategy like old Joffre in the Battle of the Marne, a combination of north and west winds has driven a wedge in the south-east and has let the sun come out. But the gap in the south did not stay open very long, they seemed to want to rally, but again the north wind came up and gave it a terrible blow, then the west, as a reserve came behind with a mighty blow and they wrestled and tumbled. The battle was for good—for the south seemed very determined and stubborn. It was now one o'clock p.m. Then something happened. A big punch from the north tore a hole right through, and again the sun came out, this time a little blue-ish in the face, but still fairly strong. It blew very hard until dark.

**Friday, Sept. 29th:** Two inches of fresh snow this a.m. The sun came out and the new snow melted away. It was a fairly nice day, about 50° in the shade at noon. Glass went up to 26.90 inches.

**Saturday, Sept. 30th:** A bit cloudy. Glass up to 26.85. No wind. White frost last night. It has been a very dull day. 38° at 6 p.m.

**Sunday, Oct. 1st:** Nice morning, the sun is out and warm. A few clouds from the west. Barometer up to 26.90. Finished drying the tents today at 5 p.m. Rain has started—it is warm—53°.

**Monday, Oct. 2nd:** Fine morning—but getting cloudy. It was a beautiful night—moon very bright. I am getting ready to go if the pack train comes. Thermometer 60 in shade at 11 a.m. Barometer 26.75 (4100 feet elevation), 54° at 6 a.m.”

## OLD HUNTER IS LOST

### Harry Rees Has Been Missing For Ten Days On Mount Becher

Reported in the *Comox Argus* Thursday December 14, 1933. p. 1.

Anxiety has been occasioned to Cumberland by the continued absence of Mr. Harry Rees, who is believed to have left ten days or so ago in an attempt to go in to Mount Becher. Mr. Rees is over seventy-five years of age, but is still vigorous, and there is no one better acquainted with the mountains around Cumberland than he is, but it is feared that some accident may have befallen him. He was last seen on November 30th. On Sunday, Dec. 3rd., Mr. Jock Sutherland and a companion passed his cabin at Quartz Creek, Comox Lake, and left a note there. Returning some two days later, they found the note still there. A search party went out last Sunday [December 10], but owing to the heavy snow could not make headway. Constable Shand of the provincial Police organized another search party which left today, Thursday for the cabin belonging to the Comox Mountaineering club at Mount Becher. It consisted of Constable Shand, Game-warden Barty Harvey and three Cumberland men. They all took snowshoes. The first search party went out earlier but there was no crust on the snow, and the men went up to their waists in the loose snow, and could make no headway. Last night's temperature put a light crust on the surface and they might make better progress today. There is excellent shelter and fuel in the Mount Becher cabin, and Rees is a good woodsman, but he has been gone a long while, and he is believed to have taken an adequate supply of food with him.

## NEW HEAD FOR ALPINE CLUB

### C.L. Harrison Succeeds A.O. Wheeler As president Of Local Section

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Friday December 15, 1933, p.5.

C. [Claude] L. Harrison was elected president of the Vancouver Island section of the Alpine Club of Canada at the annual meeting of the society, held on Wednesday [December 13] evening at the Y.W.C.A. He succeeds Arthur O. Wheeler, venerable founder and now honorary president of the Alpine Club of Canada, who declined an invitation to run for the office another year. He and Mrs. Wheeler were created honorary members of the local section, several of the charter members voicing deep appreciation of the part they played in creating and stimulating interest in mountaineering and nature lore. Stanley H. Mitchell, secretary of the parent club from its inception to the time of his retirement two or three years ago, was also created an honorary member. Other officers elected as follows: Secretary, Kathleen Martin; treasurer, Gordon Cameron; executive, William H. Dougan, Robert D. McCaw, H.B. Jones, Miss Marjorie Hadley, Miss Janet Bell and Miss Whaley.



## Next Annual Camp

Mr. Wheeler gave a survey of the year's activities in his annual address, and announced that although three places were under consideration for the next annual camp of the Alpine Club of Canada, no definitive decision had yet been made on this matter. Other reports were made by the acting secretary, the treasurer, and the chairman of the various committees. As chairman of the hut and property committee, and the very energetic outings convener, Mr. Harrison reported completion of the hut at the Lake of the Seven Hills, and expressed the hope that members would make more frequent use thereof. The proceedings closed with an interesting movie reel by Capt. C.M.C. Fleming of the voyage of the cables ship C.S. Restorer [Fleming was the CPCC Master of C.S. Restorer from 1927 to 1941] to the Hawaiian Islands in 1931, and another reel at the 1933 camp of the Alpine Club at Paradise Valley was shown by Mr. Harrison. Some of these, in color, were particularly beautiful. Refreshments were served by a committee of ladies convened by Mrs. Fleming.

## ALPINE CLUB ASSEMBLING AT CHRISTMAS

Reported in *The Daily Colonist* Saturday December 23, 1933, p. 5.

The Alpine Club will hold its Christmas reunion at Sooke Harbor House, Whiffen Spit Beach, on Christmas Day. The members and their friends will assemble during the afternoon, dinner will be served at 7 o'clock, and will be followed by dancing and seasonal entertainment. Sooke Harbor House is being profusely decorated for the occasion, flooded with light and color.



*Mount Albert Edward and Mount Regan. Photo by Matthew Piljek, submitted to the 2021 ACCVI Photo Competition - Mountain Scenery category*

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**From the Front Cover: Introduction to Backcountry Skiing.** To see the trip report on AC-CVI's Discussion Forum, click on [Introduction to Backcountry Skiing in January 2022.](#)

**Photo by Chris Neate**

**Thank you to this month's contributors:**

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**Well done everyone!**

